

HERALD



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Tab Hauser/ Herald

GLEN COVE DEPUTY Chief Chris Ortiz, left, and CTI Cantor Gustavo Guitlin showed their support for the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. during the January 2020 parade in Glen Cove that honored the late civil rights leader.

Chris Ortiz is Glen Cove's first Hispanic police chief

Wants to connect department with community

By **ROKSANA AMID**
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If you've been to the city's National Night Out, or if you're part of La Fuerza Unida, which connects Spanish speakers to the community, you've probably seen Deputy Police Chief Chris Ortiz. The 49-year-old is the first Hispanic Glen Cove police chief, and has made it his personal mission to better connect the Police Department with the community.

Although Ortiz was born and raised in the

city, the first steps of his career path didn't point toward criminal justice. After he graduated from Glen Cove High School, he attended John Jay College, and like many freshmen, he was uncertain about his future. Luckily for Glen Cove, Ortiz had a friend who was majoring in criminal justice. The friend spoke enthusiastically about the virtues of policing, and inspired Ortiz to want make a difference in people's lives.

Chris's father, Jose Ortiz, didn't take the

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Vacant stores may soon have to register

By **ROKSANA AMID**
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In the first two years of the coronavirus pandemic, much of the state was put on hold. People were asked to avoid crowds and limit their travel, and governments issued stay-at-home orders. The streets of Glen Cove were eerily quiet throughout much of the lockdown, leaving many of the city's businesses hanging by a thread.

Since then, the state saw an economic rebound and new businesses have started.

To keep current businesses and draw new businesses to the city, a hearing was held at City Hall to discuss implementing a vacant storefront registry on the city's website. A second hearing will take place at the next City Council meeting Feb. 28.

City attorney Tip Henderson said the storefront registry is to promote the health, safety, and

welfare of the city's residents by "encouraging the rehabilitation and re-occupancy of vacant storefronts in the commercial district."

Henderson added that vacant storefronts affect the desirability of the immediate and neighboring areas.

I find it basically appalling that you need to pass something like this when we already have a (Business Improvement District).

PAUL CANARICK
commercial property owner

According to a statement from the city, one empty storefront on a block can lead to more vacancies and diminished value and appeal of the surrounding area. Small businesses rely on the vibrant commercial corridor to attract customers.

Henderson said it's in the best interest of the city to encourage owners of vacant storefront properties to lease or otherwise utilize such properties in a "productive manner," rather than allowing them to remain vacant.

City officials hope a registry specifically geared toward naming all vacant storefronts will

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Vets can get free emergency mental health care

By MALLORY WILSON

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Suicides among military veterans have been in decline over the past couple years, but today, a former soldier still takes his or her life every 85 minutes on average.

But now, veterans deemed to be in “acute suicidal crisis” can receive free emergency mental health services, according to the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs. That’s help that includes up to 30 days of in-patient care, and three months outpatient.

Veterans can find that help at any VA or non-VA health care facility at no cost. They don’t even need to be enrolled in the VA system to use this benefit.

Part of the Veterans Comprehensive Prevention, Access to Care and Treatment — or COMPACT — Act of 2020, the new rule allows veterans discharged after more than two years of service under conditions other than dishonorable are eligible for the care, which will either be paid for or reimbursed by the VA. The expanded care is meant to, “help prevent veteran suicide by guaranteeing no cost, world-class care to veterans in times of crisis,” according to a news release.

“Free or not free, the priority is getting them health care,” Pete Wenninger, immediate past commander of the East Meadow American Legion Post 1082, said. “The being burdened with a cost is not going to be helpful to them, but it is critical that when a veteran needs mental health, that they get it.”

The policy will provide, pay for, or reimburse for treatment of those who qualify for emergency suicide care, transportation costs, and follow-up care at a facility. It will also help veterans by making appropriate referrals while determining eligibility for other VA services and benefits.

“I think it was a great move,” said Ralph Esposito, director of the Nassau County Veterans Service Agency.



Neil Miller/Herald file

A NEW FEDERAL policy will allow veterans in ‘acute suicidal crisis’ to receive free mental health care, including in-patient care for up to 30 days, and outpatient care for up to three months.

“These kids coming home today from Iraq, Iran and everything, they got problems. And they’re hurting.”

The policy will also apply to former members of the armed forces, including reserve members, who served “more than 100 days under a combat exclusion or in support of a contingency operation.” It’s also open to those discharged under conditions other than dishonorable, who were the victim of sexual assault, sexual battery, or sexual harassment while serving.

“The need is more and more, that’s why the government — I believe — started this program,” Esposito said. “They see it. It’s happening all over. And we’re doing all we can to get them out.”

At the Nassau VSA in East Meadow, vets needing mental help are sent to speak with counselors that are right there for them, Esposito said. There’s also a food pantry if they’re hungry, and where they can pick up other supplies as well.

“It’s heartbreaking because they’re young,” he said.

“It’s a big thing, but I’m really happy that they did this and that we have this program going.”

According to the National Veteran Suicide Prevention annual report, there were 6,146 veteran suicides in 2020 — down 5 percent from the year before, and “lower than each prior year since 2006.”

“Veterans have a hard time dealing with the military experience,” said Frank Salamino, quartermaster for the East Meadow Veterans of Foreign War Post 2736. “They have a very hard time. I know myself firsthand.

The new program is a step in the right direction for veteran care, Salamino added, but more needs to be done. Starting with talking to veterans before they leave the service about what they’re thinking and what they need.

And when they do get home and look for medical care from the government, appointments are hard to come by — oftentimes spread out with months in between.

“It took me a long time to get some help,” Salamino said.

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Courtesy Leeann Palazzo

JUNK KOTURE, a global fashion competition, brought many creative students together. Although they were competitors, these creative students admired one another's designs.

Natalia Monsale's stylish journey to Dubai

By **ROKSANA AMID**
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When we think of high-end fashion, we don't typically think of recycled household items like plastic bottles and paperclips, but that's just what Glen Cove High School junior Natalia Monsale brought to the world's stage. After months of designing and reimagining recycled materials, Monsale presented an outfit for the Junk Koture finals in Abu Dhabi, Dubai, on Jan. 27.

Junk Koture was created as a safe space for youth to express themselves creatively and showcase their designs on a global stage. The sustainable-fashion platform that hosts regional design competitions, is for high school students 13-18 years old. Every garment was created using 100 percent recycled materials.

Monsale's journey to Dubai started in the high school's fashion class, taught by Leeann Palazzo. Last year, while researching different ways for students to express themselves artistically, Palazzo received an email that looked like a phishing scam. Although she felt hesitant, Palazzo took a leap of faith and responded to the Junk Koture organizers. When Palazzo realized the email wasn't a scam, she knew the Junk Koture competition would be a great experience for her students.

Monsale, alongside her fellow designers Virginia Papisidero, Betsy Mejia, Lizbeth Rojas and Anoushka Glouchkiov, also students in Palazzo's fashion illustration class created the dress titled "Grandstar."

The outfit was an asymmetrical top with a duct-taped dress frame and a cape fastened by paper clips. For the finishing touches, they decorated and painted the outfit with cosmic patterns inspired by the night sky. Palazzo said that although students used technology like their Chromebooks and phones to structure their ideas, she urged them to cross reference their feelings and thoughts with colors and textures, to come up with something that stood out.

The dress was created with materials like cardboard, paper bags, water bottles, paper clips and recycled clothing.

Originally, Monsale and her teammates didn't know what to think about the competition. But after discussing the contest, they decided they had nothing to lose from competing.

Monsale competed in the New York City final in June 2022 and was selected to advance to the Dubai finals alongside her fellow designers. Although the dress was a collaborative effort, Monsale was the only student left from her original team after the June event. Her other teammates either graduated or moved to other districts, leaving her the as the only student to represent the high school.

After a 12-hour flight, Monsale and Palazzo only had one day to relax and meet other competitors. On day two of their three-day adventure, she needed to prepare for the competition.

After hours of adjusting the dress post-flight, hair, makeup, and a brief rehearsal, Monsale modeled for celebrity judges, industry experts and a cheering audience at the Etihad Arena on Yas Island. She faced off against 59 other artists from secondary schools in London, Paris, Milan, the United Arab Emirates, and Ireland.

Although Monsale wasn't the final winner of the competition, she said she was able to take away so much from her brief trip overseas. She bonded with some of her competitors and experienced the competitive world of high fashion.

At the Feb. 8 Board of Education meeting Monsale's creative spirit was recognized. Maria Rianna, the district's superintendent, said she was in awe of Monsale's creative journey.

"Who knows, we may be standing in the midst of the next Versace or Armani or Dior," Rianna said. "But the creativity that this young lady has shown should be recognized. She's truly outstanding."



Courtesy Junk Koture

NATALIA MONSALE PRESENTED her dress, "Grandstar" during the Junk Koture competition. The environmentally friendly dress, made of recycled materials, impressed the judges.

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When Does a Trust Make Sense

By now most people know that trusts avoid probate which is required with a will -- if there are "probatable" assets, in other words those in your name alone. While many assets can be set up to avoid probate by putting joint owners on or by naming beneficiaries, titles to real estate in New York may not have beneficiaries and there are tax and liability reasons for not naming joint owners on real estate. As a result, real property generally goes through probate.

