

HERALD



Class of 2022 Graduation
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Dancing at the senior picnic
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Elisa Dragotto/0Herald

MARIA SZHERBA, FAR left, Halyna Fenchenko, Anna Kijko, Ivanna Duda, Tetyana Komzuk and Iryna Bodnar were on hand to serve homemade Ukrainian food at the Father's Day picnic at St. Josephat's, a fundraiser for the war-torn country.

A picnic to benefit Ukraine

By **LAURA LANE**
llane@liherald.com

Ten Ukrainian police officers, trained in combat, ran for their lives near Lugansk in May as a Russian drone followed them. A helmet worn by one had already been shot off by the enemy as they dodged a barrage of shrapnel.

Hearing the roar of bombs in the distance, the Ukrainian fighters were desperate to find refuge. When they spotted the door to an underground shed, they ran inside. As Michael, the last to enter, pulled the door closed, a bomb went off outside, causing the door to explode and fall onto him. Michael cannot share his last name for fear he will be

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Meet Glen Cove High's valedictorian, Teresa Melfi

By **LETISHA DASS**
Special to the Glen Cove Herald

Given the tribulations of the past three years for high school students amid the coronavirus pandemic, the honor of being named valedictorian has new meaning this year. And Teresa Melfi, 18, tops Glen Cove High School's graduating class of 255, with a GPA of 105.19.

"It was a surprise for me, because throughout my sophomore and junior year, I was at home doing virtual learning," Melfi said. "So I wasn't really in touch with a lot of my peers, and I wasn't sure how ... any of us were doing."

Teresa's mother, Lisa Melfi, said she had expected her daughter would finish at the top of the class because of her dedication over the past four years, especially when the school was shut down and classes were remote.

"I knew that she had worked so hard and put in so much effort," Lisa said. "Especially through the pandemic, [by] really trying to focus and keep up with the schoolwork and the online classes. So it was very exciting."

Frank Melfi, Teresa's 19-year-old brother, who graduated from Glen Cove High last year and is a freshman at Binghamton University, added that he was proud

At Glen Cove, I had this unique experience of sort of meeting with and developing respect for a lot of diverse people.

TERESA MELFI
GCHS valedictorian

of her as well. Her honor was expected, Frank said, "because she's always working really hard in school."

The topic of Teresa's graduation address is "Change is inevitable," which she will share on June 24. She said that throughout her high school career and during the pandemic, the message the school conveyed to students was that there was always a light at the end of the tunnel, no matter the changes that were occurring around them.

"With very supportive students and teachers and administrators, we were kind of taught that we all have the potential to succeed," Teresa said, "as long as we work hard and endure through that."

Frank's advice for his sister, as an incoming college freshman, is to keep up the hard

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Funds raised to aid soldiers, hospitals in Ukraine

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killed by the Russians.

"If he hadn't closed the door they all would have died," his cousin Halyna Fenchenko said. "He broke his arm and they all lay unconscious for a while."

Fenchenko, the president of the Long Island chapter for the Organization for the Defense of Four Freedoms in Ukraine, said the men were taken to the hospital, adding that she doesn't have any other details as to how or when. All she knows is that her cousin, in a Ternopil rehabilitation center near his home, is still unable to move his arm.

"But he plans to go back to fight," said Fenchenko, who lives in Islip. "Everybody says someone else will go. But Misha — which is what I call him — said he has to fight for Ukraine."

Fenchenko came to the United States from Ukraine in 2001 leaving her immediate and extended family behind. They remain in Lviv.

She played a major role in the success of the annual Father's Day picnic Sunday with the help of volunteers from St. Josephat's Monastery, in Glen Cove, and St. Vladimir Catholic Church in Hempstead.

The picnic, held for more than 50 years at St. Josephat's private beach, was a Ukrainian fundraiser this year. Fenchenko, Maria Ircha and Dianna Fiore Radoslovich organized the event

and did most of the cooking. Among the food for sale were 80 dozen perogies and 500 stuffed cabbage. After expenses, Fenchenko said they made roughly \$12,000 at the picnic.

"The food was more expensive than usual," she said, "but people didn't mind because the money is going for the health of the Ukrainian soldiers."

Her son Kostyantyn's girlfriend, Kirsten Gruener, collected all of the raffle items, including two rings estimated at \$900 each and tickets to Splish Splash.

Gruener isn't Ukrainian, but said she wanted to help, and had been working on gathering the raffle items since April, which gleaned \$3,400 that day.

She also made several cornhole sets out of pallets, painting them the colors of the Ukrainian flag, which were also sold that day.

Nearby, Kostyantyn was busy making

pizza to sell at the picnic. The day before, he had made the dough and sauce. Gruener said that if her boyfriend had his way, he'd open a pizza shop.

Kostyantyn said he worries about his family in Ukraine all the time. Aside from his cousin Michael, he has two uncles fighting in the war.

Although he knew of Russian aggression in other parts of what was once Ukraine, including Crimean, which Russians invaded and annexed in 2014, he wasn't prepared for the current war.

"At the beginning of the war I was shocked," he said. "I didn't know what to do. Should I go there?"

But I don't have any training. I don't think I'd be much help."

Fenchenko said she has a pulse on what Ukrainians need because they call, write letters and post on Facebook.

"We all have connections there. Our

families are there," she explained. "We talk every day and night, even with the seven-hour difference."

The Defense of Four Freedoms sent military boots, uniforms and binoculars to groups assisting Ukrainian soldiers. The group also sent medical supplies to hospitals since the war started.

Ukraine's hospitals were not ready to care for the types of wounds soldiers and residents sustained from Russian forces, lacking the right equipment to treat them, Fenchenko explained.

Recent donations from the Ukrainian National Home of Hartford of \$5,000 and \$10,000 from Flushing Hospital Medical Center helped the Defense of Four Freedoms to buy two portable vacuum-assisted wound care units for a hospital in the city of Poltava.

Fenchenko said she will buy whatever is needed with the proceeds from the picnic. People were so generous.

Iwona Siuda, a friend of Halyna Fenchenko, sat at one of the picnic tables.

She didn't know anyone there except her friend, but she came to show her support, she said. Originally from Poland, she has been living in Glen Cove for 30 years.

"I know how horrible it is (in Ukraine)," she said. "The Polish people know how Germany attacked them and no one helped. So (Poland) is helping Ukraine. After all, we are all Slavic."

How to help Ukraine

Send a check to St. Vladimir Catholic Church. In the check's memo, write 'For humanitarian aid for Ukraine.'

Mail to: Self Reliance Federal Credit Union, 226 Uniondale Ave., P.O. Box 811, Uniondale, N.Y. 11553.

There will be another fundraising picnic on Aug. 21 at 1 p.m., at St. Josephat's private beach, 1 E. Beach Drive, Glen Cove. All are welcome.

For more photos of the event, see Page 3.

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Elisa Dragotto/Herald photos

MANY PEOPLE WHO went to the Father's Day picnic fundraiser on Sunday at St. Josephat's private beach in Glen Cove brought along some of their own food, to enjoy before the Ukrainian food was available.

Father's Day picnic for soldiers and hospitals in the homeland



KIRSTEN GRUENER GATHERED all of the raffle items, collecting \$3,400 for Ukrainians.



THE WAIT WAS worth if for the homemade Ukrainian food.

KOSTYANTYN FENCHENKO MADE his own dough and tomato sauce for the pizza he sold at the picnic.



VASYL IARNYK BROUGHT his son Mark, 3, who tasted homemade pizza crust.

HERALD NEIGHBORS

June 23, 2022 – GLEN COVE HERALD



Courtesy Tim Baker photos

THE BAND OUR Generation played live for everyone at the picnic.

Glen Cove seniors picnic in Morgan Park

Glen Cove seniors spent their day out in Morgan Park on May 25 for a senior picnic held by the Glen Cove Senior Center. The outdoor day of fun has been held every year to celebrate the volunteers at the center, but because of the pandemic, the center decided to make it a day to celebrate its seniors.

The band, Our Generation, played

groovy tunes from the 60s's and 70's in tie-dye shirts. Seniors from the center along with their friends danced, ate ice cream, and enjoyed a barbeque. All the food was provided by John Grella from Glen Cove Golf Course, grills from the Glen Cove Fire Department, and a cart was provided from North Shore Golf Car to help seniors get around the park.



ALICE LYNCH, RIGHT, got ice cream with her friends at the picnic in Morgan Park



SENIORS LINED UP to dance at the picnic.

GLEN COVE
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

Glen Cove man killed in Brookville

A Glen Cove man was killed on June 16 in Brookville at midnight. While driving a 2006 Honda motorcycle northbound on Cedar Swamp Road, the victim, Milton Diaz, 33, became entangled in wires from a telephone pole causing him to fall off his motorcycle. He was pronounced dead at the scene. Minutes before a 21-year-old woman had lost control of the 2017 Ford sedan she was driving and felled

a telephone pole, causing the wires to fall onto the road.

Police said the woman's speech was slurred, her eyes were bloodshot and her breath smelled of alcohol. She was placed under arrest without incident and was transported to a local area hospital for treatment of her injuries.

The woman has been charged with DWI and Vehicular Manslaughter. Police say the investigation is ongoing.

People named in Crime Watch items as having been arrested and charged with violations or crimes are only suspected of committing those acts of which they are accused. They are all presumed to be innocent of those charges until and unless found guilty in a court of law.

NEIGHBORS IN THE NEWS

Baicker promoted chief operating officer for SCO Family of Services

Martin Baicker is the new chief operating officer of SCO Family of Services, in Glen Cove. He will be the primary strategic and management partner to the president and chief executive officer. He will also oversee the agency's operations and provide support and coordination between administrative and program services. Baicker serves as the internal leader of the organization, tasked with managing day-to-day administrative operations aligned with the agency's vision, mission, and strategic direction.



Courtesy SCO Family of Services



1-800-244-TIPS

Nassau County Crime Stoppers

The public is asked to call Crime Stoppers if they have any information about any crimes.



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Herald honors L.I.'s best in health care

Achievements of doctors, first responders and more recognized

By **KYLE CHIN**

kchin@liherald.com

Many called them heroes at the height of the coronavirus pandemic. But for anyone who has ever paid attention at a hospital or any medical facility, they've always been super.

Honoring them is long overdue, but more than 400 people gathered to do just that at The Heritage Club in Bethpage last week for the Herald's premiere Long Island Excellence in Healthcare Awards.

Hosted by RichnerLive and Herald Community Newspapers with presenting sponsor FirstNet, Built with AT&T, some 40 of health care's best from across Nassau County — and from Suffolk County as well — were honored June 15.

To see how we've come together in health care — to navigate these uncharted and turbulent waters on behalf of our patients — it's been very inspiring.

MAUREEN WHITE

executive vice president, Northwell Health

the pandemic.”

Maureen White, executive vice president and chief nurse executive at Northwell Health, called the past two years or so “uncharted water.”

“To see how we've come together in health care to navigate these uncharted and turbulent waters on behalf of our patients, it's been very inspiring,” she added.

The keynote was delivered by White's boss, Northwell's president and chief executive Michael Dowling. He couldn't attend the ceremony itself — where he was honored for his lifetime achievement — because he's traveling overseas, but he did sit down with Herald executive editor Michael Hinman on video to share what health care is like in a post-Covid world.

