

VANGUARD

Official Newsletter of the Adjunct Faculty Association at Nassau Community College
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(516) 572-7294 | www.myafaonline.org

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NASSAU COUNTY 2015

**ELECTION
STATEMENTS**



From the President's Desk

Over the past ten months, a significant number of elected public officials have contacted the AFA to voice their respect for Nassau Community College generally and the AFA specifically. During this time, we have begun to build solid relationships with all of these elected public officials. These relationships have and will continue to pay dividends as we move into the future.

A number of these elected officials are running for office this November. For a variety of reasons, we decided not to officially endorse candidates during this election cycle. I asked the individual candidates with whom we have established a relationship to write a letter that will provide you with a better understanding of their beliefs regarding Nassau Community College, our adjunct population, education in general and any other topics they believe would be of interest to you.

Please consider the content of each of the submissions as you determine the individuals for whom you will cast your vote on Tuesday, November 3rd.



Stefan Krompfer



Kate Murray Republican Candidate For Nassau County District Attorney

The men and women of the Nassau Community Adjunct Faculty Association (AFA) are dedicated, hard-working and provide the greatest value in higher education. Your members and the union deserve the support of the County Legislature and the Administration to continue the mission of providing increasingly excellent education at an affordable price. At the same time, the members deserve fair compensation as they pursue the work they love with passion and expertise. Indeed, I look forward to collaborating and consulting with the leadership and members of the AFA as Nassau's next District Attorney.

I have the experience and background to be a highly effective District Attorney. As the Supervisor of America's largest township, I manage a workforce of over 2,000 and oversee a budget of over \$430 million. My relationship with the CSEA, Local 880, Hempstead Town's labor union, has been called a model of management/labor cooperation by labor leaders. Prior to my town service, I worked as a New York State Assemblywoman, serving on the Codes Committee, which considers all criminal legislation. In the Assembly, I supported tough-on-crime legislation. I backed Megan's Law, broke with my party in voting for an assault weapons ban and championed civil confinement for sex offenders after their release. I have been an advocate for victims of domestic abuse with the Suffolk University's Battered Women's Advocacy Project.

The most critical issue confronting our county and our region is the scourge of heroin. In fact, fatal heroin overdoses have doubled this year when compared to the same period last year. Non-fatal overdoses have also soared

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by 25 percent. This issue demands greater focus and increased resources on the part of the District Attorney's Office. I recently recommended the implementation of a new heroin task force within the Nassau County Police Department, charged with taking down drug dealers. The Police Department has acted on my recommendation. Hempstead Town has increased funding to drug/heroin counseling programs. A Narcan (heroin overdose reversal drug) training program for the town's public safety officers is currently being developed. As D.A., I will employ a multi-pronged approach to dealing with heroin, which includes putting drug dealers behind bars (fighting diversion sentencing for dealers), getting help for those struggling with addiction and increasing education programs for young people.

Other serious issues which demand action include crimes against the elderly, cybercrimes, gang violence, illegal weapons, domestic abuse and protecting our children from predators. Seniors have been targeted with fraud, distraction burglary and identity theft. In response, I will establish an Elder Crimes Bureau in the District Attorney's Office. In the area of cybercrimes, the District Attorney's Office needs a dramatic increase in focus and resources. Domestic abuse victims need a leader who understands the issue and will support those who are suffering while offering strong advocacy and a safe haven. Fighting predators, I will push for powerful legislation to protect our children from predators.

I appreciate the support of the AFA, and will work hard to justify the confidence which you have placed in me.



Kevan Abrahams Democratic Candidate 1st Legislative District – Nassau County

Kevan Abrahams (D-Freeport) has served as a Nassau County Legislator in the 1st Legislative District, after decisively winning his seat with a resounding victory in 2002. When first elected in 2002, Abrahams was the youngest legislator ever elected to the Nassau County Legislature. In 2012 he was elected by his colleagues to serve as the Democratic Minority Leader.

Legislator Abrahams has made the needs of his communities his top priority, in particular highlighting problems regarding the stabilization of property taxes, addressing healthcare stabilization, funding for higher education and after-school programs, and gang violence prevention. In 13 years Legislator Abrahams has hosted over 150 informational forums from showing residents how to challenge their taxes to community health fairs.

