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Roksana Amid/Herald

There were plenty of smiles as school administrators and Board of Education members learned of the election results.

Voters give their approval to \$118.1 million school budget

By ROKSANA AMID

ramid@liherald.com

Voters in the Glen Cove City School District approved the proposed \$118.1 million budget for the 2025-26 school year on Tuesday night, passing the measure by a margin of 850 to 389.

The budget is \$4.7 million larger than the current spending plan, an increase of 4.15 percent, and includes a 2.981 percent tax levy hike — which remains under the district's allowable tax cap.

According to the most recent enrollment figures compiled by the state in October, Glen Cove has 3,154 students. Based on that data, the district will spend \$37,451 per student in the coming school year, assuming enrollment remains stable.

Theresa Kahan, the district's assistant superintendent of business, explained that the tax levy for 2025-26 will total just over \$79.6 million. "The tax levy formula calculated a maximum allowable levy limit of just over \$80 million," Kahan said at a board meeting on April 9. "The Board of Education decided to levy less than the allowable limit to take some of the burden off of the community."

Kahan noted that the budget is divided into three parts. "The total for the administrative component, which includes expenses such as Board of Education, administration and central office, is \$8,943,242," she said. "The capital component, which includes expenses for the operation and maintenance of the district, finance payments and trans-

CONTINUED ON PAGE 12

Another honor for district's music programs

By ROKSANA AMID

ramid@liherald.com

The Glen Cove City School District has once again struck a chord with national education leaders, earning a prestigious spot on the 2024 list of Best Communities for Music Education. The distinction, awarded by the NAMM Foundation, recognizes the district's ongoing commitment to comprehensive, high-quality music instruction. This is the sixth time it has received the national honor, reinforcing its reputation as a leader in arts education.

Now in its 26th year, the Best Communities for Music Education award is given to school districts that demonstrate exceptional achievement in providing music access and education to all students. Glen Cove met rigorous standards in areas such as funding, graduation requirements, student participation, instruction time, facilities and community involvement. The responses were verified by school officials and reviewed by the nationally

recognized arts education research firm WolfBrown.

"Our Fine and Performing Arts Department's music program continues to display exceptionalism in providing a comprehensive arts and music education for all students in Glen Cove City Schools," Lawrence Nadel, Coordinator for the Glen Cove City School District Fine & Performing Arts Department, wrote

Glen Cove has really spectacular music teachers.

GRACE GUILLEN

senior,
Glen Cove
High School

in a statement. "Congratulations to all students, parents, faculty and staff who continue to advocate for the expansion of authentic arts experiences and opportunities in our school community. This honor is a testament to this advocacy and dedication to arts education."

Superintendent Maria Rianna emphasized that the recognition reflects more than just district policies — it's a symbol of community-wide support. "This recognition reflects our community's strong support for music education and the dedication of our students, staff and families," she said.

The NAMM Foundation

CONTINUED ON PAGE 17

HERALD
Community Newspapers

Students explore Spain on language trip

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

More than 100 Glen Cove students experienced the trip of a lifetime this spring, traveling to Spain as part of the district's first-ever foreign language immersion program. Led by Glen Cove Middle School Principal Nelson Iocolano and High School Principal Allen Hudson, the trip provided students with a hands-on opportunity to explore Spanish culture, practice their language skills, and deepen their global awareness.

"Experiential learning is something that, we all know, is a very powerful tool, and this year—this spring—that really came to life for us in Spain," Iocolano said. "They got to touch ancient walls, some dating back to the year 711."

The middle school group traveled to Madrid, Toledo, and Córdoba, while the high school group visited Barcelona, Toledo, Zaragoza, Montserrat and Madrid. Both trips gave students the opportunity to experience Spain's rich cultural traditions.

The district organized two separate trips: one for 70 high schoolers, led by Hudson, and another for 32 middle schoolers, led by Iocolano. Both groups toured various Spanish cities, with itineraries guided by EF Tours. The experience allowed students to step outside of the classroom and into a world where they could engage directly with the lan-



Courtesy Glen Cove City School District

More than 100 Glen Cove students experienced the trip of a lifetime this spring, traveling to Spain as part of the district's first foreign language immersion program.

guage and culture they had studied.

"The principals decided that they would like to help their students experience cultures in other areas of the world and, again, enhance their own global awareness," said Superintendent Maria Rianna. She noted that the trip was a first for the Glen Cove City School

District and commended the principals for their leadership. "I have to say, that it was not a small responsibility to take students into another country, but they took it on and embraced it," Rianna said.

Hudson acknowledged a brief hiccup during the trip—a 24-hour stomach bug

that affected some high school students—but emphasized the group's resilience and maturity. "Our kids were respectful," he said. "Our kids do and did exactly what GC Knights are expected to do."

The principals noted that the trip gave students a chance to use their Spanish in real-life settings, speaking with shopkeepers, waiters, and tour guides. Hudson said many students became more confident in their language skills. "At first, it's awkward to walk up to someone and say 'hola,' but after a while, it became normal because you're immersed in it," he said.

Students returned with stories of adventure, new experiences, and a greater appreciation for world cultures. Middle schooler Panagioti Karathanasis said the trip opened his eyes to Spanish history and traditions. "I also learned that I like exploring, seeing different places like historical castles and buildings," he said. Trying paella was a personal highlight for him. "It was something I had been hoping to do," he added.

High school student Michael Ranga shared a similar enthusiasm. "Spanish food in general was delicious," he said, noting that the group sampled desserts like Spanish hot chocolate and churros shortly after arriving. "It was the best trip ever."



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Mental health awareness in G.C. schools

3

By ROKSANA AMID

ramid@liherald.com

More than 200 participants came together at Glen Cove High School on May 17 for Hope 'N Motion, a youth mental health awareness walk hosted by I Am My Sister, a nonprofit organization founded by Lela Watson. The event marked the launch of a new community initiative aimed at breaking the stigma surrounding mental health and supporting young people through education, advocacy, and wellness activities.

"This is the first time we're doing Hope in Motion, the walk for youth men-

I feel like it's a great opportunity to meet new people and to support our community.

LAURA RODRIGUEZ
Volunteer

tal health awareness," said Watson. "The day really is about bringing awareness to a taboo topic, especially with our young people." Mental health struggles among youth have become a growing concern, both nationally and locally. Watson pointed to statistics from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, noting that suicide is now the second leading cause of death for individuals between the ages of 10 and 24 in Nassau County. "Most people weren't going to talk about it unless we created a space for them to talk about it," she said. "This is really to bring awareness to the community that it is a real issue. It's something that we need to start to recognize."

The walk was part of the nonprofit's Mind Your Mental initiative, which Watson started after her daughter experienced depression, anxiety, and a suicide attempt. "I knew when I was going through the therapy process with that, we needed to stop as parents and as a community to give them the space to tell their stories, to ask for what they need," she said. "But also to give them coping skills. That's why we have yoga and guided meditation and breathing today—to give them the coping skills when they are having some challenges and when they are by themselves."

The event featured walking laps around the track, yoga sessions, art therapy, live music, a kids' corner, and a resource fair with mental health organizations offering support and information. High school student Laura Rodriguez, a DECA treasurer and volunteer with I Am My Sister, said being part of the event was personally meaningful. "Mental health awareness is something that I value and I think should be spoken about more often," she said. "Just being here helps me personally and I feel like I can make a difference in someone else's life."

Rodriguez added, "I feel like it's a great opportunity to meet new people and to support our community."



Roksana Amid/Herald photos

Claire Obrien, a sophomore, Domenica Pipitone, a sophomore, Paloma Supica, a senior, Sophia Gonzales, sophomore, Paige Jimines, sophomore, Julia Leone, Gianna Gonzales, a sophomore spent their Saturday morning raising awareness for mental health.



Joanne Yee and John Zozzaro were among the first to walk laps around the high school's track to raise awareness about mental health.

Glen Cove High School senior Paloma Supica echoed the sentiment. "I just really wanted to support the whole event," she said. "It's something the community really needs."

Supica also spoke about the stigma that often prevents open discussions about mental health. "It's one of those things people don't want to talk about because it can be seen as kind of negative," she said. "But I think it can also be one of those things where we know we can raise our awareness for it, and that raises a lot more hope."

Watson said whether attendees walked one lap or ten, their presence mattered. "It made these young people know that there are people out there that actually care and that's vested in their mental wellness."



AHRC Nassau and Citizens Options United collaborated with I Am My Sister to foster community integration for people with mental disabilities in the community.



Youth learned about the benefits of yoga as a coping mechanism for mental health.

Cradle Con brings childhood nostalgia

By STACY DRIKS

sdriks@liherald.com

Families, fans and cosplayers packed the Cradle of Aviation Museum in Uniondale last weekend for the museum's annual pop culture convention, Cradle Con. This year, a new attraction sparked particular buzz — and plenty of childhood memories.

Called “The Cereal Club,” the exhibit was tucked inside the museum's Hangar Two, and cost an additional \$10 to enter. Attendees were invited to relive a retro Saturday morning ritual: sugary cereal and nonstop cartoons. Dozens of vintage cereal boxes, from Mr. T (discontinued in the 1990s) to Count Chocula (now a Halloween exclusive) — lined the room, and a half-dozen small television sets played animated classics from the 1980s and '90s.

Visitors young and old took a seat, bowls of cereal in hand, and watched “ThunderCats,” “The Adventures of Garfield,” “Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles” and more.

The idea came from Seamus Keane, the museum's creative director of special events. One young visitor, unaware he was speaking to the mastermind behind it all, summed up the experience best after watching his favorite show, “Looney Tunes.”

“Whoever came up with ‘The Cereal Club,’ tell them it is genuinely — it's an



Holden Leeds/Herald

James Sesti tried out the different types of cereal at a popular new attraction, “The Cereal Club,” at Cradle Con 2025.

awesome idea,” the youngster told Keane.

Keane said the concept came to him “just like that.” As the convention approached, he needed something “cool and niche” for Hangar Two, and decided to create a private, immersive experience.

“What did I do when I was a kid? I would wake up Saturday morning, sneak the sugar cereal out of the closet, drink all the milk, watch cartoons and play video games,” he recalled. “This generation doesn't know what Saturday morning cartoons is. They don't know what it's like to eat sugary cereal to your heart's content — I wasn't allowed to. So I was like, let me give something to the generation below me.”

The golden age of Saturday morning cartoons began in the early 1960s, and became a cultural staple for children. Shows like “The Flintstones” and “The Jetsons” originally aired during prime time, but later found a second life on Saturday mornings. It was a time when kids leapt out of bed early to catch their favorite animated shows.

Before Saturday mornings became synonymous with cartoons, children's programming typically aired on weekday afternoons. Studios like Hanna-Barbera changed that by shifting animated shows to Saturday mornings,

creating a cherished weekly ritual and reshaping TV history. The tradition endured into the early 1990s, but as cable channels like Cartoon Network and Nickelodeon emerged, the Saturday morning block began to fade. By the early 2010s, most broadcast networks replaced cartoons with educational content to meet federal regulations, and the Saturday morning cartoon era soon ended.

For many kids today, it's a piece of nostalgia they've only heard about — but last weekend, some got to experience it firsthand.

Friends Sophia Sfougheakis and Morgan Hershinson, both 12, stopped by to grab their favorite cereals, Cinnamon Toast Crunch and Captain Crunch. Morgan's mother preferred Lucky Charms, while her father stuck with the classic choice, Cheerios.

