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**National Night out is Aug. 5**  
Page 03



**Town Hall with Tom Suozzi**  
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Courtesy Roni Jenkins

## A tropical afternoon in the city

Celeste Gullo, above, brought her daughters, Alexa, Sofia and Vanessa, to Island Vibes, at the Glen Cove Ferry Terminal, on July 17. Right, Irma Jeanty and Karen Jones enjoyed chilled drinks on the hot summer day.



# Heated public hearing over Propel project

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

Dozens of North Shore residents crowded into the Knights of Columbus hall in Glen Cove on Tuesday to voice opposition to the proposed Propel NY Energy project, a \$3.26 billion underground network of transmission lines slated to be routed through local neighborhoods and under Hempstead Harbor. While state officials say the initiative would modernize New York's power grid and boost clean-energy access, residents and business owners say the cost to their communities would be too high.

The afternoon hearing, hosted by the New York State Public Service Commission, featured impassioned testimony from nearly every speaker, all but a few of whom opposed the project. The transmission line would pass through Glen Head, Glenwood Landing and Glen Cove to a new substation in Glen Head, and extend under the Long Island Sound to Westchester

County. Nassau County Legislator Delia DeRiggi-Whitton, the Legislature's minority leader and a Glen Cove resident, said she could not support the project in its current form, despite being a Democrat, like Gov. Kathy Hochul, and an advocate of green energy.

"I have major concerns," DeRiggi-Whitton said in her testimony. "This is not the first time I've come out publicly. Everyone loves the idea of green energy, but the transparency here is sorely lacking. It's been incredibly difficult to get accurate information."

She also noted the PSC's prior handling of rate hikes by American Water and Liberty Water in Sea Cliff, saying her trust in the commission had eroded after residents were "left behind" during past rate restructuring. "I couldn't even get a meeting with them then," DeRiggi-Whitton said. "Now we're here again, asking for answers we can't get."

She raised environmental

**T**his project would be a direct hit to our small businesses.

**DAWN COSTELLO**  
Sea Cliff resident

CONTINUED ON PAGE 13



## G.C. Rotary hosts kidney fundraiser

The Glen Cove Rotary Club held a sold-out fundraiser on Thursday, May 29, at the Glen Cove Anglers Club in support of David Geliashvili, a respected community member in need of a kidney.

Geliashvili is well known for his work at the Glen Cove Senior Center and La Bussola Restaurant. His support and inspiration have extended far beyond any one setting, consistently offered without fanfare. That spirit of service was reflected in the turnout, as hundreds of community members attended to uplift his spirits and raise awareness on his behalf.

The event featured several speakers. Mayor Pamela Panzenbeck shared how deserving Geliashvili is of the recognition. George Lortkipanidze, a dear friend and fellow native of Geliashvili's homeland, spoke about their friendship and the bond they've built through the years. Pete Prudente discussed his personal experience as a kidney donor and the fulfillment it brought him.

Libbie Binkiewicz, Community Relations Program Manager and Living Donor Ambassador for Northwell Health's Department of Transplantation, also spoke about working with Geliashvili through the donation process. Those interested in learning

more about kidney donation or being tested as a potential donor can contact Binkiewicz at 516-666-0899 or email lbinkiewicz@northwell.edu.

The Rotary Club thanked all sponsors, donors, merchants, and attendees who made the event possible. Special thanks were extended to the Glen Cove Anglers Club, Stevenson Printing, La Bussola Restaurant, Sid's All American, and Wild Honey Restaurant in Oyster Bay.

This year marks the Glen Cove Rotary Club's 100th anniversary. Those interested in joining can contact President Toya Davis at tdavis@tiegerman.org. The club, which typically meets on a weekly basis, aims to help the Glen Cove community with its various needs. The Glen Cove chapter of the rotary club turned 100 this April, and has many long-standing traditions, such as the "dress a child" provides children with winter coats during the colder months. Another tradition helps children attend the YMCA and the Boys and Girls Club. The group typically takes a hiatus in the summer, but does meet at local businesses to plan various events throughout the year.

—Roksana Amid

## Chicago tribute concert and stargazing

On Sunday, July 27 at 7:00 p.m., the Morgan Park Summer Music Festival will present an evening of classic rock and astronomy at Morgan Memorial Park. The event will feature a live performance by Beginnings, the ultimate tribute band to the legendary rock group Chicago, followed by a special stargazing experience hosted by Dr. Donald Lubovich of Hofstra University.

Beginnings has been performing since 2002 and is widely recognized for its faithful recreations of Chicago's biggest hits, including Beginnings, Color My World, Saturday in the Park, and Hard to Say I'm Sorry. The seven-piece band delivers an authentic Chicago concert experience, known for its musicianship, energy, and attention to detail.

Following the concert, audience members of all ages are invited to take part in an astronomy outreach session led by Dr. Lubovich. Using telescopes, attendees will have the chance to observe the stars and night sky over Morgan Park with expert guidance. The astronomy program returns this year after a well-received appearance last summer.

The concert and stargazing event are free and open to the public. All performances in the Morgan Park Summer Music Festival series are held at

Morgan Memorial Park, located on Germaine Street between Landing Road and McLoughlin Street, overlooking Hempstead Harbor in Glen Cove.

The Morgan Park Summer Music Festival is a nonprofit, all-volunteer organization funded entirely through donations from individuals and local businesses. No taxpayer money is used to support the concerts. The Title Sponsor for the 2025 season is the Terian Family and Rallye Motor Company.

In the event of inclement weather, updates will be posted on the festival's Facebook page. The festival is a summer favorite. Running through August the festival runs concerts every Sunday evening that showcases a variety of tribute bands from Queen, to the Grateful Dead. Its unwavering success can be attributed to the unwavering dedication of the Suozzi family, team of volunteers and generous donations. The festival was founded by Joseph Suozzi, the then mayor of Glen Cove and his wife, Marguerite, who chaired the festival for 56 years, overseeing much of the festival operations until her death in 2017.

—Roksana Amid

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1307407



## National Night Out:

# Glen Cove salutes Police Chief Whitton

By ROKSANA AMID

ramid@liherald.com

The Glen Cove Police Department will recognize Chief William Whitton's lifetime of service and community leadership at this year's National Night Out, taking place Aug. 5, from 6 to 8:30 p.m. on Bridge Street outside police headquarters. The event, co-hosted by the City of Glen Cove, Glen Cove PBA, Youth Bureau, Volunteer Fire Department, EMS, Housing Authority, Downtown B.I.D., and local businesses, will bring the community together for a festive and educational evening promoting public safety and neighborhood unity.

Sergeant Roberto Telese, chairperson of National Night Out, encourages all residents to attend and help honor Chief Whitton, whose career spans more than 40 years in law enforcement — all of them in his hometown.

"Chief Whitton has always led by example," said Deputy Chief Christopher Ortiz. "His dedication to the safety and well-being of Glen Cove is unmatched."

Mayor Pamela Panzenbeck praised his calming presence and public service. "His steady leadership has been a guiding force in our community," she said.

Born and raised in Glen Cove, Whitton, 65, grew up in a home built by his grandfather. He attended the city's public schools before graduating from Long Island University, CW Post, in 1983. Though initially planning to pursue law school, a neighbor who served in law enforcement encouraged him to take the police exam. Whitton passed near the top of the list and accepted the job in 1984 — a decision that, he said, "changed everything."

Whitton worked his way up through the ranks, starting on patrol and later serving as a motorcycle officer, detective, sergeant (1997), lieutenant (2003), deputy chief (2006), and eventually chief in 2007. He has handled everything from undercover work during the crack epidemic to overseeing budgets and implementing training protocols.

Throughout his career, Whitton has emphasized community engagement and empathy as core values. He helped launch Glen Cove's version of the PRIDE program, an offshoot of DARE, which teaches fifth graders about self-esteem, bullying prevention, and resisting drugs and alcohol. "It gives kids positive exposure to police officers," Whitton said. "I've had people come up to me years later and tell me it made a difference."

Following the tragedy at Sandy Hook Elementary School in 2012, Whitton implemented a daily walk-through program in Glen Cove schools. Officers make unannounced visits, building familiarity with school layouts and relationships with students and staff. "It's about being present in a positive way," he said. "A casual conversation can change how someone sees the police —



Charles Drowns, left, showed Amelio and Pascqualina Giovannelino, far right, a closer look at FBI equipment.



Mia Escobar was one of the many curious youth who got to explore a police car.

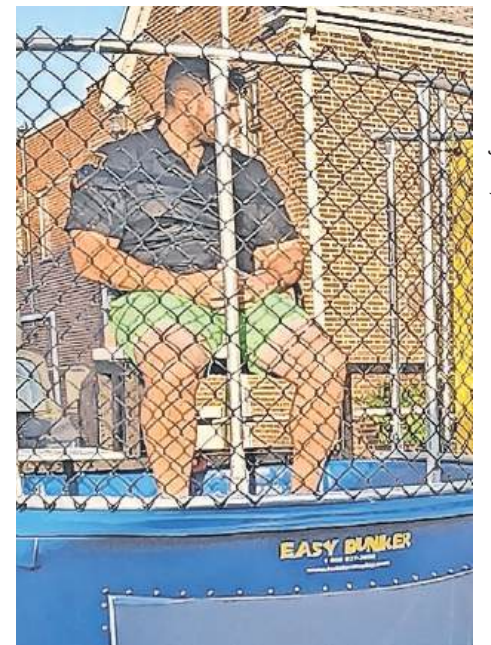
or even how they see themselves."

Whitton's approach to leadership is rooted in self-discipline and mindfulness. He credits daily exercise and a strong support system for helping him manage the pressures of the job. "I've always found cardio to be a big stress reliever," he said. "But just as important is keeping a positive mindset and surrounding yourself with good people."

That balance has carried over to his policies. While he is committed to pub-

lic safety — recently announcing a crackdown on illegal motorized bikes in the city — he focuses on education and behavioral change over punishment. "We're not looking to take anyone's money or ruin anyone's day," he said. "We want people, especially kids, to think twice, make better choices, and stay safe."

Under his leadership, the Glen Cove Police Department has gained a reputation for professionalism and responsive-



Roksana Amid/ Herald photos

Two years ago, attendees had the opportunity to play with a dunk tank.



