

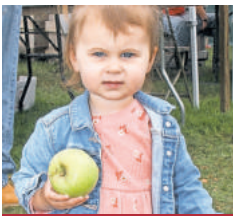
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A tasty weekend at the Apple Fest
Page 10



GOP might expel Santos soon
Page 18

VOL. 32 NO. 42 OCT. 12 - 18, 2023 \$1.00



Courtesy Glen Cove City School District

A peppy Homecoming pep rally

Glen Cove High School's kick line gave it their all at the pep rally on Sept. 29 where school spirit was high in preparation for the next day's Homecoming. More photos, Page 10.

Austin Cheng begins House run
Veteran and business owner announces candidacy

By WILL SHEELINE
wsheeline@liherald.com

Austin Cheng's life has revolved around service, whether that has meant serving his country in the military or helping his family's business. Now he is seeking to serve in another capacity, representing New York's 3rd Congressional District, and on Sept. 27 Cheng announced his candidacy for a seat that will be hotly contested next fall.

The 34-year-old, who lives in Glen Cove, is a child of immigrants. His father, Tung Cheng emigrated to the United States from Hong Kong, and his mother, Katy Chiang, came to this country from Taiwan, where she founded the Gramercy Surgery Center in Queens.

Austin was born in Queens but grew up in Merrick, where he attended local middle schools. He studied at Benjamin Cardozo High School, in Bayside, for two years before transferring to Portledge School in Locust Valley.

He earned a degree in political science from Union College, in Schenectady, where, Cheng said, he first felt first called to service, and

CONTINUED ON PAGE 5

Suozzi to run for his former seat in Congress

By LAURA LANE
llane@liherald.com

Former U.S. Rep. Tom Suozzi, who represented the 3rd District, announced Tuesday he will file to run for Congress in the hope of replacing embattled Republican George Santos.

Official speculation that Suozzi would enter the race to recapture his seat goes as far back as April during a CNBC newscast. But among his supporters, including those from his hometown of Glen Cove, the hope that he would return more than likely began when Suozzi lost his gubernatorial bid on June 27, 2022 to Democrat Kathy Hochul.

There is no guarantee that Suozzi will be the Democratic candidate. He will have to win a crowded primary, with eight Democrats who have declared their candidacy. He would have to be chosen by Jay Jacobs, the New York Democratic Committee chair, and Rep. Gregory Meeks of Queens. Suozzi would

also have to be approved by Hochul, who he has not had a positive relationship with since his loss to her in the primary.

The eight Democratic candidates to run in the primary are Steve Behar, Austin Cheng, Anna Kaplan, Joshua Lafazan, Scott Livingston, Zak Malamed, William

I just always made it a point to get to know people, to understand where they were coming from.

TOM SUOZZI
candidate

Murphy and Darius Radzius. The date for New York's primary has not been determined yet.

On Instagram, Suozzi explained his reasons for running, saying, "The madness in Washington, D.C. and the absurdity of George Santos remaining in the United States Congress is obvious to everyone. You know me, I've never sat on the sidelines. From the cost-of-living to immigration, crime, climate change, combating terrorism in the Middle East and globally, and simply helping people, we need more commonsense and compassion and less chaos and senseless fighting."

Santos remains under inves-

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2



LOOK INSIDE
■ Long Island Choice Awards Nominations Guide

Suozzi: 'more commonsense and compassion'

October 12, 2023 — GLEN COVE HERALD

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

tigation by the House Ethics Committee who is looking into violations of campaign finance laws, financial disclosure and sexual misconduct. If found guilty, former House Speaker Kevin McCarthy said Santos would be removed from office although it is not clear if that will happen now that McCarthy has been ousted from his post. Congressman Anthony D'Esposito did introduce a resolution on Wednesday to expel Santos from office. It was co-sponsored by fellow N.Y. Republicans Nick LaLota, Brandon Williams, Mike Lawler, Nick Langworthy and Marc Molinaro.

There are other investigations of Santos as well, including those being conducted by Nassau and Queens district attorneys and the New York State attorney general. And on Tuesday, the U.S. Attorney Breon Peace has added 10 more counts to the case he's building against the embattled congressman. New charges include wire fraud, making materially false statements to the Federal Election Commission, falsifying records in an attempt to obstruct the FEC, aggravated identity theft, and access device fraud.

"As alleged, Santos is charged with stealing people's identities and making charges on his own donors' credit cards without their authorization, lying to the FEC — and, by extension, the public — about the financial state of his cam-



Tab Hauser/Herald

Former U.S. Rep. Tom Suozzi announced he will file to run for Congress in the hope of replacing embattled Republican George Santos.

paign," Peace said, in a release. "Santos false inflated the campaign's reported receipts with non-existent loans and contributions that were either fabricated or stolen."

When Santos announced he would run for reelection on April 17, he did not address the charges against him.

"We need a fighter who knows the district and can serve the people fear-

lessly, and independent of local or national party influence," Santos said. "Good isn't good enough, and I'm not shy about doing what it takes to get the job done."

Santos penned bills while serving as a congressman, but none have been co-sponsored by his colleagues in the House or have moved beyond the initial stage of being presented.

Suozzi enters the race with plenty of government experience. He was Glen Cove's mayor from 1994 to 2001 and was Nassau County executive from 2002 to 2009. Suozzi was elected to Congress in 2017 leaving to run for governor against Hochul.

When Suozzi was elected to Congress, he joined the Problem Solvers Caucus — 29 Democrats and 29 Republicans who meet weekly to try and find common ground — and served as the co-vice chair. The group, committed to bipartisan lawmaking to end the gridlock in Washington, remained important to Suozzi throughout his time in the House. He stayed with them until he left Congress.

"I just always made it a point to get to know people, to understand where they were coming from," he told the Herald in February. "And even people I disagree with, I still tried to let them know that I'd work with them in good faith if they were working to solve a problem."

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Key Club hands out backpacks stuffed with love

By WILL SHEELINE

wsheeline@iherald.com

The North Shore Key Club helped several students from financially-struggling families start the school year off right by providing fully-stocked backpacks. The Key Club, with the help of the North Shore Hispanic Chamber of Commerce, spent an entire morning filling backpacks with back to school necessities like pencils, notebooks and everything else a student will need to succeed throughout the school year.

The North Shore Key Club is one of thousands throughout the country. It is a student-led service group which is a subsidiary of the Kiwanis Club, another national service organization, which puts an emphasis on teaching students to be leaders and volunteers in their communities.

My kids did a great job, and they really stuffed those backpacks.

JULIA SALAT

Advisor,
North Shore Key Club

Connie Pinilla, a North Shore Kiwanis Club board member and the president of the Hispanic Chamber of Commerce, explained that the chamber had been doing a backpack event for the last three years, where they provided backpacks to in-need families. She said that when the Key Club members heard about it, they immediately got involved and found a way to help.

“The Key Club kids have always been extremely cooperative,” Pinilla said. “They said that it gives them a great sense of contributing, seeing that they’re helping out their fellow students, and it’s just a great feeling to be able to contribute to this whole process.”

The Key Club members gathered at Pinilla’s home the morning of the backpack drop off, stuffing the backpacks with glue, writing utensils, scissors and other essential school supplies. They then helped take the backpacks to North Shore High School, where they helped register people and hand out backpacks.

Julia Salat, the Key Club advisor, explained that events like this are the essence of what being a part of Key Club is all about. She added that on the day of the backpack giveaway it had been raining all day, until the moment people began showing up, and the sun serendipitously came out, reflecting the mood of the attendees.

“My kids did a great job, and they really stuffed those backpacks,” Salat said. “So it was a very uncommon, very heartfelt, interesting kind of a display.”

The Key Club donated roughly \$300 to help pay for the school supplies that went into the backpacks, while the backpacks themselves were paid for by the chamber. The backpacks were picked up by students of all ages and their families, ranging from children as young as 5 to high schoolers.

Pinilla said there were around 10 backpacks left over after the event, which she donated to the Gribbin Elementary School in Glen Cove. There were also roughly 200 boxes of crayons donated by Cal Krinsky, a Sea Cliff Elementary School student whose charity, Art With Heart, helps provide art supplies to in-need families, which will be going to the North Shore Daycare Center.

The North Shore Key Club and the North Shore Hispanic Chamber of Commerce banded together to make sure every North Shore student had enough school supplies to succeed in the coming scholastic year.



Photos courtesy North Shore Key Club

Connie Pinilla, right, welcomed Key Club co-president Jess Leonard and vice presidents Ava Gibstein, Georgia Stefas and Gianna Stella into her home to pack the backpacks.



Key Club members Gianna Stella, Georgia Stefas, Ava Gibstein, Jess Leonard and Niko Stavrianos were happy to help give out backpacks for families in need.



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CRIME WATCH

ARRESTS

- A 37-year-old Glen Cove woman was arrested on Oct. 2 for harassment on Guilfooy Street.
- A 44-year-old Glen Cove man was arrested on Oct. 2 for criminal mischief on Guilfooy Street.
- A 28-year-old Glen Cove man was arrested on Oct. 4 for one count of aggra-

vated unlicensed operation of a motor vehicle, driving without a license and moving from a lane unsafely on Glen Cove Avenue.

- A 37-year-old Glen Cove man was arrested on Oct. 6, for aggravated driving while intoxicated and endangering the welfare of a child and other numerous vehicle and traffic violations.

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.

NEWS BRIEFS

Junior basketball season registration

Online registration is now open for the junior basketball season for boys and girls from kindergarten to grade eight. The season begins the week of Nov. 27 and runs until March 2024. The deadline for registration is Oct. 27, and late registration fee will be applied afterwards.

To register visit the registration portal at the city's website on youth servic-

es and recreation. Click on the link that says, "click here to register for the 2023-24 Glen Cove basketball league." This is the link which allows for the creation an account for all youth activities. Glen Cove residency is not required to participate in this program.

For general questions, interested in coaching, referee or sponsoring a team call (516) 676-3766.

Guns vs. Hoses softball game coming soon

The friendly rivalry game between the Glen Cove Police Department and the city's Fire Department is a fun, family event. Come out and show your sup-

port and cheer them on. The concession stand will be open for refreshments. The game will start at 7 p.m. on Oct. 20 at John Maccarone Memorial Stadium.

Early voting

Early voting for the Nov. 7 general election will be held at Glen Cove City Hall, 9 Glen St and the Oyster Bay Community Center, 59 Church St. on the following dates and times:

- Saturday, Oct. 28, 9 a.m. to 6 p.m.
- Sunday, Oct. 29, 9 a.m. to 6 p.m.
- Monday, Oct. 30, 6 a.m. to 5 p.m.

- Tuesday, Oct. 31, 10 a.m. to 7 p.m.
- Wednesday, Nov. 1, 10 a.m. to 7 p.m.
- Thursday, Nov. 2, 10 a.m. to 7 p.m.
- Friday, Nov. 3, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.
- Saturday, Nov. 4, 9 a.m. to 6 p.m.
- Sunday, Nov. 5, 9 a.m. to 6 p.m.

GLEN COVE

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Cheng touts his legal, health care experience

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

joined the Army Reserve Officer Training Corps.

