

GLEN COVE

HERALD



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Courtesy Spiro Tsirkas

The Tennis court at Stanco Park, next to the golf course, is also being renovated.

City golf course boasts major improvements

By ROKSANA AMID

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Once considered a crown jewel of Glen Cove's recreational offerings, the city's municipal golf course is undergoing a sweeping restoration following years of gradual decline. The 18-hole course, in Stanco Park, officially opened for the season on April 5 with a host of improvements already completed and more on the way, including a long-awaited overhaul of its sprinkler system.

The course's transformation is part of a broader effort to revitalize the city's parks and recreational spaces.

"The golf course has always been a very important piece of Glen Cove's history," Spiro Tsirkas, executive director of the Glen Cove Youth Bureau and the city's parks director, said. "This year we've really taken steps forward to revitalize, and create the best possible experience for golfers of all ages."

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Tariffs may boost cost of vehicles, and their insurance

By ROKSANA AMID

ramid@liherald.com

President Trump's latest move to impose reciprocal tariffs on goods from nearly 90 countries, including the European Union, has prompted a wide range of reactions across Long Island. While supporters see the move as a bold step toward protecting American interests, others fear it will drive up costs for consumer costs and weaken the economy. With only a 90-day pause granting temporary relief to most U.S. trading partners, the future of international trade — and its effect on daily life —

remains unclear.

Trump noted that the temporary reduction of the tariffs to 10 percent would allow for new trade negotiations. But he also confirmed that tariffs on Chinese imports would rise immediately to 125 percent, citing what he called "a lack of respect that China has shown to the World's Markets."

Area residents voiced a variety of opinions in response to a Herald Facebook poll asking how the tariffs might affect local households and businesses.

"I love it," FaFa Jac posted. "The U.S. has been taken advantage of for years. We fund everything and pay everyone,

while our own citizens can't afford basic necessities. The tariffs serve two purposes — as a negotiating tactic and as a long-term strategy to bring manufacturing back to the U.S."

FaFa Jac believes the short-term economic discomfort is worth the longer-term gains. "I want America first — putting ourselves, our country, our citizens first in every decision," she added.

Others disagreed. "Tariffs, as indicated by the stock market's reaction, will hurt the economy — here and abroad," Debra Caruso Marrone posted. "We'll pay more for everything

imported, which is almost everything we buy. I hope those who voted for Trump will realize he has no idea what he's doing."

"I hope as time goes on I'm not going to have to pay \$10 for a pound of pasta from Italy," Nina Zanghi Gartner wrote.

Small-business owners like Jerry Farrell, who runs the Ris-

ing Tide Natural Market in Glen Cove, are discussing the ripple effects of the tariffs with their suppliers.

"Based upon recent developments and the 90-day pause in tariffs from Mexico and Canada, people are only speculating in terms of what may happen," Farrell said in a call to the Her-

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Community Newspapers

NEIGHBORS IN THE NEWS



Roksana Amid/Herald

Jakob, Benjamin and Melissa Schwedhelm celebrated Seder at Sunrise of Glen Cove with Paula Frome, a board member of North Country Reform Temple.

NCRT brings Seder to Sunrise Living

North Country Reform Temple of Glen Cove brought the spirit of Passover to a dozen people this year by leading a special Seder for the residents of Sunrise of Glen Cove on Tuesday. , offering residents a meaningful way to connect with the holiday's enduring message of freedom, hope, and renewal.

The Seder is a ritual feast that marks the beginning of Passover, commemorating the Israelites' escape from slavery in ancient Egypt. The evening

had featured readings, and symbolic foods such as matzah, unleavened bread, maror ,bitter herbs, and charoset. Each item told a part of the story and invited reflection on both past and present struggles for freedom.

Reform Temple not only honored tradition but also fostered community and inclusion—core values of the Passover celebration.

—Roksana Amid

NEWS BRIEF

Downtown art crawl on April 25

By **ROKSANA AMID**

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Downtown Glen Cove will come alive with creativity on April 25, as the Glen Cove Downtown Business Improvement District presents its spring Art Crawl from 7 to 9 p.m. The free event invites residents and visitors to explore local businesses transformed into pop-up galleries, showcasing the work of local artists, photographers, and students.

The Art Crawl spans multiple locations across the downtown area, each hosting an artist or exhibit. Highlights include photography by Marino Carra-ba at Otherside Wine Bar and Tony Tedeschi at Meritage Wine Bar. Mad Chicken will feature the Sophi Photo Memoir, while Hair Above Salon hosts artist Rita Broughton. The Peter B. Holden Art Gallery and the Long Island Academy of Fine Art will also open their doors for the evening, with the latter presenting works from students and co-director Steven Forster.

Soca Brazilian Jiu-Jitsu will display pieces by various artists, and Glen Floors will showcase artwork by the Glen Cove High School Art Club. At The Shoppe by Trubee Hill, guests can enjoy a “Sip & Shop” experience. The North Shore Historical Museum will

feature a special exhibit opening, Revealing F. Edwin Church: American Impressionist.

Organizers encourage guests to meet the artists and enjoy opening receptions at each stop. The Art Crawl is designed to bring the community together through culture, creativity, and commerce while supporting local artists and businesses.

The BID is a nonprofit organization focused on revitalizing and promoting downtown Glen Cove. Funded by local property owners and businesses, the BID provides services beyond what the city offers, including beautification efforts, business support, and community events. It maintains a directory of local businesses, lists available properties, and enhances public spaces with landscaping, lighting, and seasonal decorations. The BID is best known for organizing popular events such as the Downtown Sounds summer concert series, art crawls, wellness days, and seasonal festivals like the Halloween Parade and Holiday Festival. In collaboration with city officials and residents, the BID also plays a role in planning for downtown improvements through initiatives like the Downtown Revitalization Initiative. More information is available at glencovedowntown.org.

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Student art blooms in design contest

By ROKSANA AMID

ramid@liherald.com

In an effort to inspire civic pride and engage the next generation of environmental stewards, the Glen Cove Beautification Commission launched a student art contest this spring, inviting local youth to design a t-shirt reflecting the Commission's theme: "Glen Cove: Where Beauty Grows."

The winning design, created by Glen Cove High School ninth grader Nahla Gomez, features a blooming flower pot with delicate blossoms and a vibrant orange butterfly, framed by the slogan in a circular pattern. Gomez' artwork will soon appear on t-shirts worn by Beautification Commission members and volunteers, as well as on one of the city's billboards.

"My drawing represents growth and beauty, which is what I think of when I think about Glen Cove," Gomez said. "I thought butterflies were a good symbol of beauty, and I added different types of flowers—just ones that came to mind. I didn't have specific names for them, but they all came together naturally."

Gomez, who is a member of the National Art Honor Society, learned about the contest through her art teacher and submitted multiple drawings. Ultimately, it was her flowering design that stood out to the Commission for its balance of simplicity and symbolism.

"We were all really impressed with Nahla's creativity and the way her design captured the spirit of the Beautification Commission's work," Lora Cusumano, Beautification Commission, said. "It was uplifting, hopeful, and centered around the idea of beauty growing in Glen Cove—both literally and metaphorically."

As part of her recognition, Gomez was honored at the April 8 Glen Cove City Council meeting. Although the shirts haven't been printed yet, Cusumano said they'll be distributed to commissioners and volunteers, with potential plans to sell some to raise funds for beautification projects.

A second design, submitted by fellow ninth grader Georgina Dondero, was chosen as the runner-up. While it won't appear on the t-shirt, the Commission was so moved by Donaro's piece that they intend to incorporate it into future initiatives.

Dondero's drawing depicts a cobblestone path lined with trees in various stages of growth, from sprouting to shedding leaves, symbolizing both seasonal change and community diversity. A heart etched into one tree bears the initials "GC."

"It reminds me of nature trails I used to walk as a kid," Dondero said.

Though she was not previously involved with the Commission, Dondero has participated in local beach cleanups with her family and now hopes to become more active in Glen Cove's environmental efforts.

"I've learned a lot just from being part of this contest," she said. "It's great to see young people being included in tradi-



Roksana Amid/Herald photos

Giorgina Dondero's and Nahla Gomez' designs were celebrated at the April 8 city council meeting.



Nahla Gomez', the winner of the contest, featured a flower pot with a bright butterfly in her design.



Giorgina Dondero's submission features a stone path lined with trees.



Courtesy Metro Creative

The Glen Cove Beautification Commission frequently hosts city cleanups and plants tulips in the fall.

More changes planned for the golf course

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

One of the most pressing issues has been the course's sprinkler system, which dates back to the 1950s and has inconsistently irrigated the 85-acre property. Tsirkas said that last year's widespread sprinkler failure left parts of the course dry and unplayable, while others areas flooded. Temporary repairs have stabilized the system for now, but a full replacement is expected to begin in late fall.

"The sprinkler system has been the same since the '50s or '60s," he said. "We've done enough repairs to get through this season, and once capital funding is finalized, we're planning to install a brand new system that will completely change the way the course is maintained."

Mayor Pamela Panzenbeck said the city has already approved the engineering component of the project, working with IMEG Engineers, of New York to finalize plans. The full cost is expected to approach \$2.5 million.

"This is the original sprinkler system — it's ancient," Panzenbeck said. "But we're pumping a lot of time and effort into improvements on the course. It's exciting, and the feedback from residents has been overwhelmingly positive."

Tsirkas said that the driving range has been repainted, the nets have been repaired, and new garage doors are being installed at the cart park to improve ventilation. The cart park is



Before repairs, bridges at the golf course were unsafe.

also being repainted, and rotten stucco walls are being repaired.

