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Ready to serve on City Council
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New councilman a familiar face
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Tim Baker/Herald

Elected officials and T.R.'s great-grandson, second from left, gathered at the Theodore Roosevelt Executive and Legislative Building to reflect on the history of Nassau County, which turned 125.

Celebrating 125 years of Nassau County

By WILL SHEELINE

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Nassau County launched a year-long celebration to commemorate the 125th anniversary of the county on Jan. 4, ringing in 2024 with an acknowledgement of the county's long and proud history.

Local politicians and a great-grandson of Theodore Roosevelt gathered in the Theodore Roosevelt Executive and Legislative Building to announce the county plans to honor its history with events and promoting educational initiatives.

The area that became Nassau County was originally inhabited by numerous native tribes, including the Marsapeque, Matinecoc and Sacatogue. By the early 1600's, the Dutch began to settle the island, forming part of the colony they called New Netherland. By the mid to late 1600's the English began to populate the area as well.

Nassau County, as it is known today, was formed in 1899, following approval from the state Legislature, as the three towns that make up what is now the county agitated to be

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Gen. David Petraeus to discuss new book on war, Jan. 15

By WILL SHEELINE

wsheeline@liherald.com

He spent nearly four decades serving his country with the U.S. Army, rising to the rank of general and leading U.S. Central Command. And if that wasn't enough, he would lead the CIA.

David Petraeus has certainly made a difference and sparked conversation. And now he's sharing some of that military expertise with his latest book, "Conflict: The Evolution of Warfare from 1915 to Ukraine," that he wrote with British historian Andrew Roberts.

Petraeus joins former con-

gressman Steve Israel — now owner of Theodore's Books in Oyster Bay — as part of the "In Conversation With Steve Israel" series on Monday, Jan. 15 at 7 p.m., at Congregation L'Dor V'Dor, 11 Temple Lane, Oyster Bay, cosponsored by the congregation and by Raynham Hall Museum in Oyster Bay. The series allows Israel to sit down with various authors and discuss the writing process, inspirations and lessons that can be gleaned from their work.



GEN. DAVID PETRAEUS

The idea for the series came to Israel following his departure from Congress in 2017, viewing it as a way to bridge the political divide and provide relevant, unbiased information to patrons of Theodore's.

"When I left Congress, I was so frustrated with a political environment that is reduced to soundbites and tweets, and wanted the bookstore's mission to be deep conversations about contemporary challenges," Israel said. "I just want to bring

people to our community. I want to bring global leaders to our community to have meaningful dialogue."

Israel spent considerable time with Petraeus during his congressional tenure, getting to know him while visiting American troops in Iraq and Afghanistan. He even brought the general to Sagamore Hill for a tour

a few years ago.

What impressed Israel the most about Petraeus was how he embraced his role not just as a military leader, but as a scholar.

"I found him to be one of the most insightful and deep thinkers in the military," Israel said. "I learned from him that I can't

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2

Former CIA director speaks on changes in conflict

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

understand modern-day complexities or strategic complexities without understanding history.”

The decision to host Petraeus was a natural one for Israel, thanks to that friendship.

“When I heard that he had a book about conflict, I simply emailed him,” Israel said. “Within minutes, he emailed me back, saying, ‘I’d love to come to Theodore’s.’”

The Q&A session focuses on Petraeus’s book, which delves into the changing nature of conflict over the past 70 years, offering a chance to understand the strategic imperatives that apply to contemporary challenges.

“People will learn how conflict has changed from World War II to today,” Israel said, “and how we must unite to keep the peace.”

The discussion is also expected to cover a wide range of topics, including the war in Ukraine, the conflict between Israel and Hamas, and tensions between China and Taiwan. Israel stressed that Petraeus’s insights would provide essential lessons for understanding these global challenges.

“What Petraeus teaches is what those imperatives are — the importance of strategic leadership, the importance of communicating a clear message to sub-

If you go ...

What: ‘In Conversation With Steve Israel’

Who: U.S. Army Gen. David Petraeus, author of ‘Conflict: The Evolution of Warfare from 1915 to Ukraine’

When: Monday, Jan. 15 at 7 p.m.

Where: Congregation L’Dor V’Dor, 11 Temple Lane, Oyster Bay

Cost: Free

Info/Register: TheodoresBooks.com/event, or (516) 636-5550

ordinates, and the constant re-evaluation of operations,” he said.

Israel commended the general’s book for offering lessons that transcend the battlefield, applying to various aspects of life, such as running a business, or maintaining the health and happiness of a family.

“In Conversation With Steve Israel” featuring Gen. David Petraeus is free, but registration is required. Visit TheodoresBooks.com/event, or call (516) 636-5550.

NEWS BRIEF

Honor a hometown hero in Oyster Bay

The Town of Oyster Bay is now accepting applications for the 2024 Hometown Heroes’ Community Recognition Program. This initiative recognizes the service and sacrifice of the brave men and women of the United States Armed Forces – both living and deceased – who are current or former Town of Oyster Bay residents.

“My Town Board colleagues and I were amazed by the outpouring of support this program has received from residents, businesses and local heroes,” said Steve Labriola, town councilman. “We are proud to return this important initiative to our communities and look forward to further recognizing our veterans, active duty service members, and their families for their commitment to defend our freedoms and democracy.”

Banners bearing the nominated individual’s name, rank, photograph and area of service will be unveiled throughout selected park facilities across the Town of Oyster Bay in the months leading up to Veterans Day in November. Any interested individual or organization who would wish to sponsor a banner

can remit \$75 to sponsor the production of a banner. No profit is made from this program.

Once the banners are displayed, the town will maintain the banners, and will remain on display until Veterans Day, where they will then be taken down to avoid any inclement winter weather and returned to the service family or their loved ones. Those who sponsored a banner last year are reminded to submit a new application in order to be included in the 2024 season. Applications must be received by March 15.

“This is an especially meaningful way to honor those who bravely and selflessly served our nation,” added Town Together as a community we will honor the brave men and women of the United States Armed Forces who sacrificed a great deal for our nation, as well as many local veterans who continue to serve our community and their fellow veterans through advocacy efforts.”

For more information on how to sponsor a banner, visit OysterBay-Town.com/herobanners to download or submit an application, or call (516) 797-4121.

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DeRiggi's 'A Beautiful Life in Paintings'

By **ROKSANA AMID**

ramid@liherald.com

Millie DeRiggi, a 50-year resident of Glen Cove, is often seen giving speeches at local colleges or universities, or speaking at the North Shore Historical Museum to a roomful of residents about one of Glen Cove's early settlers.

The 85-year-old, the wife of former Mayor Donald DeRiggi, and mother to Nassau County Legislator Delia DeRiggi-Whitton and Brendan DeRiggi, presented the opening reception for her exhibition, "A Beautiful Life in Paintings," at the Sea Cliff Arts Council on Jan. 4. The artistic showcase reflects and illuminates the travels, interests and artistic talents of the multifaceted DeRiggi, whose has written a book about the origins of the City of Glen Cove, and focused her doctoral dissertation from Stony Brook University on the early Quaker settlers of Long Island.

She is a graduate of Chestnut Hill College, where she studied science and history, which fostered her creative spark and love of history. She first assisted in helping to stretch canvases.

"The idea was just to get history," DeRiggi said. "Not to judge but to understand. Understanding the past is the way to understand the present."

DeRiggi attended the University of Delaware where she received her master's in history. Upon her graduation, she became one of three question and answer writers for the legendary quiz shows "Jeopardy!"

It was her extensive background in history that led show runners to hire her immediately. She also wrote for "G.E. College Bowl" during the 1960s.

After giving birth to DeRiggi-Whitton, DeRiggi took a break from working to be primarily a stay-at-home mom. She also worked as an adjunct professor at Molloy College and Long Island University.

When her children were in high school, DeRiggi served as historian for the Nassau County Museum Division and director of its collection at the Long Island Studies Institute at Hofstra University from the 1990s until 2003. She



Photos courtesy Delia DeRiggi-Whitton

Millie DeRiggi's paintings were inspired by her worldly travels, including her visit to Porto Venere, Italy.

went on to earn her PhD in history at SUNY at Stony Brook.

Many of the exhibits are reflections of places DeRiggi has visited with her family throughout the years. Water, the Italian countryside, her grandchildren, and historic landmarks inspire many of paintings.