Police Chief William Whitton is this year's honoree for National Night Out.

ness, with average call response times under two minutes and consistently high marks from the community. He attributes much of that to the department's rigorous hiring and training process. "We work for the people, and our officers understand that," he said. "That's something I drill into them from the start. You're part enforcer, part counselor, part caregiver. It's not a job where you do the same thing every day. It's an evolution — and you grow with it."

For Whitton, the upcoming National Night Out is not just a celebration of his career but of a shared mission. "This job has been personally rewarding," he said. "Most people are good. They just want to be heard. If we listen — and treat people with respect — we can make a real difference."



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In Elder Law Estate Planning There's More  
Misinformation than Information

Recently, we came across an article by a syndicated columnist that claimed that if you put your house into an irrevocable trust you lose your exclusion from the capital gains tax on the sale of the primary residence — \$500,000 for a couple and \$250,000 for a single person. The writer, being a financial planner and not a trust and estates lawyer, and despite claiming to be an “expert”, was apparently unaware that there are many different types of irrevocable trusts. One of the most common irrevocable trusts, the Medicaid Asset Protect Trust (MAPT), is designed to preserve these exclusions. MAPT’s are “grantor trusts” which mean they remain in the grantor’s name for all income and capital gains tax purposes. This leads into a very common problem. Too often, clients receive advice on trusts from financial advisors, accountants and family lawyers, believing they are getting a professional opinion. We say that what they are actually getting is a personal opinion coming out of a professional’s mouth.

We often make the analogy that if, unfortunately, you have cancer then you want to

get advice from an oncologist, not your family doctor. If you have an elder law estate planning problem, you want to talk to an elder law estate planning attorney, not your general lawyer, financial advisor or accountant. Well-meaning professionals often give incorrect information.

Here are the most common myths about the MAPT:

- **Myth:** You can’t sell the house - **Reality:** We have done it thousands of times. The money is paid to the trust and remains protected. The trust can purchase another house, a condominium or simply invest the money and pay you the income.
- **Myth:** You can’t change the trust - **Reality:** You may change the trustees, or who you are leaving it to, at any time.
- **Myth:** You can’t take money out of the trust - **Reality:** You get all the income (interest and dividends) and you may gift virtually any amount tax-free to your children.
- **Myth:** You cannot undo the trust - **Reality:** In New York you may revoke an irrevocable trust on the consent of all named parties. If one will not sign, we have a workaround.

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D

ear Great Book Guru,  
My friends and I love Story-  
Time at Sea Cliff Beach. Every  
Wednesday throughout the  
summer at 10:30 we meet up  
for a story, songs, and a bub-  
ble parade under the lovely  
blue canvases. Last week, one  
of the parents mentioned a  
new book made up of the  
voices of twenty-one residents  
of a small village in County  
Limerick. It sounds interest-  
ing – thoughts?

ANN  
DIPIETRO

Storytime Fan

Dear Storytime Fan,

Donal Ryan’s “Heart Beat Peace” tells the story of a village coming back from disastrous economic turmoil. But old grudges and new problems beset the community.

Twenty-one residents -all intercon-  
nected - tell their stories in short, lyrical  
chapters. Bobby is a middle-aged man  
with a loving wife and a booming busi-  
ness but is beset with terrible rage.  
Milly is a young girl torn by love for her  
grandmother and a very dangerous

young man. Pokey is a young man run-  
ning a bogus school that provides illegal  
visas. Lily is a witch by training and  
makes her living selling potions to  
needy neighbors.

Dylan is a young boy who  
was kidnapped for two days  
and troubled for years after.  
Sean is torturing a lifelong  
friend with compromising  
photos. Jim is a retired  
policeman who says: “Mad-  
ness comes circling around -  
every ten years - as sure as  
the sun rises.”

Each of the residents tells  
his/her story and we come to  
see the value of village life  
and – yes - its vexations.

Some stories are more  
nuanced but all show a deep under-  
standing of difficult situations - the  
most difficult being an insidious drug  
ring. Both young and old are impacted  
and the eventual resolution is disturb-  
ing but inevitable. Recommended!

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

CRIME WATCH

ARRESTS

■ A 44-year-old Glen Cove man was arrested on July 13 for aggravated unlicensed operation of a motor vehicle, unlicensed operation, and driving with inadequate lights on Glen Cove Avenue.

■ A 25-year-old Glen Cove woman was arrested on July 15 for criminal possession of a weapon in the fourth degree, menacing, and two counts of endangering the welfare of a child on Carpenter Street.

■ A 40-year-old man was arrested on July 16 for aggravated harassment in the second degree on McKay Road in Huntington Station.

■ A 45-year-old Glen Cove man was arrested on July 17 for suspended registration, no registration plates, no insurance, and driving the wrong way on a one-way road on Maryland Avenue.

■ A 22-year-old Glen Cove man was arrested on July 18 for trespassing, resisting arrest, and obstructing governmental administration on Glen Cove Avenue.

■ A 31-year-old Glen Cove man was arrested on July 19 for aggravated unlicensed operation of a motor vehicle in the second degree, unlicensed operation, and unsafe lane change on Cedar Swamp Road.

GLEN COVE

HERALD

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

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

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The Glen Cove Herald USPS 008886, is published every Thursday by Richner Communications, Inc., 2 Endo Blvd. Garden City, NY 11530. Periodicals postage paid at Garden City, NY 11530 and additional mailing offices. Postmaster send address changes to Glen Cove Herald, 2 Endo Blvd. Garden City, NY 11530. Subscriptions: \$60 one-time payment within Nassau County or \$76 outside of Nassau County or by qualified request in zip codes 11542, 11545, 11547, 11548 or 11579 Copyright © 2025 Richner Communications, Inc. All rights reserved.

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DATES

July 6 | “GLEN COVE NIGHT”

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July 13 | **Kenny & Luke’s Country Beach Party**

The Music of Kenny Chesney & Luke Bryan

July 20 | **Netty & Friends and The Men of Soul**

An Evening of Soul, Motown and R&B

July 27 | **Beginnings**

A Celebration of the Music of Chicago

August 3 | **Harvest**

An Evening of Neil Young

August 10 | **Gershwin and Bernstein on Broadway**

Massapequa Philharmonic - David Bernard, Conductor

August 17 | **The Midtown Men**

Jersey Boys cast members perform songs from the 60s

August 24 | **Are You Ready for It? - A Taylor Experience**

The Music of Taylor Swift

August 31 | **Miami Sound Revue**

The Music of Gloria Estefan and the Miami Sound Machine

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Morgan Park overlooks the harbor at Germaine Street between Landing Road and McLoughlin Street in Glen Cove.  
Bring chairs or blankets, and a picnic if you wish. Children are welcome.

Morgan Park Summer Music Festival is a not-for-profit organization, administered by an all-volunteer team. No taxpayer money is used or requested for these concerts. Our seasons of professional, family-oriented performances are funded entirely through tax-deductible contributions.

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1307532

## ON THE ROAD WITH A TAKEOUT QUEEN

# Soulmates on Plates

I've always felt like a misfit. No matter who I'm with, I feel as if I'm the quirky one. So, when I go out to eat, I gravitate toward dishes with offbeat, unexpected combinations of ingredients that somehow come together. I guess I'm looking for a food soulmate. This month, I found food soulmates in two new restaurants, plus one that's reopening and another under new management.

### Max & Mina's Pop Up (96 South St., Oyster Bay)

This new ice cream summer pop up shop is a haven for those who love to try flavors they've never seen before. To name a few, there are ice cream scoops called Entenmann's Crumb Donut, Raspberry Cinnamon Muffin, Chocolate Fudge Poundcake, Cap'n Crunch Oreo and Cap'n Crunch Peanut Butter. My food soulmate is the Sponge Bob ice cream because I'm a sponge as well. I absorb all the problems in the world plus my own and sink to the bottom of the ocean.

### Ravagh Persian Grill (210 Mineola Ave., Roslyn Heights)

After a recent renovation, this family-friendly restaurant has a chic, sleek setting with an inviting vibe. For those who search for unusual food combinations, there are 16 kabobs to choose from including lamb chop kabobs and Cornish hen kabobs. Five traditional stews join authentic Persian appetizers, soups, falafels and salads. (The Shirazi salad is my favorite.)

I must say, the unexpected ingredients in the basmati rice specials have become my dearest friends. The Zereshk Polo basmati rice dish includes almonds, pistachios and saffron. The Albaloo Polo basmati dish includes sweet and sour cherries, and the Green Rice version dances with dill and fava beans. The portions are large, so I bring the leftovers home and mix them in a

tossed salad the next day. I marvel at the offbeat combinations I create that somehow come together.

### La Bottega (6245 Northern Blvd., East Norwich)

In this newest addition to the La Bottega restaurants, the menu matches the one in Glen Cove. It features chicken, meat, steak, turkey and vegetarian entrees, as well as six types of bruschetta, soups, salads, tacos, pizza and pasta. I couldn't resist trying the pea, zucchini and leek soup because I'd never tasted those vegetables together in a bowl. Now, I can't get enough of this perfectly pureed, silky soup the isn't made with milk or cream. Each mouthful brings me back to my grandmother's kitchen.



CATHI TUROW

### Arata's Deli (303 Sea Cliff Ave., Sea Cliff)

This longtime neighborhood deli is under new management. So, every time I walk into the store there's something new on the shelves. I'm most excited about the purple Coleslaw (made with purple cabbage). It's super fresh, delightfully crunchy and it's not drowning in mayonnaise. I'm happy I found a purple food soulmate.

For breakfast, the egg sandwiches are a huge hit. There are also muffins, bagels and cups of the finest Columbian coffee. The lunch menu is blossoming with sandwiches plus chicken cutlets and sides. As the weather gets cooler, the new owner, Matt Garry, told me he'll offer heartier lunches such as chicken parmigiana and meatloaf with gravy. He said, "I'm figuring out what customers want, and I welcome suggestions. Someone asked for rainbow bagels and now they're here." Hmmmm...what can I ask for?

See you next month!

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Applications are now open for the SUNY Harvey Milk Award for Student Leadership until September.

## SUNY nominations for Harvey Milk Award

The State University of New York has opened nominations for its second annual Harvey Milk Award for Student Leadership, honoring the memory of the pioneering LGBTQIA+ rights advocate who was assassinated in 1978.

The scholarship recognizes upper-level students who have dedicated themselves to advancing LGBTQIA+ inclusiveness on their campuses. Nominations from campus presidents or self-nominations by students will be accepted through September.

Harvey Milk, a Woodmere native and Bay Shore High School graduate, earned his degree from the University at Albany in 1951 before moving to California, where he became the first openly gay elected official in the state.

