

GLEN COVE HERALD



LOOK INSIDE
- Long Island Choice Awards



VOL. 35 NO. 42 OCTOBER 15 - 21, 2026 $1.00



Courtesy Glen Cove Beautification

Planting tulips for breast cancer awareness

Lorri Prince and Mike Ktistakis helped to plant tulip bulbs during the annual Partners in Pink Tulip Planting, organized by the Glen Cove Beautification Commission and Glen Cove CARES to beautify the city and raise awareness of breast cancer. Photos, Page 10.

City proposes $70.M budget amid shortfall

By ROKSANA AMID
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Glen Cove Mayor Pam Panzenbeck has proposed a $70 million budget for 2027 that would increase spending by nearly 2 percent and raise the city's property tax levy by 1.83 percent, as City Council members question whether anticipated revenues will support the spending plan.

Presented at Tuesday's council meeting, the proposal would increase spending by $1.34 million over the current budget. It includes $58.87 million for the general fund, $4.38 million for water, $6.64 million for debt service and $793,000 for insurance.

Panzenbeck said that rising pension contributions, health care premiums and salary increases remain major financial challenges. At a pre-council meeting last week, she said the city had begun negotiations with the Civil Service Employees Association.

> We've climbed out of a hole. We've dipped down a little. We will get past this.
>
> **PAMELA PANZENBECK**
> Mayor, Glen Cove

"It's always difficult to construct a budget, considering how much is required to upkeep the city," she said, "especially contending with significant, uncontrollable costs, such as employee pension contribution and health care costs."

Personnel-related expenses account for roughly $44 million, or 75 percent, of the general fund. The proposal includes increases of $1.27 million in full-time salaries, $862,000 in pension contributions and $355,000 in health care premiums.

The property tax levy would rise from $33.33 million to $33.94 million, an increase of just over $609,000. Although the residential tax rate would decrease 10.59 percent because of higher assessed property values, Panzenbeck said that a home assessed at $805,000 would see an estimated annual city tax increase of $97.81, or 2.82 percent.

The proposed levy is approximately $525,000 below the

CONTINUED ON PAGE 5

$100,000 grant will help raise curtain for downtown theater

By ROKSANA AMID
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After two years of planning, fundraising and construction delays, a long-awaited performing arts center in downtown Glen Cove is closer to becoming a reality, thanks to a $100,000 grant that is helping transform a former hardware store into a venue for live entertainment.

The funding, awarded by the Long Island Real Estate Group, has helped advance renovations at 19 Glen St., where construction had stalled for several months because of funding shortages. Organizers hope to complete construction by the end of the year and begin welcoming audiences in early 2027.

The Glen Cove Performing Arts Center will provide a permanent home for North Shore Village Theatre and Jazz Hands Children's Theatre while bringing concerts, comedy shows and other performances to the city's downtown.

Christopher Moll, the center's artistic director, said substantial construction progress has been made over the past two months.

The audience risers have been constructed, the bar and box office have been framed, and the bathrooms are ready for fixtures. The sprinkler system has also been updated, while work on the building's facade and rear extension is begin-

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HERALD Community Newspapers

3 THINGS TO KNOW ABOUT DEER ACTIVITY ON NORTH SHORE ROADS

Deer sightings on the North Shore

By ROKSANA AMID

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As autumn settles across Glen Cove and surrounding North Shore communities, motorists may notice more deer near residential neighborhoods, wooded areas and local roadways. October marks the beginning of a period of increased deer activity, raising the risk of encounters between wildlife and vehicles.Here are three things residents should know about deer activity this fall.

1 Breeding season brings more deer onto roads

White-tailed deer become more active during their annual breeding season, commonly known as the "rut," which typically occurs from October through December and peaks in November.

During this period, male deer travel greater distances in search of mates, often crossing roads and moving through unfamiliar areas. Their increased movement can make them less predictable, particularly in neighborhoods near wooded properties and nature preserves. During the rut, bucks may pursue does across several properties, sometimes moving through yards, parks and wooded areas in a matter of minutes. Younger bucks may also become more active as they compete for opportunities to mate.

2 Dawn and dusk are particularly dangerous

Deer are most active around sunrise and sunset, when reduced visibility makes them more difficult for motorists to spot.

Drivers traveling along roads bordering wooded areas, parks and residential neighborhoods should remain especially alert. Deer frequently travel in groups, so motorists who encounter one crossing the road should watch for others following behind.

Shorter daylight hours during autumn can also increase the likelihood of motorists encountering deer during their morning and evening commutes.

3 Drivers should brake rather than swerve

The New York State Department of Environmental Conservation advises motorists to exercise caution in areas where deer are common, particularly during the fall breeding season.

If a deer suddenly appears in the roadway, drivers should brake firmly while maintaining control of their vehicle. Swerving to avoid an animal can increase the risk of colliding with another vehicle, striking a tree or leaving the roadway.

Motorists should also obey posted speed limits, use high beams when appropriate and remain attentive to deer crossing signs. If a collision occurs, drivers should move to a safe location, contact authorities when necessary and avoid approaching an injured deer.

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Concertmaster inspires young musicians

By ROKSANA AMID
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Photos courtesy Glen Cove City Schools

David Kim, concertmaster of The Philadelphia Orchestra, visited Glen Cove High School to share his musical expertise.



Glen Cove High School orchestra students had the opportunity to learn from internationally renowned violinist David Kim during a special visit.



David Kim, encouraged developing technical skills while bringing greater emotion to performances.

Students at Glen Cove High School had an opportunity to learn from one of the country's leading classical musicians when David Kim, concertmaster of The Philadelphia Orchestra, visited the school's orchestra program to share his expertise and perform alongside young musicians.

Kim, who has held the prestigious position since 1999, worked with students on their technique and musical expression while offering advice about the importance of preparation, collaboration and listening. His visit gave aspiring musicians an opportunity to experience the standards and expectations of a professional orchestra firsthand.

The visit came together through an unexpected connection on social media.

Tay Kwak, Glen Cove High School's orchestra director, said he first encountered Kim at a concert in Queens, where she was struck not only by his musicianship but also by his approachable personality.

"I saw such a humility in him, so I really wanted to reach out," Kwak said.

Despite Kim's international reputation and demanding performance schedule, Kwak decided to contact him through Instagram, hoping he might be willing to visit her students.

"Maybe he will reply," he recalled thinking.

To his surprise, Kim responded. Kwak said he appeared to have looked into Glen Cove's orchestra program and was willing to make time for the students. His visit coincided with a performance engagement at Carnegie Hall, allowing him to stop at the school despite his busy schedule.

For Kwak, the opportunity was about more than bringing a prominent musician into the classroom. She wanted students to experience an encounter they would remember long after graduation.

"I really hope that students will just remember this moment as they live on, and then hopefully take what he gave us and apply it to their everyday life," he said.

Kwak said Kim emphasized preparation, flexibility and the importance of being a good listener, lessons she believes extend beyond the rehearsal room.

The high school's orchestra program includes approximately 24 students in the upper grades and another 60 in ninth and 10th grades.

Among those participating was freshman Edgar Rivas, who has played violin since fourth grade. Rivas said he was eager to meet Kim after reading about his accomplishments on the school's website.

"I'm very excited to work with a very good professional," Rivas said.

The experience offered him practical advice on improving his performance, particularly how to make the music more expressive.

"I learned to move my wrist more and add more emotion, personality, into the instruments that I'm just playing," he said.

For Kim, visiting schools and mentoring young musicians has remained an important part of his career, even as his work takes him to concert halls around the world.

Born in Carbondale, Illinois, in 1963, Kim began studying violin at age 3 and later trained under renowned instructor Dorothy DeLay. He attended the Juilliard School, where he earned bachelor's and master's degrees, before becoming concertmaster of The Philadelphia Orchestra.

Kim said his connections to Long Island stretch back to his childhood, when he traveled from Juilliard's Lincoln Center campus to perform throughout the region.

"All the way through my career, 30 years in the Philadelphia Orchestra, I visit schools and work with young people," he said.

Although most of the students he meets will not pursue professional careers in classical music, Kim believes the discipline offers valuable lessons regardless of their future ambitions.

"I think classical music teaches lots of great life lessons about collaboration, about being a good listener, about flexibility, about kindness as you work with your colleagues, and warmth of working with other people," Kim said.

He added that problem-solving and discipline are equally important, whether students eventually pursue careers in science, athletics, education or other fields.

"It gives me great joy to maybe help to enlighten them, show them a little bit of what that means from a professional perspective," he said. "And then hopefully it spills over into their lives."

Kim also hopes to challenge young people's perceptions of classical music, which he acknowledged can sometimes seem unfamiliar or uninteresting to younger audiences.

He pointed to the influence of classical music on contemporary genres, including hip-hop and K-pop, as well as the soundtracks of popular films.

"All of these musicians learn the same concepts, the same skills, from early on in classical music," Kim said. "And then they can apply those principles and concepts in whatever — hip-hop, or K-pop, or — it doesn't matter."

He explained that musical fundamentals such as rhythm and harmony provide a foundation for creativity across genres.

For Kwak, that broader perspective was central to the visit. She recognizes that many students will stop playing their instruments after high school, but hopes their experiences in the orchestra will remain meaningful.

He said he wants students to remember Kim's professionalism and generosity, and to feel a personal connection whenever they encounter The Philadelphia Orchestra in the future.

"I just wanted to give them something to remember during the high school years," Kwak said.

How will architects use A.I.?

Ask The Architect



MONTE LEEPER

Q. There's been a lot of controversy about A.I. lately, and I'm wondering what it has done for architects. Do you see a threat to your job, or has it been helpful? Will it lower the cost of architects? What do you see in the immediate future?

A. As Yogi Berra once said, the future ain't what it used to be. It's getting closer all the time. Artificial intelligence is a way to solve problems faster using computers. I wish it were so, that A.I. saved time and money, especially for planning, drawing and building.

The process of developing a project — a renovation, addition or new building — has many stages. First there's what's referred to as "scope of work," that is, putting together an outline of the needs to be fulfilled, the study of limitations, such as laws (building and zoning codes) and physical restrictions (weather, water and other influences), the process of getting all the spaces to flow together and be sized well, the material selections, structural analysis, the creation of the pretty picture to make the project look good, then the process of documenting everything into a set of construction plans showing how all the thousands of parts go together.

There will come a time when the assembly part of the process, on screen and paper, will be faster, because the computer processing is faster, but because each stage also includes human emotion, unwritten local rules and owner decisions, unless humans just step aside, the computer can't read minds, at least not yet, and the process will still need human guidance for a long time to come. I've been able to develop artistic renderings of what a project will look like in an hour (with multiple voice command edits) instead of a day, but the computer will assemble parts in ways that may be physically impossible if not closely monitored, such as balconies protruding from buildings with no way to get out onto them, handrails running into windows, floors too thin to be structurally sound — blunders that a human can catch but A.I. hasn't perfected, yet.

Each part of the process has tasks that A.I. is helpful with, such as researching the most applicable section of a building code to determine if a selected window opening, set of stairs or fire safety equipment is correct. But A.I. can also select the wrong version of a law, one that's outdated, and A.I. won't know the difference. If a human doesn't realize the error, problems move forward and can cause delays instead of saving time. Another problem is described as "garbage in, garbage out," a phrase known in the computer industry since its beginnings. If the input isn't clear and concise, the output is open to failure. Humans will need to sharpen their skills, too!

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Courtesy office Tom Suozzi

Glen Cove Police Sgt. Peter Michaleas and Brookville Police Detective Vasilios "Billy" Rabie were among nine law enforcement honored by Rep. Tom Suozzi during his annual Hometown Heroes ceremony on Oct. 5

Local officers honored for lifesaving actions

Glen Cove Police Sgt. Peter Michaleas and Brookville Police Detective Vasilios "Billy" Rabie were among nine law enforcement officers honored by U.S. Rep. Tom Suozzi during his seventh annual Hometown Heroes ceremony on Oct. 5, recognizing acts of courage, quick thinking and dedication to public safety.

The ceremony, held outside the Glen Cove Police Department, recognized officers from five police departments across Nassau County and New York City. Each honoree received a Congressional citation and an American flag flown over the U.S. Capitol.

Michaleas was recognized for saving the life of a 12-year-old boy who suffered a severe arm injury on June 24.

Two 12-year-old boys called 911 after their friend accidentally pushed his arm through a glass windowpane, severing a major artery.

Michaleas was the first officer to arrive. Recognizing the severity of the bleeding, he reassured the children, applied a tourniquet to stabilize the injured boy and coordinated a medical helicopter evacuation to a trauma center.

"Sgt. Peter Michaleas' calm demeanor under pressure and immediate medical intervention directly saved the life of this child," Glen Cove Police Chief Chris Ortiz said.

Rabie was honored for recovering an illegally possessed loaded firearm during a March 14 traffic stop on Route 107.

While on patrol, Rabie observed a Dodge Charger traveling at an excessive speed and operating unsafely. After stopping the vehicle, he discovered that the driver could not produce a valid license.

Rabie noticed what appeared to be a handgun in the glove compartment. Although that weapon was later identified as an imitation BB pistol, a subsequent search uncovered a loaded Smith & Wesson .38 Special revolver and additional ammunition.

"I have made it a tradition to hold these Hometown Heroes ceremonies because the men and women who protect our communities every day deserve our support and our thanks," Suozzi said. "Police officers have one of the toughest jobs there is. things they do every day go unnoticed."

–Roksana Amid

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Reverse Mortgages

We have long been advocates of the reverse mortgage, an underutilized tool for seniors in need of additional retirement income.

