

GLEN COVE HERALD



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Courtesy Gaitley Stevenson Mathews

Ending on a high note

Members of the Morgan Park Summer Music Festival board gathered for the festival's final performance on Aug. 31. Not pictured Roksana Amid. More photos, Page 10.

Police seek hometown recruits

City department touts 'strong tradition' of GCHS graduates

By **ROKSANA AMID**

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When Christopher Ortiz graduated from Glen Cove High School in 1992, several local police officers repeatedly encouraged him to take the civil service exam.

Among them was Detective Sgt. Rob Kamaski, who had coached Ortiz on the junior varsity football team, and Detective Lt. John Nagle, who lived near him.

"Take the police test, take the police test," Ortiz recalled hearing.

Now Glen Cove's police chief, Ortiz, 52, is delivering the same message to a new generation as the city accepts applications for its entry-

level police officer exam. It is open to those ages 18 to 45, and registration must be completed by Sept. 11.

The department is looking particularly closely at local residents. Ortiz estimated that 85 percent of its 57 current officers grew up in the city, and roughly 80 percent graduated from Glen Cove High. "There's a strong tradition of Glen Cove High School with the Glen Cove Police Department," he said.

Deputy Police Chief Peter Di Maggio, 50, a 1994 GCHS graduate, said that officers with local roots bring a personal investment to the job. Their relatives may live in the city, their children may attend its schools, and they frequent the

CONTINUED ON PAGE 9

Iconic church may become a city landmark

By **ROKSANA AMID**

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For generations, the black and white Tudor-style church on North Lane, overlooking Glen Cove, has served as an unofficial landmark, recognizable even to people who left the city decades ago. Now, 120 years after the building was constructed, city officials are considering making that status official.

The City Council held a public hearing Aug. 25 to consider designating the former First Presbyterian Church as a landmark. A second hearing is scheduled for Sept. 22. According to the city's landmark inventory, there are 17 officially designated landmarks and seven additional properties with protected status. The church is the only property currently listed with a pending landmark application.

The First Presbyterian Church congregation held its final service on Jan. 11, 2025, after years of declining attendance and financial struggles made it increasingly difficult to

maintain the congregation and historic building. The congregation that purchased the property this year, Iglesias Apostoles Y Profetas Emanuel Efisios 2:20 — The congregation that purchased the property [when], Iglesia Apóstoles y Profetas Emanuel, a Spanish-speaking evangelical congregation, supports the designation, according to city Historian Dave Nieri, a member of the city's Landmark Preservation Commission.

We're just so happy this is happening.

PAMELA PANZENBECK
Glen Cove mayor

Nieri, who attended the church as a child, told the council that few buildings are as closely associated with the city. "If somebody posts a picture of the First Presbyterian Church, people that haven't lived here in 40 years know immediately that that's Glen Cove," he said. "I would say that the First Presbyterian Church is the most identifiable landmark."

The First Presbyterian church was founded in 1869, on Hendrick Avenue, before moving to North Lane in 1905. The current building was constructed in 1906, making it 120 years

CONTINUED ON PAGE 11

HERALD
Community Newspapers

Honoring the local legacies of service

The Tribute and Honor Foundation will unveil the veterans and veteran supporters selected for recognition at its sixth annual Tribute and Honor Awards during a public announcement event and press conference on Sunday, Sept. 20.

The free event will begin at 3:30 p.m. at the North Shore Historical Museum, at 140 Glen St. in Glen Cove. Members of the public are invited to attend and learn more about the honorees and their contributions to veterans and their communities.

Recipients will be announced in eight categories: the Legacy Award, Front Runner Award, Leadership Award, Impact Award, Community Service Award, Volunteer Award, Homefront Award, and Awareness and Remembrance Award.

The awards recognize distinguished veterans as well as individuals who support, advocate for and honor those who have served in the United States military. The announcement event will provide an opportunity for community members to meet the honorees and hear about the work that earned them recognition.

Those selected will formally receive their awards at the foundation's sixth annual Tribute and Honor Awards ceremony, which will be held at the Cres-

cent Beach Club in Bayville on the first Saturday in February. The ceremony brings veterans, supporters and community leaders together to recognize military service, volunteerism, leadership and efforts to preserve the memories of those who served.

The Tribute and Honor Foundation works to recognize veterans and the people and organizations that support them. Its annual awards highlight service that continues beyond a veteran's military career, along with community efforts that promote awareness, remembrance and assistance for veterans and their families.

The organization was founded in December of 2021 after a devastating fire at the Glen Cove Veterans of Foreign Wars post 347. Gaitley Stevenson Mathews joined forces with Chef Jeanine DiMenna and other community members to establish the organization formerly known as Phoenix Rising. The first awards event, held in 2022, was highly successful, prompting organizers to establish the nonprofit and establish the annual awards.

For more information about the announcement or awards ceremony, visit TributeAndHonorFoundation.org.

—Roksana Amid

A revolutionary day at the museum

The North Shore Historical Museum will examine the ideas and arguments that persuaded hesitant American colonists to support independence during an upcoming lecture by historian Dr. Richard Harris.

"Reluctant Revolutionaries: Rebellion in the Age of Reason" will be presented Thursday, Sept. 10, at 7 p.m. at the museum in Glen Cove. The program will explore an often-overlooked aspect of America's path toward independence: the reluctance of many colonists to sever their political and cultural ties to Britain.

Commemorations of the American Revolution often focus on defining moments such as the Boston Tea Party, the battles of Lexington and Concord, the Battle of Long Island, the adoption of the Declaration of Independence and the British surrender at Yorktown. Despite growing tensions with the British government, however, many colonists initially remained loyal to Britain or uncertain about supporting a revolution.

Harris will discuss how Enlightenment principles and influential political writers helped reshape public opinion during the revolutionary period. The lecture will highlight the roles of figures such as Thomas Jefferson and Thomas Paine, whose arguments

helped convince colonists that independence represented the best path forward.

The presentation will also examine the broader intellectual and cultural forces that helped turn resistance to British policies into a coordinated movement for independence. By focusing on colonists' uncertainty, the program will offer a more complex look at how revolutionary sentiment developed throughout the colonies.

The lecture is part of the North Shore Historical Museum's continuing series of accessible public programs exploring local and national history.

Admission is \$15 for museum members and \$20 for nonmembers. The North Shore Historical Museum is at 140 Glen St. in Glen Cove. The lecture will place the era in the larger climate of the 18th century, when ideas about individual rights, representative government and the relationship between citizens and the relationship between citizens and their rulers were gaining influence.

For more information, visit northshorehistoricalmuseum.org or email director@nshmhc.org.

—Roksana Amid



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A cigarette and litter recycling initiative

By ROKSANA AMID

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The cigarette butts collecting along Glen Cove's streets may appear small, but city beautification advocates say their environmental consequences can stretch all the way to Long Island Sound.

The Glen Cove Beautification Litter Prevention Program has received a \$15,000 grant from Keep America Beautiful to launch a citywide cigarette-litter prevention and recycling initiative. Working with the City of Glen Cove Beautification Commission, the nonprofit will install specialized receptacles, educate adult smokers and track how much cigarette waste is collected and recycled.

Lora Cusumano, president and chairwoman of the nonprofit program, said she learned about the grant through the organization's affiliation with Keep America Beautiful and applied in February. She was unsure whether Glen Cove would be selected.

"We were all very excited to hear that. Now we're implementing the program," Cusumano said.

The program currently has 23 receptacles and may acquire more. Some can be attached to walls or poles, while free-standing units can be bolted to the ground. They will be placed at approved city-owned sites and businesses that agree to follow collection, storage and recordkeeping requirements.

"I just don't think that people are aware that cigarette butts can be recycled," she said.

Many smokers mistakenly believe filters are composed only of paper and tobacco and will naturally decompose, Cusumano said. Most filters, however, contain cellulose acetate, a form of plastic that does not readily biodegrade. As filters break apart, plastic fibers and chemical residue can enter soil, storm drains and waterways.

Tobacco products account for an estimated 25 to 40 percent of litter worldwide, according to the World Health Organization, as cited in a 2024 article published by Johns Hopkins University. An estimated 4.5 trillion cigarette butts are littered annually, making them the world's most commonly littered item.

Cusumano frequently sees cigarette butts along Glen Cove's curb lines, including near her home on Shore Road. Some motorists routinely discard them through car windows, she said. During heavy rain, butts deposited near curbs can be swept into storm drains and eventually reach Long Island Sound.

Ralph Comitino, president of the Glen Cove Civil Service Employees Association, said cigarette litter is particularly visible after large community gatherings. City employees are regularly assigned to clean downtown streets following parades and car shows.

"There's usually tons of cigarette butts," Comitino said.

Once collected, the cigarette waste will be weighed, documented and shipped at no charge to TerraCycle



Roksana Amid/Herald

Lora Cusumano and Ralph Comitino collected discarded cigarette butts near the movie theater, highlighting the amount of cigarette litter found throughout the city.



Cigarette butts were estimated to account for 25 to 40 percent of litter worldwide, according to the World Health Organization, as cited by Johns Hopkins University.

through its recycling partnership with Keep America Beautiful. Participants will place the waste in specialized foil mailing bags, scan a QR code and print a prepaid shipping label.

The amount shipped will be credited to the Glen Cove Beautification Litter Prevention Program, allowing organizers to measure the program's impact.

TerraCycle separates dirt and other debris from the collected waste before processing the cigarettes. The paper and tobacco components are separated for composting, while the plastic filters are processed into pellets that can be used to manufacture other products.

Participation will extend beyond city employees and businesses. Individual smokers may obtain portable cup-style ashtrays designed to fit inside car cup holders, along with smaller foil pouches and larger mailing envelopes. Residents who collect discarded butts may also ship them to TerraCycle and have the weight counted toward Glen Cove's total.

Businesses that host a unit will be required to sign an agreement covering placement, servicing, safe storage and shipment. Cusumano said the partnership will allow cigarette receptacles to be installed at privately owned locations



Photos courtesy Lora Cusumano

A cigarette-butt receptacle provided a designated place for smokers to dispose of cigarette waste as part of a new litter-prevention and recycling initiative.



Discarded cigarette butts collected near city storm drains could be carried into waterways during heavy rain, eventually reaching Long Island Sound.

in addition to municipal sites.

The nonprofit is also developing a separate collection program for used electronic cigarettes and nicotine vapes. Those devices must not be placed inside the new cigarette receptacles, household garbage or curbside recycling because they can contain nicotine residue and lithium batteries, which may ignite if damaged. Collection sites for those products will be announced separately.

