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Mazi Melesa Pilip begins campaign
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A concert in Glen Cove
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Courtesy Ellen O'Neill

Brothers Kevin, left, and Jack O'Neill were always close. They had a love of playing video games and sports in common. As adults, they shared another bond — drug addiction.

Unable to wake up from a Robitussin nightmare

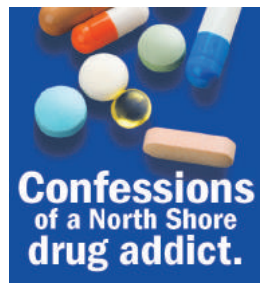
By LAURA LANE

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Read the first part of this story online at tinyurl.com/AWholeNewDay

Second of two parts.

Kevin O'Neill had successfully stopped his older brother Jack from buying cocaine from his dealer in the fall of 2020. But then Jack tried Percocet, and became addicted. The brothers were students at St. John's University, but due to the coronavirus pandemic, they were home in East Norwich, learning virtually.



Jack's journey to sobriety
 Without a dealer, Jack O'Neill was desperate to score more Percocet that fall, and drove across the island to buy it.
 "I went to one house and the guy said, 'Dude, what are you doing here?'" Jack recalled. "He was wearing a bandana, and I saw a shotgun there. I told him, 'I'm sick, dude.' He said he'd give me something but to never come back."
 Jack knew he needed help, he said, but sobriety would be painful. One night while driving aimlessly around Long Island he called his mother, Ellen, and said he needed

CONTINUED ON PAGE 3

Susan Raso helps cats, and the community

By WILL SHEELINE
 wsheeline@iherald.com

While the North Shore of Long Island is rarely considered to have a large population of wild animals, feral cats are one species that are here in relatively large numbers.

Thanks to a few passionate advocates hundreds of these cats have been spayed, neutered and medicated in the last nine years, preventing their population from exploding while making sure the felines can still enjoy long and happy lives.

Susan Raso, of Glenwood Landing continues to work with feral cats, or cats that have not been socialized to humans, for the last 20 years. She said she was first drawn to helping cats when she came across a litter of kittens in a junkyard on the border of Sea Cliff and Glen Cove.

"Naturally I became concerned and wanted to help," Raso said. "Some of the kittens were dying and they looked really skinny, and I just wanted

to do something because it was such a pathetic sight."

Raso got help for the kittens, and subsequently learned how to catch other cats, and where to take them to be spayed and neutered. For nearly the next decade and a half, Raso spent much of her personal time and

It helps the cats and it helps the community, because nobody wants a million cats running around their yard.

SUSAN RASO
 founder and director, Cat Wrangler Rescue, Inc.

money trying to promote the issue, but found that it was too expensive to manage on her own.

So, in 2017, she established Cat Wrangler Rescue, Inc., a nonprofit organization, which she continues to run as director. While Raso says that she has a few part-time volunteers, she still handles the majority of the organization's day-to-day operations.

Since 2014, Raso also worked closely with Janine Fakiris, the director of Cove Animal Rescue, a shelter in Glen Cove. Fakiris explained that a single female cat can give birth to hundreds of kittens over its lifetime, which can cause the feral population to grow rapidly.

"We were trapping hundreds

CONTINUED ON PAGE 7

District prepares for high-stakes special election

By **ROKSANA AMID**

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The expulsion of GOP Representative George Santos from Congress has set the stage for a highly competitive special election in New York's 3rd Congressional District.

This territory, previously won comfortably by Democrats in 2020, is now a battleground where Republicans have recently made significant gains.

Santos' removal from office occurred less than a month after the House Ethics Committee released a damning report citing "substantial evidence" of his viola-

tion of federal law and involvement in a "complex web" of illegal financial activities. Now, the special election process will leave the position unfilled for 70 days, as Governor Kathy Hochul lacks the authority to appoint a replacement to a Congressional seat. A

primary will not be held, instead, Democrats have chosen a recognizable figure in the form of former Rep. Tom Suozzi, who had represented the district for three terms before stepping away to pursue a failed bid for governor in 2022. Meanwhile, Republicans announced Mazi Melesa Pilip, an Israeli Defense Forces veteran and current county legislator, as

their candidate.

From 2007 to 2023, 11 special elections were held in Nassau County when 31 percent of voters cast their ballots in the 9th District on the same day as the presidential primary.

James Scheuerman, the Democratic Elections Commissioner for Nassau County, shed light on the preparations for the upcoming special election. He emphasized there are challenges posed by the election since a significant portion of the county's poll sites are in schools. Despite the logistical hurdles, early voting will run from Feb. 3 to Feb. 11., and absentee ballots will follow a similar process, with

voters able to request them through the state portal, marking a change that aims to streamline the absentee ballot request process.

"It's never been easier to request an absentee ballot through the New York State or Nassau County board of elections," Scheuerman said. "It only takes about 10 seconds to request an absentee ballot."

While special elections typically see lower turnouts, Scheuerman anticipates that the current race's national implications may lead to a turnout exceeding the usual figures. He also notes that presidential elections see nearly 70 percent voter turnout.

"It's clear that voters prefer to vote during even years and pay more attention in even years," Scheuerman said.

"Normally, national elections don't get above 27 percent from what we've seen, but this could go north of 30 percent based on the amount of interest in this

It only takes about 10 seconds to request an absentee ballot.

JAMES SCHEUERMAN
Democratic Elections Commissioner for Nassau County

race."

Between 2011 and 2020, an average of 75 special elections took place each year across the United States. New York held 48 special elections during 2010 to 2021, the third-most of any state. The largest number of special elections in the state took place in 2018 when 11 special elections were held.

Hochul signed 10 laws earlier this year that she says expands and strengthens the basic right to vote, which includes early voting without a reason, and requires local boards of election to open a polling place on a campus at which more than 300 voters are registered at their college address. The laws build on the John Lewis Voting Rights Act, which modernizes the Voting Rights Act of 1965, strengthening legal protections against discriminatory voting policies and practices.

Regina Goutevenier, president of the League of Women Voters Port Washington-Manhasset expressed the organization's commitment to disseminating information about the election to communities that may not have participated in large numbers in the past. She hopes that the election results will reflect an increased voter turnout.

Judy Esterquest, a member of the Port Washington-Manhasset league, said they expect to host the candidate forum in late January, close to the start of early voting. There, voters will also be aware of key dates and eligibility requirements to participate in the election.

Esterquest noted that candidates who choose not to participate are usually challengers who aren't as comfortable in public, or an incumbent who believes that giving airtime to a challenger will only help the Challenger and not the incumbent.

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Believing that ‘in a crisis there are angels’ ³

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

a vacation. She told him to come home. Jack swallowed a quarter of a Percocet before he walked into his house at 4 a.m. It would be the last one he took.

“At 11 a.m. my parents woke me up,” Jack recounted. “They already had the car packed for a rehab center. They took my keys and told me I no longer had a car. In the car I was in so much pain I was thinking about jumping out. I had just turned 22.”

His mother had arranged for Jack to undergo a detox at a center in York, Pennsylvania. When he got there, he lied, telling them he had been sober for five months. They ignored him, telling him to strip for a search that Jack said was humiliating. He detoxed there for 12 days.

Then he was driven to the Maryland Addiction Recovery Center, which offered a long-term drug program. He underwent six hours of a variety of different therapies five days a week. After 16 months he graduated in July 2022 from the program, sober.

O’Neill now lives in a sober house in Baltimore, and works at a nearby dog day care center, where he was recently promoted. He has been sober for two years, but still attends five Alcoholics Anonymous or Narcotics Anonymous meetings a week, which he attributes to his newfound confidence, less anxiety and his ability to talk in front of people about his journey to sobriety. He plans to go to veterinary school next spring in Baltimore.

Kevin’s story

Kevin O’Neill knew about addiction when he stopped his brother, who’s a year older, from buying cocaine — perhaps more than Jack realized. Kevin was also an addict, but his drug of choice was cough syrup.

At first no one knew, because Kevin began abusing the medication when he was a freshman at Iona University in the fall of 2018. Being an addict was unlikely for the 2018 Oyster Bay High School graduate, who had been a member of the cross-country and baseball teams. Known as someone who didn’t drink or do drugs in high school, Kevin was easygoing and admired for his sense of humor.

“He was so kind, patient and clever,” Ellen O’Neill said of her younger son. “What happened with Kevin was he went to college and couldn’t find his way, so he isolated, and then, to take away the pain and sadness, he began to drink cough medicine.”

Kevin was a transfer student at St. John’s in the fall of 2019, and remained there until he withdrew, citing a medical condition, in January 2021. Jack

He was a shell of himself, a zombie. I never saw him like this.

JACK O’NEILL, ADDICT,
East Norwich



Courtesy Ellen O’Neill

Kevin, left, and Jack O’Neill are recovering drug addicts. Their mother, Ellen, said there is no history of drug addiction or alcoholism in the family.

didn’t notice Kevin’s addiction at first. But it became painfully obvious when Kevin stopped by the frat house where Jack was living.

