# HERAL



Dog therapy program begins

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\$1.00 VOL. 31 NO. 17



Gathering on Easter Sunday

Page 7

APRIL 21 - 27, 2022



Elisa Dragotto/Herald

# They found 'em

Taking home an egg, or several, from the Morgan Park Easter egg hunt last Saturday were, from left, Rian and Valena Odermatt, 1 and 5, and Aleksi Egli, 6. More photos, Page 3.

# New leader for SAGE

By LETISHA DASS

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Carolynn Eipel, the host of the Glen Cove Senior Center's podcast, "Glen Cove Spotlight," and the former producer of the radio show "Senior Moments," is a fixture in the city's senior community.

After being named the new president of SAGE — Senior Activity Generational Endowment — in January, Eipel has worked to raise the profile of the

nonprofit, which is the fundraising arm of the senior center.

Eipel said she has found that many people don't even know about the senior center until they need it. She hopes to make residents aware that the center is a resource for those over 60.

Nina Held, of Glen Cove, SAGE's historian, said that Eipel has thrown herself into her new job, and added that because she is one of the younger board members, her fresh outlook will help the center with its fundraising efforts. "She comes from a different perspective than those of us who are older," Held said.

"She understands the senior population, and she has the heart for helping on whatever level they need," said Christine Rice, the center's executive director. "She is a pillar of society in Glen Cove."

The first large SAGE event that Eipel will oversee is its annual Golf Outing, a fundraiser that is returning after a two-

CONTINUED ON PAGE 8

# Team EVA runs long distances to honor vets

ou really

are fully

engulfed in the

entire aspect of

the event.

**MICHAEL** 

**GADALETA** 

Team EVA

Logistics director,

By LETISHA DASS

ldass@liherald.com

Long-distance running has a different meaning for Eva Casale and Team EVA — Every Veteran Appreciated. Aside from

taking on the astonishing challenge of running a marathon a day for seven straight days — a total of nearly 184 miles — Casale and her teammates have made it their mission to raise money for, and awareness of, the nation's veterans.

"It's not just, wow, we're running 184 miles," said Casale, 57, who has lived in Glen Cove for 26 years. "We're

running and we're supporting and we're honoring and we're remembering all those who have served our country."

The annual event is known as Every Veteran Appreciated Week. This year it will start at 10 a.m. on April 24, at Huntington Town Hall, and end at Glen Cove City Hall on April 30 at 4 p.m. The participants will visit veterans monuments along the way, and pay their respects.

Since the first Team EVA multiple marathon in 2016, Michael Gadaleta, of Glen Cove, the team's logistics director, and Susan Warsaw, of Coram, a team member, have watched the organization flour-

ish, with support from Long Islanders who cheer them on every year. Four other members of the team runs segments of the marathons, but only Casale logs every mile.

Almost every member of Team EVA knows someone who is a veteran or on active duty. Casale's brother and father are veterans, her father having served in

the Korean War. Warsaw comes from a military family as well: Her husband, father and fatherin-law are veterans, and her son is now in the Army. Supporting veterans is the reason she joined Team EVA in 2016, she said

Gadaleta's father was also in the Army, and his son currently serves in the military. His family, Gadaleta said, gave him a

CONTINUED ON PAGE 4

# AARP, USPS keep seniors a step ahead of scammers

By JAKE PELLEGRINO

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When the kids grow up and move out, not only is there more space at home for older couples, but they may have a little more money in their bank

accounts as well.

And it's that attractive financial background that could make even the most savvy of older residents susceptible to a number of mail and phone scams.

That's exactly the message Bernard Macias, associate state director of AARP Long Island, wants to share as part of a series of Herald Inside LI webinars hosted by RichnerLive.

"They will gain the most (financially) from these folks," Macias shared during a recent webinar. "They own a home and they have good credit. So financially, they have a lot more at stake."

The first two installments of the webinars — which can be watched at tinyurl.com/HeraldInsideLI — also featured Donna Harris, Michael

Del Giudice and Joseph Marcus from the U.S. Postal Inspection Service. A third one is scheduled for Thursday, April 28 at noon. There are a variety of ways people can be scammed — by mail, by phone, by email — and some can sound quite convincing.

Like charity scams. The trick? Don't succumb to pressure to pull out your credit card.

"There are some that are legitimate businesses," Harris said. "But instead of giving over the phone — because you don't know who you're speaking with — ask them to mail you the information."

And then there's the nowinfamous "grandparent" scam.

"A grandparent receives a phone call or email from their grandchild," Marcus said. "They say, 'I'm in trouble. I'm in Cancun. I had a beer on the street, and I was arrested, and now I need to be bailed out.""

Such calls usually happen late at night or early in the morning, he added, and that the scammer posing as the grandchild warns their victim not to tell their parents or they'll get in "trouble."

The best way to combat that scam? Call their parents.

Ask for their grandchild's whereabouts.

"Just call and ask, 'Where's Johnny?'
Is he in Cancun?'' Marcus said. "They'll say, 'No, he's in his room.' It's a scam."



AARP Long Island and Herald Community Newspapers host a free on-site shredding event for sensitive personal and financial documents on Saturday, April 30, between 11 a.m. and 2 p.m., at 2 Endo Blvd in Garden City.

Register at LIHerald.com/shred.

But how do these scammers even know who Johnny is? That could be our own fault, Marcus said. We tend to overshare about our personal lives and family on social media platforms like Facebook. It's the perfect place for someone to gather all the information they need about family, locations, and even their interests

While a scammer might temporarily hijack an identity to scam someone, actual identify theft remains a serious problem.

"Identify theft is the compromise of what I like to call your financial DNA," Harris said. "This includes your name, your date of birth, Social Security number, account numbers, passwords — anything that can be used to assume your identity without your authorization."

One of the most common ways identity theft happens, Del Giudice said, is through scam calls.

"Today, I probably got around five scam calls," he said during the first webinar April 7. "There's always somebody trying to offer me a great deal on car insurance or solar heating or whatever. If you start talking to them, they'll ask you for your home address, date of birth and Social Security number."

If someone believes they are an identity theft victim, it's important to place a fraud alert on their credit report, Del Giudice said. That same credit report — which is available free each year — also is a great way to identify if a scammer is using their name to open accounts and lines of credit.

If something is found, file a report with the police and the Federal Trade Commission, Del Giudice said. Organize personal information and continue to monitor credit reports and bills.

The AARP webinar series will conclude Thursday, April 28 at noon, focusing on romance scams. Then, on Saturday, April 30, AARP Long Island and Herald Community Newspapers will host an in-person shredding event between 11 a.m. and 2 p.m., at the newspaper group's Garden City headquarters at 2 Endo Blvd.

To register for the free shredding event, visit LIHerald.com/shred. To register for the final webinar, visit LIHerald. com/romance.



**Bernard Macias** 



**Donna Harris** 

# SEE OYSTER BAY UNITED TAKE ON NEW YORK EAST THEODORE ROOSEVELT MEMORIAL PARK AT 5PM FREE ADMISSION FOR ALL FANS FREE ADMISSION FOR ALL FANS M2 SATURDAY, APRIL 23, 2022 SATURDAY, APRIL 23, 2022 SATURDAY APRIL 23, 202

# **HERALD NEIGHBORS**







**YARITZA, 6, LEFT,** and Larry Tosta, 10, searched for Easter eggs at Morgan Park.

# An 'egg'-cellent hunt for Glen Cove bunnies

he Recreation and Youth Bureau of Glen Cove hosted their 21st annual Spring Egg Scramble at Morgan Park. Children and families hopped into action for the hunt to find 800 eggs filled with delicious treats inside on Saturday. The Easter Bunny made a special appearance for the festivities, giving participants a chance to commemorate the day with a photo opportunity. Bunny ears were trending for the "egg scramble," while children and adults enjoyed the outdoors.



MADELYNE RAMOS, 6, near left, got a set of bunny ears from the Easter bunny at Morgan Park on Saturday.

**MACKENZIE ALESSANDRO, 7,** at right, displayed her Easter spirit by wearing bunny ears to the egg hunt.



# Running across L. I. to support veterans

CONTINUED FROM FRONT PAGE

whole new level of respect for veterans. The importance of what they have done hit home after he visited national veterans cemeteries, and saw the vast number of headstones for those who have died while serving their country.

"It definitely does hit your heart when you see how many we have lost and how many we do not show our respect to," Gadaleta said.

During the marathons, Gadaleta, Warsaw and fellow teammates alternate driving vehicles that lead and follow the runners. "You're not only leading where everybody's going," Gadaleta said, "but you're the leader of everything else behind you as well."

Each day of the marathon series, the participants aim to meet the goal of 26.2 miles. Since 2016, the team has completed more than 60 marathons and raised over \$150,000 for veterans and their families. "The immense support that we've gotten has been incredible," Gadaleta said

Warsaw added that children join the runners in the final miles, which helps morale. "Even though you're like, oh, we have three or four more miles to go, they make it easier," Warsaw said, "because they're enthusiastic about it."

