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**Checking out 58
 county libraries**
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 Scholarship**
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Tab Hauser/Herald

Wellness center helps fight cancer

James, left, and Heather Baxter competed on the high-low jump at Level Up Glen Cove's obstacle course. The wellness center hosted the event to help fund cancer research. Story, more photos, Page 3.

**Richie Cannata
 ready to rock
 Morgan Park**

By **LAURA LANE**
 llane@iherald.com

Richie Cannata's life has been all about music. He's a Grammy-winning artist who has performed all over the world, as Billy Joel's original saxophone player. Cannata played with the Beach Boys at Olympiastadion in Berlin, before a crowd of some 225,000, when the Berlin Wall was torn down. But Cannata, who will play "The Music of Billy Joel" at Morgan Park, in Glen Cove, on Sunday with his band, the Lords of 52nd Street, said he just loves playing, regardless of the size of the crowd.

memories of Glen Cove from childhood, he said, when he would visit cousins who lived there.

He is also a music producer, and he opened Cove City Sound Studios, on Pratt Boulevard, in 1983, which grew to become a renowned recording facility. Jennifer Lopez, Whitney Houston, Ashanti, Mariah Carey, Taylor Dayne, the Jonas Brothers, Celine Dion and Billy Joel are just some of the musicians who have recorded there.



RICHIE CANNATA

Early years

Although he is known mostly as a saxophonist, Cannata also plays keyboards/piano, flute and clarinet. He

"Playing at the Bitter End, for 100 people, or 1,000 people, it doesn't matter," he said, referring to the Manhattan club. "I love them all, although it is more intimate when you play for 500 people."

began taking classical piano lessons when he was 4, after persuading his father to buy a piano. His parents, first generation Italians from Palermo and Calabria, did not play any instruments, but they appreciated music.

Cannata, who was born in Brooklyn, moved to Garden City Park with his family when he was 4. He chose Glen Cove as his home in 1984, after living in Sea Cliff for eight years. He had fond

"My parents were hard-working Italians," Cannata said. "Dad scraped the money together to buy the piano, and I started tak-

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2

**Glen Cove nurse receives
 'Cause for Applause' award**

By **ROKSANA AMID**

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Nurses provide invaluable services ranging from crisis response to educating patients on health and wellness. It's difficult to quantify the impact of nurses like Adele Gutierrez, of Glen Cove, who has been recognized for her compassion and her dedication to her community.

The 48-year-old Gutierrez, a registered nurse at the State University of New York at Old Westbury, began working there 12 years ago. Since then she has been recognized as a supervisor of the year, and on Aug. 1 she received the Cause

For Applause Award, the culmination of a campus-wide nomination process and review by a staff forum.

Gutierrez's career journey began unexpectedly, when the then 31-year-old job coach for the Association for Habilitation and Residential Care saw her grandmother, Rose Gregory, having a seizure in her nursing home. Gutierrez was left feeling scared, confused and helpless. She said she wouldn't have known how to help her grandmother without her sister, Angelique Gutierrez, who was their grandmother's nurse.

"My sister was fully in control," Gutierrez

CONTINUED ON PAGE 4

Cannata, musician, producer, studio owner

August 17, 2023 – GLEN COVE HERALD

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ing lessons right before kindergarten.”

Cannata connected with the musicianship of the stars of the big-band era and those who followed it, including Frank Sinatra, Tony Bennett and Henry Mancini, listening to their records on his parent's phonograph.

He stopped taking piano lessons when he was 7 because, Cannata said, he was developing as a musician on his own. The music he was listening to at home led him to play the clarinet, and then, when he turned 8, he took up the saxophone.

Today, Cannata plays a Selmer Mark VI tenor sax, and owns four other horns. The Selmer is what he will play with the Lords of 52nd Street, as well as keyboards, this weekend.

Time with Billy Joel, Beach Boys

Growing up in Garden City Park, Cannata played in school bands, and then in groups in the local music scene, and eventually became a studio musician as well. He met Joel in 1975, after Al Stegmeyer, an engineer at the now defunct Ultrasonic Recording Studios, in Hempstead, told Cannata that his brother was playing bass guitar for Joel, and they needed a sax player.

That year, Cannata played the solo on “New York State of Mind” for Joel, who was so impressed that he asked Cannata to record it on “Turnstiles,” which went multiplatinum. Cannata joined Joel's



Courtesy Northwell Health

Grammy-winning saxophonist Richie Cannata, a cancer survivor, played “New York State of Mind” for attendees at Northwell's Cancer Survivors Day in June.

band, and stayed for five years. He played on some of Joel's other multiplatinum albums, including “The Stranger,” “Songs in the Attic,” “52nd Street” and “Glass Houses.”

“Billy and I became close friends, and we did seven records together,” Cannata

said. “We played clubs and stadiums together. I left his band to have a family and start a record studio, and I wanted to branch out. I played with Rosanne Cash, Stix and Tommy Shaw. We still stay in touch.”

Cannata opened for the Beach Boys as

part of Joel's band. Carl Wilson, the Beach Boys' lead guitarist, loved the music, Cannata said, and when Cannata left Joel's band, Wilson brought the Beach Boys to Cove City Sound Studios to record.

“That's when he said, ‘Do you want to join the Beach Boys?’” Cannata recalled. “I joined, and was with them for 15 years.” He performed with the group until 1998, playing saxophone, woodwinds and synthesizers.

Cancer scare

In 2015 Cannata lost mobility in his hands, and the pain became so excruciating that he couldn't even pick up, let alone play, a saxophone. It was difficult for him on many levels, because, as Cannata will tell you, he is always busy.

After being diagnosed with Stage 4 non-Hodgkin's lymphoma, he spent six months at North Shore University Hospital, undergoing chemotherapy six days a week.

“I was in the process of being inducted into the Long Island Music Hall of Fame. That's when I got the cancer news,” he said. “When I was inducted, I had it.”

He credits the care he received at Northwell Health, his rehabilitation and his wife, Shirlene, for his recovery.

“I've always known I have a wonderful gift from God. God put me in suspension,” he said of the cancer. “It's a miracle I'm alive. Cancer made me stronger.”

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Tab Hauser/Herald photos

Level Up Glen Cove hosted a day of fun and games fundraiser on Aug. 12 to raise awareness for cancer research.

Level Up raises \$3,500 for cancer research

By **ROKSANA AMID**

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Ryan Aguilar would take frequent walks with his father, Raul during the height of the coronavirus pandemic in 2020. It was a hobby the two shared while the rest of the world was also coping with social isolation, but those walks became painful for Ryan in November 2020 when at 16 he started to feel pain in his leg. An x-ray revealed a lesion on his right tibia, and he received a diagnosis of osteosarcoma, an aggressive bone cancer on Nov. 18. Aguilar started chemotherapy immediately after his diagnose and underwent three surgeries to reconstruct his leg and remove the tumor.

Aguilar enjoyed a few rites of passage into adulthood. He graduated from Glen Cove High School in 2022 and was set to attend Nassau Community College to study computer game design, but instead of learning to drive, he was preparing for surgery and physical therapy to be able to walk again. After the cancer spread to other parts of his body, Aguilar died in December of 2022, three months after his family's home was heavily damaged in a fire.

To help bring awareness to the devastating disease affecting families like the Aguilars, Nicole Helmus and Christopher Salka, co-owners of Level Up Glen Cove, a fitness and wellness center, hosted a morning with fun obstacle courses on Aug. 12. Although the company had its grand opening in May, they've made a big difference in the fight against cancer, raising \$3,500 from the fundraiser, and they will continue to accept donations until Aug. 18 to the American Cancer Society.

"We want it to be a fun event but for a great cause," Helmus said. "We're hoping that we can raise money to make a difference, but we're also just hoping we can all



Courtesy Raul Aguilar

Deirdre, left, with Ryan Aguilar tried to be positive during Ryan's fight with cancer.

come together, have fun, and maybe even empower somebody."

Helmus has many personal connections with the disease, having friends and family who are a mixture of survivors and those who died from it. She knows that not many people diagnosed with cancer are as open as the Aguilar family have been, and hopes the event helped to rejuvenate a sense of agency and power that a diagnosis may have taken away from friends, family and those who were diagnosed.

