



May 2018

Staten Island Democratic Association

est. 1961 as Staten Island's reform Democratic Club

www.sidems.org

At our Next Meeting:



- **Adam Barbanel-Fried**
Changing the Conversation Together
- **Endorsement Vote for Contested Offices in November Elections**

Tuesday, May 15, 2018, 8:00 P.M.

****PLEASE NOTE MEETING LOCATON****

Oriental Plaza, 1845 Richmond Avenue

Staten Island, NY 10314



Editorial Policy

Items for publication should be submitted to the newsletter no later than the last Friday of the month before the meeting. Please send items to: cmaxbauer@yahoo.com.

Unless explicitly stated, the views herein are those of the authors and not of S.I.D.A.

Chris Bauer, Editor
(917) 576-9248

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"I hold it, that a little rebellion, now and then, is a good thing, and as necessary in the political world as storms are in the physical."

- Thomas Jefferson
1787

Submission Deadlines

for the newsletter are:

June	June 4
July	July 2
August	August 6

S.I.D.A. Executive Committee

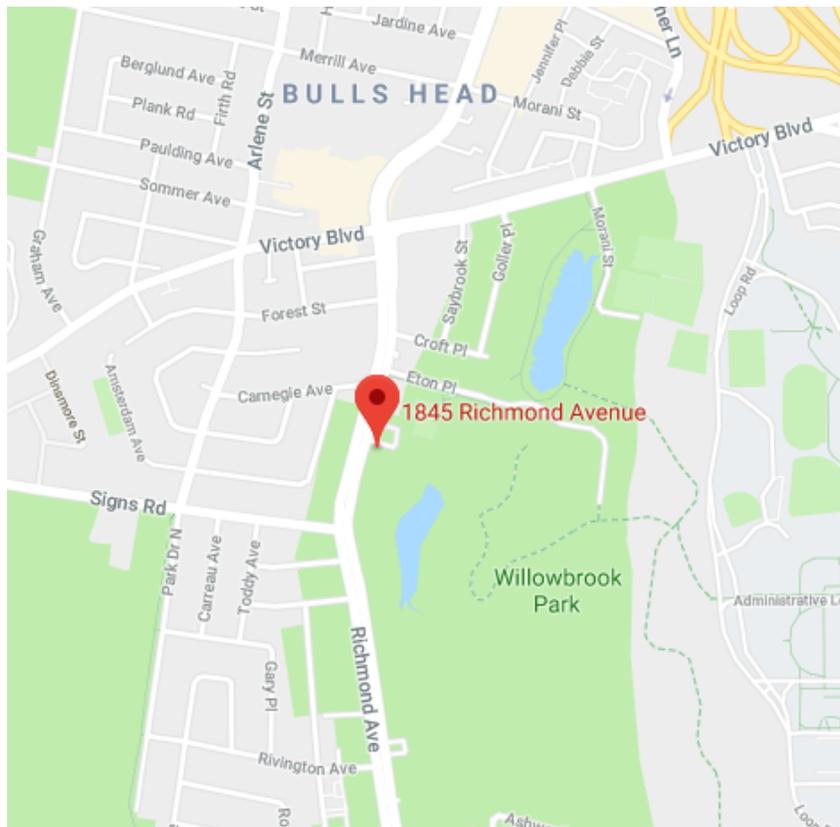
President	Bobby Digi	Member at-Large	Roy Moskowitz
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Member at-Large	Pearl Minsky	Ex Officio	John Mastellone
		Ex Officio	Tom Shcherbenko

Meeting Location

**** PLEASE NOTE MEETING LOCATION ****

Oriental Plaza

1845 Richmond Avenue
Staten Island NY 10314



S.I.D.A. President's Statement

May 2018

May is Mental Health Awareness Month, and it has been observed in the United States since 1949. On May 2 I attended March For Our Lives NY's Albany Lobby Day planning meeting with our remarkable teens who are leading the charge on gun reform. One of the teens courageously spoke up about her attempt at suicide. This story highlighted the importance of this very important issue because I think we all know someone who has been affected by someone who has attempted or who has committed suicide. America's suicide rate is the highest it's been in 30 years. Half of Americans with mental illness did not get any mental health care in the past year. Mental health care is unfairly restricted by many health insurance plans. This month will give us a chance to think and reflect about the importance of this often overlooked issue especially as it relates to the various ways that it affects our Staten Island community. S.I.D.A. members I would like us to think about the various ways we can help push the mental health reform agenda forward for Staten Island. Mental health reform is a priority issue. This is where S.I.D.A. can play a very critical role.

