

GLEN COVE
HERALD



A Marine who became a poet
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Teen receives national honor
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Courtesy Edward Norris

GLEN COVE HIGH School alum Ashanti visited the school's chorale.

Music sensation Ashanti visits Glen Cove High School

Famous GCHS alum shares musical pointers

By **ROKSANA AMID**
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Glen Cove High School senior TaRea Galatri received a text from her music teacher, Edward Norris, asking if she could join 30 other students to meet Grammy Award-winning R&B artist Ashanti, a GCHS alum.

"Immediately when I saw the message pop up I was shook," Galatri said. "I was like 'Oh my God, are you serious, is this really happening?'"

Soon after receiving the text, she told her parents she had to go to school weeks

before the first day of class, and she needed to take the following day off from work.

Ashanti's visit to GCHS on July 21 was prompted by an interview with the CBS Mornings show, with host Nate Burleson, which aired on Aug. 15. The 41-year-old musician, born Ashanti Shequoiya Douglas, walked the hallways of her alma mater during her interview. She spoke about her upbringing in Glen Cove, expressing gratitude in having grown up in the city, and her appreciation for the diversity and culture she found there. Her interview took

place on the same stage she performed as a teenager, where she acted in several of Glen Cove's plays.

Norris contacted students the same day he was notified by Dr. Maria Rianna, the school's superintendent, of Ashanti's visit.

In his text, Norris stressed the importance of talking to someone who has been through the music business and added that students could ask questions of the superstar.

Before the meetup, Norris gave historical context to Ashanti's career, noting

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Kaplan, Zimmerman win primary

By **LAURA LANE**
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State Senator Anna Kaplan won the Democratic primary for the North Shore against political newcomer Jeremy Joseph by a large margin on Tuesday, capturing roughly 85 percent of the vote according to the Nassau County Board of Elections.

Democrat Robert Zimmerman also won in the primary for Congress, with approximately 34 percent of the vote for the seat vacated by U.S. Rep. Tom Suozzi, who lost his bid for governor in the June primary.

Zimmerman's race was a crowded one, which included veteran elected leaders Jon Kaiman, the deputy Suffolk County Executive who was also a five-term Town of North Hempstead supervisor and Josh Lafazan, who is currently serving his third term in the Nassau County Legislature.

Melanie D'Arrigo and Reema Rasool who have never held office were also on the ballot.

"Our victory tonight proves that when Democrats stand together and fight together, we deliver results,"

Zimmerman said at his victory party.

I occupy the seat for the time that I'm in office, but the goal is to be the messenger and the voice of this district, and I will continue to do that.

ANNA KAPLAN
State Senator

James Scheuerman, the executive director of the Nassau County Democratic Committee, said he wasn't surprised by the election results. "This was a race with talented candidates," he said. "The primary is over. It's time to come together and beat the Republicans in November."

Kaplan, 56, a North Hempstead resident, was first elected to the state senate in 2018, becoming New

York's first Iranian-American member. Having fled to the United States for religious freedom with her family when she was 13, she is also the Legislature's first

CONTINUED ON PAGE 15

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The life of Glen Cove trailblazer Evelyn Kandal

By **ROKSANA AMID**

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It's been over 70 years since U.S. Marine Sgt. Evelyn Kandal joined the service, and she still has a hard time accepting how groundbreaking her choice was at the age of 18. Kandal's friends have credited most of her life experiences to being in the right place at the right time, especially since her career in the Marines began at the suggestion of her foster mother, upon realizing there weren't funds available for her education.

"It was probably one of the more important decisions of my life," said Kandal, now 89.

When Kandal, who grew up in Westchester graduated from high school, she enlisted in the Marines for three years during the Korean War and became a clerk typist. It wasn't long after that she was discovered by a photographer while stationed at the command's office in Washington. From there, she became one of the few faces of women serving in the United States armed forces. "I was 18. I was blonde. I was very thin, pretty and tall," she said. "I looked really good in a uniform."

After being discovered, she was featured on a billboard in Times Square in Manhattan and was also on a postage stamp that debuted in 1952.

But Kandal wasn't interested in advancing her career in the Marines. After completing her tour, she attended Columbia University on the GI bill.

As the first in her family to attend college, she was enrolled in Columbia University's newly founded School of General Studies. Kandal initially wanted to major in art, but she settled on psychology because, she said jokingly, "I wanted to find out what was wrong with me."

While enrolled in Columbia's first adult education program, attending school during the day and at night, she said she felt self-conscious about being an older student.

And the way she was treated by men while waiting online to collect the money from the GI bill for college was disheartening. Kandal said she was met with adversity by them, and they frequently questioned her veteran status.

After graduating from Columbia in 1958, Kandal worked at several teaching jobs. She received her master's in art from C.W. Post, and then took a position teaching art at Portledge High School in Locust Valley for 15 years. She eventually became the head of the art department there.

Although she retired from teaching full time in 1999, Kandal, who lives in Glen Cove, has remained a strong advocate for the arts and an accomplished poet. Kandal's notable works include "Between Stillness and Motion" and "30



Roksana Amid/Herald

THE FORMER POET laureate, a Glen Cove resident, often writes her poetry at her desk. Reading "Facing My Shadow," a collection of her poems gives her inspiration to write other poems.

Poems in 30 Days and the music that inspired them."

Kandal proposed a one-time adult education course on poetry at the Great Neck Library, not knowing that the person teaching that course at the time was retiring. She has since been teaching at the Great Neck Library for 12 years, and recently expanded her classes to the Glen Cove Library during her term as poet laureate for Nassau County from 2019 until July.

Being in her class at Great Neck and Glen Cove (libraries) has been a real lifeline to me in many ways.

HANK BJORKLUND
Sea Cliff

Her longtime friend and fellow artist Barbara Segal, from Sea Cliff, said that the recent expansion of classes into Glen Cove was "bringing the poetry community together in a more focused way to people who weren't necessarily poets."

Kandal's also been known to drive students to her classes who didn't have their own reliable means of transportation.

When reflecting on the past five years, Kandal describes them as a "double whammy."

In 2017, her husband, Bob Kandal, was diagnosed with lung disease, and died two months ago.

During her husband's illness, Kandal joined a caregiver group at Glen Cove Hospital, where she met Victoria and Hank Bjorklund, of Sea Cliff, who were seeking support for Victoria's mother. The caregiver group offered a space for advice from other caregivers, as well as a means of social support.



VICTORIA BJORKLUND, FAR left, Barbara Segal, Evelyn Kandal, Janice Kuhl and Hank Bjorklund came to the home of Evelyn Kandal to discuss her past.

Eventually Kandal and the Bjorklunds became friends who are also students in Kandal's poetry classes at the library. They've maintained their friendship ever since.

When the Covid-19 pandemic started, Kandal felt her focus drift even more. "With great trepidation I started 'zooming,' and it was kind of a joke," Kandal said. Victoria Bjorklund disagreed, stating that Kandal's classes were well-managed and have in fact become more popular via Zoom, with a nucleus of students who are excited about future classes.

"Being in her class at Great Neck and Glen Cove (libraries) has been a real life-

line to me in many ways," Hank Bjorklund said. "I'm very grateful for that."

Kandal was invited on July 16 to attend the Listen to the Wind 2022 Gala, hosted by Honor Flight, where she was recognized for her early years as a Marine. The nonprofit organization provides a free one-day trip for World War II, Korean and Vietnam war veterans. The all-expenses paid round-trip excursion brings veterans to their memorials in Washington. In Kandal's case, it also included a set of newly issued dress blues since she wasn't issued the attire during her time of service.

HERALD NEIGHBORS

August 25, 2022 – GLEN COVE HERALD



Photos by Roni Chastain/Herald

THE CADDIES WERE lined up for viewing, above.

RENA BONILLA, RIGHT, checked out a car that kind of matched her outfit.