“I just felt the need to serve and give back to the community,” he said. “There are a lot of different ways to serve your community, but that was my way of giving back to them.”

Cheng went on to earn a law degree from Brooklyn Law School in 2014. While balancing academics and internships at his family’s surgery center, he enlisted in active duty in the Army Judge Advocate Corps, known as JAG.

During his military service, Cheng was the sole criminal prosecutor at Redstone Arsenal in Alabama, where he prosecuted court-martial for nearly every military unit on the base.

His focus in the JAG Corps, he explained, was criminal law. He became familiar with military and federal criminal law, and gained experience in “what legislation at the federal level can and can’t do on the criminal justice side,” he said.

“It was a really, really good experience,” Cheng said. “I was effectively helping the law enforcement officers navigate their legal parameters on what was legal and what was not advisable for them.”

In 2019 Cheng’s mother told him she had terminal cancer, and was thinking about selling the surgery center. “It seemed like a shame for her to package up and sell off this legacy that she built up,” her son said, so he left active duty and took over the operation of the company.

His mother died in 2020, and only a week after her funeral, the coronavirus pandemic arrived in this country. Cheng described that period as “quite a transition for me,” but he persevered, and continues to serve as Gramercy Surgery Center’s chief executive.

He was motivated to run for office, he said, because he saw how divided the country was becoming, and “was tired of that.” He said that with his background and experience, he felt he could continue to serve the area in a different way, in Congress.

“It seemed like our political leaders or community leaders that we elected weren’t really focusing on presenting real solutions to real problems that we had,” Cheng said. “It was a very similar feeling to when I felt the need to serve in the military, and when I felt called to come back and help my mother and my family.”

Cheng is running as a Democrat, and



AUSTIN CHENG



Courtesy Austin Cheng For New York

Cheng says that his goal, if elected, is to provide solutions to problems facing New Yorkers, not to use the position as a political stepping stone.

he believes that a number of issues are pressing concerns to members of the district. From the cap on state and local tax deductions, to the cost of living, to environmental concerns and reproductive rights, it’s problems like these, he said, that New Yorkers are wrestling with, and he believes he’s the right man to help them.

Cheng said that although New York state is a strong supporter of abortion rights, he believes those rights need stronger support at the federal level and

that, with his background in the law and health care, he can provide it. The cost of living is also a top concern for him, both as a small business owner and as a resident of the district.

“The district has really been plagued by people who are not really focused on taking care of the community,” Cheng said. “They either use this seat as a stepping stone to another political position, or they’re just outright frauds like George Santos, but I hope to be able to bring solutions back to the community.”

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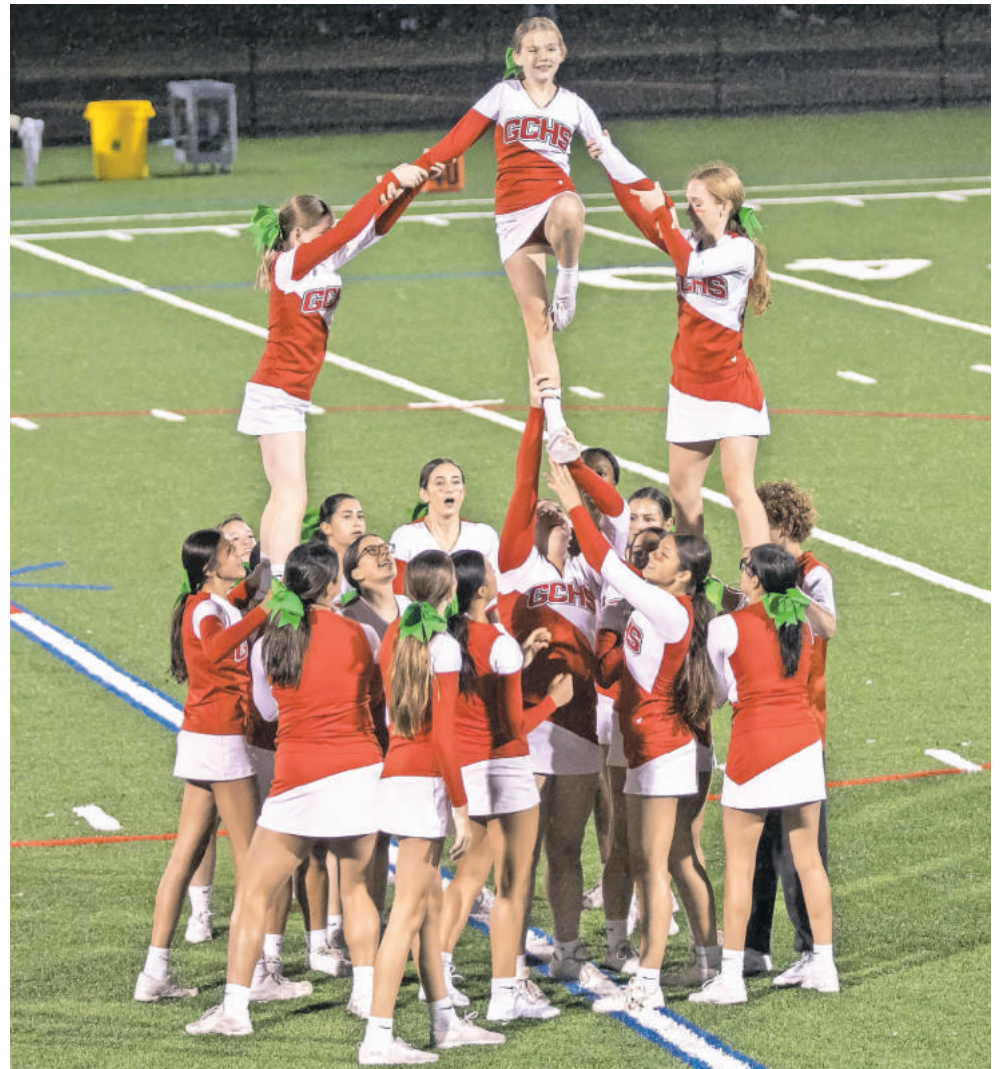
Glen Cove High School was brimming with school spirit as homecoming season drew the school community closer. Although the homecoming game took place elsewhere because of construction at the school, the school secured a victory against Huntington. But the cheerleaders and kick-line

squads lent their energy and enthusiasm to bring together the homecoming spirit that isn't just about the location but the unwavering support of the school community. At halftime Emmanuel Olivier and Ava Scagliola were crowned as homecoming king and queen.



Each year, seniors join the homecoming court hoping to be nominated homecoming king and queen.

At halftime Emmanuel Olivier and Ava Scagliola were crowned as homecoming king and queen.



Cheerleaders energized the crowd and football team during homecoming week. Photos courtesy Glen Cove City Schools



The school's band revved up spirits.

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Maragos calls for transparency at City Hall

By **ROKSANA AMID**

ramid@iherald.com

If he wants to become the next mayor of Glen Cove, George Maragos says he'll need to use his background in finance as the former county comptroller to give back to his community, all while tackling issues of transparency within city hall.

Maragos began his political career as a Republican, but switched parties in 2016. The shift happened, he says, when he offered to visit minority communities while campaigning for comptroller, but was criticized by fellow Republicans for the idea.

That led Maragos to discover what he described as institutional corruption within the Republican Party that he no longer wanted to be a part of.

As comptroller, Maragos monitored the county budget and its financial operations, audited government agencies — and agencies with county contracts — in search of waste and abuse. He also reviewed county contracts and claims.

As a result, Maragos is concerned with transparency from the current city administration. When he asked to review audited financial statements from 2022, Maragos says he was referred to the clerk's office three times.

"Any accountant will tell you that when the audited financial results are delayed there will be issues," Maragos told reporters as part of a Herald Roundtable session.

City officials told Maragos the documents weren't available, he said, coming on the heels of a report from state comptroller Thomas DiNapoli a few weeks ago that found Glen Cove was "susceptible" to fiscal stress. Cash reserves, DiNapoli said, were less than 5 percent of the city's annual spending.



Roksana Amid/Herald

George Maragos is a former county comptroller, and says his financial experience will help him solve a lot of the issues he says are plaguing Glen Cove.

During his own days as a comptroller, Maragos reported on matters that affected the county's financial health and operations, worked with the administration and the legislature to help the county overcome its fiscal financial challenges, and oversaw the preparation of Nassau's annual financial report.

Much closer to home in Glen Cove, however, Maragos is concerned about empty storefronts and crumbling infrastructure. He also has a lot of thoughts about increased bacteria levels at the city's beaches caused by pollution. If elected, Maragos says one of his first priorities would be to fix Glen Cove's finances.

And he's seen the effects of those financial problems

HERALD ROUNDTABLE

firsthand in what he has described as an "erosion" of the city's quality of life. Neighbors told Maragos about unpaved roads, excessive speeding and noise pollution.

In the same vein, Maragos says delaying repairs to downtown parking garages will cost the city more money in the long run. Glen Cove has funds for the repairs, he added, but officials are simply not allocating it to what he believes is a high safety concern.

Maragos also disapproves of the city's use of one-shot revenues — money that might be collected one year, but not in later years — saying the use stemmed from badly underestimated budgetary expenditures. Raising employee salaries while cutting back on benefits didn't make sense, he said, and likely resulted from increased expenditures for supplies and maintenance, which rose by 20 percent.

When it comes to city-operated facilities, Maragos believes maintaining structures that keep to the city's specific wants and needs are vital. That includes redeveloping a site on Lattintown Road that has been the focus of a number of different elected officials.

The current request for proposal was written to accommodate a larger company, Maragos said. He suggests that request be withdrawn to accommodate a more modest facility.

"I think we need to look at how the RFP was being structured," Maragos said. "The facility does need an upgrade, but it seems as though (the request for proposals) was made for a pre-determined outcome."

Panzenbeck keen to serve her community

By **ROKSANA AMID**

ramid@iherald.com

Pamela Panzenbeck says she's leaving it to voters to decide if she should serve a second term as Glen Cove mayor. But if they do choose her on Nov. 7, she says it will be a vote to help her "keep that momentum going."

"It's my job to sell Glen Cove, and to say, 'This is what I'm doing,' and, 'This is what we're planning to do,'" Panzenbeck told reporters as part of a recent Herald Roundtable session.

That's not just to those who live and work in Glen Cove, but also those outside who make decisions that could have lasting impact on what happens in Glen Cove — like the financial analysts at Moody's Investors Service. Ratings from that company can determine how expensive it would be for the city to borrow money for ongoing projects.

"It's my job to talk to these evaluating people and to get them to understand where we're going with our finances," Panzenbeck said.

Moody's improved Glen Cove's credit outlook from stable to positive last May. The last time the city earned a positive outlook was in 2017, but only lasted a year.

Panzenbeck is pleased with the Moody's upgrade, and says the score reflects the hard work she's put into changing the course of Glen Cove's financial condition. Yes, Glen Cove made the state comptroller's list of fiscally stressed local governments for 10 years, but she noted the score has significantly improved since the city is "two-tenths of a point" away from being removed from it.

Generally, Panzenbeck says, those kinds of improvements can take years to correct.

