HERAL



Regency marks 30 years

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White House in Brookville

Page 4

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Adrienne Daley/Herald

A bike parade on the Fourth

Hannah, left, and Julie Steihauser joined Josie Bianco and Nicole Minaya to bike around Glen Cove in the annual parade that celebrated July Fourth. More photos, Page 10.

'The Best Feast in the East' celebrates Italian culture

By ROKSANA AMID

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Every summer, thousands of people from across Long Island and beyond make their way to Glen Cove for the Feast of St. Rocco, one of the North Shore's most popular events. Guests can expect games, rides, prizes and, of course, an extraordinary diversity of food. The four days of fun and festivities that comprise "The Best Feast in the East" begin on July 26.

The smell of meatballs will waft through the air, and the rides will soar outside the stone Church of St. Rocco. While the event will have outside vendors offering savory treats, most of the food will be prepared by the church. A dedicated group of

woman affectionately called "nonas" has been feeding most of the visitors since the feast's beginnings almost 50 years ago. Every year, they aim for their creations to be full of flavor and love.

Aside from the rides and food, many who attend St. Rocco's Feast cherish it because it is synonymous with community and tradition. The event serves as a perfect representation of how people can come together to make something spectacular.

Although the church organizes the event, its appeal is universal. "Even though it's a church function, it's a community project," Angie Colangelo, the feast's chairwoman, said. "Everything is done from the heart. That's what makes it successful."

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2

A lifetime of swimming and service

Barbara's no-

nonsense, and

she was always

kind to the kids.

RICHARD GALATI

Glen Head resident

By WILL SHEELINE

wsheeline@liherald.com

When Barbara Holzkamp took a lifeguarding course in 1960, she had no idea that that it would result in a six-decade-long adventure in teaching others to swim.

Now at 81, the Glen Head resident has taught three generations of Sea Cliff, Glen Head and Glen Cove children and adults the skills of swimming, making her perhaps the most prolific swimming instructor in the history of the North Shore.

Holzkamp grew up in Glen Cove, where she learned to swim in the local harbor. She said she was always a strong swimmer, and in her freshman year of college at SUNY Oneonta she took the lifeguarding course that changed her life—and the lives of hundreds of people she eventually turned into swimmers.

"At college you had to have passed a swimming course in order to graduate, so when I took the class I also took the lifeguarding class," Holzkamp explained. "I immediately started teaching people how to swim."

After graduating from Oneonta in 1963, she married her husband, William, and the young couple moved to Suffolk County, where Barbara worked at Sachem Central School District

as a teacher. She also worked at the Tekakwitha Girl Scout Camp in Hampton Bays for two summers.

Throughout her early years as a swimming instructor, Holzkamp taught people how to swim not in pools, but in the ocean. At Tekakwitha, and in her subsequent

work at the Glen Cove YMCA and as waterfront director for the Smithtown YMCA, none of the locations had pools, so she had to make do and work with swimmers in local harbors and park beaches.

While working at the YMCAs, Holzkamp said, she taught children and adults, and even one woman who was 84. She remembered one young man who took her course because he wanted to join the Navy, and another elder-

CONTINUED ON PAGE 7



'Come with a hungry belly' to the feast

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Each year the festival offers something new. Last year, guests were treated to petting zoos. This year they will be wowed by six magic shows and an evening of fireworks. They will also be treated to the music of acts like the Giglio Marching Band and Primavera and Antonio Valente.

Although the feast celebrates Italian heritage, some might be surprised to learn that its namesake is actually French. St. Rocco was born in Montpellier in the mid-1300s, a time when the Black Plague was ravaging Europe. After his parents died when he was a teenager, San Rocco took a vow of poverty and set off across the Italian countryside, tending to plague victims — and, according to legend, curing them — until he, too, became infected.

He became a prominent figure in the Italian canon of saints as the country struggled with repeated outbreaks of cholera and other maladies. St. Rocco was canonized as the patron saint of infectious diseases, bachelors, diseased cattle, falsely accused people and more, as well as several towns and villages across Italy. His selflessness and compassion inspired many people, and hundreds of churches in the United States are named after him.

Parishioners built the Glen Cove church in the early 1900s. The church community began hosting a feast that included a procession through neighboring streets with a statue of Saint Rocco, a tradition that is still honored today. After Sunday Mass on the final day of the feast, a statue of the saint is rolled through the community by volunteers, as residents young and old come out of their homes to pin dollar bills and jewelry on it, or ask for blessings.

"He goes through the streets of Glen Cove and visits the ill, or someone who needs some sort of comfort,"

Live entertainment

- Giglio Marching Band: every night
- I Forestieri and Emilio Magnotta: July 26, 7 to 10 p.m.
- Lo Stivale and Angelo Gentile: July 27, 7 to 10 p.m.
- Primavera and Antonio Valente: July 28, 7 to 11 p.m.
- Don Felice and Band: July 29, 7 to 11 p.m.
- Pane e Cioccolata and Liugi Trombetta: July 30, 5 to 9 p.m.

Colangelo said. "And they pay money on him for their prayers that were answered or just visit and say, 'Please take care of me' or 'Help me to become a better person'"

The procession ends back at the church, where a small marching band usually plays "When the Saints Go Marching In." Attendees gather at the door of the church to toss confetti at the now offering-clad statue.

"We're about faith, family fun and food," Reggie Spinello, a past chairman of the event, said. "The religious part is huge, but of course we're a food fest. Come with a hungry belly."

The feast is the church's largest fundraiser, and its proceeds help pay for the operations of the church and its services to the underserved.



Courtesy Reggie Spinello

Worshipers at the Church of St. Rocco adorn the statue of their patron saint with money and trinkets.

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New book on tragic tale of the Lexington

Revisits worst pre-Titanic American maritime disaster

By WILL SHEELINE

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efore the sinking of the Titanic in 1912, the worst maritime disaster in U.S. history was the destruction of the steamboat the Lexington, which sank in 1840, with a loss of 139 lives. Although few now remember the tale of the Lexington, local author and former Newsday staff writer Bill Bleyer, of Bayville, hopes to change that with his new book, "The Sinking of the Steamboat Lexington on Long Island Sound."

The Lexington was a paddlewheel steamboat that transported passengers and cargo across the Sound starting in 1835. The ship was commissioned and designed by Cornelius Vanderbilt, the patriarch of the business dynasty, and was considered one of the most cuttingedge vessels of its time.

The ship's smokestack caught fire on the night of Jan. 13, 1840, while it was sailing from New York to Stonington, Connecticut, with 143 passengers and crew, as well as 150 bales of cotton. All but four of the people on board were killed in the ensuing conflagration, drowned or died of hypothermia.

Bleyer said he first came across the story of the Lexington in the mid-1990s, when he was working on a series for Newsday on local maritime stories. While researching shipwrecks around Long Island, he said, he was amazed by the tragic tale and the dogged resilience of the four survivors.

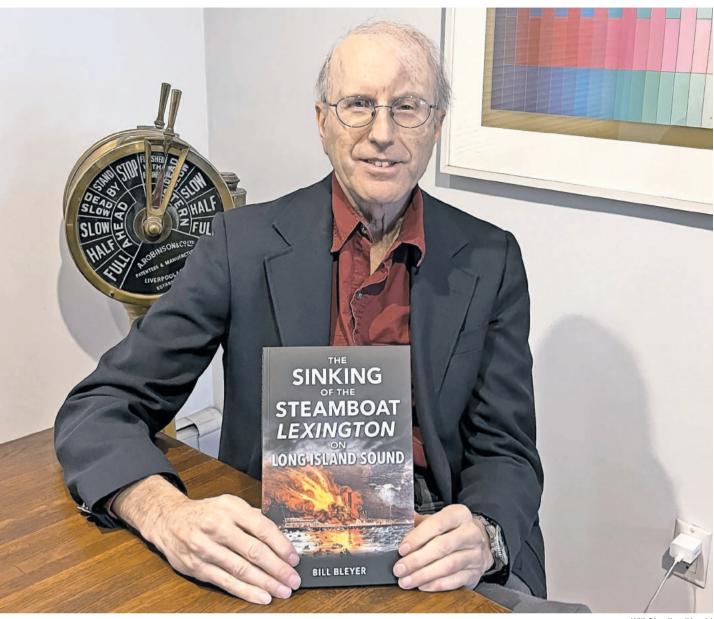
"When I stumbled across the Lexington, I thought to myself, 'Wow, this is a pretty amazing story," Bleyer recalled. "I actually did a full page in the series on the Lexington disaster; the fire and how the four people survived was so interesting."

This isn't Bleyer's first time writing about the Lexington. He also mentioned it in his fourth book, "Long Island and the Sea," a maritime history of Long Island, in a chapter on shipwrecks, but he knew even then he wasn't done with the story.

During the pandemic, Bleyer finally got the chance to tell the tale in its entirety. He had intended to write a book about Roosevelt landmarks on Long Island, but with libraries and a lot of avenues for research closed to him, he turned his attention to the Lexington.

"It dawned on me that I could probably do something else in the meantime, because this was not going to happen during the pandemic," Bleyer said. "I called my editor at The History Press and I said, 'While I'm waiting to do this other book, I think I have enough information now to do a whole book on the Lexington,' and it turned out they had a whole series of shipwreck books, so it fit right into that series."

While he was writing about and researching the Lexington, Bleyer was able to find and incorporate previously overlooked documents and new research. One such example was the work of Ben Roberts, a scuba diver who helps find lost



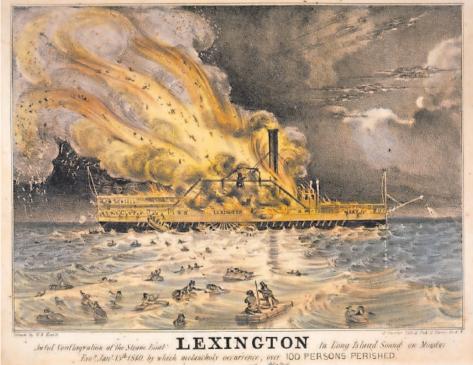
Will Sheeline/Herald

The Sinking of the Steamboat Lexington on Long Island Sound' is Bill Bleyer's sixth book, and the third that focuses on maritime history on and around Long Island.

ships using side scan sonar. Roberts found the remains of the Lexington off the coast of Port Jefferson and recorded its dimensions and state.