Cancer is the second most frequent cause of death in America, after cardiovascular disease. Cancer is the second-leading cause of death worldwide with about 10 million deaths per year. There are more than 200 types of cancer, which can be classified according to where they start in the body, such as breast cancer, or lung cancer. In the United States in 2020, 1,603,844 new cancer cases were reported and 602,347 people died of cancer. For



April and Brenden Meir tested their strength at the ball lifting station.

every 100,000 people, 403 new cancer cases were reported and 144 of those affected died of cancer.

Aguilar advises that although a cancer diagnosis can be scary, the best course of action in treatment is to stay educated on the treatment plan.

"The biggest thing is to remain positive, remain faithful, remain encouraged

and be 100 percent involved in the process of what's going on with your child or loved one," Aguilar said. "We all don't speak in doctor speak, and if we slow the doctors down, slow the medical team down and just ask those questions it's a lot less scary and a lot more informative, because you can kind of expect what the next steps are."

Adele Gutierrez's approach 'sets her apart'

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

said. "She just knew how to give her what she needed with grace, and with such care, and such calm."

This emergency inspired Gutierrez to begin a new career path. She knew she wanted to be able to provide the same care for others in emergencies that her sister could.

Gutierrez, who describes herself as a late bloomer, said that academics weren't a major focus when she was growing up, but she attended night school at Suffolk County Community College for three years to earn a nursing degree. Afterward she worked at the Pilgrim Psychiatric Center for a year, with patients diagnosed with schizophrenia.

She began her tenure at SUNY Old Westbury as a nurse in the campus's Student Health Center, helping those in need find therapy and resources for addiction. She is also active in Horseability, a nonprofit specializing in equine therapy and hippotherapy — occupational and physical therapy for humans that involves horses — which operates at the Clark Family Stables on the college's campus.

"I really found my niche," Gutierrez said. "I have to be honest, it doesn't feel like work. It's the best job. My heart is community focused."

Gutierrez isn't a Glen Cove native, but knew she wanted to be part of the community well before she moved to the city



Courtesy Adele Gutierrez

Adele Gutierrez, a nurse with the State University of New York at Old Westbury, has been recognized for her compassion and dedication to her community.

two years ago. She has done part-time work for the Community Mainstreaming program at Glen Cove's Tulip House, a nonprofit that helps those with intellec-

tual and developmental disabilities.

"This community seems very welcoming to me," she said. "I've landed here, and I can honestly say I'm home here."

Gutierrez is also an avid supporter of the Sea Cliff-based Girls Rising, another nonprofit created by the all-female rock band Antigone Rising to empower and inspire girls and lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and queer children to pursue careers in male-dominated fields.

Gutierrez also embraces her creative side with a podcast called "Mix'd Kin-ish," co-hosted by her longtime friend Yvonne Biagioni. The show name plays off their diverse ethnic backgrounds, and features a deliberate misspelling of a popular Jewish snack. Gutierrez describes it as "a doughy mix of Italian, Mexican, Puerto Rican, love, laughter and gay" that focuses on topics related to those who identify as LGBTQ.

Joshua Phillips, director of residential life at SUNY-Old Westbury, said that Gutierrez's exceptional dedication, her ability to support and uplift others, and her role as a representation of diverse voices make her a deserving candidate for recognition. He describes her as a shining example of the positive impact one person can have on an entire community.

"Adele's inclusive and compassionate approach sets her apart," Phillips said. "She actively listens to the concerns and needs of others, providing valuable guidance and assistance. Her genuine care for everyone she interacts with creates a safe and welcoming environment where individuals feel heard and supported."

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Nassau Library tours is a 'novel' idea

By **ROKSANA AMID**

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For Rosie Steinhauser, visiting libraries was a luxury she couldn't afford while growing up in El Salvador. The only people she knew who could afford to visit them were students who attended private school. Now, the Glen Cove mother of two takes her children to the Glen Cove and Locust Valley public libraries at every opportunity. When Steinhauser saw the flyer advertising this year's Nassau Libraries Tour, she knew her two elementary-aged children, Julie and Hannah, would jump at the opportunity.

"We had to pay about \$1 to enter into the library, and I never had that dollar," Steinhauser said when reflecting on her childhood. "For me to be around all of these amazing programs and libraries now and seeing my kids taking advantage of all of this and experience it, it means so much to me."

To start the tour, residents like Steinhauser picked up a free map of the Nassau libraries at any of the 58 participating buildings. Participants had their visits marked off on their maps with stickers provided by each individual library. This self-paced journey took place from June 12 to Aug. 12, with some residents rushing to receive token prizes for finishing visits to five, 15, 30, 50 and 58 buildings; they include tattoos, tumblers, buttons, baseball caps and their most popular item — a plush stuffed cat wearing a library tour T-shirt. The library system offered this tour for the first time in 2019, but the county-wide adventure was halted because of the coronavirus pandemic.

The Glen Cove Public Library saw well over 800 visitors from across the county, according to Josephine Valensisi, the libraries' circulation supervisor.

"The 2019 tour wasn't as popular as it was this year,"



Courtesy Rosie Steinhauser

Julie, left, and Hannah Steinhauser mark visiting their last stop on the library tour at Plainedge Public Library.

Valensisi said. "I think it has a lot to do with social media, it was out there all over Facebook. The library system did a lot of advertising."

Marissa Damiano, a staff member from the Glen Cove Public Library, noticed that many who visited Glen Cove loved to compare libraries within the county. She heard many people compliment the library for its different programs, especially those dedicated to children and teenagers.

While on the tour, many visitors learned they have access to all county libraries and aren't limited to their local membership.

"I think it's great for people to see that they're able to utilize other libraries, even though they're a Locust Val-

ley resident for example," Lee said. "Barely anyone knew that, so it's nice to know that they have the possibility of going to any library that they like within the county."

The tour showcases the amazing benefits and interesting aspects of each local library and their municipalities. Lisa Colon, a circulation desk clerk for the Glen Cove Library, said the tour was a great way for children to learn that librarians aren't "these grumpy people that shush you and wear cardigan, sweaters."

Colon saw the tour from two perspectives. She not only helped manage the tour at Glen Cove, but also finished the tour herself in two months. She said one major thing she noticed is even though she's lived on Long Island her entire life, she visited places she's never seen before.

"The whole purpose of the tour is to get people to see other libraries, and visit local restaurants and businesses," said Lisa Zuena, a representative from the Nassau Library System. "We've had people say they had no idea these libraries existed, and they've been to communities and shopped in areas they never would have."

Throughout the tour, Steinhauser felt as though she was going through a cultural exchange. Her children showed how proud they were to be from Glen Cove, and often talked about the city's various summertime activities and events like the summer concert series at Morgan Memorial Park.

Steinhauser wasn't sure she would be able to visit all 58 libraries, but said her eight-year-old daughter Julie loves a challenge, and insisted on visiting libraries on days when the family hadn't planned to.

"My favorite part of the library tour was spending time together with my family," Julie Steinhauser said. "We had a great experience together."

Additional reporting by Mark Nolan

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A vibrant, stylized illustration of the cast of the play 'The Cottage'. The characters are depicted in a whimsical, almost surreal setting. A woman in a blue dress stands on a rooftop, holding a champagne glass. A man in a purple robe stands next to her. A man in a green suit is in the foreground, holding a sword. A woman in a red dress is also in the foreground. A man in a blue suit is on the left. A woman in a pink dress is on the right. The background is a bright blue sky with a green hill. The illustration is signed 'JJ Harrison' in the bottom right corner.

Illustration: JJ Harrison

1223407

Lawmakers push for anti-hate reporting awareness

By JORDAN VALLONE

jvallone@liherald.com

When antisemitic graffiti was found at Merrick's Chatterton Elementary School, a hotline was available to report the incident to the proper authorities.

But unlike 911 or 988 — well-known numbers to report emergencies or seek immediate mental health assistance — how to reach the bias hotline is not so well-known. And Nassau County Democrats are pushing their colleagues to change that.

Anyone can text messages and photos, or even call (516) 500-0657 if they see hate anywhere in their communities. All calls are returned during business hours, police said. And for those who prefer email, it's combat-bias@pcdn.org.

Siela Bynoe commended the Nassau County Police department for rolling out technology that allows people to quickly and confidentially report incidents of hate.

