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Tribute to 'It's a Wonderful Life'
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Ramon E. Fernandez/Herald photos

In the spirit of giving

Teresa Leotta, far left above, spoke of the magic of Christmas and the power of giving this holiday season at the Miracle of Christmas Toy Drive last Friday. At right, Luigi Grecco and Thomas Bannon were among Santa's elves who helped make the event magical.



Shye Roberts is runner-up on 'The Voice'

By **ROKSANA AMID**

ramid@iherald.com

Glen Cove native Shye Roberts ended her remarkable journey on NBC's 'The Voice' by being named the Season 26 runner-up, with her teammate Sophronio Vasquez claiming the title. Both members of Team Michael Bublé, Roberts and Vasquez delivered standout performances throughout the competition, but it was their camaraderie and mutual support that captured audience members' hearts.

"Y'all, I ... wanted 2nd place so bad," Shye wrote on Instagram after the finale. "I am so ... happy right now, you don't even understand." Her genuine joy underscored her pride in Vasquez and her gratitude for her experience on the show.

Roberts, 18, first wowed an audience during her blind audition, with a stirring rendition of Five for Fighting's "Superman," earning a coveted four-chair turn from judges Bublé,

Gwen Stefani, Reba McEntire and Snoop Dogg. Her poignant delivery of the line "It's not easy to be me" appeared to resonate with viewers and judges alike.

"I always thought that was such a sweet and impactful moment," said Bublé, her coach. "She has this wonderful ability to make you feel every word she sings."

Reflecting on her decision to join Team Bublé, Roberts said that the singer has a passion for storytelling through music. She knew he would help her dig deeper into her emotions in every performance.

And Bublé's mentorship extended beyond the stage, with regular texts and calls offering feedback on her performances and advice on her artistic growth.

"Michael was incredibly supportive," Roberts said. "He taught me to be myself on stage and focus on connecting with the audience."

The finale showcased Rob-

He taught me to be myself on stage and focus on connecting with the audience.

SHYE ROBERTS
Runner-up, 'The Voice'

CONTINUED ON PAGE 13

Glen Cove Schools continue upgrades

December 19, 2024 – GLEN COVE HERALD

By **ROKSANA AMID**

ramid@liherald.com

Assistant Superintendent for Business and Finance Victoria Galante has a detailed and optimistic update on the Glen Cove School District's ongoing facility improvements. During the Nov. 6 Board of Education meeting, she highlighted projects from safety upgrades to large-scale renovations, Galante emphasized the district's commitment to providing students and staff with modern, secure, and inspiring environments.

At Glen Cove High School, the installation of eight new exterior doors marked a significant milestone. These doors addressed gaps left by earlier FEMA flood mitigation projects and completed the necessary safety upgrades. "The new doors provide an extra layer of security and functionality for our students and staff," said Galante. "We're proud to have this project completed."

Other exciting developments at the high school include state-approved renovations to the science rooms and cafeteria, with contractor bids set to open on November 20. These upgrades aim to transform key areas into state-of-the-art spaces for learning and dining. "These are projects that will directly impact our students' educational experience," Galante noted. "We're excited to bring these long-awaited improvements to life."



Herald file photo

The Glen Cove City School District continues to upgrade its facilities.

The high school also saw updates to its HVAC systems, with new ducts installed in the library and an air separator added to the boiler room and auditorium. The TV studio's HVAC system, part of the district's Energy Performance Contract (EPC) initiative, is fully operational. "Perhaps that's why it feels a little cooler in here," Galante joked, highlighting the tangible benefits of these energy-efficient upgrades.

At Robert M. Finley Middle School, safety took center stage with State Education Department-approved updates to

the fire alarm and public address (PA) systems. "Ensuring the safety of our students is always our top priority," said Galante. Renovations to the girls' restroom in the 300 wing are also underway, with new wall tiles already installed. "It's important that we modernize our facilities to create comfortable and welcoming spaces for our students," she added.

Deasy Elementary School is undergoing significant changes to accommodate the district's growing needs. Preparatory work for a classroom extension

included relocating water, gas, and electrical lines to clear the way for construction. The foundation has been excavated, and the project is progressing steadily. "This extension represents our commitment to providing enough space and resources for our students as enrollment increases," said Galante.

Other updates at Deasy include the installation of new air louvers and fans in the air compressor room and completed internal boiler inspections. "These upgrades are part of our effort to ensure that all our facilities are running smoothly and efficiently," Galante explained.

At Landing Elementary School, practical repairs are already making an impact. The maintenance crew fixed a roof drain at the front of the building, while a roofing contractor addressed gutter issues near room 207. A ventilation fan in the art room's closet was also restored. Meanwhile, at Connolly Elementary School, the maintenance team installed a concrete pad for a ramp in the nurse's pod, improving accessibility. "These small but important fixes make a big difference in the day-to-day lives of our students and staff," Galante said.

Perhaps the most heartfelt update involved the installation of buddy benches at three of the district's elementary schools. These benches, donated earlier this year, provide spaces for students to connect and foster friendships.



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Photos courtesy Jill Nossa

This year, attendees can expect to ring in the New Year indoors. Previous years, the New Years celebrations were celebrated in Village Square.

Ring in the New Year in downtown

By **ROKSANA AMID**

ramid@liherald.com

This New Year's Eve, Glen Cove is bringing a fresh twist to its annual celebrations. For the first time, the popular Downtown Sounds concert series will head indoors, transforming local businesses into vibrant music hubs for the evening.

The Downtown Sounds Music Crawl, organized by the Glen Cove Downtown Business Improvement District, offers residents and visitors a chance to enjoy free live music in an intimate setting while supporting local businesses.

The decision to move the concerts indoors was sparked by a desire to reimagine the experience and avoid the unpredictability of winter weather.

"We've done the outdoor concerts for three years in a row, and while they were great, it's cold, and it's so weather-dependent," said Jill Nossa, Executive Director of the Glen Cove Downtown BID. "We decided to try this as an alternative. This way, people still have something to do downtown while staying warm and cozy."

This year's lineup spans multiple venues throughout Downtown Glen Cove, creating a festive "crawl" atmosphere that encourages guests to explore the area's restaurants and bars. From duos to trios and even a DJ, the music offerings are diverse and spread out over the evening. Performances begin as early as 5 p.m. at Downtown Café, where Mark Newman and Naomi Margolin will entertain crowds, and at La Famiglia, where The Liverpool 2 will bring their lively set.

The music continues throughout the

night, with Frank Ferrara and Kris Rice performing at Glen Floors from 6–8 p.m.. At Tocolo Cantina and Jalisco, attendees can catch the Jose Trombone Trio and Jack Licitra with Kerry Kearney, both playing from 7–9 p.m.. For those looking to stay out late, the Livestock Acoustic Duo will perform at La Bussola from 9–11 p.m., while Meritage Wine Bar will feature DJ Siren, spinning music from 9 p.m. to 1 a.m..

Nossa emphasized that the event aims to provide flexibility and excitement for attendees.

"People can come down at five, check out a few places, have a drink or an appetizer, and then keep going," she explained. "It's all about giving people options. You can enjoy the entire crawl or just settle in at your favorite spot."

In addition to offering a lively celebration for New Year's Eve, the Music Crawl supports Glen Cove's local businesses, particularly those slightly outside the regular Downtown Sounds summer concert footprint.

"We wanted to help some of the businesses that might not benefit as much from the outdoor concerts," Nossa said. "For example, Meritage is a little off the beaten path, and this gives them a chance to draw a crowd."

There's no cover charge to attend, and reservations are encouraged for those planning to dine. At Meritage, guests will also enjoy a champagne toast at midnight to ring in the New Year.

"We're just trying to offer something different to the community while supporting the businesses," Nossa said. "It's about bringing people downtown, keeping things lively, and having a little fun to kick off the new year."



Attendees can jam out to the Livestock Duo on New Years Eve.



Attendees can catch Jack Licitra at Jalisco on School Street.

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Book Review:

“Feel the Fear and Do It Anyway”

by Susan Jeffers — Part Two

Emerson, who wrote a great deal about overcoming fear, said: “Do not be too timid and squeamish about your actions. All life is an experiment and the more experiments the better. What if they are a little coarse and you may get your coat soiled and torn? What if you do fail, and get fairly rolled in the dirt once or twice? Up again, you shall never be so afraid of a tumble.”

Author Jeffers’ book explains that until you fully understand that you, and no one else, create what goes on in your head, you will never be in control of your life. When you blame any outside force for any of your experiences of life, you are literally giving away your power thus creating pain, paralysis and depression. Always ask yourself what am I doing or not doing that is causing this to happen to me.

You don’t have to condone the behavior of others, but simply not to allow it to be the source of your upset. Jeffers teaches how to overcome your biggest enemy — your “chatterbox” and replace it with a loving

internal friend. “It is reported that over 90% of what we worry of never happens,” says Jeffers. We create our own reality.

The author moves on to decision-making and the fear of making the wrong decision. Here, she explains how there are no “wrong” decisions. Your writer has often advised clients that it is better to make the “wrong” decision than none at all. You learn from mistakes -- you learn nothing from inaction. Learn and correct or, as Emerson said, “The voyage of the best ship is a zigzag line of a hundred tacks.”