There is unprecedented agreement in the U.S. House and Senate on the need for mental health reform. On July 6, 2016, The House voted overwhelmingly to pass H.R. 2646, the *Helping Families in Mental Health Crisis Act of 2016*.

Here is what we can do now: We need to strengthen our nation's mental health system by bringing the Mental Health Reform Act of 2016, S2680, to a vote. S2680 combats suicide in our schools and communities, increases the mental health workforce, strengthens enforcement of the mental health parity law and invests in early intervention - so people get the right mental health care at the right time to promote healthy lives. S2680 strengthens community crisis response systems, so people experiencing a psychiatric crisis can get help sooner, before their condition worsens.

I also ask that we continue to support our Assemblyman Matthew Cusick who has been a champion of this issue. He hosted a Mental Health First Aid Training at the College of Staten Island in collaboration with the City Department of Health and Mental Hygiene on May 5th and continues to host his Total Fitness Challenge Program in our NYC public schools.

Also, First Lady Chirlane McCray has been a champion for mental health in the New York City. At the end of April, she expanded her partnership for mental health by creating Brothers Thrive, a volunteer effort led by black men to promote mental health literacy in their communities.

Councilwoman Debi Rose is a member of the Staten Island Mental Health Society, and has advocated for the mentally and developmentally disabled on Staten Island. As we move forward, we should be sure to reach out to our elected officials, activists and community organizations to assist them throughout the year as they continue to advocate for this issue.

Final Reminder:

May 15 is the S.I.D.A. State Assembly candidate endorsement vote. S.I.D.A. support is important to me, and I humbly ask for your endorsement. I am confident with your support that we can win this race.

Also please don't forget the congressional primary is: June 26, 2018 We need all of you to get out there and vote The time is **now** to flip the seat.

*Bobby Digi
President*



Changing the Conversation Together

Adam Barbanel-Fried of Changing the Conversation Together (CTC) will be a guest speaker at our May 15 General Membership Meeting.



Changing the Conversation Together for Action is a group of concerned citizens using the evidence-based strategy of 'Deep Canvassing' to defeat Donald Trump and his Republican supporters. Deep canvassing is an empathic, listening-based method that leads to respectful conversation. It is also arguably the most effective form of voter persuasion, something we feel is being tragically overlooked in the current political moment. By listening to voters' stories and sharing their own, deep canvassers humbly invite voters to help pull the country back from the brink. You can read articles about it from the NY Times, New Yorker, or watch a TedTalk on [CTC's website](https://www.ctctogether.org/) <https://www.ctctogether.org/>.

CTC is focusing on helping flip congress in 2018 and on defeating the Trump presidency in 2020. Currently CTC has been field testing its work in the only contested congressional race in New York City, NY 11. On Sunday February 4th, in Bath Beach Brooklyn, there will be a training and canvass. This will be an opportunity to participate in the only NYC based deep canvassing going.

We are hoping to meet and develop partnerships with local groups, individuals in NY 11 and in other area swing districts as well! Any leads are appreciated!

Adam Barbanel-Fried

Changing the Conversation Together is led by Director Adam Barbanel-Fried, a professional organizer with 18 years of union, community and political organizing experience in multiple cities and regions. His work has resulted in the building of good schools, development of affordable housing, and expansion of health care to thousands of low income and marginalized people. As part of his work, Adam has trained hundreds of leaders in relational organizing, organizational and leadership development, and deep canvassing.



April 2018 Minutes

General Meeting April 17, 2018 ATU 726 Union Hall

President Digi called the meeting to order at 8:05 p.m. at the ATU 726 Union Hall in Great Kills.

By-Laws Revision

Chair Joann Olbrich mentioned that at the March Executive Committee meeting the Executive Committee voted in favor of amending Article IX Section I so that if no candidate receives a majority of the votes cast, there shall be a run-off election between the two candidates who receive the most votes. She spoke against the proposed amendment and urged members to vote against it. The amendment revision was defeated.

Congressional Endorsement - 11th District

President Digi announced that we would hold congressional vote this evening and that all members in good standing were eligible to vote. There was a motion to close voting at 9:30 p.m. The motion carried. Pearl Minsky, Jill Latman and Helen Settles volunteered to count the ballots.

