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Roksana Amid/Herald

It was a difficult Christmas for Carlos Vazquez and his family, after Vinny, a registered emotional-support animal, went missing on Dec. 20. He was finally captured in a trap on Duck Pond Road at 4:44 a.m. on Dec. 27.

Man, dog are reunited

Vinny finally comes home

By **ROKSANA AMID**

ramid@liherald.com

After the distribution of countless flyers around Glen Cove, multiple social media posts and repeated canvassing of the city's neighborhoods, the frantic seven-day search for Vinny, a 15-month-old labradoodle, finally ended on Dec. 27.

It was a difficult Christmas for Carlos Vazquez and his family, after Vinny, a registered emotional-support animal, went missing on Dec. 20, escaping from a friend's home in Glen Cove. The family had owned the dog since September 2022 — just weeks before a catastrophe that changed Vazquez's relationship with Vinnie forever.

On the morning of Oct. 6, 2022, Vazquez, a crossing guard for the Glen Cove City school district had just ushered a group of children across Dosoris Lane, outside Deasy Elementary School, when he was struck from behind by an SUV driven by an 82-year-old Bayville man and thrown 20 feet in the air before landing on a cement sidewalk. Vazquez, who has a prosthetic leg from an accident nearly 30 years ago,

CONTINUED ON PAGE 6

Getting a good night's sleep without a hose or a mask

By **LAURA LANE**

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A small device roughly the size of a pacemaker is changing the lives of people suffering from moderate to severe obstructive sleep apnea.

The device, Inspire, which does not require a hose or mask — components in a CPAP machine — is battery operated, utilizing a neurostimulator implanted surgically under the skin in the upper right portion of a patient's chest. Its sensor stimulates the tongue to contract and move forward, thereby opening the obstructed airway.

The Inspire device is activated by the patient using a remote control. Its degree of stimulation is gradual, also controlled by the patient.

Dr. Harley Greenberg, a pulmonologist and sleep medicine physician at Glen Cove Hospital, said he's seen much success among his patients who had Inspire implanted.

"Some people find the sensation a little strange, but they get used to it," he said. "When you turn it on, it has a start delay so it stays off when the patient is falling asleep. Then it turns on."

Patients experience a month's recovery after the sur-

gery. Then they go to their doctor's office where the device is programmed to determine the degree of electrical stimulation needed to advance the tongue forward and open the airway.

"Then the patient is sent home with the device, and they have complete control of it," Greenberg said. "We retest with sleep studies to see how effective it has been in treating their sleep apnea."

Sleep apnea, which causes snoring and restless sleep, can be more than annoying. Untreated, it can cause cardiovascular disease, is linked to diabetes, hypertension, high blood pressure, kidney prob-

lems and increases the risk for heart attack four and a half times greater than a person who smokes cigarettes. Sleep apnea is also linked to strokes, loss of short-term memory and daytime sleepiness.

Glen Cove Hospital surgeon Dr. Mark Shikowitz, who specializes in otolaryngology, said Inspire is better than any other

procedure available for people with obstructive sleep apnea.

"Our success rate is 92 percent," he said. "With a CPAP machine, which uses air pressure to push through the obstructed area, compliance is 50 percent. With this device people improve or are cured."

Stephen Tarnofsky, of Mer-

CONTINUED ON PAGE 4

Loans offer financial lifeline after flooding

January 4, 2024 — GLEN COVE HERALD

By JUAN LASSO

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The lingering remnants from Tropical Storm Ophelia — which dumped intense rainfall on Nassau County late last September — left a number of businesses and homeowners to pick up the pieces.

Dozens of Long Island homes were drenched, basements and personal property swallowed up. Businesses like Valbrook Diner in Valley Stream lumbered back to life in the ensuing clean-up after losing thousands in food, lost work for employees, and a damaged roof.

But some measure of financial relief, announced last month, is now available.

The federal government is offering up to \$500,000 in low-interest home repair loans through the Small Business Administration. Businesses could be eligible for much more to replace lost inventory and equipment.

The final deadline to apply is Feb. 2, at [SBA.gov](https://www.sba.gov) website.

Gov. Kathy Hochul described the federal relief program as one that is aimed at “helping to alleviate the impacts of the flooding to all areas of our state affected by extreme weather events.”

When faced with the dilemma of how to pay for costly repairs and reconstruction after a disaster, federal loans provide a financial buffer otherwise made unavailable by standard loan and credit



Herald file photo

Nassau County households and business owners who took damage from last year's September flood have until Feb. 2 to apply for low-interest federal relief loans.

programs.

The problem of hefty interest rates sometimes incurred when financing repairs with conventional credit cards, for example, can be largely avoided through SBA loans, argued SBA spokeswoman Sharon Gadbois. That, she adds, is the biggest boon for homeowners and businesses.

“The interest rate for homeowners and renters can be as low 2.5 percent compared with say, 20 percent on a credit card,” Gadbois said. “That’s a big difference. That’s thousands of dollars you would avoid having to pay up.”

The SBA also can offer an interest-free repayment window at the start of the loan — usually for 12 months — and

generally, borrowers have up to 30 years to pay it off.

“When people go through some kind of catastrophic event such as flooding or a tornado that disrupts their home or lifestyle at home, it’s almost like there’s a little mini tornado going on in their mind,” Gadbois said. “And, so, everything stops. The spending stops. They have to redistribute or reassess what’s going on.”

Often that “reassessing” comes in the form of tightening their spending bills, laying off staff, or rolling back their business expenses, she said. The SBA loans are intended to reduce or reverse this financial downturn by stabilizing people’s expectations of their financial future, and thus keep their budgets in order and their businesses afloat.

But other forces at play may make these loans more appealing over others. Those already weighed down with repaying multiple credit cards or credit card loans may be less willing to take on more debt, no matter how generous the terms of repayment.

But Gadbois says it’s better to apply and have the option than to be shut out entirely.

“If you’re approved for the loan, you have up to 60 days to decide whether you want to take it or not,” she said. “Applying before the deadline is important because it preserves your options for you and your family.”

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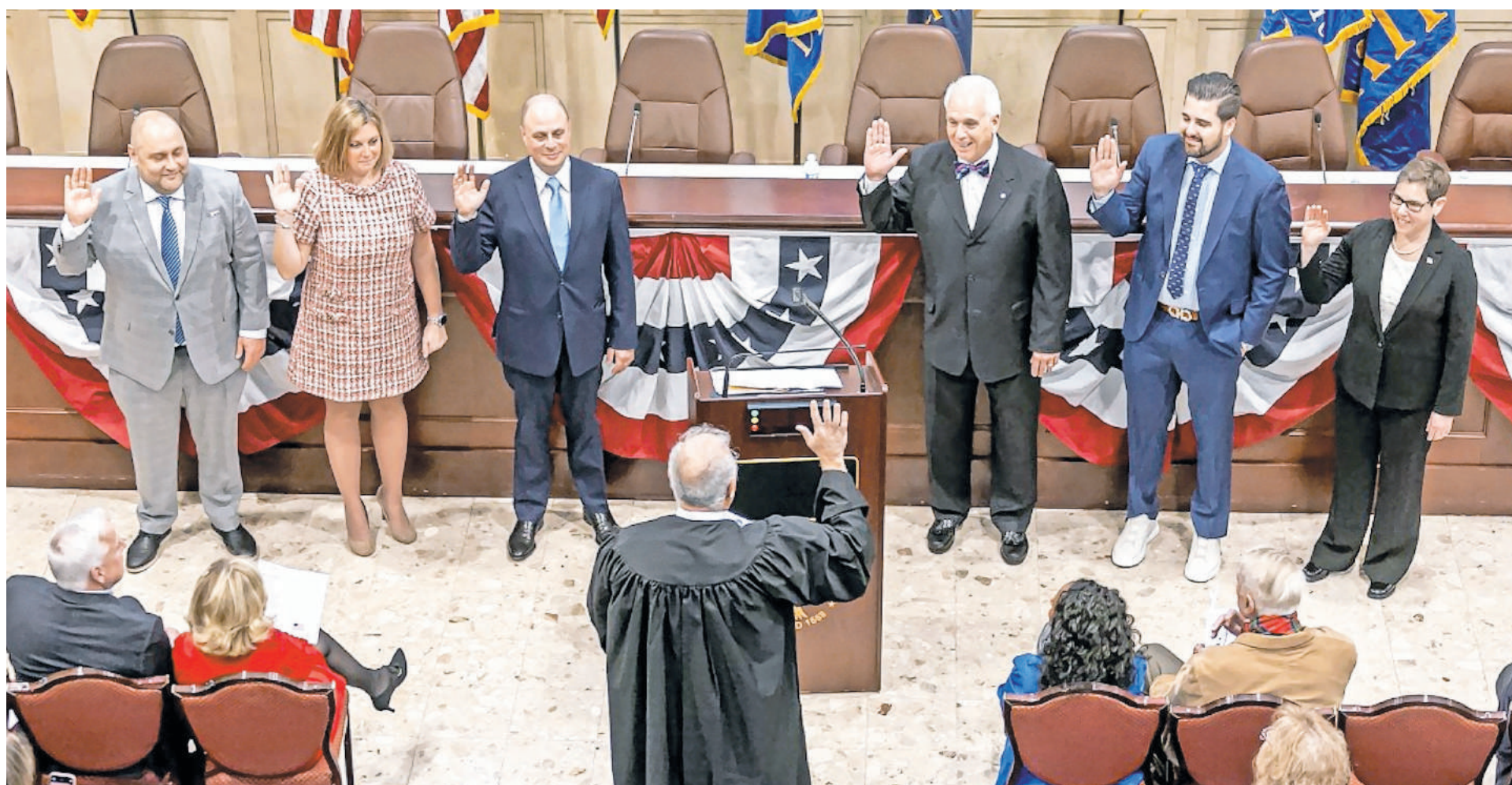
The Employee Retention Tax Credit (ERTC) is one of the best kept secrets around and was recently expanded to benefit more businesses. Even if you received a PPP loan, you can still qualify for this federal Covid-19 benefit.

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Courtesy Delia DeRiggi-Whitton

Members of the City Council were sworn in by Joseph Capobianco, a former councilman and current city judge.

