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Local author at library open house
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Tim Baker/Herald

An evening of Gatsby-esque fun

The Gold Coast Business Association and the North Shore Hispanic Chamber of Commerce networked, danced and had a fun evening at the Metropolitan on Oct. 19. More photos, Page 4.

Redistricting raises a variety of concerns

By **ROKSANA AMID**
ramid@liherald.com

As part of the legislative redistricting public hearings, Nassau County residents heard recommendations and offered their input on the new map of the county's 19 legislative districts.

The hearing, held Oct. 18 at Glen Cove City Hall, allowed public comment on the current and proposed maps.

The hearings, which began county-wide in August, are overseen by the Temporary Districting Advisory Commission, which comprises five Democrats, five Republicans and a non-voting member who serves as chair, appointed by the county executive.

In the post-census season, redistricting in Nassau County has the potential to reshape town lines and political power. This unique but controversial process takes place every 10 years, but often leaves voters concerned

about the potential for gerrymandering — the manipulation of district boundaries to discriminate against a group of voters based on their political views or race.

Let's make the efforts necessary for a fair redistricting process.

KAREN MOSKOWITZ
Co-chair,
Nassau League
of Women Voters
Redistricting
Committee

The district lines determine which voters can vote for their respective representatives. Changing those lines changes the makeup of district voters, and can change the identity, allegiance and political priorities of a district's representative, and of the legislative delegation. Redistricting also affects whether a state's diverse communities are represented in its legislative bodies.

During the hearing, Advisory Commission member David Mejias, a Democrat, expressed his concerns that the Republican delegation still claims it has not contracted any experts and has no one working to analyze or develop maps.

"This is even more concern-

CONTINUED ON PAGE 8

With Nassau County cancer rates high, early detection is very crucial

By **ROKSANA AMID**
ramid@liherald.com

Amy Peters was clearing paperwork from her dresser in 2017 when she discovered her year-old prescription for a mammogram. Although she doesn't have a family history of breast cancer, she was diagnosed with Stage 3 cancer not long after she found the prescription.

Peters, 60, of Glen Cove, dealt with lumps in her breasts for most of her life, and had benign tumors removed from her right breast in the past. She had annual mammograms, but due to family issues and other health concerns, she had gone three

years without an examination.

Since her surgeries in 2017 and 2018, Peters routinely goes in for bloodwork every six months to make sure there are no markers indicating the cancer's return. She is a strong advocate of yearly testing.

"You better go get your mammograms," Peters said. "Because this is what happened to me."

Dr. Susan Paleschi, of Northwell Health, cautions that women sometimes mistakenly think that if they don't have a family history of breast cancer, they are not at risk for being diagnosed with it.

"Women with a strong family history will have

CONTINUED ON PAGE 8



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Photos by Rokzana Amid/Herald

A SMALL CROWD waited to meet local author Belinda Celis Basaca during the later half of the evening at the open house.

Fun at Friends of the Library's open house

By **ROKSANA AMID**
ramid@liherald.com

The Glen Cove Public Library held a free open-house event to celebrate the Friends of the Glen Cove Public Library which also served as a membership drive to have others join in the efforts they make to support the library.

The library's lower level was filled with music, refreshments, and a local history presentation at the Oct. 20 event.

The Friends are a non-profit membership organization established in 1970 by a caring and dedicated group of people. They are the liaison between the library and the community, serving preschoolers to retirees. The group is dedicated to supporting the activities and mission of the library and was established to be its fundraising arm.

During the event participants had the opportunity to meet local author Belinda Celis Basaca, who has her first book, "Mom, I Wanna Be A Fighter!" on the same shelves she admired as a little girl. Before reading excerpts from her book, Basaca recalled one of her most precious childhood memories of going to the Glen Cove Library with her father and feeling proud the moment she received her own library card. She recalled that as the librarian typed her info onto the mint green library card, her heart leapt with joy.

Carol B. Rubin, the 101-year-old president of Friends, said the libraries resources, like their history room, is a treasure trove for those looking to expand on their knowledge of local history. She credits the libraries resources such as movies, books,

and technology as valuable tools to keep her mind sharp and entertained. Since she can't drive, volunteers from the library often deliver materials to her. "For me, it's been a god-send," Rubin said.

Board members of the Friends organization went on a private tour of the library's temperature-controlled storage unit, where it keeps their most valuable historic documents. They also toured the history room which holds older books, historical journals that pertain to Long Island, photographs of old Glen Cove as well as historical artifacts like guns and dairy bottles from the city's colonial era. The room also holds a bookcase that belonged to Washington Irving, an early American writer.

Lydia Wen, librarian, and archivist, said the library is currently working on projects that include military tribute banners, which collect stories of veterans, and a genealogy collective that collaborates with four neighboring North Shore libraries. The libraries have a newly established program where they share funds to virtually access monthly presentations on the topic of genealogy that are shared with their respective communities.

"Libraries have to evolve, just like everything else has to evolve," she said.

Wen said she strongly feels the library is an important factor to understanding the people behind history, and feels the resources offered can paint a better understanding of the Glen Cove community. "We have this wonderful library," Wen said, "and we have this wonderful history room that belongs to them."



GLEN COVE NATIVE and author Belinda Celis Basaca, who was accompanied by her husband Ben Zeitlin, read excerpts from her book.



CAROL B. RUBIN, left, Kate Csillag, Carolyn Willson and Barbara LaMotta are members of the Friends of the Glen Cove Public Library. They took a private tour of the libraries facilities and were later shown documents of historical significance by librarian and archivist Lydia Wen.

HERALD NEIGHBORS

October 27, 2022 – GLEN COVE HERALD



ANTONIO CRUZ, LEFT, Josh Kirsch and Livia Hill enjoyed the fun and excitement of casino games played at the Metropolitan. Guests were encouraged to wear Gatsby themed clothing.



CONNIE TINILLA WELCOMED the guests to the Great Gatsby Gala.

Gatsby Gala at the Metropolitan

The North Shore Hispanic Chamber of Commerce and the Gold Coast Business Association held their Great Gatsby Gala at the Metropolitan on Oct 19. It was an evening filled with music, dinner, dancing, casino games and raffles. The event was held as a networking opportunity for the chambers and members of the community to gather, have fun and network.



THE GATSBY-THEMED EVENING was filled with music and dancing. Members of the North Shore Hispanic Chamber of Commerce and the Gold Coast Business Association took the opportunity to mingle with one another since many networking opportunities were cancelled by the pandemic.

DONA MORGAN, OF Sea Cliff, donated her work to be included in the night's silent auction.

GLEN COVE
HERALD

HOW TO REACH US

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Zimmerman to lead America to 'do great things'

By LAURA LANE
llane@lherald.com

Robert Zimmerman, an unpaid political commentator for more than a decade for Fox News, CNN and MSNBC, is hoping to become the congressman who will replace Congressman Tom Suozzi, who ran unsuccessfully for governor, in the U.S. House of Representatives.

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. People have told him, he said, that it's his time to make another run for elective office.

It will be the fourth attempt for the Democratic National Committee member of 22 years. Zimmerman ran unsuccessfully for Congress in 1982, when he was just 27. He was a candidate for the State Assembly in 1986 and 1988, and lost both times. Then he took a break from being a candidate to building a successful business.

So why is he running now?

"We are facing the biggest threat to democracy since the Civil War," Zimmerman said. "Everything I believe in is on the line. So many people today feel isolated. And so many families are trying to rebuild after Covid. We need for people to feel safe again."

Zimmerman has advocated for women's reproductive rights, gun safety and LGBTQ rights for decades. Some of that advocacy, which he described as his "mis-

sion in life," has been personal.

"When I grew up in the '70s in Great Neck, it was a very isolating time to be a gay kid," he said. "I even had a former educator suggest conversion therapy to me. I found that political activism gave me a voice after high school and college. It gave me a connection with people."

Although Zimmerman has never held office, his interest in politics dates back to when he was 16, and volunteered to work for the campaign of U.S. Rep. Lester Wolff, who was running for re-election.

Zimmerman learned from Wolff, who impressed him with his ability to connect with people. Wolff had a gift for speaking in front of tough audiences, which Zimmerman said he can do too.

After Zimmerman graduated from Brandeis University, he interrupted his MBA studies at Fordham University to go to Washington, where he worked as a senior aide for Wolff, and then for Rep. James Scheuer.

His experience there will help him to be an effective congressman. Like Wolff, he is committed to building coalitions in Washington.

"It's about listening to people, understanding their concerns and being persistent and aggressive to get the work done," he said.

Zimmerman said he has learned that in order for his advocacy to be successful, people need to see the urgency and the relevance of an issue.

"What I've found is a loss of confi-



Tim Baker/Herald

ROBERT ZIMMERMAN, A Democrat, hopes to be the next U.S. representative filling Tom Suozzi's seat, who ran unsuccessfully for governor.

GLEN COVE HERALD — October 27, 2022

dence that America can do great things," Zimmerman said. "This is a country that saved the world from fascism and put a man on the moon, but people are cynical of the federal government. We have to remember our great legacy as a country."

It's government's responsibility to show its citizens that the country is as great as they are, he continued, and that we can move forward after the coronavirus pandemic.

He is committed to combating gun violence, and would like to replicate state legislation on the federal level, to ban ghost guns and assault weapons and require universal background checks. And gun

manufacturers should be held responsible, since they are "marketing weapons of war."

He would also like to expand voting rights, he said, and would stand up for police, though he would like to see important reforms. Bail laws are in need of reform, too, he said, and judges need more authority.

Zimmerman is for Medicare for all, citing the 23 million Americans who lost their jobs, and with them their health care, during the pandemic.

And he promised to ensure the 3rd District would get its share of the federal infrastructure money.

NEWS BRIEF



Courtesy Tricia McCoy

BUILDING COMMITTEE MEMBERS Bill Lawson, Ron Crowe, Henry K., Nowicki, Alison Fletcher, and Howard Stillman at the Matinecock Rod and Gun Club. The VFW Post received a donation from the GCTA to help rebuild after a fire in 2021.

Donation helps VFW rebuild after fire

The Glen Cove Teachers' Association made a donation to the VFW Post 347 to assist in their rebuilding efforts. The

GCTA appreciates all of the men and women of VFW Post 347 for their courageous service.



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6 Hundreds eagerly attend Herald's Senior Health Expo

BY ALEXA ANDERWKAVICH

aanderwkavich@liherald.com

Guests happily lined up at the Temple Beth Am in Merrick to attend RichnerLIVE and the Herald's Senior Health & Beyond Expo, presented by UnitedHealthcare on Oct. 13, the second in a highly-anticipated series of Expos for 2022.

The free Expo is a multi-faceted event, where a myriad of trusted companies and facilities – as well as budding businesses – share their products and services with the Long Island community.

"It's so nice to have our Expo bring the community together," Executive Director of Corporate Relations & Events at Herald Community Newspapers and RichnerLIVE Amy Amato said. "We're proud to host this series and bring so many innovative services and pioneers in health together for the community to benefit from."

More than 50 vendors lined the lobby and ballroom to share their expertise in wellness, services, lifestyle tips, estate planning and insurance, helpful products, and more. Attendees could also receive a free flu-shot, – provided by Mount Sinai South Nassau and Molloy University nursing students – just in time for the chilly season ahead; enjoy snacks and refreshments – courtesy of Bagel Plaza and Walker's Shortbread; and participate in raffles.

Massages and reiki cleanses from Charmed Eclectic Healing Shoppe put guests at ease – and to take their bodies' abilities higher, a movement session from Club Pilates introduced attendees to the wonderful world of pilates and all the benefits it can offer.

The panel discussion was kicked-off with keynote speaker Michael Krantz, licensed sales representative from UnitedHealthcare, who educated the attendees on how he helps retirees and pre-retirees on their journey through the world of Medicare.

"Medicare in particular is always a complex subject matter and it was an amazing experience to be able to provide information and answer questions at the local community level" UnitedHealthcare Representative Krantz said. "I always look forward to helping those in need of understanding their different options."

Guests also heard from panelists Hannah Glenny, manager of patient engagement strategies at Otsuka Pharmaceuticals; Khurshid Ibrahim, PT, from Long Beach Nursing & Rehabilitation Center (Cassena Care); Dr. Lawrence Cardano, Au.D., from the Hearing Center of Long Island; Jill Wasser, utility consumer program specialist at NYS Department of Public Service; Margaret Gonzalez, senior account manager of business development at Aetna; and Donna Stefans, ESQ., founder and lead attorney at Stefans Law Group.

The audience interacted and asked questions between each speaker, with topic-titles ranging from "Clinical Trials," "Healthy Aging and Your Hearing," "What You Need to Know about Managed Long Term Care," "Posture and How to Lift Heavy Objects" and more.

