

## LOCAL ELECTIONS \*\*\*\* GUIDE \*\*\*\*

#### CANDIDATE PROFILES, BALLOT REVIEW AND MORE INSIDE!



# Blakeman, Curran vie for county executive

By JEFFREY BESSEN

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Democratic incumbent Laura Curran is running for her second four-term as county executive. Her Republican opponent is Town of Hempstead Councilman Bruce Blakeman. The Herald asked the candidates three pertinent questions to get their take on the issues.

#### Herald: Nassau is one of three counties that pay the highest average property taxes in the state. What is your plan to help reduce the tax burden?

**Curran:** As the hardworking families of Nassau know, you can't get far without a balanced budget. Before I took office, decades of wasteful corruption and reckless mismanagement plagued our county. I am proud that through dogged fiscal discipline, my administration has turned budget deficits into surpluses. Nassau families deserve to know their hard-earned money is being spent responsibly. That's why I devoted my first term to cleaning up the mess others left behind and bringing real accountability to government:

I delivered four balanced budgets and consecutive budget surpluses; secured Nassau's first bond upgrade in over a decade; held the line on property taxes and proposed a responsible \$70 million tax reduction for 2022, and a \$150 million tax reduction over the next four years.

As Nassau continues the economic recovery from Covid, I am also proud to say that we are in a position to give American Rescue Plan dollars back to the taxpayers. Our books are balanced, so I am giving \$375 direct cash payments to more than 400,000 households. I have worked hard to earn the trust of Nassau taxpayers, and I will continue to pursue tax relief, like my tax cut, without sacrificing our future fiscal stability.

**Blakeman:** Laura Curran's reassessment is crushing families and seniors with higher property taxes. School tax bills are arriving at home this October, and just like last year, property taxes will soar for an overwhelming majority of homeowners because of Curran's reassessment. While your property taxes are going up, Laura Curran's taxes went down [decreased by \$255].

For the majority of homeowners, Curran's tax hikes continue for three more years unless you stop her this Election Day. I believe it's wrong for Laura Curran to increase county property taxes to the highest level ever in Nassau's history while also generating millions in surplus funds.

As county executive, I will end Curran's reassessment and cut taxes. Government should never collect more than it needs to operate. My plan cuts property taxes by over \$128 million – that's \$58 million more than Laura Curran is willing to give back – and I'll pay for that tax



#### Bruce Blakeman

**Age:** 66

Hometown: Atlantic Beach

Professional Background: Attorney

**Political experience:** Town of Hempstead councilman; Nassau County legislator including serving as presiding officer; Port Authority commissioner

cut by returning Nassau County's entire budget surplus to residents. I will continue to return budget surpluses each year while restricting new spending and reducing debt. It's time to put government on a serious diet, and it's time to really cut taxes.

#### Herald: The residential property assessment system still needs an overhaul. What would you do to make it beneficial for homeowners and the county?

**Curran:** Nassau's assessment system has been a mess for decades. Politician after politician kicked this can down the road, choosing what was politically convenient over what was right. I ran on a promise to finally address our broken assessment system, and I did just that. My administration took on a tough fight and had the political courage to implement a fair and accurate reassessment of the tax roll, which had been frozen for nearly a decade.

The accuracy of my administration's reassessment has been verified by Newsday, by the state and by independent experts. I have ensured residents have the opportunity to adapt to changes in assessment values by implementing my Taxpayer Protection Plan, which phases in any assessment correction over the next five years. I will also always protect residents' right to grieve their property assessment.

In my first term, I tackled the fiscal mismanagement that has plagued Nassau for decades, turning chronic deficits into surpluses. I took on reassessment when my predecessors lacked the political courage to do so. As a result, our assessment system is fairer and more accurate today than it has been in years.



#### Laura Curran

Age: 53

Hometown: Baldwin

**Professional Background:** Journalist, Herald Community Newspapers, New York Daily News and New York Post

**Political experience:** Baldwin Board of Education and Nassau County legislator 2014 to 2017

**Blakeman:** Laura Curran placed a huge financial burden on the backs of families and seniors, with an overwhelming majority of homeowners facing soaring school taxes in 2021 as a result of her reassessment.

Errors in Curran's assessment roll also resulted in multi-millionaires having their property tax bill erased. Mansions received tax bills for zero dollars in property taxes. While the reassessment was supposed to create equity, it did not. Neighboring homes built by the same developer pay different tax amounts regardless of being exactly the same.

It's clear that we need to scrap Curran's reassessment plan entirely and start fresh. As county executive, I will terminate Laura Curran's reassessment. Her phased-in tax hikes for the next three years will be immediately terminated by my administration. Instead, I will hire qualified professionals to run the Assessment Department and create a new, fair system while also cutting property taxes by over \$120 million.

#### Herald: The Covid-19 pandemic remains an overarching problem. What would you do to help ensure that residents are healthy life can to return to "normal?"

**Curran:** I worked around the clock with communities and health officials during the toughest days of the pandemic to keep residents healthy and informed. I visited small businesses constantly to keep a finger on the pulse of our local economy. I advocated for safe re-openings when it made sense to support our long-term economic health.

We were open and transparent

throughout the pandemic, pursuing an approach centered around education, outreach and accessibility. It is this approach that has earned us the ranking of highest vaccinated county in the state and second highest vaccinated among large counties nationally. Our 93.6 percent adult-vaccination-rate has allowed for a robust recovery — but we're not done.

As we recover, the county is reaching out to small business owners to get \$10,000 in individual grants to those that need them. County mobile vaccination teams are visiting businesses directly and providing vaccinations to staff. Paramedics are taking vaccines to the homebound. We will provide \$100 million in American Rescue Plan funds to some 400,000 households as \$375 direct cash payments, which will help families buy school supplies, cover utility bills and stimulate our local economy as we continue to come back stronger.

Blakeman: Covid-19 will be around for vears to come, and we can never return to the days of a closed economy. We must adapt by fully reopening government to serve the people and welcome those in need of services. We must continue to offer free testing, vaccines and booster shots to people who want them. Schools must never close again. Big box stores should never be allowed to stay open while small businesses are shuttered. Restaurants should be allowed to keep outdoor dining and continue their indoor operations. As county executive, I'll keep my pledge to do these things while also ensuring we have a transparent reporting process related to Covid cases.



