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Reading week
at city schools
Page 3

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Free books and ice cream

Antonio Mazilu and Olga Kovacs, the husband-and-wife owners of Scoop N Fruit, celebrated Dr. Seuss's birthday last week with rhymes and sweet treats.



Joanne Yee/Herald

Stella Shank marks 30 years at the Regency

By **ROKSANA AMID**

ramid@iherald.com

On Tuesday, Stella Shank celebrated a remarkable milestone — 30 years at the Regency at Glen Cove, where she is now executive director. Under her leadership, the assisted-living residence has flourished, providing a nurturing environment for seniors to live with dignity and independence.

Shank's path to the Regency began when she was a student at St. Joseph's College, in Patchogue, studying gerontology and on her way to becoming a certified recreational therapist specialist she started working at the Regency three months before she graduated college as the recreation director.

"That was the best job, because I was taking the residents of the city to Montauk and then taking them to see Broadway shows. It really allowed me to understand the population I was working with, and recognize that all they wanted was a little TLC and an

opportunity to be heard."

Shank, 51, was connecting with seniors long before she made it her career. Growing up in a multigenerational Greek household on Long Island, she spent summers in Greece, immersing herself in her grandmother's world.

I have an attitude of happy staff equals happy residents.

STELLA SHANK
Executive director,
Regency

"I always bonded with the seniors. I always wanted to sit at the adult table," she said. "I always wanted to hang out with my grandmother, my yaya. My yaya and my uncle, my feo, lived with us our entire lives, so I was always surrounded by older generations."

After she became the Regency's recreation director in 1995, Shank she took on various roles, including human resources, business office manager and case manager. She took on roles related to marketing, community relations, and, for 12 years, she was the director of special projects, as her previous administrator's right-hand person. For the last three years, she's been the executive

CONTINUED ON PAGE 14

Female trailblazers reflect on their careers in City Hall panel

By **ROKSANA AMID**

ramid@iherald.com

Three women who have shaped unique and influential careers took center stage at Glen Cove City Hall on March 3 for the fifth annual Female Firsts panel, a celebration of Women's History Month. Hosted by City Councilwoman Marsha Silverman, the event featured Melissa Bert, Dawn Riley and Josephine Linden, all of whom shattered barriers in male-dominated fields.

From navigating the seas to leading in finance and law, the women shared their journeys, on which resilience and perseverance led

to success. Their stories highlighted not only personal triumphs, but also the larger strides women have made in a wide range of careers.

Bert, a rear admiral in the U.S. Coast Guard, was the first woman to serve as judge advocate general and chief counsel. There were only 18 women — and 260 men — in her freshman class in the Coast Guard Academy. Today, women account for 40 percent of the academy's enrollment.

Riley made history as the first American — male or female — to compete in four America's Cups and two Whitbread Round the World Races.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 13



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Courtesy office Tom Suozzi

Nearly 10,000 people participated in a tele-town hall with U.S. Rep. Tom Suozzi last Thursday, where he addressed constituent concerns about federal budget cuts, border security, and the increasing political divide in Washington.

Suozzi addresses pressing concerns in town hall

By **ROKSANA AMID**

ramid@lherald.com

Nearly 10,000 people participated in a tele-town hall with U.S. Rep. Tom Suozzi last Thursday, where he addressed constituent concerns about federal budget cuts, border security, and the increasing political divide in Washington. The town hall, which was also livestreamed on Facebook Live, provided an opportunity for residents to hear directly from Suozzi on pressing issues.

“We’re in a very big time of change. It’s the middle of a lot of tumult,” Suozzi said. “I talk to people all the time, I try to find out what people are thinking, and some of my constituents are really just freaked out.”

The congressman acknowledged the politically divided nature of his district, noting that he is one of only 11 Democratic representatives in the country whose constituency also voted for Donald Trump as president. Given this political split, Suozzi said he aims to represent all of his constituents by working toward bipartisan solutions on major issues.

Suozzi identified the cost of living, border security, and budget cuts as the primary concerns of those in his district. He highlighted his focus on finding solutions for the asylum system, securing the southern border, restoring the State and Local Tax deduction, and pushing back against what he described as “reckless” budget cuts. He also noted the importance of delivering federal funds to Long Island and addressing concerns related to the Department of Government Efficiency.

DOGE, a federal agency focused on budget reductions, was one of the most frequently discussed topics during the town hall. Suozzi criticized the department’s cost-cutting measures, which he argued have resulted in the firing of essential federal workers and the defunding of critical research programs, including medical research at Northwell Health’s Feinstein Institute.

“I think the bloom is going to come off the rose on this DOGE stuff,” Suozzi said. “What they’re doing is so callous and irresponsible and people are going to rise up and go to their representatives. And the members of Congress

have to run every two years, so they’re going to listen to their constituents.”

Concerns about the possible elimination of the federal Department of Education were also raised. Suozzi warned that such a move could result in increased property taxes on Long Island, as local schools rely heavily on federal funding. He denounced the proposal to dissolve the department, arguing that it would have severe financial consequences for public schools and students.

Suozzi also addressed broader federal budget cuts, including an \$880 billion reduction to Medicaid and the Affordable Care Act, as well as \$230 billion in cuts to food assistance programs. Multiple callers urged him to take action against these cuts, and he assured them he would continue advocating against the proposed reductions.

Throughout the discussion, Suozzi emphasized the importance of bipartisanship, while acknowledging its challenges. Some callers criticized him for working with Republicans, with one arguing that he does not push back against them strongly enough.

“I’ll fight back when I have to like I’ve been, but I will always look for people to try and find common ground,” Suozzi said. “Now can we do that with everybody? No... But we have to work at trying to get people to work together to actually solve the problems.”

When questioned about his vote to censure Texas Rep. Al Green during a presidential address to Congress, Suozzi explained that he would have made the same decision had a Republican been disruptive to a Democratic president. He pushed back against accusations that he does not challenge Republican policies, citing his vocal opposition to budget cuts and other key issues.

Suozzi concluded the tele-town hall by reiterating the importance of civic engagement and using tools to push back against harmful policies and find solutions.

“We only have three tools at our disposal: legislation, litigation, and mobilization... I’ll keep on trying to do my best in each of those areas to try and keep pushing forward,” Suozzi said. “We’ve got to pick and choose the fights... I think that we have to just keep on pushing and keep on fighting.”

Celebrating 34th PARP literacy week

By ROKSANA AMID

ramid@liherald.com

The Glen Cove City School District's four elementary schools—Deasy, Gribbin, Landing, and Connolly—recently completed their 34th annual Pick-A-Reading-Partner (PARP) Program, a beloved initiative designed to foster a lifelong love of reading. This year's theme, "Reading is My Superpower," encouraged students to embrace the magic of books while participating in engaging literacy-based activities, special guest visits, and community involvement.

Sponsored by the Parent Teacher Association and organized by dedicated school PARP committees, the program featured a Read-a-thon Challenge in which students collectively aimed to read thousands of minutes to earn a special reward. Connolly School, for example, set a goal of 34,000 minutes in one week—a challenge that students met, unlocking the Principal's Obstacle Course Challenge. "Each year, we try to make it a little more exciting and challenging," said Connolly Principal Bryce Klatsky. "It's always a fun week for us because we get to dress up, be a bit sillier, and share our love for reading."

At Connolly School, students were greeted each morning by Principal "Super Captain" Klatsky, who reinforced the message that "Reading Is Our Superpower!" Activities included a superhero dress-up day, a Vocabulary Parade, and an assembly with author and illustrator D. Jude Miller. The Community Readers program was a highlight, with notable local figures—including Mayor Pamela Panzenbeck, city council members, Assemblymember Charles Lavine, and firefighters—visiting classrooms to share stories and discuss the role of reading in their daily lives. "When kids see someone from the fire department, the mayor, or a city council member reading, it shows them that literacy extends beyond school," said Klatsky.

Landing School also hosted a week of literacy-focused excitement. Author D. Jude Miller captivated students with storytelling and character illustrations, while police officers and district administrators participated in read-aloud sessions. Students also participated in the PARP Olympics, where they competed in reading-related challenges.

Deasy School's celebration kicked off with a spirited assembly before students took part in Community Reader Day, where volunteers shared stories in classrooms. Author Claudia Marra introduced students to her book *There's Something About Pizza*, using a universally loved topic to inspire young readers. The Deasy PTA transformed part of the school into Superhero Headquarters, reinforcing the theme. The week wrapped up with an interactive read-aloud session led by reading teachers, with snacks provided by the PTA.

Gribbin School's students were in for a surprise when "Super Reader" Ms. Russo emerged from a giant book-themed box at the PARP Kickoff Assem-



Photos courtesy Glen Cove City School District

The theme this year was "Reading is my Superpower." On the first day of PARP, students and staff dressed up as superheroes.

bly to inspire them. Throughout the week, buddy reading sessions paired students across grade levels, concluding with a superhero dress-up day to reinforce the power of reading.

Each year, the Principal's Challenge serves as a key motivator, changing annually to keep students engaged. "We've done a dunk tank, a drum competition, even singing and dancing," said Klatsky. "This year, it was an obstacle course where students competed against the principals—and, of course, the students won." The challenge featured activities such as tug-of-war, hula hoop contests, and Oreo-stacking.

Beyond the fun, the program has led to tangible improvements in literacy across Glen Cove schools. Klatsky noted that reading scores have risen significantly. "We ran some data recently, and at Connolly School, 65 percent of students are reading at or above benchmark expectations, including English language learners and students with special needs." He attributes this success to both the excitement generated by PARP and instructional improvements. "If kids aren't excited about reading, then we're fighting an uphill battle," he said.

Glen Cove Mayor Pamela Panzenbeck, a former computer science teacher, highlighted the significance of literacy. "If you can read, you can do anything," she said. "Reading is just so important, and one of the nicest highlights of my job is going out to see the students so engaged."

The Pick-A-Reading-Partner Program has been a pillar of literacy education in Glen Cove for more than three decades. "We've seen that students and their families get more excited each year as our events grow," said Klatsky. "We're proud of the culture of literacy we've built in Glen Cove."



Students participated in an obstacle course challenge with Bryce Klatsky.



These students made the welcome signs for author Daniel Jude Miller and painted PARP signs to hand out throughout the school.