Sophia and Morgan didn't know what it was like to sit and watch TV while eating cereal back in the day, but after stepping into “The Cereal Club,” they said it was “really fun.” Morgan added a colorful touch to the experience by cosplaying as Hatsune Miku in her 15th-anniversary look from 2022 — a virtual Japanese pop star. Sophia came dressed as Tennis Princess Daisy from the “Mario” franchise.

Every Saturday morning, Keane recalled, he'd be in front of the TV watching “ThunderCats” — and, years later, he was inspired to bring its stars to Cradle Con.

Larry Kenney, the voice of Lion-O, showed up to meet fans and sign autographs. He said he appreciated Keane's effort to recreate such a specific slice of childhood, and added that he never imagined the show would still be making waves.

“If you asked me 40 years ago if I'd be sitting here answering questions about the ThunderCats and signing autographs,” Kenney said, “I would have told you that you were nuts.”

Keane said that “The Cereal Club” event was a hit, and hinted not only that it might return next year, but also that its cereal-fueled nostalgia might just become a Cradle Con tradition.



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Capital Gains Tax Tips

Your cost “basis” for calculating capital gains taxes is what you paid for the stock or the real estate. For real estate, the basis gets raised by the amount of any capital improvements you make to the property. When you sell your primary residence you may exclude the first \$500,000 of gain if you're a couple or \$250,000 if you're single. The \$500,000 exclusion for a couple gets extended for a sale occurring up to two years after a spouse dies.

For gifts you receive of appreciated stock or real estate during the donor's lifetime, no capital gains tax is payable. However, the donee receives the donor's basis. It is generally considered better to wait, if possible, and pass the gift to the donee at death, due to the “stepped-up basis”. The basis of any inherited property is “stepped-up” to date of death value. If the property is sold within six months of the date of death, then the sale price is deemed to be the date of death value.

If the property is going to be held for

some time it is helpful to get date of death values to establish the new basis. For real estate, this means getting an appraisal from a licensed real estate appraiser (not a real estate broker!). For stocks, you simply ask the company holding the stocks to provide this information.

When a spouse dies with jointly held property, there is a half of a step-up — the deceased spouse's half gets stepped-up to date of death value, while the surviving spouse has the original basis. However, for a primary residence the capital gains tax exclusions discussed above continue to apply.

With combined Federal and New York capital gains taxes reaching about 30%, it is essential to look at holding onto appreciated property until death (especially if you have taken depreciation on the property which can lower your basis to zero). One should also look carefully at the estate plan to see if property should be transferred to a surviving spouse, or their trust if any, to get another step-up on the second death.

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■ **WEB SITE:** glencove.liherald.com

■ **E-MAIL:** Letters and other submissions: glencove-editor@liherald.com

■ **EDITORIAL DEPARTMENT:** Ext. 327 E-mail: glencove-editor@liherald.com

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Area H.S. seniors are sworn into military

By JOSEPH D'ALESSANDRO

jdalessandro@liherald.com

Thirty-five high school seniors from Nassau County showed their patriotism last week by pledging to serve in the United States military.

The enlistees, from high schools in Baldwin, Freeport, Valley Stream, Wantagh and beyond, are in the final steps of enlisting in the armed forces.

"Only about 23 percent of high school seniors could actually go into the military, and only 1 percent actually do — these kids are the top 1 percent," said Andrea Nordquist, chair of Our Community Salutes of Nassau County. The organization held a celebration to support the military enlistees and their families at the Nassau County Training and Intelligence Center on May 13.

"They're very under-recognized," Nordquist said of high school students who commit to military service. "They don't get the accolades that they should get, and so this ceremony helps to honor them, and we're also the first ones to say 'Thank you for your service.'"

Nordquist is also the president of Blue Star Mothers of America's Nassau County chapter, a supportive network of families with members in the military. Her son, Gregory, is a senior master sergeant in the Air National Guard.

"I watched him grow up, I watched him mature," she said. "For kids nowa-



Joseph D'Alessandro/Herald

Thirty-five high school students from across Nassau County swore the oath of enlistment at the Nassau County Training and Intelligence Center on May 13.

days, not only does it help them mature, it gives them direction.

"It will give them G.I. bills — they can go to college for free," Nordquist added. "It just opens up their whole world, and they can discover what they're talented at, and get training."

Edward Kenneweg, a U.S. Navy commander and executive officer, specializes in talent acquisition. During the cere-

mony, he called all Naval enlistees to receive their honors.

"It's an opportunity for the community to really give appreciation and thanks to those high school seniors that made the big decision to raise their right hand and serve in the military," he said.

Kenneweg and other military personnel were on hand to express their gratitude to the new recruits.

"My job is to support the recruits and ensure they have the right tools and resources to be successful in their jobs, and overcome barriers and obstacles to reach their long- and short-term goals," he said.

Nahmare Gilson, a student from Malvern High School, was one of the enlistees honored at the event. He chose to join the military as a career path.

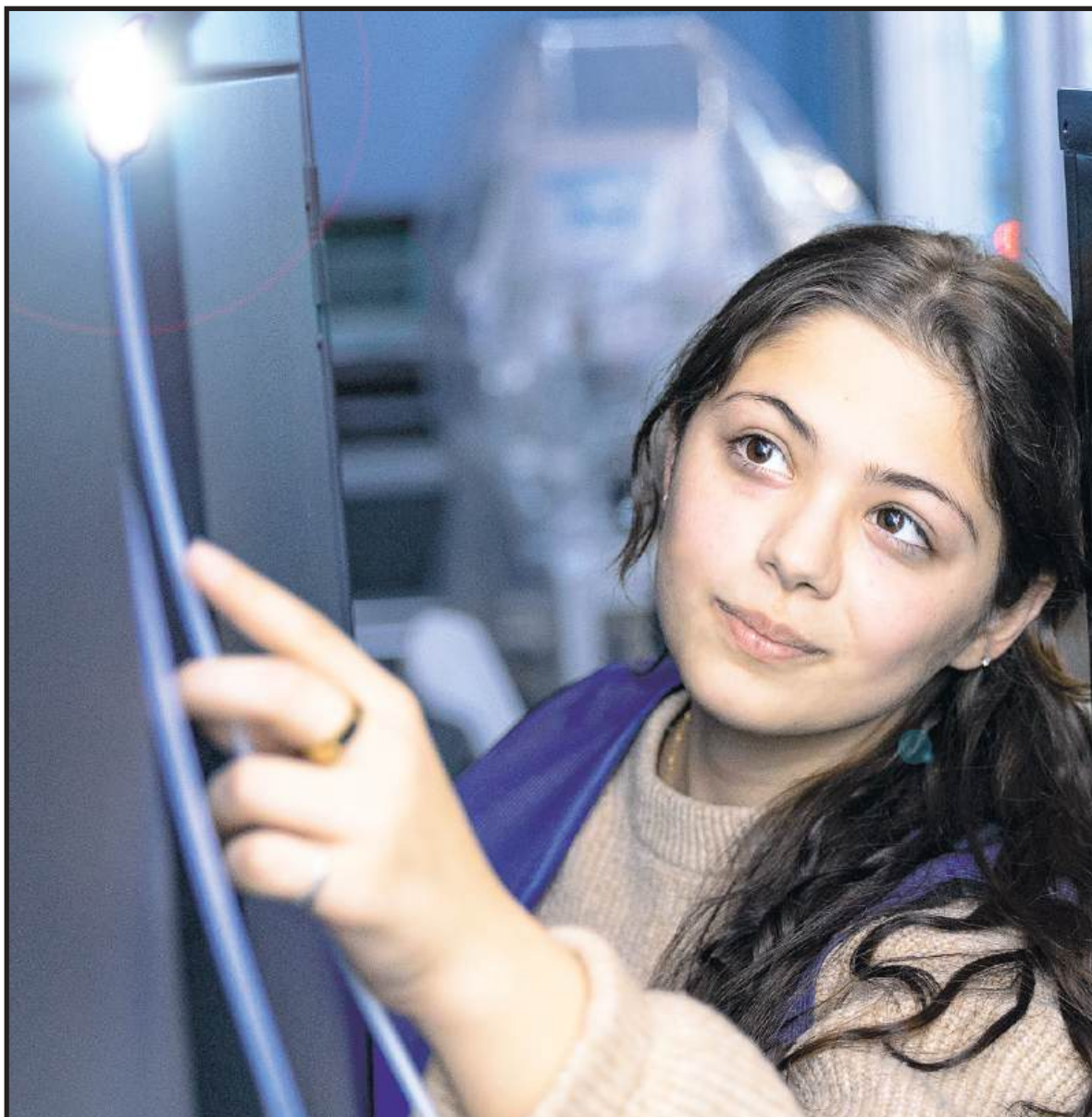
"I realized that college might not have been a decision that I wanted to do," he said. "My grandfather was in the Army, so I just wanted to join the military to see where that could take me."

Gilson said he looked forward to "meeting new people in new places," and challenging himself.

Greg Walpole, of Long Beach High School, enlisted to uphold a family tradition and to prepare for his long-term future. "I'm enlisting because of my family's footsteps," he said. "My uncle was in and my cousin's in right now. I'm going in so it'll pay for my college and all the benefits that it's going to give to me."

Walpole said he looked forward to "learning a new field, getting into school and working hard."

All of the enlistees received a challenge coin, a copy of the Constitution, and took a ceremonial oath of enlistment after performances from the Coast Guard Band and the Wantagh American Legion Pipe Band.



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Antique auction coming soon

Glen Cove-based Roland Auctions NY will present a personal collection of art and antiques from the estate of Long Island art collector Laura Leonard Ault as part of their Multi-Estates Auction on May 31 at 10 a.m. The collection will include Ault's selection of decorative arts items including porcelain, glassware, Scottish Terrier memorabilia, doorstops, sterling silver pieces from Tiffany and Georg Jensen and more.

This collection, along with hundreds of other items from multiple estates, will be offered along with Fine and Contemporary Art, Antique furniture pieces, 20th Century Modern, Silver, Decorative Arts, Asian Arts, Textiles and Lighting. Previews will be held on May 29 and 30, from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. both days.

Ault, who passed away in 2024 and her late husband, Lee, were passionate collectors. Notable lots from the Laura Ault estate include a Louis Vuitton steamer trunk, circa 1920, a Goyard steamer trunk, circa 1910, a John Wesley ink on paper depicting George Washington in upper right and three Native Americans and an Abbot Lawrence Pattison brutalist gilt bronze sculpture, mid-20th century.

Notable silver pieces from the Ault collection include a Tiffany & Co. Mas-



Courtesy Roland Auctions NY

On sale is this ink piece by John Wesley depicting George Washington and three Native Americans.

ters sterling carving set, a group of Tiffany & Co. sterling silver service pieces, three Chrysanthemum pattern, a Tiffany & Co mid-century modern center bowl, a pair of candlesticks and a collection of Georg Jensen sterling silver 'Acorn' pattern flatware.

The auction will be held at Roland NY at 150 School Street in Glen Cove on May 31 at 10 a.m. For further information call (212) 260-2000 or visit RolandAntiques.com.

—Will Sheeline

Hispanic chamber kicks off fundraiser

The North Shore Hispanic Chamber of Commerce is hosting its inaugural Soccer Shootout Challenge on Tuesday, June 4, from 8 to 10 p.m. at Cove Sports Academy, 27 Cedar Swamp Road in Glen Cove. The event will raise funds to provide summer camp scholarships for students from Glen Cove and North Shore High Schools.