"We're turning the golf course into a completely different facility," Tsirkas said. "We've mulched around the clubhouse and throughout the grounds, and we're just waiting for better weather to begin planting."

Course maintenance has also been a major focus for head groundsman Doug

Tuohy and rental coordinator John Garella. The greens on the first, third, eighth, 11th and 17th holes have been aerated, and as part of an effort to restore the most damaged areas, holes 3 and 17 have been covered with breathable tarps to trap heat and moisture, creating a greenhouse effect that helps promote grass growth.

"We've seeded, added topsoil and repaired the irrigation system as best we can," Tsirkas said. "Now it's just a matter of letting nature do its job."

The course's wooden bridges — long a safety concern — are also being addressed. One bridge was recently repaired, and the other two are scheduled for replacement this summer. The City Council has approved funding for one, and officials are hopeful that a grant from Nassau County will help cover the second one.

Panzenbeck, who took office in 2022, recalled being shocked at the golf course's condition at the time. The pro shop was operating out of a trailer due to mold contamination, and the driving range canopy had collapsed.

"The course had really been left to fall apart," she said. "But we've been fixing everything little by little, and by next



Photos courtesy Spiro Tsirkas

One bridge has recently been repaired, and two more will be replaced.

spring, it should be spectacular."

Lou Fugazy, a member of the Men's Club and the golf course commission, said the course was in its best condition around 2010 to 2015.

"It's been neglected, but this course is one of the real gems of Glen Cove," Fugazy said. "There's nothing else like it in surrounding communities. It's a major draw for young families, retirees and people who want public access without joining a private club."

Fugazy said that about 75 percent of the golfers are Glen Cove residents, who pay \$95 for an annual permit — a fraction of the \$495 fee for out-of-town players. He added the pricing model ensures that local tax dollars go toward maintaining a city-owned asset that still welcomes visitors.

"There are people moving to Glen Cove just because we have a municipal golf course," he said. "It's a competitive advantage, and now, with all the improvements, it'll be an even greater one."

Tsirkas said that the improvements will make for a great season this year, but by spring 2026, "You'll really see this place in full bloom."



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Health Benefits of Forgiveness

Each one of us experience countless injustices in the course of everyday living. Like other experiences, it is not the experience itself so much that counts, but how you process it. The Mayo Clinic addresses the health benefits of "forgiveness" which they define as "an intentional decision to let go of resentment and anger". Letting go of grudges and bitterness can lead to:

- Healthier relationships
- Improved mental health
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- Fewer symptoms of depression
- Lower blood pressure
- A stronger immune system
- Improved heart health
- Improved self-esteem
- Better sleep

Everett Worthington, Profession Emeritus of Psychology, Virginia Commonwealth University, provides a free workbook at evworthington-forgiveness.com to aid those for whom forgiveness may be difficult (most

of us!), focusing on the REACH method.

Recall: Recall the hurt. Look at the incident in an objective way and don't try to push aside your feelings.

Empathize: Empathize with the offender without excusing the action or invalidating your own feelings. Maybe the person was having a bad day or was raised in dire circumstances.

Altruistic gift: Give the altruistic gift of forgiveness. Think about a time when you were rude or harsh, and recognize that everyone has shortcomings.

Commit: Make a decision to forgive. You can write a letter that you don't send to help yourself make the commitment.

Hold: Hold on to forgiveness. Memories of the transgression or event won't change. But how you react to those feelings will.

"Holding on to anger is like grasping a hot coal with the intent of throwing it at someone else; you are the one who gets burned".

—Buddha

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April 2025A

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Uncertainty about tariffs sparks debate

April 17, 2025 — GLEN COVE HERALD

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ald. “The most immediate impact would be on perishable items like produce from Mexico or Peru, which directly affects retail prices.”

Farrell emphasized that much of his store’s summer produce is sourced domestically and likely won’t be affected. But during off-seasons, Rising Tide buys items like blueberries from South America. “Currently we’re buying blueberries from Peru,” he said. “Strawberries are now available domestically, but two months ago they weren’t.”

People should be spending more money saving for retirement than buying new cars, in my opinion.

CELESTE GULLO
Owner,
Allstate of Glen Head

gouge or take advantage of the situation.”

He added that his store may adapt by dropping certain imported specialty goods like jams or packaged snacks from France if their prices rise too high. “We can just choose not to carry those products and substitute something more domestic,” he said.

The ripple effects of the tariffs may also hit industries beyond groceries — particularly insurance. Celeste Gullo, an Allstate agent in Glen Head, said that tariffs could amplify the insurance rate hikes that began during the coronavirus pandemic. “Supply chains got cut, parts took longer to come in, labor rates went up — the cost of everything increased,” she said in a call to the Herald. “That made our loss ratios go much higher.”

Gullo explained that insurance companies, already constrained by strict rate regulations in New York, are struggling to keep up. “If the cost of parts goes up more than they did in the last

If a 10 or 20 percent tariff were imposed on certain fresh fruits and vegetables, Farrell said, the price hikes will be immediate. “We would have no choice but to raise our prices,” he said. “But we’re a community store. We’d be foolish to



Herald file photo

The effects of tariffs against nearly 90 countries are expected to ripple across the United States economy.



Tim Baker/Herald

Tariffs are likely to increase the cost of automotive parts and insurance.

five years, we’re just going to see the rates go higher,” she said.

Homeowners’ insurance, she added, has also been impacted. “Major insurance carriers have already pulled out of New York because they cannot keep up

with the cost of claims,” Gullo said. If a \$5,000 claim during Covid became \$10,000, now it could hit \$15,000 or \$16,000.”

Gullo offered practical advice for consumers trying to weather future rate

hikes: “self-insure” when possible. “Protect your rate,” she said. “Take a high deductible. Don’t file small claims. If no one’s injured and the damage is manageable, pay out of pocket.”

She also advised those considering large purchases to think long-term. “Buy an older used car,” she said. “A side mirror claim on an older car might cost \$300. On a newer car, especially something like a Tesla, that could be thousands. My Tesla windshield costs \$6,000 to \$7,000.”

As for the tariffs’ impact on retirement planning, Gullo warned that inflation and tariffs both signal rising costs. “The trick to a happy retirement is outpacing those increased costs,” she said. “People should be spending more money saving for retirement than buying new cars, in my opinion.”

Whether seen as a bold negotiating tactic or a reckless gamble, Trump’s tariffs have stirred uncertainty — both economic and emotional. For now, local businesses and residents can only wait to see how the next 90 days of negotiations unfold, and how the new trade policies will impact their wallets.

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Soccer academy builds unity, confidence

In a welcoming space, preparing kids of all ages to compete in Long Island Junior League

By MELINDA ROLLS & CHRISTINA ARLOTTOA
Special to the Herald

Second in a series of stories on immigration through a partnership between Herald Community Newspapers and Hofstra University.

As the sun dipped behind the trees in Uniondale on a recent Thursday, the rhythmic pulse of soccer balls colliding with cleats mixed with the sharp calls of coaches in Spanish. On the well-worn grass, athletes lined up one by one in familiar ritual, launching powerful kicks into the net as the goalkeeper battled each incoming shot.

The young athletes scattered across the field behind NuHealth's A. Holly Patterson Extended Care Facility in Uniondale were members of the New York Soccer Latin Academy. The club, based in Uniondale-Hempstead, was founded in 2002 by NYSLA coach Francisco Guerrero to train players ages 5 to 19 for competition in the Long Island Junior Soccer League.

Community roots

Volunteer coaches, including Salvador Alvarenga, of Long Beach, who emigrated from El Salvador and started coaching when the team was founded, run the team. He began playing soccer at age 6, and after his playing career ended, transitioned to coaching to stay connected to the game.

Alvarenga highlighted the team's family-centered culture, noting that many players have virtually grown up on soccer fields, especially those with older siblings already on the team. "For most of them, their mom was pregnant and they were already on the field ... They practically were born here," Alvarenga said.

He added that it was rewarding to know that the local Hispanic community recognizes NYSLA as a welcoming space for their children. "It's really good to know that the Spanish community knows that we are here, and that they can bring the kids here," Alvarenga said.

In line with family values, one of the academy's core commitments since its creation has been maintaining affordable costs for families, which Alvarenga said is often not the case for American soccer academies. "We just charge basic fees to cover our expenses," he said. "And now we've been surviving for 23 years, so we're doing something good."

With over two decades of coaching experience with NYSLA, Alvarenga explained that his coaching philosophy centers on more than developing skilled players. Instead, it is about instilling a deep love for the sport and discipline to prepare players for success beyond the game.

"They have to try their best," Alvarenga said. "That's what we try to tell them all the time, so they try to excel in whatever they do."

Alvarenga shared that his greatest source of motivation to continue coach-



Christina Arlotta/Herald photos

New York Soccer Latin Academy player Angelina Escobar received a jersey during a practice.

ing comes from watching young players grow and evolve through the academy. "That's our payment," he said.

Friendship on the field

Two players share a bond that extends beyond passing the soccer ball. Kelli Crespin, 15, of Hempstead, and Angelina Escobar, 14, of Franklin Square, have spent the past seven years as the only two girls on their team's roster.

Escobar, with family from Mexico and El Salvador, was first introduced to soccer by her grandfather. Crespin, with roots in El Salvador and Honduras, discovered the game through her older brother while he was playing for the academy.

"I just came along with him, and the coach asked if I wanted to play," Crespin said. "I ended up liking it, and I just kept coming back."

But it wasn't just the game that kept her coming back — it was also her friendship with Escobar, who became her closest friend on the team.

Both girls said that while playing exclusively with boys presents its own set of challenges, they are grateful for the resilience it has instilled in them. "Playing with the boys made me really strong," Escobar said. "I'm not as sensitive anymore."

