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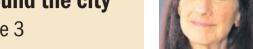
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A wave of pink around the city

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OCTOBER 9-15, 2025

Best bites on the North Shore

Page 4



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Fall fun at St. Patrick Church

Dino Graziosi and Stevens J. Martinez served up some cold ones at the St. Patrick Church Oktoberfest last Saturday. Story, more photos, Page 10.

Critics question narrative of city finances over 'surplus' claim

By ROKSANA AMID

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Glen Cove's independent auditor delivered a "clean" opinion on the city's 2024 financial statements this week, as officials touted a hard-won turnaround in the general fund, while critics cautioned that long-term obligations and borrowing still cast a long shadow.

The 117-page report, by PKF O'Connor Davies presented in a 10-minute briefing at Tuesday's pre-council meeting — shows that the city ended 2024 with a modest unassigned surplus in its main operating fund even as its governmentwide net position remained deeply negative,

largely due to retiree benefit liabilities.

We are satisfied the results of the scope of our audit were sufficient to enable us to express our opinion on these financial statements, Lawrence Feldman, O'Connor Davies' audit director, said. "And we've issued what we call a clean opinion. This is the best opinion that we can issue."

Feldman walked officials through general fund results, noting that the total fund balance rose from \$3.9 million to \$4.7 million, and that the city's unassigned balance swung from a \$362,000 deficit in 2023 to an \$87,556 surplus in 2024. "There was an increase in the unassigned balance of \$449,000, and that is a very positive

CONTINUED ON PAGE 11

Remembering the victims of Oct. 7 attacks

By ROKSANA AMID

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Two years after Hamas-led militants launched a deadly assault on Israel, killing 1,200 people and abducting about 250 more, hundreds gathered Sunday at the Holocaust Memorial and Tolerance Center of Nas-

sau County, in Glen Cove, to remember the victims, support the hostages' families and confront the resurgence of antisemitism world-

The ceremony, hosted with the Sid Jacobson JCC, of East Hills , drew about 200 people to

the museum's auditorium, and featured remarks from survivors of the Oct. 7 attacks, eyewitnesses, public officials and community leaders.

HMTC board Chair Alan Mindel opened the event by invoking a painful reality: the promise of "never again" — a phrase born from the Holocaust — was broken on Oct. 7. "More Jews were murdered in a single day than at any time since the Shoah," Mindel said, describing the killings, kidnappings and atrocities carried out

t will not dim

our light.

BALI LERNER

Executive director,

Holocaust Memorial

and Tolerance Center

Mindel criticized narratives equating Israel's military response with genocide, arguing that the civilian-to-combatant casualty ratio in Gaza was "one to one," and not a higher ratio typical in urban warfare. He also pointed to humanitarian aid efforts in Gaza, and rejected

claims of widespread starvation.

"We will never be the people we are always accused to be," he said. "We will honor those we have lost, and we will never let it happen again."

For 94-year-old Holocaust survivor Rosalie Simon, the

anniversary highlighted the ongoing relevance of Israel as a refuge for Jews. She told the crowd that antisemitism "still exists, not only in the pages of history, but currently in all parts of the world," and said that if Israel had existed during the 1930s and '40s, countless lives would have been saved.

The personal impact of the attacks was brought into sharp focus by 18-year-old Aviv Lapid, who lived in Sderot, a city less than a mile from Gaza. Lapid **CONTINUED ON PAGE 7**



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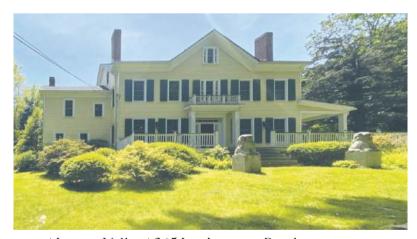
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Roksana Amid/Herald photos

Sochikaima Anaekwe loves beauty and takes pride in community service work.

Tulips take root as symbols of hope in G.C.

By ROKSANA AMID

ramid@liherald.com

A wave of pink will bloom across Glen Cove next spring as a living symbol of hope, resilience, and the importance of early detection in the fight against breast cancer. Last Saturday, 22 volunteers — many of them local students — joined forces with Glen Cove CARES and the Glen Cove Beautification Commission to plant 1,800 pink tulip bulbs throughout the city. The annual tradition is part of an awareness campaign that began nearly three decades ago, founded by Terry Petikas, a breast cancer survivor and the founder of Glen Cove CARES.

The project's mission is simple but powerful: to serve as a visible reminder that early detection is the best defense against breast cancer. Each year, CARES partners with the Beautification Commission to plant tulip bulbs donated by DeVroomen Garden Products. Once they bloom, they transform the city's public spaces into bright displays of pink, symbolizing support for survivors, patients, and families affected by the disease.

The tulips are planted in prominent locations across Glen Cove, including behind City Hall, at the Veterans Memorial on North Lane, near the Civic Signboard at the entrance to the city, in Pratt Park, on Pulaski Street, and at the triangle at Highland Road and St. Andrews Lane. These high-traffic spots are chosen to ensure that the message of awareness reaches as many people as possible.

"It was such a wonderful weekend for our annual pink tulip planting," Lora Cusumano, the chair of the Beautification Commission, said. "We were blessed with amazing weather and a wonderful turnout of student volunteers who brought so



Nishka Baboolal spent her Saturday morning volunteering to beautify the city she calls home.

much energy and enthusiasm to the project. Glen Cove's community pride is growing, and we're always excited to welcome new volunteers who want to help make the city even more beautiful."

Among the volunteers was Nishka Baboolal, a 15-year-old student in the city's school district participating through the Glen Cove School District's Key Club. "I thought it was a nice opportunity to make the community a nicer place," she said.

Beyond raising awareness, Glen Cove CARES plays a critical role in supporting residents affected by breast cancer. Each year, the organization assists three to five people, providing up to \$3,000 per person to help cover expenses such as medical bills, homecare, transportation to chemotherapy, mortgage payments, and food costs.



Kimberly Hernandez, Flor Reyes, Nishka Baboolal, Lora Cusumano and Amy Franklin were among the members who rolled up their sleeves to help beautify Glen Cove.



Cheryl Carmody retired as a teacher from Connolly elementary school two years ago said she loves gardening.



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An Inheritance is a Gift, Not a Right

Ann Landers, who published her weekly money I worked for all my life?" advice column from 1955 to 2002 listed this as one of her top ten most requested columns republishing it seven times in her long career.

Dear Ann: Let this letter be a wake-up call to all sons, daughters, and grandchildren. The message I want to convey is this: YOUR INHERITANCE IS NOT AUTOMATIC. IT'S A GIFT.

I am an estate planner. Over the last several years, I have seen many clients change their wills, bypassing children and grandchildren, and leave their money to friends, charities, and people they once worked with who were kind and helpful.

There are many reasons for changing a will, but the two most common are disrespect and isolation. In some families, the only time the old folks see the grandchildren is when their parents need a favor-usually, it's money. So, the message the old folks wish to convey is as follows: "You didn't make time for me when I was lonely and would have enjoyed your company, so why should I leave you the

Wake up out there. An inheritance isn't something that is owed to you. It is a gift of love. When there is no love, there should be no gift. — Manasota, Fla.

We like to say that your "family" are those you love and who love you. The rest are your relatives. Or, put another way, it's not who you're related to, it's who you relate to.

For those who have children, the inheritance is usually left to the children in equal shares. However, there is no legal requirement to do so. One of the first concepts we learned in estate planning is that "there is nothing so unequal as the equal treatment of unequals." Are some considerably better off than others? Has one been more attentive, more caring, gone out of their way for you? Where distributions will be unequal, we often suggest leaving a letter, to be opened after your death, explaining the reasons for your decision. A discussion with an experienced estate planning attorney often will provide ideas and options that you may not have thought of.

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ON THE ROAD WITH A TAKEOUT QUEEN

Crunch & Goo That's New

Cathi Turow

ne day last week, I craved something gooey, but also crunchy. Since I never cook, where in the world would I order a food that was a mixture of both? The plot thickens. Exactly how much goo or crunch did I want? Did I want more goo than crunch, or more crunch than goo? I found what I was looking for in a new bistro and on fall menus making their debuts. If you have

a goo and crunch craving, here's what I recommend:

Sweet Tomato (91 Audrey Ave., Oyster Bay)

For perfectly balanced goo and crunch, head over to this comfy café for breakfast, lunch or a light dinner. There's a new, ongoing weekly special: grilled cheese. Each week, a different version of this yummy sandwich is offered.

Last week, I devoured a grilled cheese sandwich filled with Brie, apricot jam and bacon on toasted sourdough. The melted Brie worked perfectly with the slightly crunchy bread. The apricot and bacon seemed to say, "We're subtle, but we're here too." Other grilled cheese sandwiches offered as specials include homemade mozzarella, pesto and bacon, or Brie and strawberry jam. I'd give these grilled cheese sandwiches a PG rating: Perfectly Gooey.

Spring 2 (2 Spring St., Oyster Bay)

There's a new bar menu in this sophisticated American restaurant which focuses on multi-course dining. The Bar Room dishes can be ordered online or enjoyed in-house. Creative choices include cheeseburgers with caramelized onion and provolone on brioche; pork and veal meatballs; a gem salad made with avocado, dill, pistachios and buttermilk; and raw oysters.