“I never look at the world through the lens of challenges,” Dowling said. “I look at the world through the lens of opportunity. So to me, it's the opportunity to continue to provide better care. To deal with prevention, wellness, the social determinants issues, dealing with food insecurity, dealing with lifestyle behaviors, and focusing more on those communities across the region in dire need.”

So much focus has been given to Covid-19 in recent years — and rightfully so — but that isn't the only health issue facing many people. Work must continue in other fields as well, like what Bruce Stillman is doing at of Cold Spring Harbor Laboratory in Oyster Bay's Laurel Hollow.

“Our most recent project was for spinal muscular atrophy, which is the most lethal genetic disease in children, that now keeps those kids alive,” the laboratory's

Dr. Adhi Sharma, president of Mount Sinai South Nassau, was among those honored. And what's happening at the Oceanside facility has the executive more excited than ever.

“Right now, Mount Sinai South Nassau is undergoing a transformation,” he said. “We will be adding a number of advanced programs — including open-heart surgery, advanced neurosurgical techniques, and advanced stroke rescue techniques.”

In his acceptance speech for being named one of Long Island's outstanding hospital leaders, Sharma reflected not only on work already done, but also what's planned for the future.

“We look forward to this era beyond the pandemic,” he said, while “going back to typical care for our patients and working with the technology advancements we've gotten as a result of



Tim Baker/Herald photos

NASSAU COUNTY POLICE Department commissioner Patrick Ryder and Town of Oyster Bay supervisor Joseph Saladino celebrate their award with Herald Community Newspapers publisher Stuart Richner, and FirstNet, Built with AT&T's Evvelis Valentin and Anthony Postiglione at the Herald Long Island Excellence in Healthcare gala at The Heritage Club.

Want to see more?

For a complete list of winners at the Herald Long Island Excellence in Healthcare Awards, along with more photos from the event, visit RichnerLive.com/2022healthcarephotos.

president and chief executive said. But still, even his facility — which has weathered through a number of pandemics and health crises over its more than 130 years — couldn't avoid the coronavirus.

“When the pandemic started, we started working on Covid and Covid-related symptoms such as lung fibrosis,” Stillman said. “We never shut down. We kept doing research. And we're back to normal now — or almost normal.”

Honorees were not limited to the lab or hospital but also included first responders — often the first point of medical assistance in emergencies.

“Law enforcement and the medical field are always together,” said Patrick Ryder, Nassau County's police commissioner. “Whether it's bringing patients to hospitals, our own members getting sick and needing help, 9/11 services, PTSD services — we're always tied at the hip with the health services.”

Michael Uttaro, the county's chief fire marshal, helps bring together emergency services in a broad community that includes more than 70 volunteer fire departments and six volunteer ambulance corps.

“I assist with coordinating those units, which incorporate ambulances and EMS,” Uttaro said. “We regularly interact with hospitals, urgent care and everything in between. It's a nice honor to be recognized for what you do.”

Many of those first responders depend on FirstNet, a technology network managed by AT&T, that was first developed after the terror attacks of Sept. 11, 2001.

“FirstNet has been in the first responder and public safety space for well over 100 years,” said Anthony Postiglione, a public safety solutions sales executive for



DENISE ALBERT, AN award-winning journalist and television producer, hosted the gala.

FirstNet, Built with AT&T. “We work with law enforcement, fire, EMS, health care, and even secondary responders that assist them. It really means a lot to us to be able to honor our health care heroes here tonight. It's something we like to do to give back to the first responder community.”

But it has become more than just a system for 9/11 heroes, Long Island AT&T regional manager Magdalonie Paris-Campbell said. It's something that has been built for all of them.

“It was an honor for FirstNet, Built with AT&T, to support and attend this remarkable event, and celebrate our health care and law enforcement heroes for all they have done for our community, the region, and the state of New York during the pandemic,” she said. “As they say, not all superheroes wear capes. In fact, many wear scrubs, para-

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Tim Baker/Herald photos

HERALD COMMUNITY NEWSPAPERS publisher Stuart Richner opens the Herald Long Island Excellence in Healthcare Awards at The Heritage Club last week.

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medic uniforms, stethoscopes, dispatch headsets and badges. We saw this during the pandemic as first responders braved the risk of Covid infection to protect our neighbors during one of the most challenging periods of our lives.”

But on this particular night, at the Herald Long Island Excellence in Healthcare Awards, it was all about celebration.

“This was an amazing program, amazing turnout,” said Herrick Lipton, the chief executive of New Horizon Counseling Center. “We’re very proud to raise awareness, and the Herald has done such an amazing job to represent people making a difference in our communities.”

Presenting sponsor was FirstNet, Built with AT&T, while Mount Sinai South Nassau and New Horizon Counseling Center were platinum sponsors. Gold sponsors included Northwell Health, Parker Jewish Institute for Health Care and Rehabilitation, NAPA North American Partners in Anesthesia, LifeVac, Long Island Speech & Myofunctional Therapy Centers, and Alliance Homecare.

Silver sponsors were The Stroke & Brain Aneurysm Center of Long Island, EHS Episcopal Health Services, Zwanger Pesiri Radiology, Lenox Hill Radiology, Bleu Glove Concierge, Precision LTC Pharmacy, American Family Care Urgent Care, Cold Spring Harbor Laboratory, Family & Children’s Association, and Rising Above & Beyond Home Care.



HERALD COMMUNITY NEWSPAPERS publisher Stuart Richner, at top left, joins Evelsis Valentin and Anthony Postiglione from presenting sponsors FirstNet, Built with AT&T — to hand out some of the more than 40 awards at the Herald Long Island Excellence in Healthcare gala. They joined winners like Maureen White, executive vice president of Northwell Health along with Herrick Lipton from New Horizon Counseling Center, above, and Dr. Adhi Sharma and the Mount Sinai South Nassau team, at left.

COMMUNITY UPDATE

Friday, June 24

Movie day

Pop by the Gold Coast Public Library from 2 to 4 p.m. and enjoy watching the movie "Marry Me," starring Jennifer Lopez and Owen Wilson. A betrayed pop star - slated to marry her pop star fiancé on stage - marries a stranger from the audience instead. Their sham relationship develops into something real, but can it survive the limelight? The film runs for an hour and 52 minutes, registration is free on the library's website.

Saturday, June 25

Yoga series

Come by Bailey Arboretum every Saturday starting June 18 for a yoga series with instructors from Practice Oyster Bay from 9:30 to 10:30 a.m. All classes are weather permitting, and those interested must register on the arboretum's website.

Nina Ross

Visit Theodore's Books at 11 a.m. for a morning story time event with Long Island author and illustrator Nina Ross as she reads and signs copies of her children's book, "Montauk Has a Very Busy Shark: A Montauk Mike Series," along with her other Montauk Mike titles. Inspired by a shark sighting while on vacation, Nina Ross created Montauk Mike, a very lonely shark who lives in the ocean near Montauk, N.Y. This event is free and open to the public. Registration is appreciated but not required.

Sunday, June 26

Oyster Bay Market

Stop by the Oyster Bay Market from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. on lower Audrey Avenue and in the Municipal Lot near Hive Market & Maker's Space and 20th Century Cycles. The mission of the Oyster Bay Market, hosted by the Oyster Bay-East Norwich Chamber of Commerce, is to improve local food security, teach entrepreneurship skills, support local producers, makers and businesses, while enriching the cultural heritage of the community. The event is held every other



Courtesy Benno Rothenberg, National Library of Israel

How to Research and Document Family History: A Tale of Two Families

Join the Glen Cove Public Library, the Locust Valley Library, the Gold Coast Public Library, the Oyster Bay-East Norwich Public Library and the Genealogy Collective from 7 to 9 p.m. for a virtual program on how to research and document Jewish family history. The vast majority of historic Jewish immigrants came to the United States during one of two great migrations; German Jews during the period 1820 - 1880 and a larger migration of Eastern European Jews between 1880 and the early 1920s. Starting with information that people know about themselves and their immediate family, the goal of this program is to rediscover one's ancestors' history from the time their family came to the United States as well as their ancestors back to the "old country." Register on the library's website.

Sunday, rain or shine.

Monday, June 27

Diabetes: What you need to know

The Bayville Free Library invites everyone to an online presentation at noon giving a basic review of Diabetes Mellitus. It will include the different types, risk factors, diagnosis, and treatment options. There will also be information regarding prevention and complications related to diabetes. Questions will be answered at the end of the program. Presented by Dr. Trisha Newaz, Board Certified Endocrinologist with Northwell Health. Register on the library's website for the Zoom link.

Little Mermaid

Come to the Locust Valley Library from 6 to 7 p.m. and kick off the Summer Reading program with this fun take on Hans

Christian Andersen's classic fairy tale, The Little Mermaid, presented by comedy duo Lenny and Mabel - "The Greatest Actors in the World." The story follows the adventures of a mermaid who wishes to become human and win the heart of a human prince. This surprising tale of love and loss explores the difficulty of being oneself in unfamiliar waters, and is quite a bit different from popular movie versions. See how with The Little Mermaid. Children ages 3 through grade 5 are invited to attend. Please include the number of adults and children attending when registering online at the library's website.

Tuesday, June 28

Tie dye beach towel

Come down to the Locust Valley Library

from 6 to 7 p.m. and learn how to tie dye a towel for this summer season. This will be messy so please dress accordingly. Also, the final step of the project will have to be completed at home (washing machine needed). Attendees are reminded to bring their own towel(s) to work with (white towels are best!). Register now as space is limited. Grades 6 and up.

Wednesday, June 29

Sharks of N.Y. and L.I.

Join the Locust Valley Library from 6:30 to 7:30 p.m. to discover what lurks below our local waters. This program, presented by The Whaling Museum of Cold Spring Harbor, will uncover the diverse species of sharks that live near the Long Island area. Learn about shark myths and the

history of shark attacks in New York. Registration is required, and can be completed on the library's website.

Thursday, June 30

Sailor's Valentine

Join the Gold Coast Public Library at 7 p.m. to learn how to make a sailor's Valentine. A sailor's Valentine is a term used to describe a piece of artwork made out of seashells, used basically as mosaics to create a design. These are considered maritime crafts, like scrimshaw, and are not specifically for Valentine's Day, but instead are for any time of year. Using shells and creativity, make a beautiful summer decoration that will look great on a patio or coffee table. There is a non-refundable \$5 fee due at the time of registration.

Alexander B. Heffner

Stop by Theodore's Books in Oyster Bay at 7 p.m. for an evening with PBS journalist Alexander B. Heffner as he speaks about and signs copies of his book, "A Documentary History of the United States." Here, in a single volume, are the documents (speeches, letters, tweets, Supreme Court decisions, and more) that have forged American history. This 11th edition is now updated with a new chapter on the Covid-19 pandemic, the January 6, 2021 insurrection, and the Biden presidency.

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@liherald.com

5 things to know about your town

- The Town of Oyster Bay Board will be meeting on June 28 at 10 a.m.
- The Village of Sea Cliff Architectural Review Board will be meeting on June 28 at 7 p.m.
- The North Shore Water Authority will be meeting on June 29 at 7 p.m.
- The Village of Bayville Zoning Board of Appeals will be meeting on June 29 at 7:30 p.m.
- The Town of Oyster Bay Landmarks Preservation Commission will be meeting on July 1 at 7 p.m.