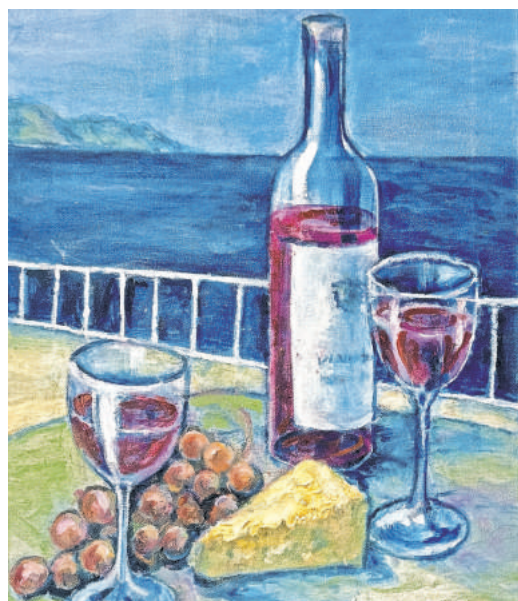
During a phone interview with the Herald, DeRiggi's husband, Donald, recalled a vacation to Galveston, TX. that inspired a still life painting depicting the couple's balcony from their trip.

"We had read a book about the hurricane which had killed 8,000 people in

1908," DeRiggi said. "It was ironic that we were having a bottle of wine where a tremendous devastation occurred."

DeRiggi-Whitton said that although her mother is a well-known writer, she didn't speak of her art frequently.

"Everybody was surprised at how talented she was because she really only took a couple art classes," DeRiggi-Whitton said, referring to remarks made at the exhibit opening. "She taught herself, she has an incredible talent."



This painting, featured in the exhibit, is a view from Deriggi's balcony when she and her husband visited Galveston, TX.



Courtesy Peter M. Budraitis

Ryan Sander, far left, Christine and Arianna Whitton, Donald DeRiggi and Amanda Sander celebrated the opening reception of Millie DeRiggi's exhibit at the Sea Cliff Arts Council. Millie DeRiggi couldn't make it to the event but participated through Zoom.



Millie DeRiggi, a 50-year resident of Glen Cove, held her exhibit, 'A Beautiful Life in Paintings' at the Sea Cliff Arts Council.

Great-grandson of Roosevelt in attendance

January 11, 2024 – GLEN COVE HERALD

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removed from Queens' jurisdiction when Queens became a borough of New York City.

Now, 125 years later, Bruce Blakeman, Nassau County executive, reflected on the history of the county and how it had always welcomed in myriads of people, from first the Dutch and English to later waves of immigrants.

"We're going to celebrate the rich history of Nassau County over the last 125 years," Blakeman said. "Nassau County is home to every race, every religion, every ethnic group, and we get along. We get along because we respect each other and we care about each other and we love each other, and although we may have disagreements from time to time, we settle our disagreements in a peaceful way by agreeing to disagree."

Blakeman also reflected on the legacy of Theodore Roosevelt, whose personal history was uniquely tied to the county in which he spent the latter years of his life as a resident of Oyster Bay. The executive described how Roosevelt's

"Man in the Arena" speech, an oft-quoted excerpt from a speech he gave at the Sorbonne in Paris titled "Citizenship in a Republic," had inspired Blakeman and thousands like him throughout the decades since the president wrote it.

This is a great time to be a resident of Nassau County. I cannot wait to see how we celebrate and highlight our county history.

MAZI MELESA PILIP
Nassau County Legislator

Tweed Roosevelt, great-grandson of the 26th president and chairman of the Theodore Roosevelt Institute and the Roosevelt School at Long Island University, was on hand to reflect on how Nassau County had changed in the century since the patriarch of his family had lived at Sagamore Hill. Roosevelt, who grew up in Cold Spring Harbor, discussed his memories of the area and how it would have been in his great-grandfather's day.

Roosevelt emphasized his great-grandfather's deep attachment to Oyster Bay and Nassau County, and that despite his numerous travels throughout nearly every continent, the Rough Rider always returned to the county he called home. He added that the president did this despite the tragic loss of his wife, Alice Lee, who he had been building the home for.

"He was building his house for his



Tim Baker/Herald

Tweed Roosevelt, great-grandson of the 26th president, discussed the importance of Oyster Bay and Nassau County to his rough riding ancestor.

first wife, it was going to be called Leeholm, and it had been more or less completed until on a tragic day, Valentine's Day, his wife and mother both died," Roosevelt said. "But he decided to continue with the house, renamed it Sagamore Hill. It was his home from then on."

Joseph Saladino, Town of Oyster Bay supervisor, also referenced the influence of President Roosevelt on Nassau County that continues to this day, as well as other important historic figures and events that have taken place in Nassau over the years, from the music of Billy Joel to the creation of the first modern suburb. The supervisor added that while much changed over the decades, the people of Nassau County were the same hard-working and honorable people that Roosevelt had often written and spoken so fondly of over a century ago.

"Our rich history runs deep, and certainly deserves to be celebrated," Saladino said. "We are thrilled to be recognized in the many facets that make Nassau County such a special place to live,

to work, and to raise our families."

Mazi Melesa Pilip, county legislator for Great Neck and the Republican candidate in the congressional special election for District 3, also emphasized how, as an Israeli immigrant in the early 2000's, she felt immediately welcomed into the county and her community by the families there. She pointed out that the county's plan for social and educational programs would help grow the businesses in Nassau in addition to informing its residents on the proud history that they are a part of.

"This is a great time to be a resident of Nassau County," Pilip said. "I cannot wait to see how we celebrate and highlight our county history."

While the exact plan for the year's activities was not discussed at the event, Blakeman's office has previously confirmed that there will be over a dozen events planned throughout the year, starting with a Sheriff's Ball on Jan. 18 to honor the foundation of the Sheriff's Department, one of the first county agencies.

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Keeping The Lights On

Adapted from author Doug Armey, the following are keys to keeping your brain "lit" as you age.

1. Flow. A sedentary life causes brain deterioration. Blood flow to the brain keeps oxygen in your brain cells which gives them life. Keep moving, walking and get some exercise.

2. Energize. Junk food clogs your arteries and lowers energy, causing a sedentary lifestyle. Healthy food gives energy to your body and brain. Refuel and brighten the lights.

3. Recharge. Lack of enough sleep causes deterioration of the brain. Your brain needs downtime to recharge. Give it enough recharging and keep the lights burning bright.

4. Relax. Constant high stress has damaging effects on the brain and can lead to destructive habits which add further damage.

Learn to control stress and let the lights shine.

5. Engage. Like muscles your brain needs exercise. Too often people, after retirement, retire their brains also so they atrophy. Stay engaged, exercise your brain with reading, puzzles and other challenges to keep the lights going on strong.

6. Love. When people grow isolated their brains lack stimulation and they grow dull. Stay connected with family and friends to brighten the lights.

7. Adventure. Many older people lose their zest for new adventures. You don't need to climb Everest just break out of dull routines. Any venture out to new places turns up the lights.

8. Purpose. People can lose interest in life after they have retired, feeling they have no purpose. Look for opportunities to volunteer. Helping others keeps the lights flaming.

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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**

1243639

New tax assessor aims to be accessible

January 11, 2024 – GLEN COVE HERALD

By CHARLES SHAW

cshaw@liherald.com

As the new acting tax assessor for Nassau County, Joseph Adamo wants his department to be accurate and transparent when it comes to establishing how much tax properties inside the county will pay each year.

For some 25 years, Adamo has worked on the other side of the field, representing clients wanting to challenge how governments assessed the value of their properties, with the hope of reducing tax bills. This, he says, gives him an understanding of how assessments work, where property values should be, and the importance of getting to know the people behind the deeds.

“The one thing that I want to get across to everyone in Nassau County is that I’m going to be the most resident-friendly assessor out of them all,” Adamo told the Herald. “I’m here to do a job, and I’m going to do it well.”

The role of the assessment department is, among other things, to determine the taxable value of all residential and commercial properties in Nassau County. That includes collecting property information, maintaining property records and tax maps, and answering questions from the community.

Although he’s spent the past decade working in Manhattan, according to his online resume, Adamo is no stranger to Nassau, growing up in Levittown. Nassau is a county he loves, Adamo says, and hopes to turn the assessment office into one people can rely on. “I want every owner of property to have a fair, accu-

rate, transparent, assessment office,” Adamo said. “Maybe under the previous administration it wasn’t that, but now I feel like the problems have been fixed, and now we’re going forward.”

And there have been a few errors. Democrats in the county legislature revealed in 2022 that nearly 850 property owners were overcharged for school taxes.

And then last March, county officials discovered it had failed to apply \$139 million in assessed valuation on nearly 625 homes, which left affected homeowners with little time to challenge the assessments.

Finding a permanent county assessor has been challenging since the departure of David Moog — appointed by then-county executive Laura Curran — in 2021. Matthew Cronin moved into the role soon after, but stepped down last summer.

Since then, the County Executive Bruce Blakeman searched nationwide for a successor, realizing he did not need to look far, finding Adamo in his own backyard. And Blakeman has made his expectations of

Adamo clear, telling the Herald in a statement his new acting assessor will make the department “the most fair, accurate, transparent and resident-friendly department in the nation.”

Adamo will serve in an acting capacity for the next six months. By summer, Blakeman is expected to decide if his role becomes permanent.

In the meantime, Adamo, wants to get more of his staff on the phones to make sure assessments are correct. He believes in talking to people and putting himself out there.