During each and every budget process during his tenure, Legislator Abrahams has led the way to reduce funding cuts for Nassau Community College. For the last 13 years he has supported the College budget and has worked with NCC administration to ensure the students and faculty are treated fairly. Also via the Nassau County Capital Plan, Legislator Abrahams has been able to secure millions of dollars in County funding to support the College's

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infrastructure expansion. Kevan believes in order to compete in this global economy we must invest in higher education so our children have an opportunity to succeed.

Kevan has been called, ‘A dynamic, compassionate and forward-thinking young lawmaker’, Abrahams was named as one of Ebony Magazine’s (February 2004 Edition) “30 Leaders who are 30 and Under” as well as Long Island Business News’ “One of Long Island’s 40 Rising Stars Under The Age of 40 for 2010.”

Abrahams joined the County Legislature staff as Deputy Finance Director in 2000, eventually moving up to the position of Finance Director. He brings with him a wealth of government experience and has served as a legislative assistant and Deputy District Director for Congressman Floyd H. Flake and as a District Representative for Carolyn McCarthy. Abrahams also worked in the private sector as a Financial Analyst for Astoria Federal Savings Bank. Abrahams holds a Bachelor’s degree in Political Science from Queens College. Abrahams resides in Freeport with his wife Stephanie and their two children.



Judy Jacobs Democratic Candidate 16TH Legislative District – Nassau County

Dear Nassau Community College Adjunct Faculty,

It truly is my pleasure to speak about Nassau Community College. I have been one of its most ardent supporters from the day I became a Legislator twenty years ago. In fact, I always admired what the college means to so many people even before being elected.

I was a former school teacher, teaching second grade in the Elmont School District. Of course, teaching is my love and I am a firm believer that with the proper education we can assist all students at every level of ability.

I have always considered Nassau Community College (NCC) to be an outstanding jewel in the County of Nassau. The opportunities you give to so many are outstanding. There are people who begin their college years at NCC who subsequently gain momentum and ease into the four year college experience. NCC offers an alternative for those who work and those who are in need of financial assistance. These opportunities are invaluable and I am so proud of what the college does for so many.

When I was Presiding Officer for 8 of my 20 years, I worked with the Finance Director of the College and the County Executive, Tom Suozzi, to put a 3.9% annual increase in the County share for a five year period. This gave the college something to depend on going forward. Unfortunately, this has not been continued under the current administration.

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I can promise you that my door is always open to discuss any issues, problems or solutions which I can be of assistance with.

Sincerely,
Judy A. Jacobs
Nassau County Legislator, 16th LD



Anthony J Santino Republican Candidate for Hempstead Town Supervisor

Hempstead Town residents must be able to receive a quality and affordable secondary education.

The Adjunct Faculty Association of Nassau County College plays a vital role in ensuring a bright future for our township.

NCC Adjuncts who work both inside and outside the classroom are to be applauded for the knowledge, experience and dedication they bring to the students who pass through their doors each and every day.

I consider my own educational experience a key to the career success I have heretofore enjoyed. I was very fortunate to have received an outstanding secondary education; I graduated from St. John’s University summa cum laude. And with the knowledge learned in the classroom, I wanted to give back to the community.

Twenty-two years later, I continue to work each and every day for the middle class families and seniors of my district. As the longest serving Hempstead Town Councilman of the modern era – and the current Senior Councilman on the panel – I’ve worked directly with four different Supervisors to ensure that America’s largest municipality offers top-notch municipal services and programs for pennies on the tax dollar.

Keeping taxes low isn’t just a catch phrase for me: it’s something that I continue to focus on each and every day while ensuring stellar services. And when a problem arises, I take action.

For example, I authored and sponsored the landmark legislation that brought library service to previously unserved residents of many of the town’s unincorporated communities. The creation of the Bay Park Library District was a first-of-its-kind effort to expand library service in New York State through the creation of a library district that contracts with an existing, neighboring library. Communities across the Empire State have used this model ever since, bringing educational opportunity directly into people’s hometowns.

In order to create housing opportunities for the next generation, we need educated college graduates moving into our communities – ready to open businesses and help our local downtowns thrive through their own innovation,

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available only after learning at the knee of professionals like NCC’s adjuncts – “outside” professionals teaching applied and specialized career fields in academia.

Keeping our youth here is an integral part of my vision for Hempstead Town: through excellent educational opportunities, expanding our local economy and creating affordable housing opportunities for those just beginning their careers, this will be possible.

Additional information about me and my platform can be found at Santino2015.com



Steve Rhoads Republican Candidate 19TH Legislative District – Nassau County

In the seven months that I have had the pleasure of serving as a County Legislator for the 19th District, I have had a wonderful time getting to meet many of the men and women who have dedicated their working careers to the effort to keep our County a wonderful place to live, work and raise a family.

