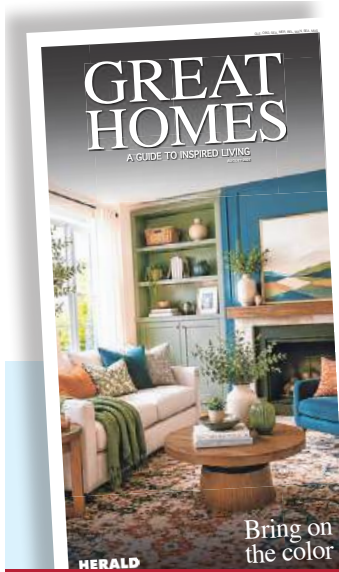




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Backpacks for bright futures

Glen Cove Police Chief Chris Ortiz, Nassau County Legislator Delia DeRiggi-Whitton, Glen Cove parent Maria Campos and her children, Daniella and Ezekiel, with the kids' new backpacks at Tuesday's back-to-school giveaway at Landing Elementary School. Story, more photos, Page 3.



Roksana Amid/Herald

Friends student Olivia Lichota raises \$20,000 for tennis clinic

By WILL SHEELINE

wsheeline@liherald.com

At age 16, Friends Academy student Olivia Lichota has already discovered how a passion for tennis can become a way to give back to her community.

Lichota, an Old Brookville resident, an incoming junior at Friends Academy, in Locust Valley, and a member of the school's tennis team, founded a nonprofit tennis clinic this summer for children involved with the Boys & Girls Club in Glen Cove. The program brings about a dozen children, mostly ages 10 to 12, to the Robbie Wagner Tournament Training Center, in Glen Cove, for

weekly sessions that introduce them to the sport.

The clinic grew out of Lichota's participation in Friends' Entrepreneurship and Social Innovation programs, in which students are encouraged to work with entrepreneurial businesses and identify problems in their communities and develop solutions.

"I think about how Quakerism plays a role with integrity and simplicity, which are some of the Quakers' SPICES," she said, referring to the anagram for Simplicity, Peace, Integrity, Community, Equality and Stewardship (or Sustainability), the core values of the denomination, "and it kind of helps just to know that that's

CONTINUED ON PAGE 11

Residents raise concerns about electric rides

By ROKSANA AMID

ramid@liherald.com

A pair of young e-bike riders accused of interfering with a Glen Cove police traffic stop has renewed attention on the bikes and electric scooters — and on the sometimes confusing line between legal micromobility devices and electric vehicles that are not permitted on public roads.

Glen Cove police recently identified two youths, believed to be 13 or 14, who allegedly approached officers during a traffic stop on Shore Road, cursed at them and then falsely claimed that the driver of the vehicle they had stopped had a gun. Police said the youths were also suspected of riding recklessly elsewhere in the city, and damaging property.

"When you're telling officers that the person has a gun, you're raising that stress level exponentially," Lt. John Nagle,

of the Glen Cove Police Department, said.

The episode came at a time of growing concern about how e-bikes and scooters are being used around Glen Cove. Janet

It's very scary when you have a kid on one of those bikes riding in the middle of the road and then cut[ting] you off on Glen Cove avenue popping wheelies.

JANET TIPTON
Glen Cove

Tipton, a Sea Cliff resident, said she has twice encountered a young rider on Glen Cove Avenue in the middle of the road, cutting her off and performing wheelies.

"It's very scary when you have a kid on one of those bikes riding in the middle of the road and then cut[ting] you off on Glen Cove avenue popping wheelies," Tipton wrote in response to a Glen Cove Herald Facebook post seeking community experiences.

Glen Cove resident Ann Marie Martinez, described similar incidents in Village Square. "These kids should wear helmets and follow the rules and obey Police Officers," she wrote. "At Village Square they

CONTINUED ON PAGE 5

HERALD
Community Newspapers

Carfora to lead at Landing Elementary

By ROKSANA AMID

ramid@liherald.com

Rebecca Carfora’s path to becoming the new principal of Landing Elementary School began long before she entered a classroom as a teacher.

Growing up in Bayville, Carfora found inspiration in teachers who made reading and writing meaningful to her, as well as in an early experience tutoring a younger student who was being bullied and struggling emotionally.

“One of the things that he looked forward to every week was the tutoring that I did with him and that relationship that I established with him,” Carfora said.

Now, after 19 years in education, including a decade working in the Glen Cove City School District, Carfora is preparing to lead a school she already knows well.

The district announced Carfora’s appointment as Landing’s new principal this summer. Carfora, who will turn 43 on Aug. 26, spent the past three years as an instructional literacy coach working across Landing and Connolly elementary schools.

“I’m just so grateful for this opportunity, and I’m so excited and eager to step in and to help shape the culture and to support the teachers, students, and families,” Carfora said.

Carfora attended Bayville Primary School, Bayville Intermediate School and Locust Valley High School before heading to the University of North Texas, where she majored in English and minored in secondary education. She later spent about a year substitute teaching on Maui before returning to New York.

She taught ELA for nine years in New York City, working with middle school students in South Jamaica, Queens. Carfora then joined Glen Cove, teaching eighth-grade English at R.M. Finley Middle School for seven years.

Her move into instructional coaching allowed her to work directly with educators, analyzing student data and helping teachers develop instructional strategies. Carfora said the role involved supporting both veteran educators trying new approaches and newer teachers developing their classroom practices.

“Overall, it’s supporting the teachers and ensuring that they feel confident in growing professionally,” she said.

Carfora said working under the leadership of coordinator Kristen Schaefer during her first year as an instructional coach motivated her to continue her own education. She graduated from Russell Sage College in May 2026 after completing advanced studies in instructional leadership.

As principal, Carfora said one of her priorities will be creating a strong sense of belonging at Landing.

“One of the things in my vision that I really hold the most dear to my heart in this moment in time is building a culture of positive morale,” she said, adding that she wants students to feel connected to adults in the building and to feel safe and welcomed.

Strengthening relationships with families will also be a focus. Carfora plans to hold “Coffee with the Principal” gatherings and wants parents involved in school celebrations and other events.

Superintendent Alexa Doeschner said Carfora’s



Courtesy Glen Cove City School District

Rebecca Carfora is the new principal of Landing Elementary School.

familiarity with the school and experience within the district will be assets in her new position.

“She already knows Landing Elementary, the building’s people and its culture, and I am confident she has the heart and the vision to help our students and staff keep growing,” Doeschner said.

Carfora also wants teachers to have a voice in Landing’s development, including opportunities to learn from one another through professional development and classroom visits.

“At the end of the day, I feel like my vision, the one thing that I feel like I will always come back to, is doing what is best for children and ensuring that my decisions are student-centered,” Carfora said.



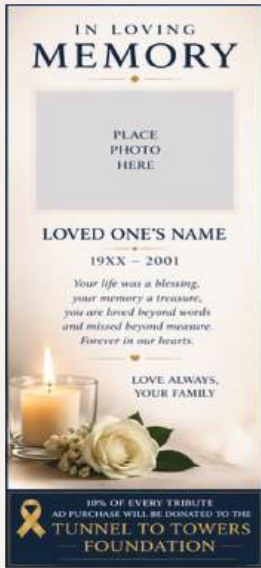
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Roksana Amid/Herald photos

Nassau County Legislature Minority Leader Delia DeRiggi-Whitton, Nassau County Police Benevolent Association representatives and Glen Cove school officials gathered at Landing Elementary School during the Aug. 18 back-to-school giveaway.

Backpack giveaway eases back-to-school costs

By ROKSANA AMID

ramid@liherald.com

Families preparing for the new school year got a helping hand Tuesday as hundreds of backpacks and school supplies were distributed outside Landing Elementary School, giving students a chance to pick out a new backpack while easing some of the financial pressure that comes with heading back to class.

Nassau County Legislature Minority Leader Delia DeRiggi-Whitton partnered with the Nassau County Police Benevolent Association and the Glen Cove City School District for the Aug. 18 giveaway, with local support from the Glen Cove PBA.

For Glen Cove parent Maria Campos, who attended with her children Daniella Bonilla and Ezekiel Bonilla, the supplies offered some relief as her family prepares several children for school.

"We are a big family," Campos said. "It's really helping us because now everything is expensive."

Campos said Daniella and Ezekiel will both be attending pre-K, while she also has a son with special needs who requires school supplies.

The event was open to students throughout Nassau County, though its location at Landing made it particularly convenient for Glen Cove families.

"Back-to-school season is such an exciting time for families, but I know how it can be financially challenging for families in Glen Cove and communities across our County," DeRiggi-Whitton said. "That is why I am so grateful that we are continuing our partnership with the Nassau PBA and Glen Cove City Schools to provide deserving local students with everything they need to excel in the new school year!"

The Nassau PBA furnished the backpacks and supplies distributed at the event.



A long line of cars waited outside Landing Elementary School on Aug. 18 as families arrived to receive backpacks and school supplies during the back-to-school giveaway.

Glen Cove Superintendent of Schools Alexa Doeschner said the giveaway also gives district officials an opportunity to reconnect with students and parents shortly before classes resume.

"It's exciting," Doeschner said. "They get to come and get a free backpack. They choose their color, so it's a nice opportunity for me to check in with our families two weeks before the beginning of school and greet them with a smile and say, 'Welcome back, almost.'"

Doeschner said the backpack program previously took place at Glen Cove High School when she was principal of Landing Elementary. Landing staff would promote the event and encourage families to visit the high school to pick up supplies.

"This is great because it's all Nassau County, so it's available for all students," Doeschner said. "We're just lucky that Delia DeRiggi-Whitton chooses our

school district to do this, so it's convenient for families in Glen Cove, but it's available to the entire county."

The giveaway comes as Glen Cove schools prepare for the 2026-27 academic year, which Doeschner said will include an increased emphasis on engaging parents and families.

"We are very excited for the school year," she said. "We are focusing on parent engagement this year."