The journey to help veterans started when Casale met members of Gold Star Families for Peace, a nonprofit that advocates for families of fallen service members. "I've been doing a lot of charity runs for quite some time," Casale said. "And I decided that it was time to focus on these goals for the families and see what I could do to bring more awareness."

Casale has been running for decades. She took up the sport with her late father, Jerry Casale, in East Moriches when she was 15, as a way to exercise and stay active. Before long she realized that she had a knack for running long distances. What started as a one lap around the block, Eva said, turned into 10 miles.

Casale ran her first marathon, the New York City Marathon, in 1983, when she was 18.



Team EVA

**ULTRA-MARATHONER EVA CASALE,** right, with the support of Team EVA, plans to finish seven marathons — a total of nearly 184 miles — in seven days to raise funds to support veterans.

In 2006, she gained a new understanding of the power of helping people. While listening to the radio on her way to work as a director of IT for the Diocese of Rockville Centre, Casale heard the story of a family who was unable to find a kidney donor for their father. She immediately returned home, she recalled, looked up the link that had

been given on the radio and realized that she met the criteria to donate.

"Something spoke to me and said, you can help this person," Casale said.

# Join Every Veteran Appreciated Week

Participants can virtually join on the app Glympse to track Eva Casale and her team as they run across Long Island, visiting veterans monuments along the way.

Runners nationwide who want to join Team EVA, earn a coin and T-shirt need to run at least one mile a day during her weeklong challenge. Runners and others who want to donate can do so at www.goteameva.org/. Team EVA encourages residents and businesses to display American flags during marathon week.

"I don't know why that day, that story, at that time triggered that I could help this person."

During the subsequent medical evaluation, Casale was asked by a psychologist if donating a kidney was her purpose in life. It bothered Casale, she said, that the doctor kept repeating the word "purpose" in the singular form. She realized then that she could have more than one calling in life. "It made me think about how I can continue to help others," she said.

After donating a kidney and recovering from the surgery, she decided to take part in a run for the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society. She went on to become a board trustee for the Long Island Chapter of the organization in 2019, and the head coach of its running team.

"It made me think this is my next purpose," Casale said. "I can use my gifts for running long distances to help other people." To date, she has raised over \$350,000 by running for different charities.

# HERALD

HOW TO REACH US

Our offices are located at 2 Endo Blvd. Garden City, NY 11530 and are open from 8:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m., Monday through Friday.

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# **CRIME WATCH**

### Arrests

- On April 10, a 21-year-old male from Glen Cove was arrested for second-degree criminal contempt on Woolsey Avenue.
- On April 10, a 32-year-old male from Glen Cove was arrested for driving while intoxicated, two counts of failure to keep right, move from lane unsafely and other Vehicle Traffic Law violations on Glen Cove Avenue.
- On April 10, a 31-year-old male from Inwood was arrested for seventh-degree criminal possession of a controlled substance on Glen Cove Avenue.
- On April 16, a 26-year-old male from Westbury was arrested for second-degree aggravated unlicensed

- operation, improper plates, operation of unregistered motor vehicle, and operating a motor vehicle without financial security on Pulaski Street.
- On April 6, a 41-year-old male from Glen Cove was arrested for seventh-degree criminal possession of a controlled substance, third-degree aggravated unlicensed operation, and other vehicle and traffic law violations on Duck Pond Road.
- On April 7, a 59-year-old male from Bayville was arrested for driving while intoxicated on Glen Cove Avenue.
- On April 9, a 30-year-old female from Roslyn was arrested for driving while intoxicated and leaving the scene of an accident on Cedar Swamp Road.

# **HERALD SCHOOLS**



Courtesy GCCSD

**CONNOLLY ELEMENTARY SCHOOL** students with Maddie, a therapy dog that meets with them twice a month to help reduce stress.

# Connolly starts dog therapy program

Connolly Elementary School is giving students a break from the "ruff" school day with its first therapy dog program. The first few sessions were geared toward students in the school's reading program and gave them a chance to read to dogs without fear of judgement.

Students are given time to pet, unwind and even practice their reading skills with a therapy dog to relieve stress. Connolly began a pilot program through which selected students meet with a chocolate Labrador named Maddie and her handler twice a month. The school plans to bring in more dogs and extend the program to any student interested in participating.

Teachers Patty Lucci and Morgan Steiger spearheaded the program, which was sponsored by local business AMP Construction and brings in dogs from Bideawee in Wantagh and Long Island Therapy Dogs.



Courtesy GCCSI

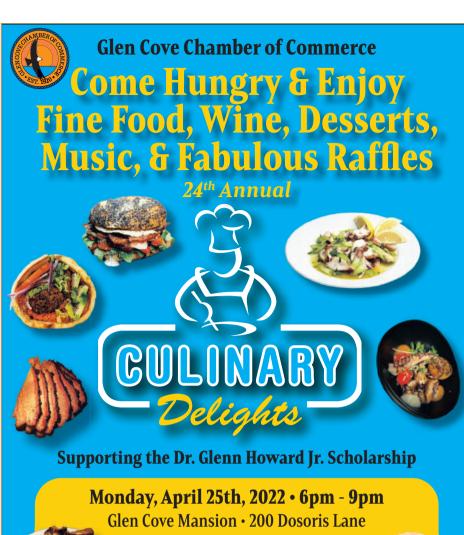
**STUDENTS WORE RAINBOW** colors and stood in the formation of a giant infinity sign, which stands for acceptance of autism and other neurological conditions such as dyslexia, attention deficit hyperactivity disorder, and obsessive-compulsive disorder.

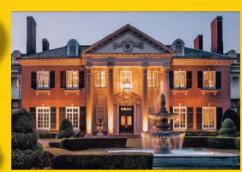
# A celebration of neurodiversity

Students at Connolly Elementary School celebrated neurodiversity and showed support for those living with autism during the school's first Spirit Week for Autism Acceptance Month. From April 11 to April 14, students dressed according to each day's theme while learning about the experiences and achievements of people with autism.

"The purpose of this week was to foster empathy among our students so that they could understand what those with autism experience every day," Connolly Principal Bryce Klatsky said.

The week kicked off with Autism & Neurodiversity Acceptance Day on Monday, highlighted by students wearing rainbow colors to represent and support neurodiversity.







### **Reservations \$45**

glencovechamber.org/culinary 516-676-6666



# Samplings from over 45 Gold Coast restaurants and vendors including:

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Cactus Café
Café Al Dente
Chef Moris Café
Eat Better Meals
Edible Arrangements
Eggcellent Quiche
El Tazumal
Felene Vodka

Fogo De Chao
Brazilian Steakhouse
Gemelli Market North
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# **Special Thanks To Our Sponsors**



# **COMMUNITY UPDATE**

# Friday, April 22

### Let's Groove

Head over to the Oyster Bay-East Norwich Public Library for a children's music class at 10:30 a.m. Join Lisa from Let's Groove Children's Entertainment for a fun filled music class. Get ready to move and groove to a bunch of tunes, while having fun with shakers, scarves, animal puppets, a parachute, and bubbles.

# Saturday, April 23

### The Boneyarn

The Locust Valley Library is delighted to present David Mills, poet and author of The Boneyarn: Poems of Slavery in New York City at 2 p.m.. NYC is where the largest and oldest slave cemetery is located. Mr. Mills will also incorporate the works of Jupiter Hammon, the first African American poet published during colonial times on Long Island.

# Sunday, April 24

### **Book signing**

Visit Theodore's Books in Oyster Bay at 2 p.m. for an afternoon with Long Island author Debra E. Blaine, M.D., as she speaks about and signs copies of her new thriller, Undue Influences. This event is free and open to the public. Registration is appreciated but not required.

# Monday, April 25

### **Volunteer opportunity**

Head to Bayville Free Library from 4 to 6 p.m. as they partner with Glen Cove Animal Rescue. They are creating a program that allows students, grades 6-12, to gain some community service hours. Supplies are included. All proceeds will be given to Glen Cove Animal Rescue. For any questions, contact Chitra at teens@bayvillefreelibrary.org.

### **Evening yoga with Donna**

Join the Glen Cove Public Library on



Courtesy Wikimedia Commons

# **Planting Fields Spring 5k**

Planting Fields Arboretum invites everyone to lace uptheir running shoes and enjoy their Spring 5K on Sundday, April 24 from 8 to 11 a.m. Enjoy their beautiful woodland trails in spring, as you make your way around the historic landscape of Planting Fields. Runners and walkers of all ages are welcome to participate. All registrants will receive a personal bib, photo, and medal. For more information, contact Josh Rosenbaum at jrosenbaum@plantingfields.org.

Zoom as Donna leads an hour-long yoga class from 6 to 7 p.m. The cost for this eight class series is \$40. You can pay in person at the Library's Information desk or you can mail your check/money order to The Glen Cove Public Library 4 Glen Cove Avenue, Glen Cove, NY 11542. Please be sure to include your email in the memo section of your check. The Zoom information will be emailed prior to the start of the session. If you have trouble joining this meeting, please call the Library's Information desk at (516) 676-2130.

