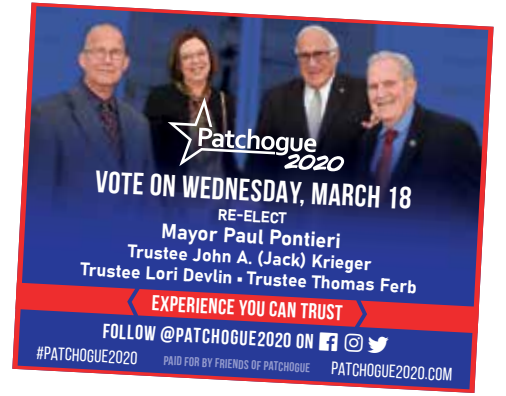


The Long Island ADVANCE



Fines and bike confiscation

Patchogue and Bellport Villages look to address bike-pack teens

BY LINDA LEUZZI

Teens who gathered aggressively en masse on bikes at last year's Patchogue St. Patrick's Day Parade, performing wheelies in the street and scaring view-

ers on the sidewalk, unsettled some of the spirit of the event.

"About a dozen or so showed up," explained Patchogue Village Mayor Paul Pontieri.

It wasn't the first time; reckless bike gathering has occurred in Bellport Village too, as recently as over the past weekend, explained Bellport Mayor Ray Fell at

Monday night's board meeting. "Paul (Pontieri) notified me there were 150 of them coming our way," explained

NEW LEGISLATION: There will be fines and confiscation for reckless bicycling

Fell. "We alerted Code Enforcement, and they assembled on Station Road. When the bikers saw Code,

they turned around."

Both villages introduced legislation See **TEEN BIKERS** on page 3



Shannon Gibbons

Photo provided by ABC

Bellport's Shannon Gibbons to be on "American Idol"

20-year-old singer appears on Sunday's show in front of judges

BY GLENN ROHRBACKER

Who will be the next "American Idol?" Well, it could be Bellport's own Shannon Gibbons, a 20-year-old singer who will be auditioning on the show this Sunday. Watch her performance at 8 p.m. on March 1 on ABC.

"It's something that I've dreamed about since I was about 4 or 5 years old," Gibbons told the *Advance* this week about being on the show.

It's not her first time, either. Gibbons auditioned five years ago after being encouraged by friends and family, and was told that she had a good voice but needed more time to hone her craft. But now she's back, and she auditioned in Brooklyn in front of the three celebrity judges — Lionel Richie, Katy Perry, and Luke Bryan.

"They almost don't even look real," Gibbons said.

She added that it was a surreal experience auditioning on the show. She stood on the famous "American

See **GIBBONS** on page 2



You can eat vegan at Toast

The Patchogue Village-based Toast Coffeehouse is now serving up a carefully curated vegan menu. It boasts new twists on a handful of Toast classics like the Twin Sister Burrito and the Vegan Vienna Chicken, as well as includes longtime options like the Tofu Scramble and Coconut Multi-Grain French Toast. For more on the story, see page 27.

Photo provided by Shayna Ahrem



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Bellport's Vargas to fight again this weekend

Alex "El Toro" Vargas, of Bellport, will hit the ring again for his sixth professional bout on Friday, Feb. 28 in Joe Deguardia's Star Boxing "Rockin' Fights" 38. The event will be at The Paramount in Huntington, and doors open at 7 p.m. Vargas has gone 5-0 in his professional career and is a 2013 Golden Gloves champion. On Friday, he'll face veteran fighter Antonio Sanchez, of Puerto Rico, who has a 6-8-3 record. For tickets and a full lineup, visit paramountny.com or starboxing.com.

ADV file photo

GIBBONS: Singer's tryout airs Sunday

FROM PAGE 1

"Idol" sign and faced the judges, under the lights and in front of the cameras. The singer added that when faced with big opportunities, she's developed ways to calm her nerves and try her best. Gibbons spent the day waiting for her turn to sing, speaking in interviews, and taking in the atmosphere. Her whole family and a few friends joined her for support.

"I knew it was going to be a really long day," she said.

Gibbons said she has been singing since she's about 5 years old. Even at that age, she remembers watching "American Idol" and dreaming of being on the show. She always felt the want to perform and sing for others. She's been in her church choir, school choir, and now a band. Gibbons currently

performs with The Om-en, which she has been with for over three years. She's also pursuing a degree in sociology at Queens College, where she plays soccer. Her family has always been a source of support and encouragement, she said, and they helped keep her on track to improve as a singer.

"Regardless of what happens on the show, I'm just going to keep going," Gibbons said. ■

Watch Shannon's performance

You can watch Shannon Gibbons audition for "American Idol" on Sunday, March 1. The two-hour special airs at 8 p.m. on ABC.



Shannon Gibbons, of Bellport, has been singing since she was 5. Here, she performs with The Om-En.

Courtesy photo




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PATCHOGUE VILLAGE / BELLPORT VILLAGE

TEEN BIKERS: Villages propose legislation to deal with unruly riders

FROM PAGE 1

at their Feb. 24 board meetings, setting public hearings to tackle the bike instigators. Bellport's Public Hearing on Village Code and Bicyclists will take place on March 23; Patchogue's Reckless Bicycle

amendments will take place on March 9. Safe bike riding, with riders obeying traffic rules and due care, is okay. Reckless riding is not. Patchogue's amendment specifically

cites trick riding or weaving or zigzagging, unless necessary for safety's sake, and riding on sidewalks as violations. Using cellular phones, cameras or other electronic devices while biking is also prohibited.

Fell and Pontieri met with SCPD Fifth Precinct Commanding Officer Insp. William G. Silva and police staff on Feb. 6, Pontieri said, to partner a plan. The Fifth Precinct patrols both villages.

The overall outcome: Suffolk County police and Patchogue and Bellport Village Code Enforcement will confiscate and impound the bikes of the harassers. Fines will be doled out; bikes will be returned only to the parents of those under 18, and bikes will be returned to the owners age 18 and up.

"They would go through Village Court and there will be a \$50 holding fee," Pontieri said. "They could be fined up to \$2,000."

"We want to avoid someone getting hurt," added Patchogue Village Attorney Brian Egan. "It's turned into mayhem. Someone at the board meeting asked about safe biking. Of course we'll discuss

that [but] that's not what this is."

In Bellport, Village Attorney Dave Moran said parents will be fined \$150 to \$250.

As for the recent "almost" incident, Fell explained, "I got a call from Inspector Silva. The precinct monitors Facebook and the Internet, and there was online activity that a whole bunch were coming into Patchogue. So we geared up and Patchogue geared up."

"They wheeled around on Saturday from Terry [Road] and were in the village and heading to Bellport," said Pontieri. "Public Safety took action to make sure they were turned around. Ray and I call each other."

Pontieri said he wanted a law in place before Patchogue's St. Patrick's Day Parade on March 22. Both mayors emphasized that the legislation was needed before warmer weather appears.

"We'll have a protocol so if it happens, we're ready to deal with it," Fell said.

"The police now have a way to enforce it," added Pontieri. ■



Stock surveillance photo of a group of marauding bikers.

Stock photo



Patchogue's own treasure hunter

While on winter recess, Jameson Remien, a third-grader at River Avenue Elementary School in Patchogue, found a perfect little tin pot while scooping around a pond in Stony Brook. Jameson is an avid explorer, hoping someday to make a historic find.

— Submitted by Delis Remien



A pack of teen bike riders were turned back by Bellport Village Code Enforcement recently on Station Road. Amendments addressing reckless bike legislation were introduced this week at Bellport Village and Patchogue Village board meetings.

ADV/Leuzzi

Patchogue Village Election voting locations

The Village of Patchogue election will take place on Wednesday, March 18 from 7 a.m. to 9 p.m. Polling locations include Village Hall (14 Baker St.) for districts 21 and 23; River Elementary School for

districts 15, 16 and 103; New Village Community Room (1 Village Green) for districts 17 and 18; and the Patchogue Fire Department's Vanguard Firehouse (11 Park St.) for districts 19 and 20.

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Passing the sash in Patchogue Village

Congratulations to Dennis Smith, this year's Grand Marshal of the Patchogue St. Patrick's Parade. The Passing of the Sash took place at Fulton's Gate last weekend. Last year's Grand Marshal, Paula Murphy, officially passed on the sash to Smith. Also on hand were past grand marshals, family and friends. The band Bangers and Mash performed for the crowd. The parade is March 22.