Bleyer also found a copy of the coroner's report of the legal battle that followed the sinking of the ship, when much of the blame for the disaster fell on the ship's owners and crew. The destruction of the vessel was attributed mostly to the carelessness of the crew and the short-sightedness of the owners — Vanderbilt had sold the ship to another company three years before it sank — but Bleyer said he was amazed to find that the coroner's account of the trial largely disproved these claims, and that the fire was accidental.

"The most interesting thing that I found was that people claimed it was an old, aging ship that wasn't properly maintained and that the 150 bales of cotton weren't safe cargo, which I actually had in the early drafts of the book," Bleyer said, "but when I started doing the research, I found a lot of expert testimony that got ignored, and that there was really a lot of hysteria at the time, and a belief that people needed to be punished, basically kneejerk blaming of the crew and company."



Courtesy Wikipedia

The loss of 139 lives on the Lexington had a huge impact on Americans in 1840, and before the sinking of the Titanic, it was considered the worst maritime disaster in American history.

Visit the White House, but in Brookeville

By LAURA LANE

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There is a memorable Life magazine photograph of John F. Kennedy Jr., President Kennedy's son, as a toddler in the Oval Office. Playing inside the desk where his father is working, he peers out after opening a front panel.

The history of the desk door dates back to President Franklin Roosevelt, who requested that panels be added to the Resolute Desk, as it is called, to hide his leg braces. Given to President Rutherford B. Hayes by Queen Victoria in November 1880, the Resolute Desk may be the most recognizable pieces of furniture in the White House, perhaps because of the Kennedy photo.

But visitors who tour the real White House, in Washington, are not permitted into the Oval Office, so they have never seen the desk, except in photos. Since last summer, however, they have been able to see an exact replica of it in Brookeville.

A life-size reproduction of the White House, which includes the Oval Office, the Situation Room, the Press Room and all of the famed building's other rooms, is available for tours in the former home of financier E.F. Hutton on the campus of Long Island University. Visitors can have a guided tour of the White House Experience at the Roosevelt School by appointment, Monday through Friday. And yes, they can sit behind the replica Resolute Desk.

There are similar replicas of the White House at the George Washington Presidential Library in Mount Vernon, Virginia; the George W. Bush Presidential Library and Museum in Dallas; and the Ronald Reagan Presidential Library and Museum in Simi Valley, California. The White House in Brookeville is the only

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Elisa Dragotto/Herald photos

A replica Situation Room, which is in the basement of the West Wing, is part of the White House Experience in Brookeville. President John F. Kennedy created the 5,525-square-foot conference room in 1961 for crisis management.

one on the East Coast, and features the Museum of Democracy, the world's largest and most comprehensive collection of historical and political campaign memorabilia — over a million objects representing every president from Washington to Biden. The current exhibit, "Hail to the chief! Electing the American President," will be on display until next year.

The Society of Descendants

The White House Experience was created by LIU in partnership with the Society of Presidential Descendants, which includes grandchildren, great-grandchildren and even great-great-grandchildren of former presidents. The Museum of Democracy, which opened inside the White House Experience in 2023, is a collection belonging to the Wright Family, which had a traveling exhibit but wanted a permanent home for it.

It was LIU President Kimberly Cline's idea to turn Hutton's former home, which was in disrepair, into the White House Experience. Cline knew the importance of civic education, and thought such an exhibit would be of interest to people of all ages — and beneficial to LIU students as well.

"Long Island University is a national leader in presidential studies, service learning and civic education," Cline said. "The establishment of the White House Experience directly provides a forum for our students to further study the foundation and evolution of our country. Through these initiatives, we can educate and inspire the next generation of our nation's leaders as they learn lessons from history to shape solutions for America's future."

Tweed Roosevelt, the great-grandson of Theodore Roosevelt, the president of the Society of Presidential Descendants and the chairman of LIU's Roosevelt School, supported Cline's vision.

"The problem is, people carry on about their rights, but no one taught them their responsibilities," Roosevelt said. "The idea is to turn the White House Experience (into) part of a civic education. If democracy is to survive, people will need to take their responsibility as citizens seriously."

The White House Experience includes a second floor, like the real White House, where visitors can see several rooms including the First Ladies Room, the Red Room and the Blue Room. The Blue Room is perhaps best known for the celebrations that have been held there. One of the photos on display is of President Lyndon B. Johnson's daughter, Lynda Bird, when she married Chuck Robb in 1967.

The White House Experience offers students on school trips the chance to be the president and members of the cabinet and deal with a crisis. In the China Room, where china given to former presidents is displayed, etiquette classes are offered.

"It's important to provide these skills," said Andy Person, LIU's chief of strategy and advancement, who conducts tours of the house and museum. Children "need to know why it's important to do things like, when shaking hands, to make eye contact, and which fork to use."

An 1870 ballot box, and more

In the Museum of Democracy, one item of interest is a New Hampshire ballot box from Andrew Jackson's controversial election in 1870. The box is made of wood, glass and metal, and the original paper ballots can still be seen inside it.

"We talk about how divisive elections are today, but that's not new," Person said. "Andrew Jackson thought the election was stolen from him. He contested it and won. We overcame it before, and we will again."

In the 1800s, there were parades after presidential elections in which it was cus-



Andy Person opened the Resolute Desk's front panel to reveal where John F. Kennedy's son, John Jr., used to play.

tomary to carry a lantern with the image of the winner. Several of the lanterns are on view in the museum, including one depicting Ulysses S. Grant.

There are also many campaign buttons, which, Person said, can tell a story of their own. One, from George Washington's inauguration, says, "Long Live the President," making it clear that although the colonies had broken away from the rule of the king of England, the "language was still there," Person said.

In one room there are campaign dresses made of paper, displaying a variety of candidates' names, including Richard Nixon, Robert Kennedy and Spiro Agnew. They were created in the 1960s to appeal to younger voters, who wore the dresses to campaign parties.

There are also several campaign posters and newspapers, including the infamous Chicago Daily Tribune front page from Nov. 3, 1948, incorrectly announcing "Dewey Defeats Truman," as well as whimsical items like slippers and even a nutcracker that sport a candidate's image or name.

"Our thought is, we can be an in-person and virtual library for all presidents," Person explained. "Thirty (presidents) do not have a formal presidential library."

For further information or to make a reservation for a tour, go to LIU.edu/whitehouseexperience.



HOW TO REACH US

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Kenniff, new business association president

By WILL SHEELINE

Terence Kenniff has been named the new president of the Gold Coast Business Association, succeeding Ed Lieberman in the role. Kenniff is the owner of COCO Confections & Coffee, an artisanal café and chocolatier in Sea Cliff, and has been a member of the Business Association since he opened his store in 2019

Kenniff moved to Glen Head seven years ago with his family, after having lived in Brooklyn for most of his life. He began his career in the catering industry over 25 years ago, working first as part of a Disney World Fellowship at the Grand Floridian Hotel.

This led to a lifelong love of all things delicious, and Kenniff continued to work in catering at the Brooklyn restaurant El Caribe, where he worked with thousands of customers over the years celebrate everything from birthdays to communions and weddings.

Kenniff said that it was his own wedding which made him interested in getting into the sweets industry, and encouraged him to open his own confectionary in Sea Cliff. When he and his then-fiancee, Vlada, were picking wedding favors, he had his "eureka" moment.

We went to a local chocolatier, he handcrafted some amazing truffles for us, and as we were going through the process, I jokingly said to him 'I'm going to be your partner one day'," Kenniff reminisced. "Finally catering and I had had enough of each other, and I had to move on, so I said to myself, 'Open a chocolate shop'.

Since COCO's opening in 2019, which took place on his wedding anniversary, Kenniff has been an active participant in the business of supporting businesses in the local community. Shortly after opening his doors, he was



Courtesy Terence Kenniff

Terence Kenniff has run his cafe and chocolatier, COCO Confections & Coffee, since 2019, and has been a longtime member of the Gold Coast Business

approached by members of the Business Association. Kenniff said he was intrigued by the prospect, and quickly became one of their most active members, according to former president Lieberman.

The Business Association, previously known as the Glen Head/Glenwood Business Association, has been an important part of the North Shore's economic life for over 40 years. Kenniff said that when he heard about the organization, he was immediately supportive of their

"Obviously I thought joining was a good idea," Kenniff said. "A strong business association makes for better business and makes for a stronger community."

The focus of the Business Association is to connect local small businesses with each other and local consumers, supporting better business practices among their members by providing education and resources for business development. They also work closely with other community organizations to promote economic growth and events throughout the communities which the Business Association operates in.

In less than a vear after joining Kenniff was made a member of the association's board, "where he made many positive contributions to the organization,' according to Lieberman. Lieberman was chosen president in 2021, and although he had met Kenniff at the ribbon cutting for COCO during his tenure as mayor of Sea Cliff, Lieberman said he really got to know Kenniff after the latter was made an officer of the Business Associa-

"He really took on the role of a retail business who was contributing mightily to the association and its daily workings," Lieberman said. "In his short tenure as president he has developed new websites and new contacts as well as promoting the business map that will be distributed in the fall."

When Lieberman decided to step down as president at the end of 2022, he said that there was no doubt amongst the board who should replace him. Lieberman will continue to serve as a member of the organization's Board of Directors, but adds that under Kenniff's leadership, "the Business Association is in great hands."

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Increasing Your Emotional Intelligence

The philosopher Epictetus said "Men are disturbed not by events, but by the views they take of them." Arising out of "The Good Life", previously reviewed here, comes the W.I.S.E.R. model for reacting to emotionally challenging situations.

Watch. Initial impressions are powerful but may be incomplete. There is usually more to see. When the impression and the emotional response start to interact, take a moment to pause and thoughtfully observe the situation to prevent a potentially harmful reflexive response. As they say in psychiatry "Don't just do something, sit there."

Interpret. We are all seeing the world through our own eyes -- what is happening, why it is happening and how it affects us. Our reality is not necessarily that of others. Thinking that a situation is all about us often leads to misunderstanding. When your emotions start to bubble up, it indicates you have something important at stake -- a goal, an insecurity or a vital relationship. Figuring out what's at stake will allow you to interpret the situation better.

Select. Having watched, interpreted and re-interpreted, you must select your response. Instead of reacting reflexively out of stress, slowing down allows us to choose from more options. As "The Good Life" says "Given what's at stake and the resources at my disposal, what can I do in this situation? What would be a good outcome here? And what is the likelihood that things will go well if I respond this way instead of that way?"

