

Bringing the NUMC Mammography Van to the District



Laura with NUMC Mammography Van Health Professionals on March 24, 2015

On March 24, 2015, Legislator Laura Curran hosted the NUMC Mammography Van at the Baldwin Public Library. By bringing the van to the community, NUMC is able to reach women who might otherwise never have a mammogram.

Laura will be brining the van to the Freeport Memorial Library (144 West Merrick Rd., Freeport, NY 11520) on Wednesday, December 16, 2015. Appointments are required and priority is given to women who are over 50 years of age, reside in Nassau County, are due for their annual screening, and are uninsured. To make appointments and for more information, please contact Legislator Curran’s office at (516) 571-6205.

Exciting South Shore Blueway Trail & Milburn Creek Boat Basin Project

South Shore Blueway

The South Shore Blueway Trail is a project to plan and develop a water trail for non-motorized vessels, along Long Island’s South Shore. Nassau County has received a Local Waterfront Revitalization (LWRP) Grant awarding \$240,000 for the development of 7 launches at 6 parks, with a target of 2016 for completion on all sites.



Milburn Creek Boat Basin Project

Nassau County plans to begin construction this September on a \$4 million project to renovate the Milburn Creek Boat Launch in the Village of Freeport. The year-long project, will see the replacement of damaged bulkheads and the addition of an ADA compliant kayak launch. Along the water’s edge, a new wooden boardwalk will be installed, along with new benches, garbage receptacles, and landscaping. New LED-powered lamp posts will also be installed throughout the park. The parking lot will also be extensively renovated, incorporating green features such as permeable pavement and a bioswale to prevent rain water runoff into Milburn Creek.

“This state-of-the-art boat ramp and kayak launch – with its environmentally sophisticated design complete with new boardwalk, comfort station, lighting, seating, and pervious pavement – not only benefits boaters, it will also blossom into a beautiful destination for all our residents.” - Laura Curran

Upcoming Events

Thursday, September 17	<b><u>Constituent Action Network</u></b>
	7:00 PM
	Freeport Memorial Library
	144 W. Merrick Rd., Freeport, NY 11520
This is a great opportunity to have discussion with the legislator and your neighbors in the district, about issues and concerns, solutions, and ideas for bettering the communities in the district!	
Thursday, October 15	<b><u>Grand Ave. Study Public Outreach Mtg.</u></b>
	7:00 PM– 9:00 PM
	Location TBD
Tuesday, November 3	<b><u>Election Day</u></b>
	6:00 AM- 9:00 PM
Wednesday, December 16	<b><u>NUMC Mammography Van</u></b>
	8:45 AM- 12:00 PM
	Freeport Memorial Library
	144 W. Merrick Rd., Freeport, NY 11520

Shop Locally

I invite you to check out what local businesses your community has to offer, not only on Small Business Saturday (November 28th), but throughout the year! When we shop or dine at our local businesses, we show support not only for our small businesses and owners, but also our support for our neighbors and communities. When our local shops, restaurants, and businesses thrive, so do our schools, our residents, and our towns. I am very proud of the great small businesses we have throughout the entire district, and I encourage you to explore what they have to offer!



A busy Saturday at the Freeport Farmers’ Market! The community-based, youth staffed market is held Saturdays through October 31st, from 11 AM– 4 PM or until sold out. Just one example of how to support the local economy and find fresh produce!

Legislative Newsletter



Nassau’s Fifth Legislative District includes the communities of Baldwin, Freeport, South Hempstead, Oceanside, Merrick, and Rockville Centre.

Message from your County Legislator

2015



Dear Friend,

I proudly serve the great communities that make up the 5<sup>th</sup> Legislative District. As your representative on the Nassau County Legislature, I am committed to working hard to improve our quality of life, and keep LD 5 a great place to live and work.

In recent months I have:

- introduced legislation to establish a Nassau County Land Bank (see inside for more)
- worked closely with the County’s Department of Public Works on a traffic study of Grand Ave., Baldwin (see inside for more)
- worked with the Village of Freeport on a N. Main St. beautification project
- helped the Freeport Police Dept. secure funding for important safety equipment
- assisted the Oceanside Fire Dept. in securing funds for flat-bottomed boats to help residents of flooded neighborhoods
- secured funds for the Baldwin Fire Dept. to purchase thermal imagine cameras, and is helped the South Hempstead Fire Dept. purchase updated radios
- stressed the importance of functioning storm drains to firms interested in bidding on the Barnes Ave., Baldwin, Sanitary Sewage Flow Diversion Project

And as this goes to press, the County is getting ready to break ground on an exciting project at the Milburn Creek Boat Basic (see inside for more), and the First Precinct is on track for a Spring, 2016 completion.

I serve on several legislative committees, including Finance, Public Works & Parks, and Public Safety, and Minority Affairs. Working on these committees – which deal with such important aspects of local government – allows me the opportunity to ensure our communities more safe, healthy, and resilient.

We live in a complicated patchwork of local municipalities – where special districts, villages, towns, and the County overlap in often confusing ways. Part of my job is to help residents navigate any confusion to help them solve problems. I am proud to have cultivated relationships that allow me to work with folks in all levels of government and across party lines to get things done.

