



Legislative Report

Comprising the 11th Legislative District:

Port Washington and The Villages of Baxter Estates, Flower Hill, Manorhaven, Port Washington North,
Sands Point • Glen Cove • Glen Head • Glenwood Landing • Roslyn • Roslyn Harbor • Sea Cliff

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Fall 2022

A Message From Nassau County Legislator Delia DeRiggi-Whitton

Dear Neighbors:



Thanks to significant funds that we have received through the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) and multiple opioid lawsuit settlements, Nassau County currently has hundreds of millions of dollars at its disposal.

However, the most that the County has done so far with the vast majority of these funds is let them sit idle - and the steps that have been taken to date have been incremental at best. It is time to pick up the pace and make these investments in our future a top priority.

Consider the status of Nassau County's \$385 million in ARPA funding, of which approximately \$250 million remains undesignated for a specific governmental purpose. Not only are we still waiting for the County Executive to provide a comprehensive and detailed plan for the use of these funds, the administration has been unfortunately sluggish in getting funding flowing to small businesses and not-for-profit organizations through existing grant programs. That is one of the many reasons I have proposed the creation of a community board tasked with advising the administration and Legislature on how to

utilize these funds most efficiently.

I have had similar feelings about the pace at which the County is allocating tens of millions of dollars received through various settlements with opioid manufacturers and distributors. Although we have had tens of millions of dollars at our disposal for months and in the neighborhood of \$70.4 million by this summer, it was not until September that the County Executive finally announced approximately \$2.4 million in immediate allocations and a plan to identify longer-term beneficiaries through a request for expressions of interest (RFEI). While this is a good start, we must remain laser-focused of the urgency of the mission at hand. Once the RFEI is complete at year's end, we must act as expeditiously as possible to equip community partners who are on the front lines of this battle with everything they need to prevent overdoses, promote recovery and confront the scourge of fentanyl in our communities.

We have already gotten a look at what we can accomplish with these funds - and that makes the pace thus far even more frustrating. In Sea Cliff, we have dedicated \$1.725 million from ARPA to a grant program that will make it more affordable for hundreds of residential and commercial property owners to connect to the newly expanded portion of Sea Cliff's sewer system. Anything we can do to reduce our reliance on septic systems is tremendously beneficial to the health of Hempstead Harbor. Let's work together to bring more projects like this to fruition.

As the end of 2022 draws near, my door is always open for your questions, comments and concerns. We wish you all the best for the approaching holiday season and New Year to come!

Delia DeRiggi-Whitton

New Bus for Glen Cove Senior Citizens

Legislator DeRiggi-Whitton worked with the leaders of the Glen Cove Senior Center to secure funding for a new bus from the Nassau County Office for the Aging. The bus transports seniors to the Senior Center and helps them complete errands such as food shopping. Legislator DeRiggi-Whitton is always delighted to secure funding for initiatives that help local seniors continue to live independent lives.

Investing in our Roads



Manorhaven Boulevard is one of several key District 11 roadways that were repaved this summer. In Glen Cove, Cedar Swamp Road, Dosoris Road, and Landing Road were milled and paved, and in Port Washington, drainage improvements were made in flood-prone areas of Cow Neck Road.

Local Standouts Named to Disability Advisory Council



Longtime advocates from Port Washington have been appointed to the Nassau County Advisory Council on People With Disabilities – an entity that was recently established to make our County more accessible and inclusive for our neighbors who are living with physical and mental challenges. They will do so by advising the County Executive and Legislature on how to implement best practices in funding, policies, procedures, and programs.

Stella Spanakos is a founder and current Vice President of the Nicholas Center and Spectrum Designs Foundation, both located in Port Washington. The Nicholas Center is dedicated to ensuring that

Manorhaven Boulevard Completed



After six years of hard work, the \$6-million Manorhaven Boulevard streetscape is now complete! A ribbon-cutting ceremony was held during Celebrate Manorhaven Day to commemorate this infrastructure milestone – one that includes a newly paved road, brick-stamped concrete, drainage improvements, handicapped accessible sidewalks, new lighting, benches and flowerpots among the improvements made to this area.

Legislator DeRiggi-Whitton thanks everyone who put their hearts and souls into making this project a tremendous success – it is a model for how communities can accomplish great things by working together.

adults on the Autism spectrum have access to the resources and support they need to thrive in the communities where they live and work. Spanakos founded The Nicholas Center in 2010 with the mission of delivering robust services to young adults like her son, Nicholas, who is on the Autism spectrum, especially after age 21 when they transition from a supportive educational setting into adulthood with limited opportunities for engagement and employment. Today, the Center provides daily support to over 120 individuals and the Spectrum Designs Foundation, a custom apparel and promotional items business, is the largest employer of people with Autism in Nassau County.

