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Courtesy Kimberly Leibrock Cascio

**ON OCT. 21,** Baldwin Boy Scout Troop 824 showed off their Trunk or Treat costumes at the St. Christopher's Church parking lot for charity.

## Baldwin troop goes all out for Halloween

By **CRISTINA ARROYO RODRIGUEZ**  
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On Oct. 21, Baldwin Boy Scout Troop 824, partnering with St. Christopher's Church, hosted its seventh annual Trunk or Treat, a Halloween event and food drive to benefit St. Vincent de Paul Food Pantry.

Dozens of costumed children and adults attended that afternoon at the church, including some dressed as archeologists, dinosaurs, werewolves, puppets, witches and Minnie Mouse, even a slice of

pizza.

Aside from the creative costumes, the event also featured decorated cars for trick-or-treaters, adults and children alike to collect candy, a costume parade, a DJ booth and dancing.

Attendees paid an admission donation of \$5 per trick-or-treater or an equal value amount of non-perishable food items—100 percent of the proceeds went to the St. Vincent de Paul food pantry to help local families during the holidays.

The event was funded by

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## Sports fans eat up Baldwin Bruins student-run podcast

By **KARINA KOVAC**  
kkovac@liherald.com

The one-of-a-kind "Baldwin Bruins Sports Podcast" is entering its third successful year with a new lacrosse varsity athlete crew. Regularly created by co-hosts Amanda Antoine and Toyin Green and their producer and editor, Akshay Sahonta, the podcast continues the tradition of breaking records and winning awards.

Making the podcast slightly different each year, Gregg Kelley, a business teacher at the high school who provides oversight for the project, encourages each host to make it his or her own.

This year mental health in athletics is something co-hosts Antoine and Green have decided to focus on with the community.

Antoine spoke on the choice, saying, "I feel we haven't talked enough about it and let everyone know if there is someone who has mental health issues or eating disorder they can listen to the podcast and get help."

He also wants to give voice to former students, saying she wants "to bring alumni and other guests on the podcast to talk about [mental health]...how to handle it and go through the process of dealing with it. Also, eating disorders too are very common in athletes, so we want

**D**oing the podcast opened my eyes as to where I could go with it.

**TOYIN GREEN**  
Podcast co-host

to bring awareness to that."

Antoine explained that only the "best of the best on and off the field come on [the show]. They need good reputations in general, only good characters needed." The podcast represents

all the sports offered at the school, so there is an equal distribution of attention. They also try to give new freshmen a roadmap as to what to expect trying out for sports and how to get involved.

Aligning schedules, writing scripts, gathering game and match scores and stats after events, these teens spend hours a

week making sure the podcast is perfect.

Sahonta explained how he handles the tasks of editing the episodes and how important time management is: "How you manage your time is how you'll become more successful in your life, and it's a nice lifestyle to have."

CONTINUED ON PAGE 10



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Photos by Karina Kovac/Herald

**JAMIR STEWART AND** Jacob Oka loved the high intensity energy of the friendly competition between the teams.

**DALYSSHYA MORENO SPRINGS** into the air during the jump ball, the first of many times Moreno would dominate the game.

# High School represented by student athletes

By **KARINA KOVAC**

kkovac@iherald.com

Four student athletes and coaches from Baldwin High School participated in the Alzheimer's All-Star Basketball Classic on Oct. 24 at Amityville High School. Apart from the Nassau County Girls All-Star Team, was Dalysshya Moreno and Payton Dulin, with head coach Tom Catapano and assistant coaches Mike Butler and Tony Dulin. For the Nassau County Boys All-Star Team, was player Jacob Oka and Jamir Stewart with assistant coach Darius Burton.

Catapano said his involvement started when, "Coach Gordon Thomas, the founder, called me up and asked if I would be willing to be held coach, and I said I'd be honored." The Nassau County team ended up winning 95 to Suffolk's 61. "Our Nassau team did a phenomenal job today. They shared the basketball... they're extremely talented and very coachable and we had a who's who that showed," he added.

Player #24 Moreno had to go through a three-day try-out process that was open to all Nassau County schools and only took the top 14 girls. She said, "I was honored to be a part of this the tryouts very, very hard and we worked really hard in the practice."

Being grouped with eight other schools, the girls had to learn to work together with new faces. Moreno said of the experience, "It's a great group of girls, and we definitely shared, even though we didn't know each other; we played like smart basketball players. It's a great cause. It allows kids to learn about [Alzheimer's] as well."

Oka, player #15, said the game was "really fun; we had a lot of exposure playing here because they didn't know about us till we represented us more. I knew we were going to win we have more heart than them and played more as a team."

Win the team did, with 95 to the Suffolk team's 85. At one time down by nearly fifteen points, the game took a turn after intermission, soon becoming a three- and sometimes one-point game. The team included ten other high schools, and of the players Oka says, "I'd like to play with them in the future more, only playing for two days beforehand we had good chemistry."

Oka's classmate Stewart agreed saying, "I like the environment, the environment is cool, everyone plays fast intensity...Baldwin on top." Baldwin and Stewart were on top, especially after the other team knocked the basketball hoop off-kilter and Stewart climbed a latter to try and set it straight.

Assistant coach Burton said it felt great representing



Baldwin especially since, "I love it; it's the town I grew up...Winning feels so much better than losing." He also stated, "They did a great job, they brought Baldwin pride to this game today, they played hard, played unselfish, and played together."

One-hundred percent of the proceeds from the event go to the Long Island Alzheimer's Dementia Center and Day Haven Adult Day Services. The Alzheimer's All-Star Basketball Classic fundraiser was founded by Gordon Thomas in 2012 in memory of his father Detective John Edward Thomas Sr. Thomas is an avid supporter in the fight against Alzheimer's disease, creating this event out of his experience dealing with his father's dementia. Gordan was an All-Star basketball player at St. John's University and was drafted in the New York Knicks.

For more information about past and future Alzheimer's All-Star Basketball Classic events go to <http://aab-classic.org/>. For information about Long Island Alzheimer's and Dementia Center services and donations go to <https://www.lidementia.org/>.



**JAMIR STEWART PLAYS** offence, trying to see his options as his teammates get closer and closer to the other team's net., above.

**DALYSSHYA MORENO AND** coach Tom Catapano enjoyed representing Baldwin and supporting a great cause, happy with their win and being able to spread awareness through the community, right.

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Cristina Arroyo Rodriguez/Herald

ONE OF THE projects that Mahler initiated was the Veterans Banner Program, which honors veterans along Grand Avenue.

## Looking back at Erik Mahler's tenure as chamber president

As Erik Mahler's 11-year tenure as the Baldwin Chamber of Commerce president comes to an end on Nov. 4 at 6 p.m. at the American Legion on Grand Ave., where Frankie Jorge will take over the reins, we take a look at the man and his accomplishments in this pivotal role in the Baldwin community.

A self-described people person, Mahler, longtime Baldwin resident, is an integral part of his community. Known as a "doer" and "go-getter," Erik puts as much enthusiasm into organizing local community clean-ups and events as he does into Mahler Realty, where he is Owner.

Mahler Realty was founded by his grandfather in 1953 and he prides himself on continuing the same philosophy of maintaining the highest level of integrity and trust in real estate transactions. Erik, a Professional Licensed Broker, not only feels a sense of pride but also a deep responsibility to furnish clients with sound guidance, assistance and support.

Nancy Capozzi, who's worked with Mahler at Mahler Realty and the chamber, said to the Herald, "He is the best boss, and he will be missed." Erik was named Baldwin Herald 2009 Person of the Year, and has been honored by the Nassau Council of Chambers twice during his tenure as President of the Baldwin Chamber, most recently for the second time in 2021.

He is married to Tracy, and together they have four beautiful children. For years, Erik has been involved with Baldwin UFSD's Mentoring Program to provide students with a positive role model.

Virginia Foley, who was succeeded as chamber president by Mahler in 2010, stated, "He took over the reins and brought the chamber to new heights...It's a big sacrifice because you're giving up

your personal and business time."

One of Erik's most recent noteworthy and proud accomplishments was inception of the Banner Program honoring all veterans and first responders. Erik is very proud of being an American and believes we should honor those who serve our wonderful country. Another noteworthy accomplishment was the implementation of the Baldwin Chamber of Commerce Annual Baldwin Day and Fireworks Show.



Courtesy Nancy Capozzi

**ERIK MAHLER,** BALDWIN Chamber of Commerce, President, 2010-2021

Erik has selflessly given of himself to better the Baldwin Community by instituting American flag displays, Welcome to Beautiful Baldwin signage, illuminated snowflake decorations, large landscaped gardens that can be enjoyed by the community, and much, much more. As a third-generation Real Estate Broker, he believes in giving back wholeheartedly.

Compiled by Cristina Arroyo Rodriguez.



**Fri. nite Oct 29 and Sat. Oct 30**

This week's Torah portion: **Chayei Sarah**  
Shabbos Mevarchim

**Candle Lighting 5:37 pm**

**Shabbat Ends 6:45 pm**

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# BALDWIN HERALD

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## Erik Mahler's accomplishments:

- President of Baldwin Chamber of Commerce, 2010 - 2021
- 68th Anniversary of Mahler Realty, 2021
- Trustee and member of First Church Baldwin, United Methodist
- German Heritage Award Honoree, 2016
- Former President, Freeport Exchange Club
- BA in Economics & European History, Union College, 1998



## ELECTION 2021



**Ryan E. Cronin**

**Age:** 40

**Hometown:** Garden City

**Professional Background:** Business Litigator/Lawyer

**Political experience:** Ran for state senate for 6th District twice



**Elaine R. Phillips**

**Age:** 61

**Hometown:** Manhasset

**Professional Background:** Financial Analyst, Vice-president of Institutional Sales

**Political experience:** State Senator for 7th District, mayor of Flower Hill, trustee of Munsey Park

# Cronin, Phillips vie for county comptroller seat

By **CRISTINA ARROYO RODRIGUEZ**

carroyo@iherald.com

Ryan Cronin and Elaine Phillips are running for county comptroller, as the current comptroller, Jack Schnirman, is not seeking re-election. Cronin is a Democrat from Garden City who has forged a career as business litigator—he ran twice for state senate but lost to Republican incumbent Kemp Hannon. Phillips is a Republican from Manhasset who has a background in finance as well as local and state political experience as Floral Park mayor and state senator.