For Cusumano, the new program addresses a type of litter that people often overlook despite encountering it every day. Keeping discarded filters off streets and away from storm drains, she said, will require both infrastructure and a shift in public awareness.

"This program is not about judging smokers," Cusumano said. "It is about providing convenient, responsible alternatives and protecting our community."



Breakfast Meeting: All About MWBEs

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Anissa D. Moore
Nassau Deputy County Executive,
Health & Human Services



Sandra Alfano
Exec Director, Multicultural Affairs &
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THE GREAT BOOK GURU
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Dear Great Book Guru,
I am planning on attending the Sea Cliff Civic Association's annual Newcomers Party – I am very excited to meet new friends and learn about Sea Cliff. I was wondering if you could recommend a book that might make for a good conversation starter?

New to Sea Cliff

Dear New to Sea Cliff,
I recently read Colson Whitehead's "Cool Machine." This is the third and final novel in a remarkable trilogy that recounts the history of New York City, particularly Harlem, starting in the 1950's and closing in the 1980's. To do this, Whitehead has us follow the career and times of Ray Carney. Ray has made an impressive life for himself and his family as a furniture dealer with a side career as a middleman -



ANN
DIPIETRO

a/k/a fence - for stolen goods. As the book opens, he has been named Northeast Regional Dealer of the Month by an esteemed furniture manufacturer. The pride he takes is almost painful to observe as he sees this award as the pinnacle of achievement after a lifetime of financial, political, and emotional struggles. When he is lured back into another criminal "opportunity", we wonder if he has deluded himself into believing he has truly made it in a world where ambition and success seem reward enough. Throughout, we empathize with Ray's nostalgia for a time when he was young and everything seemed possible. Recommended!
Would you like to ask the Great Book Guru for a book suggestion? Contact her at annmdipietro@gmail.com.

CRIME WATCH
ARRESTS

- Police officer O'Neill arrested a 58-year-old Glen Cove man on Aug. 23 for driving while intoxicated, drinking alcohol in a vehicle, and driving without lights on on Glen Street.
- Police officer Pedraita arrested a 46-year-old Freeport man on Aug. 28 for two counts of criminal contempt on Putnam Avenue.
- Police officer Famiglietti arrested a 30-year-old Glen Cove man on Aug. 29 for aggravated family offense, criminal contempt, criminal contempt, and two Glen Cove City Court warrants for criminal possession of a controlled substance on Poplar Place.
- Police officer O'Neill arrested a 42-year-old Glen Cove man on Aug. 29 for driving while intoxicated, drinking alcohol in a motor vehicle, and an unsafe lane change on Hendrick Avenue.
- Police officer O'Neill arrested a 56-year-old East Norwich man on Aug. 30 for aggravated driving while intoxicated and driving while intoxicated on Landing Road.
- Police officer Troia arrested a 58-year-old Sea Cliff man on Aug. 30 for aggravated unlicensed operation, no lights, obstructed view and operating an unlicensed vehicle on Cedar Swamp Road.

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

GLEN COVE
HERALD

HOW TO REACH US

Our offices are located at 2 Endo Blvd. Garden City, NY 11530 and are open from 8:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m., Monday through Friday.

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Please join attorney Michael Ettinger for a live webinar,
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6:30 p.m. Register in advance at trustlaw.com

Saving Half on the Nursing Home Doorstep

What do you do when a client comes in to see you and says that his mother is going into a nursing home and she has \$300,000 in assets. In fact, mom scrimped and saved all of her life to have this nest egg and now she desperately wants to see her children get an inheritance.

Although you may protect all of your assets by planning five years ahead of time with a Medicaid Asset Protection Trust, all is not lost if nothing has been done and the client finds herself on the nursing home doorstep. There is a solution for single clients who do not have the "spousal refusal" option.

The advanced elder law technique, used to protect assets at the last minute, is called the "gift and loan" strategy. Here's how it works. Let's assume, for the purposes of our example, that the nursing home costs \$15,000 a month. When mom goes into the nursing home, we gift one-half of the nest egg, in this case one-half of \$300,000, or \$150,000, to her children. Then we lend the other \$150,000 to the children and they execute a promissory note agreeing to repay the \$150,000 in ten monthly payments of \$15,000 per month, together with a modest amount of interest. Now we

apply for Medicaid benefits. Medicaid will impose a penalty period (i.e., they will refuse to pay) for 10 months on the grounds that the gift of \$150,000 could have been used to pay for mom's care for 10 months. Medicaid ignores the loan since it was not a gift. It is going to be paid back, with interest, according to the terms of the promissory note. What happens is that the ten loan repayment installments will be used to pay for mom's nursing home care during the penalty period. Just when the loan repayments are finished, the penalty period expires and Medicaid begins to pick up the tab. Lo and behold, the children get to keep the \$150,000 gift and mom has saved some of the inheritance for her children.

This technique also illustrates why you should have an elder law lawyer prepare your power of attorney. Let's say mom no longer has the legal capacity to make the needed gifts. The "elder law" power of attorney allows for gifts in any amount to be made on her behalf by her agent. If you find yourself with the basic power of attorney that general lawyers use, gifts are usually limited to no more than \$5,000.00 per year. Under Medicaid, it's move it or lose it.

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1349196



Preparing before disaster strikes

By ROKSANA AMID

ramid@liherald.com

September is National Preparedness Month, an annual campaign encouraging families and communities to prepare before emergencies occur. Here are three things Glen Cove residents should know:

1

■ Make a household emergency plan

Every household should decide how family members will communicate, where they will meet and what they will do if they must evacuate or shelter at home.

Families should choose an out-of-area contact who can relay information if local phone service is disrupted. They should also learn evacuation routes and plan for children, older adults, people with disabilities and pets.

People who depend on medical equipment should consider backup power. Those with service animals should prepare supplies for themselves and their animals, and residents assisted by caregivers should coordinate their plans with them.

Keep important telephone numbers written down in an address book instead of relying entirely on a cellphone.

2

■ Assemble supplies ahead of time

An emergency kit should contain water, non-perishable food, flashlights, batteries, a battery-powered radio, first-aid supplies and copies of important documents. Residents should also include necessary medication, chargers, cash, sanitation products and supplies for children and pets.

Nassau County recommends keeping enough provisions to last several days. A smaller “go bag” containing essential items can also be prepared in case a household must leave quickly.

Because Glen Cove can experience heavy rain and flooding, documents should be kept in water-proof containers and valuables moved to higher levels when necessary.

Never walk, swim or drive through floodwater. Six inches of moving water can knock someone down, while a foot can carry away a vehicle.

3

■ Sign up for emergency notifications

Reliable information can help residents respond quickly when storms, flooding, power failures or other emergencies affect Glen Cove.

The city operates an emergency-notification system that sends registered residents information about local emergencies. Nassau County also uses NY-Alert to distribute notifications by telephone, text message and email.

Residents should monitor announcements from the City of Glen Cove, Nassau County’s Office of Emergency Management and the National Weather Service. Power-outage information and restoration estimates are available through PSEG Long Island.

Call 911 when police, firefighters or medical assistance is needed immediately. The Glen Cove Police Department can be reached at (516) 676-1000. City Hall can be reached at (516) 676-2000.

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HERALD SPORTS

Hofstra wins new coach Roche's debut

By ANDREW COEN

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The Hofstra men's soccer team kicked off a new era Aug. 20 with a familiar winning feeling.

In the program's first game under first-year head coach Stephen Roche following the retirement of the legendary Richard Nuttall, the then 20th-ranked Pride pulled out a 2-1 win at Bucknell on a goal from midfielder Sean Keane with 9:51 remaining.

Nuttall recorded 364 wins in 38 years leading the sidelines while elevating Hofstra men's soccer to a national level Roche is looking to continue to raise.

"It's an incredible honor to be chosen to not only take over Hofstra but to replace Richie who's been my boss and my friend for so many years," said Roche, an Ireland native who spent the last 10 seasons as an assistant under Nuttall.

The momentum from the season opener carried over three days later when the Pride (2-0-1) knocked off American at home on Aug. 23 with goals from junior forward Bastian Carlman and Keane. The 2-0 start moved Hofstra to 13th in the national rankings and they stayed unbeaten after a 1-1 draw at Stony Brook in the CAA opener last Saturday.

Roche was an instrumental part of Hofstra's recent success that included four straight Coastal Athletic Association (CAA) titles and five straight NCAA Tournament appearances. The Pride went 14-5-1 in Nuttall's final season and reached the third round of the NCAA Tournament for the third time in five years with a 3-2 upset win at number-one ranked Vermont, the defending national champions.

"Going back to 2021 when we won the CAAs and got to the Sweet 16 the first time from that point onwards our success has allowed us to recruit great players," Roche said. "We believe we have really good players and we then have to make sure they're good people who buy into the Hofstra style of soccer."

The first year since 1988 of someone other than Nuttall spearheading Hofstra men's soccer features a largely new team with just six returners who saw game action last year.

The backline is anchored by fifth-year defender Pietro Santi, an Italy native who garnered CAA Pre-season Player of the Year honors. Santi was part of a defensive unit last season that surrendered less than one goal per game and recorded seven shutouts.

"He's the general on the field, he's the coach on the field and he keeps our backline incredibly organized," Roche said of Santi. "A lot of the work he does goes unnoticed but at the end of the game when we've limited the opponent to very few chances a lot of that is to do with him and his organization."

Roche has also been pleased with other members of the defense so far this season including Anthony Grodzki and Joel Bona, a transfer from the University of Rhode Island, along with freshman Ben Schulz at left back.

Milo Risenhoover, a fifth-year goalkeeper who arrived at Hofstra from University of the Pacific, is also shining on the defensive end early in the season. The Portland, Ore.. native garnered CAA Defensive Player of the Week honors after recording seven saves in Hofstra's first two matches including four stops in the Bucknell victory.