Courtesy photos



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BELLPORT

Village Board meeting recap: Gagliano to run again, tax cap vote tabled

BY LINDA LEUZZI

Bellport Mayor Ray Fell opened Monday night's Village Board meeting with a moment of silence for former Bellport Fire Department volunteer Bonnie Schneider, who recently passed away, the mother-in-law of trustee Steve Mackin.

Trustee Joseph Gagliano announced he would run again in the June elections for another term.

Tuesday, March 3 at 6 p.m. is the next scheduled budget work session at Village Hall at 6 p.m.

The Bellport Marina Dock work is progressing. Village Clerk John Kocay emphasized again the dock projects not under FEMA that were poised to go out to bid included boat launch repair, the Osborn Park/Row Boat Beach dock sink hole and bulkhead, repair of the rock dock, terminus of Browns Lane repair and replacement of the ferry dock.

"It doesn't mean we will do the projects," Fell said. "We'll get an actual number and the board will vote on whether or not to do the work."

Resolutions that passed:

- Agreement with Center for Environmental Education and Discovery, which provides education programs at Ho Hum Beach and the Bellport Inlet. The Center will be charged \$500 instead of the usual \$900 to charter the ferry for four hours because it is an educational nonprofit. Also, the ferry is tapped for the Center's programs before and after the main season.

- A "Friends of Bellport Bay" link will be placed on the village website.



Work is progressing on the Bellport Marina Dock. Officials say it's still on target for an April 1 completion.

ADV/Leuzzi

Resolutions tabled:

- Postponing the public hearings on the proposed "No Parking" sign on Bellport Lane at Bell Street in front of Village Hall, and reviewing and discussing amending the Code on Driveways until the March 23 board meeting.

Setting a public hearing to pierce the tax cap:

- "With the work being done at the dock, there's no way we can meet the tax cap this year," Fell had said at the meeting. After a vote was taken, Fell told the

emphatically stated that the board had never received the list with accompanied costs. The tussle went on for 10 minutes.

Bus noise on Kreamer

Ken Gobright, who attended the last board meeting, asked whether Village Attorney Dave Moran had made progress regarding the bus property with its entrance on Kreamer Street and the frequent noise emanating from the buses that pull in and out in the middle of a residential neighborhood at early and frequent hours. The issue didn't burgeon until two years ago, and a noise device was suggested.

Moran told Gobright he had just spoken to the property owner's lawyer and was awaiting a decision. The legal use for the buses had been in place since 1990, he told the *Advance*.

"There's nothing nefarious," Moran said. "It only became an issue a couple of years ago when they put more buses (that were also bigger) on the site with the addition of the backup beepers. There are devices out there that do control the backup beeper. But where we're unsure is whether or not putting that device on a school bus violates any state or local laws because they're utilized for safety."

Moran said the property owner's attorney was Karen E. Gunkel, who practices in Bellport. "It's called The Geraine Property and is listed at 28 Station Road," Moran said of the bus parcel. "They've been cooperative and had taken 15 buses off the site. They've always expressed a willingness to work with us and are open to solutions." ■

Advance, "We'll advertise for a special meeting at 6 p.m. at Village Hall and go through the process."

- Approving recommended Golf Commission work on the Golf Course, to be completed this winter by Parkland for \$86,000 and paid from the golf assessment retroactive.

- Resident Lee Snead challenged Fell and the board on a report by the Golf Commission he said was presented to the village board — a wish list of recommendations, with costs. Mayor Fell



BOYS & GIRLS CLUB
OF THE BELLPORT AREA

It's almost time for the Legacy Dinner

Next Friday, March 7, the Boys & Girls Club of the Bellport area will host its second annual event at its headquarters at 471 Atlantic Ave. The theme of the dinner is "Celebrating the Past and Building the Future."

Cocktails begin at 6 p.m., and dinner starts at 7 p.m. The dinner honors individuals who and organizations that contributed to building the club and showcases their plans for the club's future. This year there is a special focus on new early childhood programs, including a day care program.

"I am proud of our organization's rich history of public service and commitment to youth development," said Sybil Mimy Wells, BGCBA executive director. "We are honored to stand on the shoulders of those that came before us so we can continue our legacy."

Honorees include Patchogue mayor Paul Pontieri, Helen Martin, Marilyn McKeown, Debbie Ann Chang, Bill Sells and the Post-Morrow Foundation, as well as Bellport Arts and Framing.

"The youngsters of the Bellport Area have been served by the club for over 50 years, and the Legacy Dinner is a means of crediting the many volunteers, community members, organizations and public servants who worked diligently to make the club a reality, as well as those who continue to ensure its future through their dedication and commitment," said Michael Mullaney, president of the BGCBA board. "The Legacy Dinner Committee, headed by Lisa Anderson, has planned a joyous, celebratory evening."

Tickets go for \$150 or \$1,250 for tables of 10; they can be purchased for a limited time at Pamela Lerner Home & Design, TOLA and Bellport Arts & Framing. Exclusive sponsorships and program placements are also available.

All proceeds from the evening directly benefit BGCBA, a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization that serves youngsters five to 19 years of age with pre- and after-school, evening and weekend programs in a safe environment.

For more information, contact Diane Kennedy at 631-286-9090 or at diane@bgcbellport.org.



Don't miss this duck decoy display

The Long Island Decoy Collectors Association will be holding its 2020 annual show, displaying thousands of antique decoys and other sporting collectibles — some for sale. The Third Contemporary Decoy Exhibition provides a venue for the decoys that will become the collectible antiques of the future. It also features carvers who continue to practice this uniquely American art form. Simpler, more durable decoys will compete in the Al McCormick Gunning Class, which will focus on the five traditional Long Island species plus a sixth carver's choice. The Shang Wheeler Heritage Class will show more elaborate and stylized decoys. All entries will be displayed on tables. Admission is \$7 for adults and free for children under 12; parking is free. For more information, contact chairman Steve Sanford at sjaysanford@gmail.com or call 518-677-5064.

WHEN: Saturday, March 7 from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

WHERE: IBEW Hall No. 25, 370 Motor Parkway, Hauppauge

Burlington to move to former Bob's Stores spot

Seemingly in the works, Pergament's Brookhaven Town application for a facade change is still on the table

BY NICOLE FUENTES

Pergament Properties, owner of the building in Patchogue that housed Bob's Stores, which officially closed earlier this year, applied to the Town of Brookhaven for a Change of Use application in December of last year.

The request was approved for the vinyl siding panels to be replaced with EFIS, a facade change. However, all signage was to be applied for with the building department, and the planning division, at the time, did not recommend that a Certificate of Occupancy be issued until a written request for an inspection was received.

As of February, the facade has not yet been changed; however, the permit is still valid for three years from the December date. The application was signed by Keith

Lipstein, vice president of Pergament Properties; however, Lipstein could not be reached for comment, after multiple attempts.

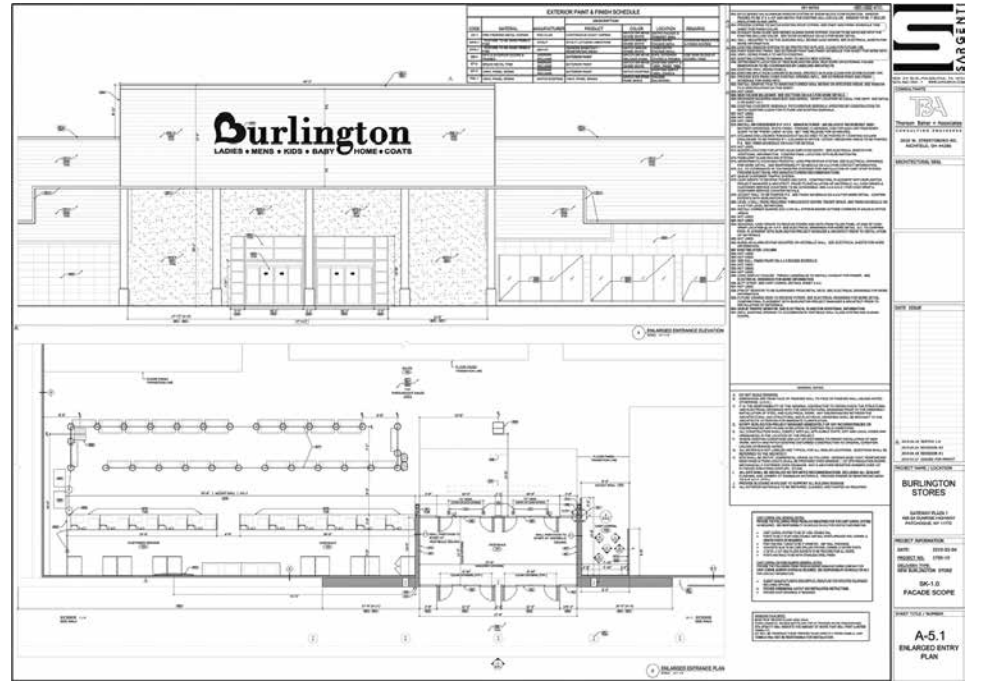
"As far as we know, right now Burlington is still going in there," explained councilman Neil Foley.