Milk was assassinated in San Francisco in 1978, less than a year after taking office as a city supervisor.

"SUNY is proud to call Harvey Milk an alumnus, and we are honored to help continue his legacy through the Harvey Milk Award for Student Leadership scholarship," SUNY Chancellor John B. King Jr wrote in a news release. "Harvey Milk was the epitome of leadership during extremely difficult times for the LGBTQIA+ community and has inspired countless others to stand up for equality, justice, and acceptance."

The inaugural recipient was Vinny Aquino, a SUNY Cortland graduate

from Uniondale who helped transform pride into one of the campus's most diverse student organizations.

As a trans man and person with cerebral palsy, Aquino's experience informed his leadership approach.

"Joining Pride helped me find community early in my college experience and feel happier and more fulfilled," Aquino wrote in a news release. "I hope people know there's a big queer community that's willing to embrace everyone in SUNY."

To qualify for the scholarship, students must be full-time upper class or graduate students in good academic standing who have demonstrated commitment to advancing an inclusive campus community for LGBTQIA+ members. Applicants must show leadership experiences with significant positive impact on campus or local communities and submit a one-page essay with one letter of recommendation.

State Senator Brad Hoylman-Sigal praised the scholarship program, noting that while Milk is most associated with San Francisco, "Harvey Milk was born and raised in New York and was a proud SUNY graduate. He was also an iconic human rights and political advocate who remains an inspiration to millions."

—Melissa Berman





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# Healing the harbor one oyster at a time

By JULIA CAPITELLI

Intern

Oysters have made a splash in Hempstead Harbor for the fourth straight summer thanks to the efforts of a local environmental nonprofit.

The Coalition to Save Hempstead Harbor got its delivery of oysters on Tuesday for its summer oyster gardening initiative. 75,000 spat-on-shell oysters were delivered at Tappen Beach in Sea Cliff where volunteers transferred them to cages which were then lowered into the water.

The coalition started oyster gardening in 2022 at three locations and added a fourth in 2023 to make it a harbor-wide project. The oysters that were not put in the water at Tappen Beach Marina were transported by volunteers to Sea Cliff Yacht Club, Hempstead Harbour Club and North Hempstead Beach Park.

"This year we actually have the most volunteers that have signed up yet," said Sarah Stromski, project manager for the initiative. "So it's really exciting."

Eastern oysters are a species native to the area and play a crucial role in Hempstead Harbor's ecosystem. The oysters help filter water and form clusters that act as miniature habitats for other marine animals. They also attract other marine life, supporting biodiversity.

Associate Director Lisa Cashman explained the importance of using native species for the project. "Time has shown us that when you introduce non native species into ecosystems, it has unintended consequences," she said. "So that's certainly not something we would want to do."

The oysters are provided by the Cornell Cooperative Extension of Suffolk County's shellfish hatchery in Southold. They are then raised at the coalition's four locations where they are measured by volunteers as they grow.

"It's a great educational opportunity for both children and adults," Stromski said.

Volunteers are also responsible for cleaning the oysters and their cages. Biofouling like algae and sea squirts accumulate on the cages which inhibit oyster growth. Cashman explained that the coalition's work is based on a previous study not done by the coalition that shows that when spat-on-shell oysters reach a critical size, survivability is greatly improved. The initiative focuses on getting the oysters to that size.

The goal of the program is to get the oyster population to be self farming and self supporting. Cashman said that the coalition would like to continue to run the initiative annually so long as it can be funded.

Funding for the oysters currently comes from the continuation of a 2022 Community Project Grant administered by the federal Environmental Protection Agency. A second grant awarded from the Greentree Foundation Good Neighbor Fund supports oyster gardening at Tappen Beach Marina and North Hempstead Beach Park.



Julia Capitelli/Herald photos

The oysters were delivered to Tappen Beach on Tuesday where volunteers then transported them to the other sites.



The Coalition to Save Hempstead Harbor raises spat-on-shell oysters in cages in the harbor every summer.

"It certainly has the support of the board and the community," she said. "And as long as financially that continues to be the case, we'll continue doing it."

This year's volunteers are set to meet on July 31. Other events and projects by CSHH can be found at the organization's website, [CoalitionToSaveHempstead-Harbor.org](http://CoalitionToSaveHempstead-Harbor.org).



Volunteers transferred the eastern oysters into cages to be put in the water at all four oyster gardening locations.



Once the oysters have been distributed into cages, the cages are lowered into the water.



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# Rabies threat declared in Nassau County

By JOSEPH D'ALESSANDRO  
jdalessandro@liherald.com

Rabies is back in Nassau County, after nearly a decade of peace from the viral disease. Irina Gelman, the Nassau County health commissioner, officially declared rabies an imminent public health threat on July 22.

Since July 2024, rabies has spread among both wild and feral-domesticated animals. The county's Department of Health has confirmed the presence of 25 rabid animals in multiple communities around the county, including raccoons and feral cats.

To date, no human cases of rabies have ever been reported in Nassau County thanks to post-exposure medical treatments. However, Department of Health surveillance data is showing the virus may have a presence across the county.

"The resurgence of rabies in Nassau County, with its high population density and after nearly a decade of absence, represents a serious and evolving public health concern," Gelman said. "This declaration allows us to respond to prevent further spread and protect the health and safety of Nassau County residents."

Rabies affects the central nervous system of mammals, including humans, and is usually transmitted through the bite of an infected animal bites or scratches, or if infected saliva enters into open wounds, eyes, the nose or the mouth.



Jason Leung/Unspalsh

**Raccoons are typically the largest culprits behind the spread of rabies; immunizing them is one of the most effective strategies to drive the virus back into nonexistence.**

The disease was eradicated in the county in 2016, following an aggressive campaign to control its spread.

To combat the spread of rabies among wild animals, the health department will continue the Raccoon Rabies Control Program later this year. The long-term program provides medical attention for raccoons by using oral rabies vaccines, hidden in baits placed all throughout the county. Raccoons are typically the largest culprit behind the spread of rabies;

immunizing them is one of the most effective strategies to drive the virus back into nonexistence.

ing rabies in wildlife, both residents and pets are less likely to be accidentally contaminated by an unusually aggressive raccoon or feral cat.

"Protecting public health and safety is a top priority in Nassau County," County Executive Bruce Blakeman said in a statement. "With this declaration, we are taking decisive action to safeguard our

residents, their families, and their pets from this dangerous virus."

The best ways to reduce exposure to rabies are to reduce exposure to risky animals, county officials said.

A risky animal — such as a wild raccoon or a stray dog — should always be avoided, and homeowners should avoid making food sources available outdoors. If such an animal approaches your property or your pets and children, bring them inside and wait until the animal leaves.

For both pets and livestock, neither should be allowed outside without some supervision, and should not be allowed to wander at night as raccoons are nocturnal. To protect animals they should be given an up-to-date rabies vaccine as soon as possible. Do not touch a dead or dying animal without full protection, such as heavy duty rubber gloves and double-bagged trash cans.

If a person is scratched or bitten by an animal, seek immediate medical care. Whether it is a person or a pet exposed to rabies, contact the Nassau County Department of Health at (516) 227-9663, or (516) 742-6154 after typical business hours and report the incident.

To report sick, dead or abnormal animals, go to Rabies@nassaucountyny.gov to get the animal tested.

To learn more about rabies, visit the department of health's website at NassauCountyNY.gov/5710/Rabies-Animal-Bites.

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# ‘This is not new technology,’ Propel says

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CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

concerns about lithium-ion battery storage units she believes will be part of the infrastructure despite developers’ denials. She cited studies on battery fires and potential contamination of the North Shore’s sensitive water table.

“My home is within the four-mile risk radius,” she added. “This is personal.”

Other residents shared similar worries. Nancy Benchimol, president of the Gold Coast Public Library, said she feared that traffic disruptions along Glen Head Road could severely impact access to the new library building now under construction, especially with the expected uptick in population as a result of new development in Glen Cove.

“Our library is more than books — it’s the center of our community,” Benchimol said. “Even minor disruptions can have big consequences for our residents, especially children and seniors. And we haven’t seen any hydrology studies on how this project might affect our water supply.”

Sea Cliff real estate agent Dawn Costello warned that the proposed cable route would pass close to four of the area’s five schools, and that construction would exacerbate already severe traffic congestion. “This project would be a direct hit to our small businesses,” she said.

Lauren Peart, owner of a new insurance agency in Glen Head, said she learned of the project only after opening her business. “I was planning to buy a home here and raise my child here,” she said. “Now, with concerns about (electric and magnetic fields) radiation and construction, I no longer feel safe. Please do not do this.”

After the hearing, Shannon Baxevanis, director of public affairs for New York Transco, one of two developers working with the New York Power Authority,



Courtesy Propel NY

**Propel NY, the developers working with the state power authority, say they will be practical about working on lines running beneath the impacted communities.**

emphasized the project’s long-term benefits.

“This is not new technology,” Baxevanis said. “New York already has 241 miles of underground 345-kilovolt cables operating safely, many in densely populated areas like New York City and Long Island.”

She noted that the cables would meet state safety thresholds. “Electric fields are eliminated because the cables are buried and shielded,” Baxevanis said.

She also addressed concerns about transparency. “We’ve held over 26 community meetings and pop-up events, mailed notices to property owners and met with municipalities and civic groups,” she said. “We’re always in a cycle of evaluating how we can do better.”

Baxevanis acknowledged traffic concerns, but said that construction crews would work in rolling segments of 150 feet per day. “Our goal is to get in, install safely and efficiently, then get out,” she said. “And anything disturbed will be restored to prior or better condition.”

Despite those assurances, many of the attendees said they remained skeptical. Several questioned the relevance of the project in light of the PSC’s recent decision to cancel a separate offshore wind cable project into New York City, citing permit delays and cost issues.

Residents also emphasized the need for detailed economic disclosures, such as how local school districts, libraries and municipalities would be compensated — something they said the Long Island Power Authority had done in the past.

Construction on the Propel NY Energy is expected to begin in mid-2026 and continue through 2030, pending PSC approval, which hinges on whether the project receives a Certificate of Environmental Compatibility and Public Need.

The developers claim the project will strengthen New York’s power grid by making it more reliable and less prone to outages. It aims to reduce congestion on the power grid by allowing electricity, especially from renewable sources, to flow more efficiently across the state. The proposed infrastructure is designed to withstand extreme weather, improving the grid’s resilience during climate-related events. Overall, developers frame the project as essential to building a cleaner, stronger, and more secure energy system.

