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VOL. 29 NO. 38

SEPTEMBER 17 - 23, 2020

\$1.00



Jennifer Corr/Herald Gazette

**Remembering those who died on Sept. 11**

At a ceremony last Friday, members of Joseph Zuccala's family helped honor him and the three other Glen Cove residents who lost their lives on Sept. 11, 2001. Story, Page 3.

**G.H. resident takes over as HMTC chair**

By **MIKE CONN**  
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As the daughter of a Holocaust survivor, Glen Head resident Andrea Bolender, 58, said that one of the most important functions of the Holocaust Memorial and Tolerance Center of Nassau County, in Glen Cove, is to preserve the memory of the horrors suffered by people like her father. That, she said, will be one of her most important missions as the center's new chair.

her years of involvement in Holocaust-related activities, as well as her kind and caring nature, make her the perfect choice to manage the center.

**W**e want a generation of people who will stand up. Maybe not physically, because it's dangerous, but they will not be a bystander.

"I don't know anybody who's got a bigger heart than Andrea in terms of reaching out to people," Markowitz said, "and I think she'll do just fine."

**ANDREA BOLENDER**  
 Chair, Holocaust Memorial and Tolerance Center of Nassau County

Born in Brooklyn, the third of Benek and Ruth Bolender's four children, Andrea said she had always known her father was a Holocaust survivor because of the "86786" tattooed on his forearm. But she did not understand the gravity of what he had gone through, she recalled, until she began receiving Holocaust-related education at Brooklyn's South Shore High School, and he was invited to speak to her class.

Bolender, who was installed on Sept. 1, succeeds Steven Markowitz, who led the HMTC for eight years. Markowitz said it is important for the center to have a change in leadership to foster new ideas and fresh approaches to Holocaust education. He added that Bolender's life in the Holocaust survivor culture and

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**Law firm finds harassment claim against Tenke 'unfounded'**

By **JENNIFER CORR**  
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Allegations of gender discrimination and harassment lodged last fall against Glen Cove Mayor Tim Tenke and two other city officials were "unfounded and/or unactionable."

That's according to the recent findings of the Farmingdale-based law firm Guercio & Guer-

cio LLP, which the City Council hired to investigate the accusations.

The council voted July 28 to accept the firm's report, which found legal action could not be taken against Tenke or the other officials, Deputy Mayor Maureen Basdavanos and City Councilwoman Marsha Silverman. The firm's confidential report was not discussed at the July session.

City Controller Sandra Clarson, whom Tenke fired at one point, only to rehire her days later, and Parks and Recreation Director Darcy Belyea made the accusations amid a heated mayoral race last fall, in which Tenke, a Democrat, faced a stiff challenge by former Mayor Reggie Spinello, a Republican. Spinello had originally hired

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2

# Mayor says he's cleared of harassment

CONTINUED FROM FRONT PAGE

Clarson.e

"Obviously, I'm elated by the decision and I feel vindicated," Tenke said.

According to the mayor, the claim was not initially filed in the city's Human Resources Department, but rather "in the news," noting, "It was actually first brought to the attention of News 12."

Shortly after the first news reports, the claim was, in fact, filed in Human Resources.

News 12's reporting was based on a news release written by Zefy Christopoulos, a former Republican candidate for the Nassau County Legislature, in which Clarson and Belyea alleged that they had been bullied and used as scapegoats by Tenke, Basdavanos and Silverman. The mayor, they said, had created a poor working environment for women.

The Herald Gazette filed a Freedom of Information Law request with the city last fall for any claims of harassment against Tenke filed in the previous three years. The city clerk at the time, Tina Pemberton, said that a search of city records yielded no such claims.

But Belyea said her claims reflected her experience and that of Clarson, who alleged she was bullied by Tenke. The Herald Gazette was unable to reach Clarson for comment.

Because the allegations were first aired in the media rather than filed with the city, Tenke said he believed at the time that it was a political ploy. "It was designed in order to make me look bad right before the election," said Tenke, who was re-elected in November. "I'm glad that the residents and the public saw through what this was an attempt of."

Silverman, who was also up for re-election, said she was satisfied with the conclusion. "It's important to take



Jennifer Corr/Herald Gazette

**A LAW FIRM** hired by the city to investigate accusations of sexual harassment against the mayor and two other city officials found the allegations were "unfounded."

every complaint seriously," she said. "I'm glad a thorough investigation was done, which fully cleared me of all allegations."

But Belyea said her complaint was not related to the

election. She had worked with four other mayors, she said, three of whom were Democrats. She added that simply because the law firm had concluded that no legal action could be taken in the case did not mean the allegations were false.

"I was not surprised by the findings of the attorneys that were hired by the city to conduct this investigation," she said.

Clarson told Newsday that her claim with the city remains open.

Tenke said the council took the accusations seriously. "We took the proper steps," he said. "We had the investigation done, and we had outside counsel come in, and they did extensive investigation work, with interviews of employees and people, and that's how they determined that this was an unfounded claim."

Basdavanos said she was pleased by the finding, which she said cleared her of any wrongdoing. "It was upsetting to be accused of something like this," she said. "I'm happy all the facts were looked at and the truth came out."

Asked if any changes had been made at City Hall since last fall, Basdavanos replied, "No."

"There is no difference in how women are treated here than men," she said. "We are all included in everything that goes on here in the city. I've always felt that the women's opinions are valued as much as the men."

Belyea acknowledged that since the claims were reported last fall, she and the mayor have worked together professionally.

"I'm glad that she feels that it has improved," Tenke said. "Our job is really to make sure the residents of Glen Cove are served, and we need to work together to make sure that happens."

*Ronny Reyes and Laura Lane contributed to this story.*



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Photos by Jennifer Corr/Herald Gazette

**MAYOR TIM TENKE**, surrounded by local, county and state officials, along with first responders, addressed the city on the importance of remembering the events of Sept. 11, 2001.

# Sept. 11 – Glen Cove will never forget

By **JENNIFER CORR**

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A pandemic will not stop the City of Glen Cove from remembering the events of Sept. 11, 2001 that left 2,977 dead, including four Glen Cove residents.

Among the residents who perished that day was 52-year-old Joseph Zuccala, who was a banking consultant at Fuji Bank on the 78th floor of the World Trade Center's south tower.

Tina Cammarata, Zuccala's sister, said that her brother was in his office when the plane hit. "My brother was larger than life," Cammarata said. "He had the greatest personality, very compassionate, lots of words of wisdom and he was just a special person who made everyone he met feel special."

Members of Zuccala's family attended the ceremony to place a wreath at Glen Cove's 9/11 monument, which is a piece of the World Trade Center secured by the Glen Cove Chamber of Commerce. The monument was created within the year of the Sept. 11 attacks.

"We really appreciate this," Cammarata said of the ceremony. "Our family appreciates this. They named a street after him. That's always a blessing every time you turn the corner and see his name."

However, the pandemic brought some changes for this year's ceremony. It was not open to the public. Instead, it was recorded and posted on social media. And everyone that attended wore masks.

"Today we must remember, and continue to remember, that hope is still needed 19 years later," said Mayor Tim Tenke at the ceremony. "We know that survivors and volunteers who volunteered at the World Trade Center and the Pentagon are still suffering or have passed away due to 9/11 related illnesses."

Among those attending the ceremony this year was Nassau County Legislator Delia DeRiggi Whitton, Nassau County Executive Laura Curran, Rev. Roger Williams of First Baptist Church of Glen

Cove, Rabbi Irwin Huberman of Congregation Tifereth Israel, Glen Cove City Council members and other local and state officials and leaders, along with first responders.

"I think we all have our own 9/11 story," Curran said. "For many of us, it hit very close to home. Most of us lost loved ones, friends, family. But I think there was something else lost on that day if you didn't lose a person, we lost our innocence."

But 19 years later, even during a time of uncertainty, Nassau County Comptroller Jack Schnirman noted that there is still hope. "It's a beautiful day, just like it was 19 years ago," he said. "My daughter started kindergarten just this morning and for many of us, that's hope and that's a future that we know we will continue to fight to protect."

DeRiggi-Whitton recalled going to Glen Cove High School with Matthew McDermott, who was among the four Glen Cove residents lost on Sept. 11.

"Everyone had a crush on Matt," DeRiggi-Whitton said. "I remember him, but I don't think he would remember me. But, he was an incredible person. He had this smile that would light up the world. He was a soccer player. He was a family man. He had three beautiful children right around the same age as mine."

"I wonder how his kids are," the legislator added. "And I just hope everyone knows that we all love each and every one of those kids."

Glen Cove High School student Josiah Aschelew, following a prayer by Williams, played the song taps on his trumpet to conclude the ceremony. And after everyone left, the wreath remained at the 9/11 monument, along with a single rose that Councilwoman Dr. Eve Lupenko Ferrante said had been placed there by someone before the ceremony started.

"Let's hope for next year that we're all back together and that this pandemic is just another thing in our history," DeRiggi-Whitton said.



**GLEN COVE'S SEPT. 11** Remembrance Ceremony was held this year, though it was presented to the public over Facebook and masks were required of all attendees.

