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Casino night brings new vibe
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Boys and ghouls parade in G.C.
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VOL. 33 NO. 45 OCTOBER 31 - NOVEMBER 6, 2024 \$1.00



Courtesy Henry Garcia

Amy Peters, who died last week, founded the Deep Roots Farmers Market 10 years ago.

Remembering Amy Peters, Deep Roots founder and activist

By **ROKSANA AMID**

ramid@liherald.com

Amy Peters, the founder of Deep Roots Farmers Market and a founding member of the Rusty String Band, died last week after a hard-fought battle with lung cancer. The 62-year-old left a legacy of food sustainability, community activism, and the enduring power of music.

Peters launched Deep Roots Farmers Market a decade ago, starting with a humble farm stand in Sea Cliff.

"When she started, it was literally her going to pick up eggs from the egg guy, then heading over to get vegetables from local farms," said her husband, Dave Berg, who watched her vision for the market grow.

What began as the Sea Cliff Farmers Market eventually moved to Garvies Point, in Glen Cove. With local produce from the East End, artisan breads, empanadas, and a sense of togetherness, Deep Roots became a fixture in the city.

"Amy believed deeply in food justice, in making good, clean, organic food accessible to everyone," Emily Berg, her stepdaughter, said. "I feel like Amy had the foresight to realize how much of an asset this kind of work is in the community. It created a third space for the community to gather. She believed in the power of small things making a big difference and adding up. I think she saw (Deep Roots) as a way for something she could do, and she played that role so

CONTINUED ON PAGE 22

Early voters join the lines, crowding polls

By **ROKSANA AMID**

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In a historic show of civic engagement, Long Islanders turned out in droves for the first day of early voting in this year's general election, with Glen Cove City Hall witnessing long lines and over an hour's wait for eager voters.

By 9:30 a.m. last Saturday, more than 100 people had queued outside the hall. This year's turnout of more than 29,000 Nassau County residents on the first day of early voting is a substantial increase over 2020, with over 12,000 registered Democrats and more than 10,000 Republicans casting votes.

While New York was a relatively late adopter of early voting, the policy's impact on voter turnout has been profound. According to Vote Early New York, voter participation surged nearly 45 percent statewide in 2019 over the election in 2015. Now, early voting is available in 47 states and U.S. territories,

with some states even conducting all-mail elections.

For Glen Cove resident Fred Nielsen, early voting was an opportunity to fulfill what he sees as a civic responsibility, and a chance to "get the election resolved and in the books." He emphasized the importance of electing officials who genuinely

Iwould hope that local leaders would stand up and remind people that we're neighbors.

BRIAN PEMBERTON
Republican

respect the Constitution and are of strong character. Nielsen's conviction extends to what he hoped would be a more robust focus on civic education, especially for younger generations, encouraging them to engage with the democratic process without necessarily adopting their parents' political leanings.

"Politics is important," he said. "It might be messy, but people fought for this freedom, and we should absolutely exercise it."

Andrew Binder, another early voter and a Democrat, shared a similar motivation but a different set of priorities.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 13

Audit shows strong financial health

October 31, 2024 – GLEN COVE HERALD

By **ROKSANA AMID**

ramid@liherald.com

The Glen Cove City School District is entering the 2024-2025 school year with a strong financial outlook, according to an audit presented at Oct. 23 Board of Education meeting. Led by Rob Daniele, a partner at PKF O'Connor Davies, the audit revealed the district's continued fiscal discipline and some impressive savings, despite a challenging economic climate. Glen Cove closed out the previous school year with an operating surplus and a stable reserve fund balance.

In his presentation, Daniele detailed how the audit process began in June and involved a comprehensive review of the district's financial statements, compliance with laws and regulations, and internal controls. After months of analysis, the audit resulted in an unmodified opinion — the highest level of assurance, indicating that Glen Cove's financial statements fairly represent the district's financial position as of June 30, 2024.

The audit highlighted a substantial \$7.5 million surplus in the General Fund, Glen Cove's main operating account, which Daniele attributed to careful revenue management and operational savings. Revenues exceeded expectations by over \$4.8 million, while expenses came in nearly \$4 million under budget. Daniele pointed out that



Herald file photo

The Glen Cove City School District is entering the 2024-2025 school year with a strong financial outlook.

real property taxes and PILOT agreements accounted for much of the revenue, while increased state aid and a significant rise in interest earnings also contributed to the surplus. On the expense side, the district managed to save in several areas, even as costs increased in others, such as special education, health insurance, and maintenance.

One of the district's major financial strengths is its robust system of reserve

funds, which includes funds for employee retirement, tax challenges, and capital projects. These reserves, Daniele explained, will allow Glen Cove to handle potential liabilities and offer tax relief without straining the budget. The district has maintained its reserves while staying within New York's 2 percent tax cap, a requirement that's been in place since 2011. Glen Cove's reserves are critical to its ability to maintain financial stability and to secure favor-

able interest rates on any future bonds issued for major projects.

Although Glen Cove has some debt from bonds and an energy performance contract, the district's debt obligations are minimal relative to its overall budget. This year, Glen Cove's debt service payments are projected at about \$1 million, with a decrease expected over the next two years. Daniele noted that maintaining these low debt levels contributes significantly to the district's overall fiscal health.

Superintendent Maria Rianna, who has overseen the district for the past 12 years, expressed gratitude to PKF O'Connor Davies and specifically credited the district's Assistant Superintendent for Business for their diligence in building the district's financial strength.

"I came into these district 12 years ago, and we had some financial issues at the time," Rianna said. "O'Connor Davies has helped us tremendously over the period of time, guiding us."

Despite rising costs for salaries, health insurance, and retirement contributions, Glen Cove's disciplined approach has positioned it well for future financial needs and potential state aid cuts. As the district looks ahead, its financial management and reserve strength will be crucial to supporting Glen Cove students while keeping the community's tax burden in check.

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Photos courtesy Joanne Yee

The City of Glen Cove Youth Bureau hosted its 12th Annual Wine Tasting Gala on Oct. 24.

Wine gala pours \$20K into youth programs

By **ROKSANA AMID**

ramid@liherald.com

The City of Glen Cove Youth Bureau hosted its 12th Annual Wine Tasting Gala on Oct. 24, attracting 170 guests to a festive evening dedicated to supporting youth programs that impact thousands of local kids each year. This year, the casino-themed evening was held at the Glen Cove Mansion, and brought in around \$20,000 which will go toward after-school programs, mentoring initiatives, and the Summer Youth Employment Program. “When you do something for 12 years, it can get stale,” noted Spiro Tsirkas, executive director of Glen Cove’s Youth Services and Recreation. “We wanted to try something different, so we added a casino room this year to create a fresh vibe.”

This substantial fundraising boost supplements the budget provided by the city, helping the Youth Bureau offer additional resources for Glen Cove’s young residents. According to Tsirkas, “On a good year, this can mean an extra \$5,000 to \$6,000 per program, covering things like supplies, trips, equipment, and even clothing.” The funds raised at the gala allow the Youth Bureau to expand its reach, providing essential services to about 3,000 children annually.

Patricia Telese, co-chair of the Youth Board, has been involved with the Bureau for 12 years. “I wanted to be part of the process, helping our kids and giving them the support they need so they can give back to their own communities,” Telese shared. She highlighted popular programs like the summer camp, which provides supervision, role models, and activities for children while parents are at work. After-school programs run by the Bureau offer homework help, socialization opportunities, and peace of mind for working parents.

Charmaine Clarke, the Bureau’s mentoring coordinator and social worker, emphasizes that the Bureau’s services are open to all. “For the most part, people assume the Youth Bureau is only for economically challenged families, but that’s not so. We support just about anyone, regardless of their pay grade,” Clarke



This is the first year the fundraiser held a casino-themed gala.

explained. The after-school program even includes free transportation from school to the Youth Center, where kids can complete their homework, participate in recreational activities, and enjoy a snack in a supportive environment. “You start first with a welcoming atmosphere,” Clarke said. “The staff is at the door to greet them. When they come in, they sit down for a snack, and they have access to resources they might not have at home.”

The Youth Bureau’s mission is to provide enriching, supportive programs that empower youth in Glen Cove. With each annual gala, the Bureau strengthens its role in the lives of local children, offering them the tools to build brighter futures and reinforcing the values of community, compassion, and growth.

Spiro Tsirkas, left, is optimistic about the future of the Youth Bureau with continued support from the community and Mayor Pamela Panzenbeck, right.



Courtesy Gill Associates Photography

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— Ram Dass

“If we’re not reflecting on the impermanent nature of life, then there are a lot of unimportant things that seem important.”

— Allison Choying Zangmo

“Remembering that I’ll be dead soon is the most important tool I’ve ever encountered to help me make the big choices in life.”

— Steve Jobs

“Think of yourself as dead. You have lived your life. Now, take what’s left and live it properly.”

— Marcus Aurelius

“We drift on a chartless, resistless sea. Let us sing while we can, and forget the rest.”

— H. P. Lovecraft

“Death is not waiting for us at the end of a long road. Death is always with us, in the marrow of every passing moment. She is the secret teacher hiding in plain sight, helping us to discover what matters most.”

— Frank Ostaseski

“Never mind. Never mind. In this brief life, one cannot always be counting the cost.”

— Christopher Isherwood

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WHAT'S NEWS IN AND OUT OF THE CLASSROOM

HERALD SCHOOLS



Courtesy Glen Cove City School District

PSEG Long Island presented the district with an \$89,108 rebate check, reflecting substantial energy efficiency achievements.

Glen Cove schools partner with PSEG for efficiency

The Glen Cove City School District has partnered with PSEG Long Island and Ecosystem on an Energy Performance Contract, bringing significant energy-saving upgrades without added tax impact. After two bond proposals for facility improvements fell through, the district joined PSEG Long Island's Rebate Program, becoming one of the first districts on Long Island to do so.

The partnership has enabled essential upgrades across campuses, including new LED lighting, updated boilers, solar panels, heating and cooling systems, and Variable Frequency Drives. These efforts were celebrated at a recent walkthrough at Glen Cove High School, where PSEG Long Island presented the district with an \$89,108

rebate check, reflecting substantial energy efficiency achievements. The upgrades are projected to save the district approximately \$80,000 annually, with 50 percent of its electricity now generated from solar power across four schools.

Victoria Galante, Assistant Superintendent for Business, commended the collaboration as a model of Glen Cove's commitment to sustainability and financial responsibility. The project, already yielding impressive results, includes further planned enhancements such as smart scheduling and energy-efficient hot water pumps. The district anticipates even greater energy savings and a healthier learning environment as additional projects reach completion.

GLEN COVE

HERALD

HOW TO REACH US

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

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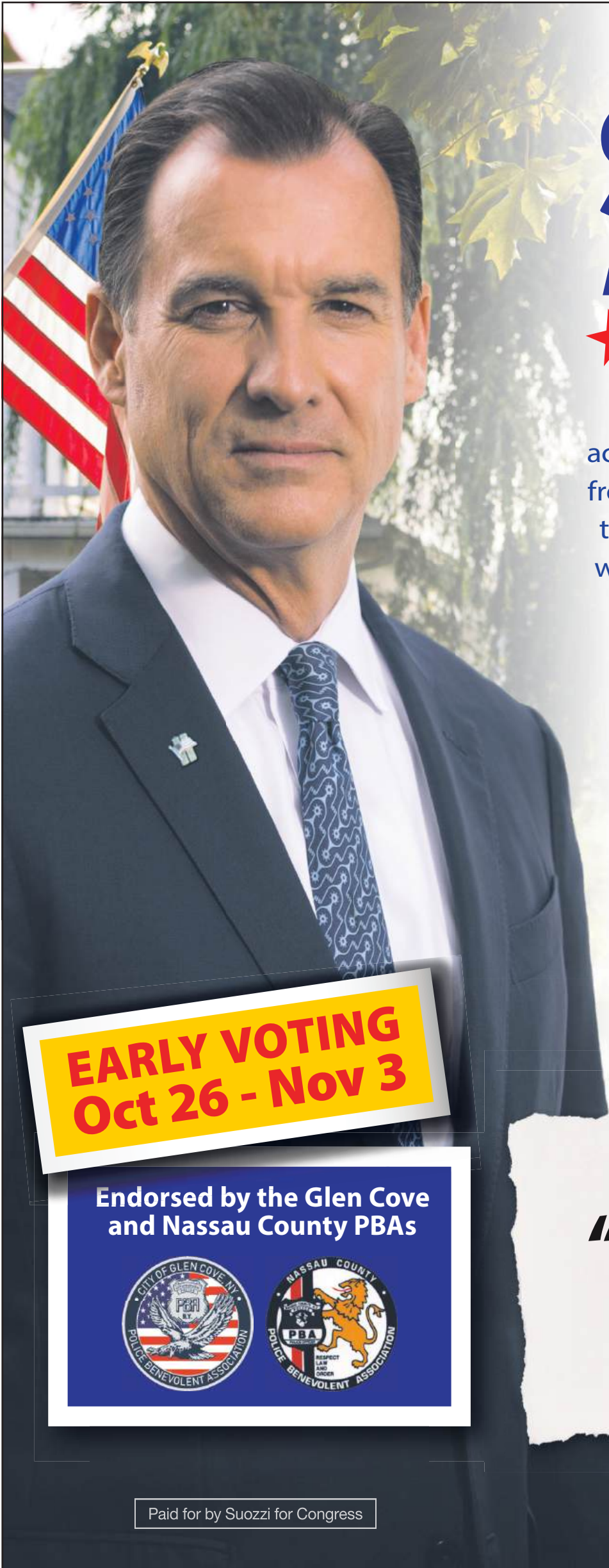
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VIEWFINDER ▶ If you could choose anyone, who would make a good president? Why?

