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Roksana Amid/Herald

Thomas McMahon, a decorated member of a long-range reconnaissance patrol in the Army's 1st Infantry Division, holds ashes of his late friend and fellow soldier, Robert Paul Elsner.

## Honoring Tom McMahon's legacy of courage and service

By **ROKSANA AMID**

ramid@iherald.com

Glen Cove paid tribute to one of its own on Veterans Day, honoring the remarkable life and service of Thomas McMahon, a veteran of the Vietnam War.

"Today we gather as a community to honor the courage and sacrifice and unbreakable spirit of our veterans, those who have worn the uniform of this great nation and served with honor," Mayor Pamela Panzenbeck said at the Nov. 11 Veterans Day ceremony. "This year's Veterans Day honoree is a man who exemplifies courage, patriotism and dedication."

McMahon, 76, a lifelong Glen Cove resident, served in the Army, including a tour

with an elite long-range reconnaissance patrol in Vietnam. His life and experiences highlight the sacrifices made by service members and the profound impact they have on their communities long after they leave the military.

Born in Glen Cove on May 29, 1948, McMahon grew up on East Avenue and attended North Shore High School, where he felt a strong calling to serve. "If you looked at my yearbook, it says, 'Going in the Army,'" he recounted. Growing up surrounded by World War II veterans in his family, he was inspired by their stories, and felt a duty to follow in their footsteps.

Though the Vietnam War was highly controversial, McMahon was resolute. "I didn't

CONTINUED ON PAGE 7

## After a divisive election, Suozzi urges unity

By **ROKSANA AMID**

ramid@iherald.com

Following his re-election to Congress amid a pivotal election in which former President Donald Trump's win headlined a Republican resurgence, Rep. Tom Suozzi gave a post-victory news conference on Nov. 6. In it, he called for a cooperative, "common-sense" approach in Washington. Despite a nationwide conservative wave, Suozzi managed to hold on to his seat, which he attributed to a commitment to bipartisan problem-solving and practical solutions over party ideology.

"People are sick and tired of the finger-pointing and the endless partisan games," Suozzi said. "They want us to work together. They want us to reject extremism, and they want us to solve problems using common sense."

He emphasized that his own campaign resonated with voters because it was grounded in addressing their real concerns, such as securing the U.S. border and restoring the income tax

deduction for state and local taxes, which is particularly significant for residents in high-tax states like New York.

While expressing a willingness to work with Trump on issues like the SALT deduction, Suozzi voiced his determination to hold the president-elect accountable on promises that impact New York's districts.

**I'm going to hold him to that, and I want you to hold him to that as well.**

**TOM SUOZZI**  
U.S. Representative

"The president-elect) says he wants to restore the state and local tax deduction," Suozzi said. "I'm going to hold him to that, and I want you to hold him to that as well." He stressed his commitment to working with any leader, regardless of party, who is focused on solutions and improving people's lives. "I'll work with any progressive, any conservative, any moderate — any person of goodwill who wants to solve problems."

Suozzi also touched on hot-button cultural issues that have dominated recent campaigns, including transgender participation in sports. Criticizing

CONTINUED ON PAGE 11

# Northwinds free concert honors veterans

November 14, 2024 – GLEN COVE HERALD

By **ROKSANA AMID**

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On Nov. 17 at 3 p.m., Glen Cove's Wunsch Arts Center will resonate with the stirring sounds of the Northwinds Symphonic Band's A Tribute to Our Veterans, a free concert honoring the men and women who have served in the U.S. armed forces.

Sponsored by The Herald and the Tribute and Honor Foundation, this annual Veterans Day concert has become a beloved tradition, drawing audiences from across Nassau County to celebrate patriotism and pay homage to those who have served.

Under the direction of Helen P. Bauer and Brandon Bromsey, the Northwinds Symphonic Band has curated a dynamic program, rich in American musical heritage and patriotic fervor.

"It's a very diverse program, and it's great because sometimes you can go to a concert and the group is great, but everything sort of sounds the same, but we do fun things, we do exciting things," Bauer said. "We do important literature, marches, tone pieces, theater music. We take the audience to a lot of different places. But this concert, of course, has a lot of patriotic aspect to it."

Bauer dedicated 35 years to teaching instrumental music and directing bands in Baldwin Public Schools, where she developed high-achieving music pro-



Courtesy Gaitley Stevenson-Matthews

The Northwinds Symphonic Band under the direction of Helen P. Bauer and Brandon Bromsey will present Salute to Veterans Concert on November 17th.

grams and inspired a commitment to community service among her students. Under her leadership, the Baldwin Senior High School Symphonic Band earned top honors, performed extensively, and was the first high school band to play at Ellis Island. Bauer's achievements were recognized statewide, including being named NY State Band Director of the Year in 2002.

Highlights include American Pageant by Thomas Knox, a piece per-

formed at every presidential inauguration since Richard Nixon's in 1973, as well as the Armed Forces Medley, which salutes each branch of the military with their signature songs.

The concert will also feature Broadway vocalists Karen Murphy and John Preator, who will bring to life Big Band era classics by the Gershwin brothers and Jerome Kern, adding an uplifting and nostalgic element. Justin Wheeler, a talented trumpeter and North Shore

Middle School band director, will perform a special tribute to trumpet icon Harry James, showcasing his remarkable skill and adding a touch of jazz virtuosity to the lineup.

Since its founding in 2007, the Northwinds Symphonic Band has grown from a small ensemble of 23 members to a robust, 70-member group made up of current and retired music teachers, recent university graduates, and gifted young musicians.

"We strive to choose music that honors veterans in a meaningful way," said Conductor Brandon Bromsey. "The concert band has military roots, and each branch of the military has its own song that we play. The response has been overwhelmingly positive over the years, and the atmosphere is always full of reverence and gratitude."

Bauer and Bromsey work tirelessly to create a season that showcases a wide range of musical styles, from patriotic anthems to Broadway hits. Their annual season includes five concerts, beginning in the fall with A Tribute to Our Veterans and culminating in a spirited Fourth of July performance at Morgan Park. The Wunsch Arts Center, located at Robert Finley Middle School at 1 Forest Avenue in Glen Cove, is wheelchair accessible. For more information, call 516-375-4957 or email helenpbauer@gmail.com.

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Photos courtesy Glen Cove City School District

Class representatives proudly showed off their citations after the pinning ceremony at Connolly Elementary.

# Inspiring leadership and community spirit

By **ROKSANA AMID**

[ramid@iherald.com](mailto:ramid@iherald.com)

Connolly and Landing Elementary Schools celebrated the spirit of leadership and civic service through their Student Council elections and pinning ceremonies, fostering civic engagement and responsibility among young students. On Nov 8, Connolly School hosted a Student Council Pinning Ceremony, where newly elected student representatives were honored for their dedication to their classmates and school community. The event was attended by government officials like Mayor Pamela Panzenbeck and Assemblyman Charles Lavine, and district officials, including Superintendent Maria Rianna, who shared a powerful message about the significance of small actions in making a difference.

Asking the students, “How many of you does it take to make an impact?” Rianna was met with a confident answer from one student who said, “One.” Rianna praised this insightful response, emphasizing, “One small act of kindness can spark a ripple effect. It’s up to each of you to make that difference.”

Connolly’s Principal, Bryce Klatsky, also highlighted the importance of the Student Council, remarking, “This ceremony is a wonderful reminder that our students are not only learning academic skills but also developing the character and leadership qualities that will help them succeed in life. We are so proud of each and every one of them.”

Earlier, on Nov. 4, students at Landing School embraced the democratic process by voting for their Student Council officers. After attending an assembly where the responsibilities of student leadership were outlined, students cast their votes with excitement, marking a valuable learning experience in civic engagement.

Guided by their long-time Student Council Advisors like Susan Stanco, Glen Cove’s Student Councils engage in various school and community projects. From organizing a breast cancer walk-a-thon to planting tulips on school grounds and running clean-up initiatives, the Student Council’s efforts promote both community pride and environmental stewardship. Currently, the Student Council at Connolly is leading a Thanksgiving food drive where students purchase “feathers for Tom the Turkey,” with proceeds funding food baskets and gift cards for local families in need. “Together, we can make a difference if we all work together,” Stanco said, reflecting on the council’s mission.



Students at Landing Elementary School created a path with American flags for class leaders to walk through at the beginning of the pinning ceremony.

The Student Council’s impact is especially meaningful to students like Avianna Washington and Julie Steinhauser. Washington, a third grader, shared, “I wanted to be in Student Council because I think it would be fun to represent our class and see what our class needs.” Steinhauser, a fourth grader, added, “I really wanted to help our community and our school, and I feel like Student Council stands out because they represent their class, and it’s a really fun opportunity.”

Through these elections and ceremonies, Glen Cove’s elementary schools are empowering students to lead with empathy, work collaboratively, and take pride in their roles as young leaders, setting the foundation for a lifetime of civic engagement.

Glen Cove Mayor Pamela Panzenbeck spoke of the importance of civic engagement to students at Landing Elementary School.





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## Planning for Single Relatives Living Alone

If you have a son, daughter, sister, brother or parent living alone for whom you are responsible, and they unfortunately become incapacitated or die, apart from the emotional and medical burdens, you may have significant legal and financial troubles. A little planning in advance for these contingencies will go a long way in making any such dire situation much easier to handle.

If they rent, then make sure they notify their landlord, in writing, that you have their permission to access the apartment. Also get a key to their apartment or home or at least know where you can get one (such as from a neighbor).

A power of attorney will allow you to handle their legal and financial affairs during any period of disability. However, a power of attorney automatically ceases on death. Once someone dies, only the executor under the will may handle legal and financial affairs and it may take months and sometimes years to become appointed executor by the Surrogate's Court. A properly created and funded living trust, on the

other hand, gives you immediate control of their affairs upon death.

