

**LI People  
ON THE MOVE**



ORLIN

**Dr. Vincent Sperandeo** of East Setauket has been hired as an orthopedic surgeon, sports medicine practice at **Orlin & Cohen Orthopedic Group** in Port Jefferson Station. He was president and CEO of Fusion Healthcare in Port Jefferson Station.



MAURITZA TAYLOR

**Summer Houghton** of Northport, administrative assistant at **Bearings Limited** in Hauppauge, has been promoted to catalog segment administrator.



INTEGRATED MEDICAL PROFESSIONALS

**Dr. Elliott Lieberman** of Dix Hills, a partner physician at Advanced Urology Centers of New York in Plainview, a division of Integrated Medical Professionals, has been elected president-elect of the American Association of Clinical Urologists.



LONG BEACH PUBLIC SCHOOLS

**Eliot Lewin** of Dix Hills has been hired as vice principal at **Long Beach Middle School**. He was director of literacy and advanced studies, K-12 in the Commack school district.

Send submissions and color headshots to **peopleonthemove@newsday.com**

# HICKSVILLE CANDY MAKER TO EXPAND AGAIN

BY JAMES T. MADORE  
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A Long Island manufacturer of chocolate-covered raisins and cherries, fruit slices, malt balls and other confections is planning its third building expansion since 2015.

Nassau Candy Distributors Inc. wants to add 20,000 square feet to its headquarters and factory in Hicksville. The \$5 million project received tax breaks from Nassau County last week.

The county's Industrial Development Agency agreed unanimously to include the candy company's proposed addition to 300 Duffy Ave. in a 20-year deal on property taxes.

That deal was first granted in 2013 to keep Nassau Candy in the county when it considered moving out of state. The company has five buildings in Hicksville and operations in California, Florida, Michigan and Texas.

Nassau Candy employs about 560 people in Hicksville, according to IDA records. In return for the additional tax breaks, the company promised Thursday to increase its job commitment from 363 to 400 in the county. The company had 310 employees when it first sought the county's help six years ago, records show.

Nassau Candy workers earn,



NEWSDAY / STEVE PFOST

**Nassau Candy Distributors Inc. received county property tax breaks for a \$5 million expansion. The company also received sales tax and mortgage tax breaks. Above, an employee at the Hicksville plant.**

on average, \$38,375 per year, according to records.

Daniel P. Deegan, the company's real estate attorney, said it's "one of the largest specialty candy companies in the country."

Besides candy, the company sells imported gourmet food and creates promotional products.

The 20,000-square-foot building expansion is the third backed by the IDA. In addition to the property-tax break, Nassau Candy was granted a sales-

tax exemption of up to \$236,224 on the purchase of construction materials and equipment for the proposed addition, and \$222,187 off the mortgage recording tax.

IDA chairman Richard Kessel said: "We want this company to grow. It provides good job opportunities."

Nassau Candy started in 1918 as a retail store on Front Street in Hempstead Village. In 1984, the candy and tobacco distributor was purchased by CEO Les Stier and his brother-

in-law Barry Rosenbaum.

The pair expanded manufacturing operations and stopped selling tobacco products. More recently, their children — Lance, Garrett, Travis and Spencer Stier and Jordan Rosenbaum — have joined the company.

Nassau Candy has purchased 14 businesses in recent years, including the 2017 purchase of Lanco Corp., a maker of chocolates, mints and other promotional items in Ronkonoma. Nassau Candy has 1,000 employees nationwide.

## Suffolk to host career fair for workers with disabilities

BY VICTOR OCASIO  
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Individuals with disabilities will have an opportunity to apply for jobs at a Friday job fair hosted by the Suffolk County Department of Labor and the Office for People with Disabilities.

The hiring event, organized in recognition of National Disability Employment Awareness Month, is free for attendees. It will be held from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the One-Stop Employment Center, 725 Veterans Memorial Hwy. in Hauppauge. Advance registration is not required.

"A disability should never be an obstacle for anyone looking to earn a living," Suffolk County Executive Steve Bellone said in a statement. "We look to make it easy and accessible for those individuals to enter the labor



JESSICA ROTKIEWICZ

**The hiring event is being held in conjunction with National Disability Employment Awareness Month in October.**

force and work for a company that suits their skill sets."

Employers in the health care, retail, manufacturing, customer service, administrative and information technology industries are scheduled to attend the event.

More than 20 organizations are scheduled to attend the

event, including Nature's Bounty Co., Collins Aerospace, Core BTS, The Corporate Source, and American Regent.

While job opportunities for individuals with disabilities on Long Island have improved over the years, many advocates say inequities remain.

In 2017, the latest year for

which such data are available, people with disabilities had an unemployment rate of 10% on Long Island, nearly three times the 3.5% rate for the general population, according to the state Labor Department. The unemployment rate was even higher — 16.3% — for individuals with cognitive disabilities.

Challenges to finding stable employment often include employer bias, limited availability of assistance programs, transportation issues and fear of losing vital federal benefits, advocates say.

The One-Stop Employment Center has a variety of assistive technology for job seekers with disabilities, including services for the deaf, as well as automatic wide doors, ramps and accessible restrooms.

For more information call 631-853-6600.