By Danielle Schwab & Tim Baker

Havana Munsuz –
Age 9, Locust Valley

My mom (Lenia Matias). I think she would make equal rights for every person. She supports LGBTQ rights, and she's also a woman. All the presidents are boys, and we should have a girl as a president. We read a book about the election together.



Michael Lutz –
Age 7, Rockville Centre

My dad (Eric Donohoe) because he's basically like Donald Trump. Also, my mom (Shannon Donohoe) because she's technically almost the same as my dad. She would get more jobs in America, put the prices down so if it was \$3 it would be \$2 and she would get more American-made products.



Nicholas Kemp
Age 5, East Rockaway

I want Aaron Judge to be president but I (also) don't want him because he's playing baseball and he won't hit any more home runs. If he was president I think he would be so happy.



Amelia Geraghty
Age 8, East Meadow

I think John F. Kennedy because if he ever did something wrong, his wife, Jacqueline Kennedy would have stood up for civil rights for women. I don't think he would do anything wrong. And he was also young (when he was president). The older you are, the more you forget. I've read a lot of books about him and Jacqueline Kennedy.



Tasnim and Taha Laghroudi

Tasnim, age 8; Taha, age 10, Wantagh
My teacher Ms. Sanders (my third grade teacher) would make a good president because she's really fun and she's very serious so we do our work instead of just playing around the whole time. Teachers are hard working and they've been through a lot of lessons and teachings, and they're responsible for people in their class.

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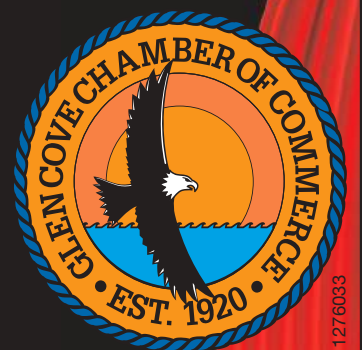
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NEWS BRIEFS

Northwell is a healthy work space

Northwell Health has been recognized for the fifth consecutive year in the top 10 of the Healthiest 100 Places to Work in America. This annual ranking, conducted by Healthiest Employers, celebrates organizations that prioritize employee health and wellness. Northwell President and CEO Michael Dowling expressed pride in this achievement, stating, "The physical and emotional health of our 87,000 team members is a top priority for us. Our mission in caring for the people who are caring for our patients underscores our pursuit in raising health for all we are privileged to serve."

The assessment covers six categories, including Culture and Leadership Commitment, Foundational Components, Strategic Planning, Communications and Marketing, Programming and Interventions, and Reporting and Analytics. As New York State's largest healthcare provider and private employer, Northwell offers a wide range of resources for team members. These include support for heart-healthy eating goals, diabetes care, emotional well-being services, crisis support,

stress management resources, and programs focused on substance use prevention and cessation. Northwell also provides family-oriented wellness activities to promote creative expression, health education, and emotional support for employees and their families.

Maxine Carrington, Northwell's senior vice president and chief people officer, emphasized that the award is a testament to Northwell's commitment to fostering a supportive culture where every team member can thrive. "At Northwell, we believe that when our people are well, they experience more fulfilling lives and bring their best to everything they do," Carrington said.

Northwell Health cares for over two million people annually through its 21 hospitals, 900 outpatient facilities, and more than 12,000 affiliated physicians. The health system leads medical advancements at the Feinstein Institutes for Medical Research and provides training through the Zucker School of Medicine and Hofstra Northwell School of Nursing and Physician Assistant Studies.

Seniors can be honored with banners

The City of Glen Cove is celebrating its Class of 2025 graduates with a unique initiative to display personalized banners on lampposts throughout the downtown area. Last spring, approximately 70 banners featuring yearbook photos of graduating seniors lined Cedar Swamp Road, Brewster Street, and Glen Street, creating a visually inspiring route through the city. The initiative, spearheaded by Joan Mini of the Beautification Committee and Elizabeth Mestres, who also serves with the Department of Public Works, aims to honor the accomplishments of local students and foster a sense of community pride.

Inspired by similar programs in other Long Island communities, Glen Cove's project highlights the hard work and achievements of its youth, providing families and residents with a way to publicly celebrate each student's milestone. Families will be able to keep them afterward as keepsakes.

This collaboration between the Department of Public Works, the Glen Cove Education Foundation, and the Beautification Committee reflects a community-wide effort to support local students as they transition to new chapters in their lives. It's a meaningful display of pride and encouragement, showcasing Glen Cove's commitment to celebrating its future gen-



Courtesy Elizabeth Mestres

Jocelyn Flores', class of 2024, banner.

erations and inspiring the community with each graduate's success.

To sign up or sponsor a graduate, families are encouraged to contact Liz at the Glen Cove Department of Public Works at 516-676-4402 or visit the provided website for details. Banners can be purchased until Feb. 21 of 2025.



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Mike LiPetri Jr. highlights 'common sense'

By WILL SHEELINE

wsheeline@liherald.com

Mike LiPetri Jr., the Republican candidate in New York's 3rd Congressional District, is pitching himself as a "next-generation leader" focused on restoring checks and balances to government, supporting law enforcement, and reducing the high cost of living for Long Islanders. A former State Assemblyman and a lifelong Long Island resident, LiPetri is framing his campaign around action and tangible solutions.

His approach to public safety and law enforcement is a central component of his platform. In the State Legislature, he claimed he was a vocal opponent of the "defund the police" movement and introduced legislation aimed at criminalizing attacks on officers, enhancing penalties for resisting arrest, and increasing access to Department of Motor Vehicle records for law enforcement. He has pledged to expand on this at the federal level, including supporting the death penalty for those convicted of killing police officers.

Additionally, LiPetri has outlined a strict stance against the trafficking of fentanyl and other illicit drugs, advocating life sentences for drug dealers linked to overdose deaths. He calls for designating Mexican and Chinese cartels foreign terrorist organizations to restrict the flow of drugs into the U.S.

Despite this support for law and order, when asked about his thoughts on the Jan. 6 Insurrection and whether he trusts

this year's election results, LiPetri merely said that he "believed in our democracy."

"We have to believe that we can do what's right, and people have to trust the government again," he said. "I believe that that's what's going to happen in 2024, and I believe Republicans will prevail entirely, because we're the party of common sense."

LiPetri's platform also focuses on easing Long Islanders' economic burdens, which he attributes to the "one-party rule" in New York and federal mismanagement. One of his primary goals is to address the high cost of living by supporting tax relief measures. He proposes eliminating taxes on overtime and Social Security and reinstating the SALT tax deduction.

LiPetri also supports lifting the child care deduction cap, covering expenses for day care, formula, and other child-rearing essentials, which he believes will allow families to keep more money in their pockets.

Water quality, particularly in Long Island's aquifers, is another focal point of his campaign. He supports the establishment of a National Water Quality Task Force, modeled after his statewide initiative, to address local and regional water infrastructure issues.

With Long Island's single-source aquifer under stress, LiPetri intends to lobby for federal funding to improve outdated infrastructure, promote the use of permeable asphalt to enhance water absorption, and reduce saltwater intrusion.



Jordan Vallone/Herald

Mike LiPetri Jr., the challenger in the 3rd Congressional District, is not a fan of Democrats' control of state government.

While he is opposed to a national abortion ban, LiPetri emphasizes a state-centric approach to reproductive rights. He voiced his support for New York's existing abortion laws, opposing late-term procedures except when necessary to protect the mother's life.

"I trust women to make that choice within a reasonable period," he said.

LiPetri is a proponent of reinstating Trump-era border policies, including Title 42, which allows for the immediate expulsion of migrants on public health grounds. He argued that a secure border

HERALD ROUNDTABLE

is essential to limit the influx of drugs and undocumented immigrants, which he ties to local crime and economic strain.

"We had a secure border before the Biden administration," he asserted, although he did not cite any evidence to support the claim.

LiPetri's commitment to veterans' issues is shaped by his family background and personal experiences. He is pushing for broad access to mental health care and full medical benefits for veterans. Citing statistics that show alarming suicide rates among veterans, he said he wants to expand mental health programs like the Joseph P. Dwyer Veteran Peer Support Program, which provides counseling services to veterans in New York.

LiPetri said his vision for Long Island centers on making it a more affordable and secure place to live while preserving its unique environment and quality of life. He sees his experience as an attorney and former assemblyman as an asset, bringing legal expertise to the legislative process and a dedication to bipartisan solutions.

"We ultimately want to be doing what's right, not what's easy, to make a difference for our future generations," he said. "We want to make sure people flock to Long Island, not flee Long Island."

Suozzi focuses on tax relief, border security

By ROKSANA AMID

ramid@liherald.com

Congressman Tom Suozzi, running for re-election in New York's 3rd Congressional District, isn't just defending his seat — he's out to solve the core issues facing his community. He has a straightforward, results-focused vision, emphasizing his dedication to practical solutions over partisan fighting. From immigration to affordability to reproductive rights, Suozzi says his constituents want something simple: real solutions, less bickering, and a shot at a better quality of life.

"Interestingly, immigration and border security are still the top concerns for District 3," Suozzi said. "People see border issues as urgent and are just exhausted — from rising costs and from the endless bickering. They're asking for results." Suozzi, who has built his campaign around practical and collaborative solutions, promises to keep his focus on policies that deliver for his district, and moving away from divisive rhetoric.

One of his primary goals is repealing the state and local tax deduction cap, which he says is a burden for middle-class homeowners. His earlier attempts to do so were blocked in the Senate, but Suozzi is committed to making it a centerpiece if he is re-elected. "If I'm back on the Ways

and Means Committee, I'll be in a powerful position to push for SALT restoration," he said. The deduction cap, introduced in 2017, is set to expire in 2025, which he says could open a crucial window for tax relief.

Another top priority for Suozzi is curbing prescription drug costs. He praised recent efforts to cap insulin at \$35, but expressed frustration that drug prices remain high across the board. "It's a start, but we need to go further," he said. He points to new legislation allowing Medicare and Medicaid to negotiate drug prices as a significant step forward, but insists the policy should be expanded. "We pay much higher prices than other countries, and we need to rein in Big Pharma's influence to keep prices fair for all," he added.

The cost of living on Long Island remains a concern, and Suozzi acknowledged inflation's impact on District 3. "Interest rates are finally coming down, and unemployment is low, which is good news," he said, "but costs are still high, and people feel it every day." He sees global factors — like Covid-related supply chain issues and rising energy prices resulting from Russia's war with Ukraine — as critical to managing inflation. "We need to keep supply chains open, watch tariffs carefully, and pursue energy inde-

pendence to stabilize prices," he said.

On immigration, Suozzi stresses the need for a bipartisan approach. He has partnered with Republicans on reforms that include securing the border while protecting so-called Dreamers and Temporary Protected Status recipients. "Our immigration system is broken and long overdue for a fix," he said, calling for a solution that honors the country's immigrant legacy without sacrificing security.

A longtime advocate for the environment, Suozzi says he is determined to secure more funding for Long Island's water and sewer infrastructure. "We have unprecedented climate funding thanks to the (Inflation Reduction) Act, and we need a share of that here," he said. Although he drives an electric car, Suozzi acknowledges the challenges residents face, such as high insurance costs for electric vehicles. "I believe in the green transition," he said, "but it has to be affordable."

Foreign policy is equally critical, with Suozzi calling for strong U.S. alliances with Israel and Ukraine and cooperation with Arab allies to counter destabilizing forces like Iran. "We need to stand with our allies while ensuring we don't escalate tensions," he said.

Back at home, Suozzi is a proponent of red-flag laws and universal background checks to address gun violence, and



Will Sheeline/Herald

Tom Suozzi, the incumbent, remains optimistic about working across party lines.

believes women's rights need federal protection. He advocates codifying Roe v. Wade, saying, "Health care should never depend on where you live," and notes his 100% rating from Planned Parenthood.

Suozzi remains optimistic about working across party lines. "I've always believed that the only way forward is together," he said.

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Councilman Steve Labriola
Town Clerk Richard LaMarca
Receiver of Taxes Jeffrey P. Pravato

Newsday
Nassau County Police Benevolent Association
Nassau County Sheriff's Correction Officers Benevolent Association
Nassau County Police Superior Officers Association
Association of Former Detectives of Nassau County
Fire Marshal Benevolent Association of Nassau County
CSEA-Civil Service Employees Association
PEF-Public Employees Federation
PCNY-Police Conference of New York

AFSCME-American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees
LiUNA! NY
IBEW Local 1049
Suffolk County Police Benevolent Association
Suffolk County Correction Officers Association
The Humane Society Legislative Fund
Medical Society of the State of New York
The Business Council of New York State
The Long Island Gasoline Retailers Association



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Tammy Lanham/Herald photos

The parade in downtown Glen Cove was filled with spook-tacular costumes.