President Digi announced that we will have representatives and candidate from offices that are facing primary in September.

Vice President's Report

Vice President Radhakrishna Mohan provided members with a brief summary of the Executive Committee meeting held on March 29.

Monthly Minutes

President Digi made a motion to accept the monthly minutes as published in the April newsletter. Richard Reichard mentioned that the minutes needed to include that we need to get in touch with Senators Schumer and Gillibrand to say we are against the nomination of Mike Pompeo for Secretary of State. There was a motion to accept the minutes as amended and Dennis seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Candidates for Public Office

Executive Secretary Dennis Brown explained that S.I.D.A. put out an open call for candidates running in the September 13 primary to come speak at the meeting. He also asked candidates to submit a 500 word statement for publication in the May newsletter. He said the club will hold an endorsement vote at our May meeting. County Convention will meet later in May and Petitions will start on June 5. Dennis explained the ground rules for the candidates.

The following representatives or candidates spoke:

Governor

George Albro (NYPEN) represented **Cynthia Nixon**. Matthew Ruben represented **Andrew Cuomo**.

Lieutenant Governor

Jumaane Williams spoke about his candidacy. Matthew Ruben represented **Kathy Hochul**.

Surrogate Court Judge

Laura Sword represented **Assemblyman Matt Titone**, and **Anthony Catalano** spoke on his own behalf.

State Senator, 23rd District

Jasmine Robinson spoke about her candidacy, and Dylan Schwartz representd **Senator Diane Savino**.

Assemblymember, 61st Distdriect

Tom Shcherbenko represented **Charles Fall**, and **Patricia Kane** and **Bobby Digi** spoke on their own behalf.

After the candidates and representatives spoke there was an open question and answer period.

New Business

Steve Schwall of DORC thanked S.I.D.A. for their recent ad and attendance at the DORC Gala. He also announced that he was taking a collection to make posters for the Memorial Day Parade.

Congressional Endorsement - 11th District

There were 48 ballots cast:

Zach Emig	0
Mike DeVito	9
Max Rose.....	10
Omar Vaid	0
Paul Sperling.....	8
Radhakrishna Mohan	20
No Endorsement.....	1

S.I.D.A. was unable to endorse a candidate because a candidate would need a majority, in this case at least 25 votes, to win.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:35 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by
Marie Dwyer
Corresponding &
Recording Secretary



Candidate Statements

At our May 15 General Membership Meeting there will be an endorsement vote for candidates for office for the September 13 primary. All candidates were invited to address the club personally or through a representative at our April 17 Meeting. They were also invited to submit a 500 word statement to be published in the May newsletter. These statements are printed below. They are in the order they were received for each office.

Governor

CYNTHIA NIXON

I'm running for governor because I love this state, the only place I've ever lived, and I wouldn't have it any other way. But I know that we can do better. We need a New York that works for all of us – a New York for the many, not just the few.

I grew up in a one-bedroom fifth-floor walk-up with my mom. I'm a proud public school graduate and an even prouder public school parent. For the last 17 years, I've traveled across this state to fight for better schools, LGBTQ equality, and women's health care, including the right to choose.

When I grew up here, we didn't have much money, but I had opportunities that don't exist for the majority of New York's kids today. New York has become the single most unequal state in the country. The top 1 percent of New Yorkers earn 45 times more than the bottom 99 percent.

This crushing inequality is not an accident. It was a choice.

It was a choice to slash taxes for the super-rich and impose austerity on everybody else. It was a choice to allow the schools attended by children of color to be underfunded and over-policed. It was a choice to sell our government off to wealthy donors, while the rest of us suffer. These are choices usually made by Republicans. But for the past eight years, they're all choices that have been made by our governor, Andrew Cuomo.

Cuomo promised to clean up Albany, but instead, he and his cronies have cleaned up for themselves. There's a reason why people close to Cuomo keep winding up under indictment for corruption. New York under the Cuomo administration has been an exercise in living with disappointment, dysfunction, and dishonesty. Our state could be a place where every single New Yorker has what we need to thrive, if only we could stop our governor from selling New York off to the highest bidder.

That's why I'm fighting for fully funded public schools, bold criminal justice reform, protections for tenants facing skyrocketing rents, single-payer health care, fixing our broken transit system, getting big money out of politics and closing the LLC loophole, transitioning to 100% renewable energy, making New York a true sanctuary state for immigrants, and doing economic development in a smart way that benefits working families and not just corporate donors.