Other reasons to use trusts, besides avoiding probate for the home, are as follows:

1. Out-of-State Property. New York residents who own property in another state face two probates, one in New York and another in the other state. However, you may transfer both properties into your New York trust and avoid the "multiple probate problem".

2. Trusts Are Private. Unlike wills, trusts are not filed in court, so there is no public record of how much you had, who you left

it to, where they live, and who you left out.

3. Special Needs Children. If you leave assets to a special needs child in a will, the court will appoint a lawyer to represent the special needs child which will require your estate to pay two lawyers and significantly delay the proceedings.

4. Keeping Your Assets in the Bloodline. Wills generally leave assets to your children and have no provisions for what happens after they get the inheritance. As a result, when your child dies, assets often go to in-laws and their families. Trusts can provide that your assets will stay in your bloodline for generations to come.

5. Protecting Assets from Long-Term Care Costs. Wills take effect on death and offer no long-term care asset protection. Often, the cost of care ends up leaving nothing for the heirs at death. Medicaid Asset Protection Trusts not only avoid probate, but also protect assets from being lost to long-term care costs.

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NEIGHBORS IN THE NEWS

A valentine gift of appreciation

Customers at Stop & Shop had early Valentine's Day gifts for many of the employees on Feb 12. James Pascucci, who was joined by Jim Stevenson-Mathews and Pam Giorgi spearheaded the surprise visit. Employees received goodie bags, mugs and chocolates.



KUENG LOUIE, SEAFOOD manager at Stop & Shop, received an early Valentine's Day gift from James Pascucci.

Courtesy Gaitley Stevenson-Mathews



Courtesy Peter M. Budraitis

CAROL RUBIN, DELIA DeRiggi-Whitton, Saul Schachter and his mother, Vivian Schachter enjoyed their day at the Glen Cove Senior Center.

Senior center granted \$75,000

The Glen Cove Senior Center was issued a \$75,000 grant by the Nassau County Legislature in January. The grant was awarded within a larger allocation of federal American Rescue Plan Act funding to the Nassau County Department of Human Services' Office for the Aging.

"This substantial grant will go a long way toward maintaining and expanding the programming that the center can

offer to the beloved senior citizens in our community," Delia DeRiggi-Whitton, said.

Among its many services, the center provides home-delivered meals; nutrition education and health promotion; transportation to and from the center; adult day care and caregiver support. Programming at the center runs from Monday through Friday and includes exercise, art and other classes as well as games, meals and music.

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George Santos update

Santos claims he can prove his Jewish heritage

By **MICHAEL MALASZCZYK**
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U.S. Rep. George Santos appears to have three categories for all of his claims made over the years. The category where he holds his ground, calling the claim true. The category where he denies ever telling a lie, and instead attributing the statement to others.

And now a category where he admits to the lie, and even apologizes for it, at least when talking to British tabloid journalist Piers Morgan.

Santos appeared on Fox Nation's "Piers Morgan Uncensored," telling Morgan the biggest question he faces now is how he possibly believed he would never be caught in these lies he's now admitting to.

"I ran in 2020 for the same exact seat for Congress," Santos told Morgan. "And I got away with it then."

Santos admitted to lying about attending Baruch College, and apologized. But he didn't admit to much else, except that he's a "terrible liar."

The congressman, however, wouldn't back away from claims of Jewish heritage and that his mother died as a result of the Sept. 11, 2001, terrorist attacks.

Santos campaigned on being Jewish heritage, telling several media outlets — including the Herald — that his maternal grandparents were Ukrainian Jews who fled to Belgium and then to Brazil during the Holocaust.

Santos described himself as a "proud American Jew" on the campaign trail, as well as referred to himself as a "Latino Jew" and a "non-observant Jew."

But genealogists found no record of either Jewish or Ukrainian heritage in Santos's family. They also discovered both of his maternal grandparents were born in Brazil.

"This is the one that I'll battle to my grave," Santos told Morgan. "I've already ordered those DNA test kits, and I've gotten four of them so far. I'm just waiting for their returns."

Santos stood by that same story of his family moving from Soviet-era Ukraine to Belgium to Brazil, despite evidence to the contrary.

As far as his mother dying on 9/11 — or at least due to a 9/11-related illness — there are no records of a Fatima Devolder, working at the World Trade Center at the time of the attacks. In fact, records have shown she was in Brazil

between 1999 and when she applied for a visa to enter the United States in 2003.

"I won't debate my mother's life, as she's passed in 2016," Santos said. "And I think it's quite insensitive for everybody to want to rehash my mother's legacy."

He also stood by some of his employment and education history, saying that he worked with Goldman Sachs and Citigroup as opposed to for them. Santos maintained he lost employees in the Pulse nightclub shooting in Orlando, Florida, as well.

Regarding attending the Horace Mann School in the Bronx, Santos maintained that he spent six months of ninth grade there, suggesting he would be in their records under the name "George Devolder."

On the claim that he scammed veteran Richard Osthoff out of money for his dying dog, Santos said he never met Osthoff.

Santos denied he ever directly claiming he attended New York University and had a Graduate Management Admission Test score of academic excellence. That information was never supplied for his resume, he said, blaming the GOP for putting it there instead.

Santos also denied ever saying he was a producer for "Spider-Man: Turn Off the Dark," as claimed by Bloomberg.

"I never said to anybody I produced a Broadway show," Santos said. "And if you look at the timeline, I think I would have been 21 years old."

Santos also said he never claimed to be part of an assassination plot, although he has received death threats. It was called "assassination" during an interview thanks to what he described as a poor Portuguese-to-English translation.

Santos also joined U.S. Rep. Marjorie Taylor Green to sponsor a federal book ban bill. One book Santos took issue with during a roundtable discussion with reporters from the Herald last year was "Gender Queer: A Memoir" by Maia Kobabe, which he claimed — without evidence — was being taught in Long Island schools. Santos described the book as pornographic, but would not share exactly what he didn't like about the book, telling the Herald he wouldn't speak about it in front of women in the room, which included reporters and even a member of his own campaign staff.



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Commercial property owners may face fines

February 23, 2023 — GLEN COVE HERALD

CONTINUED FROM FRONT PAGE

serve to drive economic development by helping potential small business owners access information about vacant storefront locations. As part of the registration process, the city will provide signage that lists contact information of landlords who own commercial buildings which will be placed in front of vacant stores.

The executive director of the Glen Cove Downtown Business Improvement District, Patricia Holman, said the city notified her of the potential registry, but she wasn't given enough advanced notice to discuss it with the BID's property owners before the first hearing at City Hall. She received information about the first hearing around 10:15 a.m. on Feb. 10 and sent out an email to commercial property owners an hour later.

"What we will do between now and the next hearing is contact our property owners and discuss it with them and then we plan to present on the 28th how our property owners feel about this," Holman said.

Holman said that the BID already keeps an inventory of store vacancies on the BID's website. She declined to comment on whether she thought a registry would be helpful, but did say she saw pros and cons. Holman said she wanted to hear from property owners within the BID first to gauge their thoughts on the matter to best represent them at City Hall.

Some business owners feel this registry is unnecessary and worry about the potential costs of registration, which are not yet determined by the city.

Commercial property owner Paul Canarick expressed concern at the Feb. 14 council meeting that the city is crossing a boundary and feels government should be limited as much as possible from interfering with the city's businesses.

"I find it basically appalling that you need to pass



Roksana Amid/Herald

something like this when we already have a BID," Canarick said.

He added that the city's resources and attention should be directed more toward its infrastructure.

"If someone came around to see what's going on in Glen Cove, what they would see is a deterioration of infrastructure," Canarick said. "The streets are falling apart, the curbs are deplorable, the streets are deplorable and the sidewalks are deplorable."

Canarick also cited his personal experience walking through the city's parking garage, saying that when he

walks around the edges, he sees pieces of concrete falling from the ceiling.

Property owner John Perrone isn't entirely against the registry. Perrone said he might be for the list if he knew for certain there wouldn't be a fee.

If the online registry passes, property owners will have 30 to 60 days of a vacancy to register and complete paperwork with the city's building department. Although an exact fee, if any, hasn't been determined officials say they are discussing a monthly or annual registration fee.

VACANT STOREFRONTS IN the city's commercial district might be required to register on the city's website. Property owners are conflicted about the potential online database, saying they don't want any additional fees.

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Move, move, move

Exercise matters for body and soul

Strengthening your heart is one of the best things you can do for your health. And as you know, the best way to strengthen your heart is to exercise. In fact, if you don't exercise you're more than twice as likely to get heart disease as someone who does. If you have a history of heart disease, or just worry about your heart health, you need to develop a regular exercise routine. Experts recommend you spend at least 150 minutes doing moderate exercise per week.

But is all exercise created equal? According to cardiologists and physiologists, here are the best exercises to strengthen your heart.

Walking

Yes, it might seem a little too easy. But walking, especially speed walking, is a great way to strengthen your heart. Walking fast will get your heart rate up and is easier on your joints than other types of exercise. You can walk anywhere at any time. All you need is a pair of supportive shoes. Do a short walk during your lunch break or a longer walk on the weekend. You can listen to music, a podcast, or walk with a friend. The flexibility of walking makes it easy for anyone to do — and to keep doing it.

Weight Training

Building the other muscles in your body will help your heart. Weight training will help you build muscle mass and burn fat. Although you

can hit the gym to train with weights, some of the most effective weight training happens when you use your own body weight. Things like push-ups, squats, or even pull-ups all help you build muscle and contribute to bone and heart health.

