HERAL



La Placita is a 'healthy' store

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Artisans market comes to G.C.

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DECEMBER 9-15, 2021



The Grand Cove Downtown The Grand Cove Downtown Business Improvement District Wishes A Happy Holiday To Ill Courtesy Anthony Gallego/Gill Associates

Celebrating the season

The Glen Cove High School Jazz Band performed Christmas songs on Saturday during the Holiday Festival in Village Square. Story, more photos, page 3.

Beloved Happy Hours Club for seniors ends after 35 years

BY JILL NOSSA

jnossa@liherald.com

It was a bittersweet afternoon at the Glen Cove Senior Center last Friday: A celebration in the dining room marked the end of the Golden Age Happy Hours Club, which dissolved after more than 35 years. Charlie Pappas, the club's longtime president, sang a few songs, prompting

some members to get up and dance.

Pappas, 90, of Glen Head, joined the senior center, and the Happy Hours Club, after he retired in 1997, and in 2004 he took over as president. "Being president of this club was a great joy to me," he said, "but I felt many years ago it was time for a new president, new blood to take over."

He couldn't persuade anyone to do it, however, he said, so now members are simply bringing the club to an end.

That resulted in some good news, though, for the center. "Over the years, we've collected a little bit of money," Lucy Van Horn, the club's vice president, said. "... We find ourselves in a position to help the Adult Day CONTINUED ON PAGE 4

Grant funds to help keep Sound healthy

he grant

can play

a pivotal role

in helping to

turn around

the decline in

the shellfish

population in

the estuary.

HEATHER

JOHNSON

Executive director.

Friends of the Bay

BY JILL NOSSA

jnossa@liherald.com

More projects are in the works to protect the health of the Long Island Sound and Hempstead Harbor, thanks to

grant funding that was recently awarded by the federal government.

On Tuesday, key local advocates for clean water joined U.S. Rep. Tom Suozzi at a news conference to announce a new round of funding for the Long Island Sound Futures Fund projects. Nearly \$3 million will go to municipalities and organizations in the 3rd Congressional District, including the Village of Sea Cliff and Friends of the Bay.

"I've been working on this for the past 30 years,"

Suozzi said. "The main issue with the Sound has been hypoxia, along with removing nitrogen from the water."

Suozzi is co-chair of the Long Island Sound Caucus. When he came to the House of Representatives in 2017, he said, the funding for Long Island Sound was \$3 million to \$4 million. Now, he said, it's over \$30 million, a 900 percent increase. "It's because

we've been pushing this and making it a priority," he said.

A total of 39 new grants totaling \$5.4 million were awarded by the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation, in partnership with the Long Island Sound Study, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and the Long Island Sound Funders Collaborative. Recipients include the Village of Sea Cliff, for continued monitoring of Hempstead Harbor; Friends of the Bay, for expanding

oyster spawning sanctuaries in Oyster Bay and Cold Spring Harbor; the Citizens Campaign Fund for the Environment, for environmental education; and the

CONTINUED ON PAGE 9

'Healthy Corner Store' launches in Glen Cove

BY JILL NOSSA

Shoppers in Glen Cove have more healthy options while visiting La Placita Supermarket on Glen Street, thanks to a new initiative launched last week On Friday, a Healthy Corner Store kickoff event took place to bring awareness to the program, which is sponsored by the Cornell Cooperative Extension of Suffolk County, Cohen Children's Medical Center and Kohl's Keeping Kids Healthy program.

'We are a sustainability organization focused on four key areas on Long Island," Vanessa Lockel, executive director of Cornell Cooperative Extension of Suffolk County, said, noting that the focus areas are agriculture, marine, community education, and 4H vouth development.

"It's through programs like SNAP education," Lockel said, "where we support businesses and show we're offering healthy options in the community." She said the organization makes sure that when people walk into a supermarket where there's a "food desert," they see fruits, vegetables, water and other healthy food options.

Dr. Zahrine Bajwa, director of community education for CCE, explained that the SNAP education program is for all of Long Island, "Glen Cove is not new to us. We have worked with the school district and the after-school program "she said adding that they have stores in Roosevelt and in Suffolk



Jill Nossa/Herald

VANESSA LOCKELL, EXECUTIVE director of Cornell Cooperative Extension of Suffolk County, explained the program outside of La Placita Supermarket on Friday.

County. "The goal of SNAP education - a USDA federally funded program – is to make people healthy. But you can't just teach people to change their behavior when the environment is not supporting it. One of the factors that is very important is that there is a place for people to find healthy choices. That is the reason making these changes in the 'corner store' is extremely important."

Cynthia Rogers, who was at the news conference on behalf of U.S. Rep. Tom Suozzi, said she used to run the food pantry for the Glen Cove Youth Bureau, and knows that families appreciate fresh produce, which is not always available. "Your education and efforts to help the community have access to something that they need is appreciated," Rogers said.

"We're happy to be here to support local businesses," said Amy Flores, executive director, Nassau County of Hispanic Affairs, "and most importantly making sure that all of our families have their

health in place and are feeding their families healthy and nutritious meals."

The county office has partnered with Cornell Cooperative Extension and Brava/ La Placita to help make sure people are aware of and have access to the government resources available, according to

La Placita opened in October 2012 and underwent renovations in 2018. Store manager Sal Diaz said he worked with the team from CCE to prepare the store for this ini-

"We do have health issues in our community, and any way I can help our community, I'm more than willing," Diaz said. 'We help them, and they're supporting us. I'm very grateful to Glen Cove. They've been more than supportive, and programs like this are very important, and they motivate people and push them to do better. The team from Cornell did a great job putting out pamphlets and signs, so people do ask about it. And when they ask about it, it opens up to conversation."

"Sal is such an advocate for the community," Councilman Gaitley Stevenson-Mathews said. "Any time the community has needed support, you can always count on Sal. It's no surprise to me that Sal is ioining together with other organizations to make a true difference in our community, and that's what brings healthy habits and healthy eating to our city."







MAYOR TIM TENKE, the Glen Cove City Council, BID Executive Director Patricia Holman and the Sleigh Bells led the audience in singing Christmas carols.

Glen Cove celebrates the holidays downtown

Downtown Glen Cove's Village Square was a hub of activity on Saturday afternoon during the annual Holiday Festival, followed by the city's tree lighting ceremony. Organized by the Downtown Business Improvement District, this year's festival once again made use of the newly opened Village Square, offering free photos with Santa, hot chocolate, a letter writing station, horse and carriage rides and a full slate of live entertainment.

Throughout the afternoon, performances were held by the Glen Cove High

School's Select Chorale, jazz band and orchestra, followed by the Our Lady of Mercy Select Choir, Mercy Dance Company, Jazz Hands Children Theatre, soloists Michael Renga, Gracie Donaldson, Steven Dahlke, and Christopher Moll, and a scene from A Christmas Carol performed by the Slayer Players. The Sleigh Bells graced the stage for the final performance before Mayor Tim Tenke led the countdown to light the tree, followed by more Christmas carols.



MAYOR TIM TENKE took a minute to visit Santa Claus on Saturday.



THE GLEN COVE High School Orchestra performed at Village Square.



HUNDREDS GATHERED FOR the tree lighting ceremony.

Happy Hours Club comes to a close

Program, which was seriously damaged due to the hurricane" — Hurricane Ida, last August.

The Happy Hours Club made a donation of \$10,000 to the Adult Day Program, and gave another \$8,000 to the SAGE Foundation, the senior center's fundraising arm.

"Charlie was very thrifty," Van Horn said of Pappas. "We went on trips, we went out to lunch, we had entertainment, but we were also careful."