“He was a shell of himself, a zombie,” Jack recalled. “I never saw him like this. I called my mother and said something was wrong. Then I brought him home shortly after that. Kevin had always been very social and hung out with even kids my age. That was the shock for me — how dramatically he changed.”

Helping Kevin

Kevin was admitted to Zucker Hillside Hospital in Queens for two weeks in January 2020 to receive psychiatric care. He needed to be stabilized, because the cough syrup had made him psychotic. He was 20 years old.

“Kevin was hallucinating. The long-term effects of abusing cough syrup change the make-up of your brain,” Ellen explained. “I couldn’t hold a conversation with him — his behavior became erratic. He’d leave at all hours of the night, or he’d become fixated on an object like a watch. He’d keep talking about it or staring at it.”

After his discharge from Zucker, Kevin entered an intensive outpatient program in which he attended group and individual therapy while living at home, until he could no longer go in person because of the coronavirus pandemic.

He continued the program on Zoom, and his mother, a librarian in the East Meadow School District, took a medical family leave to be his caretaker. He

remained a student at St. John’s, taking his classes online.

It appeared that he was recovering from his addiction, but when Ellen returned to work in September 2020, Kevin relapsed. It was around the same time he stopped Jack from buying cocaine.

“As a parent, you’re in denial,” his mother said. “You just can’t believe it. You think your love will protect them and conquer all.”

That October, Kevin’s behavior was so erratic Ellen had to call an ambulance. Kevin drove away before the ambulance and police arrived. Ellen remembers being at her wits’ end. She collapsed on the porch steps, and her mind raced. She didn’t know what to do. A police officer sat next to her, promising that he would tell the other officers to treat Kevin as though he were mentally ill.

“I have always relied on my belief that in a crisis there are angels that walk among us. Those are the people who have suffered great trauma and loss,” Ellen said. “They see the world through a different lens of empathy and understanding. It is one of the gifts that grow out of great heartbreak.”

Police found O’Neill and he was brought to Nassau University Medical Center’s psychiatry ward for three days. But within 24 hours after returning home he began behaving erratically again. The police returned him to NUMC for another two days.

During that time Ellen searched for long-term psychiatric care finding Silver

Hill Hospital in Connecticut. She brought Kevin there upon his release from NUMC, where he stayed until the end of December. A social worker at Silver Hill suggested Kevin continue his long-term treatment at Turnbridge in New Haven, Ct. He worked on his sobriety there until June 2022 and then moved into a nearby sober living house until he relapsed in February 2023.

Ellen took Kevin to Maryland Addiction and Recovery where he is currently continuing his recovery.

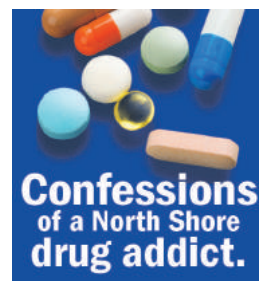
The Fenix Brothers

At one point during Kevin’s recovery a psychiatrist told his parents he might not bounce back neurologically. During the day, Ellen said she would not even entertain the idea but at night, as she tossed and turned in bed, she wondered. If the doctor was right what would her son do?

“John’s Crazy Socks came to mind,” she said, referring to the company started by a man with Down syndrome. “What if we created a way for men and women in recovery to have something to do so they can feel like they are making an impact.”

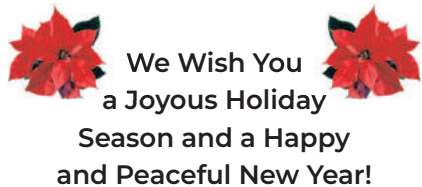
Ellen and Jack formed The Fenix Brothers, an apparel line that includes hats, shirts, and blankets, to bring awareness and acceptance to individuals who face mental health and substance abuse. They hope to travel to residential treatment centers, outpatient program centers and community centers to reach their goal. It’s a dream Ellen hopes will become a reality.

For further information, go to The Fenix Brothers’ Instagram: @thefenixbrothers3





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Photo: CSM Communications

The CareFirst staff celebrating
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Book Review:

“Flourish” by Martin E. P. Seligman (Part 3)

After showing the amazing effects of positive emotion on (1) children’s development, (2) the flourishing of businesses, and (3) on morale and performance in the military, Seligman concludes that “the entire thrust of this book is that optimal performance is tied to good well-being; the higher the positive morale, the better the performance.”

Post-traumatic growth is also analyzed beginning with “the ancient wisdom that personal transformation is characterized by renewed appreciation of being alive, enhanced personal strength, acting on new possibilities, improved relationships and spiritual deepening, all of which follow tragedy.” The paradox of trauma is that loss and gain both happen, grief and gratitude both happen, vulnerability and strength both happen.

Another ancient wisdom revealed is that emotional consequences do not arise from the adversity, but from your beliefs about the adversity. Seligman finds that optimists bounce back quickly from setbacks, thinking “It’s going

away quickly. I can do something about it and it’s just this one situation.” Pessimists do not bounce back from defeat, thinking “It’s going to last forever, it’s going to undermine everything and there’s nothing I can do about it.”

Fortunately, Seligman teaches that optimism can be learned and that such learning is invaluable. “Pessimists get depressed much more readily than optimists, they underachieve in their jobs, in the classroom and on the sports field, and their relationships are rockier.” We learn that optimists are less vulnerable to disease because they (1) have healthier lifestyles (2) act on medical advice readily (3) are more likely to watch their weight (4) don’t smoke (5) exercise (6) sleep better, and (7) have more friends and more love in their life.

Perhaps the bottom line to all of this is the simple prescription that to change your life you have to change your thinking. Today we have the knowledge and the resources to allow each one of us to markedly improve our lives and well-being.

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CHRISTMAS MESSAGE

Thoughts this Christmas

Christmas is a time for stories. We get them in books and in movies. We share them in families and in the passing down of memories. But all the stories connect to the One Story of God who, in love and grace, came to earth — to us — as a baby. Why like that...?

Once upon a time, there lived a King who ruled over a wondrous land. But his subjects — the people who enjoyed all that this King (who was a most generous sovereign) provided, did not understand or value what they had been given.

They whined... they complained... they treated one another poorly... they didn’t pick up their toys... and they swept the dirt under the rug (whenever they thought to clean up) and — called it good enough.

For some reason we’ll never know, the King was committed to his people. Sure, they were an unpleasant lot, but he loved them all the same. They were his people, and he was loath to turn his back on them.

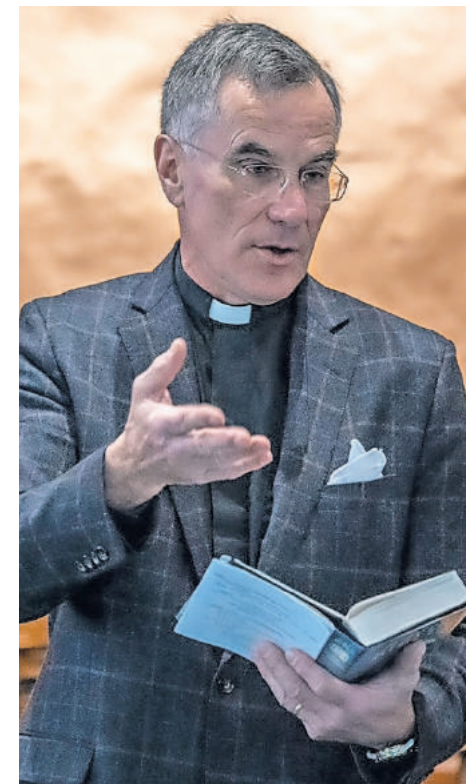
So he came to them again and again, in different ways and at different times, to try and make them see how he loved them... how they would be so much better off if they just let him be for them — their King.

He sent his servants to speak to them of his love... to remind them of all his blessings and his goodness. But the people beat these servants, and sent back to the palace.

But the King was faithful, and — the King was merciful, and — the King could never forget that these were his people... his children... so he sent his own son — to be for them the Prince of Peace. He could have sent his son as mighty warrior riding a swift steed with flaming sword... but he didn’t.

He could have sent him out of a burst of starlight in the night sky — so bright that all the world became as day — and all eyes could see a mighty figure in the sky, no matter where they were, and thus it would be clear to all who this was... but he didn’t.

Instead — the king sent him to a family — a common man... an ordinary woman.



JEFFREY PREY
PASTOR

The King’s son — the Prince of Peace — was born as we all are. The King’s son — the Prince of Peace — came into our world, and — lived in our world — as we do. He fell, and he got up. He hungered, and — he was fed. He grew, and — he spoke of the King’s love... the King’s righteousness. And he showed to the fullest — the King’s mercies.

Christmas is a reminder that love is most completely expressed when love comes from within. Jesus was born “within” our world, and lived “within” our lives — all so that we could experience the fullness of a love and a peace we can find nowhere else.

This may have been once upon a time, but — it is true...

Jeffrey Prey is the pastor of the First Presbyterian Church of Oyster Bay.

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HERALD SPORTS

Hofstra fueled for conference success

By **ANDREW COEN**

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Hofstra women's basketball is looking to build off last season's late success that spurred the Pride to the conference quarterfinals as the No. 12 seed.

