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Gearing up for a first race
Page 2



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Page 10

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Roksana Amid/Herald

Remembering a predecessor

Fire Chief Philip Grella, far left, and Assistant Chiefs Carlos Cardenas and Robert M. Sujeski paid their respects to Capt. James Hall, who died 50 years ago. Story, more photos, Page 3.

Illegal e-bike use rises in G.C.

Police will undergo new training and step up enforcement

By **ROKSANA AMID**

ramid@iherald.com

Glen Cove police are preparing to crack down on the growing use of illegal e-bikes in the city, citing daily complaints, property damage and a recent serious crash involving a teenager as signs that enforcement is necessary.

Police Chief William Whitton said the department will undergo training in September to better understand which e-bikes are legal under state law, and which are not. The effort will be followed by what Whitton called a “more aggressive enforcement approach” targeting unregis-

tered and unsafe vehicles.

“Everybody will be on the same page as to what is legal and what is illegal,” he said. “Our biggest concern is the threat to the community. An e-bike comes flying into the middle of the road, and then you have an injury to the rider and trauma to the driver who hit them.”

Deputy Chief Chris Ortiz pointed to a recent accident at Forest and Bryce avenues, in which a 13-year-old boy on an e-bike collided with a minivan. “The kid was pretty badly injured. He shattered some teeth and had facial injuries,” Ortiz said, adding that the rider was not a Glen Cove

CONTINUED ON PAGE 11

He’s in need of a donated liver, and soon

By **ROKSANA AMID**

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Michael Angevine never imagined that at just 42 years old, he would hope for the generosity of a stranger to save his life. The Glen Cove High School graduate and lifelong resident is battling end-stage liver disease, and because of complications with his heart, he no longer qualifies for a deceased donor transplant. His only chance for survival is finding someone willing to donate a portion of his or her liver.

“I have a really hard time asking for help, but I can’t be afraid anymore,” Angevine wrote in a recent Facebook post. “I’m only 42 years old, and I don’t want to pass away at this time.”

His health struggles began in 2011, when he was hospitalized with severe pancreatitis. He spent weeks in the hospital, including Thanksgiving and Christmas, and, looking back now, he believes that was when doctors could have caught his liver condition.

“Fatty liver was written

right there in my reports,” Angevine said. “If they had checked me for it, I might have been able to reverse the disease.”

By 2014, a biopsy confirmed cirrhosis, permanent scarring of the liver. At the time, doctors told him he had about 10 years before his health would begin to unravel. Almost to the day, Angevine said, their prediction came true.

Once a district manager for Sleepy’s, Angevine was forced to stop working by his illness. Determined not to give up, he returned to school, earning a bachelor’s degree in psychology and a master’s in social work from Adelphi University. He worked briefly as a social worker to evaluate safety in homes where dementia caregivers will work before worsening symptoms forced him to step away in 2016.

Now his daily life is a struggle. He battles swelling in his legs that makes it difficult to walk, as well as painful fluid buildup in his abdomen. At one point doctors drained 14 liters

CONTINUED ON PAGE 7



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Courtesy Dan Flanzig

Dan Flanzig wanted to have a triathlon in the Village of Sea Cliff for years. The inaugural Sea Cliff Triathlon is on Sept. 6.

Sea Cliff gears up for first-ever triathlon

By LUKE FEENEY

lfeeney@liherald.com

For years Sea Cliff resident Dan Flanzig wanted to have a triathlon in the village. This September, that dream will become reality.

The Sept. 6 inaugural Sea Cliff Triathlon consists of a 400-meter swim at Tappen Beach, over six miles of biking throughout the village and finishing with a two-mile run to the finish line against the backdrop of Hempstead Harbor. The race has over 125 participants registered and Flanzig, the race's organizer, expects the race to reach its 140-person capacity.

Flanzig, 57, has been competing in triathlons for the past seven years. "I've done the New York City Marathon twice. I've done a ton of marathons and duathlons, but never stepped it up to the tri," he said. "Ironically, I was a lifeguard as a kid. I'm not afraid of the water, but it's just another level of training."

While the Great Gatsby Triathlon returned to Port Washington this year, Flanzig maintained that the region still lacked its own triathlon. He partnered with Race Awesome, the same running and multisport organizer responsible for hosting the Great Gatsby Triathlon.

"We're super excited to be bringing a triathlon to Sea Cliff," Corey Roberts, Race Awesome's director, said. "It's never been done before." In addition to thanking Town of Oyster Bay and Village of Sea Cliff officials for their support of the triathlon, Brown added that he was excited to see how the competitors will handle "a really challenging bike course as they climb the hills of Sea Cliff."

Reflecting on the upcoming race, Flanzig said he is most excited about the opportunity to complete it alongside his 12-year-old daughter Shelly Flanzig and his 10-year-old son Andrew Flanzig. "It's going to be more of a fun race" he said, "Just to be able to race with my kids is going to be the highlight for me."

Flanzig works as a personal injury lawyer specializing in representing

cyclists and what he called "vulnerable road users," at Flanzig & Flanzig, LLP, which he leads alongside his sister Cathy Flanzig.

Bouker Pool, an avid triathlete for over 25 years, was represented by Flanzig after he was hit by a delivery van over two years ago. The Sea Cliff Triathlon will be his first since fracturing his C7 vertebrae, seven ribs, his pelvis and scapula because of the collision. "I haven't been training a lot," he said. "This is the first summer since my accident that I've been back riding and running with any sort of seriousness."

Pool, a 53-year-old Sea Cliff resident, said that he always believed Sea Cliff would be a "cool place for triathlons." The combination of hills as well as the proximity and access to water make Sea Cliff a unique place to train, according to Pool.

"I don't mind hills," Pool said, explaining that he enjoys "climbing hills on my bike and having access to something that's a little bit more challenging." The views throughout Shore Road, the backdrop of Tappen Beach and Sea Cliff Beach were some of the scenic locations that Pool said he admires while training throughout the village.

Despite the physical setbacks, Pool said he is looking forward to getting out on the course and giving it everything he has. "I've done a number of races," Pool said. "I've placed well throughout the years, and I feel like there's something, something still in the tank," adding that "at the end of the day. I want to have fun and see some friends, but I'm competitive in nature, so I'm sure when the gun goes off to start, I'll go full gas."

Flanzig first approached the Village of Sea Cliff and the Town of Oyster Bay with the idea for the race in 2023. He added that the support of both governing bodies has been critical to help prepare for the event.

Town of Oyster Bay Supervisor Joe Saladino wrote that he was "thrilled that our beautiful North Shore will be highlighted"

Remembering Fire Capt. James Hall

3

By ROKSANA AMID

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Fifty years after Glen Cove Fire Capt. James A. Hall lost his life fighting a blaze downtown, the city honored his sacrifice with a street renaming ceremony on Aug. 14, transforming Bryce Avenue into "Ex-Captain James A. Hall Avenue."

Hall, a lifelong Glen Cove resident, died in 1975 during a fire on School Street, near where Kiko Ramen now stands. He was the only casualty of the blaze, the mayor's office said. The dedication took place on the very street where Hall and his wife, Catherine Alice, raised their six children — Dave, Pat, Scott, Jami, Andy and Jill. At the time of his death, their oldest child was 22, and their youngest was just 11.

"The firefighters were like extended family," said Pat Hall, who was 18 and serving in the U.S. Navy when his father died. "After my father passed, the department and the City of Glen Cove showed us so much kindness and compassion. We're grateful for how they stood by our family during such a difficult time."

In addition to his fire service, Hall was remembered as a coach and mentor, volunteering his time with youth football, CYO basketball and baseball, instilling lessons of teamwork and resilience in the community's young athletes.

The renaming ceremony drew Hall's surviving family, city firefighters, and a host of local leaders. Mayor Pamela Panzenbeck, Deputy Mayor Donna McNaughton, state Sen. Jack Martins, Nassau County Comptroller Elaine Phillips, and council members Marsha Silverman, Danielle Fugazy-Scagliola, Grady Farnan and Mike Ktistakis all attended.

"Fifty years later, we continue to remember not just the loss, but the life of Captain James Hall," Panzenbeck said. "This street renaming is a symbol of the deep gratitude Glen Cove holds for his bravery, his service and the



Roksana Amid/Herald photos

Hall's family and firefighters gather near firetrucks to reflect on the 50 years since Hall's death.

enduring legacy of his family."

Councilwoman Marsha Silverman, the spouse of a volunteer firefighter, said the renaming also highlights the risks firefighters accept every time the alarm sounds.

"No matter how much training, there are unforeseen circumstances every day," she said. "When that horn goes off, none of these men and women question what might happen. They just get up and go. We are so grateful for each and every one of their sacrifices, and especially to Captain Hall, who gave the ultimate sacrifice for our community."

The newly named street now stands as a lasting tribute to Hall's devotion to service, both as a firefighter and as a father whose memory continues to shape Glen Cove's story.



Pat Hall addressed the community with gratitude for renaming the street after his deceased father.

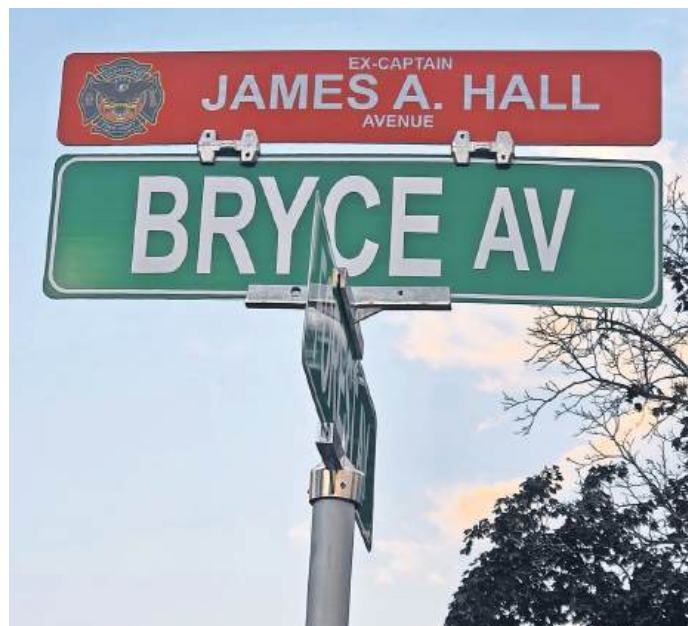


City Councilwoman Marsha Silverman reflected on the sacrifices volunteer firefighters make for their communities.



Courtesy Glen Cove City Hall

The Hall family stood in solidarity with local firefighters, elected officials and members of the community moments after the sign's unveiling.



The city honored Hall's sacrifice with a street renaming ceremony on Aug. 14, transforming Bryce Avenue into "Ex-Captain James A. Hall Avenue."

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Positive Aspects of Aging

Aging provides its own rewards, which only those who experience it really know, as the following quotes show.

"Getting old is like climbing a mountain; you get a little out of breath, but the view is much better!"

