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It's Hispanic Heritage Month
Page 3

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OCT. 2 - 8, 2025

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Chamber hosts annual fall festival

Wiley Adamo enjoyed his time in the pumpkin patch during the Glen Cove Chamber fall festival at the Glen Cove YMCA on Saturday. See story, photos. page 10.



Roksana Amid/Herald

Council feuds over increases in city salaries

By **ROKSANA AMID**

ramid@liherald.com

A tense Glen Cove City Council meeting erupted into raised voices on Sept. 24 as a late addition to the agenda, involving salary increases for city employees, sparked a heated debate over transparency, process and respect for religious observance.

The council had been asked to vote on salary hikes for three Department of Public Works employees and one worker at the Glen Cove Senior Center. The raises had been added to the agenda the previous Friday, prompting several council members to express concern that they had not been given adequate time or documentation to evaluate the proposal.

Councilwoman Marsha Silverman, who is running for mayor against incumbent Pam Panzenbeck, voiced her frustration early in the meeting, saying she had not received performance reviews for the employees or a rationale for the raises. "I continue to not get complete

information to do my job as I should," Silverman said. "This is no way to run an organization."

She questioned why the proposal had not been presented at the council's pre-meeting the week before. Panzenbeck responded that she had been out of town for two days visiting family, and needed time to

This is no way to run an organization.

MARSHA SILVERMAN
City councilwoman

speaking with the employees' supervisor before adding the item to the agenda. She noted that Deputy Mayor Donna McNaughton had emailed the council about the additions on Sept. 19.

"It was an accident," Panzenbeck said. "I made a mistake; I'm not perfect." When Silverman pointed out that she had no opportunity to review the information over the weekend, Panzenbeck responded, "So don't vote for it."

That prompted Silverman to request an executive session to discuss the raises privately, citing the sensitive nature of personnel matters. The request was approved with votes by Silverman and Councilman Michael Israel.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 11

Celebrating the completion of Landing Elementary extension

By **ROKSANA AMID**

ramid@liherald.com

The Glen Cove City School District marked a milestone on Friday with a ribbon-cutting ceremony for the new extension at Landing Elementary School. The event, held outside the school doors leading to McLoughlin Street, brought together past and present administrators, staff and community members to celebrate a long-awaited addition to one of the district's oldest and most beloved schools.

The ceremony included a guided walk-through of the new wing, which features four new classrooms, an elevator, updated staircases

and restrooms on both the first and second floors.

Angela Raimo, President of the Board of Education, reflected on the effort it took to get to this day. "It was the hard work of our past and current school administration and past and current boards that made this happen," Raimo said. "We're really excited for this beautiful new space, and the chance to enjoy it for years to come."

Michael Israel, Landing School's principal from 1999 to 2012 and its assistant superintendent until 2022, returned for the ceremony. "When I saw on Facebook that they were unveil-

CONTINUED ON PAGE 7

Transit history day brings stories to life

The Glen Cove Public Library and North Shore Historical Museum will host a special event celebrating the rich history of transit in Glen Cove and Long Island. “Transit History Day” takes place on Sunday, October 5,, from 2 to 6 p.m., offering an afternoon filled with engaging talks, local stories, and connections to the evolution of transportation in the region.

This free event, supported by AARP and Age-Friendly Glen Cove, is open to all—whether you’re a transit enthusiast, history buff, or simply curious about how Glen Cove’s transportation system developed over time.

The day kicks off at 2 p.m. at the Glen Cove Public Library with transit historian Andrew Sparberg’s presentation, “Nelson Rockefeller and the LIRR’s Transition from Private Sector to the MTA.” Sparberg will explore how political vision and public policy transformed the Long Island Rail Road in the 20th century, shifting it from a private enterprise to a public authority.

At 3:30 p.m., attendees are invited to a reception at the North Shore Historical Museum to enjoy complimentary refreshments and connect with fellow history lovers in Glen Cove’s cultural

heart.

The program continues at 4 p.m. with Dave Morrison, former Long Island Rail Road branch manager and author, who will share his expertise in “The History of the Oyster Bay Branch.” Morrison’s talk delves into the legacy of one of Long Island’s most iconic rail lines.

The day concludes at 5 p.m. with local historian Koorosh Leibowitz’s presentation, “From Trolleys to Today: Glen Cove Transit History,” highlighting the city’s unique journey from early streetcars to modern transit systems.

Mark your calendars and take a ride through Glen Cove’s transit past—this event promises a fascinating glimpse into the transportation stories that shaped the community.

For more information, visit the Glen Cove Public Library website : glencov-elibrary.org/ or the North Shore Historical Museum website: northshore-historicalmuseum.org.

–Roksana Amid

NuHealth offers breast cancer screenings

In recognition of Breast Cancer Awareness Month, Nassau County Legislature Minority Leader Delia DeRiggi-Whitton is partnering with NuHealth to bring the organization’s mobile mammography van to Glen Cove for a day of free breast cancer screenings.

The event will take place on Thursday, October 9, from 8 a.m. to noon at the Charles Evans Center, located at 113 Glen Cove Avenue. Screenings will be provided by appointment only.

NuHealth’s mobile mammography unit—commonly referred to as the “MammoVan”—offers convenient, on-site access to essential breast cancer screenings for eligible women over the age of 40. Each appointment includes a clinical breast exam by a nurse, a mammogram, and guidance on performing self-examinations.

The screenings are free for uninsured women who meet eligibility guidelines. Women with health insurance may be required to make a copayment. Those who are more than a year overdue for a mammogram will need to provide a prescription from their physician and bring any prior mammogram films if available.

“Early detection is critically important for the successful treatment of breast cancer, and resources such as NuHealth’s mammography van make it easy and convenient to get screened and ensure that you are receiving the care that you need,” DeRiggi-Whitton said. “If you are overdue for a mammogram, there is no better time than right now to take charge of your health by making an appointment for an exam today.”

Breast cancer remains a significant health concern for women across the United States. According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), breast cancer is the second most common cancer among American women and the second leading cause of cancer-related deaths, after lung cancer. For Hispanic women and non-Hispanic Black women, it is the leading cause of cancer death.

To make an appointment or for more information, contact the office of Legislator DeRiggi-Whitton at (516) 571-6211 or email dderiggiwhitton@nassaucountyny.gov.

–Roksana Amid



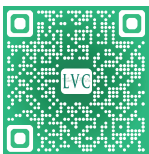
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Celebrating Hispanic heritage month

Spotlighting culture, music and family throughout the city

By LUKE FEENEY

lfeeney@liherald.com

Each year, Hispanic Heritage Month offers a time to honor the history, culture, and contributions of Hispanic and Latino communities across the United States. Spanning from Sept. 15 to Oct. 15, the month celebrates the rich traditions and lasting impact of people with roots in Spain, Mexico, the Caribbean, and Central and South America.

In Glen Cove, the month will be marked by a community celebration in Village Square on Oct. 4, hosted by the North Shore Hispanic Chamber of Commerce. The event will run from 5 to 7:30 p.m., and feature live music, cultural displays and performances designed to celebrate and highlight Hispanic traditions.

Chamber President Connie Pinilla said the celebration “allows our culture to highlight our talent and our cultural costumes that are so rich.”

The month-long observance aligns with the independence anniversaries of Costa Rica, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras and Nicaragua. The North Shore Hispanic Chamber, founded in 2019, helps connect and support the Hispanic business community on the North Shore through education and resources.

Pinilla, who is originally from Bogotá, Colombia, said this year’s event will include performances of music from Disney’s “Coco” and “Encanto,” which showcase Mexican and Colombian cultures. “They’re going to perform these pieces of art which highlight Colombian and Mexican artists,” she said, adding, “children love those two musicals.”

The Glen Cove School District has also embraced Hispanic Heritage Month as part of a broader district initiative to build culturally affirming environments. Several schools have incorporated Hispanic culture into lessons and events throughout the month.

“We have a beautifully diverse population,” said Ashley Ghiraldi, the district’s coordinator of world languages. “We’re just also planning celebrations for other cultural celebration months to represent our diversity with our students and staff.”

Bilingual administrators read to students in Deasy Elementary School’s bilingual program, and each school is rotating a “discovery chest” of Latin American artifacts from the Huntington Arts Council. Ghiraldi noted that “most of our world language classes in the middle school and high school have been focusing on famous Hispanic persons.”

The district also hosted a dance workshop on Sept. 22 with Riley Bermingham of the American Street Dance Theater Company, where students learned salsa, merengue and bachata.

On Oct. 10, from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m., Connolly Elementary School will host a celebration featuring teachers, parents and members of the North Shore Hispanic Chamber of Commerce sharing traditions and culture.



Photos courtesy Glen Cove City School District

The Glen Cove City School District has embraced Hispanic Heritage Month as part of a broader district initiative to build culturally affirming environments.



Herald file photo

Glen Cove will mark Hispanic Heritage Month with a celebration in Village Square on Oct. 4, hosted by the North Shore Hispanic Chamber of Commerce.

Hispanic Heritage Week was first proclaimed by President Lyndon Johnson in 1968 and later expanded to a month by President Ronald Reagan in 1988.

“If our children grow up listening to other languages, and grow up seeing different cultures and smelling different foods and trying different restaurants,” said Lia D’Angelo, a Glen Cove resident and president of the Comité Civico Argentino, “it is a way to truly immerse ourselves into learning about other people.”

D’Angelo and Pinilla both emphasized the importance of “appreciating the artistic talent that Hispanic culture can bring.”

“The more that we focus on it, the more we show it off, and the more we all appreciate everybody,” D’Angelo said. “The less racism we’re going to see, and the more inclusion we are going to have.”



