

GLEN COVE
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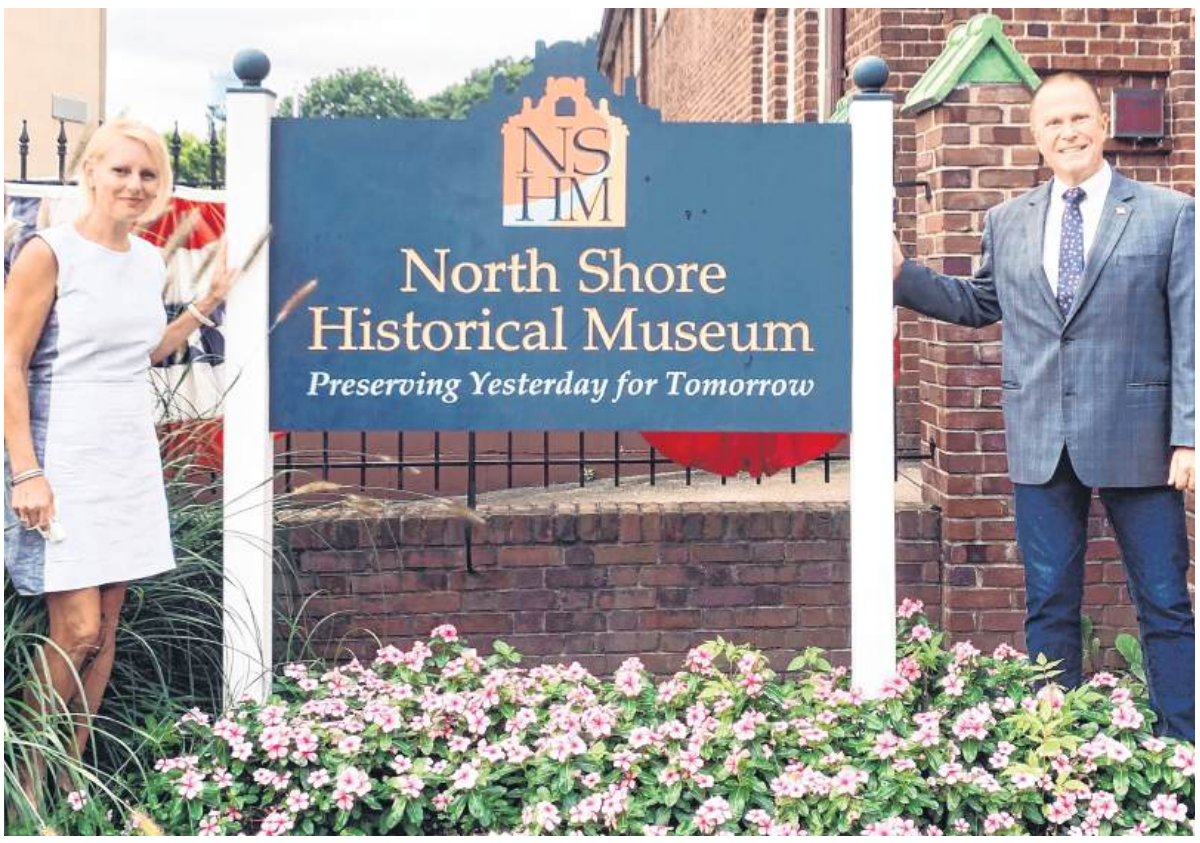

Courtesy Gaitley Stevenson-Mathews

Gaitley Stevenson-Mathews, recently named director of the North Shore Historical Museum, previously worked alongside former director Amy Driscoll on the facility's weekly Pop-Up Visits video series, which kept residents connected to local history during the pandemic.

Taking the helm at Glen Cove's N.S. Museum

By ROKSANA AMID
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When Gaitley Stevenson-Mathews moved to Glen Cove in 2007 from Manhattan, his moving boxes were still unpacked when he began exploring the city's history. Within his first week, he visited the archives at the Glen Cove Public Library and the North Shore Historical Museum, eager to learn about the community he and his husband had chosen as their home.

Nearly two decades later, Stevenson-Mathews, 65, has been named director of the museum, an institution he has supported for years as a volunteer, trustee and lifetime member.

"Even though the history of this region may not be my history, or wasn't my history at that time, I feel it is so important to know who came before," Stevenson-Mathews said. "You cannot know a community without knowing the community's history."

His appreciation for history began during his child-

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Knitting club stitches together support for veterans

By ROKSANA AMID
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What began as a simple way for two Glen Cove City Hall employees to spend their lunch breaks has grown into a charitable effort that brings residents together, one stitch at a time.

For the past five years, Sue Tripp and Angie Colangelo have shared a love of knitting and crocheting, meeting in a City Hall conference room to work on handmade projects. What started as a small lunchtime activity eventually developed into an evening Knitting Club, a group whose members now dedicate their time and talents to helping veterans and others in need.

This fall, the club is preparing for its second annual Veterans Day donation drive, hoping to build on last year's success, when members and community supporters collected 1,656 clothing and comfort items for disabled veterans.

The effort exceeded the club's original goal of 1,111 items, a number chosen to represent Veterans Day, Nov. 11; the 11th month, the 11th day.

"We hoped to collect 1,111 items for Veterans Day, and our community answered in a big way," Tripp said following last year's collection. "Reaching 1,656 items shows how deeply Glen Cove honors its veterans, with every stitch given in gratitude."

> You just don't realize the difference this tiny group can make.
>
> **ANGIE COLANGELO**
> Founder,
> knitting club

Tripp, who works in the mayor's office, recalled how the club began meeting during their lunch hours.

"We would always come down here for lunch," she said. "But Angie and I were the regulars. We were always down here. We just crocheted during our lunch hour."

Both women learned their craft at a young age from their mothers. Over the years, they continued developing their skills, even attending an adult education class at Glen Cove High School to learn additional techniques.

Their hobby took on a new direction after Colangelo, who works in the city's Building Department, met Kate Csillag, a knitting and crocheting instructor who was considering opening a yarn store in Glen

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HERALD
Community Newspapers

Glen Cove man dropped from Cornell lawsuit

By ROKSANA AMID
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A Glen Cove man who was named in a civil lawsuit involving allegations of sexual assault at a Cornell University fraternity house has been dropped from the litigation after his attorney said he was mistakenly identified as the fraternity's president at the time of the alleged incident.

A notice of discontinuance was filed on Oct. 20, removing Orazio Petito, a Chaminade High School graduate and former president of Cornell's Xi Chapter of Chi Phi fraternity, from the lawsuit. The fraternity and seven men accused of sexually assaulting a former Cornell student remain defendants.

Eric Bernstein, Petito's Manhattan-based attorney, told the Herald that his client was not serving as fraternity president when the alleged assault occurred in October 2024.

"We're pleased with the outcome," Bernstein said. "Without commenting on the veracity of the allegations in the case, they had the wrong guy."

Bernstein added that Petito was not president at the time of the alleged incident and said "justice was served."

Petito was never accused of participating in the alleged sexual assault. The notice of discontinuance removes him from the civil litigation but does not constitute a judicial determination of the underlying allegations.

The original 101-page complaint, filed Sept. 16 in State Supreme Court in Manhattan, identified Petito as president of the fraternity's executive board "at all relevant times." It alleged that he failed to properly supervise the fraternity house and its members.

The lawsuit was filed by a former Cornell student identified under the pseudonym Jane Doe, who alleges she was drugged and sexually assaulted by seven men at the Chi Phi fraternity house during the night of Oct. 19 into Oct. 20, 2024.



Courtesy office of Kathy Hochul

Gov. Kathy Hochul appointed state Attorney General Letitia James to oversee the investigation into the 2024 case.

The seven men named in the lawsuit are Matthew Ingalls, Johnathan Newell, Winston Lee, also identified as Lee Jun Hyung, Gillio Lopes, Diego Sarabia, Scott Norris and Scott Kretzschmar.

Doe alleges that she was too intoxicated to consent to sexual activity. The defendants have denied wrongdoing, maintaining that the sexual encounters were consensual.

Doe reported the alleged assault to Cornell University Police in 2024, but prosecutors initially declined to pursue criminal charges.

The allegations subsequently prompted renewed scrutiny of Cornell's handling of the complaint and the original criminal investigation. Gov. Kathy Hochul appointed state Attorney General Letitia James as special prosecutor after authorities reopened the investigation. Simultaneously, Sally Yates, a former U.S. deputy attorney general, is leading an independent review for the university.

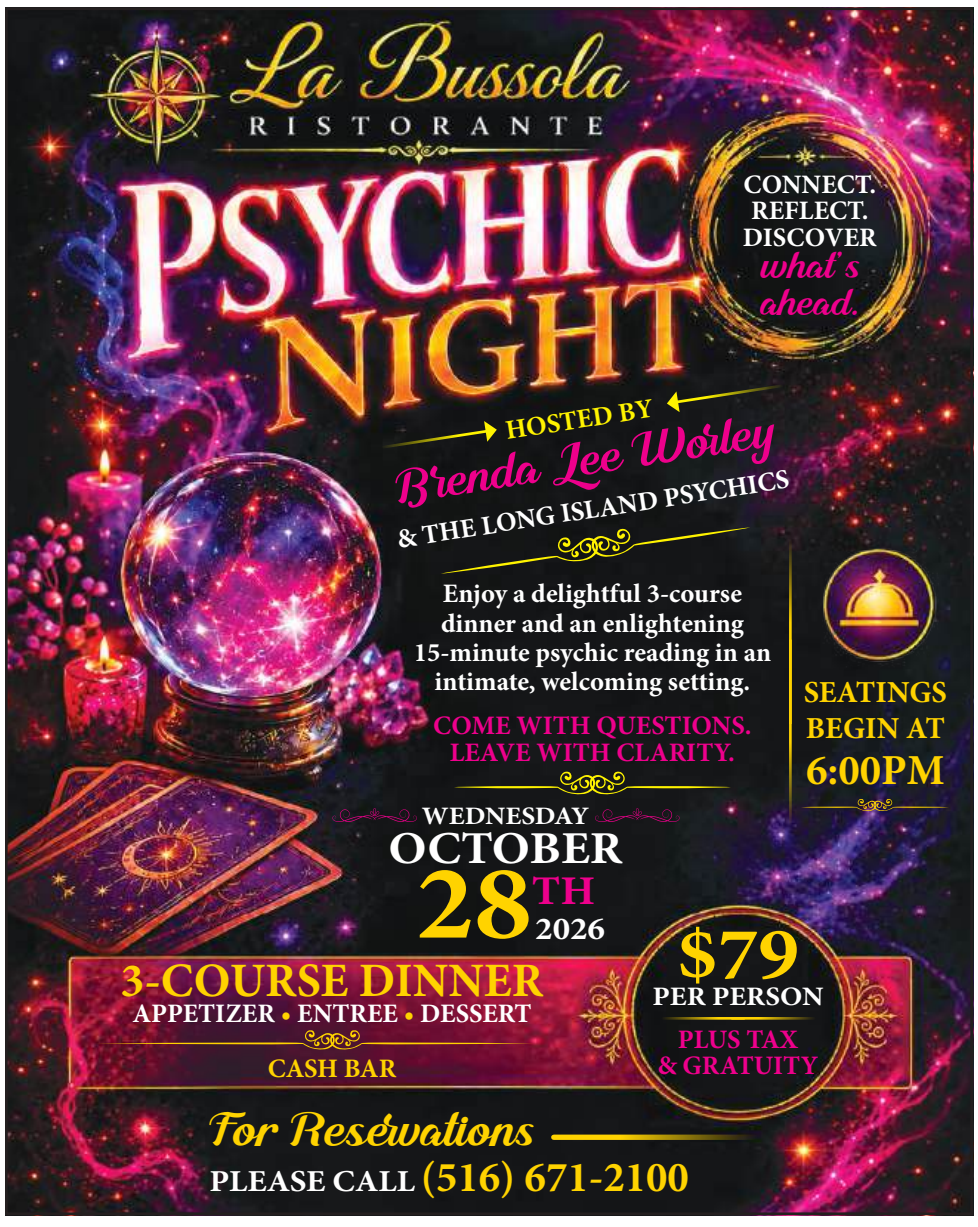
"The young woman at the center of this case deserves to know that every fact will be examined and justice pursued," Hochul wrote in a statement. "This action will ensure that the matter is fully and thoroughly investigated without conflict or bias, and handled independently with the rigor that this matter demands."