Swimming

Swimming isn't just for lazy summer afternoons. Taking a water aerobics class or swimming laps can be a full-body workout that will strengthen not only your body, but your heart. Unlike other types of exercise, swimming is easy on your joints and allows you to move your body without a lot of pain.

Yoga

Although it might not seem like it, yoga is great for your heart health. Doing yoga will help you strengthen and tone your muscles. Certain types of yoga can really get your heart rate up, while still providing the calm that will lower your blood pressure.

Interval Training

Interval training — which alternates between short bursts of high-intensity exercise with longer periods of active recovery — is a great way to get a full-sized workout in a short amount of time. For example, you can do it by running for one minute and walking for three minutes, then repeating the cycle. Raising and



lowering of your heart rate helps to burn calories and improves the function of your blood vessels.

Cycling

Jumping on your bike can do more than just get you from one place to another. Cycling has been shown to help reduce the risk of heart disease. It uses your large muscles in your legs,

which helps to elevate your heart rate. Bonus: Cycling has even been shown to improve your mental health.

Photo Whether you choose to hit a yoga class three times a week, go walking with a friend, or swim every morning, regular exercise is essential to taking care of your heart.

IT TAKES MSK. What does it take to understand why uterine cancer is more aggressive in Black women, so we can better fight it?

Linda C.
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HERALD SCHOOLS

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Roni Chastain/Herald photos

CONNOLLY ELEMENTARY PRINCIPAL Bryce Klatsky greets students as they wait for author Roxie Munro.

Encouraging young readers

As part of Connolly's Parents As Reading Partners week and the school's commitment to encouraging children to get excited about reading, renowned author and illustrator Roxie Munro visited Connolly Elementary School on Feb. 6.

Munro has written and illustrated over 45 nonfiction and concept books for

children, which are based in science, technology, engineering, art and math education. Most use "gamification" or interactive puzzles and games, to encourage reading, learning, and engagement.

Students received signed copies of Munro's books to add to their home libraries.



READING TEACHER PATTY Lucci, far left, PTA President Marian Iovino, fourth-grade teacher Lorraine Clementz and substitute teacher Evan Greenberg show off the books students read during the school's reading week.

GCPD Deputy Chief Chris Ortiz is a high achiever

CONTINUED FROM FRONT PAGE

news well. The elder Ortiz is an immigrant who worked in factories near Garvies Point with other immigrants looking to better the lives of their families in the 1980s. Ortiz remembers the conversation he had with his father who said, "I didn't come over here for you to become a police officer."

Despite his father's disappointment, Ortiz knew that criminal justice was his calling and persevered through his career.

He had to make a decision that would affect the rest of his life.

Since police exams vary in their employment response time, he had to take police exams for both the NYPD and Glen Cove. Although the later was his preferred choice, the NYPD accepted him first. Two weeks after graduating from the NYPD police academy's rigorous six-month training program, he received a call that he was accepted as an officer for Glen Cove.

Ortiz had to go through the Nassau County Police Academy to begin his career in the city as a patrol officer. Immediately after graduating from the police academy, Ortiz was accepted to C.W. Post Long Island University's graduate program. He earned his master's degree in 2001.

Working as an officer for the city was an eye-opening experience for Ortiz. Growing up in the city, he didn't have much interaction with the department. He always felt safe in the community.

"Seeing how much the police are involved with people, whether it be handling domestic violence calls, helping people who are lost, whatever, whatever it is, there are a lot of officers in this city that do have involvement," Ortiz said. "When you actually become a police officer here, you try to really make an impression on peo-



Courtesy Chris Ortiz

CHRIS ORTIZ'S CAREER with the Glen Cove Police Department spans two decades. He has focused on service while completing rigorous academic courses to deepen his understanding of criminal justice.

ple's lives."

Glen Cove Police Chief William Whitton, who was Ortiz's field training officer, said he's always been proud of Ortiz's accomplishments throughout his career.

In 2006, Ortiz became a sergeant and received his Ph.D. in criminal justice from John Jay College. He was so inspired by criminal justice that he became an adjunct

professor at New York Institute of Technology and taught courses in police conduct and psychology.

In 2012, he rose through the ranks becoming a lieutenant. Advancing his career further, Ortiz was selected to attend the FBI National Academy for law enforcement officers, one of the most prestigious programs of police leadership training. The program was rigorous and being away from his wife and children was a difficult experience.

He attended the training program with Det. Lt. John Nagle, who has always been impressed by Ortiz's accomplishments.

"I'd describe the deputy chief as a very capable and conscientious officer," Nagle said. "He has motivation and fire to be the best at what he does."

In 2015, Ortiz was promoted to deputy chief.

Although Ortiz was involved in many programs as a student and teacher throughout his career, he also became heavily involved with the community outside of policing. When his son was old enough to play football, he became president of the city's football and cheerleading organization. He also established a mentoring program with the city's Youth Bureau, where officers have the opportunity to connect with Glen Cove teenagers.

Ortiz's knowledge and influence gained international attention as well. Two years ago, he was asked to assist the Armenian National Police Department to help westernize their police force and deviate from a Soviet structure.

While he was training police at Yerevan, Armenia's capitol city, he was moved by carvings he saw on a park bench, which listed the names of victims of police brutality, Breonna Taylor and Renisha McBride.

"Sometimes police violence and police misconduct can have repercussions and ripples around the world," Ortiz said.

STEPPING OUT

MO'S world

By Karen Bloom

Pigeon is here. Elephant and Piggie, Knuffle Bunny, too. Families will have “Mo” fun at Long Children’s Museum, with “The Pigeon Comes to Long Island! A Mo Willems Exhibit,” which encourages all to step inside Willems’ imagination.

This being the children’s museum, of course, the traveling exhibit — co-organized by Children’s Museum of Pittsburgh and the Eric Carle Museum of Picture Book Art — is fully hands-on — inspired by the art and characters of the beloved children’s author.

“We know our audience, families, finds these books really appealing,” says Ashley Niver, the museum’s director of education. “Kids really relate to these characters, their feelings and how they work through their conflicts. The characters are playful and curious and the kids identify and respond to them.”

The familiar characters immediately get an enthusiastic response — including best friend duo Elephant and Piggie, faithful companion Knuffle Bunny, and The Pigeon, that wily city bird best known for his antics in “Don’t Let the Pigeon Drive the Bus!” Activities showcase Willems’ whimsy and humor, giving families opportunities to make art-inspired by Willems and learn about the rich social and emotional lives of the author’s characters. Illustrations, including sketches and other preliminary materials, are also on display.

At the heart of it all, the exhibit is designed to instill a love of reading.

“Mo Willems’ books are frequently the starting point for a child to understand the power of choice they hold in what to read and reread,” vice president for program and visitor experience Aimee Terzulli explains. “Willems creates characters that get children invested in wanting to spend more time with them as they choose to read more of his popular stories.”

The many components are approachable, even for the youngest kids. Highlights include:

- A bus station where kids can put on a bus driver costume and “drive around” the exhibit space.
- Kids can have hilarious conversations in the voices of Elephant, Gerald and Piggie at the “Elephone” double-sided phone booth.
- Use the hot dog launcher to launch foam hot dogs at The Pigeon and play the plinko game to give Duckling a cookie. “So silly and fun,” Niver adds. “Kids get a kick out of the hot dogs flying through the air.”
- Explore the laundromat and uncover Knuffle Bunny and other surprises among the clothes.
- Dress up Naked Mole Rat and send him down the runway for a one-of-a-kind fashion show.
- Work with the “lightbox” to try out illustration techniques that Willems uses for his books.

As always, related programming enhances the exhibit experience. The museum theater is especially active at the moment, with performances of Willem’s newest show “Don’t Let the Pigeon Drive the Bus! The Musical!” (through March 25), followed by the return of the always-popular “Elephant & Piggie’s “We are in a Play!” (April 23 to June 3).

Popular books come to life at Long Island Children’s Museum



- Now through May 14, Tuesday through Sunday, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.
- \$17 museum admission, \$16 seniors 65 and older; additional fees for theater programming
- View the LICM events calendar at LICM.org for additional information or call (516) 224-5800
- Long Island Children’s Museum, Museum Row, Garden City.



Everyone enjoys Mo fun. Each element in the gallery relates to specific books in the Mo Willems collection.

Photos courtesy Long Island Children’s Museum



The Hot Sardines

The band brings their distinctive sound to the Landmark stage. Emerging a decade ago from the underground parties of Brooklyn to touring worldwide and recording a string of albums that’s racked up more than 60 million streams across digital platforms, the Hot Sardines’ own “potent and assured” (The New York Times), “simply phenomenal” (The Times of London) brand of reinvigorated classic jazz landed them at the center of a whirlwind. Their unique recipe blends hot jazz and sultry standards from the ‘20s, ‘30s, and ‘40s, rich New Orleans sounds, a dash of ‘40s Paris flavor, and vibrant musical surprises. It’s all steeped in salty stride piano and the music Louis Armstrong, Django Reinhardt and Fats Waller used to make. The result is straight-up foot-stomping jazz. Their name says it all: their iconic ‘hot’ styling will paint a vibrant picture with smoky sounds and audiences revel in the steamy, swanky influence of their art form.

