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Tim Baker/Herald

Tasty treats a plenty

The 26th annual Culinary Delights offered more cuisine and drew a greater crowd than ever before. Organized by the Glen Cove Chamber of Commerce, the event was held on Monday at the Glen Cove Mansion. Trish Melek, left, and Patricia Roberts from Exclusive Designz Gota Wear were there to share their talents. More photos, Page 10.

VFW hall is reborn after fiery blaze

By **ROKSANA AMID**

ramid@liherald.com

A remarkable transformation has taken place at Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 347 in Glen Cove. What was once a sobering series of scorch marks and exposed wood, the result of a fire in August 2021, is now a showcase, an immaculate wall-to-wall white interior. Adorning the walls are pictures of the founding VFW members, who served in World Wars I and II. The grand reopening is scheduled to take place after this year's Memorial Day parade.

Nosh, a pandemic initiative that provided emergency meals for those in need, had joined forces with the North Shore Soup Kitchen, which has served area communities for 32 years. As the pandemic stretched on and demand surged, Nosh moved its operations into the VFW hall, which had more space. After the fire, Nosh found temporary locations at local churches and restaurants, and then a storefront on Glen Street. Now the nonprofit comes full circle, and is back at Post 347.

Without their help, we'd still be burned down here.

HOWARD STILLWAGON
 Senior vice commander,
 VFW Post 347

“Coming back to the VFW feels wonderful,” Christine Rice, Nosh's chairwoman, said. “The VFW was so great to us when we first leased the space. We've really loved being here with them. GLY [God Loves You] was wonderful, and we're so grateful for that space, but as we always say, there's more and more families who need more help with food that we're growing daily. So

The fire ravaged the top floor of the hall, which was the headquarters of Nosh, a North Shore Soup Kitchen program that was founded at the beginning of the coronavirus pandemic. The blaze destroyed Nosh's 23 refrigerators and freezers, which were filled with food that helped feed 500 families a week. Despite the loss, there were no injuries.

“The VFW was so great to us when we first leased the space. We've really loved being here with them. GLY [God Loves You] was wonderful, and we're so grateful for that space, but as we always say, there's more and more families who need more help with food that we're growing daily. So

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2

Remembering Bob Canavan

A leader who influenced the lives of his players

By **ROKSANA AMID**

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Coaches often leave a lasting impact on their athletes, beyond the wins and losses. For 17-year-old Jolie Waiksnis, a former softball player for the Gold Coast Pirates, one coach stood out among the rest: Bob Canavan.

“He wouldn't care if we won or lost,” Waiksnis recalled. “He wouldn't care if he made a mistake. He would only care about what happened next, and having fun. That helped with my perspective of the sport. He made me realize you can still have fun when you're trying.”

Canavan, who died on March 30 of a blood clot

at age 61, was revered for his unwavering support and inclusive leadership, and influenced the lives of players like Waiksnis during his tenure as coach of the Pirates.

When she initially joined the team, Waiksnis was its youngest member, but from the moment she stepped onto the field at her first practice, Canavan made her feel like she belonged. The next day, Canavan was the announcer for a Glen Cove Little League All-Star game in which Waiksnis was playing. When she stepped up to the plate for her first at-bat, Canavan introduced her using the nickname he had given her the day before, Zucc, after the hockey player Mats Zucca-

CONTINUED ON PAGE 4

2 VFW hall transformed after devastating fire

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having this extra space here again is going to be very beneficial for us.”

The VFW rebuilding effort has been supported by the community, with fundraisers organized by U.S. Rep. Tom Suozzi and donations from organizations like the Tribute and Honor Foundation, a nonprofit founded by Gaitley Stevenson-Mathews, a former city councilman, and local chef Jeanine DiMenna. Additional donations came from Glen Cove residents.

“Without their help, we’d still be burned down here,” Howard Stillwagon, the post’s senior vice commander, said. “Our insurance company chopped us; they really pulled a quickie.”

The three-year renovations of the hall cost roughly \$487,000. Stillwagon said that despite being insured for \$600,000, the organization was offered only \$150,000 by its insurance company, which claimed that the post let Nosh use the entire building. Stillwagon said that wasn’t the case, because the downstairs area is reserved for members. After the VFW filed suit, the insurance company bumped its offer up to \$180,000.

“We really appreciate everybody coming through for us,” Stillwagon said. “We are in debt to the great people of Glen Cove.”

Challenges remain, however. The VFW’s two scholarship funds, one for members and their families, and the other for city residents facing financial hardships, have been depleted due to the lack of income over the past three years. A donation last week by the Tribute and Honor Foundation, added some funds to the scholarships.

Niko Stavrianos, a senior at North Shore High School, in Glen Head, and vice president of its Key Club and Buddy Club, has taken up the cause as part of his Eagle Scout project. He is currently collecting



Peter Hayes, Christine Rice and Linda Eastman happily unpacking nonperishable goods at Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 347 for the first time in nearly four years.

Roksana Amid/Herald

gently used or new items like clothing, shoes, accessories, backpacks and bicycle helmets, for a fundraising event in May or June to raise money for the scholarship fund, with a date and location yet to be determined.

“I wanted to identify a problem that my community was faced with,” Stavrianos said. “And I thought, what better way than to give back to my veterans that help to serve all of us?”

Stillwagon said he was thankful for Stavrianos’ initiative, and highlighted the importance of sharing stories and educating young people about the realities of

war. He noted that while school curriculums may not adequately cover this history, simple conversations can shed light on the profound challenges faced by those who have served. Drawing parallels to his own involvement in the Boy Scouts when he was young, Stillwagon expressed optimism about the success of Stavrianos’ project, and emphasized the importance of collective efforts in making a positive impact in the community.

“When you talk to people and tell them stories, they realize how bad it was,” Stillwagon said. “I’m very proud of him. I used to be a Boy Scout when I was young, so hopefully we’re going to make this work.”



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Photos courtesy Christopher Moll

Abigail Grace, left, Jolie Brandstein, Vanessa Randazzo-Sosa and Morgan Misk are all local actresses.

Celebrating music from the '50s and '60s

By WILL SHEELINE

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The North Shore Village Theatre is gearing up to transport audiences back in time with their upcoming production of “The Marvelous Wonderettes,” a musical journey through the girl group songs of the late 1950s and 1960s.

Directed by Christopher Moll, the play follows the story of four young women as they perform at their senior prom in 1958. Set against the backdrop of high school relationships and dreams, the play interweaves memorable girl group songs of the era with the characters’ personal narratives. The first act culminates with the crowning of the prom queen, while the second act brings the characters back together for their 10-year high school reunion in 1968, showcasing the evolution of their lives and relationships over the decade.

Moll, who was drawn to the production by a friend’s enthusiastic recommendation, expressed his excitement for bringing this beloved show to the North Shore Village Theatre stage.

“It’s a really fun show,” he said. “The audience always responds positively to it, and I thought it would be a great choice for our first musical production.”

According to Moll, the small cast of four made the production feel manageable. Casting primarily involved discussions with familiar actors, including some who had previously collaborated with Moll on other productions.

Among the cast are local actresses, including one with a professional background in touring productions of musicals such as “The Sound of Music” and



Vanessa Randazzo-Sosa, left, Jolie Brandstein and Abigail Grace and the rest of the North Shore Village Theatre are excited to bring ‘The Marvelous Wonderettes’ to the stage in Glenwood Landing.

“Footloose.” Moll expressed his eagerness to involve local talent in the production, emphasizing their connection to the community.

The North Shore Village Theatre is a local nonprofit community theater troupe made up of residents from Sea Cliff, Glen Cove, Glen Head and Glenwood Landing. Founded in 2018, the group performs several plays and variety show throughout the year, with the goal of raising enough money to open a full-time theater in Glen Cove.

“The Marvelous Wonderettes” will be performed at the Glenwood Life Center,

the usual venue for North Shore Village Theatre productions. Moll encouraged prospective theatergoers to attend, highlighting the show’s nostalgic appeal.

“It’s just really light-hearted and fun,” Moll stated. “Audiences will recognize and enjoy the familiar songs from the era, instantly bringing smiles to their faces. In today’s world, we could all use a little bit of joy and nostalgia.”

With classic hits like “Respect,” “Rescue Me,” “Mr. Sandman,” and “Lollipop” featured in the production, Moll believes that audiences will be transported back in time and reminded of



Vanessa Randazzo-Sosa, left, Jolie Brandstein, Morgan Misk and Abigail Grace will star in ‘The Marvelous Wonderettes.’

fond memories associated with the music.

For those seeking a break from the complexities of modern life, Moll said “The Marvelous Wonderettes” offers a delightful escape into a world of timeless music and feel-good entertainment.

The production is scheduled to run on April 12, 13, 19 and 20 at 7 p.m. and April 14 and 21 at 2 p.m. All shows will be held at the Glenwood Life Center, 71 Grove Street, Glenwood Landing.

To purchase tickets visit NSVillageTheatre.com.

A community icon who was always 'egoless'

April 18, 2024 — GLEN COVE HERALD

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rello, when they first met. In that moment, she felt truly special.

"I don't know if I would still be playing if I never had him as a coach," Waiksnis said. "He made our team a family."

Originally from Sea Cliff, Canavan, lived in Glen Cove for 26 years. Known for his warm smile and eagerness to help others, he leaves a legacy of kindness, generosity and vibrant connections with those he encountered.

"He liked people so much, and he was so happy and outgoing and friendly," his father, Thomas Canavan, said. "He always had a smile on his face, and he was always willing to help if he saw somebody struggling with something. He would pitch right in. He would just go out of his way to help people."

Canavan's altruism extended to regular blood donations: He made a total of 180 over the years.

"He's the kind of person that would be donating blood and getting to know the nurse," his sister, Teresa Sullivan, said. "He would get to know the person next to him, and that's the thing about

him, like, he just thrives in community spaces."