The case has also drawn attention from state lawmakers, including Assemblyman Charles Lavine, whose district includes Glen Cove. Assembly Speaker Carl Heastie appointed him to a working group examining New York's sexual assault statutes.

"I am deeply troubled by the allegations surrounding the Cornell rape case," Lavine previously told the Herald. "Particularly the vile attempts by so many to blame the victim. The voices of crime victims must be listened to. Those responsible must be prosecuted and held accountable."

Lavine said he hoped the group's recommendations would help protect New Yorkers.

Although Petito is no longer a defendant, the civil litigation against Cornell, the fraternity organizations and the seven accused men continues, alongside the reopened criminal investigation.





Turning a shared hobby into a mission

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Cove.

Csillag had approached the department while exploring the possibility of establishing her business. Colangelo was intrigued by the idea and believed a storefront offering knitting lessons would benefit the community.

Although Csillag ultimately decided against opening the store, the encounter led to an unexpected partnership.

Colangelo suggested bringing Csillag's instruction to City Hall, where employees and community members could gather after work. With Mayor Pamela Panzenbeck's approval, the group began meeting in the conference room, transforming their lunchtime hobby into an organized evening activity.

"This is all volunteer," Colangelo said. "Everything we do with this is volunteering our time."

Csillag, who learned to knit and crochet when she was about 5, had already been providing free lessons and materials to people throughout the area. Opening a business, she realized, would have required charging for services she preferred to offer without cost.

Instead, she continued teaching through community knitting groups, including gatherings at the Glen Cove Public Library, Glen Cove Senior Center, Congregation Tifereth Israel and Bayville Community Center.

Her students have ranged from young children to first-time knitters in their 80s, demonstrating how a shared interest can connect people across generations.

"When we have that shared experience, we can look past our age difference, our race difference, our gender difference, and just enjoy stitching, and learn from each other," Csillag said.

Although the groups enjoy learning new techniques and socializing, charitable work has become a central part of their activities.

Throughout the year, participants create handmade items for organizations serving people experiencing homelessness, children and individuals facing medical challenges. Their contributions have included blankets, hats and other knitted or crocheted necessities.

The Veterans Day drive, however, holds particular significance for the group.

Csillag said her family's connections to military service make supporting veterans especially meaningful. The initiative began last year and proved so successful that members decided to organize another collection.

The 2025 drive brought together numerous community organizations, including the Glen Cove Senior Center Knitting Club, which contributed 200 handmade items, Bayville Hooks and Needles, Knit and Crochet with Kate, Glen Cove High School DECA students, the Glen Cove Police Benevolent Association and employees from several City Hall departments.

Donations included scarves, hats, gloves, sweaters, blankets, socks, underwear and other essentials. Contributions weren't limited to handmade goods, allowing residents who did not knit or crochet to participate by purchasing new clothing and necessities.



Roksana Amid/Herald photos

Glen Cove knitting club members gathered to support the group's charitable efforts.

The items were presented to representatives of Disabled American Veterans, including John F. Scalesi Jr., senior vice president of DAV New York State, and James Brown, a New York chapter adjutant. Both are U.S. Army veterans.

"We all want to pay back to the people who served before us," Scalesi said.

For Tripp, crocheting also provides a welcome opportunity to unwind from the demands of everyday life.

"It is my peace and quiet," she said. "I truly enjoy it."

Yet the satisfaction extends beyond completing a project. Tripp said knowing that her work will benefit someone who served the country gives the activity a deeper purpose.

"It's my way of giving," she said.

Colangelo expressed similar feelings, describing the sense of accomplishment that comes from finishing a handmade scarf or blanket and knowing it will help another person.

"We have all become now a knitting, crocheting family group," she said.

As Veterans Day approaches, the club is inviting residents, businesses, schools and community organizations to contribute new or handmade clothing and comfort items.

Donations will be accepted through Nov. 1 at the Building Department or mayor's office on the third floor of Glen Cove City Hall, 9 Glen St., Monday through Friday, from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

All collected items will benefit veterans through the Disabled American Veterans network.

For Colangelo, the initiative illustrates how even a small group of volunteers can make a meaningful contribution.

"We've done so many little things for so many needs that people have," she said. "You just don't realize the difference this tiny group can make."



Maureen Papachristou and Kate Csillag knitted together as part of the community group's charitable work.



Handmade blankets, scarves and caps created by members of the knitting club will help provide comfort to veterans and others in need.

An architect for a sunroom?

Ask The Architect



MONTE LEEPER

Q. I'm buying a sunroom for my breakfast room on the back of my split-level house, about 8 feet off the ground. I'm being told by the contractor that I need an architect and sealed plans. Since it's basically a kit of parts that will go on my existing deck, why do I need this? It seems like a lot of extra expense the sunroom people didn't tell me about. If I already have a permit for the deck, it should be allowed, right? I haven't bought the sunroom yet. I'm just trying to be sure I know the whole story before I do this, probably by spring, when the weather is better for construction.

A. Do things once, the best way. A deck isn't habitable, but a sunroom is, and a permit is required. Plans have to show structural support, energy and building code compliance. Rain, moisture and ice are your primary concerns.

You need the whole story without the sales part. Just like any purchase, issues you might not expect are still important, like finding out what kind of oil to add to your snowblower before the engine seizes or that windows without factory tinting can allow ultraviolet sunlight rays to fade your carpet. As an architect for a largely popular sunroom manufacturer in the 1980s and '90s, I experienced many issues with their construction.

Pre-engineered panel systems are designed by the company, hopefully by engineers, and should come with plans from the manufacturer that can be sealed and signed by their in-house engineer. If not, plans may need to be drawn from scratch by an architect or engineer that you hire so those plans can be integrated with your house. Integrated means that the company generally just sells you a product and doesn't necessarily give any indication of how to support the unit or how to attach the unit system to your house so that it won't leak or move.

This is the general failing of the system, since, as I experienced with most of the installations, the part I could detail was free of leaking or movement, but the units themselves leaked nearly every time. We could detail how the edges of the unit could be sealed and redundantly weather-stripped and flashed, but the frames around the glass and wall edges would unseal and leak. I even met with the corporate president/owner and identified the specific problems. Promises to correct leak issues were made but not kept, and eventually I gave up.

I looked at a 2-year-old system while discussing other work for a home recently. The owner described the back-and-forth misery he and his family were experiencing with their sunroom and the company. Even 25 years after I gave up, the same company is still doing things the same way. You need a detail-oriented architect and installer. The cost of doing things twice is much greater. Good luck.

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Book Review:
"Outlive" by Peter Attia, MD (Part One)

In his bestselling book, Dr. Attia challenges conventional medical thinking. Instead of treating illnesses, he focuses far greater attention on preventing them from occurring. Quoting Desmond Tutu, he says "There comes a point where we need to stop just pulling people out of the river. We need to go upstream and find out why they're falling in". Being that there is far less profit in preventative medicine — both for the medical profession and the pharmaceutical industry — he is up against considerable resistance.

Longevity means not only how long you live but how well you live — quantity and quality of life — which he terms "lifespan and healthspan". "Outlive" is an operating manual for increasing both aspects of longevity which, the author points out, is far more malleable than we realize. The beauty of acquiring this knowledge is that you can start at any age and greatly improve your prospects. You just need to know how.

To avoid the gravitational pull of aging, we have to take steps to improve our physical and cognitive function. The prescription for working and acting like someone one or even two decades younger than your chronological age or, in other words, outliving your life expectancy and exceeding society's expectations of what later life looks like, fills these pages.

Dr. Attia suggests that as we age, you either surrender to decline or come up with a plan, starting now, not only to get more out of life but to stave off The Four Horsemen of The Apocalypse: cancer, heart disease, diabetes and Alzheimer's.

While medicine currently relies on procedures, like surgery, and medications, this new approach advocates five domains: exercise, nutrition, sleep, emotional health and, grouped together, drugs, hormones and supplements. For example, 77% of people do not exercise. Going from zero to just ninety minutes a week reduces your risk of dying from all diseases more than any drug can do.

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NEWS BRIEFS

G.C. man sentenced to 25 years to life

A Glen Cove man was sentenced to 25 years to life in prison for stabbing his estranged mother-in-law to death outside a West Hempstead restaurant after she attended her daughter's birthday celebration in September 2024, according to the Nassau County District Attorney's Office.

Erick Corado Gonzalez, 29, pleaded guilty on Sept. 3 to second-degree murder and attempted second-degree murder before Judge Caryn Fink. The charges stemmed from the fatal stabbing of 51-year-old Ana Espinoza and the attack on her husband. Prosecutors had recommended a sentence of 30 years to life.

According to District Attorney Anne T. Donnelly, Espinoza and her family were celebrating her adult daughter's birthday at La Candela II restaurant on Sept. 28, 2024. Gonzalez, the estranged husband of Espinoza's daughter, was not invited to the gathering.

Just after midnight on Sept. 29, as the family left the restaurant and headed to their vehicles, Gonzalez approached Espinoza in the parking lot and stabbed her at least seven times in the torso.

When Espinoza's husband tried to intervene, Gonzalez stabbed him in the hand. Espinoza's adult son also attempted to help his mother, but Gonzalez pointed an imitation pistol at him and threatened him not to follow.

The attack took place in the presence of Gonzalez's 3-year-old son.

Espinoza and her husband were taken to NYU Langone Long Island Hospital, formerly known as Winthrop. Espinoza suffered hemorrhagic shock from stab wounds to her neck and was pronounced dead at 3:58 a.m.

Gonzalez fled New York after the stabbing but was arrested by local authorities in Linden, New Jersey, on Sept. 29, 2024. He was extradited to Nassau County on Oct. 22, 2024. Investigators recovered a knife from the restaurant parking lot and an imitation pistol from the trunk of his car.

"Ana Espinoza should be here today enjoying the life she built with her children and watching her grandchildren grow," Donnelly said in a statement. She described the attack as an act of rage that left Espinoza's family with lasting grief.

The case was prosecuted by Senior Litigation Counsel Tracy Keeton of the district attorney's Homicide Bureau, under the supervision of Bureau Chief Michelle Lewisohn and Executive Assistant District Attorney Daryl Levy.

–Roksana Amid

Tennis group honors Herald's Bellissimo

Among the 25 awards that the United States Tennis Association handed out Association at its 36th Annual Long Island Region awards dinner, one went to Herald Community Media's sports editor Tony Bellissimo.

With the help of an outstanding staff of freelance reporters, Bellissimo received the Press Service Award given to an individual, company, retailer or news organization that goes above and beyond to support Long Island tennis. He was also the recipient of this award in 2015.

After serving 13 years as a freelance sports reporter for Herald Community Media, Bellissimo joined the company as its full-time sports editor in the summer of 2007.

In addition to providing the majority of weekly sports content for the large Nassau County based chain, which also publishes special sections previewing football, basketball, and multiple spring sports, Bellissimo oversees a staff of eight freelance sportswriters and a dozen freelance sports photographers.

Before joining the Herald on a full-time basis, he worked the National Football League beat for nine years and held the title of NFL Editor at College and Pro Football Newsweekly.

The Oct. 14 dinner was at the Sea Cliff Manor.

–Staff report

GLEN COVE HERALD

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Nurturing his lifelong passion for history

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

hood in rural North Carolina, where his grandmother Annie Culbreth Gaitley shared stories about her life and the changes she had witnessed. As a teenager, he often joined her for lunch, listening to accounts that gave him a greater understanding of the past.

"It gave me such a sense of belonging and being a part of something bigger than myself," he recalled.

That sense of belonging eventually brought him to Glen Cove. After nearly two years searching for a home, Stevenson-Mathews and his husband, Jim Mathews, settled near Morgan Park, drawn by the waterfront and the surrounding neighborhood.

Although the park initially attracted them, Stevenson-Mathews said the community itself convinced them to stay.

"The thing that has kept us here, and the thing that is even a greater commodity than that beautiful park, are, of course, the people of Glen Cove," he said.

His involvement in the community has grown over the years. A former City Council member, Stevenson-Mathews founded the Tribute and Honor Foundation, and has served on numerous nonprofit boards. He continues making weekly deliveries to families for NOSH Delivers, and remains involved with the SAGE Foundation, which supports the Glen Cove Senior Center.

He earned a degree in English literature from Berea College and a master's in theater from Southern Methodist University. His professional career has included theater, communications and nearly two decades as a voice and speech coach.

Georgie Connett, president of the museum's board of trustees, said that Stevenson-Mathews' professional experience and community involvement made him a natural choice for the position.

"His experience in nonprofit leadership, communications, and historic preservation, together with his longstanding commitment to our community, makes him an excellent choice to help guide the Museum into its next chapter," Connett wrote in a statement to the Herald.