Lots of cars at Cruise Night in Glen Cove

On the second Tuesday of every month through September Glen Cove becomes a car lovers dream. That's when all makes and models of cars are welcome for owners to show off on Bridge Street

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Mario Bencivenni, owner of Frank's Beverage in Glen Cove, is a member of the Cadillac Guys Car Club. He organizes Cruise Night to the delight of residents and visitors alike.

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1183330

Trapping trash, saving the Long Island Sound

By WILL SHEELINE
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While people may be used to seeing superheroes on the big screen, there's a new Thor in town who will be helping to keep the Town of Oyster Bay's waters clean. The town unveiled a partnership with numerous environmental groups to install two new fixed waste collectors called "Collec'Thors" in the Tappen Beach Marina.

The Collec'Thor is a large device affixed to the docks of the marina, which attracts and engulfs solid or liquid waste floating on the surface of the water. These include plastic bottles, cigarette filters or plastic bags, which tend to float on the surface and pose a direct risk to seagulls, turtles and many other types of marine life.

These devices work continuously using a small pump to draw in surrounding water and skims any floating debris using its receptacle. The Collec'Thor can contain up to roughly 220 pounds of waste before needing to be emptied, which according to town officials will occur at least once a week, depending on necessity.

The Searial Cleaners, the company which produces Collec'Thor, claims on its website that the waste collector is totally silent, so it won't disturb anyone trying to enjoy a summer day at the beach or getting on their boats. It is also touted to be easy to clean and use, reducing maintenance costs.

The announcement for the project came at the Tappen Beach Marina on Aug. 18, where numerous public officials and representatives from environmental groups and departments were gathered. Town representatives asserted that this was the first government project to use Collec'Thors to keep local waters clean in the United States.

"Today we launch a new environmental initiative, the first ever in the United States," Town of Oyster Bay



Will Sheeline/Herald

OFFICIALS MANUALLY PUMPED the new Collec'Thors.

Supervisor Joseph Saladino said. "As the first of its kind, Collec'Thor is a superhero fighting to protect our environment."

The town was able to pay for this project thanks to the money it received from a grant through the Long Island Sound Futures Fund. The fund is a branch of the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation, which supports the project to restore the health and living resources of the Long

Island Sound.

With the \$82,000 from the grant the town was able to purchase and install two Collec'Thors in the marina, which by the time of the press conference already had collected one empty plastic bottle.

Town of Oyster Bay Councilwoman Vicki Walsh pointed out that the program will not only benefit the waters directly but will also help educate young people about environmental awareness. This will be done through a partnership with Oyster Bay High School's Environmental Science Club, who will be helping to remove the collected waste and performing analytics on it, studying the effects of plastic degradation in salt water.

"Through their analytical data, students now will be able to see how plastic pollution affects our waterways locally, such an important lesson for all of us," Walsh said. "As a mom of high school students, I'm absolutely thrilled with this program."

The town will also be working with several environmental groups on the project, including Friends of the Bay and Cornell University's Cornell Cooperative Extension. The Cooperative Extension is a collaborative organization between the university's College of Agriculture and Life Science and College of Human Ecology, which aims to put knowledge to work in pursuit of economic vitality, ecological sustainability and social well-being.

Vanessa Lockel, executive director of Cornell Cooperative Extension, explained to the crowd the importance of prioritizing the environmental condition of Long Island and ensuring the Sound, and the island, are healthy and safe.

"The impacts and the effects to our region have always been not only devastating to us, but a learning experience where we always make the environment a priority and make sure the integrity of Long Island is always sustained," Lockel said.

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Nunley's Carousel returns to awe next generation

Part of indoor attraction at Long Island Children's Museum

By **KARINA KOVAC**
kkovac@liherald.com

They were large mechanical carousels, populated by gorgeous wood-carved representations of horses with strong and aggressive manes, open mouths and batwing saddles.

Named after the Brooklyn landmark that inspired them — Coney Island — Solomon Stein and Harry Goldstein shipped out a number of these carousels across New York more than a century ago.

Few of them still exist, but one particular carousel that would start its journey in Brooklyn's Canarsie neighborhood before moving to Baldwin in 1940, not only remains, but is now part of a permanent attraction at Long Island Children's Museum at Uniondale's Museum Row.

Nunley's Carousel returned to service last week, and spins once again on select days — and indoors — for \$4 a ride. It gets its moniker from Nunley's Amusement Park, where it was a fixture on Sunrise Highway until that park's closure in 1995.

Relocating it to the children's museum took years in the making, having been previously part of the Cradle of Aviation operations next door. The carousel continued the Long Island tradition until Covid-19 flared up a couple years ago, and had been closed ever since.

That is until last week, when the museum officially re-opened Nunley's Carousel, and its fleet of more than 40 horses, a lion and two chariots. It is now one of only three Stein & Goldstein-manufactured carousels still intact, and in 2020, was awarded the National Carousel Association's Historic Carousel Award.

Gary Grasso represented that very association during the grand re-opening, finally able to bequeath the plaque for the award over to the children's museum in-person. Established to promote, preserve and appreciate the classic wooden carousel, Grasso said Nunley's is one of 50 classic carousels still operating. And even more impressive with its original band's organ, ticket booth, Wurlitzer calliope, and ring machine.

Transitioning operational control of Nunley's Carousel from Cradle of Aviation on Charles Lindbergh Boulevard was a smooth one, said Suzanne LeBlanc, the children's museum director.

Fitting into the museum's mission of connecting children to a lifetime of wonder, imagination and exploration, the carousel is an excellent exercise in analyzing options and exploring sensations as children choose the perfect horse to ride on their magical adventure.

"The colors and lights and music and motion create an unforgettable multi-sensory experience that will become part of the memories passed down through the generations," LeBlanc said.

Susan Harlin was one of the first people in line last week to ride Nunley's Carousel once again. But it's hardly her first time.

"Oh, my goodness, I was probably about 10 — 57 years ago — the last time I rode the carousel," she said. "I grew up in



Tim Baker/Herald photos

NUNLEY'S CAROUSEL IS a treasured memory for many in Nassau County and beyond, and is expected to continue influencing generations, now that it's under operation by the Long Island Children's Museum at Uniondale's Museum Row.



Roosevelt and we'd go to Nunley's all the time. We'd lean out and get that golden ring so we could ride it again."

Harlin's adult daughter, Elizabeth Bock, said seeing it reopening reminded her of her mother, and she decided to take her two children, Evelyn and Thomas, for a ride the whole family could enjoy.

Even Nassau County executive Bruce Blakeman has own fond memories of driving with the family to Nunley's. He joined Harlin and others last week to celebrate its reopening with the children's museum.

"I was one of those kids that grew up at Nunley's," he said. "On a Sunday, if we were really good, me and my three sisters and brother would be treated to going to Nunley's."

Back then, the Baldwin attraction featured roller coasters, games and, of course, the carousel.

"The highlight was always the carousel," Blakeman said. "It brings back so many childhood memories."

Saving the carousel was pushed by

Take a spin

The carousel is open from Thursday to Sunday from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. Tickets can be bought in advance online at the museum's website at [LICM.org/nunleys](https://www.licm.org/nunleys) for \$4.

then-Nassau County Legislator Joseph Scannell, who redirected \$420,000 through county funds and through money raised by nonprofit Pennies for Ponies in 2008.

The restoration process started a year beforehand by Carousel Works in Ohio, that largest manufacturer of wooden merry-go-rounds in the world. It then opened in 2009, spending the next 11 years run Cradle of Aviation.

While Nunley's Carousel may have spent more time in Baldwin than anywhere else, Gary Farkash — president of the Baldwin Historical Society — says the

LONG ISLAND CHILDREN'S Museum president Suzanne LeBlanc addressed the eager children and adults alike waiting to ride the historic Nunley's Carousel on its opening day on Charles Lindbergh Boulevard with Nassau County executive Bruce Blakeman.