Both girls shared that their coaches at the academy have also taught them valuable lessons that extend beyond the field. "I've learned a lot, and not just about soccer," Crespin said. "It's about becoming a better person while being more active."

Escobar said her time under Guerrero's coaching has profoundly shaped her as a player and beyond. "I've learned a lot from him because he's taught me everything I know," Escobar said. "How to play on the field, how to not be dirty,



The New York Soccer Latin Academy is dedicated not only to teaching soccer's fundamentals, but also to providing a welcoming space for the local Hispanic community.



Two soccer academy players face off during practice.

how to act."

After years of dedication to the team, Crespin emphasized her desire to now serve as a role model for younger team members.

"I would like to show them that no matter what, you can always do what you want to do," Crespin said. "If you're passionate about something, continue it. Keep on going."

Senior Health & Beyond Expo series kicks off

By Anna Graci

Herald Community Media and RichnerLIVE successfully launched the first event in the 2025 Senior Health & Beyond Expo series, presented by Nassau University Medical Center, on Friday, April 4, at the East Meadow Beth-El Jewish Center in East Meadow. This free community event drew hundreds of attendees, including seniors, families, and caregivers, eager to learn about the latest in wellness, lifestyle enhancements, and essential health resources.

The expo featured a vibrant lineup of educational vendors and interactive activities, ensuring that attendees were both entertained and informed. “It was an incredible turnout,” said Amy Amato, executive director of corporate relations and events at RichnerLIVE.

A key highlight of the day was the “Stop the Bleed” training session led by Nassau University Medical Center’s Sloan Yoselowitz, DPT, CSCS, the hospital’s director of community outreach. This national campaign teaches people how to control severe bleeding in emergency situations before medical help arrives. The presentation emphasized the importance of immediate action in improving survival rates.

The crowd also enjoyed a dose of humor during a comedy show featuring comedian Larry Izzo.

Attendees were given complimentary swag bags sponsored by Silver Lining Homecare. A 10-minute guided exercise session by Excel Homecare Inc. helped get audience members’ blood pumping, while SightGrowth Partners offered eye test screenings.

Special thanks to our presenting sponsor, Nassau University Medical Center, and our program sponsors — PSEG Long Island, Parker Jewish Institute Health Care and Rehabilitation, Margaret Tietz Nursing and Rehabilitation Center, the NYS Department of Public Service Long Island, and the Sid Jacobson JCC — for their vital support.

Please visit our website to view our photo gallery from April 4: www.richnerlive.com/seniorexpo/2025-senior-health-beyond-expo-of-long-island-photo-gallery.

Join us for the next Herald Senior Health & Beyond Expo for 2025, which will be held on May 22 at the Massapequa Elks Lodge #2162 from 10 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. For a full list of Expos, go to liherald.com.



Victoria Schickley and Nicole Hall of PSEG L.I.



Keynote speaker Sloan Yoselowitz, DPT, CSCS; from Nassau University Medical Center.

Tim Baker/Herald photos



Janette Lebron, Pablo Rendon, Michelle Chan and Jess Dunbar of the Parker Jewish Institute For Health Care and Rehabilitation.



Laura LaFauci of Amber Court Assisted Living.



Hundreds attended the first of seven 2025 Herald Senior Health & Beyond Expos.



Ryan Lynch and Diana Arevalo, NY Cancer & Blood specialists.



Stephanie Penza, Dr. Brian Berliner and Aisha Vazquez; SightMD.



Speaker Michelle Gibson of the Sid Jacobson JCC.



Lekeisha Hall, Lisa Boris and Joy Gardener of Excel Homecare Inc.



Micah Schlendorf and Laura Racioppi of Suffolk Federal Credit Union.



Manuel Sepulveda of WellCare.



Victoria Caputo of Family and Children's Association.



Livia Stachura, Bestern Tiryaki and Ambar Bello of Prine Health.



Manuel Mathew and Jill Wasser of the NYS Public Service Commission of Long Island.



Regina Khaimov and Anne Marie Fragkoulis of the Margaret Tietz Nursing Home and Rehabilitation Center.



Jamie Rossi and Christine Rossi of I Love Hearing, in East Meadow.



Danielle Aglio and Trudy Losee; Blue Island Homes.



Tiffany Balanoff of Douglas Elliman RVC.



Patricia Barna of ClearCaptions.



Photos courtesy office Delia DeRiggi-Whitton

Bruce Kennedy and his family explained how much this award meant to him, and the importance of supporting diabetes research.

Kennedy celebrated at ‘Cooking for a Cure’

More than 150 people packed Bayville’s Crescent Beach Club on April 9 for the 19th annual “Cooking for a Cure” fundraiser – an event which raised tens of thousands of dollars in support of the Diabetes Research Institute Foundation.

The night’s honoree was Bruce Kennedy, Sea Cliff village administrator, who has added diabetes advocate to the long list of hats he has worn in his life as a public servant and former village mayor, entrepreneur and community advocate.

Kennedy has been a longtime supporter of diabetes advocacy. He has attended many “Cooking for a Cure” dinners to support his friend and Delia DeRiggi-Whitton, Nassau County Legislature Minority Leader, a Diabetes Research Institute Long Island board member and Cooking for a Cure co-chair with Rebecca Castronovo who has helped to raise over \$1 million toward research for a cure since her daughter, Amanda, was diagnosed with juvenile diabetes at age 3.

The cause took on a newly personal urgency for Kennedy when his son, Alex, was diagnosed with Type 1 diabetes on Feb. 8, 2023, after being rushed to the hospital in Mount Kisco, N.Y. with a severe case of diabetic ketoacidosis.

“When my son was diagnosed, we were scared, we didn’t know what to do next – how do we deal with this?” Kennedy said. “I don’t know how fast I was driving, but I was there in 35 minutes. The first phone call was to Delia – she walked me through exactly what was going on. She talked me off a cliff.”

–Will Sheeline



Legislators Delia DeRiggi-Whitton, left, and Seth Koslow, right, presented Bruce Kennedy with the award for his work supporting diabetes research and advocacy.



Cooking for a Cure honoree Bruce Kennedy described the terror he felt when his son Alex was diagnosed with Type 1 diabetes.



Bruce Kennedy, right, was celebrated for his work as a diabetes advocate with fellow village officials Mark Sobel, trustee, and Brian Stolar, village attorney.



Lora Cusumano, left, Kennedy’s wife, and Amanda, right, Legislator Delia DeRiggi-Whitton’s daughter, blew out the candles on the celebratory cake.

NCC faculty union claims contract violations

Administration says promotions, tenure, sabbaticals are on hold until new agreement is reached

By **HERNESTO GALDAMEZ**

hgaldamez@liherald.com

Faculty tensions at Nassau Community College escalated last week after Chief Administrative Officer Maria Conzatti announced that she would not submit faculty names for tenure, promotion or sabbatical to the college's board of trustees until a new contract agreement is reached — despite the fact that the current contract is in effect until Aug. 31.

The announcement, made at the April 3 general faculty meeting, drew sharp criticism from the Nassau Community College Federation of Teachers. Union leaders claim the decision circumvents provisions of the existing collective bargaining agreement, particularly those related to faculty advancement during the final year of a signed contract.

“Our faculty was absolutely stunned to learn that NCC has unilaterally chosen to deny these standard promotions, sabbaticals and tenure positions to our hardworking professors,” David Stern, the acting NCCFT president, said. “This is truly unprecedented, and demonstrates why NCC and the board of trustees are losing confidence and enrollment while slashing programs and mismanaging our finances.”

Jessica Harris, attorney for the union, said that the administration is legally obligated to follow the recommendations of committees, composed of faculty members and an administrator, that approve faculty members' advancement and sabbaticals.

“NCC administrators have no legal basis to refuse to consider the committees' recommendations for promotions and sabbaticals,” Harris said. “If the administration persists in its refusal to inform the board of trust-



Herald file photo

The Nassau Community College Federation of Teachers alleges that the administration is illegally withholding promotions, tenure appointments and sabbaticals.

ees of the committees' recommendations, in flagrant disregard of the CBA, we will explore all legal options.”

Speaking on behalf of the administration, Jerry Kornbluth, vice president of the Office of Community and Governmental Relations, pushed back against the union's claims. He said the accusation that the administration is violating the collective bargaining agreement is a “false narrative,” emphasizing that the college is operating under the current 2021–25 contract.

According to Kornbluth, union representatives have not responded to invitations to begin discussions of the 2025–26 contract. He also noted that faculty members must meet “certain standards,” depending on the promotion they are seeking, with evaluations

conducted by the committees. Once approved, nominations are forwarded to the president.

“Until there is a conversation about the contract for 2025–26, those promotions, sabbaticals and tenure don't take effect until the fall of 2025 — under the new contract,” Kornbluth said. “The contract acts on Aug. 31; a new one, whether there is a negotiated one or not, kicks in on Sept. 1.”

Many faculty members have already completed the formal review process and received committee approval. The union accuses the administration of stalling contractual obligations and blocking professional advancement at a time when many professors face increased financial strain due to the rising cost of living.

Kornbluth said that when no formal contract is in place, the college operates under a memorandum of agreement signed by both the administration and the union. That agreement allows the president to move faculty nominations forward for board approval.

Stern said that 15 faculty members had been recommended by their respective committees. “There has been virtually no dialogue or willingness by Ms. Conzatti or her administration,” he said.

The faculty organized a gathering on April 8 in the CCB building. Organizers said the event aimed to draw public attention to the ongoing contract and personnel disputes.

“In all my years that I've been at the college — which is 50 — there has never been a time that somebody who is nominated for promotion, sabbatical or tenure did not get it,” Kornbluth said. “This is all about trying to make the president, the administration look bad.”