She's at top of her class

CONTINUED FROM FRONT PAGE

work, because it will pay off.

Teresa plans to attend Stony Brook University, where she will major in biology.

"It's definitely bittersweet," she said. "I feel like I was walking through the doors of Glen Cove High School yesterday. It was definitely a crazy four years. Not what I expected, but it went by very fast."

"Like Teresa, I'm a bit bittersweet," her mother said. "She's, my baby. So in September, I'll be an empty nester — my husband and I will be empty nesters — and that'll be a big change."

Teresa's goal is to go to medical school to become a physician. And even though she isn't sure what her area of specialization will be, she is excited about the journey.

"I think once I get to medical school and I start doing those clinical rotations, it'll be easier for me to figure out what I want to specialize in," she said.

"But as of now, just kind of keeping it general."

"Teresa is the kind of person who perseveres," her mother said. "She pushes herself, and she uses a lot of common sense. At the same time, she's very calm and relaxed, and she has a great sense of humor. So I don't think this will be a hard goal for her to achieve."

Throughout her high school career, Lisa said, Teresa learned leadership skills from being a member of the Environmental Club, the Rho Kappa Social Studies Honor Society, the Math Honor Society and Mathletes. Teresa added that she would miss the high school for its diversity, which she said is a useful experi-

ence in today's world.

"At Glen Cove, I had this unique experience of sort of meeting with and developing respect for a lot of diverse people," she said. "And I think that is an important skill that's not really taught in textbooks."

With very supportive students and teachers and administrators, we were kind of taught that we all have the potential to succeed as long as we work hard and endure through that.

TERESA MELFI
GCHS Valedictorian



Courtesy Glen Cove High School

TERESA MELFI WAS named valedictorian of the graduating class of 2022.

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Astorino looks to wipe away political polarization

By MICHAEL HINMAN
mhinman@liherald.com

There aren't many people who can say they've come close to beating Andrew Cuomo — especially at the height of the former governor's popularity. But Rob Astorino can.

Running with Chemung County Sheriff Chris Moss in 2014, Astorino challenged Cuomo, but fell short by a little more than 500,000 votes. So put him up against the current incumbent governor, Kathy Hochul, and the Westchester County executive believes he has a better chance than any other Republican on the June 28 primary ballot.

"We did not have the money at the end to compete," Astorino told a team of reporters in the Herald Roundtable session. "We were outspent eight to one."

And it didn't help Astorino to not have the rest of the Republican Party behind him. There were reports after the election that Cuomo and state GOP leaders had hashed out a "non-aggression" pact ahead of the voting that essentially pushed Astorino aside.

Those particular Republicans are gone now — and Cuomo is, too, following a sexual harassment scandal that forced him to resign last year. Astorino sees Hochul as not much more than a placeholder, and if she wins the Democratic nomination next week, it might be a perfect chance for Republicans to return to the executive



Courtesy the Rob Astorino gubernatorial campaign

WESTCHESTER COUNTY EXECUTIVE Rob Astorino is no stranger to statewide campaigns, coming within a half-million votes of toppling Andrew Cuomo back in 2014. But to have another chance at the executive mansion, Astorino first has to get through a crowded field of Republicans.

mansion.

Crime is something that really has Astorino's attention, especially when visitors from outside the country make it clear they don't want to go anywhere near New York City. Democrats, he says, have been too soft on crime.

"You know, maybe the original concept of bail reform was one that was worth having a discussion," Astorino said. "I

don't want some nonviolent first offender to be rotting away in jail, or to have a record that he or she is not going to be able to overcome. However, when we have criminals who are career criminals and thugs and violent criminals, we've got to set the example."

And even if Astorino takes over the state's top job and finds himself facing a Democratic iron curtain, the gubernatori-

HERALD ROUNDTABLE

al hopeful says he'll just push his agenda through the state budgeting process, where he would have significant power to create his own legislation beyond the Assembly and Senate.

Like the Metropolitan Transportation Authority, which runs a number of transit services, including the Long Island Rail Road. "The MTA is an absolute and utter mess," Astorino said. "It is wasting money left and right. And nobody wants to say, 'Well, let's fix the problem first' before we create all these new multi-billion-dollar projects and programs."

Astorino is against congestion pricing in Manhattan's Financial District, and says those extra fees won't hit those with big wallets, but instead much smaller businesses.

Winning this race is going to require finding common ground in a political environment that's quite polarized. But Astorino believes he can do it. "We can appeal — and I have to appeal — to those who don't ordinarily vote Republican," he said. "There are a lot of reasonable things that we do that cross party lines. So, you know, I think definitely, come November, I'm the best candidate that could actually get elected."

'Community organizer' ready to make a difference

By MICHAEL HINMAN
mhinman@liherald.com

When he first ran for president in 2008, Barack Obama took a lot of flak from opponents over his college days as a "community organizer" — work that has never been easy to define.

Especially for Jumaane Williams in his own post-college days, long before anyone knew who Obama was.

"No one had any idea what that was," Williams told a team of reporters in a Herald Roundtable session. "My mother asked me to please get a real job, and I had to tell her it *was* a real job."

His parents had emigrated from Grenada in the 1970s, and pushed for both Jumaane and his brother to get a good education. Williams did just that at Brooklyn College, earning a political science degree and later a master's in urban policy.

A few years later, he was a Brooklyn city councilman, toppling an incumbent a year after that other community organizer made it into the White House. And within a decade, he was New York City's public advocate — the city's ombudsman, for lack of a better term — that has been a major steppingstone for predecessors including former Mayor Bill de Blasio and current state Attorney General Letitia James.

If he wants to have a chance to move to Albany, Williams will have to hark back to those days of upending incum-



Courtesy the Jumaane Williams gubernatorial campaign

JUMAANE WILLIAMS HAS been New York City's public advocate since 2019 — a job that has led to higher office for many of his predecessors, including former New York City Mayor Bill de Blasio and current state Attorney General Letitia James. Williams hopes he can leap from that job to the executive mansion.

bents, because observers say Gov. Kathy Hochul will be hard to beat — especially for a fellow Democrat.

"I ran against Kathy in 2018, and I said that if you had a lieutenant governor that was not willy-nilly, but when necessary, would stand up to the governor, we would be better off," Williams said. "And that proved more right than even I thought, particularly as we got into this pandemic, and wrong decision after wrong decision was happening."

The biggest problem now, as it was then, is priorities, Williams said. New

Yorkers have their priorities, and Cuomo — and later Hochul — had their own. "The priorities that were made in this (most recent) budget were not the priorities of New Yorkers," Williams said. "To not have any funding for housing vouchers. To not put in money we asked for, for gun violence prevention. But to instead focus on a stadium being built outside of Buffalo" for the NFL's Bills.

Democrats, for the most part, have the right idea when it comes to turning society around, Williams said. But the "Democratic Party does not do a good job talk-

Candidate talk

Herald Community Newspapers provided a chance for all of New York's gubernatorial candidates to meet with an editorial team to present their views and answer questions.

This week, we have included sessions with candidates Rob Astorino, Jumaane Williams and Harry Wilson. Last week, we featured Andrew Giuliani and Tom Suozzi. All sessions can be found on our website, LIHerald.com.

Neither Gov. Kathy Hochul nor U.S. Rep. Lee Zeldin responded to invitations to join the roundtable.

ing about public safety, or the economy, for that matter."

Williams said he has a plan to put New York back on the right track, but first it requires listening to what the state's residents have to say. And listening is what he has spent much of his entire political career doing, and what he will continue to do, he added, if elected governor.

"If we don't know the intersection of housing and health care and public safety now, we never will," Williams said. "We cannot say we're going to let the rest of New Yorkers languish ... and then send the police department to do on the back end what we fail to do on the front end."

"That's just, I think, a selfish false choice."

Wilson dedicated to looking out for the 'little guy'

By MICHAEL HINMAN
mhinman@liherald.com

Harry Wilson doesn't have the most recognizable name among those running for governor — in either party. But then again, as the self-proclaimed turnaround expert might say, maybe he should.

It's not like Wilson hasn't sought office before. Hailing from Johnstown — less than an hour north of Albany — Wilson ran for state comptroller in 2010, losing to longtime incumbent Thomas DiNapoli.

But now Wilson is ready to move from company executive to state executive, looking to be the Republicans' representative on the November ballot to take back the governor's office.

"The two things that I think are essential for a successful candidate for governor," Wilson recently told reporters at a Herald Roundtable. "One is the ability to actually fix this broken state, not just manage the decline, as I think most other candidates are proposing to do.

"And the second thing is, to do that, I have to win."

That's easier said than done. Other Republicans in the race, like Andrew Giuliani, Lee Zeldin and even Rob Astorino, have far better name recognition. But running a state government



Courtesy the Harry Wilson gubernatorial campaign

HARRY WILSON HOPES he can turn his business savvy into making things happen in Albany as New York's next governor. But to even get a chance, he has to overcome a field of Republicans who have far better name recognition than he does.

isn't much different from running a business, Wilson said. It's just that many politicians wouldn't know the first thing to do in the latter situation, since they've never run a business.

"I'm not a partisan," Wilson said. "I am a very deeply, philosophically, limited-government conservative across the

board, so I'm happy to talk about that. But, basically, I've been really focused on delivering results for my business, customers and stakeholders. And in my political focus, on taxpayers and voters."

Wilson describes his core principals as lower taxes, lower cost of living and safer streets. And he believes he can ful-

HERALD ROUNDTABLE

fill those goals with the Legislature, whether it's run by Republicans or Democrats.

"I have negotiated hundreds of deals with all kinds of entrenched stakeholders, with unions, who were kind of set in their ways," Wilson said. "I always came to these companies that are in or near bankruptcy, so everybody's mad. They've lost a lot of money, and they may have been worried about their jobs.

"I have to deal with that, and create a new vision that people can believe in and rally around. And create a plan that people can support and work toward together."

That even means taking positions that Republicans traditionally have not — like the fact that Wilson is pro-choice, and says he would protect women's reproductive rights.

For him, it's the first step in bringing a highly polarized electorate back together. And as governor, that's what Wilson intends to do.

"I'm looking out for the little guy," he said. "Small businesses. Regular people, and creating the environment so they can all thrive through their own merit."

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Vision LI honors \$1B in new development

By **JUAN LASSO**

jlasso@liherald.com

Building and infrastructure projects from Ronkonkoma to Long Beach are being steadily rolled out, changing Long Island's suburban landscape in more ways than one.

Vision Long Island, the sustainable downtown development organization, shined a spotlight on 11 building projects that the organization says have helped move the needle on affordable housing and downtown revitalization. Seven of those projects can be found in Nassau County — including Freeport, Long Beach, Hempstead and Valley Stream.

Through its annual Smart Growth Awards ceremony, Vision Long Island also applauded the efforts of town boards and city councils working with developers and non-profits to get these projects from concept to going vertical. But depending on the development, one might not see the finished product for at least a few more years.

When completed, however, these projects will add nearly 1,300 apartments to Long Island's housing mix, at a capital cost of more than \$1 billion.