Courtesy Gaitley Stevenson-Mathews

Gaitley Stevenson-Mathews, right, is a co-founder and president of the Tribute and Honor Foundation, which was founded in 2021.

Local historian Joan Harrison recalled meeting Stevenson-Mathews in the Glen Cove library's Robert Coles History Room shortly after his arrival. "We discovered we were neighbors, and both obsessed with the history and people of the North Shore," Harrison said.

Harrison, who has written four books about the area's history, said that his friend's organizational abilities and enthusiasm for the community would serve the museum well.

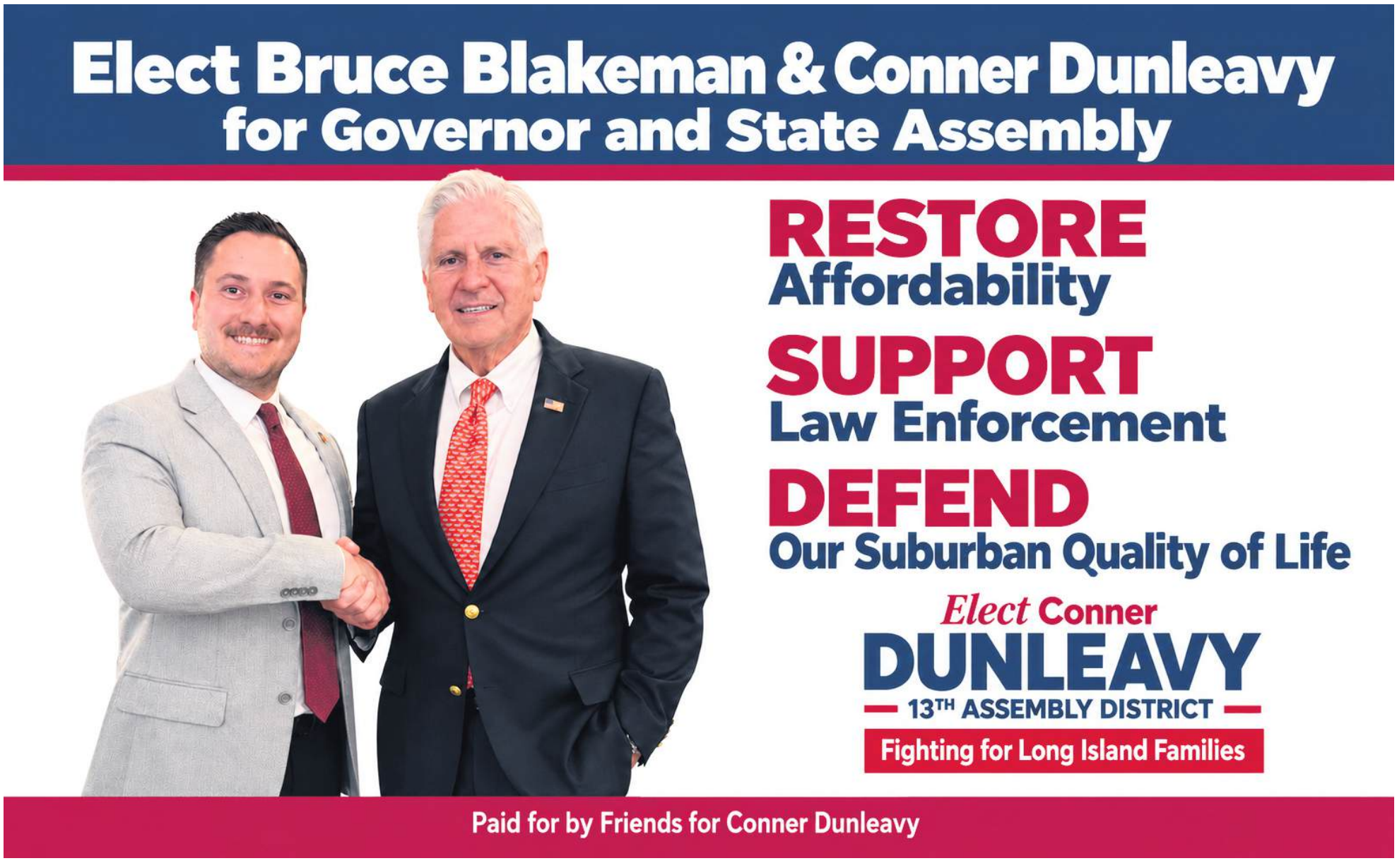
As director, Stevenson-Mathews is responsible for coordinating volunteers, overseeing daily operations and developing programming. He acknowledged that accepting the position required scaling back his speech-coaching business and stepping down from the boards of the Glen Cove Economic Opportunity Council and the Long Island Concert Orchestra.

He has already begun introducing initiatives intended to expand the museum's reach. His new Community Connections series brings local cultural organizations to the facility to share their histories and traditions. Recent programs have included Hispanic heritage and Italian cultural celebrations, developed in collaboration with community organizations.

Stevenson-Mathews also hopes to expand the museum's mock trial program and establish a Young Historians program, encouraging younger generations to take part in preserving local history. "We need the perspective of those who have been doing it a long time," he said. "We also must have the perspective of young people who are looking at it with fresh eyes and from a different background."

"If you don't already have them in the door, sometimes it takes going out to where they are," Stevenson-Mathews said.

The museum board will host a public welcome reception for the new director on Nov. 8, at 3 p.m. The museum is open Saturdays and Sundays from noon to 4 p.m.



Taking strides of hope at Jones Beach

By JORDAN VALLONE
jvallone@liherald.com



Tim Baker/Herald photos

A large crowd gathered to walk for Colleen Mooney Truono, who died two years ago from Triple Negative breast cancer. She was a teacher in the Island Trees School District.

Every step carried a reason at Jones Beach on Oct. 18 — a loved one remembered, a diagnosis confronted or the hope that another family might someday be spared the words "you have cancer."

Survivors, people living with breast cancer, caregivers and supporters came together for Making Strides of Long Island, an American Cancer Society fundraiser presented by Teachers Federal Credit Union. The walk brought a shared purpose to the boardwalk: honoring those affected by breast cancer and supporting the effort to end the disease.

With its main festival area at Field 5, the event combined opportunities for remembrance with celebrations of resilience. Participants could follow an approximately five-mile route, taking breaks or turning around whenever they needed. The emphasis was on participating at their own pace and finding connection along the way.

That personal connection was reflected in the "I Walk For" signing wall, where participants could write the names of loved ones or the reasons behind their steps. A Tribute Garden offered space to reflect, remember and celebrate.

At Field 1, the Fence of Hope marked a turnaround point and a place to honor those touched by breast cancer. Photos, notes and small mementos could be left in tribute to loved ones, giving walkers an opportunity to pause before continuing along the boardwalk.

Support for people at different stages of their cancer experience was central to the event. A pink survivor and thriver tent offered American Cancer Society resources, commemorative shirts and medals, and opportunities to connect with others.

The society defines a survivor as anyone who has received a cancer diagnosis, including those newly diagnosed, undergoing treatment or in remission. Making Strides uses the term "thriver" for people living with metastatic breast cancer.

Caregivers were also welcomed into the space, recognizing the family members and friends who accompany loved ones through appointments, treatment and the uncertainty that can follow a diagnosis. Nearby, a Bell of Hope offered another way to mark the experience.



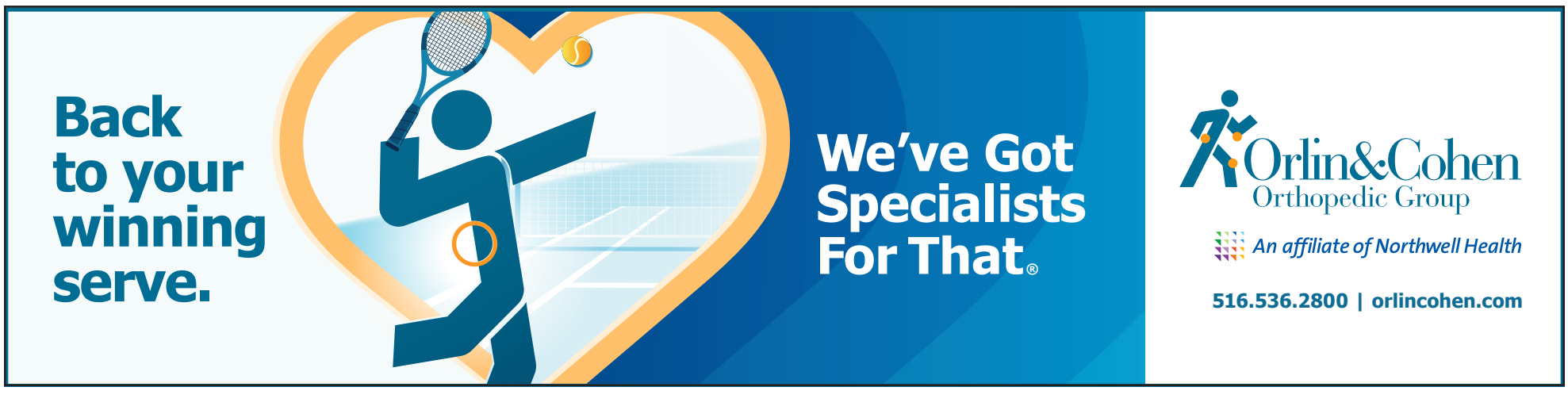
Cara DeSantis, Jaziela Trelles, Juan Trelles and Wendy Estrella offered their support at the walk.

A new tent focused on "previvors" — people who have not been diagnosed with cancer but have an increased risk because of an inherited genetic mutation, family history or other known risk factors.

Beyond the tributes, the festival area offered ways to learn about support services and become involved. A Community Village connected participants with Long Island nonprofit organizations, while an exhibit highlighting the American Cancer Society's Hope Lodge program drew attention to free lodging available to people traveling for cancer treatment.

Other activities emphasized breast cancer screening, advocacy and the experiences of Black women. The American Cancer Society Cancer Action Network provided information about advocating for research funding and access to care.

Team photo stations and walls for messages of encouragement added opportunities to celebrate friendships and support networks. Together with the spaces for remembrance, they reflected the walk's overlapping emotions: grief for those lost, gratitude for those alongside them and hope for those still facing treatment.



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3 THINGS TO KNOW HALLOWEEN ON THE NORTH SHORE

Halloween traditions and festivities

By ROKSANA AMID

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As Halloween approaches, Glen Cove and surrounding North Shore communities are preparing for a celebration of costumes, candy and seasonal traditions. Local festivities offer families opportunities to enjoy the holiday, which has evolved over centuries from ancient seasonal observances into a celebration of trick-or-treating and neighborhood gatherings. Here are three things residents should know.

1

Local communities prepare for Halloween festivities

The Glen Cove Downtown Business Improvement District will host its annual Halloween Parade and Festival on Saturday, Oct. 31, from 1 to 3:30 p.m. The family-friendly celebration will bring costumed children and their families downtown for a parade, trick-or-treating and activities organized around local businesses.

The Oyster Bay's Main Street Association will also host Boo-tiques by the Bay on Oct. 31, with trick-or-treating at participating downtown businesses from noon to 2 p.m.

Both communities' celebrations encourage residents to visit local businesses while providing children with opportunities to enjoy Halloween in a community setting.

2

Halloween traditions date back thousands of years

Halloween traces its origins in part to Samhain, an ancient Celtic festival marking the end of the harvest season and the beginning of winter. Celebrated around Nov. 1, Samhain was associated with beliefs that the boundary between the living and the dead became thinner during the seasonal transition.

As Christianity spread, Nov. 1 became associated with All Saints' Day, and the preceding evening became known as All Hallows' Eve, eventually shortened to Halloween.

Halloween became widespread during the 20th century, Today, Halloween combines elements of folklore, religious history and community entertainment.

3

Safety precautions help protect trick-or-treaters

Costumes should fit properly to prevent tripping, while reflective materials, flashlights and glow sticks can help motorists see pedestrians after dark. Children should remain on sidewalks whenever possible and cross streets at designated intersections. Younger trick-or-treaters should be accompanied by a responsible adult, while older children should travel in groups and establish a planned route.

Motorists should reduce their speed in residential neighborhoods and remain alert for children crossing unexpectedly, particularly near parked vehicles and intersections.

Parents should also inspect candy before allowing children to eat it, checking for damaged packaging and potential allergens.