We don't have to settle for the way things are. Together, we can show the country and the world that in the era of Donald Trump, New Yorkers will come together and lead our nation forward.

It won't be easy. But I know that together, we can win this fight.

Lieutenant Governor

KATHY HOCHUL

My passion for political activism started early. In high school I would ride the bus for an hour to Buffalo and volunteered on races helping elect Democrats, including the first female LG, Mary Anne Krupsak. My passion for public service brought me to DC, where I served on the legal staff for Rep. John LaFalce and Senator Daniel Patrick Moynihan. When I moved back to Buffalo to raise my family, I gravitated towards politics, yet again, and became vice chair of a party when there were no women really involved. I decided to run for local office myself, because there were no women on my Town Board, and it wasn't easy being the lone female in many meetings. But I'm glad I was there to give a woman's perspective and have my voice heard.

As I've had the opportunity to rise through the ranks – county office, Congress, and now statewide – I never lost my understanding for what happens with the real activists at the local level. I have an affinity and appreciation for that kind of momentum.

My position as Lieutenant Governor allows me to effectively work on issues, like countering gun violence and putting in place innovative, progressive policies that serve as a model for other states. I often turn to history and study its intersectional relationship with current movements. Let's build on the legacy of the suffragettes, the women's rights movement founded in New York, and use them as inspiration to tackle the issues of today. Like #MeToo, I look at that as an example of a seismic societal shift that occurs when women speak up for what's right. We then harness that energy to advocate for policies that further promote gender equality: a salary history ban, weighing a company's diversity and ability to comprehensively address sexual harassment when awarding government contracts, and promoting more women to enter nontraditional career paths to maximize their earning potential, to name a few. I dedicate my position as Lieutenant Governor to putting a spotlight on concerns that may not ordinarily receive much attention but affect millions of lives.

During my term, I proudly spearheaded the campaign to combat sexual assault at colleges and fought to raise the minimum wage and establish the most comprehensive Paid Family Leave program in the nation. I'm proud of our work elevating working families and giving every New Yorker a chance to succeed.

I'm continuing to fight for criminal justice reform and expanding voter access. My whole life has been focused on the underdog and fighting for people who are underrepresented. I use my platform to promote justice and equality. New York is the progressive capital of the world, but much is in jeopardy due to the current environment in Washington. I look forward to continuing to work with you all to protect our rights and freedoms, like a woman's right to choose for one, and to elect more Democrats up and down the ticket so that we're able to govern together with our shared values.

JUMAANE WILLIAMS

"I am running to be the voice of the people in state government. As your Lieutenant Governor, I will be an independent advocate for all New Yorkers. I will make certain that our Governor and elected officials uphold their promises to you and will hold them accountable for the actions they take.

"Together, we can ensure that New York State is a beacon for progressive leadership, equality, and justice for all people."

Council Member Jumaane D. Williams represents the 45th Council District in Brooklyn. He was elected in 2009, and re-elected in 2013 and 2017. Williams currently serves as Deputy Leader of the New York City Council. He is also co-chair of the Council's Task Force to Combat Gun Violence and the Taskforce on City Workforce Equity, and a founding member of the Progressive Caucus, and is a member of the Black, Latino & Asian Caucus.

Council Member Williams is a first-generation Brooklynite of Grenadian heritage. He is a proud product of the City's public school system. He attended Philippa Schuyler Middle School for the Gifted and Talented and Brooklyn Technical High School. He earned his bachelors in political science, and masters in urban policy and administration at Brooklyn College. He began his career as assistant director for the Greater Flatbush Beacon School, and later went on to serve as the executive director of New York State Tenants & Neighbors.

He is an advocate for affordable housing, anti-gun violence measures, fair policing, equity, and social justice. His major successes as Council Member include; the Community Safety Act, which created the Office of Inspector General for the New York Police Department, the Fair Chance Act and co-chairing the taskforce, which created New York's Crisis Management System and Cure Violence Groups to combat gun violence.

Surrogate Judge

ANTHONY CATALANO

Dear Fellow Democrats,

Thank you so much for inviting me to the S.I.D.A. candidates' forum. I genuinely enjoyed learning about your views of how the next Surrogate Court Judge should approach the bench, and getting to know those of you whom I had not previously met.