Among those recognized was Freeport's Hilton Garden Inn, a 100-room hotel on more than an acre and a half of vacant land once home to The Schooner restaurant. The popular 350-seat destination was found at the foot of Woodcleft Avenue



Juan Lasso/Herald

ERICK ALEXANDER, DIRECTOR of Vision Long Island, gives opening remarks at Vision's 22 Annual Smart Growth Awards at the Crest Hollow Country Club in Woodbury. More than \$1 billion of upcoming construction across Long Island was honored at the event.

next to the Hunter Pointe Marina before Hurricane Sandy ravaged them both, leaving a large muddy field in its wake.

Costing \$43 million, the venue includes both a ballroom and a 100-seat restaurant, all expected to generate 35 permanent full-time jobs.

"It has the potential to revitalize a part of the Nautical Mile that needs a shot in the arm," said Fred Parola, executive director and chief executive of the Town of Hempstead's Industrial Development Agency. "It will bring tourists and business travelers who will infuse the local economy."

The Breeze, a 10-story apartment building with 238 units on Long Beach's Super-

block project, is being developed by the Engel Burman Group, joining two nine-story condo buildings stretching across six acres between Riverside and Long Beach boulevards.

The \$369 million project includes 6,500 square feet of boardwalk-level retail, a restaurant, and more than 1,000 parking spaces. Condos are expected to sell between \$700,000 and \$1 million, while the apartments could rent as high as \$4,000 a month.

The project is expected to generate \$130 million in new taxes over the next quarter-century, once it's completed in 2024.

In Valley Stream, honors were bestowed upon the Wellington, a multi-

family complex on West Jamaica Avenue developed by Paramount Construction. There, more than 60 apartments are planned on a site where the Moore Funeral Home was once located.

Officials contend the project, when finished, will provide housing alternatives for younger people not willing to leave Valley Stream, but are unable — or unwilling — to purchase their own house.

"Young professionals are not single-family homeowners like they were in (the) 1950s in Levittown," said Valley Stream mayor Edwin Fare, during a video presentation.

"The apartment is surrounded by mixed-use. And not only will the apartment bring people who will spend their money and their time — and hopefully be involved in their community — but the building is going to be paying more taxes than the property that was there beforehand."

In Hempstead, it was the Estella housing development by Georgica Green Ventures that was honored, working with the non-profit Concern for Independent Living to construct nearly 100 affordable — more than 40 reserved for veterans.

"We're excited about Estella because in the Village of Hempstead, there's always room for affordable living," Mayor Waylyn Hobbs Jr., said.

Additional reporting by Karina Kovac and Brendan Carpenter.

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- Class lists
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Generations of graduates



Courtesy of Lisa Borgese

Three generations of Glen Cove High School senior Ava Borgese's family, including her father, Michael, class of 1990, left; sister, Samantha, class of 2019; mother, Lisa, class of 1989; grandmother, Diane, class of 1967; grandfather, Sam, class of 1965, and herself.

The Borgese Family

Ava Borgese, a senior at Glen Cove High School, is following in the footsteps of four generations: her maternal grandmother, grandfather, mother, and older sister, as well as her father, Michael Borgese, who graduated in 1990.

Ava is excited to share in the family's legacy. "I have seen their yearbooks and other pics of them interacting at school," Ava said, "and it makes me laugh thinking of them being there during two different eras than mine [and] yet not a lot has changed in the building."

Borgese's mother, Lisa Borgese, who graduated in 1989, said the buildings have remained the same since she attended. "I was actually in one (the high school) the other night at an award ceremony and I was laughing," Lisa said. "I'm like, Oh, my God. I walked through these halls for four years myself." Their family history in the district begins with Ava's maternal great grandmother, Antionette Graziuse (who had dropped out at 16 to work).

Ava is excited to begin her next step in her educational career at Nassau Community College.



Courtesy of Casey Colbert

Left to right, Samantha Colbert, Eileen Krulder, Sean Colbert, Colleen Colbert, Ed Colbert, and Casey Colbert.

The Colbert Family

Casey Colbert traces her Wantagh heritage as far back as three generations, including herself.

The family got started in Wantagh when Casey's maternal grandmother, Eileen Krulder, moved to Wantagh from Queens in her childhood. Eileen's sister, Judy Snyder, was the first member of the family to go through every school in Wantagh, from kindergarten all the way to 12th grade. Eileen Krulder followed that same trajectory.

Casey's mother Colleen Colbert graduated Wantagh High School in 1982, while her father, Edward, graduated Wantagh High School in 1983. Colleen and Edward did not begin dating until after high school. Another member of this generation was Edward Colbert's sister, Jean Colbert.

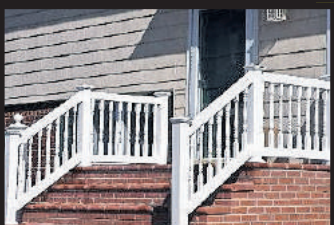
The third generation of graduates is led by Casey, who graduated in 2010, her sister Samantha, a 2014 graduate, and her brother Sean, who graduated in 2017.

Sean played football in high school and also served as assistant football coach. Colleen teaches at Pixie Nursery School in Wantagh, was a cheerleading coach and formerly ran Sports Night.

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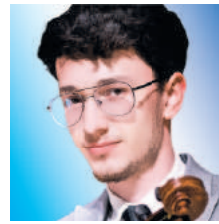
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Farhaan Khan
Sewanhaka High School

VALEDICTORIAN



Kira Sethi
Sewanhaka High School

SALUTATORIAN



Thomas Waller
St. Dominic High School

VALEDICTORIAN



Jessica Barayuga
St. Dominic High School

SALUTATORIAN



Atara Sicklick
Stella K. Abraham High School

CO-VALEDICTORIAN



Gabriella Herman
Stella K. Abraham High School

CO-VALEDICTORIAN



Yael Shtern
Stella K. Abraham High School

SALUTATORIAN



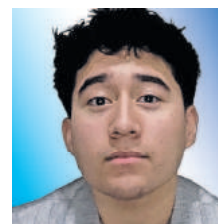
Nicole Gabriel
South Side High School

VALEDICTORIAN



Isabelle Lu
South Side High School

SALUTATORIAN



William Ayala
Uniondale High School

VALEDICTORIAN



Emily Kalika
Uniondale High School

SALUTATORIAN



Michael Sinclair
Valley Stream Central High School

VALEDICTORIAN



Tanusha Osmani
Valley Stream Central High School

SALUTATORIAN



Disha Bhalla
Valley Stream North High School

VALEDICTORIAN



Lucy Wu
Valley Stream North High School

SALUTATORIAN



Sameer Singh
Valley Stream South High School

VALEDICTORIAN



Connor Menzies
Valley Stream South High School

SALUTATORIAN



Julianna Rose
Wantagh High School

VALEDICTORIAN



Skyla Marchesi
Wantagh High School

SALUTATORIAN



Joseph Tudisco
West Hempstead High School

VALEDICTORIAN



Nicholas Trinh
West Hempstead High School

SALUTATORIAN




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Singer/
Songwriter
Baldwin
High School
Graduated
1973



Ben Cohen
Creator of
Ben & Jerry's
Bellmore/
Calhoun
High School
Graduated
1969



Jerry Greenfield
Creator of Ben
& Jerry's
Bellmore/
Calhoun
High School
Graduated
1969



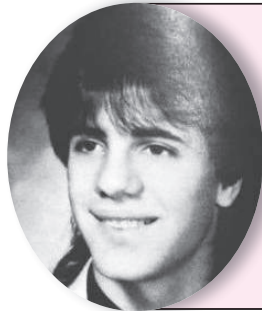
Michael Kors
Clothing
Designer
Bellmore/
Kennedy
High School
Graduated
1977



George Kennedy
Actor
Chaminade
High School
Graduated
1943



Chuck D
Rapper
W.T. Clarke
High School
Graduated
1978



Criss Angel
Magician
East Meadow
High School
Graduated
1984



Brian Keith
Actor
East Rockaway
High School
Graduated
1939



Nelson DeMille
Author
Elmont
High School
Graduated
1962



Lou Reed
Musician
Freeport
High School
Graduated
1960



Ashanti
Singer/
Songwriter
Glen Cove
High School
Graduated
1998



Al Trautwig
Broadcaster
H. Frank Carey
High School
Graduated
1974



David Paterson
Former
Governor
of New York
Hempstead
High School
Graduated
1971



Edward Burns
Actor
Hewlett
High School
Graduated
1986



Donna Karan
Fashion
Designer
Hewlett
High School
Graduated
1966



Jenna Ushkowitz
Actor
Holy Trinity
High School
Graduated
2004



Marc Forgione
Chef
Kellenberg
Memorial High
School
Graduated
1996



Steve Madden
Shoe Designer
Lawrence
High School
Graduated
1975



Billy Crystal
Actor
Long Beach
High School
Graduated
1965



Kurt Kuenne
Filmmaker
Lynbrook
High School
Graduated
1991



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MacArthur High School




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Actor
Malverne High School
Graduated 1968




Storm Field
Meteorologist
Mepham High School
Graduated 1965



Kate McKinnon
Actor
North Shore High School
Graduated 2002




Bob Iger
Former Disney CEO
Oceanside High School
Graduated 1969




Heather Matarazzo
Actor
Oyster Bay High School
Graduated 2000



Jim Valvano
Basketball Player
Seaford High School
Graduated 1963




Telly Savalas
Actor
Sewanaka High School
Graduated 1940




Crystal Dunn
Soccer Player
South Side High School
Graduated 2009




Doris Kearns Goodwin
Historian
South Side High School
Graduated 1960




Amy Schumer
Comedian
South Side High School
Graduated 1999




Howard Stern
Radio Personality
South Side High School
Graduated 1972




Busta Rhymes
Rapper
Uniondale High School
Graduated 1991




Fred Armisen
Actor/Comedian
Valley Stream Central High School
Graduated 1985




Peter Barton
Actor
VS North High School
Graduated 1974




Larry Miller
Comedian/Actor
Valley Stream South High School
Graduated 1971




Trent Kowalik
Actor
Wantagh High School
Graduated 2013



Randee Heller
Actress
West Hempstead High School
Graduated 1965



Andrew Barth Feldman
Actor/Singer
Lawrence Woodmere Academy
Graduated 2020



Reggie Carter
Former Basketball Player
Long Island Lutheran HS
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Nephew of Lori Pedone (Sales)



JORDAN VALLONE
Bachelor of Fine Arts
New York Institute of Technology
Employee (Editorial)



JENNA VALLONE
12th grade
Plainedge High School
Sister of Jordan Vallone (Editorial)



JENNIFER YARNALL
Masters in Education
NYU
Daughter-In -Law of Ellen Reynolds (Sales)



LAUREN ANN PRESTIA
Bachelor of Science in Early Education
Oneonta College.
Daughter of Rich Prestia (Production)



RYAN BOWLES
5th Grade
Waverly Park Elementary
MAX ROGERS
5th Grade
Marion Street Elementary
Grandsons of Rhonda Glickman (Sales)



KADEN ROGERS
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HERALD SPORTS

A historic season for Hofstra baseball

June 23, 2022 — GLEN COVE HERALD



Photos Courtesy Hofstra Athletics Communications

HOFSTRA WON THE Colonial Athletic Association baseball tournament title, marking the first conference championship in program history.

By **ANDREW COEN**

Correspondent

When Anthony D’Onofrio first committed to the Hofstra baseball team as a sophomore at Wantagh High School, he saw potential for big strides for a local program he grew up following.