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- Developmental Delays
- Obsessive-Compulsive Disorder (OCD)
- Social Skills Problems
- Sibling and Family Issues
- Anxiety and Stress
- Eating Disorders
- School Avoidance
- Loneliness
- Social Media Addiction
- Low Self-Esteem
- Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD)
- High-Functioning Autism
- Intellectual Disabilities
- Anger Issues and Emotional Regulation
- Peer Relationship Problems
- Coping with Medical Conditions
- Depression
- Sleeping Problems
- Fears and Phobias
- Social Dating Problems
- Internet Addiction
- Grief and Loss

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ON THE ROAD WITH A TAKEOUT QUEEN

What's Your Soup Type?

I've noticed countless variations on butternut squash soup in restaurants this fall. Many other cozy soups are offered as well. With so many wonderful new soups to try, how is it possible to decide which to order? It comes down to this: what's your soup type? In the five cafes below, your type will lead to delicious meals on the menus.

Sweet Tomato (91 Audrey Ave., Oyster Bay); Forest Ave Grill (170 Forest Ave., Glen Cove)

Your Soup Type: "I Gotta Taste It"



CATHI TUROW

In Sweet Tomato, 12 different kinds of soup smile at you on the front counter. You're welcome to taste them before choosing the one you'd like to order. During my last visit, the manager mentioned customers have been asking for the butternut squash soup since August. On October 17, it will return, along with sausage soup, lemon chicken orzo, kale soup, plus more. Two new fall soups will be added to the menu each week, and they'll rotate.

In Forest Ave Grill, eight rotating soups are offered every week. You can enjoy tasting samples before making a choice. Apple butternut squash is the newcomer for the fall. This thick version of butternut squash soup is delightfully sweet. As I slurped my portion, I could hear the apples whispering, "We're here too."

Mythos Kitchen (1380 Old Northern Blvd., Roslyn)

Your Soup Type: Creamy-But-Not-Too-Creamy. The avgolemono soup in this new Greek café is your perfect match. As I tasted the slightly creamy traditional rice, chicken and egg soup, the freshest lemon flavor hummed in the background. The ingredients in the lentil soup were equally talented. Everything on the menu is home baked, including bread which is served with a fava bean puree. Here's what's most charming: the entrees, salads, sides and desserts are not served perfectly symmetrically on their plates. Instead, foods ranging from moussaka to baklava are placed casually on their dishes. It feels as if loving hands raised them out of the oven and sliced them especially for you.

Maldon & Mignonette (243 Glen Cove Ave., Sea Cliff)

Your Soup Type: Not-Overloaded-With-Ingredients. Seasonality, simplicity and flavor describe the vibe in this restaurant. So, your soup type is a perfect fit with the chef's butternut squash creation. The soup is a delicious, basic combination of butternut squash, carrots, tomatoes, onions and a drizzle of olive oil.

On the new fall menu, I paired my soup with the Autumn Wreath roasted vegetable salad. The ingredients happily form a wreath (plump Brussels sprouts, figs as an innovative touch, squash, goat cheese, honey and thyme). My favorite pasta dish: cappelletti with squash, pecans and sage. It tastes like a crisp autumn evening.

Hoshi (34 Audrey Ave., Oyster Bay)

Your soup type: Smooth-With-A-Crunch. In this new sushi bar & Japanese restaurant, the kabocha soup (butternut squash's cousin) is smooth as silk with crunchy pumpkin seeds atop. The menu is filled with creative inventions. I love the vegetable taco (a four-inch slice of seaweed serves as the "shell," while rice with paper-thin fresh vegetables gather inside it). The dumplings are wrapped in tuna instead of a noodle case. Fried rice versions include scallops or lobster. There are wagyu curry short ribs. The list goes on. This is a "must try" restaurant.

See you next month!









Photos courtesy Kiwanis Club of North Shore

The dog show awarded its best matching outfit.

Furry friends fetch fun for Kiwanis charity

Four-legged friends took center stage at Garvies Point Dog Park on Oct. 18 as the Kiwanis Club of North Shore hosted its sixth annual dog show, bringing together local dog lovers for an afternoon of playful competition and community spirit. Organized in partnership with the North Shore High School Key Club, the event featured contests showcasing dogs' creative costumes, impressive tricks and unique personalities. Founded in 2021 by Leslie Kle, the beloved community tradition offers more than just a chance for pets to shine, raising funds for charitable initiatives benefiting local children, including the Kiwanis Klothes for Kids program, which provides clothing to children in need.

–Roksana Amid



The annual dog show brought together pet owners and animal lovers while raising funds for programs benefiting children.



Canine companions took center stage as the Kiwanis Club of North Shore celebrated its sixth year of hosting the popular community event.



The annual fundraiser combined a love of animals with community service, supporting the Kiwanis Club.



Dogs of all shapes and sizes joined in the festivities as local residents gathered for an afternoon of friendly competition and community fun.

HERALD
Community Newspapers
OCTOBER 22, 2026

VOTE

LOCAL ELECTIONS GUIDE

Candidate profiles, ballot Information and more inside!

ELECTION '26

NEW YORK STATE GOVERNOR



Kathy Hochul

Party affiliation: Democrat
Profession: Governor

ON THE ISSUES

Affordability and tax relief

Hochul identifies lowering costs as a central priority. Her campaign points to inflation refund checks sent to more than 8 million New Yorkers, an expanded child tax credit and middle-class tax cuts as measures aimed at easing household expenses. She also cites universal free school meals as a way to help families save money.

Housing and child care

Hochul supports building and preserving more affordable housing. Her campaign highlights her support for running mate Adrienne Adams' City for All housing plan during Adams' tenure as New York City Council speaker. The two also worked together to secure child care funding. Hochul says she is working toward universal child care to make it more accessible and affordable for New York families.

Public safety and schools

Hochul emphasizes investments in community safety and cites gun safety legislation enacted during her administration. Her campaign also highlights her work with Adams on city and state gun-free zone laws. In schools, Hochul points to the ban on student cellphone use during school hours as another initiative enacted during her tenure.

Federal policies

Hochul has made opposition to President Donald Trump's policies a central part of her campaign. She says she will defend New Yorkers against federal actions she considers harmful and, alongside Adams, oppose what her campaign describes as "MAGA extremism."



Bruce Blakeman

Party affiliation: Republican
Profession: Nassau County Executive

ON THE ISSUES

Affordability and tax relief

Blakeman proposes eliminating state income tax on the first $50,000 of income for single filers and the first $100,000 for joint filers. He also proposes doubling the state's multibillion-dollar property tax rebate program. Blakeman says restructuring the state budget, using state reserves, could finance the tax cuts and redirecting taxpayer funds currently allocated to services for undocumented immigrants and asylum seekers.

Housing and childcare

Blakeman aims to invest in schools and reduce the overall tax burden on residents. He looks to give families more disposable income as they contend with housing, childcare and other rising costs.

Public safety and schools

Blakeman has pledged to increase support for police, expand counterterrorism funding for the NYPD and build or reopen state prisons. He also strongly opposes sanctuary state and city policies and supports greater cooperation with federal immigration authorities to deport undocumented immigrants with criminal records. He supports restricting biological males from competing in female school sports categories.

Federal policies

Blakeman has made opposition to New York's sanctuary policies and the state's spending on services for migrants and asylum seekers a central part of his campaign. He supports working with Immigration and Customs Enforcement to remove undocumented immigrants with criminal records and redirecting state resources currently used for migrant services.

ELECTION '26

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT 3



Tom Suozzi

Party affiliation: Democrat
Profession: Attorney; certified public accountant

ON THE ISSUES

Affordability

Suozzi identified the rising cost of living as voters' leading concern, citing tariffs, the war with Iran, federal debt, energy costs and health insurance expenses. He said addressing household expenses should be Congress's priority and emphasized bipartisan cooperation to solve problems.

Immigration

Supports permanently securing the border and reforming the asylum system and creating a pathway to work authorization for certain longtime residents without legal status who have lived in the U.S. for more than 10 years without committing crimes. Cited efforts with GOP lawmakers to reform ICE's enforcement practices.

Environment and drinking water

Suozzi opposes the proposed Propel NY Energy transmission project and has sought a public hearing on potential impacts to Hempstead Harbor and its shellfish beds. He supports a regional drinking water plan to address contamination, saltwater intrusion, stormwater runoff and aquifer protection.

Public services and foreign policy

Suozzi said his office helped address mail delivery problems affecting Glenwood Landing residents. On Iran, he opposed abruptly ending American military involvement, instead advocating a phased withdrawal coordinated with Congress and allies. He said bipartisan cooperation remains central to his work in Congress.

3 FUN Facts

Bagel Order:
Poppy seed bagel with scallion cream cheese

Baseball Team:
Mets

Favorite Music Artist:
The Beatles



Mike LiPetri

Party affiliation: Republican
Profession: Attorney; former state assemblyman

ON THE ISSUES

Affordability and housing

LiPetri proposed adjusting capital gains calculations on home sales for inflation and offering first-time homebuyers a five-year federal income tax exemption. He also supports tax deductions for child care and expenses such as diapers, formula and strollers to help families manage costs.

Health care

LiPetri advocates preventive screenings, greater price transparency and insurance arrangements that allow patients to keep their preferred doctors when changing jobs. He said the health care system should be modernized to accommodate patients' needs.

Public safety and immigration

LiPetri supports enforcement against people without legal status, emphasizing public safety and resources for citizens and legal immigrants. He said he accompanied federal immigration agents while serving in the Assembly and witnessed arrests involving people accused of serious crimes.

Environment and energy

LiPetri opposes the proposed Propel NY Energy transmission project and said he would consult federal permitting agencies about stopping it. To protect drinking water, he proposed expanding federal infrastructure grants for recharge basins, injection wells and lead-pipe replacement.

3 FUN Facts

Bagel Order:
Plain bagel with vegetable cream cheese

Baseball Team:
Mets

Favorite Music Artist:
Lost Frequencies

SENATE DISTRICT 7



Rory Lancman

Party affiliation: Democrat

Profession: Attorney and former state assemblyman

ON THE ISSUES

Affordability and taxes

Lancman said he is running because Nassau County residents face excessive costs that state government could help reduce. He cited property taxes, sales taxes, auto insurance and utility bills as burdens. He wants the state to hold local governments accountable for how they assess property taxes, arguing that Nassau's system sends many homeowners inflated bills and forces them to challenge assessments, often by hiring lawyers.

Health care costs

Lancman identified health care as a major affordability concern for residents, including the costs of prescription drugs, copayments and long-term care. As a board member of Nassau University Medical Center and chair of its finance committee, he said he has seen the consequences of mismanagement at the public safety-net hospital. He said reforms to improve oversight and efficiency can protect taxpayers.

Environmental protection and Propel NY Energy

Lancman said the Propel NY Energy transmission project could help address Long Island's high energy costs by improving the movement of electricity into and out of the region. However, he said officials must address residents' concerns about construction impacts, business disruption and possible harm to Hempstead Harbor. He supports mitigating the effects of necessary infrastructure projects.

Water quality and the aquifer

Lancman said the state should increase investment in protecting Long Island's drinking water supply, particularly by reducing nitrogen pollution. He supports replacing aging septic systems, improving water infrastructure and cleaning up contaminated areas of the aquifer. He said environmental bond funding and state water-quality programs could help pay for the work, while financial assistance could make septic upgrades affordable for homeowners.



Jake Blumencranz

Party affiliation: Democrat

Profession: Insurance professional and state assemblyman

ON THE ISSUES

Affordability and insurance costs

Blumencranz identified affordability as a central concern among constituents, particularly rising housing, grocery and insurance costs. Drawing on his experience in the insurance industry and his role on the Assembly's insurance committee, he is developing a five-point plan intended to lower auto and homeowners insurance premiums.

Childcare and family support

Blumencranz said New York should improve access to childcare and preschool programs, particularly for families facing inconsistent availability from year to year. He said some districts struggle to budget and accommodate students because the number of available seats does not consistently match demand. He supports streamlining the process so school districts can better plan around enrollment fluctuations and state funding.

Public safety and first responders

Blumencranz supports expanding the use of technology and intelligence-led policing to help local law enforcement prevent and investigate crime. He cited legislation addressing Wi-Fi signal jammers used in some home invasions and supported license plate reader systems as tools for police. He also wants to strengthen recruitment pipelines for first responders.

School safety and artificial intelligence

Blumencranz said schools must prepare for emerging threats involving artificial intelligence and social media. As ranking member of the Assembly's science and technology committee, he has introduced the Swift Act and Child Safety AI Act, which he said would create consequences for social media companies that fail to respond to harmful content and for individuals involved in distributing it.

