

**38<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL  
BUSINESSPERSON OF THE YEAR  
AND  
LEGISLATIVE BREAKFAST**

**NASSAU COUNCIL  
of CHAMBERS of COMMERCE**



**October 27<sup>th</sup>, 2023**  
Crest Hollow Country Club

Nassau Council of Chambers of Commerce  
1576 Front Street, East Meadow, NY 11554  
516-253-0124  
info@ncchambers.org • www.ncchambers.org

# NASSAU COUNCIL OF CHAMBERS OF COMMERCE

## MISSION STATEMENT

*Our mission is to represent the concerns of the Nassau County business community. We promote economic security and enhance economic growth. The Nassau Council is a strong united voice for commerce and an advocate for legislative issues that impact us. Promoting our "SHOP LOCAL" agenda is at the forefront of our efforts, to insure a positive future for our businesses and communities.*

## 2023 CURRENT ISSUES

- Working along with Nassau County elected officials coordinating the use of funds available to Chambers and our small businesses in the recovery from Covid 19.
- Working along with Town Governments allocating funds available for small business recovery.
- Establishment of a non profit to better facilitate grant applications to benefit our chamber members.
- Establishment of an app called Explore Long Island to promote our Chambers and their members through "GettinLocal" and expand our "SHOP LOCAL" campaign .
- Vigorously promotes our "SHOP LOCAL" campaign to increase consumer awareness and economic prosperity.
- Advocates for legislative issues and laws that affect and promote business interests
- Supports mixed use and downtown re-development
- Advances Chamber to Chamber networking events
- Conducts an annual legislative event to highlight current issues and efforts that promote business development and recognize outstanding chamber members
- Promotes efforts to develop and sustain a vital and strong workforce



Office of the County Executive  
1550 Franklin Avenue  
Mineola, New York 11501



*October 27, 2023*

*Dear Friends,*

*Please accept my warmest greetings and congratulations as you gather to support the Nassau Council of Chambers of Commerce at their 38th Annual Businessperson of the Year & Legislative Breakfast. The Nassau Council of Chambers of Commerce plays an integral role in the overall wellbeing of the County by supporting and advocating for local businesses through media campaigns and legislative means.*

*Small and mid-size businesses are the life blood of Long Island's dense population. Nassau County is home to over 90,000 businesses, grossing billions of dollars and the vast majority of them employ 50 people or less. The Council stays abreast of local, regional and state issues that impact the business community. Representing over 50 local Chambers of Commerce and in turn over 10,000 local businesses, promoting businesses of supporting them is at the core of what they do. "Shop Local" is a truly important motto and encapsulates the importance of what the Council accomplishes.*

*Thank you so much,  
Sincerely,*

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Blakeman".

*Bruce A. Blakeman  
County Executive*

# 2021-2023 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

President

**Franklin Camarano Jr.**

*East Meadow Chamber of Commerce*

1<sup>st</sup> Vice President

**Margo K. Cargill**

*Uniondale Chamber of Commerce*

2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President

**Lois Howes**

*Freeport Chamber of Commerce*

Treasurer

**Gary Slavin**

*Chamber of Commerce of the Massapequas*

Secretary

**Lisa DelliPizzi**

*Franklin Square Chamber of Commerce*

Immediate Past President

**Dennis Grossman**

*Great Neck Chamber of Commerce*

Legislative Liaison

**Francesca Carlow**

*Plainview/Old Bethpage Chamber of Commerce*

## 2021-2023 Directors

**Jerry Elfassy**, *Westbury/Carle Place Chamber of Commerce*

**Jeanette Frisina**, *Greater New Hyde Park Chamber of Commerce*

**Joseph Garcia**, *Farmingdale Chamber of Commerce*

**Julie Marchesella**, *Elmont Chamber of Commerce*

**Cathy McGrory Powell**, *Wantagh Chamber of Commerce*

**Donald Patane**, *Levittown Chamber of Commerce*

**Patricia Schneider**, *Great Neck Chamber of Commerce*

**Gary Slavin**, *Chamber of Commerce of the Massapequas*

**Jim Spohrer**, *Chamber of Commerce of the Bellmores*

**Stephen Wangel**, *Lynbrook Chamber of Commerce*

**Belinda Watkins**, *Hempstead Chamber of Commerce*



**Member At Large**

**Lionel Chitty**

*Hicksville Chamber of Commerce*

**Of Counsel**

**Edward Rosenthal**

*Rosenthal, Curry & Kranz LLP*

**Past Presidents**

**Dennis Grossman** - *Great Neck*

**Francesca Carlow** - *Plainview/Old Bethpage*

**Julie Marchesella** - *Merrick*

**E. Christopher Murray** - *Garden City*

**Richard M. Bivone** - *East Meadow*

**David McDonough** - *Merrick*

**Gary A. Hudes** - *Bellmore*

**Daniel A. Lehner\***

**Roy Smitheimer** - *Port Washington*

**Sylvia F. Chertow\***

**Martin Halkin\***

**Jerome Leahy\***

**Armond D'Amato, Sr.\***

(\*Deceased)



# 2023-2025 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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*Uniondale Chamber of Commerce*

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**Francesca Carlow**

*Plainview/Old Bethpage Chamber of Commerce*

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**Jerry Elfassy**, *Westbury/Carle Place Chamber of Commerce*

**Cheryl Fajardo**, *Greater New Hyde Park Chamber of Commerce*

**Richard Krug Jr.**, *Levittown Chamber of Commerce*

**Cathy McGrory Powell**, *Wantagh Chamber of Commerce*

**Lisa Moffa**, *Bethpage Chamber of Commerce*

**Patricia Schneider**, *Great Neck Chamber of Commerce*

**Mary Stanco**, *Great Neck Chamber of Commerce*



## **Members At Large**

**Lionel Chitty**

*Hicksville Chamber of Commerce*

**John Daianellos**

*Oceanside Chamber of Commerce*

**Jeanette Frisina**

*Greater New Hyde Park Chamber of Commerce*

**Lois Howes**

*Freeport Chamber of Commerce*

**Donald Patane**

*Levittown Chamber of Commerce*

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**David McDonough** - *Merrick*

**Gary A. Hudes** - *Bellmore*

**Daniel A. Lehner\***

**Roy Smitheimer** - *Port Washington*

**Sylvia F. Chertow\***

**Martin Halkin\***

**Jerome Leahy\***

**Armond D'Amato, Sr.\***



(\*Deceased)

## HOW WE BEGAN

The council was established in 1979 when several chambers came together to discuss local issues affecting the business community. Present at the workshop were chamber officials from Great Neck, Hicksville, Merrick, Hempstead, Baldwin, Westbury, Long Beach, Levittown, Freeport, Garden City, Franklin Square, East Meadow, Massapequa, Rockville Centre, and a representative from the Spanish Chamber of Commerce of Long Island.

At a subsequent meeting, it was agreed that a non-structured council be formed to serve the various needs of all the Chambers of Nassau. Essential matters including concerted legislative action common community and county problems (parking, flea markets, etc.) strengthening membership and promoting positive community relationships were among the topics addressed. It was decided that the advisory council known as the Nassau Council of Chambers of Commerce would meet monthly. Ultimately, members agreed that to be most effective, that the Council would formalize its efforts and function as a resource for advisement, leadership, and support for the County's Chambers of Commerce.

We, as an organization continue to address business issues of importance and concern to all our local chamber membership. As we work together, we remain a powerful force in promoting and protecting business in Nassau County and ensuring prosperity for all.

## *President's Message - Franklin Camarano, Jr.*



Chamber members, friends, and guests,

Good morning and thank you for attending our 38th Annual Businessperson of the Year and Legislative Breakfast, honoring Chamber members in Nassau County. Each year we honor those chosen by their Chamber, who have served their community and organizations, and are proud of their accomplishments. We thank them for tirelessly setting aside their personal time to serve, like previous recipients have done, to make their communities a better place to live and of

course have a business. Congratulations!

Thanks to Nassau County Executive Bruce A. Blakeman, for again being a big part of today's event, but more importantly for continuing to work with us since the beginning on getting the financial support needed for programs that directly help small businesses. These programs are designed for our Chambers to participate in, and the NCCC of course, to make up the difference. His staff is always responsive, and we look forward to continuing our collaboration with the County. He tirelessly supports Nassau, its communities, and small businesses; good times continue.

