



Canine distemper can spread easily between raccoons and dogs, and often leads to the euthanization of the infected animal.

Raccoon distemper is now at an all-time high

By WILL SHEELINE

wsheeline@liherald.com

The raccoon distemper crisis on Long Island has reached alarming levels, prompting a closer examination of the disease's impact on wildlife and the challenges faced by residents.

Insights from wildlife and rescue experts paint a comprehensive picture of the severity of the situation and the urgent need for collective action.

John Di Leonardo, executive director of the nonprofit animal rescue organization Humane Long Island, outlined the degenerative nature of raccoon distemper. He emphasized the progression of the disease from respiratory symptoms to severe neurological issues, leading affected raccoons to a state of docility and, in the worst cases, a near-vegetative condition.

Di Leonardo stressed that once the disease reaches certain stages, treatment

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Taking a dive into political reporting

ramid@liherald.com

work.

WRHU-FM

General manager,

By ROKSANA AMID

Against the backdrop of a media frenzy at the New Hampshire primary, student journalists from WRHU-FM, Hofstra University's radio station, embarked on an enlightening

journey into the world of political reporting. For students like Glen Cove resident Joseph Pergola, a junior at the university, the primary was more than just a chance to hone his craft — it was a gateway to understanding the intricate interplay among politics, media and public opinion.

Armed with cameras, microphones and journalistic curiosity,

Pergola and other students worked polling sites and political hot spots, capturing stories that they hoped would resonate with the WRHU audience. Pergola scored an interview with Republican presidential hopeful Nikki Haley, but his focus



remained on Generation Z's perspective on the crucial 2024 election. He spoke with University of New Hampshire students on the Durham campus, as well as the members of the Party for Socialism and Liberation.

"What they told us was that

e want students to understand that journalism isn't just about reporting - it's about hard JOHN MULLEN

(the primary) was distracting from the Middle East tragedy that's going on, and that's really what people should be focused on," Pergola recalled from his interviews. "So that was a very interesting perspective that I wasn't really planning to hear while I

off guard."

was up there. I figured that a lot of people in New Hampshire would really be focused on that primary. That really caught me

The itinerary of the four-day trip was designed to immerse the students in the political process and give them ample opportunities for reporting, and networking with profes-**CONTINUED ON PAGE 8**

To avert distemper, vaccinate your dogs

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2024

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GLEN COVE HERALD becomes challenging, and humane euthanasia becomes necessary.

'They'll start doing stereotypical repeated behaviors, like walking in circles or falling over or just not moving at all," Di Leonardo continued.

"Typically when it gets to the stages I've described, it's not even really treatable anymore."

Di Leonardo addressed the misconception that distemper in raccoons is related to cats. He clarified that distemper is highly contagious among raccoons and does not originate from feline sources.

He assured dog owners that distemper is easily preventable through vaccinations. Residents should avoid inhumane practices

by not calling trappers or exterminators, he said. Instead, they should contact local wildlife rehabilitators if a raccoon is suspected of having distemper.

Leslie Hyder, a licensed wildlife rehabilitator based in East Meadow, said the disease has been spreading for approximately seven years, becoming a pervasive issue not only in New York but nationwide, and that she "could get in anywhere from one to seven a day that are sick.'

would say for a good seven years, I've seen one to seven cases every day

all day. **LESLIE HYDER**

licensed wildlife rehabilitator

"I would say for a good seven years, I've seen one to seven cases every day all day," Hyder continued. "It's not just New York either, it's really everywhere."

She explained that the disease can spread to dogs through direct and indi-

rect contact with infected raccoons, such as from raccoon feces. She added that owners must be especially careful if they're taking their dogs on walks without leashes, because if they attack a raccoon, they can easily contract distemper.

Hyder described the various symptoms raccoons display as the disease progresses, including lethargy, disorientation, gooey eyes, nasal discharge, and, in severe cases, seizures.

Phyllis Glick, the former owner and operator of the

animal control service Able Wildlife in Baldwin, delved into the humane aspects of dealing with raccoons suffering from distemper. She explained the neurological effects of the disease leading to symptoms such as seizures and impaired vision. Glick stressed the difficulty of treating distemper, advocating for euthanasia as the most humane option to end the raccoon's suffering.

Addressing the spread of distemper, Glick outlined scenarios where rac-

coons cross-contaminate, emphasizing the risk of transmission through bodily fluids. She shared practical advice for homeowners, urging vigilance and recognition of signs of distemper in raccoons.

Glick added that the problem has spread throughout Long Island is in part due to considerate citizens who have moved sick raccoons off their property without contacting an expert, inadvertently increasing the spread of distemper throughout the island.

"As recently as a few years ago there was a huge outbreak of canine or raccoon distemper on the North Shore, at Port Washington, Sands Point, Oyster Bay," Glick said.

"It spreads when you get people that take a sick raccoon, not knowing that its sick, and they relocate them to the South Shore, they've now cross contaminated and brought that distemper down from the North Shore."

Glick emphasized the importance of responsible pet ownership, especially regarding distemper vaccinations for dogs. She added that if owners had a raccoon with distemper on their property, she would encourage them to spray the area they had been staying in with bleach, while also encouraging them to keep their dogs in the house until the animal was removed.

As the crisis continues, residents are urged to stay informed, practice respon-

How to identify a raccoon with distemper

- Discharge from eyes and nose
- Docility

Walking in circles, unable to follow a straight path.

- Head tilt
- Lack of coordination
- Muscle twitches

Convulsions with jaw-chewing movements ('chewing gum fits') and drooling

- Seizures
- Partial or complete paralysis

sible pet ownership, and seek professional assistance for distressed wildlife. The collaboration between experts residents, and government agencies becomes essential to effectively address this pressing issue. The urgency of the situation calls for collective action to protect both domestic animals and the local wildlife population.



Daily Specials on Instagram at Loafers Bakery & Gourmet Shoppe

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Step into Hofstra University's world of opportunities with guidance from professionals dedicated to your success. Lead and inspire change with a Master's in Education. A new chapter of your career awaits.







A ribbon-cutting ceremony was held on Saturday for Dan's Pet Care.

Correspondent

Photos courtesy Dan Reitman

Providing peace of mind for pet parents

By KELSIE RADZISKI

Dan's Pet Care, a new cage-free boarding facility that just opened its doors to the Glen Cove community, celebrating on Saturday with a ribbon- cutting ceremony.

Unlike most boarding facilities, at Dan's, dogs are kept in large indoor playfields based on their size, age, and temperament. And all dogs must pass a comprehensive temperament test in order to board to ensure the safety of the animals as well as the staff, Dan Reitman, founder and the CEO, explained.

"When they are boarding with us, they get to enjoy the freedom of the playfield throughout the day," he said, "and at night, we provide them with a wide array of beds that they can pick from."

The dogs also enjoy grooming treatments and supervised playtime in the facility's outdoor play area. At Dan's team members remain with the dogs at all times to prioritize their care.

"We find that this serves to greatly reduce the anxiety of boarding for most dogs," Reitman said, "plus they get lots of extra TLC from our team members."

Along with their cage-free boarding, Dan's also offers daycare services and training programs led by experienced team members.

"My program is based in positive reinforcement," Stephanie Weinberg, manager and lead trainer, explained. "We start with the human behavior first, teaching primarily how to work in a way from an animal's perspective first, and working on the relationship from the beginning in trust-building,



At Dan's Pet Care, dogs run and play in the facility's spacious indoor boarding areas.

understanding, and confidence building not just for the dog but also the owner."

Reitman began his company back in 2009 and it slowly grew but then the conronavirus pandemic stalled his progress. Since then, he's built the company back up and continued to expand it.

The company currently has over 3,500 clients, a growing team of over 80 staff members, and a service area in Manhattan. They offer dog walking services, in-house training programs, and other options for pet owners.

This is Reitman's first storefront on

Long Island.

Nick and Kathy Carras are longtime customers of Dan's. Staff members walk their golden retriever, Grace, twice a day to make sure she's comfortable when her owners are not at home.

"They helped raise Grace," Kathy said. "She was a puppy when we got her, and they were in our house for four to six hours a day while we were at work."

"They are our lifeline," Nick added. Customers, friends and neighbors all

came together to celebrate the facility's opening at the ribbon-cutting ceremony.



Kelsie Radziski/Herald When customers approach the counter at Dan's a variety of services are listed.

"I honestly can't believe it's finally here," Alex Reitman, Dan's wife, said. "It just feels like such a weight has been lifted, and I'm so excited to see it happen."

Reitman plans to push into New Jersey and Connecticut and eventually open facilities across the country. He and his team are passionate about changing the dog boarding industry from within and setting new industry standards.

"Safety is our number one priority, always has been and always will be," Reitman said. "I put my name on this business because I stand by what we do, and that is to provide peace of mind to pet parents. I love what I do and I love that I get to share that with our incredible team and the amazing pet parents we work with every day."





Alzheimer's Association

With life expectancies growing ever longer, the rates of Alzheimer's and other dementiarelated illnesses are rapidly increasing. It is reported that one-third to one-half of those over 85 have dementia. This phenomenon, touching all of our lives with no cure in sight, makes it essential to know about our chief tool in the battle -- the Alzheimer's Association. The stated goal of the association is to end Alzheimer's and all other forms of dementia by early detection and maximizing quality care and support.

Highly trained staff are available 24/7 at the Helpline 800-272-3900, offering translation services in more than 200 languages to arrange for educational workshops, live or online, for caregivers, health care professionals, and those with Alzheimer's and other dementias, to (1) understand the difference between Alzheimer's and dementia, (2) risk factors and treatments for symptoms, (3) effective communication strategies to connect and communicate at each stage of the disease, (4) learning to decode behavior changes, identify common triggers and develop strategies to help manage the most common challenges, and (5) tips and strategies for caregivers.

Through the Helpline you can also arrange care consultations where dementia specialists offer support and assistance to those facing uncertainties and difficult decisions as they navigate through the challenges from diagnosis through the progression of the disease, providing (1) emotional support, (2) action steps, (3) care options, (4) safety assessments, and (5) information regarding community resources.

