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Sixth-graders create 3D cells
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DECEMBER 16 - 22, 2021



Tab Hauser/Herald

Toy drive roars into the city

Adrian Albarado pushed his Lamborghini past a full-sized McLaren at the 11th annual Toys for Tots collection on Dec. 5. Story, more photos, Page 3.

Glen Cove opts out of pot sales

BY JILL NOSSA
jnossa@liherald.com

After a lengthy public hearing Tuesday night, the Glen Cove City Council voted unanimously to opt out of allowing cannabis retail dispensaries and onsite consumption locations. Opponents and proponents spoke passionately, offering facts and statistics to make their cases.

Municipalities that choose to opt out of marijuana sales prior to the state's Dec. 31 deadline can reverse their decisions and opt in at a later date, but choosing to opt in will preclude them from opting out in the future.

Tuesday's meeting was the second public discussion on the matter, the first having taken place on Nov. 23. The public hearing has technically remained open since then, allowing residents an opportunity to express their

opinions to members of the City Council over the three-week period. In the end, however, council members said they did not believe the city had enough guidance from the state to opt in now.

We have been given the power to vote on opting in sales, but we have not yet been given the tools to do so in a safe, protected manner.

DR. EVE LUPENKO-FERRANTE
City councilwoman

"I would love to see the benefits of cannabis being sold in Glen Cove, financially, and be kind of a leader in this initiative," Councilwoman Marsha Silverman said while casting her vote. "However, at this point, with the New York state commission just starting to get established, we do not have enough in place right now to make the decision that's irreversible if we opt in. The prudent thing to do is to opt out now, and revisit that. I do make a commitment that I will do my best to bring this back, and when we have more full information on zoning, planning

CONTINUED ON PAGE 13

Glen Cove Hospital to buy first MRI unit, thanks to donation

BY JILL NOSSA
jnossa@liherald.com

More expansions are expected at Glen Cove Hospital, including an MRI suite, thanks to a donation from a North Shore family. The hospital recently received a \$1 million gift from John and Diana Colgate for the purchase of its first in-house MRI machine and the creation of an MRI suite. The amount contributes significantly toward the \$3 million total cost that the hospital is raising to purchase this technology, which is critical for detection, diagnosis and treatment of many medical conditions.

"We are so grateful for this gift from the Colgates, which will elevate the care and comfort of all our patients," said Kerri Scanlon, the hospital's executive director.

The Colgates have supported Glen Cove Hospital for more than 40 years, including donations to the oncology and emergency departments. They were inspired to make their latest gift to help bring an MRI to Glen Cove Hospital after Diana Colgate's personal experience last year. While being treated as a patient at the hospital, Colgate's care team determined she needed an MRI.

"I thought to myself, there are

so many more people here who are sicker and older than I am who need an MRI," said Diana, who is an honorary trustee on Northwell Health's board of trustees. "We want to bring this technology on site to enhance efficient, convenient care for patients."

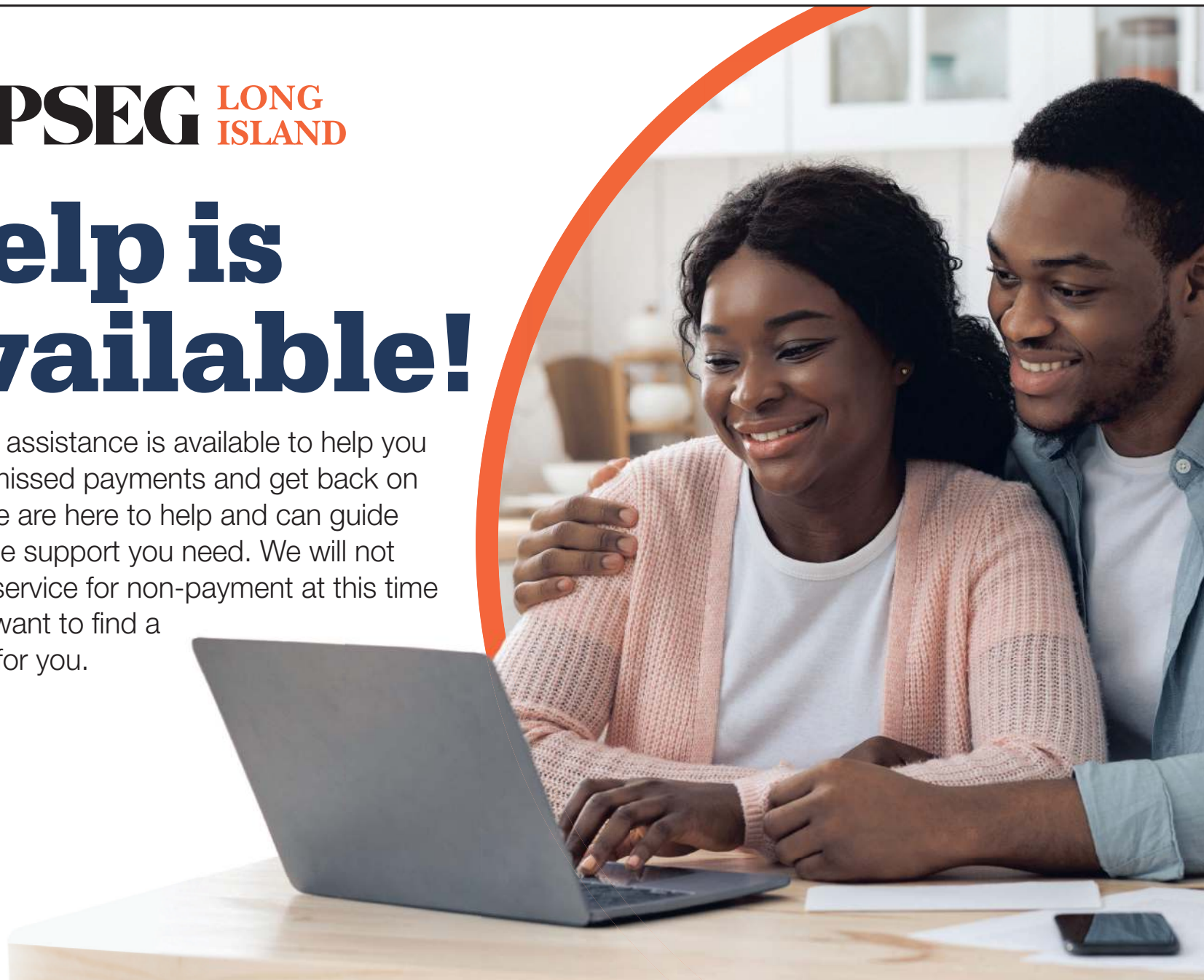
"An MRI is important for all patients, but when this happens to your own family, it really gets your attention," said John Colgate, a great-great-grandson of William Colgate, who began a soap and candle business in the early 1800s that later became the Colgate-Palmolive Company. "Glen Cove Hospital is an incred-

CONTINUED ON PAGE 12



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- No disconnection of electric service for non-payment before January 2022
- A new or restructured deferred payment agreement with no down payment, late fees or penalties

Financial Assistance

If you need help paying your bill, you might be eligible for financial assistance from the following programs:

- Home Energy Assistance Program (HEAP)
- Emergency HEAP
- United Way of Long Island's Project Warmth

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- Available to households that qualify for HEAP
- Funds can be applied to past due charges for electricity or natural gas



Learn more about available resources at **PSEGLINY.com/Assistance** or call **800-490-0025** today

HERALD NEIGHBORS



Photos by Tab Hauser/Herald

JOE LAPADULA OF Martino Auto Concepts in Glen Cove, kneeling in front of Santa, helped organize the 11th annual Toys for Tots collection drive on Dec. 5

Thousands of toys collected for Toys for Tots

One of the nation's largest one-day Toys for Tots collection drives—an event launched 11 years ago by Glen Cove's Joe LaPadula and Jon Holzer of Martino Auto Concepts—returned to Nassau Veterans Memorial Coliseum on Sunday, Dec. 5.