ASSEMBLY DISTRICT 13



Charles Lavine

Party affiliation: Democrat

Profession: Assemblyman

ON THE ISSUES

Budget

Lavine said the state budget must include sufficient funding for education, health care and environmental protection. He maintained that public education is a major reason people live on Long Island and noted the grants he has secured for school districts, like North Shore to make capital improvements and help pay staff.

Public Safety

Lavine has been outspoken against Immigration and Customs Enforcement, saying he believes it is important to speak out "in favor of fairness." He supports removing undocumented immigrants committing violent crimes but asserted that most being held at the Nassau County Correctional Center have not been convicted of violent crimes.

Infrastructure

Lavine supports Gov. Kathy Hochul's plan to revitalize downtown areas and incorporate transit-oriented development. He also supports creating more housing that is affordable. Lavine said he believes New York needs to modernize its infrastructure, citing underground pipes in Glen Cove. He said he would continue to work to secure funding to update infrastructure in the city to prevent flooding, an ongoing issue.

Social justice

Like with ICE activity, Lavine has been outspoken on antisemitism and Islamophobia. He is a member of the National Board of Directors of Jewish Legislators, and president of the National Association of Jewish Legislators' New York chapter.



Conner Dunleavy

Party affiliation: Republican

Profession: Communications Specialist

ON THE ISSUES

Public Safety

Dunleavy opposes the Local Cops Local Crimes Act, a state law banning state and local law enforcement agencies from entering into agreements with Immigration and Customs Enforcement. He said he believes communities are safe when law enforcement works together. Dunleavy cited products being locked up in stores as evidence of "decline" in New York and criticized state law regarding theft.

Affordability

Dunleavy supports County Executive Bruce Blakeman's plan to eliminate state income tax on the first $50,000 of income for single filers and the first $100,000 for married filers. He also supports increasing the Empire State Child Tax Credit, which currently provides up to $1,000 per qualifying child under age 4 and up to $500 per qualifying child aged 4 to 16.

Local control

Dunleavy is a member of the City of Glen Cove Planning Board. He supports local planning and zoning boards' ability to control development within municipalities. Dunleavy said local municipalities should decide and maintain the character of their communities.

Infrastructure

Dunleavy opposes the Propel NY Energy project, which received approval from the state Public Service Commission in September. He expressed concerns about the project moving forward without a specific power source yet chosen. Dunleavy said he believes it is important for local elected officials to speak out on the project.

GENERAL ELECTION '26

November 3, 2026
NASSAU COUNTY
BOARD OF ELECTIONS

GLEN COVE

This is not an actual ballot, but a composite of several sample ballots so as to reflect all the districts within the communities covered by your edition of the Herald. Complete reporting on candidates running in districts covered by the Herald may be found at **LIHerald.com under the Elections '26 tab.**
For election results after the polls close Tuesday night, go to LIHerald.com

FEDERAL

Congressional District 3
Cuarto Distrito Congresual Vote for One (1)

DEM
☐ Tom Suozzi

REP
☐ Mike LiPetri

STATE

Governor
Gobernador Vote for One (1)

DEM
☐ Kathy Hochul

REP
☐ Bruce Blakeman

Lt. Governor
Vicegobernador Vote for One (1)

DEM
☐ Adrienne Adams

REP
☐ Todd Hood

Comptroller
Contralor Vote for One (1)

DEM
☐ Thomas DiNapoli

REP
☐ Joseph Hernandez

Attorney General
Procurador General Vote for One (1)

DEM
☐ Letitia James

REP
☐ Saritha Komatireddy

State Senate District 7
Distrito 7 del Senado Estatal Vote for One (1)

DEM
☐ Rory Lancman

REP
☐ Jake Blumencranz

State Assembly District 13
Distrito 13 de la Asamblea Estatal Vote for One (1)

DEM
☐ Charles Levine

REP
☐ Conner Phillip Dunleavy

NASSAU COUNTY

Nassau County Legislature District 11
La Legislatura del Condado de Nassau, Distrito 11 Vote for One (1)

DEM
☐ Delia DeRiggi-Whitton

REP
☐ John Canning

FAMILY COURT JUDGE

Vote for One (1)

DEM, REP, CON
☐ Ellen Greenberg

DEM, REP, CON
☐ Ayesha Keri Brantley

District Court Judge – 3rd District
Juez de tribunal de distrito Vote for One (1)

DEM, REP, CON
☐ Lisa M. Petrocelli

DEM, REP, CON
☐ William P. Bodkin

District Court Judge – 4th District
Juez de tribunal de distrito

DEM, REP, CON
☐ David W. Wright

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PULL OUT SAMPLE ELECTION BALLOT PULL OUT

LEGISLATIVE DISTRICT 11



Delia DeRiggi-Whitton

Party affiliation: Democrat

Profession: Nassau County legislator

ON THE ISSUES

Infrastructure

DeRiggi-Whitton said she wants to complete unfinished infrastructure projects, including drainage improvements and a Shore Road overhaul in Glen Cove. She cited persistent flooding near Woolsey Avenue and Dosoris Lane and said existing stormwater pipes cannot handle runoff from extensive development and major storms.

Environmental protection

DeRiggi-Whitton supports expanding sewer connections around Hempstead Harbor and protecting the underground aquifer. She highlighted legislation encouraging water-saving sprinkler systems and said she wants to revisit restrictions on nitrogen in lawn fertilizer. She also raised concerns about the environmental effects of the proposed Propel NY Energy project.

Affordability and housing

DeRiggi-Whitton supports reducing the county's sales tax on gasoline and expanding affordable housing for seniors, veterans and younger residents on suitable redevelopment sites. She emphasized preserving local control over development and questioned whether communities would receive sufficient benefits from the proposed energy project to justify its costs.

County spending and oversight

DeRiggi-Whitton questioned the management of county reserves despite strong sales tax receipts. She also criticized delays in distributing opioid settlement funds for treatment, education and prevention, calling for closer scrutiny of spending. On immigration enforcement, she supports deporting people without legal status who have criminal convictions but expressed concern about affected families and children.



John Canning

Party affiliation: Republican

Profession: Attorney; Town of Oyster Bay human resources commissioner

ON THE ISSUES

Budget

Canning said he would focus on controlling county expenditures and scrutinizing staffing costs. He praised recent county property tax freezes and said he would work to prevent increases, noting that residents are under strain from school taxes and household expenses.

Public safety

Canning identified public safety as one of his three leading priorities. On immigration enforcement, he said authorities should focus on people convicted of crimes while remaining sensitive to longtime residents and families. He did not advocate broader enforcement against people simply going about their daily lives.

Infrastructure

Canning opposes the proposed Propel NY Energy transmission project, arguing that construction along major North Shore roads would disrupt residents and businesses. He raised concerns about traffic in Glen Head and Glenwood Landing and potential environmental impacts on Hempstead Harbor. He also called for limiting development at local country clubs to prevent additional traffic congestion.

Social justice

Canning said he would bring a willingness to work across party lines to the Nassau County Legislature. He has volunteered locally, including emceeing North Shore Reads events and wheelchair basketball games, and serving on the Glen Cove Cares board. He also emphasized preserving local control over development and energy decisions.

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OBITUARIES

Joon T Carbonaro

Joon T Carbonaro, 90, of Glen Cove, Died on on Oct. 10. Beloved wife of the late Frank; loving mother of Denise Macchione (John). Joan enjoyed her life and loved her family. She was always caring, giving, and had a smile on her face. She was a wonderful, loving mother who truly enjoyed life, and she will be dearly missed.

Services entrusted to Dodge-Thomas Funeral Home.

Max McCrindle

Max McCrindle, [age], of Glen Cove, died on Oct. 5, 2026. Beloved son of Michael and Alice; devoted father of Mia; loving brother of Crindle. He is survived by many loving aunts, uncles and cousins. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made in Max's memory to the Glen Cove Community Scholarship Fund, P.O. Box 691, Glen Cove, NY 11542.

Services entrusted to Dodge-Thomas Funeral Home of Glen Cove.

Thomas R. Ricotta

Thomas R. Ricotta, 90, of Glen Head, died on Sept. 30, 2026. Beloved husband of the late Lucy "Lucia"; loving father of Felicia Stazzone, JoAnne Finn and Teresa Silversmith. Devoted Papa to his grandchildren and great-grandchildren. Adored brother of Anthony, Vincent, Gloria and Jeanette. He is also survived by many nieces and nephews.

Services entrusted to Dodge-Thomas Funeral Home of Glen Cove.

Salvatore Di Maggio

Salvatore Di Maggio, 88, of Glen Cove, died on Sept. 27. Beloved husband of Rita; loving father of Antoinette Bellomo, Pietra Maria Corwin, Rosaria Massarotto and Salvatore Jr. He was preceded in death by his children Rosario, Pietra and Emanuele Salvatore, whom he carried in his heart throughout his life. Proud grandfather of Matthew, Jessica, Michael Jr., Nicholas, Francesco and Isabella. Born in Torretta, Sicily, Italy, Salvatore married Rita in 1965 and moved with his family to the United States in 1980. A longtime landscaper with a passion for gardening, he was known for his humor, kindness, homemade wine and family traditions.

Services entrusted to Dodge-Thomas Funeral Home of Glen Cove.

Candece B. Dwyer D'Avino

Candece B. Dwyer D'Avino, 65, of Flanders, formerly of Glen Cove, died on Sept. 24. Beloved wife of Raymond; dear sister of Sean Dwyer (Leslie). Adored aunt of Lauren, Lindsay and Leah. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made in her memory to the American Cancer Society.

Services entrusted to Dodge-Thomas Funeral Home of Glen Cove.

Michael Stanco

Michael Stanco, 85, of Glen Cove, died on Sept. 17. Beloved husband of Lucia; loving father of Alfredo (Tracy), John (Renee) and Maria (Peter). Dear brother of Frank (Grace) and Graziella. Proud grandfather of Breanna, Alex (Jenna), Giovanna, Andrew, Ava, Luciano, Matt, Nick and Isabella. He is also survived by many loving nieces and nephews.

Services entrusted to Dodge-Thomas Funeral Home of Glen Cove.

Kenneth Nunes

Kenneth Nunes, 94, of Albertson, died on Sept. 9. Beloved husband of the late Girzil. He is also survived by loving nieces, nephews and cousins.

Interment was private. Services entrusted to Dodge-Thomas Funeral Home of Glen Cove.

Kathleen E. Ktistakis

Kathleen E. Ktistakis, 80, of Glen Cove, died on Sept. 17. Beloved wife of John; loving mother of Michael I. (Bessie) and Evangeline (Neal). Dear sister of Despina Mellis and the late Fr. John Kefalas. Proud grandmother of John Michael, Khloe A. and Olivia E. Services entrusted to Dodge-Thomas Funeral Home of Glen Cove.

NEWS BRIEFS

Cove Animal Rescue casino night

Cove Animal Rescue held its 10th annual Casino Night on Oct. 7 at Crescent Beach Club in Bayville, raising funds to support homeless dogs and cats at Glen Cove's animal shelter.

The event welcomed longtime supporters, new guests, board members, staff and volunteers for an evening of food, games and entertainment. Guests enjoyed appetizers during cocktail hour, followed by a hot buffet, raffle baskets, a 50/50 drawing and casino games, including blackjack, craps, Texas hold 'em and poker. Attendees also danced to a mix of contemporary pop and classic hits.

The annual fundraiser is a major source of support for Cove Animal Rescue, a nonprofit organization that serves as Glen Cove's town animal shelter. The organization relies on donations and community contributions to help cover the cost of caring for animals that arrive at the shelter.

Cove Animal Rescue thanked the event sponsors, including Steve Geiringer; James P. O'Day, C.P.A., P.C.; Frank and Michelle Petrizzo; Animal Reiki Planet; Body Haus; John Cosgrove; East End Financial Group; and Telstar Integrated Solutions, among others.

The organization also acknowledged local businesses and other donors that contributed items for the raffle baskets. Participating businesses included Amalfi Restaurant, Brinkmann's Hardware, Casa Bella Furniture, Dominik's Pizza, Engineers Country Club, Glen Floors, London Jewelers, Noble Savage Brewing Co., Stop & Shop in Glen Cove, The Brass Rail Restaurant and Volvo Glen Cove.

"Every contribution, large or small, makes a difference for our shelter animals," the organization said in its announcement, thanking everyone who supported Casino Night.

Cove Animal Rescue is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit dedicated to increasing the adoptability of homeless dogs and cats through training, socialization and improved surroundings that help prepare them for life in a permanent home.