City of Glen Cove ushers in a new chapter

By **ROKSANA AMID**

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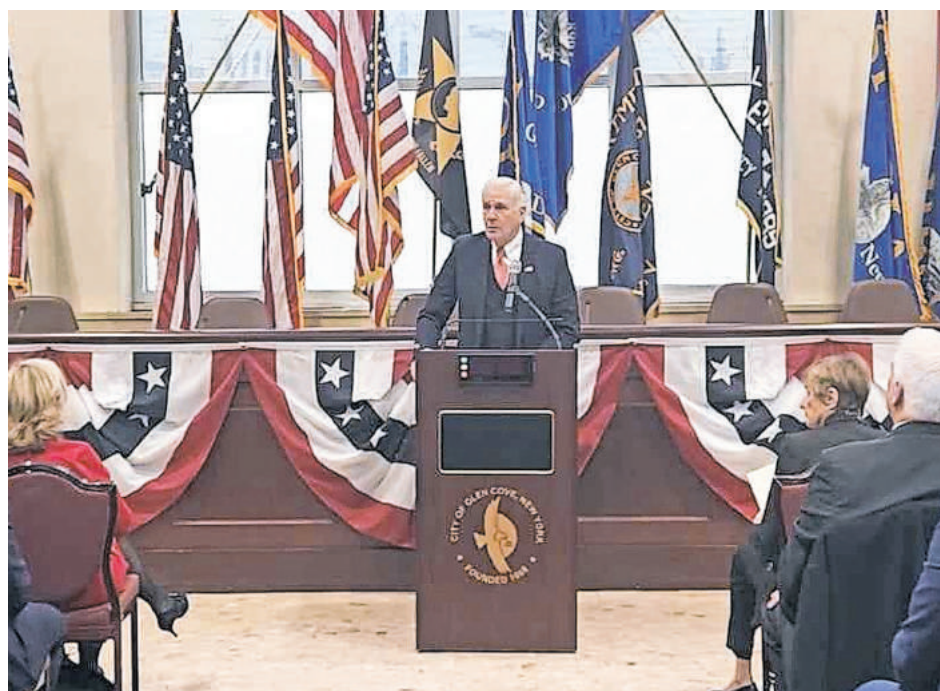
Pamela Panzenbeck once again took the oath of office as the city's mayor on Saturday afternoon at Glen Cove City Hall. This is Panzenbeck's second consecutive term as mayor.

Sunshine and warm weather helped usher in a number of honored guests, residents, families and friends who attended the inauguration ceremony, where Glen Cove City Council members Grady Farnan, Michael Ktistakis, Kevin Maccarone, Danielle Fugazy-Scagliola, Marsha Silverman, and John Zozzaro were also sworn into office.

To get the ceremony underway were the presentation of colors and Glen Cove resident and advocate for veterans Eva Casale, who led the Pledge of Allegiance and the National Anthem, sung by Shye Roberts. John Maccarone was the event's Master of Ceremonies.

Guests included: Bruce Blakeman, Nassau County Executive; Elaine Phillips, Nassau County Comptroller; Charles D. Lavine, NYS Assemblyman; Jake Blumencranz, NYS Assemblymember; Thomas P. DiNapoli, NYS Comptroller; Delia DeRiggi-Whitton, Nassau County Legislator and minority leader; Joseph Capobianco, Glen Cove City Judge; Stuart R. Jablonski, Glen Cove City Judge; Father Gabriel Rach, of St. Patrick's Church; and Rabbi Irwin Huberman of Congregation Tifereth Israel.

In her speech, Panzenbeck reflected on her many close relationships in the community, and her background in edu-



Bruce Blakeman, the Nassau County Executive, congratulated Pamela Panzenbeck and the City Council on their victories.

cation, focusing on youth involvement in the inauguration and city events, reminding attendees that youth are the future of Glen Cove.

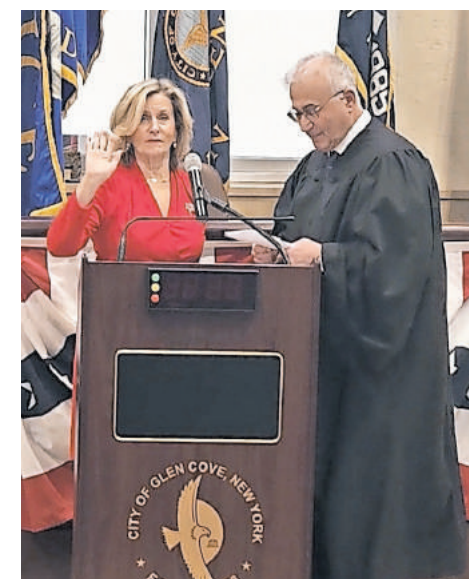
After expressing her deepest gratitude towards city employees, departments and first responders, Panzenbeck thanked Carlos Vasquez for his time as a school crossing guard after he was struck by an SUV last year while on duty.

Panzenbeck said the greatest compliment she has ever received is being called the mayor of the people, some-

thing she's always strived to be.

"I want to express my deepest gratitude towards the people of the city for placing their trust in me," Panzenbeck said during her speech. "I am truly humbled in your faith in my ability and the responsibility bestowed upon me. I pledge to serve each and every one of you with dedication, integrity and a steadfast commitment to the betterment of our community."

Panzenbeck highlighted her accomplishments, but emphasized they wouldn't be possible without the hard



Roksana Amid/Herald photos

Pamela Panzenbeck, left, was sworn in as the city's mayor for a second consecutive term by Judge Joseph Capobianco.

work and dedication of the city's employees. She expressed the pride she felt towards the city, and spoke of the many generations her family spent as residents of the city.

"This is a job that no one can do without an army behind you," Panzenbeck said. "The strengths and values that define us, we are a tremendously diverse, resilient community that has overcome challenges in the past. It is the same spirit that will guide us into a future filled with promise and opportunity. I cannot think of any better place to raise a family."

Implant eradicates obstructive sleep apnea

January 4, 2024 – GLEN COVE HERALD

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

rick, used a CPAP machine to treat his sleep apnea for roughly eight years. He experienced a variety of problems.

“I was on blood thinners and found mucus in the morning with blood in it,” Tarnofsky said. “I’d also wake up very dry and sometimes have to drink water in the middle of the night. And keeping the machine clean was also a problem.”

Most people with sleep apnea sleep with their mouth open, he said. For him using the mask that covered his mouth and nose was never comfortable. At one time he was able to sleep seven hours. With a CPAP machine Tarnofsky was only clocking in five hours a night because the machine would wake him up.

Although traditionally people use a CPAP machine to treat sleep apnea, Shikowitz has used other techniques, some more invasive than others. Sometimes simply having large tonsils removed will cure sleep apnea. In other instances, surgery is performed where the soft palate is trimmed or tightened to expand a patient’s airway. Years ago, he

said, he performed a tracheotomy, which was lifesaving.

“If someone has a tongue that falls back, we’ve done procedures where we’ve either pulled the jaw forward or actually sutured the back of the tongue forward to underneath the jaw,” Shikowitz said. “There are many different combinations of procedures depending on the individual patient and the individual’s problem that is causing the airway obstruction.”

A CPAP machine mask which is hooked up to a compressor where air is forced into one’s airways can be uncomfortable, especially if a patient has a physical obstruction, like a thick tongue or deviated septum. Additionally, people who are claustrophobic may find the machine difficult to tolerate.

Although Inspire, which was approved by the Food and Drug Administration in 2014, has helped many, there are stringent requirements that must be met before becoming eligible.

“You have to have a sleep study, a drug-induced endoscopy, you can be fat but not too fat, and the sleep apnea can

The good thing is I don’t snore now. I really don’t see any downside to having it.

STEPHEN TARNOFSKY
Merrick,
Inspire patient



Courtesy Glen Cove Hospital

Glen Cove Hospital’s Dr. Mark Shikowitz performed surgery on Stephen Tarnofsky on Oct. 24 to eradicate his obstructive sleep apnea utilizing Inspire, an implant that opens the obstructed airway.

be bad but not too bad,” Shikowitz said. “You also have to fail other more standard therapies like CPAP. Insurance companies won’t approve the surgery if you can sleep with a CPAP mask. And to qualify, your airway has to collapse in only the front to back direction.”

While the requirements are numerous, Shikowitz said many people meet all of the parameters.

Doctors ask for his help as well. They won’t move forward with a surgery until the patient has their sleep apnea under control.

“People who do cardiac ablations (to treat heart arrhythmias) want us to fix the sleep apnea because they know there won’t be a high rate of success if the patient has sleep apnea,” Shikowitz explained.

Shikowitz says the surgery is well tolerated with very few side effects. Afterwards patients are given pain medication for four to five days while they heal with some people feeling 100 percent better in a few days, and others up to a week.

On Oct. 24 Tarnofsky became the 200th patient at Glen Cove Hospital to have the Inspire device implanted. It was activated on Nov. 30.

Tarnofsky said he’s doing fine.

“It pushes your tongue out but when you are asleep you don’t feel it,” he said.

“The good thing is I don’t snore now. I really don’t see any downside to having it. I recommend people have it done.”

For further information on Inspire, call Shikowitz’s office at (516) 470-7550.

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Home Care with Community Medicaid

Home care paid for by New York State is known as “Community Medicaid”. Paying your own living expenses, plus the cost of caregiving services, is beyond the means of many.

Since 2020, there have been numerous attempts to create a new thirty month look-back period for Community Medicaid eligibility. So far, none of these attempts have been successful and now 2024 is the earliest expected date for implementation. There is no current look-back period for Community Medicaid in New York. This means that you may move assets out of your name this month and obtain Medicaid home care benefits next month, provided you need the care.

Currently, an individual may keep about \$1,700 per month plus the amount of any health care insurance premiums. Any excess income must be used towards their care. What if your living expenses exceed \$1,700 per month? Enter the “pooled income trust”.

Certified by the state, pooled income trusts are used to allow you to send your excess

income, i.e. the amount over the \$1,700 per month you are allowed to keep, to the trust along with copies of your bills for food, rent, mortgage, utilities, home repairs, etc. The trust pays your bills and any amounts unused will accumulate in your account and eventually be added to the “pool” to be used for charitable purposes after your death. Any monies paid to the pooled income trust are not counted as income for Medicaid purposes, allowing you to qualify for Community Medicaid.

The number of hours you will receive depends on the county’s assessment of your needs regarding the activities of daily living (ADL’s). Some of these are eating, bathing, shopping, cooking, personal hygiene, ambulating, housekeeping, dressing, etc.

Several non-profit organizations exist that offer pooled trusts. Applying to join is a formal process with which the elder law firm will assist. Costs generally include minimal start-up fees, an initial deposit and reasonable maintenance fees.

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6 Voters weigh in on upcoming special election

January 4, 2024 — GLEN COVE HERALD

By WILL SHEELINE

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With New York's 3rd Congressional District facing an unprecedented special election to replace disgraced former Congressman George Santos, all eyes are on the two candidates vying to replace him.

For the Democrats, former Congressman Tom Suozzi is on the ballot to face off against Nassau County Republican Legislator Mazi Melesa Pilip. With only a month to go before the Feb. 13 election, residents are already looking into the personal and political histories of their potential representatives.

Phil Como, a registered Republican and resident of Sea Cliff, said he's known Suozzi for many years, and regardless of the fact that the former congressman is a Democrat, Como views him as "a seasoned political warrior." Como added that he believes Suozzi, as a political moderate, is the kind of voice the 3rd District needs in the House right now, particularly after the debacle that was Santos' tenure in

office.

"He has conversations regularly with members of both parties, and in Congress he was on the Ways and Means Committee," Como said. "He's a certified public accountant and public auditor, and he's a very, very brilliant fellow when it comes to that."