Halloween Fest a “Boo-tiful” Success

Monsters, super heroes, princesses and creatures of all kinds made their way through the streets of Glen Cove during the Downtown Business Improvement District’s annual Children’s Costume Parade on Saturday. The celebration featured a children’s parade through downtown, starting from the Staples parking lot. The event included a costume contest for kids ages 0-12, with prizes for different age groups and special categories for scariest and most creative costumes. Children ages 8-14 participated in a pie-eating contest, while festival activities included games, pony rides, bounce houses, live DJ music, and trick-or-treating at local businesses.

—Roksana Amid



Boys and ghouls showed off their unique Halloween costumes.



Victor Nagy with his three daughters, Victoria (9), Cora (12) and Melody (11) enjoyed some fun in the sun after the parade.



Robert, Maria and Matteo Giammarinaro brought Minion mayhem to Glen Cove’s Halloween parade.



Elliott Montalvan with his son, Gabriel, age 4 were a Pika-perfect pair! This father-son duo electrified Glen Cove’s Halloween festivities with their matching outfits.

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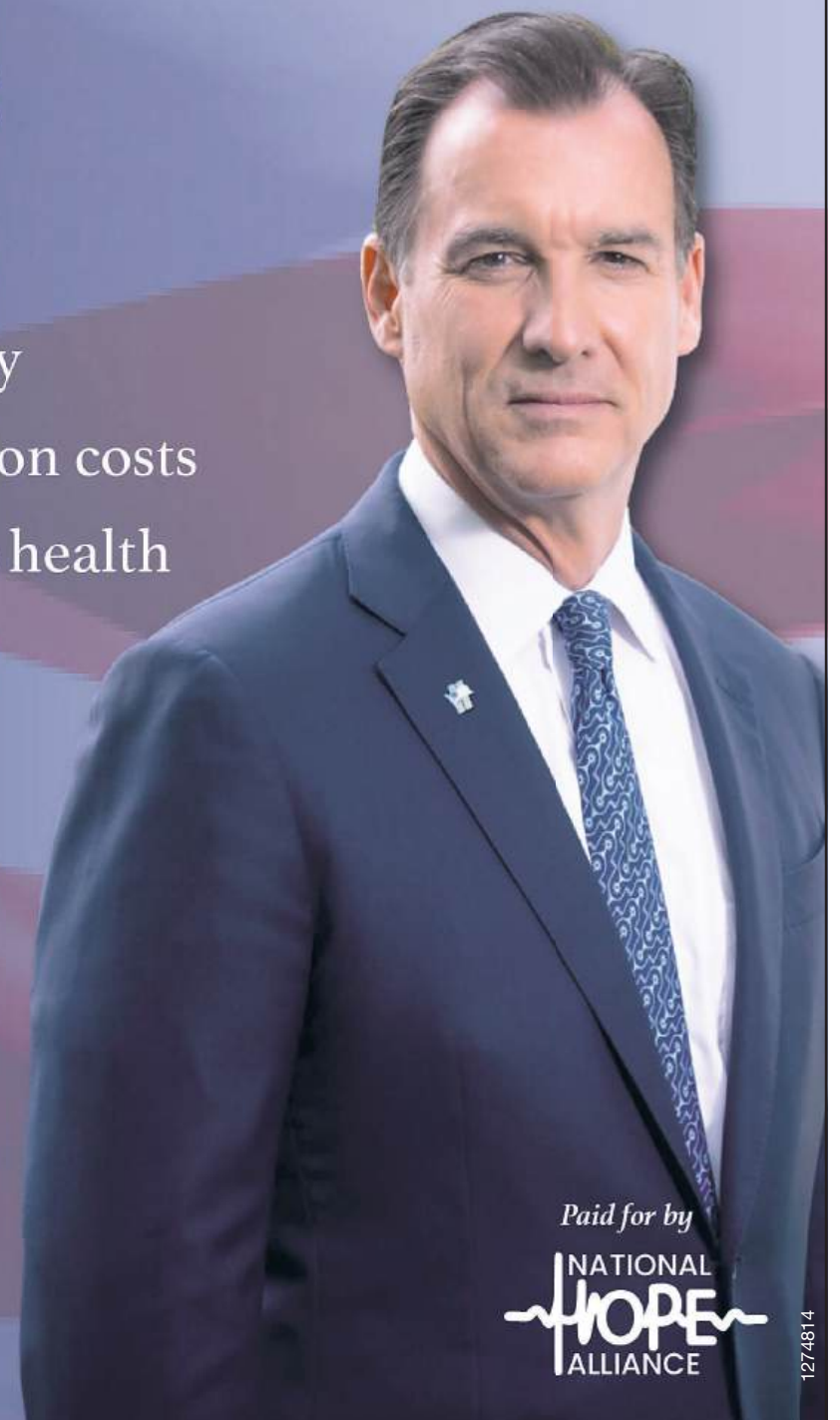
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Jake Blumencranz takes aim at local issues

By WILL SHEELINE

wsheeline@liherald.com

Assemblyman Jake Blumencranz, who represents New York's 15th Assembly District, is running for re-election with a focus on tackling three core issues: affordability, mental health, and community safety. Blumencranz, a Republican, claims he has made his priorities clear during his time in office, and if re-elected, he plans to continue addressing these challenges, which are particularly pressing for his constituents.

One of his key focuses is affordability, especially for families struggling to keep up with the high cost of living on Long Island. Blumencranz noted that insurance costs have skyrocketed, becoming a significant burden on residents. He described how, as a member of the Assembly's Insurance Committee, he is spearheading a five-point plan aimed at lowering insurance rates across the board, with a special focus on storm resiliency for coastal homes.

"We're working on creating a state-backed reinsurance fund, which would help alleviate some of the pressures coastal homeowners face," he explained.

Blumencranz also discussed the growing need for child care access, particularly in the wake of inconsistent pre-kindergarten enrollment across the state. He added that his goal is to streamline the process so that schools can better budget for enrollment and state funds. He also aims to offer incentives to new parents, linking the child care issue to the broader affordability crisis.

"The lottery system in place for pre-K leaves many parents without guaranteed seats for their children," he said.

Blumencranz, who is himself a millennial, also expressed empathy for younger generations grappling



Will Sheeline/Herald

Jake Blumencranz emphasized that residents are most concerned by affordability, mental health and safety.

with housing costs on Long Island. In addition to his efforts on insurance reform, he said he is working to address grocery price discrepancies.

"Why is milk a dollar more expensive in Oyster Bay than Plainview?" he asked, citing the need to address inefficiencies in the supply chain.

Blumencranz claims he is also committed to bipartisan cooperation, which he believes is crucial to enacting meaningful legislation. He cited his success in crafting legislation on squatting that garnered support from 50 legislators on both sides of the aisle.

"We found a middle ground that made the most sense for everyone involved, and that's the type of collaboration I plan to continue," he said.

Looking ahead, he emphasized his plans to create a

HERALD ROUNDTABLE

"Sunshine Commission," a bipartisan initiative aimed at identifying inefficiencies in state spending. "We're burning through money in inefficient ways, and it's costing the state billions," Blumencranz said.

Public safety also remains a priority for him. While Nassau is considered one of the safest counties in the nation, he warned against complacency. Blumencranz has introduced legislation aimed at tackling home invasions by addressing the use of Wi-Fi signal jammers, which have hindered both residents and law enforcement during break-ins. He also supports the expansion of license plate reader systems throughout the county to enhance intelligence-led policing.

In the realm of mental health, Blumencranz expressed concern about the growing crisis, both in schools and the larger community. He highlighted the need to address the proliferation of deep-fakes and other harmful uses of artificial intelligence, which have led to serious consequences for educators in other countries.

"We need to start funding departments now to tackle these issues before they become an even bigger problem in New York," Blumencranz said.

As he seeks re-election, Blumencranz is positioning himself as a centrist focused on practical solutions. He expressed frustration with the polarization of today's political climate, particularly in online media.

"It's hard to be a policy wonk in a world where the five-second sound bite gets more attention than the real issues," he said.

Murphy wants to focus on the middle class

By WILL SHEELINE

wsheeline@liherald.com

Will Murphy, a first-time candidate for the seat in the Assembly's 15th District, is running on a platform rooted in his experiences as a middle-class father and an advocate for the developmentally disabled. As someone who never considered himself a career politician, Murphy said he believes his candidacy offers a fresh perspective on tackling the real issues Long Islanders face.

"I'm not a career politician," the Democrat said. "The voice of real people, especially from the middle class, is severely lacking in the political landscape. That's why I'm running — to represent the middle class, parents and everyday families who are being squeezed from all sides."

Murphy said his decision to run for office stemmed from his seeing the damage caused by disgraced U.S. Rep. George Santos during his time in Congress, as well as personal hardship. Murphy's son, who suffers from developmental delays, has faced difficulties in receiving consistent therapy services through school programs. After his son was denied critical services, Murphy decided to take action.

"My wife and I have spent years fighting for the services our son needs, like occupational, physical and behavioral therapy," Murphy explained. "When those services were denied during a school break due to a technicality, we were devastated. It hit me that other parents are facing the same battles. It's not about politics; it's about helping children who need support."

Murphy initially ran for Congress, vying for the seat vacated by Santos, but later stepped aside when Tom Suozzi entered the race. He now believes the Assembly would be a better fit for him, allowing him to focus on

the state issues that affect his community on a daily basis.

"I'm running in this race because it aligns more with what I'm passionate about — property taxes, education, health care and public safety," Murphy said. "These are the issues I live every day."

Describing himself as "a proud member of the middle class," Murphy said he believes his own experience with the financial pressures that families face would help him better represent the constituents of the 15th District.

"We're getting pinched from every end — property taxes, child care, health care and the cost of goods," he said. "It's harder than ever for families like mine to make ends meet. Politicians can talk about these issues, but unless you're actually living them, you don't fully understand the impact. I do."

Murphy said he was particularly concerned about Nassau County's skyrocketing property taxes and the strain they place on homeowners. He added that he supports measures to ensure that Long Islanders see a return on their investment through better public services, including schools and infrastructure.

"We pay some of the highest property taxes in the country," he said. "That money should go toward strong public schools, safe communities, and infrastructure improvements like paved roads and streetlights. Right now, families aren't getting enough in return for what they're paying."

Public safety and education are also key concerns for Murphy. He supports red flag laws, background checks for gun purchases, and measures to prevent the flow of illegal firearms into New York.

Having experienced the importance of local law enforcement firsthand after a Nassau County police officer saved his son when the child went into anaphy-



Kelsie Radziski/Herald

Will Murphy asserted that, as a member of the middle class himself, he knows the challenges residents face.

lactic shock two years ago, Murphy described is an advocate of providing police with the training and resources they need to effectively serve the community.

"Law enforcement has my full support," he said. "We need to fund them properly, train them for the job of today, and pay them what they deserve."

When it comes to education, Murphy said he is passionate about supporting special-education programs, noting that they are underfunded across both affluent and disadvantaged school districts.

"Special education is one of the areas where the system is failing," he said. "We need to make sure every child has access to the resources they need to succeed."

Peters 'wanted to take care of people'

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1
beautifully.”

Peters’s impact was even more profound during the pandemic, when she needed to relocate the market and eventually found a new home at Garvies Point. RXR Realty, the real estate developer she had previously opposed due to environmental concerns raised by its project at the point, reached out and offered the site.

“They turned out to be good partners in the end, and Amy put aside her past opposition to create something beautiful for Glen Cove,” Dave Berg said. “It was just like her to find common ground.”

In addition to her contributions to local food culture, Peters was a passionate musician, and co-founded the Rusty String Band in 1991 with Berg, guitarist Jordan Mindich, and banjo player Scott Gramlich. Describing their style as “deadgrass,” Berg explained how they blended bluegrass with the spirit of the Grateful Dead, a genre all its own that quickly became a crowd favorite.

“She was extraordinarily gifted,” Berg said of his late wife. “In bluegrass, the mandolin usually carries the melody, but Amy played rhythm. She was the backbone of our band’s sound.” Their shared love for music extended beyond the stage, with the two eventually marrying in 2004 and becoming inseparable in both life and art.

Peters’s path to advocacy began early. She grew up in Jericho, graduating from Jericho High School in 1979, and later attended SUNY New Paltz, where she studied exercise physiology. She was dedicated to health and wellness throughout her life. According to her sister, Kim Peters, “She was very much like our mother, who just wanted to take care of people, and that’s one of the

hardest parts of losing her, is that she took care of everybody. And now we have to take care of each other.”

Bhavani Jaroff, chair of Slow Food North Shore, recalled Peters’s tireless advocacy for food quality and environmental responsibility. “Amy and I went to so many protests together — against GMOs, fracking, anything we thought would harm people or the planet,”

Jaroff said. “She was passionate about connecting people to the land, raising awareness of how vital it is to support local farmers. She wanted us to eat food that was good for us, for the people who grow it, and for the earth.” Together, Jaroff and Peters organized an annual CSA fair, introducing local farms to community members.

For Peters, these causes were personal. “She wasn’t someone who just talked about change; she lived it every day,” Berg said. “She was a combination of extraordinary patience and goodwill toward the world. Love was her religion.”