Dr. Cardano also offered free hearing screenings during the event; attendees

lined the hall patiently awaiting their checkups – one of the many services offered at the expo. Others included senior I.D. cards from the Town of Hempstead with Town Clerk Kate Murray, antique appraisal from Syl-Lee Antiques, and tarot card readings from the Holistic Healing Goddess – who engaged with guests on a mystical plane.

Attendees received a goody bag – courtesy of Grandell Rehabilitation and Nursing Center and Oceanside Care Center – filled with special-event sections, keepsakes, information and a whole bag of bialys from Bell's Brooklyn Bagels.

The Expo was made possible thanks to presenting sponsor United Healthcare; gold sponsors Otsuka Pharmaceuticals and Stefans Law Group; silver sponsors Aetna, Parker Jewish Institute For Health Care and Rehabilitation, Long Beach Nursing and Rehabilitation Center, Hearing Center of Long Island, New York State Department of Public Service, Full Circle Medicaid, refreshment sponsor Long Beach Assisted Living.

Join us at next Senior Health & Beyond Expo on Thursday, Nov. 3 at the Glen Cove YMCA. Call to register at 516-569-4000 ext. 219.



All photos Tim Baker/Herald

ATTENDEES LISTENED INTENTLY as professionals presented on topics such as "Healthy Aging and Your Hearing" and "Medicare Made Clear."



CHRISTINA SAMMARTINO, ESQ. and Lauren Reilly from Stefans Law Group PC raffled off a free Legal Consultation along with a candy tower.



THE TEAM FROM Friends for Life Homecare came with a fun-filled booth with decorations, candy, and prizes.



MOUNT SINAI SOUTH Nassau's team and Molloy University nursing students came out to administer free flu vaccines to the community. There were many engaging activities for the attendees, all of which improved their quality of life.



MANAGER OF PATIENT Engagement Strategies, Hannah Glenny, from Otsuka to speak on "Clinical Trials."



DOUGLAS ELLIMAN REAL Estate Agent, Tiffany Balanoff spent time with attendees on how to navigate the real estate market.



KHURSHID IBRAHIMI, PT answered questions after presenting on the topic of "Posture and Lifting."



HEALTHFIRST'S BOOTH WAS there to provide helpful information to attendees about their available insurance plans.



UNITED HEALTHCARE LICENSED Sales Agent, Michael Krantz; Herald publisher, Stuart Richner; and United Healthcare representative, Joseph Bouquet.



PSEG CAME TO provide educational materials on all things energy.



AETNA SENIOR ACCOUNT manager and speaker Margaret Gonzalez.



PARKER JEWISH INSTITUTE For Health Care and Rehabilitation representatives at the Expo.



NEW HORIZON COUNSELING Center representatives



ATTENDEES WERE ABLE to get a free flu vaccine, courtesy of MSSN and Molly University nursing students.



REPRESENTATIVES FROM HUMANA brought plenty of materials to educate guests on how to select the right health insurance plan.



BEACH TERRACE CARE Center treated guests to donuts and provided information about their services.



SUNHARBOR MANOR GREETED guests at their booth with information on their rehabilitation services.

Bipartisan commission at odds over timeline

October 27, 2022 – GLEN COVE HERALD

CONTINUED FROM FRONT PAGE

ing as this shows that they are either counting on the Republican-controlled Legislature to develop the maps and choose their voters, rather than their voters choosing them and choose what district lines they want to run in," Mejias said.

He added that he feels that Republicans' lack of experts could be a clear sign of neglect of their responsibility to the public. "This is unacceptable, and an insult to the process and the people," Mejias said, "as it gives the people in Nassau County zero time to review the maps and put any concerns or questions they may have on the record."

Republican Commissioner Peter Bee said that his understanding is the commission must prioritize hearing from the public. "The commission spent 20 minutes hearing from the Democratic delegation that their lawyer has told them that a 10-year-old map is illegal," he said.

He added that the commission's first step before drawing maps is to hear from the public as to how they would like the new map to look.

Residents had only three minutes to express their thoughts to the commission, but each spoke impassioned about their concerns.

Karen Moskowitz, the co-chair of the Nassau League of Women Voters Redistricting Committee, was the first to speak, expressing many concerns about the proceedings.

"Today what we've witnessed is an opaque procedure," Moskowitz said. "The public must work to find meeting

Details of future meetings aren't posted in a timely manner, or require layers of click-through to access.

KAREN MOSKOWITZ

co-chair,
Nassau League of Women Voters
Redistricting Committee

details on the official commission website. Details of future meetings aren't posted in a timely manner, or require layers of click-through to access."

Moskowitz was concerned about the plan to introduce proposed maps at 5 p.m. on Nov. 10 and submit them to the legislature three and a half hours later. This effectively eliminates the public's ability to analyze and respond to the maps prior to their submission to the legislature. "Let's make the efforts necessary for a fair redistricting process," she said.

Nassau County has a population of 1.3 million residents in the three towns, two cities, and 64 incorporated villages. The census shows a population decrease in the number of white residents from 73 percent to 58 percent. There is also a 60 percent increase in the Asian communi-

ty, and a 30 percent increase in the Latino community.

The county allocated \$985,000 to the districting commission for mapping technology and to pay experts, legal fees, and other expenses.

At the hearing, the Democratic delegation of the TDAC cited research they tried to present at their last hearing by Dr. Daniel B. Magleby, associate professor at Binghamton University, stating that the current map is illegal and new maps must be developed from scratch.

In Magleby's simulation of 10,000 hypothetical maps which were randomly generated following the current law, he found that none has the level of bias against Democratic voters as the current map.

Commissioner Christopher Devane claimed that the Democrats have resorted to ambushing tactics by not disclosing their PowerPoint presentation before meetings and are trying to delay the redistricting process.

Mejias rebutted Devane's statement, saying, "The only ambush happening here is coming from the government for the Republican delegation on the people of Nassau County."

The evening concluded with a remark by Stephanie Chase, from Rockville Centre. She pleaded for transparency with the redistricting process.

"Everyone has said the same thing. The public would like to see the maps at least two weeks before their turnover," Chase said. "We just hope that you're listening to us."

Yearly mammograms prevent cancer from spreading

CONTINUED FROM FRONT PAGE

an increased risk for breast cancer, but a lack of family history is not protective, or does not negate the possibility of developing breast cancer," Palleschi said.

To serve as a visible reminder that early detection is the best defense against breast cancer, thousands of pink tulip bulbs were planted throughout Glen Cove. The reminder comes from the combined efforts of the nonprofit organization Glen Cove CARES, and the Beautification Commission. The project was created by Terry Petikas, founder of CARES, who enlisted the support of the Beautification Commission.

"Partners in Pink" has become an annual event since that time. Each fall, the bulbs are planted so that when the tulips bloom in the spring the community is reminded of those who have been affected by cancer.

"We give to people who need in ways that health insurance doesn't help them," said Dr. Eve Lupenko, member of Glen Cove CARES and the Beautification Commission.

On average CARES helps three to five people per year with funds up to \$3,000 to offset medical costs, equipment requirements, mortgages, homecare needs, transportation to chemotherapy, and or food costs.

This past year with the pandemic still in place, the organization came to the aide of five people. CARES also donates \$5,000 to \$10,000 per year to the Cold Spring Har-

In the last two years we have supported five victims under 30, a terrible change.

LORRI PRINCE

president, CARES

bor Cancer Research facility, which is committed to exploring the fundamental biology of human cancer.

"Lately we have been getting requests from a much younger age group," said Lorri Prince, CARES president. "In the past two years we have supported five victims under 30, a terrible change."

There are many different types of breast cancer defined by where in the breast they begin, how much they have grown or spread, and how they behave. Ultimately, breast cancer is placed into one of two categories: invasive or noninvasive. Invasive cancers spread into the surrounding breast tissue while noninvasive don't spread beyond the breast tissue where they start.

Female breast cancer is the most diagnosed cancer worldwide, passing lung cancer, according to the American Cancer Society. Statistics from the advocacy group show one in eight women will be diagnosed with cancer in

their lifetime. Nassau County has a breast cancer rate 10 percent higher than the state as a whole. And it is estimated that 118,830 women will be newly diagnosed with cancer this year in New York.

Although breast cancer rates appear higher in Nassau County, Palleschi theorized that women having children at later ages and a family history of breast cancer for women on Long Island, as well as a higher incidence of a genetic predisposition, could be possible factors relating to the higher incidences on the island.

She cautioned that increased alcohol consumption and a higher body mass index are contributing factors.

"We might be just diagnosing cancer more commonly here on Long Island because women do go for their screening mammography," she added.

Mammography is considered the most effective breast cancer screening tests used today, but Palleschi often sees women who are concerned that the radiation exposure may cause breast cancer.

"Although we do know and recognize that there is a small amount of radiation exposure with mammography, certainly the benefits of increased screening at an earlier stage does far outweigh any potential harm from radiation exposure," she said.

Mammography has helped to reduce the risk of breast cancer mortality by nearly 40 percent.

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A promise from Field to advocate for all

By LAURA LANE

llane@liherald.com

Amanda Field is ready to take on the responsibilities that come with being an Assemblywoman.

Having an ability to work in a bipartisan fashion is the key, the Democrat said, and she's been doing that successfully for years as a Plainview water commissioner — and last year as president of the Nassau Suffolk Water Commissioners Association.

"The role I'm going for in this political climate is highly polarized, and there's a lot of finger-pointing," she told reporters at a recent Herald Roundtable session. "I've never seen politics so dirty as it is today. We need to elect leaders that are able to put that noise aside and try to get work done in all the critical areas."

The Old Bethpage resident has knocked on doors for voters from both parties — something Field says other candidates aren't doing. She especially targets inactive voters, many who may have become disillusioned in government, but might start seeing it more positive once they meet her.

"The biggest secret sauce to bringing political parties and people together, I learned from my father," she said. "He always said you have two ears and one mouth. Listen."

She doesn't support "defunding" police. In fact, law enforcement needs more funding and help than ever before, she said, as do courts and the mental health system.

HERALD ROUNDTABLE

Field supports a bill sitting in the senate to more universally divide school taxes. Long Island pays the highest percentage of their school taxes, she said. If this bill were to pass, homeowners wouldn't pay more than 50 percent of their school taxes because there are other districts paying much less. And schools would receive the same assistance as they always have.

There needs to be a "circuit breaker" on taxes for young people and the elderly — a cap on their taxes.

Field doesn't support multifamily housing unless it already exists. Those worried about big developers changing the landscape of their neighborhoods wouldn't have to worry with Field in Albany, as she pledges to keep talks open with developers to ensure there's clarity on what they are planning in terms of commercial real estate.

"When elected, it's important to have open communication with them to see what benefits Long Island and homeowners," she said. "I will make sure commercial stays where commercial is, and the development doesn't impinge on our homes and open spaces."

Field supports strict gun laws, although she stressed that she doesn't support taking guns away from responsible owners.



Tim Baker/Herald

AMANDA FIELD SAYS she has had much success as a water commissioner. Now she wants to bring her talents to the North Shore as an Assemblywoman.

"I work on data and facts, and not myths and headlines in newspapers," she said. "It's really important we keep everyone safe."

The gun laws in New York are practical and feasible, she added. But it's important that ghost guns are not available to anyone.

She does worry about mental health, however, a crisis she describes as a struggle. She's spent years advocating for families and children to have access to such services.

"They should be available at every single school," she said. "What's happening now is they are sharing social workers, psychologists and counselors. Funding needs to be provided for every school to address this. Teachers shouldn't become

social workers. They should be teachers."

She supports women's reproductive rights, and wants to codify those rights into the state constitution. And the state should be a safe haven when it comes to protecting the choices made by women.

Although she is a Democrat, Field says voters should not think of party when they vote. They need to look at who will do the most for their district, and who will better listen to their needs.

"Being in the majority, I would be able to bring things back for New York," Field said. "Being in the minority, you don't have that opportunity. I'm not a career politician, but my experience as a two-term elected commissioner has given me an understanding of how legislation works."

Blumencranz promises to bring fresh perspective

By LAURA LANE

llane@liherald.com

Jake Blumencranz is young and new to the political arena. For some, that actually could be a good thing.

At least the 26-year-old thinks so, and hopes he'll have a chance to fight for his generation as a member of the Assembly.

As part of the Nassau County Police Department Foundation board, he first considered looking into how government works after being upset by the so-called "defund the police" movement. Blumencranz discovered there was little representation in Albany of young professionals — and young people in general.

And as for the issues, the more he looked into them, the more he became convinced government needed his voice.

An insurance advisor by trade, the Oyster Bay resident has committed to running on the Republican and Conservative tickets. But those labels don't fully represent who he is.