— Ingrid Bergman

"Nothing is inherently and invincibly young except spirit. And spirit can enter a human being perhaps better in the quiet of old age and dwell there more undisturbed than in turmoil of adventure."

— George Santayana

"The older I get, the greater power I seem to have to help the world; I am like a snowball - the further I am rolled the more I gain."

— Susan B. Anthony

"Why not just embrace it, go along with it and welcome it?"

— Helen Mirren

"I believe the second half of one's life is meant to be better than the first half. The first half is finding out how you do it. And the second half is enjoying it."

— Frances Lear

"Beautiful young people are accidents of nature, but beautiful old people are works of art."

— Eleanor Roosevelt

"The complete life, the perfect pattern, includes old age as well as youth and maturity. The beauty of the morning and the radiance of noon are good, but it would be a very silly person who drew the curtains and turned on the light in order to shut out the tranquility of the evening. Old age has its pleasures, which, though different, are not less than the pleasures of youth."

— W. Somerset Maugham

"There is a fountain of youth; it is your mind, your talents, the creativity you bring to your life and the lives of people you love. When you learn to tap this source, you will truly have defeated age."

— Sophia Loren

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CRIME WATCH

ARRESTS

- A 29-year-old Massapequa man was arrested on on Aug 10 for aggravated driving while intoxicated, driving while intoxicated , failure to notify the department of motor vehicles of address change and no license on Glen Cove Avenue.
- A 41-year-old Greenvale woman was arrested for aggravated unlicensed operation, operating an unregistered vehicle, operating a motor vehicle without insurance, no license, suspended registration and failure to notify the department of motor vehicles of address change on Glen Street.
- Two Flushing women, ages 23 and 37, were arrested on Aug. 13 for unauthorized practice of a profession and prostitution on Dosoris Way.
- Two Flushing women, both age 39, were arrested on Aug. 13 for unauthorized practice of a profession and prostitution on Glen Cove Avenue.
- A 42-year-old Flushing woman was arrested on Aug. 13 for unauthorized practice of a profession on Cedar Swamp Road.
- A 33-year-old Huntington Station man was arrested on Aug. 16 for driving while intoxicated on Pratt Blvd.
- A 46-year-old Rockaway Beach man was arrested on Aug. 16 for driving while intoxicated and Illegal signaling on Glen Cove Avenue.
- A 28-year-old Coral Springs, FL, man was arrested on Aug. 16 for aggravated unlicensed operation, operating a motor vehicle without insurance, equipment violation and a license plate covered on Glen Cove Avenue.

People named in Crime Watch items as having been arrested and charged with violations or crimes are only suspected of committing those acts of which they are accused. They are all presumed to be innocent of those charges until and unless found guilty in a court of law.

NEWS BRIEF

Mayoral snapper derby is in September

Mayor Pam Panzenbeck is inviting local youth to cast a line at the annual Mayor's Snapper Derby, taking place on Saturday, September 6, 2025, from 8:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. at Pryibil Beach Fishing Pier, rain or shine.

Organized by the Glen Cove Anglers Club with help from Matinecock Rod & Gun Club volunteers, the event is open to Glen Cove children ages 6 to 16. Registration will be held on-site from 8:15 a.m. to 9:30 a.m., and all participants must bring their own rod and reel.

Kids will compete in two divisions: Junior (ages 6-10) and Senior (ages 11-16). Trophies will be awarded to the top three catches in each division, along with a special "Best Angler" award. Winners must be present at the end to receive their prizes.

Organized by the Glen Cove Anglers Club with support from volunteers from the Matinecock Rod & Gun Club, this fun-filled event is open to Glen Cove resident children between the ages of 6 and 16. Same-day registration will be held at the pier from 8:15 a.m. to 9:30 a.m. only. Participants are required to bring their own rod and reel.

Children will compete in two divisions: the Junior Division for ages 6 to 10 and the Senior Division for ages 11 to 16. Trophies will be awarded to the top three catches in each division, as well as a special "Best Angler" award. All prizes will be awarded at the end of the event. Winners must be present to receive their awards.

Participants will also receive a free t-shirt, hot dog and soda, and a raffle ticket while supplies last.

For more information, contact: Tom Manzione – (516) 286-2290.

—Roksana Amid

GLEN COVE HERALD

HOW TO REACH US

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Concern over County's fiscal outlook

By ROKSANA AMID

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The Nassau County Interim Finance Authority, a corporate governmental agency established by New York state with powers to monitor and oversee Nassau County's finances, review financial plans, and, if necessary, impose a control period, has released a report on the county's updated multi-year financial plan, warning of significant fiscal challenges through Fiscal Year 2028.

The analysis shows that the operating results for Fiscal Year 2025 alone could result in a potential deficit under Generally Accepted Accounting Principles of \$204.7 million. After the county's planned use of \$108.2 million of its reserves to pay operating costs, that figure would drop to \$96.5 million.

"Our analysis of the county's updated multi-year financial plan yielded some troubling discoveries, which are largely due to the County's tendency to use funding from reserves to pay operating costs," said Richard Kessel, NIFA's chairman. "Reserve funding is meant to be used in times of financial stress or emergency, which is not currently the case in Nassau County, and this administration is living outside its means. The county's financial future looks concerning to us at NIFA, and while there is still time to turn that around, it will take a great deal of change in fiscal management."

According to NIFA, deficits are projected to reach \$273.9 million in Fiscal Year 2028, or \$231.9 million after the planned use of \$42 million of reserves to pay operating costs. This projected risk is more than six times the one percent deficit threshold that would require a control period.

Contributing factors include uncertainty over



Herald file

A report by the Nassau County Interim Finance Authority raised concerns about Nassau County's fiscal health, warning of possible significant challenges through 2028.

future federal aid following a one-time transfer of \$247.4 million from the American Rescue Plan Act in Fiscal Year 2024, higher-than-assumed overtime costs, lower-than-assumed sales tax and fine revenues, and higher-than-assumed spending on early intervention, preschool special education, and other social services programs, even when offset by state and federal aid reimbursement. The expiration of certain labor contracts in July 2026 also adds to the uncertainty.

NIFA cited concerns about significant liabilities,

including approximately \$909.4 million in long-term obligations for tax certiorari refunds, non-certiorari litigation, and workers' compensation claims, along with \$77.2 million in contingent liability tied to the Nassau Health Care Corporation's finances.

County Executive Bruce Blakeman, in an emailed statement to the Herald, rejected the findings.

"NIFA is a bloated Democrat patronage mill that has predicted deficits for the last three years," Blakeman said, "when in fact the county ran large surpluses."

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HERALD SPORTS

Nassau C.C. football eager for fresh start

By TONY BELLISSIMO

tbellissimo@liherald.com

Nassau Community College's football team has a lot to prove this season.

Just ask sophomore running back Eriq Harris, who broke out the gate quickly a year ago with a 163-yard rushing performance in one of the Lions' three victories under then-rookie head coach Jhaleel Oswald.

"We definitely weren't happy with last season and we have unfinished business," said Harris, who is projected to lead a backfield that includes sophomore Caleib Corbett. "A bunch of us returned and we've connected well with the new guys. The chemistry is good," he added.

Harris was a little banged up last season, Oswald said, and finished with 353 yards on the ground and one touchdown. Corbett missed a large chunk of 2024 after breaking his hand in the 28-27 season-opening win over Rochester Community.

"Eriq is in tremendous shape and is going to be one of the focal points of the offense," said Oswald, a former Lions' captain and key member of their 2013 Toro Bowl-winning team who ran Nassau's defense/special teams under predecessor Jamel Ramsay for the 2022 and '23 campaigns. "He's also taken on a leadership role. With Caleib, we know what those guys can do when healthy."

Topping the depth chart under center as the opener approaches is southpaw Jayden Taylor, a Walt Whitman High School product who like Harris has shown a great deal of leadership throughout camp. Upping his touchdown-to-interception ratio will be vital to the second-year quarterback and the Lions' success. "Jayden was thrown into the fire last year as a true freshman and those growing pains are behind him," Oswald said. "He looks confident and is doing all the right things to be the guy." Also in the mix at the position are sophomore Mark Pearson, a transfer from Key-stone, and freshman Elijah Outlaw.

Sophomore Nick Paris (Oceanside High School) is a speedy wideout who'll also make an impact on special teams, Oswald noted, and newcomer JJ Collins is pushing for the starting role on the opposite side. At tight end, Justin Betz could be counted on to provide the offense with a dimension it has lacked.

A beefed up offensive line was one of Oswald's intentions as last season concluded and the Lions will be counting on some young blood to make an immediate impression. "The line is super revamped and big, but we're talking about kids 17, 18 and 19 years old. We're looking to be more physical and I like what I see so far."

Sophomore Ahmari Gordon, a 6-foot-5, 370-pounder



Tony Bellissimo/Herald

out of St. Anthony's High School, is the glue of the unit, Oswald explained. Also part of the rotation up front is Romel Agueta (Long Beach High School), Rashawn Halloman, Prince Jackson and Jesse May.

The face of Nassau's defense is sophomore safety Vincent Spina, described by Oswald, a former safety himself, as "one of the smartest football players I've ever been around." Spina earned Second Team All-Conference honors a year ago. Other key defenders include Luke Shank, Dwayne Schulters, Lucas Chang, and Cedric and Abdul Jean-Pierre.

On special teams, Oswald has been impressed so far with kicker Matias Perez and Kenny Garcia, both newcomers.

"We want to be strong in all three stations," Oswald said. "We're excited about the challenge of a difficult schedule. We wouldn't want it any other way."

Eriq Harris leads the Lions' ground attack.

Schedule

Aug. 29	Rochester CC	Away	5 p.m.
Sept. 12	Wagner JV	Away	12 p.m.
Sept. 20	Hudson CC	Away	1 p.m.
Sept. 27	Hocking	Home	1 p.m.
Oct. 11	Erie CC	Away	12 p.m.
Oct. 18	Navy Prep	Home	1 p.m.
Oct. 25	Hudson CC	Home	1 p.m.
Nov. 1	Louisburg	Away	3 p.m.
Nov. 8	Sussex CC	Home	1 p.m.
Nov. 15	Monroe	Home	1 p.m.

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'I have a really hard time asking for help'

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

of fluid, and he has memory issues caused by one of several medications that his liver can no longer process.

"The scariest part for me is the thought of losing my memory," he said. "I used to read two to three books a week, and now I can't get through a paragraph without rereading it."

Last year Angevine experienced both hope and heartbreak when NewYork-Presbyterian Hospital called to say that a liver was available, but his cardiologist determined that he wasn't healthy enough to survive the major surgery of a deceased donor transplant. His best chance is a living donor transplant, in which a healthy person donates part of their liver, which regenerates in a matter of months.

"A healthy individual could donate half of their liver," Dr. David Milkes, a gastroenterologist who has treated Angevine since 2011, said. "The donor's liver grows back, and the recipient gains a functioning liver. By three to six months, most donors are back to their normal lives."