“I just look forward to the challenge ahead,” Adamo said.

I’m here to do a job, and I’m going to do it well.

JOSEPH ADAMO
acting tax assessor,
Nassau County



Courtesy Nassau County Executive Bruce Blakeman

Joseph Adamo, the new acting assessor for Nassau County, brings with him 25 years of experience assessing property for tax value. He replaces Matthew Cronin, who left his interim position last year.

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A New Year Means New Beginnings ...



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1/1/24

Happy New Year! Life is a great gift and I am grateful for so much. Our family, our health, the blessing of our nation and its history. But...we seem to have so many problems that our leaders don't seem focused on.

There is simply too much division and finger pointing. For the New Year, let's resolve to put aside partisanship and pledge to work together to make our community, our nation and our world better.

From our family to yours,
Happy New Year!

FOR CONGRESS ★ 2024

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Wishes to preserve city's unique character

By **ROKSANA AMID**

ramid@iherald.com

First term councilman Michael Ktistakis is a dedicated businessman who brings a wealth of knowledge. He is profoundly committed to the city, he said, that shaped his values during his formative years, which led him to establish his own business, All Island Lawn Maintenance.

According to certified results from the Board of Elections, Ktistakis was elected by roughly 8 percent of the votes, totaling 2,374 ballots in favor for him.

Ktistakis said that he didn't initially plan on running for city council, but after a few requests from Mayor Pamela Panzenbeck, he realized that stepping into local government might be his calling.

"It's an extreme honor to represent the people in Glen Cove," Ktistakis said. "It's a huge step for me, but at the same time it comes very natural to me just to be here with people listening to them."

As a teenager, Ktistakis was known among his friends as the guy who would leave them to mow his neighbors' lawns.

"He has a strong work ethic," Elen Pantazakos, Ktistakis' longtime friend, said. "(When) something needs to be done he puts in his all. He has a very positive attitude and friendly persona. People are drawn to him because he's very passionate about things he loves the most."

Ktistakis says he always knew he wanted to raise a family here because the community was heartfelt.

"My wife, she grew up in Flushing, and when I first brought her out here, she asked if I was sure I want to live here," Ktistakis recalled. "I told her it was the best place to grow up."

Some of his fondest memories stem from his time throughout the city.



Courtesy Michael Ktistakis

Michael Ktistakis said that he didn't initially plan on running for City Council, but realized that stepping into local government might be his calling.

"Every day you wake up and there's something for you to do as a kid," Ktistakis said. "Spending time at the beaches, Morgans or the bike trails, it was endless. It was like a kid's heaven."

Ktistakis was influenced by key figures in the city's school district, such as Coach Mark Hasen and Richard Roselli, who both left an indelible mark on Ktistakis' character. Hasen's dedication and emphasis on hard work guided Ktistakis through a successful basketball career. The 51-year-old says still thinks of his mentors to this day, saying Glen Cove High School also gave him a

great sense of direction for his life.

"When I hear people demeaning our school district, and I hear it a lot, it upsets me very much," Ktistakis said. "My son just graduated from there back in June. He did exceptionally well. He used his experience to his benefit, and he moved on."

After graduating from C.W. Post in the '90s with a degree in finance, Ktistakis pursued interviews for traditional jobs in his field of study but realized that his passion lay in landscaping. This led to the establishment of All Island Lawn Maintenance in 1995, marking the beginning of his successful entrepreneurial journey, and dedication to helping his neighbors.

Now, Ktistakis is taking his commitment to Glen Cove to the political arena. His campaign centered around community input, transparency, and addressing concerns related to overdevelopment based upon his BZA experience. Ktistakis emphasized the delicate balance required for modernization while preserving the unique character and helping "mom and pop" businesses of the city.

Addressing one of Glen Cove's challenges, Ktistakis says he sees the need for increased foot traffic in various downtown areas, stating that the city, as compared to other municipalities, must focus on areas outside the Business Improvement Districts on Glen and School streets, and should also focus on businesses on Cedar Swamp Road and elsewhere. He envisions collaboration with local businesses and community events to stimulate economic activity, fostering a more vibrant city.

"If we're going to be having, for example, an Oktoberfest party at Garvies Point, then let's make it so that nobody wants to go home at nine o'clock," Ktistakis explained. "Let's continue it at some other local places like Burger Boys. We must think of everyone when we're having an event."

Local entrepreneur to City Council member

By **ROKSANA AMID**

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John Zozzaro's journey from a Glen Cove native to a City Council member unfolded through the 51-year-old's tapestry of community involvement, entrepreneurial spirit, and a deep connection to his Italian roots.

Zozzaro, a first-term council member, remained cautious on election night about his lead, saying until the Nassau County Board of Elections deemed the election official he would not be celebrating.

"I don't want to be a politician. I want to do the right thing for people," he said on Nov. 7. "It's not a Democratic or Republican thing."

He ended up receiving roughly 8 percent of the votes cinching the council seat.

Born and raised in Glen Cove, his story mirrors the classic American dream, enriched by the immigrant experience of his parents.

Zozzaro's life unfolded against the backdrop of Glen Cove's urban panorama. He ran the Downtown Cafe until 2022 while also managing Pizza Company 7, a food truck business with a Neapolitan wood-burning Pavesi pizza oven.

Last year, Zozzaro took part in "Tailgate Takedown," an hour-long collaboration between the NFL and Food Network. The national spotlight showcased him and colleague Angelo Competiello from New Jersey, both of whom are avid food and sports enthusiasts.

Zozzaro and Competiello were selected as the episode's winners by a rotating panel of Food Network judges after which they were rushed to the 50-yard line and received their own Yum-Bardi Trophy and grand prize of \$300.

Zozzaro's involvement with the Glen Cove Business



Courtesy John Zozzaro

John Zozzaro, a first-term council member, owns the business, Pizza Company 7.

Improvement District, a testament to his commitment, started during his restaurant days. He transitioned into the role of a City Council member, ready to contribute more to his beloved city.

His decision to run for City Council stemmed from an intimate understanding of Glen Cove and its ambition to improve foot-traffic downtown.

"I love when the downtown BID does their concert series. It shows Glen Cove is a vibrant community," Zozzaro said. "It reminds me of when I was growing up in the 80s here and there was all this foot-traffic because not everyone's going to Roosevelt Field Mall."

Having been part of the Glen Cove Business Improvement District for several years, he observed the intricacies of the downtown area. It was after selling his restaurant, that he found himself with more time, making City Council involvement feasible.

His commitment to listening to the community, and

improving the city one step at a time guided his political journey.

"My whole thing from the beginning is basically common sense. Implementing things and listening to what people want," Zozzaro said. "Implementing simple things like more parking that would go a long way to help downtown businesses."

After pursuing accounting at the New York Institute of Technology, he realized that a desk job wasn't his calling. He began to explore various jobs, including working in pizzerias, before venturing into the restaurant business on his own.

Zozzaro's deep connection to the community became evident through annual events like the St. Baldrick's fundraiser, where participants have their head shaved to raise funds for children's cancer research. His involvement with the Nicholas Perdone Foundation, which provides gift packages, entertainment and financial support for children with cancer, showcased his commitment to making a positive impact on his community as well as his involvement with the BID.

Zozzaro's ties to Glen Cove go beyond politics and business; they are deeply rooted in family and tradition. Although his parents immigrated to Glen Cove from Sossano, Italy in the same year, they hadn't met until they settled in Glen Cove. His father worked in local factories for over 30 years, while his mother, after raising her children, became a secretary at St. Rocco's. Their love story, intertwined with Glen Cove, became a foundation for Zozzaro's connection to the community.

As a board member of Sons of Italy and a volunteer at St. Rocco's feasts, he continues to celebrate and preserve Italian traditions. He is proud of the diverse yet unified nature of Glen Cove, he said, where different cultures coalesce into a unique community identity.



HOST
MICHAEL HINMAN
EXECUTIVE EDITOR
HERALD COMMUNITY
NEWSPAPERS



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DR. GILES SCUDERI
VICE PRESIDENT OF THE
ORTHOPEDIC SERVICE LINE AT
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THURSDAY
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Roksana Amid/Herald photos

The Dance Mechanics helped usher in the New Year in downtown Glen Cove.

Celebrating the new year with the BID

Downtown Glen Cove was bustling with the funky beats of the Dance Mechanics as attendees eagerly waited for the new year. Despite the cold and breezy night, the Downtown Sounds New Year's Eve concert was the perfect opportunity to gather with friends, family, and neighbors to focus on the end of 2023, and the beginning of 2024, with an exciting fireworks display.

The New Year symbolizes an end and a beginning all in one single moment at midnight on Jan. 1, but the day of celebration wasn't always in the middle of winter. Mesopotamia, from modern-day Iraq, instituted the concept of celebrating the new year in 2000 BCE. This celebration took place around the time of the vernal equinox, in mid-March. The early Roman calendar, consisting of 10 months, designated March 1 as the first day of the year. Then, in pre-Christian Rome under the Julian calendar, the day was dedicated to Janus, god of gateways and beginnings, for whom January is also named.