The offense has been largely carried early on by Keane, a 6-foot-5 graduate transfer from Auburn Montgomery University in Alabama, and Bastian Carlman, who has netted three goals. Roche is looking for a collective scoring effort this season that also includes



Photos courtesy Hofstra Athletics Communications

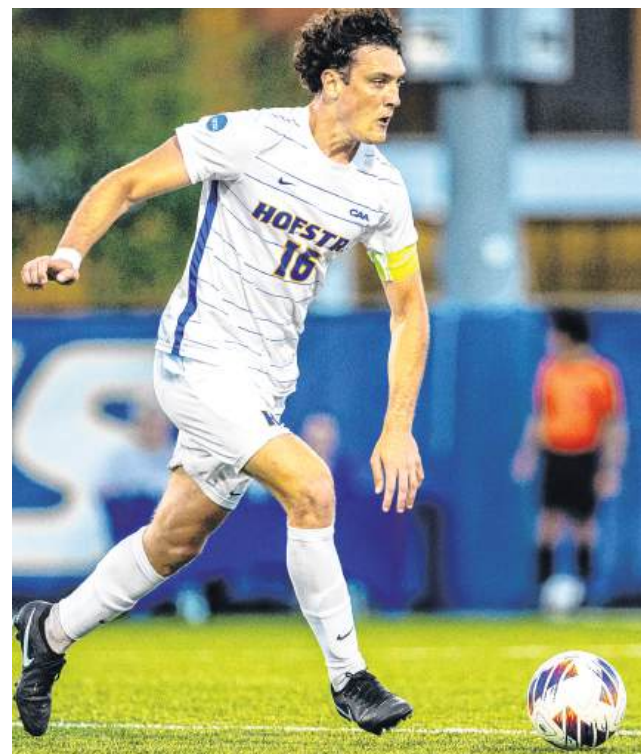
Jack Benham, right, and the Pride opened the campaign in winning fashion topping Bucknell, 2-1.

many other potential offensive weapons including Lewis Matton, David Citron, Marc Perkuhn, Lewis Johnson and Schulz.

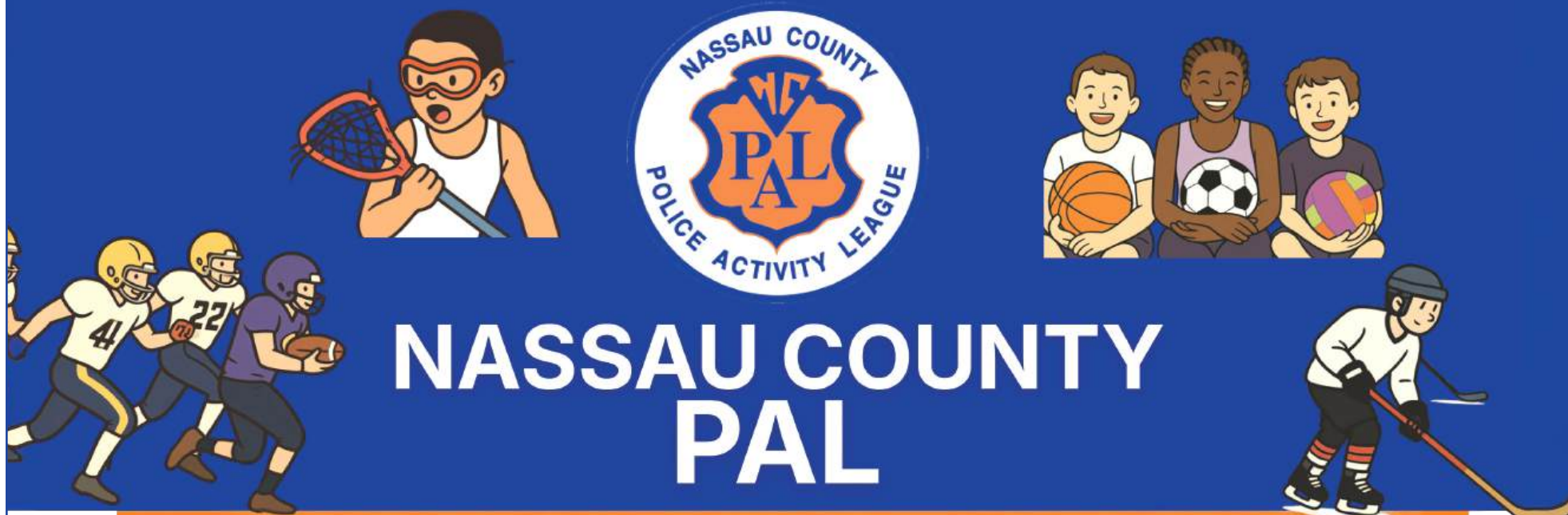
Hofstra was picked to place first in the CAA North Division, which also includes Stony Brook, Monmouth, Drexel and Northeastern. The Pride's CAA home opener is scheduled for this Saturday against Drexel at 7 p.m.

Roche has pieced together a challenging non-conference schedule to position Hofstra for a possible at-large NCAA Tournament which the Pride obtained last year after falling to Stony Brook in the CAA semifinals. Hofstra hosts 7th-ranked Vermont in a rematch of last year's NCAA Tournament thriller on Sept. 15 at 7 p.m. and Ivy League power Princeton on Oct. 6 at 7 p.m.

"We got unlucky in the semifinals last year but because we had a tough schedule and our national ranking was high we still got into the tournament," Roche said. "We've got a long way to go with a lot of really difficult games coming up, but with the difficulty of the schedule we have if we get 11 or 12 wins you would imagine we would be in that position again."



Pietro Santi, right, anchors Hofstra's defense.



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Advocates call for county to cut ties with ICE

New state law, which Blakeman calls ‘completely misguided,’ orders end to cooperation agreements

By HAILEY FULMER

hfulmer@liherald.com

With a new state law taking effect that ends local immigration enforcement agreements, Assemblywoman Michaelle Solages and immigrant advocates called on Nassau County last week to end its cooperation agreement with U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement and comply with the law.

An Aug. 25 news conference outside Nassau County Police Department headquarters, in Mineola, included members of Make the Road Action, the New York for All Coalition and the Long Island Immigrant Justice Alliance. Speakers mad the point that the new law is meant to prevent law enforcement agencies from using local resources for federal immigration enforcement.

Solages said the law comes as immigrant communities face uncertainty about their status and concerns about immigration enforcement. “It’s a tumultuous time right now in our community,” she said.

Fears about immigration enforcement, Solages said, can undermine public safety when residents avoid police or emergency services. “There are victims of crimes who are afraid to come forward,” she said. “There are people who are having emergency situations who are afraid to call police or ambulance because they might get into deportation proceedings.”

“We need to make sure that we’re building trust with communities,” she said.

Local police should continue their public safety work, Solages said, without using local resources for federal immigration enforcement. “We want to make sure that our public safety continues, our public safety officers and law enforcement keeps doing their work,”



Hailey Fulmer/Herald

Robert Agyemang, the New York Immigration Coalition’s vice president of advocacy, spoke outside Nassau County Police Department headquarters in Mineola on Aug. 25, calling for an end to the county’s cooperation with ICE.

she said, but not using our local resources to do federal immigration.”

Kiana Bierra-Anderson, Long Island director of Make the Road New York, criticized County Executive Bruce Blakeman for using local resources to support federal immigration enforcement. “Nassau County workers are losing their jobs, children are losing their parents and small businesses are reporting losing revenues,” Bierra-Anderson said.

Cheryl Keshner, a community advocate for Long Island’s Empire Justice Center, said that immigration enforcement had spread fear among immigrant resi-

dents, and could deter people from reporting crimes or seeking emergency help.

Keshner raised the case of Santos Banegas Reyes, an immigrant who died after being detained by immigration authorities. She called for answers about his death, and supporters at the news conference chanted, “Justice for Santos.”

The criticism came one day before Blakeman said that Nassau County would comply with the state law and end its cooperation agreement with ICE.

At a news conference Wednesday in Mineola, Blakeman called the state law “completely misguided” and said it would make Nassau County less safe. “I am a law-and-order county executive,” he said. “I believe in the rule of law, even when it’s a bad law, and this is a very, very bad and dangerous law.”

Blakeman added that the Nassau County attorney had notified ICE and sent termination notices to the agency. He said the county would continue working with ICE where permitted by law.

“Whatever we are allowed to do within the confines of the law, we will do,” Blakeman said.

Bryan Flanagan, ICE’s assistant field office director, who appeared with Blakeman, said that ending the agreement removed what he called a public safety tool. “New Yorkers deserve a clear understanding of what ended yesterday,” Flanagan said. “This decision has removed a proven public safety tool.”

He said that ICE would continue its federal immigration enforcement work without the agreement.

Blakeman defended the county’s previous cooperation with ICE, saying that the agreement allowed local law enforcement to work with federal authorities in cases involving people accused of crimes.

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Recruitment focuses on community needs

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CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

same businesses as the people they serve.

"When you do, you tend to go above and beyond," DiMaggio said. "You're invested in the community."

Ortiz recalled patrolling School and Glen streets early in his career, and encountering young people late at night. His connections to their families often resolved potentially combustible situations.

"I went to high school with your mother," Ortiz recalled telling them. "I went to high school with your father. You want me to tell them what you're doing out here?" Usually, he said, that was enough to send them home.

Residents may not see everything officers do behind the scenes, Ortiz said. Growing up, he believed there was little crime in Glen Cove. After joining the department, he learned how much work went into creating that sense of security.

"That's the perception we want people to have, that we do nothing," he said. "But behind the scenes, we do everything."

Applications are available from the city's Civil Service Commission. Candidates can complete an application, submit it with the required fee and take the written exam, the first step in a lengthy selection process. Applicants must pass, but Ortiz advised candidates to aim for scores in the 90s, because the department hires only from among the highest-ranked candidates.

Those who advance must also complete a physical fitness test, a background investigation, a psychological evaluation, an interview and drug screening.

The exam focuses heavily on reading comprehension, Ortiz said. Candidates may be asked to interpret passages or remember details. A study guide is available on the city's civil service website.

Ortiz advised candidates to begin exercising as soon



Roksana Amid/Herald

Chief Christopher Ortiz, Officer Darren Pittman and Deputy Chief Peter DiMaggio spoke about the department's efforts to recruit local residents and the importance of community connections among its officers.

as they decide to apply. When he started taking police exams, he ran two miles a day, and did push-ups and sit-ups as well. "You should put your full mind, body and soul into it, and get ready and prepare," he said.

Di Maggio's police career was unplanned. He was studying accounting when a friend offered to pay his application fee if he took the exam. He performed well, completed the selection process and accepted the job.

"It's the best decision I've ever made," he said.

Glen Cove and Long Beach are the only municipalities in Nassau County that administer their own police exams through independent civil service systems, Ortiz said. Glen Cove offers its exam every two years.