Saturday, March 6, 8 p.m.
\$60, \$50, \$46. Jeanne Rimsky Theater at Landmark on Main Street, 232 Main St., Port Washington. (516) 767-6444 or LandmarkOnMainStreet.org.



‘The Rocketman Show’

Remember when rock was young? You sure will at this tribute show. Rus Anderson, Elton John’s official body double for his Farewell Yellow Brick Road world tour launch, recreates an early Elton concert complete with colorful and flamboyant costumes actually worn by Elton himself. Enjoy a nostalgic night of Elton’s greatest hits, wildest outfits and outrageous stage antics. Anderson recreates the magic and live persona of a young Elton like no other. Storming around the stage with a fun-loving sense of flamboyance; part diva, part soccer player, killer vocalist, fierce piano player, all rock ‘n roller. His painstaking attention to detail includes wearing outlandish and spectacular costumes, including Elton’s iconic boots, glasses and jumpsuits from 1973, as well as a sparkly Swarovski tuxedo from 1984.

Friday, March 17, 8 p.m. \$60, \$45, Saturday, March 18, 8 p.m. \$65, \$45, \$35, \$30. The Paramount, 370 New York Ave., Huntington. (800) 745-3000 or Ticketmaster.com or ParamountNY.com.

THE SCENE



March 6

Brandon 'Taz' Niederauer

The young guitar sensation visits the Landmark stage, Saturday, **March 6**, 8 p.m. Nineteen-year-old Brandon Niederauer, nicknamed "Taz" for his ferocious guitar playing, is living proof that dreams really do come true. Having performed in some of the most legendary venues with many of the most prominent musicians of our time, he has already earned himself quite the reputation. It all started at eight years old, when he watched the movie "School of Rock." From then on, his guitar rarely left his hands. Just four years later, Brandon was cast in the principal role of guitarist "Zack Mooneyham" in the Tony Award-nominated Broadway production of "School of Rock the Musical." And he never looked back. \$30, \$25. Jeanne Rimsky Theater at Landmark on Main Street, 232 Main St., Port Washington. (516) 767-6444 or LandmarkOnMainStreet.org.

Art talk

Feb. 26

Meet Yong Yangliang when he visits Nassau County Museum of Art, Sunday,

Feb. 26, 3 p.m. What a journey it has been for this famous artist, from Shanghai to the Metropolitan Museum to his new studio in Roslyn. His lyrical, dreamy work is also a journey in time, back to the fabled era of Tang dynasty literature and ink painting, the inspiration for the masterwork on view. Join him for a conversation on art, poetry and Asian aesthetics today and in ancient times. Participation is limited; registration required. \$20 non-members. Nassau County Museum of Art, 1 Museum Dr., Roslyn Harbor. (516) 484-9337 or NassauMuseum.org.



Meet author Brendan Slocumb

Glen Cove Public Library offers a virtual program with Brendan Slocumb Tuesday, **Feb. 28**, 2:30 p.m. Discuss Slocumb's debut novel "The Violin Conspiracy," a mystery about a Black classical musician whose family heirloom violin is stolen at a classical music competition. To register go to GlenCoveLibrary.org. For more information contact adultprograms@glencoverlibrary.org or call (516) 676-2130.

Pet Safety in the Home

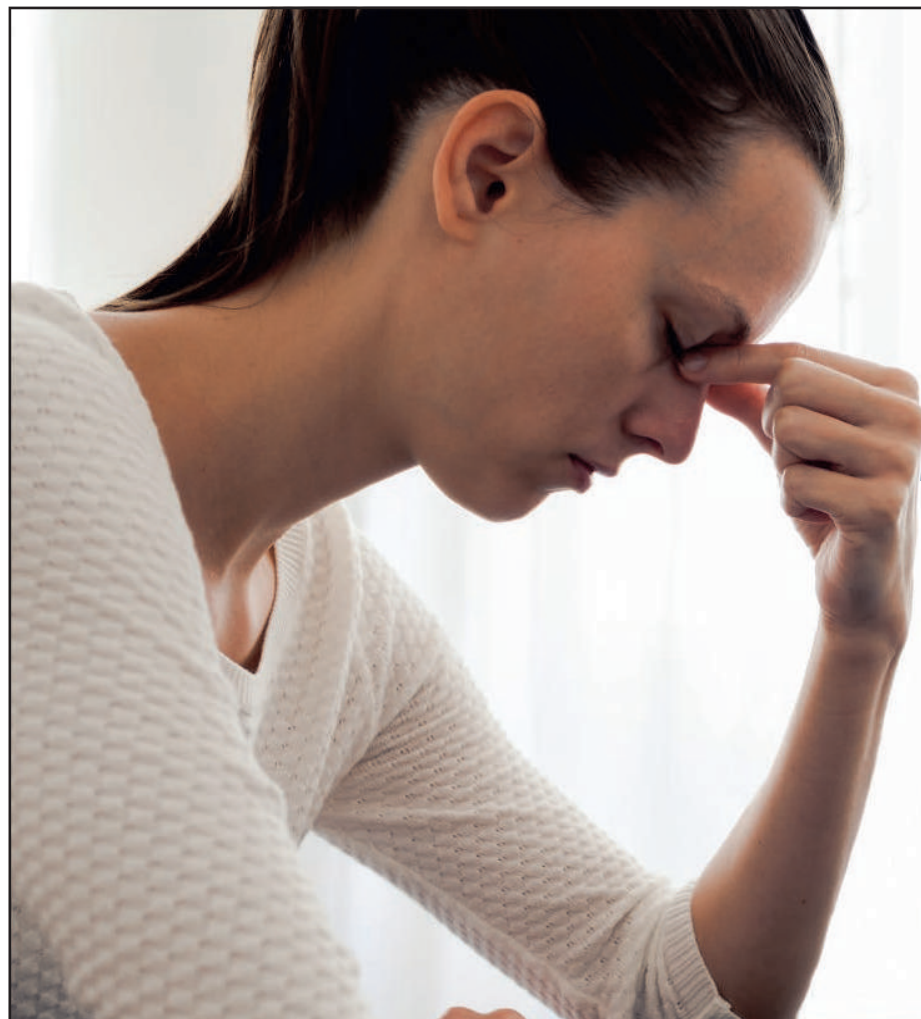
Stop by the Oyster Bay-East Norwich Public Library, 89 East Main Street, Oyster Bay, for an informative presentation on pet safety in the home, Monday, **Feb. 27**, 6:30 to 8 p.m. Attendees will learn methods to reduce potential hazards to pets as well as how to safely manage poisoning emergencies. To register contact Marion Dodson at (516) 922-1212 or mdodson@oysterbaylibrary.org.

Andy Aledort & the Groove Kings

Feb. 24

Andy Aledort & the Groove Kings perform, Friday, **Feb. 24**, starting at 8 p.m., at Still

Partners, 225 Sea Cliff Ave., Sea Cliff. Enjoy a mixture of blues, country rock and folk music. For more information call (516) 200-9229.



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Kimon Bekelis,
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Director
The Stroke and Brain Aneurysm
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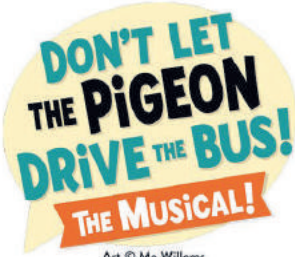


Voyage

The Journey tribute band visits The Paramount, Saturday, **Feb. 25**, 8 p.m. The popular band takes everyone back to the '80s when Journey's timeless music ruled the airwaves. Hailed by fans and critics alike as the world's top Journey tribute band, this group performs their music with chilling accuracy. Fronted by Hugo — a dead ringer for Steve Perry, both visually and vocally — he continues to delight fans with his miraculous resemblance, exact mannerisms and identical voice to Perry. Fans agree that Voyage delivers an experience to the original Steve Perry-fronted lineup. \$40, \$35, \$30, \$25. The Paramount, 370 New York Ave., Huntington. (800) 745-3000 or Ticketmaster.com or ParamountNY.com.

Senior Lunch Program

Enjoy visiting friends, with a delicious lunch and chair yoga, at the popular senior program hosted by Mutual Concerns, **every Tuesday**, 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.



On stage

Mo Willems' popular The Pigeon comes alive on the Long Island Children's Museum stage, Friday and Saturday, **Feb. 24-25**, 2 p.m.; Thursday, March 2, 10:15 a.m. and noon. LICM, Museum Row, Garden City. (516) 224-5800 or LICM.org.

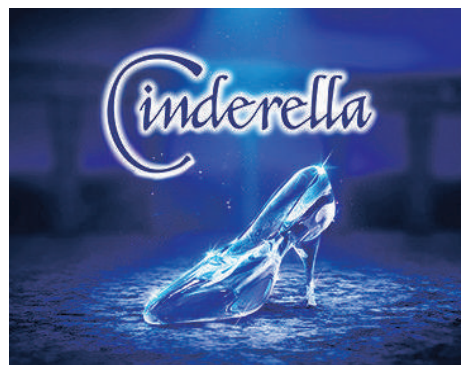
Mark Whitaker and Tracey Edwards

In honor of Black History Month, Theodore's Books hosts a conversation between journalist and author Mark Whitaker and the Long Island Regional Director of the NAACP Tracey Edwards, Sunday, **Feb. 26**, 4 p.m. They will discuss Whitaker's latest book "Saying it Loud: 1966 – The Year Black Power Challenged the Civil Rights Movement." The event, at 17 Audrey Ave., in Oyster Bay, is free and open to the public. RSVP at TheodoresBooks.com. For more information contact (516) 636-5550.