For those recently diagnosed, "early stage groups" offer interactive programs of support, education and social engagement, as well as help participants develop coping strategies, plan for the future and grow a support system of understanding individuals. For the health and well-being of those families facing a dementia diagnosis, the Alzheimer's Association is an essential and invaluable resource.



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NEWS BRIEFS

DUO Nosh Super Bowl food donation drive

There will be a multi-school food drive organized by DUO and Nosh Delivers from Feb. 2 to Feb. 16 on Mondays, Tuesdays, Thursdays and Fridays from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the back entrance of 32 School St., Glen Cove. Donate pasta, rice, beans and broth for NOSH Souper Bowl Bags for families and individuals. To include your school for this special donation event text (516) 514-2684 or email info@noshdelivers.org.

Excelsior Scholarship for tuition-free college

Gov, Kathy Hochul has announced the opening of applications for the Excelsior Scholarship, providing a transformative opportunity for students across New York state. The scholarship, available for new applicants for the spring 2024 term, aims to make higher education more accessible by offering tuition-free enrollment for eligible students in SUNY or CUNY two-year or four-year colleges.

"The Excelsior Scholarship is a game changer for students across New York state who might not have the financial means to pursue higher education," Hochul said.

She highlighted the role of the scholarship in making college more affordable for low and middle-income families, contributing to a stronger workforce, economy and a prosperous future for all New Yorkers.

To qualify for the scholarship, students from households with federal adjusted gross incomes up to \$125,000 must plan to attend a SUNY or CUNY institution. Additionally, they are required to complete 30 credits per year, including summer and winter terms, and be on track to graduate with an associate degree in two years or a bachelor's degree in four years.

State Education Commissioner Betty A. Rosa emphasized the importance of breaking down barriers to higher education.

"Eliminating barriers to higher education is vital to create an equitable playing field for all New Yorkers," Rosa said. "The Excelsior scholarship is another tool for students and families, making college more affordable and accessible, putting them on their best paths to success."

The Spring 2024 Excelsior scholarship application is open to first-time students entering college in the Spring 2024 term, as well as current college students who have never received the Excelsior scholarship. Notably, existing recipients of the scholarship do not need to reapply for continued award payments.

New York's commitment to student financial aid, including the Tuition Assistance Program and Excelsior scholarships, has positively impacted over 180,000 residents. In 2022, 58 percent of full-time resident undergraduate students attended SUNY and CUNY tuition-free, with 53 percent at SUNY State-operated campuses and 67 percent at CUNY colleges.

Applications for the Spring 2024 Excelsior scholarship will be accepted until Feb. 2, providing students with a valuable opportunity to pursue higher education without the burden of tuition costs.

Let us Know

News Brief items including awards, honors, promotions and other tidbits about local residents are welcome. Photographs may be emailed as well. Deadline for submissions is noon Thursday, week prior to publication. Send to Ilane@liherald.com



HOW TO REACH US

Our offices are located at 2 Endo Blvd. Garden City, NY 11530 and are open from 8:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m., Monday through Friday.

MAIN PHONE: (516) 569-4000

WEB SITE: glencove.liherald.com

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- E-MAIL: Letters and other submissions: glencove-editor@liherald.com
- EDITORIAL DEPARTMENT: Ext. 327 E-mail: glencove-editor@liherald.com
- SUBSCRIPTIONS: Press "7" E-mail: circ@liherald.com Fax: (516) 569-4942
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DISPLAY ADVERTISING: Ext. 249 E-mail: rglickman@liherald.com Fax: (516) 569-4643

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Pilip prioritizes fighting antisemitism

By ROKSANA AMID

In a bid for Congress, Mazi Melesa Pilip has made waves for her proactive stance against antisemitism and vocal advocacy for conservative values.

Running on a platform that emphasizes community engagement, border

e need young people – people like me – to take a role and lead this country.

security, and support for Israel, the Nassau County legislator aims to bring her brand of leadership to the national stage in her bid to succeed the ousted George Santos, and keep this particular congressional seat in Republican hands.

ramid@liherald.com

MAZI MELESA PILIP congressional candidate

hands. Although some of her critics have

branded her as "silent," Pilip says that's one of her strengths. She's more of a "doer" than a talker. Although she's spent only a few years in the political arena, Pilip says she's running for Congress because she's a fresh voice and face.

"We need leadership," Pilip told reporters during a recent Herald Roundtable session. "We need young people — people like me — to take a role and lead this country."

It's been more than a year since there were full constituent services in the district as many looked to neighboring congressional members like Anthony D'Esposito and Andrew Garbarino instead. With an eye to returning the district to normalcy after months of national ridicule, Pilip says potential constituents have clamored to get her to Washington.

"Committee leaders, rabbis, people who really wanted to meet me, they really see that I'm engaging, I really care about the people," she said. "I am not just taking a job for a title. I work very hard."

Pilip is set to take part in one debate, despite her opponent calling for at least several more. Pilip says she believes in the value of debates, but turned down all but one so she could focus on her own efforts connecting with voters.

"I'm meeting a lot of people at a lot of events," Pilip said. "I don't have that much time for debates, but I'm looking forward to that one on Feb. 8. I'm very confident I'm going to win this election because people know where I'm standing. I'm engaging myself as much as possible to the public."

When Pilip can't get out to meet voters herself, she's depending on volunteers to canvas neighborhoods. What she's hearing back focuses on immigration, increasing law enforcement presence, and economic inflation. Pilip stresses the Democratic Party as a



Mazi Melesa Pilip says she is the best candidate to replace George Santos in Congress because she maintains positions that could attract both Republicans and Democrats — especially when it comes to battling antisemitism.

whole isn't doing enough when it comes to immigration — especially on the southern border — or enhancing law enforcement.

During her time with county government in Mineola, Pilip says she listened to her constituents on safety, bringing license plate readers to Kings Point. She helped get the Great Neck Park District access to a vacant land parcel owned by Nassau County located along Wood Road in Great Neck — an issue Pilip said was unresolved since 1979.

"I think everybody who came before me just promised," Pilip said. "Nobody delivered. When I took the position (as a county legislator), I made sure to connect with the people that related to the land, and I successfully transferred that land that was very neglected, very dirty, and was collecting water."

Since entering politics in 2021, Pilip has been a staunch advocate for combating antisemitism, spearheading passage of the first antisemitism task force bill in the legislature. She worked closely with law enforcement and its hate crime unit, as well as the district attorney's office. Through community events, public hearings and meetings, Pilip says she's actively gathered input while formulating recommendations to address what she describes as a rise in antisemitic incidents since Hamas terrorists attacked Israel on Oct. 7.

What happened in Israel affected Pilip deeply, as someone who spent a good portion of her life there. As an immigrant herself, Pilip has been vocal on increasing border control agencies and continuing work on the border wall former president Donald Trump championed.

"I want people to have the American dream, I want them to come here," Pilip said. "This country was founded by immigrants, but you understand what has to be done."

Despite being a registered Democrat, Pilip has made it clear she does not fully align with the current direction of the Democratic Party with plans to become a Republican after the Feb. 13 special election. But she doesn't call herself a "MAGA" Republican — the term used by some to identify Trump supporters — stating that recent political ads incorrectly color her as an

HERALD ROUNDTABLE

"extremist." For example, despite claims by others, Pilip says she doesn't believe the Jan. 6, 2021 attack on the U.S. Capitol building was a "peaceful protest," as some Republicans have claimed.

"It was violent," she said. "People have a right to protest in this country which is a right — and we have to be very respectful. But nobody's above the law. Nobody should do anything that violent."

Still, Pilip finds herself leaning toward more conservative values mixed in with some potentially bipartisan views. For example, she doesn't support a federal abortion ban, and she advocates for gun rights, while also acknowledging the need for responsible gun ownership measures.

"We are protecting Americans' right to bear arms and protecting the Second Amendment," Pilip said. "This is the right given to the American people.

"I'd like to see more of the federal and local government collaborate together to make sure guns don't get into the wrong hands, and follow the rules and regulations with background checks and a waiting period and training. I don't support automatic assault weapons."

Pilip also urges Gov. Kathy Hochul to do more for Nassau County, starting by finding ways to collaborate with local government.

That includes sending more money to the county, although she wasn't specific about how those funds should be allocated.

On environmental issues, Pilip says she recognizes climate change as a scientific fact, expressing a willingness to collaborate with experts to address environmental concerns.

One of the defining aspects of Pilip's campaign is her unwavering support for Israel. Drawing from her personal experiences and service in the Israel Defense Forces, she emphasizes the importance of strong U.S.-Israel relations, and says her first-hand experience living in Israel makes her the right person for the job.

"I still remember those buses and restaurants that were exploding left and right," Pilip said. "I understand the rules, understand why it's important to support Israel, when you live in Israel, surrounded by a lot of enemies."

Pilip fears not supporting Israel leaves the United States open to attacks that parallel the scope of Sept. 11, 2001. If elected, she says she can explain to the House of Representatives the harsh realities Israelis face.

"Israel is a country that gave me the opportunity for a better life," she said of her time in the Israeli military. "I thought that was the right thing to do to serve and protect Israel from terrorists around the country."

February 1, 2024 – GLEN COVE HERALD

Suozzi ready to return to U.S. House

By LAURA LANE

llane@liherald.com

The race to replace expelled congressman George Santos has been intense. Yet, Tom Suozzi is convinced he's the voters' best choice in the Feb. 13 special election, due to his experience and past ability to work across the political aisle.

A former Glen Cove mayor and Nassau County executive before serving three terms in the U.S. House, Suozzi says he believes bipartisanship is the key to effective government — something Washington is currently lacking.

He was vice president of the Problem Solvers Caucus — a bipartisan group of congressional members focused on finding compromises between the two parties — and worked across the aisle on immigration reform, and the repeal of the state and local tax deduction with former Republican congressman Peter King.

"I have a lot of other examples with other members of Congress that I worked with bipartisan. And that's my point," Suozzi told reporters during a recent Herald Roundtable session. "You may not endorse me. You may not support me, may not even like me, for all I know. But I'll work with anybody — from a progressive, to a moderate, to conservative. I'll work with anybody to try and find common ground to actually solve the problem and get things done, because that's what the people are hungry for."

