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OCTOBER 22 - 28, 2020

# Rally against potential city layoffs

By **JENNIFER CORR**  
 jcorr@liherald.com

CSEA Local 800 union members gathered on Tuesday night near the back entrance of Glen Cove City Hall to protest potential layoffs.

Among the layoffs, which would come with the passage of the city's proposed 2021 budget, would be Parks and Recreation Director Darcy Belyea and a laborer in the department. A roads laborer, a sanitation laborer, a personnel clerk and a finance clerk would also be laid off, with their positions eliminated.

The positions of food service helper at the Glen Cove Senior Center and golf course administrator, currently unfilled, would be done away with as well.

"It's pretty serious at this point," Angel Bonilla, a sanitation employee, said at the protest. "It's pretty bad. We all work

hard down here. We're a team. We do what we have to do for the city to take care of our residents and our neighbors. It's a shame."

In addition to possible layoffs, the roughly \$64.3 million spending plan, which is now under review by the Glen Cove City Council, would raise city residential property taxes by 8.48 percent. The increase would exceed New York state's tax-levy cap, which for Glen Cove is set at 1.56 percent this year. A two-thirds majority vote of the City Council would be needed to approve the increase.



Courtesy Cit of G.C.

**DARCY BELYEA, PARKS** and Recreation director, may lose her job.

A public hearing on the budget will be held Oct. 27.

If the council does not exceed the cap, city officials said, that would leave a budget deficit of about \$2.3 million, and it was unclear at press time how that hole would be filled if that were the case.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 3



Jennifer Corr/Herald Gazette

**JAMES PASCUCCI WAVED** to each passing car during the birthday parade.

# 'King of the wine fairies' gets big birthday parade bash

By **JENNIFER CORR**  
 jcorr@liherald.com

Glen Cove resident James Pascucci, 53, received a birthday celebration fit for a king last Sunday, and it was a day he said he would never forget.

After meeting in the Conolly Elementary School parking lot, the Glen Cove Volunteer Fire Department and the Police Department, sirens blaring, led what seemed like an endless stream of cars down Smith Street, their passengers bearing gifts

for Pascucci, who has Down syndrome. As he waved from his front yard, he wiped away tears of joy.

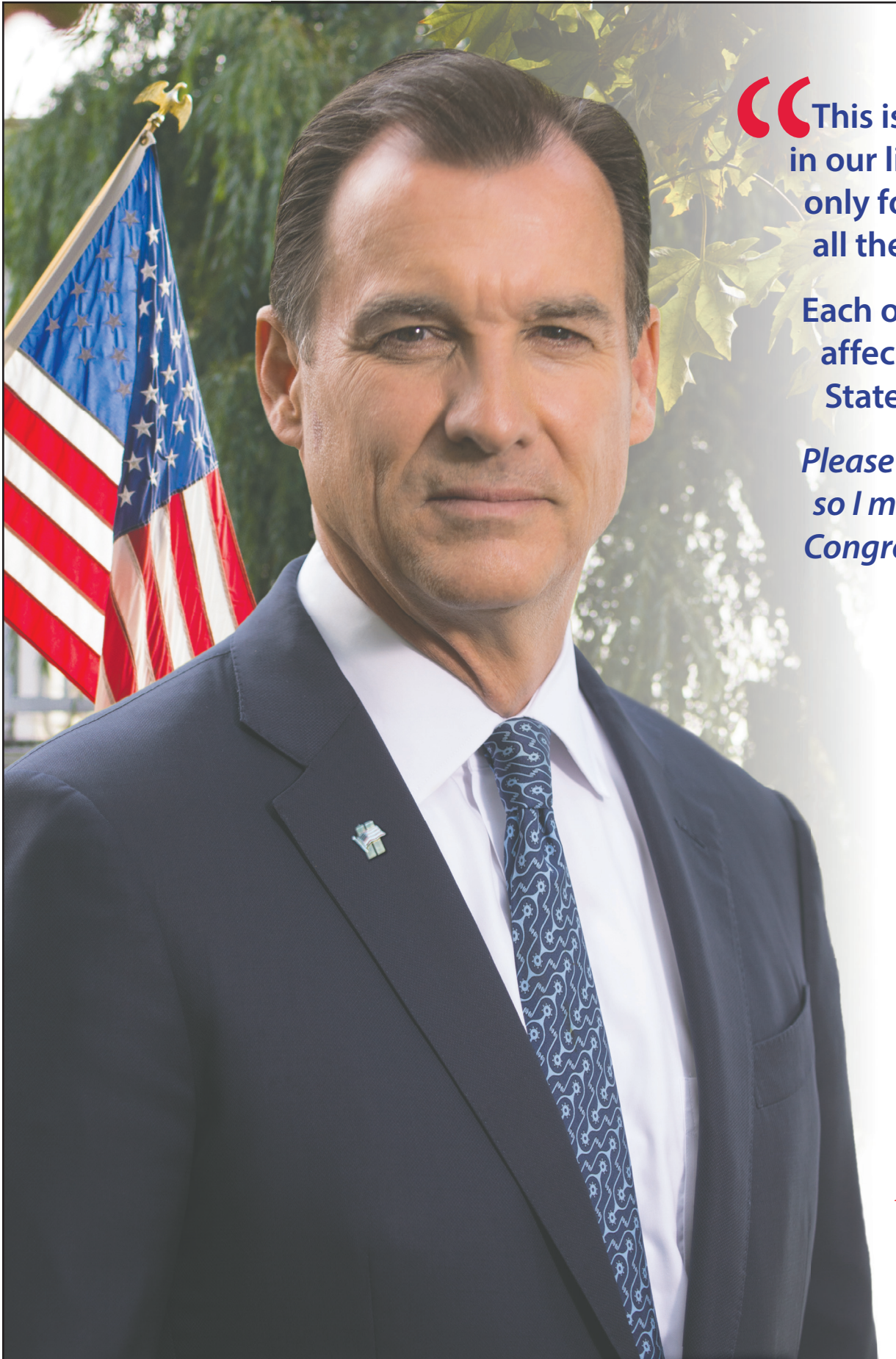
"I still have chills from it," Pam Giorgi, Pascucci's older sister, said afterward. "I had no idea it would get to this level. I mean, I'm still shocked by it. I can't wait to watch the videos. To see a turnout like this, it was amazing."

Just six months ago, many of the participants would have been strangers to Pascucci. What brought them all together was a Facebook

group called "Wine Fairies of Glen Cove, Glen Head, Sea Cliff, GWL and Locust Valley."

Breanna Cruz, 24, of Glen, and her mother, Laura Cruz, started the group in May after they noticed that, because of their distance from other communities, there were few North Shore members of Long Island "wine fairy" groups, in which women exchange addresses and drop off gifts, usually including wine, at one another's doorsteps.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 18



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Photos by Jennifer Corr/Herald Gazette

CSEA LOCAL 800 union members gathered on Tuesday night near an entrance to Glen Cove City Hall to protest potential layoffs.

# Glen Cove planning job cuts, tax increase

CONTINUED FROM FRONT PAGE

Mayor Tim Tenke said only the city portion of residents' property-tax bills would go up if the council were to raise taxes. City taxes, he said, represent 28 percent of Glen Cove residents' tax bills.

"This does not reflect the larger portion, or the school portion, of the tax," he said. "It doesn't impact the Nassau County or the library tax."

Tenke explained that an owner of a \$500,000 home would pay an extra \$260 for the year if city taxes were raised 8.48 percent.

City Controller Michael Piccirillo explained that he and Tenke went through the budget line by line in order to balance it, cutting \$867,000 in new hires and salary increase requests. "The mayor decided we were going to put a freeze into effect," Piccirillo said, "and not incur any of those additional costs."

Despite reducing costs by more than \$2 million, they still faced a deficit, and eliminating positions was the next option. "Layoffs are always the last resort," Tenke said, "and if our fiscal condition was better, and had prior administrations at least raised taxes to meet expenses, we wouldn't be in this position. I did not want to, but I had no other choice to fill the gap in the budget."

"To say I was totally caught off guard by the 2021 proposed budget is an understatement," Glen Cove CSEA President Maureen Pappachristou said at last week's meeting. "Seven positions abolished. All union members. CSEA members seem to be the only ones paying for the poor budgeting of 2020."

"This is insulting to employees who helped during a pandemic," Pappachristou added.

She asked Tenke who would lead the Parks and Recreation Department if there would no longer be a director. The mayor said that park management would be consolidated with the Depart-



THERE WERE SEVERAL expressions of support for avoiding layoffs from members of CSEA Local 800.

ment of Public Works, and recreation would be managed by the Youth Bureau.

Belyea "was in a position where we had the ability to roll over the parks department into the DPW and the recreation into the Youth Bureau so that we can eliminate her position and save her salary for the city, for the residents, without giving up any of the services those departments had provided to the city," Tenke explained. "It was unfortunate. But that was one of the logical positions we had to look at. If I could have avoided it, I would have."

Glen Cove residents said that Belyea, who has been the Parks and Recreation director since January of 1997, would be greatly missed. Belyea could not be reached for a comment.

"She has dedicated many years to the city and to the kids that have gone through her programs," said resident Tina DeGiglio Pemberton. She said she had enrolled her children in the sports programs offered by Parks and Recreation from ages 3 to 13. "When my son found out her position was being abolished," DiGiglio Pemberton added, "the first thing he said was, 'Do they realize

how much she does for the city?'"

Another resident, Tara Butler Sahai, said that laying off Belyea would be a mistake. "Her love of work shines right through the product that you get," Butler Sahai said. "Except for this year, obviously, every year since my son could do tee ball, she's always made a point of saying hello to him, asking how he's doing and just always reaching out to make sure [he] was having a good experience. She's a good person."

For more information about the proposed 2021 budget, go to [www.glencove-li.us/budget-finance/](http://www.glencove-li.us/budget-finance/).

# G.C. schools to increase in-person instruction

By JENNIFER CORR  
jcorr@liherald.com

Months into the Glen Cove City School District school year, students and teachers, who have been on a hybrid-learning plan that infuses both in-person and remote instruction, will now spend more time inside the classroom [see box].

The ultimate goal is a safe return to what once was — learning and teaching from the classroom five days a week. But for now, the district must transition students back to the desks in phases.

“All plans are contingent upon the premise that the numbers [of Covid-19 cases] stay the same, that it stays reasonable, that the percentage of students on remote only stays at the approximate number it is now and that the number of students on a hybrid number stays at that level,” said Glen Cove City School District Superintendent Dr. Maria Rianna.

Not everyone is in favor of the new plan, however. Glen Cove High School teacher Victoria Graziosi issued a statement in opposition to the plan at the Board of Education meeting on Oct. 7.

“The majority of high school teachers believe it is not advisable to implement a two-cohort model,” Graziosi said. “We believe that the combination of increased student density, closed windows due to decreasing temperatures and flu season would increase risk of infection.”

Rianna responded by saying that school officials are looking closely at the



Photos Courtesy the GCCSD

**ELEMENTARY SCHOOL STUDENTS**, starting the week of Oct. 19, will alternate between in-person and remote instruction on Wednesdays, a day that all students learned from home since the start of the school year.

data surrounding Covid-19 infection rates, along with the amount of students enrolled in in-person and hybrid models, and that increasing in-person class time would depend on those numbers.

Students who are on a remote only instruction plan or who have an all in-person instruction plan because of an independent education program will not be effected, Rianna said.

Among the considerations when drafting this plan, the Board of Education looked at the ability to practice six feet of social distancing within the facilities. Also, the availability of personal protec-



**A CLASSROOM CAN** get creative when barriers must be placed on the desks.

tive equipment and barriers on desks. The current data surrounding students enrolled in the hybrid model, remote instruction only and in-person instruction only was also considered along with the data surrounding Covid-19 cases and infection rates. With all of these factors considered, Rianna stated, students and staff can safely increase the amount of time they spend in the classrooms.