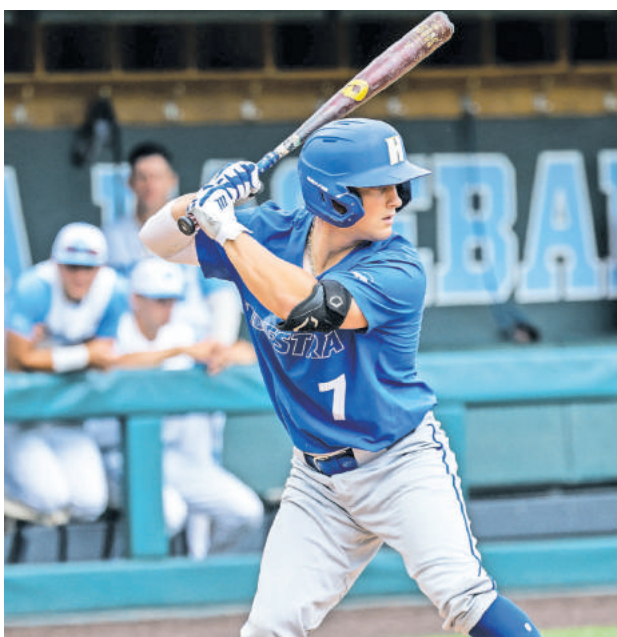
Six years later, D’Onofrio was a catalyst in Hofstra reaching the NCAA Tournament for the first time in school history after capturing the Colonial Athletic Association (CAA) title with four straight wins in the double-elimination tournament Memorial Day weekend. The accomplishment was made even more improbable by the fact Hofstra was picked in the preseason to finish dead last in the nine team CAA.

“To be ranked last in the preseason and finish in third place in the regular and go 4-0 in the playoffs and shock the whole conference really felt great,” said D’Onofrio, who hit three home runs this season as a senior center fielder including a leadoff homer in Hofstra’s 7-6 win against Northeastern on May 29 that clinched the CAA championship. “It was a crazy experience.”

D’Onofrio, who will return in 2023 as a graduate student for an extra year of eligibility due to losing most of the 2020 season because of the Covid-19 pandemic, ignited Hofstra’s CAA tourney run with an infield single leading off the bottom of the ninth-inning before scoring the winning run on a sacrifice fly by Steve Harrington in a 4-3 win against Elon. The Pride kept the momentum the next day with a 4-3 victory in 10 innings versus second-seeded Elon and on May 27 and then knocked off Northeastern 8-7 in extra innings the next day on a Santino Rosso RBI double in the bottom of the 10th to advance to the CAA finals stage.

Hofstra made history in achieving the school’s first conference baseball crown with its third walk-off win of the CAA tourney when Ryan Morash was hit by a pitch with the bases loaded to score Brian Morrell and cap a 7-6 victory and set off a massive celebration.

“To think that the program had never won a conference championship in its existence going back to 1938 is really

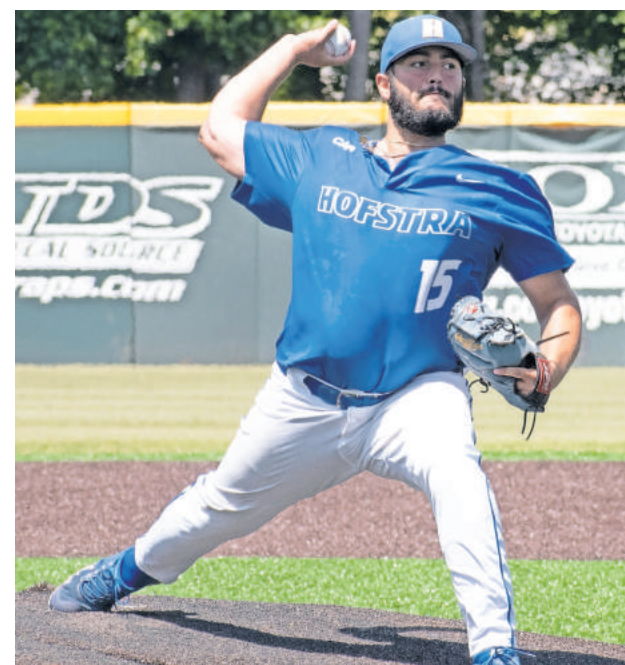


FORMER WANTAGH HIGH School standout Anthony D’Onofrio helped fuel the Pride’s late-season success.

amazing and I don’t know if any of us have realized how big that is,” said first-year Hofstra head coach Frank Catalanotto, who enjoyed a 14-year Major League Baseball career with the Detroit Tigers, Texas Rangers, Toronto Blue Jays, Milwaukee Brewers and New York Mets from 1997 to 2010. “It helps put the program on the map.”

The CAA championship gave Hofstra some national exposure when its name was called during the NCAA Selection Show that aired on ESPN2 on Memorial Day. The Pride were sent to an NCAA Regional at North Carolina where it took an early lead on the ACC champions before ultimately falling, 15-4. Hofstra’s magical season then concluded the next day with a loss to Georgia in a nationally televised game on SEC Network.

Hofstra’s NCAA Tournament run enabled a number of locals to experience a big-time college baseball atmo-



BRAD CARMADA PITCHED seven innings in Hofstra’s 7-6 win over Northeastern in the CAA championship game.

sphere. The Pride’s roster includes 10 from Nassau County in D’Onofrio, Anthony Fontana (Wantagh), Michael Florides (Glen Cove), Luke Napolitano (Rockville Centre), Mike McKenna (Farmingdale), Matt Pelcher (Merrick), Frankie DiMartino (Bethpage), Chris Keenan (Seaford) and Danny Kelleher (Rockville Centre).

Catalanotto, who previously led New York Tech to the Division II College World Series in 2019 before the school suspended athletics in summer 2020, said bringing Hofstra to the NAAs ranks very high on his list of accomplishments, especially since he never experienced the MLB postseason. After a breakthrough season, the expectations will only increase for 2023.

“Now the target is on our back,” Catalanotto said. “We set a high standard and luckily these guys have bought in.”

Glen Cove pediatrician inspires salutatorian

By LETISHA DASS

Special to the Glen Cove Herald

Doris Serrano, a senior and first generation Peruvian American, is Glen Cove High School's salutatorian for 2022.

After receiving the news from her guidance counselor, Doris said she was shocked, but also excited. She immediately called her parents, Juan and Flora Serrano, to share the news. "It definitely feels surreal," Doris said.

Graduating with a GPA of 104.27, Doris plans to go into the medical field and become a physician in Glen Cove. She will be attending Swarthmore College in Pennsylvania with a major in biology. Her role model, Dr. Catherine Scerni, a Glen Cove pediatrician, inspired Doris to go into the medical field. After seeing Scerni work with patients and being a patient herself, Doris knew she wanted to do the same for her community.

"I want to be like that type of person that you go to when you don't feel well and be able to connect with the community," Doris said. "I want to give back to Glen Cove."

Her love for the city that welcomed her family, who immigrated from Peru, and the diversity of Glen Cove has made her want to stay and give back, she said.

Doris's family came to the United States in 1986, moving to Queens. They moved to Glen Cove when they wanted to start a family. Her father, Juan, who works at a Lexus Dealership, attended university in Peru and her mother, Flora, graduated from high school in Peru and is a housekeeper. After coming to the United States and growing their family, they wanted their children to have even greater opportunities than what they had.

"We always told them, both my son and my daughter, you had to study [and] work hard," Flora said. "This country is a blessing because they give you a lot of



Courtesy Glen Cove City School District

DORIS SERRANO IS Glen Cove High School's salutatorian.

opportunities."

Because of their hard work and determination to provide a better life to their children, Doris said she wanted to follow their example. "I want to give back what my parents gave to me," Doris explained.

Her parents always pushed her to think outside of the box, especially her father. Juan told her to question everything from a young age and be curious. "He basical-

ly molded my passion and love for learning," Doris said. "He always used to push me to really question things, even if they're like, really solid ideas."

During her childhood, Doris saw she saw her mother cleaning the houses of many upper-class families throughout the neighborhood as a housekeeper. She said it showed her that she wanted a stable job to help provide for herself and those around her.

"We always teach them," Flora said, "they have to do something better than us."

During high school, Doris seized every opportunity that was thrown her way. She was a member of DECA, which is a community service business club, Keystone Club, and Student Senate at the high school. Outside of school, she took part in the Boys and Girls Club. Each of these community service leadership roles helped her realize that she loved volunteering and helping people.

"It made me really realize that I want to give back to my community," Doris said, "which definitely helped me realize that becoming a physician was one of the ways I could help out."

"I always tell her not to just to be good academically," Juan said, "I want you to be a good human being."

During the start of the pandemic, Doris took part in Hofstra University's Medical Scholars Pipeline Program, where high school students are able to interact with professionals in the field and take courses to prepare for college. Doris said she found the program helpful in solidifying her career path for the next four years.

"I got to learn more about medicine and the various sides of it that usually, students don't really see," Doris said. "I think that definitely pushed me to really think about considering like medicine as a career."

Juan and Flora said they are proud of their daughter's accomplishments and are excited to see her start college. "We are blessed really," Juan said.



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Molloy celebrates the new 'U' with \$2M gift

By TOM CARROZZA

tcarrozza@liherald.com

Molloy University not only has a new name, but it also has a new gift — a \$2 million one the school describes as its largest single gift in its 67-year history.

It was delivered by S. Zaki Hossain, president of Pintail Coffee, a Farmingdale-based “charitable roaster” as it’s described, which he helped found in 2013.

The donation headlined the first large-scale, in-person event for the school with its new university status. What was formed as an all-women’s school in 1955 by the Sisters of St. Dominic in Amityville has grown to a roster of 4,800 undergraduate and graduate students.

Hossain’s donation will be earmarked for Molloy’s new workforce development program, intended to provide training for private industry employees, with a focus on health care. Molloy’s Barbara H. Hagan School of Nursing was ranked among the best nursing master’s program and best doctor of nursing practices in the nation by U.S. News & World Report.

“Zaki serves as a shining example of the great promise of America, which is that tremendous things can be achieved through education, integrity and education,” John McEntee, chair of Molloy’s board of trustees, said during the densely packed ceremony. “I know that generations of Molloy students will benefit from



Tom Carrozza/Herald

JAMES LENTINI, LEFT, Molloy University’s president, and Edward Thompson — the school’s vice president of advancement — celebrate Molloy’s new university status and a \$2 million gift from S. Zaki Hossain.

his remarkable generosity.”

Hossain immigrated from Bangladesh in 1979, earning a master’s degree in engineering from what was now the New York University Tandon School of Engineering in Brooklyn. He spent a decade in the engineering field before launching Modern Packaging in 1989, which helped develop of the K-Cup manufacturing tech-

nology used by millions today for single-serve hot beverages like coffee and teas.

“I always felt that preparing our graduates with experience in the real field is very important,” Hossain said. “I feel my success is going to be when somebody comes to me and says that, ‘Because of you, my life is so much better.’”

Hossain’s Pintail Coffee is on a mis-

sion to address hunger globally, donating every single cent of the company’s profits to hunger-relief organizations.

James Lentini, Molloy’s president, said donations like Hossain’s will help the school expand its role in educating health care professionals. He also thanked former president Drew Bogner and state education department Regent Roger Tilles for their work toward attaining university status for Molloy.