## 'A Tribute to Heroes,' by Victoria Crosby

They didn't set out to be heroes  
They just did what had to be done.  
They are more than heroes, they are angels,  
And we mourn the loss of each one.  
Some went to work that morning.  
Some were traveling by plane.  
People from all walks of life.  
Who won't come again.  
They left wives and husbands and children.  
And parents and siblings and friends.  
And extended family members,  
In a circle that never ends.  
We all know someone who's lost someone,  
We all feel their pain,  
For part of us was lost that day,  
A part that we can never regain.  
Our country was brutally ravaged,  
By a heinous act of war,  
Which brought about the best behavior,  
And shows what our country stands for.  
In times of great crisis, great strength shines through,  
And Americans do what they have to do.

We remember all of our heroes today,  
And think of them in a special way.  
On the anniversary of that tragic day,  
We remember four men from Glen Cove  
whose lives were taken away.  
Edward Lehman, Matthew McDermott, John  
Puckett and Joseph Zuccala.  
The local heroes whose home streets now  
bear their names,  
Yet for their families, life will never be the  
same.  
For the thousands of first responders,  
And the many volunteers who had died over  
these past nineteen years,  
After breathing that toxic air,  
And for their families who took care of them  
in their suffering,  
We also shed our tears.  
For no-one sets out to be a hero,  
They just do what has to be done.  
And here in the City of Glen Cove,  
We honor each and every one.

# An unusual first day of school in Glen Cove

By JENNIFER CORR

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First day of school outfit, check. Backpack, check. School supplies, check. Face mask, check.

Children of Glen Cove returned to school on Sept. 14 for the first time since March and social distance, plastic dividers, temperature checks and masks are just part of their new classroom routine.

Robert M. Finley Middle School psychologist Courtney Farrell said that new aspects of daily life, like wearing masks and social distancing shouldn't be too difficult for the students because it has become a new social norm.

"I think, especially socially and emotionally, it's very imperative for the children to be together as long as we do it the right way and we're safe," Farrell said. "Obviously safety is our priority. I think it's a great thing for our students to be back in the classroom learning. There's a special type of learning and connection that you really have face to face as opposed to virtually."

For many sixth graders, she said, heading back to school is an adjustment as it is. And many children will have to adjust to their new routines after months of distance learning. "Everybody is really adjusting, not just the students," she said. "It's a new era here."

And part of the new era for middle and high school students is having three cohorts of students alternating between in-person and digital learning throughout the week. There will be two cohorts at the elementary school level, alternating between in-person and digital learning.



Jennifer Corr/Herald Gazette

**AT DISMISSAL, ROBERT M. Finley Middle School students headed for their buses, where they are required to wear their masks and sit socially distant.**

"At the elementary level, as it stands right now, we are going to have two cohorts; one that comes on Monday and Tuesday and the others that come on Thursday and Friday," Glen Cove City School District Superintendent Dr. Maria L. Rianna said in August of the plan. "Wednesday will be remote for all students [and] they will have instruction five days a week; two days a week [they] will be physically in the building and three days a week remote."

Kindergarten and pre-kindergarten students will alternate between in-person and digital learning as well.

The district formed a Reopening Task Force back in June to address the different aspects of the classroom, such as disinfecting, social distance and mask wearing. According to a letter from Rianna, the district is tasked with making sure that each classroom is meeting guidelines

established by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and state and local health departments.

"In addition to instituting enhanced cleaning and sanitizing procedures for our school buildings, classrooms have been redesigned to ensure required 6-foot social distancing between desks, protocols have been put in place to allow for multiple opportunities for hand washing and the use of hand sanitizers, masks will be required, signage has been posted

throughout our buildings regarding social distancing, one-direction movement in hallways has been instituted where necessary, and much more," Rianna said in the letter.

Jeffrey and Valarie Gonzalez, parents of a second grade Deasy School student, said they were pleased with the district's transparency in its reopening plans.

"It's a little nerve wracking," Valarie said. "The principal and teachers did a virtual tour of the classroom so they made us feel very comfortable."

"They responded to every question we had," Jeffrey added. "The teachers and the principal here are great. We're very happy."

And both agreed that in-person learning is more effective for their child. "Today's the first day, but we think so," Valarie said.

Tisa Difruscio, the mother of a kindergartner, said she was also excited to have her child back to a normal routine, even with the changes in place to ensure student and staff safety. "She's doing hybrid, she'll be in school Monday and Tuesday and the rest of the week she'll work from home."

"I'm going to be a teacher now," Difruscio laughed

## Glen Cove City School District's frequently asked questions posted on the district website

**If we opt not to have our children return to the building in September, would we have the option to participate in remote/online instruction every day?**

Yes, remote/online only instruction option is available.

**If a parent chooses for their child to stay all virtual instruction for the start of the year, is there a time when they can re-enter school?**

A: Yes, they actually can re-enter at any time, although we would suggest at the midway or end of each quarter.

**How will the district ensure that students are separated or practicing social distancing in hallways when changing classes?**

There will be one-way hallways to minimize crowds [in most buildings, as logistically possible] and designated staircases for going up as well as going down. We will have signage and staff in hallways to assist with supervision.

**How will temperatures be taken?**

A: We have ordered infrared thermometers and staff will be trained to take the temperatures. Parents will also be

expected to take their children's temperatures each morning before coming to school and staff will be expected to take their own temperature before coming into school for work. Exclusion will be as per protocol approved by Department of Health.

**Are the teachers going to be trained to enhance their instruction virtually?**

Professional development opportunities have been provided to all teachers throughout July and August. We have also added additional time prior to students attending [by amending the school calendar] to further provide planning and training.

**Will masks be required for students and staff?**

Masks will be mandated and provided only when a student or staff member forgets to bring in their own or something happens to it.

**Will students with special needs attending self-contained classes be given a 5-day a week program?**

All self-contained students will be provided a 5 day a week instruction.

—Glen Cove City School District

## CRIME WATCH

### Arrest

■ On Sept. 7, a 21-year-old New York City male was arrested for criminal trespass in the third degree on Crescent Beach Road.

■ On September 10, a 22-year-old Glen Cove male was arrested for criminal possession of a controlled substance in the seventh degree (3 counts) and unlawful possession of marijuana in the second degree on LaMarcus Avenue.

*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.*

GLEN COVE  
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The Glen Cove Herald Gazette USPS 008886, is published every Thursday by Richner Communications, Inc., 2 Endo Blvd. Garden City, NY 11530. Periodicals postage paid at Garden City, NY 11530 and additional mailing offices. Postmaster send address changes to Glen Cove Herald Gazette, 2 Endo Blvd. Garden City, NY 11530. **Subscriptions:** \$30 for 1 year within Nassau County, \$52 for 1 year out of Nassau County or by qualified request in zip codes 11542, 11545, 11547, 11548 or 11579 **Copyright © 2020 Richner Communications, Inc. All rights reserved.**

# Freeport Jaguar/Land Rover tops in sales nationally

Despite the coronavirus pandemic, business has remained strong at Jaguar Land Rover of Freeport, which was No. 1 in the country for Jaguar sales and No. 9 for Land Rover sales in July, according to officials at the high-end dealership on Sunrise Highway.

Car dealerships have traditionally depended on the test drive to sell their vehicles, but the Covid-19 pandemic forced them to rethink that model. Through the Jaguar Land Rover of Freeport website, clients can search new and used inventory, check special officers and schedule service without leaving their homes, allowing the dealership to meet new coronavirus safety guidelines issued by New York state in recent months.

Three years ago, Jaguar Freeport and Land Rover of Freeport became one of the first in the country to feature the new conceptual design created exclusively for the Jaguar and Land Rover brands, and now car buyers come from across the New York metropolitan area and as far as Long Island's East End, dealership officials said.

At more than 30,000 square feet, the dealership features a 15-car showroom and a 22-bay service department with a three-lane service drive-up area. Those who have leased or purchased a vehicle from the dealership receive complimentary pick-up and delivery for scheduled maintenance, as well as access to a Jaguar and Land Rover loan-

er fleet.

Jack Weidinger, the dealer principal of Jaguar Freeport, Land Rover Freeport and North Bay Cadillac Buick and GMC, said he remains as excited about the state-of-the-art dealership today as he was in 2016, when it opened.

"Land Rover had not been on the South Shore since 2009," Weidinger said. The dealership brought "the Land Rover brand back to the South Shore with an extremely high-end design and our reputation for business excellence and customer support."

As a third-generation dealer principal with more than 20 years of experience, Weidinger said, "When we opened our original Jaguar dealership in 1999, there wasn't a lot of development in our area. Since

then, many businesses opened in the surrounding properties, and I hope we had something to do with that.

"Since the addition of the Land Rover brand," he continued, "we have had the same level of success that we have always enjoyed, and this leads to further development in the Freeport area. The Jaguar and Land Rover brands are stronger than ever because consumers really value the combination of style, performance and practicality that Jaguar and Land Rover provide. My team and I are thrilled with the results."