Open to the public, the shootout challenge encourages friendly competition while supporting a good cause. Entrance tickets are \$30 in advance or \$40 at the door, while participation tickets—which make guests eligible for raffle prizes—are \$50 per person or \$100 per family (up to two parents and three children). All tickets include food and beverages. The registration deadline is May 26, and winners will receive a variety of prizes.

To support the event, the Chamber has launched a four-tiered sponsorship program for local businesses. The Diamond Sponsor level (\$1,500 for non-members, \$1,200 for members) includes logo placement at six future events, website promotion, social media callouts, and an invitation to present services. The Platinum level (\$1,000 for non-members, \$750 for members) includes promotion at three events, while Gold sponsors (\$650 non-members, \$500 members) are featured at

two events. The Silver tier offers one-time promotion at \$350 for non-members and \$225 for members.

The North Shore Hispanic Chamber of Commerce, founded in 2019, supports Hispanic-owned businesses across Long Island's North Shore. Based in Sea Cliff, the Chamber fosters economic empowerment through networking events, educational programs, and community initiatives. The chamber celebrates Hispanic heritage and promotes inclusivity. Signature events include the annual gala, Hispanic Heritage Month celebration, and back-to-school drives. Membership offers business exposure, mentorship, and a strong support network. Learn more at nshchamber.org.

"This is a great way to uplift our youth, support education, and involve the local business community," said Chamber President Connie Pinilla.

The Chamber encourages businesses and families alike to participate in this fun, community-building event. For tickets or sponsorship details, contact Connie Pinilla at 516-521-8274 or Roberto Hernandez at roberto@nshchamber.org.

Space is limited, and early registration is strongly recommended.

—Roksana Amid

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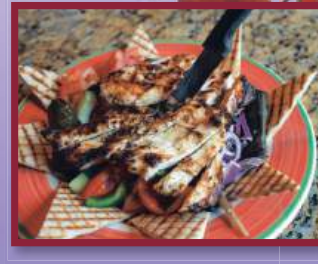
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NYCLU challenges ICE pact in Nassau

By AVA DELA PENA

Special to the Herald

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

Susan Gottehrer first became interested in the New York Civil Liberties Union as a teenager. When she read about injustices in local newspapers, “It was like, ‘NYCLU to the rescue,’” recalled the now 61-year-old.

As director of the Hempstead-based Nassau County office of the NYCLU, Gottehrer said she finds it more pressing than ever to “come to the rescue,” especially when it comes to immigrant rights.

There’s a fear right now, and nobody should ever have to live like that.

SUSAN GOTTEHRER

Director,
Nassau County office,
NYCLU

“The lack of humanity in the way that we approach immigrant communities is disgusting,” she said. “I come from a family affected by the Holocaust. I understand the concept of ‘othering.’”

In March, County Executive Bruce Blakeman announced that Nassau County police would partner with the federal Immigration and Customs Enforcement agency, making it “the first county in America to have a fully comprehensive agreement with ICE under the 287(g) program.”

Blakeman has said that county detectives would only cooperate with ICE in arresting known criminal suspects, but Gottehrer sees the program as one that will not only negatively affect the immigrant community, but also deteriorate Long Islanders’ relationship with law enforcement.

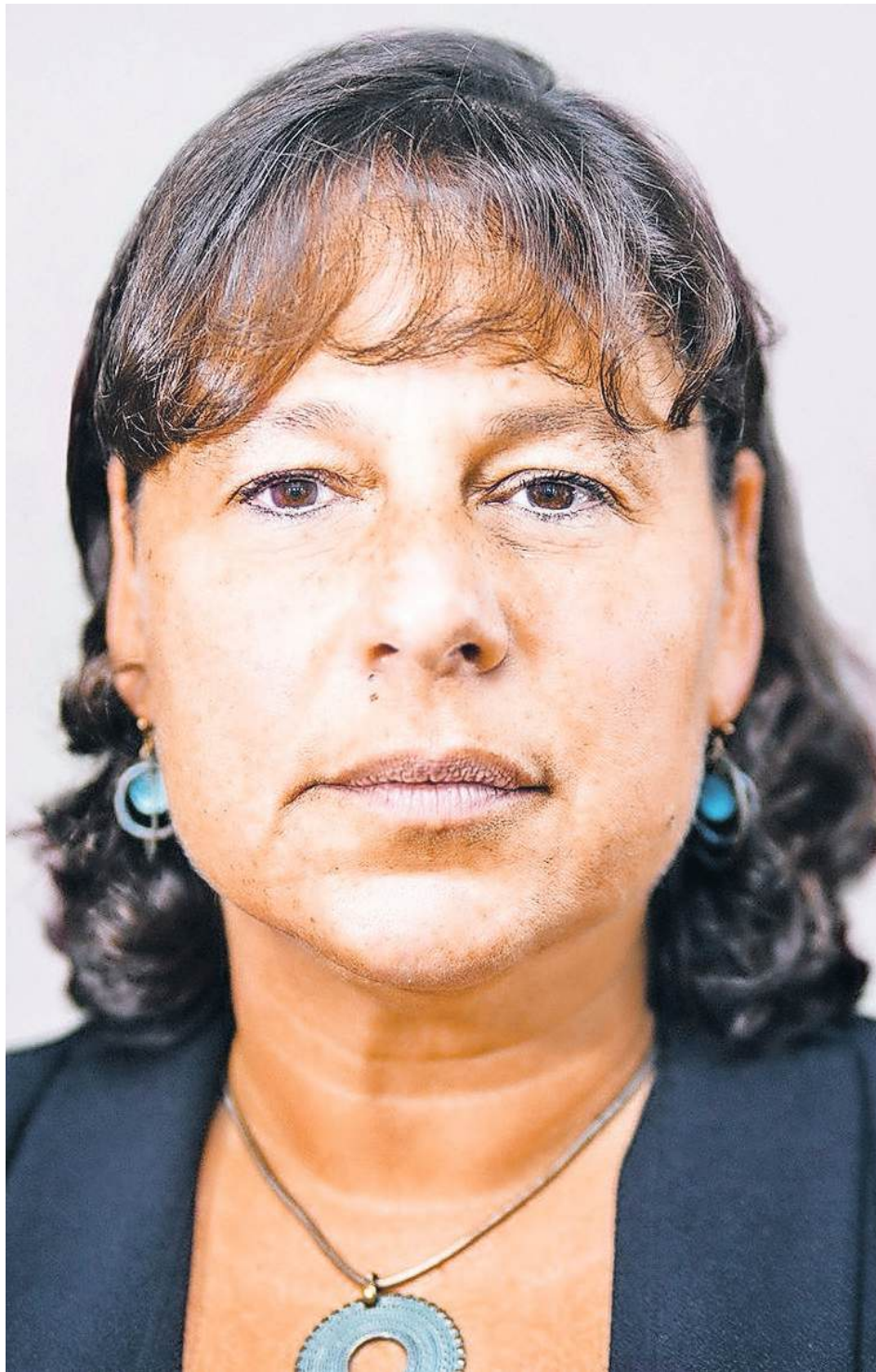
“When the public cannot trust the police — meaning the immigrant communities — then that makes all of Nassau County less safe,” she noted.

Speaking about on the rising concern in Long Island’s immigrant community, particularly the undocumented community, Gottehrer said she has seen the worry that many feel heading to work, sending their children to school or just leaving their homes.

“There’s fear right now, and nobody should ever have to live like that,” she said.

She said she doubted that any immigrant living in such fear would seek the help of law enforcement. “You can bet (many) are not going to be reporting crimes,” she said. “If they themselves need help from law enforcement, then they’re not going to trust it, and that creates a situation where no one is safe.”

“The police can say all they want, ‘We’re not going to ask for your status,’” she added, “but when they make a 287(g) agreement, why would anyone trust



Courtesy Susan Gottehrer

Susan Gottehrer directs the Hempstead-based Nassau County office of the New York Civil Liberties Union, which is working to support undocumented immigrants as they navigate the Trump administration’s deportation push.

them?”

To oppose Blakeman’s pledge to work with ICE, the NYCLU is advocating for the New York For All Act. According to the NYCLU, the legislation would prohibit state and local law enforcement agencies “from colluding with ICE, disclosing sensitive information and diverting personnel or other resources to further federal immigration enforcement.”

According to State Senate Bill 2235, the legislation, if enacted, would:

- Prohibit and regulate the discovery and disclosure of immigration status.
- Prohibit police officers, peace officers, school resource officers, probation agencies, state entities, state employees and municipal corporations from questioning individuals about their citizenship or immigration status.
- Regulate the disclosure of informa-

tion relating to immigration status.

The Assembly version of the measure is Bill A3506.

In January, the bill was referred to the Senate and Assembly Codes committees, where it has sat since. The measure must pass through committee before it can be brought to the full Legislature for debate and a potential vote. Finally, Gov. Kathy Hochul must sign it.

Regardless of whether New York for All were to pass, Gottehrer pointed out that immigration falls under civil, not criminal, law, and local police thus should not be involved in immigration enforcement. “ICE is going to do its job. There’s nothing we can do about that,” she said. “But federal jurisdiction is over immigration. Local jurisdiction is over criminal law.”

Though the NYCLU has sought to pass the New York for All Act since 2018,

About the 287(g) program

The 287(g) program authorizes ICE to oversee and delegate state and local law enforcement to perform specific functions of immigration officers under three models:

- The jail enforcement model, used to identify undocumented immigrants with criminal charges.
- The task force model, which allows law enforcement to perform immigration duties.
- The warrant service officer model, which permits law enforcement officers to serve and execute administrative warrants on undocumented immigrants.

Source: Immigration and Customs Enforcement

this year the organization is trying harder than ever to convince elected leaders how “unsafe” 287(g) agreements are. On March 20, multiple activist groups, including the NYCLU, joined more than 50 demonstrators in Hauppauge to rally in support of the act.

In the meantime, the NYCLU is concerned with educating immigrants about their rights. The organization has held a number of “Know Your Rights” workshops to inform immigrants on how to tell the difference between administrative and judicial warrants and how to identify different law enforcement agencies.

“At Know Your Rights workshops, we teach immigrants what a judicial warrant looks like,” Gottehrer said. “An administrative warrant is really just a document that ICE has issued. It’s not backed by the constitutionality of due process or a judge.”

“Immigrants have the right to say, ‘That is not a judicial warrant. Leave me alone.’”

“If you’re new to the country or if there’s a language barrier, you may not know the different levels of government,” she said.

The NYCLU is also conducting trainings in immigrant communities to identify different law enforcement officers, not only so they can protect themselves, but also so they can alert the organization to any potential ICE activity in Nassau. According to Gottehrer, the NYCLU has been mapping reported activity across Long Island while working within a coalition of other activist organizations.

Ultimately, she said, she wants to ensure through her work with the NYCLU that no one lives in fear. “There’s a lot of misinformation and demonization going on,” she said. “It’s historically where our nation has gone to over and over again: to demonize people from ‘the outside.’”

Experts: Trump cuts threaten drinking water

Loca leaders agree that federal delays of toxic chemical bans put Long Island communities at risk

By STACY DRIKS

sdriks@liherald.com

Nassau County's water is under threat — and local leaders are sounding the alarm.

Last Friday, Assemblywoman Michaelle Solages joined County Legislators Olena Nicks and Scott Davis at the Hempstead Public Library, where they stood with environmental and health leaders to denounce recent environmental rollbacks by the Trump administration.

At the heart of the concern is trichloroethylene, or TCE, a toxic chemical once widely used as an industrial solvent. It is known to seep from factories and landfills into the groundwater — the very source of Long Island's drinking supply. The state warns that TCE, despite its sweet, fruity odor, is a potent carcinogen.