I went for a gooey-crunchy dish on the bar menu: brisket grilled cheese with

jalapeno. Elegantly prepared brisket slices and melted Swiss gather between two slices of sourdough. A third ingredient, jalapeno, adds a dynamic kick. I feel the brisket sandwich should be rated G: Gorgeously Gooey.

Eddie's Bistro & Bar (80 South St., Oyster Bay)

This new, contemporary, cozy eatery with an outdoor patio is a delightful

place to enjoy entrees ranging from roasted chicken with creamy polenta to ribeye steak to cheese agnolotti. Highlights include salads; a grain bowl loaded with Beluga lentils, farro. frisee, goat cheese, feta. almonds and tomatoes; four types of pizza, and nibbles such as shrimp tacos. Since I was on my gooey-crunchy kick, I ordered the Figgy Piggy Pizza. The dough had

a light, friendly crunch. It was a gracious host to the mozzarella, Cyprian fig jam, applewood smoked bacon and ricotta sitting on top. All ingredients stayed in their corners with class and style. In the goo category, I'd give this pizza an R rating: Respectful.

Lazar's Chocolate (350 Wheatley Plaza, Greenvale; 72 Middle Neck Rd., Great Neck)

If you prefer mostly crunch with just a hint of goo, this chocolate wonderland is the shop to visit. Six new versions of chocolate bark are filled with kidfriendly cereals. You'll find Fruity Pebbles chocolate bark, as well as bark with Krispy Krunch, Lucky Charms, Honey Nut Cheerios, Cornflakes and Golden Graham S'mores. Go for the Golden Graham S'mores Bark if you want a hefty mouthful of crunch and just a tiny bit of goo from the marshmallows. I'd rate this bark PG for: A Pittance of Gooev

See you next month!



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

Judge declines to block Nassau's sports law

Court denies temporary pause as legal fight continues

By ALYSSA R. GRIFFIN

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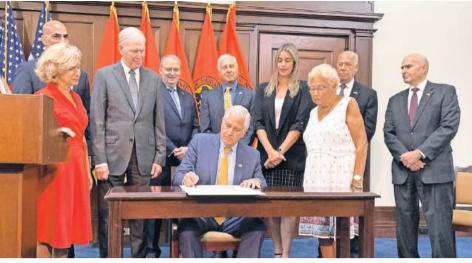
A judge has declined to temporarily block Nassau County's Local Law 121-24, which restricts sports teams at countyowned facilities based on biological sex — a decision that leaves the controversial measure in effect for now.

In a statement issued Oct. 6, the county said, "The Court has reviewed the Plaintiffs' arguments and does not find that Local Law 121-24 excludes transgender women and girls from public facilities based on their gender identity. Furthermore, the Plaintiffs have not shown discrimination under the Human Rights Law or the Civil Rights Law."

County Executive Bruce Blakeman said in a statement, ""We are grateful that the court found our legislation to be valid and legal. We will continue to protect girls and women from unsafe and unfair competition."

The law, which Blakeman signed in July, requires that sports teams applying to use county-owned facilities align their rosters with each player's biological sex assigned at birth. That effectively bars transgender women and girls from participating in female-designated sports divisions.

The legislation was immediately challenged by the New York Civil Liber-



Parker Schug/Heral

County Executive Bruce Blakeman signed a law restricting sports teams at county facilities based on biological sex in July 2024 alongside co-sponsor of bill, Legislator Samantha Goetz, with others who voted for its passing.

ties Union and state Attorney General Letitia James, who argued the law discriminates against transgender athletes.

"The purpose of Local Law 121-24 is to protect women and girls, and their physical protection is certainly relevant to the enactment of this law," the county said in its statement, pushing back against the plaintiffs' argument that biological distinctions are irrelevant.

However, opponents of the ban still

remain hopeful for change, including the NEW Pride Agenda, am LGBTQ+ advocacy organization.

"New York must remain a beacon of hope and safety for transgender and gender nonconforming people — especially as we face a coordinated national effort to erase our existence from public life," the organization said in a statement, "Nassau County's law is a disruptive, bullying policy intended to isolate

and demonize those who already live at the margins. It denies transgender youth the simple freedom to play, to belong, and to thrive."

The battle over the law dates back to 2024, when Blakeman first introduced a similar executive order. That measure was struck down by a state Supreme Court judge in May 2024, following a legal challenge by the NYCLU. A federal court also dismissed a related lawsuit earlier that spring. Blakeman later brought the proposal back as legislation, which was passed by the county Legislature in June.

Despite the earlier court setbacks, the version signed into law in July remains active in the county and still faces legal scrutiny.

"If the freedom to participate is not protected in this state, it will only add to the rollbacks of freedoms seen across the country," the NEW Pride Agenda said. "The NEW Pride Agenda urges our state's elected leaders to rigorously enforce New York's anti-discrimination laws and ensure that transgender New Yorkers can live, play, and exist freely and safely. We will continue to hold the line—because we know what is at stake if we do not."

As of press time, there are no updates on potential future court hearings or appeals.



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Mayor Panzenbeck: There's much more to do

By ROKSANA AMID

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Pamela Panzenbeck likes to joke that she never planned on being mayor. A lifelong Glen Cove resident and a retired teacher, she spent 34 years in the Levittown public school system and dedicated much of her free time to raising a family and volunteering in the community. Politics, she says, "was never, ever part of my plan.'

But one thing led to another — encouragement from friends, a few City Council campaigns and, eventually, an unexpected run for mayor — and now, at 72, she's seeking a third term leading the city she's called home all her life.

Known affectionately by many residents as "the people's mayor," Panzenbeck says the nickname is one of the greatest compliments she's received. "People consider me approachable, available and helpful to them," she said. "I didn't just decide to join organizations because I was deciding to run for political office. I've been serving my community always.'

Her first term began in 2022, in what she describes as a challenging situation. The city was facing a significant deficit, and infrastructure — from parks and stadiums to water systems and city vehicles urgent need of attention. "I walked in and thought, good Lord, what did I just do to myself?" she recalled. 'We had a tremendous deficit. Morgan Park was deteriorated. The city stadium had been neglected for years."

Panzenbeck's administration set to work on immediate priorities, such as repairing dangerous retaining walls, updating park facilities and replacing outdated equipment. "I think I have more accomplishments in four years — in the finances, municipal buildings, and recreation — yet I still have more to do," she said.



Jeff Bessen/Herald

Glen Cove Mayor Pamela Panzenbeck, a former teacher, is seeking her third term.

One of her top focuses has been improving Glen Cove's aging water infrastructure. New wells have been brought online, filtration systems installed and comprehensive refurbishment plans put in place for all of the city's water sources. Flooding, a longstanding issue on streets like Woolsey Avenue, is being addressed with new storm drains, catch basins and other drainage improvements. Road paving has also ramped up, guided by annual assessments that rank the city's streets by condition.

Financial stability, Panzenbeck argues, is another major success of her administration. Under her leadership, Glen Cove has seen three budgets with no tax increases and one modest increase, while its Moody's credit rating improved from negative to BAA1. "It makes people want to invest in our city," she said. The city was also removed from the state comptroller's fiscal stress list for the first time since 2017, and now boasts a small but meaningful budget surplus.

Housing is another issue she plans to continue working on if re-elected. Panzenbeck supports mixedincome developments, and says Glen Cove must prioritize affordable options, particularly for seniors and veterans. "We absolutely need more housing," she said. "We have to work on it far more for maybe our seniors and our veterans."

Her administration has also tightened local codes on Airbnbs and smoke shops, citing public safety concerns, and hired new police officers to strengthen the force. When it comes to federal immigration enforcement, she says the city stays informed but focuses its own resources locally. "They're not taking people that we want in our community," she said.

After three and a half years in office, Panzenbeck believes her record speaks for itself — but she insists there's more to do. "I've hit the ground running, and I have not stopped," she said. "I have Glen Covers on such a good road, and I need to continue that."

Silverman: City needs 'customer service' focus

By ROKSANA AMID

ramid@liherald.com

Marsha Silverman says she's ready to take on Glen Cove's biggest challenges — and she believes that her eight years on the City Council have prepared her to do just that. At 54, she has spent three decades working as a lead analytics consultant for Experian, specializing in data-driven decision-making. That skill set, she says, shapes how she approaches city government and is why she has built a reputation for working across party lines.

"I'm fortunate to have bipartisan support," Silverman said. "I kind of cut through the politics ... I will vote for something if I think it's a good idea. I will vote against it if I think it's not a good idea. I make factbased decisions, not political-based decisions.'

Silverman, who has a bachelor's degree in economics from Haverford College and an MBA in finance from NYU's Stern School of Business, was elected to the council in 2017. Now, she says, is the right time to seek the mayor's office. "With eight years' experience on the City Council, I've learned a lot about how the city works — and how it doesn't work well," she said. "There are opportunities where I can help make the city a better place."

At the top of her agenda is transforming City Hall into what she calls a "customer service-oriented" government. "The residents and business owners are our customers, and we have to serve them," she said. Silverman wants to overhaul internal processes as permitting and vendor approvals — to make them faster, fairer and more consistent. She also calls for "standard operating procedures" and measurable performance metrics so residents get timely responses and city employees are held accountable.