Joel Ziev, Ed.D. is a distinguished expert on compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) and served on many boards and committees over the past several decades that are devoted to ensuring equity and accessibility for disabled Americans. In addition to working for The Henry Viscardi School and the New York Society for the Deaf, Joel has served on the White House National Advisory Committee on the Handicapped and as an Impartial Hearing Office for the NYS Dept. of Education. Joel also created Partners for Access, which offers expert consulting and support services for public and private agencies to ensure they meet the programmatic and physical access needs of people with disabilities.

Legislator DeRiggi-Whitton thanks Stella, Joel and the other community members who agreed to volunteer their time to address this crucial mission.

County Expands Eligibility for Senior, Disabled Homeowner Tax Exemptions



Legislator DeRiggi-Whitton joined her Minority Caucus colleagues in advocating for and securing the swift approval of legislation that makes the Senior Citizens and Persons with Limited Incomes and Disabilities tax exemptions available to more homeowners.

After New York State raised the maximum income eligibility cap and gave municipalities like Nassau County the opportunity to opt into the new framework, Legislator DeRiggi-Whitton and the Minority Caucus proposed increasing the income eligibility level for these two exemptions to

\$58,400 from the previous level of \$37,400. The Legislature voted unanimously in September to implement the change, which is now in effect for the fiscal year 2022-23 tax year.

The deadline to apply for a renew your tax exemptions is January 2, 2023, and the County is hosting a series of workshops to help you ensure that you get the exemptions you’re entitled to receive. Visit <https://www.nassaucountyny.gov/1501/Assessment> for a complete list of dates!

NICE Shuttle Bus a Hit in Port Washington

The West Shore Road/LIRR station NICE shuttle bus was extended in 2019 to include several neighborhood stops in Port Washington for commuters. Three years later, the shuttle bus is more popular than ever and it will continue to provide morning and evening

rush hour service between the Port Washington LIRR station to West Shore Road and the Roslyn Clock Tower and five pickup locations in the Soundview section of Port Washington North.

Not only does it help address the overcrowding in the Port Washington LIRR station parking lots, it’s a great way for residents to go green by embracing mass transit.

Legislator DeRiggi-Whitton is grateful for the help of Residents Forward as well as the residents of The Amsterdam for pushing to secure the bus in the first place.

For more information on our
PORT WASHINGTON SHUTTLE
scan our QR code

nice
PORT WASHINGTON SHUTTLE

“This shuttle is a win-win for commuters and the environment. It cuts back on single-occupancy car use, reducing parking and traffic problems and preventing greenhouse gas emissions. It is a step in the right direction for a more resilient future.”

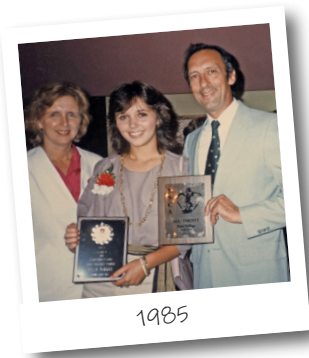
- Mindy Germain

Free Backpacks for Schoolchildren



thru/walk-up event that took place outside Glen Cove High School.

Delia Inducted Into Glen Cove Hall of Fame



A fun fact about our Legislator: She was a two-time All-County fastball pitcher who pitched a no-hitter to win the County Championships in 1985. Delia is the first one to give credit to the entire team for winning the championship. While this is an accomplishment that has not yet been repeated, Delia hopes that it will be one day soon.

Proceeds from the Hall of Fame dinner benefit the John Maccarone scholarship Fund. Congratulations to all the inductees!



First City Project Adds Art to Glen Cove

Based at the historic J.H. Coles Homestead in Glen Cove, the First City Project is a newly formed 501(c)(3) organization that is dedicated to making Glen Cove a bold, vibrant and exciting destination for the arts. Aside from presenting art exhibits, First City also advocates for excellence in creativity, artistic practice, and experience. Delia is proud to serve as a First City Project Board member. Visit firstcityproject.com for more information.



Mammovan Brings Life Saving Screenings to Residents



Legislator DeRiggi-Whitton partnered with NuHealth to bring the mobile mammography van to the Port Washington Adult Activities Center and the Glen Cove Boys and Girls Club. Appointments included a breast exam from a nurse, a mammography, and self-examination instructions. These exams were free to patients who do not have health insurance.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Toys For Tots – Sunday, December 4, 9 a.m. to 12:00 p.m., Nassau County Veterans Memorial Coliseum, 1255 Hempstead Tpke, Uniondale
Narcan Education & Training Meeting – Tuesday, December 13, 7:00 p.m., Congregation Tifereth Israel, 40 Hill St, Glen Cove