

GLEN COVE
HERALD
Gazette



Basketball antics return to Nassau Coliseum

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Talented teens strut their stuff.

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Learning is fun at Harbor Child Care

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Courtesy NBC Universal and Caelum Productions

SEA CLIFF RESIDENT Troy Ramey received the coveted four-chair turnaround during his blind audition on NBC's *The Voice*. His dream is for a recording contract.

Sea Cliff resident proves he has pipes on 'The Voice'

By **DANIELLE AGOGLIA**
dagoggia@liherald.com

"Now that I've lost everything to you" — the first line of Cat Stevens's "Wild World" — were the only lyrics Troy Ramey, 32, had to sing during his audition for NBC's "The Voice" before Blake Shelton slammed his red button. Turning to face Ramey, Shelton made it clear that he wanted the Sea Cliff resident on his team.

But Shelton wasn't the only coach interested in Ramey. Thirty seconds later, Adam Levine hit his button, followed by Gwen Stefani. And finally, Alicia Keys was onboard too.

Ramey received a four-chair turnaround during his audition — a huge compliment for anyone hoping to be a contestant on the show. Each week, "The Voice" gives talented vocalists a chance to compete for a recording contract, with the assistance of the judges. The judges' backs are to the contestant as he or she auditions, unless the judges like what they hear. Then they push red buttons that swing their chairs around to face the contestant.

Ramey had the pick of four superstars to coach him through the show, in the hope of winning the grand prize —

a record deal with Universal Music Group.

"It was almost like you were indestructible with that really naturally good, beautiful temperament," Levine said, trying to win Ramey over.

"What woke me up was your intention to the lyric of that song — it was like it was your song," said Stefani, trying to do the same.

"We all want to gravitate towards your voice because it's special, man, and I wanna be a part of that," Shelton added.

Ramey ultimately chose Stefani as his coach.

The opportunity is one that

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Movie theater renovations begin in May

By **DANIELLE AGOGLIA**
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AMC Theaters has signed a 15-year lease with the DiNoto Group, the owner of JJ's Glen Cove Cinema on School Street. Construction is scheduled to begin on May 22 to convert JJ's into an AMC theater. According to Mayor Reginald Spinello's office, the renovation is expected to be completed by Labor Day weekend.

Theater employees said they were caught off guard last fall when they learned through

social media about the theater's new ownership. "People were posting about it on the Glen Cove Neighbors Facebook page," said employee John Smith. "So we watched the city meeting [online], and that's how we found out."

Some nearby store owners say they were happy that the prestigious theater chain was coming to the city. Jose Ynes, the owner of Gonzalo's American Café, said that new theater would attract more people, especially on weekends. But Paul

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Danielle Agoggia/Herald

THE MARQUEE AT Glen Cove Cinema will soon indicate that it is an AMC theater.



Photos by Elisa Dragotto/Herald

SABRINA BACKIEL DEMONSTRATED how pennies can power a light bulb at the annual Landing School science fair.

Fourth graders demonstrate science experiments

By **DANIELLE AGOGLIA**

dagoggia@liherald.com

Lava lamps, elephant toothpaste, homemade slime and self inflating balloons were just some of the science projects fourth grade Landing School students demonstrated during the science fair on Friday, March 31. Under the guidance of their teachers, the students created projects that demonstrated their knowledge of the Scientific Method from asking a question, to making a hypothe-

sis, to recording the results.

The science fair at Landing is a long-standing tradition that helps the students learn not only about the science behind their chosen topic, but also how to prepare and create a long-term project. Students worked on the projects at home and in the classroom for several weeks and had a practice fair about a week before.

Teacher Margaret Clark, who has been with the school for about 25 years, said it was interesting watching how technology influenced student's topics throughout the years. "When we first started doing it, all the kids really had to get their ideas from was books in the library," she said. "And now it's on the internet. A lot of times they'll see something on YouTube and theirs doesn't work out the same way, so we talk about why the results are the way they are."

Sabrina Backiel used pennies, cardboard, zinc washers, vinegar and copper wire to create a penny powered light bulb for her project. "I learned that if you have enough pennies in the correct arrangement, you can power a lightbulb," Backiel said. Mirella Salinas discovered that if you mix yeast, warm water and sugar in a water bottle, the mixture will create enough air to blow up a balloon. "The yeast eats the sugar and releases carbon dioxide which inflates the balloon," Salinas explained. "My favorite part is seeing the balloon inflate, I thought that was really cool."

Madison Verene demonstrated that romaine lettuce can grow back from the stump with just a small cup of water and some sunlight. "It was really cool that it didn't need soil and it didn't need to go outside," she said. "It just had to stay inside and it grew back. Now when I have my salads, instead of going back to the store to get more, we can just have the stump and then I can put it in water and it will grow back right in my house. We don't have to put it in the garden."

Frank Andrade, who said science is his favorite subject, created a magnet out of a nail using a battery and copper wire. Andrade said he wants to pursue engineering science and work in robotics in the future. "I wanted to invent a different way to create a magnet," Andrade said, referring to his project.

Finley Principal Benjamin Roberts knows how important creative projects like these are to a student's learning process. "It's a great example of hands-on learning," he said, "It's something that our students enjoy and the teachers love bringing this creativity into the classroom. It's very engaging, and they learn a great deal about science."

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News Briefs items including awards, honors, promotions and other tidbits about local residents are welcome.

Photographs may be included; however, they will not be returned. Deadline for submission: noon Thursday, week prior to publication

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This is your newspaper.

We look forward to meeting each of you as we cover the community. If you see us, come say hello.

Thanks again,



Cliff Richner



Stuart Richner



Laura Lane



Nakeem Grant



Danielle Agoglia



Lissa Harris

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Don't be a victim of 'porch pirates'

Nassau County Executive Ed Mangano and Acting Commissioner of Police Thomas Krumpter offered tips to stop residents from becoming victims of "porch pirates," thieves who steal packages that have been delivered and left outside a residence.

- Request a specific delivery date and time from the shipper when you know you will be home.

- Have packages delivered to a place where they can be received in person, such as the home of a trusted neighbor who stays home during the day.

- Request that the shipper hold your package at the pick-up facility so you can pick it up at your convenience.

- Provide delivery instructions to the shipper so that packages can be left at a safe location at your home that is out of sight from the street.

- If your employer will allow it, have packages delivered where you work.

- Consider a visible surveillance camera and a security company sign near the front door.

CRIME WATCH

Arrests

March 27.

- Man, 20, of Glen Cove, was arrested for criminal mischief in the fourth degree on North Street on March 30.

- Man, 39, of Glen Cove, was arrested for criminal mischief in the fourth degree on Sea Cliff Ave. on March 30.

- Man, 40, of Glen Cove, was arrested for driving while intoxicated on Rose Ave on

- Man, 39, of Glen Cove, was arrested for harassment in the second degree on Glen Cove Ave. on March 26.

- Man, 61, of Glen Cove, was arrested on one count for aggravated unlicensed operation in the second and third degree, and one count for circumventing an ignition interlock device and speeding on Forest Ave. on March 26.

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



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GLEN COVE
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Gold Coast Hobby closing its doors after more than 30 years in Glen Head

By **LISSA HARRIS**
newsroom@herald.com

Walking into Gold Coast Hobby one can barely see the back counter. The store itself is like a hobbyist's workshop, with shelves crammed with model kits, paints, glues, figures, and rows of small ships.

Charlie Gonder greets everyone who comes into his shop like an old friend, offering a cup of coffee and a smile. And he often has a twinkle in his eyes that makes you believe he might be up to something mischievous. A small television above the counter plays shows like "The Little Rascals" and Abbot and Costello movies. Nearby, a child's picture hangs that reads — "Dear Grandpa ... love, Tommy." The store is kind of like a home away from home, but Gonder, who owns the hobby store, will be closing the store. He's retiring after 31 years in the business.

"People ask me what I specialize in," Gonder said. "My answer is always customer service."

Gonder has always operated Gold Coast Hobby in Glen Head with his wife, Dot, a Glen Cove native and hairdresser. They started the business after Gonder left his job as the director of engineering at Multiwire, a subsidiary of Photocircuits based in Glen Cove. Gonder took his family on a vacation to California after quitting his job. That is where he spent three weeks writing out a business plan for Gold Coast Hobby.

Business has always been good, Charlie says, and after more than 30 years, not much has changed. He prides himself on his business acumen when others in the industry have folded. "When I started there were 22 hobby shops in Nassau County," Gonder said. "Now there are four." He admits he doesn't know why he has remained in business when others have struggled.

Over the years Charlie Gonder has been asked to use his experience as an engineer and hobbyist in some interesting ways, like to make props for television, movies, and shows. When "Beauty and the Beast" hit the Broadway scene, he was commissioned to create a remote control rose, whose petals would fall at precisely the right moment. He also remembers when he had to create a fake cat in a bag. "The cat was supposed to wiggle around unseen in the bag and then stop abruptly," Gonder recalled with a chuckle. "The show got a call from the Humane Society, [who] thought the cat was real and was being abused."

There are also two WWII boat models that he crafted on display in the Smithsonian Museum.

Married for 47 years, Charlie and Dot behave like a newly married couple. When asked what he plans to do with his time once he retires, Charlie replied, "Chase her around the pool."

The couple have two sons and a grandson, Tommy, who is 3. Although he has wanted to retire for some time, Tommy is the reason Charlie has committed to closing the shop this year. "He is the best thing that ever came into our lives," Char-

lie said, with Dot nodding in agreement. "Yes, we spoil him."

Philanthropy has been a priority for Charlie and Dot. They have sent model kits to troops in Afghanistan and Baghdad. And a Vietnam veteran himself, Charlie always gives his fellow vets a discount.

Gold Coast Hobby will close on May 1. Whatever inventory they can't sell will be donated to the VA hospital. There is a lot that Gonder will miss about the hobby shop. "My three favorite times of the year

were Christmas, the Boy Scout's Pine-wood Derby, and school science project time," Gonder said, adding that those were his busiest times of the year. He hopes that people will stop into the shop and take advantage of his sale prices and his hospitality. "But," Gonder says with his signature devilish grin, "they have to like Abbott and Costello."

CHARLIE AND DOT Gonder will be closing Gold Coast Hobby in May.



Lissa Harris/Herald



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BRIEFS

Glen Cove Hospital recognized for Healthcare Equality

Northwell Health received high marks for LGBTQ inclusion in the Human Rights Campaign Foundation's 2017 Healthcare Equality Index, a measure of a facility's policies and practices toward lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and queer patients, employees and the community at large.

Glen Cove Hospital was included as one of 11 Northwell facilities named as a top performer among the 590 health care facilities nationwide that participated in the Healthcare Equality Index's survey.

The Human Rights Campaign Foundation measured health care facilities' sen-

sitivity to the LGBTQ community in four areas: patient-centered care, patient services and support, fully-inclusive employee benefits and policies, and patient and community engagement.

Northwell Health has developed partnerships with LGBTQ organizations at the local level, which allows the health system to work closely with both greater New York and Long Island LGBT communities. That relationship helps Northwell to connect those in the LGBTQ community with health care providers and additional resources that they need to live their healthiest lives.

