

# Milam

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choose between my business that had some great potential expansion opportunities and weigh between the two," Milam said. "It was a tough decision and I don't regret anything with my service for the last five and a half years, but it was something I had to do."

Milam said he couldn't devote 100 percent of his time to both the business and serving in the legislature.

"There are some potential opportunities here with the shippers that we're working for to expand this business. I

have to be in there full-time. Between the two I was doing 65 to 75 hours a week. When I saw these opportunities that were facing us after meeting with my management team at a retreat in January, the management team wants to take this to a new level," Milam said. "I have to support them."

Milam called it a "tough decision" to leave the Assembly.

He said his resignation was made verbally at the Vineland event, which he called "ceremonial."

He said a formal procedure will occur with the county

Democratic chairmen and committee people from Cape May and Cumberland counties.

"The process will take place as it should," Milam said.

Reflecting on his political career, Milam said he was proud of his service, and tried representing all of the people regardless of party affiliation.

"It didn't matter if you voted for me or not, if you came to me and needed help. I represented the people. When I went to Trenton, I didn't pull the party line on a fulltime basis, I did what was right for our district," Milam said.

Milam was the only

Democrat who parted with his party and opposed the minimum wage increase from \$7.25 to \$8.50 per hour.

"It was tough for our district to do that with a lot of our seasonal workers in our tourism areas. It's tough to jam a minimum wage hike down someone's throat in a very short amount of time," Milam said. "There was a lot of other ways to do that that businesses would be able to absorb it a lot easier."

While in the Assembly, Milam served on the Tourism and Gaming Committee as vice chair, the Environment and Solid Waste Committee

and the Transportation, Public Works and Independent Authorities Committee.

Van Drew called Milam "very business oriented" and a great colleague.

"I think he's seen some of the policies that sometimes the state has had in the past that rather than incentivize business actually dampened it. He wanted to work toward less redundancy in government and more effective government. It was something he believed in and was quite effective," Van Drew said.

According to Van Drew, Andrzejczak is an advocate for veterans and is married

with an 8-month old son.

Bringing Andrzejczak into the political fold is what Van Drew called a search for "citizen legislators."

"I believe we need to bring people in who just aren't the routine insider attorney. We're always in this vacuum of people. Often throughout the state and the country, it's people who want to get something out of it for themselves," Van Drew said. "I think we need citizen legislators from different walks of life who've contributed."

## Van Drew: 'Nothing wrong was done' in selecting Milam's replacement

By ERIC AVEDISSIAN  
Cape May Star and Wave

VINELAND - Democratic state Sen. Jeff Van Drew rebuffs critics who claim the selection process for replacing Assemblyman Matt Milam was illegal.

Democrats met at the Cosmopolitan restaurant Feb. 28, where Milam said he would step down to focus more attention on his trucking business. Van Drew announced Middle Township resident Robert Andrzejczak,

26, a U.S. Army sergeant who served in Iraq, would be replacing him.

"Nothing wrong was done. We did vote that night. There were county committee people from Cape May and Cumberland and they were notified that there would be a vote. We did vote to say he (Andrzejczak) should be our person to fill that vacancy," Van Drew said.

Van Drew said Andrzejczak will meet with Democratic committees in Cumberland and Cape May counties, who

have 35 days to vote for him as the one to fill Milam's vacancy.

Van Drew said the county committee meetings will occur "in the next couple of weeks."

According to Van Drew, once the Democratic county committees vote for Andrzejczak, the county chairmen send letters to the secretary of state and a date will be set for Andrzejczak's swearing-in ceremony. Van Drew said that process will be completed within "four to

five weeks."

Cape May County Regular Republican Chairman Michael Donohue said Republicans have an "open and accountable convention process" for choosing candidates.

He lauded Andrzejczak's military service and called him a "great kid."

"We have great respect for Bob. I have nephews who know him well. His service to our country is inspiring," Donohue said.

Donohue said Cape May

County Republicans are focused on holding their nominating convention March 13 at the Grand Hotel in Cape May, where GOP gubernatorial, state Senate and Assembly candidates will be chosen. He said ever since he became party chairman in 2010, the county GOP has held open conventions where committeepeople cast their votes anonymously in voting booths.

"What the Democrats do is up to them," Donohue said. "Certainly everybody needs

to follow the legal process in filling a vacancy like we did with Marie Hayes as freeholder."

He said word Milam was resigning had been "on the street for quite a while."

"There were all kinds of rumors about who might replace him. We can only control what's within our control. We can't worry about what the other side is doing at any given time," Donohue said.

## Upper's Adelizzi-Schmidt, Gabor to challenge Dems for legislature seats

By KRISTEN KELLEHER  
Cape May Star and Wave

UPPER TOWNSHIP - Susan Adelizzi-Schmidt, of Upper Township has confirmed a decision to run on the Republican ticket for the First Legislative District state Senate seat against incumbent Sen. Jeff Van Drew.

Van Drew has represented the district since 2008.

Adelizzi-Schmidt will run with Cape May County Freeholder Kristine Gabor, a former Upper Township committeewoman, and Cumberland County Freeholder Samuel L. Fiocchi, Sr. They will seek the Assembly seats held by Democrat incumbents Nelson Albano and Matt Milam. (Milam just announced his resignation.)