Mayor-elect Pam Panzenbeck, who has been president of the SAGE Foundation for the past year, thanked the club for the donation. "We've really been at a loss to raise money since the pandemic," she said, "and this is such a boost."

"This will help Glen Cove Senior Center members when they come into a problem, whether it's to pay a utility bill, a doctor bill, or whatever it may be," Van Horn said of the donation to SAGE. "In order to allow more senior center members to avail themselves of this money, we are asking that the funds be given to the seniors in amounts that do not exceed \$500. That way, a variety of people can be helped. It is our hope that other people will see what's happening, and they too will donate to the senior center and help this fund grow, rather than just dimin-

Pappas credited Carol Waldman, the



ADULT DAY PROGRAM Director Amanda Freeman, program coordinator Melanie Raymundo, Charlie Pappas, Lucy Van Horn and Senior Center Executive Director Christine Rice.

senior center's former executive director, who retired in 2019, with opening "a whole new world" for him. "She heard me strumming on my guitar and singing country songs with people at the center,'

Pappas recalled, adding that Waldman asked him to put on a show in the dining room. "Even though I had never done this before, it was a big hit, and that's when a new career was now opened up for me."

From there, Pappas said, he began singing country and cabaret songs, and entertaining at other senior centers. assisted-living facilities and nursing homes as well as the Adult Day Care Pro-

According to Waldman, the Happy Hours Club formed soon after the senior center opened in 1979, founded by original members of the center. "They were wonderful people, and their Tuesday-afternoon meetings were the highlight of our week for years," Waldman said. "Charlie inherited a club that had years of memories behind it. And then, with his own brand of warmth and fun-loving spirit and incredible talent, created so many more.'

The club met once a month, Pappas said. Members paid annual dues, and held fundraisers on occasion. "Before I took over the club, all they did was play Bingo," he said. "When I became president, we started doing day trips. It expanded because of that, and we had over 120 members."

Throughout its existence, Pappas said, the club used its funds to help members in need. "When there were emergencies, we helped people," he said. "That's been part of the Happy Hours since the beginning: When somebody's in trouble, we're the family'

Van Horn, 78, joined the club when she retired as the senior center's activities coordinator. "What's nice about having that group, it was something to keep people busy and amused, and keep contact with their friends," she said. "People don't realize, until they hit their 70s and 80s, how important it is to meet with your friends. I think that people who are younger don't realize how something like this can become such a wonderful experience for an older person.'

"It sure helped me," Pappas said. "It made a new world for me."

Waldman said that Van Horn and club treasurer Diane Romano were also instrumental in sustaining the group for so long.

The donations, Waldman said, "are actually bringing the club full circle," [she told the gathering last Friday. "You gave birth to this center, and now you have found a way to sustain it so it continues to thrive for others for years to come. That doesn't feel like an ending to me. It feels like an evolution of a true loving and profoundly compassionate community."

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Courtesy Deep Roots Farmers Market

MORE THAN 18 carefully curated artists are scheduled to offer their unique, hand-made items at the Holiday Artisans' Marketplace on Dec. 12.

Holiday Artisans Market comes to Village Square

Presented by the Deep Roots Farmers Market and Mockingbird Wings, the Holiday Artisans' Marketplace at Village Square is scheduled for Dec. 12, from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m., at 100 Village Square in downtown Glen Cove.

The more than 18 carefully curated artists involved are all local to the North Shore and offer exquisite, hand-made items, including jewelry, furniture, pottery, sculpture, textiles and more.

For more information on the organiz-

ers, you can visit them on Facebook or Instagram: @deeprootsfarmersmarket or @mockingbirdwings

This event will adhere to current Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and New York State and Nassau County Health Department guidelines for Covid-19 prevention. All vendors and attendees must wear masks while inside the market, temperature checks will be required for entry, and hand sanitizer will be available at the entrance.

North Shore Soup Kitchen holds Toy Day

As has been the tradition for many years NSSK in partnership with Apple Bank Sea Cliff/Locust Valley and North Shore Kiwanis Club initiates a Toy Drive to fulfill their mission to ensure children receive delightful and exciting toys for the holiday season. The pleasure of presenting gifts to children never wanes but continues to renew itself helping to make holiday time beautiful and memorable for many.

This year, Toy Day is scheduled for Friday, Dec. 17, where parents or guardians come and select toys for their children.

Schedule is as follows:

Tuesdays and Thursdays between

noon and 1 p.m. of the next two weeks (Dec. 9, 14, and 16) at First Baptist Church, 7 Continental Place, Glen Cove.

North Shore Soup Kitchen will be registering the parent/guardian (first name only) to give ages of their children

Parent/Guardian will be given an appointment with a specific time to come to the Soup Kitchen on Friday, Dec. 17, to select toys for their children. Only a couple of parents/guardians will be scheduled at the same time in keeping with Covid safety rules.



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COMMUNITY UPDATE

Friday, Dec. 10

Museum Opening

An inaugural exhibition of artwork by Bayville artists, organized by the Bayville Village Arts Council, and presented by the Bayville Historical Museum. This opening night reception with the artists will be from 6 to 10 p.m., followed by weekend viewings on Dec. 11, Jan. 15 and 16, and Feb. 12 from noon to 4pm. More than 30 works in the visual arts will be on view along with many of the items in the permanent collection of the museum. The BVAC will be offering other exhibitions of the artistry of Bayville residents across many media throughout the year.

Chef Rob: Yukon Gold Potato and Leek Soup

Chef Rob will demonstrate how to prepare this delicious dish. Attendees are asked to bring a small container to take some home to try. Starts at 1 p.m. at the Oyster Bay-East Norwich Public Library.

Saturday, Dec. 11

Planting Fields Deck the Halls 2021 Annual Benefit

From 6 to 7:30 p.m. Hutton Wilkinson, president and creative director of Tony Duquette Inc., and Charlie Scheips, a painter, curator, and author based in New York, will discuss interior design and how it is preserved and interpreted today at Planting Fields, as well as share tips and tricks on how to style one's own home. General admission is \$30. Register at plantingfields. org.

Sunday, Dec. 12

A Christmas Carol

Starting at 2 p.m. at North Shore Historical Museum, experience Scrooge's journey from miserliness to redemption with warmth and humor. This one-man play is based on the condensed version Dickens himself used on his historic reading tours of the United States and is adapted here to offer a unique theatrical experience. Refreshments



Courtesy Wikimedia Commons

Meet Author Erika Swyler

Erika Swyler is the bestselling author of the critically acclaimed novels "Light from Other Stars," the 2020 Long Island Reads selection, and "The Book of Speculation." Her essays and short fiction have appeared in Catapult, Literary Hub, VIDA, The New York Times and other major publicaions. She was born, raised, and resides on Long Island. She will sign copies of her book purchased from Theodore's Books starting at 2 p.m. at 17 Audrey Ave. in Oyster Bay.

program consists of a spoken lecture, as well as live piano performance. This virtual presentation starts at 7 p.m. Register via email at: seaclifflibrary@hotmail.com.

Virtual Robots

This Zoom presentation presented by the Glen Cove Public Library will introduce robots, robotics competitions, and briefly discuss youth competition tiers. This presentation will begin at 7 p.m. Those interested can register online at glencovelibrary.org.

Apprenticeship Preparation Training

This intensive, no-cost 240-hour training program includes OSHA 30, blueprint reading and more to help prepare participants for a career in the unionized building and construction trades. This apprenticeship preparation training program, presented by Opportunities Long Island, begins at 1 p.m. at the Elmont Memorial Library. Opportunities Long Island's mission is to connect individuals from underserved communities to union construction employment opportunities.

will be served; tickets are \$20 for adults and \$15 for children.