Jeffers writes that there is a lightness to positive people. They have learned not to take themselves so seriously and they are a joy to be around -- they are those who have learned to make lemonade out of lemons. As Emerson rightly said, “We seldom see anybody who is not uneasy and afraid to live.” By adopting the lessons in “Feel the Fear and Do It Anyway”, you too can become one of those seldom found people.

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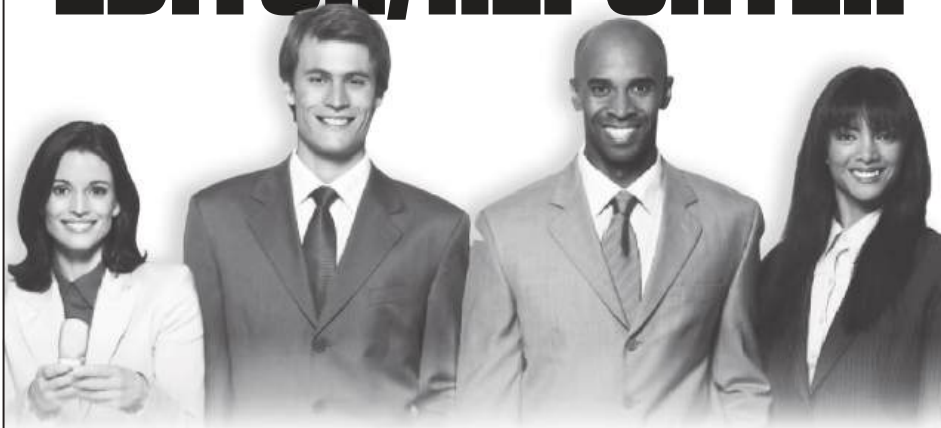
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HANUKKAH GREETING

Fighting darkness with light

“Hello darkness my old friend...” Paul Simon
And here we are again.
It’s late December – and the world around us seems just a bit colder and darker

Does it seem that way for you? Have you been inclined to shy away from the news? Does the world seem to you a bit grimmer? Has your spirit become more cynical than you’d prefer it to be?

Then join hands with millions throughout history, for you are not alone. Many cultures have sought to remedy this seasonal darkness by establishing winter solstice rituals which encourage us to fan the sparks of optimism and light.

Indeed, at a time when we seem to need light the most – we turn to the third line of the Torah which shares the first words spoken by God.

“God said, “Let there be light, and there was light.”

So simple – so liberating. Words for this season and for our time. It reminds us that light is the building block of spiritual life.

Our Christian neighbors celebrate Christmas. Many of our African-American friends embrace Kwanzaa.

About 2,163 years ago, the Jewish people affirmed its connection to light, reinforcing an eternal bond which has sustained our people through both positive and challenging times.

On Friday evenings, we kindle the Shabbat candles, as we extend light to our families, friends, our community and the world. And on Chanukah – for eight nights, we spread hope, happiness and possibilities, into a sometimes light

starved universe.

The legendary roots of Chanukah are simple. Upon the liberation of the Jerusalem Temple from the Greeks and their sympathizers in 167 BCE, one tiny cruse of pure oil was found to light the sacred candelabra.

The oil lasted eight nights – reminding us that even in darkest hours, that miracles are possible.

This has been a challenging year for the Jewish people. Within a war which we did not ask for, against an enemy which has vowed to repeat the acts of October 7 “again and again” it has been a struggle to maintain our optimism.

Still, we hold out for peace, and a lasting harmony in the region. Indeed, Chanukah reminds us that eventually, through our tribulations, light will ultimately emerge. For we as a people believe in miracles.

Whatever your personal tradition is, particularly during this time of the year, let us join as one, as we embrace the unity of light,

In the beginning, God created the world with the words -- Yehi Or – “let there be light.”

We as a people have embraced that light for thousands of years reminding us that in spite of the darkness which too often surrounds us, that the world was founded upon hope, possibilities, and above all, light.

Yehi Or. Let this be a season of light for you – one which extends through the entire year.

Rabbi Irwin Huberman is the spiritual leader of Congregation Tifereth Israel, Glen Cove.



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NUMC pediatric: 100 percent pass rate

By JORDAN VALLONE

jvallone@liherald.com

Nassau University Medical Center's Pediatric Medical Residency Program achieved a 100 percent board passage rate in 2024, far surpassing the national average of 80-82 percent and Long Island's average. This milestone underscores the strides NUMC, Long Island's largest safety-net hospital, has made in medical education and pediatric care, the hospital system said in a Dec. 16 news release.

The residency program is one of the largest in New York state, with nearly 300 aspiring doctors across various disciplines. This accomplishment reflects the hospital's dedication to excellence in training future medical professionals while enhancing patient care, finances, and hospital operations.

"NUMC has made significant strides to elevate our programs and the hospital as a whole," Megan Ryan, president and chief executive of Nassau Health Care Corporation said. "Our investment in hands-on training opportunities has made our residency program among the best in the region, and this passage rate is reflective of that. Congratulations to the pediatric residents who will now be board-certified physicians caring for our youngest patients."

Dr. Grace Ting, NUMC's chief medical officer, attributed the success to the



Herald file

Nassau University Medical Center, above, in East Meadow announced on Dec. 16 that residents in the Pediatric Medical Residency Program achieved a 100 percent board

collaborative efforts of the program.

"This outstanding passage rate is a testament to the dedication of our excellent resident physicians and our fantastic attending physicians and staff who train them," Ting said. "Our residents have demonstrated remarkable determination and skill, and we are immensely proud to have played an important role in their journey to becoming exceptional pediatricians."

NUMC's Graduate Medical Education program is designed to prepare health care providers across a variety of fields with the tools necessary for their future medical career. The hospital boasts a fully accredited program that offers a well-rounded foundation through practice in a wide range of clinical experiences, featuring a diverse population, sophisticated technology and a faculty that maximizes the resident physician's

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- Fully Accredited Graduate Medical Education program offering comprehensive clinical experience, advanced technology, and a diverse patient population
- Program focus includes hands-on training, mentorship, and a commitment to excellence in medical education and patient care
- Key contributors: Resident physicians, attending physicians, and staff

skill and knowledge base.

For more information about NUMC's residency and fellowship programs, visit NUMC.edu.

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Water Authority fights for public water

By **BRIAN NORMAN**

bnorman@liherald.com

Sea Cliff residents have spent nearly a decade fighting for public water, which has been driven by the rising water bill prices that residents have been facing during this time.

Many different Civic Associations and members of the community have come together throughout the years to try and address the high-water price issue. Agatha Nadel, a longtime advocate and Sea Cliff resident, said that high water prices have always been a problem in Sea Cliff, but this is out of control.

"This summer will be 10 years since the very aggressive fight began. It all started with a town hall meeting at the middle school with George Pombar and the civic associations to talk about the exorbitant bills," Nadel said. "I can tell you since I grew up here, the bills have always been a problem and more expensive than our neighbors, but it never got out of control to the point it is now."

The North Shore Civics and concerned citizens have been researching and trying to come up with solutions for the problem since it began almost 10 years ago. Nadel said that The North Shore Water Authority was formed to

help expedite the fight.

"Both the North Shore Civics and concerned citizens have gone through numerous layers to fight and researching to find the most realistic solution," Nadel said. "Finally, we all agreed that the municipalization for area was going to be the best long-term solution, and that's how the Water Authority was formed to explore this in more detail and get us over the finish line."

Nadel, who was the former Co-President of the North Shore Concerned Citizens group, added on by talking about some of the other reasons why residents are fighting for affordable public water including surcharges and profit factor.

"It almost 10 years ago when I got a bill for \$700 a month of water, that wasn't all water. A chunk of that was surcharges and taxes added to the bill and the 9.75% baseline profit which is a real issue as well," Nadel said. "I saw bills compared to my neighbors two doors down, who get public water

from Jericho, and I would bet my life that the water I get is from that same pipeline, so it all comes down to getting rid of this private water provider."

The Water Authority has been in negotiations with Liberty Utilities, a private company that has been the water provider in Sea Cliff since 2022, to try and address municipalizing the water in Sea Cliff. The Water Authority shared their latest update, saying that they are actively pursuing the acquisition of the local water district said.

"The Water Authority of North Shore is actively pursuing the acquisition of our local water district," The Water Authority wrote in a statement. "The board has worked with outside professionals, retained by the authority, to commence negotiations with Liberty Utilities concerning the potential municipalization of our water district."

Liberty Utilities, a private utility company, has been the water provider in Sea Cliff since 2022, when they bought out the rights from New York American

Water. James Versocki, a board member with the Water Authority and Sea Cliff Village Trustee, provided an update on the progress at the Village of Sea Cliff board meeting on Dec. 9.

"The Water Authority had a meeting last month and we would like to let both the board and the public know that we have submitted and initial offer to acquire its local services," Versocki said. "We will look to continue negotiations into 2025 and I anticipate that I will have an update by next meeting."

Both the Water Authority and concerned citizens will continue to fight for residents to be able to access affordable public water as these negotiations with Liberty Utilities begin to ramp up. Nadel said that she believes there is no reason why Sea Cliff residents should be paying more than neighboring towns and she expects Liberty Utilities to do everything they can to delay these negotiations.