Baby boomers as a group are currently between the ages of 62 and 80 years old. They tend to have lower savings rates than their parents, fewer pension and retirement plans, have experienced many years of lower interest rates and are facing considerably longer life expectancies.

Reverse mortgages are available to those 62 and older. No repayments are due until the last of the borrowers dies or the home is sold. Heirs have up to twelve months to sell the home, refinance the home or buy it themselves. You can never owe more than the house is worth so if the property is upside down the heirs can simply walk away. On the other hand, if the equity in the home exceeds the loan amount, the heirs keep the excess proceeds.

Reverse mortgage loans are generally tax-free for up to 70% of the equity. While there are no loan payments, the homeowner remains responsible for taxes, insurance and upkeep on the home. Loans may be taken as (1) a lump sum, (2) a line of credit; or (3) a stream of income. They are often used to pay off existing mortgages in order to eliminate mortgage payments and gain more disposable income.

Oddly enough, there may be some benefit to taking out a reverse mortgage closer to the age of 62. This allows the use of a relatively small portion of the reverse mortgage loan to fund life and long-term care insurance to both (a) protect the client's assets from the cost of long-term care, and (b) to replace the money taken out of the home with the tax-free proceeds of life insurance upon death. Those life insurance proceeds may also be used to pay off the reverse mortgage and keep the home.

For those looking for retirement alternatives, a reverse mortgage may allow for the purchase of a second home and the adoption of a "snowbird" lifestyle or it may allow for the purchase of an income-producing investment property. It may also be used to help adult children in need as an advance on their inheritance.

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GLEN COVE HERALD

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The Glen Cove Herald USPS 008886, is published every Thursday by Richner Communications, Inc., 2 Endo Blvd. Garden City, NY 11530. Periodicals postage paid at Garden City, NY 11530 and additional mailing offices. Postmaster send address changes to Glen Cove Herald, 2 Endo Blvd. Garden City, NY 11530. **Subscriptions:** $52 per year auto pay or $65 one time payment within Nassau county (excluding qualified zip codes) or $76 outside of Nassau County or by qualified request in zip codes 11542, 11545, 11547, 11548 or 11579 **Copyright © 2026** Richner Communications, Inc. All rights reserved.

Questions remain on 2027 spending plan

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

state's allowable property tax cap.

"It has always been our goal to provide our residents with every city service they currently receive while continuing to improve the landscape, infrastructure and quality-of-life issues in our beloved city," Panzenbeck said.

The budget anticipates around $3.17 million in sales tax revenue and $286,000 from a proposed hotel occupancy tax expected to take effect next April. Those projections come as Glen Cove faces financial challenges. The state comptroller designated the city susceptible to fiscal stress based on its 2025 financial performance, and officials have acknowledged a revenue shortfall this year.

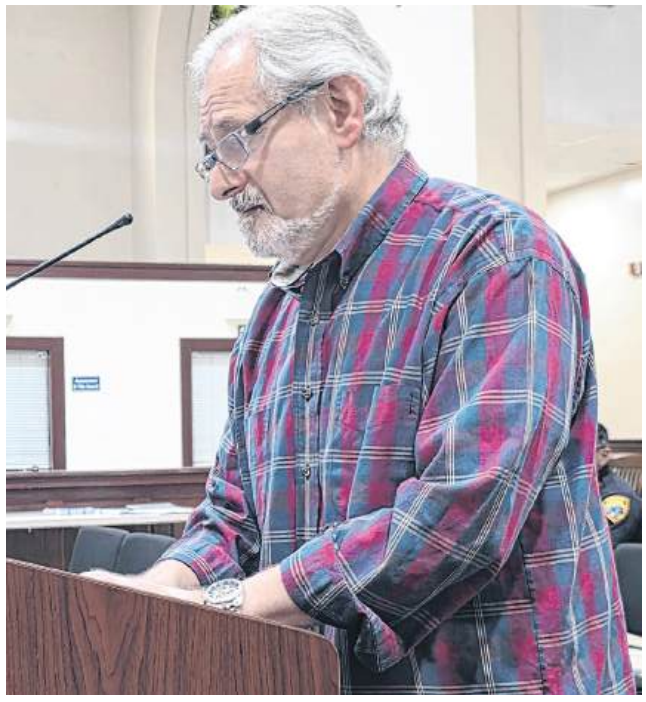
During the meeting, resident Walter Costanza asked what happened to sales tax revenue the city expected under its revised arrangement with Nassau County. Panzenbeck said that the city didn't receive the necessary county waiver in time to collect the anticipated revenue this year, but expects the arrangement to take effect in 2027.

"We actually get it from the state directly," she said, adding that the city expects to continue receiving assistance from Nassau County.

"We have had our issues in the past," Panzenbeck said. "We've climbed out of a hole. We've dipped down a little. We will get past this."

After the meeting, Councilman John Perrone described the presentation as informative. "I found it to be complete," he said. "Of course, we need to digest more of what's in the budget on how we got to the bottom line."

Perrone expressed concern about relying on sales tax revenue the city has not yet received. "Let's be honest: This entire budget is balanced on the money from the county or from the state, whichever way (Panzenbeck) gets it," he said. "It's all balanced on the sales tax money. That's $3 million. The budget is balanced because $3 million is a big difference if it all of a sudden isn't there."



Roksana Amid/Herald

Glen Cove resident Walter Costanza addressed the City Council during its meeting on Tuesday, questioning the status of anticipated sales tax revenue under the city's revised arrangement with Nassau County.

Perrone said he wanted assurances that the money would materialize.

Councilwoman Danielle Fugazy Scagliola also questioned the revenue projections in the wake of what she described as two difficult budget years.

"The city's in a very hard position after two bad budgets in '25 and '26," she said. "We need to really look at this '27 budget."

Fugazy Scagliola asked whether projected increases in Building Department revenue, Code Enforcement collections and parking fines were realistic. "Everything is increased in our revenue line, from building department to code," she said. "If we didn't hit them in 2026, how are we going to hit them in 2027?"

She also questioned the certainty of the sales tax and hotel occupancy tax revenue estimates. "We really don't know how much money that's going to be," she said. "That's a guess. The other issue is that there's been no mention of how we're supposed to close the gap for 2026, the budget gap."

Panzenbeck said her administration has worked to control spending while maintaining services, and that residential tax increases have averaged less than 1 percent annually during her five budget cycles.

"I will continue my mission to eliminate wasteful and non-essential spending, manage down expense growth where possible throughout the city, and deliver a broad set of government services to support our community," she said.

The council will hold a second public hearing on the budget on Oct. 27.





America's Cup documentary hits big screen

By WILL SHEELINE
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The new documentary "The Mighty Mary" brings the story of the first all-woman team to compete in the America's Cup back to the North Shore and Oyster Bay's Oakcliff Sailing Center, where much of the film's present-day footage was shot.

Led by Dawn Riley, now Oakcliff's executive director, the 1995 America3 team challenged the male-dominated sailing establishment and advanced further in the competition than many expected, all the way to the semifinal round. Riley, who was the team's captain, said that the documentary revisits an important chapter in sailing history while highlighting the work Oakcliff continues to do today.

"It started off being kind of like my soup to nuts, my beginning to modern day," Riley said. "It was supposed to include Oakcliff, and then there was so much meat for the 1995 campaign, which was the first, and so far only, all-women's team to race."

Directed by Mary Mazzio, the documentary combines archival footage with interviews with more than 60 people involved in the story, Riley said. The film was released on Sept. 11 in theaters nationwide for a limited run, and has also screened in Europe. It features narration by Elizabeth Banks and Hugh Jackman, who also served as executive producers.

> Anybody who watches this and is excited about the sport can come and train, come learn, or support.
>
> **DAWN RILEY**
> Executive director, Oakcliff Sailing Center



Photos courtesy Oakcliff Sailing Center

The America3 team gathered for a reunion at Oakcliff Sailing Center in Oyster Bay, and filmed several scenes on Oakcliff vessels.

The film crew came to Oyster Bay in May 2025, Riley said, when former members of America3 and other America's Cup teams gathered for a reunion at Oakcliff. "We had a reunion of men and women from the '92, '95 and 2000 cups in Oyster Bay in May of '25," Riley said. "So all of the modern footage in this film is shot in Oyster Bay."

For Merritt Palm Keffer, one of the sailors featured in the film, the reunion was an opportunity to reconnect with teammates and revisit the experience three decades after the 1995 campaign. "The fun part for me was definitely the reunion, which occurred at Oakcliff," Keffer said, "and Dawn and her sister and her mom and all of the Oakcliff staff worked so hard to make sure that we had awesome boats to sail (at the reunion)."

Keffer, who sailed under her maiden name, Merritt Palm, grew up in the Detroit area, and began sailing as a child under Riley. She competed in sailing programs, and was running a junior program at Lauderdale Yacht Club, in Florida, when she was selected for America3.

The team brought together sailors with varying levels of experience, most of whom had never taken part in the America's Cup. The campaign, Keffer said, required the sailors to develop quickly while dealing with the pressures of competing in a male-dominated sport.

"I think the story is one of resilience, one of perseverance," she said. "I was very skeptical of how [the documentary] would work out, just because Mary Mazzio herself isn't a sailor, but I think she did a really good job capturing the essence of our team."

The 1995 campaign also required the team to overcome significant competitive and logistical challenges. Many of the women had never raced on the type of boats used in the Cup before joining the team, Riley said.

The film also revisits the political and competitive controversies surrounding the 1995 series, as shown in the film. Riley described the competition as one marked by "politics and technology and strategy and shenanigans," while Keffer said that seeing some of the events again brought back strong emotions.

For Riley, the documentary also connects the accomplishments of the 1995 team and Oakcliff's current mission of developing sailors and leaders.

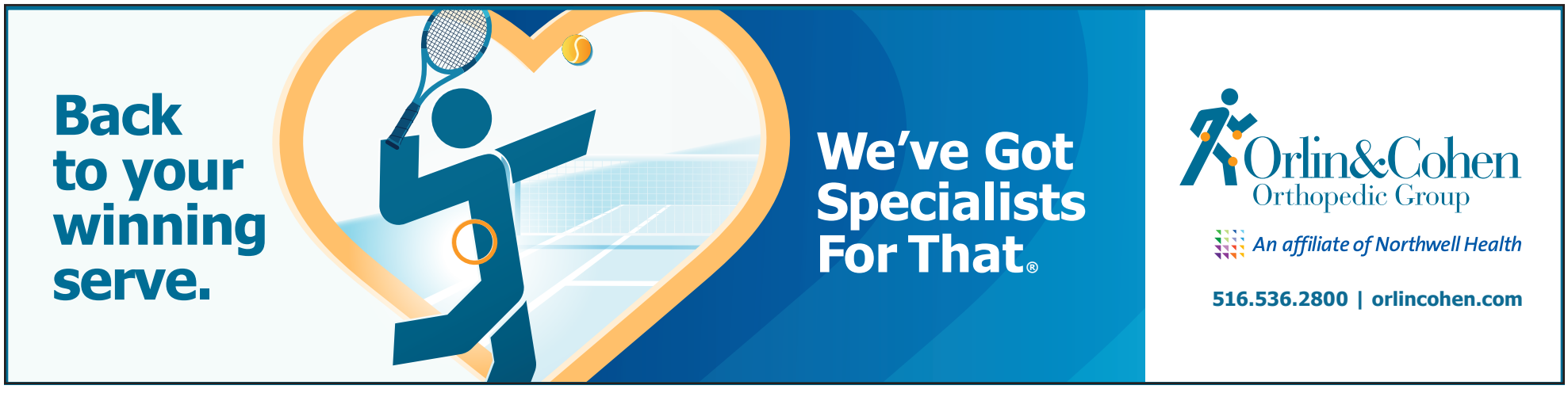
"We're a public nonprofit," she said. "We're bringing attention to the sport. We're training. We train the Oyster Bay High school sailing team. We scholarship in so that there's never a problem with need. So that's our mission: building leaders with sailing."

The 1995 team demonstrated that women could compete at the highest level of the sport, Keffer said, and the documentary can introduce that story to a new generation. "I think we did have an impact, and I think at the very least, it opened women sailors in particular," she said. "The women show that women sailing, or sailing with men in general, is a thing."

The Cinema Arts Centre, in Huntington, is planning to screen the film, although no date has been set.

For Oakcliff, she hopes that viewers who are inspired by the documentary will get involved with sailing themselves. "Anybody who watches this and is excited about the sport can come and train, come learn, or support," she said.

To learn more about Oakcliff, visit OakcliffSailing.org.



Canning hopes to return to County Legislature

By ROKSANA AMID

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Will Sheeline/Herald

John Canning, the Republican challenger in Nassau County's 11th L.D., is hoping to be "the comeback kid."

HERALD ROUNDTABLE

11TH LEGISLATIVE DISTRICT

John Canning hopes to return to the Nassau County Legislature 31 years after he helped establish the governing body, and is campaigning on opposition to an energy project, preserving local control of development and keeping taxes in check.

The 63-year-old Sea Cliff resident, a Republican, is challenging incumbent Democrat Delia DeRiggi-Whitton in the 11th Legislative District.Canning was elected in 1995 to the county's inaugural Legislature, and served two terms representing a North Shore district that included Glen Cove, Sea Cliff and communities farther east.

As chairman of the Government Services and Operations Committee, he helped establish legislative procedures. He also helped bring about the rebuilding of a storm-damaged waterfront park in Sea Cliff, and protecting open space near Mill Neck Creek.

Now, Canning said, the proposed Propel NY Energy transmission project is a central motivation for him to seek office again.