Ortiz encouraged 18-year-olds to take the exam even if they're still working toward the 120 college credits required for appointment. Doing so can give them experience with the test while they complete their education.

Officer Darren Pittman, 40, understands the importance of persistence. The 2004 Glen Cove High graduate went on to earn a bachelor's degree, then took the police exam in 2010, 2012 and 2014 before being hired in 2015 from the 2012 list.

Since 2017, he has taught fifth-graders as part of a department program covering drugs, alcohol, peer pressure, internet safety and decision-making. The program helps children to see officers as people while giving officers a chance to form lasting relationships with them, he said.

Pittman grew up in Glen Cove's public housing and is raising his two children in the city. "To come from that, make it this far, go to college, get a degree, become a police officer and give back to my community," Pittman said, "it's one of the greatest things I've done in my life."

Ortiz encouraged young residents to pursue their education and explore opportunities, but to consider returning home to serve. "We want you," he said. "Spread your wings, but then look back home for a career when the time comes."

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Photos courtesy Morgan Park Summer Music Festival

Musicians took the stage at Morgan Memorial Park during the summer music festival's final concert of the season.

Morgan Park music festival closes 67th season

The Morgan Park Summer Music Festival wrapped up its 67th season on Aug. 30 with a performance by Half Step – GD Tribute, which brought the music of the Grateful Dead to Morgan Memorial Park. The free concert began at 7 p.m., drawing music fans to the waterfront park for an evening of live music overlooking Hempstead Harbor. The performance served as the finale to the festival's nine-concert summer lineup, which featured a variety of musical styles and tribute acts throughout the season.

—Roksana Amid



Friends and family spent the evening together at Morgan Memorial Park while enjoying live music and the summer atmosphere.



Friends and family gathered at Morgan Memorial Park to enjoy an evening of live music during the summer concert series.



Concertgoers settled in with snacks and blankets as they enjoyed the evening's performance at Morgan Memorial Park.



A crowd gathered at Morgan Memorial Park for an evening of music and entertainment by the waterfront.

Church is a ‘striking community landmark’

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

old, according to Robert Labaw, an architect and the chairman of the Landmark Preservation Commission. Labaw urged the council to advance the designation, saying that the church meets the city’s age requirements and has long been recognized for its architectural and community significance.

The Presbytery’s website describes the building as a “striking community landmark,” Labaw noted. Despite that description, however, the building has never been officially designated.

Labaw explained two years ago, the church was granted temporary protected status intended to halt possible development for roughly six months while officials determined whether it qualified as a landmark. But the application never advanced to a final designation.

“I strongly urge you to consider this, and let’s move forward with this application,” Labaw told the council.

Mayor Pamela Panzenbeck also expressed support, citing her family’s long connection to the church. “If anybody ever tried to do anything to it, my cousins and I would all be laying down in front of a bulldozer,” Panzenbeck said. “We’re just so happy that this is happening.”

Nieri said he renewed the idea of landmarking the church roughly two years ago, concerned that it could be demolished for development if it were sold. The former congregation had struggled to afford repairs to the roof and other maintenance, he said.

Iglesias Apostoles had leased space there for roughly 30 years before acquiring it. Its willingness to preserve the exterior made the landmarking effort less complicated, Nieri said. “One thing that’s good, which you don’t often run into, is that the new owners are in favor of landmarking it,” he said. “They realize that



Roksana Amid/Herald

The First Presbyterian Church was founded on Hendrick Avenue in 1869, before the congregation moved to North Lane in 1905.

it’s one of the most identifiable visual landmarks in Glen Cove.”

An individual-landmark designation would primarily protect the building’s exterior. If its owners wanted to replace windows, change the roofline or make other significant exterior alterations, they would first need approval from the city’s Landmark Preservation Commission before the Building Department could authorize the work.

For Kristin Michelsen Brown, who lived in Glen Cove for 50 years and now lives in Suffolk County, the church’s importance extends beyond its architecture. Her grandparents, Barbara and George Hagerman,

were members, and she believes her uncle, Paul Hagerman, was the first baby baptized there in 1949. Her parents, Valerie and Spencer Michelsen, were married there, as were Brown and her brother. The family celebrated weddings and baptisms and mourned loved ones at funerals in the sanctuary.

Brown was baptized there in 1968, attended Sunday school and later became a teacher, deacon and one of the congregation’s youngest elders as a teenager. Her mother, a nurse, volunteered with the homeless shelter that operated at the church, checking overnight guests’ vital signs and blood-alcohol levels. Her father, a retired Nassau County Sheriff’s Department sergeant, stayed overnight to help keep guests safe.

Brown attended the congregation’s final service in January 2025. She vividly remembers ceremonially returning the church keys to the Presbytery. Her mother, who died in 2019, had often carried those keys, because she regularly opened the building for deliveries and visitors.

“I just put my head down on the pew, and I just started to cry,” Brown recalled. “Those were very important times in my life — funerals and weddings and baptisms.”

Brown strongly supports the landmark proposal, describing the church as an irreplaceable part of Glen Cove’s landscape. During parades and events on Forest Avenue, she said, the building often appears in the background, “just kind of sitting up, keeping watch over everyone.”

Debi Johnston Baker said she had no personal connection to the church, she admired it for years. “I would love to see this beautiful historic church considered for landmark designation,” Baker said. It is, she added, “a welcoming, gorgeous building that sets the tone for the Glen Cove I grew up knowing.”

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Residents worry about impact on harbor

By WILL SHEELINE
wsheeline@liherald.com

As Propel NY Energy moves closer to construction of its proposed \$3.26 billion transmission project, local officials and environmental advocates are raising concerns about how underwater construction could affect Hempstead Harbor, including its shellfish populations, water quality and recreational uses.

The project calls for submarine cables to be installed beneath the harbor as part of an 89-mile transmission system intended to strengthen Long Island's electrical grid. The work will have minimal environmental effects, according to Propel, while opponents and local officials argue that safeguards should be established before construction begins rather than after potential damage occurs.

Eric Swenson, executive director of the Hempstead Harbor Protection Committee, which has neither opposed nor supported the project, said the organization's primary concern is the portion of the project that will be constructed in the harbor. Since 2024, more than 2 million oysters have been planted in Hempstead Harbor as part of restoration efforts, according to Swenson. He emphasized that the oysters are intended to improve water quality and help restore the harbor's biodiversity rather than for commercial harvesting.

"If all of those 2 million oysters grow to full size, they have the capability of filtering 100 million gallons per day of seawater," Swenson said, referring to the species' ability to remove harmful chemicals like nitrogen from the water.

The proposed construction, he added, would involve four roughly 9-foot-deep trenches. He is concerned that jet plowing — whereby high-pressure water jets are used to clear the harbor floor — could disturb sediment and cause it to spread to nearby oyster beds.

"It doesn't take much to smother oysters in order to kill them," Swenson explained.

The Hempstead Harbor Protection Committee has requested turbidity curtains around the oyster beds, lower speeds for cable laying vessels and lower pressure during jet plowing. Those



Herald file photo

The Propel project's potential impact on the harbor has raised resident fears.

requests, Swenson said, have not been incorporated into the project's plans.

Propel spokeswoman Marykate Guilfoyle wrote in a statement that the company has conducted extensive underwater surveys and modeling, and plans to conduct jet trenching trials before installing the cables. She also said that the water will be monitored for turbidity during the trenching.

"Our team is committed to delivering a project that provides urgently needed upgrades to our electric grid," Guilfoyle wrote, "while protecting Hempstead Harbor through robust environmental safeguards, proven construction methods, and regular monitoring."

She added that Propel's modeling indicates that sediment disturbance will not reach areas oyster areas. "No oysters were found along the cable route in Hempstead Harbor," the statement read, going on to say that the route's mud substrate and central location in the harbor are not considered suitable oyster habitat.

The project has also raised concerns about potential impacts on hard clams. Propel's Hard Clam Impact Minimization Plan assumes 100 percent mortality in certain areas affected by horizontal directional drilling and vessel anchoring.

Guilfoyle wrote that Propel estimates that a total of 9 to 54 clams could be affected by those activities.

"We do not anticipate measurable

impacts to the overall hard clam population in Hempstead Harbor," her statement read, "given the project's limited footprint, temporary construction activities, and the low, patchy distribution of hard clams observed during surveys."

Bruce Kennedy, Sea Cliff's village administrator, previously told the Herald that the village has focused on protecting the harbor throughout its participation in the project's regulatory process. He added that Sea Cliff has requested deeper burial of the cables to preserve existing uses of the harbor, including recreational anchoring. He also said that the village requested tur-

bidity curtains to limit the spread of suspended sediment.

"They refused," Kennedy said of Propel. "They will not put in sediment curtains."

Kennedy also raised concerns about the timetable for assessing and addressing potential environmental damage. The project's Joint Proposal, he said, ties a post-construction survey to "full energization" of the project.

"They tied the environmental damage survey to 'full energization' of an 89-mile project, a term they do not even clearly define," Kennedy wrote in a recent statement. "Then they give themselves up to two more years to survey the damage and another six months to report what they found, with no firm deadline for completing remediation. That is not environmental protection — it is an after-the-fact autopsy."

Kennedy said Sea Cliff has opposed the Joint Proposal because village officials believe that important environmental protections remain unresolved.

Christine Panzeca, a Glen Head resident who has opposed the Propel project, said she was concerned that years of work to restore Hempstead Harbor could be undermined by construction.

"I think we've done a great job, both federally and locally, as well as with private money," Panzeca said, "to take great lengths to clean up the harbor."



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NEWS BRIEF

High Holiday services at North Country

North Country Reform Temple will welcome the Jewish New Year with a series of High Holiday services beginning Friday, Sept. 11.

The High Holidays are among the most significant observances on the Jewish calendar and provide an opportunity for worship, reflection and community. At North Country Reform Temple, the services bring congregants together for prayer and traditions that are observed over several weeks. In addition to services held at the temple, the schedule includes a Zoom option for the second day of Rosh Hashanah and an outdoor Tashlich gathering at Garvies Point. The variety of services allows members and guests to participate in the observances in different settings throughout the holiday season.

Rosh Hashanah evening services will begin at 8 p.m. Sept. 11, followed by morning services at 10 a.m. Saturday, Sept. 12. The temple will hold Tashlich at 2 p.m. that day. Participants should meet in the temple parking lot at 1:30 p.m. for a procession to Garvies Point or join the service there at 2 p.m.

A second-day Rosh Hashanah service will be held via Zoom at 10 a.m. Sunday, Sept. 13. Kol Nidre will begin at 8 p.m. Sunday, Sept. 20.

