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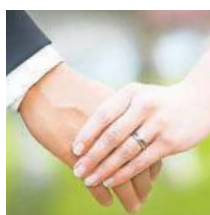
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VOL. 28 NO. 16

APRIL 18-24, 2019

\$1.00



Courtesy Pete Prudente

GLEN COVE FIREFIGHTER Pete Prudente donated a kidney to Carmen Sanchez, whom he didn't know, and saved her life.

Firefighter with a 'great heart' donates a kidney to a stranger

By **LAURA LANE**
 llane@iherald.com

Maryann Rich, a lifelong Glen Cover, receives a gift every year on Mother's Day in the form of a plant, which is always waiting outside her front door. There is never a card or any kind of clue as to whom it's from, but Rich said she doesn't need any identifiers. She knows it's from Pete Prudente, a Glen Cove firefighter who has become a friend of hers.

"All of us try to catch him each year, but we can't," said Rich, her blue eyes twinkling. "He is so thoughtful, a wonderful person that always takes care of everyone."

Rich and a group of people that included some Glen Cove firefighters headed to North Shore University Hospital in Manhasset last Friday for Organ Donor Day, which included a presentation that in part honored Prudente for another act of generosity. This time the gift was much bigger

— a kidney, which he donated to a stranger on March 25, two days after he turned 59.

"It's important that people step up and help each other," said Prudente, a Local Union 15 operating engineer by profession. "My parents always told me there are givers and takers, and encouraged me to help others."

Prudente prepares lunch — and donates the food — for the Glen Cove or Port Washington

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New bills would tackle veteran homelessness

By **MIKE CONN**
 mconn@iherald.com

County officials and veterans alike appeared before the Nassau County Legislature in Mineola on April 4 as Legislator Josh Lafazan, an independent from Woodbury, introduced two new bills aimed at ending veteran homelessness in Nassau.

"I stand here in solidarity with veterans from across Nassau County," Lafazan said, "in declaring a new day in our shared commitment to the men and women who have served this nation in uniform."

The bills, which Lafazan has nicknamed the Dignity for Our Heroes Package, would work together to ensure that roughly 5,000 homeless veterans in Nassau County would be able to find housing. The first bill would establish veterans as a protected class under the Nassau County Human Rights Law, legally protecting them from discrimination based

on their veteran status.

According to Lafazan, veterans across the country use vouchers to pay for housing, which landlords sometimes reject. In other instances, Lafazan said, "Some landlords have brazenly rejected veterans altogether," perpetuating the problem of veteran homelessness around the nation. Under the new legislation, landlords who discriminate against veterans would be held legally accountable.

But somebody who serves the nation, somebody who puts on the uniform, deserves not only our admiration, but deserves housing.

JOSH LAFAZAN
 Nassau County legislator

With the second bill, Lafazan seeks to create a Nassau Commission on Ending Veteran Homelessness, which would comprise 12 members from a variety of backgrounds appointed by County Executive Laura Curran. One of the commission's key goals, Lafazan explained, would be to address the lack of transitional housing for homeless veterans in the county. It would create a written report containing recommendations for the

CONTINUED ON PAGE 3

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Glen Cove schools excel in state budget

By MIKE CONN

mconn@theherald.com

The Glen Cove City School District is part of a collection of districts known as New York's "Harmed Suburban Five," alongside Ossining, Port Chester, Riverhead and Westbury. The defining characteristic of this group is that they all receive roughly 50 percent or less of the maximum potential Foundation Aid funding provided by the state, which is significantly lower than the state average of 80 percent. Foundation Aid is money provided to a district by the state that goes toward the district's many programs.

However, things will be looking up for Glen Cove schools during the 2019-20 school year from a budgetary perspective. Thanks in large part to the lobbying of Superintendent of Schools Dr. Maria Rianna and Sen. Jim Gaughran, a Democrat from Northport, the district will receive just over \$9 million in Foundation Aid funding, over 13 percent more than the expected amount of



Courtesy Office of Senator Jim Gaughran

SENATOR JIM GAUGHRAN, left, lobbied for an increased amount of funding for Glen Cove schools due in part to the advocacy of Dr. Maria Rianna, Superintendent of Schools.

\$7.8 million tabulated in the state's school budget formula at the end of January. The district will now receive 52 percent of its maximum potential

Foundation Aid.

New York's budget formula relies heavily on a district's perceived wealth when it determines how much Founda-

tion Aid that a district should receive. According to Gaughran, this has been bad for Glen Cove because the disproportionately large amount of wealth in a small collection of the city's families overshadows the needs of the rest of the city's residents. This gives Glen Cove an illusion of wealth in the eye of the state, making it seem as though the district does not need as much funding as it actually does.

Rianna said the demographics and needs of children in Glen Cove schools have changed drastically over the last 10 years, something which the state's budget formula has not taken into account. For example, roughly 60 percent of the district's students apply for free or reduced lunch due to low family income, far more than Nassau County's 20 percent. However, due to the city's vast disparity in wealth, the district has not received a proportionate amount of funding in years.

Rianna explained that the district

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Lafazan introduces Dignity for Heroes Package

CONTINUED FROM FRONT PAGE

construction of a new transitional housing facility for veterans.

The commission would also research and design a "veterans transitional supportive housing curriculum," which would comprise a number of programs dedicated to helping veterans ease back into everyday life, such as vocational training, financial literacy aid and physical and mental health services.

"I believe that these two bills . . . will help Nassau County get closer to our goal of eradicating veteran homelessness," Lafazan said, "and we will not stop until every veteran who served this nation in uniform has a roof over their head. They fought for us, and now it's time we fought for them."

"The idea that anyone who has worn this county's uniform is sleeping under a train overpass or in a remote wooded area is unacceptable," Curran added, announcing her support for the bills. She also said she was pleased with the bipartisan support for Lafazan's efforts, which was evidenced by the presence of Legislators Delia DeRiggi-Whitton, a Democrat from Glen Cove, and Bill Gaylor, a Republican from Lynbrook and an Army veteran.

DeRiggi-Whitton said that undiagnosed post-traumatic stress disorder plays a key role in perpetuating veteran homelessness, which she feels is now getting the attention it deserves. "Nassau County is a very caring county, and we want to make sure that every need is addressed," she said. "And in my opinion, having a veteran [in a] home that you are renting would be an honor."

Alex Gallego, the finance officer of AMVETS North Shore Memorial Post 21 in Oyster Bay, praised Lafazan for his efforts in creating the bills. "When you called me and told me about these two pieces of legislation," Gallego told Lafazan, "you had me, and I want to thank you."

"I hold [veterans] in the highest regard, and anything that I can do, anything that makes their lives better, anything that is being proposed to . . . thank them and honor them, I'm for," Gallego, who served as a civilian soldier in the New York State Defense Force, said after the ceremony.

Tony Jimenez, a Vietnam veteran and the director of Glen Cove's Veterans Affairs, said that legislation such as this has been needed for a long time. He said that he had seen many homeless veterans in Glen Cove, with the num-



Mike Conn/Herald Gazette

LEGISLATOR JOSH LAFAZAN, at lectern, introduced two bills to end veteran homelessness in Nassau County on April 4.

ber constantly fluctuating.

"Veterans, they put their lives on the line," Jimenez said, "and I find that a lot of them, when they come back home, they're discriminated against."

"This is what we need," said Richard DeJesu, commander of the Oyster Bay AMVETS and a Navy veteran. "We need people to speak out for us. We're not going to speak out for ourselves — we need legislators to help us out."

"We're our own worst enemy, because we don't get recognition for any of the things that we do," DeJesu added, saying that veterans often do not advocate for their own needs.

"To see anybody who's homeless, it breaks your heart," Lafazan said in explaining why he is so passionate about the legislation. "But somebody who serves the nation, somebody who puts on the uniform, deserves not only our admiration, but deserves housing."

Both bills were passed by the Veterans and Senior Affairs committees on April 8, and they will now move on to the full Legislature on April 22. If passed, they would be sent to Curran for her signature.

Veterans in Nassau County: a snapshot

- There are roughly 45,000 veterans in Nassau County.
- About 5,000 of them are homeless or lacking stable housing.
- Forty percent are 75 or older.
- Nearly 30 percent are living with disabilities.

Superintendent, parents advocate in Albany

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 3

has also had a steady increase in the enrollment of students from non-English-speaking countries. Programs for these students are especially expensive, as many of them are considered English Language Learners who must take special courses as they adjust their formal education in the United States.

According to Rianna, the needs of Glen Cove's students currently outweigh the needs of many other districts that receive more funding from the state.

"We really do need to be able to provide the services and the support necessary for our children," Rianna said. "We want equity. That doesn't mean it always has to be equal, but we need some equity in the distribution of the foundation funds."

Gaughran was invited to visit Glen Cove High School. He said the poor state of the building led him to advocate for the district on a state level.

"When I came and toured the high school, that's when it really struck home to me," Gaughran said. "I saw all the great stuff the kids were doing, but then [I] saw the issues with the building, which is strictly [due to] a lack of funding over the years."

During state budget discussions in January, Gaughran and others successfully advocated for the relocation of funds from other departments to education. In doing so, he said, "We were able to focus on plugging some of the real extreme needs on the island."

"When I spoke on the floor of the Senate," Gaughran added, "I referred to it as restoring an injustice to Glen Cove for decades that has never been

fixed."

Rianna and two Glen Cove parents joined representatives from the other "Harmed Five" in Albany to advocate for their districts, and their work ultimately proved fruitful. One of those parents was Maria Venuto, who explained that, while there is still more work to be done to receive all the funding Glen Cove schools need, she was generally pleased with the state's ruling.

"It's a really good thing that we have so many representatives who care about education, so much that they're able to get funding for districts like ours," Venuto said.

Assemblyman Chuck Lavine, a Democrat for Glen Cove, met with Rianna, Gaughran and the Glen Cove parents and decided to help advocate for the district as well. Having moved to Glen Cove in 1980, Lavine said that he has seen the needs of the city's schools gradually increase, which he said he is pleased is being addressed.

"This was the first year that a real effort was made to try to help all of these districts, and I could not be happier that it occurred," Lavine said.

While she acknowledged that the increase in state funding is a big step forward for Glen Cove's schools, Rianna said that it does not have an impact on the need for a bond to go toward improvements. Rather, the increase will go toward instituting a nine-period day at Glen Cove High School because the district can now hire more teachers and create additional classes. According to Rianna, a nine-period day will enable students to take more challenging or helpful courses while guaranteeing that they have a lunch period.

We really do need to be able to provide the services and the support necessary for our children. We want equity.

DR. MARIA RIANNA
Superintendent of Schools

Stanco Park pickleball court is next on council's agenda

By **ALYSSA SEIDMAN**

aseidman@liherald.com

City Council members will vote on Tuesday whether they will authorize Sport Tech Acrylics, based in Brewster, N.Y., to repair and resurface the pickleball court at Stanco Memorial Park for \$9,875. The project will be funded through Nassau County's Community Development Block Grant program, requiring no outlay from the city.

At a public meeting on April 9, resident Ron Menzel said that the court has been in a state of disrepair for the past three years. He first emailed Mayor Tim Tenke about plans to restore the court back in November — before the CDBG funding had become available — and said the city should be able to identify a contractor for "a project that probably takes four days to do and costs about \$8,000 or less."

Darcy Belyea, the city's parks and recreation director, explained to Menzel at the meeting that the project had already been put out to bid, and that the nature of the work requires resurfacing to take place when the weather is continually between 50 and 60 degrees.

"You can't do that kind of chemical work in colder weather," she said.

The pickleball court first opened to residents after Belyea, under former Mayor Reginald Spinello's administration, suggested the city re-line the old shuffleboard court at Stanco Park. The surface was resealed for pickleball four years ago, but shortly after a school bus — parked in the

lot adjacent to the court — backed into the brick foundation, causing the wall to collapse.

Glen Cove's Community Development Agency went out to bid for the pickleball project over the winter. "Because the public demand was there, we thought it was an opportunity to finish it nicely," Belyea said, referring to other features in the park that had been restored in the past. "That facility needed a facelift for many years."

The resolution, if passed, would authorize Sport Tech Acrylics to repair and resurface the all-weather pickleball court. At the city's pre-council meeting on April 16, Deputy Mayor Maureen Basdavanos said the work would consist of filling cracks in the court with acrylic concrete, three layers of coating to completely resurface the area — the second coat adding color — and installation of court lines.

Belyea said the work would take three to four days to complete, as the process requires "curing time" in between the multiple resurfacing coats. Belyea's hope, she said, is that the court would be ready to use by Memorial Day weekend.

The parks department has also installed pickleball lines on the handball courts at Stanco Park — a recommendation from Menzel — and purchased two portable nets for residents to use, bringing the total number of courts to three.

Basdavanos said she was eager to get the project off — or rather, on — the ground. "This has been going on for a long time," she said.

CRIME WATCH

Arrests

■ Male, 44, of Glen Cove, was arrested for DWI, third-degree aggravated unlicensed operation of a vehicle and tinted windows on Dougherty Street on April 12.

■ Male, 18, of Glen Head, was arrested for seventh-degree criminal possession of a controlled substance, fifth-degree possession of marijuana and equipment on Glen Cove Arterial Highway on April 12.

■ Male, 41, of North Baldwin, was arrested

for second-degree aggravated unlicensed operation of a vehicle, failure to stop at a stop sign and operating a motor vehicle by an unlicensed driver on St. Andrews Lane on April 12.

■ Male, 41, of Glen Cove, was arrested for second-degree aggravated unlicensed operation of a vehicle, operating a motor vehicle by an unlicensed driver, equipment and other vehicle and traffic law violations on Elm Avenue on April 11.

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The Glen Cove Herald Gazette USPS 008886, is published every Thursday by Richner Communications, Inc., 2 Endo Blvd. Garden City, NY 11530. Periodicals postage paid at Garden City, NY 11530 and additional mailing offices. Postmaster send address changes to Glen Cove Herald Gazette, 2 Endo Blvd. Garden City, NY 11530. **Subscriptions:** \$30 for 1 year within Nassau County, \$52 for 1 year out of Nassau County or by qualified request in zip codes 11542, 11545, 11547, 11548 or 11579 **Copyright © 2019 Richner Communications, Inc. All rights reserved.**

THE WEEK AHEAD

Nearby things to do this week



Annual Egg Hunt at Spooky Park

Hop on over to Elm Park on April 19 for the 25th annual Spooky Park Egg Hunt. Volunteers can drop off filled, plastic eggs at 118 Dayton St., Sea Cliff, right across from the park. The Spooky Park Bunny has never failed to arrive on time, so make sure to get to the park by 10:30 a.m. (516) 671-0080.

Garvie's Earth Day terrarium workshop

Head to Glen Cove's Garvie's Point Museum & Preserve to celebrate Earth Day by making a unique terrarium on April 20. Provided supplies include a glass jar, plants, soil and pebbles. The event is \$5 for members and \$8 for non-members. 50 Barry Drive, Glen Cove, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. (516) 571-8010.



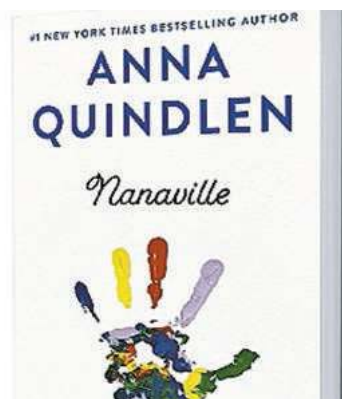
Wire jewelry program

Learn the art of wire wrapping from Donna Irvine and make a beautiful necklace at the Gold Coast Library on April 23. Use this technique to create a unique beaded wire pendant using a variety of wire and beads. A non-refundable \$6 fee is due at the time of registration. 6:30 p.m., 50 Railroad Ave., Glen Head. (516) 759-8300.