Angevine, whose blood type is A-negative, acknowledges the severity of his situation. But he also knows that hospitals offer "swap" programs, in which an incompatible donor can still help by being matched to another recipient, initiating a chain of donations that benefits multiple patients.

For his parents, the wait is agonizing. His father, Daniel, who taught math at Glen Cove

High School for three decades and is now retired, and his mother, Elizabeth, have watched their son's health decline year after year. "It's very hard seeing him suffer all the time," his mother said. "One day he can do a few things, and the next day he can't even get up."

Angevine said that his illness has left him isolated, as many longtime friends have drifted away, unable to cope with his daily struggles. Still, he maintains hope. "I forgot what normal feels like," he said. "And I would love to feel it again."

According to the American Society of Transplantation, more than 10,500 people in the U.S. are currently waiting for liver transplants. Nonalcoholic fatty liver disease, like Angevine's, is now the leading culprit, surpassing hepatitis C. Each day a patient waits increases the risk of life-threatening complications such as bleeding, sepsis or encephalopathy.

Angevine's doctors estimate that without a transplant, his life expectancy may only be a few years. "Every day is a risk," Milkes said. "The earlier you can get a transplant, the better."

Potential donors can learn more and begin the confidential screening process by visiting Angevine's Linktree website: linktr.ee/mikeangevine

"Even if you don't match my blood type, you can participate in the swap program," Angevine said. "That person could save my life."



Courtesy Michael Angevine

Michael Angevine is seeking a liver donor to save his life.

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So many left behind:

Personal stories of L.I.'s housing crisis

By ROKSANA AMID

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Second in a series about housing on Long Island.

The struggle to afford a place to live has become more than a financial burden; it is a daily fight for stability. Rising rents, mounting utility bills and unexpected repair costs are forcing residents to confront harsh realities, from disrupted childhoods to impossible choices for older adults. With limited inventory, rising costs, and affordability slipping further out of reach, the crisis is reshaping daily life, straining mental health, and widening the gap between those able to remain secure and those who can't.

Karen Wihlt, 58, sat in a Bethpage hotel room earlier this month with her service dog, Lennon, unsure of where she would go once her prepaid stay ended. After a series of personal losses and financial setbacks, she is now facing the prospect of homelessness.

Wihlt grew up in New Jersey and moved to Long Island in 2008 to support her wife at the time during a custody battle. She sold her home and restaurant business to relocate, hoping to create stability for her partner's children. The couple lived in Plainview until their 22-year relationship ended three years ago.

"I left everything. I only took my clothes and my dog," Wihlt said, explaining that she walked away from the house they rented for \$3,000 a month.

She later rented an apartment in Bethpage, but struggled to cover the rent on her \$1,300 monthly disability income. Her focus, she said, has always been Lennon. "My main concern is somebody being good to my dog," she said.

Wihlt eventually moved into a Levittown home owned by her best friend, who cared for her as she underwent several knee surgeries. But her friend died suddenly in March. Wihlt remained in the home until his relatives reclaimed the property. While she was away visiting a friend, police changed the locks.

"When I came back, I was told I didn't have a home anymore," she said.

With no car and little money, Wihlt relied on friends to pay for her temporary stay at an Extended Stay America hotel. But she said those funds are nearly exhausted. "I don't know where I'm going to be," she said. "I just want a safe little spot."

Wihlt's difficulties are compounded by her search for housing where a dog is allowed. Although Lennon is a registered service animal, she said, landlords find reasons to deny her applications once they learn about him. "Everything is fine until I say I have a dog," she said.

An experienced chef, Wihlt said she has helped open nearly 20 restaurants

across Long Island. But she has not worked in years due to her health issues.

Now, she says, Lennon keeps her going. "If I didn't have him, I don't know if I'd still be here," she said.

Wihlt has applied for assistance from Nassau County's Department of Social Services, but was told her \$1,300 monthly income is too high for her to qualify. "They told me to spend my money and come back when I have nothing," she said.

The human cost of housing

The struggle to find affordable housing is not just about financial hardship. It often carries deep emotional consequences, including depression, anxiety and trauma, according to Peggy Boyd, a licensed master social worker and vice president of advocacy and community services at the Family Service League.

"As a human service agency with several shelters for both individuals and families, we most often see our homeless population suffer from depression and a huge sense of hopelessness," Boyd said. "Additionally, their lives are riddled with trauma, stress and anxiety."

The long-term relationship between homelessness and mental health, she explained, is complex. Instability can worsen existing conditions or spark new ones, and lasting solutions require a multifaceted approach. "Addressing the mental health needs of homeless individuals requires providing accessible and affordable mental health services, supportive housing and social support," Boyd said.

While housing insecurity impacts people across all demographics, she emphasized that children and adolescents face unique risks. "Children are one of the fastest-growing segments of the homeless population in the United States," Boyd said. "They're often hidden, living in cars, staying on and off with relatives or at motels, and bouncing between temporary shelters. Their reality is marked by uncertainty, fear and loss of routine — all critical elements for healthy development."

The Family Service League supports a "Housing First" model, Boyd noted, which prioritizes getting individuals and families into permanent housing quickly and without preconditions such as completing treatment programs. "The quicker we move children and their families into permanent housing, the greater the outcome for all," she said. Integrating mental health professionals with housing advocates, offering therapy, medication management and skill-building, is critical to long-term stability, she added.

"Family Service League supports the concept of regionalizing the poverty threshold on Long Island, recognizing that the current national standard does



Tim Baker/Herald

Denise Minicozzi, right, and Keith Way both work at Jeanine's American Bistro in Glen Cove. Minicozzi says she works two jobs to pay her monthly expenses.

not accurately reflect the high cost of living in the area," Boyd added. The organization backs the proposed Poverty Line Act, federal legislation that would adjust the poverty level to reflect real costs of living and allow for regional differences.

"Homelessness is costly in terms of taxpayer dollars and human life," Boyd said. "The best results always come in providing support to prevent homelessness in the first place."

FDNY lieutenant, fiancée struggle to afford a home

Brandon Webber has spent 12 years saving lives as a lieutenant with FDNY Emergency Medical Services. But despite working long shifts and holding down other side jobs, the 35-year-old says that he and his fiancée, Alexa Rubinstein, also 35, are still unable to achieve what they thought would be a natural next step in their lives: owning a home on Long Island.

Webber works 12-hour shifts that often start before dawn. His schedule frequently stretches into overtime, and he supplements his income with two additional paramedic jobs. "We are the lowest-paid service in the city," he said. "Unfortunately, I don't believe our work reflects the money that we're supposed to be making. That's why I need to have three jobs. Sometimes it can be a little bit rough."

Rubinstein, a preschool director, commutes from their two-bedroom apartment in Farmingdale into Queens, a two-hour trip each way. The couple moved in in June, after months of searching for a place that accepted pets. The apartment, with utilities included and modest amenities like a washer and dryer, costs more than \$2,500 a month.

Just a decade ago, Webber recalled, he was paying \$600 for his share of a much

larger apartment. "The price for rentals ... compared to 10 years ago have skyrocketed," he said.

Earlier this year, the couple considered buying a house in North Bellmore that could have accommodated Webber's mother in a mother-daughter setup. The house had features they wanted — a backyard, a pool and solar panels — but the numbers didn't work.

"Our mortgage was going to be about the same as our rent, north of \$2,500, but that didn't include the basic necessities," Webber said. Buying the house would have meant draining their savings or taking out a \$50,000 pension loan, something he was reluctant to do. "I did not want to live literally paycheck to paycheck," he said. "That's not a way to live."

"If something catastrophic broke that needed immediate repair, where's that going to come from?" Rubinstein said. "We'd have almost no savings, because we put it all down on the house."

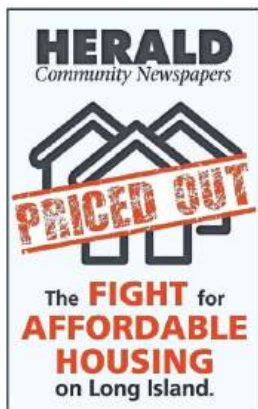
Webber acknowledged that he struggles with feelings of failure, despite his professional success. "There's a mentality that I'm a failure," he said. "You would think we would be able to afford it in the place that we grew up and loved."

Rubinstein said she tries to keep perspective, noting that many of their friends who bought homes did so before the pandemic, when prices were less prohibitive. Now, as rents rise and homeownership remains out of reach, Webber said the strain continues to weigh on them. "We're both college graduates, we're doing what we're supposed to be doing," he said. "It feels impossible."

Working 'just to survive'

Denise Minicozzi never thought she would need two jobs just to stay afloat

CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE



People turn to hotel living, high-cost rentals

CONTINUED FROM PREVIOUS PAGE

on Long Island. At 60, she splits her time as a waitress at Jeanine's American Bistro, in Glen Cove, and as a part-time worker at an assisted-living facility in Bayville, all while struggling to keep pace with the soaring cost of rent.

She and her longtime boyfriend, Larry O'Connell, a retiree, rent a modest Cape Cod-style home in Bayville for \$4,200 a month. The house, she said, comes without a garage, with cramped living space and a long list of repairs the landlord has left unaddressed.

Minicozzi said she is also responsible for utilities and covering any damages inside the home. Food, gas and other basic needs are on a tight budget.

She said she feels like she and O'Connell are being priced out of the community they call home. Their rent is set to rise to \$4,500, and the landlord has already signaled she may push it to \$5,000 if they decide to leave.

"I love New York. It's always going to be my home," Minicozzi said. "But I really did not realize how expensive it was until I got back here."

The couple is now talking about moving to North Carolina or Pennsylvania, where Minicozzi said they could stretch their dollars further and maybe even consider buying instead of renting.

"It's not that we want to leave," she said. "But here it feels like we're working just to survive. We're paying all this

money, but we don't have security. We don't know what's going to happen next year or even next month."

For now, she continues to work the long hours and cover the bills, holding on to her ties to Long Island while acknowledging that the future may take her elsewhere.

"I never thought I'd be in this position at my age," Minicozzi said. "It shouldn't be this hard just to have a roof over your head."

Long Island is 'losing its future' without affordable housing

Assemblyman Charles Lavine, who represents the 13th District, says the high cost of housing on Long Island is pushing middle-class families out and threatening the region's future.

Lavine, whose district includes Glen Cove, Hicksville, Westbury and several affluent North Shore suburbs, said the "universal concern" among his constituents is that buying a home has become an option only for the wealthy. "Getting a home is at least a \$600,000 to \$700,000 experience," he said, adding that steep prices have forced many residents to abandon the dream of homeownership.

Lavine has made affordable housing funding a top priority in Albany. He pointed to millions of dollars in state aid allocated in recent years, including a \$100 million pro-housing-communities program designed to help municipalities

like Westbury, Port Jefferson and Hicksville build more affordable homes.