Engage. Now you are ready to respond more purposefully -- aligning with who you are and what you want to accomplish. You've observed and interpreted the situation, taken some time to consider the possibilities and their likelihood of success, and you then execute your strategy.

Reflect. "How did that work out? Did I make things better or worse? Have I learned something new about the challenge I'm facing and about the best response? Reflecting on our response to a challenge can yield dividends for the future. It's in learning from experience that we fully grow wiser."

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Regency celebrates 30 years of service

By ROKSANA AMID

ramid@liherald.com

For many senior citizens, moving into an assisted living facility is a big change, and most associate senior living communities as drab nursing homes. But at the Regency at Glen Cove, which celebrated their 30th anniversary in June, that narrative couldn't be farther from the truth.

Mary Davidson moved to the Regency a year ago, and although at first she was hesitant about living there, she said she got used to her new lifestyle quickly.

"We keep pretty busy," Davidson said.
"There's entertainment and Bingo, there's a lot to do and I like it. The people are very friendly, and the food is excellent."

The Regency Assisted Living, located in the city's downtown, opened its doors in 1993. It is licensed as an assisted living residence with an Enhanced Assisted Living Residence license, as well as a Special Needs Assisted Living Residence license, which allows residents to comfortably "age in place."

The Regency's location in the city's downtown affords residents with a vibrant lifestyle within walking distance of some of the city's finest restaurants, movie theatre, nearby shopping and is a short car ride to the city's parks waterfront. The facility offers discussion groups, outings to local zoos and gardens, and brings in actors who embody the spir-



Courtesy Leah Dwye

The Regency's 30th anniversary ceremony took place on June 20 when it was recognized for its exemplary service.

its of Elvis Presley and the cast of the Honeymooners for entertainment. Its best feature, however, is the strong connections formed with staff and residents.

Care giving isn't just about giving residents the support they need to take care of chores, medication, and daily needs. It's about building a connection and relationship between residents and staff.

"The one thing that you can't buy with money is the compassion and the love that comes from the people that work here," Silvana Laferlita Gullo, the Regency's human resources director, said. "When I walked in the door, there was so much warmth. The warmth that I felt and the way the residents responded, told me that they were very much loved and knew that this was a home, not a hotel."

Gullo was tasked with helping her mother find an assisted living facility before she worked at the Regency. She had visited other assisted living facilities in the county and was surprised by the level of care and dedication demonstrated by the staff. She said she wouldn't hire anyone who seems like they don't truly care about the wellbeing of residents.

"I saw the difference between my mother when she was with aids that loved

her versus aids that were there for the money," Gullo said. "It makes a tremendous difference in somebody's life."

Mercy Merlos is a home health aide at the Regency. Although she worked as an aid in other assisted living centers on Long Island, she decided to start her career at the regency as a receptionist because she wanted to take a break as a residential aid. But when she began to form close friendships with residents she had a change of heart and resumed her duties as an aide.

"Other jobs that I've had as an aide, I've always felt stressed or sad," Merlos said. "Here, it doesn't feel like work to me. Sometimes I feel like they're my family."

Stella Shank rose to the position of executive director after working for 28 years at the Regency doing other jobs. She said that because the Regency isn't part of a larger corporation, the atmosphere feels more like a "mom and pop" atmosphere. Four years ago, the Regency underwent a \$15 million project to expand its living areas, rather than placing prospective residents on a waiting list.

"Our residents are happy, and this is just an extension of their life that we look to enhance and take away the worries about cooking and cleaning and getting dressed," Shank said. "That way they could truly concentrate on making connections, making friends and going to activities and enjoying their golden wars."



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Will Sheeline/Herald

Barbara Holzkamp has been a swimming instructor on Long Island since she graduated from college in 1963.

Glen Head native started teaching after college

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not chat

the class: their

focus had to be

on the students.

Glen Head resident

with each

BARBARA

HOLZKAMP

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CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

ly man who wanted to learn so he could swim with his grandchildren.

After moving to Glen Head in 1967 to be closer to her parents and in-laws, Holzkamp began working at Glen Head School where she took over their sum-

mer swimming program. She remained in that position for the next 25 years.

The program also featured arts and crafts, as well as other fun summer activities for children. Despite this, some parents only sent their children to the swimming portion, which ran for three and a half hours every morning.

As the director of the swimming program, Holz-kamp would eventually oversee 14 other instructors. She said throughout the experience, she ensured her staff took things seriously and everyone was safe.

"I ran a tough operation," Holzkamp reminisced. "I was always so concerned about safety that the instructors knew they had to focus on the kids. They did not chat with each other during the class; their focus had to be on the students."

Throughout her time running the summer swimming program and working as a teacher, Holzkamp found time to give private lessons to children and adults, primarily people with indoor pools. She would also give private lessons to families throughout the North Shore during her afternoons in the summer, working as far afield as Bayville and Port Washington.

Even after she retired as a teacher and

swimming director from North Shore School District in 1982, Holzkamp continued to give private swimming lessons. To this day Holzkamp teaches children how to swim, although she happily added that "I don't have classes at 8 a.m. anymore."

Holzkamp worked with people with a variety of disabilities, from injured elderly people to people with Down's Syndrome. Richard Galati, a Glen Head resident whose four daughters all went through Holzkamp's summer program, explained that when his second daugh-

ter Christina was diagnosed with Type-1 diabetes, Holzkamp worked closely with her, and that Christina went on to work for Holzkamp as a swimming instructor herself.

"Barbara's no nonsense and she was always kind to the kids," Galati added. "It was a really good experience because the kids really progressed quickly, and she gave them realistic goals to achieve and made sure that they were successful."

NEWS BRIEFS

Downtown Sounds concert series

Bring your chairs and blankets to Downtown Sounds this summer to enjoy live music in the heart of Glen Cove. Last year, Downtown Sounds celebrated 25 years of live music and held the first ever Downtown Sounds Teen Idol contest. Get ready for another summer of dancing in the streets with an incredible lineup of artists in 2023. The concert series will be held at Glen Cove's Village Square at the intersection of Glen and School Streets at 7:30 p.m.

The summer lineup

July 14: Best Shot
July 21: Lovesong
July 28: Paradigm

Aug. 4: Forever Ray

Aug: 11: Jose Trombone & Conjunto Rumbon

Aug. 18: Arena Rock
Aug. 25: That 70s Band

Nosh food service pilots Saturday hours

To better meet the needs of its recipients who have work responsibilities on weekdays, Nosh has added Saturday hours for this summer. Anyone in need of assistance can select groceries sufficient for two meals per week for a family of four. Additional meals can be provided according to family size.

It is requested that recipients bring a shopping bag or cart. The Glen Cove Neighborhood Association and St. John's of Lattingtown have offered generous support that has made this additional day of service on Saturdays possible.

For anyone looking to make a donation, highly requested food items are: pasta, rice, canned or dried beans, canned chicken or tuna, cereal, peanut butter, jelly, packaged sliced bread and store bought or garden produce.

Nosh is open for walk-in grocery recipients from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m., at 32 School Street on: July 22, Aug. 5, Aug, 19 and Sept. 9.



Senior health expo geared for young at heart

he Sunny Atlantic Beach Club opened its doors June 28 to eager guests for Herald Community Newspapers' Senior Health & Beyond Expo presented by UnitedHealthcare and produced by RichnerLive. It was the third in a series of expos designed especially for senior citizens this year.

More than 35 diverse businesses as well as innovative services shared their products and refined knowledge with attendees to improve wellness and heighten their lifestyle.

Free on-site health screenings were provided by Mount Sinai South Nassau as well as vaccines administered by Parker Jewish. There were also hearing screenings from Dr. Lawrence Cardano of Hearing Center of Long Island — who was also one of the speakers on the expo's afternoon panel.

Goody bags and tons of raffles were also a plus for those making their way to Atlantic Beach.

The event was made possible thanks to Gold Sponsor Otsuka and gift bag sponsors Grandell Rehabilitation & Nursing Center and Oceanside Care Center. Silver Sponsors were Beach Terrace Care Center, Parker Jewish Institute Health Care and Rehabilitation, Long Beach Nursing & Rehabilitation Center, Aetna, Center-Light and Hearing Center of Long Island.

The next expo is coming up fast — Thursday, Sept. 7, at the East Meadow Jewish Center. It runs from 10 a.m. to 12:30 n m

For more information, Visit RichnerLive.com.

-Alexa Anderwkavich



im Baker/Herald photos





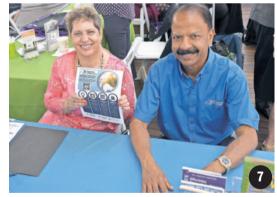














- 1. Dr. Lawrence Cardano, middle, takes with Omar and Sandy about what the Hearing Center of Long Island can offer them.
- 2. Jacqueline Garguilo and Frank Garguilo, owners of Bikram Yoga Long Beach, showed some relaxing poses.
- 3. Nancy Lebron from presenting sponsor UnitedHealthcare was the keynote speaker.





- 4. Josh Herzing and Taylor Malfin from Beach Terrace Care Center were among those attending.
- 5. Cori Hoberman, community marketer from Long Beach Rehabilitation & Nursing.
- 6. Pablo Rendon of Parker Jewish shares some expertise as a panelist.
- 7. Jill Wassner from the state public services department, offers advice.
- 8. Sabrina Osmani from Sunharbor Manor chats with an attendee.
- 9. Na Zhang, Abigail Fromm and Lisa Sperling-Leicht at the Mount Sinai South Nassau table.
- 10. Mark Legaspi of Aetna, shares some of his expertise.
- 11. Allison Burton from Otsuka was one of the several great business leaders to come out.
- 12. Shaun Ruskin from Centerlight discusses PACE eligibility.



Not-for-Profit Partner





SCAN HERE

Presented by: BANK OF AMERICA

08.07.23

The Crescent Beach Club · Bayville, NY 8:30am - 3:30pm



No matter the industry, businesses around the world are undergoing dramatic changes to the way they operate. From technology and skills development, to cultural barriers, self-care and mental health, every organization must adapt and evolve, or risk being left behind.

As we navigate a time of pivotal change, the Herald's 2023 WE Summit presented by Bank of America brings together thought leaders, innovators and barrier-breaking women for conversations around this year's theme: The Future is Now.