"The decisions being made aren't based on science — they're made to protect special interests and polluters," Solages said, referring to delays on the part of the Environmental Protection Agency in banning harmful chemicals, and her widely shared social media post on the deregulation of a group of chemicals known as PFAS.



Tim Baker/Herald

Nassau County Legislator Scott Davis, far left, Assemblywoman Michaelle Solages, Legislator Olena Nicks, Joseph Stallone and Jessica Varghese at Hempstead Public Library, where they spoke about environmental rollbacks.

The administration's proposal would slash the EPA's budget from \$9.1 billion to \$4.2 billion, a cut of more than 50 percent.

Solages, a lifelong Long Islander, pointed out the Island's growing vul-

nerability to climate change: rising seas, saltwater intrusion and increasingly toxic groundwater. But she also warned of a different kind of crisis — one she called a "man-made disaster" brought on by federal inaction.

Joseph Stallone, campaign manager of the New York League of Conservation Voters, agreed. "The EPA used to be a bipartisan watchdog," he said. "We need Congress to fully fund the EPA and reject these dangerous rollbacks."

Jessica Varghese, a registered nurse with over 23 years of experience and an associate professor at the New York Institute of Technology, drove the message home. "Long Island has the most contaminated water in New York," he said simply.

Hempstead wells have tested positive for one of the four dioxanes that are known to cause cancer, along with traces of "forever chemicals" — a term that applies in almost a literal sense, because they contain strong bonds that persist for decades. Varghese cited serious health risks including kidney damage, liver disease, cancer and Parkinson's disease.

"Long Island deserves better," she said. "The Trump administration's sweeping regulatory rollbacks pose a serious threat to public health."

Solages concluded with a warning: "This isn't about America's health," she said. "It's about profit. And we won't be silent."



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Roksana Amid/Herald

Glen Cove Baseball & Softball Association presents a \$30,000 check to the Friends of the Glen Cove Youth Bureau to fund the new backstop at Field 2.

Field 2 upgraded at Maccarone Stadium

The Glen Cove Baseball and Softball Association unveiled the newly upgraded Field 2 at John Maccarone Memorial Stadium on May 15 with a ribbon-cutting ceremony, highlighting recent improvements made possible through community support. During the event, the league presented a \$30,000 check to the Friends of the Glen Cove Youth Bureau to fund the field’s new backstop, part of ongoing revitalization efforts supported by city officials. The project, one of several upgrades including three new scoreboards in recent years, reflects Glen Cove’s commitment to enhancing youth sports and recreational facilities.

—Roksana Amid



The Allstate Nelson River Agency Royals had a lot to celebrate, including winning against Glen Head.



Photos courtesy The Glen Cove Baseball and Softball Association
Joseph Heffernan winds up for a pitch on the newly upgraded Field 2 at John Maccarone Memorial Stadium during the Glen Cove Little League celebration.



Lucy Portarto, Shannon Vulin and Emily Vilar are board members who dedicate their time to building youth confidence and sportsmanship.



Jack Hindley, a proud Little Leaguer, grips his baseball tight during the Field 2 celebration at John Maccarone Memorial Stadium.

NCC faculty to sue over promotion delays

By **HERNESTO GALDAMEZ**

hgaldamez@liherald.com

The faculty union at Nassau Community College announced on May 14 that it would take legal action against the college administration for refusing to submit faculty tenure and promotion recommendations to the board of trustees, a move the union claims violates the current collective bargaining agreement.

At a news conference in the County Legislature building in Mineola, Acting NCC Federation of Teachers President David Stern accused the college's leadership of disregarding established rules and breaching contractual obligations.

"NCC thinks the rules no longer apply to them," Stern said. "They think they can say one thing and do another. That ends now."

More than 15 faculty members were recommended for tenure and promotion by committees composed of faculty and administrators in February and March. Stern said the union's legal counsel had sent a letter to the college administration earlier that day, demanding that the college follow through on the recommendations made by those committees. He called the administration's failure to advance the recommendations to the board "unprecedented."

"The issue is simple," Stern said. "A committee of faculty, including an administrator, recommended tenure and promotions to a number of hardworking, dedicated professors who have labored here for years. NCC not only violated the terms of our contract, it demonstrates an arrogance and disrespect that we have long endured."

Stern singled out Chief Administrative Officer Maria Konzatti, accusing her of refusing to meet with union representatives or bring the recommendations to



Hernesto Galdamez/Herald

David Stern, acting president of the Nassau Community College Federation of Teachers, spoke at a news conference in Mineola on May 14, announcing legal action against the college.

the board of trustees.

"The arrogance begins with Maria Konzatti ... who has refused to meet with us, let alone address the concerns in good faith," Stern said. "She has refused to present these committee recommendations to the board of trustees."

In response, Jerry Kornbluth, vice president of community and governmental relations at NCC, defended the administration's stance. He told the Herald in a previous interview that promotions, sabbaticals, and tenure decisions "don't take effect until the fall of 2025 —

under the new contract," adding that discussions about the next agreement must begin before such actions can move forward.

In an interview on Friday, Kornbluth reiterated those comments, explaining that Konzatti had presented recommendations for sabbaticals at a board of trustees meeting the previous day. He added that promotions and tenure recommendations would be addressed in June.

Kornbluth explained that the delay in promotions and tenure appointments is due to an ongoing investigation into "potential irregularities on the promotion process," but he did not elaborate.

But Stern argued that the current contract remains in effect until Aug. 31, and that the administration is obligated to act on recommendations that have already been vetted through the formal committee process.

"That's absolutely incorrect," Kornbluth said of Stern's argument. "This has nothing to do with the contract. This is all about trying to make Maria Konzatti and the administration look bad."

Suzanne Kaebnick, an English professor and the union secretary, said the administration's inaction directly affects students. "The cuts, and their refusal to forward the recommendations for tenure and promotion, hurt our students," Kaebnick said. "In the nursing department, we have classes that have been unstaffed all semester."

She added, "To not support our full-time faculty ... is to say that we're not invested in this college. That's not fair to Nassau."

"Faculty members are hired either temporary or probationary," Kornbluth said. "They're fully aware of it, and it's part of the collective bargaining agreement. After Academic Affairs evaluates the courses and enrollment, there is a good possibility that someone who is terminated on this contract could be re-upped in the fall."



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Miller and Leone elected to school board

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1
fer to capital, is \$11,468,946. The total program component, which includes expenses for regular education, special education, technology, athletics and transportation, is \$97,710,996.”

In addition to approving the spending plan, voters elected two Board of Education trustees. Brett Miller, a newcomer, received 771 votes, followed by incumbent Lia Leone, with 596. Former Trustee David Huggins received 483 votes, and there were 23 write-in ballots.

For Miller, the results marked the start of a new chapter in civic service. “I feel the weight of responsibility for representing our children and our community as a board member is now my responsibility,” he said. “That’s the reason I ran — because I felt that it’s an important time in the district that needs the attention that I am ready to give it.”

Leone, who was elected to a second term, expressed gratitude to the community for its support. “I’m honored that the community chose me once again to represent our school community,” she said. “I’m looking forward to continued collaboration with administrators and fellow trustees. I’m excited to welcome Brett Miller to the team.”

Leone also reaffirmed her priorities for the coming term. “I will continue to update facilities and enhance reading



Lia Leone and Brett Miller will serve on the Board of Education during the next school year.

and math programs for struggling students,” she said.

Superintendent Maria Rianna, who will retire next month after leading the district for 12 years, said the results would be formally approved by the Board of Education on Wednesday, after the Herald went to press.

“Purchase orders will be approved for materials, a preparation for September is underway, and we’re beginning to prepare for the ’25-’26 school year,” Rianna said. “I appreciate the support of the community over the years, and we did a lot together. I appreciate their support for all that we have accom-

plished. I look forward to the staff continuing a positive direction for students in the future.”

Included in the capital component of the budget is \$1 million for facility upgrades throughout the district. Kahan said the proposed improvements include “one at the middle school to remove and replace some asbestos-containing material, an upgrade to the stadium lights at the high school to LED, and the addition of air conditioning in the high school auditorium.”

To close a \$1.5 million budget gap during the planning process, the district tapped into its reserves. “We closed the \$1.5 million budget gap with the use of teachers’ retirement system and our employee benefits reserves,” Kahan explained, adding that “unemployment and workers’ compensation were increased to align with the current expenses, and the Teachers Retirement System Reserve, or TRS, has been increased to offset some of that expense.”

This budget marks the final one under Rianna’s leadership. She will take over as superintendent of the Malverne school district, replacing Lorna Lewis, who is also retiring. Rianna has said she looked forward to continuing her work in education, while reflecting fondly on her years in Glen Cove.

Roksana Amid/Herald



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Keeping yards clean for 25 years

By LUKE FEENEY

lfeeney@liherald.com

Few dog owners enjoy clearing dog waste from their backyards. But Glen Cove native James Coniglione has turned scooping poop into a new, and undeniably unique, sector of the home care industry and has seen decades of business success.

Since graduating from SUNY Delhi, Coniglione has been a local entrepreneur. He recalled a light bulb going on in his head at a family friend's barbecue 25 years ago, when he saw an attendee gag after stepping in a pile of dog feces. He began asking customers at Tireworks, his Glen Cove tire shop, if they would consider paying for pet waste removal.

"I said to my customers, would you pay for this service?" he said. "Half of the people said absolutely not, and the other half said if anyone can make money with dog poop, it's you."

Coniglione created Scoopy Doo Dog Waste Removal in 2000. He started the business with just one truck, a bucket, and around 20 clients. Twenty-five years later, his business clears over 1,000 backyards a week with a fleet of 14 trucks and a team of technicians.

The company schedules its service from once a week to up to five times a week, and the charge depending on the frequency of yard cleanings and the size and breed of the dog(s). Workers walk in a grid pattern around the yard, bag the excrement and take it away.

Coniglione explained that after the first year, his venture began seeing success. A feature in The New York Times helped increase the business's exposure. Over the years, it expanded to serve Long Island, Westchester County and upstate New York.

On a rainy afternoon on Wednesday, Coniglione was all smiles in a red "got poop?" shirt at a 25th anniversary



Luke Feeney/Herald

Delia DeRiggi-Whitton, Nassau County Legislature minority leader, presented Coniglione with one of seven citations from local government and community organizations.

ry ribbon-cutting ceremony at the company's headquarters on Forest Avenue, attended by Glen Cove residents, business leaders, elected officials, and Scoopy Doo employees. There was effusive praise of Coniglione's contributions to the community.

Assemblyman Charles Lavine could not attend, but Glen Cove Councilwoman Marsha Silverman presented a citation on Lavine's behalf. There were also citations from County Executive Bruce Blakeman's office; Coun-

ty Comptroller Elaine Phillips's office; the County Legislature's minority leader, Delia DeRiggi-Whitton; Legislator Samantha Goetz; the Glen Cove Chamber of Commerce and the North Shore Hispanic Chamber of Commerce.

DeRiggi-Whitton and Maxine Mayreis, president of the Glen Cove Chamber of Commerce, praised Coniglione's creativity, commitment to the community, and success in carving out a new economic industry.

Coniglione thanked attendees, and described the past 25 years as an "amazing ride. He added that he was looking forward to the next 25 years.

"It means the world to me," he said of the recognition. His family has been in Glen Cove for four generations, he added, and has always given back to the community. "To be recognized, and have everyone come out now, means everything to me."