—Roksana Amid



Annmarie Petrizzo, left, Elissa Stagno, Shawn Rezek and Bernadette Finegan had a great time.



Gary Wells and Meryl Rosen-Wells awed the crowd with their energetic dance moves.



Jim Carlton and Lynn A. Smith danced the night away waiting for the new year.



Jill Nossa, executive director of the BID, right, and Leah Dwyer, assistant director, helped ring in the new year by organizing the event and distributing New Year's memorabilia.

STEPPING OUT



Courtesy Hot Wheels Monster Trucks Live

Demo Derby — driven by Taylor Holman — and other popular trucks, including Tiger Shark, will thrill fans with exciting car-crunching feats as they fly more than 35 feet in the air. 5-Alarm, the newest vehicle, is primed to be a star in the show. Plus, the fiery Arctigon thunders into the arena ready to chomp.

Hot Wheels havoc Monster trucks roar to life in spectacular style

By Danielle Schwab

Those iconic Hot Wheels toys take to the tracks when the Hot Wheels Monster Trucks Live Glow party lights up Nassau Coliseum.

Once again, fans of all ages can watch their favorite Hot Wheels trucks come to life when the action returns to Long Island, Jan. 20-21. The spectacle will involve families in monster mayhem, with a laser light show, dance parties, theatrical effects, toy giveaways — with the spotlight on exciting monster truck and motorcycle stunts.

It's truly a family affair, starting on the track. The Holman family — Bobby, his son, Cody, and Cody's wife, Taylor — all will be behind the wheel when the tour arrives here. They're among the drivers who adeptly handle these 12-foot-tall, 10,000-pound machines that bring audiences to their feet, racing and ripping up a custom-designed track full of obstacles.

Who better to be involved in a show geared to families than a family of monster truck drivers?

"It's really cool for us," says International Monster Truck Hall-of-Famer Bobby Holman. "A lot of people say they can't work with family. But for us, it's a really good deal and keeps us together. We expect more out of each other."

The elder Holman pilots Tiger Shark, a monster truck that, as he tells it, combines the best parts of both tiger and shark, making it a standout favorite for the kids. On top of driving Tiger Shark, he also had a direct hand in creating the epic ride.

"We put it all together, and Cody painted it," he says. "It literally looks like a shark sitting there, painted like a tiger."

As with the other drivers on the circuit, monster trucks are Holman's passion.

The owner of a monster truck repair shop in Dayton, Ohio — Team Beast Off-Road — he's been involved in the monster truck world for more than 40 years. He and his son work on many of the trucks that appear in the show, including painting and vinyl wrapping.

"I grew up around monster trucks. From the time I was old enough to walk, I knew I wanted to be a driver," Cody says. "When I was 17, I started doing shows with my dad."

This year, he's thrilled to be driving the newest edition to the monster truck lineup, Hot Wheels 5-Alarm, known as the fire truck hero.

Father and son are joined by Cody's wife Taylor, who drives Demo Derby. When she's not taking risks on the track and in air, she's devoted to caring for others on the frontline of health care as an ER nurse at a children's hospital in Ohio.

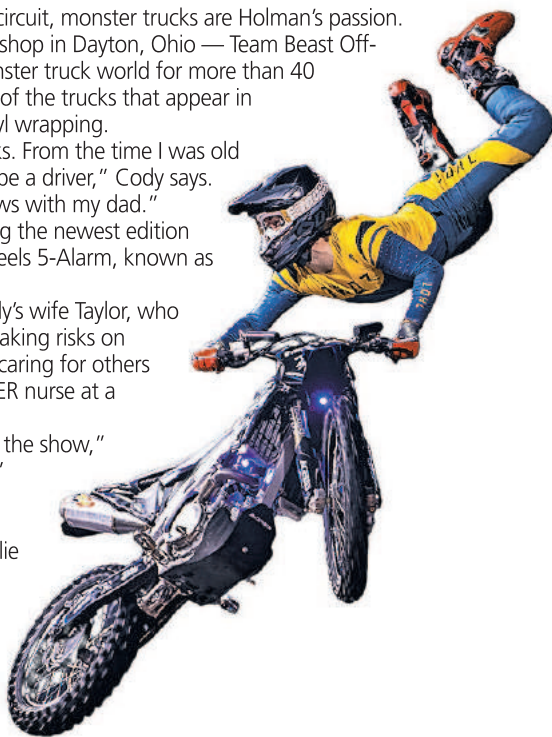
"Fans get to bring their family to the show,"

Cody says, "and I get to bring mine."

Friendly competition among the drivers quickly gets fans revved up. The non-stop action includes a wheelie competition, donuts, long jumps, freestyle, and even motocross.

And if that is not enough, there'll be a special appearance by the car-eating, fire-breathing transforming robot Arctigon.

Cody — last year's winner — is eager for a repeat. Fans will just have



- Saturday and Sunday, Jan. 20-21; times vary
- Tickets start at \$52.50, \$90.75 VIP, plus \$24.20 Crash Zone (prices are subject to change); available at [Ticketmaster.com](https://www.ticketmaster.com) and [HotWheelsMonsterTrucksLive.com](https://www.HotWheelsMonsterTrucksLive.com)
- Nassau Coliseum, Uniondale

to wait and see.

"Hot Wheels is all about the kids," Bobby says. "We even put in precautions because the trucks are typically very loud with these motors, so we put mufflers on them. A lot of these kids have never seen monster trucks up close, so we don't want to make them afraid of the trucks. Every part of the show is geared toward them."

From back flips on motorcycles to the aforementioned transforming robot, the show has it all. And in show-stopping monster truck fashion, it all happens in the dark.

"The show was phenomenal without the lasers, but now it's just incredible," Bobby adds. "If you've never seen the show, you need to because it's spectacular."

Everyone is encouraged to arrive early to experience the popular pre-show exclusive, Crash Zone. Fans can obtain access to the arena floor at 10 a.m. and 5 p.m., Saturday, and noon on Sunday, when they can see trucks up-close and meet the drivers, get autographs, take photos, and check out some toy versions of the big trucks. Fans also can purchase a VIP experience that includes souvenirs and a special backstage tour.

And of course, there will be Hot Wheels toys for sale including exclusive Hot Wheels trucks and merchandise.

Bobby Holman still remembers when Cody played with Hot Wheels as a kid. Now it's come full circle.

As Bobby puts it: "We bring toys to life. These kids see these little bitty trucks, and when they come into the arena, their eyes get wide and their smiles get big 'cause now they are seeing a real monster truck."



Pete Correale

The multi-faceted Pete Correale brings his 'Authentic' tour to the Paramount stage. You may know him from his numerous late-night appearances on the 'The Tonight Show,' 'Letterman and Conan,' his three TV comedy specials, or as co-host of 'The Pete and Sebastian Show,' his podcast with longtime friend Sebastian Maniscalco — with an ever-growing fan base. Correale's tours also continue to grow exponentially as more and more people discover him and fall for his accessible and extremely relatable point of view. His love for entertainment started when he went off to college. With a conversational delivery and his trademark disarming 'regular guy' attitude, he makes you feel like you're listening to the funniest guy at a party as opposed to just another comedian on a stage.

Saturday, Jan. 13, 7:30 p.m.
\$49.50, \$39.50, \$34.50, \$29.50.
The Paramount, 370 New York Ave., Huntington. Tickets available at [Ticketmaster.com](https://www.ticketmaster.com) or [ParamountNY.com](https://www.ParamountNY.com).



Ikigai

Sands Point Preserve's Four Seasons in Music series welcomes the new year with its first concert of 2024, at the stately Hempstead House. The Preserve's historic mansions and grounds are the backdrop for this unique chamber music series, created by the series' artistic director Kathryn Lockwood. The winter edition celebrates the Japanese 'ikigai,' a reason for living. The ensemble duoJalal — featuring Lockwood on viola and percussionist Yousif Sheronick — is joined by Japanese Koto player Yumi Kurosawa, violinists Ilmar Gavilan and Doori Na and cellist Raman Ramakrishnan. They'll dive into the traditional and non-traditional Japanese sounds. Inspired by their namesake, 13th century poet Jalal al din Rumi — whose words brought together people of different religions, cultures and races — duoJalal offers a stimulating inter-cultural experience.

Sunday, Jan. 14, 3 p.m. \$50, \$40 members. Sands Point Preserve. 127 Middle Neck Road, Sands Point. Tickets available at [SandsPointPreserveConservancy.org](https://www.SandsPointPreserveConservancy.org), or call (516) 571-7901.