THIRD-GENERATION CAROUSEL RIDER

Mary Friel, 2, from Malverne excitedly boarded the hand-carved horse alongside grandmother Maureen Clark.

ride was too big for just any one single community to claim.

"It was more than just Baldwin iconic, this was something that people from all over Nassau County came to enjoy," he said. "It's a very proud moment for us, especially Baldwin. It was a labor of love, and having this day for us, is priceless. That's the only thing I could say: Priceless."



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Since 1970, Hewlett Lawrence Soccer Club has been serving The Five Towns as a non-profit community soccer club. The Long Island Junior Soccer Leagues, which the club participates in, was established in 1966 non profit and is now one of the largest soccer leagues in America. With intramurals, travel soccer, sessions and overall education of soccer, the league strives to encourage growth and development of youth through soccer play, while "emphasizing fun and de-emphasizing winning" to promote a healthy fun atmosphere.

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Meet Theresa Hellers-Foders at the park for an outdoor high-intensity interval training session. Due to the closing of gyms, Theresa started offering training classes from her own home and started the Terrible Theresa's Training Facebook group, which has grown to have over 650 members to date. While sometimes offering virtual training sessions, she offers classes at the park or small group training for up to five people. Stay fit, healthy and motivated with or without the gym.

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Club Pilates Oceanside
3197 Long Beach Rd, Oceanside
(516) 280-1515
www.clubpilates.com

Pilates is an excellent way to get a total body workout, for all ages and any level. The fresh studios are equipped with state-of-the-art apparatus including TRX, Exo-Chair, Bosu balls, matts, rollers and plenty more! The affordable pilates experience is taught by Club Pilates instructors who have undergone hundreds of hours of training to meet club standards. With a variety of classes, you can find the right fit for you and start your journey.

BEST SURF SHOP:

Sundown Ski & Surf Shop
2726 Hempstead Tnpk, Levittown
(516) 796-1565
www.sundownski.com

If still you're looking to catch some waves this summer, gear up at Sundown Ski & Surf Shop. Ready yourself with wetsuits and surfwear, surf accessories, skimboards, body boards or leisure activities such as stand up paddle boards (SUP) and paddles and so much more! Take it to the streets too with a variety of skateboards. We're at the brink of summer's end, but that doesn't mean it's time to hang up the wetsuit.

BEST YOGA:

Bikram Yoga Long Beach NY
365 E Park Ave, Long Beach
(516) 442-3261
www.bikramyogalbny.com

The studio at Bikram Yoga is designed to offer a comfortable and welcoming environment and state-of-the-art facility to enhance your overall yoga experience. Bikram Yoga reduces tension and stress; builds balance, flexibility and endurance; alleviates pain, increases circulation and many more benefits. There is a 1,100 sq. ft. hot room, UVC air sanitizer, anti-microbial, odor-free, waterproof flooring and health conscious beverages like ginger shots or Coastal Craft Kombucha and much more!



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Learn More

Ashanti urges students to pursue their dreams

CONTINUED FROM FRONT PAGE

accomplishments in the music industry that very few people have made, especially women.

Ashanti's music career took off shortly after she graduated from GCHS in 1998. She was signed to the major record label Murder Inc. Records in 2002 and released two of that year's biggest hits: "What's Luv?" with rapper Fat Joe and "Always on Time" with rapper Ja Rule. Ashanti holds the Guinness World Record for Fastest Selling Debut Artist for a female. Her 2002 debut album "Ashanti" sold over 503,000 copies in its first week.

Ashanti met with the GCHS choral students before her interview with CBS. When asked about her career's beginning, she said she didn't originally think of becoming a musician, but thought she'd do something she considered more practical.

She was drawn to music, she said, but her tremendous success came as a surprise. Growing up within the district and singing throughout the community, she

realized that singing had a profound impact on her; and she wanted to give people a positive experience through music.

"I really connected to her through that," said, Galatri. "Through school and being in choir, it made me continue wanting to sing, even if I'm not a musician."

Galatri said she wants to continue singing after she graduates and wants to give others positive experiences through music and dance.

Students like junior Shye Roberts were just as excited to meet Ashanti. Roberts was visiting her sister in Pennsylvania and had been making her way back to Glen Cove when notified of Ashanti's visit.

"I thought it would be a very good opportunity to see someone who's kind of come from the same roots and learn about how they made it in the music

business," Roberts said.

Roberts ended up not only meeting with Ashanti, but also singing for her. When Ashanti asked if anyone wanted to sing for her, all eyes pointed to Roberts, who sang "When We Were Young," by Adele.

Before leaving, Ashanti urged students

Somebody that traveled through the same steps that they travel through right now, I think that's something for our kids in Glen Cove that can be life changing.

EDWARD NORRIS
music teacher, Glen Cove High School



Courtesy Edward Norris

ASHANTI OFFERED ADVICE to students about the music industry.

to continue pursuing their passions adding that one never knows where hard work will lead.

Norris said that he strives to give his students different experiences, whether it is through school trips or by working

with other musicians. He said,

"Somebody that traveled through the same steps that they travel through right now, I think that's something for our kids in Glen Cove that can be life changing."

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GCHS's Luca Mancuso receives national honor

By **ROKSANA AMID**

ramid@liherald.com

Glen Cove High School student Luca A. Mancuso, 16, has been selected to become a member of the National Society of High School Scholars. The esteemed organization recognizes scholars who have demonstrated outstanding leadership, high academic achievement and dedication to their community. The announcement was made by NSHHS co-founder and president, James W. Lewis, and Claes Nobel, whose family established the Nobel prizes. Currently there are 700,000 members in the society in over 170 countries.

"I am honored to recognize the hard work, passion, and commitment that Luca has demonstrated to achieve this exceptional level of academic excellence," Lewis said. "Luca is now a member of a unique community of scholars—a community that represents our very best hope for the future."

The scholarship offers a lifetime membership to young scholars and supports their growth and development. Scholars will have access to a vast network of academic experts, learning experiences, and resources to help prepare them for college and meaningful careers.

Mancuso has demonstrated his academic dedication through his rigorous academic workload. Glen Cove High School requires students to earn 22 credits for graduation, and Mancuso has earned 17 credits going into his junior year.

"Most students will end up somewhere beyond 22 credits, but he's well on his way to earning 30 credits or more," Allen Hudson, Glen Cove High School's principal said. "We are extremely proud of Luca's academic excellence and securing his name among both national and international high school scholars. What a way to represent Glen Cove."

Mancuso's English teacher, Allison Butler says that she saw a lot of potential in him. Mancuso, Butler said, has a high level of appreciation for reading, and people who love to read often become excellent writers. And Mancuso's writing in his assignments is already good, Butler said.

"I just feel like he has such an empathetic understanding of the way the world works," she said.

Mancuso's dedication towards his community started two years ago at the beginning of the Covid-19 pandemic, when he decided to join NOSH, a food delivery service and program of the North Shore Soup Kitchen. "I saw a lot of food disparity throughout my neighborhood and other neighborhoods nearby," Mancuso said. "I wanted to do something about it."

Mancuso connected with his neighbor Linda Eastman, who is also the operations manager at NOSH. Mancuso has volunteered weekly since NOSH was established two years ago and has also offered his time while on vacations like spring break. Eastman said that that Mancuso has been helpful since the fire that destroyed NOSH's headquarters last



Courtesy Maria Palmeri

LUCA MANCUSO ALWAYS helps his community. He directed traffic for Glen Cove's 2022 Sip into Summer event.

year. The fire left NOSH without a stable location, forcing them to relocate to multiple locations like the View Grill and St. Hyacinth's Church in Glen Head. (NOSH has recently relocated to 32 School St. in Glen Cove.) At NOSH, Mancuso is assigned a variety of responsibilities such as collecting and distribution of food donations.

"He's a naturally kind person, someone who's really nice to be around," Eastman said. "You could feel he really wanted to be there."

