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Letter to the Editor – Suffolk Times - Riverhead News Review

Elections Are About Choice and Elections Are About Issues.

I am running for the Office of Suffolk County Legislator to provide voters with a choice. It's time for more effective representation throughout the South Fork, from Moriches to Montauk, and Shelter Island. Fiscal Responsibility is the #1 issue.

Suffolk County Executive Steve Bellone and Rubberstamp Democrat Legislators, like incumbent Bridget Fleming, have put Suffolk County in dire financial straits.

- Suffolk County is hovering around "Junk Bond" status, after receiving 7 bond rating downgrades.
- Over $300 Million has been borrowed by the Democratic Majority in the County Legislature to pay pension costs! Since 2005, the County's debt has more than doubled. This level of debt cannot be sustained.
- Taxes and fees have been raised over $200 Million since Bellone was elected as County Executive with Rubberstamp Legislators voting YES to every fee, tax and spending increase. Rather than cutting expenses, fees were created and raised, alarm fees, red light cameras fees, mortgage recording fees, park fees, vehicle registration fees and more.
- Year after Year, the $3 Billion County Budget is unbalanced. There is an operational shortfall of nearly $900,000, meaning we continue to spend much more than we are bringing in. Imagine trying to run your household at a deficit each year!
- Suffolk County is in debt to the tune of $2 Billion Dollars. All that borrowing means that tax revenue goes to pay down debt rather than fixing roads, maintaining parks and providing other public services.
- A state appellate court has ruled a second time that the Bellone Administration's raid on monies set aside for clean water programs to pay for day-to-day operating expenses is ILLEGAL. All told, Suffolk County has borrowed over $171 million from clean water environmental funds and now the taxpayers have to pay this all back. Raiding of environmental funds should be reason enough for any environmentally-conscious voter to NOT vote for the incumbent County Executive and rubberstamp Legislators who have allowed this happen.

I support John Kennedy for Suffolk County Executive because he is a proven fiscal watchdog and our best chance to Save Suffolk. It's time to stop kicking the can down the road and pull Suffolk County back from the brink of financial disaster. We must take the corrective actions necessary to restore fiscal health to county government. We must ensure government cuts spending and stays within budgeted anticipated revenues and not keep saddling our children and grandchildren with a mountain of additional debt.

I bring to the table common sense and know-how as former Southampton Town Supervisor and Councilwoman, with 14 years of dedicated service to the community working at the Executive and Legislative level of local government. I have demonstrated time and time again that I stand up for the taxpayers and can make the difficult decisions. I also have a proven track record in reaching across the aisle to work with others for the common good, regardless of political affiliation, and that I truly care about people from all walks of life.

We need to elect Proven Leaders who will bring Fiscal Solvency and Results. CHOOSE WISELY who will best serve taxpayers with honor, integrity, fiscal responsibility and community-minded professionalism.   For more info, please visit campaign website: LindaKabotForSuffolk.com

On Election Day, Nov. 5, I hope to earn your vote of confidence.

Linda Kabot, Candidate for Suffolk County Legislator LD#2 (South Fork/Hamptons)

On the Republican, Conservative, and Libertarian lines on the General Election Ballot

Note: There are 2 County Legislators for the East End – one represents the North Fork and one represents the South Fork – Linda Kabot is challenging Bridget Fleming for the South Fork Legislative District #2.