Challenger Marsha Silverman, an analytics consultant for Experian, has been a city councilwoman since 2017.

She points to examples where inefficiency has frustrated residents, such as a part-time building director position that has led to long delays in permit approvals. "Things fall through the cracks because there's no standardized process," she said.

Silverman's record on the council includes leading efforts that returned \$1.6 million in overpaid taxes from Nassau County after she requested a state audit, as well as sponsoring an OSHA certification requirement to improve worker safety. She also helped rewrite the city's procurement policy and launched a disability task force to improve accessibility. One initiative she's especially proud of expanded medical transportation services, helping residents maintain independence.

On housing, Silverman has twice proposed raising Glen Cove's affordable housing requirement for new developments from 10 percent to at least 15 or 20 percent. She also advocates creating "pathways to homeownership," including subsidies for townhouses, so residents can build equity rather than remain renters.

Economic development, she argues, should focus on jobs and business growth rather than simply building more apartments. "People don't come somewhere because of the housing opportunity — they come if there are jobs and places they want to work," she said.

Silverman also supports stronger environmental standards in building codes and more proactive floodmitigation planning. She notes that only two of the city's six wells were operational when she joined the council, but now all six are functioning — progress she wants to build on.

On finances, Silverman says the city's improved credit rating is a step forward, but much more needs to be done. "We're like a D-plus instead of a D-minus," she said. "We have to plan for five to 10 years from now, build reserves, and bring in new revenue streams."

Transparency is another priority. Silverman wants more public access to information about developments and decisions before they're finalized. "Government should be working for the people, not for itself," she said.

As for why voters should choose her, Silverman says it comes down to fairness. "I will represent every single person — homeowner, renter, business owner equally and fairly," she said. "Everybody deserves equal treatment.

Two years after attacks, rising antisemitism

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

recalled how her family sheltered inside their home as militants infiltrated the area, and were told to lock their doors. "We avoided the news and social media as much as possible," she said. "We have a TV in the shelter, so we watched movies."

A day later, her family fled the city. Only afterward did she learn that two friends
— a volleyball teammate and a classmate — had been killed during the assault.

Assemblyman Jake Blumencranz reflected on the global reaction that followed Oct. 7, noting how quickly sympathy shifted to skepticism. "It became a victim-blaming exercise where victims became suspects, murderers became the accused," he said.

Blumencranz warned that antisemitism often builds gradually, "wearing different masks in differ-

ent generations." Criticism of Israel is legitimate, he said, but hatred disguised as political rhetoric is not. "'Never again' must mean remembering not just the gas chambers, and not just Oct. 7, but what led us to those places," he told the audience.

HMTC Executive Director Bali Lerner drew parallels among the violence of Oct. 7, the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks and rising hate-driven propaganda in the United States. "We must not excuse it by projecting our own values onto those who seek to destroy us," Lerner said, warning that

hatred is spreading "in our very own backyard."

She emphasized that the attacks would not break the Jewish people or diminish their resolve. "It will not dim our light," Lerner said. "Instead, it will strengthen us."

U.S. Rep. Tom Suozzi shared a similar message of solidarity. Acknowledging the "violence, awful behavior and betrayal" endured by the

e avoided

and social

as possible.

AVIV LAPID

Survivor

media as much

Jewish community, Suozzi pledged to stand with it "100 percent." He expressed hope that the release of the remaining hostages could mark a turning point, but urged attendees to "stick with our values" and "hold together" through adversity.

Assemblyman Charles Lavine, president of the New York chapter of the National Association of Jewish Legislators, wrote in an email to the Herald after the event that the brutality of Oct. 7 remained "indelibly etched" in his memory. He described the kidnapping of hostages as "prim-

itive," and praised Americans of all faiths who "stood together against hatred" in the aftermath of the attack.

Lavine called on leaders at every level to tone down divisive rhetoric. "Demagoguery is never worth its results," he wrote, quoting Abraham Lincoln's description of America as "the last best hope of earth."

As the ceremony concluded, candles were lit in memory of the victims, and attendees recommitted themselves to the pledge that "never again" must still guide the fight against hatred.



Roksana Amid/Herald

HMTC board Chair Alan Mindel criticized narratives equating Israel's military response with genocide.





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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

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NEWS BRIEFS

Voting early for the general election

Early voting for the upcoming general election in Nassau County will take place from Saturday, Oct. 25, through Sunday, Nov. 2. All polling sites are accessible to voters with physical disabilities, and any eligible voter residing in the county may vote at any early voting location during the designated days and hours. Voters who cast a ballot during early voting will not be permitted to vote again on Elec-

Voting hours are scheduled as follows: Oct. 25 and 26 from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m.; Oct. 27 from 7 a.m. to 6 p.m.; Oct. 28 and 29 from 10 a.m. to 7 p.m., with the Board of Elections remaining open until 8 p.m. on those two days; and Oct. 30 through Nov. 2 from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. On Election Day, Nov. 4, voters must go to their assigned polling place to cast a

Early voting sites across the county include Temple Beth Am in Merrick, the Freeport Recreation Center, Massapequa Town Hall South, St. Frances de Chantal Church in Wantagh, the West Hempstead Public Library, and the Yes We Can Community Center in Westbury, among others. A complete list of early voting locations is available at NassauVotes.com or by calling (516) 571-8683.

Voters who wish to register for the general election must do so by Oct. 25. 2025. Registration applications submitted by mail must be received by the Nassau County Board of Elections by that date, and in-person registration is available at the board's offices or participating state agencies through Oct. 25. To learn how to apply to vote, visit Elections.NY.gov.

Any registered voter may also apply for an early mail ballot. Applications must be received by the board of elections no later than 10 days before the election, or in person by Nov. 3. Ballots will be mailed beginning 46 days before the election and will continue to be sent immediately after completed applications are processed. Voters may apply for an early mail ballot online through the state's Early Mail Ballot Request Portal, in person at the Nassau County Board of Elections at 240 Old Country Road in Mineola, or by designating another person to deliver and return their application. Visit Elections.NY.gov/request-ballot for

If you're planning to vote in person on Election Day, visit VoterLookUp. Elections.NY.gov.

-Jordan Vallone

Senior medical transportation program

A volunteer-run transportation program that has been a lifeline for Glen Cove's senior and disabled residents for nearly five decades is now facing a serious shortage of drivers — and its future may depend on new volunteers stepping forward.

Founded in the late 1970s as Glen Cove Rotary Rides, the free service helps those without reliable transportation get to and from medical appointments. It serves residents in Glen Cove, Sea Cliff, Glen Head, Glenwood Landing, Locust Valley, and parts of Old Brookville, providing door-to-door rides Monday through Friday from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Riders are picked up from their homes, taken to their appointments, and brought back home or to the Glen Cove Senior Center afterward.

The program is coordinated by Phyllis Burnett, who has managed dispatch and scheduling since 2012. It currently provides transportation for roughly a dozen residents each week, many of whom rely on it regularly. However, a decline in volunteer drivers has made it difficult to meet growing demand.

"We're looking for people who can just give a few hours a week," Burnett said. "Even one more driver would make a difference."

The service, which uses a decom-

missioned Chevrolet Crown Victoria police vehicle, operates on Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, and Friday mornings, traveling as far as Northern Boulevard for appointments. Riders are asked to schedule their trips at least a asked to schedule their trips at least a week in advance, but with limited volunteer availability, securing a ride has become increasingly challenging.

days they are available, and no special qualifications are required? valid driver's license and the ability to pass a background check. Drivers are asked to transport clients to appointments and provide a phone number where they can be reached for pickup afterward.

"This program has been part of our community for decades," Burnett said. "It's a small commitment, but it makes a huge difference in people's lives."

Those interested in volunteering or seeking more information can call (516) 676-2846 or visit the Glen Cove Senior Center, located at 130 Glen Street, Glen Cove, where applications are available.

Without new volunteers, a service that so many depend on could soon struggle to operate.

-Roksana Amid

Hestiva **Our Savior's Lutheran Church** Saturday, October 18th 10 am to 4 pm Attic Treasures, Homemade Baked Goods, Crafts, Raffle Baskets, Youth Craft Area 16 Glenwood Road, Glen Head, NY 11545

516-676-4540

Oslcglenhead@gmail.com | Oursaviorglenhead.com



Roksana Amid/Herald photos

Hungry attendees waited for their chance to get traditional Oktoberfest foods like hot pretzels and potato salad.

St. Patrick's Oktoberfest: Food, fun, and friends

St. Patrick's Church on Glen Street in Glen Cove held its popular Oktoberfest celebration, which began as a small cookout 11 years ago and has since evolved into a vibrant community event. This year's festival, held on Oct. 3 and 4, featured food, live music, a family-friendly pumpkin patch, and handcrafted beer brewed by Father Gabriel Rach. Oktoberfest has become a cherished tradition, offering churchgoers and local residents an opportunity to gather, enjoy homemade food and drinks, and celebrate together in a lively and welcoming atmosphere.

 $-Roksana\ Amid$



The church was decorated with pumpkins and fall foliage.