The district plans to hold monthly community forums in addition to its regular Board of Education meetings. Each forum will include a roughly 15- to 20-minute presentation centered on a particular topic, followed by a discussion with families and an opportunity to ask questions.

The forums will rotate among the district's school buildings throughout the year, giving families opportunities to participate at different locations.



Nassau County PBA handed backpacks to students during the Aug. 18 back-to-school giveaway at Landing Elementary School.

Doeschner said the district is also planning "coffee and pizza with the superintendent" gatherings, which will provide a less formal setting for residents to speak with district administrators.

The gatherings, she said, will be "even more informal opportunities for community members to drop in and touch base with district office administrators about the school district and their experiences."

For families like Campos', Tuesday's event addressed a more immediate concern: making sure children have what they need when they walk into their classrooms in September.

With the cost of everyday necessities weighing on families, Campos said receiving school supplies for her children makes the transition back to school a little easier.

"It's really helping us," she said.

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Medicaid Exempt Assets

Under Medicaid, the combined assets of spouses are available for the care of the ill or “institutionalized” spouse, regardless whose name those assets are in. Nevertheless, many assets or “resources” are exempt from Medicaid when there is a spouse at home (the “community spouse”). Some of these are:

- The home up to a value of \$1,130,000
- \$75,000 to \$162,500 in resources
- One automobile
- Prepaid funeral and burial for applicant, spouse and immediate family
- Household furniture, personal effects, jewelry
- IRA’s, 401(k)’s, 403(b)’s, and other qualified plans

Since the home is an exempt asset when a spouse is living there, so are repairs and improvements to the home, including new carpeting, appliances, kitchen, baths, modifications for handicapped accessibility, lifts for stairs, etc. A mortgage can be paid off to reduce the amount of assets required to be “spent down” in order to obtain Medicaid eligibility. Although only one automobile is allowed, nothing prevents the spouse from trading in the old clunker for a brand new car.

When there is no spouse, the resource allowance falls to about \$33,000. The home and automobile, no longer needed by the applicant, are no longer exempt. Nevertheless, the home may still be protected if an adult child was living in the home and caring for the parent for the two year period immediately prior to the parent entering the nursing home.

Clients often ask whether Medicaid can “go after” the assets when the community spouse dies after the institutionalized spouse. If the assets were exempt, then Medicaid has no “right of recovery”. In other cases, such as where there is no spouse, consultation with an elder law attorney may be needed to avoid estate recovery.

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ON THE ROAD WITH A TAKEOUT QUEEN

Takeout “Museums”

When I walk into gourmet shops, specialty supermarkets and cafes that feature foods that range from retro to multi-cultural to inventive to trendy, I imagine they’re “food museums.” As I stroll up and down the aisles or read the menus, I discover countless ways people from all parts of the world enjoy devouring everything from egg creams to eggplant rollatini. Admission is free. Plus, as a takeout queen, I marvel at the delicious options, so I won’t have to cook. This month, I found three new “food museums.”

Uncle Giuseppe's Marketplace (130 Wheatley Plaza, Greenvale)

This mega-specialty supermarket is the ultimate “museum of foods.” In addition to traditional supermarket produce and products, I found aisles filled with freshly prepared or baked artisan bread, cheese, pasta, deli-counter creations, bakery treats, chocolates, and so much more. Many foods wear a “Uncle Giuseppe” (UG) label and have Italian spins. To share the overall experience, I’ll list 26 of the most innovative highlights, from A to Z:

Artisan raisin walnut bread; Baked salmon; Cinnamon butter; Dieter’s Delight—shrimp with spaghetti squash; Egg creams in the espresso aisle; Family-sized black and white cookies; Gluten-free aisles; Habanero maple gourmet popcorn; Irish mozzarella; Jalapeno popper dip; Knishes; Limoncello gelato; Mortadella; Nonna’s broccoli rabe; Olive aisle; Parmesan crusted cauliflower streaks; Quiches; Ravioli with shrimp and lobster; Special diet aisles; Taleggio cheese; UG half cherry pie; White eggplants; X-tra sharp UG imported aged provolone; You’ll love the spacious dining area; Ziti baked for two.

Wonder (6 Soundview Ave., Port Washington; 48 Great Neck Rd., Great Neck Plaza)

I’d call this new type of eatery a

“techno-food museum.” As I entered the Port Washington location, I was puzzled. A typical restaurant set-up was replaced by a computer sitting on a counter. I tapped the screen and learned I could mix and match everything from starters to sides to entrees to desserts from combinations of more than 20 different, multi-cultural restaurants. My meal would be prepared in a large kitchen on the premises and could be ready in 10-15 minutes. Many of the dishes have been created by award-winning celebrity/Food Network chefs.

So, begin your meal with Michael Symon’s za’atar carrots and broccoli bowl. Follow it with Bobby Flay’s filet mignon. Add Marc Murphy’s onion rings with horseradish on the side. For dessert, munch on pumpkin spice pudding by Magnolia Bakery. During my visit, I ordered fried rice with tofu and pineapple. Within 12 minutes, a staff member placed it on a pickup shelf. It’s a takeout queen’s dream.

Salt and Honey Café (320 Sea Cliff Ave., Sea Cliff)

I’d call this cool, new, contemporary coffee shop a “neighborhood food museum.” You’ll feel a very friendly vibe as you check out a menu that features organic, espresso blends. Drip coffee, iced coffee, flash brew, espresso, and cappuccino are just a few of the inventive choices. Many beverages can be served as hot or iced lattes, matchas, or teas. I couldn’t resist two of the specialty drinks created with house made syrups: the Banana Bread Latte (which tastes like real banana bread), and the Strawberry Cacao Chip latte with a creamy, whipped topping. Pair them with locally baked muffins, scones, cakes, everything cream cheese croissants, and my favorite: Sugar Daddy Baker jumbo cookies!

See you next month!



CATHI TUROW

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Categories of e-rides leave many confused

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

ride around with People walking and doing Wheelies.”

Other e-bike and scooter riders, however, say the behavior of some young people has contributed to a perception that does not reflect everyone who uses them. Donovan Lebrun, who said he has ridden an e-bike in Glen Cove for about a year, said he tries to stay off sidewalks and out of pedestrians’ way while riding to and from the high school.

“I believe Ebikers are misunderstood,” Lebrun wrote. “I do believe the public doesn’t like them due to other kids my age riding them recklessly but I think they need to understand it’s not all bad riders going around.”

The Police Department has maintained what it describes as a zero-tolerance approach to illegal e-bikes and riders who violate traffic laws. Daniel Flanzig, a Sea Cliff attorney who specializes in bicycle and micromobility law, said that an important distinction is often lost in the broader debate: Legal e-bikes, e-scooters and higher-powered electric motorcycles are not the same thing.

Under state law, Class 1 e-bikes use pedal assistance and provide motor assistance up to a limit of 20 mph. Class 2 bikes, which have the same 750-watt motor, can use a throttle to propel the bicycle without pedaling, but are also limited to 20 mph. Class 3 bikes can reach 25 mph, and are permitted only in New York City. E-scooters, meanwhile, have handlebars and a standing floorboard, and may not be operated above 15 mph.

Vehicles that fall outside those classifications are increasingly referred to as “e-motos.” “That’s kind of become the nomenclature for these devices, e-moto, which are really like electric motorcycles,

and fall well outside the class of any kind of legal device in New York state,” Flanzig said.

Enforcement, he explained, has become particularly complicated in Nassau County. The county has been enforcing a 2006 provision of its code that treats Class 2 e-bikes and e-scooters as motorized vehicles. Flanzig has legally challenged that enforcement, arguing that county code conflicts with the state law that legalized e-bikes and e-scooters in 2020.

The devices can provide transportation for people who cannot or choose not to drive. Cost, physical limitations or simply not owning a car can make micromobility an important alternative, Flanzig said. “They are affordable, they are accessible, and they get you from point A to point B,” he said.

Education, he added — particularly for parents — will be an important part of addressing illegal devices and unsafe riding. Flanzig is board president of the New York Bicycling Coalition, which he said is working to develop educational programs with schools. Because riders must be at least 16, he said, e-bikes should not be showing up at middle schools.

Flanzig said that parents and retailers may become a larger focus of efforts to keep illegal e-motos off public roads. “It really comes down to a point-of-sale issue first,” he said. “If you can’t get them, then we don’t have a problem.”

In Glen Cove, police said their immediate goal is to make parents aware when young riders are using the devices illegally, and to prevent reckless behavior from escalating into something more serious.

“You can’t be driving these e-bikes when you’re 14 years old around the neighborhood,” Nagle said. “So hopefully we can educate the parents and let them know that this is what your kids are doing.”



Courtesy Glen Cove mayor’s office

Glen Cove police believe they have identified two youths accused of interfering with a traffic stop on Shore Road, falsely telling officers that a driver had a gun and riding illegally through the city on e-bikes.

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A high-profile Blakeman backer pays a visit

By HUNTER FENOLLLOL

hfenollol@liherald.com

President Trump used a visit to Nassau County last Friday to tout falling crime rates and to endorse County Executive Bruce Blakeman's bid for governor, while more than 100 protesters gathered nearby to criticize the administration's policies on immigration, health care and affordability.

Trump spoke at the Nassau County Police Department's David S. Mack Center for Training and Intelligence, in Garden City, where he praised local law enforcement and repeatedly pointed to Nassau County as a model for public safety.

"Nassau County has been rated the No. 1 one safest county in America," Trump said, citing a 2024 U.S. News & World Report ranking. He also praised Blakeman, saying, "We'll get Bruce in there. We'll change it around," as he urged New Yorkers to support the county executive's gubernatorial campaign.

Blakeman credited local and federal law enforcement cooperation for the county's crime record. He also highlighted Nassau's agreement with federal immigration authorities, saying the county had removed about 2,000 immigrants with criminal records in one year. He cited cases involving attempted murder, rape, robbery, carjacking and drug dealing as examples of the people he said had been removed.