He argued that construction along major North Shore roads that the project would require would disrupt daily life for residents and businesses. He expressed concerns about traffic through Glen Head, Glenwood Landing and neighboring communities, as well as potential environmental impacts on Hempstead Harbor.

"It would cause havoc on the roads," he said.

Canning also questioned the project's energy sources and necessity, describing it as a "cable to nowhere."

The 11th District's waterfront communities, he said, share concerns about environmental protection, transportation and the consequences of large projects.

Development is another of his concerns. Canning pointed to potential housing projects at the North Shore and Engineers country clubs, warning that additional traffic could strain busy roads. "We have to limit those developments so that we're not overwhelmed," he said.

Asked to identify his three leading priorities, Canning named public safety, affordability and protecting local control over development and energy decisions.

He said he first became interested in public service when he joined the Nassau County Auxiliary Police as a teenager, and served for a decade.

Expanding on the topic of affordability, he praised recent county property tax freezes and said he would work to prevent increases. "People are under tremendous strain," Canning said, noting that school taxes and household expenses also weigh on residents.

On immigration enforcement, he said that authorities should focus on people who have been convicted of crimes while remaining sensitive to longtime residents and families. He did not advocate broader enforcement in communities where people are simply going about their daily lives.

Turning to the county budget, Canning emphasized controlling expenditures and scrutinizing staffing costs. He currently serves as the Town of Oyster Bay's human resources commissioner, a position he has held for roughly 15 years.

A practicing attorney since 1991, Canning earned a law degree from St. John's University, a master's in European history and an undergraduate degree in classical languages from the University of Toronto. He has served on state environmental commissions and volunteered locally, emceeing North Shore Reads events and wheelchair basketball games, and serving on the Glen Cove Cares board.

Canning said he would bring that varied experience, along with a willingness to work across party lines, back to Mineola. "I'm hoping that the voters of the 11th Legislative District can make John Canning the comeback kid," he said.

DeRiggi-Whitton says her work isn't finished

By ROKSANA AMID

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Will Sheeline/Herald

Democrat Delia DeRiggi-Whitton has spent 15 years in the County Legislature, and leads the minority caucus.

After 15 years in the Nassau County Legislature, Delia DeRiggi-Whitton says that unfinished infrastructure projects and growing concerns about affordability are driving her campaign for another term.

The 58-year-old Glen Cove Democrat, who has led the Legislature's minority caucus for two and a half years, discussed flooding, environmental protection, county finances and energy development during a Herald roundtable interview. She said that her experience has helped her understand both her constituents' needs and the complexities of county government.

"I feel like I'm still able to produce for my district," DeRiggi-Whitton said. "We have a number of projects that I would really like to see come to fruition."

Among them is a planned overhaul of Shore Road in Glen Cove, where, she said, drainage improvements would accompany new curbs, sidewalks, lighting and traffic-calming measures. She also described persistent flooding near Woolsey Avenue and Dosoris Lane, where county crews are examining drainage adjustments.

But DeRiggi-Whitton cautioned that larger problems remain underground. Existing stormwater pipes, she said, were not designed for the runoff generated by the extent of today's development in major storms. Area infrastructure, she said, "wasn't made for this much concrete and that much water runoff."

DeRiggi-Whitton cited Crescent Beach's reopening as a completed priority, saying that efforts to reduce runoff and contamination have helped protect Hempstead Harbor. She added that she wants additional sewer connections around the harbor, including in Glen Head, although the expense and distance between homes make expansion difficult.

"It's going to take years," she said.

Protecting the underground aquifer is another priority. She highlighted county legislation encouraging water-saving sprinkler systems, and said she wants to revisit restrictions on nitrogen in lawn fertilizer to reduce groundwater contamination.

On Propel NY Energy, DeRiggi-Whitton said her concerns extend beyond construction-related traffic. She questioned the project's potential effects on groundwater and Hempstead Harbor, the possibility of battery storage in Glenwood Landing, and whether local ratepayers would see sufficient benefits for the costs.

"The bottom line is, the information is just not clear," she said. "You can't just come in and do something to a community and not explain the entire process."

Affordability remains pressing, she said. Democrats in the Legislature proposed reducing the county's sales tax on gasoline, and she supports expanding housing for seniors, veterans and younger residents on suitable redevelopment sites. She emphasized local control over development.

Discussing Nassau's budget, DeRiggi-Whitton questioned the management of county reserves despite strong sales tax receipts. She also criticized what she considers delays in distributing opioid settlement funds for treatment, education and prevention.

"Even though the county has the smallest portion of the tax, it's still our constituents' money," she said, calling for closer scrutiny of spending.

On immigration enforcement, she questioned County Executive Bruce Blakeman's agreement with federal authorities, citing the need for legislative oversight. She supports deporting people with criminal convictions who lack legal status, but expressed concern about families and children affected by enforcement.

She also raised privacy questions about artificial intelligence-enabled license plate readers, specifically who controls collected information and who may access it.

DeRiggi-Whitton said that leading the eight-member Democratic caucus has required cooperation to secure grants and capital projects. The caucus, she said, secured approval for 32 of 34 grant proposals at one meeting, an outcome she attributed to members remaining united despite disagreements.

LiPetri outlines priorities in congressional bid

By ROKSANA AMID

ramid@liherald.com

Affordability, public safety and protecting Long Island's drinking water are central to Mike LiPetri's campaign for Congress, the former Republican state assemblyman said.

LiPetri, 36, of Farmingdale, discussed a variety of issues during a roundtable interview with Herald reporters. A SUNY Albany and Albany Law School graduate, he has worked as an attorney representing New York City agencies. He credited his late grandfather Angelo LiPetri, a Korean War veteran, with encouraging his involvement in public service.

"He said, 'You want to make a difference, you have to get involved,'" LiPetri recalled.

After losing his 2024 congressional bid to incumbent Tom Suozzi, LiPetri said he continued attending civic events and speaking with district residents. Concerns vary by neighborhood, he said, from airplane noise and water quality to housing costs and crime.

"It's not a broad base, broad strokes," he said of concerns from residents.

On housing, LiPetri proposed adjusting capital gains calculations on home sales for inflation, potentially reducing sellers' taxes. He also wants a five-year federal income tax exemption for first-time homebuyers to help pay for renovations.

The challenge is personal. Being engaged, he hopes to buy a home and start a family. LiPetri also proposed tax deductions for child care and expenses such as diapers, formula and strollers.

"I think all those monies that families incur should actually be written off and deducted from their taxes," he said.

He advocates for preventive screenings, greater price transparency and insurance arrangements that let patients retain their preferred doctors when changing jobs.



Madison Gusler/Herald

Mike LiPetri, a former state assemblyman, identified affordability and public safety as areas of concern at a roundtable interview with the Herald.

"I think in 2026, we need to modernize the system where it actually moves with the person, with the doctors they like" LiPetri said.

He opposes the Propel NY Energy project — the 90-mile underground and submarine electric transmission initiative designed to modernize Long Island's power grid, which has drawn strong opposition from residents. He said he would speak with federal permitting agencies about stopping it, although he did not identify a specific regulatory mechanism.

"I think it's important that we do it from the bottom-up organic solutions," he said, "but we work with the community and find the solution that will work best for everybody."

He also pledged to consult the U.S. Postal Service on requests for home mail delivery in Glenwood Landing.

For drinking water protection, LiPetri proposed expanding federal infrastructure grants rather than relying on loans, with funding for recharge basins, injection wells and lead-pipe replacement.

He supports enforcement against people without legal status, emphasizing public safety and resources for citizens and legal immigrants. LiPetri noted he was with federal immigration agents, when in the assembly, and saw people arrested for serious crimes.

LiPetri also supports the continued pressure on Iran to prevent it from obtaining nuclear weapons. He identified his support for abortion rights as an area of disagreement with President Donald Trump.

He said his decisions would depend on their effects on constituents. "If it helps the 3rd Congressional District, I'm all for it," he said. "If it hurts the Congressional District, I'm against it."

HERALD ROUNDTABLE

3RD CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

Solving problems propels Suozzi's latest run

By ROKSANA AMID

ramid@liherald.com

Tom Suozzi says his bid for another term representing New York's 3rd Congressional District is driven by a desire to solve problems, particularly rising living costs, immigration and environmental protection.

Suozzi, 64, of Glen Cove, is well known in the area, having served as the city's mayor and as Nassau County executive. A lawyer and certified public accountant, the Democrat said his decades in government have reinforced why he entered public service.

"Ego is not enough, and the game and competition is not enough because a lot of times it's just awful," he told Herald reporters at a roundtable interview. "It's only if you are fulfilled by actually making things better for people."

Suozzi identified affordability as voters' leading concern, alongside immigration, taxes, crime and health care. He blamed tariffs, the war with Iran, federal debt, energy costs and health insurance expenses for putting pressure on household budgets and said addressing living costs should be Congress's priority.

"The most important focus of the next Congress has got to be to work on addressing the cost of living in our country," he said.

On immigration, Suozzi proposed permanently securing the border, overhauling the asylum system and creating a pathway to work authorization for certain longtime residents without legal status. His proposal would allow people who have lived in the country for more than 10 years without committing crimes to pay a fine and earn work authorization, rather than necessarily obtaining citizenship.

"We need to secure the border permanently," he said. "We need to fix the broken asylum system. But then we need to start figuring out how to treat people like human beings."



Tim Baker/Herald

U.S. Rep. Tom Suozzi is seeking another term in Congress. The 64-year-old Glen Cove native stressed the need for bipartisan cooperation.

Suozzi said he has convened conferences bringing together business leaders, law enforcement representatives, religious organizations and nonprofit groups to seek agreement on immigration policy.

He also noted working with Pennsylvania Republican Rep. Brian Fitzpatrick on Immigration and Customs Enforcement reforms, including limits on agents wearing masks and changes to training requirements.

Suozzi opposes the Propel NY Energy transmission project. He said he contacted the Army Corps of Engineers and sought a public hearing on concerns involving Hempstead Harbor, including potential disruption to shellfish beds.

"I think of the Long Island Sound as our national park," he said, pointing to his work securing funding for water cleanup and restoring oysters and clams in Hempstead Harbor.

Recalling his time as Glen Cove mayor, Suozzi said he oversaw improvements to sewage treatment that reduced nitrogen discharges, to protect marine life throughout the region for decades.

Regarding drinking water, he advocated a long-term regional plan involving Nassau County's numerous water districts. He said collaboration is needed to address contamination, saltwater intrusion, stormwater runoff and aquifer protection.

"We just need to be having a master plan where all the water districts work together for this 50-year plan," he said.

Suozzi also described intervening in mail delivery problems affecting Glenwood Landing residents, saying his office helped restore access to post office boxes and was seeking feedback about continuing difficulties.

On Iran, he argued against abruptly ending American military involvement, calling instead for a phased withdrawal coordinated with Congress and allies.

He said bipartisan cooperation remains central to his approach as a co-chair of the Problem Solvers Caucus.

"I'll work with anybody if you want to actually solve problems and make people's lives better," Suozzi said. "I may disagree with you completely, but I'll work with you as long as you're honestly trying to help people."

New theater is envisioned as an artistic hub

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

ning.

The theater will feature 80 seats, with room for roughly 20 additional flexible seats. The project also received a donation of audience seating from Harlem's historic Apollo Theater.

City Councilwoman Danielle Fugazy Scagliola, who helped secure the grant, said organizers are approaching the amount needed to obtain occupancy approval.

"We're very, very close to enough money to get occupancy," she said. "And once we get occupancy, then there's going to be other things that we're going to do to enhance the space, but they're not necessary to get the place open."

Fugazy Scagliola first applied for funding from the Long Island Real Estate Group last year but was unsuccessful. She submitted another application alongside Moll this year, emphasizing the theater's potential to become a community gathering place.

Fugazy Scagliola said she initially doubted the application would succeed because previous recipients included prominent institutions such as Cold Spring Harbor Laboratory and Northwell.

"We have these apartments, we have people moving into Glen Cove, but we need places that build community," she said. "We need places that people want to be."

She said downtown revitalization requires more than housing and retail establishments, particularly as shopping habits increasingly shift online.

"Something like a theater is not something you get online," Fugazy Scagliola said. "So that is like the kind of thing that will build community. It makes people go out."

The application ultimately secured the organization's maximum $100,000 award, which will go toward the overall construction of the facility.



Roksana Amid/Herald

Glen Cove City Councilwoman Danielle Fugazy Scagliola and Christopher Moll, artistic director of the Glen Cove Performing Arts Center, stand where audience seating will be installed.

Cara Cronin, co-president of LIREG, said the organization supports projects that have a lasting impact on the surrounding community.

Founded more than 20 years ago, the group brings together commercial real estate professionals while supporting charitable projects involving property improvements and community development.

"We get a lot of submissions, and we always want to look at what our impact going to be." Cronin said. "Is this going to be something that is still five, six years down the line?"

Cronin said the organization's decision was influenced by the possibility that its contribution could help the theater begin operating..

The organization has previously supported projects including a playground at Sunrise Day Camp and bathroom renovations at the Safe Center, but Cronin said this was its first theater project.

Property owner Bruce Waller, of GW Development, agreed to a 10-year lease for the theater space. His family has been involved in Glen Cove real estate for more than 150 years.

Waller purchased the building from Charles Hardware, which closed in 2020, and initially considered converting the vacant property into a restaurant. Those plans changed when Fugazy Scagliola introduced him to Moll and suggested developing a theater.

Waller said the building's high ceilings, layout and proximity to public parking made it suitable for live performances.

