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Laura Lane/Herald

**DANIELLE KERR**, a social work intern from Adelphi University, far left, volunteer caregiver coaches Christine Mills and Nancy White, and Lorna Lee-Riley, Glen Cove Hospital's senior social worker, in one of the rooms at the new Caregiver Center.

## Caring for the caregivers at G.C. Hospital

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

Nancy White and Christine Mills met in 2018, when they answered an ad for volunteers at Glen Cove Hospital. Sitting next to each other at the orientation, the retired nurses immediately bonded, eventually becoming good friends.

They discovered that they lived near each other; White in Glen Head and Mills in Oyster Bay, that their husbands had once worked together in the medical field, and that they had a common goal — to interact with patients again. But their

volunteerism was cut short when the coronavirus pandemic hit.

White and Mills were ecstatic when they got a call in March from the hospital, asking them to come back. They would still be volunteering, they were told, but this time as caregiver coaches.

“Being a caregiver coach is different than being a regular volunteer,” explained Lorna Lee-Riley, the hospital's senior social worker and the coordinator of the caregiver program. “They don't have to have a medical background. We're looking

CONTINUED ON PAGE 6

## For school district, third time's the charm for the bond

By **ROKSANA AMID**  
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Tears of joy could be seen in the hallways of Glen Cove High School on Tuesday night as a \$30.5 million bond was approved with support from 58 percent of voters who turned out to cast ballots on it.

The Glen Cove City School District bond — earmarked to provide much-needed upgrades to aging campus facilities — passed by a margin of 1,179 to 853, according to unofficial results.

Peter LaRocca, president of the district's booster club, said he was ecstatic about the results.

“I think that the Glen Cove families and everyone that's been in support of this bond has changed the trajectory of our schools,” LaRocca said. “They've made a statement that we want things to be better for our children — for their future — and that we support our educators here in Glen Cove.”

Those educators teach 3,800 students between kindergarten and 12th grade in four elementary schools, a middle school and a high school. After two failed votes in 2019 and 2020, the school district can now move forward on long-overdue renovations that go beyond simple maintenance and repairs. The bond will fund

**W**e've done a lot in this district, and we have a lot more to do.

**MARIA RIANNA**  
superintendent, Glen Cove City School District

the most extensive infrastructure improvements in decades.

The projects include repairs to science rooms, the cafeteria and kitchen, and corridors. Exterior doors will be replaced, and

restrooms reconstructed to comply with the Americans with Disabilities Act.

Also planned is a replacement of the courtyard curtain wall, reconstruction of heating and air-conditioning systems, replacing corridor lockers as well as tennis and basketball courts, a parking lot, and curbs and walkways.

Administrators touted such changes as costing no more than \$12.50 monthly for the city's average homeowner.

Construction could begin as early as next year, and continue on until the start of the 2025-26 academic year. The projected timeline, however, takes into consideration concerns such as

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2



# Approved bond will fund upgrades at Glen Cove schools

December 8, 2022 – GLEN COVE HERALD

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supply chain issues and availability of materials and labor.

“We’ve done a lot in this district, and we have a lot more to do,” said Maria Rianna, the school district superintendent. “But we’ve made a giant step forward this year.”

The projects will be financed over a 15-year period, and will ultimately be reimbursed through anticipated state aid.

Councilwoman Danielle Fugazy Scagliola — who has four children in the district — says she feels so good about the future of not only the school district, but Glen Cove as well.

“Your city is only as successful as its school district,” she said.

“And we just proved that the people of this community care about our schools and our children. To me, there’s nothing more important.”

The bond also focuses on safety and security issues. As mass shootings become more commonplace in schools, campuses have upgraded to eliminate blind spots and design failings. Now, more than 20 years after the first school mass shooting at Columbine High School in Colorado, many holes remain in Glen Cove’s security measures, officials have said.

“The schools here needed so much, and we all knew it,” Assemblyman Charles Lavine said. “We all knew that we had to do everything we could to make sure that



Roksana Amid/Herald

**AFTER TEARS OF** joy and many hugs, Board of Education members and school officials gathered to celebrate the results of the 2022 bond referendum, which will provide nearly \$31 million to the Glen Cove City School District.

our schools were secure, so our precious children would be protected.”

The approved bond helps the city move further into a renaissance, the lawmaker added, citing the development at Garvies Point, which has brought an influx of new residents to the city. Improvements to the school district help further the city’s national rankings with reports like Moody’s, Lavine said, whose rankings

take into consideration the cost of living, diversity, economic opportunity and education.

Moody’s places a strong emphasis on categories including health and safety, quality of life, and amenities.

Michael Israel, a former superintendent in the district, says his Glen Cove has already prepared his children for success, shaping them to become well-round-



**DISTRICT SUPERINTENDENT MARIA** Rianna was ecstatic over the results of the bond vote on Tuesday.

ed members of society. During his time with the district, Israel was always unhappy with the districtwide facilities when compared to neighboring school districts.

“Now it’s gratifying to know that we’re going to be able to upgrade our facilities,” he said, “so that we’re preparing the kids for the 21st century education that they deserve.”

## ATTENTION: Business owners

### Did you know you can receive up to \$26,000 per employee?

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# HERALD NEIGHBORS



Roksana Amid/Herald photos

**FAMILIES GOT TO** ride around the city on a hoarse carriage led by the Grinch. The carriage fit roughly 15 passengers who toured city streets while meeting with the Grinch.



**NISHANT SINGH, LEFT,** Jind Anand, Kash Anand and Puja Malhotra drank hot chocolate before meeting Santa.

## Rain doesn't stop holiday cheer

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

**T**he tree lighting ceremony, a local favorite event in Glen Cove, has been a great way for the community to bring itself together and spread all the love and values that embody this time of year. The pouring rain on the cold Saturday afternoon didn't stop a sizeable crowd from heading to the city's Village Square for the decades-long holiday festival, organized by the Downtown BID in conjunction with the city's Christmas tree lighting.

Although the wind and rain cancelled events like the train rides through city, the umbrellas were out, and the holiday cheer was in full swing as people enjoyed cookies, danced to Christmas songs and met Santa. Children completed their wish lists by writing

letters to Santa and got creative at the stocking decorating station. There were plenty of free candy canes, hot cocoa, cookies, popcorn balls and other special treats for all before and after the free carriage ride throughout the downtown streets. There were also performances held by Our Lady of Mercy Academy Select Choir and the Glen Cove High School Jazz Band.

The Grinch and his girlfriend, Martha May Whovier, made a special appearance in Santa's den.

Moments before the 28-year-old, 45-foot Colorado blue spruce was lit for the season, Mayor Pamela Panzenbeck and other elected officials invited children from the audience to sing holiday songs. Santa came to the tree lighting ceremony riding on top of a city fire truck and then was escorted to the base of the tree to meet the children.



**SANTA MET WITH** children who shared their Christmas wishes, above right.

**THE GRINCH AND** his girlfriend, Martha May Whovier, far right, made a special appearance in Santa's den.

**GLEN COVE HIGH** School students Isabella Damiano, left, Taylor Enrile, Maddy Kaffl, Olivia Bifone and Siena Scagliola volunteered.





# Classic T.V. show coming back in person for seniors

By LAURA LANE

llane@liherald.com

The irascible but endearing Ralph Kramden is coming back, as is his smart, no-nonsense wife, Alice. And Ed Norton, Ralph's dimwitted, loyal best friend will be returning too when the Slayer Players perform "Twas the Night Before Christmas," recreating one of the classic 39 episodes from "The Honeymooners."

A tremendously popular television show which aired in 1955 for a year, it is more than likely unknown to the younger generation but remains in the hearts and minds of senior citizens.

The Slayer Players, a group of talented local actors, are serving up nostalgia to what they hope will be a large audience of senior citizens at the Glen Cove Senior Center on Dec. 16 at 2 p.m. free of charge.