The Jaguar Land Rover Freeport dealership is at 146 Sunrise Highway in Freeport.

## Gaughran, Lavine update the public on November election voting options

State Senator Gaughran and Assemblyman Charles Lavine announced this year, for the first time ever, there are three easy ways to vote in the November election: in-person on Election Day, by early voting from October 24 - November 1, or by mailing an absentee ballot.

"Voting is the cornerstone of a robust democracy," State Senator Gaughran said. "This year, for the first time ever, voting will be easier and more accessible for everyone. The recent changes to expand

voting access will ensure that all citizens can cast their vote this November without fear of the threat of COVID-19."

"As Elections Committee Chair, my colleagues and I have been working tirelessly on making voting as efficient as possible for our community," Assemblyman Charles Lavine said. "This year our voters can utilize three easy voting options. These options will allow everyone to vote safely and effectively."

### Ways to Vote for the November 3 General Election

- In-person on Election Day at your assigned polling site. Voters can find their poll site at: <https://voterlookup.elections.ny.gov/>
- Through Early Voting from October 24 - November 1.
- Voters in Nassau County can vote at any regional voting site in Nassau: <https://www.nassaucountyny.gov/DocumentCenter/View/30017/2020-General-Election-Early-Voting-Polling-Places-2?bidl=>
- By Absentee Ballot. Absentee ballots must be requested in advance. The application period to request an absentee ballot has opened. Recent changes to state law will allow anyone who fears in-person voting due to the threat of Covid-19 to vote by absentee ballot this November. Voters who applied for an absentee ballot application in the June primary are required to complete a new absentee ballot application for the November general election. Voters can complete the application by paper or online at: <https://absenteeballot.elections.ny.gov/>

## WATER MAIN FLUSHING NOTICE

Each year, New York American Water flushes the water mains in its distribution system. This essential part of our system maintenance program helps us to provide you with high-quality water service. When crews are in the area, customers may experience a drop in water pressure or discolored water. If this happens, simply let your water run until it is clear. Customers are also encouraged to check for discolored water before doing laundry. Any changes due to weather will be posted on our website at [newyorkamwater.com](http://newyorkamwater.com) (on the home page, click on Alerts Notifications).

**NOTE:** No flushing will be conducted in observance of Sukkot (Oct. 2–Oct. 9), Columbus Day (Oct. 12), and Veterans Day (Nov. 11)

### 2020 Fall Flushing Schedule

Flushing hours: Monday-Friday, 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.

| COMMUNITY             | START DATE | END DATE   |
|-----------------------|------------|------------|
| Atlantic Beach        | 11/9/2020  | 11/20/2020 |
| Baldwin               | 9/28/2020  | 10/2/2020  |
| Baldwin Harbor        | 9/28/2020  | 10/2/2020  |
| Bay Park              | 11/9/2020  | 11/20/2020 |
| Bellmore              | 10/26/2020 | 10/30/2020 |
| Cedarhurst            | 10/26/2020 | 11/6/2020  |
| East Atlantic Beach   | 11/9/2020  | 11/20/2020 |
| East Rockaway         | 11/9/2020  | 11/20/2020 |
| Glen Head             | 10/19/2020 | 10/23/2020 |
| Glenwood Landing      | 10/23/2020 | 10/26/2020 |
| Hewlett               | 11/9/2020  | 11/20/2020 |
| Hewlett Bay Park      | 11/9/2020  | 11/20/2020 |
| Hewlett Harbor        | 11/9/2020  | 11/20/2020 |
| Hewlett Neck          | 11/9/2020  | 11/20/2020 |
| Inwood                | 10/26/2020 | 11/6/2020  |
| Island Park           | 11/9/2020  | 11/20/2020 |
| Lakeview              | 11/9/2020  | 11/20/2020 |
| Lawrence              | 10/26/2020 | 11/6/2020  |
| Levittown             | 11/2/2020  | 11/6/2020  |
| Lynbrook              | 9/28/2020  | 10/2/2020  |
| Malverne              | 9/28/2020  | 10/2/2020  |
| Massapequa            | 11/16/2020 | 11/20/2020 |
| Meadowmere            | 10/26/2020 | 11/6/2020  |
| Merrick               | 10/13/2020 | 10/16/2020 |
| Mill Neck             | 10/15/2020 | 10/15/2020 |
| North Bellmore        | 10/19/2020 | 10/23/2020 |
| North Merrick         | 9/28/2020  | 10/1/2020  |
| North Seaford         | 11/2/2020  | 11/6/2020  |
| North Wantagh         | 11/2/2020  | 11/6/2020  |
| North Woodmere        | 10/13/2020 | 10/23/2020 |
| Oceanside             | 10/13/2020 | 10/23/2020 |
| Roosevelt             | 9/28/2020  | 10/2/2020  |
| Roslyn Harbor         | 10/23/2020 | 10/26/2020 |
| Sea Cliff             | 11/2/2020  | 11/6/2020  |
| Seaford/South Seaford | 11/9/2020  | 11/13/2020 |
| South Bellmore        | 10/26/2020 | 10/30/2020 |
| South Hempstead       | 9/28/2020  | 10/2/2020  |
| South Merrick         | 10/13/2020 | 10/16/2020 |
| South Wantagh         | 11/9/2020  | 11/13/2020 |
| Valley Stream         | 10/13/2020 | 10/23/2020 |
| Wantagh               | 11/9/2020  | 11/13/2020 |
| West Hempstead        | 11/9/2020  | 11/20/2020 |
| Woodmere              | 10/13/2020 | 10/23/2020 |
| Woodsburgh            | 10/13/2020 | 10/23/2020 |



NEW YORK  
AMERICAN WATER

# County hosts socially distant 9/11 ceremony

By **SCOTT BRINTON**  
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In a nearly 40-minute, socially distant ceremony last Friday morning, elected and appointed Nassau officials and families of local 9/11 victims paused to remember the 348 county residents who died in the Sept. 11, 2001, terrorist attacks on the World Trade Center.

At the solemn ceremony, held under a steel-gray sky, seven family members of victims read all 348 names before a handful of attendees at the Harry Chapin Lakeside Theater at Eisenhower Park in East Meadow, near the county's 9/11 memorial.

County Executive Laura Curran offered opening and closing remarks, and Police Commissioner Patrick Ryder was among the attendees.

The Nassau County Police Department Pipe and Drum band performed "Amazing Grace"; the Rev. Kevin Smith, the county's fire chaplain, offered the opening

prayer; and NCPD Chaplain Dov Schwartz gave the closing prayer.

"This has been a hard year, to say the least," Curran noted in an email to county residents a day before the ceremony. "But as we approach the 19th anniversary of Sept. 11, I am taking time to pause and remember the tragic events that left our community and our nation forever changed. The World Trade Center attack stole the lives of thousands. We lost family members, friends, neighbors and colleagues — and we lost a sense of safety that we once took for granted.

"The heroic first responders who set their own safety aside to rescue others," she continued, "showed immense courage, and we are forever grateful. We face a second tragedy as we remember those heroes who survived 9/11 but lost their battle with Covid-19 this year — a disease made worse for those who spent days or weeks breathing in the air at ground zero."

To watch a video of the ceremony, go to [liherald.com](http://liherald.com).



Photos by Christina Daly/Herald

**VICTORIA DEVITO, FROM** left, Greg Hoffman, Diane Fairben and Geri Ainbinder were also among the readers at Nassau County's socially distant 9/11 remembrance ceremony last Friday. Each lost family.



**SUSAN HUTCHINS WAS AMONG** seven readers to recite the names of Nassau's 348 9/11 victims at the county ceremony. Hutchins's son Kevin Colbert, 25, of West Hempstead, died in the World Trade Center attacks.



**COUNTY EXECUTIVE LAURA** Curran offered opening and closing remarks.

## NEWS BRIEF

### Veteran correspondent joins LIU's Global Service Institute

Rita Cosby, the renowned Emmy-winning TV host, veteran correspondent and best-selling author, has joined Long Island University as chairwoman of its Global Service Institute. Cosby will lead the institute's educational initiatives to inspire a commitment to volunteerism and elevate the importance and power of service.

During the coronavirus pandemic, university officials said, the need for volunteers to assist drastically depleted nonprofit organizations, so the need for them has never been greater.

Through engagement programs, conferences, internships, scholarships and fellowships, the nonpartisan institute aims to develop character, preparing and inspiring students and others to help find solutions to complex worldwide challenges and seek personal or professional lives dedicated to service, according to LIU officials.

"The Global Service Institute established LIU as a premier destination for developing values-driven global citizens who will impact their communities," LIU President Dr. Kimberly R. Cline said. "With her global experience exploring critical headlines and lifelong dedication to service, Rita Cosby is an exemplary leader who will elevate

the Institute to even higher levels."