Trump's remarks largely focused on crime, immigration and his administration's support for law enforcement. He cited newly released FBI statistics that he said showed the largest reduction in violent crime in American history in 2025, along with additional declines in murders and robberies in 2026.

He also criticized Democratic Gov. Kathy Hochul and New York's criminal justice policies, particularly



Tim Baker/Herald

President Trump joined County Executive Bruce Blakeman at the Nassau County P.D.'s David S. Mack Center for Training and Intelligence in Garden City last Friday. Trump endorsed Blakeman's campaign for governor.

its bail laws and immigration policies, while praising Blakeman's record.

Outside the police training center, meanwhile, more than 100 protesters gathered at a designated protest area on Endo Boulevard. They included Nassau County Democratic Party officials, community leaders and residents. Civil rights attorney Fred Brewington led protesters in chants, including, "This is what America looks like today and we're not going away."

Adrienne Adams, the Democratic candidate for lieutenant governor, was among the speakers. She crit-

icized both Trump and Blakeman, saying that Blakeman was the president's "biggest cheerleader" and urging voters to reject what she described as their extremism.

"Keeping our community safe doesn't stop at law enforcement," Adams said, arguing that public safety also includes health care, dignity and the ability to afford essential care.

Adams criticized Trump's health care and food assistance policies, and said that Blakeman would take Medicaid cuts further.

Sen. Siela Bynoe, county elected officials and community leaders also addressed the crowd, focusing on the cost of living, health care, immigration and ICE enforcement.

For supporters who attended the Trump event, however, public safety remained the central message. Nikolai Glushkov, 23, founder of the Glen Cove Young Republicans, came to the rally to support congressional candidate Michael LiPetri Jr. as well as Trump and Blakeman.

Glushkov, a lifelong Nassau County resident, said he was encouraged by what he heard about crime reductions. "I took away [President Trump's] impact on the national level on keeping the crime safe in Nassau County, reducing that along with Blakeman," he said.

Glushkov said he believed that Nassau's record under Blakeman could serve as a model for the rest of New York. "We are the safest county, and we got to make New York state the safest state this November," he said.

The rally and the nearby protest underscored the political divide surrounding Trump's visit, with his supporters emphasizing crime and law enforcement while opponents argued that health care, affordability and reforms in immigration policy should be made higher priorities.

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WE Summit empowers leaders to 'own their power'

By ABIGAIL GRIECO

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Nearly 300 women gathered at the Crescent Beach Club in Bayville on Aug. 4 for the Long Island Herald's fourth annual Women's Executive Summit, a day focused on leadership, health, wealth and personal growth.

This year's "Own Your Power" theme brought leaders across industries to share insights on overcoming challenges, building confidence and seizing opportunities.

The event featured keynote presentations, panel discussions and interactive sessions designed to help attendees invest in themselves and their futures.

The day began with a warm-up session, "Be the CEO of You," led by Susan Gatti, founder of Disruptive Spark Group. Gatti encouraged attendees to reflect on their goals and identify what they hoped to gain from the summit.

"We make an investment in ourselves when we come to an event like this, but what we really want is a change," Gatti said. "The change won't happen here. It will happen after."

Through a values-based activity, Gatti helped participants focus on their priorities and use those values as a guide for making decisions.

Opening remarks were delivered by Stuart Richner and Amy Amato of Richner Communications and RichnerLIVE, followed by remarks from Mistress of Ceremonies Kristin Thorne, a five-time Emmy Award-winning investigative reporter with the Law & Crime Network.

"Owning your power means believing in yourself, even when someone else does not," Amato said. "It means having the courage to launch the business, ask for the promotion, negotiate your salary, take care of your health, build your financial future, and become the leader you were meant to be."

Patricia Charlemagne, EdD, JD from Girls Inc. of Long Island was honored by Richner Communications with the Community Impact award, recognizing her leadership and commitment to empowering girls from across the region. Proceeds from the event benefited the nonprofit.

The first panel, "Own Your



Photos by Tim Baker and Holden Leeds/Herald

Hundreds of powerful executives and entrepreneurs attended the fourth annual Women's Executives Summit earlier this month.

Voice," explored leadership and confidence. Moderated by Sharon Wyman, president and CEO of Discover Long Island, the discussion featured Lillian Paley, vice president of business development at Silver Lining Homecare Agency; Palmina Whelan, capital program director for The New Terminal One; Carina Tom, president of NU World Connect Title LLC; and Suzette Gordon, president and CEO of SCO Family of Services.

Panelists shared personal stories about overcoming self-doubt, entering male-dominated industries and learning to advocate for themselves.

Whelan reflected on being one of the only women in aviation construction meetings early in her career.

"No one is going to speak for me, no one is going to promote me, no one is going to be my cheerleader," she said. "I realized I had to own my voice."

The summit also featured two blocks of "Power Sessions" covering topics such as hospitality, self-care, branding, productivity and personal development.

During the "Own Your Health" panel, moderated by Kristyn Hodgdon, co-founder and chief creative officer of Rescripted, experts discussed the importance of women advocating for their health and understanding their bodies at every stage of life.

The panel included Dr. Helen Hsieh, founder and medical director of Vibrance 360; Linda Mashkabova, founder of The Beauty Cellar NY; Elly Rozengurtel, DPT, of Ideal Body Med Spa; and Dr. Meredith Vandegrift, board-certified plastic surgeon at Vandegrift Plastic Surgery.

Speakers encouraged women to move beyond simply "feeling fine" and instead focus on achieving their best health.

"Fine is not the same as feeling your optimal best," Mashkabova said, emphasizing the importance of listening to one's body and seeking answers when something feels wrong.

The "Own Your Wealth" panel focused on financial independence and preparation. Moderated by Elisa De Jesus, senior vice president and private client advisor at Bank of America, the discussion featured Kerri Winans Kaley of The Bristol Assisted Living, Michelle Moreira-Jodice of Valley Bank, Jessica Rondash of Holt Construction and Christina Rosas of Bond, Schoeneck & King PLLC.

Panelists stressed the importance of financial literacy, asking questions and staying engaged in financial decisions.

"Financial confidence doesn't come from knowing all the answers," Moreira-Jodice said. "It comes from asking the right questions and building trusted relationships."

The summit concluded with two keynote presentations. Carrie Skowronski, CEO of Leadology, delivered "Dare to Lead: Reimagine Leadership for the Modern Workplace," discussing mindset, growth and stepping outside comfort zones.

Skowronski encouraged attendees to embrace challenges and recognize their own strengths.

"In order to own our power, we have to name our power," she said.

Renee Flagler, president of the National CARES Mentoring Movement, closed the event with "A Life Inspired by Passion & Purpose," sharing her journey from storyteller and writer to community leader.

Flagler encouraged women to recognize their talents and use them in service of others.

"Passion is the vehicle that gets us to our purpose," she said. "Take your gifts, indulge your passion, let it lead you to your purpose and serve your people."

Throughout the day, attendees were reminded that leadership is not defined by titles or positions, but by confidence, resilience and the willingness to create meaningful change.

For more photos, click here: <https://richnerlive.com/richner-event/womens-executive-summit/>

For more info on RichnerLive, click here: <https://richnerlive.com/>



From the Own Your Health panel, panelists, left, Helen Hsieh, MD, FACOG, Vibrance 360; Linda Mashkabova, FNP, The Beauty Cellar NY; Meredith Vandegrift, MD, FACS Vandegrift Plastic Surgery; Elly Rozengurtel, DPT, Ideal Body Med Spa.



Herald Publisher, Stuart Richner, left, and Executive Director, Amy Amato, surprised Executive Director, Patricia Charlemagne, EdD, JD from Girls Inc. of Long Island with the Community Impact Award, event emcee Kristin Thorne at right.



Justine Del Prete, left, with ARC Excess & Surplus, Claudia Rodriguez of RichnerLive, Izabella Bobkiewicz and Agnieszka Supel representing Merrill Lynch Bank of America Corporation, Jenna Grasso of The Retreat, Catherine Fee of Empire Government Strategies, and Bridget Mantello with the Association for Mental Health and Wellness.



The Own Your Voice panel: Moderator Sharon Wyman, left, CDME Discover Long Island, with panelists Suzette Gordon, of SCO Family of Services, Carina Tom, of NU World Connect Title, Lillian Paley with Silver Lining Homecare Agency, and Palmina Whelan of The New Terminal One.



Moderator Elisa De Jesus, left, of Bank of America led the Own Your Wealth Panel with panelists Kerri Winans Kaley, CSA, representing The Bristol Assisted Living, Jessica Rondash of Holt Construction, Michelle Moreira-Jodice, of Valley Bank, and Christina M. Rosas, with Bond Schoeneck & King PLLC.



Carolynn Eiple and Judith Rivera with CareFirst Home Solutions.



CEO Lab Founder & Executive Consultant Natasha Zaytseva was another Power Session speaker.



People's Alliance Federal Union CEO Carol Allen, left, with VP of Business Development & Marketing Jennifer Gunn.



Closing Keynote speaker Renee Daniel Flagler, president of the National CARES Mentoring Movement Inc., left the crowd with a powerful message — A Life Inspired By Passion & Purpose.



Jo Marie Sacco, left, of Jo Marie Hair and Beauty and Dr. Stephanie Cooper, with Greenberg Cosmetic Surgery and Dermatology enjoyed the exhibit.



Power Session speaker Tammy J. Cohen, of TC Brand Consulting spoke during the second power session.



Photos courtesy Gaitley Stevenson Mathews

The Massapequa Philharmonic performed a patriotic program at Morgan Memorial Park on Aug. 16 as part of the Morgan Park Summer Music Festival's 67th season.

Philharmonic celebrates USA's birthday

The Massapequa Philharmonic Orchestra brought a patriotic program to Glen Cove on Aug. 16 as part of the Morgan Park Summer Music Festival's 67th season.

The free concert, held at Morgan Memorial Park, celebrated the nation's upcoming 250th anniversary with an evening of music highlighting American composers and some of the country's best-known musical traditions.