THE WEEK AHEAD

Nearby things to do this week



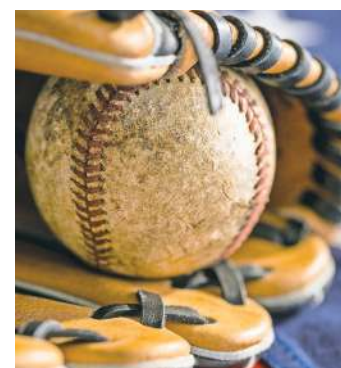
Yacht Club Open House

The Glen Cove Yacht Club will host an Open House on Saturday, April 8 from 11 to 1 p.m. The club is located on McLoughlin Street in Glen Cove, just inside the breakwater of Hempstead Harbor off Long Island Sound. The club provides access to the boating waters of the Sound with New York City to the west and New England to the east. All resi-

dents are welcome to take a tour of everything they have to offer in a friendly environment. Board members of the club will be available to speak with at the Open House as well. For more information, call (516) 676-9450 or email www.glencoveyachtclub.org.

Baseball exhibit

The North Shore Historical Museum in Glen Cove will feature an exhibit titled, "The Old Ball Game" on Friday, April 7. The exhibit focuses on the first 100 years of organized, mainly professional, baseball in America—on some of its greatest players; on various cultural aspects of the game; and on the game as it has been played and watched on the North Shore of Long Island by those who enjoy "America's pastime." Info: (516) 801-1191 or northshorehistoricalmuseum.org.



Food for Fines



The Glen Cove Public Library invites residents to celebrate National Library Week from Monday, April 10 to Sunday, April 16 by participating in the Glen Cove Library's "Food For Fines" drive. During the week, the fine for one library item will be waived for each food item donated. Bring a non-perishable food item to the circulation desk and we'll waive fines on overdue books, CDs or DVDs. Only non-

perishable items will be accepted; no glass containers, repackaged or expired items, please. Help your neighbors, help yourself and help your library. Info: (516) 676-2130.

Shakespeare Express

Take a hilarious ride through the Bard's comedies, histories and tragedies when three actors take on the task of covering 37 plays in less than two hours. The wildly irreverent "The Complete Works of William Shakespeare (abridged) [revised]" is a fast-paced riff on the Shakespearean canon, first performed to much acclaim on the London stage. Now, Hofstra University's Department of Drama and Dance takes up this — comic — challenge, Friday through Sunday, April 7-9, at Hofstra's newly renovated Globe Stage. Info: (516) 463-6644 or www.HofstraTickets.com.



On the lookout for our feathered friends



Step into spring at Garvies Point Museum and Preserve with a Beginner's Bird Watching Walk, Tuesday, April 11, at 11 a.m. and 1 p.m. Join a preserve guide to observe some favorite birds during their spring return. Learn about identifying "field marks," their habits and behavior. Bring binoculars if available. Kids can also create bird feeder using recycled materials, starting at 10 a.m. Info: (516)

571-8010 or www.garviespointmuseum.com.

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Child care center offers educational curriculum

By LAURA LANE

llane@iherald.com

A group of four-year-olds are jumping up and down, delighted that they will be playing a game that involves brightly colored balls. Most children would be excited to do this activity, but what these children do not know is that they will be learning too. They attend Harbor Child Care in Glen Cove, which is committed to using The Creative Curriculum, a course of study with clearly defined educational objectives to prepare children for kindergarten.

Children are taught to be independent thinkers utilizing structured educational programming, but are also able to follow their interests and individual needs.

The program was brought to the center by Executive Director Dr. Arnold Goldberg, a former superintendent for the Merrick School District who has been in the field of education for 46 years.

"When we opened a year and a half ago we became committed to seeing ourselves become an educational agency like a school district, opposed to a day care center," Goldberg explained. "The nurturing, warm atmosphere is maintained here but we also have a curriculum. Every teacher and administrator has a set of the materials that come with The Creative Curriculum."

The days of bringing home practice worksheets to show mom are gone, or at least they are at Harbor Child Care.

"Everything I did when I was growing up



Elisa Dragotto/Herald

LIZ RUSSO USED pictures to engage preschool children Darien Pittman, left, Nicolas Henley and Justin Tompson to learn about buildings.

did not involve play," said Liz Russo, a teacher who is working on a unit with a group of 4 and 5-year olds that focuses on building. "The parents expect worksheets and memorization, an outdated [educational] practice. Everything we do here has educational content without the worksheets, including social studies, math, science and literacy."

The children in Russo's class are holding computer generated photographs of a familiar building, including one of McDonald's. "What kind of building is this," Russo asks, referring to the McDonald's photograph. "A restaurant," the children answer with confidence. "How do

you know it is a McDonald's?"

Then she points to the big "M" on the sign and then the conversation switches to a comparison between large and small buildings. That's the mathematics component of the lesson.

"We will be reading a book later too — 'The Three Little Pigs,'" Russo said. "We will discuss what can be used to build buildings and if I can find a local construction worker to come by with his tools they will also get some firsthand experience of building. On another day, they will build with cardboard boxes."

The teachers all receive professional

development to assist them in teaching The Creative Curriculum. The units' center on expanding children's critical thinking skills, ability to analyze information and their vocabulary.

"Eighty percent of cognitive brain growth is complete at nine months," Goldberg said. "And the children here are learning with other children, so when they do go to kindergarten it isn't culture shock."

Goldberg said they are working to increase the technology available at the center too. "We'd like to see the four-year-olds be able to do computer programming so they are ready for kindergarten, but that doesn't mean they will be looking at a device all day," he explained.

Maggie Orellana's class of four-year-olds are near the end of the unit on balls. All the various unit's activities that the children have participated in over the six-week period are brought out today for them to enjoy.

By kicking a soccer ball, they are working on their gross motor skills; tossing a ball to each other improves their eye and muscle coordination. Orellana said she is always searching for new lessons to engage the children. "Sometimes I'm home sleeping and I'll wake up with an idea," she said smiling. "I need to be creative."

Orellana has created a book that chronicles the children participating in the different activities during the ball unit. They appear engaged in the photographs — and happy.

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HERALD SCHOOLS

April 6, 2017 — GLEN COVE HERALD GAZETTE



Ryan Hedlund/Herald

EVERYONE INVOLVED IN the production of "Into the Woods Jr." at Finley Middle School had a fabulous time.

During play Finley kids give it their all and then some



After almost three months of rehearsals, 29 Finley Middle School students performed "Into the Woods Jr." during the weekend of March 31 for very enthusiastic audiences.

All the students who auditioned for the musical in October 2016 were given a role either as main characters or in the ensemble. The play was directed by Rosita Mallo, one of the district's music and orchestra teachers. "It was a huge success," she said. "We received very good reviews from everyone who attended the shows."



Clockwise from left:
RAPUNZEL WAS PLAYED by Addison Huvane.

CINDERELLA, PLAYED BY Cassandra Hill, had much to cry about before she met the Prince.

ROSITA MALLO, THE director, at the tech booth just prior to curtain of the final performance of the middle school play.



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COMMUNITY CALENDAR

Thursday, April 6

Happy hour

The Oyster Bay Historical Society will host a happy hour in the gallery of the Koenig Research Center, 20 Summit Street, Oyster Bay, 5 to 7 p.m. The evening includes live blues music, domestic and imported beer, a variety of wines, and light hors d'oeuvres. The gallery is currently showing an exhibition of works designed by the Long Island Craft Guild Clay & Fiber Groups titled BLUE. (516) 922-5032.

Tech assistance for adults

Locust Valley Public Library, 170 Buckram Rd, Locust Valley, 6 to 7 p.m. Sign up to have one of our Teen Tech Tutors to assist you in the library. Please be sure to bring your device with you. (516) 671-1837.

Seaside Reads with Lynda Aron

Sea Cliff Village Library, 300 Sea Cliff Ave., Sea Cliff, 7 p.m. Share an afternoon of book talk about Sisters-in-law, a dual biography of Ruth Bader Ginsburg and Sandra Day O'Connor. Copies of the book are available at the library; registration suggested. (516) 671-4290.

Blackout poetry

Bayville Free Library, 34 School Street, Bayville, 7 p.m. Grab a page from an old used book and a permanent marker to cross out or eliminate any words or images you see as unnecessary or irrelevant to create your own poem. Students, grades 6-12, register on line. (516) 628-2765.

Friday, April 7

Zumba class

Gold Coast Public Library, 50 Railroad Ave., Glen Head, 10 a.m. There is a non-refundable \$24 fee due at time of registration. (516) 759-8300.

Passover lunch

Hosted by Cantor Gustavo at the Glen Cove Senior Center, 130 Glen St., Glen Cove, 12 p.m. (516) 759-9610.

Coding workshop

Bryant Library, 2 Paper Mill Rd, Roslyn, 3:45 p.m. to 5 p.m. These interactive workshops, ran by the Roslyn High School Code Club, will teach kids the basics of website-building (no prior experience necessary). Open to students in grades 4-8. Students should bring their own laptop/iPad. If bringing an iPad please download the free Scratch Jr. app. Please register online. (516) 621-2240.

Saturday, April 8

Art exhibit

Ronnie Zamir's artwork will be featured during a reception at the Locust Valley Public Library, 170 Buckram Rd, Locust Valley, 2 p.m. (516) 671-1837.

Poetry reading

The Locust Valley Library Poetry Society is honored to present the reading group Perfectly Provocative Poets, members of "Writing Poetry", a Great Neck Community Education class, 170 Buckram Rd, Locust Valley, 2 to 4 p.m. Poetry readings by the poets will be followed by



Cove Animal Rescue workshop

Cove Animal Rescue (CAR), a not-for-profit organization funded by, and located in the City of Glen Cove, will visit the Glen Cove Public Library, 4 Glen Cove Ave, Glen Cove, on Tuesday, April 11 at 7 p.m. Their organization will discuss its Trap, Neuter, Release Program, a special workshop to treat animals.

CAR's mission to treat, heal, and socialize the animals so people will want to adopt them. For more information, call (516) 676-2130.

open mic. All poetry meetings are hosted by Mankh (Walter E. Harris, III), writer, small press publisher, and Turtle Islander. (516) 671-1837.

Tech assistance for adults

Locust Valley Public Library, 170 Buckram Rd, Locust Valley, 3 to 4 p.m. Sign up to have one of our Teen Tech Tutors to assist you in the library. Please be sure to bring your device with you. (516) 671-1837.

Sunday, April 9

Frostbite sailing

Sea Cliff Yacht Club, 42 The Blvd., Sea Cliff, 1 p.m. (516) 671-7374.

Monday, April 10

AARP tax help

The Oyster Bay-Norwich Library offers free help with your taxes, 89 East Main Street, Oyster Bay, 9:30 to 1:30 p.m. No appointments; first come, first served. (516) 922-1212.

Gentle Kundalini yoga

Bayville Free Library, 34 School Street, Bayville, 7 to 8:30 p.m. Join Lori for an incredible experience of gentle Kundalini yoga and mantra meditation. Lori will play her gong, cleansing & rejuvenating the space & creating a sense of calm. Adults only. \$5 per class - separate registration for each one (2 weeks before).

Tuesday, April 11

Tech assistance for adults

Locust Valley Public Library, 170 Buckram Rd, Locust Valley, 6 to 7 p.m. Sign up to have one of our Teen Tech Tutors to assist you in the library. Please be

sure to bring your device with you. (516) 671-1837.

Wednesday, April 12

Casual book reading

The Book Shop by Penelope Fitzgerald will featured this week at the Locust Valley Public Library, 170 Buckram Rd, Locust Valley, 10 to 11:30 a.m. Books are available at the Adult Circulation Desk. (516) 671-1837.

