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## GI Dems Newsletter

Volume 1 (2) October / 2022

Photos from our successful 9/15 Fundraiser



On the left, GIDC Vice Chair Jen Pusatier, Erie County Legislator Lynn Chimera, ECDC Chair Jeremy Zellner, GIDC Chair Jim Sharpe and GIDC Vice Chair Celia Spacone. Right, a picture of the great crowd!

### Message from the Chair

If the last 6 years have taught us anything, it is that “democracy is not a spectator sport!” Throughout the short history of our nation, true patriots have had to stand up, risk their safety and sometimes struggle to keep democracy alive. At this critical time, we need you to show up and be involved!

The Grand Island Democratic Committee has been working hard to find like-minded citizens on the island and to engage them in the political process. This very newsletter is evidence of those efforts. We have also sponsored events that are either free or affordable so that people can come out and join our efforts. The response has been very heart-warming! We are finding new people every time we reach out. What can you do?

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Congress, and in the State and County legislatures. Critical decisions will be made that can affect your life, your children's lives, and the life of our planet. Early voting makes it so easy. See the article in our newsletter with specifics.

- Spread the word! Take a few minutes to share this newsletter with your contacts. That is how we sow seeds and grow, slowly but surely.
- Can you help us? We will be doing door-to-door and phone canvassing. Join one of our "postcard parties" when we get together to address postcards for endorsed candidates. This is a fun social gathering. These will be announced in our e-blasts. Show up and help us out!

There are only several hundred fewer registered Democrats than Republicans on Grand Island. Let us show the people of Grand Island that we are a force to be reckoned with!

### Be Sure To Vote On November 8th

Are you tired of Donald Trump and his MAGA minions threatening our democracy? Are you upset about women's health care rights being taken away and the possibility of abortion becoming a Federal crime? Are you concerned about climate change and the Republican climate deniers threatening our very existence? Are you worried about gun violence and mass shootings being out of control? Are you tired of working so hard to barely keep your financial boat afloat while the 1% keep getting richer and richer? Are you concerned about racial and social injustice in this country? Are you "sick" of paying expensive insurance premiums and outrageous health care costs? Are you nervous about books being banned in our children's schools and university professors being sanctioned for teaching adult students to be curious learners? Are you concerned that some Republicans want to turn our country into a Christian theocracy?

These are the issues that are on the table this November. But don't despair. You can do something about it. Yes, your vote counts. You just have to get out and vote this coming election. Seventy-four million Americans voted for Trump in 2020 and it's expected many of these will vote for the Trumpian candidates in 2022. But 81 million voted for Biden in 2020! We won in 2020 because a record number of us voted. We can do it again in 2022. Save the House of Representatives! Save the Senate! Save our Democracy! Please vote on November 8th!

### Vote for Dems:

Kathy Hochul – Governor;	Antonio Delgado – Lt. Governor;
Letitia James – Attorney General;	Thomas DiNapoli - Comptroller
Brian Higgins – US House	Chuck Schumer – US Senate
Sean Ryan – NY Senate;	Douglas Mooradian – NY Assembly
Melissa Hartman – County Clerk;	

### How you can help:

Monday October 3- WNY Welcome Center 6-8pm. Postcard writing "party" for Doug Mooradian who is challenging Angelo Morinello for his NYS Assembly seat. Many "hot" issues will come before the legislature and we need more Blue votes. You can just pick up postcards to write from home if more convenient for you. There will be snacks... :)

The Hochul campaign is running canvassing on Grand Island starting in October.

Here is a sign up link to canvas. Below are the dates, times, and locations for the canvassing.

- Saturday October 1, from 3-5pm at the Grand Island Welcome Center
- Saturday October 8, from 3-5pm at the Grand Island Welcome Center

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- Saturday October 29, from 3-5pm at the Grand Island Welcome Center

## Grand Island News

Many residents within the town of Grand Island are working diligently within the town's Advisory Boards. These boards are all voluntary seats looked over by a sitting Town Councilman liaison that in-turn brings these recommendations back to the Town Board. Advisory Boards are a very important piece of government to our town having checks and balances along with public input guiding our representatives to what is felt best for our town. Implementing the actions steps of the 2018 Master Plan, organizing and applying for grant money, and residents concerns are common agenda items. If you have a particular day time job or a knowledgeable passion for a particular board please don't hesitate to contact the Supervisors office to apply. Giving 2 hours once a month on a weeknight is a great way civically be involved. The information for all the boards are on the towns website under the Government - Advisory Boards tab at [www.grandislandny.us](http://www.grandislandny.us).

Below is a brief outline as to what advisory boards are currently discussing and/or working on:

**Agricultural-** roadside farm stand regulations, Right to Farm law sec 145-5, town regulations on agricultural animals

**Architectural-** residential/commercial building reviews referred to by the building dept  
Conservation - tree planting list to add to design standards, tree inventory report, (2) new solar farms on Whitehaven at 2595 and 871, implementing the solar law conservation regulations.

**Economic Development-** implementing the Market Analysis Report, ESDC Grant, Radisson conversion discussion

**Historic Preservation-** tours of Ferry Village, (3) fireproof safes for historical documents, town historical homes/buildings declared to have historical value

**Long Range Planning-** design standards, re-zoning parcel at Whitehaven/E River Rd, Radisson conversion plans, farm stand feedback to Agriculture, PDD review within town code

**Parks and Recreation-** Nike Base buildings, Recreation Programs, Town Center Design Plan, Naming guidelines for town facilities

**Planning -** Radisson redevelopment, Emery Solar Farm 2595 Whitehaven, Taco Bell 1754 GI Blvd, Golfview re-zoning Whitehaven/E River Rd B-1, Starbucks 2160 GI Blvd new outbuilding, Branches Campground phase 2 expansion (51 RV sites, 20 Park models, 5 Glamping Tents, Bathhouse, 70 parking spots, expand beach, new pool), advisory board planning concerns and updates

**Technology-** New website up and running, town center electrical sign, Wi-Fi survey, NY Broadband audit, IT Manager position hire possibility, Cybersecurity

**Traffic Safety-** concerns from Staley Road residents traffic petition, See Something Say Something program, HS traffic

**Town Board:** Working on possible lease agreement for a new senior center in the approved Riverview development

Fee Schedule for Time of Sale Infiltration Inspections

Hire of consultant for store water review for Long Rd Distribution Center

EV Charging Stations

Continuing HVAC repairs

Baseline waterline replacement \$4,843,700

Water treatment upgrades \$790,800 and \$3,717,000 grant EFC

Road resurfacing contract bids

## GI Dems Survey

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minutes. Let us know how you feel about these important local issues. We'll use your feedback to build a GI Dems platform and work to implement your ideas. Thank you!

Please share this with your like minded friends. They can subscribe to this newsletter [here](#) or by emailing [info@grandislanddems.org](mailto:info@grandislanddems.org).



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