MAZI PILIP

Como said while he looks forward to hearing more from Pilip the information he's read about her legislative and personal background thus far, while interesting, does not compare in his mind to Suozzi's decades of local, state and federal government experience. He went on to say that from what he's seen, Pilip has not been an outspoken member of the legislature, and he hasn't seen any evidence thus far that has convinced him to stop supporting Suozzi.

"I think the Republicans felt they needed to do something dramatic to keep this seat," Como concluded. "I think that in her heart of hearts she is not that much different from Suozzi politically, except for the fact that he's got 30 years of experience."

Glen Head resident and registered

Republican George Pombar says he is keeping a very open mind for this special election. He emphasized that the Santos controversy has been incredibly discouraging for the district, and that he believes this will be a "very interesting election."

"Tom Suozzi is a very well-known name in this area," Pombar acknowledged. "We don't know much about Mazi, but she seems to be very qualified."

Pombar pointed out that elections have become more partisan in recent years, which could make this one tighter than might be immediately apparent. However, he emphasized that following George Santos, what the district needs more than anything is a representative who will actually be able to get things done for the district.

"Many people this (day and) age are voting down the party line I think, and that could make a difference that could really be unpredictable," Pombar said. "What really matters is that we need to be well represented in Congress, from my perspective and the perspective of the community. It's going to be interesting."

Ravin Chetram, a registered Democrat of East Norwich said he supports Suozzi, who he argues is "the best-qualified candidate in this race." Despite this, Chetram, who is Guyanese-American, added that he hopes Pilip does well because he supports increasing diversity among elected officials, although he



TOM SUOZZI

doesn't think she has enough political experience.

"I want to see diversity, but I don't want to support someone just for that, I want them to be qualified," Chetram continued. "We had a whole year that we wasted representation to our district."

Chetram said he was disappointed to learn that Pilip failed to vote in local elections for years until she began running herself. According to an article in the New York Post, until 2021 Pilip had only voted in presidential elections, despite having been a registered voter since 2012.

"She should have been voting as a person in society here because it matters," Chetram said. "The optics make it seem like she just started doing it because she ran for office."

Labradoodle is found after week-long search

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

doesn't remember anything about the accident 15 months ago.

Vazquez went into cardiac arrest twice, once before being airlifted to Manhasset's North Shore University Hospital, and again in the emergency room. Rushed to the intensive critical care unit, he was diagnosed with a traumatic brain injury, a fractured pelvis and kidney failure. Once he was stabilized, he was admitted to Glen Cove Hospital's brain injury unit on Oct. 25. There he continued what doctors said was nothing less than a remarkable recovery.

Vazquez had his first accident in 1985, at age 20, when the motorcycle he was driving was hit by a 40-ton Mack truck. He underwent a number of surgeries, but his leg had to be amputated the following year, on his 21st birthday, and he was fitted for a prosthetic leg. Before that accident, he had run in the New York City Marathon and was training as a long-distance runner for the 1988 Olympics. A 1983 Glen Cove High School graduate, Vazquez is among those honored on its Wall of Fame for his record for the mile run — 4 minutes, 20 seconds.

Vazquez's wife, Elizabeth Martino, said that Vinny was brought to Glen Cove Hospital to visit her husband while he was recovering in the fall of 2022 to comfort him and to help jog his memory of their home life. Since Vazquez returned home, Vinny has been his constant companion. Whenever the dog hears Vazquez moving around in a wheelchair or with a walker, he hurries to his side. These days Vinny is there when Vazquez gets out of the shower, when he's in the kitchen and when he falls asleep at night. They do almost everything together.

"I'm using the walker a lot and I'm walking, but I still haven't connected my brain with my feet yet," Vazquez said. "I just keep on trying, so it's getting there slowly. It's been a year, but I'm moving. I don't



Roksana Amid/Herald

The week-long search for Vinny, a 15-month-old labradoodle, finally ended on Dec. 27.

just sit there and cry about things. I move forward."

When Vinny escaped on a cold evening late last month, Vazquez and Martino became anxious, because the dog is unfamiliar with most of Glen Cove. They feared that he might get hit by a car or by a train on the nearby Oyster Bay line of the Long Island Rail Road. The couple now speculates that before he escaped, Vinny caught the lingering scent of a dog owned by their daughter who recently moved to Locust Valley.

The rescue operation kicked into high gear when Kelly Brach, of Professional Pet Trackers, in Glen Cove and Susan Raso, founder and director of Cat Wrangler Rescue Inc., in Sea Cliff coordinated the effort, canvassing neighborhoods and utilizing tracking dogs to pinpoint Vinny's location. The searchers employed high-tech methods including infrared cameras, drones and thermal scopes, but Vinny proved elusive.

Despite the challenges posed by his skittish behavior and the vast search area, the team persisted. Raso, who usually searches for cats, deployed motion-activated cellular surveillance cameras and a unique Wi-Fi-enabled trap triggering system. Brach used a total of five dogs in the search, all of them shepherds — two Czech shepherds, two Dutch shepherds, and one Dutch shepherd-Belgian Malinois mix.

The community rallied behind the effort, with numerous sightings reported by concerned citizens. Vinny's skittishness and avoidance of people were attributed to fear and the unfamiliar environment in which he found himself, which added an extra layer of complexity to the rescue mission.

He was finally captured in a trap on Duck Pond Road at 4:44 a.m. on Dec. 27.

Brach advises that owners of lost pets "become small" by sitting on the ground and avoiding eye contact when the pet is nearby. She also advises not calling the animal's name, and to let it approach "on its own terms."

"Our moods give off a bit of a different odor — we can't smell it as humans, but dogs can," Brach said. "When we're anxious — when we're freaking out looking for a lost pet, and we're full of anxiety, they can smell that. You could be 10 feet away from your lost dog, but if you're nervous, that dog's going to smell it. They resort to feeling like there's something they need to be nervous about."

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'Kind Ambition,' a reflection on life, career

By **ROKSANA AMID**

ramid@iherald.com

Renowned songwriter and producer Jon Goldstein is set to premiere his latest musical creation, "Kind Ambition," at the Jeanne Rimsky Theater at Landmark on Main Street in Port Washington on Jan. 10. Goldstein, of Glen Cove, will take the audience on a personal journey by sharing his true story filled with triumphs, challenges, calamities, and the acceptance of life's tragedies.

Goldstein loved the performing arts from a young age, leading him to become president of the North Shore High School Masquers Club in his senior year. After graduation he attended Vassar College with a passion for music and art but opted to study psychology due to doubts about making a living in the arts. After his first son was born, Goldstein shifted towards graphic and web design, eventually teaching at Farmingdale State College.

Just as Goldstein was about to give up on the arts, he wrote music with his sister, a playwright, on a children's show about the Statue of Liberty, which gained unexpected success after the Sept. 11, 2001, attacks. This led to the creation of educational shows about Martin Luther King Jr. and Native Americans.

Balancing a full-time job, family, and creative pursuits, Goldstein later returned to music, performing at local hot spots and produced the show "Journey from Johannesburg," by Toby Tobias, which addresses themes of segregation, anti-Semitism, and the pursuit of harmony across different nations, which has played at the Holocaust Memorial and Tolerance Center of Nassau County, as well as colleges, libraries, community centers, and houses of worship across the tri-state area. The show embarked on its first U.S. tour in Sep-



Courtesy Jon Goldstein

Jon Goldstein will premiere his latest musical creation, 'Kind Ambition,' on Jan. 10.

tember of 2018, and has since been performed in Canada, England, and Tobias' native homeland of South Africa.

A turning point emerged when Goldstein's friend, Ben Diamond, initiated a bi-weekly Zoom songwriting group called "21 in 21" in 2021 to help a community of artists come together during the coronavirus pandemic lockdowns to overcome a creative slump.

"I had written some really what I would call boring songs," Goldstein said. "I literally had a song called 'What is there to do, because there was nothing to do.' I had gotten to a point where I'd made this decision that I was probably done writing songs."

The challenge was to compose 21 songs during the year, each based on a prompt provided by Diamond. To

'Kind Ambition'

Date: Jan. 10

Time: 2 p.m.

Location: 232 Main Street, Port Washington.

Tickets: Admission is free, but must be reserved at landmarkonmainstreet.org

Goldstein's surprise, he ended up writing 24 songs, a feat surpassing any previous year.

The structured prompts and deadlines forced Goldstein to break creative barriers. It led to what he considers his best work. The feedback from fellow songwriters consistently highlighted the theatrical quality of his compositions, sparking an unexpected realization — Goldstein had created show.

One moment Goldstein credits to creating his one-man show is an injury that forced him to learn the art of asking for help. Goldstein tore his left quadricep while walking on a stone step at his home while reflecting on lyrics he wrote for his Zoom class about someone he was angry with. The moments between agony and remembering the lyrics marked a significant shift in his mindset, he said. He realized he avoided confrontation for most of his life by hiding behind sarcastic lyrics instead of openly expressing his needs, ultimately influencing the trajectory of his life and creative pursuits.

While Goldstein acknowledges his life story might not have the globe-trotting drama of Tobias's journey, he humorously quips that his show could be titled

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MAZI

PILIP

CONGRESS

SPECIAL ELECTION TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 13

Born in Ethiopia, Mazi was evacuated to Israel as part of an Israeli/U.S. mission, which provided sanctuary to people like Mazi, who lived in fear of antisemitism. This experience gave her a passion to serve in an Israel Defense Forces Paratrooper Brigade. She legally immigrated to the U.S. in pursuit of the American Dream. Mazi and her husband now live in Great Neck where they are raising their 7 children.

In 2021, Mazi was elected to the Nassau County Legislature, where she added cops to the streets, held the line on property taxes, and stopped New York City from sending unvetted migrants to Nassau. Mazi is a national leader in the fight against antisemitism and Jew hatred.

As part of the Republican majority in Congress, Mazi Pilip will be the critical vote to stop the disastrous policies of Joe Biden, AOC and The Squad.

ENDORSED BY

- ✓ Congressman Peter King
- ✓ County Executive Bruce Blakeman
- ✓ Supervisor Joe Saladino
- ✓ Councilwoman Vickie Paladino
- ✓ Ambassador David Friedman
- ✓ Supervisor Don Clavin



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**SPECIAL
ELECTION
TUESDAY
FEB.13**

Suozzi shares his approach for immigration

By **ROKSANA AMID**

ramid@liherald.com

Former Congressman Tom Suozzi, who is hoping to recapture his seat in the House of Representatives, says he's frustrated the federal government isn't addressing the national immigration emergency. He's calling upon President Biden, House Speaker Mike Johnson, and House Leader Hakeem Jeffries to find common ground to pass bipartisan legislation on the immigration crisis.

During a Zoom news conference on Tuesday, Suozzi revealed letters addressed to the president, speaker, and minority leader emphasizing the urgent need to "prioritize immigration issues" and presented proposals for a "comprehensive, moderate solution" to secure the border and address the suffering resulting from the government's historical inaction on the matter.

"The national emergency is not on the border, but in the nation's capital," Suozzi told reporters. "It's a failure of our leaders in Washington for over 30 years since we last had any comprehensive immigration reform in the country."