If elected, Suozzi plans to continue improving infrastructure in his congressional district, which he is confident he could complete based on his past record of helping to formulate President Biden's infrastructure bill through the Problem Solvers Caucus, 20 House members, some senators, and even a few governors.

"We laid out the framework for the infrastructure deal, the biggest infrastructure deal in 40 years in America," Suozzi said.

"The whole time I've been in politics, we've always heard about, 'Oh, our roads and our bridges and our airports and our ports and our sewers and our water are all decayed, and they needed massive investment.' But they've never got it done.

"I'll get more money for the Long Island Sound. I'll get money for drinking water on Long Island, a major problem with all the pump stations that we need to put the filters in to get the drinking water out."

Suozzi says he is committed to improving service on the Oyster Bay line of the Long Island Rail Road, too. He'll fight for an express train that will not stop until it arrives in Mineola, where commuters would change trains for Manhattan. Realizing the potential popularity of an express train — which would considerably cut the hour-long commute time — Suozzi said he would get federal funding to expand the parking lot.

Suozzi says constituents know his positions, thanks to the six years he represented them in Washington. Still, he feels compelled to set the record straight on an accusation waged at him that he is a member of "the Squad" — an informal group of "progressive" Democrats led by U.S. Rep. Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez. Suozzi says he is not — nor has he ever been — a member of that group.

The misconception, Suozzi says, comes from a comment he made on MSNBC's "Morning Joe" in 2019, responding to then-President Donald Trump reportedly telling Squad members they should go back to where they came from.

The Trump comment "really set me off," Suozzi said. His father immigrated to America from Italy as a boy. And although he was a decorated World War II veteran and a graduate of Harvard Law School, because he was an immigrant, he could not get a job as an attorney.

"Nobody liked the Italians because the Italians had teamed up with the Germans during World War II. And, because of the Mafia," Suozzi said. "People would



Tim Baker/Herald

Former congressman Tom Suozzi is running to recapture his old seat. He says he has many plans to improve life for his constituents if elected, like improving infrastructure, promoting green energy, and adding an express train to the Long Island Rail Road that wouldn't stop until it reached Mineola.

say to him, 'Go back to where you came from.'"

Suozzi said he took Trump's comment personally, leading him to say that he didn't agree with the Squad on most issues, but that he wanted to be an "honorary member" based solely on what Trump said.

As far as the environment is concerned, Suozzi said he would continue his efforts to bring money to the district to help with future flooding and resiliency problems. He also will continue to promote green energy.

It is important to be vigilant on antisemitism, Suozzi said, adding he supports Israel completely and would put no conditions on aid. He believes, however, he may have lost support from Orthodox Jews because of the political party he belongs to.

"There's this feeling out there that all the Republicans are pro-Israel," Suozzi said. "And while 95 percent of the members of Congress are pro-Israel, that 5 percent who are not — and it's actually less than 5 percent who are not — are so loud, that they have damaged the perception of the Democratic Party regarding Israel."

He believes it is important to keep Congress bipartisan.

"You need to have strong, outspoken pro-Israel Democrats now more than ever," Suozzi said. "And I am that person as a supporter of Israel."

Suozzi says he remains committed to reducing the cost of prescription drugs.

"We pay much too much for prescription drugs in America compared to other countries that get the exact same drugs," he said. "We're never getting rid of private health insurance, but we should continue to figure out ways to reduce insurance costs. And we have to figure out ways to just reduce medical costs."

Law enforcement is something Suozzi says he will always support, as well as issues addressing gun violence.

He also would like to continue his work to get the state and local tax deduction back.

"That's my number one priority, and it always has been my number one priority," Suozzi said. "I passed it three times through the House, but couldn't get it

HERALD ROUNDTABLE

through the Senate. And, therefore, it wasn't signed by the president."

SALT expires in 2025, and Suozzi believes congress will try to cap it again.

"It's just going to be my number one issue," he said, "and I'm going to have an even bigger coalition of people to fight against it."

Suozzi says he is also committed to securing the borders, but has additional plans too. He previously wrote an opinion piece with King called the "grand compromise." It had three elements: border security, treat people like human beings, and funding all of it.

Suozzi and King wanted to give a pathway to citizenship to "Dreamers," people who came to the United States as babies, and are now adults working jobs or even serving in the military. They also wanted to find ways to help those in the country through temporary protected status — those who came to America because of disasters like earthquakes and civil wars — to find a way to citizenship as well.

But one additional idea Suozzi wants is to build an "Ellis Island" at the border.

"When I was in congress, we had like a dozen facilities along the southern border, and they were all built in the 1950s," he said. "The border crossings, they have the dilapidated buildings. They can process 40 or 50 people a day. That's it."

Instead, Suozzi wants a "giant facility" where "you get your health checked. You get your background checked. And an immigration judge rules whether or not you're eligible for asylum."

People may not like his idea, Suozzi said, but it is an idea — something he added is lacking in congress right now. And he says he has plenty more.

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WRHU-FM reporters Fatima Moien and Joseph Pergola worked side by side during the New Hampshire primary.

Photos courtesy Doualy Xaykaothac

Gains valuable experience at the primary

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

sional journalists. Mornings, afternoons and evenings were dedicated to covering campaign events, rallies and candidate speeches across the state.

"We want students to understand that journalism isn't just about reporting it's about hard work," John Mullen, general manager of WRHU-FM, said. "The trip to New Hampshire exposes them to the realities of the field, from chasing down interviews to editing sound bites. At Hofstra and WRHU, it's about bridging classroom knowledge with real-world application."

As expected, the student journalists faced challenges ranging from battling the bitter cold to grappling with the intricacies of "audio collection," the trials and tribulations of field reporting. But with each obstacle came a lesson — a chance to grow, adapt and refine their skills. Along with their own instincts, they relied on seasoned journalists, asking them, for example, where the best spots for interviews were.

"It can be intimidating at times, and a little uncomfortable," Pergola said, recalling his discussions with reporters from other media outlets. "I talked to somebody Tuesday morning — he told me what the most popular voting place



Among his many interviews, Joseph Pergola, right, interviewed performer and activist Vermin Supreme about the New Hampshire primary.

was. If I hadn't done that, I wouldn't have gotten all the great sound bites and the great interviews. I wouldn't have been able to see Nikki Haley."

Doualy Xaykaothao, one of the university's professional journalists in resi-

dence and a veteran reporter for National Public Radio, accompanied the students on the trip. She not only offered guidance on the factual and ethical standards of reporting, but also emphasized the importance of being prepared to conduct interviews in the field, sometimes amid harsh weather conditions, while finding the ideal sound bites for news packages.

Xaykaothao noted that students had to learn to "read the space" and weigh their safety along with their ability to gather sound, a lesson that was new to many of them.

"In radio you've got to know how to collect audio — you've got to grab that natural sound, she explained. "You're taking people to a location, you're introducing listeners to people walking somewhere, or people protesting somewhere, or the sound of a diner, the sound of a road. That's all part of storytelling in radio."

Pergola described his experience as overwhelmingly positive, adding that witnessing the political process firsthand helped him feel the energy and passion of candidates and voters alike, and understand the significance of his role in shaping the narrative.

"My biggest takeaway was definitely to network and talk to people to try to gather as much information you can, especially if you're struggling with leads," Pergola said. "Definitely talk to all kinds of people, because you never know what you're going to find out."



FOR CONGRESS ★ 2024

SUOZZ Let's Fix This!

Washington D.C. isn't working for us. I will work day and night with both parties to deliver for the people to make living here more affordable, safer, and better. I delivered for this district before, and I will do it again by putting you ahead of partisanship. Let's reject the nonsense and get back to work.







Paid for by Suozzi for Congress



Photographs of Hamas hostages from the Oct. 7 attack were displayed at the Nassau County Holocaust Tolerance and Memorial Center.

Roksana Amid/Herald photos

Echoes of resilience across generations

By ROKSANA AMID

ramid@liherald.com

In recognition of International Holocaust Remembrance Day on Jan. 27, Gilda Zirinsky recalled stark memories of survival as a child fleeing Nazi-occupied Europe to listeners at the Nassau County Holocaust Tolerance and Memorial Center.

Zirinsky's narrative unfolded with vivid detail, transporting listeners back to May 10, 1940, when the skies over Belgium echoed with the ominous roar of enemy planes. At just five-years-old, Zirinsky found herself thrust into a world of chaos and uncertainty when her family was forced to leave behind the lives that they had worked hard to create and love.

The 88-year-old said she could still remember the sounds of enemy planes flying overhead; quickly packing a small bag and leaving her kitten behind while desperately trying to seek refuge in neighboring countries to escape persecution by the Nazis. Her father and male cousins were left to fight against the Germans while her mother, siblings, and cousins boarded trains to stay alive. Often the weather was cold, and they were hungry as they slept on floors unable to return home. Her journey led her to Portugal, Morocco and Casablanca until she finally found refuge in the United States.

"My message to you is to remember to always help a loved one, love one another and not forget to be tolerant. There's too much sadness and anger in our world," Zirinsky said during her speech at the center. "So spread the word to be kind and never to forget. Help those who need it the most. This could happen again anywhere at any time."

Saturday marked the 79th anniversary of the day Soviet troops liberated Auschwitz, the concentration camp complex where over 1 million people were murdered by the Nazis between 1940 and 1945, with the vast majority being Jews. Altogether, the Nazis killed 6 million European Jews during the Holocaust. Zaretsky's stirring account served as a sobering reminder of the atrocities of the past that still linger.

For many, International Holocaust Remembrance feels different this year, especially for Natalie Natalie Sanandaji, a 28-year-old Jewish-American from Great

Neck who spoke about surviving the openair Tribe of Nova music festival. The attack is believed to be the worst civilian massacre in Israeli history. In a single day, Hamas killed about 1,200 people in Israel, mostly civilians, and took roughly 240 people captive. The U.S. and nations around the world have recorded an uptick in reports of anti-Semitism since then. The ongoing war has also claimed the lives of over 26,000 Palestinians

On Oct. 7, Sanandaji found herself in the midst of chaos as rockets pierced the night sky, turning a festive atmosphere into a scene of panic and survival. Recounting her experience, Sanandaji described the surreal transition from enjoying music and camaraderie to confronting the stark reality of danger.

