



NEW YORK STATE SENATOR

Mario R. Mattera

## Senator Mattera Celebrates Achievements of New Eagle Scouts

MARIO R. MATTERA June 12, 2024

| ISSUE: **EAGLE SCOUTS, ST. JAMES, SCOUTING, BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA**



On June 9th, Senator Mario R. Mattera (2nd Senate District) was honored to recognize a distinguished group of young men who have achieved the rank of Eagle Scout after demonstrating tremendous hard work and ingenuity in their community-focused projects. The ceremony, held to celebrate these accomplishments, took place in recognition of their dedication and the positive impact they have made in their communities.

Brendan Kieran, a sophomore at Chaminade High School, made significant improvements to the basketball facilities at Sts. Philip and James School/parish by installing new basketball

hoops and a fully lined court. He also enhanced the school's outdoor seating by replacing broken picnic tables with new convertible ones for middle school students. Brendan's projects not only improved the recreational facilities but also the daily lives of his peers.

Ryan Bennett, a graduating senior also from Chaminade High School, constructed a pergola over a baptismal font at St Mary's Episcopal Church in Ronkonkoma. This new structure beautifies the church grounds and provides a peaceful gathering place for the community.

Steven Ciralo, a junior at Smithtown East High School, contributed by installing educational signs that explain the life cycle of trees along a nature trail at Sweetbriar Nature Center. His project enhances the educational experience for all visitors, fostering a greater appreciation for environmental conservation.

Joshua H. Prew, a sophomore at St John The Baptist Diocesan High School, focused on improving the community space at Sts Philip and James Academy by clearing overgrown shrubbery and installing benches next to the outdoor basketball court, thereby creating welcoming outdoor seating areas for students.

Senator Mattera expressed his admiration for these young men, stating, "It is a privilege to recognize such remarkable young individuals who not only strive for personal growth but also seek to enrich their communities. The perseverance and creativity shown by these new Eagle Scouts are exemplary. We are all incredibly proud of Brendan, Ryan, Steven, and Joshua from Troop 7 in St. James. Their projects not only demonstrate their commitment to community service but also their ability to lead and inspire."

Senator Mattera also took time to acknowledge the efforts of all who helped these young men on their journeys: "A heartfelt thank you goes out to the families, teachers, and all who have supported these young men on their path to becoming Eagle Scouts. Their guidance and encouragement have been crucial to the success of these impressive projects.

Congratulations to all involved.”