Sea Cliff Second Sunday

Sea Cliff Arts Counci is presenting a fun filled day for shopping, dining and live music on the second Sunday of each month. Spend \$10 or more at 5 or more participating small businesses and enter to win a swag bag filled with local goods. In partnership with Second Sundays, Santa will be visiting My Beautiful Mess, K. Diresta Collective is holding a jewelry showcase, Peace Soap is hosting a holiday boutique, live music is scheduled for Still Partners, and more.

Monday, Dec. 13

European Holiday Markets in Four Countries: Holiday Magic and Traditional Cookies

Versatile, dependable, and affordable, the Little Black Dress, or "LBD," has become the fashion equivalent of a Model T Ford. In this illustrated lecture, historian Leslie Goddard, Ph.D., explores the history of this fashion

icon. Learn how Chanel helped dissociate black from mourning, how Audrey Hepburn helped establish the LBD; and how it has been reinvented by everyone from Betty Boop to Prada. This lecture is presented by historian, Leslie Goddard via Zoom at 7 p.m. Register online at oysterbaylibrary.org.

Oyster Bay Ladies' Auxillary Holiday Boutique

The Italian/American Club of Oyster Bay Ladies Auxiliary is hosting a holiday boitique from noon until 6 p.m. Complimentary baked goods and coffee will be available as well as a cash bar Vendors include Kerri's Kreations, Color Street Nails, Etched by the Bay, Lure Panacea- Beauty Bar, Gracefully Wild and more.

Tuesday, Dec. 14

Holiday Paint Night for Adults

Join the Bayville Public Library via zoom to paint "Spreading Cheer" on canvas. ClayNation will lead you through the process to help you create your masterpiece. All materials will be available for

pickup at the library prior to the program. Fee for materials is \$15 payable by check only to The Bayville Free Library. Visit www.bayvillefreelibrary.org to register for the Zoom link.

Wednesday, Dec. 15

Eat Right for a Healthy Heart

This informative class, presented by registered dietitian Denise Mokotoff via Zoom, will discuss heart-healthy nutrition guidelines, dining out tips, label reading and much more. Starting at 11 a.m., learn how to select the best foods for your heart.

Thursday, Dec. 16

The Most Wonderful Songs of the Year

Dan Lupo presents "The Most Wonderful Songs of the Year" Discover the story behind some of your holiday favorites. This

HAVING AN EVENT?

Items on the Community
Update pages are listed
free of charge. The Herald
welcomes listings of
upcoming events,
community meetings and
items of public interest.
All submissions should
include date, time and
location of the event, cost,
and a contact name and
phone number. Submissions
can be emailed to
inossa@liherald.com

5 things to know about your town

- Gold Coast Library's "Movie at the Library," Dec. 10 at 2 p.m. This week's movie is "Pig" (2021).
- The Deep Roots Winter Market will continue on Saturdays through April from 10 a.m. until 2 p.m.
- The Glen Cove Board of Education's next meeting will be Dec. 15, at 7:30 p.m.
- The North Shore Board of Education will meet next on Dec. 16 at 7:45 p.m.
- The Locust Valley Board of Education will meet on Dec. 15, at 7:30 p.m.



Dear Glen Cove Community Members,

On behalf of the Glen Cove Teachers' Association, we would like to extend a holiday greeting to students, parents, and members of the community with a very special holiday message.

During the past 21 months, you have all graciously touched the lives of our students and families in a significant way. We are truly fortunate to have the support of such a gracious and generous community.

In the spirit of the holiday season, the GCTA would like to extend our best wishes to the Glen Cove Community. As we all enjoy the holiday season, it is our sincerest wish that each of you receive and return the abundance of blessings and good tidings that is the miracle of the season.

The focus of our students here in Glen Cove truly express what we are all thankful for and the true meaning of the holiday season. Each day we are fortunate to witness the enthusiasm, hope, and joy for life that our students possess. Endless opportunities await our students, and nothing is impossible.

May the holiday season fill your home with joy, your heart with love, and your life with laughter. May you all have a prosperous New Year!

Glen Cove Teachers' Association

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ON TUESDAY, U.S. Rep Tom Suozzi announced new federal funding to help protect the Long Island Sound and Hempstead Harbor.



Courtesy Rep. Tom Suozzi

\$3 million slated to protect L.I. Sound

CONTINUED FROM FRONT PAGE

Cornell Cooperative Extension of Suffolk County, for projects that will improve water quality in Oyster Bay and Hempstead Harbor.

Sea Cliff will receive a total of \$193,496 to continue monitoring Hempstead Harbor water quality, work that is done by the Coalition to Save Hempstead Harbor.

"You have to understand where the problems are coming from in order to improve water qualities," said Eric Swenson, executive director of the Hempstead Harbor Protection Committee. "Without this funding, we would not be able to do that"

Carol DiPaolo, program director and water monitoring coordinator for the Coalition to Save Hempstead Harbor, said that the water is monitored weekly. "We've used the data from the program and the expansion of the program as an educational vehicle, but also to really get people back to the water," she said. "It's been so productive and resulted in such a turnaround story for Hempstead Harbor.

"The biggest proof of water quality improvement was the opening of 2,500 acres of shellfish beds in Hempstead Harbor for harvesting, which hadn't been done in at least 45 years," DiPaolo added. "That's the best indicator of water quality improvement you could have."

Friends of the Bay, headquartered in Oyster Bay, will receive \$152,133 for its project. "The grant can play a pivotal role in helping to turn around the decline in the shellfish population in the estuary," said Heather Johnson, the organization's executive director. "Shellfish sanctuaries are the key to a healthy bay system. We're hopeful that these projects will have a big impact on the health of our waterways."

Adrienne Esposito, executive director of Citizens Campaign for the Environment, said her organization received funding for the Long Island Sound High School Summit, which provides hands-on environmental education and activities.

"It was funded last year and it was a tremendous success," Esposito said. "We're growing the project this year."

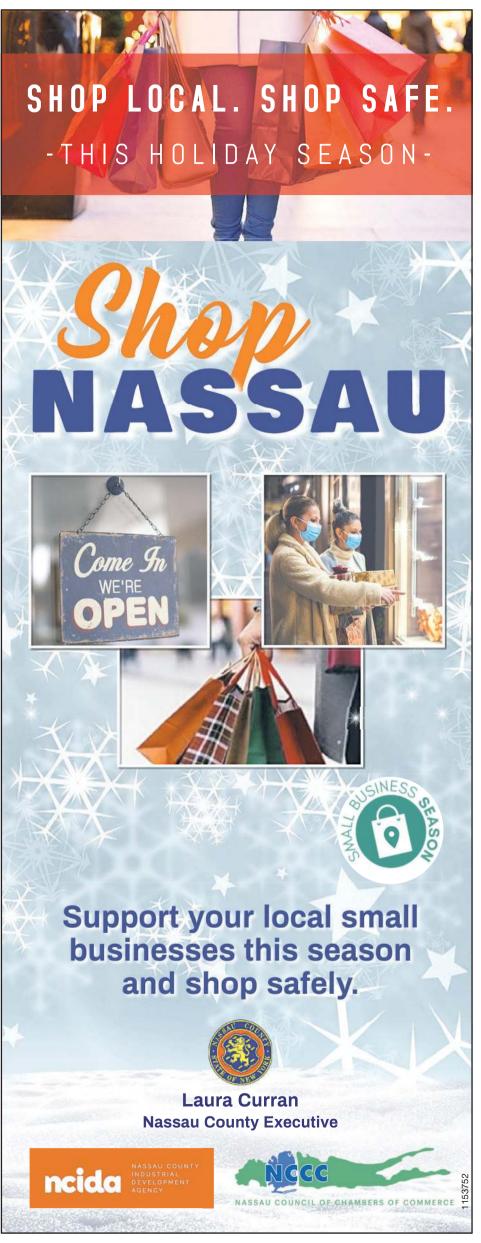
One of the eight participating schools is Oyster Bay High School. "The idea was to educate, engage and empower students to protect and restore Long Island Sound," Esposito said. "Students last year did a lot of innovative, creative and meaningful projects. We're looking forward to making it an annual event."