"I totally expect that Liberty will use every tool in their toolbox to delay the buyout and this is any private order companies goal, to tire out the community and use negative marketing and advertisements against a buyout," Nadel said. "Our bills must be on par with those who are receiving affordable public water, the pipes are all interconnected."

Since I grew up here, the bills have always been a problem and more expensive than our neighbors, but it never got out of control to the point it is now.

AGATHA NADEL
Sea Cliff resident



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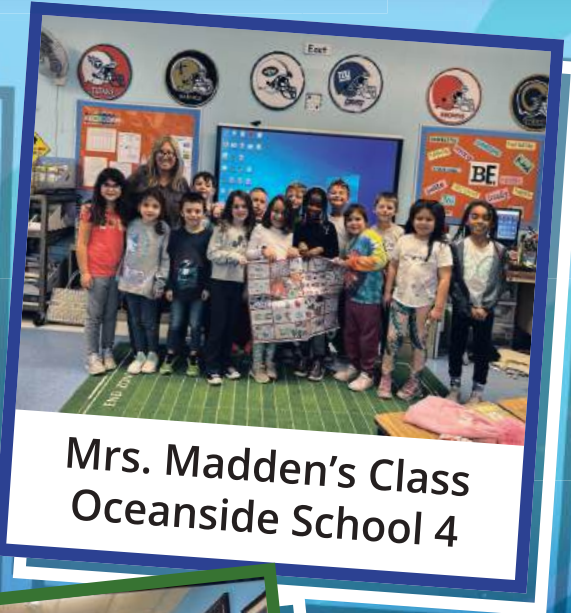
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CHRISTMAS MESSAGE

A Thanksgiving celebration of Jesus the Christ

When I was a young child, an older teenage relative of mine said to me, "When you get older, Christmas is just another day. It is nothing special." I remember thinking, "I do not want to get older. I love Christmas. I do not want it to become just like any other day." I was both devastated and scared.

Now that I am much older than my older relative was when she told me that, I have to say I do not share her sentiment. At 52 years old, I would say that not only is Christmas still special for me, it is actually more special to me now than when I was a child.

As a child, it was special because I got presents, food and candy, days off from school, and many other benefits from the Christmas season. However, as I got older, I came to understand a deeper meaning of Christmas. The more I understood the deeper meaning of Christmas, the more special it became to me.

There are many traditions and rituals that make Christmas special for both the young and old alike, but there are deeper meanings that we sometimes miss, overlook, or are just too busy to remember. The word "Christmas" comes from two words: the word "Christ," which is the Messiah, Jesus, the Son of God, and the word "mass," which means Eucharistic celebration. The word "eucharist" is what some traditions call communion or the Lord's Supper. The word "eucharist" also means thanksgiving. (www.etymonline.com)

The word "Christmas" actually means a thanksgiving celebration of

Jesus the Christ!

As I came to better understand the true meaning of Christmas, then it became even more special to me than it did as a kid. I still hold the memories of my childhood Christmases with great honor. I would not trade those moments for anything. However, the memories I continue to make with family and friends today are even more special as I better understand what Christmas is all about.



PASTOR
TOMMY LANHAM

In the Old Testament Scriptures, the birth of Jesus as the Christ is predicted: "For to us a child is born, to us a son is given" (Isaiah 9:6, NIV). He was the long-awaited Messiah who was to come to save the world from their sins. In the New Testament it even says, "She will give birth to a son, and you are to give him the

name Jesus, because he will save his people from their sins" (Matthew 1:21, NIV). The name Jesus literally means "the Lord saves" (NIV Study Bible).

When this becomes our focus each Christmas, then Christmas will become more and more meaningful each year we celebrate it. Traditions are good, rituals are good, and I still enjoy both getting and giving presents, but my discovery of the deeper meaning of Christmas is what causes me to not only still see Christmas as very special, but to see it as much more special than I did as a kid.

On December 25th, and the days leading up to it, have a thanksgiving celebration of Jesus as the Christ!

Tommy Lanham
Pastor of Glen Cove Christian Church

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Ramon E. Fernandez/Herald photos

Albert Plude stood alongside the Polar Express, exclaiming "all aboard!"

Miracle of Christmas toy drive brings joy

The Miracle of Christmas Toy Drive, founded 14 years ago by Teresa Leotta, began as a heartfelt effort to teach her children the true meaning of Christmas by bringing joy to others. What started with a visit to Nassau Community Hospital has since grown into an annual tradition that touches the lives of many children and families in need. On Dec. 13th, the 14th annual toy drive took place at St. Rocco's Church in Glen Cove, where unwrapped new toys were collected, wrapped in Santa's

Workshop, and delivered to hospitals. The recipients included Nassau Community Hospital, NYU Langone Winthrop, NYC Health, Queens Hospital, Cohen Children's Hospital, Stony Brook Children's Hospital, as well as local foster families and children in need. The event, which has brought magic and smiles for over a decade, featured festive activities like cookie and ornament decorating and family photos with Santa.

—Roksana Amid



Sophie Moran, 20 months old, and Teresa Leotta, right, met with Santa, center.



Patrick Logan, left, and Aidan Logan, 14, diligently wrap presents which will be sent to children in hospitals.



Jane Romano helped organize string lights to help make the event look magical.



Teresa Leotta and Luigi Greco worked hard to make sure everything runs smoothly for the toy drive.

Lavine sponsors annual holiday toy drive

Assemblymember Charles Lavine (D-Glen Cove) has announced the continuation of his annual toy drive, a cherished holiday tradition aimed at bringing joy to children in need within the local community. The initiative encourages residents to donate new, unwrapped gifts to benefit families who may be struggling during the holiday season. "It brings me a great measure of satisfaction to be able to sponsor a toy drive every year which brings a little joy to local children in need," Lavine said.

The drive is currently accepting donations at several convenient drop-off locations, making it easy for community members to participate. Gifts can be delivered to Lavine's district office, located at 1 School Street, Suite 303-B, Glen Cove, from Monday through Friday, 10:00 AM to 3:00 PM. In addition, toys can be dropped off during regular library hours at the Glen Cove Public

Library, Bryant Library in Roslyn, Oyster Bay-East Norwich Public Library, and Sea Cliff Children's Library.

This annual effort has become a cornerstone of Lavine's community outreach, ensuring that every child experiences the magic of the holiday season. The collected toys will be distributed to families in need, spreading smiles and hope during this special time of year. Community members are encouraged to act quickly, as the holiday season is already in full swing. By contributing to this drive, residents can play a small yet meaningful role in brightening the holidays for children across the area.

For more information about the toy drive or to confirm drop-off hours, contact Lavine's office directly. Together, the community can make this holiday season one to remember for families in need.

—Roksana Amid

NOSH adjusts schedule for holiday week

The Tuesday Nite NOSH Pantry in Glen Cove will close on Christmas Eve, Dec. 24, and instead open on Monday, Dec. 23, from 5 to 7 p.m. to accommodate the holiday schedule. In preparation for this special service day, NOSH is asking the community for donations of individual portion shelf-stable milks. These can be purchased through Amazon or Stop & Shop and will go directly to families in need during the holiday season.

NOSH Delivers!, founded in March 2020 at the height of the COVID-19 pandemic, continues to provide vital food assistance to hundreds of families in Glen Cove, Sea Cliff, Glen Head, Locust Valley, and Bayville. Despite the end of pandemic-era government support and the ongoing rise in food prices, NOSH remains committed to addressing food insecurity in the community.

The organization operates in two primary ways: through weekly food deliveries and its food pantry. Volunteers

deliver NOSH Bags, which contain ingredients for two meals for a family of four, along with extras like cereal and eggs. Larger families receive additional bags, and all services are provided free of charge. The NOSH Food Pantry, located at 15 Hill Street in Glen Cove, is open Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, and Friday from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m., and two Saturdays a month from 9 a.m. to noon. The pantry operates on a "client choice" model, where volunteers help guests select their groceries.

With growing lines of people seeking food, NOSH has expanded its hours to include Saturdays. The organization emphasizes the increasing need for community support as it prepares for the holiday season. Donations of shelf-stable milk or financial contributions can make a meaningful difference to local families in need.

—Roksana Amid

Suozzi introduces bipartisan border bill

Congressman Tom Suozzi has introduced the Securing Our Northern Borders Act, aiming to enhance border security and address immigration challenges. The bipartisan bill, co-sponsored by Representatives Claudia Tenney and Chris Pappas, proposes the creation of a Northern Border Mission Center under the Department of Homeland Security. The Mission Center would oversee and implement the DHS Northern Border Strategy, focusing on immigration enforcement and preventing illegal drug trafficking along the U.S.-Canada border.

"We must secure the Northern Border as well as the Southern Border to protect our communities," Suozzi said. "This Mission Center would serve as ground zero for coordinating efforts to enforce immigration laws and stop ille-

gal drug trafficking. At the same time, we must fix our broken asylum system and modernize legal immigration while treating people with dignity."

Since returning to Congress in February, Suozzi has prioritized border security and comprehensive immigration reform. He serves on the Committee on Homeland Security and chairs the Democrats for Border Security Caucus. Suozzi has advocated for changes to the asylum process, which has remained largely unchanged since the 1980s, and has successfully pushed for executive action to bar migrants crossing the Southern border unlawfully from receiving asylum.