Equally important as getting to spend time with all of you is being able to share with you why I believe I am the best qualified candidate to be our next Surrogate Judge and why I am in the strongest position to win in September and November.

I've dedicated my life to fighting for justice, improving our legal system, making our communities safer and helping those in need. The Surrogate Court plays an integral role in the lives of many Staten Islanders. It is where many important personal, financial and family matters are settled, and it is where the unsettled affairs of our deceased loved ones are handled. As our Surrogate Court Judge, I promise to deliver justice with fairness, integrity and dedication.

I have more than 30 years of prosecutorial and courtroom experience, having first honed my legal skills as an Assistant District Attorney and Chief of the Supreme Court Bureau, where I oversaw the prosecution of all major criminal cases including homicides, financial crimes and frauds, and weapons and narcotics sales.

While serving as Bureau Chief, I built relationships with the NYPD and came to understand firsthand how critical it is to improve police-community relationships on Staten Island, and as such, I organized community seminars to build the trust between the police and Staten Island residents.

I currently serve as Commissioner and Richmond County Public Administrator where I represent Staten Islanders in matters of wills, trusts and estates, and guardianships. Additionally, as Public Administrator, I arrange the burial of Staten Islanders who leave behind no close relative to make such decisions. Rather than consign these often indigent individuals or stillborn infants to interment in New York City's potter's field, I've pledged that all Staten Island residents receive a dignified burial in a local cemetery.

Through my experience as an adoptive parent, I've become an education advocate for children with learning disabilities and attention deficit-hyperactivity disorder (ADHD), supporting local institutions such as the Seton Foundation for Learning and national organizations such as CHADD. I've also worked with community leaders to help stem the rise of the opioid epidemic on Staten Island. Most importantly, I am the proud father of two teenage children.

This combination of my professional background and an unwavering commitment to justice and our community has given me unparalleled experience in navigating the Surrogate Court and has equipped me with the knowledge needed to make the Court better serve Staten Island families. As our next Surrogate Court Judge, I'll work to make the Court more open and transparent, will expand access to the Court for working families, and will work tirelessly every day to protect our seniors, minors and the most vulnerable Staten Islanders.

Democratically Yours,
Anthony

MATT TITONE

Matt Titone has been an Assemblymember since 2007. The son of Margret and Judge Vito Titone, Staten Island's only jurist on the Court of Appeals, Matt was born and raised on Staten Island. He, lives with his husband Josh and dog Bari.

Attending St. John's Law School in the evening, Matt worked days at Zachary & Zachary. Upon admission to the bar, Matt served the needy, volunteering as an attorney for the AIDS Task Force and Project Hospitality. By 1993, Matt became Senior Trial Attorney for a prestigious Wall Street firm and managed its Labor Law and Professional Malpractice departments. Matt continued to volunteer and aided Project Hospitality in creating a legal services department. Matt garnered international attention when he tackled the adoption industry by suing an agency that never disclosed the H.I.V./AIDS status of a baby to the adoptive parents. Matt's efforts lead to enhanced disclosures by social service agencies to adoptive and foster parents in New York.

In 1998, Matt open a firm on Staten Island specializing in civil litigation and appeals, including Wills, Trusts & Estates. Matt served on CHASI's board and the board of Legal Services of NY overseeing the Legal Aid Society, amongst others. Matt served on the Executive Committee of Snug Harbor and oversaw the legal intricacies of its merger with the Botanical Gardens. Matt also helped to create the Judge Titone Scholarship benefitting Staten Islanders attending St John's Law School.

Throughout his distinguished career, Matt prioritized helping the most vulnerable. He helped establish our first women's health clinic, securing the funding and location for Planned Parenthood. Matt also created Staten Island's only free legal clinic serving special needs students ensuring appropriate educational services and placement.

Matt chairs the Assembly's Consumer Affairs Committee and serves on the Committees on Environmental Conservation, Health, Tourism, and Judiciary including the Subcommittee of Trusts, Wills and Estates. Matt authored over 130 pieces of legislation with over two dozen signed into law.

Matt continues to enjoy volunteer work with his dog Bari who he trained as a licensed therapy dog. Together they've worked with abandoned and neglected children, children with disabilities, and young adults in recovery. He finds the work rewarding all while gaining unique insights to programs funded by the state.

Matt announced his candidacy for Surrogate Judge, saying "More than ever, we need a judiciary that protects the rights of all people. I'm running because it's essential we have an experienced, trustworthy public servant with a measurable record of fair and honest service to all. My record of service to the diverse communities throughout Staten Island, both in the courthouse and the state house, are categorically unmatched."