Mancuso has also been working a summer position with Glen Cove City Hall through the Youth Bureau, program that offers teenagers the opportunity to learn first-hand work experience. Mancuso underwent training for resume writing, interview techniques and work etiquette, which started last spring for his summer position, and will end before the new school year.

Mancuso went through two mock-interviews, one of which was with Glen Cove Mayor Pamela Panzenbeck. After his second interview with Panzenbeck Mancuso was offered a position at City Hall in their finance department, where his responsibilities included data entry and fact-checking.

"Luca was very exceptional for a young man his age," Panzenbeck said. "He's going places."

STEPPING OUT

Ready for a HIGHLAND FLING at the **L.I. Scottish Festival**

By Karen Bloom

Old Westbury Gardens' lush grounds will once again fill with the sounds of bagpipers and Scottish revelry as it welcomes the Scottish Festival and Highland Games. The popular spectacle — now in its 60th year — returns from its pandemic-imposed hiatus on Saturday, Aug. 27. And that's all to the delight of Clan MacDuff, which created and oversees the event.

"We are so looking forward to bringing it back again," says Clan MacDuff member Peter Burnside. "We've missed it, and so have all those who come out and join us for the day."

With those bagpipes, traditional strength competitions and highland dancing — along with varied entertainment and assorted activities for lads and lasses — there's plenty of end-of-summer revelry for all ages. According to Scottish lore, the games were begun by the ancient highland chieftains to help them select the strongest men for their armies. Those ancient traditions continue today in the form of caber tossing, Putting the Stone, Putting the Sheaf, arm-wrestling competitions, piping and drumming.

Long Island had once been home to five Scottish clans. Today only Clan MacDuff remains.

This clan considers its festival to be similar to a traditional gathering.

"We wanted to emulate what was done in Scotland," Burnside says. "So we started out in 1959 with what was essentially like a big family reunion."

From that humble beginning with 200 people, it's evolved into a day that's both a family fair as much as a cultural event, with more than 6,000 participating.

While it's now a broad-based event — with birds of prey, a



petting zoo and plenty of kids activities, a British car parade, and Scottish cuisine to sample — it's those traditional elements that continue to be the main attraction — especially the caber toss and pipe bands.

The caber is a long, tapered 20-foot pine pole or log, ranging from 90 to 120 pounds. The "tosser" balances it vertically, holding the smaller end, running forward and tossing so that it turns in the air with the larger end striking the ground first. Ideally, the pole strikes in a strictly vertical position. Scoring is based on how closely the throw lands at a 12 o'clock position.

"The caber toss is always a big draw," Burnside says. "It's a true test of strength and skill." Open to both men and women, there's even a kids' version, using a cardboard "caber."

While the games are going on, a lively lineup of bands and dance ensembles — including assorted bagpipers — provide a musical backdrop throughout the day.

"The opening ceremony at 12:30 is especially impressive" with a grand march down the North Lawn, Burnside adds, "with those bagpipers marching together."

When:
Saturday, Aug. 27,
8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Where:
Old Westbury Gardens,
71 Old Westbury Road,
Old Westbury

Info:
(516) 333-0048 or
OldWestburyGardens.org or
LIScots.org.



Photos courtesy Clan MacDuff/Old Westbury Gardens

Top photo: Pipers and drummers step proudly around the grounds of Old Westbury Gardens to celebrate the Scottish Festival and Highland Games.

Middle photo: Kids enjoy an old favorite: a tug-of-war competition. It's all at the annual games, held in Old Westbury Gardens.

Bottom photo: The iconic sounds of the bagpipers honor a cherished heritage.



'Natural Woman'

Broadway's Carter Calvert captures Carole King's musical styling pitch-perfectly in 'A Carole King Experience: Natural Woman,' the premier tribute to the legendary singer-songwriter. Backed by the dynamic Roge Cohen Band, Calvert performs the iconic songs that defined a generation. These are all the classic favorites you've loved since the '60s and '70s, like the groundbreaking 'Brill Building' chart-topping pop mega hits conceived in a tiny Times Square cubicle. The timeless tunes you know by heart but possibly never knew King created. And, of course, the masterpieces from the record-shattering phenomenon 'Tapestry,' the emblem of the singer-songwriter era that solidified King's position as a trailblazing woman to watch.

Sunday, Aug. 28, 2:30 p.m.
\$40, \$35 seniors. Elmont Library Theatre, 700 Hempstead Turnpike, Elmont. (516) 599-6870 or visit PlazaBroadwayLongIsland.com.



Maria Bamford

Get ready for fall with some laughs when Maria Bamford visits the area. She is revered for her deeply personal and experimental comedy about mental illness. She starred in the surreal, semi-autobiographical Netflix comedy series 'Lady Dynamite,' about a comedian who suffers a nervous breakdown, and is the star of three unconventional hour-long stand-up specials: 'Weakness is the Brand,' 'Old Baby' and 'Maria Bamford, the Special, Special, Special!'

Saturday, Sept. 10, 8 p.m.
\$39. Jeanne Rimsky Theater at Landmark on Main Street, 232 Main St., Port Washington. (516) 767-6444 or LandmarkOnMainStreet.org.

THE SCENE



AUG. 27

Rock on with the Gin Blossoms

The alt rockers bring their explosive sound to the Harry Chapin Lakeside Theatre, **Saturday, Aug. 27**, at 8 p.m., to close out Eisenhower Park's summer concert season. Hear their many gems, "Until I Fall Away," "Found Out About You," "Hey Jealousy" and "Allison Road." The Grammy-nominated band's fusion of melodic rock, pop, folk and country continues as strong as ever. As always, bring seating. For information, visit

NassauCountyNY.gov/parks.



AUG. 31

Make No Bones About It

Young scientists will dig into learning all about owls, **Wednesday, Aug. 31**, 1 p.m. Find bones and dissect an owl pellet. Get to the root of how owls eat, hunt and ingest food. Long Island Children's Museum, Museum Row, Garden City. (516) 224-5800 or LICM.org.

Oyster Bay Market

Come to the Oyster Bay Market in the center of downtown Oyster Bay, 11 a.m.-3 p.m., rain or shine **every other Sunday**. Take part in improving local food security, learning entrepreneurship skills, and support local producers, makers and businesses while enriching the cultural heritage of the community. For further information go to oysterbaymainstreet.org.

Colonial Day 2022

Visit Raynham Hall Museum, **Sunday, Sept. 18**, for the eighth annual Colonial Day. Enjoy a family-friendly afternoon as Raynham Hall, at 30 W Main St., in Oyster Bay, home of Revolutionary War spy Robert Townsend, is filled with costumed colonial adult and child re-enactors who bring the 18th century to life with period music, colonial cooking demonstrations and musket firing. For more information call the museum at (516) 922-6808.



TOBAY Triathlon and Jr. Triathlon

AUG. 27

The TOBAY Triathlon and Jr. Triathlon will be held at Theodore Roosevelt

Memorial Park in the hamlet of Oyster Bay this year. The Jr. Triathlon, for children ages eight to 13, takes place **Aug. 27**; contestants should arrive no later than 7:30 a.m. The triathlon, for anyone 14 and older, will be held on **Aug. 28**, with the first wave beginning at 7 a.m. For more information to OysterBayTown.com; email info@eventspowerli.com with any questions.



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Ella: First Lady of Song

Enjoy the inspiring story of Ella Fitzgerald's remarkable journey from homeless teenager to the world's first lady of song, **Thursday, Aug. 25, through Saturday, Sept. 10**, at the Madison Theatre, on the Molloy University campus. Virtuosa Freda Payne brings Fitzgerald to life with an elegance, resonant beauty and transcendent voice that captures the immortal songstress. 1000 Hempstead Ave., Rockville Centre. For tickets and information visit MadisonTheatre.org or call (516) 323-4444.