A health care proxy and living will allows you to gain access to their medical records, confer with medical professionals and make medical decisions for them if they are unable to, including termination of life support should there be no meaningful existence and no hope of recovery.

You should know where they keep records of their assets in their home or apartment. One of the benefits of a properly funded trust is that it will have a list of assets appended to the trust making it easy to locate what the decedent owned. A list of their assets, and any named beneficiaries, is also helpful.

Forms to provide personal information, such as who to contact in the event of death (friends, relatives, professional advisors), computer passwords, funeral and burial wishes and who is to receive which personal items, may be found on our website, [trustlaw.com](http://trustlaw.com), under "Online Forms" clicking on "Final Instructions".

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## OBITUARIES

### William N. Campbell

William N. Campbell, 77, of Glen Cove, died on Oct. 26. Proud Vietnam veteran and US Marine; beloved husband of the late Dorothy; loving father of Lori (Kyle Pratt); dear brother of Carolyn Huber; proud grandfather of

Shane Pratt; uncle of David Huber (Karen) and many loving extended family members. Arrangements entrusted to Dodge-Thomas Funeral Home, Glen Cove.

### Elena J. Cruella

Elena J. Cruella, 89, of Glen Cove, and formerly of Valley Stream, died on Oct. 29. Beloved daughter of the late Gaspare and the late Josephine; loving sister of Theresa Kandalaft, Maria Pisani the late Josephine LaFroschia and the late Phyllis Loubriel; dear aunt of Linda, Laura, Lisa, Donna, Diane, Jac-

queline, Paul and Andrea. Elena worked for many years as a devoted social worker. She was caring and kind and loved helping children. She also had a deep love for animals. Arrangements entrusted to Dodge-Thomas Funeral Home of Glen Cove.

### Scott A. Brown

Scott A. Brown, 57, of Glen Cove died peacefully on Nov. 8, surrounded by his loved ones. Scott was born on June 18, 1967, to Albert and Ruth Brown. Scott is survived by his cherished sons, Harrison and Kyle Brown, his beloved life partner, Mary Reilly, dearest siblings, Pamela (Lloyd) Gore, Alison (Frank) Chiappone, and Christopher (Lorraine) Brown, and by his nieces and nephews and many friends all around. Scott was a resident of Bayville, close to the Long Island Sound, which he loved so much. He was an avid boater and proud cap-

tain of his 46' Post Sport fisherman. Throughout his life, Scott enjoyed water skiing, scuba diving, fishing, clamming, downhill skiing, grilling, cooking and the occasional troublemaking. He loved to make delicious dishes for his family to enjoy and was famous for his nachos, baked stuffed clams, and fig jam pizza. But most of all he was known for his big heart and putting his loved ones first. Visiting and service at Dodge-Thomas Funeral Home of Glen Cove. Interment private. [www.DodgeThomas.com](http://www.DodgeThomas.com)

### Maria Camera

Maria Camera, 74, of Bayville, died on Nov. 2. Dear sister of Nancy Patacca (Gennaro), the late Jerry (Carmela) and the late Antoinette. Also survived by several loving nieces, nephews, grandnieces and grand-nephews. Camera

loved to garden, bake and complete challenging crossword puzzles. Arrangements entrusted to Dodge-Thomas Funeral Home, Glen Cove. Donations would be appreciated in her memory to [Donate.Cancer.Org](http://Donate.Cancer.Org)

### William N. Campbell

William N. Campbell, 77, of Glen Cove, died on Oct. 26. Proud Vietnam veteran and US Marine. Beloved husband of the late Dorothy; loving father of Lori (Kyle Pratt); dear brother of Carolyn Huber; proud grandfather of

Shane Pratt. Uncle of David Huber (Karen) and many loving extended family members. Arrangements entrusted to Dodge-Thomas Funeral Home, Glen Cove. Donations to your local Veterans Association would be very appreciated.

GLEN COVE

# HERALD

HOW TO REACH US

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Courtesy Northwell Health

Bryanna Escalante, a Northwell Emergency Medical Technician and U.S. Army Reserve 1st Lieutenant, has benefited from the support she received at Northwell's Military

## Northwell recognized as military friendly employer

Northwell Health has been recognized as a 2025 Military Friendly® Employer, earning a top 10 ranking in the categories of employer, military spouse employer, brand, and company. This marks the sixth year that Northwell has been honored by Military Friendly® for its commitment, efforts, and success in providing sustainable and meaningful benefits for the military community.

Northwell partners with military service members, veterans and their families creating impactful programs that offer a connection to high-quality care, career development and salary coverage upon deployment. All Northwell physicians are trained to care for the needs of veterans and their families.

"Our veterans and those in uniform have given so much to our country. At Northwell we're proud to give back to them in every way we can," said Michael J. Dowling, Northwell's president and chief executive officer. "Being named a Military Friendly® Employer is an honor that reflects the success of our efforts."

Northwell's Military Liaison Services offers a variety of care for military service members and veterans which is vital, because only 2.3 percent of private sector health care providers are equipped to comprehend and meet veteran's needs. Lacking an understanding of the environmental factors and exposure veterans experience while overseas, and the challenges they face upon their return often leads to veterans being undiagnosed and untreated.

Northwell's support for veterans and military service members extends beyond medical care. The Life After Service Program offers diverse career paths and employment opportunities. Additionally, through their military Earn & Train programs, service members and veterans can achieve certification and immediate job placement as emergency medical technicians, pharmacy technicians, patient care associates, monitor technicians, and nurse attendants.

"Our department has been working diligently to change the way companies and communities, view, treat and serve our military," said Juan Serrano, vice president of Northwell's Military Liaison Services. "This is our sixth year making the top of the Military Friendly® list. That achievement is the result of collaborating with several departments and hospitals throughout Northwell."

Military Friendly® evaluates an organization's commitment and success in providing sustainable, meaningful benefits for the military community. Each year, over 2,800 organizations compete for Military Friendly® designation, with final ratings based on survey scores and assessment of recruitment, new hire retention, employee turnover, and promotion and advancement of veterans and military employees.

To learn more about Northwell's Military Liaison Services call (516) 821-5140 or go Military Liaison Services | Northwell Health. To find a full list of the 2025 Military Friendly® Employers go to [www.militaryfriendly.com](http://www.militaryfriendly.com).

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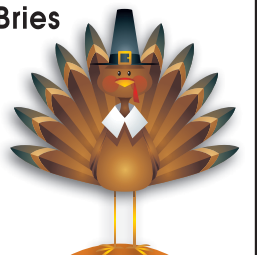
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# HERALD SCHOOLS

## GC pep rally will celebrate Shye Roberts

By **ROKSANA AMID**

ramid@iherald.com

Glen Cove High School will have a community-wide Pep Rally in celebration of Shye Roberts, an alumna and contestant on NBC's *The Voice*. Roberts, an 18-year-old singer with a remarkable voice and storytelling ability, advanced in the competition, winning the Battle Round under the mentorship of her coach, Michael Bublé. This event will honor her achievements and welcome her back to Glen Cove as she prepares for the next stages on *The Voice*.

The Pep Rally will take place on Nov. 15, from 12:45 p.m. to 2 p.m. in the Glen Cove High School auditorium, located at 150 Dosoris Lane. The entire Glen Cove community is invited to join, support, and cheer on Roberts as she continues to represent her hometown. This celebration will include speeches from Glen Cove High School's leaders and Fine & Performing Arts faculty. Adding to the event's lively atmosphere, the Glen Cove Pep Band will perform, filling the auditorium with upbeat, celebratory music. The event will also feature a special slideshow produced by Glen Cove High School's television students, capturing Roberts' journey and highlighting memorable moments from her performances on *The Voice*.

One of the most anticipated parts of the Pep Rally will be a presentation of an artistic gift created by Glen Cove's visual art students in Roberts' honor. Roberts will also take the stage, performing a selection of music and giving her hometown supporters a chance to experience her powerful voice in person. Her live performance will be a highlight of the event, reinforcing the excitement and pride Glen Cove feels as they watch one of their own rise to national fame.

Roberts' journey has been inspiring, especially considering her background. Raised in a family that couldn't afford formal vocal training, Roberts honed her talent independently, participating in school musicals and choir and taking advantage of every opportunity to develop her skills. Her high school choir director, Edward Norris, recognized her potential early on, even through virtual sessions held during the pandemic. His encouragement, along with that of her vocal coach Jennifer Toohey, who provided Roberts with additional training through a scholarship, helped her refine her skills and build confidence in her talent.

Roberts' talent, however, extends beyond just vocal ability; she has developed a unique style of emotional storytelling, which she showcased in Glen Cove High School's productions of *In the Heights* and *Miss Saigon*. Her heartfelt performances left a lasting impres-



Courtesy NBC

Glen Cove High School is hosting a community Pep Rally to celebrate Shye Roberts, an alumna and current contestant on NBC's *The Voice*.

sion on the school community and prepared her to take on a national stage. Although her family's recent move to Pennsylvania was challenging, it ultimately inspired her to take a bold step and audition for *The Voice* in Los Angeles. During her blind audition, Roberts impressed all four judges with her rendition of "Superman" by Five for Fighting, which led to a rare four-chair turn and enthusiastic praise from the judges. Michael Bublé, known for his vocal prowess and deep appreciation of musical talent, commented on her emotional depth and vocal range, making her his pick for the competition.

This Pep Rally is not only a chance to support Roberts on her journey but also to celebrate the talent and creativity that Glen Cove High School nurtures. With her family, friends, mentors, and fellow students by her side.