Although North Shore Village Theatre and Jazz Hands Children's Theatre will make the center their permanent home, Moll emphasized that the space will also be available to other organizations and types of performers.

"We're going to have the space open for bands if they want to perform a night or two," Moll said. "We're going to plan dance parties with DJs where people can just come and have a good time."

Those interested in supporting the Glen Cove Performing Arts Center can make donations through Zeffy by visiting NSVillagetheatre.com. Contributions will help support the theater's continued development as organizers work toward opening the venue.

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HERALD Community Newspapers



Photos courtesy Glen Cove Beautification

The Glen Cove Beautification Commission supports breast cancer awareness and beautification efforts.

Volunteers plant the seeds for a colorful spring

Members of the Glen Cove Beautification Commission and community volunteers gathered Saturday to plant tulip bulbs throughout the city as part of an effort to beautify public spaces and raise awareness of breast cancer. Held during Breast Cancer Awareness Month, the event brought together residents, local officials and members of the Department of Public Works to support the cause while preparing the city for colorful spring blooms. The planting served as both a seasonal beautification project and an opportunity to highlight the importance of breast cancer awareness and community support for those affected by the disease. Tulip bulbs are traditionally planted in autumn, allowing their roots to develop during the colder months before blooming as temperatures rise in spring. The flowers are expected to add vibrant color to Glen Cove's landscape next year while serving as a reminder of the community's commitment to breast cancer awareness.

–Roksana Amid



Members of the Glen Cove Beautification Commission and community volunteers came together Saturday for a tulip planting event that celebrated community involvement and raised awareness of breast cancer.



Volunteers planted tulip bulbs throughout Glen Cove on Saturday as part of the Glen Cove Beautification Commission's efforts to enhance the city's public spaces and promote breast cancer awareness.



Glen Cove Department of Public Works employee Peter Podsiadlo joined volunteers Tatyana, Gabriela Rojo and Esmeralda Cruz in planting tulip bulbs Saturday in



Glen Cove Mayor Pamela Panzenbeck and Deputy Mayor Donna McNaughton helped plant tulips during the city's fall beautification efforts.

ELECTION DAY: NOVEMBER 3RD
VOTE EARLY OCT 24 - NOV 1



Tom Suozzi Is Fighting Extremism And Finding Common Ground

- **Tom Suozzi's Five-Point "American Affordability Plan"** will address irresponsible tariffs, end the war in Iran, unlock more cleaner energy to lower utility costs, make healthcare affordable, and pay down the national debt.
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SuozziForCongress.com

1 https://www.bridgegrades.org/congress/S001201/thomas-r-suozzi
2 https://voteview.com/congress/house/119/text
3 https://www.govtrack.us/congress/members/thomas_suozzi/412717

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Blood donations desperately needed

The Glen Cove Fire Department will host a community blood drive on Saturday, Oct. 17, from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m., giving residents an opportunity to help replenish the blood supply and support patients who depend on transfusions.

The blood drive will be held at the Glen Cove Fire Department, 10 Glen Cove Ave. Breakfast will be served by the fire department during the event.

Residents interested in donating can sign up by calling Pete at (516) 606-0014 or by scanning the event's QR code. All donors will also receive a voucher for a "Pint for a Pint" from Garvies Point Brewery in Glen Cove.

Blood donations are an essential part of health care because donated blood cannot be manufactured and must come from volunteer donors. Hospitals rely on blood donations for patients undergoing surgery, receiving treatment for serious illnesses, recovering from traumatic injuries and facing medical emergencies.

Maintaining an adequate blood supply is especially important when emergencies occur. Serious accidents, traumatic injuries and other unexpected events can create an immediate need for blood, while hospitals must continue treating patients who require transfusions as part of planned procedures or ongoing care.

Blood also has a limited shelf life, making regular donations important. Waiting until an emergency occurs to donate may be too late for patients who need blood immediately. A consistent supply allows hospitals to respond to emergencies while continuing to meet the needs of patients receiving routine and specialized medical care.

For eligible donors, giving blood is a relatively simple way to help people in the community. A single donation can be separated into components that may be used to help different patients, depending on their individual medical needs.

The upcoming blood drive will provide Glen Cove residents with an opportunity to contribute to the local blood supply while taking part in a community event. Breakfast will be available to donors, and the "Pint for a Pint" voucher offers an additional thank-you for those who participate.

The drive will take place from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. on Oct. 17 at the Glen Cove Fire Department, 10 Glen Cove Ave. Those interested in donating can register by calling Pete at (516) 606-0014.

–Roksana Amid

Stevenson-Mathews is NSHM director

The North Shore Historical Museum has appointed Gaitley Stevenson-Mathews, a Glen Cove resident and former member of the Glen Cove City Council, as its new director, bringing an experienced nonprofit leader with longstanding ties to the organization into the position.

Stevenson-Mathews is a lifetime member of the museum and previously served on its Board of Trustees. Over the years, he has supported the organization through volunteer work, fundraising efforts and community outreach. His appointment marks a new chapter in his involvement with the museum and its mission to preserve and share the history of the North Shore.

Stevenson-Mathews has lived in Glen Cove since 2007 and has remained active in civic and cultural organizations throughout the area. In addition to his previous service on the City Council, he is the founder and president of the Tribute and Honor Foundation and serves on several local nonprofit boards.

His professional experience spans more than two decades in theater, higher education, communications and nonprofit leadership, providing a background he said he hopes to draw on in leading the museum.

"To now have the opportunity to serve as Director of the Museum is both an honor and a responsibility I take very seriously," Stevenson-Mathews said. He added that he looks forward to working with the Board of Trustees, volunteers and community partners to build on the museum's mission of "Preserving Yesterday for Tomorrow."

The museum's Board of Trustees will host a public welcome reception for Stevenson-Mathews on Sunday, Nov. 8, at 3 p.m. at the museum. The reception is open to all members of the community and will provide an opportunity to welcome the new director.

The North Shore Historical Museum preserves and shares the region's history through exhibitions, educational programs and community engagement. Its work connects residents with the people, places and events that have shaped the North Shore.

The museum is open Saturdays and Sundays from noon to 4 p.m. Additional information about its exhibitions, programs and activities is available at nshmgc.org.

–Roksana Amid



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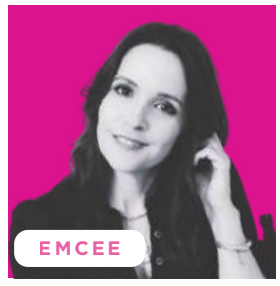


KEYNOTE

STEPHANIE MCNALLY, MD, FACOG, FACS, MSCP

Medical Director, Katz Institute for Women's Health, System Director of the Center for Menopause and Midlife Health, and Vice President,OB/GYN Service Line, Northwell Health's Central Market.

Northwell Health Katz Institute for Women's Health



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How to Address Expenses After a Medical Diagnosis

Where should you begin?

Receiving a new medical diagnosis can bring a flood of information and questions. Will you need specialized treatment or surgery? Will you need new medications? How will your daily life be affected? And what should you do first?

While many things may need attention, one important step is to make a plan for your immediate expenses. Having a clearer picture of your finances can help reduce uncertainty and allow you to focus more of your energy on your health.

Prioritize the Essentials

Start by considering how your diagnosis and treatment may affect both your expenses and your income.

What care will you need?

Will you require surgery, ongoing treatments, hospitalization, an extended care facility, or long-term management of a chronic condition? Understanding what your care may involve can help you anticipate related expenses.

Will your income be affected?

Consider whether you will be able to continue working or may need an extended absence. Speak with your employer as early as possible to learn what resources or benefits may be available through your job.

What are your monthly living expenses?

Review essential costs such as your mortgage or rent, utilities, groceries, and other recurring bills. If necessary, identify nonessential spending that could be reduced temporarily.

Also consider practical needs that can create additional costs. Do you have an emergency fund? How will you get to medical appointments? Will you need child or pet care, or help at home? Determine whether family or friends can assist or whether you may need to budget for paid help.

Having a clearer picture of your finances can help reduce uncertainty and allow you to focus more of your energy on your health.

Review Your Insurance Coverage

Medical expenses can be difficult to predict, particularly when treatment may continue over time. Understanding the basics of your coverage can give you a starting point for estimating what may come out of your own pocket.

Take a close look at your health insurance policy so you have a better understanding of what you may be responsible for paying.

Contact your insurance provider and ask for a clear explanation of your coverage and any exclusions. Verify your deductible, copayments, and coinsurance amounts. If you are prescribed medication, review your prescription drug coverage and determine what out-of-pocket costs may apply.

Plan How Your Bills Will Be Paid

If you normally manage household finances, consider whether someone else may need to step in during treatment or recovery. Make sure your spouse or another trusted person understands your bill-paying system and knows where to find the information needed to manage expenses.



If you expect to spend time in a hospital or rehabilitation facility but plan to continue paying bills yourself, make sure you can access your accounts remotely. Review your two-factor authentication settings in advance so you are not dependent on a phone or device that will be unavailable.

You may also want to create a financial power of attorney (POA), which designates someone to act on your behalf in financial matters if you are unable to do so yourself.

How Your Financial Advisor Can Help

Managing financial questions while dealing with a medical diagnosis can feel overwhelming. Your financial advisor can help you review your available resources, manage expenses if your income changes, and adjust your financial plan to reflect your health and long-term goals. Your advisor can also help you review whether important estate planning documents, including a living will, financial power of attorney, and health care proxy, are in place and up to date.

Depending on your situation, your financial plan may need to evolve as treatment, recovery, and income needs become clearer.

A new diagnosis can create uncertainty, but you do not have to address every financial question at once. Gathering information, asking for help, and creating a plan for your immediate expenses can help you move forward with greater clarity and focus.

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BREAST CANCER SUPPORT/RESOURCE *Guide*

ADELPHI NY STATEWIDE BREAST CANCER SUPPORT & HOTLINE

More than 100 highly trained volunteers offer emotional support, information and referrals, all free. Social work staff provides professional services. Hotline as well as extensive support groups and counseling program, with educational forums and advocacy activities.

Adelphi NY Statewide
Breast Cancer Support & Hotline
800-877-8077
516-877-4320
breast-cancer.adelphi.edu

SUSAN G. KOMEN FOR THE CURE

The Susan G. Komen Breast Cancer Foundation site provides updated cancer research and offers practical breast health tips. The site also includes information about Race for the Cure. A helpline is available.

Susan G. Komen for the Cure
877 GO KOMEN (800-462-9273)
ww5.komen.org

LIVING BEYOND BREAST CANCER

LBBC is a national nonprofit organization dedicated to empowering all women affected by breast cancer to live as long as possible with the best quality of life. Programs and services include the helpline, conferences, teleconferences, networking programs, newsletters, publications and recordings.

Living Beyond Breast Cancer
Survivors' Helpline 888-753-5222
www.lbcc.org

BREAST CANCER HELP, INC.

Since its inception, Breast Cancer Help has taken a multipronged approach to combating breast cancer on Long Island, according to the organization.

Breast Cancer Help, Inc.
745-520-3075
breastcancerhelpinc.org

CANCER CARE, INC.

Provides support services (including on-line and on-site support groups), education, information, referrals and financial assistance. A Long Island office is located in Woodbury.

Cancer Care, Inc.
800-813-HOPE
516-364-8130 (Long Island)
www.cancercare.org

LEAN ON ME BREAST CANCER NETWORK INC.

Established to provide comprehensive resources to women for issues pertaining to breast health and disease. Programs and services are designed to assist patients and families to manage their diagnosis, treatment and recovery.

Lean on Me Breast Cancer Network Inc.
516-829-6609
www.leanonmebcn.com

MID NASSAU LEND A HELPING HAND, INC

LAHH provides customized services to breast cancer patients in hopes of relieving some of the stress and worry a cancer diagnosis and ensuing treatment creates. It addresses the needs of women in the Long Island communities of Carle Place, Garden City, Hempstead, East Meadow, Mineola, Westbury and Uniondale.

Mid Nassau Lend
A Helping Hand, Inc. (LAHH)
888-420-1030

HEWLETT HOUSE

Hewlett House, located in Hewlett, is a community learning resource center offering many support programs, outreach, education, research, Reiki, Tai Chi, chair yoga, wig program, counseling, art center, music and pet therapy. All at no charge in a home enviornment.

Hewlett House
516-374-3190
hewlett-house.org

PATIENT ADVOCATE FOUNDATION

Co-pay relief program provides direct financial support to insured patients, who must financially and medically qualify to access pharmaceutical co-payment assistance. The Foundation also assists patients with medical debt crisis, insurance access issues and job retention.

Patient Advocate Foundation
866-512-3861
www.copays.org

NATIONAL LYMPHEDEMA NETWORK

Nonprofit organization that provides patients and professionals with information about prevention and treatment of this complication of lymph node surgery. Call the hotline for referrals.

National Lymphedema Network
800-541-3259
www.lymphnet.org

Knowledge is power

BREAST CANCER SUPPORT/RESOURCE Guide

continued from page 6

SHARE: SUPPORT SERVICES FOR WOMEN WITH BREAST OR OVARIAN CANCER

Offers peer-led support to women with breast or ovarian cancer, their families and friends. Services include hotlines, support groups, wellness programs, educational forums and advocacy activities.

SHARE: Support Services for Women with Breast or Ovarian Cancer
866-891-2392
www.sharecancersupport.org

AMERICAN CANCER SOCIETY

The American Cancer Society is a nationwide, community-based health organization dedicated to the fight against cancer. Free information on treatment, reconstruction, sexuality and relationships. Offers prevention, education, advocacy, emotional support and other services for all types of cancer and referrals for the ACS-sponsored "Reach for Recovery" program.