Beyond his love for literature and his stint as a bartender in Sea Cliff, Canavan found joy in photography, often capturing the beauty of nature on his walks. He eventually became business

He was egoless — he wasn't the person who worked for the applause or the approval of anybody else.

TONY GALLEGO
Glen Cove

partners with Tony Gallego, of Gil Associates photography in Glen Cove, for 20 years. Canavan evolved into more than a partner to Gallego, an indispensable part of his professional life whom Gallego described as his "left-hand man."

The pair were as close as two colleagues could be. Gallego recalls moments during weddings when he focused on taking traditional photos, while Canavan looked for unconventional angles. Gallego admired Canavan's unique vision, and appreciated his innate sense of beauty and composition.

"I considered him my springboard for advice. He added another dimension to my work," Gallego said. "He was egoless. He wasn't the person who worked for the applause or the approval of anybody else. He was pure in that sense — art for art's sake — and he really didn't care if you liked it or didn't like it. He

enjoyed it. He enjoyed his photography. And he did it just for the love of it."

Canavan's commitment to the community extended to his role as commodore of the Hempstead Harbor Club, where he earned praise for his exceptional leadership. Pete Budraitis Jr., the club's general manager, said that Canavan wasn't just a boss to him; he was also a close friend who was always willing to lend a helping hand, even at the most inconvenient times.

"After learning of Bob's passing, I was heartbroken," Budraitis said. "My first thought was, 'It's not going to be the same without him. I don't want to do this anymore.' But it has since occurred to me to that Bob would have said, 'What are you, nuts?'"

Budraitis knew he could count on Canavan to help with any last-minute tasks. "I could call him up 8 p.m. on a Thursday night and say, 'Hey Bob, I hate to do this to you, but I'm short on my hauling crew tomorrow, 6 a.m. start.' He would sigh and say, 'If you need me, I'll be there,' and he would be, with coffee in hand and cracking jokes the whole time. I'll admit I called him a few times just because I knew it would be more fun if he was there."

Budraitis said that honoring Canavan's memory means emulating his spirit of kindness and integrity in all aspects of life.



Courtesy Teresa Sullivan

Bob Canavan was a commodore at the Hempstead Harbor Club, a softball coach and a well-known photographer in Glen Cove.

"I think we all owe it to Bob to take a piece of his spirit with us, and simply do the right thing for the right reason," Budraitis said. "He was one of the many reasons I love doing this job."

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Spousal Refusal - Just Say No

Spousal refusal is a legally valid Medicaid planning option in New York. By way of background, certain income and assets are exempt from Medicaid if there is a spouse. Generally, the spouse at home, known as the "community spouse" may keep about \$3,850 per month of the couple's combined income and up to about \$150,000 of the assets or "resources". Not included in those figures are any other exempt assets, such as a home (up to about \$1,000,000 of the equity only) and one automobile. The spouse who is being cared for in a facility is known as the "institutionalized spouse".

Many a spouse has advised us that they simply cannot afford to live on the allowances that Medicaid provides. This is where spousal refusal comes in. We start by shifting excess assets into the name of the "community spouse". He or she then signs a document which the elder law attorney prepares and files with the county indicating that they refuse to contribute their income and assets to the care of the ill spouse since they need those income and assets for their own care and well-being. Note that you may not refuse your spouse's own income over the \$3,850 per month exemption as it is not coming to you.

Once the "community spouse" invokes their right to refuse, and all of the other myriad requirements of the Medicaid application are met, the state Medicaid program must pay for the care of the institutionalized spouse.

After Medicaid has been granted, the county may institute a lawsuit seeking to recover the cost of care from the refusing spouse. Nevertheless, there are a few reasons why spousal refusal makes sense, even in light of this risk. First, in many instances, the county never invokes this right. Secondly, these lawsuits are often settled for significantly less than the cost of care provided. Thirdly, the payment to the county can sometimes be deferred until the community spouse dies. As one county attorney told us when agreeing to such an arrangement, "the county is going to be around for a long time". Finally, even though the county may seek recovery, it is only for the Medicaid reimbursement rate and not the private pay rate. For example, if the private pay rate is \$18,000 per month, which is what you would have to pay, the amount Medicaid has to pay is generally a quarter to a third less. The county may only pursue you for the amount they actually paid.

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- A 40-year-old undomiciled woman was arrested on April 13 for possession of an open alcoholic beverage container on Glen Street.
- A 39-year-old undomiciled man was arrested on April 13 for possession of an open alcoholic beverage container and an open Glen Cove warrant on Glen Cove Avenue.
- A 21-year-old Hempstead man was ar-

rested on April 10 for criminal mischief on Austral Avenue.

- A 41-year-old Glen Cove woman was arrested on April 9 for driving while intoxicated and aggravated driving while intoxicated on Glen Street.
- A 33-year-old Brentwood man was arrested on April 7 for aggravated unlicensed operation, operating a motor vehicle without an inspection certificate and equipment violation on Pratt Blvd.

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

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Effort to stop mayhem created by squatters

By LAURA LANE

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Nadia Vitel, 52, was found dead in her late mother's Manhattan apartment on March 14. Allegedly two squatters beat her to death, and then stuffed her into a suitcase.

According to Assemblyman Jake Blumencranz, squatters are not only prevalent in the five boroughs of New York City, they are also causing problems on Long Island.

"There are many cases of squatters wreaking havoc on families all over Long Island, in Patchogue, Jericho, cases that are not sensationalized in the news, so people continue to suffer in silence," Blumencranz said. "Some have reached out to me."

The Republican, who represents parts of the North Shore, introduced a bill in May 2023 to put a stop to the mayhem squatters are creating.

"The numerous squatting cases and tragedies that have since occurred have only reaffirmed my commitment to getting my Property Protection Act passed," he said. "There have been numerous incidents."

Vitel's murder led Blumencranz to hold a news conference on March 27 to shed light on the urgency for passage of his bill.

Squatters gain homeowner rights after living in a residence after 30 days, forcing the property owner to go through lengthy court processes for eviction, that can take as long as two years.

The world is upside down that we're not favoring the landowner and we're favoring a person who is a criminal.

PATRICIA CANZONERI-FITZPATRICK
New York state senator

"The fact that someone can break onto your house and have full legal protection after 30 days is completely wrong and un-American," he said. "Long Islanders and all New Yorkers should not have to live in fear of people trying to game the system and take away their hard-earned property and their American dream."

Blumencranz's bill would close the loophole in the law by clarifying the definition of "tenant," which would exclude squatters. Police would be able to remove and arrest squatters charging them with criminal trespass

if they do not have a notarized lease, title or other documents proving they are tenants. Under current law, there is little police and judges can do.

State Senator Patricia Canzoneri-Fitzpatrick proposed a similar bill on March 25. The Republican, who represents Long

Beach, Garden City, New Hyde Park, and the Five Towns, said squatters have been a serious problem for a long time.

"Squatters are like a theft of property. Property owners are not getting rent and now they have to pay a lawyer to get these people out," Canzoneri-Fitzpatrick said. "And people don't want to buy real estate anymore because how do they buy real estate to rent knowing that at any time someone could move in and be given legal rights and not have to pay for it."

And squatters are becoming emboldened, Canzoneri-Fitzpatrick added.

"You see on TikTok there are 'How to squat' videos encouraging others how to take advantage of this loophole," she said. "The world is upside down that we're not favoring the landowner and we're favoring a person who is a criminal. If you steal someone's credit card and you get caught you don't get to continue to use the credit card."

And the law favoring squatters encourages people who could pay their rent not to do so, she added. Because they know they can't be forced to leave.

Blumencranz's bill has received support from both sides of the aisle. Assemblywoman Jaime Williams, a Democrat, representing the south-eastern part of Brooklyn, a suburban area, is supporting the Property Protection Act because she said squatters are a big issue in her district.

"In this one block radius there are a group of about 12 individuals that were



Courtesy Jake Blumencranz

Assemblyman Jake Blumencranz has crafted a bill to change a law that benefits squatters.

house hopping, and it took the police department almost two years to get them out of that house where they stayed," she said. "The person who owned the house lived in New Jersey, and it made it easier for the squatters to live there and claim squatters rights, but they sold drugs there and there was prostitution. When Jake came up with this bill, it was just organic for me to sign on to it because we here experienced this, and it has to come to an end."

Williams doesn't believe squatters is a Republican issue, as some of her colleagues have suggested. It is instead a national problem, she said.

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RRDA becomes county's tourism agency

By WILL SHEELINE

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In a significant development for the local tourism industry, RRDA, a Glen Head-based marketing agency, has been awarded the Nassau County Tourism contract by the county government.

The announcement comes after a rigorous selection process, marking a pivotal moment for RRDA and the promotion of Nassau County as a premier tourist destination.

One of the things that's been so amazing is we've had such great support from the community. It's been awesome.

JAIME HOLLANDER
Managing director,
RRDA

Managing director and owner of RRDA, Jaime Hollander, named the company after her daughters' initials, Ryan, Rose, Drew and Annabelle. Founded in 2012 and officially incorporated as RRDA in 2019, Hollander said the agency has steadily grown from a one-person operation to

a dynamic team of professionals.

She emphasized the importance to have as many women and Long Island locals working in the company as possible, although some employees do work remotely from Connecticut or the city. As a women-owned and operated business, RRDA holds WeBank MWBE certification and boasts a diverse team with roots in media and publishing.

"One of the things that's been so amazing is we've had such great support from the community," said Hollander. "We've had so much outreach from local businesses, bids, government. It's been awesome."

In April of 2023, the RRDA team submitted their Request for Proposal to the county, throwing their hat in the ring to replace Discover Long Island as the county's tourism agency. Hollander recalled how she and her team had never expected to be awarded the RFP, but were elated when they got the news, the day after Christmas.

"I wish I could bottle that feeling,"



Herald file photo

RRDA hopes to highlight aspects of Nassau County's culture, history and businesses, such as historic Sagamore Hill, to encourage tourism.

Hollander said. "We thought to ourselves, 'We were probably a long shot, we're small potatoes,' and when we got it was just crazy."