Courtesy Connie Pinilla

The event will run from 5 to 7:30 p.m., and feature live music, cultural displays and performances designed to celebrate and highlight Hispanic traditions.



The Glen Cove School district also hosted a dance workshop on Sept. 22 with Riley Bermingham of the American Street Dance Theater Company, where students learned salsa, merengue and bachata.



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Taking Back Control with a Living Trust

In the fall of 1990, thirty-five years ago, your writer first heard of the proposition that if you set up a living trust your estate doesn't have to go to court to settle – the so-called probate court proceeding for wills. Having spent the previous eleven years as a litigation attorney, and having faced numerous problems probating wills, this sounded too good to be true.

At the time, some of the best estate planning lawyers were in Florida. Perhaps you can guess why. In any event, off I went to Florida to train as an estate planning lawyer and, upon returning, closed the litigation practice and founded Ettinger Law Firm in April 1991, to keep people just like you, dear reader, out of probate court.

The reason I was so excited about the living trust, and continue to be so to this day, is the concept of taking back control from the courts and government and giving it back to you and your family. After all, who doesn't want control over their affairs?

When you go to court, who's in charge? The judge, right? Now tell me, does the judge

always act in your best interest? Does the judge ever make a mistake? And when the judge says jump, you know what the answer is!

Not only do you pay considerably for this privilege, but it can take many months and often years to complete the probate court proceeding. Meantime, houses cannot be sold, bank accounts accessed, or investment portfolios managed – at least without the judge's permission which involves additional time and resources to request. Of course, that permission may be denied as well.

With a living trust, your trustee (formerly your "executor" under the will) may act immediately upon death to sell the house, pay the bills and handle the investments – no permission required! An additional benefit is, in the event you become unable to handle your affairs later in life, your trustee may take over by simply getting a letter from your doctor showing you are unable to handle your legal and financial affairs. Essentially then, a living trust gives you back the control you may have thought you had.

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THE GREAT BOOK GURU

Weekends in Sea Cliff

Dear Great Book Guru,
What an amazing weekend here in Sea Cliff - first on Friday "Lights, Camera, Sea Cliff!", the Sea Cliff Museum's opening of a retrospective of films shot here in Sea Cliff from 1918 until the present! It was a gala celebration and so many of the Village came out to celebrate. Then on Saturday, the Sea Cliff Fire Department had its annual celebration/inspection of its equipment and volunteers. Many of its newest and oldest members were honored followed by a picnic at Tappen Beach. While at this event, I heard talk of a book about young men and the tragic lives they lived. Do you know about it?



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is quite extraordinary.

Told from the perspective of Hal, a late teen, this short book takes place over one evening - an evening that will change the lives of his family, friends, and community.

This book is definitely not for the squeamish. Hal and his friends live in Carbon, a small, fictional city, probably in Wyoming. The lives of the boys and a few of the girls are recounted in striking detail as we see the brutality that colors their everyday existence - most of which takes place in a shabby, malfunctioning car gotten under troubling circumstances.

As the night goes on, we learn more about each of the characters. The last pages are very difficult to read but are almost poetic as lives explode in horrific detail. A disturbing book but worth the read – recommended.

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

Lover of Sea Cliff Past and Present

Dear Lover of Sea Cliff Past and Present,

I too enjoyed the wonderful events of this Sea Cliff weekend and I'm guessing the book discussed was DOGS by C. Mallon. This is Mallon's debut novel, and it

NEWS BRIEF

Fundraiser to support arts education

Friends of Arts and Music Enrichment (FAME) will host its annual Fall Fundraiser on Sunday, Oct. 20, from 5:30 to 8:30 p.m. at The Cove, 74 Shore Road in Glen Cove. The event raises funds to support local arts and music programs that inspire and transform students' lives. Guests will enjoy exclusive raffles, interactive art experiences, and live performances, along with passed hors d'oeuvres and a cash bar.

This year's fundraiser will honor longtime Glen Cove art teacher Jean Bennardo, who will receive the 2025 Tree of Inspiration Award for her decades of dedication to arts education.

Tickets are \$70 per person, and all proceeds benefit FAME's mission to ensure every student has access to meaningful creative opportunities. The evening promises to be a celebration of the arts and the educators who bring them to life. All are welcome to attend and support the cause.

For more information visit: famegc.org.

–Roksana Amid

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MTA approves fare, toll hikes in 2026

By BRIAN KACHARABA
bkacharaba@liherald.com

The Metropolitan Transportation Authority board unanimously approved fare and toll increases that will take effect Jan. 1, raising costs for Long Island Rail Road riders and motorists using the area's bridges and tunnels.

The vote came during the agency's Sept. 30 meeting in Brooklyn following a public comment session.

The proposal, released July 30, marks the first round of increases since 2023, when both fares and tolls rose by more than 4 percent. Officials said the changes are needed to maintain service levels and support a transit system still recovering from the financial strain of the pandemic.

For LIRR riders, monthly and weekly ticket prices will rise by an average of 4.4 percent, excluding city zones. Even with the increase, the MTA said the cost of a monthly ticket will remain under \$500, still lower than pre-pandemic levels.

The MTA had considered shortening the validity of one-way tickets to four hours after purchase, but after hearing customer feedback, tickets will instead remain valid until 4 a.m. the following day. Riders must activate tickets before boarding, and those purchased on board will carry an additional \$2 surcharge.

Discounts will expand as well. The



Herald file photo

MTA board voted Sept. 30 to approve fare and toll increases that take effect Jan. 1.

MTA will reduce ticket prices for seniors, people with disabilities and Medicare recipients, regardless of travel time. Children ages 5-17 may ride for \$1 when accompanied by a fare-paying adult, including during the morning peak.

A new day pass will replace the round-trip ticket and will also be valid until 4 a.m. the next day. On weekdays, the pass will cost 10 percent less than two one-way peak tickets; on weekends, it will cost the same as two one-way off-

peak tickets.

The 10-trip ticket will be discontinued in favor of a "pay-as-you-go" mobile discount. After 10 peak or off-peak trips within 14 days, customers using mobile tickets will receive an 11th one-way trip free in the same period. Unlike the current plan, the new option does not require riders to pre-pay for discounts.

"Transit is one of the few things that makes New York affordable," said MTA Chairman and CEO Janno Lieber. "And

I respect those who oppose the fare increase. But we're talking about something that is 15 percent of the cost of owning an automobile. In New York, I think the gap between transit and auto ownership is even larger, and because of that, New Yorkers spend a lot less of their household income on transportation than people in the rest of the country. We are determined to keep it that way while also making sure we can fund our operation."

Tolls at the RFK, Whitestone, Throgs Neck and Verrazzano Bridges, as well as the Queens-Midtown and Hugh L. Carey Tunnels, will rise 52 cents to \$7.46 with E-ZPass. The Cross Bay and Marine Parkway Bridges will go up 20 cents to \$2.80.

Board member Melva Miller voted for the increases but said she struggled with the decision.

"On one hand, I know our operating budget depends on these revenues, and as a board member, I recognize the importance of this and that approving this increase is the fiscally responsible thing to do and, ultimately, necessary to ensure the long-term health of the MTA," she said. "But I also know firsthand that I've lived the realities of people who ride our system every single day and haven't always had financial security, myself included, sometimes as I was only a few paychecks away from real vulnerability."

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Landing addition features new classrooms

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

ing the wing and inviting the community, I had to come back,” he said. “This was such a big part of my life — not only from working here, but from going to school and living here.”

Israel praised the design and construction of the addition, noting the work of architect John Grillo. “They really did a beautiful job,” Israel said. “This building, which was built in 1932, really needed this. We knew it for years, but when the pandemic hit, that just made it all the worse. The school was so crowded, and social distancing really highlighted the lack of space.”

According to district Superintendent Alexa Doeschner, the project was initiated in response to challenges amplified by the pandemic. “The extension at Landing was primarily built to provide additional classrooms due to limited space,” Doeschner said. “The pandemic made it clear just how necessary more room was for both safety and learning.”

Planning for the addition began in 2021, when the district successfully applied for federal funding through the American Rescue Plan Act. A groundbreaking ceremony was held in spring 2023, and construction was completed this summer. The wing officially opened to students last month. While there were general construction delays, the project stayed on schedule, without any major obstacles — and, importantly, remained within budget.

The extension is part of a broader effort by the city school district to modernize and upgrade its facilities. In addition to Landing, the district previously completed a new wing at Deasy School, funded through the Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriations Act. A \$30.5 million bond, approved two years ago also enabled major upgrades throughout the district, including, at Glen Cove High School, a



Roksana Amid/Herald

Landing Elementary School finally unveiled its new front addition after two years of construction. The ceremony included a ribbon-cutting and a guided walk-through of the new wing.

new artificial-turf field and tennis complex, renovations of the cafeteria and bathrooms, and the construction of state-of-the-art science labs.

“These upgrades have been transformative,” Doeschner said. “At Landing, the new classrooms provide the space our students and teachers have long needed. And at the high school, the science labs have taken instruction to a new level. Students now get hands-on experiences that prepare them for college and careers.”

She added that across the district, improvements to cafeterias, bathrooms and learning spaces have made daily school life more comfortable and conducive to learning. Teachers and students alike have expressed pride in their updated environments.

Response from the community has been overwhelmingly positive. Parents and alumni have praised the district for facilities that now measure up to the high caliber of Glen Cove’s academic programs. While there were some understandable concerns raised early on about cost and timelines, district residents said they appreciated the transparency of the process and the impact of the improvements on students’ educational experiences.