Author talk

Pulitzer Prize-winning journalist-author Anna Quindlen shares her insights when she appears at the Landmark on Main Street, Monday, April 22, at 7:30 p.m. She'll discuss her latest book, "Nanaville: Adventures in Grandparenting," which celebrates the love and joy of being a grandmother. The event includes a book signing. Info: (516) 767-6444 or www.landmarkonmainstreet.org.



An evening with Steve Aoki



Two-time Grammy-nominated producer/DJ Steve Aoki today stands as one of the most successful American cross-genre artists, solidified via his numerous releases, multiple awards, billions of music and video streams and innovative cross-platform projects. Get into the groove with the electro house star, on Thursday, April 25, at 7 p.m., when he visits Tilles Center. Info: (800) 745-3000 or www.ticketmaster.com or www.tillescenter.org.

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Good Pesach
Happy Spring!

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HERALD SCHOOLS

Delivering a history lesson to juniors

Glen Cove City School District Board of Education trustee David Huggins visited Christopher Contorno's 11th-grade U.S. History and Government classes on March 14.

Huggins's uncle, James Doran, a Glen Cove resident, left Glen Cove High School and volunteered to serve in the United States Navy during World War II. Huggins shared his family's experiences with the two World Wars and the Korean War. He also allowed students to examine documents, military awards and artifacts that his uncles received during and after World War II.

DAVID HUGGINS, A Glen Cove Board of Education trustee, shared his family's history in World War II with GCHS juniors.



Courtesy Glen Cove City School District

G.C. seniors attend leadership institute

Glen Cove High School seniors Yanira Acosta Yanes and Mindy Morales Espinoza participated in this year's Angelo del Toro Puerto Rican/Hispanic Youth Leadership Institute in Albany from March 9 through 11. Morales Espinoza and Acosta Yanes were part of a group of 42 students representing Long Island. Approximately 250 high school students statewide attended the three-day event.

The leadership institute provides an opportunity for New York State high school Latino/Hispanic students to enhance their leadership skills and knowledge in order to be productive citizens. Through the training activities completed in the months leading up to the institute, students gained knowledge of the New York legislative process. These activities focused on public speaking and debating, research of four bills to be debated at the mock state assembly, networking, interview of their local assembly member and discussion of issues that affect the future of Latino/Hispanic youth. The training sessions were led by one of the district's former ENL teachers, Gaetano Vaccaro, who was also the leader of the Long Island delegation.

On March 9, student delegates arrived at the University at Albany campus for the opening of the institute. They were greeted by



Courtesy Glen Cove City School District

GLEN COVE HIGH School seniors Mindy Morales Espinoza, left, and Yanira Acosta Yanes participated in the Angelo del Toro Puerto Rican/Hispanic Youth Leadership Institute in Albany.

opening remarks and a moderator chosen from the various delegations. The assembly continued with the keynote speaker, Julissa Arce, a CNBC media contributor, writer, speaker and social justice advocate.

Delegates then attended various workshops to prepare leadership projects based on the theme of being bilingual and biliterate. Workshops were chosen previously and included filmmaking, dance, song, My Voice, murals,

spoken word/hip hop and drama. In the evening, students presented their respective projects to everyone. Morales Espinoza and Acosta Yanes worked on a mural inspired by the theme of the presentations.

On March 10, all the delegations made their way to the Capitol to prepare for the Legislative Mock Assembly. Students had been previously assigned their roles, with most playing the role of their district's assembly person. The girls represented 13th

District Assembly member Charles D. Lavine. There were also some specialty roles like governor, speaker of the house, clerks, minority and majority leaders, sergeant-at-arms, color guard and bill sponsors. The Legislative Mock Assembly was run only by student delegates. They split into their party caucuses and came back together to present bills, debate and vote on them. The day ended with the Recognition Dinner, where awards and scholarships were presented.

On March 11, the Long Island delegation received a tour of the Capitol by 6th District Assembly member Phil Ramos. He gave them a private tour of the legislative offices, museum and Senate chambers.

As an alumna of the youth leadership institute and mentor to the Glen Cove delegates, it was Spanish teacher Domifer Francisco's accompanied Acosta Yanes and Morales Espinoza on this journey. Both students agreed that this was an experience like no other they've had.

When asked what their major takeaway was, Morales Espinoza said, "When we come together, we can achieve so much as a community of Latinos."

"Everyone coming together as one and representing the Latino community was one of the best feelings," said Acosta Yanes.

Firefighter Prudente begins a donor chain

CONTINUED FROM FRONT PAGE

Veterans of Foreign Wars once a month. As well, he runs four blood drives in the Glen Cove area each year, and donates blood platelets twice a month. But he acknowledged that donating a kidney was the nicest thing he's ever done. "And I feel great," he said, adding that three weeks later, he was back to normal. "There's nothing to be afraid about in donating."

His original plan was to donate the kidney to a firefighter, but despite an 11-month search, the hospital couldn't find a match. Prudente's blood type, B negative, is rare, and at the one-year mark he would have had to undergo all the testing, which took two months, again.

Dr. Lewis Teperman, vice chairman of surgery and director of the Transplant Center at North Shore, said the hospital reached out to Prudente. "We asked him if he'd give this altruistic gift to someone else," Teperman said. "It's amazing to give an organ to someone you don't know. You go under a knife and could die."

Prudente agreed, but asked that the kidney recipient be someone with children.

Carmen Sanchez, 60, of Copiague, was a caregiver before she became too ill to work. Her daughter, Adriana Orellana, 20, promised Prudente that she, too, would donate a kidney if he would donate his to her mother. In the world of transplants, that's referred to as a "donor chain." To start a chain, the donor needs to be an "altruistic donor," someone who donates to



Laura Lane/Herald Gazette

MEMBERS OF THE Glen Cove Fire Department attended Organ Donor Day at North Shore University Hospital, where firefighter Pete Prudente, second from right, told them what it was like to donate a kidney.

a stranger, like Prudente.

"Carmen was very ill, and I don't think she would have lasted another week," Prudente said. "I'm trying to get my story out so people will do this, too."

New York state needs more people like Prudente, Teperman said.

Nationally, there are over 110,000 people waiting for organ donations, Alessandro Bellucci, North Shore's executive director, said, but the list is being whittled down. In New York, however, where 12,000 people are waiting for organs, the list is lengthen-

ing. And only 35 percent of New Yorkers are registered as organ donors, the lowest percentage in the country.

"We, in New York, are not doing a great job," Bellucci said. "Medicaid patients can't go out of state, where the wait is shorter. People generally wait three to five years for a transplant here. There's no reason to bury organs."

The reason why there are so few donations, he said, is misinformation. People of all ages can be donors and still have a traditional funeral after their organs are har-

vested. And one donor can save up to eight people. In the case of kidneys, people need only one to survive.

Prudente said he wished he had five more kidneys, because he would donate again. Describing himself as a modest person, he amiably answered questions from television and print reporters outside the hospital. He smiled easily, and appeared to enjoy being in photos with fellow firefighters. But he is probably more comfortable secretly leaving plants in front of senior citizens' homes on Mother's Day than being the center of attention.

"Pete's a class act," said Karl Van Allen, a member of the GCFD for 47 years. "He's always there for you, and for everybody. You can't ask for a better person."

Ex GCFD Chief Bill Basdavanos, another 47-year member, said he was hopeful that Prudente's story would inspire others to donate kidneys.

Outside the hospital, Frank Petrizzo stood off to the side, watching, as people asked Prudente questions and requested that he pose for photos. Petrizzo, another Glen Cover who had recently undergone a kidney transplant, said he admired Prudente.

Prudente had contacted Petrizzo after reading about his struggles to find a kidney donor on Facebook. "He advocated for me," Petrizzo said. "We weren't a match, so he helped me with my fundraising. Pete Prudente is a great man, and he has a great heart."

Happy Easter and Happy Pesach to all who celebrate! Team Tenke hopes everyone has a fun holiday weekend filled with great memories and new friends!

★ ★ ★ TEAM TENKE ★ ★ ★



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HERALD SPORTS

Defense leads Lady Big Red

By J.D. FREDA
sports@liherald.com

Glen Cove softball currently sits at 3-4 overall and 2-3 in Conference AB-IV.

However, game-to-game, one may have difficulty recognizing the Lady Big Red's offense as the same group. In Glen Cove's seven games, four saw it push across nine or more runs. In the other three games, it failed to top three runs, including a game in which it was shut out.

The pitching for Glen Cove, now with two legitimate starters, albeit underclassmen with no prior varsity experience, has been a positive work in progress. The constant for this team, however, is its undeniably strong defense.

Never was this more apparent than in Glen Cove's 2-1 win in its last game at home against New Hyde Park. Up 2-1 in the top of the seventh, Glen Cove found itself in a precarious position. New Hyde Park had loaded the bases with no one out. Moments later, a ball that looked like it may drop over the first baseman's head in shallow right field was stabbed out of mid-air by the diving glove of second baseman Micaela Costello. With the presence of mind to know the game situation, Costello shot up and fired a relay to home plate in time for the catcher to make the tag for the most needed double play of the season.

"It was an incredible play," Glen Cove coach Angela Zupa said. "Our defense was huge in this game, like they have been all year."

Starting pitcher Kristen Sita earned the win, striking out one and allowing nine hits and three walks. The day prior to that matchup, Glen Cove took on an undefeated Wantagh from Conference AB-III. The game would be a nail-biter, as Wantagh narrowly eeked out a 2-1 victory from its northern shore foe.

"It was surely an intense game," Zupa said. "Both defenses played great." Glen Cove's Jennifer Heman started and allowed six hits and one walk before the call to the bullpen.

Glen Cove's low-scoring nail-biter was a mirror opposite of its prior game against Sewanhaka. Suspended in the fourth inning and scheduled to resume on Tuesday, April 16, after presstime, the game was at an 8-8 stalemate. Glen Cove went up early with a 5-0 lead before



Brian Ballweg/Herald

GLEN COVE'S BRIANNA Malvino showed off her smooth swing April 11 when the Big Red's matchup against Sewanhaka was suspended due to rain.

Sewanhaka stormed back tying the game at 5. Glen Cove tacked on three more runs before Sewanhaka would match that in the top of the fourth. The game will continue in the bottom of the fourth inning.

The previous game, Glen Cove was shut out 12-0 by Valley Stream South. "They had a very good pitcher," Zupa said. "She threw hard and my girls got into their own head too much and it didn't work out well."

VSS's Isabella Secaira-Cotto earned the win and Adriana Heneghan hit a home

run and two doubles in three plate appearances.

Next week, Glen Cove plays three games (including the continued Sewanhaka game) in three days. It also plays cross-town rival North Shore under the lights at Glen Cove Stadium during spring break on the night of April 25.

Zupa believes the success of her team will be the consistency of the bats showing up. "They want to practice, even on days we give them off," Zupa said. "They want to stay to hit. That's a good sign."

SPOTLIGHT ATHLETE



TRINITY HUDSON

Glen Cove Senior Lacrosse

A THREE-YEAR STARTER, Hudson led an exciting opening month for the Lady Big Red. On April 9, she found the net seven times to highlight a 15-4 win over Sewanhaka. The following afternoon, she scored her 38th goal of the season in Glen Cove's 14-7 victory over Herricks. Her height makes her unstoppable on the draw and her athleticism makes her an offensive and defensive threat, said coach Nicole Sileo.

GAMES TO WATCH

Thursday, April 18

Girls Lacrosse: Wilton (CT) at North Shore 4 p.m.
Girls Lacrosse: Mineola at Glen Cove 4:30 p.m.

Friday, April 19

No games

Saturday, April 20

No Games

Monday, April 22

Baseball: V.S. North at North Shore 10:30 a.m.

Tuesday, April 23

Boys Lacrosse: North Shore at Locust Valley 11 a.m.
Baseball: North Shore at V.S. North 12 p.m.
Boys Lacrosse: Glen Cove at Jericho 12 p.m.
Softball: North Shore vs Glen Cove (city stadium) 6 p.m.

Wednesday, April 24

No games

Thursday, April 25

Softball: G.N. South at North Shore 10:30 a.m.
Softball: Glen Cove at Herricks 12 p.m.
Baseball: Roslyn at Glen Cove 3 p.m.
Baseball: V.S. North at North Shore 4:30 p.m.

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HERALD NEIGHBORS

Residents hop to Partners to meet the Easter Bunny



Photos by Roni Chastain/Herald Gazette

THE BEAUDIN FAMILY – Henry, 4, Bevy, 1, and mother, Sarah – made time to take a photo with the famed Easter Bunny.

Last Saturday, Still Partners wasn't visited by well-known musicians, as tradition would have it. Rather, the gastropub's special guest was a well-known bunny — the Easter Bunny.

Visitors had an opportunity to take photos with the fawned-over fur ball and — while rubbing their lucky rabbit's foot — entered in raffles for a chance to win festive gift baskets.

Proceeds from the event were donated to the Long Island Rabbit Rescue group, and volunteers were on site with live bunnies to educate guests

on how to care for pet rabbits. The group rescues domestic rabbits that have been abandoned and administers proper medical treatments so the animals can be placed in a loving home.

Mark Hagan, who organized the event, and Long Island Rabbit Rescue thanked the following friends and sponsors: Country Club Florist & Landscaping, The Oak Room, The Metropolitan Bistro, Still Partners and artist BK FOXX for their generous donations to the fundraiser.

— Alyssa Seidman



EVA JASZCZUK, 7, enjoyed meeting all the rabbits from the Long Island Rabbit Rescue.



SISTERS ANTONIA AND Valentina Ward posed for a festive photo with the Easter Bunny.

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

Thursday, April 18

STEAM: Pastabilities

Gold Coast Library, 50 Railroad Ave., Glen Head, 4 p.m. Using colored pasta, children from kindergarten to second grade will make pasta sculptures with pipe cleaners and pasta mandalas on paper plates. There will be endless pastabilities for creativity and construction in this STEAM program. (516) 759-8300.

How to learn and retain it all

Glen Cove Library, 4 Glen Cove Ave., Glen Cove, 7 p.m. During this 60-minute interactive seminar, middle, high school and college students will learn all the scientifically-proven ways to study for tests, retain the information in long-term memory and take the most effective class notes. (516) 676-2130.

Friday, April 19

Passover celebration

Glen Cove Senior Center, 130 Glen St., Glen Cove, 12 p.m. Join musical guest Lois Morton in a lively celebration of one of the most important Jewish holidays of the year. (516) 759-9610.

"Bohemian Rhapsody" at the library

Glen Cove Library, 4 Glen Cove Ave., Glen Cove, 2 p.m. Enjoy a screening of "Bohemian Rhapsody," the award-winning 2018 film chronicling the rise of legendary rock band, Queen, and their fascinating frontman, Freddie Mercury. (516) 676-2130.

Saturday, April 20

E-Waste Collection Day

Glen Cove DPW Yard, 100 Morris Ave., Glen Cove, 9 a.m. Recycle televisions, VCRs, stereos, computers, electronic games and consoles, printers, fax machine, DVRs and cable boxes. Microwaves and other small household appliances cannot be accepted for E-Waste collection, but can be scheduled for metal pickup from the DPW. Cell phones can be recycled at local retailers. (516) 676-4402.

Spring Easter egg hunt

John Maccarone Memorial Stadium, 72 Morris Ave., Glen Cove, 11 a.m. Children ages of 3 to 10 are encouraged to participate in an exciting and festive hunt for Glen Cove's most elusive Easter eggs. (516) 676-3766.

