GLEN COVE

E Bazette



Celebrating the season

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Girl Scouts sing from the heart

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Tab Hauser/Herald Gazett

He's ready to light up Christmas

There have been many Santa sightings in Glen Cove in recent days, including at St. Rocco's. Vincenzo Bencivenni met Santa there, and share his holiday wishes. Photos, Page 10.

Remembering 'a date which will live in infamy,' 78 years later

By MIKE CONN

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President Franklin D. Roosevelt memorably described Dec. 7, 1941, as "a date which will live in infamy." It was the day that Japanese pilots swooped in without warning and destroyed Pearl Harbor, Hawaii, killing 2,403. Seventy-eight years later, veterans from Oyster Bay, Bayville

and Locust Valley gathered at Theodore Roosevelt Park on Dec. 7 to mark the date of the attack.

Reginald Butt, a past commander of Quentin Roosevelt Post 4 of the American Legion, who is also a past district commander, led his fellow veterans in a salute to the dead. Then the veterans moved to the dock and tossed flowers into the bay.

Pearl Harbor, Butt noted, was

among only a handful of attacks on U.S. soil by foreign nations, which underscores the importance of remembering Dec. 7. At the time, nearly 130 years had passed since the U.S. was last attacked, during the War of 1812, and many Americans had come to believe that a direct attack on the nation was impossible.

"We have to be always remem-CONTINUED ON PAGE 7

Garvies Point Brewery teams up with RXR

to create

this nucleus

of attraction

and see a

lot of local

businesses

SWAGERTY

Acadia Realty Trust

benefit.

JOHN

By RONNY REYES

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After RXR Reality prepared its initial plan for development at Garvies Point in 2014, it

faced a troublesome problem: what to do with the Marina Support Building. The building was meant to house a business that would complement the proposed marina, but the challenge was finding one that would thrive there, RXR officials said. The structure was tucked away and not visible from Herb Hill Road, and there was no park-

To make the location more attractive, RXR has teamed up with the Garvies Point Brew-

ery to move the brewery from Garvies Point Road to the support building in order to create a brewery-restaurant hub. Joe Graziose, RXR's senior vice president of residential development, said he was excited about the project when the developer presented it to the Glen Cove Planning Board for preliminary review on Dec. 3.

"The plan is to make use of the site and replace the Marina Support Building, which would

have probably lied there empty for years to come," Graziose said.

John Swagerty, senior vice president of Acadia Realty Trust, which is also working on the project, reviewed the plan for the building at the meeting. The 7,700-square-foot site, Swagerty said, would include a parking lot with 34 spaces. The building would be moved farther back from the waterfront to allow for outdoor dining. The move would not only

improve the walkway along the Garvies Point perimeter, Swagerty explained, but also would make the building visible from Herb Hill Road.

The new brick building would be fashioned after the

CONTINUED ON PAGE 19





Photos by Tammy Lanham/Herald Gazette

GIRL SCOUTS WERE on hand to perform holiday songs at the tree lighting.

Glen Cove Hospital rings in the holidays

Glen Cove Hospital kicked off the holiday season on Friday with its annual Christmas tree lighting. But first the Girl Scouts performed holiday songs to the delight of everyone, inspiring many to sing along. The girls, who range in age, enjoy singing each year as much as everyone enjoys seeing them perform. Cookies and hot chocolate were their reward as was the applause that they received after each song.



NEARLY EVERYONE GOT into the act, singing along with the Girl Scouts.



CHAPLAIN VIRGINIA DAY and Julie Albin, the Glen Cove Hospital Auxiliary chair of fundraising, welcomed a large crowd to the annual lighting of the Christmas tree.



CAROLYN AND MARK Terjesen, left, with their baby Amelia enjoyed the annual holiday festival with Lindsay and David Cheng, and their baby Quinn.

Photos by Tab Hauser/Herald Gazette

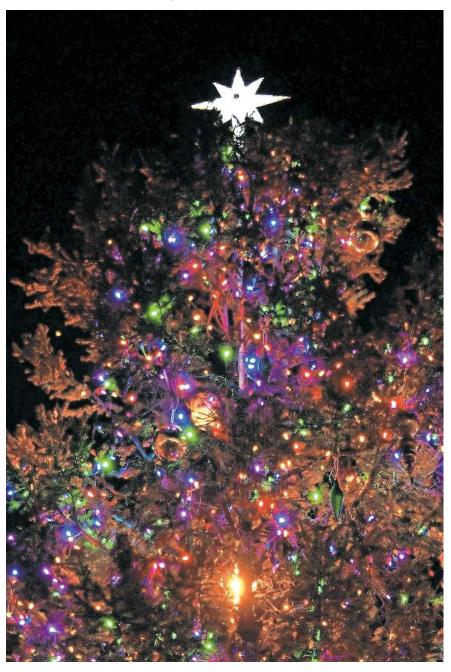
Glen Cove rings in the holidays



THE CHILDREN WAITED in anticipation for the arrival of Santa.

A STAR SHINES bright on the Christmas tree, right, in downtown Glen Cove.

REBECCA AND ELLA Castrizonova, far right, were there to keep everyone warm by offering up a cup of hot chocolate



The City of Glen Cove celebrated the Glen Cove Downtown Business Improvement District's annual Holiday Festival on Dec. 7.

The festivities began with a visit from Santa Claus, who arrived on a horse and carriage to greet the newly opened Village Square plaza. As kids crowded to take pictures with Santa and his list, residents were able to enjoy performances by the Glen Cove High School Jazz Band, Garcia Muay Thai and other local acts. There was also a rendition of the Christmas Carol by the Slayer Players. Throughout the day, residents also had their fill of hot chocolate, sweets and free carriage rides throughout the city.

At dusk, Glen Cove Mayor Timothy Tenke led the annual tree lighting ceremony to ring in the holiday season in the city.



CRIME WATCH

- A male, 62, of Glen Cove, was arrested for second-degree menacing on Landing Road on Dec. 7.
- A female, 53, of Glen Cove, was arrested for fourth-degree criminal mischief on Mariners Way on Dec. 5.
- A male, 26, of the Bronx, was arrested for two counts of fourth-degree criminal possession of stolen property, second-degree identity theft, third-degree unauthorized use of a vehicle, petit larceny and attempted petit larceny on Coles Street on Dec. 5.
- A male, 36, of Glen Cove, was arrested for second-degree harassment and second-degree criminal contempt on Forest Avenue on Dec. 3.
- A female, 59, of Glen Cove, was arrested for fourth-degree criminal mischief on Continental Place on Dec. 3.
- A male, 19, of Glen Cove, was arrested for seventh-degree criminal possession of a controlled substance on Mason Drive on Dec. 3.

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

Marker on Duck Pond Road recalls Quakers' use

By DAVE NIER

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A historical marker on Duck Pond Road near the driveway leading to the Matinecock Meeting House commemorates the oldest organized Friends Meeting in the United States. Forest Iron Works of Locust Valley refurbished the marker at the behest of the Glen Cove 350 Committee.

The Society of Friends, better known as Quakers, has its origins in England in the 1620s, and this often-persecuted Christian sect has a long history on Long Island. There is speculation that Richard Smith, the founder of Smithtown, may have been the first Quaker to arrive on Long Island, having landed at Southampton in 1643. What is documented is that a number of Quaker missionaries arrived in New Amsterdam in 1657 on the vessel Woodhouse — 24 years before William Penn established his colony of Pennsylvania, which became a haven for Quakers.

The Dutch administration of New Amsterdam (Manhattan and Brooklyn) and the western part of Long Island did not look favorably on the Quakers. Several of the missionaries headed eastward on Long Island, where the Society of Friends seemed to fare better in the more tolerant English settlements from Hempstead to the Hamptons.

Many Quakers settled in Oyster Bay, notably Capt. John Underhill, who converted to Quakerism at the request of his wife, and the Townsend brothers, John and Henry. It was Capt. Underhill who purchased the land to the west of Oyster Bay that is today Locust Valley. Musketa Cove's founders also came from Oyster Bay, and although it doesn't appear that the five proprietors themselves were Quakers, some of their family members

There were many Quaker farms and families living in the area that today includes the villages of Lattingtown, Locust Valley, Matinecock and Mill Neck. Their meetings, initially held in homes from 1671, make this the oldest organized



Courtesy GC 350

THE GLEN COVE 350 Committee refurbished the Quaker Meeting historical marker.

and continuously serving Friends Meeting in the American Colonies. In 1725 the Society of Friends established their house of worship amongst these farms, at its current location, where Glen Cove and the Village of Matinecock meet at Piping Rock Road. In fact, the boundary between the two communities passes through the Matinecock Meeting House property. The Matinecock Quaker Meeting House derives its name from the Native American name for this part of Long Island that was occupied by the Matinecock Chieftancy of the Algonquin Tribes in the 17th century.

Gideon Frost founded Friends Academy in 1876 to educate Quaker children. Today it accepts students in kindergarten through 12th grade regardless of denomination. All students and faculty are exposed to "Quaker Values."

Unfortunately, the landmark 1725 Matinecock Meeting House was destroyed by fire in 1985. Although no plans existed, the building was reconstructed as closely as possible to John Mott's original design using photographs and other records, and the rebuilt Meeting House was dedicated in 1986. Materials that survived were incorporated into the new structure, such as some of the original yellow pine flooring, hand-made bricks, and wrought-iron hinges that were found in the rubble.



Photos courtesy Glen Cove Police Department

THE TAG NAME "Tommy Tahoe" was scrawled on one of the swastikas.

More hate graffiti found at the HMTC in Glen Cove

Glen Cove Police discovered anti-Semitic graffiti in the Welwyn Preserve, home of the Holocaust Memorial and Tolerance Center of Nassau County, on Dec. 3. Police had previously discovered graffiti defacing preserve property with racial slurs and hateful imagery on Nov. 24. The graffiti found on Dec. 3 consisted of swastikas and the tag name of "Tommy Tahoe," as well as "CAP."

The Welwyn Preserve has numerous vacant buildings on the property and is a well-known destination spot for graffiti artists. The graffiti has now expanded from appearing on the abandoned buildings, to signs, walls, trees, rocks and even on the Holocaust Museum itself. The GCPD has significantly increased patrols in the area.

Detective Lieutenant John Nagle said the two instances of hate graffiti are believed to have been perpetrated by different groups based on the different color of spray paint and the different wording used in the tags. A graffiti-related arrest was made by the department on Dec. 6, although it is unclear if the suspect is related to the graffiti incident at the HMTC.

According to Nagle, vandalism by graf-



THESE SWASTIKAS ARE the second instance of hate-related graffiti at the Holocaust Memorial and Tolerance Center in the last three weeks.

fiti is typically ruled as a misdemeanor. However, when the graffiti is hate-based, charges may be brought up to a felony.

Anyone with information regarding the graffiti can report it to the Glen Cove Police at (516) 676-1002. All calls will be kept confidential.