The Pride struggled to a 4-14 league record before posting two wins in the Colonial Athletic Association (now known as the Coastal Athletic Association) tournament and giving four seed William & Mary a competitive game in a 76-64 season-ending defeat. Hofstra was picked 12th in the preseason CAA women's basketball preseason poll and will try to prove the doubters wrong this winter.

"I think our returners took it personal and feel they've got more to contribute than a 12th-place team," said fifth-year Hofstra head coach Danielle Santos Atkinson. "It's one thing to take it personally, but what is the action to go with that? And that's been our focus."

The Pride were ultra focused last Saturday in a commanding 113-24 romp against Division III foe Farmingdale State, which set a program record for points scored and points allowed. Sophomore guard Emma Von Essen, a Rockville Centre native, tallied 29 points including nine 3-pointers.

Santos Atkinson brings back several returners from last year's 12-20 season led by graduate student guard Sorelle Ineza, who was second on the team scoring with 10 points per game. The Quebec native tallied 20 points in a narrow 63-60 loss at Sacred Heart in Fairfield, Conn. on Nov. 19.

Von Essen has emerged as an offensive leader for the Pride after playing her way into a regular starter as a freshman. The former four-year standout at Long Island Lutheran, is the Pride's leading scorer averaging 14.6 points per game and is displaying more aggressiveness on offense.

"One of the areas where she wanted to improve was in the weight room and I think that's definitely improved her game and helped with her accuracy and also helped her stamina," said Santos Atkinson of Von Essen, who has hit 29 3-pointers so far this season. "She can score the ball in bunches."

Senior guard Ally Knights, an Australia native, provides additional experience in the backcourt with Essen after averaging 3.5 assists per game last season.

Zyheima Swint, a 6-3 senior center, provides the Pride some size and experience inside after averaging eight points a game as a junior and was leading CAA in rebounding through mid-December. Senior 6-0 forward Brooke Anya has also shined on the glass and is the conference's fourth-leading rebounder.

The Pride have also been given a boost this season by the return of redshirt junior guard Selma Markisic,



Photos courtesy Hofstra Athletics Communications

Head coach Danielle Santos Atkinson, left, will look to guide Hofstra to a strong showing in the Coastal Athletic Association after a quarterfinal run in last season's tournament.

who missed last season due to injury. Markisic, a Brooklyn native who starred at Xaverian High School, tallied 10 points in a 51-48 victory against Wagner on Nov. 12 and posted 20 in the Farmingdale State romp.

"To be able to get another shooter and scorer added back to the team is huge for us," said Santos Atkinson of Markisic. "She is still finding her way after being off for a whole year, but she's going to be a great addition as we get here rolling into conference play."

Hofstra opens the CAA schedule on Jan. 5 with a home game against UNC-Wilmington at 7 p.m. followed two days later with a matinee at the Mack Sports Complex versus William & Mary for a 2 p.m. tipoff. The Pride will host Stony Brook for a Friday night Battle of Long Island matchup on Feb. 1 at 7 p.m. and will conclude its home schedule versus Monmouth on March 3 at 2 p.m.

"We're very versatile and I'm excited about what's to come and what we're going to be able to be able to do," Santos Atkinson said. "We have to continue putting it together and getting better but we have the pieces to do it."



Brooke Anya, right, and Ally Knights are fired up for the Pride to carry over the momentum from last season's finish.

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CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

of cats, day and night, just to try to make sure we didn't have an influx in spring with kittens," Fakiris said. "Within the first two years we did quite a lot on our own."

Cove Animal Rescue now has its own Trap-Neuter-Return program with the support of the City of Glen Cove. Raso and Fakiris still work closely together, and it appears that the feral population has diminished in recent years.

While there is no widespread data on the number of feral cats in Nassau County, Fakiris estimates that in the nine years she and Raso have been doing this work, they have spayed and neutered well over 1,000 felines. Without this, they say animal shelters like Cove can be overwhelmed with kittens every spring, and Fakiris said that one year they received as many as 125 feral kittens.

To actually catch the wild adult cats, Fakiris and Raso set up humane traps around Glen Cove, Sea Cliff, Glen Head and Glenwood Landing, which they put food in while leaving open the door. This encourages cats to come to eat, and when they walk in the door slides shut behind them.

The cats are then taken to veterinarians, who have them fixed and, very importantly, give them their shots. Fakiris and Raso explained that most feral cats are far more likely to die from ill-



Janine Fakiris spent years working with Susan Raso to spay, neuter and give vaccines to the North Shore's feral cat population.

Courtesy Janine Fakiris

ness or infection than anything else.

Raso added that, with catch and release, the feral cats are able to live full lives while also not overpopulating the community. In addition, cats under six months old that are caught are still able to be socialized to humans, meaning

many of the younger felines that are caught are adopted by local families.

"It helps the cats and it helps the community, because nobody wants a million cats running around their yard," Raso said. "It's really a win-win."

NEIGHBORS IN THE NEWS



Courtesy SCO Family of Services

Phil Catapano has recruited friends and family for years to help collect duffel bags full of presents.

Good deeds in S.C.

Sea Cliff resident Phil Catapano hosted a holiday packing party where attendees packed duffel bags full of presents and everyday necessities for teens and young adults in SCO Family of Services' Independence Inn transitional living program for homeless and runaway youth. The Who Cares Committee made their 38th Annual Toy Run to SCO Family of Services' Robert J. McMahon Children's Center in Sea Cliff, sharing the joy of the holidays with the children and adolescents with developmental disabilities who live there.

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Mazi Melesa Pilip launches CD3 campaign

By WILL SHEELINE

wsheeline@lherald.com

A new political contender has emerged in the race for New York's 3rd Congressional District, bringing with her what she describes as a unique background and perspective on the challenges facing the nation.

Mazi Melesa Pilip, the Republican Party's choice for the Feb. 13 special election to replace disgraced congressman George Santos, is not exactly well-known in the district, having been first elected to the Nassau County Legislature in 2021. But she tells the Herald she's eager to get the chance to meet her prospective constituents.

Born in Ethiopia in 1979, Pilip and her family were among the thousands of African Jews airlifted out of the country during Operation Solomon in the early 1990s following the overthrow of the Ethiopian government by Tigrayan and Eritrean rebels. Pilip said Israel became her family's home, and by the end of the decade, she was serving in the Israel Defense Forces as a paratrooper.

It was after her military service Pilip pursued higher education — a journey that eventually led her to Long Island. She holds a bachelor's degree in occupational therapy from Haifa University and Technion, and a master's degree in diplomacy and security from Tel Aviv University, both in Israel.

Pilip has lived on Long Island since 2009, settling in Great Neck with her husband Adalbert — a cardiologist — and their seven children. Drawn to Long Island by her husband's fellowship at Stony Brook University, Pilip emphasized how much the welcoming and diverse nature of the community drew her in, praising the school system and expressing gratitude for the ease of maintaining her kosher lifestyle.

"It's a beautiful, just a beautiful community," Pilip said. "Just such a diverse and welcoming group of people."

Yet, even the best things have their issues. And Pilip says she wants to solve them. That led her to run for the county legislature in 2021, where she focused on challenges of the current environment, expressing concern about rising crime rates and a perceived decline in public safety.

Pilip's decision to enter politics was fueled by a desire to contribute positively to her community and address the evolving issues that have impacted the nation.

We need to lead by example. We need to know how to solve problems, and even if we don't agree that's fine.

MAZI MELESA PILIP
congressional candidate



Will Sheeline/Herald

Nassau County legislator Mazi Melesa Pilip announced her candidacy for the congressional seat formerly held by George Santos last week in Massapequa. She was joined by Republican politicians from across the county, all who came out to support her bid.

"As a mother, I am worried," Pilip said. "I cannot say, 'Mazi, don't worry about it, Great Neck is safe, it is protected.' Nobody is protected. Everybody can get them."

While she believes in a need for oversight of law enforcement, Pilip emphasized she has a deep respect for those who put their lives on the line to protect their communities. She called for constructive discussions and collaboration to improve the system without undermining the essential role of law enforcement.

Pilip also touched upon the hot-button issue of immigration, making it clear her support for legal immigration. She criticized the current open-border policies, citing concerns about national security and the potential impact on communities.

"I'm an immigrant," Pilip said. "This country was found by immigrants. But you don't bring millions here without a plan. It's not fair to the American people."

Despite her time in Mineola, Pilip

makes clear she is "not a politician." But she still wants to make a difference, has says she has done that, especially in her role establishing an antisemitism task force, and her efforts to prevent tax increases while maintaining full funding for law enforcement.

One aspect of Pilip that surfaced as soon as local Republicans announced her nomination is that she is actually a registered Democrat, and has been for more than a decade. Yet, Pilip explains her beliefs align more closely with Republican values. Still, if elected to Congress, Pilip says it is her duty to support all of her constituents.

"What we've forgotten in this country is the respect for each other," she said. "We lost the basic communication. We need to lead by example. We need to know how to solve problems. And even if we don't agree, that's fine."