The Global Service Institute's Honorary Advisory Board comprises champion boxer Evander Holyfield, Super Bowl champion Joe Theismann, "King of the High Wire" Nik Wailenda, Grammy-winning singer Dionne Warwick, Emmy-winning actress Susan Lucci, Roc Nation President of Business Operations and Strategy Brett Yormark, Oscar-nominated Actor Gary Sinise, best-selling author Nelson DeMille, astronaut Buzz Aldrin, NATO Supreme Allied Commander General Wesley Clark, Michael Reagan, business executive and D-Day veteran Maurice

"Hank" Greenberg, America's first female Four-Star Gen. Ann Dunwoody, Medal of Honor recipient Col. Jack Jacobs, founder of EarthX Trammell Crow, celebrity chef Robert Irvine, public relations executive Ken Sunshine and others.

The LIU Global Service Institute will kick off the fall 2020 semester with the "Headliners of Service" monthly virtual speakers series, which will feature live conversations with Susan Eisenhower, Housing and Urban Development Secretary Ben Carson and Former Israeli Prime Minister Ehud Olmert.



**RITA COSBY**  
Global Service  
Institute chair

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Courtesy Wikimedia Commons

**THE HOLOCAUST MEMORIAL** and Tolerance Center is Nassau County's premier location for Holocaust education.

# Bolender becomes chair of Holocaust center

CONTINUED FROM FRONT PAGE

Her father's protectiveness and dedication to his family made sense, Bolender said. He was the only member of his family to survive the Auschwitz concentration camp, and he didn't want to burden his new family with the knowledge of his loss. His ability to recover from his trauma and achieve the American Dream was one of the many reasons why she admired him, she said.

"He really is my hero to this day," Bolender said, "because when people talk about resilience, even during Covid, I hear my father saying in the background, 'It could be worse.'"

"Many survivors didn't know how to love," she later added. "Maybe some of them had lost children during the war and they shut down, but my father was the opposite."

After she moved to Glen Head as an adult to raise her three children with her significant other, Howard Levitt, her parents moved in with her. Bolender, an accountant, said she got involved with the HMTCC after her father died in 1999. She saw an advertisement for the center in a local newspaper, and after joining its leaders at a meeting, she began leading fundraisers. She signed on to the center's board of directors in 2005, and held various positions until she became chair.

One of her proudest accomplishments was organizing a program in 2014 called March of the Living, which takes people from around the world to Poland and Israel to study the Holocaust. Programs like this, Bolender said, are vital because soon there will no longer be any living Holocaust survivors, so it is up to educators like her to keep their memory alive for future generations.

"[March of the Living] is a very powerful story, and I think we relate through the

power of those lessons that we can survive," she said. "Not only can we survive, but we can thrive, and we can reinvent ourselves."

Rob Fishman, a co-vice chair of the center, has worked with Bolender for several years, and said her experience and her dedication to the facility will make her an excellent leader moving forward. "I'm hoping that she continues to help the center build itself in name and in recognition of being a resource for education," Fishman said, "and for her to continue with the mission, which is what we work so hard to fulfill. I completely support her."

The HMTCC hosts thousands of students of all ages in its various programs every year, and Bolender said that one of the lessons she tries to instill in all of them is the importance of being an "upstander" — someone who speaks out against injustice. The Holocaust did not start with violence, she said; it started with hateful rhetoric, which turned into genocide, due in part to bystanders not speaking out.

"We want a generation of people who will stand up," Bolender said. "Maybe not physically, because it's dangerous, but they will not be a bystander. They will be the person who stands up and says, 'No, this is not OK.'"

During the coronavirus pandemic, the center has given virtual tours on its website that are based on students' ages, giving them the opportunity to learn about the Holocaust at an age-appropriate level. It also hosts a Curator's Corner segment, which focuses on artifacts donated by Long Island Holocaust survivors. It was important to continue these lessons during the pandemic, Bolender said, because they are important, no matter the circumstances.



Courtesy Holocaust Memorial and Tolerance Center of Nassau County

**ANDREA BOLENDER SAID** she hopes to ensure that the lessons learned from the Holocaust continue to be taught as she takes over as the center's chair.



# OBITUARIES



## Jean Lupinski

Jean Lupinski, 94, of Glen Cove and Port St. Lucie, Fla., died on June 29. Beloved wife of the late Adam Lupinski; loving mother of Jean (James Hayes), Joan (the late William Myers), Adam Jr. (Donna), Jane (Alan Zederbaum). Proud grandmother of Janice, Jimmy, Joyce, Jaclyn, Justine, Jocelyn, Adam, Justin, Lou and Janine; as well as a great-grandmother to 23. Arrangements entrusted to McLaughlin, Kramer, Meigel Funeral Home, 220 Glen St., Glen Cove. Private interment at Calverton National Cemetery.



## Margaret Ruth Parsons

Margaret Ruth Parsons, 86, of Glen Cove, died on July 18. She was the beloved mother of five: James, Catherine (Eric), Jonathan, Eileen and Elizabeth (Federico); and the grandmother of two, Kahlil and Avaneil.

She was born in Brooklyn, N.Y. to Ruth and Chester Engley.

Growing up in Fort Greene, Parsons studied piano, ballet and tap. She excelled in elementary school allowing for her to skip the 2nd grade.

She pursued her college education at Brooklyn College, graduating with a bachelor's in teaching. She worked summers at the Williamsburg Savings Bank in Brooklyn and enjoyed time at Coney Island, both which she loved.

Parsons continued her education at Teachers College at Columbia University where she completed her graduate degree.

She worked for over 15 years in the NYC school system, teaching elementary

students in Harlem and Queens.

Parsons married James Herbert Parsons on July 6, 1958 at Cadman Memorial Church in Brooklyn, where she was a member. She lived in Glen Cove for 57 years where she raised her family. She was a dedicated member of The First Presbyterian Church in Glen Cove for over 38 years.

Margaret was a woman of true class with exemplary strength.

She was an inspiration to all and will be deeply missed.



## James Herbert Parsons

James Herbert Parsons, 86, of Glen Cove and formerly of Pennsylvania, died on April 23. He was the beloved father of five: James, Catherine (Eric), Jonathan, Eileen and Elizabeth (Federico); and the grandmother of two, Kahlil and Avaneil.

He was born in Green Town, PA to Susie and Edward Parsons. From 1951 to 1953 he served in the army during the Korean War. He was awarded both a Korean and a United Nations service medal, with two bronze stars.

Parsons graduated at the top of his class from Pratt University in Brooklyn, in 1957. He married Margaret Engley on July 6, 1958. He continued his education at Kutztown University in Kutztown, PA and received a master's in teaching. He taught art in the Roslyn School District for 13 years.

Parsons became the head of the audio/visual department at Cold Spring Harbor Laboratory in 1979 until he retired in 2004.

Parsons resided with his family in Glen Cove for 57 years. He was a legacy and will be deeply missed.

### Obituary Notices

Obituary notices, with or without photographs can be submitted by individuals as well as local funeral establishments. They should be typed and double spaced. The name of the individual or funeral establishment submitting the obituary should be included. A contact phone number must be included. There is no charge for obituaries.

Send to: llane@liherald.com or 2 Endo Blvd., Garden City, NY 11530



Courtesy Glen Cove Center for Nursing and Rehabilitation

**NEW YORK STATE** Senator James Gaughran, left, and Kathy Santucci, community liaison for Glen Cove Center for Nursing and Rehabilitation, get ready to give out some free care packages to seniors.

## Glen Cove center hosts care package drive-thru

Glen Cove Center for Nursing and Rehabilitation hosted a Care Package Drive Thru event on August 26 for the community's senior citizens. New York State Senator James Gaughran also attended the giveaway.

Care packages included personal protection items, such as masks and hand sanitizer, as well as fresh baked goods, beach balls and frozen treats. More than 100 bags were given out.



*L'Shanah Tovah*  
- 5781 -  
*Happy New Year*

*From the Staff of the*  
**HERALD**  
*Community Newspapers*

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# St. Luke's Church bazaar carries on

By JENNIFER CORR

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Despite the coronavirus pandemic, St. Luke's Episcopal Church will hold its annual Fall Bazaar for the 29th year, with a handful of changes to ensure the safety of volunteers and attendees.

"The first thing we did is realize that it was going to be a different year," Jesse Lebus, the St. Luke's rector, said. "We knew the chances of us being able to gather in our parish hall, as had been tradition, were very slim. So, we changed the date. We moved it to earlier in October. It had always been the first week of November."

October was chosen because the weather would be better. Traditionally, the bazaar's big draws have been the preserves, chutneys, pickles, jams and jellies, which congregants make. Jams and chutneys will be available for pre-order, Lebus said. Curbside pickup will also be offered.

"On the face of it, from about a 20,000-foot view, not much has changed," Lebus said about the church. "We have continued with our services. We continue to find ways to minister to the folks in our community and congregation. But a closer look would reveal something a lot different. We began, the first several weeks [of the pandemic], streaming our services and stopped having our services in person."

Now in-person services are still live-streamed for congregants who are uncomfortable meeting in person. "I don't think I'll ever stop offering our services through the internet," Lebus said.

Services are held in the church's courtyard, where this year's bazaar will be held.

Kristine Janusas, a congregant who has been involved with the bazaar for roughly 30 years, said, "People can expect this year to be basically the same as every year, but just a little bit scaled down and a little less interaction."