The Herald asked the candidates questions focused on vital issues and what makes them qualified for the position.

**Herald:** Since the George Floyd protests, organizational/institutional diversity, equity and inclusion have been put front and center. How would DEI instruct your practice as an elected official?

**Cronin:** Nassau County has become a hub of diversity. As comptroller, I would be representing the entire county, and as such I would strive to have voices from every community heard. Most new businesses in Nassau County are minority-owned, and we will use the upcoming disparity study to ensure that the county's contractors represent its population.

**Phillips:** While in the private sector at Goldman Sachs, I oversaw the diversity efforts, and while in public office as a New York state senator, I sponsored multiple educational and outreach forums on MWBE. As Nassau comptroller, I would continue this pursuit to ensure diversity, equity and

inclusion in the workplace and continue to educate and promote solutions to ensure equal rights to all. What's more, I would undertake performance audits of all county departments to ascertain whether they are meeting DEI metrics.

**Herald:** What are the most pressing issues in the county, and how do you address these collaboratively with all stakeholders within the next term?

**Cronin:** The Comptroller is the taxpayers' watchdog responsible for fighting waste and fraud. This role will take on increasing importance given the uncertainty of the post-COVID economy. We are recruiting high-level professionals from the private sector to join our team so that we have the skilled team required to address these unprecedented times. Taxpayers must have confidence that this team is not politicized. Like most taxpayers, 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.

**Phillips:** Taxes and spending need to be controlled in Nassau County. 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 made in the Department of Assessment's recent reassessment have adversely impacted property owners. I will work as an independent watchdog for Nassau's taxpayers, and I will protect their tax dollars. That is my job, and it is my commitment to the residents who I will serve.

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# COMMUNITY UPDATE

## Ongoing

### Community service programs with the library

Interested in being kind and earning community service credits? Take part in the Baldwin Public Library's ongoing community service programs. Using art, thank a veteran — design a plaque to thank veterans and visit [www.baldwinpl.org](http://www.baldwinpl.org) to view a "Thanking Our Veterans" video. Or, using art, create a special card for a hospitalized kid. Create your own special card to cheer up a sick child. Visit the library website to view a video that will show you the different ways you can decorate your card. To register, send an email to [teens@baldwinpl.org](mailto:teens@baldwinpl.org). Library staff will reach out to have you pick up your kit at the main entrance doors of the library.

### Pumpkin patch pick your own

First Church Baldwin United Methodist is selling pumpkins, decorative gourds, and more at their Annual Pumpkin Patch fundraiser in front of the church at 881 Merrick Road, Baldwin. The Pumpkin Patch is open for business every day from 11 a.m. until 7 p.m. from Oct. 5 until Oct. 31. Come on down to the patch and mingle with your neighbors while picking out your best jack-O-lantern. Further information can be found at [www.firstchurchbaldwin.com](http://www.firstchurchbaldwin.com) or call (516) 223-1168.

## Thursday, October 28

### Morning meditation with the library

The Baldwin Public Library will host a meditation session on Thursday, Oct. 28 at 9 a.m. via Zoom. Holly from the Kadampa Meditation Center will guide participants through this meditation practice. All are welcome to attend. RSVP to [baldwinzoom@baldwinpl.org](mailto:baldwinzoom@baldwinpl.org) for the password. For more information, visit [www.baldwinpl.org](http://www.baldwinpl.org).

### Story time with the library

Join Miss Mariel for online story time via Zoom! With the library on Oct. 28 at



Herald File Photo

## General election day

Vote for town, village, and/or county candidates. You may vote by requesting an absentee ballot in person at the Board of Elections office in Mineola until November 1, in person at any Early Voting polling place between October 23 and October 31, or in person at your assigned polling place on November 2. For more information, go to <https://www.nassaucountyny.gov/agencies/BOE>.

11:15 a.m. You don't need an account to participate. This program is for children ages 2 to 4. For more information, visit [www.baldwinpl.org](http://www.baldwinpl.org).

## Friday, October 29

### Chair yoga/Aerobic exercise for Seniors

Instructor Augusta Berner will alternate classes and either show you how to use a chair to perform Yoga poses that are kind to the body OR use weights and resistance bands (or substitutions) on hand to get blood pumping! The vent will take place via Zoom at 9 a.m.

### Just Vibe Annual Halloween N Heels dance class

From beginners to all levels are welcome. Heels and costumes are not mandatory. Come solo or with friends! Costume contest and refreshments will be served. Event is hosted by Fit Fam at 950 Church St., Baldwin from 8:00

p.m. to 9:30 p.m.

## Saturday, October 30

### Ace in the Hole/The Big Carnival film discussion

Christopher Woods facilitates a 1 p.m. discussion of director/writer Billy Wilder's film noir classic, the story centers around an unscrupulous newspaper reporter, played by Kirk Douglas, covering a man trapped in a cave collapse in the New Mexico desert. Douglas manipulates the victim's rescue and his own part in it to create a media frenzy, and to serve his own selfish goals. Truth and integrity are thrown away for media sensationalism. Douglas' portrayal of the cynical and seemingly soulless reporter is chilling. This event is in-person and held at the Library's Community Room.

## Monday, November 1

### Journaling for Adults

Interested in improving your mental health and self-confidence while also strengthening your writing and organizational skills? Join Baldwin Public Library at 7 p.m. to 8 p.m. for a brief introduction to journaling and its benefits, followed by the opportunity for participants to craft their first entry or free write. Come experience journaling's cathartic effect on the mind, body, and soul in a welcoming, inclusive, and judgment-free environment. Notebooks and writing material will be provided although patrons are encouraged to bring their own. Electronic devices (laptops, tablets, etc.) are welcomed as well. Please rsvp to [baldwinzoom@baldwinpl.org](mailto:baldwinzoom@baldwinpl.org) for the zoom password.

## Tuesday, November 2

### General election day

Vote for town, village, and/or county candidates. You may vote by requesting

an absentee ballot in person at the Board of Elections office in Mineola until November 1, in person at any Early Voting polling place between October 23 and October 31, or in person at your assigned polling place on November 2. For more information, go to <https://www.nassaucountyny.gov/agencies/BOE>.

### Apple Crisp Pie Kits

Baldwin Public Library Baldwin School District Residents only event: 1 pie per family. Provided by Chefs of D'Future. Grades K - 6 with parent/caregiver. Each family will take home the ingredients to make an 8" apple crisp pie to enjoy over the holidays. Ingredients required but not included in the kit are two sticks of butter. Participants will also have access to a recipe and instructional video from the website to assist them. Online and phone registration begins Thursday, November 4 @ 11:00 AM. After registering, kits can be picked up anytime during library hours.

## HAVING AN EVENT?

Items on the Community Update pages are listed free of charge. The Herald welcomes listings of upcoming events, community meetings and items of public interest. All submissions should include date, time and location of the event, cost, and a contact name and phone number. Submissions can be emailed to [bdownes@liherald.com](mailto:bdownes@liherald.com)

## 5 things to know about your town

- Moneta Sleet, Jr., the first African-American man to win a Pulitzer Prize in photojournalism lived in Baldwin.
- Baldwin parks include Coes Neck Park, Lofts Pond Park, Milburn Pond Park and Silver Lake Park.
- The first Baldwin churches were built in 1810 and 1872, and the first school was built in 1813.
- On Oct. 24, 1919 the Baldwin Public Library opened its doors to the public.
- Melanie Martinez, singer/songwriter was Baldwin class of 2013.



**Maureen O'Connell**  
Incumbent

**Age:** 70

**Hometown:** East Williston

**Career:** Attorney; former nurse

**Political experience:** State assemblywoman (1998 to 2005); County clerk and clerk of Supreme Court (2006 to present)



**Justin Brown**  
Challenger

**Age:** 30

**Hometown:** Baldwin

**Career:** Healthcare administrator

**Political experience:** Served on the Uniondale school board for the past three years

# O'Connell, Brown vie for county clerk

By **MIKE SMOLLINS**  
msmollins@liherald.com

Newcomer Justin Brown is challenging longtime incumbent Maureen O'Connell for the county clerk's post this November.

O'Connell, a Republican, was first elected to the position in 2005, and re-elected in 2009, 2013 and 2017. Brown, a Democrat, is running for office for the first time, but brings with him leadership experience from serving as a health-care administrator at Sloan Kettering Memorial Cancer Center and on the Uniondale Board of Education since 2018.

Ahead of Election Day on Nov. 2, the Herald asked each of the candidates about their goals for the position and what they plan to do to implement ways to efficiently help residents.

**Herald: What do you think is the most important function of the county clerk?**

**O'Connell:** As county and Supreme Court clerk, I am a state constitutional officer charged with maintaining the official records relating to property ownership and Supreme Court actions in the county. My top priority is the delivery of efficient, timely and easily accessible services to the residents of Nassau. One of the most important roles of the clerk is to ensure the integrity and security of the records we maintain. The land and court records are vital to the individuals they relate to. Properly filing and safeguarding these records is crucial.

**Brown:** Being able to store, provide accessi-

bility and ensure requested documents are provided in a timely manner for residents are key to having a successful clerks office.

**Herald: What have you (can be) done to help improve the county clerk's office?**

**O'Connell:** I have brought the office into the modern day. Upon taking office, I eliminated a multi-year backlog within the first year. I have implemented new technology making access virtually all electronic. I also created a property fraud alert system for residents to protect them against predatory deed scams and identity theft.

Continuing on the path of greater access, I established mobile office operations to bring services directly to residents' communities and have extended office hours to better serve them. I will continue to implement state-of-the-art technology and digitize older records to our electronic platform to better protect and serve my constituents. I will also continue my work on modernizing the infrastructure of the office to create greater efficiency in the way it serves the public.

**Brown:** If elected as clerk, my main focus would be to modernize [the office]. In 2021, we should be discussing ways on how to make the office more innovative with technology. I will implement an in-house, more modernized system. In addition, my staff and I will ensure that we can engage with our communities by providing more education and collaborating with key stakeholders in all towns so that our residents can take full advantage of the resources and benefits the office provides.