The Sands NY have been a great partner of the NCCC since the very beginning. They support our communities, have been working diligently with small businesses thru our Procurement Academy, and have been a fantastic friend to our Chambers. They will be transforming the Nassau Hub, from its current condition, into a multi-faceted resort destination which will benefit all. We would like to thank them for all of that, and for their VP, former NYS Governor David Patterson, for spending time with us today and catching us up on what's going on.

Special thanks to our Keynote Speaker Gary Titus of Minuteman Press Intl. for also spending time with us; sharing his experiences and unique perspective and supporting Chambers and small businesses. They are a large family-owned business, started by his father Roy in Plainview and based out of New York. Minuteman Press has over a thousand locations and are celebrating their 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary this year!

The Leukemia & Lymphoma is a wonderful organization filled with very dedicated folks. In their own words they "are the largest nonprofit dedicated to creating a world without blood cancers". We are proud to have recently developed a partnership with them, with the goal of getting every single Chamber in Nassau involved in supporting them, and spreading the word, in one way or the other.

Our Sponsors deserve our gratitude for being a big part of making this event so successful, year after year, this being no exception. But better yet, it's their support of us, the NCCC and all the Chambers year-round, that really makes a difference. Some have been with us for years, others brand new, but all believe in our system, they believe in you. Check them out on the following pages, and let's support and work with them too.

I would like to thank our Color Guard, the fantastic Nassau County

Legislator Laura Schaefer & Gaitley Stevenson-Mathews from the Glen Cove Chamber for singing the Star-Spangled Banner & God Bless America respectively; they all are sure to do a great job. I would also like to acknowledge our host of our event, the Crest Hollow Country Club, for their great staff and assistance with our reception year after year. Look around you... this still is no simple feat!

Heartfelt thanks to our Breakfast Committee, unofficially headed by NCCC Administrator Christine Mooney this year. She is our Admin, of course, but is also the Admin of the East Meadow and Merrick Chambers, and the Nassau Parks Conservancy. She has worked tirelessly for our Council! That's a lot for four people, let alone one. Special thanks to Cheryl Fajardo of New Hyde Park, who has worked with our sponsors, Dolores Rome of East Meadow, who reached out to all our elected officials, and Jamie Bogenschutz of Massapequa & the YES Community Counseling Center, for planning and seating. I would also like to recognize Femy Aziz of Merrick, for handling all of the pictures/video/audio, and Michael Levy from East Meadow & Levittown, for the programs & signage. ALL are past presidents of their Chambers and have done a great job to ensure that you have an extraordinary morning.

Without our Board of Directors most of what we do, what we accomplish, just simply wouldn't happen. They say leaders are able to set goals, motivate, weigh things out, and then make critical decisions better than most. When things go well, they give the credit to those doing the work, when they don't, they take the hit... because it's their responsibility. There are always standouts, and the NCCC is no exception.

Our Treasurer Gary Slavin, who I drive crazy at times, is a super bright guy that always gets the job done, knows his way around tons of things and has a huge heart. Joseph Garcia, who will be our 2nd VP in a few days, has really stepped up to the plate and is involved in so many things we are doing, in a big way which comes as no surprise. You can count on Joe; he is super valuable and that's why I knew we needed him onboard. Our Of Counsel Edward (Ted) Rosenthal is pretty much working on NCCC stuff all the time, as we count on him to be the legal resource the Council and Chambers need. I can count on him to disagree with me frequently, and yet he is my consigliere and friend. Past NCCC President Julie Marchesella has been an invaluable resource to us all, especially me, with a historic perspective that can come in handy at times. Finally, Margo K. Cargill, our 1st VP; what can I say. Well, I will try not to speak after her, (like this morning), because she is a tough act to follow, all around. As busy as she always is, if there is something that needs taking care of, there's pretty much no stopping her, a real professional, and always seems to be a few steps ahead of everyone else.

Our focus is to support the businesses in Nassau County, by primarily supporting the organizations that created us so many years ago, the Chambers. Operating on the grass roots level, as Chambers do, is the best way to help the businesses and the local communities. That, along with broad scope programs and supporting appropriate legislature, gets the job done.

It has been my honor to be serving on the board of the NCCC for the past 5 years, first year as a Board Member, next three as 1st VP, and the last two as President... with two more to go!

Best,  
Frank

**NASSAU COUNCIL OF CHAMBERS OF COMMERCE**  
**38th Businessperson of the Year**  
**and Legislative Breakfast**  
**Friday, October 27, 2023**  
**Crest Hollow Country Club**  
**PROGRAM**

|   |  |
|---|--|
| Opening Ceremony and Pledge .....   | Julie Marchesella<br>NCCC Past President                                       |
| Steve Bonom Commander   | Vietnam Veterans of America,<br>Color Guard                                    |
| Star Spangled Banner .....  | Nassau County Legislator Laura Schaefer  |
| Welcome and Introduction of Dais.....   | Franklin Camarano, Jr.<br>President  |
| Introduction of Nassau County Executive.....                                  | Franklin Camarano, Jr.   |
| Remarks.....  | Nassau County Executive Bruce Blakeman   |
| Introduction of Town of Oyster Bay Supervisor                                 | Hon Joseph Saladano  |
| Introduction of Town of Hempstead Supervisor                                  | Hon Donald Clavin  |
| Introduction of Town of N. Hempstead Supervisor                               | Hon Jennifer DeSena  |
| Former NY Governor, VP Las Vegas Sands  | Hon David Paterson   |
| Legislative Agenda .....  | Francesa Carlow<br>Legislative Liaison, NCCC Past President                    |
| Welcome our Legislators .....   | Gary Slavin<br>NCCC Treasurer  |
| Introduction of Keynote Speaker .....   | Michael Levy<br>Past President Levittown &<br>East Meadow Chambers of Commerce |
| Remarks.....  | Gary Titus- Sr.<br>Vice President/Director,<br>Minuteman Press Intl            |
| Announcement of NCCC Breakfast Charity -<br>Leukemia & Lymphoma Society ..... | Jamie Bogenschutz  |
| Remarks.....  | Victoria Catoir  |
| Thank you to Our Sponsors.....  | Franklin Camarano, Jr.   |



**Nassau Council of Chambers of Commerce**

**Thank you to All of Our Wonderful  
Sponsors and Supporters**

**PLATINUM**

SANDS

**GOLD**

FIRST NET/AT&T  
HOFSTRA UNIVERSITY  
JOVIA FINANCIAL CREDIT UNION  
NASSAU FINANCIAL CREDIT UNION

**SILVER**

ADP  
CONNOISSEUR MEDIA- KJOY  
EISNER AMPER  
LONG ISLAND CARES  
NASSAU COUNTY INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT AGENCY  
NEWSDAY MEDIA GROUP  
PSEG LONG ISLAND  
RXR  
TD BANK

**BRONZE**

ISLAND HARVEST  
NATIONAL GRID  
NEW YORK ISLANDERS

**SUPPORTERS**

BLANK SLATE MEDIA/LITMOR  
GETTING LOCAL-EXPLORE LONG ISLAND  
HERALD COMMUNITY NEWSPAPER  
LI NETS  
MARKETPLACE PUBLICATIONS  
MINUTEMAN PRESS - LEVITTOWN/FARMINGDALE/PORT WASHINGTON  
TRELUS  
WEBSTER BANK