## Let us Know

News Brief items including awards, honors, promotions and other tidbits about local residents are welcome. Photographs may be emailed as well. Deadline for submissions is noon Thursday, week prior to publication. Send to execeditor@liherald.com

**BALDWIN HERALD** 

28, 2021 -

October :

## **Re-Elect Don Clavin Supervisor Re-Elect Anthony D'Esposito Councilman**

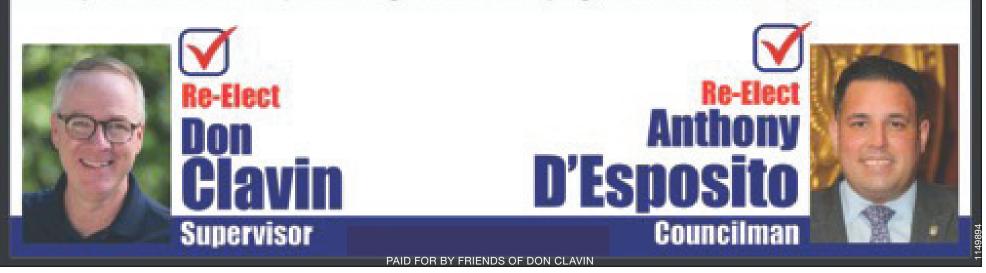


## **CUTTING TAXES** -

- Cutting total Town taxes for 2022.
- Froze taxes for 2021.
- Cut administrative staff costs by \$1 million (annually).

## **HELPING PEOPLE** -

- Provided COVID relief and resources to fire departments, libraries, schools, local businesses and more.
- Investing \$75 million in roadway improvements and \$10 million in parks upgrades.
- Don and Anthony delivered masks and gloves to local businesses and created outdoor dining zones to help restaurants.
- Enhancing our downtowns with streetscape upgrades that include Victorian street lighting, brick-paved walkways and more.
- Operation Clean Sweep is sending sidewalk sweeping crews to clean our business districts.



E ROW B

Re-Elect Don Clavin Supervisor

Re-Elect Anthony D'Esposito Councilman

# **Donnelly, Kaminsky slug it out for D.A.**

#### By JIM BERNSTEIN

jbernstein@liherald.com

The contest for Nassau County district attorney has been the most bitterly fought off all races this election season, with State Sen. Todd Kaminsky, the Democrat, and Anne Donnelly, the Republican, trading a slew of bighting accusations against each other, mostly centering on who is most responsible for setting prisoners free on the street to commit other crimes.

The accusations stem from Donnelly's attempts to paint Kaminsky as the legislator who wrote the state's Bail Reform Law, which gives and prohibits judges' discretion to assign bail in many felony and certain non-felony cases. Kaminsky voted for the bill, but did not write it.

Although the State Legislature amended the law in April 2020 to include a greater number of crimes for which bail could be assigned, the issue continues to dominate the campaign, and the ads continue to run on local TV stations. Donnelly points to her 30 years of working as a prosecutor in the Nassau D.A.'s office, heading different bureaus. Kaminsky notes that he served as a prosecutor in the U.S. attorney's office in Manhattan.

#### Herald: Nassau County has a growing immigrant population that often does not trust law enforcement. How would you improve that relationship?

Kaminsky: As district attorney, my office will have information available in every language, as well as community liaisons who do outreach in every part of Nassau County. And let me be clear: I will have a zero tolerance for hate crimes as district attorney. Hate crimes against the immigrant population have risen at troubling rates recently, and the trend must be addressed aggressively. It doesn't matter if you're Jewish, LGBTQ, Asian, Black or Muslim: You deserve to feel safe walking down the streets of your neighborhood. As district attorney, I will take a tough and aggressive approach to hold racists and other hate-mongers accountable in our community by instituting a zero-tolerance policy. I am proud to have the support of law enforcement, including the New York State Troopers and local Police Benevolent Association. They know my record. They know I will fight to protect all Long Islanders. Rebuilding trust doesn't just mean the prosecutor's office has to have a better relationship with communities-it also means trust in government and institutions overall has to improve by prosecuting corruption. Corruption has infested every level of government here in Nassau County. As a federal prosecutor, I worked on the highest-level corruption cases, successfully prosecuting both Democrats and Republicans who violated the public trust. Corruption will have no place to



#### **Anne Donnelly**

Party: Republican

Age: 56

Hometown: Garden City

**Professional Background:** Worked in the district attorney's office for more than three decades and serves as the deputy chief of the Organize Crime and Rackets Bureau. Spent time as the acting chief in the Public Corruption Bureau, senior trial assistant in the Rackets Bureau and as deputy chief of the Economic Crimes Bureau. She earned her law degree from Fordham University in 1989.

hide when I am district attorney.

Donnelly: I am committed to serving all residents of Nassau County in a fair and respectful manner. Part of that commitment consists of helping to ensure that people who have emigrated from other countries into the United States are welcomed into the communities in which they have chosen to settle. Outreach programs that feature governmental liaisons who speak the primary languages of members of our diverse community should be at the top of the priority list. Educational initiatives and literature in various languages are also needed to welcome residents and build trust. I am prepared to play a leadership role in this area.

#### Herald: Gangs are growing in Nassau and Suffolk. Aside from prosecuting those apprehended, what else can the district attorney's office do to stem the violence?

**Kaminsky:** As a federal prosecutor, I successfully took down gang leaders and the gun and drug traffickers who supplied them, cleaning up our streets and keeping dangerous weapons out of criminals' hands. Gang violence is a serious threat to our communities, and



#### **Todd Kaminsky**

Party: Democrat

Age: 43

Hometown: Long Beach

**Professional Background:** Member of New York State Senate representing the 9th district, based on South Shore since 2016. He previously worked as an assistant district attorney in the Queens County District Attorney's Office before joining the U.S. Attorney's Office for the Eastern District of New York as an assistant U.S. attorney. Kaminsky was elected to the State Assembly, serving in that body from 2014 to 2016. He earned his law degree from New York University.

combating them will be a top priority of my office. Some of the worst gangs are international in scope and go beyond our state and even our country's borders. This means that having strong partnerships with federal law enforcement agencies is critical. As someone who worked as a federal prosecutor, I will coordinate with our federal partners closely to root out gang violence. Importantly, when it comes to gangs, we also cannot keep treating the symptoms—we must treat the underlying disease. We must establish trust in communities with gang violence and work with local organizations to identify bad actors and offer alternatives to crime. My office will be constantly working with schools and after-school programs to educate young people about the dangers of gangs, and investing in these programs so our young people are learning, partaking in constructive activities and do not choose to walk the path that gangs offer them.