# I ♥ My Community

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**Celebrating art and autos**  
Artist Dean Adams spent last Saturday afternoon painting some of the cars on display at the Art and Automobiles event in downtown Glen Cove. Story, more photos, Page 3.

## 'She has an eye for it'

Teen creates music video for local songwriter

**BY JILL NOSSA**  
jnossa@liherald.com

With the prevalence of iPhones, editing software and platforms such as YouTube and TikTok, anyone with a digital camera can create and share videos. Having the tools doesn't necessarily mean a person has talent, but for 15-year-old Ava Solange of Glen Cove, an amateur interest in videography led to a paid opportunity.

The high school junior already has a portfolio of completed video projects, including a professional music video. Initially, she said, her interest was in photography. But, she added, "As I started working with my camera more, I realized I could film videos."

Like many teens, Ava taught herself how to use the camera by making TikTok videos, and expanded the scope of her projects. This summer, after hearing a song by singer-songwriter Chris Armata of Glen Cove, she decided to shoot and edit a music video. She created a video for Armata's song "Gratitude" while vacationing in Southern California, enlisting her mother and her aunt as subjects.

"I knew that I'd have some nice shots for scenery, and I thought that would go well with the song," Ava said. "I was just picturing a lot of fun dancing and a good time, because that's what the song is about — appreciating the happy moments."

After four days of filming with her iPhone and a drone, she spent two days editing down about 90 minutes of footage for the three-minute song. "I had to look for the best parts of the videos and see what went well with the song and the rhythm of the song," she explained.

Using the drone footage in the video, she said, "I feel like it really captures the vibe and the feeling that the music gives you."

**AVA SOLANGE**

## A new school year, more Covid challenges

**BY JILL NOSSA**  
jnossa@liherald.com

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# HERALD SPORTS

## Baldwin regains winning touch

By **BRIAN KACHARABA**  
sports@iherald.com



Tony Bellissimo/Herald

**ANNABELLE LOPEZ, WHO** had 4 goals and 3 assists this fall, was part of a prolific offense for a Baldwin side which won 10 games in Conference AA2.

sisters Taylor (4 goals, 7 assists) and Jessica Darcy (7-3) for their play on both ends of the pitch as well as left midfielder Melanie Hernandez (2-0), who was the “most improved player” on the team.

Senior forward Stephanie Hernandez returned to the team and led the Bruins with eight goals. There are other budding stars at that position in Anna Wehr, who chipped in seven as a sophomore, Abigail Ford, whose hat trick against Westbury on

Sept. 20 highlighted her five-goal campaign, and fellow freshman Annabelle Lopez, who had two of her four goals in that same game.

The team’s season did not go unnoticed by the awards committee. Taylor Darcy and Stephanie Hernandez earned All-County honors and Jessica Darcy and Perez were the county’s honorable mentions. Melanie Hernandez and Munoz are All-Conference members.

Now that’s an improvement. After a winless spring and a 3-11-1 mark in 2019, the Baldwin girls’ soccer team made huge strides this fall by amassing 10 wins while remaining in conference title contention for most of the campaign.

Baldwin capped its 10-3-1 season with a 5-1 win at Freeport on Oct. 19 and finished third in Conference AA-2 behind Herricks (13-1) and Hicksville (12-1-1). Unfortunately for the Bruins, only the division champion advances to the playoffs, but Baldwin played a hand in determining the winner with its 1-1 tie against Hicksville in the season opener.

Even though the injury bug reared its ugly head at times, the depth of the team and cohesive mix of rookies and veterans were able to overcome those absences.

“I’m really proud of the girls,” said coach Lee Rogers. “I ended up bringing some newer girls in, we had a good setup with the captains this year, we had good players playing the midfield, so we controlled the midfield a lot of times. We just played much better as a team.”

Every member of the team contributed to that success...literally. Of the 17 girls on the roster, 16 scored a goal, including eighth-grade starting goalkeeper Dee Ikechukwu, and 14 had at least one assist, which resulted in 52 tallies overall.

Not to be outdone, the Bruins’ stifling defense allowed just 10 goals with eight shutouts. The defensive corps was led by senior center backs and captains Rubi Perez and Roscary Munoz and flanked by junior Samantha Torres on the right side and freshman Averi Thomas on the left.

“Ruby was very strong on defense,” Rogers said. “She has speed and her and Roscary worked really well together. With Averi, her ball skills really helped us. She was really good under pressure. And Sam was nice and solid. The four of them communicated with each other well.”

Ikechukwu had three double-digit save games and the youngster did not look like a girl among women on the pitch.

“She did a great job,” Rogers said. “Going forward, she just needs to talk a little more, but that has a lot to do with the fact that she’s an eighth grader.”

Rogers lauded senior midfielders and

### SPOTLIGHT ATHLETE



### CHARLIE MCKEE

Oceanside Senior Football

**IN THE THIRD** quarter of last Friday night’s victory over East Meadow, McKee etched his name into the Nassau County football record book when he became the all-time leader in passing yards. He entered the contest 159 yards shy of Lawrence 2013 graduate Joe Capobianco’s 8,013. McKee, the reigning Thorp Award winner as the county’s top player, threw for 1,459 yards and 16 touchdowns in a shortened junior campaign. He has 80 career touchdown passes to rank No. 2 all-time in Nassau behind Capobianco’s 100.

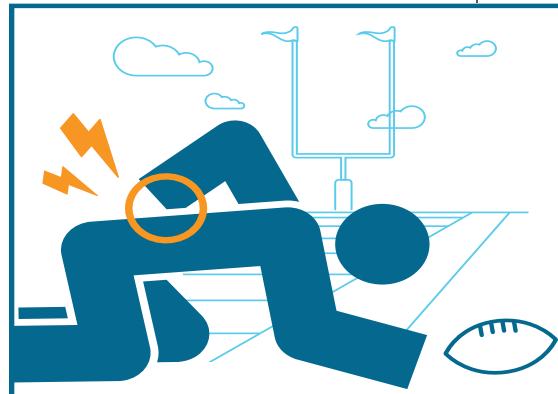
### GAMES TO WATCH

#### Friday, Oct. 29

- Football: Oceanside at Freeport ..... 6 p.m.
- Football: Bethpage at South Side..... 6 p.m.
- Football: C.S. Harbor vs East Rockaway (at Hewlett) ..... 6 p.m.
- Football: Seaford at Island Trees..... 6:30 p.m.
- Football: Hewlett at Mineola..... 7 p.m.
- Football: V.S. South at Division..... 7 p.m.

#### Saturday, Oct. 30

- Football: East Meadow at Uniondale ..... 2 p.m.
- Football: Sewanhaka at Long Beach..... 2 p.m.
- Football: Garden City at Elmont..... 2 p.m.
- Football: Calhoun at Mepham..... 2 p.m.
- Football: MacArthur at New Hyde Park..... 2 p.m.
- Football: Baldwin at Roslyn..... 2 p.m.
- Football: V.S. Central at Carey..... 2 p.m.
- Football: Lynbrook at V.S. North..... 2 p.m.
- Football: Wantagh at Floral Park..... 2 p.m.
- Football: Roosevelt at Kennedy ..... 2 p.m.
- Football: Malverne at North Shore..... 2 p.m.
- Football: Carle Place at Lawrence..... 2 p.m.
- Football: Oyster Bay at West Hempstead ..... 2 p.m.
- Football: Locust Valley at Clarke..... 2 p.m.



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# MEDICAID ELIGIBILITY

## Changes In Qualification Rules, What To Do With Extra Assets!

### MODERATOR



**Eric Feil**  
*Herald Community Newspapers*

### PANELISTS



**Dr. Frank G. D'Angelo, J.D. PhD**  
Family Care Connections, LLC  
Director Of Medicaid, Medicare & Eldercare Services



**Dr. Ann Marie D'Angelo**  
PMHCNS-BC  
Family Care Connections, LLC  
Doctor Of Nursing Practice & Director Of Clinical Services

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- Accessing Home Care Services (Clinical Perspective)
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- CdPap- Consumer Directed Personal Assistance Program
- NHTD- Nursing Home Transition Diversion Program
- Problems With Implementation Of Homecare And Ongoing Access Issues
- Eldercare Services
- Medicaid Eligibility
- Nursing Home And Homecare
- Eligibility Requirements For Both Home Care And Nursing Home
- Changes In Home Care Eligibility And The 30 Month Look Back
- Pooled Trusts And Excess Income- How To Handle It!

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# Scouts, St. Christopher's partner for food drive

**CONTINUED FROM FRONT PAGE**

dozens of sponsors, with donations ranging from \$30 to \$150, comprising Baldwin families, businesses and organizations, including Pat's Dance Studio, the Knights of Columbus, Superfresh, Gala Fresh Farms, Grand View Auto, Delicious Moments and Community Nursery of Baldwin, among many others.

Kimberly Leibrock Cascio, who coordinated the event, took to social media to thank the sponsors and attendees, saying, "The kiddies had fun, the costumes were adorable, and we collected a lot for the food pantry," before concluding with, "Baldwin Scout Troop 824 is an awesome group of young men."

This year, attendees followed social-distancing protocols and wore masks, although more protocols were more relaxed than those employed last year, which included a drive-through where candy was given out on trays to ensure a contact-free delivery.



Courtesy Kimberly Leibrock Cascio



**ON OCT. 21**, Baldwin Boy Scout Troop 824, partnering with St. Christopher's Church, hosted its seventh annual Trunk or Treat, which benefited St. Vincent de Paul Food Pantry.

**DOZENS OF COSTUMED** children and adults attended the afternoon event at the church, dressed in a variety of costumes, including as a slice of pizza, left.

# Seniors keep winning awards for podcast

**CONTINUED FROM FRONT PAGE**

All the effort that goes in is not wasted either. The podcast, which is available on all major platforms, has some episodes with more than 600 listeners, and the team averages 200 listeners per episode. Antoine said her social media goal is to bring "bruinspodcast" on Instagram to 1,000 followers.

Kelley said the group is self-governing, "I've been blessed with great students all three years that took it serious, took pride in it, stayed on top of it."

