



A throwback at Harbor School

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'Trunk or Treat' is on its way

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MacArthur makes its mark

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Courtesy Margaret Silberger

Combing the beach

Mike Throo and Ryan Allen of Massapequa, and Kevin Maher of Bethpage, all of Boy Scout Troop 689 in Seaford, joined fellow Scouts, the Wantagh High School Key Club and the Kiwanis Club of Wantagh for a beach cleanup at Jones Beach State Park last Saturday. The group gathered trash in front of Gatsby On The Ocean from 9 a.m. to noon.

Scaring kids, for a good cause

Haunted Dojang makes its chilling return

By KATE NALEPINSKI
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Killer clowns romped around a bloodstained carnival. Four-legged demonic creatures, bathed in strobe lights, chased children as they screamed. This all unfolded inside a portion of Wantagh Champions Taekwondo last weekend.

The dojang, or studio, on Wantagh Avenue, which traditionally serves as a place of sol-

ace for its attendees, appeared quite the opposite on Saturday and Sunday, converted into a walk-through haunted house for Champions' annual two-day "Kick or Treat" event. Instructors, students and former students donned costumes and jumped out from behind curtains in a Halloween-themed maze.

Master and dojang owner Frank Guerrini said the Haunted Dojang started in 2012 as a

student-exclusive event. Some students didn't attend classes on Halloween, since they were trick-or-treating, so the Haunted Dojang became a seasonal alternative.

About six years ago, the studio moved to its current location, which offered more room to "get creative," Guerrini said. "The Key family has been huge in really upgrading the quality of

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Nelson Verity Plaza to get an upgrade

By KATE NALEPINSKI
knalepinski@iherald.com

Nelson Verity Plaza in Seaford will undergo infrastructure renovations over the next two weeks, after Town of Hempstead officials announced that they were moving forward with a \$600,000 capital improvement project.

Valente Contracting was recently awarded the Road Improvement Project. Mike Caputo, of the town's Department of Communications, said the Town's Capital Improvement Budget would fund the Seaford Public Parking District project.

The Road Improvement Project will address renovations at the plaza, between Washington and Jackson avenues, and will include the installation of new concrete curbing, aprons, sidewalks, ramps, lighting, trees and partitions. Additionally, there will also be milling and overlay of existing asphalt pavement.

"It's really going to be a nice focal point, and a nice addition

to the focal point of this business area of Seaford," Town Councilman Chris Carini said.

Seaford Chamber of Commerce president Nick Bilotta said the chamber has been working for roughly a year and a half on efforts to improve the plaza's

This is the closest thing we have to a business district in Seaford.

CHRIS CARINI
Councilman,
Town of Hempstead

dilapidated parking lot, which is a central hub for many of Seaford's local businesses. The project was created with assistance from Carini and Nassau County Legislator Steve Rhoads.

"It was a little dingy and worn-out — it just hasn't been well-maintained," Bilotta said of the plaza. "So we've been pushing for this, and finally, with the help of the town

... we're getting it done."

Many businesses line Merrick Road parallel to the plaza, including Spoons Ice Cream & Cereal Bar, Cara Mia and Seaford Delicatessen Inc. It also operates as a through-pass between the Seaford Public Library and Stop & Shop.

Carini said the project was

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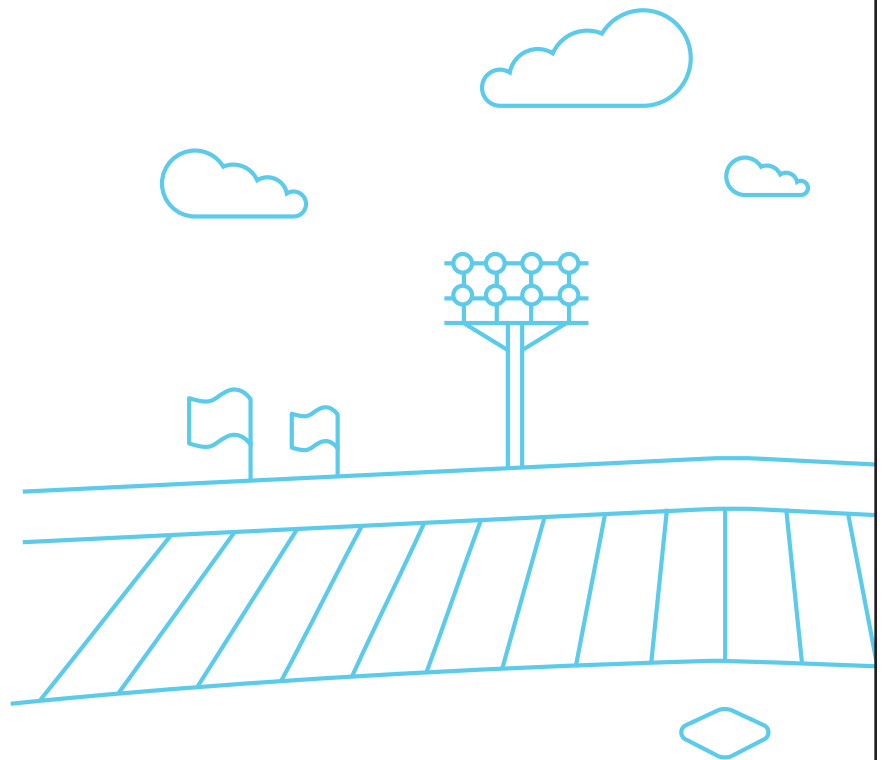
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Frights fund martial arts school scholarship

CONTINUED FROM FRONT PAGE

the event.”

Julianne Keym of Wantagh, an instructor, took the reins on upgrading the Haunted Dojang with her husband, Andrew. “We were always looking to push things to the next level,” Julianne said. “Once we settled in this location, we wanted to go big, and that’s the direction we headed in.”

The event not only offers fun for the community, she said, but has also helped children and teenage trainees to “rise to a new level of leadership” and introduced them to community service. “They’re really learning to be leaders in a fun way,” said Keym, a double black belt who is also a speech-language pathologist in the East Meadow School District.