"I'm an incredibly centrist candidate on a lot of issues," Blumencranz told reporters during a recent Herald roundtable event. "I'm part of a new wave of Republicans here in New York and nationwide that are important to counteracting extremism on both sides."

He's already has success with bipartisanship at the police foundation, he said, and has a great relationship with people from different political parties. He hopes to bring this and his ideas of improving life

HERALD ROUNDTABLE

for constituents on the North Shore as an Assemblyman.

Blumencranz has what he describes as a four-point plan to cut taxes. He wants to index the state's income tax bracket system, income tax rates dependent on taxable income and filing status. And he hopes to change the way Industrial Development Agency projects, supported by taxes, are funded.

A state mandate to change evaluation standards to lower the costs would decrease taxes, he explained.

Controversial taxation policies should be studied, Blumencranz added, before implementation. He'd like to consider an enhanced school tax relief program to find what will better suit Long Island and its hyperlocal issues that surround school and local taxes.

Working with the police foundation has led Blumencranz to see the importance of technology.

"It's not just men on the ground solving crimes," he said. "It's more how can we use technology to our advantage. How can we use technology that exists to better solve crimes, and how can we look at different forms of policing."

He would like to see problem-oriented police near school grounds as a way to



Tim Baker/Herald

JAKE BLUMENCRAZ IS running to be the North Shore's new Assemblyman. While he might run on the Republican ticket, he does say there's more to him than simply a label.

increase response rates. And although he wouldn't legislate for such officers to be inside schools, Blumencranz said he wouldn't oppose it.

As for arming teachers and administrators? Blumencranz hasn't seen it implemented in a way that would be successful in New York.

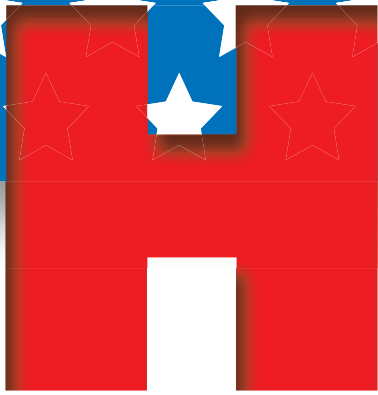
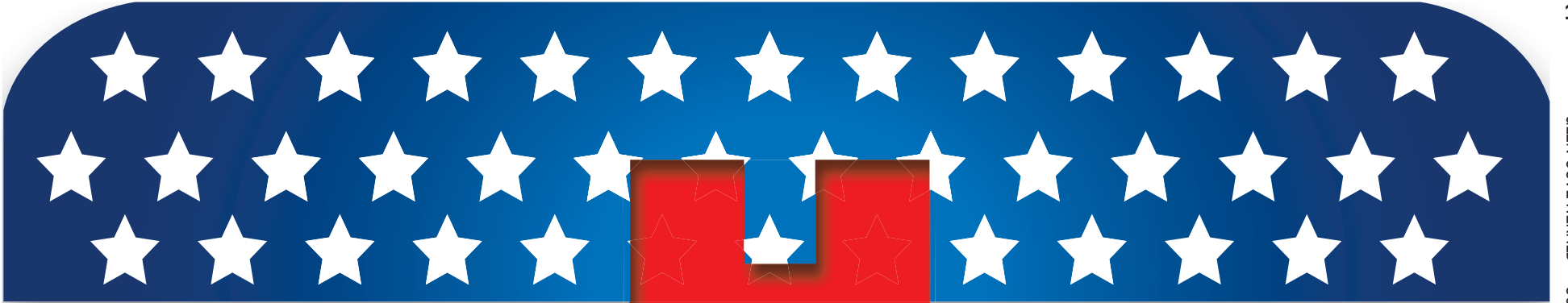
"We are asking the right questions but giving the wrong answers," he said, regarding public safety. "Why aren't correction facilities correcting behavior? We need to look at solutions to decreasing recidivism, how we can treat different criminals in different ways so they can have life after prison and have a more successful stay. They shouldn't be just a holding area."

Unlike the typical Republican, Blumencranz supports abortion rights, and says government shouldn't be involved in attempting to limit access to such procedures.

And even in the GOP, Blumencranz says he's not alone on that stance. "I would fight against it actively if they tried to overturn it."

His first priority, however, is to make sure Long Island is more affordable and a better place to live for the next generation.

"If we don't start doing that, we are in serious trouble here," Blumencranz said. "My beliefs, policy knowledge and education allow me to cross that bridge. To find creative solutions from the world, and bring them here to New York."

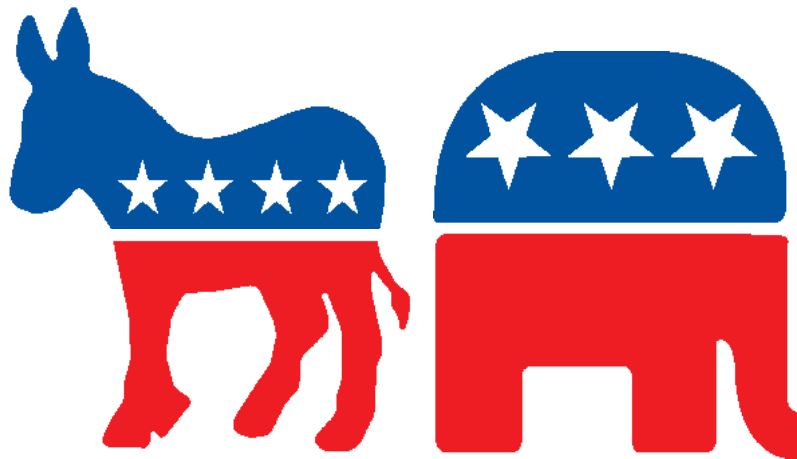


HERALD
Community Newspapers
October 27, 2022

LOCAL
ELECTIONS

★ ★ ★ ★ ★ **GUIDE** ★ ★ ★ ★ ★

CANDIDATE PROFILES, BALLOT INFORMATION AND MORE INSIDE!





ELECTION '22

STATE SUPREME COURT JUSTICE

Stacy Bennett

Party: Democrat

Age: 51

Education: Bachelor's degree from Boston University in 1989, and a juris doctorate from Ohio Northern University in 1992.

Legal career: Began her career as an associate with the Richard M. Weiner & Associates firm in 1992. Became a partner of Jaspán Schlesinger LLP in 2000. Has served as a Nassau County Family Court judge since 2007.

Lisa Cairo

Party: Cross-endorsed

Age: 45

Education: Bachelor's degree from Loyola College in Maryland in 1999, and a law degree from Hofstra University School of Law in 2002

Legal career: Began her career in 2003 as an associate at Chris J. Coshignano P.C., handling civil litigation with a focus on matrimonial cases, municipal applications and real estate transactions. Became an associate at Jaspán Schlesinger in 2006, before earning her way to a partner role in 2011.

C. Stephen Hackeling

Party: Cross-endorsed

Age: 66

Education: Bachelor's degree from SUNY Buffalo in 1978, and a law degree from Albany Law School in 1981

Legal career: Was an attorney with the Macco Law Group LLP between 1983 and 2002. Was a Suffolk County legislator between 1993 and 2000, serving as the presiding officer beginning in 1998-99. Has been a judge in Suffolk County District Court since 2002, acting as county court judge assigned to the supreme court between 2015 and 2018.

Hector LaSalle

Party: None

Age: 50

Education: Bachelor's degree from Pennsylvania State University in 1990, and a juris doctorate from the University of Michigan Law School in 1993.

Legal career: Began his career as an attorney in the Suffolk County District Attorney's Office in 1993. Became the deputy state attorney general in 1999, before becoming a justice a decade later for the Suffolk County supreme court.

Francis Ricigliano

Party: Cross-endorsed

Age: 59

Education: Bachelor's degree from Manhattanville College in 1985, and his juris doctorate from St. John's University in 1988.

Legal career: Is a Nassau County Court judge in Mineola since 2014. Before that, worked at Santangelo, Benvenuto, Slattery.

Frank Tinari

Party: Cross-endorsed

Age: 68

Education: Juris doctorate from Western New England College School of Law in 1980

Legal career: Attorney with Tinari, O'Connell and Osbornme in Central Islip. Worked for the Suffolk County district attorney's office between 1980 and 1985.



ELECTION '22

FAMILY COURT JUSTICES

Joy Watson

Party: Republican

Age: 63

Hometown: Hempstead village

An adjunct professor at Molloy University since 2006, and served as a Nassau County District Court judge since 2013.

She also was the principal law clerk for the state supreme court between 2006 and 2010, and was a teaching fellow at Pepperdine University School of Law.

She was a deputy comptroller for Nassau County between 2010 and 2013, after spending nearly 20 years as an assistant district attorney later becoming a bureau chief.

She was president of the Kiwanis Club of Nassau County Courthouses, the New York Women's Bar Association, and the American Academy for Professional Law Enforcement.

She has said she would institute a no-exception residency policy for prosecutors, and would dismantle the district attorney's Early Case Assessment Bureau, where prosecutors review cases at the time of arrest.

Colin O'Donnell

Party: Republican

Age: 60

Hometown: Bayville

Was an attorney for Oyster Bay Town Supervisor John Venditto, and a former Nassau County assistant district attorney.

He also was a deputy bureau chief for the county district attorney's office. He was a founding partner in a general practice law firm, a special assistant U.S. Attorney.

He has represented the Locust Valley Fire District and the Nassau County DA Investigator's Police Benevolent Association.

He first joined the District Court in 2012. He was president of the Nassau County District Court Judges Association, and board of directors president for the Grenville Baker Boys & Girls Club.

Eileen Gogglin

Party: Democrat

Age: 61

Hometown: Long Beach

Started her legal career as a public defender with the Legal Aid Society.

She is a member of a number of bar associations — including the one for Nassau County — serving as chair of the animal law committee.

She currently serves on the board of directors of Long Beach Reach and Project Challenge.

She has served as Long Beach city councilwoman since 2013, and was a principal law clerk for a Nassau County judge between 2010 and 2014. Before that, she spent seven years as a Nassau County deputy attorney.

She also served as Nassau County special prosecutor on animal abuse cases.

Sylvia Cabana

Party: Democrat

Age: 55

Hometown: Garden City

She is the sole proprietor of a law practice in West Hempstead, specializing in immigration and family law for nearly 20 years.

She belongs to numerous groups, including the Garden City Indivisible for Democracy, Nassau Democratic Women's Caucus and Nassau Bar Association.

She was elected as Hempstead town clerk in 2017.



ELECTION '22

GLEN COVE CITY JUDGE

Joseph Capobianco

Party: Republican and Conservative

Age: 62

Education:

Bachelor's degree from Long Island University in 1982, and law degree from American University in 1985.

Legal career:

A partner at the Garden City-based firm Reisman Peirez Reisman & Capobianco LLP, which he joined in 1990. Specializes in commercial, corporate, bankruptcy and real estate law.

Member of the Glen Cove city council, first elected during a special election in 2014 after Councilman Nick DiLeo's death.

Personal:

Is an active member of the community, serving as a director of the Nassau Health Care Corp. — which operates the Nassau County Medical Center in East Meadow — and was on the managers board for the Glen Cove YMCA.

Married to Anne, who works for Connolly Elementary School, and have three adult children — two of whom are lawyers.



ELECTION '22

COUNTY COURT JUDGE

Teresa Corrigan

Party: Democrat; cross-endorsed

Education: Bachelor's degree from SUNY Albany in 1986, and juris doctorate from New York Law School in 1989.

Legal career: First elected to the county court bench in 2013, and appointed to serve as an acting justice of the Nassau County Supreme Court that same year.

Personal: Girl Scout leader, chair of parent association, and basketball coordinator for the Catholic Youth Organization.

Rhonda Erin Fischer

Party: Republican; cross-endorsed

Education: Bachelor's degree from SUNY Oneonta in 1990, and juris doctorate from Touro College in 1993.

Legal career: First elected to the district court bench in 2008. Started practicing as an associate at the Law Offices of Robert L. Ostrov, later becoming a deputy county attorney for the Nassau County Attorney's Office.

Personal: Member of the Nassau County Bar Association, the Nassau County Women's Bar Association and the Nassau/Suffolk Trial Lawyers Association.

Helene Gugerty

Party: Cross-endorsed

Education: Bachelor's degree from SUNY Albany in 1985, and a juris doctorate from St. John's University School of Law in 1988

Legal career: First elected as a county court judge in 2012, and is an acting justice on the New York State Supreme Court. Was a private practice attorney between 1995 and 2008.

Personal: Has received accolades from the Nassau County Bar Association and the Nassau County Women's Bar Association.