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THE GREAT BOOK GURU

Queen's Quandry

Dear Great Book Guru,
I am a great fan of Sea Cliff author Michael Sears and his novels with their colorful New York City and Long Island backdrops. I'm hoping he has a new one in the works or possibly out already? *Mystery Maven.*

Mystery Maven

Dear Mystery Maven,

You are in luck... LOVE THE STRANGER, Michael Sears' latest book is out, and it is another spectacular take on life in New York City, especially the neighborhoods of Queens - from Hollis to Howard Beach to Astoria - "the most ethnically diverse urban area" in the world.

Sears tells the story from the perspective of Ted Molloy, an attorney working to right the wrongs of a society that is brutal and opportunistic. He had been a partner in a high-end Manhattan law firm but his battle with real estate mogul Ronald Reisner brought that to an end.

Reisner is known for his neighborhood destroying developments and his latest is a towering giant in Corona that would uproot a huge swath of immigrant families. Stop the Spike is Molloy and his girl friend Kenzie's attempt to save the neighborhood.

Aided by a collection of colorful employees and friends, the two encounter massive corruption on many levels. The plight of recent immigrants who are being victimized by unscrupulous attorneys is an intriguing subplot. Mohammed - a Yemeni cab driver - Lester - Ted's felon-turned-partner - the Collins Guards - an armed quasi military security force - all add to the richness of the story.

While there is no absence of mystery and violence, it is the character development and political messaging that make this novel stand out. Highly recommended!

Would you like to ask the Great Book Guru for a book suggestion? Contact her at annmdipietro@gmail.com.



**ANN
DIPIETRO**

NEWS BRIEF

Jon Dolecki honored at high school

Glen Cove High School will hold a special ceremony on April 5, at 11:30 a.m., to honor the legacy of longtime baseball coach Jon Dolecki. The event will officially dedicate the field in his name—Jon Dolecki Field—celebrating his significant contributions to the school's baseball program.

Coach Dolecki, known for his dedication to student-athletes, made a lasting impact on the Glen Cove baseball community. Former players, colleagues, and local officials are expected to attend the ceremony to pay tribute to his remarkable career and legacy. Dolecki died on

Feb. 18, at age 77. He suffered a heart attack at Glen Cove Hospital, following a recent battle with pneumonia and early-stage Alzheimer's disease.

The Glen Cove community is invited to join in this special occasion, as the field is renamed in recognition of Coach Dolecki's invaluable role in shaping the school's baseball tradition.

The event will take place at Jon Dolecki Field, Glen Cove High School, 150 Dosoris Lane. For more information, contact (516) 801-7610.

—Roksana Amid

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The Glen Cove Herald USPS 008886, is published every Thursday by Richner Communications, Inc., 2 Endo Blvd. Garden City, NY 11530. Periodicals postage paid at Garden City, NY 11530 and additional mailing offices. Postmaster send address changes to Glen Cove Herald, 2 Endo Blvd. Garden City, NY 11530. **Subscriptions:** \$60 one-time payment within Nassau County or \$76 outside of Nassau County or by qualified request in zip codes 11542, 11545, 11547, 11548 or 11579 **Copyright © 2025** Richner Communications, Inc. All rights reserved.



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March2025A

Leaders and advocates celebrate Sustainability

Local leaders push for greener, cleaner communities

By Kelsie Radziski

Visionaries, advocates and trailblazing leaders gathered at the Heritage Club in Bethpage on Feb. 26 to celebrate groundbreaking innovations and inspire bold action toward a sustainable future. From young students to influential policy-makers to community members making a difference, the Herald Sustainability Awards of Long Island, presented by Reworld, recognized those whose efforts are shaping a cleaner, greener tomorrow.

"It is an honor for us at the Herald and Reworld to showcase the achievements of these leaders," Stuart Richner, president and publisher of Richner Communications Inc. and the Herald, said.

As Azeez Mohammed, CEO of Reworld, emphasized, the commitment to sustainability is not just about progress — it's about making a lasting, positive impact.

"We are honoring those leaders and budding youngsters who demonstrated a commitment to sustainability, and that matters a lot to us," Mohammed said.

"Because with Reworld, our claim to fame is that we are the only company that manages waste in a sustainable manner."

Reworld utilizes "infrastructure, technology and imagination to solve complex waste management challenges and help create a sustainable and more prosperous future for businesses and communities," according to the company's website.

Reworld was represented at the awards ceremony by Maureen Early, lead community relations specialist; Dawn Harmon, director of Long Island market; Adel Omrani, president of the East Region; and Lloyd Naid-eck, director of state government relations along with many other Reworld team members.

"We're delighted to be able to honor all of these sustainability champions here tonight," Early said. "So many of them have done so much in making Long Island a better place to live, work and play."

Two young students were recognized for their sustainability efforts. Joseph Petraro, an 11-year-old who is a freshman at Louisiana State University, founded the Joe's Be Kind Campaign, a nonprofit aimed at promoting positive social change, especially for vulnerable children. The initiative's mission is to foster kindness, inclusivity and connections throughout communities, and to promote positive mental well-being.

"I used to get bullied when I was a lot younger," Joseph said, "and I don't want other people to feel that same way."

He also started other initiatives, including the Clean Wells for Humanity program, which tackles global water scarcity, and the Adopt-a-Grandparent program, which fosters intergenerational bonds and promotes sustainable living practices. Joseph's efforts to bring people together to help the environment made him a Student Champion for Sustainability Award winner.

Desiree Mohammadi, a 12-year-old student at South Woods Middle School, in Syosset, was honored for her initiative Seeds of Hope, which began when she saved the seeds from the vegetables in her family's garden. Seeds of Hope has blossomed into a bigger movement, and Desiree has partnered with Island Harvest to plant seeds every spring at the nonprofit's Healthy Harvest Farm in Brentwood.

"I think it's a human right that people should be able to access fresh fruits and vegetables," she said.

Both student award winners were also presented with \$2,500 to support their education or future sustainability projects.

Other honorees include Don Clavin, Town of Hempstead supervisor, and Rich Schaffer, Town of Babylon supervisor, who received Environmental Leader in Policy awards. They have each made efforts, working with Reworld, to improve sustainability and environmental efforts in their towns.



Tim Baker/Herald

Maureen Early and Dawn Harmon pose with Gerry Compitello, Janina Martinez, Greg Maxilla, Jassi Anand, and Doug Jacob accept award for Babylon Town Supervisor, Rich Schaffer.

"It's a great honor to be recognized by the Herald and by Reworld," Schaffer said. "Reworld has been an excellent partner with the Town of Babylon, and it's probably the main part of our solid waste infrastructure and how we deal with making sure the garbage leaves the curb and is dealt with correctly."

Local community leaders were also recognized for their work. Adrienne Esposito, executive director of Citizens Campaign for the Environment, works to protect natural resources and public health. She and her organization have taken on challenges such as upgrading failing sewage-treatment systems, protecting and filtering drinking and surface water and supporting large-scale renewable-energy projects in the interest of improving the environment.

"We really feel it's our job to make sure Long Island is clean, safe and sustainable for now and in the future," Esposito said.

Gregory Sandor, executive director of Cornell Cooperative Extension of Nassau County, was honored as well, for the strides the organization has made during his 12 years of leadership. The group has earned grant funding for a number of its specialized programs, including renewable energy, sustainable food systems, urban forestry and youth development. Cornell Cooperative is currently working with Reworld to build a Dynamic Learning Center in East Meadow, with the goal of educating the public about sustainability issues.

"We're always looking at sustainability issues and how to be more resilient," Sandor said. "So it's exciting to be a part of that, and be a part of this different group of leaders that are being recognized."

As attendees mingled and celebrated the honorees, vendors offered their donated products, among them Barrier Brewing Co., Garvies Point Craft Brewery, Farm Wines, Borghese Vineyard, Del Vino Vineyards, Loughlin Vineyard and Twisted Cow Distillery.

The Herald Sustainability Awards were a testament to the collective impact when leaders and advocates unite with a shared purpose. The inaugural event showed that commitment to sustainability is about leaving a lasting, positive imprint on the world for generations to come.



Holden Leeds/Herald photos

Joseph Petraro (center) poses with his 2,500 check, joined by Dawn Harmon, Maureen Early, and former NFL player Justin Tuck.



James Wylie, Lorne Brousseau, and Garrett Chelius get recognized for their work with REACH Rotary Club.



Desiree Mohammadi (center) proudly poses with her \$2,500 check, joined by former NY Rangers Mike Richter, Maureen Early and Dawn Harmon.



Reworld CEO Azeez Mohammed gives welcoming remarks.



Lissette Pellegrino, celebrating her award for Environmental Stewardship.



Holden Leeds/Herald photos
Gregory M Sandor, executive director of Cornell Cooperative Extension Nassau County.



Seatuck Environmental Executive Director Enrico Nardone proudly poses with his award.



Michael Fiorentino, Natural Resource Program Director at Cornell Cooperative Extension of Nassau County.



Garrett Chelius receives his award for his work with REACH.



Stony Brook University student Esther Poon with their award.



Thomas Powell accepts an award on Eric Swenson's behalf to recognize his exceptional contributions.



Hempstead Town Supervisor Donald X. Clavin gets his award for establishing the first hydrogen fueling station on Long Island.



Citizens Campaign for the Environment Executive Director Adrienne Esposito.



Jason Thomas/Herald
REACH Rotary Club honoree James Wylie playfully points out the towering height of former NFL star Justin Tuck as they pose together for a photo.



Operation SPLASH president Robert Weltner.



Island Harvest CEO and president Randi Shubin Dresner proudly poses with her award.



Joanne Yee/Herald photos

The Girl Scouts seized the opportunity on the bright and sunny day to sell some cookies.

Scoop N Fruit brings Dr. Seuss to Glen Cove

On March 2, a day of fun, rhyme, and sweet indulgence unfolded at Scoop N Fruit, located at 6 School Street, Glen Cove. The event, inspired by the whimsical world of Dr. Seuss, drew a lively crowd eager to partake in the festivities.

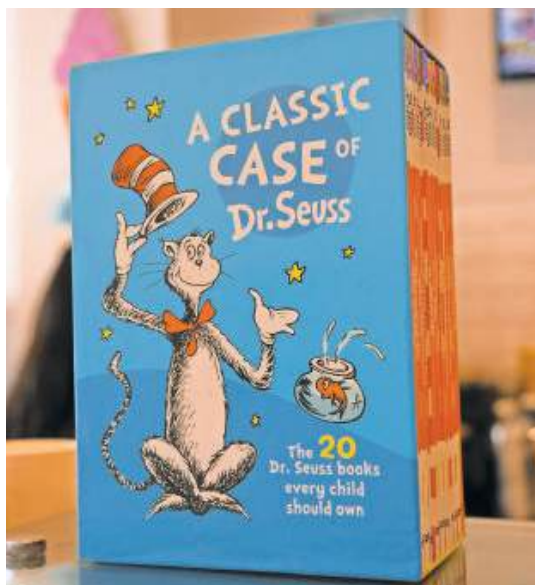
Doors opened at noon, and excitement filled the air as the first 50 customers were gifted a free Dr. Seuss book—a nostalgic treat that brought smiles to both children and adults alike. As guests stepped inside, they were welcomed by the rich aroma of coffee and espresso, energizing the atmosphere and setting the stage for a delightful experience.

