

SUFFOLK COUNTY LEGISLATURE

County of Suffolk

Tom Donnelly
Legislator, 17th District



February 25, 2019

Dr. Patrick Harrigan, Superintendent
Half Hollow Hills Central Office Administration
Fran Greenspan Administration Center
525 Half Hollow Road
Dix Hills, NY 11746

Dear Dr. Harrigan:

I am pleased to once again extend an invitation to your district's elementary school students to participate in the Suffolk County Legislature's "Be Pool Smart" poster contest. Resolution Number 927-2007 directs the Legislature to hold this campaign and poster contest annually. The "Be Pool Smart" poster contest promotes the importance of pool safety.

Please distribute the enclosed contest flyer to your elementary school students. I will be judging the poster entries and will select a finalist from each school district. One poster, also chosen by me, will represent my legislative district. The poster will be submitted to the Presiding Officer's office and he will then present all the winning posters to the Budget Review Office where they will select the poster to be used as part of a countywide message to be disseminated by the Suffolk County Department of Health Services.

In addition, the student winner of the contest will be presented a proclamation, and a press release and photo will be distributed to local newspapers in order to help celebrate his/her accomplishment. All participating students will be acknowledged with a certificate of achievement from my office.

Thank you in advance for your help and cooperation. **The "Be Pool Smart" posters should be submitted to my office - located at 130 West Jericho Turnpike, Huntington Station, NY 11746 - no later than Wednesday, April 17, 2019 at 5:00 pm.** I have enclosed a copy of resolution 927-2007, contest flyers and last year's winning pamphlets to help describe the program.

Very truly yours,

Tom Donnelly
Suffolk County Legislator
17th Legislative District

RECEIVED

MAR - 4 2019

**SUPERINTENDENT
HALF HOLLOW HILLS CSD**

TD/km
Enc. (3)

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MAR 08 2019
DR. PATRICK HARRIGAN
SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS**



Suffolk County Legislature

Office of Legislator _____



BE POOL SMART CAMPAIGN



Contest Rules

Each participating student should create a poster with the title "Be Pool Smart." The poster should creatively illustrate one or more of the ten safety tips to prevent accidental drowning. The winning poster will be used as the cover to next year's brochure.

Please be sure to add the following information to your poster:

- ❖ Name
- ❖ Age
- ❖ Grade
- ❖ School
- ❖ Teacher's Name

* Please use white poster board or paper no larger than 22" x 30".

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Entry Deadline: Wednesday, April 17, 2019

Handwritten signature and date:
3/7/19

Learn CPR

Cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) saves lives. If you perform CPR on a drowning victim while waiting for an ambulance to arrive, you might save a life or greatly improve the outcome. Contact Suffolk County Department of Health Services at **631-852-4797** for dates and locations of classes that will enable you to become certified in cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR). Visit www.heart.org for more information on CPR and CPR training.

Suffolk County
Department of Health Services
3500 Sunrise Highway Ste. 124
PO Box 9006
Great River, NY 11739-9006
Phone: (631) 854-0000
Fax: (631) 854-0108
SCDHSweb@suffolkcountyny.gov

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Public Health
Prevent. Promote. Protect.



Prevent Drowning



"Be Pool Smart" Poster Contest Winner
Ariana Gutierrez, Teacher: Mrs. Pellicane
Longwood Middle School, Middle Island, NY



Suffolk County

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Steven Bellone
County Executive

MAR - 8 2019

DR. PATRICK HARRIGAN
SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS

James L. Tomarken, MD, MPH, MBA, MSW
Commissioner of Health Services

Handwritten signature



Pool Safety Laws

New York State law requires that swimming pools built after December 14, 2006, be equipped with an approved pool alarm, unless the pool is equipped with an automatic power safety cover. The pool must be enclosed within a fence or other barrier that is at least four feet high and can be entered only through self-closing and self-latching doors or gates. Codes can be found on the NYS Department of State website. Contact your local municipality for additional code and zoning requirements.

Did you know?

- Ten people die from drowning each day in the United States.
- About one in five people who die from drowning are children ages 14 and under.
- Among children ages one to four, most drown in home swimming pools.
- Three out of ten deaths in children aged one to four are caused by drowning.
- Most young children who drown have been out of a caretaker's sight for less than five minutes.
- For every child under 15 years old who dies from drowning in a pool, another 10 are rushed to the emergency room for near drowning.
- When victims nearly drown, their brains are deprived of oxygen, which can cause damage and affect a person's ability to function.
- The good news is that drowning can be prevented.

Tips to Prevent Drowning

- Young children can drown in a few inches of water. A child younger than five years of age should always be within arm's reach when near water.
- Because drowning occurs quickly and quietly, adults should not be involved in any other distracting activity (such as reading or talking on the phone) while supervising children.
- If you leave the pool area, even for a minute, take your children with you.
- Learn to Swim. Formal swimming lessons can protect adults and children from drowning. However, even when children have had lessons, constant supervision is needed.
- Teach older children to always swim with a buddy and where lifeguards are on duty.
- Don't use air-filled or foam devices in place of life jackets. These toys are not designed to keep swimmers safe.
- When the pool is not in use, remove the steps and take all toys away from the pool area.
- Keep a first aid kit stocked and available near the pool.

- Teach children how to dial 9-1-1 and how to get help in an emergency. Make sure children know their address.
- Keep a cell phone in the pool area in case of emergency.
- Obtain certification in cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR). In the time it takes for paramedics to arrive, your CPR skills could save someone's life.

Signs of Drowning

- Drowning victims do not usually scream or wave their arms. Signs of drowning include:
- Head low in the water, mouth at water level;
 - Head tilted back with mouth open;
 - Eyes closed OR glassy and empty, unable to focus;
 - Hair over forehead or eyes;
 - Not using legs, vertical position;
 - Hyperventilating or gasping;
 - Trying to swim but not making headway;
 - Trying to roll over to their backs;
 - Appearing to be climbing on an invisible ladder.