Suozzi suggested what he calls an "Ellis Island solution." He would like to see a large processing facility on the American side of the southern border where migrants could have medical

exams, be processed, and have access to immigration judges who would hear their cases.

While a member of Congress, Suozzi visited the southern border three times in the summers of 2018 and 2019 and in April 2021. He witnessed firsthand what he referred to as "the desperate need for change."

Under the plan, those migrants who have credible claims for asylum would be more effectively processed and there would be a protocol to quickly deny entry to those who do not qualify. A workable plan to deport those applicants denied entry would be implemented.

"It is just reaching epic proportions right now," Suozzi told reporters. "What we really need to do is create this urgency that the federal government do its job and pass a comprehensive solution. I'm trying to raise the temperature on this issue."

Suozzi reiterated his 10-Point Plan, released on Dec. 19, 2023, which includes allocating more border security funding for additional personnel, technology implementation, and physical barriers. Highlighting the limitations of one-par-

ty or one-chamber bills, Suozzi urged collaboration to find common ground. He referenced a previous proposal, crafted with former Republican Congressman Peter King in 2019, which featured measures such as enhanced radar technology, improved ports of entry, physical barriers, increased immigration judges, and additional border patrol agents.

Joining the press conference, Nassau County Minority Leader Delia DeRiggi-Whitton, expressed her disappointment in Suozzi's opponent, Mazi Melesa Pilip, in the Feb. 13 special election to replace George Santos. DeRiggi-Whitton criticized Pilip's lack of engagement on critical issues, noting her refusal to debate and her limited participation in Legislature discussions.

"I've tried reaching out to her, tried to engage her in conversation, and she's never tried to even speak with me," DeRiggi-Whitton revealed. "That's not the kind of congressperson this district needs."

DeRiggi-Whitton highlighted Pilip's recent vote against a budget amendment in late October to bolster the Nassau County Police Department, aligning

with every other Republican. Pilip missed an opportunity to stand up for the people of Nassau, DeRiggi-Whitton said and to demonstrate independence from party lines.

"We have lost a year of representation in Congress with George Santos. We can't afford to lose any more time," DeRiggi-Whitton said. "We need someone in Congress like Tom Suozzi, who knows exactly how things work."

Pilip's voting record highlights a stark contrast between the candidates. And her decision to vote against hiring additional police officers raises concerns for Suozzi and DeRiggi-Whitton about Pilip's priorities and her commitment to addressing the needs and concerns of the local community.

After the conference, DeRiggi-Whitton told the Herald in a phone interview she was also worried about security at the Holocaust Memorial and Tolerance Center of Nassau County in Glen Cove.

Newsday recently reported that Pilip spoke infrequently as a legislator based on transcripts for a two-year period. At several meetings the only words she said were "here" during roll call attendance and "aye" during vote tallies.

Pilip did not respond to repeated attempts by the Herald for comment by press time.

I'm trying to raise the temperature on this issue.

TOM SUOZZI
Former Congressman

Voting year for local elections shifts to 2026

By **JORDAN VALLONE & WILL SHEELINE**

Of the Glen Cove Herald

Gov. Kathy Hochul recently signed legislation aligning many odd-year local elections with statewide and legislative elections that are held in even-numbered years.

Hochul believes the bill will expand access to voting, and make it easier for New Yorkers to vote in local elections that directly impact their lives and the communities they live in.

The change will begin in 2026. The law will mean that elections for county executive, county legislatures and town board seats will be held at the same time as voting for state and federal offices.

The bill has been met with opposition from Long Island Republicans, who say the shift will take the focus away from local candidates and drown out local issues.

"The Association of Counties and hundreds of local officials throughout the state oppose this change in law," Republican Joseph Saladino, supervisor for the Town of Oyster Bay, wrote in a statement, "as federal elections will now overshadow hyperlocal issues in our neighborhoods while creating a 35-line ballot that causes significant drop off in voter participation."

Jake Blumencranz, the Republican state assemblyman for District 15, agreed, adding that he thinks Long Island's local elections focus heavily on local issues.

"When you have a ballot with however many people will be on it in an election year, it'll be an awfully long ballot," he said, "and an awful lot of issues being lumped into one, which I think is a net negative for many of the residents."

Democrat Delia DeRiggi-Whitton, the minority leader at the Nassau County Legislature, said it would be "a little bit daunting" to have to run in 2025 and again in 2026, she was "prepared to do it" if it meant more



Courtesy Office of Gov. Kathy Hochul

Gov. Kathy Hochul recently signed a bill that will align many local elections currently with statewide and federal elections that are held in even-numbered years.

people would vote in local elections.

"In my opinion it makes sense because I think people get election fatigue," she said. "We still get a low turnout in Nassau County, and I always get frustrated when I see that, regardless of who wins, because I think it's basically an obligation for us all to research and vote as citizens."

According to the governor's office, the legislation will impact all elections for which dates can be changed through legislative action — changing election dates for certain offices, including judgeships and offices in any city, must be done through a constitutional amendment.

"Gov. Hochul also announced her support for a future amendment to the New York State Constitution that would align elections for all offices — a fiscally

responsible approach that would reduce the taxpayer cost of election administration by avoiding the need for elections to be held every single year," a release from the governor's office further states.

This would include elections in Glen Cove, which was not otherwise affected by the recent legislation. Pamela Panzenbeck, a Republican and mayor of Glen Cove, said that while she needs to do more research on the legislation to make a full opinion, her initial thoughts are that a potential amendment change will not improve election turnout, and will instead hurt voters.

"It's really not a great idea, and I don't know what the purpose behind it is," Panzenbeck said. "To me, (the current system) seems to have worked well."

According to the release, elections in odd-numbered years increases the cost of participating in the voting process, particularly for voters who may have a difficult time arranging for time off of work and traveling to their polling site. It also asserted that other states had made similar changes in recent years, and have seen increased voter turnout as a result.

The bill also aims to increase voter turnout, which is historically much lower during local election years. For example, millions more New Yorkers participated in elections in 2020 with an approximate 64 percent voter turnout. In 2021, only 25 percent of eligible voters turned out to take part in local elections around the state.

Chuck Lavine, the Democrat assemblymember for Assembly District 13, said the law is "a no brainer" and that he fully supports it as a way to make the voting process more accessible to a majority of the county's residents.

"The turnout for these elections is embarrassingly low, and the more difficult we make it for citizens to vote, the fewer people vote," Lavine continued. "It's no secret that democracy is best served when the greatest number of people participate."

STEPPING OUT



Photos courtesy Feld Entertainment

Mickey is joined by his many friends on a heroic journey.

Fearless feats on ice

HEROISM UNFOLDS IN AN EPIC ADVENTURE

By Karen Bloom

Move on from the holiday season with some Disney flair. The latest Disney on Ice extravaganza arrives at UBS Arena in Elmont to the continued delight of families who can't ever get enough of their favorite Disney moments.

Audiences can relive some of the iconic characters and stories — classic and new — when "Find Your Hero" brings a lineup of some of Disney's iconic personalities here for four days, opening Jan. 4.

This production showcases inspiring favorites from the Disney canon and their beloved tales, including those spunky royal sisters, Anna and Elsa, from the beloved mega-hit "Frozen." Joining this spirited pair are the hilarious snowman Olaf, the forever enchanting Belle, passionate Ariel, spirited Rapunzel and the charming bandit Flynn, plucky Mirabel, the aspiring young musician Miguel, and the daring, fearless wayfarer Moana. Their courage and spunky grit to live their best lives are set forth in lively — albeit condensed — re-tellings of "The Little Mermaid," "Beauty & the Beast," "Tangled," "Frozen," "Moana" and "Encanto."

These unforgettable characters and their adventures are brought to life on ice in a captivating show that transports the audience to world where imaginations soar and in true Disney spirit "anything can happen if you just believe." Guided by Mickey and Minnie, with their crew, of course these stories are told through artful skating with dynamic sets and costumes, set to the soundtrack Disneyphiles know and love.

In keeping with longstanding Disney tradition, it's a fast-paced spectacle, with rapidly changing segments. This medley of tales shares what it means to "find the hero in all of us," in keeping with Mouse House lore, as we all are urged to follow our dreams.

That's certainly the case for Tess Terpos, who's delighted to step into the spotlight with the rest of the Disney skaters as part of the ensemble cast.

It's a magical moment — each and every time.

"Skating with Disney On Ice is a dream come true for me," she says. "It's so special and the connection with our audiences is amazing."

Ice skating has pretty much always been part of Terpos' world. Since she was 6, in fact, growing up in Maryland. After years of steadfast devotion to her craft — countless hours of practice, grueling competitions and skating in various ice shows — the now 26-year-old Terpos realized her dream when she caught her break in 2021 with Feld Entertainment, producers of Disney On Ice.

Fast forward to 2024 and Terpos is an established ensemble member with the tour.

"Disney on Ice is always special, and our audiences see that 'magic' come to life in truly personal way."

In fact, 'special' is a word that keeps coming up as Terpos describes her life on the Disney circuit. "I have found a home here," the Towson University

WHERE & WHEN

- Thursday through Sunday, Jan. 4-7; times vary
- Tickets start at \$25; available at Ticketmaster.com or DisneyOnIce.com
- UBS Arena, 2400 Hempstead Turnpike, Elmont

grad says. "It's a great place to be, surrounded all these special talented skaters and creative people who are as passionate as me."

Of course, Disney was a part of her world growing up, so being with the tour now is a natural extension of Terpos' fondness for the stories and characters.

"I loved 'The Little Mermaid,' Jasmine, all the princesses. I'd watch them over and over," she adds.

The timeless appeal of the Disney legacy lends itself to an entertaining, inspiring production. The uplifting nature of these stories end strongly with an inspiring message about finding your inner hero and finding your dreams.

"We all have inner heroes in ourselves," Terpos says. "The Disney magic is all around us."

As with her fellow cast members, Terpos' skating skills enhance the high level of athleticism that is the hallmark of these spectacles. Solos and fast-paced ensemble skating with high-flying jumps add to the appeal of the stories the audience knows so well.

"There are so many iconic moments," she enthuses, especially "The Little Mermaid" segment, which is among her favorites. It's very colorful with fun music and favorite characters.

"Actually it seems every character is a 'favorite' character. "And don't forget, we 'don't talk about Bruno,'" Terpos reminds us.

The high-energy production brings these characters to life through the energetic skills of the skaters.

"We have a very talented cast," Terpos says. "You'll see pairs, singles, freestyle and tricks."

As always, there's plenty of singing, with the audiences up on their feet throughout the show. And, naturally, Belles, Cinderellas, Jasmynes, Elsas, and now Mirabels, among many others are scattered throughout the arena.

"I even saw a Sebastian in the audience the other day," Terpos adds. "It's so much fun to see."

And, of course, as anyone who knows Disney on Ice, the show is enthusiastically welcomed at every stop on the tour.

It's big. It's magical. It's Disney. But it's also something much more powerful than that.

