

# Chloe O'Neil defeats June O'Neil

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In what some politicians are calling one of the most confusing races this year, a Republican O'Neil has defeated a Democratic O'Neill for the 112th Assembly district seat.

Chloe Ann O'Neil, widow of Assemblyman John G. A. O'Neil, defeated June O'Neill, director designate of the State Office of Rural Affairs, by a 2-1 margin in last week's special election.

Mrs. O'Neil's husband died in an auto accident late last year as he was returning home from an Assembly session called to deal with sexual harassment.

Sam Burns, St. Lawrence County Democratic chairman, told the Associated Press after the election that he isn't sure if the winner is really the candidate the voters thought they were voting for.

Burns said some voters with whom he spoke have expressed their sympathy for Mrs. O'Neil, while others expressed faith in her experience in state government, an

apparent reference to her Democratic opponent's background.

During the campaign O'Neil stressed her 12 years of volunteer service working beside her husband.

O'Neil said she wants to work to "turn the state economy around and stop driving business from New York."

Eager to get work on the state budget, she wants to increase the capital gains tax cuts on investments, expand state investment tax credits and broaden economic development zones to boost economic development.

O'Neil, a former elementary school teacher, said she would like to serve on several Assembly committees including Education, Governmental Employees and Agriculture.

She has some experience in these areas working with her husband who sat on the Governmental Employees and Agriculture committees, as well as the Tourism, Arts and Sports Development Committee.

O'Neil said that she also hopes to help reform the Medicaid and worker compensation programs.