The toy drive took place in the parking lot of Nassau Veterans Memorial Coliseum. Organizers said that last year's event generated more than 126,000 contributions toward Toys for Tots Long Island's annual mission to distribute hundreds of thousands of toys to deserving children in Nassau and Suffolk Counties.

"We are so thankful to everyone who works so diligently to make this a tre-

mendous success year after year," Nassau County Legislator Delia DeRiggi-Whitton said. "I'm especially grateful for the tireless efforts of Joe LaPadula and Jon Holzer of Martino Auto Concepts, and thankful for everything that the Nassau County Police Department, our partners in law enforcement, and Nassau County Executive Laura Curran's team has done to support us in our effort to make the holidays brighter for so many deserving families."

Residents can support Toys for Tots at drop-off locations in their community throughout the holiday season. Visit toysfortots.org to find a location near you or to make a monetary donation.



JOE LAPADULA AND Jon Holzer of Glen Cove's Martino Auto Concepts.

LEG. DELIA DERIGGI-WHITTON helped spread the word about the annual event.

THE EVENT ATTRACTED about 5,000 people and 2,000 cars, and tens of thousands of toys were collected.



Preserving memories for future generations

December 16, 2021 – GLEN COVE HERALD

BY JILL NOSSA

jnossa@liherald.com

Throughout the pandemic, many small businesses have struggled, while others have thrived. For Gill Associates Photography on School Street in Glen Cove, the pandemic impact was mixed. While the photography business was forced to come to a standstill, the other side of the business – video transfers – had a surprising boon.

“The videotapes kept us going through the pandemic, because everything else was closed,” Tony Gallego, owner of Gill Associates, said. “People came in with boxes of old tapes. During the pandemic, people were at home, had nothing to do, went to the attic and found old movies.”

His photography business was shut down for the better part of a year, because even as some restrictions lifted, many venues were still closed for another six to eight months. Having the video transfers to fall back on saved the business. “It was a blessing,” he said.

The studio works with a wide variety of materials, including video tape in VHS, Beta and PAL formats, 8mm and 16mm movie film, 35mm slides and negatives, cassette and reel-to-reel audio tape, photographs, and more. All work is performed on-site at the Glen Cove location. Video editing, photo montages and photo restorations are also available services. Digital files can be saved to DVDs or USB thumb drives, which is now more common with the advent of smart televisions.

“People bring in their old memories, old movies, old tapes,” Gallego said. “They haven’t seen the movies in 20 or 30 or 40 years. Sometimes people think these memories are lost, and when we bring them back to life, they cry.”

Having a local facility to bring these old movies to can be a relief for some people, knowing they are safe and secure, and Gallego said they offer quality control that customers won’t necessarily get at other facilities.

“We don’t sit and watch them, but we keep an eye on them,” Gallego said. “A lot of times, people tape over their tapes, so there’s cartoons, or movies, and we don’t charge them for that. We call them up and ask if it’s right, and they’ll say yes or no.”



Courtesy Gill Associates Photography

GILL ASSOCIATES PHOTOGRAPHY is equipped to transfer videos from many formats into a digital format.

When Gill Associates started transferring videos into a digital format, they would digitize to CDs or DVDs, but now most customers want thumb drives, Gallego said, which is actually better quality.

“In the old days, everything went to DVD,” Gallego said. “But DVDs are limited – there’s only four gigabytes on a DVD, so the movies had to be compressed and were limited to low-res definition. With the USB, we can do high-def, there’s no limit on the amount, and people can put a ton of movies on one tiny little thumb

drive. The beauty of it is, once it’s digitized, it can now be uploaded, edited, and put on the Internet. And the thumb drives are indestructible.”

Karen Galvin, of Glen Head hired Gal-

lego to photograph her wedding 18 years ago. After her mother died, she said, she was going through her things and found VHS tapes of home movies. Rather than hang onto the tapes, she said, she decided to digitize them and brought them to Gallego last year. “Tony’s great,” she said. “He’s very knowledgeable and so easy to work with.”

Anne Marie Gallius of Glen Cove brought in about 20 movie reels to Gill Associates to be transferred onto a thumb drive early in the year. “I’d sat on these movies for years, and decided it was a good time to do it.”

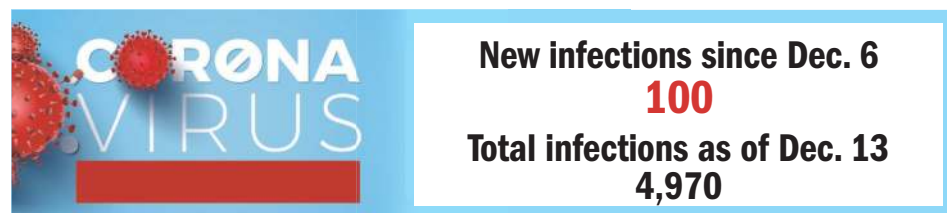
She said her parents collected videos of trips and family events throughout the years, and when her father died two years ago, the collection went to her. She wanted to share them with her family, she said, and transferring to a digital format made the most sense. “He did a fantastic job,” she said. “My family was ecstatic to get them.”

The holiday season is a popular time for people to bring in old movies, and Gallego, especially since many families like to watch them as they gather together. “During the holidays, people come home and they’ll have a movie night and play old movies.”

Recently Gill Associates produced some 18,000 photo scans for a single client. Turnaround time is quick, but may be slower closer to the holidays. Their current promotion offers a free USB thumb drive with any order.

“We started this service in Glen Cove over 20 years ago,” Gallego said. “And it amazes me that there is so much of this video material still out there. People are discovering that their long lost movies can have a new life.”

Gill Associates Photography is located at 58 School Street, downtown Glen Cove. It is open Monday through Friday, 9:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. and on Saturdays by appointment. Call (516) 676-1833.





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Gov. Hochul requires masks yet again in NYS

BY ANNEMARIE DURKIN
adurkin@liherald.com

Masks are once again required at all indoor public places in New York unless an establishment requires proof of full vaccination against the coronavirus, Gov. Kathy Hochul said on Dec. 10. The mandate will remain in place until Jan. 15, when Hochul said she will take another look at where New York stands, and adapt the mandate to the circumstances.

As of Monday, anyone over the age of 2 is now required to wear a mask covering their face and nose at all times while in an indoor public space. Businesses and venues that choose to impose a vaccine mandate would not be required to also mandate masks, according to Hochul's office. Those in violation of the mandate are subject to a \$1,000 fine. Local health departments will be tasked with enforcing the mandate.

"As governor, my top priority is to protect the health of New Yorkers and the health of our economy, and these temporary measures will help us get through the holiday season safely," Hochul said Monday at a news conference. "I share everyone's frustration that we have gotten to this point, especially with the vaccine at our disposal ... if others follow suit, these measures will no longer be necessary."

The governor's decision came just days after the emergence of the omicron variant in the state, along with a predicted winter surge of Covid-19 cases and hospitalizations statewide, threatening a hospital bed shortage like the one suffered just last year.

"All of the science supports that wearing masks is an important tool to slow the spread of the virus; until we are at a place where virus transmission is very low, masks should be worn in schools," Roger Friedman, a parent from Sea Cliff said. "The only way out of this pandemic is



Courtesy NYS Pressroom

NEW YORK STATE Governor Kathy Hochul imposed yet another mask mandate effective starting Dec. 10, as the state braces for the inevitable surge of positive Covid cases as a result of colder weather.

through mitigation measures including vaccinations, testing, social distancing and masking. If we all pulled together and did all of these things we could put this horrible pandemic behind us."

With Monday's mandate, New York joins several states that have already re-imposed similar indoor mask mandates, including Washington, Oregon, Illinois, New Mexico, Nevada and Hawaii, as some parts of the country grapple with some of their worst positive case spikes of the pandemic so far.

On Sunday, Long Island reported a seven-day positivity level of 6.66 percent, while some areas further upstate reached around 9 percent in comparison. New York City had the lowest level in the state, at 2.81 percent, where proof of vaccination is required for entry into indoor public places such as restaurants and theaters.

These numbers, as well as studies from the state's Department of Health indicate that the Covid-19 vaccines are effective, particularly in preventing severe disease. Health officials are continuing to urge eligible New Yorkers to get fully vaccinated and boosted as soon as possible.