Glen Cove Councilwoman Danielle Fugazy Scagliola, who is a parent, said she wanted to see students return to the classroom at a faster rate. “We’ve been one of the few that do not have the option of having our kids in school full time,” she said. “As a mother of kids in four different schools, I can tell you that kids of

all ages need to be back in school for a variety of reasons. That said, the elementary school students need to get back as soon as possible.”

However, Glen Cove resident Anne Markoulis asked the Board of Education why in-person instruction time would be increased before winter break, as many are satisfied with the current schedule and as flu season is approaching. “We are at a great place,” Markoulis said. “We should not try to fix something that’s not broken.”

If there is a spike in the infection rate, Rianna ensured parents that the district is ready for a smooth transition into an all-remote instruction plan.

## In the past during Covid -19

### Middle and high school students

■ Three groups of students in a six-day schedule alternated between two days of in-person and four days of remote instruction.

### Elementary school students

■ Two groups of students in a five-day schedule alternated between two days of in-person instruction and three days of remote instruction.

## Present during Covid-19

### Middle and high school students

■ Students will spend more time in the classroom instead of learning remotely.

■ They will move from three groups of students to two groups of students, alternating between three days of in person and two days of remote instruction one week. Then two days of in person and three days of remote instruction the other week.

### Elementary school students

■ Alternate between in-person and remote on Wednesdays

■ In four to six weeks will increase in-person

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**MARILYN ABRAMS, LEFT,** Lorri Prince, Councilwoman Dr. Eve Lupenko-Ferrante, and Amanda Beisler were on hand to help raise awareness about cancer.



Courtesy City of Glen Cove Mayor Tim Tenke's Office

## Pink tulips planted in the city to raise awareness about cancer

The Glen Cove Beautification Commission on Saturday joined with Glen Cove CARES., Inc. in planting thousands of pink tulip bulbs throughout the city.

Dozens of volunteers from both organizations as well as students from Glen Cove High School turned out to lend a hand in providing a visible reminder that early detection is the best defense against cancer.

This health and awareness project, was conceived by the late Terry Petikas, the founder of Glen Cove CARES, who enlisted the support of the Beautification Commission. Since then, "Partners in Pink" has become an annual community event.

The bulbs are planted each fall so that when the pink tulips bloom in the spring, the community is reminded of the friends and family members that are impacted by cancer, reminding those that see the tulips to make their annual screening appointments.

"I was really proud of the turnout with these times being what they are; it was really great to see so many people from our community come out to help," said Glen Cove Beautification Commission's Damion Stavredes.

Glen Cove CARES donated the tulip bulbs and the Glen Cove Department of Public Works and the Beautification Commission coordinated the day. Landing Bakery also helped by providing baked goods and Glen Cove Beer was there to donate cases of bottled water.

"Our community appreciates the efforts of Glen Cove CARES and the Beautification Commission for organizing this community-wide awareness project each year," Tenke said. "The tulips are a wonderful reminder of the importance of cancer awareness and I thank all of the volunteers for participating in this worthy cause."

## Glen Cove Downtown BID brings fitness to Village Square

The Glen Cove Downtown Business Improvement District launched its first "Fitness in Village Square" program on Saturday, Oct. 10, with a yoga class by Glen Cove Yoga, which many Glen Cove residents enjoyed for free.

"It was such a great way to start our Saturday morning," Glen Cove resident Analis Briones said, "and then have a late breakfast in downtown."

Fitness in Village Square was an initiative that Patricia Holman, executive director of The Glen Cove Downtown BID proposed last February. "Downtown Glen Cove is home to several fitness businesses that include Glen Cove Yoga, Glen Cove Fitness, Garcia Muay Thai and Soca Brazilian Jiu Jitsu," she said. "This event was created to give these businesses the opportunity to highlight their specialty, while keeping Glen Cove fit."

Longtime Glen Cove resident Lori Testa said that she enjoyed a Thursday evening yoga class that took place in Village Square and that she is even looking into a membership with Glen Cove Yoga.

"We are very happy to partner with the Glen Cove Downtown BID. to bring this exciting series of outdoor classes to Glen

Cove," said Glen Cove Yoga owner Amy Garvey. "Staying fit and calm is key during trying times like these and we're here for anyone interested."

The classes originally scheduled to take place in July and August but because of the pandemic it was postponed. "We are so happy that we are able to offer these free workout classes to our community and we will keep the classes going until the weather gets too cold to have them," Holman said.

Other free classes will consist of Glen Cove Fitness' MX4 interval training class, a kick boxing class by Master Garcia of Garcia Muay Thai and Jiu Jitsu training by Soca Brazilian Jiu Jitsu. Bring a mat when attending.

The remainder of the October schedule at Village Square:

- Oct. 24 at 10 a.m. - Garcia Muay Thai
- Oct. 29 at 6 p.m. - Glen Cove Yoga
- Oct. 31 at 10 a.m. - Soca Brazilian Jiu Jitsu
- Nov. 5 at 6 p.m. - Soca Brazilian Jiu Jitsu

For an extended schedule follow Glen Cove BID on Facebook or visit the website [www.glencovedowntown.org](http://www.glencovedowntown.org).

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# Experts discuss your health and wealth

By **BRIANA BONFIGLIO**

bbonfiglio@liherald.com

RichnerLive and Herald Community Newspapers presented “50 Plus Health and Wealth,” a virtual event featuring speakers from the healthcare, wellness and elder law sectors, on Oct. 14.

In 2018, RichnerLive launched Senior Health Expos, which invited the community to meet with health experts at venues in Nassau County every few months. Because of the coronavirus pandemic, the event was modified to fit an online platform, and attendees took part through Zoom.

Cassena Care, Ronald Fatoullah & Associates, Comprehensive Audiology and UnitedHealthcare sponsored the event.

Experts spoke about the changes in their fields, including George Zaharioudakis, vice president of SNF operations of Theradynamics at Cassena Care; attorney Ronald Fatoullah, founder of Ronald Fatoullah & Associates; Dr. Esther Fogel, owner and director of Comprehensive Audiology; attorney Robert Harper, partner at Farrell Fritz P.C.; Josiane Peluso-Tomczyk, medicare sales director for New York City and Long Island at UnitedHealthcare Government Programs; and Ashley Straw, founder of Flow and Restore, a holistic wellness practice.

Skye Ostreicher, of RichnerLive and Herald Community Newspapers, moderated the event. She announced prizes awarded to several attendees and took questions from viewers.

First, Straw led participants through a breathing exercise of lengthening exhales — by pushing more air out than normal — to deepen the breath.

Then Ostreicher kicked off the conversation and asked the speakers about how Covid-19 has impacted their services.

Cassena Care, a line of nursing homes in New York and Connecticut, had “very large challenges to overcome,” Zaharioudakis said, including admitting people, discharging them, acquiring personal protective equipment and controlling the spread of infection through isolation.

“It took a lot of coordination and communication,” he said. “A lot of people in the communities stepped up and came up with creative ideas to solve these problems.”

In all fields, workers and patients have



Courtesy RichnerLive

**CLOCKWISE FROM TOP** left: George Zaharioudakis, vice president of SNF operations of Theradynamics at Cassena Care; Skye Ostreicher, the panel's moderator; attorney Ronald Fatoullah, founder of Ronald Fatoullah & Associates; Dr. Esther Fogel, owner and director of Comprehensive Audiology; Josiane Peluso-Tomczyk, medicare sales director for New York City and Long Island at UnitedHealthcare Government Programs; and attorney Robert Harper, partner at Farrell Fritz P.C., discussed health and wealth during the coronavirus pandemic on Oct. 14.

had to adapt and, in many cases, switch services to a virtual setting, which has often been a benefit. People can now have documents like wills and Medicaid trusts signed, notarized with witnesses and approved from home.

“Since March, we’ve been doing as many consultations as we can through Zoom or FaceTime, whatever someone feels comfortable with,” Fatoullah said. “As an elder law attorney, our clients range anywhere from 40s and 50s to last week, we had a client that was 107 — but we’re doing Zoom. It’s wonderful.”

Harper agreed — his firm has held virtual conferences via Microsoft Teams and Skype, other video call apps that have become useful during the pandemic. “Options that one never would have thought about months ago are now readily

available in our field,” he said. “Clients are saving travel time. These are efficiencies that we didn’t have before the pandemic.”

Peluso-Tomczyk noted the pandemic has also caused more people to apply and stay on Medicaid. More people are becoming unemployed and applying for Medicaid; additionally, the yearly recertification process has been delayed so people will not lose their coverage during the pandemic.

Though many of these logistical aspects of health and wealth have seen improvements, those 50 and older are at higher risk of more severe illness when contracting Covid-19. Fatoullah said his longtime secretary and brother have both died from the virus. “It’s affected my firm and me personally,” he said. “It’s been tough in that respect.”

Covid-19 has caused many to stay at

home more than they typically would to avoid catching the virus and becoming ill. The panel discussed the implications of that and how to combat some common health issues.

Fogel spoke about how the pandemic has brought new struggles to those with hearing loss. In isolation, many rely on phone calls with friends and family to stay connected, but those with hearing loss cannot always use the telephone to communicate. Even when those with hearing loss leave the house, masks can muffle the sound of people’s voices and make it harder to hear, she said.

“If you’re stuck at home and you want to communicate with friends and family, we recommend using some sort of video communication,” Fogel said. “Being able to see their face makes it easier to have a conversation. We also offer free captioning phones for our patients.”

Fogel’s audiology office is offering in-person and telemedicine appointments for those who need a screening or repairs to their hearing aids.

The panel also discussed fall prevention for seniors. “Falls are the leading cause of fatal and non-fatal injuries in the elderly, which can lead to avoidable hospitalizations,” Peluso-Tomczyk said. “We want to see our seniors in the best health possible.”

Zaharioudakis noted that handrails, shower bars and proper lighting help prevent falls. He also said rugs should be stabilized, and layout and placement of everyday items should be checked to ensure a healthy flow of movement.

Fogel said hearing plays a part in balance, which is related to fall prevention. Taking care of any hearing problems early on can help prevent future loss of cognitive function, she said.

There are also exercises that can support balance, and Straw led a movement to stretch the spine to close out the event.

“Enough cannot be said about the health benefits of movement,” she said. “Exercise increases the flow of chemicals called endorphins to the brain that lift our mood. Movement through the body encourages important energy strengths like circulation and the lymphatic systems to do their job in clearing out toxins in the body.”

For more information about RichnerLive’s virtual events, visit [richnerlive.com/virtualevents](http://richnerlive.com/virtualevents).

## UBS Arena’s leadership team growing

Four executives have been named to the UBS Arena’s leadership team, New York Arena Partners announced Oct. 14. Mark Shulman has joined the team as senior vice president of programming; Michael Sciortino is now senior vice president of operations; Ethan Brown is senior vice president of marketing and community relations; and Zane Parry is vice president of finance.

Shulman and Sciortino have backgrounds in the sports and entertainment industry, while Brown has had previous

marketing experience with the New York Islanders and has held leadership positions with Pacer Sports & Entertainment and Unilever.

Shulman has managed a variety of projects over his 25-year career, including musical festivals, major venue developments and high-profile stadium concerts. Before joining the UBS team, he established the Anschutz Entertainment Group office in New York, where he expanded the company’s footprint into multiple cities through acquisitions and

booking partnerships, and as senior vice president of the East Coast, he supervised thousands of mainstream concert bookings, while promoting several national tours and shows at MetLife Stadium, the Great Lawn in Central Park, Madison Square Garden and Radio City Music Hall.

“I’m thrilled to be joining the entertainment team at UBS Arena,” Shulman said in a statement. “The music industry is poised to have an incredible resurgence, and we anticipate consumers and

fans to be yearning to experience live entertainment by the time UBS Arena is open next fall.”

Sciortino, meanwhile, has worked as vice president of operations at Golden State’s Chase Center, where he was responsible for the day-to-day operations. “I’m excited to be back here in New York working with this team at UBS Arena,” he said. “This is a long time coming for the New York Islanders and their fans.”