Throughout the day, visitors indulged in Real Fruit Ice Cream. The scent of waffles and crepes filled the space, tempting guests with toppings ranging from fresh fruit to drizzles of decadent chocolate. Meanwhile, Dubai Chocolates and chocolate-covered strawberries provided an added layer of indulgence, making each bite an irresistible treat.

—Roksana Amid



Evangline Lang, 7, and Charlotte Fang, 7, were excited to receive their books by Dr. Seuss.



Excitement filled the air as the first 50 customers were gifted a free Dr. Seuss book.



Emma, 8, and Sonja Longobucco wore festive gear celebrating the birthday of Dr. Seuss.



Charlotte Fang, 7, enjoyed a flavorful vanilla ice cream cone.

HERALD

March 13, 2025



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Grace Merrell Slezak, B. A., M. A. - Licensed Real Estate Broker, President & Founder

Long Island, New York and the Greater New York Metropolitan Area - Prominently featured in The Inner Circle, Grace Merrell Slezak is acknowledged as a Pinnacle Professional Member Inner Circle of Excellence for her contributions to Real Estate. Grace, a distinguished real estate professional with over 30 years of experience, founded Destiny International Realty with a firmly established commitment to providing unparalleled integrity, outstanding service, superior knowledge, expertise and unwavering dedication to her clients.

Destiny International Realty offers an extensive range of services, ensuring that each client receives the utmost care, expert guidance, and proven resources necessary for a seamless transaction. With her deep-rooted commitment to providing superb, outstanding service, Grace has transformed the regional real estate market, specializing in high-end luxury residential and commercial transactions, acreage, homes, condos, estates, waterfront, seniors, first-time homebuyers, subdivisions, new construction, life changes, upsizing and downsizing, relocating, probate, and investment properties.

Having built her career from a licensed associate broker, Grace has become known for her unwavering dedication to her clients and her unparalleled expertise. Her journey from listing and selling properties on Long Island to leading a prominent brokerage firm has been marked by exceptional service, profound industry knowledge, and a unique ability to foster relationships with sellers, buyers, developers, architects, attorneys, mortgage lenders, and other key stakeholders with warmth and interpersonal communication skills.

Grace has been recognized for her industry excellence with awards and memberships that include an A+ accredited rating with the Better Business Bureau, recognition in Who's Who Among Business and Professional Leaders, National Association of Professional Women, Chairman of the Board of Assessment Review, New York State Assessors Association, Certifications as a Professional Real Estate Negotiator, Senior Specialist, Marketing Specialist, and Certified Power Agent. Reflecting on her career, Grace shared, "I am incredibly honored to have been selected as the real estate broker for a royal family, an experience that included coordinating logistics with the United States Secret Service, arranging flight and landing coordinates for our helicopters with local police support and managing a fleet of limousines for the family's visits. It was a privilege to bring my expertise to such a unique situation, ensuring privacy, security, and a flawless experience."

Beyond high-profile assignments, Grace has built a reputation of trust and success with her clients, many of whom she has guided through multiple successful transactions. Her clients repeatedly praise her integrity, strategic insight, and dedication leading to a strong referral network that has been foundational to the continued growth of Destiny International Realty.

Grace remains committed to upholding the values that define her success: service, integrity, knowledge, and professionalism. Future goals include expanding the firm's impact in the regional market guided by a thorough analysis of industry trends and economic factors, both local and national. "Our mission is to continue delivering exceptional experiences and results, meeting each client's unique needs with the highest standards," Grace added.

**Destiny International Realty is a premier residential and commercial real estate brokerage.
Founded by Grace Merrell Slezak, Destiny International Realty is dedicated to excellence, serving clients with
unmatched knowledge, integrity, kindness, and professionalism.**

FOR ALL YOUR REAL ESTATE NEEDS, Contact
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JOE SINNONA: Transforming Real Estate with Global Reach

With 36 years of experience in the real estate industry, Joe Sinnona has built a career that extends far beyond Long Beach. As an associate broker/team leader with eXp Realty, he leads NorthStar, a team serving Suffolk and Nassau counties, Queens, and Brooklyn, while managing 680 branches across Canada, Brazil, India, South Africa, and Australia, with Milan, Italy coming soon.

the guy who poured value into the business, who made it better for my clients and our communities," says Sinnona. He adds, "Real estate isn't just about the process of buying or selling, its about guiding people to their NorthStar." His expertise and dedication continue to shape the future of real estate, both locally and globally.

Last year he pulled in \$45 million in volume and thanks to his personalized relocation services he is able to connect clients to trusted agents worldwide. "I want to be known as



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As real estate professionals, one of the most rewarding aspects is helping individuals and families navigate their personal and financial transitions. Whether working with first-time homebuyers, assisting seniors in downsizing, or identifying the ideal opportunities for investors, our approach has always been centered on building meaningful, long-lasting relationships.

We are proud to be recognized as members of the top 7% of real estate professionals in network and recipients of the prestigious President's Circle award. With years of experience specializing in the luxury real estate market, we have had the privilege of guiding clients through buying, selling, and investing in extraordinary properties.

We believe in a client-first approach. Whether you are searching for your dream home, exploring investment opportunities, or transitioning to a new area, we offer the expertise, resources, and industry connections to make it happen. Our extensive knowledge of the market, combined with strong relationships with key professionals, enables us to deliver fast, efficient results.

Our goal is to make your real estate journey as smooth and stress-free as possible. If you're ready to make a move, or if you're simply exploring your options, we are here to help. Together, we can turn your real estate goals into reality.

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A sampling of our recent sold properties

- | | | |
|--|--------------------------------------|--|
| 1013 Seawane Drive, Hewlett Harbor \$2,175,000 | 7 Davison Ave, E Rockaway \$727,500 | 100 Baker Ct #15, Island Park \$525,000 |
| 136 Flamingo St, Atlantic Beach \$1,270,000 | 369 Frankel Blvd., Merrick \$700,000 | 37 Edwin Court, East Rockaway \$499,200 |
| 1415 Kew Ave, Hewlett \$1,175,000 | 131 Midgely Dr, Hewlett \$658,000 | 553 Central Ave #16B, Cedarhurst \$355,000 |
| 41 Erick Ave, Hewlett \$903,000 | 154 Laurel Lane, Wantagh \$608,000 | 1390 Broadway #217, Hewlett \$324,000 |
| 1051 Adrienne Drive, N. Bellmore \$812,000 | 41 Balsam Court, Wantagh \$570,000 | 545 Central Ave #37A, Cedarhurst \$315,000 |
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Photo courtesy Peter M. Budraitis photography

Marsha Silverman, far left, Josephine Linden, Dawn Riley and Melissa Bert took part in a special Women's History Month panel discussion at City Hall.

Women who blazed trails reflect on their success

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

She also became the first woman to manage an America's Cup syndicate, and now leads Oakcliff Sailing in Oyster Bay.

Linden was Goldman Sachs' first female partner in private wealth management. Originally from Australia, she earned an MBA and took her only job offer at Goldman Sachs, where she rose to the top.

■ **Silverman:** Who are some of the mentors that have helped you through your career?

Linden: One of the pieces of advice I give so many people is you can't just have one mentor in life. You need to have what I call a board of directors, because different people at different times will come into it. All throughout my life, I've had wonderful mentors in business as well as personal.

Attach yourself to different kinds of people. To me, a mentor is somebody I can talk to about whatever it is. What's my trouble? What's my issue? And so I try to turn the tables and also be a mentor to other people.

■ **Silverman:** What's something you know now that you wish you had known before you started your career?

Riley: My advice is much more practical. One, you have power. If you see something's not right, you have the power to stand up for yourself and speak. And then on the boring side, keep learning. Never, never, never stop learning. I didn't think I needed a second language, and then I was the general man-

ager of a French team. So I did a crash course in French so I knew what the little Frenchies were talking about.

I didn't understand a balance sheet, because I'm from, 'You spend more than you bring in — it's not balanced.' So for me, that was crazy. And then, during Covid, I became our accountant for Oakcliff Sailing in Oyster Bay, which is about a \$1.8 million-a-year foundation.

So I'm like, 'OK, now I need to keep learning accounting.' So you have power, and never, ever, ever stop learning."

One of the pieces of advice I give so many people is you can't just have one mentor in life.

JOSEPHINE LINDEN
Partner and managing director,
Goldman Sachs

■ **Silverman:** When encountering an obstacle, what are some of the tools you've utilized to accomplish your goals?

Bert: So, there are all different kinds of obstacles. For me, unusually, the things that were scary to me in the beginning involved nautical stuff because I felt like I never knew what I was doing. I hate to say it. But I remember even far back in the academy, we had to take this diving class. We all had to do a backflip off the diving board to get through the class ... And it wasn't about the dive. It was about that you just do things, and you have to just do them.

And I think in a lot of other situations that are much more meaningful over the years, I've watched other people, and realized who I want to be. One of the things that I learned more recently, from one of the junior lawyers who worked for me, is that all these times that we think everybody's watching us, actually, most people are worried about themselves. So don't get too nervous about stuff. I think that's one of the things that I've learned along the way.

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20 Small Businesses in Nassau County and 20 Small Businesses in Suffolk County will be selected to receive a \$5,000 grant. 1 Small Business in Nassau and 1 Small Business in Suffolk will each be selected to receive a \$25,000 grant. 2024 recipients are excluded to participate in the \$5,000 grant application, however, are eligible to apply for the \$25,000 grant. All applications must be received no later than 11:59 p.m. Eastern Time on March 28, 2025. The Administrator may choose to change or extend the deadline in its sole discretion. Applicants who are selected to receive a LOCAL Small Business Grant will be subject to a background check prior to receiving the grant funds and will be asked to consent to same and submit all required information at an appropriate time. All trademarks and service marks are the property of their respective owner. © 2025 CSC Holdings, LLC. Altice USA is located at 1 Court Square West Long Island City, NY, 11101, US.