Some leaders across the state said they would not follow the order, while others said they would, at least partially. Hochul indicated she will not seek a confrontation with those who oppose it. State officials are still unaware of how effective the mandate will be if some counties opt out and are not compelled to enforce it.

As for Nassau, a spokesman for County Executive-elect Bruce Blakeman said he would not enforce the mandate once he takes office on Jan. 1. He joins several upstate county leaders who said they are refusing to enforce the order:

"Nassau County is not in crisis, and should not be painted with the same broad brush as the rest of the state," Blakeman said Monday in a statement. "Ninety-seven percent of adults in Nassau County have received at least their first dose of the vaccine, and Nassau hospitals have adequate capacity to handle existing demand," he said.

Although the percentage of New Yorkers fully vaccinated continues to increase, that rise "is not fast enough to completely curb the spread of the virus, particularly among communities with low vaccination coverage," the state said in a release on Dec. 10. Since Thanksgiving, the statewide seven-day average case rate has increased by 43 percent and hospitalizations have increased by 29 percent.

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HERALD SPORTS

Speedy Claxton-led Hofstra aims high

By **ANDREW COEN**
sports@liherald.com

Speedy Claxton elevated Hofstra to new heights as a player, and now he's looking to do the same from the bench.

The new Hofstra men's basketball head coach and former NBA guard took over the program this past spring 21 years after he led his alma mater to the 2000 NCAA Tournament as champions of the America East. He will now look to his alma mater back into March Madness two years after Hofstra captured the Colonial Athletic Association (CAA) title just before the NCAA Tournament was canceled due to the start of the pandemic.

"I still have to stop to pinch myself," said Claxton, who played 10 years in the NBA and was part of the San Antonio Spurs' 2003 championship run. "I'm blessed and I look forward to leading this program into the future."

Claxton's coaching debut nearly featured a monumental upset when Hofstra fell at 15th-ranked Houston 83-75 in overtime after holding a 13-point lead with 8:30 left. The game showcased the talents of Pride newcomer Zach Cooks, a graduate student transfer guard from NJIT who scored a game-high 26 points. Junior guard Aaron Estrada, a transfer from Oregon, also shined during his first game in a Hofstra uniform with 15 points.

The Houston game was played without fifth-year graduate student guard Jalen Ray, who scored 18 points in Hofstra's 69-67 loss to then-20th ranked Maryland on Nov. 19. Guards Caleb Burgess and Omar Silverio also return after playing key roles on last year's 13-10 team that fell to Elon in the CAA semifinals. Sophomore Darlistone Dubar, an Iowa State transfer, adds to the Pride's guard depth.

Red-shirt sophomore forward Kvon Cramer earned CAA All-Rookie team honors as a freshman last year and Claxton is looking for more of a breakthrough in 2022. Abayomi Iyiola, a 6-10 redshirt senior forward and Arkansas transfer, also provides an inside presence.

Hofstra (6-5) was picked fifth in the CAA preseason poll. The Pride open conference play at William & Mary on Dec. 29 with its CAA home opener on tap for Jan. 3 against UNC-Wilmington (UNCW) on Jan. 3 at 8 p.m.

"I think we will be in the upper echelon of the conference," Claxton said. "It's wide open with a number of teams that can win it."



Courtesy Hofstra Athletic Communications

GRADUATE STUDENT JALEN Ray, left, entered the season ranked 17th on Hofstra's all-time scoring list with 1,334 career points.

Pride looks to continue rise

By **ANDREW COEN**
sports@liherald.com

Hofstra women's basketball made strides in Danielle Santos Atkinson's second season as head coach by nearly tripling its win total last season despite playing 10 fewer games.

Santos Atkinson is now hoping to build off last year's 8-12 season where the Pride went 5-7 in the CAA and reached the conference semifinals. Hofstra improved from a three-win 2019-20 season that featured a number of close losses.

"Our goal is to build off of how we finished the season last year," said Santos Atkinson. "It all came together at the end of the year."

The Pride returned eight players, including senior JaKayla Bown, a preseason All-CAA selection who averaged 16.3 points per game last season. Brown suffered an injury in last Saturday's 59-37 loss to Ole Miss and missed the remainder of the game.

Junior guard Sorelle Ineza adds a spark to the Hofstra offense after missing last season due to injury following a freshman season that landed her on the All-CAA Rookie Team. Ineza hit a buzzer beater on a long two-point jumper in Hofstra's 55-53 victory against Loyola Maryland on Nov. 20.

"Having her on the floor has definitely been a breath of fresh air," said Santos Atkinson of

Ineza. "She is such a positive and optimistic person and just has a calming spirit about her."

Seniors Jaylen Hines, Jahnsni Knight and Jaala Henry also add experience as returning starters. Henry, who transferred to Hofstra from Pittsburgh in 2019, tallied a career high 16 points in a 72-57 win at Kennesaw State on Nov. 26.

Hofstra (3-5) closes non-conference play with a weekday matinee against Long Island rival Stony Brook this Tuesday at 1 p.m. and then makes a short trip to Manhattan for a Dec. 28 matchup with Columbia. The CAA schedule tips off on New Year's Eve with a home game against UNCW at 2 p.m.



Courtesy Hofstra Athletic Communications

JAKAYLA BROWN IS coming off a big junior campaign that saw her lead the Pride with 16 points per game.

HERALD SCHOOLS



Photos courtesy Glen Cove City School District

STUDENTS DISPLAYED THEIR projects for their classmates and teachers to see. The students got to choose whether they wanted to construct a plant cell or an animal cell.

THE STUDENTS USED various kinds of creative materials to create their cells, including styrofoam balls, baking trays, and edible items to represent organelles.



Finley sixth-graders create 3D cell models

While studying their science unit on cells, sixth-grade students at Robert M. Finley Middle School in the Glen Cove City School District were tasked with building a 3D plant or animal cell model. The students worked together to create their models, which gave them the opportunity to learn about cells through a hands-on learning experience.

"This collaborative project helped students learn about different types of cells and the function of organelles within a cell using STEM principles centered in design," said John Piteris, district coordinator of science K-12. "This was a fun

activity to get students engaged with the cell unit of their science curriculum."

Students used styrofoam balls and baking trays for their cell replicas and edible materials like orange slices, sour belts, and gelatin to represent various organelles such as ribosomes, the mitochondria, and chloroplasts within the cell. Creating cell models helps students visualize cells and helps teachers evaluate a student's understanding of cell structures. The students showcased their models in the mini center for their classmates to view.

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COMMUNITY UPDATE

Friday, Dec. 17

Theodore's Books Special Holiday Shopping Event

From 5:30 to 7:30 p.m., get some of your holiday shopping done, with a little Christmas libations at Theodore's Books, located at 17 Audrey Ave., Oyster Bay.

Teen After School Movie: Fred Claus.

Take a break and watch a movie in the Oyster Bay East Norwich Public Library Community Room: "Fred Claus." Of the two Claus brothers, Fred is the troublemaker and polar opposite of his saintly sibling, Nicholas. When Fred's criminal ways finally land him in big trouble, Nicholas bails him out and brings him to the North Pole to work off the debt by making toys. The headaches mount for St. Nick, who not only must deal with his troublemaking brother, but also an efficiency expert who has come to evaluate Santa's operation. For grades 5-12 only. Show starts at 3:30 p.m. No registration is required.

Saturday, Dec. 18

Observing Winter Birds

The North Shore's winter visiting birds make their appearance in the area this time of year; from 11 a.m. to noon, and again from 2 to 3 p.m., observe and learn how they manage our cold weather and what you can do to help them at Garvies Point Museum and Preserve, 50 Barry Drive, in Glen Cove.

Deep Roots Winter Market

Offering locally grown produce, eggs, meats and dairy, fresh baked bread and sweets, honey, maple syrup, grab-and-go as well as bake-at-home prepared foods and other locally made goods, the Deep Roots Winter Market will take place on Saturdays through April, at 100 Village Square, on Bridge Street, in Downtown Glen Cove.