Outside of being the mayor and a three-term city councilwoman, one might be hard-pressed to find someone in Glen Cove who doesn't know Panzenbeck. Her



Herald file photo

Pamela Panzenbeck's family has been a part of the North Shore for generations, and she's hoping Glen Cove voters will give her a chance to continue in her role as mayor come Nov. 7.

family came to the North Shore in 1845. Her great-grandfather and great-uncle were both commissioners of the public works department, and her aunt started the girls softball league — now named the Martha Donaldson League.

Panzenbeck has served on several committees and boards, whether it be with Rotary, the city's beautification commission, or her time with the Glen Cove Hospital Auxiliary.

The Republican incumbent is proud of her accomplishments since she took over as mayor last year, which includes renovating the city's parks and beaches

that had been left to deteriorate.

There is still a lot of work to do, however, especially when it comes to the city's three Long Island Rail Road stations as well as gauge post-pandemic demand for a commuter ferry service out of Garvies Point. Panzenbeck has counted parked cars, conducted online surveys, and listened to the community's feedback on how to revive the empty ferry terminal.

At this point, Panzenbeck says the cost of the ferry wouldn't be comparable to the LIRR.

"You'd be taking a tremendous gamble to guess that we'd be at 150 people to ride the ferry every day," Panzenbeck says, with plans to revisit the topic next spring.

She feels torn about a recent request for proposals for 111 Lattintown Road. Jeanine DiMenna, the 10-year owner of The View Grill, is competing against Kent Monkan, owner of KVM Food Corp., to redevelop the site.

The competition has caught the attention of surrounding North Shore communities. And while Panzenbeck is treating the proposal request as a business transaction involving DiMenna, she still considers the entrepreneur a friend.

"The hard thing is I don't have the ability or the wherewithal or permission to just give it to her," Panzenbeck said. "It's a process that has to be followed, and people have to understand that. And I think a lot of people do understand it."

When reflecting on her childhood, Panzenbeck said growing up in the city was wonderful because of its diverse population. That wasn't something she always had a chance to experience, especially earlier in her career when she was a teacher outside the city.

"It's kind of really a shame when you're not exposed to different kinds of people," she said, "and you don't get to experience other cultures."

City Council revisits term limit discussion

By **ROKSANA AMID**

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The City Council revisited the topic of term limits during a pre council meeting on Oct. 3 where Mayor Pamela Panzenbeck proposed a town hall for December or January to discuss the city's charter regarding eligibility, terms, compensation, and oath for city officers.

Officials debated whether to hold a public hearing last July to discuss the city's charter regarding eligibility, terms, compensation, and oath for city officers. The agenda item was tabled after a heated debate among all council members.

During the July meeting, Councilwomen Danielle Fugazy Scagliola and Marsha Silverman both agreed that a public hearing, meant to gather input, should have remained open indefinitely until such a decision was made.

The city's code states that each officer, unless otherwise provided in the charter, shall be elected for the term of two years from and including the first day of January succeeding his or her election, and until the election and qualifications of his or her successor.

The matter has been discussed for decades, but in 2018, Glen Cove's policymakers heard a proposal from Carolyn Wilson of the Charter Review Committee to study whether to make certain fundamental changes to the city charter, including amendments regarding council members' term lengths, term limits and whether the terms should be staggered. That commission has since expired its term.

Under normal circumstances, New York state municipal law gives charter commissions the power to put amendments on a ballot measure without the governing body's approval. But the then City Attorney Charlie McQuair — who, since the commission's formation in



Roksana Amid/Herald

The Glen Cove City Council revisited the topic of term limits in their Oct. 3 pre council meeting.

2015, had been advising it on legal matters — didn't realize until late July of 2018 that it had passed a two-year deadline to propose referenda, and would have to be reauthorized by the council if it were to exercise that power in November 2018. That left just one meeting for the council to vote on the commission's fate before an early-September deadline to submit ballot measures to the Nassau County Board of Elections.

After studying the structures of other municipalities from 2015 to 2018, deliberating and debating the merits of important changes to city government — whether to implement term limits or lengthen terms to three or four years, or stagger terms to avoid a complete turnover of the mayor and council in a single election — the commission was prepared to put these charter amendments up to a public vote, and let the people decide whether to change the structure of their government or keep it the way it is.

The proposals would have lengthened the mayoral term to four years from two and councilmember's terms to three years from two. The referendums also would have imposed limits of three consecutive terms and staggered councilmember's terms.

During the Oct. 3 meeting, Councilman Jack Mancusi said he's against anything that gives council members over a two-year term, but said he hasn't heard any outcry from the public about the topic.

"The people have a right to organize themselves to get this done," Mancusi said. "So if it's that a hot topic, and everybody wants to talk about it so badly, let them organize them and create their own commission."

City attorney Tip Henderson said he sees a positive side to shorter terms.

"Here we are with a five-to-two-council, the minority will be putting the majority's feet to the grindstone," Henderson said. "Before the election, that's something positive, I believe. You get seven people in one party for four years, I'm a little concerned."

Silverman said she believes shorter terms make for shortsighted decisions since officials can potentially focus on their campaigns. She also believes that shorter terms take away from an official's years of experience, forcing new and inexperienced candidates to have to learn much of the city's history in a short amount of time.

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HERALD NEIGHBORS

A feast for the senses at the Apple Festival

The Mill Neck Family of Organizations held its Annual Apple Festival on Oct. 6 and 7, drawing visitors from all across Long Island. While the rain forced them to end the festival at noon on the first day, the second day was all sunshine and delicious food.

A wide variety of apples and apple products, along with meats, cheeses and baked goods were a delight for the senses at the festival. The funds raised for the event will go to helping ensure that deaf and hard-of-hearing people receive quality educational, employment audio-logical and spiritual programs and services.

October 12, 2023 — GLEN COVE HERALD



Natalie Fillippi, 19 months, got to enjoy her first trip to the Mill Neck Annual Apple Festival.



Brothers Jim and Keith Rossi bought plenty of apples at the Honey Crisp tent.

Elisa Dragotto/Herald photos



Siblings Ryder, 12, left, and Nylah Chasin, 10, gave it their all in the apple pie eating contest.



Adrienne Lotito, 2, had a blast at the Apple Festival.

Attendees like Danielle Mazza, left, Parker Valentin, 2, and Amanda Valentin took a big bite out of not just apples, but pickles and other snacks too.



Thousands expected for breast cancer walk

By CHARLES SHAW

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A wave of pink will wash over the South Shore this weekend, bringing awareness to breast cancer.

Jones beach will see thousands walking for Making Strides Against Breast Cancer on Sunday. Hosted by the American Cancer Society and presented by Teachers Federal Credit Union, the walk is anticipated to be one of the biggest in the country, expected to attract more than 60,000 participants, raising more than \$2 million.

According to Katie Schafer, executive director for the Long Island region of the non-profit organization.

"It really just brings together all walks of life here on Long Island," said Katie Schafer, executive director for the cancer society's local region.

The event, celebrating its 30th anniversary, sees all sorts of participants come together to raise awareness and fund research for breast cancer. Companies, families and cancer survivors all unite to make a difference at Jones Beach, Schafer said, because the disease is all too familiar.

"Everyone you talk to knows somebody who has been diagnosed with breast cancer," she said.

Joanne Ameruoso is someone who knows all too well. Her grandmother, aunt and mother all died from breast

cancer. The Merrick resident was angry after her mother's death in 2013 because her mom refused to seek treatment and did not tell her about the disease until a few days before she died.

"My mom passed away from breast cancer because she was afraid of it so much that she chose to ignore it when she discovered it," Ameruoso said.

Knowing her family history, Ameruoso sought to get genetic testing. She was negative for the BRCA gene, which puts women at a much higher risk. But when her doctor told her she was a ticking time bomb due to her family history, Ameruoso took preventive measures.

"I'm not going to be another victim of this breast cancer," she said.

Ameruoso underwent a double mastectomy in 2016. In the process, she learned she had Lynch syndrome, an inherited genetic disorder that increases risk for several cancers, including stomach, colon, liver, brain, skin and endometrial. Acting early showed Ameruoso how important it is to get screened and research family genetics.

"We have to stay educated," she said, "because, God forbid, you find out when it's too late."

Ameruoso has been an advocate for breast cancer awareness for more than 20 years now. She has participated in breast cancer walks and even wrote a memoir, "Faith Over Fear," about how



Courtesy Katie Schafer

Walkers place tokens on the turning point fence at last year's Making Strides Against Breast Cancer Walk. More than \$2 million is expected to be raised for this year's walk, taking place on Jones Beach.

her mom's fear of breast cancer became her fight. The book — written while she was coping with her mother's death — aimed to help women overcome the fear associated with cancer.

For Ameruoso, it is important to be proactive in raising awareness.

"This is a time for us to come together and really show the people working behind the scenes all year long to continue the fight against breast cancer and all cancers," she said.

Breast cancer walks have made significant monetary contributions to

research and breakthroughs for treatment medications such as tamoxifen and trastuzumab, more commonly known by its brand, Herceptin.

"Since 1993, we've seen a 42 percent reduction in cancer mortality," Schafer said. "And that is just because of walks like these."

The Making Strides Against Breast Cancer Walk at Jones Beach will take place at Field 5, with a rolling start between 7 and 10 a.m.

For more information — and to register — visit ACSEvents.org.



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DeRiggi-Whitton says record speaks for itself

By ROKSANA AMID

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Delia DeRiggi-Whitton says she has remained determined to do what is best for the North Shore residents she represents on the Nassau County Legislature. At least how she tells it, both her Democratic and Republican constituents agree she's made important changes since taking office more than a decade ago.

And she wants to continue that for yet another term. DeRiggi-Whitton is one of the few legislators whose lines didn't drastically shift during redistricting earlier this year — which she says is a huge benefit to her constituents since she's spearheading many environmental projects on the North Shore. That success, DeRiggi-Whitton says, stems from her moderate standpoints, coming from a family of both card-carrying Democrats and Republicans.

And because of that, the legislator says she believes the political system should function more like a business venture.

"I went into this field with an attitude of just really wanting to work together," DeRiggi-Whitton told reporters during a recent Herald Roundtable session. "We do have our differences in some ways, but there's so much fighting within government, and I think everyone is sick of it."

DeRiggi-Whitton helped secure funding for Scudder's Pond — one of the most contaminated bodies of water around Hempstead Harbor due to storm runoff — which will help reduce nitrogen levels around the harbor.

She also helped residents and businesses link up to a new sewage line in Sea Cliff with reimbursements as high as \$7,500 for their efforts. Sea Cliff has been attempting to fix sewage issues in the village for two decades, with fits and starts across five village admin-



Herald file photo

Delia DeRiggi-Whitton has already spent a decade on the Nassau County Legislature. And while she has accomplished a lot, she says there is still more work to do representing the North Shore.

istrations.

DeRiggi-Whitton also boasts a record she says helped spearhead efforts in both Sea Cliff and Glen Cove to improve the quality of life for residents on Shore Road in the form of traffic calming and even a countywide streetscape project. That includes installing radar speed-check devices, reducing the number of travel lanes to discourage speeding, and the reconfiguration of on-street parking.