**CORP**

CATHOLIC HEALTH  
LI CHILDREN MUSEUM  
MMP INTL  
RIPTIDES  
WELLS FARGO



Nassau Council of Chambers of Commerce

## Participating Chamber's Honorees

|   |                         |
|---|-------------------------|
| Baldwin Chamber of Commerce .....                     | VICTOR SOOKDEO          |
| Bethpage Chamber Of Commerce .....                    | GUS TSIORVAS            |
| Chamber of Commerce of the Bellmores .....            | STITCH THIS PRINT THAT  |
| Chamber of Commerce of the Massapequas .....          | GREG & ROBIN MASSIMI    |
| Chamber of Commerce of the Willistons .....           | BARBARA BAUR-RIZZO      |
| East Meadow Chamber of Commerce.....                  | ANTHONY BOTT            |
| Elmont Chamber of Commerce.....                       | DANA MCDOWELL           |
| Farmingdale Chamber of Commerce .....                 | SUZANNE LOBIONDO        |
| Floral Park Chamber of Commerce.....                  | BILL BARRY              |
| Franklin Square Chamber of Commerce .....             | JAIME PARRA             |
| Freeport Chamber of Commerce .....                    | ATLANTIC HARDWARE       |
| Glen Cove Chamber of Commerce.....                    | JERRY FARRELL           |
| Great Neck Chamber of Commerce .....                  | LAWRENCE LIN            |
| Greater New Hyde Park Chamber of Commerce .....       | SMITHA LUKOSE-KHAN      |
| Hempstead Chamber of Commerce.....                    | SALLY BARRERA           |
| Hicksville Chamber of Commerce .....                  | SCOTT R. SCHNEIDER      |
| Levittown Chamber of Commerce .....                   | WILLIAM J. POWELL       |
| Long Beach Chamber of Commerce .....                  | DR. JOSHUA SIEGEL       |
| Long Island African American Chamber of Commerce..... | ALVIN HARTLEY           |
| Long Island Hispanic Chamber of Commerce.....         | KARLA SORENSON          |
| Lynbrook Chamber of Commerce.....                     | STEPHEN WANGEL          |
| Malverne Chamber of Commerce.....                     | DR. MARIA CASVIKES      |
| Manhasset Chamber of Commerce .....                   | ROBBIE DONNO            |
| Merrick Chamber of Commerce.....                      | LORI BERGER             |
| Mineola Chamber of Commerce.....                      | BARNWELL HOUSE OF TIRES |
| North Shore Hispanic Chamber Of Commerce.....         | LIA DIANGELO-ALLAN      |
| Oyster Bay /East Norwich .....                        | BAHNIK FAMILY           |
| Plainview-Old Bethpage Chamber of Commerce.....       | BRIAN LEW               |
| Port Washington Chamber of Commerce .....             | DANIEL ZAVECKAS         |
| Rockville Centre Chamber of Commerce.....             | ED ASIP                 |
| Roslyn Chamber of Commerce.....                       | ANTHONY GONZALEZ        |
| Seaford Chamber of Commerce .....                     | NICK PARSON             |
| Syosset-Woodbury Chamber of Commerce .....            | TAMI RACANIELLO         |
| Uniondale Chamber of Commerce.....                    | FELICIA KASOW           |
| Valley Stream Chamber of Commerce.....                | JOOSOO KIM              |
| Wantagh Chamber of Commerce .....                     | FRANK UBRIACO           |
| Westbury- Carle Place Chamber of Commerce.....        | MALCOLM SIMMS           |
| West Hempstead Chamber of Commerce.....               | DR. LINDA ANDERSON      |



## **Baldwin Chamber of Commerce Victor Sookdeo**



Park Assets Real Estate Corp.  
and Baldwin Chamber President

Victor Sookdeo, a longtime resident of Baldwin, has quietly made his mark in the real estate industry as the owner and manager of Park Assets Real Estate Corp. With a career spanning over a decade, Victor's journey has been characterized by a sincere dedication to serving his community and enhancing its housing options.

While he may shy away from the spotlight, Victor has amassed a wealth of experience in real estate transactions and property development. Rather than claiming expertise, he humbly considers himself a perpetual learner, constantly adapting and evolving in the ever-changing real estate landscape.

Victor's passion lies in the transformation of properties, an endeavor that has brought about positive change in his beloved Baldwin. His guiding principles of honesty and innovation have set him apart in the industry and endeared him to the local community.

Beyond his professional pursuits, Victor is an active member of the Baldwin community, engaging in local initiatives aimed at creating a more vibrant and inclusive environment for all residents.

In essence, Victor Sookdeo's biography is a story of a dedicated individual who sees real estate not just as a business but as a means to contribute to the betterment of the place he calls home. His journey serves as a humble testament to how one person's commitment, integrity, and desire to improve the lives of others can make a meaningful impact in their community.



## **Bethpage Chamber of Commerce Gus Tsiorvas**



Gus Tsiorvas has been selected as the Bethpage Chamber of Commerce honoree of 2023 Business Person of the Year for his outstanding success as a restaurant owner. He comes from a lifetime legacy of Long Island diner ownership along with his brother and father's family and grew up in the industry with the Oconee East Diner in Islip and Seaford Palace Diner in Nassau County and has recently turned around the iconic sixties Embassy Diner into a renovated foodie destination, also known for its sensational seasonal decorations and classic diner menu. There's always a warm welcome to patrons waiting for a seat to dine any hour of the day at his Bethpage location which is easy to find with the patriotic flags and holiday decor greeting all who come by.



## Chamber of Commerce of The Bellmores Stitch This Print That



In 2006, Paul established Stitch This Print. In 2017 his wife Roberta joined Stitch This Print That as his partner. The journey began in a 10 X 10 office in the basement of Roberta's law firm and today encompasses two buildings with over 15,000 sq ft. They both have a passion for creativity and a desire to provide exceptional custom printed, embroidered apparel and promotional products. Since inception, their focus is and continues to be on providing personalized and quality service. Combined Roberta and Paul have been in business in Bellmore for over 50 years.



## Chamber of Commerce The Massapequas Greg & Robin Rigoli Massimi



Long before this couple began providing short and long-term home care for the elderly and/or disabled - they cut their entrepreneurial teeth in NYC's Garment District. I guess one could say, "These two erstwhile fabric fanatics have ever since been inextricably linked and interwoven like a well made textile." Robin was born and raised in Massapequa, while Greg hails from Upper Saddle, NJ. Married now for sixteen years - this pair has been the driving force behind TLC Companions Home Care, where Robin holds the title of CEO and Greg, COO.

Family owned and operated since 2015, TLC has been offering compassionate care and exceptional service for eight years running. Massapequa Chamber members since their inception, Greg & Robin believe it is not only their mission **"to help their clients to stay in their homes, but to allow those in their care to live their lives to the fullest."**

Never ones to hesitate to give back to their community, Greg & Robin have been "Main Event" sponsors to the Sons of Italy Columbus Lodge Street Festival; the Massapequa Chamber Holiday Fair; and the Massapequa Chamber Christmas Tree and Menorah Lighting. Lest they forget those who served our country with valor, including fallen law enforcement and firefighters - they run a non-profit charity called "Rock Our Vets." It is their way of recognizing and saying "thank you" to these heroes. They would like us to remember, *"Everyone needs a Little TLC."*

Greg & Robin have lived in Massapequa for the past twelve years in the home they share with their daughter, Sienna.



## **Chamber of Commerce of the Willistons Barbara Baur-Rizzo**

**BERKSHIRE  
HATHAWAY** | Laffey  
HomeServices | International  
Realty

Barbara Baur-Rizzo, is a licensed real estate sales professional and a resident of Williston Park. Her designations has developed a diverse skill set that allows her to cater to various needs of both buyers and sellers. As an Accredited Buyer's Agent (ABR) enables her to assist buyers with finding their ideal homes, while her Military Relocation Professional (MRP) designation equips her to help military personnel and their families navigate the unique challenges of relocating. Her Pricing Strategy Advisor (PSA) certification ensures that she can effectively determine and implement pricing strategies for sellers. Furthermore, her e-Pro designation showcases her proficiency in leveraging online tools and marketing strategies to reach a wider audience. Her, At Home with Diversity (AHWD) certification demonstrates her commitment to serving clients from diverse backgrounds, and her Luxury certification indicates her expertise in handling high-end properties.

She has been an active member of the Herricks School District PTA for many years and has held various positions and just this past year was the president of Herricks HS PTS. This past year she received the Distinguished Service Award. This award is to recognize someone who has previously earned the Honorary Life Membership Award. The recipient is to have continued outstanding contributions to the welfare of children and youth as well as exemplary service to the maintenance and growth of the PTA. This nomination requires a letter explaining why the nominee is being honored. She is also a girl scout troop leader helping her Ambassadors achieve their gold awards.

She has been an active member on the Chamber of Commerce of the Williston. She has been recording secretary and has taken on a leadership role in the Chamber, running the annual Williston Day Street Fair.



## **East Meadow Chamber of Commerce Anthony Bott**

Anthony Bott is a Long Island Native and a Staple in the East Meadow Community.