Sincerely,

Laura Curran

Helping to Keep the District Beautiful

On April 19th Legislator Laura Curran sponsored her second annual Brookside Preserve Clean-Up. The beautiful preserve runs along the border between Baldwin and Freeport, and volunteers of all ages helped pick up litter and keep the preserve beautiful for everyone to enjoy, and for the native flora and fauna that is found there. The Brookside Preserve is a hidden gem in Nassau County and we are lucky to have it in our backyard! Laura has co-sponsored and participated in many clean-ups throughout the district, and plans to continue organizing events to keep Nassau's South Shore communities beautiful.



Laura Curran and many dedicated volunteers helped clean-up the Brookside Preserve on a sunny Sunday in April!

Inside this issue:

MILBURN BOAT RAMP — LAND BANK — DISTRICT UPDATES  
UPCOMING EVENTS— I WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU!



## Laura In the District



Left- setting up with Saul Lerner, Athletic Director of the Bellmore-Merrick Central High School District, at the Bellmore-Merrick Heroin Awareness Task Force Drug Take Back Day on May 30th.



Left- at Rockville Centre Firemen's Field during the Nassau County Firemen Association Parade & Drill, with Thomas FitzSimons (l) and Paul Neumann (c).



Right- attending the Fourth of July reading of the Declaration of Independence at the Merrick Gazebo with Catherine Williams.

Below- with Commissioner Michael Graham (l) and Chief Kevin Klein (r) of the Oceanside Fire Department at the Mercedes-Benz of Rockville Centre's donation of CRP dummies.



Above- with World War II Army Veteran and Baldwin Memorial Day Parade Grand Marshal, David Marshall.

Right- Laura with Sanitary District No. 2 Chairman Jerry Brown, showing off one of the twelve new garbage cans placed on county roads in May, as part of the Classy Campaign.



Left- enjoying the Baldwin American Legion Post 246 BBQ in August, with veterans and members Jack Dwachter (l) and Al Ficalora.



Left - Leading the South Hempstead Memorial Day Parade with Rockville Centre Mayor Francis X. Murray (l) and Assemblyman Brian Curran (r).



Above- In March, Laura presenting Freeport resident Lois Howes with the Women's History Month Trailblazer Award. Lois is the President of the Freeport Chamber of Commerce, and Friends of Freeport, an organization she co-founded to help residents get back into their homes after Superstorm Sandy.

Right- Laura helping to serve food at the Oceanside Kiwanis Super Bowl Pancake Breakfast, with Island Park Trustee Joe Pontecorvo (l) and Oceanside School Board Trustee Seth Blau(c).



## Grand Ave. Traffic Study Public Outreach Meeting



Nassau County has been conducting a Complete Streets Traffic Study along Grand Ave. between Stanton Ave. and Merrick Rd. in Baldwin. You are invited to attend a public information and outreach meeting, where the study's findings and recommendations will be presented, and encouraged to

provide input regarding the project. **The meeting will be held on Thursday, October 15, 2015, from 7-9 PM (location TBD).** Stay tuned for more information!

## Sponsoring Community Blood Drives

Since taking office, Laura has sponsored three community blood drives with the New York Blood Center. In total, these drives have collected **210 pints** of much-needed blood, and helped save **630 patients!**

Thank you to all the selfless donors who rolled up their sleeves and gave blood to help save lives. And please stay tuned for future community blood drives!

Every pint of blood donated helps save up to three lives.



Laura with Rockville Centre resident Christopher DelBello during Jane's blood drive held at the Baldwin Fire Department.



## Nassau County Passes Land Bank Legislation

Nassau OKs land bank to purchase, fix and sell abandoned properties

Nassau County will move to tackle the issue of abandoned properties known as zombie homes with a new land bank to acquire, rehabilitate and sell them.

### NASSAU COUNTY LAND BANK

- A nonprofit government corporation run by a board of seven county officials would be created.
- The corporation would have the power to acquire, rehabilitate and then sell, lease, donate or manage properties.
- Targeted properties may include those that are vacant, blighted, tax-delinquent or fore-closed.
- Initial funding would come from state grants. The corporation ultimately would be self-sustaining from proceeds from property sales.

SOURCE: NASSAU COUNTY

Laura and fellow legislator, Siela Bynoe, in May proposed legislation to create a Land Bank, a non-profit entity to buy vacant and abandoned houses (so-called "zombie houses"), and then renovate and sell them.

Two months later, in July, the Nassau County Legislature unanimously approved the creation of the Nassau County Land Bank, and Laura was tapped to serve on the bank's board. The County is currently awaiting state approval to get the land bank started.

There are about 2,000 vacant and abandoned houses in Nassau County, and you can spot them in nearly every neighborhood. There are several reasons for the proliferation of these unsafe eyesores, including damage from Superstorm Sandy and foreclosures.

"Zombie houses are plaguing our county," Laura told Newsday. "It's time the county took bold action to tackle this problem."

\*Images from Laroco, Paul. "Buying Zombies." *Newsday* 14 July 2015: A7, Print.



In March, Laura gave a tour of the Theodore Roosevelt Executive & Legislative Building to Girl Scout Ambassador Troop 2518.

## I WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU!

Please contact me with any comments or questions you may have!

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