HERALD Bazette

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Elisa Dragotto/Herald Guardian

IAN SIEGEL, LEFT, and Adam Towne spoke to Jenna Bush Hager before she signed their books at the Locust Valley Bookstore.

Jenna Bush Hager comes to L.V. for a book signing

By LAURA LANE

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"Today Show" co-host Jenna Bush Hager, the daughter of former President George W. Bush, visited Locust Valley on Nov. 30 to sign copies of her children's book, "Sisters First," which she wrote with her twin sister, Barbara Pierce Bush.

A line of excited customers of all ages snaked around the Locust Valley Bookstore, spilling outside onto Birch Hill Road, nearly an hour before Bush Hager arrived. When she did, she smiled and greeted them as if she were reconnecting with old friends.

"I find the Bush family very interesting, and have read a little about Jenna," said Kathleen Tisch, of Locust Valley. "She juggles a lot at home and with her career. I admire that in her."

"Sisters First" is described by book-sellers, including Amazon, as "A lovely, lyrical ode to the magic of sisterhood," with a storyline that is relatable. The picture book focuses on a young girl's wish to have a new sister, which is granted. Over time the girls become inseparable, playing and dancing, imagining and laughing. Together they are "smarter, kinder and braver than they ever thought they could be. And they are forever sisters first."

The book signing took place on Small Business Saturday, but the bookstore's owner, Lisa Scully, said that Bush Hager was not invited to promote the day. The store is always busy on that day, Scully said. Small Business Saturday stands on its own.

Scully explained she had tried to get Bush Hager, who has a weekend rental in Brookville, to come to the store for two years. "She has friends in this community and spends time here," Scully said. "The way we got her here, I'd say, was with persistence and perseverance. We are so honored that she's here."

Sitting at a small table near the register with one of her three children, daughter Mila, 6, Bush Hager smiled often, saying, "Y'all come up here. It's so nice to meet you." She often had her picture taken with the book buyer.

"I was so excited to have my book signed by Jenna," said Marilyn Gembs, of Locust Valley, who said she had read Laura Bush's autobiography, "Spoken From the Heart." "I love Jenna. She's such a breath of fresh air and is so down to earth."

Another excited book buyer, Marilyn Simon, of Roslyn Harbor, initially said that she was there to have the book signed for her granddaughters. Then she acknowledged that she was doing so for herself, too. The little girls in the book remind her of her granddaughters, with one who is blond and the other dark-haired, Simon explained.

Artist Barbara Prey, of Oyster Bay, was among those on line to meet Bush Hager. One of Prey's works, a painting of the White House's Diplomatic Reception Room, is included in the permanent collection there. It was a favorite of Laura and George Bush, Prey said, and they chose the painting to decorate their 2003 Christmas card. Describing Laura Bush as a "delight to work with," Prey said she felt compelled to meet her daughter.

Prey said she came from a family of readers, and added that she was grateful for the Locust Valley Bookstore. Not everyone is fortunate to have such a wonderful bookstore close to home, she said.

THE WEEK AHEAD

Nearby things to do this week

Oyster Bay holiday market and tree lighting



Oyster Bay will come alive with holiday cheer and historical happenings on Dec. 14. A variety of local businesses will set up shop with special holiday deals on their wares and services. There will also be plenty of festivities including carriage rides, a visit from Santa Claus giving gifts to the kids, special cocoa for the parents, a visit from Theodore and Edith Roosevelt and more. The fun kicks off at 12 p.m. at the Oyster Bay Town Bandstand at 1 Shore Ave, Oyster Bay. (516) 802-0368.

Alla Prima portrait painting workshop

Learn to complete fresh, colorful and lively sketches from a live model at Teaching Studios of Art on Dec. 15. One-on-one instruction will include generous demonstrations and explanations to guide the student in successfully capturing the likeness of the model. Instruction begins at 10:30 a.m. at 115 Audrey Ave. in Oyster Bay, and registration is \$160 per person. (516) 558-7367.



Scone Making Class 2.0



Join Sea Cliff's own Courtney Citko at Restoration Oak on Dec. 18 for a night of baking, shopping and fun as attendees learn to make scones with over 20 different ingredients. Admission is \$40 and includes the class, ready-to-bake-scones, free cutting board and light refreshments. The class starts cooking at 6 p.m. at 227 Glen Cove Ave., Sea Cliff. (516) 200-6447.

Christmas with The Nassau Pops

The Nassau Pops Symphony Orchestra, under the longtime direction of Louis Panacciulli, brings some holiday cheer to everyone, performing at Chaminade High School in Mineola, Sunday, Dec. 15, at 3 p.m. In addition, the Mineola Choral Society joins the NPSO for the festive concert that features all the classic Christmas favorites. Info: (516) 565-0646 or www.nassaupops.com.



A Christmas Carol

The holiday classic, "A Christmas Carol," is interpreted as a radio-style staged reading by Adelphi University faculty and students. The annual reading will be shared at Adelphi's Performing Arts Center on Saturday, Dec. 14, at 2 p.m. Attendees are encouraged to contribute a donation of non-perishable food items for the Mary Brennan INN Food Kitchen. Info: (516) 877-4000 or pac.adelphi.edu.



Photo by Mike Conn/Herald Gazette

for people who come to life on the water

Photo by Alvssa Seidman/Herald Gazett

DOUG GOLDSTEIN TAKES an old school approach to business, something he is proud of.

DIMITRI SCHIDLOVSKY, LEFT, and Andrei Bogolubov put their passion for marine life and

Personal touch helps shops fend off online retailers

By MIKE CONN

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With the holiday season in full swing, shoppers around the world are rushing to purchase the perfect gifts for their loved ones. It's no secret that many of these people will be logging onto online retailers like Amazon to do much, if not all, of their shopping. However, small businesses are ready to service local shoppers as well, and many on the North Shore know they can provide their customers with more than Amazon.

Andrei Bogolubov, co-owner of outdoor apparel shop Hook Life in Sea Cliff, said he understands that online shopping can be helpful to consumers, thanks to its convenience. Many small businesses like his have an online presence where customers can buy their goods from home but, he said, being able to touch and feel the products in person gives customers an even better experi-

'What a small business needs to do is have an online business but not ignore the bricks and mortars," said Bogolubov. "You have a very special relationship with customers.'

Bogolubov said this is especially true of downtown Sea Cliff, where small businesses are the norm. People still want to have that shopping experience in Sea Cliff, he said, and large online retailers cannot compete with that.

To make sure that his business keeps customers coming through the door, Bogolubov said it is important to make it stand out among the others. He tries to always have an interesting display in the window, with colorful lights shining through during the holiday season. During the warmer months, he and fellow owner Dimitri Schidlovsky like to keep their door open so people passing by can hear music and see the store's interior, hopefully enticing them to come inside.

"You're selling a shopping experience as much as a product," Bogolubov explained.

This sense of experience is a point of emphasis for Paul Giordano, owner of Giordano's Gift, Garden & Design in Sea Cliff. While his business focuses heavily on greenery and landscaping, it also sells gardening equip-

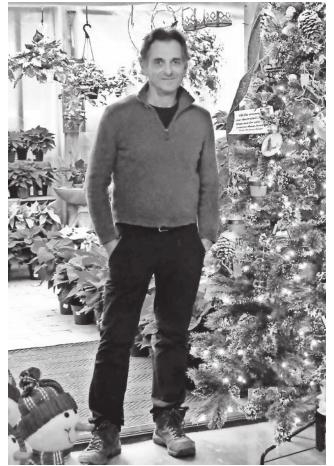


Photo courtesy Giordano's Gift, Garden & Design

PAUL GIORDANO MAKES sure all his customers have a personalized experience tailored toward their needs.

ment and other outdoor gear. He takes pride in his sales staff's ability to help customers select the best trees, plants and equipment for them based on the work they are trying to do.

"Amazon is every size fits all, Giordano said. "We tailor it to the individual needs of each customer.'

Giordano makes sure his customers know that his business is where their friends and neighbors work and shop — a familiar and friendly place to spend their time.

'With Amazon, you're buying something online," he said. "There's no engagement with another human being. When people come here, we know their names, we know their homes.

Although Glen Cove does not have a tremendous amount small businesses in its downtown, Charles of Glen Cove has maintained a presence in the city for years. The hardware store's owner, Doug Goldstein, takes pride in the business's old school approach to retail. He doesn't sell anything online — the store doesn't even have a computer. Instead, it is lined with hundreds of products to choose from, along with several signs that encourage shoppers to ask for help if they can't find something.

Goldstein believes in personalizing the shopping experience, allowing people to work alongside his staff to figure out exactly what they need for their projects. He said it also carries many products that cannot easily be found elsewhere, giving his shoppers the opportunity to always find something unique.

Lisa Cohn, president of the Glen Cove Chamber of Commerce, used to own a small phone system installation business. She said she would always focus on going the extra mile for her customers, providing them with everything they wanted or needed.

"As far as companies using us as opposed to bigger companies, it's all about services," she said. "What are you going to provide what others can't?"

Cohn said that small businesses are of tremendous importance to any community not only because of the revenue it can bring but also because they relate to the area's character. She said the best way for small businesses to remain competitive in an age dominated by online retailers and big box stores is to be creative. Whether it be through special events, sales or promotions, creativity is a great way to get one's business out there and let prospective customers know that it is a great place to shop. Then, she said, they can show why they are truly special.



Photos by Tammy Lanham/Herald Gazette

REGINALD BUTT, A past commander of Quentin Roosevelt Post 4 of the American Legion, left, with bugler Joe Oliveri, who played taps.

Impact of Dec. 7 still felt decades later

bering and respecting those people that paid the supreme sacrifice," Butt said, "because if we don't, you're not going to get volunteers to go do it again."

Pearl Harbor looms large in the minds of veterans across the North Shore. "It holds a great weight in the history of the country," said Sea Cliff's Phil Como, commander of James. F. Brengel American Legion Post 456. "It was an attack on our homeland, and it was a direct precipitation of a war where half a million Americans died. On that basis alone. we're all compelled to remember."

Fred Nielsen, of Glen Cove, a member of Glenwood Landing American Legion Post 336, said that the training and discipline of American naval personnel were on full display during the attacks. Sailors were forced into action on what began as a routine Sunday morning, and many thousands were saved owing to the American military response on the ground.

"They were not overwhelmed," Nielsen said. "They showed their courage even in a surprise attack — that's tough to do. The thing that's a constant through it all is these very young sailors responded with so much courage because of their training. When you're scared to death, you do what you're trained to do.'

Pearl Harbor "instilled a lot of pride in people to join the military — the same with 9/11," said Richard DeJesu, commander of AmVets Post 21 in Oyster Bay. "Those were the biggest surges of people joining the military.'

Veterans from across the North Shore agreed that the attack greatly influenced the way the American military operated afterward. Nielsen said the military



FRANK HERLIHY HONORED those killed at Pearl Harbor after throwing a flower into the bay.

began to think proactively, about how to prevent further attacks.