Patchogue Village mayor Paul Pontieri said he was concerned by the move, because if the "huge" building were vacated, it would be "tough" filling that space.

"The redevelopment of that plus the vacant lot on corner of Rider ... will be two big spaces that need to be filled with something of value, and finding that is going to be difficult," he said admittedly.

However, according to Pontieri, the owner of the property said Burlington had acquired an extension for another year to vacate the Main Street site.

According to the Village of Patchogue, the Florida-based Phoenix Organization owns the Burlington-occupied building, a 300,000-square-foot retail space. Co-owner Glenn Levins could not be reached for comment, though he previously acknowledged the move. Burlington Coat Factory's corporate office also did not respond for comment and did not confirm the move. ■



In December Pergament Properties, owner of the Patchogue building that was the former location of Bob's Stores, applied for a facade change to accommodate Burlington Coat Factory's move from Main Street in Patchogue Village.

Photo provided by Brookhaven Town

Upcoming meetings on sewer construction

March meetings will allow residents to review plans with engineers and designers

BY GLENN ROHRBACKER

The Mastic and Shirley sewer project is moving forward, with the next stage coming for homeowners in the community. There will be a set of meetings in March that will allow residents to review the plans with engineers and designers.

Property owners living within the Sewer District boundary located north of Shinnecock Avenue are encouraged to attend on Thursday, and owners south of Shinnecock Avenue can attend on Friday.

MASTIC SHIRLEY Owners that cannot attend either day can attend on Saturday.

Procurement is slated to begin in late summer, with groundbreaking of the advanced waste-

water treatment facility scheduled to take place in January 2021.

Legis. Rudy Sunderman (R-Mastic) released a statement on the progress:

"This is an exciting time for the economic development and environmental protection of our community. Since the approval of the referendum for the Forge River Watershed Sewer District in January 2019, much work has been done to advance this project. The design team has

been out in the community, surveying properties and assessing the area to finalize the design of the new advanced wastewater treatment facility and residential connections. The next step is a final homeowner review workshop, where the design team and engineers will sit with

individual property owners to review the scope of the work as it relates to their individual properties. This project is moving forward as expected. All funding is being secured, and the final design is near completion." ■

WHEN: Thursday, March 19, from 12 p.m. to 7 p.m.; Friday, March 20, from 12 p.m. to 7 p.m.; and Saturday, March 21, from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m.

WHERE: Mastic Fire Department, 1080 Mastic Road, Mastic

ONLINE: For more information, visit www.forgewatershedsewers.com/.

County's septic improvement program expands

More than 1,000 residents have applied thus far

Suffolk County Executive Steve Bellone recently announced that more than 1,350 residents had applied to participate in the Septic Improvement Program, including 111 people submitting applications in January 2020 — the second highest monthly total since the program's inception.

The county also released a video on Reclaim Our Water's website, which features homeowners who have participated in the program and were satisfied with the process when installing a new nitrogen-reducing Innovative and Alternative (I/A) system.

SUFFOLK COUNTY "When we created the Septic Improvement Program, we modeled it off of other overwhelmingly successful and nationally recognized programs, understanding this could be the solution to our region's water quality crisis," said Bellone. "After three successful years, our program has now been expanded statewide because it not only works, it makes it affordable for the average homeowners to play their part protecting the environment. With enthusiasm and participation at an all-time high, we are committed to moving full steam ahead with this critical water-quality program because our future depends on it."

Although Long Island has seen a decline in local water quality over the last several decades, studies show that the Septic Improvement Program can restore water

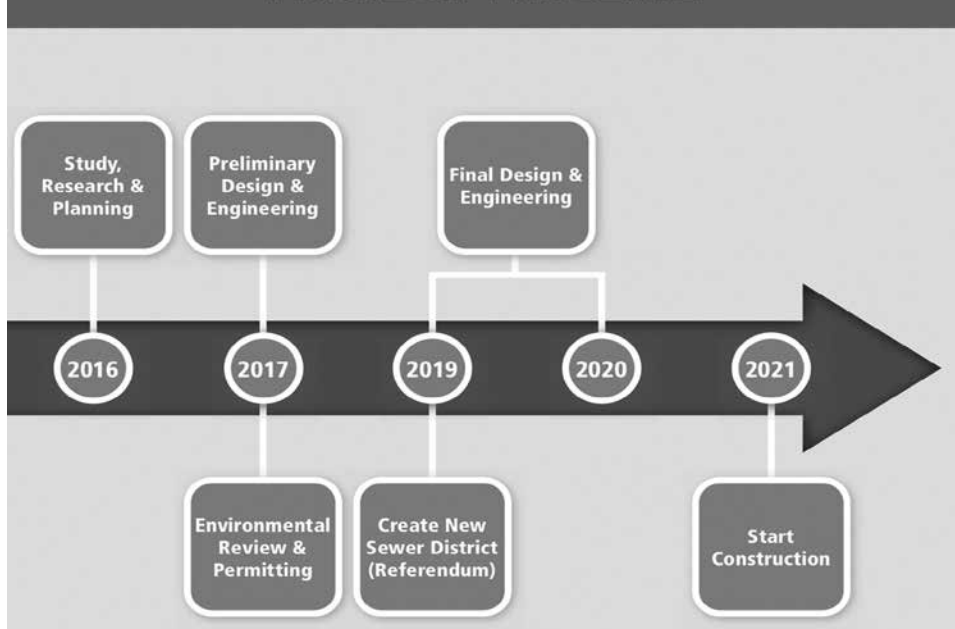
quality during this generation, reducing and potentially eliminating problems that have plagued the area for decades.

To date, 333 advanced systems have been installed across the county, with another 180 installations pending under the grant program. In addition, more than 520 state-of-the-art nitrogen-reducing septic systems have been installed outside of the grant program throughout Suffolk County. On average, the program receives approximately 96 applicants per month, and residents are encouraged to apply while funding is still available.

Homeowners who decide to replace their cesspool or septic system with the new technologies will be eligible for a grant of up to \$30,000 from Suffolk County and New York State. With the ability to apply for both county and state grant funding, installing one of the new systems becomes increasingly more affordable for middle- and working-class homeowners who want to play their part in protecting the environment. In addition to the grant, homeowners can qualify to finance the remaining cost of the systems through a loan, payable over 15 years at a 3 percent fixed interest rate. The purpose of the loan is to provide "gap" funds to finance the difference between the grant to be provided by Suffolk County and the contract amount needed to install the replacement septic system.

Residents interested in learning more about the Water Quality Program are urged to visit www.reclaimourwater.info or to call the Suffolk County Department of Health Services at 631-852-5811. ■

PROJECT TIMELINE



A projected timeline puts sewer construction in Mastic and Shirley as beginning next year.

Courtesy photo

Bringing hospitality to the hospital

Local entrepreneur to open new café at LI Community Hospital

BY NICOLE FUENTES

Local businessman Rob Cutrone, known for his local coffeehouse, coffee brewing and entertainment companies, recently announced that he would be starting his first café and eatery inside the Long Island Community Hospital in East Patchogue.

The new café will be called The Greenhouse Café, with a health-focused menu dedicated to serving the staff and patrons of the hospital. Cutrone hopes to open it in March.

"I am so happy and proud to announce

the birth to another business," he said, explaining that the menu will offer healthy and hearty options. He hopes the space will feel like a greenhouse with décor that's focused on (fake) greenery and tranquility. "I want to bring life, positivity, and happiness to everyone

EAST PATCHOGUE who comes through my doors. I built my business around that philosophy."

Menu items will range from sandwiches and soups to acai bowls and salads in addition to coffee, smoothies, and teas.