Stella Shank, the executive director at the Glen Cove Regency, said she is grateful that the play is being offered to seniors midday, a more accessible time for them. And it will be great for them to see Glen Cove talent, she added.

She's known Patrick Marone, who will play Kramden, for 19 years. Although Shank became the Regency's executive director in February, she's worked there for 29 years where Marone has served as its executive chef.

"Anything Pat gets involved in we try to support as much as possible," Shank said, adding that the Regency is one of the sponsors of the play. "Pat is one of the funniest guys. He not only wants to be sure our seniors eat healthy cooked meals but does everything with humor. Our seniors gravitate toward him."

A standup comedian as well as a chef, Marone's appeared on "America's Got Talent," and in films. He played Kramden with Slayer Players for the first time in 2019. Marone said he loves being a comedian and acting, but also enjoys the company of seniors. It was in part his idea to bring the show to the Glen Cove Senior Center.

"I wanted to give back to the seniors," he explained. "I wanted to do something nice for them. I think they'll get a kick out of it."

Marone first met Fred DiMenna, who co-owns Glen Cove's The View Grill with his wife Jeanine, in 1983 at Mr. America's,



Courtesy Gill Associates

**PATRICK MARONE, LEFT,** as Ralph Kramden, and Fred DiMenna, portraying Ed Norton, will entertain seniors performing an episode from 'The Honeymooners' at the Glen Cove Senior Center on Dec. 16 free of charge.

a now shuttered gym in Farmingdale. DiMenna was a competitive bodybuilder at the time and Marone and others worked out with him.

"We'd shout, 'Honeymooners' lines when we worked out," Marone recalled. "I was always a big Jackie Gleason fan growing up as a kid."

Dr. Eve Lupenko-Ferrante, a dermatologist and former Glen Cove councilwoman, will portray Alice Kramden once again, which she enjoys.

"Not only do I love to have a good time myself while portraying a feisty and funny character like Alice Kramden, but I love making others smile and laugh," she said. "What could be better than bringing

people's memories back to the times when things were simple, wholesome and family-oriented?"

Slayer Players first started in Nov 2016 performing mainly murder mysteries across the North Shore. Because "The Honeymooners" was DiMenna's favorite childhood comedy, the company decided to expand.

Jeanine suggested to Fred that he ask Marone to play Kramden. Fred, who wrote and directed the episode, played Norton, which he will play once again at the senior center.

When the coronavirus pandemic hit the Slayer Players had to put their performances on hold, though they did continue

to rehearse via Zoom, Marone said. In June they performed once again at the View Grill. That's when there was talk about performing "The Honeymooners" Christmas episode.

Marone said the size of the room at the senior center is conducive to putting on the show. It's a large space which is needed for the authentic set that viewers saw on television — including the tiny refrigerator Alice seemed to somehow be able to store all the couple's food in. And they will bring plenty of props and costumes too.

After a few minutes the audience will forget Marone is a chef and Lupenko-Ferrante a doctor. They will become Ralph and Alice Kramden instead.

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Courtesy GSM Communications

**JOE MOORES WAS** presented with a tribute journal which included images from his Honor Flight in September. Beside him, Lucas Corcoran, with the U.S. Naval League Cadet Corps, saluted veterans who took part in the honor flight.

## Joe Morres, a Vietnan War veteran honored with a tribute journal

Joe Moores, a Glen Cove American Legion Post 76 member and VFW Post 347 trustee, was presented with a tribute journal at the American Airpower Museum in Farmingdale on Dec. 3. Moores, a Vietnam War veteran, was one of 50 veterans honored at the ceremony which paid trib-

ute to participants in the honor flight to Washington D.C. in September. The Honor Flight, an annual event, honors Long Islanders who served in the Armed Forces, with the opportunity to visit their respective military memorials with fellow veterans and family by their side.

## Narcan drug overdose training at Tifereth Israel

The Northeast Recovery Alliance of Long Island, a sobriety resource for the Long Island Jewish community sponsored by Congregation Tifereth Israel of Glen Cove, at 40 Hill Street will be celebrating its fifth year with a Narcan presentation by Nassau County's Health and Human Services departments on Dec. 13 at 7 p.m. Kits will be distributed on-site.

Created to support family members with a loved one struggling with alcoholism and addiction, the weekly group is held every Monday. They provide a safe sanctuary to share concerns and strengthen recovery resiliency, which is vital for coping with the stress of championing someone's recovery journey.

Shining the light of spirituality on the tragic, gritty reality of substance abuse within the safe space of a congregation goes to "break the stigma and start a conversation," the first steps towards recovery.

Addressing societal issues without prejudice and promoting social action goes to expedite change. Encouraging dialogue contributes to a better understanding of alcoholism and addiction, contributing to the solution.

Every community has a profound capacity to help when there is access to support groups and treatment resources. For more information or to register, call either (516) 589-9171 or (516) 676-5080, or email jane.fox@nera-li.org or rabbiirwin@ctionline.org.

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# A hospital committed to helping the caregivers

December 8, 2022 – GLEN COVE HERALD

CONTINUED FROM FRONT PAGE

for people interested in being a support for the caregivers, someone passionate about them who will make sure they receive education and provide resources to them.”

Wearing uniforms of a navy-blue blazer and white pants, Mills and White bring a variety of brochures when they drop by a patient's room. After they explain why they are there, they often see a look of relief from the caregiver, they say. It's a gentle process.

The brochures, full of information including community resources, are left with the caregivers, who are encouraged to check out the Caregiver Center, which is right off the downstairs lobby. It opened in July, although it was completed in 2001 as part of a \$750,000 project funded by the volunteer Community Partnership Board. The pandemic delayed its opening.

The center, open 24 hours a day, was designed to give caregivers respite. The atmosphere in two private rooms is calming, with light-blue reclining sleeper chairs, adjustable lighting, pale-gray flowered carpeting and original artwork on the walls. There's calming music in one room and white noise in the other, to help caregivers relax. And there's a phone in each room, so no one will worry about being out of touch with a patient. The space also includes a table and chairs, for conversation, and a couch.

“If a patient is critical, the caregiver can sleep overnight here,” Lee-Riley said, pointing to the couch. “The idea is to minimize the stress a person is feeling.”

The third room is a resource center that has computers, desks, phones and Wi-Fi.

Caregiver coaches undergo training for two to three months, in which they learn how to interview and connect with caregivers, and strategies for working with the most reluctant. They also shadow social workers and role-play. It's important, Lee-Riley said, that the coach understands human behavior.

White has firsthand experience as a caregiver. Her husband, Craig, had a stroke in 2017, and spent roughly nine months at Glen Cove Hospital. He's doing well now — even driving, Nancy said — but she remembers the long road of helping him.



Laura Lane/Herald

**CHRISTINE MILLS, LEFT,** and Nancy White in one of the rooms at the Caregiver Center. They say their work as volunteer caregiver coaches at Glen Cove Hospital is rewarding.

“The nurses and social workers at the hospital were very helpful, always ready to talk to me,” she said. “I wanted support the most.”

The women said that more often than not, caregivers are happy to see them, and appreciate any help finding resources. And just talking, they added, can sometimes be most important.

“I find as a coach that some welcome the opportunity to let it all out,” Mills said. “Caregivers generally don't take care of themselves. We emphasize the need for them to, and offer self-care tips.”

In addition, there is a support group for caregivers that meets on the first Tuesday of the month. Victoria Bjorklund, who takes care of her husband, said the group has been very helpful.

“You think, because you're isolated, that you have all of these challenges, but then at the meeting you hear all the challenges others have,” said Bjorklund, who lives in Sea Cliff. “You get constructive suggestions. I learn from other people, and I'm able to offer advice, too.”

Caregivers support each other, she added. “One even brought in articles for me,” she said. “Before this, it was a lonely situation.”