Slayer Players "A Christmas Carol"

The Slayer Players return to the stage this season with an original contemporary adaptation of the holiday classic. The troupe will stage two performances of "A Christmas Carol 2021: Covid? Bah Humbug!" at the



Courtesy Hive Market and Maker's Space

Chunky Blanket Workshop

Head to Hive Market and Maker's Space at 100-102 Audrey ave in Oyster Bay at 7 p.m. on Dec. 20 for a workshop where attendees will learn how to make a chunky style hand-knit blanket. The workshop's \$65 registration fee includes all material and instruction. Everyone leaves with a completed blanket. Attendees are invited to bring their own snack and beverage. Additional workshop date on Jan. 3.

View Grill, on Dec. 18 at 7:30 p.m. and on Dec. 19 at 3:30 p.m. Adults are \$12 or two for \$20, children are \$5. Admission includes complimentary glass of beer, wine, hot cocoa, and hors d'oeuvres by Chef Jeanine. Call 516-200-9603 for reservations.

Sunday, Dec. 19

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

Bereavement Support Group Meeting

The absence of a loved one during the holiday season may be difficult and painful to

deal with; one does not have to grieve alone. Join the group at 3 p.m. at the St. Boniface Martyr school, 12 Main Avenue, Sea Cliff. There are no fees. To register call Dr. David Meagher at (516) 458-0596.

Monday, Dec. 20

It's A Wonderful Life: The Making of a Holiday Classic

Even if you've seen the classic holiday film 150 times, you'll love this fun program that explores the story of the movie's creation including how the script evolved, how the cast was chosen, and the technical challenges that were overcome. You'll find out what happened to the cast and enjoy rare photographs taken behind the scenes. Rediscover Frank Capra's masterpiece like you've never seen it before. Presented by the Oyster Bay East Norwich Public Library via Zoom at 7 p.m. Go to bayvillefreelibrary.org to register for the link.

Tuesday, Dec. 21

Winter Movie Night

Join the Bayville Public Library for a movie and snacks starting at 4 p.m. in the meeting room. Celebrate the first day of winter and watch a "Frozen" film.

Wednesday, Dec. 22

Wrap and Yap Party

Tired of waiting until 1 a.m. when everyone's asleep to wrap gifts? Need a place to go that your friends and loved ones won't see what you've bought them for the holiday? Need help wrapping oddly shaped items? Head to the library for a night of gift wrapping and chatting starting at 4 p.m. at the Bayville Free Library. Bring all your presents, wrapping paper, and bows and wrap without worry. Refreshments and snacks will be provided.

Virtual Bingo

Beginning at 7 p.m. each participant will receive two cards which can be played

virtually instantly, or print out your bingo cards for later. After you register via oysterbaylibrary.org, you will receive an invitation to attend this free Zoom event.

Thursday, Dec. 23

Igloo Dining at Coach Meeting House

The group "Hungry in Huntington" is hosting casual dinner and drinks meetup at the Coach Meeting House at 160 Mill River Rd. in Oyster Bay. Attendees can look forward to celebrating the holidays in the igloo and firepit village, where each party has their own igloo with a couch, adirondack chairs, television, electric space heater and speaker. Each igloo also has access to their own firepit outside as well. A smart phone is needed to order food. Begins at 7 p.m. RSVP online at www.meetup.com/hungry-in-huntington.

Christmas Celebration Luncheon

The Life Enrichment Center located at 45 Main st in Oyster Bay, is hosting a luncheon in celebration of Christmas, starting with "Cookies with Mrs. Claus" at 11:15 a.m., followed by lunch and special entertainment by Theresa Marils. Ticket reservations are required and can be made online at lifeenrichmentcenteroysterbay.com.

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 adurkin@iherald.com

5 things to know about your town

- Gold Coast Library's "Movie at the Library," Dec. 17 at 2 p.m. This week's movie is "What's up Doc?" (1972).
- The Oyster Bay East Norwich Board of Education meeting scheduled for Dec. 21 has been cancelled.
- The Glen Cove Board of Education's next meeting will be Jan. 5, at 7:30 p.m.
- The North Shore Board of Education will meet next on Jan. 20 at 7:45 p.m.
- The Oyster Bay Town Board's first meeting of the new year is Jan. 12 at 10 a.m.



THANK YOU FOR VOTING in the Herald Long Island Choice Awards

TOP 3 FINALISTS IN DINING

All-Around Restaurant

Da Nicola
Remy's Italian Restaurant
River Mill

Bagel Store

Bagel Boss
Bagel Express
Long Island Bagel Cafe

Bakery

Country Boy Bakery
Front Street Bakery
Wall's Bake Shop

BBQ

Backyard Barbeque
Smokin' Al's
Swingbellys Beachside BBQ

Breakfast

Chateau Coffee Shop
IHOP - Oceanside
Thomas's Ham & Eggery Diner

Brunch

Churchill's
IHOP - Oceanside
The Garden City Hotel

Buffet

China Buffet King
Diwan Indian
DJ's International Buffet

Burger

All American Hamburger Drive In
American Burgers
Burgerology

Business Lunch

George Martin
Remy's Italian Restaurant
Thai Table Restaurant

Butcher Shop

Charlie's Butchers
Five Town Kosher Meats
Sons of a Butcher

Carry Out/ Curbside

Island Empanada of Merrick
Pantano's Gourmet
Thai Table Restaurant

Caterer

Bagel Boss
Delicious Moments Caterers
Sand Castle Wedding Venue

Chinese Food

Danny's Chinese Kitchen
Little Fu's
Spring Garden

Cocktails

Cabo RVC
Michael's Billiards
The Anchor Tavern

Deli/Sandwich Shop

Lynbrook Deli & Caterers
My Hero
Woodro Kosher Restaurant & Caterers

Dessert

Dolce Confections
Sugarberry Bakery Cafe
Wall's Bake Shop

Diner

Golden Reef Diner
Imperial Diner
Valbrook Diner

Dining Experience

Da Nicola
Remy's Italian Restaurant
Thai Table Restaurant

Doughnuts

Dough Hut
Doughology
North Fork Doughnut Company

Early Bird Dinner

Greek Town
Thai Table Restaurant
Valbrook Diner

Farm Stand

Bob's Natural Foods
Crossroads Farm at Grossmann's
Harbes Family Farm - Mattituck

Fine Dining

Baldoria
Jimmy Hays Steak House
Remy's Italian Restaurant

Fish Market

Arties South Shore Fish Market and Grill
Hewlett Fish Market
Jordan Lobster Farms

Food Truck

Birria Tacos of Valley Stream
Taco Tuesdays
Vincent's NYWF Pizza

French Fries

All American Hamburger Drive In
Press 195
Valbrook Diner

Fried Chicken

Valley Caterers
Wings 'n Things
Zorn's of Bethpage

German Food

Das Biergarten
Oak Chalet
Plattduetsche Park

Greek Food

B Greek Kitchen
Greek Corner
Greek Town

Happy Hour

Brix & Barley
Michael's Billiards
Waterzoo

Ice Cream

Five Pennies Creamery
Hewlett Station Yogurt
Marvel Frozen Dairy

Indian Food

Diwan
Raagini
The Curry Club

Italian Food

Da Nicola
Lia's Pizzeria and Restaurant
Mia's

Japanese Food

Inatome Japanese Steak + Sushi
Kashi
Nagoya Japanese Restaurant

Latin Food

Cabo RVC
Corazon De Cuba Taqueria
Island Empanada of Merrick

Local Coffee Shop

Chateau Coffee Shop
Coffee Booths
Heavenly Coffee

Mexican Food

Ay! Caramba!
Cabo A Taste Of Mexico
The Cabana

New Restaurant

Mangia Bene
PRIME 39
Union Sushi & Steak

Organic/Natural Food

Bob's Natural Foods
Tiger Lily Cafe
Village Juice Garden

Outdoor Dining

Jordan Lobster Farms
Remy's Italian Restaurant
SALT

Pizza

Friendlier
Gino's Pizza in Long Beach
Lia's Pizzeria and Restaurant

Pretzel

Knot of this World Pretzels
Philly Pretzel Factory
Pretzel Stop

Romantic Restaurant

Da Nicola
Remy's Italian Restaurant
San Remo

Seafood

Bigelow's New England Fried Clams
CrabShack
Jordan Lobster Farms

Smoothie

Bob's Natural Foods
Fit by Globish
Tropical Smoothie Cafe

Specialty Pizza

Friendlier
Lia's Pizzeria and Restaurant
Vincent's in Lynbrook

Steakhouse

Frank's Steaks
Jimmy Hays Steak House
Peter Luger's Steakhouse

Sushi

Inatome Japanese Steak + Sushi
Kashi
Nagoya Japanese Restaurant

Thai Food

Centre Thai Bistro
Lemonleaf Grill
Thai Table Restaurant

Vegetarian/Vegan

Bob's Natural Foods
Leona and 3 Brothers
Tiger Lily Cafe

Wings

Croxley's Great American Ale House
Pearsall's Station
Wing Zone

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NEIGHBORS IN THE NEWS



Photos courtesy Glen Cove Angler's Club

MEMBERS OF THE Glen Cove Angler's Club collected almost 100 toys to donate to St. Paul's Episcopal Church.