"But access is not awareness," the county legislator told reporters outside of Chatterton School last week. "Access without awareness does not get what's intended."

Nassau County police officials say two swastikas as well as anti-police sentiments were spray painted at the Chatterton playground July 30.

That prompted an emergency meeting a week later by the South Merrick Community Civic Association, intended to be an open discussion with police, detectives, school superintendents and rabbis about how the community can combat hate.

The following day, police arrested a 14-year-old Freeport boy, charging him with two felonies and a pair of misdemeanors.

But the number of people across Nassau County who even know this hotline exists is small, Bynoe said. A public awareness campaign is needed to get that word out, because if more instances are reported, the county can



Jordan Vallone/Herald

Rabbi Ira Ebbin of Merrick's Congregation Ohav Sholom, spoke out about antisemitism during a recent news conference in Merrick, but also shared some of the technology available to combat it.

map out where there is an influx of bias incidents and direct resources to those communities.

"We must pull out all the stops and find and implement as many tools as possible to stem the tide of this wave of hatred we are witnessing," said County Legislator Arnold Drucker, who added he'd also like to work with state officials to ensure justice is served when people are arrested for hateful acts.

"I intend to collaborate with our partners in state government to take a renewed look at our hate crime laws and evaluate the classification of these hate crimes," Drucker said. That way, "they can be prosecuted as a standalone offense, and have them automatically charged as a felony — rather than a misdemeanor — to ensure that these individuals get more than a slap on the wrist."

Putting a complete end to antisemitic acts is not an easy task at all, according to Rabbi Ira Ebbin.

"If you look at any Jewish history book — or any history book — you'll know that it's impossible," the spiritual leader of Congregation Ohav Sholom in Merrick, told reporters last week. "Since Jews have existed, there has been antisemitism. Since humans have existed, there has been hatred. Those who want to hate will always find ways to hate, and they do it in the most invasive way."

Technology such as the hotline, Ebbin said, is incredibly important.

"It opens the opportunity and the portals of entry for people who see something, then they need to say something," the rabbi said. "Our legislators, our leaders respond to data, and unless it's reported, the reality is silence is compared to complicity. If you don't say anything, nothing gets done."

Education is key, according to County Legislator Michael Giangregorio, a Republican who represents Merrick and surrounding communities. Children, for instance, may not understand the seriousness of their actions when they commit acts of hate.

"I would like to use this latest example as a teaching moment, especially for our children, to better educate them on the dangers of these type of behaviors, and to re-emphasize that hate speech or any actions in that regard are not tolerated or accepted," he said, in a statement. "Together, as a community, we must do what we can to stand together against this growing scourge."

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Book Review:

"Die with Zero" by Bill Perkins

In "Die with Zero", subtitled "Getting All That You Can from Your Money and Your Life", retired engineer Bill Perkins takes an analytical view about making your life grow as opposed to making your money grow. Letting opportunities pass you by for fear of squandering money leads many to squander their lives instead.

Instead of just keeping on earning and earning to maximize wealth, too many of us don't give nearly as much thought as to maximizing what they can get out of that wealth — including what they can give to others while they are living, instead of waiting until they die.

As opposed to spending money on things, which excitement depreciates over time, the author advocates spending on experiences, which grow in value over time, due to the "memory dividend". Perkins advocates a systematic approach for eliminating the fear of running out of money (the main reason people oversave and underenjoy) while maximizing your and your loved ones

enjoyment of that money.

Being that the main idea is that your life is the sum of your experiences, you should put some thought into planning the kind of experiences you want. If you die with significant wealth but a scarcity of experiences, you worked a lot of hours just to accumulate money that you either never used or were too old to use.

You can waste your life by underspending. Life is not only about "accumulating", it is also about "decumulating" or using the money to maximize your life which, in the end, is nothing more than the memories you make.

In a similar vein, giving inheritances early maximizes the impact of those inheritance on the recipients' quality of life. The average age of heirs being about sixty, the money usually arrives too late to do the most good.

Your time is limited. The chief regrets of the dying are that they didn't live their dreams more and spent too much time working, missing out on relationships and life experiences.

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NEIGHBORS IN THE NEWS



Courtesy GSM Communications

Elected officials and members of Loggia Glen Cove #1016 celebrated this year's scholarship recipients for their pursuit of higher education.

Loggia Glen Cove awards scholarships

Thanks to Loggia Glen Cove No. 1016, tuition bills for seven local students will be a little bit easier to manage this fall. Anyone of Italian descent and a member of the club are eligible to submit their college acceptance letters and receive a scholarship.

This year, the scholarships were awarded to: Peter Flood, Gabriella Basile, Christian Amorosana, Ventina

Gheresi, Eric Graziosi, Gianni DeRosa and Antonette Minagro.

The award recipients received citations from Mayor Pamela Panzenbeck, County Legislator Delia DeRiggi-Whitton, and by Councilwoman Danielle Fugazy Scagliola on behalf of State Assemblyman Charles Lavine. The lodge also welcomed a new member — Ann Marie Martinez.



Courtesy Spiro Tsirkas

Over 50 members from the city's youth summer program enjoyed their afternoon at the Anglers Club. They learned valuable life skills while also preparing for the mayor's snapper derby on Aug. 26.

Youth from summer program visit Anglers

The Glen Cove Anglers Club and The Friends of the Glen Cove youth board co-sponsored a half-day fishing trip for middle school Glen Cove Summer program participants. Over 50 youth went fishing and ate a barbecue lunch after

their afternoon of fun in the sun.

The youngsters had a great time learning about the skill sets needed to catch fish, while preparing for the Mayor's Snapper Derby at Pryibil beach on Aug. 26.

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HERALD WOMEN'S EXECUTIVE SUMMIT

Networking, negotiating, keeping life on track

By Parker Schug

They were women from all kinds of backgrounds, but had one thing in common: They are the leaders of today — and tomorrow — and were all part of the Herald Women's Executive Summit, presented by Bank of America, Aug. 7 at The Crescent Beach Club in Bayville.

There — among coffee, breakfast and meditation — speakers with various areas of expertise shared how they reached their career milestones, and how those attendees could reach them, too.

Among those sharing that wisdom were Liz Bentley, chief executive and founder of Liz Bentley Associates, as well as Aimee Kestenberg Elan, chief creative officer and co-founder of Affordable Luxury Group.

There was also Melissa Negrin-Wiener, a senior partner at Cona Elder Law, teaching attendees the importance of knowledge surrounding your assets.

"You're never too young, you're never too old, you're never too rich and you're never too poor to plan," Negrin-Wiener said. "People think it's just for millionaires and it's not."

Erin Ley, an award-winning speaker, best-selling author, and growth and success coach for Onward Productions, led the "Life on Track" workshop.

"Celebrate life and you'll have a life worth celebrating," she said.

Megan Ryan, executive vice president and chief legal officer of NuHealth/NUMC led a session on minority and women-owned business enterprise.

Another round of workshops featured Mimi Bishop and Jackie Ghedine discussing negotiations and knowing your worth. The two leadership coaches and consultants co-founded Modern Gen X Woman & MGXW, where they lead women who primarily grew up in the 1980s and 1990s to fulfilling careers.

"Stop waiting to be noticed and waiting patiently to get paid," Ghedine said. "Go after and ask for what you want."

Kenia Nunez-Leon shared how losing her husband to cancer helped her recognize the 4M system she used to sustain his life — which stands for mindset, mentorship, motivation and money.

Nunez-Leon also showed how these connect to other facets of life, like sitting on the board for the development of a new city.

The last round of workshops featured Valerie Nifora, a global marketing leader, branding expert and award-winning author, who spoke about embracing individual qualities.

"I just want you to know who you are and what makes you incredible and why you're here on the planet," Nifora said.

"I want you to be that, unapologetically, all the time."

Donna Stefans of Wealth Advisory Associates, lead attorney and founder of Stefans Law Group, emphasized the idea that women need financial knowledge.

"I don't hear people sitting around talking about their portfolios — it's just not a fun, sexy topic," Stefans said. "If they're having the conversations, they're learning from each other."