SPEAKER SPOTLIGHT



LIZ BENTLEY Motivational Speaker **Media Expert CEO & Founder Liz Bentley Associates**



AIMEE KESTENBERG ELAN Co-Founder & CCO The Affordable **Luxury Group**



VALERIE NIFORA Global Marketing Leader Corporate Storyteller ersonal Branding Expert Best-Selling & Award-Winning Writer



TALISA FLATTS Human Resources Business Partner II at **Amazon Logistics Amazon**



BETH FINKEL State Director AARP **New York**

JUST ADDED: DANIELLE LABARBERA - SVP HUMAN RESOURCES AT AMERICAN EXPRESS & REENA JANA - HEAD OF CONTENT & PARTNERSHIP ENABLEMENT, RESPONSIBLE INNOVATION AT GOOGLE FOR A FULL LIST OF SPEAKERS, WORKSHOPS AND AGENDA VISIT: RICHNERLIVE.COM/2023-WE-SUMMIT

































Long Island



















Adrienne Daley/Herald photos

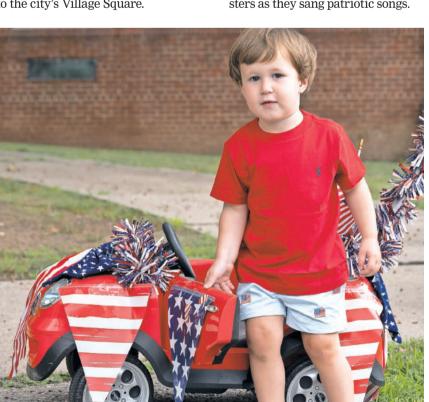
Children were a part of the city's July Fourth festivities by singing "God Bless America."

Bike parade indicative of city's patriotism

undreds of families and North Shore residents, decked out in red, white and blue made their way to Downtown Glen Cove to kick off the celebrations for July Fourth by participating or watching the annual popular bike parade. Children riding decorated bicycles and scooters cruised down the stretch from the Robert M. Finley Middle School horseshoe on Forest Avenue through downtown Glen Cove to the city's Village Square.

The parade also included wagons, strollers, and battery powered vehicles which gleamed with patriotic colors as the community celebrated the anniversary of the country's Independence Day.

At the end of the parade there were cookies, ice tea, water, the singing of national songs and raffles for friends and family to enjoy. When the community gathered at the parade's end, Mayor Pamela Panzenbeck led the Pledge of Allegiance, and joined youngsters as they sang patriotic songs.









Paisley Bujnowski, above, cruised down the streets of Glen Cove.

Youngsters like Julie Steinhauser, left, picked the decorations they wanted to use in the parade.

Walker Friedman, left, showed off his patriotic spirit by carefully decorating his "car" with miniature flags.

Parade spectators like Lina Giovanniello, above, left, dressed in patriotic colors.









By Karen Bloom

otton candy, zeppole, the ubiquitous Ferris wheel. Of course, it must be time for the fair. That summertime staple is back again, taking over the Nassau Coliseum grounds, through July 16.

Circus-type spectacle, an old-school "oddity" sideshow, exotic animals, along with plenty of thrill rides for all ages and midway action, all combine for an extravaganza that entices all ages.

Step right up everyone: The Royal Hanneford Circus carries forth with time-honored circus traditions refreshed for the 21st century. Producers Adrian Poema and Nellie Hanneford Poema — along with their four talented children, Catherine, Mariana, Adrian Jr., and Tommy — are focused on bringing a fresh new take on circus arts under the Big Top.

The Hanneford Family, long considered the "Royal Family of the Circus," can rightly claim an unbroken span of circus history fast approaching three centuries. Beginning with Edwin Hanneford in the late 1600s to the present, they have consistently amazed, amused, thrilled and delighted audiences everywhere with their exploits and skilled acts. From aerial high-wire feats, to illusionists, freestyle motocross, the human cannonball, the big cats, and more — this surely is an edge-of-your-seat experience.

More animal antics can be found at Eudora Farms Exotic Petting Zoo, where kids can get up-close and personal with a variety of exotic animals from the four corners of the globe. Kids can meet and greet the animals—and feed them.

Be sure to check out the World of Wonders sideshow, new to the fair this year. Visit the colorful tent and be drawn into the scene involving 10 sideshow acts, under the watchful eye of Tommy Breen — aka The Great Gozleone. Sword swallower extraordinaire, his antics are boundless, including fire-eating and stunts with a guillotine that are not for the faint of heart

"When I was 14, I decided I wanted to run away with the sideshow," Breen says. "I started teaching myself sword swallowing and some other stunts out of the back of a book I found. I didn't think there still were



Nassau Coliseum, Uniondale

- Now through July 16, 5-11 p.m. weekdays; noon-11 p.m. Saturday and Sunday
- \$10 (free for kids under 36 inches tall with paying adult); unlimited ride wristbands (for riders 36 inches and taller) are \$35, \$40 Friday-Sunday.
- Ride tickets are also available at the carnival for \$1.50 each, \$30/20 tickets, or \$60/50 tickets plus 1 free ride (rides take 2 or more tickets each)

sideshows around, I figured I could perform in bars with bands or something. But then, when I graduated college, I saw Ward Hall was hiring for his World of Wonders show. I was shocked it was still on the road and that I had the chance to work for the King of the Sideshow. So, I quit my job and got rid of my apartment and joined the carnival. It was what I had always daydreamed about, and once I got here, I just never left."

Breen proudly carries on the sideshow tradition, with his fellow sideshow folk. Strongwoman Luella Lynne emcees the show and astounds visitors with feats of strength, bending metal, ripping phone books, and breaking metal chains with her bare hands. Other "talents" include Sam Rezz, who performs with hula hoops, needle swallowing and contact juggling. And don't miss out on Lucy Lovett, the electric lady, with her painproof woman act.

And, of course, don't miss out on the rides. The midway features plenty of attractions that all ages will enjoy, including the Dream Wheel (one of the largest Ferris wheels on the fair circuit), the Grand Carousel, Super Cyclone roller coaster, Wacky Worm family roller coaster, Storybook Fun House, super slide, and bumper cars.

And, yes, in case you're wondering, you can still take a spin in those tea cups. Some things never go out of style.

hotos courtesy Empire State Fair

From daring sideshow acts featuring fire-eating to circus spectacle and everyone's favorite rides, plus new enticements, plenty of summer amusements await at the latest edition of the Empire State Fair.

L.I. International Film Expo

Lights, camera, action. Bellmore rolls out the red carpet once again for the Long Island International Film Expo, now in its 26th year. LIIFE is proud to present 133 films — 75 of them from New York filmmakers, and 30 of them by Long Islanders. Even more statistics of note: LIIFE features 61 Long Island premieres, 15 World premieres, five U.S. premieres, 27 New York premieres. From short- to feature-length, moviegoers can partake of a diverse group of 156 independent films this year representing more than 16 countries. Some highlighted local selections include: '1,000 Years A Witness,'
which tells of Native American Elders on Long Island who take a look back to their youth; 'Across,' in which three young American World War II widows take a day trip to celebrate the younger sister's bittersweet engagement, when a corrosive and dangerous secret from the past reemerges; 'The Concertgoer,' the tale of a couple who, when finding the Shostakovich concert they had planned to see is sold out, are guided to an obscure garden where they find the elusive concertgoer, silent and still, lying on a brick slab.

Wednesday through Sunday, July 19-23. Bellmore Movies, 222 Pettit Ave., Bellmore. Tickets and information available at LongIslandFilm.com.



Comic showcase

Laugh the night away at Mom's Night Out, presented by Long Island Comedy Festival. You'll enjoy witty standup delivered by four clever comics. Ellen Karis, known as the 'Greek Goddess of Comedy,' performs at venues throughout North America. She's described as the 'little dynamo' given her petite stature, strong improv skills and ability to build a quick rapport with any audience. New York City-born and raised in a traditional strict Greek home, her brand of sarcastic, observational humor is along the same lines as comedy legends Joan Rivers and Richard Lewis. She's joined by Maria Walsh, 'America's Naughtiest Mommy, whose quick wit, combined with coordinating facial expressions, give her a memorable and commanding stage presence. Kendra Cunningham, a Boston native who absconded to New York to peruse performing, who whines too much in her dreams. And Maureen Langan, acclaimed for her high-energy, versatile style that highlights her warmth and razor-edge

Thursday, July 20, 8 p.m. \$35-\$40. Madison Theatre, Molloy University, 1000 Hempstead Ave., Rockville Centre. (516) 323-4444 or MadisonTheatreNY.org. Iuly 13, 2023 — GLEN COVE HERALD

12 YOUR NEIGHBORHOOD

THE SCENE



The folk rocker is back on tour. appearing on the Tilles

Center stage. Friday and Saturday, July 21-22, 8 p.m. Singer, songwriter, producer, activist, humanitarian, best-selling author Brandi Carlile has done it all. Since the release of her breakthrough album "By The Way, I Forgive You in 2018," Ćarlile has won Grammy Awards, earned Billboard's Women in Music Trailblazer Award, and received several Americana Music Association accolades. She won her seventh, eighth and ninth Grammys this year, winning for best Americana



album with "In These Silent Days." Her song "Broken Horses," won both best rock song and best rock performance. A versatile performer hailed by Billboard for her "impressive vocal range" and "captivating presence," Carlile has topped the Americana and Rock charts with solo hits, co-founded the country supergroup The Highwomen, and collaborated with legendary artists including Elton John, Alicia Keys, Dolly Parton, and Miley Cyrus. Don't miss an evening of iconic songs such as "The Story," "That Wasn't Me," and "The Joke." Seemingly everywhere, Carlisle has transitioned from an Americana powerhouse to a major headliner beloved by the industry and the public. Carlile's career has been on a steep upward trajectory and her "Bramily" has her fans are known, are with her every step of the way. LIU Post campus, 720 Northern Boulevard, Brookville. Tickets are \$51.50 -\$481.50; available at TillesCenter.org or (516) 299-3100.