**Donnelly:** Collaborating with schools, as well as municipal governments and non-for-profits, we can provide more opportunities for enrichment and socialization programs as viable alternatives to gangs. Safe activities and

good mentors are important components of attractive and positive choices for young people. I plan to explore the use of asset forfeiture funds to further programs of this type.

#### Herald: Our jails are often overcrowded and riddled with Covid-19 cases. What would you recommend to ease these conditions?

**Kaminsky:** The best way to address overcrowding, deliver swift justice for victims and lower crime is to fully fund our court system. There are federal funds available through the Department of Justice to help—and I will push the state to add more dollars to ensure justice is served. I will also make sure that programs with proven track records to turn around criminal behavior — especially for substance abuse — are funded to keep Nassau safe and to reduce the recidivism that floods our courts with cases.

**Donnelly:** The Nassau County jail is not overcrowded, and I am intimately aware of this fact, having served as the district attorney's liaison to the correctional center until recently. Indeed, the inmate population is at its lowest level in the past 25 years. What's more, the facility did an excellent job in containing and treating Covid. Unfortunately, the "cashless bail" law that was co-authored by my opponent has greatly limited the ability of judges to make incarceration decisions for individuals based upon the pertinent facts in each case.



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**BALDWIN HERALD** 

2021 -

28,

October

## **HEMPSTEAD COUNCIL DISTRICT 1**

#### Dorothy Goosby Incumbent

Party: Democrat

Age: 83

#### **Professional experience:** Licensed dietician nutritionist, journal author, chemistry

teacher Political career: Town of

Hempstead councilwoman, Association of Towns president, Hempstead Board of Education vice president, Marshall Elementary School PTA president

#### On the issues:

Dorothy Goosby said she voted to implement and supported the following measures during the coronavirus pandemic:

Mobile Covid-19 testing and vaccinations



More than \$11 million in federal pandemic relief funds to colleges and schools.

- Over a million meals and six million for food banks
- More than \$800,000 to local villages.
- More than \$400,000 to fire departments.

A small business personal protective equipment program.

An expedited process for outdoor dining permits.

"My entire life and political career have been dedicated to diversity, equity and inclusion," Goosby said. "I'm a living testament of DEI. Goosby v. the Town of Hempstead has been cited in over 150 cases nationwide as an instrument God divinely used and continues to use to let the world know that diversity, equity and inclusion are our reasonable service to humanity. "My focus is quality-of-

life equity," she said, "because the disparities in my district remain unbalanced and alarming. In terms of sewage equity, our sewage system is at the forefront of my list. The Village of Hempstead must be repaired, not just the sewers maintained by the government. In terms of water equity, the North and South shores must be treated fairly and equitably."

#### James Lamarre Challenger

Party: Republican

Age: 45

**Professional experience:** Business owner

Political career: None

On the issues: Lamarre did not respond to the Herald.

Editor's note: James Lamarre could not be reached, despite many attempts.

ΡΗΟΤΟ NOT **AVAILABLE** 

ELECTION 2021

Includes Baldwin, Freeport, Hempstead, Lakeview, Lynbrook, Rockville Centre, Uniondale and West Hemsptead.

## **HEMPSTEAD COUNCIL DISTRICT 4**

Anthony **D'Esposito** 

Party: Republican

Age: 39

Hometown: Island Park

**Professional experience:** NYPD dtective (retired)

Political experience: Town of Hempstead councilman, 2016-present

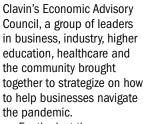
#### On the issues:

In spring of 2020, alongside Supervisor Don Clavin, **Councilman Anthony** D'Esposito spearheaded the region's first outdoor dining initiative, waiving fees and expediting the process to allow and expand outdoor dining. In doing so, he said, the town saved restaurant owners thousands in fees and helped keep their doors



open. Many villages followed the town's lead, and thousands of restaurants are participating in this program, which has been extended to the fall of 2022.

Using federal CARES funding, he said, the town worked with local chambers of commerce to distribute thousands of personal protective equipment kits to small businesses, which helped keep employees and customers safe. As co-chairman of the Town of Hempstead Covid-19 Task Force. D'Esposito was part of



For the last three years, D'Esposito said, he has helped draft and implement either a tax-cut or tax-freeze budget. "I will support Supervisor Clavin's 2022 proposed tax-cut budget," he said. "I have worked hard since 2016 to improve roads, facilities and expand programs. I remain proud to ioin colleagues in dedicating over \$75 million to roads and infrastructure projects, over \$10 million in park improvements and continue to make the communities I represent along our shoreline more resilient in the face of future storms."

#### Aaron Meyer

Party: Democratic

Age: 42

Hometown: Oceanside

**Professional experience:** Attorney, author, researcher, academic, public speaker, consultant

Political experience: Firsttime candidate

#### On the issues:

Aaron Meyer said he believes there is much work to be done to help small businesses through the pandemic. "A lot more can be done to help local businesses, which should be the town's priority," he said. "Whether that means starting by designating town personnel to work directly with



small business to tasking the Hempstead Industrial Development Agency to evaluate rental and/or tax relief available under section 862 of the General Municipal Law, or any number of other options available, nothing will happen until local businesses are treated as the priority they should be.

"With respect to staffing shortages," he continued, "that can't be solved without rectifying our housing shortage, which in turn means the town and its IDA have an obligation to promote con-

struction that will keep our younger generation here, especially and pointedly our growing differently-abled community, who must be able to commute from their homes to their jobs. Two-story garden-style apartment buildings can be prioritized in keeping with existing zoning and built to be affordable for the rising generation of younger Long Islanders and those who will come next. It's absurd to expect people to travel long distances in order to collect low hourly wages.

"The three hallmarks of my candidacy have been, from the start, bringing about transparency, accountability and representation," he said. "So, my overall priority is to be the catalyst for the Town Board to be transparent, which in turn will force it to be accountable."