But many North Shore residents say they believe their communities are being asked to bear the burden of construction without clear benefits.

“This isn’t about being against renewable energy,” DeRiggi-Whitton said. “It’s about getting straight answers — and protecting the people we represent.”

GLEN COVE HERALD — July 24, 2025



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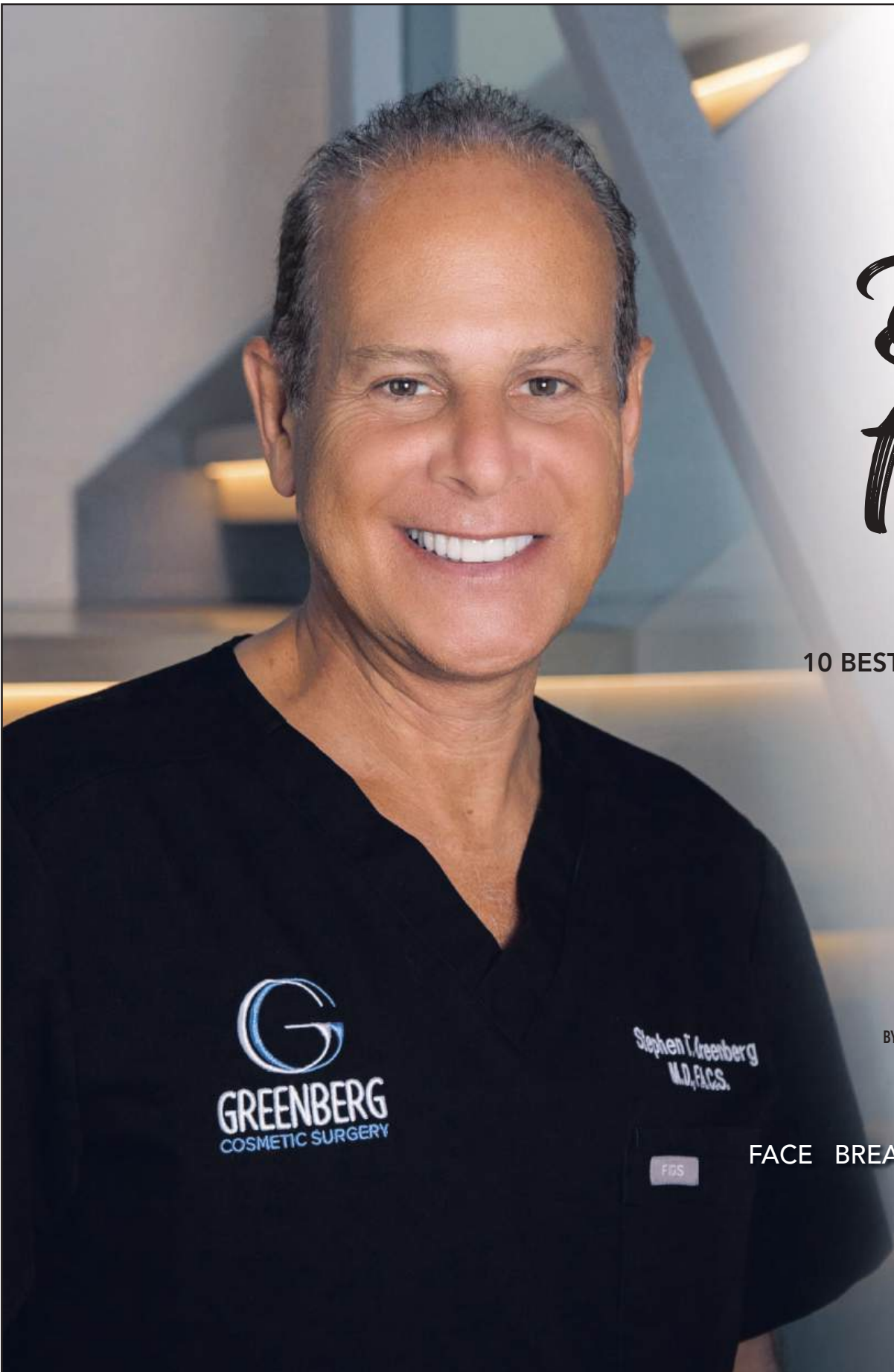


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# STEPPING OUT



Photos courtesy Keith Rossin

Everyone gathers to salute Harry Chapin during the rousing finale that closes the concert.

## Forever 'Wild about Harry'

### The beat goes on in the annual tribute to the beloved musician

By Karen Bloom

**D**ecades have passed since Harry Chapin's tragic death, still his music and philanthropic initiatives remain at the heart of Long Island's collective consciousness. Stuart Markus, the longtime mainstay of the local folk and acoustic scene, is committed to guardianship of the Chapin legacy, organizing what are now two memorial concerts each year.

Markus, based in Malverne, is clearly as fervent about Chapin's music and humanitarian zeal as when he took on the role of organizing the tribute 22 years ago. From its start at Hall's Pond Park in West Hempstead in 2004 to what became its longtime home at Chapin's namesake theater in Eisenhower Park, and now in its second year at the Chapin Rainbow Stage at Huntington's Heckscher Park, the concert's appeal continues to grow. So much so that a second show has been added — at the Landmark theater in Port Washington on Dec. 2.

Meanwhile over 30 musicians will gather with fans, on Sunday, to share in the joy of the man and his music.

"Sometimes it's hard to believe I'm still at this," he reflects. "[After the first concert] I thought it would be cool to do this for a couple of years. Ultimately it became a cultural phenomenon."

Folks livestream the event around the world, according Markus, who relates an unexpected email he received from a fan in Scotland.

"He wanted to plan a vacation around the concert, Markus says, chuckling, about the international response. "As long as there is enthusiasm, then I'll keep doing it."

Certainly that fervor shows no signs of waning.

"I've long thought it would be wonderful and extremely appropriate to do the show in Huntington, where Harry and Sandy lived and raised their family," Markus says. "Harry is still held in such beloved regard by residents and public officials at all levels."

Chapin's shocking death on the Long Island Expressway en route to that ill-fated Eisenhower Park performance in July 1981 is very much rooted this tribute — for performers and the audience. In fact, several show regulars were among the crowd when what was supposed to be a joyous event turned into a vigil, according to Markus.

"Harry is so beloved in memory on Long Island," Markus says. "You don't have to look too hard to find someone who met him, whose school he did a benefit for, or someone who's been helped by one of his charities. It's so meaningful for the music community to come together and, in effect, do the concert he might have given."

The troubadour's catalogue always gets a creative interpretation by each act.

"I've always encouraged everyone to make the songs fresh and treat them as their own, however they imagine them. They're not just reproducing them the way Harry did."

Markus excited to include guitarist Gerald Bair, a longstanding member of Huntington's folk scene, in this year's lineup. Bair performs his rendition of



- Sunday, July 27, 8 p.m.
- Admission is free
- Heckscher Park, located off Main Street (Route 25A) and Prime Avenue, Huntington



Cantors Judy Merrick, left, Lisa Ann Wharton and Akiva Wharton are all in for Harry.

"Sunday Morning Sunshine."

"A fan favorite, it's an optimistic happy song about being in love," Markus says.

Cantor Lisa Wharton, of Temple Beth Emeth in Mount Sinai, who performs with her husband Akiva Wharton, a percussionist, and Cantor Judy Merrick, of Plainview Jewish Center, return for their second appearance. They'll do "I Wonder What Would Happen," which Markus describes as an appropriately chosen "spiritual, gospel-feeling song."

"They were a well-received addition last year and we're glad to have them back, he adds.

The trio is, of course, joined by staples of the area's music community. Returnees include Judith Zweiman, Martha Trachtenberg, Karen Bella, Roger Silverberg, Debra Lynne, Patricia Shih and Stephen Fricker, Roger Street Friedman, Media Crime, Christine Solimeno, Grand Folk Railroad, Robinson Treacher, Wonderous Stories, Toby Tobias, Mara Levine and Matthew Ponsot, in various ensembles.

As is their signature, Markus, with his trio Gathering Time, arrive on stage as the show nears its conclusion. Markus, with Christine Sweeney and Gerry McKeveny, perform their annual rendition of the iconic "Cat's in the Cradle." By then everyone is singing along.

Finally, as always, in the true spirit of Harry Chapin, all the musicians join together on stage for "Circle," Chapin's traditional closing.

"It's such a philosophical but uplifting song and a fitting end," Markus adds.

Just the way Chapin would want it.

More than just a concert, the free event, of course, involves a food drive. Concertgoers are asked to bring donations of nonperishable items to support Long Island Cares, the regional food bank and humanitarian organization founded by Chapin in 1980. Long Island Cares' staff and volunteers will collect donations at a tent near the entrance to the stage.

Bring seating to the show, which is held rain or shine. It will also be livestreamed on Facebook and the Harry Chapin Foundation YouTube channel.



### Magical Mystery Doors

If you missed Magical Mystery Doors during the band's spring visit to Long Island, now's your chance to check out this unique tribute act. The tight bandmates blend and layer the music to create something new and unique. The Beatles, Led Zeppelin and The Doors changed the face of music as we know it. Their melodies have moved people everywhere to "Come Together" in their love of music. And that's what happens at an MMD concert. Throughout the concert, the band combines some of these classic tunes in ways that surprise and delight time and time again. The melody from The Doors' "Hello, I Love You" laying atop Led Zeppelin's "Misty Mountain Hop." The pounding beat of Zep's "When The Levee Breaks" coupled with the serene strumming of The Beatles' "Dear Prudence." Also the thematic sequence of "The Rain Song" — "Riders On The Storm" — "Here Comes The Sun." These arrangements take you on an unexpected and exhilarating journey.

Friday, July 25, 8 p.m. Molloy University, 1000 Hempstead Ave., Rockville Centre. Tickets available at [madisontheatreny.org](http://madisontheatreny.org) or call (516) 323-4444.



### Best of Broadway

Sounds of the Great White Way return to Eisenhower Park with Neil Berg's "100 Years of Broadway." Back for its annual celebration of the greatest songs from the finest shows, the acclaimed touring Broadway concert never disappoints. The lively musical revue, hosted by Neil Berg, on piano, brings performers to light up the stage with songs from the hit shows in which they starred. He presents creatively revived arrangements of Broadway classics as well as thrilling numbers from some of the newest hits, along with his fascinating commentary and historical notes in between songs. This gorgeous, guided tour of the American art form that is musical theater, is a production both hypnotic and historical. The dazzling new edition is sure to have everyone humming along. Berg, an award-winning composer-lyricist-producer, and his cast of vocal powerhouses brings everyone to their feet time and again.