One of her favorite stories, Berg recalled, was a parable about a hummingbird. “There was a huge forest fire, and while all the animals were fleeing, the hummingbird kept flying to the river, picking up water, and dropping it on the flames,” he said. “The other animals asked why, and the hummingbird simply said, ‘Because I can do something.’ That was Amy to her core. She did what she could, even if it felt small.”

Peters’s legacy will live on through Deep Roots, which the Glen Cove Chamber of Commerce will continue in her honor. A celebration of her life is planned for next spring. Its details, Berg said, are to be determined.

She wasn’t someone who just talked about change; she lived it every day.

DAVE BERG
Husband



Courtesy Henry Garcia

Amy Peters, co-founder of the Rusty String Band, brought her signature rhythm to the mandolin, expressing her love of music and community.

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L.I. schools threatened by Project 2025

By JENNA ZAZA & LORI SAXENA

Special to the Herald

Project 2025's agenda to restructure the government extends beyond the Fed and into education, proposing to completely eliminate the Department of Education. This is a contentious move that could have profound repercussions for public education on Long Island.

The DOE plays a significant role in supporting local education by providing funding to high-poverty schools and increasing programs designed to protect and serve vulnerable students, such as those with disabilities or in the LGBTQ+ community.

Eliminating the department means drastically reducing federal funding streams and eventually phasing out Title I, a federal program that provides financial assistance to schools with a high percentage of low-income students, according to a Chalkbeat report. Chalkbeat is a nonprofit news organization focused on education issues.

Title I aims to ensure all children, regardless of socio-economic status, meet state academic standards by funding programs like after-school tutoring and teacher development. Schools can operate schoolwide improvement initiatives if they meet certain thresholds of low-income students.

"When you eliminate funding, the things that get cut are teacher salaries, teachers get laid off, class sizes get bigger, and you have less counseling services, less paraprofessional services ... all of that is eliminated when you don't have Title I funding," Jillian Gaeta, co-founder of the organization Roots to Revolution and a New York City public school teacher, said.

Nearly half of Suffolk County's total public school enrollment is economically disadvantaged students at 44 percent, in Nassau County it is 32 percent, according to the State Education Department. Districts such as Huntington, Central Islip and Brentwood 63 percent, 66 and 88, of the students are from low-income households, respectively, according to state statistics.

Project 2025 also proposes to reduce eligibility for federally funded meal programs.

Funding impact

The potential rollback of programs like the National School Lunch Program or the School Breakfast Program under Project 2025 could exacerbate the lack of access to food on Long Island. In recent years, the number of food-insecure individuals on the island has surged, increasing by 58.3 percent since 2021, with an estimated 65,000 children affected, according to a Long Island Cares report.

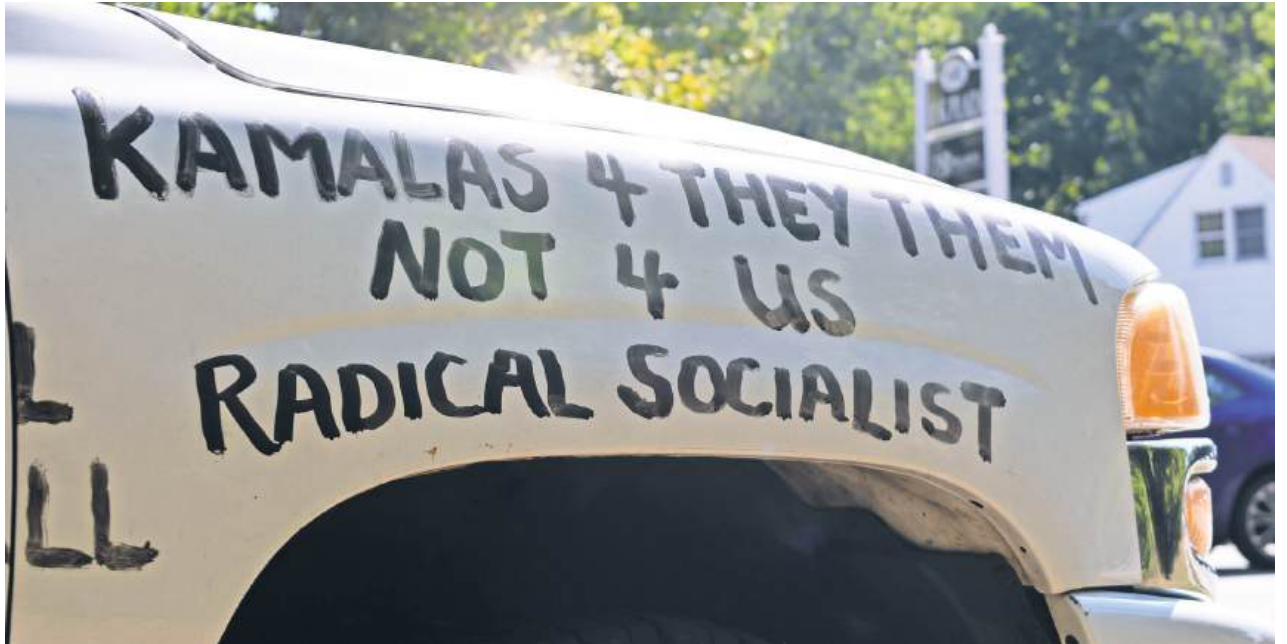
Over 60 percent of students in lower-income districts like Brentwood and Hempstead qualify for free lunch and breakfast, indicating a substantial reliance on federal aid programs, according to Meals Count data. Meanwhile, wealthier districts like Jericho and Great Neck in Nassau County, where less than 10 percent of students qualify for free or reduced-price lunch, would be less affected by federal cuts, according to state data.

"In the schools that I've worked in, 80 percent of students were receiving free and reduced lunch," Gaeta said. "If you take away that ability, you now have 80 percent of your kids hungry. You can't educate those kids; they're struggling because all they're focusing on is how their bellies aren't full."

Long Island is also seeing a surge in school lunch debt, according to a Healthy School Meals for All report. The Lindenhurst school district reported nearly \$50,000 in unpaid school lunch fees and South Huntington said meal debt doubled from \$20,000 after the pandemic.

Wealthy districts often benefit from higher property tax revenues, which can be used to supplement educational programs. Low-income districts typically struggle with limited funding and resources, making it challenging to provide basic services, let alone additional support for meal programs.

But it's not just lunch — early childhood education



Courtesy George Giokas

A portion of Project 2025 aims to roll back progress made on programs and laws that are designed to protect and serve vulnerable people such as the LGBTQ community.

programs are also on the chopping block under Project 2025.

Whither Head Start?

Head Start is a federal initiative that promotes school readiness for young children from low-income families. It serves children aged 3 to 5, focusing on cognitive, social, and emotional development alongside health screenings and nutritious meals. The program is critical in preparing disadvantaged children for elementary school and fostering long-term academic success.

"Early education programs ... are foundational for a child's ability to thrive in school, and also for their economic security, that they are able to read and write and develop those skills at an early age," Gaeta said.

In Nassau County, the availability of Head Start programs is concentrated in districts with higher rates of low-income families. Out of eight Head Start locations, many are in areas with higher child poverty rates.

The Head Start programs in Hempstead, Freeport and Roosevelt illustrate this trend. Hempstead, with a child poverty rate of nearly 21 percent, and Roosevelt, where nearly 17 percent of children live in poverty, highlights communities that heavily rely on these educational resources. Freeport, with around 14 percent of children living in poverty, further emphasizes the critical need for support in these districts. The figures are based on Census Bureau data.

Child poverty rates in Westbury (14 percent), Lawrence (10 percent), and Long Beach (6 percent) demonstrate a varied landscape where families may still benefit from Head Start programs, although the urgency may differ.

More affluent districts like Garden City, Syosset, and East Williston, which report child poverty rates of less than 5 percent, do not have any Head Start locations. Wealthier families often have access to private pre-schools and other early childhood programs.

Title IX fallout

Another proposal of Project 2025 includes a rollback of Title IX, a federal law that prohibits discrimination on the basis of sex in any educational program or activity receiving federal financial assistance, including sports.

"Title IX, which allows girls to play sports and opens up opportunities for young girls, is also supported and protected by the federal government," Gaeta said. "So if you eliminate the Federal Department of Education, you're eliminating all those benefits that our kids need to have successful schools."

Rolling back Title IX could also disproportionately

impact non-binary and transgender students as the project aims to "define 'sex' under Title IX to mean only biological sex."

"Long Island is already seeing pieces of Project 2025 being enacted," Kiana Abbady, board chair of Long Island Progressive Coalition, said. "[Nassau County Executive Bruce Blakeman] already passed a transban, where individuals cannot play sports if they identify as transgender."

In Nassau County 10 school districts — Island Park, Jericho, Lawrence, Locust Valley, Long Beach, Mineola, New Hyde Park, Oceanside, Oyster Bay and Port Washington — are set to lose funding, based on Gov. Kathy Hochul's proposed 2025 executive budget.

"If any parts of Project 2025 are enacted, we will see large swaths of Long Island's communities, predominantly black and brown, predominantly working class, lose significant funding for public schools," Abbady said. "We already see that."

Extracurricular activities, such as sports, are typically the first to be cut when schools experience dips in funding, and this could have adverse effects on students. Research indicates that participation in sports is linked to numerous benefits for both girls and transgender youth, including improved academic performance, higher self-esteem, and greater overall well-being.

In underfunded districts, girls often have 1.3 million fewer opportunities than boys to engage in athletic programs, according to the National Women's Law Center. Exclusionary policies for trans youth like Nassau County's Legislature and Project 2025 Title IX reforms could exacerbate rates of depression, school absenteeism and suicide in trans students, which are already significantly higher than for cis-gender students.

Without the federal enforcement of Title IX and adequate funding, the gap in opportunities between well-funded and underfunded schools could widen, leaving many girls and LGBTQ youth without access to the necessary resources for their athletic and educational advancement.

Gaeta said this is ultimately the goal of Project 2025.

"It is designed to benefit wealthy, wealthy white men," she said. "All of the projects, all the policies in Project 2025, will hurt low-income families, will hurt middle-class families, will hurt women and girls, will hurt LGBTQ families, will hurt people of color. It is designed that way."

Jenna Zaza and Lori Saxena are reporters with The SBU Media Group, part of Stony Brook University's School of Communication and Journalism's Working Newsroom program for students and local media.

CRIME WATCH

Glen Cove Police warn of new scams in Nassau

The Glen Cove Police Department is alerting residents to recent scams targeting the community. One common scheme, known as the "Nassau County Sheriff Scam," involves callers impersonating sheriff's deputies from the Nassau County Sheriff's Office. Scammers claim that an arrest warrant will be issued due to a supposed failure to appear as a juror in a grand jury proceeding. They then demand money to prevent the warrant, often asking victims to purchase gift cards and provide PIN numbers.

Another scam, called the "Car Accident Scam," involves a caller posing as an attorney, alleging that a family member has been arrested following a serious car accident while driving under the influence. The caller fabricates details about injuries, often mentioning a pregnant victim, and demands money for "lawyer fees" to keep the family member out of jail. In some cases, the scammer arranges an outdoor meeting to collect cash.

A third scheme, the "Intimate Relation Scam," preys on those seeking online connections. Victims are coerced into sharing intimate photos, which scammers then use to blackmail them. These scammers typically demand payment in the form of gift cards, threatening to release the imag-

es to the victim's online contacts if they don't comply.

The Glen Cove Police advise residents to stay vigilant. Scammers often push for hasty decisions, using personal information gathered online to appear credible. The department emphasizes that legitimate government agencies will never threaten arrest over the phone or demand payment in gift cards. If you suspect a scam, immediately hang up and consult a family member or friend before acting. The police remind the community that once money or gift card information is handed over, recovery is unlikely. Residents who believe they may have been scammed should report it to the Glen Cove Police Department.

"These scammers can be very convincing and try to make you act quickly without thinking or allowing you to go over the matter with a family member or friend," Det.Lt. John Nagle said in a statement. "Please remember that if something appears too good to be true it probably is."

■ A 62-year-old Glen Cove man was arrested on Oct. 26 for driving while intoxicated and without a license on Glen Cove Avenue.

■ A 36-year-old Glen Cove man was arrested on Oct. 25 for driving while intoxicated, operating a motor vehicle with a blood alcohol content of .08 percent or higher, equipment violation, and illegal signaling on Glen Street.

■ A 25-year-old man with no fixed address was arrested on Oct. 25 for assault and criminal mischief on St. Andrews Lane.

■ A 33-year-old Glen Cove man was arrested on Oct. 22 for Petit Larceny on Glen Street.

■ October 20: A 26-year-old Glen Cove man was arrested on Oct. 20 for attempted assault, harassment, disorderly conduct, and resisting arrest on Continental Court

■ October 20: A 29-year-old woman from Lindenhurst was arrested on Oct 20 for obstructing governmental administration and resisting arrest on Continental Court.

■ October 20: A 20-year-old man from Glen Cove was arrested on Oct 20 for criminal contempt and aggravated harassment on Ford Street.

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Leading in Albany:

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Protecting Long Island Taxpayers, Veterans, and Public Schools:

Lavine has been a long-time advocate for lowering property taxes, bringing millions in state funding to support local school districts. He has also been a steadfast supporter of veterans, working to reduce property taxes specifically for veteran homeowners, helping to ease their financial burden.