"I'm proud of S.I.D.A.'s work throughout the decades, and I treasure your belief in me. I believe the quality of our lives is directly influenced by those who serve the public. With your support it would be my honor to continue that service as our next Surrogate. Thank you S.I.D.A. for all you do and for considering me once again."

Senator, 23rd District

JASMINE ROBINSON

Hello, my name is Jasi Robinson, and I am running to become this district's next state senator. First and foremost, I would like to thank S.I.D.A. for hosting the candidate's forum. I am very grateful for the opportunity to address the members of this organization. Despite being very sick and coming home from work, it was important that I attended this forum. As I mentioned many times, this organization is my second family. When your family is hosting an event, despite how you feel, you show up. I showed up that night, and I will continue to show up for this organization and district!

Who is Jasi Robinson? I am a proud Afro-Cubana who grew up in the Bronx. After my parents' divorced I moved to Staten Island when I was 17 years old. I grew up in a single parent household with my mother and two younger sisters. One of my sisters is chronically ill so oftentimes my mother had to make a choice between paying my sister's medical bills or a household bill. I worked and put myself through college. Despite working long hours and sleepless nights, I graduated with a degree in Political Science from the College of Staten Island. After I graduated from college, I became a legal secretary for a law firm. Even though the odds were stacked against me, I managed to overcome any obstacles.

Why am I in this race against a powerful incumbent? Mark Twain said it best with this quote: "Politicians and dirty diapers must be changed often and for the same reason." Earlier this year I was invited to the vigil of Erica Garner. I witnessed many people indicating that they have no voice. Some even said that no elected officials cared about their lives or community. I decided that I had to change their perspective that "politics is a pile of tricks." I want all communities, especially communities of color, to know that they will have a stronger voice, advocate, and an ally. It is overdue that this district gets itself fair share of funding. Our public schools in this district are owed \$42 million dollars. This district needs a state senator who will fight for our public schools to ensure they have the resources needed for our children. I will not short change our public schools for charter schools. Public schools accepts all students whereas charter schools are exclusive. Charter schools do not accept children with behavioral issues or special needs.

Since entering this race, I have received the endorsements of the Working Families Party and New York Progressive Action Network. I also received the support of the George Owles Democratic Liberal Party. I am also getting interest from union groups. All of the endorsements from different organizations are great, however it would mean so much if I had the support of S.I.D.A. This organization provided me with so many opportunities to develop my platform and voice. I hope to receive this organization's endorsement.

DIANE SAVINO

Thank you to S.I.D.A., Staten Island's oldest and most progressive democratic club, for considering my endorsement to continue the work I do in Albany and here on the ground. The New York State Senate has been home to some of the most progressive and pragmatic legislation in the Nation, many of which I am proud to champion: Medical Marijuana, Wage Theft Prevention, Paid Family Leave, strengthened rights for workers with legislation to offset any potential harm from the JANUS case, countless tax-breaks and deductions including expanding union dues to be included in your tax deductions, some of the strongest gun restrictions in the nation, and so much more. Legislation is not the only component in making my time in Albany successful, being a staunch advocate for the money needed in my district and across the city is what holds everything together. We have invested millions in NYCHA and Mitchell Lama - both the true models for affordable housing; we secured millions for local advocacy groups that represent our undocumented brothers and sisters; we helped fund after-school activities that give our youth a sense of culture; broadening their horizons with Broadway shows, community gardens, trips to museums and so much more; we gave hundreds of book-bags and school supplies to children in need, thousands of meals to families during the holidays; and the list goes on. But these accomplishments would be naught without your guidance and activism. S.I.D.A., like many clubs around the City and State help elected officials keep an ear to the ground.

However there is still so much more to be done - we must still expand medical access for those suffering from debilitating diseases, we must continue to help small businesses grow and help keep the neighborhoods they thrive in affordable. We must make sure that every New Yorker can live their life with dignity. There are countless seats that we can win back this November to help ensure that these policies continue. Let's take that first step together and commit to helping me win back the Senate this November.

Assemblymember, 61st District

PATRICIA KANE

As a registered nurse for 35 years, I've dedicated my life to the care of others. As a union leader, I've advocated for my colleagues and my profession. I've lived most of my life in many of our wonderful North Shore neighborhoods and worked throughout this community organizing for social justice and what is right. This is home. I'm running for office because I care deeply about people and about our home. And, I'm asking for your support to take my commitment and skills to Albany to be a force for positive change for everyone in our community.