Includes Baldwin, Cedarhurst, East Rockaway, Hewlett, Island Park, Lynbrook, Malverne, Oceanside, Rockville Centre, South Hempstead, Valley Stream, Woodmere.

#### $\star \star \star \star \star \star \star \star \star \star \star$

#### **ELECTION 2021**

## **COUNTY LEGISLATURE DISTRICT 1**

#### Kevan Abrahams

Party: Democratic

#### **Age:** 47

**Professional experience:** Legislative Assistant, Office of U.S. Rep. Floyd Flake, 1996-98

**Education:** Baruch College; B.A., Political Science, Queens College

Family: Married, with two children

#### On the issues:

Since February 2020, Covid-19 has forced its way to the top of Nassau County's priority list. Kevan Abrahams has been part of bipartisan efforts to equip county staff and residents with personal protective equipment, develop protec-



tive protocols for schools, allocate funds for tax relief and support for front-line workers and deal with reluctance to vaccinate. Abrahams said he would continue helping to set up accessible vaccination sites in neighborhoods, partnering with clergy and local civic leaders to combat misinformation about the vaccines, and reduce other barriers such as fears of revealing immigration status to get the vaccines.

Police reform occupied Abrahams's attention before

the pandemic, he said. He arranged meetings of local clergy with residents and county police in 2019. Since the pandemic, Abrahams has used virtual meeting technology to continue connecting law enforcement with residents. Abrahams did not vote for Proposed Local Law 2021, which would have given police the right to sue citizens for hate crimes against police and first responders, but supports increased police transparency and accountability, and taking steps to increase police diversity.

Infrastructure upgrades have continued under Abrahams in the 1st District, despite the pressures of the pandemic, he said. Abrahams disagreed with the sudden removal of certain county fees from the budget, but would have helped plan their eventual end.

#### Elton McCabe Jr. Challenger

Party: Republican

**Age:** 55

**Professional experience:** Engineering, including inspection engineer for the Town of Hempstead

**Education:** Engineering degree from Southern Illinois University

#### Family: Married

On the issues: Elton McCabe strongly feels that vaccination against Covid-19 for all eligible county residents should be a goal, but he does not agree with threatening job loss should employees decline the vaccine. He believes that requiring masking and weekly or twice-



weekly testing from unvaccinated workers would afford adequate protection against the spread of Covid-19, and would give people time to be convinced of the necessity of vaccination through the constant dissemination of convincing data. Also, parental concerns about the potential effect of the vaccine on children should be respected, not demeaned, given the reality of breakthrough infections and the newness of the vaccines Diversity, equity, and

inclusion within the county

police force are of primary concern to McCabe. If elected, he would press for better cultural and ethnic issues training in the police academy, which would increase respect among officers toward neighborhoods of color, and foster calmer relations between law enforcement and residents. He does not believe that lack of education or capacity on police academy exams would account for the low percentage of officers of color in the Nassau County Police Department and would act to ensure equality of opportunity for officer training.

Infrastructure concerns McCabe because wealthier districts tend to get more attention.

#### Includes East Meadow, Freeport, Hempstead, Uniondale, Roosevelt, South Hempstead.

## **COUNTY LEGISLATURE DISTRICT 4**

#### Denise Ford

Party: Republican

Age: 70

#### Hometown: Long Beach

**Career:** Was elected initially in an upset victory in 2003. Now serves as chairwoman of the public safety committee, vice chair of the Government Services and Operations Committee and the Planning, Development and Environment Committee

#### On the issues:

Denise Ford has based her campaign on her long record of service on the County Legislature and her constituent services. She said she is at community event most every weekend and, after nearly 20 years, is



well known in the district. She said her environmental work has benefitted not only her district but Nassau County as a whole. She pledges to continue her environmental work in a new

Ford is also concerned about the county's rapidly rising home prices. "One of the reasons home prices rose so much was due to the fact that many in New York City chose to move to Long Island" during the coronavirus pandemic, she said. "It became a sellers' market, as

term

there were more buyers than homes for sale. Rents were impacted as well, as many were looking to relocate here.

"As this appears to be settling," she continued, "we need to look at ways to make it easier for our lowerand middle-income families. There is a need for more affordable housing, and we need to work together to bring these types of units into our communities. One way would be to partner with organizations such as the Long Island Housing Partnership, which has helped people get homes they otherwise could not afford on their own.

#### Claudia Lovas Challenger

Party: Democratic

**Age:** 46

Hometown: Long Beach

Career: Attorney

#### On the issues:

Claudia Lovas, running for the first time, said her campaign is based on the idea that a new face is needed in the County Legislature, and that County Executive Laura Curran, also a Democrat, needs the support of her party. Lovas said she would bring more Latinos and other minority members into the political fold. She noted that she has started two successful law firms and has worked with the Democratic Party in the



On the issue of afford-

"Economic development has

been an important issue for

the county executive. Before

affordable housing, we need

the fiscal health of the coun-

ty achieved by Laura Curran

Maintaining fiscal discipline,

holding the line on property

taxes ultimately translates

into housing affordability. It

and her administration.

a balanced budget and

to continue and maintain

we can be more supportive

of local issues such as

able housing, Lovas said.

past.

surplus, and Laura Curran has proposed tax cuts for 2022. This is a direct result of the hard work of the Curran administration. Moving forward, we need to eliminate the continued obstacles created by the Republican legislative majority that derail initiatives proposed by the county executive to the detriment of Nassau."

is a domino effect that starts

from the top down. Despite

a global pandemic, the

county now has a budget

Includes Atlantic Beach, Baldwin Harbor, Barnum Island, East Atlantic Beach, Harbor Island, Island Park, Lawrence, Lido Beach, Long Beach, Point Lookout, Woodsburgh

## ELECTION 2021 **COUNTY LEGISLATURE DISTRICT 5**

#### Debra S. Mulé Incumbent

Party: Democratic

Age: 59

**Professional experience:** Social worker

Political career: Nassau County Legislature, Freeport Village trustee, Freeport School Board president and vice president

#### On the issues:

Debra Mulé offered praise for the current county administration's "conservative budgeting and smart fiscal management." The county, she said, "has been able to earmark large portions of its American Rescue Plan allocation toward direct relief programs that will help local businesses continue to



adapt to the post-pandemic world."