NSKY JIVIVOR, Sanandaji and her three friends initially remained calm, accustomed to the occasional threat in the region. However, the situation escalated rapidly as the scale of the attack became apparent. Evacuation orders were issued, and festival goers scrambled to safety amidst the chaos.

Forced to make split-second decisions amid uncertainty, Sanandaji, and her friends faced what she describes as "choiceless choices" — decisions made under extreme duress with no clear outcome. From changing directions mid-flight to avoiding precarious hiding spots, every move carried life or death consequences.

During her four-hour escape, Sanandaji narrowly evaded a potentially fatal encounter. Unaware of the imminent danger, she ventured to the festival's bath-



Gilda Zirinsky recalled her four-hour escape during the Oct. 7 attacks on Israel during a music festival.

rooms, only later learning that Hamas terrorists had targeted the same location.

While addressing the audience at the center, Sanandaji recalled being referred to as a "survivor" and being asked how she felt about being called a survivor in comparison to Holocaust survivors.

"It's very different," Sanandaji said. "For me, as a survivor, I survived an attempted genocide of one day. Holocaust survivors survived the genocide of four years."

S o spread the word to be kind and never to forget. Help those who need it the most. This could happen again anywhere at any time.

GILDA ZIRINSKY

Holocaust survivor, Great Neck

11

EGHTER Weiter

SOLDIER

MOTHER

As a Nassau County Legislator, Mazi Pilip held the line on spending, cut property taxes by \$200 million and hired hundreds of new police officers to keep our communities safe.

Mazi Pilip is the leader *we need* in Congress.

- ✓ Repeal the Middle Class Tax Hikes passed by Joe Biden and Tom Suozzi.
- ✓ Restore the full State and Local Tax (SALT) Deduction to help homeowners.
- ✓ Pass the strongest Border Security Law to close Biden's Open Borders.







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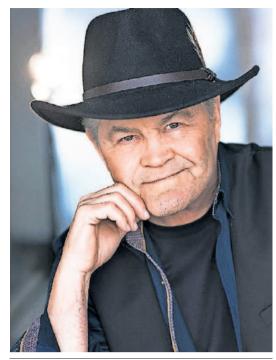
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STEPPING OUT





Photos courtesy The Fest The Monkees icon Micky Dolenz relives those heady days when The Beatles ruled the world, musically at least.

Former Wings guitarist Laurence Juber also participates, performing with Micky Dolenz and others.

Micky Dolenz headlines The Fest for Beatles Fans The Monkees' drummer shares his experience with the Fab Four

By Daniel Offner

The Fest for Beatles Fans — the largest and longestrunning immersive experience for fans of the Fab Four celebrates its 50th anniversary this year.

Beatles devotees surely will want to get in on the action, next weekend. Feb. 9-11. It involves an all-star lineup of musical guests, an auction of rare memorabilia, fan meet and greets, a giant Beatles marketplace, Beatles museum, an art gallery dedicated to the Fab Four, plus even more.

And since this year also marks the 60th anniversary of The Beatles' arrival at JFK International Airport, it all happens at the famed TWA Hotel at JFK.

Headlining this year's event is none other than drummersinger Micky Dolenz of The Monkees, along with Laurence Juber and Steve Holley of Wings, Billy J. Kramer, Greg Bissonnette, Mark Rivera, and others.

The Monkees — unlike the Fab Four themselves — were not actually a band at all. They came about through the magic of television to appear like they were a group trying to be like The Beatles, but who could never quite achieve the same level of success.

'We used to have a poster of The Beatles on the set and we would throw darts at it," Dolenz says. "We were never famous on the show. It was about the struggle for success and trying to get a record deal, which we never did on the TV show.

Ironically, the success of the NBC sitcom would launch the "imaginary band" to new heights. The Monkees would go on to achieve success they never thought attainable. Their albums climbed to the top of the Billboard charts, and soon they were selling out shows all across the country.

Several of their songs, including the "(Theme From) The Monkees," was actually written, produced and performed by songwriting duo Tommy Boyce and Bobby Hart; later rerecorded to feature the actors' voices.

Dolenz says that during the auditions, producers required that the actors were able to play an instrument and sing.

'The producers must have had in mind that we were going to play live," he recalls. "Mike Nesmith said it was like Pinocchio becoming a real little boy."

He compared the experience to the Fox musical series "Glee," in the sense that all four members of the group were





• Feb. 9, 5 p.m.-1 a.m.; Feb. 10, 10:30 a.m.-midnight; Feb. 11, 11:30 a.m. -11 p.m. Tickets, full details, guest bios available at TheFest.com TWA Hotel at JFK, Idlewild Drive, Oueens

comedic antics.

Throughout the years, Dolenz has mixed in a blend of Beatles covers into his repertoire, including "Good Morning, Good Morning," and "A Day in the Life." His participation in The Fest goes back to 2014, when he joined Peter Noone of

about.

Lonely Hearts Club Band.

Interestingly, John Lennon said that the inspiration

for the tune came to him from a Kellogg's Corn Flakes

commercial. Coincidentally, back in the United States,

commercials for the breakfast cereal during their peak.

In the years that followed, he would have many more

"I've always been a huge Beatles fan," Dolenz says.

They were great. They got what The Monkees were all

He also recalls how Lennon once compared The

Monkees to the Marx Brothers, because of their plucky

Dolenz and The Monkees were featured in several

interactions with John, Paul, George and Ringo.

Herman's Hermits on stage for a performance of "Henry VIII. According to Dolenz, he's most excited to share the stage with talented musicians

like Laurence Juber, and just "being there" to spend time with fans and have a good time

"Its like comic-con," Dolenz says. "I'm looking forward to going back there and hanging out in New York."



Jessie's Girl

It's time to drag out that neon once again and give your hair its best '80s 'do. Those crazy days are back — as only Jessie's Girl can pull off. The band of NYC's top rock/ pop musicians and singers gets everyone into that 'Back to the '80s' vibe with the latest edition of their popular concert experience. With a lineup including four pop-rock vocalists dressing and performing as '80s icons — backed by a dynamic band — this is the definitive '80s experience. Throw on top of that: a load of super-fun choreography, audience participation, props, costumes bubbles, and confetti and you have a party that audiences don't want to leave. Jessie's Girl has mastered over-the-top renditions of the some of world's most unforgettable songs, all while dressed up as the iconic characters of that decade. This is theater meets live music, covered in '80s glitz.

Friday, Feb. 2, 8 p.m. \$45, \$37.50, \$25. The Paramount, 370 New York Ave., Huntington. Tickets available at Ticketmaster.com or ParamountNY.com.



South Shore **Symphony**

During the

tracking their song, "Good Morning," for

their eighth studio

album, Sgt. Pepper's

The orchestra continues music director Adam Glaser's inaugural season, joined by The Zandieh Trio. The young ensemble performs Beethoven's 'Concerto for Violin, Cello,' and 'Piano in C Major, Op. 56' — known as the 'Triple Concerto' — which showcases the talents of violinist Cameron Zandieh, cellist Charlie Zandieh and pianist Christopher Zandieh Performing together since 2013, their ensemble is the inevitable collaborative joint force of the three accomplished brothers. All would go on to graduate from the prestigious Juilliard School. The program also includes Dmitri Shostakovich's compelling 'Symphony No. 6 in B minor, Op. 54.'

Saturday, Feb. 3, 7:30 p.m. \$30. Madison Theatre, Molloy University, 1000 Hempstead Ave., Rockville Centre. Tickets available at MadisonTheatreNY.org or (516) 323-4444.

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GLEN COVE HERALD - February 1, 202.

¹⁴ YOUR NEIGHBORHOOD THESCENE

10

'Easy come, Feb. easy go' Queen-mania keeps on rockin' on. Almost

Queen visits the Paramount stage, Saturday, Feb. 10, at 8 p.m., with their homage to the beloved band. They don't just pay tribute to the legendary band, Almost Queen transports you back in time to experience the magic and essence of Queen themselves. The band featuring Joseph Russo as Freddie Mercury, Steve Leonard as Brian May, Randy Gregg as John Deacon, and John Cappadona as Roger Taylor — consistently delivers a dynamic live performance showcasing signature four-part harmonies and intricate musical interludes. The band's authenticity shines through in their impeccable attention to detail and genuine costumes, while their live energy and precision will leave music fans of all ages with an unforgettable



concert experience. Almost Queen's concerts are a true testament to the band's love for Queen's music. The carefully curated setlist featuring Queen's best-loved songs, like "Somebody to Love," "Don't Stop Me Now," "Fat Bottomed Girls," and "Radio Ga Ga," along with lesser known tracks. And of course, no Queen tribute concert would be complete without classics like "Bohemian Rhapsody," "We Will Rock You" and "We Are the Champions!" It's no wonder fans keep coming back for more. \$79.50, \$69.50, \$59.50, \$49.50, \$39.50, \$29.50. The Paramount. 370 New York Ave.. Huntington. (800) 745-3000 or Ticketmaster.com or ParamountNY.com.

Art talk

Grab your lunch and join Nassau County Museum of Art Docent Riva Ettus for her popular "Brown Bag Lecture" at the museum, Thursday, **Feb. 15**, 1 p.m. She'll discuss the current exhibition, "Our Gilded Age." Participants are invited to ask questions at the end of the in-depth program and also participate in a guided exhibition tour following the lecture. Registration required. Nassau County Museum of Art, 1 Museum Dr., Roslyn Harbor. (516) 484-9337 or NassauMuseum.org.

Hot Cocoa Tasting

Welcome Valentine's Day with Diane Schwindt, who will delight visitors with stories of the history of cocoa, Sunday, Feb. 11, 4-5 p.m. at Raynham Hall Museum. Then warm up with a cup of hot cocoa with marshmallows and toppings of choice. Kids can take home an 'America's First Valentine' coloring page. \$15 adults, \$10 kids; \$10 adults, \$5 members. aynham Hall Museum, 30 West Main Street, Oyster Bay. Visit RaynhamHallMuseum.org for reservations and information.