Entry to the Haunted Dojang was \$5 per person. The donations benefited the dojang’s annual scholarship fund, established by Guerrini about eight years ago.

Each year, the studio awards a scholarship to a long-time student. Most of the scholarships have gone to high school seniors for college, but the money has sometimes been given to special-needs students who needed living assistance, Guerrini said.

In an effort to further connect with the community, he said, the event offered a twist this year: a vendor fair was set up in the dojang’s parking lot on Saturday. “It’s something that we’ve always wanted to do,” Guerrini said. “We don’t want the school to be just for our members — we want it to be a community hub, and we want to invite the public in.”

Melissa Ehl, owner and operator of Mixed By Mel, an at-home bakery based in Wantagh, said she was thrilled to be part of the Haunted Dojang vendor fair. “This is a great experience for me, as a first-time vendor,” she said. “I’m grateful to bring some of my customers to contribute to their scholarship fund.”

On Sunday, the dojang hosted a “Trunk or Treat” for early trick-or-treaters. Families associated with the martial arts school were encouraged to park their cars in front of the studio and decorated their vehicles’ trunks with Halloween décor and hand out candy to visitors. Student trainees, ranging in age from 7 to 15, took part in demonstrations on both days.

Guerrini, who grew up taking classes at another South Shore Champions dojang, said the program “changed his life.” While most students are from Wantagh, the school has welcomed other trainees from Seaford, Levittown, East Meadow, Bellmore and beyond.

“We know that through martial arts, through character-building, through the life-coaching that we do, we can change lives,” Guerrini said. “And I speak from experience on that. For a lot of kids who lack confidence, this is something they can use to help them grow and improve their lives.”

MacArthur High School sophomore Eddie Muro 15,



Courtesy Julianne Keym

KENDALL KOPPE, LUCAS Azan and Andrew Keym of Wantagh sported costumes for the Haunted Dojang at Wantagh Champions Taekwondo’s annual two-day “Kick or Treat” event last weekend.

who has trained at the dojang for 10 years, agreed, saying the program has made him into the person he is today. “It has definitely shaped the way I am and my character,” Eddie said. “Meeting new people, going to tournaments throughout the U.S. — it builds respect, discipline and integrity.”

Asked about his favorite part of volunteering inside the Haunted Dojang, he joked, “Scaring all the little children.”

Keym said that she and Guerrini hope to expand the Halloween event in the future. “We share the dream,” she said, “of giving back to the community, being a part of the community, and letting others know that we’re a part of it.”



Kate Nalepinski/Herald



Kate Nalepinski/Herald

SKELETONS ADORNED THE Haunted Dojang.

ANALISE KEYM, 13, wore a creepy mask and crawled on all fours.

Town parking field to undergo construction

CONTINUED FROM FRONT PAGE

part of a town-wide effort to enhance downtowns and support local businesses. “We don’t really have a downtown, and this the closest thing we have to a business district in Seaford,” he said. “So, working with the chamber, this was an area, really our business center, that they really wanted to spruce up.”

The upgrades are in addition to enhancements being made by the town at Seamans Neck Park in Seaford. Field 2 will be upgraded from dirt to artificial turf, and the existing baseball field and the football/lacrosse fields will be replaced. The turf fields will also see new “state-of-the-art” bleachers, backstops and fencing installed, Carini said.

All construction work at Seamans Neck Park will be paid for through the town’s capital improvement projects. Carini said that the town aimed to have all of the work at the park completed by spring 2022. Next year, he said, the town plans to invest \$10 million in its parks.

“We are committed to investing in our communities, and our Road Improvement Projects are key to enhancing safety and quality of life,” Town Supervisor Don Clavin said in a press release. “Roadways and parking fields are vital to our communities and we’re committed to investing in our infrastructure to enhance the quality



Kate Nalepinski/Herald

THE IMPROVEMENT PROJECT will begin at Nelson Verity Plaza in the next two weeks.

of life for our residents.”

Bilotta said that improving Nelson Verity Plaza had been on his to-do list since he became chamber president nearly two years ago. For him, this is one of the many steps the chamber is taking “to help beautify Seaford.”

“Seaford is beautiful, but I think it needs more attention so that we can get more new businesses and keep businesses here,” Bilotta said. “And this is a step forward.”

WHAT'S NEWS IN AND OUT OF THE CLASSROOM

HERALD SCHOOLS

School Safety Patrol returns to Harbor, many years later

An international program that dates back more than a century is making its return to Seaford Harbor Elementary School this fall.

The School Safety Patrol, which aims to enforce safety rules and guidelines among students, has made its way back to the Harbor school. Approximately 10 fifth grade students were sworn-in as safety officers during a ceremony on Oct. 19.

The AAA-sponsored School Safety Patrol, founded in 1920, works to provide school-aged children with “an extra sense of safety and security when going to and from school,” according to the program’s website. Harbor students will follow an official safety patrol operations manual to guide fellow students.

Assistant Principal Caroline Schozer recently discovered that the school once had a Safety Patrol after she found a photo of the group taken in 1965. Though it’s unknown when the group disbanded, Schozer said in a press release that restarting it has been a goal.

“It builds a sense of community, leadership and responsibility,” Schozer said. “The safety patrol members are helping their fellow Harbor students stay safe.”

Prospective safety patrollers had to go through an application process, Schozer said. Two students were chosen from each



Courtesy Seaford School District

HARBOR ELEMENTARY SCHOOL fifth-graders Jovie Hartmann and Cody Gatto with a 1965 photograph of the School Safety Patrol that was recently discovered.

fifth-grade class.

The selected members will have assigned posts inside the school during morning arrival and afternoon dismissal. Students will help enforce safety rules and guide students to their destinations.

Each student patroller will receive a sash and a badge. All students will all have the opportunity to serve as captain, lieutenant and sergeant for week periods and additional responsibilities will be delegated to them during their assignment. The group will meet monthly.