—Melissa Koenig

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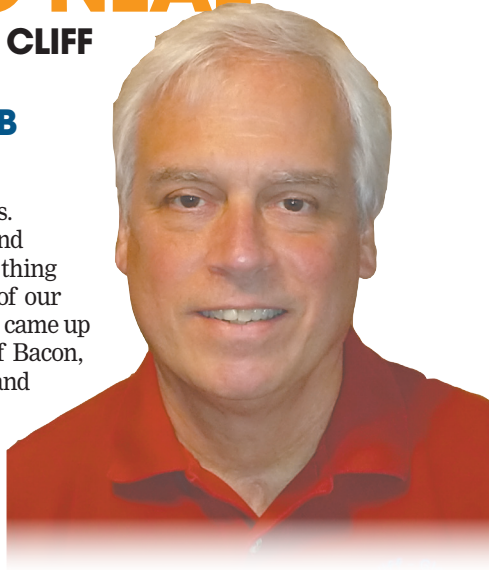
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# HERALD Covid-19 HOMETOWN HEROES

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The pandemic has been challenging for us. However, we've gotten a little creative, and we're trying some new things out. They big thing was a Chowder Drive-by last Saturday. One of our members, Harry Schwartz, is a chef, and he came up this idea to do from his new store, Garden of Bacon, in Sea Cliff. He made a bunch of chowders and cornbread, and the residents of Sea Cliff and Glen Head ordered online or by phone to pay ahead of time.

There was a drive-by pick up by the store where people picked up however many quarts or pints of chowder they ordered. We gave them information about our club and also sold T-shirts, which had the names of local vendors on the back. We didn't have Mini Mart this year, and another big fundraiser we have is a golf outing every October, which also got canceled. We're trying to reach out and do other things.

Proceeds always go to different places. We have a number of charitable organizations we give to directly, including the Long Island chapter of the Guide Dog Foundation. We sponsor dogs, and we give a lot of money to that organization, which is quite a rewarding thing.

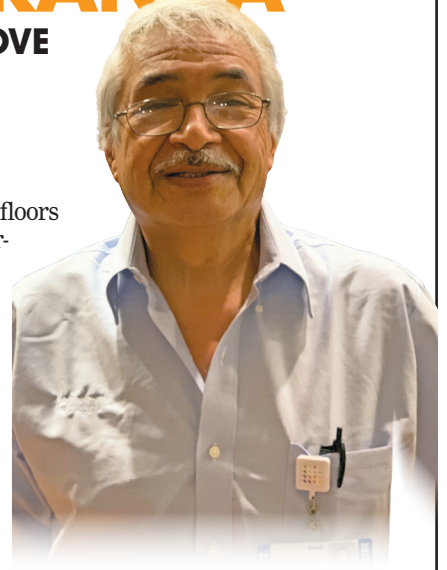
We also work with a lot of local charities like soup kitchens and the Sea Cliff Mutual Concerns Committee. We tend to be local in the way we give money because it's helpful to the community.

**HERALD HOMETOWN HERO**

## LUIS HUARANCA

GLEN COVE

**HOUSEKEEPER,  
GLEN COVE HOSPITAL**



My real job is to work in the lobby. I strip the floors and wax and do other things there. But during Covid I had to go upstairs and work where the Covid patients were. It was a disaster in the beginning. The doctors were scared too. People were crying. I felt like no one knew what to do.

I went to work every day. My wife and son were scared and asked me why I was working in a hospital when there was a pandemic. I felt like I had to help people in the hospital. I was never afraid.

The amount of people coming in was overwhelming for my supervisor. For around three months, I had to work 16 hours because people were afraid and some took a leave of absence.

Others had to quarantine. Three of my co-workers got sick with the virus early on. One had Covid for six months. For three, he was in a coma at the hospital.

Working upstairs, there was a lot of [personal protective equipment], so I had to empty the garbage cans often. I also cleaned the rooms where the Covid patients were. I washed the floors and had to clean everything when a patient left. I used Clorox on everything.

I never spoke to the patients when I worked downstairs. But upstairs, sometimes one of the patients with Covid would ask me for help, so I would get a nurse or doctor. A lot of those people died, five or six people a day. It was terrible. I never saw anything like that before.

**HERALD HOMETOWN HERO**



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**KEYNOTE SPEAKER**  
**Jeffrey L. Reynolds,**  
Ph.D, CEAP, SAP  
President and CEO,  
FCA (Family & Children's Association)



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## IRENE THOMAS

WILLISTON PARK

**SPEECH PATHOLOGIST,  
GLEN COVE HOSPITAL**



**O**ur primary role is to help people who have difficulty with communicating, as well as helping them with swallowing.

I think what we do is great because communication and also just eating, those are basic necessities of life, so when we're able to provide that and help our patients get back to what they used to be doing, I think it's a really great opportunity and it's highly effective. We're one of those professions where people don't know a lot about us, but I do think we're pivotal in the overall health of our patients.

During the pandemic, I think we all had to figure it out just like every other unit. Specifically, I was in the AVRU Unit, and that's where all the patients were that were on a ventilator or were on a tracheotomy tube. So everything was really new as far as the protocols, so we had to do a lot of research and figure out what is important for these people.

I took a role of advocating for the patients because there is so much going on with these patients that no one is really focused on their ability to communicate or their ability to swallow, so it was really just taking that role. A lot of times we just do what we're told, but I feel like with Covid-19, it was a good opportunity for speech pathologists to show what we really do and how beneficial it is for the patients.

**HERALD HOMETOWN HERO**

## DR. PETER GIARRIZZO

**SUPERINTENDENT, NORTH SHORE  
CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT  
REGIONAL**



**W**e started planning for an eventful opening in June, with the guiding principle being making sure everybody is safe and healthy and giving ourselves a fighting chance of staying open. We surveyed the community, and they said they want our kids back, so that enabled us to go forward with planning. We were able to get K-8 kids back full-time every day, but that required us to do some massive reorganizations of physical spaces, hiring and purchasing.

We took a pretty conservative approach to the reopening, and it's working. We've gotten a lot of compliance among kids and teachers. We've also committed to outdoor learning. We bought 100 tents that are all over campuses, and kids at the elementary level are out for almost half the day. That's going to have to come to an end when it gets colder, but in the interim, we've been doing some work with our ventilation systems, and we've got the Viking Foundation supporting the HEPA filtration system fundraiser. We're trying to stay ahead of things and follow the science.

I have had enormous support from our Board of Education — not every board is willing to put the resources into this kind of reopening. I lead the work, but the work itself is being done by principals, teachers, directors, nurses and custodians. As a leader, I'm very proud of the work we've done. I'm still anxious, but as long as everybody stays true to our principles, we can make this work.

**HERALD HOMETOWN HERO**

**HERALD**

# Home for the Holidays

## RECIPE CONTEST

Submit your favorite holiday recipe to be featured in the Herald! Winning recipes will be announced and published on **November 12** in the Herald Special Holiday Dining issue. Submissions are now open and the deadline is November 1, 2020.

**NOMINATION CATEGORIES:**

- > Breakfast
- > Appetizers
- > Dessert
- > Cocktails
- > Entree

1st Place & 2nd Place Winners in each category will be selected. You may submit an entry in more than 1 category. Recipes can correspond with any holiday from Thanksgiving thru New Year's. Winners will be notified by email after the November 1 deadline.

**ENTER FOR  
A CHANCE  
TO BE PUBLISHED  
AT  
liherald.com/recipe  
DEADLINE:  
November 1**

**For more details and to enter visit [www.liherald.com/recipe](http://www.liherald.com/recipe)**

# Where to vote (early) in Nassau County

By **ALYSSA SEIDMAN**

aseidman@liherald.com

Election Day is a little less than two weeks away, but thanks to a series of reforms passed by the State Legislature in 2019, Nassau County residents can vote before Nov. 3.

Starting Saturday, Oct. 24, residents can head to one of 15 polling sites to cast their votes for the Nov. 3 election during a nine-day early-voting period. The process was introduced in New York state last year as part of a series of reforms intended to make voting easier for people who struggle to get to the polls on Election Day.

The nine-day schedule offers 83 hours of early voting — 60 are required — including evenings and weekends through Sunday, Nov. 1 (*see map*). Registered voters may cast their ballots at any of the listed locations, but if they do not, they must vote at their regular polling place on Nov. 3.

Residents will verify their voter registration on iPads, or electronic poll books, which have replaced physical poll books at each early-voting site and regular polling place. Using a stylus, poll inspectors will assist voters in signing their names and confirming their identities. Once their signatures are approved, the poll inspector will print ballots from a ballot-

on-demand printer.

“No matter where you go, you’re getting your ballot,” said James Scheuerman, the Democratic commissioner for the Board of Elections.

Scheuerman also said that if residents submit their ballots during the early-voting period, it precludes them from voting on Election Day. “The poll pads sync up,” he said, “so after you vote, other poll books around the county, within one minute, will know that you voted to guard against double voting.”

Residents who have questions about the county’s early-voting procedures can visit [www.nassauvotes.com](http://www.nassauvotes.com).

The Board of Elections has advised voters that some states that have already begun their early-voting period have reported significant lines at polling sites.

To ensure ballots are cast at legitimate polling stations or deposited in legitimate drop-off boxes, voters are advised to be attentive. Report any suspicious activities or efforts to interfere with or disrupt voting immediately.

If in doubt, or to report any issues, please call the Nassau County Board of Elections: (516) 571-8683 for English; or La Junta Electoral Condado Nassau en Español: (516) 571-1245.

*Timothy Denton contributed to this story.*

## Early voting locations and times

**1** Elmont  
Elmont Memorial Library  
700 Hempstead Turnpike

**2** Floral Park  
Recreation Center  
124 Stewart Street

**3** Freeport  
Recreation Center  
130 E. Merrick Road

**4** Garden City  
St. Paul’s Field House  
295 Stewart Avenue

**5** Hempstead  
Brierley Park  
65 Dartmouth Street

**6** Hicksville  
Levittown Hall  
201 Levittown Parkway

**7** Lawrence  
Lawrence Country Club  
101 Causeway

**8** Massapequa  
Town Hall South  
977 Hicksville Road

**9** North Merrick  
North Merrick Public Library  
1691 Meadowbrook Road

**10** Plainview  
Mid-Island YJCC  
45 Manetto Hill Road

**11** Roslyn Heights  
Gayle Community Center  
53 Orchard Street

**12** Wantagh  
American Legion Post 1273  
3484 Park Avenue

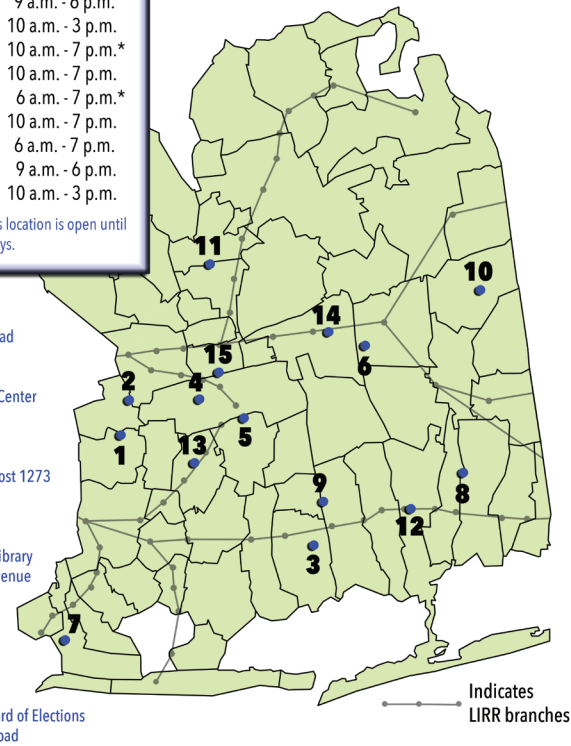
**13** West Hempstead  
West Hempstead Library  
500 Hempstead Avenue

**14** Westbury  
Yes We Can Center  
141 Garden Street

**15** Mineola  
Nassau County Board of Elections  
240 Old Country Road

Sat.	10/24	9 a.m. - 6 p.m.
Sun.	10/25	10 a.m. - 3 p.m.
Mon.	10/26	10 a.m. - 7 p.m.*
Tues.	10/27	10 a.m. - 7 p.m.
Wed.	10/28	6 a.m. - 7 p.m.*
Thurs.	10/29	10 a.m. - 7 p.m.
Fri.	10/30	6 a.m. - 7 p.m.
Sat.	10/31	9 a.m. - 6 p.m.
Sun.	11/1	10 a.m. - 3 p.m.