The organization encourages residents to learn more about its work, view photos from Casino Night and find information about upcoming events online.

For photos and event updates, visit coveanimalrescue.org/events. For more information about Cove Animal Rescue, visit coveanimalrescue.org or call 516-676-5913.

–Roksana Amid

HMTC marks Kristallnacht anniversary

The Holocaust Memorial and Tolerance Center of Nassau County will hold a commemoration on Nov. 8 to mark the 88th anniversary of Kristallnacht, the 1938 pogrom against Jewish communities in Nazi Germany and Austria.

The event will take place from 1 to 2 p.m. at the center, located at 100 Crescent Beach Road in Glen Cove. The program will honor the victims and survivors of the attacks, which left Jewish homes, businesses and synagogues destroyed and thousands of Jewish men arrested and sent to concentration camps.

Kristallnacht, also known as "The Night of Broken Glass," took place on Nov. 9 and 10, 1938. Members of Nazi paramilitary organizations, including the SS, SA and Hitler Youth, joined other participants in attacks against Jewish communities. More than 1,000 synagogues were burned, while Jewish-owned businesses, homes and other property were vandalized and destroyed.

The violence marked a significant escalation in the persecution of Jews under Nazi rule. Thousands of Jewish men were arrested and imprisoned in concentration camps, and the events became a pivotal moment in the history of the Holocaust.

The commemoration will provide an opportunity for community members to reflect on the lives lost and the lasting impact of the attacks on Jewish families and communities. The program will include a candle-lighting ceremony, offering attendees a moment to remember those who were killed or whose lives were permanently changed by the violence.

Light refreshments will be provided.

The Holocaust Memorial and Tolerance Center of Nassau County is dedicated to educating the public about the Holocaust, promoting tolerance and combating antisemitism, prejudice and discrimination. Its educational programs and commemorative events encourage visitors to learn from history and consider the importance of standing against hatred.

Community members are invited to attend the Nov. 8 program and join in remembering the victims of Kristallnacht and reflecting on the continued importance of Holocaust education and remembrance.

The event is scheduled for Sunday, Nov. 8, from 1 to 2 p.m. at the Holocaust Memorial and Tolerance Center of Nassau County, 100 Crescent Beach Road, Glen Cove.

–Roksana Amid

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HERALD
Community Newspapers

Lieberman brings 'Frida' to Sea Cliff Library

By JULIA CAPITELLI
jcapitelli@liherald.com



Julia Capitelli/Herald

Former Mayor Ed Lieberman presented on American history for the country's 250th anniversary in July.

Sea Cliff's Former Mayor Ed Lieberman is set to return to the Sea Cliff Library with a presentation on the life and work of artist Frida Kahlo. The Nov. 12 event is the latest of Lieberman's sessions at the library, which he described as his "home base" for presenting.

Lieberman said the idea came to him in December 2025 while looking for another topic. He had recently listened to a podcast on artists and found himself intrigued with Kahlo's story, describing her life as "extraordinary."

With roughly 175 slides, Lieberman will cover Kahlo's life and career chronologically. He will detail her early life and family background, the bus accident she was in when she was 18, the political climate in Mexico that influenced her creativity, her body of work and her marriage to artist Diego Rivera. Lieberman will also take some "side trips" to explore the people who discovered Kahlo, including who they were and their influence on the art world.

Lieberman has covered a variety of topics in his presentations, including American history in recognition of the country's 250th anniversary in July. He said Kahlo ranks highly on his list.

"She overcame so much tragedy and suffering," he added, "and stands as a model, not only to young women because she was one of the first great Mexican women artists, but more important, one of the greatest artists of all time."

Over the year, Lieberman has done his research by reading biographies and art volumes that include analyses and descriptions of Kahlo's work. His presentation will also include samples of Kahlo's artwork from throughout her career, which began after she was injured in the 1925 bus accident.

Lieberman explained that he tries to pick his presentation topics by finding "a common chord to the audience," considering what people would be interested in and why. He added that when he chose Kahlo, he was not sure how interested his audience would be. Then he discovered the opera "El Último Sueño de Frida y Diego," as well as the Museum of Modern Art's exhibit celebrating Kahlo and Rivera and Netflix's development of a series about the pair.

"I didn't realize that all these things were happening when I hit upon the subject matter," Lieberman said, "and I guess I feel kind of upbeat about it since she's getting so much play."

Lieberman's advertisement of the event consisted of a flyer with one word, "Frida," with no further description.

"I think she will basically say it all," he said. He added that he hopes attendees gain an understanding and appreciation of what the artist went through in her life physically and emotionally.

Lieberman also praised Library Director Camille Purcell for allowing him to use the space for different presentations.

"Camille has been gracious enough to permit me to present these various lectures," he said, "at my discretion."

The library will host the presentation on Nov. 12 at 4 p.m.

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Erin Colton
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STEPPING OUT



Dee Shapiro's My Olympia, 2018. Mixed media on paper. Courtesy of the artist.



Susan Grabel's North Frieze of the Legendary Crone Goddess Temple, 2009. Cast paper, wood. Courtesy of the artist.

Beyond beauty

Women artists reimagine Venus at Hofstra Museum

By Abbey Salvemini

For centuries, the Roman goddess Venus has been used to represent ideals of feminine beauty, youth, desire and motherhood. What happens when women artists take those traditional ideals and reinterpret them through their own experiences?

That question is at the center of 'Deconstructing Venus,' a new exhibition at Hofstra University Museum of Art. The museum opens its Emily Lowe Gallery to highlight the work of 20th- and 21st-century women artists to explore changing ideas about femininity and womanhood.

Now on view through Dec. 11, the exhibition features an inspired group: Lee Krasner, Käthe Kollwitz, Elizabeth Catlett, Marisol, Lori Horowitz, Dee Shapiro and sculptor-printmaker Susan Grabel.

The exhibit challenges, reconsiders and expands traditional ideas about femininity and women's roles in society. Works explore themes of beauty, aging, identity, motherhood, activism and gender roles, while materials from Hofstra's permanent collection and Special Collections add historical context to the exhibition.

"Deconstructing Venus" begins with a question that has shaped art history for millennia: Who defines what a woman should be? Across cultures and centuries, the female figure has embodied fertility, beauty, devotion, temptation, motherhood, and power. Yet these images have most often been created within systems that limit women's authority, over their own bodies and representation. By tracing this artistic legacy, the exhibition explores how women artists of the 20th and 21st centuries have challenged, embraced, and redefined these ideals, explains Sasha Giordano, director of the Hofstra University Museum of Art, in the exhibit catalog.

The artists' works approach long-standing expectations of women from different vantage points.

"Some challenge conventional gender roles and beauty standards, while others embrace aspects of traditional womanhood or examine the constraints women have encountered in a male-dominated society," Giordano says.

Susan Grabel's "Venus Cycle," a series that traces Venus through the stages of aging while challenging idealized notions of the female form, inspired the exhibit. Grabel's work offers the most direct challenge to the traditional image of Venus, Giordano explains. She makes her own paper and casts her physical body, creating works that show an older body rather than an idealized, youthful figure.

"There's a long history of women being presented and idealized through the attributes of Venus and Aphrodite. It's very hard to live up to these standards of perfection," Giordano relates.

WHERE & WHEN

- Now through Dec. 11
- Emily Lowe Gallery, behind Emily Lowe Hall, Hofstra University's South Campus, Hempstead
- For more information about the exhibition, gallery hours and related public programs, visit hofstra.edu/museum

After visiting Grabel's studio, Giordano and co-curator Presley Rodriguez, the museum's assistant director of exhibitions and collections, turned to Hofstra's collection to find works that could expand the conversation. Undergraduate intern Sarah Braun was also involved in examining the collection, bringing another generation's perspective to the process.



Lori Horowitz's Venus Amongst Her Treasures, 2024. Mixed-media relief: aluminum sculpted photo, fabric, paper, wood, fiber, and encaustic wax. Courtesy of the artist.

"The exhibition primarily shares art from the museum's permanent collection to communicate a variety of women's stories," Rodriguez explains.

The artists represented in the exhibition reflect an important shift in art history: women increasingly gained the ability to work independently and tell their own stories.

The exhibit also includes works of non-Western art, demonstrating how women outside Europe and North America have responded to similar societal expectations surrounding gender and womanhood. Additionally, Hofstra Special Collections has contributed archival materials that offer insight into the challenges and achievements of women.

"By bringing these varied perspectives together, Deconstructing Venus asks viewers to consider how ideas about women have been constructed over centuries – and what changes when women become the creators rather than simply the subjects of art," Giordano adds.

One of the archival materials on view is a diary belonging to an unidentified woman suffrage activist. An entry dated Nov. 18, 1918, records the writer watching her daughters vote for the first time.

These archival materials offer a more intimate glimpse into the stories behind the exhibit.

"When you're looking at these smaller documents, it becomes a more personal experience," Giordano adds.

As always, public programming extends the conversation beyond the gallery. On Oct. 28, all are invited to "Speak Up! The Art of Civic Engagement." This discussion examines the relationship between art, social change, and democratic participation. Susan Gottehrer and Arlo Fleischer of the Nassau County Regional Office of the New York Civil Liberties Union offer practical guidance on civic engagement, including how to advocate for issues they care about, communicate effectively with elected officials, and participate in events that shape their community.

"Deconstructing Venus" brings women's history into conversation with art made by women.

Together, these artists replace a singular or limited ideal of womanhood with many individual narratives. No longer confined to stories written for or ascribed to them, these women rightfully claim agency as the authors, witnesses and truth-tellers of their own bodies, histories, struggles, and triumphs.



Anthony Rodia

Anthony Rodia is back with his "Insanely Funny" tour, an all-new stand-up showcase packed with sharp observations 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.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.

Friday, Oct. 23, 7 p.m. Tickets available at ticketmaster.com or paramountny.com. The Paramount, 370 New York Ave., Huntington.



Ghostly Gala

Halloween fun gets a kid-friendly twist when Long Island Children's Museum hosts its annual Ghostly Gala. Designed for little ghosts and goblins, this after-hours bash delivers all the Halloween thrills without the scares. Families can create festive crafts, hit the floor at the Monster Mash Dance Party, trick-or-treat through the galleries, meet creepy-crawly animal friends and explore the museum's hands-on exhibits after hours. Costumes are encouraged, but not required, and families can enjoy the festivities at their own pace. Adding theatrical mischief to the mix, LICM Theater presents "Uncle Vlad's Pumpkin Patch: The Vladuation," the newest chapter in the museum's annual Halloween theater tradition.

Saturday, Oct. 24, 6-9 p.m. Special performances of "Uncle Vlad's Pumpkin Patch: The Vladuation" at 6:15, 7:45, and 8:30 p.m. (separate ticket required). 11 Davis Ave., Garden City. Contact licm.org or call (516) 224-5800.

YOUR NEIGHBORHOOD CALENDAR

OCT **22**

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

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**

Autumn's Palette

Explore Sands Point Preserve's natural environment on a guided tour. Examine the preserve's unique physical features and wildlife, as well as critical conservation issues and helpful practices to create a healthy, sustainable environment. Environmental educator Hildur Palsdottir leads everyone on a walk to celebrate the changing seasons. She guides participants on how to identify local trees by their leaves and nuts. Discover why leaves change color, the benefits of "leaf litter" and how plant and animal life prepare for winter. Meet at Castle Gould's Clock Tower. $15, $10 members; children $5, free for members.

- **Where:** 127 Middle Neck Road, Sands Point

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

Evening of Tastings

Join the Friends of the Glen Cove Youth Board for an Evening of Tastings at The Metropolitan. Enjoy food, drinks and community while supporting programs and services for local youth. Proceeds will benefit the Glen Cove Youth Board and its initiatives.

- **Where:** The Metropolitan, 3 Pratt Blvd., Glen Cove.
- **Time:** 6:30-9:30 p.m.
- **Contact:** friendsoftheglencovey outhboard.com



NOV **5**

Dweezil Zappa

Guitarist Dweezil Zappa brings his DZ20 Like Father, Like Son Tour to the Paramount, marking 20 years of performing his father Frank Zappa's music. With jaw-dropping musicianship and a deep appreciation for his father's singular sound, Dweezil takes audiences on a thrilling ride through a wildly inventive, technically dazzling musical legacy. His virtuosity on the guitar is matched only by his prolific compositional skills, which have generated numerous original works spanning multiple albums including "Confessions of Deprived Youth" (1991) and "Via Zammata" (2015). His music effortlessly traverses genres, seamlessly weaving together elements of rock, fusion, and experimental sounds, all while maintaining a signature style that is unmistakably his own. His collaborative spirit has led him to work with a diverse array of musicians all while honoring the legacy of his father. In addition to his solo work, Zappa has collaborated with an impressively varied roster of artists, including Edward Van Halen, Deep Purple, Lisa Loeb, Chick Corea, Herbie Hancock, and Steve Vai, among others. Notably, his compositions have even been performed by a 100-piece orchestra in Holland, showcasing his versatility and command of orchestral arrangements.