"I love hospitality, and what better way to serve people than in a hospital," he added, also explaining that he is currently hiring friendly counter and kitchen staff to make the experience as enjoyable as possible. ■



Rob Cutrone will be opening The Greenhouse Café inside Long Island Community Hospital come this March.

Courtesy photo

WANTED:

Your old photos of Patchogue, Medford, Blue Point, Yaphank, Shirley, The Mastics or the Moriches and its people for our *Old Files* page.

Mail submissions to:


**The Long Island Advance,
20 Medford Avenue, Patchogue,
New York 11772**

E-mail submissions to:

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Please include a *brief description* of the photograph. Photos will be returned upon request.





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OBITUARIES

Edward J. Guzik

Edward J. Guzik, 93, of Bayport, died Feb. 22. Mr. Guzik was employed with Republic and Fairchild Aviation, the Patchogue-Medford School District, and his family owned a flower-growing and design business. He was also a proud member of the Idle Hour Fly Fishing Club.

He is survived by his son, Edward Guzik and wife, Angela, of West Sayville; his daughter, Diane Guzik Holmes and husband, Charles S. Holmes, of Sag Harbor; his brother and sister-in-law, Leon and Muriel Yablonski; his grandchildren, E.J. Guzik, Veronica Guzik-Torres and husband, Miguel Torres, and Carrie Catherine Holmes; and his great-grandson, Aidan Guzik. He was predeceased by his wife of 69 years, Helen.

Funeral arrangements were entrusted to Raynor & D'Andrea Funeral Home. A funeral Mass was celebrated at Our Lady of the Snow R.C. Church, Blue Point. Cremation was private.

In memory of "Big Ed's" good-natured life, consider paying forward an act of kindness to one in need.

Walter C. Reich

Walter C. Reich, 87, a lifelong resident of Patchogue, died Feb. 16. He was a self-employed general building contractor and owner of Fire Island Pines Hardware, as well as a lifelong member of the Fire Island Pines Fire Department and the Fire

Island Chamber of Commerce. A veteran of the United States Navy, Mr. Reich served as a petty officer second class from 1951 to 1955.

He is survived by his daughters, Susan Rocco and spouse Richard, Brenda Schwelger and Deborah Kassner, and his eight grandchildren and four great-grandchildren. He was predeceased by his wife of 62 years, Joyce Reich.

Funeral arrangements were entrusted to Robertaccio Funeral Home, Patchogue. Interment was held in St. Lawrence Cemetery.



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PLEASE NOTE: It is the policy of this newspaper that all obituaries, whether from a family member or funeral home, are edited for style and content. We charge a fee for all obituaries, but they must adhere to our format. To place a standard obituary or an obituary "as is" with no editing, please call our advertising department at 631-475-1000 ext. 11.

Rosemarie Reich



August 29th, 1936–
February 20th, 2020

Born to Salvatore and Gabriella Scotto in Queens, Rosemarie (called Dolly by her family) was the youngest of four children. Her siblings, Theodore Cucurella of Islip, called Salvy, John Scotto, and Katherine Palumbo, both of East Patchogue, have all predeceased her.

Rosemarie graduated Bellport High School in 1954 with high honors and a varsity letter for athletics. After school, Rosemarie worked in a bank in Bellport for several years. She married Robert Edwin Reich of Patchogue in June of 1958. After her divorce in 1979, she worked at Rose Jewelers in Patchogue until she retired in 2002.

Rosemarie is survived by her three children: Cheryl Reich of Long Beach, Robert A. Reich of East Patchogue, and Lisa Comanda of Center Moriches; seven grandchildren: Danielle Gonnelli, Samantha Reich, and Robert Reich, Jr. of Saint Cloud, Florida; Gabrielle and Drew Comanda of Center Moriches; Michael Reich of Rocky Point; and Lena Mandell of Brooklyn; and two great-granddaughters, Abigail and Madeline Gonnelli of Saint Cloud, Florida.

Rosemarie, called Ro by her friends, was a great listener and had a wry sense of humor. She lived a quiet and faithful life, enjoyed laughing and sharing stories with and cooking for those she loved. For her warmth and her way of making her many friends and family welcome, cared for, and loved, she will be sorely missed.

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Dorothy J. Bard

(1921-2020)



Dorothy Joyce Bard of Sayville died February 17, 2020, aged 98. Born August 16, 1921, she lived on Greene Avenue in Sayville with her late husband, Eugene Jenó Bard from 1947 until his death in 1993, and then independently until her own death. During the last decade of her life she was assisted at home by her son,

Frederick Eugene Bard and his partner Mark Schuyler, who survive her along with her daughter Nellys Bard and her husband Christopher Bodkin, of Brookhaven Hamlet and West Sayville; granddaughter Dorothy Maeve Pendergast, of Las Vegas; her brother, Daniel Brown and his wife Cathy, of St. Paul; and dozens of nieces, nephews, step-grandchildren and other extended family and friends on Long Island and in Minnesota. Besides her husband and parents, two brothers and her sister predeceased her.

Dorothy was born in Minneapolis, Minnesota to Frank and Maude (Krieger) Brown, the first of five children. When she was two her family moved to Brainerd, Minnesota where she spent her childhood. She left home at 18 to attend St. Cloud State Teachers College (now St. Cloud State University) where she earned her Bachelor's degree, then moved to Rochester, Minnesota where she taught in the Mayo Clinic experimental preschool and worked towards her Master's degree in education. There she met the late Lois Price, who was to be her lifelong friend and who followed Dorothy to Sayville after Superintendent Walter Dicks recruited Dorothy to teach at Greene Avenue Elementary School in 1946. Dorothy taught kindergarten and first grade at Greene Avenue and Cherry Avenue Elementary Schools for over 30 years. After retirement she volunteered at the Blood Bank's center in Bohemia where she rose to volunteer supervisor, scheduling staff for blood bank events throughout Suffolk County. She held that position for over 20 years.

Services are private. A ceremony celebrating her long life and service to her community will be announced in this newspaper in the spring. In lieu of condolences, donations may be made in her memory to NYBloodCenter.org, AMFAR.org and SwingLeft.org.



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Helen Walker Parker



Helen Walker Parker, of Pound Ridge, NY and Vail, CO, passed away peacefully at her home on February 14, 2020 at the age of 89.

Helen's early life was spent in various locales. After her birth in Toccoa, GA on August 17, 1930, the family followed her father's work to Florida and New York City. When she was a teenager, they finally settled for good in Bellport, Long Island. Helen truly adored life on the Great South Bay, especially the sailing, summers at Point of Woods, bicycle riding and the escapades of the family's beloved Great Danes Lady and Gent. After attending St. Mary's School in Peekskill, Helen attended Barnard College, and then went on to work at various jobs including at the Brookhaven National Laboratory and the Hewlett School.

Helen met the love of her life, Foxhall, in 1950. They married in 1952, and, after they had found their dream house in Pound Ridge, started their family. Patricia was born in 1960, and Mary followed in 1962.

From then on, it was all about family for Helen; nothing mattered more to her than taking care of her husband and children. Ski trips to Vail led to a second home there, while summers sailing on their beloved "Obsession" and travels further afield gave Helen the chance to explore the world with her family, giving her cherished memories for the rest of her life.

Once her daughters were grown, Helen had the opportunity to spread her wings. She had always loved gardening, but she found her passion in flower arranging, first as a member and then later as President of the Bedford Garden Club. She became not only an award-winning national competitor but also a judge and an officer for the Garden Club of America. Helen also blossomed as a writer for the Gardener's Gazette, winning a Connecticut Press Club award for her work.

After Foxy's retirement, Helen stepped back to devote herself once more to her husband and their life together. More travels followed, with friends and with family, from Iceland to Patagonia and other bucket list places in between. As their lives began to wind down, they spent more time in the home that they had made together and loved so much. Helen was preceded in death by Foxhall Parker, her sister Patricia Walker Bijou, and brother Ernest Moore Walker Jr.; she is survived by daughter Patricia Mueller (Mark), of Vail, CO; daughter Mary Morgan Parker (Ron Davidson), of EagleVail, CO; and granddaughter Morgan Raye Mueller, of Breckenridge, CO.

Helen will be buried in a private service at St. Matthew's Church, Bedford, NY. A Memorial Service is planned for the Spring.

Memorial contributions will be gratefully accepted by: The Lewisboro Volunteer Ambulance Corps, PO Box 41, South Salem, NY 10590; email: treasurer@LewisboroVAC.org; phone: (914) 763-3574.

