

GLEN COVE

# HERALD



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Tab Hauser/ Herald

**CHRISTIAN FLORO WAS** one of two men who dived into this Glen Cove pool to rescue a 73-year-old woman trapped inside her car.

## A Liberty Medal for local lifesavers

By **ROKSANA AMID**  
ramid@liherald.com

On any given day, the streets of Glen Cove are calm and quiet. Often, children can be seen riding bikes, friends walking home from school together and neighbors engaged in conversation to catch up with one another while walking their dogs.

But in September 2019, the peace and quiet was shattered by screams of a woman desperately fighting for her life.

Glen Cove's Manny Grella and Christian Floro were recently honored with the Lib-

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# Suozzi earmarks grants for work on city wells, Garvies Point

By **ROKSANA AMID**  
ramid@liherald.com

In 2022, Glen Cove took steps to repair its parks and roads. Now, with help from outgoing U.S. Rep. Tom Suozzi, the city will finally see improvements in its access to drinking water and repairs at the Garvies Point Museum.

As part of his final act in Congress, Suozzi secured \$14 million for 15 major projects in the 3rd District, including two in Glen Cove, to address some of the district's most pressing needs. The funding was included in the fiscal year 2023 omnibus government funding package.

Suozzi said his biggest priority in Congress has been fighting for New York, and ensuring that his constituents on Long Island and in Queens receive their fair share of funding.

"I am proud that the House-passed appropriations bills consisted of several items I have fought for," he said in his press release, "including investments in preserving the Long Island Sound, support for our vulnerable and aging populations and elder care, including Holocaust survivors, cancer research and technology, local infrastructure projects, emergency management, and much more."

The grant includes nearly \$3.5

**Y**ou never forget your hometown, and we are eternally grateful.

**PAMELA PANZENBECK**  
mayor

million for the installation of a packed tower aeration system at the Duck Pond Road well station, to meet the city's water quality and water capacity needs. The existing aeration meets only 60 percent of those needs, according to Suozzi's office, and has reached its life expectancy.

The city pumps groundwater through five wells that are drilled into the aquifers beneath Long Island. According to the city's 2021 Drinking Water Quality Report released last May, 28,000 residents used city water, and the city pumped a total of 1.429 billion gallons, approximately 81 percent of which was billed directly to consumers.

Mayor Pamela Panzenbeck stated that one of the major issues Glen Cove faces is the expense of water operations. "We need a lot of things," Panzenbeck said. "We need a brand new air stripper, we need a permanent generator on the site. These projects are very, very expensive, so this (funding) will

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# Suozzi's final act in Congress helps his hometown

January 5, 2023 - GLEN COVE HERALD

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certainly help.”

“Water is just going to become more and more important as Glen Cove keeps growing,” City Councilwoman Danielle Fugazy Scagliola said, adding of Suozzi, “It’s great that he was able to get us money.”

Fugazy Scagliola said that city wells have been a subject of discussion for some time, and she’s relieved that projects like these are moving forward.

Another priority for the city is improving access to open space at Garvies Point Preserve and Museum. This project has been granted \$294,300.

After a two-year hiatus, the museum reopened on Aug. 6, welcoming residents to enjoy fun, flora and fauna. The project will upgrade the trail system at Garvies Point Preserve, upgrade the boathouse and the surrounding area to improve access to the water, and make the museum compatible with the Americans with Disabilities Act. A trail will be cleared from the gate on Garvies Point Road to the waterfront.

Although the trails and access to surrounding areas will be improved, however, museum Director Veronica Natale said that dogs still won’t be permitted in the preserve.

Natale said she was excited about the improvements, which are set to take place in 2023. “The idea is that they’ll be able to walk from the waterfront through the pre-



Courtesy Tom Suozzi

**GLEN COVE HAS** received grants to improve water access on Duck Pond Road and to improve access points at Garvies Point Museum. The grant was spearheaded by former U.S. Rep. Tom Suozzi, a former mayor of Glen Cove.

serve to the museum,” she said of visitors, “and then they can also walk to Morgan Park.”

The grant also provides funding for an elevator to the museum’s lower level, so the

facility can now better accommodate those with disabilities, strollers and the elderly. “We definitely have a need for it, because we get a lot of questions,” Natale said. “So we’re very excited about getting one.”

Panzenbeck said she would like to thank Suozzi for getting another major project funded for Glen Cove. “You never forget your hometown,” she said, “and we are eternally grateful.”

## ATTENTION: Business owners

### Did you know you can receive up to \$26,000 per employee?

The Employee Retention Tax Credit (ERTC) is one of the best kept secrets around and was recently expanded to benefit more businesses. Even if you received a PPP loan, you can still qualify for this federal Covid-19 benefit for up to \$26,000 per employee.



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Courtesy Gill Associates Photography

**ALTHOUGH THE EVENT** was postponed by one day, a large crowd gathered in Village Square to celebrate the beginning of the new year. This was a great opportunity for friends, family and neighbors to reflect on their hopes for the future.

# New year begins with sunshine and high spirits

By **ROKSANA AMID**

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Although the rain on New Year's Eve forced a postponement of outdoor celebrations like Glen Cove's Downtown Sound Concert to New Year's Day, that may have been a good thing. The year kicked off the next day under sunny skies, mild temperatures and the optimism that comes with new beginnings. New Year's Eve and New Year's Day have been, for many generations, a way to see the closing of one chapter in our lives and the beginning of a new one. People often welcome the new year with confidence, wisdom and the hope that looking forward will bring joy and new opportunities.

The new year is a time to look forward and be optimistic about a new start and it is also a time to think about the changes we wish to see within ourselves and our communities. People commemorate the occasion with their family members and friends, wishing them good luck and best wishes for another year. Many believe that the beginning of a new year brings forth a clean slate, giving people time to reflect on how they want to live and shape their lives.

Small business advocates like Gracie Donaldson, promotions manager for the North Shore Biz Network and an active member of the Gold Coast Business Association, said she hopes to see continued growth for small businesses in 2023.

"We've had so many community events available to us recently and it would be great to see even more opportunities to bring people together," Donaldson said. "I'd also love to see more chances for the performing arts to thrive in our community."

On a personal note, Donaldson said she hopes she and her fiancé have a wedding without worrying about potential Covid-19 restrictions.

Glen Cove is also making way for a better future for the city's students. At the end of 2022, the city school district passed their bond helping bring the school's infrastructure up to code and ADA compliant. While parents like Luz Hurtado want to see an improvement to schools, she also hopes the new year will bring more attention to the needs of children like hers.

"I am hoping more funds go to schools for different programs for children with disabilities," she said.

Hurtado said she feels there are few activities for her 8-year-old autistic son to fully enjoy.



**BID ASSISTANT DIRECTOR** Jill Nossa, left, Mayor Pam Panzenbeck, BID Executive Director Patricia Holman and Deputy Mayor Donna McNaughton wished city residents a Happy New Year.

The beginning of 2023 also marks Mayor Pamela Panzenbeck's second year in office. While her administration saw repairs at Morgan Park, Glen Cove stadium, Pascucci Field and at Prybil Beach, she looks forward to the future with optimism and sees more growth in store for the city.

Panzenbeck stated that the new pro shop and driving range at the Glen Cove Golf Course will be completed this year and that more shops are set to open in Village

Square, but she is still looking to attract more businesses, restaurants, and shops along with Brinkmann's Variety store, which is projected to open in early spring.

Panzenbeck also noted that the special events committee will be meeting early in the year to plan more city-wide events.

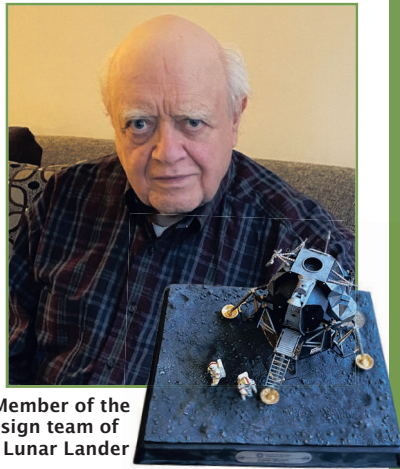
"I hope that everyone in Glen Cove continues to be kind to one another and do a good deed every day. It is the simple things that make us happy."

## Assisted Living at Atria Glen Cove... Look Who's Here!

### MEET VINCENT CHRISTINA

Growing up in Queens after the close of WWII, Vinnie and his twin brother Frank were fascinated by the advances in flight made for the war effort. Their science-minded dad supplied them with model kits and steered them to the Academy of Aeronautics where they earned engineering degrees. When they graduated in 1963, Grumman hired them along with half of their classmates. Their project? Design a vehicle to carry astronauts to the surface of the moon! After the Lunar Lander, they designed wings for the Space Shuttle, and worked on varied projects for the National Labs. Vinnie loved every minute of his 53-year career with Grumman and its successor companies.

Impressed by the friendly atmosphere and beautiful park-like grounds, Vinnie now makes his home at Atria Glen Cove. He says, "The staff really goes above and beyond in their care for us."



