

PRESS RELEASE  
*For Immediate Release*

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## **The Mill Neck Family of Organizations Announces Several New Appointments**

The Mill Neck Family of Organizations, which includes Mill Neck Manor School for the Deaf, the Mill Neck Manor Early Childhood Center, Mill Neck Services, Mill Neck Audiology, Mill Neck Foundation for Deaf Ministry and Mill Neck Interpreter Service, is pleased to announce several recent appointments.

**Francine Atlas Bogdanoff** has been named Superintendent of Schools for the Mill Neck Family of Organizations, as of October 1, 2013. The Manhattan resident has been with the organization for 20 years, previously holding the title of Assistant Superintendent. In her new position, Bogdanoff hopes to continue what has been one of her goal's throughout her tenure at Mill Neck; namely to raise awareness of the specialized programs and services that enable Deaf and/or special needs children and adults to reach their full potential.

Bogdanoff recently had the chance to do just that at a Breakfast for Legislators hosted by Mill Neck. The New York State Legislators and representatives who attended were able to see, first-hand, some of Mill Neck's programs in action. Bogdanoff is certain that this enabled the Legislative group to "come away with a much better picture of what we do." In upcoming meetings with the Board of Regents and Senate Committee, Bogdanoff plans to stress Mill Neck's leadership in comprehensive special needs education, from early evaluations for infants, through post-graduation services. While Mill Neck Manor is fully accredited by New York State, in the near future she hopes to secure additional accreditation from CEASD (Conference of Educational Administrators of Schools and Programs for the Deaf) as well as Middle States Association of Colleges and Schools Commissions on Elementary and Secondary Schools.

Bogdanoff's 35 years of experience working in schools for deaf and blind children began at the New York School for the Deaf in White Plains, where she was a teacher in the English Department. In 1984, Bogdanoff was hired as the Coordinator of Pupil Services/Chairperson of

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the Multi-Disciplinary Team by the New York Institute for Special Education, located in the Bronx. Her responsibilities included the direction of multi-disciplinary team efforts, management of student admission/discharge functions, and coordination between the special education committee of the school and outside districts.

Bogdanoff holds a Bachelor of Arts in Secondary Education and Literature from American University in Washington, DC. She also has a Master of Arts in Education of the Hearing Impaired from New York University, a Masters of Education from Columbia University's Teacher's College and is a Doctoral Candidate in Special Education Administration at Columbia University's Teachers College. She has published a number of articles throughout her career and holds several certifications, among them, New York State Certification for School Administrator and Supervisor, New York State Certification for School District Administrator and New York State Certification for Teacher of the Hearing Impaired. Bogdanoff is proficient in American Sign Language and Signed English.

**Loretta H. Murray** has led Mill Neck Services as Director for the last 20 years and is now its Executive Director. Mill Neck Services is a not-for-profit, community-based agency that provides services to individuals who are Deaf or hard of hearing. Brooklyn resident Murray, a late deafened adult, has practiced law for 25 years and is a member of the New York State Bar Association, as well as the New Jersey State Bar Association and the Supreme Court of the United States Bar Association. She is well known for her pro-bono work for individuals with hearing loss. Murray has also managed non-profit agencies for over 10 years and her work has been recognized by many organizations, among them, the New York Empire State Association of the Deaf, the Center for Hearing Loss and the Nassau County Office of the Physically Challenged. A member of the Advisory Council to the Commission on Quality of Care and Advocacy for Persons with Disabilities, Murray also currently sits on the Harlem Independent Living Center Board, World Wide Hearing Board, and New York State Rehabilitation Agency Board. She is a former member of NYS Commission for Quality Care and Advocacy for People with Disabilities.

**Andrew Berko** has been hired as the new Director of Finance for Mill Neck Manor and its related organizations, effective October 23, 2013. Berko, a resident of Carle Place, is a CPA with extensive financial leadership experience, in both educational and social service organizations. He will work alongside William Charon, current Director of Finance, who will be retiring on June 30, 2014.

Prior to his joining Mill Neck Manor, Berko was the Chief Financial Officer for the Church and Parish of St. Raymond in the Bronx under the umbrella of the Archdiocese of New York. His experience also includes 11 years as the Director of Financial Affairs for Webb Institute in Glen Cove.

The Mill Neck Family of Organizations is dedicated to enhancing the quality of life for people who are Deaf, or who have other special needs, through excellence in individually designed educational, vocational or spiritual programs and services. For more information, please call 516-922-4100 or visit <http://www.millneck.org>.

*Photo Captions:*

1. Francine Atlas Bogdanoff
2. Loretta H. Murray
3. Andrew Berko

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