Conducted by David Bernard, the Massapequa Philharmonic performed a program that included works by Aaron Copland, George Gershwin and Richard Rodgers and Oscar Hammerstein II. The selections reflected the concert's patriotic theme while showcasing the diversity of American music, from orchestral works to Broadway favorites.

The performance drew residents and visitors to the waterfront park, where audience members gathered to listen to the orchestra against the backdrop of Long Island Sound. The concert was part of the city's longstanding Morgan Park Summer Music Festival, which has brought free outdoor performances to Glen Cove for decades.

The festival's 2026 season features nine concerts, continuing a tradition that gives local residents the opportunity to enjoy live music outdoors throughout the summer. Concerts are held at Morgan Memorial Park and are free to the public.

The Massapequa Philharmonic has performed at Morgan Park in previous years, making its return a familiar part of the festival lineup. The orchestra, which has been performing on Long Island for decades, presents classical and pops programs throughout the region.

The Aug. 16 concert also served as one of the festival's featured events during a year of nationwide celebrations marking 250 years since the signing of the Declaration of Independence.

—Roksana Amid



Singing accompanied the Massapequa Philharmonic during its Aug. 16 performance at Morgan Memorial Park as part of the Morgan Park Summer Music Festival.



Audience members settled into lawn chairs at Morgan Memorial Park to enjoy the Massapequa Philharmonic Orchestra's performance on Aug. 16.



Families gathered at Morgan Memorial Park on Aug. 16 to enjoy the Massapequa Philharmonic Orchestra's performance as part of the Morgan Park Summer Music Festival.



Families and friends came together to enjoy the music and make memories during the Morgan Park Summer Music Festival.

Clinic inspired by entrepreneurship program

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1
always there and to think about that in the back of my mind.”

Lichota began developing the idea this winter, after taking part in the school’s innovators program. What initially seemed like a small project eventually became a larger effort, including a fundraising campaign that brought in \$15,000 in three weeks. Donations have since increased the total to nearly \$20,000, she said.

“I was thinking at first it would be this little thing,” Lichota recalled, “and people would come to my school and use their tennis courts and stuff like that, but then it turned into something way bigger.”

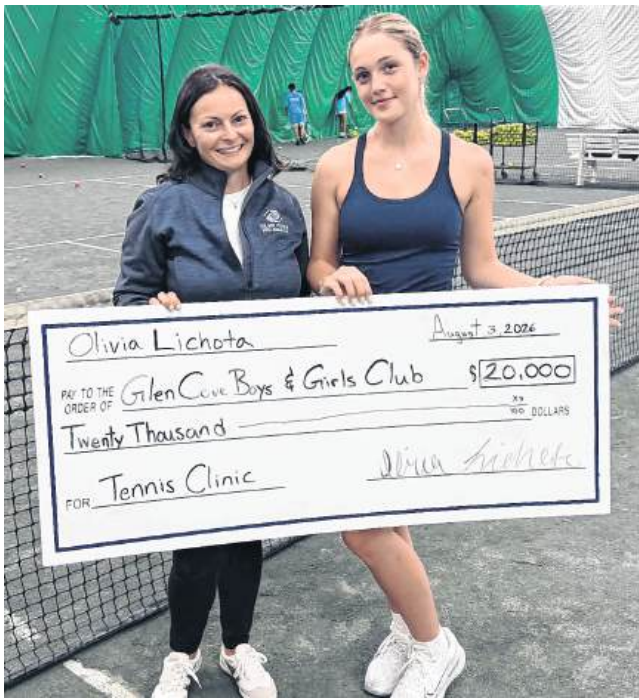
Lichota has played at the training center for years, and worked with coaches there to set up the weekly program, securing three coaches and three courts. The children begin with stretching and muscle-loosening exercises before moving into tennis drills and games. Lichota plays alongside them, helping them become comfortable with the sport.

“(The clinic is) just there for them to have fun and just learn the basics of tennis,” she said, “because some of them never even picked up a racket before.”

Lichota has played tennis since she was 3, and attended tennis programs at IMG Academy in Florida. The sport has also helped her develop confidence, she said. At one point, she considered quitting because of the anxiety she felt before she competed, but she ultimately continued playing.

Now, she said, watching the children play has been one of the most rewarding parts of the project.

“Seeing them laughing and all talking and playing together, even playing against each other, is just so fun to watch,” she said. “People aren’t, like, stressed or scared or anything like that, because everyone’s super comfortable, and that just makes me so happy to watch



Courtesy Friends Academy

Olivia Lichota, right, raised \$20,000 for a nonprofit clinic at the Glen Cove Boys & Girls Club. With her was the club’s executive director, Franca Trunzo.

and see that everyone’s having fun and enjoying it.”

Molly Gia Foresta, a world history and entrepreneurship teacher at Friends Academy, taught Lichota in the school’s entrepreneurship courses. She said that Lichota stood out because of her willingness to develop ideas and collaborate with other students.

“She’s an entrepreneur. That’s who she is,” Foresta

said. “She’s a natural in that regard; she has ideas and she makes them happen.”

The entrepreneurship program emphasizes social entrepreneurship, with students working with non-profit organizations and businesses to address real-world challenges. Students meet with entrepreneurs, learn about their organizations and then develop potential solutions through research, brainstorming and design thinking.

Lichota’s tennis clinic, Foresta said, is a natural extension of that approach. Lichota completed both levels of the entrepreneurship program, and in the second course she developed an app called Wake Up Together, which was designed to connect users with accountability partners who could help them get out of bed in the morning.

“There’s a variety of different organizations that we partner with, but it’s great because the challenges are real,” Foresta said. “They’re complex, they’re urgent and they demand concrete deliverables.”

In the classes, Lichota learned about developing ideas, problem-solving, marketing and fundraising, skills she later applied to her tennis initiative.

Daniel Mendel, Friends’ dean of innovation and chair of the English department, said the entrepreneurship program is part of a broader collection of innovative courses designed to put students in real-world situations, working with businesses, nonprofits and professionals and developing research-based solutions to actual problems.

“This is a student who really took initiative,” Mendel said of Lichota. “It speaks to the value of our academic program that they were inspired by one of our particular courses, and one of our particular teachers, Molly, is excellent at inspiring students to think outside of the box, to really care about more than school.”

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MSSN recognized for pancreatitis care

By ABIGAIL GRIECO
agrieco@liherald.com

Mount Sinai South Nassau has been designated an Adult Pancreatitis Center of Excellence by the National Pancreas Foundation, recognizing the Oceanside hospital's commitment to providing comprehensive, multidisciplinary care for patients with pancreatic diseases.

The designation follows a rigorous audit and review process by the foundation, which evaluates hospitals based on their expertise, patient support services and ability to deliver coordinated, high-quality care. Mount Sinai South Nassau was recognized for its team-based approach to treating pancreatitis and its focus on improving patient outcomes and quality of life.

The hospital is already designated as a National Pancreas Foundation Pancreatic Cancer Center of Excellence, making it one of only three hospitals on Long Island to earn both distinctions.

The foundation's criteria were developed by a task force of pancreatic disease clinicians and patient advocates. The review considers a hospital's expertise across multiple specialties, including gastroenterology, pancreatic surgery and interventional radiology, as well as access to supportive services such as pain management, nutrition, psychosocial support and coordinated patient resources.

"We are committed to continuously improving quality and providing compassionate, patient-centered care," said Dr. Joshua Kugler, interim president of Mount Sinai South Nassau. "That commitment combined with teamwork and collaboration helps us deliver outstanding care and achieve the best possible outcomes for our patients."

Under the leadership of Dr. Bhanu Singh, interim chief of gastroenterology and hepatology, Mount Sinai South Nassau's Pancreatitis Program provides specialized care for patients with acute and chronic pancreatitis, as well as other complex pancreatic disorders.

The program focuses on accurate diagnosis, personalized treatment plans and both short- and long-term disease management tailored to each patient's medical needs. The team includes specialists in pancreatology and advanced pancreaticobiliary endoscopy, along with experts in pancreatic surgery, interventional radiology, pain management, nutrition, endocrinology, genetics and other fields.

Through this collaborative approach, patients have access to advanced diagnostic evaluations, therapeutic endoscopic procedures and comprehensive medical management while benefiting from communication among specialists throughout their treatment.

"The National Pancreas Foundation designation reflects our commitment to



Courtesy MSSN

Mount Sinai South Nassau has been designated an Adult Pancreatitis Center of Excellence by the National Pancreas Foundation, recognizing the Oceanside hospital's commitment to providing comprehensive, multidisciplinary care for patients with pancreatic diseases.

delivering comprehensive, multidisciplinary care for patients with pancreatitis," Singh said. "Pancreatic diseases are often complex and require expertise across multiple specialties. By integrating medical, endoscopic, surgical and supportive care expertise, we are able to provide personalized treatment plans that address not only the disease itself, but also the long-term health and quality of life of every patient we serve."

In addition to clinical care, Mount Sinai South Nassau's Pancreatitis Program is dedicated to advancing treatment through education, research and

collaboration. The hospital's designation as a National Pancreas Foundation Center of Excellence provides patients with access to evidence-based therapies and coordinated care throughout their treatment journey.

Founded in 1997, the National Pancreas Foundation is dedicated to supporting patients affected by pancreatic diseases, including pancreatitis and pancreatic cancer. The organization funds research, advocates for improved therapies and provides education and resources for patients, caregivers and health care professionals.



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Northwell has age-friendly health system

Northwell Health has been recognized as one of the country’s leading age-friendly health systems, earning an elite designation from the Institute for Healthcare Improvement that places it among 14 health systems nationwide to receive the distinction.

The recognition highlights Northwell’s efforts to provide evidence-based, person-centered care for older adults across its health system, including at Glen Cove Hospital. The designation recognizes health systems that have demonstrated a commitment to incorporating age-friendly practices into care and making the needs, preferences and goals of older patients a central part of treatment.