HERALD ROUNDTABLE

Those efforts, the legislator says, not only fosters a stronger neighborhood aesthetic, that further makes motorists think twice about speeding. They might cut through the arterial highway, but they also must remember they're driving through a neighborhood.

Many of DeRiggi-Whitton's efforts focus on quality of life. While she wants to see Glen Cove flourish economically, she believes a current request for proposals for a city-owned property at 111 Lattingtown Road would ultimately do more harm to the city. She believes any facility designed to accommodate hundreds of guests will inevitably cause parking issues, noise pollution, and could potentially compete with other local catering halls.

Since its release last summer, the proposal request has gained a lot of attention from surrounding North Shore communities, and DeRiggi-Whitton believes the RFP was drafted with the intent of attracting a large-scale corporation to the area.

"I believe in procurement, but I also believe that we owe small businesses that have survived the pandemic a little extra courtesy," DeRiggi-Whitton said.

When reflecting on her many accomplishments as legislator, DeRiggi-Whitton said she's proud to have helped ban hydraulic fracturing, or "hydro-fracking," waste at county sewage-treatment plants and spearheading legislation offering around-the-clock text to 911 capabilities for the first time in the county.

"I really love my job, and I think we have made some real impacts," DeRiggi-Whitton said. "It really gives you an opportunity to help a lot of people."

Stalzer wants to protect Hempstead Harbor

By ROKSANA AMID

ramid@liherald.com

He might be seeking elected office for the first time, but John Stalzer says he's ready to join the Nassau County Legislature and help his district tackle policies on the environment and housing.

The Sea Cliff native says he's running because there's a lot of "craziness going around in the world" of politics, and also throughout society. He hopes to bring some sort of common sense to a "nonsensical" dynamic.

That dynamic, Stalzer says, starts with his family. His son Jack is currently in the U.S. Navy officers training program in Rhode Island. His daughter is a freshman nursing student in Scranton, Pennsylvania. His wife, Jean Marie, is a real estate agent.

Stalzer says he pays attention to views that differ from his own — especially since his immediate family has varying political beliefs. And from what he's experienced over the 30 years he spent working for various engineering and environmental consulting firms.

At the moment, Stalzer is an environmental regulatory procedures specialist at PSEG, writing environmental impact statements for everything from power plants to housing developments in Puerto Rico, Brooklyn and Port Jefferson. Although not a lawyer, Stalzer says he "plays one at work."

He's spent the past three years writing environmental impact statements to help cleaning up hazardous waste sites, most notably brownfields at Mitchell Park in Greenport. His decades of environmental activism and research enabled him to take his expertise back home to Sea Cliff, where he chaired the village's environmental commission between 2010 and 2019.

As an environmental scientist who fishes, sails and



Roksana Amid/Herald

John Stalzer comes from a family with differing political views, which he says helps him better understand the benefits of taking a bipartisan approach. That's something he hopes to bring to the table as a Nassau County Legislator.

swims locally, Stalzer hopes to represent the needs of Hempstead Harbor and protect its delicate ecosystem. He hopes to acquire both federal and state funds to expand sewer systems on the North Shore to combat destructive high nitrogen levels found in the harbor's ecosystem.

By extension, Stalzer wants to focus on "neighborhood and community character." He's a big believer in local governance, and says Gov. Kathy Hochul's

announced housing plan she later backed off from would infringe on a municipality's ability to address their own housing concerns. As part of her proposed 2024 executive budget, Hochul's housing plan would have required municipalities like Glen Cove and Sea Cliff to allow for higher density development projects to ensure. Since Sea Cliff is a residential community that's already packed with single-family homes and Section 8 housing, Stalzer prefers village trustees to decide what's appropriate for their own community.

He says he's taking the leap as legislator to keep his party's platform on the forefront of the legislative body.

"When I was the chair of the environmental committee, we did things that I disagreed with," Stalzer told reporters as part of a Herald Roundtable session. "But as chair, I do think it was my position to push forward my concepts."

Stalzer also wants to acquire more sewage lines for his North Shore communities, to reduce dependence on cesspits located outside or underneath a number of Sea Cliff homes and businesses. He'd like to expand on existing efforts, including the \$7,500 reimbursement being offered to residents and businesses who link up to the new sewage line in Sea Cliff.

"Since there's a capacity for this in Glen Cove, we can get some sort of access to surrounding areas that are drilling into water bodies," Stalzer said. "I think that would be important."

While he doesn't have a plan to address the costs of Liberty water, Stalzer believes the cost of service from the utility is too high right now.

"I would advocate for the municipalization of the water district," he said. "The cost of Liberty water is insane when you compare that to surrounding districts. It doesn't seem like a viable cost."

STEPPING OUT



Go inside the paintings

By Karen Bloom

Immersive art experiences continue to shake up traditional perceptions of “art.” Now Claude Monet, the beloved transformational Impressionist, gets the Van Gogh treatment (which has enticed visitors in various forms since 2021).

“Beyond Monet: The Immersive Experience” gives guests a glimpse into the emotions and perspectives of the leading figure of Impressionism. Created by the same team that brought “Beyond Van Gogh” to Long Island, it’s full of infinite potential for wonder, and sheds new light on what the world thought it knew about Claude Monet.

The experience showcases more than 400 of Monet’s iconic classics, including “Water Lilies,” “Impression, Sunrise” and “Poppies at Argenteuil.”

“Beyond Monet,” which opened Oct. 7, has settled into the same space at Samanea New York — the retail/entertainment complex that was formerly the site of the Mall at the Source in Westbury — that just recently housed the Van Gogh exhibit. This latest showcase was again created by French-Canadian visual designer Mathieu St-Arnaud, executive creative director and founder of Montreal’s Normal Studio, with his team of multimedia specialists and artists, produced by Pacquin Entertainment Group. Their pairing of digital technology with the artworks enhances light and hues, allowing visitors to completely immerse themselves in the images, accompanied by a lively soundtrack.

“Through cutting edge technology, Beyond Monet is redefining what art means to people,” says Justin Paquin, Paquin’s exhibitions and theatrical president. “It has elevated artwork to the next level, allowing us to form new relationships with notable masterpieces that were just not possible in previous years.”

In the process our relationship to these artists — in this case, Monet — is forever changed. The all-encompassing experience combines projection, original music and sound effects in a re-imagining of Monet’s treasured creations, including the artist’s own thoughts and words into the narrative and musical score.

“When you stand inside ‘Beyond Monet,’ you truly feel like you are part of Monet’s passionate quest for the effervescent beauty of the world,” says art historian Fanny Curtat, who consulted on the project. “Experiences like these create fresh and original perspectives to interact with art in dynamic and fascinating ways.”

It’s a look at Monet’s art freed from its frames that puts the observer front and center, incorporating both still and moving images. Some 400 masterpieces come alive, appear, and disappear, flow across multiple surfaces, the minutia of details enveloping visitors’ heightened senses. The show is projected on every surface around you, making you feel as though you have stepped directly into a painting.

Monet’s art appears and disappears, heightening guests’ senses and allowing them to

become one with his expressive brush strokes and blurred shapes and colors that capture the natural light and forms of the impressionist style of painting.

“You’re immediately immersed in a fantastical ephemeral landscape,” Curtat says.

We may think we know Monet, but according to Curtat, that’s not necessarily so.

“This is an opportunity to go beyond the myth and the easy beauty of his works,” she adds. “We tend to forget how radical and challenging his painting was at the time. He’s so widely known, but there’s something almost deceptive with that level of notoriety — especially when an artist is so famous that they are overlooked. This is a unique opportunity for people to not only see more facets of his work, but learn more about just how radical his work was for the period.

“Today, we may take for granted these ‘easy’ contemplations, but they were scandalous when they were first unveiled. He went on to open the door to so much — not just in terms of the progression of art history, but also in terms of subjective vision and freedom of expression.”

Different elements — scenes — take visitors on Monet’s journey and the themes that comprised his life’s work. After entering the Garden Gallery, the Prism transports everyone into the exhibit’s biggest feature area. Taking inspiration from Musée de l’Orangerie in Paris — the designated home of Monet’s masterpieces — guests can freely roam the Infinity Room to absorb the artist’s bright and colorful paintings.

Monet’s stunning imagery encompasses every surface of the room. It is a haven for awakening the senses as the ebb and flow of the artwork is accompanied by the rhythm of Jean-Sébastien Coté’s original symphonic score.

“I’m so excited for people to understand that what we take for granted (now), was incredibly new at the time,” Curtat says.

It’s the 19th century meeting up with the 21st century in another compelling artistic journey.

Courtesy Paquin Entertainment

Monet’s masterpieces come to life through projection technology that uses over 4 trillion content pixels in the multi-dimensional projections.



Emmet Cohen Trio

Multi-faceted American jazz pianist and composer Emmet Cohen is one of his generation’s pivotal figures in music. Enjoy his jazz stylings when he brings his talents to the Landmark stage. A recognized prodigy, Cohen began Suzuki-method piano instruction at age 3. His playing quickly became a mature melding of musicality and technique. Downbeat observed that his nimble touch and harmonic vocabulary indicate he’s above any convoluted technical showmanship. In constant demand, he leads his namesake ensemble — the Emmet Cohen Trio — and is a vibrant solo performer. Possessing a fluid technique and extensive repertoire, Cohen plays with the command of a seasoned veteran and the passion of an artist fully devoted to his medium. He headlines regularly at Jazz at Lincoln Center and the Village Vanguard, among other prestigious venues.

Friday, Oct. 13, 8 p.m. \$48, \$43, \$38. Jeanne Rimsky Theater at Landmark on Main Street, 232 Main St., Port Washington. (516) 767-6444 or LandmarkOnMainStreet.org.



Blazin’ pumpkins

The Great Jack O’ Lantern Blaze is back at Old Bethpage Village Restoration. The Halloween-themed event — which had its start in the Hudson Valley at Van Cortlandt Manor in Croton-on-Hudson — features more than 7,000 illuminated, individually hand-crafted jack o’ lanterns displayed throughout the restored village. The pumpkins are carved into elaborate sculptural displays that light up the night, creating a family-friendly experience. Visitors stroll the immersive pumpkin trail, past 19th-century buildings and through historic barns, fully enveloped in a fall wonderland, complete with an all-original soundtrack, synchronized lighting, and special effects. New this year: Go ‘under the sea’ with a giant pumpkin-octopus. Be wowed by a ‘gourd-geous’ mythical Montauk mermaid. Meet the Minions-like friendly Pumpkin Pals. And watch pumpkin carving every night.

Now through Nov. 5. Tickets start at \$19 and must be purchased in advance. Old Bethpage Village Restoration, 1303 Round Swamp Road, Old Bethpage. For tickets and information, visit PumpkinBlaze.org.