THE \$ SCENE

Jan. 20

Tom Papa

The multi-faceted Tom Papa brings his "Good Stuff" tour to the Paramount

stage, Saturday, **Jan. 20**, 7:30

p.m. With more than 20 years on the stand-up circuit, Papa is one of the top comedic voices in the country. In addition to his mastery of the stage, he's found success in a variety of creative pursuits including as an actor and host in film and television, contributing writer for The New Yorker, author of three books, and popular podcast and radio host. He's also a sought-after panelist (and occasional guest host) for NPR's comedy news quiz Wait Wait... Don't Tell Me. Papa has five highly rated stand-up specials to his credit including his most recent Netflix special, *What A Day!*, filmed at the iconic Wilbur Theatre in Boston. This past June, Papa released his anticipated third book "We're All In This Together...So Make Some Room." It's a compilation of comedic essays that aim to unite us through our stupidity. His highly-rated podcast, *Breaking Bread with Tom Papa*, features Papa and his guest eating, drinking, and engaging in revealing and funny conversations. When he's not on the road, Papa lives in Los Angeles with his family where he spends most of his time writing and baking bread. \$59.50, \$39.50, \$29.50. The Paramount, 370 New York Ave., Huntington. Tickets available at [Ticketmaster.com](https://www.ticketmaster.com) or [ParamountNY.com](https://www.paramountny.com).



Art talk

Join Franklin Hill Perrell, curator of Nassau County Museum of Art's "Our Gilded Age," for his talk "Art and Decorative Art Styles of the Gilded Age," Sunday, **Jan. 21**, 3 p.m. He'll discuss a selection of works on view through the lens of the era's changing styles and art movements including, grand tradition portraiture (in the spirit of Sir Joshua Reynolds and Thomas Gainsborough) French Salon style, Impressionism, Realism/Social Realism, Romanticism; and in the decorative arts, and Renaissance Revival Style vs. Art Nouveau. Artists examined include John Singer Sargent, William Merritt Chase, Thomas Eakins, Mary Cassatt and Louis Comfort Tiffany. Limited seating; advance registration required. Nassau County Museum of Art, 1 Museum Dr., Roslyn Harbor. (516) 484-9337 or [NassauMuseum.org](https://www.NassauMuseum.org).

Library Walking Club

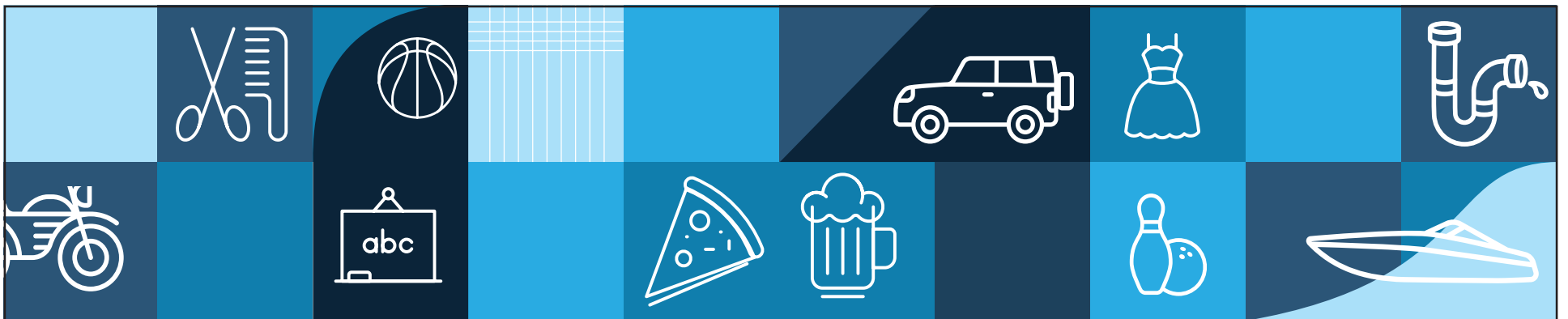
Participate in Glen Cove Public Library's at-your-own-pace hour walk, **every Thursday**, at 9:15 a.m. All fitness levels are welcome. Jumpstart your New Year's resolution of better wellness or take the first steps to improving fitness. 4 Glen Cove Ave., Glen Cove. Register at [GlenCoveLibrary.org](https://www.GlenCoveLibrary.org) or call (516) 676-2130 for more information.

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](https://www.NassauMuseum.org).



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Jan. 11

'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



Let Freedom Ring with MLK

Visit Long Island Children's Museum for a workshop honoring Martin Luther King, Jr., Monday, **Jan. 15**, 11 a.m. and 1 p.m. Families will learn about MLK beyond his "I Have a Dream" speech and gain a better understanding of his impact on the civil rights movement. Also participate in a gallery walk of images from the Civil Rights Movement and then create a bell to "let freedom ring." For ages 5 and up. \$4 with admission, \$3 members. Long Island Children's Museum, Museum Row, Garden City. (516) 224-5800 or LICM.org.

Glen Cove Planning Board meets

The Planning Board meets, Tuesday, **Jan. 16**, at 7:30 p.m., in the main chamber of City Hall. 9 Glen St.

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.

Comprehensive Plan Public Workshop

The city of Glen Cove will hold its second public workshop to discuss the city's comprehensive master plan, Tuesday, **Jan. 30**, 7-8:30 p.m. 9 Glen St.

Historic Spirits Tour

Explore Raynham Hall, and three generations of Townsend family occupants, with spiritualist healer Samantha Lynn Difronzo, Friday, **Feb. 23**, 7:30-9 p.m. Robert Townsend, a central member of George Washington's Culper Spy Ring, and British officer Col. John Graves Simcoe, previously occupied Raynham Hall during the Revolutionary War. Transformed into a Victorian villa in the 1850s, the house offers two eras of interpretation, with the front of the house showcasing the period of the Revolution, and the back of the house preserving a late 19th century aesthetic. Reservations required. Raynham Hall Museum, 20 West Main St., Oyster Bay. Visit RaynhamHallMuseum.org for reservations and information.

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.

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.

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.

Having an event?

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

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Long Island fate attracts county execs, governor

By RACHELE TERRANOVA

rterranova@liherald.com

There are just a few events that are a must when it comes to Long Island, and everyone who is anyone finds themselves at the State of the Region breakfast hosted by the Long Island Association.

It's become an annual tradition for leaders across the island — and state — but took a different approach this year with a round table featuring Nassau County Executive Bruce Blakeman, Suffolk County Executive Ed Romaine, and former congressman — and current Herald columnist — Peter King at the Crest Hollow Country Club in Woodbury last week.

In the discussion moderated by LIA president and chief executive Matt Cohen, the two county executives shared their top priorities for the upcoming year. Blakeman made clear his plans to continue campaigning for public safety, having added 70 new officers to the Nassau County Police Department in just the last year.

Blakeman also plans to keep the \$5 billion Las Vegas Sands redevelopment project and casino at the Nassau Coliseum alive and well.

Economic development is his top priority, Blakeman said, emphasizing Long Island continues facing funding issues at the state level.



Courtesy Craig M. Cooper Productions

The new year brought local and state electeds together at the Long Island Association State of the Region breakfast, where Nassau County Executive Bruce Blakeman and Suffolk County Executive Ed Romaine joined former U.S. Rep. Peter King in a discussion moderated by LIA president and chief executive Matt Cohen.

“The state should realize that Long Island is the goose that lays the golden egg,” Blakeman said.

But it is all about making the most of what you do get, said Romaine, who just started his new role as county executive Suffolk last week. And guaranteeing you get everything you're supposed to.

“Let's make sure we get our fair share of federal and state aid,” he said. “We get short-changed. We shouldn't be short-changed. We are a tremendous

economic engine for this state. We need to get full funding.”

King emphasized his staunch support of Israel after the Oct. 7 terrorist attack by Hamas, while also continuing his backing of Ukraine against the 2022 Russian invasion.

And, sticking to topics that have helped Republicans across the board in recent years, King affirmed his stance against allowing what he describes as unvetted migrants entering the country.

While a lot of Long Island's leader-

ship now represents the GOP, there were Democrats, too. Like U.S. Senate Majority Leader Charles Schumer and Gov. Kathy Hochul.

Schumer has just finished his 25th year visiting each of New York's 62 counties, reflecting on past accomplishments — especially those of a bipartisan nature.

Like those with King, who worked with Schumer quite a bit over the three decades they served together. From advocating universal gun background check legislation to supporting first responders of the 9/11 attacks with better health care.

For Schumer, however, moving forward in 2024 consists of supporting offshore wind and renewable energy, as well as getting full Federal Emergency Management Agency reimbursement for hospitals throughout the island.

Hochul declared Long Island the epicenter of offshore wind, as it has the possibility to create tens of thousands of jobs.

“I'm with Long Island,” the governor said, “because New York cares about Long Island immensely.”

And that includes whether their colors are red or blue.

“I know how to work across the aisle,” Hochul said. “It's in my DNA. And I cherish the ability and the privilege to represent all walks of life in every corner of the state.”