Indoor winter market

Creative Arts Studio, 256 Sea Cliff Ave., Sea Cliff, 12 to 4 p.m. Shop fresh produce, baked goods, pickles, juices, snacks and other locally crafted goodies.

Sunday, April 21

Bilingual Easter church service

Morgan Memorial Park, Germaine Street, Glen Cove, 7 a.m. Religious music, readings and messages will be shared in Spanish and English in celebration of the boundless nature of the Easter message. The Invocation (He is Risen) will be spoken in nine different languages, representing the community's rich diversity in the faith. (516) 676-0409.



Photos courtesy Flickr

Easter Eggstravaganza at Regency Assisted Living

Join the Regency at Glen Cove Assisted Living for its annual Easter Eggstravaganza, a free event for all ages that has a little something for everyone to enjoy. A hunt for Easter eggs located all across the Regency will begin at 2 p.m., right alongside a meet-and-greet with a real-life Easter Bunny. Following the egg hunt, a magic show will kick off at 2:30, wowing audiences with unbelievable feats of otherworldly illusions. There will also be a bake sale, stocked with delicious goodies that will fit everyone's taste. Have a festive afternoon to remember at 94 School St., Glen Cove on April 20.

Monday, April 22

Save Hempstead Harbor rally

Tappen Beach, Sea Cliff, 11 a.m. Join the Coalition to Save Hempstead Harbor and U.S. Rep. Tom Suozzi for an Earth Day press conference and rally to oppose offshore seismic blasting and gas drilling. (516) 801-6792.

Easter celebration

Glen Cove Senior Center, 130 Glen St., Glen Cove, 12 p.m. Join musicians Tim and Beth Erbe in a celebration of everything Easter. (516) 759-9610.

DIY lip balm and scrub

Gold Coast Library, 50 Railroad Ave., Glen Head, 4 p.m. Teens in grades 6 through 12 can learn how to make a natural lip balm using essential oils and coconut oil, as well as a cotton candy flavored lip scrub. (516) 759-8300.

Scrabble tournament

Gold Coast Library, 50 Railroad Ave., Glen Head, 7 p.m. Take on some fierce competition in the library's annex for a fun and competitive Scrabble tournament. (516) 759-8300.

Tuesday, April 23

Animal sand art

Garvies Point Museum and Preserve, 50 Barry Drive, 10 a.m. Children ages 5 and up can bring animal crafts to life with the magic of sand art. Admission is \$4 for

adults and \$2 for children 5 through 12. (516) 571-8010.

Garvies Point pond investigation

Garvies Point Museum and Preserve, 50

Barry Drive. Explore the preserve's natural pond in this interactive program for children ages 5 and up. Admission is \$4 for adults and \$2 for children between



Beach exploration at Garvies Point

Children ages 5 and up can head to the Garvies Point Museum & Preserve on Thursday, April 25 for an interactive exploration of the coastline. Peruse the beaches of the Long Island Sound for crabs, mussels, snails and more. Admission is \$4 for adults and \$2 for children ages 5 through 12. Sessions at 11 a.m., 1 p.m. and 3 p.m. 50 Barry Drive, Glen Cove. (516) 571-8010.

the ages of 5 and 12. Sessions will be held at 11 a.m., 1 p.m. and 3 p.m. (516) 571-8010.

Glen Cove City Council meeting

Glen Cove City Hall, 9 Glen St., Glen Cove, 7:30 p.m. Join the Glen Cove City Council as they discuss the most important matters going on in the city. Public discussion to follow. (516) 676-2000.

Wednesday, April 24

Lego Club: Build a bridge

Gold Coast Library, 50 Railroad Ave., Glen Head, 4 p.m. This month's Lego Club theme is "Build a Bridge," and children from kindergarten to sixth grade can either challenge themselves to build a creation based on this theme or choose to build whatever they want. (516) 759-8300.

Thursday, April 25

Cartooning workshop

Glen Cove Library, 4 Glen Cove Ave. Glen Cove, 2 p.m. Children and teens grades 3 and up can join veteran illustrator and Disney cartoonist Ed Klein as he teaches cartooning and drawing techniques. (516) 676-2130.

Learn to speak Italian

Gold Coast Library, 50 Railroad Ave., Glen Head, 7 p.m. Join Elena Florenzano as she teaches attendees the basics of speaking Italian. There is a non-refundable \$15 fee due at the time of registration. (516) 759-8300.

Teen taco party

Glen Cove Library, 4 Glen Cove Ave., Glen Cove, 7 p.m. Teens in grades 6 and up can build their own tacos with chicken, beef, veggies, cheese, salsa, sour cream, onions and more. They will also play fun and exciting games. (516) 676-2130.

Friday, April 26

Animals of spring

Glen Cove Library, 4 Glen Cove Ave., Glen Cove, 10:30 a.m. Children ages 3 to 6 can listen to spring stories, and sponge paint an animal collage. Be sure to wear mess-proof clothing. (516) 676 2130.

Babytime with Jump for Joy

Locust Valley Library, 170 Buckram Road, Locust Valley, 10:30 a.m. Children from birth up to two-years-old and their grown ups can sing, dance, learn, and play with musical instruments, parachutes, puppets, and props (516) 671-1837.

Saturday, April 27

Fire Department recruitment day

Sea Cliff Fire Department, 67 Roslyn Ave., Sea Cliff, 12 p.m. Learn how to become a volunteer firefighter in Sea Cliff. Speak to active volunteers to learn the responsibilities and benefits of being a volunteer firefighter. (516) 671-1690.

HAVING AN EVENT?

Submissions can be emailed to llane@liherald.com.



Courtesy City of Glen Cove

MAYOR TIM TENKE hosted the S.T.O.P. Program, which collected over 11 tons of pollutants.

Mayor hosts S.T.O.P. Collection Day

Mayor Tim Tenke and the city of Glen Cove was proud to host the S.T.O.P. Stop Throwing Out Pollutants, Program Collection Day on March 30. 261 residents dropped off household hazardous waste at this year's program, and the city collected 11.66 tons of pollutants.

The S.T.O.P. Program was designed to provide residents with a safe, environmentally-sound method to dispose of the

many hazardous materials found in the average home. Eligible items included enamel, oil and lead based paints, paint thinner, household batteries, brake and transmission fluid, antifreeze, aerosol cans with contents, air conditioning refrigerants, household cleaning liquids, pesticides, fertilizers, pool chemicals, propane tanks with contents, unused flammable liquids and fluorescent light bulbs.

Senator Gaughran honors Marcellino

Senator Jim Gaughran had the pleasure of honoring his predecessor, Senator Carl Marcellino, at Heckscher Museum's "Reception for Long Island's Best: Young Artists at Heckscher Museum" on April 6. Both were in attendance for the event, at

which Marcellino was honored for his years of dedicated service. Gaughran brought an official NYS Senate Proclamation to honor him and thanked Marcellino for all that he did during his tenure.



Courtesy Office of Senator Jim Gaughran

SENATOR JIM GAUGHAN presented a New York State Senate Proclamation to his predecessor, former Senator Carl Marcellino.

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Heralds host crowded Senior Health Expo

April 18, 2019 – GLEN COVE HERALD GAZETTE

By MIKE SMOLLINS
msmollins@liherald.com

Roughly 275 people circulated through the banquet hall at O’Connell Gardens in Oceanside to gather information from more than 35 vendors who had tables set up around the perimeter of the room as Herald Community Newspapers presented its second Senior Health Expo on April 11.

Event speakers included Kathy Delcastillo of Cassena Care and Long Beach Nursing and Rehabilitation Center; Alison Dixon, the outreach coordinator for Curaleaf NY; Kathy Schmidt, the program director of senior services for the New Horizon Counseling Center; Lindsay Block of Ear Works Audiology; Akiva Shapiro of Akiva Shapiro Law PLLC; Eileen O’Neill of Philips Lifeline/Medical Alert Solutions; Amy Dagger of Towers Funeral Home; and Walter Aguilar, director of assessment and enrollment for WellCare.

Aguilar said WellCare is an insurance program that focuses on long-term care and services 13 counties across New York. It also provides nursing services, physical therapy and personal care that enables members to remain at home, in addition to nursing home care. Aguilar said the Expo was an excellent way to help seniors learn about their care options.

“The reason that we’re here is even though we’re a national company, we have local representatives,” Aguilar said. “... So we want to basically give services to our community.”

Block said she shared her knowledge with seniors about the variety of hearing aids, earplugs and assisted listening devices that are available.

“I spoke with seniors about hearing loss in general and how old they really think they are, because no one really thinks they need them yet,” Block said with a laugh, referring to hearing aids. “It was a great turnout. Everybody’s asking a lot of questions, and they have a lot of information for people. It’s great.”

Dr. Kenneth Berger, a dentist, also spoke with seniors about his practice, which has been on Hawthorne Avenue in Valley Stream for 29 years. “We’re tell-



Photos by Sue Grieco/Herald

SASHA SCOTT, LEFT, Eunice Rivers and Walter Aguilar educated seniors about WellCare, an insurance program that focuses on long-term care, at the Senior Expo on April 11.

ing all the seniors, like we tell all of our patients, that it’s really important to take care of your teeth and gums because a lot of dental issues are related to medical issues,” Berger said. “... I think everybody is energetic and happy to be here. It gives them the opportunity to see what’s going on, health-wise, and take better care of themselves.”

Mike Conway, the director of dispensary operations for Curaleaf NY, said the company has medical marijuana locations across the state, including in Carle Place. He said the Expo provided Curaleaf with a platform to educate seniors about the positives of medical marijuana, while helping erase the stigma that many associate with it.

“People are always surprised to learn that our average patient age range is around 60 to 65,” he said. “Events like this help us educate the community, and a lot of seniors don’t realize that their aches and pains — whether it be arthritis or other ailments — qualify them for medical marijuana under the New York program.”

The remaining speakers discussed estate planning, homecare and medical insurance. Hamid Muneeb, a field engineer for PSEG Long Island, also spoke with seniors about the various free ser-



DR. KENNETH BERGER, a dentist, and Lindsay Charles spoke to attendees about dental care.

vices that the utility provides for them. “This is a great event,” he said. “I’m very impressed.”

Attendees enjoyed free snacks and refreshments, complimentary goodie bags and the opportunity to win raffle prizes, including gift certificates to local restaurants and Costco. The grand prize



ABOUT 275 PEOPLE attended the Senior Health Expo at O’Connell Gardens in Oceanside. Kathy Delcastillo of Cassena Care addressed the audience.

was a trip to Cancun, excluding airfare.

The event was sponsored by Cassena Care, Curaleaf, WellCare, Mercy Medical Center, Towers Funeral Home, Ocean Financial Credit Union and O’Connell Gardens. The refreshment sponsor was Long Beach Assisted Living.



DR. LAWRENCE RAND of Mercy Medical Center, at left, took Joe Curcio’s blood pressure.



ANDREW BEHRINGER AND Alison Dixon, at right, of Curaleaf NY, a medical marijuana dispensary.

THE GREAT BOOK GURU

A spy by any other name

Dear Great Book Guru,
 Last week I attended the annual L.I. Reads, an event sponsored by local libraries, with John Canning doing his usual great job as host. At our discussion table, someone mentioned a series of spy novels with an interesting artistic twist. Any thoughts?
 –Spy Thriller Fan



**ANN
 DIPIETRO**

Dear Spy Thriller Fan,
 I began reading Daniel Silva's Gabriel Allon's novels a few years ago and have now read most of the series. I especially loved his latest, "The Other Woman." These novels are indeed spy thrillers but offer readers so much more. Set in a myriad of countries, there is usually a piece of art or a museum featured.
 Gabriel is an art restorer, spy, assassin, and now head of an elite Israeli intelligence agency. His meticulous

approach to art restoration mirrors his approach to intelligence gathering. In this latest book, he is part of a very public assassination of an important Russian intelligence operative. He soon finds himself ostracized by close friends and enemies alike from around the globe. Throughout there are many references to present world figures and tensions. When a mysterious woman in a remote Andalusian mountain village reveals explosive facts in a tell-all book, Allon is forced to rethink his past sins and present strategies. By the end, the reader has

become totally involved in this complex story of espionage, betrayal, and redemption. Highly recommended!!

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



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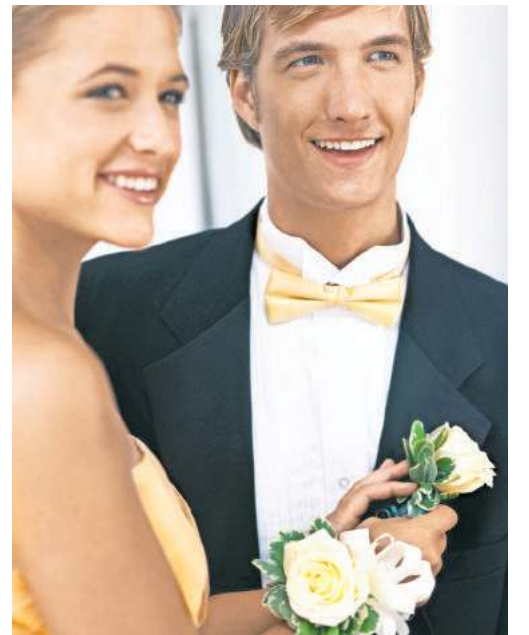
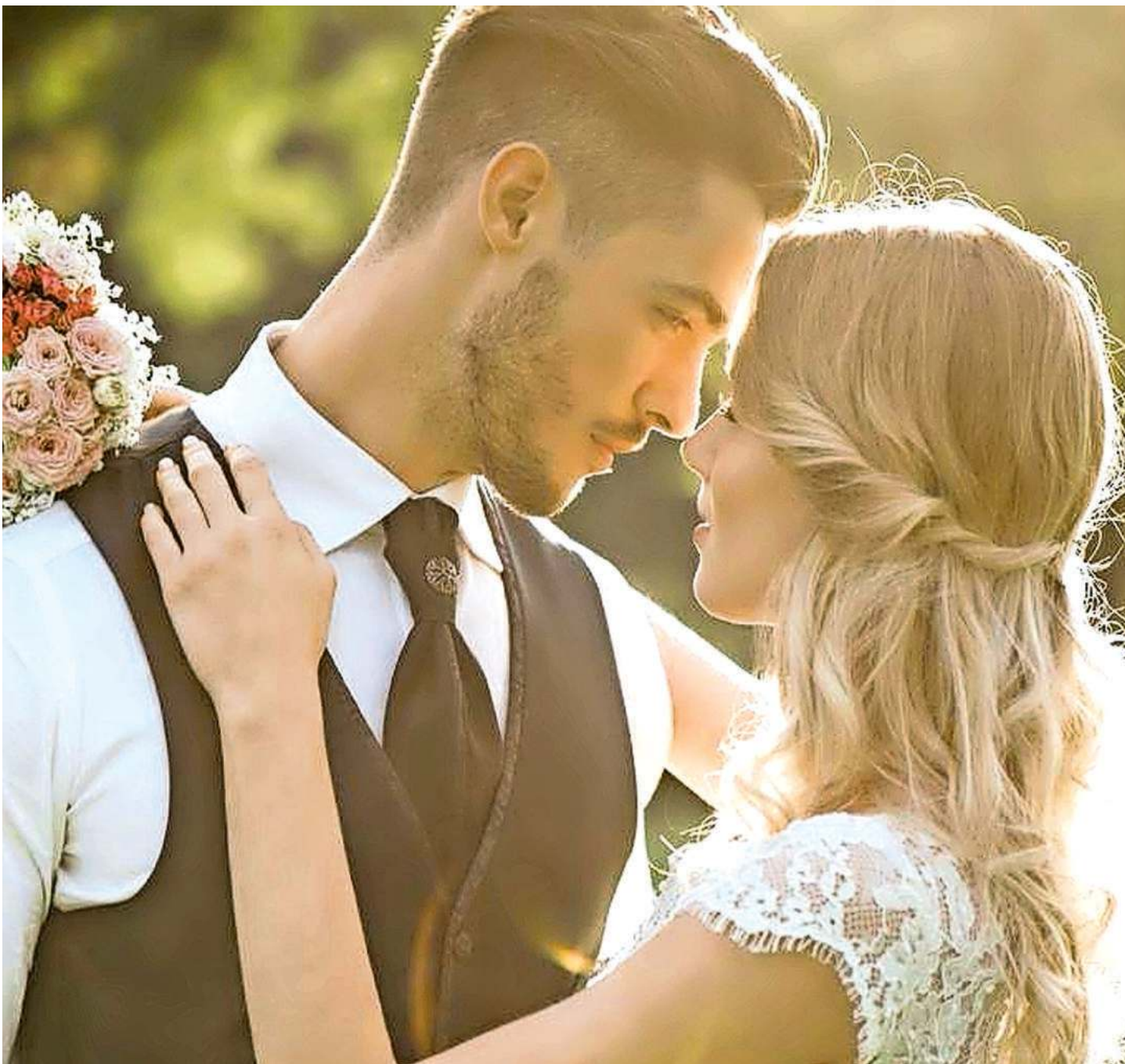
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Carefully researching your DJ options can mean the difference between a successful occasion where guests had a good time and a dull event that lacked a spark.