Because when Terpos and her castmates take center stage at UBS Arena shortly — you can bet your ice skates on it — there will be more than one wide-eyed 6-year-old in the audience who will discover, for the first time in her heart, that dreams really do come true.



'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 way too long to wait 'til those beach days return, but Jimmy Kenny and his band come to the rescue with their 'Ultimate Beach Tribute' to Kenny Chesney, Jimmy Buffett and Zac Brown Band. 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 Prime, bass, and drummer Mike Vecchione — have been celebrating the beach country sounds for some 12 years, spreading their vibe up and down the Northeast coast.

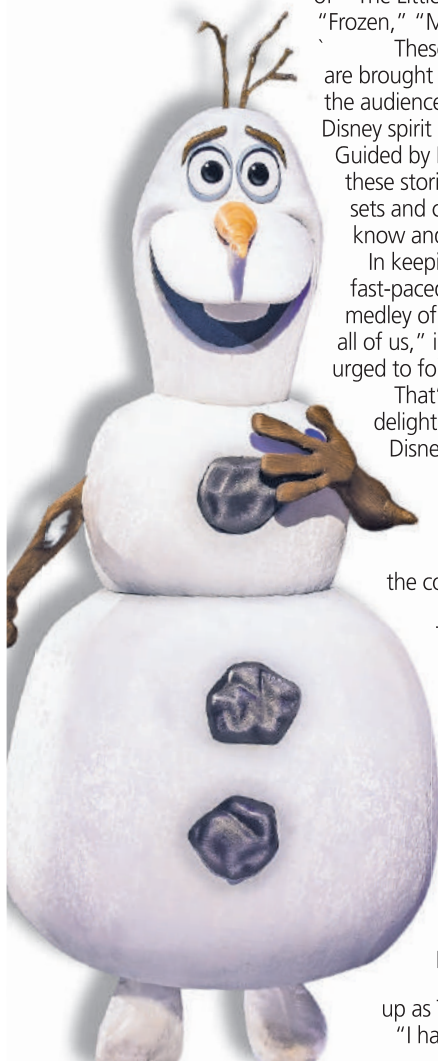
Friday, Jan. 5, 8 p.m. \$35, \$25, \$20, \$15. The Paramount, 370 New York Ave., Huntington. Tickets available at Ticketmaster.com or ParamountNY.com.



Dancing with the Stars

Following last year's fan-frenzy that led to a spectacular run of sold-out shows, 'Dancing with the Stars' is back on tour this to heat up this winter with a dazzling, sexy, high energy, new live production. See the ballroom brought to life in this new edition featuring everyone's favorite 'Dancing with the Stars' pros. Special guests join the DWTS cast this year to add to the fun. They'll perform glittering new numbers as well as some of the unbelievable showstoppers featured in Season 32. The high-energy show puts the dancers in the spotlight, showcase their dynamic moves as seen during the series, along with some lively new twists. The tour delivers an unforgettable night of electrifying dance performances from world-renowned dancers who topped the leaderboard.

Tuesday, Jan. 16, 8 p.m. \$50-\$100. Tilles Center for the Performing Arts, LIU Post campus, 720 Northern Blvd., Brookville. Tickets available at TillesCenter.org or (516) 299-3100.



THE \$ SCENE

Jan. 13

The multi-faceted Pete Correale brings his "Authentic" tour to the Paramount stage, Saturday, Jan. 13, 7:30 p.m. You may

know him from his numerous late night TV shows such as "The Tonight Show," Letterman and Conan, his three television comedy specials, or as co-host of "The Pete and Sebastian Show," a podcast with comedian and longtime friend Sebastian Maniscalco. One of the most wildly popular comedy podcasts on air today, it's almost 10-years-old running with an ever growing fanbase and has featured guests the likes of Bill Burr, Jay Mohr, Bobby Lee, Yannis Pappas, and Billy Gardell. Correale's tours also continue to grow exponentially as more and more people discover him and immediately fall in love with his accessible and extremely relatable point of view. Aside from his podcast, Pete has been a staff writer on several TV shows, most recently "Kevin Can Wait" and Netflix's "The Crew." His love for entertainment started when he went off to college. During his senior year, Correale took an acting class and knew immediately what he wanted to do — be in show business. This burning desire has evolved to what we know it as today: a reflective comedic take on his life and the experiences he's been through. With a conversational delivery and his trademark disarming regular guy attitude, Pete makes you feel like you're listening to the funniest guy at a party as opposed to just another comedian on a stage. \$49.50, \$39.50, \$34.50, \$29.50. The Paramount, 370 New York Ave., Huntington. Tickets available at Ticketmaster.com or ParamountNY.com.



Jan. 7

Bird walk

The South Shore Audubon Society welcomes all to join its members for another in its series of bird walks, at Hempstead Lake State Park, Sunday, Jan. 7, 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 parking lot #3, off Exit 18 of the Southern State Parkway. To register, text your name and contact information to (516) 467-9498. No walk if rain or snow. Text regarding questionable weather. For more information, visit SSAudubon.org.

Scandals in the Art World

Join Chris Vivas for an engaging online discussion on major scandals in the art world, from stolen masterpieces to shocking artworks, Tuesday, Jan 16, hosted by Locust Valley Library. Explore events ranging from theft to murder and exploitation. 170 Buckram Rd, Locust Valley. For more information, call (516) 671-1837.

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. 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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Jan.
4**'Parallel Perspectives'**

View Molloy University Art Gallery's current exhibition, a duo exhibit displaying artwork of noted Long Island artists Holly Gordon and Ward Hooper. Various complementary paintings and prints are on view. Upon meeting, it became obvious that both Gordon and Hooper were deeply inspired by Long Island's fascinating environment and natural beauty.

Together, they toured the island and captured the same places, each interpreting the scenes in front of them through their distinctive artistic styles. Their creations not only influence one another but also blend unique aesthetics in their collaborative artistic journey. Gordon and Hooper's partnership yielded numerous accomplishments, one of which was the publication of their book "Parallel Perspectives: The Brush/Lens Collaboration." Through **Feb. 16**, Kellenberg Gallery, 1000 Hempstead Ave., Rockville Centre. Call (516) 323-3196 or email artgallery@molloy.edu for more

Jan.
4**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.

An evening with General David Petraeus and book signing

Former CIA Director General David Petraeus discusses and signs his new book, "Conflict: The Evolution of Warfare from 1945 to Ukraine," Monday, **Jan. 15**, 7 p.m., at Congregation L'Dor V'Dor. Conflict is both a sweeping history of the evolution of warfare up to Putin's invasion of the Ukraine, and a penetrating analysis of what we must learn from the past — and anticipate in the future — in order to navigate an increasingly perilous world. 11 Temple Lane, Oyster Bay. Register at TheodoresBooks.com.

Bayville Planning Board meeting

The Planning Board of the Incorporated Village of Bayville meets, **Jan. 9**, at 6:30 p.m., at Village Hall, 34 School Street, Bayville.

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.

Family theater

"Frozen Jr." brings Elsa, Anna, and the magical land of Arendelle to life onstage, presented by Sunrise Theatre Company, Sunday, **Jan. 7**, noon. The show features all of the memorable songs from Disney's beloved animated film with all the wonderful characters, loaded with magic, adventure, humor and love. All tickets \$15. See it on the Sunrise stage at The Showplace at Bellmore Movies, 222 Pettit Ave., Bellmore. For information/tickets, visit SunriseTheatreLI.com or call (516) 218-2782.

**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 Shalom, 401 Roslyn Road, Roslyn Heights. Visit HMTCLI.org for more.

Take and Make Your Own Snow Kit

Kids grades five and up can bring winter inside and make snow at the hands-on science program, at the Oyster Bay-East Norwich Public Library, Friday, **Jan. 12**, 9:30 a.m. 89 East Main St., Oyster Bay. For more information visit OysterBayLibrary.org or call (516) 922-1212.

**Knitting and Crocheting Club**

Meet up with other knitters or crocheters, at Glen Cove Public Library, Friday, **Jan. 12**, 10-11 a.m. Whether you're new to knitting or you've been doing it for years, it's always more fun with friends! Start a new project

or bring a current one. Participants should bring their own needles and yarn. 4 Glen Cove Ave., Glen Cove. For more information call (516) 676-2130.

World-Class Luxury for Long Island

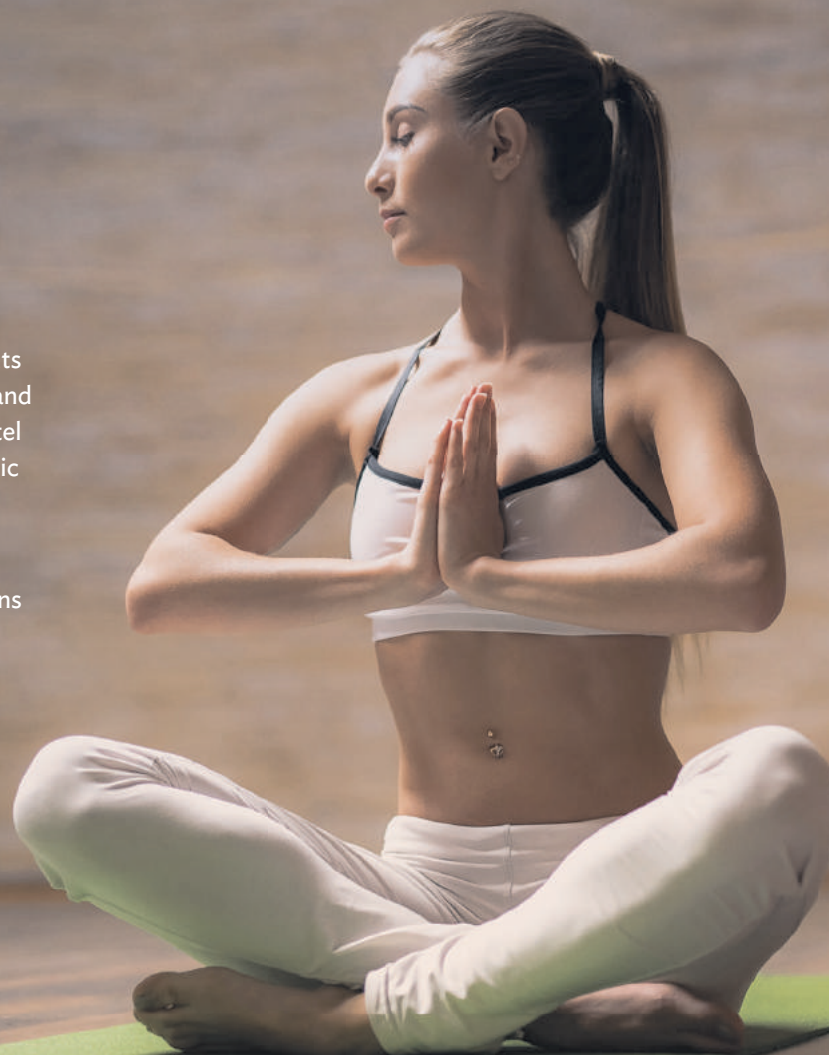
Sands New York is aiming to redefine Long Island hospitality.