“Our goal is to keep moving forward,” Doeschner said. “We want every student in Glen Cove to walk into a building that reflects the excellence we aim for.”

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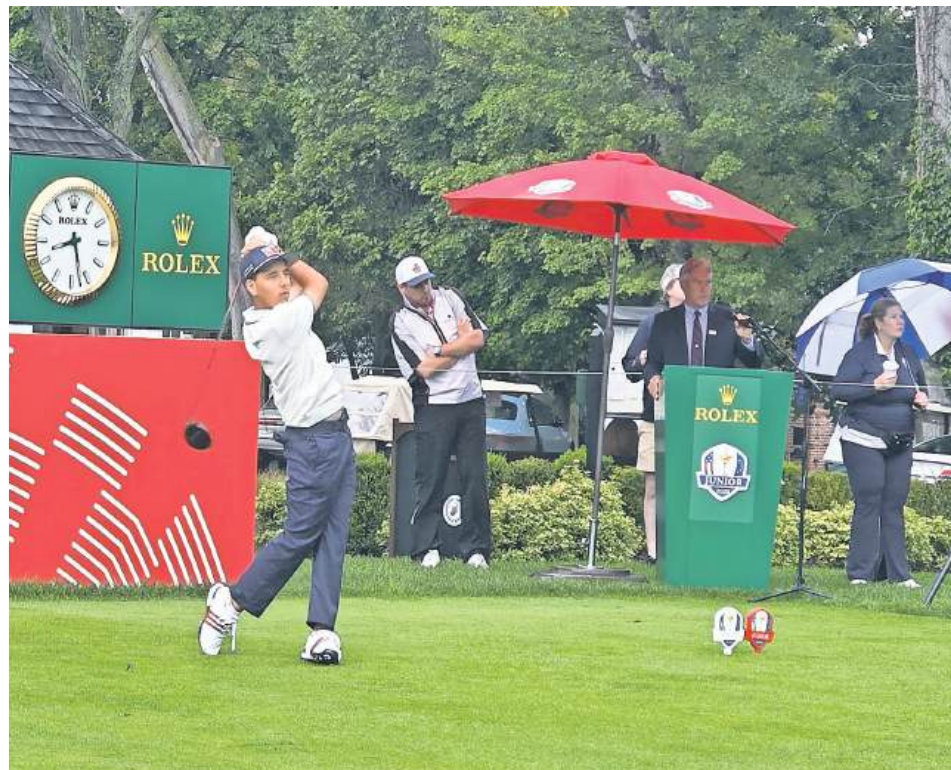
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Roksana Amid/Herald

Needing 5½ points in the singles matches to reclaim the 13th Junior Ryder Cup from Team Europe.

United States defeats Europe in Jr. Ryder Cup

By **ROKSANA AMID**

ramid@liherald.com

On a brisk Thursday morning at historic Nassau Country Club, Team USA faced an uphill battle. Needing 5½ points in the singles matches to reclaim the 13th Junior Ryder Cup from Team Europe, the Americans found themselves trailing in nine of the 12 contests after the opening nine holes.

But by afternoon, the red, white, and blue were basking in triumph.

Fueled by grit, resilience, and a belief that no lead is safe in match play, the U.S. team stormed back to win the prestigious event 17½ - 12½, capturing their eighth Junior Ryder Cup title in dramatic fashion.

"We were down first thing this morning for a long time, and these kids just fought so hard," said U.S. Captain Suzy Whaley, a PGA Master Professional. "They saw a sea of blue on the leaderboard and knew exactly where they stood. They showed grit, perseverance, and did not give up."

The comeback began with a commanding performance from Stanford University commit Anna Fang of San Diego, who won 5 & 3 over Spain's Nagore Martinez. Fellow Stanford signee Asterisk Talley, ranked No. 12 among amateur girls worldwide, added another crucial point by edging England's Charlotte Naughton 1-up, fending off a late surge after leading by four through 14 holes.

Of the 8½ points collected by the Americans in the singles session, two stood out for Whaley — Rayee Feng of New Jersey and Hamilton Coleman of Georgia.

"When I spoke with them this morning they both said, 'Don't worry coach,

I'm going to get this job done,'" Whaley recalled. "And they did just that."

Feng, one of Whaley's captain's picks, trailed Spain's Louise Uma Landgraf early before rattling off wins at holes 7, 9, and 10, including back-to-back birdies. Leading 3-up through 14, she closed out the match with a par on 15 — unknowingly clinching the Cup-winning point.

"I actually didn't know it was the last point needed," Feng said. "But when my teammates started cheering, I realized. It's been amazing playing for this country and on this team."

Coleman, the reigning U.S. Junior Amateur champion, delivered another steady performance, defeating Ireland's John Doyle 2 & 1.

"That was one of the coolest experiences I've ever had," said Coleman. "Not only am I playing for myself, but I'm also playing for my country."

Despite the loss, Team Europe earned 4½ points on the day, including a notable 4 & 3 victory by Frenchman Hugo Le Goff over Miles Russell, the top-ranked U.S. junior boy.

"I'm very proud of my team," said European Captain Stephen Gallacher. "They fought extremely hard until the end. They are not only fantastic golfers but also fantastic human beings."

With the win, Team USA improves its all-time Junior Ryder Cup record to 8-4-1. The American squad will now attend the opening day of the Ryder Cup at nearby Bethpage Black, hoping their dramatic victory sets the tone for their professional counterparts.

"Being a captain of a team holds a lot of responsibility," Whaley said. "But it wasn't just me. This was a team effort to bring that Cup home—and that's exactly what we did."



Courtesy Glen Cove City School District

A prestigious invitation for school musician

The Glen Cove City School District proudly congratulates sixth grader Victoria Espin for her acceptance into the prestigious Long Island Youth Orchestra for the 2025-2026 season. Espin, a talented cellist, and student at Finley Middle School under the direction of Chris Lippe, right. She prepared her audition video last spring.



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The American Red Cross Heroes Celebration is the signature fundraising event for the American Red Cross on Long Island, serving Nassau and Suffolk counties.



Event Co-chairs: James Quent, Greg Lavine,
and Jennifer Solomon

For tickets, sponsorships, journal ads and to
learn more, please visit redcross.org/LIheroes

1317916

Chamber fall fest celebrates the city

By ROKSANA AMID

ramid@liherald.com

Under picture-perfect skies on Sept. 28, the Glen Cove Chamber of Commerce hosted its 4th Fall Family Festival, drawing a large crowd to the scenic YMCA grounds. The free event offered an exciting day filled with fun, food, music, and local pride — a true celebration of the Glen Cove community.

The move from Simpkins Park to the YMCA at Glen Cove proved to be a winning decision. “We were thrilled with the turnout,” said Chamber Executive Director Cliff Krauter. “With support from the YMCA and Glen Cove High School’s parking lot, we were able to accommodate far more guests this year — and the beautiful weather didn’t hurt either.”

The festival, designed as a “giveback” to the community, was created four years ago as a way to thank residents for supporting local businesses. Chamber President Dr. Maxine Cappel Mayreis, a third-generation chiropractor, emphasized the importance of this mission. “We wanted to create an event where families could come and enjoy themselves without financial stress,” she said. “It’s a small token of appreciation from the Chamber to the community we love.”

And enjoy they did — with attractions like free bouncers, games with prizes, \$5 pumpkin decorating, \$1 popcorn and \$2 cotton candy courtesy of North Country Reform Temple Glen Cove, there was something for everyone. Local businesses like Hazuki offered fresh sushi at special prices, and Scoop N Fruit served up pure, creamy ice cream, making the day not just fun, but delicious.

Over 40 local vendors and organizations took part, offering giveaways and information while connecting directly with a couple thousand attendees. Vendors from Deep Roots Farmers Market — including By Hand Art, Brooklyn Essence, and Blessing’s Artisan Bakery (set to open soon at 82 School Street) — added artisan flair to the day.

Sponsors like Allstate’s Celeste Gullo expressed gratitude for the chance to engage with the community. “Being a sponsor gives us the opportunity to



Roksana Amid/Herald photos

Mario Marin, Celeste Gullo and Roberto Hernandez from Allstate Insurance handed out goodies.

meet and greet our neighbors and enjoy a wonderful day outdoors with our kids,” Gullo said. “It’s one of my favorite things to do as a local business owner and mom.”

The festival’s lively atmosphere was boosted by DJ Michael Harley, a crowd favorite who brought energy and fun to the event. Behind the scenes, a dedicated team made it all happen. Co-chaired by Cliff Krauter and Jamé Krauter, with strong support from Chamber leaders and volunteers, the event was a labor of love.

Special thanks were extended to the Glen Cove Fire Department, Police Department, and Auxiliary Police for keeping the event safe and secure, and to the YMCA for hosting the festival on their beautiful grounds.

As the Chamber looks ahead to next year, plans are already underway to add more activities for teenagers and expand the food and vendor options. “We’re excited to keep growing,” said Dr. Mayreis. “This festival is all about celebrating Glen Cove — and we’re just getting started.”



Volunteers from NOSH Delivers raise awareness for food insecurity on Long Island.



Pete and Nancy Budraitis of Peter M. Budraitis Photography work on portraits, social events and headshots. They’ve worked together in Glen Cove for 35 years.



Dr. Maxine Meyreis, a third generation chiropractor, helps her patients improve their mobility.



Olivia Lin enjoyed painting pumpkins during the fall festival.

City in limbo over proposed pay increases

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CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

verman and council members Danielle Fugazy Scagliola, Kevin Maccarone and John Zozzaro.