Anthony is a Licensed Real Estate Salesperson and Property Manager for Worth Property Management & Real Estate Brokerage.

Bott began his Real Estate Career in 2019 and has adapted quickly and skillfully, tripling the number of clients at Worth since his beginning.

He is now a proud member of the Long Island Real Estate Group.

Before working in Real Estate with Worth Property Management, Anthony has held various jobs including a Field Technician for Environmental Labs Inc., as well as serving as Captain for the East Norwich Volunteer Fire Company.

Anthony is currently the Vice President of the East Meadow Chamber of Commerce. He leads some of the successful committees the organization runs, such as The Signage Program, to help promote local businesses and the Tiered Membership Program, to help drive and promote memberships.

Anthony is also part of the East Meadow Kiwanis Club and is a chairperson for the newly named, The Frank Saracino Memorial Senior Citizen and Military Family Thanksgiving Dinner, which has served a full Thanksgiving dinner to over 300 senior citizens and military families in our community for the last 40 years.

Anthony is currently married to his wife Lauren, and plans on continued expansion of the family business within the Long Island Community.



**Elmont  
Chamber of Commerce  
Dana Joy McDowell**

Dana Joy McDowell is the owner, greeter, server, and CEO of D’JOYS Event Hall, located at 519 Meacham Ave. Elmont. She is now retired for almost 2 years from the Social Security Administration after 31 years. Soon after retiring, she was offered a part-time position as a manager and promoter where D’JOYS is now located. At that time the location was a bar and restaurant and in a state of disrepair. Not what she had in mind. Soon afterwards, the building was for sale and with the support of family and friends, was blessed, grateful, and able to purchase the building.

Early in her career, she worked weekends at a Jewish Catering Hall, Temple Torah. This is where she learned the basic structure, requirements, knowledge and skills on how to operate a catering hall. She enjoys and appreciates the celebration of life events, seeing people smiling and creating memorable events among family and friends.

With strategic planning, D’JOYS made it through COVID19 and is still a thriving minority business providing services to the community and beyond. She has established meaningful relationships and offered many opportunities to small and big businesses. D’JOYS is very connected to the community and has recently become a part of the Elmont Chamber of Commerce which has been very supportive and informative.

Dana has hosted the Chamber at Networking meetings and co-sponsored with the Chamber an event encouraging minority owned businesses to become a Nassau County vendor and further the explanation of a certified minority women owned business and the procurement process. She encourages membership in the chamber with those of her vendors.

D’Joys facilitates all types of events, baby showers, birthdays, retirement, business meetings, etc. They are a one-stop shop for all affairs. All are welcome to come and experience D’JOYS!!

Follow your dream, it’s yours!!



**Farmingdale  
Chamber of Commerce  
Suzanne LoBiondo**



Suzanne LoBiondo is a successful business woman in Farmingdale and is the owner of Suzanne M. LoBiondo, CPA, PC, a full-service accounting firm located on route 110. Before starting her own practice in 2009, she was a tax partner in a large regional CPA firm.

Suzanne has been a Farmingdale resident since 1996, where she lives with her husband and son. She joined the Farmingdale Chamber of Commerce in 2017, when her office moved to the area. She served as the secretary of the Board of Directors for two years, and currently serves as treasurer for the last four. In addition to participating in all Chamber events, she organizes the monthly meetings, coordinating venues and arranging for speakers. She is also actively involved in the planning of the annual holiday parade in the Village of Farmingdale.

Suzanne said, “I am very honored and thankful to the Chamber for voting me as Small Businessperson of the Year. It has truly been a pleasure to serve on the Board of this wonderful organization.”



## **Floral Park Chamber of Commerce Billy Barry**

With over 25 years in the food and beverage industry, Bill Barry is the proud owner of Uptown Taco in Floral Park New York. To fill a niche in the community Bill, and his brother in law Lou Ventura opened the restaurant in 2020. Uptown Taco has become a staple in the community in the three plus years it has been in operation, serving a variety of fresh and delicious food in a fun and lively atmosphere.

Bill was born and raised in Floral Park. A 1995 graduate of Sewanhaka High School, Bill started working at the age of 13 in a local delicatessen, which sparked his interest in the food and hospitality industry. He then went on to work in many local restaurants in a variety of roles that helped him learn the industry from the ground floor. After high school Bill went on to receive a master's degree from Molly College in Education. While working in the New York City school system for over 15 years, he never stopped working in the food and beverage industry, working as a bartender throughout his career in education. This duality in both worlds helped him become a great communicator with people of all ages and helped him with the skills needed to become a successful entrepreneur.

When he is not at Uptown Taco, you will find Bill spending time with his wife Erica and daughter Claire. He also is an active member of the Floral Park Chamber of Commerce and supports many local charities, and still finds time to for his other passion which is coaching basketball.



## **Franklin Square Chamber of Commerce Jaime Parra**

Jaime Parra, owner of LI Valle Grill & Restaurant, 1204 Hempstead Turnpike in Franklin Square, has been a Franklin Square Chamber of Commerce Member for two years and is 2nd Vice President.

Jaime began his journey in the Restaurant Industry in 2012, originally based in the Bronx. Later, in 2020, because of his love for his local community, he got the opportunity and decided to bring his roots to Franklin Square. In August 2021, following the Pandemic, LI Valle Grill and Restaurant provided meals to the staff at Long Island Jewish Hospital on a weekly basis.

Jaime works tirelessly to inspire and give back to his community by sponsoring Sewanhaka and Carey High School Sports. He consistently recruits new members & works on Chamber Committees with the purpose of establishing a stronger community.

Jaime could not do this without the support of his wife, Eugenia Parra, his son & partner, Luis Payano & his children Lisbeth, Leslie, Lislianny and Aidan Parra.



## Freeport Chamber of Commerce Atlantic Hardware



Atlantic Hardware has been family owned and operated since 1954. Where Lawrence & Aileen Hillenbrand opened its original location at 187 Atlantic Ave. When Lawrence passed away his son John took over and made what Atlantic Hardware is today. In 1995, we made the move from 187 Atlantic Ave to where it is today at 165 Atlantic Ave. John passed away June

1, 2021, now his two daughters Dawn & Cait run the business. A hardware store isn't just a store but the heart of a community, where people come together. Whether it is during hardships like hurricanes or more happy events such as the boat parades or cardboard boat races here in Freeport, we are here to help. Being an independent hardware store has given us more flexibility and has allowed us to add that personal touch to better serve our customers and community, which has become family to us.



## Glen Cove Chamber of Commerce Jerry Farrell



Owner, and Founder, Rising Tide Market

Expect to be welcomed personally by Jerry as you enter the store—he's been greeting his customers, often by name, for 47 years. In 1976, just in his 20s, Jerry founded Rising Tide Market with two partners, driven by an interest in macrobiotic food and a desire to advocate

healthy living. Today, he's shifted focus to organic foods and sustainable living, but his desire to educate his community hasn't waned.

He loves the complex nature of owning RT, and how there is always something to improve upon. But his favorite part about coming into the store every day is interacting with his customers, many of whom he considers friends. One program that he is particularly fond of is the Rising Tide Grateful program. For every paper bag purchased, or reusable bag brought in by the customer, Rising Tide will contribute the proceeds to the Charity of the month.

This program helps raise awareness and much needed support to local charities. It has raised over \$75, 000 since its inception 9 years ago.

When Jerry is not at RT, he connects with other independent natural food retailers working to provide a united voice in dealing with issues (GMOs, organic standards) that affect the whole industry.

As a former high school track coach, Jerry is a devout follower of the sport, from youth to the elite level. He has a son, Dylan, and a daughter, Lea—both former RT employees.



## **Great Neck Chamber of Commerce Lawrence Lin**



Lawrence is owner of Spectrum Aging, a company dedicated to Chinese American senior citizen's wellbeing here on Long Island. He also has been consultant to many large healthcare corporations in New York, Long Island, throughout the US and even internationally. He was born in Taiwan and has lived in the US for 40 years. He is very technically savvy and has used these skills to help the local businesses, including Chinese-owned and all other businesses to use social media to

broaden their reach. Lawrence is very active in the community - as founder and current president of Long Island Chinese Business Owners Association, Long Island Chinese Shooting Association, "Sunshine Parents" groups on Long Island; advisor to local Leo Club; special needs community; AARP; GNCA (Great Neck Chinese Association); HIMSS (Health Information Management Systems Society) and other groups.