Youth always enjoy their time in the pumpkin patch.



Every year the gym is converted to a dining area so the community can enjoy their meals with one another and reconnect with friends



Marina O"Neil and Irene Abrams love volunteering their time with the church.

Glen Cove has both a surplus and a deficit

hose two

realities

accounting, and

they often do.

ANTHONY BASILE

Hofstra University

Professor of

accounting,

can coexist

in municipal

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

statement to be able to make," Feldman

Mayor Pamela Panzenbeck highlighted the point in an exchange with Feldman. "So, just to clarify, the \$87,556 unassigned fund balance in the general fund, which is our operating fund, is an actual and true surplus?" she asked.

"That is a surplus," Feldman replied. Panzenbeck emphasized that long-term liabilities — \$207 million in total on the schedule, and \$195.8 million due beyond one year — "has nothing to do with the \$87,556 operating surplus."

Feldman agreed: "That is correct."

In emails to the Herald, City Controller Michael Piccirillo framed the result in budget terms. He pointed to audited schedules showing 2024 general fund actual revenue of about \$54.5 million, expenditures of roughly \$49.1 million and \$4.8 million in transfers — "which translates to an operating surplus for 2024 of \$636,499." He added that 2022 and 2023 also saw operating surpluses, producing "collectively \$3.6 million" in gains that helped move the unassigned balance to a positive \$88,000 (rounded) by yearend 2024.

"Anyone who tries to tell you differently doesn't understand municipal accounting, and is attempting to mislead you," Panzenbeck said in a statement relayed by Piccirillo, adding that both the independent audit and Moody's credit analy-

sis validate the city's budgeting practices.

Not everyone, however, was convinced that the headline should be "surplus." Councilwoman Marsha Silverman, who is challenging Panzenbeck in the mayor's race, welcomed the financial improvements, but questioned what the

audit itself chose to emphasize. "If that's the main finding, why didn't they write it in the summary?" Silverman asked. "In the summary, it doesn't even mention 'surplus."

Silverman's broader worry is sustainability: public safety and health insurance ran over budget, termination payouts can outstrip appropriations, and the city's greatest pressures — retiree health care and other long-term obligations — remain substantial. "We might not have borrowed yet, but we will be borrowing for

it," she said of separation costs, noting that budgets in recent years have not always covered actual retirements.

Philip Pidot, a forensic accountant and a former Finance Committee chair, who ran for City Council in 2015 as a Republican, warned that residents can be misled if they confuse operating results with debt-funded inflows elsewhere on the books. "That's sort of the sleight of

hand. The amount of new debt you take on should not be considered revenue," Pidot said, likening it to running up charges on a credit card and then counting the new credit line as income. "Currently we're not making enough to cover spending," he argued, pointing to an

increase in long-term liabilities and a deterioration in net position as signs of structural strain.

Anthony Basile, a professor of accounting at Hofstra University, said it's important for taxpayers to understand that both narratives — surplus and deficit — can be accurate at the same time.

"From an operating perspective, yes, there is a surplus," Basile said. "The city's general fund shows that it brought in more money than it spent in 2024, and it now has a small unassigned balance, which is significant for

day-to-day operations and cash flow."

But, he cautioned, that snapshot doesn't tell the whole story. "When you look at the government-wide picture — which includes long-term obligations like pensions, retiree health benefits and other accrued liabilities — the city is still in a deficit position of roughly \$52 million overall, with an unrestricted deficit closer to \$148 million. Those two realities

can coexist in municipal accounting, and they often do."

The audit presentation shed light on what moved the 2024 numbers. Revenues came in about \$824,000 above the final budget, aided by higher interest earnings, stronger rental income and sharply higher parking fines and court revenue. On the downside, "other tax items" were \$1.2 million under budget, reflecting the absence of a Garvies Point payment in lieu of taxes.

Expenditures were roughly \$1.1 million over the final budget, led by public safety (+\$364,000, largely police) and employee benefits (+\$633,000, mostly health insurance). A \$1 million favorable variance in transfers out — driven by closing capital projects that reduced the need to move cash to debt service — helped produce the \$788,693 increase in the general fund balance.

Piccirillo said that the city is pursuing grants, market-rate fees and leases and tighter expense management, and is drafting a formal fund balance policy to build reserves. Silverman and outside experts want transparency on borrowing versus cash usage, realistic budgeting for retirements and benefits, and a plan for long-term liabilities that doesn't rely on one-time boosts like high interest income. For now, Glen Cove can fairly claim an operating surplus — modest but real — against a structural deficit that will require sustained discipline to tame.





THINGS TO KNOW SLIMES BY SYDNEY

Hands-on fun awaits at local pop-up

By LUKE FEENEY

lfeeney@liherald.com

Slimes by Sydney is bringing its signature handmade slime experience to Krafty Hands NY in Syosset on Oct. 13. The pop-up event will feature slime-making workshops, creative crafting stations, and plenty of family fun. Here are three things to know about creator Sydney Stark's growing small business and Krafty Hands' mission to inspire creativity through art.



■ A celebration of creativity and community

The event, taking place from 2 to 3:30 p.m. at 49 Ira Rd. in Syosset, promises an immersive experience for children and families looking to get creative. The afternoon includes hands-on slimemaking workshops where kids can mix their own colors, scents and textures, plus crafting stations offering DIY activities like glitter jars and shrink art. Slimes by Sydney will also feature exclusive limited-edition slimes available only at the event. With upbeat music, photo ops and sensory-friendly materials, the vibe is playful and inclusive. It's a chance for families from across Long Island to gather, create, and connect through joyful, screen-free fun



■ Empowering young entrepreneurs through art

For Krafty Hands NY, the event reflects a deeper mission to uplift creativity, inclusion and youth innovation. The studio-formerly known as Fun Craft—has been a local fixture in Syosset since 1989, known for its birthday parties, art camps and school programs. Owner Priyanka Khanna and Education Through Art founder Carly Meyer are passionate about creating opportunities for emerging artists and entrepreneurs. Partnering with Sydney, a teen business owner, is part of that vision. The studio also runs monthly inclusive art classes for children with special needs, and its Krafty Hands Concierge program brings mobile art sessions to homes, schools, scout troops and events across Long Island. The goal: make creativity accessible, anytime, anywhere.



■ Slime with a purpose – sensory fun for all ages

Sydney's slimes are more than just a fun activity — they're tools for creative play, sensory exploration and emotional expression. Her handmade creations come in all forms, from soft and buttery to fluffy, crunchy, glittery or cloud-like. Some are scented like bubblegum or vanilla cake; others change color or include mix-ins like charms or foam beads. Each batch is crafted with the intention of sparking joy and curiosity. Slime making helps kids engage their senses and focus their energy in calming, imaginative ways. "Slime is more than just a toy, it's an experience. I love creating textures, colors and scents that spark happiness and creativity for kids of all ages."

For more information, visit SlimesbySydney. com or FunCraftNY.com.







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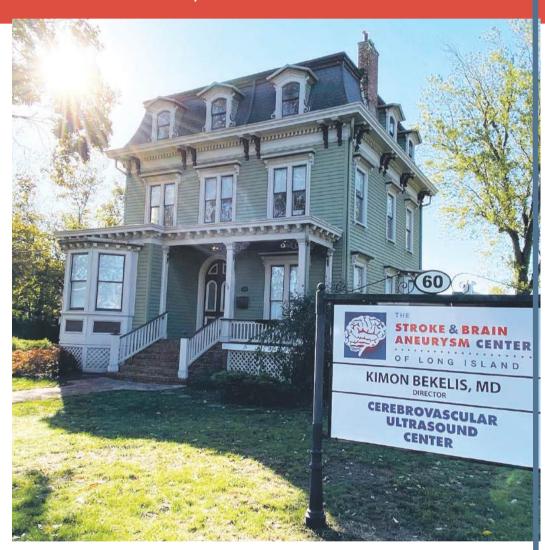


Dr. Bekelis is a board certified fellowship trained neurosurgeon with subspecialty training in minimally invasive endovascular neurosurgery. As one of the most prominent, widely published stroke researchers in the country, with several national and international awards, Dr. Bekelis is the Chairman of Neurointerventional Services for Catholic Health, the Director of the state-of-the-art Stroke and Brain Aneurysm Center of Long Island, and the Co-Director of the Neuro ICU at Good Samaritan Hospital Medical Center.



Dr. Kimon Bekelis

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Courtesy CSTL

Thousands of Jack O'Lanterns illuminate the season, hand carved to perfection.

Some fascinating spooks have taken up residence at Center for Science Teaching and Learning's Spooky Fest.

Autumnal adventures Reel in some hauntingly good fun

By Karen Bloom

pooky season is casting its spell — and whether you're ready for a scare or just some seasonal flair, there's much to check out.

The Rise of the Jack O'Lanterns

Pumpkin patches have their moment, but a pumpkin trail is even better. The wooded site of Usdan Summer Camp for the Arts in Wheatley Heights is the evocative setting for a spooky 4,200 foot loop of over 7,000 hand-carved pumpkins and illuminated objects (10,000 in all) that light up the grounds all month long.