Member of the design team of the Lunar Lander

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Contact Judith Rivera, Director of Community Sales, to discuss your future home at Atria Glen Cove.  
[judith.rivera@atriaseniorliving.com](mailto:judith.rivera@atriaseniorliving.com)

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## COMING SOON To GLEN COVE in 2023



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## NEWS BRIEFS

### Live more consciously, create a better life

Catherine Epstein will lead an interactive and fun workshop at Glen Cove Library on Jan. 10 from 7 to 8 p.m. offering the tools and specific steps needed to begin moving toward living the life people desire.

Most dream of living more consciously, to lead a more fulfilling life. They want to be in full command of their day, with a healthy body and in a loving relationship.

Epstein will offer ways to make this change. For further information call (516) 676-2130.

### Fighting antisemitism

Partner with the Holocaust Memorial and Tolerance Center as they lead the fight against antisemitism and hate here Long Island and throughout New York at a kick-off event on Jan. 18 from 6 to 9 p.m.

Participants will experience HMTC's work, including new artificial intelligence technology that keeps Holocaust survivor stories alive. Tours of the exhibits are also available. Meet the community, and see how together, a future can be built.

### Starting your own business

W. Zehava Schechter, Esq. will cover

many aspects associated with starting one's own business at Glen Cove Library. He will discuss which business entity is appropriate (sole proprietor, partnership, limited liability company or corporation) and the advantages, disadvantages and requirements of each entity.

Also discussed will be how much it costs to form an entity, the tax consequences of forming, or not forming, a business entity and more.

The virtual event will take place on Jan. 11 from 6 to 7 p.m.

For further information, contact [adultprograms@glencovelibrary.org](mailto:adultprograms@glencovelibrary.org). If trouble is experienced joining the meeting, call the library's Information desk at (516) 676-2130.

### Book club

The Louis Posner Memorial Library Book Club will discuss "Leopoldstadt," by Tom Stoppard at the Holocaust Memorial and Tolerance Center of Nassau County on Jan. 18 from 1 to 2 p.m.

Set in Vienna in the home of an affluent Jewish family, this stage play script tells the story of the coming catastrophe that would be called the Holocaust and its devastating effects on the family members.

Currently playing on Broadway, "Leopoldstadt" is a memorial to a lost world, teeming with ideas, debate, humor and the sharp sense of betrayal among those who believed they were too safely assimilated into European society to be in danger when the Nazis arrived.

## CRIME WATCH

### Arrests

■ A 23-year-old Glen Cove male was arrested on Dec. 26 for criminal contempt on Craft Avenue.

*People named in Crime Watch items as having been arrested and charged with violations or crimes are only suspected of committing those acts of which they are accused. They are all presumed to be innocent of those charges until and unless found guilty in a court of law.*

GLEN COVE

# HERALD

HOW TO REACH US

Our offices are located at **2 Endo Blvd. Garden City, NY 11530** and are open from 8:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m., Monday through Friday.

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## NEIGHBORS IN THE NEWS



Courtesy Delia DeRiggi-Whitton

**CITY COUNCILWOMAN MARSHA** Silverman, Rev. Shawn Williams and Nassau County Legislator Delia DeRiggi-Whitton helped gather toys for the event.

## Anglers spreads holiday cheer

The Anglers Club, which promotes the positive aspects of fishing and community involvement, supports conservation and preservation of marina life. While they're primarily a saltwater fishing club, they hold other events the community can enjoy too.

This holiday season, the Anglers Club hosted a toy drive with city officials and Nassau County Legislator Delia DeRiggi-

Whitton to benefit St. Paul's Episcopal Church. Each year, many families face financial hardships, which can make the holidays seem daunting to provide gifts to their children. The club's drive helped children foster a holiday spirit with memorable experiences and gifts. And it's toy drives like these that help children in the city have a happy and memorable holiday season.

## WHAT'S NEWS IN AND OUT OF THE CLASSROOM

# HERALD SCHOOLS

## Student artists shine at Art Guild exhibition

Four Glen Cove High School art students were featured in the 2022 Nassau County High School Student Juried Exhibit & Competition and their artwork was on display at The Art Guild's gallery in Port Washington.

Phoebe Pinder took home an honorable mention for her piece "Opacare," Lilia Landaverde was featured for her piece "Eat Me," Natalia Monsale was featured for her piece "Blossoms of Gardenia" and William Santamaria was featured for his piece "WSA."

"We are so proud of these students, who poured their talent and dedication into such remarkable and profound artwork," said Superintendent of Schools Dr. Maria Rianna. "Congrats to Phoebe, Lilia, Natalia and William for earning such an

esteemed honor and congrats to their teachers Leeann Palazzo and Stephen Lombardo who always encourage their creativity and enthusiasm."

The exhibit launched with a reception in November, where awards were presented to artists earning first, second and third place and two honorable mentions. Town of North Hempstead Councilwoman Mariann Dalimonte also presented winners with a certificate from the Town of North Hempstead.

The Art Guild is a nonprofit organization that provides encouragement, education and a forum for the appreciation of the visual arts. It offers artists a space to interact and collaborate through educational opportunities, workshops, lectures, discussions and exhibits.

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# Late-night hosts take first jabs at Santos scandal

## Congressman-elect targeted by Kimmel, Fallon, Colbert

By **MICHAEL HINMAN**

mhinman@liherald.com

It was a historic first day on the floor of the U.S. House of Representatives on Tuesday, after three roll call votes failed to produce a new Speaker for the first time in more than a century.

The day also ended without two of Nassau County's newest representatives getting officially sworn in, although both Anthony D'Esposito and George Santos both put their support behind Republican leader Kevin McCarthy.

D'Esposito — who represents a large portion of the South Shore — could be seen standing in the back of the House chamber during the first vote. But much of the attention — including C-SPAN cameras — seemed focused on Santos, who did find a seat, but appeared to have little to no conversation with his Republican colleagues.

That didn't stop late-night television hosts — all of whom were on holiday break when the stories questioning Santos' past first broke — from taking their jabs at the embattled congressman-elect.

"Santos just got elected in New York, and we recently learned that during the campaign, he lied about — and I'm rounding down here — everything," Stephen Colbert joked during his monologue on CBS's "The Late Show."

Colbert, like the other network hosts, highlighted a number of claims from Santos' past that media outlets like The New York Times and CNN say are not true. Like graduating from Baruch College, attending Horace Mann School in the Bronx, and working for Citigroup and Goldman Sachs.

"Santos also admitted to lying when he claimed that he owned 13 different properties, when in reality he resides in his sister's place in Huntington," Colbert said. "Should have known when he said the properties were Boardwalk, Baltic Avenue and Marvin Gardens. And a Scotty dog the size of a top hat" — all references to the board game Monopoly.

Across the country, in Los Angeles, Jimmy Kimmel, of ABC's "Jimmy Kimmel Live," told his audience that Santos "basically catfished an entire district," referring to the popular bait-and-switch that has become common in the social media age.



Courtesy C-SPAN

**U.S. REP-ELECT GEORGE** Santos sat mostly alone on the U.S. House floor on Tuesday during the Speaker elections, standing up only to cast his vote for Republican leader Kevin McCarthy. But his presence on the floor — along with the scandals he brought with him to Washington — opened up the North Shore politician to ridicule on the late-night talk shows.

"He apologized for lying — kind of — for 'embellishing' his resume," Kimmel said, "and said a lot of people overstate their resumes to get a job — which is true. For instance, when I was interviewing for this job, I told ABC I was Rosie O'Donnell."

On NBC, Santos took a hit from the original late-night show. "A lot of people are talking about this newly elected congressman George Santos," said "Tonight Show" host Jimmy Fallon. "He's already facing calls to resign because of a growing list of scandals, including lies he's told about his family, education and his work history. It's when a congressman holds up his right hand to get sworn in, and everyone is like, 'You know what? Don't bother.'"

But for many — including those deeply rooted in the Republican establishment — the Santos scandal has not been much

of a laughing matter. WABC-AM owner John Catsimatidis appeared on Chris Cuomo's "NewsNation" television show last week, just days after interviewing Santos on-air, describing the election that allowed Santos to defeat Democrat Robert Zimmerman as a "failure of the system."

"It's a failure of the Republicans to catch those mistakes, and it's a failure of the Democrats to do opposition research and catch those mistakes," Catsimatidis said. "The news audience — the news channels, the newspapers — no longer have investigative teams that would catch those mistakes. So it's an overall failure of the system, which we shouldn't put up with. And we hope it can fix itself in the future."

Going into Tuesday's Speaker vote, McCarthy has been notably silent on the Santos situation, although there's some speculation that while the GOP can't stop

Santos from being seated, the party could keep him off committees and freeze him out of other House functions.

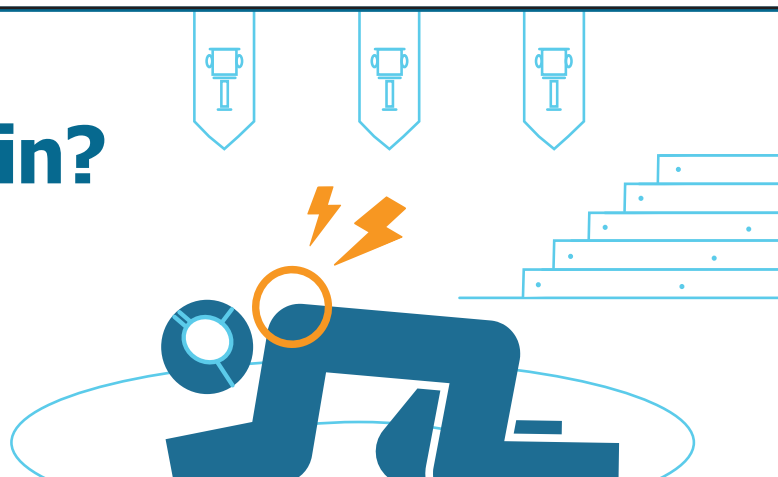
Santos was met at the entrance of his office on Capitol Hill on Tuesday by a group of reporters, but refused to answer any questions, including on whether he plans to resign, and if "George Santos" is his real name.