Scoopy Doo has worked with local animal shelters in Glen Cove and animal rescue organizations across Long Island. The company has also provided the city of Glen Cove with sweepers to clean up waste from geese, and has worked to get dogs that have been in shelters for years adopted by offering a year of free poop-scooping to anyone who takes them in.

The pet-waste-removal industry has grown across country, with revenue consistently increasing over the past five years and reaching an estimated \$270 million in 2024, according to IBISWorld, a company that produces business industry research reports. The rise in pet ownership, a growing awareness of the environmental impact of pet waste, and the convenience and professional quality of the work have boosted the demand for such services.

Coniglione is viewed as a respected authority on pet waste removal, and considers himself a "founding father" in the field.

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NEWS BRIEF



Courtesy Glen Cove City School District

Mackenzie Alessandro earned 3rd place for her age group in the Walt Whitman Birthplace Association’s 39th annual Student Poetry Contest.

Connolly student places in poetry contest

Connolly School is proud to celebrate the outstanding achievement of fifth grader Mackenzie Alessandro, who earned Third Place for her age group in the Walt Whitman Birthplace Association’s 39th annual Student Poetry Contest. This year’s contest invited students in grades 3–12 to submit original poems inspired by Walt Whitman’s iconic work, “When I Heard the Learn’d Astronomer”; Alessandro’s poem, titled “Beyond the Stars” impressed the judges and stood out among entries from across the nation. She will be recognized at the Walt Whitman Birthplace

Awards Ceremony on Saturday, May 31. “We’re very proud of Mackenzie and the creativity she showed through her writing,” said Connolly School Principal Bryce Klatsky. “It’s always exciting to see our students recognized for their talents outside the classroom.” The annual contest, hosted by the Walt Whitman Birthplace Association, honors the legacy of one of America’s most celebrated poets and encourages students to explore poetry as a means of self-expression.

–Roksana Amid

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STEPPING OUT



Photo courtesy U.S. Air Force

Airmen and women execute daring maneuvers in a thrilling display of the might of the Air Force's premier fighter jet, the F-16 Fighting Falcon.



Photo courtesy Chris Thomas/Warbird Thunder

Warbird Thunder's World War II-era planes blast overhead on the wings of history.

Gaze up at the sky

High-flying stunts always amaze at Jones Beach air show

By Karen Bloom

The unofficial start of summer is here — and it's coming in with a roar. Memorial Day weekend has arrived, bringing with it all the familiar traditions we love: heartfelt ceremonies, parades, sizzling barbecues, and, of course, that much-anticipated pilgrimage to Jones Beach for the thrill of the FourLeaf Air Show. Set against the sparkling Atlantic, this high-flying spectacle returns Saturday and Sunday, with the U.S. Air Force Thunderbirds once again leading the charge in a breathtaking display of speed, precision and patriotism. Showtime begins at 10 a.m. — don't forget your sunscreen and camera.

The distinguished squadron, back for their 10th headlining appearance, is joined by other elite military pilots. This year's spectacle includes the United States Army Golden Knights Parachute Team, United States Marine Corps F-35B Lightning II, United States Navy F-35C Demo Team, United State Navy Rhino Demo Team, United States Navy EA-18G Growler Demo Team, North American Aerospace Defense Command (NORAD), 106th Rescue Wing NY Air National Guard, also the 105th Airlift Wing unit of the New York Air National Guard.

This show — with its new name as a result of the rebranding of sponsor Bethpage Federal Credit Union as FourLeaf — is an especially patriotic salute to the 250th anniversary of the U.S. Army (which got its start as the Continental Army), the Navy and Marines, along with the 110th anniversary of the U.S. Coast Guard. A tribute also marks the 80th anniversary of the end of World War II.

"We are thrilled to welcome the United States Air Force Thunderbirds as this year's headliners and look forward to an amazing show by all our performers," says George Gorman, regional director, New York State Office of Parks, Recreation and Historical Preservation. "Every year more and more people come to our show. It has become a great tradition for Long Island to honor our military and veterans and kick off the summer at Jones Beach."

With the anticipated cooperation of the weather, the military and civilian pilots soar — and boom — overhead.



- May 24-25, 10 a.m.-3 p.m.
- \$10 vehicle use fee
- Jones Beach State Park, Wantagh
- For up-to-date information, visit fourleafairshow.com.

mph. The supersonic aircraft is known for its agility, speed and ability to perform various roles, including air superiority, air-to-ground combat and intercepting enemy aircraft.

Grace meets power in this mix of six F-16 Falcons demonstrating formation flying and solo routines. Flying only a few feet apart from wingtip to wingtip, the crowd gets a glimpse of the superb skills and capabilities that all fighter pilots must possess as they push the limits of their aircraft.

The civilian teams always elicit 'oohs' and 'aahs' as well. Performers include the American Airpower Museum Warbirds; Aaron Deliu, current reigning Air Masters Cup Series champion and current Sky Grand Prix Champion; Warbird Thunder, featuring the North American SNJ Texan, a former World War II Navy advanced training aircraft; also returning are the Farmingdale State College Flying Rams and Long Island's own David Windmiller.

Warbird Thunder may be familiar to those who watched when the GEICO Skytypers used to grace the sky over Jones Beach. Warbird's Lead Pilot Chris "CT" Thomas, with his partner, Wingman Mike "Buick" Eberhardt, was with the Skytypers team for many years before heading out on their own. Their meticulously restored World War II-era SNJ planes were used as an advanced trainer by the U.S. Navy and Marines to train "The Greatest Generation" during World War II and the Korean War.

"We're flying a piece of history," Thomas proudly explains. "They've got quite a military heritage."

Warbird Thunder's 12-minute performance is highlighted by what Thomas describes as "big smoke and big noise." From as low as 100 feet near the surface to 2,000 feet in the air, his two-plane formation will be looping and rolling. You'll watch formation loops, aileron rolls, barrel rolls, and Cuban Eights; the planes also separate bringing more excitement with opposing aerobatics before rejoining for the final maneuvers in their fast-paced segment.

"These are big planes with a big physical presence," he says. "It's always an exciting show."

Be sure to listen for that signature "bark" — actually the tips of the propeller reaching the speed of sound.



Jon Lovitz

Comedy legend Jon Lovitz brings his signature wit and unforgettable characters to the stage for a night of nonstop laughs. Best known for his Emmy-nominated run on SNL and roles in hit films like "A League of Their Own" and "The Wedding Singer," Lovitz has been a comedy staple for over 30 years. He got his start in high school productions. After pursuing acting studies, he decided to concentrate solely on comedy, taking classes then accepted into the famed improv group The Groundlings's main company. In March 1985 The Groundlings appeared on "The Tonight Show with Johnny Carson" where Jon premiered his character "Tommy Flanagan of Pathological Liars Anonymous." SNL and numerous offers came along; Jon was on his way, working non-stop since. Along with his comedy, he's well known for his distinctive voice that's served him well in his varied TV and film career. Jon's humor is unique, attributable to his quirky personality — and he always entertains.

Saturday, May 24, 7 p.m. \$59.50, \$49.50, \$39.50, \$29.50. The Paramount, 370 New York Ave., Huntington. Tickets available at ticketmaster.com or paramountny.com.



Unlock the secrets of Westbury House

For years, visitors to Old Westbury Gardens' Westbury House have wandered its elegant first floor, admiring the grandeur of the Gilded Age. Many have paused at a certain corridor door, wondering what lay beyond. Now, that mystery is unveiled. Join a 60-minute guided tour, "Secrets of the Service Wing," and step into the hidden world that powered the Phipps family's opulent lifestyle. This unique experience peels back the curtain on the tireless work and logistics that kept this grand home running smoothly. Explore the heart of domestic operations — from the orderly butler's pantry and the silver cleaning room, down the 17 steps to the bustling kitchen, scullery and wine storage room. Space is limited; don't miss your chance to step through the door and into history.

Sunday, May 25, 3-4 p.m. Old Westbury Gardens, 71 Old Westbury Rd., Old Westbury. Tickets and information available at oldwestburygardens.org or (516) 333-0048.

YOUR
NEIGHBORHOOD

CALENDAR

MAY 22 **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

MAY 24 **Cookbook club**
Join fellow foodies at Glen Cove Library's Cookbook Club. Discuss "Teatime at Grosvenor Square" by Dahlia Clearwater, an unofficial Bridgerton-themed cookbook. Participants are invited to select a recipe, ranging from scones and canapés to elegant pastries and finger sandwiches, to prepare and share at the meeting.

- **Where:** Glen Cove Ave., Glen Cove
- **Time:** 11 a.m.-noon
- **Contact:** (516) 676-2130

MAY 25 **Military banner unveiling**
The City of Glen Cove begins tis annual Memorial Day observances with a Military Banner Ceremony and wreath-laying to honor fallen service members. Sites include the WWII Monument at Morgan Park, the Doughboy Monument, Ford Street Monument, Elm Avenue Monument, St. Rocco's Monument, and the Calgary AME Cemetery. All events will be held rain or shine.

- **Where:** Germaine St., Glen Cove
- **Time:** Noon
- **Contact:** (516) 676-2000

MAY 26 **Memorial Day ceremony and parade**
The City of Glen Cove continues its Memorial Day observances with a formal ceremony and parade. This year's honoree is Corporal William "Billie" Morse, who was killed in action in Vietnam in 1968. Grand



JUNE 1 **Asi Wind's 'More Than Magic'**
After his sold-out run Off-Broadway, "Inner Circle," and his London's West End six-month long run, "Incredibly Human," Asi Wind returns to the U.S. with a new show, featuring his greatest magic hits. Those familiar with Wind's performances know to expect jaw-dropping feats of magic, inexplicable mind-reading and an utterly captivating night out. Wind was crowned the 2022 Magician of the Year by the Academy of Magical Arts, an award previously given to David Copperfield and Penn & Teller. Moreover, his appearance on Penn & Teller: Fool Us has become one of the most viral performances in the show's history, with over 16 million views on YouTube. Wind's recent Off-Broadway show, Inner Circle, was a critically acclaimed, sold-out success, described as "Gobsmacking. Mystifying. Spectacular." (The Wall Street Journal). Asi now presents his favorite magic from his dazzling lifelong repertoire. His performances are not just mind-blowing; they inspire us to recognize the magic that lies within each of us. This visually stunning performance showcases Asi's artistic talents while exploring the human spirit. Wind constantly blurs the line between what's possible and impossible. It's a theatrical experience that defies expectations and will leave you marveling at human creativity and connection. Wind believes that true magic can only happen if you bring people together and make them feel like they are a part of the show. Asi's goal is not deceive people but to make them care and experience and magic. "More Than Magic" is a profound reminder that we all possess some magic within us. Tickets are \$69.50, \$59.50, \$49.50, \$39.50, \$29.50.

- **Where:** The Paramount, 370 New York Ave., Huntington
- **Time:** 7 p.m.
- **Contact:** ticketmaster.com or paramountny.com

Marshal Anthony "Tony" Jimenez will lead the parade. All events will be held rain or shine.

- **Where:** Monument Park
- **Time:** Noon, begins at Cottage Row and Forest Avenue, proceeds through downtown Glen Cove
- **Contact:** Roni.Jenkins@glencoveny.gov

MAY 27 **City Council meeting**
The Glen Cove City Council holds its regular meeting to discuss city business and hear public comments. Residents are encouraged to attend and participate.