Antoine added, "You can't slack," explaining that during the interview process for the podcast it was a requirement to be dedicated.

Although they all went through the interview process, Sahonta was recommended to try out, initially not knowing the school had a podcast. Sahonta made a business pitch, and the teacher loved the video editing quality of his work, so he was encouraged to try out, wearing a business suit that day.

The podcast has opened each senior's horizons, but as for the future, they are still working it out. Antoine said, "I'm really enjoying the podcast...it's really fun. Maybe I'll take it further out of high school, but as of right now I'm not sure."

Green said, "Doing the podcast opened my eyes as to where I could go with it. As a kid, I grew up on sports talking about the games, and it opened my horizons to the future for college."

Each team member is equally elated to be working together in a fun environment. Green said, "I'm really excited for the rest of this podcast. I think this going



Courtesy Bruinspodcast Instagram

**THE NEW TEAM** of three was selected out of a competitive lot of 10 other students.

to be a really amazing year."

Antoine followed, "I'm excited for this year, off to a good start and getting better and more fun."

Sahonta concluded, "I'm excited to just edit this thing . . . listening to them mess

up is so fun . . . We're going to do a bloopers reel."

The podcast is not the only involvement each has in the school. Sahonta is also a school-to-career team leader for the high school. Antoine currently serves as

## Baldwin Bruins Sports Podcast on:

Anchor	Overcast
Apple Podcasts	Radio Public
Breaker	Spotify
Google Podcasts	Stitcher

the chief operating officer for SuppLL, Baldwin High School's Virtual Enterprise, and is part of the Future Business Leaders of America club, while Green plays girls' varsity field hockey, is a member of the National Honor Society and involved in the Key Club, among her other extracurricular activities.

Initially started by the class of 2020, the Baldwin Bruins Sport Podcast is growing fast, becoming popular not only in Baldwin but also Long Island-wide. Two years in a row, the Press Club of Long Island awarded the podcast first place for Best High School Broadcast. The podcast has also been nominated for Best of Long Island 2022 Bethpage Federal Union competition. Voting is open now through Dec. 15, at [bestoflongisland.com](http://bestoflongisland.com), and each person can cast a vote once a day.

Others in the Baldwin Union Free School District who have been nominated for Best of Long Island 2022 are Dr. Neil Testa, the Baldwin High School principal, and Tom Catapano, the girls' varsity basketball coach and a phys. ed. teacher.

**LOCAL**  
**ELECTIONS**  
★ ★ ★ ★ ★ **GUIDE** ★ ★ ★ ★ ★

CANDIDATE PROFILES, BALLOT REVIEW AND MORE INSIDE!



# Blakeman, Curran vie for county executive

By JEFFREY BESSEN

jbessen@liherald.com

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 years 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 [exeditor@liherald.com](mailto:exeditor@liherald.com)

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



On  
Tuesday,  
November 2<sup>nd</sup>  
**VOTE ROW B**

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.



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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Send to [exceditor@liherald.com](mailto:exceditor@liherald.com)



# 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.



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

# HEMPSTEAD COUNCIL DISTRICT 4

## Anthony D'Esposito

**Party:** Republican

**Age:** 39

**Hometown:** Island Park

**Professional experience:** NYPD detective (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

Clavin's Economic Advisory Council, a group of leaders in business, industry, higher education, healthcare and the community brought together to strategize on how to help businesses navigate the pandemic.

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 join 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:** First-time 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.*

# COUNTY LEGISLATURE DISTRICT 1

## Kevan Abrahams Incumbent

**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 Incumbent

**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 term.

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

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 lower- and 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



past.

On the issue of affordable housing, Lovas said. "Economic development has been an important issue for the county executive. Before we can be more supportive of local issues such as affordable housing, we need to continue and maintain the fiscal health of the county achieved by Laura Curran and her administration. Maintaining fiscal discipline, a balanced budget and holding the line on property taxes ultimately translates into housing affordability. It

is a domino effect that starts from the top down. Despite a global pandemic, the county now has a budget 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."

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





# 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

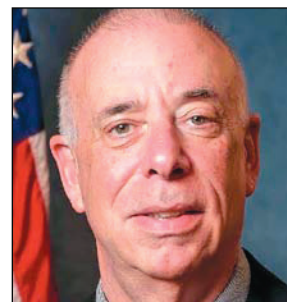
**Age:** 59

**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:** Second-time 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 "high-level 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 taxpayers, 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 taxpayers."

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

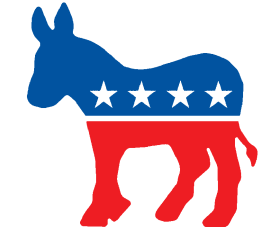
forums on diversity. As Nassau comptroller, she said she would work to ensure diversity, equity and inclusion in the workplace, and educate and promote solutions to ensure equal rights for all. At the same time, she would undertake performance audits of all county departments to ascertain whether they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



# SAMPLE ELECTION BALLOT

# ELECTION '21



**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.

**INSTRUCTIONS**

Para votar un candidato cuyo nombre no está en la papeleta, marque el óvalo a la izquierda del 'write-in' 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 a 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 a 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

Office	Justice of the Supreme Court (Vote for up to eight) Juez de la Corte Suprema (Vote hasta por ocho)								County Executive (Vote for one) Ejecutivo del Condado (Vote por uno)	District Attorney (Vote for one) Fiscal del Distrito (Vote por uno)	County Comptroller (Vote for one) Controlador del Condado (Vote por uno)	County Clerk (Vote for one) Secretario del Condado (Vote por uno)	Family Court Judge (Vote for one) Juez de la Corte de Familia (Vote por uno)	District Court Judge District 2 (Vote for one) Juez de la Corte de Distrito Distrito 2 (Vote por uno)	Hempstead Supervisor (Vote for one) Supervisor (Vote por uno)	Hempstead Council Member District 1 (Vote for one) Concejal Distrito 1 (Vote por uno)	Hempstead Council Member District 4 (Vote for one) Concejal Distrito 4 (Vote por uno)	Hempstead Town Clerk (Vote for one) Secretario Municipal (Vote por uno)	County Legislator District 1 (Vote for one) Legislador del Condado Distrito 1 (Vote por uno)	County Legislator District 4 (Vote for one) Legislador del Condado Distrito 4 (Vote por uno)	County Legislator District 5 (Vote for one) Legislador del Condado Distrito 5 (Vote por uno)
Democratic A	<input type="radio"/> 1 Timothy S. Driscoll	<input type="radio"/> 2 Susan B. Heckman	<input type="radio"/> 3 Vito M. DeStefano	<input type="radio"/> 4 Christopher Modelewski	<input type="radio"/> 5 Conrad D. Singer	<input type="radio"/> 6 Danielle M. Peterson	<input type="radio"/> 7 Eileen Daly Sapraine	<input type="radio"/> 8 Elizabeth Fox-McDonough	<input type="radio"/> 9 Laura Curran	<input type="radio"/> 10 Todd D. Kaminsky	<input type="radio"/> 11 Ryan E. Cronin	<input type="radio"/> 12 Justin R. Brown	<input type="radio"/> 13 Darlene D. Harris	<input type="radio"/> 14 Vincent T. Muscarella	<input type="radio"/> 15 Jason L. Ablove	<input type="radio"/> 16 Dorothy L. Goosby	<input type="radio"/> 17 Aaron E. Meyer	<input type="radio"/> 18 Olena Nicks	<input type="radio"/> 19 Kevan M. Abrahams	<input type="radio"/> 20 Claudia P. Lovas	<input type="radio"/> 21 Debra S. Mule
Republican B	<input type="radio"/> 1 Timothy S. Driscoll	<input type="radio"/> 2 Susan B. Heckman	<input type="radio"/> 3 Vito M. DeStefano	<input type="radio"/> 4 Christopher Modelewski	<input type="radio"/> 5 Conrad D. Singer	<input type="radio"/> 6 Danielle M. Peterson	<input type="radio"/> 7 Eileen Daly Sapraine	<input type="radio"/> 8 Elizabeth Fox-McDonough	<input type="radio"/> 9 Bruce A. Blakeman	<input type="radio"/> 10 Anne T. Donnelly	<input type="radio"/> 11 Elaine R. Phillips	<input type="radio"/> 12 Maureen C. O'Connell	<input type="radio"/> 13 Darlene D. Harris	<input type="radio"/> 14 Vincent T. Muscarella	<input type="radio"/> 15 Donald X. Clavin, Jr.	<input type="radio"/> 16 James Lamarre	<input type="radio"/> 17 Anthony P. D'Esposito	<input type="radio"/> 18 Kate Murray	<input type="radio"/> 19 Elton E. McCabe, Jr.	<input type="radio"/> 20 Denise A. Ford	<input type="radio"/> 21 Brian J. McEvoy
Conservative C	<input type="radio"/> 1 Timothy S. Driscoll	<input type="radio"/> 2 Susan B. Heckman	<input type="radio"/> 3 Vito M. DeStefano	<input type="radio"/> 4 Christopher Modelewski	<input type="radio"/> 5 Conrad D. Singer	<input type="radio"/> 6 Danielle M. Peterson	<input type="radio"/> 7 Eileen Daly Sapraine	<input type="radio"/> 8 Elizabeth Fox-McDonough	<input type="radio"/> 9 Bruce A. Blakeman	<input type="radio"/> 10 Anne T. Donnelly	<input type="radio"/> 11 Elaine R. Phillips	<input type="radio"/> 12 Maureen C. O'Connell	<input type="radio"/> 13 Darlene D. Harris	<input type="radio"/> 14 Vincent T. Muscarella	<input type="radio"/> 15 Donald X. Clavin, Jr.	<input type="radio"/> 16 James Lamarre	<input type="radio"/> 17 Anthony P. D'Esposito	<input type="radio"/> 18 Kate Murray	<input type="radio"/> 19 Elton E. McCabe, Jr.	<input type="radio"/> 20 Denise A. Ford	<input type="radio"/> 21 Brian J. McEvoy
Working Families D									<input type="radio"/> 11 Ryan E. Cronin	<input type="radio"/> 12 Justin R. Brown							<input type="radio"/> 17 Olena Nicks	<input type="radio"/> 19 Kevan M. Abrahams			
Common Sense E								<input type="radio"/> 9 Laura Curran						<input type="radio"/> 15 Jason L. Ablove		<input type="radio"/> 16 Aaron E. Meyer					<input type="radio"/> 22 Debra S. Mule
Write-in	<input type="radio"/> Write-in	<input type="radio"/> Write-in	<input type="radio"/> Write-in	<input type="radio"/> Write-in	<input type="radio"/> Write-in	<input type="radio"/> Write-in	<input type="radio"/> Write-in	<input type="radio"/> Write-in	<input type="radio"/> Write-in	<input type="radio"/> Write-in	<input type="radio"/> Write-in	<input type="radio"/> Write-in	<input type="radio"/> Write-in	<input type="radio"/> Write-in	<input type="radio"/> Write-in	<input type="radio"/> Write-in	<input type="radio"/> Write-in	<input type="radio"/> Write-in	<input type="radio"/> Write-in	<input type="radio"/> Write-in	<input type="radio"/> Write-in



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**PULL OUT**

**SAMPLE ELECTION BALLOT COURTESY OF THE HERALD COMMUNITY NEWSPAPERS**

**PULL OUT**

# 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



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 Ablove Challenger

**Party:** Democratic

**Age:** 51

**Hometown:** Oceanside

**Career:** Discrimination attorney since 1994

**Political experience:** First-time candidate

**On the issues:**

Jason Ablove 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."