Glen Cove Pre-**Council meets** The City Council meets, Tuesday, **Feb. 6,** at 6:30 p.m., at City Hall. 9 Glen St.

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.



The program polls the local community to select the best businesses and organizations in the area. Learn more about the program and participate by visiting the website below.

OFFICIAL RULES: NO PURCHASE NECESSARY TO ENTER. To vote and be eligible for the \$500 prize, at least 25 cate \$500 prize is a Gift Card. For complete official rules go to: LICHOICEAWARDS.co



'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

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SPEAKER

SPEAKER



Movie time

Enjoy a movie on Locust

"A Haunting in Venice,"

novel "Hallowe'en Party,"

Oscar winner Kenneth

Valley Library's big screen, Thursday, **Feb. 8**, 1 p.m. See

inspired by Agatha Christie's

and directed by and starring

Branagh as famed detective

Hercule Poirot. It is set in

eerie, post-World War II

Venice on All Hallows' Eve

and is a terrifying mystery

featuring the return of the

celebrated sleuth. Seating

Road. For information visit

LocustValleyLibrary.org or call

Twist and shout to the tunes

of DJ McLovin, at a "Prom

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Need is Love scholarships,

Saturday, **Feb. 10**, 7-10 p.m., at St. Luke's Parish &

Community Hall. 21 years

of age or older. Food and

not required. 10 253 Glen

required at LYNP.org.

Ave., Sea Cliff. Registration

beverages served. Prom attire

is limited. 170 Buckram

'60s prom night

(516) 671-1837.

'Love Letters'

Plaza Theatricals continues its season with "Love Letters," Sunday, **Feb. 11**, 2:30 p.m. Starring Kim and Chris Dufrenoy, this and imaginative theatre piece is comprised of letters exchanged over a lifetime between two people who grew up together, went their separate ways, but continued to share confidences.

Andrew Makepeace Ladd III and Melissa Gardner, both born to wealth, are childhood friends whose lifelong correspondence began with birthday party thankyou notes. Following the performance, the Dufrenoys share some favorite Broadway love songs! See it at the Elmont Library Theatre, 700 Hempstead Turnpike, Elmont. \$40, \$35 seniors. Elmont. For tickets, visit PlazaTheatrical. com or call (516) 599-6870.

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.

Heart Health Screenings

Prepare for your healthiest year yet, because every beat matters. Mercy Hospital kicks off Heart Health Month, with screenings courtesy of St. Francis Hospital bus, Thursday, **Feb. 8**, 10 a.m.-3 p.m. Learn about cholesterol, HDL, casual glucose, blood pressure and BMI. Also discuss healthy eating and nutrition with a dietician and participating in a food demonstration. Meet with a stroke



coordinator and obtain additional available screenings. Registration encouraged. 1000 N. Village Ave., Rockville Centre. Visit chsli.org/mercyhospital or call (516) 626-3729 for more information.

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.

Night Flow L-O-V-E class

Open your heart this Valentine's Day with Night Flow: L-O-V-E class, Friday, **Feb. 9**, at Oyster Bay Yoga. This special all-levels yoga session will blend gentle poses, flowing sequences, and heartopeners, creating an atmosphere of selflove and connection. Expect a playlist inspired by love, carefully curated by Anne. Whether solo or with a partner, celebrate the spirit of Valentine's Day through mindful movement and heartwarming energy. \$15 to drop-in. free for members. 9 Audrey Ave., Oyster Bay. Visit OysterBayYoga.com or call (516) 922-4222.

Library Walking Club

Participate in Glen Cove Public Library's at-yourown-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 GlencCoveLbrary.org or call (516) 676-2130 for more information.

Attention Business Owners: Unlock Business Growth: From Clicks to Conversions Webinar

Are you ready to propel your business to new heights in the digital realm? Join us for an exclusive webinar, "From Clicks to Conversions: A Dive into Digital Marketing for Business Growth."

Steven Digital Implementation Supervisor Leader

Jenna Digital Implementation Team Leader

What to Expect:

Programmatic Precision: Discover the world of programmatic advertising and how it can elevate your business by reaching the right audience at the right time.

SEO Strategies: Uncover the secrets to optimizing your online presence, making your business easily discoverable by potential customers through powerful Search Engine Optimization (SEO) techniques.

Geo-Fencing Mastery: Learn how to leverage geo-fencing to precisely target your audience based on location.

PPC Tactics: Navigate the world of Pay-Per-Click advertising and understand how to maximize your ROI through strategic campaigns.

Why Attend?

In this comprehensive webinar, you'll gain insights and actionable strategies to transform digital clicks into tangible business conversions. Whether you're new to digital marketing or looking to refine your current strategies, this webinar is tailored for business owners seeking real and measurable growth.

Who Should Attend:

- Business Owners
- Entrepreneurs
- Marketing Managers
- Anyone looking to boost their business through digital marketing

Event Details: February 15, 2024 Time: 10:00 AM Location: ZOOM

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Accusations fly leading up to special election

By ROKSANA AMID

ramid@liherald.com

The race to replace expelled former Rep. George Santos in the 3rd Congressional District in a special election on Feb. 13 is heating up, with accusations being thrown between Nassau County Legislator Mazi Melesa Pilip and former Congressman Tom Suozzi.

During a news conference on Jan. 17, Suozzi criticized his opponent for instigating "fear tactics" against gun safety, stating Pilip is "against common sense gun violence gun legislation" and that she has not taken a stance on assault riffles.

"I am a firm believer in the right to bear arms," Pilip wrote in an email to the Herald. "I believe law-abiding citizens should have a route to have access to guns, but not automatic assault weapons."

Suozzi also addressed what he referred to as an "anti-Italian attack," which Brian Devine, a Republican staffer for Pilip, said. Devine referred to Suozzi as the "godfather of the border crisis" in a comment to the New York Post in an article published on Jan. 16. Devine alleged that Suozzi is responsible for the current southern border crisis based on his actions during his previous tenure in Congress.

In an email to the Herald, Aidan Strongreen, Pilip's campaign manager, claimed Suozzi was using the Post article as a political tactic.

"Suozzi will do anything to try to deflect attention away from his dismal record of working hand-in-hand with



TOM SUOZZI

Joe Biden to open our borders to illegal and unvetted migrants," the email reads. "In Congress, Tom Suozzi voted against legislation that would have made it easier to deport and deny entry to migrants who were suspected members of dangerous gangs. Further, he has bragged about throwing ICE agents out of Nassau County."

The statement by Devine has escalated tensions, with national and local committees flooding the airwaves with ads supporting and attacking the candidates. Suozzi, a first-generation Italian-American, strongly objected to the "godfather" remark, emphasizing his commitment to addressing Italian-American stereotypes.

Expressing his outrage to Devine's comment, Suozzi recounted the chal-



MAZI MELESA PILIP

lenges his father faced after World War II, highlighting the prejudice against Italian-Americans. He stressed the importance of respectful campaigning.

"You can call me a lot of things that are inaccurate, you can call me all kinds of names which they have throughout this campaign but why would you call me 'the godfather?'" Suozzi asked. "Why would you use that particular expression?"

Suozzi said the term "godfather" is a negative stereotype associated with the Mafia. He condemned Pilip's campaign for allegedly smearing his Italian-American heritage and evoking stereotypes during the ongoing election.

Italian-American advocacy groups, including the Conference of Presidents of Major Italian American Organizations, the Italian American Action Committee, the New York State Italian American PAC, and the Order of the Sons of Italy, issued a joint statement condemning the "anti-Italian attack." They demanded an apology from Pilip and urged her to refrain from perpetuating stereotypes.

Strongreen also criticized Suozzi's tenure as Glen Cove's mayor, alleging he established one of "the first migrant centers on the east coast." Strongreen referred to a 2022 interview with the Jim Owles Liberal Democratic Club, where Suozzi described what he called a "worker gathering spot" which he helped to establish, where unemployed immigrants could gather to learn English or a job skill if not hired as day laborers.

In the interview, Suozzi said he established the first day worker gathering spot on the East Coast to help immigrants already living in Glen Cove, saying he empathized with immigrants wanting to achieve the "American dream," much like his father did when he first came to the United States.

"In short, Tom Suozzi and Joe Biden are responsible for the migrant crisis," Strongreen's wrote, "which is putting the safety of families at risk, while causing budgetary chaos for municipalities across the country."

Devine's remark has drawn attention to the significance of language in political campaigns. As the candidates continue to vie for the congressional seat, the controversy adds another layer to an already heated and closely watched special election.

What to know about voting in the election

By WILL SHEELINE

wsheeline@liherald.com

As the special election for New York's 3rd Congressional District approaches, voters are gearing up to cast their ballots to fill the vacant seat left by former Congressman George Santos. With Democrat Tom Suozzi and Mazi Melesa Pilip, although a Democrat, running on the Republican ticket, in contention, the stakes are high, and the process may seem a bit different this time around.

Barbara Epstein, co-president of the east Nassau branch of the League of Women Voters, shed light on the voting procedures. She addressed potential concerns by providing insights into the details of the upcoming election, including early voting, absentee ballots, and the League of Women Voters' involvement.

Registered voters living in the 3rd Congressional District should have received a card from the Board of Elections, Epstein said, providing information about early voting dates and locations. Some voters have complained to the league that there is not a site in Oyster Bay. Epstein said selection of early voting sites is determined by the Board of Elections in collaboration with areas willing to host such services.

"There are 11 early voting sites throughout the district," Epstein said. "It's the decision of the Board of Elections to choose where to put them."

Early voting — when and where

Dates: Feb. 3 to Feb. 11

Nearby locations:

- Glen Cove City Hall, 9 Glen St., Glen Cove
- Great Neck House, 14 Arrandal Ave., Great Neck

■ Port Washington Public Library, 1 Library Dr., Port Washington

■ Yes We Can Community Center, 141 Garden St., Westbury

Despite concerns about the absence of early voting sites in specific areas, she emphasized voters have the option to cast their ballots on Election Day at their regular polling sites. Additionally, this year's special election introduces a significant change — a new law signed by the governor allows voters to obtain an absentee ballot without providing an excuse. Though the law is facing challenges, for now, it remains applicable for the special election.