The Rise of the Jack O'Lanterns is now in its 12th season on Long Island, delighting visitors with all sorts of seasonal delights, from those carved pumpkins — of all sizes — to inflatables and even a space to show off some dance moves, complete with disco lights and music.

You may recall Rise from its first eight seasons at Old Westbury Gardens. Its current home at Usdan accommodates a longer trail that enhances the immersive experience.

"We found this trail to be perfect," says Mike Pollack, Rise of the Jack O'Lanterns' executive producer, who proclaims this to be "the spookiest walk on Long Island."

Spooky, most definitely, but not haunted. You won't find any frightful creatures popping out along the path. As Pollack puts it: "No scares."

This family-friendly event is designed to get everyone in the spirit of the season, appealing to all ages.

A team of 100 handpicked artists carve their individual pumpkins with facial expressions ranging from scary to silly.

"The artistry of these pumpkins is spectacular and you will not see anywhere else," Pollack says enthusiastically.

The 40,000 visitors annually would seem to agree. Rise is open on weekends and select weeknight through Nov. 1. All tickets must be purchased online at jackolanterns. com; no tickets are available on site. Rise is located at 185 Colonial Springs Road, Wheatley Heights.

Spooky Fest

Creatures of all kinds inhabit the woods, and ghosts and ghouls come out to play at Tanglewood Preserve, home to the Center for Science Teaching and Learning (CSTL), in Rockville Centre. A seasonal tradition for area families, the spectacle takes over CSTL's grounds every weekend through Nov. 2.

Each year the festival offers a spirited fun-filled slate of activities on the preserve's 16 acres — both scary and not so scary — to appeal to all ages and fright levels. The wooded paths are transformed for the season, with eerie lighting, special effects and characters along the way.

Whether you and the kids are looking to be spooked or not, the choice is yours. This time of year the preserve's woods are definitely haunted, as those who venture along the scary walk will find out. This quarter mile hike through the woods is not for the faint of heart, it may leave some younger kids clinging to their parents legs. Step into the darkness of the Haunted Woods where you'll stumble upon a deserted graveyard and more — you never know what is lurking around the next turn. Be scared if you dare!

"Adults will come out crying and the kids will be laughing," CSTL Educator Michele Anselmo, says, somewhat bemused. "You need to know your fear factor before you enter."

As always, the not-so-spooky Enchanted Walk is welcoming haunt for the younger set. Friendly Halloween characters — including witches, fairies, aliens, ghosts, butterflies, and scarecrows — greet visitors. This year a pirate ship with a band of pirates has made its way here to get in on the action. Other activities include holiday-themed arts and crafts, and the return of the Mystic Den, with a fortuneteller and face painting. And, of course, the glow tent, is another popular spot where everyone heads to make "slime." Just be sure to take the goopy stuff home; "sliming" those nearby is frowned upon.

Costumes are always encouraged. And in the spirit of Hallowen season, kids may find some treats to pick up as they wander about.

"There's always something for everyone here," Anselmo says.

Find out what's lurking in the woods at the Center for Science Teaching and Learning, 1 Tanglewood Road, Rockville Centre. Visit cstl.org for information and tickets.



Courtesy NYS Park

Let's fish: Cast those lines at annual Fall Family Fishing Festival held at Hempstead Lake State Park.

Gone Fishing

Anglers — novice and skilled — will be on the scene once again when the Fall Fishing & Children's Festival returns to Hempstead Lake State Park. Presented by the Department of Environmental Conservation's "I Fish NY" program, on Oct. 18, the annual event offers an ideal way to make the most of the season with a mix of fishing, fun and family activities.

The day kicks off at 10 a.m., with a fresh stock of trout in the park's South and MacDonald Ponds to help introduce families to the sport of freshwater fishing. Everyone can take part in fly-fishing instruction, casting practice, fish-cleaning demonstrations, and even borrow rods and bait free of charge.

"All ages are encouraged to attend to enjoy this wonderful fishing experience," says George Gorman, State Parks' Long Island regional director. "We hope festival attendees also take the opportunity to explore the beautiful Hempstead Lake State Park and all it has to offer."

But the fun doesn't end at the water's edge. Young visitors can enjoy pumpkin decorating, a magic show, reptile exhibit, and a playful casting contest where the "catch" could be a pumpkin or a prize. Whether you're an avid angler or just looking for a day outdoors with the kids, the Fall Fishing & Children's Festival reels in plenty of reasons to drop by.

The fishing license requirement for all anglers over the age of 15 is suspended for this festival, and admission and parking are free. Check out the activities at the park's MacDonald and South Ponds, also in Rockville Centre. Visit parks.ny.gov for more.



Jessie's Girl

Break out the neon, dust off those leg warmers and tease up your hair the ultimate '80s party returns to the Paramount stage. Jessie's Girl, a band of New York City's top rock and pop musicians, returns with their high-energy Back to the Eighties show, guaranteed to turn back the clock. Fronted by powerhouse vocalists who transform into the decade's biggest icons, Jessie's Girl delivers the hits that defined an era. Add in bold costumes, playful choreography, audience participation, and plenty of extras — bubbles, confetti, and props galore — and the result is part concert, part theater and all '80s spectacle. These talents each have dozens of credits performing with authentic '80s icons who made the music famous to begin with. With over-the-top renditions of memorable songs, Jessie's Girl captures the glitz and sheer energy of the decade like no one else.

Friday, Oct. 10, 8 p.m. \$64.75 \$52.25, \$49.25, \$48.50, \$37.25. The Paramount, 370 New York Ave., Huntington. (800) 745-3000 or ticketmaster.com or paramountny.com.



Kate Kortum: The Music of 'Wild Woman'

Tilles Center's Atrium becomes an intimate lounge, showcasing 23-year-old Kate Kortum, one of the jazz world's most exciting breakout artists. 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. 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

Thursday, Oct. 16, 7:30 p.m. Tickets start at \$39. Tilles Center, LIU Post campus, 720 Northern Blvd., Brookville. Tickets available at ticketmaster.com or tillescenter.org or (516) 299-3100.

YOUR NEIGHBORHOOD FALENDAR

Sculpture Stroll OCT 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.

Homecoming parade

Glen Cove City School District welcomes all to an exciting evening of school spirit, community pride, and football fun! Celebrate homecoming with a vibrant parade followed by the big game under the lights.

- Where: Glen Cove High School, 150 Dosoris Lane
- Time: 5 p.m.
- Contact: (516) 801-7600

Deep Roots Farmers Market Shop fresh and local at the Deep Roots Farmers Market! Enjoy a vibrant selection of Long Islandgrown 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.

Ecotherapy OCT 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



Anthony Rodia

OCT

Anthony Rodia is back "Laugh Till It Hurts" tour, an all-new stand-up showcase that's refreshingly genuine and quick witted. Building on the success of his previous outing, this is his biggest and most ambitious yet. A first-generation Italian-American born and raised in Westchester, Rodia came out of the womb making people laugh. In his 20s he tried a few open mics, but ultimately took a different career path as a finance manager of

a luxury car dealership. In 2019, Rodia returned to comedy and left his day job to become a full-time stand-up comic. With a background steeped in family traditions, Italian-American culture and the ups and downs of modern life, Anthony's comedy feels like a conversation with your funniest friend. His blend of observational humor, self-deprecation and witty impressions has led him on his path as one of the most exciting rising stars on the comedy scene. Anthony's comedic career skyrocketed thanks to his viral social media videos, where he brought his hilarious, larger-than-life characters and relatable commentary to millions of fans. His most iconic characters, including his over-the-top Uncle Vinny

persona, quickly became fan favorites, making him a social media sensation and establishing a loyal following. His ability to turn everyday situations — family gatherings, parenting, and even the quirks of his own Italian heritage —into laugh-out-loud moments has earned him widespread recognition and a rapidly growing fanbase. Tickets are \$144.75, \$108.75, \$98.25, \$86.50, \$76.25, \$6475.

Where: The Paramount, 370 New York Ave., Huntington

- Time: 7 and 9:30 p.m.
- Contact: ticketmaster.com or paramountny.com

• Time: Noon-1 p.m.

Fall Foliage Walking Tour

Explore Sands Point Preserve's natural environment on a guided tour. Examine

the preserve's unique physical features and wildlife, as well as critical conservation issues and helpful practices to create a healthy, sustainable environment. Environmental educator Hildur Palsdottir engages everyone in hands-on nature discovery activities as participants observe the changing season. Meet at Castle Gould's Clock Tower.15, \$10 members; children \$5, free for members.

- Where: 127 Middle Neck Road, Sands Point
- Time: 10-11:30 a.m.
- sandspointpreserveconservancy. org or call (516) 571-7901

Blood Drive

The City of Glen Cove hosts a community blood drive. All donors are welcome; walk-ins or by appointment. Donations help save lives in our region. Whether you've

given before or are a first-time donor, your contribution is deeply appreciated. Bring a valid ID and come prepared to give — every drop counts.

- Where: Polish National Home of Glen Cove, 10 Hendrick Ave.
- Time: 8 a.m.-2 p.m.
- Contact: (516) 676-2000

Enchanted Forest

Nassau County Museum of Art invites families to another Super Family Saturday program. This magical adventure includes hands-on art activities themed around transformation, fantasy, and discovery, plus a special trail through the site's fall forest.. \$20 non-member adults, \$10 members and children.