On exhibit

View the landmark exhibition "Modigliani and the Modern Portrait," opening at Nassau County Museum of Art, Saturday, **July 22**. Devoted to the way that Modigliani powerfully re-defined the art of portraiture, the show includes his masterworks along with paintings and drawings by his Parisian contemporaries (Picasso, van Dongen, Laurencin). Modigliani's enduring influence on artists even in our own time is shown in a selection of Contemporary paintings by such important figures as David Hockney, Eric Fischl, Elizabeth Peyton and others. The exhibition is being curated by Dr. Kenneth Wayne, founder of The Modigliani Project, which authenticates paintings and drawings (two of the works in the show have been recently approved by the committee). Through Nov. 5. Nassau County Museum of Art, 1 Museum Dr., Roslyn Harbor. (516) 484-9337 or NassauMuseum.org.

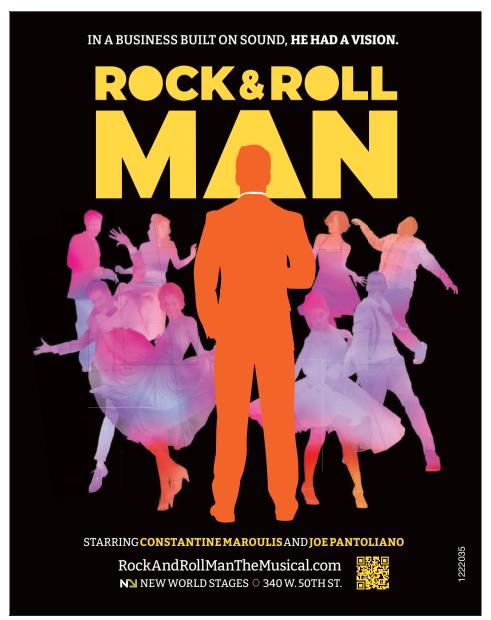


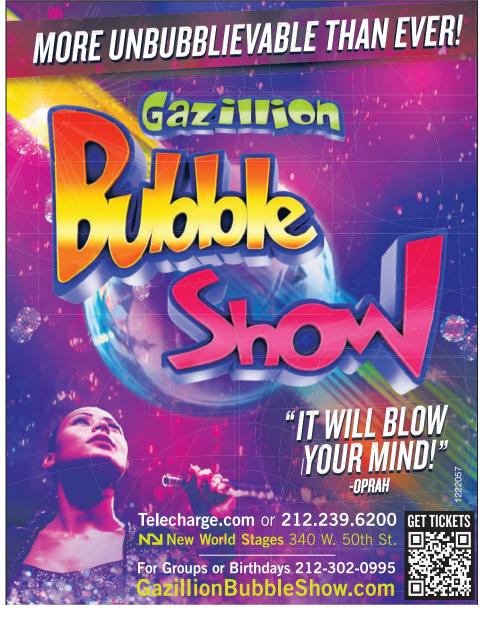
Life Science of Summer

Kids ages 6-9 can tour Old Westbury Gardens and examine how science is all around us in nature, Thursday, July 27, 2 p.m. Learn how plants grow and take home your own plant, as you participate in experiments of the water cycle and how we can use science to change the color of a flower both naturally and artificially. 71 Old Westbury Road, Old Westbury. For information visit OldWestburvGardens.org or contact (516) 333-0048.

Author talk

Gold Coast Public Library offers a virtual chat with New York Times bestselling author Charles Soule as he talks about his newest book, "The Endless Vessel," Saturday, July 15, starting at 2 p.m. The book explores the ways people are connected, and what can happen when they lose their capacity for joy. To register go to GoldCoastLibrary.org. For more information contact (516) 759-8300.









Write on: College essay workshops

Not sure how to get started on your college essay? The Hofstra University Admission Office is offering virtual workshops to help high school students learn the skills to tell their story in a way that helps them stand out. The workshops, Thursday, July 20 and Aug. 17, 4-5 p.m., are free and open to the public, but advance registration is required. Hear from Hofstra Admission counselors about how to brainstorm topics, and compose a thoughtful essay that shows your personality, talents and interests. For more information about Hofstra Admission's other virtual summer workshops, go to Admission. Hofstra.edu/ portal/virtual_admission_ webinars. To schedule a summer in-person visit go to: Hofstra.edu/visit.

Dancing in the Street

Dancing in the Street, an annual series of free dance evenings in the streets of Oyster Bay, has returned every to the hamlet every Friday in July and the first two Fridays in August, from 7 to 9 p.m. Organized by the Oyster Bay Main Street Association. music and dance instruction will be provided by DJ and dancer Louis Del Prete. For more information, call (516) 313-1683 or contact diane. writes4@gmail.com.

Summer sounds

Mike Carrozza and the Trip Kings as rock West Harbor Memorial Beach, Friday July 14. Presented by the Bayville Village Arts Council. W Harbor Dr. in Bayville. For more information contact papnyy@aol.com or (917) 880-6618.

Kaintuck

The band performs classic rock at Still Partners, Saturday, July 15, 8 p.m. 225 Sea Cliff Ave., in Sea Cliff. For more information contact (516) 200-9229.

Morgan Park **Summer Music Festival**

Enjoy "Italian Night," part of the Morgan Park . Summer Music Festival, featuring vocalists and musicians Massimiliano Barbolini, Claudio Mattioli and Vanessa Racci, Sunday, July 23, beginning at 7 p.m., at Morgan Memorial Park. Germaine St., Glen Cove. For information, visit MorganParkMusic.org.

Courtney M.

offers guided tours of its latest exhibit showcasing contemporary artist Courtney M. Leonard, Saturday, July 15, 12:30 to 1 p.m. or 2:30 Logbook 23 ROOT," examines Island impacted traditional Planting Fields Road in Oyster (516) 922-9210.

Leonard exhibit

Planting Fields Arboretum to 3 p.m. The site-specific installation, "BREACH: how the colonization of Long Shinnecock foodways. 1395 Bay. Register at PlantingFields. org. For more information, call

On stage

Plaza Theatricals brings the iconic musical "Rent." back to the stage, Friday, **July** 21, 7:30 p.m. The acclaimed reimagining of



'La Vie Boheme," loosely based on Puccini's opera and set on East Village streets, fire escapes, tenements, and cafes. This groundbreaking roller coaster ride depicting the joys and sorrows of an eclectic, diverse group of young artists and activists is always captivating. It's performed at the Elmont Library Theatre, 700 Hempstead Tpke., Elmont. \$35, \$30 seniors. Elmont. For tickets, call (516) 599-6870 or visit PlazaTheatrical.com.

Mindful mornings

Practice the art" of looking at art

at Nassau County Museum of Art, Thursday, **July 27**, 10-11 a.m., with NCMA Director of Education Laura Lynch. Mindful looking invites you to observe, question, and calmly reflect in a relaxed and supportive environment free of distraction. It's an opportunity to experience and enjoy the art in the galleries or sculpture garden, together, making personal connection. \$10. Space is limited and registration required. Also Aug. 3. Nassau County Museum of Art, 1 Museum Dr., Roslyn Harbor. (516) 484-9337 or NassauMuseum.org.

Library Walking Club

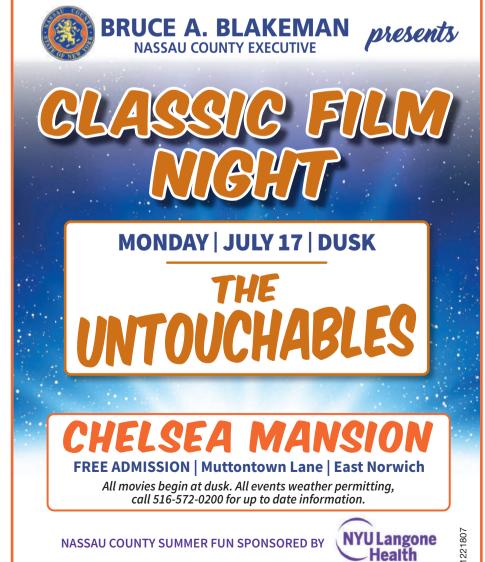
Participate in Glen Cove Public Library's at-your-own-pace hour walk, every Thursday, at 10 a.m. All fitness levels are welcome and attendees are encouraged to walk at their own pace, 4 Glen Cove Ave., Glen Cove. Register at GlencCoveLbrary.org or call (516) 676-2130 for more information.

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 iinterested in joining the lunch program can call Peggie Como at (516) 675-7239.

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.





"LIIFE returns to the big screen, 26 years later

By JORDAN VALLONE

jvallone@liherald.com

or 26 years, the Long Island International Film Expo has united filmmakers, producers, actors and actresses — and of course, moviegoers right in the heart of Nassau County.

A great opportunity for people to network with professionals, learn about filmmaking, and watch some of this year's best independent films, the expo — better known as LIIFE — returns to the Bellmore Movies and Showplace at 222 Pettit Ave., on July 19.

The expo has a lot in store for film fanatics this year, said Debra Markowitz. She's president of the Long Island Film & TV Foundation, and is a co-creator of LIIFE, along with Henry and Anne Stampfel, owners of the Bellmore

Aside from 131 films — both shorts and features — which will be screened during this year's expo, there are also a variety of panels and discussions ticket-buyers can attend. In particular, panels on writing, legalities and liabilities, and a director's point of view on auditions, which are almost always fully booked.

The audition panel includes more than a half-dozen working directors, listening to actors who book themselves for 10-minute slots to read monologues.

"There are people who directors have seen during these auditions, and they might call them a year later or sometimes even two years later and say, 'Hey, I'm casting this project. You're great for such and such," Markowitz, a Merrick native, explained. "It's a great way for them to get their face out there and practice auditioning."

LIIFE receives support from celebrities who frequently make appearances and speak at panels during the expo.

Lukas Hassel — an actor, screenwriter and filmmaker known for roles in television shows such as NBC's "The



im Baker/Herald fi

Debra Markowitz, president of the Long Island Film & TV Foundation — and co-director of LIIFE — returns to bring yet another Long Island International Film Expo to the Bellmore Movies and Showplace on July 19.

Blacklist" — is again attending the expo.

"Filmmaking is hard," he said last year. "It's one thing if you have a studio backing you with \$200 million and celebrity actors. But independent filmmaking is really hard. It's all about reaching out to your colleagues, to your friends, to your community."

Various venues have hosted LIIFE since its inception, including Hofstra University, Nassau Community College, and even Malverne Cinema on Hempstead Avenue. For the past 15 years — with the exception of 2020 because of the coronavirus pandemic — Bellmore Movies

Want to attend LIIFE?