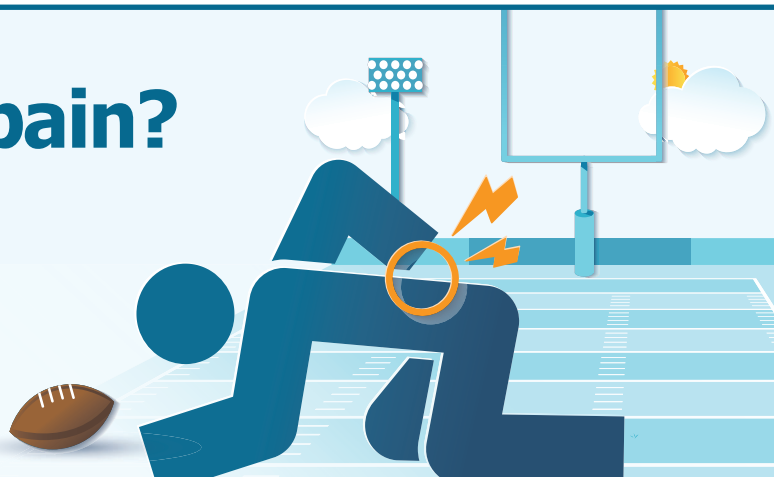
Shye Roberts performed at the Long Island Studio of music, where she received a scholarship to work with Jennifer Toohey.



Courtesy Glen Cove City Schools

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# McMahon 'exemplifies courage, patriotism'

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

want to miss out on a war that was going on ...," he said. "I wanted in."

He went through basic training at Fort Bragg, North Carolina, where he quickly advanced from private E-1 to E-2. His training continued at Fort Dix, New Jersey, where his skills and determination caught the attention of his superiors.

McMahon opted to serve as an enlisted soldier, drawn to the direct, hands-on role of an infantryman. The decision would eventually lead him to South Korea with the Seventh Infantry Division, where he underwent counter-guerilla-warfare training and studied at the Army Education Center, earning 30 semester hours of college credit. Yet as he explained, "Korea was OK, but there was nothing really going on like I wanted."

Driven by a sense of purpose, McMahon volunteered for duty in Vietnam. There he joined a long-range reconnaissance patrol, a five-man team that was sent on dangerous missions to track and monitor enemy activity behind enemy lines. The LRRP's work was risky, demanding constant vigilance and frequent isolation. "We were in their backyard all the time..." he said, describing the perils of his service.

The role of LRRPs evolved from observation to direct engagement, transforming McMahon and his fellow soldiers into frontline soldiers. That shift, however, came at a cost. "That's when we started losing guys," he said solemnly. His 14 months in Vietnam were marked by both camaraderie and loss.

After he came home, McMahon attempted to shift into civilian life. He enrolled in nursing studies at Pace College, but his heart wasn't in it. He eventually found a career in construction, which he found fulfilling and which allowed him to provide for his family, including his wife, Maureen, whom he had met serendipitously in Glen Cove just before Thanksgiving 1967.

As it happened, Maureen also had a connection to Vietnam, having worked as a flight attendant on missions transporting soldiers in and out of conflict zones. Their shared experience in the war became the foundation of a strong marriage, which produced two children, Dennis and Sarah.

Among those who served with McMahon was his close friend Robert Paul Elsner, a patrol leader whom McMahon described as a talented warrior but something of a rule-breaker in camp. Elsner's death from lung cancer 15 years ago deeply affected McMahon, who now carries his friend's ashes as a tribute to their shared experiences. "If it wasn't for him," McMahon said, "I wouldn't be here, and I wouldn't have the grandchildren that I have."

Looking back on his military experience, McMahon has become an advocate for service, especially for young people who may be struggling to find their way. "I think everyone should serve in some capacity," he said. He encourages young people to embrace the opportunities and personal growth that service — military or civilian — can offer. "It's very important to live amongst people from other cultures," he said.

If you looked at my yearbook, it says, 'Going in the Army.'

**THOMAS McMAHON**  
Veteran



Courtesy office of the Mayor

Thomas McMahon served in the Vietnam War.

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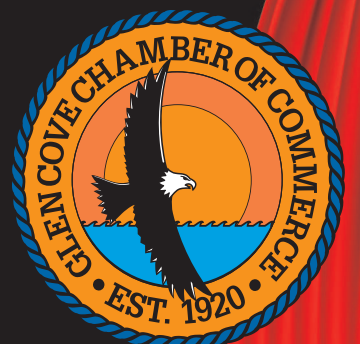
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# Nassau honors Veterans with ceremony

By JORDAN VALLONE

jvallone@liherald.com

Nassau County veterans, families and community members gathered in Eisenhower Park on Nov. 10 to honor those who served on Veterans Day, paying tribute to local heroes whose courage and sacrifice have protected the United States' freedoms and values. In a poignant ceremony led by the United Veterans Organization at the county's veterans memorial in the park, speakers focused on respect, courage and resilience — and of course, the importance of Veterans Day and veteran service agencies.

"On Veterans Day, we veterans remember our service — we think about friends that we made, and some of the friends that we've lost," Morris Miller, who's on the UVO's board of directors, said during the ceremony's opening remarks. "We served with distinction. We served with honor. And even though many of us are older, greyer, out of shape — we would not hesitate at a moment's notice to serve our country, if asked."

Following his convocation, Spinner offered remarks for those who are prisoners of war and those who are still listed as missing in action.

"As you entered these grounds today, you may have noticed this small table in place," Spinner said, referencing a dis-



Holden Leeds/Herald

**County Executive Bruce Blakeman, Police Commissioner Patrick Ryder and State Senator Steve Rhoads carried a wreath to the POW-MIA memorial, and held their hands over their hearts during the presentation of 'Taps.'**

play in front of the lectern. "This table is our way of symbolizing the fact that members of our profession of arms are missing from our midst. They are commonly called POWs or MIAs — we call them brothers. They are unable to be with us at this time, and so we remember them."

Nassau County Executive Bruce Blakeman, State Senator Steve Rhoads, State Assemblyman-elect Daniel Norber,

Town of North Hempstead Supervisor Jen DeSena and Police Commissioner Patrick Ryder all attended Sunday's ceremony.

"We have enemies that hate our way of life, they hate our prosperity, they hate our spirit, they hate our love of country," Blakeman said. "So today, we're here to remember. May God bless our veterans, may God bless our active military, and may God bless America."

Ryder said both veterans and police offers have a bond over the word "service."

"And what does it mean — unconditional service," he said. "You didn't ask for anything when you signed up to serve your country. You just went out to do it, and do it because you honored the flag, the constitution, the way of life here in the United States — that freedom we all get to enjoy."

Among all of the speakers, perhaps no one is more involved directly with veteran affairs than Ralph Esposito, director of Nassau County's Veterans Service Agency. There's an office in East Meadow, right behind the main tower of the Nassau University Medical Center, which offers support, health care, food and other resources to veterans.

"I feed 1,650 people a month that are veterans," Esposito said of the office he runs. "That should not be. Veterans should not be hungry. Our veterans shouldn't have to sleep in the park. There's a lot more to be done, and as long as I'm living, I want to fight to get it done. I promise you that."

The United Veterans Organization held a Veterans Day ceremony at the Long Island National Cemetery in East Farmingdale on Sunday as well.

For more on veteran affairs and resources offered in Nassau County, visit NassauCountyNY.gov or call (516) 572-6565.



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# Hofstra students star in election broadcast

By XIOMARA TRINIDAD PEREZ

Herald Intern

The Herbert School of Communications, at Hofstra University, had transformed overnight into a news station. Students were busy writing scripts and reporting live results on election night, on a program called “Hofstra Votes Live.”

The multi-platform broadcast brought together students from across the Herbert School and the university. They began planning the program months before the election in order to deliver comprehensive, real-time coverage — all under the mentoring and guidance of Hofstra faculty members. The broadcast aired from 8 p.m. to midnight, and reached audiences on campus, on YouTube and on 88.7 FM WRHU, Radio Hofstra University.

The program featured coverage with both a regional and national perspective, and included live reports from watch parties such as those for Republican incumbent U.S. Rep. Anthony D’Esposito and his Democratic challenger Laura Gillen, who ultimately defeated him. One of the standout moments was a live report from Vice President Kamala Harris’s watch party, at Howard University, in Washington, by student reporter Jake Epstein. Student anchors also interview guests such as former New York Gov. David Paterson on air.



Courtesy Diego Olivras

Regional anchors Michael Dent and Camryn Bowden reporting the news for ‘Hofstra Votes Live’ on election night.

The students gained hands-on experience in the fast-paced world of live news coverage, and learned about the behind-the-scenes work that goes into producing an important broadcast on a historic night. They also felt for themselves the excitement and intensity of covering a

presidential election.

“To be part of Hofstra Votes Live is a huge opportunity, and I feel so grateful being part of the team,” said Sarah Ng, a senior at Hofstra who served as one of the anchors of the national coverage. “It’s a big production that the depart-

ment puts on every two years, and I’m really excited to see how it comes together. I’m both excited and nervous just because it’s four hours long — that’s like, that would be the longest I’ve ever been on air live.”

Days before the broadcast, student anchors like Ng took part in a special workshop hosted by WABC reporter Chanteé Lans, who shared some of the secrets of being a good anchor during a live broadcast.

In the past, “HVL” has covered presidential and midterm elections as well as Super Tuesday during the presidential primaries. Last year the broadcast won the Edward R. Murrow Award for Excellence in Student Video Newscast for its coverage of the 2022 midterms.

“I’m really grateful, actually, to be one of the coordinating producers for ‘HVL’ for the 2024 presidential election,” junior Samantha Diamond said. “You know, seeing me as a freshman two years ago, I was one of the camera assistants. . . . And I was just, like, you know what? When I’m an upperclassmen and we do this again in two years, I want to be one of the leaders.”