Being a healthcare professional brings a unique and valuable perspective to this office. I have worked to improve community health through forming and engaging with coalitions on healthcare, disaster response, gun control, environmental issues, substance abuse and mental health, domestic violence and women's issues.

Health starts in our homes, schools, workplaces, and neighborhoods. The health of a population reveals a lot about conditions in that community. It pains me to know that the North Shore of Staten Island has some of the poorest health indicators in New York.

Our health is greatly affected by economic opportunities and support; the quality of education and housing; the safety of our communities; the conditions in our workplaces; the cleanliness of our water, food, and air; and the nature and variety of our social interactions. These "Social Determinants of Health" touch on every aspect of public policy. To be healthy, we

need to be safe. To be healthy, we need economic opportunity. To be healthy, we need environmental justice. And we need to elect leaders that understand building a healthy community starts with understanding and implementing progressive policies.

As an Assemblymember, I will demonstrate my integrity and progressive values in Albany as I do in my current capacity as the elected treasurer of the 45,000 member statewide nurses' union, a position I've held for a decade. I've fought tirelessly for the rights of workers to organize, bargain collectively and to ensure fair wages and safe conditions. As union treasurer, I've played a leadership role in negotiating with the largest private employer in New York and have a comprehensive understanding of finance, budgeting, policy and legislation. I have helped achieve many victories at the bargaining table and in the halls of the legislature.

As a nurse and as a union leader, I'm used to hard work. I've developed the ability to remain calm and focused in demanding and chaotic situations. I have gained the skills necessary to not only be a leader, but to be a valued team player, diffuse conflicts and make tough calls. I know that the most important skill I've developed in both of those roles and the one needed most in the job I'm seeking, is the ability to listen.

My background has prepared me for this essential work. So I ask for your endorsement and support to make our home truly healthy as the Assemblymember for the 61st district.

CHARLES FALL

Charles is a lifelong Staten Islander who understands the issues facing the hard working people of the North Shore. As a former Staten Island Borough Director for the Mayor of New York City, Charles worked tirelessly to ensure visions such as Universal Pre-Kindergarten and Paid Sick Leave became realities. As Chief for a city agency that is responsible for thousands of acres on Staten Island and over 50 capital projects worth nearly \$100 million dollars Charles understands firsthand how to secure capital funding for large scale projects while working through intricacies with city, state and federal agencies.

Additionally, he has been responsible for cultivating and improving relationships with community leaders and elected officials.

His long term vision and short term plans include expanding transportation services and securing additional funding for our hospitals, schools, and programming for our youth. As a city official, Charles has displayed firm leadership and leadership support. He is committed to fighting tooth and nail to improve his hometown now, and for future generations.

Fall is married with one incredibly intelligent daughter. He enjoys spending time with his family including frequent trips to city parks and assisting his wife with her makeup tutorials. He also enjoys riding his bicycle around the borough and jogging in the neighborhood. He graduated from Southwestern College in Kansas with a Bachelor of Arts degree and received a Master of Public Administration with honors at Pace University. Fall assisted with cleanup efforts during hurricane Sandy and currently volunteers for local houses of worship. He also served as a board member of The Institute on Disability.

BOBBI DIGI

I am running for NYS Assembly District 61 to be a unifying voice in our community.

I was raised in Park Hill. My parents were of modest means but they possessed great vision. They instilled the desire and confidence in me to create positive change in my community. As a father of four boys, I know that the best advantage I could give them is to teach by example.

As a local business owner, I realized I had the ability to impact the lives of the young people I employed. That's why I established Island Voice, an organization whose mission is to promote youth empowerment. The success of Island Voice led me to establish the North Shore Business Alliance, a business development organization.

In the Assembly, I will work to increase small businesses and grow good paying jobs.

After Hurricane Sandy, Governor Cuomo appointed me to the New York-Rising committee which won a state wide competition for best approach to resilient economic growth and secured \$28 million for storm recovery and infrastructure for Staten Island.