“This is a pivotal moment for the Northwell Institute for Healthy Aging and our commitment to transforming care for older adults both within and beyond our health system,” said Maria Carney, M.D., president of Glen Cove Hospital, executive director of the Northwell Institute for Healthy Aging, and system chief of geriatrics and palliative medicine.

The Age-Friendly Health Systems initiative, developed by the Institute for Healthcare Improvement and The John A. Hartford Foundation, focuses on four key areas known as the “4Ms”: What Matters, Medication, Mentation and Mobility.

The framework is designed to ensure that health care providers understand what matters most to older adults, review medications for potential problems, address issues affecting memory and mental health, and help patients maintain their ability to move safely and independently.

“Research shows that when all 4Ms are provided together to each older adult, patient care and outcomes are improved,” Carney said.

The four areas are intended to work together rather than address individual concerns in isolation. “What



Courtesy Northwell

Dr. Maria Carney checks her patient’s vital signs. Northwell Health was recognized for its age-friendly, compassionate care.

Matters” focuses on understanding an older adult’s health goals, care preferences and priorities and aligning treatment with those wishes.

Medication encourages providers to review whether medications may interfere with an older adult’s health, daily activities or quality of life. Mentation addresses conditions such as dementia, depression and delirium, while mobility focuses on helping older adults maintain strength, movement and independence.

“These interventions are thoughtful and practical approaches that dramatically improve safety and patient experience,” Carney said.

For Northwell, the approach is part of a broader effort to make age-friendly care a consistent part of interactions between older adults and their health care providers. The health system has been involved in age-friendly initiatives for several years, building on clinical care, research and education programs focused on healthy aging.

Glen Cove Hospital is among the Northwell facilities recognized as an Age-Friendly Health System by the Institute for Healthcare Improvement. The designation reflects the hospital’s participation in efforts to incorporate the 4Ms into care for older adults.

The emphasis on age-friendly care comes as the health care needs of older adults become increasingly complex. Rather than focusing only on a specific medical condition, the 4Ms framework encourages providers to consider the whole patient and how treatment fits into that person’s daily life and goals.

The approach also encourages conversations with patients and caregivers about what they hope to maintain or regain, from independence and mobility to spending time with family or continuing meaningful activities.

“Every older adult deserves to receive evidence-based, age-friendly care focused on what matters most to each individual,” Carney said.

The latest recognition highlights Northwell’s effort to make caring for older adults more personalized, coordinated and focused on quality of life, while extending age-friendly practices beyond individual hospitals and into the broader health care system.

-Roksana Amid

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VIEWFINDER • What helps you get back into your routine after summer break?

Compiled by Herald Staff

15

GLEN COVE HERALD — August 20, 2026

Trici Broderick —
Reading teacher,
Jennie E. Hewitt Elementary School

I take time to reflect on the past school year — celebrating what went well, recognizing my own growth and identifying where I can improve. I think about my students, their successes and needs, and set meaningful goals. I also recharge by researching best practices, reading books and articles, seeking new ideas that will help me grow as an educator and better support every learner.

Courtesy Trici Broderick



Joanna Krul, Malverne

In order to get back into my routine at Hewlett High School, I always look through my rosters a few days in advance so I can get a sense of what my classroom community might look like. I also like to come up with new math-related icebreakers to help my students feel more comfortable, build their confidence and start the year with a positive mindset.

Courtesy Joanna Krul



Caroline Ghiuro
Oceanside, age 9

Some things that help me are making sure everything I need for school is ready. I pick out a new backpack and lunchbox. I also go shopping for new outfits to wear and start going to sleep a little earlier.

Tim Baker/Herald



Ace Ortiz —
Inwood, age 8

I start by going to bed early. Getting my backpack and clothes ready the night before helps me get back into my school routine.

Courtesy Angela Ortiz



Nevzat Arda Agir
Bayville, age 17

Just like every year, going back to school is exciting, but this year is especially meaningful because it's my senior year. I'm looking forward to seeing my friends and teachers again. As an athlete, my sleep schedule stayed pretty consistent over the summer, but I still start adjusting by setting my alarm to school time about a week before classes begin.

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History behind the museum

By ROKSANA AMID

ramid@liherald.com

The North Shore Historical Museum preserves the people, places and events that shaped Glen Cove and surrounding North Shore communities. Here are three things to know about the museum.

1

■ Its building is part of the history

The museum is housed in Glen Cove’s former Justices Court Building at 140 Glen St. Constructed in 1907, the building is listed on the state and national registers of historic places.

Sterling Glen of Glen Cove donated the former courthouse to the museum, and the building was restored to serve as its permanent home. Some of its original features remain part of the visitor experience, including the judges’ chambers and a jail cell.

The museum preserves and interprets the history of Long Island’s North Shore, including the Gold Coast era, through its collections, exhibitions and public programs.

2

■ Exhibits highlight local stories

The museum presents rotating exhibitions alongside permanent displays about North Shore history. Exhibits like, “The Shot Heard Round the World,” examines the region’s history from 1776 to 2026 as the nation marks the 250th anniversary of American independence.

Their exhibits use artifacts, historical books and explanatory text to explore the North Shore’s involvement in the Revolutionary War and its experience during the British occupation of Long Island. It also includes photographs and a commemorative flag from Glen Cove’s 1976 Bicentennial celebration.

Permanent displays cover subjects including the Harlem Hellfighters, Glen Cove businesses, local maps and the work of artist George Gách.

3

■ Programs bring history to life

The museum offers lectures, community events and educational programs intended to make local history accessible to visitors of different ages.

Its mock trial program gives students an opportunity to portray attorneys and witnesses inside the former courthouse. The program includes a tour of the building and one or two scripted civil or criminal trials. It is designed primarily for students in grades four through 12 and can be adjusted for participants’ ages and reading levels.

The museum is open Saturdays and Sundays from noon to 4 p.m. Mock trials are scheduled by request. For information about exhibits and upcoming programs, visit northshorehistorical-museum.org



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Summertime cuisine's fresh appeal

Keep the backyard sizzle going

By Karen Bloom

Summer hasn't left us yet, so we surely want to keep firing up the grill. As August winds down, backyard gatherings, poolside get-togethers and easy weeknight meals continue to call for the smoky, flame-kissed flavors that make grilling a summertime favorite.

But late summer is also a good time to move beyond the usual burgers and hot dogs. From grilled vegetables and seafood to perfectly seared steaks and creative takes on familiar favorites, a little variety can bring new life to the backyard menu.

Whether you're keeping things casual or adding a touch of elegance to an end-of-summer soirée, the grill offers plenty of possibilities. So before summer slips away, turn up the heat and try something a little different.

Chicken Kebabs

With their easy preparation and quick cooking time, kebabs are a simple way to enjoy many of your favorite fresh flavors.

- 1/4 cup plus 1 tablespoon spicy brown mustard
- 2 tablespoons olive oil
- 1/4 teaspoon garlic powder
- 1 tablespoon white wine vinegar
- 1 pound raw boneless skinless chicken breast, cut into 1-inch cubes
- 1/4 teaspoon each of salt and black pepper
- 1 medium red onion, cut into 1-inch chunks

To make sauce, place 3 tablespoons mustard in medium bowl. Add oil and garlic powder, and whisk until uniform. Cover and refrigerate.

To make marinade, in small bowl, combine vinegar with remaining 2 tablespoons mustard. Stir until uniform.

Season chicken with salt and pepper. Place

chicken and marinade in large sealable plastic bag. Remove as much air as possible and seal. Gently knead marinade into chicken through bag. Refrigerate for 1 hour.

Meanwhile, if using wooden skewers, soak 4 in water for 20 minutes to prevent burning.

Alternately thread marinated chicken and onion chunks onto 4 skewers. Bring grill to medium-high heat.

Brush both sides of kebabs with sauce. Grill kebabs for 5 minutes with grill cover down.

Flip kebabs and grill for 6 to 8 minutes, or until chicken is cooked through. Enjoy.

Grilled Skirt Steak with Roasted Corn Salad

A quick and easy marinated grilled skirt steak will spice up any gathering. Pair it with a roasted corn salad that embodies the season's fresh flavors — a mixture of corn, tomato, red onion, basil, and avocado.

- 1 1/2 pounds skirt steak, cut into 4-inch pieces
- 1/3 cup Tabasco Chipotle Pepper Sauce
- 1 tablespoon ground cumin
- 1 large garlic clove, crushed

In a large bowl, combine chipotle pepper sauce, cumin and garlic; add skirt steaks. Toss to mix well; cover and refrigerate at least 30 minutes or overnight.

Preheat grill to high. Grill skirt steak about 5 minutes, or until of desired doneness, turning once. To serve, plate steak with corn salad.

Corn Salad:

- 4 ears corn on the cob, shucked
- 2 large tomatoes, chopped
- 1 small red onion, diced
- 1 ripe avocado, peeled, pitted and diced
- 2 tablespoons fresh chopped basil

- 2 tablespoons lime juice
- 2 tablespoons extra-virgin olive oil
- 1 tablespoon Tabasco Chipotle Pepper Sauce
- 1/4 teaspoon salt

To prepare corn salad: Preheat grill to medium. Grill corn about 5 to 10 minutes, turning frequently, until tender-crisp. When cool enough to handle, cut corn from cob. In medium bowl, combine corn, tomatoes, red onion, avocado, basil, lime juice, olive oil, chipotle pepper sauce to taste, and salt; toss to mix well.

Spiced Sweet Potatoes

A simple spice rub makes a tasty complement to grilled sweet potatoes, adding some extra zest that gives potatoes some pizzas.

- 4 medium sweet potatoes (about 3 pounds), scrubbed well
- 1 teaspoon coarse sea salt
- 1 teaspoon ground cumin
- 1 teaspoon paprika
- 1/2 teaspoon ground cinnamon
- 1/2 teaspoon chipotle powder
- 2 tablespoons cider vinegar
- 1/4 cup extra-virgin olive oil

Cover potatoes with cold salted water in a large pot, then bring to a boil. Simmer until slightly resistant when pierced with a sharp small knife, 5 to 7 minutes. Drain well. When cool, slice potatoes lengthwise.