He faces a number of investigations at different government levels, including a criminal investigation into an alleged stolen checkbook incident that took place in Brazil 15 years ago. Closer to home, some investigators are looking more closely into how Santos was able to jump from an annual income of \$55,000 to becoming a millionaire, and where the \$700,000 he loaned his recent campaign came from.

Santos has denied breaking any laws, and has made clear he has no plans to resign.

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**JULIETTE CASTRONOVO, FAR left,** Emily Weinstein and Ella Castronovo made cookies for Santa and a few extra for their families.

**MIKAYLA SCHNITZER, LEFT,** couldn't wait to sprinkle her holiday cookies.

**SAM PALAZZO, BELOW,** and Nico Palmirotto waited all day to make cookies.

# Landing cookie magic

The holidays aren't just about gift giving. It's a great time for children to come together and exercise their creative spirits with friends. And it's also when they bake.

Students at the Landing Elementary School came together after class in

December to frost and sprinkle holiday cookies. Many had waited eagerly all day for the festive experience and for some it was the first time they had ever baked. They made snickerdoodles, gingerbread, cutout cookies and other baked goods too while also creating holiday memories.



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### What is Elder Law Estate Planning?

“Elder Law Estate Planning” is an area of law that combines features of both elder law and estate planning and relates mostly to the needs and concerns of the middle class.

Estate planning was formerly only for the wealthy who wanted to shelter their assets from taxes and pass more on to their heirs. But today estate planning is also needed by the middle class who may have assets exceeding one million dollars, especially when you consider life insurance in the mix.

Estate planning with trusts became popular starting in 1991 when AARP concluded that probate should be avoided and trusts should be used to transfer assets to heirs without a court proceeding. Trusts are also widely used today to avoid guardianship proceedings on disability, protect privacy, and reduce the chance of a will contest in court.

As the population aged and life expectancies increased, the field of elder law emerged in the late 1980's to help people protect assets from nursing home costs by using Medicaid asset protection strategies.

The two fields of elder law and estate planning still tend to be separate, which can work against a client needs. For instance, a client may see an elder law attorney for Medicaid asset protection planning in the event of disability, but overlook the benefits of estate planning, such as avoiding estate taxes or keeping assets in the bloodline. Similarly, a client may have prepared an effective estate plan for death with an estate planning attorney, but failed to avail themselves of Medicaid asset protection strategies for their lifetimes.

For this reason, we have been practicing “elder law estate planning” together for over thirty years to address these needs:

- Getting your assets to your heirs, with the least amount of court costs, taxes and legal fees possible.
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# STEPPING OUT

## Magical moments on Ice

### Heroism unfolds in an epic adventure

By Karen Bloom

Welcome the New Year with another dose of that wonderful world of Disney. The latest Disney ice extravaganza arrives at UBS Arena in Elmont to the delight of families who can't get enough of their favorite Disney moments. Audiences can relive some of the iconic characters and stories — classic and new — when Disney on Ice's "Into the Magic" brings a lineup of Disney "royalty" here for four days, opening Jan. 5.

This production showcases inspiring favorites from the Disney canon, including those spunky royal sisters, Anna and Elsa, from the always popular mega-hit "Frozen." Joining this spirited pair are the forever-enchanted Belle, dauntless Rapunzel and the charming bandit Flynn, the determined Cinderella, the aspiring young musician Miguel, and the daring and fearless Moana. Their courage and plucky grit to live their best lives are set forth in lively — albeit condensed — re-tellings of "Beauty & the Beast," "Coco," "Tangled," "Cinderella," "Frozen" and "Moana."

These unforgettable characters and their adventures are brought to life on ice in a captivating production that transports audiences to worlds where imaginations soar and in true Disney spirit "anything can happen if you just believe." Guided by Mickey and Minnie and their crew, of course — with the assistance of two hosts this time around — these tales are told through graceful, artful skating and dynamic special effects, set to the soundtrack fans know and love.

In keeping with longstanding Disney tradition, it's a fast-paced spectacle with rapidly changing segments.

"All celebrate why these stories are so special," says Chase Belmontes, who performs as Gaston, Belle's strapping suitor. "The uplifting nature of these stories all end strongly with an inspiring message about finding your dreams and finding your inner hero."

That message surely resonates with the 27-year-old Las Vegas native, who is in his third year with Disney On Ice. "I grew up with Disney as a



- Thursday through Sunday, Jan. 5-11; times vary.
- Tickets start at \$20 (pricing may fluctuate based on demand); available at Ticketmaster.com or DisneyOnIce.com
- UBS Arena, 2400 Hempstead Turnpike, Elmont

kid," he says. "I loved Disney and watched all the movies. Being here now is a personal accomplishment."

As with his fellow cast members, Belmontes' competitive skating skills enhance the high level of athleticism that is the hallmark of these productions. Solos, pair and fast-paced ensemble skating with high-flying jumps add to the appeal of the stories the audience knows so well.

"There are so many iconic moments," he says, noting the pairs sequence in his "Beauty and the Beast" portion, which also includes a dramatic ensemble routine. "It's all very exciting."

And, of course, "Frozen" elicits an enthusiastic response. As Belmontes says: "Always a fan favorite." Especially when it comes time for "Let It Go."

"It's absolutely magical," he continues. "Everyone sings along to every single word. It's such a wonderful experience."

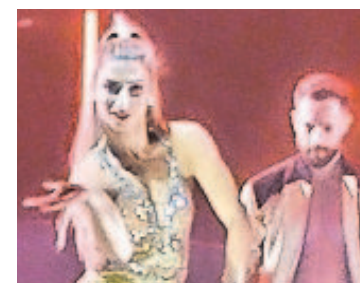
There's plenty of singing, with the audiences up on their feet throughout the show. And, naturally, Belles, Cinderellas and many others are scattered throughout the arena.

"Everyone dresses up in costume, even adults," Belmontes says. "It's amazing. So sit back and soak it all in. There's a lot to look at and enjoy."

**Disney magic indeed.**

Photos courtesy Feld Entertainment

**Photos:** Old and new favorites lace up their skates for a show that encourages everyone to 'find your inner hero.'



### Dancing With The Stars Live

The popular dance showcase is back on tour this winter to celebrate its 31st season. The tour delivers electrifying dance performances from world-renowned dancers including Brandon Armstrong, Alan Bersten, Sasha Farber, Gleb Savchenko, Emma Slater, Britt Stewart, and 'So You Think You Can Dance' winner Alexis Warr, who now appears on 'Dancing with the Stars.' See the ballroom brought to life in this new production featuring your favorite 'Dancing' pros, plus special guest stars, performing original numbers as well as some of the showstoppers featured in Season 31. With dazzling routines in every style, fans will enjoy an unforgettable night full of all the magic of the television competition series and more. Experience the excitement, glitz and glamour they see in the ballroom live, up-close and personal.

Tuesday, Jan. 10, 8 p.m. \$99, \$79, \$59, \$49. Tilles Center for the Performing Arts, LIU Post campus, 720 Northern Blvd., Brookville. (516) 299-3100, or TillesCenter.org.



### Literary Luncheon

Madison Theatre hosts Deborah Goodrich-Royce, who discusses 'Reef Road,' her latest psychological thriller that explores the psychology of criminals and their victims, while drawing from real-life events that happened before she was born. Goodrich Royce is the author of the widely praised psychological thrillers 'Ruby Falls' and 'Finding Mrs. Ford.' A former film and television actress, she is remembered by soap opera fans as Silver Kane, sister of the legendary Erica Kane, on ABC's 'All My Children.' She later worked as a story editor for Miramax Films and was instrumental in developing such films as 'Emma' and 'A Wrinkle in Time.' With her husband, Chuck, she restored the Avon Theatre in Stamford, Connecticut, which now operates as a not-for-profit dedicated to independent, classic, foreign, and documentary films.

Wednesday, Jan. 18, noon. \$50. Molloy University's Larini Room, Public Square Building, 1000 Hempstead Ave., Rockville Centre. (516) 323-4444, or MadisonTheatreNY.org.



# THE \$ SCENE



Jan. 27

## America

The perennial classic rock favorite is still going strong, appearing on the Tilles Center stage, Friday, **Jan. 27**, 8 p.m. Founding members Gerry Beckley and Dewey Bunnell celebrate the band's 53rd anniversary on their current tour, on the LIU Post campus, 720 Northern Boulevard, Brookville. The pair (along with former band mate Dan Peek), who met in high school in London in the late 1960s, quickly harmonized their way to the top of the charts on the strength of their signature song "A Horse With No Name." America became a global household name and paved the way with an impressive string of hits following the success of their first #1 single. Forty plus years later, these friends are still making music together, touring the world and thrilling audiences with their timeless sound. Tickets are \$99, \$79, \$69, \$59; available at TillesCenter.org or (516) 299-3100.