He is currently the co-chair of the Great Neck Chamber of Commerce Social Media committee, working closely with the Membership Chairperson weekly to reach out to existing and new members throughout Great Neck. He also assisted with the Chamber's website migration to a new cloud service and attends all NCCC (Nassau Council of Chambers of Commerce) meetings. His upcoming goals include - helping the Chamber to restore membership to pre-covid levels, using his commercial real estate expertise to fill downtown storefronts, and bring together diverse backgrounds' business owners in Great Neck and beyond.



## **Greater New Hyde Park Chamber of Commerce Smitha Lukose-Khan**

Smitha Lukose-Khan is the Vice President, Branch Manager at Flushing Bank located in New Hyde Park.

Smitha has over 25 years of experience in the financial services industry. She is passionate about delivering an exceptional experience to her customers and ensuring that her team brings value to the communities that they serve. During her tenure, she has been responsible for managing complex centers with high transaction volumes and diverse

clientele bases. Smitha is proud to be a transformational leader who continues to successfully deliver financial solutions to her customers and build strong alliances with business partners. Her passion for giving back to the community in which she was raised, drives both her professional and personal life.

Smitha currently serves on the Board of the Greater New Hyde Park Chamber. To support the Chamber's commitment of giving back to our community, she has helped organize the Chamber's Annual Holiday food drive which has grown exponentially since its inception. With the assistance and amazing generosity of local businesses and residents, last year a total of over 1,500 pounds of non-perishable food items were collected during the Holiday Season. The proceeds were all donated to local Organizations, Parishes, and Veteran's Service Agencies in Nassau County. To further support small businesses during the height of the pandemic, Smitha volunteered as a pickup site with the Chamber to provide free COVID test kits to local merchants in the community.

In conjunction with Flushing Bank, Smitha has continued to support local organizations to promote our community's cultural diversity, as well as provide financial literacy education to children and young adults. For our Seniors, she organized Fraud and Identity Theft Seminars to share valuable information to assist in protecting both identities and assets.

Smitha is steadfast in her commitment to making a difference and looking forward to building stronger and more prosperous communities. She resides in East Meadow with her husband and two daughters.



**Hempstead  
Chamber of Commerce  
Sally Barrera**

Sally Barrera is the proud owner of Young Chefs Academy in Garden City, NY. She is a mother of 3 young children. Her passion for teaching her children to cook has led her to open a children-focused culinary school and immerse young chefs in a world of culinary creativity and discovery. Teaching kids to cook will provide them with lifelong skills, the importance of nutrition, cultivating a love for food, and learning about cultural cuisines from all over the world.

Over the past 5 years, Sally has also owned a successful 60-fleet commercial trucking business operating out of New York and Connecticut with 80 full-time employees.

Prior to that, for 10 years, Sally owned a public relations and marketing company specializing in the hospitality industry in New York City.

Before starting her businesses, for 5 years, Sally was in national and international executive roles for BCBG Max Azria Group Inc. and LVMH (Louis Vuitton Moët Hennessy), overseeing their operations in the U.S. and Canada.



**Hicksville  
Chamber of Commerce  
Scott R. Schneider**

Scott R. Schneider graduated in 1990 from St Johns Law School and 10 years later in January of 2000 he opened his own law office in Hicksville. His practice focuses primarily on bankruptcy law and foreclosure defense. He helps clients get out from underneath their debts, better manage their finances, and save their homes from foreclosure. He has helped many individuals get a fresh start in life and has protected hundreds of families from losing their homes.

Over the years he has worked with the Nassau/Suffolk Law Services' Volunteer Lawyers Project (VLP). He has received the honor of the Pro Bono Attorney of the month several times during his 33 years in practice and was most recently honored by the Nassau County Bar Association which presented him the prestigious Thomas Maligno Pro Bono attorney of the Year for his incredible determination and dedication in assisting clients with their bankruptcy cases and as an attorney who has an incredible passion and dedication to help his community.

In addition to providing pro bono legal services, Mr. Schneider is no stranger to volunteering. He coached soccer for 16 seasons, was an Assistant Scout Master for the Boy Scouts of America, was the Vice-President along with his wife for the Parents Club at Chaminade High School. He also helps his community by volunteering his time as the treasurer for Hicksville Gregory Museum and participates in multiple fundraisers including Bike MS, a 30 mile cycling ride to help raise money and awareness for multiple sclerosis.



**Levittown  
Chamber  
of Commerce  
William J. Powell, EMT-P, AOSI**



Bill Powell has almost 50 years experience in the first responder field. He took his wealth of experience and knowledge and founded William J. Powell Associates, LLC (WJPA), which incorporated in 2009. WJPA offers specialized training for first responders, lay persons, and medical personnel. Some of the training

offered is Active Shooter, Hazardous Material, Public Safety Sampling, CPR, first aid, Advanced Cardiac Life Support and Pediatric Life Support as well as consulting on safety and security issues.

Having started out as an electrician and auto & truck mechanic, Bill's interest moved toward being a first responder when he became a volunteer firefighter. Bill started both firefighting and emergency medical training, where he was drawn to the medical field. He quickly moved through advanced training and then became a paramedic on an ambulance as well as an instructor for all of the programs he teaches.

Bill started to work within the NYC-EMS system in 1979 and is currently a member of the Credentialing and Certifying Committee, which sets the standards for Paramedics and EMT's. Bill was also Regional Faculty and a Program Coordinator for the NYS Department of Health, responsible for conducting instructor training and recertification programs, auditing instructors as well as mentoring. He ran paramedic training programs at New York Hospital Queens for 20 years, certifying new EMT's and paramedics and renewing their certifications. Bill taught doctors, physician assistants and nurses to keep their Basic and Advanced Cardiac Life Support Certification up to date as well as their Pediatric Advanced Life Support certification, all required in order to work in hospitals.

In addition to his work in EMS, Bill served as a police officer for 20 years working for the New York City Police Department (NYPD), assigned to the Emergency Service Unit (ESU) and later in the Nassau County Police Department (NCPD) where he was a Certified NYS Bureau of Municipal Police Instructor, and an ESU instructor in both NYPD and NCPD. After suffering a career ending injury while working as a police officer, Bill retired in 2001. He continues to work and provide services to the people that need him, the EMS community and the Police Department.

Bill is the 1st Vice President of the Levittown Chamber of Commerce where he serves on a number of committees. In addition, Bill is the President of the International Police Association - USA Section, Region 5-Nassau County, where he continues to work closely with the NCPD and its members and community.

Bill is a long-time resident of Levittown where he lives with his wife Maddie, who is his supporter, advisor and friend for over 40 years. They have a son, Michael, who is married and is a software engineer.



## **Long Beach Chamber of Commerce Dr. Joshua Siegel**

Dr. Joshua Siegel has a love of life that overflows onto every person he encounters. His life's mission is to inspire and guide people to fulfill their own extraordinary lives.

Dr. Josh was called to the chiropractic field at a young age when his life was radically transformed through the power of an adjustment. As a child, he suffered for many years with severe allergies and asthma. The severity of his condition forced him to be absent from school frequently. In addition, he often had to stay inside while his friends ran around outside and participated in sports and recreational activities. After it became apparent that allergy shots would not improve his health, he turned away from weekly shots and turned to the care of a chiropractor. Young Dr. Josh saw immediate improvements in his wellbeing and over a short period of time, under regular chiropractic care, all of his previous symptoms and conditions had vanished. He decided that he too wanted to help heal people through the natural way of chiropractic adjustments.

Dr. Josh received his chiropractic degree from Life University in Marietta, Georgia. His years at Life University gave him a deeper understanding, respect and passion for serving as a vitalistic chiropractor. Dr. Josh has been practicing the art of Chiropractic since 2004. He continues to build his extensive knowledge in the chiropractic field by attending regular seminars and staying connected to new and emerging breakthrough research. Dr. Josh is one of six doctors on Long Island certified by the International Chiropractic Pediatric Association. This additional certification provides Dr. Josh with an expertise and advanced training in chiropractic philosophy, science and art, covering all aspects of family well-being from conception, pregnancy, through the care of infants and children. Dr. Josh's mission is to touch as many lives as he can through his healing hands and to spread his passion to live a life filled with love and light throughout his community. His purpose is to help all individuals to heal, promote wellness and to help guide his clients to create a balance of health and well-being. Dr. Josh lives in Long Beach with his wife, Holly, Son Shane & Aussiedoodle, Marley. He loves living in Long Beach and is a proud, active and enthusiastic member of the vibrant community.