Angler's Club collects toys

On Wednesday, December 8, the Glen Cove Angler's Club held its annual holiday party and toy drive. The club collected close to 100 toys to benefit St. Paul's Episcopal Church in Glen Cove.



FATHER SHAWN WILLIAMS of St. Paul's, Angler's Club Commodore Salvatore Groe and City Councilwoman Marsha Silverman.

Courtesy Solid 70s Band

SOLID 70S BAND will perform in Village Square on Dec. 31, from 7:30 to 9:30 p.m.

Ring in the new year in G.C.

Downtown Glen Cove is getting ready to end the year on a high note and inviting the community to dance in the streets for one final time in 2021. Normally a summer event, the Downtown Sounds concert series is offering an additional New Year's Eve concert, with the Solid 70s performing in Glen Cove's Village Square from 7:30 to 9:30 p.m.

"I'm so excited to celebrate New Year's Eve downtown," said Patricia Holman, Executive Director of the Glen Cove Downtown Business Improvement District. "We're looking forward to people dining in one of our downtown restaurants, and then dancing in the square. It should be a fun

time for our residents and a good opportunity for our businesses."

Solid 70s is a Long Island-based six-piece band playing all the hit songs from the 1970s, with hit songs from the 1960s and 1980s included in their set.

"I'm thrilled that we're able to bring the very first New Year's Eve concert in Glen Cove to ring in the new year," said Fred Guarino, chairperson of Downtown Sounds.

"Having these types of events are a way that we can reach out to more members of our community," Mayor Tim Tenke said. "by bringing them downtown to visit and support our local businesses."

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Colgates donate \$1M for MRI suite

CONTINUED FROM FRONT PAGE

ible community hospital that provides excellent care, and an MRI would make a meaningful difference in its continued success.”

An MRI (magnetic resonance imaging) machine takes noninvasive, detailed photos of organs and structures within the body that help physicians diagnose injury and disease or evaluate treatment. Currently about 350 patients a year needing MRI assessment at Glen Cove Hospital are transported via ambulance, accompanied by a nurse, to a nearby Northwell Health imaging center at 10 Medical Plaza.

While the closest one is only blocks from the hospital, the situation is not ideal, Scanlon said. “That’s not the care we want to render,” she said. “When you’re a patient and in any type of distress or discomfort, you don’t want to be put on an ambulance.”

While it’s inconvenient, Scanlon said, the method has worked so far without affecting patient care. “There’s never been a clinical impact because we are able to navigate it,” Scanlon said. “If a patient came into the emergency department with something we didn’t feel a CT scan would be appropriate, we would transfer that patient immediately to either North Shore University Hospital, Long Island Jewish Medical Center or South Shore University Hospital.”

The new MRI suite will be particularly useful for patients in the hospital’s acute rehabilitation program, which has grown from 57 beds to 75 beds in the last two years and accommodates a large number of patients with neurological deficits, Scanlon said. “We want to advance the care we’re doing, and that means having an on-site MRI,” she noted. “Some patients end up with deep brain stimulators, and we want to advance and optimize the deep brain stimulation used for movement disorders. Also, if you have a subdural bleed or a stroke, it’s always excellent to have an MRI. Instead of transferring them for the study, we could be doing that for them here on site. It’s imperative for the future of this hospital.”

The proposed in-house MRI suite will accommodate two to three times more patients per day, and include on-call staff during evenings and nights to reduce or eliminate overnight waits, according to Melonie Pernice, Glen Cove Hospital’s associate executive director for hospital operations. The four-room suite will include a

waiting area and patient dressing room, as well as spaces for pre-screening and testing.

The addition will continue the hospital’s transformation as a health-care destination that is home to renowned surgeons and physicians and state-of-the-art facilities, according to Scanlon. She said Glen Cove is a Magnet-designated hospital for nursing excellence, and has established a Center of Excellence in Hernia Surgery, as well as innovative, cutting-edge programs in women’s surgery and head and neck surgery.

Without the community support, things don’t move along in a hospital.

BRIAN LALLY
 Senior vice president,
 Northwell Health

The latest donation supports Northwell’s Outpacing the Impossible campaign, a \$1 billion comprehensive fundraising effort to fuel innovation to advance health care and support Northwell’s promise to the people it serves. The campaign — which launched in October 2018 and to date has raised more than \$900 million — supports capital projects, improves hospitals and clinical programs, advances research, and funds endowment for teaching and research initiatives.

“Donors help us fulfill our mission as a nonprofit organization by accelerating our ability to raise health in our communities,” said Brian Lally, senior vice president and chief development officer at Northwell. “The Colgates’ generosity plays an important role in Glen Cove Hospital’s continued growth as a leading community hospital.”

According to Lally, donations to the hospital go back to its beginning, when it was founded by donations in 1922, only four years after Glen Cove became a city. “When you think about communities, it’s the anchor things—the newspaper, the police, the schools and the hospital,” Lally said. “These are organizations that are absolutely critical to the life of the community.”

Hospitals run on tight margins, he added. “Without the community support, things don’t move along in a hospital,” he said. “There are a lot of things that you can’t do or that take a lot longer to do without philanthropic support, and this gift is a perfect example.”

“As the hospital looks forward to its centennial next year, this MRI will likely be the technology most critical to our strategic growth and expansion,” Scanlon said, “and we hope the Colgates’ generosity inspires others to help us fulfill this goal.”

Opting out is seen as the ‘prudent’ move

CONTINUED FROM FRONT PAGE

and licenses and regulations in place, that we do revisit this. It would be an easy way to generate revenue . . . there could be benefits, but we’re just not ready yet.”

The resolution states the city’s opt-out decision prohibits only the retail sale of adult-use cannabis and the existence of on-site smoking locations. Opting out still allows residents to grow and consume marijuana in their homes, which will not violate the state’s cannabis laws.

Many of those who spoke in favor of opting out cited a potential rise in crime, particularly since the vendors would have to operate as cash businesses: Marijuana sales are illegal under federal law, so most banks will not work with businesses that sell it. Others said they were concerned about the health of children and young adults. Another common concern was the fact that most surrounding municipalities had already opted out — the Town of Oyster Bay having made the decision just a week earlier — which would likely bring more consumers to Glen Cove if it legalized sales.

Those on the other side argued that legalization would result in a financial windfall, because more businesses could open, and the city would receive 3 percent of the sales tax revenue from all purchases. To council members, however, that, too, was cause for concern, indicating the challenges the city could face



Courtesy Wikimedia Commons

GLEN COVE OPTED out of the state’s Marijuana Regulation and Taxation Act, effectively barring cannabis retail dispensaries and on-site consumption sites in the city, after a lengthy hearing Tuesday. The City Council will have the option to opt in in the future, should opinions on the matter change.

if it opted in.

“I think what’s very telling is that the Office of Cannabis Management just appointed their leaders less than 60 days ago,” Councilwoman Danielle Fugazy Scagliola said. “They’re not prepared, and we’re not prepared in terms of zoning where people can smoke. There are so many layers that need to be figured

out before we can go ahead and do this . . . I’d much rather have all of those variables scrutinized first, and then make a decision that makes sense for the community.”