In addition to the main “HVL” broadcast, students also produced a special edition of “Hofstra News Now” that aired the day before Election Day. The broadcast examined key issues in the election, including reproductive rights, foreign affairs and inflation.

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There will be a special tribute to veteran Vinnie Martinez, Sr. in celebration of the 40th Anniversary of Vinnie’s Island.

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Photos courtesy Team Eva

Eva Casale visited many monuments on the North Shore dedicated to veterans, including one located at St. Rocco's Church in Glen Cove.

# Honoring veterans with monumental run

Eva Casale and her team, Team EVA — Every Veteran Appreciated, honored veterans and fallen heroes with a marathon that blended endurance with deep commemoration on Nov. 11. Casale's journey began in her teenage years, running alongside her father, Jerry, and discovering her talent for long-distance running. Over time, her passion transformed into a mission to honor service members, including her own father and brother, both veterans. Nearly every Team EVA member had a personal connection to the military, either through their own service or that of loved ones, which brought special meaning to the cause.

The event started with a 23-mile run from West Harbor Beach Memorial Park in Bayville, tracing a route through North Shore communities like Oyster Bay, Locust Valley, Sea Cliff, and Glen Cove. At each stop, Casale and her team placed flowers and wreaths at veteran memorials, pausing to honor those who sacrificed so much. The day concluded with a 5K run that began and ended at Glen Cove's VFW Post 347, passing by additional memorials, including those at Morgan's Memorial Park and Glen Cove Library.

—Roksana Amid



Team EVA made a donation of \$1,000 to the Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 347.



Will Sheeline/Herald

Team Eva runs through Locust Valley, near the fire department.



Eva Casale, Susan Warsaw, Kevin Arloff, Jamey Kohn and Kerri Bertolini spent their morning raising awareness for veterans and their cause.

# Suozzi: 'Listen to what people are saying'

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Trump's heavy focus on the issue in campaign advertisements, he argued that such matters don't impact most Americans' daily lives and should not be front and center. He acknowledged the complexity and importance of the issue, and said he believed that biological males should not compete in women's sports.

"I said it. Why aren't we saying things like that?" Suozzi asked, emphasizing his willingness to discuss difficult topics with transparency. Suozzi clarified his pro-LGBTQ position, insisting that he supports equal rights but believes that certain nuances need honest debate.

Asked about Nassau County's strong support for Trump in last week's election, Suozzi suggested that it may reflect local dissatisfaction with the Democratic Party's response to its progressive base. While Vice President Kamala Harris ran a strong campaign, he said, she did not decisively push back against the party's far-left influence.

"I think people are concerned that Democrats are not standing up to the base often enough," Suozzi said. "That mattered." He pointed out that many voters, in both parties, want more than rigid adherence to partisan lines; they want leaders who prioritize practical issues that impact their daily lives.

Responding to questions about



Roksana Amid/Herald

Tom Suozzi spoke of unity and holding President-elect Donald Trump accountable for his promise to reinstate the income tax deduction for state and local taxes.

whether New York is turning more conservative or simply more moderate, Suozzi argued that Democrats performed well in the state by focusing on common-sense policies. Highlighting campaigns by other New York Democrats like Laura Gillen and Pat Ryan, he said that candidates who emphasized securing the border and addressing local issues won key victories. Accord-

ing to Suozzi, the collaborative efforts of the state Democratic Party also contributed to those wins.

"The state did a very good job coordinating campaigns," he said. "And that contributed to our success."

Suozi said he had hoped to win by a larger margin, but acknowledged that some voters aligned themselves with Trump while simultaneously backing

him or other Democrats down the ballot. He speculated that his own approach, which focuses on listening to constituents and refusing to pander to ideological bases, may have influenced some voters to split their ballots. Suozzi mentioned his early support for a secure border as an example of an issue where he aligned more with moderate concerns, and added that focusing on border security had transformed from a liability for Democrats to a rallying point.

"It was the worst issue we had before," he said, "but because we addressed it head-on ... it became more about who will actually listen to the people and do what's needed."

Finally, Suozzi sent a message to Democrats who may be disheartened by the Republican sweep of the White House and Congress, encouraging them to stay active and focused on solutions.

"Don't mourn — organize," he urged. "Listen to what the people are saying and fix this." Reflecting on a hard-fought nine-year effort to counter Trump, he acknowledged that constant criticism of the former president didn't resonate with voters. Instead, he said, the focus should be on delivering tangible results.

"Tell us what you're going to do to make life better," he concluded, challenging those on both sides of the aisle to drop partisan attacks in favor of solutions that address Americans' concerns.

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# He served the country. Now, the county.

Navy veteran Kerry Englander discusses his role as the American Legion's Nassau commander

By DANIEL OFFNER

doffner@liherald.com

Kerry Englander, a U.S. Navy veteran and longtime member of American Legion Post 1711 in Levittown, was appointed the Legion's Nassau County commander in June. Representing nearly 30,000 veterans across 52 posts, he now oversees efforts to support those who served.

Englander, 79, joined Levittown Post 1711 in 2008, starting as historian before being named second vice commander. He became active in the Nassau County chapter of the American Legion in 2020, serving as vice commander of the second division, where he supervised 15 posts in central Nassau.

After three years in that role, he was promoted to adjutant. His journey toward leadership included training at American Legion College at SUNY Morrisville, where he strengthened his understanding of the organization's mission.

"It's so gratifying working with all the vets and vet services," Englander said. "Helping veterans — that's what the American Legion is. It's vets helping vets and the community. We served our country, and now we're serving our community — simple as that."

Englander's commitment to aiding



Daniel Offner/Herald

Nassau County American Legion Commander Kerry Englander shared some of his goals as the representative of the county's nearly 30,000 veterans.

veterans was evident when he recently helped a fellow veteran with a staph infection transfer to the Long Island State Veterans Home at Stony Brook for specialized care.

"He's rehabilitating there, awaiting

his hip replacement," Englander said, highlighting his hands-on approach.

Englander's advocacy has also extended to pushing for the reopening of the Mitchel Field commissary in Uniondale. In September, he joined other members of the American Legion, as well as Congressman Anthony D'Esposito and Nassau County Executive Bruce Blakeman, in urging the Department of Defense to repair the damaged facility. The commissary's closure has forced local veterans to travel to Fort Hamilton in Brooklyn for discounted food.

"The veterans and current military need this facility, especially with the economy the way it is today," Englander told the Herald at the rally. "I believe that if the military and veterans are putting this facility, it should be opened up."

The Nassau County Legion chapter continues to advocate for more state funding to expand opportunities for Long Island students to attend Boys State, a prestigious program that immerses high school juniors in govern-

ment operations. Boys State has had many notable alumni throughout its 88-year history, including Neil Armstrong, Bruce Springsteen and Michael Jordan. Englander said that he sees this program as an essential way to teach leadership and civic responsibility.

Englander's own leadership journey began with his military service. From 1966 to 1968, he served on the USS Talladega, a troop transport ship based in California, before ending his tour in Pearl Harbor, where he trained recruits. Starting as a boatswain's mate, he fondly recalls early duties, including cooking for the chiefs.

"Everybody's gotta start someplace," he said with a laugh.

After his military service, Englander pursued a career in information technology with Con Edison and now runs a tax practice. He got married to his wife of 52 years, Elizabeth, and has a son, who is now 47, and a grandson, 11. His commitment to service, influenced by his family's values and history, continues to shape his work with the Legion.

One of Englander's proudest achievements as county commander has been the revival of the Nassau County oratorical contest, a constitutional speech competition for high school students. Contestants compete for up to \$1,000 in scholarships by presenting an eight- to 10-minute speech on the U.S. Constitution, followed by a discourse on an assigned topic related to key amendments.

In his role as county commander, Englander remains focused on growing membership and strengthening the Legion's community outreach. He values the mentorship of past county commanders, acknowledging their support as essential to his success.

"When you get into the county, you're dealing with many posts," he said. "The past commanders are critical to the making of a county commander ... I couldn't do it without them."

For Englander, the American Legion is about more than honoring service — it's about actively supporting veterans and their families. His leadership embodies the Legion's core values of commitment, service and community.



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# Martinez honored at 'Vinnie's Island'

By **ROKSANA AMID**

ramid@liherald.com

Vincent "Vinnie" Martinez, Sr., a U.S. Navy veteran and fixture of the Glen Cove community, received a long-overdue honor this past Saturday at a ceremony dedicating a commemorative stone and plaque in his name. The tribute, held at "Vinnie's Island," a lush green space Martinez has cultivated for more than four decades, was organized and sponsored by Glen Cove American Legion Post 76 and the Tribute and Honor Foundation. It was a heartfelt acknowledgment of his unwavering dedication to beautifying his hometown.

Martinez, now 90, has spent the last 40 years transforming a once-overgrown, 100-foot-long median at the intersection of School Street, North Lane, and Brewster Street into a vibrant garden. His project, known to locals as "Vinnie's Island," has become a beloved spot in the heart of Glen Cove. Planting flowers like poinsettias, delphiniums, pink coneflowers, and begonias arranged in patriotic designs, Martinez has crafted a sanctuary of color that stands as a testament to his love for the city and its people. "So many people blow horns and call out my name," Martinez shared with a smile. "It's been much fun for the past 40 years." For him, the project is not just about gardening; it's about building connections with the countless passersby who wave, honk, and stop to chat while waiting at the traffic light.