Saturday, July 26, 7 p.m. Harry Chapin Lakeside Theatre, Eisenhower Park, East Meadow. Contact [nassaucountyny.gov](http://nassaucountyny.gov) for more.



YOUR  
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CALENDAR

**JULY 24** **St. Rocco's Feast**  
The Church of St. Rocco Presents: The Best Feast in the East  
Join the Glen Cove community for four days of food, fun, and tradition at the annual St. Rocco's Feast, known as The Best Feast In The East. This beloved event features Italian food, live entertainment, games, rides, and a Sunday procession following Mass.

- **Where:** Church of St. Rocco, 18 Third St.
- **Time:** Various through July 27
- **Contact:** (516) 676-2482

**On Exhibit**  
Nassau County Museum of Art's latest exhibition, "At Play," surveys artists' perennial fascination with entertainment in all forms. Framing this topic between the nineteenth century Belle Époque and today, the exhibit includes works by Pablo Picasso, Reginald Marsh, Everett Shinn, and Max Beckmann among many others. The works are gathered to represent a wide range of expressions, from entertainment-related activities to the fascinating personalities involved. It encompasses dance, music, theater, movies, circus, boating, and beach scenes, along with horseracing and various sports, both active and passive. Also featured are archival items from The Metropolitan Opera and the New York Philharmonic, including costumes by Marc Chagall for Die Zauberflöte, vintage fashion items by such designers as Alfred Shaheen, and iconic costumes from the Folies-Bergère in Paris. On view until Nov. 9.

- **Where:** 1 Museum Drive, Roslyn Harbor
- **Time:** Ongoing
- **Contact:** [nassauuseum.org](http://nassauuseum.org) or (516) 484-9337

**JULY 25** **Downtown Sounds**  
Get ready for an electrifying night of live music in downtown Glen Cove! Unforgettable Fire, the premier U2 tribute band, will bring the iconic sound and spirit of U2 to the Village Square stage as part of the Downtown Sounds summer concert series.

- **Where:** Glen Cove Village Square, Glen Cove
- **Time:** 7:30 p.m.
- **Contact:** [glencovedowntown.org](http://glencovedowntown.org)

**Little Learners' Water Animals**  
Planting Fields Little Learners series continues with adventure for the little ones to explore the wonders of pond life. Listen to a pond-themed nature story,



**AUG 3** **Magic Rocks!**  
Illusionist Leon Etienne has sold out venues all over the world with his blockbuster performances of Magic Rocks! Now he arrives on Long Island with his jaw-dropping, critically acclaimed hit show. You've seen him on "America's Got Talent," "The Tonight Show" with Jimmy Fallon, "Masters of Illusion," and "Penn & Teller: Fool Us!" Hailed by critics as "America's Rock Illusionist," Leon is a worldwide hit with audiences, critics and producers. He's recognized for his onstage charisma, a fast-paced, high energy, rock n' roll performance style — and his no-nonsense approach to magic. This interactive, family-friendly spectacular showcases mind-blowing tricks, award-winning sleight of hand and non-stop laughter. Perfect for audiences of all ages, it's an immersive experience filled with wonder, laughter and jaw-dropping moments you won't soon forget. From Radio City Music Hall to Planet Hollywood Casino and from Studio City Casino in Macau to his very own theater on the beautiful island waters of Saipan, Etienne's performance style attracts worldwide attention. Join in this unforgettable night of magic and you'll see why. \$71.75, \$60.25, \$49.25, \$37.25, \$31.25.

- **Where:** The Paramount, 370 New York Ave., Huntington
- **Time:** 7 p.m.
- **Contact:** [ticketmaster.com](http://ticketmaster.com) or [paramountny.com](http://paramountny.com)

exploring the fascinating animals that live in and around the water. Then, get creative by making a froggy friend puppet to take home. The fun doesn't stop there, also explore the sensory pond, where hands-on discovery awaits. For ages 2-5. Registration required. \$15 per child.

- **Where:** Education Center, 1395 Planting Fields Road, Oyster Bay
- **Time:** 10-11 p.m.
- **Contact:** [plantingfields.org](http://plantingfields.org) or call (516) 922-9210

**Mindful Morning**  
View Nassau County Museum of Art's galleries in a small group session. Take time to observe, question and reflect without hurry, distraction, or judgment. Explore one or two works of art in the galleries, with intention as you focus on color, texture, form and personal connections during the series of three sessions. Join for as many sessions as you like. Each will be a different opportunity to enjoy art together. Program is capped at 12 people. \$20 per session, \$10 members. Registration required.

- **Where:** 1 Museum Drive, Roslyn Harbor
- **Time:** 10-11 a.m., also Aug. 8 and Aug. 22
- **Contact:** [nassauuseum.org](http://nassauuseum.org) or (516) 484-9337

**Walking with the Olmsteads**  
Step into a world where history and horticulture intertwine on this guided walking tour of Planting Fields. Explore the stunning landscapes shaped by the renowned Olmsted Brothers firm and discover how W.R. Coe's vision transformed this estate into a living masterpiece. As you wander through lush gardens, winding pathways, and historic structures, you'll uncover stories of the Coe family's lasting influence and the artistic brilliance of the Olmsteads' naturalistic designs. From vibrant seasonal blooms and majestic trees to elegant architectural details, each stop reveals a new chapter in this extraordinary estate's history. Also take the time to visit the Main House.

- **Where:** 1395 Planting Fields Road, Oyster Bay
- **Time:** 10:30-11:30 a.m.; also Aug. 1
- **Contact:** [plantingfields.org](http://plantingfields.org) or call (516) 922-9210

**JULY 26** **Big vegan flavor**  
Join fellow food lovers for a deliciously fun gathering of the Cookbook Club at Glen Cove Public Library. This month's selection,

"Big Vegan Flavor" by Nisha Vora, brings bold and colorful plant-based recipes to your kitchen. Choose a recipe from the book, prepare a dish, and bring it to share with the group.

- **Where:** 4 Glen Cove Ave.
- **Time:** 11 a.m. -noon
- **Contact:** [glencovelibrary.org](http://glencovelibrary.org)

**JULY 27** **Summer tunes**  
Morgan Park Summer Music Festival continues with Beginnings, the ultimate tribute to the legendary band Chicago. Experience the horns, harmonies, and hits that defined a generation in the scenic setting of Morgan Memorial Park.

- **Where:** Germaine St., Glen Cove
- **Time:** 7:30 p.m.

**JULY 28** **Step on the dance floor**  
Take the first step and learn how to dance today. Discover the joy of ballroom dance in a fun, relaxed setting at the Sands Point Preserve. Join an introductory class led by Donatas Nacajus of Ballroom Boutique, Mondays, and take your first steps on the dance floor with

confidence and style. The aim is to teach you how to move to the music, as well as the passion and character of dance. Sign up for one class or all three. Experience is not needed, no partner required and all ages are welcome. \$66, class series; \$29 for one class.

- **Where:** 127 Middle Neck Road, Sands Point
- **Time:** 7-8 p.m., also Aug. 4 and Aug. 11
- **Contact:** [sandspointpreserveconservancy.org](http://sandspointpreserveconservancy.org) or call (516) 571-7901

**JULY 30** **'Ceaselessly Into The Past'**  
Visit Sands Point Preserve for a tour and talk on how 100 years of "The Great Gatsby" shaped life on the Gold Coast. Start with a guided tour of Hempstead House, one of the grand Gold Coast mansions that provided the inspirational backdrop for F. Scott Fitzgerald's iconic novel. Then, instructors from The Story Round lead a table discussion on the novel's lasting impact on the North Shore and Port Washington. Admission is \$25, \$20 members. Purchase tickets online.

- **Where:** 127 Middle Neck Road, Sands Point
- **Time:** 6:30-8 p.m.
- **Contact:** [sandspointpreserveconservancy.org](http://sandspointpreserveconservancy.org) or call (516) 571-7901

**AUG 20** **Locust Valley Garden Club**  
All gardening lovers are welcome to attend the monthly meeting of the Locust Valley Garden Club at Locust Valley Library. Featured speaker Kathy Guzzardo participates with "Roses 101," a primer on all kinds of roses. A "themed" lunch of members' home dishes follows each meeting. Join the session and consider membership in the future. Meetings are monthly, generally the third Wednesday.

- **Where:** 170 Buckram Road, Locust Valley
- **Time:** 10 a.m.
- **Contact:** [Ltassis@aol.com](mailto:Ltassis@aol.com)

**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](mailto:kbloom@liherald.com).



# Suozzi says cuts to Medicaid are ‘heartless’ 17

By ROKSANA AMID

ramid@liherald.com

In a virtual town hall that drew more than 13,000 participants, U.S. Rep. Tom Suozzi addressed a range of concerns from constituents across Long Island and Queens on July 21 — from the chilling effect of recent immigration enforcement to mounting anxiety over Medicaid cuts and the housing crisis.

The event, livestreamed on Facebook and accessible by phone, offered voters a chance to speak directly with Suozzi, a Democrat who represents New York’s 3rd Congressional District — a swing district that former President Donald Trump won by 19,000 votes in 2020. Suozzi said he gained re-election in the district by building a bipartisan coalition and now serves as chair of the Problem Solvers Caucus, a group of 25 Democrats and 25 Republicans.

“I’ve got voices in my head all the time — not just my own — but from people across the political spectrum,” Suozzi said. “Some are terrified about what’s happening in our democracy, and others think we need to shake things up. But most just want us to work together and solve real problems.”

One of the most discussed topics during the hour-long forum was the recent changes to Medicaid eligibility requirements. A caller named Sam, who works

at a nursing home in Nassau County, said several residents had been evicted after losing coverage due to confusion over new rules in the recently passed “One Big Beautiful Bill,” which Suozzi derided as the “Big Ugly Bill.”

“It’s just heartless,” Suozzi said. “To pay for tax breaks for the wealthiest Americans by cutting off health care and food benefits for the most vulnerable — it’s morally wrong and economically backward.”

Suozi explained that 93 percent of Medicaid recipients who can work already do, and that many who cannot are caregivers or people with disabilities. He also warned of a ripple effect on hospitals and insurance premiums, saying that as more people lose Medicaid coverage, they will turn to emergency rooms for care — driving up costs for everyone.