THE \$ SCENE

Oct. 22

The Italian Chicks

Hang out with the "The

Italian Chicks," when these three dynamic women arrive at the Landmark stage, Sunday, Oct. 22, 3-5:30 p.m., with their comedy revue. Maryann "Boom Boom" Maisano, Cara Amore and Gianna Messina make up this eclectic trio of multi-talented women who draw on the foibles of their Italian-American traditions in their show — a blend of comedy, acting and song. Maisano, the show's producer and headliner, has described their performance "as part meatball, part cannoli — a passionate comedy with a little drama." More than simply a "girl's night out," this is a celebration of food, family and culture. Whether you're Italian or not they'll have you roaring with laughter. You don't want to miss this hilarious show — filled with an enthusiastic blend of comedy, characters, music, and song parodies that will make you remember things you paid your shrink to forget. When Maisano is on stage, you know it! A singer, songwriter, musician, comedian, writer, and actor, she's the consummate entertainer. Thus her nickname "Boom Boom" — as she doesn't know when to slow nominated for a Grammy. She has opened for comedy greats such as Joy Behar and Ray Romano. \$39, \$29, \$19. Jeanne Rimsky Theater at Landmark on Main Street, 232 Main St., Port Washington..(917) 567-5842 or LandmarkOnMainStreet.org.



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.

Oct. 21

Ghostly Gala

Familis are invited to a fang-

tastic night filled with eerie surprises, gallery trick or treating and a monster-led dance party at the annual Halloween celebration, Saturday, Oct. 21, 6-9 p.m. Arrive at the Museum in your most creative and dazzling costume (adults too) and stop at activity stations throughout museum for themed-craft projects and more. Get ready for some mysterious encounters as you enter the unknown in the "Outta This World Spooky Space," where guests can explore an imaginary planet. Show off your spooktacular dance moves on our Monster Mash Dance Floor and then pump up your energy by making a gooey snack to sink your teeth into. Stop by the LICM Theater for Uncle Vlad's Pumpkin Patch. Uncle Vlad returns with more stories and songs to share with his nephew Chad, and his fellow friendly creatures of the night. The theater add-on features puppet artists Kyle Mahoney, Sebastiano Ricci, Carrie Heffernan and Austin M. Costello. Tickets required. Long Island Children's Museum, Museum Row, Garden City. (516) 224-5800 or LICM.org.

Long Island
Heroes Celebration

Thursday, October 26, 2023 | 6:30 p.m.
Cradle of Aviation Museum, Garden City, NY

To purchase tickets and sponsorships, scan the QR code

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Art classes

Nassau County Museum of Art

welcomes those interested in improving their art skills or those who simply want to explore their creativity to participate in one of their many stimulating classes. The fall schedule includes Watercolor Florals: Beginner to intermediate levels (adults and teens 16+), Thursdays, 9:30 a.m.-noon, **Nov. 2-Dec. 14**. \$300, \$270 members. Nassau County Museum of Art, 1 Museum Dr., Roslyn Harbor. For information and to register visit NassauMuseum.org or call (516) 484-9338.

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, **Oct. 19**, 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. 1 Museum Dr., Roslyn Harbor. (516) 484-9337 or NassauMuseum.org.



Bird walk

The South Shore Audubon Society welcomes all to join its members for a bird walk, at Point Lookout Town Park and Lido Preserve afterwards, Sunday, **Oct. 15**, starting at 9 a.m. Walk leaders, other birders and nature enthusiasts are happy to share their knowledge and experience with you. Bring binoculars. The group will meet in the southeast corner of the large parking lot on the south side of Point Lookout Town Park, (closest to the private homes of the village of Point Lookout and the beach), then walk east along the beach toward Jones Inlet. After returning to the parking lot, drive west on Lido Boulevard to Lido Beach Passive Nature Preserve on the north side of Lido Boulevard to walk through the bay marsh. To register, text your name and contact information to (516) 467-9498. Also text regarding questionable weather conditions. For more information, visit SSAudubon.org.



Masquerade Ball Benefit Gala

Enjoy the spirit of the season at a Howloween Masquerade Gala benefiting Freeport-based Bobbi and the Strays animal rescue, Thursday **Oct. 26**, 7 p.m.-12 a.m., at Russo's on the Bay. \$125 ticket price includes four-course dinner, dancing, entertainment and raffles. All funds raised support sheltering and medical needs of the rescued dogs and cats. 162-45 Cross Bay Blvd., Howard Beach. For information, call (917) 213-9840 or (718) 845-0779.

Oktoberfest

Enjoy an Oktoberfest at St. Patrick's Church, Saturday, **Oct. 21**. With food trucks, beer, live music, pumpkin patch, games and raffles. 235 Glen St.

Westbury House Tour

For many years visitors to Westbury House at Old Westbury Gardens asked what was beyond the first floor corridor. Now beyond the door and discover "secrets of the service wing," during a 60-minute guided tour, Friday, **Oct. 13**, noon-1 p.m.; Sunday, Oct. 15, 1:30-2:30 p.m. and 3-4 p.m.; Monday, Oct. 16, noon-1 p.m.; Wednesday and Thursday, Oct. 18-19, noon-1 p.m. Be introduced to the intensive labor required to create the lifestyle experienced by the Phipps family and their guests; tour the many 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 the 17 steps 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.



Oysters and more

The Oyster Festival, known throughout the region for its fun mixture of new activities and old favorites that are certain to entertain the entire family including live entertainment, ships, top-notch artisans, pirate shows, midway rides, and the iconic oyster eating and shucking contest. And of course, the food court, where volunteer chefs and culinary pros work side by side, cooking and serving dozens of unique oyster, clam and other seafood concoctions along with traditional festival fare. Festivities take place throughout Oyster Bay's downtown, Saturday and Sunday, **Oct. 14-15**. Visit TheOysterFestival.org for information.

Library Walking Club

Participate in Glen Cove Public Library's at-your-own-pace hour walk, **every Thursday**, at 9:15 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.

Having an event?

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

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Health care pros honored at Herald

By PARKER SCHUG

pschug@liherald.com

It's an event that's not just about recognition, but about celebrating — and giving heartfelt thanks — to those who have been “guardians of Long Islanders' well-being.”

Those were the words of Amy Amato, executive director of RichnerLive, to kick off the second annual Herald Long Island Excellence in Healthcare Awards.

It was not only cocktail, dinner and dessert, but a night of awards, handed out by ABC-7 investigative reporter Kristin Thorne at The Heritage Club at Bethpage on Sept. 27. A portion of ticket proceeds — as usual with RichnerLive events — went to a local charity. For this event, that recipient was Mental Health Association of Nassau County.

Tara Buonocore-Rut, president and chief executive of CenterLight Healthcare Pace, was among the recipients.

“It's such an honor, it's really not an honor for me,” she said. “It's an honor for my team and all the work that we do to care for the elderly.”

Ann Cella, chief nursing officer at St. Francis Hospital & Heart Center, was humbled by her award.

“I feel like I'm almost not in the same league as all of these people,” she said.

Carol Gomes, chief executive and operating officer at Stony Brook Hospital, says health care is not an industry of individuals, but rather of the collective.

“I'm so glad that health care has prominence in the public eye,” she said. “I don't really consider this really an honor for me, but rather, it's health care as a team sport.”

Jay Itzkowitz, department chair of emergency medicine for Mount Sinai South Nassau, says his Excellence in Healthcare award is “all about what we can do to help the community and patients,” while Colleen Merlo — chief executive of the Association for Mental Health and Wellness — says awards like this help bring to light issues that might remain in the dark otherwise.

“People are really struggling with their mental health right now,” Merlo said. “To be able to bring attention to the fact that there are services available is really important to me.”

Jeffrey Reynolds, president and chief executive of the Family & Children's Association, commended his employees.

“While I'm here accepting the award, they're out in people's homes helping sick kids, and helping seniors,” he said.

Kerri Anne Scanlon, executive director of Glen Cove Hospital was honored for her leadership.

“To be recognized in what you do and love means the world,” she said.

Amy Silva-Magalhaes, chief operating officer of The Bristol Assisted Living, was celebrated by her co-workers.

“I know I speak for many of us here, we certainly don't do it alone,” she said. “It takes a great team behind the scenes to be able to support us.”

David Battinelli, the executive vice president and physician-in-chief at Northwell Health — and dean and professor at the Zucker School of Medicine at Hofstra/Northwell — was one of the six educational special award recipients.

“It's our local community, so it's one thing to be honored,” Battinelli said. “But it's really more important to be out with everybody else and make sure



Edwin Chavez/Herald photos

From St. Francis Hospital & Heart Center and Catholic Health — bottom row, from left, honorees Ann Cella and Novlet Davis with their guests.



Honoree professor Chad Bouton and his patient Keith Thomas.

everybody knows what everybody's doing. We're sort of like semi-competitors. But not when we all get together.”

Peter Igarashi, dean of Renaissance School of Medicine at Stony Brook, was also honored in the educational category.

“I think it's a recognition of all the hard work that the faculty and staff at Stony Brook Medicine does,” he said.

Chad Bouton, vice president of advanced engineering — and director for bioelectronics in medicine at the Feinstein Institute for Medical Research — was named innovator of the year.

“I always say we do the work we do for our patients,” he said. “Our patients are the pioneers. They are doing new studies that have never been done before. They're quite brave.”

One of Bouton's patients, Keith Thomas, was in attendance. He had been paralyzed from the chest down following a diving accident in 2020. Bouton served as investigator of the clinical trial, which has restored feeling and movement to Thomas's arm and



Tim Baker/Herald

Cristina Cellucci from Mount Sinai South Nassau, with RichnerLive chief executive Stuart Richner.

hand.

“I'm so proud of Chad,” Thomas said. “He's been nothing but nice to me and my family, and my friends.”

The Herald Long Island Excellence in Healthcare Awards were sponsored by Mount Sinai South Nassau, Northwell Health, New Horizon Counseling Center, Long Beach Nursing and Rehabilitation Center, The Five Towns Premier Rehabilitation and Nursing Center, Catholic Health's St. Francis Hospital & Heart Center, CenterLight Healthcare Pace, Stony Brook Medicine, Mental Health Association of Nassau County, and the New York State Nurses Association.

Other sponsors included St. Joseph's University New York, the New York Institute of Technology's College of Osteopathic Medicine, Theralympic Speech, Family & Children's Association, Speech Language Place, Options for Community Living Inc., the Nassau County Medical Society, The Bristol Assisted Living, Genesis Fertility & Reproductive Medicine, Cold Spring Harbor Laboratory, the Stroke & Brain Aneurysm Center of Long Island, FirstNet Built With AT&T, and Always and Forever Rose Floral Arrangements.

Long Island Healthcare Awards gala



Tim Baker/Herald photos

Honoree retired Chief Master Sgt. Edward Schloeman, far right, and his guests.



Edwin Chavez/Herald photos

The FirstNet Built With AT&T team, from left, Daariat Brooks, Evelisis S. Valentin, Magdalonie Paris-Campbell, and Michael Jones.



Dr. Mark C. Drakos, Hospital for Special Surgery.



Dr. Kimon Bekelis, right, from Catholic Health and the Stroke & Brain Aneurysm Center of Long Island.



Dr. Peter Igarashi, far right, from Stony Brook Medicine.



Flora R. Bienstock, center, and the New Horizon Counseling Center team and guests at the photo booth.



Event host, WABC-7's Kristin Thorne.