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Math counts

How to raise an independent learner

Success in mathematics, as most of us are aware, has been linked to success in college and future careers.

Every student studies mathematics, and it has always been an important component in education. It is a tool that helps us make sense of the world around us, and it is particularly important because success in mathematics has been linked to success in college and future careers. Simply stated, math counts when it comes to a bright future.

“The deluge of data that children encounter in their daily lives makes it even more important that they build strong math and statistics skills,” says education expert Dr. Richard Bavaria. “This flood of information contains good data and bad. “Good skills in math and statistics can equip your child with the ability to discern valid data from misleading data, and to make intelligent decisions based on factual data.”

Dr. Bavaria offers these helpful tips that parents can use to bridge the gap between fear of math and the vibrant essential world of numbers that are so important in our daily lives.

Validate It: Don't be a parent who says “I was never good at math.” It only sends the wrong message that “math is hard”; and it has null value. Instead, stress that math is something that has to be learned by putting time

and effort into it — like anything else.

Add It Up: Point out math in everyday life. Make sure your child knows that math is relevant, whether it's figuring out how long a road trip will take or making a grocery budget. Think aloud and let your child see you work out everyday math problems.

Multiply it: Find the resources that will help your child acquire the math skills he or she needs. There are plenty of resources available geared to teaching and building math skills for students of all ages. You'll find everything from entertaining math tricks to multiplication shortcuts to practice sessions.

Solve It: Get help, if needed, before it's too late.

While classroom learning may be enough for one child, it may not be enough for another. Supplemental math instruction from a professional source can provide the one-on-one attention that is sometimes missing from a busy classroom. Giving a child the time and opportunity to ask questions and learn math at their own pace can open doors of understanding — and eventually provide them with the confidence they need to learn in a classroom setting.

Photo: Encouraging a love for math in children is essential for critical thinking skills and to set them up for life success.





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Focus on

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New York Tech’s Community Outreach Series on health and medical research

New York Institute of Technology has launched a Community Outreach Series aimed at educating and engaging the local community on important health-related topics, featuring expert-led sessions that focus on different areas of health and medical research. This initiative will educate, inform, and empower attendees, creating a platform for learning and discussion around pressing health issues.

The first session, “Long Island’s Cancer Epidemic, Treatment, and Recovery,” will be held at New York Tech’s de Seversky Mansion on Wednesday, April 23, at 6 p.m., and will offer insights into the latest advancements, treatments, and scientific discoveries related to cancer. Featuring top researchers and experts from the New York Tech Center for Cancer Research and Long Island’s hospitals and facilities, topics will include precision oncology for treating cancers with BRCA mutations—which have been linked to breast, ovarian, and other cancers—and the application of artificial intelligence for cancer diagnosis.

Open to the community and healthcare providers, the event will provide valuable information about the region’s cancer

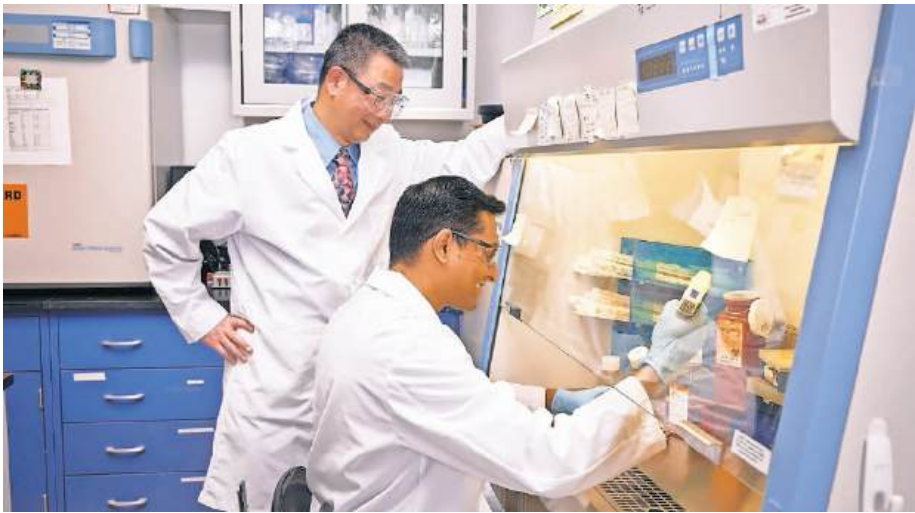


Photo courtesy: Rick Wenner
Dong Zhang, Ph.D., professor of biomedical sciences and director of the Center for Cancer Research, and Manny Singh, D.O./Ph.D. student, study why some cells become cancerous, spread, and resist treatment.

rates and insight on innovative studies that may one day provide patients with earlier detection and new treatment options. Learn more about the panelists and register for the event: nyit.edu/cancer-research-event.

The Community Outreach Series aims to foster increased civic engagement in health discussions, encouraging active participation in learning about diseases,

treatments, and preventive measures. Looking ahead, the series plans to expand its focus to other significant health topics, with future sessions expected to address Ehlers-Danlos Syndrome, cardiovascular conditions, and Parkinson’s disease. Each of these topics represents a key area of medical research with a profound impact on individuals and families. The program intends to shed light on the latest

developments and research surrounding these conditions, further fostering understanding, and providing support to those affected.

New York Tech’s Center for Cancer Research integrates basic science, clinical medicine, and biomedical engineering to advance the early detection and effective treatment of cancers. Faculty from different schools and colleges within New York Tech work together and utilize multidisciplinary approaches to research cancer development, prevention, and therapies. The center promotes undergraduate, graduate, and medical education in cancer biology and holistic cancer care to prepare future cancer researchers and oncologists.

Learn more about the Center for Cancer Research: nyit.edu/medicine/cancer-research-center.

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Sleep struggle

Your changing body and sleep patterns

By Julia Price

Parents often monitor their kids' sleeping patterns as a way to ensure they're getting a quality night of zzz's. But who monitors our sleeping routines once we're older? How are we supposed to know whether we're getting enough sleep or how to prepare for if we need more? According to the National Sleep Foundation, one of the most common concerns elderly people have is that they sleep for less time than when they were younger, plus they may report waking up multiple times during the night or having difficulty falling asleep in the first place.

There are various stages of sleep that cycle throughout the entirety of one's night — light and deep — and many seniors tend to experience an increase in their number of light stages, which could cause more tiredness throughout the day. A major factor contributing to this change is linked to medications prescribed for physical and psychological illnesses, although some of it is completely natural. For example, as we age, we organically tend to get tired earlier in the evening and, in turn, rise earlier in the morning.

A sleep therapist can help change your circadian rhythm, utilizing light therapy, traditional therapy or other resources.

Rethink your nightly routine

If you're looking to take matters into your own hands, there are homeopathic and natural remedies that are quite easy to introduce into your nightly and daily routines. At night, try to avoid television, the computer and your cell-phone for at least one hour before you retire to the bedroom. Because your body wants to stay awake when it thinks it's daytime, these devices can create a sort of fake



"daylight" effect, throwing off your natural sleep rhythm. You also should try to avoid drinking water or other liquids for at least an hour before bedtime.

Stretching and meditation are also great tools to help slow down your system into complete relaxation mode, calming and quieting the mind. If you have trouble meditating on your own, there are many assisting apps you can use; however, if you require assistance, make sure that your phone or other device has the light turned all the way down so that you avoid bright lights as recommended above. You might also try taking a warm bath or shower before sleeping, making sure to focus on slow breathing and the way the water feels on your skin. Sometimes humming slowly or chanting a mantra can also calm your mind and put you into a completely surrendered state of calm.

Maybe a sleep aid is needed

If none of the above works, melatonin is a natural sleep

aid that will help sooth you into sleep without giving you some of the "hangover" effects you may feel from an over-the-counter or prescribed sleeping pill. Melatonin is a natural chemical found in the body, so taking it merely enhances your body's ingrained clock that tells it when to go to sleep. This shouldn't be used nightly, however — only when necessary. That's because when the brain is exposed to too much melatonin, it becomes unresponsive, according to Richard Wurtman, who pioneered the use of melatonin in helping people sleep.

Day into night

Of course, you want to slightly tweak some of your daytime habits, as well. When you wake up, try to get your body moving immediately with a walk or a mini-workout in your home. Whatever you decide to do, make sure that your heart rate and breath increase. And if you like a morning cup of coffee or tea with caffeine, wait to have it until after you have a full cup of water.

Aside from that, you want to stay active. Make sure to engage in physically and mentally stimulating activities. If your physical shape prevents you from being active, look for something less strenuous, or if that isn't possible, do whatever movement you can to keep fit.

These changes are completely normal, and you don't have to suffer through them. Remember that all of this is just a reminder to take care of yourself and to treat your body with the love and attention it deserves. Get a massage when you're sore. Listen to audiobooks when you're not feeling very physically active. Enjoy every moment and practice stating what you're grateful for every morning when you wake up and every night before you crawl into bed. Sometimes those small changes can make all the difference in the world.

Photo: There are many causes of hearing loss, but the only fully preventable cause is from excess noise, or from listening too loud for too long.

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HEALTH MEMO

Ernestine Berry celebrates her 110th birthday at Parker Jewish Institute

Ernestine Berry, a resident at The Parker Jewish Institute, recently celebrated her 110th birthday in the Parker Auditorium. Family, friends, and the devoted team members who provide care for Ms. Berry gathered to celebrate this monumental milestone. Members of the media also visited to highlight the birthday celebration, and to showcase Ms. Berry’s extraordinary life.