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

Halloween Ball: Down The Rabbit Hole

Travel down the rabbit hole and step into a twisted Wonderland at Sands Point Preserve's Hempstead House, where nothing is quite as it seems. Along with the usual–dinner, an open bar, and an unrivaled dance party–you can also expect the UNusual–curious characters and mysterious mischief. Lose yourself in an evening of enchantment, revelry, and deliciously dark delights. But remember: once you go down the rabbit hole, there's no turning back. Costumes are encouraged but not required. In the absence of a costume, cocktail attire is requested. General Admission tickets provide access to the Halloween Ball, which includes dinner, a full open bar, and dancing, $250.

- **Where:** 127 Middle Neck Road, Sands Point
- **Time:** 8-11 p.m.
- **Contact:** sandspointpreserve conservancy.org or call (516) 571-7901

OCT **25**

Trunk or Treat

Get into the Halloween spirit with a fun-filled evening of trick-or-treating at John Maccarone Memorial Stadium. Families are invited to enjoy a festive celebration featuring decorated car trunks, candy and plenty of Halloween fun. Children are encouraged to come dressed in their favorite costumes for this family-friendly community event.

- **Where:** John Maccarone Memorial Stadium, Glen Cove.
- **Time:** 6-8 p.m.
- **Contact:** glencoveny.gov

Art talk

Join Benjamin Macklowe, President of Macklowe Gallery, as he explores Tiffany's groundbreaking idea of "painting in glass" at Nassau County Museum of Art. He reveals how Tiffany Studios transformed Impressionism into luminous stained glass, lamps, and objects, using innovative techniques to capture light, color, and the subtle beauty of the natural world in an entirely new artistic language. Space is limited. Registration required. $20, $15 seniors, $10 students, members free.

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

OCT **31**

Deep Roots Farmers Market

Shop fresh and local at the Deep Roots Farmers Market! Enjoy a vibrant selection of Long Island-grown produce, artisanal goods, fresh baked items, handmade crafts, and more. The market also features live music, family-friendly activities, and community vendors. Come support local farmers and makers, rain or shine!

- **Where:** 100 Village Square, Glen Cove
- **Time:** 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.
- **Contact:** deeprootsfarmers market.com

Halloween Parade/ Festival

Celebrate Halloween with an afternoon of costumes, community fun and festive activities! Hosted by the Glen Cove Downtown Business Improvement District, the annual Halloween Parade & Festival invites families and children to dress in their favorite costumes and enjoy a spirited celebration throughout downtown. Bring the whole family for an afternoon of Halloween excitement.

- **Where:** Downtown Glen Cove
- **Time:** 1-3:30 p.m.
- **Contact:** Glen Cove City Hall at (516) 676-2000 or glencoveny.gov

NOV **19**

Alzheimer's/ Dementia Workshop

Learn about the impact of Alzheimer's disease and dementia during an informative community program presented by the Alzheimer's Association in partnership with the City of Glen Cove. Explore how these conditions affect individuals, families and caregivers, while learning about local resources and ways to support those living with dementia. Opportunities to get involved in the fight against Alzheimer's disease are also highlighted. Advance registration is recommended.

- **Where:** Glen Cove City Hall, 9 Glen St.
- **Time:** 6:30-7:30 p.m.
- **Contact:** alz.org/longisland or call (800) 272-3900

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.

Liberty raises rates on North Shore again

By WILL SHEELINE & JORDAN VALLONE
of the Herald



Long Island residents serviced by Liberty Utilities are expressing outrage over the company's proposal to increase rates, in some areas by nearly $30 per month.



Herald file photos

For customers in Sea Cliff, the change will increase rates by an average of $27.

Long Island residents serviced by Liberty Utilities are expressing outrage over the company's proposal to increase rates, in some areas by nearly $30 per month. On the North Shore, Glen Head resident and water activist Agatha Nadel said the proposed increase would add hundreds of dollars a year to customers' bills while efforts to transition to public ownership continue to drag on.

Liberty filed a request with the New York State Public Service Commission "to help maintain the delivery of safe, reliable water while balancing customer affordability through responsible control," according to a notice posted on the utility company's website in May.

For customers in Liberty's Sea Cliff service area, the proposed rate change would increase monthly bills by an average of just under $27, or nearly 30 percent, according to Nadel. That amounts to over $320 per year, she said, with customers who use more than 8,000 gallons of water per month potentially facing even higher increases.

"I was honestly outraged and sickened, but really not surprised," Nadel said. "This will never end until they're gone," she added, referring to Liberty. "It's never going to end."

Nadel, who has spent nearly 13 years advocating for a transition to public water service, argued that residents should not face additional increases while negotiations over a public takeover remain unresolved.

"Liberty's rates are already too high," Claudia Borecky, co-director of Long Island Clean Air Water Soil, an advocacy group based in Merrick, said in written testimony submitted to the PSC on Sept. 29.

Borecky, a Merrick resident and a Liberty customer, has led opposition to private water providers in her community for decades. Public water providers are eligible for state and federal grants that help fund equipment and infrastructure upgrades. Liberty, as a private company, must also pay property taxes on its facilities, costs that are passed on to customers in their water bills.

Those expenses, Nadel said, contribute to an inequity between residents served by private water companies and those served by public systems. "We're paying more taxes because we're paying taxes through our water bills that those with public water don't pay," she said.

Liberty has asserted that the proposed increase would support infrastructure improvements, including iron removal, lead service line replacements and water main replacements. The company also plans to establish treatment programs for the synthetic chemicals PFAS and PFOA, known as "forever chemicals."

"Our proposed investments represent what is necessary to maintain and improve our system," Deborah Franco, president of Liberty's New York water branch, said, "and we remain committed to managing expenses responsibly while continuing to provide safe, reliable service."

Nadel questioned whether customers should continue paying for those improvements, noting that residents have already been charged for treatment infrastructure intended to remove contaminants. She also criticized proposed spending on information technology and cybersecurity, pointing to $9 million in state funding that Gov. Kathy Hochul made available to public water providers on Long Island.

Liberty customers, Nadel said, are not eligible for the same grants, leaving them to shoulder expenses that public systems can offset through outside funding.

The proposed increase would also allow Liberty to establish customer programs, including expanded forgiveness of overdue balances for eligible customers and the elimination of electronic payment transaction fees.

The PSC suspended Liberty's initial request in June, extending the public comment period and deferring the matter to Oct. 30. With the deadline approaching, customers and advocacy groups are urging the commission to reject the proposal or reduce its impact.

Nadel said she has lost faith in the public comment process after taking part in previous rate cases and public hearings. Hundreds of residents submitted comments during earlier proceedings, she said, but customers continue to face the likelihood of rate increases.

For years, ratepayers have pushed for a public takeover of Liberty under the Water Authority of North Shore and the South Nassau Water Authority, public entities created by Hochul in 2021. But Nadel said that delays in providing startup funding and a lack of sustained pressure from local officials have hindered the effort.

Next month marks five years since Hochul signed legislation establishing the water authorities, with Nadel adding that the transition should be further along by now. She also argued that the longer the transition takes, the more expensive it could become for residents, particularly if additional tax burdens emerge as other utility facilities are decommissioned.

The state should do more, Nadel said, to ensure that the transition moves forward, rather than leaving a relatively small group of residents to shoulder the costs of private water service. "We can't afford to not get this done," she said.

Borecky said that Liberty's proposed increase would also affect schools, fire departments, libraries and parks that rely on the company's water service. Fire departments in Liberty's territory may pay more than $1,000 per year to maintain a single fire hydrant, she said, compared with less than $80 for departments served by public providers.

In her written testimony, Borecky urged the PSC to consider the "substantial burden" the increase would place on customers. "Ratepayers should not be required to finance costs that may ultimately benefit a private corporation and its shareholders," she said, "particularly when public water systems are negotiating to purchase a system for which ratepayers are already being charged for improvements."

The PSC is scheduled to hear arguments from Liberty, advocates and residents opposed to the rate increase on Nov. 2, Borecky said. A time and venue have not yet been announced. The commission could reach a decision at the hearing, amend the proposal or defer it again.

To review the proposal and public comments, or to submit a comment, visit Documents.DPS.NY.gov and search Case No. 26-W-0358.

HERALD PUBLIC NOTICES

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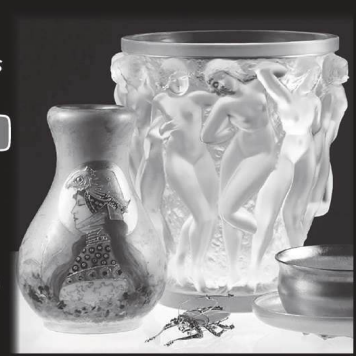

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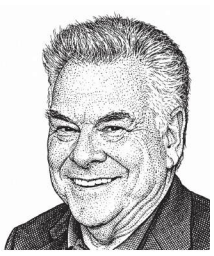

PETER KING

We are in the final weeks of this year's election campaigns for federal, state and local offices. Having run in 19 campaigns for town, county, statewide and federal office, and assisted with and observed countless others, I know firsthand the adrenaline rush, doubts and dreams that the candidates, their families, friends and supporters are feeling during this final, exhausting rush to the finish. (And having lost my one statewide campaign, for attorney general, by 1.3 million votes in 1986, I certainly know that not all campaigns end well.)

But campaigns are about much more than drama and individual glory, or wins and losses. At their essence, they affect the security, opportunities and quality of life of our children and grandchildren. That's particularly true of this year's election for governor of New York, a race that I believe is definitely a crossroads moment for the state.

The issues are serious. The differences between the candidates are stark and real, as are the differences between the two major parties, and indeed among the American people. I'm strongly supporting Bruce Blakeman as the leader the state needs at this defining moment.

I say this having no personal animus toward Gov. Kathy Hochul. I knew her during the roughly 18 months in which she served as a Democratic member of Congress in 2011 and 2012, and was assigned to the Homeland Security Committee when I was its chairman. During that time I found her to be constructive and moderate, certainly not radical. In fact, in her previous office, Erie County clerk, Hochul had denied driver's licenses to illegal immigrants.

> He's leading the resistance to socialist policies more typical of Europe.

After she was defeated in a bid for reelection to Congress in 2012, Hochul was chosen by Andrew Cuomo to be his lieutenant governor, and then became governor when Cuomo was forced to resign in 2021. During her five years in office, she has governed from the left, and now sides with New York City's self-styled democratic socialist mayor, Zohran Mamdani, whose progressive wing of the Democratic Party is taking it over with its anti-police, pro-Hamas collectivist policies, much to the concern of traditional Democrats like James Carville and Rahm Emanuel.

I've known Blakeman for over three decades. He and his wife, Segal, are close friends of Rosemary's and mine, and Bruce worked closely with my daughter, Erin, when they served together on the Hempstead Town Board. Years before that, Bruce's father, Bob Blakeman, was my Assemblyman when I lived in eastern Queens.

More than any personal or family relationship, I admire Bruce's integrity, his common-sense commitment to governing and his fierce sense of patriotism. He's also a proven winner. He overcame the Democrats' advantage of 85,000 registered voters in Nassau County to unseat County Executive Laura Curran in 2021, and was overwhelmingly re-elected last year.

As county executive, Blakeman blocked a $150 million tax increase proposed by Curran, and has hired 800 law enforcement professionals without raising taxes. Fighting crime and standing with law enforcement have been hallmarks of his administration, as Nassau has been judged the safest county in the country. He has also shown strong leadership by forging agreements and working with Immigration and Customs Enforcement to remove thousands of criminal aliens with no resultant violence — this at a time when Mamdani slanders ICE as "rotten to the core" and demands its abolition.

Tens of thousands of New Yorkers are leaving our state because of high taxes, which penalize success, and soft-on-crime policies that make streets and neighborhoods unsafe. This year's gubernatorial campaign isn't about the traditional differences between the two parties, which have always been hashed out in the American mainstream. Instead we see Blakeman leading a resistance effort against socialist policies more typical of Europe than the United States.