—Roksana Amid

Mr. Ives echoes Dickens

Dear Great Book Guru,
I just returned from the Sea Cliff Civic Association's annual Scrooge Stroll and it was a marvelous spectacle. During the event, one of the strollers mentioned a book she said reminded her very much of this reenactment of Dickens's "Christmas Carol" but she couldn't remember the title. Any ideas?

Scrooge Stroller



ANN
DIPIETRO

Dear Scrooge Stroller,

Yes - MR. IVES' CHRISTMAS by Oscar Hijuelos is a wonderful novel that has strong echoes of the Dickens's "Christmas Carol."

When we first meet Mr. Ives, his life appears perfect- abandoned as an infant, he was adopted into a loving home and now in 1954 he is a successful New York businessman with a beautiful, devoted wife and two adored children... and buoyed by a deep faith

in the goodness of all things. By the second chapter, with the murder of his young son on Christmas Eve, his faith has been destroyed. The rest of the

book deals with his struggle to make sense of his loss.

While it may seem an odd choice for holiday reading, there is something profoundly uplifting about this book as we follow Ives on his journey from a hollow grieving man to a gloriously forgiving, redemptive figure. In many ways it is a contemporary version of Dickens's Carol as we travel back in time to joyful moments and then forward to moments of unspeakable

horror, and then forward again to Ives' moment of ultimate salvation. A beautifully written story that will remain with you for a very long time- highly recommended!

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

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Roberts: 'Music will always be a part of me'

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Roberts's talents in a duet performance with Bubl  of "Something Stupid," a classic hit by Frank and Nancy Sinatra. Bubl  praised the song choice for its sweet and timeless quality, saying, "I wanted something that would let us connect in a meaningful way." Their performance highlighted the bond they had forged throughout the competition.

Roberts's journey to "The Voice" was rooted in her early love of music, which developed when she was growing up in Glen Cove. Born Madison Roberts, she was musically talented even as a toddler.

"She was barely walking, but she could whistle," her mother, Sheila Roberts-Creen, recalled. "I knew there was something special about her."

By the time she reached third grade, Roberts's talent was undeniable. At a school talent show, she amazed the audience with her ability to add riffs to her performance, a skill well beyond her years. Ed Norris, director of Glen Cove High School's Select Chorale, worked with her later, and she earned accolades in choir and starred in school musicals including "In the Heights" and "Miss Saigon."

"Shye has this rare ability to connect emotionally with her audience," Norris said. "When she sang, it wasn't just about hitting the notes — it was about telling a story. That's what makes her extraordinary."

Norris recalled a pivotal moment during Roberts's blind audition for "The Voice." "At the end

of her song, the camera panned in on her face as she sang 'It's not easy to be me,'" he said. "It was such a gentle and emotional delivery, riddled with experience. In that moment, I thought, 'Holy crap, look at this kid.' She has a way of pulling people in."

"The Voice" gave Roberts a unique opportunity to grow as an artist. "This show gave me experience and visibility I could only dream of," she said. "It helped me refine my emotional expression and discover the best ways to tell a story through song."

The journey, she said, meant more to her than the outcome. "I didn't want first, anyway," she said. "I feel like I've gained so much, not just from the competition, but from the friendships and connections I've made along the way."

Roberts plans to focus in the future on creating her own music. "I want to take the next year to work on my art and figure out my next steps," she said. While she once considered attending the Berklee College of Music, the cost proved prohibitive, and she is now exploring other academic opportunities, including environmental science.

"Whatever I decide, music will always be a part of me."

Norris said he is immensely proud of Roberts's accomplishments. "To see her up there, owning the stage and singing duets with Michael Bubl  — it moved me to tears," he said. "Shye has a voice that deserves to be heard, and I know this is just the beginning for her."



Courtesy NBC Studios

Shye Roberts, 18, is a Glen Cove native who stepped into the national spotlight on 'The Voice.'

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STEPPING OUT

Chocolate Mint Squares



Dreidel Hanukkah Cookies



Peanut Butter Reindeer Cookies



Merry eatings

'Tis the season for a HOLIDAY COOKIE SWAP

By Karen Bloom

Most of us would agree that there's almost nothing better than the aroma of fresh-baked goodies wafting through the house. Especially during holiday time. Nothing says "love" like fresh baked cookies and treats. So give the gift of homemade goodness, whether it's a gift platter or by hosting family and friends for a cookie exchange. Everyone can get in on the act and share their creations all around.

Your gang will enjoy tasting these luscious creations in your makeshift holiday workshop.

Chocolate Mint Squares

Notes of crisp peppermint perfectly complement the flavors of coffee in this festive alternative to a brownie. Add some crushed peppermint to each cookie to create a beautiful and seasonal presentation.

Dough

- 1/3 cup baking chocolate or unsweetened chocolate
- 1/2 cup (8 tablespoons) butter
- 1 cup sugar
- 1/4 teaspoon salt
- 2 large eggs
- 1/2 cup unbleached all-purpose flour
- 1/2 cup chopped walnuts or chopped pecans, optional
- 1/4 teaspoon peppermint extract or peppermint oil

Frosting

- 2 cups confectioners' sugar or glazing sugar
- 1/4 cup (4 tablespoons) melted butter
- 1/2 teaspoon peppermint extract or peppermint oil
- 2 tablespoons milk

Glaze

- 3 tablespoons baking chocolate or unsweetened chocolate
- 1 tablespoon butter

Garnish

- 1/4 cup crushed peppermint candies or candy canes

Preheat the oven to 350°F. Lightly grease a 9" x 9" pan.

To make the dough: In a double boiler, or in a microwave, melt together the chocolate and butter. In a medium-sized mixing bowl, beat together the sugar, salt and eggs.

Add the chocolate mixture, stirring to combine, then the flour, nuts and peppermint, mixing until well-blended.

Pour the batter into the pan. Bake the squares for 25 minutes. Remove them from the oven, and

cool to room temperature.

Remove them from the oven, and cool to room temperature. While cooling make the frosting and glaze.

To make the frosting: In a small bowl, whisk together the sugar, melted butter or margarine, peppermint and milk. Spread the frosting over the cooled squares in a thin layer.

To make the glaze: In a double boiler, or in a microwave, melt together the chocolate and butter or margarine. Drizzle this over the frosted squares, and sprinkle with the crushed peppermint candy. Refrigerate the squares until they're well-chilled. To serve, cut into 1 1/2" squares.

Dreidel Hanukkah Cookies

You can't spin these dreidels, but you sure can gobble them up. The versatile dough that can be customized to create chocolate or colored cookies.

- 3 1/2 cups all-purpose flour
- 1/2 teaspoon salt
- 1 cup unsalted butter, softened
- 2/3 cup sugar
- 1 large egg
- 1 tablespoon light corn syrup
- 1 tablespoon vanilla extract
- Dreidel-shaped cookie cutter
- Piping bag
- Blue frosting

Cookie dough

In a medium-size bowl, mix the flour and salt. In a large bowl, cream the butter and sugar, stir in the egg, then the corn syrup and vanilla extract. One third at a time, add the flour mixture until thoroughly mixed.

Pat the dough into two disks, wrap in plastic, and refrigerate for 1 to 2 hours, or until firm enough to roll. If it is too firm, soften at room temperature for 5 minutes.

Preheat the oven to 375° F. Roll one disk of dough between two pieces of waxed paper or

plastic wrap, 1/4 inch thick. Remove the top sheet and cut out the cookies with cookie cutters.

Using a metal spatula, transfer the shapes to baking sheets, about 1 inch apart. Bake for 8 to 10 minutes or until cookies start to brown lightly around the edges. Remove the baking sheet to a wire rack and cool for 5 minutes.

Using a metal spatula, transfer the cookies to racks and cool completely before frosting and decorating. Makes 12 to 50 cookies, depending on their size.

For chocolate dough: After the last third of flour has been added to the dough, mix in 1 ounce melted, slightly cooled unsweetened chocolate. Use your hands to knead in the chocolate.

For colored dough: Divide the dough into portions and use a toothpick to add food coloring paste (available at party supply stores) to each one. Knead until the color is evenly distributed. For a flavor surprise, omit the vanilla extract and add 1 teaspoon of lemon extract to the yellow dough, mint extract to the green dough, and strawberry extract to the red dough.

How to prepare

Cut out the dreidels from the rolled-out dough and bake as directed (if you can't find a dreidel cookie cutter, make a pattern out of lightweight cardboard). When cooled, pipe one of the four classic dreidel symbols on each cookie (either gimel, shin, nun, or hay) with blue frosting.

Peanut Butter Reindeer Cookies

- 3/4 cup creamy peanut butter
- 1/2 cup butter, softened
- 1/3 cup granulated sugar
- 1/3 cup packed brown sugar
- 1 egg
- 1 tsp. vanilla
- 1-1/2 cups flour
- 1 tsp. baking soda
- 44 candy-coated chocolate pieces
- 88 semi-sweet Chocolate Chips
- 44 pretzels, broken into 1-inch pieces

Heat oven to 350° F.

Beat peanut butter, butter and sugars in large bowl with mixer until light and fluffy. Add egg and vanilla; beat until blended. Add combined flour and baking soda; mix well.