"This has been one of Gov. (Kathy) Hochul's cornerstone projects," Lavine said. "Over the course of the last several years, there have been actually billions of dollars in state funding provided for housing."

But state money alone will not solve the crisis, he cautioned. Federal investment in housing has been lacking for decades, with the last meaningful boost dating back to the Clinton administration.

But such efforts, Lavine said, along with transit-oriented development in places like Mineola and Hicksville, are essential for growth. Building near Long Island Rail Road stations, he argued, makes communities more attractive to young families and workers.

Still, Lavine said, local governments continue to resist new projects, leaving supply stagnant and prices climbing. "Without more housing, the housing that exists just becomes more and more and more expensive," he said. "It's just basic supply-and-demand economics."

The consequences, he warned, extend far beyond families struggling to pay rent or buy a home. "If we cannot maintain and protect middle-class people to move to Long Island, we will lose our community," Lavine said. "We are seeing a shrinking of our middle class. And that means our community is going to lose one of its most important components."

A complex path to homeownership

For nearly two decades, Ingrid Schwartz has worked at the intersection of real estate and title insurance on Long Island. A title account representative for Clear To Close and a licensed real estate agent since 2015, she helps homebuyers navigate what is often the biggest purchase of their lives.

For first-time buyers, her top advice is preparation: maintain strong credit, secure a mortgage preapproval, and understand the costs. Home inspections typically run \$700 to \$900, and the closing process takes five to eight weeks. On a \$500,000 home, closing costs can reach \$15,000 to \$25,000, largely borne by the buyer.

"Buying a house is never a smooth process," Schwartz said. "There are always obstacles, but they can be overcome with the right preparation and guidance."

-Roksana Amid



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Roksana Amid/Herald photos

Smiling students, proud parents, police officers and county PBA members stood with Minority Leader Delia DeRiggi-Whittonto to help the community's youth.

Starting the school year with new backpacks

Nassau County Legislature Minority Leader Delia DeRiggi-Whitton partnered with the Nassau County Police Benevolent Association to host a back-to-school backpack giveaway on Tuesday, outside Landing Elementary School in Glen Cove. Supported by the Glen Cove PBA, the event provided local students with free backpacks and supplies to help ease the financial burden of preparing for the new school year. Families drove up to the school, where hundreds of children received backpacks filled with notebooks, pencils and other essentials. DeRiggi-Whitton said the giveaway was meant to ensure every child returned to the classroom ready to learn and succeed.

—Roksana Amid



Nassau County Legislature Minority Leader Delia DeRiggi-Whitton, far right, held the backpack giveaway with the Glen Cove Police Department and county PBA.



Kehlani T. and Isabella A. were excited to hold their brand new purple backpacks.



Nassau County police and PBA helped distribute hundreds of backpacks to local youth.



Alexa Doeschner, the district's Superintendent of Schools, helped to distribute bags

Police plan crackdown on illegal e-bikes

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1
resident. “We do see a lot of kids from neighboring communities coming into town and riding.”

The most problematic machines, officers say, are high-power-battery bikes that can reach 40 to 50 miles per hour. With no pedals, mirrors or turn signals, they are often mistaken for bicycles, but police emphasize that they are categorized as electric motorcycles, and illegal to use on public roadways.

“They don’t make any noise,” Whitton said. “At least with a motorcycle, you can hear it coming. With these, all of a sudden they’re just there, because they’re that fast.”

Beyond traffic hazards, police have responded to reports of property damage, including a recent call from the Nassau County Country Club in Glen Cove, reporting e-bike riders tearing across the greens. “They do serious damage,” Whitton said.

He explained that police would not chase riders who speed away, fearing crashes that could result in injuries to both riders and officers. Instead, police plan to use surveillance and impoundments.

“We want to do it in a different way, be a little more tactical,” Whitton said, adding that undercover police will track down riders. Their bikes will be impounded, and subsequently released only to parents, who must pay an administrative fee to the city as well as towing costs, a financial penalty police hope will serve as a deterrent.

Sgt. Frank DeLuca said that many parents may not realize what they are buying for their children. “There’s confusion as to what is legal and not legal,” he said. “Any electric motorcycle on the roadway is required to be registered and insured. If it’s not, and most of these are not, we’re going to impound them.”

DeLuca noted that the department fields at least one



Courtesy Glen Cove Police Department

Young people between the ages of 8 and 18 are the typical violators of traffic laws in Glen Cove.

call per day about youths riding in groups, weaving through traffic or performing stunts. “It’s a lack of education,” he said. “Parents need to be educated before they make these purchases, and kids need to be educated on how to ride properly and safely.”

To that end, city police will receive training from Daniel Flanzig, a Sea Cliff attorney and the president of the New York Bicycling Coalition. Flanzig, who represents cyclists in personal injury cases, has conducted similar training across Long Island.

“No one under the age of 16 is legally allowed to ride an e-bike or e-scooter in New York,” Flanzig said. “They are in Nassau County subject to confiscation or forfeiture. Parents spend \$2,500 on these e-bikes, and we’re going to take them.”

Flanzig explained that the rise of what he calls “micro-mobility devices” — a category that includes e-bikes, e-scooters and other small, battery-powered vehicles — has outpaced public awareness and enforcement. State legislation passed in 2020 defined classes of e-bikes, but left loopholes for devices that exceed power and speed limits. “The devices you see these kids riding are really illegal motorcycles,” he said.

Not all e-bike riders are reckless, of course, and some residents worry about a potential overreaction. Glen Cove commuter Debra Caruso has biked locally for two decades, and bought an e-bike several years ago to make long-distance rides and steep hills more manageable.

But, Caruso said, “I’m not going more than 15 miles an hour.”

She rides to her office in Sea Cliff when weather allows, and says she understands the dangers of reckless young riders, but believes safe riders should not be penalized. “There has to be some way to make these two vehicles coexist — cars and e-bikes,” Caruso said.

Police say they will continue issuing public service announcements via Facebook and encourage parents to educate themselves before buying expensive motorized bikes for their children. Whitton emphasized that the department’s goal is voluntary compliance, but warned that stricter enforcement is coming.

“If we don’t get voluntary compliance, then we take it to the next level,” he said, “which is going to hit people in their wallets.”

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Rallying behind a free summer camp

By WILL SHEELINE
wsheeline@liherald.com

When Valerie Monroe and the other leaders at People Loving People, an Oyster Bay nonprofit which runs a local food pantry and organizes community projects, first discussed creating a free summer camp for children in, they hoped to give a handful of kids a safe and enriching space. Eight weeks later, the People Loving People Free Arts & Adventures Camp has welcomed dozens of children into a program filled with history, creativity and connection — and it was all made possible by the community itself.

“We had a very, very big turnout for our after-school program called Homework Helpers, and we knew that was something that was important to the community,” said Monroe, a co-founder of the nonprofit People Loving People. “In the past, we would normally sponsor three, four or five children to go to the Boys and Girls Club, but we couldn’t sponsor all the kids we knew needed it. So I thought about it and said, ‘Instead of sponsoring these kids, let’s run a camp program for 25 to 30 kids.’ And that’s how it started.”

The camp, which began July 1 and continues through Aug. 22 at the First Presbyterian Church of Oyster Bay, has brought together children brought together children from kindergarten through fifth grade for themed weeks of

music, history, nature and wellness. Each week featured guest presenters from local organizations and businesses, tying the program closely to Oyster Bay’s history and culture.

“This is a really fun camp, and I enjoy it here,” camper Alessia Defeo, 8, said. “We do arts and crafts, we play with clay ... and it’s really fun here.”

The Oyster Bay Music Festival kicked things off with live at the church, followed by a visit from Raynham Hall Museum staff, who taught the children about invisible writing and local Revolutionary War history. The WaterFront Center brought touch tanks and sea creatures for hands-on learning, and yoga instructor Shalani introduced mindfulness and movement. Later weeks featured a nurse-led health workshop, a seed-planting lesson from the Planting Fields Arboretum and a visit from the Atlantic Steamer Fire Company with fire trucks.

“I wanted these kids to learn about the community that they live in and about how special Oyster Bay is,” Monroe said. “Each week we have a different thing about Oyster Bay come in for them, to speak to them and give them a little

background, and they love it. They absolutely love it.”

For the Rev. Jeffrey Prey of the First Presbyterian Church, the decision to host the camp was an easy one. The church had partnered with People Loving People before, providing space for the organization’s food pantry during the pandemic.

“They’ve got a program, and it meets a need in the community,” Prey said. “We’ve got the space, and we’re happy to be able to coordinate efforts. Oyster Bay is a really good community, with an awareness of what needs to be done and a willingness to work together to get it done.”

That sense of togetherness was visible in the support the camp received from local businesses. Lunch partners Gimme Burger, Sweet Tomato and Coach Meeting House provided free meals for campers every week.

“Claudia (Taglitch) and I decided it’s a great way to give back to the community,” said Jesse Schenker, a partner at Lush Life Group, which owns Gimme Burger. “It was a pretty easy decision. Who doesn’t like a good burger? It wasn’t even really a hesitation. We just said,

sure, let’s do it.”

Days at the camp are structured but lively. Campers begin with quiet crafts, then enjoy free play with donated toys before gathering for guest activities and outdoor games. Thursdays have become water play days, with sprinklers and Super Soakers. Afternoons close with larger art projects tied to a weekly theme, from tissue-box instruments to clay sea creatures and tie-dyed shirts.

“The camp is totally free,” Monroe said. “We wanted to make sure that every child had a lunch every day, that they could come in and feel included. The community was so supportive that I can’t begin to tell you.”

Many campers were recruited through People Loving People’s food pantry network, which regularly supports local families in need. The camp, Monroe said, helped ease the burden on parents who work through the summer and can’t afford traditional camp tuition.

The program’s success has already sparked plans for the future. People Loving People will relaunch its Homework Helpers after-school program this fall at the church, pairing high school volunteers with elementary students who need extra support. Parents will also be able to attend English as a Second Language classes while their children receive tutoring.

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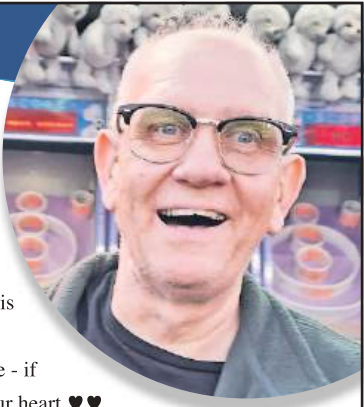
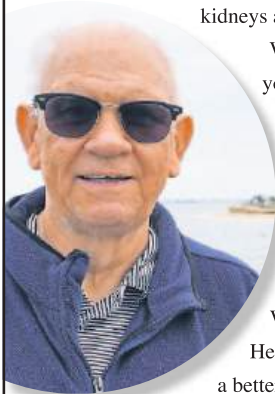

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Courtesy Gaitley Stevenson-Mathews

Brothers Derek, left, and Owen help raise awareness for Post Traumatic Stress Disorder.