### **History and horticulture: France**

History and norticulture: France
Hop on zoom for a presentation hosted
by the Gold Coast Public Library on
French horticultural history. Which of
Marie Antoinette's trees are still standing? Why did Monet's neighbors report
him to the police? Two of France's most
beloved gardens, the gardens of Versailles and Monet's garden at Giverny,
each took 40 years to complete, but the
similarities stop there. Join garden writer
Jessica Damiano on a virtual tour of
each and learn about their storied pasts

and botanical presents. Damiano is an award-winning journalist, gardening coach and author of The Weekly Dirt email newsletter.

# Tuesday, April 26

### **Olmsted landscape tours**

Visit the Planting Fields Arboretum to celebrate the 200th anniversary of the birth of Fredrick Law Olmsted from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Planting Fields will celebrate by providing guided opportunities for people to experience one of the landscapes the Olmsted firm designed. In the spirit of Olmsted's philosophy of making green spaces accessible to all, Planting Fields will be offering free landscape tours on his birthday. Join them for a deeper look at the scenic vistas and historic gardens designed by the Olmsted Brothers, led by expert garden guides. The event is free of charge, but due to limited capacity, advance registration is required for a

timed tour.

### Stemtastic presents: rocket launch

Blast off with the Locust Valley Library at 4:30 p.m. as they design, build, and create their own rockets and launch them on our launch pad. Each student, grades kindergarten through fifth, will take home their own rocket. This is an outdoor program. For more information contact Youth Services at (516) 671-1837.

# Wednesday, April 27

### **Turtle storytime and craft**

Pop by the Glen Cove Public Library to enjoy turtle-related activities from 10:30 to 11:30 a.m. Kids ages 2 to 5 will listen to simple turtle stories, and make a turtle craft. This program is limited to Glen Cove cardholders, and will take place in the Children's Room.

# Thursday, April 28

### **Titanic survivor Violet Jessop**

Join the Oyster Bay-East Norwich Public Library for a virtual event at 7 p.m. to learn about the true story of the only person to survive the sinking of both the Titanic and the Britannic. The story will be written and performed by historian Leslie Goddard, Ph.D. Registration begins March 22.

### **Last Man Standing**

Head down to Still Partners in Sea Cliff for a performance by Last Man Standing from 8 to 11 p.m. Enjoy an evening of classic roots and funky jams.

### Celebrate national poet month

Join Theodore's Books at 7 p.m. for an evening with Long Island poet Elizabeth D. Macaluso as she speaks about and signs copies of her new book of poetry, 'The Lighthouse'. 'The Lighthouse' engages with the Italian American experience; it also explores gender, sexuality, and what it means to be a woman from Long Island. This event is free and open to the public.

# HAVING AN EVENT?

Items on the Community
Update pages are listed
for free. 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
wsheeline.com

# 5 things to know about your town

- The Village of Bayville will be holding its E-Waste Drop Off Day on April 23 from 9 a.m. to 12 p.m.
- The Glen Cove Community Development Agency will be meeting on April 26 at 6 p.m.
- The Village of Sea Cliff Architectural Review Bard will be meeting on April 26 at 7 p.m.
- The City of Glen Cove City Council will be meeting on April 26 at 7:30 p.m.
- The Village of Sea Cliff Village Court will be meeting on April 27 at 7:30 to 9:30 p.m.

# **NEIGHBORS** IN THE NEWS



Courtesy GSM Communications

**PEOPLE GATHERED FOR** a prayer service at dawn in Morgan Park for Easter.

# **Coming together for Easter service**

Local churches and residents gathered to participate in the sixth annual Community Easter Dawn Service in Morgan Park on April 17. The short service was an opportunity for the community to come together and pay their respects to the holiday.

During the inclusive program, the opening of "Christ is Risen" was spoken in eight different languages including

Ukrainian by Volodymyr Tsalkovsky, of the Ukrainian Americans of Long Island, to honor the people of Ukraine; and mandarin by Lydia Wen Rodgers, of the Glen Cove Library. Bilingual services in Spanish and English were available as well. To further pay respects to Ukraine, collected donations were given to the United Ukrainian American Relief Committee, Inc.



**COLETTE MCDONALD, FAR** left, Yvette Menezes, Marie Staada, Rosemarie Walti, and Arlene Santiago welcomed members to the Woman's Club meeting at the View Grill on Tuesday.

# Meet the Glen Cove Woman's Club

Founded in 1938, the Glen Cove Woman's Club gathered for their monthly meeting at the View Grill on Tuesday. The meeting was an opportunity to celebrate its members, socialize, and join a raffle to help raise donations to help local residents in need. As a nonprofit, the club was admitted into the Long Island Federation of Women's Club in 1938. According to the club's president, Rosemarie Walti, the club offers an opportunity for the community's women to participate in local philanthropic causes, such as donating to the Veteran of Foreign Wars Post 347 to help them rebuild.

Because of the pandemic, the club has had to place its largest fundraising event, which included a fashion show, on hold, along with club outings. Membership has been low as well and because of this the club is looking for new members to join.



# GLEN COVE

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# ō

# A lifetime of caring for and helping seniors

CONTINUED FROM FRONT PAGE

year pandemic interruption.

"Under her leadership, we will be very successful in fundraising," Rice said, "which is a large part of what SAGE Foundation does for us in terms of helping us keep our programs and services going."

Born and raised in Huntington, Eipel, 52, has dedicated her life to helping seniors, ever since her maternal grandmother had to be moved to a nursing home when Eipel was 18. Her heart broke, she recalled, when she visited her. "Every time I left her," Eipel said, "I'd get through the first set of glass doors and I would just have tears running down my face."

Her compassion and empathy moved her to question whether there was a better way to taking care of seniors. In 1997 she started working for Sunrise Senior Living as community relations director, and became executive director in 2005. Through the years she has worked at various senior care and assisted living centers. With a passion for learning about Alzheimer's, oncology and end-of-life care, Eipel was certified as a dementia care specialist in 2013.

"What I have learned in the day-to-day of it all—compassion, strategy, problem-solving—rivals any formal education that I received," she said. "I learned so much just sitting with them, hearing about their experiences and listening to their incredible stories. I can't imagine another line of work offering that."

A decade after starting her career in senior care, Eipel began working with the Glen Cove center, and became a SAGE board member in 2007. "Carolyn has been a longtime supporter of the senior center," Rice said, "and has given a lot of her time and energy to helping our seniors with anything that they might possibly need."

Eipel had to step away from the position in 2007, however, after being diagnosed with lymphoma, which necessitated aggressive chemotherapy. She was diagnosed a second time in 2011, but has since fully recovered.

Two years ago, she rejoined SAGE as a board member, and has continued to volunteer at the center. "What I love about the Glen Cove Senior Center first and foremost are the people," Eipel said. "The staff and members are the heartbeat of the center."

She first moved to Glen Cove in 1991, at age 21. After a few years she moved to Glen Head, but she made the decision to resettle in Glen Cove five years ago with her spouse, Jen Dubicki, who also works in senior care.

In 2021, Eipel opened CareFirst Home Solutions in Glen Cove, to provide the community with in-home caregivers. Her 25-year-old daughter, Katherine Dubicki, works there as well, as the care coordinator.

"You get to make a difference each day when you choose a career in senior care," Eipel said. "It truly is one of the most rewarding professions out there, and you can profoundly impact so many people's lives."



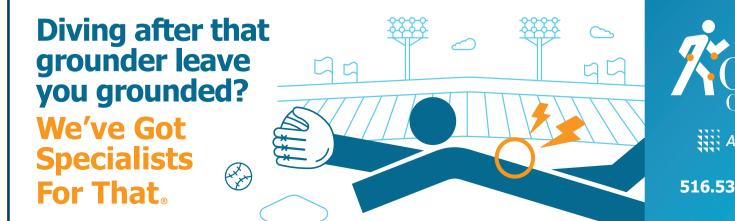
Courtesy Carolynn Eipel

CAROLYNN EIPEL IS the new president of the SAGE Foundation, a nonprofit supporting the Glen Cove Senior Center.

# The foundation's annual Golf Outing

After a two-year pause necessitated by the coronavirus pandemic, the SAGE Foundation is bringing back its annual Golf Outing at Glen Cove Golf Club on June 6, with registration beginning at 10:30 a.m. The event will honor the chiefs of emergency services in Glen Cove, including Christopher Ortiz, Robert C. Picoli III, Frank Pronesti, Robert Retoske, John Testa and William Whitton.

The fundraiser will help SAGE continue its support of the Glen Cove Senior Center through grant writing, outreach, advocacy and donations to help the center address the physical, emotional and mental needs of the city's elderly community. To register, go to www.glencoveSAGE.org. Sponsorship opportunities will be available as well.