GLEN COVE HERALD — October 27, 2022



ELECTION '22

DISTRICT COURT JUDGE

Jaclene Agazarian

District: 1

Education: CUNY School of Law

Legal career: Nassau County Matrimonial Center in Mineola.

Marie McCormack

District: 2

Education: Boston College Law School

Legal career: Court attorney referee in the Nassau County Supreme Court, presiding over matrimonial trials.

Michael Montesano

District: 4

Education: Bachelor's degree from St. John's University, and law degree from CUNY School of Law at Queens College in 1989.

Legal career: Former detective with New York Police Department, started own private practice law firm in 1990. Served as acting village justice and a village prosecutor for Roslyn Harbor. Assemblyman since 2010.

Joseph Nocella

District: 2

Education: Bachelor's degree from Fordham University, and juris doctorate from Columbia Law School.

Legal career: Sitting district court judge, and former town attorney for Oyster Bay and Hempstead. Former litigation associate for White & Case LLP, and Dewey Ballantine LLP. Was a district court, and served as an Assistant U.S. Attorney in the U.S. Justice Department's criminal division.

Geoffrey Prime

District: 2

Education: Bachelor's degree from SUNY Old Westbury, and a law degree from Pace University.

Legal career: A criminal defense attorney, founder of Prime & O'Brien in Garden City. Former mayor of South Floral Park, and a former chair of Nassau Community College's board of directors. Formerly worked in the Nassau County District Attorney's Office.

Norman Sammut

District: 2

Education: Bachelor's degree and juris doctorate from Fordham University.

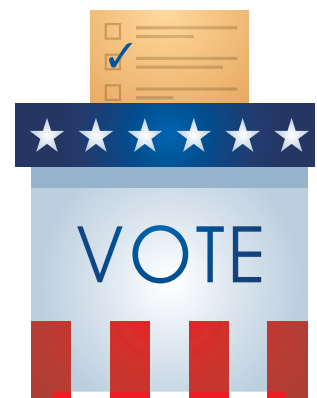
Legal career: Practicing attorney for more than 30 years at his own Garden City law firm, concentrating in estate planning, estate administration, elder planning and business planning

Arieh Schulman

District: 2

Education: Bachelor's degree from Yeshiva University, and juris doctorate from Touro Law School.

Legal career: Senior Assistant District Attorney in the appeals bureau of the Kings County District Attorney's Office, and was a counsel to the Nassau County executive.

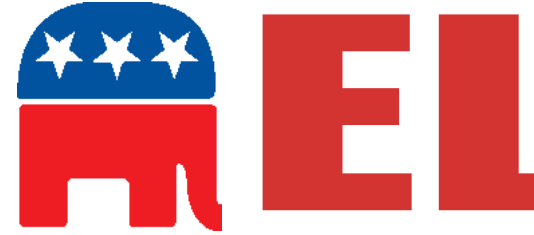




GENERAL ELECTION CANDIDATES



November 08, 2022
NASSAU COUNTY
BOARD OF ELECTIONS
GLEN COVE



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Governor

Gobernador Vote for One (1)
DEM, WFP REP, CON
 Kathy C. Hochul Lee Zeldin

Lieutenant Governor

Teniente Gobernador Vote for One (1)
DEM, WFP REP, CON
 Antonio Delgado Alison Esposito

Comptroller

Contralor Vote for One (1)
DEM, WFP REP, CON
 Thomas P. DiNapoli Paul Rodriguez

Attorney General

Procurador General Vote for One (1)
DEM, WFP REP, CON
 Letitia A. James Michael Henry

U.S. Senator

A Nosotros. Senador Vote for One (1)
DEM, WFP LaROUCHE
 Charles E. Schumer Diane Sare
REP, CON
 Joe Pinion

State Supreme Court Justice

Juez de la Corte Suprema del Estado Vote for up to Six (6)
DEM, REP, CON
 Hector D. La Salle Steve Hackeling Frank A. Tinari
 Stacy D. Bennett Lisa A. Cairo Fran Ricigliano

County Court Judge

Juez de la corte del condado Vote for Three (3)
DEM, REP, CON
 Helene F. Gugerty Teresa Corrigan
 Rhonda Erin Fischer

Family Court Judge

Juez del tribunal de familia Vote for Four (4)
DEM, REP, CON
 Joy M. Watson Eileen J. Goggin
 Colin F. O'Donnell Sylvia A. Cabana

District Court Judge

Juez de la corte de distrito **Dist. 1** Vote for One (1)
DEM, REP, CON
 Jaclene Agazarian

District Court Judge

Juez de la corte de distrito **Dist. 2** Vote for One (1)
DEM, REP, CON
 Norman A. Sammut Joseph Nocella, Jr.
 Marie F. McCormack Arieh D. Schulman
 Geoffrey N. Prime

District Court Judge

Juez de la corte de distrito **Dist. 4** Vote for One (1)
DEM, REP, CON
 Michael A. Montesano

Representative in Congress

Representante en el Congreso **Dist. 2** Vote for One (1)
DEM, WFP REP, CON
 Jackie Gordon Andrew R. Garbarino

Representative in Congress

Representante en el Congreso
DEM, WFP
 Robert P. Zimmerman

Representative in Congress

Representante en el Congreso
DEM
 Laura A. Gillen

State Senator

Senador estatal
DEM, WFP
 John E. Brooks

State Senator

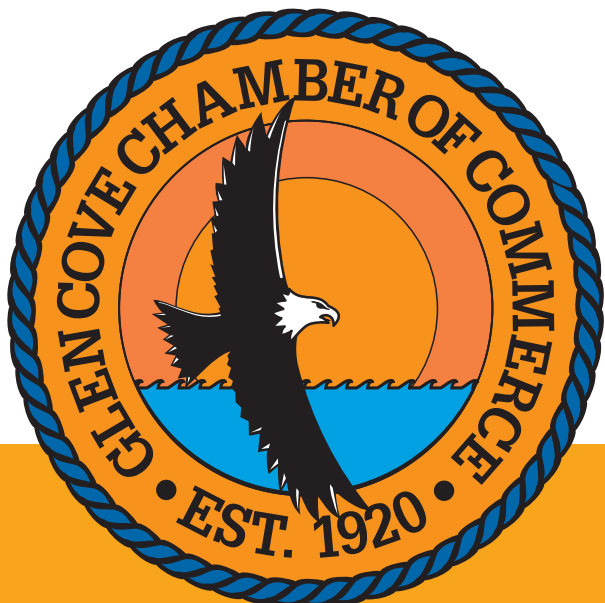
Senador estatal
DEM, WFP
 Kevin M. Thomas

State Senator

Senador estatal
DEM, WFP
 Anna M. Kaplan

State Senator

Senador estatal
DEM, WFP
 Kenneth M. Moore



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ELECTION '22



actual ballot, but a composite of several sample ballots so as to reflect all the districts within the communities covered
d. **Specific candidates for Glen Cove are identified in blue.** Complete reporting on candidates running in districts covered by the
Herald.com under the Elections '22 tab. For election results after the polls close Tuesday night, go to LIHerald.com

Congress **Dist. 3**
Vote for One (1)

REP, CON
 George A.D. Santos

Congress **Dist. 4**
Vote for One (1)

REP, CON
 Anthony P. D'Esposito

Congress **Dist. 5**
Vote for One (1)

REP, CON
 Steven D. Rhoads

Congress **Dist. 6**
Vote for One (1)

REP, CON
 James L. Coll

Congress **Dist. 7**
Vote for One (1)

REP, CON
 Jack M. Martins

Congress **Dist. 9**
Vote for One (1)

REP, CON
 Patricia M. Canzoneri - Fitzpatrick

Member of Assembly **Dist. 13**
Vote for One (1)
Miembro de Asamblea

DEM, WFP | REP, CON
 Charles D. Lavine | Ruka Anzai

Member of Assembly **Dist. 14**
Vote for One (1)
Miembro de Asamblea

DEM | REP, CON
 Dustin Scott Ginsberg | David G. McDonough

Member of Assembly **Dist. 15**
Vote for One (1)
Miembro de Asamblea

DEM | REP, CON
 Amanda R. Field | Jake Ryan Blumencranz

Member of Assembly **Dist. 17**
Vote for One (1)
Miembro de Asamblea

DEM | REP, CON
 Paul R. Kaminsky | John K. Mikulin

Member of Assembly **Dist. 18**
Vote for One (1)
Miembro de Asamblea

DEM, WFP | REP, CON
 Taylor R. Darling | LaMont E. Johnson

Member of Assembly **Dist. 19**
Vote for One (1)
Miembro de Asamblea

DEM | REP, CON
 Sanjeev Kumar Jindal | Edward P. Ra

Member of Assembly **Dist. 20**
Vote for One (1)
Miembro de Asamblea

DEM, WFP | REP, CON
 Michael A. Delury | Eric Ari Brown

Member of Assembly **Dist. 21**
Vote for One (1)
Miembro de Asamblea

DEM | REP, CON
 Judy A. Griffin | Brian F. Curran

Member of Assembly **Dist. 22**
Vote for One (1)
Miembro de Asamblea

DEM, WFP | REP, CON
 Michaelle C. Solages | Cara J. Castronuova

City Judge, City of Glen Cove
Juez de la ciudad, ciudad de Glen Cove

DEM, REP, CON
 Joseph Capobianco

Council Member, Town of Hempstead **Dist. 3**
Vote for One (1)
Miembro del Consejo, Ciudad de Hempstead

DEM | REP, CON
 Anthony Cruz | Melissa L. Miller

Complete reporting on candidates running in districts covered by the Herald may be found at LIHerald.com under the Elections '22 tab. For election results after the polls close Tuesday night, go to LIHerald.com

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STATE SENATE DISTRICT 7

Political Experience:

State senator

On the issues:

Proposed legislation establishing an educational program to prevent antisemitism as well as discrimination based on religion, race, sexual orientation or gender identity or expression. To address antisemitism and Holocaust misinformation, she supported the Holocaust Education Bill intended to ensure all students in New York are educated on the history of the Holocaust.

Has been an advocate for equality, and calls herself an ally to the LGBTQ+ community. When the U.S. Supreme Court laid out a path to overturn marriage equality, she co-sponsored the Equal Rights Amendment to begin the process of amending the state constitution to enshrine marriage equality protections.

After the Supreme Court



Anna Kaplan

Party: Democrat
Age: 57
Lives in: Great Neck

overturned Roe v. Wade, backtracking from federal protections to abortion access, she wrote a new law protecting medical professionals who provide legal abortions to out-of-state patients, making New York a safe haven for women in need of care. She has advocated expanding programs and services to support breastfeeding, increased access to mammograms, and criminalized so-called

“revenge porn.”

She is an advocate for gun safety legislation, helping to author New York’s ban on unregistered and untraceable ghost guns. She co-sponsored new laws raising the age to buy semiautomatic rifles and creating a new permitting process to restrict who may carry a concealed weapon. She also championed \$224 million funding for gun violence prevention programs, including for local law enforcement.

Career:

Attorney and politician

Political Experience:

State senator between 2011 and 2016; was mayor of Mineola

On the issues:

A fiscal conservative who believes that cutting taxes and controlling spending are the best ways to grow the economy and create jobs, as a senator, says he voted for the law creating the state’s property tax cap while also voting to cut income taxes for middle-class homeowners.

He says he voted to repeal the Metropolitan Transportation Authority payroll tax for small businesses and schools, and supported repealing the MTA payroll tax in its entirety. He authored laws intended to reduce busing costs for school districts, and to create a truss notification system to improve safety for volunteer



Jack Martins

Party: Republican
Age: 55
Lives in: Old Westbury

firefighters.

Describing himself a supporter of first responders and veterans, he authored the law creating the state’s Homeless Veterans Assistance Fund, which allows for voluntary donations through state income tax returns to help protect homeless veterans.

He voted against allowing same-sex marriage in New York in 2011, although it ultimately passed the

senate — and was later signed into law — by a 33-29 vote.

He says he urged officials to take action in response to incidents of antisemitism against students and faculty on CUNY campuses.

He has been a vocal opponent of the state’s rollout of Common Core education principles. To help combat the growing heroin epidemic on Long Island, he authored bills intended to enhance law enforcement’s ability to investigate opioid prescription fraud.



CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT 3

Career:

Co-founder and co-president of ZE Creative Communications

Political Experience:

Democratic National Committee member for 22 years. Former senior aide to U.S. Rep. Lester Wolff.

On the issues:

Is an advocate for women’s reproductive rights, referring to it as “human rights.” Supports a woman’s right to a safe abortion, calling it a decision between a woman and her doctor.

Vows to protect LGBTQ+ rights, promising to ensure every child be accepted for who they are. Will fight against LGBTQ bigotry in Congress.