Officers paddle 22 miles for PTSD awareness

By ROKSANA AMID

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Glen Cove Police Officers and Navy veterans Derek and Owen Valance are preparing to once again take on a powerful challenge to raise awareness about Post Traumatic Stress Disorder and veteran suicide. On Aug. 29, the brothers will embark on a 22-mile kayak journey across the Long Island Sound—from Bridgeport, Connecticut, to Port Jefferson, New York—as part of the 22 PTSD Awareness Challenge. Their effort is in collaboration with the Tribute and Honor Foundation, the Glen Cove Police Department, and numerous veteran-focused organizations.

The challenge, named for the tragic average of 22 veterans lost to suicide each day, was founded in 2016 by veterans Frank Lombardi, Chris Levi, and Alex Rohman. The 22-mile paddle has since become a symbolic and unifying event for veterans, their families, and community supporters who are working to break the stigma surrounding PTSD and ensure that those who served know they are not alone.

Derek and Owen Valance, both deeply rooted in service through the military and law enforcement, participated in the event last year and were moved by the impact it had on the community and fellow veterans. Owen, a former Naval Aircrewman, said the experience opened up important conversations: “Taking part in the 22 PTSD Awareness Challenge last year was incredible—not just because we kayaked 22 miles across the Long Island Sound, but because it opened the door to meaningful conversa-

tions about why we did it. We’re back again this year because raising awareness is the first step toward getting service members and veterans the help they deserve.”

Derek Valance, a former Navy SEAL, U.S. Marshal, and now a Glen Cove officer, emphasized the deeper meaning behind their participation. “This is about making sure every veteran knows there are people and resources ready to help. Each mile we paddle represents a life worth fighting for.”

The event is being supported by the Tribute and Honor Foundation, a Glen Cove-based nonprofit dedicated to veteran advocacy and outreach. “We are proud to again partner with Derek and Owen,” said Foundation President Gaitley Stevenson-Mathews. “Their dedication to this cause is inspiring, and their challenge helps highlight the programs and initiatives that support veterans in our community.”

The full-day event begins at 10:30 a.m. when the kayakers depart from Bridgeport. At 4:00 p.m., a PTSD Resource Fair will open at the Port Jefferson Village Center, located at 101-A East Broadway. Over 20 veteran-related organizations will be present to offer resources and information. Community members are invited to cheer on the kayakers as they arrive at the beach in front of the Village Center at 5:00 p.m. A free public reception featuring food, drinks, and live music will follow.

Supporters are encouraged to attend, and while registration is not required, those planning to attend can email Board Secretary Angelina Stanco-Stone at: cna452@aol.com



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STEPPING OUT



Courtesy Disney Concerts

Full cast from left: Joshua Colley, Malia Baker, Mekonnen Knife, Kylie Cantrall, Freya Skye, Dara Renee, Malachi Barton energize their audience.

Their 'Worlds Collide' with heart and soul

'Descendants' team up with 'Zombies'

By Abbey Salvemini

Two of Disney's most iconic universes arrive at UBS Arena for a dynamic musical celebration involving stars of the hit movie franchises.

The stage is set, on Aug. 23, for a rousing pop-style concert. The Descendants/Zombies: Worlds Collide Tour showcases the chart-topping tunes from the popular Disney Channel films "Descendants," "Descendants 2," "Descendants 3," and more recently, "Descendants: The Rise of Red," melded with the four Zombies films. After all, where would we be without Zombies!

Inspired by the worlds of Auradon and Seabrook High, with elaborate staging — including high-energy choreography, exciting visuals and costumes — stars of the films come together for a magical evening. It's Disney, so expect nothing less! Just be prepared for endless fun.

The cast features 18-year-old Malachi Barton, certainly no stranger to big moments. Known for his role as vampire Victor, in "Zombies 4: Dawn of the Vampires," he joins the energetic performers who bring these films to life. He's excited to join the cast that includes Kylie Cantrall, Freya Skye, Malia Baker, Dara Renee, Joshua Colley, and Mekonnen Knife.

"Fans can expect a great mash-up of music. Even though they're from different franchises they fit so well with each other. Both of the franchises have this pop-rock feel," Barton says.

The set list includes Disney's chart-topping hits: "Rotten to the Core," "Ways To Be Wicked," "Someday," "Do It Like the Zombies Do," "Red," "Love Ain't It," and many more.

"The music rides this roller coaster of emotions. There are slow songs, fast songs, and then group mash-ups. It's something that Disney hasn't done in a bit," Barton continues.

As "the ultimate family event of the summer," according to the Mouse House, the show encourages audiences to dance, sing and engage with their favorite actors. Of course, the songs are the true star.

"Place to be" and "Don't Mess With Us" from Zombies get really big. "Rotten to the Core" and "Bam," that's a big one. Everybody's just going crazy the entire show. It makes our job easier when the crowd's going crazy," Barton adds enthusiastically.

Fans have opportunities to interact with the cast during the concert. And what could be better than



- Saturday, Aug. 23, 7 p.m.
- UBS Arena, 2400 Hempstead Tpke., Elmont
- Tickets available at ubsarena.com or descendantszombieslive.com

a really long time. We were in Oklahoma City, and there was like 11,000 people there. I didn't know people in Oklahoma knew who I was. It's been so wild," Barton says.

The young Disney star is fully coming into his own now. The tour has brought him front and center into arenas — something new to him. And yet he feels right at home.

As he put it (prior to his Madison Square Garden appearance on Aug. 21): "It is such a shock to my system how not nervous I have been. It's really weird. I've always loved performing. It's not so much the nerves; it's more like pure adrenaline from people screaming your name in an arena. The nerves haven't taken over yet, but hey, we have Madison Square Garden coming up so we'll see."

Barton relates that he spent most of his childhood in front of a camera, living a life very different from his friends. While performing in front of thousands may not seem like "work" to the rest of us, Barton admits that, like everyone else, he struggles with maintaining a work-life balance.

He shares some advice for young performers heading into showbiz: "Don't let go of being a kid. It's really important to just focus in on having a normal childhood and hang out with your friends, having healthy outlets outside of just working and performing ... That's been a really big thing for me."

Barton is eager to share this concert experience with new "friends" on Long Island. And, of course, plenty of Disney magic awaits!

filming an Instagram video with the stars? In several stops on the tour, Barton has pulled out his phone to shoot Instagram reels with the audience. He enjoys recreating his signature "transition" style videos, making it easy for fans to know exactly what to do. It's a special detail that truly connects with today's generation of Disney fans, according to Barton.

"What I'm really looking forward to is continuing to meet all of the fans. As somebody in the spotlight, you have these followers and you have no idea who they are that have been following you for



Malachi Barton in a duet with Freya Skye.



"Descendants" meets "Zombies" in a show that shines the spotlight on the young stars of the Disney universe.



15

GLEN COVE HERALD — August 21, 2025

Smooth grooves

Feel the SoCal vibe when Yachtley Crew visits the Harry Chapin Lakeside Theatre in Eisenhower Park. The seven-piece southern California band is proud to fly the flag of Yacht Rock for each and every generation that loves good fun and good-time music. They burst onto the club scene in 2017, selling out countless local venues before starting a nationwide Yacht Rock craze and being noticed by the legendary Jimmy Buffett, who signed them to his own Mailboat label at the time. For the uninitiated, Yacht Rock encapsulates the revival of soft rock and Top 40 hits from the late-'70s to the early '80s — and it has become an undisputed nationwide phenomenon, inspiring fans to dress the part and sing along. Enjoy such favorites such as Boz Scaggs' "Lido Shuffle," Ace's "How Long," Robbie Dupree's "Steal Away" and all-time Yacht Rock pioneer Christopher Cross' "Ride Like the Wind." Other songs in the band's exhilarating live sets include Toto's "Africa" and Rupert Holmes' "Escape (The Piña Colada Song)."

Friday, Aug. 22, 7 p.m. For information, visit nassaucountyny.gov/parks.



Frankie Valli & The Four Seasons: The Last Encores

For over 60 years, Frankie Valli has captured the hearts and souls of fans worldwide with unforgettable hits such as "Sherry," "Walk Like a Man" and "Can't Take My Eyes Off You." Now Frankie makes his way back here on his farewell tour at Flagstar at Westbury Music Fair. It promises to be a poignant celebration of Valli's legendary career, showcasing his timeless music and incredible showmanship. The original Jersey boy himself, Valli is a true American legend. Now 91, Valli is the only original member still performing with the group. His incredible career with the Four Seasons, as well as his solo success, has spawned countless hit singles. Valli's long-lasting career led to the overwhelming success of the Broadway musical "Jersey Boys." The 12th longest-running show on Broadway has been seen by over 30 million people.

Saturday, Aug. 23, 8 p.m. 960 Brush Hollow Road, Westbury. Tickets available at livenation.com.

YOUR
NEIGHBORHOOD

CALENDAR

AUG 21 **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:** nassaumuseum.org or (516) 484-9337

AUG 22 **Downtown Sounds Concert Series**
Glen Cove Business Improvement District and the City of Glen Cove present a free concert at Village Square. Bring a chair and enjoy the tunes.

- **Where:** 1 School St., (corner of School, Glen and Bridge streets)
- **Time:** 7:30 p.m.
- **Contact:** (516) 759-6970

AUG 23 **Deep Roots Farmers Market**
Shop fresh and local at the Deep Roots Farmers Market! Enjoy a vibrant selection of Long Island-grown produce, artisanal goods, fresh baked items, handmade crafts, and more. The market also features live music, family-friendly activities, and community vendors. Come support local farmers and makers, rain or shine!

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

Monthly meditation
Join H.E. Gegye Yongyal Tulku Rinpoche, a 3rd seat reincarnate



AUG 29 **'Well my heart went boom...'**
Experience Beatlemania all over when 1964 The Tribute arrives on the Paramount stage, bringing the early 1960s Fab Four back to life. Hailed by Rolling Stone as "the best Beatles tribute on earth," the group channels the pre-Sgt. Pepper era with uncanny authenticity — from period instruments and vintage suits to spot-on vocals and playful onstage banter. This meticulous re-creation captures the energy and joy of The Beatles' early live performances, offering a rare chance to feel what it was like when Beatlemania swept the globe. Focusing on the pre-Sgt. Pepper era, "1964" astonishingly recreates an early '60s live Beatles concert, with period instruments, clothing, hairstyles, and onstage banter. The band captures the quintessential moment in history, when The Beatles actually played before a live audience. Only a precious few got to experience when The Beatles toured the world in the early '60s; who actually felt the "mania" that brought them to world acclaim. Today, all that remains are a few scant memories and some captured images in pictures and on poor quality film and video. "1964" meticulously re-creates the "magic of those live performances with artful precision and unerring accuracy. For those that never saw The Beatles live and always wanted to know what it must have been like, this may be as close as anyone could possibly get to feel the magic. \$82, \$66.25, \$54.75, \$44.25, \$31. 25

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

Buddhist Master and scholar in Buddhism, for one-hour session mindful meditation session at Planting Fields.. The program harnesses the profound natural qualities of Planting Fields park, which serves as a place of peace for many. The sessions take place in a different location on the site and teach participants how to lead more mindful lives through meditation. Whether you're experienced or someone new to mindfulness, these sessions offer a gentle yet profound way to quiet your thoughts, release stress and experience the deep stillness that comes from aligning with the natural world. No prior experience is necessary. Registration required.