This past summer, she said, the Democratic minority in the Legislature "advocated for and secured unanimous approval for dedicating tens of millions of dollars to recovery grants for small businesses, low-interest loan programs and other forms of crucial support for entrepreneurs."

"I'm blessed with the opportunity to represent a tremendously diverse constituency in the 5th Legislative District," Mulé said, "and it has always been my practice to equip my office to best meet the needs of our community. Since the district I serve includes a large number of Spanish-speaking residents, I have ensured that my staff will always include a person who is fluent in Spanish. My current staff includes a Haitian-Creole speaker as well."

Baldwin's downtown revitalization continues to be the top issue that Mulé is focused on. The county's contribution to this effort -Complete Streets - will be starting by the end of the year. "This investment in our infrastructure," she said, "promises to provide for a safe, walkable and revitalized downtown and serve as a catalyst for further smart, transit-oriented development."

#### Brian **McEvoy** Challenger

Party: Republican

Age: 59

**Professional experience:** Operations manager, high school coach

Political career: South Hempstead Civic Association President

#### On the issues:

"The economy has taken a huge loss during Covid," McEvoy said. "On Long Island, we need more help locally to help our small businesses survive and to grow new business. Long Island lost one in six businesses and, with that, people lost jobs and many left the state. We need a lot more capital spending to



grow businesses in Nassau County."

McEvoy said he believes 'it's the responsibility of those that seek or hold government office to fight discrimination wherever it is found, promote policies that foster equality and support those that have been discriminated against. This includes ensuring that discriminatory policies, actions or barriers in employment, housing, banking are eradicated. I also believe that total inclusion is important in making decisions."

McEvoy continued that he believes "the tax reassessment is extremely flawed." noting, "It's hard to understand that some homeowners' taxes will go up drastically while others will stay the same. The \$375 that the county will be sending out is not enough to counterbalance the tax increases."

He also said that he believes crime has risen following the bail-reform laws that passed in recent years. "I believe that law enforcement should be able to do their jobs and protect the citizens of Nassau County, whether in the neighborhoods or in our local jails," he said.

Includes Baldwin, Baldwin Harbor, Freeport, Merrick, Oceanside, South Hempstead, Rockville Centre.

COMPTROLLER

#### **Brian** Cronin

Party: Democratic

Age: 40

**Professional experience:** Corporate attorney, business litigator

Political career: Secondtime candidate

#### On the issues:

Brian Cronin said the Nassau County comptroller's office must lean into the "new normal" and embrace modernization, saying that the office still uses technology from the middle of the 20th century and is thus overdue for an upgrade. In doing so, it would allow the office to adapt more effectively not only to the "new normal" but also to any hurdles to come.



Nassau has become a "hub of diversity," he said. As comptroller, he would "represent the entire county" and strive to have voices from every community heard. Many new businesses in Nassau are minority-owned, he said, and he would work to ensure that county contracts were evenly distributed among business owners.

The comptroller, he said, is the "taxpayers' watchdog responsible for fighting waste and fraud," adding that the office will take on "increasing importance given the uncertainty of the post-Covid economy."

He would recruit "highlevel professionals from the private sector to join our team so that we have the skilled team required to address these unprecedented times," adding, "Taxpayers must have confidence that this team is not politicized. Like most taxpavers. I am sick and tired of divisive politics. This is why I have committed to hiring a moderate Republican as my top deputy. Such bipartisanship has become far too rare in today's politics.

#### **Elaine** Phillips

Party: Republican

#### Age: 61

**Professional experience:** Financial adviser, vice president of mortgage finance and institutional sales

Political career: Formerly state senator, 7th District, mayor of Village of Flower Hill

#### On the issues:

As Nassau County comptroller, Elaine Phillips said she would play a crucial role in "objectively identifying those governmental agencies whose performance is lagging and making recommendations to address deficiencies." An example of a lack of adequate management and adaption has been seen within the Department of



Consumer Affairs, she said. The county administration, she said, should "follow the Town of Hempstead's successful practice of issuing permits and licenses off campus through the use of mobile trailers. Strict safeguards have been employed to meet the needs of taxpay-

While in the private sector at Goldman Sachs, she said, she oversaw the diversity efforts, and while she was a New York state senator, she sponsored multiple educational and outreach

forums on diversity. As Nassau comptroller, she said she would work to ensure diversity, equity and inclusion in the workplace, and educate and promote solutions to ensure equal rights for all. At the same time, she would undertake performance audits of all county departments to ascertain whether they are meeting diversity, equity and inclusion metrics.

As comptroller, she said, she would serve as the "taxpayer's watchdog." "Taxes and spending need to be controlled in Nassau County," she said. "I have the background and expertise to implement audits to weed out waste, abuse and fraud, saving taxpayers money. Further. I will audit the recent property tax reassessment to determine the extent to which mistakes [were] made."

BALDWIN HERALD – October 28,

2021

## THE HERALD COMMUNITY NEWSPAPERS

## PULL OUT





**OFFICIAL BALLOT** FOR GENERAL ELECTION November 2, 2021 NASSAU COUNTY **BOARD OF ELECTIONS** 

BALDWIN

#### INSTRUCTIONS

To vote for a candidate whose name is not printed on the ballot, mark the oval to the left of 'write-in' and print the name clearly, staying within the box. Any mark or writing outside the spaces provided for voting may void the entire ballot. You have a right to a replacement ballot. If you make a mistake or want to change your vote, call the Board of Elections at (516) 571-2411 for instructions on how to obtain a new ballot. The number of choices is listed for each contest. Do not mark the ballot for more candidates than allowed. If you do, your vote in that contest will not count. Instructions for Voting on Questions and Proposals

To vote on a question or proposal, mark the oval to the left of your choice. If you make a mistake, or want to change your vote, call the Board of Elections at (516) 571-2411 for instructions on how to obtain a new ballot.