Mayor Pamela Panzenbeck, who attended the commemoration, lauded Martinez as a role model and praised his enduring dedication to Glen Cove. "When Gaitley [Stevenson-Mathews] came to the office to talk about this event, we couldn't think of a better way to thank one of Glen Cove's greatest people," Panzenbeck said. "Vinnie has lived here his entire life. He should be



Courtesy Tribute and Honor Foundation

Vincent "Vinnie" Martinez, Sr., a U.S. Navy veteran and fixture of the Glen Cove community, received a long-overdue honor this past Saturday at a ceremony dedicating a commemorative stone and plaque in his name.

a role model for the generation of high schoolers now." Community Engagement Officer Gaitley Stevenson-Mathews, who helped organize the ceremony, echoed her sentiments, noting how Martinez's work has become "a gift to the people of Glen Cove and a tribute to the spirit of volunteerism that lies at the heart of our city."

Martinez joined the Navy at 17 after his older brother was drafted. Returning home in 1957, he married his sweetheart, Sophie Sholtz. The couple has now been married 67 years and have two children, Terri Falm-

holz and Vincent Martinez Jr., along with three grandchildren. Martinez eventually found employment as a postal worker and joined the Glen Cove Fire Department's Hook and Ladder Company, where he rose to become captain in 1965. For 64 years, Martinez has been a devoted member of the fire department, serving as first officer of the fire police unit from 1991 to 2013 and co-founding the department's rescue squad, which helps free motorists involved in accidents. "Fireman of the Year" in 1979, Martinez is now the oldest active member of the department.

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**NEIGHBORS IN THE NEWS**



Courtesy The Regency at Glen Cove

At 103 years old, Carol Rubin continues to inspire those around her with her vibrant spirit and active lifestyle.

**Carol Rubin celebrates 103 years**

At 103 years old, Carol Rubin continues to inspire those around her with her vibrant spirit and active lifestyle. A life-long swimmer who once trained for the Olympics, Carol's passion for swimming remains strong, and she regularly visits the YMCA pool. Born in 1921 in the Bronx, she was a student at New York University and later became a third-grade teacher. Carol's love for learning and teaching has left a lasting impact on her community.

Rubin met her late husband, Morton, at a dance at City College, and the couple shared 62 wonderful years of marriage, raising three children. This year, for her 103rd birthday, her wish was to have all three of her children — Emily from Upstate New York, Richard from St. Louis, and Mousaf from Africa — present for the celebration. Her birthday gathering was a testament to the deep bonds she has with her family. Carol is also a proud grandmother of four and great-grandmother of three.

Since moving to The Regency at Glen Cove two months ago, Rubin has continued to stay active, pursuing hobbies like reading, writing poetry, and thrift shopping, always on the lookout for great fashion. A self-described "clothes horse," she even chose the largest apartment at The Regency to accommodate her extensive wardrobe, and her clothing size has remained the same for years, thanks to her lifelong commitment to staying fit.

Rubin has also remained involved in her community, volunteering with the Glen Cove Senior Center and participating in programs like "Walk with a Doc." Her dedication to staying active and engaged proves that keeping busy is a key to a long, fulfilling life.

Rubin is one of five residents at The Regency over 100 years old, and her life is a shining example of how staying active and connected to others can lead to a long and meaningful life.

—Roksana Amid

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# STEPPING OUT



## Light the night with sweet Holiday Cheer

LuminoCity unwraps a colorful world of wonder

By Danielle Schwab

The holiday season is quickly approaching, so bundle up, grab some hot cocoa, and experience holiday magic at 14 acres of enchanting displays in Eisenhower Park.

Now in its fifth year, the popular holiday festival LuminoCity, which runs through Jan. 5, welcomes guests to a wonderland filled with giant lantern creations.

"It's a really cool combination of light and art and a little sprinkle of holiday magic with this event," John Baiata, LuminoCity's onsite manager. Eisenhower Park is our signature event."

All of the displays are new to Eisenhower Park this year.

The idea started with the founder Xiaoyi Chen, who grew up in China and was inspired by traditional Chinese lantern festivals as a child.

"She came to New York, went to art school here, and founded LuminoCity in 2018 with the idea to reimagine the traditional Chinese lantern festival into something that combined her acumen with the art world," Baiata explains.

As you stroll along the paths, LuminoCity's mascot, Lumi, lights you along the way. Visitors will see Lumi in various outfits as your glowing tour guide throughout your visit.

This year's theme "Sweet Dreams," stirs up a delightful blend of sugar and imagination into a candy-coated world of desserts and confections.

"Who doesn't like a giant donut tunnel, or a forest made entirely of sweets?" asks Baiata.

Kids have added their own "Sweet Dreams" to the walk-through as part of Lumi's Utopia, in partnership with Long Island Children's Museum.

"We hold an art contest for children of different age categories. They submit works of art with a pre-agreed theme — this year's theme was Sweet Dreams, such as candy and sweets — and the museum and our founder picked the winners," Baiata says.

LuminoCity's team acquires kids' 2-D artwork that is brought to life as a 3-D light display for all to enjoy.

"The best part is the children seeing, for the first time, their pieces of art come to life. There's this visceral excitement and just a gushing pride that you see from them and their parents as well," Baiata adds.

"Art enriches our lives in so many ways that we take for granted sometimes. This really reminds us that imagination and art are central to our purpose here."

Other can't-miss attractions include a 50-foot Christmas tree and a majestic ice castle, which is



- Now through Jan. 5; weekdays 4:30-9:30 p.m., Friday through Sunday, 4:30-10 p.m.
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- Eisenhower Park, East Meadow

described as bigger than a residential home. And, of course, a lantern Santa Claus returns to spread holiday cheer.

"I think that it creates this sense of wonder and adventure because as you approach, you're looking up and you're just kind of awed," Baiata says.

Unlike Old Saint Nick, this process certainly can't be completed in just one night. With a team of 40 members, the spectacle

has been months in the making.

"It's a big production staff required to get this all done. And it's not just the creation. It's also the maintenance because we're outdoors, so we are beholden to the elements," Baiata adds.

For an exciting twist, the festival also offers theme nights. Check out the website for additional ways to join in the fun.

When it's time for a break, seek out the food truck nearby, with tempting eats and treats.

Whether you have been before, or it's your first time, LuminoCity's Holiday Light festival promises a night of memory-making experiences with friends and family.

"One of the most precious things in children is seeing the wonder in their eyes. And you want to cultivate that sense of wonder with your children; not just your children, but also your inner child," Baiata enthuses.

"For the families who have already made (our festival) a tradition, we're so grateful."

Photos courtesy LuminoCity

Eisenhower Park glitters throughout the holiday season with the arrival of LuminoCity.



### Madeleine Peyroux

The acclaimed jazz singer, songwriter and interpreter brings her tour to the Landmark stage, following spring's release of "Let's Walk," her first album in six years. Peyroux is acclaimed for her dusky, lyrical style and affinity for reinterpreting classic jazz, blues, and folk standards. Her extraordinary journey is one of the music industry's most compelling. Emerging in her teens, much like songbird Edith Piaf, Peyroux spent her teenage years busking the busy streets of Paris. Years later, Peyroux would cite Piaf as an influence on her music and record a rendition of the classic *La Vie En Rose*, soulfully capturing the tune's romanticism and melancholy. Madeleine's thirst for creative exploration is unfading and her willingness to face creative challenges remains as solid now as it was three decades ago.

Sunday, Nov. 17, 7 p.m. \$70, \$65, \$58. *Jeane Rimsky Theater at Landmark on Main Street, 232 Main St., Port Washington. Tickets available at [landmarkonmainstreet.org](http://landmarkonmainstreet.org) or (516) 767-6444.*



### 'Come and play'... on Sesame Street

Elmo, Abby Cadabby, Cookie Monster, and their friends from Sesame Street are coming to your neighborhood to say hello! At Sesame Street Live! Say Hello everyone's invited to sing, dance and play alongside some of their favorite friends, all while you follow Elmo's puppy, Tango, in a fun game of hide and seek. Elmo, his pals and other Muppets lead dances, songs, and games from the stage while you and your little ones participate in the audience. Join in lively dances, sing along to catchy tunes and interact with your favorite Muppets. As they say on Sesame Street: "Come and play, Everything's A-Okay, Friendly neighbors there, That's where we meet..."

Tuesday, Nov. 19, 6 p.m. Tickets start at \$35. *Tilles Center for the Performing Arts, LIU Post campus, 720 Northern Boulevard, Brookville. Tickets available at [tillescenter.org](http://tillescenter.org) or (516) 299-3100.*

# THE \$ SCENE



Nov. 24

## The Weight Band

The Weight Band — helmed by Jim Weider, a 15-year former member of The Band, and the guitarist who replaced Robbie Robertson — pays tribute to the

Rock and Roll Hall of Fame ensemble's iconic, timeless and enduring 1968 album "Music from Big Pink," on the Paramount stage, Sunday, **Nov. 24**, 7 p.m. The Weight Band, named for the classic The Band song "The Weight," performs a rare and historic show showcasing the album in its entirety, along with outtakes and other favorites by The Band. The concert also include cuts from their latest album "Shines Like Gold," a dynamic set of classic Americana that draws upon roadhouse rock, funky swamp pop, blues, country soul, and folk music. The band interprets and honors the legacy of "Music from Big Pink," which changed rock and roll forever. The Band drummer Levon Helm inspired Weider to launch The Weight Band in 2013, as a vehicle for carrying on The Band's iconic sound. Frontman Weider, a Woodstock native who joined The Band in 1985 and was a member until 2000, was also a member of the Levon Helm Band.



