

Candidates File for Seats On County DEM Committee

COUNTY — Democratic voters will pick who serves on the Regular Democratic Organization of Union County (RDOUC) for the next two years in the Tuesday, June 4 Primary Committee. Sometime after the Primary the committee will hold an election for county chairman. Last year Nicholas Scutari, a state senator, defeated Fanwood Mayor Colleen Mahr by the chairmanship. There are challenges in Ward 1, Dist. 4 and Ward 4, Dist. 4 in Westfield and in Districts 3 and 4 in Scotch Plains. No petitions were filed for eight of the 46 committee seats in Scotch Plains.

The following are the names of those persons running for UCDC in towns covered by this newspaper:

Scotch Plains: Dist. 1, Alejandro Sanchez and Tonya Y. Williams; Dist. 2, Roshan M. White and Sylvia R. Hicks; Dist. 3, Gerald Meola (RDOUC) and Brett Pugach (challenger); Dist. 4, Frank Dinizio (RDOUC) and Sean Smith (challenger) and Luisa Bianco (RDOUC); Dist. 5, Raymond Szpond and Chrissy Szpond;

Dist. 6, Raphael Kasen and Elizabeth Stamler; Dist. 7, Joseph J. Policay, Jr. and Bridget McNulty; Dist. 8, Phillip Wiener and Lilian Wiener; Dist. 9, John Thompson and Chris Thompson; Dist. 10, Theodore Keats and Cheryl McCoy; Dist. 11, John DelSordi, Jr. and Donna Smyth; Dist. 12, Anthony Malta and Jessica Malta; Dist. 13, Samuel M. Manigault; Dist. 14, Ellen Zimmerman;

Dist. 15, Walter Chinoy and Elaine Chinoy; Dist. 16., Robert W. Evans III; Dist. 17, Anthony Miccio and Surman Dahiya-Shah; Dist. 18, Michael Handler and Sarah Blanco; Dist. 19, Eric Morrell and Linda Stender; Dist. 20, David Handler and Ellen Baron; Dist. 21 (no petition filed); Dist. 22, Thomas Callahan and Reni Erdos; Dist. 23 David Littman and Allison Yablonowitz.

Westfield: Ward 1, Dist. 1, John Keville and Sharon Stockwell; Dist. 2, Carl Salisbury and Elisa Fazio; Dist. 3, Brian Duggan and Judith Ann Augustino; Dist. 4, William Brennan, Maureen Kehoe (RDOUC) and Emily Root (challenger); Dist. 5, Ravi Motwani and Janice Siegel; Dist. 6, William Cariste and Nina Ovrin; Dist. 7, Thomas Jardim and Louise Russell;

Ward 2, Dist. 1, Martin Sheehy and Carolyn Kueter; Dist. 2, Frank Fusaro and Meredith F. Lash-Dardia; Dist. 3, Brian Marquet and Revathi Narasimhan; Dist. 4, Andrew Kofsky and Sandra Alfano; Dist. 5, Brad

Rothenberg and Susan Pepper, and Dist. 6, Scott Lazar and Mary Frances Bowman;

Ward 3, Dist. 1, Martin C. Rothfelder and Mia K. Morse; Dist. 2, Kenneth Rotter and Laurie Woog; Dist. 3, Edward Israelow and Stacey Chapel; Dist., 4, Michael Ash and Mallary Saltzman; Dist. 5, Matthew Sontz and Jennifer Gilman; Dist. 6, Nicholas Jenner and Denise Jenner; Dist. 7, Kevin McKee and Rupal Obaray;

Ward 4, Dist 1, Jacob Glasker and Andrea Marcus; Dist. 2, John Joseph Walsh and Ashley Pagelow; Dist. 3, Robb Wilner and Bonnie Stewart; Dist. 4, Schuyler Quackenbush, Lisa Quackenbush (RDOUC) and Lisa O'Dwyer (challenger), and Ward 4, Dist. 5, George Mouded and Kimberly Mouded.

Garwood: Dist. 1, Dennis McCarthy and Laura Schilare; Dist. 2, Paul Tarantino and Maria Nierstedt; Dist. 3, Charles Lombardo and Tara Shirk, and Dist. 4., Hugh Sinclair and Sara Todisco.

Mountainside: Dist. 1, Steven Witt and Genevieve Cooper; Dist. 2, Philip Cook and Lauren Cook; Dist. 3, Richard Schkolnick and Anjali Mehrotra; Dist. 4, Carlos Gomez and Elaine Berkenwald; Dist. 5, Richard Schmedel and Susan Berkowitz; Dist. 6, James Whelan and Julie Wright; Dist. 7, John Koehn and Mary Koehn; Dist. 8, John Sichel and Elizabeth Truman; and Dist. 9, Leo Shaeffer III and Susan Palumbo.