An affiliate of Northwell Health

516.536.2800 | orlincohen.com

# **NEWS BRIEFS**

# Online gun violence workshop on April 25

The Northwell Health Center for Gun Violence Prevention and PEACE Initiative are cosponsoring gun violence prevention workshop on April 25, which will be hosted and led by the prestigious National Academies of Sciences, Engineering & Medicine.

The five-hour workshop, entitled "Facilitating the integration of firearm injury prevention into health care through community collaboration," will include insights from the nation's leading trauma surgeons, mental health specialists, policy analysts, the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, and front-line community leaders who have established gun violence prevention initiatives.

As part of an ongoing effort to advance firearm safety, education, violence prevention and research, Northwell Health has been mobilizing a national coalition of health care professionals, hospitals, and health systems to address this public health crisis. To date, more than 500 healthcare professionals from hospitals and health systems across 36 states have joined Northwell's Gun Violence Prevention Learning Collaborative for Hospitals and Health Systems.

The National Academies' workshop will include discussions about the current evidence on gun violence prevention

strategies, the role of facilitators, barriers to implementing strategies, and how health systems can work to overcome those barriers to improve the health of patients and the communities they serve.

The free workshop is open to the public and will be held from noon to 5:15 p.m. on April 25. For further information and to register, visit Glen Cove Hospital's website or www.northwell.edu/news/the-latest/national-academy-of-medicine-to-host-gun-violence-prevention-workshop.

# **Kiwanis Club fundraiser set for May 4**

Glen Cove's Kiwanis Club will be hosting its annual Pasta Night at the View Grill on May 4. The event will be held to help raise donations for the \$1,000 Carol Sucharski Scholarship that is open to Glen Cove High School seniors who have been involved with community service. The fundraiser will start at 6 p.m. Tickets will be \$35 for adults and \$25 for children.

Along with the scholarship, the Kiwanis Club has supported the community by helping with local food pantries such as NOSH as well as sponsor service clubs in the school district. For further information on how to buy tickets, call Richard Hall at (516) 456-1018.

# **Culinary Delights** in Glen Cove

Glen Cove Chamber of Commerce invites the public to their 24th Annual Culinary Delights on April 25, from 6 to 9 p.m. at Glen Cove Mansion. Open to the public, the event is a celebration of the fortitude and creativity of cherished local eateries who have survived and opened during the pandemic and have invested in the community with courage and faith.

Enjoy the luxurious environs of Glen Cove Mansion while you indulge in signature dishes from some of the finest chefs in and around our Glen Cove area. Be introduced to top restaurants, gourmet markets and eateries throughout and beyond our community. Sample wines, craft beers and spirits, and finish with incredible desserts.

If you've never been to Culinary Delights, then seize the opportunity to experience the decadence of this event at a low price. Grab friends and take advantage of special pandemic pricing of only \$45 per ticket. A portion of proceeds to benefit the Dr. Glenn Howard Jr. Scholarship, which is open to high school seniors.

Purchase tickets online at GlenCove-Chamber.org/Culinary. To showcase your food related business at this event or buy tickets, contact the Chamber at (516) 676-6666 or email info@glencovechamber.org. Any business is invited to promote in our raffle with their basket or gift certifi-

cate. Sponsorship opportunities are also available.

# Let us know

News Briefs items including awards, honors, promotions and other tidbits about local residents are welcome. Photographs may be included. However, we are unable to return hard copies. Deadline for submission: noon Thursday, 1 week prior to publication

516-569-4000 or email execeditor@liherald.com

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170507

# School board adopts proposed 2022-23 budget

By LETISHA DASS

ldass@liherald.com

It was a bittersweet victory for Glen Cove City School District when the Board of Education approved its proposed \$109 million budget for the 2022 to 2023 school year. However, the district's lack of transparency and use of funds for Landing and Deasy elementary schools were questioned by some residents throughout the board's meeting on April 13.

"I will tell you that this board and the boards that have been here for the last nine years have focused on transparency," Superintendent Dr. Maria Rianna said. "I think we have provided that time and time again."

The tax levy for the upcoming school vear's budget will be raised 1.8-percent. \$73,000,000. It's a \$1,400,000 increase from the current 2021 to 2022 1.6-percent tax

Susan Jerzewski, of Glen Cove, pointed out that her school taxes were the highest she has had to pay, and she did not understand why it came at the taxpayers' expense for the district to have a surplus for capital projects, such as the

"You're just taking our money from us too soon," Jerzewski said. "And then you're putting it into a savings account."

Former board member and Glen Cove resident, Gail Nedbor-Gross, questioned why the public was not involved during the planning of the proposition to extend schools and that the money should have been put towards science labs in the middle and high schools instead. For transparency, she added, the board should post their contracts online.

just want to say

**GAIL NEDBOR-GROSS** 

Former GCCSD board

to this board:

transparency is

critical

member

"The board in the past insisted on putting up the contracts for transparency purposes," Nedbor-Gross said. "Not because it was mandated. It's because we wanted to show what is going on. So, the public knows.'

The majority of the funds for the extensions at Deasy and Landing elementary schools will come from the \$7,500,000 that the district received

through the Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriation Act and American Rescue Plan. The plans are to add four classrooms, an elevator and bathrooms in each building. The district needs voter approval to transfer the funds saved in its capital reserve to cover construction costs.

Lia Leone, the board's president, defended the proposition by saying that when Covid hit, every student was unable to be in the classroom as well as when school was hybrid because there was no space. And the buildings, she added, require repairs.

"We desperately need more space in our buildings," Leone said. "We need our buildings to be renovated, we have floods, we have mold, we have all these

> other things that need to be taken care of."

> Glen Cove parent, Trish Telese, who supported the extension, said that after seeing the classroom sizes during parentteacher conferences, she realized that the classrooms are "tiny" compared to other districts.

> "If you really want to get a handle on this," Telese said, "take a walk through another school

district where the classroom sizes are larger and can really accommodate children.'

Jerzewski and Nedbor-Gross asked the district to justify its need for the money through the district's reading and math scores.

"I think you need to start showing accomplishments and how we are comparing that with past years to justify the

spending of this money and asking the taxpayers of Glen Cove to fund it," Jerzewski said.

Leone countered that the district's schools have been actively posting its students' successes on their social media, website and app.

"There are pictures of their students doing project building [and] being scientists outside with clipboards," Leon said. "They're really doing a lot of great things.'

Rianna noted that the district has been open to the public's input by extending its hours to listen to any concerns from residents, and information has been made available on the website to

A presentation was held on March 16 of the current math and reading progress for elementary and middle school grade levels.

Telese noted that the district has helped her third-grade son flourish with his communication and technology

"Our kids are thriving," Telese said. "My son is thriving; he is writing beyond anything that I was doing in third

A budget meeting will be held at the next board meeting on May 4. The budget vote is on May 17.

# **DID YOUR FAVORITES WIN?**



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Thank you for voting!

# **FREE COMMUNITY EVENT**

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  - b. Bring no more than one to three grocery bags full of documents.
  - c. Staples and small paper clips are okay, remove large clips and binders. All shredded paper collected at these events is recycled.
- 2. Shredded paper from home
  - a. If you have already shredded your paperwork and it's still in your home, you can bring that too. We'll dispose of it properly and safely.

### WHAT'S NOT ACCEPTED:

1. Non-confidential documents

Anything that does not have your personal information is considered non-confidential. Examples would be newspapers, books, large format magazines and plastic items.

2. If you have these items and your name and personal information is included, you may tear off this information and bring the label(s) to the shred event.

This service is for residential customers only. Please do not bring documents from work to shred unless they are personal pay stubs or your personal old ID. In many cases IDs should be returned to your employer.

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New York State's HEAP program also offers a benefit of up to \$6,500 to repair or replace heating equipment. Reach out to your local Department of Social Services location.



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

# A woman with a varied career and a story

# Judy Goss is an author, a businesswoman, and a television host

By MICHAEL SMOLLINS

During her illustrious career, Judy Goss has traveled the world modeling, hosting television shows, and becoming a published author.

But last March, she took on a new role: host of RichnerLive's Premier Business Women of Long Island. And it reminded her a lot of her company, What Women Want, which was originally based on women's stories.

"So when I get into a room filled with hundreds of women who not only have stories, but have broken glass ceilings and paved the way for minority women, young women and really anyone who's out there," she said, "it just lifts me to levels that I can't even describe.'

The host of AWE cable channel's "Behind the Gates" is a regular contributor to NBC and Fox as well. Goss also leads a show featuring her home decor line on QVC, which broadcasts from her Merrick house.

She founded What Women Want in 2010, a networking company with some 60 chapters nationwide. Initially geared specifically toward women, What Women Want recently incorporated men, and will soon change its name to Wealth and Wisdom.

At the height of the coronavirus pandemic in 2020, the networking company switched to an all-online model, where experts gather virtually to discuss topics such as cybersecurity, book writing and law, among other things.