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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
CITY OF GLEN COVE
PLANNING BOARD
PLEASE TAKE NOTICE
that a PUBLIC HEARING
will be held by the City of
Glen Cove Planning Board
on Tuesday, January 16,
2024 at 7:30 p.m., at City
Hall, 9 Glen Street, Glen
Cove, New York, when all
interested persons will be
given an opportunity to
express their views.
The hearing will be on the
Application of Cove
Theatre Realty LLC,
seeking a special use
permit and site plan
approval to operate a
takeout restaurant known
as Gera's Cakes Cafe
Shop serving Latin bakery
desserts, sandwiches,
coffee and other
beverages, with an
emphasis on bakery
items, within the 1760
square foot space at the
southerly end of the 8411
square foot building
located at 82 School St.
Glen Cove which is
designated on the Nassau

County Land & Tax Map
as Sections 23, Block 53
Lot 27-28 and located in
the City's B-1 Central
Commercial District and
CBD Overlay Business
District.
The above application is
on file at the city offices
located at 9 Glen Street,
Glen Cove, NY where it
may be seen during
regular business hours of
the usual business days
until the time of the
hearing.
Dated: November 30,
2023
ANDREW KAUFMAN
Chairman
GLEN COVE PLANNING
BOARD
144249

LEGAL NOTICE
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express their views.
The hearing will be on the
Application of KIR Glen
Cove 025 LLC, seeking a
special use permit and
site plan approval to
construct a mixed-use
development complex
with residential, retail,
and commercial uses at
the property currently
containing the North
Shore Triangle shopping
center. The new
development would
contain 148 residential
units, 37,036 sq ft of
ground level commercial
space and 370 garage
parking spaces. The
property is located at 91
School St. Glen Cove
which is designated on
the Nassau County Land
& Tax Map as Section 31,
Block 76 Lot 69 and
located in the City's B-1
Central Commercial
District and CBD Overlay
Business District.
The above application is
on file at the city offices
located at 9 Glen Street,
Glen Cove, NY where it
may be seen during
regular business hours of
the usual business days
until the time of the
hearing.
Dated: December 28,
2023
ANDREW KAUFMAN
Chairman
GLEN COVE PLANNING
BOARD
144248

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Ave. NY, designated on
the Nassau County Land
& Tax Map as Section 21,
Block 46, Lot-s 1,6 and
located in the City's B-2
Peripheral Commercial
District.
The above application is
on file at the city offices
located at 9 Glen Street,
Glen Cove, NY where it
may be seen during
regular business hours of
the usual business days
until the time of the
hearing.
Dated: December 29,
2023
ANDREW KAUFMAN
Chairman
GLEN COVE PLANNING
BOARD
144250

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LEGAL NOTICE
NOTICE TO BIDDERS
PUBLIC NOTICE is hereby
given that sealed bids will
be received by the Board
of Education, North Shore
Central School District,
112 Franklin Avenue, Sea
Cliff, New York, 11579,
for Installation of Self
Climbing Lighting Hoist &
Theatrical electrical and
lighting work.
The bids shall be in
accordance with the
Plans, Specifications, and
Terms of the Proposed
Contract.
These proposals will be
received by John Hall,
Director of Facilities at:
North Shore Central
School District
Administration Office
112 Franklin Avenue
Sea Cliff, New York
11579
(516) 277-7835
until 11:00 a.m.
prevailing time on
Tuesday, January
30th, 2024, at which time
they will be publicly
opened and read aloud.
The bid opening will take
place in the conference
room at the
Administration Office.
OBTAINING
DOCUMENTS:
The Documents, including
specifications, may be
obtained at the North
Shore Central School
District, 112 Franklin
Avenue, Sea Cliff, New
York, 11579, between the
hours of 8:00 a.m. and
4:00 p.m., Monday
through Friday beginning
Wednesday, January 10th
, 2024.
BID SUBMISSIONS
The Owner reserves the
right to waive any
informalities in any
proposals, or to reject any
or all proposals and to
advertise for new
proposals.
Elizabeth Ciampi
District Clerk
144251

LEGAL NOTICE
CITY OF GLEN COVE
BOARD OF ZONING
APPEALS
PLEASE TAKE NOTICE
that a PUBLIC HEARING
will be held by the Glen
Cove Zoning Board of
Appeals on Thursday,
January 18, 2024 at 7:30
p.m. at the Council
Chambers, City Hall, 9
Glen Street, Glen Cove,
New York, when all
interested persons will be
given an opportunity to
express their views.
The hearing will be on the
application of Shu Heng
Chen for the premises at
16 Northfield Rd., Glen
Cove. Mr. Chen is
requesting variances from
Sections 280-57 B (10)
and 280-57 D (4) & D (5)
of the Glen Cove Zoning
Code. Applicant is
proposing the addition of
a non-conditioned
sunroom and
maintenance of an
existing carport. The
proposed addition will
result in lot coverage of
21.9% (2,560sf) where a
maximum lot area
coverage of 20%
(2,340sf) is permitted.
The carport has an
existing front yard
setback of 39.5ft when 65
ft are required for an
accessory structure and a
side yard setback of 2.3ft
when 3 ft are required for
an accessory structure.
The subject property is
designated on the Nassau
County Land & Tax Map
as Section 31, Block 67,
Lot 09 and located in the
city's R-3 Quarter-Acre
Residential District.
The above application is
on file at the city offices
located at 9 Glen Street,
Glen Cove, NY where it
may be seen during
regular business hours of
the usual business days
until the time of the
hearing.
Dated:
January 2, 2024
BY ORDER OF THE
ZONING BOARD OF
APPEALS OF THE CITY OF
GLEN COVE
THERESA MOSCHETTA,
CHAIRPERSON
144247

Place a notice by phone at
516-569-4000 x232 or email:
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LEGAL NOTICE
NOTICE TO BIDDERS
Notice is hereby given
that sealed bids for the
following projects will be
received by the
Purchasing Agent of the
City of Glen Cove, located
at City Hall, rear
entrance, 9 Glen Street,
Glen Cove, New York no
later than 10:00 a.m.
prevailing time on
Tuesday, January 30,
2024 at which time they
will be opened and read
aloud at 11:00 a.m.:
Printing Services
Bid No. 2023-023
Specifications are
available for download at
<https://www.bidnetdirect.com/new-york/cityofglen Cove>.
Registration is free and
instructions are available
on
<https://glencoveny.gov/bid-rfps/>

CRIME WATCH

ARRESTS

- A 30-year-old Glen Cove man was arrested on Jan. 2 for criminal contempt on Ashleigh Court.
- A 58-year-old Richmond Hill, Queens, man was arrested on Jan. 3 for grand larceny and criminal possession of stolen property on Glen Cove Avenue.
- A 60-year-old Oyster Bay man was arrested on Jan. 3 for aggravated unlicensed operation and other vehicle and traffic violations on Glen Street.
- A 56-year-old undomiciled man was arrested on Jan. 4 for two counts of robbery on Glen Street.
- A 29-year-old Glen Cove man was arrested on Jan. 5 for assault and criminal obstruction on Coles Street.
- A 30-year-old Flushing, Queens man

- was arrested Dec. 31 for driving while intoxicated, unlawful possession of cannabis of more than 3 ounces, two counts of criminal possession of a controlled substance, reckless endangerment, resisting arrest, unlawfully fleeing a police officer in a motor vehicle, obstructing governmental administration, reckless driving and numerous other vehicle and traffic violations on Glen Cove Road.
- A 46-year-old Glen Cove woman was arrested on Dec. 29 for aggravated unlicensed operation and criminal possession of a controlled substance on The Place.
- A 47-year-old Glen Cove man was arrested on Dec. 25 for driving while intoxicated aggravated driving while intoxicated, two counts of endangering the welfare of a child, and unsafe lane change on Sea Cliff Avenue.

People named in Crime Watch items as having been arrested and charged with violations or crimes are only suspected of committing those acts of which they are accused. They are all presumed to be innocent of those charges until and unless found guilty in a court of law.

HERALD PUBLIC NOTICES

Each proposal must be submitted on the forms provided in the bid package, in a sealed envelope with the name of the bidder, the bid name, and number marked clearly on the outside of the envelope.
Yelena Quiles
Purchasing Agent
City of Glen Cove
January 9, 2024
144245

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LEGAL NOTICE
CITY OF GLEN COVE
BOARD OF ZONING
APPEALS
PLEASE TAKE NOTICE
that a PUBLIC HEARING
will be held by the Glen
Cove Zoning Board of
Appeals on Thursday,
January 18, 2024, at 7:30
p.m. at the Council
Chambers, City Hall, 9
Glen Street, Glen Cove,
New York, when all
interested persons will be
given an opportunity to
express their views.
The hearing will be on the
application of Steven
Grella residing at 6 High
Elms Lane, Glen Cove
requesting Variances from
Sections 280-56 B (6) and
280-45 R (1) of the Glen
Cove Zoning Code to
construct a new addition
on the North side of
single-family dwelling.
Applicant is proposing a
northerly side yard
setback of 7.12 feet when
the minimum required is
20 ft. The proposed
structure also extends
above the applicable sky
exposure plane.
The subject property is
designated on the Nassau
County Land & Tax Map
as Section 30, Block 73,
Lot 04 and located in the
City's R-2 Half Acre
Residence District.