"We were caught off guard, to say the very least," said Mitch Furman, vice commander of the Oyster Bay-Syosset VFW. "Our military since has taken the stance of, 'Stay ready so you don't have to get ready.

"Each generation tends to forget a little more as the years go by," Furman continued, "and I think it's important for those of us that remember it to pass that remembrance on to the next generations as well. These types of ceremonies, in part, do that."



THE OUESTION:

Did you get any Black Friday / Cyber Monday deals?



I got some great Black Friday deals at the mall. I went to Macy's and got my son a nice coat for the winter.





My Black Friday deal was a real steal. I bought my holiday gift with a markdown price, additional 20 percent off, use of rewards coupon, and additional coupon. Finally, the price was \$.86.

Barbara Corcoran Purchasing Clerk



I got some deals at Best Buy. My holiday shopping is mostly electronics and I like to go to large electronic stores.

Jose Marquez



I started my holiday shopping on Cyber Monday. I bought a gift for someone in my family online, 50 percent off.

Genesis Campbell Retail



I started my holiday shopping online on Cyber Monday. I got some good deals from some major department stores. (Macy's and Home Depot.). I have a lot more shopping yet to do.

Kelly Senzon



I got some great Black Friday deals at a local electronics store. I don't go to the malls, too crowded. I got a smart TV, 75", and I am very happy with the price.

Robert Pierantoni



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For more information or to sponsor contact Amy Amato at aamato@richnerlive.com or (516) 569-4000 x224.

HERALD SPORTS Promising 7-3 start for Molloy College

By TONY BELLISSIMO

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By winning six of its first nine, with most of the victories coming against returning NCAA tournament participants, Molloy College brought plenty of confidence into last Saturday's East Coast Conference women's basketball opener and it showed.

The visiting Lions enjoyed a 14-point spurt in the first half and used a 13-point second-half run to pull away from the District of Columbia, 67-51. Junior Gabriella Aspuru (19), grad student Kadijah Dickson (16) and grad student Robyn Francis

(13) all scored in double figures, while junior point guard Giolibeth Perez added nine points, eight assists and six steals.

"Our non-conference schedule was rated the toughest in D-II," head coach Joe Pellicane said. "It got us battle-tested and we won some games that built confidence. Our conference is very competitive and if you're not prepared, you're not going to come out ahead on the scoreboard."

Molloy had a tough time last season, finishing 10-18 overall and 5-13 against ECC rivals, but has poured the foundation for con-

siderable improvement. The Lions have already avenged 2018-19 defeats at the hands of Stonehill, Assumption and Bentley. In the win over Stonehill, the Lions tied a program single-game record with 20 steals. Molloy knocked off Bentley by a dozen behind Dickson's 29 after losing by 33 to the Falcons last winter.

"There's a long three months to go," Pellicane said. "Consistency is an ongoing process. We try to pride ourselves on defense. Right now, we're eighth in the nation in points allowed per game.'

The additions of Dickson and Francis are proving priceless so far. Dickson, who played high school ball at Mary Louis Academy in Queens, averaged 16 points and 7.5 rebounds per game in her third and final season at Clarion University. In her first nine games at Molloy, she's scoring 17.5 ppg and pulling down 8.8 rpg.

"She's certainly not a one-year wonder," Pellicane said of Dickson, a 5-foot-8 guard. "She's been a high-percentage shooter and a strong rebounder her whole career, and she's a winner."

Francis is a 5-7 guard who played 89 games at LIU-Post and averaged 5.4 points

and 3.7 rebounds. Her numbers so far with the Lions are similar and she's also a tough defender. "We're thrilled to have her," Pellicane said.

Perez runs the offense from the point after transferring from Stony Brook. She's averaging nearly 10 points per game and leads the Lions in assists and steals. "Gio is a team-first player with high energy," Pellicane said. "She sees the floor well and gets her teammates involved." Perez is backed up by sophomore Katie Marquardt.

Aspuru started all 28 games for the Lions last season and

is showing improvements in all aspects of her game. The 6-foot guard ranks second on the team in scoring at 10.5 ppg and has blocked 13 shots. "She's an excellent twoway player," Pellicane said.

The coach believes senior Kathryn Gibson is one of the best backcourt defenders in the ECC. Gibson is also no stranger to knocking down an occasional shot from behind the arc to boost the offense.

Pellicane said statistics don't show



Courtesy Molly College Athletics

JUNIOR MARTHE GUIRAND, left, started 23 games for the Lady Lions and was a steady contributor on the boards (6.8 rebounds per game) and the offensive end (5.8 ppg.)

how important senior Jenna Silletti and junior Marthe Guirand are to the program. "Jenna is a very skilled shooter and Marthe is a great leader who defends and rebounds. Guirand missed the conference opener and has been banged up for a while, the coach said, but is hoping to return to action soon.

Selected sixth in the ECC preseason poll out of nine teams, the Lions will try

to exceed their expectations on paper. New York Tech was picked first earning 76 points and five first-place votes. St. Thomas Aquinas received 75 points and the other four first-place votes. Daemen (62) and Roberts Wesleyan (52) were third and fourth, respectively. Bridgeport (41), Molloy (37), Mercy (21), Queens (21), and UDC (20) rounded out the predicted order of finish.

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SENIOR KATHRYN GIBSON has averaged

7.5 points per game over her career.



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HERALD NEIGHBORS



Chiddys Chare State

Photos by Tab Hauser/Herald Gazette

ROGER HILL, LEFT, couldn't wait to try the empanadas sold by Mike and Lisa Kreischer.

YAJHARA REYES AND Rachel Rarifre from Salt Cave braved the cold.

Celebrating the 3rd annual Food Truck Festival



or the third year in a row, Glen Cove resident gathered at the St. Rocco's Church to celebrate the Food Truck Festival and Holiday Boutique on Dec. 7.

The holiday event, which debuted in 2017, brought together local businesses and food trucks for residents to enjoy. The trucks offered a wide variety of foods, including cheese steaks and crowd favorite zeppoles. The boutique featured holiday ornaments for sale as well as special deals from local vendors and businesses.

As families gathered for the annual event, they were greeted by a special visit from Santa Claus, who stopped by after his appearance at the Glen Cove Downtown Business Improvement District's Holiday Festival. Along with a photo opportunity, Santa also heard children's wishes for their holiday gifts.

Once most of the shopping was over and Santa took his leave, everyone gathered around the St. Rocco's Christmas tree for it's special tree-lighting ceremony.

While St. Rocco's is known for the "Best Feast in the East" festival in the summer, the continued success of this winter celebration has cemented the Food Truck Festival and Holiday Boutique as a city tradition

HARKINS, ABOVE, was ready to indulge in eating perhap the largest hot

MARGARET

in eating perhaps the largest hot pretzel she'd ever seen.

THERE WERE MANY choices when it came to good food at the Food Truck Festival, far right.

EVERYONE GATH- ERED AT the table where wreaths were for sale, even a couple of dogs.





COMMUNITY CALENDAR

Friday, December 13

Evening with Santa

St. Patrick's Church, 235 Glen St., Glen Cove, 6 p.m. Enjoy a wonderful evening of holiday cheer, complete with a visit from Santa. There will be raffle baskets, dinner and a DJ. Admission is \$20, children 4 to 14 are \$15. (516) 676-0276.

Tree lighting at Planting Fields

Planting Fields Aboretum, 1395 Planting Fields Road, Oyster Bay, 6 p.m. Enjoy a snack at Magnolia cafe, visit with Santa, listen to carolers and stop in the gift shop, all located in the Visitor Center. See the spectacular poinsettia display in the Main Greenhouse and explore the grounds and buildings until 8 p.m. (516) 922-9210.

Saturday, December 14

Pancake breakfast with Santa

The View Grill, 111 Lattingtown Road, Glen Cove 9 a.m. Families can take a photo with Santa and children will receive a special gift from his bag. Entry for adults is \$10, \$5 for children and children 4 and under are free. Proceeds go toward Glen Cove scholarship and community services. (516) 676-1233.

Coach Grill brunch with Santa

Coach Grill & Tavern, 22 Pine Hollow Road, Oyster Bay, 10 a.m. Avoid the hassle of long lines and meet Santa in a relaxed atmosphere and enjoy a delicious buffet brunch. Admission is \$40, children 3 to 12 are \$25 and children 2 and younger are free. (516) 624-0900.

Sea Cliff Winter Market

Creative Arts Studio, 256 Sea Cliff Ave., Sea Cliff, 12 p.m. Enjoy curated collection of cheeses featuring the best of the Northeast and certain select imports. An ever-changing range of delicious treats, including sheep's milk yogurts, goat feta, etc. will be available. Shoppers can also purchase crystals and gems from guest vendor Jewels of the Louts. (516) 671-1000.

Holiday Variety Show

Glenwood Life Center, 71 Grove St., Glenwood Landing, 7 p.m. This show will feature acts from local talents. Acts include dance montages from Glenwood Landing's own Moving On Dance Company, a poetry reading from Glen Cove Poet Laureate Victoria Crosby, comedian Vinny Marra and a vast array of musicians performing holiday-themed tunes. All acts with be family-friendly. Proceeds from performances will go toward North Shore Village Theatre's future endeavors. General admission is \$15, premium seating with a cabaret table is \$25. (516) 399-2575.

Sunday, December 15

Our Generation: Tribute to 50s and 60s

Glen Cove Library, 4 Glen Cove Ave., Glen Cove, 12 p.m. Our Generation presents a musical tribute to the music of the 60s and 70s including songs by the Beatles, the Monkees, the Rolling Stones, the Beach Boys and more. Come prepared to dance in the aisles.



Photo courtesy plantingfields.org

Holiday Festival at Coe Hall

Don't miss the annual Holiday Festival at Coe Hall at the Planting Fields Arboretum on Dec. 14 and 15. Hear carolers sing throughout the house, visit with Santa, enjoy some refreshments and get into the holiday spirit. This year's holiday decorations promise to be exceptionally beautiful with a display of fresh plantlife, including 14 pine trees, Magnolia and citrus garlands, poinsettias and natural topiaries, all arranged in a style authentic to the early 20th century period of the home. The first floor of Coe Hall will be open for self-guided tours, and guided tours will be available for the second floor. The festivities start at 11 a.m. on both days at 1395 Planting Fields Road, Oyster Bay. (516) 922-9210.

(516) 676-2130.

Festival of Lessons & Carols

Christ Church, 61 East Main St., Oyster Bay, 4 p.m. Short bible readings interspersed with the combined choirs of Christ Church singing seasonal hymns, festive carols and special choir music including "Here is the Little Door" by Herbert Howells and "Deo Gracias" by Benjamin Britten. Free of charge. (516) 922-6377.

Monday, December 16

CDPAP lecture

Glen Cove Senior Center, 130 Glen St., Glen Cove, 12:15 p.m. Learn about a Medicaid program that provides services to chronically ill or physically disabled individuals who have a medical need for help with activities of daily living or skilled nursing services. Services can include any of the services provided by a personal care aide (home attendant), home health aide, or nurse. (516) 759-9610.