"It follows the traditional model of networking, but according to subject matter now," Goss said. "It's about getting together, meeting new people, and forming connections



TELEVISION HOST, AUTHOR and businesswoman Judy Goss hosted RichnerLive's Premier Business Women of Long Island event last March.

The company also donates money to charities close to the local chapters in each state. That includes Dress for Success, a global not-for-profit that empowers women to achieve economic independence by providing a network of support, professional attire, and the development tools to help women thrive in work and in life."

In "Behind the Gates." Goss gives viewers an upclose and personal look inside various mansions. In addition to her duties for AWE, in early 2020, Goss began hosting shows for QVC and drove from her home to studios in West Chester, Pennsylvania, three to four times each week.

After the pandemic hit, QVC helped Goss build a studio in her home, and began streaming from there. She continues to host the show, and says she is in talks with several networks to write and produce a new program highlighting women in the future.

Goss is from Olney, Maryland, which she describes as a small town, moving to Manhattan in 1989 after graduating from the University of Maryland. She went on to become a high fashion model, traveling the world. It was while living in New York that Goss met Bruce Levitt, who co-owns Mur-Lee's clothing store in Lynbrook, started by his father and uncle in 1946. They eventually moved to Long Island and raised twins, who are now seniors at Calhoun High School.

Levitt himself won a Herald Long Island Choice Award earlier this month, chosen by Herald readers and local business customers, while Goss was recognized at the Premier Business Women of Long Island a few weeks earlier that she also hosted.

Hosting the awards meant a great deal to her.

"I thought it was really well-done," Goss said. "I've produced events for What Women Want with over 200 women attending for a three-day conference, and I was just so impressed with the way things were done.

"Things flowed seamlessly, and the quality of women was superb.'



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Send a brief summary in the form of a cover letter describing your career goals and what strengths you can bring to our newsroom, along with a resume and three writing samples, to executive editor Michael Hinman at mhinman@liherald.com



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# **OBITUARIES**



**Frank Berritto** 

# Frank 'Bert' Berritto

Frank "Bert"
Berritto, 82, of
Lattingtown,
died on April 4,
2022 in his home.
Berritto was
born in Brooklyn

in 1939 to parents Giuseppe and Anna Berritto. He dedicated his life to helping others. Berritto met his beloved wife, the late Georgiann Faro, while working at the American Book Company in March 1962. The couple married in February 1965 and raised their three children, Frank, Audra and Arianne, in Sun Valley, California for 20 years.

In his later years, Berritto lived his life surrounded by his grandchildren, Gabriella, Katherine Georgia, Nicole, Gianna Georgiann, Anthony, and Mia Dolly. After a difficult battle with cancer, he died surrounded by his loving family and was reunited with the love of his life, Georgiann and all those who went before him.

### **Claire Bannon**

Claire Bannon, 95, of Glen Cove, died on April 10, 2022. Beloved daughter of the late Anna Nee Gleason and James Bannon. Bannon was employed for many years at a publishing company and was also a devout Catholic. Arrangements entrusted to Dodge-Thomas Funeral Home. Memorial mass and burial private.

### **Obituary Notices**

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

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

# THE GREAT BOOK GURU

# Venice revisited!

ear Great Book Guru,
With spring always comes
the publication of one of my
favorite author's
latest book. I have been reading Donna Leon for over 25
years and she never disappoints, and I am looking forward to reading her latest
Brunetti tale. Have you read it

ful as usual? -Fan of Leon

Dear Fan of Leon,

Donna Leon's "Give Unto Others" came out a few weeks ago and was a joy to

yet, and if so, is it as wonder-

read. As usual, the crime is difficult to unravel and the resolution is never simple. The beauty of her novels lies in the complex moral dilemmas her erudite, ever-compassionate protagonist faces. Approached by a childhood acquaintance, whose mother had shown his mother kindnesses in difficult times, Brunetti agrees to do her a favor by checking out some threatening conversa-

tions she has overheard. When he begins to check out a hospital foundation the woman's family has created in Belize, he

soon realizes there is corruption and malice afoot, but not necessarily a crime. When the woman's daughter finds her veterinary hospital destroyed and her pets tortured, Brunetti is forced to confront the criminals behind this bizarre plot.



Throughout, we are in the mind of Brunetti, as he sees the damage the pandemic has done to his beloved Venice and its citizens. Despite his

belief in the innate goodness of most of humanity, by the novel's end, he is convinced that evil is not always a crime and more assuredly ... a crime is not always evil. Highly recommended!

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

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Advance registration is required.

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Con artists don't really care about your age or your needs. Their only goal is to separate you from your hard-earned money. Learn how to avoid scam. We'll cover:

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- Lottery and Sweepstakes Scams
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### THURSDAY, APRIL 28, 2022 12-1PM

### **ROMANCE SCAMS:**

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**Bernard Macias Associate State Director** -**Long Island AARP New York** 



**Donna Harris Public Information** Representative **United States Postal Inspection Service Headquarters** 



Michael V. **Del Giudice Postal Inspector** Team Leader **New York Division** 



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LEGAL NOTICE:
PLEASE TAKE NOTICE
THAT the City Council
that the following
City Ordinance at the City Council Meeting of April 12. 2022

BE IT ORDAINED, that the City Council hereby adds Sec. 265-32.2: Sec.
Municipally Managed
Electric Vehicle charging
Station to the Code of Ordinances, as follows:

Section 265-32.2 Electric Vehicle Charging Station A. It is the intent of this section to provide public vehicle charging stations to serve the needs of the public as demand may reauire.

R Definitions ELECTRIC VEHICLE A battery electric vehicle that uses chemical energy stored in rechargeable battery packs, either as its sole source of energy as combined with petroleum base fuels. ELECTRIC VEHICLE

CHARGING STATION A public parking space that includes dedicated batterv charging equipment that permits for the transfer of electric energy to an electric vehicle's rechargeable battery pack or of energy storage device ELECTRIC VEHICLE PARKING SPACE

A parking space marked for the exclusive use of an electric vehicle for the purpose of using battery charging equipment recharge vehicle's propulsion battery pack Each parking space shall be posted with signage indicating the space is only for electric vehicle

charging purposes.
C.The City hereby designates parking spaces at each of the following off-street public parking locations for use as Electric Vehicle Charging Stations.

**Location Spaces** Garage Pulaski

D. Hourly Electric vehicle charging fees shall be set forth in a fee schedule, from time to time, by City Council Resolution. Resolution shall set forth the hourly fee while an Flectric Vehicle charging at the Electric Vehicle Charging Station. It shall be a violation for a vehicle to remain in an electric Vehicle Parking Space for more than sixty minutes after it is fully charged or to occupy such Space while not charging its battery pack. E. Non-Electric

prohibited stopping, standing, or parking at Electric Vehicle Charging Stations.

F. Violations. (1) Offenders of this Section shall be subject to a fine of seventy-five dollars (\$75.00). (2) Offenders Section may subject to also other applicable fines in the City's Code of Ordinances This Ordinance shall take effect 3 days after

LEGAL NOTICE Glen Cove School District Pre-Kindergarten Registration Still

\*\*\*\*\*Openings Available\*\*\*\* Glen Cove School District will be extending the registration period for Pre-K until April 27th. To enter Pre-kindergarten, children must be four years old on or before December 1 of the school

year. Registration packets are available at the following locations:

Glen Cove School Website -Our District, Central

Registration
District Office (Thayer
House) located at 154 Dosoris Lane

School buildings Drop off completed registration packets with required documentation at our District Office (Thaver House) located at 154 Dosoris Lane during business hours Monday Friday 8:00 a.m-4:00 p.m. Please call (516) 801-7008 with any

questions you may have. 130880

To Place A Notice Call 516-569-4000 x232

LEGAL NOTICE PUBLIC NOTICE ΩF HEARING: NOTICE HEREBY GIVEN that a Public Hearing shall be held on Tuesday, April 26, 2022, at 7:30 p.m. in the Council Chambers at Glen Cove City Hall, 9 Glen Street, Glen Cove, New York, to discuss Local Law 01-2022, amending Sec. C5-3, Division of Code Enforcement, of the Glen Cove City Charter, All interested parties will be given an opportunity to Tina Pemberton 130893

To Place A Notice Call 516-569-4000 x232 LEGAL NOTICE CITY OF GLEN COVE ΟF 70NING **BOARD** OF PUBLIC NOTICE

HEARING NOTICE TAKE PLEASE that a PUBLIC HEARING will be held by the Glen Cove Zoning Board of Appeals on Thursday, April 28, 2022, at 7:30 p.m. at the Council Chambers, City Hall, 9 Glen Street, Glen Cove New York, when al interested persons will be given an opportunity to

express their views. The hearing will be on the application of Roni Epstein who is appealing the determination of the Building Department Buildina Director to issue a building permit to 135 Glen Cove Ave. Corp to construct a 176- unit rental apartment known as The Villa at Glen Cove (The Villa Project), on the grounds that al conditions required by the Planning Board as a condition precedent for building

obtaining

satisfied prior to issuance of the building permit and that a determination by the Building Department Administrator was not made pursuant to Glen Cove City Code Section 111-11 (A). The subject premises is located at 131-135 Glen Cove Avenue, Glen Cove, New York, known as Section 21, Block 244, Lots 55, 60, 61,66 and part of 77 and Section 21, Block 38, Lots 152, 196, 202 and 203 on the Land and Tax Map of Nassau County which is located in the City's Zoning District B-2 (RIO-GCA).