Visit LongIslandFilm.com to see the lineup of events at the Long Island International Film Expo, and to purchase a Gold Pass, which allows one entrance to every film block and event between July 19 and July 23.

It all takes place at the Bellmore Movies and Showplace, 222 Pettit Ave., in Bellmore.

has been the festival's home.

LIIFE also receives support each year from Nassau County, to the point its financial sponsorship makes the expo possible.

The film festival attracts everyone, from students, to successful filmmakers, to those just getting started.

"You have people who have really made it in the industry, who maybe do their own projects and lots of shows," Markowitz said, "but you also have people who are just starting out, who maybe haven't made a film yet. They can sit in the panels and ask all kinds of questions.

"So we kind of make the place you know, for filmmakers big and small — to really come and be a film community. That's what I really think we do better than pretty much anybody else."

And even though the 2023 expo is just around the corner, Markowitz said the Film & TV Foundation is already hard at work, planning the next one.

"I can't believe we've been around for 26 years, and everything we've gone through and the changes that we've made," Markowitz said. "It's an all-volunteer staff, which is a big-time commitment and work commitment. It feels great to be able to get it done."



SEPT 27, 2023



6:00-9:00PM

JOIN US AT THE HERITAGE CLUB AT BETHPAGE TO CELEBRATE

The 2nd annual HERALD 2023 Excellence in Healthcare Awards will recognize and honor deserving individuals, institutions, facilities and healthcare groups whose dedication and commitment have made a difference in the health and well-being of others.

Produced By RICHNER

Nominate at www.richnerlive.com/nominate

For more information or to sponsor this event, contact Amy Amato at aamato@richnerlive.com or 516.569.4000 x224

'Still looking for better deals' after Kullen closure

By ROKSANA AMID

ramid@liherald.com

have

at other

shopped

supermarkets to

find better deals

... I feel we

need another

supermarket so

we can get the

things we can't

Shop and lower

CORNELIA WHELAN

find at Stop &

prices.

Glen Cove

Supermarkets play a vital role in strengthening communities. The loss of these stores means decreased access to healthy foods, like fresh fruit and vegetables — and more packaged, highly processed foods you find at convenience stores. It's also a loss of a community gathering space, where neighbors can connect.

When the Hauppauge-based King Kullen Grocery Co. Inc. announced the closure of its 20-year-old location in Glen Cove for July 2022, many residents wondered what the future of grocery shopping would look like in their community.

At the time, many North Shore resi-

dents said they were upset that King Kullen was leaving since it was a part of the community for so long. The announcement of Brinkmann's Hardware, a Savvillebased family hardware chain. moving to where King Kullen had been left some residents frustrated and feeling like they have fewer shopping options. During its time in Glen Cove, King Kullen acquired the surrounding market, deli, bakery, and pizzeria to expand the size of the store. Now, those set on continuing to shop at a King Kullen must travel roughly nine miles, to Manhasset.

There are 27 King Kullen supermarkets and five Wild by Nature natural food stores left on Long Island. It remains the largest family-owned grocery chain left on Long Island.

The news surrounding the closures of the chain grabbed

the attention of local officials like Assemblyman Charles Lavine, of Glen Cove, and former state Sen. Anna Kaplan, who represented parts of Franklin Square where another King Kullen closed. They wrote a joint letter to Norman Bobrow & Co, which owns the space in Glen Cove. They cited their concerns that the grocery store's closure would limit options for residents to purchase their groceries. Their letter on June 21, 2022 stated in part: "We write to express the hope that you will rent this space to another supermarket. Otherwise, Glen Cove will be left with only one major supermarket. As a city, Glen Cove has an urban demographic presenting the need for meaningful choices of markets providing fresh quality food."

In the year since the store's closing, residents have drastically changed their shopping habits. Many former King Kullen customers say they travel 20 to 30 minutes outside of Glen Cove to buy their household essentials. If they aren't going to the closest King Kullen in Manhasset, they're traveling to Trader Joe's in Garden City or Lidl in Syosset.

Cornelia Whelan said she's shopped at Stop & Shop, but she's mad about her experience at the city's remaining major supermarket. She's encountered several near car accidents with drivers backing out of parking spaces in the often-crowded parking lot. The increased prices of food and essentials also worry her.

"I have shopped at other supermarkets to find better deals and I am still looking for better deals," Whelan said. "I feel we need another supermarket so we can get the things we can't find at Stop & Shop and lower prices."

Stop & Shop could not be reached for comment after several attempts.

With over 28,000 residents utilizing the major supermarket that's left, Rocco Basile said he isn't surprised by the increased prices and decreased stock at Stop & Shop. Basile is still frustrated and believes that

prospective stores should have been incentivized to lease the space after King Kullen left.

"Ultimately it was the landlord who decides, but why not offer some sort of a tax break to lure in another major store," Basile said. "We gave so much money to RXR in tax relief which did not benefit any of us at all."

Consumers like Valerie Whelan have said they're concerned about those who can't leave the city to shop for better deals. She said that with less competition, prices and crowds in surrounding markets have increased as well.

"Stop & Shop is constantly running out of things," Whelan said. "I've been seeing too many people get in their cars and right away start backing up without even looking. Or you go to cross to get to the store and no one stops."

Melissa Schultz believes going to Stop & Shop is a last resort because she constantly says she encounters empty shelves and rotting produce.

"One employee is doing the work of three or four because no one wants to work there," Schulz said. "It's like a third world experience. I could understand the lack of stock during the pandemic but now what we have is a chain that's put most others out of business and is currently unable to supply the demand they've created."

In an email to the Herald, Daniel Wolk, the external communications manager for Stop & Shop said the company stands by their commitment to offer fresh, high-quality products in their stores. The company guarantees freshness, and states that if a perishable product purchased in Stop & Shop's meat, seafood, produce, dairy, bakery, floral, or deli department does not meet a customer's standards for freshness and quality, they can return the item and receive double their money back.

"At Stop & Shop, we also strive to provide best-in-class customer service," Wolk said in his email. "We urge any customers who have specific questions or concerns to reach out Stop & Shop Customer Care or speak with a member of store management when shopping with us.

CRIME WATCH

ARRESTS

- A 24-year-old Far Rockaway male was arrested on June 25, for DWI on Landing Road.
- A 56-year-old undomiciled male was arrested on June 25 for trespass on Glen Cove Avenue and an open warrant.
- A 60-year-old Glen Cove male was arrested on June 26 for assault on Brewster Street.
- A 62-year-old Glen Cove female was arrested on June 27, for criminal possession of a controlled substance, five counts of criminal possession of stolen property and five counts Petit Larceny on Glen Street.
- A 23-year-old Uniondale male was arrested on June 29 for criminal possession of stolen property, grand larceny and petit larceny on Glen Street.
- An 18-year-old Glenwood Landing male was arrested on June 30 for assault, criminal possession of a weapon and reckless driving on Glen Cove
- A 34-year-old Glen Cove male was arrested in July 1 for DWI and leaving the scene of an accident on Glen Cove Avenue.
- A 31-year-old Port Washington male was arrested on July 1 for disorderly conduct and menacing on Sea Cliff

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.

PUBLIC NOTICES

LEGAL NOTICE CITY OF GLEN COVE BOARD OF ZO ZONING APPFALS NOTICE ΟF **PUBLIC** HFARING PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that a PUBLIC HEARING will be held by the Glen Cove Board of Zoning Cove Board of Zoning Appeals on Thursday, July Appeals of Intribudy, July 20, 2023, at 7:30 p.m. at the Council Chambers, City Hall, 9 Glen Street, Glen Cove, NY. The hearing will be on the application of 145 application of 145 Landing Road LLC for interior alterations to an non-conforming multifamily building at 145 Landing Road, Glen Cove, NY, located in the Cove R-4 One & Family Residential Two-Family District and designated on the Nassau County Land and Tax Map as Section 31, Block 2, Lot 484.

The Applicant is requesting a variance of the following section of the Glen Cove City Code:

1. Glen Cove City Code §280-59 A - Applicant is proposing to Construct kitchenettes within the five (5) single room occupancies (SRO); and the conversion of four (4) SRO units on the third floor into a single three (3) bedroom apartment. The proposed conversion results in a modified use not permitted under City of Glen Cove Code §280-59 code.

code.
Dated:
March 29, 2023
BY ORDER OF THE
BOARD OF ZONING
APPEALS OF THE CITY OF
GLEN COVE
TERI MOSCHETTA,
CHAIRPERSON
140725

PUBLIC AND LEGAL NOTICES... Printed in this publication can be found online. To search by publication name, go to:

TO PLACE AND AD CALL 516-569-4000 x 232

LEGAL NOTICE CITY OF GLEN COVE BOARD OF ZO ZONING APPEALS NOTICE HEARING PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that a PUBLIC HEARING will be held by the Glen Cove Board of Zoning Appeals on Thursday, July 20, 2023 at 7:30 p.m. The hearing will be on the application of 115 Glen St Property Owner, LLC to consider the necessary variances to permit the construction of a new 3 29-unit multiple residence building. The property is located on a 22,089 gross square foot lot at 115 Glen St, Glen Cove, NY 11542, designated as Section 23, Block 11, Lots 6-12, 134 and located in the City's B-1 Central Commercial District. Applicant

requesting variances of the following sections of the Glen Cove City Code: 1. Glen Cove City Code §280-6 to allow

for 42 parking spaces, with three (3) parking spaces measuring eight (8) feet wide by sixteen (16) feet long, where nine (9) feet wide by twenty (20) feet long is required, and two (2) proposed handicap parking spaces which do not meet ADA requirements for access aisles.

2. Glen Cove
City Code §280-52(B)(1)
to allow the development
of 5,741.5 square feet of
steep slope area of 25%
or greater, where no land
area covered by slopes
measuring 25% or
greater is permitted to be
developed, regarded, or
stripped of vegetation.
3. Glen Cove

\$280-65(G)(13)(a) to allow the construction of a residential mixed-use building on a lot with 16,351.3 square feet of net allowable lot area where 40,000 square feet is required.

4. Glen Cove City Code §280-65(G)(I3)(b) to allow a total of twenty-four (24) efficiency one-bedroom units of the total, where no more than one-third (1/3) of the total twenty-nine (29) units may be one-bedroom or efficiency units.