The above application is
on file at the city offices
located at 9 Glen Street,
Glen Cove, NY where it
may be seen during
regular business hours of
the usual business days
until the time of the
hearing.
Dated:
November 30, 2023
BY ORDER OF THE
ZONING BOARD OF
APPEALS OF THE CITY OF
GLEN COVE
THERESA
MOSCHETTA,
CHAIRPERSON
144246

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.
McCalla Raymer Leibert
Pierce, LLC
Attorney(s) for Plaintiff
420 Lexington Avenue,
Suite 840
New York, NY 10170
Tel. 347/286-7409
For sale information,
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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
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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

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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
175 Mile Crossing
Boulevard Rochester,
New York 14624
(877) 430-4792
Dated: November 16,
2023
For sale information,
please visit
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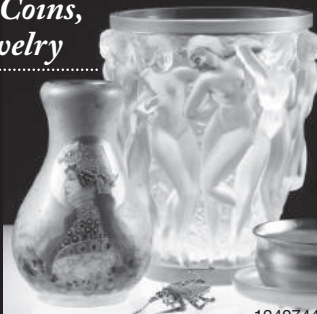
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OPINIONS

Three college heads who lacked street smarts

Many of us have seen the congressional sound bites. MAGA superstar Elise Stefanik, of New York's 21st District, made mincemeat out of Ivy League college Presidents Claudine Gay of Harvard, Liz Magill of the University of Pennsylvania, and Sally Kornbluth of MIT. While each denounced antisemitism during over three hours of testimony, when asked directly if hypothetical threats of genocide violated university codes of conduct, all three prevaricated, trying to explain that it depended on "context."



ALAN J. SINGER

Following the hearing, U.S. Rep. Virginia Foxx, who chairs the House Education Committee, announced a congressional investigation into the three schools to examine their disciplinary policies and learning environments. A letter signed by 74 members of Congress demanded that the governing boards at Harvard, Penn and MIT remove the presidents. Magill was the first to fall, resigning as university president on Dec. 9. Scott L. Bok, the chair of Penn's board of trustees, also resigned.

The three presidents prepared for the hearing with a law firm, WilmerHale,

that specializes in testimony before Congress. That was clearly a mistake. While preparing for congressional testimony must include legal knowledge, it also requires political savvy and common sense, what my Eastern European Jewish grandparents call *tseykhl*, or street smarts, something lacking in the three presidents. All three have since apologized for their poor performance at the hearing, but face demands from alumni and donors that they resign or be fired.

Magill, a lawyer, tried to explain to the committee that Penn's code of conduct ensures "the right to freedom of thought and expression." What she should have stressed was that the code also insists that students "exhibit responsible behavior regardless of time or place. Failure to do so may result in disciplinary action by the University."

Responsible behavior includes respecting the health and safety of others. This precludes acts or threats of physical violence against another person (including sexual violence) and disorderly conduct. So, yes, advocating genocide against a group of people, Jews or anyone else, is a threat of physical violence, and violates the code of conduct.

According to the Harvard Student Handbook, "speech not specifically directed against individuals in a harass-

ing way may be protected by traditional safeguards of free speech, even though the comments may cause considerable discomfort or concern to others in the community," a point Gray unsuccessfully tried to make at the hearing. Harvard

"places special emphasis ... upon certain values which are essential to its nature as an academic community. Among these are freedom of speech and academic freedom."

The handbook also makes clear that community members have a right to expect "freedom from personal force and violence," which I assume means death threats. "Interference with any of these freedoms

must be regarded as a serious violation of the personal rights upon which the community is based ... It is implicit in the language of the Statement on Rights and Responsibilities that intense personal harassment of such a character as to amount to grave disrespect for the dignity of others be regarded as an unacceptable violation of the personal rights on which the University is based."

The MIT code of conduct states that the university "is committed to providing a living, working and learning environment that is free from harassment. Harassment is defined as unwelcome conduct of a verbal, nonverbal or physical nature that is sufficiently severe or pervasive to create a work or academic

environment that a reasonable person would consider intimidating, hostile or abusive and that adversely affects an individual's educational, work, or living environment." I suspect this also includes, or should include, death threats and calls for genocide.

During the congressional questioning, Stefanik demanded to know whether Harvard had rescinded the admission of students who chanted, "From the river to the sea!" a slogan identified with calls for a Palestinian state that would include territory that is now Israel. Stefanik was clearly unaware that extremist Israeli settlers in the West Bank have made a similar demand for the removal of Palestinians.

Criticism of Israeli actions in Gaza following the Oct. 7 attack by Hamas has been heated on many American campuses, and in response, the House of Representatives passed a resolution equating anti-Zionism with antisemitism. Rep. Jerrold Nadler, a Democrat from New York City and the longest-serving Jewish member of the House, refused to vote for it. According to Nadler, "Under this resolution, those who love Israel deeply but criticize some of its policy approaches could be considered anti-Zionist. That could make every Democratic Jewish member of this body, because they all criticized the recent Israeli judicial reform package, de facto antisemites."

Dr. Alan Singer is a professor of teaching, learning and technology and the director of social studies education programs at Hofstra University.

Testifying before Congress requires what my grandparents called *tseykhl*.

Trickle of funding reveals Blakeman's skewed priorities

To date, Nassau County has received approximately \$385 million in coronavirus relief money through the federal American Rescue Plan Act, and \$85.2 million more in settlements from opioid manufacturers, distributors and retailers. Of that combined sum

of approximately \$470 million, Nassau County has to date only committed roughly \$86 million and dispersed \$7 million.

While many have wondered about the almost palpable lack of urgency from

the administration of Nassau County Executive Bruce Blakeman in getting these life-enriching and lifesaving funds into the community, a recent budget hearing potentially exposed the callous reason his administration continues to sit on

these funds.

During the hearing, on Oct. 10, administration officials confirmed that the roughly \$378 million in remaining proceeds from the ARPA funding and various opioid settlements is being used to bolster Nassau County's reserves, which in turn are helping to boost and maintain the county's credit score with rating agencies such as Moody's, S&P Global and Fitch Ratings.

Furthermore, every penny in interest that has and may be generated in the future by holding the opioid funds back was earned at the expense of someone who is struggling with the disease of addiction.

All of this is simply appalling. It is only marginally less infuriating when you consider that Nassau's ARPA funds could be applied to fighting hunger, combating homelessness, bolstering mental health programs,

supporting small businesses, enhancing youth services and so much more. For months, my colleagues in the County Legislature's minority caucus and I have been advocating for approximately \$12 million in itemized ARPA requests to help support organizations that provide vital community services.

While those requests have languished in the Blakeman administration, the transfer of \$10 million in Covid relief funds, done under the facade of "tourism" to fund lavish galas, parades and marketing

to celebrate the county's 125th anniversary this year, flew through the Legislature on Dec. 18.

The minority caucus is unified in its outrage and opposition to this latest lapse in judgment, which serves as yet another example of how Blakeman and his administration are badly out of touch with the needs

of our constituents.

Federal Covid relief and opioid settlement funds were not meant to gather dust on ledger sheets, serve as an investment strategy, be used to butter up ratings agencies, or soothe the self-inflating ego of an elected official.

They were meant to get into the community so they could be used to address the challenges our constituents are grappling with.

With so many people struggling, and so many facing the unthinkable crisis of losing family members to addiction, spending \$10 million on publicizing an anniversary celebration before releasing these opioid settlement funds is unconscionable. Let's hope that in the new year, these lifesaving funds, as well as our federal relief funds, reach their intended destinations — at least as swiftly as Blakeman's celebration funds did.

Delia DeRiggi-Whitton represents Nassau County's 11th Legislative District, and is the Legislature's minority leader-elect.



DELIA DERIGGI-WHITTON

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HERALD EDITORIAL

Decision 2024: a call for informed voters

In the weeks and months leading up to this year's elections in November, it is pivotal that Long Island voters stay engaged with everything that's going on in New York state and the nation. In 10 months, scores of millions of voters will flock to polling booths across the country to cast their ballots for state offices, Congress and the White House.

Making informed decisions begins with early engagement.

In an era when information is constantly being filtered through a wide variety of media, it is imperative that voters pay attention to political developments and take the time to understand the competing candidates, their policies, and the evolving dynamics in the political arena.

Informed voting is the bedrock of a healthy democracy. It ensures that those who are elected fulfill their promises and legislate based on the values and needs of the people they serve.

Long Island, much like the rest of the country, needs leaders who genuinely understand the challenges faced by their communities, and who possess the foresight to make difficult choices. Critical issues that touch the lives of every resident will undoubtedly shape this year's elections. From health care, to climate change, to economic development and social justice, understanding where candidates stand is paramount.