Hollander said she thinks that RRDA's proposal stood out for its focus on personalized experiences tailored to different visitor personas. Rather than a one-size-fits-all approach, the agency aims to highlight Nassau County's diverse attractions, from pristine beaches to rich cultural offerings and everything in between. By aligning interests with activities, RRDA seeks to entice tourists with unique experiences that resonate with their preferences.

"I think the biggest difference is that while they're focusing on Long Island as a region, we're just focusing on Nassau County," explained Hollander. "So we're kind of more enticing people to come have these really unique experiences, versus just kind of a blanket 'Come explore.'"

With Nassau County celebrating its 125th anniversary this year and hosting events like the Cricket World Cup, Hollander said that RRDA is looking forward to working with the county at such a pivotal moment in its history. Hollander added that the county has been very helpful and supportive, and that she and her team were looking forward to continuing to work with them.

The agency's comprehensive approach encompasses not only popular tourist spots but also lesser-known gems, ensuring a holistic representation of Nassau County's offerings. While Hollander said that her team certainly draws from their own life experiences on Long Island, it is important to them that they include the voices of residents, businesses, and local organizations to better highlight the different and wonderful aspects of their various communities.

"Obviously with a lot of us living

here, we wanted to show people our Nassau County, but at the same time we joked we don't want to be a focus group of one," said Hollander. "We're doing a lot of persona research at the moment, both for locals and for high value tourists coming to the area, to see what's attractive to them."

As RRDA prepares to roll out its tourism campaign, collaboration remains a cornerstone of its strategy. The agency welcomes input and participation from local businesses eager to showcase their offerings on the new Nassau County tourism website, slated for launch in May.

Anyone interested in reaching out to RRDA can email Hollander directly at jaime@rrdali.com

"We want to make sure that all the businesses have an opportunity to really shine and share what makes them a part of the community," emphasized Hollander. "What a dream project, to get to promote where you live."

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When a memoir helps to preserve history

By **ROKSANA AMID**

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To commemorate the anniversary of the Armenian Genocide, the Holocaust Tolerance and Memorial Center of Nassau County hosted a book presentation by Adrienne Alexanian to discuss her father's memoir, "Forced into Genocide."

Alexanian's exploration into her father's past revealed a treasure trove of hidden history. After Yervant Alexanian's passing in 1983, Adrienne delved into his belongings and unearthed a handwritten manuscript detailing his harrowing experiences during the Armenian Genocide, where he tragically lost 51 immediate family members.

The Armenian Genocide was a systematic campaign of extermination carried out by the Ottoman Empire against its Armenian population during World War I. Beginning in 1915, Armenians were subjected to mass deportation, forced marches, and massacres, resulting in the deaths of an estimated 1.5 million Armenians. The genocide was marked by widespread atrocities, including torture, starvation and mass killings. Despite ongoing denial by the Turkish government, the Armenian Genocide is widely recognized as one of the first modern genocides.

But for Glen Cove residents like

Lynn Jamie, also a descendent of Armenian genocide survivors, her family history comes in fractured anecdotes from relatives. Her mother, Alice Boghosian, seldom spoke of the horrors she endured as a captive, often breaking down in tears when she attempted to share her experiences. Boghosian, was one of nine siblings, of whom only she and two sisters, along with their mother, managed to escape the march across the Syrian desert.

In 1916, the then 9-year-old Boghosian and her family eventually arrived in America through Ellis Island, where they faced challenges trying to enter the United States due to an illness Boghosian contracted, which caused her to lose one of her eyes in the orphanage. Authorities wanted to ensure that her illness wasn't contagious. Despite these hardships, she pursued higher education, becoming a dental hygienist and working diligently to provide for her family.

"My mother never spoke of the horrors, and when she did, she couldn't even get more than two words out without weeping," Jamie said. "And I never got her history."

Jamie added her strength in life comes from her mother, because despite the hardships she endured, her mother still pursued higher education to become a dental hygienist and worked hard to raise a family.

"To have that some of that writing that's incredible," Jamie said after the event. "I have nothing in writing, and Adrian is very fortunate to know all of her history."

Years of dedication culminated in the publication of the book. This edition, painstakingly translated from Yervant's original Armenian chronicle, shows previously unseen documents and photos meticulously preserved by the author.

"My father always wanted his story to be told to promote Armenian Genocide recognition, but since he was a prolific writer on the subject for the Armenian newspapers, I thought he had already achieved his because he never told my mother or me that he had written his own memoir," Alexanian said. "Interestingly, I also found a letter from MGM Studios in response to a letter my father had written, rejecting his offer to write a screenplay about his

experiences as a survivor of the Armenian Genocide."

What sets Alexanian's account apart is his ability to not only document the brutality of the genocide but also to offer a unique behind-the-scenes glimpse into the motivations and actions of the Turkish military officials responsible for the atrocities. His narrative provides a nuanced understanding of the dynamics at play during this dark chapter, shedding light on both the cruelty of the perpetrators and the unexpected moments of humanity that occasionally emerged amidst the chaos.

"An aspect of the genocide that really hasn't been brought to light that of Armenian soldiers conscripted into the Ottoman Turkish army during the Armenian Genocide," Alexanian's said. "The popular belief was that everybody was killed, all the conscripted soldiers were killed. But my father's memoir dispels that belief."

There are no other books in Armenian literature on this aspect of the genocide, making her father's memoir essential for historians. Through "Forced into Genocide," Alexanian not only honors her father's memory, but also ensures that the voices of the past resonate with future generations, inspiring remembrance, recognition, and resilience in the face of adversity.




ADRIENNE ALEXANIAN



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Fire departments rally to recruit new volunteers

By **KEPHERD DANIEL**

kdanield@liherald.com

“Firefighting is all about passion,” said Oyster Bay town supervisor Joe Saladino. “Do you have a fire in you?”

That’s the question being asked across Nassau County by the 69 volunteer fire departments that protect them. It’s all part of a renewed push from the Firefighters Association of the State of New York in its annual RecruitNY campaign to find more volunteer firefighters and EMTs.

To help support those efforts, County Executive Bruce Blakeman declared last week as a volunteer firefighter and ambulance worker recruitment week. That includes the launch of a new website, NassausBravest.com, providing information on volunteering in the county.

“Exactly 30 years ago in 1994, there were 10,000 firefighters here on Long Island. There are now 6,000, so we’ve got a lot of work to do,” Blakeman said. “It’s not just community service. That’s important, and it’s very rewarding to give back to your community, but it’s about the camaraderie between firefighters and EMTs.”

Steve Klein knows exactly how rewarding it is. He joined the Oceanside Fire Department when he was 18, just a couple years after his father died from a heart attack. Now 77, Klein has decades of volunteer service under his belt, and is even the former president of state fire-



Kepherd Daniel/Herald

Nassau County Executive Bruce Blakeman was joined by firefighters in Plainview to share how important these volunteer departments are – and why solid recruitment this month is vital, for residents of all ages.

fighters association.

Still, Klein will never forget how it was volunteer firefighters who responded to his father’s medical emergency. And it proves how important these types of services are. That’s why his statewide agency worked so hard to adopt more universal firefighting training methods.

“Anything we want to do, it’s going to cost money,” Klein said. “But the offshoot of that is that the volunteer fire service in the state of New York saves the taxpayers approximately \$3.5 billion in taxes every year. We need to have trained people available to respond to emergencies.”

Much of that money is saved in sala-

ries, which volunteers obviously do not collect. Departments also look to fundraise as ways to avoid tax levies needed for purchasing, maintaining and operating firefighting equipment.

But there are benefits to volunteering beyond just doing the right thing. Volunteers get free training and equipment, as well as tax breaks and insurance coverage. All of that is provided by the Volunteer Firefighter Benefits Law, first passed in 1957.

Those tax breaks could include income tax credits of \$500 to \$1,000 per year, as well as property tax reductions of up to 10 percent — assuming local gov-

ernments have opted in.

There also are possibilities to earn a pension, as well as tuition reimbursement and scholarships.

Eugene Perry first joined the Patchogue Fire Department in 1979, thanks to his father — even those he was never a firefighter himself.

“My uncles were both in the fire service, but my father ... took me to one of the tournament drills they had in Patchogue, and it was something that piqued my interest and got me to come in the door,” Perry said. “I learned quickly after that, that that’s not the whole aspect of the volunteer fire service.”

Perry has been an administrative officer for many years and is involved in fundraising efforts for the fire department and companies and is hoping to help even more through efforts at the state level, encouraging, even more, to receive benefits from the fire service in more ways than one.

“I’m still an active interior firefighter,” Perry said. “It’s still the rush of being in a firehouse and getting on a fire truck and going to a fire trying to help somebody.”

And that’s a big reason why there is so much longevity in this line of work, Blakeman said.

“You have a built-in family when you join a firefighting service,” the county executive said. “You have friends that share a love of protecting the community.”



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Lopez takes over county's social services

By JOSEPH D'ALESSANDRO

jdalessandro@liherald.com

Jose Lopez has stepped in as the new acting commissioner for Nassau County's social services department, filling the absence left by Nancy Nunziata.