Through a proposed flagship resort and entertainment venue featuring a state-of-the-art Canyon Ranch spa and fitness center, indoor and outdoor pools, celebrity chef establishments such as Rao's and Estiatorio Milos, as well as favorite Long Island restaurants, plus a world-class performance venue, luxury hotel rooms, meeting and conference facilities, casino gaming, public attraction spaces and so much more.

Sands New York is poised to create thousands of career opportunities, unparalleled recreational enjoyment, and billions of investment dollars for Long Island and its residents.



VISIT SANDSNEWYORK.COM



Pro women's hockey coming to UBS Arena

By DANIEL OFFNER

doffner@liherald.com

It's a new era of ice hockey, and it's coming to UBS Arena.

The Professional Women's Hockey League makes its debut this month, kicking off 72 games played across eight different venues between the league's "original six" franchise teams — Boston, Minnesota, Montreal, New York, Ottawa and Toronto.

And one of those venues happen to be the same place where fans also can find the New York Islanders in Belmont.

"We are extremely pleased to be welcoming the PWHL to UBS Arena during their inaugural season," Kim Stone, the president of UBS Arena, said in a release. "I'm proud that women's hockey is getting a beautiful new building to call its home for a number of games during this historical moment in women's sports history."

The New York roster boasts 26 of the top women hockey players from around the world. Chief among them is Alex Carpenter, a 29-year-old forward from North Reading, Massachusetts, who is arguably one of the most skilled in the game today. She won two Olympic silver medals for her performance with Team USA, and is a six-time International Ice Hockey Federation Women's world champion.

Abby Roque played for Team USA



Courtesy Professional Women's Hockey League

The UBS Arena at Belmont Park will serve as the home turf for the Professional Women's Hockey League's New York team for at least four games during its inaugural season.

alongside Carpenter, and will now join her on the roster in New York. The 26-year-old hockey star from Michigan made history as the first indigenous hockey player to compete in the Olympics, and led the University of Michigan to a national championship in 2019.

She also finished the 2020 season as one of the Top 10 scorers in the NCAA.

Micah Zandee-Hart will lead the

backcheck as one of the top tier defensive players in the league. The 26-year-old Canadian was formerly a co-captain of the Cornell University hockey team, making her the second sophomore in the program's history to wear the "C."

She was also the first player in her province to take home the gold medal for Team Canada at the 2022 Winter Olympics.

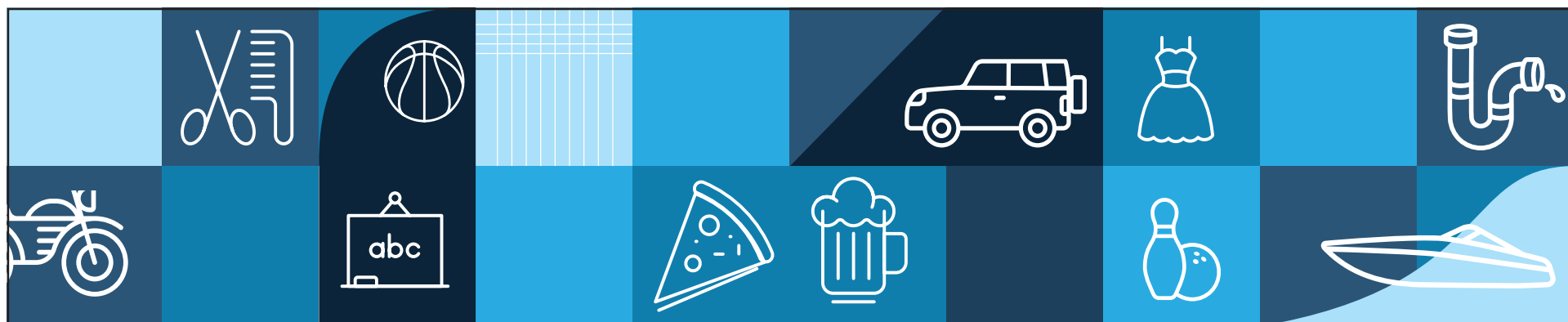
"Having the privilege to showcase our skills in front of dedicated fans, in a top-tier arena, represents an opportunity that impeccably aligns with the professional standards upheld by the PWHL," Pascal Daoust, general manager of the PWHL New York franchise, said. "It promises to be a premier sports experience not only for our athletes, but also for our fans, allowing them to gather in greater numbers and take immense pride in standing united behind our team."

Four of the PWHL New York team's 12 regular season home games will take place at UBS Arena, and at least five of the remaining home games are scheduled to take place at the Total Mortgage Arena in Connecticut.

The schedule was constructed to ensure all six teams will play head-to-head a minimum of four times throughout the regular season, including twice at home and twice on the road. It also includes a pause in February for the PWHL 3-on-3 Showcase at Scotiabank Arena in Toronto during the NHL All-Star event, and a break in April for the IIHF Women's World Championship.

Playoffs begin the week of May 6.

Single-game tickets range between \$17 and \$47, and are available through Ticketmaster.com. Season ticket membership and half-season plans are also available online via NewYork.ThePWHL.com.



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Rallye donations ensured food for the holidays

By **ROKSANA AMID**

ramid@liherald.com

With high inflation continuing to plague the United States, food pantries and food banks all over the country, including on Long Island, are struggling to help families put dinner on the table this holiday season. Food insecurity, often thought to only affect the homeless or unemployed, has become a hidden epidemic, likely affecting a classmate, family member, or a passerby at the grocery store. Recognizing this desperate need, Rallye Motor Company generously donated \$6,500 to Long Island Cares' general operating fund, and \$3,000 in food, as well as \$6,000 worth of non-perishable groceries for Nosh, a food pantry located in downtown Glen Cove.

"Somebody I admire very much said, 'I don't give until it hurts, I give until it feels good,'" Juliana Terian, president, CEO of Rallye Motor Company, said at a press conference. "And it really feels good to be here with you all today."

The donations come at the conclusion of Rallye commemorating its 65th anniversary of opening its first dealership in Glen Cove. The collection of nonperishables was a collaborative effort with Rallye's employees and their customers, who were encouraged to donate the food items for two months. Peter Terian established Rallye in 1958 as an imported car service repair garage. Today Rallye holds franchises of Acura, BMW, Lexus and Mercedes-Benz. The company is known for their philanthropy and giving back to the communities that have supported them.

Statewide, the issue of food insecurity affects more than 2.2 million New Yorkers. The crisis is particularly pronounced in Nassau and Suffolk Counties, where approximately 40 percent of food-insecure households are above the poverty level but struggle to meet the high cost of living. Paradoxically, this group finds itself ineligible for vital nutrition assistance programs such as the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program. A staggering 2.7 percent of Long Islanders, equivalent to approxi-

mately 234,000 individuals, are grappling with food insecurity, with an alarming 65,000 of them being children. These distressing figures shed light on the critical need for increased efforts to address hunger and support vulnerable communities on Long Island.

"This food is gonna go so far and help the 550 families we feed weekly," said Christine Rice, Nosh co-founder and director of the Glen Cove Senior Center. "When you band together to help others, it makes a real difference. Unfortunately, food insecurity is here, and it's not going anywhere, but as long as it's here, Nosh will be here to help our families."

Nosh was founded in March of 2020 to meet the increased need for food assistance created by the Covid-19 pandemic. It is staffed by volunteers who each week deliver free emergency Nosh bags, which include groceries to prepare meals for north shore families in need of food assistance. Long Island businesses, charities, and residents mainly donate the food Nosh distributes.

Founded by the late folk-rock performer Harry Chapin, a Huntington native and a Grammy Hall of Fame member, Long Island Cares acted swiftly as the pandemic spread, driven by its ethical responsibility to assist those in need. The organization is one of almost 200 food banks across the U.S. that provides food to people impacted by hunger and food insecurity. It distributes more than 10 million pounds of food and supplies annually to nearly 400 member agencies in Nassau and Suffolk Counties.

Paule Patcher, president and CEO of Long Island Cares, noted that 52 percent of those who use food pantries and soup kitchens on Long Island identify as Hispanic. According to July 2022 Census data, about 30 percent of Glen Cove also identifies as Hispanic.

"Not only do we have to make sure that we provide core products for people in need, but also pay attention and understand the cultural preferences that people need, even though they're food insecure," Patcher said. "You got to make sure that you have enough food and the right kind of food to go around."

Rallye Motor Company generously donated \$6,500 to Long Island Cares' general operating fund, and \$3,000 in food, as well as \$6,000 worth of non-perishable groceries for Nosh, a food pantry located in Glen Cove.



Roksana Amid/Herald photos

Assemblyman Charles Lavine, far left, Rallye CEO Juliana Terian, County Executive Bruce Blakeman, Nosh Chair Christine Rice, Glen Cove Mayor Pamela Panzenbeck, County Legislator Delia Deriggi-Whitton and CEO of Long Island Cares, Paule Patcher reflected on the increasing food insecurity effecting Glen Cove.

HERALD **PUBLIC NOTICES**

LEGAL NOTICE
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that a Public Hearing shall be held on Tuesday, January 9, 2024, at 7:30 p.m. in the Council Chambers at Glen Cove City Hall, 9 Glen Street, Glen Cove, NY to discuss changing the zoning district designation along the west side of Brewster Street from Mill Hill Road to the Glen Arms Apartments, which area more specifically consists of properties known on the Nassau County Land and Tax Map as Section 31, Block F, Lots 1070, 1068 and 1066, from B-1 Central Commercial District to B-2 Peripheral Commercial District. All interested parties will be given an opportunity to be heard.
Tina Pemberton
City Clerk
144150

LEGAL NOTICE
NOTICE OF SALE
SUPREME COURT COUNTY OF NASSAU, U.S. BANK TRUST NATIONAL ASSOCIATION, NOT IN ITS INDIVIDUAL CAPACITY BUT SOLELY AS OWNER TRUSTEE FOR VRMTG ASSET TRUST, Plaintiff, vs. MAUREEN CLARK A/K/A MAUREEN MARTINO, ET AL., Defendant(s). Pursuant to an Order Confirming Referee's Report and Judgment of Foreclosure and Sale duly entered on November 15, 2023, I, the undersigned Referee will sell at public auction on the front steps on the north side of the Nassau County Supreme Court, 100 Supreme Court Drive, Mineola, NY 11501 on February 5, 2024 at 2:30 p.m., premises known as 7 Yale Place, Glen Cove, NY 11542. All that certain plot, piece or parcel of land, with the buildings and improvements thereon erected, situate, lying and being in the City of Glen Cove, County of Nassau and State of New York, Section 30, Block D01 and Lot 60. Approximate amount of judgment is \$498,493.86 plus interest and costs. Premises will be sold subject to provisions of filed Judgment Index # 611157/2022. Cash will not be accepted. This foreclosure sale will be held on the north side steps of the Courthouse, rain or shine. COVID-19 safety protocols will be followed at the foreclosure sale. If proper social distancing cannot be maintained or there are other health or safety concerns, the Court Appointed Referee will cancel the sale.
Peter Kramer, Esq., Referee (516) 510-4020
Knuckles, Komosinski & Manfro, LLP, 565 Taxter Road, Suite 590, Elmsford, NY 10523, Attorneys for Plaintiff
144125

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
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Attorney(s) for the Plaintiff
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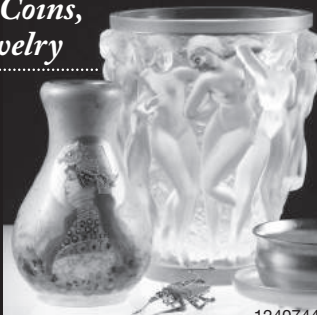
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OPINIONS

What in the world will 2024 bring?