The team from the Mental Health Association of Nassau County.



Honoree Carol Gomes, of Stony Brook Medicine, saying a few words at the podium.



The team from one of the event's Platinum Sponsors, New Horizon Counseling Center.



Honoree Dr. David Battinelli, right, from Northwell Health.

House Republicans bring resolution to expel Santos

By WILL SHEELINE

wsheeline@liherald.com

U.S. Rep. George Santos is in hot water, with several fellow New York House Republicans announcing that they introduced a resolution for his expulsion on Wednesday. Rep. Anthony D'Esposito shared the news on X, where he also claimed that Reps. Nick Langworthy, Mike Lawler, Marc Molinaro, Nick LaLota and Brandon Williams were

co-sponsoring the bill.

Later that day Santos released a statement in which he claimed that expelling him before he had been found guilty would "set a dangerous precedent." He added that he remains committed to serving the residents of his district, and would continue to focus on his work for his constituents.

"This will do nothing other than erase the voices of the electorate," Santos' statement read. "Let us not succumb

to the distractions and let the political games take precedence over the people's welfare."

Santos was already dealing with a bleak week as prosecutors expanded their wire fraud case against him on Tuesday. U.S. Attorney Breon Peace has added 10 more counts to the case he's building against the embattled congressman, adding to the 13 Santos was previously indicted on last May.

New charges include wire fraud, mak-

ing materially false statements to the Federal Election Commission, falsifying records in an attempt to obstruct the FEC, aggravated identity theft, and access device fraud.

"As alleged, Santos is charged with stealing people's identities and making charges on his own donors' credit cards without their authorization, lying to the FEC — and, by extension, the public — about the financial state of his campaign," Peace said, in a release. "Santos false inflated the campaign's reported receipts with non-existent loans and contributions that were either fabricated or stolen."

According to Newsday, Santos maintained his innocence when speaking with reporters in Washington on Wednesday.

"I'm pretty much denying every last bit of charges," Santos asserted. "I didn't handle the finances... That's why you pay treasurers and fundraisers and financial advisors for a campaign. That's why you have these hefty campaign expenses. Why would I on God's green earth even handle a credit card? It was just not the case."

This comes on the heels of the news that Nancy Marks, the former campaign treasurer for Santos, pleaded guilty to a charge of conspiracy to defraud the United States at the Central Islip federal courthouse on Oct. 5. The charge is in connection with the federal investigation of myriad financial irregularities regarding the Republican representative.

Marks admitted that Santos had submitted fake campaign finance reports, which falsely claimed that he had loaned his campaign \$500,000 in an effort to impress Republican Party leaders. This fake loan was also essential for Santos to reach fundraising thresholds, which are necessary to qualify for nomination by the GOP.

Marks, reading from a prepared statement at court, told the court that she had also given the Federal Elections Commission a list of people who she and Santos claimed had supposedly donated large amounts of money to the campaign. The list is alleged to include the names of members of both Santos' and Marks' families, according to prosecutors.

According to Ray Perini, Marks' lawyer, she has not entered a formal agreement with prosecutors to testify against Santos, but she would be willing to do so if asked. Outside the courthouse, Perini also asserted that Santos had duped his client, and even implied the congressman may have emotionally manipulated his client.

Since Marks' resignation her former boss laid all of the blame for his financial issues on her, even telling one conservative news outlet that she "went rogue."

Tom Suozzi, a former U.S. representative, announced on Tuesday he would run to try and recapture his seat currently occupied by Santos.

Santos' next court date is Oct. 27.



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Chuck Lavine's Babysitter bill re-introduced

By WILL SHEELINE

wsheeline@liherald.com

While Joseph Saladino's administration has attempted to put the Brian Noone scandal in its rearview mirror, local Democrats are making it clear that they believe the issue is endemic of wider corruption in the Town of Oyster Bay. Chuck Lavine, assemblyman for District 13, which covers parts of the town, has reissued a bill which would authorize a state monitor to provide direct oversight on "fiscal policies, practices, programs and decisions" of the town.

This is not the first time the bill has been submitted to the Assembly. Lavine explained that he first introduced it in 2019, following the scandalous corruption case surrounding former Oyster Bay Town Supervisor John Venditto.

The assemblyman added that the Noone case, in which the former town inspector general arranged for a \$2 million cybersecurity contract between the town and a business associate of his, proved that Oyster Bay's political culture has not changed in the years since Venditto. He further asserted that the current administration has done nothing to change this culture, and that the safeguards the town board passed following the Noone scandal aren't enough to stop a similar problem from happening down the line.

"The great problem with the Republican Oyster Bay government is that it is a culture where corruption, self-dealing and helping their friends is endemic, and it's astounding that in the year 2023 they can't do anything to change that," Lavine said. "This latest incident with Brian Noone is mindboggling. This is the individual who they put in charge of the overall investigation of corruption, and this guy's substantially accused of corruption himself."

Lavine's bill proposes that a monitor be appointed by the state comptroller, with direct oversight of all fiscal aspects of town government and a slew of other powers. The monitor would be authorized to review and make recommendations on the town's operations, issue bonds, and comment on proposed borrowings and collective borrowing agreements.

One of the most striking proposals of the bill would grant the monitor the power to override decisions by the board or supervisor if necessary. While the monitor must justify their reasons to do so, and the town board can appeal it, this would essentially give the state-appointed monitor direct authority over that of the supervisor and town board.



Courtesy Office of Chuck Lavine
Chuck Lavine, second from left, announced the re-introduction of his bill outside of Oyster Bay Town Hall alongside local Democratic candidates Danielle Medeiros, left, Jared Behr and Ravin Chetram.

Local Democrats have expressed support for the bill, including several candidates for town board who joined Lavine in announcing the bill outside of Town Hall on Oct. 5. Local Republicans, including Saladino, claim that this is merely political posturing by Lavine and the Democrats to weaken his position before the upcoming elections.

"This is an October political stunt as Democrats already know that the town board removed (Noone) from his duties which led to the end of his employment," Brian Nevin, the town's public information officer, wrote in a statement. "We called for an investigation into the matter, approved reforms to prevent future conflicts, and remain eager, willing and able to assist in an official review."

The reforms mentioned in the statement refer to a resolution passed by the board on Aug. 15, which strengthened disclosure requirements for the inspector general position and required all town vendors and contractors to disclose the names and percentage of interest of all partners, members or stakeholders of their companies.

Jake Blumencranz, Republican assemblyman for District 15, which also includes parts of the town, also denounced the bill in a statement. Blumencranz stated that the state comptroller recently awarded the town a perfect score of "Zero Fiscal Stress," which he claimed proves there is no need for further oversight in Oyster Bay.

"Assemblyman Lavine's 'Retread' bill, which calls for fiscal oversight of the Town of Oyster Bay's finances by a state appointed board, is without any basis," Blumencranz's statement read. "Like many other members of the majority, he is more focused on petty party politics rather than the financial deficit our state leadership continues to impose on Long Island residents."

OBITUARY

Gerald 'Jerry' Raymon, 84

Gerald "Jerry" Raymon, 84, of Glen Cove, died on Jan. 25, 2023. He grew up in the hamlet of Oyster Bay. Raymon graduated from Oyster Bay High School where he served as a class president and played drums in the marching band. He was a graduate of the University of Pennsylvania and Fordham Law School. After getting his law degree, Raymon served in the Army as a paratrooper and with the Army JAG office. While assigned in Panama, he incurred a minor gunshot wound in the 1964 rebel uprising.

Following his military service, Raymon had a long legal career first in Washington, D.C., and after returning to New York, with Borden and Grumman as an international trade attorney. When Grumman merged with Northrup and moved to LA, Raymon chose to remain in Oyster Bay, and worked for a communications firm until his retirement.

He was known for his funny, dry sense of humor and his kindness. He enjoyed boating, music, and walking.

During his retirement, Raymon joined the U.S. Coast Guard Reserves, and played his drums in their marching band.

In 2009, Raymon and his family moved to Hallandale, FL, where he spent his final years enjoying the warm climate. He was a proud member of the Aventura Jewish Center and the Rock Steady Boxing group for patients with Parkinson's Disease.

Raymon was predeceased by his parents, Benjamin and Dorothy Goldstein Raymon and his beloved wife, Linda Hodes Raymon, and is survived by his sister, Annette Raymon Smith of San Diego; his daughters, Wendy Nocella of Mastic, N.Y. and Lisa Steinberg of Hallandale; five grandchildren; five great grandchildren; and several nieces and nephews.

Internment was held at the Mount Ararat Cemetery in Lindenhurst, N.Y.

The unveiling is to be determined (early 2024). Donations in his memory may be sent to The Parkinson's Foundation.

Arline Grennan dies

Arline M. Grennan, 87, of Glen Cove, died on Oct. 1, Beloved wife of the late Raymond J; loving mother of Raymond III (Donna), Joann and Daniel (Kim); cherished grandmother of Jill, Brian, Owen, Kendall and Chase. Arrangements entrusted to Dodge-Thomas Funeral Home.

Carlos Juarez Carrasco

Carlos Juarez Carrasco, 72, of Glen Cove, died on Sept. 24. Beloved father of Juliana and Carla; dear brother of Ramon (Guadalupe); cherished grandfather of Johan, Hugo, Carlos, Angel and Karimy. Also survived by many loving nieces and nephews. Arrangements entrusted to Dodge-Thomas Funeral Home.

Roberto C. Strollo, 90

Roberto C., Strollo, 90, of Glen Cove, died on Oct. 1. Beloved husband of Michelle; loving father of Jennifer (Keith) and Juliana (Terry); dear brother of Micheli-

na; cherished grandfather of Luke and Lila. Former wine specialist of Banfi Vintners. Arrangements entrusted to Dodge-Thomas Funeral Home.

HERALD 1012 PUBLIC NOTICES

LEGAL NOTICE OF SALE SUPREME COURT COUNTY OF NASSAU
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Referee will sell at public auction at the North Side steps of the Nassau County Supreme Court, 100 Supreme Court Drive, Mineola, NY 11501 on November 15, 2023 at 2:00PM, premises known as 9 Rose Avenue, Glen Cove, NY 11542. All that certain plot piece or parcel of land, with the buildings and improvements erected, situate, lying and being in the City of Glen Cove, County of Nassau and

State of New York, SECTION: 31, BLOCK: E, LOT: 209. Approximate amount of judgment \$412,059.27 plus interest and costs. Premises will be sold subject to provisions of filed Judgment Index #612761/2022. The aforementioned auction will be conducted in accordance with the NASSAU County COVID-19 Protocols located on the Office of Court Administration

(OCA) website (https://ww2.nycourts.gov/Admin/oca.shtml) and as such all persons must comply with social distancing, wearing masks and screening practices in effect at the time of this foreclosure sale. Brian J. Davis, Esq., Referee Frenkel Lambert Weiss Weisman & Gordon, LLP 53 Gibson Street Bay Shore, NY 11706 01-094288-F01 77945 142406

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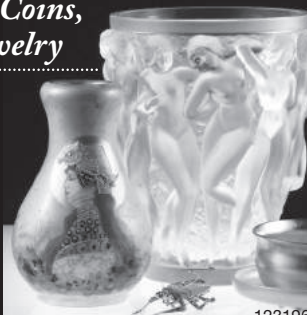
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OPINIONS

What happened in the House will damage Congress

The removal of Kevin McCarthy as speaker of the House of Representatives, led by perennial malcontent Matt Gaetz, was disgraceful, and will have lasting negative implications for Congress and the nation.