Lisa Mirabile, chief executive and founder of Vertigo Media Group, advised on how to present digital information in a more effective manner, while closing keynote speaker Paisley Demby shared his experience going from homelessness to the state's deputy secretary of economic development. It was through positivity he was able to bring himself — and now others — back up from hard



Edwin Chavez/Herald photos

The Power Brunch Panel and keynote speakers at the Herald Women's Executive Summit included, from left, Reena Jana, Talisa Flatts, Kristin Thorne, Jodi Seidler, Liz Bentley, Aimee Kestenberg Elan and Retha Fernandez.



The Value of Volunteering & Mentorship Panel moderated by Christine Buscarino included, from left, Rande Bynum, Beth Meixner, Davi Tserpelis and Tammy Severino.

times.

"Tell your employees, anytime you come to my office with a problem, challenge, struggle or issue, you have to either present a solution, an opportunity or some idea — regardless of how zany," Paisley said.

The event closed with giveaway prizes, cocktails and networking. A portion of proceeds will benefit Moxxie Mentoring Foundation.

"Everyone left really inspired and ready to tackle some tough conversations in the workforce, but really energized and powered to have success in their careers," said Jennifer Porti, vice president and community relations manager for Bank of America.



Workshop host Melissa Negrin-Wiener from Cona Elder Law.



Workshop host Donna Stefans from Wealth Advisory Associates.

Summit attendees learn ‘work is love made visible’

By Ana Borruto

Breaking barriers, shattering glass ceilings and stepping into their power are just some of the empowering traits the nearly 300 trailblazers had in common at the inaugural Herald Women’s Executive Summit, presented by Bank of America.

Although it was a gloomy day outside of The Crescent Beach Club in Bayville, the spirit of girl power shined through as thought leaders, innovators and other extraordinary women shared their take on the event’s theme — “The Future is Now.”

“When my parents, Robert and Edith Richner, founded Richner Communications at a time when female executives were a rarity, my mother broke those norms,” said Stuart Richner, the chief executive of the company that is the parent to Herald Community Newspapers.

“We are not just celebrating the successful professional women amongst us, but we are also acknowledging the pioneering spirit of women like my mother — women who dared to pave the way in times less hospitable to their ambitions.”

Suelem Artzt, vice president and consumer banking market leader for Bank of America, shared how she faced many challenges along the way of her career since moving from Brazil in 2007, but still persevered.

“We all have different backgrounds and journeys that helped us all get here,” Artzt said. “But one thing we have in common is we’ve earned this seat here today. I think that it’s important for all of us to have strong women in our lives because they’re going to help you have that vision and really see what is possible.”

Keynote speaker Liz Bentley, chief executive of Liz Bentley Associates, broke down the ways women must override their “imprinted instincts” in order to step into their power.

For example, she said gender stereotypes are engrained into women as early as age 10. This includes being taught their key asset is their physical appearance, and that men are more successful, women are perceived as more vulnerable, weaker and in need of protection.

“These imprinting years are things you need to get over in order to go to the next level,” Bentley said. Women “don’t see themselves as equals. When they walk in the room — if you want to be equal, if you want more power, if you want to step into your power — you have to own it inside your body. It starts with you.”

The Power Brunch Panel featured five accomplished leaders — Google’s Reena Jana, Estée Lauder Cos.’ Jodi Seitler, National Grid Venture’s Retha Fernandez, AARP New York’s Beth Finkel and Amazon’s Talisa Flatts — shared how their lives were very much like anyone else attending the conference. Getting passed over for promotions. Learning from failure. Carving out their own opportunities. Or making sure to create a work-life-balance. It was moderated by WABC-7 investigative reporter Kristin Thorne,

Finkel, AARP’s state director, said one in every three women have felt discrimination in the workplace, and 92 percent of all women have been told how to act, how to dress, or what to say.

“I was told early on in my career that I talk too much like a New Yorker,” Finkel said. “What they were really saying was, ‘You’re too competitive.’ I didn’t change who I was. I just kept going.”

Flatts, a human resources business partner at Amazon, explained how building relationships is key — no one can do it alone. Seitler, a global crisis and issue management vice president at Estée Lauder, said no matter how old you are, the learning process never ends.

Jana, head of content and partnership as well as responsible innovation at Google, urged others to get involved in causes they believe in.

Fernandez — who strategic engagement manager at National Grid — encouraged the women in the crowd to trust their personal power.

“Don’t let anyone tell you that you aren’t qualified,” she said.

“Be around people who bring you joy. Work is love made visible.”



Tim Baker/Herald photos

WE Summit presenting sponsor Bank of America takes a moment to pose at the photo booth, while at left, Suelem Artzt, speaks to attendees.



Edwin Chavez/Herald

The beach bag sponsor at the Herald Women’s Executive Summit — Air Charter Service — at their brunch table.



Summit attendees in the ballroom during the Power Brunch Panel.



Samantha Saman/Herald

Megan C. Ryan of Nassau University Medical Center speaks at her WE Summit workshop.

HERALD NEIGHBORS

August 17, 2023 – GLEN COVE HERALD



Tab Hauser/Herald photos

The Swingtime Big Band performs big-band classics as originally recorded, bringing to life the style and the spirit of a uniquely American musical style.

Glen Cove swings to the music at Morgan

On Aug. 6, the Swingtime Big Band, led by Steve Shaiman, had attendees at Morgan Memorial Park swinging the night away.

The band is a 20-piece swing band comprised of master interpreters of the incomparable music of the swing era. The ensemble performs big-band classics as originally recorded, bringing to life the style and the spirit of this uniquely American musical style.

The next evening of free music will take place on Aug. 20, with “The Music of Billy Joel” from Richie Cannata and The Lords of 52nd Street.



Steve Shaiman is known for his animated leadership style and his encyclopedic knowledge of big bands and the Great American Songbook.



Zack Alexander, left, Bobbie Ruth and Steve Shaiman were among the evening's performers.



Zack Alexander sang ‘My Kind of Town’ by Frank Sinatra, an all-time crowd favorite.



The crowd at Morgan Memorial Park eagerly waited for the evening's concert to begin.

STEPPING OUT

Ready for a Highland Fling

Everyone can be a Scot for the day at L.I.

SCOTTISH FESTIVAL

By Karen Bloom

Old Westbury Gardens will fill its lush grounds with the sounds of bagpipers and Scottish revelry as it welcomes the latest edition of the Scottish Festival and Highland Games. The annual spectacle on Saturday, Aug. 26, brings plenty of Scottish flair to the storied estate, presented by the Long Island Clan MacDuff.

With those bagpipes, traditional strength competitions and highland dancing — along with plenty of entertainment and assorted activities for lads and lasses — there's plenty end-of-summer revelry for all ages. According to Scottish lore, the games were begun by the ancient highland chieftains to help them select the strongest men for their armies. Those ancient traditions continue today in the form of caber tossing, Putting the Stone, Putting the Sheaf, and arm wrestling competitions, piping and drumming.

"When the Clan MacDuff first came here in 1977, they knew they had found a home," says Paul Hunchak, director of visitor services and public programs at Old Westbury Gardens.

And they've been back every year since — except those two years during the pandemic.

Long Island had once been home to five Scottish clans. Today only Clan MacDuff remains.

"We consider this to be like a gathering of the clans," says Clan MacDuff's Peter Burnside Sr. "This is what they used to do in Scotland all those years ago. Groups of families would come together for games and food and companionship. We're replicating that. People come from all over to meet their families here. It's the end of summer, a good time for everyone to gather."

Now in its 61st year, it has evolved into a family festival as much as a cultural event. "There really is something for everyone," Hunchak says. "You can explore the gardens, and then there's this whole other dimension. Many folks settle in for the day. They camp out on the lawn with their picnic and connect with family and friends. It's almost like a reunion. This is something people put on their radar year after year. And we enjoy hosting it."

While it has become a broad-based family affair — with birds of prey, falconry, vintage car show, Scottish dog parade, vendors offering Scottish wares, and so much more — those traditional elements continue to be a main attraction, especially the caber toss and pipe bands.

The caber is a long, tapered pine pole or log. The "tossers" balance it vertically by holding the smaller end, and then runs forward and tosses it so that it turns in the air with the larger end striking the ground first. Ideally, the pole strikes in a strictly vertical position, and the athletes are scored based on how closely the throw lands at a 12 o'clock position.