Shipwrecks of Long Island

Diver, researcher and author Adam Grohman will provide an in-depth look at the shipwrecks and maritime disasters in the waters of Long Island at Glen Cove Public Library, 4 Glen Cove Ave., 7 p.m.

Grohman will discuss the demise of these ships and the exploration of them by divers and explorers. (516) 676-2130.

Tai Chi for fitness

Locust Valley Library Poetry, 170 Buckram Rd, Locust Valley, 5:30 to 6:30 p.m. (516) 671-1837.

Build your own terrarium

Josephine Early will teach participants everything they need to know about building their own terrarium at the Gold Coast Public Library, 50 Railroad Ave., Glen Head, 7 p.m. This class includes the glass, rocks, soil and succulent plant. There is a non-refundable \$3 fee due at time of registration. (516) 759-8300.



Perfectly Proactive Poets

The Locust Valley Public Library will host poetry readings with members of "Writing Poetry" on Saturday, April 8, 170 Buckram Rd, Locust Valley, 2 to 4 p.m.

Thursday, April 13

Kids movie: Moana

Oyster Bay-Norwich Library, 89 East Main Street, Oyster Bay, 11:30 to 1:15 p.m. No registration; children under 9 years of age must be accompanied by an adult. (516) 922-1212.

Tech assistance for adults

Locust Valley Public Library, 170 Buckram Rd, Locust Valley, 6 to 7 p.m. Sign up to have one of our Teen Tech Tutors to assist you in the library. Please be sure to bring your device with you. (516) 671-1837.

Meditation with Morgan Rose

Locust Valley Public Library, 170 Buckram Rd, Locust Valley, 9:30 to 10:30 a.m. Registration and \$5 fee required. You may register at the circulation desk or online. Payment must be made at the circulation desk. (516) 671-1837.

Friday, April 14

Teacup planters

Gold Coast Public Library, 50 Railroad Ave., Glen Head, 11 to 12 p.m. Come to the library and decorate your very own teacup planter to take home. All children will also receive a plant to put into their teacup to water and watch grow. Snacks will be provided. For grades K-2. (516) 759-8300 or skaloudis@goldcoastlibrary.org.

Saturday, April 15

Tech assistance for adults

Locust Valley Public Library, 170 Buckram Rd, Locust Valley, 3 to 4 p.m. Sign up to have one of our Teen Tech Tutors to assist you in the library. Please be sure to bring your device with you. (516) 671-1837.

Shred your personal documents

Locust Valley Public Library, 170 Buckram Rd, Locust Valley, 10 to 12 p.m. The shredding company, A Shred Away, Inc., will have a truck situated in the lower parking field to shred your unwanted papers/documents. Each person is allowed to bring up to 3 boxes of material to shred. This service is on a first-come, first-served basis. (516) 671-1837.

Dancercise with Carol

Locust Valley Public Library, 170 Buckram Rd, Locust Valley, 9:30 a.m. to 10:30 a.m. No dance experience needed. This class is designed for everyone. Participants of any fitness level, any background, or any age can start to Dancercise. No special attire needed, just wear sneakers and bring a bottle of water. Registration and fee required. 10 sessions for \$50. Payment must be made at the circulation desk. ((516) 671-1837.

HAVING AN EVENT?

Submissions can be emailed to llane@liherald.com.

HERALD NEIGHBORS

Kiwanians secure funding to keep helping the community

The Kiwanis Club of Glen Cove is committed to assisting the community in any way it can but funding is needed to do so. The annual spaghetti dinner, this year held at The View on March 22, is one of the organization's most popular fundraisers. The delicious buffet

offered at the Glen Cove restaurant is one reason why this year's fundraiser was such a big success, but many people, both young and old, also stopped by to be a part of supporting the Kiwanians who make a difference in the community.

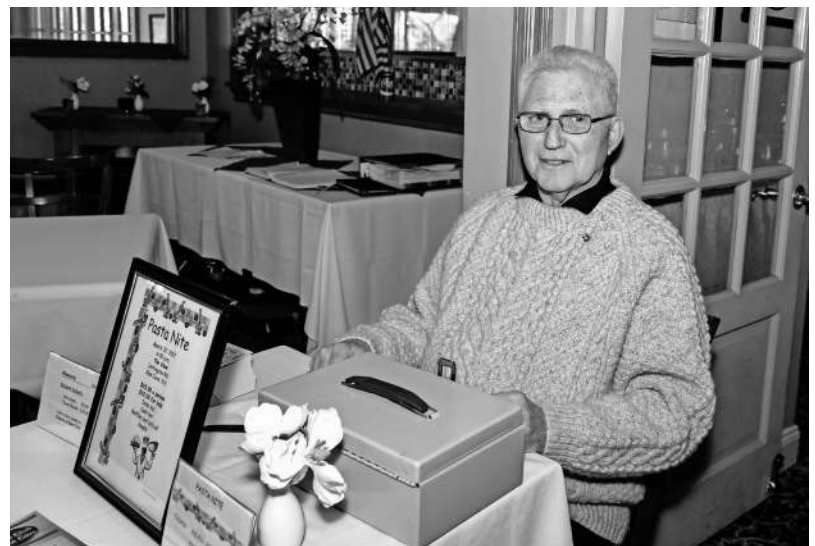


TRAVIS YEE, LEFT, Phyllis O. Burnett and AnnMarie Gailus helped to serve the dinner at The View.



Photos by Roni Chastain

ALEX KERN, BIA Cassara and Patirc and Kim Kern were happy to have an opportunity to support the Kiwanis Club.



RON BIEBER, 74, a member of the Kiwanis Club of Glen Cove for the past 35 years, helps at the fundraisers each year wherever he is needed.



JOSEPH TALESE, 3, is proof that it's never too early to learn about helping one's community.



HERB SCHIERHORST BELIEVES the efforts of the Kiwanis Club are important for Glen Cove.



Courtesy Glen Cove School District

HON. RICHARD J. McCord, Glen Cove City Court Judge, Assistant Principal Allen Hudson, Isabel Blas, Deborah Mendez, Jason Ventura and Angelo Floccari, Grand Knight of the Knights of Columbus James Norton Council honored the students of the month for December 2016, January 2017 and February 2017.

K of C honor GCHS Students of the Month

The Knights of Columbus, James Norton Council, honored Glen Cove High School tenth graders on March 21 as students of the month for the past three months. They honored Deborah Mendez as student of the month for December

2016, Isabel Blas as student of the month for January 2017, and Jason Ventura as student of the month for February 2017. The Knights commended the students on their outstanding academic performance and community involvement.



Tony Gallego/Herald

BISHOP NELSON PEREZ speaks to the students and their sponsors during the Confirmation ceremony at the Church of Saint Rocco's on March 20.

Middle school students make their Confirmation at The Church of Saint Rocco's

Forty-nine students received their Confirmation on March 20 at The Church of Saint Rocco's in Glen Cove. Students from R.M. Finley Middle School, North Shore Middle School, All Saints Regional School and Locust Valley Middle School were

confirmed by Auxiliary Bishop Nelson Perez of the Diocese of Rockville Centre. The students had been preparing for Confirmation since the first grade, with the sacrament marking the end of their religious education program.

And the winners of dinner for 2 at the Cove are...

Robert T.
of Glen Cove

Ruth Y.
of Glen Cove

Rigoberto R.
of Glen Cove

We would like to thank everyone who signed up to receive the Herald Gazette. Out of all the entries, these lucky readers have been chosen at random as winners of dinner for two courtesy of the Herald Gazette and the fabulous Cove Restaurant & Oyster Bar.

Congratulations!



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GLEN COVE
HERALD
Gazette

Glen Cove High School senior wins math scholarship

BY DANIELLE AGOGLIA

dagoglia@liherald.com

"I want to be a math teacher," is not a common response to the typical "what do you want to be when you grow up" question. But for Glen Cove High School Senior Jessica Bellomo, there is no other future. Bellomo was recently one of five Long Island recipients to be awarded The Dr. Jong Pil Lee Memorial Scholarship for planning to pursue mathematics.

Bellomo's love for math began in elementary school, but it wasn't until she had tenth grade math teacher Frank Curatolo that she realized she wanted to pursue teaching as well. "He made math easier to understand and fun to learn," she said of his Algebra II/Trigonometry class.

One of the reasons Bellomo loves math so much is because it's a "universal language" that has helped her master other fields. As a Soprano I and section leader in the high school's select chorale, she is able to use math to quickly pick up musical arrangements. "I see their logic in the form of a mathematical structure," she explained. "Sometimes the music scores are liner and other times they're geometric."

In her scholarship application, Bellomo listed Curatolo as the teacher she was influenced by the most. "I was honored that she thought back two years ago," he said. "She's

very deserving of this scholarship."

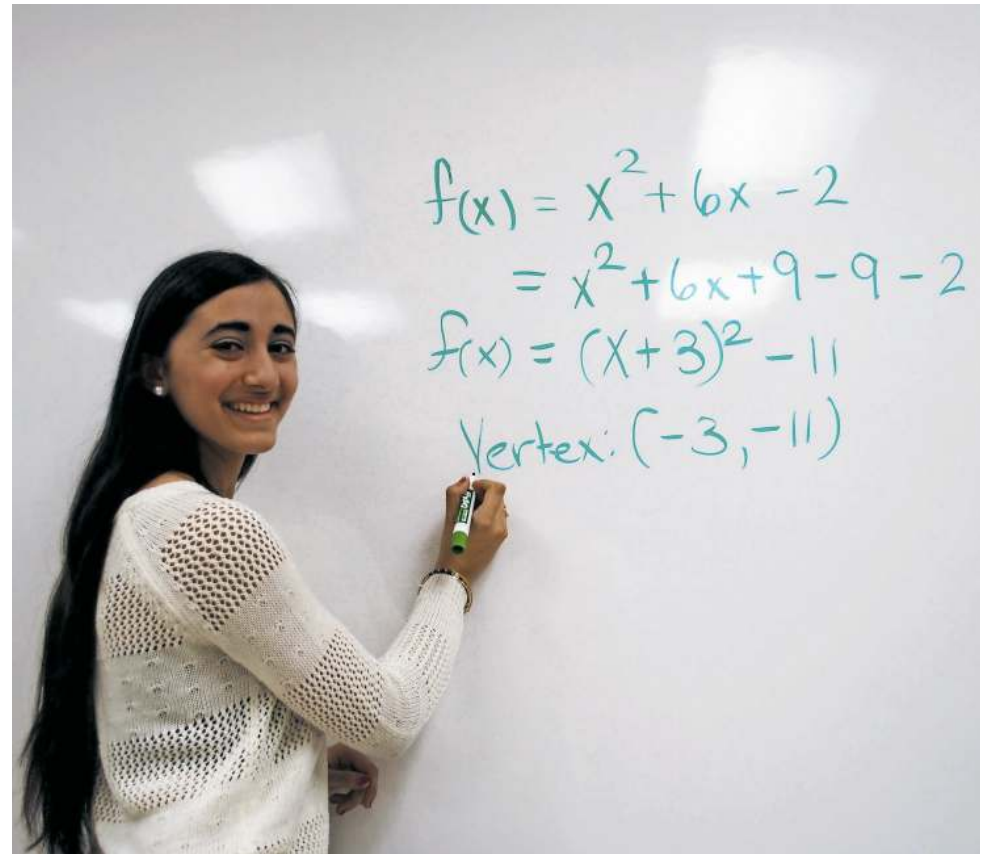
Bellomo is also engaged in numerous after school activities including: captain of the kick line, playing the role of stepmother in the school's upcoming musical, school chorale, mathletes, DECA, National Honor Society and Girl Scouts — to name a few.