Steppin' lively

What to look for when hiring a DJ

The success of your milestone event is often dictated by the activities that keep guests busy. And at many parties, it's all about what happens on the dance floor. As veteran party hosts know, who you hire to keep the music flowing and the guests dancing can make or break your affair.

When the evening is over, guests want to remember dancing to their favorite songs and how the music complemented the event. A professional DJ can be instrumental in setting the mood of a party, helping to create a festive atmosphere while choosing the right songs to enhance certain moments throughout the event.

That's why it's so important to choose a DJ that will fit with your goals and the scope of your event.

Why hire a DJ?

One reason many couples and party hosts choose a DJ is affordability. Disc jockeys are traditionally less expensive than bands, and a DJ will have access to a selection of music that spans various generations and genres.

Some folks prefer a DJ because they enjoy hearing the real thing instead of a band covering a favorite artist. Whereas a band may be playing their own rendition of songs, a DJ will have the original recordings or particular dance mixes that are familiar to guests. While the music is playing, a DJ may offer some type of entertainment, such as leading guests on guided dances or distributing fun give-aways to those on the dance floor. Some DJs will work in conjunction with emcees or party professionals who mingle with the crowd and dance along.

Selecting a DJ

When choosing a DJ, it is important to first get recommendations from friends and family or to check out in person how the DJ has performed at a prior function.

Consider a DJ who has a proven track record. If guests walked away from a particular party with glowing accounts of a DJ's work, then that should bear considerable weight as you make your decision. It is one thing to simply play music, but a DJ will need to establish a rapport with the crowd and recognize when to liven things up and get the crowd back on the dance floor.

Always meet with your prospective DJ/MC before signing any agreement. This is very important: A DJ who does not offer to meet with you does not care about the success of your event and is most likely more concerned with the money.

If you choose an entertainment company with multiple DJs, be sure the name of your DJ is noted on the signed agreement. Not all DJs are the same, so you should find a DJ you can trust, and one with which you have a good personality match.

The music mix

Talk to the DJ about your preferences as to the playlist. Together you can work out a playlist that will accommodate as many guests as possible. The DJ also will help keep the party on track, alerting guests as to when food is served or when certain games or activities will be played. If ever during a consultation you feel that the DJ is not listening to your suggestions or is unwilling to play the type of music you would like, then this is not the person for you. Most DJs will listen to requests and make suggestions for certain songs that will fit in with the party theme.

Remember to mention if any songs should not be played. Depending on the age group at the party, off-color songs or ones with certain lyrics may be discouraged.

In addition to keeping in touch and working with you on the planning of the event, the DJ should confirm your reservation and arrive early to set up. ■

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Announcing that special day

Invites still make an impact

In today's world of social media and personal web sites, some might think mailing invitations isn't necessary. Nothing could be further from the truth. Mailing enticing invitations to your guests shows that you value them as friends and as a guest at your upcoming event.

Printed invitations get guests excited about the celebration to come and set the tone for your memorable day. Invitations let guests know what you're celebrating, what you're serving and how to dress as well as the date, time and location.

Custom printed invitations show your personality and the type of event you are having — casual, formal, modern or traditional.

An emailed invitation might get guests to come to your party, but mailing personalized invitations to your guests still serves as an announcement of your event.

Your invitation defines your style and the tone of the celebration. If it is a formal affair, your invitation should convey that with the style of invitation chosen, the paper, layers, ribbons, formal fonts or hand calligraphy on envelopes, the reason for the party (wedding, bar/bat mitzvah, etc.), the time of day or evening and location of the party all give guests clues as to how they should dress and is their first glimpse of your event.

For a casual affair, a more relaxed invitation, playful fonts, colors and graphics as well as reason for the party, location and time, also indicate to guests what you have planned.

Wordings: Don't get wordy. Only the party details, RSVP info belongs on the invitation. Do not include directions, accommodations or where you're registered. Those details, if you must include them, should be on a separate insert card.

Registry: In the case of registry, the only place to list this is on a wedding website and/or for baby showers or other events that use registries, give the information to the hostess, your mother, sisters, best friends, so they can relay the information if asked. If you include your registry information on the invitation, it appears you are more concerned with getting gifts than seeing guests at your event.

Dress code: Your invitations are a clue as to what type of party you have planned. While it is not proper to put this information on your invitation, you could include it in a small font as the last line on an invitation, include the information on your response card or if for a wedding, on your wedding website.

RSVP: Set your RSVP date for three to four weeks after your guests would receive formal invitations.

RSVP cards: Remember to put a stamp on them. Typically, the envelopes are addressed to come back to the host, but in the case of a wedding, if the bride is keeping track of the replies instead of her parents, her name and address can be on the response envelopes.

Reception menu: Many venues ask that the hosts give them a ballpark figure as to how many of their guests will prefer each type of entrée available at the reception. Include menu options within your invitation package, ideally on your reply card, so you can easily provide this information for your vendor.

Envelope etiquette: Even if no children are invited, do not put that on your invitations. The place to state who is invited to the party is on the invitation envelope. Make it clear who is invited by writing each guest's name on the envelopes: Mr. and Mrs. John Smith and Miss Jessica Smith would include the daughter too; Mr. Jason Clark and Guest, would indicate that Mr. Clark can bring a guest; Ms. Carrie Jones would indicate she is the only person invited, no plus-one is invited.

If you have guests that reply that they are bringing more people than you invited, or their children, politely let them know that you only have room for the number of guests invited or that it is an adult party and you hope they will still be able to attend without their children or without their additional plus-ones or -twos.

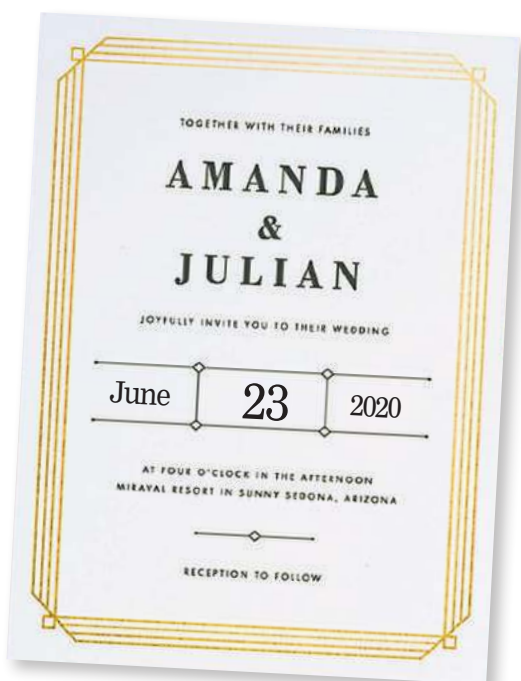
Not inviting people: When it comes to creating a guest list, invite the people who are in your lives. Don't invite people out of obligation or just because you went to their wedding, birthday, graduation, baby shower and then have yet to see them in years. It's easy to say

don't stress over inviting your best friend from high school you haven't seen for years versus your BFF you hang with at work everyday, but go with your heart.

According to etiquette rules, if you attended a social event of some significance, as a guest, you are obligated to send a thank you note to the hosts and also to extend a similar invitation to them. So, technically, if you have attended a wedding or significant celebration within the last three to four months, and your budget can take it, consider adding those people to your event's guest list.

Order extra: It is expensive and time consuming to order more invitations after the fact. If your event is a wedding or other formal occasion, you will want to order at least 25 extra invitations.

Even for casual parties, by the way, order extra. You



Invites are one of the most important elements in that memorable day because they provide guests with crucial information. And while some details of the event may not follow a strict set of rules, invitations do have certain requirements that need to be adhered to.

Continued on page S-4



One of the most frustrating challenges that hosts encounter is the guest (or guests!) who fail to RSVP, but there are ways you can encourage people to respond.

Responses needed

How to get people to RSVP

The invitations have all been sent, and now the waiting begins — and goes on and on... There are ways to entice others to say "yea" or "nay" to the invite.

RSVP stands for "repondez s'il vous plait," which is the French translation of, please respond. Although just about every invitation, whether paper, electronic or verbal, generally includes a response request, many invitees fail to respond in the appropriate timely manner. This leads to an annoying process of tracking down those all-important responses.

Although failure to respond to an invitation can seem like poor etiquette, it continues to happen. Getting people to RSVP can be painful, but it doesn't need to be. Here are some tips.

Be specific. Let your guests know exactly how to RSVP (i.e. "Please email your RSVP response to ourwedding@thisemail.com") and what your RSVP deadline is. If you are asking guests to RSVP on your website, include that text on your invitation: "Please RSVP on our website at davidandkate.glosite.com by March 1, 2016." And make sure your website host is set up to handle any responses sent by a guest who thinks your URL is an email address, for example, davidandkate@glosite.com —because it happens more often than you'd think!

If you are collecting RSVPs by mail, set the RSVP deadline two weeks before you actually need the responses to arrive. Most guests will feel good if their response is simply postmarked by the reply date, as the taxman has trained us to do.

Be clear. In this day and age one would hope others would understand what RSVP means. RSVP means. However, there are some who believe they have to respond only if they are coming to the fete. Change the wording of the invitation to include a more explicit description of what is desired in a response. (Please respond if you will or will not be attending by this date.)

Give response options. Let's face it, with all of the electronic devices some people would much rather text, e-mail or place a wall post that they'll be attending ... or

not. Make it easy for your guests by giving them permission to RSVP in the manner that they prefer: online, email, and text messages are easiest for some, while mailing in an RSVP card might feel more comfortable for an older relative.

Stay organized. As the RSVPs start to roll in, make sure they are captured in one place so that you know both who has and who has not RSVPed, as well what the responses are. If you're not using a service to capture, organize, and tally your responses, start a guest list and RSVP spreadsheet. When you receive an RSVP, remember to add it to the spreadsheet right away so that nothing gets lost or forgotten.

If you are sending paper RSVP cards in your invitations, remember to number each one lightly on the back in pencil and mark down what number card goes with what guest or household on your spreadsheet.

You'd be amazed at the number of cards that are returned without a name on them, and this will make things oh-so-much easier to track.

Follow up (gently). Your guests are interesting, fun people — but this means they are busy too. Although you are thinking about your special day all the time, they are not, and there is nothing wrong with that. Many of your guests will need a gentle reminder that the RSVP deadline is coming up. Email is a great way to reach out to them, or a phone number, for an older guest.

Plan ahead. Don't wait until three days before your catering numbers are due to start calling everyone in panic. Add some calendar notes to remind yourself when to send the first gentle reminder and when to start picking up the phone and dialing. Another sanity-saver is to build in some buffer for the unexpected yay or nay. Expect one or two guests to drop out at the last minute and one or two others to call at last minute and ask whether they can still come. If you are mentally and logistically prepared for this to happen, it will be less stressful when it does.

When all else fails, pick up the phone. It's more work and it puts others on the spot, but it's the most effective way to getting responses. ■

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Have an earth-friendly wedding

Saying "I do" to protecting the planet

By Chelle Cordero

If you're getting married this year, get a head start on an eternity of happiness by helping preserve the world you live in. An environmentally conscious wedding treats Mother Earth like she's a special guest. Simple swaps for everything from invitations, to florals, to dresses, to food make it easy and affordable to make the wedding of your dreams a little more green.

According to the Going Zero Waste website, the average wedding results in over 400 pounds of trash. Wedding planner Ashley Chamblin has seen plenty of wasteful weddings. "There are three major areas where we see waste in the event industry: flowers, food, and paper," she is quoted as saying on the Mind Body Green wellness website. "And there's actually a lot you can do about each."

While snail mail paper invitations (ideally made of recycled paper) are traditional, there are more environmentally friendly ways to disseminate information to your guests. It is permissible to email save the dates. Another recommendation is building a wedding website via The Knot, Squarespace, Wix or Riley & Grey that includes the invitation, your personal couple story, information on hotel reservations and your wedding registry.

It's all about the location

A big opportunity to green your wedding is location, location, location. Choose one that

is convenient for most of your bridal party and guests, instead of a faraway destination that will force people to fly and drive long distances. Think about getting married in the great outdoors, where the most energy you'll use is the sun and gentle breezes. And with a beautiful backdrop of fields and flowers, your decorations will nearly be done.

If this is a public site, you'll need permission, or possibly a permit. In either a public or private environment, you'll need seats for your guests, restrooms and an alternative indoor site in case of inclement weather.

Use local resources

Enroll the venue and catering service into creating the least amount of food waste possible at the reception. Ask whether they can avoid single-use plates, glassware and implements.

Locally grown foods should be featured, which will help cut emissions from food transport and support local farmers. Coordinate ahead of time to donate leftovers to a local food bank or shelter. So long as your vision is shared in the early planning stages, arrangements should easily be made.

Select sustainable decor

When looking at venues for your special day, don't be shy; ask management about the commitment to using sustainable decorations and locally sourced food. Use natural



Weddings in the great outdoors invite Mother Earth as a special guest and reduce environmental impact.

materials for centerpieces, such as stones, shells and potted plants that can be transferred to a garden. Other decorations that can be reused, like candles and vases, will lessen waste.

Send your guests home with any of these decorations, as well as something natural like seed packets for party favors.

Wedding attire can be earth-friendly

A common wedding woe is only wearing your outfit at one time. The Good Trade digital media and lifestyle brand offers a staff guide to green wedding dresses, saying: "choosing a made-to-order design with high quality natu-

ral fabrics will only result in a dress you wholeheartedly adore.

Choose locally grown flowers for your wedding bouquet, bridal party flowers and boutonnieres; or even better, create bouquets of paper flowers or leafy vegetables. Wedding jewelry should be chosen with care to avoid things like conflict diamonds, ivory and coral jewelry.

It's easy to go green for your big day without sacrificing style. All it takes is being mindful and getting creative, you have the added bonuses of saving time, money — and peace of mind. You won't regret saying yes to making these conscious choices. ■

Invites still make an impact

Continued from page S-3
might need to resend an invitation, you forgot someone that should have been on your guest list or you have a "B-list" of guests, and you will also want keepsakes for yourself.

