



Congressman Tim Bishop

FIRST DISTRICT -- NEW YORK

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MONTAUK POST OFFICE RENAMED TO HONOR PERRY DURYEA

Bishop, Other Dignitaries Celebrate Late Assembly Speaker

Montauk-- On Saturday, friends and family of the late Perry B. Duryea, Jr. gathered to celebrate the renaming of the Montauk Post Office in his honor. At the ceremony held under a tent outside the post office, Congressman Tim Bishop presented Marie Therese Duryea, Duryea's widow with a framed official copy of the law signed by President George W. Bush.

"Perry Duryea was a true son of the East End," Bishop said. "I remember growing up, and being so impressed that the Speaker of the New York State Assembly hailed from our little corner of the world. Perry had so many friends on both sides of the aisle because he always put people ahead of partisanship. The Perry B. Duryea, Jr. United States Post Office will serve as a fitting and lasting tribute."

Born and raised in Montauk, Duryea took over the family wholesale seafood business, Perry Duryea and Son, after completing his service as a plane commander with the United States Naval Transport Service during World War II.

Duryea served as a member of the Montauk Public Board of Education and as president of the Long Island State Park Commission. He was first elected to represent the First Assembly District of New York Legislature in 1960, and remained a member of the body until 1978 after having served as both the Assembly Speaker and Minority Leader. Duryea has been acknowledged throughout his career in public service as a true example of bipartisanship.

Duryea's son, Perry B. Duryea III served as Master of Ceremonies for the event. Among the other speakers were Suffolk Legislators Jay Schneiderman, Assemblyman Fred Thiele, Roberta Gosman Donovan, and George Biondo. One of Duryea's granddaughters, Erica Jane Duryea, gave a moving tribute to her grandfather, and the other, Amy Duryea, sang "America the Beautiful." The Montauk Volunteer Fire Department made the presentation of colors and the Suffolk County Police Office Emerald Society Pipe and Drum Band also honored Duryea.

Federal buildings, including Post Offices, must be renamed by legislation passed through Congress and signed by the president. Bishop sponsored the bill to honor Duryea. The bill was passed in the 108th Congress and was co-sponsored by all 29 members of the New York Congressional Delegation.

Photos Available

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