Parents were on hand for the outdoor installation ceremony on Oct. 19, where inductees recited a safety oath. Students later joined Schozer and Principal Thomas Burke for a slightly larger recreation of the 1965 photo.

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CORONA VIRUS

COMMUNITY UPDATE

Total Seaford infections

2,242

Infections Oct. 11-18

7

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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O'Connell and Brown vie for county clerk title

By MIKE SMOLLINS
msmollins@lherald.com

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

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: Why are you running for county clerk?

O'Connell: I have always sought ways to give back to my community, and what better way than serving in local government? I feel it is important for everyone to be civically active to maintain the quality of life we value here in Nassau County within our local communities. Experience matters at the clerk's office. I have the background and proven experience to continue leading as county clerk. I am proud to run on my record of modernizing the office and creating ease of access for my constituents, who I am honored to serve each and every day. As a registered nurse, attorney, former state assemblywoman and public servant for nearly 30 years, I take great pride in assisting people and serving our residents. The services my office provides are personally vital to the residents using them. Many times when people come to us, they are not always sure what it is they need to do. So one of my top priorities is to guide our residents through their transactions to ensure their interaction with our office is as seamless as possible. All of this cannot be done without our wonderful staff. I bring the knowledge needed to effectively and efficiently provide our services.

Brown: Helping people and being an advocate for our residents has always been a passion of mine. I served on the Uniondale School Board for the past three years, on one of the many Nassau County boards and as a member for Hofstra's Healthcare Alumni Board. And with my vast experience in health care and community initiatives, I can improve a lot within the clerk's office.

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



Maureen O'Connell



Justin Brown

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. ... [Also] making the records available to the residents in an efficient manner is very important. ... As many residents are facing financial hardship, another top priority for me is to have the statutory fees at my office reduced by county administration. Maintaining costs at my office is essential to ensuring taxpayer savings.

Brown: Being able to store, provide accessibility and ensure requested documents are provided in a timely manner for residents are key to having a successful clerk's 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. Residents can now access records maintained by my office online to provide them with ease of access to the vital documents my office maintains on their behalf. I also created a property fraud alert system for residents to protect them against predatory deed scams and identity theft.

Under my leadership, the office has implemented electronic filing of court and land records, enabling residents and professionals to conduct business with the clerk's office remotely while also creating greater efficiencies in the processing and maintenance of these records. ... 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. In 2021, implementing an electronic system should not be a goal, but we should be discussing ways on how to make the office more innovative with technology so that our residents can receive documents and have more accessibility without all the trouble of having to come up to the office in person. I will implement an in-house ... system that the clerk's office will have full control over. My staff and I will ensure that we can engage with our communities by providing more education and collaborating with stakeholders ... so that our residents can take full advantage of the resources and benefits the office provides.

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COMMUNITY UPDATE

Thursday, Oct. 28

Glow in the dark character skate session

Visit United Skates at 1276 Hicksville Rd., in Seaford for a glow in the dark skate session from 4 p.m. to 6 p.m. Bring a camera and wear a costume and enjoy a fun night. To purchase tickets go online to: <https://www.unitedskates.com>.

Friday, Oct. 29

Gatsby's Haunted Halloween

Gatsby's On The Ocean, located at 2000 Ocean Parkway in Wantagh, is hosting a Halloween-themed celebration. This 21 and over event will have a DJ, open bar, costume contest, themed food stations, "syringe" alcohol shots and more. For tickets and further information, call: (516) 785-0012.

Saturday, Oct. 30

Penny Lane live

The band Penny Lane will be playing at Ridgewood Station Tavern at 3231 Sunrise Highway in Wantagh at 7 p.m. Prizes will be given out for the best costume. There will be food, drinks, Beatles music and a DJ. For more details go online to: www.ridgewoodstation.com or call (516) 685-5160.

Weekly social skills group

Cornerstone Behavioral Services hosts a weekly socials skills group designed and supervised by behavior analysts at Sensory Beans at 3309 Merrick Rd., in Wantagh from 9 to 10:30 a.m. Children learn social skills, self management and problem solving skills in a fun way. Pre-registration is required. For further information, contact: admin@cornerstoneaba.com.

The Haunted Cabaret

Long Island Cabaret Theatre, under the direction of Gary Dana and Geri DeJahn and musical director Sid Cherry, presents a new musical show about a group of Cabaret singers and dancers who



Herald file photo

Seaford Chamber of Commerce's Trunk or Treat

The Seaford Chamber of Commerce will host a "Trunk or Treat" event at Seaman's Neck Park in Seaford from noon to 3 p.m. on Oct. 30. There will be music, face painting, temporary tattoos and more. All children must register. To register, go online to: seafordtrunkortreat.eventbrite.com.

must spend the night in a haunted house. The show is hosted by Barry Greenfield and Erica Iacono. Snacks, soda, and coffee are provided and individually packaged candy and desserts are offered for sale. There will be dancing after the show until 1 a.m. to the music of Mixmasters DJ. Seating is night-club style. All Covid-19 regulations will be enforced and followed. The show is at Temple B'nai Torah at 2900 Jerusalem Ave. in Wantagh at 7:30 p.m. For further information, go online to: licabaret.com.

Halloween celebration, Part 1

The Jones Beach Energy and Nature Center at 150 Bay Parkway in Wantagh is having a "Halloween" celebration. There will be three different activities starting at noon. To register, go online to: jonesbeachnc.org.

Halloween skulls on canvas

Kids ages 8 and up can paint a Halloween skull on a canvas at infinity Arts Studio at 1100 Hicksville Rd., in Seaford from 1 to 3 p.m. Create a spooktacular skull design on canvas using pop up and glow-in-the-dark paints. For tickets, go online to: <https://allevents.in/seaford/hey-kids-halloween-spooktacular-skulls-on-canvas-nassau-county/10000186004443297>.