Shape dough into 1-inch balls. Place, 2 inches apart, on baking sheets. Bake 7 to 9 min. or until cookies are just set.

Place 1 chocolate piece immediately in center of each cookie for a nose (press down slightly if cookies aren't flat enough), 2 chocolate chips for eyes, and 2 pretzel pieces at top of cookie for antlers. Carefully remove cookies to wire rack; cool completely.



'Holiday Joy'

Beloved holiday tunes are combined with a musical cabaret in a joyous over-the-top spectacle that is the Madison Theatre's holiday celebration. The cast of 48 performers enthusiastically share all the delights of the season in this show, now in its 11th year, created by Artistic Director Angelo Fraboni. The vibrant cast includes Broadway performers, and Molloy University's pre-professional CAP21 Musical Theatre Conservatory students "Holiday Joy" invites everyone to take a journey through the many worlds of the holidays — through song and dance — in the fast-paced spectacle. Timeless songs such as "We Need A Little Christmas" are brought to life in joyful arrangements, accompanied by a live band.

Friday, Dec. 20, 7 p.m. ; Saturday, Dec. 21, 2 and 7 p.m.; Sunday, Dec. 22, 3 p.m. Molloy University, 1000 Hempstead Ave., Rockville Centre. (516) 323-4444 or madisontheatreny.org.



Yellow Brick Joel

Relive the classic songs that define generations. David Clark performs as Billy Joel along with Bill Connors as Elton John in this thoroughly entertaining and faithful tribute to the Face To Face/Face 2 Face tours of the 1990s and 2000s. Experience a spirited concert celebrating the two greatest 'Piano Men' of our generation with hits like "I'm Still Standing," "Rocket Man," "Piano Man" and "You May Be Right" along with some deeper fan performances like "Honky Cat," "Funeral For A Friend," "Miami 2017," and "Captain Jack." A tribute to two of the greatest piano players and performers of all time couldn't be set up any other way! Groove along to the vibe at this one-of-a-kind performance where these two talents go head-to-head as Elton John and Billy Joel delivering unforgettable music and showmanship.

Friday, Dec. 27, 8 p.m. Tickets start at \$28. Flagstar at Westbury Music Fair, 960 Brush Hollow Rd., Westbury. Tickets available at LiveNation.com.

THE \$CENE

Jan. 3

'Cold Beer on a Friday Night'

Keep those winter doldrums at bay with Jimmy Kenny and the Pirate Beach Band. It may seem like we've got much too long to wait 'til we're back on the beach, but

Jimmy Kenny and his band come to the rescue, on the Paramount stage, Friday, **Jan. 3**, 8 p.m. Join in their "Ultimate Beach Party Tribute" to Kenny Chesney, Jimmy Buffett and Zac Brown Band. Parrotheads, No Shoes Nation and the Zamily: it's 5 o'clock somewhere so let's 'raise 'em up and sing along. The Long Island-based band — guided by Paul C. Cuthbert (aka Jimmy Kenny) on lead vocals/acoustic guitar, with Linn DeMilta (aka Lovely Linn), lead and backing vocals, Luis Rios, lead guitar/backing vocals, Frank Stainkamp, keyboard/backing vocals, Dan Prine, bass, and drummer Mike Vecchione — has been celebrating the beach country sounds of Buffett, Chesney and Zac Brown Band for over a decade, spreading their vibe up and down the Northeast coast.

Everyone has a great time grooving to their lively mix of their popular sing-along hits and feel good, easy living flair. If you like your toes in the sand, wasting away with a margarita or a cold beer on a Friday night, then you'll surely have a great time with the Jimmy Kenny Band. \$35, \$25, \$20, \$15. The Paramount, 370 New York Ave., Huntington. Tickets available at [ticketmaster.com](https://www.ticketmaster.com) or [paramountny.com](https://www.paramountny.com).



Countdown to 12

Long Island Children's Museum welcomes back its popular "Noon" Year's Eve family party, Sunday, **Dec. 31**, noon-4 p.m. This year's event will be making an intergalactic leap with activities starting at 11 a.m., the addition of a third ball drop, plus space-themed crafts, entertainment and a confetti-filled dance party. The day's celebration starts and ends with Times Square-style ball drops (noon, 2 and 4 p.m.). In between the opening and closing ball drops, families will make themed crafts and enjoy the DJ-led dance party.

All activities are drop-in and run through 3:45 p.m. \$20 adults and children, \$18 seniors, members free. Advance ticket purchase recommended. Museum Row, Garden City. (516) 224-5800 or licm.org.

Reiki Circle

Gather to practice Reiki, Thursday, **Dec. 19**, 9 p.m., at Lovestoned. All are welcome. \$25 fee. Call (516) 588-9494 for more information. 11 W. Main St., Oyster Bay.

Bird walk

See some birds with the South Shore Audubon Society. All are welcome to join members for the next in its series of bird walks, at Hempstead Lake State Park, Saturday, **Dec. 21**, starting at 9 a.m. The group will meet in parking lot #3. Walk leaders, other birders and nature enthusiasts are happy to share their knowledge and experience with you. Bring binoculars. To register, text your name and contact information to (516) 467-9498. Rain, snow or temperature below 25 degrees will cancel the bird walk. Text regarding questionable weather. For more information, visit ssaudubon.org.

Author Talk

Michelle Masticriani, co-author of "My Time to Stand: The Memoir of Gypsy-Rose Blanchard," visits Glen Cove Library, Sunday, **Dec. 29**, 3 p.m. Discover the story behind the memoir that reveals Gypsy-Rose Blanchard's harrowing journey as a survivor of mother's abuse and Munchausen syndrome by proxy, and serving prison time for her role in her mother's murder.

Masticriani shares her insights based on her exclusive interviews with Blanchard. Copies of the book available for purchase. Registration required. Visit glencovelibrary.org or call (516) 676-2130 to register and for more information. 4 Glen Cove Ave.



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Holiday Lights Contest

Glen Cove Vallejo hosts the third annual Holiday Lights contest. Residents are invited to decorate their home in holiday lights and judges will come around to deem a winner. Winner will be announced on Sunday, **Dec. 22**. Winners are eligible to win cash prizes and a feature in the next newsletter. For more information visit glencovevallejo.com/2024-holiday-lights-contest.

Friends of the Bay Partnership Shopping Night

Theodore's Books teams with the Friends of the Bay for a Partnership Shopping Night, Friday **Dec. 20**, 5-7 p.m. The store will be open late for holiday shopping with 10% of all sales going to the Friends of the Bay. Theodore's Books, 17 Audrey Ave., Oyster Bay. Call Theodore's Books for more information at (516) 636-5550.

Karaoke for a Cause

The Coalition to Save Hempstead Harbor hosts a "Karaoke for a Cause" fundraiser, Monday, **Dec. 30** at 8 p.m., at Still Partners. All proceeds benefit the Coalition. 225 Sea Cliff Ave., Sea Cliff. For more information call (516) 801-6792



Bring the family to see a movie on Oyster Bay-East Norwich Public Library's big screen. Enjoy "Inside Out 2," Thursday, **Dec. 26**, 11 a.m.-2 p.m. The sequel involves Riley entering puberty and experiencing brand new, more complex emotions as a result. As Riley tries to adapt to her teenage years, her old emotions try to adapt to the possibility of being replaced. No registration necessary. Visit oysterbaylibrary.org or call (516) 922-1212 for more. 89 East Main St.

Library Walking Club

Participate in Glen Cove Public Library's at-your-own-pace hour walk, every Thursday, at 9:15 a.m. All fitness levels are welcome. 4 Glen Cove Ave., Glen Cove. Register at glencovelibrary.org or call (516) 676-2130 for more information.



Holiday concert

Celebrate the season with the Symphonic Pops of Long Island, Sunday, **Dec. 22**, 2 p.m. The intergenerational orchestra of 60 L.I.-based musicians performs with the Willow Interfaith Women's Choir as special guests. The program, at Brookside School in North Merrick, includes "Charlie Brown Christmas," "Let It Snow," "Christmas Sing-A-Long," "Greensleeves," "Chanukah Festival Overture," and much more. Suggested donation of \$10 is requested at the door (kids are free). 1260 Meadowbrook Road, North Merrick, New York. Visit symphonicpopsli.org for more.

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.



Family theater

Long Island Children's Museum Long Island Children's Museum welcomes families to its stage, Friday, **Dec. 20**, 10:15 a.m. and noon; Saturday, Dec. 21, 11 a.m. and 1:30 p.m.; Thursday, Dec. 26, 11 a.m. and 1:30 p.m.; Friday, Dec. 27, 11 a.m., 1:30 p.m.; 6: 15 p.m.; also Dec. 28-30. Ezra Jack Keats' "The Snowy

Day & Other Stories" celebrates the joy in the small moments of a child's world. Experience the wonder of a fresh snowfall, the delight of whistling for the first time, and the awe of finding a special treasure. In this childhood adventure, Keats' classic books come to life, featuring live actors and shadow puppets telling the stories of "The Snowy Day," "Goggles!," "Whistle for Willie," and "A Letter to Amy." \$11 with museum admission (\$9 members), \$15 theater only. Museum Row, Garden City. (516) 224-5800 or licm.org.

Having an event?