'This is my life's work, for sure,' Shank says

March 13, 2025 — GLEN COVE HERALD

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1
director.

In that role, she has more than doubled the Regency's residential population and its workforce, to 125 residents and nearly 100 employees.

"I have an attitude of happy staff equals happy residents," Shank said, "and that's been the key to our success."

Her sister, Erica Ferrara, has worked alongside Shank for 24 years as the facility's memory care director.

"We live and breathe the Regency — we always say that," Ferrara said. "On our way into work, we call each other and talk about the Regency. On the way home, we call each other and talk about the Regency. It's all good things, or things we can improve."

Shank's professional journey has been deeply personal as well. She got engaged while working at the Regency, and when she married, 50 residents attended her wedding. "I had corsages made for them," she recalled. "It was such a full-circle moment. Now my two little kids that the Regency threw me baby showers for are both in college — one in grad school and one as a sophomore."

Shank credits her husband, Peter, for being by her side, and supporting her along the way. "I probably couldn't do



Roksana Amid/Herald

For sisters Erica Ferrara and Stella Shank, caring for seniors is a part of their lives they cherish.

my job without my husband," she said. "He takes care of everything for me at home. He sends me and my sister lunch every day, he makes dinner — and he works full-time. I wouldn't be able to

maintain my household and have this job without him."

Leading the Regency is more than just a job for Shank — it's a calling. "I adore my residents and I adore my

staff," Shank said "I couldn't do it without them. This is my life's work, for sure. I look forward to coming to work every day, and that's not such an easy thing for most people to say after 30 years."

Her leadership philosophy is rooted in empathy and experience. "I think I learned life lessons from my residents, enjoying being in the moment, not always winning, which I've now applied to working with seniors with memory issues," she said. "You have to go with the motions of life and try not to fight it."

Ferrara praised her sister's hands-on approach, saying she has a "motherly" take on most situations. "She doesn't just sit behind the desk and be an administrator. She listens, she learns, and she applies what she knows to make this place better."

Shank isn't just for the residents, she also is a means of support for her staff. It's also for the staff. With a strong team, a clear vision, and a lifelong passion for senior care, Shank has built a career that has transformed lives. "Every day, I wake up knowing there's going to be an issue — big or small — but it's how I cope with it that sets the direction for the team," she said. "And at the end of the day, I love what I do. That's what matters most."

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Ettinger Law Firm Named Top Elder Law Firm 2025

Elder Care Review, circulated to thousands of professionals in the elder care industry, has named Ettinger Law Firm as its Top Elder Law Firm 2025. Here are excerpts from the full article, which can be found at: eldercarereview.com/ettinger-law-firm.

For over four decades, Ettinger Law Firm has been transforming the way legal services are provided to older adults. Led by attorney Michael Ettinger, the firm safeguards seniors' rights and well-being through the pioneering concept of "elder law estate planning". This distinctive approach integrates elder law and estate planning into a cohesive strategy that protects assets and ensures long-term care, financial security and peace of mind for older adults and their families.

The firm's hallmark is its tailored legal solutions that focus on the social side of estate planning. It goes beyond legally protecting clients to assuring they understand the social and emotional repercussions these plans can have on their heirs. "When you get into estate planning, how you leave the estate can either bring the

family together or tear it apart," says Ettinger. He emphasizes an approach designed to prevent conflicts between heirs and create a legacy beyond financial distributions.

Typically, estate planning is a legal exercise that consists of drafting wills, creating trusts and distributing assets. This narrow focus on legalities overlooks the ripple effects estate plans can create within families. For instance, leaving unequal shares of an estate without explanation can lead to resentment among heirs. "The law should serve the social, not the other way around", says attorney Ettinger. Ettinger Law treats estate planning as a social exercise, viewing it from the perspective of the heirs, those who will live with the consequences of these decisions, to preserve family harmony.

Its distinctive approach stands on the foundation of its "Lifetime Estate Planning Process." The process starts with building confidence and aligns with the firm's philosophy: "If you don't understand the plan, you don't have a plan."

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STEPPING OUT



Classic Irish Soda Bread



Irish Soda Bread Muffins



Corned Beef and Cabbage Soup

Spring ahead with a bit o' green

Savor the delights of St. Patrick's Day

By Karen Bloom

We're thinking spring with all its colors and delights. Surely there's no better way to welcome the season than with the festive spirit of St. Patrick's Day. The holiday offers more than just a reason to wear green — it's an invitation to indulge in delicious Irish dishes and enjoy lively parades. From the savory comfort of corned beef and cabbage to the aroma of freshly baked soda bread, this is the perfect time to bring a little Irish charm into your home in good taste.

Surely you'll want to partake in those most quintessential Irish foods. Let's start with Irish Soda Bread, the tasty quick bread that everyone enjoys and is quite easy to make. It gets its name from the baking soda used as a leavener, instead of yeast. From traditional to a modern twist — including a muffin version — there's a recipe you'll want to make part of your repertoire.

Classic Irish Soda Bread

- 3 cups pastry flour blend or unbleached all-purpose flour
- 1 tablespoon baking powder
- 1/4 teaspoon baking soda
- 3/4 teaspoon salt
- Heaping 1/2 cup granulated sugar
- 1 cup currants or raisins
- 1 tablespoon caraway seeds, optional
- 1 large egg
- 1 3/4 cups buttermilk
- 4 tablespoons butter, melted

Topping:

- 1 tablespoon milk
- 1 tablespoon coarse white sparkling sugar

Preheat the oven to 375°F. Lightly grease a 9x5 loaf pan.

In a large bowl, whisk together the pastry blend or flour, baking powder, baking soda, salt, sugar, currants, and caraway seeds.

In a separate bowl, or in a measuring cup, whisk together the egg and buttermilk (or milk and yogurt).

Quickly and gently stir the wet ingredients into the dry ingredients.

Stir in the melted butter.

Spoon the batter into the prepared pan. Draw your finger around the edge of the pan to create a "moat." Drizzle the bread with the 1 tablespoon of milk; the moat will help prevent the milk from running down the sides of the loaf. Sprinkle with the coarse sugar.

Bake the bread for 50 minutes to 1 hour, or until a cake tester inserted into the center comes out clean; the interior of the bread will measure 200°F to 210° on an instant-read thermometer.

Remove the bread from the oven, loosen its edges, and after 5 minutes turn it out onto a rack to cool. Cool completely before slicing. Wrap airtight and store at room temperature.

Serve with hot tea and organic jam, Irish stew, traditional Irish cabbage dishes, or enjoy on its own!

Irish Soda Bread Muffins

- 1 1/2 cups unbleached all-purpose flour
- 3/4 cup white whole wheat flour
- 2 teaspoons baking powder

- 1/4 teaspoon baking soda
- 1/2 teaspoon salt
- 1/3 cup granulated sugar
- 1 1/2 cups currants (first choice) or raisins
- 1/2 to 2 teaspoons caraway seeds, to taste
- 1 large egg
- 1 cup buttermilk, yogurt, or sour cream
- 6 tablespoons butter, melted; or 1/3 cup vegetable oil
- sparkling white sugar, for topping

Preheat the oven to 400° F. Lightly grease a standard muffin pan; or line with papers, and grease the papers.

In a medium-sized mixing bowl, whisk together the flours, baking powder, baking soda, salt, sugar, currants or raisins, and caraway seeds.

In a separate bowl, whisk together the egg, buttermilk (or equivalent) and melted butter (or equivalent).

Quickly and gently combine the dry and wet ingredients; honestly, this won't take more than a few stirs with a bowl scraper or large spoon. As soon as everything is evenly moistened, quit; further stirring will cause the muffins to be tough.

Spoon the batter into the prepared pan, filling the cups about 3/4 full; the stiff batter will look mounded in the cups. Top with sparkling white sugar, if desired.

Bake the muffins for 20 minutes, until a cake tester inserted into the center of a muffin comes out clean. Remove them from the oven. Tip the muffins in the pan, so their bottoms don't get soggy. Wait five minutes, then transfer the muffins to a rack to cool. Serve them plain, or with butter and/or jam.

Corned Beef and Cabbage Soup

All the familiar flavors of corned beef and cabbage are loaded into this hearty soup, which is rich with barley for extra warmth and comfort.

- 1 tablespoon oil
- 1 onion, diced
- 2 carrots, diced
- 2 stalks celery, diced
- 3 cloves garlic, chopped
- 4 cups chicken broth (or beef broth or ham broth)
- 1 pound raw corned beef in pickling juices, diced
- 2 potatoes, peeled and diced
- 2 cups cabbage, shredded
- Salt and pepper to taste
- 1/2 cup barley, optional

Heat the oil in a large sauce pan over medium-high heat, add the onions, carrots and celery and cook until tender, about 3-5 minutes, before adding the garlic and cooking until fragrant, about a minute.

Add the broth, corned beef, potatoes and cabbage, bring to a boil, reduce the heat and simmer until the beef is tender, about 1-2 hours.

If using a slow cooker, optionally implement Step 1 before throwing everything into the slow cooker and cooking on low for 8-10 hours or on high for 2-4 hours.

Options: Replace the potatoes with celeriac or cauliflower or add 1/2 cup barley.



Anthony Rodia

Anthony Rodia is back with his "Laugh Til It Hurts" tour, on the Paramount stage. His all-new routine is refreshingly quick witted! A first-generation Italian-American from Westchester, Rodia's comedy pulls from his razor-sharp observations on marriage, parenthood, road rage, and everything else worthy of a rant. He came out of the womb making people laugh. In his 20s he tried a few open mics, but ultimately took a different career path with a luxury car dealership. In 2019, Rodia left his day job for comedy full-time. He hit the ground running and within three years gained a massive fan base around the country. In a short time, Anthony gained over 900,000 social media followers. With the onset of quarantine, Anthony made the most of a captive audience, delivering a staggering 86 weekly videos. "Road Rage Wednesday" became a fan favorite.

Friday, March 14, 7:30 and 10 p.m.; also Saturday, March 15, 7 and 9:30 p.m. \$89.50, \$79.50, \$69.50, \$59.50, \$49.50. The Paramount, 370 New York Ave., Huntington. Tickets available at [ticketmaster.com](https://www.ticketmaster.com) or [paramountny.com](https://www.paramountny.com).