"The caber toss is always popular," Burnside says. "People love to watch the strong men — and strong women."

While athletes are generally the ones up to the challenge, the public is invited to participate. Keep in mind that pole is 150 pounds and 25 feet long.

Competitors also can try their skills with Tossing the Sheaf, and Putting the Stone. Tossing the Sheaf involves flinging a bale of hay over a horizontal pole with a large pitchfork. Putting the Stone is similar to the traditional Olympic-style shot put, but uses a large stone in which the weight varies.

While the games are going on, a lively lineup of bands and dance ensembles — including those assorted bagpipers — provide a musical backdrop throughout the day. The opening ceremony at 12:30 is quite special, with a grand march down the North Lawn, and not to be missed.

This year's entertainment roster also includes the high-energy Scottish Band, Albannach, with its heavily percussive sound. There's also the Celtic rock band Bangers and Mash, with their blend of Celtic rock, southern Rock and folk. And, of course, dancers doing varied interpretations of traditional highland dance and step dancing, among others.

Kids can find many activities just for them. They can try their skill at their own version of a caber toss, with light cabers (actually tubes), participate in sack races, and an old-fashioned tug of war.

When it's time for a break, check out the Scottish products available for purchase and sample such Scottish delights as meat pies and haggis.



- Saturday, Aug. 26, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.
- \$25, \$22 senior citizens, \$12 children
- 71 Old Westbury Road, Old Westbury
- Free parking is available at Westbury High School, with shuttle bus service to and from the festival
- Tickets and information available at OldWestburyGardens.org, or (516) 333-0048



Photos courtesy Old Westbury Gardens

Colorful pipers and drummers prepare to step proudly around the grounds of Old Westbury Gardens honoring a cherished heritage.



A competitor prepares to toss that caber.



Competitions for the kids include an old favorite, a tug of war.



Disco fever

Boogie along with Disco Unlimited as summer winds down. When Disco Unlimited hits the stage, you are instantly transported to a time when Saturday nights meant white suits, platform shoes, and your very best dance moves. And dance you will — when you experience the magic created when the boogie begins. Capturing a time in music that to this day has not been matched, this lively band will exhilarate you with their powerful vocals, tight harmonies and dance grooves — all coupled with a synchronized stage and light show. Close your eyes and you will truly believe you are listening to the original artists. Hear the best of Tavares, France Jolie, The Trammps, Harold Melvin's Blue Notes, Yvonne Elliman, Anita Ward, Deney Terrio, George McCrae, Bonnie Pointer, Melba Moore, Maxine Nightingale, Carol Douglas, and so much more. Joe Cool, Sista Soul, Funky Sista, Strat Cat, Wild Jerry and The MacDaddy comprise this group of unique and experienced musicians who love and live this era.

Friday, Aug. 18, 8 p.m. As always, bring seating. Harry Chapin Lakeside Theatre, Eisenhower Park, East Meadow. For information, visit NassauCountyNY.gov/parks.



Brit Floyd

From those moments when the needle drops on side one with 'Speak to Me,' the alarm clock of 'Tim,' that sensuous vocal on 'Great Gig in the Sky,' the lunatics on the grass in 'Brain Damage,' and finally, the final heartbeats of 'Eclipse,' The Dark Side of the Moon pulls you in. Brit Floyd is back on the concert circuit with a new show celebrating 50 years of that ground-breaking and iconic musical masterpiece. Brit Floyd has become a phenomenon, widely regarded as the world's greatest rock tribute show — faithfully recreating the scale and pomp of the final 1994 Pink Floyd tour, complete with a stunning light show, iconic circular screen, lasers, inflatables and theatrics. The nearly three-hour set list also includes other highlights from Pink Floyd's magnificent catalogue of albums.

Saturday, Aug. 19, 8 p.m.; Sunday, Aug. 20, 7:30 p.m. \$149.50, \$89.50, \$79.50, \$59.50, \$49.50, \$39.50, \$25. The Paramount, 370 New York Ave., Huntington. Tickets available at Ticketmaster.com, or ParamountNY.com

THE \$ SCENE

Aug. 25

Voyage

The Journey tribute band visits The Paramount, Friday, **Aug. 25**, 8 p.m. The popular band takes everyone back to the '80's when Journey's

timeless music ruled the airwaves. Hailed by fans and critics alike as the world's top Journey tribute band, this group performs their music with chilling accuracy. Fronted by Hugo — a dead ringer for Steve Perry, both visually and vocally — he continues to delight fans with his miraculous resemblance, exact mannerisms and identical voice to Steve. Fans agree that Voyage delivers an experience to the original Steve Perry-fronted lineup. The band also features world class New York musicians; Robby Hoffman, Greg Smith, Lance Millard and Dana Spellman who along with Hugo have brought the show to critical acclaim through the many sold out shows as well as private and corporate events throughout America. The talent of these five guys together has brought the meaning of tribute to a whole new level. See it to believe it! Playing all the hits including: "Don't Stop Believin'," "Faithfully," "Separate Ways," "Anyway You Want It," "Open Arms," "Wheel in the Sky," "Lights," "Oh Sherrie," "Stone in Love," "Send Her My Love," "Lovin' Touchin' Squeezin'," "Who's Crying Now," "Only The Young," and more. \$40, \$35, \$30, \$25. The Paramount, 370 New York Ave., Huntington. (800) 745-3000 or Ticketmaster.com or ParamountNY.com.



On exhibit

View the landmark exhibition "Modigliani and the Modern Portrait," at Nassau County Museum of Art. 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.

Aug. 19

On stage

Plaza Theatricals presents a

tribute to the one and only Barbra Streisand, Saturday, **Aug. 19**, 7:30 p.m. Sharon Owens performs her acclaimed interpretations of Streisand's songbook. It's performed at the Elmont Library Theatre, 700 Hempstead Tpke., Elmont. \$33, \$35. Elmont. For tickets, call (516) 599-6870 or visit PlazaTheatrical.com.

Dramatic Play

Theatre Playground returns to Long Island Children's Museum with "Dramatic Play!," Monday, **Aug. 21**, 1 p.m., taught by Lisa Rudin, Director of Theatre Playground (who visitors may already know from her role as "Piggie"!). In this interactive, theater-inspired workshop kids will act out an original story and help choose how it unfolds. Music, props, and sound effects create a theatrical world where participants are immersed in the story. Children are encouraged to express themselves as they create characters, explore different worlds, stretch their imaginations and build self-confidence. This week's theme: Pirates and Princesses. Costumes encouraged. Museum Row, Garden City. (516) 224-5800 or LICM.org.

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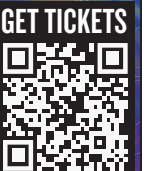
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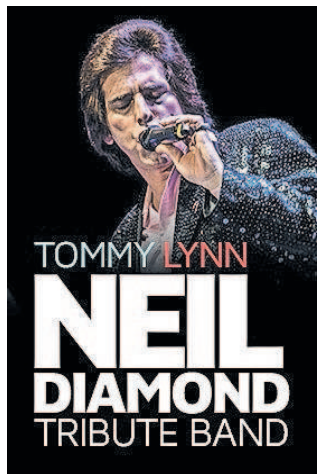
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Bonding with your infant through music

In this gentle class for littlest learners, parents will explore musical activities specifically geared towards newborns and infants during this class for children less than 10 months, Tuesdays, noon to 12:45 p.m. This program with the Sea Cliff Arts Council, will focus on purposeful touch, pitch exploration, face-to-face contact, and movement with and for baby. There will be lots of built-in time for discussion about music development, music's role in the parent/child bond, and how to support all aspects of development at a time when baby's brains are at their most receptive. This is also a great opportunity for meeting and bonding with other sleep deprived parents. The cost per class is \$75. 86 Roslyn Ave.

Busy Bees

Bring the kids to Long Island Children's Museum to learn about hardworking bees, Saturday, **Aug. 19**. We all know that bees are amazing. While we often think of only the honeybee, Long Island's native mason bee is an impressive little insect. Make a bee habitat to welcome them to your garden, at the drop-in program, suitable for ages 3 and up. Long Island Children's Museum, Museum Row, Garden City. (516) 224-5800 or LICM.org.