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:April 8, 2022
BY ORDER OF THE ROARD OF ZONING APPEALS OF THE CITY OF GI FN COVE THERESA MOSCHETTA CHAIRPERSON 130879

LEGAL NOTICES...
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LEGAL NOTICE CITY OF GLEN COVE BOARD ZONING APPEALS OF **PUBLIC** HEARING PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that a PUBLIC HEARING will be held by the Glen Cove Zoning Board of Appeals Thursday, April 28, 2022, at 7:30 the Council at 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 Donna Lesser residing at 16 Woodland Rd, Glen Cove NY requesting Variances from Sections 280-56 (D)(2), (4), (6); 280-56 (B)(10) of the Glen Cove Zoning Code to construct a new open pavilion with an outdoor kitchen and fireplace, detached garage, and driveway garage, and driveway expansion. Applicant is proposing 703.8 sq ft garage with a proposed height of 19.1ft where 500 sq ft and 14 ft height is the maximum allowed: and proposing distance from the front property line 45.4 ft for the garage and 8 ft for the pavilion the minimum where distance permitted to the property line is 65 ft. Lot coverage is 22.2% for all structures (3,083.16 sf permitted - 4,565.55 sf proposed) where 15 % is the maximum allowed. The subject property is

designated on the Nassau County Land & Tax Map

as Section 31, Block 67, Lot 23 and located in the

City's R-2 Half Residence District.

on file at the city offices located at 9 Glen Street, Glen Cove, NY where it may be seen during regular business hours of the usual business days until the time of the hearing. Dated: April 8, 2022 BY ORDER OF THE ZONING BOARD OF

APPEALS OF THE CITY OF

MOSCHETTA.

GLEN COVE

THERESA N CHAIRPERSON

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To Place A Notice Call 516-569-4000 x232 LEGAL NOTICE CITY OF GLEN COVE ZONING BOARD OF **APPFALS** NOTICE OF PUBLIC

HEARING
PLEASE TAKE NOTICE
that a PUBLIC HEARING will be held by the Glen Cove Zoning Board of Thursday, April 28, 2022, 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.

express their views.
The hearing will be on the application of Patricia Errico residing at 20 Chestnut St, Glen Cove, NY 11542 who seeks at Variance from Seat in Variance from Section 280-59 B (6) of the Glen Cove Zoning Code to construct new front portico/porch with insufficient front yard setback. Applicant is proposing 16 feet 2.5 inches where 20 feet is the minimum required. Existing house setback is 21 feet 21 inches which seems approximately the average setback. The property is located within the R-4 One-Two Family Residence District and designated on the Nassau County Land & Tax Map as Section 31, Block 23, Lot 10.

The above application is on file at the city offices located at 9 Glen Street, Glen Cove, NY where it may be seen during regular business hours of the usual business days until the time of hearing. Dated:April 8, 2022 BY ORDER OF THE BOARD OF ZONING APPEALS OF THE CITY OF GLEN COVE THERESA MOSCHETTA,

CHAIRPERSON

130878

PUBLIC NOTICES Friends OF Bay



RAINGARDENS ARE USED to capture and filter stormwater runoff.

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Did you know that raingardens can help improve water quality in nearby bodies of water by cleansing polluted stormwater runoff?

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A raingarden is a type of green infrastructure basin that can be installed in either a community or residential setting. It's used to capture and filter stormwater runoff. They are typically constructed using native plants and layers of mulch and permeable soil. In a community setting, a raingarden is usually installed on or at the bottom of a sloped area where it can capture runoff from surrounding impervious surfaces. In a residential setting a raingarden is most commonly installed at the base of a downspout.

If designed properly, raingardens can be effective at removing up to 90 percent of chemicals from stormwater runoff and can absorb runoff as much as 30 to 40 percent more efficiently than a typical lawn. In addition to providing filtration, raingardens can recharge groundwater, mitigate flooding and prevent runoff from inundating storm sewers. The benefit of using native plants is that they do not require fertilization and provide a habitat for bees, butterflies and other pollinators.

Last October, Friends of the Bay installed two raingardens along the Western Waterfront in Oyster Bay. The Western Waterfront Raingarden Project was made possible by a grant from the Long Island Sound Stewardship Fund at the Long Island Community Foundation.

On April 20 at 7 p.m., Sean Rooney from the Nassau County Soil and Water Conservation District will be giving a Zoom lecture, "Raingardening 101," as part of Friends of the Bay's monthly speaker series.

To register for the presentation, visit "Events" at www.friendsofthebay.org. To learn more about raingardens visit "Resources" at the www. friendsofthebay.org.

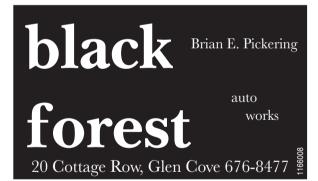
Christine Suter submitted this story.

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# SAGE gives senior center a cash donation

SAGE Foundation was founded in 2005 by former Glen Cove Mayor Vincent Suozzi as a nonprofit to help raise funds for the Glen Cove Senior Center. The assistance of the foundation has helped the center provide programs, staffing, and services for the city's elderly.

On March 31, SAGE Foundation members Carolynn Eipel, president, Lee DelValle, corresponding secretary, Pete Heilig, treasurer, and Anthony Jimenez, director of Glen Cove Veterans Affairs and a SAGE board member, presented a check of roughly \$22,600 to Christine Rice, executive director of Glen Cove Senior Center.

Mayor Pamela Panzenbeck and Deputy Mayor Donna McNaughton were also at the event to show their support.

"That additional money helps to offset what they received from like the county and the state," Eipel said. "So, it makes a big difference.'

The funding will enable the center to keep its social workers, who assist members in housing, healthcare and other needs. They are currently available Monday through Friday, from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., and sometimes even later, Rice said.

'The donations that we get," DelValle said, "help us directly support a social worker here at the center, which is vital. And the programs and all the activities and programs that are done here at the center

Over the years, Heilig stated, SAGE has been able to give the center over \$150,000 in donations. The funds have helped give center members a chance to participate in fun activities, including musical shows and entertainment, mediation therapy, yoga chair therapy, dance therapy and Tai Chi

The donations have helped the center to buy equipment for their community, such as



community. Our aging community here is large, and it's getting bigger."

The center is trying to add additional programs for seniors since most coronavirus restrictions have been lifted. It has in the past provided bus trips for outings such as baseball games and to tour Sagamore

"Now that we are past Covid restrictions, we are starting on our bus trips again," Rice said. "We're really trying to add as many programs as we can, as the seniors are now becoming more comfortable coming back in and being among their friends and having lunch."

DelValle said that the center was "incredible" to its members during the pandemic. She recalled how the center delivered hundreds of meals and continuously made daily wellness calls to check on the

**ANTHONY** JIMENEZ, LEFT,

Letisha Dass/Herald

Pete Heilig, Glen Cove Mayor Pamela Panzenbeck. Christine Rice, Carolynn Eipel, Lee DelValle, and Deputy Mayor Donna McNaughton gathered for the center's receival of \$22,600 of donations made through the SAGE Foundation.

DelValle said. "And the staff here is wonderful, and we feel very privileged to be able to help them. We're really very grateful to what they do here at the center.

"There are so many programs that go on here that are so enriching for so many people," Eipel said. "[With the SAGE donation] they're able to do so much more."

SAGE will be hosting its annual golf outing to help raise additional donations for Glen Cove's Senior Center on June 6 at Glen Cove's golf course. Tee-off will start at noon and box lunches and beverages will be provided. The fundraiser will include a dinner and cocktail hour at The Metropolitan, where there will be music, raffles, and an auction. Additionally, emergency service chiefs will be honored at the dinner.

To register for the annual golf outing and to make donations to Glen Cove Senior Center, visit https://www.glencovesage.org/ join-our-fundraisers/

wireless tour guide headsets and program supplies; and to purchase and maintain programs such as Dakim BrainFitness to help members improve their cognitive abilities.

The center receives its funding through grants from the United States Administration of Aging, the New York Office for the Aging, and the Nassau County Office for the Aging.

All supplemental donations go through SAGE. Eipel mentioned that many community members have also made donations.

"That's a big thing," Eipel said. "So, we've had some people that were members here at the senior center that have died, and their families made a generous donation to the senior center through SAGE, and we pass it through to the senior center."