Born in Alabama as the eldest of 12 children, Ms. Berry’s life has been one of dedication and inspiration. After spending time in California as a bus driver, she relocated to New York, where she discovered her passion as a teacher’s assistant. Over the course of a 50-year career, she touched the lives of countless students, many of whom continue to stay in touch with her, calling and visiting to express their gratitude for the lasting impact she had on their lives.

Beyond her career, Ms. Berry’s legacy extends through her family. She had one son and is the proud grandmother of five grandchildren and one great-grandchild. She shares a special bond with her granddaughter, Paulette Glen, a



schoolteacher who carries Ms. Berry’s dedication to children. “All of us at Parker have looked forward to celebrating Ernestine Berry’s 110th birthday with her, and her family and friends,” said Michael N. Rosenblut, President and CEO of Parker Jewish Institute. “Such events are truly special.”

About The Parker Jewish Institute for Health Care and Rehabilitation
The Parker Jewish Institute for Health Care and Rehabilitation is headquartered in New Hyde Park, New York. The facility is a leading provider of Short-Term Rehabilitation and Long-Term Care. At the forefront of innovation in patient-centered health care and technology, the Institute is a leader in teaching and geriatric research.

Parker Jewish Institute features its own medical team, and is nationally renowned as a skilled nursing facility, as well as a provider of community-based health care, encompassing Home Health Care, Medical House Calls, Palliative Care and Hospice. Parker Jewish Institute is also home to Queens-Long Island Renal Institute (QLIRI), providing patients with safe, comfortable Hemodialysis treatments in a relaxed setting; as well as PRINE Health, a Vascular Center offering advanced vascular services. The Center and QLIRI further Parker’s ability to expand access to essential health-care services to adults in the greater New York metropolitan area. For more information, visit parkerinstitute.org or call (877) 727-5373.



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HEALTH MEMO

Queens-Long Island Renal Institute offers Home Hemodialysis/ Certified Home Health Care available through Parker Jewish Institute

Queens-Long Island Renal Institute (QLIRI), a 2025 Bests of Long Island winner and located at The Parker Jewish Institute, now offers a state-of-the-art Home Hemodialysis Program for people battling kidney disease. Those patients who also require Certified Home Health Care can access it conveniently through QLIRI’s affiliate, Parker Jewish Institute.

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STEPPING OUT



Ana Ortiz and Harry Lennix appear in "Godless," which captures the collision of politics and faith. Photos courtesy Michael Ricigliano



Harry Lennix as Bishop Reginald Roland.



Director-writer Michael Ricigliano with Without a Net producers Elyssa Rabinowitz and Vincent Petrosini at the film's premiere.

Local filmmaker debuts 'Godless'

Michael Ricigliano is in the spotlight

By Iris Wiener

Filmmaker Michael Ricigliano writes what he knows, and there is nothing he knows better than Long Island. His roots are certainly evident through his creative vision in his latest feature, "Godless," which is now streaming on multiple platforms.

Starring Harry Lennix ("The Blacklist") and Ana Ortiz ("Ugly Betty"), "Godless" explores the turbulent intersection of faith and politics. Ricigliano makes his directing debut with the film after having turned heads as a playwright ("A Queen for a Day") and screenwriter ("The Brooklyn Banker"). He shot it in Huntington and Great Neck, only a stone's throw away from where he grew up in Garden City.

"I think that for any writer, your own personal experiences craft how you see the world," he says. "Growing up on Long Island, meeting the many people and remembering conversations with them, plus the stories my family would tell me about how they grew up. It all affects my work."

Ricigliano is easily able to draw from Long Island's "flavor," as he is firmly entrenched in numerous communities. Ricigliano's father moved to Uniondale from Brooklyn in the early 1940s, and stayed until 1985; at age 15, his family moved to Garden City. Ricigliano went to private schools in Uniondale and Old Westbury, then going to law school at Hofstra where he played lacrosse. For the past 20 years, Ricigliano and his family have resided in Locust Valley. He has never left Long Island!

It wasn't until Ricigliano was 40 that he began to write; a real estate lawyer who counsels with Spano Abstract Service Corp. ("an incredibly supportive company") he began writing on a whim when he realized that he had an idea for a short film based on stories he heard from his family when he was very young in Brooklyn. Despite never having taken a film class, his screenplay for "The Brooklyn Banker" was picked up by Federico Castaluccio (of "The Sopranos" fame), and made into a feature length film starring Paul Sorvino.

"Everything I write is based off of things that have happened in my life and that I have experienced in my Catholic upbringing," he says of how he began working on "Godless," which centers on a devout Catholic governor (Ortiz) who is excommunicated after signing a progressive bill into law. "Godless" is about the crisis of faith that she endures when her religious beliefs contrast with her ambitions.

"Canon law is something I have always been fascinated with," says Ricigliano. "From there it merged into the process of an excommunication. I wanted to explore the political fallout of her getting excommunicated when she wants to become president, as well as what's happening with the bishop (Lennix) who has gone to the next step because the church is very politically driven as well."

Ricigliano's mother first suggested that her son shoot his directorial debut at Seminary of the Immaculate Conception in Huntington.

"We had the ability to use the chapel and the church, the hallways, the high ceilings, the offices which were from a different era, the beautiful grounds. It was all there," he says. "It was beautiful and magnificent."

The number of ways in which Ricigliano is creative are endless. He is also an accomplished pop artist who has shown his work at galleries (one of his pieces adorns a set in "Godless") and a musician. Some of his original songs can be heard in the film.

"I have a mantra: Create every day," he says thoughtfully. "I try and do something every day and I look forward to it, whether it's art, writing or playing guitar. Doing this has become ingrained in me. It's a passion."

Ricigliano's next film is based on the play "The Court of Oyer and Terminer," and is also set to star Lennix. The story is about a retired judge from Nassau County who lives in the city and has dementia. He hopes to shoot scenes in Manhasset and other nearby areas.

"Long Island is one of the greatest places to live on the planet," he says excitedly as he looks to the future. "The nature, the history, the architecture, some of the court houses. The resources that we have and the people are magnificent. We worked with the Nassau County and the Suffolk County Film Commissions for 'Godless' and they were so helpful."

Ricigliano hopes that "Godless," which can be streamed on Apple TV, Amazon Prime, Google Play, and Fandango, makes people want to talk.

"Any of the issues within can't be one way or the other. People have certain beliefs that are instilled in them. In today's society, a lot of times, people don't want to listen. They just yell at each other. Hopefully this film will open up more of a dialogue. We're all fallible. At the end of the day, the movie is about forgiveness and understanding. All I want is for people to walk out and say, 'Okay. But I understand what the other person is saying.'"



'Cold Beer on a Saturday Night'

Spring blooms with Jimmy Kenny and the Pirate Beach Band. Before you know it, we'll be back on the beach; meanwhile Jimmy Kenny and his band keep the vibe going with their "Ultimate Beach Party Tribute" to Kenny Chesney, Jimmy Buffett and Zac Brown Band. Parrotheads, No Shoes Nation and the Family: 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 DeMila (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, have been celebrating the beach country sounds for over a decade. Everyone has a great time grooving to their lively mix of their popular sing-along hits and feel good, easy living flair.

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18

'Elephant & Piggie's "We Are in a Play!"
The beloved musical adventure, ripped from the pages of Mo Willems' beloved award-winning, best-selling children's books, is back on stage at Long Island Children's Museum. Willems' classic characters Elephant and Piggie storm the stage in a rollicking musical romp filled with plenty of pachydermal peril and swiney suspense perfect for young audiences.

- **Where:** Museum Row, Garden City.
- **Time:** Also April 19, April 23-24, times vary
- **Contact:** licm.org or call (516) 224-5800

On Exhibit
Nassau County Museum of Art's latest exhibition, the original "Deco at 100" coincides with the 100th anniversary of the 1925 Paris International Exhibition of Modern Decorative and Industrial Arts (Exposition internationale des arts décoratifs et industriels modernes) that publicly launched the movement. The direct follow-up to the well-received 2023 exhibit, "Our Gilded Age," it comparably links the period's signature innovation in the decorative arts, Art Deco, to the fine arts. On view through June 15.

- **Where:** 1 Museum Dr., Roslyn Harbor.
- **Time:** Ongoing
- **Contact:** (516) 484-9337 or nassaumuseum.org

Little Learners' Earth Day
Planting Fields Little Learners series continues with an Earth Day celebration. Families will enjoy a heartwarming fun-filled experience, with a reading of "Gifts from the Garbage Truck" by Andrew Larsen. Explore the importance of reusing, reducing, and recycling. With an Earth-inspired craft project. For ages 2-5. Registration required.

- **Where:** 1395 Planting Fields Road, Oyster Bay.
- **Time:** 10-11 a.m.
- **Contact:** plantingfields.org or call (516) 922-9210

APR
19

Easter Egg Hunt
Join the fun at the Children's and Adult Easter Egg Hunt hosted by Glen Cove Christian Church.

This festive event is open to all ages and features separate egg hunts for different age groups. The excitement begins at 10 a.m. with a hunt for children ages 1-5, followed by a 10:30 a.m. hunt for kids ages 6-grade 5. Teens and adults can get in on the action at



APR
26

Jessie's Girl
Drag out that neon once again and give your hair its best '80s 'do. Those crazy days are back — as only Jessie's Girl can pull off, on the Paramount stage. The band of NYC's top rock/pop musicians and singers gets everyone into that "Back To The Eighties" vibe with the latest edition of their popular concert experience. With a lineup including four pop-rock vocalists dressing and performing as 80s icons, backed by a dynamic band, this is the definitive '80s experience. Throw on top of that: a load of super-fun choreography, audience participation, props, costumes bubbles, and confetti — and you have a party that audiences don't want to leave. Tickets are \$49.50, \$37.50, \$35, \$25.