Snacking around the world

Families can stop by Bayville Free Library for some international snacking, Thursday through Saturday, **Feb. 23-25**, 11 a.m. to 6 p.m., 34 School Street in Bayville, Kids in grades 6-12 can sample international potato chips, chocolates, biscuits and more, and write a review on the library's social media page. For more information contact teens@bayvillefreelibrary.org or call (516) 628-2765.



Family theater

The beloved fairy tale springs to life in a delightful musical romp, presented Plaza Theatrical Productions, Friday, **Feb. 24**, 11 a.m.; Sunday, Feb. 26, noon. All the ingredients that have made this story a perennial favorite are here, including

Cinderella, a zany Godmother, a trip to the royal ball, and a glass slipper. Tickets are \$16. Visit the Plaza stage at The Showplace at Bellmore Movies, 222 Pettit Ave., Bellmore. For information/tickets, go to PlazaTheatrical.com or call (516) 599-6870.



Absolute Adele

Vocalist Jennifer Cella, who performs with the Trans-Siberian Orchestra, returns to her alma mater, Nassau Community College, with a tribute to Adele, Saturday, **Feb. 25**, 7:30 p.m. and 9:30 p.m. Mainstage Theatre, Garden City. Tickets are available through the NCC online box office at Nassau.BookTix.com/seating.php. For information, visit NCC.edu or call (516) 572-7676.

Musical revue

Plaza Theatrical continues its season with "Bette, Babs & Beyond!," a showstopping tribute to the legendary ladies of music, Sunday, **Feb. 26**, 2:30 p.m. Celebrate the stories and songs of pop music's most iconic women, at Plaza's stage at the Elmont Library Theatre, 700 Hempstead Turnpike, Elmont. \$40, \$35 seniors. For tickets, call (516) 599-6870 or visit PlazaTheatrical.com.

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.

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Don't delay! Application deadline is **March 1, 2023**.

Applications should be sent to Jennifer Stone, HR Director, Herald Community Media at careers@liherald.com

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FIRST CENTRAL SAVINGS BANK

Connecting trails from Manhattan to Montauk

By MALLORY WILSON

mwilson@iherald.com

Stretching some 175 miles, the Long Island Greenway is intended to serve walkers and cyclists alike on a trail beginning in Manhattan and terminating on the east end of Montauk.

The brainchild of the nonprofit Trust for Public Land, the trail would connect parks, trail and other public land within communities, allowing people to bike, jog or walk for leisure. And, in many cases, could even become a green means to commute to work.

Construction is set to begin next year, focusing on a 25-mile stretch between Eisenhower Park in East Meadow and Brentwood State Park.

“The abundance of beautiful parklands, trails and natural open spaces are one of the aspects that make our island such a desirable place to live,” John Cameron, Long Island Regional Planning Council chair, said in a release. “The Long Island Greenway will connect our communities and enable Long Islanders to better enjoy an active lifestyle.”

Carter Strickland, the Trust for Public Land state director, presented details about the project’s progress to the planning council last week. That includes a trail linking 26 parks, 46 train stations and 60 bus routes through a combination of off-road and on-road connections among more than two-dozen communities. It’s estimated to draw roughly 34 million visitors annually.

“Some of the benefits of ending in these existing parks — or beginning — is that they have bathrooms, they have parking areas, we can minimize that need to build anything new,” Strickland said. “Along the themes of making the most of our existing assets, that’s the whole vision.”

Throughout this 25-mile stretch, there are more than 130,000 residents who would find access. More than a



Courtesy Metro Commons

THE LONG ISLAND Greenway, a 175-mile bicycle and pedestrian trail, aims to get people more active within nature and their communities. The first phase of construction — connecting Eisenhower Park to Brentwood State Park — is set to start next year.

dozen parks can be accessed by the trail, and another 36 schools and universities are within a mile.

One of the benefits of the trail overall, Strickland says, include a safer area for pedestrians and bikers to traverse.

“Long Island, unfortunately, kind of leads the state in terms of pedestrians killed or injured,” he said. “The statewide average is a third or a quarter of the amounts in Nassau and Suffolk, and it’s a public health crisis. We’ve got to address it.”

Increased physical activity is another reason to sup-

port this trail.

“We know that in our day and age, obesity, chronic diseases are problematic,” Strickland said. “It’s what kind of plagues us. To prevent that, one of the best ways is to create recreational infrastructure, increase walking, or biking physical activities. It doesn’t always have to be super-rigorous.”

“If we weave it into our lives, it’ll make us healthier, and overall reduce health care costs.”

The route aims to include the Nassau Hub, Belmont Park, and others throughout the island. The greenway would be the Long Island leg of New York state’s 750-mile Empire Trail that connects New York City to areas like Buffalo, Albany and Plattsburgh.

The plan is funded through a combination of private and taxpayer support. Now, the trust is applying for a federal grant to pay for the second phase of the trail between Riverhead and Montauk — approximately 50 miles.

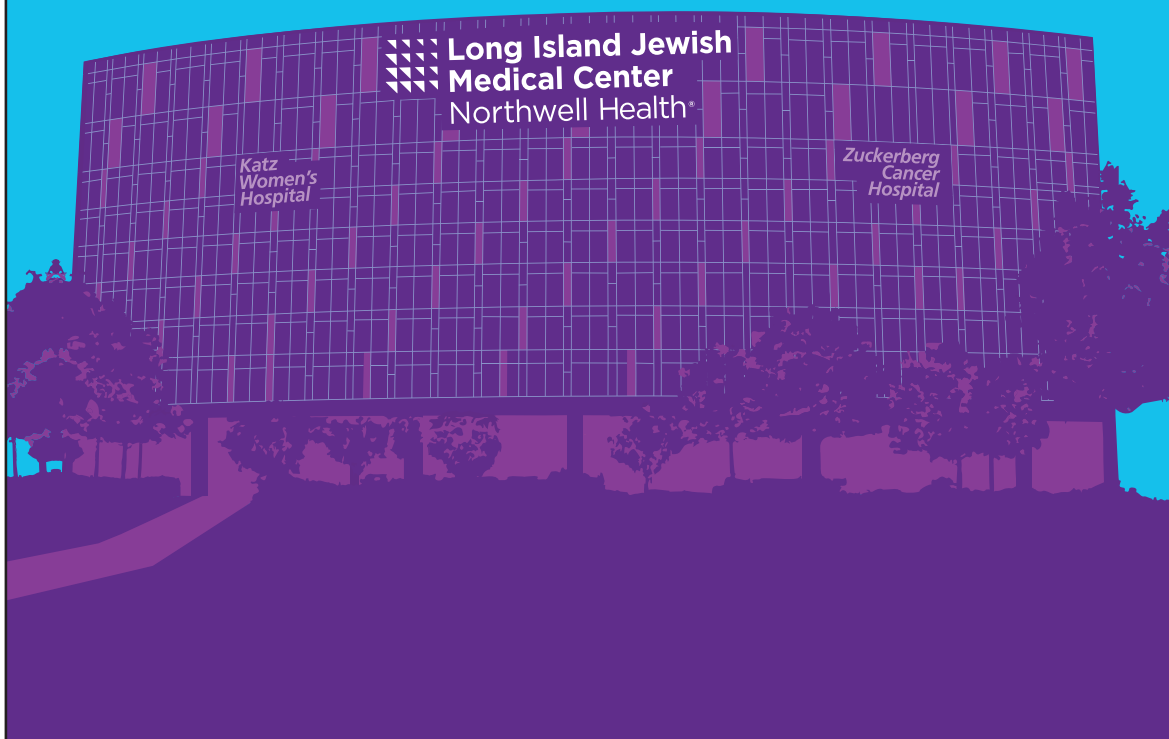
They hope to get a grant under President Biden’s infrastructure law and its Rebuilding American Infrastructure with Sustainability and Equity program. With the support of the planning council, Strickland sent a letter to the U.S. Department of Transportation showing its support for grant money to help with the design stage of the next leg.

“The benefits of hike and bike trail networks are well-documented,” the letter, signed by Cameron, stated. “Trails create more livable communities through the revitalization of downtown areas and creation of transportation alternatives, improve public health by increasing access to recreational opportunities, and represent a meaningful equity investment in providing safe infrastructure to diminish reliance on private vehicle ownership.”

The trust hopes to be construction-ready for the second phase by 2025.