Postage: Don't buy postage until you weigh one of your invitations. If your invitations are anything more than the invitation and an envelope or if they are square or an unusual size, take one to the post office complete with all the inserts and have them weighed to ensure you use the correct postage. For fancy, formal invitations or wedding invitations that could be ruined by the post office's automatic processing equipment, ask about getting your invitations hand cancelled with hand stamping that shows your envelopes have been processed by hand.

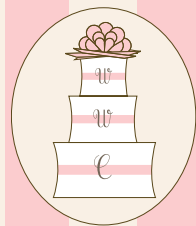
When to mail: A general rule of

thumb is to mail wedding or formal event invitations six to eight weeks in advance. Casual invitations can be mailed two to three weeks ahead of the party date.

If you want to give your guests extra notice of your party or the party date is also around a holiday or yearly special event like Valentine's Day, Mother's Day, you can send save the date cards to guests several months before your event and indicate that an invitation is to follow.

Thank you notes: Order thank you notes at the same time as invitations. For wedding gifts received early, do not use stationery printed with your married name before the ceremony. You may want to order two sets of thank you notes, one with your maiden name for bridal shower gifts and early wedding gifts and a set as husband and wife with your married name. ■

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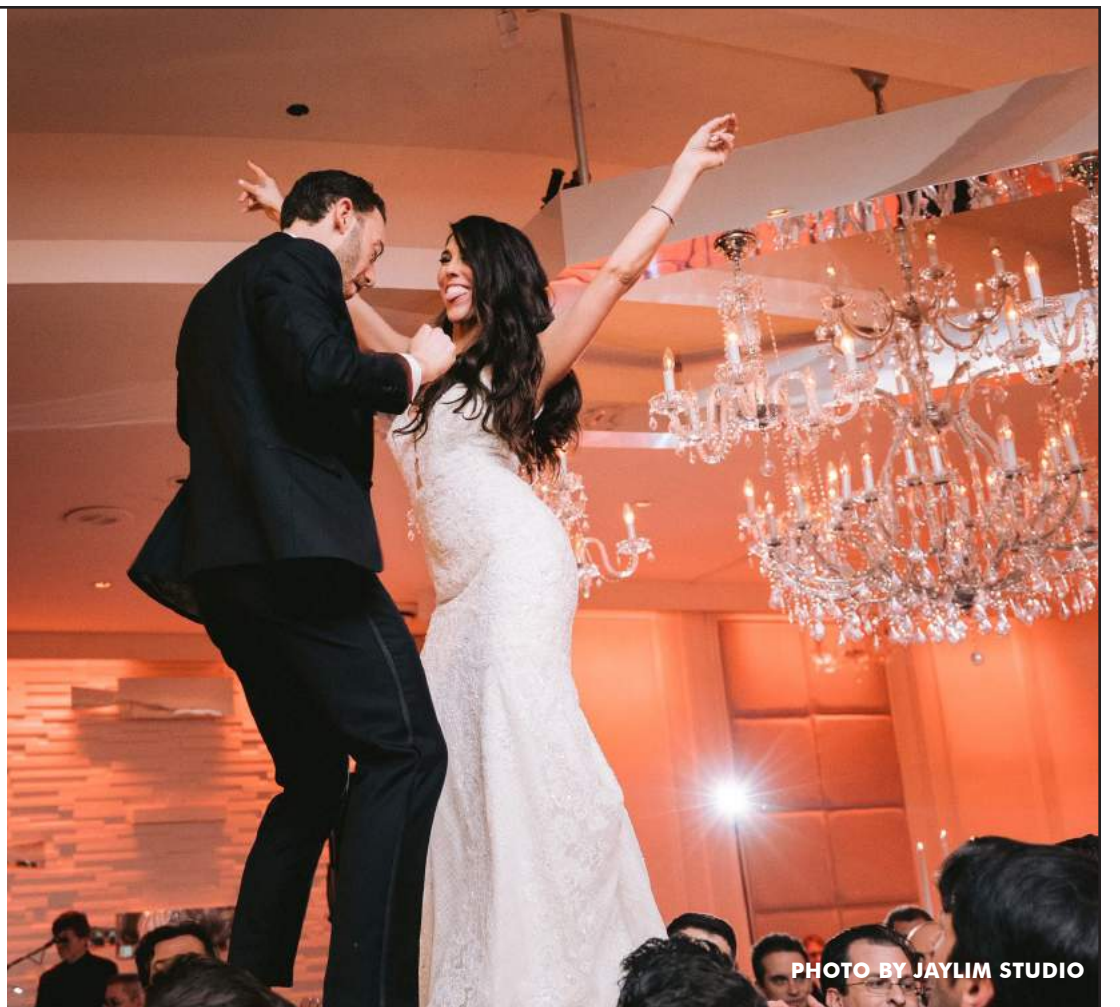


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On Passover, pursue social justice

On April 19, at sundown, we will usher in the holiday of Passover. During the Seder, the traditional festive meal, we retell the miraculous story of the Israelites leaving Egyptian slavery and crossing the Sea of Reeds into freedom. There are specific rituals we follow, including explaining the symbols on the Seder plate, retelling the story, drinking wine, eating special foods and hiding and finding the afikomen (a Greek word for dessert, which is hidden during the course of the Seder in order to help keep the children engaged).

Because of our ancestors' experience of slavery in Egypt, we are reminded over and over in the Torah to treat strangers, widows and orphans like the citizens among us. Throughout Jewish history we have seen what happens when people are treated unequally and without kindness in foreign lands.

The universal message of Passover is that, wherever there is oppression, we are obligated to be on the front lines pursuing social justice. There are simple things we can do as Long Islanders to make people feel a part of

our community. We can call our legislators and ask them to support the Green Light Bill, which would enable all New Yorkers to get a driver's license. This would help 750,000 people living in our communities where there is inadequate public transportation to get to their places of employment, get to doctor's appointments or buy groceries without the fear of being deported. This would make our roads safer and the state's coffers richer.

We can support humane immigration policies on the federal level that adhere to time-honored American values. We can remember that all of us were, at some point, immigrants. Imagine where we would be if the prevailing policies of our current government were in place when your ancestors came to this country. Where would they have wound up? Where would you be today?

On Passover we remember, every day, to work to make our country one that reflects our values.

Rabbi Dr. Janet Liss, North Country Reform Temple, Glen Cove

Giving Passover a new meaning

Ask any child to explain why Jews celebrate Passover and you'll likely receive a similar answer: "We remember the exodus of the Israelites from Egypt, and because the Israelites didn't have time to let their bread rise, we eat matzah for eight days." That is technically correct. But is there more as we examine Passover in 2019?

The Torah instructs us to eat a communal meal — known as a Seder — and while we are at the table to discuss the themes of the season. We are also told to communicate the Passover story to our children in various ways in order to accommodate the unique learning styles of different children. But how do we make this holiday more than a historical recounting?

More than 3,000 years ago, God sent the plagues of blood, frogs, vermin, beasts, cattle disease, boils, hail, locusts, darkness and death of first born upon Egypt, but as we reflect upon our lives in 2019, it is important to consider the plagues we may experience today. Is there room in our Pesach discussions to consider, for example, poverty, hunger, racism, gossip, war, climate change, gun violence, disease, technological obsession and human indifference to suffering? And who, today, are enslaved within our global village? Children in many countries

are used as sources of cheap labor. Women and men are sold into slavery. Many are affected by the slavery of addiction. Some are enslaved by their own racism.

As Passover approaches there is a tendency to occupy ourselves with organizing a festive family meal that includes many important and storied rituals. But is there more? Aside from the retelling of this Biblical account, it is also important to update the narrative, and extend Passover's principle themes: freedom, compassion, and the elimination of slavery within our midst.

The Jewish people are not the only ones who have experienced slavery, but it is contingent upon us to consider Passover within a wider context. How can we truly use our personal experience with slavery to become more empathetic towards the suffering of others? This is ultimately one of the central themes of Judaism — to work with God to repair this imperfect world. As our tradition tells us, the exodus from Egypt will never be complete until there is freedom and justice for all.

*Rabbi Irwin Huberman
Congregation Tifereth Israel
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- 18 " — lazy river ..."
- 19 Extreme
- 21 Assault
- 24 Heavy weight
- 25 Hawaiian neckwear
- 26 With it
- 28 Complete range
- 32 Exam format
- 34 Illustrations
- 36 Soybean paste
- 37 Eastern potato (Var.)
- 39 Lummax
- 41 Profit
- 42 Needlefish
- 44 Aplenty
- 46 Graham of "Monty Python"
- 50 Bay State sch.
- 51 Humdinger
- 52 Alternatives to station wag-ons

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Blades of glory Figure skating superstars showcase their artistry

More than 30 years ago, Olympic Gold Medalist Scott Hamilton had a simple dream: to create a show that was all about skating.

"We believed our fans would appreciate sophisticated skating, cutting-edge costumes and challenging choreography," Hamilton explains, recalling the start of his touring spectacle. That dream became Stars on Ice, featuring the best of American figure skating — past, present and future.

The tour's 2019 edition glides into NYCB Live's Nassau Coliseum on Saturday, April 20, with, as expected, an all-star lineup.

The roster includes two-time and reigning World Champion, U.S. Olympic Team Bronze Medalist, and three-time and reigning National Champion Nathan Chen; two-time Olympic Bronze Medalists, two-time National Champions and three-time World Medalists Maia and Alex Shibutani; Olympic Gold, Silver and Bronze Medalists, two-time World Champions and six-time National Champions Meryl Davis and Charlie White; three-time National Champion and 2016 World Silver Medalist Ashley Wagner; Olympic Bronze Medalist and National Champion Mirai Nagasu, and Olympic Bronze Medalist and National Champion Bradie Tennell, among others.

"When you are performing in professional competition there are rules you have to follow," says the 25-year-old Nagasu. "The thing I love about Stars on Ice is that you can perform solely for the entertainment. I enjoy being freer."

Fans can expect to see the skaters fly across the ice — jumping and spinning — in the



Photos courtesy Getty Images

Maia and Alex Shibutani, the sister-brother ice dancing duo who captured two Olympic bronze medals at the 2018 Olympic Winter Games in PyeongChang, South Korea, bring passion and drama to the ice.

ultimate display of showmanship and extreme athleticism. "In skating we're taking hard falls every day, skating with knives on our feet," says Nagasu.

Putting it all together is exciting for the skaters and the audience.

"I started skating at five years old. It came to me as naturally as walking," Nagasu says. The daughter of Japanese immigrants, she was inspired by two legends in the sport. "We really have two dominant Asian American skaters, Michele Kwan and Kristi Yamaguchi. They are the best role models a girl

could have and I wanted to be as successful as them."

The Olympian made figure skating history in 2018 when she became the first U.S. woman to land a triple axel in a Winter Games.

"I was nervous to be able to deliver in that moment but the stars aligned for me. Above all else my reaction was pure joy."

Nagasu also appeared on Dancing with the Stars, reaching the semi-finals.

In Stars on Ice, each skater performs two individual routines as well as two group numbers.

"For this show I'm skating to a cover of 'Halo' which is really beautiful," says Nagasu. "I feel like I connect to the audience when I skate to it. I try to think of letting go of all my stress so I can relax and bring that to the audience."

The show provides fans the rare opportunity to witness some of the most creative and

cherished champions performing together in both individual and ensemble routines.

They all aim to bring an intensity to their performances that is bound to electrify audiences.

Chen ranks as of the most celebrated "must see" figure skaters performing today. He earned the title of "Quad King," after becoming the first skater to land five quadruple jumps in one program. He recently dominated the 2019 U.S. Figure Skating Championships, winning his third



Above photo: Marai Nagasu demonstrates the form that keeps her among the world's elite skaters.

Left photo: Nathan Chen has literally taken figure skating to new heights.

consecutive title with an impressive display of athleticism and artistry — all at 19-years-old.

Ice dancing, described as "like ballroom dancing on ice," is another aspect of the sport with rapidly growing appeal.

The popular duo, the brother and sister pair of Maia and Alex Shibutani (better known as the "ShibSibs") will grace the ice to show how it's done.

They captured two Olympic bronze medals at the 2018 Olympic Winter games in PyeongChang, South Korea, becoming the first U.S. team of siblings to ever earn an Olympic medal in ice dancing.

"No one expected this of us, but we have always dreamed this was possible and knew we had it in us," Alex Shibutani told reporters after winning the Bronze Medal. Added his sister: "We believe in each other."

Over the past three decades, Stars on Ice has performed more than 1,500 shows. Today's champions pick up the mantle from past legacy performers such as Kristi Yamaguchi, Katarina Witt, Torville and Dean and co-founder Hamilton. They all strive to bring a unique skating, musical and visual experience to their audience. It's a chance for the skaters to truly shine and entertain without the pressure of competitions.

"We have a meet-and-greet as part of the show," says Nagasu. "It's always so nice to be shown appreciation for the work we put in. It's always humbling."

— Maria Lane
kbloom@liherald.com

IN CONCERT One Night of Queen

Queen-mania rolls on, certainly experiencing a resurgence since the recent release of the popular film "Bohemian Rhapsody." Now it's Gary Mullen and the Works time to get in on the fervor, with their latest tribute to the beloved Freddie Mercury and his bandmates. Mullen and the Works deliver a spectacular performance

that replicates Queen's look, sound, pomp and showmanship. "We Will Rock You," "Bohemian Rhapsody," and "Another One Bites the Dust" are just a few of the monster hits performed in this stunning celebration of the iconic band, complete with over-the-top staging, lighting and effects. Fronted by lifelong Queen fan Mullen, the Scottish vocalist is a legend in his homeland for his uncanny ability to channel the late, great Mercury. Mullen and the Works have performed throughout the U.K.,



WEEKEND Out and About

the U.S., Europe, South Africa and New Zealand to sold-out audiences since 2001, garnering fan and critical acclaim.

Friday, April 19, 8 p.m. \$57, \$47, \$37. Tilles Center for the Performing Arts, LIU Post, Route 25A, Brookville. (800) 745-3000 or www.ticketmaster.com or www.tillescenter.org.

ON STAGE Elephant & Piggie: 'We Are in a Play!'

Enjoy a musical adventure, ripped from the pages of Mo Willems' beloved, award-winning, best-selling children's books. Willems' classic characters Elephant and Piggie storm the stage in a rollicking musical romp filled with plenty of pachydermal



The Squirrelles, the pair even gets the audience involved in the action. Join in the theatrical fun with these delightfully amusing characters; there are bound to be lots of laughs.

Monday through Friday, April 22-26, 11:30 a.m. and 2 p.m. Suggested for ages 2-8. \$9 with museum admission (\$7 members), \$12 theater only. Long Island Children's Museum, Museum Row, Garden City. (516) 224-5800 or www.lcm.org.

ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

Coming Attractions

Performances/ On Stage



A Gentleman's Guide to Love and Murder

The musical comedy about an heir to a family fortune who sets out to jump the line of succession by eliminating the relatives in his way, Thursday and Friday, April 18-21, 8 p.m.; Saturday, April 20, 3 and 8 p.m.; Wednesday, April 24, 8 p.m. John W. Engeman Theater, 250 Main St., Northport. (631) 261-2900 or www.engemantheater.com.

Cassandra House

The singer-songwriter in concert, with the Peter Mancini Band and Quarterhorse, Thursday, April 18, 8 p.m. My Father's Place at the Roslyn Hotel, 1221 Old Northern Blvd., Roslyn. 413-3535 or www.myfathersplace.com.