- **Where:** Glen Cove City Hall, 9 Glen St., Glen Cove
- **Time:** 7:30 p.m.
- **Contact:** (516) 676-2000

MAY 29 **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

MAY 31 **Deep Roots returns**
Glen Cove Chamber of Commerce takes over operations of the Deep Roots Farmers Market at Garvies Point beginning May 31. The Saturday morning market will be held weekly through the fall, honoring the wishes of late founder Amy Peters. The 23-week season opens with a ribbon-cutting ceremony in the parking lot next to the Beacon on Garvies Point Road. The market runs rain or shine each Saturday, except on June 7, when it relocates to Glen Cove Village Square to accommodate the city's annual Greek Festival. The Chamber aims to preserve the spirit of the market while supporting local vendors and continuing its tradition as a community staple.

- **Where:** 100 Garvies Point Road
- **Time:** Saturdays, 9 a.m.-1 p.m.
- **Contact:** (516) 676-6666

Wellness Day
Glen Cove Downtown Business Improvement District hosts a morning of free health and wellness classes in Village Square. Attendees can participate in fitness, yoga, pilates, meditation, and more. Health and wellness vendors will also be on site with products and information.

- **Where:** Village Square, Glen Cove
- **Time:** 9 a.m.-noon
- **Contact:** (516) 759-6970

Contrast In Colors
Visit Old Westbury Gardens for an evening of rich harmonies and expressive tones when Poetica Musica presents a captivating program of chamber music and vocal works. The program includes music by Beethoven, Grieg, Loeillet and Ravel, performed cellist Eugene Moye, violinist Erik Wyrick, pianist Yasmin Alami, and mezzo-soprano Eleanor Valkenburg. Highlights include Beethoven's Piano Trio in B-flat Major, Op. 97 "Archduke", Jean-Baptiste Loeillet de Gant's Trio Sonata in B minor, Grieg's Violin Sonata No. 3 in C minor, Op. 45, and Ravel's Cinq Mélodies Populaires Grecques. Beethoven's iconic Archduke Trio, composed in 1811 and dedicated to his friend

and patron Archduke Rudolf of Austria, remains a cornerstone of the piano trio repertoire and is performed worldwide. This marks the first time Poetica Musica performs this celebrated trio at Old Westbury Gardens. With pre-concert talk at 7:30 p.m. and a reception following the performance. \$30, general admission, \$25 members, seniors (62+) and students.

- **Where:** 71 Old Westbury Rd., Old Westbury
- **Time:** 8-10:30 p.m.
- **Contact:** oldwestburygardens.org or (516) 333-0048

JUNE 1 **Storybook Stroll**
Bring the kids to Old Westbury Gardens for a storybook adventure. Stroll the gardens and listen Gabriel Alborozo's modern tale "Let's Paint." Later create a unique take home craft. For ages 3-5. Storybook Strolls start at the Beech Tree (next to Westbury House), and end at the Thatched Cottage.

- **Where:** 71 Old Westbury Rd., Old Westbury
- **Time:** 10:30-11:30 a.m.
- **Contact:** oldwestburygardens.org or call (516) 333-0048

JUNE 9 **Education Foundation fundraiser**
The Glen Cove Education Foundation holds its 11th annual Golf Classic — a day filled with golf, camaraderie, delicious food, and exciting raffles, all in support of local education at Glen Cove Golf Club. After the tournament, guests are invited to enjoy dinner and raffles at The Marker, making for a memorable evening in great company.

- **Where:** Glen Cove Golf Club, 109 Lattingtown Road
- **Time:** Sign-in and lunch at 11:30 a.m., followed by a 1 p.m. tee-off
- **Contact:** (516) 801-8140

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.



Courtesy Glen Cove City School District

Gribbin Elementary students performed at their spring concert, highlighting one of the many aspects of music education.

Schools go ‘above and beyond’ in music education

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

reported that only 935 school districts nationwide received this designation in 2024. “I know it’s a very exclusive group,” Glen Cove High School chorus teacher Ed Norris said.

Norris, who has taught in the district for over two decades, underscored the award’s significance. “It continues to validate the fine work that is done by the students that are in these programs,” he said. “We’re in an era where things get cut all the time, and thankfully that doesn’t happen here in Glen Cove. The arts thrive here and are supported here.”

He added that budget cuts often threaten arts education elsewhere, but Glen Cove remains a place where music programs not only survive but flourish. “It’s just another way of saying, hey, look at the work that the students in Glen Cove do,” Norris said. “They’re recognized on a national level for being the best of the best.”

The district’s music program boasts a long list of accomplishments. “We have so many students that excel in the NYSSMA state competition,” Norris said, referring to the New York State School Music Association. “Those students receive All-County and All-State and all-national honors. We have our high school choir performing at all sorts of music festivals all over the country, and this year, as you know, internationally.”

Recent events include performances at a music festival at Hershey Park, in Hershey, Pennsylvania, where Glen Cove’s band and choir both earned first place, and the choir was named best overall ensemble. The orchestra took second place. This year, the choir and orchestra will take part in NYSSMA’s major ensemble festival. Meanwhile, middle school students in band, chorus and orchestra will compete at Six Flags in New Jersey.

“It’s really for those schools that go above and beyond to provide performing arts experiences to the students,” Norris

said. “It’s not easy to do this job, and with all of the directions that both the teachers and the students are pulled, it’s nice to see that it’s working, and we’re making a difference.”

Grace Guillen and Paloma Supica, seniors at the high school, are two of the many students who have benefited from the program’s strength. Guillen, 18, is a member of the Wind Ensemble, Jazz Band, Marching Band and Pit Orchestra. While she doesn’t plan to pursue music professionally, she hopes to continue playing in college ensembles, and possibly minor in music.

“It’s amazing knowing that there are so many people in my community that support the arts and the students learning music,” Guillen wrote in an email. “It’s a great way for kids to express themselves in our schools, and it’s great knowing that Glen Cove is recognized for its hardworking students and teachers.”

Guillen attributed the program’s success to her teachers. “Glen Cove has really spectacular music teachers,” she said. “Their dedication and encouragement is why we have such a great community for music education.”

Supica, 17, has been a member of Select Chorale and Tri-M Music Honor Society for three years, and previously sang in the mixed chorus. She plans to study psychology and neuroscience at the University of Colorado Boulder, but hopes to keep her passion for music alive.

“I plan to join and be an active member in a choir or a cappella group in college that will keep the musical side of me active and thriving,” she wrote.

For Supica, the award is a meaningful tribute. “This recognition is very important to me and to our community, because recognition like this wouldn’t happen without dedication and passion,” she wrote. “All the students and teachers in this district put so much of themselves into the music they make, so it’s so rewarding to be seen like this.”

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Sea Cliff rocks out to bands at Porchfest

By LUKE FEENEY
lfeeney@liherald.com

Over 700 people rocked out to the music of over 20 local bands on porches throughout the day on May 17 at Love Your Neighbor Projects' fourth annual Rock for Love Porchfest. The all-day walking music tour also raised nearly \$22,000.

"What gets created on a day like our Rock for Love Porchfest goes far beyond what meets the eye," said Love Your Neighbor Project's Chief Neighbor Jaime Teich. "Its true success isn't measured by how many tickets are sold or how many bands get booked. It's measured in moments—neighbors singing side by side, strangers dancing together, and a shared sense of community that transcends differences."

Attendees at this year's festival were able to purchase a \$20 map of the village detailing the locations and times at which the bands that have signed on will perform on the porches of some of Sea Cliff's homes.

Porchfest participants also had the option to ditch the paper map and access an interactive digital tour map for \$40. Finally, the VIP package contains a Porchfest shirt, one stainless steel water bottle, and one Love Your Neighbor Project towel for \$100.

In addition, this year's festival featured a built-in dinner break with local restaurants, Foster, Still Partners, Tavern 227, and The Onione Tree providing grab-and-go meals for attendees.

Sean Llewellyn, Love Your Neighbor Project's logistics manager and one of the founders of the porch-based musical festival, said that while the charity has yet to decide whether to continue the dinner break next year, it will always try to give back to stores throughout the village.

"We do want to continue to do everything we can to support our village and our local businesses that help keep local music going throughout the year," he



Photos courtesy Juliette Peckham

Attendees at this year's festival were able to purchase a \$20 map of the village detailing the locations and times at which the bands that have signed on will perform on the porches of some of Sea Cliff's homes.

said. "It was one of my great hopes in creating and developing this event for Sea Cliff that it would not only be a present to folks in the community, but also a way of showing some of the rest of the world a little glimpse into just how cool a town we are."

Molly Deegan, the owner and broker at the event's main sponsor, Branch Real Estate Group, attended it and hailed it as a complete success, praising the energy, music, and turnout throughout the day.

"While it's been successful every year to date, this year knocked it out of the park," she said. "The experience of being at Porchfest highlights what a beautiful community this is. Seeing all of those people from both Sea Cliff and the surrounding areas come together to enjoy a day like this is such an homage to my hometown and what makes it so special."



The Sea Cliff Porch Pickers, who play folk, americana, bluegrass and country music were one of several local bands performing at the festival.

Over 700 people rocked out to the music of over 20 local bands on porches throughout the day on May 17 at Love Your Neighbor Projects' fourth annual Rock for Love Porchfest.



HERALD LOCAL 10522 PUBLIC NOTICES

**LEGAL NOTICE
NOTICE TO BIDDERS**
Notice is hereby given that sealed bids for the following projects will be received by the Purchasing Agent of the City of Glen Cove, located at City Hall, rear entrance, 9 Glen Street, Glen Cove, New York no later than 10:00 a.m. prevailing time on Tuesday, June 17, 2025, at which time they will be opened and read aloud at 11:00 a.m.:
2025 Road, Drainage and Sidewalk Improvements at Various Locations
Bid No. 2025-006
Specifications are available for download

at <https://www.bidnetdire.com/new-york/cityofglen Cove>. Registration is free and instructions are available on <https://glencoveny.gov/bid-rfps/>. Each proposal must be submitted on the forms provided in the bid package, in a sealed envelope with the name of the bidder, the bid name, and number marked clearly on the outside of the envelope.
Yelena Quiles
Purchasing Agent
City of Glen Cove
May 21, 2025
153712
Place A Notice Call 516-569-4000 x232

**LEGAL NOTICE
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN** that a Public Hearing shall be held on Tuesday, May 27, 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 Franklin Avenue. All interested parties will be given an opportunity to be heard.
Tina Pemberton
City Clerk
153711
To Place A Notice Call 516-569-4000 x232

**LEGAL NOTICE
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN** that a Public Hearing shall be held on Tuesday, May 27, 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 Prospect Avenue. All interested parties will be given an opportunity to be heard.
Tina Pemberton
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Place a notice by phone at 516-569-4000 x232 or email: legalnotices@liherald.com

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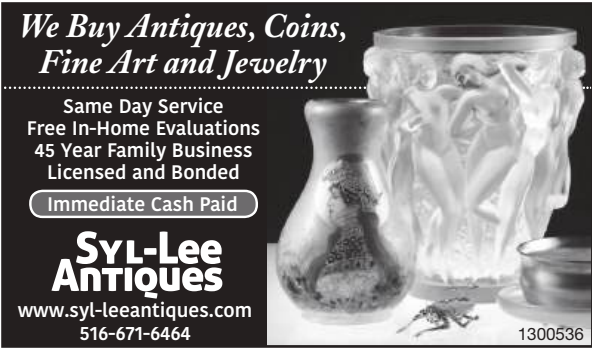
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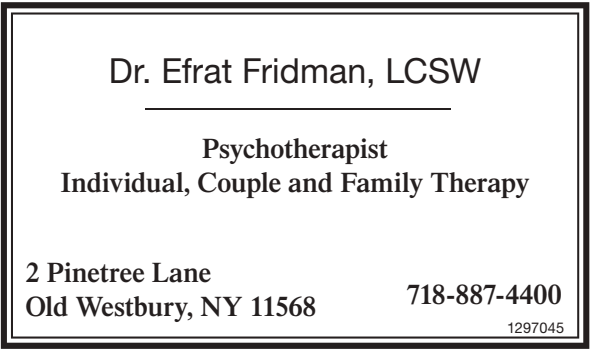
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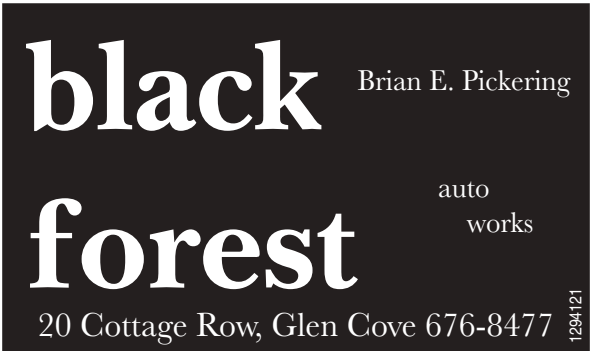
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OPINIONS

A recipe for respect in society

Over time, I asked my campus communities to think about what it means to be an ethical person, and our roles and obligations as members of society. Could we remain silent when we knew of social and economic injustice? Could we be indifferent in the face of unethical behavior and discrimination in the public square?