- Where: Manes Center, 1 Museum Drive, Roslyn Harbor
- Time: Session 1, 11 a.m.-12:30 p.m.; Session 2, 1-2:30 p.m.
- Contact: nassaumuseum.org or (516) 484-9337

Princesses and villains meet-up

Bring the family to Sands Point Preserve for a trick-or-treat adventure like never before! The

Princesses are back at Hempstead

House, and this time, they're bringing 10 enchanting characters! Your favorite princesses and four mischievous villains will be joining in on the fun! Little princes and princesses will kick off the celebration by decorating their own trick-or-treat bags, then embark on an exciting journey through the castle's magical rooms. In each room, they'll meet a different beloved character or villain, collect sweet treats to fill their bags, and capture unforgettable memories with royal portraits. Reservations required. \$70 per child, includes access to event and grounds, adults free.

- Where: 127 Middle Neck Road, Sands Point
- Time: Sessions at noon, 12:30 p.m., 1 p.m.
- Contact: sandspointpreserveconservancy. org or call (516) 571-7901

'Brown Bag' Art OCT Conversation Join Nassau County Museum of Art Docent Riva Ettus for her popular Brown Bag Lecture. Experience the museum's exhibition "At Play: Artists & Entertainment" through a lively and informative presentation. Participants are invited to ask questions at the end of the program. Registration not required. First come, first seated.

Downtown OCT 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.

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

Council

The public has an opportunity

to observe and participate in

local government actions.

discussions. All are encouraged to

attend and stay informed about

• Where: City Hall, 9 Glen St.

• Time: 7 p.m. • Contact: (516) 676-3345

• Contact: (516) 676-2000

Author Reception

meeting

The City Council holds

review agenda items and vote on resolutions.

a council meeting to

Zoning board

The zoning board of

• Where: 9 Glen St.

appeals meets at Glen

meeting

Cove City Hall.

OCT

OCT

• Time: 7:30

refreshments.

• Where: 100 Crescent Beach Road, Glen Cove

- Contact: hmtcli.org or (516) 571-8040

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MEET THE 2025 HONOREES*

10.29.25

6:00-9:00PM

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Today, green businesses play a vital role in mitigating environmental challenges and driving economic growth by fostering innovation, reducing carbon emissions, and creating sustainable jobs.

The HERALD GreenBIZ Awards serves as a powerful catalyst for environmental stewardship and sustainable business practices. This inaugural event not only recognizes and honors innovative businesses committed to eco-friendly operations but it exemplifies the idea that responsible business can coexist with profitability.

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Co-Convenor TALZ, Taking a Lead on Zero Waste

WASTE SOLUTIONS

The Reworld Team

*List in formation

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THE GREAT BOOK GURU

Family fracas

Books

ear Great Book Guru, MiniMart Sunday is always great fun, but when the weather is perfect it is absolute bliss.

The crowd was enormous, yet everyone seemed in good spirits. My favorite spot is always the Children's Library where recycled toys and books attract fans of all ages. While looking over the many treasures there, I heard a couple discussing a debut novel they were reading for their upcoming book club. It was about a patriarchal family and was set in the South. Familiar?



Mini Mart Maven

Dear Mini Mart Maven,

Sea Cliff's Mini Mart is a big favorite of mine, too and "Dominion" by Addie Citchens is also a new favorite novel. Set in Dominion, Mississippi – a town dominated by the Winfrey family where its patriarch Sabre Winfrey is pastor of the Seven Seals Baptist church and

owner of the village barbershop, a radio station, and a restaurant.

His wife Priscilla is first lady of this empire and mother of five sons - all

highly gifted, especially the youngest, Emanuel, nicknamed Wonderboy. He is a high school senior, a talented musician, football star, and brilliant student.

The story is told from the perspectives of Pricilla and Diamond, a young woman in love with Wonderboy. We quickly realize there is more to this idyllic tale of a successful family. The novel delves into the psyches of its characters, and we soon see there is a long history of

secrets, lies, and repressions.

As lives unravel, we are left to marvel at the power of this family to endure. Highly recommended.

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



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THE HERALD IS HOLDING
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HOLIDAY WRAPPING PAPER

THE WINNING DESIGNS WILL BE
PRINTED AS HOLIDAY GIFT WRAP IN
12/4/25 & 12/11/25 ISSUES OF YOUR
HERALD COMMUNITY NEWSPAPER

CONTEST RULES:

Who can enter: There will be 2 categories: Students in grades k-5. Students in 6-12

One entry per student

Deadline: Entries must be received by 5 p.m.

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.

Mail or hand-deliver to:

Wrapping Paper Contest

Herald Community Newspapers

2 Endo Boulevard, Garden City, NY 11530 OR Scan and email to: ekimbrell@liherald.com (No Photos of Artwork Will Be Accepted).

Winners will be notified by email or phone by November 14

HELPFUL HINTS

- Must use 8 1/2 x 11" unlined paper, copy paper or construction paper.
 - Be creative & original.
 - Use bright colors.
 - Fill the entire page.
- Choose paint, crayon, chalk, markers, pens, or other creative materials.
 - Remember your design will be used to make a real sheet of wrapping paper.

For more information contact Ethan Kimbrell at ekimbrell@liherald.com or 516.569.4000 x 313

Thousands gather at 53rd Mini Mart

By MICHELLE GRISALES

The village of Sea Cliff was buzzing with food, live music and unique goods on Oct. 5 at the 53rd annual Kiwanis Mini Mart. Thousands of visitors strolled through Sea Cliff Avenue. enjoying live music, delicious food and one-of-a-kind goods at a "festival with a

More than 200 vendors lined the street and offered a wide array of items from handmade jewelry and wooden sculptures to gourmet food, vintage finds and early holiday gifts. Organized by the North Shore Kiwanis Club, Mini Mart supports a range of charitable causes. Funds raised from the event help the North Shore Kiwanis Club continue supporting a range of local initia-

These include Klothes/Koats/Kicks for Kids, the Kiwanis Pediatric Trauma Center and Kamp Kiwanis. Proceeds also go toward scholarships for area students and collaborative efforts with community-based organizations.

The Mini Mart also makes a point to include a variety of nonprofit organizations, with groups like the North Shore Soup Kitchen, Big Brothers Big Sisters of Long Island and Nosh Delivers among those in attendance.

Lisa Hill, the president of the North Shore Kiwanis Club and co-director of



Michelle Grisales/Herald photos

Bruna Tembelis, owner of Aquabrasil, a sustainable jewelry brand was among the hundreds of vendors at Mini Mart this year.

the event, spoke about the club's deep ties to the community and the event's broader mission. "[We] take a look at what ways we can talk to the community, get our name out there and then also

think it's a true community event."

Event co-director and former president of the North Shore Kiwanis Club, Roger Hill, echoed Lisa's sentiment. "It showcases the village, the town and the spirit ... it's a very close-knit town [and] a very special place," he said. They also explained that while planning the event, there must be coordination to ensure a diverse mix of booths and a well-balanced layout for attendees. Roger added anced layout for attendees. Roger added that their goal is to bring in a wide range of creative vendors.

"You can't have that many people in one category so we have to [go] through them and there's always somebody coming up with something new," Roger said. Bryan Rabanal, owner of Mabrabs Design, expressed that being a vendor at this event for the cause is especially meaningful to him.

'We like to give back to the community," he said. "We see and meet people we don't really know but have seen in passing ... it really brings people together." Rabanal said he has family in Sea Cliff, Glen Cove and surrounding towns, which gives him a strong sense of connection when selling at an event so close to home.

Michelle Grisales is reporter with The SBU Media Group, part of Stony Brook University's School of Communication and Journalism's Working Newsroom program for students and local media.

UBLIC MOTICES

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Bryan, left, Nicole Pedigo, owners of Buckabee Honey; a local honey farm.