\*Board of Elections location is open until 8 p.m. on these days.



Any registered voter in Nassau County may vote at any of the designated locations during the times listed.

Information provided the Nassau County Board of Elections. Map by Christina Daly/Herald

**AN INFOGRAPH OF** Nassau County’s early-voting sites for the 2020 election.

## Northwell awarded \$1.4M to help prevent gun violence

Northwell Health has been awarded \$1.4 million from the National Institutes of Health to study gun violence prevention and establish and implement a first-of-its-kind protocol to universally screen among those at risk of firearm injury.

The grant is part of the health system’s “We Ask Everyone About Guns” research study, which aims to shift the paradigm to view gun violence as a public health issue and approach firearm injury risk similarly to other health risk factors that are part of routine care, like smoking, substance use and motor vehicle accidents.

We Ask Everyone About Guns will establish evidence-based screening and intervention strategies within three of its hospitals. Led by Drs. Chethan Sathya, director of Northwell’s Center for Gun Violence Prevention, and Sandeep Kapoor, the study will pilot at South Shore University Hospital in Bay Shore, Cohen Children’s Medical Center, a pediatric trauma center on the Queens-Nassau County border that is the accepting facility for adolescent trauma for more than five counties, and Staten Island University Hospital — each of which are in regions with critical need for firearm injury and mortality prevention, and areas with at-risk youth. Northwell plans to expand We Ask Everyone About Guns across the health system.

“Gun violence is a public health issue and this NIH-funded study is a step in the right direction to finally addressing

it as one,” said Michael Dowling, Northwell president and CEO. “Unfortunately, we have been dealing with two pandemics — COVID-19 and gun violence. By screening for firearm safety in our facilities, we can better understand how and why this senseless blood shed continues to increase at historic rates.”

Northwell received the NIH grant as gun violence continues to rise across the country and remains the leading cause of premature death in the U.S. — nearly 40,000 people dying each year, according to the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. In August, shootings doubled and murders increased 50 percent in New York City, according to the NYPD, compared to the same timeframe in 2019. Since May, there have been 791 shootings in New York City alone, which was a 140-plus percent increase over the same period in 2019.

“The glaring statistics continue to spike not just here in New York, but across the United States as well,” said Sathya, who is also associate medical director for trauma and a pediatric general and thoracic surgeon at Cohen Children’s. “This NIH grant will fully support We Ask Everyone About Guns and allow us to expand upon the limited clinical studies that have primarily focused on outpatient settings or used targeted

vs. universal screening, which can exclude at-risk patients.

“Adherence is key, and We Ask Everyone About Guns combined with Northwell treating gun violence as the public health issue will push boundaries, eliminate knowledge gaps and prevent accidental deaths and even suicides.”

Under We Ask Everyone About Guns, clinicians in the ED will ask patients specific questions about having firearms in their homes and determine their risk of injury. Each response will be scored and embedded into the patient’s electronic health record, which will help guide discussions and establish next steps for care. Motivational interviews, education and other resources will also be available.

The study follows a similar protocol as the health system’s Screening, Brief Intervention and Referral to Treatment, a screening program that was implemented in its emergency departments several years ago to identify substance misuse and connect patients to treatment. Through SBIRT, Northwell completed 1.5 million patient screens across 18 EDs and many inpatient and outpatient settings, resulting in 23,000 brief interventions and 8,000 referrals. SBIRT was initially federally funded and has since been sustained

across the health system.

“As we have seen with SBIRT, we can make a difference for our communities by asking the right questions and providing the right education and connections to treatment,” said Kapoor, Northwell’s assistant vice president for addiction services and director of SBIRT. “The objective here is mirror that success and reverse the trend of rising suicides and preventable firearm injuries and deaths. It’s a major sea change for health care and can prove to be a significant tool in fighting the gun violence epidemic.”

The NIH grant builds on the momentum from Northwell’s 2019 Gun Violence Prevention Forum, where Dowling’s call-to-action encouraged health care and political leaders to work for sensible gun legislation, more investment in mental health, more education and greater preparation for staff and communities. He also pledged \$1 million to the effort, which helped establish the Center for Gun Violence Prevention.

Dowling also appointed Sathya to head the center, which is tasked with shaping the role that health systems play in advancing safety, education, prevention and research, and he formed an advisory committee comprised of prominent voices on gun violence prevention.

Northwell is scheduled to host the second Gun Violence Prevention Forum virtually on Dec. 10.

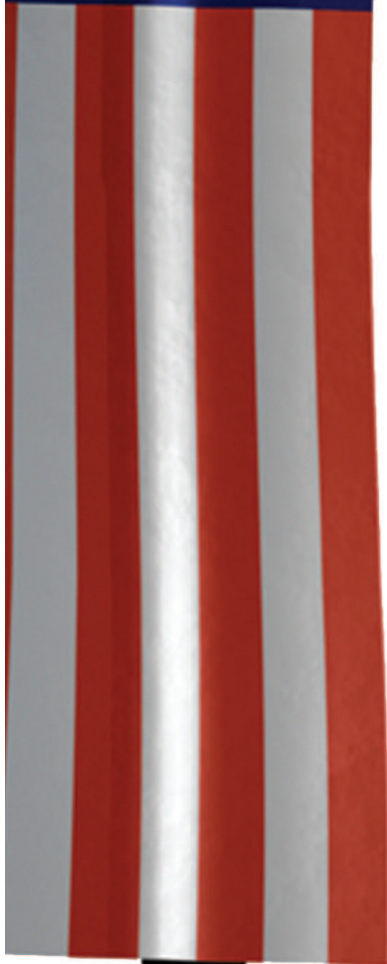
**G**un violence is a public health issue.

**MICHAEL DOWLING**  
Northwell president and CEO

# H

**HERALD**  
Community Newspapers

October 22, 2020



# VOTER

★★★ **GUIDE**

A LOOK AT THE CANDIDATES

# NOV

★★★



**YOUR** **VOTE** *Counts*

**SAMPLE BALLOT  
INSIDE**

# 2020 JUDICIAL CANDIDATES

## District Court Judge Candidates

Vote for two

### Chris Coschignano

Running on the Republican, Democratic, Conservative and Independence party lines

Age: 56

Lives in: Muttontown

**Education:** Bachelor's degree, St. John's University, 1985; law degree, Touro College, Jacob D. Fuchsberg Law Center, 1990

**Career:** Chris Coschignano is a partner in the Uniondale-based law firm Sahn Ward Coschignano PLLC. He was also a Town of Oyster Bay councilman from 2002 to 2017. 2017.

### David Wright

Running on the Democratic, Republican, Independence and Conservative party lines

Age: 53

Lives in: Bayville

**Education:** Bachelor's degree, St. John's University, 1989; law degree, Touro College, Jacob D. Fuchsberg Law Center, 1992.

**Career:** David Wright has been the Village of Bayville deputy mayor since September 2018. He has also been senior principal law clerk to Appellate Division Justice Angela Iannucci since 2004.

## Family Court Judge Candidate

### Lisa Cairo

Running on Republican, Democrat, Conservative and Independence party lines in the general election

Age: 43

Lives in: Garden City

**Education:** Bachelor's degree, Loyola College in Maryland, 1999; law degree, Hofstra University School of Law, 2002

**Legal career:** Lisa Cairo began her career in 2003 as an associate at Chris J. Coschignano P.C., handling civil litigation with a focus on matrimonial cases, municipal applications and real estate transactions. In 2006, she became an associate at Jaspan Schlesinger LLP in the firm's matrimonial practice group. In 2011, she became a partner in the firm's municipal law, litigation and real estate practice groups. She is also a member of the firm's management committee.



# JUSTICE OF THE SUPREME COURT DISTRICT 10

## SELECT UP TO EIGHT CANDIDATES

### Kathy Bergmann

Independence, Democratic, Republican and Conservative lines

■ Suffolk County Family Court judge since 2017

■ Earned her bachelor's from SUNY Oswego in 1978 and her law degree from Touro College Law Center in 1988

### Joseph Conway

Democratic, Republican and Conservative lines

■ Defense attorney at LaRusso, Conway & Bartling in Mineola

■ Headed the U.S. Attorney's Office for the Eastern District Long Island criminal division from 2001 to 2003

### Valerie Cartright

Democratic, Republican and Conservative lines

■ Attorney with Cartright & Company in Port Jefferson Station

■ Was on the Brookhaven Town Council since 2014

### Randy Sue Marber

Democratic, Republican and Conservative lines

■ Nassau County State Supreme Court judge since 2007

■ Nassau County 4th District Court judge from 2002 to 2006

### Derrick Robinson

Democratic, Republican and Conservative lines

■ Served as a Suffolk County District Court judge since 2012

■ Acting County Court judge since 2016

### Erica Prager

Democratic, Republican and Conservative lines

■ Nassau District Court judge since 2001

■ Acting County Court judge since 2009

### Timothy Mazzei

Republican, Democratic, Conservative and Independence party lines

■ Suffolk County Court judge since 2015

■ Town of Brookhaven councilman from 2003 to 2014

### Gary Knobel

Democratic, Republican and Conservative party lines

■ Law clerk for New York State Supreme Court Justice Antonio Brandveen since 2018

■ Nassau County District Court judge from 2006 to 2017

## County Court Judge

Vote for two

### Caryn Fink

Running on the Republican, Democrat, Conservative and Independence party lines

Age: 53

Lives in: Roslyn Heights

**Legal career:**

Caryn Fink started her legal career from 1993 to 2000 as an assistant district attorney and senior trial attorney in the Kings County District Attorney's Office. From 2006 to 2013, she was an assistant district attorney in the Nassau County District Attorney's Office, Rackets Bureau/Labor Unit. And from 2013 to now, she has been the principal law clerk for the Hon. Helene Gugerty, a New York State Supreme justice.



### Chris Hoefenkrieg

Running on the Republican, Democrat, Conservative and Independence party lines

Age: 53

Lives in: Roslyn Heights

**Education:** Bachelor's degree, SUNY Albany, 1990; law degree, St. John's University, 1994.

**Legal career:**

Chris Hoefenkrieg has been an associate court attorney in the Law Department of Nassau County Court since 2004. In addition to his duties as associate court attorney, he was assigned to work as a law clerk for 14 different County Court judges when their own law clerks were unavailable because of sickness, vacation or military leave.





# CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT 3

## Tom Suozzi Incumbent

**Party:** Democratic, Independence, Working Families

**Age:** 58

**Professional experience:** U.S. Rep. since 2016, formerly mayor of Glen Cove and Nassau County executive

**Education:** Bachelor of Science, Boston College; law degree, Fordham University School of Law

**On the issues:**

In helping local economies recover from the devastation caused by the coronavirus pandemic, Tom Suozzi said there are many measures that Congress could take, all of which require bipartisan cooperation. He said there needs to be another Paycheck Protection



Program to provide specific relief to restaurants based on their 2019 revenues versus their 2020 revenues, as well as another package for independent entertainment venues based on their net operating costs. A deal could get done, he said, if Republicans and Democrats worked together.

Suozzi said schools will need federal assistance. Some New York districts are suffering because the state has lost so much in sales-tax revenues because businesses are struggling during

the pandemic, so it will take working across party lines to help schools.