POLICE BLOTTER

Bellport

The front door to a home on Hoffman Avenue was kicked and damaged.

A cell phone was stolen from a minivan parked in front of Family Dollar on Feb. 14.

A Coach purse was stolen from a 2012 Honda parked on Meade Avenue on Feb. 15.

Merchandise was stolen from the Vanity Fair outlet on Feb. 21.

Cash, two Xbox Ones, and a fireplace heater were stolen from a home on Wards Lane on Feb. 22.

Blue Point

At 7-Eleven, a 2005 GMC Sierra that was left running with keys and the owner's dog inside was stolen on Feb. 22.

Candy and chocolate were stolen from 7-Eleven on Feb. 22.

East Patchogue

The window on a Silver Street home's front door was broken on Feb. 15.

The screen to a bathroom window was cut at a Camille Lane home, and a Gucci sweater, Louis Vuitton belt and bedroom hollow doors were stolen.

Mastic

A can of beer was stolen from BP Gas Station on Mastic Road on Feb. 13.

Two Virginia license plates were stolen from a car parked outside a Clinton Avenue home on Feb. 20.

A victim was delivering pizza to a home when three males approached her, asked her for change and stole her money on Feb. 21.

A tablet, shoes and medication were stolen from a Moriches Avenue home on Feb. 22.

Mastic Beach

Money, a license and a backpack were stolen from a 2011 Jeep Cherokee parked on Cranberry Drive on Feb. 12.

North Patchogue

A laptop, bowling equipment, a phone and Beats headphones were stolen from an unlocked Honda parked on Lakeview Drive on Feb. 22.

Patchogue

An apartment on Waverly Avenue was

broken into and money was stolen on Feb. 13.

Dog clothing was stolen from Petco on Feb. 13.

Jewelry and a Ring doorbell were stolen from a South Ocean Avenue home on Feb. 13.

Cement was stolen from a 2004 Toyota parked behind Capital One on Feb. 21.

Shirley

A door was kicked in at a Lombardy Drive home and an Xbox One, a controller and a television were stolen on Feb. 20.

At Woods Towing, someone broke in and attempted to open the register; it was unclear if anything was stolen.

A Yaphank woman, 51, was arrested on suspicion of stealing earrings and a necklace from Kohl's on Feb. 22.

CRIME STOPPERS

Man arrested for stealing vehicle, fleeing police

Suffolk County Police arrested a Mastic Beach man for Grand Larceny after he stole a vehicle and crashed it into a tree.

Christopher Green stole a 2006 Nissan Murano from BP Gas Station, located at Express Drive North and Wheeler Road in Hauppauge, at approximately 9:50 a.m. on Feb. 15. The owner of the Nissan was tracking the vehicle through an app on a cell phone left in the car while police were investigating the theft.

Sixth Precinct officers located the vehicle in a parking lot, located at 1945 North Ocean Ave. in Farmingville, and attempted to pull over the vehicle at approximately 10:40 a.m.

Green fled and police attempted to follow the vehicle but lost sight of it. Green lost control of the stolen vehicle, which crashed into a tree on Horseblock Road, just east of Fairmont Avenue in Medford. Police located Green and the vehicle a short time later. Green was transported to Stony Brook University Hospital for treatment of serious injuries.

Green, 31, was charged with Grand Larceny, Third Degree, and Unlawful Fleeing From a Police Officer in a Motor Vehicle, Third Degree. He will be arraigned at a later date.

Information printed here was obtained from the Suffolk County Police Department. A criminal charge is an accusation against an individual. Unless and until proven guilty in court, individuals are presumed innocent of these charges. During the criminal justice process, individuals may be acquitted or may have a charge against them reduced or dropped.

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EDITORIAL

No more plastic bags, at all

Not even for 5 cents. As of March 1, the entirety of New York State is completely banning plastic carry-out bags. It's estimated that more than 23 billion plastic bags are used statewide each year. Plastic bags can be found littered on our streets, stuck in trees, spread across beaches and floating in the waterways. There is even documented evidence of harm to wildlife and habitats.

Consumers in Suffolk County were (rightfully) forced to consider Bring Your Own Bags, a movement toward reusable bag usage, after a local law required stores to charge customers a minimum fee of 5 cents back in January 2018.

But now, as of next week, plastic bags will be banned from distribution by anyone required to collect New York State sales tax — which leads us to just one major question: What will be done with all the surplus?

A local soup kitchen suggested it could use the plastic bag donations for the homeless to carry out food items. We think it's a great idea to reuse something that is already produced, and soup kitchens can use any help they can get. What else would they do with the no-longer-usable bags? Throwing them out would be a bigger waste and larger harm to the environment than the intention of the law would be solving, at least in the short term.

About the law

The law applies to more than just grocery stores and includes retailers. If you forget to bring bags, most retailers will sell reusable bags. Paper might also be available, though some stores might not switch to paper and require the customer to bring a reusable bag or to purchase one.

However, cities and counties are authorized to adopt the 5-cent fee and apply it to the paper carry-out bags. (However, it does not apply to SNAP and WIC recipients.) Also, stores are still required to collect plastic bags for recycling.

The reusable bags not only look better but also work better. We suggest buying cotton or cloth bags, so they can be washed and repurposed for many uses around the house.

Correction

Due to a production error in last week's story about the Annual Of Colors Black History Exhibition and Diversity Celebration at Artspace, singer Deu-boyce Robinson's name was incorrectly changed to his daughter's name, Destiny. Destiny Robinson was also incorrectly identified as a singer in our photo; she was a dancer. We regret the error.



'And Then We Danced'

"And Then We Danced," directed by Swedish filmmaker Levan Akin ("The Circle"), is a coming-of-age story about dancer Merab (Levan Gelbakhiani), a member of the National Ensemble in Georgia, which performs traditional Georgian dance. His goal in life is to join the main ensemble of that company with his girlfriend/dance partner of many years, Mary (Ana Javakishvili). When he is criticized by his dance coach for being "too soft," Merab is introduced to his "replacement dancer," Irakli (Bachi Valishvili), and suddenly his goal in life is threatened: once by competition and again when he falls in love with his opponent. As the film evolves, we see that it is Merab himself who is his own biggest rival.

There's a well of emotions inside every human being that is defined by our past. There is also an untapped well of desire that defines our future. Both give us our cultural identities. Motivated to create this film when he saw a group of young people in Tbilisi in 2013 at a gay pride parade get attacked by thousands of anti-gay protesters (hospitalizing 12), Akin —

whose home is in Stockholm — felt he needed to return to his Georgian roots and commit to bring about social change in a culture that had defined him.

At first Levan Gelbakhiani did not want to take on this dangerous part of Merab. Indeed, guards had to be hired during production. But as he considered its social significance, Gelbakhiani felt compelled to play the part — a very daring and brave move to take. His performance is outstanding, and so full of passion, there's no denying what his performance brings to the socially troubled village of his hometown.

"There is no sex in Georgian dance," shouts the dance coach, when students laugh at his attempts to create a "virginal purity." According to the dance coach, his dancers must create monuments to the culture, as though dance must be a statue that never changes, never grows, never feels and never expresses itself. Gelbakhiani cuts it loose and fills it with passion for life and freedom of expression.

Akin has criticized use of most sex scenes in films as dramatic moments that

are intended simply to show that two people are attracted to each other. In this film, he sees the two sexual acts as awakening moments: "There's actually dialogue between them. ... It's an awakening ... not a sexual awakening. This is not a coming-out story; it's a story about owning your identity and owning yourself in a culture that doesn't want to accept you."

As Merab performs his last audition for the part that is supposed to define traditional dance in Tbilisi, what we get instead is an incredible burst of free expression that is at once beautiful as it is liberating. Akin stresses that his film is not just about the need for a culture of dance to evolve, but on a personal level "not to allow anybody to define your tradition for you."

Showtimes Feb. 28–March 6:

Friday, 7:30 p.m.; Saturday, 5:45 p.m.; Sunday, 1:45 p.m. and 7:30 p.m.; Monday, 4:45 p.m.; Tuesday, 4:45 p.m.; Wednesday, 4:45 p.m.; Thursday, 3:45 p.m. For additional films, events and classes, please visit www.plazamac.org or call the box office at 631-438-0083.

OP-ED

Kudos to Bellport, Patchogue, Suffolk police

BY LINDA LEUZZI

The municipalities of Patchogue and Bellport have always worked well together, and on Monday night, at Village Hall on Baker Street in Patchogue and at the Community Center on Bell Street in Bellport, both mayors introduced legislation to squelch marauding gangs of teens on bikes who monopolize sidewalks and streets in their quest to intimidate the public.