The making of "Miracle on 34th Street"

Locust Valley Library, 170 Buckram Road, Locust Valley, 7 p.m. Learn the backstory of the beloved 1947 motion picture classic that has touched the hearts of generations of moviegoers, "Miracle on 34th Street." The winner of three Oscars, the film stars Maureen O'Hara, John Payne, Natalie Wood and

Edmund Gwenn. Clips will be shown. Presented by Sal St. George of St. George Living History Productions. (516) 671-1837.

Mozzarella cheese making class

Gold Coast Library, 50 Railroad Ave., Glen Head, 7:30 p.m. Harbor and Cheese Provisions will demonstrate how to make fresh mozzarella and everyone will get a tasting plate. Afterwards, each participant will have the opportunity to make a six ounce mozzarella ball to take home. (516) 759-8300.

Tuesday, December 16

United Health Care lecture

Glen Cove Senior Center, 130 Glen St., Glen Cove, 12:15 p.m. Discuss cost effective health insurance, Medicaid and Medicare plans, the differences in coverage and what questions to ask when choosing plans. (516) 759-9610.

Writing for the TASC

Locust Valley Library, 170 Buckram Road, Locust Valley, 7 p.m. Practice for the writing part of the TASC test (High School Equivalency). Focus on grammar and usage, with an emphasis on capitalization, punctuation, and spelling. (516) 671-1837.

Holiday cookie swap

Bayville Free Library, 34 School St., Bayville, 7 p.m. Bring the best home-baked cookies to the library and go home with new cookies to try, along with their recipes, All participants should bring two dozen home-baked cookies, their recipe and an empty container. (516) 628-2765.

Wednesday, December 18

OB-EN Community Toy Drive

First Presbyterian Church, 60 East Main St., Oyster Bay, 9 a.m. The Inter-religious & Human Needs Council works very hard to insure that every child in the OB-EN community enjoys a happy holiday season. With the generous support of the community, the IHNC will be able to provide food assistance to many families and toys and gifts to less fortunate children. New and unwrapped toy donations can be brought to the church until 5 p.m. and financial donations will also be accepted to the IHNC at P.O. Box 231, Oyster Bay, 11771. (516) 922-5477.

French lessons for kids

Locust Valley Library, 170 Buckram Road, Locust Valley, 5:30 p.m. Children will learn basic skills with French native Phillipe Renaudin. Children must be able to read and write in English. Register online. (516) 671-1837.

Espresso and cappuccino

Oyster Bay-East Norwich Library, 89 East Main St., Oyster Bay, 7 p.m. Explore the two different Italian drinks over which business is conducted, contracts are signed, meetings are held and friendships are formed. Attendees will get to sample some authentic espresso or cappuccino. (516) 922-1212.

Thursday, December 19

Nassau County Cyber Scam seminar

Gold Coast Library, 50 Railroad Ave., Glen Head, 7 p.m. Nassau County Executive Laura Curran is deploying the County's brightest IT experts to locations across the county to offer free trainings for residents on how to combat cyber threats. This training is designed for all ages and is focused just on cyber threats and scamming — phishing, identity theft, viruses, ransomware, malware and social engineering. Participants will learn how to protect themselves using the same methods that is employed by the Nassau County IT department. (516) 759-8300.

HAVING AN EVENT?

Submissions can be emailed to Ilane@liherald.com.

Colonial Crafts Day at Raynham Hall

The Ancient and Honorable Huntington Militia presents a demonstration and sale of handmade colonial crafts and trades in a free exhibition at Ravnham Hall Museum on Dec. 14 from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. Artisans will demonstrate silver working, weaving, horn and leather work, basket making, embroidery and other crafts of the 18th century. Finished work by the craftspeople will be available for purchase at 20 West Main St., Oyster Bay. (516) 922-6808.



Photo courtesy Raynham Hall Museum

NEIGHBORS IN THE NEWS

Thanksgiving at North Shore Soup Kitchen Kids ready for the next snowfall

This Thanksgiving, the North Shore Soup Kitchen continued its tradition of feeding the hungry on the holiday most synonymous with food. Turkeys were distributed to guests to take home to round out their Thanksgiving feast so that guests with cooking facilities could enjoy festivities with their family and

friends at home on Thanksgiving Day. One hundred and twenty turkeys were donated by the Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Shelter Rock and nonperishable food items were donated from St. John's of Lattingtown and bagged by the church's volunteers.



Courtesy: North Shore Soup Kitchen

VOLUNTEERS AT THE North Shore Soup Kitchen made sure that nobody went hungry this Thanksgiving.

Thanks to the Glen Cove PBA and police officers and the Glen Cove Rotary Club, the members of the Glen Cove Boys and Girls Club are now ready to embark on their own "Frozen" adventure with new coats and winter accessories to keep them warm and prepared for the winter season.

The club's winter program prompted these three organizations to act. Twentyone members experienced the magic of the season from a loving community.

On Giving Tuesday, the international day of giving, Glen Cove police officers served as benefactors to 11 GCBGC members by providing a special shopping experience. This combined effort raised \$1,200 from the Glen Cove PBA, 30 individual officers and Gritty Buddha.

The community driven program became the highlight of the year for the club kids who not only received new cold weather gear but also bonded with respected community leaders.

This month the club is hosting the Club Bucks Program and Toy Drive. This vital program conveys the importance of giving during this holiday season. Toy donations for the Drive are being accepted through Friday, Dec. 13. Please contact the Club, at 5 info@glencovebgc.org for more information on donating to the drive or volunteering opportunities.



GLEN COVE POLICE officers treated members of the Glen Cove Boys and Girls Club to a winter wonderland shopping spree.

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FEAR

L.I. school districts of color underfunded

By ANDREW GARCIA

agarcia@liherald.com

Part six in a series.

Nassau County school districts in largely white communities spend thousands of dollars more per student, on average, than most communities of color do, leaving thousands of African-American and Hispanic students with considerably fewer educational resources than their white counterparts, according to a recent study by the nonprofit EdBuild.

More than 50 of Long Island's 124 school districts have stark divides in race and funding, according to EdBuild, which examined the 969 most divisive district borders across the United States. Of the Long Island districts in this category, 10 district borders are "deeply divisive," with a difference of 20 percent or more in school funding between neighboring school systems, often amounting to nearly \$7,000 per pupil.

"That is a *huge* difference between two neighbor school districts," said Sarah Hodges, EdBuild's director of data visualization, who worked on its study, "Dismissed," published earlier this year. "Long Island exemplifies what we're trying to talk about here — that these school district borders are unnecessarily dividing children and creating vast inequities in the resources for education."

"Imagine \$5,000 worth of services, equipment and support for one kid," said Rebecca Sibilia, EdBuild's founder and CEO. "Imagine what you can buy." Even a small class of 20 kids would receive an extra \$100,000, she added, which could include funding for teacher salaries, guidance counselors and classroom materials.

The Island's school districts of color along with the rest of the country's have, however, been caught in a seemingly insurmountable scenario since a Supreme Court decision during Richard Nixon's presidency.

A divisive decision

In an attempt to bring about equality between Detroit city schools and those in the city's suburbs nearly five decades ago, the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People sued Michigan to force school desegregation in Detroit.

Federal Judge Stephen Roth agreed, ruling that more black students would be enrolled in suburban schools outside Detroit, while more white students would be enrolled in city schools. The existing divisive district lines, Roth wrote, would be struck down as unconstitutional if drawn in modern times.

Suburban parents, however, fought the decision. The case reached America's highest court in 1974, and the Supreme Court overturned Roth's decision, effectively handing control over school districts' boundaries to local powers. The 5-4 decision in Milliken v. Bradley came 20 years after Brown v.

School Students Revenue % non **Poverty** District per student white rate Garden City Garden City 3,850 \$28,327 12 3% Hempstead 8,392 \$23,392 98 25% Hempstead Rockville Centre \$30,970 23 9% 3,533 Baldwin 7% 4,708 \$26,829 84 Rockville Baldwin Centre According to "Dismissed," a study by the nonprofit EdBuild, Nassau County has more than 20 divisive school district borders. Above are four such school districts.

Graphic by Christina Daly/Herald

Board of Education of Topeka, Kan., which had banned school segregation. In Milliken v. Bradley, however, the Supreme Court ruled that the plan to integrate Detroit's black students into majoritywhite districts was unconstitutional.

Michigan's school districts were not 'established or created for the purpose of fostering racial segregation in the public schools," the ruling stated

meaning that while the districts were acknowledged to be racially segregated, they were not initially drawn with discrimination in mind.

Detroit, in turn, was left to desegregate itself without the enforcement of the federal government — along with all other segregated districts across the U.S.

"The very evil that [Brown v. Board of Education] was aimed at will not be cured, but will be perpetuated for the future," the court's only African-American justice at the time, Thurgood Marshall, warned in his dissent.

"It's a case that has been detrimental

to actually being able to solve the problems that school district boundaries have created," said Hodges, of EdBuild. The fact that these divisions can be so difficult to overcome has "led to things exactly like Long Island," she added, "where districts can be right next to each other with an 86percentage-point difference in the proportion of white students. That is Milliken; Milliken allows discrepancies like that."

Milliken's prolonged effect

Long Island's more than 50 most-divisive borders make the effects of Milliken clear, according to Hodges. On either side of each district boundary are majoritywhite student bodies or the opposite, and the invisible walls between them are hardly ever broken.

One example is the border between the Hempstead and Rockville Centre school districts. Hempstead has a 2 percent white enrollment rate and spends \$23,392 per student, whereas the neighboring district is 77 percent white and spends \$7,500 more per pupil, according to the EdBuild

The Baldwin district, which is also

adjacent to Rockville Centre, spends \$4,141 less per pupil than its neighbor, and has 16 percent white enrollment. Rockville Centre's other neighbor, the Uniondale School District, spends more than \$5,000 less and has a 99 percent minority enrollment rate.

Deep divisions also exist on the North Shore, between the Glen Cove City School District and the North Shore Central School District, with the former spending \$12,347 less per student than the latter. The Glen Cove district is 72 percent nonwhite, compared to 20 percent for its neighbor.

The website Donors Choose, which allows teachers to start donation pages for certain projects or equipment, shows how much a district like Hempstead is lacking. "Tech Rocks!" is the title of one asking for help to purchase a single laptop. Another requests funding for notebooks, folders and crayons. According to Hodges, there were 20 such fundraisers by Hempstead teachers in the 2016-17 school year, while teachers from the neighboring district, Garden City, posted none to the website.





Andrew Garcia/Herald

FUNDING SCHOOL DISTRICTS with property taxes is, in part, the reason there are wide disparities in spending per student in communities of color compared with white communities. The market value of a home in Hempstead, right, averages less than \$400,000,

while homes in Rockville Centre, left, average more than \$650,000. The Hempstead district has a 2 percent white enrollment, compared with its neighbor's 77 percent white student body.