## Historic Spirits Tour

Stop by Raynham Hall Museum, at 30 West Main Street in Oyster Bay, on Saturday, **Jan. 28**, and learn about three generations of Townsend family occupants with Samantha Lynn Difronzo, a spiritual healer. To purchase tickets for the event visit [RaynhamHallMuseum.org](http://RaynhamHallMuseum.org) or call (516) 922-6808.

## In concert

David Alterman returns to the stage with Altzim, Friday, **Jan. 13**, at My Father's Place supper club. Enjoy an evening of music that Alterman describes as "Dylan with a twist," with special guest Cathy Rose Virgilio. Rich Demand and his band also appear. Doors open at 6 p.m., concert is at 8 p.m. The Metropolitan, 3 Pratt Blvd., Glen Cove. For tickets/information, visit [MyFathersPlace.com](http://MyFathersPlace.com) or call (516) 580-0887.

## Art talk

Join Nassau County Museum Director Charles A. Riley II, PhD, for a Director's Seminar, Tuesday, **Jan. 10**, 4 p.m. He'll discuss "Photography: Beauty and Truth," in a session that is keyed to the photojournalism of Robert Capa and the Magnum group as well as the pioneering work of Walker Evans and Lewis Hine. He'll compare their approach with the digital manipulation of images (including video) in the media of our time and consider the relationship between the photographer as documentarian and as artist who holds the mirror up to nature. Participation is limited; registration required. Nassau County Museum of Art, 1 Museum Dr., Roslyn Harbor. (516) 484-9337 or [NassauMuseum.org](http://NassauMuseum.org).

## Frozen Feathers

Join the Glen Cove Public Library for the virtual program Frozen Feathers: Winter Birds of Long Island, from 2 to 3 p.m. on Wednesday, **Jan. 18**. Using photos and interesting facts, long-time birder Dianne Taggart will teach attendees about Long Island's birds of winter. To register, go to [glencovelibrary.org](http://glencovelibrary.org). For any questions, email [adultprograms@glencovelibrary.org](mailto:adultprograms@glencovelibrary.org) or call (516) 676-2130.

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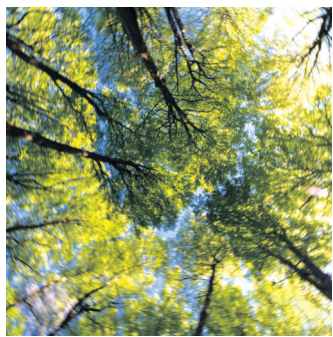
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### Forest Bathing

Take a meditative Forest Bathing walk, led by certified guide Linda Lombardo, Saturday, **Jan. 21**, 2-4 p.m. Based on the Japanese tradition of Shinrin-Yoku, a wellness practice developed in the 1980s, the walk, on the grounds of the former summer residence of Howard Gould and later Daniel and Florence Guggenheim, inspires mindful connections with the natural elements of the woods for a range of healthful benefits. \$40, \$35. Pre-registration required. Sands Point Preserve, 127 Middle Neck Road. For information, visit SandsPointPreserveConservancy.org or call (516) 571-7901.

### The Beatles: 60 Years Later

Join the Bayville Free Library for a virtual program on The Beatles on Tuesday, **Jan. 10** at 7 p.m. Explore the band's growth, originality, musical innovations and lyric depth. Presented by musician, author and teacher Barry Weisenfeld. Register online at bayvillefreelibrary.org. For any questions contact Kristy Fumante at (516) 628-2765 or adultprograms@bayvillefreelibrary.org.

### Financial advice

Visit the Oyster Bay-East Norwich Public Library, at 89 East Main Street in Oyster Bay, for an Investment Seminar Series, **every Wednesday throughout January, 7 p.m.** This program is presented by Vincent Sama, financial advisor from Edward Jones. Register online at oysterbaylibrary.org. For questions, call (516) 922-1212.

Jan.  
10

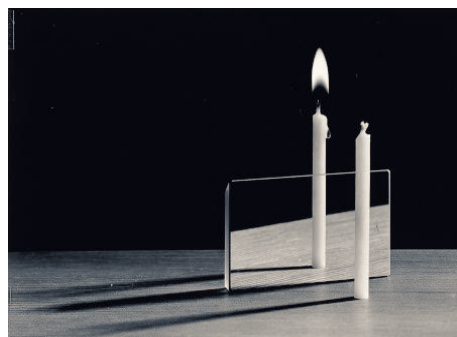
### Senior Lunch Program

Enjoy visiting friends, with a delicious lunch and chair yoga, at the popular senior program hosted by Mutual Concerns, **every Tuesday and Friday**, at Saint Luke's Episcopal Church, at 253 Glen Ave., in Sea Cliff. Those interested in joining the lunch program can call Peggie Como at (516) 675-7239.



### Deep Roots Indoor Winter Market

Start the New Year with a visit to Deep Roots Indoor Winter Market, Saturday, **Jan. 7**, 10 a.m.-2 p.m. The market, at St. Paul's Episcopal Church, 28 Highland Road, Glen Cove, offers locally grown vegetables, eggs, meat and dairy, as well as fresh baked goods, artisan cheeses, honey and more. For more information contact Amy Peters at amy@deeproofsfarmersmarket.com or call (516) 318-5487.



### On exhibit

Photography's ascent in the art world is an international phenomenon. Nassau County Museum of Art's star-studded exhibition spans the historical roots of the medium. View works by Ansel Adams and his generation and the thrilling, large-format

color works of such contemporary masters as Cindy Sherman, Thomas Struth, James Casebere and Gregory Crewdson, among others. From the documentary to the painterly, images bear witness to the times. On view through March 5. Nassau County Museum of Art, 1 Museum Drive, Roslyn Harbor. (516) 484-9337 or NassauMuseum.org.



### Skate on

Long Island Children's Museum's "skating rink" is open for a final weekend, Friday through Sunday, **Jan. 6-8**, 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Related crafts activities throughout the weekend. Long Island Children's Museum, Museum Row, Garden City. (516) 224-5800 or LICM.org.

### Having an event?

Items on The Scene page are listed free of charge. The Herald welcomes listings of upcoming events, community meetings and items of public interest. All submissions should include date, time and location of the event, cost, and a contact name and phone number. Submissions can be emailed to thescene@liherald.com.

# Happy New Year!

## To all our neighbors:

2020 was filled with unprecedented challenges, not the least of all those faced by the Unified Court System. I am immensely proud of the City Court staff for consistently rising to the occasion and providing seamless access to court services in a unique work environment.

I am sure that you, like myself, are proceeding with cautious optimism. We are all looking forward to resuming our former activities, so that our businesses, our educational system, and our families can thrive successfully as they are meant to.

As we move from a year of survival to a new season of celebration of all the freedoms that we as Americans hold dear, we must take a moment to mourn those that we have lost in the pandemic. We will never forget you! We must also continue, during this time of transition back to normalcy, to protect our neighbors in the Glen Cove community by wearing masks, social distancing and frequent hand washing.

Even in the darkest days, I have been encouraged by the strength of our Glen Cove community. In a year of enforced separation we have come together as never before. I'd like to thank our first responders, our Police Department, our health care workers, our teachers, our city employees, our store employees, our restaurant and small business owners and every single one of our residents for going above and beyond every day in these extraordinary times. We're still standing!

As your City Court Judge, I assure you that the Glen Cove City Court system, as always, is here to support and assist our community in any way we can. My family and I wish you and your family a safe, happy and prosperous New Year.

Sincerely,  
The Hon. Richard J. McCord and Family



# Heroes receive highest civilian honor for rescue

CONTINUED FROM FRONT PAGE

erty Medal for saving that woman's life. Officials said the awards are long overdue.

Floro, a former city resident, was in his house when he heard a loud noise that shook the corner of Elm Avenue and Rellim Drive on Sept. 17. When he looked out the window, he witnessed the surreal sight of a Mercedes Benz crashing through a fence driving right into a backyard pool. His 73-year-old neighbor was behind the wheel.

The accident also occurred right around the corner from Grella, a Glen Cove Department of Public Works employee. Before the accident, Grella said his son asked him to stay home an extra 15 minutes before leaving the house so they could eat together. Grella chose to stay home the additional 15 minutes before leaving to run errands.

Moments after he started driving down his street, Grella heard those shattering screams.

"At that moment, I didn't know what was going on," Grella said. "It was screams of death, crying for help."

Before he approached the accident, Grella called the police.

Both Grella and Floro dove into the pool. The car was partially submerged in the water at that point. Grella recognized the elderly woman as one of his neighbors and spoke to her in Italian

during the rescue so she could better understand his directions and to calm her down. He directed her to get out from the front seat and climb towards the back door since the front of the car was submerging quickly.

As they pulled the woman out of the wreckage and put her on the pool's ledge, police and EMS arrived.

"The minute we got her out, the car was totally submerged."

Glen Cove Police Detective Lt. John Nagle said that the woman had gotten into a car accident at the street intersection and continued to accelerate, driving through a bush and fence on Rellim Drive.

