



FROM THE DESK OF
NASSAU COUNTY
LEGISLATOR
CARRIE SOLAGES

Legislator for the 3rd Legislative District comprising:
Elmont, Valley Stream, South Floral Park, Inwood,
Meadowmere Park
and portions of
Lawrence and North Woodmere.



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**2014 Newsletter
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Keeping the "POP" Cops in Our Community Legislator Solages fights to restore the vital Community Policing Unit.



Unity within the community provides strength in numbers. When the Problem Oriented Police (POP) Unit was eliminated earlier this year, I alerted residents, civic, and school leaders and rallied them to oppose these unfair cuts. I invited Acting Nassau County Police Commissioner Thomas C. Krumpter to the community meeting (photo at left) sponsored by my office. Now, several officers have been restored your communities covered by the 4th and 5th precinct to handle incidents such as robberies and gang activity.

My goal is to get the 5th Precinct located on Dutch Broadway in Elmont reopened with a full staff. It is unacceptable not to have a precinct in our neighborhood that was open for decades. Please continue to let me and other public officials know "We Need the 5th Precinct."

In August, I sponsored my 3rd Annual National Night Out Against Crime, a free, family-friendly event focusing on building strong ties with law enforcement and the community. Building these relationships is essential to making our community one of the best places to live in Nassau.



Protecting Our Health: Extinguishing Early Smoking

In April, I stood side by side with PTA members, community leaders and residents to ask the Legislative Majority and County Executive Ed Mangano to pass and sign "Smoking 21" legislation in Nassau.

New York City and Suffolk County passed legislation raising the minimum age to purchase cigarettes from 19 to 21. Without a similar law in Nassau County, young people from bordering counties can buy cigarettes here at a younger age and start a terrible habit.

We DO NOT want to become the place where teens flock to get their cigarettes. Instead, we should be focused on promoting good health and taking care of Nassau's next generation.



A Message from Legislator Solages

Fall is a season for reflection. As we enter the final quarter of 2014, I look back on the work I have done as your Legislator and the achievements we made together. Although there are ongoing issues that must be addressed, the optimism of the hard-working residents of my district continues to inspire me to be a strong voice for you in the Nassau County Legislature.

Preserving the quality of life within District 3 as well as Nassau County is a high priority for me. Establishing consistent communication between law enforcement and residents to keep the neighborhoods in our district safe is essential. Minimizing the tax burden for homeowners, promoting economic development, and job creation are viable ways to keep our communities thriving. Promoting health is another component to making sure my constituents are receiving the best information and resources to live vibrant lives.

In this newsletter, you will read about several activities and ongoing initiatives. I truly believe in government "for the people." That is why I will continue to work tirelessly to make Nassau County government **Accessible, Creative, and Accountable**:

- ◆ **Accessible:** local government must reach out and communicate with people;
- ◆ **Creative:** local government must develop innovative solutions to solve issues;
- ◆ **Accountable:** local government must be transparent and serve the people responsibly.

These core values have the power to uplift people and communities. Let's continue moving forward so we can accomplish great things **together!**

Sincerely,

Carrie Solages



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Nassau County
Long Island, New York

As your legislator, I want to hear from you. Please let me know the issues that are important to you so I can better serve you and the rest of my district. Just cut out this card and drop it in the mail with a stamp, or use an envelope.

Thank you!

Carrie Solages

Name: _____ Phone: _____

Email: _____



A Better Environment: Improvements to Hook Creek, the "SUMP", & Nassau Expressway



VALLEY STREAM: My office has been consistently communicating with the New York City Department of Design and Construction (NYC DDC) to make sure the Hook Creek Boulevard Project remains a priority. Because Hook Creek is on the Nassau-Queens border, NYC DDC is working with Nassau County, Town of Hempstead, Village of Valley Stream, and NYC Department of Environmental Conservation to finalize the design phase of the project. When the design phase is completed, work will begin on Hook Creek and surrounding streets. I am also pleased to inform residents that repairs to Central Avenue have been completed.

ELMONT: Having great fields and parks are important to residents. That is why I obtained \$316,800 in funding to improve park land at the Dutch Broadway Athletic Complex (aka the "SUMP") in Elmont. The project involves construction a soccer field and a cricket pitch as well as repairing the water table and the ground issues at the SUMP.

INWOOD: Nassau Expressway (NY 878) is a very high priority for me. In June 2014, I was able to get a commitment from the New York State Department of Transportation (NYS DOT) that interim repairs would be made. However, major construction is still necessary to upgrade this vital costal evacuation and commercial area roadway. I am continuing to communicate with the NYS DOT to speed up the timetable to get this work done.

What was that you said? Ed Mangano is about to raise your taxes—NO THANK YOU ED MANGANO!!!



Am I hearing that correctly? Is County Executive Ed Mangano raising your taxes? Sadly, it looks that way and I want you to know **I WILL FIGHT AGAINST ANY TAX HIKE ED MANGANO PROPOSES BECAUSE YOU DESERVE BETTER!**

both know are a back door tax; and 3) A TAX HIKE that takes more money from your household budget to pay for the over spending in County Executive Mangano's 2015 Tax Increase Budget.

Don't believe the hype! The County Executive and his Administration have tried to make you believe that he's raising your taxes by 2.2% so he can get you a New York State tax rebate check. Wrong Ed Mangano! Nassau residents would get that rebate check and finally end up getting a little bit of money back in their pockets where it belongs whether or not the Mangano Administration raised your taxes!