The Joni Project

The Joni Project visits the Tilles Center stage to celebrate the iconic Joni Mitchell. The musically sophisticated band is fronted by Long Island's remarkable multi-instrumentalist and singer Katie Pearlman, who impressively plays Joni's songs in their original open guitar tunings, and also includes jazz and jam band mainstays Dave Berg (guitar), Dan Ehrlich (bass), Alan Lerner (drums), Mark Mancini (keyboards), Steve Finklestein (percussion), Premik Russell Tubbs (saxophone and flute) and Victoria Faiella (backing vocals). Together, they bring fresh interpretation to Joni's legendary tunes from their many eras and genres. Pearlman faithfully performs in true Joni style, her tunings remain as fresh today as they were when first performed.

Thursday, March 20, 7:30 p.m. LIU Post campus, 720 Northern Blvd., Brookville. Tickets available at [tillescenter.org](https://www.tillescenter.org) or (516) 299-3100.

THE SCENE

March 27

Complexions Contemporary Ballet

Complexions Contemporary Ballet versatility is on full display at Tilles Center, Thursday, **March**

27, 8 p.m. Complexions awakens audiences to a new, exciting genre with their singular approach of reinventing dance and contemporary ballet. Celebrating its 30th anniversary this season, armed with a rich Alvin Ailey lineage and a cadre of 16 stunning dancers, Complexions has been hailed as a "matchless American dance company" by the Philadelphia Inquirer and "game changing" by London's The Guardian. Complexions once again blends the world of rock and ballet, this time with the electrifying sounds of U2. The evening's program includes a new work by Complexions co-founder and choreographer, Dwight Rhoden, entitled "For Crying Out Loud."

Using the raw and unfiltered music of U2's latest release, "Songs of Surrender," Rhoden brings the vibrancy of the stories told by music and lyrics into the landscape of expression — drawing on the grit and honesty of these iconic songs stripped down to their acoustic best. The performance is both moving and uplifting, leaving the audience with a sense of hope for what's to come. The first half of the performance showcases a diverse mixed repertory program from Complexions' rich 30-year history, featuring ballets such as This Time, With Feeling (2024), Deeply (2024), Ave Maria (1995), Gone (2000), and Mercy (2009). The second act of the evening will be entirely dedicated to "For Crying Out Loud," which features the full company of 17 dancers performing to some of U2's most iconic hits. This eclectic mix of works highlights the versatility and innovation of Complexions' artistic vision. Tickets start at \$35; available at tillescenter.org or (516) 299-3100. LIU Post campus, 720 Northern Boulevard, Brookville.



Coach Jon Dolecki honored

Glen Cove High School host a Field Dedication Ceremony to honor the legacy of longtime baseball coach Jon Dolecki, Saturday, **April 5**, 11:30 a.m. It celebrates Coach Dolecki's contributions to Glen Cove baseball and the field is officially named in his honor. The Glen Cove community is invited to attend this special dedication ceremony, recognizing Coach Dolecki's impact on student-athletes and the school's baseball program.

Former players, colleagues, and local officials are expected to be in attendance to pay tribute to his lasting legacy. Jon Dolecki Field, Glen Cove High School, 150 Dosoris Lane. For more, contact the High School at (516) 801-7610.

History of Antisemitism

Holocaust Memorial and Tolerance Center of Nassau County, in partnership with the Institute for Curriculum Services, hosts a workshop on teaching the history of European Antisemitism, Tuesday, **March 18**, 4-5:15 p.m. Led by educator Liz Burns Taormina, the session will examine the origins of antisemitism, its historical development over 2,000 years, and its modern manifestations. Workshop is designed for middle and high school ELA and social studies teachers, but all interested are welcome to attend. 100 Crescent Beach Road, Glen Cove.

Glen Cove St. Patrick's Day Parade

Join the Glen Cove community in celebrating Irish heritage at the 2025 St. Patrick's Day Parade, led by Grand Marshal Joe McDonald, Sunday, **March 23**. Enjoy a festive procession featuring marching bands, local organizations, and traditional Irish performances as the parade moves through downtown Glen Cove.

It starts at 1 p.m. and forms up at Finley Middle School between Forest Avenue, north of Dosoris Lane and continues along Glen Street, ending at Glen Street and Pearsall Avenue. Parking is available at Glen Cove's downtown municipal parking garages. A shuttle bus will circulate between parking areas, the parade formation zone, and spectator areas for convenience.

AARP Tax Assistance

Free tax help is provided by AARP trained volunteers, at Glen Cove Public Library, Wednesdays, **through April 9**. Be sure to bring your tax package, W-2 forms, your real estate property tax bill, a copy of your 2023 tax return and any other information that might be helpful in correctly filing your tax return. Both spouses must be present for married couples filing joint tax returns. Call the Library's Information Desk at (516) 676-2130, or stop by the Information Desk, to schedule your appointment. 4 Glen Cove Ave.

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'Palette of Petals' at Planting Fields

Visit Planting Fields Arboretum for a delightful stroll among the early bloomers, as part of its First Fridays series, Friday, **April 4**, 1-2 p.m. Experience the enchanting spring colors at the Margaret Sullivan Heather Garden. Director of Horticulture Donna Moramarco guides visitors through the remarkable collection of azaleas, cherry blossom trees, magnolias, camellias, and more as you stroll the grounds to the recently restored garden.

Discover the rich history of this stunning space, learn about the Coe family's dedication to flowers, and delve into the vision that the Olmsted Brothers had for the site. \$20. Registration required. 1395 Planting Fields Road, Oyster Bay. Visit plantingfields.org or call (516) 922-9210 to register and for information.

Library Walking Club

Participate in Glen Cove Public Library's at-your-own-pace hour walk, every Thursday, at 9:15 a.m. All fitness levels are welcome. 4 Glen Cove Ave., Glen Cove. Register at glencovelibrary.org or call (516) 676-2130 for more information.

Family theater

Long Island Children's Museum welcomes families to its stage, Friday, **March 14**, 10:15 a.m. and noon; Sunday, **March 16**, 2 p.m.; also Wednesday and Thursday, **March 19-20**, 10:15 a.m. and noon. It is 3017 in this futuristic, musical retelling of "Cinderella." She's now a space engineer looking to revolutionize space travel. When the Prince holds a parade, Cinderella saves the day.

But first, she'll have to keep her evil stepmother from throwing a wrench in her plans! \$11 with museum admission (\$9 members), \$15 theater only. Museum Row, Garden City. (516) 224-5800 or licm.org.



Art explorations

Converse, collaborate and create at Family Saturday, **March 15**, noon-3 p.m., at Nassau County Museum of Art's Manes Education Center. The drop-in program continues, Saturdays, noon-3 p.m. Get inspired by the art and objects in the galleries and then join educators to explore and discover different materials to create original artwork.

Kids and their adult partners connect while talking about and making art together. A new project is featured every week. While there, enjoy reading and play in the Reading Room, and contribute to The Lobby Project, a collaborative art installation. \$20 adult, \$10 child. Registration required. 1 Museum Dr., Roslyn Harbor. Visit NassauMuseum.org for more information and to register or call (516) 484-9337.

On Exhibit

Nassau County Museum of Art's latest exhibition, the original "Deco at 100" coincides with the 100th anniversary of the 1925 Paris International Exhibition of Modern Decorative and Industrial Arts (Exposition internationale des arts décoratifs et industriels modernes) which publicly launched the movement. The direct follow-up to the well-received 2023 exhibit, "Our Gilded Age," it comparably links the period's signature innovation in the decorative arts, Art Deco, to the fine arts. The exhibit encompasses significant cultural advancements during Long Island's Roaring Twenties/Jazz Age movement, including votes, jobs, and the automobile for women, the beginnings of suburbia with commutation for work, and planned residential communities, which all defined the era, while the following decade brought economic reversals and the WPA program. Works by Louis Comfort Tiffany, Fernand Léger, Guy Pène du Bois, Gaston Lachaise, Elie Nadelman, and Reginald Marsh, among others, along with art deco stylists of poster art and graphics, and photography will convey the Art Deco spirit along with its furniture, decorative arts, and fashion.

Like "Our Gilded Age," the social scene of Long Island's Gold Coast, and its personalities — both upstairs and downstairs — will be portrayed, along with the ongoing relationship with the immediate urban context of New York with its skyscrapers and deco-styled architecture. On view through June 15. Nassau County Museum of Art, 1 Museum Dr., Roslyn Harbor. (516) 484-9337 or NassauMuseum.org.



Knitting/Crochet Club

Meet up with other knitters or crocheters, at Glen Cove Public Library, Fridays, 10 a.m.-noon. Whether you're new to knitting or you've been doing it for years, it's always more fun with friends! Start a new project or bring a current one. Participants should bring their own needles and yarn. 4 Glen Cove Ave., Glen Cove. For more information call (516) 676-2130.



Hempstead House tour

Sands Point Preserve is the backdrop to explore the elegant Gold Coast home that's the centerpiece of the estate, Sunday, **March 16**, noon-1 p.m. and 2-3 p.m. Visit the grand rooms inside the massive 50,000-square-foot Tudor-style mansion, the former summer residence of Gilded Age financier Howard Gould and later Daniel and Florence Guggenheim. Tours are limited in size and tend to sell out. Arrive early to purchase tickets. \$10. Sands Point Preserve, 127 Middle Neck Road. For information, visit SandsPointPreserve-Conservancy.org or call (516) 571-7901.

Having an event?