Pilip also completely backs Ukraine in its fight against Russian aggression, particularly as her husband is from Ukraine. That support, she adds, she could come both financially and militarily.

As for abortion and gun control, Pilip says personally she is against abortions, but not at the same level as some other Republicans on Capitol Hill.

"I want to emphasize that I will not force my own beliefs on any woman," she said. "Therefore, I will not support any national abortion ban."

On gun control, Pilip supports pro-gun interpretations of the Second Amendment, but makes clear the need for responsible regulations.

Pilip is, of course, an unwavering supporter of Israel, where her three sisters and parents still live. It's America's responsibility to support its closest ally in the Middle East, she adds, and intends to work tirelessly to ensure her former home has everything it needs to win its war against the Hamas terrorist organization.

"It's a serious issue, and the United States of America has to support this," Pilip said. "This is our ally. Israel shares the same values that we share. And it's in our national interest to continue to support them."

Celebrating Long Island's Top Chiefs



Herald file photo

Todd Bourgard, chief executive of the Long Island, Hamptons & North Fork regions at Douglas Elliman Real Estate, celebrates being honored at the premiere Herald Top Chief Officers of Long Island awards gala at The Heritage Club of Bethpage. More than 300 people attended to 'connect, collaborate and celebrate' our communities' most impactful and visionary executives in an event hosted by Herald Community Newspapers and RichnerLive.

CORRECTION Todd Bourgard is the chief executive of the Long Island, Hamptons and North Fork regions at Douglas Elliman Real Estate. A photo caption in the Dec. 7-13 edition had an incorrect name.

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G.C. concert, where music and patriotism meet

December 21, 2023 – GLEN COVE HERALD

The Wunsch Arts Center at Robert M. Finley Middle School in Glen Cove was full of veterans, their families and musicians on Nov. 17 for the Northwinds Symphonic Orchestra's annual concert in honor of veterans. The orchestra performed songs such as "On the Wings of Angels" and "Inchon," showing their support for the brave men and women who served their country and treating them to a rare musical experience.



Rachel Green sang "I Can't Give You Anything But Love" at the "Let Freedom Ring: A Tribute to Our Veterans" concert.



Eric D'Arce of VFW Post 2913 of Patchogue attended the concert with his son Micah, 9

Tim Baker/Herald photos



Glen Cove American Legion members Don Ranieri, left, and Joe Moores had a great time at the concert.



Musician Michele Aweh gave it her all on the flute.



The concert was held to honor Long Island's veterans, and thank them for their service through the medium of music.

STEPPING OUT



Photos courtesy Harlem Globetrotters International

Whether flying in for electrifying dunks or being a leader on and off the court, Jet Rivers truly lives up to his name.



Girl power with Mia 'Ice' Castenada and Torch George, heralded as the 'Queen of the Crossover.'



Cheese Chisholm puts some spin on the ball.

Antics on the court with the **HARLEM GLOBETROTTERS** Rivers says he's amped for return to Long Island

By Daniel Offner

Those quick-fingered hoops stars are back to close out the holiday season with their special brand of basketball. Expect plenty of action when the Harlem Globetrotters' latest World Tour arrives at UBS Arena at Belmont Park on Jan. 1.

International icons, the Globetrotters are considered "ambassadors" of the game, beloved the world over for their special brand of family entertainment that combines the skills and foundations of basketball with a uniquely theatrical flare.

As basketball pioneers, they are credited with popularizing such well-known techniques as the slam dunk, the task break, the forward and point guard positions, the figure-eight weave, and four-point shooting line.

Those who've seen their favorite NBA or collegiate players do a jump shot or a half-court hook shot — you've witnessed the creative moves made famous by the Globetrotters.

Throughout the team's nearly 100-year history, the Globetrotters have entertained more than 148 million fans across 124 countries and territories — introducing many to the game itself — and have continued to break down barriers, provide acts of goodwill and display a commitment to the game that goes far beyond the court.

Latif "Jet" Rivers remembers watching the Harlem Globetrotters and their signature tricks when he was a kid.

"Now, I get to go out on the court and return the favor for kids," Rivers says, "and help them create memories that they'll never forget."

The 6-foot-1 guard from Elizabeth, New Jersey, went on to be a star at Wagner College, where he is still the career leader with the most wins over a four-year span.

His signature moves include dribbling, and a "four-point shot" that he throws underhand, granny style, from the free throw line at the other end of the court.

"I shoot it pretty consistently," River says. "The crowd goes wild for it. I love electrifying the crowd."

While every stop on the tour is different, all have one thing in common — making sure to "interact with the fans and put on a good show that will leave them with fun and lasting memories."

"Every one (of our games) is special. You never know if it could be the first time somebody is seeing us play," he says. "But this is particularly special because it's taking place on New Year's Day."

Rivers promises the team's exhibition match against longtime rivals, the Washington Generals, will be a special experience for families to come together and celebrate.

And those Generals are ready to take the Globetrotters on. The Washington Generals have united with a new optimism — dreaming the impossible dream — as they strive for their first



- Jan. 1, 1 p.m.
- Tickets range from \$53 to \$161 for courtside seats; available at UBSArena.com or Ticketmaster.com
- Options also include a Magic Pass and Celebrity Court Pass; available at HarlemGlobetrotters.com
- UBS Arena, 2400 Hempstead Turnpike, Elmont



Bulldog Mack, one of the team's big men at 6-foot-7, with a young fan.

win since 1971.

With an all-new mindset, this revitalized Generals team will do whatever it takes to win. But can they beat the world's winningest team with a determined attempt to outscore the Harlem Globetrotters?

The Washington Generals have been training harder than ever, according to their staff, and will stop at nothing to win in this high-stakes battle of basketball. Will New Year's Day will be the day the Generals finally take home a win?

Come see for yourself.

"We're the best at what we do," Rivers says. "We bring it every night. We are here to have a good time, bring out some good energy and have some laughs."

As a bonus, Spalding, the Globetrotters' new official ball partner, will join the team at every destination, enhancing the game experience. Fans will have the opportunity to take home an official Harlem Globetrotters basketball or the newly designed Harlem Globetrotters Marble Series ball on game day.

Check out the action as Rivers and other fan favorites — including forward Zeus McClurkin and guard Cheese Chisholm — dribble, spin and dunk their way up and down the court.



Festive glow at Old Bethpage Village

Old Bethpage Village Restoration shimmers in its 'Hallmark card'-inspired setting during Candlelight Evenings, its popular annual seasonal spectacle. Flickering candles illuminate the historic homes that display their holiday finery while showcasing the village's festive spirit. The Holiday Brass Quartet and fiddlers provide a musical accompaniment with Civil War-era Christmas songs. Stories of Christmases past and classic children's holiday tales are retold each night, set against the backdrop of the grandly decorated Christmas tree, circa 1866. Also gather around a rousing bonfire at the village's crossroads and enjoy hot mulled cider and refreshments.

Thursday through Saturday, Dec. 21-23; Tuesday through Friday, Dec. 26-29, 5-9:30 p.m. \$20, \$15 ages 5-12 and seniors. 1303 Round Swamp Road, Old Bethpage. For information, contact (516) 572-8409, or visit OldBethpageVillageRestoration.org.



Get The Led Out

Get The Led Out rocks out with their tribute to what many consider rock 'n' roll's greatest band, in 'A Celebration of the Mighty Zep.' From the bombastic and epic, to the folksy and mystical, GTLO has captured the essence of the recorded music of Led Zeppelin and brought it to the concert stage. The six veteran musicians who make up the Philadelphia-based group delivers Zeppelin live with the all passion and fury these blues-soaked, groove-driven rock anthems deserve. GTLO re-creates songs, in all their depth and glory, with the studio overdubs that Zeppelin themselves never performed. When you hear three guitars on the album, GTLO delivers three guitarists on stage. No wigs or fake English accents, GTLO brings what the audience wants — a high energy Zeppelin concert with honest, heart-thumping intensity with a strong focus on the pivotal early years.

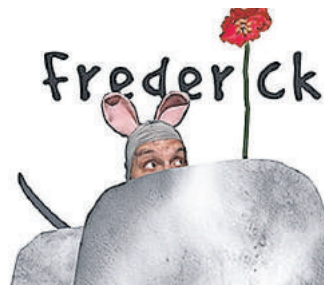
Friday and Saturday, Dec. 29-30, 8 p.m. \$75, \$45, \$30. The Paramount, 370 New York Ave., Huntington. Tickets available at Ticketmaster.com, or ParamountNY.com.