Her foot stayed on the accelerator as the car veered left into Elm Avenue, where she eventually crashed through a fence and into the pool.

Nagle said that the woman had been stuck in the car as it sank into the pool and thanked both Floro and Grella for their quick action. The woman was taken to Glen Cove Hospital and had no life threatening injuries.

"I was just at the right place at the right time and it was a team effort," Grella said.

Floro received his recognition in 2020, but councilwoman Danielle Fugazy Scagliola said the award was heavily delayed for Grella because of the coronavirus pandemic. The award was spearheaded by State Senator James Gaughran, but last week, Grella finally received recognition during the last City Council meeting of 2022.

Councilwoman Marsha Silverman noted the Liberty Medal is the highest honor for any civilian to be awarded in New York state. "It's not awarded lightly," Silverman said. "It's awarded when somebody goes above and

beyond outside the normal course of duty, to do something incredible for our community, such as save somebody's life."

The New York State Senate Liberty Medal is awarded to individuals who have merited special commendation for exceptional, heroic, or humanitarian

acts on behalf of their fellow New Yorkers. The award remains the highest honor bestowed upon an individual by the State Senate.

The resolution for the medal reads, "Had it not been for Manny Grella's courage and determination, this perilous situation could have been much worse; he took action without regard for his own safety." The resolution further stated that Grella aptly demonstrates his character and compassion for the safety and welfare of others.

"Some people just look the other way when things go wrong," Fugazy Scagliola said. "I think I speak for all of us when we say we appreciate the person you are. We see it every day in the work that you do."

Fugazy Scagliola said that given Grella's character, his actions during the accident didn't surprise her.

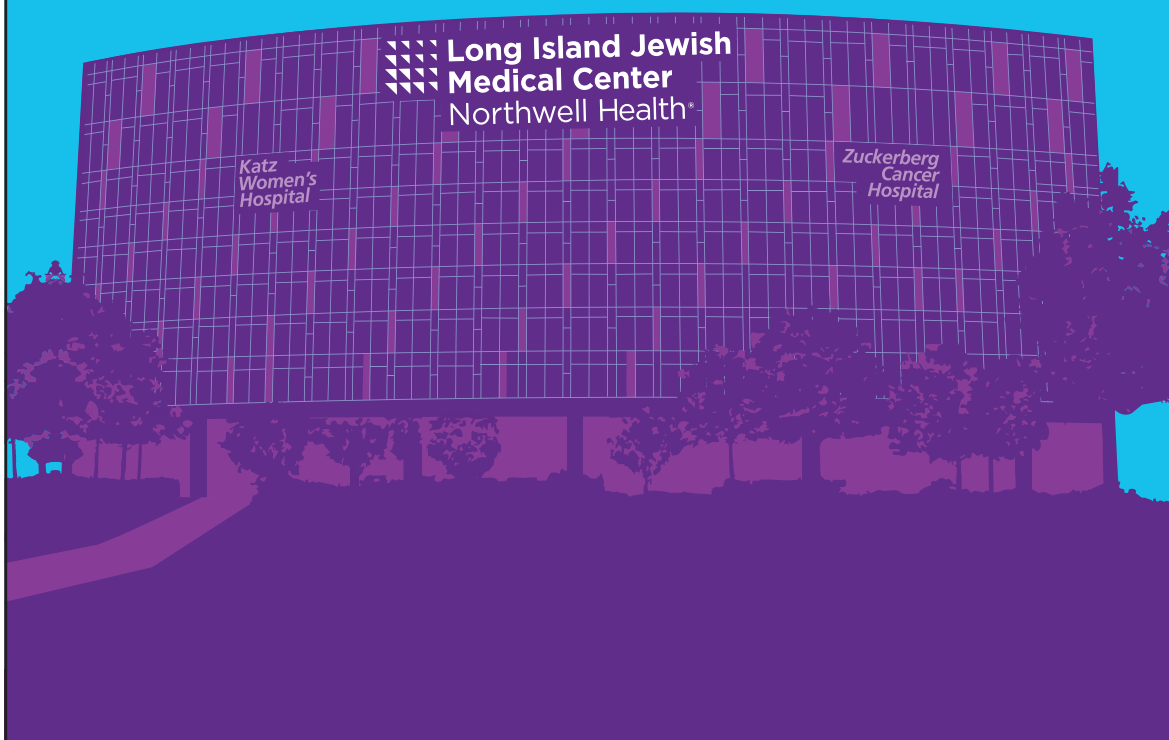
Mayor Pamela Panzenbeck stated that Grella saves the city every day. "You are probably one of the city's most dependable, reliable, important employees," Panzenbeck said. "We could not run our city without someone like you at the helm."

Both Grella and Floro were presented with a certificate of recognition from Panzenbeck as well for their bravery, but Floro was not in attendance during the City Council meeting to receive his certificate.

**Y**ou are probably one of the city's most dependable, reliable, important employees. We could not run our city without someone like you at the helm.

**PAMELA PANZENBECK**  
mayor

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# Glen Head resident is praised for his community service

By WILL SHEELINE

wsheeline@lherald.com

When most people hear the name Carlos Santana, they think of the rock legend, or, if they're sports fans, the first baseman for the Pittsburgh Pirates.

While they might not think of the Carlos Santana from Glen Head right away, his neighbors, and members of the North Shore Hispanic Chamber of Commerce, agree that there is no one else they'd rather have in their community.

The Hispanic chamber was so impressed with Santana's engagement in the community and willingness to give his time helping others that they nominated him for the Businessperson of the Year Award, which was presented at the Nassau Council of Chambers of Commerce Breakfast and Awards Ceremony at the Crest Hollow Country Club in Woodbury on Oct. 28. Although he was not one of the three winners, he said he still felt the nomination itself was an extraordinary honor.

"I'm honored that they thought of me as a person that is trying to effect positive change," Santana said. "I'm really humbled that they thought of me for the award."

Born in Puerto Rico, where his mother raised him, Santana came to the United States as a senior at Minisink Valley High School in upstate Slate Hill. A basketball star, he attended Mount Saint Mary College in Newburgh, where, in addition to playing for the school's team as small forward for four years, he also earned a degree in computer engineering.

After playing international basketball professionally for several years in the Dominican Republic, Spain and Puerto Rico, Santana met his future wife, Lisa Karcic, a fellow basketball star who played on the Croatian Olympic women's team in 2016. The couple bought a home in Glen Head in 2018, married the following year, and in



Courtesy Carlos Santana

**AFTER PLAYING PROFESSIONAL** basketball overseas, Carlos Santana moved to Glen Head with his wife, Lisa, where he helps locals buy homes as a loan officer.

2021 welcomed twin daughters, Mia and Francesca.

Santana is a mortgage lender and loan officer for Embrace Home Loans' Melville branch. He said he got into the industry to make a positive impact in his community by helping people purchase their own homes.

"I'm a dad first — that's my number one job — and the thing I'm most proud of is balancing life between being a dad and a husband and working to help my community," Santana said. "The main reason I became a loan officer and lender is to educate and to help people to qualify for their first home, and really to qualify for the dream of owning their own home."

Since Spanish is his first language, he said, he frequently works with Latino customers and residents of the North Shore. This was what initially connected him with the Hispanic chamber, as Connie Pinilla, the organization's vice president and legal counsel, explained.

According to Pinilla, an attorney specializing in real estate, she and the other board members of the chamber were impressed with Santana's work with prospective homeowners — both Latino and non-Latino — in the community. He leads workshops, volunteers as a mentor at the local Boys and Girls Club and also coaches basketball, all while juggling work and family life.

"He shared our same mission to educate and bring information to the Hispanic sector; to help them get their first home or get them to invest in real estate ...," Pinilla said. "Carlos has an impeccable reputation, he carries himself well and he's really just a great representative of the community."

So it was no surprise that Hispanic chamber nominated Santana for Businessperson of the Year. Gaitley Stevenson-Matthews, a chamber board member, emphasized that although the group had a lot of amazing community members and leaders to choose from, Santana always stood out.

"He finds time to give back to the community, and is truly a leader," Stevenson-Matthews said. "His success and hard work bode well not just for his family, but serve as a beacon to others who are looking to make a better place for themselves and their families."

## HOW CAN I HELP ELDER CARE

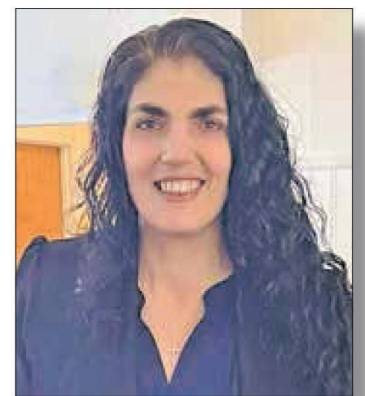
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# Democrats rally, a call for George Santos to resign

January 5, 2023 — GLEN COVE HERALD

By WILL SHEELINE

wsheeline@lherald.com

It was a chant that echoed in front of the Nassau County Courthouse on Dec. 29: “New York Three, Santos free.”

More than 100 people gathered in front of the Mineola building expressing their anger of U.S. Rep.-elect George Santos, calling for the politician to step aside from representing the 3rd Congressional District after admitting that much of the story he provided of his life and career were fabricated.