Tribute concert

Plaza Theatricals continues its tribute series, Sunday, **Aug. 20**, 2:30 p.m. The hits never stop with Tommy Lynn and his 10-piece band performing such classics as "Sweet Caroline," "Song Sung Blue," "Hello Again," "America," "Mr. Bojangles," and "So Good!" It's performed at the Elmont Library Theatre, 700 Hempstead Tpke., Elmont. \$33, \$35. Elmont. For tickets, call (516) 599-6870 or visit PlazaTheatrical.com.

Aug. 19



Bug Safari

Bring the kids to Old Westbury Gardens for a buggy adventure, Saturday, **Aug. 19**, 11 a.m. Hunt elusive grasshoppers, butterflies, predatory insects and other crawly creatures in the gardens. Bring a butterfly net and collecting jars. All ages. Old Westbury Gardens, 71 Old Westbury Rd., Old Westbury. For information visit OldWestburyGardens.org or contact (516) 333-0048.

Westbury House Tour

For many years visitors to Westbury House at Old Westbury Gardens asked what was beyond the first floor corridor. Now go beyond the door and discover "secrets of the service wing," during a 60-minute guided tour, Friday, **Aug. 18**, noon; also Sunday, **Aug. 20**, 1:30 p.m.; Monday, **Aug. 21**, noon; Wednesday, **Aug. 23**, noon. Be introduced to the intensive labor required to create the lifestyle experienced by the Phipps family and their guests; tour the rooms that were "behind the scenes" to create the formal dining experiences of early 20th century. Go along the corridors to the butler's pantry and silver cleaning room then descend to the kitchen, scullery, and wine storage rooms located on the ground floor. Reservations required. 71 Old Westbury Rd., Old Westbury. For information contact (516) 333-0048 or visit OldWestburyGardens.org.



Sept. 7

Art talk

Grab your lunch and join Nassau County

Museum of Art Docent Riva Ettus for her popular "Brown Bag Lecture," now back on-site at Nassau County Museum of Art, Thursday, **Sept. 7**, 1 p.m. Enjoy an in-depth presentation on the current exhibition "Modigliani and the Modern Portrait." Participants are invited to ask questions at the end of the program and to join the 2 p.m. public tour of the exhibit. Also Oct. 19. 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 GlencoveLibrary.org or call (516) 676-2130 for more information.

Morgan Park Summer Music Festival

Enjoy Richie Cannata and the Lords of 52nd Street, part of the Morgan Park Summer Music Festival, with their tribute to Billy Joel, Sunday, **Aug. 20**, beginning at 7 p.m., at Morgan Memorial Park. Germaine St., Glen Cove. For information, visit MorganParkMusic.org.

Having an event?

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

Join the **HERALD's** talented team of freelance **SPORTS Photographers.**

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Courtesy ImageKrafters

Glenn Howard scholarship recipients Anastasia Edwards, and Caralena Genova detailed their growth through essays about their experience working with Glen Cove businesses.

Chamber names their scholarship winners

By **ROKSANA AMID**

ramid@lherald.com

For most Glen Cove families looking at colleges, the price tag of admission can seem overwhelming. According to Education Data Initiative's 2023 findings, the average cost of college in the United States is \$36,436 per student per year, including books, supplies, and daily living expenses. After adjusting for inflation, college tuition has increased roughly 748 percent since 1963.

To help offset some of these costs, the Glen Cove Chamber of Commerce awarded two graduating seniors from the Glen Cove City School District with the chamber's annual Dr. Glenn Howard Jr. Scholarship. The recipients, Anastasia Edwards, and Caralena Genova were awarded a combined total of \$1,750 for their essays detailing the impact Glen Cove businesses had on their personal and academic growth.

"I was eager to find a job and explore different careers," Edwards said. "After coming out of Covid-19, it was hard to find anything."

In her essay titled "The Secret to Success," Edwards wrote about her experience working for Dr. Maxine Mayeris in her junior year. When Edwards stepped into the "warm and welcoming office" she knew she wanted to be part of a world that helped people improve their well-being.

"Little did I know how much this job would change me," Edwards said. "Before working for Dr. Max, I was quiet and kept to myself. I was so used to getting my work done and being isolated like Covid taught me."

Edwards said she used to avoid public speaking "like the plague," but Dr.

Mayeris encouraged her to not view patients as strangers, and to speak with confidence, which helped her to be active in the school's Distributive Education Clubs of America program.

"Confidence became part of my everyday life," Edwards said. "Once I had the confidence down, I realized how much I loved getting to talk to our patients and learning about their lives."

Genova said working at the View Grill provided her with her most positive work experience yet, especially in an "unforgiving" industry. She's proud to have had the opportunity to cater parties, especially those at her school.

"Because of Jeanine DiMenna's amazing heart and kindness, we are able to host such amazing events for the community and the reward is the happiness on everyone's faces," Genova said. "It is extremely difficult, from a planning perspective, to find a venue to host such large parties with amazing dedication and service."

Genova became friends with co-workers of various ages and backgrounds while developing a strong sense of community with her colleagues. The strong friendships she forged also helped to support her after the death of her grandparents.

"Working as a busser, I learned so many extremely valuable interpersonal skills and made some amazing connections with people in my community," Genova said. "As I continue my journey into adulthood, I will never forget the value of my experience at the View, and I will always be grateful for the amazing people who made it so."

Although Mayeris was not part of the committee that decided the final winners of the scholarship, she was thor-

oughly impressed by both winners. She said she's impressed by Edwards's growth into a confident young woman and is also impressed by Genova's deepened interpersonal skills.

The Glen Cove Chamber of Commerce has been awarding scholarships to college-bound Glen Cove High School seniors for over 30 years. They renamed their annual award after the late Dr. Glenn Howard Jr. an advocate of higher education, and a retired principal scientist of Pall Corp.

The commerce's website states that education was very important to Howard, which inspired him to become especially involved in administering the annual chamber scholarship. He enjoyed reading the creative essays submitted by the city's high school seniors and having a voice in judging those essays. The chamber feels that the Dr. Howard, Jr. Scholarship is a fitting way to perpetuate the legacy of Howard while honoring students and helping them financially.



Courtesy Tab Hauser

Glen Cove Chamber renamed their scholarship in memory of Glenn Howard, who advocated for higher education.

Their site also states that Howard "possessed extreme intellect, wit and wisdom that we welcomed and came to rely upon."

HERALD LGL 1-1 0817 PUBLIC NOTICES

LEGAL NOTICE
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that a Public Hearing shall be held on Tuesday, August 22, 2023, at 7:30 p.m. in the Council Chambers at Glen Cove City Hall, 9 Glen Street, Glen Cove, NY to discuss to add a Local Law adding

prohibitions and penalties to Chapter 280 of the City Code of the City of Glen Cove.
All interested parties will be given an opportunity to be heard.
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OPINIONS

Prosecuting Trump is not what America is about

Let me state up front that I was critical from the start of former President Donald Trump's refusal to accept the result of the 2020 election, and strongly condemned his failure, until it was too late, to speak out against the disgraceful attack on the Capitol on Jan. 6, 2021. Trump's shameful silence, inaction and seeming acquiescence during that horrific



PETER KING

siege against the cathedral of democracy, and the brutal attacks that caused so many police officers to be injured and hospitalized, can never be explained away or defended. It will be a lasting shame and a blot on his record and legacy.

While I remain as outraged now as I was then by Trump's dereliction of duty, which could well have warranted impeachment, I strongly believe that his recent federal indictment arising out of Jan. 6 and the events preceding that day is misguided, an abuse of prosecution and a threat to democracy.

Before the usual suspects accuse me of blind partisanship, I remind everyone that I voted against every article of impeachment against President Bill Clinton, incurring the wrath of many Republicans, some even to this day. I do not believe the Constitution or the criminal justice sys-

tem should ever be weaponized against political opponents. For democracy to survive and thrive, political struggles and battles should be fought in the political arena, not in the criminal courtroom.

What is being lost in much of the heated discussion about the Jan. 6 indictment is that Trump is not being charged with inciting violence against the Capitol or for failing to act to halt that violence. Instead, the indictment reads more like a political screed than a legal document.