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

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**DEADLINE:
 JANUARY 12TH**

LEGAL NOTICE OF SALE SUPREME COURT COUNTY OF NASSAU WILMINGTON SAVINGS FUND SOCIETY, FSB, NOT IN ITS INDIVIDUAL CAPACITY BUT SOLELY IN ITS CAPACITY AS OWNER TRUSTEE FOR CASCADE FUNDING MORTGAGE TRUST HB2, Plaintiff AGAINST FRED SOUZA AS HEIR TO THE ESTATE OF MARIO SOUZA-FERREIRA, WHO WAS THE SURVIVING SPOUSE OF ELSA SOUZA-FERREIRA, STEVE FERREIRA AS HEIR TO THE ESTATE OF MARIO SOUZA-FERREIRA, WHO WAS THE SURVIVING SPOUSE OF ELSA SOUZA-FERREIRA, EDWIN FERREIRA AS HEIR TO THE ESTATE OF MARIO SOUZA-FERREIRA, WHO WAS THE SURVIVING SPOUSE OF ELSA SOUZA-FERREIRA, PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK, UNITED STATES OF AMERICA ACTING THROUGH THE IRS, UNITED STATES OF AMERICA ACTING THROUGH THE SECRETARY OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT, SYNCHRONY BANK, PUBLIC ADMINISTRATOR OF NASSAU COUNTY AS ADMINISTRATOR OF THE ESTATE OF MARIO SOUZA-FERREIRA, WHO WAS THE SURVIVING SPOUSE OF ELSA SOUZA-FERREIRA, UNKNOWN HEIRS AS HEIR TO THE ESTATE OF ELIZABETH SOUZA FERREIRA WHO WAS HEIR OF THE ESTATE OF MARIO SOUZA-FERREIRA, WHO WAS THE SURVIVING SPOUSE OF ELSA SOUZA-FERREIRA IF LIVING, AND IF HE/SHE BE DEAD, ANY AND ALL PERSONS UNKNOWN TO PLAINTIFF, CLAIMING, OR WHO MAY CLAIM TO HAVE AN INTEREST IN, OR GENERAL OR SPECIFIC LIEN UPON THE REAL PROPERTY DESCRIBED IN THIS ACTION; ET AL, Defendant(s) Pursuant to a Judgment of Foreclosure and Sale duly entered September 30, 2024, I, the undersigned Referee will sell at public auction at the North Side steps of the Nassau County Supreme Court, 100 Supreme Court Drive, Mineola, NY 11501 on January 7, 2025 at 2:30PM, premises known as 21 Hitching Post Lane, Glen Cove, NY 11542. All that certain plot piece or parcel of land, with the buildings and improvements erected, situate, lying and being in the City of Glen Cove, County of Nassau, and State of New York, Section 30, Block 76, Lot 48. Approximate amount of judgment \$889,636.69 plus interest and costs. Premises will be sold subject to provisions of filed Judgment Index #614416/2019. The aforementioned auction will be conducted in accordance with the

NASSAU County COVID-19 mitigation protocols and as such all persons must comply with social distancing, wearing masks and screening practices in effect at the time of this foreclosure sale. If proper social distancing cannot be maintained or there are other health or safety concerns, then the court appointed referee will cancel the foreclosure auction. Foreclosure Auctions will be held "Rain or Shine". Tara Mayerhofer, Esq., Referee Gross Polowy, LLC 1775 Wehrle Drive Williamsville, NY 14221 19-004214 83152 150240

LEGAL NOTICE REFEREE'S NOTICE OF SALE IN FORECLOSURE SUPREME COURT COUNTY OF NASSAU US BANK NATIONAL ASSOCIATION, AS TRUSTEE FOR CITIGROUP MORTGAGE LOAN TRUST, INC., MORTGAGE PASS-THROUGH CERTIFICATES, SERIES 2006-4, Plaintiff - against - LARRY BLUMSTEIN, et al Defendant(s). Pursuant to a Judgment of Foreclosure and Sale entered on April 2, 2019, I, the undersigned Referee will sell at public auction on the North Side steps of the Nassau County Supreme Court located at 100 Supreme Court Drive, Mineola, N.Y. 11501 on the 7th day of January, 2025 at 2:00 PM. All that certain plot, piece or parcel of land, with the buildings and improvements thereon erected, situate, lying and being in the Incorporated Village of Sea Cliff, Town of Oyster Bay, County of Nassau and State of New York. Premises known as 1 Richardson Avenue, Sea Cliff, NY 11579. (Section: 21, Block: 222, Lot: 431) Approximate amount of lien \$624,040.05 plus interest and costs. Premises will be sold subject to provisions of filed judgment and terms of sale. Index No. 018968/2009. Scott H. Siller, Esq., Referee. McCalla Raymer Leibert Pierce, LLC Attorney(s) for Plaintiff 420 Lexington Avenue, Suite 840 New York, NY 10170 Tel. 347/286-7409 For sale information, please visit Auction.com at www.Auction.com or call (800) 280-2832 Dated: October 30, 2024 During the COVID-19 health emergency, bidders are required to comply with all governmental health requirements in effect at the time of sale including but not limited to, wearing face coverings and maintaining social distancing (at least 6-feet apart) during the auction, while tendering deposit and at any subsequent closing. Bidders are also

required to comply with the Foreclosure Auction Rules and COVID-19 Health Emergency Rules issued by the Supreme Court of this County in addition to the conditions set forth in the Terms of Sale. 150209

LEGAL NOTICE NOTICE OF SALE SUPREME COURT COUNTY OF NASSAU JPMorgan Chase Bank, National Association, Plaintiff AGAINST Barbara Lowell a/k/a Barbara C. Lowell; et al, Defendant(s) Pursuant to a Judgment of Foreclosure and Sale duly entered October 3, 2023 I, the undersigned Referee, will sell at public auction at the North Side Steps of the Nassau County Supreme Court at 100 Supreme Court Drive, Mineola, NY 11501 on January 13, 2025 at 2:00PM, premises known as 3 Westgate Court, Glen Cove, NY 11542. All that certain plot piece or parcel of land, with the buildings and improvements erected, situate, lying and being in the City of Glen Cove, County of Nassau, State of NY, Section 23 Block D Lot 31. Approximate amount of judgment \$243,046.89 plus interest and costs. Premises will be sold subject to provisions of filed Judgment Index# 611517/2022. The auction will be conducted pursuant to the COVID-19 Policies Concerning Public Auctions of Foreclosed Property established by the 10th Judicial District. Foreclosure Auctions will be held "Rain or Shine." Jane P. Shrenkel, Esq., Referee LOGS Legal Group LLP Attorney(s) for the Plaintiff 175 Mile Crossing Boulevard Rochester, New York 14624 (877) 430-4792 Dated: November 14, 2024 150487

LEGAL NOTICE North Shore Central School District Business Office 112 Franklin Avenue Sea Cliff, NY 11579 Phone (516) 277-7815 REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS The Board of Education of the North Shore Central School District hereby invites the submission of proposals for the following professional services: Construction Management Services Terms Effective: 07/01/25 through 06/30/30 Forms for proposal, certification, conditions, and specifications may be obtained at the North Shore Central School District by hard copy from the North Shore CSD Business Office located at 112 Franklin Avenue, Sea Cliff, NY 11579 or by email request to, James R. Pappas, Assistant Superintendent for Business, and clearly marked "RFP - Architectural Services". Proposals will be received until 11 a.m. on January 15, 2025 at the North Shore Central School District, Business Office located at 112 Franklin Avenue, Sea Cliff, New York, 11579, at which time and place all proposal packages will be publicly opened and subsequently evaluated.

email request to, James R. Pappas, Assistant Superintendent for Business at pappasjr@northshoreschools.org. Mr. Pappas can be reached at 516-277-7815. In all cases it must be understood that conditions and specifications of the North Shore Central School District shall apply. Sealed proposals must be addressed to the attention of James R. Pappas, Assistant Superintendent for Business, and clearly marked "RFP - Construction Management Services". Proposals will be received until 11 a.m. on January 15, 2025 at the North Shore Central School District, Business Office located at 112 Franklin Avenue, Sea Cliff, New York, 11579, at which time and place all proposal packages will be publicly opened and subsequently evaluated.

The Board of Education reserves the right to consider qualifications, experience, and reputation in the construction management services industry, as well as the specific qualifications of a proposer set out herein, in considering proposals and awarding the contract. The Board of Education reserves all rights and may reject any or all bids/proposals as it may deem appropriate to do so. DATED: December 16, 2024 James R. Pappas Assistant Superintendent for Business North Shore Central School District 112 Franklin Avenue Sea Cliff, NY 11579 150589

LEGAL NOTICE FOR PROPOSALS The Board of Education of the North Shore Central School District hereby invites the submission of proposals for the following professional services: Architectural Services Terms Effective: 07/01/25 through 06/30/30 Forms for proposal, certification, conditions, and specifications may be obtained at the North Shore Central School District by hard copy from the North Shore CSD Business Office located at 112 Franklin Avenue, Sea Cliff, NY 11579 or by email request to, James R. Pappas, Assistant Superintendent for Business at pappasjr@northshoreschools.org. Mr. Pappas can be reached at 516-277-7815. In all cases it must be understood that conditions and specifications of the North Shore Central School District shall apply. Sealed proposals



Noelle Hatalovsky/Herald photos

Alex Suozzi, who played Harry Bailey, spoke to John Kappenberg who was in charge of video and sound. Fred DiMenna, who played George and Mariana Rosas who Played Violet prepared for their roles backstage.