As part of the festivities, the university also announced a partnership with Catholic Health Services, which operates Mercy Hospital in Rockville Centre. Molloy nurses have continued to reinforce the workforce pipeline, which has been especially important during the Covid-19 pandemic.

“We share the same values, as we are Catholic institutions, founded in faith and driven by mission,” said Dr. Patrick O’Shaughnessy, president and chief executive of Catholic Health. “Many of the students who graduate from Molloy with nursing degrees come to Catholic Health to commence their careers in health care, and are a huge asset in our vital work.”

Molloy will also continue its work with another local hospital, Mount Sinai South Nassau in Oceanside. The university has seen many of its nursing graduates begin their careers there, Lentini added, and Mount Sinai will show its appreciation by sponsoring the 2022 Summer Series of shows at Molloy’s Madison Theatre.

Lifeguard shortage coming soon to pool near you

Town supervisor successfully calls on governor to lower age minimums

By MALLORY WILSON

mwilson@liherald.com

Beaches and pools need just one thing to be successful — sunshine. But to stay open, there’s just one more requirement: lifeguards. And for the second straight year, lifeguards are not easy to find, threatening the summer of young and old alike.

But it doesn’t have to be that way, according to Town of Hempstead supervisor Don Clavin. In fact, New York can solve its statewide shortage of lifeguards quite simply: lower the minimum age requirement for certification from 16 to 15.

Clavin called on Gov. Kathy Hochul to do just that last week, saying 15-year-olds could guard kiddie pools and splash pads.

Hochul apparently agreed. She approved the change the same night she received Clavin’s letter.

“Permitting 15-year-olds to serve as lifeguards at spray pads and kiddie pools under supervision of more senior guards would greatly expand the pool of eligible lifeguard candidates,” Clavin wrote. “Staffing spray pads and kiddie pools with younger lifeguards will permit older, more experienced guards to fill vacancies at beaches and regular-sized pools that desperately require their services.”

Luckily, the Town of Hempstead are not suffering through a shortage, Clavin



Tim Baker/Herald

NEW YORK STATE doesn’t have enough lifeguards to watch its pools and beaches. Don Clavin, the Town of Hempstead’s supervisor, is asking Gov. Kathy Hochul to lower age minimums to become a lifeguard from 16 to 15.

said. But the rest of the state is.

“This is an opportunity to get people back in the pool,” he said. “It’s an opportunity for a lot of young men and women who want to really get into this and are ready at age 15.”

The town currently has 180 beach lifeguards on call, with another 300 staffing

pools. Hempstead managed to evade a shortage by offering classes in the winter months, Clavin said, allowing would-be lifeguards to be ready to work by summer.

Nassau County runs weekly programs to get prospective lifeguards tested and certified, Clavin said.

Nassau lifeguards are required to take

American Red Cross training.

“They go through that course, they learn rescues and various skills and so forth,” Justine Anderson, the Town of Hempstead’s aquatic director, said.

Once that course is done, the prospects take what Anderson calls a rigorous certification test. That includes complete two laps in 40 seconds, and eight laps in less than three minutes and 45 seconds.

There are differences between lifeguarding a pool with a deep end, Anderson said, and a kiddie pool and splash pad.

“A seasoned lifeguard knows what to see in the water; they know what active drowning looks like,” she said. “At a kiddie pool, mostly the parents are in the water with the child, so you’re really just watching the parents hold their children.”

Age doesn’t determine whether or not someone is going to be a good lifeguard, Anderson said. Maturity level does.

“Kids at 15 years old are babysitting,” Town councilman Dennis Dunne said. “So if you leave (15-year-olds) at home with your kids when you go out, you can leave them at the pool.”

The training courses are open to anyone from any town or hamlet, Clavin added.

“We are the chief certifier,” he said. “This is about everybody in the equation from New York City, to Westchester to upstate New York.”



Roni Chastain/Herald photos

EMILY TARVER, LEFT, and Vicci Martinez, both from “Orange is the New Black,” performed at Girl’s Rising. Martinez also came in third place on the Voice.

At Girls Rising Music Festival girls compete

The 7th Annual Girls Rising Music Festival brought a spark of energy and new life to Morgan Park last Saturday. The all-day event offered crafts, vendors, a variety of food, exercise classes and performances by not only Grammy winning artists such as Lisa Loeb, Shawn Colvin and Judith Hill but also festival organizers Antigone Rising.

The Glen Cove High School Select Choral wowed the audience from the main stage as did three of its soloists. There was a second stage where many of the younger artists performed.

KRISTEN ELLIS-HENDERSON, INTRODUCED performer Zoe Rinchenlemos, right.

GIRLS RISING MUSIC Festival was all day, attracting people of all ages.



HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT Phoebe George sang her heart out.



NINI CAMPS, FESTIVAL producer, sang in the evening with Antigone Rising.

THE GREAT BOOK GURU

School of hard knocks

Dear Great Book Guru,
We just came back from a great Juneteenth celebration at the Children's Library. Families enjoyed stories, music, a craft and a parade on a beautiful afternoon. Now I have the rest of this holiday weekend to get into a good book. A novel set in the present and not too long, please.
—Juneteenth Celebrant



**ANN
DIPIETRO**

Dear Juneteenth Celebrant,
I just finished Tom Perrotta's latest novel, "Tracy Flick Can't Win," and I loved it! Tracy is a 41-year-old assistant principal in a suburban high school and she is vying to take over for retiring principal, Jack Weed. In alternating chapters, we hear from 10 characters, all of whom are part of this school saga.

Kyle Dorfman is a wealthy former tech developer and now the school board president with ambitious to make his mark by creating a hall of fame for the

high school. He is intent on having Vito Falcone – a retired football player and recovering alcoholic – as the first honoree. Weed has been having an affair with the school secretary "Front Desk Doris" who he nominates as the other Hall of Famer. Doris gives her version of the relationship, which is quite different from Weed's. Students Lily Chu and Nate Cleary tell their stories of teenage angst, while we learn the back story of Tracy and her derailed ambitions going back to her teenage years. Questions of power, politics and memory are addressed with a dramatic conclusion. Highly recommended!

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

ON THE ROAD WITH A TAKEOUT QUEEN

Summer pizzas worth the calories

Since I'm obsessed with takeout, pizza is always lurking in my brain. When I'm about to order one, I always need to ask myself: Is this type of pizza worth the calories? This month, I found five new or returning summer pizzas in our neighborhood that are worth every bite. Here they are, along with my warped system for justifying the calorie count.

■ **Serra Provisions** (7 Sintsink Dr. E, Port Washington) Chef/owner Jesse Olson opened this authentic Italian market/eatery in November. All the prepared foods are house made, and Jesse has just added pizza to his menu. He offers traditional pizza flavors, and this month's "off the menu" pizza, which he calls, "Take Me To Sardegna" has a mysteriously marvelous taste.

Jessie told me how he came up with the idea. "I wanted to put bottarga on pizza, so I wondered what kind of flavor profile I could create that wouldn't overpower the pie." First, he placed zucchini slices, lemon zest, ricotta, Sardinia oregano on pizza dough and baked it. When it came out of the oven, he said, "I finely grated mullet fish roe (similar to caviar) on top. The roe broke into super small egg pieces that gave it a nice, briny, ocean flavor.

It's beyond delicious. Justifying the calories: a dash of zucchini as a vegetable, an itty-bitsy bit of protein from the fish, and a huge dose of creativity make these calories worth it.

■ **The Onion Tree** (242 Sea Cliff Ave., Sea Cliff) One of two returning spring pizzas is the Sorrentino. It features thinly sliced, sweet Meyer lemons, mozzarella, basil, red onion, Parmesan and a drizzle of honey/lime. I had dinner in the restau-

rant and ordered carrot gazpacho to accompany my Sorrentino. The soup came in a martini glass and was a perfect partner with the pie. Justifying the calories: Vitamin C from the lemons, super healthy carrots, and elegant flavors make every calorie worth it.

■ **Taco Bell** (98 Forest Ave., Glen Cove; 56 Glen Cove Rd., Greenvale) The popular Mexican pizza just returned. It's a combination of a taco and delicate pizza pie. There's a thin, flat taco shell on the top and bottom. A light layer of cheese, and meat or beans sit in between. It's a great meal to bring on a picnic since the pie is cut into compact, non-gooey slices. Justifying the calories: With a light balance of crunch and goo, this pizza is worth the calories too.



CATHI TUROW

■ **It Bagel & Pizza** (19 E Main St., Oyster Bay) This month's special pizza is topped with pulled BBQ chicken, plump, fresh peach slices, fontina, mozzarella, and red onion. Justifying the calories: Every bite has a peach-y, chicken-y, slightly smokey taste. The combined flavors from the fruit, vegetable, protein on this pie make it a treat worth chewing.

■ **Vito's Pizzeria** (91 Forest Ave., Glen Cove) Roman style pizza is the specialty offered this spring. The Nutella version sent me to pizza heaven. Puffy, fluffy pizza dough surrounds melted Nutella and marshmallow. (It looks like a calzone.) The dough itself is infused with chocolate chips. It's like eating a s'mores pizza. Justifying the calories: It's soooo good!

So, that's how I justify eating pizza. How do you do it? As an eternal takeout queen, knowing your pizza eating strategies will make a dent in my life. Contact me at: cturowtakeout@gmail.com

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PUBLIC NOTICES

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING
PROPOSED LOCAL LAW A-2022
CITY OF GLEN COVE CITY COUNCIL
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that a public hearing will be held before and by the City Council of the City of Glen Cove, Nassau County, New York on June 28, 2022 at 7:30 p.m. at the Council Chambers of Glen Cove City Hall, 9 Glen Street, Glen Cove, New York 11542.
The hearing will be on whether to enact proposed Local Law A-2022, entitled "Amendments to Zoning Code," which will amend Chapter 280, "Zoning," Section 280-13, "General requirements," of Article IV, "Site Plan Review," Section 280-65, "B-1 Central Commercial District," Section 280-65.1, "CBD Overlay District," Section 280-66, "B-2 Peripheral Commercial District" and Section 280-67, "B-3 Shopping Center District," of the Code of

the City of Glen Cove to amend the types of uses requiring special use permits and site plan review.
A copy of the proposed Local Law A-2022 is on file at the City Clerk's Office at the Glen Cove City Hall located at 9 Glen Street, Glen Cove, New York 11542, where it may be reviewed during normal business hours until the time of the hearing. All interested parties will be given an opportunity to be heard at said hearing.
By Order of the City Council
Tina Pemberton
City Clerk
132359
To Place A Notice Call 516-569-4000 x232

LEGAL NOTICE
Notice of Public Meeting
PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that the City of Glen Cove Department of Public Works (DPW) will hold a Public Work Session regarding the Downtown Parking Connections project at 12:00 p.m. on

June 30 in the Main Chambers at Glen Cove City Hall, 9 Glen Street, Glen Cove, New York 11542.
The Downtown Parking Connections Feasibility Study evaluates the potential for creating a new vehicular access to the Brewster Street Parking Garage from School Street. The study also evaluates the feasibility of improving Americans with Disabilities Act access to the garage and enhancing the existing pedestrian access from School Street to the garage.
All persons having an interest in the study are invited to attend the Public Work Session and will be given an opportunity to ask questions or make comments concerning the study.
RSVP by email to jwenk@glenovecda.org if you plan to attend.
By: Louis Saulino, P.E., Director of Public Works, City of Glen Cove
132358

LEGAL NOTICE
NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING:
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that a Public Hearing shall be held on Tuesday, July 28, 2022, at 7:30 p.m. in the Council Chambers at Glen Cove City Hall, 9 Glen Street, Glen Cove, New York, to discuss amending Sec. 265-44 Schedule XII: No Stopping of the Code of Ordinances, as it relates to Glen Cove Avenue.
All interested parties will be given an opportunity to be heard.
Tina Pemberton
City Clerk
132360

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Street safety measures taken on Forest Avenue

Glen Cove Finley Middle School students, parents, and staff are a little safer thanks to the efforts of Assemblyman Charles Lavine. After hearing about unsafe road conditions in front of Finley Middle School, Lavine advocated on behalf of the school to help implement traffic calming devices on Forest Avenue, which is a county road.