Ablove 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.

Ablove said if he were

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

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

Ablove 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 re-elected 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

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.



# NASSAU COUNTY CLERK

## Maureen O'Connell Incumbent

**Party:** Republican

**Age:** 70

**Hometown:** East Williston

**Career:** County clerk, former nurse

**Political experience:** Nassau 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



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.

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

## Justin Brown Challenger

**Party:** Democratic

**Age:** 30

**Hometown:** Baldwin

**Career:** Health-care administrator

**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.



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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.



### David I. Levine

Democratic, Republican, Conservative

Age: 55

Lives in: Roslyn Heights

**Education:** Graduated 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.

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AVAILABLE

### William Hohausser

Democratic, Republican, Conservative

Age: 62

Lives in: xxxxx

**Education:** Earned bachelor's degree from SUNY Binghamton in 1981 and his law degree from Columbia Law School in 1984.

**Legal career:** Hohausser 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.

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## Family Court Judge Candidate

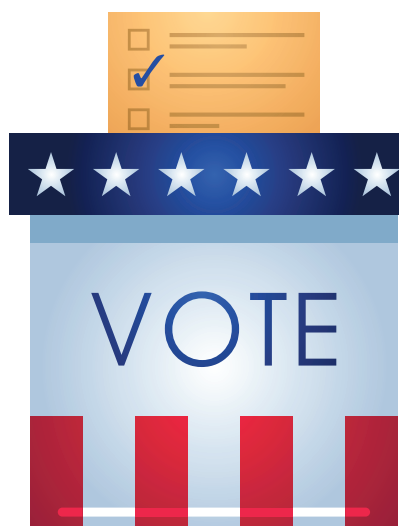
### Darlene D. Harris

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 years, 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.

# ELECTION DAY

NOVEMBER 2, 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. McLaughlin of 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.**

### Here's what you need to know:

If you receive the Enhanced STAR benefit for Seniors, Senior Citizens' Property Tax Exemption or the Limited Income-Disability Exemption, you will automatically be mailed a \$375 direct payment.



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](http://www.nassaucountyny.gov/HAPinfo)

If you need in-person help, call 516-571-1555 for an appointment.



1149666

## SOUTH SHORE SYMPHONY

Scott Jackson Wiley, Music Director and Conductor

IN CONCERT 20th Century Orchestral Masterworks

7:30 PM October 30, 2021

Madison Theatre at Molloy College  
1000 Hempstead Ave. Rockville Centre, NY

Hindemith- *Mathis der Maler*  
Copland- *Music for Movies*  
Milhaud - *Le boeuf sur le toit*

TICKET PRICES:  
Suggested Donation \$20  
CALL MOLLOY BOX OFFICE  
516 323-4444  
for free tickets  
[madisontheatre.org](http://madisontheatre.org)

You are required to follow the theatrePolicy for admission- You must wear a mask while in the building and proof of vaccination for those who are over 12 years of age is required.

# HERALD Covid-19 MEDICAL WORKERS

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1132789

## KAREN GLEASON

LEVITTOWN  
Chief Quality Officer,  
St. John's Episcopal  
Hospital



I always had a passion for patients and their families, and throughout my career I always wanted to help drive improvement for our patients and their families. Throughout the years, as I began my career, I realized that as I knew I was providing our patients with great care, I wanted to lead at a higher level and drive improvement across the organization, and that led me to a role in administration. ... While I might not have direct one-on-one impact with our patients, I know that I'm making a difference every day for our patients, the hospital at-large and our community.

My career is everything to me. I always had a passion for people and helping and advocating for others, and I feel that working in this administrative role helps me to strategically align the hospital's mission and vision with quality and patient safety always at

the forefront.

On a personal level, four family members died in April 2020, at the height of it, and it was not an easy thing to go through. Other than that, thank God we stayed safe and were able to keep our commitment to the community.

Our run numbers went down as the Nassau County Police Department had the Federal Emergency Management buses, and that relieved the pressure and stress on us. With people being home there were [fewer] false alarms, and that made it a little easier.

Operationally now, we are somewhat back to normal. Most people are vaccinated in the fire department with the delta variant, which is kind of a scary thing. Bottom line, if we do the right thing, everyone will be safe.

### HERALD HOMETOWN HERO



## ROSSY DUARTE

OCEANSIDE  
Family Specialist, Mount  
Sinai Doctors Oceanside  
Family Medicine



At the beginning of the pandemic, my staff and I found most difficulty navigating patient safety while the protocols for Covid were still being developed. We had to find a balance between keeping everyone safe while also continuing to care for all the patients; it was really tough because it felt like something was changing every day, but my incredible staff rose to the challenge every day to keep the practice running.

The most important change to my practice during the pandemic is telehealth visits. It allowed us to continue care for all of our patients who could not leave home.

For office changes, many safe measures are still in place. There is more disinfecting before and after patients, spacing visits out, and starting earlier as well as changes to the

waiting room for proper social distancing. These changes will most-likely last after the pandemic.

Medical professionals collectively have stepped up to the plate during this pandemic. It's incredible to see how everyone came together and no matter what, continue to move forward. People need to remember that their primary care doctor is the number one resource when it comes to health. Your primary doctor knows you, your health history, and has an in-depth understanding of Covid based on extensive research within the medical community.

Primary care doctors are underutilized right now. I would encourage people to keep in contact with their doctors and get back on track with their health.

### HERALD HOMETOWN HERO

## CAROL WRIGHT

NASSAU COUNTY  
Pandemic Response  
Coordinator/Charge Nurse,  
Mount Sinai South Nassau



I am in charge of coordinating the Covid-19 swab team for the employees that are being checked for symptomatic or exposure reasons. I prepare and adjust the schedule as need be, assisting other nurses in swabbing, and coordinating registration for new and incoming patients.

We started in May of last year after Covid first hit us, and we started off with the pre-procedurals. It has escalated from swabbing about 150 patients a day in any kind of weather and then it dipped because Covid was being contained and people were wearing proper personal protective equipment.

In 2021, the Covid cases took a turn for the better, and so we were doing less swabbing in May and June. In July, cases started to escalate again because of the Delta variant, so we were

swabbing more people again. So, we have been swabbing people whether they have been vaccinated or not. We're back up to seeing up to 70 to 80 patients a day.

It's very disconcerting watching so many people being infected, but as a pandemic unit, we feel good about what we're doing because we are controlling the cases that might come into the hospital for people who are having surgery.

We're controlling that environment to protect the doctors, patients, the hospital staff and their families. Swabbing isn't a pleasant job, but it is a job that's necessary. If you're a nurse, it's something you get used to.

### HERALD HOMETOWN HERO

# HERALD ENDORSEMENTS

## Dorothy Goosby is only option in town's 1st District

In the race between incumbent Dorothy Goosby and challenger James Lamarre, the choice to re-elect Goosby comes almost as a default, because Lamarre has been a ghost throughout this race.

Goosby has served for 20 years on the Town of Hempstead Council, advocating for communities of color such as Hempstead, Lakeview, Roosevelt and Uniondale, as well as portions of Baldwin, Freeport, Rockville Centre, East Garden City and West Hempstead.

Although she is the only Democrat, person of color and woman on the council, she has worked collaboratively with the rest of its members to address revitalization, quality of life and, most recently, the

### HERALD Endorsement



Dorothy Goosby

business and health needs arising from the coronavirus pandemic.

In her upcoming term, if re-elected, Goosby said, she will prioritize renovating the town's sewage system, which is in disrepair and outdated. She also has her sights on making water more affordable for residents, bearing in mind that there is the potential municipalization of New York American Water. Finally, she has expressed concern about charter schools diverting resources from public

schools, which are already underfunded in the district.

With the bureaucratic know-how and politi-

cal savvy that comes with her veteran status, Goosby is adept at perpetuating the status quo rather than challenging it. But the town and its leadership need an audit of its internal processes to address the lack of transparency and conflicts of interest and to streamline its bureaucracy. In other words, the town needs her to be a disrupter, an ideal position for the sole Democrat on the board, as residents currently wrestle with inequitable distribution of resources, lack of minority representation and a long history of nepotism and cronyism.

Lamarre, 45, a Republican, was not available for comment, questions or interview. What we do know is that he is a West Hempstead resident, and the owner and president of County Cleaners Corporation, a commercial cleaning company.

Vote for Dorothy Goosby in the 1st District.

## HERALD PUBLIC NOTICES

### LEGAL NOTICE UNITED STATES POSTAL SERVICE

Statement of Ownership, Management, and Circulation

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Managing Editor: SCOTT BRINTON, 2 ENDO BLVD, GARDEN CITY, NY 11530.

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16. This Statement of Ownership will be printed in the October, 28, 2021, issue of this publication.

