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Lewisboro GOP Announces Candidates

The Lewisboro GOP has announced its slate of candidates for the local elections this November. Leading the ticket will once again be incumbent, first-term supervisor Charles P. Duffy, who is bidding to be the first supervisor in Lewisboro to be re-elected in a decade.

In announcing the decision to re-nominate Mr. Duffy, a registered Conservative, GOP chair, Wayne Coluccini, said that after two years of putting out fires, improving services, and restoring the Town to a sound financial footing, Mr. Duffy definitely deserved and received the Committee's strong support for a second term.



"With the help of Town Board members, Peter DeLucia and Frank Kelly, Charlie has ended the unsustainable budget practices of the past several years, and demonstrated his ability to make the tough choices necessary to put the town back on the right path," the Chair said.

Mr. Duffy, who lives in South Salem, said he was grateful for the GOP's vote of confidence. "It's hard to believe a year and half has already gone by. While I am proud of the current board's achievements, the opportunity of a second term will allow for even greater accomplishments as we build upon our successes and move forward with a more effective and efficient town government," he added.

Nominated to run with Mr. Duffy are longtime resident, John Pappalardo, a White Plains attorney and the current president of the Lewisboro Lions Club, and Rhea Mallett, a registered Democrat, who has been actively involved helping the Katonah Lewisboro School District since moving to Town with her husband and two young children over four years ago, including serving as co-president of the Increase Miller PTA for three years. Both council candidates live in Goldens Bridge.



Mr. Coluccini said that the two candidates chosen stood out among those the Committee considered both for their capabilities and for their proven commitment as active members of the Lewisboro community. Mr. Coluccini saw nothing unusual in the Committee nominating two candidates in Mr. Duffy and Ms. Mallett who were not registered Republicans. “Historically, the Lewisboro Republican Town Committee members have

always been willing to look beyond party affiliations to find the best candidate to serve the voters’ interests,” he said.

For Mr. Pappalardo, who is a partner in the White Plains firm of Farber, Pappalardo and Carbonari, the opportunity to work on the board alongside Mr. Duffy, whose philosophy he shares, would be the natural progression of his longtime community service. As president of the Lions Club, Mr. Pappalardo, who has been active with the town's youth sports organizations for over a decade, founded the Leo's, a youth group dedicated to community service. Mr. Pappalardo is a litigator with expertise in mediation and in representing children when their rights are at jeopardy, and has been a visiting professor at Pace Law School. “Giving kids an opportunity to participate locally, whether through community organizations or town recreation programs is an obligation we all have as a community," he said.

Ms. Mallett, a graduate of Columbia Law School where she was a Harlan Fiske Stone scholar, is a former criminal defense attorney and adjunct law professor. She has held several positions in non-profit agencies and New York City government, including serving as Executive Director of the Commission to Combat Family Violence in the Office of Mayor Rudolph Giuliani. Ms. Mallett has extensive experience building coalitions across the government, non-profit and private sector communities.

When asked why she sought the LRTC’s nomination, Ms. Mallett said it was because she supports the current board and its success in achieving its many stated goals, including streamlining local government, repairing the town’s finances, and continuing to promote high quality recreational opportunities for local families. Ms. Mallett continued, “Lewisboro is a

great town, and I am thrilled to be part of a team that wants to work hard to insure that it remains a desirable, vibrant community during these economically challenging times.”

Outside of the town board positions, Stephen L. Hill of South Salem was nominated for the position of Lewisboro Highway Superintendent. Mr. Hill previously served in the position for three terms from 1998 to 2003. He lost to the current superintendent, Peter Ripperger, by a slim margin in a three-way race where he saw his vote split by a second "Republican" candidate.

During his time in office Mr. Hill was known for establishing safety procedures and instituting regular training seminars. Out of the political scene for several years, Mr. Hill said he decided to run because he felt that the Department needed to learn to "do much better at managing its money." "Tough times for towns are now a fact of life, we have to look closely at each function we perform and ask whether or not an outside contractor can do it more effectively," he added.

As was certainly expected, Mr. Coluccini also announced the nomination of Kathleen Cory who is running unopposed for re-election as Town Clerk. Ms. Cory, who was chosen as Clerk of the Year for 2010 by the New York State Town Clerks Association, has been Lewisboro's Town Clerk for nearly three decades.

Mr. Coluccini said that the Committee had declined to nominate a judicial candidate to run against Democrat Susan Simon. "While Judge Simon and I might have our philosophical differences on some judicial matters, her conduct as judge has been exemplary. Under the circumstances the committee felt it would be inappropriate to challenge her."

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