With the cooperation of the Glen Cove Police Department, which supported the idea of safety measures being put in place, the Nassau County Department of Transportation acted and implemented road markings prohibiting vehicles from blocking traffic exiting the school.

Principal Nelson Iocolano said the changes have made a tremendous impact. Before the signage, as buses and parents picked up students in the afternoon there would be a traffic jam on Forest Ave. This caused a dangerous situation for both pedestrians and the vehicles attempting to exit the lot.

"When it comes to our children, safety is the number one priority," Lavine said. "As a parent and grandparent of former and current Glen Cove Schools students, I am very glad my efforts to improve the traffic situation at Finley Middle School are providing a greater sense of peace of mind for parents and administrators."

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OBITUARIES

Victor J. Soffe

Victor J. Soffe, 84, of Glen Cove, N.Y., died on March 7, 2022. Loving husband of late Barbara. Beloved father of Brenda Wilson, Thomas (Danielle), Joyce Soffe (Chris Wolfle), and the late William. Cherished Grandfather of Brittany (Eddie) Loeffler, Thomas Cavese, Paul Cavese, Emma Wilson, Gordon Duck, and Ella Soffe. Dear brother of late Rose Maloney, Late Alfred (Marlene), late Katherine Pliskin, late Emerson (Ruth Anne), late Harriet, Late Elsie, late Arthur, Lillian (Late Eugene) McGuire, Helen (late Alex) Malon, Rita (late Dennis) Breffe, and Linda.

Victor was a proud veteran of the Airforce and worked his whole life in Glen Cove and Locust Valley. Visitation was at Whitting Funeral Home, 300 Glen Cove Ave. Glen Head, N.Y. Mass was St. Boniface Church. Internment followed at East Hillside Cemetery. For more information, visit www.whitting.com.

Richard Juarez

Juarez, Richard, 44, of Glen Cove, N.Y., died on June 12, 2022. Father of Monica and stepfather of Sierra. Son of Moises & Maria. Brother of Alexander (Michelle). Also survived by his nieces Isabella, Alessandra and Lilliana. Richard was an avid fisherman, and loved to take his walks. Funeral arrangements entrusted to Dodge-Thomas Funeral Home. dodgethomas.com

Robert F. Wagenknecht

Robert F. Wagenknecht, 90, of Glen Cove, N.Y., formerly of Loch Sheldrake, N.Y., on June 6, 2022. Proud veteran who served during the Korean War. Former longtime proprietor of Emile's Candies in Oceanside, N.Y. Beloved father of Valerie Biegen (John), the late Kevin, and the late Jeff Wagner (Cathy). Proud grand-

father of Michael, Ryan, Anthony, Tyler, and Jessica. Special great-grandfather of Asher and Ember. Funeral service and entombment at Long Island National Cemetery. Arrangements entrusted to Dodge-Thomas Funeral Home of Glen Cove. www.DodgeThomas.com

Obituary Notices

Obituary notices can be submitted by individuals as well as local funeral establishments. 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

NEWS BRIEFS

Carol Rubin Award at Glen Cove Library

On June 2, 2022 The Friends of the Glen Cove Public Library announced its first annual Carol Rubin Award, a \$500 scholarship for college books, to a member of the Glen Cove High School senior class. This year's recipient is Sofia Garcia.

Sofia has exhibited outstanding personal character, has made a positive impact on her school and community and demonstrated strong academic achievement. Sofia is the oldest child of parents who emigrated from Central America. Among her many activities, Sofia co-founded the "Change Makers" club. The goal of the organization is to foster a sense of community by connecting students, especially those new to the school. Sofia's goal was inclusion and she has

helped many students feel at home at Glen Cove High School.

Katz Women's Surgical Center breaks ground

Leaders from Northwell Health, Glen Cove Hospital and the community gathered at a groundbreaking ceremony on June 14 to thank benefactors Iris and Saul Katz for their gift toward building the Katz Women's Surgical Center at Glen Cove Hospital.

The new surgical center will be focused on creating a destination that provides state-of-the-art surgery for women and thoughtful patient-centered care. The center is designed to support women in addressing their unique physical and psychological needs throughout

the surgical journey. The estimated \$10 million, 25,000-square-foot project includes a separate entrance with an expected opening in late 2024.

Developed in partnership with the Northwell's Katz Institute for Women's Health, the new women's surgical center includes up to 32 private recovery and care bays. This facility is designed to provide patients with a setting that will be tranquil and welcoming, coupled with concierge-level service.

"We have visited the hospital so many times — we are glad to have such an excellent and continually evolving hospital in our backyard," said the couple, who have lived in Glen Cove for more than 50 years, said. "We are delighted to support the new women's surgical center, which will provide comprehensive care to meet women's specific surgical needs as well as provide emotional support for patients

in the region and beyond."

Recognizing the disparities in health care for women and men, the Katz's together founded KIWH 14 years ago and endowed the institution with an additional gift in 2020.

Patients will be escorted by a staff member to services at every point in their care, highlighted by specialized nurse navigators. Private patient parking will also be available. A separate entrance will be created so that women and their loved ones will have access to a dedicated reception area and well-appointed lounge.

"This women's surgical center is the first of its kind for Northwell and the region, and we are designing a model of care that could serve as a national destination,"

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OPINIONS

Long Island students' resources depend on race

A report just published by ERASE Racism explores how equitably educational resources are available across school districts on Long Island — and specifically, whether they vary depending on a district's racial composition. The results are startling, and the implications for the Town of Hempstead are disturbing.



ELAINE GROSS

The report, "Unequal Resources for Long Island Students Based on race," analyzes school districts by race. Of the 125 districts on Long Island, the report focuses on 66, which fall into the following four categories: 11 intensely segregated (90 to 100 percent non-

white), 10 majority Black and Hispanic (50 to 89 percent), five racially diverse (40 to 60 percent white), and 40 predominantly white (at least 70 percent).

The research reveals, among other findings, that the 11 intensely segregated districts have, on average, nearly \$10,000 less in annual revenue per student than predominantly white districts. The most segregated districts also have more students for every guidance counselor and social

worker than predominantly white districts. On average, there is one guidance counselor for every 1,226 students in intensely segregated districts, and one for every 356 students in predominantly white districts.

Similarly, there is an Advanced Placement course for every 179 high school students on average in the most segregated districts. That's more than double the median ratio for all districts with at least one high school.

The report also found that the number of intensely segregated districts has grown from five in the 2003-04 school year to 11 now. The percentage of Black and Hispanic students in those 11 districts has also grown in this period, from 28 to 37 percent for Black students and from 13 to 36 percent for Hispanic students.

The geography of those 11 districts is also illuminating. Seven are in Nassau County, and six of those are in the Town of Hempstead. The seventh, Westbury UFSD, is in the Town of North Hempstead. The other four districts are in Suffolk County.

The six districts in the Town of Hempstead represent a majority of the intensely segregated districts on Long Island. They

are Elmont, Freeport, Hempstead, Roosevelt, Uniondale and Valley Stream 30.

Elected officials representing those school districts should be alarmed by the disparities in resources for their constituents and prioritize getting them

addressed. They should be asked, why do those intensely segregated districts have, on average, so much less revenue per student? Why do they have far fewer guidance counselors and A.P. courses? And what will those officials do about it?

A related question for all Long Islanders — elected officials, civic and business leaders and ordinary citizens alike — is, why does Long Island, with only two counties, have 125 school districts, and what can be done to change the racial segregation and resource disparities inherent in that fragmentation?

Those conditions are grounded in the structural racism on Long Island, which is one of the 10 most racially segregated metropolitan regions in the U.S. School district boundaries, student assignment policies and district funding are all shaped by racially segregated residential patterns, reflecting historical and ongoing structural racism. Whether intentional or not, this racism excludes Black and His-

panic students from resource-rich school districts populated primarily by white students, and simultaneously ensures that districts populated primarily by Black and Hispanic students have resource deficits.

What can be done about it? One way of addressing the resource deficits is to bring the resources of the intensely segregated districts up to the level of predominantly White districts. In fact, one can make a strong argument that districts filled with "high-need" students should have access to *more* resources than those with more privileged students.

Another way to address the resource gap is to redesign the districts so that their schools and classrooms are more racially diverse. That can be done by changing the number and footprint of those districts. It can also be done by creating collaborations between districts to increase access to A.P. courses, for instance. With remote teaching more common due to the coronavirus pandemic, it should be easier to envision and implement such collaborations.

All Long Islanders should consider the findings of this report. We should be asking ourselves, our elected officials, and candidates for office what we, and they, are going to do about them.

Elaine Gross is president and chief executive officer of ERASE Racism, the Long Island-based civil rights organization.

Blacks and Hispanics are excluded from resource-rich school districts.

Taking to the air is no flight of fancy

If you have fond memories of flying someplace for summer fun, well, you can just wipe that fantasy out of your head.

My reverie of fun flying goes back decades.

There I was, on July 4, 1968, in my dress-and-coat ensemble, white gloves and straw hat, boarding a plane with my brand new husband. Destination Bermuda!



RANDI KREISS

We flew coach and had a yummy meal delivered to our seat on a little tray with darling salt and pepper shakers. Chicken or beef. As I recall, my husband of 20

hours didn't take off his tie. We didn't take off our shoes and socks like today's travelers. Flying was a life event. One dressed.

Get this: We talked to each other on the flight. With no devices or seat-back entertainment, we started a conversation that has lasted 54 years. To be clear, we haven't spoken for all of those years, but we've done our best.

The flight attendants, who were called

stewardesses and were all women, were unfailingly solicitous and professional. They were glamorous, and they wore perky little hats at a saucy tilt.

Speaking of saucy, the person seated next to me on this flight (I'm writing at 34,000 feet) just spilled the barbecue sauce from her sandwich all over my shoe. She looks like a superhero in her bright red Wonder Woman ensemble, but actually she's eating a superhero. Has to be three pounds of meat and sauce. My husband has a seat in a different row because we both wanted aisles. That's what happens after 54 years.

Whoopsie. We just dived. "Fasten your seat belts," the captain announced, but our flight attendant, who looks like she just rolled off a long-haul flight, kept up her chitchat with a colleague, not particularly tuned in to the passengers.