- **Where:** 1395 Planting Fields Road, Oyster Bay
- **Time:** Ongoing monthly, 8:30-9:30 a.m.
- **Contact:** plantingfields.org or call (516) 922-9210

AUG 24 **Morgan Park Summer Music Festival**
Enjoy a concert at Morgan Park with beautiful views of the harbor and Long Island Sound. Bring chairs or a blanket and soak in the tunes.

- **Where:** Morgan Memorial Park, Germaine Street between Landing Road and McLoughlin Street, Glen Cove
- **Time:** 7 p.m.
- **Contact:** info@morganparkmusic.org

BowWow Meow Luau
Get ready to hula your heart out and meet your future furry best friend at this island-themed adoption event, featuring kittens, cats, and dogs. With vendors, raffles and plenty of wagging tails and happy meows.

- **Where:** Cove Animal Rescue, 40 Shore Road
- **Time:** Noon-4 p.m.
- **Contact:** (516) 676-5913

AUG 25 **Medicaid Enrollment Assistance workshop**
Nassau-Suffolk Hospital Council visits Glen Cove Public Library. Enrollers, trained by the NY State Department of Health, can assist adults and children who are blind or disabled, and anyone over the age of 65, in enrolling in eligible Medicaid programs.

- **Where:** Community Room, 4 Glen Cove Ave.
- **Time:** Noon-3:30 p.m.
- **Contact:** glencovelibrary.org or Nassau-Suffolk Hospital Council at (631) 435-3000

AUG 26 **IDA/LEAC Finance Committee meets**
The IDA/LEAC Finance Committee holds a budget review meeting at Glen Cove City Hall.

- **Where:** 9 Glen St.
- **Time:** 6:30-7:30 p.m.
- **Contact:** (516) 676-2000

City Council Meeting
The City Council meets at Glen Cove City Hall.

- **Where:** 9 Glen St.
- **Time:** 7:30-8:30 p.m.
- **Contact:** (516) 676-2000

Country Western Day Luncheon.
Glen Cove Senior Center hosts a Country Western Day Luncheon.

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

AUG 28 **Walking Club**
Start your Thursdays with movement and fresh air! Join the Glen Cove Library Walking Club for a relaxed, at-your-own-pace walk. It's a great way to stay active, enjoy nature, and connect with others in the community. No registration required. Just bring your walking shoes and meet us outside the library.

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

SEPT 4 **Introduction to Mah Jongg**
Learn the basics of Mah Jongg in this four-part series at Glen Cove Public Library, led by Donna Miller-Small. Bring the National Mah Jongg League 2025 card, purchased only from nationalmahjonggleague.org. Registration is required, and class size is limited. Cost for the series is \$20, payable at the Reference Desk upon registration.

- **Where:** Community Room, 4 Glen Cove Ave.
- **Time:** 10:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m.
- **Contact:** glencovelibrary.org or (516) 676-2130

SEPT 17 **Locust Valley Garden Club**
The Locust Valley Garden Club will not be meeting at the Locust Valley Library on Aug. 20 as previously announced. All visitors and potential new members are welcome to the next meeting. Participate in "Tatakizome - Japanese Hammer Art," led by program chair Jane Benstock. Use garden blossoms to create beautiful small pieces of art at the hands-on session. Bring a hammer, all other materials are provided. The "themed" lunch is "Back-to-School-Lunchbox" plates, sides, snacks and desserts. All gardening lovers are welcome!

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



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Discover what's coming in the **HERALD**

SEPT.
11

High School Football Preview

Get ready for an action-packed season with the 2025 High School Football Preview — your ultimate guide to the upcoming year in local high school football. This special section highlights the teams, standout players, key matchups, and expert analysis of what to expect under the Friday night lights. Look for the Basketball Preview on Dec. 18.



OCT.
16

Higher Education

Higher education is more than just earning a degree—it's a gateway to personal growth, career success, and community development. This special supplement explores the transformative impact of colleges and universities on individuals and society, highlighting the latest trends, opportunities, and resources available to students and lifelong learners.



OCT.
16

Your Health Breast Cancer Awareness

Join the fight against breast cancer. Early detection saves lives. Together, we raise awareness, support survivors, and fund research for a brighter, healthier future.



OCT.
23

Great Homes

Great Homes showcases current listings, local realtors, and real estate services. Larger ads and targeted distribution make it the perfect way to grow your business.



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THE GREAT BOOK GURU

Verdict revisited

Dear Great Book Guru,
Now that we coming to the last weeks of summer, I realize I have not reached my goal of reading ten books by August 31- I'm one short. At the Sea Cliff Civic Association's Gatsby Great Gala at Foster's this week, people were talking about a debut novel – a courtroom drama of sorts but more a study of sibling interactions. Thoughts?

Gatsby Gala Guest

Dear Gatsby Gala Guest,
“Hollow Spaces” by Victor Suthammanont is the book for you. The novel opens with John Lo waiting for the jury to come back with a verdict on murder charge. John is the only Asian American partner in a prestigious New York City law firm, and there is strong evidence to believe racism is playing a part in the case. We very quickly learn he is acquitted and then are transported thirty years forward.



**ANN
DIPIETRO**

His daughter, Brennan, and son, Hunter, who were young children at the time of the trial, are meeting for the first time in four years. Brennan has followed her father's career path and is on partner track at another law firm and Hunter is a war time journalist who travels the world.

Brennan has always believed her father was unfairly accused while Hunter is sure he was guilty of the murder. This has caused the siblings to be estranged, and it is only their mother's ill health that brings them together now.

As they reminisce about the past, they begin to see how traumatized they have been by that long ago jury decision. They decide they must join together to fill in those “hollow spaces” and learn the truth. Highly recommended.

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

NEWS BRIEF

G.C. High School Class of 1965 reunion

The Glen Cove High School Class of 1965 will celebrate its 60th reunion on Saturday, October 11, 2025, at Soundview, 45 Bayville Avenue, Bayville, from 7 to 11. A cocktail reception will begin at 7.

The evening includes a full sit-down dinner with salad, dessert, coffee with Sambuca and cappuccino, and an unlimited selection of premium liquors, bottled beer, wine, and domestic champagne. The cost is \$140.00 per person, which includes tax, tip, valet parking, and a DJ.

RSVP by Aug. 30. Payments can be sent via Zelle to 516-532-3256 or by check to Arnold Steinberg, 20 Westwind Dr., Apt 35, Westbury, NY 11590.

This milestone reunion is more than just a gathering—it's a celebration of life, resilience, and lifelong friendships. As many of us approach 80, we recognize the significance of coming together to honor our shared past, cherish the present, and create new memories. For those who have overcome life's many challenges, your presence will be especially meaningful.

IT'S FREE!

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Courtesy PSEG

PSEG Long Island is continuing to remind homeowners and contractors to make a free call to 811 before starting any digging project.

PSEG reminds residents to call 811 before digging

By CHARLES SHAW
cshaw@liherald.com

With National 811 Day having passed on Aug. 11, PSEG Long Island is continuing to remind homeowners and contractors to make a free call to 811 before starting any digging project—even small ones like planting trees or installing fence posts.

The utility company emphasizes that calling 811 is not just a safety recommendation, but a legal requirement in New York. The service connects callers to a local one-call center, which alerts utility companies to mark out underground gas, electric, water or cable lines with flags, paint, or both.

“Calling 811 ahead of time is always essential, whether you’re working on a small project or hiring contractors for a big job,” said Michael Sullivan, vice president of Electric Operations at PSEG Long Island. “It helps protect underground utility lines and, more importantly, the safety of anyone digging.”

Last year, more than 193,000 mark-out requests were made in PSEG Long Island’s service area. So far this year, over 115,000 requests have already been logged.

Despite outreach efforts, a significant number of diggers continue to skip the call. According to the Common Ground Alliance, about 40 percent of active diggers across North America do not call 811, often assuming their work is too shallow to require it.

PSEG Long Island warns that digging without knowing what’s below can cause severe injury, property damage,

811 Dig Safety Tips

- Underground utility lines exist even on private property
- Call 811 at least two business days before digging
- Wait until all utility companies confirm the area is marked or clear
- Maintain and respect all utility markings
- Hand-dig within 2 feet of marked lines to avoid damaging them
- If you hit a gas line or smell gas, call 911 immediately from a safe location
- The 811 service is free—and it’s the law

and disruptions in service.

The utility recommends placing the call at least two business days before starting work to allow time for all utility companies to respond and confirm that the area is safe to dig.

HERALD LGLE1 0821 PUBLIC NOTICES

LEGAL NOTICE
SUPREME COURT OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK
COUNTY OF NASSAU
THE BANK OF NEW YORK MELLON, F/K/A THE BANK OF NEW YORK, AS SUCCESSOR IN INTEREST TO JPMORGAN CHASE BANK, AS TRUSTEE, NOT IN ITS INDIVIDUAL CAPACITY BUT SOLELY AS TRUSTEE FOR GREENPOINT MORTGAGE LOAN TRUST 2004-1 MORTGAGE LOAN PASS-THROUGH CERTIFICATES, SERIES 2004-1, -against- SHEILA A. ZEINETH, ET AL.
NOTICE OF SALE
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN pursuant to a Final Judgment of Foreclosure entered in the Office of the Clerk of the County of Nassau on May 27, 2025, wherein THE BANK OF NEW YORK MELLON, F/K/A THE BANK OF NEW YORK, AS SUCCESSOR IN INTEREST TO JPMORGAN CHASE BANK, AS TRUSTEE, NOT IN ITS INDIVIDUAL CAPACITY BUT SOLELY AS TRUSTEE FOR GREENPOINT MORTGAGE LOAN TRUST 2004-1 MORTGAGE LOAN PASS-THROUGH CERTIFICATES, SERIES 2004-1 is the Plaintiff and SHEILA A.