Lee-Riley said she believes the coaches and the center helps. “You can see a change in (caregivers') demeanor in a positive way after they receive the smallest intervention,” she said. “We sometimes underestimate that, how asking what a person is feeling can make an impact. Caregivers often feel their needs shouldn't be taken into consideration.”

White and Mills said that being a caregiver coach has been nothing but positive. “Doing this is very satisfying and fulfilling,” Mills said. “When I leave here, I feel good about myself that I've helped.”

“I feel the same way,” White said. “It's very gratifying to know that I helped. This is what I always wanted to do.”

For further information on the Caregiver Center at Glen Cove Hospital go to [gchcc@northwell.edu](mailto:gchcc@northwell.edu).

## Caregivers on the rise

- Some 54 percent of people in Long Island say it is extremely or very likely that they will be a caregiver for an adult loved one in the next five years.
- More than 55 percent of those older than 50 indicate that they are either currently, or in the past five years have been, a caregiver for an adult loved one.
- Caregivers experience mental or emotional strain, and elderly spousal caregivers have a 63 percent higher risk of sickness than non-caregivers.
- One-third of those caring for people 65 or older describe their own physical health as fair to poor.

—Courtesy Glen Cove Hospital

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Courtesy Assemblymember Charles Lavine

**THE GLEN COVE** Library, one of five drop-off locations, is accepting donations on behalf of the Hicksville Boys & Girls Club. Donations of new unwrapped gifts will go to families in need during the holiday season.

## Toy drive sponsored by Lavine

Assemblymember Charles Lavine has kicked off his annual toy drive. Lavine and local libraries will be accepting donations of new, unwrapped gifts, which will go to families in need from the Hicksville Boys & Girls Club.

"I am excited to once again be able to provide a little holiday cheer for children in need," Lavine said. "Last year's toy drive, which was so successful, was a shining example of the generosity of

the community."

Toys can be dropped off at Lavine's district office, 1 School Street, Suite 303-B, Glen Cove, Monday through Friday, 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. In addition, toys may also be left at the Glen Cove, Oyster Bay-East Norwich, Sea Cliff and Bryant libraries.

Donations will be accepted through Dec. 16. Help to make the season brighter for children by donating.

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# Clavin, Khzouz, Richner honored at gala

## Money raised will help Nassau Community College feed the hungry

By **ANDRE SILVA**  
asilva@liherald.com

It was a night to remember, and a night to recognize the people and businesses that help make Nassau Community College what it is.

It was the annual gala of the Nassau Community College Foundation, taking place not far from the campus at the Cradle of Aviation Museum in Garden City.

Among those honored were Hempstead town supervisor Don Clavin, NICE Bus chief executive Jack Khzouz, NCC administrator Charmian Smith, and Richner Communications, the parent company of Herald Community Newspapers.

It's a great time to celebrate each other, our accomplishments, the community, and our families.

### CHARMIAN SMITH

interim VP,  
academic student services, NCC

Adorned in their best suits, ties and dresses, guests were immediately offered champagne and given a chance to pose for photos in front of a red carpet display. From there, it was a tour of the model planes and historic aviation displays before being invited to

sit at their respective tables in the main dining room.

Leading the night off was Donna Drake of her self-titled inspirational television show introducing guests like Joy Dedonato, an NCC alum, and executive director of the NCC Foundation.

"I'll never forget the people I met and the values I learned at Nassau Community College," Dedonato said. "This place taught me to hit the wall, where you cannot go further, and then go further anyway."

NCC president Maria Conzatti then introduced the honorees, selected for their support. Like Clavin and Richner Communications, both of which publicize important notices to students, while also providing advertising and marketing.

Clavin, in fact, is a staunch supporter of the college, Conzatti said, thanking him for what he has done as an elected official. Like helping to organize The Nest at NCC — a non-profit organization that aims to alleviate hunger for students, employees and their families.

"Some people say it takes a village to raise a child," Conzatti said. "And were proud that this village raised so many students who come back to support our college."

Baldwin's Charmian Smith is NCC's interim vice president of academic student services, telling the crowd she was honored to know her colleagues recognized her in such a way.

"This gala helps to bring us all together



Tim Baker/Herald photos

**THE NASSAU COMMUNITY** College Foundation honored Hempstead town supervisor Don Clavin, NICE Bus chief executive Jack Khzouz, NCC administrator Charmian Smith, and Richner Communications, parent company of Herald Community Newspapers, during a fundraising gala last week.



after the years of the Covid-19 pandemic," she said. "It's a great time to celebrate each other, our accomplishments, the community, and our families."

Clavin is an NCC alum, and has counted some of the professors there as actual members of his family.

"So many of my friends started their lives at this institution," the town supervisor said. "To be recognized is just humbling."

Stuart Richner talked about the importance of providing well-rounded learning experiences.

"Educating young adults takes a team of professionals and advisers, which we understand," the Herald Community

Newspapers publisher said. "Here at Richner, we work as a team to provide hyperlocal news to our communities."

Khzouz described his being honored by the foundation "amazing." NICE Bus employs more than 1,000 people, transporting more than 70,000 each day in 450 vehicles. That's more than a million miles a month.

"We have a mission, which we live every day," Khzouz said. "That mission is to make sure our bus services are an asset to Nassau County institutions and its citizens."

And now NICE is celebrating 10 years



**MARIA CONZATTI, PRESIDENT** of Nassau Community College, honored Baldwin's Charmian Smith during the Nassau Community College Foundation Gala last week.

**SUPPORTERS AND INVITED** guests gathered to celebrate four honorees at the Nassau Community College Foundation's annual gala last week at the Cradle of Aviation Museum.

in Nassau County.

"We use large complex vehicles to drive through Nassau County and Queens at peak rush hour with impatient New Yorkers. What could go wrong?" Khzouz joked. "Yet, we prevail anyway."

Proceeds from the gala will help The Nest at NCC food pantry. To make a donation, too, visit [tinyurl.com/GiveNCC](http://tinyurl.com/GiveNCC).



# STEPPING OUT

## ‘THE Nutcracker’ arrives on local stages

The festive tradition continues to delight

By Karen Bloom

Those sugar plum fairies and various figments of a young girl's imagination come alive this month. The beloved holiday confection never goes out of style.



### New York Dance Theatre's 'The Nutcracker'

New York Dance Theatre offers its 40th season of the holiday classic, presented in the style of the legendary George Balanchine, on the John Cranford Adams Playhouse stage at Hofstra University.

The dance theatre closely follows the Balanchine tradition — from storyline through choreography, as well as sets and costumes. It is the largest production on Long Island, according to new artistic director, — and dance theatre alum Nicole Loizides Albruzzese.

The dance theatre's version keeps to the tone set by company founder Frank Ohman, which remains true to the spirit of New York City Ballet's Lincoln Center production. As a former student and New York City Ballet soloist under George Balanchine, Ohman was one of a select few authorized to use the original pas de deux choreography of his mentor, which continues to distinguish this production.

Through the years, Ohman created original dances and scenes to enhance Balanchine's iconic vision. Now Albruzzese — who was a student at the dance theatre's Ohman School of Ballet under Ohman and performed most of the children's roles in "The Nutcracker" during her time there — returns as a professional dancer in the role of the Sugar Plum Fairy before her international dance career, follows in her mentor's footsteps in keeping to the Balanchine standard.

Special guest artists New York City Ballet principal dancers Indiana Woodward and Daniel Ulbricht take on the roles of Sugar Plum Fairy and her Cavalier, joining a cast of Ohman School students to bring the holiday classic to the stage.

With the elegant Christmas party scene, the battle of the toy soldiers and giant mice, the intense snow storm, and elaborate dancing in the Land of the Sweets, this "Nutcracker" is sparkling treat that maintains its enduring appeal.