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

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PUBLIC NOTICES

LEGAL NOTICE
AVISO LEGAL
AVISO DE UNA REUNION ESPECIAL DE LA BIBLIOTECA DEL DISTRITO EL 25 DE MARZO 2025, DE LA BIBLIOTECA PUBLICA DE GLEN COVE PARA VOTAR EN EL PRESUPUESTO DE LA BIBLIOTECA PUBLICA Y PARA ELEGIR A UN JUNTA DE FIDEICOMISARIO DE LA BIBLIOTECA
POR MEDIO DEL PRESENTE SE NOTIFICA que se llevara a cabo una reunion especial de los votantes calificados de la Biblioteca Publica de Glen Cove en conformidad con lo dispuesto en la Seccion 260 y 270 de la Ley de Educacion de Estado de Nueva York, en dicho Distrito el 22 de Abril 2025 entra las 9am y las 9pm Dicha reunion sera de ayunda para los siguientes fines:
Para votar sobre las siguientes posiciones: SE HA RESUELTO que el presupuesto propuesto de la Biblioteca Publica de Glen Cove, Distrito Escolar de la Ciudad de Glen Cove segun lo preparado por los Fideicomisarios de dicha Biblioteca publica para el ano 2025/2026, y segun se haya modificado, se apruebe por la presente; y que la cantidad de los mismos, menos los recibos, se aumenta mediante la recaudacion de un impuesto sobre bienes inmuebles gravables en dicho Distrito Escolar.
Con el fin de elegir; un (1) Fideicomisario de la Biblioteca Publica de Glen Cove por un (5) mandato de cinco años.
La votacion sobre los asuntos mencionados se emitira mediante urnas.
POR FAVOR, TOME NOTA que la junta de la Biblioteca, en conformidad con lo dispuesto en la Seccion 260 y 270 de la Ley de Educacion, convoca dicha reunion Especial de Distrito.
SE DA AVISO ADICIONAL, que las peticiones que nominan al candidato para el cargo de administrador de la Biblioteca Publica de Glen Cove deben presentarse al secretario entre las horas de 9am y las 9pm., a mas tardar el 24 de marzo de 2025, el trigésimo día anterior a la eleccion, momento en el cual sera elegido el candidato asi

nominado. Cada peticion de nominacion debe dirigirse al Secretario del Distrito, debe estar firmada por al menos veinticinco (25) votantes calificados del Distrito, debe ondicar la residencia de cada firmante y debe indicar el nombre y la residencia del candidato.
Los formularios de muestra las peticiones se pueden obtener del Secretario de Distrito en la Biblioteca Publica de Glen Cove, 4 Glen Cove Ave., Glen Cove, Nueva York
SE DA AVISO ADICIONAL, que una copia de los gastos estimados propuestos para ser votados estara disponible en la Biblioteca Publica de Glen Cove, 4 Glen Cove Ave., Glen Cove, Nueva York, entra las 9am y 5pm todos los dias, excepto los sabados, domingos o festivos durante los catorce dias anteriores a dicha reunion.
SE DA AVISO ADICIONAL, que la Junta de la Biblioteca Publica de Glen Cove realizara una audiencia especial sobre el presupuesto el 18 de Marzo 2025 en la Biblioteca Publica de Glen Cove, 4 Glen Cove Ave., Glen Cove, Nueva York. a las 7pm
SE DA AVISO ADICIONAL, que los votantes calificados del Distrito pueden inscribirse entre las 9am y 4 pm. La fecha final para inscribirse en la reunion que se celebrara el 18 de marzo es el 5 de marzo. Si un votante ha votado en alguna eleccion en los ultimos 4 años (2020) o si es elegible para votar conforme al Articulo 5 de la Ley Electoral, el o ella es elegible para votar en este eleccion. Todos las demas personas que deseen votar registrarse. La lista de registro preparada por la Junta de Elecciones de Condado de Nassau se Archivarán en la oficina del secretario de Distrito de la Biblioteca Publica de Glen Cove, 4 Glen Cove Ave., Glen Cove, Nueva York, y estara abierta a inpeccion por cualquier votante calificado Del Distrito entre las horas de 9am y 4pm hora vigente cualquier dia despues del martes 18 de Marzo de 2025 y cada uno de los dias anteriores a la fecha establecidos para la Eleccion de la

Biblioteca y la Votacion de Presupuesto, excepto los sabados, domingos o dias festivos, incluida la fecha establecida para la reunion.
BOLETAS AUSENTES POR FAVOR, TOME NOTA, que las solicitudes de boletas de votacion en ausencia. Para la Eleccion de la Biblioteca y la Votacion de Presupuesto se puede solicitar en las oficinas del Secretario del Distrito, de la Biblioteca Publica de Glen Cove, 4 Glen Cove Ave., Glen Cove, Nueva York. Tales solicitudes deben recibirse al menos (7) siete dias antes de las elecciones si se va a enviar la boleta al votante. Ninguna boleta de votante ausente sera votada a menos que haya sido recibida en la oficina de Secretario de Distrito, en la Biblioteca Publica de Glen Cove, 4 Glen Cove Ave., Glen Cove, Nueva York a mas tardar a las 5:00 pm hora del dia, en el fecha de la eleccion.
Gina Rant
Oficinista
152046

PUBLIC & LEGAL NOTICES
To place a notice here call us at 516-569-4000 x232 or send an email to: legalnotices@lherald.com

LEGAL NOTICE
NOTICE OF SPECIAL LIBRARY DISTRICT MEETING ON APRIL 22, 2025 OF GLEN COVE PUBLIC LIBRARY TO VOTE ON THE PUBLIC LIBRARY BUDGET AND ELECT ONE TRUSTEE OF THE GLEN COVE PUBLIC LIBRARY
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that a Special meeting of the qualified voters of the Glen Cove Public Library will be held pursuant to the provisions of Section 260 and 2007 of the Education Law of the State of New York at the Glen Cove Public Library, 4 Glen Cove Ave., Glen Cove, New York, in said District on April 22, 2025 between the hours of 9 a.m. and 9 p.m. Said meeting will be held for the following purposes:
To vote on the following proposition:
RESOLVED that the proposed budget of the Glen Cove Public Library, Glen Cove City School District, as prepared by the Trustees of the said Public Library, for the year 2025/2026, and as the same may have been amended, be and hereby is approved; and that the amount

thereof, less receipts, be raised by the levy of a tax upon the taxable real property in the said School District.
For the purpose of electing; one (1) Trustee for the Glen Cove Public Library. For a (5) five-year term The vote on the aforesaid matters will be cast by ballot in a ballot box.
PLEASE TAKE FURTHER NOTICE that the Library Board pursuant to the provisions of Section 260 and 2007 of the Education Law hereby calls said Special District Meeting.
FURTHER NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that petitions nominating the candidate for the office of Trustee of the Glen Cove Public Library must be filed with the Clerk of the District between hours of 9 a.m. and 5 p.m., no later than March 24, 2025 the thirtieth day preceding the election, at which time the candidate so nominated is to be elected. Each nominating petition shall be directed to the Clerk of the District, must be signed by at least twenty-five (25) qualified voters of the District, shall state the residence of each signer, and must state the name and residence of the candidate.
Sample forms of the petitions may be obtained from the Clerk of the District at the Glen Cove Public Library, 4 Glen Cove Ave., Glen Cove, New York.
FURTHER NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that a copy of the proposed estimated expenditures to be voted upon shall be made available at the Glen Cove Public Library, 4 Glen Cove Ave., Glen Cove, New York, between the hours of 9 a.m. and 5 p.m. each day other than Saturday, Sunday or holiday, during the fourteen days preceding such meeting.
FURTHER NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Board of Trustees of the Glen Cove Public Library will hold a special budget hearing on Tuesday April 15, 2025 at the Glen Cove Public Library, 4 Glen Cove Ave., Glen Cove, New York at 7:00 p.m.
FURTHER NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the qualified voters of the District may register between the hours of 9 a.m. and 4 p.m. at the Glen Cove Public

Library, 4 Glen Cove Ave., Glen Cove, New York. The final date to register for the meeting to be held on April 15, 2025 is March 31, 2025. If a voter has voted in any election within the last 4 years (2021) or if he or she is eligible to vote under Article 5 of Election Law, he or she is eligible to vote at this election. All other persons who wish to vote must register. The registration list prepared by the Board of Elections of Nassau County will be filed in the Office of the District Clerk of the Glen Cove Public Library, 4 Glen Cove Ave., Glen Cove, New York and will be open for inspection by any qualified voter of the district between the hours of 9 a.m. and 4 p.m. prevailing time, on any day after Tuesday, March 31, 2025, and each of the days prior to the date set for the Library Election and Budget Vote, except Saturday, Sunday or holiday, including the date set for the meeting.
ABSENTEE BALLOTS PLEASE TAKE FURTHER NOTICE that an application for an absentee ballot for the Library election and budget vote may be applied for at the office of the District Clerk, of Glen Cove Public Library, 4 Glen Cove Ave., Glen Cove, New York. Such application must be received at least (7) seven days before the election if the ballot is to be mailed to the voter, or the day before the election if the ballot is to be delivered personally to the voter. No absentee voter ballot shall be canvassed unless it shall have been received at the office of the District Clerk, Glen Cove Public Library, 4 Glen Cove Ave., New York, not later than 5:00 p.m., prevailing

time, on the date of the election.
Gina Rant
Clerk
152044

Place a notice by phone at 516-569-4000 x232 or email: legalnotices@lherald.com

LEGAL NOTICE
PLEASE TAKE NOTICE THAT the Glen Cove City Council adopted the following Ordinance at the City Council Meeting of March 11, 2025:
BE IT ORDAINED, that the City Council hereby amends §265-44. Schedule XII: No Stopping as it relates to Forest Avenue, as indicated:
Name of Street: Forest Avenue
Side: South
Location: Forest Avenue
From a point 255 feet east of Elliot Place to a point 20 feet east therefrom
This Ordinance shall take effect 3 days after publication.
Tina Pemberton
City Clerk
152204

LEGAL NOTICE
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, that the City Council meeting scheduled for Tuesday, March 25, 2025, 7:30 p.m., is cancelled and rescheduled to be held on Monday, March 24, 2025, 7:30 p.m., in the City Hall Main Chambers, 9 Glen Street, Glen Cove, New York.
Tina Pemberton
City Clerk
152205

LEGAL NOTICE
CITY OF GLEN COVE ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS
NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING
PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that a PUBLIC HEARING will be held by the Glen Cove Zoning Board of Appeals on Thursday, March 20, 2025, at 7:30 p.m. at the Council Chambers, City Hall, 9 Glen Street,

Glen Cove, New York, when all interested persons will be given an opportunity to express their views. The hearing will be on the application of Stephen Suozzi residing at 10 Buckeye Road, Glen Cove N.Y. which seeks Variances from Sections 280-58 (B)(6) of the Glen Cove Zoning Code to construct a full second floor on an existing 1 1/2 story non-conforming residential house. The existing house has a side yard of 7.1 feet where 10 feet is required. The addition of this partial second floor shall exasperate the existing non-conforming condition. Lot Coverage does not change, and the Floor Area Ratio is compliant. The subject property is located at 10 Buckeye Road, Glen Cove, N.Y., designated on the Nassau County Land & Tax Map as Section 31, Block 56, Lot 9. The property is located in the City's R-3A Six-Thousand-Five-Hundred-Square-Foot One-Family Residential District. The above application is on file at the City offices located at 9 Glen Street, Glen Cove, NY where it may be seen during regular business hours of the usual business days until the time of the hearing.
Dated: March 3, 2025
BY ORDER OF THE BOARD OF ZONING APPEALS OF THE CITY OF GLEN COVE
TERI MOSCHETTA,
CHAIRPERSON
152198

LEGAL NOTICE
CITY OF GLEN COVE ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS
NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING
PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that a PUBLIC HEARING will be held by the Glen Cove Zoning Board of Appeals on Thursday, March 20, 2025, at 7:30 p.m. at the Council Chambers, City Hall, 9 Glen Street,

March 20, 2025, at 7:30 p.m. at the Council Chambers, City Hall, 9 Glen Street, Glen Cove, New York, when all interested persons will be given an opportunity to express their views. The hearing will be on the application of Thomas and Corrine Decker residing at 63 Robinson Avenue, Glen Cove N.Y. which seeks Variances from Sections 280-57 (D)(4) of the Glen Cove Zoning Code to construct a new 22-foot by 22-foot free standing garage adjacent to an existing residential dwelling. Foundation survey for new garage floor slab indicates a front yard setback of 63.1 +/- feet to Robinson Avenue. The minimum required front yard setback and the approved permit drawings indicated a front yard setback of 65 feet. The garage has not been framed as of yet. The subject property is located at 63 Robinson Avenue, Glen Cove, N.Y., designated on the Nassau County Land & Tax Map as Section 21, Block 20, Lot 24. The property is located in the City's R-3 Quarter-Acre Residential District.