Suozi pledged to have his office assist residents in navigating the new requirements and said he would explore launching a public awareness campaign to help people retain their benefits. “Government bureaucracy is hard enough for anyone to deal with — let alone people in desperate situations,” he said.

Sherry, a caller from Glen Cove, shifted the conversation to the skyrocketing cost of housing on Long Island. “I’ve been working for 37 years and I still

can’t afford the rent,” she said, adding that so-called “affordable housing” often exceeds \$3,000 for a one-bedroom.

Suozi acknowledged that housing costs were a crisis across the nation and called for a return to basic economic principles. “If you work hard, you should be able to afford a home, feed your kids, and retire without fear,” he said.

He proposed using profits from the government-run Freddie Mac and Fannie Mae mortgage conservatorships — an estimated \$250 billion — to fund affordable housing construction using union labor. “We need to build more housing, especially in our downtowns, to lower rents and bring back the middle class,” Suozzi said.

Another caller, Toria from Bayville, raised concerns about stagnant wages and soaring credit card interest rates. Suozzi agreed that the federal minimum wage, still \$7.25 an hour in 20 states, was far too low. “On Long Island, even \$15 an hour is barely enough to live,” he said. “America needs a raise.”

He also acknowledged that he had not yet studied credit card interest rate legislation in depth, but agreed that the lack of regulation — especially on rates as high as 25 percent or more — was unfair to people forced to rely on credit for basic needs. “It’s usury, plain and simple,” he said. “And it’s a sin.”



Herald file photo

U.S. Representative Tom Suozzi spoke to constituents across Long Island and Queens at a virtual town hall on July 21.

In closing, Suozzi called for continued public engagement and cooperation across party lines. “If we keep going eye for an eye, we’re all going to end up blind,” he said. “But I’ve got faith in the people and in our system.”

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# Spotted lanternfly spreads east

By AINSLEY MARTINEZ  
amartinez@liherald.com

The spotted lanternfly, an invasive species first discovered in New York in 2020, is now gaining ground on Long Island, alarming residents and experts as it continues to move east, threatening backyard gardens, vineyards and larger ecosystems.

Lisa Filippi, professor of biology at Hofstra University and chair of the Friends of Hempstead Plains Education Committee, said that the insect’s eastward spread and adaptability pose major ecological concerns.

“They didn’t get as bad as researchers thought, but now (they’re) starting to move east, which was unexpected,” Filippi said. “We need to get rid of them.”

Originally from Asia, the lanternfly feeds by sucking sap from trees and plants, weakening them and leaving behind a sticky residue called honeydew that promotes the growth of mold. While the insect does not bite or sting humans, its potential impact on the environment, particularly on crop industries like vineyards, could result in significant

economic damage.

“They’re obnoxious,” Filippi said. “Unfortunately, they’re not specialists, they’re generalists” — meaning they feed on a wide range of plants. The flies’ preferred host is the tree of heaven, an invasive plant itself, though they have

been documented on over 70 species of plants. Among the crops most at risk are grapes, apples hops and various hardwood trees.

The State Department of Agriculture and Markets has been tracking the spread of the lanternfly across the state. Chris Logue, the department’s director of plant industry, said that while populations can vary from year to year, Long Island is now seeing more frequent reports.

“We’ve seen a fair number of calls already where people are reporting really large numbers of the immatures,” Logue said. “What

you’re going to see this year is the population reports are probably going to be a little bit heavier out further east on Long Island.”

While the state continues surveillance and public education efforts, officials acknowledge that eradication of

**T**hey didn’t get as bad as researchers thought, but now (they’re) starting to move east, which was unexpected.

**LISA FILIPPI**  
Professor of biology,  
Hofstra University



Courtesy Brianns Cavallo

First detected in New York in 2020, the invasive spotted lanternfly is now spreading across Long Island, raising concerns among residents and experts as it threatens home gardens, vineyards and other ecosystems.

the species is unlikely. “For every female spotted lanternfly that you eliminate, you’re eliminating those eggs she’ll lay in the fall,” Logue explained. “Nobody here is under the impression that that’s going to eradicate the spotted lanternfly, but every little bit helps.”

Still, the consensus among research-

ers and local officials is clear: Public involvement is critical to controlling the spread of the species. State agencies continue to encourage residents to report sightings, remove egg masses when possible, and stay informed through Cornell Cooperative Extension and other educational resources.



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Roksana Amid/Herald

Jonelle Watson offered many sweet treats like pudding with fruit.



## PUBLIC NOTICES

**LEGAL NOTICE**  
**NOTICE OF SALE**  
**SUPREME COURT**  
**COUNTY OF NASSAU**  
 U.S. Bank National Association, as Trustee for Terwin Mortgage Trust 2004-9HE, Asset-Backed Certificates, Series 2004-9HE, Plaintiff  
**AGAINST**  
 Joseph Grella; Leslie Grella; et al., Defendant(s)  
 Pursuant to a Judgment of Foreclosure and Sale duly entered June 7, 2025, I, the undersigned Referee, will sell at public auction at the North Side Steps of the Nassau County Supreme Court at 100 Supreme Court Drive, Mineola, NY 11501 on August 12, 2025, at 2:00PM, premises known as 55 East Avenue, Glen Cove, NY 11542. All that certain plot, piece or parcel of land, with the buildings and improvements thereon erected, situate, lying and being partly in the City of Glen Cove, Nassau County, New York and partly near Glen Cove, Town of Oyster Bay, Nassau County, State of New York, Section 23 Block 031 Lot 26A and Lot 26B. Approximate amount of judgment \$324,384.61 plus interest and costs. Premises will be sold subject to provisions of filed Judgment Index# 609913/2022. Foreclosure auction will be held "Rain or Shine".  
 Theresa A Driscoll, Esq., Referee

**LOGS Legal Group LLP**  
 Attorney(s) for the Plaintiff  
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**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 Monday, August 18, 2025, at which time they will be opened and read aloud at 11:00 a.m.:  
 Mill Pond Dredging Bid No. 2025-007  
 Glen Cove Golf Course Irrigation Replacement Bid No. 2025-008  
 Glen Street Alleyway and Stair Repair/Replacement Bid No. 2025-009  
 Select Deck Repairs within the Pulaski Street Parking Garage Bid No. 2025-010  
 Specifications are available for download at <https://www.bidnetdirect.com/new-york/cityofglen Cove>. Registration is free and instructions are available on <https://glen Cove.ny.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  
 July 21, 2025  
 154773  
**LEGAL NOTICE**  
**PLEASE TAKE NOTICE**  
 THAT the Glen Cove City Council adopted the following Ordinance at the City Council Meeting of July 22, 2025:  
 BE IT ORDAINED, that the City Council hereby amends Sec. 265-49 Schedule XVII: Time Limit Parking, as it relates to Second Street, as follows:  
 Remove:  
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 Time Limit; Hours/days:  
 15 minutes; 10:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m./ All Days  
 Location:  
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 This Ordinance shall take effect 3 days after publication.  
 Tina Pemberton  
 City Clerk  
 154805  
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**NOTICE OF SALE**  
**SUPREME COURT**  
**COUNTY OF NASSAU**  
 DEUTSCHE BANK NATIONAL TRUST COMPANY, AS INDENTURE TRUSTEE, FOR NEW CENTURY HOME EQUITY LOAN TRUST 2006-2, Plaintiff  
**AGAINST**  
 MARIA

**VISCO AKA MARIA E. VISCO AKA MARIA QUINONES, LEONARDO QUINONES AKA LEONARDO D. QUINONES AKA LENNY QUINONES, ET AL., Defendant(s)** Pursuant to a Judgment of Foreclosure and Sale duly entered August 14, 2024, I, the undersigned Referee will sell at public auction at the North Side steps of the Nassau County Supreme Court, 100 Supreme Court Drive, Mineola, NY 11501 on August 27, 2025 at 2:30 PM, premises known as 6 Norman Court, Glen Cove, NY 11542. All that certain plot piece or parcel of land, with the buildings and improvements erected, situate, lying and being in the City of Glen Cove, County of Nassau and State of New York, Section: 30 Block: 48 Lot: 43. Approximate amount of judgment \$1,256,812.05 plus interest and costs. Premises will be sold subject to provisions of filed Judgment Index #609051/2023. Michael Langer, Esq., Referee  
 Tromberg, Morris & Partners, PLLC  
 39 Broadway, Suite 1250 New York, NY 10006 25-000648 86298 154703

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# Tropical bash draws crowd at ferry terminal

By KEILYN ZAVALA

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

Glen Cove embraced the spirit of summer with its first-ever "Island Vibes" celebration on July 17, drawing residents and visitors to the city's picturesque ferry terminal for an evening of music, food, and community fun.

Hosted by the City of Glen Cove Special Events Committee, the event transformed the waterfront into a tropical paradise. Attendees—many dressed in vibrant, island-themed outfits—enjoyed live music, food trucks, drinks, raffles, and family-friendly activities, all set against the scenic backdrop of Glen Cove's harbor.

"We wanted to take advantage of our waterfront atmosphere. What better than to have a theme of Island Vibes," said Roni Jenkins, head of the Special Events Committee. "It's the first year we are doing this, and I am so glad we had such a great turnout. Without our sponsors, we would not have been able to do this. All the proceeds from this event go back into the community so we can continue to do more special events for people of all ages."

The event highlighted Glen Cove's growing reputation for hosting inclusive and high-quality programming. Mayor Pamela Panzenbeck, who attended the celebration, praised the committee for its efforts.

"Last night was a fantastic event," Panzenbeck said. "So many people came out to enjoy the music, food and camaraderie. Everyone had a great time. I received many compliments from attendees. I wish to thank the Special Events Committee for their hard work."

The festival featured a range of food offerings, from island-style cuisine to classic festival fare, while local vendors lined the area with booths showcasing

handcrafted goods and community resources. Children played freely while adults danced, mingled, and relaxed, creating a multigenerational celebration that embodied the city's inclusive spirit.

Among the attractions was a popular photo booth and flower wall donated by Glen Cove resident and committee member Anna Zinco.

"I recently moved to Glen Cove back in October and was extremely impressed with the community," Zinco said. "I was happy to volunteer and donate our photo booth and flower wall today to give back."

Zinco's interactive setup became a major hit, with long lines of attendees snapping tropical-themed photos as keepsakes from the evening.