Councilman John Perrone agreed that now is not the right time to opt in. “Clearly this is a one-way decision,” he said. “You make this decision and there’s no

turning back. As legislators, we have to think of the future of our community. I wholeheartedly understand the desire of people thinking this is a financial win for the community, but . . . we need to make sure before we take these steps.”

Councilwoman Eve Lupenko-Ferrante said there were many more associated issues than potential revenue, including the fact that credit cards and checks could not be used to pay for products; there is no way to test impairment while driving; and the purity and safety of cannabis products is not regulated. Lupenko-Ferrante also said there needed to be legislation in place to prevent marketing those products to children.

“We have been given the power to vote on opting in sales,” she said, “but we have not yet been given the tools to do so in a safe, protected manner.”

Mayor Tim Tenke said he appreciated everyone who spoke and provided information. The hundreds of other communities that have already opted out, he said, likely faced the same dilemma, and he added that the issue isn’t whether or not lawmakers are against smoking marijuana. “It’s not the right time to do this,” Tenke said. “We can always opt in when things are put in place. There are great arguments for both sides on this, but you have to do it the right way. I think this is the prudent way to proceed.

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Photo courtesy North Shore Biz Network

GRACIE DONALDSON, NSBN Promotions Manager (left) and Deborah Orgel-Gordon, NSBN founder (right) present Celeste Gullo (center) with her prize.

N.S. Biz Network encourages shopping locally

North Shore Biz Network safely hosted its second Small Business Saturday event last month, with a social media contest featuring participating businesses located in Glen Cove, Glen Head and Sea Cliff. This included: Artisan Jules Gifts and Goodness, Beautiful Flowers, COCO Confections and Coffee, Ella's Boutique & AquaBrasil, Gemelli Gourmet Market

North, Glen Cove Salt Cave, Guardian Angel Family Crisis Center and My Beautiful Mess. Shoppers were asked to post evidence of their local shopping on Facebook with the hashtag #NSBNSmallBiz-Sat to be entered to win \$280 worth of gift certificates from participating businesses. Celeste Gullo was announced as the contest winner on Nov. 29.

THE GREAT BOOK GURU

Baffled book club?

Dear Great Book Guru,
There has been so much going on in Sea Cliff 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 story.

—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: "The 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 based in an affluent suburban community, and 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.



**ANN
DIPIETRO**

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 discussions 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.

OBITUARIES

Mary Alice "Diane" Gilroy

Mary Alice "Diane" Gilroy formerly of Sea Cliff died on Nov. 19, 2021 at age 81. Beloved wife of the late James. Loving mother of the late Ann Marie. Dear sister of Mary, Rose, Margaret, Teresa, Kate and the Late Michael and James. Arrangements entrusted to Dodge-Thomas Funeral Home, Glen Cove. Service and interment are private.

Misiano, the late Michele and Teresa Berardi. Also survived by many loving nieces and nephews. Visiting and Funeral service held at Dodge-Thomas Funeral Home of Glen Cove. Interment at East Hillside Cemetery. www.DodgeThomas.com

Christine G. Varasano

Curtis Anthony Costa

Curtis Anthony Costa, 42, of Lacey, Washington, died on Nov. 16, 2021. He is survived by his mother, Patricia Costa; father, Thomas Costa; sister Nicole Braithwaite; brother-in-law Adam Braithwaite; nephew, Jackson Braithwaite; aunt, Catherine Costa; aunt and uncle, Teri and Kevin Davies; aunt, Mary Frees; aunt and uncle, Kim and Donald O'Leary; cousins, Kelly and Megan O'Leary and Samantha and John Frees; and girlfriend, Lauren Sallee. Preceding him in death was his father, Anthony Barone; his grandparent's, Donald and Frances O'Leary, Arsenio and Frances Barone, and Elvera and Frank Costa.

Christine G. Varasano of Sea Cliff passed peacefully at home surrounded by loved ones on Nov. 29, 2021. She leaves behind her husband Andrew, their daughters Ava and Mia, mother Ana, Father Dino, Sister Eleni, and mother-in-law Charlene as well as many great friends in the Sea Cliff community. She was an elementary school teacher in Roslyn for over two decades and misses all the wonderful children and colleagues she had the opportunity to meet. Her spirit will continue to look for the good in everyone and make all who know her better people.

Arrangements by Whitting Funeral Home, 300 Glen Cove Ave., Glen Head, NY 11545, www.whitting.com. Mass held at St. Patrick's Church in Huntington. Burial at St. Patrick's Cemetery in Huntington. Please consider a donation in Christine's name to Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center (<https://www.mskcc.org/>).

Curtis grew up in Glen Head where he attended North Shore Schools and later Chaminade High School. In his early 30s Curtis moved out to Washington State to explore life on the West Coast. Curtis was known and loved immediately by all wherever he was. He was charismatic, intelligent, witty, silly, and youthful and forever making those around him laugh. His personality and presence lit up the room and people were drawn to him, instantly feeling connected to him. In addition to his family, so many friends, many who became family over the years, survive him and will remember him.

While our hearts ache tremendously at our sudden loss of our beloved Curtis we find comfort in our beliefs that Curtis' struggles are over and he has now found peace and happiness in another life. His memory will live on in all the hearts of those who knew and loved him. Further information, www.whitting.com.

Barbara J. Schiraldi

Barbara J. Schiraldi of Glen Head died on Nov. 29, 2021 at age 86. Barbara was a direct descendant of the Coles family of Glen Cove. She was very active in St. Paul's Episcopal Church of Glen Cove. Beloved wife of William M. Loving mother of William F. and Lisa Schiraldi. Cherished grandmother of Sean, Kevin and Jenna. Visitation at Dodge-Thomas Funeral Home, Glen Cove. Service at St. Paul's Episcopal Church. Interment at Locust Valley Cemetery. Donations may be made in her memory to St. Paul's. www.dodgethomas.com

Jose Magaña

Jose Magaña of Glen Cove died on Nov. 27, 2021, at age 83. Beloved husband of Zoraida. Loving father of Aurora and Jose (Diana). Proud grandfather of Crystal, Joseph, Alexander, Enrique, Alyssa and Brooke. Also survived by many loving nieces, nephews and cousins in Morelia, Mexico. Visitation at Dodge-Thomas Funeral Home. Interment Locust Valley Cemetery.

Alfonso Pisano

Alfonso Pisano of Glen Cove died on Dec. 6, 2021, at age 59. Beloved son of the late Luigi and Rosina. Dear brother of Joseph (Philomena), Enzo, Rosario (Adele), Michele, Teresa Mingione, Ann Mannarino (Rocco), Rina Clark (David), Maria Mori (Ronnie), Daniella Carvelli (Enzo) and the late Francesco. Loving nephew of Anna and Frank Greco, Vincenza and Luigi

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OPINIONS

'Get Back,' the documentary, humanizes the Beatles

I have no memory of Beatlemania. The movement, which erupted in the early 1960s and was accompanied in the following years by an outpouring of teenage hysteria not seen since, is history to me, recalled only in books and films.

The Beatles released "Sgt. Pepper's Lonely Hearts Club Band" in 1967, the year I was born. I turned 3 shortly after the group dropped its last album, "Let It Be," the making of which was artfully documented recently in director and producer Peter Jackson's "The Beatles: Get Back," an eight-hour, three-part, semi-voyeuristic look at the Beatles' final days as they crafted



**SCOTT
BRINTON**

some of rock's most anthemic tunes, including "Get Back" and "Let It Be."

I have loved the Beatles' music since I was a child, so I had to watch this Disney+ film, despite the sometimes gnawing tedium of sitting and waiting for John Lennon, Paul McCartney, George Harrison and Ringo Starr to transform ostensibly everyday material into stardust.

The Beatles are enshrined in my earliest memories, their songs played on the radio long after the group's demise. For reasons that aren't entirely explainable, their music

became part and parcel of our collective psyche, melodies and harmonies that repeat in a continuous loop in our subconscious, readily retrievable at a moment's notice.