While he voted for the closed session, Maccarone expressed confusion about the urgency, pointing out that council members had received the email about the salary increases on Friday. "It's now Wednesday. You had plenty of time to ask these questions instead of waiting for a public forum," he told Silverman.

Silverman responded that the 48 hours leading up to Wednesday's meeting fell on Rosh Hashana, one of the holiest days on the Jewish calendar. "I take great offense to saying I should have done work when it was the holy days," she said. "I was in synagogue. This should have been discussed in a proper process last week, when we are obligated to do our jobs and not on a holiday, when we are in our houses of worship."

Then Silverman asked Maccarone to retract his statement, which he refused to do. "It has nothing to do with a racist or religious remark," he said. Silverman shot back, "The holiday ended an hour ago, at sundown tonight — just so you are aware, since clearly you're not."

The confrontation laid bare deeper frustrations about how decisions on salaries are made. After the 30 minute executive session — during which raised voices could be heard by meeting



Herald file photo

Glen Cove has yet to finalize how it will give promotions and raises to union workers.

attendees from a side room — the council returned and voted to approve the raises, with six in favor and Silverman abstaining.

"My abstention is not because I don't think they should get (raises)," she said, "but because I did not receive performance reviews, additional documentation or rationale to substantiate the raise."

Fugazy Scagliola echoed Silverman's concerns about the lack of structure in the process. "What we have is kind of a randomness to it," she said. "We're relying on our supervisors that these are the guys that deserve the steps. There's just no process in place that is sustainable to make people feel good about the work people do here, because there's

nothing to point to."

The vote came amid longstanding complaints from city workers, many of them in the Department of Public Works. In a July 2023 article in the Herald Ralph Comitino, president of the Glen Cove Public Works CSEA union, said that the city had neglected to update its pay structure for over 30 years. He noted disparities in how workers are classified and compensated — for instance, grade-8 laborers with commercial driver's licenses doing the work of grade-9 drivers without being paid as much as regular drivers.

At a council meeting in June 2023 council meeting union members placed a sign reading "DPW matters too" near the dais, highlighting their role in maintaining city infrastructure despite what they claim are outdated conditions and inadequate pay. The city's most recent labor contract, covering 2020 through 2024, was renegotiated earlier this year with the assistance of outside legal counsel, but many employees have said the changes fell short of addressing systemic issues.

The clash over salary adjustments appears to have become a flashpoint in a broader debate about city leadership, transparency and worker recognition. Though the raises have been approved, questions about how they were handled may echo well beyond this week's meeting.



What is the Long Island Nurses Honor Guard?

Nurse Honor Guards have been established across the U.S.A since 2003 to honor nurses who have departed. We are a voluntary group of nurses, whose mission is to pay tribute to men and women who dedicated their professional lives to a career in nursing.

It is an honor and a privilege for our members to perform these tribute ceremonies for our fellow nurses. We hope that our presence will comfort the family during their time of grief and loss.

To arrange a ceremony or to become a member,
contact: linurseshonorguard@gmail.com
(631) 605-8333

  @longislandnurseshonorguard

We accept membership from any LPN, RN, NP, retired nurses, and senior-year student nurses in good standing with the State BON.



**JESSICA
COLÓN
BOHANNON
BSN, RN**

Long Island Nurses Honor Guard Board
President/Founder NYS Coordinator -
National Nurses Honor Guard Coalition

Congratulations
for being honored at the **2025 LI Herald's
Excellence In Healthcare Awards**

12 Long Island's best gather for Excellence in Healthcare awards

By JOSEPH D'ALESSANDRO

jdalessandro@liherald.com

Long Island is home to some of the nation's most skilled medical practitioners, the best of whom were honored at the Herald's fourth annual Long Island Excellence in Healthcare Awards.

The ceremony — at the Heritage Club at Bethpage on Sept. 17 — brought together almost 40 groups representing hospitals, researchers and independent practices.

Stuart Richner, CEO of Richner Communications and publisher of the Herald, began the gala evening by praising Long Island's medical community for their unrivaled research and innovative programs and services.

"We're here tonight to honor the doctors, nurses, hospital executives, educators, caregivers, and so many others who keep our families and our communities healthy, safe and informed," he said. "Our honorees tonight are sources of both strength and inspiration, walking alongside us at some of the lowest and highest moments in life."

Emmy award-winning investigative journalist Kristin Thorne, the creator of Hulu's first true crime series "Missing," emceed the ceremony.

Keynote speaker Dr. Purna Prasad, CEO of Vedi Robotics in Hicksville, led off the night's awards segment preceding the distribution of honors.

"Our evolution in Vedi Robotics has made us who we are today," he said. "We identified one problem that is always a challenge for healthcare: a deficit of workforce."

During his tenure of 30 years at Stanford and Northwell, Prasad observed machine learning and artificial intelligence mature as a field of study. After two and a half years, his team produced a robotic platform that is ready for deployment; it can check in patients, process their paperwork and take their vitals.

"That whole concept of home-grown, state-of-the-art technology — you could say we are a flagship for that," he said.

Vedi Robotics received the Trailblazers in Technology special award.

"What we're trying to do is we're trying to bring a curated artificial intelligence into the arena that is only going to be beneficial," Vedi Robotics COO John Power added.

A portion of ticket proceeds from the event will benefit the Leadership Education in Neurodevelopmental and Related Disabilities Center at Stony Brook University. The LEND program, recipient of the Community Health Champions special award, provides interdisciplinary training to prepare the next generation — along with professionals, families and self-advocates — to lead in their fields as providers of high quality care for individuals with autism spectrum disorder and developmental disabilities.

"Our team truly excels, in an interdisciplinary fashion, to deliver health care for individuals with neurodevelopmental disabilities and their families," LEND Program Director Michelle Ballan said. "We offer hundreds of hours of training for people with disabilities and healthcare professionals to learn how to work effec-

tively with this group."

Kerri Anne Scanlon, president of Northwell's Glen Cove, Syosset and Plainview hospitals, received the Healthcare Visionary special award alongside CEO-Elect John D'Angelo; Northwell CEO Michael Dowling was honored with the Healthcare Legacy special award.

"I think the foundation of Northwell is really the incredible culture," Scanlon said. "It's a culture that truly invests in its employees. It's a culture about worrying about someone as much as yourself, and then building that engagement so that we can give the best care to our patients."

Carolyn Quinn, the director of Northwell Health's Cohen Children's Medical Center, received the Community Health Champions special award. The pediatric hospital was honored for providing outstanding long-term care for children.

"The team is just over the moon," she said. "They are an amazing group of women, just an amazing group made up of three nurses and three certified holistic nurses and four Reiki Masters who are also certified and gifted in other holistic services. There's quite a menu of services that we offer."

Anne Petraro, founder and CEO of

The team is just over the moon.

CAROLYN QUINN

Director of Cohen Children's Medical Center

Mending Hearts Counseling in Elmont, was honored with a Community Health Champions award for establishing an Article 31 MHOTRS clinic during the pandemic to aid underserved communities, specializing in brain care.

"I would love to change the face of mental health," she said. "There's so much stigma against it. And I guess by starting this agency, we're kind of coming with a different approach, more of like a private practice feeling where everyone feels at home."

Co-founders Linda Harkavy and Mitchell Goldstein of Form & Function Aesthetics and Wellness in East Meadow received the Power Couple special award.

"We're focused on now, rather than disease management and crisis management, keeping people well and getting them well and having them enjoy their best lives," Harkavy said. "We engage in wellness, not only body but mind."

Their practice now offers Exomind, an advanced non-invasive brain therapy designed to help patients with depression, anxiety and OCD.

"We've been doing health care here in Long Island for 40 years, and it's been our great pleasure helping so many people over these decades," Goldstein said. "We've taken it now to the next level with state of the art medical care and devices to improve people's longevity and wellness — Nassau County deserves that."

The following individuals were each recipients of Excellence in Healthcare awards.

Alla Shinkman is the former medical



Tim Baker and Holden Leeds/Herald photos

Vedi Robotics CEO Dr. Purna Prasad delivers the keynote address on AI and its impact on the future of healthcare.



A full house at the Heritage Club applauds honorees whose work is making Long Island a healthier community.

director of PM Pediatrics in Syosset. After 10 years in the role, she stepped down to return to work as a regular physician.

"It's my passion," Shinkman said. "I love it. PM Pediatrics is a great — probably largest — urgent care for pediatric patients in the country, and I've been there since day one. I certainly want to thank all my colleagues. Without them, I wouldn't be here. It was a mutual effort to bring PM Pediatrics to where we are today."

Howard Goodman, better known as the Long Island Weight Loss Doctor, is the recipient of numerous Herald honors: two Long Island Choice, one Long Island Health and Beauty, and now two Excellence in Healthcare awards.

"All these awards put us on the map," he said.

Goodman uses all-natural methods to help patients reach their ideal weight while combating common internet misinformation.

"We're fixing the damage that's caused by these erroneous medications," he said.

Brian Caberas is the COO of the People's Arc of Suffolk, a nonprofit that provides services to people with disabilities across Suffolk County.

"We offer them residential alternatives and the ability to find jobs out in the community and a multitude of other services as well," he said. "We want the People's Arc of Suffolk to become the premier provider for people with disabilities."

Sponsors of the event include Northwell Health, Episcopal Health Services, Henry Schein, Cohen Children's Medical Center Northwell Health, The Speech Language Place, Brightview Senior Living, Stony Brook University LEND Center, Mending Hearts Counseling, Vedi Robotics, LiveOnNY, People's Arc of Suffolk, Long Island Nurses Honor Guard, PM Pediatric Care, Bellmore Dermatology, The Stroke & Brain Aneurysm Center of Long Island, Harmony Healthcare Long Island and the New York Institute of Technology.