American Cancer Society
800-ACS-2345
www.cancer.org

Y-ME NATIONAL BREAST CANCER ORGANIZATION

Provides support, counseling and information. Tips for talking with family and friends (including children). Partner Match program, a service for those supporting women through breast cancer, and a guide, When the Woman You Love Has Breast Cancer. Also Your Shoes, a 24/7 breast cancer peer support center.

Y-ME National Breast Cancer Organization
800-221-2141
www.y-me.org

LONG BEACH BREAST CANCER COALITION

This group's mission is to promote awareness, advocate for increased funding for research into the causes of breast cancer, and for improved methods of detection and treatment; and assistance in securing access to screening, diagnosis, and treatment.

Long Beach Breast Cancer Coalition
516-943-3404
longbeachbcc.com

NUMC BREAST IMAGING CENTER

Screenings with no out-of-pocket expense for those in need. Also providers of Cancer Services Program, a comprehensive cancer-screening and counseling service where breast, cervical and colorectal screenings are regularly performed free of charge for women and men who qualify.

NUMC Breast Imaging Center
516-572-3300
www.numc.edu/our-services/diagnostic-imaging/

ROCKVILLE CENTRE BREAST CANCER COALITION

Education and advocacy of breast cancer research, providing support services to those in Rockville Centre and neighboring towns who have been diagnosed with breast cancer.

Rockville Centre Breast Cancer Coalition
www.rvcbcc.org

THE BREASTIES

The Breasties mission is to empower those affected by breast and reproductive cancers by igniting strength and positivity through connection, free retreats, wellness activities, events and an all-inclusive resourceful online community. The hope is to spread the message that whatever you are going through — you are not alone.

The Breasties
thebreasties.org

A WORLD OF PINK (AWOP)

This nonprofit is a health facility dedicated to providing comprehensive aftercare and education for all women who have chosen or due to health reasons undergo breast surgery.

A World of Pink (AWOP)
516-513-1275 • 631-364-9684
aworldofpink.com

CASTING FOR RECOVERY

Unique retreat program that combines breast cancer education and peer support with the therapeutic sport of fly-fishing, at no cost to participants.

Casting For Recovery
631-252-7195
www.castingforrecovery.org

MANHASSET WOMEN'S COALITION AGAINST BREAST CANCER (MWCABC)

Helps residents of Manhasset and nearby communities who are coping with breast cancer. Outreach Program provides information, emotional support, wellness retreats, gifts of hope, housecleaning, financial assistance and transportation services.

Manhasset Women's Coalition Against Breast Cancer (MWCABC)
516-627-2410
www.manhassetbreastcancer.org

PINK AID

Through a partnership with Support Connection, Pink Aid offers a support hotline for breast cancer patients and survivors. Services offered include ongoing emotional support and navigational support to help in finding resources. The hotline is open Monday to Friday year-round.

Pink Aid
1-800-532-4290
www.pinkaid.org

NATIONAL CANCER INSTITUTE

Provides information on all aspects of cancer and on clinical trials.

National Cancer Institute
800-4-CANCER
www.cancer.gov

CLEANING FOR A REASON

House cleaner service at no charge, each person with cancer receives one general house cleaning per month for two consecutive months. Note from doctor needed.

Cleaning For A Reason
877-337-3348
www.cleaningforareason.org

MAURER FOUNDATION FOR BREAST HEALTH EDUCATION

Educational breast health programming focusing on breast cancer prevention, healthy lifestyle choices, early detection and risk reduction. Presentations offered at no charge for high schools, colleges, community groups and businesses.

Maurer Foundation For Breast Health Education
631-524-5151
www.maurerfoundation.org

PINK PURSE

Provides emergency aid for individuals who need support due to their breast cancer diagnosis. Funds are offered to help pay for non-medical, household expenses.

Pink Purse
www.pinkaid.org/pa/pink-aid-pink-purse

CURE MOMMY'S BREAST CANCER

Financial assistance, moral support, and educational information to those in need of financial assistance while suffering the burdens of breast cancer as well as other forms of cancer. Assistance with insurance premiums, rent, utility bills, home cleaning services, and transportation costs to special schools for sick children.

Cure Mommy's Breast Cancer
516-967-1148
www.curemommy.org

MERCY MEDICAL CENTER BREAST CANCER SURVIVORSHIP PROGRAM

Free mammograms, ultrasounds, molecular breast imaging and biopsies to qualified medically underserved and uninsured residents of Nassau and Suffolk County.

Mercy Medical Center Breast Cancer Survivorship Program
516-705-1399
mercymedicalcenter.chsli.org

YOUNG SURVIVAL COALITION

Dedicated to addressing the concerns and issues unique to young women with breast cancer.

Young Survival Coalition
877-YSC-1011
www.youngsurvival.org

LEAN ON ME BREAST CANCER NETWORK

Network that provides free support services to breast cancer patients and their families, including education, wellness seminars, group support and annual retreat. Patient care packages include information kits, necessity bags, wigs, and post-surgical bras and fittings.

Lean On Me Breast Cancer Network
516-829-6609
leanonmeny@gmail.com
www.leanonmeny.org

THE FIVE WISHES

The Five Wishes refers to a comprehensive approach that discusses advanced directives with individuals and families. The Five Wishes offers legal documents, support resources for patients and professionals, and links to pertinent information that social workers often use with individuals dealing with a life-threatening illness.

The Five Wishes
850-681-2010
info@fivewishes.org
www.fivewishes.org

ROCKING THE ROAD FOR A CURE

Rocking the Road for a Cure Inc., is a community-based non-profit organization founded to provide free educational and homebound wellness programs, case management, counseling, recreational therapy and other support services for women and men going through the diagnosis and treatment of breast cancer.

Rocking The Road For A Cure
516-417-1911
rockingtheroadforacure@gmail.com
https://rockingtheroadforacure.org

SHARSHERET

A national organization of cancer survivors dedicated to addressing the unique concerns of young Jewish women facing breast cancer. It also provides culturally sensitive support to young Jewish women who are newly diagnosed with breast cancer as well as to those facing the risk of developing breast cancer, and offers related resources for Jewish communities and health care organizations.

Sharsheret
866-474-2774
info@sharsheret.org
www.sharsheret.org

Find your way forward

Face the unknown while staying grounded in what matters most

By Karen Bloom





Cancer may become part of your story, but it does not define who you are.

Going ahead can feel uncertain, with new challenges emerging at every stage.

There is no single right way to navigate a cancer diagnosis. But those who have traveled the road before often offer the same advice: Accept support. Stay informed. Speak up. And, as much as possible, remember to take care of yourself along the way.

Don't try to do it alone

Allow yourself to accept support. That can be difficult, especially if you're accustomed to taking care of everyone else. But a cancer diagnosis is a time to let others take care of you, too.

Say yes when family and friends offer practical help with meals, shopping, transportation, household chores or other everyday responsibilities. People who care about you may feel helpless and want to contribute in a meaningful way. Be specific about what you need, and let them know what is — and isn't — helpful.

The emotional toll of cancer can be significant, too. Fear, anger, sadness, anxiety, uncertainty and even moments of relief or optimism can all be part of the experience. There is no prescribed way to feel. Find healthy ways to process your emotions, whether that means talking with someone you trust, joining a support group, working with a counselor or therapist, praying or meditating, or keeping a journal.

If feelings of anxiety, depression or distress become overwhelming or interfere with daily life, tell your health care team. Emotional support is an important part of cancer care, and help is available.





Enlist your medical team

Build a relationship with a health care team you trust — one that listens to your concerns, explains your options and makes you feel comfortable asking questions.

Make the most of every appointment. Write down questions beforehand and keep a running list as new ones arise. If possible, bring a family member or friend to appointments. A second set of ears can help you remember information, take notes and provide emotional support.

Be open with your doctors and other members of your care team about your daily life, concerns and priorities. Your treatment plan may need to take into account more than your diagnosis alone. Tell your team about symptoms, side effects, medications and supplements, as well as concerns about work, caregiving, finances, fertility, sexuality, sleep, nutrition or other issues that may affect your well-being.

And don't be afraid to say, "I don't understand." Ask your team to explain unfamiliar terms or repeat information when necessary. You are not expected to know how to navigate cancer care from the start.

Take control of information overload

When a diagnosis brings a flood of questions, it can be difficult to quiet your mind. Keep a notebook or notes app nearby and write down questions as they occur to you. Instead of lying awake wondering "what if?" make a note of the question and who on your care team can help answer it.

The internet can be a valuable source of information, but choose your sources carefully. Look first to trusted organizations such as the National Cancer Institute, American Cancer Society and major cancer centers. Your health care team can also recommend reliable resources specific to your diagnosis.

Remember that cancer is not one disease, and statistics found online may not apply to you. Breast cancers, for example, can differ by type, stage and biomarkers, and treatment and prognosis can vary widely. Resist the temptation to compare your experience with someone else's based on an online story or statistic. Your care team is in the best position to explain what information means in the context of your individual diagnosis.

It can also help to give your mind a break. Read a book, work a puzzle, knit, listen to music, watch a favorite show, spend time with friends or return to a hobby you enjoy. A few moments of distraction aren't ignoring your cancer; they're giving yourself room to breathe.

Be good to yourself

A cancer diagnosis can make it easy to focus exclusively on what lies ahead. Instead, give yourself credit for what you are managing right now. Getting through an appointment, making a difficult decision, asking a question or simply getting through a challenging day can be an accomplishment.

Try to take things one day — or even one moment — at a time. It's natural to worry about the future, but you don't have to solve every unknown at once. When worries become overwhelming, bring them back to the questions you can address today.

And whenever you can, take a break from cancer. Make room for the people, places and activities that bring you comfort or joy. Have dinner with a friend. Take a walk.

Watch a favorite movie. Listen to music. Laugh. Do something simply because you enjoy it.

Cancer may be an important part of your life right now, but it is not all of who you are.

Most of all, give yourself permission to put your own well-being higher on the list. Let go of the expectation that you have to handle everything perfectly. Accept help. Rest when you need to. Speak up when something doesn't feel right. Give yourself time to adjust to a life that may look different than you expected.

A cancer diagnosis can affect you physically, mentally and emotionally. There may be difficult days, uncertain days and days that surprise you with their normalcy. You don't have to navigate every step alone. With support, reliable information and a health care team you trust, you can face the road ahead one step at a time.

HEALTHCARE LEADERSHIP



HECTOR MELGAR, DPT

Hector Melgar, DPT

HECTOR MELGAR, DPT

Hector Melgar is a loving husband, proud father of three daughters, and passionate servant of God and his community. He was born in El Salvador, but lived in Brentwood 30 years. He is a doctor of Physical Therapy and a Board-certified specialist in clinical electrophysiologic testing. He graduated Cume Laude from Hunter College school of Physical Therapy, in the year 2000, and got his clinical doctoral degree from Montana University in 2017.

He has been serving the Brentwood, Bay Shore, and Central Islip communities for 24 years. He is best known for his excellence in spine and orthopedic rehabilitation.

He is the founder and president of Clinica Bienestar an article 28 diagnosis and treatment center. Clinica BIENESTAR, has allowed him to achieve his professional goal to provide quality and multidisciplinary health care services in one-stop-shop.

His professional goal is to provide the best healthcare services in the Brentwood community where families may receive comprehensive and expeditious medical services with a tender touch of personal care.





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NEWS BRIEF

District joins League of Innovative Schools

The Glen Cove City School District has been accepted into the League of Innovative Schools, joining a national network of school districts focused on sharing educational practices, research and approaches to improving student learning.

The League is organized by Digital Promise, a nonprofit organization that works with educators and school systems on education research, technology and practice. Glen Cove is one of 16 school systems joining the League for the 2026-27 school year.

Glen Cove was selected from a national pool of applicants based on its educational leadership, commitment to excellence, vision for learning, achievements and willingness to collaborate with other school systems.

Superintendent Dr. Alexa Doeschner, will represent Glen Cove in the League

"For the past four years, we have made a point of sharing the good work happening in Glen Cove, and the League felt like a natural fit, a place where that kind of sharing is valued and where we can learn just as much from others," Doeschner said.

She added that participation in the national network will give Glen Cove educators opportunities to observe practices being used elsewhere and consider how they could be adapted locally.

"We are a small city district with big ambitions for our students, and joining a national network of forward-thinking leaders lets our educators see innovative practices firsthand and bring proven ideas home," Doeschner said.

Through the League, district leaders and educators can meet with other school-system leaders and visit classrooms to observe educational practices. Members also participate in virtual peer-to-peer learning, where educators can discuss common challenges and possible solutions.

Districts can also work with Digital Promise researchers and other school systems to develop and pilot research-backed approaches intended to improve student outcomes. The network provides participating districts with opportunities to share strategies that have worked in their schools while learning how other districts are addressing similar issues.

Glen Cove has identified authentic learning, personalized support and the use of data and technology as areas of focus. The district has also expanded opportunities including college partnerships and career-connected learning and is exploring the use of student portfolios.

–Roksana Amid

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STEPPING OUT



Courtesy Schirmer Theatrical

There's something strange in the neighborhood … "Ghostbusters returns to the big screen."



Courtesy Mike Pollock

Jack o'lanterns illuminate the season, hand carved to perfection.

The spirits are stirring

Cue the season of spooks

By Karen Bloom



The nights are getting longer, the pumpkins are glowing and Halloween is officially in the air. It's time to embrace the spooky season. Let's get started!