Keeping New Yorkers Safe:

Lavine authored the "Scott J. Beigel Unfinished Receiver Act," which outlawed ghost guns. This legislation was named in honor of Scott J. Beigel, a Long Island teacher who sacrificed his life to protect his students during the Parkland shooting at Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School in Florida. Lavine is a strong advocate for responsible gun legislation, pushing for stricter penalties for criminals who use weapons.

Defending Allies and Fighting for Human Rights:

As President of the National Association of Jewish Legislators in New York and a member of the NAJL National Board of Directors, Lavine is a staunch defender of Israel. He also led a highly successful campaign to send essential supplies to Ukraine to support allies in need. Lavine is a champion of human rights, advocating for abortion rights, LGBTQ rights, and voting rights. He is a founder of the Bi-Partisan Pro Choice Caucus, working to protect and expand rights for all.

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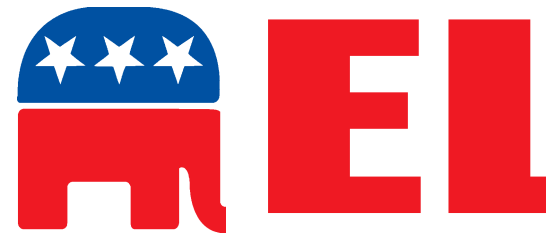


GENERAL ELECTION CANDIDATES



November 05, 2024
NASSAU COUNTY
BOARD OF ELECTIONS

GLEN COVE



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Proposal Number One, An Amendment

Amendment to Protect Against Unequal Treatment
This proposal would protect against unequal treatment based on ethnicity, national origin, age, disability, and sex, including sexual orientation, gender identity and pregnancy. It also protects against unequal treatment based on reproductive healthcare and autonomy. A "YES" vote puts these protections in the New York State Constitution. A "NO" vote leaves these protections out of the State Constitution.

Propuesta Número Uno, Una Enmienda

Enmienda para Proteger Contra el Trato Desigual
Esta propuesta protegería contra el trato desigual basado en la etnicidad, el origen nacional, la edad, la discapacidad y el sexo, incluida la orientación sexual, la identidad de género y el embarazo. También protege contra el trato desigual basado en la salud y la autonomía reproductiva. Un voto "SÍ" coloca estas protecciones en la Constitución del Estado de Nueva York. Un voto "NO" deja estas protecciones fuera de la Constitución del Estado.

Democratic Electors

Electores para Presidente y Vicepresidente

- Kamala D. Harris (For President) | Tim Walz (For Vice President)

Republican Electors

Electores para Presidente y Vicepresidente

- Donald J. Trump (For President) | JD Vance (For Vice President)

Representative in Congress District 3

Representante en el Congreso Distrito 3 Vote for One (1)

- Thomas R. Suozzi (D,CS) | Michael J. LiPetri Jr. (R,C)

United States Senator

Senador Estatal, Distrito Vote for One (1)

- Kirsten E. Gillibrand (D, WF) | Michael D. Sapaicone (R,C)
- Diane Sare (L)

State Senator District 7

Senador Estatal, Distrito 7 Vote for One (1)

- Kim Keiserman (D) | Jack M. Martins (R,C)

Member

Miembro

- Charles

Member

Miembro

- William

Justice

Juez de la

- James
- Gregg
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ELECTION '24

Actual ballot, but a composite of several sample ballots so as to reflect all the districts within the communities covered. Specific candidates for individual communities are identified in blue. Complete reporting on candidates running in districts covered by the Herald.com under the Elections '24 tab. For election results after the polls close Tuesday night, go to LIHerald.com

Member of Assembly District 13

de la Asamblea Distrito 13

Vote for One (1)

James D. Lavine (D) | Ruka Anzai (R,C)

Member of Assembly District 15

de la Asamblea Distrito 15

Vote for One (1)

Tim L. Murphy (D) | Jake Blumencranz (R,C)

Member of the Supreme Court

de la Corte Suprema

(Vote for up to Eight) (8)

F. Matthews, Jr. (D,R,C) | Alfred C. Graf (D,R,C)
 John Roth (D,R,C) | Paul E. Hennings (D,R,C)
 Anna D. Panico (D,R,C) | Paul M. Hensley (D,R,C)
 Joseph P. Murphy (D,R,C) | Andrew A. Crecca (D,R,C)

County Court Judge

Jefe del Tribunal del Condado

John A. Goodstein (D,R,C)

Family Court Judge

Juez del Tribunal de Familia

Vote for Three (3)

Lisa Daniels (D,R,C) | Joseph Nocella, Jr. (D,R,C)
 Chris J. Coschignano (D,R,C)


District Court Judge District 4

Juez del Tribunal de Distrito


Vote for Three (3)

Michele M. Johnson (D,R,C) | Charles McQuair (D,R,C)
 Lisa A. LoCurto (D,R,C)







Denise Roper
Real Estate Salesperson
c.708.299.9830




Denise Schuld
Real Estate Salesperson
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Howard Taub
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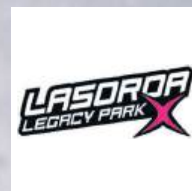
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Seeking federal money for road projects

By **CAROLYN JAMES**

cjames@liherald.com

With partisan politics in high gear less than two weeks before Election Day, Long Island politicians — Republicans and Democrats — gathered in a bipartisan show of support for an effort to bring more federal funding for road and infrastructure projects to Nassau and Suffolk counties.

“This is not a Republican or a Democratic issue — it is a state and federal issue,” U.S. Rep. Tom Suozzi said at a news conference on Oct. 23 at the Long Island Welcome Center on the Long Island Expressway in Dix Hills. “It is about government, labor, business and people and everyone, regardless of party. It is about coming together,” Suozzi added, with the roar of traffic along the expressway providing an appropriate backdrop.

The gathering of politicians, business and labor representatives

was to support a bill in the State Legislature, sponsored by Assemblyman Steve Stern and State Sen. Monica Martinez, that would create a mechanism for Long Island to apply directly for federal transportation dollars. As things stand now, the state must apply to the federal government for infrastructure funding through the New York Metropolitan Transportation Council, which includes not only Long Island, but also New York City as well as Westchester, Putnam and Rockland counties. Under the proposed legislation, Long Island would create its own Metropolitan Planning Organization to address its infrastructure needs specifically, officials said.

The need for this autonomy became abundantly clear to Long Island lawmakers several years ago. Under the current NYMTC guidelines, Long Island was slated to receive 23 percent of federal funding allocated to the state. That

figure dropped to 1 percent, or \$300 million, this year. And according to officials, almost all of that will be spent on renovations to electric signs along local highways, and road repairs. It allows for practically nothing for expansive work or new projects.

Some of those projects were outlined by Marc Herbst, executive director of the Long Island Contractors Association. They include work to reconfigure the Oakdale merge, where Sunrise and Montauk highways converge; the intersection of the Meadowbrook and Southern State parkways; the expansion of Sagtikos Parkway to four lanes to make them safer; and work on the Southern State Parkway, which Herbst described as “blood alley.”

“How many more tragedies do we have to have along that roadway before we address those issues and others?” he said.

“This is more important than

party,” State Sen. Jack Martins said. “It is not about politics; it is about our communities, our homes, our residents — and fairness.”

“This is not an adversarial issue,” Herbst added, pointing to the need for Long Island to have an independent voice when vying for federal funding.

“Long Island is a place unlike any other, and with that distinction comes the reality that we have unique needs,” Martinez said. “Our infrastructure and transportation systems must be as bold and resilient as the people who call this region home in order to thrive in an ever-changing world.”

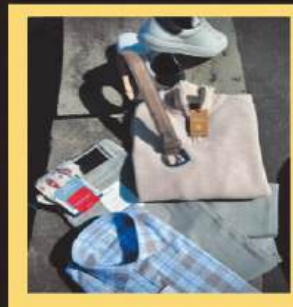
Adam Levine, executive director of the New York Metropolitan Transportation Council, said that he and the council understand that “Long Island officials want to get every federal dollar they can,” and that it recognizes the impacts of bureaucracy.

❖ **10** ❖

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Danica Reorden/Herald photos

The Ruggiero family set up a booth where they worked to spread breast cancer awareness.

Thousands come to celebrate Oyster Fest

Oyster Fest, one of the largest festivals on Long Island, saw another successful year as hordes of residents, visitors and vendors made themselves at home in the hamlet. This was the first year the event was co-hosted by the Town of Oyster Bay in collaboration with the Oyster Bay-East Norwich Chamber of Commerce, and featured rides, music, fun, and of course, oysters.



Tens of thousands of people came to Oyster Bay to take part in the Oyster Fest.



Attendees got the chance to explore the historic fire boat The John J. Harvey.



Michael Chodkowski, second from left, was honored for winning the oyster eating contest by Town Receiver of Taxes Jeffrey Pravato, left, and town councilmembers Lou Imbroto and Michele Johnson.



This year's Oyster Fest featured only New York oysters for the first time in the event's history.



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One entry per student

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Thursday, October 31, 2024.

Grand prize: Winners will have their design printed as wrapping paper in the Herald and will be featured in an article in their local Herald paper.

Entry format: Please use an 8 1/2 by 11 inch piece of unlined paper. All entries should have the student's name, age, address, telephone number, email, grade and school printed on the back. Design can be reflective of all religious holidays.

Entries will not be returned.

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Herald Community Newspapers

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- Remember your design will be used to make a real sheet of wrapping paper.

For more information contact Ethan Kimbrell at ekimbrell@liherald.com or 516.569.4000 x 313

Turnout for early voting is unprecedented

October 31, 2024 - GLEN COVE HERALD

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

After two previous attempts to cast his ballot early, he finally succeeded on Monday, joining the swelling crowd at Glen Cove City Hall. For Binder, this year's Democratic platform resonated deeply. "I feel the candidates this year are answering the questions that matter to me," he said, noting his appreciation for the current economic outlook and job growth.

Binder, who typically votes Democrat but has previously crossed party lines, voiced frustration over the polarization in recent years. "I like the way Democrats are speaking to the people this year," he said. "I don't like the anger and hatred (from Republicans). I want the country to go back to how it was when I grew up, where everyone just loved our country."

Not everyone who lined up felt reassured by the current tone of political discourse. Brian Pemberton, a Republican, pointed to what he described as increasingly hostile rhetoric from the left, which he feels misrepresents conservative values.

"I would hope that local leaders would stand up and remind people that we're neighbors," Pemberton told the Herald. "We're friends, and this kind of divisive talk only makes it harder to find common ground." He highlighted key issues like unchecked immigration and



Roksana Amid/ Herald photos

After two previous attempts to cast his ballot early, Andrew Binder finally succeeded on Monday.

inflation, which he believes are urgent concerns that demand immediate action from government leaders. He said he hoped that economic relief, particularly in the form of lower fuel prices, will be a priority for the next administration.



Fred Nielsen voted early Monday morning, giving his support to Democratic candidates.

Pemberton was encouraging his friends to vote early, emphasizing that unforeseen events could prevent people from getting to the polls on Election Day. "Anything can happen," he said. "Get the vote in early. I definitely trust the

system here in Nassau County."

For some, however, early voting marked a departure from long-held tradition. Barbara Peebles, a former Glen Cove city councilwoman and a lifelong Republican, was candid about her preference for casting her ballot on Election Day. Despite her nostalgia for Election Days of the past, however, Peebles said she was considering voting early this year because of the campaign's momentum and a renewed focus on encouraging civic participation.

"If early voting means more people are going to be engaged, then I'm all for it," she said.

Peebles's primary concerns this election center on national security and border issues, which she describes as "the most frightening situation" facing the country. For her, immigration reform and a focus on rebuilding national defense and infrastructure are essential, as is restoring civility and unity across party lines.

While opinions on key issues and the best path forward differed widely among early voters, many agreed on the value of early voting as a safeguard against last-minute challenges. Illness, potential bad weather and family emergencies are all reasons that voters across party lines are shifting toward early balloting, and Nassau County's turnout numbers reflect this growing trend.

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STEPPING OUT



Photos courtesy Heckscher Museum

Maria Spector's collage "Candy Girls and Boys Under the Jellybean Tree," is part of a series that explore issues of consumerism, sexuality, femininity, and masculinity — merging the ideas and works of the past with the present.

Looking outward from an artistic perspective

Local talents on view at

Heckscher Museum's Long Island Biennial

By Danielle Schwab

A tradition since 2010, the popular Long Island Biennial at Hecksher Museum returns with "The Body Politic," shining the spotlight on our diverse artistic talent throughout Nassau and Suffolk counties.

The latest edition of the juried exhibition — now on view through mid-January — offers an exciting look at what is happening artistically here in our area.

Out of 313 submissions, 79 were accepted from 60 artists, resulting in a vivid assortment of mediums, styles and focuses on exhibit. Curated by Meredith A. Brown, the museum's consulting curator of Contemporary Art, each piece was reviewed by an expert jury team. The panel included Ian Alteveer, department chair of contemporary art at the Museum of Fine Arts; Patricia Cronin, artistic director of the LGBTQ+ VR Museum, art professor and sculptor; Grace Hong, assistant director of Galerie Lelong & Co.

The exhibit takes on a theme for the first time — examining contemporary social, cultural and political issues. It's a snapshot of some of the major national, local and even international matters that compel artists in this important election year.