## **Long Island African American Chamber of Commerce**

### **Alvin Hartley**

CEO/President, Senior Manager

Alvin Hartley has an extensive background and experiences which include over 25 years of Strategic Planning, and dedicated Leadership to TMI & Partners, LTD. Alvin has assisted many organizations in developing Customer Service and Leadership Training, Sales Training, Marketing Plans, Marketing Budgets, Marketing Strategy, Marketing Concepts, Training and aligning their Corporate Vision in order to achieve their business objectives. "In Your Face", Grassroots Marketing. This style of marketing helped increase brand awareness as well as an increase in sales. Alvin Hartley is a member of the Long Island African American Chamber of Commerce, Inc. and runs the chamber's Business Solutions Center. Currently, he handles counseling reporting as part of the SBA's Community Navigator Pilot Program. The LI African American Chamber of Commerce, Inc., is a participating organization in the Community Navigator Pilot Program, is funded in part through Unites States Black Chamber's grant with the U.S. Small Business Administration. The USBC Community Economic Development Corporation (USBC CEDC), providing services to the U.S. Black Chambers, Inc. and Long Island African American Chamber of Commerce, Inc. was awarded \$5 million from the U.S. Small Business Administration's (SBA) Community Navigator Pilot Program.



## **Long Island Hispanic Chamber of Commerce**

### **Karla Sorenson**

With over twenty years of experience in the title industry, Karla Sorenson offers a wealth of knowledge and expertise to potential purchasers of residential and commercial property across Long Island. She has both an extensive understanding of the Long Island and Metro Area real estate markets and a breadth and depth of contacts among real estate attorneys, real estate agents, and mortgage and money lenders. She is particularly well known and well respected within the Latin American community with ties to Hispanic women's professional organizations as well as the Hispanic chamber of commerce. Karla is the co-founder and co-owner of Goldcoast Title based out of Bayshore Long Island. She gives philanthropically to and participates in various local causes, organizations and charities in her community. Karla resides in Syosset with her husband Chris and daughters Rya and Liv. She is an invaluable asset to the title industry as well as the real estate industry at large.



## Lynbrook Chamber of Commerce Stephen Wangel



Since before the 1994 opening of the first NYC Home-Depot, Stephen has been an advocate for small business. *"I lived in the neighborhood where Home-Depot wanted to open their first store. The area wasn't conducive to the traffic generated by a mega-store and it put those mom & pop hardware and building supply stores in jeopardy. I joined the coalition of residents*

*who were opposed and we fought like hell!"*

Although the coalition wasn't successful, it brought a spotlight to the vulnerability of small business under the pressure of mega-stores and internet giants.

Stephen spent the next 30 years managing, and owning small businesses. His current venture, *The Kitchen Loft*, a kitchen cabinet and design center thrives against the competition of the bigboxes.

Stephen has served on the board of the Nassau Council of Chambers, as well as the National Kitchen and Bath Association and Developmental Disabilities Institute. He is a former president of the Lynbrook Chamber and is its current Executive Director.

Stephen is a 40 year resident of Lynbrook and is married to his long-lost childhood sweetheart.



## Malverne Chamber of Commerce Dr. Maria Casvikes



Dr. Maria Casvikes is a dentist who started her family practice, Dental Works of Malverne, 24 years ago in the heart of the village. Maria obtained her bachelor's in biology at NYU and her DDS degree at Columbia University and then completed her General Practice Residency at Lenox Hill Hospital.

*"I combine state of the art technology with digital x-rays and a 3D intraoral scanner with my expertise and continuing education, together with an exceptional, kind, caring and efficient staff, to provide the best possible experience to my patients. We treat everyone like family and friends."*

Maria belongs to the American Dental Association, New York State and Nassau County Dental Societies. She lives in Malverne with her twin girls and their Maltese dog named Mello and they enjoy this beautiful community. She joined the Malverne Chamber of Commerce in 2000 and became a trustee on the Chamber Board in 2023 where she has made many contributions to annual events.

*"I am so happy to be able to contribute to this amazing organization that plans many exciting events for this one of a kind and heart warming village. Thank you."*



## **Manhasset Chamber of Commerce Robbie Donno**

Gift of Life International, Inc.  
President and Founder

left to right: Gift of Life recipient Robinah (1976), her grandson Tillison, Robbie and her daughter in law, Margaret

Robbie Donno was born in Manhasset, NY. He is a graduate of La Salle Military Academy in Oakdale, Long Island and obtained a Bachelor of Science Degree from Duquesne University in Pittsburgh, Pa. He met his wife, Barbara, at Duquesne and they were married in 1969. They have two children, Jacqueline and Matthew and two grandchildren, Emma and James.

Robbie was a principal of Donno Company, Inc, from 1970 to 1997. He was Vice President of Eastern Waste of New York from 1997-1999 and is now a principal at Lemcor, Inc. of Newark, NJ. He has been a leader in the solid waste industry for over 50 years. He has received many awards for his leadership in the industry and for his philanthropic endeavors, which he now dedicates his time to.

Donno Company first joined the Manhasset Chamber of Commerce in the early 1960's and has been a member ever since (now as Gift of Life International). For the past 3 years, Robbie lent his expertise to the Chamber as the point person for the now successful Manhasset Sewer District project. Sewers pipelines are being installed as we speak, making the business district in Manhasset proper more viable and environmentally sound.

Robbie is best known for his efforts providing heart surgery to children around the world. He joined Manhasset Rotary in 1971 and became its President in 1975. That was the year Robbie and the Manhasset Rotarians started the Gift of Life Program by bringing 5-year-old Grace Agwaru from Uganda to St. Francis Hospital for life saving heart surgery. Gift of Life this year will provide surgery for over 5,000 and has saved the lives of almost 50,000 children from 80 different countries since its inception.



## **Merrick Chamber of Commerce Lori Berger**

**HERALD**  
Community Newspapers

Lori Berger has been excited about local communities since she graduated from college. She ran for local political office in Queens, then found a home in publishing in the fashion and computer industries as a marketing consultant. But it wasn't until she started working for Richner Communications and Herald Community Newspapers back in 1997 that she realized her real passion was helping businesses in local communities grow. Lori's main objective is to assist

small to medium size businesses understand why marketing is so important to their growth, specifically in respect to digital and direct mail marketing. Three years ago, Lori joined the Merrick Chamber Board of Directors helping bring the Chamber message to all its members, getting involved in all activities and learning from experienced board members. Her goal is to do as much as she can do to help businesses and the communities they serve thrive.



## **Mineola Chamber of Commerce Barnwell House of Tires**

Brian, Jon, and Jeff Finkelstein are a team of brothers who proudly own and operate Barnwell House of Tires on Jericho Turnpike in Mineola, N.Y. Barnwell has been in business since 1933 and provides Tires and Automotive Service and Repairs for all types of vehicles. Before purchasing Barnwell in January, the Finkelstein Brothers' background was in their family's wholesale tire distribution business. They grew up in Albertson and went to Herricks! Above all to know, Brian, Jon, and Jeff take customer service seriously and believe in providing the best possible customer

experience at their store and making sure that customers are completely satisfied when they leave. They are proudly involved with the Mineola Chamber of Commerce and are humbled to receive this great honor. Fun Fact: Jon and Jeff are identical twins- try to tell them apart if you dare!



## **North Shore Hispanic Chamber of Commerce Lia Di Angelo-Allan**

President  
Westbury Floral Designs

Lia Di Angelo-Allan is an entrepreneur at heart, having founded Butterflies & Zebras NYC in 2000 and Westbury Floral Designs in 2011,

She's known for her unique floral creations, strong customer relations skills, stunning weddings on a budget, business acumen, and

giving back to the community . She is on the Board of Directors of The Glen Cove Chamber of Commerce and she is an active member at The North Shore Hispanic Chamber of Commerce and The Long Island Hispanic Chamber of Commerce.

She is a dedicated philanthropist and her contributions to the community have earned her numerous recognitions and honors, making her a respected figure and a source of inspiration.