Epstein clarified that the election process follows state law, whereby the governor has 60 days to set a special election after a vacancy occurs. In this case, early voting will take place from Feb. 3 through Feb. 11, spanning nine days.

Unlike other elections, this special election will only involve voting to fill the congressional seat in District 3.

Regarding the League of Women Voters' role, Epstein explained that the organization has been asked by the state to report results from various polling sites to the Associated Press. While specific details about the polling sites are yet to be disclosed, members of the league, including those in Epstein's district, will play a crucial role in this aspect.

As the special election unfolds, the League of Women Voters and the Board of Elections are dedicated to ensuring a smooth and accessible voting process for all voters in New York's 3rd Congressional District. Whether casting ballots in person during early voting or on Election Day, or opting for an absentee ballot, voters have options to make their voices heard in this crucial election.

For further information, call the General Board of Elections at (516) 571-2411 or (516) 571-8683. These hotlines are available for individuals to check their eligibility, inquire about missing cards, or seek assistance.

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HERALD PUBLIC NOTICES

LEGAL NOTICE PUBLIC NOTICE OF COUNTY TREASURER'S SALE OF TAX LIENS ON REAL ESTATE Notice is hereby given commencing that February 20th, 2024, will sell at public on-line auction the tax liens on certain real estate, unless

the owner, mortgagee, occupant of or any other party in interest in such real estate shall have paid to the County Treasurer by February 15th, 2024 the total amount of such unpaid taxes or assessments with the interest, penalties and other expenses and the charges against property

Such tax liens will be sold at the lowest rate of interest, not exceeding 10 percent per six-month period, for which any person or persons shall offer to take the total amount of such unpaid taxes as defined in Section 5-37.0 of the Nassau County Administrative Code.

the Effective with February 2019 lien sale Ordinance No. 175-2015 requires a \$175.00 per day registration fee for each person who intends to bid at the tax lien sale. Ordinance No. 175-2015 also requires that upon the issuance of the Lien Certificate there is due from the lien buyer a Tax Certificate Issue Fee of \$20.00 per lien purchased. Pursuant to the provisions of the lien County Nassau Administrative Code the discretion of the Nassau County Treasurer the auction will be conducted online. Further information concerning the procedures for the auction is available at the website of the Nassau County Treasurer at:

https://www.nassaucount yny.gov/526/County-Treasurer Should the Treasurer determine that an in-person auction shall be held, same commence on the 20th day of February 2024 at the Office of The County Treasurer 1 West Street, Mineola or at some other location to be determined by the Treasurer A list of all real estate in

Nassau County on which tax liens are to be sold is available at the website of the Nassau County Treasurer at: https://www.nassaucount

yny.gov/527/Annual-Tax-Lien-Sale A list of local properties upon which tax liens are to be sold will be advertised in this publication on or before February 07th, 2024. Nassau County does not discriminate on the basis of disability in admission to or access to, or treatment or employment in, its services, programs, activities. Upon or request, accommodations such as those required by Americans with

Disabilities Act (ADA) wil be provided to enable individuals with disabilities to participate in all services, programs, activities and public public hearings conducted and events by the conducted by the Treasurer's Office. Upon request, information can made available in he Braille, large print, audiotape or other alternative formats. For additional information, please call (516) 571-2090 ext. (516)1-3715 Dated: January 24, 2024 THE NASSAU COUNTY TREASURER

Mineola, NewYork

TERMS OF SALE Such tax liens shall be sold subject to any and all superior tax liens of sovereignties and other municipalities and to all claims of record which the County may have thereon and subject to the provisions of the Federal and State Soldiers' and Sailors' Civil Deliaf Act Relief Acts. However, such tax liens

shall have priority over the County's Differential Interest Lien, representing the excess, if any, of the interest and penalty borne at the maximum rate over the interest and penalty borne at the rate at which the lien is purchased.

Purchaser acknowledges that the tax lien(s) sold pursuant to these Terms of Sale may be subject pending bankru proceedings and/or bankruptcy become subject to such proceedings which may be commenced during the period in which a tax lien is held by a successful bidder or the assignee of same, which may modify a Purchaser's rights with respect to the lien(s) and the property securing Such bankruptcy same. shall proceedings affect the validity of the tax lien. In addition to being subject to pending bankruptcy proceedings and/or the Federal and State Soldiers' and Sailors' Civil Relief Acts, and said purchaser's right of foreclosure may be affected by the Financial Institutions Reform, Recovery and Enforcement Act(FIRREA),12 U.S.C. ss 1811 et.seq., with regard to real property under Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation(FDIC)

receivership. Treasurer County The reserves the right, without further notice and at any time, to withdraw from sale any of the parcels of land or premises herein listed. . The Nassau County The Nassau County Treasurer reserves the right to intervene in any bankruptcy case/litigation where the property affected by the tax liens sold by the Treasurer is part of the bankruptcy octate. However it is the

estate. However, it is the

sole responsibility of all

tax lien purchasers to their

legal

protect

intoracte bankruptcy case affecting their purchased tax lien, including but not limited to the filing of a proof of claim on their behalf, covering their investment in said tax lien. The Nassau County Treasurer and Nassau County and its agencies, assumes no responsibility for any legal representation of any tax lien purchaser in any lax her purchaser in any legal proceeding including but not limited to a bankruptcy case where the purchased tax lien is at risk The rate of interest and penalty at which any person purchases the tax lien shall be established by his bid. Each purchaser,

immediately after the sale thereof, shall pay to the County Treasurer ten per cent of the amount for which the tax liens have been sold and the remaining ninety per cent within thirty days after such sale. If the purchaser at the tax sale shall fail to pay the remaining ninety per cent within ten days after he within ten days after he has been notified by the County Treasurer that the certificates of sale are ready for delivery, then all amounts deposited with County Treasurer including but not limited to the ten per cent to the ten per cent theretofore paid by him shall, without further notice or demand, be irrevocably forfeited by the purchaser and shall be retained by the County Treasurer as liquidated damages and the damages agreement to purchase shall be of no further effect. Time is of the essence in this sale. This sale is held pursuant to the Nassau County Administrative Code and interested parties are referred to such Code for additional information as to terms of the sale, of purchasers, m rates of rights maximum rates interest and other legal incidents of the sale. Furthermore, as to the bidding, 1. The bidder(s) agree that they will not work with any other bidder(s) to increase, maintain or stabilize interest rates or collaborate with any other bidder(s) to gain an unfair competitive advantage in the random number generator in the event of a tie bid(s) on a tax certificate. Bidder(s) further agree not to any employ bidding strategy designed create an unfair competitive advantage in the tiebreaking process in the upcoming tax sale nor work with any other bidder(s) to engage in any bidding strategy that will result ⁷ rotational in a award of tax certificates. 2. The tax certificate(s) the Bidder will bid upon, and the interest rate(s) bid, will be arrived at

without direct or indirect consultation. communication

independently

agreement with any other

and

hidder and that the tax certificate(s) the Bidder will bid upon, and the interest rate(s) to be bid, have not been disclosed, directly or indirectly, to any other bidder, and will not be disclosed, directly or indirectly, to any other bidder prior to the close of bidding. No attempt has been made or will be made to, directly or indirectly, induce any indirectly, induce any other bidder to refrain from bidding on any tax certificate, to submit complementary bids, or to submit bids at specific interest rates. 3. The bids to be placed by the Bidder will be made in good faith and not pursuant to any direct or indirect, agreement or discussion with. or inducement from, any other bidder to submit a complementary or other noncompetitive bid. 4. If it is determined that bidder(s) have the violated any of these bid requirements then their bid shall be voided and if they were the successful bidder the lien and any deposits made in connection with said bid shall be forfeited. Dated: January 24, 2024 THE NASSAU COUNTY TREASURER Mineola, New York 144440

IEGAL NOTICE SUPREME COURT OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK -COUNTY OF NASSAU DEUTSCHF BANK NATIONAL TRUST COMPANY, AS TRUSTEE FOR HOME MORTGAGE EOUITY I OAN ASSET-BACKED TRUST SERIES INABS 2005-A HOMF FOUITY MORTGAGE LOAN ASSET-BACKED CERTIFICATES, SERIES INABS 2005-A

.. VITALI LEGUENKI A/K/A VITALI LEGENKI, ET AL. NOTICE OF SALE NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN pursuant to a Final udgment of Foreclosure dated October 24, 2023. and entered in the Office of the Clerk of the County Nassau, wherein DEUTSCHE BANK NATIONAL TRUST Company, AS TRUSTEE HOME FOR EQUITY MORTGAGE LOAN ASSET-BACKED TRUST, 2005-A, EQUITY SERIES INABS HOME MORTGAGE LOAN ASSET-BACKED SERIES CERTIFICATES. INABS 2005-A Plaintiff and is the VITALI Plaintiff and VITALI LEGUENKI A/K/A VITALI LEGENKI, ET AL. are the Defendant(s). I, the undersigned Referee will sell at public auction RAIN OR SHINE at the NASSAU COUNTY SUPREME COURT, NORTH SIDF STEPS, 100 SUPREME COURT, NORTH SIDE STEPS, 100 SUPREME COURT DRIVE, MINEOLA, NY 11501, on February 28, 2024 at 2:00PM, premises known as 20 VALENTINE STREET, GLEN COVE, NY 11542: Section 31, Block 35, Lot 7:

ALL THAT CERTAIN PLOT, PIECE OR PARCEL OF LAND, SITUATE, LYING AND BEING IN THE CITY OF GLEN COVE, COUNTY NASSAU AND STATE OF NEW YORK Premises will be sold subject to provisions of filed Judgment Index # 611401/2018. Ellen Durst. Esq. - Referee. Robertson, Anschutz, Schneid, Crane & Partners, PLLC 900 Merchants Concourse, Suite 310, Westbury, New York 11590, Attorneys for Plaintiff. All foreclosure sales will be conducted in accordance with Covid-19 guidelines including, but not limited to, social distancing and model waring, *LOCATION OF TO wearing. *LOCATION SALE SUBJECT CHANGE DAY OF IN ACCORDANCE COURT/CLERK WITH DIRECTIVES. 144540 PUBLIC AND LEGAL NOTICES Printed in this publication can be found online. To search by publication name, go to: www.newyorkpublicnotices.com TO PLACE AND AD CALL 516-569-4000 x 232 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, February 6, 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 Theatre Realty Cove LLC. a special use and site plan seeking a permit approval to operate a takeout restaurant known as Gera's Cakes Cafe Shop serving Latin bakery desserts, sandwiches, coffee and other other beverages, with an emphasis on bakery items, within the 1760 square foot space at the southerly end of the 8411 square foot building ocated 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 ROARD 144710