End of the Season Benefit

The Oyster Bay Main Street Association invites the community to their annual End of the Season Benefit, **Wednesday, Sept. 22**, 6 to 9 p.m., at Coe Hall at the Planting Fields Arboretum, 1395 Planting Fields Rd., in Oyster Bay. Enjoy cocktails, sushi, light fare and music. For further information, go to OysterBayMainStreet.org.



Bluefish Tournament

Head to Theodore Roosevelt Memorial Park in Oyster Bay, **Sept. 18**, 4:30 a.m. - 4 p.m. for the 36th annual Town of Oyster Bay Bluefish Tournament. Enjoy hours of fishing followed by a tailgate party with food, raffles, awards and prizes. Registration is limited to the first 350 boats, so sign up early by contacting the Town of Oyster Bay Parks Department, Recreation Division, at (516) 797-7945.

SEP. 15 Art talk

Grab your lunch and join Nassau County Museum of Art Docent Riva Ettus for her popular "Brown Bag Lecture" live, via Zoom, **Thursday, Sept. 15**, 1 p.m. She'll discuss the current exhibition, "Other Worlds than This: The Supernatural in Art." Participants are invited to ask questions at the end of the program. Register at least 24 hours in advance to receive the program Zoom link. Also Oct. 13. Nassau County Museum of Art, 1 Museum Dr., Roslyn Harbor. (516) 484-9337 or NassauMuseum.org.

Ellen Meister

Wednesday, August 31, head to Theodore's Books in Oyster Bay for an evening with Long Island novelist Ellen Meister as she speaks about and signs copies of her new novel, "Take My Husband." This darkly comic novel follows a wife who considers murdering her husband to solve all of her problems. The event is free and open to the public, for questions call the book store at (516) 636-5550.



AUG. 28

Glen Cove Hospital concert

Enjoy a night of music under the stars at Glen Cove's beachfront park, Sunday, Aug. 28, 7 p.m. Glen Cove Hospital marks its 100th anniversary by sponsoring the last Morgan Park Summer Music Festival concert with Mike DelGuidice rocking the music of Billy Joel. Centennial program with community leaders begins at 6 p.m. For more information visit MorganParkMusic.org.

Toyuskanash: Bridges exhibit

Kids can make, view and talk about art, **through Sunday, Sept. 4**, with four Indigenous artists at Long Island Children's Museum. Toyuskanash, the Algonquin word for bridges, brings together artists from the Shinnecock Nation to explore their traditional and contemporary culture and how they bridge gaps in history and knowledge with surrounding communities. The exhibit highlights the artwork of fine art photographer Jeremy Dennis, painter and tradition bearer Denise Silva-Dennis, beadwork appliqué and ribbon work artist Tohanash Tarrant and painter David Bunn Martine. Each artist's creative process is featured during residencies; including artist-led workshops during each residency and daily activities for visitors led by museum staff that draw inspiration from their artwork, process and media. Visit the museum on Museum Row, Garden City. For more information, call (516) 224-5800 or go to LICM.org.



Having an event?

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

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THE GREAT BOOK GURU

Innocent until ...

Dear Great Book Guru,
The streets of Sea Cliff always grow a little quieter in August with people going off on vacation. Where do they go when we all know Sea Cliff is the perfect vacation spot? Oh well. Do you have a good novel for me to read during these lazy, hazy August days and nights?
 –Summer Sea Cliff Sojourner



**ANN
DIPIETRO**

Dear Sea Cliff Summer Sojourner,

Yes, it would be interesting to do a survey of our fellow citizens' vacation whereabouts, but first I have a great book to recommend: "The Murder Rule," by Dervla McTiernan.

The story opens with Hannah Rokeby transferring to the University of Virginia from Maine where she lives with her mother Laura. Her goal is to join the university's

prestigious Innocence Project program which is currently trying to exonerate convicted killer Michael Dandridge. We soon realize Hannah's object is to sabotage his chance to be freed. She quickly develops strong friendships with her fellow law students who are totally unaware of her subterfuge. As the group investigates other cases, Hannah begins to see patterns of guilt and yes, innocence she had refused to acknowledge, while we begin to wonder if she has been a reliable narrator. Who should be punished and who should be forgiven are questions that loom throughout this compelling book. Highly recommended!

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

NEIGHBORS IN THE NEWS



Courtesy North Shore Hispanic Chamber of Commerce

THE NORTH SHORE Hispanic Chamber of Commerce of Greater New York showed their appreciation for the Glen Cove Fire Department by presenting them with a donation.

North Shore Hispanic Chamber supports G.C. Fire Department

The board of the North Shore Hispanic Chamber of Commerce of Greater New York presented a check for \$1,000 to Glen Cove Fire Chief Robert Retoske. The chamber wanted to show their appreciation for all that the Glen Cove Volunteer Fire Department does for the city each and every day.

ert Retoske. The chamber wanted to show their appreciation for all that the Glen Cove Volunteer Fire Department does for the city each and every day.

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Roxy Amid/Herald

STATE SENATOR ANNA Kaplan at her campaign headquarters in Glen Cove spoke of her commitment to the community after she won the Democratic primary on Tuesday.

A plan to focus on next election

CONTINUED FROM FRONT PAGE

former refugee.

Zimmerman, 67, a lifelong Democrat, is co-president and co-founder of ZE Creative Communications, a public relations firm in Great Neck, where he lives. The Democratic National Committee member of 22 years ran unsuccessfully for Congress in 1982 and for State Assembly in 1986 and 1988.

He has a record of speaking out against wars, supporting social and environmental justice and has fought against hate crimes in all forms, including anti-semitism.

Immediately after winning the primary Zimmerman set his sights on the general election when he will face off against George Santos, his Republican challenger.

“George Santos and his radical anti-women, anti-civil rights agenda represent the opposite of everything I have stood for in my life and everything that defines our country,” Zimmerman said. “In Congress, I’ll fight to defend abortion rights, stop gun violence, protect civil rights and make Long Island and Queens more affordable for middle-class families.”

It was a difficult campaign season for all candidates, due to the release of a new district map just months before the election, which caused the Congressional, state Senate and Assembly primaries to be moved to August. And for some candidates like Kaplan, most of her new district included areas where she was unknown.

“We got this district at the end of June,” Kaplan said. “Having a 40 percent new district was a challenge. And having a second primary was another challenge. A lot of people, when we went door

knocking, they thought they voted in the primary and didn’t know there was another primary.”

If re-elected in November, Kaplan will continue her fight for full access to abortion services and push for legislation to protect medical professionals providing legal abortions to out-of-state patients. She said she will work to fund public safety by supporting local law enforcement and work for changes to bail reform. Kaplan promises to back a permanent cap on property tax hikes and will work to close the loopholes in gun control laws.

“I’ve always told everyone that I’m a public servant. This is not about me,” she said. “I occupy the seat for the time that I’m in office, but the goal is to be the messenger and the voice of this district, and I will continue to do that.”

Zimmerman said his top priority is to fight climate change and will begin by providing flood mitigation funding for Long Island and pushing to preserve the Long Island Sound. He backs federal funding for Israel. And he will fight to ensure fair and equal housing and work to prevent discrimination in the LGBTQ+ community.

Zimmerman said he’s committed to building coalitions in Washington and reaching out to people on the issues critical to his district.

“We are facing the biggest threat to democracy since the Civil War,” he said. “Everything I believe in is on the line.”

He’s committed, Zimmerman said, to listening to people, understanding their concerns and being persistent and aggressive to get the work done.

Roxy Amid contributed to this story.



Herald file photo

THE CITY AND the Glen Cove CDA are looking for input from residents on the future revitalization of the downtown.

NY Forward Program, looking for ideas for city

Interested in the future of downtown Glen Cove? Do you have ideas for how the Glen Cove community can make our downtown even more vibrant and beautiful?

Residents, businesses and stakeholders are encouraged to attend a public engagement event hosted by the City of Glen Cove and Glen Cove CDA which will focus on the revitalization of downtown Glen Cove on Saturday, Sept. 10 from 9 to 11 a.m. at Deep Roots Farmers Market, 100 Garvies Point Road in Glen Cove.