Supporting Israel is personal to him, and is committed to advocating for a two-state solution to resolve the Middle East conflict. Also supports and promote policies to ensure Iran never obtains nuclear weapons.



Robert Zimmerman

Party: Democrat
Age: 67
Lives in: Great Neck

He recognizes climate change is a unique threat to Long Island because of potential flooding, water and air quality issues. He is committed to using federal funds to renovate and expand environmental infrastructure.

Believes affordable health care should be available to everyone. He supports Medicare for All and wants to lower the age for Medicare eligibility, allow it to be available

for children and spouses, and lower the cost of prescription drugs by allowing government to negotiate with pharmaceutical companies.

He supports the Prescription Drug Price Relief Act, which proposes to reduce drug prices and cap life-saving medications like insulin. He’d also like Medicare to cover dental, vision and hearing care, while pharmaceutical companies pay the price for unexpected bills, hidden deductibles and co-pays.

Career:

Finance

Political Experience:

None

On the issues:

He says he’ll bring law and order back to New York where he believes crime is spiraling out of control.

His top priority will be to defend and fund law enforcement, as well as ensure officers are treated with dignity and respect. He is against cashless bail, believing criminals should be held accountable for what they have done.

He wants to secure the southern border to stop crime and drugs coming to Long Island, which he has characterized as a plague. He is committed to reducing regulations he believes will lower inflation and move the country’s economy forward.

People will not only survive if he is in Washington, he says, but also thrive. He wants to lower taxes in New York,



George Santos

Party: Republican
Age: 34
Lives in: Whitestone, Queens

believing that Washington spending is frivolous. He supports a flat tax rate he says will not only lower taxes, but make the tax process simpler.

He pledges to cut marginal income tax rates, capital gains tax rates, corporate income tax rates, and eliminate the death tax. Believes that if government is reduced from the local level to the top, taxes will be reduced.

Supports what he describes as energy

independence, which he says will create thousands of jobs and reduce the cost of living. He believes we should learn from the coronavirus pandemic and come up with a plan for future pandemics. Measures need to be created to ensure that personal protective equipment stockpiles are in place.

He believes state governments need to be monitored to ensure they are not abusing the resources and funds that they are given to prepare for disasters.



ASSEMBLY DISTRICT 13

Career:

Criminal defense lawyer

Political Experience:

Glen Cove city council; Assemblyman since 2005

On the issues:

On the issues: Wants to further restrict gun ownership, especially "ghost guns" — self-assembled firearms without a serial number. Has also backed higher penalties on criminals using high-capacity firearms and help stop the trafficking of illegal weapons into the state.

He is against capital punishment, and supports drug law reform, including the establishment of mandatory treatment programs as well as more humane incarceration practices.

On education, he has supported



Charles Lavine

Party: Democrat
Age: 75
Lives in: Glen Cove

legislation limiting tuition increases by SUNY colleges. He also supports increased education funding statewide.

Supports programs and funds to provide low-interest loans to small businesses, such as the Small Business Revolving Loan fund and the Excelsior jobs program.

Wants more open and efficient government.

On the environment, has supported a number

of bills authorizing the use of state funds for conservation and recycling programs. He also supports moratoriums on hydraulic fracking, supporting the current three-year prohibition.

Champions access to affordable, high-quality health care in the state, regardless of socioeconomic background.

Ruka Anzai's campaign could not be reached to provide further information on the candidate, and has released few details on her candidacy to the public. But supports funding police, and blames bail reform for higher crime rates.

THE GREAT BOOK GURU

Crisis averted?

Dear Great Book Guru,
What a fun-filled Sea Cliff weekend we just had. The rained out, much beloved Mini Mart was reinvented on a smaller, more intimate scale at Roslyn Park in conjunction with St Luke's Fall Bazaar. In addition, the Friends of the Sea Cliff Library with Mike Lennon in command hosted an Artifacts sale on the Village Green. What fun it was! But now I am looking for something good to read. Any suggestions?

—Fall Festival Fan

Dear Fall Festival Fan,

I just finished a compelling, albeit terrifying, novel by Celeste Ng, "Our Missing Hearts." Unlike Ng's earlier, very popular novel, "Little Fires Everywhere," this is a truly dystopian tale. Narrated in part by a Noah, twelve-year old boy, or as he is sometimes called, "Bird," and by his mother, Margaret, the novel is set slightly in the future after a "crisis" — an economic

and societal breakdown, has occurred. To keep peace and end the violence, a common enemy is identified, families are cautioned to educate their children in the new ways, books are banned, and those that question the draconian laws are mysteriously sent away.

Bird's mother had been identified as a dissident because of her poetry, and to protect her family, she flees their Boston home leaving behind Bird and his father, Ethan, a linguistics teacher at Harvard. Much of the novel recounts Bird and Margaret's quest to reunite, but the most disturbing part of the story is the indifference shown by

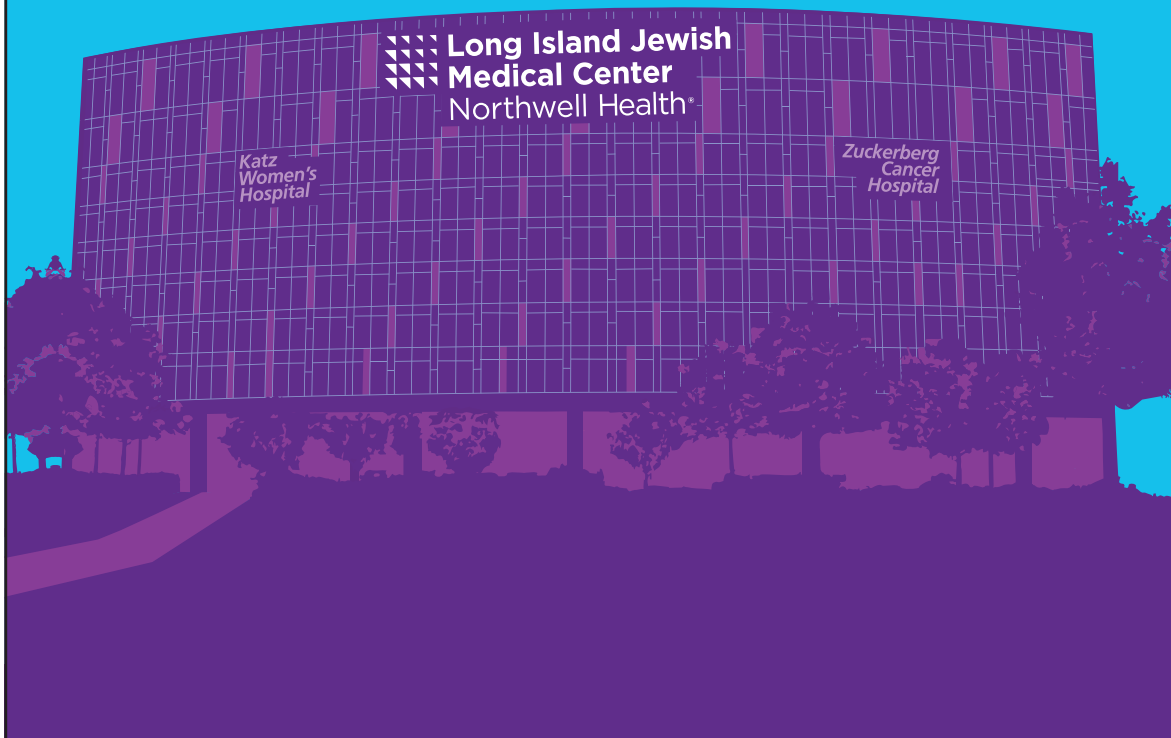
much of the population to the extreme injustices that abound. Interestingly, libraries are shown as beacons of enlightenment and a continuing means to right society's wrongs. Highly recommended!

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



ANN DIPIETRO

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Northwell.edu/NoLimits



Kaplan strong for law, order, rights of women

By WILL SHEELINE

wsheeline@iherald.com

If Democrats are indeed soft on crime like many Republicans claim, Anna Kaplan makes it clear that list doesn't include her.

The incumbent state senator has reiterated her support for

local police organizations across New York — something that, at least in the case of unions like the police unions for New York City and state troopers, is mutual.

Kaplan told reporters at a recent Herald Roundtable session it's important law enforcement agencies get more funding. With that kind of money, they'll be better trained and better prepared to protect their neighborhoods and communities.

It also would go a long way to change a lot of the public perception of police, which hasn't been great in recent years.

"I want everyone to know that I support fully funding our law enforcement," Kaplan said. "Period. I have brought back millions for our law enforcement for them to get the tools they need to keep our communities safe."

That safety, however, also involves keeping guns off the streets, and out of the hands of those who shouldn't have them in the first place. She highlights that through her efforts to restrict the sale of "ghost guns" — self-assembled guns without serial numbers — in the state.

Although she doesn't commit to banning the sale and license to own military-

HERALD ROUNDTABLE

grade weapons like AR-15s, Kaplan did say she'll intend to continue her fight to rid the state of illegal and unmonitored firearms.

"I think banning ghost guns was a big deal," the senator said. "It was one of my proudest moments, getting that through the finish line and getting it signed by the governor."

But for military-grade weapons? That "is a conversation that we're having, and if my residents want that, I'm more than happy to have that conversation."

However, there is a limit to where Kaplan wants police — like on school campuses, citing data she says suggests there is no safety benefit to students. Even more, adding guns to schools also won't solve the problem of school shooters, something evidenced by what happened last spring with the elementary school shooting in Uvalde, Texas.

What does belong in schools, however, are books, Kaplan said. All of them. She doesn't support banning books, something she has already experienced firsthand in a negative way as a religious refugee from Iran.

For Kaplan, banning books is an affront to the freedom and beliefs of the United States.

"I came to this country because of the



Tim Baker/Herald

ANNA KAPLAN EMPHASIZED her continued support for law enforcement, while also highlighting the importance of building a relationship between police and their communities in her efforts to get re-elected to the state senate.

value of democracy," she said. "We can have different philosophies, and we can always have different views. But I sure hope America's never recognized as a country that allows banning books."

One of her strongest stances, however, has been with abortion access and women's health care rights — especially in light of last summer's ruling from the U.S. Supreme Court that essentially overturned federal protections granted through *Roe v. Wade*.

Kaplan doubled down on the importance of codifying women's right to an abortion in New York, such as with the Equal Rights Amendment, which she

helped initially pass. This amendment to the state constitution prohibits discrimination by the government against a wide range of minority groups, and prevents the government from restricting reproductive autonomy. But it won't be effective until it makes it through the state legislature.

"It is something that I believe very strongly in, and was one of the main reasons I ran for this seat," Kaplan said. "I wanted to codify *Roe* and abortion into our state law. It is imperative that we pass (the Equal Rights Amendment) again, and put it out to a vote so that we can enshrine it into our constitution."

Martins hopes to return fiscal responsibility

By WILL SHEELINE

wsheeline@iherald.com

A lot has happened since Jack Martins left the state senate in 2016. Some of it has been for good, but it's the bad that has prompted the Republican to try once again for his old job in Albany.

Government spending has gone up significantly, yet that money has not found its way back to the people.

That has left small businesses high and dry, Martins said, and it will need him and other GOPers to take control, cut spending, and streamline the process for small business owners to get licenses and permits.

"Like everything else, it comes down to cutting red tape and cutting spending," Martins recently told reporters during a Herald Roundtable session. "Although we have a \$220 billion budget, at the end of the day, that gets spent on different programs, although there's certainly not enough that's getting spent on small businesses."

During his tenure in the senate, the legislature had agreed to limit state spending increases to 2 percent of the yearly revenue, asserting this kind of fiscal discipline has been lax in the last few years. And that spending hasn't been responsible either, Martins said, leaving government services understaffed and poorly operated.

"Although spending has increased,

HERALD ROUNDTABLE

things like spending on adding additional personnel to these agencies to allow for quicker turnaround times just hasn't materialized," Martins said. "They are spending, it's just not showing up in a way that actually makes sense."

A lot of that emphasis seems to instead be directed toward more eco-friendly energy systems, such as wind and solar. But while Martins is for climate-oriented initiatives, he worries New York may be pushing too hard and too fast. While leaving the world a clean and healthy place is a priority, it can't risk compromising the energy requirements and safety of the people the legislature is charged to represent.

For example, the All Electric Buildings Act is intended to prohibit new buildings under seven stories that are not all electric beginning in 2024, to be expanded to all buildings over seven stories two years later. But moving to less well-established power sources could cause serious problems, Martins said, from higher electricity costs to blackouts.