LEGAL NOTICE PUBLIC NOTICE GLEN COVE COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT 50th PROGRAM YEAR FEDERAL FISCAL YEAR 9/1/24 - 8/31/25 NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that a public hearing will be held on Tuesday, February 13, 2024 during the Glen Cove City Council Meeting held at Glen Cove City Hall Main Chambers, 9 Glen Street, Glen Cove, NY that begins at 7:30 p.m. The purpose of this public hearing is to provide residents with an opportunity to propose activities for inclusion in 2024-2025 the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) for the City of Glen Cove pursuant to Title I of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974. These funds are made available through Nassau County tho Urban Consortium, of which the City of Glen Cove is a member. Funding helping at aimed municipalities undertake programs based on local community needs that benefit low/mod income persons; elimination and prevention of slums and blight by creating suitable living providing environments; decent affordable housing; and creating economic opportunities. residents. non-profit organizations servicing the residents of the City of Glen Cove, and other interested parties are invited to provide input and comments in person at the meeting or in writing by email to AFangmann@glencovecd a.org or via U.S. mail to Fangmann, Ann Glen Cove Community

Development Agency, 9 Glen St., Glen Cove, NY 11542 Comments will be received through February 27 2024

Applications will be emailed to all existing public service program agency participants and may also be found on the Glen Cove Community Development Agency website www.glencovecda.org click on "Applications and Forms." Applicants must attend a mandatory workshop to apply for funding on Thursday, February 15th at 10AM in the 1st floor conference room of Glen Cove City

Hall Hall. One electronic copy in Microsoft Word format and one hard copy with required attachments must be received by 3PM on Thursday, February 29th to email: CByrne@glencovecda.org Glen Cove CDA. Room 304, City Hall - 9 Glen St., Glen Cove, NY 11542. For further information, contact Camille Byrne, Executive Assistant of the Glen Cove Community Development Agency at 516-676-1625.

Glen Cove Herald Gazette Publication Date: 2/1/24 Posted: City Hall & CDA Website 144711

EGAL 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, February 6, 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 115 Glen Street Property Owner, LLC seeking a Special Use Permit and Site Plan Approval for the removal of an existing auto repair and garage surface lot parking and construction of a new three-story residence multiple buildina 29 containing units consisting of eight (8) studios, sixteen (16) onebedroom units, and five (5) two-bedroom units,

will be held by the City of Glen Cove Planning Board on Tuesday, February 6, 2024, at 7:30 p.m., at the Council Chambers, City Hall, 9 Glen Street, Glen Cove, New York, 1542 Cove, New York 11542, when all interested persons will be given an opportunity to express their views. The hearing will be on the application of Cobb Properties, LLC seeking a special use permit and site plan approval for the construction of a new one story 3,230 square foot Bethpage Federal Credit Union bank with a drive-through facility. The property is located at 14-18 Forest Avenue, Glen Cove, NY designated on the Nassau County

Land and Tax Map as Section 23, Block 1, Lots 225, 226, 227 within 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 may be seen during regular business hours of during usual business days until the time of the hearing. Dated: January 18, 2024 ANDREW KAUFMAN Chairman GLEN COVE PLANNING BOARD

144709

Legal Notices are everyone's business **READ THEM**

19

GLEN and providing 42 parking COVE HERALD spaces. The property is located at 115 Glen St. NY designated on the Nassau County Land & Tax Map as Sections 23 Block 11, Lot 6-12/134 and located February 1, in the city's B-1 Central The above application is on file at the city offices

, 2024

Cove,

Commercial District.

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 22, 2023

GLEN COVE PLANNING

144708 Search for notices online at: www.newyorkpublicnotices.com

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that a PUBLIC HEARING

ANDREW KAUFMAN

Chairman

LEGAL NOTICE

CITY OF GLEN COVE

PLANNING BOARD

BOARD

Glen



OPINIONS My hat's off to Nikki Haley

he former

shouldn't

surrender to

Trump's heavy-

handed tactics.

ambassador

wo are still standing. The number of Republican presidential candidates has been narrowed down from 15 or so to just two, Donald Trump and Nikki Haley.

It's a reality of current political life that in a nation of 50 states and more than 300 million people, two small



PETER **KING**

states like Iowa and New Hampshire can play such a commanding role in determining the nominee of a major political party. Not only do they have small populations, but their demographics are atypical of so much of the rest of the country. They have no

large cities, very few minorities and minimal union membership.

As for the Democrats, President Biden was and is their only candidate, guaranteeing his renomination and creating the probability of another general election campaign between two

candidates, Biden and Trump, who are viewed unfavorably by a significant majority of the American people.

The remaining question is whether Haley has any viable path to victory and, if not, how long she

will remain in the race. Supporters of Trump, of course, are calling for Haley to end her candidacy so that all energy and funding can be directed toward the general election against Biden. Let me acknowledge up front that I am biased toward Haley. During her time as ambassador to the United Nations, I had the chance to meet with her

and to observe the outstanding job she did fighting for and defending America's interests from attacks in that dysfunctional, anti-American international body. Her forceful, articulate encounters with ambassadors from Russia and anti-Israel, third-world dictatorships rank alongside those of Ambassador Jeanne Kirkpatrick during the Reagan years.

I always found Haley to be cordial

and agreeable as well as knowledgeable and dedicated. Members of her security detail would tell me how thoughtful she was, with no arrogance or condescension. And as a practicing politician

> for many years, I truly admire how she has bested all the other Trump challengers in what is such a grueling marathon. Running for Congress in a single district for a few months is exhausting enough. Doing that nationwide for more than a year as a decided underdog, defying the odds while fighting off slings and arrows from Trump, is in another league altogether. Having said all that, I

don't think Halev has a real chance of beating Trump to the nomination. The next major contest will be the South Carolina primary on Feb. 24. Though she was a successful governor of that state, polling shows her trailing Trump by as much as 30 points. After that, her only even remote hope would be the multiple state primaries on Super Tuesday, March 5. Adding to her woes

is the reality that the more it appears Trump will be the certain nominee, the more her funding will dry up.

Still, I think Haley has the right to stay in at least for a while longer. Not only is it difficult for a candidate who has made it this far to give up her dream overnight, but Trump's barrage of petty attacks on her in his speech after the New Hampshire primary would make her withdrawal from the race appear to be a surrender to his heavy-handed tactics. As for the Trump camp's appeal for party unity and a concerted effort against Biden, Trump squandered that opportunity not just by attacking Haley, whose support he will need in November. He also missed his chance to lay out his case against Biden before a national audience.

My guess is that, sooner rather than later. Halev will realize that she has taken her campaign as far as it can go, and will withdraw. But she will do that at a time and in a manner of her choosing. And she will do it with class.

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

Why don't they just take the train?

eft-wing

suburbs is well-

documented.

urban

animosity

toward the

was struck, recently, standing outside the People's Pantry in the hamlet of Oyster Bay on a cold, gray day. The Pantry provides food and other services to locals in need of support, and the line for food parcels stretched around the block.

It was a sobering reminder that, despite Gov. Kathy Hochul's and New York City's attitude toward the suburbs,



JAKE **BLUMENCRANZ** not everyone who lives in Nassau or Suffolk county is rich, or a homeowner, or, for that matter. a car owner. Oyster Bay contains expansive Gold Coast mansions, middle class blocks, and a struggling

working class that depends on public housing, public transporta-

tion and a healthy dose of local giving. The Democrats have the helm of this

state, and they have allegedly made the needs of the poor, the health of the environment, and the rest of their normal slate their top priorities. If that's so, then why are millions of dollars in

funding being cut from Oyster Bay/East Norwich schools despite the struggling working-class immigrant population? Why do we have to suffer through loud, polluting trains when the technology to electrify them is more than 100 years old? Why do the working class — often the working poor — of Oyster Bay have

to continue to subsidize the ivory towers of New York City?

By American standards, the hamlet of Ovster Bay is old. Americans were settling and fishing the rich waters here more than a century before Oyster Bay became an important nexus for Revolutionary War activity, which itself happened more than a centurv before President Teddy Roosevelt turned nearby Sagamore Hill into the Mar-A-

Lago of the turn of the 20th century. Since then, another century has come and gone.

In that time, left-wing urban animosity toward the suburbs has become a well-documented phenomenon. Whether it's our (racist) single-family homes, our (boring) clean and safe streets or our (car) culture, the suburbs represent

the sour grapes that the modern urbanite hates and/or wants. The New York metropolitan area is no exception to this rule: Part of what it is to live in one of the five boroughs is to disdain the eastern counties of Long Island. The irony and hypocrisy of this attitude is best summed up in one question: "Why

don't they just take the train?"

After all, if you live in any of the five counties that compose New York City, you have subsidized, almost unbelievably cheap public transportation that reaches even the most remote corners of the city. If you live on that system, you can take buses, express buses, subways, ferries — there's no time of the day or night that

you can't get on government-subsidized transportation and ride across the vastness of the city for under \$3.

If you live in Oyster Bay, however, there are no buses. Once you get to the hamlet on the single train line that comes here, the only option is to take that same local train back the way you came, or walk for miles along an unsafe road, which we all see workers doing

regularly. What's worse? That slow, local train that requires connections costs nearly \$20 now. Additionally, the state recently reduced service on the Oyster Bay line, making the leastserved extension of the LIRR even less served.

The revenue for the congestion pricing that will be forced on suburbanites for entering New York City will not be returned to them, as it has been in London and other cities in which congestion pricing schemes have been enacted. Instead, it will be used to make the already cheap buses free for city dwellers, while the working poor of Long Island fund their gratis transportation.