Maureen Hackett, Carol Rodriguez and Isabella Hackett wait for their omelettes made by Chef Keith Way.

The Slayer Players bring holiday magic to life

The Slayer Players theatre company delighted audiences on Dec. 7 and 8 at Jeanine's American Bistro with their unique presentation of "It's a Wonderful Life." The event celebrated Frank Capra's holiday classic with a creative blend of movie clips, original videos, and live performances of iconic scenes. Attendees enjoyed a dinner and dessert buffet on Saturday evening, followed by

the show, and a brunch and dessert buffet on Sunday afternoon before the performance. It was a memorable holiday experience, combining culinary delights with heartfelt entertainment, making it a festive highlight for the local community.

-Roksana Amid

HERALD PUBLIC NOTICES

must be addressed to the attention of James R. Pappas, Assistant Superintendent for Business, and clearly marked "RFP - Architectural Services". Proposals will be received until 11 a.m. on January 15, 2025 at the North Shore Central School District, Business Office located at 112 Franklin Avenue, Sea Cliff, New York, 11579, at which time and place all proposal packages will be publicly opened and subsequently evaluated.

The Board of Education reserves the right to consider qualifications, experience, and reputation in the architectural services industry, as well as the specific qualifications of a proposer set out herein, in considering proposals and awarding the contract. The Board of Education reserves all rights and may reject any or all bids/proposals as it may deem appropriate to do so. DATED: December 16, 2024 James R. Pappas

Assistant Superintendent for Business North Shore Central School District 112 Franklin Avenue Sea Cliff, NY 11579 150588

LEGAL NOTICE The Glen Cove City School District is requesting proposals for external auditing services for the school years ending June 30, 2025 to 2029. For a copy of the request for proposal, please write to the Business Office, Attn: Theresa Kahan at 154

Dosoris Lane, Glen Cove, New York 11542 or call 516-801-7030 or email at tkahan@glencoveschools.org. Proposals must be received in the Business Office no later than February 7, 2025 at 3:30 p.m. 150587

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OPINIONS

Like many other devotees, I'll miss 'Blue Bloods' dearly

A television era has ended. Last Friday night's "Blue Bloods" episode was the last. It has been canceled by CBS despite having consistently high ratings and, in my opinion, having been the best show



PETER KING

on television during its 14-season run on the network. I don't profess to be a media critic, but I am a lifelong New Yorker who appreciated the first-class acting of a cast led by Tom Selleck, and the show's proud espousal of support for the police and its advocacy

of traditional family values.

"Blue Bloods" focuses on four generations of the Reagan family in New York law enforcement — the "Reagan family business." Frank Reagan, played by Selleck, is the NYPD commissioner. His father, Henry, is a former commissioner. His sons, Danny, a detective, and Jamie,

a sergeant, as well as Jamie's wife, Janko, are all NYPD, and his daughter, Erin, is a prosecutor in the district attorney's office. An older son, Joe, was killed in the line of duty. His son, Joe Hill, previously unknown to the family, recently appeared on the NYPD scene using his mother's last name.

Besides the expected emphasis on crime solving, "Blue Bloods" shows the realities of cops' lives and the impact that those often harsh realities have on their families' day-to-day lives. Unlike almost every other crime drama series, "Blue Bloods" never succumbed to political or corporate pressure to portray cops in a negative light, even at the height (or the depth) of the Defund the Police movement, which was all the rage in 2020.

Not that it shows cops to be perfect. Just human — people who are willing to put their lives on the line for all the rest of us. People who have to make life-changing decisions and live with the

consequences, including being second-guessed by critics who have never had to confront professional killers, violent drug dealers or crazed madmen.

As a recent *Newsday* story pointed out, "Blue Bloods" has a particularly strong following on Long Island, where many police officers and their families and friends live, as well as the many thousands of commuters who regularly travel to the city for work or entertainment.

I admit to having a bias. My father was a member of the NYPD for more than three decades before he retired as a lieutenant. I also have friends who have been officers in the NYPD as well as the Nassau and Suffolk County police departments. It was most impactful to be able to closely observe police work during my 18 years on the House Homeland Security Committee.

I had the chance to meet the "Blue Bloods" cast during several visits to their studio in Brooklyn, where they filmed the Sunday-family-dinner scenes,

and other shooting locations on Long Island. All are outstanding people, especially Selleck; Donnie Wahlberg, who played Danny; and Will Estes, who played Jamie. So, too, is Steve Schirripa (Anthony Abetemarco), whom I'd met before, a great guy who's as genuine as the investigator he plays on the show.

Believe me, I'm not a star-struck guy. Being in public life, I've met a number of famous people and celebrities who are jerks. The "Blue Bloods" guys are the real deal.

The unanswered question is why CBS canceled a show that had consistently positive ratings for so many seasons and such a loyal, supportive fan base. Was it because "Blue Bloods" resisted corporate pressure to be more progressive and 'woke'? Were its traditional values, exemplified by support for the police, the family dinner and strong patriotism, too out of touch for some of its advertisers?

No matter. "Blue Bloods" fans will always have the memories.

Peter King is a former congressman, and a former chair of the House Committee on Homeland Security. Comments? pking@liherald.com.

Was it canceled for resisting corporate pressure to be more 'woke'?

At least Governor Hochul got the message

In case you're still counting, Election Day happened six weeks ago, and all of the post-mortems on both sides reached the same conclusion: The No. 1 issue for voters was the economy, and the Democrats failed to pay attention to that issue, even



JERRY KREMER

though James Carville has been telling his party that "It's the economy, stupid," since 1992.

As we approach a new year, nothing has changed. The voters voted their pocketbooks, and they will judge all national and state politicians by what they do to ease people's financial tensions. Incoming President Donald Trump says he hasn't forgotten about his promise to cut the price of basic necessities, and his legacy will be judged by the promises he will keep.

Gov. Kathy Hochul, meanwhile, has gotten the message, and will propose a 2025 budget that will be loaded with pro-

grams to help wage earners on many levels. Her first salvo into the coming year is an interesting one. She wants to give every family that makes less than \$300,000 a check from the state for \$500, and individuals who make less than \$150,000 a one-time payment of \$300.

Fiscal conservatives and budget hawks jumped on the plan with all kinds of criticism, but it will take more than a few barbs to kill Hochul's one-shot anti-inflation proposal. Why is this plan being proposed, and where would the money come from? During the coronavirus pandemic, the state collected a bonanza of tax revenue. Household voters purchased billions of dollars' worth of necessities, and the state was the beneficiary. Those funds are sitting in some budget account, and if the governor doesn't spend them first, the State Legislature surely will.

The rebate proposal is just one of many taxpayer benefits that Hochul will announce. There are numerous ways to reward consumers, and the governor can be the first one to offer them

when she announces her proposed budget in late January. Every one of the ideas in her plan will be aimed at saving people money.

Aside from the fact that Hochul is paying attention to the message of this year's election, she is also keeping an eye on the political calendar. She will be seeking re-election in 2026, and now is as good a time as ever to make proposals that appeal to the average voter. The timing is important, because there are always a few ambitious Democrats who think they can do a better job, as well as some Republicans who are looking for promotions.

Even New York City Mayor Eric Adams has climbed on the tax-cutting bandwagon. He has proposed a modest cut for people on the lowest rung of the income ladder, but a check in the mail can be a much more potent gift for a voter in 2025.

Is a rebate check a new political idea? Some years back, when the state was running the Long Island Lighting Company, then Gov. George Pataki

approved a one-time payment for utility customers. It was an instant hit.

Are there many ways to put money in voters' wallets? From personal experience, I can think of a few. While serving as chair of the Assembly's Ways and Means Committee, I learned a lot about sales taxes. New York's tax laws cover thousands of day-to-day household items. Some of those taxes could be eliminated, and consumers would know very quickly why their expenses went down. The flip side of sales tax cuts is that they cost the state money, but if there's money in the cupboard, why not spend it?

In the weeks ahead, New York voters will be romanced with one proposal after another. The trick for the governor is to be the first one to come up with new ideas that the Legislature will have a hard time rejecting. It's time for the state to start giving back, even if that comes in small pieces.

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

She'll propose a 2025 budget loaded with programs to help wage earners.

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HERALD EDITORIAL

Suffolk C.C. is shortchanging journalism

In a decision that has left many Long Island journalists and educators dismayed, Suffolk County Community College has chosen to eliminate its journalism major.

The move, characterized as a cost-cutting measure in response to declining enrollment and the purportedly dim career prospects of students who study journalism, is not only shortsighted, but runs counter to the college's mission of preparing students to transfer to four-year institutions where they can follow their chosen paths to future success.

For years, SCCC has prided itself on serving as a launching pad for students aiming to continue their education at schools such as Adelphi, Hofstra and Stony Brook universities — institutions with thriving journalism and communications programs. Suffolk's own commercials proclaim how proud the school is to propel two-year students to four-year schools.