Not only is Bellomo a great student herself, but she also tutors other students from second to ninth grade in Math, Italian and English in preparation for becoming a teacher. "My favorite thing about tutoring is seeing my students excel in the subject they used to not do well in," she said.

Bellomo plans to attend college in New York City and pursue a bachelor's degree in mathematics, a master's in secondary education and eventually a doctorate. Her career goal is to become a secondary education mathematics teacher to change people's perspective on the subject. "I want them to be able to enjoy math the way I do," she said.

Bellomo plans to use the \$1,500 she received when she won the scholarship to help fund her continuing education.

The Dr. Jong Pil Lee Memorial Scholarship is named after Dr. Jong Pil Lee who helped spearhead a scholarship program for Long Island high school seniors planning to study mathematics in college. The scholarships were awarded at the annual Long Island Mathematics Conference on March 17 at SUNY College at Old Westbury.



Danielle Agoglia/Herald

SENIOR JESSICA BELLOMO was a recipient of the Dr. Jong Pil Lee Memorial Scholarship for her work in math and has plans to pursue the subject in the future.

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Large Caesar Salad Classic Dressing, Shaved Parmesan and Focaccia croutons

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Choice of
Eggplant Rollantini, Ricotta Basil Filling, House Marinara
Mini Truffle Butternut Squash Risotto Cakes

Pasta
Choice of
Baked Ziti
Penne Pasta, Spring Vegetable Primavera in Roasted Garlic Broth

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Please Note Entrees will be Raw
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Black Pepper and Dijon Crusted Eye Round of Beef, Port Wine Sauce
Rosemary Crusted Lamb Sirloin with Merlot Pan Gravy

Potato
Choice of
Twice Baked and Stuffed Idaho Potatoes
Potato Leek Au Gratin
Garlic Mashed Potatoes or Roasted Cinnamon Sweet Potato Wedges

Vegetables
Choice of
Buttered Herb Garden Vegetable Medley
Creamed Roasted Cauliflower with Pine Nut Raisin Crust
Baby Peas with Pancetta, Onion, Lemon and Mint

Dessert
Choice of
Homemade Chocolate Dipped Profiteroles with Chocolate Sauce
NY Style Cheesecake Wild Berry Sauce
Caramel Pecan Bread Pudding, Knob Hill Custard Sauce

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There are many upgrades planned for Glen Cove's new AMC movie theater

CONTINUED FROM FRONT PAGE

Ferri, who owns La Famiglia Ristorante next door, sounded indifferent. "This one was fine," he said of Glen Cove Cinema. "It's irrelevant. New or old — as long as it stays open."

Bryant Chaves, the theater's manager, sees the new lease as a sign that it's time to leave. "No one wants to stay," he said. "There are better career opportunities out there."

Chaves also said that the arrival of AMC was a bittersweet moment for the theater. An experienced movie corporation will be more attentive, he says, but with big business come big prices. He said he expected that AMC would increase the price of tickets to \$16 for adults and \$13 for children, which it charges at its other theaters. JJ's charges \$10 for adults and \$6 for children.

Glen Cove resident Lucia Sabova said she was willing to pay more for her theater ticket under one condition. "It's OK as long as it's comfortable," she said, adding as she gestured toward her daughter, "and as long as she's comfortable."

The details of the renovations

The renovated theater will feature stadium-style seating and reclining leather chairs. "I like [the theater] now, but I think reclining [seats] would be great," said Toni Dalessandro, of Sea Cliff. "I think at the moment, the closest one is Hicksville, so it'd be nice if they had that here."

Reclining seats, which are larger, will also mean a reduction in the number of seats by about half. The seating in JJ's six theaters currently ranges from 161 to 232.

The lobby will be redesigned with the AMC décor, the concession stand and ticket kiosks will be upgraded, and a new sign outside will say AMC Glen Cove 6.

The building permits have already been secured for the \$4 million project, and construction will begin when they are approved by the city's building department. A construction company has not yet been hired.

A rotating construction schedule will allow two theaters to remain open at all times throughout the summer.

The theater's past

Before it was JJ's, the theater was part of several large companies, including Cinplex and Loews. In early 2013, the building went into foreclosure and the theater closed. That October, the building was purchased by the DiNoto Group, a Huntington-based commercial real estate company.

Owner Rob DiNoto contacted AMC, which expressed interest in coming to the area, but at the time, renovations would have kept the theater closed for an additional 12 months, a potentially significant hit to the local economy. So, in December 2013, DiNoto leased the space to Jay Levinson, James Kern and Bruce Latten, the current theater operators.



Courtesy Glen Cove Mayor's Office

GLEN COVE MAYOR Reginald Spinello believes a new theater in Glen Cove will be beneficial.

The trio renovated the theater seating, the wall coverings and the restrooms, and made plans to add a waiting area with coffee and a live theater in early 2014, but that did not happen. Nonetheless, residents were excited about the changes: They finally had a functioning theater with comfortable seating and unbeatable prices.

Late last year, DiNoto asked Levinson, Kern and Latten how the theater was doing. Levinson said that because Glen Cove is so small, it was hard to keep filling the theater during the several weeks that films were required to play.

The group decided mutually that it was time to move on. "The people in Glen Cove did support us, but it wasn't enough," Levinson said. "The rent and taxes were very expensive. We just thought it was in our best interest to leave, but we are involved in negotiation with other theaters on Long Island."

DiNoto said he believed the time was right for AMC to come to Glen Cove. Deputy Mayor Barbara Peebles said that the Glen Cove Village Square project will begin while the theater is undergoing renovations, giving the city two brand new places for people to gather. The new theater will also create long-term jobs, Peebles added, and drive traffic to other stores, giving the city an overall boost. "It's such a great endorsement of our downtown," she said, "and it's all coming together."

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MADE FOR NEW YORK.

State budget stall leads GCSD to estimate state aid funds

By DANIELLE AGOGLIA
dagoglia@liherald.com

Due to a budget negotiation stall in Albany, the state education department has delayed the release of state aid funding for school districts to incorporate into their budgets, which was due on April 1. Regardless, the Glen Cove School District Board of Education proposed a 2017-2018 budget at its meeting on April 3 at Connolly School. The budget they have released is for approximately \$86 million — an increase of about \$2 million from the previous year.

The New York State Education Depart-

ment estimated in January that the district would receive an increase from last year's funding of \$553,911. In the past the state customarily give Glen Cove even more funding than its January prediction. But to err on the conservative side, the board decided to use in its calculations what it referred to as a "safe amount" — \$250,000 — when estimating what the additional funding might eventually be. The board estimated that the district will receive \$803,991 in total from the state.

Prior to the meeting, the board received a message from the state informing it that the Legislature was "expected to vote today on a budget extender that will fund

state government operations until May 31. Meaning state aid will be at last year's level until such time an agreement is reached."

The governor is waiting to find out the details of federal budget cuts before deciding on the funding for schools. "The potential impact of proposed federal cuts are estimated to be around \$1.2 billion in less aid for New York," the message stated.

Regardless, there will still be a budget vote on May 16.

Although the board shared its new budget on Monday it may be subject to change depending upon the state. "If we don't get the \$250,000, then we would have to make additional cuts in our budget," Superinten-

dent Dr. Maria Rianna explained. "The scariest part of that, is if for some reason there is a change in the federal government, the governor can pull those numbers mid-year and have cuts mid-year. Then you are looking at still collecting the taxes and piercing the [tax] cap."

Rianna maintained that the district is in touch with the state education department on a daily basis, and will post updates on the district website as soon as they come in.

Increases from the previous year include: special education funds due to the increased number of students, and teacher salaries due to "contractual obligations." The cost of IT

and computer services has also increased because of the district's iPad initiative and need for new software. In addition, transportation services increased due to the purchase of several vehicles and the hiring of two new transportation clerks, as well as health insurance in preparation for 2018 insurance hikes.

While the total budget amount has increased, the board noted there are reductions — \$150,000 for eliminating an HR position, \$286,000 after reassigning certain staff instead of hiring new personnel, and an anticipated retirement. The district has also saved \$255,000 after reassigning some of the faculty and because enrollment numbers have dropped, one less teacher is needed.

With the current state-aid estimates, the Glen Cove School District decided to present a balanced budget, with the revenue matching the expenses.

In other news

The board presented Finley School eighth grade research students from Heather Methven's class with a recognition award for participating in National History Day, a yearlong academic program focused on historical research, interpretation and creative expression.

Sarah Israel was awarded outstanding junior entry in the History of Science for her use of primary sources in her exhibit on Jonas Salk, and Liam Dall was honored with outstanding junior entry in American History and Preservation and Conservation from the Fire Island Lighthouse Preservation Society for his 3-D exhibit on the National Parks Service. Susan Giovanniello focused her project on astronaut Sally Ride and the gender gap in STEM fields.

Two students also spoke in support of Stacie Rosenblatt, who the district plans to dismiss at the end of the school year, although the reason has not been disclosed. Ninth grade student, Jay Charon, who attended the last BOE meeting with a petition that had 197 signatures protesting Rosenblatt's departure, presented the board with an updated petition that included 588 signatures.

If we don't get the \$250,000, then we would have to make additional cuts in our budget.

DR. MARIA RIANNA
GCCSD Superintendent



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Playing BINGO to support Cove Animal Shelter

People from the community and nearby went to the Knights of Columbus recently to show their support for Cove Animal Rescue attending a fundraiser. The rescue is a not-for-profit organization funded by the City of Glen Cove that is committed to treating, healing and socializing animals so people will want to adopt them. The event was well received with 65 people there to play BINGO. At the end of the evening the fundraiser gleaned \$3,500.



Tony Gallego/Herald

BINGO MISTRESS DAYNA Connelly, right, had as much fun as the players.



BINGO PLAYERS LISA and Fiona Nielsen worked together to win.



A CARD WITH photos of cats and dogs was placed on the tables to remind people attending the fundraiser that they were helping animals.

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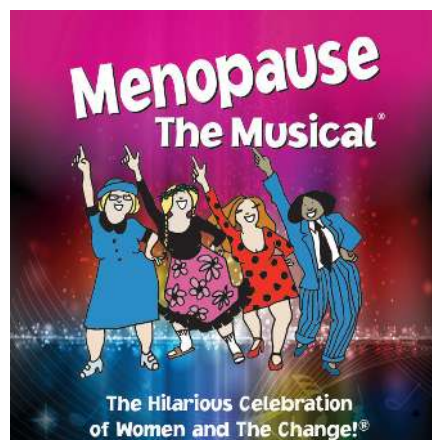
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*The Joan and David Steinberg Annual Concert. Classical music performances are made possible, in part, by The Classical Music Fund in honor of Dr. Elliott Sroka.

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STEPPING OUT

Where to go, what to do, who to see

All eyes on the court

Harlem Globetrotters bring their repertoire of “tricks” to the new Nassau Coliseum

Dunking sensation forward Hammer Harrison wows the crowd with one of his signature moves.



Those quick-fingered hoops stars make their return to Long Island, next Friday, part of Nassau Coliseum’s opening line-up this month. The Harlem Globetrotters bring their unique brand of basketball back here, with plenty of action in store for fans, April 14, at 7 p.m.

Continually pushing and expanding the sport of basketball, the Globetrotters have once again set a new mark. Or rather, a new distance.