In addressing systemic racism, Suozzi is one of the original co-sponsors of the Justice and Policing Act passed to reform police across the country and institute certain federal standards, like eliminating choke holds. Legal changes need to be made at the local level to enhance community policing, he said, and then resources need to be allocated where the problem areas are. He said an accountability system needs to be set up based on the use of force, where it is needed and how often.

If re-elected, Suozzi said he would work to bring money back to New York, as well as negotiate an infrastructure deal to address water quality on Long Island focused on green energy.

## George Santos Challenger

**Party:** Republican

**Age:** 32

**Professional experience:** Private equity fundraiser

**Education:** Bachelor of Science, Baruch College; Master of Business Administration, New York University

**On the issues:**

George Santos said small businesses are the engine that keeps the economy moving. Instead of New York going to the federal government to recover from the pandemic, Santos said he would give an incentive for corporations sitting on trillions of dollars of private money to create a program for small business owners to apply for small percentage loans in exchange for the



federal government giving a write-off for bigger corporations for the 2020-21 fiscal year.

Schools should be running on leaner budgets, since there is a hybrid model in a majority of schools, Santos said. As a former public school student, he said he would like everyone to have access to a quality education. He said he would fight to secure funds for schools after learning about real numbers in play in different districts.

Santos said he does not

necessarily see systemic racism throughout the United States. He said he sees the problem as more of an education issue, since inner-city neighborhoods are deprived of the same resources that suburban areas have.

If elected, Santos said law and order would be most important to him. He wants to boost small businesses to the levels they were at before the pandemic, he said, and he would propose an appropriation, in the \$20 billion to \$30 billion range, to upgrade the electrical grid.

District runs from the Nassau-Queens border along the North Shore to Suffolk County, including Northport and Huntington Station.



# SENATE DISTRICT 5

## Jim Gaughran Incumbent

**Party:** Democratic, Serve America Movement

**Age:** 63

**Professional experience:** State senator since 2018; formerly a Suffolk County legislator and Huntington Town Board trustee

**Education:** Bachelor's Degree, SUNY Stony Brook; law degree, Hofstra Law School

**On the issues:**

Two years after winning a seat in the State Senate, Jim Gaughran said that, if re-elected, restoring the state and his district after the coronavirus pandemic would be the most important issue for him.

He said he believes the next Legislature must focus



on how to rebuild after the pandemic, and he is confident that lawmakers will have the ability to do that.

Rebuilding the health care system, addressing division in society and working toward bipartisanship are three of the initiatives that he would pursue in Albany.

Gaughran said that lawmakers also need to reduce the state's \$14.5 billion deficit, and that if the state does not have the funding to address the deficit, he said he hopes it can receive some aid from the federal

government.

As for creating a public water authority on the North Shore to lower utility rates in communities like Sea Cliff and Glen Head, Gaughran said there is now a bill in State Senate that would create such an authority, and it would be another level of local government, which would empower residents. If the bill does not pass, he said he would push for it again.

On hydraulic dredging in the Long Island Sound, Gaughran said that he has met with many environmental leaders, such as the Baymen, and he secured funds to have SUNY Stony Brook scientists review the impact of the practice on the shell-fishing industry, which is ongoing now.

## Edmund Smyth Challenger

**Parties:** Republican, Independence, Conservative, Libertarian

**Age:** 49

**Professional experience:** Huntington Town Board trustee since 2018

**Education:** Bachelor of Arts, Widener University; law degree, New York Law School

**On the issues:**

Edmund Smyth, who is running for Senate for the first time, said that, if elected, he would do anything he could to support small businesses.

As a state senator, Smyth said he would support small businesses by putting in place loan or loan guarantee programs for small businesses, as well as providing guid-



ance with federal agencies such as the Small Business Administration.

In addressing the deficit, Smyth said, he would look at priorities within the state budget, as he believes that some aspects of the budget that should not be prioritized have been.

Smyth said that a public water authority on the North Shore is the direction to go. He said that he would like to see as many public water authorities broken into local authorities as possible. If the bill now in the State Senate

to create a water authority for areas like Sea Cliff and Glen Head does not pass, he said he would want to see the reason why lawmakers voted against it, and would work to persuade them otherwise.


When asked about hydraulic dredging in the area, Smyth said that he is against it. North Shore ecosystems are too fragile to accommodate it, he said.

Smyth said that among his greatest concerns is bail reform. He would like to see the 2019 law repealed and redrafted. He said he does believe the bail system needed reform, and people should not be in jail for violations like motor vehicle paperwork problems.

Includes Glen Cove, Sea Cliff, Glen Head, Brookville, Muttontown, Locust Valley, Oyster Bay, East Norwich, Syosset, Woodbury, Lloyd Harbor, the Huntingtons, and parts of Dix Hills and Commack.

# SAMPLE ELECTION BALLOT





**OFFICIAL BALLOT  
FOR GENERAL ELECTION**

**November 3, 2020  
NASSAU COUNTY  
BOARD OF ELECTIONS**

**SEA CLIFF/  
Glen Head**

**INSTRUCTIONS**

To vote for a candidate whose name is not printed on the ballot, mark the oval to the left of 'write-in' and print the name clearly, staying within the box. Any mark or writing outside the spaces provided for voting may void the entire ballot. You have a right to a replacement ballot. If you make a mistake or want to change your vote, call the board of elections at (516) 571-2411 for instructions on how to obtain a new ballot. The number of choices is listed for each contest. Do not mark for more candidates than allowed. If you do, your vote in that contest will not count.


**INSTRUCTIONS**

Para votar un candidato cuyo nombre no está en la papeleta, marque el óvalo a la izquierda del 'write-in' y escriba el nombre claramente en la casilla. Cualquier otra marca, o escritura fuera de los espacios proporcionados para votar, puede anular toda la papeleta. Usted tiene el derecho a una papeleta de reemplazo. Si comete un error o quiere cambiar su voto, llame la Junta De Elecciones al (516) 571-2411 para instrucciones sobre cómo obtener una nueva papeleta. El número de opciones está listado para cada elección. No marque mas candidatos de lo permitidos. Si lo haces, su voto en esa elección no sera contado.


This is not an actual ballot, but a composite of several sample ballots so as to reflect all the districts within the communities covered by your edition of the Herald.

Complete reporting on candidates running in districts covered by the Herald – as well as the full text of our endorsements in each race – may be found at LIHerald.com under the Elections '20 tab. For election results after the polls close Tuesday night, go to LIHerald.com.

OFFICE	Democratic	Republican	Conservative	Working Families	Green	Libertarian	Independence	SAM	Write-In
<b>Presidential Electors for President and Vice President</b> (Vote for one) Electores Presidenciales Para Presidente y Vice Presidente (Vote por uno)	<input type="radio"/> 1 Electors For <b>Joseph R. Biden</b> For President <b>Kamala D. Harris</b> For Vice President	<input type="radio"/> 2 <b>Valerie M. Cartright</b>	<input type="radio"/> 3 <b>Randy Sue Marber</b>	<input type="radio"/> 4 <b>Derrick J. Robinson</b>	<input type="radio"/> 5 <b>Erica L. Prager</b>	<input type="radio"/> 6 <b>Kathy G. Bergma</b>			
<b>Justice of the Supreme Court</b> (Vote for up to eight) Juez de la Corte Suprema (Vote hasta por ocho)									
	<input type="radio"/> 1 Electors For <b>Donald J. Trump</b> For President <b>Michael R. Pence</b> For Vice President	<input type="radio"/> 2 <b>Valerie M. Cartright</b>	<input type="radio"/> 3 <b>Randy Sue Marber</b>	<input type="radio"/> 4 <b>Derrick J. Robinson</b>	<input type="radio"/> 5 <b>Erica L. Prager</b>	<input type="radio"/> 6 <b>Kathy G. Bergma</b>			
	<input type="radio"/> 1 Electors For <b>Donald J. Trump</b> For President <b>Michael R. Pence</b> For Vice President	<input type="radio"/> 2 <b>Valerie M. Cartright</b>	<input type="radio"/> 3 <b>Randy Sue Marber</b>	<input type="radio"/> 4 <b>Derrick J. Robinson</b>	<input type="radio"/> 5 <b>Erica L. Prager</b>	<input type="radio"/> 6 <b>Kathy G. Bergma</b>			
	<input type="radio"/> 1 Electors For <b>Joseph R. Biden</b> For President <b>Kamala D. Harris</b> For Vice President								
	<input type="radio"/> 1 Electors For <b>Howie Hawkins</b> For President <b>Angela Nicole Walker</b> For Vice President								
	<input type="radio"/> 1 Electors For <b>Jo Jorgensen</b> For President <b>Jeremy Cohen</b> For Vice President								
	<input type="radio"/> 1 Electors For <b>Brock Pierce</b> For President <b>Karla Ballard</b> For Vice President	<input type="radio"/> 2 <b>Valerie M. Cartright</b>	<input type="radio"/> 3 <b>Bryan L. Browns</b>	<input type="radio"/> 4 <b>Derrick J. Robinson</b>	<input type="radio"/> 5 <b>Patricia M. Blake</b>	<input type="radio"/> 6 <b>Kathy G. Bergma</b>			
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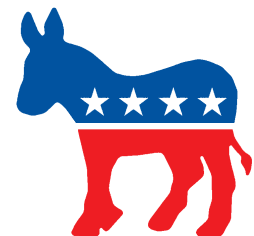
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**PULL OUT**

**SAMPLE ELECTION BALLOT COURTESY OF**

# ELECTION '20



	County Court Judge (Vote for up to two)			Family Court Judge (Vote for one)		District Court Judge District 4 (Vote for up to two)		Representative in Congress District 3 (Vote for one)	State Senator District 5 (Vote for one)	Member of Assembly District 13 (Vote for one)	Member of Assembly District 15 (Vote for one)	
Party	Juez de la Corte del Condado (Vote hasta por dos)			Juez de la Corte de Familia (Vote por uno)		Juez de la Corte Distrito 4 (Vote hasta por dos)		Representante en Congreso Distrito 3 (Vote por uno)	Senador Estatal Distrito 5 (Vote por uno)	Miembro de la Asamblea Distrito 13 (Vote por uno)	Miembro de la Asamblea Distrito 15 (Vote por uno)	
Democratic	<input type="radio"/> 7 Joseph R. Conway	<input type="radio"/> 8 Timothy P. Mazzei	<input type="radio"/> 9 Gary F. Knobel	<input type="radio"/> 10 Caryn R. Fink	<input type="radio"/> 11 Chris E. Hoefenkrieg	<input type="radio"/> 12 Lisa A. Cairo	<input type="radio"/> 13 Chris J. Coschignano	<input type="radio"/> 14 David W. Wright	<input type="radio"/> 17 Thomas R. Suozzi	<input type="radio"/> 18 James F. Gaughran	<input type="radio"/> 19 Charles D. Lavine	<input type="radio"/> 19 Joe Sackman
Republican	<input type="radio"/> 7 Joseph R. Conway	<input type="radio"/> 8 Timothy P. Mazzei	<input type="radio"/> 9 Gary F. Knobel	<input type="radio"/> 10 Caryn R. Fink	<input type="radio"/> 11 Chris E. Hoefenkrieg	<input type="radio"/> 12 Lisa A. Cairo	<input type="radio"/> 13 Chris J. Coschignano	<input type="radio"/> 14 David W. Wright	<input type="radio"/> 17 George A.D. Santos	<input type="radio"/> 18 Edmund J. Smyth	<input type="radio"/> 19 Andrew A. Monteleone	<input type="radio"/> 19 Michael A. Montesano
Conservative	<input type="radio"/> 7 Joseph R. Conway	<input type="radio"/> 8 Timothy P. Mazzei	<input type="radio"/> 9 Gary F. Knobel	<input type="radio"/> 10 Caryn R. Fink	<input type="radio"/> 11 Chris E. Hoefenkrieg	<input type="radio"/> 12 Lisa A. Cairo	<input type="radio"/> 13 Chris J. Coschignano	<input type="radio"/> 14 David W. Wright	<input type="radio"/> 17 George A.D. Santos	<input type="radio"/> 18 Edmund J. Smyth	<input type="radio"/> 19 Andrew A. Monteleone	<input type="radio"/> 19 Michael A. Montesano
Working Families									<input type="radio"/> 17 Thomas R. Suozzi		<input type="radio"/> 19 Charles D. Lavine	<input type="radio"/> 19 Joe Sackman
Green										<input type="radio"/> 18 Barbara S. Wagner		
Libertarian									<input type="radio"/> 17 Howard Rabin	<input type="radio"/> 18 Edmund J. Smyth		<input type="radio"/> 19 Michael A. Montesano
Independence	<input type="radio"/> 7 Randy Berler	<input type="radio"/> 8 Timothy P. Mazzei	<input type="radio"/> 9 Evan Tanenbaum	<input type="radio"/> 10 Caryn R. Fink	<input type="radio"/> 11 Chris E. Hoefenkrieg	<input type="radio"/> 12 Lisa A. Cairo	<input type="radio"/> 13 Chris J. Coschignano	<input type="radio"/> 14 David W. Wright	<input type="radio"/> 17 Thomas R. Suozzi	<input type="radio"/> 18 Edmund J. Smyth	<input type="radio"/> 19 Andrew A. Monteleone	<input type="radio"/> 19 Michael A. Montesano
SAM										<input type="radio"/> 18 James F. Gaughran		
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# ASSEMBLY DISTRICT 13

## Charles Lavine Incumbent

**Parties:** Democratic, Working Families, Women's Equality

**Age:** 73

**Professional experience:** Chair of the Committee on Election Law and a member of the Codes, Ethics and Guidance, Health, Insurance and Judiciary committees. Served five years as the Ethics Committee chair.