We are not talking about safe biking, but a stupid new way of acting tough.

This is the newest teen issue trend, where groups of young people on bikes gather letting others know via text or Facebook to meet up and head out to an area where they can show their strength by scaring residents.

It's usually wheelies in the middle of the street or careening on sidewalks, but with a mob of 100 or 150, that becomes dangerous. A bike smashing into a human body can seriously injure or even kill someone.

With Patchogue and Bellport both

experiencing mob incidents like the recent one in Bellport, Mayors Pontieri and Fell teamed up with Suffolk police and their village attorneys to craft legislation. The bikes will be confiscated by police or village code patrols. To get them back, a fine will have to be paid, and, for those under 18, their parents will need to step up to Village Court to retrieve their kid's wheels.

We say that's a good, legal preventative technique. And we hope that parents take note, because if your child is among those on these bike intimidation events, you'll be held accountable.

Back around 2006–07, the nearby hamlet of Sayville was experiencing similar hooligans — only on skateboards — who surrounded cars on side roadways as drivers came down the street. Sometimes a nasty kid (or several) would skateboard right up to a person inches

from their face in his quest at intimidation. The Sayville Chamber got their arms around that one and worked with police; Suffolk police confiscated the offending culprits' skateboards, and the issue became a nonissue.

The beat cop at that time did tell us that some parents were quite indignant and belligerent about the inconvenience.

This isn't a "kids will be kids" thing. Grouping together like this is a power play that defies safety rules as well as the safety of lives and the ability to walk freely without fear in your neighborhood.

We should not have to experience that in our towns.

Linda Leuzzi is the former editor of the Long Island Advance and a Sayville resident.

We encourage all readers, elected officials and public figures to contribute op-ed articles giving their personal views on local issues, current events or day-to-day life. All submissions 600 words or less will be considered for publication.

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ADVANCE

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CLARE ROSE PLAYHOUSE

'Bakersfield Mist'

BY LAURA SAWYERS

Class and culture clash and collide to comedic heights in "Bakersfield Mist" at the Clare Rose Playhouse. Stephen Sachs' comedy-drama features two stunning performers, Clare Rose veteran actors Lisa Meckes and Frank Freeman. The play's title refers to the focal piece of art Maude (Meckes) bought for \$3 at Daisy's Junk Shop years ago. Former bartender Maude, now living in Bakersfield's Sage Brush Trailer Park, has hired art authenticity expert Lionel Percy (Freeman) to confirm that her canvas actually is a Jackson Pollack original.

Meckes wholeheartedly grabs her role of the manic, desperate Maude — close to the end of her rope and wits — spewing out her guts and uncensored emotions to the prim and proper New York art expert Lionel Percy. Meckes plays Maude with a genuineness and an earthiness that are endearing; Maude is full of heart, and she evokes our sympathies while simultaneously revealing her neediness and desperation.

In making Maude into as funny a character as she is, Meckes is greatly assisted by Freeman as Lionel Percy, the putative Pollack expert. He arrives to authenticate Maude's questionable claim she has a Pollack. Freeman's Lionel is a stuffy characterization that is entirely credible. As the less sympathetic Lionel, Freeman also conveys the natural curiosity of the trained fake-buster. We watch his attempting to understand how a person like Maude operates. Amazingly, after such a well-delivered monologue — which drew a cheer from the audience — we do indeed come to empathize with him.

Provocative, fast-paced and cleverly funny, "Bakersfield Mist" packs a vigorous punch, elevating a comic debate about the authenticity of a painting to a reflective and relative critique about the haves and the have-nots. Not only does "Mist" dare to crack open such age-old conundrums as "What is art?" it also refreshingly and amusingly challenges

expertise. "What," Maude queries, "makes you an authority?" Good question, after all.

Kudos to set designer Frank Grabowski and the play production crew for the incredibly lived-in, low-rent mobile home set complemented by the detailed, mismatched tchotchkes of props.

Watching the fireworks between Meckes and Freeman is a glorious treat, thanks to the skillful direction of Sister Grace Rowland. These two skilled players navigate through Stephen Sachs' well-constructed script with truthful representations of their gender and their social class. Ultimately, their humanity seeps out. "Bakersfield Mist" is a must-see.



"Bakersfield Mist," with Frank Freeman and Lisa Meckes (shown), runs Fridays and Saturdays at 8 p.m. and Sundays at 3 p.m. through March 8. For reservations or more information, call 631-654-0199. Dinner packages are available as well.

Courtesy photo

MY TURN

The Bowery Boys Breakfast Club

BY BRIAN CURRY

I've said it before, and I'll say it again. I'm a sucker for reunion get-togethers. Whether it's classmates, co-workers or just neighborhood pals, I'm there!

Why, just in the past few years and from over a thousand miles away, I've attended my Patchogue-Medford High School Class of 1973's 45th reunion, and the 50th reunion (actually our first one) of my eighth-grade class from Astoria, Queens, in New York City.

But those are gala affairs that require a year's worth of planning, RSVPs and ticket deposits. I'm looking for something quick, not fussy, that I can sort of bite into — like a bacon, egg and cheese on a roll from a Long Island deli.

... Which is exactly why when Pat-Med alumnus James De Lucia invited me to his Bowery Boys breakfast at Antonio's Deli in Medford, I made it a point to head over to hang with fellow alums from the mid-1970s to the class of 2015.

Now I know James feels the same way I do about reunions, because he's been doing "all class" reunions both in person and online going back to 2000. De Lucia, an '82 grad himself, said it was actually a sad experience that served as a catalyst for the Bowery Boys.

"I was working on my 35th reunion in 2017 and talking to a classmate and friend, Charlie Heusser, who was sort of on the fence about attending; it would be his first one," De Lucia recalled. "He decided to come, and you could see that night that he was having the time of his life — all smiles and laughs."

Heusser's wife had said he had been on "cloud nine — so happy that he had reconnected." But just two weeks later, he passed from a sudden heart attack. De Lucia knew then he would try to make his breakfast club a reality. Through a few fits and starts, they ended up at the ideal place of Antonio's in Medford on Route 112, in an office complex that used to house the Town of Brookhaven offices.

"It was ideal — it could handle a group, allow us to sit and chat, and Chris, the owner, said she would love to have us. The deli does a big walk-in business during the week but on Saturdays deals mostly with catering and deliveries."

The group averages about 15 in its regular Saturday morning get-togethers from all over Suffolk and Nassau, with drop-in alums from as far away as South Carolina, Tennessee and Arizona (me) with a guy like Art Worthman, who lives in Maryland, coming up at least once a month, maybe more.

What brings them all together is a sense of camaraderie and fellowship. "We have a great time just talking; it's just an informal brotherhood," adding that though there was no sexism, it just ended up "guys being guys."

I asked him what was the largest gathering of the group. "That would be 35 guys, and that was also a sad occasion. Teddy Seiler, a Bowery Boys regular since our start in 2018, suddenly passed away. It was our sort of our remembrance of a great guy who had been with us every Saturday."

That kind of sums it up. If you have a chance to reconnect, resume or even start up a friendship, take advantage of it. We only pass through this life once.

If you'd like to know more about the breakfast group, go to BoweryBoys.club, which will send you to its Facebook group page, or e-mail info@boweryboys.club.

OP-ED

The Medicaid budget shortfall in 2021

BY ROB CALARCO
PRESIDING OFFICER, SUFFOLK COUNTY LEGISLATURE

Suffolk County could be heading off a fiscal cliff as state lawmakers look to close a huge budget shortfall in our Medicaid spending in the 2021 budget.

Medicaid was established in 1966 by the federal government, and it has helped millions of poor and disabled receive health care. Each state is responsible for paying a portion of the cost of the Medicaid program, and Albany has passed on some of that cost to each county. Six million New Yorkers — more than 326,000 people in Suffolk County alone — receive health coverage through Medicaid. The program is lifesaving for many and an important tool in New York State's arsenal for taking care of its residents. But proposals from some in Albany would be disastrous for Suffolk County and force our residents to pay more.

In 2011, as a response to exorbitant and unpredictable increases in property tax bills, Gov. Cuomo implemented a yearly 2-percent cap on property tax increases. At the same time, Albany implemented a cap on the amount of money that counties would pay to the state to help pay for Medicaid. This cap helped to cushion the financial blow that many municipalities would have faced due to the property tax cap. These two laws have been hugely successful at reducing the tax burden for our residents.