So now the good news: There is a solution, but sadly Ed Mangano and the Republican Majority have not thought of it— but both **ME & THE DEMOCRATIC**

LEGISLATIVE MINORITY CAUCUS FIGURED OUT A WAY NOT TO RAISE YOUR TAXES. 1) Cut any and all un-necessary spending and expenses from the County Executive's own personal budget which he proposed to increase this year, while proposing to increase your taxes. 2) Make government more efficient by imposing independent auditors who will bring both cost savings and transparency. 3) Do more with less by stopping outsourcing of expensive 'crony contracts' & outside counsel to Ed's friends. Under the proposed Democratic Budget plan I and my Democratic colleagues are proposing, you would actually have NO TAX INCREASE and still see a rebate from the State. So, join me and say NO to Ed Mangano's TAX INCREASE. We deserve better, and I will continue to fight for you to make Nassau more affordable.

Our Schools...Our Youth

When residents exclaimed "School taxes are too high," I worked alongside Legislators Vincent T. Muscarella, Richard J. Nicoletto, and Laura Schaefer to get approval for a **\$250,000 grant for the purchase and installation of 5 outdoor electronic signs for each school in the Sewanhaka Central High School District.** The signs will provide daily updates to parents as well as the general public regarding meetings, special events, safety messages, and other important community information.

THE GRANT FROM NASSAU COUNTY REDUCES THE DISTRICT'S EXPENDITURES AND THOSE SAVINGS CAN BE PASSED ON TO HOMEOWNERS BY REDUCING THEIR SCHOOL TAXES!



I believe in inspiring our youth. My **summer internship program** was a success. Each of the young people played a vital role in my Legislative Office and learned about governmental operations. I am proud of each of them attending competitive colleges and universities.

Legislator Solages with interns (l. to r.) D. Fleurima, M. St. Julien, C. Smith, and N. Duncan.

Our Quality of Life: Family-friendly Summer Event Series



Presenting a citation to longtime Elmont resident, Joyce Stowe, at the Caribbean Day Celebration.

I received an incredible amount of support from local nonprofits such as **South Nassau Communities Hospital** and **Five Towns Community Chest** as well as local entrepreneurs and national corporations including, **Green Acres Mall, Applebee's, BJs, Dover Caterers, Dunkin Donuts, and TGI Fridays.**



I kicked off my **Family-friendly Summer Event Series** in June by sponsoring the 1st annual **3rd LD Caribbean Day Celebration** at **Magnet Lounge** in Elmont.



HealthFair

I am grateful for the support of Green Acres Mall for partnering with me to provide the venue for my **3rd Annual Health & Wellness Fair 2014.** They extended their support as lead sponsor with the **Shanni E. Duplessy Memorial Scholarship Fund** for my **National Night Out Against Crime 2014** in August. My summer outreach concluded with **over 1,400 residents** attending my **1st Annual Inwood/Back to School Day** (photo on left) at **Inwood Park.** At each of these events food, entertainment, and educational materials were distributed to children and adults.

Helping Homeowners

In June 2014, I stood with my colleagues to urge the NYS Legislature to pass legislation to allow Nassau County to create a "Disputed Assessment Fund" for commercial property tax challenges. Under the new law, the County would set aside funds received from the commercial property owner in escrow until the dispute is settled or adjudicated. **The fund would eliminate borrowing (approximately \$1 billion dollars each year over the past 10 years) for the County to pay property tax refunds.**



For many years, homeowners in our district paid more than their fair share of property taxes because part of their tax payments would be used by the County to pay tax refunds for large commercial properties in districts with a high number of commercial properties. These refunds are commonly **discussed in the press as "tax certs" or "tax certiorari."** **Now the burden has been lifted off the shoulders of homeowners because most of the challenges and refunds are for commercial property.**

ARE YOU A SMALL BUSINESS OWNER or CONSIDERING TO START A BUSINESS?

You should attend **these free seminars co-presented by my office!** **All Seminars will be held at the Theodore Roosevelt Executive & Legislative Building, 1550 Franklin Avenue, Mineola**

Pre-registration is required. Space is limited

Minority/Women Owned Business Enterprises (MWBE) Certification Overview & Small Business Banking
October 29th • 6 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.

***For Established Businesses- Strategies for Business Growth**
November 5th • 6 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.

Additional seminars will be held in 2015. For more information, contact us at 516-571-6203

Making OUR District Safe

Legislator Solages Urges Police to Implement Program for Dashboard and Body Cameras

On June 4th I stood with Legislative Minority Leader Kevan Abrahams (District 1) and Legislator Siela Bynoe (District 2) urging the Nassau County Police Department to **implement a program to require officers to use dashboard and body cameras.** The legislation we introduced would create a demonstration program with cameras in marked and unmarked patrol cars. Implementing 'dash and body cams' would be an extra layer of protection and safety for police and the public. Encouragingly, the NCPD agreed to adopt a pilot program the promotes safety and transparency.



In addition, the NCPD is now working with an independent consultant to address key issues such as transparency and accountability with the county's law enforcement officers and officials. I believe that as long as law enforcement, public officials, and residents have the opportunity to communicate effectively, we can develop better community relations and strategies for safer neighborhoods.

Helping Nassau's Bravest: Elmont, South Floral Park, Meadowmere, & Inwood F.D.



I am pleased to announce that I **obtained several grants** for the purchase of fire equipment for fire departments in the district.

- ◆ South Floral Park Fire District: \$52,000
- ◆ Meadowmere Fire Department: \$45,500
- ◆ Inwood Fire Department: \$47,000
- ◆ Elmont Fire Department: \$52,000

Honoring Those Who Served: Veterans Breakfast on Nov. 8th!



As Ranking Member of the Veterans & Senior Affairs Committee, I am proud to host a Veterans Breakfast Saturday, November 8, 2014 from 10 a.m. to noon At American Legion Post 1033 60 Hill Avenue, Elmont

From: _____

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