Vanessa Lockel, executive director of the Cornell Cooperative Extension of Suffolk County, outlined some of the projects her organization is spearheading. For one, she said, it received \$135,636, and the CCE will partner with Friends of the Bay, the Town of Oyster Bay, the Oyster Bay-Cold Spring Harbor Protection Committee and the Waterfront Center to clean the water while also educating the public.

"We are reducing marine debris in the Long Island Sound by deploying innovative floating litter traps in Oyster Bay and Hempstead Harbor," Lockel said. "They collect the debris, and the intention is to remove about 1,800 pounds of debris. It's not only a platform to collect debris, but it's also an opportunity for a plastic-pollution education program."

A second project in Oyster Bay is the removal of derelict lobster gear from the Sound, for which the cooperative received \$192,936. "An estimated 400,000 pots are fished out annually, and we discovered there are about 700 derelict traps in Oyster Bay," Lockel explained. "The intention is to remove these traps."

Suozzi said that the work done so far by these organizations has already made an impact. "If you look at the water, it's clearer than it used to be, he said. "If you look at the wildlife, you see more osprey and red-tailed hawks, more bunker in the water. This effort, by a lot of people over a 30-year period, is working. The Long Island Sound is becoming better and more abundant — but it is not at all done. It's a constant effort."



Mayor-elect Panzenbeck announces transition team

City of Glen Cove Mayor-elect lowing members: Pamela D. Panzenbeck has assembled her transition team as she readies for her new position next year.

Her team of 12 members will help ensure a smooth transition of power that not only reflects the visions and values of the incoming administration, but also encompasses and understands the community for which it stands, according to Panzenbeck.

In addition to Panzenbeck, the transition panel consists of the fol-

John Maccarone, Esq., Co-Chairman; Donna McNaughton, Esq., Co-Chairman; Hon. Paul Meli; Joseph Capobianco, Esq; Kevin Maccarone, Esq.; Charles McQuair, Esq.; Tip Henderson, Esq.; Rev. Richard Wilson; Tom Hopke; Tina Pemberton; and Steve Gonzalez.

The team will work together to deliver recommendations for the new administration. Among others, topics will include city operations and community involvement.



TOP ROW: JOEY Damiano, Luca Mihailescu, Joe Cerda, Coach Marty Shannon, Eli Bonilla, Coach Rich Scham, Danny Casteneda, Anthony Looez, Cliff Schwam. Bottom row: JenCarlos Ruiz, Kasper Davlatshow, Juan Rumipamba, Brian Hernandez, Oscar Silva, Not pictured: Anthony Nardone and Daniel Waters

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Glen Cove Hurricanes named division champions

Hard work has paid off for the Glen Cove Hurricanes 12U travel soccer team as they completed an undefeated season and were named division champions last month.

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154040



ON THE ROAD WITH A TAKEOUT QUEEN

Takeout for Santa

By CATHI TUROW

On Christmas Eve, Santa Claus picks up takeout. How do I know? It's obvious. With all those presents packed in his sleigh, he couldn't possibly have room for food in there. So, in between delivering presents, Santa grabs meals to go. How else would he make it through the night without starving? If Santa Claus stops for takeout in our neighborhood, here are some of the latest and greatest meals I found for him...along with the rest of us:

■ Tavern 227 (227 Sea Cliff Ave., Sea Cliff) There's an amazing new menu prepared by chef David Suh. So far, I've ordered the beet farro salad with poppy-seed horseradish yogurt three times. The beets and farro are perfect partners, and the sauce tastes like a rich, creamy treat, when it's really quite light and healthy. Other new dishes are filled with creative combinations of ingredients. I

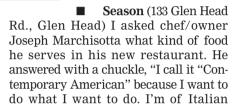
predict Santa Claus will especially enjoy the baby artichoke and vesuvio yellow tomato fennel. He might also go for the market fish dish with bell pepper puree, potato, radish and chorizo.

Laura'S BBQ (76 Shore Rd., Glen Cove) The brisket chili is back for the winter and I can't say enough about it. Smoked brisket that's smooth as silk joins beans, jalapenos and BBQ sauce. They blend beautifully to make a wonderfully satisfying warm dish on a cold winter night. Santa Claus, are you listening? Also, during the holiday week, be on the lookout for barbequed salmon on the menu.

■ Bluebird Chocolates (8 Audrey Ave., Oyster Bay) Chocolatier Katya Witthuhn opened her new shop in September and offers homemade, hand-painted, truffle-like chocolates with flavors in

sync with the holidays. In December, there are gingerbread, peppermint and egg nog chocolates (to name a few). The apple pie truffle I chose melted in my

mouth and left a wisp of pie flavor that made me close my eyes and smile. In January, stop by for a strawberry champagne chocolate There are also flavors available year 'round such as salted caramel, dark chocolate ganache and pear gorgonzola. Every flavor is perfect for popping in your mouth during a car ride home or a sleigh ride in the sky.



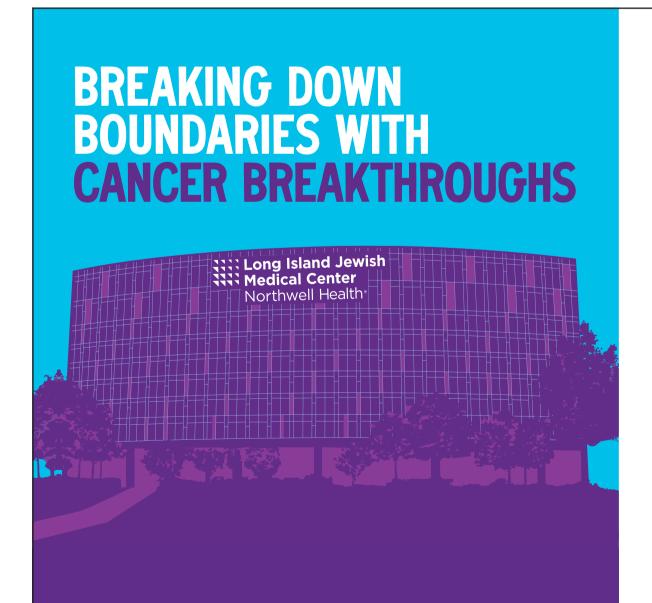
descent, but as a chef. I'm formally French trained (at the Culinary Institute and a host of highly respected restaurants). So, I mix it all together." He makes his own pasta and serves it as part of innovative dishes. His openfaced short rib ravioli is a shining example, made with pasta sheets, tender short ribs, caramelized onions and goat cheese. Another favorite is the Chilian sea bass, smoked on a hickory plank on the grill. Chef Joseph just started serving brunch, and since his menu changes every three months, a new one will make its debut in January. His duck confit dish with wild mushrooms is in the works.

So, there you have it. Hopefully, Santa Claus won't devour too much takeout, or he won't be able to fit down the chimneys. See you next month!

The Takeout Queen is now on Facebook. Search for Oyster Bay Herald Guardian, Sea Cliff/Glen Head Herald Gazette or Glen Cove Herald Gazette.