**Education:** Bachelor of Arts, University of Wisconsin-Madison; law degree, New York Law School

**On the issues:**

If re-elected, State Assemblyman Charles Lavine, who has served the area for 16 years, said he would attack the fiscal crisis caused by the coronavirus



pandemic by working to pass a budget that meets rational expectations and joining with other states to pressure the federal government to provide further economic assistance, as New York now faces a \$10 billion to \$15 billion deficit. As for a bill now in the State Senate to create a North Shore Water Authority to manage the area's water supply, Lavine said he and other Assembly members are evaluating it. They will likely modify the Senate bill, he said, to ensure it meets con-

stitutional requirements. He said he and other Assembly members do not want to have it rejected by the state courts if New York American Water were to challenge the legislation if it were to pass.

Other goals of Lavine's are to ensure there are more early-voting locations, as there are none on the North Shore now. He said he also wants to see a statewide computer system to track where a person's mail-in vote is in the system so voters can easily check the status of their ballots.

At this point, Lavine said, the state's only hope is Democratic control in Washington, D.C. If Democrats do not gain control, Lavine said he believes that would lead to a stagnation of federal funds to the state.

## Andrew Monteleone Challenger

**Parties:** Republican, Conservative, Independent

**Age:** 47

**Professional experience:** Former Nassau County prosecutor and founding member of Monteleone & Siegel, PLLC

**Education:** Bachelor of Arts, Bucknell University; Master of Arts, Long Island University-C.W. Post; law degree, Fordham University School of Law

**On the issues:**

Andrew Monteleone, who ran against Lavine two years ago, said that, if elected, he would work on both sides of the aisle to confront the economic crisis that has result-



ed from the coronavirus pandemic.

Tax incentives to help small businesses, a re-evaluation of freezes on rent and mortgage payments, and formation of a bipartisan group to request funding from Washington, D.C. are how Monteleone would work to support New Yorkers during the economic crisis, he said.

As for public water on the North Shore, Monteleone said he fully supports New York American Water leaving the area. He said he would push for NYAW's departure

soon after taking office, if elected. Monteleone suggested joining forces with the Jericho Water District to help the region save money.

When asked about his goals, Monteleone said his short-term goal would be to fix the Criminal Justice Reform Act. As a criminal-defense attorney, he said he believes in bail reform, but there should be a more commonsense approach as to who is granted bail and why.

His long-term goal would be to address New York's high taxes because people are leaving the state, he said.

*Includes Glen Cove, Sea Cliff, and parts of Roslyn, Glen Head, Locust Valley, Bayville, Woodbury, Plainview and Jericho.*

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# An unforgettable day for a much-loved resident

October 22, 2020 — GLEN COVE HERALD GAZETTE

Since the Cruzes founded the group, approximately 1,000 people have joined, and many friendships have blossomed, including one among Kim Tognelli Heavey, Giorgi and Pascucci.

**H**e brightens your day, He puts smiles on your faces. He just told me that he loved me, and he means it.

**KIM TOGNELLI HEAVEY**

"I owe it all to Kim, because from the second James met her, he talked about the parade, and she made it happen," Giorgi said of Tognelli Heavey, who is also a member of the "Car parade birthday and celebrations drive by's - Long Island North Shore" Facebook group, which helped organize the parade.

Because he is the only male "wine fairy" in

the North Shore group, Pascucci is often referred to as "King James" or the "King of the Wine Fairies." Members of the group were delighted by how he rode his bike to deliver gifts to their doors, wearing a pair of fairy wings.

"He brightens your day," Tognelli Heavey said. "He puts smiles on your faces. He just told me that he loved me, and he means it."

She added that Pascucci remembers everything that's done for him and every gift he gets from the wine fairies. "He's just a beautiful person inside and out."

Another friend, Buffy MeMe Peterson, who helped hand out goody bags filled with treats and raffle tickets for prizes from local businesses, along with pink and blue cupcakes during the parade, said that Pascucci's smile has captured her and many others' hearts. "When he comes to bring you gifts and take pictures with you, it's priceless," she said.

"[The parade] is gorgeous," MeMe Peterson added. "I love the way all the wine fairies come out and get together for something like this. I also want to thank Glen Cove Fire Department and the Glen Cove Police Department for taking part. It brought tears to his eyes and our eyes. It's wonderful."

After the parade, many returned to Pascucci's house for picture-taking and the singing of "God Bless the USA" by Lee Greenwood from Glen Cove Councilman Gaitley Stevenson-Mathews. On behalf of his family, Stevenson-Mathews also presented a commemorative "thank you" coin to Pascucci.

"This certainly demonstrates what people from Glen Cove are made of," Stevenson-Mathews said. "What [James] has done in this group, as 'King of the Fairies,' is that he has gone from household to household, from person to person, and has truly shared his unique gifts and his unique kindness and has made sure he has touched people's lives when they've been in great need."

The Cruzes, surrounded by laughter



Photos by Jennifer Corr/Herald Gazette

**JAMES PASCUCCI, 53**, surrounded by gifts from "wine fairies," said that his birthday celebration was one he would never forget.



**GLEN COVE CITY** Councilman Gaitley Stevenson Mathews, left, attended Pascucci's birthday parade.



**PASCUCCI AND HIS** sister, Pam Giorgi, after the birthday parade. "I love you," Pascucci told her.

and gifts, reflected on why they created the North Shore wine fairies group to begin with: to bring brightness to the community during a difficult time. They were proud, they said, that such an event, and the friendships that have flourished, came out of a Facebook group. "They are amazing women," Laura Cruz said.

"Someone like James deserves this," Breanna Cruz said. "So the fact that the fairy group helped put this together is awesome."

The best part, Giorgi said, was that the day before his birthday, which is Oct. 19, her brother got to do what he loves most — spend time with "the girls." "He loves the girls," she said. "He loves to be with them. He's just amazing like that."



**PANAGIOTI KARATHANASIS, 9**, who has a cooking show on YouTube, donated raffle tickets to James Pascucci's birthday parade.

Second Round

# HERALD

Community Newspapers

# MARKETING GRANTS FOR SMALL BUSINESSES

## \$250,000 NOW AVAILABLE



Apply for your share of the \$250,000 in new marketing grants available to assist locally owned businesses.

### WHO

For all locally owned and operated small businesses with under 25 employees on Long Island that continue to be negatively impacted by coronavirus pandemic.

### WHAT

A \$250,000 grant program to support local small businesses. Each local business is eligible to receive up to \$15,000 of matching grant funds, which can be used for Herald Community Newspapers print, digital and direct mail products through December 31, 2020.

### WHERE

Apply at [www.liherald.com/grants](http://www.liherald.com/grants).

### WHEN

Applications will be accepted until **October 23, 2020** or until maximum grant funding has been awarded. Businesses will be contacted within two business days of submitting their application.

### WHY

Studies show that businesses that continue to market themselves during down times are the ones that fare the best long-term. This grant program will allow Long Island small businesses to continue promoting themselves and any new services they are offering during these unprecedented times.

### ADDITIONAL DETAILS:

- Every dollar that a grant recipient spends on marketing in Herald products will be matched with a dollar of grant funding, up to the award amount, to be applied towards marketing costs.
- For new applicants only. If you were previously awarded a grant please contact Rhonda Glickman at 516-569-4000 ext 250.
- Businesses must be locally owned and operated.
- Grants range from \$500 to \$15,000.
- Grants can be applied to any Herald Community Newspaper marketing product or service through December 31, 2020.
- Grants applied to direct mail products are net of postage/ mailing costs.



**STUART RICHNER**  
Publisher  
Herald Community Newspapers

"This past spring, Herald Community Newspapers launched the Herald Small Business Marketing Grant Program. The program provided over \$500,000 in support to Long Island small businesses when they needed it most.

We decided to launch a second round of grants because we were humbled by the gratitude that our small business community showed to us for this program and heartened to hear how effective Herald Community Newspapers' marketing products and services were in getting small businesses back on their feet."

### Herald Team



**RHONDA GLICKMAN**  
VP Sales  
[rglickman@liherald.com](mailto:rglickman@liherald.com)



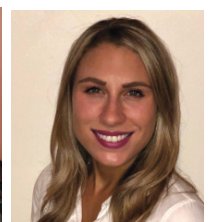
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# City of Glen Cove AMC 6 to reopen on Friday

By JENNIFER CORR

jcarr@liherald.com

With an announcement from Gov. Andrew Cuomo that most movie theaters outside of Manhattan can reopen on Friday, movies will return to the big screen at Glen Cove's AMC 6.

"We are certainly happy that the movies theaters are being opened," said Patricia Holman, the executive director of the Glen Cove Downtown Business Improvement District. "We have missed our movie theater in Glen Cove and it's great also for our restaurants and also our downtown businesses."

According to the Nassau County Department of Information Technology, as of Oct. 19, there has been a seven-day increase of 20 positive Covid-19 cases in Glen Cove.

As per orders by the governor, theaters must open at 25 percent capacity and no more than 50 people may be seated in a theater. Theaters can only open outside of Manhattan in counties that have Covid-19 positivity rates of less than 2 percent on a 14-day average and do not have any cluster zones. Theaters will be subject to rigorous state guidance and enforcement.

According to a press release from AMC Theatres, mask wearing, social distancing standards, reduced auditorium capacity, a simplified concession menu, daily associ-



Jennifer Corr/Herald Gazette

**GLEN COVE AMC 6 will reopen on Friday.**

ate health screenings and cashless transactions are part of the plan for a safe, movie watching experience.

"It has become clear that movie studios are not willing to release blockbuster product until key major markets are open," AMC CEO Adam Aron commented. "Therefore, it is a monumental step in the right direction for our entire industry that theatres are starting to open across the state of New York. We thank Governor Cuomo and local leaders in our New York communities for allowing guests to return to AMC at several locations throughout the state.

As Cuomo announced that movie theaters could reopen, he reported a statewide positive Covid-19 rate of 1.11 percent.

## NEWS BRIEF

### Panel to talk commercial real estate, Covid-19

RichnerLive's next Herald Inside LI webinar will focus on the impact that the Covid-19 pandemic is having on the commercial real estate market and major development projects, such as UBS Arena at Belmont Park and the Nassau HUB.