ROBERT A. SCOTT

Such thoughts were inspired again by news reports of bullying in politics, schoolyards, public hearings and international relations.

These are difficult times. Relations between groups are strained. I would hope that even in

times like these, families, clergy, teachers and leaders would prepare children and inspire others with the basic values of civility, courtesy, sincerity and respect. Our sense of community needs it. Our national values — freedom of speech, freedom of assembly, freedom of religion, democracy itself — will wither without it.

I think, as citizens, we must employ an “ethical eye” to observe and chal-

lenge societal patterns that test our sense of what is fair and just. This takes courage as well as compassion. It is our obligation to address injustices wherever they occur in a consistent manner, not with one lens for a friend and another for a foe. We must believe in tolerance, accepting that another can be right without my being wrong.

Compassion is a key component in how we relate to others. Many texts on leadership emphasize empathy, i.e., feeling the pain of others. This is better than simple sympathy, feeling sorry for others, but does not lead to necessary action. Compassion is an act of service, not just a feeling about others.

We often hear calls for greater “civility.” These calls frequently are in response to acts of aggression and other forms of humiliating behavior. Cries for civility are really calls for compassion and respect, to stop using fear or denigrating language as weapons. Such tactics by corporate and political leaders are especially troubling for the messages they send and the models of behavior they represent.

What we want is for people to be considerate, friendly, and even generous to

others. The most effective leaders know this. Saying “Thank you” or “You’re welcome” is not difficult. Being kind is even good for our health.

Respect is denied through acts of antisemitism, racism and other forms of prejudice. One result is fear. Therefore, it is understandable that those who have been subjected to bias personally or historically want respect and peaceful relations. Indeed, I assume that everyone wants respect as a simple fact of his or her being.

We should teach in our schools and houses of worship, and especially in our homes, that others should be respected, even if they are different from us. But there is a difference between respect for humanity at large, respect for ethnic, national, religious, racial and other groups in general, and respect for any one person.

Respect should be offered freely. An individual’s actions should no more reflect poorly on an entire group than a group’s actions should reflect poorly on any individual.

However, individual respect, once lost, can be regained only through effort: by expressing remorse and trying to help others. Respect is lost when someone acts in a callous manner, by

disregarding others, by belittling the place and relevance of others. When someone “demands” respect and does so in a manner that itself is disrespectful, he or she not only misses the point but also demeans the issue.

A school or college is a precious place. It is where truth, in whatever form, may be pursued without hindrance. It is where freedom of speech must be protected to the utmost. It is a place where diversity — of background, ethnicity, nationality, religion, physical ability or gender — should be respected. It is also a place where civil discourse and respect for one another is essential if a full and honest exchange of views is to be assured.

Without common courtesy, ears are closed. When ears are closed, there can be no mutual respect. We must learn to listen and disagree without being disagreeable. Those who shout the loudest for respect often do the least to gain it.

No one should be the *other* if our education has succeeded. We are one species, with each member seeking to find a unity connecting head, heart and hands — i.e. compassion — which is an act of respect.

Robert A. Scott is president emeritus of Adelphi University and co-author of “Letters to Students: What it Means to be a College Graduate” (Roman & Littlefield, 2024).

Calls for greater ‘civility’ are really calls for compassion and respect.

A season for patriotism in Glen Cove

It’s May in Glen Cove, and spring is in the air. As we walk the streets of our city, we see beautiful flowers, trees in bloom, and lawns turning green. The longer days, warmer weather and fresh colors of the season give us all a renewed sense of hope and energy.

May is also a time when we feel a renewed sense of patriotism. It’s a month of remembrance, of gratitude and of community. In Glen Cove, patriotism isn’t just something we feel on national holidays; it’s something we live every day. You can see it in the military tribute banners that will soon line the



PAMELA PANZENBECK

paths of Morgan Park, in the solemn wreath-laying ceremonies at our local monuments, and in the meaningful gathering of our beloved Memorial Day Parade.

This year’s parade honoree is William Joseph Morse, a Glen Cover who made the ultimate sacrifice during the Vietnam War. His family remembers

him as a local sports star, a protective brother and a proud soldier who answered the call to serve. The pain of that loss still resonates today. His story reminds us that behind every fallen hero is a family who continues to bear the weight of that sacrifice.

We are also proud to recognize our grand marshal, Tony Jimenez, a long-time Glen Cove resident, veteran, and advocate for fellow service members. Tony embodies what it means to serve not only through his military career, but also in his continued work supporting veterans in our community. We are deeply thankful for people like Tony, and for all veterans who have served our country in any capacity to defend our freedoms.

Glen Cove is home to many patriots. One of them is Eva Casale, who, along with her group Team EVA, runs seven marathons in seven days every year to raise money and awareness for veterans support services. She and the members of her team are selfless, dedicating much of their free time to train for this endeavor. Casale’s effort isn’t just a test

of endurance, it is a testament to selflessness, love and honor. Each stop on her journey honors a veteran, and her final steps always bring her home to Glen Cove. The city is honored to be the final stop on this powerful mission, and proud to welcome her back year after year.

Patriotism is also alive and well in our City Hall. Recently we gathered in the council chambers to witness a moving tribute. The Tribute and Honor Foundation, led by Gaitley Stevenson-Mathews and Ben Farnan, joined members of VFW Post 347 to present citations to two Glen Cove police officers, Derek and Owen Valance. These brothers, both Navy veterans, recently kayaked to raise funds for the Charles Evans Center to help expand its support services for veterans. As I said that day, Derek and Owen, who grew up in Glen Cove, were ordinary boys who became extraordinary men. After serving our country, they came home to serve our city, and we are so fortunate to have them as members of our Police Department.

They are not alone. Glen Cove police

officers like D.J. Martone and Phil Grela continue to serve our country with honor in the reserves. Their dual commitment — first to country, now to city — is a living example of what patriotism looks like in practice.

Patriotism isn’t just a word we use on Memorial Day; it is something we live all year long. It’s in the way we care for our veterans, honor the fallen and teach our children to remember. It’s in every flag that flies, every parade we plan and every moment we stop to say thank you. When you see a veteran, stop for a moment and thank him or her for their service.

As we come together this Memorial Day, I hope each of us will take a moment to reflect on the freedoms we enjoy and the sacrifices that have made them possible. Let’s honor those who gave their lives by living ours with purpose, gratitude and unity. As my Grandpop Ollie always said, “Freedom isn’t free!”

From the bottom of my heart, thank you to all who serve — and to all who remember.

Wishing you and your families a peaceful and meaningful Memorial Day.

Pamela D. Panzenbeck is mayor of Glen Cove.

It isn’t just something we feel on national holidays; it’s something we live every day.

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ROKSANA AMID
Editor

RHONDA GLICKMAN
Vice President - Sales

OFFICE

2 Endo Boulevard
Garden City, NY 11530
Phone: (516) 569-4000
Fax: (516) 569-4942
Web: glencove.liherald.com
E-mail: glencove-editor@liherald.com
Twitter: @NSHeraldGazette

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HERALD EDITORIAL

Memorial Day: so much more than a day of rest

As the last Monday in May approaches, many Americans look forward to Memorial Day as the unofficial start of summer — a three-day weekend filled with barbecues, beach trips, travel and clearance sales.

But while there's nothing wrong with enjoying time with loved ones, we must not allow convenience and celebration to overshadow the solemn significance of the holiday. Memorial Day isn't just a day off. It is a day of remembrance — a national moment of pause to honor the men and women of the United States military who gave their lives in service to our country.

Established in the aftermath of the Civil War, Memorial Day — originally known as Decoration Day — was born of collective mourning. Families and communities across a fractured nation placed flowers on soldiers' graves, uniting in grief and reverence. The federal holiday was established in 1971.

Over time, the holiday expanded to commemorate all American military personnel who have died in service. It is not to be confused with Veterans Day, which honors all who have served, living and deceased. Memorial Day is specifi-

cally for the fallen.

Yet in our modern era, its meaning often gets lost amid the grilling, the chilling and the discount ads. It's easy to be swept up in the excitement of an extra day off or the first beach trip of the season. But convenience should not breed complacency. Memorial Day deserves more than a casual nod — it demands deliberate remembrance.

Why does that matter? Because freedom isn't free, and it never has been. The rights we exercise daily — to speak, to vote, to gather, to live safely — were defended by those who never came home.

Behind every headstone in Arlington National Cemetery, and in others across the nation, lies a story of courage, sacrifice and love of country. Behind every folded flag handed to a grieving family is a reminder that someone paid the ultimate price.

To ignore that reality — to reduce Memorial Day to little more than a festive long weekend — is to forget a fundamental part of our national identity. In honoring the fallen, we not only show respect for their sacrifice, but we reinforce the values they died protecting: duty, service, unity, and democratic freedom.

So what can we do differently?

Start small. Take part in the National Moment of Remembrance at 3 p.m. local time on Monday, when Americans are encouraged to pause for one minute in silence. Visit a local veterans' cemetery or memorial. Attend a parade or ceremony in your town. Talk to children and young people about why the day matters. Share a story of a fallen service member. Fly the American flag at half-staff.

Better yet, turn remembrance into action. Donate to an organization that supports Gold Star families or wounded veterans. Write to an elected official in support of improved services for military families. Volunteer for a group that helps transitioning service members reintegrate into civilian life. Service should not end at the battlefield, and gratitude should not last only one day.

On Memorial Day, we're not asked to stop living or celebrating. We are asked to remember why we can. We are asked to be present — not just at the picnic table, but in thought and in spirit, connecting with the sacrifices that afforded us this life of liberty.

Let this Memorial Day be more than an extended weekend. Let it be a day of purpose. A day of honor. A day to remember.

Horse named Journalism showed what's possible

He was five lengths back, bumped and bruised, as he fought through a crowded pack in the Preakness Stakes, one of horse racing's biggest events. But Journalism didn't fold, even when he looked to be down and out. He found daylight in the final turn, charged down the stretch, and stormed past the leaders to win in spectacular fashion.

It was gritty. It was powerful. And it was symbolic.