A vote to remove a speaker during his or her term of office is virtually unprecedented. The last time it was attempted was in 1910, over a century ago, and that vote was unsuccessful. Speaker Joe Cannon was not removed. In fact, during my 28 years in Congress, my office was in the Cannon House Office



PETER KING

Building, named after Speaker Cannon. History can be its own reward.

The speaker of the House is second in line to succeed the president. He or she heads a powerful arm of government, and is elected by a vote of the entire House. Throughout our history, the tradition has been that the majority party votes at a party conference to select its candidate for speaker, and the minority party does the same. Both candidates are then nominated on the floor of the House. When the full

House votes, no matter how close the inter-party vote is, the candidate of the majority party is elected speaker. This reflects the will of the American people to have the House run by someone the majority party has selected.

To remove the speaker — to “vacate the chair” — is such an extraordinary action that it should be based on criminal conduct or serious acts of moral turpitude by the speaker. It should not be a political decision. Yet that’s exactly what happened last week, when eight far-right Republicans allied themselves with 208 Democrats to remove McCarthy, who had the support of 96 percent of Republicans.

This was strictly a power play by Gaetz and his gang of hostage-takers. There isn’t one significant issue that these eight outliers have in common with the 208 Democrats and their minority leader, Hakeem Jeffries. This was a defeat for tradition and a victory for Gaetz and his unbridled ambition and lust for national publicity.

Gaetz accused McCarthy of conspiring with Democrats because McCarthy forged a bipartisan coalition with them to keep the government open after the Gaetz crowd refused to support Republican legislation to prevent a shut-

down. This was an obvious ploy by Gaetz to set McCarthy up for failure. If McCarthy hadn’t passed bipartisan legislation to keep the government open, Gaetz would have accused him of poor leadership. When the speaker did the

responsible thing, Gaetz virtually accused him of collaborating with the enemy. This is the ultimate hypocrisy, because Gaetz gave congressional Democrats power and influence they would not have had otherwise.

I’ve known McCarthy since he was first elected to Congress in 2006. I saw him work his way up through various leadership positions, and have always been impressed by him. Most important, he always kept his word to me. As speaker, he overcame massive political obstacles to get serious legislation through the House.

The reality is that Democrats control the White House and the Senate, while Republicans have a small majority in the House. Keeping that majority together required the skills of a juggler and a magician, plus extraordinary patience. The 221 House Republicans constitute a wide variety of philosophical and geographic views and beliefs. For instance, a Republican from rural Mississippi would have a

very different agenda from a blue-collar conservative Republican representing suburban Long Island. It was McCarthy’s arduous and unenviable task to find common ground while accommodating these disparate agendas. (Let me commend Long Island Representatives Andrew Garbarino, Anthony D’Esposito and Nick LaLota for always taking their jobs seriously by working with McCarthy to get results for their districts and our region, and not grandstanding or taking cheap shots.)

McCarthy has decided not to run again for speaker. I certainly can’t blame him, though his talents and abilities will be sorely missed. I don’t in any way envy his successor. Not only will he or she have to work with a razor-thin majority, but now that the unwritten tradition of not removing a speaker for personal political aggrandizement has been shattered, the next speaker will also have to operate under the constant threat that a disgruntled minority of the majority might conspire with the minority party to create chaos.

Congress won’t be the same. Thanks for the terrific job, Kevin, and doing what you could to preserve sanity!

Peter King is a former congressman, and a former chair of the House Committee on Homeland Security. Comments? pking@liherald.com.

Kevin McCarthy’s removal was strictly a power play by a gang of hostage-takers.

Once more, Israel goes to war

Like everyone in our community and all right-minded people in the world, I am horrified by the heinous terrorist attacks that occurred in Israel beginning last weekend. The deliberate, premeditated slaughter of hundreds of civilians, on one of the holy days of the Jewish year, by a genocidal terrorist group is

beyond description in words.

We know that in wars fought in civilian areas, civilians are, unfortunately, killed. But to specifically plan for the wholesale, deliberate murder of families in their homes, concertgoers and others,

and the kidnapping of old people, children and women to use as bargaining chips or psychological warfare props boggles the civilized mind — and thrills only the diseased one.

This attack was a terrible blow to Israel and Jews worldwide. It is reminiscent to me of the Yom Kippur War. I was too young to understand what was happening when that war began in October 1973, but I remember the sense of fear that hung over the adults around me, and the nervous prayers led by my kindergarten teachers. That same feeling of desperately needing but not being able to access information, because of the holiday, afflicted me last weekend.

Everyone was adding bits of information they had picked up from newspapers or messages conveyed by neighbors, and the news just kept getting worse. Our enemies had wounded us, and more pain was likely to come. But unlike the war 50 years ago, I do not truly fear for Israel’s survival. She is strong, and if our enemies were looking to capitalize on the disunity that

has racked Israel for many months, they may have scored a blow, but they have badly miscalculated, because when the threat comes from without, the core within hardens.

This past Shabbat, Shemini Atzeret, we read Kohelet. And Kohelet instructs us that there is a time to weep and a time to laugh, a time to wail and a time to dance. But what happens when those things need to be done at the same time?

Simchat Torah is always a time of rejoicing and dancing, singing and glorifying. But this Simchat Torah was also a time to weep and wail. So our celebrations were tempered and our vigilance heightened, but we did dance. And we did sing. Because to do otherwise would be to allow our enemies to take even more than they already have. And for what they have taken, we will extract a price.

There is a time for war, and a time for peace. One day it will be time for peace.

There is a time to kill, and a time to heal. Unfortunately, we are now forced to do the former, and in the process we are doing the latter.

There is a time to wreck, and a time to build. Now we will wreck the infrastructure and, we hope, the leadership of our enemies, and continue to build our homeland.

There is a time to rend, and a time to mend. We rent our spiritual clothing these past days, and hopefully we are mending our people.

There is a time to love, and a time to hate. We are showing our love to our brothers and sisters, and venting our hatred on those who seek to destroy our brothers and sisters.

There is a time for war, and a time for peace. Now is the time for war. One day it will be time for peace.

Howard Bressler, an attorney who lives in West Hempstead, is the author of “Wrong Conclusion, No Resolution: United Nations Security Council Resolution 2334’s Erroneous Conclusions on the Legality of Israeli Settlements in Judea, Samaria and Jerusalem.”



HOWARD BRESSLER

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HERALD EDITORIAL

In Israel, war ends politics, diplomacy as usual

Hamas's Saturday-morning assault on Israel was more than just a shocking demonstration of barbarism. The toll of Israeli dead and wounded — not to mention those kidnapped and taken to the Gaza Strip by these murderers — is sickening. And it should alarm and enrage civilized people everywhere.

The full extent of the horror on the southern border — coupled with a barrage of thousands of rockets and missiles fired at Israeli villages, towns and cities — is yet to be determined. Nor can we be sure what will follow after the first day of what Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu has rightly characterized as a “war.” And whether it will spread to include Iran and its Hezbollah terrorist auxiliaries in Lebanon.

But we do know this: It is an event that changes the Middle East. All the rules that have governed the way Jerusalem deals with its terrorist foes and their Gaza stronghold since it fell under Hamas control in 2006 — in which the Israeli government and military have always sought to limit the conflict — must now be thrown out.

Above all, it must be an end to politics and diplomacy as usual in Israel, the diaspora and the West.

Whatever strategies and tactics that the Jewish state adopts as it seeks to reassert control over its border, rescue those held hostage, and punish those responsible for these crimes, some basic principles must govern the response to these events.

The first is that the Jewish people, and those who care about Israel, must unite. After a year of political division and a culture war that threaten to tear Israeli society asunder and undermine its economy and security, those arguments must cease — there and elsewhere. The magnitude of this crisis is comparable to that of Israel's wars in 1948, 1967 and 1973, and so must be the response of those who claim to be Israel's friends and supporters.

It may be difficult to imagine the current politically fractured, more heavily assimilated Jewish community of the United States, that is far more alienated from Israel than it once was, coming together as it did during those days. But nevertheless, that is the model that the Jewish world and sympathetic non-Jews must follow. It must be clear to the world that when Israel is under attack and Jews are being murdered, the solidarity of the Jewish people and decent people everywhere with Israel must be unquestioned.

Second, there must be no tolerance or acceptance of the usual narratives and biased media coverage of the conflict, which focus more on Israel's responses than on Palestinian terrorism itself, and which often seek to demonize the Jewish

state's justified measures of self-defense.

Those who seek to wipe Israel off the map — whether by terrorism or political means — are engaging in a global attack on the Jewish people. The rising tide of anti-semitism that is sweeping across the world in recent years is driven in large part by anti-Zionist propaganda. Anything that seeks to legitimize the goals of the terrorists to destroy Israel must be rightly labeled not just as hateful, but as a form of antisemitism that must not be normalized or allowed to be represented as part of mainstream opinion in the West.

If Hamas cared about the safety of the Palestinian Arabs languishing under their tyrannical Islamist rule in Gaza, they would not have started this war. They will, no doubt, continue to use the people under their control as human shields. That is a tragedy, but worries about the suffering of Palestinians caused by Hamas's actions cannot be allowed to color the responses to efforts to save Israeli hostages and take out the terrorists and their military infrastructure.

The civilized world must fully support Israel's counterattack. Any talk of proportionality or the need for restraint on the part of Israel as it copes with this assault on its citizens should be rejected.

Such bloody terrorism is not a natural response to Palestinian frustration or an effort — as Hamas falsely asserts — to prevent harm from being done to the mosques on Jerusalem's Temple Mount.

When Hamas talks about ending the “occupation,” it is not speaking about pushing Israel back to the 1967 armistice lines, or complaints about Jews living in the heart of their homeland in Judea and Samaria or Jerusalem. As far as Hamas and other Palestinian groups are concerned, “occupation” refers to the existence of Israel within any boundaries.

Their goal is not freedom for their people. If that was what they wanted, the Islamists, as well as their supposedly more “moderate” opponents, would have accepted any one of the compromise peace offers extended to them in the past. What they want to do is to kill Jews and eliminate the Jewish state.

Sadly, such sentiments are also part of mainstream Palestinian political thought and culture. The shameful scenes in which Palestinians have been shown celebrating terrorism and exulting over the dead bodies of murdered Jews or hostages must not only not be forgotten, conclusions should be drawn about what this means in terms of the future of the conflict and what the goals of diplomacy should be.

Any reporting about this war that doesn't make that clear isn't merely biased against Israel, but constitutes an adoption of terrorist talking points that legitimize

their wrongful insistence on continuing their century-old war on Zionism that has become inextricably tied up with Palestinian national identity.

Third, Hamas and its allies must gain no political or diplomatic benefit from their crimes.