THE \$ SCENE

Jan. 5

'Cold Beer on a Friday Night'

Shake off those winter doldrums with Jimmy Kenny and the Pirate Beach Band. It may seem like we've got much too long to wait til those beach days arrive again, but Jimmy Kenny and his band come to the rescue, on the Paramount stage, Friday, **Jan. 5**, 8 p.m. Join in their "Ultimate Beach Party Tribute" to Kenny Chesney, Jimmy Buffett and Zac Brown Band. Parrotheads, No Shoes Nation and the Zamily: it's 5 o'clock somewhere so let's 'raise 'em up and sing along. The Long Island based band — guided by Paul C. Cuthbert (aka Jimmy Kenny) on lead vocals/acoustic guitar, with Linn DeMilta (aka Lovely Linn), lead and backing vocals, Luis Rio, lead guitar/backing vocals, Frank Stainkamp, keyboard/backing vocals, Dan Prine, bass, and drummer Mike Vecchione, have been celebrating the beach country sounds of Buffett, Chesney and Zac Brown Band for some 12 year, spreading their vibe up and down the Northeast coast. Everyone has a great time grooving to their lively mix of their popular sing-along hits and feel good, easy living flair. If you like your toes in the sand, wasting away with a margarita or a cold beer on a Friday night, then you'll surely have a great time with the Jimmy Kenny Band. \$35. \$25, \$20, \$15. The Paramount, 370 New York Ave., Huntington. Tickets available at Ticketmaster.com or ParamountNY.com.

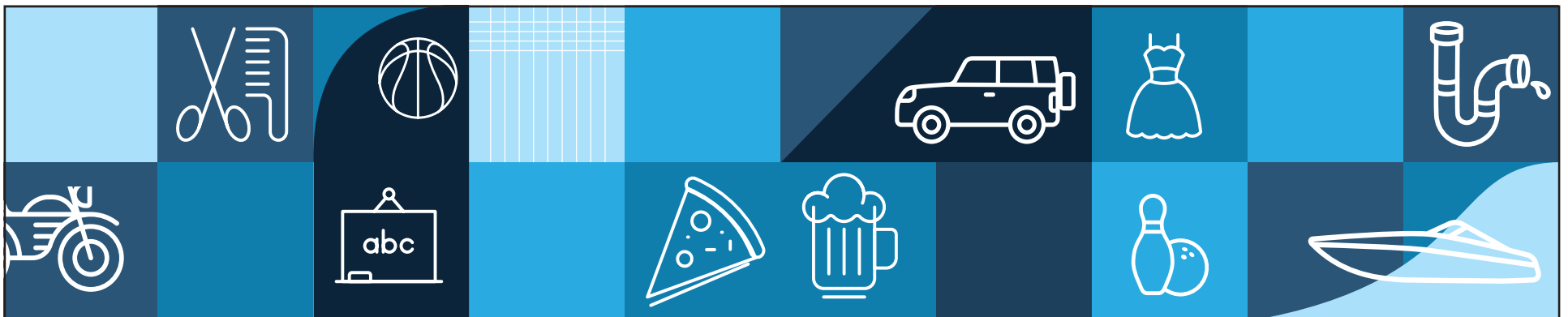


Family theater

It's a beautiful sunny summer day in the meadow. Leo Lionni's beloved children's books come to life, in "Frederick," on the Long Island Children's Museum stage, Friday and Saturday, **Dec. 29-30**, 11:30 a.m. and 2 p.m.. Mouse friends Nellie, Sunny, Baby, Ernest, and Frederick are playing their musical instruments and having fun singing, until a leaf falls from the sky — autumn is here! Winter will be coming soon. All the mice get to work gathering supplies for winter, except, where is Frederick? He is gathering supplies, too, in his own unique way. With toe-tapping Americana music inspired by bluegrass, gospel, and folk, Frederick is an engaging, energetic story about the power of the arts, community, and that no mouse gets left behind. \$10 with museum admission (\$8 members), \$14 theater only. Long Island Children's Museum, Museum Row, Garden City. (516) 224-5800 or LICM.org.

On exhibit

Nassau County Museum of Art's latest exhibition, "Our Gilded Age," examines the appearances and the realities of an era that mirrors our own in many ways. Like the nation's economy, American art and literature flourished during the Gilded Age. It was an exuberant age of excess with its own secret flaws, including widespread fraud. The art of John Singer Sargent, Childe Hassam, Louis Comfort Tiffany and others adorned palatial residences designed by Stanford White and Ogden Codman Jr., architect of the museum's own quintessential Gilded Age mansion. Drawing heavily upon the local literary history of Long Island, including William Cullen Bryant, Mark Twain (who named the Gilded Age), Walt Whitman, Edith Wharton and others, the exhibition will include paintings, fashion, decorative arts including period silver and china, photographs, manuscripts, first editions and other historic memorabilia. The "Upstairs, Downstairs" approach to the life of a country house brings to life not only the storied conspicuous consumption for which the Gilded Age was infamous, but also the real lives of these many individuals who maintained the palatial estates where that lifestyle was enjoyed. On view through **March 10**. Nassau County Museum of Art, 1 Museum Dr., Roslyn Harbor. (516) 484-9337 or NassauMuseum.org.



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Happy New Year!



'New Year's Laughin' Eve'

Chuckle your way through the final hours of 2023, when comedian-producer Paul Anthony brings his Long Island Comedy Festival to the Adelphi University Performing Arts Center stage, Sunday, **Dec. 31**, 6 and 8 p.m. The lineup includes national headliner Rich Walker, voted Long Island's Favorite Comedian two years in a row; Rob Falcone, who's appeared at venues nationwide and also in "Law and Order," "Blue Bloods," and "The Sopranos," among other shows; Scott Baker, half of the improv comic duo of Baker & Mark: The Quickest Thinkers in Comedy; wih headliner Vinnie Mark, the other half of the Baker & Mark duo. Also expect a surprise guest comedian. Tickets are \$55 and \$65 with discounts available to seniors, students, alumni and employees. Adelphi University Performing Arts Center, 1 South Ave., Garden City. (516) 877-4000 or Adelphi.edu/pac.

Dec.
21

Let's Skate

Get ready to enjoy all the thrills of the snowy season, while staying warm and cozy as Long Island Children's Museum's popular "Snowflake Sock Skating rink returns, now through **Jan. 7**. Slip on "sock skates" and take a spin on the indoor rink, made from a high-tech synthetic polymer surface that lets kids slide around without blades. Kids can stretch, twirl and glide. As visitors step off the "ice" they can jump into winter dramatic play in Snowflake Village. Become a baker in the holiday sweet shop, step inside a giant snowman and serve up some hot cocoa, take a turn in the rink "ticket booth" and "warm up" around a rink side "fire pit." Long Island Children's Museum, Museum Row, Garden City. (516) 224-5800 or LICM.org.



'Scrooge!'

Miserly Ebenezer Scrooge undergoes a profound experience of redemption in Sunrise Theatre Company's production of "Scrooge!," Saturday, **Dec. 23**, 11 a.m. Follow along with Scrooge as he learns the true spirit of Christmas in this holiday musical tradition based on Charles Dickens beloved tale. All tickets \$15. Visit the Sunrise stage at The Showplace at Bellmore Movies, 222 Pettit Ave., Bellmore. For information/tickets, SunriseTheatreLI.com or call (516) 218-2782.

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.

Countdown to 12

Long Island Children's Museum welcomes back its popular "Noon" Year's Eve family party, Sunday, **Dec. 31**, noon-4 p.m. This year's theme, "Let Your Light Shine in 2024", is inspired by the lighthouse symbol in the Museum's logo and continues LICM's celebration of 30 years of community impact. The day's celebration starts and ends with Times Square-style ball drops (noon and 4 p.m.). In between the opening and closing ball drops, families will make themed crafts and enjoy a DJ-led dance party. All activities are drop-in and run through 3:45 p.m. Advance ticket purchase recommended. Long Island Children's Museum, Museum Row, Garden City. (516) 224-5800 or LICM.org.



City Council meeting

The Glen Cove City Council holds their final meeting of 2023, Tuesday, **Dec. 26**, at 7:30 p.m., at City Hall, 9 Glen St, Glen Cove.

Tribute Dinner

Participate in Holocaust Memorial and Tolerance Center's annual fundraising dinner honoring Holocaust survivors and high-profile civic and community leaders, Tuesday, **Jan. 16**, 6-8 p.m., at Temple Beth Sholom, 401 Roslyn Road, Roslyn Heights. Visit HMTCLI.org for more.

Community Service Club

Teens are welcome to assist Gold Coast Public Library librarian Alex set up and decorate the library annex for the upcoming Holiday Cookie Decorating program, Saturday, **Dec. 23**, 10:30 a.m. Volunteers will receive an hour of community service and a few cookies as a thank you Gold Coast Public Library, 50 Railroad Ave., Glen Head. Visit GoldCoastLibrary.org for more information.

Film time

Enjoy a movie on Locust Valley Library's big screen. See "National Lampoon's Christmas Vacation," starring Chevy Chase and Beverly D'Angelo, Thursday, **Dec. 28**, 1 p.m. Rated PG-13. 170 Buckram Road, Locust Valley. For more information, go to LocustValleyLibrary.org or call (516) 671-1837.

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Electeds: Congestion pricing hurts Long Island

December 21, 2023 — GLEN COVE HERALD

By CHARLES SHAW

cshaw@liherald.com

They called it a “hidden tax” and even “highway robbery.” That’s how Long Island-based lawmakers described the impending congestion pricing system planned for New York City’s Financial District, and are calling on the governor to do away with it for good.