The above application is on file at the City offices located at 9 Glen Street, Glen Cove, NY where it may be seen during regular business hours of the usual business days until the time of the hearing.
Dated: March 3, 2025
BY ORDER OF THE BOARD OF ZONING APPEALS OF THE CITY OF GLEN COVE
TERI MOSCHETTA,
CHAIRPERSON
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OPINIONS

Churchill didn't have any cards, either

President Trump's unprecedented attack against Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelensky made clear what we had already suspected: That we, as a nation, have abandoned an ally in its greatest time of need.



CHARLES D. LAVINE

While each new day seems to bring more potential for another outrageous action from the White House, this one was beyond our wildest imagination. Yet we should have seen it coming. First Trump had the absolute audacity to accuse Zelensky of starting the war, after Russia launched a brutal invasion. Then we learned that Trump was negotiating with Ukraine to force it to hand over untapped mineral riches in exchange for security guarantees. Finally, the Oval Office blow-up, unlike any public encounter between an American leader and a foreign counterpart, resulted in a shutdown of American assistance to Ukraine in an effort to pressure

Zelensky to bend to Trump's demands. I have stood with Ukraine since the beginning. I was proud to take part in a well-attended and highly spirited rally here in Glen Cove at the start of the war. When my office sponsored a clothing-and-supplies drive for the victims of Putin's tyranny, our community stepped up in ways I could not have imagined. Literally tons of supplies were shipped overseas to help those in need. Three years later, the Holocaust Museum and Tolerance Center organized another rally, at which I said the following:

"Against what some once feared would be a losing battle, Ukrainian freedom fighters have met and beaten Putin's fascist Russian aggression. It is beyond outrageous to those of us in the free world that Donald Trump falsely accuses Ukraine President Volodymyr Zelensky of being a 'dictator.' To be sure, this is a mirroring into the darkness of Trump's soul.

"His love of Putin knows no bounds. Trump is going to betray Ukraine, and at the same time he will betray democracy. Every American of good faith knows

this, and every American of good faith is disgusted by this treachery. We stood together three years ago to support our sisters and brothers in Ukraine. We must now firmly resolve to stand together in the days and years to come to demand that our nation continue its commitment to support our courageous democratic ally. Such is the will of the American people. May God continue to bless the people of Ukraine, and may God continue to bless the people of America."

While there are many parallels in history to what's going on, the one that comes to mind most prominently is our assistance to Great Britain in its greatest time of need during World War II. Trump humiliated Zelensky, president of a country we have supported financially and militarily since the war's start, pointedly telling him, "You're not in a good position. You don't have the cards right now. With us, you start having cards."

In 1940, British Prime Minister Winston Churchill found himself very much alone and in total desperation as his country was fighting for its very exist-

ence. At the time, he was providing the world with the last viable resistance to Hitler's Nazi Germany. Churchill didn't have any cards, either. Yet despite strong opposition from isolationists, President Franklin D. Roosevelt's creative "lend-lease" policy introduced to the public the idea of lending, as opposed to selling, military supplies to Britain. He likened the plan to lending a garden hose to a neighbor so the neighbor could put out a fire in his house. Churchill was welcomed with open arms at the White House, and one of the great partnerships in world history was born.

We should be supporting Ukraine unconditionally, because it's simply the right thing to do. Under President Biden, the U.S. carried out a "no strings attached" policy of supporting Ukraine. But that's all changed now. Zelensky finds himself in desperation, and instead of receiving the support he and his country need right now, he is forced to kiss the ring of this man who likens himself to a king. Meanwhile, our nation's standing as one that opposes tyrannical behavior and supports the world's democracies finds itself shattered.

Charles Lavine represents the 13th Assembly District.

We should support Ukraine unconditionally. It's simply the right thing to do.

Marching then, and marching now

What were you doing on April 6, 1992? I was marching in Washington, with more than 500,000 other people in support of women's reproductive rights. George H.W. Bush was in the White House. In an act that felt wildly transgressive, many of us came armed with tennis balls, and we threw them over the gate onto the White



RANDI KREISS

House lawn. Ah, such innocent times. My mother, my daughter and I took the train to D.C., and made our way down Pennsylvania Avenue with Americans from every part of the country, from every cultural, ethnic, religious, geographic and intellectual dot on the spectrum of humanity. I had never been surrounded by so many human beings, pressed in close around one another, chanting and carrying signs. We had common cause, and had left our daily lives to do what Democracy demands of all of us: To speak truth to power. To call out injustice. To secure every woman's right to make decisions about her body,

without interference from any governmental entity.

The New York Times wrote that day in 1992: "At least half a million people marched from the White House to the Mall near the Capitol today in support of abortion rights, hoping to impress lawmakers and the public with their political influence as the Supreme Court considers a Pennsylvania case that could sharply limit women's access to abortions The marchers came by plane and bus and train and car. They included mothers and daughters, Hollywood stars, teachers, preachers and doctors, Republicans for Choice, Catholics for Choice and two presidential candidates, Bill Clinton and Edmund G. Brown Jr. . . .

" . . . The march came at a time of heightened urgency for the abortion-rights movement, when there is a sense that Roe v. Wade, the 1973 Supreme Court decision establishing a nationwide right to abortion, is in mortal danger."

Mortal danger, indeed. With a sharp turn to the right in 2022, the court overturned Roe v. Wade. According to the Guttmacher Institute, a political think

tank dedicated to supporting reproductive and gender freedoms, the government will soon come after our other rights to live and love as we choose.

So our marching in '92 didn't secure women's rights forever, but it empowered us to speak out, and it gave us a blueprint for peaceful protest.

Roe has fallen, but we have not. The muscle and mind memories of rising up stay with us, and now is the time to deploy ourselves again, for all the other freedoms threatened by an increasingly autocratic president and his acolytes. In recent weeks, a terrible cascade of restrictive executive orders and wholesale firings of government workers has shaken all of us, Democrats and Republicans, federal workers and everyone who depends on their good work.

The unelected, deeply embedded Elon Musk, who never earned a vote or won an election, has ruined the lives of thousands of people whom he deems slackers. He is, in some ways, a monstrous animated effigy, brought to life to issue edicts and trample freedoms as he flouts laws and boundaries that support our democracy. He is an insensitive billionaire with the keys to the kingdom,

except it isn't a kingdom, and historically, we overturn our kings.

Musk is the muscle, pushing out workers and warning that this will cause "pain." But not for him. Not for the other gazillionaires. Not for the GOP elite who have not yet realized the pain is coming for them, too.

Surely there is enough evidence, just in these first weeks of the new administration, that we need to forget our affiliations, erase our labels and come together to preserve our rights to privacy and agency. When you cast your vote last November, did you really want Musk & Co. rustling through your tax returns and health records?

What were you doing on March 1, two weeks ago? I was home reading and relaxing, but my grandson, a high school kid, led a pro-Democracy rally on the other side of the country, in the small town where he lives. Hundreds of people turned out in a peaceful demonstration for American freedom, which is increasingly under threat from the current administration. They chanted, "This is what Democracy looks like!" as they honked their horns and marched and began to feel better than they had in weeks, just being out there, just saying, "This will not stand."

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HERALD EDITORIAL

Shining a light on vital role of Sunshine Week

Transparency is the foundation of a healthy democracy. Citizens' ability to access government records, scrutinize decisions and hold leaders accountable is essential to ensuring that power remains in the hands of the people.

And in an age when misinformation and secrecy can cloud public trust, the need for open government has never been more pressing. That's why Sunshine Week — March 16 to 22 this year — a nonpartisan national initiative championing public access to information, is more than just an observance. It is a call to action.

Established 20 years ago, Sunshine Week is spearheaded by the Joseph L. Brechner Freedom of Information Project, at the University of Florida in Gainesville, and supported by journalists, civic organizations and government reform advocates. It is a time to reaffirm the public's right to know, and to push for stronger transparency laws at all levels of government. The week serves as a powerful reminder that democracy thrives when government operates in the open.

People must have the ability to access public records and understand how decisions that impact their lives are made. Open-records laws, such as the Freedom of Information Act at the federal level and sunshine laws in states across the country, provide a mechanism for the public to request government documents.

Because of these laws, civic activists and everyday community members have uncovered everything from violations of environmental laws to financial mismanagement, reinforcing the notion that

transparency deters corruption and promotes good governance, and giving credence to Supreme Court Justice Louis Brandeis's words 112 years ago, a perfect distillation of the benefits of transparency and openness in just five words: "Sunlight is the best disinfectant."

But access to information isn't just about exposing wrongdoing; it's also about fostering trust. When government agencies proactively share data, allow public participation in their decision-making and are accountable to the people they serve, trust in institutions grows. Without transparency, skepticism festers and public confidence erodes. Sunshine Week is a reminder that information belongs to the people, not just to those in power.

The week also highlights the indispensable role of journalists in safeguarding democracy. Reporters routinely use public records to investigate government actions, shedding light on issues that might otherwise remain hidden. Whether they are uncovering the misuse of taxpayer funds, tracking campaign contributions or monitoring public safety concerns, their work serves as the bridge between the people and the truth.