Originating inside Helm's famed Woodstock barn Weider was inspired to carry on the musical legacy of the iconic group. Years of touring have seen The Weight Band revive "The Woodstock Sound," keeping the spirit of Americana/Roots Rock alive. He is joined by keyboardist Brian Mitchell (Helm's Midnight Ramble Band), bassist Albert Rogers (Jim Weider Band, Jimmy Vivino), drummer Michael Bram (Jason Mraz) and keyboardist Matt Zeiner (Dickey Betts). The veteran quintet shares a deep appreciation and knowledge for this music, which Weider describes as the "Woodstock Sound." The Weight Band continues to serve as its torchbearer, with "Shines Like Gold" representing a sublime example of these masterful roots musicians at work. They continue to keep the sound vibrant by releasing new music. Replicating the music of The Band would be a tall order, but interpreting it is an art. The songs The Band created have pleased audiences for decades, and The Weight Band has found a way to honor the legacy while creating its own sound with original works that complement that legacy. \$45, \$35, \$30, \$25. The Paramount, 370 New York Ave., Huntington. Tickets available at [ticketmaster.com](https://www.ticketmaster.com) or [paramountny.com](https://www.paramountny.com).

## In concert

Plaza Theatricals' welcomes Andy Cooney with his "Irish Celebration," Sunday, **Nov. 17**, 2:30 p.m. Cooney's outstanding voice and dynamic stage have filled the rafters of Lincoln Center and The National Concert Hall in Dublin, Ireland. His talent and versatility provide the ability to deliver a variety of songs directly to the hearts of the audience.

Cooney is surely one of the greatest singing sensations on the Irish music scene today. Christened "Irish America's Favorite Son" by The New York Times, it is a title he richly deserves. See the show at 700 Hempstead Tpke., Elmont. \$40, \$35 seniors. Elmont. For tickets, call (516) 599-6870 or visit [PlazaTheatrical.com](https://www.PlazaTheatrical.com).

## 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](https://www.BayvilleFreeLibrary.org) or call (516) 628-2765.

## Turkey Trot

The Glen Cove Education Foundation hosts its annual 5K Turkey Trot fundraiser on Thanksgiving, Thursday, **Nov. 28** at Glen Cove High School. Get your exercise before your Thanksgiving feast. Race day registration is 8:30 a.m., 5K starts at 9:30 a.m. sharp. Register at [events.elitefeats.com/24glen Cove](https://events.elitefeats.com/24glen Cove). Check out [theglencoveeducationfoundation.com/](https://theglencoveeducationfoundation.com/) to learn more about the Glen Cove Education Foundation. For questions, email [gcef@outlook.com](mailto:gcef@outlook.com) or call (516) 801-theglencoveeducationfoundation.com/ to learn more about the Glen Cove Education Foundation. For questions, email [gcef@outlook.com](mailto:gcef@outlook.com) or call (516) 801-8140.

## In concert

Groove along with the Bayou Band, at the free concert hosted by Bayville Village Arts Council, Saturday, **Nov. 16**. The 9-piece band is composed of a dazzling array of talented musicians offering a unique blend of New Orleans Funk, Southern soul and lively classics. The result is a satisfying elixir of music magic otherwise known as LocoMojo. 88 Bayville Ave. For more information, visit [ppecorino.com/BVAC-Events.html](https://www.ppecorino.com/BVAC-Events.html) or call (516) 628-1439.

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### Let's Skate

Get ready to enjoy all the thrills of the snowy season, while staying warm and cozy as Long Island Children's Museum's popular "Snowflake Sock Skating rink returns, opening Saturday, Nov. 16, through Jan. 7. Slip on "sock skates" and take a spin on the indoor rink, made from a high-tech synthetic polymer surface that lets kids slide around without blades.

Kids can stretch, twirl and glide. As visitors step off the "ice" they can jump into winter dramatic play in Snowflake Village. Become a baker in the holiday sweet shop, step inside a giant snowman and serve up some hot cocoa, take a turn in the rink "ticket booth" and "warm up" around a rink side "fire pit." Long Island Children's Museum, Museum Row, Garden City. (516) 224-5800 or LICM.org.



### Tea time

The festive season is underway at Old Westbury Gardens. Enjoy a cream tea (featuring scones, Devonshire cream, assorted sweets, and tea), then a guided tour of decorated Westbury House, Tuesday, **Dec. 3**, 11 a.m.-12:30 p.m. and 1:30-3 p.m.; Wednesday, **Dec. 4**, 11 a.m.-12:30 p.m. and 1:30-3:30 p.m.; Thursday, **Dec. 5**, 11 a.m.-12:30 p.m. and 1:30-3 p.m. \$22.50 per person. Advance registration suggested. Old Westbury Gardens, 71 Old Westbury Rd., Old Westbury. For information contact (516) 333-0048 or visit OldWestburyGardens.org.



### Art explorations

Converse, collaborate and create at Family Saturdays at Nassau County Museum of Art. The drop-in program continues Saturday, **Nov. 16**, 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.

### 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 tuneful goomd tiem. Registration required. 4 Glen St. Visit GlenCoveLibrary.org or (516) 676-2130.



### Owl Prowl

Check out Sands Point Preserve's native owls calling in the woods at night, with biologist and ranger Eric Powers, Friday, **Nov. 15**, 7-8:30 p.m. Learn how to identify owls by sight and sound, and attract these beneficial birds to your own backyard. Then head out to the woods for a very quiet guided night walk in search of owls and other nighttime wildlife. Families welcome. Spaces are limited and registration required. \$24 adult, \$12 child, 8+; \$18 adult, \$6.50 child, 8+ members. 127 Middle Neck Road. For information, visit SandsPointPreserveConservancy.org or call (516) 571-7901.

### 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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## REPORTERS NOTEBOOK

# N.Y. City Marathon, a World Major, miles to go

By PARKER SCHUG

pschug@liherald.com

Runners are told to envision the finish line, but while training for the New York City Marathon, it was a journey in itself to get to the start.

For me, racing is less about the race, and more about the time put in leading up to it.

This go-around, in the 16 weeks I spent preparing for the New York City Marathon, very little went as planned, but I think that taught me more than a perfect training block and an ideal race day would have.

I kicked off training in mid-July with a goal-time focused plan. I was going to spend 16 weeks attempting to get faster to run a personal record.

This was different than any training I had done before, as I typically focus on completing the mileage at whatever pace feels good. I started running marathons and trained for my first because I appreciated the mental headspace running put me in, along with the individual challenge of exceeding my own expectations.

The preset paces set by my training app were hard to hit and sometimes impossible to hold.

Running in the summer heat didn't help, and it felt like I was setting myself up for failure.

Then, as it does, life became busier. I was avoiding some of the marathon training runs that got me out of bed a year ago, preparing for my first long race. The speed training specific workouts had become a chore, and I wasn't enjoying myself, which really disappointed me because I felt like I had disregarded the parts of running that brought me so much joy.

The combination of busier days, weather changes, and the toll on my body caught up to me, and I got sick around week 12 of training. I took some time off to recover, and I knew my longest run of the training block was at the end of week 13, a 20-miler. I wanted to complete this run to prove to myself that I could push for 20 miles, because in my head, if I could do that, I'd be able to complete the 26.2.

The run went well for the first 10 miles. The second 10 felt like a struggle from the first step. At mile 17 I needed to walk, as I truly could not go on without a break. I finished the 20 miles with a few more walk breaks, but I didn't feel great about the run, nor did I feel great about the race.

Then, every runner's fear occurred — I got hurt. My entire lower right leg was in pain.

What I was most upset about was the fact that I hadn't enjoyed myself and



Parker Schug/Herald

didn't feel the pride that I had felt going into my first marathon. I had envisioned the New York City Marathon my first World Major Marathon, to be magical, but I felt like I had such a weak training block and wouldn't be able to soak up the energy of the day.

My mother sat me down one evening as I drowned in my sorrows and told me this race was bigger than this injury. She said if I want to be a marathoner, these challenges will happen. Instead of feeling down, I needed to channel that energy into how to prepare.

Race day itself was hard, really hard. I crossed the finish line with no emotion, then later broke down in tears because of the intensity of the course.

After 24 hours, I had a bit different of a view. I remembered the feeling of being in the start village where over 50,000 runners gathered, all with the goal of completing this race, the spectators throughout the course, and the beautiful sunset in Central Park. I also remembered the walk from the finish line to my family, where they greeted me with a sign clad with photos of my late grandfather and I, who I fundraised \$4,000 in honor of, for Team For Kids, the largest charity in the New York City Marathon.

In retrospect, this is all to say that as a runner and as a person, it's important to have perspective and figure out how to shift and still accomplish goals.

It's not always going to be easy, but I'm so glad I did it, and I can't wait to do it again someday with the knowledge I have now.

## THE GREAT BOOK GURU

## Fractured Family

**D**ear Great Book Guru, Now with Halloween over and Thanksgiving a few weeks away, I am in search of a good book to get me through the cold dark weeks ahead. Something captivating and meaningful.

*Fall into Fall*

Dear *Falling into Fall*,

The much awaited and celebrated latest Sally Rooney novel has arrived on the literary scene: "Intermezzo." Rooney is a thirty-three year old Irish writer who has written a number of very successful novels — some made into movies — "Beautiful People" and "A Conversation With Friends," among others.

Her latest deals with two brothers grieving the death of their father. Peter is a thirty-three-year-old very successful lawyer and academic while Ivan is his much younger brother — a chess prodigy and very socially awkward.

Peter is involved with two women —

Naomi who is essentially homeless and in her early twenties and Sylvia, a brilliant college professor who is permanently disabled from an earlier car accident. The story opens with Ivan attending a chess tournament and meeting Margaret who is ten years older and struggling to recover from an abusive marriage.

The story is told in alternating chapters from the perspectives of the brothers and the women who love them. The brothers actively dislike each other through much of the novel and it is only through the women in their lives do we get to know or like them.

By the end of the novel, we realize both men are deeply grieving past losses and only the present, fleeting, intermittent moments of love can offer them peace. A challenging book but worthwhile — recommended!

Would you like to ask the Great Book Guru for a book suggestion? Contact her at [annmdipietro@gmail.com](mailto:annmdipietro@gmail.com).



