



TOWN OF RIVERHEAD NEWS

Office of the Supervisor
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SUFFOLK COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY TO INSTALL NEW BANNERS

Riverhead, NY - The Suffolk County Historical Society will install new banners on the eastern side of its facility on December 30, 2014, utilizing New York Main Street grant funds.

Suffolk County Historical Society Building is a museum and library, located at 300 West Main Street, dedicated to Preserving historic artifacts of Suffolk County, as well as other parts of Long Island. The museum, which was founded in 1886, is housed in a National Registry building.

Suffolk County Historical Society Executive Director Kathy Curran said the museum features unique artifacts and exhibits to educate residents and tourists alike, however the West Main Street building lacks visibility. The appliquéd nylon mural is intended to give the Suffolk County Historical Society a new image to maximize public outreach. "It is our hope that these unique banners will encourage more people to stop in and check out all we have to offer," she said. "We believe this will allow us to better serve the public as an educational resource by clearly announcing this site as an historic center."

Supervisor Sean M. Walter said, "Downtown Riverhead is fortunate to have many special educational facilities, including the Long Island Aquarium, The Long Island Science Center and the Suffolk County Historical Society, in such a close proximity. We hope these new banners attract more visitors to the downtown business district."

The project will receive \$7,260 in New York Main Street funds, which equates to 75% of the total cost. "New York State Main Street funding has been very important to allowing downtown Riverhead reach its full economic development potential," Walter said. Curran said the project would not have been possible without the state grant funds.

The New York State Office of Community Renewal awarded the Town of Riverhead a \$250,000 grant in 2012 to continue the town's downtown revitalization efforts. Since 2004, the Town of Riverhead has been awarded \$1.15 million. The 2004, 2009, 2010 and 2012 awards have assisted approximately 20 properties and resulted in private investment exceeding \$3 million.

Since its founding, the purpose of the Suffolk County Historical Society has remained essentially the same: to collect, preserve and interpret the ongoing history of Suffolk County. To fulfill these purposes SCHS operates a museum, a library and archives, and offers educational programs and events. The museum includes an ever-growing collection of artifacts, reflecting more than three centuries of history.