The fight for open government isn't just for journalists. A parent seeking school budget information, a researcher analyzing public health data or a company navigating regulations must have the right to access government records. Sunshine Week encourages everyone to demand openness, participate in public meetings and push back against efforts to weaken transparency laws.

In recent years, there have been growing concerns about excessive redactions

— legalese for blacked-out sections — of public records, delays in fulfilling requests for them, and efforts to weaken transparency laws under the guise of national security or administrative burden. Officials who resist public scrutiny make it harder for watchdogs to expose potential abuses of power.

Additionally, advancements in technology present new challenges. While digital record-keeping has made access to some information easier, it has also raised concerns about the deletion of electronic records, the use of encrypted messaging apps for government business, and the need for stronger protections to ensure transparency in the digital age.

Sunshine Week is a time to recognize these threats and advocate for stronger laws that uphold the public's right to know. It is a reminder that transparency isn't a privilege, but rather a right.

The principles of the week extend beyond just seven days in March; they should be a year-round commitment. People can take part by:

Attending public meetings and learning about transparency issues.

Supporting journalism by subscribing to their local newspaper, and advocating for press freedom.

Educating others about their rights under freedom-of-information laws.

Government transparency does not happen automatically. It requires vigilance, persistence and an engaged public. The more we demand openness and accountability, the stronger our institutions — and our country — will be.

LETTERS

Sheeline's wrong about Trump and Roosevelt

To the Editor:

Re Will Sheeline's column "Destroying Roosevelt's legacy" (Feb. 27-March 5): Though I have the same first name and am a fellow Long Islander, that's no guarantee that I'll reach the same conclusions as Sheeline about Teddy Roosevelt, Donald Trump or much else, sadly.

Sheeline's premise about the Gilded Age is, in my view, wrong re both men. T.R. knew and benefited from the wealth created then, and he saw it needed to be spread more widely and monopolies broken to achieve it. He didn't have to deal with the deep state launched by his cousin Franklin to save capitalism, which, run amok, now runs our lives and businesses, irrespective of the White House or Congress.

The brilliance of Trump is he'll put an end to the vast machinery never foreseen by our founders or T.R.,



OPINIONS

The budget battle: fighting for NUMC's fair share

It's that time of year again, when New Yorkers who pay the highest combined tax burden in the nation have to beg Albany to return money to their communities. With the start of another state budget season comes yet another attack on Nassau County's most vulnerable. In what has become an all too familiar refrain, the



MEGAN C. RYAN

state's latest \$252 billion budget — up \$8.6 billion from last year — has been proposed without even \$1 for Nassau County's only public safety-net hospital.

Like Andrew Cuomo before her, Gov. Kathy Hochul's latest budget proposal continues to systematically and inexplicably cut off state support for Nassau University Medical Center, down from \$180 million in aid in 2017 to \$0 in 2024. Despite NUMC's operating as a safety-net hospital for hundreds of thousands of patients annually, Albany persists in denying our patients, providers and community funds to which they are legally entitled.

But it's even worse than it sounds.

Why? Because recent reforms at the hospital have put it in the best financial position it has been in years, meaning we're asking for less money, not more, to cover gaps in revenue due to our mission to cover those who can't pay for services. Albany's answer is zero dollars.

It's not that New York state doesn't have the money. Since 2020, the governor has announced significant funding for numerous medical institutions. Westchester Medical Center has received over \$160 million in state taxpayer funding since 2019. SUNY Downstate Medical Center — whose CEO recently resigned amid allegations of misconduct — is slated to receive nearly \$1 billion in the latest budget. In contrast, NUMC, which has demonstrated improvement in its financial position and expansion of services, continues to be denied funds.

In 2024, NUMC applied for six different grants from the state. None were awarded. This isn't due to a lack of effort, merit or demonstrated need. Instead, it reflects what appears to be a troubling power play by Hochul and her allies. Through her surrogates, the Nassau County Interim Finance Authority

— led by people with no health care management or hospital finance experience — and the state Department of Health, Albany has repeatedly ignored significant management, operational and fiscal reforms at the hospital and spread a message to the public that NUMC is failing. Nothing could be further from the truth.

It gets even worse. A comprehensive audit last year revealed that the state has forced NUMC to operate at a disadvantage for nearly two decades. In what amounts to the state's biggest shell game in history, it has been systematically violating federal law to shortchange the hospital's Medicaid payments by 50 percent. Our recently filed lawsuit seeks to end this corruption and ensure that Nassau's most at-risk residents get every dollar they deserve. Perhaps we struck a nerve.

By state statute, NUMC has an obligation to treat every patient, regardless of their ability to pay. It's a mission that sets us apart, and one we take on every day with passion. The consequences of Albany's neglect are far-reaching. Without Medicaid funding or grants, we are limited in our ability to improve infrastructure, expand services,

and recruit the best talent necessary to meet our community's needs.

Over the coming months, NUMC's leadership, physicians and staff will be pressing our case to legislators — both here in the Nassau community and in Albany — urging them to deliver for our hospital and its patients, so that we can thrive. It's our sincere hope that our legislators will take up our cause, both in their respective one-house budgets and in the final enacted budget.

Hochul and our legislators should put our patients over power politics. The state budget is ballooning, and forcing our patients and staff to fight some kind of Hunger Games to get health care aid is disgraceful when it is being doled out by the truckload elsewhere. The NUMC community deserves to be treated with respect from its government, not maligned in the media by political gadflies and needlessly threatened by attorneys and bureaucrats.

This is about more than dollars and cents — it's about safeguarding the health and well-being of our community. It's about fairness. It is imperative that state leaders include NUMC in this year's budget to secure a healthier future for all of Nassau County.

Megan C. Ryan is president, CEO and chief legal officer of the Nassau Health Care Corporation and Nassau University Medical Center.

The hospital's state support was \$180 million in 2017, and \$0 in 2024.

LETTERS

the unelected forever bureaucrats by the millions. As for Ukraine, I stand for America and believe that, were he here, T.R. would also seek peace with Russia, as he did in 1904. Now a nuclear war hangs in the balance, and Trump knows it.

As a lawyer and no “deplorable,” I ask what evidence Sheeline has, other than fear, that Trump wants to “gut” our parks? Such hyperbole. T.R. was made of sterner stuff, and would welcome a leader who, in the arena, took a bullet for all of us. They are alike!

WILLIAM SPARKS
Merrick

Washington budget cuts will hurt many on L.I.

To the Editor:

I attended a congressional forum, hosted by U.S. Rep. Laura Gillen, at Hofstra University on March 1, where she described the impacts of the recent budget cuts in Washington that will occur to thousands of people living here on Long Island.

In fiscal year 2024, the federal government collected \$4.9 trillion but

spent \$6.75 trillion, adding \$1.85 trillion to the federal deficit. On Feb. 25, the House passed a reconciliation budget that included \$4.5 trillion in tax cuts and \$1.5 trillion in spending cuts to vital government programs, which would add \$3 trillion to our deficit. The cuts would impact families on Long Island that receive Medicaid benefits and food programs at schools, as well as folks living in nursing homes on Medicaid. The cuts were not done with thought as to who would be impacted!

At Gillen's forum was a young lady, Kristen Thomas, who is seven months pregnant and used to work for the IRS in Holtsville. She was told that week to go home, because her job was eliminated. She has had excellent job reviews, but now has no health benefits as she gets ready to give birth to her first child.

The people of our country deserve leadership in Washington that will actually lower the nation's deficit, not increase it with these wild proclamations, with no thought as to the resulting impact on the thousands of our dedicated federal employees!

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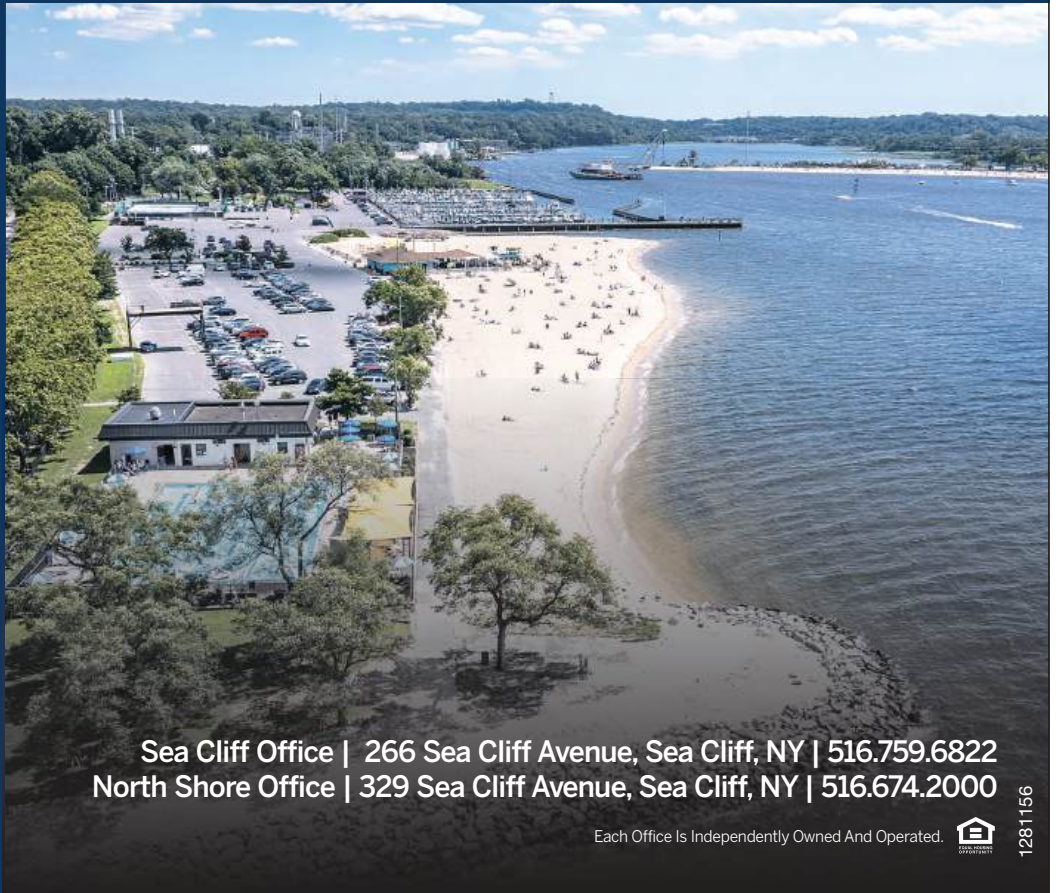
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