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TOP 3 FINALISTS In Beauty, Health and Wellness

Alissa L. Hersh, MD Raphael E. Strauss, MD Robert J. Marchlewski, MD

Gurwin Jewish - Fay J. Lindner Residences Maple Pointe at Rockville Centre The Bristal Assisted Living

Esther Fogel, AuD Lawrence Cardano, AuD Long Island Hearing

Clear Cut Studio Groomsmen Barbershop of Long Island Pioneer Barber Shop

Complete Neurological Care Long Island Brain Tumor Center
The Stroke & Brain Aneurysm Center of Long Island

Dr. Nature Rx CBD Natural Remedies Sea Cliff Hemp Co.

Adam J. Kritzberg, DC Caitlin Brown, DC Jeffrey Siegel, DC

George Xiploleas, MD, FACS James C. Marotta, MD Martin E. Kessler, MD

All Island Dermatology Plastic Surgery & Laser Center Franklin Square Pharmacy Greenberg Cosmetic Surgery and Dermatology Health Mart Pharmacy Greenberg Cosmetic Surgery and Dermatology Long Island Plastic Surgical Group

Alina Bergan, DDS, PC Nina Babayev, DDS Zoya Yadgarov, DDS

Debra L. Skopicki, MD Eve Lupenko, MD Suzanne J. Sirota Rozenberg, DO

Carolyn Castiglia, DO Nathaniel B. Epstein, MD Ralph K. Della Ratta, MD

Ambiance Salon Bewitched at Cheveux Day Spa & Salon Salon Sans Égal

Hearing Aid Center Comprehensive Audiology Hearing Center of Long Island I Love Hearing

Better Home Health Care Sara Companion HomeCare Services

GlowinSkin Esthetics KB Beauty by Laser Radiant Skin and Laser Center

Franklin Square Pharmacy **Health Mart Pharmacy** Picker Pharmacy

Couture Nail Studio at Sola Salon Park Ave Nails Sunny Nails & Spa

Hand and Stone Massage & Facial Spa Lynbrook Massage Therapy Massage Envy

Valley Stream Pharmacy & Surgical

Ellen Edgar, MD Rami R. Grossmann, MD Russell Surasky, MD, DO, FAAN

Ahmad Latefi, DO Kimon Bekelis, MD Salvatore Palumbo, MD, FACS, FAANS

Beach Terrace Care Center Grandell Rehabilitation and Nursing Center South Shore Rehabilitation and Nursing Center

Annette Mary Baggott, MD Beach Babies
The Woman's Health Pavilion

Balance Pathways Long Beach Nursing and Rehabilitation Center Peak Performance Physical Therapy

OCLI Vision SightMD Stanley J. Berke, MD

Cohen's Fashion Optical Gail Correale, OD Steven B. Agin, OD

Island Orthodontics Natalie Bitton, DDS Seth Kleinrock, DDS

Central Orthopedic Group HSS Long Island: Hospital for Special Surgery Orlin & Cohen Orthopedic Group

John J. Leppard, MD Robert Fisch, MD Stelios Koutsoumbelis, MD

Brian Goldstein, DO Pain Institute of Long Island Queen-Long Island Renal Institute, Inc.

Pediatric Dentistry of Valley Stream Heidi Zuckerman, DMD Yehuda Marciano, DDS

Matthew S. Cohen, MD ProHEALTH Long Island Pediatric Group Valley Stream Pediatrics

Metro Physical & Aquatic Therapy Peak Performance Physical Therapy Ricardo (Eric) Cruz, PT

Beach Nails Fantastic Day Spa JJ Nails & Spa

Adam B. Klein, DPM, PC Joseph Burke, DPM, FACFS, ABPOPPM Kim Berlin, DPM

Beach Terrace Care Center Grandell Rehabilitation and Nursing Center South Shore Rehabilitation and Nursing Center

Clarity Spa Deep Blue Med Spa Hand and Stone Massage & Facial Spa

Long Island Speech Speech Therapy Kidz Theralympic Speech Therapy

Long Island Spine Specialists New York Spine Institute NSPC Brain & Spine Surgery

AFC Urgent Care East Meadow CityMD Urgent Care GoHealth Urgent Care

Vein/Vascular Center

Island Vein Specialists of Mineola North Shore Vein Center **USA Vein Clinics**

Body Krush European Wax Center Waxing The City

BeBalanced Hormone Weight Loss Centers Michael J. Berlin, DC Weight No More Diet Center, Inc.

Check back next week for the top 3 dining picks!

Winners will be announced February 17 at a LIVE EVENT and in The Winner's Guide Magazine Visit www.lichchoiceawards.com or email aamato@liherald.com for more information.

OBITUARY





Alfred Zeff

Alfred Zeff, beloved husband of the late Doris Zeff, loving father of Richard (Leslie) and Robert, devoted grandfather of Harrison (Kristen) and Nathaniel, passed away Monday, Nov. 29, 2021 at the age of 93. He is also survived by nieces Gail Liner (Robert) and Karen Cracco (Ben), nephew Mark Hirsch (Rosalie) and Eric Hermansen (Sunni) and many grandnieces and nephews. Al was born in the Bronx in 1928 in the shadow of Yankee Stadium, and in the ensuing 90-plus years remained an avid Yankee fan. He graduated from LIU in 1950 with a degree in journalism and upon graduation, Al immediately was called to service in the Army and served proudly during the Korean War and was honorably discharged in 1952. His career aspirations led him to trade publications serving the New York City taxicab industry. It was at this time that Al met Doris in the NYC Public Library. His very clever pick up line led to a wonderful marriage of 60 years until Doris passed away in 2014.

Al later published the ITOC News, through which he proudly served as the voice of the NYC independent taxi owner-driver. Al was even prouder to be involved in his adopted hometown of Glen Cove from the time he moved there in 1958 until his passing, and as Congressman Tom Suozzi said upon meeting Al's grandson Nathaniel recently, "Everyone in Glen Cove knew Al Zeff." Al served as communications strategist for two mayors, Andrew DiPaola and Vincent (Jimmy) Suozzi, as editor of the Glen Cove Record Pilot, and in leadership roles in civic organizations and youth sports leagues. In more recent years, Al traveled the country watching his grandsons compete in youth sports and continued to coach them from the

A memorial gathering will be announced at a later date.

Frank Caruso

Frank Caruso of Brookville died on Nov. 29, 2021, at age 73. Husband of Rosalia. Father of Angelo (Dina) and Joe (Dina). Brother of Sal, Joe, Maria, Giulio and the late Vittorio. Nonno of Francesco, Alexandra, Francesco, Julianna, Angelo & Dean. Also survived by many nieces, nephews and cousins. Visitation Dodge-Thomas Funeral Home. Mass at the Church of St. Rocco. Entombment Holy Rood

Barbara Joan Irvine

Barbara Joan Irvine of Glen Cove passed away Nov. 21, 2021. A long time area resident, she graduated from Glen Cove High School and became an LPN, worked for many years as a caregiver at Cerebral Palsy, Nassau County. Barbara was an active member of St. Patrick Church with The Legion of Mary, volunteered at St. Patrick's Thrift Shop, and a member of the Hibernians. The last few years she was a resident at the Regency Assisted Living in Glen Cove. Barbara will be missed by her family: Son, Peter Cook and grandsons Ryan and Matthew, sister Kathleen Marechek; nephews Keith, Dennis, and Chris Davis and their families. A Memorial Mass for Barbara will be held Dec. 14, at 9:30 a.m. at St. Patrick Church, Glen Cove. Interment to follow at Holy Rood Cemetery.