The event will offer information on the New York Forward grant applica-

tion, a state program that offers grant funding to revitalize downtowns and reinvigorate local and regional economies.

At the public engagement event, residents and stakeholders will have the opportunity to provide feedback about the community’s vision for downtown revitalization and potential projects to advance revitalization. All ideas will be considered. The public is encouraged to attend.

Those unable to make the event can provide feedback in an email to afangmann@glencovecda.org and jwenk@glencovecda.org on or before Sept. 15.

HERALD PUBLIC NOTICES

LEGAL NOTICE

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE THAT the Glen Cove City Council adopted the following Ordinance at the City Council Meeting of August 23, 2022:

BE IT ORDAINED, that Sec. 265-27.1 (O) Parking violations enumerated, of the Code of Ordinances is hereby amended, as follows:

Delete: Parking commercial vehicles on public streets overnight. No person shall park a commercial vehicle at any time between 12:00 midnight and 6:00 a.m. on any public street located in a residential zoning district as described and contained in Chapter 280, Zoning, of the Municipal Code of the City of Glen Cove and the Official Zoning Map which is a part thereof.

Add: Parking commercial vehicles.

1.No person shall park a commercial vehicle on public streets between 12:00 midnight and 6:00 a.m. in any residential zoning district as described and contained in Chapter 280 Zoning, of the Code of the City of Glen Cove and the

Official Zoning Map which is a part thereof.

2.No person shall park a commercial vehicle outdoors between 12:00 midnight and 6:00 a.m. in any residential zoning district as described and contained in Chapter 280 Zoning, of the Code of the City of Glen Cove and the Official Zoning Map which is a part thereof.

3.No person shall park a commercial vehicle in any municipal parking garage between 12:00 midnight and 6:00 a.m.

4.No person shall park a commercial vehicle on any municipal owned property between 12:00 midnight and 6:00 a.m.

This Ordinance shall take effect 3 days after publication.

Tina Pemberton
City Clerk
133696

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NOTICE OF SALE
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COUNTY OF NASSAU,
WILMINGTON SAVINGS
FUND SOCIETY, FSB, AS
OWNER TRUSTEE OF THE
RESIDENTIAL CREDIT
OPPORTUNITIES TRUST
VI-A, Plaintiff, vs. KERRY
S. ALLISON-GAINES A/K/A

KERRY S. ALLISON A/K/A
KERRY GAINES A/K/A
KERRY ALLISON GAINES
A/K/A K.S. ALLISON
GAINES, ET AL.,
Defendant(s).

Pursuant to a Judgment of Foreclosure and Sale duly entered on May 25, 2022, I, the undersigned Referee will sell at public auction on the front steps on the north side of the Nassau County Supreme Court, 100 Supreme Court Drive, Mineola, NY on September 7, 2022 at 3:00 p.m., premises known as 4 Meadow Spring Road, Glen Cove, NY 11542 a/k/a 4 Meadowspring Road, Glen Cove, NY 11542 a/k/a 4 Meadow Springs Lane, Glen Cove, NY 11542. All that certain plot, piece or parcel of land, with the buildings and improvements thereon erected, situate, lying and being in the City of Glen Cove, County of Nassau and State of New York, Section 23, Block J-01 and Lot 241. Approximate amount of judgment is \$1,504,837.25 plus interest and costs. Premises will be sold subject to provisions of filed Judgment Index #602807/2021. This

foreclosure sale will be held on the north side steps of the Courthouse, rain or shine. COVID-19 safety protocols will be followed at the foreclosure sale. If proper social distancing cannot be maintained or there are other health or safety concerns, the Court Appointed Referee will cancel the sale. Ralph Madalena, Esq., Referee
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OPINIONS

Help Wanted: teachers needed badly

Being a college trustee for 30 years, I have kept a close eye on trends in the field of higher education. I'm happy to see that many of our institutions are introducing new courses that reflect the changes that are happening. There are plenty of jobs for engineers and many schools, like Hofstra, have created comprehensive pro-



**JERRY
KREMER**

grams to attract engineering students. But I never anticipated that there would be a critical shortage of teachers, and many colleges no longer have programs to train new ones.

Why do we have such a national shortage? Sadly, there are too many

reasons. If you follow the news, you'll learn that the state of Florida needs 8,000 teachers, but no one is rushing to work in the Sunshine State. The politicians, not the colleges, caused Florida's dilemma. Florida has passed multiple laws governing what can be taught in the classroom, and numerous school boards are asking residents which books they want removed from library shelves. Those conditions alone would discourage a teacher or any

student thinking about getting an education degree.

Fearing for their personal safety, teachers and education students are also shunning states such as Texas. Since the recent tragedy in Uvalde, in which 19 students and two teachers were killed, some state officials have been suggesting that schoolteachers bring a gun to class. Why would a college-bound student consider teaching as a profession if they had to take firearm training to qualify for a job? In addition, Texas Gov. Greg Abbott is in the process of suggesting revisions to the school curriculum.

Perhaps the biggest disincentive for potential new teachers is salary levels around the country. If you live in New York, Massachusetts, California or Alaska, starting salaries are attractive enough for possible candidates. But Missouri, as an example, has an average starting salary of \$33,200, and the legislature has failed to appropriate any fresh dollars to increase it. Because salaries in some 14 states are so low, teachers are forced to take second jobs in order to survive. A National Education Association 2021 survey found that the national average for entry-level teacher pay is \$41,000, and experienced teachers on aver-

age earn \$64,000.

An article by Emily Tate in the March issue of Mother Jones magazine outlined the expanding number of teachers holding second jobs. The reporter interviewed 30 people, all of whom worked in such gigs as bartenders, delivery services, tutoring, Lyft or Uber drivers, retail clerks and real estate agents. Many of those interviewed found their work interesting and challenging, but admitted that having to work after hours and nights detracted from their mission to be prepared for classroom challenges. Some observers would say that there's nothing wrong with teachers looking to supplement their

income, but others would say that teachers shouldn't be forced to grade papers at 2 a.m.

Many years ago I was asked to represent a Long Island school board in its negotiations with the district teachers union.

While some current-day negotiation tactics may have changed, the discussions I had soured me on doing such work in the future. The school board asked for an extra 30 minutes a day to help students who were falling behind and needed extra help. In addition, it proposed that the start-

ing salaries for entry-level teachers be boosted by 10 percent. Those requests were rebuffed, and the only salary discussion was about how much to pay teachers with 10 or more years of service.

Unable to find teachers, a number of school boards in Indiana and Ohio recently advertised that they would accept anyone with a college degree to teach in their schools. The deeper you dive into the national teacher crisis, the more you learn about why high school graduates are turning their backs on studying education in college and one of the most important jobs in our society, and why experienced teachers are retiring in large numbers.

America has its priorities messed up when it comes to the teaching profession. A young baseball player called up to the major leagues makes hundreds of thousands of dollars, and may be further richly rewarded with bonuses and long-term contracts. Is it asking too much to pay new teachers a decent wage? I don't think so, but apparently many governments around the country have failed not only the teaching profession, but children as well.

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

School bells toll for students and parents

In 1957, 10-year-old me started sixth grade at the Number Three School in Cedarhurst, in Mrs. Haggerty's class. No one in that snapshot is still standing but me. The Number Three School is now a yeshiva, Mrs. Haggerty presumably is in teacher heaven, and 1957 is now 2022.

I was the new kid in class. We had just moved "out to the Island" from Queens.



**RANDI
KREISS**

It wasn't an easy transition for a super-sensitive pipsqueak of a girl. By the end of the first week, I had cried twice in class, and in Week Two the mean girls gave me the "black spot," which everyone who's read "Treasure Island" knows is fatal: You'll be dead by

the end of the day.

I didn't die, but that's only a technicality.