GLEN COVE HERALD — February 23, 2023

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POR MEDIO DEL
PRESENTE SE NOTIFICA
que se llevara a cabo una
reunion especial de
los votantes calificados de
la Biblioteca Publica de
Glen Cove en
conformidad con lo
dispuesto en la Seccion
260 y 270 de la Ley de
Educacion de Estado de
Nueva York, en dicho
Distrito el 4 de Abril de
2023 entra las 9am y las
9pm Dicha reunion sera
de ayunda para los
siguientes fines:
Para votar sobre las
siguientes prosiciones:

SE HA RESUELTO que el
presupuesto propuesto de
la Bilioteca Publica de
Glen Cove, Distrito
Escolar de la Ciudad de
Glen Cove segun lo
preparado por los
Fideicomisarios de dicha
Biblioteca publica para el
ano 2023/2024, y segun
se haya modificado, se
apruebe por la presente; y
que la cantidad de los
mismos, menos los
recibos, se aumenta
mediante la recaudacion
de un impuesto sobre
bienes inmuebles
gravables en dicho
Distrito Escolar.
Con el fin de elegir; un (1)
Fideicomisario de la
Biblioteca Publica de Glen
Cove por un (5) mandato
de cinco anos.
La votacion sobre los
asuntos mencionados se
emitira mediante urnas.
POR FAVOR, TOME NOTA
que la junta de la
Biblioteca, en
conformidad con lo
dispuesto en la Seccion
260 y 2007 de la Ley de
Educacion, convoca dicha
reunion Especial de
Distrito.
SE DA AVISO ADICIONAL,
que las peticiones que
nominan al candidato
para el cargo de
administrador de la
Biblioteca Publica de Glen
Cove deben presentarse
al secretario entre las
horas de 9am y las 5pm.,
a mas tardar el 6 de
marzo de 2023, el
trigesimo dia anterior a la
eleccion, momento en el
cual sera elegido el
candidato asi nominado.
Cada peticion de
nominacion debe dirigirse
al Secretario del Distrito,
debe estar firmada por al
menos veinticinco (25)
votantes calificados del
Distrito, debe ondcar la
residencia de cada
firmante y debe indicar el
nombre y la residencia del
candidato.
Los formularios de
muestra las peticiones se
pueden obtener del
Secretario de Distrito en
la Biblioteca Publica de
Glen Cove, 4 Glen Cove
Ave., Glen Cove, Nueva
York
SE DA ADVISO
ADICIONAL, que una
copia de los gastos
estimaados propuestos
para ser votados estara
disponible en la
Biblioteca Publica de Glen
Cove, 4 Glen Cove Ave.,
Glen Cove, Nueva York,
entra las 9am y 5pm
todos los dias, except los
sabados, domingos o
festivos durante los
catorce dias anteriores a
dicha reunion.
SE DA ADVISO
ADICIONAL, que la Junta
de la Biblioteca Publica
de Glen Cove realizara
una audiencia especial
sobre el presupuesto el
21 de marzo 2023 en la
Biblioteca Publica de Glen
Cove, 4 Glen Cove Ave.,
Glen Cove, Nueva York. a
las 7pm
SE DA ADVISO
ADICIONAL, que los
votantes calificados del
Distrito pueden inscribirse
entre las 9am y 4 pm. La
fecha final para

registrarse para la
reunion que se celebrara
el 231 de marzo de 2023
es el 6 de marzo 2023. Si
un votante ha votado en
alguna eleccion en los
ultimos 4 anos 2019 o si
es elegible para votar
conforme al Artículo 5 de
la Ley Electoral, el o ella
es elegible para votar en
este eleccion. Todos las
demas personas que
deseen votar registrarse.
La lista de registro
preparado por la Junta de
Elecciones de Condado de
Nassau se Archivarán
en la oficina del
secretario de Distrito de
la Biblioteca Publica de
Glen Cove, 4 Glen Cove
Ave, Glen Cove, Nueva
York, y estara abierta a
inspeccion por cualquier
votante calificado Del
Distrito entre las horas de
9am y 4pm hora vigente
cualquier dia despues del
martes 6 de marzo 2023 y
cada uno de los dis
anteriores a la fecha
establecidos para la
Eleccion de la Biblioteca y
la Votacion de
Presupuesto, except los
sabados, domingos o dias
festivos, incluida la fecha
establecida para la
reunion.
BOLETAS AUSENTES
POR FAVOR, TOME
NOTA, que las solicitudes
de boletas de votacion en
ausencia. Para la Eleccion
de la Bibliotecas y la
Votacion de Presupuesto
se puede solicitar en las
oficinas del Secretario del
Distrito, de la Biblioteca
Publica de Glen Cove, 4
Glen Cove Ave., Glen
Cove, Nueva York. Tales
solicitudes deben
recibirse al menos (7)
siete dias antes de las
elecciones si se va a enviar
la boleta al votante.
Ninguna boleta de
votante ausente sera
votada a menos que haya
sido recibida en la oficina
de Secretario de Distrito,
en la Biblioteca Publica
de Glen Cove, 4 Glen
Cove Ave, Glen Cove,
Nueva York a mas tardar
a las 5:00 pm hora del
dia, en el Fecha de la
eleccion.
Gina Rant
Oficinista
137408

LEGAL NOTICE
NOTICE OF SPECIAL
LIBRARY DISTRICT
MEETING ON APRIL 4,
2023, OF GLEN COVE
PUBLIC LIBRARY TO VOTE
ON THE PUBLIC LIBRARY
BUDGET
AND ELECT TWO
TRUSTEES OF THE GLEN
COVE PUBLIC LIBRARY
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN
that a Special meeting of
the qualified voters of the
Glen Cove Public Library
will be held pursuant to
the provisions of Section
260 and 2007 of the
Education Law of the
State of New York at the
Glen Cove Public Library,
4 Glen Cove Ave., Glen
Cove, New York, in said
District on April 4, 2023
between the hours of 9
a.m. and 9 p.m. Said
meeting will be held for
the following purposes:
To vote on the following
proposition:

RESOLVED that the
proposed budget of the
Glen Cove Public Library,
Glen Cove City School
District, as prepared by
the Trustees of the said
Public Library, for the
year 2023/2024, and as
the same may have been
amended, be and hereby
is approved; and that the
amount thereof, less
receipts, be raised by the
levy of a tax upon the
taxable real property in
the said School District.
For the purpose of
electing; one (1) Trustee
for the Glen Cove Public
Library. For a (5) five-year
term.
The vote on the aforesaid
matters will be cast by
ballot in a ballot box.
PLEASE TAKE FURTHER
NOTICE that the Library
Board pursuant to the
provisions of Section 260
and 2007 of the
Education Law hereby
calls said Special District
Meeting.
FURTHER NOTICE IS
HEREBY GIVEN that
petitions nominating the
candidate for the office of
Trustee of the Glen Cove
Public Library must be
filed with the Clerk of the
District between hours of
9 a.m. and 5 p.m., no
later than MARCH 6,
2023, the thirtieth day
preceding the election, at
which time the candidate
so nominated is to be
elected. Each nominating
petition shall be directed
to the Clerk of the
District, must be signed
by at least twenty-five
(25) qualified voters of
the District, shall state
the residence of each
signer, and must state the
name and residence of
the candidate.
Sample forms of the
petitions may be obtained
from the Clerk of the
District at the Glen Cove
Public Library, 4 Glen
Cove Ave., Glen Cove,
New York.
FURTHER NOTICE IS
HEREBY GIVEN that a
copy of the proposed
estimated expenditures to
be voted upon shall be
made available at the
Glen Cove Public Library,
4 Glen Cove Ave., Glen
Cove, New York, between
the hours of 9 a.m. and 5
p.m. each day other than
Saturday, Sunday or
holiday, during the
fourteen days preceding
such meeting.
FURTHER NOTICE IS
HEREBY GIVEN that the
Board of Trustees of the
Glen Cove Public Library
will hold a special budget
hearing on March 21,
2023 at the Glen Cove
Public Library, 4 Glen
Cove Ave., Glen Cove,
New York at 7:00 p.m.
FURTHER NOTICE IS
HEREBY GIVEN that the
qualified voters of the
District may register
between the hours of 9
a.m. and 9 p.m. at the
Glen Cove Public Library,
4 Glen Cove Ave., Glen
Cove, New York. The final
date to register for the
meeting to be held on
March 21, 2023 is March
6, 2023. If a voter has
voted in any election

ON THE ROAD WITH A TAKEOUT QUEEN

Spicy to go

When the groundhog revealed there will be six more weeks of winter, I was bummed. I needed something to spice up my life until spring. What faster way to do that than eat spicy foods? So, this month I tried new, spicy dishes in our neighborhood I'm happy to share with you. The trouble is everyone has a different spicy-eater-meter. What's delightfully spicy for one person might turn another into a fire breathing dragon. To solve the problem, each time I tasted a spicy dish, I timed how long the fiery flavor lingered in my mouth. Below, I call it "Spicy Food Linger Time" — SFLT. Which dishes will work best for you?



CATHI TUROW

- **Cactus Cafe** (214 Glen Cove Ave., Glen Cove) The potato jalapeno soup and corn chowder have returned for the winter. I ordered them together and hoped for a spicy kick. Though the potato jalapeno soup was creamy, thick, and luscious, it was not spicy. I guess the potatoes decided to take over. On the other hand, the corn chowder, filled with generous portions of shredded chicken and vegetables, was quite spicy. SFLT: 53 seconds.
- **Youngs Farm** (91 Hegemans Lane, Old Brookville) The vegetarian chili and turkey chili just made their debut and will be in the shop through July. Both are loaded with beans and vegetables fresh off the farm. On a chilly winter day, they'll make you feel as if you're sitting beside a toasty fireplace in a country home. The vegetarian chili's spice level is just a mild afterthought, but the turkey chili dances around on your tongue a bit longer. SFLT: 6 seconds.
- **Wild Honey** (1 E. Main St., Oyster

Bay) There's a new afternoon menu package the owners call Wine & Dine Lunch. Choose two courses plus a glass of any type of their pouring wines for \$32. Since I was on a spicy mission, I ordered the Vegan Pad Thai Bowl. The very thinly zucchini squash and carrots taste like spaghetti strands with a slight crunch. They're joined by edamame, peanuts, and Lime Pad Thai sauce. The sauce gives it a salty-spicy kick. SFLT: 9 seconds.