ZEINETH, ET AL., are the Defendants. I, the undersigned Referee, will sell at public RAIN OR SHINE at the NASSAU COUNTY SUPREME COURT, 100 SUPREME COURT DRIVE, NORTH SIDE STEPS, MINEOLA, NY 11501, on September 9, 2025 at 2:00PM, the premises known as 24 MAPLE AVENUE, GLEN COVE, NY 11542 and the following tax map identification 31-22-28. ALL THAT CERTAIN PLOT, PIECE OR PARCEL OF LAND, WITH THE BUILDINGS AND IMPROVEMENTS THEREON ERECTED, SITUATE, LYING AND BEING IN THE CITY OF GLEN COVE, COUNTY OF NASSAU AND STATE OF NEW YORK
Premises will be sold subject to provisions of filed Judgment Index No.: 614113/2023; Fabiana Talarico, Esq., as Referee; Robertson, Anschutz, Schneid, Crane & Partners, PLLC, 900 Merchants Concourse, Suite 310, Westbury, New York 11590, Attorneys for Plaintiff. All foreclosure sales will be conducted in accordance with Covid-19 guidelines including, but not limited to, social distancing and mask wearing. *LOCATION OF SALE SUBJECT TO CHANGE DAY OF IN ACCORDANCE WITH COURT/CLERK DIRECTIVES. 154915

LEGAL NOTICE
NOTICE OF SALE
SUPREME COURT. NASSAU COUNTY. LOAN FUNDER LLC, SERIES 36093, Pltf. vs. AMERICAN DREAM RENOVATION'S LLC, et al, Defts. Index #619325/23. Pursuant to judgment of foreclosure and sale entered July 22, 2025, I will sell at public auction on the North Side steps of the Nassau Supreme Court, 100 Supreme Court Drive, Mineola, NY on September 9, 2025 at 2:00 p.m. premises k/a 9 Capobianco Street, Glen Cove, NY a/k/a Section 21, Block 4, Lot 30. Approximate amount of judgment is \$495,267.38 plus costs and interest. Sold subject to terms and conditions of filed judgment and terms of sale. BRIAN DAVIS, Referee. DEUTSCH & SCHNEIDER, LLP, Attys. for Pltf., 79-37 Myrtle Avenue, Glendale, NY 11385. File No. LF-484 - #102435 154913

LEGAL NOTICE
NOTICE OF SALE
SUPREME COURT COUNTY OF NASSAU MTGLQ Investors, L.P., Plaintiff AGAINST Adventure Corp.; et al, Defendant(s) Pursuant to a Judgment of Foreclosure and Sale duly entered August 13, 2024, 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 September 22, 2025, at 2:00PM, premises known as 53 Robinson 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 in the City of Glen Cove, County of Nassau, State of New York, Section 21 Block 19 Lot 129. Approximate amount of judgment plus interest and costs. Premises will be sold subject to provisions of filed Judgment Index# 015093/2007. Foreclosure auction will be held "Rain or Shine"
Maria Sideris, Esq., Referee
LOGS Legal Group LLP f/k/a Shapiro, DiCaro & Barak, LLC Attorney(s) for the Plaintiff
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OPINIONS

Isolationism, antisemitism will affect the world's future

When Adolf Hitler was rearming the Nazi war machine in the early 1930s and beginning his invasions of neighboring nations under the guise of safeguarding Germans living in regions of those countries, Europe's leaders chose to ignore reality and look the other way. Nothing was more shameful than the Munich Conference in Sep-



PETER KING

tember 1938, when British Prime Minister Neville Chamberlain capitulated to Hitler's seizing of the Sudetenland from Czechoslovakia, which Chamberlain labeled a "quarrel in a far-away country."

Chamberlain proudly returned to cheering crowds in Britain

proclaiming he had secured "peace in our time." Barely more than a year later, Britain was at war with Germany, enduring the bombing assaults of the Battle of London and fighting for its very survival. Chamberlain was forced to resign as prime minister, and was replaced by Winston Churchill, whose warnings about Hitler's arming of that Nazi war machine and the lethal threat it posed to Europe had been largely

ignored and often ridiculed throughout the 1930s.

While Hitler was advancing through Europe, too many Americans chose to follow the Chamberlain route of appeasement. Led by Charles Lindbergh and the America First isolationist movement, they argued that there was no American interest in stopping Hitler or assisting Britain. This was Europe's war. Similarly, Hitler's sworn policy to persecute Jews was an internal issue. It took Japan's attack on Pearl Harbor and Hitler's declaration of war against the United States for us to fully mobilize and join Churchill to lead the successful war effort to destroy Hitler and defeat Nazi Germany's existential threat to Western civilization.

In the post-World War II period, there was the threat of Soviet imperialism and expansion. Isolationism was discredited, discarded and consigned to history's trash bin. The United States assumed the position of free world leadership, and alliances such as NATO were formed to preserve order and stability. Despite bumps and controversies along the way, the system worked. Europe was rebuilt, and the Soviet Union collapsed.

The defeat of Hitler and the world's realization of the horrors of genocide also brought about the recognition of the State of Israel, which, despite wars and terrorist attacks, established itself as a thriving democracy and a strong ally of the United States.

Russia's invasion and Hamas's attacks aren't just regional problems.

All of this is now threatened. A resurgent Russia, led by its dictator, Vladimir Putin, invaded Ukraine — the first invasion of a sovereign European nation since the end of World War II — and Putin employed arguments to justify the invasion similar to what Hitler claimed justified his attacks on Czechoslovakia and Austria. And in Israel, Hamas carried out a terrorist

attack on Israeli civilians, causing the highest number of Jewish deaths since World War II.

At this time, when Ukraine and Israel are fighting for survival, the civilized world would be expected to have learned the lessons of history and stand united against Russian aggression and Hamas's threat to destroy the Jewish state. Instead, in the United States, the isolationist movement has emerged from the deep, dark shadows, and antisemitism is again rearing its ugly head. Dilettante influencers like Tucker Carlson and Candace Owens are today's

Charles Lindberghs. Going so far as to ascribe blame for World War II to Churchill, they enable Putin, disparage Ukraine's president, Volodymyr Zelenskyy, and accuse Israel and its prime minister, Benjamin Netanyahu, of war crimes and genocide.

Underlying all this madness is the discredited shibboleth that none of these crises affect the United States — that we can survive in our own isolationist world.

As for Europe, while it has stood strong with Ukraine against Russia, it is joining the anti-Israel chorus calling for rewarding Hamas with the creation of a Palestinian state, and accusing the Jewish state of inducing a famine and committing war crimes.

The stark realities Americans must face are that Russia's invasion of Ukraine isn't just "Europe's war," any more than Hitler's seizure of the Sudetenland was a mere "quarrel in a far-away country"; and that Hamas's attempt to destroy Israel isn't just a "Jewish issue." Israel was not the aggressor, and is not committing war crimes or genocide.

These are conflicts that affect the future of the world and demand strong, assertive American leadership.

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

RFK Jr.: the wrong man for an oh-so-important job

Every person on this planet worries about their health. We all want to grow old without any physical ailments or infirmities. To stay healthy, we rely mostly on our government, at all levels. We expect our leaders to promote programs that will keep us safe, and to find new ways to pre-

vent us from being exposed to diseases that undermine our normal bodily functions.

To maintain a healthy society, we primarily look to the federal government for the latest in research and the newest vaccines and cures for diseases. For the most part, that responsibility



JERRY KREMER

falls on the shoulders of Robert F. Kennedy Jr., the secretary of Health and Human Services in Washington. Based on Kennedy's actions over the past seven months, I suggest you don't go to sleep thinking that we have an effective health leader in D.C.

There are so many areas in which Kennedy has failed us to date that it's hard to select the worst ones. Let's start

with the admission that the man in charge of your longevity made last winter, stating that people shouldn't be looking to him for medical advice, because he's not a medical expert. That has been the worst-kept secret in the country, as most of us know that Kennedy has a long history of fighting the use of vaccines with questionable theories. It is that much scarier given the fact that he is charged with the responsibility of keeping 340 million people healthy.

When Kennedy appeared before a congressional committee in February, he was asked whether he would retain the highly respected doctors who serve on the federal panel that makes vaccine recommendations. He pledged to keep the panel members, and it was that pledge that won one of the deciding votes to confirm him from Sen. Bill Cassidy, a Louisiana Republican who is also a doctor. In June, Kennedy, in violation of his promise, fired the entire panel and replaced its members with a number of recognized vaccine deniers.

In February, there was a serious outbreak of measles in west Texas, in a number of counties where residents were known to be anti-vaccine. The out-

break eventually spread to six other states, and the numbers turned out to be the highest recorded in recent memory. Kennedy initially — incorrectly — said that the outbreak was "not unusual," and that "we have measles outbreaks every year."

As the numbers rose, he changed his response in the worst possible way. Instead of using his position to encourage parents to get their children vaccinated, he issued a series of statements suggesting that vaccinations are a "personal choice." As the number of cases kept climbing, he eventually caved, and suggested that parents should consider having their children vaccinated. Kennedy's change of heart enraged the anti-vaxxers, but he couldn't avoid the facts.

Kennedy's latest attack on your life span was his decision earlier this month that 22 projects, totaling \$500 million, to develop vaccines using mRNA technology, would be halted. He criticized vaccines in a video on his social media accounts, explaining his decision by characterizing the projects, being led by the nation's leading pharmaceutical companies, including Pfizer and Moder-

na, to develop vaccines that offer protection against viruses like the flu, Covid-19 and H5N1 as "unnecessary."

Infectious disease experts say the mRNA technology is safe, and they credit its use during the first Trump administration for slowing the coronavirus pandemic. Future pandemics, they warned, will be harder to stop without the help of mRNA. Mike Osterholm, a University of Minnesota expert on infectious diseases and pandemic preparations, said, "I don't think I have seen a more dangerous decision in public health in my 50 years in the business."

The shelving of the mRNA projects is considered short-sighted because there are continuing concerns about the bird flu becoming a pandemic, and because mRNA vaccines have saved millions of lives, according to Dr. Paul Offit, a vaccine expert at the Children's Hospital of Philadelphia.

These are but a few of the actions taken by Kennedy that raise serious questions about whether he is the right man for one of the most important jobs in America.

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? jkrekmer@liherald.com.

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HERALD EDITORIAL

Finding joy on the carousel of life

Last week, after 10 months of repairs, Nunley's Carousel began spinning again at the Long Island Children's Museum in Garden City. The 113-year-old attraction reopened with extended hours, offering families a simple retreat during these final weeks of summer.

The carousel holds a special place in the hearts of generations of Long Islanders. Many who rode the hand-carved horses at the original Baldwin location now bring their own children and grandchildren to Museum Row. These multi-generational visits represent continuity in an ever-changing world.

The carousel's journey mirrors that of many Long Island families. Originally built in 1912 in Brooklyn, it moved to the suburb of Baldwin in 1940. It found a permanent home on Museum Row in 2009, after Nunley's Amusement Park closed. The attraction has survived several relocations because it represents something enduring in uncertain times.

There's a lot to be said for the carefree pleasure of a carousel ride. In times when daily life feels increasingly complex and stressful, the gentle rhythm of painted horses moving in a circle offers a brief respite. The music plays, children laugh, and for a few minutes, the outside world recedes.

The carousel operates at a different

pace than the rest of our lives. While we rush from commitment to commitment, the horses move at their steady, measured pace. The carousel offers a few minutes of gentle motion, music and togetherness.