They were led by state Sen. Anna Kaplan and Assemblyman Charles Lavine, community leaders, and even the man Santos defeated in the November general election: Robert Zimmerman. They demanded that if Santos didn’t step down, that authorities in Congress investigate him.

“This moment is not about Democrat or Republican politics,” Zimmerman said. “This moment is about protecting our democracy, standing up for justice, standing together in unity.”

Santos has admitted to “embellishing” his resume, which included claims that he worked for prestigious financial firms like Goldman Sachs and Citigroup, and that he earned degrees from institutions like Baruch College — none of which were true. He also addressed reports that he claimed to be Jewish and descended from Holocaust survivors, saying he has described himself not as “Jewish,” but as



Michael Malaszczyk/Herald

**MORE THAN 100** people gathered in front of the Nassau County Courthouse in Mineola protesting against Congressman-elect George Santos.

“Jew-ish,” slang for saying that he was “kind of” Jewish.

Congressional members — including Republicans — have called for, at the very least, an investigation by the House Ethics Committee.

Prosecutors at a number of jurisdictional levels — including the U.S. District Attorney’s office and Nassau County District Attorney Anne Donnelly — say they are looking into Santos’ comments to determine if any laws had been broken. Santos

denies he broke any laws, telling reporters, “I am not a criminal.”

Residents and political leaders are not convinced by Santos’ claims. Angel Reyes, a Latino community leader and immigration reform advocate, questioned how anyone can trust Santos to represent them after the revelations of his numerous lies.

“I’m definitely crossing my fingers that Santos is also lying about his Latino heritage,” Reyes joked. Growing serious, he continued, saying, “As a constituent, if I

come to his office how do I know he’s not just BS-ing me?”

Santos’ lies regarding his attachment to numerous tragic events, such as his claims to be a descendant of Holocaust survivors and to have had employees in the Pulse nightclub massacre, have left many community members with actual ties to these and other tragedies insulted and disgusted. Linda Beigel Schulman, a daughter of a Holocaust survivor and gun safety advocate whose son was murdered at Parkland, railed against Santos for his shameless claims.

“Mr. Santos’ lies are insulting to every child of a Holocaust survivor,” Beigel Schulman asserted. “How do I know? Because I am a child of a Holocaust survivor.”

Outgoing State Senator Anna Kaplan, who fled Iran as a child due to anti-Semitic persecution, also condemned the Congressman’s lies regarding his “Jew-ish” heritage. She also called out the Nassau County’s GOP for supporting him since 2020, and their failure to condemn him en masse.

“George Santos has committed a total fraud on our community, but we can’t forget for the last three years that he was supported by the entire Nassau County Republican machine and his Republican running mates,” Kaplan said. “Questions about who Santos is is not a new one, but they were brushed aside by local Republicans desperate to flip this Congressional seat at any cost.”

## STATE OF NEW YORK PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

CASE 22-T-0294 - Application of Beacon Wind LLC for a Certificate of Environmental Compatibility and Public Need for the Construction of Transmission Infrastructure from the Boundary of New York State Territorial Waters to a Point of Interconnection at the Astoria Power Complex in Queens.

### NOTICE INVITING PUBLIC COMMENT AND ANNOUNCING PUBLIC STATEMENT HEARINGS

(Issued December 19, 2022)

**PLEASE TAKE NOTICE** that public comment is sought regarding a request by Beacon Wind LLC (Beacon Wind) to construct, operate, and maintain transmission facilities from the boundary of New York State waters to a point of interconnection in Astoria, Queens County, New York (Project). In order to construct the Project, Beacon Wind must first obtain a Certificate of Environmental Compatibility and Public Need from the Public Service Commission (Commission) pursuant to Article VII of the Public Service Law. Beacon Wind’s proposed Project includes one 320-kilovolt high voltage direct current submarine export cable circuit located within an approximately 115 nautical miles-long submarine export cable corridor from the boundary of New York State waters to the cable landfall at the Astoria power complex. The Project would also include one 2,000 foot-long onshore cable route and substation facility within the Astoria power complex. Under New York State Law, the Commission may adopt or reject Beacon Wind’s proposal, in whole or part, or modify it. In doing so, the Commission will consider input from the participating parties and the general public. Administrative Law Judges (ALJs) are presiding over the gathering of public comments and all evidence related to the Project. As indicated in this Notice, public statement hearings will be held to obtain comments from the public concerning Beacon Wind’s proposal.

**PLEASE TAKE NOTICE** that virtual public statement hearings will be held before ALJs Dakin Lecakes and Lindsey Overton as follows:

**Date:** Tuesday, January 24, 2023, **Time:** 1:00 p.m. Event Number: 2345 776 1023, Password: Jan24-1pm, Phone-Only Access: (518)549-0500

Access Code: 2345 776 1023, **Time:** 5:00 p.m., Event Number: 2335 920 5588, Password: Jan24-5pm, Phone-Only Access: (518)549-0500, Access Code: 2335 920 5588

**Any person wishing to provide a public statement on the record at the hearings must pre-register to do so by 3:00 p.m. on Monday, January 23, 2023.**

**To pre-register and provide a statement electronically:** Participants who would like to provide a statement and will log in to a hearing electronically must pre-register by the date and time indicated above, by visiting [www.webex.com](http://www.webex.com), where they should click “Join” at the top right-hand corner of the screen, enter the event number listed above, and provide all requested information. When logging in on the date and time of a hearing, participants will be asked to “select audio system.” It is recommended that participants opt to have the system “call me” or “call using computer.” The “call me” option will require that participants enter their phone numbers. **To pre-register and provide a statement by phone:** Any participant who is not able to log in to a hearing electronically may participate by phone. Call-in participants wishing to provide a statement must pre-register by the date and time indicated above by calling **1-800-342-3330**, where they should follow prompts to the appropriate hearing and provide the following information: first and last name, address, and phone number. On the date and time of the hearing, call-in participants should dial **518-549-0500** and enter the access code listed above. The public statement hearings will be held open until everyone who has registered to speak has been heard or other reasonable arrangements to submit comments into the record have been made. Time limits may be set for each speaker, as necessary. It is also recommended that lengthy comments be submitted in writing and summarized for oral presentation. A verbatim transcript of the public statement hearings will be made for inclusion in the record of this case. Persons with disabilities requiring special accommodations should call the Department of Public Service’s Human Resources Management Office at 518-474-2520 as soon as possible. TDD users may request a sign language interpreter by placing a call through the New York Relay Service at 711. Individuals with difficulty understanding or reading English are encouraged to call the Department at 1-800-342-3377 for free language assistance services regarding this notice.

#### Other Ways to Comment

For those who cannot attend or prefer not to speak at the public statement hearings, there are several other ways to provide your comments. Comments should refer to Case “22-T -0294.”

**Although comments will be accepted throughout the course of this proceeding, they are requested on or before February 17, 2023.**

**Internet or Mail:** Go to [www.dps.ny.gov](http://www.dps.ny.gov), click on “Search,” enter “22-T-0294” in the “Search by Case Number” field, and then click on “Post Comments” at the top of the page. Alternatively, comments may be mailed to the Hon. Michelle L. Phillips, Secretary, Public Service Commission, Three Empire State Plaza, Albany, New York, 12223-1350. All written comments will become part of the record considered by the Commission and may be accessed on the Department of Public Service website by searching the case number, as described above, and clicking on the “Public Comments” tab. **Toll-Free Opinion Line:** You may call the Commission’s Opinion Line at 1-800-335-2120. This number is set up to take comments about pending cases from in-State callers 24-hours a day. These comments are not transcribed verbatim, but a summary is provided to the Commission.

MICHELLE L. PHILLIPS  
Secretary

# HERALD NEIGHBORS



Roni Chastain

**THE RIZZO FAMILY**, Rosa, far left, Phil, Nicole and Raquel brought their year and a half-old dog Benny in costume to the show.



**ALEX ZAFRA AND** her two dogs, Jack and Jill, went all out to try and win the Best Matching Outfit category.

## North Shore Kiwanis holds their popular Dog Show

**T**he North Shore Kiwanis Club held their second annual Dog Show at the Garvies Point Dog Park in Glen Cove. The Dog Show is the Kiwanis fall fundraiser, enabling them to buy winter clothes for local children in need.

More than 25 dogs strutted their stuff in a fun-filled family competition in four categories: Best Matching Outfit, Best Trick, Fanciest and Overall Winner. Kiwanis volunteers, with the assistance of the North Shore Key Club, raised over \$4,100 for the clothing drive.

### HERALD LEGAL NOTICE PUBLIC NOTICES

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NOTICE OF FORMATION  
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NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN  
that a Public Hearing  
shall be held on Tuesday,  
January 10, 2023, at 7:30  
p.m. in the Council  
Chambers at Glen Cove  
City Hall, 9 Glen Street,  
Glen Cove, NY to discuss  
amending Chapter 168.  
Housing Standards  
Section 168-87,

Inspection and  
registration of real  
property under  
foreclosure (A), (C), (E),  
(H), (J), and (K) of the  
Code of Ordinances.  
All interested parties will  
be given an opportunity  
to be heard.  
Tina Pemberton  
City Clerk  
136556

**LEGISLATOR  
DELIA DERIGGI-  
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## OPINIONS

## A con man is succeeding me in Congress

Tuesday was my last day as a member of Congress, and George Santos is about to be sworn in to take the seat I held for six years. He will take an oath to “bear true faith” to the Constitution and take this obligation without any “purpose of evasion.” I’ve lost track of how many evasions and lies Mr. Santos has told about himself, his finances and his history and relationship with our stretch of Long Island and northeastern Queens. When he is seated, it will diminish our Congress, our country and my constituents — soon his constituents.