- **Where:** The Paramount, 370 New York Ave., Huntington
- **Time:** 8 p.m.
- **Contact:** ticketmaster.com or paramountny.com

11 a.m.

- **Where:** 74 Walnut Road
- **Time:** 10, 10:30 and 11 a.m.
- **Contact:** (516) 676-2055

Art Explorations
Converse, collaborate and create at Nassau County Museum of Art. Kids and their adult partners can talk about and make art together. Enjoy reading and play in the Reading Room, and contribute to The Lobby Project, a collaborative art installation. Registration required.

- **Where:** 1 Museum Dr., Roslyn Harbor.
- **Time:** noon-3 p.m.
- **Contact:** (516) 484-9337 or nassaumuseum.org

Eggstravaganza Scavenger Hunt
Old Westbury Gardens invites families to celebrate the season. Enjoy a day of exploration strolling the gardens in search of colorful egg signs hidden throughout the grounds. Find them all and return to Westbury House to claim a special gift.

- **Where:** 71 Old Westbury Road, Old Westbury.
- **Time:** 10 a.m.-5 p.m.
- **Contact:** oldwestburygardens.org or (516) 333-0048

APR
20

Easter Dawn service
The 9th Annual Community Easter Dawn Service takes place Easter Sunday at Morgan Park. This bilingual (Spanish and English) service is open to all and welcomes individuals of all faiths to come together in celebration. It features a selection of hymns sung in both languages, including "Jesus Christ is Risen Today," "Vengo a Adorarte," "Here We Are to Worship," and "Because He Lives."

- **Where:** Germaine St, Glen Cove
- **Time:** 7-7:30 a.m.
- **Contact:** easterdawnlencove@gmail.com

APR
21

Mocktail and mingle
Glen Cove Senior Center hosts a refreshing afternoon at Mocktail and mingle. Guests can enjoy a variety of delicious non-alcoholic mocktails while mingling with fellow community members in a warm and welcoming atmosphere.

- **Where:** 130 Glen St.
- **Time:** 1:15 p.m.
- **Contact:** (516) 759-9610

APR
22

Trustee and budget vote
Glen Cove Public Library holds its annual budget vote and trustee election.

In addition to voting on the proposed library budget, voters will elect one member to the five-member Board of Trustees for a five-year term. For more information about the budget, the candidates, or the voting process, visit the website.

- **Where:** 4 Glen Cove Ave.
- **Time:** 9 a.m.-9 p.m.
- **Contact:** (516) 676-2130 or glencovelibrary.org

Earth Day exploration
Children in grades K-5 are invited to celebrate Earth Day with a fun and educational craft program, "Save the Butterflies," at Glen Cove Public Library. Led by Kristen from Travel Arts, the program includes a hands-on craft and a discussion about the importance of butterflies in our ecosystem. Limited to Glen Cove cardholders, and registration is required.

- **Where:** Children's Room, Glen Cove Public Library 4 Glen Cove Ave.
- **Time:** 7-8 p.m.
- **Contact:** (516) 676-2130

APR
23

Glen Cove BOE meeting
The Glen Cove City School District hold its next Board of Education meeting.

All are encouraged to attend and stay informed about school district updates, initiatives, and decisions impacting students and families.

- **Where:** Glen Cove High School Auditorium, 150 Dosoris Lane, Glen Cove
- **Time:** 7:30 p.m.
- **Contact:** (516) 801-7001

APR
24

Yom HaShoah
Join the Holocaust Memorial & Tolerance Center of Nassau County for its annual Yom HaShoah Commemoration, held in partnership with Congregation Tifereth Israel and North Country Reform Temple. This solemn event honors the memory of over six million Jewish victims of the Holocaust, as well as the countless others who perished under Nazi persecution. The evening will feature a moving testimony by Holocaust survivor Gilda Zirinsky.

- **Where:** 100 Crescent Beach Road, Glen Cove
- **Time:** 6:30-7:30 p.m.
- **Contact:** (516) 571-8040

Library Walking Club
Participate in Glen Cove Public Library's at-your-own-pace hour walk, every Thursday. All fitness levels are welcome. Registration required.

- **Where:** 4 Glen Cove Ave., Glen Cove.
- **Time:** Every Thursday, 9:15 a.m.
- **Contact:** glencovelibrary.org or (516) 676-2130

APR
25

Art Crawl
Celebrate local art at the Glen Cove Downtown Art Crawl. With exhibits at various downtown venues, including photography by Marino Carrabs and Tony Tedeschi, student work from the Glen Cove High School, and displays by local artists. Enjoy a self-guided walk through shops, galleries, and restaurants showcasing creative talent across Glen Cove.

- **Where:** Downtown Glen Cove
- **Time:** 7-9 p.m.
- **Contact:** (516) 759-6970

Having an event?
Items on The Calendar 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 kbloom@liherald.com.

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CASA scores with pickleball fundraiser

By LUKE FEENEY
lfeeney@liherald.com

The North Shore Coalition Against Substance Abuse inaugural pickleball tournament was a smashing success at Gold Coast Pickleball club.

“It went very well,” Sean Trager, CASA’s co-president, said. “I think in the last few days, we ended up with a lot more participants than we were expecting, and there was just a ton of support from local businesses and community members.”

The event, held from 3-6:00 p.m. on April 5, was sold out. While the exact dollar amount of funds raised will not be shared until CASA’s next board meeting on April 28, Trager said that he felt confident that what was raised will cover the balance for the weekly pickleball program CASA hosts Fridays.

SEAN TRAGER
Co-president,
CASA



Photos courtesy Sean Trager

Trager said that he felt confident that what was raised will cover the balance for the weekly pickleball program CASA hosts Fridays.

The idea for a fundraiser came after observing the success of the weekly pickleball program, according to Trager. Tickets for the tournament were \$80 and the money raised is to help assist in covering some of the costs of the program.

The program has been running for approximately a year and has sold out every week, according to Trager. Geared towards middle and high schoolers, it was designed to give kids a safe place to go to where they could compete and socialize in an environment that was free of drugs and alcohol.

Trager added that he hopes that in the years to come, the middle school kids participating in the program now will retain the behavior and give back as

The idea for a fundraiser came after observing the success of the weekly pickleball program, according to Trager. Tickets for the tournament were \$80 and the money raised is to help assist in covering some of the costs of the program.

they progress through high school.

CASA does not have infinite resources to rent out the facility every week due to being a small, grassroots local coalition, according to Trager. He added that the coalition did want to cover enough of the expenses to make it affordable for the teens and parents.

The program operates on a nominal fee structure, \$20, to cover costs, with CASA subsidizing the other \$20 of the cost to ensure accessibility. After observing the popularity of their weekly events, the idea formed to host an

event open to adults to help raise money for the program.

In the future, CASA plans to build on the program’s success and community engagement efforts. For more informa-

tion on CASA’s pickleball program or to get involved, visit their website at NSCASA.org or contact them at North-ShoreCASA@gmail.com.

“We weren’t sure if we could raise money or raise awareness,” said Trager. “At the end of the day, I think we did a good job of doing both.”



In the future, CASA plans to build on the weekly program’s success and community engagement efforts.

HERALD LGLE1 0417 PUBLIC NOTICES

LEGAL NOTICE
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that a Public Hearing shall be held on Tuesday, April 22, 2025 at 7:30 p.m. in the Council Chambers at Glen Cove City Hall, 9 Glen Street, Glen Cove, NY to discuss a Local Law providing a temporary moratorium on battery energy storage system facilities. All interested parties will be given an opportunity to be heard.
Tina Pemberton
City Clerk
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NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that a Public Hearing shall be held on Tuesday, April 22, 2025 at 7:30 p.m. at the Glen Cove City Hall Council Chamber, 9 Glen Street, Glen Cove, NY, to discuss Local Law 2025, amending Chapter 196, Noise. All interested parties will be given an opportunity to be heard.
Tina Pemberton
City Clerk
153033

LEGAL NOTICE
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that a Public Hearing shall be held on Tuesday, April 22, 2025 at 7:30 p.m. at the Glen Cove City Hall Council Chamber, 9 Glen Street, Glen Cove, NY, to discuss the amendment of Sec. 265-44. Schedule XII:

No Stopping, of the Code of Ordinance, as it applies to Ravine Avenue. All interested parties will be given an opportunity to be heard.
Tina Pemberton
City Clerk
153031

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www.newyorkpublicnotices.com

LEGAL NOTICE
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that a Public Hearing shall be held on Tuesday, April 22, 2025 at 7:30 p.m. at the Glen Cove City Hall Council Chamber, 9 Glen Street, Glen Cove, NY, to discuss a Private Pay Policy for the Senior Center Adult Day Program, as required by Nassau County Department of

Human Services. All interested parties will be given an opportunity to be heard.
Tina Pemberton
City Clerk
153029

LEGAL NOTICE
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that a Public Hearing shall be held on Tuesday, April 22, 2025 at 7:30 p.m. at the Glen Cove City Hall Council Chamber, 9 Glen Street, Glen Cove, NY, to discuss the amendment of Sec. 265-43. Schedule XI: Parking Prohibited at All Times, of the Code of Ordinance, as it applies to Ravine Avenue. All interested parties will be given an opportunity to be heard.
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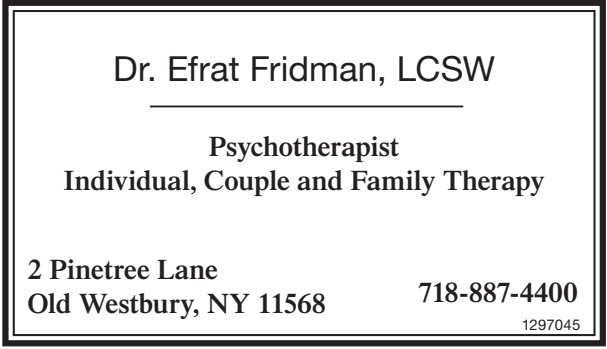
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OPINIONS

Ed Kranepool was the real Mr. Met

The Major League Baseball season is well underway. It's been three weeks since the first pitch was thrown amid all the festivities of Opening Day. As a Brooklyn Dodgers fan since my youth, until they were hijacked from us to Los Angeles, and as a Mets fan since their creation in 1962,



PETER KING

baseball has always been a major part of my life.