**ANN  
DIPIETRO**

## NEWS BRIEF

## Fire burns for hours in Glen Head

A brush fire broke out in Glen Head on Nov. 8. Firefighters battled the blaze for hours, with high winds. The Glenwood Landing Fire Department received the call at 8:34 p.m., and Donald Sinski, second assistant chief, was the first to arrive on the scene at around 8:39 p.m.

The fire, located in the backyard of a residence on Route 107, spread across half an acre. Sinski said firefighters took precautions to protect homes by dousing the area in water.

Sinski requested mutual aid, bringing in the Glen Cove Fire Department, which provided additional personnel and resources. Glenwood's brush truck, a specialized four-wheel-drive vehicle carrying 300 gallons of water, played a

critical role in accessing the difficult terrain and delivering water directly to the fireline.

About 35 firefighters worked on the scene for four. Pole hooks and rakes, were used to manage embers and prevent flare-ups.

"With dry leaves and grass everywhere, people should avoid using barbecues or fire pits, as embers can easily spread and ignite dry areas," he said.

There were no reported injuries. The cause of the fire remains unknown, though officials noted the unusually dry conditions as a contributing factor to its rapid growth.

—Will Sheeline



## PUBLIC NOTICES

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DAVID A. JOHNSON  
A/K/A DAVID JOHNSON,  
ET AL., Defendant(s).  
Pursuant to an Order  
Confirming Referee  
Report and Judgment of

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Court, 100 Supreme Court  
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Lot 1742. Approximate  
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\$368,589.13 plus interest  
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## OPINIONS

# A call for tolerance amid the acrimony

**A** week and a half removed from the conclusion of the profoundly exasperating 2024 election cycle, it is abundantly clear that the political temperature remains at an unprecedented high.



**SCOTT M. DAVIS**

Constructive discourse seems nonexistent. Divisive rhetoric and finger-pointing have emerged as the standards of the day, and the pendulum has swung far away from working together across the political spectrum to build consensus for the greater good. This

unsustainable climate is driving us down the dead-end road of acrimony and dysfunction.

We must all recognize this moment as a time for introspection and taking personal responsibility for the direction in which we move forward. As our emo-

tions settle, we should consider the legacy that we will leave for the next generation and reflect on what we can do to create a better path of promise for the future for those who follow.

In recognizing the magnitude of this moment in our political history, it is imperative to consider focusing on what unites us rather than what divides us. At our core, I believe we all share similar fundamental desires: to be able to live in an affordable, safe community where we, our families, and loved ones are treated with dignity and respect and can thrive, live authentically, and become the best versions of ourselves. We may have different customs, attend different religious institutions or celebrate in different ways, but the reality is this: We share more similarities than differences.

Changing the toxic political climate starts with each one of us taking a long look in the mirror and embracing the

ideals of tolerance and constructive problem-solving. Developing a willingness to listen and consider the possibility that an alternate way of thinking on

an issue may have value is essential, and as a first step, I encourage everyone across the political spectrum to see how we can do better and contribute toward achieving this outcome.

At this time of tremendous division, we must all renew our willingness to consider the legitimacy of differing perspectives and seek common ground on which reasonable people can begin to build a consensus. Start by focusing on something you can agree on and build from there. This isn't an easy task, but it is a necessary one. We won't always agree, but we must not always disagree. Even within our own families, we don't concur on everything, but we move forward together.

With the holiday season fast approaching, now is an ideal time to

seize on the work of forging a positive path for the next generation. Everyone is exhausted by the current political climate. We can and must do our part to work together, in order to give us all a better chance to live our best lives in a society where everyone is valued and protected.

Our first task in this vital pursuit is tamping down the divisive rhetoric and intolerance that permeates our discourse. By focusing on understanding, empathy and bridge-building, we can pave the way for more united communities as we build a future that is inclusive, respectful of differences, and focused on creating solutions that benefit everyone.

Let's come together — not as adversaries, but as neighbors and fellow citizens — and work toward a future in which our shared values and common goals guide us to a stronger and more resilient future. We are all better when we work together.

*Scott M. Davis, of Rockville Centre, represents Nassau County's 1st Legislative District.*

**W**e must tamp down the divisive rhetoric that permeates our discourse.

# N.Y. needs to make entrepreneurship an option for all

**O**ur economy thrives on the spirit of entrepreneurship — new businesses solve problems, create jobs and contribute tax revenue. States like New York recognize this, offering programs and funding to support startups. But an essential segment of our population is being overlooked: people with disabilities. It's time New York state extends its

support to include businesses owned by people with disabilities.

Entrepreneurship can be a lifeline for those with differing abilities. It can be life-changing — not just for business owners, but also for their employees, families and communities. My son, John Cronin,



**MARK X. CRONIN**

is a prime example.

When John entered his final year at Huntington High School, he was excited about joining the workforce. Yet he quickly found that traditional paths weren't available to him. John has Down syndrome, and like many people with disabilities, he faced an unacceptable reality: Only one in five adults with a disability is employed.

But John is a natural entrepreneur. If he couldn't find the right job, he'd create his own. So he came to me with an idea:

He wanted to start a business together. That was the spark that led to John's Crazy Socks, a social enterprise that has since grown into a seven-figure business and the world's largest sock store.

Consider the impact John's entrepreneurship has had. We've created 34 jobs, and 22 of them are held by people with differing abilities. Through our Giving Back program, we've donated over \$800,000 to organizations like Special Olympics New York, the National Down Syndrome Society, and North Shore Animal League America. Over 3,000 students and social service clients have toured our operation, finding inspiration in John's story. And we've seen other entrepreneurs with differing abilities courageously follow his path.

John's story shows that entrepreneurship isn't just an option; it's an essential alternative for people with disabilities. When given the opportunity, they contribute, uplift others, and bring positive change to our communities.

By supporting entrepreneurship for people with differing abilities, New York has an opportunity to address one of the highest unemployment rates among any group. It's not just good policy; it's good business. A 2018 Accenture report found that companies leading in disability inclusion perform 28 percent better financially than their peers. People with

differing abilities represent an extraordinary, untapped talent pool, ready to work and contribute.

To unlock this potential, New York state can take five specific steps:

1. Certification for disability-owned businesses. The state already certifies businesses owned by women and veterans, which gives these businesses crucial visibility and access to state resources. Establishing a similar certification for disability-owned businesses would send a powerful message and create essential opportunities for these businesses.
2. Set-asides for disability-owned businesses. New York has created procurement set-asides in state contracts for women-owned and veteran-owned businesses. Extending this to include disability-owned businesses would ensure they have a fair chance to secure state contracts and grow.
3. Expand NYSID programs to include for-profits. New York State Industries for the Disabled generates millions of dollars in wages for people with disabilities through nonprofit partners. But this outdated restriction excludes for-profit businesses, perpetuating the false impression that only nonprofits will employ people with disabilities. Why exclude for-profit businesses owned by

people with disabilities? By including them, we could unlock even greater economic potential.

4. Technical support for startups. The state offers technical support through various programs, and coordinating these resources for disability-owned startups would level the playing field for entrepreneurs like John.

5. Startup grants. New York provides millions in grants to encourage new businesses. Some of these funds should be earmarked specifically for startups owned by people with disabilities.

People with differing abilities are a vast, often overlooked resource. They are ready, able and willing to contribute to our economy, bringing diverse perspectives, talents and innovations. Yet structural barriers have kept many from reaching their full potential.

John's Crazy Socks has proven that when people with disabilities start businesses, they don't just create jobs — they inspire others, spark change and strengthen their communities. New York state has both the resources and the responsibility to foster this kind of inclusive growth. Let's build an economy that works for everyone. By embracing entrepreneurship for people with differing abilities, our state can show the nation what's possible when opportunity is available to all.

*Mark X. Cronin is a co-founder and president of John's Crazy Socks, in Farmingdale.*

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# HERALD EDITORIAL

## Delivering quality journalism matters most

Last week's news that The New York Star-Ledger will cease its print edition and become digital-only in February offers an opportunity to reflect on how quality journalism best serves our communities today.

The Star-Ledger's shift, along with similar moves by other newspapers in New Jersey, reflects the complex reality facing modern newsrooms. But rather than seeing this as a choice between print and digital, let's focus on what research consistently shows: Different formats serve different purposes, and many readers benefit from both.

Print newspapers continue to command exceptional trust and engagement. Studies repeatedly demonstrate that readers retain information better from print, and advertisers see stronger results from print campaigns. There's something uniquely focused about the experience of reading a physical newspaper — the thoughtful progression through its pages, the serendipitous discoveries, the natural hierarchy that helps readers understand what matters

most. Digital platforms, meanwhile, excel at breaking news and interactive graphics.

The most successful news organizations today recognize that different stories, and different moments, call for different platforms.

At the Herald, we see firsthand how print and digital complement each other. Breaking news might first appear online, and then our print editions provide the context, analysis and depth that help readers truly understand issues affecting their communities. Each platform serves its purpose, and together they create a more informed community.

The future of news isn't about choosing digital over print, or vice versa — it's about delivering quality journalism through whatever channels best serve you, our readers. There's no doubt that news will eventually be delivered by a technology that doesn't even exist yet, and that's OK.

Local newspapers, regardless of format, serve as champions of community achievements, watchdogs of public officials and chroniclers of the stories that

matter most to our readers. Whether you're holding a printed page or scrolling on a screen, what matters most is the quality of the journalism you're reading.

At the Herald, our commitment has remained unchanged for many decades: to provide trustworthy, impactful journalism that serves the people of Long Island. We'll continue investing in both print and digital delivery, recognizing that our readers benefit from having choices in how they consume news. And, of course, we always want to hear from you about how we can serve you and your communities better.