*Saturday and Sunday, Dec. 17-18, noon and 5 p.m. \$42, \$32 seniors and children 12 and younger. Hofstra University, John Cranford Adams Playhouse, Hempstead. For tickets, call (631) 462-0964, or visit OhmanBallet.org.*

Courtesy New York Dance Theatre

**Photo:** Clara is enchanted with her nutcracker in the party that opens the ballet.



### Eglevsky Ballet's innovative 'The Nutcracker'

Long Island's professional dance company is known for its inventive staging of Clara's delightful journey, featuring additional choreography by Executive Artistic Director Maurice Brandon Curry.

Curry's interpretation at Tilles Center stars New York City Ballet soloist Miriam Miller as the Sugar Plum Fairy and New York City Ballet principal Tyler Angle as her Cavalier. Also of note, Fox Weather meteorologist (and Instagram and TikTok sensation) Nick Kosir joins the cast of more than 60 students and professional dancers as Dr. Stahlbaum, Clara's father.

The Park Avenue Chamber Symphony, under the baton of maestro David Bernard, performs Tchaikovsky's glorious score.

"This year, I've taken some elements and changed them to keep the production fresh," Curry says. "Our professional dancers, along with our incredibly talented academy students, have accepted the challenge of these new variations and character developments. I've enriched the production with more theatricality and many new dramatic elements.

"Having our guest artists from New York City Ballet and the wonderful Nick Kosir is like having a very sweet cherry on top of an already decadent sundae."

Company member Briana Laman dances the role of Clara, with fellow company member Ryan Cavalline as Nutcracker Prince. For this production, Curry has reinterpreted the central first act pas de deux in the prelude to Waltz of the Snowflakes (usually danced by a Snow Queen and a Snow King) for Clara and the Nutcracker Prince.

"Having this pas de deux danced by these two characters intensifies the connection between the two," he says. "We see the arc of their relationship and gives the opportunity for Clara's dream to have a more poignant and personal effect on our audiences."

*Saturday, Dec. 17, 1 and 6 p.m.; Sunday, Dec. 18, 2 p.m. Tickets are \$89, \$69, \$59, \$49. Tilles Center for the Performing Arts, LIU Post, Route 25A, Brookville. For tickets, call (516) 299-3100 or visit TillesCenter.org or EglevskyBallet.org.*

Courtesy Eglevsky Ballet

**Photo:** The enchanting snow scene is a shimmering showstopper.



### Neil deGrasse Tyson

How real is what you're seeing up on the big screen? Astrophysicist-lecturer Neil deGrasse Tyson knows and he'll clue us in, separating fact from fiction — in a new installment of 'An Astrophysicist Goes to the Movies: The Sequel.' Derived from yet another set of 30 films/television shows that range from 'The Wizard of Oz' to 'Mary Poppins' to 'Game of Thrones' to 'Harry Potter' to 'The Lion King,' this lecture is an entertaining and enlightening review of all the science that our favorite entertainment got wrong, combined with some of the stuff they got right. This lecture also incorporates the latest films as well as some classics that you may not have known had any science in them at all.

*Friday, Dec. 9, 8 p.m. \$250 (VIP), \$100, \$75, \$50. \$250 VIP ticket includes a post-show Q&A. Tilles Center for the Performing Arts, LIU Post, Route 25A, Brookville. (516) 299-3100, or TillesCenter.org.*



### Kenny G's The Miracles Holiday & Hits

Ring in the holiday season with smooth jazz saxophonist Kenny G. The crossover jazz icon has enjoyed phenomenal success across the pop, jazz and R&B charts for more than three decades. Known for his lyrical and emotive style, his music has garnered a devoted fan base and made him one of the biggest-selling instrumentalists of all-time. The sound of his sax is as iconic as his curly coif. Indeed, both are instantly recognizable. Expect an evening filled with a festive spirit and contemporary classics. A reprise of last year's successful outing, 'The Miracles Holiday & Hits Tour' features a mix of holiday hits and fan favorites infused with his captivating and distinctive blending of genres. The tour follows the release of his 19th studio album, 'New Standards,' and the acclaimed HBO documentary 'Listening to Kenny G.'

*Thursday, Dec. 15, 8 p.m. NYCB Theatre at Westbury, 960 Brush Hollow Road., Westbury. TheTheatreAtWestbury.com or LiveNation.com, or (516) 247-5200.*



# THE SCENE



**Dec. 8**

## Shrek The Musical

See the uplifting tale of an unlikely hero who finds himself on a life-changing journey, presented by Nassau Community College Theater Department, now through Sunday, **Dec. 11, 7:30 p.m.; Sunday, 2 p.m.** All the beloved characters you know from the film are brought to life on stage for an incredible adventure that includes a wisecracking donkey and a feisty princess who resists her rescue. Throw in a short-tempered bad guy, a cookie with an attitude and over a dozen other fairy tale misfits, and you've got the kind of mess that calls for a real hero. Luckily, there's one on hand — and that's Shrek, of course. Nassau Community College's Mainstage Theatre, Garden City. Tickets \$18; NCC students free with valid ID; \$15, veterans, alumni, seniors 60+, students and NCC employees. For tickets/information, visit [NCC.edu](http://NCC.edu) or call (516) 572-7676.



## Christmas Tree of Lights celebration

Mercy Medical Center Council of Leagues invites the community to its annual Christmas Tree of Lights celebration, **Tuesday, Dec. 13, 5:30 p.m.** Enjoy some of your favorite holiday songs sung by Mercy's carolers and refreshments. The festivities take place in front of the hospital, 1000 N. Village Ave., Rockville Centre. Proceeds from the event will support the Endowment for Nursing Leadership and Education at Mercy Hospital. For information visit [CHSLI.org/mercy-hospital](http://CHSLI.org/mercy-hospital).



## Christmas luncheon

The Women's Club of Glen Cove hosts its annual Christmas Luncheon, **Tuesday, Dec. 13 at 11:30 a.m.** The event, at The View Grill, 111 Lattingtown Road, in Glen Cove, includes live entertainment, goody baskets and a 50/50 drawing. Reservations are required. Contact Yvette Menezes at (516) 673-1061 for more details.



## Holiday Variety Show

The North Shore Village Theatre presents their third annual Holiday Variety Show, **Saturday, Dec. 10, 7 p.m.**, at the Glenwood Life Center, 71 Grove Street, Glenwood Landing. Tickets can be purchased on [NsVillageTheatre.com](http://NsVillageTheatre.com).

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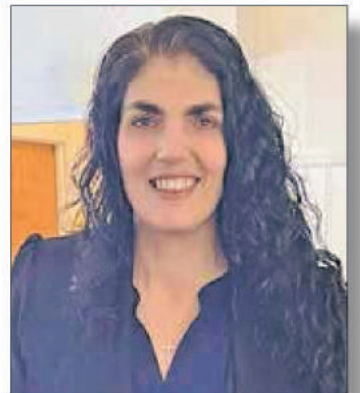
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**Holiday fun**

Visit the streets of 19th century London during the darkest days of the year, in this adaption of the classic "A Christmas Carol," with the Experiential Theater Company, Thursday and Friday, **Dec. 8-9**, 10:15 a.m. and noon; Sunday, **Dec. 11**, 2 p.m.; Wednesday and Thursday, **Dec. 14-15**, 10:15 a.m. and noon, on the Long Island Children's Museum stage. Meet the Cratchit family, Mr. Scrooge, and the ghosts of past, present and future in this interactive show that weaves together music, humor, puppetry and collaboration. Celebrate the change of seasons through this beloved literary tale. Long Island Children's Museum, Museum Row, Garden City. (516) 224-5800 or LICM.org.