Sunday, Oct. 31

Halloween celebration, Part 2

The Jones Beach Energy and Nature Center at 150 Bay Parkway in Wantagh will host the section part of its Halloween weekend celebration. There will be four events throughout the day starting with a costume parade at 10

a.m. To register, go online to: jonesbeachnc.org.

Glow-in-the-dark Halloween skate

There will be a glow-in-the-dark Halloween-themed skating session at the United Skates at 1276 Hicksville Rd., in Seaford from noon to 2 p.m.

Monday, Nov. 1

Civil Air Patrol Squadron 288 meeting

The Civil Air Patrol Squadron 288 will be meeting at the Church of St. Jude at 3606 Lufberry Ave., in Wantagh from 7 to 9:30 p.m. The meetings cover topics like leadership, character development, safety, physical fitness and diet, aerospace education and more. For more information, go online

to: <https://www.nassaucapli.com/>.

Tuesday, Nov. 2

Virtual lecture: History of T.V. News

The Seaford Library is having a virtual lecture on the History of television news at 1 p.m. The lecture will be led by Brian Rose, professor of communications at Fordham University. Television news has undergone remarkable transformations over the last seven decades, beginning with Camel News Caravan, a 15-minute evening program hosted by John Cameron Swayze. Sign up is necessary to receive a link. To sign up, email: adultprograms@seafordlibrary.org. The link to the Zoom will be sent the night before the program.

Wednesday, Nov. 3

Adult skating session

Head to United Skates of America located at 1276 Hicksville Rd., in Seaford for adult skate session from 8 to 11 p.m. Admission is \$13.50 and there is a \$5 skate rental. Tickets can be purchased online in advance at: <https://www.unitedskates.com/public/seaford/>.

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 knalepinski@liherald.com

5 things to know about your town

- Check out a list of Mulcahy's Halloween events and performances online at: <https://muls.com/events>.
- Enjoy the Seaford farmers market in the Seaford LIRR parking lot from 7 a.m. to 12 p.m. on Saturdays.
- Wantagh Chamber of Commerce is having an October raffle. Call Karen at (516) 659-6201.
- There will be a country fair at the Church of St. Jude from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. on Nov. 6.
- Sunset Grill in Seaford is having a Spooktacular Sunday Funday special on Halloween at 6 p.m.

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HERALD SPORTS

MacArthur pushing for title

By **ANDREW COEN**
sports@iherald.com

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 Floral 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.

MacArthur girls' soccer coach Jamie San Filippo ran the Suffolk County Marathon last Sunday in the midst of his team's playoff drive he hopes has its own extended run.

San Filippo ran a personal best time in the 26.2-mile race one day after MacArthur defeated Floral Park 4-1 to advance to the Nassau Class A quarterfinals on Wednesday against Calhoun after press time. The sixth-year coach and his veteran-laden team that earned the top-seed after an 8-4 season in Conference A1 are driven to capture a county title after falling just short of their goal last season.

"This group of girls has really come together and chased a lot of adversity," San Filippo said. "They have a team goal in mind that they want to achieve and they are working toward it by spending a lot of time together on and off the field."

The Floral Park win last Saturday featured three different goal scorers in Kaitlyn Tung, Fiona Kilian, Summer Looney and Angelina Sayago. Hailey Hnis, Meghan Wetzel and Kailee Coppola each registered assists.

The Generals marched into the postseason on a high note with a 1-0 home win against Garden City on Oct. 15 in which Summer Looney tallied the winning goal in the 51st minute off an assist from Kaitlyn Tung. The victory coupled with South Side's 0-0 tie with Manhasset earned MacArthur the conference title and number one seed.

The offense has been sparked largely by Hnis, a senior forward who has struck for 17 goals. Kilian, a senior midfielder and Xavier commit, has anchored the mid-field along with freshman Bella Calabro.

MacArthur posted seven shutouts in the regular season with a defense that has endured changing lineups through multiple injuries including a season-ending ACL tear to Albany-bound senior Madison Hnis. Junior Ava Anguilli, who missed two and half weeks of the season due to injury, and sophomore Meghan Wetzel are also big centerpieces of the backline along with freshman Caitlin Barry.

Junior goalkeeper Lexie Thompson, who as a sophomore only surrendered one



Jeff Wilson/Herald

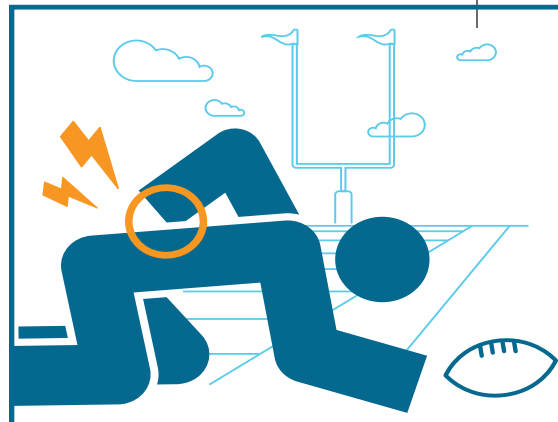
MACARTHUR'S HAILEY HNIS, right, led the way to the Conference A1 title by scoring 17 goals, including four in a victory over Wantagh.

goal in the regular season, has continued her strong play this fall, which included a 12-save performance in a 2-0 victory at Garden City on Sept. 28. Backup goalie Jenna Nasello has also stepped in when needed and recorded a shutout in MacArthur's 6-0 home triumph against Valley Stream South on Oct. 4.

A win against Calhoun would move MacArthur into the semifinals this Saturday evening at Cold Spring Harbor against the winner of Wednesday's Plainedge-Manhasset quarterfinal game.

Six months removed from falling in overtime to South Side in the county finals, The Generals could be on a collision course to meet the Cyclones on the championship stage again. South Side swept the season series with MacArthur by scores of 2-0 and 3-2.

"That is what we want is a chance to kind of redeem ourselves from not only last season's county final but also taking two defeats from them on the year," San Filippo said. "We would not mind seeing them again."