Yom Kippur observances on Monday,

Sept. 21, will include morning services at 10 a.m., the Yizkor memorial service at 2:30 p.m., and afternoon and Ne'ila services at 3:30 p.m.

The High Holiday season is a time for reflection, prayer and renewal in the Jewish faith. Rosh Hashanah marks the beginning of the Jewish New Year and begins a period of reflection that culminates with Yom Kippur, the Day of Atonement. Congregants also will observe Sukkot, a festival associated with gratitude and remembrance, before concluding the holiday season with Simchat Torah, which celebrates the completion and beginning of the annual Torah reading cycle.

Sukkot services will be held at 7 p.m. Friday, Sept. 25, followed by Simchat Torah services at 7 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 7.

Admission is free for members. Non-members pay \$36 per person or \$72 per family. Advance reservations and payment are required. There is no charge for Yizkor, Sukkot or Simchat Torah services.

The temple is at 86 Crescent Beach Road in Glen Cove. For information, call (516) 671-4760, email office@ncrt.org or visit ncrt.org.

—Roksana Amid

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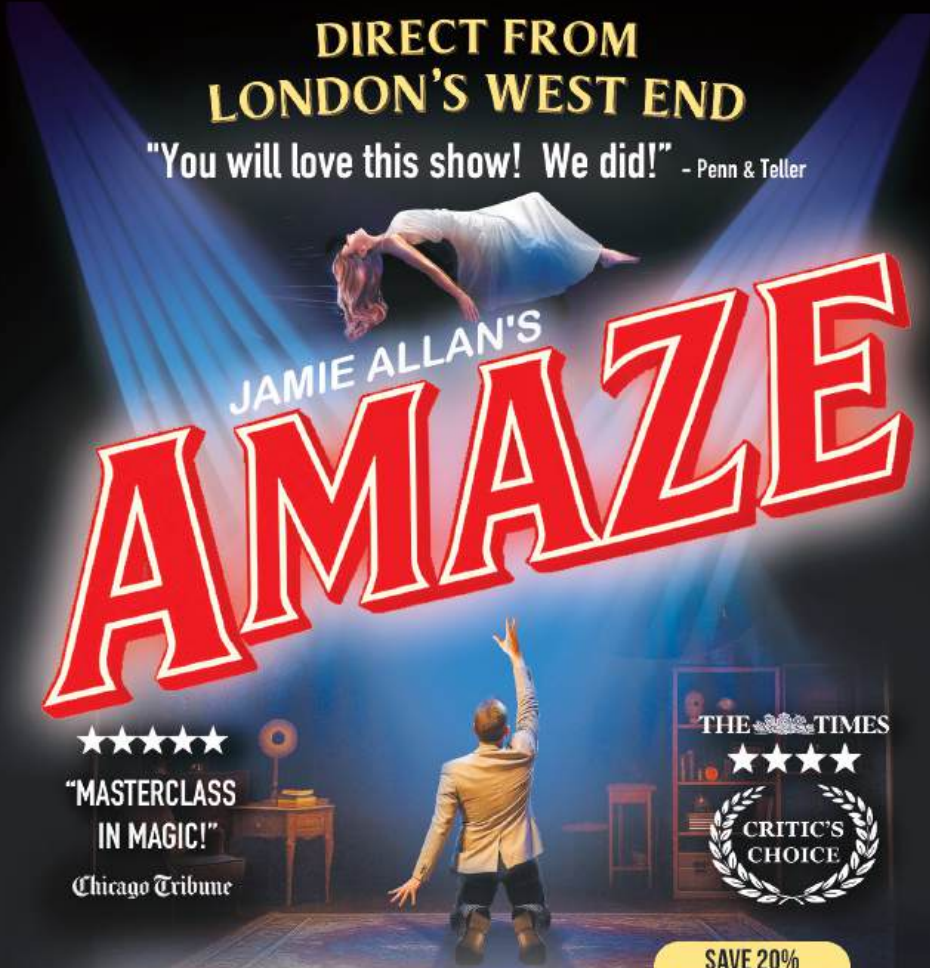


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By Karen Bloom

Fall may be knocking on the door, but there's no need to put away the flowers just yet. As the seasons shift, summer's vibrant blooms can continue to brighten patios, porches, balconies and interiors, offering an easy way to savor the lingering days of warm weather. Whether enjoyed beside a favorite book and a cold drink or gathered into a colorful centerpiece, fresh flowers can make even an ordinary afternoon feel like a celebration.

There are endless ways to bring that seasonal beauty to your surroundings. In fact, this in-between time of year can be one of the best times to enjoy summer's bounty when the garden is still generous with color but the first hints of autumn are beginning to appear.

The key is to have fun with it. Mix colors, textures, greenery and branches, experiment with different containers and let the flowers reflect the season — and your own personality. With a little creativity, you can keep summer's cheerful spirit around a while longer while gently welcoming the cozy days of fall.

Let summer linger

Late-summer gardens are still bursting with possibilities. Dahlias, gladioli and lilies come in an astonishing range of colors, shapes and sizes — and they make stunning arrangements. Rather than reaching for a ready-made bouquet, gather a mix of loose flowers, foliage and branches and create your own. Arrange them in a favorite vase or container, then display the finished bouquet indoors or outside for an instant dose of color.

Make a statement

Let your floral arrangements reflect your personal style. Choose a sturdy vase or planter for outdoor displays, or scatter several smaller vessels across a table for a more playful look. To help cut flowers stay fresh, trim the stems diagonally before placing them in water and keep arrangements in a

shady spot. Change the water regularly and, during lingering warm spells, check them daily. Outdoors, a few rocks or some sand in the bottom of a container can help keep it steady when the breeze picks up.

For an inviting finishing touch, surround your arrangement with candles, lanterns or other seasonal accents. A simple floral display can turn a patio table into a cozy gathering spot for those last leisurely days outdoors.

Let nature have its moment

Summer-flowering bulbs can keep the garden colorful for weeks, while also attracting pollinators and supporting biodiversity. Remove spent blooms to encourage continued flowering, and remember that some bulbs, including dahlias and gladioli, can be lifted after flowering and stored in a frost-free place to replant next year.

And there's a whole world of unusual bulbs to consider for future gardens, including calla lilies, pineapple lilies, freesias and Blazing Star. Planning ahead now can help ensure another spectacular display when warm weather returns.

A lily for all seasons

If lilies are already growing in your garden, you have an especially versatile bloom at your fingertips. Their elegant flowers range from pristine white and creamy yellow to rich reds and purples — making them equally at home on a terrace, balcony or dining table. Potted lilies can also transition easily between outdoor and indoor spaces.

A bouquet of lilies makes a beautiful statement on its own, but they also pair effortlessly with other seasonal flowers. Combine them with dahlias and gladioli in late summer, or bring them into fall with branches and foliage for an arrangement with a more autumnal feel. With their variety of colors, forms and fragrances, lilies offer endless opportunities to refresh a floral display as the seasons change.

Blooms for the soul

Flowers do more than brighten a room — they can brighten a mood, too. There's something inherently soothing about selecting blooms, arranging them in a vase and taking the time to appreciate their color, texture and fragrance. Even the simple ritual of creating a bouquet can provide a welcome moment of calm.

So before summer slips away completely, gather a few favorite blooms and bring them to the table. After all, there's no better way to ease into fall than with a little beauty still in bloom.



Los Lobos

"Just another band from East L.A.," is the legendary band's motto. Since 1973, Los Lobos has been putting their own spin on Mexican folk music to embrace rock, punk, country, soul, R&B, and more. The band broke through with its Grammy-winning 1983 recording "Anselma" and 1984's "How Will the Wolf Survive?," but its biggest commercial success came with its 1987 cover of Ritchie Valens' "La Bamba," which topped charts in the U.S. and U.K. Over five decades, the band has built a devoted international following with its adventurous recordings and acclaimed live performances. But perhaps its most lasting impact will be how well its music embodies the idea of America as a cultural melting pot. The result is a new sound that's greater than the sum of its parts.

Friday, Sept. 4, 7 p.m. Harry Chapin Lakeside Theatre, Eisenhower Park, East Meadow. Contact nassaucountyny.gov for information.



Australian Pink Floyd Show

The Australian Pink Floyd Show's The Happiest Days Of Our Lives — Greatest Hits 26 Tour is a collection of greatest hits that resonate deeply with Pink Floyd fans everywhere. This critically acclaimed tribute has been astonishing audiences worldwide for nearly 40 years. Striving to reproduce the Pink Floyd experience and bring the music to new audiences, the show features a new stage set and video animation, cutting-edge lighting, precision lasers, massive inflatables, and impeccable live sound, TAPFS promises to offer an unforgettable experience for both long-time fans and newcomers.

Wednesday, Sept. 9, 8 p.m. Tickets available at ticketmaster.com or paramountny.com. The Paramount, 370 New York Ave., Huntington.

YOUR NEIGHBORHOOD

CALENDAR

SEP 3 **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 best known for his stained-glass windows, lamps, and decorative objects, this exhibit 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

SEP 4 **First Fridays: The Buzz on Biodiversity**
Spend a morning immersed in the natural beauty of Planting Fields exploring the fascinating world of pollinators, monarch butterflies, and the diverse insects that support healthy ecosystems. This guided walk uncovers the important relationships between plants and pollinators while examining the challenges posed by invasive species. Participants take part in hands-on citizen science activities, including monarch butterfly tagging, and learn how everyday observations can contribute to conservation efforts. \$25 per person. For ages 8+. Registration required.

- **Where:** 1395 Planting Fields Road, Oyster Bay
- **Time:** 10-11 a.m.
- **Contact:** plantingfields.org or call (516) 922-9210

Falaise Tour
Visit Sands Point Preserve's cliff-side French Norman-style mansion, which was the residence of Captain Harry F. Guggenheim and his wife, Alicia Patterson, founder of Newsday. Explore the exquisite artwork, antiques, and furnishings inside one of the most inviting mansions on the Gold Coast.