**Sugar Plum Ball/ Galactic Gala**

Bring the kids to celebrate the season at festivities hosted by the Cerebral Palsy Association of Nassau County, Sunday, **Dec. 11, noon-4 p.m.**, at the Chateau Briand in Carle Place. Kids ages 4-12, accompanied by their adult guest (Mom, Dad, grandparent, etc.), will enjoy a unique party featuring food, fun and some special guests including princesses, fairies and visitors from a Galaxy Far Far Away. With lunch, DJ, magic show, dancing, raffles, games, photo ops, and more. Cost is \$75 per child, \$100 per adult. Advance reservation only. All proceeds benefit CP Nassau. Register online at CPNassau.org or call CP Nassau at (516) 378-2000 ext 651.



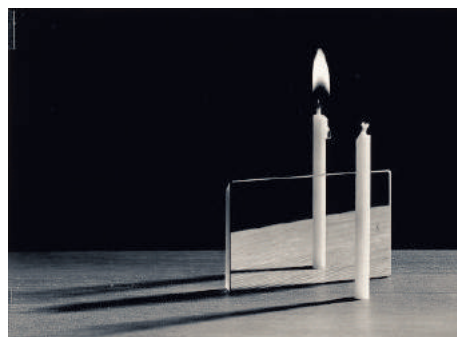
**LI Warriors Sock Hockey Clinic**

Add some skills to your sock skating game with members of the LI Warriors recreational hockey league at Long Island Children's Museum, Saturday, **Dec. 10, 10 a.m.-noon**. Learn about stick handling and passing as you master wrist and slap shots on the LICM "ice" in a hockey clinic for ages 3 and up. Long Island Children's Museum, Museum Row, Garden City. (516) 224-5800 or LICM.org.



**All about Beethoven**

Locust Valley Library offers a Zoom presentation on Ludwig van Beethoven, with A to G Music, Inc., **Tuesday, Dec. 13, 6:30 p.m.** Examine the composer's impact on the course of music history and how he still influences the world today. For more information, call (516) 671-1837 or email mvinas@locustvalleylibrary.org.



**On exhibit**

Photography's ascent in the art world is an international phenomenon. Nassau County Museum of Art's star-studded exhibition spans the historical roots of the medium. View works by Ansel Adams and his generation and the thrilling, large-format

color works of such contemporary masters as Cindy Sherman, Thomas Struth, James Casebere and Gregory Crewdson, among others. From the documentary to the painterly, images bear witness to the times. On view through March 5. Nassau County Museum of Art, 1 Museum Drive, Roslyn Harbor. (516) 484-9337 or NassauMuseum.org.



**Matinee time**

Join crafty Jack Frost on a magical, musical winter adventure, in Plaza Theatrical's production, **Saturday, Dec. 10, 11 a.m.**; **Sunday, Dec. 12, noon**. The story, narrated by the groundhog Pardon-Me-Pete, tells about the immortal winter sprite, who falls in love with a human girl named Elisa after rescuing her. Tickets are \$15. Bring the kids to the Plaza stage at The Showplace at Bellmore Movies, 222 Pettit Ave., Bellmore. For tickets, call (516) 599-6870 or visit PlazaTheatrical.com.

**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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**RETAIL CRAWL**  
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1193379



# Glen Cove student named EngineerGirl Ambassador

By **ROKSANA AMID**

ramid@liherald.com

As a child, Samantha McCormack played with circuit boards and created home-made radios with her sister. Not long after, she wrote a persuasive essay on why her parents should get solar panels for their home. Her love of the environment and electronics eventually grew into an enthusiasm towards engineering, allowing her to bring her insight to young girls in Landing and Connolly elementary schools.

The Holy Trinity High School senior and Glen Cove resident was chosen as one of 23 female students across the country to represent the National Academy of Engineering EngineerGirl as an ambassador. NAE hosted a two-day event in Washington D.C. for the ambassadors and sponsors where ambassador alumni and prominent women in engineering presented their project, jobs, experiences and pathways within their careers. The event concluded with the ambassadors developing hands-on activities for young schoolgirls in their neighboring school districts.

Starting in January 2023, McCormack will coordinate two five-week programs, with the help of the Youth Bureau's After Three programs. With this program, McCormack can help young girls build leadership skills and generate excitement for engineering as part of her ambassador duties.

Each week will focus on one of the different types of engineering and related science, technology, engineering and mathematics fields. She will conduct various hands-on experiments with students, which will include building a model sized bridge for their week on civil engineering. They will test the integrity of bridges built by students and discuss the results of the experiment. Another week will have students build balloon-powered cars,



Courtesy Susan McCormack

**SAMANTHA MCCORMACK ATTENDED** an engineering workshop sponsored by the Society of Women Engineers at Northeastern University, where she created a balloon powered car similar to what she will make with elementary students at the beginning of 2023.

which will use air pressure to propel the cars across the classroom.

Currently, there are nine students at Connolly and 12 students at Landing elementary schools signed up for her program. McCormack is also hoping to tour Glen Cove's Webb Institute, an engineering-focused private college.

"She wants more girls to feel empowered in engineering and to look at it in a slightly different perspective,"

Jacquelyn Yonick, the youth program coordinator said. "Any time a young person is inspired and wants to mentor younger people in a field, especially something in the STEM world, we always encourage that."

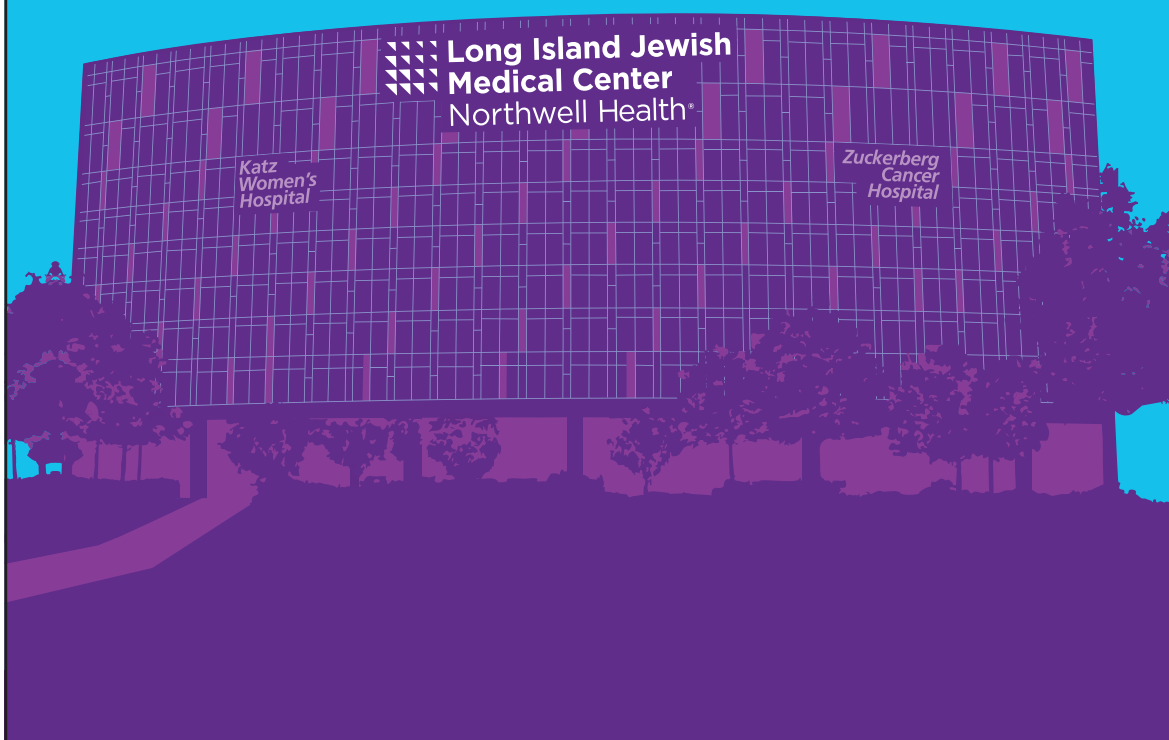
Although McCormack always had an interest in STEM and was exposed to the field as a child, her passion for the field grew while joining her high school robotics team. She enjoyed working on designs and building robots to compete with, but she always felt that engineering, as well as other STEM careers, is male dominated. She felt the imbalance in places like her high school robotics team, which only has two other girls out of a dozen students.