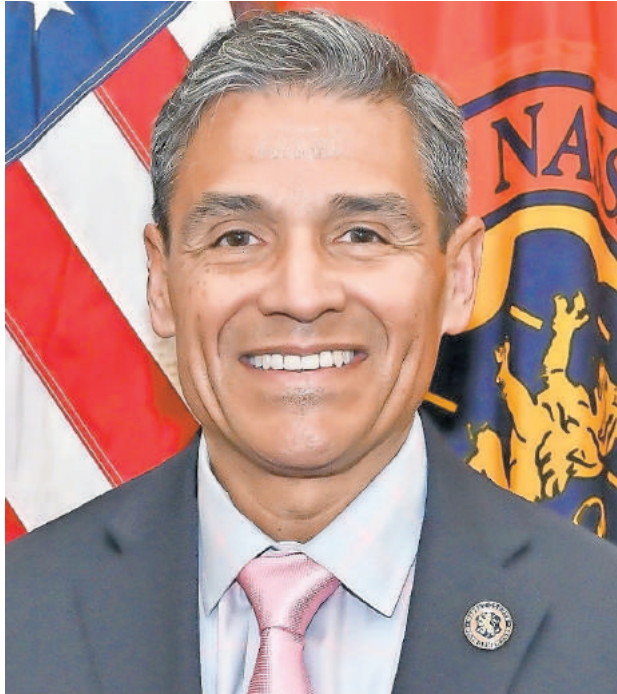
"I'm excited about the opportunity to serve, to work with the county executive," Lopez said. "To work with all the employees at the DSS. And to build a team that has a sense of morale, and more importantly, a sense of trust that the administration understands that what they do is vital to everyone that we serve."

Lopez has spent the last three years as the county's labor relations director, settling more than 8,000 bargaining agreements with Nassau County employees. He also guided more than 40 county departments in their negotiations with unions, and even served a member of the county's health care committee.

At DSS, Lopez is now responsible for a department focused on supporting local families with day care, housing and homelessness prevention. He also will oversee the county's management of the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program, known as SNAP, that assists low-income, disabled or senior citizen residents with needed financial support to purchase food.

"The role is to make sure that we serve the constituency of Nassau County, and to provide services that are very much needed," Lopez said. "At the same time, you provide an opportunity for those working with the county to do their best."

Lopez also will lead Child Protective Services, child support enforcement, and accommodating the Abandoned Infant Protection Act, which provides a safe way for those with unwanted infants to part with them. It's with CPS Lopez would like to add more peo-



Courtesy Nassau County

Jose Lopez is the new acting commissioner for the Nassau County's social services department.

ple, including more than a dozen former cops to help manage the department's ever-growing workload.

These new hires will assist caseworkers after undergoing a six-week training period — largely calling upon prior experience as first responders, according to reports.

CPS is responsible for investigating neglect and all kinds of child abuse. The service employs casework-

ers and court liaisons. Child victims are brought to Nassau's Child Advocacy Center, where they share information and receive various support services from the Coalition Against Child Abuse and Neglect.

"Jose Lopez has demonstrated through his many assignments in government that he has the intellect experience and work ethic to take on important challenges," County Executive Bruce Blakeman said, in a statement. "Protecting our neighbors in their time of vulnerability is of paramount importance to me as county executive."

Nunziata, appointed in 2019 by then-county executive Laura Curran, abruptly resigned last month, according to reports, after she says she was asked to fire someone in her office from an official in the county executive's office. Nunziata left over a disagreement over policy with the county executive.

Blakeman had no knowledge of the request, according to Boyle, who told a news outlet the employee in question was later transferred to a different department. The county executive also said he received no communication from Nunziata about why she stepped down.

Lopez's experience includes a decade as the human resources director for the Western Beef supermarket chain, where he oversaw more than 2,000 employees across 22 stores and three warehouses.

He's also a former deputy commissioner of Nassau County Parks, Recreation and Museums, and also oversaw key functions of Eisenhower Park Aquatic Center, including staffing and event planning.

Lopez intends to reduce the amount of staff training occurring upstate, preferring to train them within Nassau instead. He also intends to broaden the services the department provides, although he has yet to share details.

GLEN COVE HERALD — April 18, 2024

2024 Annual Caregiver Conference

The Loneliness Epidemic: Tackling Isolation, Care Needs & Finances In Senior Living

Wednesday, May 8th, 2024, 5:00 pm to 8:30 pm
Hilton Long Island / Huntington
598 Broad Hollow Road, Melville
Food & Beverages will be served

Presented By

This is a FREE Conference for Caregivers
Healthcare Professionals & Social Workers Welcome
Register to attend and earn 2 hours of CEU credit for \$50.00

Program Agenda

"The Loneliness Epidemic"
Arlene Markarian, Safe Observant Seniors Program Coordinator & Nassau County Elder Abuse Enhanced Multidisciplinary Team Coordinator, Family & Children's Association

Social Senior Living: Why Aging-in-Place is Not Always Best
Panel Discussion Moderated by Jennifer B. Cona, Esq. Managing Partner, Cona Elder Law

- Stuart B. Almer, President and CEO, Gurwin Healthcare System
- Laura LaFauci, LI Director of Community Outreach, Amber Court Communities
- Megan Shergill, Vice President of CDPAP Services, Community Care
- Julie Wexler, MPA, Director of Business Development, The Bristol Assisted Living
- Kerri Winans Kaley, Director of Business Development, Encore Luxury Living

Financing Care: Protecting Assets and Keeping Open Your Senior Living Options

- Melissa Negrin-Wiener, Esq., Senior Partner, Cona Elder Law

Presentation of Caregiver of the Year Award

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Culinary Delights celebrate 26 years

Culinary Delights, organized by the Glen Cove Chamber of Commerce, celebrated its 26th year with resounding success, drawing over 650 attendees and boasting participation from 70 restaurateurs, participants, and vendors. Under the elegant ambiance of Glen Cove Mansion, the April 15 event showcased the finest culinary offerings of the North Shore, attracting attendees not only from Glen Cove, but also from neighboring communities in mid-Nassau and Suffolk counties.

With the support of 29 sponsors, Cliff Krauter, director of business development for the chamber, said the evening was hailed as one of, if not the largest and most successful event in the chamber's history, offering a platform for attendees to sample delectable treats from local restaurants, bakeries and businesses. Attendees relished the opportunity to reconnect with old acquaintances and forge connections with new businesses, making Culinary Delights a memorable and enriching experience.

—Roksana Amid

April 18, 2024 — GLEN COVE HERALD



Matt Bomm spoke to attendees about the variety of foods served at North Shore Farms, a Glen Cove grocery store.



Patricia Oliver, a Bayville resident, won the raffle basket with lottery tickets.



Joseph Albert and Cathie Bianco, from Sunrise Senior Living, prepared savory watermelon for guests to enjoy while telling them about the assisted living center.

Tim Baker/Herald photos



Tanya and Rowen Potter helped serve scrumptious meals from Sea Cliff's new restaurant, Fosters.



Jeanine and Fred DiMenna, from Jeanine's American Bistro, haven't missed a Culinary Delights event since it began 26 years ago. The DiMenna's anticipate the opening of their new restaurant in May.

STEPPING OUT

Fruitful fun

Cultivating the future at Crossroads Farm

By Danielle Schwab

Vegetables, fruits, and honey, oh my!

With the growing season now upon us, Crossroads Farm at Grossmann's is ready to welcome visitors again. The historic 5.5-acre site hosts its annual season-opening event, next Saturday, April 27. It's a day to enjoy being outdoors, and partake of family-friendly activities, delicious eats, farm-fresh items to purchase, and, naturally, a wealth of information on planting.

Crossroads Farms at Grossmann's has a long tradition that's been shared by generations of folks from throughout Nassau County and beyond. Since 1895, it's been a go-to for produce, plants and related agricultural products. Owned and cultivated for more than 100 years by the Grossmann family, it was purchased by Nassau County through the Nassau Land Trust to preserve the acreage as an open farm space. It's one of the closest farms to New York City.

"One of the big things for the Grossmann family was that Long Island Rail Road runs directly through the back of the farm," Crossroads operations manager Michael D'Angelo says. "Back in the early 1900s, that was huge. Instead of having to use a horse and cart to go to Manhattan to sell their produce, they were able to load up onto the train that would then go right into the city."

With more than 75 products offered, the farm produces diverse and beloved selection of organic produce for its loyal patrons. This includes best sellers like tomatoes and greens, along with turmeric, and even loofas — among the many items you'll find here.

Crossroads also showcases its crops at the Long Island Fair. Its tradition of excellence is evident with strong finishes in the agricultural competition.

"We put in like 50 entries last year, and 90 percent of our crops placed first, second or third," adds Peter Notarnicola, Crossroads' field manager.

This year, Crossroads is doubling its production by planting on twice as much of its land. Anything that can't be grown or produced in-house is obtained through a barter system with other farms and sold at the farm store.

Another popular product is the result of a collaboration with millions of special farm workers — worker bees that is. Their buzzy effort supplies the farm with rich tasty honey.

"We got about a million ladies that work on the farm, and they're the bees," D'Angelo jokes.

D'Angelo and Notarnicola are always on the go, planning and moving forward with new ideas — and crops. They maintain a close dialogue with visitors.

"We have customers from all different backgrounds, some who



Michael D'Angelo, operations manager, is ready to reopen the popular farm for another busy season.



Photos courtesy Crossroads Farm

Crossroads field manager Peter Notarnicola tends to his plantings.



- Saturday, April 27, noon-4 p.m.
- \$10 per person or \$25 per family, kids younger than 3 free
- Farmstand hours: Tuesday and Friday, 1-6 p.m.; Saturday, 9 a.m.-2 p.m.
- 480 Hempstead Ave., Malverne
- XRoadsFarmLINY.com

by entertainment, farm tours, hayrides and food vendors on hand with some tasty bites. Check out Rockin Roots, South Shore Brewery and Beach Barbecue, among the participating vendors.

Kids can keep busy visiting farm animals and taking in an ATV ride, along with puppetry and face painting. The youngsters can also gather around a maypole and chase down colorful ribbons.

"It's a family fun day to come down and just enjoy the farm," D'Angelo says.

Crossroads is so much more than simply a place to visit. Its valued community partner can be relied up to support many endeavors.

"Fresh produce, fresh flowers, educational opportunities and entertainment space truly make Crossroads Farm unique" Maria Casini, Malverne Chamber of Commerce co-president, adds.

Among the projects she's involved in with Crossroads, the farm has partnered with LIJ-Valley Stream Northwell Hospital to introduce a "Food is Health" program tackling nutrition and hunger.

The farm also offers an interactive Sunshine program to introduce kids up to 11 to agriculture.