Adelizzi-Schmidt has served as a Cape May

County Republican County Committee member since last spring. She serves as an Upper Township Zoning Board alternate, the publicity chairperson of the Somers Point Business Association Board and is active in the Country Shore Women's Club.

Professionally, Adelizzi-Schmidt is the owner/president of Suation Communications Group, LLC., a marketing/communications agency in Somers Point and works as an adjunct professor at The Richard Stockton College of New Jersey.

She holds dual B.A. degrees in communications and English from Arcadia University and an M.B.A. from The Richard Stockton College of New Jersey.

She said she was approached to consider running in January.

"The Republican Party in our district is getting much more tenacious about recruiting women into the fray," Adelizzi-Schmidt said. "My understanding is I will be the first female Senate candidate in the history of the district. It's interesting and the time has come for a female to be running at the top of the district."

Adelizzi-Schmidt felt she was recruited because of her roles as a businesswoman, a three-decade district resident and a mother to her children, Conrad and Lauren, 11 and 14.

"I am not a politician and I think that's exactly why I was considered to run," Adelizzi-Schmidt said.

Adelizzi-Schmidt said she grew up helping her family run motels in Wildwood, and has lived in Cumberland and Cape May counties.

"One of the other things that really gets me passionate is

the fact when I grew up here, I worked three jobs in summer like a lot of kids do and I came back from college in the summer, but when I got my degree and came back here, there were so few opportunities.

"What happened was a lot of my friends I went to college with didn't come back. I see this happening a lot today," Adelizzi-Schmidt said. "There are limited opportunities that exist in the district. We need to create opportunities that are going to bring these kids back that are going to be able to get a job, raise a family. We're losing population here and we need to come up with ideas that are going to stimulate the economy and allow people to build their homes here and grow their families here."

"Another thing I'm a big champion of is public relations, branding and marketing. I think as a whole for this

legislative district, there's not a brand... When I talk to people outside of the district, they think where we live is kind of the hinterlands. They've never been here before. We have it all here, but there's no one there getting that message out. I think it's done individually by the towns, but it's not happening at the legislative level. I want to be that person," Adelizzi-Schmidt said.

She also wants to be the person to improve communication between legislator and district residents.

"I have to scrounge (newspapers) to find out what's happening with my legislators. There's no communication," Adelizzi-Schmidt said. "I work in communications. That's what I'm an expert in. I want to take the issues those folks are facing up in Trenton. People need to know what's happening and how those bills could poten-

tially affect them." Adelizzi-Schmidt said she attended Gov. Chris Christie's budget address on Feb. 26 and was pleased with the governor balancing the budget for the third consecutive year and for allocations Christie made for people affected by Superstorm Sandy.

"He also spoke quite a bit about an allocation he is making for people who have substance abuse problems, which is something I think is sensitive to our district," Adelizzi-Schmidt said. "They should be able to deal with their situation through rehabilitation and not just wasting away in jail."

As a candidate, Adelizzi-Schmidt is looking forward to speaking with district residents and hearing the issues.

The Cape May County Regular Republican Organization convention is March 18.

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### Works

Continued from page A1

Atlantic City Electric to do

this. Douglass said the 100 township vehicles are serviced

in the department's shop. Equipment and manpower are shared with the MUA if needed Douglass said. The township's services are also available to Cape May County.

"We have an agreement with Cape May County to service their trucks," said Douglass.

More than \$42,000 was taken in last year from servicing and repairing vehicles from outside the township, Douglass said.

"To do some of these jobs the cost is \$150 per hour. That is much less than it would normally cost," said Douglass. "We have the equipment and manpower to do it."

The Sandy storm cleanup is an illustration of how manpower has been managed to do emergency jobs and still stay on schedule. Manpower and equipment were available for cleanup by eliminating recycling pickup by a week. By using only township manpower and equipment, money was saved. Douglass said that he was able to take care of it without relying on hiring outside contractors. Many towns were not able to do this and cleanup took a lot longer when paid outsiders did it said Douglass. Additionally, the work the

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\*\*The Call PG-13 Thurs Premier 10:00pm  
\*\*Jack the Giant Slayer 3D PG-13 2:00, 7:10  
\*\*Jack the Giant Slayer 2D PG-13 11:25, 4:40, 9:40  
\*\*Oz the Great & Powerful 3D PG 11:30, 2:15, 5:00, 7:55, 7:15, 10:00  
\*\*Dead Man Down R 11:20, 2:10, 4:45, 7:20, 9:55  
Silver Lining Playbook R 11:10, 1:50, 4:20, 7:00, 9:30  
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	High	Low		
	A.M.	P.M.	A.M.	P.M.
6	2:45	3:19	9:02	9:10
7	3:54	4:28	10:06	10:17
8	4:57	5:27	11:04	11:17
9	5:52	6:20	11:56	
10	7:42	8:07	1:11	1:43
11	8:28	8:51	2:01	2:27
12	9:11	9:33	2:49	3:09
13	9:52	10:13	3:34	3:49

Moon Phases  
Last Quarter, March 4  
New Moon, March 11  
First Quarter, March 19  
Full Moon, March 27  
Perigee, March 5,30  
Apogee, March 18