McCormack created her After Three curriculum with the help of her mother, Susan McCormack, who owns her own business as a computer repair tech for the North Shore area. McCormack's mother was a strong influence in joining the EngineerGirl ambassador program and an advocate towards bringing more women in STEM. Both felt the importance for young girls to discuss how STEM affects their everyday lives and why it's important to have more women in STEM who can offer different viewpoints to problem solving.

"Hopefully that will carry through to their more formative years in middle school and in high school and get them involved in taking STEM classes," Susan said, "so that they could be on the right path when they start to go to college."

McCormack is applying to engineering schools including the Worcester Polytechnic Institute and Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute. She hopes to study mechanical engineering with a concentration in sustainable energy. Susan said her daughter's main interest in STEM revolves around knowing that she can be a bigger part of solving the world's energy crisis in researching energy that's sustainable for long-term use.

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# Local thespians bring variety show to the North Shore

By WILL SHEELINE

wsheeline@liherald.com

The North Shore Village Theatre will be holding their third annual Holiday Variety Show this coming Saturday at the Glenwood Life Center. The first in-person show they've held since the coronavirus pandemic began, they say they are ready to provide residents with a chance to get out of the house and enjoy an old-fashioned variety show.

The North Shore Village Theatre is a local nonprofit community theater troupe made up of residents from Sea Cliff, Glen Cove, Glen Head and Glenwood Landing. Founded in 2018, the group had a handful of performances before the pandemic shut down their live performances indefinitely, although they were able to hold a virtual variety show in 2020.

Pre-Covid the group participated in a range of performances, from plays to musicals and even one man shows. Now, with the return of their Holiday Variety Show, one of the troupe's board members and Sea Cliff resident Christine Abbenda says the musical thespians are excited to begin performing again and bring some artistic flair to the season of cheer.

"It's so much fun, and it really gets people in the holiday spirit," Abbenda explained. "It showcases the talent in the area, but it's main objective is to entertain and delight."

The show will cover a wide range of different types of art, as befits any variety show. The theatre's creative director Christopher Moll and a member, Maggie Odell, have prepared several skits with characters they've developed over the years, with Moll acting as the straight man to play off Odell's wacky characters.

There will also be numerous musical performances featuring guitars, pianos, drums and even a trombone piece courtesy of Abbenda's son Seamus. There will also be two dance performances, which will highlight the wide range of artistic talents among those who live in



Courtesy Christopher Moll

**THE LAST IN-PERSON** performance by the North Shore Village Theatre was their first Variety Show in 2019.

the North Shore.

Steven Dahlke, the musical director for the troupe and a Glen Cove resident, said the performers have been preparing for the show for a little over a month now and are raring to perform for the community. After two years of Covid they're ready to show everyone what they've been missing.

"The way we have always done things in the past is to make sure that spontaneity and freedom of expression is our main goal," Dahlke said. "That always equals enlivening and connected performances, so everybody's really excited."

Moll, the group's creative director, of Glen Cove, explained that the reason why they've used the Glenwood Life Center for several past performances is due to

its large space and high ceilings.

However, part of the group's long-term plan is to eventually find a permanent home for the theater company. Abbenda and Moll explained that from the 1940's to '80's, Glen Cove's North Stage Theater was a shining example of theatrical and musical culture on the North Shore, and they hope to make enough money over the coming years to eventually buy and restore the property.

For now, however, the troupe is taking everything one step at a time, and the first step involves putting on an amazing variety show for the community this Saturday.

"At the end of the day what matters is putting on the best performance we can," Moll continued. "It's something we want to do every single year and make it a staple of our programming."

## OBITUARIES

### Jennifer Way

Jennifer (nee Faustino) Way, 72, of Glen Cove, died on Nov. 8, 2022. Her life was claimed by a disease that she first encountered 30 years prior. But to conclude that she lost her battle would be a colossal misstatement. Through many ups and downs, she achieved victory by maintaining her quality of life both professionally and personally.

Born in Manila, Philippines, in 1950

she attended high school there. Jennifer achieved her bachelor's degree in accounting from St. Theresa's College in Quezon City. After working as a secretary for a year, Jennifer came to New York to visit her sister and decided to call it home. Not long after, she became a travel manager for Malaysian Airlines, a job she enjoyed for 35 years. Her specialty was hosting trips to Manila for travel agents to encourage them to sell such excursions to their clientele. These sojourns also gave her

an opportunity to schmooze with airline personnel and often have her seat upgraded. She was even granted access to the cockpit several times.

Malaysian closed their New York office in 2010 and, not yet ready to retire, Jennifer transitioned to governmental employment working as a clerk for the Nassau County Health Department before retiring in 2020.

Two years after arriving in the U.S., Jennifer met Keith Way who was struck by her beauty. To say theirs was a match made in heaven is an understatement. Two years later, they married, found their way to Glen Cove, and have lived there ever since.

"I was working at the Park Lane Hotel and Jennifer visited me one day," Keith recalled. "Next thing you know, she's chatting with the chef who invited her to lunch with him and the hotel's vice president and general manager. That's how she was, she had an infectious personality and people were drawn to her."

More meetings followed and talk of food during those get-togethers led to Jennifer becoming a full-fledged foodie, Keith recalled. After that, whenever they traveled, meals were the focal point. They visited famous restaurants and met renowned chefs.

Jennifer was predeceased by her

mother, Valentina Lurchino and her father, Benjamin. She is survived by brothers Bert and Rene, sister Rowenna Corona, stepson Charles Way and many loving nieces and nephews. And her husband, Keith.

### Frank Fazzalari

Frank Fazzalari, 89, of Glen Cove, died on Dec. 1, 2022. Beloved husband of Marie. Loving father of Frank Jr. (Donna) and Joseph. Proud grandfather of



Nikolaus and Victoria. Fazzalari was predeceased by eight older siblings. Dear brother-in-law of the late Lorenzo Todisco (Josephine). Also survived by many nieces, nephews and lifelong friends.

Visitation at Dodge-Thomas Funeral Home Sunday, 2 to 4 p.m. and 7 to 9pm. Mass at the Church of St. Rocco Monday 10 a.m. Entombment Holy Rood Cemetery.

## HERALD LGE1 1208 PUBLIC NOTICES

**LEGAL NOTICE**  
Glen Cove School District Kindergarten and Pre-Kindergarten Registration 2023-2024  
Registration for Kindergarten will begin on January 3, 2023.  
To enter Kindergarten, children must be five years old on or before December 1 of the school year.  
Registration packets are available at the following locations:  
Glen Cove School Website

- Our District, Central Registration District Office (Thayer House) located at 154 Dosoris Lane School buildings  
Registration for Pre-kindergarten will begin on February 6, 2023.  
To enter Pre-kindergarten, children must be four years old on or before December 1 of the school year.  
For both Kindergarten and Pre-K registration: Photo ID, proof of residency, proof of child's

age should be attached with registration packet. Please have all forms in the registration packet completely filled out. Drop off completed registration packets with required documentation at our District Office (Thayer House) located at 154 Dosoris Lane during business hours Monday-Friday 9:00 a.m-4:00 p.m. Please call (516) 801-7008 with any questions you may have. 135884

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## OPINIONS

## Facing life – and death – with peace and love

John Casciani died last weekend. You don't know him, but trust me, he wouldn't want anyone to fuss over him. He came into this world quietly 88 years ago, and I'm sure would prefer the same exit now.

But you can't have such a profound effect on someone's life — to the point that you almost single-handedly changed it for the better — and expect them to experience your passing as an afterthought.