This all comes back to me as we begin the new school year after over two years of home schooling, Zoom classes and dysfunctional education amid the coronavirus pandemic. Our kids and grandkids are survivors of a massively destabilizing season of social distancing and quarantining and mask wearing. Parents, too, have gone

through their own version of hell.

Therefore, two things are going on at the same time. On one level, nothing has changed, and on every other level, everything has changed.

I asked my grandkids how they're feeling about going back to school, the pluses and the minuses, and they all said the same thing. They're looking forward to seeing other kids, and they're worried about doing well after this disruptive hiatus.

In 1957 that was what I wanted, too. I wanted the kids to like me, and I hoped to find some friends. So are we all good? The schools will open, the children will get to see one another, and learning will take place. *But that is only if we ignore the ripple effects of these years of deprivation and isolation.*

Look around. Smell the air. Feel the vibe. Check in with your stress-o-meter. This back-to-school year is different from other years. In the same way that the pandemic changed our way of living for over two years, it will change our path forward, too.

Like most other Americans, I am so relieved that our kids and grandkids are going back to the classroom, in person,

with real teachers for a full day. But normalcy is a relative thing.

There are children suffering from school anxiety. We have a mental health crisis among our teenagers. For good reason, children are afraid of getting sick, getting shot, or failing at their schoolwork. Some friends report that their elementary school grandkids don't want to go back to school. Their bedroom has become their safe place.

We need parents and teachers to be monitoring the re-entry process. And parents, too, need support and the comfort of realizing they have survived an unprecedented national and global catastrophe. Parents haven't ever had to home-school and work from home while trying to stay alive.

We are returning to school at a time when ad hoc groups in communities across America are deciding what books school libraries can purchase. They are banning material they deem unsuitable, with references to gender or sexuality or race. Many teachers are demoralized by this random oversight, and we need to pay attention to the political tides in our school districts.

Who's going to pay for all the school

supplies and technology that is now part of public education? In 1957, my black and white composition book cost 20 cents. Today the average family spends \$800 or more per child on back-to-school shopping. Amazon is selling the composition book for \$11.99.

How will individual schools navigate this nearly post-pandemic time? There are the recommendations of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, and then there's real life. We don't know yet how treatment of Covid surges will be handled.

During their isolation and down time, our kids have become increasingly connected to their phones. Many mental health professionals see this as an addiction, and the connection to social media as an impediment to interpersonal communication and relationships. How will schools deal with the phone issue? The devices have become a kind of secondary umbilical cord during the school day.

We need to take a step back and let our children resume the level of personal responsibility they had before the restrictions of the pandemic. They can do it, and we can, too.

We cheer our kids as they return to the classroom. We are mindful that they have been through something, and that they carry more than books in their backpacks.

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Our kids and grandkids are survivors of a massively destabilizing experience.

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HERALD EDITORIAL

Covid-19 is still here, so what does that mean?

We don't know much about him, except that he was 61 years old and he had visited a live animal market in Wuhan, China.

But his death was the first of nearly 6.5 million worldwide who would die from complications of what would come to be known as Covid-19. And just 10 days later, on Jan. 21, 2020, the first confirmed case of SARS-CoV-2 in the United States would be found in Washington state.

We are just months away from Covid's third anniversary, and while the pandemic itself has changed so much of what we call "normal," it does feel like life is ever so slowly returning to what it was before the ball dropped in Times Square on Jan. 1, 2020.

Social distancing is gone. Masks, while still seen — and even worn — are nowhere near as prominent as they once were. And getting the sniffles doesn't evoke the same kind of panic it once did.

If we look hard enough, there are still signs of those troubling times around us: worn stickers on floors of businesses calling for six feet of separation. Signs on shop entrances requiring face coverings. And even the occasional Covid-19 mobile testing site on the street.

Hospitals aren't overwhelmed. The death toll is no longer prevalent. And far more of us are vaccinated against the virus than those who aren't.

There are many who say the coronavirus is now an endemic rather than a pandemic, meaning it's here, we'll see season-

al surges and maybe even some variations, but it's not the threat it once was. Yet those variants remain unpredictable, and it's not clear whether current vaccination levels will stave off future mass hospitalizations and death.

And yes, people are still dying from the virus, at a clip of more than 600 per day in the United States, according to some estimates. That's one person every two minutes.

But how scared should we be? What numbers should we pay attention to? And what should we do if we fear exposure to the virus, or develop symptoms that closely resemble Covid-19?

First and foremost, we must stop focusing on who is getting the virus, and how many, but instead on what impact it's having on hospitals and mortality. Those numbers were important before there was a vaccine, but not today, when a vast majority of those inoculated recover with no major complications, or even the need to visit a hospital.

The virus and its many variants will continue to infect people, just as the flu does, and even the common cold. Yes, Covid-19 remains far deadlier than either of those ailments — and thus more serious — but for those of us not working in public health, spending so much time tracking every case accomplishes very little, except to raise anxiety.

If you find out you were in the same room as someone who tested positive, you can't ignore it. But you don't need to rush to quarantine, either. The Centers for Dis-

ease Control and Prevention recommends continuing with your life as normal. Just wear a mask for the next 10 days while indoors, or while in close proximity to others.

If you start showing symptoms, get tested right away. If you don't, wait at least five days.

If you do test positive, only then should you isolate. And then just for five days, as long as your fever breaks before the start of the fourth day without the help of medication, and your other symptoms are improving. Still, even if you can end isolation, you should still wear a mask through the 10th day.

While it's nice to focus on other things in life — and in the news — rather than the coronavirus, we can't forget about it. More than a dozen people are dying of the disease in New York each day, on average, and even if you survive, there are still a number of other complications that can be outright debilitating long after you recover from the initial infection, like long Covid.

And many people we interact with are considered "vulnerable," meaning they may not be able to fight the virus like the rest of us. So wear a mask when you're around someone who might be more at risk. Wear one in large groups, especially indoors. And if someone starts showing symptoms, know exactly how you can help stop the spread without disrupting your life.

Each day brings us closer to our normal lives, so long as we don't forget what upended all of them in the first place.

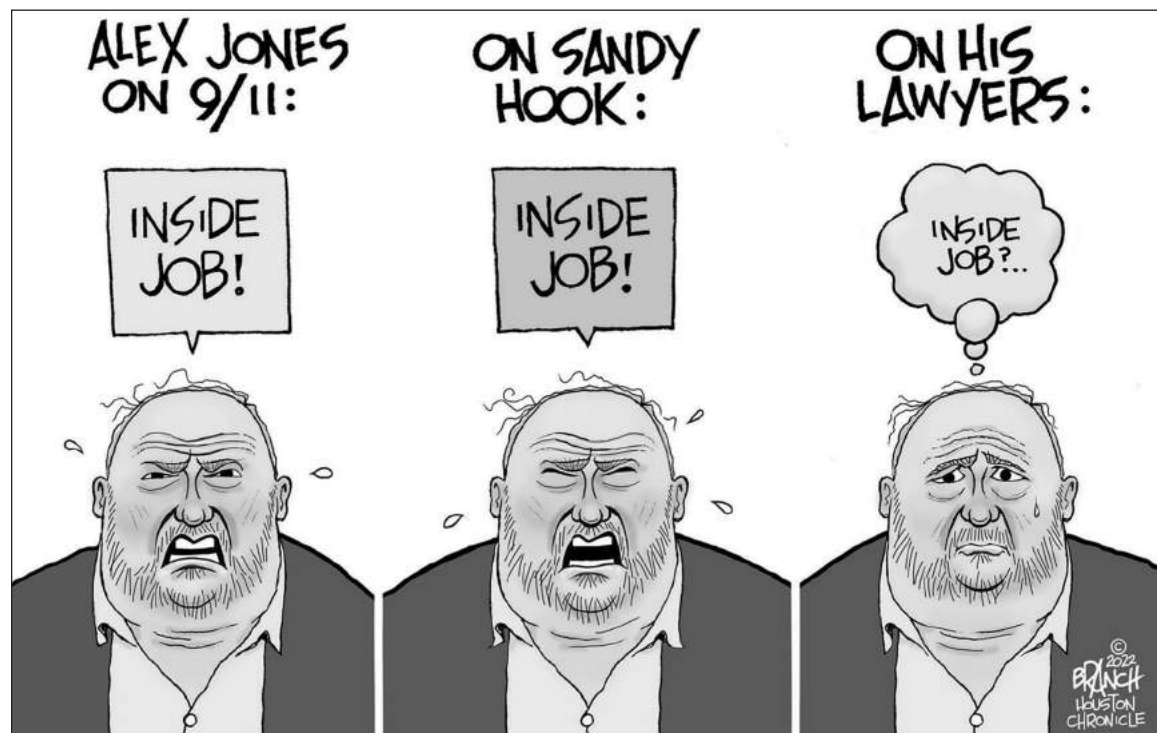
LETTERS

A road plan to nowhere?