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HERALD ENDORSEMENTS

Rose Marie Walker is the choice in the 17th L.D.

The 17th Legislative District, in a mostly residential area in the heart of southeastern Nassau County, needs a legislator who knows the community well, and few know the area better than lifelong Hicksville resident Rose Marie Walker.

Walker, 70, has a long resume in elected politics, having been a Town of Oyster Bay councilwoman from 2004 to 2010 and a county legislator since 2010. She is seeking her seventh term in the Legislature.

Walker has been an active member of the Hicksville Fire Department Ladies Auxiliary, Irish Americans in Government, the Hicksville Chamber of Commerce and the Board of Education.

If re-elected, she said, she would work to bring

HERALD Endorsement



Rose Marie Walker

more affordable housing to the district and work with the town to destroy vacant, dilapidated homes. Walker said that low-income housing has been discussed among legislators, and they are looking for the best locations.

As a councilwoman and legislator, she has also fought for environmental legislation, paying special attention to the Grumman-U.S. Navy toxic plume in Bethpage, which is polluting local groundwater. Another major issue she said she would focus on is carcinogen dioxane, which has been found in wells in Hicksville.

With four children and grandchildren, Walker

said she is deeply committed to ensuring that her extended family and younger residents stay in the community. She said she is now working with the Town of Oyster Bay, the Metropolitan Transportation Authority and others to revitalize downtown Hicksville.

Walker's opponent, Democrat Raja Singh, is also deeply invested in revitalizing the area. As a fellow Hicksville resident and an attorney with the Singh Law Group, he is well versed in politics and understands the community's needs. While he is passionate and committed to the community, however, he lacks political experience.

Both candidates have provided clear plans to serve the district post-pandemic, but we feel Walker has the necessary experience as an elected leader. We urge voters to re-elect her.

In 19th District, Steve Rhoads deserves your vote

Republican Steve Rhoads has worked passionately for the residents of Nassau County's 19th Legislative District over the past two years. In a term that became defined by a pandemic, the district was fortunate to have Rhoads in the seat.

Known for having a constant presence in the community, Rhoads shifted to social media to keep followers up to date on the ever-changing reality of the health crisis.

Recently he was critical of direct \$375 payments to homeowners introduced by County Executive Laura Curran, saying that the amount and the timing were not adequately tied to need. While Rhoads ultimately voted for the payments, he said he believed they were too little, too late. He was also critical of the county's use of federal CARES Act

funding, some of which went to county salaries and benefits.

Perhaps his most vocal opposition has been to the countywide property reassessment. While it became — much to our disappointment — a partisan issue in the Legislature, Rhoads has spoken out about errors in the process. He acknowledges that a reassessment of county properties was necessary, but he points to the inequities in its results. In his district, 70 percent of homeowners saw their school and property tax increase, and he advises homeowners to grieve their taxes.

Correcting the errors has cost the county nearly

HERALD Endorsement



Steve Rhoads

\$50 million in refunds in the past year. Rhoads has also joined other Republican legislators in proposing a property tax cut of \$120 million and fee cuts in excess of \$100 million.

His challenger, 26-year-old Jake Schuster, has mounted his first political campaign, and we encourage his continued involvement in the district. Schuster said he felt as if this was the first time he has had a voice in the political conversation. That voice can be just as loud from a strong advocate who is not in an elected seat.

We strongly encourage residents of the 19th District to cast their votes for Rhoads on Tuesday.

In Hempstead's 6th Council District, elect Galante

The race in the Town of Hempstead's 6th Council District pits Republican political veteran Dennis Dunne, of Levittown, against newcomer Matthew Galante, also of Levittown, a Democrat. The stark contrast between one candidate, who has long been entrenched in machine politics, and a young face with fresh ideas, is more than clear. This election presents an opportunity for change in the district.

Galante, 36, is approaching his campaign with a message of efficiency, transparency and accountability — changes we hope to see if he is elected.

He wants to cut the town's budget — potentially by eliminating employees he claims are in patronage positions gained through political connections — which would reduce residents' taxes. At

HERALD Endorsement



Matthew Galante

the same time, Galante wants to invest more in town services by cutting waste elsewhere. He added that he would vote against unnecessary pay increases.

He was critical of the town's use of federal CARES Act funding — some of which went to employee salaries. That funding, Galante said, could have gone to residents when they needed it the most.

He proposed hiring an outside auditor to investigate the town's operations to find greater efficiencies. He pointed to Freedom of Information Act requests, which can be left unanswered by town departments for weeks.

While Galante has the necessary enthusiasm to serve in the office, he also has applicable experience for the position. He once served as the attor-

ney for a school board, which helped him become familiar with budgets, meeting laws and general town laws. Currently, he practices financial, real estate and corporate law.

Perhaps most important, Galante appears to want to serve in a government that works for its people.

Dunne, 70, has done little beyond maintain the town's status quo. When asked about his accomplishments, it wasn't long before he harkened back to his successes as a county legislator.

In times of crisis, being a leader requires bold action. We believe leaders should encourage their constituents to be vaccinated against the coronavirus, but Dunne was hesitant to say whether he had been inoculated.

Young faces in politics — on a local or national level — are absolutely necessary. The Herald enthusiastically encourages residents to cast their votes for Galante in the 6th District.

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

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Send to exeditor@liherald.com



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.

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



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.

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

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



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.

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



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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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."

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.

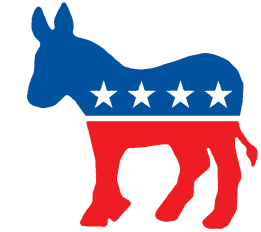
He added that, if elected, he would place resources on infrastructure based upon need.

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.



SAMPLE ELECTION BALLOT

ELECTION '21



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

SEAFORD

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.

INSTRUCCIONES

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.