Study: L.I. home to many 'deeply divisive' district lines

"They're being denied their fair shot," said EdBuild's Sibilia.

Post-property tax potential

A primary reason why Long Island's schools see such financial disparities is because they are largely funded by local property taxes — a system that New York State Sen. John Brooks, a Democrat from Seaford, said is "unfair."

"The challenges facing education are dramatically changing, and the way we fund education is presenting significant problems," Brooks said in June. "We have an overdependence on property taxes."

An area with lower property values like Hempstead, with a median home value of roughly \$375,000, brings less money to the schools than an area like Garden City, where homes are valued at nearly \$900,000 on average.

At the same time, Garden City has a mall, office space and businesses to relieve the property tax burden on homeowners and bring more funds into the district. In school systems with low commercial tax bases, Brooks said, residential property taxes can account for as much as 80 percent of the budget.

Brooks sponsored a bill earlier this year to address these funding inequities, and it could reshape the way Long Island's schools are funded. Senate Bill S1687, which passed the Senate and is awaiting approval in the Assembly, calls for a task force to analyze the Island's property tax-financed school districts in search of a new system that is funded by state income taxes.

Money from the state, Brooks explained, would suffice to meet school

requirements. If districts wanted to spend more, they would still have the option to add proposals during annual budget votes that could be funded by property taxes.

The task force, which would include school administrators and teachers, would have three years to complete its work.

"Everyone has a constitutional right to a quality education," Sibilia said. "I'd argue students [in districts of color] are being denied that constitutional right."



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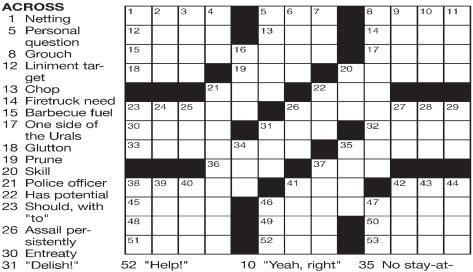


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How to share what's important to you in the Herald Gazette

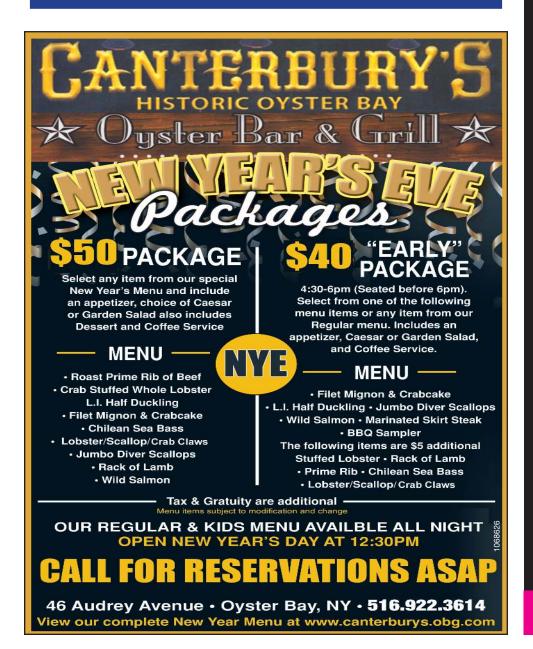


It's not only for organizations, elected leaders or non-profits. Neighbors in the News is a celebration of our neighbors and everyone can participate.

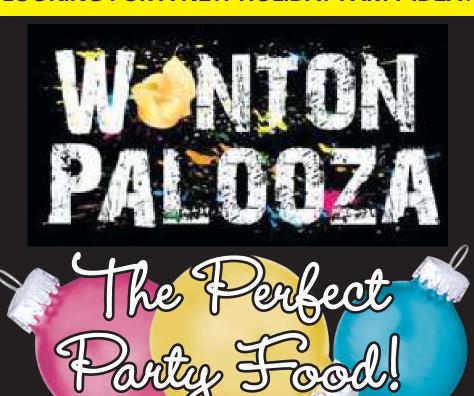
A SA TA A S

If you have a special moment you would like to share, like a 100th birthday celebration, your child's athletic achievement or a simple outing with your family in our coverage area send us your photo and a short descriptive paragraph.

Email your submission to Senior Editor Laura Lane at llane@liherald.com



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STEPPING OUT

Where to go, what to do, who to see

Holiday adventures are everywhere

'Tis the season for cherished traditions

he holiday countdown isn't just about gift buying. Give yourself (and your wallet) a break to take in some of the spirited seasonal festivities going on throughout the area. Many of these events reflect the time-honored rituals of decades long ago.

Old Westbury Gardens' holiday glitz

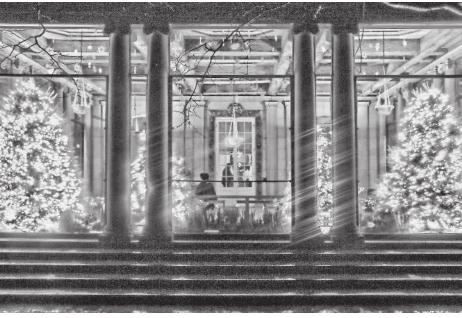
Westbury House, the elegant country estate at Old Westbury Gardens, offers a festive glimpse of early 20th century holiday merriment, before it closes for the winter. The celebration — in full swing right now, 10 a.m.-5 p.m., through Dec. 22 — reflects what the festive season was like during the opulent years of the early 1900s when the Phipps family lived there.

The period rooms in which John S. Phipps — the eldest son of Henry Phipps, Andrew Carnegie's partner at Carnegie Steel — and his family spent their days are impeccably decorated with wreaths, mantelpiece arrangements, topiaries, plants and other horticultural accoutrements. Antique clothing and toys add to the charm of the decorated rooms.

Bring the kids to create some holiday crafts, share their holiday wishes with Santa and enjoy hot cider and cookies on the West Porch, among other activities throughout the holiday period.

Sixty years ago the first visitors were welcomed to Old Westbury Gardens and Peggie Phipps Boegner's dream of creating a public garden in her mother's honor became a reality. Since then, the estate has becoming a thriving cultural landmark that provides visitors an enchanting place to experience history, and find inspiration in what is often referred to as one of the 10 best gardens in the world.

"December makes for a very a magical time to visit Old Westbury Gardens," says Nancy Costopulos, Old Westbury Gardens President/CEO. "This year is particularly momentous since, after months of restoration work at Westbury House, we



Courtesy Old Westbury Gardens

Old Westbury Gardens' Westbury House much-loved annual seasonal bash is in full swing. The home's period rooms glitter with their holiday finery.

are finally able to re-open the doors for visitors to come inside the Phipps' family home. I believe everyone will enjoy seeing Westbury House in pristine condition while participating in our fabulous seasonal activities."

"I urge everyone to get into the holiday spirit by visiting Westbury House, which is elegantly transformed for the holidays. It is a must-visit for the entire family. Each historic room of the house is elegantly decorated "

Special programming includes "Savor the Season," a wine and chocolate tasting, which pairs artisan chocolates from around the world with wine, Friday, Dec. 13, 8-9:30 p.m. Enjoy the fusion of aroma, texture, and flavor in the Red Ballroom amidst Westbury House's dazzling holiday decor.

Varied local ensembles also perform throughout the weekend. Valley Stream's Holy Name of Mary School Hand Bell Choir and Choir Concert present seasonal favorites, on Saturday, Dec. 14, 1-2 p.m.; Long Island High School for the Arts Singers appear on Sunday, Dec. 15, 11 a.m.; followed by Suzuki on the Island's holiday concert, 2 p.m.

Also, visitors can participate in a Winter Owl Prowl during the holiday celebration's final weekend, Saturday, Dec. 21, 4-5 p.m. and 5:30-6:30 p.m. A wildlife expert from Volunteers for Wildlife brings live owls for a meet and greet, followed by an outdoor search. For further information, contact (516) 333-0048 or visit www.oldwestburygardens.org.

Old Bethpage Village by candlelight

Journey back in time during "Candlelight Evenings," Old Bethpage Village Restoration's popular 19th century holiday celebration. The historic village is aglow in its "Hallmark Card"-inspired setting during the annual spectacle, Friday through Sunday, Dec. 20-22 and Dec. 27-29.

Flickering candles illuminate the historic homes that display their holiday finery while showcasing the village's



Courtesy OBVR

Old Bethpage Village Restoration's villagers prepare for some19th century-style festivities during "Candlelight Evenings."

festive spirit. An annual ritual for many at this time of year, the nighttime ambience lends a distinctive dimension to the charming setting.

The many activities enchant guests of all ages. Entertainment includes Civil Warera Christmas songs, contra-dancing, the Holiday Brass Quartet and fiddlers, along with an appearance by Olaf, familiar to all who are fans of "Frozen."

Stories of Christmases past and classic children's holiday tales are retold each night, set against the backdrop of the grandly decorated Christmas tree circa 1866. Visitors can gather around a rousing bonfire in the village's crossroads and enjoy hot mulled cider and refreshments. New this year, an illuminated path to visit Santa at his North Pole workshop adds to the festivities.

The village is open evenings only for this event. For information, contact (516) 572-8401 or www.obvrnassau.com.

- Karen Bloom

New York Dance Theatre's 'The Nutcracker'

New York Dance Theatre's version of the holiday classic dances its way back to the Hofstra University stage. As always, it's performed in the style of the legendary George Balanchine's New York City Ballet production, featuring guest artists from the New York City Ballet. The Balanchine tradition is maintained from storyline through choreography, sets and costumes, as created by New York Dance Theatre founder Frank Ohman (a former NYCB soloist). This year's production will be the first without Ohman, who died in



July Throughout the years, he created original dances and scenes that he incorporated into his production. As a former student and soloist under Balanchine, Ohman

WEEKEND

Out and About

was one of a select few authorized to use the original pas de deux choreography of his mentor, which will continue to distinguish NYDTs performance. Special guest artists Brittany Pollack and Daniel Ulbricht return as the Sugar Plum Fairy and her Cavalier. In all, a cast of 80 dancers, including children, bring the ballet to life. Ohman's traditional role of the grandfather in the party scene that opens the ballet will be left vacant this year in his honor.

Saturday and Sunday, Dec. 14-15, 12 and 5 p.m. \$42, \$32 seniors and children 12 and under. Hofstra University's John Cranford Adams Playhouse, Hempstead. (631) 462-0964 or www.ohmanballet.org.

STILL MORE SUGAR PLUMS 'Nutcracker' Reimagined

Led by executive artistic director Maurice Brandon Curry, the Eglevsky Ballet offers

up an enhanced staging of the festive ballet, accompanied by the Massapequa Philharmonic Orchestra. The company, which was founded in 1961 by Andre Eglevsky, formerly with American Ballet Theater and the New York City Ballet, brings some innovative elements



to the classic production, including special effects. Eglevsky dancers are joined by select students from the Eglevsky Ballet Academy. Curry has added unique elements throughout, including dispensing with the pas de deux usually performed by the Snow Queen and Snow King. Instead, it will be danced by Clara (15-year-old Kathy Benitez, who studies with the Eglevsky Ballet) and the Nutcracker Prince (17-year-old Paolo Tarini, who studies with ABT). The two young dancers will dance a pas de deux to the music for the famous snow scene.