Mix together salt, spices and apple cider vinegar; add oil in a slow stream. Brush this mixture on sweet potatoes.

Grill potatoes on a lightly oiled grill rack over medium heat, until grill marks appear and potatoes are cooked through, about 15 minutes.

Serve potatoes warm.



Chance the Rapper

Chance the Rapper's 2016 mixtape *Coloring Book* just turned 10, and he's on tour to celebrate. Chance takes a victory lap built around the project that won three Grammys in one night, broke streaming-only records, and turned him from a Chicago underground hero into a generational artist. The *Coloring Book* itself instantly reshaped what a hip-hop record could be. It became the first streaming-only project to win a Grammy, and it earned Chance Best New Artist, Best Rap Album, and Best Rap Performance in a single trip to the podium. Songs like "No Problem," "Same Drugs," "All Night," "Blessings," "Angels," and "Summer Friends" turned into staples of a generation's playlists — and fans have been waiting a decade to hear them performed live in full.

Friday, Aug. 21, 8 p.m. Tickets available at ticketmaster.com or paramountry.com. The Paramount, 370 New York Ave., Huntington.



Celtic Festival and Highland Games

The sounds of bagpipes, the rhythm of Irish step dancing and the spectacle of Highland Games return to Old Westbury Gardens. The refreshed edition of its annual summer festival celebrates the rich Scottish Irish and Welsh traditions woven into Long Island's Celtic communities. The Highland Games remain a centerpiece, featuring centuries-old tests of strength including the caber toss, sheaf toss and stone put. Entertainment for all ages, including performances by songwriter-vocalist Andy Cooney, acclaimed as "Irish America's favorite son," and others; along with and tempting eats and a marketplace round out the day.

Saturday, Aug. 22, 8 a.m.-5 p.m. Tickets at oldwestburygardens.org. 71 Old Westbury Road, Old Westbury.

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CALENDAR

AUG 20 **On exhibit**
Louis Comfort Tiffany: Artist of the Gilded Age brings together the Nassau County Museum of Art's unparalleled collection of more than 130 oil and watercolor paintings by one of America's most celebrated artists. This landmark exhibition marks the first time the museum presents the full scope of its Tiffany paintings, an extraordinary group made possible through a generous, anonymous gift that represents the largest private collection of Tiffany paintings. While Tiffany is best known for his stained-glass windows, lamps, and decorative objects, this exhibition highlights a rarely seen dimension of his artistic practice: the paintings that he personally created at the beginning of his career. Through Nov. 8.

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

Creative Spirits: Stained Glass, Restoration & the Art of Light
Step into the luminous world of stained glass at Planting Fields as conservator and artist Alyssa Fiehel takes guests behind the scenes of one of the oldest and most captivating art forms in history. In this special edition of Creative Spirits, explore the evolution of stained glass. Part history, part art, and part preservation story, this immersive evening offers a rare opportunity to experience the intersection of craftsmanship and conservation while enjoying themed cocktails inspired by the artistry of stained glass. Registration required.

- **Where:** 1395 Planting Fields Road, Oyster Bay
- **Time:** 6-8 p.m.
- **Contact:** plantingfields.org or call (516) 922-9210

AUG 22 **Erosion Explosion/Geology Beach Walk**
Families can observe the power of nature up close at Garvies Point Museum's Erosion Explosion and Geology Beach Walk. Watch a large-scale stream table demonstrate how moving water shapes the landscape, then head outdoors to explore the museum's rocky beach and nature preserve, where you'll discover the unique geological features of Long Island's shoreline. Sneakers are recommended.



SEP 1 **Melissa Etheridge**
Known for her confessional lyrics and raspy, smoky vocals, Melissa Etheridge ("I'm the Only One" "Come to My Window," "I Want to Come Over.") has remained one of America's favorite female singers since bursting onto the scene in 1988. Etheridge performs songs from her new album, Rise, and her hits. "I chose to survive," Melissa Etheridge sings on "Being Alive," the powerful, exuberant opening song of the Academy Award- and Grammy Award-winning artist's 17th studio album, "Rise." She then takes a pause, the flurry of her guitar and her bandmates' boisterous sounds fading out, before she practically shouts with unbridled joy: "God I love being alive!" The words say so much. But in that pause — just a few seconds long — it's as if she's reflecting on everything that has happened in her life since she last released an album of new material, 2019's "The Medicine Show," and all that is to come on this remarkable, emotional mosaic of songs. Etheridge is known for powerful rock vocals, emotional songwriting, and live shows that feel both personal and energetic. Her concerts usually move between bigger sing-along songs, slower emotional moments, and the kind of tracks that let her voice really take over the room. That balance is a big reason her live shows connect so strongly with the audience. The Rise Tour carries that same feel, with a set that blends the songs fans know best with newer material.

- **Where:** 50 Barry Drive, Glen Cove
- **Time:** 11 a.m.-noon and 2-3 p.m.
- **Contact:** garviespointmuseum.com or (516) 561-8010

Deep Roots Farmers Market
Shop fresh, locally grown produce, baked goods, specialty foods and handcrafted products at the Deep Roots Farmers Market. The weekly market brings together local farmers, food vendors and artisans, offering residents a chance to support small businesses while enjoying a vibrant community gathering in downtown Glen Cove.

- **Where:** 100 Village Square, Glen Cove
- **Time:** 9 a.m.-1 p.m.

AUG 23 **Hempstead House Tour**
See the grand rooms inside the massive 50,000-square-foot Tudor-style mansion at Sands Point Preserve, the former summer residence of Howard Gould (1912-1917) and later Daniel and Florence Guggenheim (1917-1930). For adults, but children 5+ are allowed. \$10 per person.

- **Where:** 127 Middle Neck Road, Sands Point
- **Time:** Noon and 1:30 p.m., also Aug. 26
- **Contact:** sandspointpreserveconservancy.org or call (516) 571-7901

Ice House Jams
Enjoy live music — free with park admission — at Sands Point Preserve's new outdoor gathering space in the woods behind Castle Gould: the Ice House! Curated by Homebrew Music, these sessions bring the best local artists to the cozy pond-side spot for select Sundays throughout summer. Relax on lounge furniture, explore the trails and let the music set the mood. Weather permitting.

- **Where:** 127 Middle Neck Road, Sands Point
- **Time:** Noon-3 p.m.; through August
- **Contact:** sandspointpreserveconservancy.org or call (516) 571-7901

AUG 25 **Summer Breeze Blowout**
Celebrate the end of summer with an unforgettable outdoor concert on Sands Point

Preserve's Great with The Everly Set. Bringing the timeless sound of the legendary Everly Brothers to life, The Everly Set captivates audiences with soaring harmonies, exceptional musicianship, and irresistible charm. Featuring acclaimed performers Sean Altman and Jack Skuller, the group performs beloved classics that helped define the sound of rock and roll, including "Bye Bye Love," "Wake Up Little Susie," and "All I Have to Do Is Dream." Their dynamic stage presence and authentic harmonies create a nostalgic, feel-good experience that will have audiences singing along, dancing, and celebrating summer's final days. Rain or shine. \$35 per car in advance, \$50 per car day of concert.

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

Harmonize with Long Island Harmonizers
Love to sing? So do the Long Island Harmonizers. The Barbershop Harmony Society chapter is a chorus of more than 20 singers, now welcoming new members. The ensemble performs four-part a cappella harmony in the barbershop

style, entertaining audiences at libraries, assisted living facilities, hospitals, and local events. All are welcome to visit one of their weekly rehearsals. Come listen, meet the chorus, and — if you'd like — join in and sing. No musical experience is necessary, just a love of singing and a desire to have fun making music together.

- **Where:** Faith Lutheran Church, 231 Jackson Ave, Syosset
- **When:** Tuesdays, 7:30-9:30 p.m.
- **Contact:** Call: Rich, (516) 521-4779, or Dennis, (516) 680-8036, or visit longislandharmonizers.org

AUG 26 **Locust Valley Garden Club Bunco Party**
Join in a Bunco Party at the Locust Valley Library, sponsored by the Locust Valley Garden Club. Come and play! Open to non-members! Cash prizes, raffles, and refreshments will be provided. \$20 per person. Reserve your seat early as space is limited.

- **Where:** 170 Buckram Road, Locust Valley
- **Time:** 1-3 p.m.
- **Contact:** RSVP to Jane Benstock at (516) 987-9912 or jpbstock@gmail.com

AUG 30 **13th Annual Nicholas Pedone 5K Run/Walk**
Support children battling pediatric cancer during the 13th Annual Nicholas Pedone 5K Run/Walk, hosted by the Nicholas Pedone Foundation. The community event includes a 5K run/walk, a fun run for children ages 10 and younger, post-race refreshments and entertainment. All proceeds benefit the foundation's mission to support children and families affected by childhood cancer.

- **Where:** Glen Cove High School, 150 Dosoris Lane, Glen Cove
- **Time:** 8:15 a.m. (fun run); 9 a.m. (5K run/ralk)
- **Contact:** Info@fighthardsmilebig.org

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.

New motion to dismiss Propel filed with PSC

By JULIA CAPITELLI
jcapitelli@liherald.com

The Village of Sea Cliff and the Village of East Hills, along with Protect Our Coast LINY Inc., the Property Owners' Association of North Shore Acres, the Gold Coast Business Association, The Self-Consolidated Parties, and several individuals on the North Shore have filed a joint motion to dismiss Propel NY Energy to the state Public Service Commission. A correction was later issued, adding B2bespoke Inc., the Greenvale Civic Association and several more individuals to the list of parties.

The commission has to answer the threshold question before anything else.

BRUCE KENNEDY
Sea Cliff Village
Administrator

Comments are filed in response to the second phase of Propel's Environmental Management and Construction Plans, which are supposed to show how Propel will meet the parameters established by developers New York Power Authority and NY Transco in their joint proposal.