Lia is a mother of 4 and a grandmother of 2 and that is why she does not want to know about any children going to sleep hungry and that is the reason why she opened COMITE CÍVICO ARGENTINO.

Lia's philanthropic journey began in December of 2016 when she initiated a Toy collection drive for underprivileged children in Nassau County.

After years of successful Toy Drives and thousands of toys collected and donated to various organizations, in 2019, she expanded her efforts to provide essential items and support to her Native Country Argentina

She started donating to Soup Kitchens and building bathrooms for paraplegic and quadriplegic children.

She is a dynamic nature empowering other immigrant to have a voice.

Her commitment to empowerment and giving back continues to positively impact her community and beyond.



## Oyster Bay/East Norwich Chamber of Commerce Bahnik Family

Mill-Max Mfg. Corp. was founded in 1971 by Roger L. Bahnik in Port Washington, NY. Soon after he built a new factory on an abandoned sand mine in Oyster Bay, which Mill-Max proudly still calls home today.

Over 50 years later Mill-Max has grown into one of the premier manufacturers of electronic interconnects in the world, providing high quality, precision machined connectors to global manufacturers of high reliability electronics in the Industrial, Medical, Aerospace, and Telecom industries.

Today, Mill-Max continues under the leadership of Roger's son, Claude A. Bahnik. Claude has been involved in all aspects of MillMax for over 25 years, acting as CEO since 2017.

The Bahnik Family have long been avid supporters of their community. The family has made a meaningful impact serving as advisors and trustees to various non-profit organizations not only in Oyster Bay, but across Long Island.

Mill-Max and the Bahnik Family are honored to be recognized by the Oyster Bay Chamber of Commerce and remain passionate about continuing Roger's legacy in our community and beyond



## Plainview-Old Bethpage Chamber of Commerce Brian Lew



Brian Lew has been serving his community of Plainview-Old Bethpage (POB) for over nine years as the owner of The All New Sandwich Express and as an outstanding community contributor. He's been a member of the POB Chamber of Commerce since 2019.

His humble store is a familiar destination for many breakfast and lunch seekers who are often greeted by name. The deli also does a brisk catering business.

When the pandemic forced businesses to shut their doors in 2020, Brian committed to feeding the weary night shift at several of Northwell's Long Island Hospitals. Hundreds of meals were delivered for 77 consecutive nights. He was recognized for his efforts by then State Senator Jim Gaughran and News 12 Long Island.

Among Brian's other community contributions are sponsoring POB's American Cancer Society Relay for Life and providing food for Camp Good Mourning's annual fundraiser. He was awarded the Founders' Day Award by the POB PTA Council in 2022.

Brian lives in Bethpage with his wife, Karolina, and their three daughters Emily, Ava and Julianna.



## **Port Washington Chamber of Commerce Daniel Zaveckas**



Dan proudly serves on the Board of Directors of the Port Washington Chamber of Commerce. He volunteers and supports all of the Chamber's special events and projects. Notably, he is an invaluable participant in the Chamber's annual HarborFest, working first in the early morning set-up shift and continuing all day at the HarborFest beverage tent. Dan is currently Vice

President - Branch Manager with Dime Community Bank in Port Washington. He has a long career in investments and banking. He has experience with large and small companies in customer service and sales, learning and development, and management and leadership. Most of his banking experience has been located in the Port Washington/Manhasset/Old Brookville communities. His motto is: "People don't care how much you know until they know how much you care." He enjoys providing a highly personalized level of service to his business and consumer clients in his adopted second hometown - the great Port Washington community.



## **Rockville Centre Chamber of Commerce Ed Asip**

Ed is a lifelong resident of Rockville Centre who is enjoying his retirement by volunteering locally. He joined the RVC Lions Club in 2003 and served for 3 years as President from 2011 to 2013. The RVC Lions Club whose motto is "We Serve" has been serving RVC since 1934. During his tenure as President, the Lions Club joined the RVC Chamber of Commerce

which has become a very successful collaboration through synergistic efforts in "Commerce and Service". Still very active in the Lions, Ed manages the Lions website and leads the collection of used eyeglasses for his club. In 2018 Ed was awarded the Lions highest honor, the Melvin Jones Fellowship by the Lions International Foundation for "dedicated humanitarian services". He is most proud of his participation in the multiyear project to build Mr. B's Inclusive Playground, a true all community effort involving the Lions, The Tommy Brull Foundation, Little League Challenger Division and The Mayor's Office.

Ed has been the Treasurer of the Chamber for the last nine years while managing the Chamber website and the annual Eat, Shop, Rock event. He says "it is an absolute privilege to be able work alongside and support the outstanding people and businesses in RVC!"



## **Roslyn Chamber of Commerce Anthony Gonzalez**

Anthony Gonzalez, Executive Director of Atria on Roslyn Harbor is no stranger to Senior Living. His passion was sparked as a teenager when he began waiting tables in an Assisted living community at 15 years old. He quickly realized that working with older adults was clearly his passion. In his spare time, Anthony focuses on philanthropy and enjoys giving back to the community. Most recently, he was a candidate for The Leukemia & Lymphoma Society's 2023 Visionary of The Year where he raised thousands of dollars to help fund blood cancer research. Anthony is the proud recipient of The Advocacy Pillar Award and has been named to the 2024 Leadership Committee for LLS.

Anthony is most proud to be married to his wife Jennifer, and adores his two children, Giavonna and Anthony Vito.



## **Seaford Chamber of Commerce Nick Parson**

Palmatum Landscapes has been a part of the Seaford community for 5 years. Nick has lived in Seaford since he was 6 years old always knew he wanted to be a bigger part of the Seaford community because it is such a close-knit and friendly neighborhood.

He started his Landscaping company at the age of 19 and has been involved in the beautification of the Seaford community since. He has taken on numerous projects not only at our request, but out of the goodness of his heart over the years to make our community a better place. Whether it be providing landscaping services to various landmarks within the community to taking it upon himself revamp the Veteran's Memorial Garden and the area surround the Welcome To Seaford signage. His business has blossomed over the years not only because of his attention to detail, but because of his genuine care of his community and his clients.

Nick is also a Board member of the Chamber and has risen to the occasion every chance he gets, despite his busy schedule.

The Seaford chamber and the Seaford community has benefitted greatly from Nick's generosity over the years and we are grateful to have him!

His company offers both residential and commercial landscape design and install and maintenance services in Seaford and surrounding areas. Some of the services we offer include landscape design & install, artificial turf installation, weekly lawn and chemical maintenance, seasonal clean-ups, weeding & pruning, seeding & sodding, mulching, shrub & tree trimming, gutter cleaning, pressure/ power washing, snow removal, computerized rendering consultations, etc.



**Syosset/Woodbury  
Chamber of Commerce  
Tami Racaniello**



Tami's wake-up call was being rushed to the hospital on her 40th birthday. Her sister died at 45 and her mom had a stroke at 52. Scared she wouldn't be around for her 2 children, Tami made life changes, and also released 120 pounds.

This experience led Tami to create her business, Wellness Unicorn, with programs to help people avoid lifestyle preventable disease, find balance, and live longer, healthier lives. Tami's 20 certifications include Wellness Coach, Plant-based Chef, Culinary Nutrition, Body Inflammation Specialist, and Reiki Master. During the pandemic, Tami added to her services by opening an online Health and Supplement Store which also offers Food Inflammation Testing.

Tami promotes wellness in the community, creating programs for health-focused non-profits, donating her time and expertise as a service provider, and is an advocate for truth in food labeling and better nutrition in schools. She is a speaker, author, consultant, and an appointed member to the IFBB Physique America Committee on Education and Professional Development.



## Uniondale Chamber of Commerce Felicia Kasow

Pure Mammography  
Director of Operations and Management  
Locations: Smith Haven Mall, Roosevelt Field Mall,  
Queens (coming soon)

PURE Mammography, is the premier screening mammogram facility serving all of Long Island and the Greater NYC Metropolitan area providing women with state-of-the-art technology, a luxurious, spa-like atmosphere, and convenient locations with personal expert attention from top board-certified specialists in breast imaging.