Some lawmakers are exploring the idea of eliminating the Medicaid cap in order to extract more money out of local governments. Eliminating the Medicaid cap will create a substantial burden that many counties will not be able to shoulder. This solution to a growing budget shortfall does not address the root cause of the problem and will only provide temporary relief for the cash-strapped state government at the cost of local taxpayers.

Suffolk County is already paying an enormous amount of

money to Albany to help fund the program. In 2019 we paid \$279,749,596 in Medicaid assistance. Although the state provides some relief to this burden, we still had a net payout of \$243,757,451 from the county coffers. Counties across New York State sent \$8 billion combined to Albany last year. By lifting the cap, we could be liable for tens of millions more at an ever-increasing amount year after year. This is a cost that will ultimately be borne by Suffolk County taxpayers.

In 2011 Gov. Cuomo convened a Medicaid Redesign Team to look into ways to reduce the enormous tax burden caused by Medicaid. One of the ideas that came out of that team was the Medicaid cap. Our own county executive, Steve Bellone, has been tapped to join the new Medicaid Redesign Team. However, before they even have a chance to thoughtfully examine the issue, some in Albany are trying to scrap the cap altogether.

The Medicaid budget shortfall is being driven by the ever-growing cost of health care in this county. It's a problem we are seeing in every sector and for every payer. Furthermore, the federal government has underfunded New York's Medicaid program for years, and that deficit has grown under the Trump administration. The Medicaid cap is not to blame, and shifting the burden onto local governments rather than examining the root causes of the problem is irresponsible. At the end of the day, unless we do something to reduce the cost, it will be taxpayers to whom the bill comes due.

The Medicaid Redesign Team needs time to work out a better plan, and the Medicaid cap needs to stay in place.

We encourage all readers, elected officials and public figures to contribute op-ed articles giving their personal views on local issues, current events or day-to-day life. All submissions 600 words or less will be considered for publication.

After fire, Whalehouse Point to be rebuilt

Concessioner LoveFINS looks for a design that is 'better than ever'

BY GLENN ROHRBACKER

After a fire destroyed the Whalehouse Point Beach Bar & Restaurant at Watch Hill Marina on Fire Island last September, Watch Hill concessioner LoveFINS and the National Park Service are planning a redesign of the property. The agency released a request for proposals last week for architectural designers.

"We believe this is an extraordinary opportunity for an impactful & lasting architectural design of a National Park resource on our beautiful seashore," LoveFINS said in an email.

LoveFINS is working with NPS to get the required approvals for the site, and they hope to start demolition soon. General manager Doug Biviano said they want to move as quickly as possible to get the restaurant back up and running.

"We want to rebuild Whalehouse Point restaurant to be an amazing destination on Fire Island," Biviano said.

While the process moves forward, there will still be food, drinks and music at



The Whalehouse Point restaurant burned down last year, but its owners are now looking to rebuild.

ADV file photo

Whalehouse Point. Biviano said there would be a food truck available, similar to the end of last season. There will also be a party tent for people to sit under and even more live music than last year.

"I think it's going to be a great season," Biviano added.

For the RFP, LoveFINS is looking for someone who loves the resource of the

national park of Fire Island and has a vision to build "better than ever" while also adhering to a reasonable budget.

The Whalehouse Point restaurant burned down on Sept. 3 during a nighttime fire. The fire was contained in about an hour and saw response from most Fire Island and mainland fire departments and emergency crews. As previously

reported in the *Advance*, it was the first major fire at Watch Hill in years. The boardwalks and nearby buildings were saved.

For more information or to keep up with the project, follow LoveFINS on social media or visit www.lovefins.com. ■

Could your child benefit from a trades career?

Local chamber and school district rally together to offer opportunity in trades professions for students

BY SAM DESMOND

As the cost of a college education continues to skyrocket and many degree-holders find themselves debt-ridden without jobs to cover the debilitating loan payments, a resurgence of interest in blue-collar professions, which can be obtained without university degrees, has sparked out of necessity and interest.

Current Bayport Blue Point Chamber of Commerce president Carol Seitz helps run her family's company, Thermo-Trol, which has historically employed local Bayport-Blue Point School District students since its inception in 1967. Chris Cavanaugh, owner of the hometown pub Cavanaugh's in Blue Point, actually apprenticed for Seitz's father before taking over his family's restaurant.

In recent years Seitz has noticed a scarcity of students applying for a trade position with her family's company and was perplexed as HVAC technicians enjoy high salaries (some as high as six figures) and in-demand employment opportunities. Upon taking leadership this past year, Seitz outlined a three-point focus plan for the chamber; one was to shore up the trades program within the community, particularly at the high school, where young adults were beginning to carve out their future careers.

"In speaking with older people who went to BBP High School, there was a lot of value in having shop class because it helped students who were more tactile find their passion," Seitz said of why she wanted to introduce a youth-oriented goal to the chamber. "We have to do bet-



From a community-approved bond, BBP High School built a STEAM lab to provide students with more opportunity to explore their interests in tactile learning.

Courtesy photo

ter in offering our students more exposure to all the different types of careers they can have."

Nationally, there also is recognition of this lack of workers with the proper skill set for trades professions. In a popular NPR article in 2018, it was stated that "high school graduates have been so effectively encouraged to get a bachelor's that high-paid jobs requiring shorter and less expensive training are going unfilled. This affects those students and also poses a real threat to the economy."

President Trump has outlined initiatives for more emphasis and funding to trades programs and schools, most recently in his signing the renewal of a bipartisan federal workforce development program, spending \$1.2 billion to aid over 11 million students in receiving more specialized training.

"When we invest in our workers, we are investing in our people," said the president when he signed the bill into law in July 2018.

Locally, Superintendent Tim Hearney

of BBP Schools has worked with former Legislator Bill Lindsay (D-8 District) to make connections with unions and learn about their apprenticeship programs.

"During the last recession, we had to make a reduction in the number of students we sent to BOCES programs, but we have been taking measures to provide students with more opportunity in the technology field," he said of the current low enrollment of BBP high school students in trades programs. "Recently, through a community approved bond, we were able to build STEAM labs in the high school, which have opened the doors for students in terms of building and computer science."

Through the School to Business program, a joint venture of the BBP Chamber of Commerce and BBP High School, students have been given the opportunity to shadow professionals in both white- and blue-collar fields. The shadow days, which have been held for over 10 years, allow students to experience real-life exposure to gain an understanding of what profession they are interested in.

"In School to Business, we want to show kids it's viable to bring them into a technician's career," said Seitz of the program.

"We want to provide pathways and exposure to our students for college, trades in the automotive industry — everything," added Hearney, as he described a new project where he has been working closely with unions, such as the IBEW, to develop fact-sheet resources for students about each trade, including apprenticeship opportunities, average training time, average salary, and other integral factors to selecting a career path.

"It's important for parents and students to know that if college isn't your fit, there are plenty of other fields — well-paying fields — for tactile workmanship," continued Seitz of her overall goal as chamber president and the trade initiative. ■

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Local Eagle Scout gives school a facelift

On Sunday, Feb. 23, Patchogue Elks exalted ruler Dan Brooks (left) attended the Eagle Scout Court of Honor for Anthony Pagano (right). Anthony brought back to life the playground at Holy Angels Regional School at St. Francis de Sales in Patchogue for his Eagle Scout project. He also installed child safety locks on fences, built a fence around the air conditioner condensers, and replaced rotted wood and exposed nails. Finally Anthony power-washed the play set and planted flowers around the school building and playground. The Patchogue Elks Lodge is very proud of Anthony's achievement.

Courtesy photo

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10-year-old donates \$800 to animal shelter

Recently Supervisor Ed Romaine was at the Brookhaven Town Animal Shelter and Adoption Center to accept a donation of \$800 from 10-year-old Isabelle Grucci-Peterson. The money was collected by Isabelle after she asked people who were invited to her birthday party to make a donation to the shelter instead of giving her a birthday present. Upon meeting Isabelle, Romaine said, "I know that Isabelle's family is very proud of her, and we are thankful that she chose to make a donation to our animal shelter. Because of her generosity, our adoptable pets will have a better time in the shelter until they find their forever home." Pictured left to right are Isabelle's grandmother Madeline Grucci; animal shelter director Christina Tormey; Isabelle's grandfather and former Brookhaven Town supervisor Felix J. Grucci Jr.; Isabelle Grucci-Petersen; Romaine; Isabelle's mother and father, Danielle Grucci-Petersen and Kim Boalth Grucci-Petersen.