Propel was selected in 2023 by the New York Independent System Operator to satisfy the Long Island Offshore Wind Export Public Policy Transmission Need. Several offshore wind projects have been cancelled since, and Propel has been rebranded as "energy-agnostic" meaning it can carry any kind of energy. Propel representatives have said that the project is not tied to any specific offshore wind or battery energy storage project. NYISO is responsible for determining what kind of power will flow on the lines.

"The commission has to answer the threshold question before anything else," Sea Cliff Village Administrator Bruce Kennedy said. "Does this \$3.26 billion project still have a demonstrated public need? And if not, let's come up with a better plan."

In the motion, parties ask the Public Service Commission to deny or dismiss Propel's application, defer approval or action on EM&CP phases one and two and to receive the Khazanovich Declaration. The declaration, by PSEG Long Island Senior Director of Strategy and Planning Lucyana Khazanovich, describes Propel's capabilities and limitations. It emerged after the record for evidence to be submitted was closed, but parties argue that the information should be considered before the PSC decides whether to grant Propel a Certificate of Environmental Compatibility and Public Need.

Propel Spokeswoman Marykate Guilfoyle wrote in a statement that the project team has done community outreach, incorporating stakeholder feedback and

North Shore, Roslyn and Syosset school districts previously filed a joint motion to dismiss Propel in July. The motion comes as comments



The Village of Sea Cliff, along with the Village of East Hills, other organizations and several individuals filed a motion to dismiss Propel NY Energy with the Public Service Commission.

conducting environmental studies. "We are committed to delivering a project that will help prevent blackouts and brownouts on Long Island," she wrote, "while protecting Hempstead Harbor through robust environmental safeguards, proven construction methods, and regular monitoring."

EM&CP Phase 2 addresses plans for horizontal directional drilling, creating tunnels under a waterway or other area for cables to be installed. Appendix AC-2 states that avoiding direct impacts on hard clam habitat is not possible because of widespread distribution in Hempstead Harbor. It adds that Propel assumes 100 percent mortality for "hard clams within bore disturbance and vessel anchoring."

Representatives say that "direct sea-floor disturbance" will be in less than 0.0001 percent of the harbor and claim they are not anticipating measurable impacts on the overall hard clam population. The EM&CP states that the HDD workspace will be roughly 2.81 acres and that temporary disturbance for activities may occur across 5.62 acres. It adds that "the actual HDD bore disturbance" at the point where the drill head emerges after completing the initial path will be roughly 13 square feet.

Kennedy described the clam mortality at HDD sites as "unacceptable." EM&CP Phase 2 also does not include any plans for protecting oysters, which representatives claim were not found along the project's route and will not be reached by disturbed sediment.

Nine municipalities are part of the Hempstead Harbor Protection Committee, one local organization dedicated to ensuring the health of the harbor.

Concerns have also been raised about

planning details, such as determining property rights, being deferred to later phases of the project. Sea Cliff has patents from 1938, 1970 and 1975 showing the village acquired the rights to underwater land surrounding the village.

"We need a detailed plan showing exactly where they're going," Kennedy said, "and if in fact you do intend to trespass upon our rights, we need to know in advance, and we need to reach an agreement as it relates to that."

Propel representatives say property rights and environmental protections are being addressed through the PSC's review process that is standard for major transmission projects in the state.

Glen Head residents and activists against Propel Christine Panzeca and Doug Augenthaler described the planning process as "build as you go basis"

in their comments on EM&CP Phase 2.

NYISO found in a 2025 short-term assessment of reliability that reliability violations could begin on Long Island in 2027, "driven by a combination of proposed generator deactivations and rising consumer demand, transmission limitations, and risks associated with the availability of key future planned projects."

"If New York is really serious about serving the public interest in meeting Long Island's energy needs, then the \$3.2 billion should be reallocated and redirected to the true priority: reliable generation," Panzeca said. "We should be reinvesting in environmentally responsible upgrades to Northport and Barrett (power stations) to strengthen reliability and address our future energy needs here on Long Island."

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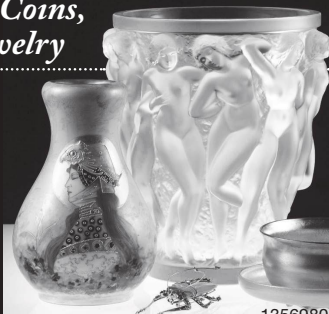
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OPINIONS

‘Fake news!’ – the rallying cry against reality

There’s fake news — and then there are fake accusations of fake news.

The first deserves condemnation. The second deserves our attention.

Fake news fabricates quotations, invents events, manipulates photos or knowingly reports things that never happened. It has existed for as long as journalism has existed, and it deserves every ounce of criticism it receives.



**MICHAEL
BLITZ**

But there’s another phenomenon, one that has become a defining feature of the current administration. It’s the increasingly routine practice of branding accurate, evidence-based

reporting as fake news simply because it’s politically inconvenient.

When journalists reported, accurately, that Joe Biden was the winner of the 2020 presidential election, Donald Trump and his supporters dismissed it as fake news. When other journalists *incorrectly* reported that Trump was the real winner and that there had been widespread election tampering, the fabrications were touted by Trump and his minions as true, accurate and intelligent. For this administration, the formula is simple: Facts are fake unless

they are praise. Journalists who don’t flatter the president can’t be trusted, the evidence they cite is “made up” and they’re probably traitors.

Imagine a basketball game in which one player drives an elbow squarely into an opponent’s face. The referee whistles a foul. Six cameras capture the play. Slow-motion replay confirms it. Twenty thousand fans watch it happen.

The offending player denies touching anyone. His coach accuses the officials of bias. Fans boo the referees. Sports talk radio personalities debate whether replay officials manipulated the video. Eventually, no one is discussing the elbow anymore. The argument has shifted to whether officials and cameras can be trusted at all.

That increasingly resembles the relationship between this administration and the American press.

Consider a few recent examples. When news organizations reported concerns about U.S. munitions stockpiles during the conflict with Iran, the response wasn’t merely to dispute the reporting. The stories were dismissed as fake news, and reporters and anonymous sources were attacked. Yet the administration itself has acknowledged the need to accelerate munitions production and replenish inventories.

When CNN reported the Pentagon’s own assessments of the military situation involving Iran, Defense Secretary Pete Hegseth couldn’t present contrary evidence. He just dismissed the reporting as “more fake news from CNN.”

When journalists reported that tariffs were likely to increase prices for many consumer goods — and businesses announced price increases — the administration repeatedly characterized much of the coverage as exaggerated or fictional.

In April 2025, the White House published a document entitled “100 Days of Hoaxes: Cutting Through the Fake News.” Rather

than identify fabricated stories one by one, it presented a broad catalog of unfavorable reporting that the administration characterized as hoaxes or fake news. The significance wasn’t whether each of the administration’s disputes with the press was right or wrong; it was that the accusation itself became an organized communications strategy rather than a response to demonstrably fabricated reporting.

Whether you agree with the administration’s policies is beside the point. People may be for or against the conflict with Iran, and may disagree with the ways it’s portrayed in the media. But if the Strait of Hormuz is still being blocked by Iranian ships, it isn’t

fake news to report the observable fact that the waterway is effectively closed to normal, unrestricted commercial shipping, with any limited transit strictly controlled and authorized only by Iran.

Journalists report legislation that Congress passes, rulings that judges actually issue, speeches that officials actually deliver, statistics that government agencies themselves release. If the reports don’t seem accurate, they should be challenged *with evidence* that fairly contradicts them. Crying “Fake news!” isn’t a reasoned expression of disagreement.

To be sure, democracy doesn’t require agreement. What it does require is a willingness to argue from a common body of observable facts. Americans disagree about taxes, immigration, war — and presidents. Thoughtful disagreement is healthy, and often clarifies an issue from all sides. But calling the reporting of facts an act of fakery isn’t thoughtful disagreement; it’s a calculated strategy to discourage thinking entirely.

The most dangerous fake news may no longer be fabricated journalism. It may be the fabricated *accusation* that truthful journalism is fake — a rallying cry not against the press, but against reality itself.

Michael Blitz is professor emeritus and former chair of interdisciplinary studies at the City University of New York’s John Jay College of Criminal Justice.

Long Island can solve Alzheimer’s

Long Island innovation has helped solve some of our country’s greatest challenges of the past. America needs our help again in a modern-day challenge, the fight against Alzheimer’s disease.



**CHARLES J.
FUSCHILLO JR.**

When the United States was plunged into World War II, Long Island aircraft manufacturers produced airplanes like the P-47 Thunderbolt and the F6F Hellcat, which helped lead our country to victory in Europe and the Pacific.

After President John F. Kennedy set the seemingly impossible goal of landing a man on the moon before the end of the 1960s, less than three weeks after America’s first-ever manned spaceflight on May 5, 1961, it was Long Island engineers who created the lunar module that made Neil Armstrong’s “one small step for a man, one giant leap for mankind” possible.

During the Cold War, Long Island was the birthplace of the F-14 Tomcat, arguably the U.S. Navy’s most iconic fighter jet, made even more famous in the movie “Top Gun.”

Alzheimer’s is another great challenge, a growing public health crisis, nationally and locally. More than 7 million Americans, including over 400,000 residents of New York state and 60,000 Long Islanders, currently live with Alzheimer’s. Those numbers will continue to rise rapidly without a cure or significant disease-modifying treatment. Scientific breakthroughs are the only way to make them possible.

Those breakthroughs can happen right here. Just as innovative, locally based aerospace companies like Grumman and Republic met the challenges of decades past, world-class research institutions in Nassau and Suffolk counties can solve Alzheimer’s. The good news is that they’re already hard at work.

Researchers at NYU Grossman Long Island School of Medicine, in Mineola,

are using genetic material collected in blood samples to examine what happens inside the brain cells of someone living with Alzheimer’s. By comparing the dif-

ferences between these cells and those taken from healthy people, the team aims to develop ways to reprogram unhealthy neurons to behave more like those in healthy people.

