

# MANHASSET PRESS

Founded 1932

Publication Office: 132 East Second St., Mineola, NY 11501

Phone: (516) 747-8282

Fax: (516) 742-5867

www.antonnews.com

KARL V. ANTON, JR., PUBLISHER, ANTON COMMUNITY NEWSPAPERS, 1984-2000

© 2012 Long Island Community Newspapers, Inc.

PUBLISHER  
Angela Susan Anton

EDITOR IN CHIEF  
Robbie Woliver

DIRECTOR, SALES & MARKETING  
Frank A. Virga

GENERAL MANAGER  
William M. Delventhal, Jr.

MANAGING EDITOR  
Cary Seaman

PRODUCTION MANAGER  
Lisa Schiavone

EDITOR  
Pat Grace

ADVERTISING SALES  
Andrea Bernstein

CLASSIFIED MANAGER  
Iris Picone

PAGE DESIGNER  
Sheila Ferrari

Email addresses: first initial of first name followed by last name @antonnews.com

## Letters To The Editor

### Manhasset Special Education PTA (SEPTA): Vote 'Yes' On School Budget

Manhasset Special Education PTA (SEPTA) would like to encourage all residents to vote on the school budget on May 15. Whether it be in person or by absentee ballot, we hope that everybody in Manhasset casts their vote for the 2012-13 school budget. The complete budget and absentee ballots can be found on the school district's website, [www.manhasset.k12.ny.us](http://www.manhasset.k12.ny.us) (type 'absentee ballot' the search box.)

For over 100 years, the PTA has been unifying communities to impact local, state and national lawmakers. As the largest grassroots education organization, PTA has been the voice that protects and advocates for children. Manhasset SEPTA is proud to represent the special education population of our district.

We support the board of education's budget and proudly ask that you vote 'Yes' to pass the school budget on May 15. Doing so will favorably impact all of the students in our district.

Kelly Fan and Amy Morse  
Co-Presidents  
Manhasset SEPTA

### View Current Collective Bargaining Agreement With Staff On Library Website

The Board of Trustees of the Manhasset Public Library read with interest the letter to the editor from Amanda Barker, labor relations specialist of the United Public Service Employees Union, which has recently affiliated with the Manhasset Public Library Staff Association (April 26).

While the board disagrees with several of the statements made in the letter, we prefer to address those differences at the bargaining table rather than in the media. We look forward to resuming discussions with the negotiating team for the staff so that we can restart efforts to reach a fair settlement that respects both the employees and the taxpayers. These negotiations have been prolonged and, at times, difficult. We welcome the participation of the

UPSEU as a chance for a fresh perspective and opportunity to make real progress toward a new agreement.

We know that many members of the community are interested in the library and our negotiations. In order to keep the community fully informed, we invite all interested parties to visit the library's website at [www.manhassetlibrary.org](http://www.manhassetlibrary.org) to learn more about the library, and, if they wish, view the current collective bargaining agreement. We will update the website as appropriate, including posting a new contract once a settlement is reached.

We thank the community for its interest in the library and its continued support. We look forward to continuing providing quality services.

Board of Trustees,  
Manhasset Public Library  
Heidi McNamara, president  
Elisa Paone, vice president  
Donald O'Brien, financial secretary  
Robert Carrozzo  
Joanne L. Kesten

### A Fine Example Of Inter-Municipal Cooperation

I opened my mail the other day and happily read County Executive Mangano's letter that the tiny part of Plandome Road which traverses Plandome Heights — for which Nassau County has curb-to-curb repaving responsibility while the Town of North Hempstead has maintenance responsibility only — was indeed going to be repaved as an extension of the TONH's upcoming Plandome Road Project.

Fantastic!

Since August of 2011 Nassau County Legislator Judi Bosworth worked tirelessly, first with then Councilman Pollack and subsequently Councilwoman Dina DeGiorgio, to get this done. The last thing I did before leaving office was secure Legislator Bosworth's commitment that the road would be repaved, and she followed through with her commitment. This is a great example of inter-municipal cooperation that benefits not only the residents of Plandome Heights but all who travel its main road.

Thank you to all involved including current Mayor Ken Riscica and Greater Council President Rich Bentley for bringing it all together.

Mayor Diana Merenda (Retired)

## Editorial

### What You Think Matters

Everyone has so much on his/her plate these days it is easy to be distracted or forget or convince yourself that your participation doesn't really matter. For some that is what will happen next Tuesday, May 15, because it might rain, or a troubling issue will surface—or you actually will be distracted or forget.