"A lot of people don't know the process that it takes for food to get to their table," Notarnicola says. "To see that hands-on, I think for someone who didn't grow up with planting, is eye-opening."

From a tiny seedling to your dinner plate, it's a team effort to get it all there.

Interested in become a part of the farm family? Crossroads Farms welcomes volunteers to help out. Various volunteering options include working in the fields planting and harvesting, or participating in education and fundraising programming.

either are first or second generation, or are foreign-born themselves. They ask for specific products that may be hard for them to find," D'Angelo says. "And that is always exciting for us. We love hearing and catering to the way people cook different things."

Crossroads also has a presence at local establishments. You'll find Crossroads products incorporated into the menu at Malverne eateries such as Uva Rossa Wine Bar and Kookaburra Coffee Co.

While the season is just beginning, there will be no shortage of activities to occupy everyone on opening day. A ribbon-cutting ceremony kicks off the festivities, followed



Melissa Errico

Melissa Errico appears on the Landmark stage with pianist-arranger Billy Stritch for her new show 'The Life and Loves of a Broadway Baby.' Errico sets her own life to the Broadway songs that she has sung and owned in this theatrical tour de force. She presents both a sensational set of beloved standards and a series of witty and sometimes wicked stories about an ingenue's life passed on the Great White Way. Its sexy, sublime study of American songs — ranging from Cole Porter to Harold Arlen, Lerner & Loewe to Taylor Swift, with a substantial peek at Melissa's new Sondheim album, 'Sondheim in the City' — with songs like 'Everybody Says Don't,' 'Take Me to the World,' and 'Being Alive.' A woman of stage, screen and song, Errico has been acclaimed as 'the Maria Callas of American musical theatre' by Opera News, referencing both her silken voice and dramatic, expressive intensity.

Friday, April 19, 8 p.m. \$63, \$53, \$43. Jeanne Rimsky Theater at Landmark on Main Street, 232 Main St., Port Washington. (516) 767-6444 or LandmarkOnMainStreet.org.



Mike DelGuidice

Mike DelGuidice, one of Long Island's most celebrated singer/songwriters continues his 'residency' at the Paramount. Mike DelGuidice and his band always give it their all, especially when playing the iconic Billy Joel songs. DelGuidice leads his band in a rousing concert that highlights the 'Piano Man's' decades of hits. Like his idol, DelGuidice has become one of the area's most celebrated performers, balancing his schedule between doing his own thing and touring with Joel all over the world. DelGuidice, as with Joel, grew up mastering several instruments, including bass guitar, guitar, piano and drums. He's renowned for his encyclopedic knowledge of the Joel catalog, which caught the attention of Joel himself, who ultimately brought him on stage with him. DelGuidice and his band pack hit after chart-topping hit, along with his own tunes in a high-energy show that's always a crowd pleaser.

Friday and Saturday, April 19-20, 8 p.m. \$60, \$40, \$25, \$20. The Paramount, 370 New York Ave., Huntington. (800) 745-3000. Ticketmaster.com or ParamountNY.com.

THE SCENE

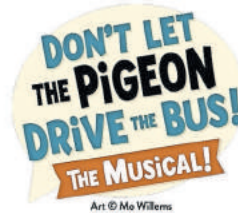
April
26

Chris
Ruggiero

Experience the
magic of Chris
Ruggiero's new

show, "Teenage Dreams and Magic Moments." The dynamic vocalist visits the Landmark stage, Friday, **April 26**, at 7:30 p.m. Ruggiero is an old soul. Still in his 20s, the music that speaks to him is the music of the '50s, '60s and '70s, breathing new life into the timeless classics that form the soundtrack of our lives. His approach to performing is more in line with that of a bygone era, bringing to the stage the panache of Frank Sinatra or Paul Anka, coupled with the energy of Jackie Wilson. Ruggiero first came to national attention when he performed in concert on a PBS coast-to-coast special and was featured on Good Morning America. Since then, he has traveled the country, delivering his unique brand of vintage rock and roll and sharing his passion for the classics.

He has shared the stage with artists such as Bobby Rydell, The Duprees and The Drifters. It seems almost preordained that the young man who loves the special sounds of an era is now performing on the same stages as those he admires most. The young singer was a 2020 East Coast Music Hall of Fame nominee and at the 2019 induction ceremony, he performed alongside Tito Puente Jr. singing the iconic song Tito's father wrote, "Oye Como Va." In his new show, "Teenage Dreams and Magic Moments," Ruggiero tells his story by breathing new life into the timeless music of the eras he loves, enhanced with a six-piece band and live brass. Songs like "Unchained Melody," "My Cherie Amour," "You Can't Hurry Love" and "This Magic Moment" come to life with unique interpretations of these classics and more, with new orchestrations by Charlie Calello, arranger for the Four Seasons and known in the industry as "The Hit Man." Chances are you'll know every word of every song. \$59, \$49, \$39. Jeanne Rimsky Theater at Landmark on Main Street, 232 Main St., Port Washington. (516) 767-6444 or LandmarkOnMainStreet.org.



On stage

Families will enjoy another musical adventure, "Don't Let the Pigeon Drive the Bus!"

ripped from the pages of Mo Willems' beloved children's books, on the Long Island Children's Museum stage, Friday, April 19, 10:15 a.m. and noon; Monday through Friday, **April 20-26**, 11:30 a.m. and 2 p.m. Back by popular demand after a sold-out 2023 run, see Pigeon, Bus Driver, and some zany passengers sing and dance their way to helping The Pigeon find his "thing" in this upbeat, energetic comedy based on four of Mo Willems' popular Pigeon books.

Featuring a live band to bring Deborah Wicks La Puma's jazzy score to life, audiences will thoroughly enjoy singing and flapping along with The Pigeon and friends. The audience is part of the action, in this innovative mix of songs, silliness and feathers. It's an ideal way to introduce kids to theater and the humorous stories from Willems' books. \$10 with museum admission (\$8 members), \$14 theater only. Long Island Children's Museum, Museum Row, Garden City. (516) 224-5800 or LICM.org.LICM.org.



On exhibit

Nassau County Museum of Art's latest exhibition, "Urban Art Evolution," is a comprehensive exhibit featuring a diverse range of compositions from the 1980s through the present by creators who were based in the rough and tumble downtown area of New York City known as Loisaida/LES (Lower East Side/East Village) and close surrounding neighborhoods.

Artists pushed the boundaries of what was considered "art" with a primary focus on street/graffiti art. The exhibit's scope, guest curated by art collector/gallerist Christopher Pusey, offers an even broader view from other creative residents, who worked inside their studios but still contributed to the rich fabric of the downtown art scene from different vantage points and aesthetics.

Works include sculpture, paintings, photography, music, and ephemera from many noted and influential artists. On view through **July 7**. Nassau County Museum of Art, 1 Museum Dr., Roslyn Harbor. (516) 484-9337 or NassauMuseum.org.



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May
16

Clean Water Symposium

Citizens Campaign for the Environment, North Shore Land Alliance, and The Nature Conservancy cohost the Long Island Clean Water Symposium: Global Challenges and Local Solutions conference, Thursday, **May 16**, 2:30-5:30 p.m., at LIU Post Student Center Auditorium. This free event brings together water science leaders to discuss water quality and quantity challenges on Long Island. With keynote speaker David Sedlak, author of "Water 4.0" and "Water for All," Adrienne Esposito of Citizens Campaign for the Environment, Stony Brook University's Dr. Chris Gobler. 720 Northern Blvd, Greenvale. Registration required. Visit NorthShoreLandAlliance.org to register and for information.

Glen Cove City Council Meeting

Glen Cove City Council meets, Wednesday, **April 24**, at 7:30 p.m., to accommodate for Passover, at Glen Cove City Hall, 9 Glen St., Glen Cove.

Art explorations

Converse, collaborate and create at Family Saturdays at Nassau County Museum of Art, Saturday, **April 20**, noon-3 p.m. Get inspired by the art and objects in the galleries and then join educators at the Manes Center to explore and discover different materials to create your own original artwork.

Kids and adults connect while talking about and making art together. A new project is featured every week. \$20 adult, \$10 child. For ages 2-14. Registration required. 1 Museum Dr., Roslyn Harbor. Visit NassauMuseum.org for to register or call (516) 484-9337.

Glen Cove Women's Golf Club

Glen Cove Women's Golf Club is looking for members. The group plays 18 holes every Tuesday, starting in April through October, at the Glen Cove Golf Club. Play is weather permitting. Membership is open to all women regardless of residency. 109 Lattingtown Road. For more information, visit GCWomensGolf.com.

Eglevsky Ballet Gala

Eglevsky Ballet presents "Live from Studio 4," an intimate evening of classical and contemporary ballets, Saturday, **April 20**, 7 p.m. The program features new and existing repertory works chosen to showcase the dancers unique ability to transfer from classical to neo-classical to contemporary with ease and mastery of their techniques. Eglevsky Ballet Studio, 700 Hicksville Road, Suite 102, Bethpage. For information and tickets, visit Eventbrite.com/e/live-from-studio-4-tickets-859994295087?aff=oddtotc.

Blood drive

Tiegerman School hosts a blood drive, Saturday, **April 27**, 9 a.m.-3 p.m. Appointments preferred; walk-ins welcomed if space is available. Remember to eat and drink, bring your donor or ID card. Masks are optional for all donors and staff. Contact Toya Davis at ldavis@tiegerman.org to register. 27 Cedar Swamp Road, Glen Cove.

Spring Dog Festival

Enjoy the glorious grounds of Old Westbury Gardens with your pooch (leashed of course), Saturday and Sunday, **April 20-21**, 10 a.m.-6 p.m. With varied vendors and activities. Old Westbury Gardens, 71 Old Westbury Rd., Old Westbury. For information contact (516) 333-0048 or visit OldWestburyGardens.org.