In past virtual conversations hosted by RichnerLive, the events division of Richner Communications, publisher of Herald Community Newspapers, panelists have discussed changes in the residential real estate market. On Oct. 29 at 10 a.m., Herald Inside LI will shift focus to major, commercial projects and community developments on Long Island.

How are Covid-19 restrictions impacting commercial real estate projects and developments? How have construction projects adapted to accommodate the new normal? During this episode of Herald Inside LI, viewers will hear from the commercial perspective, as well as a broader outlook on Long Island and what's to come for the region.

Several experts will engage in discussion, including:

■ Harry Coghlan, CEO, Nassau County Industrial Development Agency

■ John Madigan, senior vice president and director of Emerging Corporates - Long Island Citibank

■ Michael Maturo, president of RXR

Realty

■ Sophia A. Perna-Plank, associate at Jaspan Schlesinger LLP

■ Tom Pistore, president of commercial operations, UBS Arena at Belmont Park.

■ Kyle Strober, executive director of Association for a Better Long Island

"There has never been a better time to invest in Long Island's future," Coghlan said. "As businesses pursue relocating to suburban areas, the Nassau IDA stands ready to assist businesses considering to move to or expand in Nassau County."

Skye Ostreicher, of RichnerLive and Herald Community Newspapers, will moderate and deliver questions from viewers. To submit questions in advance, send an email to [insideli@liherald.com](mailto:insideli@liherald.com).

Herald Inside LI webinars began in August to inform the community about different, changing aspects of life in the Covid-19 pandemic. To register, visit [liherald.com/insideli](http://liherald.com/insideli).

RXR Realty, Jaspan Schlesinger LLP and Citi Commercial Bank are sponsoring this virtual event. To sponsor a webinar or for more information about Herald Inside LI, contact Amy Amato at [aamato@richnerlive.com](mailto:aamato@richnerlive.com) or (516) 569-4000, ext. 224.

## HERALD

# BOO-TACULAR HALLOWEEN COSTUME CONTEST



The year, Halloween will look different than it has before, but one thing remains the same: we will still dress in costume to celebrate. Send us your best costume photos of everyone in the family, including your four-legged, furry members!

Submit your costume photo from **October 25 to November 9, 2020**. Winning photos will be announced and featured in the November 19 issue of Herald Community Newspapers.

#### NOMINATION CATEGORIES:

- Cutest Baby Costume (ages 0-2)
- Best Children's Costume (ages 3-8)
- Best Tween & Teen Costume (ages 9-19)
- Best Family or Group Costume
- Best Sibling Costumes
- Best Adult Costume (Ages 20+)
- Scariest Costume
- Funniest Costume
- Most Original Costume
- Best Pet Costume

One entry per category. 1st and 2nd place winners will be selected from each category. Over \$1,000 in gift certificates from local businesses will be given away. Winners will be notified by email after the November 9 deadline.

**For more details and to enter, visit [liherald.com/halloween](http://liherald.com/halloween).**

**ENTER FOR  
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[liherald.com/halloween](http://liherald.com/halloween)  
DEADLINE:  
November 9**

# HERALD SCHOOLS

## Students at Landing get down in the dirt

Fifth grade students in Ann Simeone and Stefanie Liptzin's classes at Glen Cove City School District's Landing Elementary School completed a unique science experiment using worms.

In this experiment, students observed worms' behavior; looking for clues as to what they typically do in a garden. The students conducted experiments with multiple trials to figure out if worms prefer wet or dry areas.

Each student was given a paper plate with a damp paper towel, a piece of black construction paper and a few worms from outside.

The students observed the worms crawling underneath the black construction paper, pointing to the theory that they were trying to get away from light, looking for somewhere dark to hide. Unlike humans that can see light with their eyes, worms sense light through their skin. These sensors let the earthworms know when they are getting too close to a bright light, such as the sun, to help them avoid drying out and not being able to breathe.

Students also discovered that worms prefer wet to dry areas, as they all crawled to the damp side of the paper towel.

The students concluded that because worms breathe through their skin, the skin must be kept damp to aid in the diffusion process. Dry conditions prevent the worms from receiving oxygen. The students discussed that this is the reason why worms are usually only seen above



Courtesy the Glen Cove City School District

**ISABELLA DILGARD-CLARK, A** fifth grade student, observed how her worm thrives in moist, damp soil, as opposed to dry soil.

ground when it is rainy or at night, when the air is moist. The rest of the time, damp soil allows the worms to live below ground and receive the air they need to survive.



Herald File Photo

**POLICE ACTIVITY NEAR** North Shore School District buildings nearly caused a lockdown at Robert Finley Middle School.

## Miscommunication almost causes G.C. school lockdown

Late Tuesday morning, the Glen Cove City School District received information regarding police activity in the vicinity of Robert Finley Middle School.

As a result, faculty quickly proceeded to lockdown not only at the middle school, but the surrounding buildings as well. As faculty were moving forward to secure the buildings, a second phone call was received from the Glen Cove Police Depart-

ment indicating that the police activity was not in Glen Cove, but in a neighboring North Shore school district.

"We apologize if this caused any confusion, but it is our responsibility and main focus to act on information in an expedient manner in order to ensure the safety of all involved," said Superintendent of Schools Dr. Maria L Rianna in a statement.

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## OPINIONS

## Will Washington soon be unchecked and unbalanced?

Some who are opposed to Amy Coney Barrett's Supreme Court nomination are blurring the line between confirming a justice to fill a vacancy and the so-called "packing" of the court. Using this nomination to justify court packing would be a huge mistake.



**ALFONSE  
D'AMATO**

The real underlying issues relate to checks and balances and separation of powers. These are ideas that are embedded in our constitutional system of government. They're essential to the successful American experience in representative government.

The continued success of this experience depends on all of us abiding by these basic principles. Without checks, balance is threatened. Without separation, power is unfettered. Our founders understood that. They deliberately divided our national government into three branches designed to balance one another against the accumulation of too much power in one place or person.

That's why we have a president, not a king; a Congress, not a politburo; and an independent judiciary, not star chambers or kangaroo courts. If we knock one leg

off this executive/legislative/judicial stool, the whole thing tips over.

That's what could happen if our leaders in Washington go down the path of tinkering too much with our carefully checked and balanced system — if they fail to maintain the deliberate separation of powers. The most recent example is talk of increasing the size of the Supreme Court.

The argument goes like this: Since Republicans are pushing through a conservative Supreme Court nominee to fill the seat left vacant by the death of Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg, Democrats would be justified in expanding the size of the court with liberal justices to offset its conservative tilt.

This tit-for-tat approach may sound appealing to Democrats, but it could easily lead to an unraveling of the balance of power in Washington, remaking the Supreme Court into not an equal branch of government, but an appendage of executive and congressional will.

Suppose Democrats sweep to power in Washington next month, winning control of both the White House and Congress, and the court is increased from nine to 11 members by this one-party government. It may more easily bend to the will of Congress and the president, but it will have lost its essential independence as a co-

equal branch. It will in essence have become an arm of the other two branches.

Fast-forward a few years and imagine the presidency and Congress swinging back to Republican control. The new one-party government decides to increase the court from 11 members to 13 to get *its* pet initiatives through. It passes a different health care bill and changes the abortion laws, and then guarantees their passing Constitutional muster by loading the court with sympathetic justices. Over time the Supreme Court becomes a bloated mess, with 17 or 19 justices, or whatever number is needed to uphold the policies of the contemporaneous administration and Congress.

America came perilously close to this situation once before. In the 1930s, President Franklin Roosevelt was frustrated that the Supreme Court struck down some of his New Deal initiatives as unconstitutional. When FDR tried to pack the court with sympathetic judges, the national backlash was swift and certain. FDR wisely backed down, and judicial independence was maintained.

Maybe we Americans take our form of government too much for granted. We expect it to survive another 200 years just because it's already lasted well over 200. Yet what Congress and the president do

can imperil our constitutional government.

Congress, in particular, should resist the temptation to change its own self-limiting rules. The current Supreme Court controversy began when then Senate Majority Leader Harry Reid took advantage of his Democratic majority to remove the requirement of 60 votes to confirm District Court nominees. When the Senate swung back to Republican control, Majority Leader Mitch McConnell decided to remove this 60-vote threshold for Supreme Court justices as well. That's why Coney Barrett will likely be confirmed before the election.

The next step in eroding the 60-vote requirement for Senate action would be to eliminate its application not just to judicial appointments but to all other legislative actions as well. That might sound appealing to the leaders of the next Senate majority, but it could come back to haunt them, too. Majorities shift with elections, and minority rights and privileges look a lot better when you're in the minority.

As someone who lived with both the pluses and minuses of the Senate's higher threshold for action, I know that tinkering with power is tempting. It's also dangerous.

*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.*

If Democrats win big and 'pack' the Supreme Court, where might that lead?

## When real-life horrors outdo Halloween

Really, could you make up Donald Trump if he didn't already exist?

What book publisher in their right mind or movie producer hoping for a hit would create a character as unlikely as the Republicans' very own Great Pumpkin on steroids?



**RANDI  
KREISS**

Imagine this: Hungry screenwriter pitches a story to movie mogul: "See, you have this super-rich guy who decides to run for president against 17 other candidates seeking the GOP nomination.

He has some problems, sure, some ADD maybe, some narcissistic personality disorder, some grandiosity. Yeah, I'm pretty sure there's tape out there of him bragging about grabbing women's genitals and getting away with it because he's a star. History? Not his strong suit. Also, yeah, he has no experience at all in government or foreign affairs.

"He did host a reality TV show. And he has experience hosting the Miss Universe pageant, which will help when

negotiating with Russia, Syria and Iraq.

"He's planning to build a wall along the border with Mexico, lower taxes on the rich, create a religious test for immigrants trying to get to America. Also, there are TV clips of him gyrating while mocking a disabled reporter, and, yes, he did insult the Gold Star parents of a Muslim-American soldier killed in Iraq.

"OK, OK, he isn't perfect, but he *is* flamboyant, and a fast talker, and he knows how to gin up a crowd, even inciting anger and violence, which will make for a great plot line, maybe even ending in another American Revolution."

Would any publisher or producer want to invest in this preposterous story? And wait, there's more. He not only wins the nomination of his party, he wins the 2016 election and becomes the 45th president, a profoundly unprepared, uncouth, blatantly racist xenophobe. Then, get this, he runs for a second term.

Sorry, Halloween 2020, you've been hijacked by the facts on the ground. Nothing can be as horrific as real life in the midst of a global pandemic in a country abused by an inept leader.

Between the last election and this year, certain bedrock beliefs, such as the peaceful transition of power, have been challenged. Double double toil and trouble. From which caldron did he pull the idea to destabilize the country by sowing hatred and fear? Halloween, can you really do better than that? Fake Freddy Krueger fingernails and monster teeth just don't cut it anymore.

This year, thanks to the worrisome spiking of the Covid-19 virus, most children won't have the fun of going door to door. The trick is on the innocent kids who might have been living in an entirely different environment if a competent and forthright president had taken charge early on to fight the pandemic in a smart and scientific way.

Halloween tricks seem old school. Egging a car? Toilet paper in the trees? You call those tricks? They're lame when compared with Russia hacking the election, the GOP placing fake ballot boxes around California and the leader of the free world coyly encouraging a wacko fringe group like QAnon. Now *those* tricks get everyone's attention.

Facebook, like other social media plat-

forms, is under attack by foreign goblins and gremlins; cyberwarfare is terrifying. The old-time fright masks just don't have the same ability to reach inside our lives and twist until we scream. Masks have taken on a whole other meaning in the time of Covid and the reign of Donald.

As for ghosts, Halloween, I'm seeing the spirit of dictators, past and present, dancing across America. What have *you* got? White sheets and green makeup? Meh. Trump is actively summoning the spirit of his brother, Vladimir Putin, to name just one. He invokes his spirit every time he saws away at the pillars of our democracy: the Department of Justice, the FBI, the CIA, the Supreme Court and the Environmental Protection Agency.