Janusas said there might be slightly fewer vendors, but there will be raffles, the annual thrift store, Unique Boutique, and offerings from the church's Country Kitchen. Masks and social distancing will be required, she said.

"With the jams and the jellies, people love to pick it up and put it down, and then they go to the next booth," Janusas said. "They're looking at the different flavors and the different products. So this year . . . there will be one blueberry jam out for you to touch and hold, but the other ones we're going to keep behind, and if that's something you want, we'll package it for you for less touching and more social distancing."

To make the jams and jellies, Renee Swanson wrote in a column, women from St. Luke's purchase strawberries, peaches, blackberries, raspberries and blueberries from local farms. Through-



**COUNTRY KITCHEN CHEF** Susan Thurman stirred berries for the preserves.

out the summer, they come to the kitchen each week to make and can their products with family recipes collected by Janette Heurtley, who has been involved with the bazaar since its start in 1991. She keeps the recipes in a large binder that she calls St. Luke's Book of Secret Recipes.

"We have a crew varying from six to eight people, [but] they aren't all there at the same time," Heurtley said. "We're enforcing social distancing. We are sanitizing the kitchen, and jellies by their nature are boiled. So you have a sterile liquid going into sterile jars that are then sealed. That's the whole point of canning."

Lebus said that people return each year asking for triple berry jam. The cooks "put their hearts into this project," he said. "I was thinking about it the other day, The ingredients for these things are pretty basic; it's fruit, pectin and sugar. But I think that people put other ingredients into it. They put their faith, they put their hope and love into these things."

"We have a lot of regular customers," Huertley said. "We have people that come from all over the island. We don't know if people will come from Suffolk or the South Shore this year. We hope they do. We look forward to seeing them."

The community "just needs to know," Lebus said, "that whether they are members of our church or not, that our



Photos courtesy St. Luke's Episcopal Church

**COUNTRY KITCHEN COOKS** Linda Parsons and Audrey Rydzewski prepared ingredients for the jams and jellies.

church is part of the community in Sea Cliff, and [the bazaar is] about bringing joy to these folks. When they show up,

they know that there's something that we've made for them. They are happy to support and purchase it."

## Fall Bazaar

St. Luke's Episcopal Church,  
263 Glen Ave., Sea Cliff  
Saturday, Oct. 3, from 11  
a.m. to 4 p.m.  
Rain date: Oct. 4  
Pre-order forms for the  
Country Kitchen's products  
will be available starting  
Sept. 19. Go to [www.saint-lukes-seacliff.org](http://www.saint-lukes-seacliff.org) for more.

# “When NYU Winthrop’s TAVR team replaced my heart valve, they gave me my life back.”



For John Elliott, sailing is living. He’s been on the water for most of his 90-plus years. In all three theaters during World War 2, as a merchant seaman, and for the last 70 years sailing out of the Rockaway Point Yacht Club.

But recently John was so fatigued and short of breath, he could only walk a few steps. His aortic valve was failing. His daughter, a nurse, told John about a valve replacement procedure called TAVR. She took him to NYU Winthrop Hospital, part of NYU Langone Health. With some of the country’s highest quality TAVR programs on Long Island and in Manhattan, NYU Langone Health is a leader in this procedure. They replaced John’s valve through an artery in his leg. In no time at all, he was back to sailing off Breezy Point.

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# HERALD Covid-19 HOMETOWN HEROES

## AMANDINE BOURNE

OYSTER BAY

**VOLUNTEER, FRESH FOOD RELIEF  
OYSTER BAY**



I had been really sick with the flu when the coronavirus hit. I was worried because I thought I could get it more easily because my immune system was compromised. Everyone was having a hard time adjusting.

My family has over an acre of property, and my father has grown a garden on it for the past six years. This year it was huge. We had started growing the garden in March and had help from others because everyone didn't know what to do with themselves when Covid hit.

Dad was looking for a way to donate the vegetables and fruits from the garden, so I contacted Oyster Bay High School, and Dr. [Marisa] Bel said she was having a food drive. We emailed back and forth, and I told her that we had kale, lettuce, cucumbers, onions, peas and so much more. She said I could bring whatever I wanted to donate to the parking lot at the high school where she was coordinating Fresh Food Relief for people who were food insecure during the pandemic.

My mom and I would pick everything at 5 a.m. and then load it into the back of our truck and head for the high school. We gave every family the same amount of food and helped pack it up for them. I was surprised to see that the other volunteers included my fifth- and third-grade teachers.

I never imagined I'd be doing this and am so happy that I was able. I saw Dr. Bel in school, and it was so nice to know her on more of a personal level.

**HERALD HOMETOWN HERO**

## JACQUELINE TECCE

GLEN COVE

**SITE MANAGER, GLEN COVE  
SENIOR CENTER**



The site manager's responsibility is to generally oversee the activities that go on in the Glen Cove Senior Center. I oversee the nutrition program. Meals, under normal circumstances, are served Monday through Friday at noon. I also oversee transportation and the workings of the building.

We had to close our doors on March 19, so we've been closed now for six months. What happened is that none of the seniors could come to the senior center; they couldn't get their meals, they couldn't socialize, so the Senior Center has been offering programs virtually. But what I have been doing is organizing daily food delivery to seniors who had no way of getting meals, and we've extended it to seniors who were just missing the meal aspect, the socialization aspect of coming to the Senior Center.

So we deliver from our caterers, then we distribute it to different routes for seniors who want these meals, and they like to have the contact with the people who deliver it to them, though we do not go in their house, and everything is done socially distant with masks and gloves.

We make phone calls daily to seniors who are either homebound or in need of contact. We get phone calls daily from them. We'll check up to make sure everything is OK.

There is an assistant site manager as well; her name is Heidi. Her and I have done drive-bys, which is what we call them. We drive by some of the seniors' houses that we know in the area just to make them feel more comfortable.

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# THEIR FRONT-LINE STORIES IN THEIR OWN WORDS

## CAROL COWAN REMY

**CHILDREN'S LIBRARIAN,  
GLEN COVE PUBLIC LIBRARY**

**T**he pandemic has completely changed all of our programming. We normally have a very active in-person summer reading club. This year we had to pivot to a completely online summer reading club. So, instead of having all of our in-person way of logging titles and writing them down, we transitioned to something called READ-Squared, which is an online reading program.

We did have prizes that we raffled off for our readers. We gave out gift cards for our local businesses like La Famiglia, Henry's, Staples, CVS and Dollar Tree. We have a very active summer reading club, so this changed what we've been doing.

We had to have all of our programming be virtual via Zoom. We did have some really good programs. We had a how-to-draw superheroes program with a gentleman named McKel Supreme, who is from Night and Day Animation studios. He taught our kids how to draw. He's actually coming back for another workshop.

Just recently we took an initiative from the Wantagh Library. They were doing something called book bags to go. Through Google Docs, we've sent that out every week. We've had a fantastic response. We break it down by age, range, and we're selecting materials for families.

What's nice is that even though our families aren't staying in the building for that long besides looking for their books, they are coming down and they're saying hello to us, and we're really, really happy to see them.

**HERALD HOMETOWN HERO**



## DONNA AND PETER KIANTA

**SEA CLIFF**

**OWNERS, WINTER'S EDGE  
MICRO FARM  
SEA CLIFF**

**W**e have a small micro farm, but we produce a tremendous amount of vegetables. With Covid, we decided, due to people's diminished incomes, some having lost their jobs and others just needed a bright spot in their day, that we would start to give everything away for free. People can come and pick what they want. If they want to leave a donation, that's fine. If they don't, we don't care, and we often tell people that.

People have been coming, and they're snapping up tomatoes, cucumbers, string beans, squash and anything that we put out that the gardens have produced. They're taking them, and they're coming back next week and getting more.

It's been tough times for people, and we're trying to basically share the bounty of our micro farm with the community. I feel that's an important way to be a good neighbor. We're all kind of limited as to what we can do for each other with Covid because nobody can get terribly close and nobody wants each other in their homes. We can still visit, we can still support each other, but this was what we chose to do to make the world a little better.

We get such enjoyment out of it, and we're going to do it this way again. Next year, we're opening up the micro farm again, and the vegetables will be free because the impact of Covid is not limited to 2020. It's so exciting to be able to provide — it's been an incredible experience.

**HERALD HOMETOWN HERO**



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# Rosh Hashana in the Year of the Covid

BY RABBI IRWIN HUBERMAN

What does a rabbi say on this Rosh Hashana that is new? To borrow from another Jewish holiday, Passover, “What makes this Rosh Hashana different from all others?”

Covid. We are in the process of dealing with an extraordinary health crisis and working to reclaim our lives.

On all other Rosh Hashana’s, rabbis encourage their congregants to reflect upon their lives. During the 10-day period from Rosh Hashana to Yom Kippur, we are asked to let go of our grudges and resentments, to not only apologize to those we have hurt but also, to accept others’ apologies.

In all other years, rabbis remind congregants about life’s fragility. We work our jobs, collect our pay while life slips away. We are reminded to make the most of each day.