Office	Justice of the Supreme Court (Vote for up to eight) Juez de la Corte Suprema								County Executive (Vote for one) Ejecutivo del Condado	District Attorney (Vote for one) Fiscal del Distrito	County Comptroller (Vote for one) Controlador del Condado	Condado	Family Court Judge (Vote for one) Juez de la Corte de Familia	Distrito 2	Hempstead Supervisor (Vote for one) Supervisor	Hempstead Council Member District 1 (Vote for one) Concejal Distrito 1	Hempstead Council Member District 4 (Vote for one) Concejal Distrito 4	Hempstead Town Clerk (Vote for one) Secretario Municipal	County Legislator District 1 (Vote for one) Legislador del Condado Distrito 1	County Legislator District 4 (Vote for one) Legislador del Condado Distrito 4	County Legislator District 5 (Vote for one) Legislador del Condado Distrito 5
	(Vote hasta por ocho)							(Vote por uno)	(Vote por uno)	(Vote por uno)	(Vote por uno)	(Vote por uno)	(Vote por uno)	(Vote por uno)	(Vote por uno)	(Vote por uno)	(Vote por uno)	(Vote por uno)	(Vote por uno)	(Vote por uno)	
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A	Timothy S. Driscoll	Susan B. Heckman	Vito M. DeStefano	Christopher Modelewski	Conrad D. Singer	Danielle M. Peterson	Daly Sapraicone	Fox- McDonougł	Laura Curran	Todd D. Kaminsky	Ryan E. Cronin	Justin R. Brown	Darlene D. Harris	Vincent T. Muscarella	Jason L. Abelove	Dorothy L. Goosby	Aaron E. Meyer	Olena Nicks	Kevan M. Abrahams	Claudia P. Lovas	Debra S. Mule
Republican	Republican	Republicar	Republican	Republican	Republica	n Republican	Republican	0.8	Republicar Tax Revolt		n Republican Tax Revolt 11			Republican	Republicar Tax Revolt 15		Republican Tax Revol	n Republican		Republican	
В	Timothy S. Driscoll	Susan B. Heckman	Vito M. DeStefano	Christopher Modelewski	Conrad D. Singer	Danielle M. Peterson	Eileen Daly Sapraicone	Elizabeth Fox- McDonough	Bruce A. Blakeman	Anne T. Donnelly	Elaine R. Phillips	Maureen C. O'Connell	Darlene D. Harris	Vincent T. Muscarella	Donald X. Clavin, Jr.	James Lamarre	Anthony P. D'Esposito	Kate Murray	Elton E. McCabe, Jr.	Denise A. Ford	Brian J. McEvoy
Conservative	Conservative	Conservative	Conservative	Conservative	Conservativ <sub>5</sub>	conservative	0,	0 8	Conservative	Conservativ	e Conservative	Conservative	Conservative	Conservative	Conservative	Conservative	Conservative	e Conservative	Conservative	Conservative	Conservative
С	Timothy S. Driscoll	Susan B. Heckman	Vito M. DeStefano	Christopher Modelewski	Conrad D. Singer	Danielle M. Peterson	Eileen Daly Sapraicone	Elizabeth Fox- McDonough	Bruce A. Blakeman	Anne T. Donnelly	Elaine R. Phillips	Maureen C. O'Connell	Darlene D. Harris	Vincent T. Muscarella	Donald X. Clavin, Jr.	James Lamarre	Anthony P. D'Esposito	Kate Murray	Elton E. McCabe, Jr.	Denise A. Ford	Brian J. McEvoy
Working											Working Families	Working Families	;					Working Families			
Families											Ryan E. Cronin	Justin R. Brown						Olena Nicks	Kevan M. Abrahams		
									Common Sense	2					Common Sense	2	Common Sense				Common Sense
Common Sense									~ 9 						∪ <sub>15</sub>		<sup>℃</sup> 16				· 22
E									Laura Curran						Jason L. Abelove		Aaron E. Meyer				Debra S. Mule
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Write-in																					
	Write-in	Write-in	Write-in	Write-in	Write-in	Write-in	Write-in	Write-in	Write-in	Write-in	Write-in	Write-in	Write-in	Write-in	Write-in	Write-in	Write-in	Write-in	Write-in	Write-in	Write-in



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## SAMPLE ELECTION BALLOT COURTESY OF THE HERALD COMMUNITY NEWSPAPERS



#### INSTRUCTIONS

Para votar un candidato cuyo nombre no está en la papeleta, marque el òvalo a la izquierda del 'writein' y escriba el nombre claramente en la casilla. Cualquier otra marca, o escritura fuera de los espacios proporcionados para votar, puede anular toda la papeleta. Usted tiene el derecho a una papeleta de reemplazo. Si comete un error o quiere cambiar su voto, llame la Junta De Elecciones al (516) 571-1245 para instrucciones sobre cómo obtener una nueva papeleta. El número de opciones está listado para cada elección. No marque mas candidatos de lo permitidos. Si lo haces, su voto en esa elección no sera contado

Instrucciones para la votación de preguntas y propuestas Para votar sobre una pregunta o sobre una propuesta, marque el óvalo a la izquierda de su preferencia. Si comete un error o quiere cambiar su voto, llame la Junta De Elecciones al (516) 571-1245 para instrucciones sobre cómo obtener una nueva papeleta.

This is not an actual ballot, but a composite of several sample ballots so as to reflect all the districts within the communities covered by your edition of the Herald. Complete reporting on candidates running in districts covered by the Herald - as well as the full text of our endorsements in each race - may be found at LIHerald.com under the Elections '20 tab

For election results after the polls close Tuesday night, go to LIHerald.com

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## PULL OUT

#### ELECTION 2021

## SUPERVISOR

Don Clavin Incumbent

Party: Republican

Age: 52

Hometown: Garden City

Career: Elected official, attorney

Political experience: Hempstead town supervisor (2019 to present); receiver of taxes (2001-2019)

#### On the issues:

Don Clavin said tax relief is at the top of his priorities, and that after freezing taxes in 2021, he intended to cut them in 2022. He has also dedicated \$75 million to road repaving and infrastructure upgrades and \$10 million on parks improvements. Additionally, he said, he



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hoped to continue to slash unnecessary spending after trimming \$1 million from the supervisor's staff budget upon taking office, while also eliminating "take-home cars" for top managers, and driving his own personal car.