Volunteers helped keep the event running smoothly, coordinating activities and managing the crowd, while public safety and security teams ensured a safe, family-friendly environment.

The celebration also drew visitors from outside Glen Cove. Karen Jones, who works in the city as a case manager, attended the event with her director, Irma Jeanty.

"I am not a resident," Jones said. "I work in the community and found out about this event from my director of EOC, Irma Jeanty. Now we are here, having a blast."

Their experience underscored the event's broad appeal, demonstrating how Glen Cove's special events continue to attract people from neighboring areas and foster connections that go beyond city lines.

With strong attendance and enthusiastic feedback, the "Island Vibes" celebration served as a reminder of Glen Cove's commitment to bringing people together through engaging, community-focused programming.



Courtesy Gaitley Stevenson-Mathews

Everyone had a fun time testing their skills at the limbo poll.



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## OPINIONS

# Admiration of a former president from across the aisle

**W**hen I was elected to Congress in 1992, I certainly didn't anticipate the close working relationship I would have with Bill Clinton, who was elected president that year. I was a life-long Republican from New York, elected with strong Conservative Party support. Clinton was a staunch Democrat from Arkansas with roots in the anti-war movement.



**PETER KING**

I had met him in Manhattan in April 1992, two days before New York's Democratic presidential primary. I was still the Nassau County comptroller, and had not yet announced my candidacy for Congress. A group of New York Irish-American Democrats led by elder statesman Paul O'Dwyer had scheduled a meeting with Clinton and his remaining challenger, Jerry Brown, the former California governor. Though we were far apart on the political spectrum, O'Dwyer and I were good friends.

When Clinton arrived, I was standing in the rear of the room. He made a brief opening statement before answering questions from a panel of four. What I

quickly noted was his relaxed familiarity with Ireland's 800-year struggle with Britain and its most recent iteration, the more than two decades of war being waged in the streets and hills of Northern Ireland, euphemistically labeled "the Troubles." There were no pandering references to green beer or shamrocks. Nor did he make the ritualistic denunciation of terrorism.

In an answer to a burning issue that would have lasting consequences later, Clinton said he would grant a visa to Gerry Adams, the leader of Sinn Féin, the political party affiliated with the Irish Republican Army. He also said the United States had the obligation to speak out against human rights violations even if the offending nation was Britain, our closest ally. More than what he said was his ease in dealing with an issue that rendered most politicians tongue-tied or made them fall back on timeworn clichés.

Remaining in the back of the room while photos were being taken near the front, I waited until Clinton was leaving the room by the rear door. I shook his hand, and said, "Good job, Governor." He smiled, thanked me and walked on, not having the slightest idea or caring in the least who the Nassau County

comptroller was — and with both of us being entirely unaware how much our lives would be interlocked over the next several years, and not just on the Irish issue.

Clinton went on to become the 42nd president, and just a year later kept his campaign promise when he granted Adams a visa to enter the United States, which was followed by meetings with Adams in the White House and Congress, which caused seismic reactions throughout the British government and the American State Department as well. But Clinton's leadership and determination, which included unprecedented presidential visits to the

most dangerous locations in Northern Ireland, on which I accompanied him, as well as the diplomatic alliances he forged with British and Irish Prime Ministers Tony Blair and Bertie Ahern, led to the signing of the Good Friday Agreement in April 1998, ending that brutal 800-year-long struggle.

There was more to the Clinton years than Ireland. There was also his decisive action that successfully ended the Balkan wars in Bosnia and Kosovo. Domestically, he worked across the aisle with Newt Gingrich to achieve welfare reform as well as the only balanced bud-

get in the more than three decades since.

While all this was happening, of course, Clinton faced the first presidential impeachment in more than 130 years, and until then only the second in American history. While he had made serious mistakes in judgment, I strongly believed that what he was accused of did not meet the Constitution's requirements for impeachment, or for removing from office the duly elected president, and would set a dangerous precedent for future presidencies. I was proud to stand with Clinton as one of only two Republicans who voted against all four articles of impeachment. And I have never questioned that decision.

All this and more came rushing back to me several weeks ago, when I joined Clinton as one of the speakers at the Celebration of Life for former Congresswoman Carolyn McCarthy, who died last month. Though he had been out of office for almost 25 years, the former president was as eloquent as ever, movingly describing his admiration and affection for McCarthy's heroism and strength of character in overcoming horrific personal tragedy to achieve so much good for America. Once again, President Clinton came through.

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

# It's long past time to shut down the cellphone

**I** am a person of infinite patience. My friends compliment me on my ability to patiently listen to ideas from both sides of the aisle. I love watching the daily news on my laptop and on my cellphone. I read opinion columns, and occasionally get to read a



**JERRY KREMER**

nonfiction book on some current topic. But I must confess that I am now in a state of news overload.

I'm not quite sure when this illness kicked in, but if you think about all of the news events in recent weeks, you'll easily understand why I, or anyone, could easily fall into a state of media-nausea. I think the first story that engulfed my ability to digest facts was President Trump's "One Big Beautiful Bill." Shortly after it passed in the House of Representatives, my phone began ringing off the hook with calls from important clients, asking about the impact of the budget cuts on Medicaid, SNAP and

other significant programs.

Alerted to the terms of the bill, I began a line-by-line review, and became more horrified once I understood the scope of the cuts. I couldn't understand how the House could find billions of dollars to cut from Medicaid and claim that they were all related to rooting out "waste, fraud and abuse." Taking food away from children isn't the way to save taxpayers real money. By mid-June I was wilting under the barrage of calls asking for advice on how to get the attention of the region's federal officials.

Always looking on the bright side, I was pleased that the bill included such items as raising the state-and-local-taxes deduction cap to \$40,000, and reduced taxes on tips and Social Security and many other goodies that were consistent with promises Trump made. I assumed that the Senate would support many provisions of the House bill and trim the Medicaid cuts. I assured many of my callers that there was hope that cooler heads would prevail, and the Senate bill would be palatable.

Come July, the Senate bill was ready for a formal vote, and its contents were even uglier. Rather than scale back the Medicaid cuts, the Senate found ways to increase them. The promised expansion of the SALT cap was altered to providing three years of an expanded credit and then reducing it to the old \$10,000 cap. The elimination of taxes on Social Security disappeared, and the no-taxes-on-tips provision is scheduled to expire after 2028.

The torrent of calls asking for my opinion had just about ended when New

York City Democrats chose the inexperienced Assemblyman Zohran Mamdani as their nominee for mayor. When the final results came in on primary night, I shut down my cellphone. Dozens of friends and neighbors wanted to know how to stop Mamdani. Ironically, many of them didn't vote in the primary because they were registered Republicans or independents, and in some cases they were registered Democrats who failed to vote. I refused to console any qualified voter who failed to vote.

Now, weeks later, I'm being asked who I favor in the contest between Andrew Cuomo and Eric Adams. I have no preference between the two, but there appears to be no way to beat Mamdani unless there is one independent candidate. At this point, neither Adams nor Cuomo shows any signs of getting out of the race in the interest of harmony. If both stay in, there's no chance that Mamdani can be stopped.

Burdened by all of these panicked calls, I decided that the best thing I can do for my wife, Suzan, and I is to go away for a week or so and maybe shut down my phone. I can check messages from time to time, but that's it. We're leaving in search of a change of scenery.

No sooner I had made our airline reservations than the Jeffrey Epstein saga erupted. I told callers that we weren't interested in visiting Epstein's island or anywhere else attached to his name. My cellphone is now in the freezer, so don't bother calling.

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



# GLEN COVE HERALD

Established 1991

Incorporating the  
Gold Coast Gazette in 2016ROKSANA AMID  
EditorRHONDA 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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Richner Communications, Inc.

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# HERALD EDITORIAL

## Long Island's water needs to be protected

Long Island water users just won a major legal battle — but we are still far from winning the war for clean water.

A \$10.5 billion national settlement with the multinational chemical manufacturer 3M over the widespread contamination of drinking water with PFAS — so-called “forever chemicals” — includes over \$250 million for public water providers in Nassau and Suffolk counties. This hard-fought-for financial relief will help cover the staggering cost of removing toxic substances from our drinking water. But it will be payment for damage already done, not a fix for what still threatens our sole-source aquifer every day.

Long Islanders rely entirely on a single underground water source, an aquifer that provides drinking water to more than 2.8 million people. It has been under assault for decades by chemical pollutants that seep through soil, spill into drainage systems and leach from landfills and industrial sites.

Among the most dangerous threats are PFAS compounds, man-made chemicals used in everything from firefighting foam to non-stick cookware that do not break down over time and accumulate in both the environment and our bodies. Exposure to these chemicals has been linked to health problems such as decreased fertility, developmental complications in children and an increased risk of some cancers and immune system issues.

In more than a few of our communities, these pollutants have created brownfields — usually industrial or commercial sites that are abandoned,

vacant or under-used, and where redevelopment or reuse is complicated by the presence or potential presence of at least one, if not more, contaminants.

The settlement is a victory for local water providers, many of whom have led the charge in holding chemical companies accountable. But it also shines a light on an uncomfortable truth: Long Island is already paying dearly for decades of environmental neglect.

Since 2017, more than \$1 billion has been spent on installing and maintaining sophisticated water-treatment systems, according to federal estimates. And even with this financial award, residents and ratepayers will continue to bear the burden of ongoing operating costs.

So, while restitution is essential, it is not enough. The fight for clean water cannot begin at the filtration plant. It must begin at the source — with laws, oversight and habits that will keep our groundwater clean in the first place.

To policymakers: This is your moment to act. Strengthen oversight of chemical manufacturing, storage and disposal. Expand groundwater protection zones, especially near vulnerable recharge areas. Invest in forward-thinking, sustainable water infrastructure that protects our aquifer before contaminants reach it. Laws must reflect the seriousness of the threat, the indispensability of the resource and the fact that the water cannot be replaced.

To state and local agencies and appointed officials: It's time to audit the regulatory framework governing industrial, agricultural and even residential activities that affect water quality. Permitting and enforcement must be rigor-

ous. No project, permit or loophole should be allowed to jeopardize our only supply of drinking water.

Long Island residents and business owners are part of the solution. Everyday actions matter — from how you dispose of household chemicals to the fertilizers and cleaning agents you use. Learn about the long-term impact of routine habits. Information is available from a variety of sources, beginning with local and state health departments.