Elaine Hinton

Elaine "Sandy" Hinton of Glen Cove died on Nov. 19, 2021, age 86. Wife of Richard G. (retired Old Brookville Police Department). Mother of Tricia and Kelly. Sister of Robert Solewski. Grandmother of Dylan. Visitation at Dodge-Thomas Funeral Home, Glen Cove. Interment to be held at a later date at Long Island National Ceme-

THE GREAT BOOK GURU

Baffled book club?

ear Great Book Guru, Last weekend was an eventpacked Sea Cliff weekend with the Children's Library

"Nutcracker," the Scrooge Stroll, and the Holiday Lighting celebration at Clifton Park. Everything was great fun, but now I need some down time with a good book – nothing deep — just a good

-Seeking Some Serenity

Dear Seeking Some Serenity,

I recently finished a book you might enjoy but I'm not sure it makes for serene reading: "A Neighbor's Secret," by L. Alison

Heller. This mystery novel uses an ongoing book club as its organizing principle. Every few chapters, we read a chatty message sent to the members of the club, which is based in an affluent suburban community. These messages are amusing and will be uncomfortably familiar to many book club members. The novel introduces multiple characters, perhaps too many, with three of the women highlighted: Lena — an older woman living alone and estranged from her

> daughter; Annie — a middle aged guidance counselor who is coping with a troubled teen age daughter; and Jen — a young mother dealing with the thought her son might be a dangerous sociopath.

Throughout the book, we fear the many secrets these women are hiding will somehow come together in an explosive finale and of course, they do! In what seems to be tranquil but intellectually stimulating monthly dis-

cussions of the latest novels, we find a painful tale of lies and secrets bridging many generations. A thought-provoking read and recommended!

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



ANN DIPIETRO



Voice Your **Opinion!**

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NOTICE

UBLIC NOTICES

LEGAL NOTICE CITY OF GLEN COVE BOARD APPEALS ZONING OF PUBLIC HEARING PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that a PUBLIC HEARING will be held by the Glen Cove Board of Zonina Cove Board of Zonning Appeals on Thursday, December 16, at 7:30 p.m. at the Council Chambers, City Hall, 9 Glen Street, Glen Cove, New York when all interested persons will be given an opportunity to express their views.

The hearing will be on the application of

Teresa Famiglietti who appeals the determination of the Building Department Director issue authorizing construction of a two-family dwelling on a neighboring property. The appellant seeks an interpretation that the neighboring lots were

lawfully

by

The property which is the subject of this petition is located at 116 Elm Avenue, Glen Cove, N.Y designated as Section 22, Block 00801, Lots 1,2 and Section 22, Block 00801 Lot 72 on the Land and Tax Map of Nassau County which is located in the R-4B Residence The above Application is on file at the city offices located at 9 Glen St., Glen Cove, NY where it may be seen during regular hours of the usual business days until the time of the hearing.

Dated: November 22, 2021 BY ORDER OF BOARD OF ZO APPEALS OF THE CITY OF GLEN COVE TERI MOSCHETTA, CHAIRPERSON

Planning Board of the City of Glen Cove nor held in "single and separate ownership" and CITY OF GLEN COVE ZONING **APPEALS** therefore the building permit should be vacated. NOTICE HEARING OF PLEASE TAKE that a PUBLIC HEARING will be held by the Glen Cove Zoning Board of Appeals on Thursday, December 16, 2021, at 7:30 p.m., at the Council Chambers, City Hall, 9 Glen Street, Glen Cove, N.Y. when all interested persons will be given an opportunity to express

CASE # 11 - 2021 The hearing will be on the application of Jim and Ann Hurt who Variances from Sections 280-59 (B)(7) & 280-59 (B) (8) of the Glen Cove Zoning Code for a rear deck addition with less than the required rear and side yard setback. Applicant is proposing a rear yard setback of 22 feet when 30 feet is the

minimum required and proposing a side yard

east side and 5 feet on the west (existing) when 10 feet each is the required. The property is located at 131 Landing Road, Glen Cove, N.Y in the R-4 One- & Two-family residence district and designated on the Nassau County Land & Tax Map as Section 31, Block 2, Lot 485. The above Application is on file at the city offices located at 9 Glen St.,

Glen Cove, NY where it may be seen during regular hours of the usual business days until time of the hearing. Dated:November 2021 BY ORDER OF THE BOARD OF ZONING APPEALS OF THE CITY OF

TERI MOSCHETTA, CHAIRPERSON 128774 To place a notice here call

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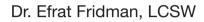












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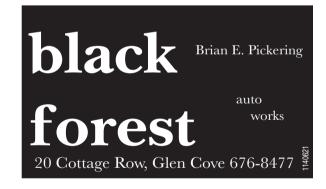
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OPINIONS

So, Tom Suozzi once again wants to live in Albany?

ew York City has

often proved

for suburban

Democrats.

poisonous

n the wake of his announcement that he is entering the Democratic primary for governor, U.S. Rep. Tom Suozzi faces a pretty daunting obstacle: New York City Democrats.

The city's Democratic voter base, and the political bosses who select their primary candidates, mock anyone beyond



RONALD J. ROSENBERG

the five boroughs. They know their statewide candidates will need Long Island votes in the general election, but that doesn't mean they want a Long Islander leading the ticket. Think of neighboring Gotham as deadly kryptonite that destroys the aspirations of every

suburban Democrat who wants a shot at running statewide.

We already know the roster of Long Island politicians whose statewide campaigns died at the Queens line. Kathleen Rice and Steve Levy come immediately to mind, but there are others. In the 1960s, the highly respected Nassau Coun-

ty Executive Eugene Nickerson couldn't win the Democratic primary for Senate, despite the backing of none other than Robert F. Kennedy.

Huntington Town Supervisor Jerome Ambro took on Basil Paterson for the

Democratic nomination for lieutenant governor in 1970. Ambro promptly lost that contest to Patterson.

And Tom Suozzi knows what it's like to run and lose a statewide primary race. In 2006, he ran against Eliot Spitzer for the Democratic nomination for governor. He quickly lost to the Manhattan-based Spitzer (although Spitzer may still wonder what his life might have been like had he lost

and then quietly repaired to the family business of making millions in real estate).

So why is it that Suozzi believes that this time is the charm?

For starters, the Democratic Party is unrecognizable. There are more left-leaning city Democratic power players than Politburo members in Red Square on May Day. And that's the least of it. Consider a New York Post report that revealed how a Bronx-based congressman, Jamaal Bowman, "is facing the fury of the Democratic Socialists of America, who have accused him of betrayal for visiting Israel and meeting with Prime Minister Naftali Bennett."

> That action alone reveals that Suozzi's Democratic Party has a cancer eating away at its soul.

Suozzi's primary strategy is to position himself as a centrist in a race that will compel Democrats to choose among the progressive, the progressive lite and the still to be politically defined gubernatorial incumbent. Suozzi will have the advantage of fundraising among deep-pock-

eted New York City business leaders who have the right to fear a state lurching left. They have been desperately looking for a "common-sense" Democrat whom they can support, so it is no accident that the phrase "common-sense candidate" is now Suozzi's adopted slogan.

While Suozzi and his primary competitors seek to position themselves for a win, they need to recognize that a primary victory is not an anointment to be gov-

ernor. As this past Election Day revealed, there is a quiet but seething anger among voters who rightly view the progressive/socialist agenda, such as "bail reform," as destructive to their quality of life and core values. In a state reputed to be deeply blue, there is every reason to believe that a Republican gubernatorial candidate could win by tapping into the anger, and not a little bit of fear of where New York might be heading.