He added that he is proud of the town's fiscal strength under his administration, which has been recognized with credit rating upgrades from two top Wall Street credit agencies -Moody's and Standard & Poors. Clavin said he was pleased to have recently ntro-

duced the "pothole patrol," an effort to expedite roadway repairs using state-of-the-art pothole repair vehicles and promoting a hotline for residents to report potholes in their neighborhoods. He said that under his leadership, the town has worked to ramp up efforts to improve town infrastructure, which he called critical for the safety and quality of life of residents, while still freezing town taxes for 2021 and cutting them in 2022. Clavin said he has sought and will continue to seek to assist small businesses as they reopen. Using federal CARES Act funds, the town distributed money and personal protective equipment kits to small businesses and residents during the pandemic.

Clavin also said he instituted an Economic Advisory Council to help strategize and make decisions.

#### Jason Abelove Challenger

Party: Democratic

Age: 51

Hometown: Oceanside

Career: Discrimination attorney since 1994

Political experience: Firsttime candidate

#### On the issues:

Jason Abelove said his top priorities are to lower taxes and bring equity to the delivery of town services. He added that he believes the town has wasted money on "high salary

patronage jobs, bloated budgets, expensive mailers and inflated no-bid contracts."

Abelove said his goal is



to cut excessive spending to improve infrastructure in the town based upon areas of most need.

He said he also wants to use federal CARES money and the Boost Nassau initiative to provide direct support to small businesses, and to promote job fairs and lower taxes to make business. thrive in the town.

He said he would streamline permitting, promote job fairs and lower taxes to make business thrive in the town.

Abelove said if he were

elected, Hempstead would distribute the federal relief money. Abelove said he believes that the town's primary responsibility is local infrastructure, and roads need to be adequately cared

He added that, if elected, he would place resources on infrastructure based upon need.

Abelove said he would slash \$5 million that is spent annually on town mailings and would end the waste, putting taxpayer's priorities over those of politicians, and running the town with an eye toward service rather than re-election would save residents millions of dollars.

## **HEMPSTEAD TOWN CLERK**

#### Kate Murray Incumbent

Party: Republican

Age: 59

Hometown: Levittown

#### On the issues:

Kate Murray has been active in the Town of Hempstead politics since first holding the position of town clerk in 2002. After serving a lengthy tenure as town supervisor from 2003 through 2016, she was reelected for the role of clerk in 2019.

Having faced the challenges created by Covid-19, Murray has worked to modernize the office by launching a paperless Long Island Rail Road parking pass system in Oceanside last June, which became available to



the rest of the town in March of this year. She advocated for keeping the clerk's office open during the pandemic by creating safe ways for the office to continue to serve the community. An advocate for catering to all residents, Murray supports multilingual outreach and said she believes the clerk's office must represent people of all nationalities.

If re-elected, Murray would be a part of the implementation process of the Town of Hempstead's new website, which will have

PULL OUT

a translation component so the site can be seen in the language preferred by the user.

A firm believer in providing tax relief, Murray maintained that she worked with the town supervisor to craft a tax-freeze budget in 2021, and would work toward a tax-cut budget in 2022.

**Oneka Nicks** Challenger

Party: Democrat

Age: 29

Hometown: Uniondale

#### On the issues:

First-time candidate and challenger Oneka Nicks is a Uniondale Library trustee, a 1st Lieutenant in the Uniondale fire Department and a foundation relations and donor communications manager for Planned Parenthood.

If elected, Nicks envisions a modernized clerk's office with a Freedom of Information Law cue system that could best monitor when requests came in, the deadline to answer and the progress that has been made retrieving the requested documents. Additionally. Nicks



said she believes the office would benefit from a meeting management system, and she would like to see the removal of equipment, such as typewriters, to create a fully electronic and digitized office.

Nicks would also like to ensure that documents for residents are available in multiple languages and to make sure that everyone the community is informed on the services offered by the clerk's office. She believes outreach is key, as is modernizing the website to make it available in numerous languages. Lastly, Nicks would like to oversee the creation of a 311 system for residents who prefer to speak on the phone about certain services or issues. She feels that this, as well as online meetings discussing how the office works, would effectively modernize the office.



# October 28, 2021 – BALDWIN HERALD

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LECTION 2021

## **NASSAU COUNTY CLERK**

#### Maureen O'Connell Incumbent

Party: Republican

#### Age: 70

Hometown: East Williston

Career: County clerk, former nurse

#### Political experience: Nas-

sau County clerk, 2006-present; New York state assemblywoman, 1998-2005; trustee and deputy mayor, Village of East Williston, 1991-98

#### On the issues:

Maureen O'Connell said her goal is to continue to expand on the many steps taken to improve the office since she was first elected in 2005, and to ensure that it operates effectively and efficiently. She and her staff



have worked to process more than a million backlogged records and implemented an electronic filing process that converts paper land records to a digital format to ensure they remain safe for the future, and she said she hoped to continue to serve residents of all ages in the community by helping them to learn about the benefits of the clerk's office.

O'Connell and her staff have also implemented security measures to protect residents from scams and identity theft, and have

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worked with military veterans to protect them from data breaches through the years. She said she has also found ways to get the community involved by extending office hours, creating outreach programs and educating constituents on what the clerk's office provides.

#### Justin **Brown** Challenger

Party: Democratic

Age: 30

istrator

Hometown: Baldwin Career: Health-care admin-

Political experience: Served on the Uniondale Board of Education for the past three years

#### On the issues:

Justin Brown said he has long been passionate about helping people and being an advocate for residents. He intends to make the office more innovative with technology so that residents could receive documents and enjoy greater accessibility without having to visit the office in person and imple-



menting a modern system that his office would have full control over online

Brown said he would also ensure that the clerk's office could engage with the communities by providing more education and collaborating with key stakeholders in all towns to create a dialogue so that residents can take full advantage of the county clerk's resources and benefits

There are opportunities for positive change across Long Island. Our Vacant Space **Revival Program** encourages and incentivizes small businesses, like Blacksmith's Breads, to occupy and revitalize empty storefronts in their community.

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Blacksmith's Breads Long Beach

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## **2021 JUDICIAL CANDIDATES**

### **3rd District Court Judge**

#### Lisa Saltzman

Running on the Democratic, Republican and Conservative party lines in the general election

#### Age: 55

Lives in: Great Neck

Education: Bachelor's from New York University, 1988; law degree from Yeshiva University in 1991

Legal career: Upon graduation, Saltzman began working as a trial attorney at the Legal Aid Society, where she stayed until

1997. She has worked as a supervising attorney with Queens Defenders since 1997, and an attorney at law in her private practice since 2010. Saltzman is also an adjunct professor of law at Seton Hall University, a position she has held since 2010.