Understanding Nancy Drew

Gold Coast Library hosts a virtual presentation, "The Mystery of Nancy Drew," Monday, **April 22**. The Nancy Drew series, created by publisher Edward Stratemeyer, emerged 90 years ago as a beloved detective character, captivating readers with her style and bravery. Historian Leslie Goddard, Ph.D., delves into the history of the iconic girl detective, exploring questions surrounding Carolyn Keene, the series' author, and the enduring appeal that has captivated generations of readers. This is an online event at 2 p.m. To register visit GoldCoastLibrary.org.

Artist showcase

Sea Cliff Arts Council member Kaylin Burger's paintings are on view at Sea Cliff Village Library, through April. She embodies a distinctive perspective shaped by the diverse cultural landscapes of both the east and west.

Enriched by her experiences, Burger integrates elements from both worlds into her work, creating a harmonious fusion of influences that captivates the viewer. Immersed in the familiarity of coastal living, Burger finds boundless inspiration in the ebb and flow of the sea, inviting all to experience a sense of calm. 300 Sea Cliff Ave. Visit SeaCliffArtsCouncil.org.

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.



Game Time

Drop by Bayville Free Library, **Wednesdays**, 1-4 p.m., for casual table games. Bring your own games or use games offered by the library such as; cards, Canasta, Mah Jongg, Scrabble, chess, checkers, backgammon, and jigsaw puzzles. No registration required. 34

School St. For more information, visit BayvilleFreeLibrary.org or call (516) 628-2765.

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Passover, a wonderful season of rejoicing

Next week, Jews all over the world will gather with our respective families and/or friends to observe Pesach (Passover), a Major Festival holiday in Jewish tradition, often referred to as “z’man simchateinu” (the season of our rejoicing).

From a narrative perspective, we retell the Biblical story Moses, who with the help of his siblings Aaron and Miriam, and a divine partnership with God, delivered our ancestors from generations of slavery in Egypt, and embarked upon a 40-year journey to return home to the land of their forefathers and mothers. Passover also serves as the Spring Harvest Festival, coinciding with the time when our ancient ancestors, living in the Tribal lands which would ultimately become Judea in the south and the kingdom of Israel to the north, would make their pilgrimage to offer the first fruits of their harvest at the Holy Temple in Jerusalem.

Today, we offer prayers and tzedakah (acts of charity) instead of physical offerings at the temple, and we celebrate with a seder, an intricate meal that follows a specific “order” of ritual, storytelling, questions, and conversation with family, friends, and other guests. Over the years I have polled my students asking them what they enjoy most about this celebration. Many answer that they love the food, several mentioned the activity of searching for the Afikomen (a piece of the ceremonial matzoh that is hidden, and children are asked to find it as the conclusion to the festival meal), while others relish the opportunity simply to gather for an evening or two with their loved ones.

My fondest memories of Passover bring me back to my youth when I celebrated the seder night with my large extended family. One memory that stands out was when I was a young boy and my great-uncle Leonard asked me to open the door to symbolically welcome Elijah the Prophet, a dignitary of a redemptive era. I remember being frightened to open the door for this

“ghost,” and so one of my older cousins accompanied me to fulfill the deed. Another memorable experience was the year I celebrated Passover at a seder in Amsterdam as a young adult. The feeling of being away from my family was mitigated by the way this community welcomed me and gave me a home for that important night, emphasizing the true spirit of the holiday. Overall, these powerful moments of memorable experiences truly do last a lifetime, and they influence how we choose to continue observing this special evening as we move into our more mature years.



**RABBI
MICHAEL S. CHURGEL**

This year our celebrations are likely to be tempered as we think of our brothers and sisters who are still being held hostage in Gaza, the humanitarian crisis in Gaza itself as we show empathy for Palestinians who do not

identify with Hamas, and the emerging threat of a greater war with Iran, who continues to stoke Hamas in Gaza and Hezbollah in Lebanon and Syria. Regardless of where any of us stand politically and socially, Passover is a season to recall how “once we were slaves but now we are free.” Every citizen of this planet deserves to live in an environment where they feel safe and secure regardless of race, gender, sexual preference, or religion; where they have a home in which to live; where they can get a proper education and be trained in proper life skills; where they do not have to worry about when, where and how they will get their next meal: “Let all who are hungry come and eat!”

Next week, while gathering to create yet another enjoyable and memorable Passover experience, I encourage you to reserve a moment to remember those who are not as privileged, and as part of your conversation that evening, consider ways that you might help all people to be free.

Wishing you all a Mo’adim L’simcha – a wonderful season of rejoicing.

Michael S. Churgel is the rabbi at North Country Reform Temple – Ner Tamid.



LEGAL NOTICE PUBLIC NOTICES

LEGAL NOTICE
NOTICE OF SALE
SUPREME COURT
COUNTY OF NASSAU
Wilmington Savings Fund
Society, FSB, not in its
individual capacity, but
solely as Owner Trustee
on Behalf for CSMC 2018-
RPL12 Trust, Plaintiff
AGAINST Omar Guzman
a/k/a Omar E. Guzman, et
al., Defendant(s)
Pursuant to a Judgment
of Foreclosure and Sale
duly entered October 30,
2023, I, the undersigned
Referee will sell at public
auction at the North Side
Steps of the Nassau
County Supreme Court,
1100 Supreme Court Drive,
Mineola, NY 11501 on
April 30, 2024 at 2:00PM,
premises known as 9
Rose Avenue, Glen Cove,
NY 11542. All that
certain plot piece or
parcel of land, with the
buildings and
improvements erected,
situate, lying and being
in the City of Glen Cove,
County of Nassau and
State of New York,
SECTION: 31, BLOCK: E,
LOT: 209. Approximate
amount of judgment
\$412,059.27 plus interest
and costs. Premises will
be sold subject to
provisions of filed
Judgment Index
#612761/2022. The
aforementioned auction
will be conducted in
accordance with the
NASSAU County
COVID-19 Protocols
located on the Office of
Court Administration
(OCA) website
(<https://ww2.nycourts.gov/Admin/oca.shtml>) and as
such all persons must
comply with social
distancing, wearing
masks and screening
practices in effect at the
time of this foreclosure
sale. Brian J. Davis, Esq.,
Referee Frenkel Lambert
Weiss Weisman &
Gordon, LLP 53 Gibson
Street Bay Shore, NY
11706 01-094288-F01
79946
145654

LEGAL NOTICE
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN
that a Public Hearing
shall be held on
Wednesday, April 24,
2024, at 7:30 p.m. in the
Council Chambers at Glen
Cove City Hall, 9 Glen
Street, Glen Cove, NY to
discuss amending
Chapter 109 Boats, Docks
and Waterways, of the
City of Glen Cove Code.
All interested parties will
be given an opportunity
to be heard.
Tina Pemberton
City Clerk
146234

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LEGAL NOTICE
SUPREME COURT OF THE
STATE OF NEW YORK
INDEX NO. 616303/2023
COUNTY OF NASSAU

LONGBRIDGE FINANCIAL, LLC
Plaintiff,
vs.
GIANMARCO SACCHETTA, AS HEIR AND DISTRIBUTE OF THE ESTATE OF GIOVANNI SACCHETTA A/K/A GIOVANNI SACCHETTO; PASQUALINA SACCHETTA A/K/A LINA SACCHETTA A/K/A LENA SACCHETTA, AS HEIR AND DISTRIBUTE OF THE ESTATE OF GIOVANNI SACCHETTA A/K/A GIOVANNI SACCHETTO; LUCIANO M. SACCHETTA, AS HEIR AND DISTRIBUTE OF THE ESTATE OF GIOVANNI SACCHETTA A/K/A GIOVANNI SACCHETTO; UNKNOWN HEIRS AND DISTRIBUTEES OF THE ESTATE OF GIOVANNI SACCHETTA A/K/A GIOVANNI SACCHETTO, any and all persons unknown to plaintiff, claiming, or who may claim to have an interest in, or general or specific lien upon the real property described in this action; such unknown persons being herein generally described and intended to be included in the following designation, namely: the wife, widow, husband, widower, heirs

LEGAL NOTICE
PLEASE TAKE NOTICE THAT the Glen Cove City Council adopted the following Ordinance at the City Council Meeting of April 9, 2024:
BE IT ORDAINED, that the City Council hereby amends Sec. 265-54 Schedule XXII: Special Purpose Parking Zones of the City of Glen Cove Code of Ordinance as it relates to Hendrick Avenue as follows:

Add:
Street: Hendrick Avenue
Side: North
Purpose: Handicapped parking only
Location:
From a point 89 feet East of Continental Place to a point 40 feet there from
This Ordinance shall take effect 3 days after publication.
Tina Pemberton
City Clerk
146234

LEGAL NOTICE
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at law, next of kin, descendants, executors, administrators, devisees, legatees, creditors, trustees, committees, lienors, and assignees of such deceased, any and all persons deriving interest in or lien upon, or title to said real property by, through or under them, or either of them, and their respective wives, widows, husbands, widowers, heirs at law, next of kin, descendants, executors, administrators, devisees, legatees, trustees, committees, lienors and assigns, all of whom and whose names, except as stated, are unknown to plaintiff; SECRETARY OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT; NEW YORK STATE DEPARTMENT OF TAXATION AND FINANCE; UNITED STATES OF AMERICA; “JOHN DOE” (REFUSED NAME) AS JOHN DOE #1, “JOHN DOE #2” through “JOHN DOE #12,” the last eleven names being fictitious and unknown to plaintiff, the persons or parties intended being the tenants, occupants, persons or corporations, if any, having or claiming an interest in or lien upon the premises, described in the complaint, Defendants.