"People here really care about each other," DelValle said. "And they support us as a foundation, so that we are able to support the city's center, which is vital to this

"The outreach here is really amazing,"

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# **OPINIONS**

# Let's focus more on Long Island's downtowns

Blight in the center of

our towns and

villages is bad

for businesses

old and new.

ong Island is a geographic wonder. Technically, it stretches from Montauk Point into Brooklyn, but Nassau and Suffolk counties are the key parts of the island. In those two counties there are over 100 villages and 11 towns. While all of these jurisdictions are supported by property taxes,



**JERRY KREMER** 

they have many needs that their residents cannot afford to pay for. One of the biggest headaches for these aging communities is downtown blight, which hurts existing businesses and chases away new ones

New York state has been extremely generous with

the assistance it provides to all levels of government, and thanks to some progressive thinking, the state created the Downtown Revitalization Initiative. This year the state will provide roughly \$400 million to help local governments deal with empty storefronts and abandoned properties. Under this program, communities compete for \$10 million grants to help transform downtown neighborhoods into vibrant centers of activity.

There has been fierce competition for these funds, because many of our villages and towns have targeted areas where that money could create a whole new economic magnet. To date, municipalities including Amityville, Central Islip, Hicksville,

Riverhead and Westbury have won state grants. The local leadership in those areas, with community input, will use the funds to create attractive businesses, apartments, office space and parking near Long Island Rail Road stations.

Baldwin and the Inwood-North Lawrence station area have won these grants, and have enlisted local input to make sure that the money is used properly. In

both instances, the Town of Hempstead has approved zoning changes to pave the way for these communities to qualify for the grants. The Inwood-North Lawrence designated area received that zoning approval in May 2019. The Baldwin site has garnered the support of the Baldwin Chamber of Commerce and other business leaders, and a local developer has unveiled plans for residential apartments adjacent to the railroad station.

Having spent over 50 years on Long Island, including my service in the State Legislature, I'm very familiar with both

communities and their desperate need to eliminate blighted areas. I've heard all of the traditional arguments against new projects. Opponents will claim that new apartments will flood the schools with new children even when only one-bed-

> room apartments are planned. Others will claim that a proposed seven-story residential building in a county with 1.3 million residents will turn the local area into "the Rockaways."

> Whether it's to appease the objectors or just plain politics, the Town of Hempstead has scheduled a public hearing on April 26 to decide whether to impose a one-year moratorium on the Baldwin and Inwood-

North Lawrence projects, which would effectively kill them. Quashing these types of efforts sends two messages to the outside world. It tells young Long Island singles that there is no room for them to remain in Nassau County, and it tells New York state that the Town of Hempstead isn't interested in these precious grants.

If you can afford two extra gallons of gas, it's worth traveling to Patchogue, where good leadership has resulted in the creation of a model community. Patchogue is being joined by Amityville,

Central Islip, Riverhead, Ronkonkoma, Westbury and Wyandanch, which have qualified for or are using these grants. The Town of Oyster Bay is cooperating with New York state to advance its proiect in Hicksville, and would gladly take any extra money that the Town of Hempstead turns down

For the record, I have no connection to either the Baldwin or Inwood-North Lawrence project, and have not spoken to any consultants, lawyers or developers who are involved with them. I have spoken to four business leaders in the two communities who have expressed their frustration and anger over the town's failure to keep its promises when there is a visible need in their own backyards. There must be some way the town and the interested parties can find a way to make these proposed downtown revitalization projects happen

Passing a moratorium is a death sentence for any community renaissance at a time when it is so badly needed. I hope that reasoning, and not politics, wins the

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.

# The holidays don't dampen worldwide strife

ut the

of holy days

begs us, for a

about peace.

synchrony

moment, to think

ll we are saying is give peace a chance' —John Lennon, 1969 This week the three major religions of the world marked their holy days in calendric synchrony. Over the same few days, Muslims observed Rama-



**RANDI KREISS** 

dan, Jews celebrated Passover and Christians rejoiced at Easter services. There, in itself, is every reason to hope for peace on

> Yet despite the rhyming and timing of religious holidays that brought together hundreds of millions of people in common and sacred rituals, the

world is caught in a spasm of violence, conflict and grief.

Eruptions of fighting, from Ukraine to Israel to Afghanistan to Myanmar to Yemen, to skirmishes throughout South America and Africa, to fractious divisions within our own country, all feel discordant with the homilies coming from the pulpits and the hope for peace on earth. At any moment, hot spots around the globe could ignite. See: Latvia, Taiwan, the South China Sea, the Persian Gulf,

Kashmir, Syria and the Korean Peninsula.

There have been times of relative world peace going back to the Pax Romana, a 200-year-interval when Rome ruled the civilized world. History teaches us,

however, that the nature of human beings pushes them to fight for what they need or want. Today, though, the weapons are more lethal. the outcomes of war are more catastrophic, and we humans seem less inspired by the calls to peace by leaders, religion, or the cautionary tales of history. We all know the exceptions, when people need to stand and fight; still, so much conflict ends only in lost lives and time and homeland.

Read the headlines at press time. From the New York Times: "Russia has sent a series of warnings to the Biden administration, demanding that it halt shipment of weapons to Ukraine or risk unpredictable consequences....

"The messages came as Russia hit a missile factory near Kyiv and set a stage for a bloody battle to take control of eastern Ukraine. ... The sinking of one of Russia's most formidable warships, the Moskva, is a stunning blow for the country — whether the ship sank after an accidental fire, as Russia's Defense Ministry

maintains, or after being struck by missiles as Ukraine has claimed '

From Al Jazeera: "Palestinians and Israelis have witnessed an increase in violence over the past month, with Palestin-

ian attackers targeting Israeli cities and Israeli forces stepping up raids, shootings and arrests across the illegally occupied West

"The recent surge marks the deadliest wave of violence since 2016.

'Four attacks by Palestinians in four Israeli cities have taken place since March 22, killing 14 people, while Israel has increased its raids on Palestinian towns and villages, leading

to daily clashes and arrests. Sixteen Palestinians have been killed in the same period, including those who committed the attacks in Israel. The two most recent attacks in Israel took place in Tel Aviv and Bnei Brak, and were carried out by Palestinians from the occupied West

From Haaretz: "Around 50,000 Muslims, half from the West Bank, arrived at the Al-Aqsa Mosque for noon prayers Friday after a six-hour clash at the site between Palestinians and Israeli police, the worst skirmishing in Jerusalem since the month of Ramadan began on April 1. At least 152 Palestinians and three Israeli police officers were injured in the clashes Friday

In Serbia, during a soccer match last week, the crowd held up a giant banner critical of America, listing all the world conflicts where the United States has sent troops. The banner ended on a sarcastic tone, with the message, "All We Are Saying is Give Peace a Chance.'

No one would argue that global peace is on the horizon. However, even as the war in Ukraine and the violence in Israel make headlines, the coincidence of the holidays begs us for a moment to think about peace. Just a moment to turn toward the light.

Consider:

'Our prime purpose in this life is to help others. And if you can't help them, at least don't hurt them." — the Dalai Lama

"If we have no peace, it is because we have forgotten that we belong to each other." — Mother Teresa

"Give Peace a Chance' is an anti-war song written by John Lennon (originally credited to Lennon-McCartney) and recorded with the participation of a small group of friends in a performance with Yoko Ono in a hotel room in Montreal."

- Wikipedia

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Gold Coast Gazette

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# **HERALD EDITORIAL**

# Maintaining VA centers is the least we can do

n the waning weeks of the Civil War, President Abraham Lincoln realized that sooner rather than later, the tens of thousands of Union soldiers returning from the battlefield would be forced to fend for themselves.

Many times, we reflect on the number of soldiers who died in the War Between the States — more than 655,000 from both sides — but overlook those who made it back home, in nowhere near the same physical shape. On the Union side alone. more than 280,000 were injured, many of whom would require some sort of medical care for the rest of their lives.

Lincoln established what would become the National Home for Disabled Volunteer Soldiers, with the first facility opening in Augusta, Maine, in 1866. Another dozen would join it by the time the Veterans Bureau was established in 1921, and the number would grow to some 125 Veterans Administration hospitals following World War II.

VA medical centers provide our heroes with high-quality medical care for the rest of their lives. It's the least we can do for those willing to give so much for our coun-

Veterans on Long Island have been treated in Northport since the 1920s, and a full patient care facility opened in 1972, on 268 acres of land not far from the Nassau-Suffolk line. It currently serves more than 50,000 former servicemen and women, according to the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs, with most hailing from the Suffolk side.

Northport is one of 10 such facilities in the state, so, overall, there's one for about every 2 million New Yorkers. But because of its location, the VA facility on Long Island serves an area with a population of 7.6 million. And if the VA follows through on a new recommendation, it would worsen the situation.

Washington expects that the number of Long Island veterans who need the Northport center will drop by nearly a third before the decade is over. And despite millions of dollars in upgrades in recent years — including some significant funding allocated by U.S. Rep. Tom Suozzi Northport's facility is significantly outdated, and it would cost more than \$600 million to make still more needed upgrades.