Mini Mart, organized by the **North Shore** Kiwanis Club, was a day full of food, live music and unique goods in the heart of Sea Cliff.



make money," she said. "If you take a look out there, look at how many kids there are ... you have varying ages. I

LEGAL NOTICE NOTICE OF HEARING PUBLIC NOTICE IS HERERY GIVEN that a Public Hearing shall be held on Tuesday, October 14, 2025, at 7:30 p.m. October Chambers at Glen Cove City Hall, 9 Glen Street, Glen Cove, NY to discuss the proposed 2026 Budget. All interested parties will be given opportunity to Tina Pemberton City Clerk 156226

LEGAL NOTICE NOTICE OF HEARING: IS HEREBY NOTICE GIVEN that a Public Hearing shall be held October Tuesday, 14, 2025, at 7:30 p.m. the Council Chambers at Glen Cove City Hall, 9 Glen Street, Glen Cove, New York, to discuss amending §265-43. Schedule XI: Parking Prohibited at All times, as it relates to Forest Avenue. interested parties opportunity to

Tina Pemberton City Clerk 156227

LEGAL NOTICE LEGAL NOTICE POSTPONEMENT 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 entered August 2024. undersigned Referee. public North auction at the Side Steps of Nassau Supreme Court at 100 Supreme Court Drive, Mineola, NY 11501 on October 15, 2025, at 2:00PM, premises known as 53 Robinson Avenue, Glen Cove, NY 11542. All that certain

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FOR PROPOSALS- Notice is hereby given that the City of Glen Cove is seeking to retain a planning, consultant to prepare

Citv

implement the Comprehensive New York State (NYS)certified Minority and

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york/cityofglencove) or the New York State Reporter Contract (https://www.nvscr.nv. Requests qov/). Information are due by 10/15/25. Proposals are due on the BidNet platform by 4:00 p.m. on 10/30/25. 156192

To place a notice here call legalnotices@liherald.com

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October 9, 2025 – GLEN COVE HERALD









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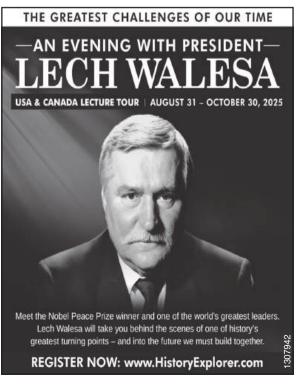
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OPINIONS

Tackling our affordability crisis starts with education

he more

have, the higher

tide that lifts all

the economic

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graduates we

cross New York state, and perhaps nowhere more so than here on Long Island, the top concern that those of us in the State Legislature hear about is affordability. It's not just the little luxuries that are out of reach; everyday necessities — groceries, utility bills, health



CHARLES LAVINE

care — are becoming harder to afford.

For over a century, New York's public schools and universities have been the bridge to the middle class and beyond. The value proposition that public education represents is one of the best our state has to offer.

Of course, it's incumbent on us as policymakers, and community members, to ensure that we maximize the value of this offering for every student. To do that, we must recognize their unique needs, and offer support that goes beyond the classroom. After all, what goes on outside class has a direct impact on how our students learn.

Students benefit when they have access to tutoring, career counseling, and help with essentials like books and transportation to and from class. Get-

ting them the level of support they need is the challenge.

That's why we're working with the state university system to create programs tailored to the needs students

have in these areas. This fall, SUNY Old Westbury is launching the Advancing Completion through Engagement program, joining 33 other campuses statewide, including Farmingdale State College, in offering more than 7,000 students access to both ACE and its community college counterpart, Advancing Success through Associate Pathways, which is already in

place at Nassau Community College. The goal of both programs is to drill into the individual needs of each student participant and link them with resources that help them get on track with their studies and stay on track through graduation.

Modeled on the success of programs first launched by the City University of New York, students are seeing monumental benefits statewide. Student completion rates are 85 percent for ACE participants, compared to 83 percent among non-ACE students, while retention rates are over 90 percent. For every state dollar we invest in these programs, there is a \$3 to \$4 return on investment for tax-

payers as students earn their degrees, get jobs in New York and invest their wages back in their communities.

Similarly, the Empire State Service Corps makes it possible for students to

earn financial support while they take part in community service, including addressing food insecurity, early childhood education and peer mental health issues. The opportunity for experiential learning is also more important than ever, allowing students from all walks of life to experience areas of study they may not have considered as career options.

Taken together, the launch of these programs by SUNY is helping tackle our affordability crisis in multiple ways. First and foremost, when students stay on track to graduate, they put themselves and their families in the best position to climb the economic ladder. College graduates have a better chance of securing higher-paying jobs and earning more over their lifetimes than those without degrees. They contribute more in taxes, and are more likely to have health insurance and retirement sayings.

More than that, helping put them in a position not just to contribute to their own and their families' well-being, but

to the well-being of others in the community, is like a rising tide lifting all boats.

A post-secondary education is linked to higher rates of volunteerism and charitable donations. According to one survey, there is high interest among Gen Z in community engagement, with 61 percent reporting that they volunteer for a cause that's meaningful to them at least once a year. Empowering students to make an impact during the course of their studies is a no-brainer for addressing broader affordability issues.

I'm proud of the investments we have made in SUNY, and I'm excited to see them translate into programs like these that will benefit our future workforce and leaders. Expanding them is a guaranteed investment, because the multiplier effects are so significant.

Ultimately, sustaining this work is a long-term investment in making New York more affordable.

I'll continue to fight for public education, without which my brothers and I would have received no education whatsoever. My parents couldn't afford private education. This is personal for me, and it should be personal for everyone who benefited from public education, and for everyone else who believes that public education is absolutely necessary to grow America's middle class.

Charles Lavine represents the 13th Assembly District.

Balanced energy policies will keep our lights on

enewable

sources

are vital to our

future, but they

can't meet the

demand alone.

or too many families and small businesses in New York, high energy bills have become a serious threat to their stability and success. But that burden is not shared equally. A recent study by Binghamton University found that Black and brown



PHIL ANDREWS

households spend a disproportionate share of their income on average utility expenses. That same pressure is felt by the restaurants, retailers and other small businesses that anchor our communities, for whom higher bills mean tighter margins and fewer

dollars to reinvest in jobs and growth.
Rising costs hit our communities

Rising costs hit our communities twice — once at the kitchen table, and again on Main Street.

Our elected leaders, however, have the opportunity to reorient the state's energy policies to lower bills and protect our communities. To keep families financially stable and local businesses thriving, policymakers must support a multi-pronged energy strategy to reduce overall costs, lessen disparities and foster a more reliable grid.

If energy affordability and equity are left unaddressed, high costs will continue to threaten household budgets and the survival of the very enterprises that drive opportunity in our neighborhoods. The ripple effects are enormous. When families are forced to spend more on basic energy needs, they have less to save for education and less to invest in

their future. When small businesses face higher utility bills, they are forced to cut back on hiring, scale down expansion — or in some cases, shut their doors altogether.

This is why energy policy cannot be treated as one-size-fits-all. Communities differ in infrastructure, housing stock and business needs. Policies that ignore those differences risk driving up costs, reducing reliability and exacerbating

existing inequities. For Long Island, that could mean more families in financial distress and more businesses shutting down.

As someone who has dedicated his

career to bolstering our local economy, I have great concern about the long-term impact of sky-high utility bills. If households are squeezed and small businesses cannot survive, job creation stalls, local wealth declines and entire communities lose ground. Lawmakers must take this seriously.

That means pursuing a balanced energy strategy
— one that lowers costs

and ensures reliability while advancing toward a greener future. Renewable energy is vital to our future, and requires sustained investments. But renewables alone cannot meet demand without driving costs higher. Natural gas, nuclear, hydro, wind, solar and emerging technologies all play important roles in powering New York. Phasing out reliable sources prematurely would destabilize the system and

impose the steepest costs on those least able to afford them.

For Long Island's business community, the stakes could not be higher. Rising energy bills risk driving entrepreneurs away and weakening our competitiveness. For families, the burden threatens financial stability and quality of life. For both, the wrong policies could deepen historical disparities.

There is no question that New York must do its part to advance sustainability, but the avenues we take to pursue that mission matter. We need a path forward that considers all factors before making decisions that could limit energy resources and further drive up costs.

The Empire State has always risen to meet big challenges. By adopting a balanced energy strategy that values every resource, invests in innovation and never loses sight of affordability, we can do so again — and set a national example in the process.

Phil Andrews is president of the Long Island African American Chamber of Commerce, New York state's largest African American chamber. He is also a member of the Long Island Power Authority's Community Advisory Board.

HERALD

Established 1991

Incorporating the Gold Coast Gazette in 2016

ROKSANA AMID Editor

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

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HERALD EDITORIAL

Long Island's creative spark deserves investment

ong Island is known for its beaches, its vineyards and its suburban sprawl. But a new report reminds us of something too often overlooked: The arts are one of the region's most powerful economic engines.

According to the Center for an Urban Future, jobs in arts and culture on Long Island grew by a stunning 21.6 percent between 2014 and 2024. That's five times faster than the region's overall economy. The number of independent artists nearly doubled during the same period, fueling downtown revitalization, driving tourism and supporting small businesses. From muralists in Patchogue to theater productions in Huntington, creativity is reshaping the Island's identity, and its bottom line.

And yet, just as this growth is transforming local communities, warning signs are flashing. The same report shows that the average arts worker on Long Island earns just \$46,500 annually — barely half the regional average income. The number of performing-arts jobs remains more than 13 percent below pre-pandemic levels. Meanwhile, the costs of housing and living have skyrocketed, with housing prices alone climbing more than 60 percent in the past decade.

The math doesn't add up. We are asking artists to do the impossible: generate enormous economic and cultural value for the region while surviving on wages that barely cover rent.

The problem isn't talent or ambition. It's support — or rather, the lack of it. Despite being home to 14.7 percent of New York state's population, Long Island receives just 2.8 percent of grants

awarded by the state's Council on the Arts. Less than 1 percent of federal National Endowment for the Arts funding in New York finds its way here.

And while state economic development councils are investing more than ever in arts projects statewide, only 3.1 percent of Long Island's recent allocation went to the creative sector.

This chronic underinvestment has created what researchers call a "negative feedback loop." Because the region has historically been overlooked, its institutions lack the resources to compete effectively for competitive funding, which in turn reinforces low funding rates. It's a cycle that limits growth and puts Long Island's creative vitality at risk.