Saturday, Dec. 14, 2 and 7 p.m.; Sunday, Dec. 15, 2 p.m. \$79, \$69, \$59. Tilles Center for the Performing Arts, LUI Post, Rte. 25A, Brookville. (800) 745-3000 or www.ticketmaster.com or www.tillescenter.org.

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Performances/ **On Stage**



Matilda

The inspiring story of an extraordinary girl comes to life on stage, based on Roald Dahl's beloved novel, Thursday and Friday, Dec. 12-13, 8 p.m.; Saturday, Dec. 14, 3 and 8 p.m.; Sunday, Dec. 15, 2 and 7 p.m.; Wednesday, Dec. 18, 8 p.m. John W. Engeman Theater, 250 Main St., Northport, (631) 261-2900 or www. engemantheater.com.

Sawyer Fredericks

The singer-songwriter, winner of "The Voice" Season 8, in concert, Thursday, Dec. 12, 8 p.m. My Father's Place at the Roslyn Hotel, 1221 Old Northern Blvd., Roslyn. 413-3535 or www.myfathersplace.com.

Rick Springfield

The singer-songwriter in concert, with Richard Marx, Thursday, Dec. 12, 8 p.m. NYCB Theatre at Westbury, 960 Brush Hollow Road, Westbury. (800) 745-3000 or www.livenation.com.

Buckcherry

The rock band in concert, Friday, Dec. 13, 8 p.m. The Paramount, 370 New York Ave., Huntington. (800) 745-3000 or www.ticketmaster.com or www.paramountny.com.

Jacob Marley's Christmas Carol

An irreverent twist on the iconic holiday classic, Friday and Saturday, Dec. 13-14, 8 p.m.; Sunday, Dec. 15, 3 p.m. Carriage House Players, Vanderbilt Museum, 180 Little Neck Road, Centerport (631) 854-5579 or www.vanderbiltmuseum.org.

Mighty Ramones and the **Phantoms of Soul**

The band in concert, Friday, Dec. 13. Still Partners, 225 Sea Cliff Ave., Sea Cliff. 200-9229 or www.stillpartners.com.

Prof. Louie and The Crowmatix

The roots-blues band in concert, with a Rick Danko birthday celebration, Friday, Dec. 13, 8 p.m. My Father's Place at the Roslyn Hotel. 1221 Old Northern Blvd., Roslyn. 413-3535 or www.myfathersplace.com.

Vox Nova

The band in concert, Saturday, Dec. 14, 8 p.m. Still Partners, 225 Sea Cliff Ave., Sea Cliff. 200-9229 or www.stillpartners.com.

Irish Tenors: We Three Kings Christmas

The acclaimed trio in concert, featuring tunes from their holiday album, Saturday, Dec. 14, 8 p.m. NYCB Theatre at Westbury, 960 Brush Hollow Rd., Westbury. (800) 745-3000 or www.livenation.com.

Night Ranger

The rock band in concert, Saturday Dec. 14, 8 p.m. The Paramount, 370 New York Ave., Huntington. (800) 745-3000 or www.ticketmaster.com or www.paramountny.com.



We Banjo 3

The grassroots crossover sensation visits the Landmark on Main Street stage on Sunday, Jan. 12, at 7 p.m.

Debuting in the U.S. in 2012, We Banjo 3 has emerged as fast-rising touring darlings in the country that two of the members now call home. The Galway, Ireland, and Nashville-based quartet - comprised of two sets of brothers, Enda and Fergal Scahill and Martin and David Howley — continually push musical boundaries while maintaining an unwavering devotion to the essential audience experience. WB3 seamlessly converge the shared and varied traditions of Americana, bluegrass, and Celtic music with pop-sensible songcraft to create a unique signature sound.

Tickets are \$39, \$36 and \$28; available at 767-6444 or www.landmarkonmainstreet.org. Landmark on Main Street, Jeanne Rimsky Theater, 232 Main St., Port Washington.

The Karpenteers

The tribute band in concert, Sunday, Dec. 15, 2:30 p.m. Program includes popular holiday songs recorded by the Carpenters and other tunes. Registration required. Oyster Bay-East Norwich Public Library, 89 East Main St., Oyster

Stevie GB's Retirement Village People

The comic with his musical quartet, in a holiday parody of seasonal songs, Sunday, Dec. 15, 3 p.m. My Father's Place at the Roslyn Hotel, 1221 Old Northern Blvd., Roslyn. 413-3535 or www.myfathersplace.com.

The Tubes

The rock band in concert, featuring Fee Waybill, Sunday, Dec. 15, 8 p.m. The Space, 250 Post Ave. Westbury. (800) 745-3000 or www.ticketmaster.com or www.thespaceatwestbury.com.



Cherish the Ladies

The Celtic group in concert, performing "A Celtic Christmas," Tuesday, Dec. 17, 7:30 p.m. Jeanne Rimsky Theater, 232 Main St., Port Washington 767-6444 or www.landmarkonmainstreet.org.

Doobie Decimal System

The cover band in concert, Tuesday, Dec. 17, 8 p.m. Still Partners, 225 Sea Cliff Ave., Sea Cliff. 200-9229 or www.stillpartners.com.

Celebrate the Holidays

Bandleader-composer trumpeter David Glukh in concert, Wednesday, Dec. 18, 2 p.m. Program includes Klezmer, jazz and holiday classics. Jeanne Rimsky Theater, Landmark on Main Street, 232 Main St., Port Washington 767-6444 or www.landmarkonmainstreet.org.

Dialed

Saxophonist Augie Bello and his band in concert, Thursday, Dec. 19, 8 p.m. With Nikolina and Hans Kiessling. My Father's Place at the Roslyn Hotel, 1221 Old Northern Blvd., Roslyn. 413-3535 or www.myfathersplace.

Music Jam

Bring an acoustic instrument and voice and join in or just listen, Thursday, Dec. 19, 7 p.m. Sea Cliff Library, 300 Sea Cliff Ave., Sea Cliff. 671-4290 or www.seaclifflibrary.org.

RATT

The heavy metal band in concert, Thursday, Dec. 19, 8 p.m. The Paramount, 370 New York Ave., Huntington. (800) 745-3000 or www. ticketmaster.com or www.paramountny.com.

For the Kids

Gingerbread House

Build a magical gingerbread house, Thursday, Dec. 12, 7 p.m. For grades 6 and up Registration required. Glen Cove Public Library, 4 Glen Cove Ave., Glen Cove. 676-2130 or www.glencovelibrary.org.

Picture Book Films

See short films based on favorite books. Friday, Dec. 13, 10 a.m. For ages 2-5. Gold Coast Public Library, 50 Railroad Ave., Glen Head. 759-8300 or www.goldcoastlibrary.org

Investigate color, shape, form and texture

with art activities based on a story, Friday, Dec. 13, 10-11 a.m. Listen to stories while exploring various art materials and processes; followed by an art project. For ages 3-5. Registration required. Nassau County Museum of Art, 1 Museum Dr., Roslyn Harbor. 484-9338 or www.nassaumuseum.org.



Frosty

Join Jenny and Frosty as they try to save Chillsville from the evil Ethel Pierpot and her plan to melt all the snow, Saturday, Dec. 14, 11 a.m.; Sunday, Dec. 15, 10:30 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, Dec. 14, 12-3 p.m. Nassau County Museum of Art, 1 Museum Dr., Roslyn Harbor. 484-9338 or www.nassaumuseum.org.

Museums/Galleries and more

Locally Sourced: Collecting Long Island Artists

An exhibition that kicks off the Heckscher's year-long centennial celebration, which underscores the museum's commitment to preserving and presenting the stories of Long Island's art through ther permanent collection. It brings together painting, sculpture, photography, and works on paper by dozens of artists to explore the themes of place, dialogue among artists, and landscape, with particular attention to the achievements of women artists of Long Island. Through March 15. Heckscher Museum of Art, Main St. and Prime Ave., Huntington. (631) 351-3250 or www.heckscher.org

100 Years of Children's Books

Welcome the new school year with an exhibit on popular child and young adult reading. Through Jan. 25. North Shore Historical Museum, 140 Glen St., Glen Cove. 801-1191 or www.nshmgc.org.

Picture This! The Art of Children's Books

A celebration of children's book illustration guest curated by author/illustrators Tim Miller and Isabel Roxas. Works on view include illustrations by Sophie Blackall, Eric Carle, Catia Chien, Victoria Cossack, Mike Curato. C.G. Esperanza, Brian Floca, Gilbert Ford, Stephanie Graegin, Jen Hill, Ezra Jack Keats, Aram Kim, Colleen Kong-Savage, Leo Lionni, Tim Miller, Oge Mora, Il Sung Na, John Parra, Isabel Roxas, Cecilia Ruiz, Maurice Sendak, and more. Through Jan. 12. 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. Sagamore Hill National Historic Site, 20 Sagamore Hill Rd, Oyster Bay. 922-4788 or nps.gov/sagamorehill.



Seashells.. Nature's Inspired Design

An exhibit of seashells from around the world, from the collection of Garvies Point Museum, Garvies Point Museum and Preserve, 50 Barry Dr., Glen Cove. 571-8010 or www.garviespointmuseum.com.

At the Movies

See "Angel of Mine," the psychological thriller about a grieving mother, Thursday, Dec. 12, 2 and 6:30 p.m.; also "Pavarotti," the documentary about the popular tenor featuring never-before-seen footage, concert performances and intimate interviews Thursday Dec. 19, 2 and 6:30 p.m. Oyster Bay-East Norwich Public Library, 89 East Main St., Oyster Bay. 922-1212.

On Screen

See "The Lavender HIII Mob," the 1951 British comedy about a meek bank clerk who devises a plan to rob a fortune in gold bullion from his own bank, Friday, Dec. 14, 2 p.m.; also "Where You'd Go Bernadette?," the mystery dramedy about a loving mom who becomes compelled to reconnect with her creative passions after years of sacrificing herself for her family, Tuesday, Dec. 17, 2 p.m. Gold Coast Public Library, 50 Railroad Ave., Glen Head. 759-8300 or www.goldcoastlibrary.

Christmas at Westbury House

Old Westbury Gardens annual holiday celebration, Saturday and Sunday, Dec. 14-15, 10 a.m.-5 p.m. With decorated period rooms, visit from Santa, crafts, holiday marketplace, refreshments and more. Old Westbury Gardens, 71 Westbury Rd., Old Westbury. 333-0048 or www.oldwestbury.org.

The pundit on tour, with "Understanding Trump," Sunday Dec. 15, 7:30 p.m. The Paramount, 370 New York Ave., Huntington. (800) 745-3000 or www.ticketmaster.com or www.paramountny.com.