To view a complete list of honorees and photos, visit richnerlive.com/healthcare-awards/honorees.



Healthcare Visionary Award recipient Kerri Anne Scanlon of Northwell Health, center, and her team.



Honoree Kelly Murphy, of Henry Schein, center.



Healthcare Visionary Award recipient Donald T. Morrish, Episcopal Health Services CEO, center right, and his team.



Healthcare Visionary Award recipient Dr. Kimon Bekelis, Director of the Stroke and Brain Aneurysm Center of Long Island.



Community Health Champions Award recipients, Integrative Holistic Center team, Northwell Health Cohen Children's Medical Center.



Danielle Hamilton, from Brightview Senior Living in Sayville.



Community Health Champions Award recipients, Stony Brook University's LEND Team (Leadership Education in Neurodevelopmental and Related Disabilities).



Samantha Renieris, of the Speech Language Place.



Community Impact Award recipients Casey Skudin 343 Fund, from left, Ethan Abend, Founder and CEO Angela Skudin, Benjamin Skudin, Tina Braddock, and Avi Burnbaum.



Power Couple Award recipients Dr. Linda Harkavy and Dr. Mitchell Goldstein, of Form & Function Aesthetics and Wellness.



Bernadette Riley, of NYIT College of Osteopathic Medicine, with Herald Publisher Stuart Richner.

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STEPPING OUT

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GLEN COVE HERALD — October 2, 2025



Tony Danza performs a selection of timeless Sinatra classics. He is acclaimed for his voice and showmanship.

Photos courtesy Nassau Pops



Maestro Louis Panacciulli conducts the Nassau Pops Symphony Orchestra, which he refers to as his "family."



Panacciulli, left, and Danza share notes and conversation during rehearsal.

Doing it 'His Way' with the Nassau Pops

By Karen Bloom

A New York moment arrives on the Tilles Center stage when Maestro Louis Panacciulli and his orchestra return with their popular gala musical in support of the Cerebral Palsy Association of Nassau County. This year the orchestra welcomes back Tony Danza and his band as their guest performers.

The concert continues to feature the Nassau Pops signature blend of popular and classical music as well as an inspiring moment with Creation, the CP Nassau vocal team. This heartwarming tradition delights both musicians, guest performers and the audience.

"This is one big lovefest," says Panacciulli, the orchestra's longtime musical director. I'm so glad to be back at Tilles Center during our 42nd season. So many wonderful people have crossed this stage. It's always exciting to be here."

The connection between the Nassau Pops and CP Nassau is special for Panacciulli and the orchestra. He credits his mother, Panacciulli who was a member of the CP auxiliary in Valley Stream, for this special connection.

"When we first started performing, we decided we wanted to do more than just play music. We wanted to do something meaningful," he recalls.

"In the past we had done benefits for Special Olympics, pop concerts for hospitals. This came about one day when I was discussing with her the idea of doing a benefit concert for CP Nassau. I'm thrilled to carry on Mom's legacy. Plus it means a lot to the musicians. We're leaving something behind long after the notes have faded away."

And he's delighted to have Danza, who performed with the Nassau Pops in 2023, back to share the stage.

"Tony dances, plays the ukele, always tells a corny joke or two," Panacciulli says. "He's very engaging, a wonderful entertainer."

This collaboration brings a unique twist to Danza's acclaimed cabaret show, "Sinatra and Stories." Combining his trademark wit, charm, storytelling, with a dash of soft

shoe, he offers up his take on the music of the legendary 'Ol Blue Eyes, with whom Danza had a personal relationship. Some might not realize that Danza, who grew up on Long Island and attended Malverne High School, is a well-established song and dance man, in addition to his acting chops in television, film and on stage.

Throughout his 60-plus minute set, Danza blends personal anecdotes with Sinatra's unforgettable tunes.

"He always has a big smile on his face. He's certainly having a good time. And I guarantee the audience will as well," Panacciulli says.

The tone is set from the moment the orchestra strikes up their first note.

"We like to start out with something hot and jazzy," Panacciulli adds.

Certainly the addition of a sax section gets the vibe going, as the orchestra opens the show with a medley of Big Band tunes.

As always, the musicians are joined by Creation — the singing duo who participate in CP Nassau's Life Options Program — in a heart-warming segment during the concert's opening. Each has their moment in the spotlight. David Tindal sings Kool & The Gang's "Celebration," while Chris Wawrzonek does "Till There Was You" from the Broadway classic *The Music Man*.

Tindal and Wawrzonek have 'grown up' with the orchestra.

"I'm filled with such a sense of gratitude that I can affect two lives by giving them a chance to perform in front of a full orchestra and a large audience," Panacciulli says. "We share something special, when we share music together. They're wonderful people and the audience gives them standing ovations every time. It's just nice to see how they've grown up. They're always smiling and in good humor."

And for Panacciulli, a Franklin Square resident, who has been at the helm of the Nassau Pops since 1984 (and is on Nassau Community College's music faculty where he serves as band director) that surely is the concert's defining moment.

"Creation is a byproduct the wonderful work that CP Nassau does. It does my heart good to help them and give back to the community through the gift of music."

Panacciulli gratefully acknowledges Long Island-based credit union Jovia (formerly NEFCU), the gala's title sponsor since 2012. Proceeds from every ticket sold are donated directly to CPNassau.



- Sunday, Oct. 19, 3 p.m.
- Tickets start at \$30; available at npsso.org/tickets or tillescenter.org
- Tilles Center for the Performing Arts, LIU Post Campus, Brookville

Yes:

'The Fragile 2025 Tour'

Get ready to experience an unforgettable evening of Yes on the Paramount stage, featuring its existential prog masterworks and instrumental pyrotechnics. Throughout a prolific and enduring music career spanning 45 years and 20 studio albums, Yes has electrified audiences with daunting virtuosity, complex musical textures and powerful lead vocals. The band — currently comprising Steve Howe on guitars and vocals, Geoff Downes on keyboards, Jon Davison on vocals and acoustic guitar, Billy Sherwood on bass guitar and vocals, and Jay Schellen on drums — performs their iconic 1971 album "Fragile" in its entirety. "Fragile" holds a special place in Yes's discography, as it propelled the band to headline status in the U.S.

Tuesday, Oct. 7, 8 p.m. \$152.25, \$129.75, \$118.75, \$108.75, \$86.50. The Paramount, 370 New York Ave., Huntington. Tickets available at ticketmaster.com or paramountny.com.



Roomful of Blues

The renowned, horn powered, Grammy-nominated, houserocking "little big band" is ready to celebrate STEPPIN' OUT!, their first new album in five years. With this album, Roomful of Blues brings something new to the table. After 19 releases with male singers, STEPPIN' OUT! is the first to feature a female vocalist, the sublime D.D. Bastos. Her powerhouse, soul-stirring voice and her charismatic stage presence bring a whole new spirit to the Roomful sound. For over 50 years, this beloved, iconic and much honored band has been delivering wildly infectious, hard-swinging blues. Guided by guitarist-bandleader Chris Vachon since 1998, Roomful remains a defining musical force in the blues world, with their sound rooted in tradition, but their sights reaching far into the future.

Thursday, Oct. 9, 8 p.m. \$38. My Father's Place in Roslyn, 1221 Old Northern Blvd., Roslyn. Tickets available at mfpproductions.com or (516) 580-0887.

YOUR NEIGHBORHOOD

CALENDAR

OCT 2

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

OCT 4

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.

Beautification Commission tulip planting

The Glen Cove Beautification Commission seeks volunteers to help plant tulip bulbs for its "Partners in Pink" initiative. Student participants will receive community service certificates.

- **Where:** Behind Glen Cove City Hall, 9 Glen St.
- **Time:** 9 a.m.-noon
- **Contact:** Liz at Glen Cove Department of Public Works at (516) 676-4402

Art explorations

Converse, collaborate and create with kids at Family Saturdays at Nassau County Museum of Art when it resumes following the summer hiatus. Get inspired by the art and objects in the galleries



OCT 16

Kate Kortum: The Music of 'Wild Woman'
Tilles Center's Atrium becomes an intimate lounge, showcasing 23-year-old Kate Kortum, one of the most exciting breakout artists in the jazz world. Hailing from Houston, Texas, her warm, distinctive sound blends bebop, blues, the Great American Songbook, and musical theater with captivating, story-driven lyrics. Her artistry bridges tradition and innovation, offering audiences a fresh, contemporary take on the jazz vocal legacy. Kortum discovered her passion for music at Houston's legendary High School for the Performing and Visual Arts, where she studied flute and saxophone before ultimately falling in love with singing. She went on to earn a degree in jazz voice from the University of Miami's Frost School of Music and a master's degree from the Juilliard School, studying with some of the leading voices in modern jazz. Critics have praised her ability to revitalize jazz with authenticity and daring. "Wild Woman," her sophomore album, features reimagined standards and originals that explore a woman's relationship with complex emotions like obsession, promiscuity, self-pride, and hatred. She gives her audience a glimpse into the past, present, and future of jazz through her unique arrangements and improvisatory deliveries.

- **Where:** Tilles Center, LIU Post campus, 720 Northern Blvd., Brookville
- **Time:** 7:30 p.m.
- **Contact:** ticketmaster.com or tillescenter.org or (516) 299-3100

and then join educators at the Manes Center to explore and discover different materials to create your own original artwork. Kids and adults connect while talking about and making art together. A new project is featured every week. \$20 adult, \$10 child. For ages 2-14. Registration required. \$20, \$10 child; members free.