Support local clean-water initiatives. Vote for leaders who prioritize the environment. And above all, treat water conservation not as a suggestion, but as a shared responsibility.

This is not alarmism. It's realism. The aquifer beneath Long Island cannot be replaced, rerouted or remade. We have no second source to draw from if it becomes too polluted or depleted. Every gallon of water pumped from below is a gallon we must protect with vigilance, policy and foresight.

Yes, the 3M settlement is a victory — but it should also be a warning. We cannot afford to celebrate a payout while the source of our water remains under threat. Financial settlements help heal wounds, but they do not prevent the next injury. That requires a cultural shift — from passive reliance to proactive stewardship.

Clean water is the foundation of our health, our economy and our communities. Long Island must now recommit — urgently, and collectively — to safeguarding the aquifer that sustains us all. Let's make sure that in the future, headlines about our water celebrate prevention, not just compensation.

## LETTERS

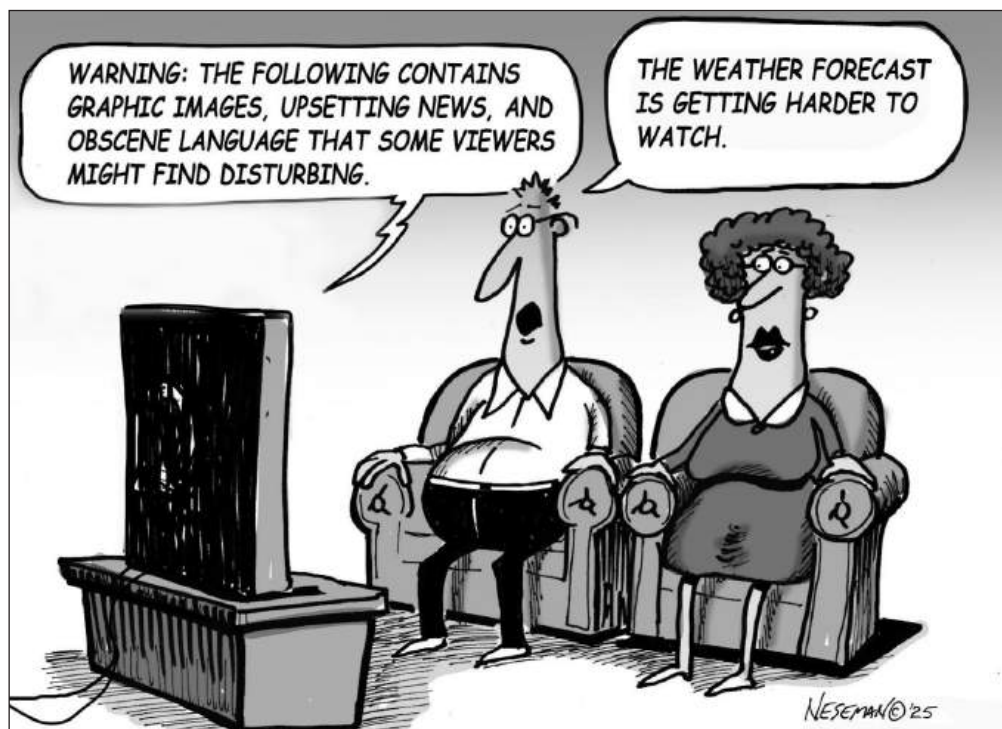
### Lights of Hope against cancer

To the Editor:

I would like to thank the Herald for its support of the first annual American Cancer Society Cancer Action Network's Lights of Hope celebration at Glen Cove's Morgan Memorial Park on July 12. The evening was a celebration of cancer survivors as well as a remembrance of those who have passed. By adding the event to your calendar, and printing a well-thought-out story, you helped to raise awareness of the event.

I would also like to thank the City of Glen Cove and the wonderful people in the area for their support. And I would like to thank Loggia 1016 of the Sons and Daughters of Italy for their sponsorship. The event would not have been possible without the community support.

I'm happy to report that donations exceeded expectations, and we will definitely be back





## OPINIONS

# Nassau County has a partisan grant fund blockade

**E**ach of Nassau County's 19 legislative districts is allocated an equal sum in capital infrastructure funds to be applied toward hyperlocal initiatives through the Community Revitalization Program. This empowers each legislator to meet the needs of his or her school districts and communities by supporting projects for local schools, libraries, parks and first responder agencies.



**DELIA  
DERIGGI-WHITTON**

The process for accessing those funds — which have already been allocated through approval of the capital plan — should be simple.

After a legislator completes an application, CRPs go to the county executive's office. There it should be reviewed to ensure that it is complete, and that the project is suitable for county funding with a CRP. The completed item should then be sent to the County Legislature, where it should be placed on the calendar and approved.

I say "should" because, since the

start of this legislative term, County Executive Bruce Blakeman has been fulfilling requests for the Republican majority, and stonewalling the Democratic minority.

The numbers speak for themselves. Since January 2024, Republicans have had 46 of their grant requests approved, while Democrats have seen none of their pending requests approved or considered in regular order. The only grants we received came after we drew a line in the sand with the county executive and forced his hand. This spring, we successfully leveraged our votes for the 2025 capital plan — which requires a 13-vote supermajority to pass — and secured funding for 14 pending CRP grants for first responders, totaling \$1.3 million, as part of the 2025 capital plan bond ordinance.

Still, more than 30 Democratic CRPs remain caught in the partisan blockade, and in District 11, that includes grants for \$350,000 to improve Pascucci Field, in Glen Cove; \$275,000 for an all-ability playground in Port Washington; \$110,000 to upgrade Maccarone Stadi-

um, in Glen Cove; and \$100,000 for a local history center at Port Washington Library.

Beyond the individual projects, what does all this mean for you? Simply put,

County Executive Blakeman is blocking Democratic legislators from using funding that has already been accounted for and allocated for improving their districts. Not only is this grossly inequitable, but by failing to complete his ministerial role in the CRP process, Blakeman is once again ignoring the job he was elected to do and bringing his exclusionary approach to governing into sharp focus.

Since joining the Legislature in 2012, I have never witnessed this level of blatant partisanship in the handling of the CRP program. These funds belong to county taxpayers, and they cannot be used for any other purpose. With the refusal to process Democratic projects, many worthwhile endeavors are being held up, and the taxpayers in the districts we serve — Democrats, Republicans and independents alike — are the ones who are harmed.

The most galling part of all of this is how little sense it makes. Shouldn't the county executive — who serves all 1.4 million residents of Nassau County, and is elected by the voters in all 19 districts — want to see projects move forward in every district? District 11 has a nearly even split of registered Democrats and Republicans, and this community is well aware of how Blakeman has been the biggest obstacle to progress on initiatives they care deeply about.

As the leader of the Democratic minority delegation in the Legislature, I, along with my colleagues, will continue to call out this inequitable and, frankly, incompetent approach to governing that Blakeman has employed for the past three and a half years. As we continue fighting for resources that our communities demand and deserve, I encourage you to contact the county executive's office, at (516) 571-3131, or [bab@nassaucountyny.gov](mailto:bab@nassaucountyny.gov), and respectfully implore him to serve every community in the county equitably and fully.

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

## LETTERS

next year. Proceeds from Lights of Hope go toward cancer prevention, education and advocacy.

**PETER O'CONNOR**  
*American Cancer Society volunteer*

*Editors' note: The American Cancer Society's 32nd annual Making Strides Against Breast Cancer of Long Island walk will take place on Oct. 19, from 7 to 10:30 a.m., at Jones Beach's Field 5. For more information, go to [MakingStridesWalk.org/LongIsland](http://MakingStridesWalk.org/LongIsland).*

## We're safeguarding wildlife and waterways

To the Editor:

The New York State Department of Environmental Conservation's Division of Law Enforcement enforces the 71 chapters of the state's Environmental Conservation Law, protecting fish and wildlife and preserving environmental quality across New York.

Last year, the Division of Law Enforcement fielded more than 105,700 calls, resulting in Environmental Conservation police officers and investigators across the state responding to more than 30,000 complaints and working on cases that resulted in 15,755 tickets or arrests for violations ranging from deer poaching to solid waste dumping, illegal min-

ing, the illegal pet trade, and excessive emissions.

On July 7, three officers partnered with the Nassau County Police Department and the U.S. Coast Guard for a boat patrol on the Long Island Sound. The officers checked boats and anglers for compliance with state fishing regulations, navigation law and overall boater safety. They inspected a vessel north of Glen Cove, and discovered an expired fire extinguisher, expired flares, and only four personal flotation devices for the five people on board. The officers issued a ticket and warning to the boat captain, terminated the voyage, followed the vessel back to a nearby marina and advised the captain that they could take the boat back out if they brought another PFD on board.

In separate incidents that day across the Sound, officers ticketed anglers for possessing undersized porgy and fluke, including one angler who had more than two dozen undersized porgy, the smallest measuring 8.5 inches. Porgy must be at least 11 inches to be kept when fishing from a vessel.

DEC officers are on patrol to safeguard the state's air, water, wildlife and public safety. To report an environmental violation or incident, call (844) 332-3267 for 24-hour dispatch, or report non-urgent violations at [dec.ny.gov](http://dec.ny.gov).

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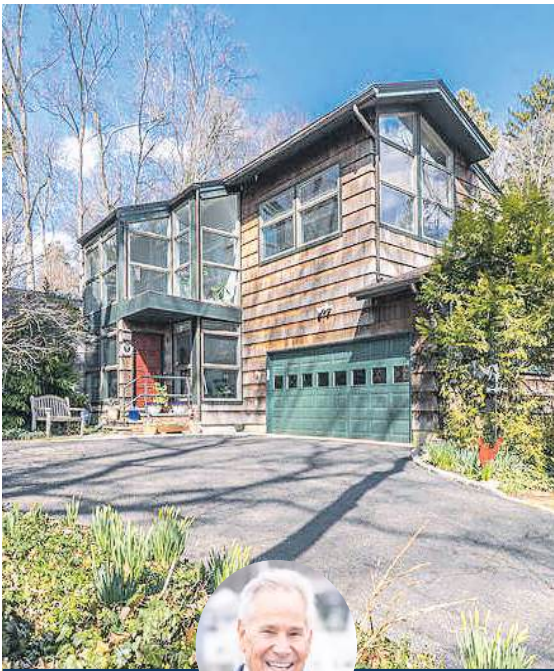
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Linda Brown, c.516.650.9145  
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Pinar Ogeturk, c.516.754.3162



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