Scientists at Northwell Health’s Feinstein Institutes for Medical Research, in Manhasset, are exploring the causes of hallucination, agitation and aggression as they relate to Alzheimer’s, with the goal of developing new treatments. Neuropsychiatric symptoms are among the most difficult and heartbreaking situations families face when caring for loved ones with the disease, and are often one of the main reasons families move them from their homes to residential health care settings.

Stony Brook University investigators are researching how crucial memory neurons, called cholinergic neurons, are damaged by Alzheimer’s. Drugs com-

monly used to improve memory in those with neurodegenerative diseases, known as cholinesterase inhibitors, target cholinergic neurons, but have only a modest effect. By better understanding how Alzheimer’s damages these neurons, Stony Brook’s research team hopes to develop new therapies that more effectively target and treat the damage and return the neurons to a normal state.

Each of these projects, which are supported by grant funding from the Alzheimer’s Foundation of America, has the potential to yield a game-changing discovery that will forever alter people’s lives for the better.

Challenges don’t scare Long Islanders, because we’ve stepped up to meet them head on time and time again. Dedicated, passionate research scientists are working tirelessly to meet the challenges of Alzheimer’s, because they understand what’s at stake. As with other great problems that Long Island helped solve, America, and all of humanity, will be grateful if we’re successful.

Charles J. Fuschillo Jr., of Merrick, is president and CEO of the Alzheimer’s Foundation of America.

In labs in both Nassau and Suffolk counties, there’s exciting new research.

HERALD EDITORIAL

Parents are partners, not spectators

As children head back to school, parents naturally want to make sure their kids succeed — good grades, positive relationships with teachers and classmates, and a school year filled with opportunities.

That instinct is understandable. Parents have an important role in their children's education. They should know what their kids are learning, monitor attendance and academic progress, communicate with teachers and school officials, attend meetings when appropriate, and ask questions when something doesn't seem right. When a problem arises, parents shouldn't be afraid to address it.

The key is to address problems with the school rather than automatically trying to solve every problem for the child. Children need opportunities to develop independence, responsibility and confidence. Those qualities develop when they are given the chance to navigate challenges themselves.

No parent wants to see a child struggle with a difficult assignment, receive a disappointing grade, have a disagreement with a friend or feel frustrated by a teacher's decision. The natural reaction can be to intervene immediately. Send the email. Make the phone call. Explain the situation. Fix the problem.

Sometimes intervention is necessary. Parents should step in when a child is

being bullied, facing discrimination, dealing with a serious safety concern or encountering a problem that requires adult assistance.

But a forgotten assignment can be a lesson in organization. A poor grade can be a chance to understand what went wrong and develop a better approach. A disagreement with a classmate can teach a child how to communicate, compromise and resolve conflicts. A difficult interaction with a teacher can teach a student to respectfully advocate for him or herself.

School is about far more than academics. It is also where children learn how to function in the world. They learn to meet deadlines, ask questions, accept constructive criticism, work with others, make decisions and live with the consequences.

They won't always get it right. And that's OK. Mistakes aren't necessarily signs that a child is failing. Often, they are evidence that a child is learning. The goal of parenting is not to eliminate every mistake, but to help children understand them and become better equipped to handle the next challenge.

Teachers and schools have an obvious role in this partnership. Educators should communicate clearly with families, offer appropriate opportunities for parents to be involved and recognize that they know their children in ways

teachers cannot. At the same time, schools must give students space to develop their own relationships, voices and responsibilities.

The partnership works best when everyone understands their roles. Parents provide support and guidance. Teachers provide instruction and expertise. And students, increasingly as they grow older, take responsibility for their own education.

That balance may look different in kindergarten than it does in high school. A young child may need considerable parental assistance getting organized, completing routines and understanding expectations. An older student should gradually take more ownership — contacting a teacher, tracking assignments, preparing for a test or addressing a problem before a parent becomes involved.

The ultimate goal is not to have children depend on their parents indefinitely. It is to prepare them to become capable adults who can make decisions, solve problems and recover when things don't go according to plan.

As a new school year begins, parents should remember that their children are not projects to be perfectly managed. They are young people learning how to become independent. The job is not to make sure students never stumble. It is to make sure they know how to get back up.

LETTERS

Why are we talking about measles again?

To the Editor:

It happened a long time ago, but I still remember my childhood bout with measles.

I was 7. Measles had been going around my elementary school for months. Many of my second-grade classmates had already been sick. With no vaccine available, everyone was at risk.

Early that spring, it was my turn. I felt flushed and tired in school one afternoon, and by the next evening was running a fever and feeling achy. The days that followed were awful. I developed a hacking cough and a sensitivity to light. When my temperature hit 102 one night, my parents took turns bathing my arms, chest and forehead with cool washcloths. I remember the worried looks on their faces.

After six rough days, I began to



OPINIONS

Remembering summers past

My sister and I called our father's friends "Uncle Jack" and "Aunt Sue" Smith (not their real last name). We lived in Mount Vernon, the boot of Westchester County, and they lived in Floral Park. My sister and I believe our dad met Jack through work: Both were vacuum cleaner salesman.



ROBERT A. SCOTT

Jack and Sue lived with their two daughters and a French bulldog name Dinky on a leafy street that ended at the gate to the local school playground. The four of us, the two girls and my sister and I, played together, swam

together and talked about our dreams together. As teenagers, or near-teens, we would shoot baskets or run around in the playground. I still have pictures of the four of us at play, framed in my living room.

The Smiths owned an inboard motorboat, the Sue Jean, which they docked at the Freeport Yacht Club. The boat had an upper deck, with equipment for extra

steering; a galley, beds and a head down below; and an aft area for sitting, talking and fishing. I remember once catching two sea bass on one line with two hooks.

We'd dive off the boat into the Long Island Sound. Once when I was 9 or 10, I dived into the water with my glasses on. Oops and ouch!

At Gilgo Beach, we docked next to other boats, and were always reminded to watch that our hands didn't get caught between two gunwales. A friend's aunt lost a thumb that way.

At the dock, we cooked over a grill. From there we walked on sand for hours and explored parts of Jones Beach. Other times, we drove directly to Jones and spent the day in the sun. I recall a Native American exhibit that featured a woman I later learned was named Rosebud, from a book by Marjorie Weinberg-Berman.

Of course, there were the inevitable bad sunburns and the occasional tumble in a rip current that scraped our backs. Both often necessitated a respite from the sun and the surf.

Those summer memories are deeply ingrained, and remind me of family

love, friendship, freedom and learning. They're captured in my mind and in photos. While life took us on different career and health journeys, the four of us stayed in touch for a long time. One

of the ironies of life is that when I moved to Long Island to work at Adelphi, I met the former boyfriend of one of my "cousins." We had seen each other often as kids, and found ourselves at the same events as adults.

There are other summer memories, of course, but the summers on Long Island were all joy, all fun, with no other obligations.

In later years, most of my summer memories are of work — jobs at the local pool or as a camp counselor. I found new forms of joy, like being complimented for a job well done or seeing other people benefit from my efforts. Some of the books that have inspired me over the years were summer reads. I remember in particular "Attorney for the Damned," a biography of Clarence Darrow, with chapters describing his preparation for the defense in the Scopes trial, the case against Dr. Ossian Sweet and the Leopold-Loeb murder trial.

During one summer between college semesters, when I wasn't working, I tried to transcribe "The Canterbury Tales" into contemporary English, an effort celebrated by neither my professor nor me.

Over the years I have counseled my children and friends' children about the importance of taking advantage of summertime to expand knowledge and hone skills, explore the world of work — and have fun. It is a respite from school, yes, but it has its own subjects to study and master, including sports, the arts and self-discipline. The school year doesn't allow for much exploration, given homework and daily chores, but summer provides the flexibility to play sports, attend concerts and dramatic performances, visit museums and art exhibits as well as work.

These opportunities for personal growth were among the reasons that a colleague and I wrote "Letters to Students," one chapter of which is "Trust Yourself."

Summer is a great time to explore new interests, make new friends and save money for college, especially on Long Island.

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

They were full of joy and fun — but they're also a great time to learn.

LETTERS

feel slightly better — still weak but less feverish. The rash that had covered my body gradually disappeared. I coughed less as the days passed. Almost three weeks after getting sick, I returned to school.

In 1963, when measles vaccines finally became available, my mother said that no one would ever suffer from this dreaded disease again. Though her optimism was a bit premature — measles didn't vanish overnight — the number of cases nevertheless declined steadily as more children became vaccinated. By 2000, the World Health Organization declared the disease essentially eliminated in America.

But now measles is back, with the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention reporting more than 2,400 confirmed cases in 2026 — more than all of last year. In fact, the number of reported cases in the past 20 months is greater than the previous 24 years combined.

CDC data also indicates that most of those infected are young and unvaccinated. While U.S. Secretary of Health and Human Services Robert F. Kennedy Jr. has recently encouraged parents to vaccinate their children against measles, he has had a long histo-

ry of skepticism about vaccines, even pushing debunked connections between vaccines and autism. A chorus of anti-vaxxers share online conspiracy theories about the medical profession and the pharmaceutical industry.

Now we have President Trump's recent executive order calling for the MMR (measles, mumps and rubella) vaccine to be administered to children in three separate doses rather than two, the standard practice. His order has dismayed and angered doctors and other health care professionals, who fear that more children will receive incomplete dosages or wind up completely unvaccinated.

While a few thousand cases of measles may not strike some as serious, especially since most people recover from it, it's astonishing that we're even talking about a disease that was once practically eliminated. Shame on those who have stoked anxiety and confusion about MMR.

And politics aside, there can be no excuse for putting any child at risk for such a miserable infection. Having the measles is no day at the beach. Trust me on that.

RICHARD J. CONWAY
Massapequa

FRAMEWORK by Tim Baker



Barbara Harris, lead singer of the '60s group the Toys, stopped by Eisenhower Park — East Meadow



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