17. Signature and Title of Editor, Publisher, Business Manager, or Owner: Stuart Richner, Owner; Date: October 1, 2021. I certify that all information furnished on this form is true and complete. I understand that anyone who furnishes false or misleading information on this form or who omits material information requested on the form or who omits material or information requested on the form may be subject to criminal sanctions (including fines and imprisonment) and/or civil sanctions (including civil penalties). 1150029

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### LEGAL NOTICE

Notice of Formation of Harbor Step-by-Step Family DayCare LLC

Articles of Organization filed with the Secretary of State of New York (SSNY) on 09/08/2021. Location: Nassau County. SSNY is

designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: 1127 Jefferson Pl, Baldwin NY 1150. Purpose: any lawful act or activity. 127841

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## Re-elect Anthony D'Esposito in the 4th Council District

The Herald endorses Town of Hempstead Councilman Anthony D'Esposito in the 4th Councilmatic District.

D'Esposito, a Republican, is seen with constituents often, and has sponsored programs like Narcan trainings to aid in the fight against opioid abuse. Narcan is a life-saving drug that disrupts an opioid overdose.

With the coronavirus sweeping across Nassau County over the past year and a half, D'Esposito co-chaired the town's Covid-19 Task Force and helped provide critical resources like testing materials and personal protective equipment to residents and business owners.

D'Esposito, a retired New York City police detective who made more than 600 arrests on the job and a former volunteer fire chief, is clearly committed to public service and has the leadership credentials to do enormous good during crises such as the coronavirus pandemic. That is why Supervisor Don Clavin tasked him with leading the town's coronavirus task force.

An Island Park resident, he witnessed firsthand the destructive

power of Superstorm Sandy, and has committed to ensuring that local infrastructure is improved to ensure to limit and prevent damage in such future storms.

His opponent, Democrat Aaron Meyer, has said Hempstead needs to do more to keep young people in the district, and that the town's

Industrial Development Agency should prioritize local businesses over luxury rental apartment complexes like Woodcrest Village Park. The town, Meyer says, has not made enough of an effort to use the IDA to keep local businesses open rather than out-source jobs to Manhattan-based groups like Woodcrest's Feil Organization.

D'Esposito was, however, the lone vote against the Woodcrest plan in 2019, citing his and his constituents' concerns about the size of the project. Though the project was completed, and there are concerns among residents about overcrowding on local roads, D'Esposito showed that he was on their side.

Despite a strong showing from Meyer, the Herald encourages voters to re-elect D'Esposito.

### HERALD Endorsement



Anthony D'Esposito



# HERALD Employment



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 Deputy Superintendent  
 1260 Meadowbrook Road  
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 (516) 992-1014

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**Q.** Our home seemed very normal when we first moved in, but little by little, things began to happen that we couldn't explain. Doors would open and close, floors creaked with nobody in the room, a particular wall only "sweats" one day a year, and we keep hearing a low moaning sound followed by tapping coming from our den. We've had a handyman come and try to assess some of the door stakes and things, but is any of what I described normal, or could some of it truly be a sign of something unexplainable?

**A.** When things go bump in the night you cannot always run to your mummy. It seems we humans have always had a fascination with death, and our minds create endless possible scenarios.

The first two things I was taught in architecture school were that we need to always be concerned about water and movement. How water affects our lives as a gas, liquid or solid is fascinating and maybe a little spooky. The center of a tree trunk now exposed, sanded and coated becomes reactive to humidity we cannot easily see as it causes the wood to re-swell. The fibers in wood were once a set of feeding tubes drawing water from the roots to the leaves before someone came along and cut the tree down, stripped, sliced and kiln-dried it.

Nature is super and natural, so it's no wonder that it seems supernatural for wood to want to regain its former capability and creak and moan as it delightfully regains its former life. Some things can't be explained easily, like why someone doesn't check to see that a door is hung correctly, to be plum in the horizontal and vertical, so that the slightest breeze or pressure change makes it seem to move on its own. When heated or cooled, water moves through a metal pipe (more so than through a plastic pipe), expanding it or contracting. If the pipe hangers holding it in the floor structure or the holes it snakes through are only the size of the pipe, the materials push and pull against each other, making banging and tapping sound or squealing sounds in some cases.

I've often explained that homes are in many ways just like other living things, possessing nervous systems with electric wiring, a skeleton, a skin and the ability to breathe in and out. Even though your home may have "good bones," it still gets creaky and expands and contracts with the heat and cool cycles of being hit with the hot sun and cool winds. Every day your home lifts itself out of the ground, expands outward toward the sun and then, as you lie in bed in the darkness, you hear the materials all move past each other as they contract, settling in for the night, just like you.

Just remember, if you don't pay your exorcism bill when it comes due, you run the risk of being repossessed.

### Ask The Architect




MONTE LEEPER

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Readers are encouraged to send questions to yourhousedr@aol.com, with "Herald question" in the subject line, or to Herald Homes, 2 Endo Blvd., Garden City, NY 11530, Attn: Monte Leeper, architect.

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### ANSWERS TO TODAY'S PUZZLE

Solution time: 23 mins.

Y	N	O	P	S	D	E	Y	R	O	G
P	O	T	A	P	E	Y	R	O	G	I
S	M	U	S	P	M	U	L	O	M	E
E	A	C	E	M	U	R	E	T	A	P
		N	O	J	E	E	S			
S	L	I	V	R	D	U	B	E	S	O
S	A	E	S	G	U	H	F	O	S	V
E	G	L	U	V	I	D	C	I	S	M
		S	A	W	O	L				
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L	A	V	Z	W	O	H	S	E	T	V
A	R	A	G	V	E	B	A	X	V	A
S	L	O	T	N	O	M	A	V	A	L

# HERALD Crossword Puzzle

## King Crossword

**ACROSS**

- Tibetan monk
- Triumphed
- Used car sites
- Trojan War hero
- Lincoln nickname
- Taj Mahal city
- TV fare for a night owl
- Gusto
- Gallery display
- "The Raven" writer
- "No way!"
- Sign before Virgo
- "Now, where - I?"
- Vivaldi's output
- Reveal
- Dating from
- Embrace
- Salty septet
- "Citizen Kane" sled
- Train tracks
- Observe
- "Ray Donovan" actor Voight
- Dish
- Pirate's drink
- Expert
- San -, Italy
- Single payments
- Borodin's "Prince -"
- "Uh-huh"
- Perched on
- Like slasher films
- Mag. staff
- Shetland, for one
- Revolving server
- Curved molding
- Serving aid
- Auction
- Detail, briefly
- Dallas hoopster, briefly
- Biography
- Peruke
- Scratch
- Mil. morale booster
- "Mayday!"
- Lemon
- Wahine's gift
- Guy's date
- Curvy letter
- Coloration
- Spell-off
- Cavort
- Checker moves
- Bluenose
- Toy block name
- Cupid's specialty
- Regretted
- Car
- "Let's go!"
- Glimpse
- Caustic solution
- Potential syrup

**DOWN**

- In - land
- Slightly open
- Damon of Hollywood
- Chopper
- "Yippee!"
- Bassoon's kin
- Just out

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**HERALD ENDORSEMENTS****Re-elect Curran for Nassau County executive**

Just over two years into Laura Curran's first term as county executive, the world was roiled by the coronavirus pandemic. Its continuing impact on life might have consumed lesser elected officials, but not Curran.

The county executive, a Democrat, took control and, following the fact-based advice of health officials, she worked to keep residents informed through her Covid-related news briefings that took place in many communities across the county.

In large part because of her outstanding pandemic response, the Herald enthusiastically endorses Curran for a second term as county executive.

Through a phased-in reopening of businesses, houses of worship and schools, Curran and her administration kept a keen eye on the infection numbers and aimed to ensure the health and safety of everyone in the county. When vaccinations were rolled out, Nassau officials from Curran on down doubled down on the need to vaccinate. As of press time, the county had a 94 percent vaccination rate for adults with at least one dose — the highest in New York state.

Curran used federal money to fund the Boost Nassau program, which began last summer to offer grants to businesses. Also, some 400,000 county households will receive a one-time \$375 direct payment for residents to use as they wish, but which Curran is encouraging people to spend locally to help support pan-

**HERALD  
Endorsement****Laura Curran**

demic-ravaged businesses.

Her Republican challenger, Hempstead Town Councilman Bruce Blakeman, has been part of the town's battle against Covid-19, which has included a mobile vaccination unit and an array of programs and services that have assisted residents through the pandemic, all paid for with federal dollars. We also commend Blakeman for his role at the town level in easing restrictions for restaurants to create outdoor dining spaces to help them survive the pandemic.

Financially, Curran has navigated the county through the past two budgets, 2019 and 2020, and has delivered balanced fiscal plans but has not raised county taxes since being elected. The current budget battle is still playing out. Her proposed \$70 million tax cut appears sounder than the Republican plan for a \$120 million cut that Blakeman has campaigned on.

A recurring issue that vexes residents is the way homes are assessed across the county. Reassessment has long been thought of as the third rail of Nassau politics, but Curran showed courage in taking on an issue that made so many other elected leaders quiver. The reassessment process was imperfect, with thousands of mistakes. The system is, however, considerably more accurate now for hundreds of thousands of homes.

Blakeman, for all his years in public office, which include two stints as a town councilman and his time in the County Legislature, where he served as presiding officer, was

unable to offer concrete suggestions for fixing the reassessment. The best plan he offered was to take a look under the hood, so to speak, assemble a panel of experts and appoint a special master to investigate what was done and how it could be repaired. When running for the county's highest office, a candidate needs to offer more than that.

During the turmoil of the past couple of years, Curran, in partnership with Nassau County Police Commissioner Patrick Ryder, kept a lid on crime in the county. The work was recognized nationally by U.S. News & World Report, which named Nassau the safest community in the country based on several metrics. Now we expect Curran to take on the challenge of increasing the NCPD's diversity as enthusiastically as she did reopening two police precincts in Manhasset and Levittown.

Both candidates support upgrading Nassau University Medical Center in East Meadow, and Curran said that she has asked the federal government for \$200 million to enhance the hospital's infrastructure. Blakeman said he would aim to increase its revenue by focusing on specialties such as cardiac surgery. Both are good ideas, especially if the federal money is received and spent on what Curran envisions as village-like housing for military veterans on the grounds of the county's "safety-net" hospital. And Blakeman is right that a greater focus on specialties is needed.