In all other years, rabbis remind others that the end of our days is one year closer. What more can we do to embrace our life mission?

In all other years, we remind those around us that the purpose of life is not to pursue endless pleasure but rather, to find meaning.

But this year, we don’t need to work

so hard to jar congregants back to reality.

During the last six months, we’ve needed no reminder about how fragile life is. We have spent more time with our family, embracing previously unavailable moments for family din-



ners, long walks and talks.

We have also learned that when we work together, we can protect each other.

In many ways, during the past six months, events in Glen Cove and surrounding regions have brought out the

best in us.

The fact that most citizens of our area have been wearing masks and practicing social distance, is part of the selfless philosophy of “oneness,” which Jewish tradition teaches.

For we are all in this together regard-

less of faith, background or country of origin.

We have learned as we enter this time of reflection that we are all stronger when we find the spark of life that God has placed within each of us, joining with others to perform Tikun Olam,

“repair of this broken world.”

And although we have missed the power of a hug, or the ability to move freely, we have learned to take care of ourselves and others.

So, as we approach this Rosh Hashana, different from all others, let us think about the obstacles we have overcome, and use those lessons to become even kinder.

God places before us on Rosh Hashana the blank pages of a Book of Life for the next year. We deeply mourn the passing of 200,000 souls in America during the pandemic. We pray for comfort for their surviving families and friends.

In their honor, and in God’s name, let us commit during the next year, not only to remain safe, but to ensure the safety of others.

Let us continue to take care of each other. With all we’ve learned in the past six months, let us remember that the Torah teaches us to choose life.

May that be our inscription for the year to come, for a happy and safe new year.

*Rabbi Irwin Huberman is the spiritual leader of Congregation Tifereth Israel in Glen Cove.*

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# HS & COLLEGE SPORTS AMID COVID-19

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Nassau and Suffolk counties have both opted to postpone high school sports until January of 2021, and many colleges have moved their fall sports to the spring as well. With sports on pause, student-athletes and parents are left not only disappointed, but with many lingering questions.

How will student-athletes demonstrate their performance to college scouts without games until January at the earliest? Will sports scholarships be in jeopardy? What options do high school and college student-athletes have for maintaining their skill and physical activity?

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# Rosh Hashana at CTI will be held digitally this year

By JENNIFER CORR

jcarr@liherald.com

Rosh Hashanah, the Jewish New Year Festival, is a time where those of the Jewish faith take 10 days to look within and see what needs to be changed, said Rabbi Irwin Huberman of Congregation Tifereth Israel in Glen Cove.

"[On] Rosh Hashanah, which will begin Friday night, the theology says that God opens up the big 'Book of Life' and says 'either you're in or you're not in,'" Huberman said. "On Yom Kippur, which is 10 days later, the verdict, so to speak, is sealed, so you have 10 days to think about your life."

Huberman noted that he likes to call Rosh Hashanah a 10-day period to "take out your soul trash."

"I like to say that we write our own book," he said, "and that if you're happy with your own book, then God will go along with you. The old tradition is that God is the judge for this time of year. I like to say that you're the judge."

While congregants will be celebrating the holiday as they do every year, this year they will not physically be in the sanctuary. People are very concerned, Huberman said, as they are unsure of how they are going to have this life-changing, spiritual and Jewish experience when they cannot be in the synagogue.

Huberman said Congregation Tifereth Israel follows the Conservative Movement, which allows those of the Jewish faith to use technology on a streamline basis, as long as it leads to the elevation of the Sabbath, the Jewish day of rest.

"What we've tried to accomplish here is to enable our congregants to be part of this even though they've been at home," he said. "We are in the Conservative Movement. We conserve some of the older traditions and we reach into the future to do what it is that we are doing here."

To achieve this digital connection, what used to be rooms dedicated for worship and fellowship have been transformed into studios, where services are broadcast online. Huberman said online attendance has increased with some even watching from out of state and from Canada, where Huberman is from, and Argentina, where Cantor Gustavo Gitlin is from.

"I must have been asleep that day in rabbinical school when they talked about broadcasting," Huberman said in jest.

The upcoming holiday services, which usually brings in 400 to 500 people, is drawing in many different elements of technology this year to provide connection and tradition for congregants, while keeping all those involved safe.

For example, participants from the congregation bring out all the Torahs on the evening of Yom Kippur, Sept. 27. How-

**W**e are living in challenging times, but for us, living in this place, having this congregation, all the blessings of the people, it's really a silver lining.

**CANTOR GUSTAVO GITLIN**  
Congregation Tifereth Israel



Photos by Jennifer Corr/Herald Gazette

**CONGREGATION TIFEREETH ISRAEL** leaders have set up cameras in the synagogue for the upcoming Rosh Hashana services.

ever, because they cannot be in the same room this year, participants of the service have been coming in individually over the last two months to be filmed blessing the Torah and reading from it. The videos are then combined to provide an illusion that they are all together.

"Luckily, we have 17-year-old kids here that know how to do this," Huberman said.

Children are also invited every year for a blessing by the rabbi and the cantor. This year, however, parents sent in photos of their children to be included in a slideshow featuring a blessing by Huberman and Gitlin.

Huberman said the synagogue has incorporated more than 150 congregants over three days of the high holidays.

"We're actually giving the impression that all isn't away spiritually," Huberman added. "We're just doing it virtually. They'll see the photos of their family, friends and the Torah and they'll feel that maybe they're not isolated and that they're not alone and that they can be part of something communal."

Rituals Vice President Phyllis Spector has been in charge of contacting congregants to participate in the service. She also sat with Huberman and Gitlin to discuss the rollout of the service and to make sure that the technology and production going into the service was appropriate to the customs of the congregation.

Spector said the synagogue is taking a risk at a time when everything is new.



**RABBI IRWIN HUBERMAN** of Congregation Tifereth Israel said many congregants enjoy watching Friday night musical services from home.

People are used to coming in and greeting their friends, she said, and services in the synagogue are more interactive than in other religious settings.

"We're not quiet," Spector said. "We get up, talk to each other, walk around. What we're trying to do with technology is recreate that, 'Hi, how are you?'"

The equipment used to put services together, including the new cameras set up in the sanctuary, cost approximately \$15,000, which came from a donor.

"The new technology enables us to bring in a whole new generation of people who don't want to sit in pews or chairs in synagogue and it enables them

to come in for either all the service or part of the service," Huberman said. "It's opening the window for a whole new generation or those who just don't like to be formal when they pray to God."

Huberman said that he cannot see a future at the synagogue where services are not streamed, even when the seats of the sanctuary will be filled with people again.


"The last few months for me, I see a silver lining every day," Gitlin said. "We are living in challenging times, but for us, living in this place, having this congregation, all the blessings of the people, it's really a silver lining."



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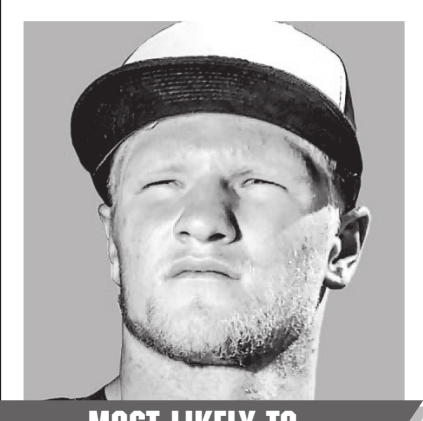
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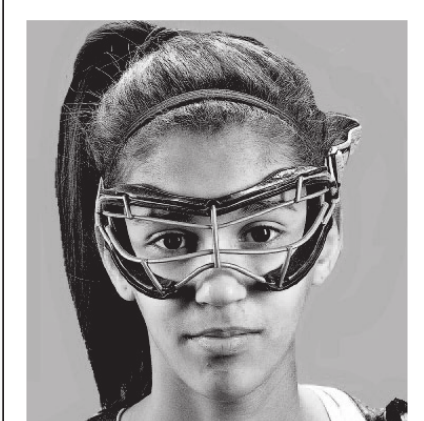
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# HERALD EDITORIAL

## Fill out the census – the deadline is Sept. 30

**E**lected leaders from across Nassau County are urging — even pleading with — residents to fill out the U.S. census if they have not already done so, and time is running out. The census count will end Sept. 30. The census was originally scheduled to wind down Oct. 31, but in August the U.S. Census Bureau suddenly reduced the time frame by a month. In August, however, four out of every 10 Americans had yet to file their census forms, according to National Public Radio. That has led to fears of severe undercounting, particularly in minority communities.

That is why elected leaders across the county have held news conferences of late, encouraging residents to file their forms to ensure that the states have the correct number of U.S. representatives and that local governments receive all the federal aid they are rightly entitled to — both are based on population — and to assure residents of color, particularly recent immigrants, that they have nothing to fear from the census. Many immigrants reportedly fear that filing might jeopardize their status, particularly after President Trump pushed for inclusion of a citizenship question on the census form, a requirement that the Supreme Court shot down in July 2019.