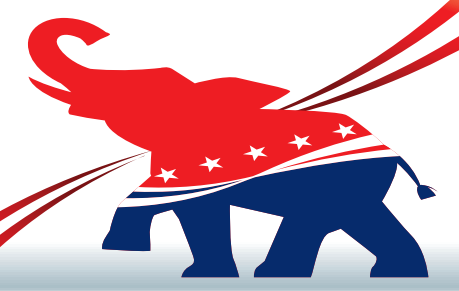
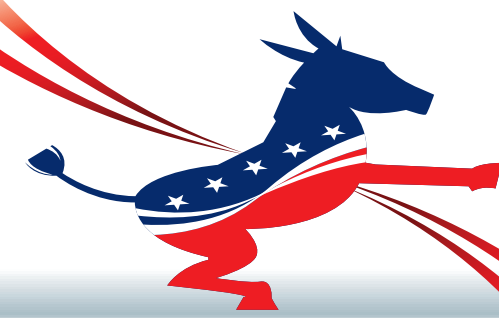
This is not an actual ballot, but a composite of several sample ballots so as to reflect all the districts within the communities covered by your edition of the Herald. Complete reporting on candidates running in districts covered by the Herald – as well as the full text of our endorsements in each race – 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 6 (Vote for one) Concejal Distrito 6 (Vote por uno)	Hempstead Town Clerk (Vote for one) Secretario Municipal (Vote por uno)	County Legislator District 17 (Vote for one) Legislador del Condado Distrito 17 (Vote por uno)	County Legislator District 19 (Vote for one) Legislador del Condado Distrito 19 (Vote por uno)
Democratic	<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 Sapaicone	<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. Abelow	<input type="radio"/> 16 Matthew A. Galante	<input type="radio"/> 17 Olena Nicks	<input type="radio"/> 22 Raja K. Singh	<input type="radio"/> 22 Jacob I. Schuster
Republican	<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 Sapaicone	<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 Dennis Dunne, Sr.	<input type="radio"/> 17 Kate Murray	<input type="radio"/> 22 Rose Marie Walker	<input type="radio"/> 22 Steven D. Rhoads
Conservative	<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 Sapaicone	<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 Dennis Dunne, Sr.	<input type="radio"/> 17 Kate Murray	<input type="radio"/> 22 Rose Marie Walker	<input type="radio"/> 22 Steven D. Rhoads
Working Families									<input type="radio"/> 11 Ryan E. Cronin	<input type="radio"/> 12 Justin R. Brown						<input type="radio"/> 17 Olena Nicks	<input type="radio"/> 22 Raja K. Singh	<input type="radio"/> 22 Jacob I. Schuster	
Common Sense								<input type="radio"/> 9 Laura Curran						<input type="radio"/> 15 Jason L. Abelow	<input type="radio"/> 16 Matthew A. Galante				
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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NOVEMBER 2nd

HERALD
 Community Newspapers



PULL OUT

SAMPLE ELECTION BALLOT COURTESY OF THE HERALD COMMUNITY NEWSPAPERS

PULL OUT

COUNTY LEGISLATURE DISTRICT 17

Rose Marie Walker Incumbent

Party: Republican, Conservative

Age: 70

Hometown: Hicksville

Career: Elected leader

Political experience: County legislator since 2010; served as Town of Oyster Bay councilwoman from 2004 to 2010

On the issues:

Rose Marie Walker, who has served as a legislator for six terms, said the housing crisis affects all Nassau County residents. After Covid-19, many people left New York City and came to Long Island, she said. It created a seller's market, and many people looking for



homes, especially those seeking to live in District 17, were asked to put in offers well over asking prices. She believes the community must work together to reduce taxes and create affordable housing opportunities for all residents.

Many local businesses were hurt due to the pandemic. In response, legislators must provide "every relief possible to get them back on their feet," Walker said. She pointed to the fund that was created to pay back businesses and resi-

dents the money they were owed after they overpaid their taxes. During the pandemic, that was necessary, she said. She said consumer affairs needs to be timely in issuing licenses, though currently there is a tremendous backlog, which is continuing to hurt businesses. She said she would do everything in her power to address this and encourage more businesses to call Nassau County their home.

Addressing housing issues, lowering taxes and working with housing partners to offer more affordable housing to young people are all critical, Walker said, and she said she would do everything she could to rectify the housing market following the Covid-19 pandemic.

Raja Singh Challenger

Party: Democratic, Working Families

Age: 36

Hometown: Hicksville

Career: Practicing attorney with business

Political experience: First-time candidate

On the issues:

Raja Singh, an attorney from Hicksville, said the housing crisis in District 17 is two-fold. First, the community is losing residents owing to high living costs, housing prices, property taxes and more, he said. Further, the community is not actively attracting new homeowners for the same reasons. Singh believes the



answer lies in adjusting zoning in downtowns, adding mixed-use zoning and allowing existing properties in downtowns to build one or two levels of rental units. This would reduce property taxes, as more commercial taxes would be paid, he said.

If elected, Singh said he would sign legislation to require high-volume builders to make cost-effective homes so both sellers and buyers would benefit. Further, he said it would encourage seniors to stay

put while welcoming in young adults.

With his office in downtown Hicksville, Singh said he has seen many empty storefronts. Part of the issue stems from the fear of starting a business where there isn't an attractive downtown, he said. To develop District 17, Singh said he would use allotted space to his advantage and create a proposal for residents with some incentive, assistance, workforce, grants and more to help alleviate the cost of operating businesses.

To improve the livelihoods of the younger population and ensure that they stay here, Singh said he would encourage rental units that are relatively low-cost. District 17 needs new development, he said, which would create local jobs and attract young adults.

Includes Bethpage, Farmingdale, Plainedge, North Massapequa, North Seaford Old Bethpage.

COUNTY LEGISLATURE DISTRICT 19

Steve Rhoads Incumbent

Party: Republican

Age: 52

Professional/political experience: From 2006 until 2015, he served on the Open Space and Parks Advisory Committee to the Nassau County Planning Commission, becoming its secretary in 2009. In 2015, he was elected in a special election to represent the 19th Legislative District in the Nassau County Legislature. Rhoads is also a volunteer firefighter with the Wantagh Fire Department and is an ex-captain of Engine Company No. 5.