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

OCT 5

Cove Transit History Day
Join in a day dedicated to the fascinating history of public transportation in Glen Cove. Featuring engaging presentations, free refreshments, and historical insights from experts in the field. Sponsored by AARP through their 2025 Community Challenge Grant. The event is a multi-panel experience that begins at the Glen Cove Public Library,

- **Where:** 4 Glen Cove Ave.; also North Shore Historical Museum, 140 Glen St.
- **Time:** 2-5 p.m.
- **Contact:** (516) 759-9610

OCT 7

Pre-council meeting
The City Council will hold a pre-council meeting to review agenda items and discuss matters ahead of the regular session. This brief meeting offers the public an opportunity to observe the council's preliminary discussions before formal decisions are made. All are encouraged to attend and stay informed about local government actions.

- **Where:** City Hall, 9 Glen St.
- **Time:** 6:30-7 p.m.
- **Contact:** (516) 676-3345

OCT 10

Sculpture Stroll
Visit Nassau County Museum of Art for hour for discovery and conversation. Explore a selection of sculptures sited across the museum property. Each stop on the tour delves into the choices, inspirations and material of the artists and their sculptures. Registration required. \$20, \$10 members

- **Where:** 1 Museum Drive, Roslyn Harbor
- **Time:** 5-6 p.m.
- **Contact:** nassaumuseum.org or (516) 484-9337

OCT 11

Class reunion
Glen Cove High School Class of 1965 celebrates its 60th reunion. The evening includes a full sit-down dinner with salad, dessert, coffee with Sambuca and cappuccino, and an unlimited selection of premium liquors, wine and more. \$140 per person, includes tax, tip, valet parking and DJ.

- **Where:** Soundview, 45 Bayville Ave., Bayville
- **Time:** 7-11 p.m.
- **Contact:** (516) 532-3256

OCT 12

Ecotherapy Walk
A change in the air. Wind down summer with gratitude. Join certified guide Linda Lombardo for an Ecotherapy Walk at Sands Point Preserve. Ecotherapy, also known as Forest Bathing, is not simply hiking in the woods, or a walk on a beach. The focus is on connection and relationship, allowing the heart to open to the beauty of the natural world, and at the same time, understand our belonging in that world. Register for individual walks or a series of three. \$135 for series of 3, \$120 members; \$49 per session, \$44 members.

- **Where:** 127 Middle Neck Road, Sands Point
- **Time:** 2 p.m.; also Nov. 8
- **Contact:** sandspointpreserveconservancy.org or call (516) 571-7901

OCT 16

Author Reception
Meet author and Holocaust survivor Mireille S. Taub as she discusses her memoir "The Last Train From Paris: Escape and Refuge 1940" at the Holocaust Memorial & Tolerance Center of Nassau County. She shares firsthand stories of survival, resistance, and hope drawn from her own experience, followed by a book signing and light refreshments.

- **Where:** 100 Crescent Beach Road, Glen Cove
- **Time:** Noon-1 p.m.
- **Contact:** hmtcli.org or (516) 571-8040

OCT 25

Downtown BID Halloween Parade and Festival
Celebrate Halloween at the Downtown Business Improvement District's annual Halloween Parade and Festival. Enjoy festive fun, costume contests, family activities, and local vendors throughout downtown Glen Cove. Ideal for all ages.

- **Where:** Glen and School Streets
- **Time:** 1-3:30 p.m.
- **Contact:** (516) 759-6970

Having an event?

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



Courtesy Glen Cove City School District

Celebrating summer reading

Students from across the Glen Cove City School District spent time reading this summer and participated in the Glen Cove Public Library Summer Reading Program. This week, they were recognized by the district, with principals and ELA Coordinator Kristen Schaefer presenting certificates to each student.

Let us Know

News Brief items including awards, honors, promotions and other tidbits about local residents are welcome. Deadline for submissions is noon Thursday, week prior to publication. Send to ramid@liherald.com



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Friday, October 31, 2025

Grand prize: Winners will have their design printed as wrapping paper in the Herald and will be featured in an article in their local Herald newspaper.

Entry format: Please use an 8 1/2 by 11 inch piece of unlined paper. All entries should have the student's name, age, address, telephone number, email, grade and school printed on the back. Design can be reflective of all religious holidays. Entries will not be returned.

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Courtesy Christine Panzeca

Celebrating women of distinction

Christine Panzeca of Glen Head was one of seven women recently recognized as a Woman of Distinction by Assemblyman Daniel Norber at a ceremony held Sept. 28 at the Port Washington Public Library.

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Luke Feeney/Herald photos

The final iteration of 'Sea Cliff Summer Nights,' where Sea Cliff Avenue transforms into a destination for people looking for food, music and shopping, took place on Sept. 24.

Sea Cliff's popular 'Summer Nights'

By LUKE FEENEY

lfeeney@liherald.com

The final iteration of 'Sea Cliff Summer Nights,' where Sea Cliff Avenue transforms into a destination for people looking for food, music and shopping, took place in the heart of the village on Sept. 24.

The event takes place from 5-10 p.m. and is intended by the village to help local businesses and strengthen relationships between the businesses and residents. The initial plan was to have four during the summer, but the event became so popular that they ended up doing eight according to Village Trustee Mark Sobel.

Sea Cliff restaurants such as The Onion Tree, Fosters, and Tavern 227 opened up outdoor siting for hungry patrons. In addition other businesses on Sea Cliff avenue like Deja Vu Consignment, Moonshot Emporium and Frost Ceramics remained open late.

Five years ago, the village introduced outdoor dining on Friday and Saturday nights in 2020 as part of its reopening of the economy after Covid-19 lockdown.

At the time, the village did not allow



The initial plan was to have four during the summer, but the event expanded to eight days.

live music during outdoor dining. Restaurants had to set up outdoor tables six feet apart, which limited customers. The six-foot rule is no longer in effect, and live music is now part of the event.

Sobel praised the summer-long initiative as a success and added that planning for next year has already begun.



Heidi Hunt and Joe Hughes provided music throughout the night for residents.

HERALD LGLE1 1002 PUBLIC NOTICES

LEGAL NOTICE

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE THAT the Glen Cove City Council adopted the following Ordinance at the City Council Meeting of September 24, 2025:

BE IT ORDAINED, that the City Council hereby amends Sec. 265-49. Schedule XVII: Time Limit Parking, of the Code of Ordinance, as it relates to Glen Cove Avenue, as follows:

Remove:
Name of Street Side Time Limit: Hours/Days Location
Glen Cove Avenue West 1hr.: All/All From a point 191 feet north of Shore Road to a point 117 feet north therefrom
Glen Cove Avenue West 15 min.: All/All From a point 160 feet north of Shore Road to a point 48 feet north therefrom

Add:
Name of Street Side Time Limit: Hours/Days Location
Glen Cove Avenue West 1 hr.: All/All From a point 160 feet north of Shore Road to a point 168 feet north therefrom
This Ordinance shall take effect 3 days after publication.

Tina Pemberton
City Clerk
156090

LEGAL NOTICE

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS- Notice is hereby given that the City of Glen Cove (City) is seeking to retain a professional engineering consultant to complete digital mapping of the City's municipal separate storm sewer system (MS4) in accordance with New York State MS4 Permit guidelines. New York State (NYS)-certified Minority and Women-Owned Business Enterprises (M/WBEs) and Service-Disabled Veteran-Owned Businesses (SDVOBs) are encouraged to participate in this procurement. For this grant-funded project NYS Department of Environmental Conservation (NYSDEC) has established a 30% MWBE participation goal and a 6% SDVOB goal, applicable to the NYSDEC share of the budget. Proposers may obtain the Request for Proposals (RFP) on BidNet Direct (<https://www.bidnetdirect.com/new-york/cityofglen Cove>) or the New York State Contract Reporter (<https://www.nyscr.ny.gov/>). Requests for Information are due on October 8th, 2025 by 4:00 p.m. EST on the BidNet platform. Proposals are due on October 20th, 2025 by 10:00 a.m. EST on the BidNet platform. 156091

LEGAL NOTICE
CITY OF GLEN COVE PLANNING BOARD
PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that a PUBLIC HEARING will be held by the City of Glen Cove Planning Board on Tuesday, October 7, 2025, at 7:30 p.m., at the Council Chambers, City Hall, 9 Glen Street, Glen Cove, New York 11542, where all interested persons will be given an opportunity to express their views. The hearing will be on the application of New Cingular Wireless PCS, LLC (AT&T) for a special use permit and site plan approval for the installation and collocation of a stealth rooftop wireless telecommunications facility. The stealth wireless facility is to be placed on the roof of the Glen Cove Shopping Center located at 189 Forest

Avenue, Glen Cove, New York, identified on the Nassau County Land and Tax Map as Section 30, Block D, Lots 1473 and 1436.