With the old year having ended and the New Year just beginning, I'm once again going through my routine of looking back on the previous year's memories and trying to anticipate what the next one might hold.

On balance, 2023 was a good year for me. There were some twists and turns and bumps in the road, but overall I



PETER KING

can't complain. For starters, in the very first week of the year, I crossed paths with Stuart Richner, the publisher of the Herald, who offered me the opportunity to write a column for the papers. I was smart

enough to accept, and it's been a challenging and rewarding experience for me ever since.

A few months later, with no warning signs or symptoms and during a routine procedure, my gastroenterologist, Dr. Michael Barth, detected a tumor in my

stomach, which turned out to be malignant. A few weeks after that, Dr. Matthew Weiss, a skilled surgeon at Long Island Jewish Hospital, removed the tumor, and there was no follow-up radiation or chemotherapy required. I was out of the hospital in days, and back at full speed in a few weeks.

Then, in June and September, I made two very positive visits to Capitol Hill, where I had the privilege of serving for 28 years. In June, the House Intelligence Committee asked me, along with several former members, including Frank LoBiondo, of New Jersey, and Jane Harman, of California, to testify about pressing terror threats, and then, in September, more than 40 of my former staff members held a reception for my wife, Rosemary, and I on the Speaker's Balcony. Both events brought back very positive memories.

During that time, but especially in September and October, I worked close-

ly with Nassau County Republican Party Chairman Joe Cairo and county Republicans to bring about the overwhelming victories we saw on Election Day. They resulted in part because of the series of misjudgments and poor

policy decisions by Democratic leaders in New York and Washington — the most prominent being the inability to deal with out-of-control illegal migration, which made its way to the western edge of Nassau County.

Entering 2024, I hope for continued good health for Rosemary and our family and friends — and a return to good health for our state and nation. The presidential race will be like no other, with the nation so divided and the problems so severe, with wars in Ukraine and Israel becoming more deadly by the day and threats from Iran and China showing no signs of lessening.

For progress to be made on any of these fronts in this new year, I strongly believe that the American people must

find a way to put aside blind partisanship and forge a united front on issues on which there can be agreement and honest debate when consensus can't be reached.

The most obvious need for concerted action is border security. New York City cannot continue to absorb 4,000 illegal migrants each week without bursting. Similarly, the rise in antisemitism is truly frightening. Our political, religious and education leaders must speak with one voice in proclaiming that "Never Again" means Never Again! Similarly, respect for law enforcement must be restored if we are to be safe in our homes and neighborhoods.

While victories cannot be guaranteed on all, or even most, fronts in 2024, real progress can be made if we remember that America is still the world's greatest nation and we live up to our standards as Americans. If we do, this will indeed be a year we will all be proud to remember.

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

Two legislators who are making a difference

The year just finished wasn't a good one for politicians, or politics in general. We have two wars, an inept majority in the House of Representatives, an up-and-down economy and the prospect of having two candidates for president who are both highly unpopular. But rather than begin the new year on a down



JERRY KREMER

note, I would like to focus on two elected officials who have gained my greatest respect.

Most voters don't talk about state legislators over dinner. Legislators don't get much publicity, but quite a few of them work diligently throughout the year and

deserve a pat on the back. Being a former state assemblyman, I can recognize the qualities make a good legislator. Which is why I want to single out Democratic Assemblywoman Michaelle Solages and Republican Assemblyman Ed Ra.

I had the good fortune recently to have lunch with Solages — who prefers

the nickname Mickey — and walked away impressed with her work and her dedication to lots of good causes. She is serving her fifth term representing a very diverse community stretching from Valley Stream to Bellerose. She is the first person of Haitian descent to be elected to the State Legislature, and her hard work on behalf of minorities has vaulted her into the position of chair of the state Black, Puerto Rican, Hispanic & Asian Legislative Caucus.

Being the chair of this caucus isn't an easy job. It is a very powerful group in Albany, and it only chooses true leaders to make it an effective force in a sometimes very divided legislative body. Solages keeps the group focused, and is very articulate on caucus issues. She holds the title of Assembly deputy majority leader, and in that role she is responsible for rounding up votes during floor debates.

I was very impressed with her dedication to finding affordable housing opportunities on Long Island. It's no secret that our young people are leaving the Island, because it costs too much to live here, and they don't want to live at

home with their parents.

In the Assembly, Solages is a major voice speaking out about improving access to quality child care. Working mothers need a strong advocate to help get state funds, and she is at the forefront of that effort.

Having been the chair of the Assembly Ways and Means Committee, I have strong feelings about the role of the committee and its effectiveness. Assemblyman Ra holds the title of ranking member on Ways and Means, which makes him his party's voice during deliberations on key bills. Over the course of the year, Ways and Means members have the chance to vote on as many as 5,000 bills, so being a committee member is a big deal.

Ra has proven to be an informed voice on a variety of issues, and he has become the suburban voice for his fellow Republican Assembly members. One of his major interests has been education initiatives. He has fought for a more stringent teacher evaluation system, and has become a vocal supporter of special education programs of the kind offered by the Henry Viscardi

Highlighting the hard work of Michaelle Solages and Ed Ra.

School in Albertson. Ra has gotten more state funding for these efforts by getting the state to institute a fairer reimbursement system.

One of the assignments that he has handled with class is the job of assistant minority leader. The position requires him to be familiar with almost every bill slated for debate, and to make strong arguments pro or con. There's no way that a floor leader can wing it when the arguments start flying. Ra has shown an encyclopedic knowledge of multiple issues.

It's nice to have a chance to highlight the hard work of two very effective Long Island legislators. There are many others, but Mickey Solages and Ed Ra stand out in many ways. I wish I could also applaud our members of Congress, but they're under constant pressure from the crazy Freedom Caucus to impeach President Biden. The current House has passed the fewest bills in memory, and Long Island needs a little more attention.

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

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HERALD EDITORIAL

Entering a new year, one page at a time

Congratulations — you've made it to another new year. When we make resolutions we know we can't keep, and spend the next six months scribbling out "2023" and replacing it with "2024."

Bill Vaughan, a longtime syndicated columnist for the Kansas City Star in the 1960s and '70s, said it best: "An optimist stays up until midnight to see the new year in. A pessimist stays up to make sure the old year leaves."

But as a reader of community news — which you are, of course, since you're reading these words — you're more likely to be an optimist than a pessimist. So it's not about saying goodbye to what was, but instead, looking forward to what happens next.

That's what your neighborhood newspaper is all about, and why you continue to look forward to it every week. But it's more than just the local news. It's your town square. It's a place for you to share your stories. Cheer your achievements. And even express concerns, typically coupled with solutions to make life better.

Your local newspaper is where you learn about those running for office who want to represent you in government. Where you learn about meetings happening in your neighborhood that you should be a part of. And where you learn how to be a part of the decision-making process.

And, of course, your local newspaper is about supporting local businesses, because they are the backbone of anything we build. They are a source of jobs, tax revenue, and everything we need to maintain happy homes, schools and workplaces.

The pages of the Herald are where we got to meet Rabbi Aaron Marsh, the new leader of East Meadow Beth-El Jewish Center. It's where we learned about Alex Kremins of Long Beach, who literally gave the gift of life, by way of a bone marrow transplant, to a teenager in Washington state who has leukemia.

We celebrated 127 years of Jewish War Veterans, the nation's longest-operating veterans organization, through its Rockville Centre-based chapter, and learned that it's a group that only wants to grow. And we said goodbye to Helen Dolan, the "quiet philanthropist" and the former owner of the Oyster Bay Guardian, which is now the Oyster Bay Herald.

In the pages of your local newspaper, you read local coverage of national and international events that you couldn't find anywhere else. We've heard so much about the tragic terrorist attack in Israel on Oct. 6, but it was the Herald that detailed the long, empty table of plates and silverware set up by Young Israel of Woodmere to honor and remember the hostages taken by Hamas.

And then there was George Santos, the disgraced former congressman, who

sat down with Herald reporters not once, but twice — the second time just days before he was indicted by a federal grand jury.

There is no news like hyperlocal, community news — and nothing can impact your life more than learning about what's happening in your own backyard. It's why local newspapers are vital, and why we hope you never want to live, work or go to school anywhere there isn't one.

As we dive into the new year, we want to take a moment to consult with our most important source: you. How are we doing? What do you enjoy about our coverage? What could you do without? What are we missing? What would you like to find in these pages in 2024 and beyond?

Our executive editor, Michael Hinman, wants to talk with you. He grew up in a small town — much like the amazing communities here on Long Island — and wants to make sure you're getting everything you expect from your local paper. Take a moment, share your thoughts with him at execeditor@liherald.com, and he will respond directly.

And remember, we all love our communities and the people in them. That makes us optimists, not pessimists. We don't need to tiptoe into 2024, but we can march in proudly. Because, as country music star Brad Paisley sings, "Tomorrow is the first blank page of a 365-page book. Write a good one."