The team has unveiled basketball’s first 4-point line for 2017, which makes its debut on the Globetrotters latest tour. The line is located 30 feet from the basket — 6 feet, 3 inches beyond the top of the NBA’s current 3-point line. It’s a move that comes six years after the team unveiled the 4-point shot to worldwide acclaim. The Globetrotters previously used a four-point circle, two on each side of the court, to designate a four-point shot since they first introduced it in 2010.

“The ‘long-range shot’ is changing basketball at all levels and it’s one of the most exciting shots in the game,” says Globetrotters President Howard Smith. “The creation of the 4-point line shows that once again, the Harlem Globetrotters are ahead of the curve when it comes to basketball innovation.”

“We have some of the best long-range shooters in basketball, so adding a 4-point line will enhance the experience and level of play that fans already see night in and night out,” adds Globetrotters Director of Player Personnel “Sweet” Lou Dunbar.

“It’s going to be a terrific addition to the 2017 tour, and a great way to showcase the extraordinary talent of basketball’s most entertaining stars.”

The NBA may scoff at the 4-point line, but not the Globetrotters or those that follow the team. “We’re just giving the fans what they want,” Smith says. “People want to see skill and talent rewarded while enjoying the game of basketball. We provide that every day.”

Players are excited about sharing their antics on the 4-point line with fans.

“It makes the game more exciting,” says Buckets Blakes. “The Globetrotters are known as innovators and trendsetters, and we keep pushing the limits.”

The 6-foot, 6-inch guard, in his 15th year with the Globetrotters, is eager to share his basketball prowess with Long Island fans. “We are excited to be back on Long Island at the new Nas-

HARLEM GLOBETROTTERS

When/Where: Friday, April 14, 7 p.m. Nassau Coliseum, Uniondale. Tickets available at (800) 745-3000 or www.ticketmaster.com or www.harlemglobetrotters.com or Nassau Coliseum box office.

Cost: Tickets start \$26.50.



Photos courtesy Harlem Globetrotters

FANS GET IN on the action with Cheese Chisholm and his fancy foot-work. “You’ll see all the traditional Globetrotter elements we are known for, the Bucket of Confetti, the Magic Circle, along with new things. Our game is bigger and better than ever and we finish strong.”

“We combine great basketball with entertainment,” says Blakes. “You’ll see all the traditional Globetrotter elements we are known for, the Bucket of Confetti, the Magic Circle, along with new things. Our game is bigger and better than ever and we finish strong.”

A Globetrotters event continues to be a spectacle of ball handling wizardry, dunks, trick shots, comedy, and fan interaction. “Our fans are very important to us,” says Blakes, who was born and raised in Phoenix, Ariz. (as Anthony Blakes). “We’ll pull kids out of the audience and onto the court. Our games always involve lots of interaction and participation. Afterwards we are always available for autographs.”

Blakes’ athleticism is reflected in his mastery of the trick shot, a feat that always enralls fans. As a result of years of intense practice, he is known as one of the fastest shooters around, thus the name “Buckets”. Of particular note is his recent achievement on World Trick Shot Day (Dec. 6, 2016). Blakes nailed the highest shot ever recorded in North America. From the top of the Tower of the Americas in San Antonio, Buckets made a 583-foot shot to a hoop located below.

“It was my second shot,” he proudly proclaims, of that day. “I expect to make every shot I take.”

— Karen Bloom
kbloom@liherald.com

SEASONAL DELIGHTS Maple Days

Spring has sprung and that means Old Bethpage Village Restoration re-opens to visitors. The restored village welcomes the season with the aroma of maple syrup during “Maple Days.” The first whiff of spring is not necessarily the scent of spring flowers, it can be the smell of wood smoke and maple syrup, a sure sign that the sap is rising and spring is on the way. Explore the ritual of the syrup-making process, from tapping the trees to “sugaring off,” along with cooking demonstrations. Also come by with the kids during spring break week, when the restored village presents its “Hands on History” program. Visitors can take part



WEEKEND Out and About

in such 19th century chores as churning fresh cream into butter, observe military drills, learn popular games of the day, and participate in craft activities. *Saturday and Sunday, April 8-9, 10 a.m.-4 p.m.; Hands on History, Wednesday through Friday, April 12-14, 10 a.m.-4 p.m. \$12, \$8 seniors and children 5-12. Old Bethpage Village Restoration, Round Swamp Rd., Old Bethpage. (516) 572-8400.*

IN CONCERT Celtic Woman

The international music sensation, a 2017 Grammy Nominee, returns with their new tour, *Voices of Angels*. Susan McFadden, Máiréad Carlin, Éabha McMahon are joined by Celtic violinist Tara McNeill and an ensemble of dynamic musicians and



dancers. Their skill and energy bring a fresh fusion to centuries of musical and cultural tradition. They’ll perform songs from their “Voices of Angels” album, during the fast-paced concert that features new stage designs, appealing wardrobes, clever choreography and lively arrangements of timeless Irish traditional and contemporary standards — all in the group’s award-winning signature style. *Saturday, April 8, 7:30 p.m. \$102, \$72, \$42. Tilles Center for the Performing Arts, LIU Post, Rte. 25A, Brookville. (800) 745-3000 or www.ticketmaster.com or www.tillescenter.org.*

ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

Coming Attractions

Performances/ On Stage

Jekyll & Hyde

The musical horror-drama based on Robert Louis Stevenson's classic tale, Thursday and Friday, April 6-7, 8 p.m.; Saturday, April 8, 3 and 8 p.m.; Sunday, April 9, 2 and 7 p.m.; Wednesday, April 12, 8 p.m. \$76 and \$71. John W. Engeman Theater, 250 Main St., Northport. (631) 261-2900.

Kevin James

The working class funnyman tours with his latest standup act, featuring special guest Chris Roach, Thursday, April 6, 8 p.m. \$99.50, \$79.50, \$69.50, \$49.50. The Paramount, 370 New York Ave., Huntington. (800) 745-3000 or www.ticketmaster.com or www.paramountny.com.



Marc Anthony

The pop icon in concert, Sunday, April 9, 7 p.m. Nassau Coliseum, 1255 Hempstead Tpke., Uniondale, (800) 745-3000 or www.ticketmaster.com or www.nassaucoliseum.com.

Travis Tritt

The country singer in concert, Thursday, April 6, 8 p.m. \$99.50, \$79.50, \$59.50, \$49.50, and \$39.50. NYCB Theatre at Westbury, 960 Brush Hollow Rd., Westbury. (800) 745-3000 or www.livenation.com.

New Horizons String Orchestra

The orchestra explores varied string quartet works, Friday, April 7, 9:30 a.m.-12 p.m. New members playing violin, viola, cello or bass are invited to join. Huntington Public Library, 338 Main St., Huntington. 785-2532 or www.fhso.org.

Ana Vidovic

The virtuoso classical guitarist in concert, performing as part of the annual Long Island Guitar Festival, Saturday, April 8, 8 p.m. \$25. Tilles Center for the Performing Arts, LIU Post, Rte. 25A, Brookville. (800) 745-3000 or www.ticketmaster.com or www.tillescenter.org.

Kathy Griffin

The unpredictable comedian delivers commentary on modern culture, Saturday April 8, 8 p.m. \$124.50, \$99.50, \$79.50, \$69.50, \$49.50, NYCB Theatre at Westbury, 960 Brush Hollow Rd., Westbury. (800) 745-3000 or www.livenation.com.

Kim Russo

The "Happy Medium," shares her world of the spirit, Wednesday, exploring her psychic abilities on stage, Saturday, April 8, 8 p.m. \$45, \$35, \$30. Jeanne Rimsky Theater at Landmark on Main Street, 232 Main St., Port Washington. 767-6444 or www.landmarkonmainstreet.org.



Dancing Dream

The '70s come alive when the ABBA tribute band Dancing Dream visits the Landmark on Main Street stage, on Saturday, April 22, at 7:30 p.m.

The dynamic band brings ABBA-style charisma and energy to their entertaining concert, which, of course, feature the mega-hits "Mamma Mia," "Dancing Queen," "Take A Chance," "Fernando," and more. Formerly known as ABBA GIRLZ, this New York City-based group delivers an enthralling homage to the classic pop act with exciting harmonies, elaborate costumes and choreography.

Tickets are \$37.50; available at (631) 698-9696 or www.landmarkonmainstreet.org. Landmark on Main Street, Jeanne Rimsky Theater, 232 Main St., Port Washington.

West Side Story

The classic musical, featuring Leonard Bernstein and Stephen Sondheim's score, Saturday, April 8, 8 p.m.; Sunday, April 9, 2:30 p.m. \$24, \$22 seniors, \$20 students, \$15 children. All tickets \$29 at door. BroadHollow Theatre, BayWay Arts Center, 265 E. Main St., East Islip. (631) 581-2700 or www.broadhollow.org.

Netflix's Here Comes the Funny Tour

Adam Sandler, Rob Schneider, David Spade, and Nick Swardson appear together, Wednesday, April 12, 8 p.m. \$229.50, \$249.50, \$124.50, \$199.50, \$149.50, \$109.50, \$74.50. NYCB Theatre at Westbury, 960 Brush Hollow Rd., Westbury. (800) 745-3000 or www.livenation.com.

For the Kids



Egg Hunt

Celebrate the season at the annual egg hunt, Sunday, April 9, 2 p.m. (egg hunt begins at 2:15). With crafts and varied activities. Bring a basket. Bailey Arboretum, 194 Bayville Rd., Lattintown. 801-1458 or www.baileyarboretum.org.

Poetry on the Move

Participate in an interactive story journey, with Karen DeMauro, Thursday, April 6, 7 p.m. Explore images, movement and

rhythms using hip hop lyrics, haiku and favorite poems. Glen Cove Public Library, 4 Glen Cove Ave., Glen Cove. 676-2130 or www.glencovelibrary.org.



Film Fun

See "Trolls," the animated buddy musical adventure, Tuesday, April 11, 2 p.m. Sea Cliff Library, 300 Sea Cliff Ave., Sea Cliff. 671-4290.

Learn to Crochet

Complete a project from start to finish, presented by the Crochet Connection, Tuesday, April 11, 4:30 p.m. Glen Cove Public Library, 4 Glen Cove Ave., Glen Cove. 676-2130 or www.glencovelibrary.org.

Screen Time

See "Moana," Disney's animated action adventure about an adventurous teenager who sails out on a daring mission to save her people in ancient Polynesia, Thursday, April 13, 11:30 a.m. Oyster Bay-East Norwich Public Library, 89 East Main St., Oyster Bay. 922-1212.

Splattered Paint Craft

Create a "splattered" spring animal in the style of Jackson Pollack, Thursday, April 13, 4:15 p.m. For grades K-3. Glen Cove Public Library, 4 Glen Cove Ave., Glen Cove. 676-2130 or www.glencovelibrary.org.

Nature Walk

Discover the plants, tree and animals

that inhabit the spring woods, Thursday, April 13, 11 a.m. and 1 p.m. \$4, \$2 ages 5-12. Garvies Point Museum and Preserve, 50 Barry Drive, Glen Cove. 571-8010 or www.garviespointmuseum.com.

Museums/ Galleries and more...

Blue

A fiber and clay exhibition featuring local artists. Varied works by Barbara Karyo, Sally Shore, Michaelann Tostanoski, Marcia Widner, and Nancy Yoshii, among others are on view. Through May 7. Oyster Bay Historical Society, 20 Summit St., Oyster Bay. 922-5032 or www.oysterbayhistorical.org.