Love of the game was imparted to me by my father, and it's something I share with my son and grandson. Whether it's watching a Mets, Yankees or Long Island Ducks game or going to a local Little League

game in Wantagh or Seaford, baseball definitely transcends generations.

What made this year's Mets opening day more meaningful to me was the tribute to Mets legend Ed Kranepool, who died last year. To honor him, Mets players will wear a patch on their uniform sleeve emblazoned with his number 7 all season.

Kranepool was more than a guy who happened to play for the Mets. In so

many ways, he personified what New York baseball was all about. He was the real Mr. Met. Born and raised in the Bronx, he was signed by the Mets when he graduated from high school in 1962, and at age 17 actually played for them in their first season.

Kranepool went on to play 18 seasons, appearing in more games than anyone in Mets history. His career included the peaks and valleys of Mets history. In the team's first seven years, they didn't have one winning season. Their horrific 1962 campaign, when they set the major league record for most losses, prompted Jimmy Breslin's famous book "Can't Anybody Here Play This Game?"

But then, in 1969, the "Miracle Mets" shocked the baseball world by winning the World Series. Kranepool, who had suffered and persevered through the dark days, was not only playing on a championship team, but smashed a key home run off the Baltimore Orioles in Game 3 of the Series. And in 1973 he was the team captain when the Mets won the National league championship and, in the World Series, took the mighty Oakland A's to seven games.

Throughout his career, Kranepool

remained a New Yorker, living in Nassau and Suffolk counties and opening a celebrated restaurant, the Dugout, in Amityville. He was also a fixture at countless Little League, charity and community events all over Long Island, and hosted batting and fielding clinics for kids.

Through the rest of his life after he retired from baseball, Kranepool suffered from diabetes and kidney disease, which progressively worsened, necessitating a toe amputation. Never once, though, did I hear him complain or bemoan his fate. After several false starts, he underwent a successful kidney transplant in 2019, the 50th anniversary of the Mets' miracle season.

Though I was a fan of his from day one, I got to know Kranepool about 10 years ago. He was always a great guy to be with, whether at sports events or at lunch with friends. I particularly looked forward to and always enjoyed lunches with Ed, his Mets teammate Art Shamsky and former Pittsburgh Pirates pitcher Fred Cambria.

It was a terrific experience just to sit and listen to their stories. What struck me the most was that none of them talk-

ed about their own heroics. It was always the other guy. So very different from so many of today's ego-driven athletes. And I'll always remember that Kranepool was one of the very first to call me after I had successfully stomach cancer surgery two years ago.

He died last September, from cardiac arrest apparently brought on by the years of diabetes and kidney disease that preceded the kidney transplant. His death was mourned by generations of New York baseball fans.

I focus on Kranepool here because he personified, for me, what baseball in particular and sports in general should be all about, and how they can be lessons for life. Give it your best shot in good times and bad. Don't panic or complain when life takes a bad turn, or be arrogant when things break your way and you're on top of the heap.

I think those lessons are especially relevant today, when too many parents put too much pressure on kids to win, forgetting the admonition that it's not whether you win or lose, but how you play the game. If you play hard and give it your best shot, you'll be a winner in life, no matter what the scoreboard says.

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

America could really use a few honest words

Words, words and more words. Everything we do every day is connected to the use of words and their meaning. Shakespeare's Hamlet spends a lot of time complaining about words. In "My Fair Lady," Eliza Doolittle expresses her frustration with excess

talking and her desire for action.

I relate the use of words to the political arena, where I spent a great deal of my life. In our history books, public officials gain notoriety by using memorable words. President Franklin D. Roosevelt soothed a fearful nation with prom-

ises that America would go to war and win it. Great Britain's prime minister, Winston Churchill, lacking enough troops and ammunition, uplifted his nation with his brilliant use of words.

If I asked you to remember some of the greatest words from President Ronald Reagan, you might say, "Mr. Gorbachev, tear down this wall." President

Bill Clinton was believable when he told the voters that he felt their pain. President Barack Obama was elected on the promise of change.

President Trump has used the word "tariff" with enormous frequency, but after major drops in the markets, even he may temporarily realize that the word is toxic.

This month's economic crisis is a good example of how politicians fail to talk to the average consumer in simple terms. When the stock market takes a dramatic plunge, stockholders and pensioners get nervous about their long-term economic fate. Over the past few weeks, there wasn't one person who consistently crafted a message that could soothe the millions of people who were on edge.

The Wall Street crisis may be on hold, but there are no assurances that the White House has a real long-term plan. One of the underlying problems right now is that there are no assurances that anyone will emerge who will be a credible voice, able to keep the nation calm. The president has promised to negotiate with multiple nations on trade issues,

but he may not be the right person to talk to the American public, because he is known to change his mind often, and has already said so.

Most people don't understand how pure partisan politics emerges when there are complex fiscal headaches and multiple talking heads. An example of the confusion is the back-and-forth between Elon Musk and Peter Navarro, the president's voice on tariffs. Recently Musk referred to Navarro as being "dumber than a sack of bricks." Navarro referred to Musk as a "car assembler." If these two people are supposed to be the economic face of the administration, which one should the public trust?

Treasury Secretary Scott Bessent is widely respected on Wall Street, but at the height of last week's turmoil in the markets he was telling us that "things are going to be just fine."

This should be alarming to all Americans, because it appears there's no one person who is capable of uttering the words that investors need to keep their collective blood pressure under control.

To add to the boiling pot, there's Vice President J.D. Vance, who has found ways to throw dynamite into a Washington crowd. While his boss is trying to find a working strategy against Chinese tariffs, Vance, who comes from so-called hillbilly country, said, "We borrow money from Chinese peasants to buy the things those Chinese peasants manufacture." China is our Number 2 lender.

With all these crazy intra-party fights going on, one would think the Democrats would be delighting in the bloodbath. Instead, they seem to be suffering from some kind of vocal paralysis, and are unable to find a few key players to articulate the case that the MAGA party is floundering. The United States is currently in a state of total confusion, thanks to the confusing words coming from the Republicans and the silence of the Democratic lambs.

For now, we'll have to hope that the country doesn't free-fall into a recession. We could use a few words from somebody out there who's never heard of Pinocchio.

Jerry Kremer was a state assemblyman for 23 years, and chaired the Assembly's Ways and Means Committee for 12 years. Comments about this column? jkremer@liherald.com.



JERRY KREMER

The Wall Street crisis may be on hold, but does the White House have a plan?

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HERALD EDITORIAL

Earth Day isn't just a date. It's a turning point.

April 22 might not jump out on your calendar like a holiday or a long weekend, but maybe it should. On Earth Day, which has been around for over 50 years, we are urged us to pay attention to the natural world — the land we walk around on, the air we breathe, the oceans that surround us and the future we're shaping.

And let's be honest: The future of our environment is looking a little shaky right now.

Extreme weather, rising sea levels, shrinking green spaces — even here in our own communities, we're feeling the effects. Unseasonal heat waves, water restrictions, and poor air quality brought on by summer wildfires aren't some abstract global issue. They're right here at home.

Long Island has at times been a case study of why Earth Day is important. After Hurricane Sandy, many residents whose homes were flooded had to rebuild, and they aimed to mitigate future damage by raising their homes and, where possible, strengthening bulkheading. Some built seawalls, and in some cases municipalities rebuilt roadways to reduce the impact of flooding.

Despite the evidence that the earth's climates are changing, however, Earth Day too often comes and goes without much more than a passing mention. That needs to change, because the day isn't just about planting trees or switching off the lights for an hour. It's about recognizing the power of collective local action — and that starts with us.

That's why this Earth Day, we encourage everyone in our communities to show up and get involved. There are countless ways to make a difference, and many of them are happening right in your backyard.

There is an event focused on recycling in Long Beach on April 26, and a celebration of tree planting in Amityville that same day. And there will be a number of beach cleanups, including one in Atlantic Beach on April 27. Last weekend in Lakeview, more than 50 people planted flowers at the train station and collected litter in the business district.

Join a community cleanup at a park or along a river trail. Volunteer with a local conservation group. Support farmers markets and businesses that use sustainable practices. Start a compost bin. Cut back on single-use plastics. Attend a

town council meeting and ask about green initiatives. Plant something — even if it's just one flower or herb on your windowsill.

The point isn't to do it all. It's to do something.

And when a bunch of people do something together, momentum builds. The ripple effect is real. Small acts pile up into cultural shifts. And when those shifts start to take root in towns like ours, they grow into the kind of broad environmental awareness that leads to lasting policy, cleaner spaces and stronger communities.

Let's move past the idea that one person can't make a difference. You can. You do. And when you team up with a few friends, a group, or a neighborhood? That's how change begins.

So don't let Earth Day pass by like just another date on the calendar. Take a moment to step outside and look around. And then, do one thing for the Earth. Just one.

Because the more we treat this planet like it matters, the more likely we can preserve everything about it that we know and love. Next Tuesday, let's do more than acknowledge Earth Day. Let's take it personally.

