



NEW YORK STATE SENATOR

Lee M. Zeldin

Senator Zeldin Announces 3rd Annual Black History Celebration WITH Tribute to Local Leaders

LEE M. ZELDIN February 19, 2013

In celebration of Black History in the 3rd Senate District, Senator Lee M. Zeldin (R-C-I, Shirley) will highlight the invaluable contributions of several local residents at an event to be held on Friday, March 1st, from 6-8 pm, at the Brentwood Public Library Auditorium.

“From government officials, scientists, surgeons, mathematicians, clergy, authors, university heads, military leaders, athletes, entertainers and beyond, African Americans continue to inspire all people,” said Senator Zeldin. “They have persevered through much hardship to enrich our nation in innumerable ways. Black History celebrations encourage everyone to recognize these accomplishments and appreciate the collective strength that diversity brings to our state and nation.”

Honorees will be feted by Senator Zeldin at the March 1st event for their important contributions to the Suffolk County community. Each honoree's photograph and biography will be part of a special exhibit at the Brentwood Library proclaiming the unique accomplishments of exemplary citizens in New York.

This year's honorees include:

Keynote speaker and Brentwood native, Dr. Aliya E. Holmes, Associate Professor of Educational Technology and the Assistant Chair for the Department of Curriculum and Instruction for the School of Education at St. John's University.

Army veteran, Leonard Ormond, whose work with the Lighthouse Mission Inc. in North Bellport helps feed the poor and serve the homeless.

Camara Sheppard, an accomplished musician, artist and honor student at William Floyd High School.

Doris “Dee” Dodson, of Central Islip, a retired Neonatal Intensive Care Unit nurse at Stony Brook Medical Center; former union president representing staff nurses; and board member of the Central Islip Civic Council.

Leonard Tucker Jr., of Brentwood, an anti-gang activist and President of the Brentwood Association of Concerned Citizens, Chair of the Brentwood School Board Community Organization and volunteer Emergency Medical Technician.

Bishop Charlie T. Bullock, of East Patchogue, Pastor of New Bethel First Pentecostal Church in Bellport; Vice Bishop of the First Pentecostal Churches of America, Inc.; and Chairperson of the Central Bellport Civic Association.

"We all take tremendous pride in recognizing the many achievements of African-Americans in our local communities, state and nation," said Senator Zeldin. "It is my privilege to host this special event and bring the honorees, their families, and business and civic leaders together in celebration."

The event will also pay tribute to former honorees from the 3rd Senate District, as well as numerous prominent African-Americans. Entertainment will be provided by the internationally renowned Central Islip High School Choir, as well as dance performances by 3-D Dance Studio. Light refreshments will be served. The public is welcome to attend.