The future of journalism depends not on the medium but on the continued support of readers who value quality local news. Whether you prefer print or digital, or both, your engagement helps ensure that professional journalism continues to thrive in our communities. Tell your friends and family to subscribe to their local newspapers, wherever in the world they live.

We look forward to being your trusted source of local news for years to come.

## LETTERS

### Affordable housing tops the list of L.I.'s problems

To the Editor:

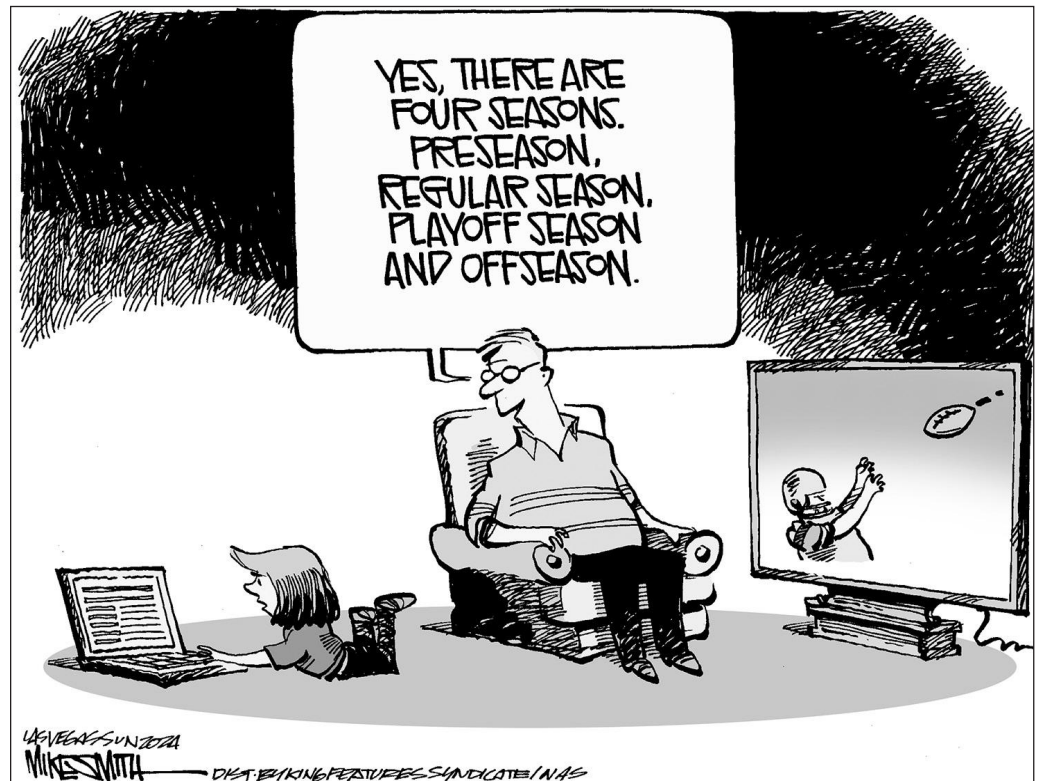
I'm writing in response to the editorial "The Herald's pact with you" (Oct. 31-Nov. 6), in which you ask, "What are the topics you care about?"

There are many problems affecting Nassau County, Long Island, New York state and the United States that I care about, but the one I find myself coming back to more than any other is housing, specifically the availability of affordable housing.

I live in Point Lookout, a community that has gentrified enormously since my parents bought a home here in 1957, for which they paid \$17,500, taking a 10-year mortgage. It's great for me, I guess, that my home has appreciated in value astronomically, but, in my opinion, not so good overall for the people of Long Island.

One of my daughters struggled to find somewhere to live on her own nearby, finally settling into part of a home in another Nassau County community, paying rent that's at the very limit of what she can afford. And this is typical. As individuals and families struggle to pay their mortgages and property taxes, there are close to zero apartments and mixed-use developments being built.

In Long Beach, just down the road from Point Lookout, there are innumerable, mostly illegal apartments in homes, despite the periodic statements of various Long Beach officials



promising a crackdown on such apartments.

The opposition to building more housing on Long Island is fierce. Look what happened last year to Gov. Kathy Hochul's attempt to encourage the construction of more housing throughout the state.

Local politicians rant and rave about how apartments and multi-unit developments near transit hubs will destroy the suburban character of Nassau County — as if developers were looking to build huge apartments in residential neighborhoods!

— while our young people and families who cannot afford to buy homes have almost no options for housing. Cowardly town, county and state politicians serve only their own self-interest in being re-elected, and do nothing to address this problem. And our young people, and others, continue to leave Long Island due to the lack of housing options.

MICHAEL CRAVEN  
Point Lookout

## OPINIONS

# What comes next? How about our neglected unity?

**F**or me, like so many Americans, the last six months have been a whirlwind of emotions, as arguably the most historic election in our nation's history built momentum, intensified and eventually reached a climax on election night. While I'm not here to share my opinion on the out-



**WILL SHEELINE**

come, the big question facing every citizen and resident of our country is: What next?

It can be tempting to see the outcome of the election as the ultimate refutation of the left — proof that Americans have rejected progressive values and policies and

have wholeheartedly embraced modern Trumpist conservatism. While there may be some truth to this, I believe that what the result ultimately showed was that Americans are afraid. Afraid of economic disaster, afraid of global conflict, afraid of violence at home.

These are reasonable fears. Even for the many Americans who lived through the final throes of the Cold War or watched the twin towers fall on Sept. 11,

2001, our country has never seemed more like a powder keg ready to explode.

Which is why, now more than ever, we need to come together not just as liberals and conservatives, but as Americans.

The United States has always been strongest when we've been united, and our darkest moments come when we turn on one another and lay blame at our neighbors' doorsteps.

As Abraham Lincoln famously said, "A house divided against itself cannot stand," and those words are as true today as they were 166 years ago.

While conservatives may claim, rightly or wrongly, that progressives are softhearted dopes who focus on issues that don't matter to real Americans, progressives may claim, rightly or wrongly, that conservatives are coldhearted dopes who focus on issues that don't matter to real Americans. Perspective is everything, and trying to work together and understand not only what our differences are, but also why they exist, is the quintessential heart of the American experiment.

The intersection of our political and social culture has always been an uneasy compromise. This extends to

everything from political rivals being forced to work together in government — such as when Alexander Hamilton and Thomas Jefferson collaborated to create our financial system while simultaneously establishing Washington, D.C., as the nation's capital — to having uncomfortable Thanksgiving dinners with relatives who have radically different political values.

The idea that people who disagree politically could do so without resorting to violence is what separated our country from nearly all others when we declared our independence. It is one of the most sacred responsibilities that we as Americans must honor and hold dear, or risk losing the dream of a more just, more equitable society as envisioned by our Founding Fathers.

So while it's easy to feel emotional following this election, remember that we need to heal the nation's wounds, not worsen them. Think next time before you gloat to a "bleeding heart liberal" about winning the election — or calling every conservative voter you know a fascist. Are you really saying it because you believe it, or because emotions are running high and you feel like you need

to show the world how strongly you hold your beliefs?

In the days after the Sept. 11 attacks, my father was in California, desperately trying to get back home to my family. With all flights grounded, he and a friend rented a car and tried to make a cross-country drive.

Running on fumes on a remote stretch of highway, they came to a gas station that, unfortunately, was out of business. Stranded and worried about their loved ones, my dad and his friend were lucky enough to be found by some locals in a pickup truck. The saviors had a spare five-gallon tank of gas for the dirt bikes in the bed of the truck.

My dad always talked about how, while thanking them, he explained how and his friend were New Yorkers trying to get home to their families. Without missing a beat, one of the men responded, "We're all New Yorkers today."

That is what makes America great, not rhetoric or political stunts or moral grandstanding. And that is what we need to keep hold of in the aftermath of this election: that no matter what, we are all Americans, and that we're all stronger when we work together.

*Will Sheeline is an editor covering Glen Head, Locust Valley, Oyster Bay and Sea Cliff. Comments? WSheeline@liherald.com.*

## LETTERS

### Not giving in to 'our season of despair'

To the Editor:

I hope that Nov. 5, 2024, is not a date that will live in infamy, but I must express my justifiable concerns. I don't fear the boogeyman in the closet. I fear a reality that may occur.

Hello, America: This is the time to say, "Oops, shoulda not done that." This may be the season of our regret and despair. At the risk of sounding Cassandra-like, I fear for our democratic nation, I fear for our personal safety and I fear for our future.

Let's start with our new leader, Donald Trump, awaiting sentencing on his criminal charges. How will the judicial system honor the decisions of the jurors? What will he do in the cases of the Capitol rioters? He could grant all or some of them pardons. What actions might he take on his first day in office? Which programs will he sign into law?

At risk are female reproductive rights, tariffs that could possibly raise the price of marketplace goods, more laws against vulnerable and targeted populations and the empowering of those who promote false science and other highly dubious theo-

ries. Many of us are concerned about what could happen to our health care and Social Security benefits. Will they change, possibly with decreases that will seriously impact an aging population? And, of course, there is the issue of border security, with its parallel implications of a ready labor market.

Like many of my fellow citizens, I hope that President-elect Trump doesn't violate long-held democratic traditions and implement authoritarian governance.

I am worried about him using his platform to praise authoritarian leaders while demeaning our democratic allies. I am also concerned about him using pejorative and threatening language with his perceived enemies.

We who feel abandoned and in despair must stand strong, and must continue to make our voices heard through democratic means and processes. We must persist in speaking for the disenfranchised, so the liberties we have known and hope to preserve for future generations are not deserted and forgotten. This is *our* America — let us continue to carry the torch illuminating a better life for all, and not give in to our season of despair.

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