The area’s representatives in Albany gathered at the Long Island Rail Road station in Mineola last week to make those demands loud and clear to Gov. Kathy Hochul. Regular passenger vehicles could be hit with charges as much as \$7.50 to enter Lower Manhattan, with commercial vehicles looking at daily tolls ranging between \$15 and \$36.

Funds collected would support efforts by the Metropolitan Transportation Authority to continue maintaining and expanding its mass transit service — including the LIRR — while the agency maintains it could help push people from driving cars to simply taking the rails.

State Sen. Steve Rhoads doesn’t agree.

“What congestion pricing does is make it easier for the MTA to give them a license to steal from every resident, from every commuter,” he said.

Wantagh Chamber of Commerce president Cathy Powell says the pricing plan affecting vehicles coming in below 61st Street would especially impact businesses in her community that prefer to



Courtesy State Sen. Steve Rhoads

Long Island state senators and Assembly members gathered at the Long Island Rail Road train station in Mineola last week, calling on Gov. Kathy Hochul to end her support of congestion pricing planned for New York City’s Financial District. Hochul says the program would provide cleaner air, better transit, and less gridlock on New York City’s streets, while local electeds say it will create significant financial hardships for their constituents who need to drive into the city.

deliver products directly to Manhattan clients, saving money on shipping. And it would only hurt businesses that are still recovering from the pandemic.

Powell added workers such as first responders and tradesmen who commute to lower Manhattan would not be exempt from the congestion toll, although the MTA’s mobility review report indicated emergency, public works and other qualifying vehicles transporting people with disabilities would indeed be able to enter Manhattan

for free. Low-income drivers as well as those paying tunnel tolls receive a discount.

“The billions of dollars the MTA already has should be used toward the governor’s goal of improving infrastructure,” Assemblyman Ed Ra said. “Encouraging the use of public transportation over private vehicles — without considering the notorious unreliability of the MTA — will only funnel congestion into another flawed system.”

Yet, that system has vastly improved

over time, according to LIRR acting president Rob Free. That includes a new Manhattan terminal at Grand Central, a rebuilt concourse at Penn Station, a mainline third track, and a new station servicing the UBS Arena and horse race-track at Elmont.

“The vast majority of Long Islanders who go to Manhattan use mass transit and take advantage of all these capital investments,” Free said in a statement. They “don’t contribute to the extreme congestion that causes ambulances, police, fire and buses to be unable to move.”

“It’s time for this madness to stop,” Rhoads said.

It wasn’t just Albany lawmakers showing up over the weekend — U.S. Rep. Anthony D’Esposito was at the Mineola station as well, calling congestion pricing a burden for the working class.

“Gov. Hochul’s misguided congestion pricing plan is nothing more than a new tax on already overtaxed New Yorkers,” he said.

Hochul’s office did not respond to a request for comment.

Powell says the congestion plan punishes commuters for not taking mass transit, and adds that the MTA should develop a better plan encouraging commuters to use buses, subways or trains.

“It’s costly enough on Long Island,” Powell said. “The governor seems to think that we’re the Hamptons.”

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Lisa Forgione is a 'dynamo' for Glen Cove

By **ROKSANA AMID**

ramid@liherald.com

In the heart of Glen Cove, the St. Patrick's Day parade has been a longstanding tradition, bringing people together to celebrate Irish culture and heritage. At the helm of this annual event for the past 25 years has been Lisa Forgione, a dynamic and dedicated individual who has left an indelible mark on the parade and the community at large.

In recognition of her extensive community service, Forgione was awarded the Nassau County Hibernians Woman of the Year. However, she remains humble about her contributions, emphasizing the joy she feels from helping others and the warmth of the community she calls home.

Forgione serving as the parade's chairwoman, is a member of the Nassau County and Glen Cove Division of the Ladies Ancient Order of Hibernians, and a leader in the Irish Feis and Festival committee. She is also a Parishioner and volunteer at St. Patrick's Church.

She's often seen coordinating meetings, arranging transportation, and securing the parade route with local authorities.

Known affectionately as "the whip," a nickname playfully bestowed upon her by fellow parade committee members like Andy Stafford, Forgione's leadership style contrasts with the moniker.

"She's so easygoing and so level-headed," Stafford explained. "She doesn't really get too excited, she's just fun."

Stafford went on to say Forgione is a beacon of stability within the community, and her dedication extends beyond parade preparations; she actively engages in community affairs, keeping members informed through emails, texts, and group meetings.

As Forgione continues to dedicate her time and energy to the betterment of Glen Cove, she remains a testament to the strength and spirit of a community deeply rooted in its history and committed to shaping a positive future.

Born in 1960, Forgione comes from a long line of Glen Cove residents. Her father, Louis "Buzz" Bartley, and her grandfather, Raymond Bartley, both called Glen Cove home, with both men born in the same house on Coles Street. Buzz, known for his childhood nickname, was a beloved figure in the community, and even in death, he continued to be affectionately remembered as "Buzzy" by the locals.

The Bartley family's journey to Glen Cove can be traced back to Forgione's grandmother, who was an orphan in Ireland. In the late 1800s, she made her way to the United States, eventually settling in Glen Cove around 1915 or 1916. Raymond Bartley worked as a chauffeur for the Tungsten family, driving Li Tungsten, a notable figure in Manhattan's restaurant scene. It was through this connection that he met Forgione's grandmother.

Forgione herself has been deeply



Laura Lane/ Herald

Jeanine DiMenna, from The View Grill, an 'honorary Hibernian,' joined parade organizer Lisa Forgione and Hibernian treasurer Andrew Stafford to have a little fun during the pre-parade brunch in 2017.

ingrained in the fabric of Glen Cove. Growing up in the tight-knit community, she attended Glen Cove schools, and her childhood memories are filled with days spent at Morgan Park, exploring Garvies Point, and enjoying the camaraderie of her neighbors in the Landing.

After high school, Forgione married her late husband Jim at the age of 19. While she didn't pursue a college education, she became an active volunteer in the community. She worked part-time as a waitress at Stango's, a century-old restaurant on Grove Street, but she mainly devoted herself to raising her three children; Darla, Joseph and Leanna.

Throughout her life, Forgione continued to be a dedicated volunteer, serving as the PTA president for the North Shore School District. Her commitment to community service extended beyond her family, as she worked with organizations such as the Nassau County Hibernians.

Robert Lynch, former parade chairman and longtime acquaintance of Forgione said she's been a driving force behind the scenes. "She's been in the forefront of a group of women who have become heavily involved in the parade's organization, expanding its reach and impact," Lynch explained. Reflecting on Lisa's character, Lynch chose a single word: "Dynamo." He elaborated, "She's a dynamo – full of energy, enthusiasm, and the ability to tackle challenges head-on. No problem fazes her; she just goes about getting the job done."

Forgione spent 25 years working in fundraising at SCO Family of Services, retiring in March 2023. When she was first hired, her late husband had joked that she was finally getting paid to do what she already does, care for her community.

"I'm never looking for a thank you or anything, so I was shocked when I was said Woman of the Year," Forgione said. "It just gives you a warm feeling, knowing that you helped somebody."



Let us hear from you!

We want to know what you think.
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HERALD PUBLIC NOTICES

LEGAL NOTICE
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, that a Special Council meeting will be held on January 1, 2024 immediately following the 1:00 p.m. inauguration ceremony, in City of Glen Cove, City Hall Main Chambers, 9 Glen Street, Glen Cove, New York.
Tina Pemberton
City Clerk
143967

LEGAL NOTICE
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, that a Special Pre-Council meeting will be held on December 26, 2023, at 6:00 p.m., in the second-floor conference room, at 9 Glen Street, Glen Cove, New York.
Tina Pemberton
City Clerk
143968

LEGAL NOTICE
VILLAGE OF LATTINGTOWN PLANNING BOARD PUBLIC NOTICE
A public hearing will be held by and before the Planning Board of the Incorporated Village of Lattigtown, Nassau County, New York, on January 9, 2024 at 6:00 p.m., at the Village Hall - 299 Lattigtown Road in the Village.

The hearing will be on the application of Vincent DeJana, owner of a 2.05-acre parcel of land located on the southerly side of Meudon Drive in the Village, also known as Section 30, Block 45 Lot 25 on the Nassau County Land and Tax Map and located in the Village's R-2A (2-acre) zoning district. The Applicant seeks a Freshwater Wetlands Development Permit and Tree Removal Permit to permit the construction of a single-family dwelling with driveway, inground swimming pool, patios and other appurtenant structures, along with drainage and sanitary

systems for the proposed dwelling, all of which will occur within a regulated freshwater wetland as defined in Village Code Section 161-2, and as shown on the site plan entitled "Landscape, Tree Removal & Tree Protection Plan..." prepared by Michael Michel, RLA and last dated July 25, 2023.

The above application is on file at Humes & Wagner, LLP, Attorneys for the Village, 147 Forest Avenue Locust Valley, New York 11560, where it may be seen by appointment during the hours of 9:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m., Monday through Friday until the time of the hearing.