Movie Time

See "The Public," the drama about a librarian is caught between a group of homeless patrons and a face-off with the local police, Tuesday, Dec. 17, 6 p.m. Glen Cove Public Library, 4 Glen Cove Ave., Glen Cove. 676-2130.

Trivia Night: Star Wars

A pop culture trivia event, Tuesday, Dec. 17, 7:15 p.m. NYCB Theatre at Westbury, 960 Brush Hollow Road, Westbury. (800) 745-3000 or www.livenation.com.



Having an event?

Submissions can be emailed to kbloom@liherald.com.

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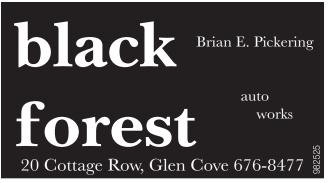


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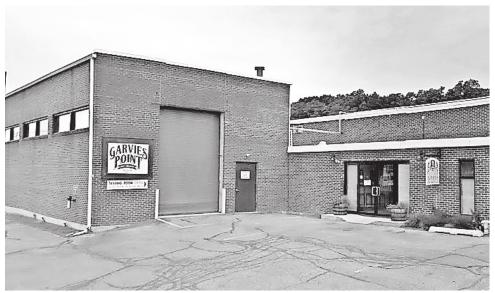
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Courtesy Google Maps

GARVIES POINT BREWERY hopes to move from its current location to a more prominent site adjacent to the marina by March 2021.



Connolly K-Kids inducts new officers

The Connolly Elementary School Chapter of K-Kids recently inducted new officers for the 2019-2020 school year. K-Kids is a Kiwanis-based service club that seeks to involve elementary school students in community service activities. The Connolly K-Kids is sponsored by the North Shore Kiwanis Club and facilitated by advisers Krystle Gonzalez and Sandra Vigliotti.

UBLIC NOTICES

LEGAL NOTICE: PLEASE TAKE NOTICE THAT the City Council adopted the following Ordinance at the City Council Meeting of December 10, 2019:

BE IT ORDAINED, that the City Council hereby amends Sec. 265-43, Schedule XI: Parking Prohibited at All Times, of the Code of Ordinances as indicated: Name of Street

From Beverly Road west from 1000 feet to a point

publication. Tina Pemberton

Legal Notices are everyone's business READ THEM

Proposed brewery to debut in 2021

industrial buildings that dotted Garvies Point in the early 1900s. Brewery Co-founder Mark Scoroposki said that the new location would help his business grow, and that he hoped to move into the building by March 2021. Scoroposki added that the new location would be able to house not only the brewery and tasting room, but also a new restaurant and a second-floor venue for special events.

"This space would be the most optimal to operate the brewery and the hub," Scoroposki said. "We believe it would be great for a community gathering space.'

He said he hoped to operate the restaurant seven days a week from 11 a.m. to 11 p.m. With the proposed venue able to fit between 130 and 150 people, Swagerty said, there was likely to be a spillover effect on downtown Glen Cove. Those who frequent breweries, he said, like to go "pub hopping," moving from one to another. With the downtown within walking distance, he said, a successful Garvies Point Brewery could benefit other businesses as well.

"We're hoping to create this nucleus of attraction and see a lot of local businesses benefit," Swagerty said.

Planning board members questioned whether 34 parking spots would be enough for the site, but John Scott Grupp, of Notaro Grupp and Associates, an architecture and planning firm, said that they would be. Because it's near the marina, Grupp added, the brewery attracts boaters and not just drivers, easing use of the lot.

"Connecticut has many restaurants by the water that do the same," he said. "We're comfortable with a parking lot of this size.'

Graziose said that brewery patrons would also be able to use RXR's adjacent parking lot and public lots at Garvies Point. Asked about sanitation issues at the site, Graziose told the planning board that the \$10 million sewage treatment station at Garvies Point was already meeting the needs of the brewery and had more than enough capacity to handle the addition of the restaurant. He added that RXR would stay on top of the brewery's cleaning operations, because brewery odors tend to linger if their pipes are not regularly cleaned.

"While Garvies Point [Brewery] takes care of cleaning its brewery, it's important for us that any odors are taken care of," Graziose said.

After RXR's presentation, the planning board voted to hold a public hearing on the project at its next meeting in January. It advised RXR to be prepared to answer questions from the public, and asked that the developer provide a before-and-after blueprint for the site to compare it with the 2014

OBITUARIES

Michelina Andreotti

Michelina Andreotti, 86, of Glen Cove, died on Dec. 8. Beloved wife of the late Mario; loving mother of Salvatore, Luigi (Lee) and the late Felicia; dear sister of Rosaria, Assunta and Aniello: adored grandmother of Angela, Michelle, Jessica and Victoria; cherished great-grandmother of Madelyn, Christian and Jonathan. Andreotti loved her family and was an avid gardener. She also loved to cook

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and enjoyed baking. Visitation at Dodge-Thomas Funeral Home. Mass at St. Rocco RC Church. Entombment at Holy Rood Cemetery.

Ann C. Sujeski

Ann C. Sujeski, 94, of Glen Cove, died on Dec. 3. Beloved wife of the late Herb; loving mother of Joan Boertzel (Jerry) and Herb; proud grandmother of Jerry (Rebeka), Jason, Jennifer and Jessica; special great-grandmother of Lily, Delilah. Lorelei and Jaden. Interment Nassau Knolls Cemetery.

Rosemonde Pierre

Rosemonde Pierre, 63, of Glen Cove and formerly of Elmont, died on Nov. 13. She was the beloved sister of Genevieve and dear aunt of Max and Sinddy Malebranch. She was also survived by several loving cousins and family. Visitations and services were held at the Dodge-Thomas Funeral Home of Glen Cove on Dec. 7, with a Catholic Prayer Service. Interment was private.

GLEN COVE

Incorporating Gold Coast Gazette

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HERALD EDITORIAL

Transforming the Hub will take political leadership

hat does the future of the suburbs look like?" That was the question pondered by Rebecca D'Eloia, RXR Realty's vice president for development and the project manager overseeing transformation of the Nassau County Hub, last Friday afternoon.

She was speaking before an audience of more than 1,000 people at the nonprofit Vision Long Island's Smart Growth Summit, and all of them were eager to hear her answer. If RXR and its partner, BSE Global, succeed in remaking the Hub the 72 acres surrounding Nassau Veterans Memorial Coliseum — it will look very different than it does now, D'Eloia made clear.

She outlined plans for a massive \$1.5 billion project that would create a new mixed-use neighborhood with three distinct areas — a Sports and Entertainment District, an Innovation District and a Town Center. D'Eloia's presentation was at once informational and uplifting. It gave us the sense that the acres of asphalt that now lie idle most of the time, except for the few hours during a game or event at the Coliseum, will at long last be put to good use and help propel the county forward.

For decades, that blacktop wasteland has stood as a symbol of government inaction. In the mid-2000s, then Islanders owner Charles Wang proposed construction of the Lighthouse project, a mixedused community that included retail shops, housing, a renovated Coliseum and a 60-story tower shaped like — you guessed it — a lighthouse.

The \$3.75 billion project was expected

to take a decade to build, generate \$71 million in annual tax revenue and create 19,000 permanent jobs. It never happened, however. Nassau, under then County Executive Thomas Suozzi, appeared to be on board, but the Town of Hempstead could never quite make up its mind on whether to approve the project, and so it went nowhere.

Ensuring that the RXR-BSE project will succeed will require more than sound planning. It will require political will on the part of, among others, Hempstead's new Republican supervisor, Donald X. Clavin. The town, which controls zoning in the Hub, must review any proposed plans before construction can begin.

County Executive Laura Curran, a Democrat, has spearheaded an effort to bring the project to fruition. She has lent her support to it — even helped shape it from the moment she took office nearly two years ago. Her strong leadership brings us hope.

There was great hope in Laura Gillen, the outgoing Democratic town supervisor, as well. Gillen had allied herself with Curran from the time they campaigned together in 2017, and it was expected that Gillen would throw her support behind the RXR-BSE plan to help ensure that it passed muster.

But Clavin defeated Gillen in November, returning the town to Republican control. The question is, what happens now?

At the time of the Lighthouse proposal in the mid-2000s, the town was under GOP control, and town officials let the project, which would have been complete by now,

Hempstead Republican leaders, sadly,

played politics with Wang's multi-billiondollar project, using their control over it as a blunt-force instrument to knock Suozzi down by a peg or three. Such shenanigans can never again be allowed. They were the very reason the Islanders were eventually forced to leave Long Island for Brooklyn.

Clavin cannot — must not — allow another transformational project to go unfulfilled at the Hub. This is about the future of Nassau County.

Here we must note there are promising signs. The new supervisor has included Hub developers on his transition team. And in a phone interview with the Herald Monday, he pledged to work with Curran on the project, saying, "Everyone wants success for this region . . . I recognize the importance of success with the Hub."

During election-season interviews with the Herald, Clavin made clear that he would be his own person, reaching decisions independently from his party. So far,

Now he must reach out to Curran and vice versa — in a bipartisan effort to pass the RXR-BSE proposal. If there are concerns, they mustn't allow them to linger for long. The people of Nassau must come first this time. If Clavin can set aside his party's desire to defeat Curran at the polls, he could go down as one of Hempstead's truly great supervisors, and Curran as one of the great executives.

So, what does the future of the suburbs look like? That question is to be determined by the government leaders who will ultimately decide. Their political calculations will bring either progress or stagnation. The latter is unacceptable.

LETTERS

Brinton echoes the Lorax

To the Editor:

Congratulations to Scott Brinton on his wonderful column last week, "The inherent right of trees to exist." I, too, love trees, and I cringe every time I see one cut down. Trees, no matter how big or small, help to sustain us.

When I was a life science teacher, I used tell my students that if plants go, we all go. When I lost two trees in Hurricane Sandy, I immediately replaced both, and I'm so happy to see them every day. I only wish that my yard was bigger, so I could plant more.

Thanks, Scott, for reminding everyone of the beauty and benefits of having trees and for echoing the words of the Lorax in the book of the same name by Dr. Seuss: "I speak for the trees! Let them grow! Let them grow!'

> MARGARET HANAN Rockville Centre



OPINIONS

Voting on impeachment, some will put their careers on the line

ut allowing

President

Trump's conduct

would be far

worse.

to go unpunished

any members of Congress have had a great few years in Washington. When you're in the majority party, you have the joy of bigger offices and many extra side benefits, and have the ability to bring numerous grants and benefits home to your constituents. It's not a bad job, but sooner or later you have to cast some



JERRY KREMER

tough votes that may decide whether you'll be reelected.

The moment of truth is fast approaching for Democratic law-makers who will have to decide whether to vote to impeach President Trump. There will be little or no hand-wringing on

the part of any Republican House or Senate members. Many fear a party primary challenge from the conservative wing, so they're prepared to die for the president. Others are party loyalists.