Plaintiff designates NASSAU as the place of trial situs of the real property
SUPPLEMENTAL SUMMONS
Mortgaged Premises:
2 TAFT PLACE, GLEN COVE, NY 11542
Section: 30, Block: 57, Lot: 9

To the above named Defendants
YOU ARE HEREBY SUMMONED to answer the Complaint in the above entitled action and to serve a copy of your Answer on the plaintiff’s attorney within twenty (20) days of the service of this Summons, exclusive of the day of service, or within thirty (30) days after service of the same is complete where service is made in any manner other than by personal delivery within the State. The United States of America, if designated as a defendant in this action, may answer or appear within sixty (60) days of service. Your failure to appear or to answer will result in a judgment against you by default for

the relief demanded in the Complaint. In the event that a deficiency balance remains from the sale proceeds, a judgment may be entered against you.
NOTICE OF NATURE OF ACTION AND RELIEF SOUGHT
THE OBJECT of the above caption action is to foreclose a Mortgage to secure the sum of \$585,000.00 and interest, recorded on March 14, 2012, in Liber M 36997 at Page 475, of the Public Records of NASSAU County, New York., covering premises known as 2 TAFT PLACE, GLEN COVE, NY 11542.
The relief sought in the within action is a final judgment directing the sale of the premises described above to satisfy the debt secured by the Mortgage described above.
NASSAU County is designated as the place of trial because the real property affected by this action is located in said county.
NOTICE
YOU ARE IN DANGER OF LOSING YOUR HOME
If you do not respond to this summons and complaint by serving a copy of the answer on the attorney for the mortgage company who filed this foreclosure proceeding against you and filing the answer with the court, a default judgment may be entered and you can lose your home.
Speak to an attorney or go to the court where your case is pending for further information on how to answer the summons and protect your property.
Sending a payment to the mortgage company will not stop the foreclosure action.
YOU MUST RESPOND BY SERVING A COPY OF THE ANSWER ON THE ATTORNEY FOR THE PLAINTIFF (MORTGAGE COMPANY) AND FILING THE ANSWER WITH THE COURT.
Dated: April 1st, 2024
ROBERTSON, ANSCHUTZ, SCHNEID, CRANE & PARTNERS, PLLC
Attorney for Plaintiff
Jinghan Zhang, Esq.
900 Merchants Concourse, Suite 310
Westbury, NY 11590
516-280-7675
146232
To Place A Notice Call 516-569-4000 x232

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Attorney for Plaintiff
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900 Merchants Concourse, Suite 310
Westbury, NY 11590
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OPINIONS

L.I. GOP must condemn Trump's dangerous remarks

Elected officials, including many in Nassau County, regularly say they're committed to bipartisanship — to "reaching across the aisle." That is, of course, a worthy sentiment, especially in these hyperpolarized times.

Compromise does indeed lie at the core of politics in a democracy. Conservatives and liberals, when acting in good faith and with a shared set of values, can reach agreements that benefit both sets of constituents.



KEVIN J. KELLEY

But in order for politics to function in this way, politicians of differing views need to show respect for one another, and

for the standards of civil discourse. Comity isn't possible when extremism prevails. Threats of violence and attacks on people's religious beliefs must be repudiated, regardless of where they originate on the ideological spectrum.

Calls for cooperation thus sound hypocritical when incendiary rhetoric is allowed to take the place of reasoned debate. Worse, politicians who lack the courage to condemn dangerous rantings by their own side's leaders can be judged

complicit when unhinged speech results in criminal acts.

That's why Long Island Republicans have a moral, as well as political, obligation to publicly condemn inflammatory remarks made by their party's leader, Donald Trump.

We have already seen what happens when the bounds of civic decorum are breached. Trump's unfounded insistence that the 2020 election was stolen led thousands of his followers to trash the U.S. Capitol, the citadel of American democracy.

Something similar — or even more calamitous — may well occur this year. Trump recently warned, "If I don't get elected, it's gonna be a bloodbath." MAGA militants are likely to take that message literally. They'll wink and nod at the former president's subsequent claim that he was referring only to the consequences of not curbing imports of Chinese automobiles.

Trump is also stoking racist hatred. Some of his most rabid followers may feel emboldened to physically attack migrants, whom their idol has referred to as "animals."

Trump has said, too, that if he loses the 2024 election, that will be proof that it was rigged. In other words, the only acceptable result will be victory for

Trump. His defeat would not be acknowledged, or tolerated.

This is not how democracy works. Trump's repeatedly demonstrated disdain for the rule of law should be denounced as an unpatriotic affront to the memory of the hundreds of thousands of Americans who have lost their lives in defense of the nation's founding principles.

Nassau County Republican officeholders have a responsibility to treat their impressive recent electoral victories not as an opportunity to gloat or ridicule their opponents, as Trump did throughout his term in the White House, but rather to urge their supporters to respect democratic processes, and their opponents. Similarly, local Jewish leaders — Conservative, Reform and Orthodox — should assure their congregants that it's possible to vote for Joe Biden and still be good Jews and defenders of Israel.

Trump, of course, does not agree. He declared on March 18 that "any Jewish person that votes for Democrats hates their religion." Asked the following day about that comment, Trump doubled down: "Democrats have been very, very opposed to Jewish people," he said, absurdly.

Never one to engage in temperate criti-

cism, Trump has lately entered rhetorical realms far beyond the limits of responsible speech. He is certainly not a conservative of the Reagan variety, nor is he in sync with prominent local Republicans such as former Congressman Peter King, who has displayed the courage, in the pages of the Herald, to criticize Trump's dangerous divisiveness.

The United States needs a credible conservative party that focuses on fundamental issues such as the role and the size of government. Liberal positions should be challenged in informed, reasoned exchanges based on facts, not fabrications. But this is not the case for the party led by Trump.

What will Congressman Anthony D'Esposito, County Executive Bruce Blakeman and Hempstead Town Supervisor Donald Clavin do? Will they follow the lead of former Vice President Mike Pence, who has termed Trump unsuited to hold the nation's highest office? Or will they stand by silently and allow political exigency to take precedence over government of, by and for the people?

History will judge their actions — or inactions.

Kevin J. Kelley was a congressional staff member in the 1980s, and is a retired journalist and journalism professor who worked for newspapers in New York, Vermont and Kenya and taught at St. Michael's College in Vermont. He lives in Atlantic Beach.

Will they follow former V.P. Mike Pence's lead, or stand by silently?

Spring cleaning: Forget the brooms and mops

My clothes closet is a throwback, a collection from a past life. Who bought all these clothes, I wonder. Whose life was dressed in these costumes? What woman, aside from the extravagantly shod Imelda Marco, could possibly think she needed so many pairs of shoes?

I stand in awe at the bizarre items hanging inside. I cannot connect to the life these clothes adorned. There is a floor-length, multi-colored, layer-cake skirt that I bought and last wore on a trip to Africa, when it was only marginally appropriate, even in Mozambique. Truth? There are two of these skirts. I also have a bright,



RANDI KREISS

bright red, heavily embroidered Chinese jacket I bought in Shanghai in 2003. It's lovely, and it fits, but it is so, so pre-Covid life.

I see shirts I bought 25 years ago, when big, padded shoulders were de rigueur. They still have paper stuffed into the sleeves from the last time I had them cleaned, several decades ago.

It's like wandering through Pompeii. Who was this person? I wonder. The big belts, the silk shawls, the long velvet pants for formal attire add to the sense of disconnection. A hot pink cocktail dress?

Today I could keep my wardrobe in a paper sack. Since the pandemic and the collapse of the social life we once enjoyed, I dress down. Way down. Still, there are four pairs of spiked heels on the shelf. A walk in those babies would be a suicide mission.

On another shelf in the closet is the crocheted blanket that I started with my mother-in-law, who has been dead 40 years. Any day now I guess I'll take up crocheting again. The bejeweled handbag I bought in the gift shop at the Raffles Hotel in Singapore doesn't go with my mom jeans.

You get my point. I hereby publicly vow to use this spring to fling out the old and give away the wardrobe of the woman who once lived a very different life from mine. My new life requires five hangars and a drawer.

There's more. Closets are a metaphor, are they not? Clichéd, but still the perfect symbol of all that is tucked away, out of

sight.

With that in mind, I want to spring-clean my mind of the addictive behaviors brought on by the deprivations and anxieties of the coronavirus. The super-killer is done, and we're still standing.

The virus, no doubt, is here to stay, but with the appropriate vaccines, we will go on. What remains is our pathological obsession with devices that intensified during the pandemic, and that needs to be treated.

For example, I thought I had a clear mind when I sat down to write this. Then I glanced at an incoming text. My sister wanted a recipe, so I stopped writing and looked up the ingredients of sheet pan lasagna. But wait — as I searched, there was "incoming": A new sale by Eileen Fisher, so I checked it out, and was about to buy a new T-shirt to stash in the aforementioned closet when, blip, there were notices from a dozen charities offering to match my donation today if I made them right now. I started to give my \$25 to Planned Parenthood when, whoosh, there was a text from my granddaughter, who was turning in a paper in three minutes that she wanted me to edit.

Since the pandemic and the collapse of the social life we once enjoyed, I dress down.

So, what was I doing? Writing my column — right, that's it. But sister texted back, thanking me for the lasagna recipe, and then my husband texted to ask which lettuce to buy at the supermarket. I had to tell him romaine, right? Or he might come back with iceberg.

What did I sit down here to do? Oh yes, I want to focus on spring cleaning, but the news and the texts and the endless notifications are a disorienting sound-and-light show signifying nothing but distraction.

But, really, hold on a minute, can I afford to ignore a text from a company that will help me control upper-arm fat? Can I write about spring cleaning this week, when Donald Trump is possibly eating a puppy online in another magic MAGA moment? (Relax, I made that one up.)

What practical steps will I take to clean up the psychological and technological distractions? I will stop "notifications" and turn off my phone when I write. Next time. I really will do that, I promise, but first I have to check out two tiny must-read urgent news flashes: the best undiscovered beaches in Newfoundland and photos of an ancient worm that grew to 37 feet long.

Copyright 2024 Randi Kreiss. Randi can be reached at randik3@aol.com.

GLEN COVE HERALD

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HERALD EDITORIAL

Weaving a future of peace, harmony and justice

As the vibrant hues of spring emerge, so, too, do the sacred observances of Easter, Passover and Ramadan — each offering a tapestry of traditions woven with threads of renewal, redemption and hope.