- **Where:** 127 Middle Neck Road, Sands Point
- **Time:** Varied times, also Sept. 5-6, Sept. 9-10
- **Contact:** sandspointpreserveconservancy.org or call (516) 571-7901



SEP 17 **'The Rocketman Show'**
Remember when rock was young? You will after this enthralling show, on the Paramount stage. Crash land into your seat with The Rocket Man Show, starring Scotsman Rus Anderson — Elton John's official stunt and body double for various "Farewell Yellow Brick Road" world tour projects. Hand picked by Elton and David Furnish for the role, it was Rus' own live Broadway-esque production "The Rocket Man Show" that got him noticed. Witness the magic and live persona of a 1970's Elton, recreated like no other. Rus storms around the stage with a fun-loving sense of flamboyance; part diva, part soccer player, killer vocalist, fierce piano player, all rock and roller. This is a detailed re-creation of Elton concert's that's not to be missed. Anderson's painstaking attention to detail includes wearing gorgeous, colorful and spectacular costumes, including Elton's iconic boots, glasses and jumpsuits from 1973, as well as a sparkly Swarovski tuxedo from 1984.

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

SEP 10 **'Brown Bag' Art Chat**
Grab your lunch and join Nassau County Museum of Art Docent Riva Ettus for her popular "Brown Bag Lecture" at the museum. Discover the beauty, innovation and enduring legacy of the art of Louis Comfort Tiffany. Through Riva's engaging and insightful presentation, you'll gain a deeper appreciation for the exhibition and the remarkable artistry of one of America's most celebrated designers and creative visionaries. No reservations. First come, first seated.

- **Where:** 1 Museum Drive, Roslyn Harbor
- **Time:** 1 p.m., also Oct. 15
- **Contact:** nassaumuseum.org or (516) 484-9337

'Reluctant Revolutionaries'
Explore America's path to independence during "Reluctant Revolutionaries: Rebellion in the Age of Reason." Historian Dr. Richard Harris examines why many colonists were hesitant to break from Britain and how Enlightenment ideals and influential voices such as Thomas Jefferson and Thomas Paine helped build support for revolution. \$20, \$15 museum members

- **Where:** North Shore Historical Museum, Glen Cove
- **Time:** 7 p.m.
- **Contact:** northshorehistoricalmuseum.org

SEP 11 **9/11 Remembrance Ceremony**
The City of Glen Cove hosts its annual 9/11 Remembrance Ceremony honoring the local victims and first responders lost in the 2001 terrorist attacks. The solemn community gathering includes reflections, a wreath-laying ceremony and moments of remembrance. Admission is free.

- **Where:** Pratt Park, next to the Glen Cove Fire Department, Glen Cove
- **Time:** 6:30 p.m.
- **Contact:** Glen Cove Recreation Department at (516) 676-3766

SEP 12 **Mayor's Snapper Derby**
Young anglers ages 6 to 16 are invited to take part in the 2026 Glen Cove Mayor's Snapper Derby, hosted in partnership with the Glen Cove Anglers Club. Enjoy a

morning of fishing, friendly competition and family fun at the Prybil Beach Fishing Pier. A great community tradition. Admission is free.

- **Where:** Prybil Beach Fishing Pier, Glen Cove
- **Time:** 8:30-11:30 a.m.
- **Contact:** Glen Cove Recreation Department at (516) 676-3766

SEP 15 **Pre-Council Meeting**
The Glen Cove City Council holds a pre-council meeting to discuss matters before the city.

- **Where:** Glen Cove City Hall, 9 Glen St.
- **Time:** 6:30 p.m.
- **Contact:** Glen Cove City Hall, (516) 676-2000

Planning Board meets
The Glen Cove Planning Board holds its regularly scheduled meeting to discuss matters before the board.

- **Where:** Glen Cove City Hall, 9 Glen St.
- **Time:** 7:30 p.m.
- **Contact:** Glen Cove City Hall, (516) 676-2000

SEP 17 **Zoning Board of Appeals meets**
The Glen Cove Zoning Board of Appeals holds its regularly scheduled meeting to discuss matters before the board.

- **Where:** Glen Cove City Hall, 9 Glen St.
- **Time:** 7:30 p.m.
- **Contact:** Glen Cove City Hall, (516) 676-2000

SEP 18 **Guns & Hoses Softball Game**
Watch local police officers and firefighters face off on the field during the Guns & Hoses Softball Game.

- **Where:** John Maccarone Memorial Stadium, Glen Cove
- **Time:** 7 p.m.

SEP 19 **Glen Cove Street Fair**
Spend the day enjoying vendors, food, music, shopping and family-friendly activities at the annual Glen Cove Street Fair. Stroll through downtown, support local businesses and celebrate the community with neighbors and friends. Admission is free.

- **Where:** Downtown Glen Cove
- **Time:** 10 a.m.-5 p.m.
- **Contact:** Glen Cove Downtown Business Improvement District at (516) 759-6970

SEP 22 **City Council meets**
The Glen Cove City Council holds its regularly scheduled meeting to discuss and vote on matters before the city.

- **Where:** Glen Cove City Hall, 9 Glen St.
- **Time:** 7:30 p.m.
- **Contact:** Glen Cove City Hall, (516) 676-2000

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.



PUBLIC NOTICES

LEGAL NOTICE
SUPREME COURT-
COUNTY OF NASSAU.
BONITA WEST LLC,
Plaintiff -against-
ANTHONY DIBLASIO, et al Defendant(s).
Pursuant to a Judgment of Foreclosure and Sale dated July 14, 2026 and entered on July 27, 2026, I, the undersigned Referee will sell at public auction on the North Side steps of the Nassau County Supreme Court "Rain or Shine" located at 100 Supreme Court Drive, Mineola, NY on September 22, 2026 at 2:30 p.m. premises situate, lying and being in the City of Glen Cove, Town of Oyster Bay, County of Nassau and State of New York, bounded and described as follows: BEGINNING at a point on the east side of Maryland Avenue, 296.29 feet southerly from a stone monument set at the intersection of the South line Landing Road and the East line of Maryland Avenue, as measured along the East line of Maryland Avenue; from said point beginning; being a plot 74.46 feet by 40 feet 74.46 feet by 40 feet. Section: 31 Block: 46 Lot: 5
Said premises known as 9 MARYLAND AVENUE, GLEN COVE, NY
Approximate amount of lien \$7,113.42 plus interest & costs.
Premises will be sold subject to provisions of filed Judgment and Terms of Sale.
Index Number 617387/2025.
JARED A. KASSCHAU, ESQ., Referee
Marc P. Gershman, Esq.
Attorney(s) for Plaintiff 263 Mineola Boulevard, Mineola, NY 11501
{* Glen Cove*}
161796

LEGAL NOTICE
SUPREME COURT OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK
COUNTY OF NASSAU

U.S. BANK NATIONAL ASSOCIATION, NOT IN ITS INDIVIDUAL CAPACITY BUT SOLELY AS TRUSTEE FOR THE RMAC TRUST, SERIES 2016-CTT,

-against-

CARLOS RODRIGUEZ, HEIR AND DISTRIBUTE OF THE ESTATE OF CARLOS RODRIGUEZ, ET AL.

NOTICE OF SALE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN pursuant to a Final Judgment of Foreclosure entered in the Office of the Clerk of the County of Nassau on May 19, 2026, wherein U.S. BANK NATIONAL ASSOCIATION, NOT IN ITS INDIVIDUAL CAPACITY BUT SOLELY AS TRUSTEE FOR THE RMAC TRUST, SERIES 2016-CTT is the Plaintiff and CARLOS RODRIGUEZ, HEIR AND DISTRIBUTE OF THE ESTATE OF CARLOS RODRIGUEZ, ET AL. are the Defendant(s). I, the undersigned Referee, will sell at public auction RAIN OR SHINE at the NASSAU COUNTY SUPREME COURT, NORTH SIDE STEPS, 100 SUPREME COURT DRIVE, MINEOLA, NY 11501, on September 25, 2026 at 2:00PM, premises known as 9 MIDGE STREET, GLEN COVE, NY 11542; and the following tax map identification: 31-E-371.

ALL THAT CERTAIN PLOT, PIECE OR PARCEL OF LAND, WITH THE BUILDINGS AND IMPROVEMENTS THEREON ERECTED, SITUATE, LYING AND BEING IN THE CITY OF GLEN COVE, COUNTY OF NASSAU AND STATE OF NEW YORK

Premises will be sold subject to provisions of filed Judgment Index No.: 004087/2016. JJais A. Forde, Esq. - Referee. Robertson, Anschutz, Schneid, Crane & Partners, PLLC, 900 Merchants Concourse, Suite 310, Westbury, New York 11590, Attorneys for Plaintiff. All foreclosure sales will be conducted in accordance with Covid-19 guidelines including, but not limited to, social distancing and mask wearing. *LOCATION OF SALE SUBJECT TO CHANGE DAY OF IN ACCORDANCE WITH COURT/CLERK DIRECTIVES. 161979

To place a notice here call us at 516-569-4000 x232 or send an email to: legalnotices@liherald.com

LEGAL NOTICE
NOTICE OF SALE

SUPREME COURT COUNTY OF NASSAU PNC Bank, National Association, Plaintiff AGAINST Richard Salka; et al., Defendant(s)

Pursuant to a Judgment of Foreclosure and Sale duly entered May 22, 2026, I, the undersigned Referee, will sell at public auction at the North Side Steps of the Nassau County Supreme Court at 100 Supreme Court Drive, Mineola, NY 11501 on September 28, 2026, at 2:00PM, premises known as 9 Barlow Avenue, Glen Cove, NY 11542. All that certain plot piece or parcel of land, situate, lying and being in the City of Glen Cove, County of Nassau and State of New York, Section 31 Block 75 Lot 25. Approximate amount of \$530,716.73 plus interest and costs. Premises will be sold subject to provisions of filed Judgment Index# 604904/2023. Foreclosure Auctions will be held "Rain or Shine."