Education is the foundation for our youth, which is why I created an annual youth empowerment summit I am a founding member of Staten Island Foundation's Early Childhood Learning, which in just five years, has earned \$1.5 million in funding. In the Assembly I will:

- Increase funding for our north shore schools to install/upgrade technology and provide needed supplies, so that teachers do not have to pay out of their pocket
- Increase funding for the College of Staten Island
- Work with local elected officials and unions to create a vocational school.

Growing up in Park Hill and Stapleton in 1980's was like living in a war zone. Witnessing people being shot fueled my passion to effectuate change which is why I co-founded "Occupy The Block" and under my leadership S.I.D.A. sponsored a bus trip to Washington, DC to "March For Our Lives". In the Assembly I will:

- Vote for microstamping serial numbers on bullets
- Increase funds for the gun buyback program
- Vote to require extensive background checks when purchasing firearms.

As Executive Director of Island Voice, I partnered with Staten Island Performance Provider Systems (SIPPS) to connect underserved communities with health care. We made 1000 connections in the past year. In the Assembly I will:

- Initiate a bill to create a statewide, universal healthcare system
- Support the Mental Health Reform Act of 2016
- Secure funding to increase outreach to drug addicts willing to enter treatment programs

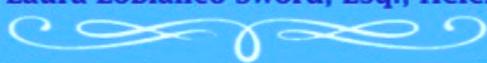
Staten Island is the most underserved borough for public transportation. In the Assembly I will:

- Secure funds for fast ferry docks;
- Advocate for a bikeway/walkway for the Verrazano Bridge;
- Secure funds to build the North Shore Waterfront Greenway Trail.

May 15th is the S.I.D.A. State Assembly candidate endorsement vote. S.I.D.A. support is important to me, and I humbly ask for your endorsement. I am confident with your support that we can win this race.




Hon. Letitia James, Hon. John Liu, Hon. Ralph Lamberti
State Senator Diane Savino, Assembly Member Mike Cusick,
Council Member Debi Rose
Mimi Cusick, Rev. Dr., Tony Baker, Rev. Dr., Victor Brown,
Rev. Maggie Howard, Minister Dale Smith
Michele Akyempong, Steve Lawton, Dennis Quirk
Mike Arvanites, Nancy Benbow, Jennifer Gray-Brumskine,
Alex Carr, Teresa Cirelli, Jennifer Cutrona, Esq., Robert Cutrona,
Richard Gabor, Esq., Lori Honor, Patrick Lewis, Rosemarie Mangano,
Dan Marotta, Esq., Orit Sussman-Mirocznik, Andrea Morse, Esq.,
Anne Price Moskowitz, Roy Moskowitz, Catherine Paulo,
Jim Smith, Laura LoBianco Sword, Esq., Helen Vitaliano


Cordially Invite You to Join Us for
Assembly Member Matthew Titone's
Surrogate Court Judge Campaign Kickoff

May 17th at 7pm
at ABOVE at the SI Hilton Garden Inn

Hero \$14000 Champion \$10000 Advocate \$5000
Patron \$2500 Supporter \$1000 Friend \$500 Associate \$250
Guest \$125

Checks payable to Titone for Surrogate, 41 Challenger Drive, Staten Island, NY 10312


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A Proven Record of Service.


TITONE FOR SURROGATE
The right experience. The right choice.

May 15, 2018	June 17, 2018
General Meeting 8:00p.m. Oriental Plaza, 1845 Richmond Ave.	General Meeting 8:00p.m. TBD
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Adam Barbanel-Fried, Changing the Conversation • Endorsement Vote for Offices in November Elections 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Presentation of Federal Gun Control Position Paper

It's Time to Join or Renew Your S.I.D.A. Membership!

To become a member, renew membership, or make a donation, call Bonita Rothman at (917) 596-3724, or complete and return the coupon. Voting privileges begin 45 days after joining.

✂

2018 DUES	DONATION
_____ \$25 - Family	_____ \$5
_____ \$20 - Individual	_____ \$50
_____ - Senior, Student, or	
_____ \$15 Unemployed	_____ \$100
	_____ Other _____

_____ Check (payable to: S.I.D.A.) _____ Cash

I understand SIDA is a Democratic Party club. I (or we, if this is a Family Membership) am (are) at least 17 years of age and an enrolled Democrat, or intend to enroll as a Democrat upon becoming eligible.

Signature _____

Name(s) _____

Address _____ Apt # _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone _____

E-mail _____

Make checks payable to S.I.D.A. and send to: S.I.D.A.
P.O. Box 140371
Staten Island, NY 10314-0371

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