5. Glen Cove Code

5. Glen Cove
City Code
§280-65(G)(13)(d) to
allow a minimum lot area
of 16,351.3 net square
feet where 46,000
square feet is required.
6. Glen Cove

City Code §280-65(G)(13)(g) to allow a side yard setback on the east side of the property of 0 feet and a side yard setback on the west side of the property of 6 feet where a fifteen (15) foot side yard setback is required, and no required landscaping provided in the west side yard of the property.

City Code \$280-65(G)(13)(h) to provide only 1,500 sf square feet of open space where 8,150 square feet is required.

8. Glen Cove City Code §280-65(G)(13)(f) to allow a lot coverage of 83.13% where 65% is the maximum coverage for residential structures. Dated:

May 31, 2023
BY ORDER OF THE
BOARD OF ZONING
APPEALS OF THE CITY OF
GLEN COVE
TERI MOSCHETTA,
CHAIRPERSON

LEGAL NOTICE
CITY OF GLEN COVE
BOARD OF ZONING
APPEALS
NOTICE OF PUBLIC
HEARING
PLEASE TAKE NOTICE
that a PUBLIC HEARING
will be held by the Glen
Cove Zoning Board of
Appeals on Thursday, July

20, 2023, at 7:30 p.m. at the Council Chambers, City Hall, 9 Glen Street, Glen Cove, NY, when all interested persons will be given an opportunity to express their views.

Applicant is requesting variances from Sections 280-30 and 280-59 B (7); (8); (12) and (14) of the Glen Cove Zoning Code to construct a one-story addition to the North and East side of a one family dwelling on an existing non-conforming lot. The property has an existing lot area of 4,055 sq ft where 6,500 sq ft is required.

The construction will result in a side yard of 8' (existing 8'.5") when 10' is the minimum required; a rear yard setback of 5'5" (existing 9'11") when 30' is the minimum required; a lot coverage of 26.63% when maximum coverage of 26.63% when maximum coverage of 1,537 sq ft (37.9%) when 1,520.63 sq ft (37.5%) F.A.R is

The subject property is located at 16 Continental Ct., Glen Cove, NY designated on the Nassau County Land & Tax Map as Section 21, Block 05, Lot 08 and located in the city's R-5A Garden Apartment-Office District. The above application is on file at the city offices located at 9 Glen Street, Glen Cove, NY where it may be seen during regular business hours of the usual business days until the time of the hearing. Dated:

June 26, 2023
BY ORDER OF THE
ZONING BOARD OF
APPEALS OF THE CITY OF
GLEN COVE
THERESA MOSCHETTA,
CHAIRPERSON
140723

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OPINIONS

Congestion pricing, a hole-in-the-head proposal

he MTA has

said the

tolls could be as

high as \$23. My

be much higher.

guess? They'll

verything in this world is a function of timing. Whether it's sports or some other activity, timing is everything. And it will be a key issue when it comes to the state's long-planned congestion-pricing plan, which is scheduled to start sometime in 2024.

There is no doubt that drivers in New York City face challenges every day. As the



JERRY KREMER

coronavirus pandemic has faded, negotiating the traffic in and out of the city has become a disastrous experience. There are many more suburban private-vehicle commuters than anyone anticipated.

Planning groups have been advocating for

many years for a congestion-pricing plan. It has worked in London and Singapore, and it was hoped that it would eventually come to New York. But the key question is whether or not it's the right time to impose this burden on scores of thousands of drivers.

I have always been an advocate of finding a way to cut down on congestion in the city. A number of mayors have grappled with ideas on how to improve traffic flow, but all of their ideas have fallen flat. With more bike lanes and parking restrictions as well as the traffic, it's

almost impossible to maneuver around the city at virtually any hour of the day.

Is it the right time to start the congestion pricing program? No. I think it's the wrong time, for a variety of reasons. The Covid nightmare may be long gone, but the city hasn't recovered.

Many businesses suffered greatly, and are just beginning to recover from their losses. Charging trucks that make multiple trips to the city will just

become a consumer tax.

The hearings on the congestion plan were a sham. Members of the public were given a chance to weigh in on whether they supported such a plan, but listeners sounded bored with the whole process. You can't have a real hearing without knowing what it will cost to use the toll zone.

The Metropolitan Transportation

Authority says it will soon reveal the toll structure, but by then the plan will be a done deal. There is no way that car and truck owners will have an opportunity to express their concerns, ideas or opposition to the final announcement. Knowing

the MTA from past experience, I expect the tolls to be arbitrary and unreasonable.

The agency has stated that tolls could be as high as \$23. My guess is that they will be much higher. The real toll structure will depend on how much it will cost to set up the tolling system. Hundreds of millions of dollars will be spent to get the E-ZPass system up and running. If the construction contract runs over budget,

and you can expect that it will, drivers who commute will end up paying to cover those costs.

Most people aren't familiar with the term "bond covenants," which relates to the guarantees in the congestion-pricing legislation. It means that the tolling costs will be covered by the tolls drivers pay. If the cost of erecting tolling devices is exceptionally high, the tolls will have to

rise to pay off the bonds.

The MTA has said that the tolls may be lower on weekends. But with drivers covering the no doubt excessive construction costs, don't expect any bargain fares. Sadly, the more questions people ask about the details of the program, the more likely it will be to turn into a disaster, because those answers won't come in time.

This program wasn't launched by Gov. Kathy Hochul's administration. It was created by former Gov. Andrew Cuomo, and Hochul has now inherited the plan. She is at the mercy of a bureaucracy that is rarely people-sensitive. If the MTA botches the toll structure and offers a confusing implementation plan, Hochul will have inherited a major political headache.

Congestion pricing is a good government idea. There is a need to control the city's traffic nightmare. But those who drive into the city need this plan right now like they need a hole in the head.

Jerry Kremer was a state assemblyman for 23 years, and chaired the Assembly's Ways and Means Committee for 12 years. He now heads Empire Government Strategies, a business development and legislative strategy firm. Comments about this column? JKremer@liherald.com.

Journalists become targets for jihadists

eporters

are seen

as commodities.

chips in kidnap

bargaining

schemes.

he number of foreign correspondents has plummeted in the past 10 years, and most overseas news bureaus have either shrunk or shuttered their offices. At the same time, more reporters are being killed or kidnapped by extremist groups. No one knows the exact numbers, because families and news agencies are protective of



RANDI KREISS

information about individuals in cap-

We may have come to a turning point in journalism, where the danger of reporting from jihadist strongholds has become too extreme to justify the presence of correspondents.

rrespondents. Steven Sotloff,

31, was the 70th journalist killed in Syria since civil war began tearing the country apart in 2011. That is a devastating number of fatalities for a noncombatant group comprising professional reporters who just want to get the story and send it home.

Despite a heartbreaking videotaped appeal by Sotloff's mother, the terrorist group Islamic State in Iraq and Syria, or ISIS, beheaded him and posted the video on YouTube. He was the second American reporter to die on his knees in a faraway desert in recent weeks. ISIS also recorded the murder of another reporter, James

Foley, sending those brutal images, too, out into the world.

Sotloff and Foley belonged to a courageous band of brothers and sisters who travel the world to tell the who, what, where, why and how of natural disasters and armed conflicts. They

do the counterintuitive thing—running toward danger in order to see what is happening on the ground.

A driven group of professionals, they are willing to endure just about anything that life in the field can throw at them: deplorable living conditions, foul weather, loneliness, fatigue and violence. Their goal is to get the most accurate facts and interviews they can and transmit or broadcast the stories, often from the battlefield.

There is the glory, too, along with the guts. And there is glamour as well, and a storied history of dashing correspondents who covered wars by day, hunkered down with troops, and caroused by night in bars from Singapore to Saigon.

Dexter Filkins, author of "The Forever War," wrote about reporting from Afghanistan and Iraq during those wars. He spoke honestly about the addictive quality of living on the edge every day. I've followed his career, watching him return again and again to whatever city happens to be in flames.

That's what foreign correspondents have always done, from Ernie Pyle and

Ernest Hemingway in World War II to Dan Rather and Morley Safer in Vietnam. They fly into danger, push toward the front lines and try to nail the story. They employ fixers and translators and locals who work both sides of the street. And, too often, they die.

> In 2002, journalist Daniel Pearl was killed in Pakistan on his way to meet an informant. In 2011, CBS reporter Lara Logan was sexually assaulted by dozens of men in Cairo's Tahrir Square on the day that rebels toppled the regime of Hosni Mubarak. In 2012, a 21-yearold British journalist, Natasha Smith, was also attacked in Tahrir Square, and barely escaped with her life. A year later, a female Dutch journalist, 22, was attacked and

raped in Tahrir Square by five men, while a chanting mob stood by and watched.

The atmosphere has turned toxic for foreign reporters, especially in the Middle East. In the past, all sides in a conflict respected journalists' neutrality and sought out reporters in order to tell their side of events.

Now, however, a reporter in the field, especially a Western journalist, is seen as a commodity, a bargaining chip in a kidnap scheme, a source of ransom money, and a target. ISIS doesn't need a foreign correspondent to vent and rant. It has YouTube. Reporters are not only expendable; kidnapping them is profitable, both in dollars and propaganda.

Randi is on a brief leave. This column was originally published Sept. 11-17, 2014.

I watch Richard Engel, of NBC, reporting from the rooftops of Baghdad, and I see Anna Coren, an Australian correspondent, reporting from Mosel. I don't know how they summon the courage to carry on in such a hostile environment, and I don't know that they should.

Perhaps we need to rethink the model of sending journalists into war zones. CNN and the other major news organizations try to protect their people, moving them from safe house to safe house and changing their daily routines to discourage kidnapping. But the nature of war has changed. Freelancers, like Foley and Sotloff, are especially vulnerable; they don't have an organization behind them. The risks they took outweighed any possible benefit.

It may have been worth the sacrifice in the 1940s to get news of faraway battles back to friends and relatives at home, and it surely was journalists who helped turn the tide of public sentiment against the war in Vietnam. But these days there are cellphones and social media to get the word out. Today's wars in Iraq and Syria, in Gaza and Libya are turning reporters into coveted trophies, vulnerable to kidnappings that often end in death.

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HERALD EDITORIAL

Visit – and help support – a museum near you

istory is often regarded as one of the "boring" subjects in school, with many children consistently protesting, "Why should I have to learn about something that happened 100 years ago?"

Yet learning about history is essential to understanding one's place in the world. To explain why things happened, are happening, or will happen. And to contextualize the problems we face in a larger narrative

As the old saying goes, "Those who fail to learn from history are doomed to repeat it."