All interested persons will be given an opportunity to be heard at said time and place. If any individual requires special assistance to attend, please notify the Village Clerk at least 48 hours in advance of the hearing.
Eric Carlstrom
Chairman
P-140
December 20, 2023
December 22, 2023
143966

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LEGAL NOTICE
REFEREE'S NOTICE OF SALE IN FORECLOSURE SUPREME COURT - COUNTY OF NASSAU
US BANK NATIONAL ASSOCIATION, AS TRUSTEE FOR CITIGROUP MORTGAGE LOAN TRUST, INC., MORTGAGE PASS-THROUGH CERTIFICATES, SERIES 2006-4, Plaintiff - against - LARRY BLUMSTEIN, et al Defendant(s). Pursuant to a Judgment of Foreclosure and Sale entered on April 2, 2019, I, the undersigned Referee will sell at public auction on the North Side steps of the Nassau County Supreme Court located at 100 Supreme Court Drive, Mineola,

N.Y. 11501 "Rain or Shine" on the 23rd day of January, 2024 at 2:00 PM. All that certain plot, piece or parcel of land, with the buildings and improvements thereon erected, situate, lying and being in the Incorporated Village of Sea Cliff, Town of Oyster Bay, County of Nassau and State of New York.

Premises known as 1 Richardson Avenue, Sea Cliff, NY 11579. (Section: 21, Block: 222, Lot: 431) Approximate amount of lien \$624,040.05 plus interest and costs. Premises will be sold subject to provisions of filed judgment and terms of sale.
Index No. 018968/2009. Malachy P. Lyons, Esq., Referee.

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Dated: November 17, 2023

During the COVID-19 health emergency, bidders are required to comply with all governmental health requirements in effect at the time of sale including but not limited to, wearing face coverings and maintaining social distancing (at least 6-feet apart) during the auction, while tendering deposit and at any subsequent closing. Bidders are also required to comply with the Foreclosure Auction Rules and COVID-19 Health Emergency Rules issued by the Supreme Court of this County in addition to the conditions set forth in the Terms of Sale.
143810

LEGAL NOTICE
NOTICE OF SALE
SUPREME COURT
COUNTY OF NASSAU
JPMorgan Chase Bank, National Association, Plaintiff
AGAINST
Barbara Lowell a/k/a Barbara C. Lowell; et al., Defendant(s)

Pursuant to a Judgment of Foreclosure and Sale duly entered October 3, 2023 I, the undersigned Referee will sell at public auction at the North Side Steps of the Nassau County Supreme Court at 100 Supreme Court Drive, Mineola, NY 11501 on January 24, 2024 at 2:00PM, premises known as 3 Westgate Court, 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, State of New York, Section 23 Block D Lot 31.

Approximate amount of judgment \$243,046.89 plus interest and costs. Premises will be sold subject to provisions of filed Judgment Index# 611517/2022. The auction will be conducted pursuant to the COVID-19 Policies Concerning Public Auctions of Foreclosed Property established by the Tenth Judicial District. Foreclosure Auctions will be held "Rain or Shine."
Jane P. Shrenkel, Esq., Referee
LOGS Legal Group LLP
Attorney(s) for the Plaintiff
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OPINIONS

I'll trade the university presidents for the Jersey QB

The exalted halls of academia and the grit of the football gridiron have never been more distant from one another than in recent weeks. The presidents of Harvard, the University of Pennsylvania and MIT, who testified before Congress, demonstrated a startling disconnect from everyday Americans, while a previously unknown Italian-American, the New



PETER KING

York Giants' third-string quarterback, who's from a blue-collar family with working-class New Jersey neighborhood values, has engendered massive support not just from football fans, but from Americans who want to feel good about themselves and their country.

The university presidents' inability to answer the basic question of whether promoting antisemitism or advocating genocide against Jews would violate university regulations against harassment was indefensible. And it wasn't

just their contorted First Amendment rationale that was so offensive to many Americans — it was their cavalier, entirely unemotional, almost robotic attitudes and delivery.

I disagreed with their legal position. I do not believe that the First Amendment prevents a university from setting standards of conduct and enforcing them. The amendment protects individuals from governmental action taken against them for expression of views, no matter how offensive or vile, not universities setting rules of conduct.

I can understand honest disagreement with my position. What I could not understand was the indifference these educators displayed. It were almost as if they were discussing an abstract hypothetical issue in a faculty lounge. There was no mention of the atrocities carried out by Hamas against innocent Israeli men, women and children on Oct. 7. The murders, rapes and mutilations. Average Americans, whether or not they are

Jewish, were horrified by this barbarity. Nor was there any mention of the Holocaust. Or of mankind's commitment to "Never again."

It was almost as if combating antisemitism was no longer a fashionable academic cause. This would be in contrast to what these academics would have said and done if racist statements had been made or Ku Klux Klan pamphlets distributed on their campuses in the aftermath of George Floyd's killing by Minneapolis police.

Tommy DeVito was a college quarterback who wasn't drafted by any NFL team. He signed on with the Giants as the third-string quarterback, which means he was the guy on the sidelines who carried the clipboard. He was unexpectedly called into action against the Jets when both quarterbacks ahead of him on the depth chart were injured.

After being severely restricted by the coaching staff as to how many passes he could throw, DeVito was turned loose

in late November and ran up a string of three clutch, upset victories. But as much as his performance on the field commanded attention, it was where he came from that was off the charts. He lives at home with his proud Italian-American family just a few miles from MetLife Stadium.

He's a classic blue-collar guy with blue-collar friends. He eats chicken cutlets cooked by his mother. He's nicknamed Tommy Cutlets. His agent dresses in black and wears a fedora, straight out of "Goodfellas." There's no pretense or showboating. DeVito is totally genuine. A 21st-century Rocky.

I was a Giants fan, going back to the days of Charlie Conerly, Frank Gifford and Sam Huff, until I was turned off by the NFL going woke. Now, like so many others, I was drawn back in by the Tommy Cutlets phenomenon. No politics. No posturing. Just a blue-collar guy playing hard. A real-life guy with a real family and friends. So unlike the university presidents in their ivory towers.

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

They couldn't have been less inspiring. He couldn't have been more so.

A love and a smile beyond dementia

I'll never forget the last time I saw my stepmother, even though by then she'd already forgotten me.

It was last year in the Florida hospice center Helen had lived in since before the coronavirus pandemic, when she required round-the-clock care that my father — back then pushing 90 himself — could no longer provide.



MICHAEL HINMAN

At first it was a missed meal, a forgotten hair appointment. But then Helen would forget to take her insulin. At that point we could no longer call it absentmindedness and blame it on all the medication she took. Dementia was taking its grip on

Helen, and it was a battle none of us had any chance of winning.

Watching my stepmother fade was just cruel, for all of us. Helen still had that beautiful smile. She would still look at you with wonder. And she had a laugh that would echo through your mind for hours after you heard it. But

the Helen we all knew and loved was no longer inside. It broke all of our hearts.

Helen was hardly alone. Nearly 6 million people in the United States suffer from Alzheimer's disease or some other form of dementia, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention — nearly all of them 65 and older.

That number will only grow, with an estimated 14 million expected to become victims of this condition by 2050, when I'll be in my 70s myself.

Almost all of us have been touched by dementia in our families or our circle of friends. And there really is nothing we can do except always have a smile in front of them, make sure all their needs are met, and do our best to show how much we love them.

Early in Helen's decline, we had picked up my younger sister from the airport. My dad's van had a space up front for Helen's wheelchair, because she always insisted on being by his side.

"How is Karel doing in medical school?" my stepmother asked me, referring to my partner at the time.

"He's fantastic," I told her. "He'll be a doctor before we know it."

We moved on to other family happenings, but then, out of nowhere, Helen spoke up again.

"How is Karel doing in medical school?"

My sister looked over at me, a bit panicked about how I should react. But I didn't miss a beat.

"He's fantastic," I told her. "He'll be a doctor before we know it."

Later, my sister said she was blown away by how I handled the repeat question. It had happened a few more times with different topics, but each time Helen received calm answers, as if she had asked only once.

"If we get frustrated with her, she'll get confused and upset, because she doesn't know why we're frustrated," I told my sister. "All we can do is roll with it."

And that's all we can do. We just have to roll with it, despite how much it hurts to lose someone right before your eyes.

Which takes me back to that last

My stepmom had a laugh that would echo through your mind for hours.

visit at hospice. My dad was smiling at Helen, who at that point was barely verbal. He held her hands in his, talking about church. Talking about how beautifully they made up her hair. Through all of it, she just looked at my dad, occasionally letting out a laugh.

And then my dad paused, tears welling up in his eyes, but he refused to take that smile off his face.

"I love you," he said to her.

Helen looked at him for a moment, struggling to get the words out. But she did, even if they were slurred a bit.

"I love you, too."

Helen Wood Hinman died on Nov. 1, just two months shy of her 95th birthday. Although many of us had said our goodbyes to her long ago, her passing was still difficult.

I share the Helen of later years here with you because talking about dementia is important. But I choose to remember the Helen before the dementia. Who came into my father's life during one of his darkest periods, and shared a love most of us could only imagine.

A love so deep, not even the cruelest of diseases could conquer it.

Michael Hinman is executive editor of Herald Community Newspapers.