This and That

A solo exhibition by member artist Bert Winsberg. Works on view represent his interest in music, cities and landscapes. B.J. Spoke Gallery, 299 Main Street, Huntington. Through April 30. (631) 549-5106 or www.bjspokegallery.org.

Long Island's Best: Young Artists at the Heckscher Museum

This juried exhibition, now in its 21st year, features 84 works of art by students in grades 9 through 12 attending 57 public and private schools throughout Nassau and Suffolk Counties. Through April 9. Heckscher Museum of Art, Main St. and Prime Ave., Huntington. (631) 351-3250 or www.heckscher.org.

Thar She Blows: Whaling History On Long Island

The exhibit explores one of the region's most important industries. Visitors can smell a foc'sle, work on a ship hull, learn

the hows and whys of whaling, and find out how the whaling industry launched a conservation movement. 301 Main St., Cold Spring Harbor. (631) 367-3418 or www.cshwhalingmuseum.org.



Halston Style

A comprehensive retrospective of the works of the American fashion designer Halston. The exhibition includes many never-before-seen objects from the designer's personal archives and more than 60 Halston fashions, juxtaposed with photographs, artwork, illustrations and accessories as well as film and video documentation. Through July 9. Nassau County Museum of Art, 1 Museum Dr., Roslyn Harbor. 484-9337 or www.nassaumuseum.org.

Friday Flick

See "The Light Between Oceans," a period drama about a lighthouse keeper and his wife living off the coast of Western Australia who raise a baby they rescue from a drifting boat, Friday, April 7, 2 p.m. Glen Cove Public Library, 4 Glen Cove Ave., Glen Cove. 676-2130 or www.glencovelibrary.org

Movie Showing

See the film classic "Cat Ballou," starring Jane Fonda and Lee Marvin, Friday, April 7, 2 p.m.; also "Manchester by the Sea," the drama about a depressive loner who slowly comes back to life, Tuesday, April 11, 2 p.m. Gold Coast Public Library, 50 Railroad Ave., Glen Head. 759-8300 or www.goldcoastlibrary.org.

From Italy with Love

Explore the personal stories of Sophia Loren and Marcello Mastroianni and the impact of their careers, in a multi-media presentation with Marilyn Carminio, Wednesday, April 12, 2 p.m. Jeanne Rimsky Theater at Landmark on Main Street, 232 Main St., Port Washington. 767-6444 or www.landmarkonmainstreet.org.

Movie Showing

See "Hacksaw Ridge," the historical drama based on the true story of a pacifist Army medic who served during the Battle of Okinawa, Thursday, April 13, 2 and 6:30 p.m. Oyster Bay-East Norwich Public Library, 89 East Main St., Oyster Bay. 922-1212.

Having an event?

Submissions can be emailed to kbloom@lherald.com.



VIEWFINDER

By SUSAN GRIECO

THE QUESTION:

What's the best place where you found the Matzo?



It was in a room with a couch, in a drawer with nothing else in it but the Matzo.

EVELYN GOZENPUD
Student



It was like a treasure hunt. It was downstairs in my playroom in the squishy part of the pillows, where your butt goes.

ALEX RICHETTI
Student



Under my bed. I stuck my head there and I found it, and then I just ate it!

ANDRES HAAS
Student



I found it in the closet underneath a shelf, and then I took it and hid it in the bookshelf.

TYLER SCHEURER
Student



It was under a lot of heavy books. I wouldn't think to look there because I thought it would get crushed, but then I saw the Matzo case.

HANNAH WIENER
Student



Next to a bunch of DVD cases. It was hard to find because it blended in.

ARIELLE ZIFF
Student



Roni Chastain/Herald

SUSAN POTTER WEPPLER, the producer, applied makeup on JonLuc Monteforte before the show. He went on to play a female character to replace an actress who dropped out.

First show a big hit for Slayer Players

By **LAURA LANE**

llane@liherald.com

The Slayer Players Theatre Company, a group of 10 Glen Cove and Sea Cliff residents, had the time of their lives performing for a sold-out audience at The View Grill last Saturday. The new dinner theater, which includes members with varying backgrounds — a doctor, lawyer, professor, even a Pilates instructor — presented the “1st Annual Mystery Solver Hall of Fame Induction Banquet,” a comedy murder mystery, that included audi-

ence participation.

Kay Johnson, of Glen Cove, directed the production. “it was a blast,” Johnson said. “After the show people stayed an extra hour. They didn’t want to leave.”

This Saturday’s show is already sold-out but Johnson is working on adding another show.

“We are a well-rounded group of people,” said actor Fred Dimenna, “really just a bunch of older people trying to have fun.”

Find Slayer Players on Facebook for announcements about upcoming performances.

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HERALD SPORTS

SPOTLIGHT ATHLETE



MICAELA COSTELLO

Glen Cove Sophomore Softball

A YEAR AFTER earning Honorable Mention All-County as a freshman and helping Glen Cove to a 13-win season, Costello got the new season off to a positive note with a .500 average, three runs scored and a pair of RBIs while contributing solid defense at second base. In 2016, she had 20 hits in 50 at-bats (.400 average) and ranked among the team leaders in runs scored with 13 and RBIs with 7.

GAMES TO WATCH

Thursday, April 6

Girls Lacrosse: Glen Cove at New Hyde Park.....4:30 p.m.
Boys Tennis: Locust Valley at Glen Cove4:30 p.m.
Boys Tennis: North Shore at Wheatley.....4:30 p.m.
Baseball: Division at Glen Cove4:45 p.m.
Baseball: Floral Park at North Shore 5 p.m.

Friday, April 7

Softball: Lawrence at North Shore4:30 p.m.
Boys Lacrosse: Wheatley at Glen Cove.....4:30 p.m.
Softball: Great Neck South at Glen Cove4:30 p.m.
Boys Lacrosse: North Shore at Mineola4:45 p.m.

Saturday, April 8

Softball: Glen Cove at Carle Place 10 a.m.

Monday, April 10

Girls Lacrosse: Freeport at Glen Cove 10 a.m.
Softball: Carle Place at North Shore 10 a.m.
Boys Lacrosse: North Shore at Baldwin 10 a.m.
Baseball: Glen Cove at Bethpage.....10:30 a.m.
Baseball: North Shore at V.S. South..... 10:30 a.m.
Girls Lacrosse: Plainedge at North Shore..... 11 a.m.

Tuesday, April 11

No games scheduled

NOMINATE A SPOTLIGHT ATHLETE

Nassau County High School Athletic Directors, varsity coaches and parents of varsity athletes can nominate candidates to be highlighted on the sports page. Please send all materials, including a digital photo (head shot), to sports@liherald.com.



Roni Chastain/Herald

CAMERON FILPPONE is an integral part of the Big Red, serving as a starting pitcher and first baseman, as well as someone it relies on to contribute offensively.

Big Red refuels and refocuses

By JD FREDA

sports@liherald.com

Following a season where the Big Red baseball team finished an even 10-10 within the Nassau Conference A-III, Glen Cove looks to focus on the little nuances of the game to help propel it towards a successful season.

Losing two highly skilled seniors, the Big Red is looking to instill a new identity under new team leaders. According to head coach Jon Dolecki, the early-season focus is simply working on all-around facets of the game and sticking to the fundamentals.

"We're focusing on the little things that are going to make this team better," Dolecki said. "Moving runners around, pitchers throwing strikes, and swinging a good bat."

Glen Cove entered the season without two of its most productive players last year in the form of Jonathan Capobianco, a pitcher and third basemen now playing for LIU Post, and Guy Famaletti, a pitcher on the bump for the University

of New Haven.

Nevertheless, the team looks towards two returning players from last year's roster to help bring continued success. First, senior catcher Ryan Shannon, recently voted to Long Island's Top 100 high school baseball players and an All-Division honors recipient last year, will look to lead this team throughout the year. When asked if there was any individual that would stand out and possibly be a vocal leader amongst the players, Dolecki said "It would have to be Shannon. He's been a three-year starter for us. I would say him (Shannon)." The senior will also look to build off his uncanny .412 batting average sustained last season. Senior dual-threat Victor Cintron, a pitcher and outfielder, will look to be a go-to rotational starter for the Big Red while also being integral in the team's defensive unit when placed in the outfield.

Rounding out the rotation will be Cameron Fillipone and Michael Capobianco. Fillipone, the No. 3 starter for the Big Red and a starting first baseman as well, will be looked upon to contribute

offensively. Capobianco, a shortstop on days where he isn't on the mound, will also look to make an impact both on the offensive and defensive side. Second basemen Robert Rizzo also looks to enter his name into a consistent offensive conversation this spring.

Blessed with a wealth of guys who can hurl the ball, Glen Cove also has a few relief pitchers capable of working the squad out of jams. Juniors Robert McCarthy and Jared Venekas are poised for a solid year in relief under Dolecki's tutelage, with Shannon at the back of the bullpen set to close for the program.

Although focused on the current team's success, Dolecki, a mainstay in Glen Cove, also appreciates seeing his former players grow within the community. "The best part about seeing them grow, my past players, is watching them go on and become adults and become very successful in life."

Glen Cove faces conference rivals South Side, Wantagh (defending state champion), Division, Plainedge and Bethpage three times apiece.

Lauren Kristy



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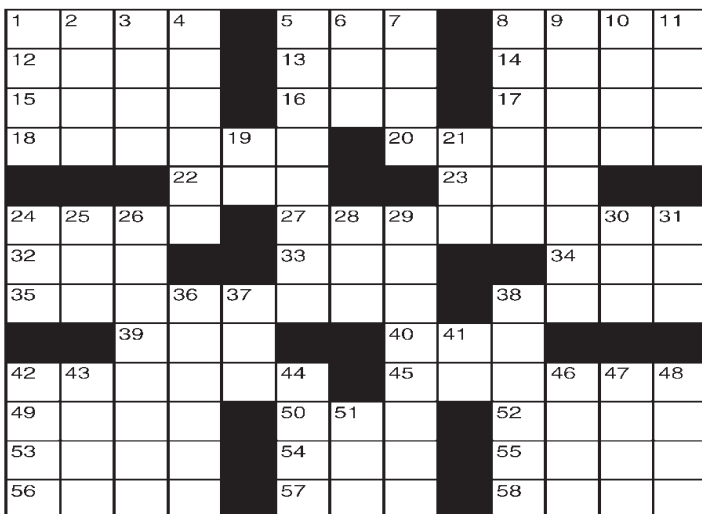
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HERALD Crossword Puzzle

King Crossword

ACROSS

- 1 Smooth-talking
- 5 Water barrier
- 8 Urban pall
- 12 Places
- 13 "Where did — wrong?"
- 14 Ocean motion
- 15 Enthusiastic, plus
- 16 — de deux
- 17 One
- 18 Cognitive
- 20 Dry cleaner's challenges
- 22 Acapulco gold
- 23 Branch
- 24 Freeway access
- 27 Small details
- 32 Peyton's brother
- 33 Alias (Abbr.)
- 34 Sharp turn
- 35 Church VIP
- 38 Titanic foe
- 39 Ostrich's cousin
- 40 "Flying Down to —"
- 42 High-ranking angel
- 45 Historic write-up
- 49 Rocky peak
- 50 Suitable



- | | | |
|----------------------|--------------------------------|----------------------|
| 52 Castle protection | 7 Peat source | 29 Storyteller |
| 53 Leering look | 8 Washington's portraitist | 30 Melody |
| 54 Zodiac cat | 9 Play down | 31 Early bird? |
| 55 Former | 10 Valhalla VIP | 36 Pictorializations |
| 56 Pitch | 11 Understands | 37 Dine |
| 57 Listener | 19 It's between kue and ess | 38 Witticism |
| 58 Abound | 21 Greek consonant | 41 Fashionable |
| | 24 Sleep phenomenon, for short | 42 Highlander |
| | 25 "The Greatest" | 43 Therefore |
| | 26 Ores | 44 — and hearty |
| | 28 Prez after | 46 Top-rated |
| | | 47 Chantilly, e.g. |
| | | 48 Goblet feature |
| | | 51 Shooter ammo |

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Suozzi creates Artistic Discover Contest

Winning artwork will be displayed in U.S. Capitol

U.S. Rep. Tom Suozzi, of Glen Cove, has announced a competition for high school artists. The Artistic Discovery Contest, is open to all high school students living in New York's Third Congressional District. The winners will be able to have their artwork displayed in the U.S. Capitol for one year. The top three runners-up will have their submissions displayed in Congressman Suozzi's Washington, D.C., Huntington, and Queens offices.