On the issues:

On improving the lives of Long Island's younger popu-



lation to ensure they keep a residency here, Steve Rhoads pointed to opportunities for transit-oriented development. In Farmingdale, for instance, its Main Street corridor now includes apartment-style housing aimed at young professionals who commute on the Long Island Rail Road. Restaurants, a grocery store, dry cleaners and more are all within walking distance.

Rhoads also proposed working with the county Industrial Development Agency to encourage busi-

ness development, which he said could have been done with the nearly \$100 million in federal CARES Act funding that went toward county salaries. He added that Nassau should also work with New York state to create a first-time homebuyer tax credit for Nassau residents to help put home ownership in reach of young people.

Rhoads has been critical of the county-wide property reassessment carried out by Executive Laura Curran's administration. He called it "error-riddled" and the cause of a shift of the tax burden further onto middle-class homeowners. In the 19th District, he noted, nearly 70 percent of homeowners saw school and property tax increases are a result of the reassessment.

Jake Schuster Challenger

Party: Democrat

Age: 26

Professional/political experience: After receiving a bachelor's in business administration at Hofstra University, Schuster attended the College of Law at the University of Tulsa in Tulsa, Okla., where he received his law degree. In 2017, he volunteered for Bellmorite Jeff Gold's campaign for the same seat, and then worked for State Sen. John Brooks as a legislative aide.

On the issues:

As a young resident making his first foray into politics, Jake Schuster is very aware of the issues affecting Long Island's youth, he said.



Schuster wants to encourage younger residents to have an increased involvement in government operations, giving them opportunities to have their voices heard. He would also create leadership opportunities for young adults for sustained investment.

On housing, Schuster wants to convert plots of empty land and abandoned buildings into affordable housing for those who need it. By working with county and state officials, Schuster said the county could

demand greater funding assistance. Funds could also be reallocated from over-funded programs, he said, to provide for those who are living outside their means.

Schuster also strongly supports marijuana legalization within the district. Through taxation, he believes legalization could bring in much-needed revenue for the county and local governments. He opposes opting out of the sale of marijuana in the district.

While he has not served in an elected political position, Schuster is comfortable in a political environment, he said.

Includes Bellmore, Freeport, North Bellmore, North Merrick, North Wantagh, Seaford, South Bellmore, South Merrick, Wantagh.



HEMPSTEAD COUNCIL DISTRICT 6

Dennis Dunne Incumbent

Party: Republican

Age: 70

On the issues:

If re-elected, taking a stand against Covid-19 is "critical," Dennis Dunne said. As a town board member, Dunne voted in favor of making provisions for outdoor dining and for distribution of personal protective equipment kits to local businesses. He and Supervisor Don Clavin also provided Covid-19 tests and vaccines to senior centers and other vulnerable areas. And he helped secure funding for local hospitals, public schools and colleges and air filter replacements for local municipalities.



Dunne said he takes pride in Hempstead's "progressive" stance on green initiatives: Town employees use electric vehicles, and it's home to an award-winning solar energy park and the Norman Levy Park and Preserve.

The town conducted an energy audit, which has led to the conversion of tens of thousands of streetlights to LED lights, which require half the energy to operate. Hempstead town facilities are subject to the same updated lighting.

To Dunne, the most pressing issue facing residents of his district is the property-tax burden. Dunne has voted to cut taxes for two consecutive years, and taxes were frozen last year. Along with Clavin, a tax cut budget was introduced.

Funds are also being invested into infrastructure, including \$75 million for road resurfacing and \$10 million to upgrade local parks.

Matthew Galante Challenger

Party: Democrat

Age: 32

On the issues:

Taking his first foray into politics, Matthew Galante has been critical of the opposing Republican party. He argues there is waste that can be cut from the town budget, namely in patronage jobs given to friends or family members who already have a foot in the door. Eliminating the waste would be a cost-saving measure, helping the town expand or introduce services.

Galante's top priorities are to help those financially affected by the pandemic and to promote the district's



local businesses. Galante wants to provide more extensive aid and services, such as legal aid, to residents to help them stay in their homes. The town can also cut red tape to make it easier to open a business, further encourage residents to shop locally and work hand in hand with local business owners to hear and address their concerns.

To protect the district against severe weather, Galante wants to turn toward state and federal relief. With additional aid, the district

could retrofit and reinforce its residential and commercial buildings against severe weather and flooding, he said. Building in heavily affected areas should also be discouraged.

Long-term, Galante sees the primary issue for younger residents as housing costs. It is too expensive to live in the district, he said, owing to high property taxes, high rents and high mortgage costs. Working with state representatives, property taxes could also be cut by limiting what residents pay in school taxes.

Mixed-use development, especially along Hempstead Turnpike, must also be encouraged, according to Galante, so seniors and young people can stay in their communities.

Includes Bellmore, Bethpage, East Meadow, Levittown, Merrick, Seaford and Wantagh.



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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.

PHOTO
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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.

PHOTO
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Family Court Judge Candidate

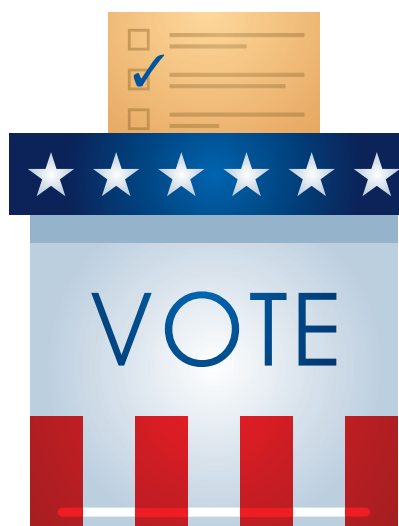
Darlene D. Harris

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.

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1132789

JOHN HAMBROOK

OYSTER BAY COVE

Chief,
Oyster Bay
Fire Department



When Covid hit, it was confusing at first. It was an unprecedented situation for us. In the beginning, everything stopped. People stopped calling 911 because they were afraid to go to the hospital. We were dealing with a lot of fear.