"I think sometimes in the urge to get to a certain result, people in the legislature haven't thought about the consequences of making certain decisions without hav-



Tim Baker/Herald

JACK MARTINS CLAIMS the rise in government spending since 2016 has been catastrophic for New York businesses, and plans to cut government expenditure if he's allowed another chance in the state senate.

ing something in place," Martins said. "The idea of changing and moving to a different paradigm without making sure we are secure I think is foolhardy. And the risk is borne by all of us."

Martins has promised to defend women's right to abortion and health care access, which puts him at odds with fellow Republicans. It's a right he thinks

about a lot, but won't support expanding laws past what the original U.S. Supreme Court decision of *Roe v. Wade* originally allowed.

"I have not voted against reproductive rights, I have supported a woman's right to choose," Martins said. "I will protect my daughters' right to make a choice for themselves."

STEPPING OUT

Musical mayhem

Swinging to a cartoon 'beat'

By Karen Bloom

Expect the unexpected when The Queen's Cartoonists are on stage.

When the six musicians who make up TQC are performing, traditional boundaries of what we know as a "concert" are redefined. The Queens-based band — thus the name — has found inspiration in synchronizing jazz tunes and classical composers to classic and contemporary animation.

For Artistic Director Joel

Pierson — a trained pianist-keyboardist-composer with a Ph.D. in musical composition — TQC is an expression of his personality and desire to reach a broader audience.

"I was looking for a way to expose audiences to jazz and classical music, without alienating the more traditional, older concert-going audience," he says. "One day I noticed that there was some overlap between the golden age of Jazz and the golden age of animation, and bam!"

In 2015, Pierson — who had established himself as an in-demand musician collaborating with artists as diverse as the New York Philharmonic, the Kronos Quartet, the Philly Pops, the Cleveland Orchestra, Linkin Park, Ke\$ha, and even Wayne Newton — recruited his fellow bandmates and The Queen's Cartoonists emerged. They play in front of a screen, where classic cartoons, cult favorites and modern animated films are projected. The band either recreates a cartoon's soundtrack note-for-note — performing works from jazz composers like Carl Stalling, Raymond Scott and Duke Ellington alongside classical giants like Mozart, Rossini and Richard Strauss — or write their own fresh compositions to accompany the on-screen action.

Tying everything together is TQC's unique brand of comedy — anecdotes about the cartoons and their composers, humor, and elements of what Pierson describes as a "musical circus."

TQC was founded in search of an answer to the question: Is it possible to create jazz and classical

music in the 21st century that appeals to everyone? Pierson, with his bandmates Greg Hammontree (trumpet, trombone), Mark Phillips (clarinet, soprano saxophone), Drew Pitcher (flute, tenor saxophone), Rossen Nedelchev (drums), and Malik McLaurine (bass), are confident they've arrived at the answer, breathing new life into two uniquely American forms of art: jazz and animation. The Queen's Cartoonists are fresh off

a 30-day residency at the Edinburgh Fringe Festival, about which Fringe Review wrote, "The whole show is a treat for the eyes and ears. It is a thoroughly entertaining hour that leaves the audience wanting more."

Pierson describes their performances as a "theatrical

concert."

"It is mainly focused on presenting characters from classical American animation. But there are also contemporary elements, plus the 'musical circus' that people didn't know they wanted to see," he adds.

"There are a lot of classical themes, but a lot of the material is played in an old jazz style à la Raymond Scott and John Kirby, our two biggest influences."

He describes his ensemble as "a good old-fashioned jazz band." But there is nothing old-fashioned about their performances.

"We will screen about 15 films and perform their soundtracks. Everything is highly energetic and synchronized. It's hard to talk about — you just have to see it."

Don't leave the kids at home.

"While this show is not constructed for children, kids will totally enjoy it," Pierson adds. "The show should keep people guessing from start to finish. I want people to think they've never seen anything like it before. For younger audiences, I hope this is an introduction to concert halls and also a reminder that music can be both serious and fun."



- Friday, Oct. 28, 8 p.m.
- Tilles Center for the Performing Arts, LIU Post, Route 25A, Brookville
- Tickets are \$40; available at (516) 299-3100 or TillesCenter.org or Ticketmaster.com



Photos courtesy Lindsey Thoeng / Lauren Desberg

Top photo: Artistic director Joel Pierson offers up a unique interpretation of pop culture.

Bottom photos: Classic and modern cartoons come alive with The Queen's Cartoonists' expressive virtuosity.



'A Flea in Her Ear'

There are plenty of laughs to be had in Nassau Community College's theatre department's production of Georges Feydeau's farcical French confection. Set in Paris in 1900, life insurance executive Victor Chandebise becomes the subject of an elaborate ruse concocted by his wife, Raymonde. She suspects that her husband's sudden lack of passion in the bedroom signifies that he is cheating on her. With the help of her best friend, Lucienne, Raymonde writes Victor an anonymous letter, requesting a meeting at the dubious Frisky Puss Hotel. As is the case with stories of mistaken identity, hilarity ensues as Raymonde, Victor, Lucienne and a host of other characters gather, everybody wondering what on earth is going on.

Thursday through Saturday, Oct. 27-29, 7:30 p.m.; Sunday, Oct. 30, 2 p.m. Nassau Community College, Mainstage Theatre, Garden City. Tickets \$10; NCC students free with valid ID; \$8, veterans, alumni, seniors 60-plus, students and NCC employees. Tickets available at Nassau. BookTix.com.



Valerie June

Memphis singer-songwriter Valerie June has taken the music world by storm with her atmospheric mix of blues, soul and African rhythms. She blends these with traditional Appalachian elements into a refreshingly timeless sound. Finding recognition with her breakout fourth album, 2013's 'Pushin' Against the Stone,' Valerie carried on her success with 2017's 'The Order of Time.' With her unmistakable raspy vocals, innovative and gorgeous instrumentation, she has curated a dedicated fan base across the globe, garnering critical acclaim along the way. Not only is her music intoxicating, but June is also famed for her dynamic live performances.

Friday, Nov. 4, 8 p.m. \$46, \$40, \$36. Jeanne Rimsky Theater at Landmark on Main Street, 232 Main St., Port Washington. (516) 767-6444 or LandmarkOnMainStreet.org.

THE SCENE



Nov. 4

Blue Öyster Cult

The rock legends visit NYCB Theatre at Westbury, 960 Brush Hollow Rd., Westbury, with ex-Grand Funk Railroad frontman Mark Farner, Friday, **Nov. 4**, 8 p.m. Pioneering the heavy metal style while providing inspiration to psychedelic jam bands and arena rockers alike, genre-benders Blue Öyster Cult offer a taste of the wild side. They've been known to incorporate elements of science-fiction and dark occultism into their show; this allegiance to dynamic and masterful performances has led to the group to be covered by Metallica and HIM to moe. For information/tickets, visit TheTheatreAtWestbury.com or LiveNation.com or call (516) 247-5200.

Mount Sinai Vaxmobile flu/ Covid vaccines

The Mount Sinai South Nassau Vaxmobile, in partnership with the Town of Hempstead, expands outreach to seniors to provide no-cost flu and Covid-19 booster vaccines. The schedule includes: Tuesday, **Nov. 1**, Green Acres Senior Center; Thursday, **Nov. 3**, Levittown Senior Center; Friday, **Nov. 4**, Merrick Senior Center; Thursday, **Nov. 10**, Uniondale Hempstead Senior Center; Tuesday, **Nov. 15**, Bellmore Senior Center; Friday, **Nov. 17**, Uniondale Merrick Senior Center. The Vaxmobile offers the Pfizer-BioNTech bivalent vaccine to individuals 12 and older. Current CDC guidance says that it is safe to get both the Covid and flu vaccines together, even during the same visit to doctor or pharmacy. All vaccine recipients must show proof of age; ages six months to 17 must be accompanied by a parent or legal guardian. For information, visit SouthNassau.org or Facebook @ MountSinaiSouthNassau. To schedule an appointment, go to SouthNassau.org/sn/vaxmobile, call Mount Sinai South Nassau Community Education at (516) 377-5333 or email vaxmobile@snch.org.

Oct. 29

Funky tunes

Get in the groove with the Dave Diamond Funk Experience, Saturday, **Oct. 26**, 8 p.m., at Sill Partners, 225 Sea Cliff Ave. Enjoy a mix of rootsy Americana and funk and classic rock. For information, contact (516) 200-9229.

Nov. 5

Be A Good Neighbor

The Love Your Neighbor Project is hosting a free social experiment called Be A Good Neighbor: The Listening Project Saturday, **Nov. 5** from 1 to 4 p.m. at Saint Luke's Parish & Community Hall, located at 253 Glen Avenue in Sea Cliff. Attendees will learn to listen and communicate more effectively, and see people through their lenses to better understand the diverse thoughts and varied beliefs that create a vibrant community. Registration is limited, and those interested must register before Nov. 1 at lmph.org/tlp.

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Sunday, November 6 at 1 PM



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Music on the terrace

Visit Bailey Arboretum, at 194 Bayville Rd., in Lattingtown, Saturday, **Nov. 5** from 1 to 4 p.m. for an afternoon of music on the terrace. Tickets for Bailey Arboretum members are available on their website, and anyone interested can become a member by visiting BaileyArboretum.org. Tickets include a performance by Live Stock, complimentary beer, wine and hot cider, event admission and parking. Attendees are encouraged to bring a picnic or snacks to enjoy with their complimentary beverages.



Double Double Toil and Trouble

Families can celebrate the spooky season by brewing up a magical potion bottle to take home at the drop-in program, Saturday, **Oct. 29**, 12-2 p.m. Suitable for ages 3 and up. Long Island Children's Museum, Museum Row, Garden City. (516) 224-5800 or LICM.org.



Nov. 1 **Art talk**

Join Nassau County Museum Director Charles A. Riley II, PhD, for a Director's Seminar, Tuesday, **Nov. 1**, 4 p.m. He'll discuss "The Persistence of Surrealism," which highlights the drama and poetry of the Surrealist movement, along with masterworks of painting and sculpture. Participation is limited; registration required. Nassau County Museum of Art, 1 Museum Dr., Roslyn Harbor. (516) 484-9337 or NassauMuseum.org.

Theodore Roosevelt and the Tennis Cabinet

Stop by Christ Church Parish Hall, located at 61 East Main St., in Oyster Bay, for a discussion with Michael Patrick Cullinane Thursday, **Oct. 27** 7 p.m., organized by The Friends of Sagamore Hill in honor of Theodore Roosevelt's 166th birthday. Cullinane discusses why Theodore Roosevelt looms large in the American consciousness. Beverages, Roosevelt family culinary treats and birthday cake will be served.

Home by Midnight

Head over to Still Partners, at 225 Sea Cliff Avenue, Saturday, **Oct. 29** for a night of rock and roll with the Dave Diamond Funk Experience, from 8 to 11 p.m. Enjoy a mix of rootsy Americana and funk and classic rock, no entry fee required.

Fall Fashion Show

Following the success of Hummingbird's Spring/Summer 2021 show, the boutique is holding its second fashion show, Monday, **Nov. 14**, at Sea Cliff Yacht Club, 42 The Boulevard in Sea Cliff, from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. Celebrity stylist and Hummingbird owner Suzette LaValle announced the show 'If On A Winter's Night A Traveler' includes four segments featuring over 30 looks. For info, contact (646) 281-4029.

Oct. 1-31

Donations for children

The Glen Cove Public Library, located at 4 Glen Cove Avenue in Glen Cove, will be accepting donations of new pajamas and winter wear for children from birth to age 12 **throughout the month of October**. Donations can be given in the Children Room, for questions call the library at (516) 676-2130.



Centuries of whaleboats on Long Island

Head to the Whaling Museum & Education Center of Cold Spring Harbor, at 301 Main Street, Saturday, **Nov. 5**, noon to 1 p.m., to discuss the history of whaling. Learn more about whaling and its history on Long Island during this educational gallery talk. For more information, call the museum at (631) 367-3418.

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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**HERALD
Inside LI**

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STATE OF NEW YORK
INDEX NO. 001921/2014
COUNTY OF NASSAUSUN WEST MORTGAGE
COMPANY INC
Plaintiff,

vs.