**TOM SUOZZI**

It saddens me that after 30 years of public service rooted in hard work and service to the people of this area, I’m being succeeded by a con man.

Yet I’m clinging to my sense of optimism. I believe that as slow and frustrating as it sometimes is, our democracy, our free press and the rule of law work. They have to.

I also know the voters of the 3rd District pretty well. They believe in the rule of law, in playing by the rules. They like authenticity in their leaders, and pride themselves on having good BS detectors. The fact is that Mr. Santos’s behavior went beyond BS: He fabricated the basics of his biography to an extent that most voters wouldn’t have thought possible. The shame would be too great, right? I am certain that if the 3rd District’s voters have an opportunity to weigh in on his political future again, he will be gone.

But for now, there is no getting around the fact that Mr. Santos’s con game is a manifestation of a growing political phenomenon of saying or doing anything, with no automatic consequences. Wheth-

er it be far-right election deniers, personal attacks that call for violence against opponents, claims of false-flag mass shootings, extremists spouting the first thing that comes to mind or even one politician saying he could “shoot somebody” on Fifth Avenue and still not lose supporters.

If we are going to subdue the tyranny of unchecked liars and their lies, then Mr. Santos must be held accountable: He must be removed by Congress or by prosecutors, because there is no indication that he will be moved by conscience to voluntarily resign.

I do not say these things lightly. Expelling a member of Congress is no easy task, and the bar is rightly high. Our country’s democracy is based on free and fair elections, the wisdom of the voters and the peaceful transfer of power. Some of my constituents even now are saying that they don’t want their vote overridden and Mr. Santos ousted.

But now we know that no one voted for the real George Santos. Sure, some candidates say and do anything to get into office and then abuse the public trust. In Mr. Santos, we have someone who abused the public trust even before he got into office; it’s mind-boggling to think what his actions and conversations will be like in Congress on behalf of his constituents.

I know from my experience as a mayor of my hometown, as a county executive and as a member of Congress that you cannot get things done without building trust with your colleagues. How can Mr. Santos be trusted? How could he be effective?

Even before his lies were exposed in the media, he showed himself to be an avatar of this age of no-consequences impunity. He ran against me in 2020. It was the middle of the Covid pandemic, he did not live in the district, and no one had heard of him. He had little in campaign funds, and during our few joint campaign appearances, all virtual, he came across as a phony. I ignored him, hardly men-

tioned his name and beat him by 12 points.

On election night 2020, Mr. Santos jumped on Donald Trump’s discredited “stop the steal” bandwagon. We knew on Election Day we had won and won big, but he used the Trump movement to raise funds online and attended the orientation for new members before the race was called. I was sworn in on Jan. 3, 2021, without much ado. Then we learned that Mr. Santos attended the Jan. 6 Trump rally at the Ellipse. He went on to boast that he had written “a nice check for a law firm” to help defendants who had stormed the Capitol. (He probably didn’t even do that.)

His behavior should have alerted us all, but he wasn’t taken seriously, and unfortunately, as Robert Zimmerman, his Democratic opponent in November’s election, has said, the press didn’t really grasp the level of his deceit. His actions and comments around Jan. 6 didn’t have the consequences they should have.

We now know more about his Mr. Santos’s biographical information. We are appalled by his insensitive and fallacious pandering to the Jewish community. His apology tour has been cringeworthy, and continues to raise more disturbing questions. We will learn more about his newfound wealth and questionable financial disclosures and campaign financing as the press, law enforcement and, ideally, the House Ethics Committee dig in. But we already know enough.

Could he be enjoying all the attention? This inexperienced newcomer who fabricated much of his life story is now better known than most members of Congress, including me. He’s becoming as well known as others who abused trust, like Sam Bankman-Fried and Bernie Madoff. Not unlike them, he appears to have conducted his finances in highly unusual, if not unlawful, ways. But I have to wonder, having seen his delight for attention and his self-regard, if he loves that everyone

now knows his name — even though it’s because of yet another big lie.

The people of my district are holding rallies, signing petitions and calling on the Republican leadership to act. The district is a model for moderation, seen by most political observers as a 50-50 district with constituents who embrace a get-it-done attitude. They dislike partisanship and value tell-it-like-it-is leadership.

They are now being saddled with a slippery, inexperienced liar who tells it like it isn’t. They’ve been reaching out every day to ask, “How could this have happened?” and “What can we do?” We are counting on the press to keep digging in, law enforcement to keep investigating and the political pressure to keep building on the House.

But again, I believe we will get this right. So many panicked people came to me during Mr. Trump’s presidency, fearful that his tactics would win him a second term — and one with a mandate, no less. He lost. I was one of the last people in the chamber as the Jan. 6 riot intensified, and people legitimately worried that the insurrectionists would succeed. We certified the election that night, and more than 960 people have been charged. The election deniers were decisively turned back.

One of my favorite lines from the 2011 film “The Best Exotic Marigold Hotel” has always stayed with me: “Everything will be all right in the end. So if it is not all right, then it is not yet the end.” That’s how I feel about America right now.

It’s not a naïve idea; it’s what keeps us sane and able to keep moving forward in the age of Mr. Santos and Mr. Trump. The system works — if not right away, then ultimately. It has worked throughout our history, and it will work now.

*Tom Suozzi represented the 3rd Congressional District until Tuesday. A version of this essay originally appeared in The New York Times.*

## LETTERS

## Thanks from the Slayer Players

To the Editor:

On behalf of the Slayer Players Theatre Company, I would like to thank the Glen Cove Senior Center for having us perform an episode of our “Classic TV Live!” at their facility as a complimentary show for area seniors on Dec. 16. It was awesome performing in front of 186 enthusiastic attendees, and will surely be one of our group’s crowning achievements when the history books are written.

Taking our authentic “Honeymooners” set “on the road” was no small feat, but with the help of Kevin and Kacey Horton, our set-builder extraordinaire, Tony Tripp, rose to the challenge, and it was up and down fast enough for the performances we had scheduled at the View Grill for that evening and the following afternoon. What a 27 hours it was!

I would also like to thank our cast members, who worked tirelessly preparing for this event to ensure its success. But the real stars were area businesses that

CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE



# GLEN COVE HERALD

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# HERALD EDITORIAL

## When 'it's just government' isn't an excuse

It's a new year. A time of renewal. A time when we look ahead to brighter days.

Many people, however, woke up a couple of days before Christmas to heavy rain and wind that once again brought a frightening amount of flooding to residential streets and primary roadways.

The early-winter storm evoked memories of 2012's Hurricane Sandy, which was considered a once-in-a-century weather event. One South Shore resident even said that the storm was "giving me Sandy vibes."

As early-morning motorists maneuvered through small rivers of water, it wasn't surprising that some thought, "No, not again." But they may have scratched their heads at the next thought: "Where are all those Sandy flood-mitigation projects we were promised?"

Less than a year after Sandy, New York state — under the direction of then Gov. Andrew Cuomo — established the Governor's Office of Storm Recovery to centralize the rebuilding and recovery efforts. One of its programs, New York Rising Community Reconstruction, empowered local communities to provide input into resiliency projects. Sandy was one of three storms — along with Hurricane Irene and Tropical Storm Lee in 2011 — that were under the storm recovery office's umbrella.

Roughly \$4.4 billion was made available to the state through federal funding for an assortment of resiliency projects as well as for residential home rebuilding. For the NYRCR program, communities assembled committees of civic leaders. There were public meetings. Engineers were consulted. Ideas were exchanged. Public comment

was collected.

From the list of NYRCR projects provided by the storm recovery office, 45 have been completed in Nassau County, while 30 others are in progress. These projects total nearly \$334 million. GOSR has done a heck of a job.

However, getting to this point is one thing, but finishing is something else. What started as a well-run program looks as if it's going to be a tough haul to complete.

Local officials tasked with cooperating with their state counterparts have found the process, which continues today, annoyingly slow and frustrating. There have been too many meetings, too much talk, and a lack of coordination — to the point where it felt like projects were constantly stopping and starting.

One of the problems appears to have been self-inflicted. As local officials pushed to move the projects forward, not only were there too many personnel changes in the state storm-recovery office, but the incoming officials, based in New York City, were unfamiliar with Long Island. Some projects went through nearly 10 iterations. It seemed that the process had to start from scratch any time there was a change in GOSR leadership.

Storm recovery representatives were also constantly interpreting federal language differently, creating more bumps in the road. The large volume of paperwork that moved back and forth between municipalities — requirements put in place by federal agencies as a response to the rampant fraud, waste and abuse of funds after Hurricane Katrina — slowed projects down.

Then, in 2020, the world shut down because of the coronavirus pandemic. Projects that were in the works were given extensions because of unforeseen conditions that created supply-chain issues. That was understandable.