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HERALD EDITORIAL

Are you making the same resolutions again?

As we prepare to welcome in 2024, we find ourselves in that annual position of thinking about what we accomplished in the past year, and setting some goals for the months ahead — many times, some pretty lofty ones.

Maybe we simply want to make more time for our family. Cook more at home this year. Lose a few pounds. Hit the gym more often.

It's possible that we're thinking about tucking the credit cards away except when it's time to pay them off. Or we're going to focus on finding that great next job that advances our career.

Every resolution is made with the best of intentions. But even that can't stop the inevitable. Fewer than 10 percent of the resolutions we make for the new year will be fulfilled, according to one study by U.S. News & World Report. And with that failure likely comes the fall of another resolution many of us might make: feeling a sense of accomplishment by succeeding at what we set our minds to.

Why do we struggle so much to achieve our resolutions? Well, it might start with the fact that we're making them at the start of the year, instead of doing it when we need to change something about ourselves. Remembering the time we stretched a paycheck because we spent too much money eating out is much better motivation to eat at home in

the future than simply fulfilling some tradition of setting goals because we have to buy a new calendar.

But that's not the only reason we fail. Many of the goals we set are just not realistic. Instead of looking for a smaller goal along the way to a larger one, we just shoot straight for the top. Afterward, we scratch our heads, wondering why we didn't manage to buy a new car, when we first needed to seek the promotion that would give us the necessary raise to buy one.

We also fail to be specific about what our goals are. We say we simply want to live healthier, instead of defining exactly what that means. Even then, we may say "eat better" or "exercise more," instead of "I'm going to cut out desserts," or "I pledge to walk two miles every day."

At the same time, we fail to make a specific plan to achieve those goals. If we're going to walk two miles every day, at what time of day? Where? If it's raining, what's our backup? Who can we ask to come walk with us and make sure we do it?

In fact, that accountability is another variable many of us neglect when setting resolutions. It's easy to make excuses to ourselves — but much more difficult to find excuses with our friends and family. Making sure someone is willing to call you out is a good way to increase your chances that you might actually

succeed in what you set out to do.

And the worst obstacle of all to achieving our New Year's goals? Pure impatience. We want to fit into that suit or that dress, and if it doesn't happen by February, we simply conclude that it's never going to happen.

Meeting important goals take time, and achieving results is much more meaningful if we take the necessary time to get there.

And think about recording each resolution somewhere other than your mind. Dr. Gail Matthews, a psychology professor at Dominican University in California, found that you are 42 percent more likely to achieve your goal if you write it down.

But even with all this advice, there's a good chance that come this time next year, you'll be setting the same goals once again. And that's OK, as long as you don't give up because you didn't achieve them before. Maybe think about a different approach, or whether the change you're looking for is what you really want, or even need.

"If you don't like something, change it," the poet and civil right activist Maya Angelou once said. "If you can't change it, change your attitude."

A new year could very well mean a new you. But let's all go into 2024 with our eyes wide open, and with a smart plan to achieve everything we set out to do.

LETTERS

Rediscovering our unity won't be easy

To the Editor:

Re Peter King's column "Americans must rediscover our unity" in the Dec. 7-13 issue: Representative King's call to do "all that we can to reverse this road toward perpetual division" is timely. First, we must realize that unity is not a thing to be "rediscovered," like a stray sheep, but a thing to be constructed with plan, purpose and common effort. America's mission to make a "more perfect union" is plainly an act of common, inclusive effort.

Second, we must be mindful that unity, in America, has the flip side of compromise. Unity is derived from compromise, through forging majority support and fellowship. The return road to unity begins by denying support to those who mistake unity for conformity, a forced compliance.

The candidate who labels electoral rivals as "enemy" or "vermin," civil servants as an "evil" to be driven out foments disunity. Suggesting edits to our Constitution, an end to birthright citizenship, planning for internment camps and media censorship are attacks on unity. Denying the



OPINIONS

Hydrogen: a clean, secure future for New York

On Dec. 13, the Long Island Power Authority board voted yet again to approve a raise in electric rates, this time over 11 percent for next year. Long Islanders have little choice but to absorb these price increases, as they have before.

At the same time, the state is scrambling toward goals set by the Climate Leadership and Community Protection Act that it seems unlikely to meet, while outdated and costly-to-operate power plants continue to pollute our state day after day. Meanwhile, New York's landscape



**JAKE
BLUMENCRAZ**

is a giant crime scene, littered with the bodies of countless dead renewable projects, opposed in town after town by locals who don't want their fisheries destroyed, their forests cut down, or their quality of life ruined.

What's worse, according to the New York Independent Systems Operator's own analysis, the New York City area could have "a deficit as large as 446 megawatts as early as summer 2025." We have begun construction of our first

offshore wind farms, but at the current rate of deployment, wind can never be a reasonable path to a decarbonized future on its own. Solar generation is an important part of any diversified energy portfolio, but it also cannot shoulder the massive burden of powering New York alone. We need to continue to encourage solar and wind development, but we must also confront their current limitations.

New York must embrace energy diversification, and the point of convergence for all the various renewable or decarbonized forms of energy — from hydroelectric dams to nuclear power plants, and from wind farms to the solar panels that countless New Yorkers

have on their roofs — is hydrogen.

Hydrogen is the most abundant substance in the universe. If you stand at any point along New York's Great Lakes coastline, keep in mind that the primary way in which hydrogen is generated

is electrolysis, a process in which you run an electric current over water and then collect the hydrogen that splits out. So all that water is our potential fuel source. When you combust hydrogen as a power source, all that is released is water vapor. So it is a nearly infinitely renewable, there is a nearly infinite amount of it, and it is 100 percent decarbonized.

Best of all, New York has already financed a massive network of natural gas pipelines to transport heating fuel across the state and into people's homes, and researchers in Sweden and elsewhere are developing the standards for converting that infrastructure so it can carry hydrogen blends or even pure hydrogen for home

heating.

Hydrogen is not a solution by itself. Rather, it is an energy source that can be created using the excess energy from other, renewable energy sources. That creation is known as "green" hydrogen. "Pink" hydrogen, created by using excess energy from nuclear power plants, is similarly benign. And recent discoveries of massive pockets of naturally occurring "white" hydrogen are also set to change its economic viability.

Hydrogen is not a monolithic solution, but it is a clean, locally sourced, near-infinite energy source that can meet New York's consumption needs, help the state toward its "30 by 30" CLCPA goal, and provide jobs, reliability and energy independence. The state should embrace hydrogen, and leverage its unmatched intellectual capital, manufacturing potential, and access to the world's waterways to become a center for hydrogen technology development and manufacturing.

Jake Blumencranz represents the 15th Assembly District.

It is a locally sourced, near-infinite energy source that can meet our needs.

LETTERS

results of an election, supporting violence against government, the press and fellow citizens is to deny democracy. Campaign promises of retribution are avowals of disunity, and claims to seek the office of dictator for a day have no place on our ballot.

The current operation of the House exemplifies compromise-free governance, ideology supersedes the common good, demands become total, and Sen. Tommy Tuberville becomes a mini-autocrat. Our speaker derives all his principles from the Bible, a work that has no regard for constitutions, and supports miscreants like George Santos.

The unity occasioned by the 9/11 attacks should be remade despite the current attacks on our institutions. Power must be denied to advocates of disunity.

BRIAN KELLY
Rockville Centre

Long Islanders must protect our water supply

Dear Dr. Susan Poser:

As Long Island's population grows, so does the amount of pesticides and fertilizers being used. Water is central to Long Island. Unfortunately, the issue of water contamination is all too relevant to the people of New York.

PFAS, the "forever chemical," is

found in half of the tap water in the U.S. PFAS has been linked to a multitude of health problems, such as cancer and an overall weakened immune system. Grassroots Environmental Education states, "Recent reports of significant pollution, both in our aquifers and our surface waters, should be of concern to everyone living on the Island." Steps need to be taken in order to transition to uncontaminated water, something that every person deserves to have.

This might seem like a problem that is out of citizens' hands, but there are small acts that individuals can do to limit the amount of chemicals being leached into the water: You can support regulations that ban high-nitrogen fertilizers and ensure that no chemical pesticides are used to maintain their lawns. If you're in possession of a hazardous chemical, don't pour it down the drain; instead, learn the proper way to dispose of it. Finally, trying to conserve water is also essential, because our source of clean drinking water is not infinite.

Going about everyday life with care and intention will positively impact our environment. These actions will make a substantial difference in keeping the water everyone utilizes clean and chemical-free.

GENEVIEVE HAMMATT
*Grassroots Environmental Education
Port Washington*

FRAMEWORK by Tim Baker



At the Rescuing Families Winter Wonderland Walk-Through - Franklin Square

CORRECTION

U.S. Rep. Anthony D'Esposito recently hosted a telephone-only town hall for his constituents. A story that appeared in last week's issue mischaracterized the format of the town hall.

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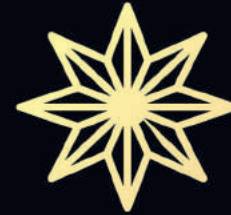
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