We believe Curran's outstanding work in protecting her constituents throughout her first term — particularly during the pandemic — coupled with her willingness and ability to take on critical issues like reassessment have earned her another four years. We urge voters to re-elect her next Tuesday.

**Vote for Maureen O'Connell for county clerk**

Though we found both candidates in the Nassau County clerk race to be strong, we see no reason to unseat Maureen O'Connell after all she has accomplished in the past 16 years.

O'Connell, a registered nurse from East Williston and a Republican, was first elected clerk in 2005, and re-elected in 2009, 2013 and 2017 — for good reason. She has taken many steps in that time to improve the office and 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 in the future.

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

theft, and have worked with military veterans to protect them from data breaches. She has extended office hours and created outreach programs to educate constituents about services the clerk's office provides.

Her opponent, Justin Brown, a Democrat from Baldwin, offered many solid ideas for improving the office moving forward, and as a health care administrator for Sloan Kettering Memorial Cancer Center and a former Uniondale Board of Education trustee, he has shown proven leadership skills.

Brown's ideas include making the clerk's office more technologically efficient, so residents can receive documents

**HERALD  
Endorsement****Maureen O'Connell**

without having to appear in person; implementing a modern, user-friendly online system that the office would have full control over; and offering greater community outreach to residents and constituents to show them how to maximize the office's services. Brown is just 30 years old, we believe there is a strong future in politics for him, and encourage him to seek elected office in years to come.

For now, though, O'Connell has the county clerk's office humming along, and has instituted a great deal of positive change there in the past 16 years. We encourage voters to re-elect her.

# HERALD ENDORSEMENTS

## Elect Todd Kaminsky Nassau County district attorney

The most hard-fought, nastiest race in Nassau County this election season has been the contest for district attorney, pitting Democratic State Sen. Todd Kaminsky against Republican Anne Donnelly. Both have run scathing television ads, with Donnelly accusing Kaminsky of freeing prisoners under the state's new bail-reform law, and Kaminsky accusing Donnelly of botching a murder trial leading to a mistrial.

But the bad-mouthing began with the Republicans, who see the D.A.'s race as their best chance to capture a powerful seat in county government and were first to air the ads. In our view, Kaminsky is the better candidate.

The State Legislature passed a bail-reform measure in 2019, restricting the use of cash bail and pretrial detention in misdemeanor and nonviolent felony cases. It also gave judges discretion to assign bail in almost all violent felony cases and certain nonviolent cases, such as witness tampering. The law was amended in 2020, and Kaminsky voted for the amended law, which gives judges bail discretion in a greater number of cases.

In her TV ads, Donnelly accused Kaminsky of *writing* the bail-reform bill. That was untrue. Kaminsky voted for it, but was not its author.

This issue was central to the campaign for D.A. That's a shame, because there are other issues that demanded the attention of both candidates. Kaminsky, while having to defend himself against the false allegations, did bring up other matters, including the need for stron-

ger gun control legislation and a woman's right to choose in the growing debate over abortion.

Kaminsky has proven himself to be an able state senator, particularly when it comes to the environment, an issue of great importance to his South Shore constituency. He is chairman of the Senate Environmental Conservation Committee, and authored the Climate Leadership and Community Protection Act, an aggressive climate-change program that puts New York on the road to carbon neutrality and a green-energy economy. He has been in the forefront of a fight to regulate carcinogenic contaminants in Long Island's water supply, and has passed legislation banning products containing toxic substances. He secured billions of dollars for clean-water systems.

While Kaminsky's environmental record is enviable, the question is, does this make a good prosecutor? We believe his passion for issues demonstrates his hunger to do good work through public office, and his ability to work effectively as an elected leader. Kaminsky has pledged to use the bully pulpit of the D.A.'s office to take on big-picture law-enforcement issues, and he no doubt can.

### HERALD Endorsement



Todd Kaminsky

Donnelly argues that she is the law-enforcement professional. She has been a prosecutor in the county D.A.'s office for 32 years, and served as deputy chief of the Organized Crime and Rackets Bureau. Certainly, such service is admirable.

Kaminsky, who became a state senator in 2016, worked as an assistant district attorney in the Queens D.A.'s office before joining the U.S. attorney's office for the Eastern District of New York. He prosecuted elected officials who used taxpayer dollars to support their lifestyles, including former State Senate Majority Leader Pedro Espada Jr., State Assemblyman Jimmy Meng and Michael Grimm, a member of Congress.

Kaminsky offered some fresh ideas to improve the D.A.'s office. He promised to crack down on hate crimes at a time when anti-Semitic and racist acts are rising in New York. He also promised to root out corruption in Nassau, whether among Republicans or Democrats, and swore to improve trust in government at a time when that is sorely lacking.

Kaminsky has also vowed to work harder with federal law-enforcement officials to defeat the rise of gang violence in Nassau. But he said he wanted to go deeper, and work with communities and schools dealing with such problems.

Our view is that Kaminsky, given his background in both government and the U.S. attorney's office, is an excellent choice for Nassau district attorney. We give him our wholehearted support, and voters should, too.

## Ryan Cronin is choice for county comptroller

In the race to fill Nassau County Comptroller Jack Schnirman's post between Democrat Ryan Cronin and Republican Elaine Phillips, our choice to support Cronin boils down to his holistic plan to provide increased accountability across party lines and modernize the office of the comptroller.

Keeping in mind the controversy swirling around the office with the current comptroller because Schnirman overpaid tens of thousands as Long Beach city manager, Cronin, 40, said one of his goals is to gain back the trust of his constituents.

Indeed, Cronin, a Garden City resident, has a track record as a corporate attorney who has dealt with complex contract disputes and fraud claims, and of advocating for those who have been taken advantage of. Cronin defended more than a dozen victims of the Bernie Madoff Ponzi scheme and took on a global corporation to force the recall of a defective product that caused the injury and death of infants—in other words, watchdog-caliber experience.

Cronin raised a blueprint for the office's pri-

orities, both short- and long-term. As an immediate concern was the vendor payment process, which is plagued by chronically delayed payments that lead to extra costs for all parties involved. He also wants to proactively address Nassau's antiquated technology, which will not comply with coming accounting standards within the next three to five years.

Cronin also prioritizes building a bipartisan office, already pledging to appoint a Republican as his top deputy. Aligned with his apolitical view of how the office should run, he has critiqued County Executive Laura Curran for not collaborating with the county Republicans on jettisoning county fees and for perpetuating the structural gap between recurring county revenues and expenses.

### HERALD Endorsement



Ryan Cronin

Unlike Cronin, who lost two State Senate races against Republican incumbent Kemp Hannon, Phillips has already had a political career. As Flower Hill mayor, she stabilized the village's finances and incentivized green projects, a tenure that attests to her familiarity with local bureaucracy and financial savvy.

However, it is her time as the 7th District senator that has raised some red flags regarding her leadership and partisanship. As the head of the Ethics Committee, the body held few meetings, which resulted in no material progress.

Phillips has strong professional financial experience as a financial analyst for Goldman Sachs and JP Morgan, where she juggled the competing needs of her clients and her employers; however, she did not provide specific new ideas for the office of comptroller.

Because of Cronin's independence from his party, his professional experience going after the big guys and his specific plan of action, the Herald supports Cronin. Vote for him on Election Day.

# HERALD ENDORSEMENTS

## Re-elect Town Supervisor Clavin

**A**fter slashing the Town of Hempstead supervisor's budget in half, proposing tax freezes or tax cuts each year in office and spending tens of millions of dollars to repair town roads and parks, Don Clavin deserves to be re-elected to two more years as town supervisor.

Clavin, of Garden City, ran an efficient office as the tax receiver for nearly two decades, and then admirably dealt with the issues that arose during the coronavirus pandemic in his first term as supervisor. Given all of his experience in town government, he is a better fit for the position than his opponent, Jason Ablove, a discrimination attorney from Oceanside who has no experience in elected office, but still offered many solid ideas.

On his first day in office, Clavin cut the supervisor's staff spending by half, saving taxpayers \$1 million annually, and he has since dedicated \$75 million to road repaving and infrastructure upgrades, as well as \$10 million to parks improvements. In addition to road repairs, his administration introduced the "pothole patrol," an effort to expedite repairs using state-of-the-art vehicles and promoting a

### HERALD Endorsement



Don Clavin

hotline for residents to report potholes.

Clavin and the Town Board also acted quickly at the height of the pandemic, aiding seniors, small businesses and essential workers. He used millions of dollars in federal CARES Act funding to provide thousands of free Covid-19 tests for essential workers, personal protective equipment for businesses and meals for residents in need, including seniors.

Though Ablove claimed that Clavin spent some of the money on raises and promotions for political

insiders, Clavin offered a reasonable defense, explaining that every expenditure was approved by an advisory review panel and an impartial law firm, and the money was spent properly to help those in need and to safeguard residents. He added that he built a solid partnership with U.S. Sen. Chuck Schumer in his first term, amid the pandemic, which we believe will come in handy down the road if Clavin is re-elected.

To further aid local businesses dealing with the health crisis, Clavin and the board instituted the first outdoor dining initiative in the state in the spring of 2020, waiving permit fees

and expediting the process for restaurant owners.

Clavin's background in finance has proved critical. To help save money, he eliminated take-home cars for top managers, including himself, and the town has received credit-rating upgrades from Moody's and Standard & Poor's.

Ablove offered many sound ideas, including trimming the \$5 million per year the town spends on mailers; instituting new guidelines and practices to make its animal shelter more efficient; focusing on road repairs across the town, not just in certain areas; adding a town diversity officer; and creating an office focusing on services for people with disabilities. Ablove also said that residents need more opportunities at town meetings and online to offer feedback on projects before they are approved.

His line of work is a good indication of Ablove's dedication to advocating for people. We urge him to run again in the future, perhaps at a more local level than supervisor.

While both candidates are passionate, eager and approachable, we believe Don Clavin is the better choice given all he has done for the town and his leadership during the pandemic. We urge voters to re-elect him on Tuesday.