Follow the glow: The Rise of the Jack O'Lanterns

Pumpkin patches have their moment. But a pumpkin trail? Now that's a Halloween tradition worth following.

This fall, the wooded grounds of Usdan Summer Camp for the Arts in Wheatley Heights once again become a glowing autumn wonderland for The Rise of the Jack O'Lanterns. The 4,200-foot loop winds through the property, surrounded by more than 7,000 hand-carved pumpkins and illuminated objects — 10,000 glowing elements in all — creating a dazzling nighttime spectacle that feels part art show, part Halloween celebration and part magical mystery tour.

Now in its 13th season on Long Island, Rise has become a seasonal favorite for families, pumpkin enthusiasts and anyone who enjoys a little October magic. Along the trail, pumpkins of all shapes, sizes and personalities light the way, joined by colorful inflatables and other illuminated creations. And just when you think you've seen it all, there's even a spot to stop and show off your dance moves, complete with disco lights and music. Because what Halloween adventure would be complete without a little dancing?

Longtime fans may remember Rise from its first eight seasons at Old Westbury Gardens. Its current home at Usdan offers something new: a longer trail that allows visitors to wander deeper into the woods and enjoy a more immersive experience.

"We found this trail to be perfect," says Mike Pollock, executive producer of Rise of the Jack O'Lanterns. "The entire trail is wooded, which allows us to deliver the most gorgeous show we've ever done! The trail is longer than in the past so your experience will be longer! This is the spookiest walk on Long Island."

Spooky, yes. Frightening, no. There are no creatures lurking in the shadows, no actors jumping out along the path and no surprise scares. As Pollock puts it simply: "No scares."

Instead, the magic comes from the pumpkins themselves. A team of 100 handpicked artists carves each one individually, giving the jack o'lanterns an impressive range of personalities and expressions — from eerie and sinister to goofy and downright adorable. Taken together, the thousands of glowing creations turn the trail into an enormous outdoor gallery of Halloween art.

The spectacle certainly has a following. About 40,000 visitors make their way through the trail each year, taking in the glowing pumpkins, snapping photos and soaking up the sights, sounds and spirit of the season. Walk at your own pace — it takes anywhere from 45 minutes to one hour and 15 minutes — to enjoy it all.

"The artistry of these pumpkins is spectacular and you will not see anywhere else," Pollock adds.

So grab a sweater, gather the family and follow the glow. The Rise of the Jack O'Lanterns is open weekends and select weeknights through Nov. 1. Tickets must be purchased online at jackolanterns.com; no tickets are available on site. The trail is located at 185 Colonial Springs Road, Wheatley Heights.

Ready for some slime?

Who ya gonna call? Tilles Center for the Performing Arts, of course. The LIU Post campus gets a serious dose of supernatural fun when Ghostbusters in Concert arrives Sept. 20 at 6:30 p.m., bringing the beloved 1984 comedy classic to the big screen — with a live orchestra, plenty of '80s nostalgia and a whole lot of Halloween spirit.

The film screening may be the highlight, but Families are encouraged to arrive at 4:30 p.m. for Halloween-themed festivities in the Goldsmith Atrium. Expect '80s hits performed live, a costume contest judged by the Tilles Cabaret Company — made up of LIU musical theater students — plus prizes, photo opportunities, snacks and plenty of chances to get into the spirit before the ghosts take over.

And yes, there will be an Ectomobile. An on-site replica of the Ghostbusters' iconic vehicle will be on display, courtesy of Roger Browner, vice president of Hicksville-based AutoMat Custom & Restoration. It's the perfect backdrop for a family photo before heading into the main event.

Adding another special touch, guests can meet the Long Island Ghostbusters, a cosplay charity group appearing on behalf of the Prevent Cancer Foundation. Bellmore resident and Ghostbusters actor Joe Cirillo will also be on hand. Cirillo, who spent 20 years as an NYPD officer before launching a second career in film, was originally scouted by director Mike Nichols. That eventually led to his role as the Police Captain in the original "Ghostbusters" — his on-screen debut. He went on to portray numerous police officers and authority figures on screen, operate film security companies and publish his autobiography.

Then it's time to cue the proton packs. The classic "Ghostbusters" starring Bill Murray, Dan Aykroyd and the rest of the unforgettable crew, is presented on a large HD cinema screen, synchronized with a live performance of Academy Award-winning composer Elmer Bernstein's score. The result promises to be a larger-than-life way to experience the comedy, ghosts and supernatural mayhem of the classic film.

Costumes are not just welcome — they're encouraged. Those hoping to compete in the costume contest should arrive and register by 5:30 p.m.; everyone else can simply come dressed for the occasion and enjoy the festivities.

So grab your proton pack, perfect your best '80s look and get ready for some supernatural fun. Visit tillescenter.org for tickets and more. LIU Post campus, 720 Northern Blvd., Brookville.



The Knights with Emanuel Ax

Pianist Emanuel Ax joins the adventurous chamber orchestra for a spirited program of Mozart concertos and more, opening with the overture to Joseph Bologne, Chevalier de Saint-Georges's L'amant anonyme. From there, Ax takes center stage in Mozart's Piano Concertos Nos. 17 and 25 — two contrasting works that showcase his melodic brilliance, expressive depth and wit. The Knights bring their signature sense of camaraderie and discovery to repertoire. Founded by violinist Colin Jacobsen and cellist Eric Jacobsen after late-night chamber-music sessions with friends, the ensemble has built a reputation for breaking down the barriers between performers and audiences.

Sunday, Oct. 18, 3 p.m. Tickets available at tillescenter.org. Tilles Center, LIU Post campus, 720 Northern Blvd., Brookville.



Daughtry 20 Years Unplugged

Experience Daughtry's catalogue in a stripped-back acoustic setting, reframing the songs that have soundtracked arenas, rock radio milestones, and some of the most defining moments of the band's career. Their lastest tour follows the release of "Shock To The System," the complete edition of Daughtry's two-part project via Big Machine Rock. For an artist whose songs have always lived at the intersection of power and vulnerability, 20 Years Unplugged sees Daughtry strip down some of their biggest and most meaningful tracks, distilling them to their purest form and bringing fans closer to the songs and unmistakable voice that carried the band through two decades of connection, evolution, and success.

Tuesday, Oct. 20, 8 p.m. Tickets available at ticketmaster.com or paramountny.com. The Paramount, 370 New York Ave., Huntington.

YOUR NEIGHBORHOOD CALENDAR

OCT 15

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) 484-9338

Zoning Board of Appeals meets

The Zoning Board of Appeals will meet to consider matters before the board.

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



OCT 23

Anthony Rodia

Anthony Rodia is back with his "Insanely Funny" tour, an all-new stand-up showcase packed with sharp observations, spot-on impressions and plenty of larger-than-life characters. Building on the success of his previous outing last year, this is his biggest and most ambitious yet, on the Paramount stage for two performances. A first-generation Italian-American raised in Westchester, Rodia discovered his knack for comedy early on. After dabbling in open mics in his 20s, he took a detour into the automotive world as a finance manager at a luxury car dealership. Then, in 2019, he took the leap back to comedy, leaving his day job to pursue stand-up full time. Drawing on family life, Italian-American culture, parenting and the everyday absurdities of modern life, Rodia has a knack for turning the familiar into the hilarious. His observational humor, self-deprecating wit and uncanny impressions have made him a rising star, while his viral social media videos — including his wildly popular Uncle Vinny character — have introduced his comedy to millions of fans. The result is a style that feels less like a performance and more like hanging out with your funniest friend.

- **Where:** The Paramount, 370 New York Ave., Huntington
- **Time:** 7 p.m.
- **Contact:** ticketmaster.com or paramountny.com

OCT 16

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 Oct. 17-18, Oct. 23-25
- **Contact:** sandspointpreserveconservancy.org or call (516) 571-7901

OCT 17

Tiffany's Flowers: From Garden to Glass

Join Master Gardener and docent Terry Cavanagh for a special walk-through exploring the artistry and craftsmanship behind Louis Comfort Tiffany's iconic lamps at Nassau County Museum of Art. Discover how Tiffany's fascination with color and light led him to develop innovative approaches to glassmaking, and learn how flowers from the gardens of Laurelton Hall and beyond inspired some of his most celebrated designs. Through close looking, photographs, and a step-by-step exploration of the process, Terry will reveal how real flowers were transformed into intricate patterns, individually selected glass pieces, and ultimately luminous works of art. Space is limited. Registration required. $20, $10 members.

- **Where:** 1 Museum Drive, Roslyn Harbor
- **Time:** 11:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m.
- **Contact:** nassaumuseum.org or (516) 484-9338

Oyster Fest

Join the Town of Oyster Bay and the Oyster Bay-East Norwich Chamber of Commerce for their annual Oyster Fest. Enjoy a waterfront weekend of family fun, food and festivities.

- **Where:** 63 Larabee Ave., Oyster Bay
- **Time:** Starting 11 a.m., also Oct. 18
- **Contact:** visitoysterbay.com or call (516) 259-1842

Community Blood Drive

he Glen Cove Fire Department hosts a community blood drive. Breakfast will be served, and donors will receive a voucher for a "Pint for a Pint" from Garvies Point Brewery in Glen Cove.

- **Where:** Glen Cove Fire Department, 10 Glen Cove Ave.
- **Time:** 8 a.m.-2 p.m.
- **Contact:** Pete at (516) 606-0014

Art explorations

Converse, collaborate and create with kids when Family Saturdays resumes at Nassau County Museum of Art. Get inspired by the art and objects in the galleries and then join educators at the Manes Center to explore and discover different materials to create your own original artwork at the drop-in program. Kids and adults connect while talking about and making art together. A new project is featured every week. $20, $10 child; members free.

- **Where:** 1 Museum Drive, Roslyn Harbor
- **Time:** Noon-3 p.m.
- **Contact:** nassaumuseum.org or (516) 484-9338

OCT 18

North Shore Kiwanis Dog Show

Bring your four-legged friend to the North Shore Kiwanis of Long Island Dog Show for a morning of canine fun and community festivities at Garvies Point.

- **Where:** Garvies Point, Glen Cove
- **Time:** 1 p.m.; !2:30 registration

OCT 20

Pre-Council Meeting

The Glen Cove City Council holds a pre-council meeting.

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

Planning Board meets

The Glen Cove Planning Board holds their next meeting.

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

OCT 23

Trick or Treat Tour

Bring your little ghosts, goblins, and superheroes for a spooktacular self-guided Trick or Treat adventure inside the historic Main House at Planting Fields State Park. Kids will use a Treasure Map to explore room by room, collecting candy, prizes, and fun facts about the Coe family and their home along the way. Costumes welcome! Whether spooky, silly, or sparkly, dress up for the occasion. $15, $15 seniors 62+, $5 ages 6-12

- **Where:** 1395 Planting Fields Road, Oyster Bay
- **Time:** 1-4 p.m., also Oct. 24-25 and Oct. 30-31
- **Contact:** plantingfields.org or call (516) 922-9210

OCT 24

Enchanted Forest

Nassau County Museum of Art welcomes families to a day of wonder and magic. Inspired by the changing seasons and the beautiful forest surrounding the museum, this immersive experience invites everyone to explore themes of transformation, imagination, and the natural world through hands-on artmaking and creative activities. Wander through the enchanted forest, discover magical surprises along the way, and gather for a special story time nestled within the trees. Costumes are encouraged! $20, $10 members and children.

- **Where:** 1 Museum Drive, Roslyn Harbor
- **Time:** 11 a.m.-12:30 p.m. and 1-2:30 pm.
- **Contact:** nassaumuseum.org or (516) 484-9338

NOV 11

Veterans Day 2026

Join the City of Glen Cove and VFW Post 347 as the community comes together to honor the courageous men and women who have served the nation. Pay tribute to America's veterans and thank them for their courage, sacrifice and service. Additional details, including this year's honoree, will be announced as they become available.

- **Where:** Glen Cove Public Library, 4 Glen Cove Ave.
- **Time:** 11 a.m.
- **Contact:** (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.

Learning about the hidden risks of vaping

By WILL SHEELINE
wsheeline@liherald.com

Vaping devices may look like harmless gadgets and come in appealing fruit and candy flavors, but the chemicals they deliver can damage developing brains and lungs and lead to addiction, pediatrician Dr. Sara Siddiqui told children and parents at the Grenville Baker Boys & Girls Club on Wednesday.

Siddiqui, a Huntington-based pediatrician, delivered a presentation titled "The Truth About Vaping," explaining how electronic cigarettes work, why nicotine is addictive and how young people can seek help if they have already started vaping.

The presentation brought together members of the club's Keystone program, representatives from the Locust Valley School District and parents for a discussion about the health risks associated with vaping.

Melissa Rhodes, the club's executive director, said the event provided an opportunity for young people to ask questions without fear of judgement.

"This is an opportunity," Rhodes said. "This is a safe space to ask your questions and get answers from a doctor."

Siddiqui explained that vaping involves heating a liquid and inhaling the resulting aerosol, which can contain nicotine, flavorings, oils, metals and other chemicals. She cautioned against the common misconception that the aerosol is simply water vapor.

"When they say vaping, we want to use the word cigarette or electronic cigarette," Siddiqui said, "because there's so many chemicals in there that it is quite dangerous for you to be inhaling this."

She described how manufacturers have increasingly used fruit and candy flavors to make vaping products appealing to younger consumers. Devices have also evolved from cigarette-shaped products into compact gadgets that can be difficult for parents and teachers to recognize.

Siddiqui said the combination of appealing flavors and concentrated nicotine makes the products particularly concerning for children and teenagers.