"Sixty countries — taken together, representing half the world's population, including the United States — will have held major elections by the end of this year," Brown says.

"It's a crucial year. And we thought it would be interesting to see how the people, the artists in our communities, are thinking about these political, social, cultural issues — and representing them through art."

The exhibit represents a remarkable variety of media, with styles spanning abstraction to hyperrealism, including sculpture, painting, photography, and collage. One piece is even composed with cut plastic straws and lighters found on a beach.

"I'm always interested in the way artists can combine things that I wouldn't have thought of, sometimes materials that are 'non-art' materials," Brown adds.

East Meadow's Karen Kirshner is among the artists featured. Her abstract acrylic painting "The Mission, 2022" employs a "direct painting" technique that enables her to use her emotions to paint onto the canvas.

"I never know what I'm going to paint. I paint in the moment, moment to moment, and then



Karen Kirshner's "The Mission" was inspired by the war in Ukraine. It conveys the frantic rush to safety by and for the Ukrainians.

review and evaluate and adapt and improve," Kirshner explains.

She was influenced by the war in Ukraine, with so many trying to flee. Her movement of lines, shapes and vibrancy of colors expresses the Ukrainians' frantic energy.

"I felt in my soul," Kirshner says. "The mission is to get people out."

Maria Spector, of Babylon, is represented with two paintings: "Candy Girls and Boys Under the Jellybean Tree, 2022" and "Candy Girls Under the Sugar-Plum Tree with Boy and the Artists that Painted Women 2020-22."

In "Candy Girls and Boys Under the Jellybean Tree" contemporary figures of children are mixed with images

from art history, fine art and popular culture — all under a tree 'ripe' with various candies.

"By incorporating pop culture, I explore issues of femininity and masculinity through both history and today. The work is meant to challenge our own biases and beliefs," Spector says.

Another standout, Lynbrook's Susan Kozodoy

Silkowitz captures her vision through photography. "Pink Shoes, 2022" is a testament to freedom of expression without discrimination. The male in pink platform shoes was snapped outside of Fashion Institute of Technology.

"I've been photographing people for 50 years. It took me many years to be able to do what I do, which is approach and photograph people on the street," Kozodoy Silkowitz says. "I think it's a wonderful thing to see people who are unafraid to express who they are, although some people may disapprove."

Visitors can contribute their own voice to what's on view and how they relate to community and identity through a collage of messages on the response wall.

It's all part of the museum's effort to encourage artistic reflection through times of great change, inspiring us to engage with narratives in a new light.

As Brown puts it: "It helps the artists and it helps those of us who are not artists to think about the diversity of artists and viewpoints and opinions in these communities in which we live, and in that way, hopefully it can broaden people's views of their communities, of where we are."

As always, the exhibit experience is enhanced by related programming. The participating artists will be in the galleries on select Sundays throughout the exhibition period to engage with visitors, as well as taking part in upcoming museum and community events.



Mike DelGuidice's Concert Weekend for Veterans

Mike DelGuidice, one of Long Island's celebrated singer-songwriters returns to The Paramount, with special guests. The band always gives it their all, especially when playing the iconic Billy Joel songs. DelGuidice leads his ensemble in a rousing concert that highlights the Piano Man's decades of hits. Like his idol, DelGuidice grew up mastering several instruments including bass guitar, guitar, piano, and drums. He's renowned for his encyclopedic knowledge of the Joel catalog, which caught the attention of Joel himself, who ultimately brought him on stage with him. DelGuidice and his band pack hit after chart-topping hit in a high energy show that's always a crowd pleaser. The concert delights audiences with renditions of classic rock favorites and his own eclectic originals.

Friday and Saturday, Nov. 1-2, 8 p.m. \$60, \$40, \$25, \$20. The Paramount, 370 New York Ave., Huntington. Tickets available at ticketmaster.com or paramountry.com.



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Susan Kozodoy Silkowitz's Pink Shoes gives a voice to personal expression.



America

The perennial classic rock favorite is back on the road again as founding member Dewey Bunnell celebrates the band's 54th anniversary, appearing on the Tilles Center stage. Billed as "Ride On Tour 2024," it draws on the band's deep catalog of hits including signature song "A Horse With No Name," a #1 hit on Billboard's Hot 100 in 1972. Bunnell and America's co-founder Gerry Beckley (along with former bandmate Dan Peek), who met in high school in London in the late 1960s, quickly harmonized their way to the top of the charts on the strength of that tune. Forty plus years later, these friends continue to make music together (although Beckley has now retired from touring) thrilling audiences with their timeless sound. Yet beyond their impressive catalog of hits, listeners discovered there was always much more to America than surface perceptions.

Saturday, Nov. 2, 8 p.m. Tickets start at \$35. LIU Post campus, 720 Northern Blvd., Brookville. Tickets available at TillesCenter.org or (516) 299-3100.

THE SCENE

Nov. 8

Ailey II

Ailey II, which bills itself as "the next generation of dance," continues its 50th anniversary of bringing "off-the-charts energy" to the stage, with a performance at Tilles Center, Friday, **Nov. 8.**, at 8 p.m. Ailey II is universally renowned for merging the spirit and energy of the country's finest early-career dance talent with the passion and creative vision of today's outstanding and emerging choreographers. The 2024-25 repertory features two world premieres by former Ailey II member Alia Kache and by Houston Thomas, as well as repertory favorites and beloved classics. Founded in 1974 as the Alvin Ailey Repertory Ensemble and led by Sylvia Waters for 38 seasons, Ailey II has advanced Alvin Ailey's vision for more than five decades by giving early-career dancers a bridge from world-class training at The Ailey School to the professional stage. Led by Artistic Director Francesca Harper, Ailey II's dancers bring their technical mastery and emotional depth to works by the most daring established and emerging choreographers. Just as Ailey envisioned, the company continues to develop the next generation of performers and dancemakers while expanding audiences through global touring and community-based performances.



The program includes Alvin Ailey's Streams, an abstract exploration of bodies in space, danced to a percussion score by Miloslav Kabelac; Houston Thomas' world premiere Down the Rabbit Hole, a continuation of the choreographer's Follow the White Rabbit (2022) that expands on its themes, examining the relationship between humans and technology; also Francesca Harper's Luminous, a work that pays homage to the 50th anniversary of Ailey II and the artists who paved the way for future generations. Tickets start at \$35. Tilles Center for the Performing Arts, LIU Post campus, 720 Northern Boulevard, Brookville. Tickets available at tillescenter.org or (516) 299-3100.



'The Birthday Party'

Looking for something to do this Halloween season that isn't just for kids? Visit Sands Point Preserve for an exclusive, immersive theatrical production, "The Birthday Party," held in a secluded, opulent mansion concludes Thursday and Friday, **Oct. 31-Nov. 1.** For those who attended Archie's last "Birthday Party," rest assured, there are new surprises in store.

Guests are blindfolded and escorted to a secret location on the property, Villa Vanitas, to celebrate the enigmatic Lord Archibald Axel Von Finkelshorn Chatterton's 30th birthday. He is a witless charmer on the cusp of a life-changing revelation, and everyone's invited to witness his journey on a night that promises to be unforgettable and delightfully unpredictable. Cocktail attire preferred. \$175 per person. Sands Point Preserve, 127 Middle Neck Road. For information, visit SandsPointPreserveConservancy.org or call (516) 571-7901.

Chart-topping concert program

Enjoy decades of chart toppers with 4 Ways From Sunday, at Glen Cove Library, Sunday, **Nov. 17,** 2:30 p.m. Clap and sing along to memorable, time-tested classics of the 1950s through the 1980s. It's sure to be a tuneeful goomd tiem. Registration required. 4 Glen St. Visit GlenCoveLibrary.org or (516) 676-2130.

Life Enrichment Center Gala

The Life Enrichment Center hosts its 8th Annual Gala, themed The Golden Age of Hollywood, Thursday, **Nov. 7,** 7-11 p.m., at Brookville Country Club. Longtime Oyster Bay community members, Thomas Golon, founder of Wonderland Tree Care and Landscapes, and his wife Janet, are honored. 210 Chicken Valley Road, Glen Head. Tickets are \$200 and are available for purchase at lifeenrichmentcenteroysterbay.org

Big band comes to little village

Bayville Arts Council hosts a 17-piece jazz and dance band, Friday, **Nov. 8,** 8 p.m. Under direction of Cameron Carrella the Big Band Night showcases musicians playing some of the music they love, playing the classic tunes of America's greatest bands from the 1940s to '60s. Free to attend for all residents. 88 Bayville Ave.

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On stage

Join Adelphi University's talented theater students who perform playwright Caryl Churchill's "Love and Information," Thursday and Friday, **Oct. 31-Nov. 1**, 7:30 p.m.; Saturday, **Nov. 2**, 2:30 p.m. and 7:30 p.m.; Sunday, **Nov. 3**, 2 p.m. The fast-moving theatrical kaleidoscope explores more than 100 characters in over 50 short scenes as they try to make sense of what they know and what they find out. This is a play unlike any other that examines what it means to be human in a modern world and tackles the tension between the concepts of love and information.

Tickets start at \$30, with discounts available to seniors, students, Adelphi alumni and employees. Adelphi University Performing Arts Center, Olmsted Theater, 1 South Ave., Garden City. (516) 877-4000 or Adelphi.edu/pac.

Progressive Dinner

Sea Cliff Civic Association invites all to attend their annual Progressive Dinner on Saturday, **Nov. 2**, at 6:30 p.m. This unique Sea Cliff event introduces residents to the great hospitality the town has to offer. Meet at one house for appetizers, meet for dinner at another and everyone will end at the Sea Cliff Yacht Club for some delicious dessert. Tickets are \$50. If you'd like to host or contribute a dessert or just come as a regular guest email seacliffprogressivedinner@gmail.com. Visit seacliffcivicassociation.com for more information.

Game Time

Drop by Bayville Free Library, Wednesdays, 1-4 p.m., for casual table games. Bring your own games or use games offered by the library such as; cards, Canasta, Mah Jongg, Scrabble, chess, checkers, backgammon, and jigsaw puzzles. No registration required. 34 School St. For more information, visit BayvilleFreeLibrary.org or call (516) 628-2765.



Art explorations

Converse, collaborate and create at Family Saturdays at Nassau County Museum of Art. The drop-in program continues Saturday, **Nov. 2**, noon-3 p.m. Get inspired by the art and objects in the galleries and then join educators at the Manes Center to explore and discover different materials to create your own original artwork.

Kids and their adult partners connect while talking about and making art together. A new project is featured every week. \$20 adult, \$10 child. Registration required. Nassau County Museum of Art, 1 Museum Dr., Roslyn Harbor. Visit NassauMuseum.org for more information and to register or call (516) 484-9337.

On exhibit

Nassau County Museum of Art's latest exhibition "Seeing Red: Renoir to Warhol," reveals the many meanings, connotations, and associations of this powerful color in art. Evoking strong emotion, red can represent the human condition. Its myriad variations have come to signify authority as well as love, energy and beauty. Red warns us of peril and commands us to stop, but it can also indicate purity and good fortune. Red boldly represents political movements and religious identities. From the advent of our appreciation for this color in antiquity to its continued prominence in artistic and popular culture, this exhibition will span various world cultures through a range of media.



It features more than 70 artists, both established and emerging, ranging from the classical to the contemporary. American portraitists such as Gilbert Stuart imbued red in their stately paintings of prominent individuals to conjure authority. Robert Motherwell, Ad Reinhardt, and other major abstract painters displayed a deep fascination with red in their commanding compositions that evoke a sense of chromatic power. And, of course, Andy Warhol is known for his bold and imposing silkscreened portrait of Vladimir Lenin saturated in bright red to his signature Campbell's Soup Cans. On view through Jan. 5. Nassau County Museum of Art, 1 Museum Dr., Roslyn Harbor. (516) 484-9337 or NassauMuseum.org.



Board games from days gone by

Enjoy an evening of learning and playing historic games at Old Westbury Gardens' Westbury House, Friday, **Nov. 8**, 7-9:30 p.m. The Long Island Tabletop Gaming Expo takes visitors on journey through 5,000 years of board game history, from its roots in ancient times to more familiar examples from the time of the Phipps family. A brief lecture on board game history includes a presentation of each of the featured games. All are fully playable, and you can try them out yourself.

Games include: Senet, The Royal Game of Ur, Three Man's Morris, Six Man's Morris, Nine Man's Morris, Twelve Man's Morris, Mancala, Go, Chess, The Royal and Most Pleasant Game of The Goose, Backgammon. The Landlords Game (transition to the modern Monopoly). \$15. 71 Old Westbury Rd., Old Westbury. For information contact (516) 333-0048 or visit OldWestburyGardens.org.

Having an event?

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

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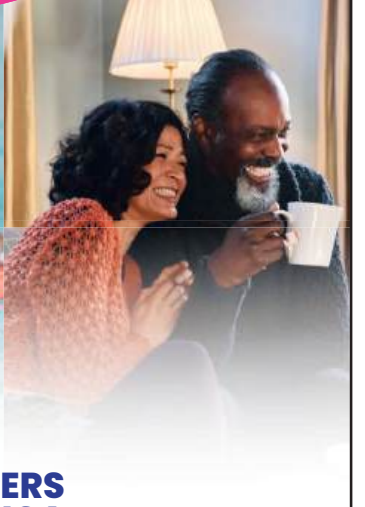
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Arata's raises funds slain detective's family

By BRIAN NORMAN

bnorman@lherald.com

Ron and Rachel Collura of Aratas Deli have been collecting funds since March to support the family of former NYPD Detective Jonathan Diller, a Franklin Square native who was shot and killed during a traffic stop on March 25.