It charges Trump with attempting to undo the results of the election through a series of lies, exaggerations and distortions. Assuming the validity of any or all of those allegations, they should be debated politically, not as a matter to be presented to a grand jury or a criminal trial jury.

Pursuing indictments on this basis will have a chilling effect on the political process. The First Amendment guarantees freedom of speech unless there is incitement to violence or riot. Yet Trump is not charged with incitement to violence or riot. As indefensible as lying or gross exaggerating may be, they are not crimes. And if they were, how would Trump's statements be anywhere near as egregious as the lies perpetrated by Obama administration officials and so many leading Democrats who falsely charged that Trump's 2016 campaign colluded with the Russians

— basically accusing the winner of the 2016 election to be a Russian operative?

I distinctly recall, as a member of the Intelligence Committee, sitting through endless closed hearings, and listening to testimony from numerous witnesses offering no evidence of collusion. Yet I would see on the news, especially CNN and MSNBC, Democrats such as Rep. Adam Schiff racing to the microphones to breathlessly state that clear evidence of collusion had been revealed to the committee. In fact, the only evidence of collusion was the Clinton campaign's role in initiating the now discredited Steele dossier, which was based on misinformation provided to a retired British spy by a former Russian intelligence operative.

Even worse was the FBI and CIA's use of the dossier to justify their finding of Russia-Trump collusion.

Similarly, Democrats made a folk hero and martyr of Stacey Abrams, who claimed for several years, with no credible evidence, that victory was stolen from her in the 2018 gubernatorial race in Georgia.

For Special Counsel Jack Smith to win a conviction of Trump, he must prove that Trump did not believe the election was stolen. This puts the prosecutor in the dangerous position of reading a candidate's mind — not proving that Trump was wrong or mistaken, but that he knew he had lost. I believed then, and do now,

that while there were irregularities arising from the use of so many absentee and mail-in ballots because of Covid, Joe Biden was the lawful winner. But lawyers and advisers on whom Trump relied assured him he had won and that the election was stolen. Though misguided, reliance on that advice does not constitute a crime.

A presidential election is the ultimate expression of American democracy. It was wrong for Trump to cast doubt on the results in 2020. It is also wrong and dangerous for a special counsel appointed by the Biden administration to base a criminal indictment of Biden's leading opponent in 2024 on a tortured, attenuated interpretation of statutes that require a reading of Trump's mind. This can only lead more Americans to doubt our democratic process, especially at a time when there is mounting evidence that the Biden Justice Department is failing to fully investigate allegations of Biden family corruption.

Donald Trump may not be a sympathetic defendant or victim. But the Constitution and its protections apply to all Americans, popular and unpopular, sympathetic and unsympathetic. That is the essence of our democracy, which we should not further threaten or jeopardize by replacing the political arena with the threat of criminal prosecution. That is not what America is about.

Peter King is a former congressman, and a former chair of the House Committee on Homeland Security.

I remain outraged at his dereliction of duty, but his indictment is misguided.

President Obama sits out a dance with ISIS

Instead, he dances the tango in Buenos Aires.

On a trip to Argentina last week, the president and Michelle Obama attended a state dinner in their honor, where they enjoyed a tango performance and were then invited onto the dance floor.

Unfortunately, the long-planned trip last week to Cuba and Argentina coincided



RANDI KREISS

with a deadly ISIS attack in Brussels that killed 35 people and wounded some 300 others. No sooner had word of the attacks hit the media than critics began huffing and puffing about the president's trip, his attendance at a baseball game in Cuba and particu-

larly his tango debut as proof that he is too removed from world events that impact America and its allies.

Talking heads on multiple news outlets questioned the "optics" of the situation — how it looked for an American president to be seen having a good time when friends near and far were hurting.

I didn't hear anyone complaining when Obama put on his game face, and his tux, went to the 2011 White House Correspondents Dinner and delivered a really funny stand-up routine, even as our Navy SEALs were preparing for their raid on Osama

bin Laden's compound in Pakistan. The president had given the "kill" order before the dinner. There was no hint of tension or stress in his demeanor that night. The man was completely cool and composed. He is a master of optics when he needs to be, but he is not a poseur.

The trip to Havana marked the first visit by a U.S. president in nearly 90 years, a remarkable gesture of friendship and a real beginning of political and economic rapprochement. The idea that the president should not appear to have a good time when he is on a political mission is absurd.

He delivered exactly the right message. ISIS will not stop our lives or our travel or our laughter or our fun. We will deal with the terrorists here and abroad, but we will not allow them to alter our lives more than we have to. We will not give them that vali-

dation or power.

In fact, as he was gliding across the dance floor, orders were already in place to launch a U.S. commando raid in Syria that took out ISIS's second-in-command last week.

Good presidents don't worry about optics, as defined by their critics.

In Cuba, the president commented on the Brussels attack. He commiserated and, more important, offered Americans support in the fight. And then he flew to Argentina, sticking to his itinerary, and he ended his visit not with the tango, but with a stop at a memorial for the tens of thousands of Argentines killed and "disappeared" during the brutal military dictatorship of the 1980s.

This was a diplomatic coup. This is what good presidents do. They don't worry about optics, as defined by their critics. Had Obama abandoned his trip and headed home when the terrorists hit Brussels, it would have conferred a great deal of power on ISIS. They would know they can change world events, even the travel plans of an American president. It would have sent a terrible message.

But I get it. Every hour of every day, the

Randi is on a brief leave. This column was originally published March 31, 2016.

president is forced to make impossible choices. He is required to make decisions that everyone else working for him cannot. He hears all the awful news from every available source around the world. With it all, he is still just one man, living one life.

I don't for a minute believe that his baseball outing in Cuba or his dance in Buenos Aires deliver any message except that he is emotionally tough and able to compartmentalize sorrow and move on with the responsibilities of his office. I wonder what all those optics watchers would prefer. That he fly away home to D.C. and keep over the dead? Give ISIS the satisfaction of stopping the American president in mid-stride?

Obama can multitask. He can do stand-up while worrying about a high-risk mission to kill bin Laden. And it is my belief that he can dance the tango while carrying the worries of the world in his head and his heart.

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HERALD EDITORIAL

Replace appointments with special elections

Interpreting the U.S. Constitution and applying the results to today's America is like taking a tired and hungry toddler to a Disney store — no matter how many times you give in, the youngster will never be happy.

How do we “get” the Constitution right? Do we rely on the document itself, as originalists do? Should we consider the voluminous writings of the framers, such as the Federalist Papers? Do we pretend to surmise the intent of people who lived before the advent of canned food and apply it to our 21st-century society?

There is no easy answer. We must be able to hold conflicting ideas simultaneously to continue to rely on a document written by men from an era alien to us today.

So, to discuss the Constitution's intent applied to elections and appointments to vacant political offices is inherently contentious. Should the Appointments Clause of the Constitution — which empowers the president to nominate public officials — be applied to state and even local governments? Are those appointments limited to certain situations, or do they include all vacancies?

And should a governor or supervisor — or even a mayor — be able to appoint legislators or trustees normally elected to office by the public?

The variations among how each state fills a U.S. Senate vacancy show how subjective the process is, even at the federal level. Most states permit the governor to appoint a temporary senator until a special election is held. Eleven states put restrictions on that appointment. And four states mandate that a vacancy be filled only by special election.

And there are further discrepancies between states when special elections are

held.

At the local level — especially in villages — it makes little sense beyond political considerations to favor appointments over special elections. The era of waiting weeks for votes from across the state to arrive via dirt roads is long gone. Villages consist of much smaller electorates and geographical areas. Election results for villages are usually available an hour after polls close.

Many villages need but one polling location. Those that are large enough to warrant several locations don't necessitate saving several thousand dollars at the expense of voters' rights.

Sitting elected officials and political power brokers cite the cost of holding a special election as prohibitive, thus the need for appointments. That's a false argument designed to distract the public from the real issue — elections are a gamble, and political parties don't want to risk losing power.

The power of incumbency is difficult to overcome. Sitting elected officials benefit from mailings, photo ops and name recognition. They are often given special assignments to boost their profile. And they are not referred to as “acting” or “appointed.”

State law dictates that villages must elect a mayor, trustees and justices. All other positions are appointed by the mayor and approved by the trustees. The same concept applies to towns and even counties in New York.