Some vaping devices contain nicotine concentrations equivalent to hundreds of cigarettes, Siddiqui said. She identified products such as Elf Bar as examples of devices that can hold the equivalent of nearly 600 cigarettes worth of nicotine.

The dangers extend beyond the lungs. Siddiqui explained that nicotine can affect heart rate and that exposure during adolescence is particularly concerning because the brain continues developing into a person's mid-20s.

She also discussed how vaping can interfere with the lungs' natural protective mechanisms, potentially causing inflammation and impairing their ability to exchange oxygen and carbon dioxide.

Another challenge, Siddiqui said, is that vaping can be difficult for adults to detect. Unlike traditional cigarettes, vaping devices may produce little visible aerosol and can leave behind fruity or sweet smells rather than the familiar odor of tobacco smoke.

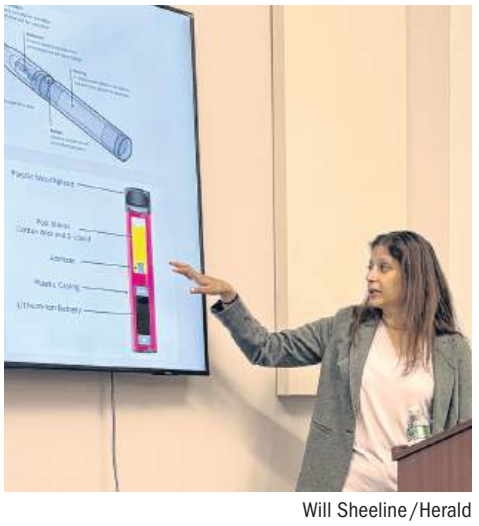
Siddiqui recommended that children establish relationships with their pediatricians and use annual checkups as opportunities to discuss vaping, mental health and other concerns. School nurses, guidance counselors and trusted teachers can also provide support.

For young people who have already developed a nicotine dependence, she stressed that quitting is possible but may require multiple attempts and professional assistance.

She discussed available resources, including text-based quit programs, counseling and medications that can help manage nicotine withdrawal. She also encouraged parents, schools and friends to support young people trying to stop rather than relying solely on punishment.

"(The punishment) shouldn't be that we're suspending these kids," Siddiqui emphasized. "We shouldn't be kicking them out of school. We should try to support them."

During a question-and-answer session, Siddiqui also addressed vaping products containing cannabis, including tetrahydrocannabinol, or THC, as well as nicotine pouches and products marketed as wellness aids.



Will Sheeline/Herald

Huntington-based pediatrician Dr. Sara Siddiqui informed students, parents and educators on the dangers of vaping.

She warned that switching to products advertised as healthier alternatives does not eliminate the potential risks.

Siddiqui said the goal of educating young people is not simply to frighten them, but to give them the information they need to make informed decisions and recognize when they need help.

For more information on Grenville Baker and their work, visit their website GBBGC.org.

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Julia Capitelli/Herald photos

Long Island-based Hose & Eagle Gallery owner John DiNaro's wood sculptures were among the event's handcrafted goods.



New York-based bands like Mediacrime played live music.

Annual Mini Mart held in the village

By JULIA CAPITELLI

jcapitelli@liherald.com

Despite rain and cloudy weather, Sea Cliff Avenue was packed with shoppers from the village and beyond for the annual Kiwanis Sea Cliff Mini Mart. Held on the first Sunday in October, Mini Mart raises money for the Kiwanis Club of North Shore. Vendors rent space, and those funds go toward Kiwanis initiatives like Klothes for Kids and scholarships. The global organization is dedicated to helping children in need.

With more than 200 vendors, this year's Mini Mart was sold out. This was the first year the vendor selection process was entirely digital. Interested businesses filled out an online application, and the information was compared with data from past years. Organizers then chose the most fitting vendors for the event.

Longtime organizers Lisa and Roger Hill passed the task to Vinny Labbate and Tony Consalvo of Kiwanis' Young Professionals Division. The Hills remained involved with the event, supporting the new organizers.

"It's certainly rewarding," Labbate said. "That's the key piece here, is we're doing this because we're raising money to help children locally in need, and that's really the driving force for getting the volunteers, getting good vendors and getting everybody on the same page that this isn't just any art show that we're putting on. We're doing this because the outcome is truly helping people."

Mini Mart featured a variety of items, mostly handcrafted. Among items were soap, jewelry, cosmetics, candles, clothing, woodwork and glasswork. Several vendors also offered food and drinks, and local bands played live music. Local organizations like North Shore Kiwanis, the North Shore High School Key Club and the Hempstead Harbor Protection Committee also had booths.

HERALD PUBLIC NOTICES

LEGAL NOTICE
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that NYS Application ID: NA-0138-26-129320 for eating place beer has been applied for by 67 Juniors Deli Corp. to sell beer at retail in a delicatessen under the ABC Law at 67 Glen St. Glen Cove, NY 11542 for on premises consumption.

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 November 18, 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*}

LEGAL NOTICE
UNITED STATES POSTAL SERVICE
Statement of Ownership, Management, and Circulation
1. Publication Title: GLEN COVE HERALD.
2. Publication No. 8886.
3. Filing Date: October 1, 2026.
4. Issue Frequency: Weekly.
5. No. of Issues Published Annually 52.
6. Annual Subscription Price: $52.
7. Complete Mailing Address of Known Office of Publication: 2 ENDO BLVD, GARDEN CITY, NY 11530
8. Complete Mailing Address of Headquarters or General Business Office of Publisher: 2 Endo Blvd., Garden City, Nassau County, NY 11530.
9 Full Names and Complete Mailing Addresses of Publisher, Editor, and Managing Editor. Publisher: Richner Communications, Inc., Stuart Richner, 2 ENDO BLVD, GARDEN CITY, NY 11530. Editor: ROXY AMID, 2 Endo Blvd., Garden City, Nassau County, NY 11530. Managing Editor: JEFF BESSEN, 2 ENDO BLVD, GARDEN CITY, NY 11530.
10. Owner: Richner Communications, Inc., 2 Endo Blvd., Garden City, Nassau County, NY 11530; Clifford Richner, 2 Endo Blvd., Garden City, Nassau County, NY 11530; Stuart Richner, 2 Endo Blvd., Garden City, Nassau County, NY 11530.
11. Known Bondholders, Mortgagees, and Other Security Holders Owning or Holding 1 Percent or More of Total Amount of Bonds, Mortgages, or Other Securities: None.
12 Not applicable.
13. Publication Title: GLEN COVE HERALD.
14. Issue Date for Circulation Data Below: September 17, 2026.
15. Extent and Nature of Circulation: a. Total No. Copies: Average No. Copies Each Issue During Preceding 12 Months, 5000; Actual No. Copies of Single Issue Published Nearest to Filing Date, 5000.
b. Paid Circulation (By Mail and Outside the Mail): (1) Mailed Outside-County Paid Subscriptions stated on Form 3541: Average No. Copies Each Issue During Preceding 12 Months, 98; Actual No. Copies of Single Issue Published Nearest to Filing Date, 91. (2) Mailed In-County Paid Subscriptions Stated on Form 3541: Average No. Copies Each Issue During Preceding 12 Months, 2413; Actual No. Copies of Single Issue Published Nearest to Filing Date, 2396. (3) Paid Distribution Outside the Mails including Sales Through Dealers and Carriers, Street Vendors, and Counter Sales, and Other Non-USPS Paid Distribution: Average No. Copies Each Issue During Preceding 12 Months, 745; Actual No. Copies of Single Issue Published Nearest to Filing Date, 731. (4) Paid Distribution by Other Classes of Mail Through the USPS: Average No. Copies Each Issue During Preceding 12 Months, 0; Actual No. Copies of Single Issue Published Nearest to Filing Date, 0.
c. Total Paid Distribution: Average No. Copies Each Issue During Preceding 12 Months, 3256; Actual No. Copies of Single Issue Published Nearest to Filing Date, 3218.
d. Free or Nominal Rate Distribution (by Mail and Outside the Mail): (1) Free or Nominal Rate Outside-County as Stated on Form 3541: Average No. Copies Each Issue During Preceding 12 Months, 930; Actual No. Copies of Single Issue Published Nearest to Filing Date, 944. (2) Free or Nominal In-County as Stated on Form 3541: Average No. Copies Each Issue During Preceding 12 Months, 215; Actual No. Copies of Single Issue Published Nearest to Filing Date, 0. (3) Free or Nominal Rate Copies Mailed at Other Classes Through the USPS: Average No. Copies Each Issue During Preceding 12 Months, 0; Actual No. Copies of Single Issue Published Nearest to Filing Date, 0. (4) Free or Nominal Rate Distribution Outside the Mail: Average No. Copies Each Issue During Preceding 12 Months, 150; Actual No. Copies of Single Issue Published Nearest to Filing Date, 300.
e. Total Free or Nominal Rate Distribution: Average No. Copies Each Issue During Preceding 12 Months, 1295; Actual No. Copies of Single Issue Published Nearest to Filing Date, 1244.
f. Total Distribution: Average No. Copies Each Issue During Preceding 12 Months, 4551; Actual No. Copies of Single Issue Published Nearest to Filing Date, 4462.
g. Copies Not Distributed: Average No. Copies Each Issue During Preceding 12 Months, 449; Actual No. Copies of Single Issue Published Nearest to Filing Date, 538.
h. Total: Average No. Copies Each Issue During Preceding 12 Months, 5000; Actual No. Copies of Single Issue Published Nearest to Filing Date, 5000.
i. Percent Paid and/or Requested Circulation: Average No. Copies Each Issue During Preceding 12 Months, 71.54%; Actual No. Copies of Single Issue Published Nearest to Filing Date, 72.12%.
16. This Statement of Ownership will be printed in the October 15, 2026issue of this publication.
17. Signature and Title of Editor, Publisher, Business Manager, or Owner: Stuart Richner, Owner; Date: October 1, 2026. I certify that all information furnished on this form is true and complete. I understand that anyone who furnishes false or misleading information on this form or who omits material information requested on the form or who omits material or information requested on the form may be subject to criminal sanctions (including fines and imprisonment) and/or civil sanctions (including civil penalties).

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National news and higher education on Long Island

Higher education on Long Island is a major force for economic, scientific and cultural advancement. The Island's 17 colleges and universities employ about 26,000 faculty and staff — roughly 2 percent of total regional employment — and have enrolled over 160,000 students in recent years. Long Island is also home to major research centers, including Brookhaven National Laboratory, Cold Spring Harbor Laboratory, the Feinstein Institutes at Northwell and Stony Brook University, among others.



ROBERT A. SCOTT

While national headlines have focused on federal funding cuts and demands for compliance of elite private research universities, we shouldn't lose sight of local impacts. All institutions rely on federal support for research and student aid. Those demands were accompanied by unsupported claims or selective evidence of institutional wrongdoing that do not follow the federal government's own guidelines for regulatory action.

The Trump administration's cuts to the National Science Foundation and other federal sources of research funding affect local institutions as well as those in the news. It has cut an estimated $47 billion locally and halted thousands of approved grants. Scientific advances by Long Island institutions in health science, quantitative computing and energy management, among others, save lives and improve the quality of life for all of us.

> Our foundation for advanced learning is facing federal and state challenges.

The federal government and higher education institutions have had a strong partnership dating back to the 19th century, which is grounded in several signature Supreme Court decisions, including Sweezy v. New Hampshire. In that case, Justice Felix Frankfurter articulated the four freedoms of universities to determine, on academic grounds, what to teach, how to teach, who will teach and who will be taught.

Unfortunately, this foundation for advanced learning in America is being challenged by federal and state actions. The government's Compact for Academic Excellence in Higher Education would confer preferred access to federal research funds in exchange for abandoning academic freedom and institutional governance.

Most of those offered the compact, and the more recent Compact 2.0, have said no, because it would violate longstanding principles. It would interfere with student admissions, faculty hiring, academic programming and international relationships.

The latest action to reshape higher education is Secretary of Education Linda McMahon's letter to campus boards and presidents calling for answers to a set of provocative questions. In this three-page "Call to Action" directed at wealthy institutions, the department requested information about admissions, free speech, intellectual pluralism and college affordability. Asked about any relationship between responses and federal funding, a department spokesperson said, "It would be natural for the government to look favorably on those who supported its position," according to Inside Higher Education.

And now the authors of "Project 2025" have proposed model legislation for state governments to bar campus officials from taking positions on the "issues of the day," even if they threaten academic freedom, and from mentioning race, color, ethnicity, sex, sexual orientation and gender identity in any policies, procedures, training, etc., unless approved by the state.

The university — and here I include two- and four-year colleges — is dedicated to the search for truth and to the preparation of students to distinguish between and among empirical evidence, epiphanies, and emotion or superstition. Its role is as much about character development and citizenship advancement as it is about preparation for careers and commerce. It should not be controlled by politics.

After all, we want students to question assertions and challenge assumptions, to know that words matter and that actions have consequences. They, too, benefit from the freedom to inquire, imagine and innovate. These are the characteristics of an educated mind.

Universities may be in today's headlines, but we can see beyond the present and take action to support higher education's historic role in service to society.

Robert A. Scott, Ph.D., is president emeritus of Adelphi University and the author of "How University Boards Work."

We're limiting legal refugees to white South Africans

Current federal policy limits legal refugee admissions essentially to white South Africans, specifically Afrikaners. Congressional candidates, including incumbents, on Long Island and beyond need to state whether they support this policy, which has existed without sufficient Congressional or public attention. The public has a right to know.