Ellen Durst, Esq., Referee

LOGS Legal Group LLP Attorney(s) for the Plaintiff 175 Mile Crossing Boulevard Rochester, New York 14624 (877) 430-4792

Dated: July 28, 2026 161975

LEGAL NOTICE
SUMMONS-SUPREME COURT OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK, COUNTY OF NASSAU - GITSIT SOLUTIONS, LLC, NOT IN ITS INDIVIDUAL CAPACITY BUT SOLELY IN ITS CAPACITY AS SEPARATE TRUSTEE OF GITSIT MORTGAGE LOAN TRUST BBPLC1, Plaintiff, -against- MICHALINE LAM A/K/A MIKKI ANNE LAM AS HEIR AND DISTRIBUTE OF THE ESTATE OF ANN CARUCCI; BOON WANG LAM AS HEIR AND DISTRIBUTE OF THE ESTATE OF ANN CARUCCI; KIMBERLY A. LAM A/K/A KIMBERLY ABBI AS HEIR AND DISTRIBUTE OF THE ESTATE OF ANN CARUCCI; THE UNKNOWN HEIRS-AT-LAW, NEXT-OF-KIN, DISTRIBUTEES, EXECUTORS, ADMINISTRATORS, TRUSTEES, BENEFICIARIES, DEVISEES, LEGATEES, ASSIGNEES, LIENORS, CREDITORS AND SUCCESSORS IN INTEREST AND GENERALLY ALL PERSONS AND PARTIES HAVING OR CLAIMING,

UNDER, BY OR THROUGH THE DECEDENT ANN CARUCCI, BY PURCHASE, INHERITANCE, LIEN OR OTHERWISE, ANY RIGHT, TITLE OR INTEREST IN AND TO THE PREMISES DESCRIBED IN THE COMPLAINT HEREIN; NEW YORK STATE DEPARTMENT OF TAXATION AND FINANCE; UNITED STATES OF AMERICA (EASTERN DISTRICT); "JOHN DOE #1" through "JOHN DOE #10" inclusive, the names of the ten last name Defendants being fictitious, real names unknown to the Plaintiff, the parties intended being persons or corporations having an interest in, or tenants or persons in possession of, portions of the mortgaged premises described in the Complaint, Defendants - Index No. 605392/2026 Plaintiff Designates Nassau County as the Place of Trial. The Basis of Venue is that the subject premises is situated in Nassau County. To the above named Defendants-YOU ARE HEREBY SUMMONED to answer the Complaint in this action and to serve a copy of your Answer or, if the Complaint is not served with this Summons, to serve a Notice of Appearance upon the Plaintiff's attorney within twenty (20) days after the service of this Summons, exclusive of the date of service or within thirty (30) days after the service is complete if this Summons is not personally delivered to you within the State of New York. If you fail to so appear or answer, judgment will be taken against you by default for the relief demanded in the Complaint. That this Summons is being filed pursuant to an order of the court dated July 27, 2026. NOTICE-YOU ARE IN DANGER OF LOSING YOUR HOME - If you do not respond to this summons and complaint by serving a copy of the answer on the attorney for the mortgage company who filed this foreclosure proceeding against you and filing the answer with the court, a default judgment may be entered and you can lose your home. Speak to an attorney or go to the court where your



Will Sheeline/Herald

Student volunteers with the North Shore Hispanic Chamber of Commerce showed off the backpacks on display.

Hispanic Chamber helps students pack for school

By WILL SHEELINE
wsheeline@liherald.com

The North Shore Hispanic Chamber of Commerce distributed more than 100 backpacks and school supplies to children in need during its fifth annual backpack giveaway at North Shore High School on Saturday.

The event has become an anticipated community tradition since the chamber first organized the giveaway five years ago. Connie Pinilla, president of the North Shore Hispanic Chamber of Commerce, said the organization initially had no plans to make the giveaway an annual event.

"Well, it was something we thought that was needed then," Pinilla reminisced. "We said, 'let's just do it.' We never had a plan to keep doing it."

The chamber ultimately distributed more than 125 backpacks, according to Pinilla. The backpacks included notebooks, pencils and crayons, providing children with supplies for the upcoming school year.

The chamber also committed 25 backpacks to the Economic Opportunity Commission of Glen Cove and provided 20 backpacks to a pastor who distributes them through a church in Queens.

Pinilla said the giveaway has devel-

oped a reputation among local families and organizations, with some contacting her weeks before the event to ask when it would take place.

"It's gotten a wonderful reputation, and the people expect it," Pinilla said. "We'd feel bad if we didn't do it."

The backpacks are funded through sponsorships, with Pinilla reaching out to the chamber's network about six weeks before the event.

While the chamber has received donated backpacks in previous years, this year's supplies were purchased using sponsorship money.

Sponsors for this year's event included the Kiwanis of North Shore, Care First Home Solutions, the Spivack Family and the Connie Pinilla Team at Compass. The chamber also sponsored the EOC Back to School Event.

Pinilla said seeing children choose their own backpacks is what motivates her to continue organizing the giveaway.

"When they come up to the table to pick their backpack," Pinilla said, "you can just see their light... and how happy they are to pick up the backpack they're going to use for their whole year."

The chamber thanked North Shore High School administration for providing the venue for the event.



PUBLIC NOTICES

case is pending for further information on how to answer the summons and protect your property. Sending a payment to the mortgage company will not stop the foreclosure action. YOU MUST RESPOND BY SERVING A COPY OF THE ANSWER ON THE ATTORNEY FOR THE

PLAINTIFF (GITSIT SOLUTIONS, LLC, NOT IN ITS INDIVIDUAL CAPACITY BUT SOLELY IN ITS CAPACITY AS SEPARATE TRUSTEE OF GITSIT MORTGAGE LOAN TRUST BBPLC1) AND FILING THE ANSWER WITH THE COURT. The foregoing summons is served upon you by

publication pursuant to an order of the Honorable Jeffrey A. Goodstein A.J.S.C. Dated: July 27, 2026 Filed: August 6, 2026. The object of this action is to foreclose a mortgage and covering the premises known as 21 Valentine Street, Glen Cove, NY 11542. Dated: March 11, 2026

Filed: March 11, 2026 Knuckles & Manfro, LLP, Attorney for Plaintiff, By: Jordan J. Manfro, Esq., 120 White Plains Road, Suite 215, Tarrytown, New York 10591 Phone: (914) 345-3020 161971

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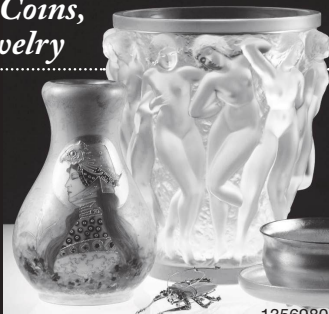


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OPINIONS

How about focusing on your 'feels-like' age?

Long Island is getting older. Over the past decade, Nassau and Suffolk counties have added more residents over age 65 than anywhere else in the state. More than a half-million older adults call this place home, and they're not all flocking to Florida.

Long Island retirees aren't uniformly downsizing or decelerating. They're rejecting the outmoded idea that chronological age determines how we should live. In a world of 30-year retirements and second and third acts, a single number can no longer capture a person's capacity, purpose or potential.

We propose a different framework: your "feels-like" age.

Your chronological age tells you how long you have lived. Your feels-like age reflects how you are living — the combined influence of your psychological outlook, social connections, physical health and environment. It is fluid, and offers a far more accurate picture of where you are in your aging journey.

To understand feels-like age, consider

Carmen Herrera. Born in 1915, Herrera painted in relative obscurity for over a half-century. She worked in a small New York City loft, lived modestly and sold almost nothing. Things finally changed in 2004, when, at age 89, she was con-

nected with a gallery owner who needed to fill a slot for a show. That show was her breakthrough: Critics embraced her, and she earned exhibitions at the Whitney Museum of American Art and the Museum of Modern Art. And even after achieving this recognition, she continued to paint daily, well past 100.

Though Herrera's chronological age was "late life," her feels-like age aligned with what we call the Settled-

In stage. Psychologically, she was ambitious; socially, she was networking; physically, she was continuing to create. The number 89 was, well, just a number, describing little else than how long she had lived.

Feels-like aging acknowledges physical realities, but recognizes that vitality is multi-dimensional. A person's lived

stage is defined by more than just biology — it is a product of mindset, relationships and purpose.

Our aging journey is nonlinear. It is about movement across different flexible stages of aging that do not need to occur in sequence. We call that movement the "flicker." People can move forward and backward across stages, depending on a range of factors and interventions.

To understand this, consider Howard. In his early 80s, Howard lived in Florida, and had once embraced an active outdoor lifestyle. Over time, chronic knee pain narrowed his world. He felt older than his 82 years, and was drifting toward what we would describe as the Supported Living stage — because of only one factor, his knees, which were off balance.

At his wife's urging, Howard underwent knee-replacement surgery. Recovery restored his mobility and confidence, and he returned to the activities he had shared with his wife. "I feel like I'm 70 again," he told us. Howard "flick-

ered" because intervention and intention changed his trajectory.

Taken together, feels-like age and flicker give us a framework for taking full advantage of lifespans. The shift can be transformative. When people see themselves as capable of movement — of entering a new stage, of regaining capacity, of redefining purpose — they plan differently. They invest in prevention, as Howard did. They pursue lifelong work and creativity, as Herrera did. Retirement becomes redesign, not retreat, and aging becomes a process to navigate, not dread.

When we think about Herrera's late-life artistic ascent, or Howard's return to mobility, we see that the calendar cannot fully define a human being. Our passions, potential and choices are what truly shape us.

Stuart C. Kaplan is chief executive officer of Selfhelp Community Services Inc. Marcus Riley is the founder of the Booming Ageing Agency. They are the co-authors of "Your Aging Advantage."



STUART C. KAPLAN



MARCUS RILEY

Putting a Jan. 6 compensation fund to good use

It is commonly known that the U.S. Constitution guarantees the right to a speedy trial. It is also understood that, sometimes, the wheels of justice move more slowly than we would like.

Americans are accustomed to legal proceedings plodding along. This is generally accepted because, in the vast majority of cases, the outcome is just. When it comes to justice for those responsible for the storming of the U.S. Capitol on Jan. 6, 2021, however, two recent rulings ensure that we

are never going to get the opportunity to see justice served.

In July, a federal judge granted a request by the Justice Department to dismiss a criminal case accusing five members of the far-right Proud Boys of seditious conspiracy in connection with the attack. A month later, another federal judge granted a similar request to throw out the same charges against eight members of the far-right Oath Keepers militia. In both cases, the judges, one appointed by President Trump, expressed deep regret for their rulings

— but noted that they had little choice, given Trump's Executive Order on Day One of his second term, granting clemency to all of the nearly 1,600 people charged with taking part in the insurrection.

Sadly, these cases mark the last traces of the Justice Department's vast investigation into the Capitol attack. Worse yet, it's still possible that any number of the Jan. 6 participants may benefit financially from their involvement. That's thanks to the \$1.776 billion "Anti-Weaponization Fund" created to compensate Americans who were unfairly targeted by federal law enforcement and prosecutorial actions during prior administrations. Those prosecuted as part of the investigation into the insurrection were clearly intended to be among those in line to benefit from the fund.