**MICHAEL HINMAN**

Writing isn't just a profession for me. It's how I cope. And the moment I learned of Mr. Casciani's passing, I put pen to paper, sharing an anecdote from the very first time I

met this fascinating chemistry teacher and photography club adviser from my high school days, and how he introduced me to the magical world of the darkroom.

I talked about the value of teachers, who are key to our self-discovery of who we are. I even shared Mr. Casciani's way of making even the most mundane interesting, like when he would wager his chemistry classes he could drink a glass of boiling water — and then actually do it.

But the moment I typed the final words of that piece, I closed the document and then dumped it in the trash. Not that Mr.

Casciani doesn't deserve to be remembered, but because I simply don't know how to express my sadness that someone who touched and transformed so many lives as a teacher over the years no longer shares the same plane of existence we do.

I was going through a bad time when I first met Mr. Casciani. We all remember being teenagers, and few of us can say it was easy. But Mr. Casciani truly changed my life. Not just teaching me the skills that helped me land my first newspaper job — the fact that I could develop my own film and print my own pictures helped get me through the door of a daily newspaper when I was still in high school — but being someone who taught me it was OK to be fascinated by the world around us. That we shouldn't be ashamed of that sense of wonder.

Yet I simply couldn't find the words to express any of that. Outside of a few Facebook interactions, I hadn't had a direct conversation with Mr. Casciani since I graduated from high school in the early 1990s. But he would occasionally send me a note, usually asking me to help him remember some details about projects we worked on — like our school's television program in the days when creating television at the high school level wasn't so easy to pull off — so he could reminisce.

He would sign each of those messages

with "peace and love" — something you always felt around him. Peace and love.

I can usually write a column like this practically in my sleep, but nothing seemed right to honor this man who did so much for everyone, yet didn't want anyone to notice.

But then I remembered something else Mr. Casciani taught me. Strength doesn't come from not needing to ask for help — it comes from seeking help when you need it. Something pride interferes with all too often.

So, I sought that strength inside of me and asked for help. Marcie Schellhammer is the assistant managing editor of the Bradford Era in north-central Pennsylvania, about 30 miles from where I grew up. She's written so many beautiful columns about people that I cite her work to my own reporters when we need examples of the best way to honor people with our words.

I did everything I was supposed to do. I shared a favorite memory, and how what I learned from it changed my life. I shared the moment my eyes opened, and even talked about how Mr. Casciani helped mold me into the man I am now. But it still wasn't working.

"That's because you wrote it to write a column," Marcie told me. "You didn't write it with your heart. At least that's my process. I can't write a memorial column without crying."

**W**e all have a Mr. Casciani in our lives, and we can never thank them enough.

## No, Gwyneth, I will not buy your face cream

In this season of marathon shopping, I started wondering why I buy what I buy. There are millions of choices when it comes to our cosmetics and cars and food and OTC meds and clothing and shoes and TV series and movies and furnishings and technology, and travel and education.

So why do I scan the shelves and pick out one sneaker among the many sports shoes for sale?



**RANDI KREISS**

We think we have the power of choice, but we are bedazzled by influencers. Psychologists say that we are especially motivated by celebrity endorsements that suggest we can acquire good looks, wealth, friends and

celebrity itself by buying the car that George Clooney drives or wearing the athletic shoes that Selena Gomez wears or drinking the Coke that LeBron James, Penelope Cruz or Michelle Kwan drinks.

Various media put enormous money into advertising campaigns that feature celebrities touting their products. For me, it's a waste of their time and money. When a

celebrity flogs a product, my avoidance mode kicks in. I love Matthew McConaughey, but I'm not buying a Lincoln because he looks dreamy sitting behind the wheel in the TV commercials. I am not buying Gwyneth Paltrow's skin cream thinking it will make me look like her.

I mean, why would I buy a Dior product because Charlize Theron is their public face? She's a gorgeous 8-foot-tall South African beauty. My life, inside this body of mine, bears no resemblance to her existence. Dior face cream will not help. I resist.

I'm crazy about Reese Witherspoon and I love Crate & Barrel products, but I'm not buying a new couch because she's their "brand ambassador."

I can't argue that celebrity endorsements don't work, because apparently they pay off big time, or companies wouldn't seek out famous people to push their products. I just don't think it works for me, and I would urge others to look at their prospective purchases in a clear-eyed way, setting aside the celebrity glam factor.

Drew Barrymore has associated herself with Crocs. What the heck? Should I buy a clutz shoe because she tells me to? What

does she know about shoes or me or the value of her product? As for the Kardashians, well, how much time do you have? Who are they, exactly, and how many of them are in the public eye, and what is their skill set?

They endorse various hair products, and

I imagine their pitch is to young people, but why? They are the most famous people who are famous just for being famous.

Epic flops and scandals have haunted the celebrity endorsement industry. Kanye West recently unraveled with his nonstop antisemitic rants. He lost Adidas, Balenciaga, Foot Locker, Gap, and others. Michael Phelps was dropped by Kellogg's years ago, after a photo circulated of him smoking marijuana.

Today, with a net worth of some \$80 million, he can boast associations with Intel, Subway, Under Armor, Beats and Visa. The weed factor is passe.

Years back, according to E-News, Madonna landed a one-year contract as the celebrity spokesperson for Pepsi. A two-minute family-friendly ad premiered wherein the singer revisited her eighth birthday. But the next day, Madonna's video for "Like a Prayer" debuted. The video featured burn-

ing crosses, and stigmata. After an outcry from religious groups, Pepsi canceled its ad.

My friends are my greatest influencers. I buy what they tell me to buy; I watch the TV that they suggest; I read the books they send my way.

I also take seriously consumer reviews from reliable websites. I have found new doctors by reading online reviews.

I have one friend whom I love who has mysterious powers over my purchasing decisions. When we're together, we sometimes shop. I find myself buying what she tells me to buy — even the outsized blouse with a geometric print that makes my eyes burn. Sometimes there's a pricey item I don't need, but if she tells me I need it, boom, it's in the shopping bag. I don't know what it is. My only defense is not to go shopping with her too often. Because if she tells me I need the striped balloon pants in neon green, it's circus time for me.

As we go about our Christmas and Hanukkah shopping, it might be wise to consider who is influencing our purchases. One of the oldest and longest-running celebrity endorsements was launched by Jell-O in the early 1970s, when they hired a 37-year-old actor named Bill Cosby. Presumably Jell-O has wiggled onward without him.

Peace and love.

*Michael Hinman is executive editor of the Herald Community Newspapers. Comments? Execeditor@liherald.com.*

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# HERALD EDITORIAL

## Roosevelt's address to the nation, Dec. 8, 1941

**M**r. Vice President, Mr. Speaker, members of the Senate, and of the House of Representatives:

Yesterday, Dec. 7, 1941 — a date which will live in infamy — the United States of America was suddenly and deliberately attacked by naval and air forces of the Empire of Japan.

The United States was at peace with that nation, and at the solicitation of Japan, was still in conversation with its government and its emperor, looking toward the maintenance of peace in the Pacific.

Indeed, one hour after Japanese air squadrons had commenced bombing in the American island of Oahu, the Japanese ambassador to the United States and his colleague delivered to our secretary of state a formal reply to a recent American message. And while this reply stated that it seemed useless to continue the existing diplomatic negotiations, it contained no threat or hint of war or of armed attack.

It will be recorded that the distance of Hawaii from Japan makes it obvious that the attack was deliberately planned many days or even weeks ago. During the intervening time, the Japanese gov-

ernment has deliberately sought to deceive the United States by false statements and expressions of hope for continued peace.

The attack yesterday on the Hawaiian islands has caused severe damage to American naval and military forces. I regret to tell you that very many American lives have been lost. In addition, American ships have been reported torpedoed on the high seas between San Francisco and Honolulu.

Yesterday, the Japanese government also launched an attack against Malaya.

Last night, Japanese forces attacked Hong Kong.

Last night, Japanese forces attacked Guam.