I know flight attendants have to meet certain physical standards to do the job, none of which has anything to do with gender or any subjective requirement for good looks, etc. As it should be. But I do think that since we're all locked up in

this flying metal tube for a few hours, the attendants should maintain appropriate decorum, and avoid using the mic for their stand-up.

We have lost so much general civility that it would be nice to be nice in these close quarters.

From white gloves in 1968 to a seatmate's sauce on my shoes in 2022.

Today our flight attendant is a bit of a bully. She has asked me three times if I have any trash to contribute to her huge plastic bag, and I keep saying no. Last time she started rummaging in my seat back.

"What's this?" She said. "It's my cookies," I said. She gave them back.

The whole tenor this experience is upside down and backward. First, you feel immensely grateful if you can even find a seat on a plane in this somewhat but not really post-pandemic summer season. Then you have to raid your bank account to buy a ticket. On JetBlue you can buy a ticket, but if you want an actual seat, and you want bathroom privileges and would like to bring a bag, you have to pay more.

I exaggerate, but you do pay more for getting on board early, for checking a suitcase, for snagging an upfront seat.

Everything is easier ... and harder. It took me a long time to figure out how to "pair" my phone with the JetBlue seat-back screen.

Going through security is fraught. This is true: My husband got pulled of the security line and had his bags searched because he was carrying an amount of Miralax that was deemed "suspicious." In some ways, it is an explosive, I'll grant them that.

My fellow passengers are a well-behaved group, although no one is wearing a mask anymore except me and my husband and a few other oldies. But how people trundle onto a plane in the getups I see is puzzling. If you're going to sit three inches from a stranger for four hours, shouldn't you tidy up a bit? Get the food out of your beard?

This is our first flight together since last summer's vacation, when we dropped into the raging wildfires in northern California, and basically turned around and came home. For us, staying grounded isn't an option. I keep reminding myself that this isn't, and will never be, a new "normal." It's a new world. We have to be patient and pack a sense of humor.

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HERALD EDITORIAL

Suozzi is right choice for L.I. and New York

Next Tuesday's Democratic gubernatorial primary pits three dedicated public servants against one another — Gov. Kathy Hochul, U.S. Rep. Tom Suozzi and New York City public advocate Jumaane Williams.

We don't typically endorse at the primary level — or at the gubernatorial level. But then again, Suozzi is not a typical candidate. Not only is he from Long Island; he's also from Nassau County — an important distinction from Hochul and Williams. He understands the needs of Long Island communities and wants to make sure those needs are not overlooked.

His past three terms in the U.S. House of Representatives have demonstrated that he is a moderate Democrat who is willing to work across the aisle.

New York is a diverse state in myriad ways, including political ideologies, and Suozzi's views and values serve a wide range of voters, ensuring that he would be a formidable candidate in the general election. With the state and country more divided than ever, we need a governor who does not play to the extremes of either party, which would only serve to alienate millions of New Yorkers.

As a member of the powerful House Ways & Means Committee, Suozzi secured New York's fair share of federal pandemic aid funds. His executive experience in Nassau County — one of the largest and

most complicated municipalities in the country — prepared him well for the governor's mansion.

Most important, during his time as county executive, Suozzi — who is both an attorney and a certified public accountant — reversed years of fiscal mismanagement. The current economic environment will require a deft manager of state finances, and we are confident that Suozzi would do this while balancing the need to make New York a more affordable place both to live and to conduct business.

Hochul should be applauded for hitting the ground running last year, after Gov. Andrew Cuomo resigned in disgrace. However, we're not sure that Hochul understands, or will prioritize, the needs of Long Islanders. The home region of a governor can certainly stand to benefit from having a native son or daughter in Albany.

Case in point: the sweetheart deal Hochul brokered for a new stadium for the Buffalo Bills, in her home territory. The behind-closed-doors deal provides \$1 billion in state funding for the stadium — the largest municipal aid package in the history of the National Football League — to support the upstate economy.

Furthermore, before Hochul's time in Albany, in her one term as a member of Congress, she received an "A" rating from the National Rifle Association, from which she also accepted campaign contri-

butions. She has since insisted that her views on guns have "evolved," and that she now supports much-needed sensible gun regulation.

Hochul says that her previous stance on guns was simply representing the views of the people in her rural district. But one can be pro-Second Amendment without aligning herself with an organization that opposes common-sense gun reform.

That is Suozzi's position, which, no surprise, earned him an "F" rating from the NRA.

The jury is still out on Hochul's ability to make the correct choice when it comes to big decisions.

The coronavirus pandemic reminded all of us about the real-world — and sometimes life-or-death — consequences of a governor's decisions. Yet, arguably Hochul's biggest decision to date — her appointment of Brian Benjamin as her original lieutenant governor — was nothing short of disastrous, and could have been avoided with proper vetting. Just seven months into his job, Benjamin was indicted on wire fraud, among other charges, and was forced to resign.

Williams, the third candidate in the Democratic race, has a bright future, but does not have the executive experience the state currently needs.

The Herald endorses Tom Suozzi in the Democratic primary for governor.

LETTERS

Biden's federal gas tax suspension follies

To the Editor:

President Biden is contemplating a temporary suspension of the federal gas tax as a means of reducing the price, which is around \$5 per gallon nationally and has been growing each week. This makes no sense in the long run. He reminds me of the emperor during the decline of ancient Rome, who offered the masses free bread and circuses as a means to placate them.

Biden fails to explain how Washington would deal with less money going into the Highway Trust Fund as a result of a gas tax holiday. This is a critical source of funding for highway and transit projects. A gas tax holiday would result in Uncle Sam not collecting 18 cents for every gallon of gas.

The Highway Trust Fund already faces financial difficulties. The lost dollars would have to be made up, and Con-



OPINIONS

Attorneys, how about teaching law school?

Calling all lawyers: we need you back in law school, now. We need you in classrooms and clinics, in person and on Zoom. Law schools regularly post openings for full-time and adjunct positions. They also need volunteers to serve as role models and mentors, to help inspire students so they excel in doctrinal and experiential courses and pass the bar exam.



SARA J. BERMAN

On that last point, we all know the bar exam isn't easy. But did you know that on the last one, more than a dozen jurisdictions' pass rates were under 50 percent? So if you're seeking meaningful opportunities to influence our

world, nothing could be more important. Law schools help shape society's future counselors, advocates and legislators — we are responsible for the professional formation of tomorrow's leaders. What we do, and what our graduates do, matters. The rule of law matters.

Work as a legal educator is particularly appealing (pun intended) because our stu-

dents take their skills and knowledge to do well and do good. Our graduates work in private, public interest and government, handling a wide range of civil and criminal matters. They work on bankruptcies and evictions, consumer protection and civil rights litigation. Their efforts may allow families to stay in their homes, or prevent children from losing visitation with parents or grandparents. They help entrepreneurs acquire patents for new inventions. They help businesses resolve disputes that prevent them from thriving. They represent clients ranging from the most sophisticated elite to ordinary people who simply don't have the savvy necessary to navigate our increasingly complex world.

Why teach now? Legal education, a world that hadn't varied much for over a century, is undergoing radical change. Law schools today are bustling with new ideas, awareness, philosophies, and ways of teaching. Licensing and law practice are evolving, driving the academy to rethink what students need to become "practice ready." The American Bar Association just instituted new requirements

for law schools to include professional identity formation and cultural competency training.

Creative law professors are developing new "ed tech" to assist in and out of the classroom. Most value inclusivity, collaborative skills and problem solving more than intimidation. (No more looking to terrorizing scenes from "Legally Blonde" or "The Paper Chase" as "inspiration.")

Things have also changed on the student side. More students — though still too few — from historically underrepresented populations are enrolling. And many law students are pursuing second and third careers, bringing wide and varied work and life experience to classroom discussion. So, readers who always dreamed of becoming lawyers, now is your time, too.

Even the bar exam is changing. We expect to have a new "NextGen" exam in at least two-thirds of states that will have much more of a practice-oriented focus, with negotiating, interviewing, counseling and other practical skills along with torts, contracts, criminal law and other traditional subjects. Fewer subjects will

be tested overall. And that rite of passage (or, as some might say, hazing ritual), the multistate bar exam, a six-hour, 200-question, multiple-choice marathon that allows test takers only 1.8 minutes to analyze each complex scenario, will finally be history.

The pandemic taught us all a great deal. For many, seeking meaning in our day-to-day life has become paramount. In a recent conference panel entitled, "The New Pedagogy: What We Should Study About Legal Education Now," at the Online & Hybrid Learning Conference, one scholar noted that a key difference among today's law students from those in previous generations is that now they enter law school believing their professors care about them. It's true. We really do.

So, lawyers out there, if you love what you're doing, keep at it, and thank you. Your work is critically important. And if you're thinking about a new challenge, consider coming back to the future of law school. We need the best and brightest. And future law students, now is your time.

Sara J. Berman is a professor of law and the assistant dean of academic excellence and bar success at Touro University's Jacob D. Fuchsberg Law Center in Central Islip.

Law schools today are bustling with new ideas, philosophies and ways of teaching.

LETTERS

gress would have to decide how to do that. It will either raise other taxes, transfer revenue from another source, borrow more (increasing our growing \$30.4 trillion national debt) or reduce the scope or number of funded transportation projects. In the end, both motorists and transit riders will be the losers if federal gasoline taxes are temporarily suspended.

How did we go from an energy-independent nation to an energy-dependent nation under Biden? Why have gasoline prices increased from \$3 to \$5 or more under his watch? Why haven't Senate Majority leader Chuck Schumer and House Speaker Nancy Pelosi convened a special commission to investigate this?

LARRY PENNER
Great Neck

Larry Penner is a transportation advocate, historian and writer who previously worked for the Federal Transit Administration Region 2 NY Office.

Biden's court pick was 'arrogant'

To the Editor:

I do not take issue with John Turchiano's criticism of politicization in the appointment process of Supreme Court

justices in his letter last week, "The Supreme Court was political long before the leak." But the decisions of the court can be, and are, inevitably interpreted as consistent with one political viewpoint or another. Would Mr. Turchiano deny that a president is entitled to nominate those whose political philosophies are consistent with his own? To do otherwise would be illogical.

I find it most curious, though, that he made no mention of President Biden's recent appointment of soon-to-be Justice Ketanji Brown Jackson. Biden's limiting his appointee to meeting only two criteria — race and gender — is, perhaps, the most flagrant example of politicization in memory, devoid of any consideration of competence, experience or even political philosophy.

Even if he hadn't made race and gender his only criteria, Jackson might still have been appointed to fill the vacancy on the basis of her abilities and legal background.

Biden, in effect, did her a disservice by putting her up for consideration based on two criteria totally irrelevant to performance as a Supreme Court justice. He was motivated, I believe, by arrogance — namely, to be able to point out that he, if his nominee was approved, would be the first president to appoint a black woman to the court. This would have been obvious without Biden patting himself on the

FRAMEWORK by Tim Baker



Crossing the Boy Scouts' rope bridge at the Huckleberry Frolic — East Rockaway

back beforehand.

Biden's was the most egregious example of politicization and tainting of the nominating process, yet one in which relevant criteria were tossed aside. Biden owes America, and Jackson, an apology

for his frivolous and selfish action. I don't know why Mr. Turchiano didn't mention this. Perhaps it was a political decision?

ROBERT RUBALSKY
East Rockaway

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