Much the way the Red Wave on Election Night 2021 sent a strong message that voters are not going to follow a progressive manifesto, Republican Long Island Congressman Lee Zeldin could easily upset the pundits and assume office as the next governor of New York. If so, it would be nothing less than ironic if those Long Island Democrats who aspired to be governor but were blocked by New York City progressives got to attend the gubernatorial inauguration of a fellow Long Islander who ran on the Republican line.

Ronald J. Rosenberg has been an attorney for 42 years, concentrating in commercial litigation and transactions, and real estate, municipal, zoning and land use law. He founded the Garden City law firm Rosenberg Calica & Birney in 1999.

Hoping for the gift of life in this season of giving

local man who'd

children grow up

like to see his

is in need of a

new kidney.

e was 49 years old in March, and he hopes to celebrate his 50th birthday next year. Anyone would wish the same, but Scott Englander, a Woodmere resident, faces an uncertain future. According to his mother, Arlene, after a catastrophic bacterial infection left him



RANDI KREISS

infection left him in a coma more than six years ago, Scott suffered both heart and kidney failure. His heart stabilized, but his kidney function continued to decline until he was forced to begin regular dialysis recently.

He is being treated at the

Julia and Israel Waldbaum Davida Dialysis facility in Great Neck, where he undergoes dialysis three times a week, for four and a half hours at a time. It is a grueling routine that leaves him exhausted. The only way off dialysis, however, is to get a kidney transplant.

The family is hopes for a living donor, someone who finds it within him or herself to promise Scott another birthday, and another one after that. We have all read stories of selfless individuals who know they can live normally with one

kidney and are willing to come forward in an exceptional act of generosity.

If you or someone you know would like more information about this process, please email scottneedsakidney@gmail.com.

I have known Arlene and Richard Englander for more than 50 years. We hadn't connected in a long time when Arlene reached out, hoping to increase Scott's chances of finding a kidney donor. They had already tried Zoom megacalls and bulk mailings and emails. Maybe, they thought, someone will read this and consider giving this gift of life. Perhaps the word will pass through our

communities and someone will step forward.

For the recipient, according to the National Kidney Transplant Foundation, "Your health and energy should improve. In fact, a successful kidney transplant may allow you to live the kind of life you were living before you got kidney disease. Studies show that people with kidney transplants live longer than those who remain on dialysis."

Unrelated individuals who make a good match may be able to donate one of their kidneys, in a living transplant. If a donor and recipient are incompatible,

there are "kidney swaps," in which donors can provide kidneys to compatible recipients in exchange for a compatible donation to their intended recipient. Advances in kidney transplant have made it possible to do the surgeries lapa-

roscopically, which leads to much shorter recovery times. Potential donors are carefully screened, and supported physically and emotionally.

According to the Kidney Project at the University of California, San Francisco, some 100,000 patients in the United States are on the kidney transplant list, and the need for donor kidneys is rising 8 percent per year. The wait times for an organ

vary from state to state. Fortunately, most insurance covers the expenses for both transplant donors and recipients. Many charitable groups offer travel and work compensation for donors. It is, of course, illegal to buy or sell human organs or tissue in the U.S.

According to the Mayo Clinic, the hospital stay for most kidney donors is one or two days. Its website states, "After kidney donation, most people are able to return to normal daily activities after two to four weeks. You may be advised to avoid contact sports or other strenuous activities that may cause kidney dam-

age." In the U.S., more than 6,000 livingorgan donations are completed each year. Living-kidney donation is the most common type of living-donor transplant. People can donate one of their two kidneys, and the remaining kidney is able to perform the necessary functions.

For the recipient, receiving a kidney from a living donor is successful more than 98 percent of the time, according to the Mayo Clinic. If the kidney comes from a deceased donor, the success rate is 93 percent. Ongoing treatment tethered to dialysis is a difficult alternative.

Scott Englander and his family are hoping for a living donor. He would like to go back to his work as a chiropractor and his life with his family. His roots in the community run deep: He went to the Number Six School, Lawrence Middle School, Lawrence High School, SUNY Albany and Life University in Georgia.

Scott has been on the transplant list at the Northwell Health Transplant Center for two and a half years, his mother says. She says the expectation is a wait of some five to eight years to get a deceased person's kidney. A living donor could come forward at any time.

In a note to me this week, Scott said that he hopes for a kidney so that he may live long enough to see his children grow up.

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Established 1991 Incorporating Gold Coast Gazette

> JILL NOSSA Editor

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HERALD EDITORIAL

Now, not later, is time to push for SALT reform

he Herald has editorialized a half-dozen times on Long Island's desperate need to restore the federal income-tax deduction for state and local taxes, which the Tax Cut and Jobs Act of 2017, passed under President Donald Trump, limited to \$10,000, costing many middle-class families here thousands of dollars annually. Now, it appears, we are on the brink of overturning the measure.

Sustained political pressure is needed to see the elimination of the \$10,000 SALT cap through to the finish line. That's why we are encouraging readers to write to U.S. Senators Chuck Schumer and Kirsten Gillibrand, both Democrats, to ensure that the proposal passes in the Senate when it is brought up for an upcoming

There is a false impression that the SALT deduction affords an unfair tax advantage only to the rich, a refrain repeated by conservative pundits across the nation. For decades, however, the deduction provided vital federal tax relief to middle-class families on Long Island and many other parts of the country.

Many conservatives argue that any family earning above \$100,000 per year is affluent, even rich. And, they say, most of the people taking the SALT deduction — 98 percent — have a household income above that figure, with 80 percent earning between \$100,000 and \$200,000 and 18 percent above \$200,000. Meanwhile, the average family income nationwide is \$67,000 a year, according to census data.

That argument, however, does not account for regional cost differences — in

particular, high property taxes in places like Long Island. It focuses only on income.

Long Island is one of the most expensive places to live in the country. The median household income here, \$116,000, would buy a whole lot in a state like Mississippi, where the median household income is about \$42,000; or New Mexico, where it's \$46,300; or Idaho, where it's \$48,600. On Long Island, however, \$116,000 is not rich. It's middle class.

So, while the SALT deduction has undoubtedly helped the wealthy, it has aided the middle class in high-cost regions like ours, and that is why it must be restored.

The House of Representatives, led by Rep. Tom Suozzi, a Democrat from Glen Cove, recently passed SALT reform as part of the \$2 trillion Build Back Better bill. Bravo! The legislation, if passed by the Senate, would smartly cap the deduction at \$80,000, allowing middle-class families in states like New York and California to take advantage of the federal deduction, but still limiting it to prevent the truly wealthy from benefiting disproportionately.

According to Suozzi, passage of SALT reform in the Senate would bring immediate tax relief to some 3.4 million New York taxpayers, including nearly 367,000 in Nassau alone. That would return dollars to our local economy, where they belong. Since enactment of the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act four years ago, New York has paid \$12 billion more in federal taxes — money that has gone to states like Kentucky, home to Senate Minority Leader

Mitch McConnell, a Republican who led the charge alongside Trump to pass the act.

The recent reform package passed in the House would raise the SALT deduction cap for nine years, through 2030. That seems fair. New Yorkers would have time to plan for its sunset. The legislation passed by Trump, on the other hand, caught many flatfooted, requiring desperate measures of them, including taking out loans just to pay their federal income taxes.

The \$80,000 cap would take effect on people's 2021 federal tax bills, providing them nearly immediate relief — which would be vital, given the economic hardships that many households have been forced to endure because of the ongoing coronavirus pandemic.