I must confess that I don't envy any lawmaker who must take a controversial vote on *any* issue. I was a State Assembly member for 23 years, and during that time I had to make many choices that were unpopular with some of my constituents. Women's reproductive rights, increasing taxes and the death penalty were just a few of those tough votes dur-

ing very conservative times. Any of those votes could have ended my career in the Assembly, but my oath of office came first.

A vote to impeach
Trump might end a few congressional careers, but
allowing his conduct to go
unpunished would be a signal that he is free to ignore
the Constitution and to continue to turn the office of
president into a hollow
shell. Trump's defenders

say the impeachment effort is an attempt to subvert the results of the 2016 election. But winning an election isn't a free pass to do anything you want for the rest of your term. Trump's idea that he could shoot someone in the middle of Fifth Avenue and get away with it is his idea of what the Constitution allows him to do.

Encouraging a foreign government to interfere in our politics in order to facilitate his re-election isn't protected by any clause in the Constitution. Threatening witnesses who appear before Congress is a crime. Ignoring subpoenas from Congress, and silencing government officials who are required to testify, are violations of law. Fighting court orders to turn over

your tax returns and records of hush-money payments isn't protected by any law.

The country hasn't been the same since Jan. 20, 2017, the day Trump was inaugurated. Unemployment may be at its lowest level in years, and the stock market may be booming, but are those the only measures of whether America is a better place? Did the country give its consent to the adminis-

tration to fight against laws that guarantee 20 million people access to health care? Did voters consent to allow the president to wipe out hundreds of environmental protections so that a few industries can profit by polluting our air and water?

I don't recall the majority of voters instructing the president that women who have abortions should be subjected to criminal penalties. And there were no words in the oath of office Trump took allowing him to encourage the growth of white supremacy. How about the dramatic increase in anti-Semitic incidents over the past three years? Are they just an accident?

It's true that a number of these arguments are far outside the scope of the anticipated articles of impeachment. There will be more than enough substance to those charges that they won't need to be embellished. In the end, the members of Congress who vote for impeachment will have decided what kind of president they want to lead us.

The Senate may vote for more of the same in the White House. Yes, some in the House of Representatives — and perhaps even a few in the Senate — may cast career-ending votes, but no true public official should take the oath of office and leave their conscience outside the Capitol.

Jerry Kremer was a state assemblyman for 23 years, and chaired the Assembly's Ways and Means Committee for 12 years. He now heads Empire Government Strategies, a business development and legislative strategy firm. Comments about this column? JKremer@liherald.com.

LETTERS

Questioning right and wrong

To the Editor:

Since Donald Trump became president, and since so many people still support him, I have to question my upbringing, which taught me right from wrong. I was taught that it is wrong:

- lacksquare To call people derogatory names.
- To mock the movements of a disabled person.
- To bully people into doing what you want.
- To slander people with whom you disagree.
- To incite hatred with your words.
- To scapegoat entire groups of people.
- To hire crooks to handle your business affairs.
- To brag about everything that you do, such as grabbing a woman's vagina because you are a celebrity.
- To lie about known facts.
- To cheat on your spouse.
- To spread disproven conspiracy theories for personal benefit.

- To foster corporate greed at the expense of environmental protection.
- To encourage mob justice against your rivals "Lock her up!"
- To ignore government subpoenas.
- To use a government office for personal enrichment by encouraging the use of your private businesses.
- To aid your family members' private businesses through your office.
- To abuse your position of power by using foreign countries to help win an election.

I am told that the behavior of our president is OK because he isn't a politician. I thought that his behavior was simply wrong. Either my views are right, and they are not shared by the 40 percent of Americans who support the president, or they know he's wrong and accept this behavior by anyone, including the president, as long as he gives them what they want. Either way, I find all of it extremely unsettling.

ELAINE RAUCH Lynbrook

FRAMEWORK by John C. O'Connell



Wanted: one goose — Mill Pond Park, Bellmore

OPINIONS

Criminals' early release threatens public safety

nder the

law, judges would

have no flexibility

in setting bail for

serious crimes.

new state

ur leaders need to think very carefully about the implications of recent moves to release both convicted criminals and those charged with crimes from prison. In the rush to advance sentencing and bail reforms, something important has not been adequately considered: the threat to the community.



ALFONSE D'AMATO

Determining who gets out of jail and who stays in should be guided by a very basic rule: what's best not just for the offender, but also for protecting the law-abiding public. Replacing mandatory sentencing laws with mandatory release laws makes no sense,

either. Yet that's what's likely to happen in New York under an ill-considered law passed by the State Legislature this year.

The bail reform law was tucked into unrelated state budget bills without adequate hearings or public consideration. Hiding such measures in the state budget is an all-too-convenient way of getting laws passed that would likely not be enacted if considered on their own merits.

The law reduces judicial discretion in

setting bail for all but the most violent offenders. State law previously granted judges the discretion to set bail based on the "flight risk" a freed alleged offender might pose. But under the new law, judges would have no flexibility to set bail for

defendants charged with such serious crimes as manslaughter, robbery, stalking, selling guns to a minor or making a terrorist threat.

Think especially about that last one. Imagine a suspected terrorist who threatens to detonate a bomb. He or she can't be held on bail, gets released, and then commits the very act originally threatened. The public outcry would be immediate

and fully justified. The British public just learned this sad lesson when a convicted terrorist was given early "compassionate release" from prison, only to stab two innocent Londoners to death before police were able to kill him.

Other potentially dangerous results of the ill-advised law abound. Widely respected law enforcement officials, prosecutors and judges warn that because the law applies retroactively, some 300 prisoners being held in Nassau County alone could be eligible for release this month or in early January. Other provisions of the law would allow for the release of defen-

dants for such crimes as breaking and entering to obtain detailed personal information on their victims or to photograph the interior of victims' homes. That's a gift to criminals on top of a getout-of-jail-free card!

Politicians of all stripes tend to make a mishmash of this issue, confusing compassionate treatment of prisoners with considered protection of the public. Much of the debate originally centered on the idea that some people in our prisons are serving sentences that are out of proportion to their crimes. Oft-cited examples are those serving long mandatory sentences for marijuana offens-

es imposed under tough anti-drug laws, while marijuana is being decriminalized and even legalized across the country.

Keeping these offenders locked up is a lot like keeping bootleggers in jail after Prohibition was lifted. Punishing for what's no longer a crime makes little sense, and fundamental fairness dictates that these sentences be reduced or eliminated. Adding to the justice of shortening such sentences is the unfortunate fact that too many of those incarcerated for marijuana offenses are people of color. In these cases, sentencing reform makes good sense and is the right thing to do.

This concern with unfair sentences is what led Congress to pass the First Step Act last year with large bipartisan majorities, which President Trump then signed into law. Even the president's loudest liberal critics had to give him begrudging credit for this criminal justice reform, which restored greater sentencing flexibility to the federal court system.

But restoring more discretion to judges to do what's fair is a far cry from what sentencing and bail reform have morphed into. Not all those serving long prison sentences deserve to have those sentences shortened or commuted. Calling for reducing sentences for violent crimes makes a mockery of justice and ignores the rights of the victims of those crimes.

Gov. Andrew Cuomo and legislative leaders must address this impending flood of potential criminals onto our streets. Fortunately, bipartisan state legislation has been introduced to correct these glaring defects in the bail reform law. It would restore discretion to judges to set bail based on defendants' flight risk, criminal record and potential danger to the public. Let's hope this commonsense proposal prevails in Albany.

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

Don't let political chaos ruin your holiday

e find our joy in

the interstices, in

the sweet spaces

nation's troubles.

between the

n these days before Christmas and the first days of Hanukkah, the last moments of 2019, the eve of a new year, I've been struggling to feel the joy. Along with many others who are lucky enough to have a decent life, I wake up each morning and enjoy a moment of peace before I remember that I am living in Trump's America.



RANDI KREISS

We're in the middle of an impeachment, and it's tough to pretend this is business as usual for the United States. What started out as an unconventional campaign and a mean-spirited inaugural moved on to three years of an ugly presidency. What

started out as a promise to shake things up evolved into a traumatic assault on democratic values. The president has strong-armed his way through his time in office, insulting his critics, eviscerating every department in government and lying over and over again, day in and day out, about things consequential and inconsequential.

Somehow, through intimidation and threats, he has also co-opted the majority of Republicans in and around the White House. It's hard to deck the halls when it feels as if civil order, and the earth itself, are imperiled.

My holiday spirit definitely peaked over Thanksgiving, and I need a reboot. Family gathered, and there was plenty of talk about the turkey and the dreadful weather, but no talk of politics. Not because we disagree, but because we're exhausted by the ongoing political spectacle. The dilemma is that the overexposure to Trump's shenanigans and malfeasance are numbing. At the same time,

we need to summon energy to push back and resist.

It just wears you down to hear the facts of climate change, see for yourself the tides getting higher and higher on our shores and read that the president has dismantled yet another environmental initiative. How many decent, nonpartisan government officials have to testify to his immoral and potentially illegal behavior before people see that Donald Trump is a fake?

The rapidly shifting stories, deceits and deflections coming from the White House eventually make people dull and unresponsive when we should be addressing each and every immoral and illegal act as if the honor of America depended

on it. Because, of course, it

A kind of selective amnesia possesses us, as if we don't quite remember that Trump separated hundreds of children from their parents at our border. As if he didn't betray the Kurds, who valued and trusted us as allies. As if he didn't populate the White House with his children and other know-nothings whose only attribute is blind loyalty. As

if he didn't know on some level that Russian interference helped swing the vote to him in 2016. As if our president, the leader of America and the free world, didn't try to bribe the president of Ukraine into finding damaging information on Joe Biden and his son.

Political amnesia can be fatal. Peace is elusive in the Middle East, and hot spots can ignite in a moment. We need to hold the thought that when things go south, we need a leader we can trust with life-and-

death decisions. We cannot fix what is wrong in Trumpworld with Band-Aids. We need to see through the impeachment trial and make a record for history of what he has done to deserve this extreme remedy. If the Senate does not vote to follow through on the impeachment, then we must take the fight to the 2020 election.

So how do we live through this disturbing and perilous time and keep our sanity and our joy and even our sense of humor? I suppose it's the way we survive any crisis of faith or family or marriage or health. We find our joy in the interstices, in the sweet spaces between the troubles that are visiting us. We cherish the good times, and hold close our loved ones, and light the candles and sing the carols.

Perhaps we forgo some of the usual materialism and free-falling avarice of holiday shopping. With soldiers still in harm's way overseas and uncertainty at home, low-key gift-giving feels more seemly. Perhaps siphon some of the holiday budget to charities that help piece together the lives of Americans who aren't feeling the Trump bounce.

My holiday wish is for leadership that holds us up as exemplars to the world. My toast is to America the beautiful.

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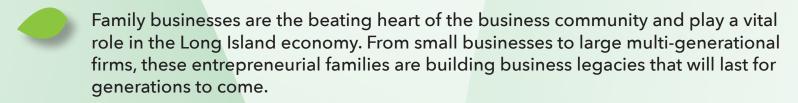
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YOUR WAY FORWARD