Master Plan Workshop For Seniors on April 30

WESTFIELD — Lifelong Westfield will host a special afternoon Master Plan Workshop for seniors on Tuesday, April 30, from 1 to 3 p.m. in Assembly Hall of the Presbyterian Church of Westfield, 140 Mountain Avenue.

Seniors are encouraged to attend to participate in the planning process and give input on topics that are essential to the future of Westfield, including housing, transportation, land use, and downtown economic development. Representatives from H2M, the consulting firm hired to conduct the Master Plan Reexamination, will lead the workshop. Seniors are also asked to complete the Master Plan online survey at publicinput.com/WestfieldMP.

"Westfield's longtime residents



Peyton's Peek at the Week In Politics

By Paul Peyton of The Leader/Times

Some 300 Seats on County Dem Committee Face Challenges

The battle has begun for round two of the race for chair of the Union County Committee. Last week, three Democratic slates of freeholder candidates filed for the Tuesday, June 4 Primary Election. One slate is the Union County Regular Democratic Organization line aligned with State Senator Nick Scutari, the current chairman of the county Democratic party.

Another line, running under the slogan is aligned with Linden Mayor Derek Armstead while a third slate is backed by Roselle Mayor Christine Dansereau. Mayor Dansereau's line includes former Fanwood councilman Jack Molenaar and Anthony Esposito, a former Roselle school board member whose lawsuit against the county essentially killed a major downtown Roselle redevelopment project backed by the freeholders.

Mr. Armstead's line includes Wilma Campbell, a Plainfield school board member, his chief of staff Alex Lospinoso and Roselle Councilwoman Sylvia Turnage.

According to the political website New Jersey Globe, Fanwood Mayor Colleen Mahr, who lost by 72 votes to Mr. Scutari in last year's committee chair vote, is running her own slate for Democratic Committee while Mr. Scutari is doing the same. Freeholder Al Mirabella was bounced from the

county committee line in Fanwood by Mayor Mahr, but is running under a line back by Mr. Scutari, according to the Globe report.

The biggest battles for control of the county committee are said to be in Linden, Union (hometown of Assemblyman Joseph Cryan), Linden (hometown of Senator Scutari), Plainfield, Roselle, Rahway, Clark, Cranford and Fanwood.

Mahr, Council Candidates Opt Not to Run on Organization Line

Fanwood Mayor Colleen Mahr has decided not to run on the Union County Regular Democratic Organization Line in the June Primary, New Jersey Globe has reported. She and council candidates Katherine Mitchell, Jeffrey Banks and Kevin Boris will run under the slogan "People First Democrats" along with candidates for the county's Democratic Committee. Ms. Mitchell, a long-time councilwoman, and Mr. Boris, a former councilman, are seeking full three-year terms while Mr Banks is running for an unexpired seat.

"We have come to understand that the Regular Democratic Organization (RDO) has chosen to directly file their bracketing letters for the RDO without consulting us," Mr. Boris wrote on behalf of Mayor Mahr, Ms. Mitchell and Mr. Banks, according to the Globe report.

Kyla Rodger Drops Bid For Assembly, Backs LaZare

Kyla Rodger of Westfield has withdrawn her candidacy and endorsed State Assembly candidate Jill LaZare of Summit in the 21st Legislative District June Primary Election. Ms. LaZare is challenging Lisa Mandelblatt of Westfield and Stacey Gunderman of New Providence, both of whom were give the Union County Democratic Party organization line. Ms. LaZare, who has run for Senate and Assembly in past years, was given the party line in Somerset and Morris Counties.

Van Drew Supports Protecting People With Pre-Existing Cond.

South Jersey Congressman Jeff Van Drew (D-2nd, Cape May) has voted in favor of H. Res. 271 condemning efforts to take health insurance away from persons with pre-existing conditions.

"Our focus should be on finding a bipartisan solution to healthcare that makes it more affordable and accessible to all Americans," he said. "It sickens me to hear of people being unable to get coverage if they have a pre-existing condition, or of seniors that are struggling to afford prescriptions. The American people are depending on us for things like this. We must come together to find a solution."



Jim Lowney/County of Union DONATE LIFE MONTH...Elisse Glennon, vice-president and chief administrative officer for NJ Sharing Network, is presented with a resolution recognizing April as National Donate Life Month in the County of Union. Pictured, from left to right, are: Freeholder Vice-Chairman Alexander Mirabella; Freeholder Chair Bette Jane Kowalski; Cranford native Eric Walano, who donated a kidney; Ms. Glennon, and Freeholder Chris Hudak. The Freeholders also presented a resolution to Mr. Walano, commending him for donating his kidney to an individual in need.

Scotch Plains Announce Events for Earth Day

SCOTCH PLAINS — The newly-appointed Scotch Plains Green Team is gearing up for Earth Day 2019 as it works with the township council towards Sustainable Jersey certification.