The current imperative for American foreign policy, and that of other nations, must be to ensure that this unprovoked and appalling tragedy is not exploited by the forces that have launched this war.

Any discussion in the current context of redoubled efforts to resurrect a two-state solution to the conflict — that Palestinians have repeatedly rejected over the past decades — must end. On the contrary, the existence of the terrorist-run independent Palestinian state in all but name in Gaza is proof that such a plan is a guarantee of more suffering and bloodshed.

Hamas — no doubt acting with the knowledge and support of Iran — seeks to derail the widening circle of peace in which Arab states have embraced normalized relations with Israel. This war is clearly, at least in part, a response to efforts to involve the Palestinians in negotiations between Saudi Arabia and Israel. The Jewish state's burgeoning alliance with the desert kingdom is the result of rational assessments of the national interests of both Middle Eastern countries and their mutual fears about Tehran's quest for regional hegemony and a nuclear weapon. This war is a reminder that the Palestinians must no longer be allowed to hold Arab nations hostage to their intransigent refusal to accept the legitimacy of a Jewish state.

There will be time enough in the days and weeks ahead to fully assess how much responsibility those who have sought to appease both the Palestinian terror organizations and Iran must bear for this tragedy. The same is true with respect to assigning blame for what can only be termed a catastrophic failure on the part of Israel's security establishment.

But for now, the priority must be to ensure that Israel's borders are protected, its people's safety ensured, and that those responsible for these criminal acts are severely punished and no longer able to launch attacks on the Jewish state with impunity. Any other response from individuals, organizations and their leaders, politicians or governments is unacceptable.

May God watch over the people of Israel and those tasked with their defense. May their efforts be victorious. And may the hateful enemies of the Jewish state be made to understand that their crimes and evil intentions will no longer be tolerated by the civilized world.

—Jewish News Syndicate

OPINIONS

The aftermath of the demise of Affirmative Action

On June 29, the U.S. Supreme Court struck down affirmative action in college admissions, stating that race cannot be a consideration and ordering institutions of higher learning to explore alternative means of achieving diverse student bodies. While many politicians want to weigh in and offer their opinions, it is



GEORGE SANTOS

best to offer the perspective of my intern, Mike Chang, whom affirmative action rules have personally impacted. Here are Mike's thoughts.

"Following the surge of violent incidents targeting Asian Americans after the onset of the coronavirus pandemic, the public overwhelmingly opposed the spike in racism and discrimination that was senselessly directed toward these citizens. For ostensibly the first time ever, the national

media acknowledged Asian Americans as minorities that face discrimination with virtuous motions to "Stop Asian Hate," while corporations and elected officials zealously affirmed their support of the Asian community.

"Unfortunately, however, many in our society still fail to acknowledge that discrimination against Asian Americans is hardly unprecedented. For decades, the reality has remained largely unrecognized that although Asian Americans, by and large, achieve the highest scores, they have been disproportionately denied from our finest academic institutions.

"That is why, as an Asian American law school student, I applaud the Supreme Court for its decision in *Students for Fair Admissions v. Harvard* in favor of students who sued Harvard University for admissions policies that the court found overwhelmingly disadvantageous to Asian Americans. To quote Justice

Clarence Thomas, in his insightful concurring opinion, those affirmative action policies 'fly in the face of our colorblind Constitution.' The ruling, which did away with affirmative action practices entirely, was certainly a much-needed

legal victory for equal protection that sets the intuitive expectation that universities must follow the rule of law.

"But for the countless Asian Americans, including me, who have endured the devastating impacts of race-based admissions, the landmark decision is one that is personal. Despite receiving a 98th-percentile score on the Law School Admissions Test, or LSAT, I shared the experience with a staggering number of my Asian peers of receiving unexpected rejections from several top law schools when I applied. I am now a proud second-year student at the prestigious University of Texas-Austin School of Law. But the experience of possibly becoming reduced to a second-class citi-

zen makes me especially grateful for our impartial Supreme Court, and legislators like Congressman Santos who support equal rights for the Asian community.

"When I first learned of the court's momentous decision to acknowledge the heartbreaking discrimination that had been taking place against Asian students, I was at work in the congressman's Washington office and, much to my embarrassment, my eyes welled up. My colleagues can attest that I couldn't help but become emotional, not just for myself, but also for my friends since high school, all from immigrant families who struggled to get into their dream colleges despite working tirelessly to achieve nearly perfect SAT scores. At that moment, the relief that our Supreme Court delivered to the entire Asian American community moved me to feel especially privileged for the opportunity to pursue a legal career in a nation that is so committed to upholding equal opportunity, the Constitution, and impartial access to the American Dream."

George Santos represents the 3rd Congressional District.

My intern has firsthand experience with race-based admissions.

LETTERS

Owning a house is not a prerequisite for candidacy

To the Editor:

Among all the vile campaign literature being sent by Samantha Goetz, the Republican candidate for Nassau County legislator, the most insulting is her comments about property taxes.

First, it is blatantly wrong to say that Legislator Josh Lafazan's vote for the tax reassessment led to soaring taxes, unless she adds the caveat that taxes only soared for residents who had not been paying their fair share of property taxes for years because of their consistent grievance filings. People who never grieved their taxes have, in fact, seen reduced tax bills over the past years (as per the promise made by the previous country executive).

Second, does the Republican candidate have access to Lafazan's, or his parents', financial records? How does she know what he may be contributing to the running of the Lafazan household? Isn't it possible that he could be paying the taxes?

Goetz's comments about Lafazan's living arrangement seem to suggest that if you don't own a house, you don't deserve to be in an elected office. What does that say about those many people who rent their houses, many of whom contribute to the county through sales taxes, volunteering in civic organizations, serving local fire departments, etc.? I would think a candidate for the County Legislature would know that

property ownership isn't a prerequisite for running for public office.

RENA BOLOGNA
Bayville

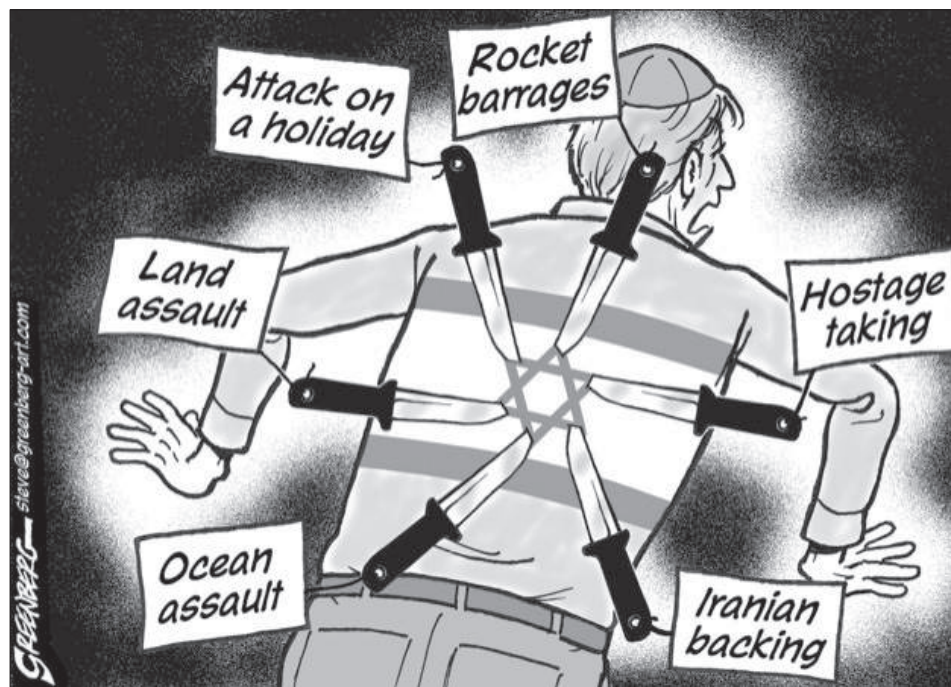
The View Grill is more than a restaurant

To the Editor:

As a Glen Cove native, a retired Glen Cove teacher and a member of the Woman's Club of Glen Cove, I write for me and the Woman's Club. We are concerned that we may be losing not only the comfort and convenience of The View Grill, but also the integrity of Glen Cove Stanco Park.

Losing The View leaves many locals without the "safe haven" created through the talent, warmth, generosity, and commitment to our community of Jeanine and Fred DiMenna. Together they created a "home" for people to meet and greet, to have business meetings and Woman's Club lunch meetings, to unwind, play bridge or mahjong, have a snack, lunch, a drink or a relaxing, delicious dinner created by Jeanine, who treats everyone with love and respect.

While our "comfort zone" is in jeopardy, our park may also suffer. Stanco Park is a public park built for the enjoyment and relaxation of Glen Cove citizens. What happens when 200 people arrive for a function at the new building? What happens to the golfers, people playing pickleball or tennis, shooting hoops, using the driving range, parents



having fun on the playground with their children, and those who want to have a pleasant, quiet lunch or an early dinner at a welcoming, intimate restaurant, The View?

Where do all these people go? Where do they park? Will we lose those amenities for which the park was built? Will we lose our home away from home, The View? Will we lose another small business, The View, to the greed of big busi-

ness?

I believe in progress, but I don't believe in throwing the baby out with the bathwater. So many of us hope and pray that the city will do the right thing for our lovely community and its citizens. We hope that right will win over might.

THERESA (TERI) SWENSON
Glen Cove

CORRECTION

Disability advocates applied to have DSPs included, but were unsuccessful. The "Recognizing the Role of Direct Support Professionals Act" now in Congress is a way to bypass the next appli-

cation period. Salaries for direct support professionals are determined by the New York State budget. In the Sept. 21-27 issue, we stated otherwise.



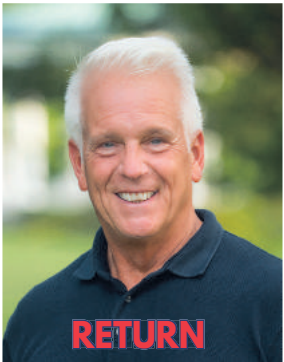
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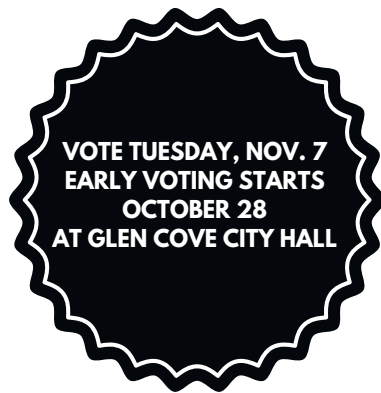


BARBARA PEEBLES

ELECT FOR CITY COUNCIL

- We will continue to **invest** in the City's recreational facilities
- We will continue to be a **fiscal watchdog** and hold the line on taxes
- We will continue to prepare **realistic and sound** budgets and monitor spending in all departments
- We will continue to be **fully accountable and responsive** to all residents
- We will continue to **make improvements** to our infrastructure

TEAM PANZENBECK WILL CONTINUE TO IMPROVE THE OVERALL QUALITY OF LIFE FOR ALL GLEN COVE RESIDENTS



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