The above application is on file at the city offices located at 9 Glen Street, Glen Cove, NY where it may be seen during regular business hours of the usual business days until the time of the hearing.
Dated: September 29, 2025
ANDREW KAUFMAN
Chairman
GLEN COVE PLANNING BOARD
156092

LEGAL NOTICE
SUPREME COURT OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK
COUNTY OF NASSAU
PHH MORTGAGE CORPORATION, -against- EDWARD MAXWELL, AS HEIR AND DISTRIBUTTEE OF THE ESTATE OF THOMAS MAXWELL, 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 June 25, 2025, wherein PHH MORTGAGE CORPORATION is the Plaintiff and EDWARD MAXWELL, AS HEIR AND DISTRIBUTTEE OF THE ESTATE OF THOMAS MAXWELL, ET AL., are the Defendants. I, the undersigned Referee, will sell at public auction RAIN OR SHINE at the NASSAU COUNTY SUPREME COURT, 100 SUPREME COURT DRIVE, NORTH SIDE STEPS, MINEOLA, NY 11501, on October 14, 2025 at 2:00PM, the premises known as 16 KEMP AVENUE, GLEN COVE, NY 11542; tax map identification 21-251-8; and description: 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.: 618505/2022. Ellen Durst, 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. 155706

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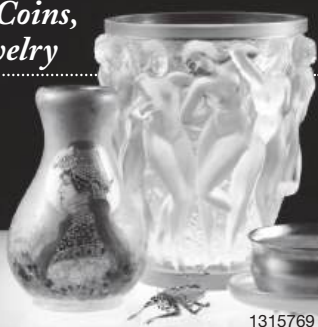
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OPINIONS

Trump meets with the king and mixes it up at the U.N.

President Trump's state visit to Great Britain and his meetings with foreign leaders at the United Nations General Assembly emphasized the continued significance of personal diplomacy in international affairs.

Trump's royal welcome by King Charles III at Windsor Castle demonstrated the lasting relationship between the United States and Great Britain. (I say this as an Irish-American who severely criticized British policy in Ireland in the years before the signing of the historic Good Friday Agreement in 1998.) The reality is that beyond a common language, Americans

and Brits share common values emanating from the Magna Carta. British leaders have demonstrated firmness and strength at key moments in our history.

Winston Churchill stood alone, defending Western civilization against Adolf Hitler and Nazi Germany in the dark early days of World War II, and then, in the postwar years, alerted the U.S. and the world to the growing menace of Joseph Stalin and the Soviet Union's Iron Curtain.

Margaret Thatcher allied with Presi-

dent Ronald Reagan and Pope John Paul II to bring down the Soviet empire.

Tony Blair stood with President George W. Bush and America in the aftermath of 9/11. I observed Blair behind the scenes during the negotiations leading to the Good Friday Agreement, and was struck by his extraordinary courage and leadership. That British leadership continues today, as Britain provides weapons to Ukraine and deploys RAF fighter jets to Poland to help the nations resisting Russian aggression.

The state dinner Charles hosted for Trump was more than pomp and ceremony. It was a dramatic affirmation of the special relationship between our nations. This show of unity was particularly vital when totalitarian states — Russia, China and North Korea — threaten world security. In his remarks, Charles urged the U.S. and Great Britain to stand strong against Russian aggression in Ukraine, as we did against Hitler. (My wife, Rosemary, and I met then Prince Charles in Washington in 2011. He was very engaging and down to earth.)

The following day, Trump met with British Prime Minister Keir Starmer. Though Starmer is a member of the Labor Party and has a number of policy and ideological differences with Trump, the two are known to have a good work-

ing, friendly relationship. Their meeting certainly appeared to go well, with Starmer emphasizing the importance of the U.S. and Europe standing with Ukraine.

By all accounts, the president's visit to Great Britain was a solid success.

The following week, he was in New York for the annual opening of the U.N. General Assembly. Trump was the first major leader to speak, and it was a classic Trump performance brought to the world stage. He began by mercilessly critiquing the U.N. for being consistently ineffective, exemplified that morning by the malfunctioning of an escalator and his teleprompter.

Not content to assail the organization itself, Trump verbally attacked countries individually and continents collectively. He was particularly critical of Russia and its dictator, Vladimir Putin, for its continued attacks on Ukraine, especially its innocent civilians. Significantly, one country that was spared Trump's caustic criticism was Ukraine (in stark contrast with Trump's White House encounter earlier this year with Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelensky, whom he criticized for continuing to wage what Trump thought was a futile battle against Russia, because Ukraine had "no cards" left to play and would have to make territori-

al concessions to Putin).

Just hours after his General Assembly speech — which went three times longer than his allotted time — Trump met with Zelensky, and went beyond just criticizing Russia and Putin. He made a full reversal. Informed by a key adviser, Gen. Keith Kellogg, how weak Russia was after having suffered more than a million casualties, taken control of only 1 percent of Ukraine and with its economy in shambles, Trump hailed Ukraine's courage and fighting ability. With allied support, he said, Ukraine could win the war and regain its lost territory, and that NATO countries should shoot down Russian planes that violate their air space.

I have supported Ukraine from the start, not just because its position is just, but because it's in America's national interest for Russia's aggression to be stopped.

British Prime Minister Neville Chamberlain's failure to stop Hitler at Munich because it was a "faraway" war led to World War II and millions of deaths, including more than 400,000 Americans. I believe that Trump's visit with our closest ally was a reminder of the necessity to follow Churchill's example, stand with Europe against Russian imperialism and not let the tragic failures of appeasement and isolationism be repeated.

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



PETER KING

For the General Assembly, a classic performance on the world stage.

There are many reasons not to embrace Mamdani

Over the past few weeks, Democrats have been having a slugfest over the question of the obligation of party officials to endorse the Democratic nominee for mayor of New York City, Zohran Mamdani. The debate was triggered by Gov. Kathy Hochul's decision to endorse Mamdani. State Democratic Chair Jay Jacobs angrily pledged that he would not support Mamdani, in an obvious break with the governor. So who's right and who's wrong?



JERRY KREMER

First of all, to quote my parents, it's a free country. You're entitled to endorse whomever you want, and

Jacobs has the right to break from Hochul. She has yet to explain why she endorsed Mamdani, but I have no doubt that she has her own bona fide reasons to do so.

And Jacobs has a lot of reasons to disagree with her endorsement. Next year there will be dozens of congressional races that will decide the balance of

power in the House of Representatives. A state chair's endorsement of a controversial mayoral candidate could reverberate around the state, and beyond.

The more I've thought about Mamdani's candidacy, the more I'm convinced that there are lots of reasons why some Democrats will rightly shun him. He made a decision to run for mayor after analyzing the field of potential opponents, and had the backing of the Working Families Party and the Democratic Socialists of America. He had the endorsements of other socialist and progressive groups that have the ability to organize voter-turnout operations and have helped elected a number of members of the State Assembly. They're especially effective when moderate Democrats are sound asleep.

Mamdani saw that his Democratic rivals would likely be former Gov. Andrew Cuomo and Mayor Eric Adams. Both had a ton of political problems that would affect their chances — indeed, Adams suspended his campaign on Sunday — and that gave Mamdani a clear field to tell his story, and utilize social

media and old-time get-out-the-vote operations to win the nomination. He had a story to tell right out of the socialist playbook.

He focused on the high cost of living in the city, and pledged free bus rides, a rent freeze and public grocery stores. While these promises aren't realistic, they appealed to thousands of young voters, many of whom had never voted in a primary.

Another facet of the campaign is that the vast majority of moderate voters don't vote in city primaries. They show up in November for the general election, but don't understand that the primaries determine who the candidates will be in November. It's no surprise that all of these factors combined to help Mamdani win a decisive victory, which stunned Democratic elected leaders as well as party officials. While they privately conceded that Mamdani won fair and square, they simply couldn't believe that a socialist might be the next mayor.

Aside from the fact that Mamdani wasn't a moderate candidate, once the primary was over, the media began exploring his views on Israel, and focused on his

Muslim background. He had made numerous controversial statements on the war in Gaza. In the past he has also advocating defunding the police. Post-primary, he has backtracked on a number of previous positions, including that one, but he has failed to satisfy his critics, and he has made other controversial statements that have kept the political pot boiling. In my political lifetime I have often noted that retractions only make things worse, and that the public rarely changes its views after the first missteps.

So the failure of some prominent Democrats to endorse Mamdani is no surprise. Embracing him could be fatal for a moderate member of the party. Other than having won its primary, Mamdani isn't a traditional Democrat, and there's no reason to believe that he would act like one come next January. He will temper his past comments now, but he is rumored to be selecting lots of people who are pleasing to him and the socialist movement.

In the past, I've gone against my party on some major occasions. If I were still in office, I wouldn't endorse Mamdani, either.

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

GLEN COVE HERALD

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HERALD EDITORIAL

Protecting Long Island from invasive species

A silent invasion is making its way across Long Island. From beetles boring through forests to aggressive weeds choking native plants, invasive species pose an urgent and growing threat to the natural beauty, the economy and the very identity of our region.

As these pests encroach on farmland, damaged crops mean higher food prices and struggling farms. Infested woodlands mean fewer tourists and diminished property values. And the loss of treasured natural spaces — from forests and meadows to backyards and parks — erodes the very character of Long Island.

The recent detection of the redbay ambrosia beetle in Suffolk County, likely imported accidentally from Asia and bringing with it a tree-killing fungus, only increases the volume of our collective wake-up call. The question before us is simple: Will we act now to defend our communities, or will we watch as our landscapes steadily degrade and our land-based livelihoods slowly unravel?

Invasive species aren't a new problem, but their spread has accelerated dramatically in recent decades. Increased global trade, climate change and urbanization have opened doors for pests and plants that don't belong here, allowing them to thrive in places where native species have no natural defenses. The result is widespread ecological disruption.

In Nassau County, we already know the damage invaders can do. The spotted lanternfly, a deceptively attractive insect with mottled wings, feeds on more than

70 species of plants. Its favorite targets include vineyards, orchards and hardwood forests — ecosystems that support industries that have helped Long Island grow. Left unchecked, lanternfly infestations can cripple agriculture and rob us of the fall foliage many tourists come here to see.