The solutions are clear, and the payoff could be enormous. The Center for an Urban Future's recommendations should be a wake-up call to policymakers.

Among them: dedicating 1 percent of county budgets to arts programming and operations, expanding the state arts budget, and creating a Long Island Grant Academy to strengthen the capacity of local organizations to win state and federal support.

The report also suggests converting underused commercial properties into cultural spaces, integrating the arts into tourism planning, and even embedding artists directly into government initiatives, as upstate Erie County has done successfully.

These aren't fringe ideas. They're pragmatic strategies to sustain a sector that has already proven itself indispensable. Arts and culture are not luxuries to be funded only in good times. They are infra-

structure — just as essential to the region's economic vitality and community well-being as roads, schools and hospitals.

Consider the ripple effects: thriving downtowns anchored by galleries and theaters. Restaurants and shops boosted by performance-goers and festival crowds. Tourists are drawn to more than just beaches and wineries, while young families choose to stay because their communities feel vibrant and alive. At a time when many Long Island towns struggle with empty storefronts and affordability crises, creativity has been a rare and steady growth engine.

To jeopardize this progress through neglect would be shortsighted. As Jonathan Bowles, the center's executive director, put it: "Unless county leaders and the state step up, Long Island risks losing the very creativity that is powering its success."

Leaders in Nassau and Suffolk counties must recognize that a modest investment today could safeguard the region's cultural and economic future. Allocating just 1 percent of county budgets to the arts —around \$80 million annually — would not only stabilize existing organizations but also unlock additional state and federal dollars. That kind of leverage is how Long Island can finally get its fair share.

The arts have already proven what they can do for Long Island. The question now is whether Long Island will do right by the arts. If we want downtowns that hum with life, economies that diversify and communities that feel worth staying in, then investing in creativity is not optional. It's essential.

LETTERS

But Mamdani is giving people hope, Jerry

To the Editor:

Re Jerry Kremer's column in last week's issue, "There are many reasons not to embrace Mamdani": Nassau residents' concern over Zohran Mamdani, the Democratic nominee for mayor of New York City, is curious, as we have no vote on the matter. Perhaps we sense the specter in our basement.

There are, I think, two reasons people embrace Mamdani—desperation and hope. Consider the central issues: housing, homelessness and "affordability," increasingly enmeshed and worsening to the point of crisis. That's desperation.

Housing, specifically urban housing, has been in decline since Ronald Reagan was president. Successive New York state and New York City administrations have failed to address the problem, including Gov. Andrew Cuomo's and Mayor Eric Adams's. Curtis Sliwa has no plan. They all focus on the flip side of housing, speaking of "involuntary commitments" to "treatment" in facilities that don't exist.

That totally ignores the tens of thousands of shelter-living students who need no treatment beyond a stable home



OPINIONS

Libraries are precious, and must be treated with care

ust like

scientists, the

librarians is now

expertise of

questioned.

doctors and

ome of my most enduring memories involve libraries.
Attending "Story Hour" at the local library with my mother as a child. Working my way through college staffing the Circulation desk and re-shelving books. Viewing the special exhibits at Oxford University's Bodleian



ROBERT A. SCOTT

Library while serving as a visiting scholar after retiring from Adelphi. Writing my book on university governance while serving as an Allen Room Scholar at the New York Public Library. Showing the Gutenberg Bible to a grandson while visiting the

Morgan Library.

Libraries are precious homes for books and other materials that preserve and interpret the past, stir curiosity and the imagination, and nurture future generations. They are celebrated worldwide on International Literacy Day, Sept. 8.

Andrew Carnegie recognized the importance of libraries over a century ago, when he began supporting free public libraries as places of congregation and education. Carnegie believed that access to information and knowledge

would help those from limited household circumstances advance in careers and civic engagement. That certainly was the case for me.

The heart of a library is the librari-

an. Librarians are licensed professionals with graduate degrees. They are experts in collecting sources of information and ensuring that valid and valuable knowledge is available. They monitor access to age-appropriate materials and make decisions based on evidence, not emotion.

assignments of all kinds.

Librarians build collections according to mission and library type. They not only promote literacy, foster education and encourage critical thinking, but also offer free access to technology. They support teachers and effective teaching. Businesspeople and professionals as well as students use libraries, and seek the help of librarians, for research

But these temples to truth are being threatened by initiatives to ban books and dismantle the federal Institute of Museum and Library Services. PEN America, a nonprofit literary and free-expression advocacy group, found 10,046 instances of book bans in the 2023-24 school year. It noted book bans in 29 states and 220 public school districts, including on Long Island. Most of the

targeted books focus on sexual identity and racism, including slavery.

The lone Supreme Court ruling against book bans, from Long Island, no less, was Board of Education, Island

Trees Union Free School District No. 26 v. Pico, in 1982. Some think it could be overturned by a new case from Texas focusing on the removal of 17 books deemed "obscene" and "pornographic," including Maurice Sendak's childhood classic, "Where the Wild Things Are."

Banning books denies freedom of speech. In the past, such efforts were isolated and local. Now these

campaigns are national, and simply compile lists of books to be banned whose subjects or authors — especially Black authors — are deemed questionable without any evidence. In years past, books such as Walt Whitman's "Leaves of Grass" and Mark Twain's "Huckleberry Finn" were banned, until successful lawsuits returned them to library shelves.

On Long Island, there are 120 public libraries and 125 public school districts with 656 schools. Public libraries are governed by boards of trustees and funded by fundraising, tax revenue and government grants. They are essential to high-quality schooling and are vital community resources, especially in

rural and low-income regions.

According to one national report, "the American library . . . is a barometer of where we currently stand as a society when it comes to access to knowledge and information." Libraries host listings of employment opportunities, provide health care bulletins, are sources of election information, make textbooks available for free, lend audio books for the hearing-impaired, offer citizenship classes, and open their rooms for community gatherings.

It seems that increasing numbers of people question the expertise of librarians, just as they question the expertise of doctors and scientists. None of these professions is infallible, of course. What sets them apart is that they are honorbound by professional codes of ethics, and change their conclusions when new evidence is uncovered. For the librarian, this means curating as well as collecting and storing sources of information, whether on discs, in the cloud or in books.

The Swedish designer Josef Frank said, "The world is a book, and the person who stays at home reads only one page." The librarian is our travel guide to new vistas through books, and libraries are our vehicles. We should treat them with care.

Robert Scott is president emeritus of Adelphi University and co-author, with Drew Bogner, of "Letters to Students: What it Means to be a College Graduate."

LETTERS

address. The candidates speak of police and clearing the streets, but not of where this refuse would go. Cuomo's plan is, again, only poetry in future tense while the desperation is now. A "rent freeze" is not "moderate," but "moderate" has failed. The point is to keep people in their homes, now.

"Socialism" has worked well for the wealthy — maybe it should work a little for the poor as well. For all the obvious obstacles of Mamdani's proposals, he alone names the problem, addresses its immediacy, acknowledges its multiple entwined factors and sees the human families entangled in those larger forces. That's where the hope comes from, reflected in votes. It is a hope readily transferable to any other willing leader, but if hope comes only in Muslim garb ...

BRIAN KELLY Rockville Centre

It's Democrats who are threatening our democracy

To the Editor:

Re Randi Kreiss's column in the Sept. 25-Oct. 1 issue, "Is our democracy suffering growing pains": The United States is approaching the 250th anniversary of this political experiment. Kreiss's op-ed attempted to place the blame on MAGA for the decline in our country, and I respectfully dis-

agree.

- Standing and reciting the Pledge of Allegiance has always been a mainstay of our country, until people on the left attempted to turn any display of national pride into a signal of racism.
- Many on the left applauded the assassination of Charlie Kirk, who was simply engaging young college students in active, respectful debate.
- Not knowing who was running our country as Joe Biden was in mental decline was a huge threat to our democracy. Who used the autopen? Who issued the pardons? Who ran our country?
- The Democrats wrote the book on using the Department of Justice to go after political opponents, and now have the nerve to complain when it is used against them. They weaponized the FBI to arrest political opponents like Gen. Michael Flynn, Peter Navarro, Roger Stone, Steve Bannon and Paul Manafort, to name a few. Now the Republicans have indicted Jim Comey as the tip of the spear, with many more to follow. Thank you, Democrats, for paving the way.
- Arresting a former president for the first time in our nation's history and attempting to incarcerate and bankrupt him is more proof that Democrats are more of a threat to our democracy.
- If they gain control of both chambers of

FRAMEWORK by Tim Baker



Yup, these pages are magical: at the Magic at Coney Show at Temple Beth Am - Merrick

Congress, we can look forward to making Puerto Rico and Washington, D.C., states, packing the Supreme Court, and reopening our borders. Another B.S. impeachment will follow. Sounds undemocratic to

■ I could go on, but I will only add one more thing. I challenge you to put on a red "Make America Great Again" hat and walk the streets of Manhattan — especially the Upper West Side — and report back on your First Amendment right of freedom of speech and expression. To all the people on the hard left, if you want to see the real threat to democracy, simply look in the mirror. I enjoy the fact that President Trump lives rent free in the heads of the liberal left.

God bless America.

TOM O'CONNOR North Bellmore





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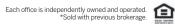
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