Last night, Japanese forces attacked the Philippine islands.

Last night, the Japanese attacked Wake Island.

And this morning, the Japanese attacked Midway Island.

Japan has, therefore, undertaken a surprise offensive extending throughout the Pacific area.

The facts of yesterday and today speak for themselves. The people of the United States have already formed their opinions and well understand the impli-

cations to the very life and safety of our nation.

As commander-in-chief of the Army and Navy, I have directed that all measures be taken for our defense. But always, will our whole nation remember the character of the onslaught against us?

No matter how long it may take us to overcome this premeditated invasion, the American people in their righteous might will win through to absolute victory.

I believe that I interpret the will of the Congress and of the people when I assert that we will not only defend ourselves to the uttermost, but will make it very certain that this form of treachery shall never again endanger us.

Hostilities exist. There is no blinking at the fact that our people, our territory and our interests are in grave danger.

With confidence in our armed forces, with the unbounding determination of our people, we will gain the inevitable triumph, so help us God.

I ask that the Congress declare that since the unprovoked and dastardly attack by Japan on Sunday, Dec. 7, 1941, a state of war has existed between the United States and the Japanese empire.

## LETTERS

### We are filled with gratitude

To the Editor:

On behalf of our family, we want to express our gratitude to Mayor Pamela Panzenback, the Glen Cove Police Department and the Glen Cove Emergency Medical Technicians. Sadly, on Nov. 1, we lost our family patriarch, Anthony Petrella who was a 91-year resident of the city and a proud Korean War veteran.

The EMT's arrived promptly and were very empathetic, caring and professional. We asked the mayor that on the day of our father's funeral that he be escorted out of the city he loved with honor and dignity. She arranged for an amazing escort where the GCPD brought our father one last time, not only to his current home, but past his childhood home as well.

We want to thank the GCPD for an amazing job and a special thank you to Officer Caruso who stayed with our family the morning of our father's death. Dad loved Glen Cove, its beaches and its residents. He would have been so



proud of how this community reacted to the loss of one of their own and for seeing that he depart one last time with pride.

THE PETRELLA FAMILY  
Glen Cove

### Taking the air out of balloon releases

To the Editor:

Thank you to Senior Reporter Jordan Vallone for



## OPINIONS

# The red wave that wasn't, and the crime wave that isn't

**D**espite expectations, Republicans ended up underperforming on Nov. 8. Although Republicans narrowly captured the House, Democrats kept the Senate and even managed to flip multiple state chambers blue, including capturing the governor's office in Arizona, of all places.

Peculiarly, however, Republicans had one of their best nights in none other than the deep-blue Democratic stronghold of New York. They flipped a staggering one-fifth of all Democratic congressional seats here, and nearly unseated Democratic Gov. Kathy Hochul.

How did they pull it off? Fear of crime. While in most of the nation, inflation and preserving democracy were the top two issues, polling from New York City in May showed that the No. 1 issue on people's minds was crime — and it wasn't even close.

Leading up to the election, the Republicans unleashed a barrage of fear-monger-

ing on the good people of Nassau County. For their part, the Democrats, as usual, were yet again unable to show a spine and attack the Republican narrative. But at any rate, it seems the Republican assault on our collective psyche was successful.

There's just one problem. There's no actual crime wave.

It's completely normal to be worried about crime; we all deserve to be safe in our neighborhoods. But the facts just don't bear it out. Did you know that the numbers of murders, rapes and sexual crimes have all gone down this year compared with last, according to official Nassau County Police Department data? Surprising, I know. And all things considered, we're actually in one of the safest periods ever in our county.

There have been increases in crime, but they've been related to property, not violent crimes. And even with the increase in property crimes, it is still exceedingly rare for a Nassau resident to be a victim of such a crime. The most common crime defined as "major" this year was grand larceny. You know what

your chances of being a victim of grand larceny are? About 0.002 percent.

But I can definitely understand the claim that we all *feel* an air of crime here in Nassau. Blame the media: 2022 saw a spike in the media coverage of shootings in New York City that went far beyond the actual number of shootings.

It sickens me. You turn the page, a shooting. Another page, a corpse. The third page, a guy arrested for beating his girlfriend. The media fills us with dread, all to make money. And I see how my neighbors increasingly construct their own fortresses, replete with video cameras, dogs and floodlights, all out of fear of passersby.

This fear has serious consequences, increasing anxiety, social withdrawal, and unraveling the social fabric of neighborhoods. This is no way to live.

At the same time, I don't want to live in a county where we see an increasing number of desperate people turning to theft to survive. After all, if you can't work, you go hungry, and stealing catalytic converters beats going hungry.

So what can we do?

Let's start with a price cap on gas in Nassau County, to fight inflation and bring relief to millions at the pump. Next, the county should put people to work at a good wage to finally fix these damn potholes. And thirdly, let's keep kids off the streets by fully funding schools, and lower violent crime by having Nassau replace our lead pipes, which contribute to lead poisoning, which researchers have tied to aggressive and impulsive behavior.

Too bad the Republican-led County Legislature won't do any of that. In fact, when adjusted for inflation, Nassau's 2023 budget actually has less funding for special education and early-intervention programs. Nothing about lead pipes, or gas price caps. Don't the Republicans care about preventing crime?

It's OK to have a healthy fear of crime, and it's OK to take measures to keep yourself safe. But I implore my friends: Don't let politicians and the media manipulate you. It is imperative that we do not fear our neighbor.

*Matthew Adarichev is a public policy major at Hofstra University, a political activist and an aspiring journalist whose work has appeared in the Hofstra Chronicle and the Anton Media Group.*



**MATTHEW ADARICHEV**

**T**he numbers of major crimes in Nassau County have actually gone down this year.

## LETTERS

her well-written piece, "Balloon Mission is up and away: Planning initial projects, nonprofit sets tone for future" (Bellmore and Merrick Herald, Dec. 1-7, [liherald.com/merrick/stories/balloon-mission-is-up-and-away](http://liherald.com/merrick/stories/balloon-mission-is-up-and-away), 152602). And bravo to Cynthia Seibold, of North Merrick, for using the pandemic to start a nonprofit group, Balloon Mission, committed to stopping the inane practice of releasing balloons into the environment as a form of celebration.

Balloons are made of rubber, latex or nylon fabric, which does not break down easily — a polyurethane balloon can take up to 450 years to decompose, according to the University of Melbourne. In the wild, balloons get caught in trees and underbrush, where they are shredded by branches. Over time, they appear to disintegrate, but what is really happening is the balloons are further breaking down into microplastics, which then become ingrained in soil and water systems. From there, they are ingested by animals and marine creatures — and then by we humans at the top of the food chain.

In 2019, the Town of Southampton passed a law banning the intentional release of balloons — with a fine of \$350 or imprisonment for up to 15 days for a first

offense. Subsequent offenses would receive harsher penalties. The Town of Hempstead has a similar ordinance on the books, also passed in 2019, but the fine for intentional release cannot exceed \$100, and there is no provision for jail time. I would like to see Hempstead pass an ordinance with stronger teeth.

As a town resident, though, I am heartened to see Hempstead working with Balloon Mission to educate the public about the myriad dangers that balloon releases present — particularly to the 17,000 acres and 180 miles of coastal waterways under the town's jurisdiction.

Finally, each of us can play our part in helping to reduce plastics in the environment. When you see a plastic bottle or rubber balloon on the street in your neighborhood, pick it up and throw it away. I'm a runner. When you run and collect garbage, it's called plogging, a Swedish fitness term. Hempstead would do well, though, to add more trash cans for recyclables at its parks, like those at the Levy Preserve in Merrick. This way, when folks are out collecting garbage, they could easily recycle plastic bottles and aluminum cans.

SCOTT A. BRINTON  
*Merrick*

## FRAMEWORK by Tim Baker



Here's hoping they're bundled up out there — Sea Cliff Yacht Club



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