Nassau County Executive Laura Curran, a Democrat from Baldwin, recently held a news conference in Roosevelt with U.S. Rep. Kathleen Rice, a Democrat from Garden City. In August, Curran appeared at Glen Cove City Hall with U.S. Rep. Tom Suozzi, a Democrat from Glen Cove. The census was the focus of both gatherings.

Local leaders are right to be concerned.

### What the Constitution says

The U.S. Constitution mandates that the country count its population once every 10 years. The results are used to adjust or redraw electoral districts, based on where populations have increased or decreased.

State legislatures or independent bipartisan commissions are responsible

for redrawing congressional districts. The U.S. Census Bureau provides states with population counts for this purpose.

Everyone living the United States and its five territories is required by law to be counted in the census.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau

The Village of Freeport's census response rate was 54 percent as of early this month; Elmont and Roosevelt, 53 percent; and the Village of Hempstead, 49 percent.

This is indeed an urgent matter. Rice noted that a 1 percent undercount in the census could cost a local school district or government tens of thousands of dollars, if not hundreds of thousands, in federal aid per year. A severe undercount could cost millions.

Overall, Nassau County's response rate was solid at 73 percent, according to the most recent data, but even that number is concerning, given the amount of aid that could be sacrificed by an undercount of more than 25 percent.

"When it comes to the census, the stakes have never been higher for Nassau," Curran said at the Roosevelt news conference, addressing the coronavirus pandemic. "This census is about more than just ensuring we finally get our fair share of federal government dollars when we need it most. This year's census is a once-in-a-decade opportunity for us to directly combat the inequities this crisis

has laid bare."

According to the Census Bureau, you should be counted where you were living and sleeping most of the time as of April 1. If you're responding for your home, count everyone who lives and sleeps there most of the time. That includes children, foster children, roommates, and any family members or friends who are living with you, even temporarily.

If someone is staying with you because of the pandemic, however, they should be counted where they usually live. This includes college students, who should still be counted at school. If they live in student housing, the college will count them. If they live off campus, they should respond for their off-campus addresses.

Filling out the census takes no more than 10 minutes, and you can do so securely online at 2020census.gov. To reach the U.S. Census Bureau for help, call (844) 330-2020 for English speakers and (844) 468-2020 for Spanish speakers. Representatives are available daily from 7 a.m. to 2 p.m.

## LETTERS

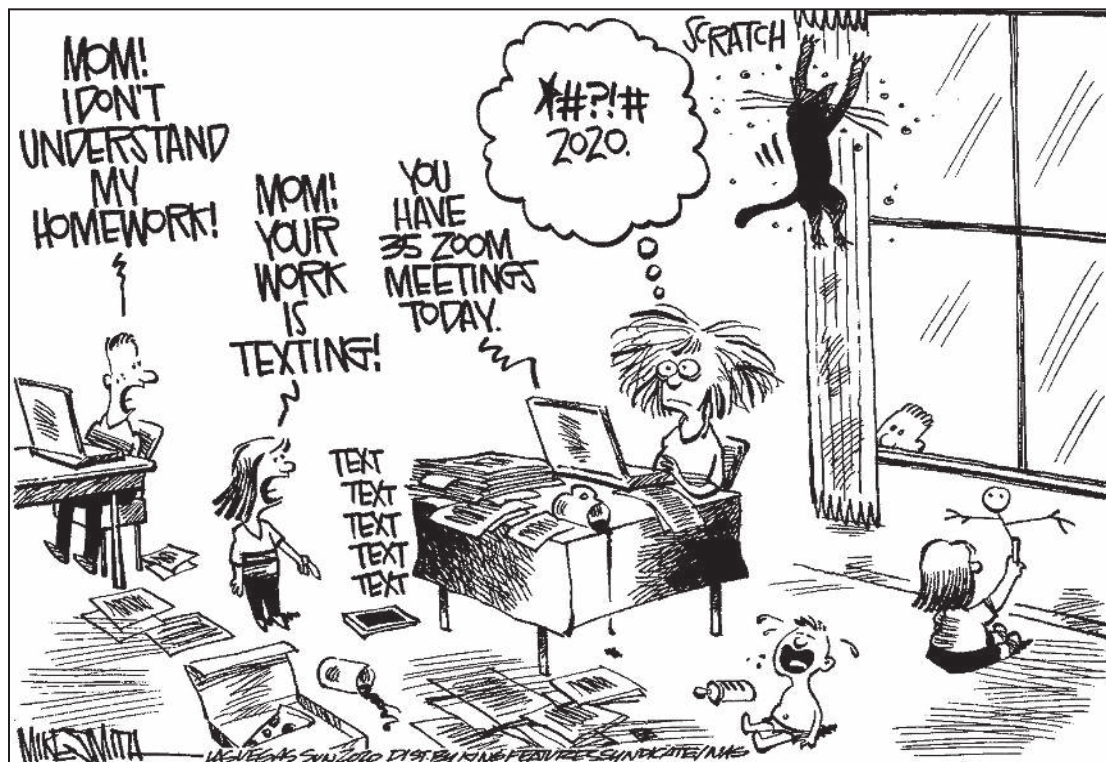
### Trump's actions hurt his supporters

To the Editor:

Over the many months since the outset of the coronavirus pandemic, my family, neighbors and the entire community have acted diligently to contain and control the spread of the virus by wearing a mask.

But in less than three hours in Arizona last night, our president caused more destruction than the gains that we have made over many months. Not here, but at his indoor rally, where he invited many thousands to sit shoulder-to-shoulder, with almost all of them not wearing masks. They were there to support Trump, but at what cost? Why did he shoot himself in the foot by encouraging these thousands of people to expose themselves potentially to the virus?

We know that Trump is fully aware of



## OPINIONS

# McConnell fiddles while counties like Nassau burn

There has been much publicity about the failure of the U.S. Senate to agree on a new aid package for the states. The costs of dealing with the impact of the coronavirus have hit every government hard, but especially the northeastern states. Largely left out of the discussion, however, is the serious headache that Nassau County and New



**JERRY  
KREMER**

York's 61 other counties face. Whether you are distant Cayuga County or Nassau, the story is the same. Sales tax revenues are down 20 percent in most areas, and state aid has been cut by 15 percent. Property tax collections have been delayed to help people with fixed or no income. In short, sometimes government closest to you suffers the most. As a former chair of the State Assembly's Ways and Means Committee, I was curious, and took a deep look at Nassau's finances and the impact of Covid-19, which mirror many other counties.

County Executive Laura Curran has done a great job of managing the coun-

ty's finances. When she was elected in 2017, she was saddled with a massive budget deficit and faced the possibility of a state takeover of the county's finances. Her predecessor, Ed Mangano, had proposed a series of budgets with so-called one-shot revenues and lots of Band-Aids that were destined to fall apart.

Most Nassau residents don't know that it is one of only a few jurisdictions in the state that has a control board watching its every financial move. The Nassau Interim Finance Authority was established in 2000, and has a full-time staff. It was dormant until 2011, when the county was in desperate need of an outside monitor. The bond rating agencies advised county officials that they needed a series of modest tax increases to fill their budget hole. But political fear prevented it.

Writing about something that's not very sexy can be a challenge, but readers should understand how their government functions. Nassau County taxpayers wake up every morning expecting the police to control the streets, the highway workers to fill the potholes and the parks to be open for their enjoyment. All of these activities rely on there being

enough money in the county treasury to pay for its workers and its facilities.

The county currently faces a drop in revenue of \$438 million, the result of all of the factors mentioned above. In simple terms, no business can survive for too long with losses of 25 percent or more. On Aug. 10, Curran announced a prudent plan to close this yawning budget gap.

She proposed a series of budget cuts that would save \$54 million. To offset the total of \$438 million, she used all of her surplus funds, which included \$103 million that local governments got in the CARES Act. Her proposal would produce \$385 million in savings, which would erase the deficit. But there is one catch to this plan: The county owes NIFA a \$75 million payment that is due in November. The County Legislature must approve the deferral of this payment, which would help avoid any serious tax increases.

While the Legislature is controlled by the Republican Party, and Curran is a Democrat, I am convinced the Legislature will do the right thing and allow the payment to NIFA to be deferred for a year. If the county can't balance its budget for

the coming year, all taxpayers may suffer, and the NIFA board could impose drastic cuts in county services.

The tale of Nassau's finances is being repeated in community after community. Since March, our television screens have been filled with story after story about all the human hardship the virus has caused. The scenes of emergency workers treating suffering people have left us with images that we will never forget. The services that save lives have to be paid for, and in the end, the buck stops with local government officials.

Sadly, the people who can help pay for the coronavirus fallout — members of the Senate — went home for and returned from a summer recess, and still they have taken no action. There will apparently be no additional unemployment benefits and no small-business relief. Assistance for local governments won't happen. Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell reminds me of Nero, who fiddled while Rome burned.

*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.*

**C**ounty Exec. Laura Curran has done a great job of managing Nassau's finances.

## LETTERS

the deadliness of Covid-19. He clearly said so to Bob Woodward. Why does he expose his own followers to its dangers, while as he said, he was protected by being at a safe distance from that unmasked crowd. A few dozen people sitting behind Trump were wearing masks. That was probably for the photographers.