LETTERS

Stories of addiction made an impact

To the Editor:

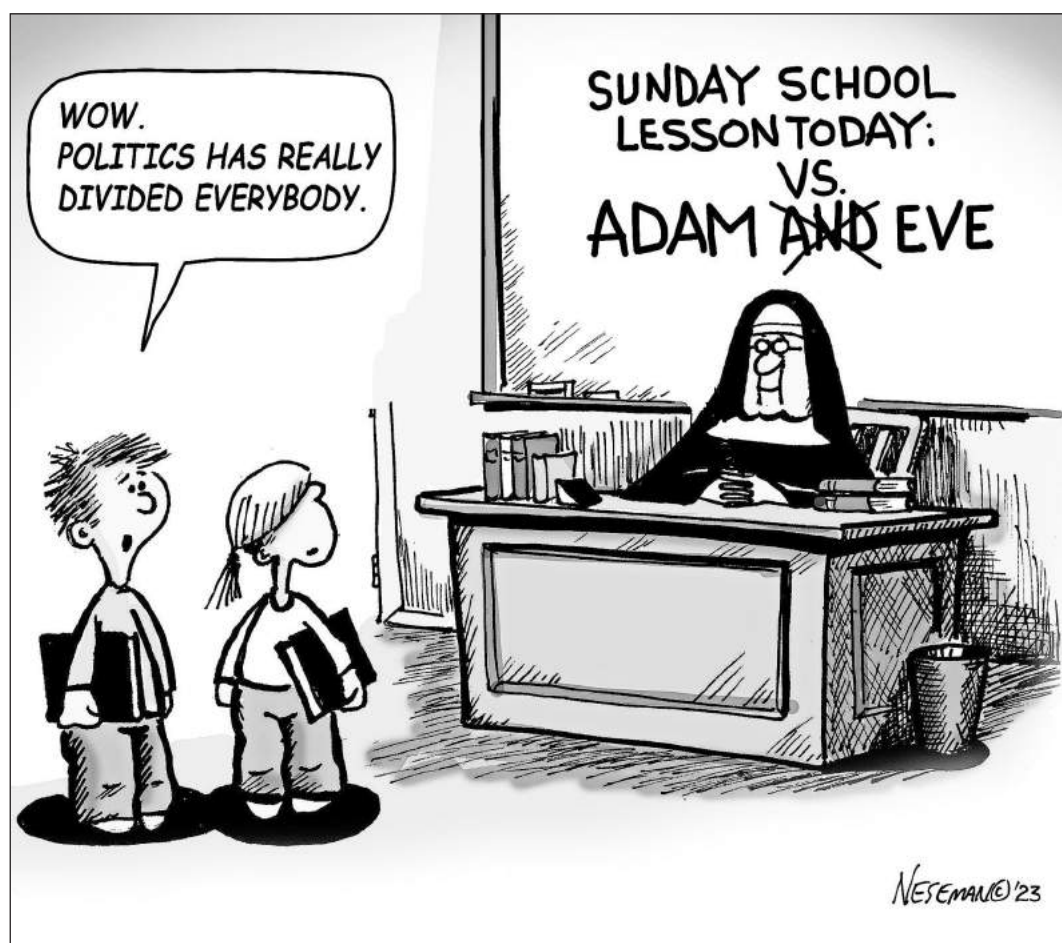
Laura Lane's articles, "Jack O'Neill always wanted to 'be a part of something'" (Dec. 14-20) and "Unable to wake up from a Robitussin nightmare" (Dec. 21-27) had a profound effect on me. Lane should take a bow for writing poignant and intimate accounts of two local brothers. My hat is off to the family, and to the Herald for sharing these heart-rending episodes on the impact of addiction. We, the audience of readers, are all served by knowing this family.

CHRIS MICELI
Sea Cliff

Schumer loves visiting every county. How about the U.S.-Mexico border?

To the Editor:

In 2023, just like he has over the past 24



OPINIONS

Understanding trauma from the horrors of Oct. 7

Sadly, Jews have had their own relationship with trauma. From the pogroms to the Holocaust, this trauma has left a long-lasting effect on the Jewish people.

Studies like those reported by Psyc.com, an online mental health resource, have shown that “trauma can leave a chemical mark on a person’s genes,



**SHAI
BELOOSESKY**

which can then be passed down to future generations. This mark doesn’t cause a genetic mutation but does alter the mechanism by which the gene is expressed. This alteration is not genetic, but epigenetic.”

This means we each carry with us trauma we did

not personally experience. Each of us exhibits behaviors that result not from just our own lives.

What happens to groups of people

who experience generations of trauma? What happens when a new trauma is introduced? What about the effects of the Oct. 7 attack in Israel on the generations to come? What about the released hostages and their trauma?

Today we understand that generational trauma can cause anxiety, depression, anger, irritability, substance abuse, feelings of distrust and alertness toward others. Recognizing these symptoms allows mental health providers to help treat and even begin altering the chemical mark on future generations. This makes it imperative to recognize them and provide proper mental health treatment.

In regard to the horrors of Oct. 7 in Israel, the trauma is complicated. Because of technology, people were affected on many levels.

There were those who experienced the horrors firsthand. Those on the phone with loved ones who were experiencing it in real time.

Those loved ones who had to witness it on Hamas videos, friends who had friends, Israelis, and fellow Jews all over the world. And the Hamas videos many of us saw.

And then there are the hostages, with a different set of issues. Each will carry their own level of trauma. It’s important to recognize all of the levels, and not to dismiss our own sad feelings.

My friends, please take care of yourselves, and never hesitate to seek a professional if needed.

“Be strong and courageous. Do not be afraid or terrified because of them, for the Lord your God goes with you; he will never leave you nor forsake you”:

Deuteronomy 31:6.

The Jewish people are strong, courageous and resilient. We always prevail, even after the most horrible of atrocities. Today, however, we will triumph in a healthier manner than we’ve done in our past. We will acknowledge our men-

tal health needs and provide the care they require.

Only time will tell us how the survivors of Oct. 7 will fare. For now, they must come to terms with their own survival and the loss of loved ones and of friends. They will have to deal with how they survived — many having used dead family members and friends to hide under.

Some hostages — particularly the children — may have formed friendships with their captors and have guilt for leaving. There are so many unimaginable emotions many of us will never understand.

I am proud of my fellow Israelis in the health field for the work they’ve done, and for the long, hard road ahead. For now, I offer this: “God is close to the brokenhearted, and saves those who are crushed in spirit. For the righteous with heavy hearts may God ease their troubles”: Psalm 34:18-19.

May all find sholom nefesh — peace of the soul.

Jeshayahu ‘Shai’ Beloosesky is the rabbi of Temple Avodah in Oceanside.

We each carry with us trauma we did not personally experience.

LETTERS

years, Sen. Chuck Schumer has taken pride in visiting all 62 counties in New York state. He just visited Hudson, in Columbia County, to complete his tour. These annual visits provide him with a better understanding of the needs for residents of each county.

But when was the last time he visited our country’s southern border? He could view firsthand our ongoing invasion of illegal immigrants. When will he visit the Roosevelt Hotel in Manhattan, or Floyd Bennett Field in his home borough of Kings County, which are now migrant shelters?

The number of illegal migrants will likely exceed 2 million for the third year in a row in 2024. Schumer could also learn from border agents about their fight to stem the smuggling of fentanyl, which is killing over 100,000 Americans every year. When will Schumer travel to El Paso, Texas, and observe this crisis firsthand? Perhaps that would convince him to stop holding up funding for the completion of a border wall to protect our sovereignty as a nation.

LARRY PENNER
Great Neck

Lower the revenue projections for congestion pricing

To the Editor:

I recommend that congestion pricing legislation be amended to remove the

projection of \$1 billion in toll revenue. There should not be any minimum mandatory revenue amount, which would allow a much more affordable toll, instead of \$15. London collects much less revenue with its Congestion Charge, and requiring \$1 billion in yearly revenue is arbitrary and regressive.

SANJEEV RAMCHANDRA
Phoenix

We must take care of adolescents who become pregnant

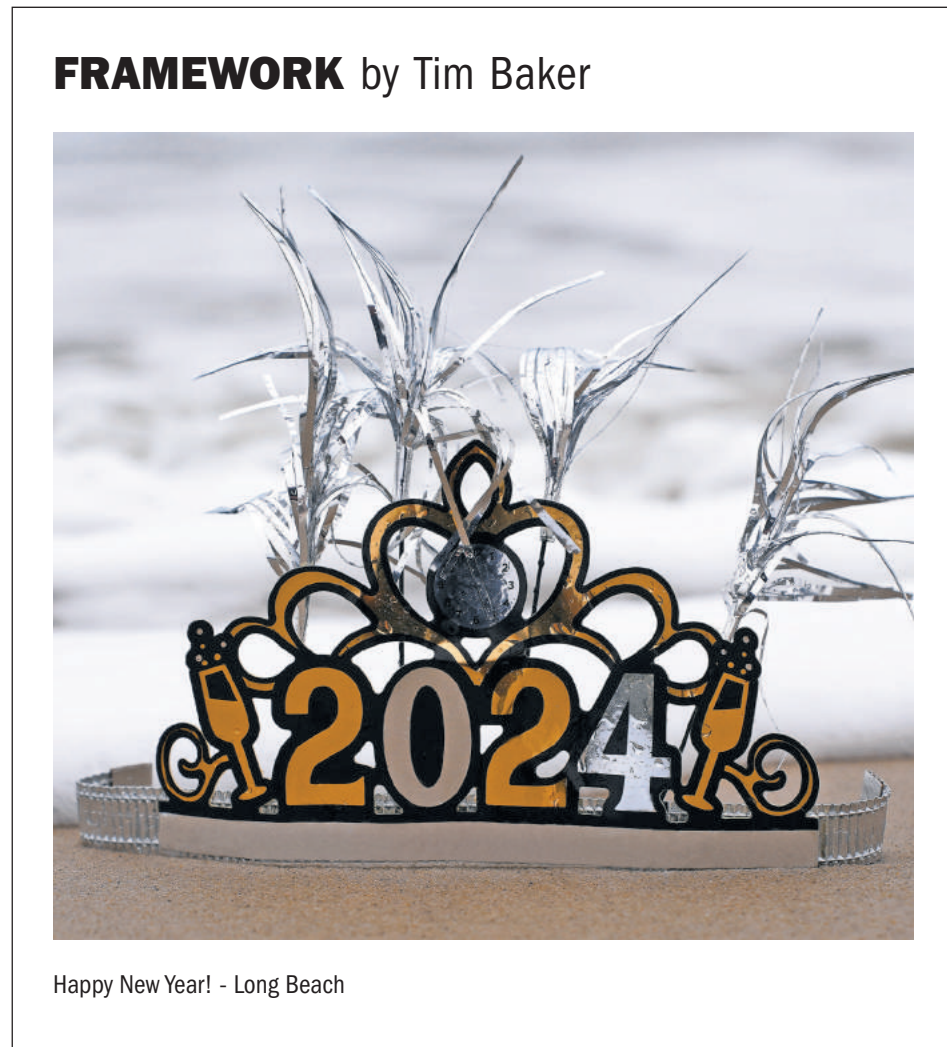
To the Editor:

I ask you to support the adolescents in our communities. Nearly 350,000 American teenagers under age 18 become pregnant each year, and about 31 percent of those pregnancies end up being aborted. The after-effect of these procedures is a significant amount of psychological damage among the patients.

These adolescents are left having to deal with not only society’s public shame, but also emotional distress and minimal support.

Many of them struggle with PTSD, heightened anxiety and depression. As a community, we have to bring comfort and support to these adolescents in need, and make help more accessible and accepted.

If the community doesn’t play its part in fixing such an issue, that leads to last-



Happy New Year! - Long Beach

FRAMEWORK by Tim Baker

ing emotional consequences. Consequences like self-harm or even suicide. But it’s not too late to do something about it. Allow us to bring awareness to these struggles. Allow for resources to be easier to obtain for these kids. Or simply just show the community’s support

through fundraisers, and raise money to help families struggling with this issue.

SARA FUENTES
Freeport

Sara Fuentes is a senior at Freeport High School.

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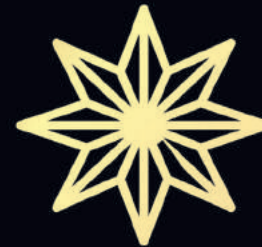
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