This doesn't just apply to the study of national or world history either, but of local history as well. And nowhere better promotes local history than the many museums and historical societies scattered around the North Shore, which chart the development of the many early fishing villages and communities into the thriving townships and cities of Nassau County today.

At a time when the country is struggling to accept the changing narrative of American history — that our forefathers were not just statesmen and liberators, but slave owners and potentially even bigots — museums often have helped lead the charge in addressing these seemingly conflicting portraits of the nation's founders. Rather than downplaying the importance of slavery in the north — which has historically pushed responsibility for the atrocity exclusively on the southern states - many museums have been at the forefront of educating their communities on the tragedies and reality of enslavement on Long Island.

Throughout the 1700s and into the early 1800s, New York law stated that every community must have a public whipping post and whipper, paid for by local taxes, to punish enslaved people and reinforce the racial hierarchy that has continued to plague all aspects of American life. Information like this is normally confined to dusty tomes and unread essays in historical journals, but local museums present this history — along with the artifacts and historical documents, on full display —

forcing us to confront the truth of our nation's complicated history.

Furthermore, these museums also show that it was not just white Anglo-Saxon men that forged Long Island into a thriving economic center. Many sailors and fishermen that sailed and steamed out of Long Island ports were people of color. At least a quarter of all participants in the whaling industry were Black.

Despite the sometimes dark and serious nature of this history, what also makes local museums stand out is the sense of proximity and downright wonder they can bring to people unfamiliar with their region's past, particularly children. History is only boring if it's taught in a boring manner, and few museums on Long Island can be accused of that.

Educators at local museums also memorize hundreds, sometimes thousands, of historical facts and tidbits to keep visitors' attention. Rather than recounting a linear story of dates and names, they bring history to life by explaining not just who the people of the past were, but how they lived, and the similarities, and stark differences, that connect us with them.

Local museums are also repositories of hundreds of artifacts from across the centuries, as varied as musket balls fired during the Revolutionary War, and gold and silver dining utensils used by wealthy merchants during the Gilded Age. They also house thousands of documents, diaries, journals and books that offer a glimpse of the day-to-day lives and thoughts of local people — from freedmen to ship's captains to British officers.

All this historic preservation, research and education costs money however, and these organizations depend on the support and stream of visitors to keep their doors open and to continue preserving the extraordinary history of our communities.

So next time when you're wandering around the streets of one of the North Shore's many historic villages or towns, stop by a local museum or historical society. It's inexpensive, entertaining, and who knows? You might learn something new.

Museums on the North Shore

Sagamore Hill National Historic Site

20 Sagamore Hill Road, Oyster Bay (516) 922-4788 tinyurl.com/VisitSagamoreHill

Garvies Point Museum and Preserve

50 Barry Drive, Glen Cove (516) 571-8010 GarviesPointMuseum.com

Sea Cliff Village Museum

95 10th Ave., Sea Cliff (516) 801-3401 SeaCliffMuseum.org

Raynham Hall Museum

30 W. Main St., Oyster Bay (516) 922-6808 RaynhamHallMuseum.org

Bayville Historical Museum

34 School St., Bayville (516) 628-1720

Holocaust Memorial & Tolerance Center of Nassau County

100 Crescent Beach Road, Glen Cove (516) 571-8040 HMTCLI.org

Oyster Bay Historical Society

20 Summit St., Oyster Bay (516) 922-5032 OysterBayHistorical.org

North Shore Historical Museum

140 Glen St., Glen Cove (516) 801-1191 NorthShoreHistoricalMuseum.org

The Underhill Society of America

14 W. Main St., Oyster Bay (516) 833-6724 UnderhillSociety.org

LETTERS

The good and bad of pandemic-driven technological progress

To the Editor:

The coronavirus pandemic, without a doubt, changed the world — and one of its most notable effects has been the accelera-

tion of technology initiatives as the public and private sectors seek to digitize more operations and communications. Many artificial intelligence products have come out of these advances, and many are being put to use by state and local governments with input from private tech companies.

Governments are adopting AI at an accelerating pace. New York City and state agencies have experienced a broad expansion of

AI applications, such as chatbots. And now, with last year's widespread introduction of AI tools that can create new content such as text and images, it appears that further changes are on the way.

It is imperative that the private sector and government institutions meet the moment by adopting comprehensive risk-mitigation strategies and effective AI governance frameworks that prioritize transparency, accuracy

OPINIONS

Honor Harry Chapin's legacy with action to end hunger

sing his remarkable

gifts, Chapin

philanthropic

pursued a

calling.

f you compiled the names of the most impactful Long Islanders in our history, you'd surely start off with the likes of Theodore Roosevelt, Walt Whitman and Marie Colvin — and in my estimation, Harry Chapin is a fitting fourth candidate to complete a cross-cul-

ARNOLD W. DRUCKER

tural Mount Rushmore of great Long Islanders.

In just nine years as a recording artist, Chapin released 12 albums that embodied his distinctive style as a musical storyteller. Thanks to timeless melodies and stirring lyrics that vividly told stories of everyday life,

songs like "Taxi," "W.O.L.D.," "Circle," "Sequel" and, of course, "Cat's in the Cradle" became embedded in the soundtracks of our lives in the 1970s, and have endured in the decades since.

Using his remarkable gifts, Chapin also pursued a philanthropic calling: a mission to eradicate hunger, in the United States in particular.

As one of the world's highest-paid entertainers at the time, he gave generously to charitable causes, hosted numerous benefit concerts, and used his platform as a springboard for advocacy. He was involved in launching World Hunger Year (now known as WhyHunger) in 1975, and establishing the Presidential Commission on World Hunger during the Carter

administration. But the food bank that now bears his name is perhaps his greatest innovation. When Chapin launched Long Island Cares in 1980, he created Long Island's first food bank, and in doing so revolutionized our regional approach to addressing food insecurity and hunger.

In 2021, Long Island Cares distributed 14 million pounds of food — the equivalent of 11.5 million meals

— and it now has a half-dozen brick-and-mortar storefront locations across the Island. The agency was instrumental in addressing crises like Superstorm Sandy and the economic disruption caused by the coronavirus pandemic. And because no member of a family — included the four-legged and feathered ones — is spared from hunger, the seventh location, Baxter's Pet Pantry, is dedicated to collecting and distributing pet food and supplies to families in need.

In this oft-derided age of the celebrity

candidate, Chapin would have been a natural to run for the House of Representatives or another elected office, but not because he was a star. He would have been ideal because he did the work and cared deeply about the future we shared. Sadly,

he never got that chance. On July 16, 1981, Chapin was driving his Volkswagen to a benefit concert at Eisenhower Park when the car was struck by an 18-wheeler on the Long Island Expressway and he was fatally injured.

The shock of his sudden, untimely death reverberated through the park on that summer evening, and through our society for years afterward. He would be cited as an inspiration for

endeavors like USA for Africa and Live Aid, and countless memorial awards, theaters and humanitarian events would be named in his honor.

Neighboring municipalities like Suffolk County have declared July 16 Harry Chapin Day in honor of all he achieved in just 38 years. In Nassau County, I continue to pursue legislation I filed last year to establish a Harry Chapin Day of our own. While there has been no action by the legislative majority to date, I will never lose hope, or lose sight of the important mis-

sion in front of us.

Rather than wait for the gears of government to turn, I decided to immediately implement one of the tenets of my proposed legislation — after all, Chapin was the man who said, "When in doubt, do something!" Starting on July 16, my office will hold its second annual summer food drive, to benefit Long Island Cares and draw renewed attention to Chapin's legacy.

Among the many lessons of the past several years, we have all been confronted with the hard truth that far more of our neighbors struggle silently with food insecurity than we ever knew.

If you would like to support this endeavor, you can make a contribution of nonperishable goods at the Plainview-Old Bethpage and Syosset libraries and Plainview's Trio Hardware, or donate directly to Long Island Cares, through Aug. 16. Call my office, at (516) 571-6216, or email adrucker@nassaucountyny.gov, if you have any questions.

In Harry's words again, "We all have the potential to move the world, and the world is ready to be moved." This summer, as Nassau County residents and Long Islanders, let's unite to move the world to a better and more humane place.

Arnold W. Drucker has represented Nassau County's 16th Legislative District since 2016

LETTERS

and fairness.

Unfortunately, the ability to understand the risks involved with some AI products — and the strategies to reduce or eliminate those risks — has not kept up with the pace at which AI is being put to use. Numerous studies have shown a significant rise in AI adoption and investment, with most experts foreseeing a further boost in AI investment in the coming years. Alarmingly, organizations have made little progress in addressing well-known AI-related risks such as bias, lack of transparency and safety concerns.

This concerning trend is also evident in government institutions. My recent report on AI governance in New York City found that the city lacks an effective AI governance framework. City agencies have been left to develop their own divergent approaches, resulting in ad hoc and incomplete measures that fail to ensure transparency, accuracy and fairness in AI systems.

This is concerning because while AI promises vast opportunities, it also carries inherent risks. Several incidents — even before the pandemic — illustrated the unintentional harm that can be caused by government AI systems designed or implemented irresponsibly. A faulty automated fraud-detection system in Michigan erroneously accused thousands of unemployment insurance recipients of fraud, causing financial ruin for many. Similar issues have plagued other systems related to Medicaid eligibility

determinations, facial recognition, criminal justice, health care, teacher evaluations and job recruitment applications.

New York City has been a forerunner in examining the use of AI. It was among the first to establish a task force dedicated to examining the responsible use of automated decision-making systems, including AI systems. But the city's efforts are no longer keeping pace with this rapidly advancing technology. Despite the task force's recommendations and the expansion of AI applications during the pandemic, the city still doesn't have an effective AI governance framework.

As we continue to embrace the technological leaps brought forth by the pandemic, we must ensure that we do so responsibly. Audits, such as the one my office conducted in New York City, can help drive change by raising awareness of where risks lie. Understanding these risks and identifying blind spots is a first step in the right direction, but the city must also take further action, such as implementing a robust governance framework to ensure that the use of AI is transparent, accurate, unbiased, and minimizes the potential for disparate impacts. I encourage my colleagues in government to join me in ensuring that AI systems work to further the greater good for all New Yorkers.

> THOMAS P. DINAPOLI New York state comptroller

FRAMEWORK courtesy Michael Ostrow



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