But don't misunderstand: Much has been accomplished. There is a pump station in Cedarhurst, for example, that surely could help reduce flooding on Peninsula Boulevard.

Cuomo's idea of having one central entity to oversee the projects was a good one. And the grass-roots NYRCR program won numerous national awards. But as more projects move forward, the state's execution needs to be better. Now that there is a record of what was done — good and bad — there should be an audit, and what is learned from it should be applied as soon as possible.

The state's newly created — and much more permanent — Office of Resilient Homes and Communities will now take over the storm recovery office portfolio. We hope that a permanent department will mean less staff shuffling and a streamlining of the bureaucracy. Importantly, state officials need to be more familiar with the communities they are supposed to be helping.

At one of many public meetings held several years ago, one resident was heard to say, "It's just government," in response to proposed plans that neighbors did not completely agree with.

That's not an excuse our government should hide behind. To start the new year off right, the state should move the remaining projects to completion as soon as possible — before the next storm strikes.

## LETTERS

CONTINUED FROM PREVIOUS PAGE

put their money where their mouth is by providing funds that allowed us to cover expenses associated with the undertaking. These included three of our area's assisted-living facilities: Atria on Roslyn Harbor, the Regency and Rosewood on the Sound. In addition to their financial support, they cared enough to bus some of their residents to and from the event, so it's safe to say that when the time comes for you or your loved ones to find such a facility in this area, these three are the places to begin your search.

Other area business and individuals who helped support this event were Charcuterie and Things, One and Truly Dental, The Kupferberg Orlando Team of Douglas Elliman Realty, the View Grill, Podiatric Medicine and Surgery, North Shore Laser Pain Relief (Dr. Maxine Cappel Mayreis), Brain Neurofeedback (Dr. Stacie Locascio), Tenderfire Books, Gill Associates Photography, Glen Cove Fitness, Ed's Hair Styling, Gail Carlin and Keith Way.

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## FRAMEWORK by Tim Baker



Preparing to ring it in at the Electric Light Parade — Long Beach

## OPINIONS

## Does Kirsten Gillibrand care about Long Islanders?

New York state's missing U.S. senator, Kirsten Gillibrand, recently surfaced on Long Island. That must mean that Gillibrand finally got around to analyzing November's election results and the near-death experience that will be seared into Gov. Kathy Hochul's memory.



**RONALD J. ROSENBERG**

Say what you will about our senior senator, Chuck Schumer — and there's much to say — at least he knows where Long Island is. Before he became majority leader, Schumer seemed to be on the Island every weekend, holding news conferences on topics ranging from baby products to the width of airline seats. He understood the power of Long Island's potent voter base and its propensity to swing right or left, depending on issues and personalities.

Schumer has been in our faces, like him or not, because he understands politics and the importance of engaging voters. He has long recognized that if you take Long Island for granted, you do so at your own political peril.

Gillibrand? She has long been absent on issues. Absent on voter engagement.

Absent on personal appearances. Just plain absent. Even Newsday was compelled at one point to ask, "Where is she?"

Well, you can tell that she has checked the calendar, and discovered that re-election is just two years away. Last month she met with journalists in Melville. In what was described as a wide-ranging discussion, Gillibrand announced that Long Island's "red wave" would end in 2024. While suggesting that her party was trounced in November because "a lot of Long Island is libertarian," she added, "I intend to run for re-election and win the state back, along with Long Island."

These are bold words from someone who has failed to make a serious connection with Long Island voters. Over the years, Gillibrand has made a handful of announcements about federal programs, with little evidence that she pursued them specifically for our region, or even the state. In some instances, she has simply piggybacked off press statements from Schumer's office.

To be fair, a search reveals that she held a town hall meeting at Hofstra in October. At that event, in which she engaged with students, the focus was the

Supreme Court's ruling on abortion. She told the Herald that she was in favor of term-limiting the justices. Ironically, that's a suggestion she has not proffered for members of the Senate.

Gillibrand described herself as "very progressive" in her Melville interview, which raises the question: Just how far out of step is she with the majority of New Yorkers and those Long Island "libertarians" who voted in the last election cycle? Does she appreciate that being "very progressive" may serve to short-circuit a primary challenge from the left, but leaves her totally at odds with moderates in both parties?

Being frightened of a left-wing primary challenge led Hochul to ignore such profound issues as crime, high taxes, and municipal zoning authority. Her election night turned rather tense as returns demonstrated that a state with nearly twice as many Democrats as Republicans wasn't going to give her the margin of victory her consultants were touting.

Former Rep. Lee Zeldin has given no indication of what he plans to do for the next two years. He has been mentioned as a potential choice as the next state GOP chairman, who could infuse new blood and strategic vision into that posi-

tion. There is also speculation that he could run for Senate, confronting Gillibrand's progressive candidacy with the grounded policies of moderates and conservatives who want an engaged senator who knows the difference between AOC and the LIE.

Another Long Islander who would make a formidable opponent to Gillibrand is Nassau County Executive Bruce Blakeman. He has quickly established his credentials as a tireless campaigner who embraces policies that are welcomed by those who describe themselves as Republicans, as well as independents who are in search of common sense. Comfortable before the media, popular "at home" and dedicated to public service, Blakeman would be an attractive candidate on many levels.

While two years is a lifetime in politics, Gillibrand's recent return to Long Island is like Halley's Comet, an event that happens very rarely. And her description of our red wave as the product of a bunch of libertarians is a reflection of the fact that she may visit every once in a while, but she doesn't know us. And never has.

*Ronald J. Rosenberg has been an attorney for 42 years, concentrating in commercial litigation and transactions, and real estate, municipal, zoning and land use law. He founded the Garden City law firm Rosenberg Calica & Birney in 1999.*

## Happiness is a reach, but we have long arms

Happiness is a reach, but we have long arms. As the new year begins, let us look up to the stars that light our winter nights.

The transition from 2022 to 2023 has been showered with starlight. Fresh off the front lines in Ukraine, President Volodymyr Zelensky, the most unlikely of heroes, came to America to thank us for our support, and ask for more. As it turns out, the man in green fatigues roused something in us that had been beaten lifeless over the past few years: pride in our will to do good, faith in our democracy and a clear demarcation between right and wrong. Heroism is a rare commodity, but it walked into Congress on Dec. 21 and reminded us of who we are.

Nothing about the Ukrainian presidential visit was business as usual. Zelensky's superheroic persona was forged in the fires sparked by Russian missiles and tanks. Seems like a minute ago he was an entertainer raising a family in a safe and bustling society. But when the Russians

invaded, he stepped out of his old life and into battle dress. His visit to the U.S. shook something loose in our pervasive national cynicism and growing mistrust of one another. Here is a good guy, brave, not afraid to die for his country, a real David against a monstrous Goliath.

The Ukrainians face a winter without heat or running water, under constant bombardment by Russia. Their courage reminds us what death-defying bravery looks like after years of Trumpist self-serving corruption.

"It is often in the darkest skies that we see the brightest stars," the philosopher Hannah Arendt said. Just in these last weeks, as 2022 ended and as 2023 begins, the sky seems afire with hope.

There was something uplifting in how it all looked: the man from Ukraine hugging the outgoing Speaker of the House and embracing the American president. Political pundits have been busy hounding aging boomers out of the public spotlight and urging older statespeople to retire. Yet it was 82-year-old Nancy Pelosi and 80-year-old Joe Biden who were getting things right, and getting the people's work done. It was 72-year-old Sen. Chuck Schumer who pushed some critical

human-rights and voter-rights legislation through Congress.

Heroes come in unlikely personas at odd times. Cassidy Hutchinson is in the news, too. The 26-year-old former assistant to Mark Meadows, the Trump White

House chief of staff, a woman who knows right from wrong, decided to tell the truth about President Trump's alleged crimes despite enormous pressure to dissemble. It is hard to overstate the significance of her testimony. She is key to the Department of Justice investigation of Trump and the insurrection. A woman who had to look up the history of Watergate to guide her may be key to preserving our democracy.

Then there's the January 6th congressional committee and its 800-something-page report, released during these weeks of wonder. Another unlikely force for good, the committee, over 18 months, compiled a detailed and disturbing account of a rogue presidency, an attempted coup, and a coterie of accomplices to crimes against our nation.

Accountability is in the air, and it isn't only playing out in our government. More locally, The New York Times recently ran a front-page story detailing alleged unethi-

The senator may visit every once in a while, but she doesn't know us, and never has.

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cal behavior at NYU Langone. The article alleged longstanding policies on the part of hospital administrators to offer favorable treatment to powerful donors and celebrities and political figures. The reporting stood boldly against those who think that might makes right, and in support of those who surrender to privilege or who are resigned to "the way things work."

In the wake of the Times story, maybe those bending the rules will be held accountable. It's going around.

The fact that we have newspapers and reporters who sweat the details and follow up and write truth to power is another bright star in our firmament.

For these many years of political travail and pandemic grief, newspapers have kept us informed. Stories like the expose on NYU prove that we have people in our profession who care about public corruption and work hard to bring it to light.

Correspondents on the ground in Ukraine risk their lives every day to bring us the human story unfolding there.

We survived the shortest day of the year. As the daylight lingers, is it harmony in our homeland we see in the new year? Moments of happiness? Certainly the stars are brilliant in our cold, dark skies, and we can read that as hope.

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