Clearly, the intent is to let the public vote to select its representatives, while giving those elected officials the authority to make appointments to avoid bogging down government business with elections for every position.

But state and local laws are occasional-

ly written to favor incumbents. The U.S. Supreme Court acknowledged this in its 1995 decision in *U.S. Term Limits v. Thornton*, stating that the Elections Clause is “a grant of authority to issue procedural regulations, and not as a source of power to dictate electoral outcomes, to favor or disfavor a class of candidates.”

This is not an issue that favors a particular political party. Across the country, all parties are guilty in some way of having rigged the system. Parties, by their nature, don't yield power. Four of the six Hempstead Town Board members were first appointed to the position. Throughout much of Nassau County, elected officials appear to lean heavily toward appointing colleague rather than letting the public elect someone to fill a vacancy.

Americans crave local control over our government through elections. We don't like being told by a faceless administrator halfway across the state how we should live our lives.

Appointments take that local control out of our hands. Yes, there are times when an appointment is necessary. Yes, those appointed to fill vacancies must still face the electorate in the next general election.

But there are ripe opportunities for political operatives to game the system and make it easier for their people to gain control.

What is the purpose of an election? What is the purpose of an elected official? Do Americans pay for levels of government so we can elect representatives, or do we submit to rule by proxy?

It's time for Nassau County, at all levels of government, to move to hold special elections instead of appointing people to elected offices.

LETTERS

Thanks for making the concert happen

To the Editor:

I would like to acknowledge the tremendous help from former Congressman Tom Suozzi, Glen Cove Mayor Pamela Panzenbeck and Spiro Tsirkas, director of Glen Cove Youth Services and Recreation, for their help in securing Morgan Park for a concert on Aug. 3 by my son Jason Crosby.

The concert was in memory of Jason's brother, my son Christopher, who passed away in September 2021. We had to change venues from the Sousa Bandshell in Port Washington in two days, due to some issues there. Jason and I are most grateful to these three people for acting so quickly on our behalf.

The sales of vinyl records and CDs of Christopher's music, through the foundation website, will benefit music education for youth and libraries, two of Chris-



OPINIONS

A clarion call to elevate Nassau's Alzheimer's response

A first-of-its-kind nationwide study by the Alzheimer's Association revealed that approximately one-eighth of the senior citizens living in Nassau County are afflicted with Alzheimer's disease. This distressing revelation illustrates that our county is among the localities most heavily impacted by a horrific and heartbreaking disorder that robs its victims of their memory and cognition. I have witnessed first-hand the heartbreak and devastation that cognitive illnesses like Alzheimer's bring to our community.



SIELA A. BYNOE

In November 2021, Chesnel Veillard, a resident of New Cassel who suffered from dementia, wandered from his home. I first learned of Mr. Veillard's disappearance and condition when his daughter, Sensy, who had worked as an intern in my office, called to ask for help in finding him. Tragically, Chesnel died after he wandered onto railroad tracks and was struck by a train. His death was devastating to his family and his neighbors in New Cassel. As we approach two

years since it happened, I remain as convinced as ever that his death was preventable.

A key stated purpose of the Alzheimer's Association study was to provide resources and data to local municipalities that can guide them in apportioning and allocating resources to optimally serve and protect their constituents. The fact that approximately 31,300 Nassau seniors have been identified as suffering with Alzheimer's must be a clarion call for local leaders to marshal the necessary resources to aid this sizable — and likely growing — population of at-risk adults.

Nassau County currently utilizes Project Lifesaver, in conjunction with its Silver Alert System, to help safely return cognitively impaired people who have wandered away from caregivers. This internationally regarded search-and-rescue program is a powerful tool for protecting the safety and welfare of impaired individuals. Under the current county program, however, participants must pay \$325 to enroll, and that can make access to this potentially life-saving resource cost-prohibitive for working-class families.

To address this gap, I authored and

sponsored legislation, introduced in January 2022 and refined and refiled last September, to create the Chesnel Veillard Program, an initiative in which the county would fund cost-free access to Project Lifesaver for clinically eligible people and families whose household income is less than \$76,050 per year.

To maximize the benefits of the Project Lifesaver technology, anyone who enrolled in the Chesnel Veillard Program would also be entered in the county's Return Every Adult and Child Home, or REACH, registry, a database of children and adults with Alzheimer's, dementia and other conditions that potentially limit their ability to communicate. The Veillard program is designed to serve income-eligible people who do not currently live in a nursing home, long-term care facility, Alzheimer's special-care unit, or similar facility that would have programs in place as part of its operation to protect cognitively vulnerable residents.

Increasing the use of Project Lifesaver would help law enforcement and first responders more quickly locate cognitively vulnerable individuals who wander,

which would simultaneously save taxpayer resources and give families the peace of mind they need. Not only would the Veillard program proactively aid in safeguarding vulnerable Nassau residents, but its implementation would also be the embodiment of the wise stewardship of municipal resources.

As of this writing, the measure has not been brought to the floor by the legislative majority for a public hearing or vote. This delay in acting on a cost-effective, common-sense proposal to protect our most vulnerable citizens is truly regrettable. Yet I remain hopeful that the findings of the Alzheimer's Association's rigorous nationwide study will spur my colleagues into action so that we can adopt this measure next month, which, as it happens, is World Alzheimer's Month.

The crisis of Alzheimer's is already here in Nassau County, and I anticipate that the number of our residents suffering from this and other debilitating cognitive ailments will only grow in the coming years. Now is the time to take decisive, proactive action so that we can bring comfort to those who are already suffering, and prepare ourselves to respond to future needs.

Siela A. Bynoe, of Westbury, has represented Nassau County's Second Legislative District since 2014.

Many county residents need cost-free access to Project Lifesaver.

LETTERS

topher's passions. Many knew him from the libraries where he worked part-time for many years, in both Glen Cove and Syosset.

VICTORIA CROSBY
Glen Cove

This vision 'sits above the clouds'

To the Editor:

Thank you for reporting on what is a crucial community issue in "The View Grill's future looks very uncertain" (Aug. 10-16), especially because many people in Glen Cove may not be aware that we may lose The View Grill to the expansive "vision" of the administration of Mayor Pam Panzenbeck.

On one hand, I praise them for their vision of a major venue being reconstructed on the site of the Glen Cove Golf Course. However, the other hand slaps me in the face to remind me that it needs to be sustainable to be real. In our current environment, I doubt that this vision, as I understand it, will be sustainable.

I base my words on my 40-plus years in travel and hospitality, where I wrote about, and assisted in the opening and promotion of, hotels and restaurants in the United States and throughout the Caribbean. What I learned, from "on-the-job" experience, is that a restaurant is one

of the most difficult businesses to operate successfully and profitably.

That brings me to the "vision" the current administration has for The View Grill. It is ambitious, to say the least, and maybe borders on ludicrous. And it's not that their vision of creating a new, massive venue for both a daily restaurant and a 200-seat banquet space isn't a positive ambition. I applaud their ideas. But it's a vision that sits above the clouds.

Coming back to earth, we can see a clearer, more realistic view, where The View Grill has continued to regularly welcome guests in Glen Cove even as other good local restaurants have disappeared in the past few years as a result of the normal volatility of the restaurant market.

This then, raises the question: What will happen in three to five years, when the restaurant and banquet space is losing money? Will we lose The View Grill altogether because the outside entity that took over doesn't care about our community?

Does The View Grill need some polishing to make it shine more brightly? Yes. It should get an investment that helps make it stand out. But polishing is like detailing a car. You make it look and run better. You don't spend extra money to dismantle it and create a new one that may never run as well.

I don't know the backgrounds of the members of the Glen Cove administration, and whether any of them has ever run a restaurant. But this is clearly not the right time to try to expand with a mas-

FRAMEWORK by Tim Baker



At the Crescent Beach Club — Bayville

sive vision, no matter how great those plans may be.

We need to have our vision on the ground, where we live and work, and not in the clouds, where we dream. Running a restaurant is hard, and the restaurant streets are paved with many broken dreams. I commend Jeanine DiMenna for

all that she has done, first with Page One, her previous Glen Cove restaurant, and over the past 10 years with The View Grill. Let's hope that it doesn't end with someone else's failed dream.

RICHARD S. KAHN
Glen Cove



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