The Oyster Bay line, running through countless neighborhoods and in close proximity to homes, is still diesel. Not only does that mean that working-class people — whose homes are traditionally clustered around train tracks — have to suffer the fumes and noise of the trains that do come through. Diesel engines have to run 24/7, so the poor souls who live behind the Oyster Bay storage yard are treated to the roar and fumes of diesel engines all night, every night.

Jake Blumencranz represents the 15th Assembly District.

GLEN COVE HERALD – February 1, 2024



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HERALD EDITORIAL Floods are coming, and we must stay safe

t was just one storm — but it was a nasty one.

Rain and wind pounded the South Shore well into the evening on Jan. 9. And when the high tide rolled in early the next morning, all bets were off for communities like Freeport, Baldwin Harbor and the Five Towns, among others.

Streets, yards and even highways flooded. Stalled cars were found in many of these temporary ponds, almost like boats floating on the water.

Yet this was nothing new to so many who call these communities home. And it's likely to only get worse as time goes by.

The seawater surrounding Long Island has been rising more than an inch every decade. By the time our children and grandchildren welcome a new century in 2100, key parts of the South Shore will be underwater.

That's a couple of lifetimes away, but we're feeling the effects now, when even something as simple as a swelling high tide can wreak havoc on our streets and our properties.

Our elected leaders have their work cut out for them as they try to figure out how to curb this rise in the coming years and decades. In the meantime, the rest of us need to make sure we stay safe and keep our families protected. But what can we do? One, make sure you have flood insurance — and be careful, it's typically a separate policy from what you might have on your home.

But even more important: Heed the warnings of emergency officials when storms or flooding hit an area. If you're told to evacuate, for example, don't waste time, and do it.

The fears of leaving your home behind, of course, are quite real. What happens if looters get there before you come back? And do you really have to leave? Aren't emergency officials' pronouncements more often than not an overreaction?

When it comes to natural disasters, it's all about being safe. The alternative, staying at home, not only threatens your safety — and maybe even your life — but rescuing you later could tie up essential resources that may be needed elsewhere. It's better to go, and then come back later when you get the all-clear.

Whether it's before, during or after a flood, the National Weather Service says that the most important thing you can do is stay informed.

Turn on your local news. Visit your local newspaper's website. Hop onto social media. Learn about evacuation orders, flooded roads, and anything else that could potentially mean the difference between life and death. If you're in an area you think could be subject to flooding, get to higher ground. Secure your home and go. If you have time, unplug appliances, and even disconnect utilities.

And on top of everything else, avoid floodwaters. Don't drive through them. Don't walk through them. Just stay away.

You might think you know where the bottom is — and the water may seem almost serene — but you have no idea what's below the surface. The ground could have been washed away, and there's a chance a current is flowing just below where you can see — enough to pull you away, or even under.

And if that's not enough, driving through saltwater will ruin your car.

While Nassau County has avoided flood-related deaths for the most part in recent years, that doesn't mean it can't happen. More than half of those lives lost occur when people drive or walk into floodwaters, according to the weather service. Even a half-foot of fast-moving water is enough to knock a grown adult off their feet and carry them away. Double that, and ponding water can move a small car.

Long Island is our home. It's where we work, or go to school. We want to continue living here a long time — and we start by staying safe.

LETTERS

A call for accountability: Nassau County residents deserve better

To the Editor:

Nassau County residents, it's time to shine a spotlight on the allocation of our federal pandemic aid. The recent decision by Republican-led Nassau County lawmakers to redirect most of the \$262 million to the general fund rather than the originally allocated essential community projects is not only disheartening, but irresponsible.

This substantial funding, which already had bipartisan resolutions in the Legislature, was intended to directly impact our community by assisting with funding mental health programs, addressing food insecurity, enhancing public safety, supporting public-works projects, and aiding small businesses. Instead, the diversion of this money to the general fund raises concerns about neglecting urgent needs for the sake of political interests.

Particularly distressing is the allocation of \$10 million for a marketing and tourism budget celebrating the county's 125th anniversary. This move suggests a focus on political patronage rather than addressing the pressing needs of Nassau County residents.

Equally troubling are the actions of Legislator Mazi Melesa Pilip, a key figure in this decision and



the Republican candidate in the Feb. 13 special congressional election. Leaving the meeting before the vote demonstrates a neglect of legislative responsibilities. Is this the representation the 3rd Congressional District deserves?

Residents of the district, remember that actions speak louder than words! It's

crucial to observe and question the decisions of our representatives, especially Pilip's choice to walk out on responsibilities and abstain from voting.

Now, more than ever, we must hold our elected leaders accountable. We demand transparency and the effective use of funds for the betterment of *all* of Nassau

February 1, 2024 – GLEN COVE HERALD

OPINIONS Separating Hamas from the Palestinians

atching the war between Israel and Hamas continue, I am heartbroken. Like any person of goodwill, I am pained by the babies, young people.

women, elderly and all people taken hostage by Hamas, including my neighbor



Omer Neutra. I am angry that some 1,200 Israeli civilians were murdered in ways that the most twisted minds couldn't imagine. However, I am also grieving for Palestinians held hostage by

Hamas. Women,

children and oth-

ERIC POST

ers who didn't ask to be part of this conflict. People whose homes, schools, hospitals and even

mosques have been turned into weapons-storage facilities and bases to fight Israeli soldiers

It is particularly important, when speaking about the conflict, for both supporters and detractors of Israel to uncouple Hamas from innocent Palestinians in Gaza.

Yes, there are child soldiers, and many children are inculcated to hate from a young age, but they, too, are victims.

Victims of a terrorist group that puts a higher priority on the death of Israel than the lives of its own civilians.

There is another reason to distinguish between Hamas and innocent Palestinians. On Oct. 7, while homes in southern Israel were still burning and

Hamas terrorists were still inside Israel, many anti-Israel protesters didn't make the distinction between Hamas and

innocent Palestinians. We rarely heard condemnation of the Hamas attack. When calling for a better life for the Palestinians in Gaza, or a ceasefire, there was no mention of Israeli hostages or murdered civilians. We've seen similar language on college campuses nationwide and in rallies in New York City.

We have seen posters of hostages torn down, we have seen anti-Zionist phrases like "From the

river to the sea" uttered, and violent mobs that look nothing like the peace vigils of those who support Israel. This in itself is a microcosm of the Hamas-Israel conflict. I am led to believe that

without caveats, without clarifying statements, many of Israel's detractors do not support a Jewish state, and may even support the murder of innocent Israelis.

I hope I'm wrong. If we can't agree to disagree here, how can we ever imagine a negotiated solution to the conflict in the Middle East?

So my request to Israel's supporters and detractors is this: If you support a long-term solution to this conflict that allows Israelis and Palestinians alike to thrive, distinguish between those in Gaza who are terrorists and those who are victims of Hamas. As Israel seeks to destroy Hamas, a goal it will achieve, it is incumbent on all of us to separate those who will be defeated with Hamas, and those who deserve a better way of life moving forward.

Eric Post is the Long Island regional director of the American Jewish Committee.

As the result of a production error last week, we are reprinting Eric Post's column in its correct form.

LETTERS

County. It's time to prioritize our well-being over political interests and ensure that our elected officials truly represent the needs and concerns of our community.

> ALEXIS PACE Long Beach

Is Lancman aware of Pilip's IDF experience?

To the Editor:

In his letter in the Jan. 18-24 issue, "Tom Suozzi, American Jewry and Israel — the right man at the right time," Rory Lancman used 500 words to posit the absurd idea that Tom Suozzi will be a better supporter of Israel than Mazi Pilip, who was a paratrooper in the Israel Defense Forces. Sorry, even 5,000 words wouldn't convince anyone.

> **DENNIS DUFFY** Lynbrook

Suozzi is a champion in 'tikkun olam,' repairing the world

To the Editor:

If Democratic, Republican and independent voters in the Third Congressional District might agree on anything, it's that our politics and world seem broken. As a proud Jewish-American, I strongly support Tom Suozzi for Congress. He embodies the principles of "tikkun olam," the Jewish concept of "repairing the world."

Having Suozzi in Congress to fight for Israel and promote a secure and lasting peace in the Middle East could not be more urgent. As a strong non-Jewish ally, he is uniquely qualified to fight within his party, and work across the aisle, to maintain the bipartisan support that is so critical for Israel. Tom will work tirelessly to combat antisemitism and all other forms of hate, ensuring that Jews and other religious minorities can live safely in the U.S. His commitment to many Jewish institutions in our community, including Jewish schools, community centers, and the Holocaust Center in Glen Cove, spans over three decades.

Suozzi's impact on education, health care, the environment, reducing gun violence, and preserving a woman's right to choose resonates strongly with Jewish values. He has received the Gun Sense Candidate distinction from Moms Demand Action for Gun Sense in America, and has been endorsed by the Planned Parenthood Action Fund, the New York State Nurses Association, NYSUT, the League of Conservation Voters Action Fund and the Sierra Club, among others.

Despite the desperate disinformation spread by his opponents, Suozzi has a realistic and nuanced approach to immigration, keeping with the Jewish value of "Welcome the stranger." That's why he worked with Republicans to develop a plan to pay for a secure border, and pathways for immigrants seeking a better life to remain legally and pay taxes in the U.S.

His bipartisan approach and collaborative spirit make him a leader who can bridge divides, cultivate unity, and champion the values we hold dear. His experience and proven ability to work across party lines demonstrate his effectiveness in getting things done for all of his constituents. Tom's dedication to public service, proven track record and commitment to transparency starkly contrast with his opponent. The voters of this district need and deserve someone who will hit the ground

FRAMEWORK by Bruce Kennedy



At the Louvre - Paris

running, not someone requiring onthe-job training.

Unfortunately, Suozzi's opponent has refused to debate. Like her friend George Santos, she has scant relevant experience. She won't answer questions or state her positions, even when civic groups and the media have repeatedly asked for them. She also

has questionable financials and resists transparency.

Please join me in voting for Tom Suozzi in the Feb. 13 special election. I look forward to seeing him contribute to improving our district and our country.

ALLISON WHITE Port Washington 23

e must recognize the difference between Gaza's terrorists and its victims.





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Associate Real Estate Broker North Shore Office c.516.369.5868 damianross@danielgale.com

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