The Dimmer Twins

Drive-By-Truckers Patterson Hood and Mike Cooley in concert, Thursday, April 18, 7:30 p.m. Landmark on Main Street, Jeanne Rimsky Theater, 232 Main St., Port Washington. 767-6444 or www.landmarkonmainstreet.org.

The Everly Set

Singer-songwriters sean Altman and Jack Skuller in concert, with a tribute to the Everly Brothers, Thursday, April 18, 8:30 p.m. (7:30 p.m. open mic.) Cinema Arts Center, Sky Room Cafe, 423 Park Ave., Huntington. (631) 423-7611 or www.cinemaartscentre.org or www.fms.org.

Music Jam

Bring an acoustic instrument and voice and join in or just listen, Thursday, April 18, 7 p.m. Sea Cliff Library, 300 Sea Cliff Ave., Sea Cliff. 671-4290 or www.seaclifflibrary.org.

Reckoning

The Grateful Dead tribute band in concert, Friday, April 19, 8 p.m. Still Partners, 225 Sea Cliff Ave., Sea Cliff. 200-9229 or www.stillpartners.com.

Ted Alexandro

The comic shares his crafty, thoughtful insights, Friday, April 19, 9:30 p.m. Cinema Arts Center, Sky Room Cafe, 423 Park Ave., Huntington. (631) 423-7611 or www.cinemaartscentre.org.



38 Special

The rock band in concert, Friday, April 19, 8 p.m. The Paramount, 370 New York Ave., Huntington. (800) 745-3000 or www.ticketmaster.com or www.paramountny.com.



The Amazing Max

The Amazing Max (aka Max Darwin) brings his clever antics to the Landmark on Main Street stage, Sunday, April 28, at 3 p.m.

Darwin conjures up a magic show with a mind of its own. He makes objects appear out of thin air, defies the laws of physics, and even performs miracles inches from spectators' faces. The props onstage seem intent on surprising even Darwin himself. This out-of-control show bursts with striking visual magic, comedy, and loads of audience participation.

He earned the moniker "The Amazing Max" for his extraordinary skills as a magician and also for his ability to entertain adult audiences while keeping the little ones spellbound. This high-energy, interactive and all-around silly show holds appeal for all ages.

Tickets are \$25, \$20 and \$15; available at 767-6444 or www.landmarkonmainstreet.org. Landmark on Main Street, Jeanne Rimsky Theater, 232 Main St., Port Washington.

Danke Baby

The rock funk band in concert, Saturday, April 20, 8 p.m. Still Partners, 225 Sea Cliff Ave., Sea Cliff. 200-9229 or www.stillpartners.com.

Kris Kristofferson

The actor-singer-songwriter in concert, with Merle Haggard's band The Strangers, Saturday, April 20 8 p.m. NYCB Theatre at Westbury, 960 Brush Hollow Road, Westbury. (800) 745-3000 or www.livenation.com.



Los Lonely Boys

The Chicano power rock trio in concert, with the Gary Douglas Band, Saturday, April 20, 8 p.m. The Space, 250 Post Ave. Westbury. (800) 745-3000 or www.ticketmaster.com.

Piff the Magic Dragon

The comic magician on tour, Saturday, April 20, 8 p.m. The Paramount, 370 New York Ave., Huntington. (800) 745-3000 or www.ticketmaster.com or www.paramountny.com.

Classic Deep Purple Live

Deep Purple bassist-vocalist Glenn Hughes and his band in concert, Tuesday, April 23, 8 p.m. With special guest Station. The Paramount, 370 New York Ave., Huntington. (800) 745-3000 or www.ticketmaster.com or www.paramountny.com.

The Bizarre World of Frank Zappa

Former Zappa bandmates in concert, Wednesday, April 24, 8 p.m. The Paramount, 370 New York Ave., Huntington. (800) 745-3000 or www.ticketmaster.com or www.paramountny.com.

Media Crime

The alternative rock band in concert, Wednesday, April 24, 8 p.m. With special guests The Molotov Cocktails and Gathering Time. My Father's Place at the Roslyn Hotel, 1221 Old Northern Blvd., Roslyn. 413-3535 or www.myfathersplace.com.

Patricia Shih

The acclaimed singer-songwriter in concert, featuring a folk song sing-along, Wednesday, April 24, 2 p.m. Landmark on Main Street, Jeanne Rimsky Theater, 232 Main St., Port Washington. 767-6444 or www.landmarkonmainstreet.org.

bluerace

The contemporary band in concert, Thursday, April 25, 8 p.m. My Father's Place at the Roslyn Hotel, 1221 Old Northern Blvd., Roslyn. 413-3535 or www.myfathersplace.com.

Steve Aoki

The cross genre DJ-producer-musician in concert, Thursday, April 25, 7 p.m. Tilles Center for the Performing Arts, LIU Post, Rte. 25A, Brookville. (800) 745-3000 or www.ticketmaster.com or www.tillescenter.org.

For the Kids

Picture Book Films

Watch short films based on favorite children's books, Friday, April, 19, 10 a.m. For ages 2-5. Registration required. Gold Coast Public Library, 50 Railroad Ave., Glen Head. 759-8300 or www.goldcoastlibrary.org.

Bunnyfest at Eagle's Nest

A seasonal festival with varied activities, Saturday, April 20. With egg hunt, petting zoo, visit from the Easter Bunny, and more. Vanderbilt Museum, 180 Little Neck Rd., Centerport. (631) 854-5579 or www.vanderbiltmuseum.org.

Easter Eggstravaganza

Enjoy seasonal festivities, Saturday, April 20, 2 p.m. Meet the Easter Bunny, with egg

hunt, magic show, and more. All are welcome. The Regency at Glen Cove, 94 School St., Glen Cove. 674-3007.



Madagascar: A Musical Adventure

Join those crack-a-lackin' pals on a wild adventure as they plot their escape from the Central Park Zoo, Saturday, April 20, 11 a.m. John W. Engeman Theater, 250 Main St., Northport. (631) 261-2900 or www.engemantheater.com.

Studio Saturday

Drop into Nassau County Museum of Art's Manes Center for hands-on activities inspired by the current exhibition, Saturday, April 20, 12-3 p.m. Nassau County Museum of Art, 1 Museum Dr., Roslyn Harbor. 484-9338 or www.nassaumuseum.org.

Movie Fun

See "Spiderman: Into the Spider-Verse," the animated superhero adventure that introduces Brooklyn teen Miles Morales and the limitless possibilities of the Spider-Verse, Tuesday, April 23, 2 p.m. Glen Cove Public Library, 4 Glen Cove Ave., Glen Cove. 676-2130.

Pizza and Paperbacks

A book discussion for second-graders and up, Wednesday, April 24, 3 p.m.; also Friday, April 26, noon (for children entering Kindergarten in 2019) and 3 p.m. (Kindergarten and Grade 1). Registration required. Sea Cliff Library, 300 Sea Cliff Ave., Sea Cliff. 671-4290 or www.seaclifflibrary.org.

Museums/Galleries and more

The Harlem Hellfighters

A groundbreaking exhibit about the World War I African-American Army unit, consisting of 33 men from the Glen Cove area. North Shore Historical Museum, 140 Glen St., Glen Cove. 801-1191 or www.nshmgc.org.

Heckscher Collects: Recent Acquisitions

An exhibition of two dozen 20th century and contemporary works that have been acquired by the museum over the past five years. With a selection of prints produced by more traditional and diverse experimental processes; experimental photography by Bill Armstrong, Ellen Carey, and Joe Constantino; New York City street scenes by N. Jay Jaffee; and images of Cuba by Bastienne Schmidt; along with abstract and representational paintings. Through May 12. Heckscher Museum of Art, Main St. and Prime Ave., Huntington. (631) 351-3250 or www.heckscher.org.

National League of American Pen Women

An exhibit of works by members of the Long Island Branch of NLAPW. Through April 28.

B.J. Spoke Gallery, 299 Main Street, Huntington. (631) 549-5106 or www.bjspokegallery.org.

Rivera and Beyond: Latin American Art

An exhibit of 20th century and contemporary artists from across Central and South America, from the collection of Joan and Milton Bagley. Masterworks by Fernando Botero, Elena Climent, Ana Mercedes Hoyos, Wifredo Lam, Julio Larraz, Roberto Matta, Carlos Mérida, Diego Rivera, and others are on view. Through March 31. Heckscher Museum of Art, Main St. and Prime Ave., Huntington. (631) 351-3250 or www.heckscher.org.

That 80s Show

An exhibition that revisits one of the most dynamic eras in American art history. More than 100 works by the great personalities of the '80s, including Eric Fischl, Julian Schnabel, David Salle, Ross Bleckner, Bryan Hunt, Jean-Michel Basquiat, Keith Haring, Kenny Scharf, Cindy Sherman, Robert Longo, Jenny Holzer, Robert Mapplethorpe, Annette Lemieux, Charlie Clough, Tseng Kwong Chi, Jonathan Lasker and others. The show also features a music and sports memorabilia, "hall of fame" of including Michael Jackson's glove, Prince's fashion, Madonna's jewelry, and autographed sports items. Nassau County Museum of Art, 1 Museum Drive, Roslyn Harbor. 484-9338 or www.nassaumuseum.org.

Theodore Roosevelt:

A Man for the Modern World

An exhibition that celebrates the presidency and legacy of Theodore Roosevelt, who is often considered the first modern president. On view are a collection of historic documents, photographs, and many never before seen artifacts that celebrate TR's major achievements and underscore his legacy. Highlighted objects include family sporting equipment and the license plate from the Roosevelts' automobile, shown alongside presidential gifts such as a book inscribed by Booker T. Washington and a coal scuttle given after the resolution of the Anthracite Coal Strike of 1902. Some familiar artifacts from the Roosevelt home are also on display. Sagamore Hill National Historic Site, 20 Sagamore Hill Rd, Oyster Bay. 922-4788 or nps.gov/sagamorehill.

At the Movies

See "the Oscar winning "Green Book," inspired by the real life account of pianist Don Shirley's musical tour of the Deep South during the Jim Crow era, with his Italian-American driver/bodyguard, Thursday, April 18, 2 and 6:30 p.m.; also "Ben is Back," a drama about a family dealing with their son's drug addiction, Thursday, April 25, 2 and 6:30 p.m. Oyster Bay-East Norwich Public Library, 89 East Main St., Oyster Bay. 922-1212.



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The power of life over death

This Sunday the Easter celebration gives the Christian community another chance to look intently upon the power of life over death. Another way of putting it is that there is no end at the dead end! It is my belief that our world today is longing for such a sustaining faith.

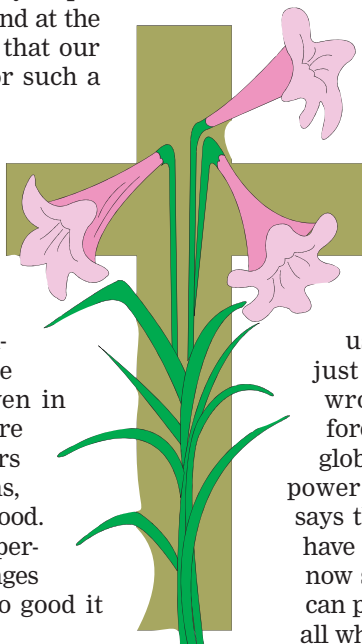
I believe it's safe to say that in the past people believed that national events were impactful and served as a call to new beginnings, which would alter life. I along with many others believe the same is true for our present time. Even in our personal space we are constantly turning corners that bring us to new paths, some good, some not so good. In the world and in our personal space when the changes connote something not so good it can feel like a dead end.

Easter brings us to God's response to the dead end. The horrible ignominious death of Jesus on the cross was the result of those who heard of Jesus' vision of a new community, supported by a love ethic, seeking to suppress his message and bring this bright hope to

a dead end. Three days after His death the closest witnesses to Jesus proclaimed that he was alive. What an astonishing claim.

Death is not the big dead end we thought it was. By resurrection God brought forth Jesus from life's inevitable finality. Death, the ultimate dead end, was nullified by a road of hope.

Easter is about going through what might be final — a sickness, a loved one leaving us by departing this life or just departing, business gone wrong, racial strife and the foreboding fear that grips us globally. It all gives way to the power of the resurrection that says these experiences must not have the last word. Beyond what now seems insurmountable God can provide a new beginning for all who believe and are willing to go further beyond the dead end and go into our future to see something brand new. Happy Easter!



*Pastor Roger Williams
First Baptist Church
Glen Cove*

Easter is our hope

On behalf of St Patrick Church, I would like to wish all of Glen Cove a very Happy Easter. What we celebrate on this day is nothing less than the Jesus, the son of God, rising from the dead after freely giving his life for you and for me. He offered his life to pay for the debt of sin that we all contribute to, and to give us something that so often eludes more and more people these days — hope.

So often we are confronted with news that either disturbs us or causes great anxiety. We see injustice, pain and suffering all around. We are constantly surrounded by sounds, pictures, and devices that cause a feeling of interconnectivity. Many remain radically alone. Some look to escape life's difficulties via drugs, often to tragic ends. Others seek meaning in material things or pleasures, but this always leaves one unsatisfied and prone to despair.

Easter is happy because it is, or can be if we allow it to be, our antidote to despair and our prescription for hope. The world is tough and is certainly not fair, nor will it ever be. It takes far more from us than it can ever give, and ultimately it will take our life . . . or will it? This is where the hope that Easter gives us is so very important.

Jesus Christ has given us the power to utterly reject loneliness, despair, and fear. There is not a single suffering or failure that this life can throw at us that can take the victory of eternal life away from those who believe in Him.

May the peace and love of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit fill you with faith, hope and love this Easter season!

*Father Gabriel Rach,
St. Patrick Church
Glen Cove*



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Coalition plans Earth Day rally

Group fighting drilling in coastal waters will gather at Tappen Beach

By ALYSSA SEIDMAN

aseidman@liherald.com

In observance of Earth Day on April 22, the Coalition to Save Hempstead Harbor will hold a rally at Tappen Beach in Sea Cliff to denounce a federal proposal that would open ocean waters to energy companies in search of fossil fuel reserves.

In January 2018, the Trump administration said it would allow new offshore oil and gas drilling in nearly all U.S. coastal waters, “giving energy companies access to leases off California for the first time in decades and opening more than a billion acres in the Arctic and along the Eastern Seaboard,” The New York Times reported.

“The whole Atlantic coastline, from Cape Cod to Cape Canaveral, is being targeted,” said U.S. Rep. Tom Suozzi, a Democrat from Glen Cove. “The natural beauty of the environment makes our lives great, and we have to be very careful to protect it.”

The proposal by the U.S. Department of the Interior would open more than 90 percent of the outer continental shelf — the

submerged land three miles off a state’s coastline — for oil exploration and drilling. A federal judge ruled in March, however, that the president’s executive order to permit such activity was unlawful.

In rebuke of the proposal, the New York State Legislature passed a measure in February barring any offshore drilling off the state’s coastline, including seismic blasting and pipeline permits or leases that would support the development of oil and gas supplies.

According to State Sen. Jim Gaughran, a Democrat from Northport, the bill only protects waters within the state’s jurisdiction. Beyond the three-mile limit, federal law prevails. The goal now, Gaughran said, is to rally support for a federal ban to stop these practices altogether.

“If you ever had a catastrophic event like [an oil spill], it would totally

change the ecosystem and have a dramatic effect on fish and wildlife,” he said. “The state law discourages [oil and gas drilling] — the federal ban is where more of the teeth is.”

Kay Bromberg, vice president of the

The executive branch is trying to undo all these regulations, but we need to stop the ‘drill, baby, drill’ mindset.