## Re-elect Kate Murray as Hempstead clerk

**I**n the race for Town of Hempstead clerk, the Herald endorses incumbent Kate Murray.

Murray, who served as clerk in 2002-03 before becoming the first female town supervisor — a position she held until 2016 — is fully qualified to remain in her current position, to which she was re-elected in 2019.

Having taken office shortly before the coronavirus pandemic began, Murray, 59, of Levittown, quickly made changes to ensure that the clerk's office would remain open and work efficiently. Many services were moved to outdoor sheds rented by the town, so residents and employees would feel comfortable with in-person interactions.

Because the clerk's office remained open, it served Hempstead residents throughout the pandemic. Murray even officiated at marriage ceremonies over Zoom, having been granted

permission to do so by the New York state.

She also oversaw the implementation of a sticker-less parking pass system in June 2020. Starting with a pilot program in Oceanside, the system became available to the rest of the town in March of this year. The clerk's office even made the process contactless: Residents can register their license plates online, and Public Safety officers check plates digitally to ensure that vehicles are registered. About two-thirds of commuters have registered online for the program.

Murray also put many applications online, and she has continued the Child Safety ID program and the Senior ID Program, which

### HERALD Endorsement



Kate Murray

collect information from residents that can be used in an emergency. Additionally, she started a Special Needs ID Program.

Murray reassured the Herald that the clerk's office is capable of serve all residents, regardless of language, with staff members who speak a number of languages. Next month the town will unveil a new website that will allow residents to switch to languages other than English.

Murray's opponent, Oneka Nicks, is likable, and offered useful ideas — including one to add languages to the town website. She did not, however, give us reason to vote for her. We support Murray's re-election on Tuesday.



# HERALD ENDORSEMENTS

## Vote for Abrahams in 1st Legislative District

**B**etween Kevan Abrahams and Elton McCabe Jr., the race in L.D. 1 comes down to Abrahams's experience with long-standing issues.

Both Abrahams and McCabe support much greater diversity in the police force, while harboring no hostility for the police as an institution. Abrahams has direct experience with both top police leadership and the rank-and-file officers, an advantage when advocating for his constituents. For his part, McCabe, who has seen biased and unbiased behavior by white police in his lifetime, has a strong sense of how to mediate between police and a wary community. Abrahams, however, has energetically developed productive avenues of outreach in his district, and the county could use his experience to keep

### HERALD Endorsement



**Kevan Abrahams**

making progress.

One of the most distressing coronavirus issues has been that of personal choice, particularly when it comes to getting vaccinations. McCabe is convinced that mandates harden resistance against the shots, and that a better strategy is to penetrate the community with accurate data so people will seek vaccination on their own. Abrahams has not opposed mandates, but has focused less on enforcement and more on removing barriers to vaccination. For 18 months he has addressed the anxieties of the undocumented as well as those who are suspicious of new government medical protocols. Abrahams has by far the greater number of connections to raise the percentage of the fully

well as civilian employees such as school crossing guards, medics and public safety officers.

vaccinated in the 1st District from 50-plus percent to 70 percent.

Both Abrahams and McCabe want infrastructure projects to get as much attention in the district as in wealthier, whiter communities. Despite the pandemic delays, Abrahams and his colleagues have redone Glacken Park in Freeport, facilitated many road-resurfacing projects along Jerusalem Avenue in Uniondale, pushed to upgrade Henry Street Park in Roosevelt and backed the Bay Park Conveyance. McCabe has advocated for infrastructure improvements in Uniondale, such as getting streetlights on a dark section of Front Street, but Abrahams is the one who has built a solid record of infrastructure achievement.

The Herald encourages voters to support Abrahams next Tuesday.

## In the 4th L.D., re-elect Denise Ford

**T**he choice of a lawmaker to represent the Nassau County's 4th Legislative District, which encompasses much of the county's vulnerable South Shore, becomes more important each year as dramatic weather changes threaten the area because of the climate crisis.

Denise Ford, who was first elected to the seat in 2003, has been committed to the environment, and has overseen a number of projects, including the development of the crucial Bay Park Water Reclamation Facility, which was severely damaged in Superstorm Sandy. Ford, a Republican, has also been a strong advocate for an outfall pipe to divert treated effluent from the Bay Park plan to the Cedar Creek Pollution Control Plant in Wantagh in an effort to restore the Western Bays.

She continues to push hard for completion

### HERALD Endorsement



**Denise Ford**

of the Army Corps of Engineers Back Bays Study, which is now in draft form, and has sponsored legislation to prohibit the sale of plastic foam products in the county.

In large part because of her commitment to the environment, the Herald endorses Ford.

She has supported an increase in the number of police and correction officers as

well as civilian employees such as school crossing guards, medics and public safety officers.

The 70-year-old legislator has made friends over the years on both sides of the aisle, and established strong relations with her constituents, who see her just about every weekend at one community event or another.

Her opponent, Democrat Claudia Lovas, 46, is a solid candidate, an attorney who has started two successful law firms. A Latina, Lovas wants to bring more minorities into the political process, an admirable goal in a county that is becoming increasingly diverse.

She is articulate and keenly aware of the issues in the district. Lovas is the kind of candidate we hope to see more of in the future, and we hope she run again, but our choice in this race is Ford. She has accomplished much for the residents of the 4th L.D., and we're confident she will continue to do so.

## Debra Mulé is the best choice in 5th L.D.

**I**n the race between incumbent Debra Mulé and challenger Eric McEvoy, the choice to re-elect Mulé comes down to experience in the highly political arena that is the Nassau County Legislature.

Mulé, a Democrat, is now finishing her second term, during which she has advocated for revitalization and green projects in Baldwin, Freeport, South Hempstead and parts of Rockville Centre, Merrick and Oceanside.

She has an established track record of following through on projects, despite bureaucratic red tape, pandemic delays and political opposition, with unwavering persistence and creative problem-solving.

If re-elected, Mulé said, she wants to finish the projects that she has either initiated or adopted during her tenure, which would not only improve the quality of life of residents

and the business economy, but also create environmental sustainability.

Those projects include remediating the Oakwood Beach Club property in Baldwin, building on flood-mitigation efforts on Long Beach Road in South Hempstead and following through on the reconstruction of this crucial county thoroughfare.

While Mulé has been effective at project management, she has been less so in addressing systemic issues within the government.

### HERALD Endorsement



**Debra Mulé**

For example, even though she has made an effort to employ a diverse staff, this has not translated to creating or advocating policies that address the lack of diversity in the county workforce overall.

As a newcomer to politics but a veteran in community building through his basketball coaching and managerial experience at Verizon, McEvoy prefers a big-picture approach to politics. His platform prioritizes business support and public safety. The lack of specificity in his platform and lack of understanding of his potential role and jurisdiction in the Legislature, however, are disqualifying.

Vote to return Debra Mulé to her seat in the 5th Legislative District.



## OPINIONS

## Jason Kreiss at 50: Blessings on your head

**H**ow is my son, Jason, like a Mac-Donald's quarter-pounder?

They are both 50 years old this year. And, might I add, both awesome. Also 50 this year? Disney World, the Nasdaq, email, floppy disks, Sacha Baron Cohen, and Hamburger Helper.

Right up alongside my shock at being the mom of a 50-year-old is my shock that e-mail is only 50 years old. How is that possible? The day Jason was born, I couldn't email anyone or send a text or snap a photo on my iPhone. That gizmo wouldn't be launched for 36 more years.

When your child hits the half-century mark, attention must be paid. How did the little kid with mittens clipped to his jacket learn to drive a car, run a household, start a business? How did the boy who tracked seagulls overhead instead of the soccer ball find his way? What does it mean that he was born, and how does he see this gift of a

life to live?

His story is his to write, but let me say what only a mother can get away with saying: He is a mensch, a loving family man, a loyal friend and a responsible earthling. These things I expect. What I could not have known when he was 6 pounds 9 ounces is that he is both a skilled, empathic lawyer and a dedicated fisherman. One is his profession, the other his passion.

You'd have to ask his kids what they think about his parenting, but I expect, like most teens, they'd give him a B today and an A when they turn 50.

You can see that I'm taking this landmark birthday seriously.

I was such a kid when he was born. Twenty-four years old. He was due on Halloween, and all that day I rested on the couch in our apartment, waiting for some sign and getting only annoying trick-or-treaters banging on the door. Clearly it was too late for second thoughts, but I began wondering what I wanted kids for anyway. They would just grow up to

become annoying goblins beating at the door.

We had a crazy dog in those days, a toy poodle named Lambchop, who quickly became known as the Chopper due to his appetite for domestic goods. That day, while waiting for Jason to be born, I rested on the couch and apparently dozed off for some time, because when I woke up, my pant leg was gone. The Chopper had been gnawing on my cuff (in his favorite flavor, polyester), found a thread and unraveled the entire leg. It was a sign, but not the one I was looking for.

I thought Halloween would be my low point, but seven more days would pass before Jason's birth. And every day I got bigger and more nervous.

On Nov. 6, I ate a large corned beef sandwich for dinner and went to bed early. At 4 a.m. on Nov. 7, my water broke, and my husband and I went into Birth Alert. In a scene reminiscent of a sitcom, my husband leapt up, cracked his head on the headboard and nearly lost consciousness. We immediately called our best friends,

who were on call to drive us to the hospital, and told them we might need them within a few hours. They really appreciated that heads-up at 4 a.m.

"Don't worry," I reassured my husband, "it will be many, many hours before the contractions start. Go back to sleep."

As he put his head back down on the pillow, I got a contraction. A big one. "Get up," I said.

"I think I just went to sleep," he said. "But I'm getting another contraction, and it's only two minutes later," I said. "It's not supposed to happen like this. We better get to the hospital."

Six minutes after we first called our friends, we called them back to pick us up. Then the friend who drove told me what he said was the hardest thing he ever had to tell anyone in his life: "I have to stop for gas." He was on empty.

It was a wild ride, but we got to Long Island Jewish Hospital at about 5:30 a.m. Forty minutes later, our son was born.

We named him Jason Wyatt and he will be 50 years old next week. To us he's still a kid, still evolving. But the early results are promising.

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