Because while Journalism the horse crossed the finish line in triumph, journalism the profession is reeling — and falling further behind every day.

In New York, dozens of local newspapers have shuttered over the past year, even in some of the wealthiest commu-

nities. Trusted reporters have vanished from towns and villages across the state. There's no one left to sit through school board meetings, follow the money at town halls, or tell the human stories that hold communities together.

The decline isn't distant. It's here. It's happening now. And yet there is still a clear lane for journalism organizations to triumph — if we fight for it.

Last year, New York passed a first-in-the-nation tax credit to support truly local journalism. That policy, now in effect, offers a lifeline to community-based newspapers. It was made possible by the Empire State Local News Coalition, a nonpartisan alliance of more than 200 local newspapers in New York — including the Herald — that are com-

mitted to keeping local reporting alive.

To turn that legislative victory into a lasting comeback, the Empire State Local News Coalition needs support — from readers, businesses, neighbors and anyone who cares about truth, transparency and community camaraderie.

Because while four legs carried Journalism to victory, it's the Fourth Estate that carries our democracy — and right now, it's running out of steam.

If you appreciate the work we do covering your schools, government, family, friends and more, then please donate to the Empire State Local News Coalition at SaveNYLocalNews.com/support. With your help, journalism — the one that informs, uplifts and protects — can make a dramatic comeback, too.

LETTERS

Peter King goes way too easy on Elon Musk

To the Editor:

Not once, but twice, in his column "We

must restore Musk's cuts of the 9/11 health fund" last week, Peter King made excuses for Elon Musk's inexcusable, reckless and immoral cuts: 1) "... to undo the damage, *intentional or not* ..." by Elon Musk's chain-saw cuts"; and 2) "... Elon Musk's misplaced cuts ... *probably made unknowingly* ..."

A reality check, and some honesty, please, about the cruel and harmful effects of DOGE's very aware and deliberate actions negatively affecting the American people, totally backed up by this administration and Project 2025.

I will never understand why a spade can't

OPINIONS

Celebrating the true meaning of Memorial Day

Memorial Day marks the unofficial start of summer, when we can spend time outdoors, enjoy barbecues, and get a good deal at a Memorial Day sale. Unfortunately, too many people think that's what Memorial Day is about, and have forgotten the true meaning of the day.



MARSHA SILVERMAN

Memorial Day is a solemn holiday to honor our nation's war dead — those who sacrificed all to defend the Constitution of the United States, which provides us with the precious freedoms we enjoy.

I am deeply honored to serve as co-chair of the 2025 Glen Cove

Memorial Day Parade Committee. Along with my co-chair Mike Napoli and the rest of the committee, I invite you to celebrate the true meaning of Memorial Day by attending one of our planned events in Glen Cove this holiday weekend.

The military banner unveiling will take place at Morgan Park on Sunday at 11 a.m., followed at noon by the wreath-

laying ceremony, featuring a short service at each city monument, beginning with the World War II monument in Morgan Park, then the monuments at the library, on Ford Street, on Elm Avenue, at Calvary AME Cemetery and at the Church of St. Rocco.

On Monday, the Memorial Day ceremony at Monument Park begins at 11 a.m., followed by the parade at noon. The parade starts on Forest Avenue and proceeds through the downtown. I hope the streets will be lined with spectators in support of our veterans.

The parade is a long-standing event that provides an important opportunity for our community to come together to honor and recognize those who have made the ultimate sacrifice for our country. The parade and wreath-laying ceremony carry with them deep roots in the history of the city. We honor our cherished Glen Cove veterans, and members of the military everywhere, who unselfishly dedicated their lives to the greater good.

Each year, the committee selects a Glen Cover who died in combat as the parade honoree, as well as a veteran

from Glen Cove as the grand marshal of the parade. This year's grand marshal is Tony Jimenez, a dedicated public servant, a former longtime city councilman, a veteran advocate and a U.S.

Army infantryman who served in Vietnam and was awarded the Purple Heart for his service. Tony currently serves as Glen Cove's director of veterans services, where he assists veterans and their families in navigating federal and state programs that offer vital benefits and assistance.

This year's honoree is William "Billie" Morse.

Sergeant Morse was born on Oct. 29, 1945, in Glen Cove. He was drafted into the Army through the Selective Service, and began his tour of duty in Vietnam on Sept. 24, 1967. Assigned to the 2nd Platoon, C Company, 3rd Battalion, 21st Infantry Regiment, 196th Infantry Brigade — part of the America I Division — Morse served as a light weapons infantryman. On May 2, 1968, during the intense fighting near Nhi Ha in Quang Tri Province, he was killed in action.

This engagement was part of the broader Tet II offensive, in which North

Vietnamese forces launched widespread attacks across South Vietnam. The battle near Nhi Ha was crucial in halting the enemy's advance toward key supply bases at Dong Ha and Quang Tri. The 3rd Battalion, 21st Infantry played a significant role in this defense, but the cost was high: 12 soldiers from C Company, including Morse, lost their lives that day.

For his service and sacrifice, Morse was posthumously awarded several honors, including the Purple Heart and the Combat Infantryman Badge. And on Monday, we will honor him in his hometown of Glen Cove, and remember that because of brave men like Morse, who paid the ultimate price in defending democracy abroad, we get to enjoy liberty here at home.

On behalf of the entire Memorial Day Parade Committee, I hope you will find the parade, the ceremony and the wreath-laying events meaningful, and remember the souls that have given their lives for freedom and country. Freedom is not free; rather, it is something we must all fight to preserve every day to ensure that those who sacrificed life and limb for our country did not do so in vain. Never forget!

Marsha Silverman is a Glen Cove city councilwoman and a co-chair of the Memorial Day Parade Committee.

LETTERS

be called a spade when it comes to Donald Trump. As I recall from Mr. King's columns, he was a good Catholic Brooklyn kid. Well, so was I, and I am thankful every day that I never lost the strength to call out nonsense when needed, no matter who is involved.

JOSIE MARINO
Lynbrook

The government, as is, won't restore Musk's cuts

To the Editor:

Peter King's demand that "this insanity must end" is too narrow, and made of the wrong people. "We" cannot "restore" anything until the elections next year.

Those who can have bigger bills to fry. "We" empowered MAGA to cut undefined waste, fraud and abuse, which is what they did, and put it all into their current budget. Mr. King's complaint about the 9/11 fund's being "seriously threatened" by "misplaced cuts" applies to all items in that bill, and the only way to restore anything begins with dismantling that ugly construction. Fortunately, as of today, that seems possible if 2026 restores

sanity to our federal government.

BRIAN KELLY
Rockville Centre

Time to address the decades-old immigration problem

To the Editor:

I take issue with Murad Awahdeh and Melanie Creps's opinion piece in the May 8-14 issue, "Cooperating with ICE will not make us safer." As a son of a legal immigrant, I counted at least 10 mentions of the word "immigrant," but without the word "illegal" preceding it. Was this an attempt to slant the piece in one direction?

In all my years, I have never seen an outreach toward our own homeless, veterans, mentally ill and addicted like I saw toward people who were allowed to enter our country through the open borders of the previous administration.

I would like nothing more than to see Congress come up with a bipartisan package to make legal immigration more enticing and vetted. What we have now is not only a strain on local budgets, but also the exploitation of these people working for substandard wages and the subsequent strain on



social services.

Allowing self-deportation with the opportunity to come back legally would be the best approach for everybody. With all these companies willing to invest in plants to keep jobs here, and the present shortage of people in the trades, there will be more than enough jobs to be filled, with opportunities for American

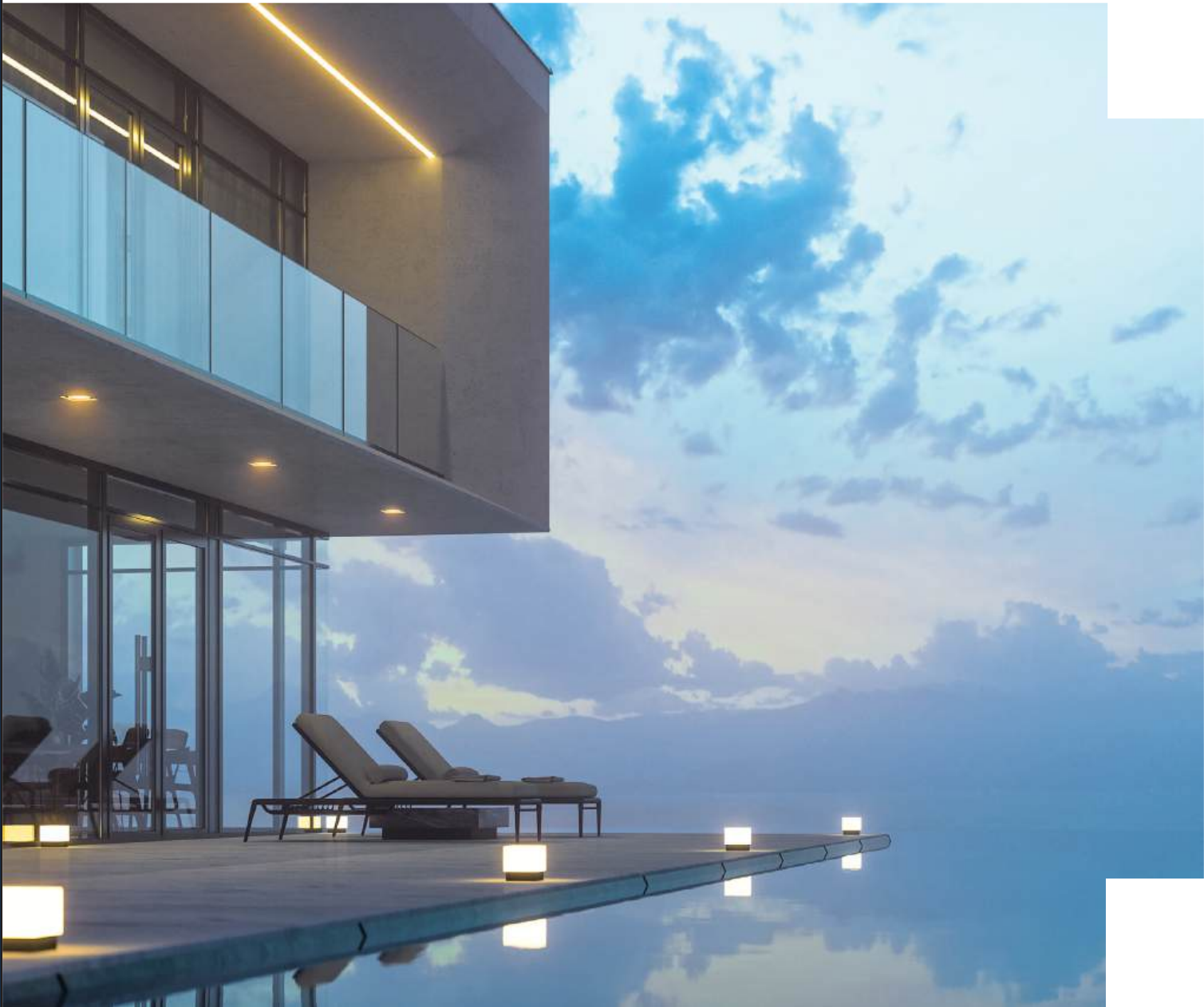
citizens first, and then legalized immigrants to follow. It would be a win-win for everybody, and also for the Trump administration, by finally addressing a decades-old problem that has never been dealt with properly.

TONY GIAMETTA
Oceanside



Daniel
Gale

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