My Hofstra students know the Beatles, which is remarkable, given that a half-century has passed since the group famously broke up, and yet their music and mystique remain embedded in our culture, passed down from one generation to the next in films like "The Beatles: Get Back."

The problem with the Fab Four, to my mind, is this: John, Paul, George and Ringo are so often thought of not as human beings, but as icons, symbols of a bygone era that is often romanticized by those who came of age during one of the world's most tumultuous periods.

Gen X — which immediately followed the baby-boom generation that gave birth to the Beatles — grew up hearing stories from those 10 and 20 years older about cutting school to throng Kennedy Airport when the four invaded New York on Feb. 7, 1964, two days before they appeared on "The Ed Sullivan Show," a moment seared into American music history. For many baby boomers, there can be no greater rock group.

"The Beatles: Get Back" brought the Fab Four down to earth, at least for me. That's why, in part, I loved this film. Finally, I got

the chance to see the quartet not as media-ready perfection, but rather as people — frazzled, even troubled, full of foibles, bad habits and insecurities.

The film's first part, documenting the Beatles' first seven of 21 days rehearsing for the "Let It Be" album, is dark and unruly, showing a side of the group that I had never seen before — a more disinterested, unseemly side. The Beatles, whom I had long thought of as the best of friends, were plagued, it appeared, by strife. Indeed, Yoko Ono is assigned far too much blame for the group's breakup. It was clear, based on this film, that the Beatles were in disarray without her, though it was bizarre, and

I'm sure distracting for the band, the way she just hung around during these early, chaotic jam sessions — and throughout the project.

McCartney was, it seemed, the only glue at this point holding the group together, and the only one capable of managing day-to-day operations and committed to producing exceptional music. Lennon appeared aloof and erratic, likely high. Harrison acted like a petulant teenager, storming off over creative differences with Lennon and McCartney, whom he reportedly thought of as controlling and suffocating because they often dismissed the "quiet Beatles" songwriting. Starr was just there, at times playing the

role of the smiling court jester to lighten the sullen mood.

In the second two parts, the Beatles moved out of the cavernous, shadowy Twickenham Studios into their intimate and bright Apple Studio in downtown London, where they met up with the ingenious electric pianist Billy Preston to complete "Let It Be." The mood changed overnight. The Beatles were mates once again, and the four resumed the productive work that had, the story goes, characterized their earlier, cheerier collaborations.

Though "Let It Be" was not the Beatles' best album, it was nevertheless an extraordinary body of work, producing three of my favorite Fab Four tunes — "Two of Us," "Let It Be" and "The Long and Winding Road" — despite the collegial challenges that they faced in the beginning.

The Beatles' fabled unannounced concert atop Apple Corps headquarters, filmed on a typically overcast English day on Jan. 30, 1969, was not so much a concert, I learned, as a somewhat impromptu recording session that London police shut down after a handful of numbers because of noise complaints.

Thank you, Peter Jackson, for showing us the Beatles behind the veil of their otherwise impenetrable popularity.

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

The Fab Four's music and mystique remain embedded in our culture.

Are we what we watch on TV? Say it ain't so.

It's easy to admit watching "The Roosevelts," "Band of Brothers" or "The Dust Bowl," all high-minded documentaries featured on PBS. It has felt so satisfying to drop into conversation that I loved Ken Burns's treatment of Hemingway in his three-part, six-hour TV bio-documentary. "Oh, Hemingway," folks might say, eyebrows raised.



**RANDI
KREISS**

Such mentions might get me a nod of approval, or, one might hope, admiration. She watches "The Planets," they might think, when she could be watching "Housewives of New Jersey." Perhaps one friend might say to another behind my

back, "She actually watched the two-hour docudrama "Fantastic Fungi." Imagine. Oh, the hubris of letting it be known that I voluntarily tuned into the 2½-hour story of "The Pilgrims" on PBS. Or the multi-part series on the not-so-thrilling story of American "Reconstruction" following the Civil War.

At any time, I might have chosen "Fear of the Walking Dead" or "Pretty Smart," possibly the worst-reviewed piece of puer-

ile pap on the air. I could have watched "The Sex Lives of College Girls" or "The Tiger King" or "Naked and Afraid," but no, I trended toward "The Durrells in Corfu" or "The Great British Baking Show."

Not only that, but while I'm slipping into my hair shirt, let me confess to judging others by their TV tastes. What to make of a seemingly intelligent human being who chooses to spend hours watching reruns of "The Jerry Springer Show" or "Toddlers & Tiaras"? Clearly not someone to be taken seriously. Certainly an individual lacking in taste and gravitas.

One friend mentioned a Bollywood series, dubbed in English, to which she was addicted. I tuned in, just to educate myself, of course, and I was shocked. Pure banal, unfunny, poorly acted trash. Who was this woman I cherished?

That was the old me, the opinionated, haughty critic of others' entertainment choices. Then I found "Succession." In biblical terms, I was found and now I am lost. "Succession" is heading toward the last episode of its third season, and defying the rule of diminishing returns, it is getting better.

It is, according to Wikipedia, "The saga of a fictional American global-media family that is rich, powerful and dysfunctional." Ah, but it is so much more.

Let me start with this: There isn't one redeeming character in the series, not a single decent human being. The family is shredding itself from the inside, with fathers and mothers and children all equally capable of eviscerating one another. The writing is smart and fast and acidic. So, how can I put this? I can't stop watching, even though the story and the themes speak to lives that are morally corrupt and evil. But it's laugh-out-loud funny. It's hard to reconcile the issues, and I don't feel

great about my addiction to the series, but I'm hooked. Most of Sunday I think about the new episode dropping that night. It never disappoints.

We have the family patriarch, Logan Roy, his spidery ex-wife, his Lady Macbeth of a new wife, and his kids, three deeply troubled, fractured adults who cringe at their father's poisonous wrath and yet hover within striking distance. They want his money, and even more, his love. Roy, played by Brian Cox, is the master of this desperate circle of sycophants. It is all a

I'm hooked on 'Succession,' a show without a single redeeming character.

sicko sideshow; still, it's the most entertaining series I've seen in years, probably since Mr. White left his chemistry classroom for a meth lab in "Breaking Bad."

Kieran Culkan plays Roman, the creepiest of the kids, perhaps the most damaged, given to endless streams and riffs of corrosive commentary and insults. But it's a close call with Kendall, the would-be rebel squirming under the weight of his father's leaden shoe. Then there's Shive, an apt name for the unloved daughter, tormenting her husband with the Roy family brand of love.

I grew up with "The Brady Bunch." I have no excuse at all for loving "Succession." I surely would not want anyone to judge my integrity or my morality by my devotion to the series. I don't admire any of the characters, just the devilish fun of miscreants and their misdeeds.

I may not be so judgmental in the future when family or friends say they love "Duck Dynasty." Or I may. Suddenly, good taste in TV is on a sliding scale.

My pleasure in watching the wrecked relationships in "Succession" confounds me. It is better written than most TV series, but it sure ain't Shakespeare. It is a mystery to me, the human heart. Its chambers hide such dark places.

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HERALD EDITORIALS

N.Y. enacts a mask mandate. That's a good thing.

Last Friday, Gov. Kathy Hochul reaffirmed a state mandate requiring mask use in public spaces such as stores and restaurants for the unvaccinated, or, for those who have received their Covid-19 shots, showing proof of vaccination in order to remove their facial coverings through Jan. 15. The move came after months of inaction following Gov. Andrew Cuomo's rescinding of an order mandating masks for all in public spaces last May and June.

It was premature of Cuomo to drop the requirement, given that 30 percent of New Yorkers at the time were not vaccinated — and unless shops and restaurants checked people's vaccination cards, they could not assess whether paying customers were vac-

inated or not. The state, however, never required businesses to check proof of vaccination, though New York City did in September — a wise move indeed.

The result? For months, we've seen a majority of Nassau County residents abandon the use of masks, regardless of vaccination status, even in tightly packed spaces like the Long Island Rail Road, where the mask mandate remained on trains for all, even after Cuomo's decision.

Now we're seeing the coronavirus infection rate quickly ticking up again.