GERRY MONTESSANO

A/K/A GENNARO

MONTESSANO AS HEIR AT
LAW AND NEXT OF KIN
OF GRACE MONTESSANO;
LOUISMONTESSANO AS HEIR AT
LAW AND NEXT OF KIN
OF GRACE MONTESSANO;
ELIZABETH MONTESSANOAS HEIR AT LAW AND
NEXT OF KIN OF GRACE
MONTESSANO;
UNKNOWN HEIRS AND
DISTRIBUTEE OF THE
ESTATE OF GRACE
MONTESSANO any and all
persons unknown to
plaintiff, claiming, or who
may claim to have an
interest in, or general or
specific lien upon the real
property described in this
action; such unknown
persons being herein
generally described and
intended to be included in
the following designation,
namely: the wife, widow,
husband, widower, heirs
at law, next of kin,
descendants, executors,
administrators, devisees,
legatees, creditors,
trustees, committees,
lienors, and assignees of
such deceased, any and
all persons deriving
interest in or lien upon, or
title to said real property
by, through or under
them, or either of them,
and their respective
wives, widows, husbands,
widowers, heirs at law,next of kin, descendants,
executors, administrators,
devisees, legatees,
creditors, trustees,
committees, lienors and
assigns, all of whom and,
whose names, except as
stated, are unknown to
plaintiff;SECRETARY OF HOUSING
AND URBAN
DEVELOPMENT; PEOPLE
OF THE STATE OF NEW
YORK; UNITED STATES OF
AMERICA; ALFA IMPORT
CENTER INC;
KENSINGTON COURT
LLC,"JOHN DOE" (NAME
REFUSED) AS JOHN DOE
"RICHARD ROE", "JANE
DOE", "CORA COE",
"DICK MOE" and "RUBY
POE", the six defendants
last named in quotation
marks being intended to
designate tenants or
occupants in possession
of the herein described
premises or portions
thereof, if any there be,
said names being
fictitious, their true name
being unknown to
plaintiff,Plaintiff designates
NASSAU as the place of
trial situs of the real
propertySECOND SUPPLEMENTAL
SUMMONSMortgaged Premises:
87 SOUTH 6TH STREET,
LOCUST VALLEY, NY
11560Section: 23, Block: G, Lot:
161Servicer: Compu-Link
CorporationServicer Telephone:
(866) 444-0026

Defendants.

To the above named
DefendantsYOU ARE HEREBY
SUMMONED to answer
the Complaint in the
above entitled action and
to serve a copy of your
Answer on the plaintiff's
attorney within twenty
(20) days of the service of
this Summons, exclusive
of the day of service, or
within thirty (30) days
after service of the same
is complete where service
is made in any manner
other than by personal
delivery within the State.
The United States of
America, if designated as
a defendant in this action,
may answer or appear
within sixty (60) days of
service. Your failure to
appear or to answer will
result in a judgment
against you by default for
the relief demanded in
the Complaint. In the
event that a deficiency
balance remains from the
sale proceeds, a judgment
may be entered against
you.NOTICE OF NATURE OF
ACTION AND RELIEF
SOUGHTTHE OBJECT of the above
caption action is to
foreclose a Mortgage to
secure the sum of
\$547,500.00 and interest,
recorded on June 09,
2011, in Liber 36106 at
Page 117, of the Public
Records of NASSAU
County, New York.,
covering premises known
as 87 SOUTH 6TH
STREET, LOCUST VALLEY,
NY 11560.The relief sought in the
within action is a final
judgment directing the
sale of the premises
described above to satisfy
the debt secured by theMortgage described
above.NASSAU County is
designated as the place
of trial because the real
property affected by this
action is located in said
county.NOTICE
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complaint by serving a
copy of the answer on the
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company who filed this
foreclosure proceeding
against you and filing the
answer with the court, a
default judgment may be
entered and you can lose
your home.Speak to an attorney or
go to the court where
your case is pending for
further information on
how to answer the
summons and protect
your property.Sending a payment to the
mortgage company will
not stop the foreclosure
action.YOU MUST RESPOND BY
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ANSWER ON THE
ATTORNEY FOR THE
PLAINTIFF (MORTGAGE
COMPANY) AND FILING
THE ANSWER WITH THE
COURT.Dated: October 20, 2022
ROBERTSON, ANSCHUTZ,
SCHNEID, CRANE &
PARTNERS, PLLC
Attorney for Plaintiff
Nadine D. Smith, Esq.
900 Merchants
Concourse, Suite 310
Westbury, NY 11590
516-280-7675
134987Search for notices online at:
www.newyorkpublicnotices.comMortgage described
above.NASSAU County is
designated as the place
of trial because the real
property affected by this
action is located in said
county.NOTICE
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LOSING YOUR HOMEIf you do not respond to
this summons and
complaint by serving a
copy of the answer on the
attorney for the mortgage
company who filed this
foreclosure proceeding
against you and filing the
answer with the court, a
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entered and you can lose
your home.Speak to an attorney or
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your case is pending for
further information on
how to answer the
summons and protect
your property.Sending a payment to the
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www.newyorkpublicnotices.comON THE ROAD WITH
A TAKEOUT QUEEN

Fall-icious takeout

I love picking up meals to go in the fall. As I drive to restaurants, the colored leaves seem to shout over my car radio, "Look at us! It's showtime!" As I pull up to eateries and get out of my car, a crisp autumn breeze feels as if it's throwing me a kiss. Best of all, I love the taste of fall. Restaurant chefs have added combinations of orange, yellow, red, brown, and green ingredients to their new dishes. Everything from entrées to desserts look and taste like autumn. Here are some of my fall-icious favorites.

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trouble balancing the overflowing kernels and resorted to covering the bucket with an unused shower cap.) Here's the new choice: order the 400-ounce sealable bag of movie popcorn to go. It comes with a container of melted butter. Soon, we'll also be able to order anything on the AMC menu through Uber Eats.

■ Conscious Kitchen

(consciouskitchenli.com)

Every time I order a meal from this Glen Cove based website, a bit of healthful heaven arrives at my door. There's a returning, rotating special, Vegan Vegetable Korma, that has the homiest fall feel ever. It's a mixture of slow cooked cauliflower, broccoli, yellow squash, carrots, and red bell pepper wrapped in a store made Indian spice sauce. Chef Michael Schoudel mentioned, "Dishes like this lend themselves well to slow cooking since it allows the aromatics to really bloom and the flavors to develop and deepen." Look for more of these dishes as the weather gets colder.

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OPINIONS

Are you happy with New York's leadership?

Voting is so easy. There used to be a single Election Day. Since 1845, that voting day was on the first Tuesday after the first Monday in November. If you considered voting an important civic duty, you went to your polling place and pulled the levers.

We still have an official Election Day, Nov. 8 this year, but in New York state, early voting begins on Saturday and ends Nov. 6. That's nine days of early voting and a 10th day on Nov. 8.



**JOHN
O'CONNELL**

Couldn't be easier to vote, right? But less than 60 percent of the eligible population voted in the five presidential elections between 2000 and 2016. Sixty-seven percent of eligible citizens voted in the 2020 presidential election. Kimberly Gonzales, in City & State New York, wrote that "New York's estimated voter turnout for 2020 was 65.3 percent of eligible voters, ranking New York 30th out of 50 states for voter turnout. ... In 2016, New York ranked 39th in voter turnout, when it was 57.2 percent."

In non-presidential years like this one,

the national rates of participation range from 37 percent in 2014 to a high of 50 percent in 2018. In off-year elections in New York state from 2002 to 2018, an average of only 36.6 percent of those who could vote did so. Some blame low voter turnout on how hard we make it to register to vote, as though allowing for same-day registration would get more people to head to the polls. Imagine! Requiring New Yorkers to register to vote ahead of time by presenting qualifying documents (a driver's license or other ID) and then voting a few weeks later! Oh, the burden! Oh, the suffering!

I am of two minds on voter turnout. On one hand, if 80 to 90 percent of qualified voters went to the polls, at least the winners and losers could say the people have spoken. The way it is now, people get elected via the party primary system and general elections with embarrassingly few votes.

Then again, statewide, almost 50 percent of New York's 12.9 million registered voters are Democrats, and only 22 percent are Republicans. There are more registered Independents in the state than members of the GOP. So getting more people out to vote in New York doesn't mean a

more balanced political landscape in Albany, and of course not in New York City, where most of the partisan campaign funding — the lifeblood of politicians' policy views — comes from.

Maybe I'm of three minds. I wish more citizens thought more about their votes vis a vis their quality of life, the cost of necessary things, their personal safety, the quality and cost of their children's education, property crime, infrastructure disrepair, and a host of other concerns.

Nineteen of New York's 27 seats in the U.S. House of Representatives are occupied by Democrats. Our two senators are Democrats.

The Assembly has had a Democratic majority every year since 1992. Democrats have controlled the State Senate since 2019. There's been a Democrat in the governor's mansion since 2007.

What are the top five accomplishments this lopsided majority in Albany has delivered? Bail reform? Ha! Getting the demonstrably mentally ill off the streets? Solving the homelessness crisis? Lower taxes? Instead of naming a few things only the left consider achievements, what are the actions state elected officials have

taken that the vast majority of New Yorkers would applaud? Or are the Democrats interested only in satisfying their liberal lobbyists and contributors, as opposed to the general welfare? That's the way it feels.

With all that Democratic control of legislation, taxation, education, public safety and administration, are you happy with how life is in New York? Happy with your tax rates? Happy with how police are treated? Are the residents of New York City happy with the education their children are getting? Do you want to ride the LIRR into Manhattan, and ride the subway to a show or restaurant? Do you feel that vicious thugs are treated with more respect than the victims of their criminal acts? Are you sick of politicians showing up at autumn street fairs before elections but acting like "Markles" (my new name for obnoxiously privileged, entitled, aloof snobs) the rest of their terms?

I remember a time when incumbents had to earn votes, had to justify their reelection by accomplishing things for the good and welfare of us all. Let's vote more thoughtfully, vote for more balance in Albany, and send the politicians who've brought us to where we are now packing.

John O'Connell is a former executive editor of the Herald Community Newspapers. Comments? oconnell11001@yahoo.com.

When real-life horrors hijack Halloween

Nobody wants to be a buzz-kill when it comes to Halloween. I love my candy corn as much as the next grandma, but recent events seem to have sucked the fun out of being just a little bit afraid.

The thrill of Halloween — the walk down the block in the dark, the horror masks and the strangers at the door — all seem a good way for the little ones to venture out. Especially after the locked-down years of the pandemic, children need to go door to door in their gaudy costumes. They need to fill up their goodie bags with a dentist's dream of hard sugar candies. They need to feel a little scared and gain some mastery over the unease.

It's a fun time for our children, but the over-the-top marketing, the commercialization of the holiday, the orange cupcakes and pumpkin lattes feel lame. This year especially, real life is so scary that Halloween seems meh. I may feel some good jitters on Halloween, watching kids scoot through the darkness, but I will be deeply anxious a week later, on Election Day, if the pillars of our democracy start

to wobble.

The political boogymen and women of our time — Herschel Walker, Mehmet Oz, Marjorie Taylor Greene, Kevin McCarthy, Kari Lake, Lauren Boebert, John Gibbs, Doug Mastriano, Joe Kent, Ron DeSantis and dozens of others — could be swept into office, or into more powerful positions, with a strong GOP showing.

Ironically, many of them, avowed anti-maskers when it comes to Covid-19, are wearing masks of duplicity these days, peddling lies and disinformation. Some are promising to challenge unfavorable election results. I've been scared watching Halloween horror movies, but I am terrified of losing our democracy to extremists with an authoritarian agenda.

Even pumpkins aren't pumpkins anymore. No Halloween pumpkin in the history of the world can compare with American's Great Pumpkin, the former president. Really, could you make up the Orange Menace if he didn't already exist?

There's that tape out there with him bragging about grabbing women's genitals and getting away with it because he's a star. There is the subpoena last week from the Jan. 6 committee, requiring him

to testify about events surrounding the insurrection. There are the many recordings of him demonizing minorities and insulting women, especially those who accuse him of sexual misconduct.

Halloween just cannot compare to a former American president who has indicted himself in his own words as a profoundly uncouth, blatantly racist xenophobe still trying to overturn the results of the 2020 election. Sorry, Halloween, you've been hijacked by facts on the ground. Nothing can possibly be as scary as the regular news.

Like a poison tree, Donald Trump has sent roots out all over the country, with once highly respected officials, like Army Gen. Michael Flynn, becoming acolytes and servants to the cause of white Christian nationalism.

Since the ascendancy of Trump, certain bedrock beliefs, such as the peaceful transition of power in presidential elections, have been challenged. Halloween, can you really do better than that? Fake Freddie fingernails and monster teeth just don't cut it anymore.

When I was a child, we felt nervous, in a good way, when the big kids in creepy costumes rang our doorbell. Now the kids are polite and sweet and most

always accompanied by parents. The trick-or-treaters are all well-behaved, Halloween, but we still have Trump huffing and puffing and trying to blow our house down.

And about the whole trick thing? Egging a car? Toilet paper in the trees? You call those tricks? They're lame when compared with the cyber wars flashing across the internet. Who can battle back against the tricksters who commandeer our social media to spread lies?

As for ghosts, Halloween, I'm seeing the spirits of Mussolini and Hitler dancing across America.