Tom Suozzi

Suozzi has always been a strong supporter of the arts. He is the chairman of Glen Cove's Morgan Park Summer Music Festival. Additionally, he once commissioned Oyster Bay Cove artist Mort Kunstler to paint the accurate por-

trayal of Washington Crossing the Delaware, and has included artwork as part of the historic renovations in Glen Cove City Hall and at the Nassau County Theodore Roosevelt Executive and Legislative building.

All contest entries must be submitted to Suozzi's Huntington office no later than 5:30 p.m. on April 26. There will be a reception a few days later, where first place and runners-up will be announced. The first-place student and their family will receive transportation to Washington, D.C. for a cere-

mony at the Capitol. For more information on the contest, visit: <https://suozzi.house.gov/services/art-competition>

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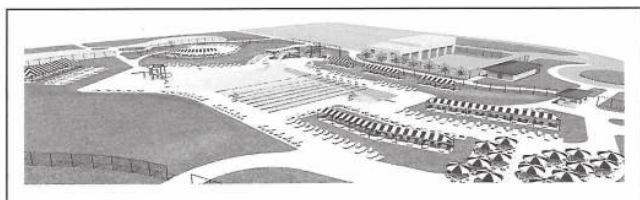
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What's Cooking?



Turkey Salad with Apples and Almonds

Ingredients

- 2 tablespoons sliced almonds
- 3 tablespoons sour cream
- 1 tablespoon mayonnaise
- Dash ground celery seed
- Dash ground cardamom
- 1/8 teaspoon salt or to taste (optional)
- 1 cup (5 oz.) roasted turkey or chicken breast cubes
- 1 cup cubed tart or sweet apple, peeled or unpeeled
- 1/2 cup dried cranberries
- 1 small celery stalk, diced

Preparation

Step 1
Spray a medium nonstick skillet with nonstick spray. Add the almonds. Over

medium heat, cook the almonds, stirring, until they brown and smell toasted, about 4 to 5 minutes. If the almonds begin to burn, lower the heat slightly. Immediately remove to a small plate and set aside.

Step 2

In a medium bowl, stir together the sour cream, mayonnaise, celery seed, cardamom, and salt (if desired). Stir in the turkey, apple, celery, and reserved almonds. Serve at once, or cover and refrigerate several hours or up to 24 hours.

Leftover salad will keep in the refrigerator for 2 to 3 days. Makes 4 servings.

Have a recipe you'd like to share? Send recipes and photos to llane@liherald.com

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OBITUARIES

Robbie Venturino

Robbie Venturino, of Glen Cove, N.Y., died on April 3, 2017. She was the beloved wife of Frank, the loving mother of Bryanne, the loving daughter of Marion and the late William Flanagan, and dear sister of Trish Flanagan and Eileen Petrucci (Robert). She is survived by many nieces and nephews.

Visiting will be held on Thursday, April 6 from 2 to 4 p.m. and 7 to 9 p.m. at Whitting Funeral Home, 300 Glen Cove Avenue, Glen Head, N.Y. The funeral mass will be held on April 7 at 10 a.m. at St. Patrick's Church in Glen Cove, N.Y. The interment is private. Contributions may be made to the Jimmy Valvano Foundation at <https://www.jimmyv.org/>.

Michele Cipriano

Michele Cipriano, of Glen Cove, N.Y. died on April 4, 2017. Beloved husband of the late Anotnia, loving father of Marciano (Patricia), Evelina (Mario) Totino and Marisa (Dr. Charles) Gambino. Special grandfather of Michael, Daniel, Rocco, Michael, Jessica, Francesca, and Antonia, and great grandfather of Charlotte. Visiting will be held at McLaughlin Kramer Megiel Funeral Home. Funeral Mass will be held at the Church of St. Rocco. Internment will be at Locust Valley Cemetery.

Virginia "Ginny" Lichte-Mattner

Virginia "Ginny" Lichte-Mattner, of Sea Cliff, N.Y., died on March 16, 2017. Beloved wife of Robert, loving mother of Kathryn Rae Mattner and Jonathan Robert Mattner; dear sister of Donald Lichte (Kay) and Larry Lichte (Dolores) and sister-in-law of Richard Mattner (Jacqueline) and the late Paul Mattner (Ellie). Virginia is also survived by many nieces and nephews.

Visiting was held at Whitting Funeral Home at 300 Glen Cove Ave., Glen Head. The funeral service was held at Our Saviors Lutheran Church in Glen Head, and the interment, at St. Paul's Church yard in Glen Cove. Contributions may be made to the Brain Injury Association of America: <http://www.biausa.org/>.

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Will Sea Cliff's Troy Ramey win on The Voice?

CONTINUED FROM FRONT PAGE

any singer would treasure, but Ramey hasn't been in the business long. He didn't start singing until he was in his 20s, and he described himself as a "late bloomer." Still grieving from the loss of his father a few years earlier, he was looking for an outlet for his grief while attending Boston College. There he joined a rock band — In Like Lions — and channeled his emotions into songwriting. The band became popular among Boston locals, which gave Ramey the confidence to pursue music and songwriting in his spare time.

After moving to Long Island, he was introduced to Dante Lattanzi, owner of Caelum Music Production, in Oceanside. Ramey said it was there that "magic" happened.

Lattanzi, who grew up in Queens and has lived in California, moved to Oceanside a few years ago. He met Ramey through a singer he was working with. "I asked him to sing; I wanted to hear him," Lattanzi recalled. "I think my mouth just dropped. I was just so blown away. I've been kind of looking high and low for somebody of that caliber for years now."

So the two got to work. While Ramey writes his own melodies and lyrics, Lattanzi, who plays 13 instruments, has helped him with production, mixing, editing and mastering at his Foxhurst Road studio. He helped Ramey put out his first song, "Rosary," and over the past year he has racked up almost 4 million Spotify plays, Lattanzi says. He added that he wasn't surprised by the public reaction to Ramey after he



Courtesy NBC Universal and Caelum Productions

TROY RAMEY BEAT out Jozy Bernadette during the Battle Rounds.

appeared on "The Voice," and that the exposure has helped him grow as a singer and songwriter. Lattanzi said that a Ramey tour in the near future is "very realistic."

"I think just seeing him on 'The Voice' really opened up a whole new dimension to him," Lattanzi said. "I feel like his confidence level is just at a totally different place at the moment. It's been very exciting."

Ramey said he knew his career was going in the right direction when he could support himself with his music. People started to take notice, including the producers of "The Voice," who asked him to audition for the show. "It's something I never thought I'd ever do — I never thought it was for me," Ramey said. "As a songwriter, it was important to me that I make a name for myself with my own songs, but all the success that

happened in the past couple of years gave me the confidence to go on the show."

At the audition, he sang "Wild World" as a tribute to his father. "I have a lot of memories of my dad singing that as a kid," he said. "It was a big moment in my career, and to be able to give a tribute to him was special because my family was there as well."

After the performance, Ramey's cover of "Wild World" hit No. 9 on the iTunes top 10 — a stunning accomplishment.

After the audition, Ramey and the rest of Stefani's team worked with seven-time Grammy winner Celine Dion, practicing for the Battle Rounds, in which team members compete against one another while singing duets. "Our time with Celine was incredible," Ramey said. "There was no real instruction except to

keep up with what I was doing, which was the craziest part of all."

He said he was blown away by the support he received after appearing on TV only once. A bar where his band once struggled to attract a crowd was now packed with people singing along to the performance. "I did expect a certain amount of negative energy, but so far everything has been so positive," he said. "It's a reinforcement that I'm doing the right thing."

Even though the days of filming for the show are long, Ramey and the rest of the contestants can't complain because, he said, "It's the most exciting thing any of us have done in our entire life."

He said he plans to continue to pursue music no matter what happens on the show. "I went into 'The Voice' just hoping to enhance my career that I already have," he said. "I know people will connect to the real me. I'm proud of the songs I've written and the songwriter I've become, and I'm comfortable with people discovering that."

While his career path may take him in many different directions, Ramey says he plans to stay in Sea Cliff. "I have a lot of gratitude — my career started here," he said. "I'm happy here right now, and there's no need to think about going anywhere else."

Tune into "The Voice" on April 10, at 8 p.m., on NBC, to see Ramey perform in the Knockouts, where team members compete against one another while singing solo.

Ben Strack contributed to this article.



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Ryan Hedlund/Herald

THE CHORUS GIRLS sang "Tee Shirt" by Birdy.

Glen Cove's got a lot of talent

By **DANIELLE AGOGLIA**

dagoglia@liherald.com

On the evening of Friday, March 24, students, parents and friends gathered in the Glen Cove High School auditorium to watch the 12th annual Glen Cove's Got Talent night. The show, put on by the school's Music Performing Arts Parent Association (MPAPA), is a fundraising event where the money raised from ticket sales goes directly to end-of-year scholarships for seniors within the musical department.

Students and alumni practiced for weeks under the watch of former MPAPA president and talent show organizer Maria Filippone, to put on a performance that showcased their diverse talents.

Tenth graders Melena Abercrombie and Hannah Boecklin were in several numbers that showcased their dancing and singing skills. In one number they sang together with a larger group to an acoustic piano version of "Tee Shirt," by Birdy from the movie "The Fault in Our Stars." Boecklin also danced to Faith Hill's "There You Will Be," as a tribute to her grandmother.

Abercrombie, who has been singing all her life, helped close out the show with Genazia Vance by singing "Freedom" by Beyoncé, complete with a group of students holding posters and flags from different countries. "I want the message to get out there, that not every-

one is bad," she explained.

Alumni Sean Brisotti used the show for his singing debut, performing a whole-hearted rendition of "Hallelujah," accompanied by his acoustic guitar. "I'm definitely very proud that I went through with it," he later said.

Students weren't the only ones with talent, however. Jody and Paul Fahey, parents of tenth grader Kyle Fahey, closed out the first act with a duet of "New Divide" by Lincoln Park. "We did it more for the shock value," said Paul, "but we actually did pretty good."

Teacher's assistant Jenny Schlaefer sang the Spanish song "¡Corre!" by Jesse & Joy, and even Principal Antonio Santana told a few jokes from back when he did stand-up comedy. "It brings kids from all walks of life and gives them a venue to express themselves," Santana said of the show.

The audience was filled with supportive parents and students who sang along, clapped and gave standing ovations and wild screams after every performance. They even held up phone lights to simulate lighters at a concert.

This year, the show raised almost \$2,000 in scholarships and Filippone hopes it will continue to give back. "It's very difficult to get up there," she said. "So I give the kids a lot of credit for coming out and giving it a try and practicing together and supporting each other."