Christians and Muslims have completed their observances of Easter and Ramadan, and now Jews are set to celebrate what they call Pesach — a holiday that commemorates the liberation of the Israelites in ancient Egypt, and their eventual exodus to the Promised Land.

When it comes to the tapestry of humanity, however, all of these celebrations serve as poignant reminders of our shared quest for spiritual uplift and communal solidarity, transcending cultural boundaries and religious affiliations.

At the heart of Easter lies the profound narrative of resurrection, symbolizing the triumph of life over death, and the promise of renewal. Christians around the world gathered to commemorate the resurrection of Jesus Christ, finding solace in the belief that, through faith and redemption, new beginnings are possible.

Similarly, Passover holds a special place in the hearts of Jewish communities. Through rituals steeped in tradition, families gather around the Seder table to retell the story of Exodus, passing the torch of remembrance down from one generation to the next. Passover embodies the timeless themes of liberation and redemption, inspiring people to break free from the shackles of oppression and embrace the promise of a brighter future.

Amid the tapestry of religious diversity, Ramadan shines as a beacon of spiritual devotion and self-discipline for Muslims worldwide. During this holiest month of the Islamic calendar, believers fast from dawn to dusk, engaging in prayer, reflection and charity. Through the rigor of fasting, Muslims seek purifications of the soul and a deepened connection with the divine — finding strength and solace in the collective journey of faith.

Despite their distinct cultural expressions and theological nuances, Easter, Passover and Ramadan converge on the shared terrain of universal values and aspirations. Across these sacred seasons, the themes of renewal, redemption and hope serve as bridges that

unite humanity in its quest for transcendence and meaning.

In the tapestry of diversity, we find unity in our shared humanity, transcending the boundaries of creed and nationality. As we reflect on the timeless messages of these three observances, let us embrace the richness of our religious heritage, and celebrate the mosaic of traditions that adorn the fabric of our collective existence.

In the face of adversity and uncertainty, these sacred days remind us of the resilience of the human spirit and the enduring power of faith to sustain us through life's trials.

Together, let us embrace unity in diversity, forging bonds of understanding and compassion that transcend the barriers of ignorance and prejudice. And may we find strength in our shared humanity, and hope in the process of a brighter tomorrow.

As the spring sun rises, let us embark on a journey of spiritual renewal and communal solidarity, guided by the timeless wisdom of Easter, Passover and Ramadan. In this tapestry of diversity, may we weave a future of peace, justice and harmony for generations to come.

LETTERS

There's 'my-partisanship' far from D.C., Jerry

To the Editor:

Jerry Kremer's good heart, I fear, is overly generous for our current moment ("Washington: where bipartisanship goes to die," April 11-17). His desire for bipartisanship is currently unfashionable, not only in Washington but right here in Massapequa. Our former honorable representative and gentleman, Peter King, is now willing to pronounce on the political qualifications of mourners attending services for an NYPD officer lost in action.

The lawbreaking, felon-praising Donald Trump is noted for his "dignity" at Jonathan Diller's memorial, while a rumor of Gov. Kathy Hochul's being snubbed is pandered. Other notable Democrats are named and shamed with King's party's "anti-police" canard. Thus was Diller's memorial stained with gratuitous my-partisanship. Bipartisanship is often a corpse, Mr. Kremer, before it departs for Washington.

BRIAN KELLY
Rockville Centre

I'm not praising Hochul for giving us our money back

To the Editor:

Upon learning that Gov. Kathy Hochul had decid-



ed to "allow" state school funding to remain status quo, I sent the following sentiments to my Board of Education as well as lobbyist/membership organizations that advocate for school boards, including the Nassau-Suffolk and New York State school boards associations.

The crime of this state aid funding game is that districts ran around in a frenzy and a state of panic for the past six

weeks, each looking to make changes and cuts, all for nothing! This disturbing yearly exercise of dangling money like a carrot is getting old and tiresome. A new method must be put in place, immediately.

Perhaps it's as simple as educating district boards with the understanding that they can run their budgets like a business. Not only *can* they, they *should*! We are the fiduciary stewards of the taxpayer-

OPINIONS

Before Long Island, we were 't Lange Eylandt

For an area with as much history as Long Island, many of us tend to focus on the big events and names.

The Roosevelts. Washington's spy ring. Billy Joel.

But an important — if overlooked — part of our history is the early Dutch settlement of the area.

Beneath Long Island's modern landscape — with its bustling cities, quaint towns and scenic shores — lies a rich tapestry of history woven by the earliest European settlers. To comprehend the essence of Long Island — and, in many ways, all of New York today — we must understand its past, tracing back to the pivotal era of Dutch colonial settlement.

The roots of much Long Island's identity — its culture, its governance, and even its place names — find their origins in the footsteps of Dutch explorers and settlers who arrived on its shores in the early 17th century.

The Dutch East India Company commissioned Henry Hudson to explore the uncharted waters of the New World in 1609. Hudson's voyage led him to the shores of Long Island, where he navigated the waters of what is now known as the Hudson River.

This encounter marked the dawn of Dutch interest in the region, culminating in the establishment of New Amsterdam on Manhattan Island.

However, it was not until the 1630s that the Dutch began to establish footholds on Long Island itself, with individual families acquiring land and laying the groundwork for settlements such as Southold and Southampton.

The significance of these early Dutch settlements cannot be overstated. They served as the foundation upon which Long Island's communities were built, shaping its social, economic, and political landscape for centuries to come.

The Dutch settlers brought with them not only their language and customs, but also their expertise in agriculture, commerce and governance. Through their toil and perseverance, they transformed the untamed wilderness into thriving villages and towns, leaving an indelible mark on the island's character.

It was also thanks to the Dutch that the first Jewish people arrived in what would become New York. Solomon Pietersen and Jacob Barsimson were the first Dutch Jews to come to America in 1654, followed later that year by 23 Jewish refugees fleeing Portuguese persecution in Brazil.

These early settlers were the nucleus of what became New York state's Jewish

population, which now numbers more than 2 million.

The Dutch presence on Long Island was not without its challenges. The region became a contested territory, with rival claims from both Dutch and English authorities, as well as conflicts with Indigenous tribes.

The struggle for dominance played out in conflicts and negotiations, shaping the boundaries and allegiances of the burgeoning colonies, which still determine the borders between Nassau and Suffolk counties to this day.

Yet, despite these tensions, the Dutch settlers persevered, carving out a distinct identity for themselves within the diverse tapestry of early American society which lasted into the 1800s.

The legacy of the Dutch settlement on Long Island is evident in its place names, its architecture, and its cultural heritage. From the quaint villages of Astoria and Ravenswood, to the bustling streets of Queens Bridge Plaza, traces of Dutch influence are woven into the fabric of everyday life.

Long Island itself was named by the Dutch, who were the first to refer to the landmass as 't Lange Eylandt.

Nassau County was named after the royal house of Nassau — also known as the House of Orange — which continues to rule the Netherlands to this day.

Many of Long Island and New York's

prominent early families trace their genealogy to the early Dutch settlers of New Amsterdam and 't Lange Eylandt. The Roosevelts — originally spelled Rosenvelt — came to New Amsterdam between 1638 and 1649, and would build their fortune through their properties across Long Island and in upstate New York, while the Vanderbilts came to the area in 1650.

To truly understand Long Island's past and present, it is essential to explore the rich history of its Dutch settlers. Their story is not just a chapter in the annals of American history, but a living testament to the enduring legacy of exploration, settlement and adaptation.

As we reflect on the journey of those early pioneers, we gain insight into the forces that have shaped Long Island into the vibrant and dynamic region it is today.

In commemorating the legacy of the Dutch settlement, we honor the resilience and ingenuity of those who laid the foundation for our communities. While not perfect people by any means, theirs is a story of courage, perseverance and collaboration, reminding us of the enduring power of diversity and cooperation in shaping the course of history.

As we look to the future, we need to draw inspiration from the past, embracing the spirit of discovery and exploration that defines the legacy of the Dutch settlement on Long Island.

Will Sheeline is a senior reporter covering Glen Cove, Glen Head, Oyster Bay and Sea Cliff.



WILL SHEELINE

The story of the Dutch settlers is one of courage, perseverance, collaboration.

LETTERS

ers' money. Let's teach boards to be fiscally responsible.

The issue with most administrations, which is no fault of their own, is that they don't earn the money they're in charge of. Our schools are multi-million-dollar businesses, and there's a very different understanding of how to spend money when you're responsible for generating the business and chasing down the receivables. When you're responsible for making payroll, and paying worker's comp, insurance and all other fixed costs each week, you spend differently. When fixed costs rise, they eat into your profits, but in the educational world we just raise everyone's taxes and ask for more. The mindset is vastly different.

The long and short of it is that the entire state just spent six weeks of budget season — the busiest time of year, when we're planning for next year — wasting time, energy, manpower and productivity, only to be told, don't worry, you really do have the money. It is counterproductive, cruel, bad business and a cycle that has

become accepted by all! We succumb to this every year, praising the governor for giving us our money back.

Our leadership at the state level — the education commissioner, Board of Regents members and elected officials on both sides of the aisle — needs to start having hard conversations with the governor's office about their modus operandi. This disaster needs to stop.

Any successful businessperson understands that when an organization is kept in constant crisis mode, it affects every operation. The perma-crisis in which this administration keeps our education system is slowly killing public education. So I'm not thankful that the governor let us "keep" our taxpayers' money. Personally I'm disgusted, and I'm waiting for those who can to advocate for real change.

MARGARET MARCHAND
President,

Locust Valley Board of Education

Founder,

Coalition of New York State School Boards

FRAMEWORK by Nicole Formisano



Anticipating the show in the sky on April 8 — Watertown, New York

CORRECTION

American Community Bank also contributed to the City of Glen Cove Recreation's fundraiser. It was not included in an article in the April 11 edition.

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