The transition back to school schedules and fall responsibilities looms large for many families. These remaining summer weeks present an opportunity to appreciate the small moments — time spent together, shared laughter and uncomplicated joy — like those Nunley's Carousel has provided for over 100 years.

The carousel operates Wednesdays through Sundays from 12:30 to 3:00 p.m. until the end of August, giving families a chance to create one more summer memory before the school year grind begins. At \$4 per ride, it's an accessible way to gather multiple generations and remember what we're grateful for.

For families dealing with modern life's stresses, the carousel offers something increasingly rare: a space designed purely for joy. There are no learning objectives, no competitive elements, no pressure to perform. Success is measured simply by smiles.

The carousel's return also invites a broader reflection: What serves as your family's symbol of joy? Every family, club or organization needs something that brings them together, something

that creates shared memories. For some, it might be a weekly trip to a local ice cream stand or a monthly hike. Others might find their tradition in Friday night pizza or reading bedtime stories in the same rocking chair.

The beauty lies not in the grandeur of the tradition but in its consistency and the joy it brings. A grandmother's weekly phone call can be as powerful as an elaborate vacation. A father teaching his child to throw a baseball creates memories as lasting as any expensive entertainment. Family game nights, Sunday-morning pancakes or choosing a Christmas tree together — these small, repeated acts become the foundation of traditions that transcend generations.

Nothing is too big or too small to serve as a source of shared happiness. What matters isn't the scale but the intention — the deliberate choice to create moments of connection.

Nunley's carousel reminds us that traditions don't have to be complicated or costly. Whether your joy comes from carousel rides, backyard barbecues or quiet reading moments, they are the actions that ground us in gratitude and connection.

In these waning weeks of summer, be sure to take part in old traditions — or create new ones. The carousel of life can be stressful. Be sure to take a few moments to find your joy.

LETTERS

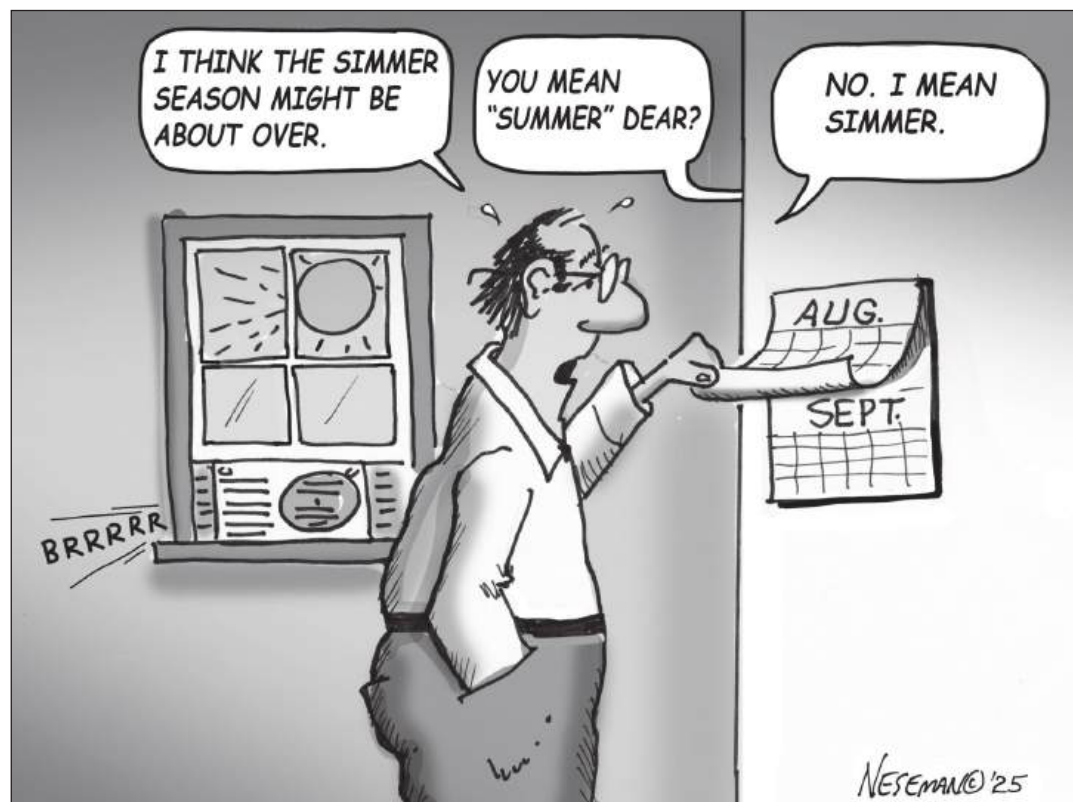
Yes, Nassau is morphing into a police state

To the Editor:

Re Tom O'Connor's letter to the editor, "Nassau County isn't a police state. ICE is just making it safer," in last week's issue: Mr. O'Connor is 100 percent off base! What Claudia Borecky wrote in her letter in the July 31-Aug. 6 issue, "Nassau County is showing signs of becoming a police state," was accurate and right on!

The Trump "regime" of authoritarian control is oozing into our own county of Nassau. County Executive Bruce Blakeman is seemingly the Long Island MAGA representative of Trump's insidious, dangerous and woefully incompetent tactics. These lawless pursuits are counter-intuitive to the salvation of our almost 250-year-old democratic republic.

It's shameful that Mr. O'Connor and others have swallowed the lies about what Trump and his acolytes (Blakeman included) are attempting to do nationwide, and here in our own community. Mr. O'Connor's allegations against the



Democratic Party are incorrect and full of Trumpian-skewed rhetoric.

Wake up, America, before it's too late to save our country from authoritarian control,

both nationally and locally.

JANET HOFFMAN
North Bellmore

OPINIONS

Commuters are at the breaking point

For Long Islanders, commuting to Manhattan has become a financial no-win situation. No matter how you slice it, whether you're taking a train or driving in, you're paying more than ever to get there. Now, just months after effectively

forcing us off the road with the congestion pricing scheme, the Metropolitan Transportation Authority is proposing to raise our rail fares again.

Coincidence? Of course not. It is coerced consumption, or what honest people simply call a shakedown.

The MTA's latest money grab will increase the cost of riding the Long Island Rail Road yet again, with the price of weekly and monthly tickets rising by 4.5 percent and other ticket types, like one-way fares, jumping by as much as 8 percent. Depending on where you live, a monthly pass is inching toward \$500! And that's before you factor in subway transfers. By comparison, I checked the travel site Kayak and found a round-

trip fare from JFK to Madrid for just \$224. You could go to Europe twice and still pay less than an LIRR monthly pass.

On top of astronomical prices, the MTA is eliminating round-trip rides and replacing them with a rigid "day pass" that expires at 4 a.m. the next morning. Even worse, all mobile tickets will now auto-activate at the time of purchase and expire in just four hours, whether your train is delayed, your meeting runs long or your plans simply change. For many riders, it's a trap that forces you pay full price — twice — for the same trip. The only explanation for this is the MTA's apparent hope that commuters won't use the ticket in time and be forced to pay again — the worst kind of money-grab.

We were told the MTA was supposed to get better with congestion pricing. That \$9 fee to drive into Manhattan was sold as an "investment in public transit," which raises the question: Why are we being asked to pay even more now? By its own estimate, the MTA loses \$700 million annually in fare evasion, the overwhelming majority on buses and

subways, not on commuter rails. Before asking fare-paying LIRR riders to cover the gap again, the MTA might try actually collecting those fares first.

What makes these hikes harder to stomach is the current state of service. We pack ourselves into overcrowded trains, sweat in cars with broken air conditioning, and then scramble during sudden service disruptions with little to no communication.

And the stations are worse. In fact, Nassau County Comptroller Elaine Phillips documented that county taxpayers pay the MTA \$36.5 million annually to maintain LIRR stations. That's \$100,000 per day, yet many stations are routinely found filthy and in major disrepair, with ceilings and walls crumbling.

Think driving is the better option? Think again. Between the congestion pricing fee, skyrocketing tolls and the cost of parking, driving into the city has become a bank-breaker. We were told that congestion pricing would increase ridership and raise millions of dollars for system upgrades that would make public transit more efficient and reliable. Instead we're paying congestion

pricing and getting slapped with fare hikes, all while enduring the same crumbling infrastructure and service breakdowns.

The message from New York state and the MTA couldn't be clearer: No matter how you commute, you're going to pay more for less.

Once again, Long Islanders are being used as a blank check to solve budget shortfalls. We're told to do our part, but the return on our investment is delays, discomfort and dwindling options. The MTA must accept accountability. Until the agency acknowledges the need to fix its wasteful spending, address fare evasion in a meaningful way and deliver service improvements, asking riders to pay more isn't just unfair; it's a breach of trust.

Public hearings on these fare increases are coming this fall. Long Islanders should speak out and remind decision-makers that we're not just numbers on a balance sheet. We are taxpayers who happen to pay more than most Americans, and this proposal is our breaking point.

If you'd like to be kept up to date on the dates and times of these hearings, please sign up for my email at martins.nysenate.gov.

Jack Martins represents the 7th State Senate District.



JACK M. MARTINS

Depending on where you live, a monthly LIRR pass is inching toward \$500.

LETTERS

Business group plans Sept. 10 program

To the Editor:

August has been a month of rest for our group, the Long Island Advancement of Small Business — we are officially on vacation. While there was no meeting this month, our momentum continues, and we are excited to welcome everyone back on Sept. 10 for an important and highly practical program.

Our July meeting, held close to July Fourth, was lightly attended, but those who joined us enjoyed a thoughtful discussion on automation and how to use it in business. In June we continued our streak of successful gatherings, thanks to engaging presentations and plenty of questions from attendees.

Looking ahead to September, we will feature two distinguished speakers who will address issues that impact nearly every small business. Jeffrey Cohen of Grassi & Co. CPA's will present on President Trump's "One Big Beautiful Bill." Cohen will walk through provisions of the legislation that affect individuals and small businesses, including effective dates, and most importantly, what they mean for you and your business. We will also hear from Mark

Stone, CPA, managing partner of sales tax defense. His session will provide valuable sales tax tips tailored to small business owners. With sales tax often being a high-risk factor, Stone's expertise promises practical strategies to help attendees protect their businesses.

What sets our group apart from other business organizations is that we go beyond exchanging handshakes and business cards. Each month we provide education designed to help small businesses grow stronger and more sustainable. Past topics have ranged from the law and financing to artificial intelligence, personal development, cybersecurity and automation. Now we turn to taxes — an area that affects us all.

If you wonder whether you qualify as a "small business," the answer is almost certainly yes. We welcome everyone who is eager to learn, connect and strengthen his or her business practices.

We are also actively seeking sponsors and speakers for upcoming breakfasts and special events. Opportunities are available on our website, LIASB.com.

I look forward to seeing you on Sept. 10.

MARC P. PALKER
President, LIASB

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