With all that in mind, the VA wants to shutter Northport, and shift services to neighboring civilian hospitals and other veterans facilities, primarily one across the New York City line, in St. Albans, Queens — nearly 50 miles from Northport. While that might be closer for some Nassau veterans, it would be a hardship for anyone not close to Queens.

Suozzi has joined a chorus of lawmakers on both sides of the aisle in deriding

this plan, which calls for closing 17 VA hospitals nationwide. Although the agency plans to replace them with 30 new facilities, critics of the proposal say that not enough thought is being given to where those facilities would be located.

Northport is a perfect example. The VA is justifying shuttering the facility based on a seven-vear outlook, but it could take that many years just to get its new proposal off the ground, given the miles of bureaucratic red tape in Washington. Projections are needed for the next 30 years, not seven.

And since the population of Long Island is growing, not shrinking, it's safe to say there will be enough former servicemen and women among the millions living here to justify not only keeping the hospital in Northport, but giving it the upgrades it needs.

Gen. Douglas MacArthur once famously declared that "no man is entitled to the blessings of freedom unless he be vigilant in its preservation." The World War II leader meant that the tens of thousands of men and women at the ready to protect those freedoms needed to be supported in every way during — and after — their service.

VA medical centers are the very cornerstone of that support, and the bar to justify removing even one can never be set too

# **LETTERS**

# Delia, Delia, Delia

To the Editor:

Yes Laura Curran did a good job as county executive. She is the first Democrat I ever voted for the first time she ran. The second term I couldn't do the same, because she was governed by Albany, and that is not good for Long Islanders. I do wish she was a Republi-

County Legislator Delia DeRiggi-Whitton has been around for 10 years. I've been on Long Island for 68 years, and saw the Republicans screw up Nassau County even as it was growing. DeRiggi-Whitton has voiced her concern over the Blakeman administration's handling of the LIPA deal. Why not instead look back on the handling of LIPA by the Cuomos, both Mario and Andrew?

DeRiggi-Whitton claims she's concerned about contaminated water and the environment. I lived in Plandome for over 50 years, then moved to Glen Head, and the first thing I noticed was that the water was horrible. Twenty-two years later, it still is. In the Long Island Sound, I went from seeing my feet in the water to a black muddy bottom in the bays. DeRiggi-Whitton and the Democrats



# **OPINIONS**

# This week we pay tribute to volunteers

hey

respond to

350 home fires.

floods and other

disasters each

year on L.I.

everal years ago, during my first day on the job as regional disaster officer for the American Red Cross in Central and South

Texas, where I worked before joining the organization here in New York, a call came in that a plane had crashed into the IRS building in Austin, with hundreds of people inside.



JOSE DOMINGUEZ

Having lived through the Sept. 11 attacks in Manhattan, I instinctively flashed back to the horror of that day. Then I took a deep breath and quickly began mobilizing a team to respond. Though my office had only two staff

members, I knew

we'd be able to count on the many trained Red Cross volunteers in the area to jump into action to provide both physical comfort and emotional support to those affected.

The same is true for all emergencies that the Red Cross responds to, including the roughly 350 home fires, floods and other disaster calls for help that the organization answers each year on Long Island, where I now work. No matter the

time of day or the severity of the crisis, our volunteers are always ready and willing to help wherever they're needed — whether it's down the street or, sometimes, across the country. Volunteers make up 90 percent of our workforce, and without them the Red Cross

simply wouldn't exist.

This week, April 17-23, is
National Volunteer Week,
and it gives us an opportunity to thank these selfless
people, who do everything
from teaching emergency
preparedness to supporting
our military communities
to installing free smoke
alarms — in addition to
responding to disasters.
Often they put their own
lives on hold to help others

in need, and their work has been especially important during the coronavirus crisis of the past two years.

They drop everything, often in the middle of the night, to provide comfort and compassion to our neighbors across Long Island after emergencies that occur nearly every day. Volunteers from Nassau and Suffolk counties also traveled far from home to help those impacted by tornadoes in Kentucky, wildfires out West and hurricanes on the Gulf Coast.

Last June, I joined volunteers from all

over the country, including some from Long Island, who deployed to Surfside, Fla., after the building collapse there. The main focus of our team members was the mental well-being of survivors and the families of those who didn't make it out.

Providing emotional support is an important part of the work that trained Red Cross volunteers do both at the scenes of disasters and afterward. There were so many sad stories in Surfside, and so much trauma. I was in awe of how resilient our mental-health volunteers were, and their ability to help people begin to cope with the shock and grief they were feeling.

I'm always grateful for the vast skills of our volunteers, and National Volunteer Week is when we ask our neighbors to recognize the impact of selfless volunteers from the Long Island Red Cross as well as those who support their communities through all the other great local service organizations. We also use the week as a chance to reach out to people from all backgrounds and professions and invite them to join our team. The Red Cross has so many different activities and lines of services for people to get involved with based on their experi-

ence, their interests, or both.

Becoming a volunteer takes time, commitment and a lot of flexibility, but I think most would agree that it's worth it. As Red Cross volunteer Margaret Sukhram, a nurse practitioner from Suffolk County, puts it, "I feel richer every day for volunteering. I feel that I'm making a difference in people's lives." As a bonus, she has developed great friendships with some of the other volunteers she's met.

If you're thinking about volunteering, my advice is to choose an organization whose mission resonates with you. And try to go in with open eyes, understanding that it won't always be hugs and handshakes. Sometimes it will require lots of patience and hard work. But finding an organization that's the right fit will make it worthwhile.

This is my 16th year with the Red Cross, and I'm so proud to work alongside the many talented volunteers who make such a huge impact both here on Long Island and across the country. Thanks to all who turn compassion into action every day by delivering help and hope where it's needed most.

To learn more about becoming a Red Cross volunteer, go to redcross.org/VolunteerToday.

Jose Dominguez is chief executive officer of American Red Cross on Long Island.

# **LETTERS**

haven't solved the problem, so let's not ask Blakeman to dig up the black bottom and put it somewhere.

The Glen Cove Creek has been polluted for years. Manufacturers polluted it years ago, while Glen Cove politicians talked about what to do but did nothing.

Delia, you are using typical Democratic propaganda, which is scaring people. Blakeman is addressing crime. Biden is dumping illegals on Long Island without advising anyone, and Blakeman is trying to stop it. Most managers know that top priorities need to be taken care of first, and Blakeman is doing so, addressing safety.

Laura Curran didn't lose an election; the Democratic Party did. She is one of the early casualties. More will follow, with people tired of "wokeism."

Delia, I respect you as a hardworking, dedicated politico, but like Laura Curran, your party has left you.

ROBERT CASALE Glen Head

# With Blakeman, we return to Mangano era

To the Editor:

County Executive Bruce Blakeman inherited a government that was fiscally strong with a restored sense of public integ-

rity. It is now his responsibility to preserve and build on this progress.

Regrettably, there are troubling signs that the new administration is reverting to questionable practices that sent top county officials to prison, caused the indictment of a former county executive while he was still in office, and generally betrayed the public trust

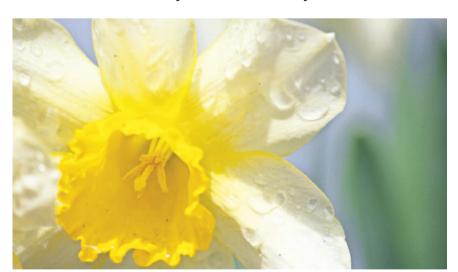
Based on my experience during my decade as legislator, I am especially concerned about the lack of transparency, accountability and integrity shown during the Blakeman administration's first three months. One example is the handling of the county's proposed settlement with LIPA — something that directly impacts the residents of my district.

Right now, the Island Park and North Shore school districts face an increase in school taxes of as much as 20 percent. However, the administration has failed to provide school officials with even the most basic information or advocate for their interests.

We are especially concerned by how the Blakeman administration seems intent on undermining the reforms we worked so hard to implement after the widespread corruption of the Mangano years.

Some of the people he has hired include a man whose involvement in a politically motivated arrest cost county taxpayers hundreds of thousands of dollars in settlements and legal fees; a man who was convicted in a bribery scheme to sell patient data from

# FRAMEWORK by Christina Daly



A welcome sign of the season - Baldwin

Nassau University Medical Center to personal injury lawyers; and even a man who stated that there is such a thing as "good racism" to chair the Nassau Health Care Corp., Board.

What Blakeman has failed to address in his first three months in office is even more concerning. We are still waiting to hear his vision for protecting the environment, keeping toxic contaminants out of our drinking water, and guarding our communities from extreme weather caused by climate change. We have yet to hear a plan for reducing county fees or improving our assessment

system, despite promises for immediate action.

Despite promises to the Legislature and the people of Nassau County to work in a bipartisan, transparent manner, Blakeman is failing to do so.

The minority caucus will always be ready to roll up our sleeves to make the county an even better place to live, work and raise a family.

DELIA DERIGGI-WHITTON Nassau County Legislator, 11th District Glen Cove





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