I paired my dish with the green apple & grains salad: baby greens, quinoa, farro, bleu cheese crumbles and dried cranberries. The bleu cheese and grains grasped each other with such grace, I couldn't tell where one ended and the next began. They were surrounded by roasted apple slices, salad leaves and dried cranberries. Together, they seemed to swoon, "We belong together." Next time, I'll try the flounder fish tacos with red cabbage, pico de gallo and chipotle aioli, or the chicken Milanese salad.

- **NY Chicken and Rice** (214 Glen Cove Ave. D, Glen Cove) The new special is known as fire fries. Need I say more? The dish consists of a generous portion of Cajun waffle fries, smothered in red schug (a hot, Middle Eastern sauce), then drizzled with sriracha sauce. It's delicious, but if you toss a few in your mouth in succession, the spicy flavor will hang out for a while. SFLT: 13 minutes.

So that's it, though this could be the start of something big. Maybe every restaurant in America should include SFLT levels. See you next month!

Cathi Turow can be reached at: cturowtakeout@gmail.com

HERALD PUBLIC NOTICES

within the last 4 years (2019) or if he or she is eligible to vote under Article 5 of Election Law, he or she is eligible to vote at this election. All other persons who wish to vote must register. The registration list prepared by the Board of Elections of Nassau County will be filed in the Office of the District Clerk of the Glen Cove Public Library, 4 Glen Cove Ave., Glen Cove, New York and will be open for inspection by any qualified voter of the district between the hours of 9 a.m. and 9 p.m. prevailing time, on any day after Tuesday, March 6, 2023, and each of the days prior to the date set for the Library Election and Budget Vote, except Saturday, Sunday or holiday, including the date set for the meeting.

ABSENTEE BALLOTS
PLEASE TAKE FURTHER NOTICE that an application for an absentee ballot for the Library election and budget vote may be applied for at the office of the District Clerk, of Glen Cove Public Library, 4 Glen Cove Ave., Glen Cove, New York. Such application must be received at least (7) seven days before the election if the ballot is to be mailed to the voter, or the day before the election if the ballot is to be delivered personally to the voter. No absentee voter ballot shall be canvassed unless it shall have been received at the office of the District Clerk, Glen Cove Public Library, 4 Glen Cove Ave., New York, not later than 5:00 p.m., prevailing time, on the date of the election.

Gina Rant
Clerk
137406
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OPINIONS

Is creativity a thing of the past?

Human civilization has developed side by side with technology — some may say, in competition with it. Technological innovations have diminished the need for workers in jobs requiring physical labor, efficient repetition or mass production, because such skills are easily replaceable.



ILANA GREENBERG

Artificial intelligence is a leap forward in such technology that is no longer a dream of science fiction movies. Rather, it is a reality that threatens to change the way we interact with the world. AI recognizes our faces when we unlock our iPhones, gives

us movie recommendations on our favorite streaming services, and now, with the creation of ChatGPT, AI is a student's dream come true: It can write essays.

Historically, the replacement of humans with machines isn't an uncommon occurrence. And now I can't help

but ask, is creativity, too, a thing of the past?

Before machines, there were skills valued as attributes that couldn't be replicated. During the Industrial Revolution, however, the skill of sewing a dress — and later, in the second Industrial Revolution, the ability to put a tire on a car — became devalued, because they were no longer abilities unique to humans. A "skilled" worker wasn't enough; machines were just as "skilled," and technology had raised the standard.

In more recent times, the achievements of NASA's "human computers," whose intellect put a man on the moon, no longer compare to the mathematical and computational power of the smartphones we hold in our hands. Even intelligence seems to be replaceable. Now a computer claims to generate creativity, jeopardizing the jobs of those with abilities like programming and writing. If your talent is something that a computer can do, it's not good enough.

As a student with access to techno-

logical resources that simplify everything from conducting research to learning a language, I suppose I should embrace technological advancement. But quite frankly, I'm tired of it. For one thing, my dependence on the newest

gadgets and gizmos has limited my practical abilities. I don't know how to search through a library to conduct a research project. I find it difficult to study without online aids. And I can't even hand in an assignment without internet access to Google Classroom.

Is it too much to ask to be able to turn in an essay without worrying that a teacher will question

whether it was written by a robot?

I fear that technology has not only limited our independence in our daily activities, but has also undermined the values of hard work and self-achievement. My high school offers an introductory class called Writing Lab, giving ninth-graders a year of individualized instruction on how to craft a concise and engaging essay. But ChatGPT knows how to write an introduction, a thesis

and three body paragraphs — with citations in MLA format — in less than a minute, which is more than some freshmen can do by the end of the year.

The potential uses of ChatGPT raise a host of philosophical questions. If, supposedly, technology's completion of creative tasks is as effortless as its mastery of physical labor, does this suggest that creativity isn't a distinctly human quality? And that creativity itself is synthetic, predictable and reproducible?

I worry about what effect this will have on my own future. Will there come a day when years devoted to academic achievement will be devalued in an instant? And, even scarier, is every hour that I devote to my love of writing now worth no more than a two-minute chatbot query?

To ease my concerns, I imagine that we can learn to live in cooperation with technology, not in competition with it. The true value of progress lies in our use of the tools at our disposal to enhance, not replace, human achievement. Let's remember that technology is our puppet. We are still its masters.

Ilana Greenberg, of Valley Stream, is a sophomore at North Shore Hebrew Academy High School, in Great Neck.

Thirteenth letter to my grandchildren

Hey, sweeties,
Can it be that you are now 20, 18, 16 and 14?
Do you read the paper?? Are you catching this online? Or is this exercise something I do to feel connected with all of you, geographically scattered, but emotionally the pulsing blips on my grandma radar?



RANDI KREISS

Stay with me. This is a big ask, and a big confession.

Authentic, uncomplicated love is a precious thing, and when I think of each of you, every single day, singing or sad, dancing, skiing, studying, making videos, shooting hoops,

finding friends, making trouble, growing into your own skins, what I feel is that ... uncomplicated love.

From time to time over the years, I've dedicated columns to you. The moments seemed to demand it. I imagine readers understand the impulse to put a pin in history for the next generation as we live our lives.

In 2008 I wrote a celebratory column etching in memory the election of

Barack Obama. Of course, you were only 5, 3 and 1. One of you hadn't been born yet. You had no way to know how profoundly that election changed history.

Then I wrote in 2012. I was worrying about President Obama's re-election. He was running again Mitt Romney, but Romney was a decent man, and the stakes didn't feel like life and death. I wrote to you about the Arab Spring and concerns about the economy, but all in all, things were OK.

In 2017, my letter to you described the shocking political tragedy of Donald Trump's election and all the ways it threatened our freedom, our democracy and our sense of right and wrong. It turned out worse than I imagined. Trump's ascension cleaved America in half, and we are still in bitter conflict. By then you were 14, 12, 10 and 8.

In the next election, 2024, two of you will vote.

I start with the political because the personal we share day to day, with calls and texts and intuition and telepathy. My worries aren't so much for each of you, but for all of us, collectively.

Since that 2017 letter, you've survived a global pandemic that killed more than

a million people in our country. One million. We closed your schools, subjected you to constant Covid tests, and canceled your sports, your proms and your college dreams. The pandemic threatened your health, confined you to your rooms and compromised your life for over two years.

We were scared, and we didn't have any defense against a virus that could kill so many people so quickly.

I say this to acknowledge what you suffered, your disappointment and your pain in all that was lost. We can't change the catastrophe that was Covid-19. The four of you, and millions of other kids,

got through it, day after boring day, and I am in awe of your resilience and strength. How do you trust the world again? We read that anxiety and stress are epidemic among teens.

So this is your time, and your challenge.

The story of hope is written in our history. Teenagers have survived and healed and triumphed and lived brilliant lives after world wars, genocide and national disasters. Today in Ukraine, teens are fighting for their

The four of you, and millions of other kids, got through the pandemic, and I am in awe.

lives. Every day in our high schools, teenagers must summon courage to attend class in a gun-crazed society.

We have let you down with our disregard for our planet. We have allowed fakery to displace truth in our communications. We have sent clowns to Congress.

For those of us who believe in a free and fair and healthy America, our backs are to the wall. Across the country, women's rights have been upended. In Florida, which is ground zero for racism and division, a state college won't host an art display called Embracing Our Differences because it depicts racial and gender diversity. And Pensacola Christian College canceled a performance by an a cappella group because one of the singers is gay.

This is another pandemic, of bigotry and fear.

You kids have survived a historic global catastrophe. Give it its due, get the help to get yourselves healthy again, and then do the work that will make America healthy again. We can only move forward, and many of us are here to help. As I said, it's a big ask, but I have faith in each of you and the energy of your rising generation.

Love, Grandma

Copyright 2023 Randi Kreiss. Randi can be reached at randik3@aol.com.

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HERALD EDITORIAL

Teddy Roosevelt: a president who defied labels

Monday was Presidents Day, a holiday that, unless you work in a bank or the government or a school, you might have missed.

At the federal level, the holiday marks the birthday of George Washington, who was born Feb. 22, 1732. It's observed on the third Monday of February, and is intended to honor not only Washington, but all the presidents — whether you liked them or not.