Junior lacrosse season is underway 27

Lacrosse season officially began last weekend for the Glen Cove Junior Lacrosse Club. There were no home games then because the fields were being prepared for the home opener this weekend.

The third and fourth grade Lady Knights began their season with an early morning game in Hewlett. The girls took to the field with high expectations coming off last season's remarkable run. But they lost 4-2 but with their heads held high. The girls expect to improve as the season goes on.

The upstart fifth grade team played its inaugural game against a talented Massapequa team. This squad is comprised of all rookies playing lacrosse for the first time together as a team. Even though the Lady Knights came out on the losing side — 10-3 — they learned a great deal.

Three out of the four Junior Lacrosse Club's boys' teams played last weekend, with the third and fourth grade team taking on neighboring rival Oyster Bay. This

young squad matched their opponent goal for goal as the game ended with a tie — 6-6.

At the fifth and sixth grade level, the boys traveled to Roosevelt and put on a great display of teamwork. Five different Knights scored with Aidan Costella and Nicky Ladeairous scoring twice and Alex Benazzi, Mark LaRocca and Jack Spoto each adding one.

The seventh and eighth grade Knights, deemed this season as the North Cove Knights, as they are a combined group of Glen Cove and North Shore athletes, played their first game against a tough Plainedge team in their own back yard and lost, 9-6.

Home action for the boys and girls begins Sunday, April 9, with third and fourth graders playing at 9 a.m. and fifth and sixth graders playing at 10:30 a.m. at Glen Cove High School JV field.

Brian Neice contributed research to this story.

GLEN COVE HERALD GAZETTE — April 6, 2017

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HERALD EDITORIAL

State must lead on Common Core testing

Nearly 95,000 Long Island children in grades three through eight — roughly 52 percent of the total — did not take the New York state standardized English Language Arts exam last week, as the “opt-out” movement once again continued its campaign opposing the test.

Parents, school administrators, teachers and elected leaders all seem to have strong opinions on Common Core testing — and they appear unafraid to offer them.

There is one person, however, from whom we have heard relatively little — State Education Commissioner MaryEllen Elia. She must provide guidance to confused and concerned parents and children who need to understand why, precisely, students must take the relatively new Common Core tests. In our estimation, though, she has done a poor job of explaining the value of the rigorous exams, which explains why the opt-out movement continues unabated.

Heck, opting out of the tests has practically become institutionalized, an annual event on the spring academic calendar that gives parents a forum to express their anger with an education system that seems tone-deaf to their concerns.

Education Commissioner MaryEllen Elia needs to speak up and make a more persuasive case.

Before 2016, many parents said they were opting their children out of the Common Core exams because it was unfair to base teacher evaluations, even in part, on state standardized test results. Fair enough. But given the current moratorium that prevents the state from tying students’ test scores to

teachers’ Annual Professional Performance Reviews, the point is moot — at least through 2019, when the moratorium is set to expire.

Many parents also say the tests produce too much anxiety in their children. We don’t wish to pooh-pooh that concern, but sooner or later students must sit for major exams that are critical to their futures. If they never take so-called big tests in elementary

and middle school because their parents keep opting them out, then they will likely be at a disadvantage when they reach high school — and they can’t refuse to sit for Common Core-aligned Regents exams that are required for graduation. Moreover, if they hope to attend college, they will have to take the tests that students fear most of all, the SAT and ACT.

Instead of sticking their heads in the sand and hoping the opt-out movement withers away, state education officials should be at the forefront in explaining how Common Core exams can be used to identify students’ strengths and weaknesses so they receive the right remedial services, if necessary, while they are still young enough to benefit from them.

When it comes to learning, high school, quite frankly, is too late to play catch-up.

As New York’s top educator, Elia must lead on Common Core testing, offering words of wisdom and comfort to encourage children to sit for state exams, or she must call for an end to them. With students opting out by the tens of thousands, the current system is clearly not working.

Forget the ‘right to be forgotten’ bill

Do people have the “right to be forgotten,” to wipe the memory of their existence from the “Internet of all things,” the great international data storehouse in this information age?

State Assemblyman David Weprin, a Queens Democrat, thinks so. He has proposed a bill that, if passed, would require anyone publishing on the internet to take down “inaccurate or irrelevant information” about a person within 30 days, or face a fine of \$250 per day, plus attorney’s fees.

The European Union’s highest court ruled in 2014 that Google had to remove people’s personal information that they found “inaccurate, inadequate, irrelevant and excessive.” So, Weprin’s measure would not be unprecedented.

It is, however, an absurd idea that would infringe on Americans’ right to a free press, set forth in the First Amendment of the Constitution. If passed, it would set a dangerous precedent in a free and open society.

There are mechanisms by which people can sue for libel when news organizations,

or any internet publishers, have seriously mucked up their stories. And legitimate media understand that. That is why they are most often more than willing to correct inaccurate or poorly reported stories found on the web, just as they are willing to do so in their print editions. And it’s much easier to correct the record on the internet. It requires only a few taps on the computer keyboard, and voilà, it’s done.

If we are to maintain our right to free speech and a free press, Weprin’s bill must never see the light of day.

LETTERS

Funding for estuary and coastal resiliency can’t be cut

To the Editor:

Long Island is a globally significant ecosystem providing a critical habitat for an extraordinary array of birds, fish and other wildlife, while also contributing annually more than \$8.5 billion to the northeast regional economy. Its water quality and marine environment impact more Americans than any other estuary in the United States, as more than 28 million people, a full 10 percent of the U.S. population, live within 50 miles of its shores. Consequently, in 1985, Long Island Sound was one of the first four estuaries designated by Congress to the National Estuary Program. This designation allowed for its restoration.



Sweeping budget cuts could threaten US National Park Service.

Stiglich
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OPINIONS

Everybody wants lower taxes, so let's urbanize

Everybody is against everything everywhere. That seems to be a common theme in Nassau County.

Where else can you find people so opposed to burdensome property taxes, and yet so reluctant to embrace the sort of commercial development that alleviates them?



**NICK
BUGLIONE**

Take my friend Erin. She lives in Floral Park, not far from the Elmont border. She hates this time of year. It's when residents find out how much their mortgages are going up thanks to yet another tax increase.

I hate this time of year, too. I kind of feel bad for the guy from my credit union who has to inform me that my last payment was a little short. It usually goes something like, "I'm really sorry, Mr. Buglione, but everybody's getting

slammed this year."

Erin hates taxes. I hate them, too. Who likes high taxes? That's like saying you like root canal or colonoscopies.

But like so many Nassau County residents, Erin is hypersensitive about any kind of development in her neighborhood. She was a vocal opponent of the contentious proposal last year to build a video gaming parlor at Belmont Park, which is within walking distance of her house.

I could better accept why she and her neighbors were against the casino deal if it weren't for the fact that seemingly every commercial development proposed in Nassau County is met with that kind of opposition.

What's with the people out here? Why are they so afraid of any kind of change? For heaven's sake, you can't build a Taco Bell on Hempstead Turnpike in East Meadow without someone screaming bloody murder.

In the five years I spent reporting local news in Queens and Nassau, I was always amazed at how much stronger the "not in my backyard" mentality seemed out here. Show me the blueprints for a new store, an apartment building or a

medical office and I'll show you scores, if not hundreds, of ticked-off residents.

What's more, these are the same people who bellyache about sky-high taxes. Even with the state-imposed cap that prevents municipalities and school districts from raising levies more than about 2 percent a year, taxes remain a problem. They're partly the reason why our young people simply can't afford to live here.

School districts — which get the vast majority of our taxes — say the blame lies with the state, since funding for education doesn't keep up with rising costs. The state usually absolves itself by pointing toward record increases in school aid every year.

So what's the solution? Keep raising property taxes? Or cut teacher salaries, fire administrators and slash school district programs? Pray Albany gives us more money?

I have a novel idea: Let's embrace expansion. Businesses pay property

taxes. More businesses mean lower taxes for residents.

I know it's sacrilegious to say this, but let's urbanize. Let's throw out the zoning codes and start over. Let's erect more buildings. Let's put up high-rise apartment towers. Let's expand mass transit. Let the Metropolitan Transportation Authority bring the F train right to my doorstep, for all I care. No, it wouldn't solve our tax issues in the short term, but we just might save ourselves in the long run.

If Nassau County were its own city, it would be among the 10 largest in the nation. It's asinine to expect a municipality of nearly 1.4 million people to never

change.

Or let's keep everything exactly the way it is, but don't let me hear anyone complain about their taxes again.

Former Herald assistant editor Nick Buglione is a freelance journalist and teacher who lives in East Meadow.

Let's throw out the zoning codes and start over. Let's erect more high-rise apartments. Let the MTA bring the F train right to my doorstep.

LETTERS

While Long Island Sound has suffered from pollution, habitat loss, ecosystem and fishery disruption, as well as excessive nitrogen discharges from sources like sewage treatment plants, water quality has improved through investments made at the local, state, and federal levels.

That's why President Trump's leaked EPA budget proposal and proposed cuts to NOAA, which slash funding to protect and restore Long Island's estuary is so alarming. Projects funded through these programs result in cleaner water, healthier habitat and vibrant and resilient communities across Long Island's coastal estuary. Over the 2003-2013 period, the National Estuary Programs leveraged \$4.2 billion from \$230 million in EPA grants, raising over \$18 for every \$1 invested by the EPA.

Audubon New York and the Audubon chapters that work in and around Long Island urge Congress to oppose any cuts to estuary and coastal resiliency funding. This irreplaceable estuary provides critical breeding and stopover habitat for hundreds of thousands of birds each year, including piping plovers, American oystercatchers and least terns. Without federal support, the estuary hangs in the balance.

Contact your senators and representatives and ask them to oppose this budget proposal. Together, we can ensure that the Long Island Sound continues to provide a high quality of life for people, birds and wildlife that depend on it.

ERIN CROTTY
*Executive Director
Audubon New York*

Fresh Air Fund celebrates National Volunteer Week

To the Editor:

The Fresh Air Fund looks forward to celebrating National Volunteer Week every year. I would like to extend my heartfelt gratitude to our inspiring volunteers, hosts and supporters in Nassau County. Their continued dedication to our New York City children is exemplary, and truly embodies the spirit of National Volunteer Week, which this year is from April 23 to April 29.

Fresh Air volunteers work in several capacities throughout the year along the East Coast and Southern Canada to help make The Fresh Air Fund's programs possible. Fresh Air host families open their hearts and homes, and share the everyday joys of summertime with their Fresh Air friends. Our local volunteer leaders — many of whom are also hosts — serve on our local committees, interview prospective host families, publicize the program, and plan summer activities. Additionally, individuals and local businesses give generously of their time and resources to make The Fresh Air Fund's Friendly Towns Program throughout Nassau County a great success each summer. The Fresh Air Fund, an independent, not-for-profit agency, has provided free summer experiences to more than 1.8 million New York City children since 1877. For more information on how you can help to continue this tradition of volunteering, please call The Fresh Air Fund at (800) 367-0003 or visit www.freshair.org.

FATIMA SHAMA
*Executive Director
The Fresh Air Fund*

FRAMEWORK courtesy Sasha Zolley



A fine day at the world's largest religious monument — Angkor Wat, Cambodia

CLARIFICATION

Sharon Collins provided research for the announcement, "Artistic visions on view at Glen Cove Senior Center," which

appeared on the Stepping Out page of the March 23-29 issue. We thank her for her contribution."



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