To the Editor:

Thank you for Kyle Chin's "Could toll lanes fix parkway's 'Blood Alley'?" (Aug. 11-17). This story reports on a critical local issue that readers should be aware of.

The Long Island Contractors Association and State Assemblywoman Michaelle Solages, a Democrat and the Assembly's deputy majority leader, are promoting a plan to add High Occupancy Toll lanes to the Southern State Parkway, ostensibly to reduce the number of accidents and deaths on the thoroughfare. The proposal does not explain precisely how the addition of HOTs would do so, though, except perhaps for those traveling in the lanes, which would be open only to single-occupancy drivers who could afford the tolls or those in high-occu-



pancy vehicles (carpoolers).

Among the greatest causes of accidents on the SSP are excessive speed and drunken driving. How would HOTs reduce either?

Additionally, would the plan involve destroying sections of the Southern State's forests and grassy medians — among the South Shore's few uninterrupted green spaces — to make way for the HOTs?

OPINIONS

Leading up to Election Day, we'll be talking about crime

Gov. Kathy Hochul recently stood in front of the Long Island Rail Road's New Hyde Park station to celebrate the arrival of the first train on the LIRR's much-needed Third Track. In truth, she had little to do with this multi-billion-dollar project. It was the creation of her predecessor, Andrew Cuomo, who used political threats



RONALD J. ROSENBERG

and economic incentives to have his way with the various village mayors along the right-of-way who opposed modernization of Long Island's "iron horse."

But if I were Hochul, I would probably look for any photo opportunity that takes the

focus off the issue that may decide whether I will stay in office after November: crime.

The headlines are unrelenting. Almost daily we hear of repeat felons being let loose thanks to legislation that essentially scrapped the ability of judges to hold dangerous repeat felons behind bars until their trials. The painful impact on our communities is incalculable. Still, there is another metric that tells you something about the impact that legislation has had

on those who have taken a solemn oath to protect our society.

According to published reports, more than 1,500 New York City police officers have either resigned or retired so far this year. If this trend continues, it may well be the biggest loss of officers since these kinds of statistics began to be recorded by the department. Some 524 police officers had resigned, and 1,072 had retired as of the beginning of the summer — a 38 percent increase over the same period last year. We should be more than frightened, because these law enforcement professionals see the true nature of the threat on every patrol, and they have decided that our society isn't prepared to back them up.

There are serious questions we need to ask our public officials this Election Day. We could ask State Senate Majority Leader Andrea Stewart-Cousins. She led the crusade to dismantle the bail laws, and her progressive agenda remains unchanged as police blotters are filled with repeat felons attacking law-abiding citizens.

If asked, police officers handing in their badges will say they are done with the job because of anti-cop hostility that is a central philosophy of the progressives,

and the obviously destructive nature of "bail reform" to the very idea of law enforcement.

This crisis isn't just a New York City problem. Nassau County Executive Bruce Blakeman has issued a report stating that more than 87 percent of criminal suspects arrested in Nassau County in April and June were released back on the streets without bail. This number includes 282 who were facing violent assault charges.

Standing with Police Commissioner Patrick Ryder, Blakeman revealed that in the second quarter of 2022, 2,641 of 3,019 people arrested — 87.5 percent — were released without bail.

Some 282 of them faced assault charges, and 103 were arrested on weapons charges. And then there's the defendant some have described as a poster child of this crisis. Tejinder Singh was arrested for allegedly throwing bricks through the windows or windshields of 27 cars parked in East Meadow during a three-day vandalism spree. He was released without bail just hours after his arrest.

Hochul is no political neophyte. While she has a massive political war chest and solid poll numbers, all of that can go south quickly if the summer of crime becomes the autumn of anger, especially on voter-

rich Long Island.

When the governor spoke before the New York State Association of Chiefs of Police's annual conference, she told her audience she would support and fully fund law enforcement. But what does that mean when the destruction of bail laws by Albany has led to an explosion of street crime?

Another seasoned politician, New York City mayor Eric Adams, has actually joined Republican lawmakers in demanding that the State Legislature address the crisis. Not surprisingly, the progressive-dominated Legislature declined Adams's call for an emergency session. He told reporters, "We're not talking about someone that steals an apple. We're talking about someone that has repeatedly used violence in our city: robberies, grand larcenies, burglaries, shootings, carrying a gun."

Hochul will not be alone on the ballot this November. Long Island state senators who voted with their progressive colleagues are going to be asked by voters why they "went along" on progressive legislation that is now destroying a fundamental principle of American life: freedom from fear.

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

LETTERS

And would the road have to be straightened to construct them, thus removing one of the SSP's natural "traffic-calming" measures — its bends?

The State Department of Transportation proposed a plan 20 years ago to widen and add bus lanes to the Southern State.

The agency quietly dropped it, however, in the face of strong opposition by environmentally conscious civic groups like the Massapequa-based Long Island Progressive Coalition, which was concerned about the destruction of green spaces.

We also must ask how the Southern State's accident statistics compare with other thoroughfares throughout the region, like the Northern State Parkway or the Long Island Expressway. The LIE is about as wide and straight as a road can be, with High Occupancy Vehicle lanes, and yet it remains plagued by accidents — and congestion. History tells us that adding lanes only increases traffic — and crashes.

Finally, who authored and funded the report on HOTs for the Southern State — LICA, the state, a third party or a combination thereof? It's unclear in Chin's story, but it's an important question. LICA represents the interests of builders, not the hundreds of thousands of South Shore residents who would be affected for years by a costly and terrain-

altering undertaking such as this. Where are the voices of local residents?

SCOTT BRINTON
Merrick

Randi got it right again

To the Editor:

Re Randi Kreiss's column "Florida Gov. DeSantis: teachers need to be educated (Aug. 11-17): Thank you, Randi! I am in a family with teachers, as are a number of friends. I am an art therapist (also licensed by New York state) and teach on a graduate level. I resent it when people say, "Those who can do, do, and those who can't do, teach."

I, like most of us who have gone through a lot of schooling, have had the good, the bad and the ugly when it comes to teachers. I've had teachers who phone it in, and those whose every word I've hung onto, savored and quoted throughout my life. To be so naive as to think that all you need is a mentor (and I am sure veterans have lots of spare time) to be able to manage a classroom and teach a subject that you don't know is sheer idiocy.

I have seen "professionals" practice outside their scope of expertise more times than I would like to. I know that there are other types of therapists who

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At the George Sumner Kellogg House — Baldwin

believe that all you need is a box of Crayolas and you're good to go. One of the problems with being ignorant is that you don't have the knowledge or insight to know that you're ignorant.

But that being said, Randi did make a very valid point. With an uneducated constituency, Florida's governor Ron DeSan-

tis has a better chance of being re-elected. As, my son, a police officer, would say, "felony stupidity." And unlike Covid, there is still no cure for stupid.

Keep on calling it as you see it, Randi.

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