We were dealing with people who were concerned, scared, and some had potential respiratory issues. I did what I was told. I was actually more concerned about my people. Some got Covid right away, but fortunately none of them had to go to the hospital.

What I focused on was getting [personal protective equipment]. We already had it but weren't sure how long we would be needing it or how effective it was. So, we had a PPE drive and got a lot of response from the community. We ended up never running out.

During Covid, we went to fewer fires, I

think, because people were aware of what was going on at home. They weren't rushing out the door in the morning and coming home exhausted. My EMS officers really rose to the occasion during Covid.

That first year was a long year, and it was pretty tough. The Fire Department really worked hard, the department and the officers.

I was watching all of the conferences to figure out what we were supposed to do. And our battalion had conferences regularly, too, so we always knew what we could and couldn't do.

I'm proud of what we did in Oyster Bay. We are a completely volunteer Fire Department — no one is on the payroll. The volunteers drive this community.

HERALD HOMETOWN HERO



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 know 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 FEMA buses and that relieved the pressure and stress on us. With people being home there were less 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

DEREK WASHINGTON

VALLEY STREAM

Nurse Manager,
Nassau University
Medical Center



During school when I went through the various clinicals, the psych rotation grabbed my attention the most. I always had an interest in how the mind works and mental health.

At NUMC, I manage the staff for ... one of the [six] psych units. ... My unit deals with more acute patients. These are the patients that are too aggressive or have more of a serious mental health problem than the average patient. We also take the inmates from the neighboring jail.

Covid-19 made our job more challenging because we had to deal with the mental aspect of patients and the medical side of it. Someone with a mental problem may not know how to take care of themselves. We started to experience more deaths, more illnesses and everyone throughout the hospital started

hearing the codes called constantly, the codes that describe a patient's condition. ... It caused us to work short-staffed, too, because a lot of staff got Covid-19.

It shocked me to see the resiliency of the staff at the hospital. Despite everything going on, even at the height of the pandemic, we still had a core group of staff members that showed up regardless and found a way to get the job done.

For me, it was hard to be strong for my peers and staff that looks at me for direction.

Coming out of the pandemic, we are more appreciative of certain freedoms that we didn't highlight before, like walking around freely and not thinking we were going to get sick. We were always worried whether a symptom we had was Covid-19.

HERALD HOMETOWN HERO



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

MODERATOR



Eric Feil
Herald Community Newspapers

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Family Care Connections, LLC
Director Of Medicaid, Medicare & Eldercare Services



Dr. Ann Marie D'Angelo
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HERALD

Rep. Suozzi fights for SALT repeal Page 2

Fall music fest this weekend Page 8

Auxiliary police chief appointed Page 10



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 Oceanside, 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 thought it would be a nice touch to have some aerial shots of the location. "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.

HERALD ENDORSEMENTS

Re-elect Kate Murray as Hempstead clerk

In 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 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.

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Cronin, Phillips vie for county comptroller seat

By CRISTINA ARROYO RODRIGUEZ

c.arroyo@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: Covid-19 has altered how we do “business as usual” in terms of technology, health care and the economy. How

would you navigate the “new normal”?

Cronin: We have to lean into the “new normal” and embrace modernization. The comptroller’s office currently functions on innovations from the mid-1900s and is long overdue for a technology upgrade. In doing so, it would allow the office to adapt more effectively not just to our “new normal” but to any hurdles to come.

Phillips: All Nassau County governmental agencies have been forced to adjust to the “new normal” of Covid-19. In many cases, the adjustments have been inadequate, and the delivery of county services is suffering as a result. As Nassau County comptroller, I will have a crucial role to play in objectively identifying those governmental agencies whose performance is lagging and making recommendations to address deficiencies. A specific exam-

ple of a lack of adequate management and adaption has been seen within the Department of Consumer Affairs. Many business owners have been waiting for months to secure required licenses. Some are in danger of going out of business. This is totally unacceptable. The county’s administration 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 in a safe and efficient manner. As comptroller, I will audit these areas of need and will push for swift corrective action.

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. I would do the same for the entities that do business with Nassau County.

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: As Nassau County comptroller, I will serve as the taxpayers’ watchdog. Taxes and spending need to be controlled in Nassau County. I have the back-



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



Ryan E. Cronin

Age: 40

Hometown: Garden City

Professional Background: Business Litigator/Lawyer

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

ground 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. Mistakes in assigning assessments have directly resulted in the erroneous taxation of homeowners and businesses. 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.

HERALD LSE#1 1028 PUBLIC NOTICES

LEGAL NOTICE UNITED STATES POSTAL SERVICE

Statement of Ownership, Management, and Circulation

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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). 1150033

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right to assume the name of Mateo Sandoval. The city and state of my present address are Seaford, NY month and year of my birth are August, 2018; the place of my birth is East Meadow, NY; my present name is Mateo Gerasimos Sandoval. 128041

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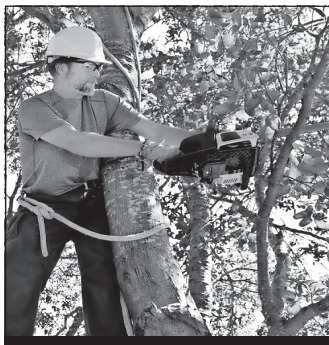
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This house sounds spooky

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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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 Town Supervisor Don Clavin

After 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 "pot-

HERALD Endorsement



Don Clavin

hole patrol," an effort to expedite repairs using state-of-the-art vehicles and promoting a 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 Laura Curran 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 pandemic-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

HERALD Endorsement



Laura Curran

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.

HERALD ENDORSEMENTS

Elect Kaminsky for 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 pre-trial 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 stronger 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.

OPINIONS

Jason Kreiss at 50: Blessings on your head

How is my son, Jason, like a MacDonald'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 annoy-

ing 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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