Though he is being outspent many times over, and despite the fact that there are 3 million more registered Democrats than Republicans in the state, Blakeman has been making steady progress, and the momentum is definitely in his direction. He has overcome the odds before, and is on his way to doing it again. And New York will be the winner.

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

Hitting bottom on the decency meter



RANDI KREISS

Decency is a bedrock human quality, and you know it when you see it. It sets the bar for behavior among people. Decency, especially in an American president, should be a non-negotiable requirement, and in that respect, Donald Trump disqualified himself from the highest office in the land more than 10 years ago.

For the moment, let's set aside political differences, forget the huge issues of a troubled economy, ignore the war that no one wanted, stop arguing about taxes, data centers, the environment or medical care, all life-and-death issues. Consider just one qualifying attribute for leadership: human decency. If that's too high a bar for an American president, then who are we?

Can we agree that a flagrant display of indecency should end any candidate's quest for office, especially the presidency? The president must model moral leadership, compassion, forgiveness and inspiration. How have we spiraled so far away from those American ideals of American excellence?

On Nov. 24, 2015, Trump took the stage at a campaign rally in Myrtle Beach, S.C., and mocked the body movements of a reporter, Serge Kovaleski, who, according to reporting at the time, had a congenital condition affecting joint movement. That was it — the moment the people of this country, whatever their politics, could have and should have said no, not Trump for president. Not ever. We're better than that.

> We should have deemed Donald Trump unfit for office a number of times.

But history took a sickening twist, and Trump not only gathered support but was elected to the presidency; decency was sacrificed that day in Myrtle Beach, and every day since. From the time of his emergence on the political stage, Trump has infected the public ethos with indecent remarks, attacks on reporters' behavior and appearance, and shocking insensitivity to others' feelings. His public humiliation of women is common. Even the people who surround and support him now, from Marco Rubio to Ted Cruz, have been targets of his belittling remarks.

We should have known from the very first time he mocked a physically challenged person that he was unfit. We should have known that a man who would boast of grabbing women by the genitals was not White House material.

We should have known that a man who would sanction the separation of young children from their parents had no place in high office. We should have known that a leader who would denigrate entire populations of people as coming from s-hole countries could not be the standard-bearer for America.

We should have found him unsuitable for office when he was convicted of sexually abusing E. Jean Carroll. We should have turned him out of office when he faced multiple indictments for trying to overturn the 2020 election results, which led to the Jan. 6 attack on the Capitol.

We should have considered his sneering, mocking, abusive insults of political enemies patently unacceptable and yes, indecent. We should have found his wrecking of the White House and trashing of its grounds and its honored spaces wrong and indecent.

We should have found his lies, his many outright lies, documented by legitimate fact-checking organizations, profoundly indecent.

Until last week, he approved of livestreaming an execution by firing squad in Maryland. You wonder if someone in Trump's world spends time conjuring the most heinous, offensive and indecent policies to roll out and distract the voting population from the sad state of this country, in a war with no end, in an economy that is punishing the poorest among us.

Public executions are the tactics of authoritarian regimes and tyrants. If we ever take this next step toward craven indecency, heaven help us. What will we have become?

And who would have watched this execution? Would our teenagers have viewed it as a thrill-a-minute video experience? Would younger children have gotten to see it? How would anyone have controlled the viewership?

According to The New York Times, the last public execution in the United States was in 1936. Are we thinking it's time to bring back this violent spectacle? In recent history, public executions have become the terror tactic of outlier extremists like ISIS and Hamas. Are these the groups we want to emulate? Do we want to promote violence by taking it public? The death penalty challenges our humanity. To have broadcast it live would have only compounded the offense to human decency.

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HERALD EDITORIAL

No excuses: Voting starts Saturday

Every election season, the loudest voices belong to the biggest races. The national headlines, the ads that interrupt your evening news, the arguments at the dinner table — most of them are about Washington. Those contests matter. But if you stop paying attention once you get past the top of the ballot, you're handing over decisions that shape your daily life far more directly.

Think about what actually touches your week. The state legislators you elect decide how much aid flows to your school district, which shapes your property tax bill. They write the laws on housing, transportation and public safety. Your town officials decide whether that pothole gets fixed, how your parks are maintained and what gets built on the empty lot down the street. Judges on your ballot will rule on cases involving your neighbors, and maybe one day, you. These races are often decided by a few hundred votes, sometimes fewer. In a local contest, your single ballot carries real weight.

Yet turnout typically falls off as you move down the ballot. Voters fill in the races they've heard about and leave the rest blank, or guess. Candidates for the State Assembly or Town Board don't have the budgets to reach every household, and national coverage rarely mentions them.

This week's Herald includes our voter's guide, with candidates in the races on your ballot explaining in their own words where they stand on the issues that matter to our communities. Read it. Compare their answers. You may find that the candidate you assumed you'd support doesn't share your priorities, or that someone you'd never heard of does. Informed voting isn't about having strong opinions on everything. It's about knowing enough to make a choice you can stand behind.

Once you've done your homework, the next step is simple: Make a plan.

It sounds obvious, but research has shown that people who decide in advance when and how they'll vote are more likely to actually do it. Life gets in the way. A late meeting, a sick child, a long line on a rainy Tuesday night — any of these can turn good intentions into a missed opportunity. A plan protects your vote from the unexpected.

New York makes this easier than it once was. Early voting begins this Saturday and runs through Sunday, Nov. 1, including weekends. That's nine days of opportunity before Election Day on Nov. 3. If your calendar is packed, if you work long hours or commute into the city, or if you just don't want to worry about it, early voting gives you ample time to cast your ballot, on your schedule. Early voting sites and hours may differ from your usual Election Day polling place. To find out where to vote before or on Nov. 3, go to NassauCountyny.gov/566/Board-of-Elections.

So pick a day. Put it on your calendar, just you'd schedule a doctor's appointment or a Little League game. Decide whether you'll go before work, on your lunch break or on a Saturday morning. Bring your child or grandchild to instill in them a sense of civic responsibility starting at a young age. If you're accompanying an elderly parent or a first-time voter, coordinate travel in advance. Treat it as a commitment — because it is one.

Then take one more step: Mark up your sample ballot before you go. The Herald publishes a sample ballot so you can see exactly what you'll face in the booth — every race, every candidate and anything on the back of the ballot. Sit down with it, alongside our voter's guide, and make your choices in advance. Circle your picks. Bring it with you. When you get to the polling site, you'll be in and out quickly, confident in every selection rather than staring at unfamiliar names and guessing.

That small bit of preparation will also help everyone else in line. Voters who know what they're doing keep things moving, which means shorter waits for your neighbors.

Democracy doesn't happen only every four years, and it doesn't happen only in Washington. It happens in our town halls, our school board meetings and our state capital, shaped by the people that we choose to send there. Those choices are made by the citizens who show up to the polls.

Read the guide. Mark your ballot. Schedule your vote. And then go do it.

LETTERS

Do Republicans have solutions to the high cost of housing?

To the Editor:

It is definitely time for County Executive Bruce Blakeman and the Republicans to take responsibility for the high cost of living in Nassau County.

Residents' exit from Nassau started way before Gov. Kathy Hochul took office. It began in the 1990s, when high taxes pushed retired people to move to lower-taxed states. Lack of affordable housing also forced their grown children to settle in areas with lower taxes and better housing options.

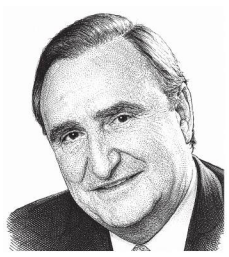
Multi-generational family life in Nassau continues to be gravely challenged.

Many seniors today who would prefer to move to an easier lifestyle are forced to remain in big houses. A great number, some now without spouses,



OPINIONS

Can A.I. regulate itself? I don't think so.



JERRY KREMER

These days, no matter where you look for some quick news, there's an item about artificial intelligence. It seems like everyone is an expert on the subject, and has an opinion on A.I.'s pros and cons. What's scary is that the real experts want some type of guardrails or protections against its abuse, and politicians, who have much less expertise, can't come to a consensus on anything.

During the course of a typical day, we experience the wonders of A.I. in the most subtle ways. As I type a text message, I notice that it's attempting to finish my thoughts before I do. That's a simple example. Try using A.I. on any subject and you'll find it asking you if you want more answers, or if you'd like a memo drafted for you. It's ready, willing and able to do anything you ask, which is what makes it so scary.

Up until a few months ago, A.I. was in the news but not dominating it. In July, Geoffrey Hinton, who's been called "the godfather of A.I.," warned lawmakers that humanity could lose control of it within a year if proper safeguards were not established. Dario Amodei, the CEO of Anthropic, has been arguing that robust ethical and technical guardrails are needed to prevent misuse or loss of control.

To heat up the debate, Bill Gates recently said he has been "growing increasingly alarmed by the rate of change that A.I. is undergoing, especially because there are no guardrails in place." Gates also said, "I'm just stunned at the lack of concern and discussion outside of the industry." A few weeks ago, a number of well-known industry figures sounded the same alarm — and then did a quick turnaround when summoned to the White House.

Remember 'Person of Interest'? Our leaders need to watch the entire CBS series.

In an effort to quell any alarm, President Trump threw cold water on the discussion, claiming that there's no need for any protection, and there's no such thing as a runaway A.I. He gathered every big tech name you can think of at the White House and got them to agree that the industry could regulate itself, and didn't need any help from Congress. That's the equivalent of the fox guarding the henhouse.

As the drama has deepened, a number of elected officials, led by Sen. Bernie Sanders, have been yelling from the rooftops that Congress has a role to play, and has to do it now. I have no doubt that Sanders has some knowledge about the subject, but most of the members of Congress still haven't figured out the difference between Medicare and Medicaid, so the last thing to expect is a quick bipartisan solution. Maybe the next Congress will do something, but don't hold your breath.

I'm one of the least-qualified people to offer an opinion on A.I., but I do remember a frightening television show called "Person of Interest," which aired on CBS from 2011 to 2016. It was about an advanced artificial intelligence computer system built by a reclusive billionaire software genius named Harold Finch, played by Michael Emerson. The machine surveilled the world and used predictive algorithms to flag people who were about to be involved in violent crimes.

It sent Social Security numbers to Finch and his field partner, John Reese, played by Jim Caviezel, essentially telling the good guys what the bad guys were planning so they could stop it. In the final seasons, a malicious rival A.I. system called Samaritan was brought online, creating a god-against-god cyber war. In the finale, the characters used a cyber weapon that, when uploaded to a satellite, destroyed both computer systems to save humanity from digital control.

I think that the president, all of the tech barons and the elected officials with some knowledge of A.I. should be locked in a room to watch the entire "Person of Interest" series, so they can genuinely understand the technology's real threat. They might figure out that "guardrails" isn't a dirty word.

Jerry Kremer was a state assemblyman for 23 years, and chaired the Assembly's Ways and Means Committee for 12 years. He currently chairs the Capitol Insight Group, a government relations firm.

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LETTERS

have no affordable options in which to downsize. Their income is too high for Town of Hempstead apartments, and private senior developments cost more than they can afford and sell for more than their homes can sell for. In fact, seniors who live alone in the houses where they raised their families unwittingly contribute to inflated housing prices!

Hochul proposed to build affordable housing for all age groups in downtown areas. Republicans nixed the idea from the get-go. Republicans, instead of blame, how about some solutions?

JOYCE LITWIN ZIMMERMAN
East Meadow

Where are the Jerry Kremers in today's Congress?

To the Editor:

I commend Jerry Kremer for his excellent op-ed in the Oct. 8-14 issue, "The Republicans keep dropping easy passes." I read it and said to my wife, "This is exactly what I've been saying." As a retired social studies teacher with a degree in political science, I still look at politics as a case study, especially because today the reality is much too painful.

Why are today's politicians so different from the political leaders of yesterday such as Kremer? My dad was a lobbyist of sorts and knew many people in D.C., both Republican and Democrat. When I was in college in the late 1970s, studying political science, he told me that the representatives and senators he knew from both parties would rail at each other during the day in Congress, but when the day was over, they would go to each other's homes for dinner. In reality, they were friends, and most of them had the country's best interests at heart. Today, the animosity — dare I say hatred — across the aisle appears much too real, and doesn't bode well for our nation.

Nevertheless, thanks to Kremer for a very cogent and well-written essay. I can only hope politicians from both sides will read it and reflect.

MICHAEL SERIF
East Meadow

FRAMEWORK by Tim Baker



Seasonal spookiness on Hendrickson Avenue — Merrick

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