On Oct. 17, the Collura family and County Legislature Minority Leader Delia DeRiggi-Whitton presented the funds collected for the Diller family.

Diller, a former Massapequa resident, was shot and killed in Queens while performing a routine traffic stop in March. Many police officers including Nassau County officers and members of the 105th precinct — the same precinct Diller served in — came to the deli to pay their respects last week.

"As a resident of Massapequa, this hit me very hard," said Kevin Mullick, first vice president of the Nassau County Police Benevolent Association. "This is a tragedy beyond belief and members of many communities have come out and been helpful toward the family. The jar keeps getting bigger and bigger and it all adds up to what this family needs."

DeRiggi-Whitton presented the jar to residents who gathered at the Deli to pay their respects to the Diller family. While presenting the funds raised by members of the community, DeRiggi-Whitton spoke about the importance of first responders and the support for this effort.

"This was a real grassroots effort," said DeRiggi-Whitton. "I got a call from Ron and he was determined to do some-

thing for the family and people would come in, see the photo and donate to make sure this family was financially secure. This just goes to show the love that we have for our first responders, especially in our police department."

Aratas Deli has been a staple of the Sea Cliff community for more than a century. Ron and Rachel Collura have been using the deli to give back to the community for many years, raising money for other causes such as diabetes and other first responders in the past. Ron Collura said this has been an ongoing effort since the incident occurred and has received great support from customers.

"We have police officers come in here all the time and say we don't want any money for the food, just put it in the jar," Collura said. "I see people here today who are always putting money in when they could be keeping the change in their pockets, but they opt to do this. We just try to put ourselves in the place of that wife and that little kid and you just can't even imagine it."

Many members of Diller's former precinct came to pay their respects and donate at the deli. Chris Kiefer from the New York City Police Benevolent Association said it is always nice to see the support for law enforcement, and he knows the money will be put to good use.

"It's always good to see things like this," Kiefer said. "It's always nice to see people who care about law enforcement and come out to support us. I know that Stephanie is going to put this money to good use so thank you to everyone in the community who came out and donated."



Aratas Deli has been collecting money for the family of New York Police Department Detective Jonathan Diller since he was killed in the line of duty in March.



Brian Norman/Herald Photos

Delia DeRiggi-Whitton, Ron Callura, Bruce Kennedy, Kevin Mullick, Chris Keifer, and members of the NYPD and Nassau County Police Department held a moment of silence for Detective Jonathan Diller.

HERALD 1031 PUBLIC NOTICES

LEGAL NOTICE NOTICE TO BIDDERS
Public Notice is hereby given that separate sealed bids for 2022 BOND PHASE 2 AND 2023-2024 CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM project will be received until 11:00 AM prevailing time on NOVEMBER 20, 2024 at the Administrative Offices at the GLEN COVE CITY SCHOOL DISTRICT located at DOSORIS LANE, GLEN COVE, NY 11542 which time they will be received, opened, read aloud. The work shall be as follows:
CONTRACT #1- GENERAL CONSTRUCTION CONTRACT
#2- PLUMBING RECONSTRUCTION CONTRACT
#3- HVAC RECONSTRUCTION CONTRACT
#4- ELECTRICAL RECONSTRUCTION CONTRACT
#5 WINDOW REPLACEMENT
SED # 28-01-00-01-0-003-026-FINLEY MIDDLE SCHOOL
28-01-00-01-0-010-035-GLEN COVE HIGH SCHOOL
Complete digital sets of the Contract documents may be obtained online (with a free user account) as a download for a nonrefundable fee of One Hundred Dollars (\$100.00) at the following website www.jagplanroom.com under 'public projects' beginning ON OCTOBER 30, 2024. Optionally, in lieu of digital copies, hard copies may be obtained directly from Island Digital Reprographics 200 Broadhollow Road Suite One Farmingdale New York 11735 (631-753-3000) upon a deposit of fifty(\$50.00) Dollars for each complete set. Checks for deposits shall be made payable to the GLEN COVE CITY SCHOOL DISTRICT. The bid deposit for hard copies shall be refunded to each Bidder only if the plans and specifications are returned in good

condition, with no handwritten notations thereon within thirty (30) days following the award of the contract or the rejection of the bid of such person or corporation. Unsuccessful bidders who request more than one (1) set of the plans and specifications will be partially reimbursed for extra sets in accordance with General Municipal Law § 102 if returned in good condition, with no handwritten notations thereon, within thirty (30) days following the award or rejection of the bids. Any person or corporation who fails to submit a bid will receive the return of a single deposit less reproduction costs if returned in good condition, with no handwritten notations thereon, within thirty (30) days following the award or rejection of the bids. Each Bidder must deposit, with their sealed bid, security in an amount not less than 10% of the base bid and all Alternate Bids in the proper form subject to the conditions set forth in the Instructions to Bidders (Section 8). Attention of the Bidders is specifically directed to the prevailing wage rates to be paid under the contract, as well as to other provisions set forth in the bidding documents. Bidder will also be required to show, to the satisfaction of the GLEN COVE CITY SCHOOL DISTRICT that they are carrying Workers' Compensation Insurance as required by law and all other Insurance in amounts not less than that specified under the General Conditions. Performance Bonds Labor/Material Bonds and Maintenance Bond, as called for in the General Conditions are a requirement of each contract. The GLEN COVE CITY SCHOOL DISTRICT reserves the right to reject any or all bids submitted,

to waive any informality or irregularity in any bid, and/ or to accept any bid in whole or in part and/ or to award or not award the contract, if in the opinion of the GLEN COVE CITY SCHOOL DISTRICT, the best interest of the SCHOOL DISTRICT will thereby be served. This invitation is an offer to receive bids for a contract. The successful Bidder will be required to execute a formal contract in the form contained in the Contract Documents. Bids received after the time stated in the Notice to Bidders will not be considered and will be returned unopened to the bidder. The bidder assumes the risk of any delay in the mail or in the handling of the mail by employees of the SCHOOL DISTRICT. Whether sent by mail or by means of personal delivery, the bidder assumes responsibility for having its bid deposited on time at the place specified. Each Bidder shall agree to hold their bid price for (45) days after the formal bid opening. Per Article 8, Section 220 of the New York State Labor Law, every contractor and subcontractor shall submit to the SCHOOL DISTRICT within (30) days after issuance of its first payroll, and every (30) days thereafter, a transcript of the original payroll record, as provided by this article, subscribed and affirmed as true under penalties of perjury. The SCHOOL DISTRICT shall be required to receive and maintain such payroll records. The original payrolls or transcripts shall be preserved for (5) years from the completion of the work on the project.
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COURT COUNTY OF NASSAU, U.S. BANK NATIONAL ASSOCIATION AS LEGAL TITLE TRUSTEE FOR TRUMAN 2016 SC6 TITLE TRUST, Plaintiff, vs. DAVID A. JOHNSON A/K/A DAVID JOHNSON, ET AL., Defendant(s). Pursuant to an Order Confirming Referee Report and Judgment of Foreclosure and Sale duly entered on August 3, 2023, I, the undersigned Referee will sell at public auction on the front steps on the north side of the Nassau County Supreme Court, 100 Supreme Court Drive, Mineola, NY 11501 on December 3, 2024 at 2:00 p.m., premises known as 111 Elm Avenue a/k/a 111 Elm Street, Glen Cove, NY 11542. All that certain plot, piece or parcel of land, with the buildings and improvements thereon erected, situate, lying and being in the City of Glen Cove, County of Nassau and State of New York, Section 23, Block 71 and Lot 54 f/k/a Section 23 Block F and Lot 1742. Approximate amount of judgment is \$368,589.13 plus interest and costs. Premises will be sold subject to provisions of filed Judgment Index #607335/2020.
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OPINIONS

Fentanyl is taking too many lives

The other day, I was browsing my LinkedIn feed and came across an illustration that caught my eye.

There were three glass jars, all the same size, each containing a black ball. The first jar's ball filled the jar. The second jar's ball was smaller, and the third was tiny. A caption read, "People tend to believe that grief shrinks over time."

Underneath was another set of jars, increasing from small to large. This time the balls were the same size, filling the first jar entirely, and as the jars grew larger, it was as if the jar was growing around the ball. The caption read, "What really happens is that we grow around our grief."



JASON MAYO

Grief is universal. Some grieve when a favorite restaurant closes, while others mourn a pet or a relationship. But what about a parent grieving the loss of a child? As a father of two daughters, I can't fathom losing one of them. The thought gives me a pit in my stomach. I can only imagine the pain becoming part of me, like an organ or an appendage.

In theory, I agree with the illustration's message. It offers context to the

unfathomable. But what if your child were murdered? Would that change things? What if the murder were preventable? I hope to never find out. Unfortunately, it's a reality for many families, especially because of fentanyl.

Unless you've been living under a rock, you've heard of fentanyl. Most likely, you know someone who has died from it or has been affected in some way. Kids are dying, and families are being torn apart. You might be mistaken if you think it's not happening in your neighborhood.

Many associate overdoses with rock stars or homeless junkies, but this couldn't be further from the truth. Your child doesn't need to be a drug addict to die from fentanyl poisoning — it's everywhere. Complacency is fentanyl's greatest ally. It's being found in drugs like marijuana. Unless drugs are prescribed by a doctor or come from a reputable dispensary, you're playing Russian roulette.

Consider that scene in "The Deer Hunter": Your child is Christopher Walken, the gun he's holding to his head is the party your child is attending, and the lone bullet is that Xanax laced with fentanyl that they're trying for the first time.

Here are some sobering facts from the

CDC:

- Fentanyl is 50 to 100 times stronger than morphine.
- In 2022, it caused more than 73,800 preventable deaths.
- Accidental overdose is now the second-leading cause of death among young people.

In my years of recovery work, I've attended too many wakes and funerals.

In Texas, law enforcement has seized over 505 million lethal doses of fentanyl. That's enough to kill every person in the U.S. It's simple math: Fentanyl = death.

In my profession, I facilitate free Narcan training. Narcan reverses opioid overdoses. It saves lives.

People often ask, "Why would a drug dealer want to kill their clients?" The answer is simple: fentanyl is cheap and highly addictive. That translates to higher profits and return customers: high risk but high reward.

In my almost 15 years of recovery, I've attended too many wakes and funerals for kids and adults. There's an expression in recovery: Sometimes you have to step over the bodies. That should be reserved for battlefields, yet we live on a battlefield where fentanyl is a weapon of mass destruction.

I serve on a Community Prevention Coalition working to educate our kids

about the dangers of drugs and alcohol. It includes school administrators, social workers, police officers, local merchants, and parents who have lost loved ones to fentanyl. We focus on combating the spread of this deadly drug through our communities.

Grief shouldn't be part of a parent's job description, yet it often is. While it's impossible to avoid all grief, we can reduce the chances of preventable loss. We must act to effect change. You don't have to be a crusader, but sitting on our hands isn't an option. We can spread awareness to prevent more fentanyl poisonings.

A mentor once told me, "If you're not part of the solution, then you're part of the problem." Here's the call to action: Join your local community coalition. Get trained to administer Narcan. Talk to your kids about substance dangers. Write to local officials about their plans for the opioid crisis, and consult professionals about prevention strategies.

Pick one action, and you'll be part of the solution. A community that works together always wins.

Jason Mayo is a certified recovery peer advocate at a nonprofit community recovery and outreach center on Long Island. He is a contributing writer for The Sober Curator; has written for the Forbes Business Council and is the author of the children's books "Do Witches Make Fishes?" and "The Boy and the Billy Goat."

Hurricanes shred lives and property

We did the stupid thing, and we survived.

We did not evacuate our home on a barrier island on the west coast of Florida when Hurricane Helene blasted through in the early-morning hours of Sept. 26.

The first alerts about Helene seemed exaggerated and alarmist: A disorganized low-pressure system, percolating quietly near the Yucatan Peninsula, would gather fearsome energy over the Gulf of Mexico and slam into Florida's Gulf coast, as a Cat 4 or 5 killer. It was an unusual setup for hurricane in these parts. My part-time residence



RANDI KREISS

was long said to be safe by the indigenous people who lived here, protected geographically because of a twist in the coastline. Maybe the ancients are exacting revenge for our careless guardianship of their land.

We are on the eighth floor of a building on the beach, and we have metal wind shutters. So, considering the labori-

ous process of gathering our belongings and food and driving to a safe haven, we decided to stay. Besides, once a storm is on its way, not much time remains before landfall, and it isn't clear which way to run. Hurricanes often wobble or weaken or, in the case of Helene,

turn left over Georgia and North Carolina, destroying everything in their path.

We had water for a week, and food that didn't need to be refrigerated or heated. We had each other and Lillybee the dog, who had been skulking in our shadows for days. We also felt somewhat jaded by overhyped weather alarms in the past. Epic snowfalls, tornadoes sprouting everywhere, on-again-off-again water spout watches. We would probably be OK.