ELAINE GROSS

On Jan. 20, 2025, the first day of his second term, President Trump issued an executive order titled "Realigning the United States Refugee Admissions Program." It imposed a ban on a program that has for decades — with longstanding bipartisan support — provided a legal way for refugees fleeing persecution in other countries to be vetted and, if approved, resettled in this country.

On Oct. 30, the administration announced an exception to the ban: It would limit the number of refugees admitted to the United States to 7,500 — a dramatic decline from the target of 125,000 in 2024 — and they would mostly be white South Africans. As the Associated Press reported at the time, the federal notice "made no mention of any other specific groups to be admitted besides the white South Africans, known also as Afrikaners."

Afrikaners, it should be noted, have a long history of supporting and implementing white supremacy. It was Afrikaners who led the South African government after World War II, when it created a formal system of racial apartheid.

As NPR Illinois reports, "In 1948, the Afrikaner-led government began to implement apartheid, a system of institutionalized racial segregation that benefited whites. Black people and other non-white South Africans were displaced and dispossessed. Apartheid ended in 1994 with the formation of a new, democratic government led by anti-apartheid activist and Nobel Peace Prize winner Nelson Mandela."

> Trump's actions are a clear signal to white supremacists in the U.S.

On May 26, the Trump administration announced that it would admit another 10,000 white South Africans as refugees, while essentially continuing to ban people from other countries. The State Department issued data on Aug. 5, revealing that the U.S. had accepted 10,258 refugees in the fiscal year, all but three of whom were South Africans.

On Sept. 25, Trump issued a Presidential Determination limiting refugee admissions in the new fiscal year, which started Oct. 1, to an additional 17,500, primarily Afrikaners from South Africa. No other country was mentioned.

Afrikaners aren't simply *among* those being admitted. They are virtually the *only* people being admitted. That's clearly a statement of principle rather than a reflection of the state of the world.

The president is only required to inform Congress, so Congress may avoid taking a position, but clearly the president can make changes during the new fiscal year, as he did previously. At a minimum, Congress should state how this policy reflects American values, and if members support or oppose it.

By his actions, Trump is using the legal refugee admissions policy primarily to bring to the U.S. members of the Afrikaner community, which implemented white supremacy through apartheid in South Africa. By his actions he is publicly affirming that system.

It's important to keep in mind that the U.S. had its own systems of apartheid against Blacks: slavery and then Jim-Crow segregation. The president's actions are a clear signal to white supremacists in the U.S. that he wants to extend that legacy.

After all, from Day One of the Trump administration, the combination of the president's executive orders, related Congressional actions and sought-after Supreme Court decisions have removed Blacks from federal jobs without cause, and stripped them of civil rights that ensured their right to vote and their right not to be denied housing due to discrimination based on race and other protected attributes.

This Afrikaner resettlement in the U.S. is a stunning act by the president. It deserves to be discussed and debated by those seeking to serve in Congress. Candidates for Congress on Long Island, including incumbents, need to make clear whether they support this federal policy. The federal refugee admissions program was created by an act of Congress, the Refugee Act of 1980. How can Congress not care about how the program is used?

The question — Do you support the current federal policy on refugee admissions? — is one that requires a simple yes or no answer. Yet that answer will speak volumes about each candidate.

Elaine Gross is founder and president emerita of ERASE Racism, the regional civil rights organization based on Long Island.

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Established 1991
Incorporating the
Gold Coast Gazette in 2016

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HERALD EDITORIAL

Main Street can't sit out the A.I. revolution

Last month, 50 Long Island small businesses gathered at Stony Brook University to finish something few of their owners would have imagined a year ago: six months of training in artificial intelligence.

The LIA-AI Growth Academy was free to participants. It was run by the Long Island Association's foundation, funded by Google.org and taught by Stony Brook's technology and A.I. experts, along with advisers from the Long Island Small Business Development Center. It was open only to companies with 20 or fewer employees, and graduates received a $5,000 grant to put A.I. to work in their businesses.

Long Island's municipalities, chambers of commerce and educational institutions must find ways to replicate this terrific program.

The stakes are high, because A.I. is the first technology in a long time that can favor the little guy. For most of the last century, size was destiny. A big company could afford an IT department, in-house lawyers, a finance team and analysts poring over its data, and the corner store could not.

A.I. erases much of that advantage. A contractor can turn handwritten notes into clean estimates and keep three job sites on schedule. A hardware store can spot the items that are gathering dust and the ones that keep selling out. A two-lawyer firm can summarize a 200-page lease before lunch. Corporations spent millions of dollars on tools that now cost a small business a modest monthly subscription.

We know the objection, because we hear it from every owner we talk to: Who has the time? Small-business owners already work long weeks. They answer the phones, make payroll, chase invoices and sweep the floor. Adding "Learn A.I." to that list sounds absurd.

But few things a business owner can do will pay off more than a few hours spent learning these tools. The time invested comes back every week — in invoices sent faster, schedules built in minutes and paperwork that no longer eats the weekend.

Owners don't have to figure it out alone. The LIA should announce a second cohort, and we hope it's much bigger. The Long Island SBDC at Stony Brook offers free one-on-one advising, and the state SBDC network now runs a dedicated A.I. program. In Nassau, Hofstra University's Entrepreneurship Assistance Center has teamed up with the Valley Stream Chamber of Commerce on a series of practical A.I. workshops for local business owners, a model every chamber on Long Island should copy.

Hofstra's ideaHUb incubator also connects young companies with mentors and student interns. Farmingdale State College has launched a bachelor's degree in artificial intelligence that blends business and computer science, and Long Island University is building its own A.I. offerings. Nassau and Suffolk community colleges and our public libraries offer affordable continuing-education and tech classes. Business owners should use them.

A.I.'s promise doesn't mean we should be naïve about its dangers. The same tools that help a bakery balance its books can write a convincing scam email or clone a child's voice to con a grandparent. Bad actors are already using A.I. for fraud, impersonation and deepfakes. Any A.I. training should also teach owners how to protect themselves from these scams.

The bigger problems are not for the deli owner to solve. That job belongs to Albany and Washington. Lawmakers need to set clear rules: real penalties for A.I.-enabled fraud and impersonation, disclosure when content is A.I.-generated, transparency from the companies building these systems. A.I. will likely eliminate jobs — especially the entry-level clerical, customer-service and bookkeeping work that has started countless Long Island careers — so government budgets must account for retraining workers whose jobs change or disappear.

Embracing the technology and demanding guardrails are not contradictory. They are two halves of the same responsible approach.

A.I. is coming to Long Island's economy whether Main Street is ready or not. The LIA, Hofstra and other local institutions have shown what readiness looks like. But they can't train 100,000 Long Island small businesses on their own. That will take every town hall, chamber, library and college on the Island pulling in the same direction, and it needs to start now.

LETTERS

Keep up the good work, Herald

To the Editor:

Re your editorial, "Celebrating newspapers and local reporting" (Oct. 1-7): Congratulations to the Herald on its excellent coverage of local news, and then some. I am a subscriber, a supporter and a believer in journalism — freedom of the press is essential, especially at this time in our country. With so much information and misinformation, I rely on the professionalism, honesty and thorough investigative reporting of newspapers across the country, and the Herald in particular.

Thank you for covering Long Island and our neighborhoods. You keep us informed. May you and your journalists continue your important work.

MARGUERITE WESTBROOK
Lynbrook



OPINIONS

Under the shade of an attack-ad tree

Every afternoon, I open our mailbox and remove another small portion of a forest. Lately we've been receiving two to six oversized political advertisements a day, printed on sturdy cardstock and designed to survive considerably longer than the candidates they promote.



MICHAEL BLITZ

Except that most of them don't really promote anybody.

I've been conducting an entirely unscientific survey of the political mail arriving at our home. With only a handful of exceptions, these advertisements don't tell us why we should vote *for* someone. They tell us why we should vote *against* someone else.

This candidate is dangerous. That one is corrupt. He'll raise your taxes. She'll release criminals in your neighborhood. One's a radical. Another can't be trusted. There are ominous, angry photos, variously darkened and tinted red.

There are roughly 458,000 households in Nassau County. I weighed a stack of the political cards we've received: 15 10-by14-inch pieces weighing roughly an ounce. That doesn't sound like much, but if every Nassau household receives just two of these advertisements a day — considerably fewer than we've been getting — collectively that would amount to more than 900,000 pieces of political mail every day, weighing nearly two tons.

Over six weeks, even at that conservative rate, that's roughly 38 million pieces of political mail, weighing 80 tons. And almost all of ours make one final journey, of perhaps 30 feet, from the mailbox to the recycling bin.

There's something bizarre about this.

How much paper is wasted on contempt-filled political mail? This much.

Before becoming a photo of a scowling politician, paper has a complicated history. Somewhere there were trees — or recycled fibers that began as trees. There was harvesting, transportation, pulping, washing, processing and papermaking. There was *lots* of water. There was energy. There were chemicals involved in processing, bleaching and coating. There were huge vats of ink. There was printing and cutting and bundling.

Pallets and cartons went to postal facilities. Trucks moved them. Machines sorted them. Postal workers handled them. Mail carriers brought them to our homes. And then we recycled them.

All of this industrial activity so that someone could tell us that someone else is unfit for public office. The trees, it seems to me, got the worst of the bargain. While they were alive, they absorbed carbon dioxide. They released oxygen. They provided habitats. Their roots held soil. Their canopies intercepted rain. On hot summer days, they may even have provided pleasant places to sit.

Then we cut them down, and eventually turned some portion of them into large postcards informing us that candidates for public office are menaces to civilization.

It seems an extravagant use of resources for so little information. Trees are reduced to pulp and pulp becomes paper, which is coated, printed, cut, bundled, shipped, sorted and delivered — all to convey a political message that can usually be reduced to a few words: *Be afraid of this person.*

We aren't consuming all these resources because candidates have so much to tell us about housing, education, taxes, health care, transportation, public safety and the environment that they simply can't squeeze it all onto a website. We're consuming them, to a remarkable degree, in the service of contempt. That may be the most toxic ingredient in the manufacturing process.

Our political culture has increasingly decided that the most effective argument for Candidate A is not that he or she possesses intelligence, judgment, integrity, experience or worthwhile ideas. It's that Candidate B is terrifying.

Even if it works, we might ask what all this negativity costs us. Not simply in trees, gallons of water, kilowatts of electricity, ink, diesel fuel and recycling expenses. What does it cost a community to be told, day after day, election after election, that the people seeking to represent us aren't merely wrong but dangerous, dishonest, radical, corrupt, stupid or evil?

We destroy something that took years to grow in order to manufacture something intended to make us dislike one another for a few seconds. Then we throw it away.

Tomorrow afternoon I'll walk to the mailbox again. There will be another handful of ads waiting for me. I'll glance at them. I'll learn that several more people pose existential threats to Nassau County, New York state, the entire country. Then I'll toss them in the recycling bin.

I'd rather have the trees.

Michael Blitz is professor emeritus and former chair of the Department of Interdisciplinary Studies at the City University of New York's John Jay College of Criminal Justice.

LETTERS

Town should come clean on tax increases

To the Editor:

When is the Town of Hempstead going to stop using deceptive accounting practices to hide the fact that it's raising our taxes? By removing Sanitation Department budgets from the town's main budget and creating separate special district budgets, the town can raise taxes through those districts while claiming that it isn't raising town taxes. The money and the tax burden doesn't disappear; it's simply moved out of the main budget, to where taxpayers are less likely to see it. What's to stop those sanitation districts from raising taxes after Election Day?

Another deceptive practice the town has used for decades is burying revenue labeled "miscellaneous" in its General Fund, which has now accumulated $50.2 million. The town should disclose how much of that revenue comes from the utility bills of Liberty Water, PSEG and National Grid customers. Liberty is seeking a 37 percent rate increase next year, in part because of the ever-increasing taxes it pays to the town and county — taxes ultimately paid by Liberty customers on utility property that should be tax-exempt.

LI Clean Air Water & Soil has asked the town to put all tax revenue from Liberty Water into a separate fund to help finance the South Nassau Water Authority's acquisition of the system. Had the Town done this decades ago, we could have had public water by now, like 95 percent of New Yorkers.

Then there's the sale of real property as a one-time gimmick to balance the budget, along with taking $30 million from reserves. Neither should be used to fund recurring expenses, practices that run contrary to sound government financial management. Joe Scianablo, the Democratic candidate for town supervisor, is right to shine a light on the town's "miscellaneous" revenue.

It may be time for State Comptroller Thomas DiNapoli to investigate the town's finances and expose the deceptive practices being used to conceal tax increases. Perhaps Hempstead needs its own version of the Nassau County Interim Finance Authority to bring transparency and accountability to its finances.

CLAUDIA BORECKY
Co-director, LI Clean Air Water & Soil Ltd. and president, Bellmore Merrick Democratic Club
Merrick

FRAMEWORK by Tim Baker



A ghoulish gathering on Chestnut Street — Oceanside

Daniel Gale | Sotheby's INTERNATIONAL REALTY





"From start to finish, he was professional, knowledgeable, and genuinely cared about helping us sell our home. He was always available to answer questions, explain the process clearly, and make sure we felt confident every step of the way. His attention to detail, strong negotiation skills, and dedication truly sets Damian apart."

71 15th Avenue
Sea Cliff, NY



"When the time came for us to purchase a new home, we knew exactly who to call. We weren't expecting our offer to be accepted and when it was, Damian sprang into action to not only help us navigate that purchase but also help get our house on the market and sold in record time to allow us to close on our new home right on schedule."

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Glen Cove, NY



"The consummate professional. High level of knowledge and judgement. Responsive and hardworking."

14 Pheasant Hill Lane
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