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Caccaviello for continuity

Posted Friday, August 24, 2018 4:06 pm

To the editor:

I have been following the Democratic race for Berkshire County district attorney with great interest and careful thought. After reflecting on my two years of experience with the DA's office through its Life Skills Program in schools (focus on substance abuse prevention and education), and attending the mid-August debate in Becket, I am compelled to write this letter and offer my support to Paul Caccaviello when I vote on Sept. 4.

Having taught for over 30 years in Lee, I have strong opinions about youth development and the importance of early education and prevention when it comes to substances. The Botvin LifeSkills Training Program, supported and administered through the DA's office, is not only strong in content, but led by trained and knowledgeable staff who are extremely approachable and relatable for the students with whom they work. Substance abuse, decision making skills, self confidence and conflict resolution are just a few topics this eighteen week program addresses. If the staff with whom I worked is a reflection of the people employed by the DA's office, then I am sure it is being run by individuals with the utmost professionalism and knowledge.

Mr. Caccaviello has stressed through his campaign that "experience matters." I have been paying particular attention to recent news that has required the DA's involvement. I find myself thankful that there is a person in charge with experience and leadership skills who is respected by his staff.

Paul's opponents are to be commended for their interest and desire to run for such a challenging position. They clearly have done some hard work on the campaign trail and have a view of how they would change the office. That being said, I left that forum with a strong opinion that the DA's office is in good hands under its current leadership and staff.

Janet Warner,