Clearly, the Donald trumps Halloween. He has ruined my taste for manufactured terror. I just can't get interested in candy corn.

We need to invent a special holiday for him. Let's call it Inauguration Day, celebrate a new president and say goodbye to the sick joke that has been Donald Trump's presidency.

Maybe next year, fright wigs and skeleton costumes will be amusing again.

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# HERALD EDITORIAL

## Herd immunity, a recipe for further disaster

**C**onsider the number 675,000 for a moment. That's the number of people in the United States who died during the flu pandemic of 1918-19. Could the U.S. be headed for such widespread death again?

At press time, nearly 220,000 Americans had died of Covid-19, only eight months into this pandemic. The coronavirus could very well be with us for months to come, perhaps through the end of 2021. What will the death toll be in six months, 12 months, 18 months? It isn't a stretch of the imagination to believe we could reach 400,000, 600,000 deaths or more if a safe and reliable vaccine isn't found soon.

Each death represents someone's mother or father, brother or sister, friend or colleague. Each death is a tragedy, an extinguishment of life that was, in all too many cases, avoidable — if not for the policies of the Trump administration.

From the start, President Trump downplayed the dangers of the coronavirus, even though he understood its severity as

early as February. When we should have been locking down nationally, as New Zealand did in March, we remained open for business in most parts of the country, and the virus spread from transportation hubs like New York and California across the country. There was never a complete travel ban from China early this year, as Trump has claimed — American citizens and permanent residents flew back and forth at will between China and the U.S. And Trump has eschewed masks all along, even though mask wearing would improve safety as the U.S. continues to open up.

Now the Trump administration is weighing, and in many ways pursuing, its potentially most dangerous policy of all — herd immunity, the ill-advised, frankly inane notion that we can beat the coronavirus by allowing healthy young people to become infected. If enough people do so and develop immunity to the virus, the thinking goes, it will disappear.

Reputable scientists tell us, however, that herd immunity requires at minimum

50 to 60 percent of the population to be infected, and that it cannot be achieved without a vaccine.

But let's suppose for a moment that we, as a nation, were to pursue a herd-immunity course through natural infection, and 60 percent of Americans — or 196 million people — were to get the coronavirus. Think about the astronomical death total that would likely result.

To date, 8.17 million Americans have reportedly been infected with Covid-19. That's 2.5 percent of the population. In widespread testing in late September, 1 in 10 Americans had Covid-19 antibodies, according to the Stanford University Medicine News Center. That is, we're a long way from herd immunity.

Pursuing herd immunity in the absence of a vaccine is a recipe for a death toll not seen in a pandemic since 1918-19. Listen to the reputable scientists: Wear a mask in public. Keep your distance. Wash your hands frequently. Work from home if you can.

## Say goodbye to 'Lady' on our sports pages

**I**n late September, we at the Herald were jolted when a senior at Kennedy High School, in Bellmore, called on school officials — and the local media — to stop referring to girls' sports teams at Kennedy as the "Lady Cougars."

The student, 17-year-old Rachel Nossen, of Merrick, wrote an op-ed essay for her school newspaper, The Cougar Crier, and it certainly caught our attention. Throughout our newspaper group, which encompasses 18 editions on the north and south shores of Nassau County, we decided to

drop the use of "Lady."

Nossen was right to argue that the term diminishes the accomplishments of female athletes. Lady is a term of a bygone era when women were expected to be prim and proper and quiet, not the accomplished and fierce competitors they have become since Title IX was enacted in 1972, prohibiting sex discrimination in the schools. According to Title IX, if there is a boys' team at a school, there must be a girls' team. Up until then, many, if not most, schools did not have competitive girls' ath-

letic programs.

Our editorial board gathered to figure out how "Lady" came into our sports-reporting lexicon, and concluded it was simply a matter of tradition. As we have learned in recent months and years, however, we need to look critically at our traditions to ensure they are in sync with modern thinking.

Use of "Lady" when referring to girls' sports teams is clearly out of step with 2020 culture, and so we will stop using it, except when it is part of an official team name.

## LETTERS

### Virtual City Council meetings aren't working

To the Editor:

After participating in the Oct. 13 virtual City Council meeting, it is clear to me that the recent change in format to virtual meetings is not user-friendly for the public who want to speak.

I believe the change is intentional so the mayor and City Council do not have to face the wrath of the public and the union for the proposed 2021 budget that includes layoffs and a tax increase. The meetings were originally live-streamed via Microsoft Teams and included a sidebar chat box, which was a much better experience, allowing seamless interaction between the public and City Council. Who made the decision to remove the public chat? Now that the mayor and council are in chambers, under the current format, one has to call in to speak, there is a delay, you are on



## OPINIONS

# We must protect Long Island's schools

**T**here is a storm brewing, and your child's school is in its cross hairs.

It's not a hurricane or a tornado. It's a fiscal tsunami, and it's going to devastate the education system on Long Island unless Albany steps up and acts.

Too many of our school districts were already in dire fiscal straits due to



**LISA TYSON**

decades of austerity before the economic experts released their forecasts of even more funding cuts. This is especially true for schools in Black and brown neighborhoods. For years, students in these classrooms have lacked up-to-date materials,

technology and other basic resources, so it's no wonder these districts have been the first to feel the effects of this oncoming storm. The Copiague Board of Education pink-slipped dozens of staff members just a week before students were set to return to class.

And this is just the beginning. The wind is picking up. Dark clouds are forming. Things are looking grim.

But don't worry. This particular storm isn't a force of nature that we are powerless to stop. This is a human-caused

financial calamity to which there are sensible solutions. First, however, we have to examine how our "leaders" got us into this mess.

It's not news to anyone that New York, like the rest of the nation, is in economic turmoil because officials at both the state

and federal levels failed to adequately respond to the coronavirus pandemic, which has killed more than 25,000 people in our state and left millions jobless.

In response to New York's fiscal distress, Gov. Andrew Cuomo and the State Legislature approved a budget earlier this year that cut \$1.1 billion in state aid from schools. Long Island schools lost a total \$49.4 million.

But it gets worse. Here's how Copiague Public Schools Superintendent Kathleen Bannon explained the dire situation that every district is facing: "On Aug. 20, the district received a state aid payment for the 2019-20 school year that was 20 percent less than expected. Along with that payment was a notice that all future state aid payments would also be reduced by 20 percent."

These aren't just numbers in a spreadsheet. Your children's education, and therefore their future, is on the chopping block. Far too many of Long Island's bright young minds have been forced to

attend schools that are criminally underfunded, and these cuts will further pulverize their chances at receiving a quality education.

So, will Long Island's state legislators stand by and let this happen, or will they fight for the children of Long Island? It's

time to act to stop this fiscal tsunami in its tracks, because we shouldn't play politics with our kids' education.

We are proposing a four-pronged approach, and the first prong can and should be done immediately: The state must dip into its rainy-day fund, because it's pouring out there. We can't weather a storm with an umbrella full of holes.

Secondly, class is now in session, so the State Legislature should be in session, too. Cuomo has been circumventing democracy and playing games with the budget, which has caused unimaginable uncertainty and instability in school districts and municipalities. This has to stop. He needs to produce a real plan that lawmakers can work with to avoid more cuts at all costs. If he fails to do so, state legislators must immediately reconvene to stop the bleeding themselves, and they can do that by passing measures to make ultra-millionaires and billionaires pay their fair share.

Albany needs to stop giving New

York's wealthiest residents a free ride. The rich have profited handsomely during the epidemic, earning enough during the public health crisis alone to close the state's budget gap. New York's cash-strapped families can't be the only ones forced to make sacrifices.

This isn't a partisan issue. An overwhelming majority of New Yorkers support raising taxes on the rich, which lawmakers should remember when it's their turn to cast a vote on legislation, because voters will surely remember who acted and who didn't when Election Day comes around.

Third: All options should be on the table to raise necessary revenue and avoid exacerbating this crisis with more cuts. So Cuomo also has a duty to consider short-term borrowing from the New York Federal Reserve Bank's Municipal Liquidity Facility.

And, last, we can't let the federal government off the hook. It needs to get its act together, stop all the partisan bickering and send relief to the state and local communities. Sadly, recent events have made clear that the State Legislature can't just sit on its hands and wait for Washington.

For the sake of suffering New Yorkers, Cuomo and state lawmakers must act now.

*Lisa Tyson is the director of the Long Island Progressive Coalition.*

**T**he state must dip into its rainy-day fund, because it's pouring out there.

## LETTERS

hold with other people wishing to speak, and if you are speaking, you cannot tell if you are being heard, unless you are interrupted by the moderator to let you know, which can happen multiple times.

Some municipalities are starting to have in-person public meetings again, with a limited number of attendees, following the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention guidelines, including the Town of Oyster Bay and Village of Port Washington. Even the Nassau County Legislature's Oct. 14 budget meeting was open to the public to attend on a first-come, first-served basis. Why can't Glen Cove do this?

The residents deserve better than the mayor and City Council hiding behind a camera.

MAUREEN PAPPACHRISTOU  
*Glen Cove*

### Personnel cuts should be last resort

To the Editor:

I fully appreciate the dire situation the city faces from a financial perspective and agree that creating a balanced budget is a challenge. Budget cuts are one of the

most difficult responsibilities of the elected officials. I get it.

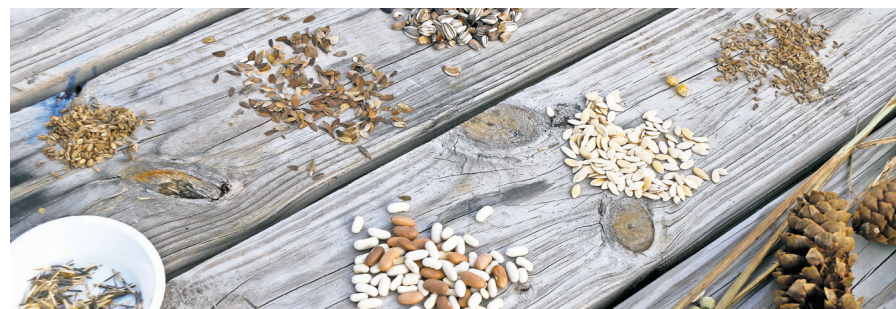
That said, cutting personnel should be a last resort after exploring many other options.

The elimination of the director of parks and recreation, Darcy Belyea, would seem to hurt more than this employee. It would also hurt the city. She has demonstrated dedication, integrity and hard work for over 25 years and served multiple generations of our residents.

Please take time to review and reflect upon this decision to abolish the parks and recreation director's position. Belyea developed and perfected programs over the years. Breaking up her responsibilities to others who are ill-prepared would take a toll on the dozens of programs and hundreds of participants who enjoy the Parks and Recreation Department's offerings, and it would crush those who adore and admire Belyea.

It is especially challenging to accept what I think is a "select elimination" of one department head as fair, given the public's knowledge of the difficult situation inflicted upon her by several administration officials in recent years. In addition, the public is becoming increasingly aware and leery of the fact that multiple department heads have been replaced by less experienced and higher paid staff.

## FRAMEWORK by Christina Daly



Seeds as art — Malverne

During this painful and troubling coronavirus pandemic, I have asked Mayor Tim Tenke not to dash the hopes of residents. Our residents look forward to returning to a robust city full of programs and activities for people of all ages to enjoy, which have long been all managed by the finest and most respected director of parks and recreation in the history of our beloved Glen Cove. I am asking our city leaders to please listen to their constituents.

BARBARA PEEBLES  
*Glen Cove*

*Barbara Peebles was the deputy mayor for the Spinello administration.*

## CORRECTION

In "Hearing on 2021 budget, which pierces tax levy," [Oct. 15-21], a quote from Glen Cove Controller Michael Piccirillo should have said, that the mayor to put a freeze into effect and not incur any of those additional costs. The city clerk did not receive a raise but was instead hired at a higher salary than his predecessor. Also, the city clerk and the Youth Bureau director are not part of a union.



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