"I am committed to working alongside the Green Team and the township to make Scotch Plains a greener, more sustainable community," says Councilwoman Elizabeth Stamler, the governing body's liaison to the Green Team and the Environmental Commission. "It's important for residents to know that small changes can have a big impact."

A variety of activities are planned, including:

On Thursday, April 18 at 6:30 p.m., join the Green Team for a free screening of the documentary, "The Bin Project," at the Scotch Plains Library and sponsored by the Union County Board of Chosen Freeholders. Bring your water in a reusable water bottle as this is a no plastic bottle event. Movie snacks will be provided. The JCC of Central Jersey will be sponsoring a plastic bag collection and free reusable shopping bags will be available.

On Saturday, April 27 from 9 a.m. to noon, a Party for the Planet event will be held on the Alan Augustine Village Green next to the municipal building on Park Avenue. The Department of Parks and Recreation is teaming up with the Green Team for a morning of activities including music by Bash the Trash and the annual free tree distribution. Attendees can recycle their gently-used outgrown bikes. Use the bags at local businesses with the Green Team sign in the window to keep Scotch Plains a clean, safe and sustainable community.

The Scotch Plains Green Team is a group of residents, township volunteers and business representatives who work with the mayor and township council to create policies and practices that provide a clean, safe and sustainable community to live, work and play for this and future generations.

For more information, please visit www.scotchplainsnj.gov or call (908) 322-6700, ext. 314.

Bramnick: Cop Killer Should Be Condemned

STATE -- Assembly Republican Leader Jon Bramnick (R-21st, Westfield) has condemned a speech that kicked off the "We The People Summit" for top 2020 Democratic presidential candidates in Washington, D.C. The conference kicked off with a chant echoing the words of convicted New Jersey cop-killer and FBI most-wanted fugitive Assata Shakur, also known as Joanne Chesimard.

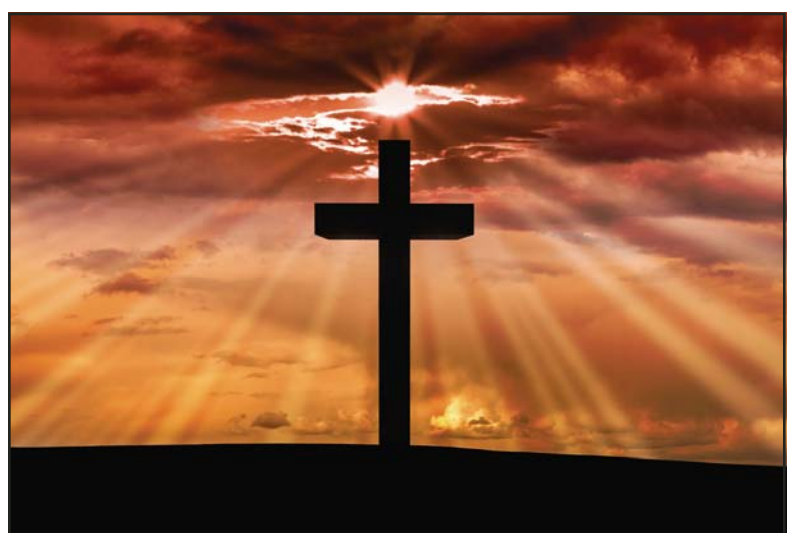
"We should be honoring New Jersey State Trooper Werner Foerster for paying the ultimate sacrifice, not celebrating his killer," said Mr. Bramnick. "It's an absolute disgrace that the words of Joanne Chesimard would be repeated at a conference for those who hope to become the next President of the United States. I stand by our men and women in blue and condemn Chesimard."

New Jersey Attorney General Gurbir Grewal also condemned the speech. "There are many inspirational leaders. Assata Shakur is not one of them," he said.

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at the Parish Community of Saint Helen!



Palm Sunday Masses April 14th

Saturday 5:30 p.m.
Sunday 8:00 a.m., 9:30 a.m., 11:00 a.m., 12:30 p.m., 6:30 p.m.

Holy Thursday April 18th

9:00 a.m. Morning Prayer
8:00 p.m. Liturgy of the Lord's Supper

Good Friday April 19th

9:00 a.m. Morning Prayer
12:00 noon Outdoor Children's Stations of the Cross
3:00 p.m. Liturgical Celebration of the Lord's Passion

Holy Saturday April 20th

9:00 a.m. Morning Prayer
8:00 p.m. The Solemn Celebration of the Easter Vigil

Easter Sunday Masses April 21st

Sunrise Mass 6:10 a.m.
St. Helen (Meaney Hall) 8:00 a.m., 10:00 a.m., 12:00 noon
Mother Seton Regional High School (1 Valley Rd, Clark) 9:00 a.m., 11:00 a.m.

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