Though I never attended Nassau Community College as a matriculated student, I did attend the State University of New York at Albany and benefited from our generational commitment to providing a low cost, high quality alternative to a private secondary education. I feel it is my responsibility as a Legislator to ensure that this generation keeps that same commitment. For this reason, I have made it a point to visit the Nassau Community College campus on several occasions during my short time in office for baseball games, graduation, the opening of your new food pantry and have had the pleasure of actually taking a few Italian classes with my wife as part of the College’s adult education program. It has been my pleasure to vote to approve the College’s requested budget in its entirety.

The creation of a productive learning environment requires the consistent effort of so many, not the least of which is our Adjunct Faculty, who take the time from busy lives and careers outside of the College to lend their knowledge and expertise not only to the classroom, but also to the counseling, guidance and support of our students. Your part-time work at the College demonstrates your full-time passion for inspiring minds, young and old, to pursue their career and educational goals.

It is an honor to be able to share my thoughts with you as I believe they reflect our shared passion for learning and our shared commitment to preserving Nassau Community College as a place where students can develop the skills needed to utilize their talents to build a better life for themselves and for their families.



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Felix O. Quayson, Republican Candidate 3rd Legislative District – Nassau County

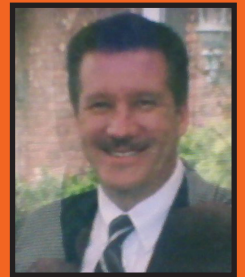
Nassau Community College is the bedrock of educational opportunities for students, young adults, and working professionals. It is a passage to bridge employable training/technical skills. Having attended NCC myself, I know the benefits and the quality of education that Nassau Community College provides to students, young adults, and working professionals. The education I had at NCC led me to become a Professor, teaching at the Graduate School level. For many students, NCC is the pathway to attain a middle class job and income. Nassau Community College employs quality staff and professionals, as well as, caring for students need and helping communities in Nassau County, NY. When I am elected as the 3rd District Legislator, I will advocate endlessly for NCC to get funding from the state and federal levels. I am a believer in education and I believe that Nassau Community College is a purposeful interest in our community affairs. I will also work with the NCC administrators to enhance programs and effectively prepare students for today's market economy.

The Inside Scoop

AFA Membership – What Does it Cost?

Over the past few weeks, I've had a number of agency fee payers approach me, checkbooks in hand, asking me what's the cost to become an AFA member. The simple answer is very little. There are no membership fees; no one time assessment and you don't pay for membership retroactively. From the moment you fill out our membership form, you become an AFA member. The only difference is that an AFA member who earns \$2,400 or more in a given semester will pay \$170 in dues for that semester. This is opposed to an agency fee payer, who will pay \$155 in dues for that semester. These dues are only taken during semesters you're employed. This change in dues only takes effect when you join the AFA, and it's only forward looking. There are no assessments for semesters you worked prior to becoming a member.

To join, simply visit our website at <http://myafaonline.org> and click the Join the AFA button at the top of the page. Your voice matters to us, and your membership in our union is a critical component that further strengthens our ability to fight for our rights.



Richard D. Erben

Richard D. Erben
Chief Information Officer

AFA Scholarships

SCHOLARSHIPS FOR PART-TIME STUDENTS

The Adjunct Faculty Association is proud to announce the 2016 open competition for eight scholarships at Nassau Community College. These awards are for MATRICULATED PART-TIME students who have completed at least 12 credits and are continuing their education at NCC. The one exception is the Presidential Academic Excellence Scholarship, given to a graduating part-time student who plans to continue his or her education beyond NCC. This scholarship is for \$3000.

The AFA sponsored Robert F. Blake Memorial Scholarship is for \$2000. The Stuart M. Johnson sponsored John Meehan Second Chance Scholarship, for students who are thirty-five years or older, is in the amount of \$5000. The AFA Officers Scholarship is for \$2000.

The John Pitrelli Scholarship, the James Crisafulli Scholarship, the Robert McGowan Scholarship, and the AFA Members Scholarship each award a \$1000.

The deadline for application is **Monday, March 14, 2016**.

Please make your PART-TIME students aware of these scholarships.

Completed applications should be mailed to:

**Adjunct Faculty Association
PO Box 452
Rockville Centre, NY 11571-0452**