Lest any U.S. senator believe that the desire to restore the SALT deduction is confined to states like New York and California, he or she need only look to recent comments by Tom Cochran, CEO and executive director of the U.S. Conference of Mayors, to understand that the sentiment is shared by many elected leaders and taxpayers nationwide. "On behalf of the nation's mayors," Cochran said, "I want to commend Congressman Suozzi for his hard work on this issue. He never stopped fighting to restore the state and local taxes [deduction] for middle-income families in all states."

Indeed. We mustn't believe for a second, however, that the measure will pass in the Senate until it has. That is why we need everyone's voice speaking out on this critical issue.

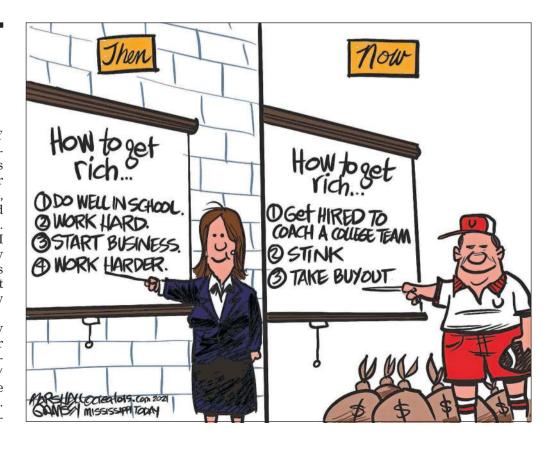
LETTERS

Opt out of marijuana sales

To the Editor:

I was misrepresented in last week's issue of the Herald, in the article "Glen Cove mulls marijuana opt-out," by Jill Nossa. She wrote that I was a former GCHS teacher. I am not, and have never been, a teacher. I did have a letter written by one, and had permission to quote from it, as she could not be at the meeting but had done research stats. All the council members had a copy, and when I asked if they were going to read it aloud, they said no. So I asked for permission to quote parts of it and incorporate it into my talk, because it would reinforce what I had to say, and to that they said yes.

I am a 55-year resident of this city, and all my children graduated from GCHS. I am a former president of the Chamber of Commerce (2000-2003). I love this city, and do not want marijuana/cannabis stores here. Over the years we have eliminated the incinerator and the smokestacks. We have remediated the creek and all contami-



OPINIONS

Democrats' election perils have little to do with 'wokeness'

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n the wake of Democrats' November election debacle, they are looking for who or what to blame. The initial targets are critical race theory, "wokeness," and congressional progressives known as "the Squad," in particular Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez. If Democrats accept the narrative that swing voters



ALAN SINGER

rejected "extremism," they are doomed to lose big in 2022 and 2024.

Leading Republicans have not shied away from extremism. In fact, they have embraced it. When Arizona Rep. Paul Gosar tweeted animated videos showing him killing Ocasio-Cortez and attacking

President Biden with a sword, Republicans in Congress overwhelmingly voted against censuring him. They blame Biden for the recent spike in Covid-19 cases, while they actively campaign against mandatory vaccination and masking.

Former House Speaker Newt Gingrich is promoting right-wing "replacement theories" that were behind the 2017 neo-Nazi rally in Charlottesville, Va. On Fox News, Gingrich accused leftists of trying to drown out "classic Americans" and replace them with people who know nothing of the country's history and traditions because they want to "get rid of the rest of us." Fox's Tucker Carlson repeated Gingrich's claims, accusing Democrats of

trying to "change the racial mix of the country" so they can "reduce the political power of people whose ancestors lived here"

Meanwhile, the Republican rank-andfile have disrupted local school board meetings, denouncing

school curricula, library books and efforts to combat the pandemic. The New York Times reported a "disturbing spike in threats against school board officials" and "hundreds of intimidating messages to election officials in at least a dozen states."

The Democrats lost this year, however, because of their failure to articulate a clear agenda that would

have provided an alternative narrative to GOP talking points; internal bickering that undermined legislative initiatives and made them appear incompetent; and deep-seated white racism that allowed the argument that critical race theory is invading our schools to take hold.

In Kenosha, Wis., a largely white jury acquitted a 17-year-old white man who brought an assault rifle to a Black Lives Matter rally and killed two of the protesters because he thought he was defending himself from attack by his unarmed victims. That decision had nothing to do with critical race theory or leftwing "wokeness" and everything to do with white fear of Blacks. It was celebrated by white vigilante groups as justification for their behavior, and Kyle Rittenhouse was proclaimed a Second Amendment hero by

conservative politicians and right-wing news outlets.

On CNN, the recently fired Chris Cuomo interviewed comedian and commentator Bill Maher about a supposed leftwing peril threatening the U.S., feeding

him a series of softball questions. After acknowledging that "I'm not in schools" and "I have no interaction with children," Maher said he had heard from people across the country that "kids are sometimes separated into groups, oppressor and oppressed" and are being taught that "racism is the essence of America." He derided this practice as "just silly; it's just virtue-signaling," and

accused people advocating for curriculum revision of being "afraid to acknowledge progress," a psychological disorder he labeled "progressophobia."

I kept waiting for Cuomo to ask Maher for an example — any example — to support his claims, but Cuomo never did, and Maher never felt compelled to offer any evidence. On his HBO show, Maher promotes a group of contrarians who want to start their own college, where they will be free to present offensive ideas and dismiss objections without having to provide supporting evidence or answer to anyone. Cuomo never asked Maher about that, either.

The more serious problems for Democrats and progressives worldwide are new surges of the coronavirus that have led to closings, supply-chain disruptions and

inflation spikes, as well as counterattacks on climate-change initiatives.

In Europe, protests against newly imposed Covid-19 restrictions turned into riots in Austria, Belgium and the Netherlands, and in Germany they boosted the right-wing vote. This has nothing to do with teaching critical race theory in American schools and everything to do with international right-wing fear-mongering and mobilization.

The other real problem is denial of the impending climate catastrophe, and efforts to block restrictions on the production and use of fossil fuels. Global leaders sang Kumbaya after the Glasgow Climate Change Conference and then went home, where they will implement inadequate or phantom measures. Wealthy GOP and fossil-fuel industry donors in the U.S. are pouring money into the re-election campaign accounts of nominally Democratic senators Joe Manchin, of West Virginia, and Kyrsten Sinema, of Arizona, to influence them to stand firm against cleanenergy initiatives. Again, this has nothing to do with "wokeness" or the fictional claim that children are being indoctrinated into critical race theory in American

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LETTERS

nated land in the city. The waterfront, formerly useless, now has a park for children, a dog park, beautiful condos and apartments. It is still a work in progress. The downtown development and events like Downtown Sounds are making this city a beautiful home for its residents with new retail to come.

The promoters give grandiose numbers for the "income stream" to the city: to repair roads, upgrade infrastructure, etc., but no numbers for the cost of a rise in crime. Our police department, a very fine one, would more than likely have to be increased and probably retrained in how to deal with a whole new set of situations. All the surrounding area has opted out, so we would become a mecca for the purchase of this gateway drug. Marijuana users are 2.6 times more likely to abuse opioids, and with opioid use now at an alltime high, is this what we want for our city? What is the price for which Glen Cove sells its soul?

There has been a rash of robberies of dispensaries in the San Francisco

Bay area. Our city would become a drawing card for this type of crime. Those who come would probably not immediately leave, and it would become a hangout. Citizens would no longer feel safe. If we opt in, there is no opting out when things go badly.

Please opt out!

MARIE COYLE

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9 Cromwell PI, Sea Cliff, NY

71 Smith Street, Glen Head, NY

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PENDING SALES

22 Cedar Ln N #22, Glen Head, NY 70L Glen Keith Road, Glen Cove, NY



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Wishing everyone a happy, healthy & safe holiday season.

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