

GRYMES HILL

Dem congressional hopefuls to debate at Wagner College

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With the Democratic primary election a little more than two months away, the six Democratic candidates vying for the NY-11 congressional seat will debate at a forum in Wagner College on April 25.

The debate is being co-hosted by Wagner College, the Staten Island Democratic County Committee and Swing Left.

It will be held at 6:30 p.m. in Spiro Hall in Room 2 and is scheduled to run until about 9 p.m.

Barbara Kent, a volunteer for Swing Left and a retired lawyer, will be moderating.

“Everybody on the Island that’s awake knows the name Donovan and knows the name Grimm. I’m not saying whether you support them, but you know those names,” Kent told the Advance. “You would be hard pressed to find somebody who can

even name one of the Democratic candidates.”

Swing Left is a liberal grassroots group with 300,000 volunteers formed after the Nov. 2016 election that’s seeking to flip the House of Representatives to Democrats in the midterm elections.

Among the candidates, all political newcomers, are Michael DeVito Jr., a Marine veteran and not-for-profit executive; Zach Emig, a Tompkinsville bond trader; Radhakrishna Mohan, a civic leader who works as an Information Technology specialist; Max Rose, a U.S. Army combat veteran and former health care executive; Paul Sperling, a 25-year-old who works in real estate, and Omar Vaid, a union member who works on both props and set decoration for New York television shows.

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The primary election is on June 26th.