So when you see the balloons around town reminding you to vote, do it. Take a moment to get to the high school and vote.

Your vote counts.

—Pat Grace

### The Sun Is Shining; Just Look Out The Window

An April 27th letter to the editor [published in Anton Community Newspapers] authored by Philip H. Smith, president of the United University Professions, leads one to believe that Mr. Smith does not closely follow the topics or institutions about which he writes. In his letter, titled "Let the Sun Shine on SUNY Foundations," Mr. Smith states that The Research Foundation for the State University of New York ("Research Foundation") is "largely led by government officials"; that it feels "no...compulsion to share information with the public," and that it is an organization that "cloak[s] [its] activities in secrecy."

All three statements are easily refutable and simply untrue. The Research Foundation is not led by government officials. Most importantly it is an organization that over the past year has demonstrated, and has been recognized for, its pledge to accountability and transparency.

The Research Foundation, a nonprofit educational corporation, complies with the letter and spirit of New York's Freedom of Information Law (FOIL). It produces many dozens of documents upon request under FOIL; posts information on its website; develops materials to explain its business, and regularly communicates with its many stakeholders, namely the public.

Underscoring its commitment to operate openly and transparently in the interest of the public trust was the Research Foundation's resolution of its FOIL litigation with the Hearst Corporation in January 2012 and its acknowledgment that it was subject to FOIL due to its current charter and relationship with SUNY. Following the Research Foundation's decision to resolve the matter, the editor of the *Times Union*, a Hearst publication, stated "We're gratified by what seems to be a new spirit of openness at the foundation and hope this is reflected in the behavior of other

entities controlled by the state."

Like any entity subject to FOIL, the Research Foundation applies standard exceptions provided under the law. These exceptions exist to, among other things, protect individual privacy as well as proprietary information relating to intellectual property. They foster a climate that helps New York stay competitive by supporting entrepreneurial opportunity and economic development in this state.

Consistent with its compliance with FOIL, the Research Foundation openly reports its activities to the world. The Research Foundation website provides quick access to a comprehensive range of data and information on its administration of grants awarded to SUNY, key businesses indicators, financial and operating reports, ethics and compliance protocols and much more. A visit to the Research Foundation's Facebook page is an easy way to learn about the latest extraordinary research achievements by SUNY faculty and students. A subscription to the Research Foundation's widely distributed RF *eNews* Quarterly Report provides readers with a regular update on business involving the Research Foundation, its strategic plan and mission to serve SUNY. The RF *eNews* is distributed to audiences spanning government, business, industry, media and education. I invite Mr. Smith to subscribe. It's free.

The 90-page study from 2010 that Mr. Smith refers to has been addressed by two task forces charged with reviewing the relationship between the Research Foundation and SUNY. A report detailing the recommendations of the task forces was released and has been posted on the Research Foundation website since November 2011. Much work has been done to pursue and implement the recommendations in the report.

There's a lot to know and learn about the Research Foundation for the State University of New York. It's out there for all to see. The sun is shining; you just need to look out the window. [www.rfsuny.org](http://www.rfsuny.org).

Peter M. Taubkin

(The writer is the director of external relations and corporate communications for The Research Foundation for the State University of New York.)

## 'STOP-DWI' Enforcement Initiative On May Weekends

Nassau County Executive Edward P. Mangano and Nassau County Police Commissioner Thomas V. Dale announce that the Nassau County Police Department will participate in a "STOP-DWI" grant that will allocate additional police officers to conduct an extensive DWI enforcement initiative.

The Nassau County Police Department will be conducting a centralized STOP-DWI enforcement initiative on the following dates: Friday, May 11, Saturday, May 12, Friday, May 18, Saturday, May 19, Friday, May 25, Saturday, May 26 and Sunday, May 27.

The Nassau County Police Department's Highway Patrol Bureau will coordinate and plan an effective DWI saturation enforcement strategy targeting areas throughout Nassau County.

Letters to the editor are welcomed by the *Manhasset Press*. We reserve the right to edit in the interest of space and clarity. All letters must include an address and daytime telephone number for verification.

**ANTON**  
COMMUNITY NEWSPAPERS

Great Neck Record • Port Washington News • Glen Cove Record Pilot • Oyster Bay Enterprise Pilot • Manhasset Press • The Roslyn News • The Westbury Times  
Syosset-Jericho Tribune • New Hyde Park Illustrated News • Hicksville Illustrated News • Plainview-Old Bethpage Herald • Farmingdale Observer  
Floral Park Dispatch • Garden City Life • Mineola American • Levittown Tribune • Massapequan Observer • Three Village Times