Journalism is not only a viable academic path at these schools; it is also a critical discipline that is nothing less than the backbone of a functioning democracy. By shuttering the journalism major, SCCC sends a troubling message about the value it places on media literacy, civic engagement and students' preparation for essential careers in public service, accountability and compelling storytelling.

The college's decision is proving to be a controversial one, given that it came despite opposition from SCCC's own faculty. In three separate votes, educators overwhelmingly rejected the proposal to discontinue the program. Such strong opposition suggests that those closest to

the educational process, who teach, mentor and advise students, understand the importance of maintaining a journalism program, even at a time when there couldn't be more challenges for the profession.

The executive dean ultimately overrode those votes, citing enrollment declines and data from the New York State Department of Labor projecting limited growth in journalism jobs.

Figures from the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, however, show a more robust industry despite the decline in the number and readership of newspapers. The SCCC decision fails to account for the evolving nature of journalism and its continued relevance in a media-saturated world. The field is not disappearing; it is being transformed, and students deserve the opportunity to learn the skills needed to adapt to this new media landscape.

Content creation, social media management, podcasting, multimedia reporting and data journalism are just a few of the avenues now available to those with a foundation in journalism. Furthermore, the skills taught in a journalism program — writing, research, critical thinking and ethical reasoning — are transferable to a wide range of careers.

As it happens, the State University of New York has a system-wide community journalism program, the Institute for Local News, that provides students with real-world experience at local media outlets. Ironically, SCCC is the largest college by enrollment in the SUNY system. And we should note that its sister school, Nassau Community College, also offers journalism classes, but has no

journalism major.

The Herald Community Newspapers have for years invited journalism students from colleges across Long Island to work as interns, and the company is currently in partnership with Hofstra on a program in which students will join forces with Herald journalists on a series of stories, as well as with Stony Brook's Working Newsroom, in which students will pitch and write stories. All of the stories will be published in the Herald.

SCCC is targeting other programs and majors that fail to meet certain enrollment and job market criteria, and those decisions signal a troubling trend of prioritizing short-term metrics over long-term educational value. While budget constraints are an undeniable reality for most institutions, their decisions about academic programs should be guided by more than just numbers. They should reflect a commitment to the colleges' missions and to the needs of their students.

If SCCC is truly committed to preparing students for transfer and future success, it must reconsider the elimination of its journalism major. A flourishing journalism program would not only support the college's academic reputation, but also affirm its dedication to producing graduates who are informed, articulate and passionate about engaging with the world.

Bottom-line-focused decisions may balance budgets in the moment, but they risk undermining the broader purpose of education: to prepare students not only for jobs but also for meaningful, informed lives.

LETTERS

Those excessive red-light-camera fines

To the Editor:

If you haven't heard, it seems a state appeals court has found that Nassau County has been adding illegal fees to red-light-camera tickets over the past 10 years — \$100 on a \$150 ticket. Ouch. I know — just like you, I'm shocked. Shocked, I tell ya. OK, not really.

But here's the thing: Some of our dear legislators don't wanna give back the money that was taken from us! Yeah, another shock.

I guess we'll just see how that little bit of business plays out, but there is one more thing I'd like to bring up again. One of the biggest complaints about the red-light cams is the rear-end collisions they cause. Not being one to complain without offering a solution, I'd like to re-introduce my simple solution that would solve the problem immediately. Simple countdown clocks! There is absolutely no excuse why there shouldn't be one hanging from every traffic light at a red-light-cam intersec-



OPINIONS

Coming together to fight hunger in Nassau County

For many of us, the end of the year is a time for reflection, and giving thanks for the achievements and milestones of the past 12 months. As I approach the conclusion of my first year as minority



**DELIA
DERIGGI-WHITTON**

leader of the Nassau County Legislature, I am thankful to the members of my caucus, and how we have stuck together — and particularly, how our unity empowered us to achieve major goals and secure funding for an array of worthwhile projects and organizations in the communities we serve.

In the 11th District, I am happy to report that we are delivering significant resources for two hunger-fighting organizations. These grants were set aside from the county's \$385 million Ameri-

can Rescue Plan Act allotment, and our districts got a fair share of these resources because of the unity, dedication and advocacy of my Democratic colleagues all year long.

NOSH Delivers, which was established in March of 2020 to distribute food to local families impacted by the coronavirus pandemic, currently serves over 700 families each week, and will receive \$43,000. My parents continue to volunteer for NOSH, and I am so grateful to all of the volunteers who work selflessly to combat food insecurity in communities from Glen Cove to Sea Cliff to Bayville, and everywhere in between.

In Port Washington, Plant a Row for the Hungry, an organization that I have admired for many years, will receive \$50,000 in support of its mission. Founded by Marvin Makofsky, Plant a Row is dedicated to mobilizing the Port Washington community to grow and distrib-

ute locally grown produce to families in need. It has a wonderful team of volunteers, including members of the Nicholas Center and the Helen Keller Residence, who care for the plants and deliver the harvest to local food pantries.

Since its inception in 2010, Plant a Row has delivered 62,000 pounds of produce to pantries, and taught countless people how to grow their own organic produce at its community gardens, in square-foot gardens at their homes and in beautifully painted pots throughout the community.

There were many other worthwhile groups for which we were able to secure funding through other channels. This fall, we got approvals for numerous Hotel Motel Occupancy Tax Fund grants, which help local cultural agencies draw tourists to our region. One of those approvals was a long-awaited \$7,000 hotel-motel grant for the Glen

Cove Business Improvement District in support of its Downtown Sounds concert series. I'm already looking forward to 2025, and will be applying for additional grant funding for next season's shows.

As a legislator, this is the type of work that I find to be most rewarding. In this season of giving and beyond, I encourage everyone to give what they can to local organizations that are gathering toys to bring holiday cheer to families throughout our region. Many local organizations and businesses are collecting, so keep your eyes open for those opportunities, or visit toysfortots.org to find an event near you.

Community is at the heart of all of this, and as one of my favorite sayings goes, "It is in giving that we receive." From my family to yours, I wish you a happy and healthy holiday season filled with joy, prosperity, good health and peace.

Delia DeRiggi-Whitton represents Nassau County's 11th Legislative District and is the Legislature's minority leader.

LETTERS

tion. Problem solved. You're welcome.

FRED GEFEN
Woodmere

More local memories of Jimmy Breslin

To the Editor:

I thoroughly enjoyed reading Peter King's column "Remembering Jimmy Breslin, a legend in New York journalism" (Dec. 5-11). It brought back so many memories. Breslin used to call my late husband, Marvin Bernstein, every Sunday night for the news about the Nassau County Supreme Court. Marvin was the public information officer at the courthouse, and Jimmy kept him busy! Thanks for the column, Mr. King!

SANDY BERNSTEIN
East Meadow

The Sands proposal: 'right location, wrong project'

To the Editor:

Las Vegas Sands' proposal for an integrated casino-resort in the Nassau County Hub a very bad idea. Right location, wrong project! Are the risks to our suburban lifestyle and environment worth the grossly exaggerated benefits projected? There were so many assumptions in the draft environment impact statement, and so much information omitted.

I am strongly opposed to the pro-

posed project at the Hub. There are better alternatives that would benefit all Nassau County residents, but the people we rely on to protect our interests and preserve our suburban way of life are looking for a quick fix. They will bankrupt your future in more ways than you could imagine.

Hard Rock's application to develop Citi Field has been approved by local community boards. Much better location, very accessible public transportation and a much better independent operator than Sands. That "Metropolitan Park," if built, would compete with Sands and other downstate casinos for the same pool of gamblers and people seeking entertainment options. Somebody's going to lose, and it will be the residents of Nassau County.

ANTHONY BRANCATO
East Meadow

D'Esposito's farewell wasn't very classy

To the Editor:

Congressman Anthony D'Esposito's op-ed column last month, "I look forward to representing you again," read more as a mean-spirited political attack than as a graceful bowing-out by a defeated candidate.

D'Esposito predictably — and understandably — cited what he considers signal achievements of his one-term tenure in the U.S. House. No one would begrudge a departing lawmaker this sort of self-promotion. It's also within the bounds of acceptable discourse that

D'Esposito implied his intention to try to regain the seat he lost last month.

But his column omitted the standard propriety of congratulating his opponent and wishing her success in representing New York's 4th Congressional District. Instead, he suggested that U.S. Rep.-elect Laura Gillen will be "a vocal partisan critic of the House Republican majority and the incoming Trump administration."

D'Esposito presumably saw no irony

in faulting Gillen for partisanship in the same column in which he decried "the many mistakes of the Biden administration and Democrats across the country."

He concluded his gauche goodbye by accusing Gillen of having made "bold, empty promises." D'Esposito's constituents will have been disappointed if they were expecting a classy farewell.

KEVIN J KELLEY
Atlantic Beach

FRAMEWORK by Tim Baker



Rockville Centre Girl Scout Troop 864 at Dees' annual Trees for Troops — Oceanside



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May it be filled with everything that feels like home.

Happy Holidays!

Sea Cliff Office | 266 Sea Cliff Ave, Sea Cliff, NY 11579 | 516.759.6822 | danielgale.com

North Shore Office | 329 Glen Cove Ave, Sea Cliff, NY 11579 | 516.674.2000 | danielgale.com

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