TOM SUOZZI
U.S. Representative



Christina Daly/Herald

A SHOT OVERLOOKING Hempstead Harbor, which the coalition has worked to protect for over 30 years.

Coalition to Save Hempstead Harbor, said that the ecological threats associated with seismic blasting, in particular, caught the group’s attention. The process involves seismic air guns that shoot loud blasts of compressed air through the water and miles into the seabed, which are used to find oil and gas reserves deep beneath the ocean floor.

In January, ecoRI News reported that blasts from the air guns disrupt many aquatic ecosystems and harm sea mammals such as North Atlantic right whales and dolphins, and reptiles such as sea turtles. During surveys, ships fire sonic blasts underwater for hours or days at a time. The booms are nearly 100,000 times the intensity of a jet engine, the report stated, and the sound, Bromberg said, is as loud as dynamite.

“Marine life depend on sounds in the water for vital processes such as finding mates and food, or warding off danger,” Bromberg said. “The seismic blasting is so loud, and occurs every 10 seconds for days and weeks. Their life cycles [become] disrupted.”

Suozzi will join the coalition’s rally on Monday. As a member of the congressional Climate Solutions Caucus, he said that he and some Republican colleagues recognize that fossil fuel industry practices could contribute to climate change and rising sea levels.

“The executive branch is trying to undo all these regulations,” he said, noting a recent effort by the administration to repeal the Marine Mammal Protection Act of 1972, “but we need to stop the ‘drill,

Offshore bans

These states have banned seismic blasting and offshore drilling:

California
Delaware
Florida
Maryland
Oregon
New Jersey
New York

‘drill, baby, drill’ mindset. America is the [third]-largest oil producer in the world, and we shouldn’t mess with one of our greatest assets [the environment] to go even further.”

While Suozzi said it would be hard to pass a federal ban on offshore drilling in the Senate, shining a light on the issue is a vital part of the strategy.

Bromberg agreed. “We have to now focus on the federal level, and show public support for keeping the ban on seismic blasting and drilling in place,” she said. “That’s what this rally is about.”

The Coalition to Save Hempstead Harbor’s Earth Day rally will take place Monday, at 11 a.m., at Tappen Beach, on Shore Road in Sea Cliff.

Anthony Rifilato contributed to this story.

HERALD PUBLIC NOTICES

LEGAL NOTICE
NOTICE OF SALE
SUPREME COURT COUNTY
OF NASSAU, M&T BANK,
Plaintiff, vs. ROLANDO A.
ABREU A/K/A ROLANDO
ABREU A/K/A ROLANDO A.
ABREU VALERIO A/K/A
ROLANDO ABREU, ET AL.,
Defendant(s).

Pursuant to an Order Confirming Referee Report and Judgment of Foreclosure and Sale duly filed on February 14, 2019, I, the undersigned Referee will sell at public auction at the CCP (Calendar Control Part Courtroom) in the Nassau County Supreme Court, 100 Supreme Court Drive, Mineola, NY on May 14, 2019 at 11:30 a.m., premises known as 59 St. Andrews Lane a/k/a Saint Andrews Lane, Glen Cove, NY 11542. All that certain plot, piece or parcel of land, with the buildings and improvements thereon erected, situate, lying and being in the City of Glen Cove, County of Nassau and State of New York, Section 23, Block D and Lot 517. Approximate amount of judgment is \$839,797.30 plus interest and costs.

Premises will be sold subject to provisions of filed Judgment Index # 16-004827. Alexander V. Sansone, Esq., Referee
Schiller, Knapp, Lefkowitz & Hertz, LLP, 200 John James Audubon Parkway, Suite 202, Amherst, New York 14228, Attorneys for Plaintiff
108833

LEGAL NOTICE
Notice of Sale
Supreme Court: Nassau County T11 Funding v John French et al. Defts Index 600231/2017. Pursuant to a Judgment of Foreclosure and Sale filed and entered on November 13, 2018, I will sell at public auction in Calendar Control Part (CCP) Courtroom of the Supreme Court, 100 Supreme Court Dr. Mineola NY 11501 on May 21, 2019 at 11:30 am premises known as City of Glen Cove, School District 5, Section 21, Block 229 Lot 41 and 42, 16 McGrady Street, Glen Cove, New York 11542. Sold subject to the terms of sale and filed judgment of foreclosure. Bank Checks Only, must be

payable to the Referee for 25% of Bid Price, No Cash Accepted. Brian Davis, Esq., Referee
109489

LEGAL NOTICE
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that a Public Hearing will be held before and by the Glen Cove City Council, at Glen Cove City Hall, 9 Glen Street, Glen Cove, New York on Tuesday, April 23, 2019 at 7:30 p.m. The hearing will be to discuss Local Law 03-2019 amending Local Law 02-2019, adopted March 26, 2019, that added Sec. 212-17 to the City of Glen Cove Code of Ordinance. All interested persons will be given an opportunity to be heard at said hearing.
Tina Pemberton
City Clerk
109836

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SUPREME COURT COUNTY
OF NASSAU
U.S. BANK NATIONAL
ASSOCIATION, AS TRUSTEE
FOR RASC 2006-EMX8,
Plaintiff
AGAINST

JERRY OKO, et al.,
Defendant(s)
Pursuant to a Judgment of Foreclosure and Sale duly dated November 01, 2017 I, the undersigned Referee will sell at public auction at the Calendar Control Part (CCP) Courtroom of the Supreme Court, 100 Supreme Court Drive, Mineola, NY 11501, on May 21, 2019 at 11:30AM, premises known as 127 SHORE ROAD, GLEN COVE, NY 11542. All that certain plot piece or parcel of land, with the buildings and improvements erected, situate, lying and being in the City of Glen Cove, Town of Oyster Bay, County of Nassau and State of New York, SECTION 21, BLOCK C, LOT 39. Approximate amount of judgment \$1,460,237.56 plus interest and costs. Premises will be sold subject to provisions of filed Judgment for Index# 22502/08.
Thomas L. Carroll, Esq., Referee
Gross Polowy, LLC
Attorney for Plaintiff
1775 Wehrle Drive, Suite 100
Williamsville, NY 14221
108872

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Let us Know

News Brief items including awards, honors, promotions and other tidbits about local residents are welcome. Photographs may be emailed as well.

Deadline for submissions is noon Thursday, week prior to publication.

Send to llane@liherald.com

Volunteer Recruitment Day at GCFD

By MIKE CONN
mconn@iherald.com

A half dozen fire trucks sitting outside the Glen Cove Volunteer Fire Department may seem like a bad sign on most days, perhaps one of an imminent emergency. But the trucks were pulled out of the garage last Sunday for a much more optimistic reason: because the department needed the space for its Volunteer Recruitment Day.

Department representatives manned tables with volunteer firefighter sign-up sheets, and answered potential recruits' questions.

Several department members said that recruitment days are crucial to its success, because all of the firefighters are volunteers. The only paid employees are the dispatchers.

Asked what volunteer firefighters mean to Glen Cove, Chief Robert Marino, who oversaw the event, emphatically answered, "A great deal." Marino explained that the firefighters must be ready to respond to a call at any time. Whether they're sitting down to dinner or awakened at 3 a.m. in the dead of winter, they must always be ready to save lives, he said.

"In this day and age, to volunteer for something like this and do the training, it requires a great deal," Marino added. "We appreciate every member that comes through these doors to try to help us out."

By the end of the recruitment drive, the department had signed up 10 new volunteers, bringing the total to just over 100. Roughly 60 of them are Class A firefighters, capable of running into burning buildings to save lives. The remainder are Class B or C, and handle responsibilities such as operating trucks and hoses. Every volunteer is trained at the Nassau County Fire Services Academy in Bethpage, where they are taught by experienced firefighters from the New York City Fire Department.

In addition, 10 teens between ages 14 and 18 signed up to become Explorers. They will go through the training and take part in firefighting drills on the first Sunday of



Photos by Roni Chastain/Herald Gazette

SOME OF GLEN Cove's fire trucks are over 30 years old and still admired by residents, including Lt. Mike Mienko.

every month. Dave Spy, the head adviser of the department's Explorer Post, said that the teens can be crucial to the success of the department.

"From 2002, when we first started, we probably have 20 members from the Explorer Post that ended up joining the Fire Department," said Spy, a member of the department for 36 years and a former chief. "So we know the Explorer Post is really working, and it's great for the future of the Fire Department."

New Explorers Mikael and Gabe Barajas, 17 and 15, and Edson Murillo, 17, heard about the program from department representatives at Glen Cove High School. Mikael said that he joined to make connections with people, and to prepare for the satisfying and crucial job of a firefighter. "If you do

join the actual [department]," he said, "you get the satisfaction of saving people and helping them in their everyday lives." He added that he planned to become a regular firefighter when he turned 18.

GCHS student Zachary Gotterbarn, 14, has been with the Explorer Post since May of 2018. He said that he has been interested in being a firefighter since he was seven- or eight-years-old, downloading a scanner app that would tell him when the Glen Cove Fire Department went out on a call. "I was just always into it," he said.

Toward the end of the recruitment day, Zachary assisted Spy in introducing the new Explorer recruits to some of the training they would receive. Zachary plans on becoming a firefighter when he comes of age.

Along with Mayor Tim Tenke and several members of the Glen Cove City Council, Senator Jim Gaughran, a Democrat from Northport, came out to show his support for the department's recruits. Gaughran said volunteer firefighters are integral



DAVE SPY, head adviser of the Explorer Post, top right, introduced Nicolai, top left, and Cyntra Glouchkov to department members Tom Underhill, bottom left, and Mac Macmenamie.

EMS WORKER COLE Muttee took the wheel of the department's brand new \$1.3 million truck.

parts of their communities and that they are among the bravest people on Long Island.

"These are people who actually put their lives at risk," he said. "Any day, there could be a call and they could be in a building, trying to save someone and they [might] not come home."

Gaughran also mentioned that volunteer firefighters play a large role in the taxes of their neighbors. According to the senator, Long Island residents would potentially pay at least 25 percent more in property taxes if they had to finance a department full of

paid firefighters instead of volunteers.

Volunteer firefighters in New York are currently able to receive exemptions on their state income taxes, Gaughran said. If they volunteer in the municipality in which they are residents, they can also receive smaller tax exemptions from that municipality. Earlier this year, Gaughran sponsored a bill which would enable volunteer firefighters to receive tax exemptions from their municipality even if they volunteer in another area. The bill was passed by the Senate on Feb. 26 and is currently making its way through the State Assembly.

ANSWERS TO TODAY'S PUZZLE Solution time: 25 mins.

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A	M	S	C	A	M	S	C	A	M	D	A	T	E

OPINIONS

The immigration crisis threatens to overwhelm us

There's a growing immigration crisis at our southern border with Mexico that threatens to overwhelm the U.S. Every month, 100,000 immigrants show up at the border. Many don't even try to avoid capture; they simply surrender to border officials and claim asylum, which protects them from deportation and allows them to stay in the



**ALFONSE
D'AMATO**

U.S. while their asylum claims are adjudicated, a process that can drag on for years.

In the past, most border crossers were men seeking to slip into the U.S. in search of jobs. The border policy for these illegals was to catch them and release them during the adjudication process. Most simply absconded, joining millions of other undocumented illegal aliens.

What's making the current flood of illegal immigrants much worse is that many of those now arriving at the border are unaccompanied minors or parents with young children. They require a level of care and attention that is straining immigration detention facilities to the breaking point. Catching and releasing these vulnerable families — often a young mother and

infants or toddlers — isn't a viable option. They will likely remain in U.S. immigration facilities for many months or even years, at enormous cost to American taxpayers. The Office of Refugee Resettlement spends an estimated \$16,000 per year on each of these immigrants.

([https://thehill.com/opinion/immigration/373600-the-cost-of-refugee-resettlement-in-the-us-is-simply-too-high.](https://thehill.com/opinion/immigration/373600-the-cost-of-refugee-resettlement-in-the-us-is-simply-too-high))

The detention of these families isn't something that began with the Trump administration. The Obama administration struggled with the same problem, also temporarily detaining families in the chain-link cage facilities the media often portrays as cruel and inhumane. The truth is that if the flood of illegal immigration continues at its current pace, the U.S. will be forced to erect even more of these detention facilities to handle the human tide.

That's because current U.S. asylum laws actually encourage families to take advantage of our lax immigration system and join the caravans that are wending their way north through Mexico every day. Most of the immigrants are from the poor, corrupt, violent countries of Guatemala, Honduras and El Salvador. Word has spread like wildfire in these countries that if you can get your family to the American

border, you have an excellent chance of being granted asylum in the U.S. Unless Congress changes the law to tighten this gaping asylum loophole, we can expect this exodus from Latin America into the U.S. to continue.

The detention of migrant families didn't start with the Trump administration.

President Trump and his administration are understandably frustrated by this immigration crisis. But his efforts to deal with it have not lessened the problem. Shutting down the government in an effort to get more border security funding and barrier wall construction didn't work. Threatening to close the border with Mexico altogether fell flat. And recently there was talk in the White House of reinstating

the disastrous family-separation policy that managed to offend Americans of every political stripe.

The president's chief of staff, Mick Mulvaney, and his immigration adviser, Stephen Miller, are pushing this hard line. Their advice does not serve Trump well. The reality right now — given Congress's intransigence on badly needed immigration-law reform — is that the human flood at the border will continue unless and until the administration can strike a deal with Congress.

The president should send an immigration bill up to Capitol Hill that would sig-

nificantly tighten U.S. asylum laws and end "catch and release" in exchange for legalizing the status of hundreds of thousands of young people with Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals, or DACA, status, who were brought into the country illegally, many as infants, and have lived here all their lives. If they have abided by our laws and are contributing to society, they should be allowed to stay here and follow a path to American citizenship.

Political extremists in both parties may very well resist this reasonable compromise in an effort to fan partisan passions. Obstructionism may satisfy those at the far edges of American politics, but for the rest of us in the sensible center who see compromise as a virtue of the American political system, this is no way to run a government, or a country.

If compromise legislation on immigration is made impossible by the upcoming election season, Trump should take the case for meaningful, comprehensive immigration reform directly to the American people. Immigrants are part of American life. We or our ancestors were all immigrants once, including both Trump's grandfather and mine. Let's solve this immigration crisis in their honor.

Al D'Amato, a former U.S. senator from New York, is the founder of Park Strategies LLC, a public policy and business development firm. Comments about this column? ADAmato@liherald.com.

Diagnosis: The liberal press contracted MAS

MAS? That would be Michael Avenatti Syndrome.

From the torrent of allegations and indictments that flowed from the White House in the early days of the Trump presidency, out stepped Michael Avenatti. For a few months, he looked like a hero to those of us hoping to restore law and order to the presidency. He came forward to represent Stormy Daniels, an adult film star, by filing a lawsuit to invalidate a non-disclosure agreement she had signed regarding an alleged affair with Donald Trump in 2006.



**RANDI
KREISS**

Neither Trump nor the Republicans in power seemed to care that the newly elected commander in chief had allegedly made a deal to silence a former lover. But then, he wouldn't be the first American president to get tripped up by stepping out.

The problem was that the Stormy affair was just a minor event in a succession of morally outrageous and ethically egregious behaviors in and around the Oval

Office. Was arranging to keep Daniels quiet in the same league of malfeasance as trying to get FBI Chief James Comey to drop the Flynn investigation? And then firing him? Or as evil as separating children from their parents as part of an anti-immigration border policy? Hard to say. It's difficult to calibrate the level of mendacity involved in a single escapade when there has been so much bad behavior.