During her 30-year career in the medical field, Felicia acquired a unique blend of skills providing her a strong background in both healthcare operations and strategic marketing. She is passionate about driving excellence in healthcare services, particularly in the critical field of mammography where she is committed to improving mammography services to enhance patient care while fostering growth and community engagement.

Recognizing the importance of community involvement, Felicia Kasow, a true humanitarian, developed and nurtured long-term partnerships with local organizations, not-for-profits, medical professionals and advocacy groups to promote breast cancer awareness. She is so committed to the cause of eliminating cancer as we know it for everyone, that Felicia is currently an active Board Member of the American Cancer Society's Long Island Market and previously spent 10 years with the non-profit, Friends of Karen, with 3 years on the Advisory Board.

Felicia is an advocate for those individuals who cannot afford to have these vital exams performed on an annual basis. Every October, Pure Mammography promotes a campaign where no patient is ever left behind based on financial circumstances, resulting in accessibility of mammography services for all.

*"We will never turn someone away. For a nominal fee, we provide the entire Long Island Community and New York Metropolitan areas, with the opportunity to protect their health on a timely basis which is so crucial specifically when breast health is of concern."*

Felicia Kasow

Collaborating with cross-functional teams and emphasizing the importance of early detection and regular screenings, resulted in consistently increased patient engagement and community outreach, bringing in heightened brand recognition for Pure and trust within the local community.

As director of operations, Felicia is dedicated to optimizing processes to ensure the seamless flow of patient care resulting in a commitment to quality and safety that has led to the implementation of best practices that comply with industry regulations and guidelines. Felicia prides herself in recruiting highly effective teams that deliver exceptional patient experiences while maintaining a respectful work environment.

*"My vision for Pure Mammography is to establish a warm peaceful, state-of-the-art environment for women while providing them with access to the best of the best doctors and empowering them to prioritize their health and well-being. We are saving lives one mammography at a time."*

Felicia Kasow

Awards received:

- 2019 Rookie of the Year Business Achievement Award, with HIA (Hauppauge Industrial Association)
- 2023 Professional Organization of Women of Excellence- received women of empowerment Humanitarian Award
- 2021 Latina Sisters of America - Humanitarian Award

Felicia is an active member in local Chamber of Commerce organizations and chairs several committees for the Melville and Syosset & Woodbury Chambers.

Felicia is happily married to her husband Russell and is a proud mother to her grown daughter Rayna. Felicia resides on Long Island in the town of Oyster Bay with her family.



**Valley Stream  
Chamber of Commerce  
Joosoo Kim**

“There are Realtors, and then there’s Joosoo” is what pops up when her name is googled! For a woman of humble beginnings, this is a distinction that Joosoo has rightfully achieved with years of dedicated service to her community and the real estate industry. A Valley Stream resident who gets recognized by many as their “agent,” Joosoo is a familiar face in this town and beyond.

Joosoo is a high achieving, committed real estate professional serving as director at the Long Island Board of Realtors, LIBOR (2023-24) as well as the New York State Board of Realtors, NYSAR (2023-2025)

She is also a member of the Global Committee and Credentials Committee of the Long Island Board of Realtors. The list of committees she is involved also includes NYSAR Fair Housing Committee, NYSAR Equal Housing Committee and the NYSAR Standard Practices Committee.

Her professional designations include - Sellers Representative Specialist (SRS), Short Sale, Foreclosure, REO (SFR), Military Relocation Professional (MRP), Certified International Property Specialist (CIPS) and Commitment to Excellence (C2EX)

A mother of three young boys, two of whom are graduates of Valley Stream schools and now excelling at college, while the third is now in high school, Joosoo has made her presence felt within the school community and made tremendous contributions to all school events and PTA activities over the years. With over a decade of service to the real estate business community, Joosoo has held true to her motto: Honest, Organized, Tenacious - the H.O.T. agent that gets the job done!



**Wantagh  
Chamber of Commerce  
Frank Ubriaco**



Frank Ubriaco owner of Blackbird Kitchen & Cocktails and Uncle Franks Pizza has been the business force behind the beloved Wantagh restaurants since Blackbirds inception in 2016. Alongside his brother-in-law, chef Chris Perrotta, the two have built a family-run restaurant group with a third spot in Woodbury. The businesses employ dozens across the island bringing

fine food and cocktails to cozy neighborhood mainstays.

Blackbirds’ accolades speak for themselves, including making Newsday’s top 100 restaurants list every year since opening. Not even the pandemic could slow Blackbird down; it quickly pivoted to a takeout business that kept customers satisfied and employees working. Ubriaco runs businesses that allow employees to learn and grow, with many there since day one. Under Ubriaco’s lead, the restaurants have supported many local groups and Uncle Franks quickly became part of the local scene by partaking in the St Patrick’s Day parade after opening earlier this year.

He and the team thank the Wantagh community for its support from the start and are grateful to be a part of it.



**Westbury-Carle Place  
Chamber of Commerce  
Malcolm M. Simms**

Malcolm M. Simms is a dedicated advocate for his community, committing his time, talents, and resources to its betterment. He's actively involved in various sectors, spanning business, civic, and religious domains. Nurtured by a diverse group of educators and business professionals during his youth, Malcolm exemplifies the preparation necessary for young individuals to positively impact their community and the world.

As a Business Relationship Manager at JP Morgan Chase, one of the nation's largest financial firms, Malcolm has seven years of finance experience, instrumental in facilitating businesses' access to capital across Long Island. His responsibilities involve managing clients with revenues ranging from 1MM to 5MM, showcasing strong relationship-building and problem-solving skills. Furthermore, Malcolm holds the role of Vice President at the Westbury Carle Place Chamber of Commerce, where he chairs the Young Professional Committee, actively promoting local businesses through networking events and street fairs. His engagement extends to being a member of the 100 Black Men of Eastern New York, underscoring his dedication to community development.

Malcolm's passion for business, honed through family influence, led him to graduate from SUNY Old Westbury in 2017 with a degree in Business Administration. He is also a mentor to young professionals on Long Island. Outside of his professional and community commitments, Malcolm cherishes quality time with his family, residing in Westbury with his wife, Janielle Simms, and their son, Malcolm V Simms II, sharing a love for travel in their spare moments.



**West Hempstead  
Chamber of Commerce  
Dr. Linda Delores Anderson**

Dr. Linda Delores Anderson is the Owner/ Director of Special Treasures Childcare located in West Hempstead, New York. She is a dedicated and nurturing childcare professional with over 35 years' experience caring for children. Her passion is to help children reach their full potential by providing the tools they will need to become confident

in themselves and their abilities as well as equipping them academically.

Linda received her Bachelor of Arts in Christian Education and her Master's Degree in Biblical Studies from Long Island Bible College. She also received a Master's of Theology in 2014 and Doctorate in Theology in 2016 from Anchor Theological Seminary. For the past four years, she has been an instructor at the New Greater Bethel Bible Institute in Queens.

Prior to opening Special Treasures Childcare, Linda worked as a Customer Service Representative for Verizon for 18 years and then in Workforce Development at EOC of Nassau County and NADAP. She is a member of the Long Island African American Chamber of Commerce and holds the office of Secretary for the West Hempstead Chamber of Commerce. Linda is also one of ten published authors featured in the book "The Reveal-An Anthology."

*To God be the Glory for the Things He Has Done!*



## KEYNOTE SPEAKER



**Gary Titus**  
**Sr. Vice President/Director**  
**Minuteman Press Intl**

Gary has spent over 40 years in the Printing, Graphics and Marketing industry. His family's company, Minuteman Press, started by his father, Roy, 50 years ago, has been rated the number one franchise in its industry 30 times. It has grown to become the largest and most successful franchise in its industry, with nearly 1000 Franchises in six countries around the world. Their focus has always been on success through support and continually evolving to help their franchisees clients grow their businesses in an ever-changing economy.

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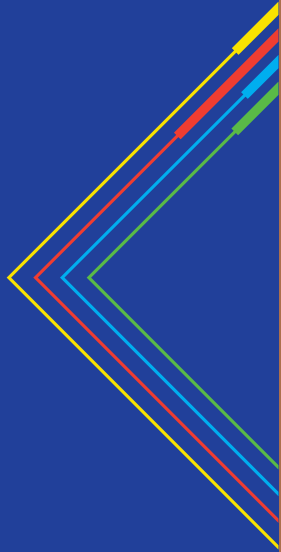
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