It's easy to label many of our presidents. Washington, of course, was the “father of the country.” Abraham Lincoln was a liberator and a unifier — even if it took a war to make that happen. James Madison was a father, too — considered the “father of the Constitution.”

While many commanders in chief would find their way to Long Island for various reasons, none have a connection to our home like Teddy Roosevelt, the 26th president, who spent the last 30 years of his life at his beloved Sagamore Hill in Oyster Bay.

Although he was born in New York City, the Roosevelt family had a long association with Long Island, like many wealthy families in the city at the time. Teddy, however, came to love 150 acres or so of land on Cove Neck — just north of Oyster Bay Cove — that he bought just before he entered politics in 1880, when he was just 22.

He would spend upward of \$500,000 in today's money to build a 22-room mansion he had intended to call Leeholm, after his wife, Alice. But she died before the house was finished, and Teddy would

remarry. Instead of naming it in honor of future First Lady Edie Carow, Teddy instead named it Sagamore Hill, an Algonquin word for “chief.”

Labeling Roosevelt is no easy task. When he first stepped into the White House as president in 1901, following the assassination of William McKinley, he was a Republican. Yet he was also described as “progressive” — something many Republicans today would consider an insult.

T.R. was certainly a conservative — for the environment, that is. In just a few years, he doubled the amount of forests protected by the federal government. He did so much that Congress limited the power the president had to designate national forests.

Teddy, however, was also an imperialist. “Speak softly, and carry a big stick — you will go far” summed up his approach to international diplomacy of coming in peace, but if things don't go your way, be ready to back it up with might.

While we see the United States as a military superpower today, at the beginning of the 20th century it was not. European powers counted their soldiers in the millions. America? In the tens of thousands. It wouldn't be until the U.S. entry into World War I — in the final two years of Roosevelt's life — that President Woodrow Wilson would commit billions of dollars to build what he called a million-man army.

Even with a small military, Teddy was committed to supporting the Monroe Doctrine, which treated any European influence on the politics of the Americas

as a hostile act against the United States.

Roosevelt used the doctrine not only to kick Spain out of Cuba, but also to construct the Panama Canal. The Monroe Doctrine had never been popular in other countries of the Americas, but it never bothered Teddy.

He was a fan of diversity, but only to a point. During the Spanish-American War, his Rough Riders took men from all walks of life. And T.R. appointed more African Americans to federal government positions than all the presidents before him — combined.

But Roosevelt made it clear that once you were an American, you were an American. That hyphens should be left at the door, fearing it would permit the United States to become a “tangle of squabbling nationalities.”

These are just some examples of where Teddy's policies and philosophy conflicted with both major political parties of today. Then again, a lot has changed in the 120-plus years since he was in the White House, and where we draw the lines in 2023 is much different from where they were drawn in the sand in 1901.

No matter his philosophy, his triumphs — even his flaws — we can't deny that Teddy Roosevelt was very much his own man, and because of that, was also a great president. The United States is a better place today because of his leadership.

Here's hoping you didn't overlook Presidents Day, and miss how special Roosevelt's role was, especially right here in our own backyard.

LETTERS

Randi takes on George Santos

To the Editor:

Thanks to Randi Kreiss for her column last week, “Minx or madman: the George Santos story,” on the enigmatic nut job, George Santos, or whatever his name may be.

I worry for our kids and grandkids and the future of America. Just what is warping our brains? It started with the vast wasteland of TV for us baby boomers, and continues with portable devices/social media.

And why do 99.9 percent of the cuckoos surface in the Republican Party?

As I write, I'm babysitting for our newest grandson, who's 2½. How to teach him the difference between good and evil, right and wrong? Is there hope? And is “Paw Patrol” a safe venue to begin his adventures?

Thank you, Randi, for your contributions each week. They're a ray of hope, sanity and humor in a chaotic landscape.

RICK HERMAN
Lido Beach



OPINIONS

It's time for our energy to go public

Most Long Islanders are rightly confused about who is responsible for our ever-rising electricity bills. On TV we see PSEG commercials. On the streets we see PSEG trucks. We get our electric bills from PSEG. Yet there is also the Long Island Power Authority, as well as National Grid. Who does what? And how does this add up to unnecessarily high electric bills?



FRED HARRISON

Long Island has a unique way of providing electricity to customers. The Long Island Power Authority, which most people know little about, owns the wires and substations. But this public authority hires private

companies like PSEG to actually run the system. Nor does LIPA own any power plants. It purchases the electricity we use mostly from National Grid, the same company that sells natural gas on Long Island.

LIPA was created by New York state after the Long Island Lighting Company almost bankrupted ratepayers with its

failed Shoreham nuclear power plant. LIPA brought in another for-profit utility, KeySpan, to manage and operate the system. KeySpan was later bought out by National Grid. Still with me?

After National Grid badly mismanaged the preparation for and aftermath of Hurricane Sandy, it was replaced by PSEG, a New Jersey-based utility. PSEG's own management performance proved so terrible during Hurricane Isaias, in 2020, that LIPA sued it for "corporate mismanagement, misfeasance, incompetence and indifference." The suit was withdrawn only after a new LIPA-PSEG contract was renegotiated last spring, imposing more controls over PSEG for the remaining three years of the agreement, through 2025.

Three for-profit utilities — LILCO, KeySpan/National Grid and PSEG — have made lots of money off Long Island ratepayers. Even though LIPA pays PSEG an \$80-million-per-year management fee, LIPA has faced continual frustration. Most recently, PSEG has been taken to task for its dismal customer satisfaction

ratings. LIPA board members past and present have voiced serious questions about continuing to "outsource" our electrical system.

State legislators from Long Island, working with ratepayers, community groups and the Reimagine LIPA campaign, created after Isaias, lobbied for the establishment of a state legislative commission to chart a future for LIPA without PSEG. The Legislative Commission on the Future of LIPA, created last spring, has been tasked with coming up with a plan for 2025 that would allow LIPA to run the electrical system directly, saving ratepayers lots of money.

This is neither a radical nor a fanciful idea. Nonprofit, publicly owned electric systems are common. In some of the most conservative states in the nation, like Nebraska and Mississippi, virtually every community is served by a nonprofit utility. These public power systems are a matter of civic pride and customer satisfaction. Like water service, electric power works best when not run by private interests.

Hundreds of businesses on Long Island

have long sought the low-cost electricity made available by the New York Power Authority, the state's nonprofit power supplier. The communities of Freeport and Rockville Centre have nonprofit municipal electric systems, and enjoy rates that are as much as 40 percent lower than what the rest of us PSEG customers pay.

How do they do it? They eliminate as much profit-making as possible from the cost of electricity. Getting rid of high salaries at PSEG and profits for its shareholders would mean major saving for ratepayers. Public ownership, through LIPA, of renewable electricity sources would dramatically reduce the cost of that electricity.

Eliminating the profit from the production of electricity is a sure-fire way of lowering rates. And it's a tried-and-true idea. The New York Power Authority has been providing cheap electricity for over 60 years. LIPA and Long Island ratepayers need the same opportunity. Now is the time to move forward on the full municipalization of LIPA.

Fred Harrison, a retired history teacher at Calhoun High School in Merrick, is a ratepayer advocate working with Food and Water Watch, which is part of the Reimagine LIPA campaign.

For-profit utilities have made too much money off Long Island customers.

LETTERS

The polarization began many years before Clinton and Trump

To the Editor:

Re Peter King's column last week, "How political extremism became the norm": Mr. King's answer goes astray from the start, using Yeats too broadly. "Things fall apart; the center cannot hold..." applies to only one party. With Mr. King's 28 years of experience in Congress, he must remember that the major turning point toward extremism was House Speaker Newt Gingrich's intentional and explicit radicalism.

"This war," Gingrich said, "has to be fought with a scale and a duration and a savagery that is only true of civil wars," and he referred to Democrats as "thugs," "crooks" and "traitors." Thus, Clinton-Trump in 2016 was the fruit, not the root, of our current polarization.

Mr. King is also surely aware of House Speaker Kevin McCarthy's trajectory from Tea Party aggression through Freedom Caucus ideology to the "further rejection of tradition and civility" the current House displays. Mr. King's call for the "sane forces on both sides to step forward" is disingenuous, because the sane Republicans have been culled. Mr. King, being among the sane, should volunteer his

counsel to any others he can find.

BRIAN KELLY
Rockville Centre

Go easy on the coffee, East Side LIRR riders

To the Editor:

Re Juan Lasso's story "Full LIRR service to East Side finally coming" in last week's issue: Not when it comes to critical ridership amenities.

Remember the long lines commuters faced in the Seventh Avenue Penn Station LIRR restrooms? At the new \$12.6 billion LIRR East Side Access Grand Central Madison terminal, nothing has changed. There are only two men's restrooms, with a total of 18 urinals and 13 toilets; two women's restrooms, with a total of 25 toilets; one lactation room; and two single-capacity gender-neutral bathrooms. If you have to go, you'd better have a strong bladder to make it from the upper- or lower-level platforms and mezzanine to a restroom on the Madison Concourse level.

LARRY PENNER
Great Neck

Larry Penner is a transportation advocate, historian and writer who served as a director in the Federal Transit Administration Region 2 New York Office of Operations and Program Management.

FRAMEWORK by Tim Baker



An iconic image memorialized at Eisenhower Park — East Meadow



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