Avenatti, in a perfect storm of timing, politics and personality, leaped onto the public stage. He was a made-for-TV star, powerful-looking, exceedingly articulate, flamboyant and redolent of menace. The press couldn't get enough of him.

On air he was unnervingly controlled; he sparred with pros and never lost a thought or his equanimity. He was a guest on MSNBC, with big-time anchors like Rachel Maddow and Ari Melber repeatedly inviting him for on-air interviews. Within a year, Avenatti did a couple of hundred sit-downs. He was in the papers every day, stirring the political pot, vowing to take down Michael Cohen and Trump and swearing his fealty to democracy and this particular democracy, the USA.

Avenatti did not emerge fully formed as a legend in his own time. There was a forward and upward arc to his career. He went to the University of Pennsylvania and Georgetown Law School, then worked for top firms, accruing huge fees and a reputation as a relentless litigator. In his spare time he was a world-class racecar driver, a husband and father.

He always had an eye on the political scene. While still in law school, he worked for a firm run by Rahm Emanuel, doing political opposition research. In 2003, Georgetown Law School created the Michael J. Avenatti award for pre-trial and trial advocacy, and made him the first recipient.

There followed years of reputation-building, high-profile cases that won him both kudos and immense wealth. He was riding high for a decade or more.

Then he decided to represent Daniels and take on Cohen and Trump. And when Supreme Court Justice Brett Kavanaugh was going through his congressional hearing, Avenatti represented a woman who accused Kavanaugh of bad behavior in his youth. That case, like the Daniels case,

ended in failure for Avenatti's client, and abundant confusion over what she said and did and what Avenatti said she said and did.

Avenatti was undaunted. He dropped hints about running for president in 2020, sending out feelers and placing a few ads. He was coy on TV when asked about a possible run, saying he would only consider it if Trump were his opponent.

Then he and his career hit a wall. Last week, Avenatti became a defendant himself, facing more than three dozen federal charges in New York and California. The charges range from domestic abuse to embezzlement to fraud and extortion, and are the product of multi-year investigations.

The fact that the press swooned over Avenatti is shameful and embarrassing. However, and it is a big however, the Avenatti debacle does not mean the efforts of the working press can be discounted or doubted.

Avenatti streaked across the sky like a shooting star. He now joins the earthbound ranks of Flynn, Manafort, Gates, Cohen, Popadopoulos and Stone, all of whom would have been better off if they had never met Donald J. Trump.

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GLEN COVE HERALD

Established 1991
Incorporating
Gold Coast Gazette

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Published by

Richner Communications, Inc.

2 Endo Blvd. Garden City, NY 11530

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HERALD EDITORIAL

GOP is hardly Rooseveltian on conservation

Nassau County's most famous Republican, President Theodore Roosevelt, dedicated much of his life to preserving nature. During his time in the White House, the Oyster Bay resident established 150 national forests, 51 bird reserves, five national parks and more.

Roosevelt — whose Sagamore Hill home stands as a testament to his conservation efforts — also knew that humans should not touch some of what nature had provided. Of the Grand Canyon, he once said, "The ages have been at work on it, and man can only mar it." Sadly, Roosevelt's party has lost sight of conservation, and is putting at risk the environment that he fought so hard to protect.

Richard Nicoletto, presiding officer of the Nassau County Legislature, declared a paper-bag fee dead on arrival. "As long as the Republicans have the majority in Nassau County, there will be no paper-bag fee," the New Hyde Park Republican told reporters earlier this month.

Counties were granted the power to implement a 5-cent fee on paper shopping bags after the state agreed to ban plastic ones in stores starting next March. The plastic-bag ban was long overdue, and we applaud State Sen. Todd Kaminsky, a Long Beach Democrat who heads the Senate's Environmental Conservation Committee, for pushing it through. Tens of thousands of bags are removed from South Shore wetlands every year, according to the Long Beach Environmental

Advisory Board. They threaten the shore's ecosystem, injuring and killing marine creatures that call the wetlands home. This in turn threatens the area's economy, because many South Shore residents rely on the water to earn a living fishing.

Nassau County had the chance to mitigate these risks — Legislator Debra Mulé, a Freeport Democrat, proposed a 5-cent fee on plastic bags, a move proven to reduce the use of plastic. In Suffolk County, which enacted a 5-cent fee on plastic and paper bags, there has been an 80 percent reduction in single-use bags, according to the Food Industry Alliance of New York State.

Although they're not the menace to the environment that the plastic ones are, paper bags are also harmful. According to several studies, their production emits greenhouse gases. And the United Kingdom's Environmental Agency found that a shopper would have to reuse a paper shopping bag at least three times to make it environmentally friendly — but too often, the bags are thrown away after one use and dumped into landfills, where they take years to decompose.

In Long Beach, plastic bag use has dropped by 75 percent, according to a city spokesman, and paper bag use declined by 89 percent after the city enacted a 5-cent fee on both in 2017. Kudos to the City Council for a measure whose benefits should be beyond debate.

But Nassau Republicans have refused

to consider any such moves, calling bag fees a tax that would place a financial burden on county residents. Their logic doesn't add up. If shoppers used 10 paper bags per week, they would spend \$26 in a year. For that money, they could buy more than enough reusable bags to keep at home and in the back of their cars. Nicoletto is correct that Nassau is one of the most expensive places to live — however, we believe most county residents can afford a one-time, \$26 expense to stock up on reusable bags.

And the state legislation includes exemptions for those who can't — those on food stamps or other types of assistance. The fees others pay will also help them out, too, because 2 out of every 5 cents will go into a fund with which counties can purchase reusable bags, which can be given to those who need them but can't pay for them.

The County Legislature's building is named for Roosevelt, and there's a statue of him outside. Nicoletto should look to his workplace's namesake for guidance on this important issue.

In a letter to his daughter Ethel, Roosevelt wrote that there was no place in the world like home, Sagamore Hill — "Where things are our own . . . and where it is real country." To help protect the natural beauty of Sagamore Hill, and the rest of Nassau County, Republicans must enact a fee on paper bags. To not do so would be to mar what nature has provided.

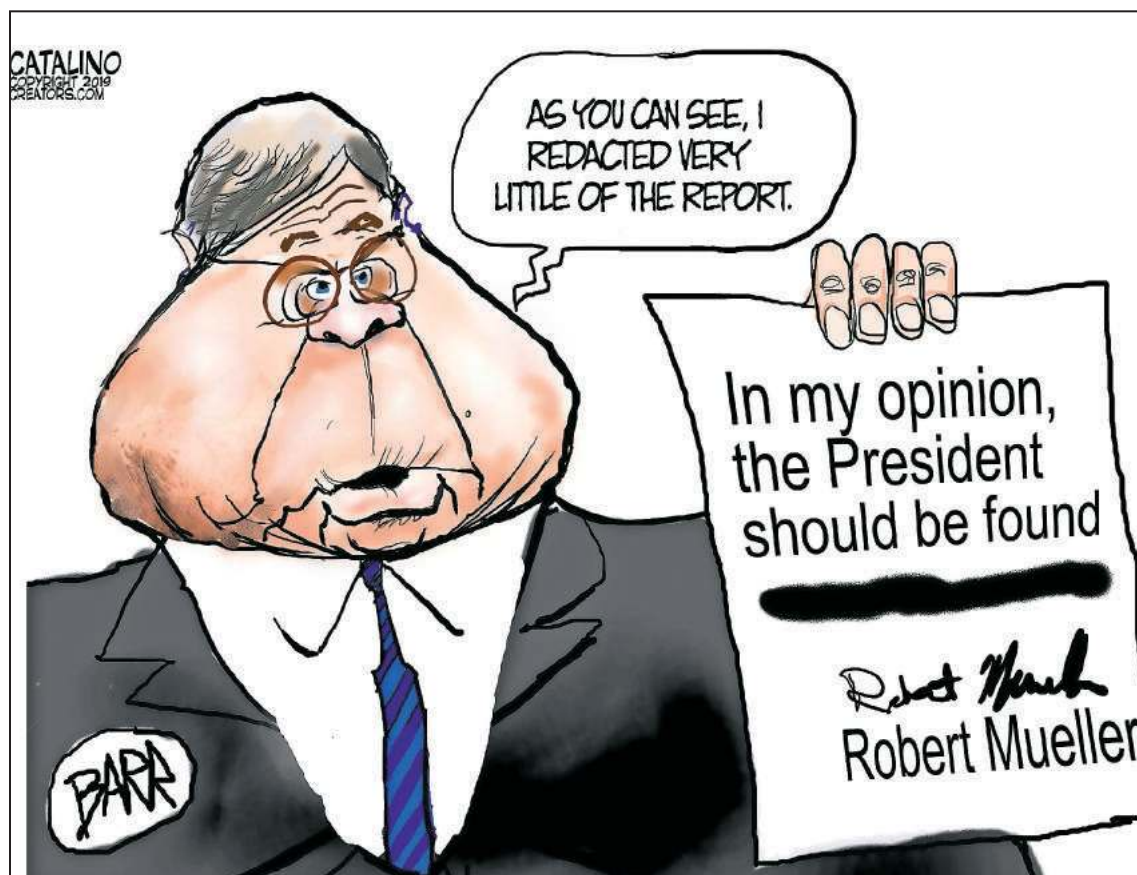
LETTERS

'Astounded' by plea deal

To the Editor:

I am astounded and outraged that the office of the Nassau County district attorney arranged a plea deal that allowed an admitted rapist to plea to only one count of rape and to one count of criminal sex act with no jail time. It is an aberration of justice that shows contempt for public safety and victims' rights. District Attorney Madeline Singas has sent a bad message to the community.

Daniel McMenamin was arrested last October and charged with 27 counts of third-degree rape and other charges related to sexual assault of a student at a Woodmere school where he taught. His victim was only 14 years old when the first assault took place, and it continued for three years. McMenamin has pleaded guilty to but one count of second-degree rape and one count of criminal sex act pursuant to a plea deal. In this case, a dangerous person is released and any sense of justice for the victim is lost.



OPINIONS

Birth Justice Warriors fight for healthy moms and babies

In the modern world we live in, in the richest country in the world and in one of the wealthiest areas of that country, you'd think that Nassau County's expectant and new mothers, along with their babies, would get the best care in the world.

You'd be wrong — especially when it comes to black women and their babies.



ANDREW MALEKOFF

Dr. Martine Hackett, associate professor at Hofstra University's School of Health Professions and Human Services, has compiled data from the New York State Department of Health that shows dramatically disparate outcomes for black mothers and

babies compared with their white counterparts in Nassau County.

Hackett points to the startling differences between the infant mortality rates in contiguous communities in Nassau. (Infant mortality refers to the death of children before their first birthday.) For example, in Roosevelt there were 8.8 infant deaths per 1,000 births from 2014 to 2016, while neighboring Merrick had a rate of 1 death per 1,000 births. For all of Nassau

County, regardless of economic status, the black infant mortality rate is more than four times that of the rate among whites — and even higher than the black infant mortality rate in New York City.

What needs to happen for change to occur in Nassau County, according to Hackett, is the following: 1) inform women after childbirth of warning signs for hemorrhage, embolism or infection; 2) enhance service integration for women and infants; and 3) treat women of color with dignity, respect and culturally relevant care.

Studies show that structural racism is a major factor in disparate infant mortality rates. There is unconscious bias among clinical staff, which negatively perceives black women's pain before, during and after pregnancy. Even Serena Williams, hardly your average mom, experienced the denial of her concerns by medical professionals during and after the birth of her baby, and it almost led to her death.

Another factor is at work. On a recent NPR broadcast, Tasha Green Cruzat, president of Voices for Illinois Children, cited a study that concluded, "The accumulation of experiences of the African American woman, the racial discrimination that

she experiences, produces chronic stress and brings on problems that constitute risk factors for pre-term delivery."

In March 2018, Hackett and Dr. Nellie Taylor-Walthrust, of the North Shore Child & Family Guidance Center,

announced the launch of Birth Justice Warriors, an initiative to train birth advocates to decrease birth inequities. Since the launch, 22 Warriors have been trained. The organizational partners — the Child & Family Guidance Center, Planned Parenthood Nassau County, the March of Dimes, Hofstra's National Center for Suburban Studies and the Long Island Community Foundation — have provided sup-

port and guidance from the beginning, according to Hackett. "Over the past year I have met many strong advocates for black mothers and infants in Nassau County who acknowledge the challenges we face," she said. "The positive response to Birth Justice Warriors from communities of color tells me that we have tapped into a growing movement for birth equity."

As the initiative begins its second year, efforts will continue to make injustice visible and raise awareness of black maternal and infant mortality in Nassau by educating medical staff, holding "conversa-

tion cafes" with women, partnering with prenatal sites in the county, creating video stories that share the pregnancy and birthing experiences of black women in the county, and making legislative visits to advocate for policy changes to improve birth outcomes.

What can you do? Clearly, there is never a good reason to disrespect someone based on race, sexual orientation, religion — for any reason. But if you are an employer, colleague, physician or neighbor, it is important to understand that a pregnant woman who is disrespected in the workplace or community can develop chronic stress that can lead to miscarriage or the death of an infant. This is disproportionately the experience of pregnant women of color, and it is our moral obligation to remedy this injustice.

Joining up to be a Birth Justice Warrior project is one big way you can make a difference. But whatever you choose to do, awareness, respect and kindness are a great place to start.

Andrew Malekoff is the executive director of North Shore Child & Family Guidance Center, which provides comprehensive mental health services for children and their families, including support for pregnant and parenting teens and their babies. For more, visit www.northshorechildguidance.org.

LETTERS

This disgraceful plea bargain runs counter to society's increased awareness of sexual assault. What was Singas thinking? I believe I would do better. I would not allow clear menaces to go unpunished without jail time. Given the high rate of recidivism of sexual predators, jail is for the good of public safety. For the sake of decency, it would show respect for the victim.

FRANCIS X. MCQUADE
Long Beach

McQuade is a Republican candidate for Nassau County district attorney.

How much more will East Side Access cost?

To the Editor:

Gov. Andrew Cuomo's call for another independent audit of the Metropolitan Transportation Authority's Long Island Rail Road East Side Access to Grand Central Terminal is putting lipstick on a pig.

Since 2001, the total direct cost for the East Side Access project has grown from \$3.5 billion to \$4.3 billion in 2003, \$6.3 billion in 2006, \$8.4 billion in 2012, \$10.2 billion in 2014 and today, \$11.2 billion (plus \$600 million more in financing costs). I predict it will total \$12 billion to \$13 billion in direct costs when completed.

This doesn't include \$4 billion more for indirect costs known as "readiness projects"

carried off line from the official project budget. These include \$2.6 billion Main Line Third Track, \$450 million Jamaica Capacity, \$387 million Ronkonkoma Double Track, \$120 million Ronkonkoma Yard Expansion and \$44 million Great Neck Pocket Track. Based on history, the final cost will go up again over time by \$1 billion or more. The promised opening service date has slipped numerous times, from 2009 to December 2022. Don't be surprised if this ends up in 2023 or later.

Cuomo's promised forensic audit of the project would be a waste of time and money. How many internal MTA, MTA office of inspector general, state comptroller, city comptroller, city office of management and budget, FTA office of inspector general and other audits have come and gone? What about numerous newspaper investigative reports on waste, fraud and abuse? Another audit will not result in any significant changes.

A cat has nine lives, and this project long ago already used all of them. When it comes to completion of East Side Access, the 1960s LIRR motto, "Line of the Dashing Dan," should be changed to "Line of the Slow-Moving Sloth."

LARRY PENNER
Great Neck

Penner is a transportation historian and advocate who worked for the U.S. Department of Transportation's Federal Transit Administration Region 2 for 31 years.

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