**BOB PRAVER**  
Glen Cove

## Thanks for the memories

To the Editor:

Re Scott Brinton's column "The little bench in my backyard" (Sept. 3-9): It was very moving. This last year has been extremely difficult for so many. I can't imagine how journalists like Brinton must feel, writing about the virus. The toll it has taken must be extraordinary.

I don't have a bench, but I have a small footstone that my son made when he was in kindergarten. It's round and has small, colorful stones embedded in it. He glued those stones in carefully —

his wonderful masterpiece. My son is now 21, living in North Carolina, attending college.

Thank you to Brinton for sharing his memories.

**SARI BERKOWITZ**  
Glen Cove

## Appreciation for a refreshing op-ed

To the Editor:

I'd like to thank Scott Brinton for opening his nostalgic garden to his readers. It was a refreshing respite from all the political and pandemic-related news out there in the real world. Not only do his trees offer some protection against global warming, but in addition to his plethora of flowers, they add much beauty to our world. His ability to link such beauty to familial events in his life is a testament to the love he has for his family as well as to our earth.

**PAM SINGER**  
Malverne

## FRAMEWORK by Miguel Martinez



Near the Pacific coast, with the haze of wildfires in the distance — Fort Hunter Liggett, Calif.

## OPINIONS

## A maddening tale of two presidencies

Donald Trump revealed his true self to The Washington Post's Bob Woodward over the course of 18 interviews beginning last December, appearing coherent and well-informed — in matter-of-fact terms, for example, he noted as early as February that he knew the coronavirus was five times more deadly than the more “strenuous” strains of the flu.



**SCOTT BRINTON**

Trump could have acted decisively to stem the tide of disease that overwhelmed the U.S. But he didn't.

Many were unsure whether he could understand the gravity of the illness or the science required to contain it. In April he suggested —

seemingly seriously — that we might inject patients with disinfectant and irradiate them with ultraviolet light to kill the virus, prompting public health officials to issue urgent news releases cautioning people not to try this at home.

Trump, to many, appeared to have lost his mind. As it turns out, we now know from Woodward's interviews with the president that it was all performance art, a display of showmanship intended to obfuscate and deceive in the vain hope that Americans wouldn't notice the rapidly rising Covid-19 death toll or unemployment rate.

Woodward recorded nearly all the interviews with Trump for his latest book, “Rage,” which was set to be published after press time. Snippets of the interviews were released for public consumption last week, and were aired on “60 Minutes” last Sunday. In them, Trump appears lucid, articulate, in command of the facts, without a hint of mental illness.

That is the maddening part of this tale. At least if he were suffering from lunacy, like a latter-day King George III, then he might be excused for bungling the national strategy to contain the coronavirus. The interviews make clear, however, that Trump is perfectly sane.

He claimed he lied to the American people about the deadliness of the coronavirus so as not to incite panic. Many pundits, however, pointed out that Trump has had little trouble stoking fear, even panic, on any number of issues — from immigration to public housing — when it suits his political aims.

His 2016 election strategy was to engage in an all-out culture war to divide the country along entrenched political lines, and then win at the margins by picking up disaffected Democrats and right-leaning independents who, on occasion in the past, had voted for centrist Dems. It worked.

To date, Trump has followed his 2016 playbook, sowing division wherever he can, including in the U.S.'s approach to the coronavirus.

He knew as early as February that Covid-19 was an airborne disease, and yet he eschewed masks from the get-go, mocking former Vice President Joe Biden relentlessly for wearing one in public and never requiring their use at his mass rallies —

which he continues to hold, despite local mandates forbidding such gatherings. That is, the nation's chief law enforcement officer is flouting the laws he is sworn to uphold.

The result: The U.S. was projected to surpass 200,000 coronavirus deaths this weekend. It is, by far, the world's highest death toll — Brazil, the second highest, had 129,575 deaths as of Sept. 12. It should be noted that Brazilian President Jair Bolsonaro

has followed Trump's coronavirus playbook, at times pretending the disease is relatively harmless, at others ignoring it and taking minimal action to contain it while claiming his administration is doing all it can to fight it.

It needn't have been this way. China, where Covid-19 originated, had 4,634 deaths as of last weekend; Germany, 9,421; Canada, 9,170; South Korea, 355; New Zealand, 24. Each of these nations acted quickly, according to a national plan, not our state-by-state, county-by-county, city-by-city hodgepodge of approaches, which have ranged from exceptional to downright dangerous.

Trump had a national playbook that he could have — and should have — studied,

but he chose to ignore it. President Barack Obama left him a 68-page report titled, “Playbook for Early Response to High-Consequence Emerging Infectious Disease Threats and Biological Incidents,” developed by the National Security Council in 2016, according to “PBS NewsHour.”

Obama was tested early in his presidency, in 2009, when the H1N1 flu raged across the globe, including in the U.S. On May 2 that year, he addressed the nation, and here, in part, according to White House transcripts, is what he said:

*“Over the last week, my administration has taken several precautions to address the challenge posed by the 2009 H1N1 flu virus. ...*

*“This is a new strain of the flu virus, and because we haven't developed an immunity to it, it has more potential to cause us harm. Unlike the various strains of animal flu that have emerged in the past, it's a flu that is spreading from human to human. This creates the potential for a pandemic, which is why we are acting quickly and aggressively.”*

Obama continued, remaining calm and truthful. H1N1 stayed with us for nearly two years, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Roughly 12,500 Americans died of the disease during that time.

If only Trump had followed his predecessor's approach.

*Scott Brinton is the Herald Community Newspapers' executive editor and an adjunct professor at the Hofstra University Herbert School of Communication. Comments about this column? SBrinton@liherald.com.*

## You'd better believe it: We are in this together

Five years ago, I returned from a visit to my kids and grandkids, who live in a mountain town in northern California, and in this space I wrote, “I have come back from the future, and if you plan on going, better wear

your fire-retardant underwear.”

The tone of my comment is discordant now with news of the apocalyptic fires engulfing so much of California and Oregon. My California kids go to bed at night with their smartphones on; they and their children have “go bags”



**RANDI KREISS**

packed so they can evacuate if the alarm comes from their fire district. Their car is packed with nonperishable food and water and flame-retardant blankets. They don't live far from towns that have burnt up in half an hour when winds pushed flames into their homes.

The ashes from those fires are drifting our way. As a writer for a local newspaper, I have come to realize over the years that our connectedness as Americans and as human

beings supersedes our particular neighborhood interests. Everything is local. And everything local is global.

In these chaotic times, we find ourselves on the same ship, heading for the rocks. Smoke from fires travels, viruses go airborne and political indiscretion is infectious; none of us is safe or immune.

I live on the South Shore of Long Island, where we've been getting plenty of rain, with little chance of wildfires, but the California story is mine because I go to sleep at night worrying about my kids' safety. The fire story is all of ours because we can imagine the fear of an alarm at night that sends children out into the unknown.

If you're reading this, chances are you live in New York state, where our infection rate from the coronavirus is below 1 percent. We're in good shape at the moment, but Covid-19 is surging in other parts of the country.

My Florida kids are in the thick of it, and their unfolding story is mine, too.

Here we are sending, or are about to send, our children back to elementary and high school and universities across the

country. The college kids getting sick across the country are coming home to our towns and villages.

What we also share as Americans is the discovery that our president could have kept us safer. A president who put people before politics, who elevated science and medicine, who could evince a modicum of empathy, could have saved tens of thousands of lives during this pandemic. Last week we heard tapes of journalist Bob Woodward's interviews with President Trump. We heard the president say he knew how devastating the pandemic would be, but in his own words, he “played it down.”

Five years ago, when I first wrote about the fires near my family out West, it was a big deal, because the schools had to close for two days due to smoke and unhealthy air quality. Fast-forward, and the kids have been out of school for *five months* because of Covid-19.

There is an awful confluence of circumstances: People are battling a vicious pandemic in the midst of raging wildfires. None of it had to be this way. For three years before he decided to cover up the

**T**he nation's chief law enforcement officer is flouting the laws he is sworn to uphold.

**M**y kids in California go to bed with their phones on and their ‘go bags’ packed.

threat of Covid-19 in America, Trump was scorching the earth in other ways, expanding mining and drilling, halting regulations on industries that pollute and refusing to accept the findings of scientists who have warned us that drought, fire and even pandemics are related to global warming and climate change.

Professor Noah Diffenbaugh, the Kara J Foundation professor of Earth System Science and the Kimmelman Family Senior Fellow at the Stanford Woods Institute for the Environment, states that global warming, caused by air pollution created by human activity, is a major contributor to the baking heat searing so much of California.

According to The Washington Post, “An international panel of leading climate scientists said in 2013 that the planet is warming at an accelerated pace, and found with 95 percent certainty that human activity is the cause. The past three decades have been the hottest on the planet since 1850.”

In 2018, speaking with the BBC, President Trump said of climate change, “I don't believe it.”

Left or right, red or blue, we are in the same sinking boat. Can't we at least agree to plug the holes?

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