The plant kingdom has its own well-known adversaries. Japanese knotweed, with its bamboo-like stalks and dense root systems, is nearly impossible to eradicate once it takes hold. It smothers native plants, leaving wildlife without food or shelter, and even undermines human infrastructure, pushing up through sidewalks, driveways and foundations. Its spread is a quiet but relentless reminder that invasive species are as much an economic challenge as an ecological one.

And then there's the southern pine beetle — a small insect with an outsized appetite that can be found across the Island. This pest can wipe out acres of pine forest, reducing green woodlands to brown arboreal graveyards. The loss is not only aesthetic; forests are essential for carbon storage, stormwater absorption and wildlife habitat.

Together, these threats underscore a sobering reality: Invasive species weaken biodiversity, strain local economies and diminish our quality of life. Each unchecked outbreak increases the costs borne by everyone from homeowners to landscapers to farmers, while also endangering industries like agriculture and tourism that are the backbone of Nassau and Suffolk's economies.

The earlier an invasive species is detected, the greater the chance of stopping it before it becomes a living feature of the landscape. Funding for local monitoring programs isn't a luxury; it's a necessity.

Public education is equally critical. Residents are often the first line of defense against invasive species. With the right tools and training, they can help identify and report harmful insects and plants before they spread out of control. Imagine how much better off we'd be if every homeowner could recognize lanternflies and every gardener knew how to prevent knotweed from hitching a ride in soil or mulch.

State and local governments, environmental nonprofits, research institutions and industry leaders must work together to create a unified strategy. Protecting Long Island's agriculture, landscaping and tourism sectors requires pooling resources, sharing knowledge and mobilizing communities. A fragmented, haphazard response will only give invasive species more opportunities to occupy new territory.

By investing in prevention, monitoring and education today, we have the power to preserve our island's future. The rising tide of invasive species is controllable — but only if we act decisively. Long Islanders have always taken pride in protecting our shoreline, parks and communities. Now we must extend that vigilance to these less visible, but no less dangerous, invaders among us. Our environment, economy and way of life depend on it.

LETTERS

A tale of three cities, and two socialist mayors – so far

To the Editor:

Jerry Kremer warns in his Sept 18-24 Herald column, "The battle of egos in the Big Apple," that "all of New York City and state will suffer" if Zohran Mamdani is elected mayor in November. "Many people, city and suburban voters, have been transfixed by fear about the possibility" of Mamdani becoming the city's first socialist leader, Kremer notes.

In terms of dynamism and attractions, New York has only a few peers among cities worldwide. London and Paris are two of them. So it could come as a surprise — or, one hopes, a reassurance — to Kremer and others fearful of a Mamdani victory that both London and Paris have been governed by socialists for the past nine and 11 years, respectively.

And voters in those European cities seem quite satisfied with the performance of their progressive mayors. London's Sadiq Khan was elected to an unprecedented third term last year by an 11-point margin over a Conservative Party opponent. Paris's Anne Hidalgo won a second six-year term in 2020 by 15 percentage points over a conservative rival.

Khan, a Muslim of Pakistani descent, is a member of a Brit-



ish political organization roughly equivalent to Democratic Socialists of America, to which Mamdani belongs. Hidalgo, a Spanish-French politician, is a prominent figure in France's Socialist Party.

Has violent crime run rampant in London and Paris under left-wing

leadership? The London police recorded a total of 110 murders in 2023. That's 10 fewer than in 2015, the final year of Boris Johnson's tenure as that city's Conservative Party mayor.

Urban crime rates are difficult to measure in France because such sta-

OPINIONS

It used to be that words couldn't hurt us

"Sticks and stones may break my bones, but words will never hurt me."

We all grew up repeating that rhyme. And as cliché as it may now sound, it actually conveyed some valuable lessons. It promoted emotional resilience



**JACK
MARTINS**

and, in true Stoic tradition, taught children that they have the power to rise above criticism and control their reactions to others' words. It was a calm but clear reminder that the answer to words might be more words, but never fists or fighting.

At some point along the way, we lost that thread. Today, we're told, "words are violence." We're told, "silence is violence." And by intentionally blurring the line between words and actions, we've somehow justified real violence and made it easier to excuse. If you believe an opinion is truly an "attack," then retaliation in

the form of physical violence starts to seem almost rational.

The consequences of this thinking are no longer hypothetical. The assassination of Charlie Kirk is a grim reminder of what violence really looks like. It is a life stolen, a family shattered and a nation further divided.

Sadly, Kirk's murder isn't an outlier. We've now seen assassination attempts against President Trump; two Israeli embassy staffers gunned down in Washington, D.C., after attending a Jewish event; and the tragic murder of Minnesota State Legislator Melissa Hortman and her husband — different victims, different circumstances, but all united by the same thing: political violence.

Making these attacks more chilling is that none of these victims was engaged in any violence themselves. Their opinions and ideas were the only things that incited attacks against them. Each of these heinous crimes was, at its core, a reaction to speech. The very right that was enshrined and

protected by our Founding Fathers became the trigger for violence.

Even more disturbing? Some people cheer this behavior on and view it as appropriate.

By blurring the line between words and actions, we've justified violence.

But consider this: Our right to free speech is the very first of our freedoms protected by the Bill of Rights for a reason. It is the foundation on which every other right is built. If Americans can't disagree without fear, then all of our other freedoms collapse. Of *course* words can hurt feelings and divide people. Of *course* arguments can be traumatic.

But the moment we redefine speech as "violence," we invite actual, physical violence into our politics.

Violence is not a metaphor. Violence is not a feeling. It is blood, it is broken bones. It is a 31-year-old husband and father of two murdered by a shot to the neck in front of the whole world. Ask yourself, if we can't tell the difference between speech and assault, what kind of country will we become? And is that truly the country we want to leave to our children?

Like many of you, I am well past the age for mincing words or beating around the bush. When you've lived a little and suffered some yourself, you come to understand that empathy is a much better guide than a "cause."

So here's the call to action: Don't play along with the lie that everything is violence. Push back when someone tells you that speech is violence or that silence is an attack. Speak, debate, disagree — but don't confuse barbs with brutality. We need to understand the plain meaning of the words we use: Words are words. Silence is silence. Violence is violence.

Because once a society fails to recognize the distinction, it won't be long before the only arguments left are made through force. And that's a pretty scary place to be. The freedom to speak freely, with civility, courage and conviction, is what keeps democracy alive. We owe it to the next generation to demand civility, to defend that courage, to draw the line clearly against all forms of violence and to insist that ideas be met with other ideas, and not with an assassin's bullet.

Jack Martins represents the 7th State Senate District.

LETTERS

tistics are kept primarily on a national rather than the local level. But according to a compilation used by the publication World Population Review, Paris was the 23rd safest city in the world in 2024. Safer than Brussels, Madrid, Barcelona and Rome.

Mamdani, meanwhile, has retracted his call for defunding the NYPD — a stance he took at the height of the Black Lives Matter agitation. He has pledged to make public safety a top priority of his mayoralty, along with making New York City more affordable for all of its residents.

Instead of freaking out over political labels, Kremer and other fearmongers should calm down and see how Mamdani actually governs.

Closer to home: I lived in Burlington, Vermont, when Bernie Sanders was mayor. A socialist who had held no previous elected office, Sanders made Vermont's largest city a more equitable and prosperous place. Burlington's business community came to regard him as an outstanding mayor.

KEVIN J. KELLEY
Atlantic Beach

The fight against smoking isn't over

To the Editor:

As partners in the New York State Tobacco Control Program, Health Systems for a Tobacco-Free NY and the

Tobacco Action Coalition of Long Island work together to reduce the burden of commercial tobacco use and support a healthier, tobacco-free Long Island.

Since the inception of the state's comprehensive Tobacco Control Program 25 years ago, cigarette smoking among adults in the state has dropped dramatically, from 23.2 percent in 2001 to 9.3 percent in 2023. Nassau and Suffolk counties have achieved two of the five lowest smoking rates in the state. There has also been a striking decrease in youth smoking since 2000, when 27.1 percent of high school youth reported cigarette use. The latest data show a 92 percent drop, to just 2.1 percent.

Nonetheless, the tobacco industry continues to harm New Yorkers. Industry documents reveal how tobacco companies have deliberately marketed menthol cigarettes to specific populations, including LGBTQ, Black and Hispanic communities, for decades. Data from the Adult Tobacco Survey highlight these disparities: Menthol cigarette use was highest among adults who identify as Black or African American (88 percent) and those who identify as Hispanic (70 percent).

The use of e-cigarettes and nicotine pouches is on the rise, especially among youth. Vaping exposes users to serious health risks such as heart disease, lung cancer, asthma attacks and long-term effects from toxic metals. Nicotine can harm the developing brains of adolescents, and nearly one in five high school students in our state report vaping. Add-

FRAMEWORK by Tim Baker



At the Town of Hempstead Fall Finale Car, Truck and Motorcycle Show — Point Lookout

ing to the concern, social media have begun promoting pouches as a cheaper alternative to weight-loss drugs.

The closing of the CDC's Office on Smoking and Health puts years of progress at risk. Without this support, states will have a harder time keeping prevention and quit-smoking programs strong. These programs have helped countless families in New York and around the country live healthier lives. The cuts will hit vulnerable communities the hardest.

Here in New York, funding cuts have led to the layoff of more than a dozen key members of the state's tobacco

control program. This could weaken our free State Quitline services, reduce support for the Health Systems program and limit several other vital tobacco-control initiatives.

It's imperative that we continue to employ comprehensive, evidence-based strategies to prevent and reduce tobacco product use and nicotine addiction. The decline in cigarette smoking is worth celebrating, but there is still more work to be done.

CHRISTINE FARDELLONE
*PJ Tedeschi
East Meadow*



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