We know masks can be annoying. They can cause chafing and "maskne," red marks where the mask touches the skin. They can make it a little more difficult to breathe. And they hide our faces, inhibit-

ing person-to-person interaction.

Masks have always been a vital tool in the fight against Covid-19, however. That is why the Herald has continued to advocate for their voluntary use in public indoor spaces, regardless of vaccination status, even after Cuomo rescinded the state's mask mandate.

Local health departments will be responsible for carrying out Hochul's order. We trust that the Nassau County Health Department, under the outgoing county executive, Laura Curran, and her incoming successor, Bruce Blakeman, will take the order seriously and carry it out to protect residents' health — and the health of businesses that might shut down if the pandemic were to rage out of control again.

Give to Kentucky's tornado victims if you can

Last Friday night and early Saturday morning, a series of powerful tornadoes ripped across Kentucky, one leaving a record-setting 227-mile-long swath of destruction. At last count, nearly 70 people were confirmed dead in the state's "most devastating tornado event" in history, according to Kentucky's governor, Andy Beshear.

It was one of several wild weather anomalies that also affected people in Tennessee, Missouri and Illinois, where a tornado killed six people at an Amazon warehouse.

According to the Associated Press, the line of destructive weather formed when unusually warm, moist air collided with a storm front pushed eastward by a La Nina weather pattern. The U.S. has seen tornadoes in December before, but never on this scale, and never in this number, according to officials. In mid-November, a series of significantly smaller tornadoes touched

down across Long Island, including on the South Shore — a rare event for us indeed.

Scientists cannot directly link any single weather event like a tornado — or even a short-term pattern of tornadoes — to climate change, the heating of the Earth caused by the release of carbon dioxide from the burning of fossil fuels. We can, however, make educated guesses. Of late, we've seen record or near-record high temperatures. Should we, on Long Island, see temperatures in the 60s in mid-December, just before the start of winter? Certainly not. Warmer temperatures produce erratic, potentially deadly weather.

Climate change might not produce a greater number of hurricanes — the bane of Long Island's existence — but scientists tell us that it could very well produce more powerful storms like Hurricane Sandy, which leveled many parts of the South and

North shores in 2012.

That's why we must do everything we can to reduce or eliminate our dependence on coal, oil and natural gas, and instead turn to renewable resources like solar, wind and geothermal.

At the same time, we mustn't forget the hardship that Sandy caused us here — and the kindness shown to us by people from across the country, who sent donations to help us through one of our darkest hours. Now it's time to pay it forward, and donate to the good people of Kentucky, who will need years to restore their communities.

The State of Kentucky set up the Team Western Kentucky Tornado Relief Fund over the weekend to provide direct relief to those whose lives have been upended by this natural disaster. If you can, please give. You can do so through this link: <https://bit.ly/3pPGtnT>.

LETTERS

Comfort and joy: more than just a Christmas wreath

To the Editor:

Last Sunday, after the morning worship service, Dawn Coyle and her husband, Chris, hung a large wreath in the choir loft, just above the organ. While the tradition of there always being a wreath displayed there is a beautiful one, what is particularly moving is that Dawn and her husband are carrying on a tradition that Dawn's mother, Margo, began many years ago, hanging a wreath in memory of her husband, Jack.

Margo was one of the first people Jim and I



OPINIONS

The party of Bob Dole is long gone

Most members of the current generation have never heard of Sen. Robert Dole. His recent death, at age 98, inspired a series of stories about his bipartisanship and the challenges he faced as a grievously wounded World War II veteran. Many of the profiles



**JERRY
KREMER**

noted how Dole worked feverishly to get important legislation passed, and how he got both Democrats and Republicans to have polite discussions on the issues of the day.

Beyond the sadness of his passing, Dole's role in the national Republican Party helped make it

appeal to voters of all types. Today's Republican Party in no way resembles the party of Dole, and a dozen other Republicans that I could single out. It is now a party with no agenda and no real leadership. This is not to imply that Democrats don't need to do their own housecleaning, but the Republican Party in its current form is an empty shell.

Perhaps the worst example of how a party can sink into despair is the House

of Representatives. Over a long period, the House was a leadership incubator. Many young Republicans developed into stars, and were eventually elected to the Senate or became leaders in their home states. These days, however, instead of promoting the party's long-time philosophies, many Republican House members seem dedicated to blowing up the government and turning it into some type of fraternity house.

A typical example of how the party should function is former Rep. Peter King. King is and was a partisan who supported the leadership on all of the key issues. But he also kept himself open to alliances with members of the New York congressional delegation, and was never reluctant to work with the Democrats when it came to benefiting or protecting the state. If you took a poll of the Democratic delegation, almost all would express their respect for King as a hard-working and cooperative colleague.

It is amazing that freshman members of Congress such as Lauren Boebert and Marjorie Taylor Greene, Republicans from Colorado and Georgia, respectively, are almost as well known as Minority Leader Kevin McCarthy, of California.

Not a day goes by without one of them attacking President Biden or a Democratic House member. Lately, they have been attacking fellow Republicans in the ugliest of fashion. There is no doubt that New York Democratic Rep. Alexandria

Ocasio-Cortez gets a great deal of attention from the media, but the "mean girls" prize goes to Boebert and Taylor Greene, who show zero respect for the institution.

If you did a 100-year study of how the House has functioned, you will find no period of time where the members of one party spent most of their time bludgeoning their fellow party members. Recently, following the passage of the bipartisan infrastructure bill, the Conservative Caucus demanded that any Republicans who voted for the legislation be stripped of their committee assignments and be expelled from the party conferences.

Over in the Senate, things aren't much better. Biden's routine nominations for ambassadorships or major staff positions in key federal agencies are in limbo thanks to senators such as Ted Cruz and Rand Paul, Republicans from Texas and Kentucky. Both men would like to run for president, but they play

no role in getting anything positive being done for the country. Senate Minority Leader Mitch McConnell, also of Kentucky, pledged during the terms of President Barack Obama and Biden to stop them from accomplishing anything.

There is no doubt that the Democratic members of Congress have faults and weaknesses of their own, but both the House and the Senate have many working members who spend their time in Washington proposing new ideas and trying to pass laws that are good for the people. Many Democrats in the Senate are unhappy with their colleagues Joe Manchin, of West Virginia, and Kyrsten Sinema, of Arizona, but no effort has been made to lock them in the Congressional doghouse and throw away the key.

In his final days, Bob Dole expressed his sadness over how his party currently functions, and mourned the loss of collegiality and the failure to get things done. The losses that he recounted are, sadly, losses for each one of us.

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

LETTERS

met when we started attending First Presbyterian in July of 2007. Especially given Jim's and Margo's mutual love of gardening and my love of all things Scottish, we became friends very quickly. Sadly, Margo passed away a year later.

While we didn't know Margo that long, the connection was strong. We are thankful to have had Margo in our lives here on earth, and so very thankful that Dawn and Chris carry on the tradition of hanging a wreath in memory of Jack and Margo. Whatever your holiday traditions, rejoice in them, and allow them to bring you solace, peace and, yes, "comfort and joy." Wishing all a great holiday, and to those who celebrate, a very Merry Christmas.

GAITLEY STEVENSON-MATHEWS
Glen Cove

Shop locally!

To the Editor:

Re the editorial "This holiday for sure, shop locally" (Dec. 2-8): People should shop locally every day of the year. Small independent businesses are at the mercy of suppliers, who control the price they must pay for merchandise.

As independent mom-and-pop stores, they don't have the bulk-buying purchasing power that Amazon and other large national chain stores have. That's why they sometimes charge a little more. It's worth the prices to avoid the crowds and long lines at larger stores in exchange for the convenience and friendly service that your neighborhood community shop offers.

At the same time, employees of local businesses go out of their way to help find what I need. Customer service is their motto.

Our local entrepreneurs have continued the good fight to keep their existing staff and suppliers employed without layoffs and canceled supply orders. They work long hours, pay taxes and keep people employed. Customers patronize other commercial establishments on the block. Foot traffic is essential for the survival of any neighborhood commercial district.

The owners of local shops and restaurants are the backbone of our neighborhood commercial districts. Show your support by making a purchase.

LARRY PENNER
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