LETTERS

Heck, yes, judges can overrule presidents

To the Editor:

In her letter in last week's issue, "Why so much opposition to the president?" Pat King asked a question that demands a response. "Can judges overrule the president of the United States?"

The answer, of course, is not only yes, but it's their responsibility to do so when the president goes beyond the scope of the law. The day judges can no longer do that, or choose not to, is the day democracy ends. Hundreds of our judges are now being threatened with harm to themselves and their families for upholding their oaths to defend the constitutional requirement to check presidential and legislative power.

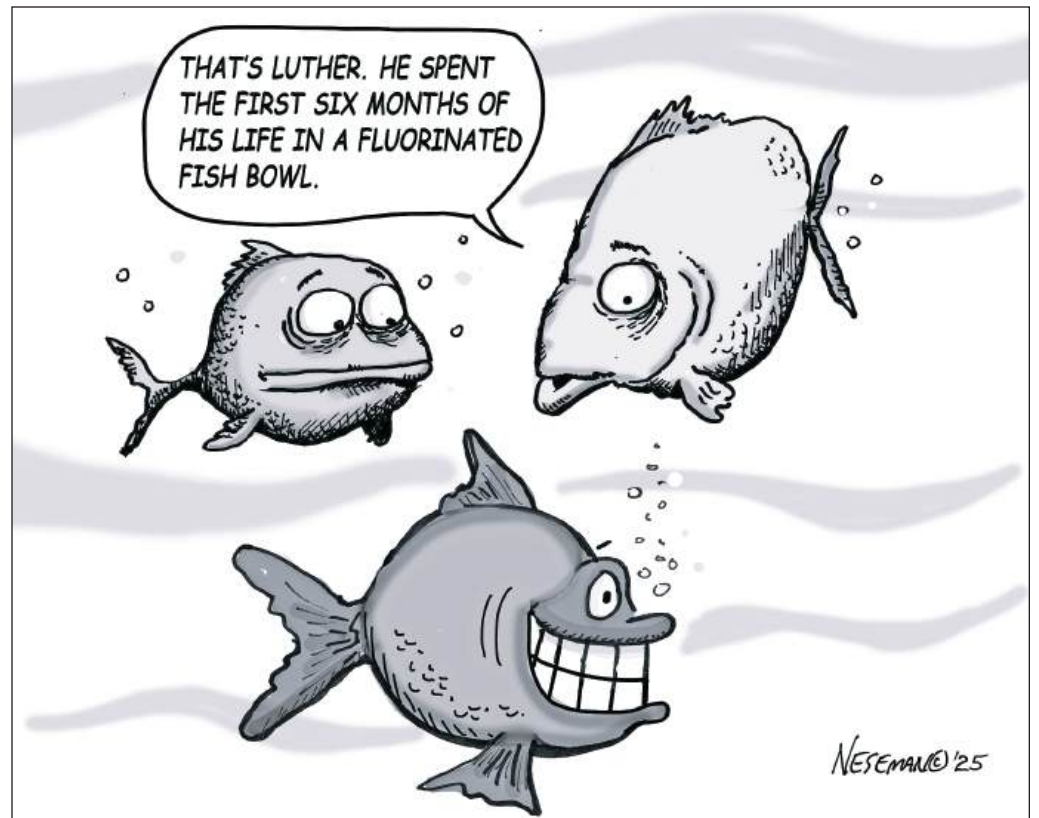
What follows the rule of law is the rule of predation and fear, and that's why there is so much opposition to this would-be tyrant.

BRIAN KELLY
Rockville Centre

D'Esposito will fit right in in wasteful Washington

To the Editor:

Former U.S. Rep. Anthony D'Esposito seems



hell-bent on bringing the Town of Hempstead's hiring practices to Washington, whether it's in Congress or as inspector general in the Department of Labor. Hempstead is notorious for wasting tax dollars on high-salaried political appointments. So of course, former Councilman D'Esposito thought nothing of hiring his

mistress and his fiancée's daughter to work for him in Congress, which, unlike the town, has actual labor laws against such practices.

Given the qualifications of all of President Trump's appointees, however, appointing someone who openly violated labor laws to the position of inspector

OPINIONS

In Albany, the great pile-on continues

Remember the cabin porch scene in “My Cousin Vinny,” when Marisa Tomei frantically complains about the “tick-tick-tick” of her biological clock?

I’ll never forget Joe Pesci’s exasperated response. “I’ve got a judge that’s just



JACK M. MARTINS

aching to throw me in jail, an idiot who wants to fight me for \$200, slaughtered pigs, giant loud whistles. I ain’t slept in five days. I got no money, a dress code problem, and a little murder case which, in the balance, holds the lives of two innocent kids.”

Then he pointedly asks, “What else can we pile on?”

That’s what the state budget process feels like this year. Despite all of New York’s very serious financial problems, we have Gov. Kathy Hochul and the majority just piling more on.

Our State Legislature has one job: pass a balanced state budget by April 1.

As of now, that budget is over two weeks late, and counting. And not only is it late, it’s also a total failure.

At a time when millions of New Yorkers are worried about the stock market, their jobs, runaway government spending and skyrocketing taxes, the governor has actually proposed a budget totaling more than a quarter of a trillion dollars.

Her \$252 billion spending plan is a staggering \$8.6 billion larger than this year’s. And incredibly, even that level of spending isn’t enough for the Senate majority. Their disconnected proposal pushes that number even higher, to a whopping \$259 billion. Even if you flunked math in high school, this budget flies in the face of any common sense.

It’s not monopoly money. A 13 percent spending increase has to be paid for somehow. That means higher taxes on your income, higher taxes on businesses and higher taxes on fuel. It conveniently ignores that we already bear the highest combined tax burden in America.

They’ll tell you that there are no tax increases, but every dollar the government spends comes out of your pocket — including their proposed increase.

And frankly, their unwillingness to acknowledge how much this is going to hurt us sends a distinct message: They simply don’t care.

New Yorkers hear that message loud and clear as they flee to states with lower taxes. As a result, our state has already lost a congressional seat. If the trend continues, we’ll lose two more after the 2030 census. Yet no one bats an eyelash.

I happen to remember when Republicans were in the Senate majority, because I was there. At the time, both sides worked with Gov. Andrew Cuomo to control growth by operating under a self-imposed 2 percent spending cap. We held ourselves to the same limits that we require of our schools and municipalities. Unfortunately, there is no appetite for self-restraint in Albany today.

In 2018, state spending amounted to \$8,597 per person. Today that number

sits at \$12,986, an additional cost of \$4,389 per New Yorker in just seven years. With these spending increases, one could reasonably expect substantial improvements in services and infrastructure. Instead we see the opposite: crumbling roads, struggling and unsafe transit systems, underfunded schools and strained health care systems.

Their readiness to pass such a budget, while pushing rising costs onto everyday New Yorkers, belies a troubling disrespect for the working people of our state. There is virtually no accountability, and they seem content to let that be. Where does this end?

My simply calling this budget irresponsible would be an understatement. It yet again takes more from New Yorkers beyond what they can afford, and fails to make our state any safer or more affordable.

Spending increases without an improvement in services and infrastructure is just adding insult to injury. If what’s past is prologue, the governor and the majorities in Albany are set to pile on.

Jack M. Martins represents the 7th State Senate District.

LETTERS

general overseeing the Labor Department shouldn’t surprise anyone. And there is no expectation that D’Esposito will investigate waste and abuse in the department.

Not surprisingly, it didn’t take long for D’Esposito to confirm his reputation for labor law abuse. He approved giving the deputy secretary of labor, the man tasked with cutting federal funds to local libraries and museums, 24-hour security detail.

Despite the White House’s claims to the contrary, government spending since Trump’s inauguration is \$154 billion more than during the same period last year. Between Trump’s golf days, which have cost taxpayers roughly \$30 million since January, and D’Esposito approving unwarranted \$2 million security details, the waste and abuse committed by the Trump administration, while taking a chainsaw to agencies that provide critical services, is unconscionable.

This cavalier attitude that our tax dollars are theirs for the taking must stop in Washington, and in Nassau County.

CLAUDIA BORECKY
President,
Bellmore Merrick Democratic Club

The devil is in the details

To the Editor:

The big things in the Trump admin-

istration are so appalling that it’s hard to wrap your mind around them. The little things sometimes fall through the cracks. For example, a friend noted the frequency of the alliterative “trust in Trump” phrase the White House press secretary keeps slipping into press conferences.

Or the fact that the president of the United States called his own people “yippy” for gasping in horror as their savings plummeted — not to mention watching him manipulate the stock market like a toy.

But I heard something on the news that I found so chilling that I can’t stop thinking about it: In response to a request for evidence for deporting a U.S. resident, Secretary of State Marco Rubio responded in a memo that he can deport anyone he wants. A terrifying message, yes, but I can’t stop thinking about responding with a memo to a judicial request, dismissing not only the request, but the entire judicial system and branch of government. Just waving them away like someone soliciting you to buy something cheap and tawdry. The disdain is breathtaking.

A confluence of events — Trump’s inexplicable popularity and infallibility in the eyes of a great deal of the country; the Republican majority in both the Senate and the House — have allowed Project 2025 not just to come to fruition, but to flourish. We must do something other than watch in horror from the sidelines as our entire system of government is dismantled before our eyes.

FRAMEWORK by Tim Baker



At the Lions Club egg hunt at Halls Pond Park — West Hempstead

Our Founding Fathers may have been imperfect, but they created a brilliant system of government with three equal branches, which both support and check each other, and consequently give the people the power.

If power is consolidated in the exec-

utive branch, we will witness the death of democracy. We can’t let the devil — speaking literally and figuratively — win here.

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