Don't wait until you step inside the voting booth to make decisions you hope align with your own priorities. Stay informed by keeping up with reputable news outlets — such as your local newspaper.

With so many talking heads touting their agendas on cable news outlets, it's important to keep your ear close to the ground and pay attention to what is going on in your own neighborhood. Bias and misinformation erode the foundation of democracy, sowing seeds of doubt by distorting facts and adding a political slant.

News organizations have a responsibility to offer accurate information, but there are times when information can be misused to skew opinions. So, know where the information is coming from.

Your local paper is the perfect place to read all about what's happening. Not that you can't turn on the television, but broadcast media tend to focus on national issues and how candidates plan to address foreign policy, spending, energy and immigration. All of that is crucially important — especially as it relates to the presidential race — but the issues at the forefront of local elections are just as important, if not more so.

Remember, every decision made at the local level will shape the fabric of the community.

It's impossible to miss news of a spe-

cial election happening right in our backyard, even if you don't live on the North Shore. On Feb. 13, voters will decide who will replace the disgraced former congressman George Santos in the 3rd Congressional District. Voters will choose between former U.S. Rep. Tom Suozzi — a Democrat from Glen Cove who held this seat before making an unsuccessful run for governor in 2022 — and Nassau County Legislator Mazi Melesa Pilip, of Great Neck, who is representing Republicans.

As for those who live on the South Shore, the June primary will be just as important to Democrats, at least, looking to reclaim the seat in the 4th Congressional District now occupied by U.S. Rep. Anthony D'Esposito, a Republican who handily won the 2022 race against Laura Gillen. Gillen is back for another try, but would need to beat State Sen. Kevin Thomas to represent Democrats once again in November.

Regardless of the outcomes, the decisions made in this fall's elections will reverberate for many years to come. That is why all of us must seize the opportunity to shape our future by gathering all the information we can about the candidates who are running.

The responsibility to contribute lies with every voter. Let us not merely stand witness. Let us take an active role and help shape the future for the better.

LETTERS

Those college presidents shouldn't get all blame

To the Editor:

Re Alan J. Singer's op-ed last month, "Three college heads who lacked street smarts": Professor Singer makes the point that the university presidents grilled by right-wing U.S. Rep. Elise Stefanik of New York at last month's congressional hearing suffered from a lack of "street smarts," leading to the resignation of one (now two) of them. While that may be true, the pointed questioning and harassment of the university presidents at those hearings deserves condemnation.

House members engaging in McCarthy-era tactics in those Education Committee hearings does not bode well for democracy. If anyone should resign, it should be Stefanik.

Apparently the three presidents failed to respond adequately to *hypothetical* verbal support of genocide by students at their universities. There is no evidence that such a call for genocide against Jews has been expressed on college campuses. Rather, it is a fantasy of Stefanik and other culture war fanatics. Students and faculty at universities have courageously confronted unjustified censure and bullying in



OPINIONS

From Albany on down, we support people with disabilities

Reading the Newsday obituary about the passing of a beloved member of the Lattingtown community who was born with a developmental disability got me thinking about how far we've come in terms of helping people with disabilities, yet at the same time how much more we must do.

Through a series of circumstances, Leslie Robert Smith ended up in the infamous Willowbrook State School on Staten Island.



CHARLES LAVINE

The school was shut down in 1987, more than a decade after a public outcry over its treatment of its disabled residents led by Victoria Schneps-Yunis — who went on to found Life's WORC, a nonprofit

that supports people with intellectual disabilities and autism. The reporting of Geraldo Rivera, who was a reporter at WABC-TV at the time, helped focus national media attention on Willowbrook.

Like Smith, Schneps-Yunis's daughter, Lara, had been at Willowbrook — although when she arrived, it was considered a top facility for special-needs

children. A lack of state funding ultimately doomed the school, but thankfully, Smith ended up in a Melville group home, where he thrived in a less restrictive setting. He lived out his life in more supportive homes over the decades, most recently a Lattingtown group home run by the nonprofit Quality Services for the Autism Community.

Meanwhile, inspired by her experience with her daughter, Schneps-Yunis has made it her life's work to provide support for people with intellectual and developmental disabilities and autism. I was honored recently to attend the dedication of a building at the Life's WORC facility in Garden City, which was being named after Vicki.

I am proud to have secured funding to support Life's WORC and other organizations in our area with the same level of dedication. One is AHRC Nassau, which supports 2,200 people with intellectual and other developmental disabilities through a wide array of services. It has a terrific facility, which I recently toured. It's situated in a serene area of Brookville, in a 100-plus-year-old house with an adjoining working farm. I am so proud to have also secured funding to help make this extraordinary facility a

nurturing home for its many residents.

Another facility, Camp Helen Keller, on the LIU campus in Brookville, offers low-vision children an unforgettable summer experience. Run by Helen Keller Services for the Blind, the camp aims to

improve children's self-esteem, self-confidence and socialization skills. It's the highlight of my summer to visit this remarkable camp and see the joy on the faces of the children, many of whom I recognize from the year before. I am so proud to have secured funding to help operate the camp, which is free of charge for participants.

SCO Family of Services has 84 programs serving 50,000 New Yorkers each year. I toured its Robert J. McMahon Children's Center, in Sea Cliff, recently and was awed by the staff's dedication and care. Its residential treatment center provides 24-hour nursing care and social services, while the Tyree Learning Center, a state-certified special-education school, accommodates the unique needs of children and adolescents with developmental disabilities.

I will continue to do everything I can to lend my support to these wonderful organizations, but I am also pleased to know that we have a chief executive in Albany who is a true champion of the

disabled community. I was fortunate to join Gov. Kathy Hochul at the Life's WORC dedication, where I saw for myself the sincerity of her commitment. It's actually been proven time and again in her actions.

In November, Hochul signed legislation to ensure that at least one member of the Metropolitan Transportation Authority Board is transit-dependent due to a disability.

In October, she hosted a disability-rights employment symposium.

In September, Hochul announced \$13 million in grants to nonprofit service providers to offer career-training opportunities for people with developmental disabilities. That same month, she signed legislation that made important updates to the Disabilities Planning Council.

In July 2022, Hochul signed legislation that strengthened the rights of New Yorkers with disabilities, including the elimination of references to "mentally retarded" or "mentally ill," replaced by the term "people with intellectual or developmental disabilities."

Thank you to Hochul and my colleagues in the Assembly who share my belief that we must support organizations dedicated to enabling everyone to live the kind of life we are all entitled to.

Charles Lavine represents the 13th Assembly District.

I am proud to have secured funding to support Life's WORC and other area groups.

LETTERS

response to a very real catastrophe — a relentless ethnic cleansing and genocidal war being waged by the Israeli government, supported by our own, against the Palestinian people of Gaza.

JIM BROWN

Secretary, Green Party of Nassau County

Congestion pricing would benefit everyone

To the Editor:

It's not surprising that Long Island lawmakers are pandering to the tiny minority of their constituents who would actually pay the \$15 congestion fee for driving into Manhattan south of 60th Street. But it is disappointing that these officials fail to see beyond the narrow interests of this small group and recognize the big and broad benefits of congestion pricing, including for hundreds of thousands of Long Islanders.

How could those who took part in the Dec. 11 anti-congestion-pricing news conference not notice the irony of holding their kvetch fest at the Long Island Rail Road's Mineola station? Part of the \$15 billion projected to be raised annually by the added fees will go toward improving LIRR service for the 200,000 Long Islanders who take trains into the city on an average weekday.

Besides making rail commuting more comfortable and convenient, congestion pricing will reduce air pollution and the risk of car crashes in Manhattan. And those positives shouldn't be ignored by Long Island representatives. Why do they not respect the decision of their fellow lawmakers to better safeguard public health and safety in the city?

In addition, Long Island isn't an island, economically. More than 300,000 of its residents earn their living from Manhattan-based businesses, according to the Regional Plan Association. These commuters make an average annual salary of \$124,000, amounting to total income of \$38 billion that's spent largely on Long Island.

Politicians such as State Sen. Patricia Canzoneri-Fitzpatrick oppose congestion pricing partly on the grounds that it is a "tax" unfairly imposed on Long Islanders, as she claimed in a Herald op-ed last month, "Congestion pricing isn't really about congestion." That's a misuse of the term. Taxes are required payments; congestion pricing is an optional fee. No one is being forced to drive a car into Manhattan. The \$15 fee — and the additional parking and gasoline costs — can be avoided by riding the LIRR. Encouraging more Long Islanders to take the train is, after all, a key objective of congestion pricing.

KEVIN J. KELLEY
Atlantic Beach

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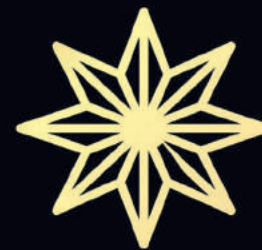
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