According to the Associated Press, "Michael Flynn, who just eight years ago under President Barack Obama led the U.S. military's intelligence agency, now is at the center of a far-right Christian nationalist movement based in Florida. He urges his supporters to get involved in local politics as a way to change the country from the bottom up." In Sarasota, Flynn's school board picks — backed by the Proud Boys — won.

Clearly, this year the former president and his MAGA tribe trump Halloween. Maybe next year, fright wigs and skeleton costumes will be amusing again. Being a little afraid is cool. Being afraid that the country as we know it is about to implode is terrifying.

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HERALD EDITORIAL

Get out and exercise ... your right to vote

Mark Twain famously once said that if “voting made any difference, they wouldn’t let us do it.”

It’s that kind of cynicism about the very process of electing men and women to represent us that has plagued our democracy not just for decades, but almost from the very beginning.

Even the Founding Fathers didn’t get voting quite right. Back then, to legally cast a ballot, you had to be a white, male landowner, with rare exceptions. Over time — too much time — those rights were extended to everyone else, including ethnic minorities and, finally, women.

While far more adults are eligible to vote today than are not, the fight to suppress voting is hardly over. Efforts continue to limit who can elect their governmental leaders, and even where that’s not so prevalent, many still choose not to make the effort to mark a ballot and have it counted.

Yes, political rhetoric feels polarizing, because it *is* polarizing. Believe it or not, however, that’s hardly new. Election rhetoric in the 18th century was so biting and scandalous that if it still existed today, it would make grocery store tab-

loids like the National Enquirer look like serious journalism.

But we can’t allow any of that to distract us from what democracy truly is — a government of the people, by the people and for the people. That “people” is supposed to be us. Yet it won’t be “by the people” or even “for the people” if we don’t exercise our right to vote over the next couple of weeks.

The 2020 presidential election drew more than 70 percent of registered voters in Nassau County. In this year’s primaries, however, turnout plummeted to just a fraction of that. While the race between Gov. Kathy Hochul and her Long Island challenger, Lee Zeldin, may move more voters than normal to head to the polls, participation will certainly be nowhere near the levels of Donald Trump vs. Joe Biden.

Politicians tend to be afraid of voters, no matter what their political persuasion. And while most face that fear and go with what the people decide, there are others who will fight for your right to vote, as long as that vote is aligned with their interests. That creates governments that are simply not representative of the people they serve, and makes it far

easier to manipulate the workings of government for the gain of a select few.

So what if Mark Twain and many people you know believe voting and politics leave a bad taste in their mouths? There is a lot that can be done to make the process more pleasant, but it won’t happen as long as too many of us don’t exercise our right to vote in the first place.

Our ballot this time around is filled with a number of races, from town councils, to the Assembly, to the State Senate, to the U.S. House of Representatives, with a number of judgeships also on the line. It should matter to you who represents you in Albany, just as it should matter to you who represents you in Washington. What’s decided in those two capitals impacts you in every way, from the taxes you pay, to how safe the roads and bridges are around you, to how you can seek health care, and so much more.

Don’t take your right to vote for granted. Casting a ballot is the most direct way to truly make your voice matter. And when you add your voice to the chorus of other civic-minded Americans, we truly can make where we live, work and play the places we *want* to live, work and play.

LETTERS

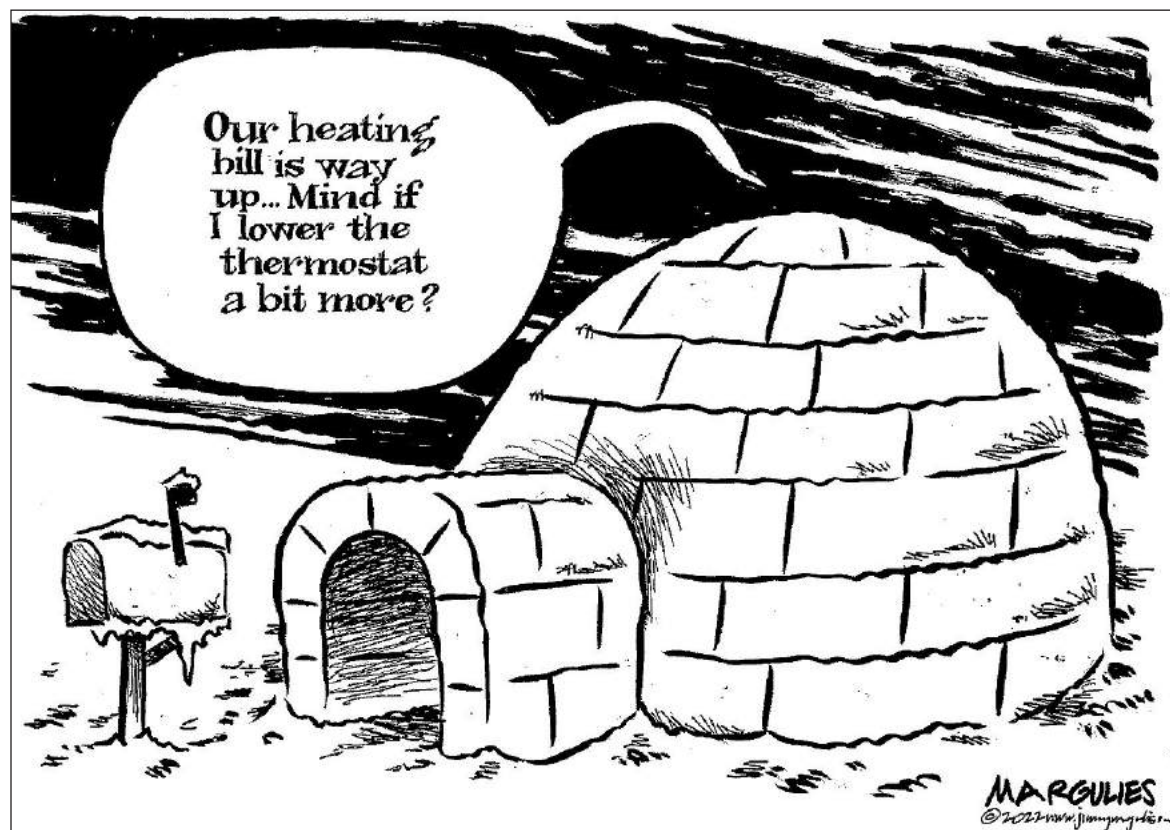
A vote for Kaplan is a vote against guns

To the Editor:

My son was a teacher at Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School in Parkland, FL who was murdered during the horrific shooting that took place February 14, 2018. There is not a day that goes by where I do not think of him. No mother, family member, friend or coworker should ever have to go through what I did that day. Over the last four years, far too many have lost a loved one to gun violence. This must stop!

We cannot allow the gun lobby to continue holding us hostage. Senator Kaplan has a well-earned F rating from the National Rifle Association. She puts the safety of her constituents first. Everyone has the right to be safe and everyone has the right to live without fear. We need leaders like her with the courage to stand up to the gun lobby. I am proud to work alongside my friend, State Senator Anna Kaplan, to fight for common-sense gun safety.

She sponsored the Scott J. Beigel Unfinished Receiver Act, named after my son. This legislation bans



dangerous and untraceable ghost guns (guns without serial numbers) in New York. Kaplan has been a strong supporter of the Scott J. Beigel Memorial Fund, which provides camperships to help send at-risk children touched by gun violence to summer sleep-away camp. The goal is to help stop the cycle of violence by keeping children off the streets away from guns and gangs.

Our community and our country have so much at stake this November. Gun violence and our right to safety are on the ballot. I am proud to support my friend Anna Kaplan for re-election to the New York State Senate. I hope you will join me in voting for her on November 8.

LINDA BEIGEL SCHULMAN
Dix Hills

OPINIONS

L.I.'s leadership in clean energy begins with our power grid

Long Island has the potential to be the East Coast's clean energy hub. Thanks to Gov. Kathy Hochul's dedication to making New York a leader in renewables, we're poised to add a fleet of new offshore wind turbines that will transform our energy system.

But 10 years after Hurricane Sandy left 200,000 homes without electricity for weeks, Long Island still does not have a reliable, fortified transmission grid that could handle heightened demand, the connection of additional renewable energy projects, like offshore wind, and more frequent

intense storms due to changing climate all at once. The grid needs to be rebuilt *now*, so we're ready for clean energy and prepared to withstand the next Sandy.

With a commitment to upgrading our transmission grid, Long Islanders would see clear benefits, including an influx of thousands of good-paying jobs, a reinvigoration of the middle class, and the forging of a clear path to welcoming and integrating new offshore wind projects that advance the state's clean energy goals.

Recent grid failures around the coun-

try are reminders of our vulnerability. As frigid temperatures resulted in historic, widespread power outages throughout Texas in 2021, and wildfires continue to cause devastating outages across the Southwest, the weaknesses in our aging national grid have never been more obvious. The American Society of Civil Engineers recently estimated that 70 percent of U.S. power lines are well into the second half of their life expectancy, and The Wall Street Journal reported that the grid has become "increasingly unreliable."

Several states have responded to climate disasters by investing in local grid-modernization projects. After Hurricane Wilma caused significant power outages throughout Florida in 2005, state regulators and electric utilities undertook initiatives to harden the grid, strengthening power lines to withstand extreme winds and replacing wood transmission structures with steel or concrete. When Hurricane Irma struck Florida in 2017, the Florida Public Service Commission concluded that the grid-hardening initiatives had "markedly" reduced outage times, allowing customers — and the state's economy — to get back to normal faster.

A similar hardening program could work on Long Island, where we some-

times struggle to maintain power in just a thunderstorm. The New York Independent System Operator is currently reviewing proposals from transmission developers, including NextEra Energy Transmission New York, to build a resilient grid for

Long Island, including common-sense hardening solutions for our substations, a critical part of our transmission system. By elevating equipment on concrete pads as a protective measure against flooding and storm surge and improving communication links between substations to ensure reliability during storms, we can significantly strengthen Long Island's power grid.

The high stakes and potential benefits could not be clearer. The time is now to move these resiliency investments to the top of the priority list.

Modernizing Long Island's grid will ensure that we can keep the lights on cleanly and reliably while working to maintain New York's status as a global leader in clean energy initiatives. In 2019, New York passed the Climate Leadership and Community Protection Act, which makes additional electrification an essential part of the strategy to decarbonize our economy, including 9,000 megawatts of offshore wind. However, Long Island's current transmission system is far too

weak to transfer the renewable energy planned for the area. Grid updates are imperative to offshore wind's success.

Most important, Long Island is positioned to become a state leader in green jobs. The region is home to some of the state's most skilled technicians and tradespeople who are prepared for this work. Transmission developers and general contractors are willing to work with union labor in our state, and rebuilding the grid has the potential to create between 4,000 and 10,000 jobs in the region over five years of construction later this decade — injecting up to \$2.7 billion into the local economy.

Upgrading our transmission system is a win-win for Long Island residents and workers. Improving Long Island's grid will not only provide our skilled workers, and new workers, with a vital opportunity to build green infrastructure in their communities and pursue an attainable path to the middle class, but also jumpstart the region's transition to clean energy.

Climate change is here, and the next Sandy is coming. It's time for Long Island to take proactive steps to fortify its grid. We can create countless good-paying jobs and build a resilient, storm-hardened transmission grid that will serve Long Islanders' homes and businesses with a steady stream of clean and reliable energy.

Gary LaBarbera is president of the New York State Building & Construction Trades Council.



**GARY
LABARBERA**

It needs to be rebuilt *now*, so we're ready for clean energy — and for the next Sandy.

LETTERS

St. Rocco's 10 years in G.C.

To the Editor:

St Rocco's Bakery is celebrating its 10-year anniversary this upcoming week! As a community we are lucky to have them. They have helped to put Glen Cove back on the map in their 10 short years in business.

The bakery opened the weekend of Superstorm Sandy in 2012. From that moment until now they have been providing delicious food and treats to their customers. St. Rocco's is a place for people to gather, whether the group are longtime friends that haven't seen each other and want a cannoli to enjoy as they catch up or a grandparent with their grandchild who want to sit and recount stories of how things used to be. During Sandy, it even served as a place for people without electricity to charge their phones while sipping on an espresso. St. Rocco's Bakery has been there for all of us.

Gian and Lisa Sacchetta have created a great atmosphere that we have all come to love. And Alex, Maria and the rest of the staff are always willing to help with a smile on their face.

I want to thank them all of them for always supporting our local Fellowship Cafe at St Paul's Church by donating bread and desserts for the many families in need. Their generosity goes unmeasured. Come support this great business the next time you're in Glen Cove!

MARK GALLUCCIO
Glen Cove

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