https://www.newjerseyhills.com/morris_news_bee/news/morris-township-and-morris-plains-both-find-blue-waves-on-election-day/article_e79aa3b4-864f-493b-a36f-54a10baca355.html

Morris Township and Morris Plains both find blue waves on Election Day

By MERCER SANTOS
Nov 4, 2026



Photo courtesy of Nancy Verga.



Photo courtesy of Rosaria DeNova.



Photo courtesy of Lee Connor.



"The Township Trio" celebrate their group win of the three Morris Township Committee seats alongside their Democratic allies at their Election Night Watch Party at Glenbrook Brewery in Morristown on Nov. 3. From left, candidate Jeremy Godwin, candidate Stephanie Lyon, incumbent candidate Samantha Rothman, Township Mayor Donna Guariglia, and Committeeman Jeffrey Grayzel.

Photo by Mercer Santos.

MORRIS TWP. – Democratic candidates across Morris Township and Morris Plains all secured victories in Township Committee, Borough Council, and mayoral races.

According to unofficial results reported by the Morris County Clerk's Office on Nov. 3 at 10:47 p.m., Township Committee incumbent Samantha Rothman as well as her two democratic running mates — Samantha Lyon and Jeremy Godwin — secured all three of the open seats. Rothman received 6,429 votes, Lyon received 6,273 votes, and Godwin received 6,270 votes.

They faced Republican challengers George Talarico, Joscelin Grizzetti, and John Biehl. Talarico received 4,074 votes, Grizzetti received 3,970 votes, and Biehl received 3,903 votes.

Morris Township Mayor Donna Guariglia said this win marks the first time three women have jointly served on the Committee at the same time.

Morris Plains saw three more wins for Democrats with the election of Borough Council candidates Lee Connor and Rosaria DeNova as well as mayoral candidate Nancy Verga who has served as a Councilmember for the past six years. Connor received 1,768 votes, DeNova received 1,775 votes, and Verga received 1,817 votes.

Republican incumbent Arthur "Art" Bruhn, Jr. and Sheryl McNichol who were running for the two Borough Council seats received 1,336 votes and 1,364 votes respectively.

Democrat-turned-Independent incumbent mayor Jason Karr received 1,283 votes.

The Morristown Town Council will also soon say farewell to Council Vice President Chris Russo following his historical win over Republican incumbent Tayfun Selen in the race for one open seat on the Morris County Board of County Commissioners, marking the first time a Democrat has held a seat in over five decades.

Three seats were open for the Morris Plains Board of Education. Incumbents Denise Rawding and Shawna Longo as well as challenger Steven Persak all won seats over incumbent Steve Goscinski and challenger Anoli Piccirillo.

The Board of Education for the Town of Morristown also saw the reelection of incumbent Elisabeth "Beth" Wall over challenger Jennifer Hernandez.

NEW JERSEY HILLS media group

Your Business Has a Story

Do you own or manage a business?





Yes

No

Daybreak builds community through opportunity.
Learn more.

Mercer Santos
Editor, Morris NewsBee