As part of his justification for the fund's creation, then Acting Attorney General Todd Blanche cited the landmark Obama-era Native American farmers discrimination case *Keepseagle v. Vilsack*, which resulted in a \$760 million settlement intended to compensate Native producers who were denied equal access to federal agricultural support.

While both cases involve the federal government creating large compensa-

tion programs for groups alleging systemic mistreatment, the similarities end there. For the Blanche-led Justice Department to invoke the suffering of

Native Americans and compare it to that experienced by those who organized and carried out one of the most ignominious acts in our nation's history was beyond ludicrous.

While the fund expectedly outraged Trump opponents, it caused internal problems for Republicans as well. Blanche's nomination for the permanent A.G. post was held up in the Senate Judiciary Committee as two Republican senators, not satisfied with his testimony, insisted on written assurances that the fund would be terminated. Blanche eventually acquiesced, clearing the only obstacle to the approval of his nomination.

But is it really dead? Despite several pending court challenges, Blanche's written statement seemed to kill it for good. However, he did not state that no such fund would ever be created *in the future*. In fact, no part of the termination order indicates that the DOJ could not revive it, or a comparable fund, in the future. Blanche has simply rescinded the fund — for now.

And despite his statement, the original IRS settlement that initially created

the fund actually remains in effect — and gives the attorney general the power to establish the fund and all relevant rules that govern it.

With questions lingering about whether the fund could be revived in one form or another, I have proposed legislation that, while it does not prohibit receipt of federal compensation, creates a state mechanism to redirect those funds toward public purposes.

My bill specifically applies to payments connected to claims arising from those prosecuted for their conduct during the Jan. 6 attack, taxing them at no less than 100 percent.

Money generated from the tax would be used to support programs and services for victims of political violence and domestic extremism; protection of democratic institutions; election infrastructure security; civic education and constitutional governance programs; and, perhaps most fitting, historical education about Jan. 6.

While it's my sincere hope that this legislation will never need to be invoked, the lingering questions about the fund's potential to be actuated make it necessary to ensure that if such payments ever reach New Yorkers, those funds will serve the public good rather than becoming a private windfall.

Charles Lavine represents the 13th Assembly District and chairs the Assembly Judiciary Committee.



CHARLES LAVINE

Let's tax any payments to prosecuted participants in the insurrection at 100 percent.

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HERALD EDITORIAL

Cheer students on beyond the classroom

As a new school year gets underway, students are returning to classrooms on campuses across Long Island. They are also returning to athletic fields, courts, tracks and pools, rehearsal halls and laboratories, where they will spend countless hours training, practicing and studying for everything from football games to band and choir concerts and stage productions to science fairs and art shows, at which they will represent their schools.

That makes this an ideal time for communities to remember that supporting local schools means more than voting on the district budget, following test scores and celebrating a championship after the fact. One of the simplest and most meaningful ways residents can support young people is by showing up.

Extracurricular school activities are an important part of the fabric of our communities. For students, participation is about far more than wins and losses or hitting the perfect musical note. These activities offer them opportunities to build confidence, learn discipline, develop teamwork and leadership skills, overcome adversity and form friendships that can last long after graduation.

The lessons learned from being part of a team, a music ensemble or the cast

of the school play can't be taught in a classroom. Working with peers toward a common goal teaches cooperation and accountability. Performing in public, whether leaping to spike a volleyball or playing an instrument, requires courage and confidence.

But while coaches, advisers and families play essential roles in supporting these students, the encouragement of the larger community matters, too.

An energetic crowd sends a message to students that their efforts are noticed and appreciated. It lets them know that the hours they've devoted to practicing over the summer, after school and on weekends mean something beyond the performance. It reminds them that they aren't simply playing for themselves, but representing a school and a community that is behind them.

And supporting your schools' athletes and performers doesn't have to be complicated. Get in the car. Bring the family. Invite a friend or neighbor. Spend an afternoon at a soccer match or a cross-country meet. Attend the concert. Go to the play.

You don't need to know every rule. You don't need to have a child or a grandchild on the team or on the stage. You just have to show up.

Attending a school event can also be a reminder of what makes a community

special. Games and performances bring students, parents, teachers, alumni and neighbors together. They're an opportunity for community members to see young people working hard, supporting one another and taking pride in the name on their uniforms.

The musician performing on stage, the artist displaying a painting and the student presenting a science project deserve encouragement just as much as the athlete scoring a goal. Supporting students means recognizing achievement, effort and creativity in all their forms.

As the new academic year takes shape, residents of every school district should make an effort to get out of the house and become part of the experience. Check the local school calendar, and choose a game, performance or event.

Our schools are among the centers of community life, and the students who walk their halls today will help shape our communities tomorrow. A few hours spent cheering them on may seem like a small gesture, but to a young person who looks into the crowd and sees a community supporting them, that can mean the world.

This school year, let's do more than applaud our students from afar. Let's show up for them.

LETTERS

Our laws assume, incorrectly, that our leaders have integrity

To the Editor:

The fundamental faith of its people that elections are fair and safe are the hallmarks of a democracy. Sowing doubt is how autocracies take hold.

In other countries, it is illegal to spread false or seriously misleading information attacking the integrity of the electoral process. Article 323 of Brazil's Electoral Code makes it a crime for candidates to knowingly spread false facts about political parties or candidates. Former Brazilian President Jair Bolsonaro was sentenced to 27 years in prison for plotting to overturn the results of the 2022 election after spreading unfounded claims about election fraud.

In this country, there are slander and defamation laws. However, politicians are exempt. Why? In England, Section 106 of the Representation of the People Act 1983 makes it illegal to make a false



OPINIONS

Let's find substitutes for 'forever chemicals'

Are there safe alternatives to PFAS, the so-called forever chemicals? Yes, plenty of them.

As a 2024 article in Smithsonian magazine began: "On April 6, 1938, a group of chemists at DuPont gathered around part of their latest experiment: a plain metal cylinder. It supposedly

contained tetrafluoroethylene, a colorless gas. But when they opened the valve, no gas came out. ... Eventually someone realized they needed to cut open the cylinder to see what was going on. They found the interior of the metal unexpectedly coated with a slippery

Research and Public Health, and other studies, have linked PFAS to maladies including cancer.

DuPont's motto through the years has been Better Living Through Chemistry. A lawsuit brought in July by New York state Attorney General Letitia James questions that rosy slogan, presenting evidence that the suit claims shows that DuPont and other corporations "knew for decades that PFAS pose substantial dangers to public health and the environment."

With Suffolk and Nassau counties dependent on a sole-source aquifer that is being impacted by PFAS, and with people elsewhere in the nation and world affected in a variety of ways, what are the safe alternatives?

In fact, substitute products are listed and clearly presented on a variety of websites. An excellent online source is that of the Washington, D.C.-based Environmental Working Group. Others include PFAS Central, of the California-based Green Science Policy Institute, and the Natural Resources Defense Council. Even the American Chemical Society offers a list of "530 potential alternatives to per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances, PFAS," acknowledging that they are "linked to health risks" includ-

ing "certain cancers."

The Environmental Working Group presents hundreds of listings divided by "Products Covered," Brand" and "Company Policy," and links to them for further details. Under "Carpets and Rugs," for example, the retail chain Lowe's states that "all [of its] indoor residential carpet and rugs are free of PFAS chemicals."

Under "Cookware," Green Life states, "We've cut out the toxins — PFAS, PFOA ... so you can cook without worry."

Under "Cosmetics & Personal Care," Sephora says, "PFAS compounds: Prohibited." Under "Dental Care," Radius Floss says, "Our USDA Organic Floss is 100% ... PFAS free." Under "Food Packaging," Pactiv Evergreen says its products are "PFAS-free." Under "Furniture, Office & Bedding," Herman Miller says its products are "PFAS-free." Under "Apparel," Levi Strauss & Co. says it bans "all related PFAS" in its clothing.

As to claims that there are no alternatives to a given toxic product, a historical example of that not ringing true involves the Monsanto Company and polychlorinated biphenyls, or PCBs. Monsanto started manufacturing PCBs in 1929, and, decades later, feared that they would be banned in the United

States after being outlawed in Japan. There, PCBs had leaked into rice oil, people got sick and some died. PCBs were being used widely, especially as an insulating fluid in electrical systems. Despite Monsanto's claims that there were no adequate substitutes, PCBs were banned in the U.S. in 1979. What has substituted for them? Nothing space-age — just mineral oil.

In New York state, there's an initiative called PFAS-Free NY, which describes itself as a "broad group of organizations, advocates and impacted community members who have come together to fight for a PFAS-free New York." Earlier this year, it issued a statement headed, "Limiting PFAS Exposure is Central Priority for Advocates This Legislative Session." Several measures on PFAS didn't make it through the State Legislature last year.

Assemblywoman Deborah Glick, of Manhattan, chair of the chamber's Environmental Conservation Committee, says that PFAS "have infiltrated our bodies and the environment, creating a toxic cycle that endangers both people and ecosystems. The only way to break this cycle is to eliminate these chemicals."

Karl Grossman has been an investigative reporter in a variety of media for more than 50 years. He is a professor of journalism at the State University of New York at Old Westbury.



KARL GROSSMAN

white powder."

"Since it was discovered," the piece continued, "Teflon and its chemical descendants, per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances, or PFAS, have spread everywhere. ... These molecules are so common that a 2015 study found the chemicals in 97 percent of Americans' blood. And once they make it into our bodies, medical researchers are finding that the long-lasting chemicals could be wreaking havoc." Indeed, a study by the International Journal of Environmental

LETTERS

statement about a candidate's personal character or conduct to affect an election. Candidates can be disqualified from standing for or holding office for three years. More serious corrupt practices can result in a five-year disqualification.

Authoritarian regimes send militias to the polls, and spread false claims of voter fraud to intimidate voters and undermine confidence in elections. Are Republicans in this country acting any differently?

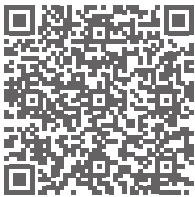
The one lesson we should have learned from Jan. 6, 2021, is that our laws depend too heavily on the integrity of those in power. Our Constitution has baby teeth — important protections that can be too easily ignored or exploited by those willing to disregard democratic norms. Congress must enact stronger laws to give our democracy its permanent teeth: clear, enforceable safeguards with real consequences for those who try to undermine it.

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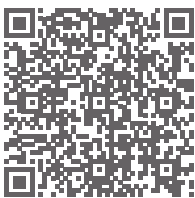
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