Sometime after midnight on the 26th, the rain and wind came on like a freight train, hammering the shutters against our windows. Within an hour we had no electricity and no internet. Officials on the mainland turned off all water service to the island. The bridge to the rest of the world was closed.

The dog needed to go out, so I grabbed a flashlight and walked down eight dark flights of stairs to get outside. Building

generators malfunctioned. Then I walked up. Then I did the same walk, down and up eight flights, for five days, until power was restored. Both of our cars, parked "safely" in the garage, were engulfed by the tidal surge and totaled.

But we were lucky. We lived through the storm without a medical crisis and with replaceable losses.

We vowed never to stay when the authorities tell us to evacuate. What if one of us got sick during the hurricane? What if the windows blew in, even with the shutters?

Less than two weeks later, we had another shot at hurricane survival. Hurricane Milton developed on the east coast of Mexico, and got himself together in record speed, exploding from Category 1 to Category 5 in one day and taking direct aim at our island as he charged up the west coast of Florida.

This time we obeyed the evacuation orders and moved to a hotel on the mainland with Lillybee. One day later, the hotel was evacuated, sending us on a drive across the state, with thousands of other people. We took refuge with family on the East Coast. And we waited and waited for the hurricane to hit and do its

work so we could begin to build back. Like waiting for surgery.

Milton made landfall on Oct. 9 on the tiny barrier island south of us, wiping it clean of all the charming old Florida cottages that have survived for so long on a spit of land. Cars floated out into the Gulf. A man was rescued clinging to a large cooler from his sunken boat. We came back to our condo four days later. The property was a mess, but we had power and internet. We were on a boil-water advisory, stores were closed, and piles of household belongings and soaked furnishings are piled up along the roads.

We love it here, but it's crazy to build on barrier islands. Nature always reclaims her own. We were scared straight by the first hurricane, and will never try to ride one out again. We look around at neighbors who have lost everything they own. And we know we are part of a bigger, more frightening human-made disaster called climate change.

Who will gather the will and willingness to stop the rising tides and temperatures? Who will stop the awful gathering storm of wind, rain and fire that sweep across our nation in every season?

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HERALD EDITORIAL

The Herald's pact with you

In recent days, two of the most prominent national newspapers, The Los Angeles Times and The Washington Post, announced that they would not endorse a presidential candidate in Tuesday's election, breaking from decades of precedent. Many have speculated on the reasons behind these decisions, suggesting that the newspapers favored Kamala Harris but ultimately chose not to upset Donald Trump for fear of retribution if the former president returns to the Oval Office.

For those of us in the news business, these decisions raise questions about the role of newspapers in a charged political climate. We at the Long Island Herald, a proud local newspaper company family-owned for three generations, see this as an opportunity to reaffirm our mission to serve the people of Long Island.

Unlike many national publications, the Herald does not make endorsements of candidates seeking political office, and our reasons are simple yet vital. Our focus is not on swaying voters toward a particular candidate, but on delivering comprehensive and unbiased information about the issues that matter most to Long Islanders. We are not here to tell our readers how to vote for political candidates; rather, we are here to arm readers with the knowledge they need to make informed decisions at the

ballot box. For us, the true measure of success is when readers feel empowered to draw their own conclusions based on facts, insights and perspectives they can trust.

Our mission is grounded in the local stories that directly impact your day-to-day lives — stories about Long Island schools, roads, parks, businesses and community events. It's easy for national headlines to overshadow these essential local matters, especially in a polarized political landscape. Yet we firmly believe that our responsibility is to stay rooted in the issues affecting our neighborhoods and families. From zoning changes and public safety to neighborhood events and high school sports, we are here to cover what is relevant and timely for our readers.

The one place where you might see opinions about local and national political candidates, however, is in columns on our editorial pages, like those written by Randi Kreiss and Peter King. These essays are distinguished from Herald news content by featuring photos of the authors, making it clear that they reflect the writers' perspectives and not the views of the Herald. We strive to showcase a diverse array of local voices across the ideological spectrum in these opinion pieces.

In a world saturated with news from national outlets, social media platforms and pundits, local newspapers play a

unique and irreplaceable role. Our newspaper is here to highlight the concerns and successes of Long Island, to act as a mirror to our community, and to bring a sense of belonging and understanding that no national publication can provide. But to achieve this, we need to hear from you, our readers.

What are the topics you care about? What issues are not getting the coverage they deserve? Are there people in our community doing extraordinary things whom we should feature? We encourage you to share your thoughts, ideas and feedback with us. Let us know what you're curious about, what you feel needs to be addressed, and where you think we can improve. Your voices are essential to shaping a Herald that genuinely reflects and serves your community.

Reach out to us at ramid@liherald.com, and let us know what matters to you!

As the election approaches, we understand the intense focus on national races, but our mission remains to illuminate the issues closest to home. We will continue to be your trusted source for local news, not by endorsing political candidates but by informing, listening, and responding to the needs of Long Island.

Together, let's keep our community well-informed, engaged and vibrant — one local story at a time.

LETTERS

'Harris shouldn't even be on the ticket'

To the Editor:

I couldn't disagree more with Jerry's Kremer's viewpoint in his column last week, "Why I'm voting for Kamala Harris." Harris shouldn't even be on the ticket. If the Democrats had held an open primary after President Biden was pushed aside, she wouldn't even have been considered.

Her word-salad responses to questions are baffling and her knowledge of the issues is inept. The only thing that rings in her favor is the Roe v. Wade debate. Harris is clueless on the economy, the border, which is a travesty, and her ability to engage with world leaders. Donald Trump is far from perfect, but he'll put America first, and Kamala, in my opinion, will not.

KENNY CULLEN
Franklin Square

And Jerry left something out

To the Editor:

In "Why I'm voting for Kamala Harris," Jerry Kremer forgot to mention what our open south-



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OPINIONS

When did we become so unkind?

I spent a lot of my childhood, and now, consequently, a lot of my adulthood, at my uncle's lake house in Pennsylvania.

Some of my fondest memories revolve around being there — whether I was fishing with my grandfather,



JORDAN VALLONE

exploring the outdoors with my cousins or curled up with a good book on the beach, taking in my surroundings. As I've gotten older, I find that I love the area for different reasons. I still like to fish and spend time outside with my family and my dogs. But I also

love exploring the Poconos communities around the house, which, in many ways, feel like a second home to me.

Readers of the Bellmore, Merrick and East Meadow Heralds have likely seen my name pop up on their community Facebook pages throughout the almost three and a half years that I've been working here. I like to stay involved with community forums,

because they're not only a great source of information, but also a great place for me to network, and meet the people in the communities that I cover and love.

So just as I do here at home and when I'm working, I've joined a few community social media pages in the Pennsylvania region I travel to. Again, I find that it's a great way to stay in the loop, find new spots to visit, and again, receive a variety of information that I might not know otherwise.

A few weeks ago, I was scrolling through a page that I check frequently, and came across a post from a page contributor that read: "NY Trash Destroyed The Poconos."

It took me a moment to really wrap my head around what I was reading, because for one, the region is economically very reliant on tourism from places like New York, and because I couldn't believe that people actually felt that way. I'd imagine that everyone has had their own experiences with "outsiders," but I'd venture to guess that the vast majority of the people who've found second

homes in Pennsylvania are just like me and my family — kind, courteous and respectful. Fellow commenters on the thread confirmed my beliefs.

Whatever reasons he had to make that post didn't matter in the long run. In the grand scheme of things, it was just another blip on the social media timeline. It didn't make any waves, and it certainly didn't stop "outsiders" from visiting the area, or going to homes that they own.

Over the past few weeks, I've thought a lot about that post, not because I took insult in his words, but because I can't imagine ever going out of my way to post such a ridiculous, negative thing — on any platform, for any reason.

It's like the age-old saying: "If you have nothing nice to say, say nothing at all."

It doesn't matter that the post came from a place other than Long Island, because I'm sure we can all think of similar ones. Comments become vicious and people start attacking one another, while ignoring the actual problem: We,

as a society, can be extraordinarily unkind.

There's a lot going on these days. Things are polarized, and I feel it — the agitation, the stress about the way things are. The world we live in today isn't perfect, but was it ever?

The point I'm trying to make is, if you have to go out of your way to say something completely unnecessary, take a moment and ask yourself: Is it worth it?

The world today may not be perfect, and often it feels overwhelmingly negative. We don't have to make it worse. When things feel harsh and disconnected, kindness is a quiet strength, as is *thinking* about the things we say, or write, before we say them.

We can choose to be mindful of what we say, understanding that our words have consequences. The world may not be perfect, but each of us can make it a little better by simply pausing, reflecting, and opting for kindness whenever we can, because in a time when so much feels out of our control, this is one thing that isn't.

Jordan Vallone is a senior editor who writes for the Bellmore, Merrick and East Meadow Heralds. Comments? jvallone@liherald.com.

LETTERS

ern border has done to our country. Maybe that's because Harris was in charge of the border.

FRANK VENIS
East Rockaway

Harris looks like the smart choice

To the Editor:

Vice presidents are very limited in what they can do in that job. Their job is to support the president's policies. Think of former Vice President Mike Pence.

Vice President Harris is her own strong person, and she will take what she perceives to be the best aspects of President Biden's policies, but no vice president is ever a carbon copy of their predecessor. In terms of the southern border, Harris says that she supports having both parties in Congress work together and compromise on solutions, as was recently done with the strict border bill that both parties agreed on. However, Trump intervened and told Republicans to back out.

Trump and his MAGA Republicans prefer a dictatorial approach to solving our country's problems. They tell us that we are a failing nation that only one man can fix. Beware. That is not democracy.

Concerning our economy, economists

report that it is doing well. Gas prices are down, unemployment is down and the stock market is flourishing.

One would expect that food and housing costs would continue to improve under Harris. Economists say that Trump's tariffs would backfire and increase the cost of goods. Also, it seems that most people agree with the Harris plan to have large corporations pay their fair share of taxes, but she will need a Democratic Congress to achieve this.

ELAINE RAUCH
Lynbrook

On Election Day, keep it all in perspective

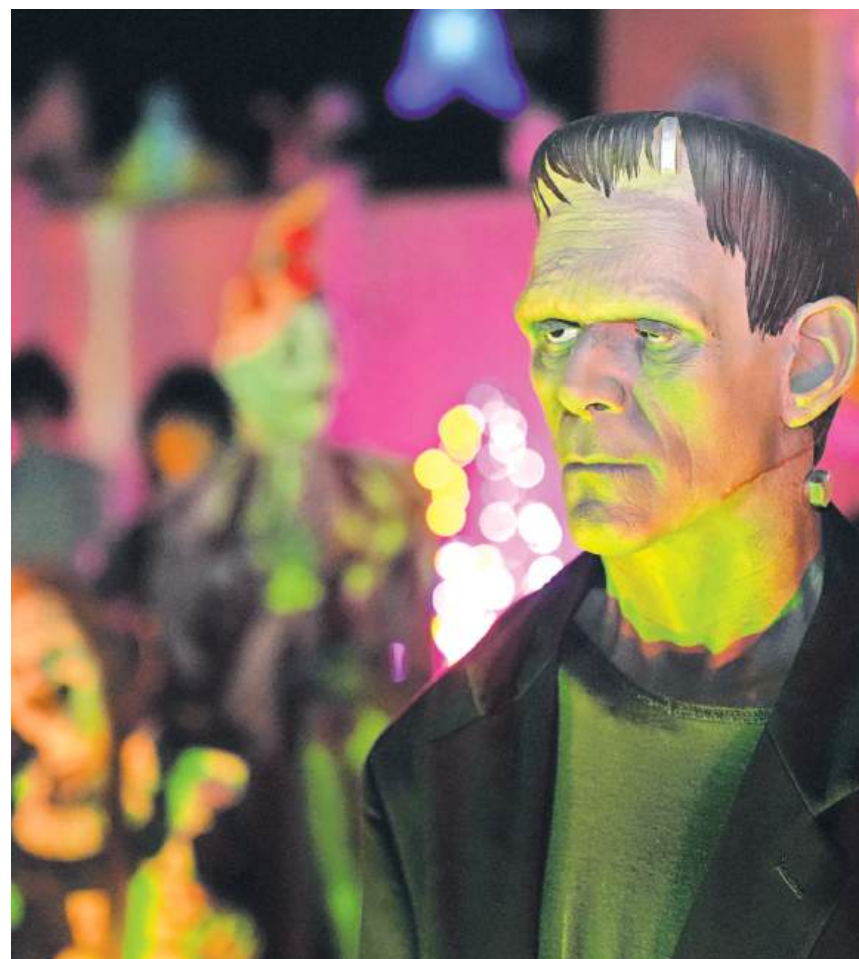
To the Editor:

Beware of all the promises of goodies — or, as I call them, Halloween tricks and treats — promised by candidates running for public office. There is no such thing as a free lunch, or, in this case, free government programs offering benefits to you. Taxpayers always end up picking up the tab.

That's a good reason why politicians should be changed often, like diapers, because most are full of you know what! Remember this next Tuesday before you vote.

LARRY PENNER
Great Neck

FRAMEWORK by Tim Baker



At Falcon's Halloween Yard Haunt — Pierce Avenue, North Bellmore

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