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**David I. Levine** 

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NOT

**AVAILABLE** 

Democratic, Republican, Conservative

#### Age: 55

Lives in: Roslyn Heights

Education: Gaduated from SUNY Binghamton in 1987 and earned his law degree from New York Law School in 1990.

Legal career: Judge Levine was appointed by the County Executive Laura Curran to the Nassau

County District Court this past March.

Levine previously served as the associate justice for the Village of Manorhaven from November 2019 to March 2021.

Levine was also a member of the Town of North Hempstead Board of Zoning and Appeals from January 2012 to March 2021.

Prior to ascending to the District Court bench, he maintained a private practice in Mineola from 1997 to March 2021 and was an assistant district attorney in Queens from 1990 to 1997.

#### William Hohauser

LECTION 2021

Democratic, Republican, Conservative

Age: 62 Lives in: xxxx Education: Earned bachelor's degree from SUNY Binghamton



in 1981 and his law degree from Columbia Law School in 1984.

#### Legal career: Hohauser served as counsel and the executive

director for Morgan Stanley

Smith Barney from 1987 to 2015. While there, his areas of practice included securities, corporate, employment, RICO and real estate law as well as Uniform Commercial Code and tort claims.

#### **Family Court** Judge Candidate

#### **Darlene D. Harris**

#### Age: 55

Hometown: Uniondale

Education: University of Pennsylvania; Hofstra University

Legal career: District Court judge since January 2015, practiced law in family court for 13 vears, former Nassau County legislator.







#### **2nd District Court Judge**

#### Vincent T. Muscarella

Vincent T. Muscarella, a Republican, is running unopposed for the 2nd District Court. He was elected to the first session of the Nassau County Legislature on Nov. 5, 1995. He represents the 8th Legislative District, which encompasses Franklin Square, Floral Park, Bellerose, Bellerose Terrace, West Hempstead and portions of Elmont, New Hyde Park and Stewart Manor.



Muscarella was born in Nassau County in 1954 and is a lifelong resident of the county. After completing his undergraduate studies at Bowdoin College in Maine, he attended St. John's Law School and received his J.D. in 1979. Muscarella is a partner in the law firm of Muscarella and Tomasone and a member of the Nassau County, New York State, and Florida Bar Associations. He is admitted to practice in the Federal District Courts for the Eastern and Southern Districts.

## LECTION 2021

## **STATE SUPREME COURT JUSTICE**

#### **Danielle Peterson**

#### Party: Republican Age: 46

**Education:** Peterson earned her bachelor's from the University of Delaware in 1997 and a J.D. from Hofstra University on 2000.

**Legal career:** Peterson began her legal career as an attorney in a private practice in 2001. In 2010, she became the principal law clerk to the Hon. Anthony L. Parga of the Nassau County Supreme Court and was elected justice in 2015.

#### **Elizabeth Fox McDonough**

Party: Democratic, Republican and Conservative Age: 59

**Education:** Earned bachelor's from St. John's University in 1984 and J.D. St. John's University in 1987.

**Legal career:** From 1987 to 1997, served as an assistant district attorney in Queens. From 1997 to 2001, served as the principal law clerk to Justice Arthur Cooperman in the Criminal Term of the Queens County Supreme Court.

#### Joseph Girardi

**Party:** Democratic, Republican and Conservative **Age:** 62

**Education:** Graduated with Highest Honors from SUNY Oneonta in 1981 with a dual major of U.S. history and political science. Graduated from Georgetown Law Center in 1984 and was a Criminal Justice Clinic participant.

**Legal career:** From 1984 to 1988, served as an assistant district attorney in Queens. From 1988 to 2015, he was an attorney in private practice specializing in criminal cases.

#### **Eileen Daly-Sapraicone**

**Party:** Democratic, Republican and Conservative **Age:** 57

**Education:** Bachelor's from St. John's University in 1991; law degree from City University of New York Law School in 1995.

Legal career: Daly-Sapraicone began her legal career in 1995 as an assistant district attorney Queens, where she worked for six years. Daly-Sapraicone served as a special counsel in the special commissioner of investigation for the New York City School District.

#### Susan B. Heckman

Party: Democratic, Republican and Conservative Age: 41

**Education:** Earned bachelor's in history and political science from Bucknell University in 2002; received law degree from Villanova University School of Law in 2005.

**Legal career:** From 2007 to 2010, served as a defense attorney for the Legal Aid Society of Suffolk County. Since 2012, Heckman has served as the principal law secretary to Suffolk Supreme Court Justice John B. Collins.

#### **Timothy S. Driscoll**

**Party:** Democratic, Conservative, Republican **Age:** 54

**Education:** Bachelor's Hofstra University, 1988; law degree, Harvard Law School, 1991.

Legal career: After graduating from law school, Driscoll began a year-long clerkship with the Hon. Joseph M. McLaughlinof the U.S. Court of Appeals for the second circuit. Upon completion of his clerkship, he entered into private practice. Driscoll left the private sector in 1996 to join the Nassau district attorney's office.

#### Vito DeStefano

**Party:** Democratic, Republican, Conservative **Age:** 54

**Education:** Wagner College; Brooklyn Law School.

**Legal career:** Elected to the New York State Supreme Court in 2007 and is presiding in the Commercial Division and over the Tax Certiorari part of the court in Nassau County. He was a Nassau County District Court judge from 2004 through 2007. Was appointed to the New York State's Advisory Committee on Judicial Ethics.

## RELIEF IS AVAILABLE FOR NASSAU RESIDENTS

Nassau County has approved a plan to use federal relief funds for direct payments of \$375 to eligible households.

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If your household earned \$168,900 or less in 2020 collect your necessary documents and then follow the link or QR code below.

If your household earned \$168,901 or more but under \$500,000 in 2020 follow the link or QR code below to learn if you qualify.

Household Assistance Program (HAP) Information **www.nassaucountyny.gov/HAPinfo** If you need in-person help, call 516-571-1555 for an appointment.



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