



NEW YORK STATE SENATOR

Steven D. Rhoads

# **“Back the Blue” Ribbon Giveaway Unites Community to Honor 100 Years of Nassau County Police Service**

[Steven D. Rhoads](#)

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**WANTAGH, NY** — On Saturday, April 26, New York State Senator Steve Rhoads proudly hosted the *Back the Blue Blue Ribbon Giveaway* at Wantagh High School in recognition of the Nassau County Police Department's 100th Anniversary.

Community members were invited to "Drive up. Pick up a blue ribbon. Hang it with pride." And that's exactly what hundreds did—gathering in a show of support for the brave men and women in law enforcement. Participants received blue ribbons to display on their homes, businesses, or trees, creating a visible message of unity and appreciation ahead of the Department's historic centennial parade.

Hundreds of yards of ribbon were distributed during the event, which was organized in partnership with Legislator Michael Giangregorio, Assemblyman Dave McDonough, Councilman Chris Schneider, Legislator John Ferretti, Project Thank A Cop, Miss Wantagh, and Wantagh High School.

"This isn't just about ribbons—it's about respect, gratitude, and standing shoulder to shoulder with the heroes who keep our communities safe," **said Senator Rhoads.** "The Nassau County Police Department has served with honor for 100 years, helping make Nassau the safest county in America. Their sacrifice and courage deserve more than a thank you—they deserve our full support. Events like this are a powerful reminder to our officers that they are not alone—we stand with them and back the blue."

**Andy Fox, founder of *Project Thank A Cop*, shared,** “Project Thank A Cop is grateful for the opportunity to have worked with New York State Senator Steve Rhoads on this amazing initiative to show support for police officers during the Nassau County Police Department’s hundred-year celebration. Steve has been an integral part of our group since the beginning. We are proud to call him a friend, knowing that he backs the blue.”

**Ella Stevens, Executive Director of *Miss Wantagh*, added,** “The Little Miss Wantagh’s and the Miss Wantagh Junior Club were thrilled to be part of Senator Rhoads’ Blue Ribbon Giveaway. Giving back to the community and working with other organizations is what we do, and we were honored to be called upon for this great event.”

The *Back the Blue Blue Ribbon Giveaway* served not only as a ribbon distribution, but also as a heartfelt reminder of the sacrifices made daily by law enforcement officers across Nassau County. The event marked a moment of unity, pride, and gratitude for a century of dedicated service. Senator Rhoads also extended his sincere thanks to all the volunteers and community partners who helped make the event a success, noting that their time, energy, and commitment were essential to bringing the community together in support of our police.