BROOKHAVEN TOWN

To meet their adoptable dogs and cats, please visit the Brookhaven Animal Shelter and Adoption Center, located at 300 Horseblock Road in Brookhaven. It is open Monday through Friday from 9:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., Saturday from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. and Sunday from 11:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. For more information, please call 631-451-6950 or visit the animal shelter website at www.Brookhaven-NY.gov/AnimalShelter.

Courtesy photo



Courtesy photo

Celebrate St. Pitties Day

The Town of Brookhaven Animal Shelter is hosting a St. Pitties Day event on March 7. The event will promote the shelter's adoptable Irish pit bulls and prematurely celebrate St. Patrick's Day. There also will be games like a 50/50, shamrock lottery tickets and a Chinese auction. A local bagpiper will provide entertainment and there will be free hors d'oeuvres. The event will be on Saturday, March 7, from 2 to 6 p.m., at Buckley's Irish Pub, 386 Main St., Center Moriches. The shelter is asking for a \$20 donation at the door, and for people to bring an item to donate such as toys, blankets and food. You will be entered into a raffle with each donated pet item.

— Glenn Rohrbacker

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AROUND TOWN

Thursday, February 27

Do What You Love – Program presented by Patchogue-Medford Library in partnership with Patchogue Young Professionals at the BrickHouse Brewery will discuss how to create an income-producing path forged by experience, personal interest, and individual passion, 6:30 p.m. To register, call 631-654-4700, ext. 152.

An Evening with Branford Marsalis – The acclaimed jazz saxophonist will perform live at Patchogue Theatre, 8 p.m. For tickets, call the box office at 631-207-1313 or visit www.patchogue theatre.org.

Thursday Afternoon Movie – The South Country Library will be showing “Jojo Rabbit” (Rated PG-13) at 2 p.m. Call 631-286-0818 for details.

Friday, February 28

Job Fair for Nurses, Rehab & Dietary – Find health career positions for nurses, rehab aides, certified occupational therapy assistants, and dietary aides at Brookhaven Health Care Facility located at 801 Gazzola Dr., East Patchogue, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. To apply before the event, visit www.mcguiregroup.com/career-opportunities/job-listings/listings#brookhaven.

Squishy Circuits – Hands-on electronics program at Patchogue-Medford Library for children grades 3-6, 4:30-5:30 p.m. To register, call 631-654-4700, ext. 200.

Controllers and Cardboard – Board and video games for teens, grades 6-12 at the Carnegie Library Teen Center, 2-4 p.m. To register, call 631-438-3290.

Mardi Gras-Inspired Event – “NOLA

meets MOCA,” a Big Easy celebration at Toast Coffeehouse of Patchogue, 7:30-10:30 p.m. Live music and cocktails. General admission: \$40. All tickets include a mask and beads. Pre-event face painting at Patchogue Arts Council, 6-6:50 p.m. Purchase tickets online at www.patchoguearts.org. Get tickets in person at Mademoiselle Patisserie of Patchogue.

Saturday, February 29

Experience VR – Teens, grades 6-12 will get to play on a virtual reality system at the Carnegie Library Teen Center, 2-4 p.m. To register, call 631-438-3290.

Interactive Family Science – Families will rotate through science lab stations at Patchogue-Medford Library to complete STEM challenges, 2-3 p.m. Call 631-654-4700, ext. 200.

Dinosaurs of the Deep – Earth’s Prehistoric Aquarium Adventure, an immersive experience for families, at Patchogue Theatre, 3 p.m. For tickets, call the box office at 631-207-1313 or visit www.patchogue theatre.org.

Sunday, March 1

Women’s History Day – Program, “Women of Invention: Focus on Food” at Patchogue-Medford Library will allow patrons to experience living women’s history through exhibits, demos, tastings, DIY crafts, and a visit from some of the animals that have provided humanity with food and labor since the dawn of time, 2-4 p.m. No registration required. Call 631-654-4700.

The Robert Cray Band – Five-time Grammy-winner Robert Cray will perform blues,

soul and R&B at Patchogue Theatre, 7 p.m. For tickets, call the box office at 631-207-1313 or visit www.patchogue theatre.org.

Monday, March 2

Zine Teens – Teens, grades 6-12, will learn how to create, design and produce their own zine at the Carnegie Library Teen Center, 3-4:30 p.m. To register, call 631-438-3290.

Caregiver Ambassador – A licensed social worker from Parker Jewish Institute will be at Patchogue-Medford Library to provide information on support and services for those caring for a loved one with dementia, 10-11:30 a.m. To make an appointment, call 631-654-4700, ext. 152.

IEP 101: Getting Started – Program at Patchogue-Medford Library will discuss what an Individualized Education Plan is, a school’s legal obligations to students, and how to insure a student’s need are met, 7 p.m. To register, call 631-654-4700.

Chess Club – Fellow chess players will meet and play at South Country Library, noon. No registration necessary. Library has 2 sets to share or bring your own. Call 631-286-0818.

Tuesday, March 3

Bridge Club – Meet and play at the South Country Library, 1 p.m. No registration necessary. Call 631-286-0818 for details.

Duplicate Bridge Club – Weekly group meets at the Henrietta Acampora Rec Center in Blue Point Tuesdays, 12:45-4 p.m. For fun, not points. Call 631-363-5193 for more information.

Now Showing – The Plaza Cinema & Media

Arts Center in Patchogue will show the following films: “Incitement” at 1:45 p.m. and “Town Without Pity” at 7:30 p.m. Visit www.plazamac.org for tickets and additional showings.

Wednesday, March 4

Genealogy Group – Discuss strategies and learn how others have succeeded. Group meets at Patchogue-Medford Library, 10 a.m. To register, call 631-654-4700, ext. 152.

Bag Ban & Sustainability – South Country Library reference librarian Mark Ahrens will explain New York State’s bag waste reduction law and the library’s own ecological efforts, 7-8 p.m. Call 631-286-0818.

Thursday, March 5

The Irish in New York – Program at Patchogue-Medford Library explores the history and culture of the Irish of New York, from immigration beginnings to the present, 6:30 p.m. To register, call 631-654-4700, ext. 152.

Seniors Social Group meets at Temple Beth El of Patchogue, 11 a.m. Fun, entertainment and refreshments. Enter on right side of building. Call 631-475-1882 for details.

Thursday Afternoon Movie – The South Country Library will be showing “Harriet” (Rated PG-13) at 2 p.m. Call 631-286-0818 for details.

Send your items to LIproduction@optonline.net, with “Around Town” in the subject line; or mail your notice to Long Island Advance, P.O. Box 780, Patchogue, NY 11772 Attn: Around Town

Of Note ...

Show Special at Gateway Playhouse – On March 14, enjoy lunch and a glass of wine at Avino’s Italian Table and then see a performance of “Murder on the Orient Express” at Gateway Playhouse. Ticket holders will meet at Avino’s at 11:30 a.m. Show at 2 p.m. \$90 per person. Limited seats. For information, email susan@patchogue theatre.org.

Lawn Spring Cleaning – Enter to receive a free yard spruce-up by South Country Community Leadership Network’s Extreme Yard Clean Up crew, Saturday, May 9. Crew will assist with leaf and debris removal, hedge trimmings, plantings, and lawn cutting. To be considered, send name of family, address and the name of person submitting the entry to South Country Central School District, Office of the Superintendent – c/o SCCLN, 189 Dunton Ave., East Patchogue, NY 11772. Entries must be received by March 27.

Sketch Club – The Patchogue Sketch Club meets at the Patchogue-Medford Library on Wednesdays, 6:30 and 8:30 p.m. For information, email patchoguesketchclub@hotmail.com.

Patchogue Arts Council Photographers – Group meets on the second Wednesday each month at 7:30-9:30 p.m. at the BrickHouse Brewery’s Shand Loft, 67 East Main St., Patchogue. Visit www.PatchogueArts.org/Photographers-Group for information.

“Think Spring” Tea – Patchogue Garden Club Spring Tea, Wednesday, March 18 at Mediterranean Manor, 1 to 4 p.m. Raffles baskets and door prize. Bring your own tea cup and wear your best fancy hat. \$36 per person payable by check to Greater Patchogue Foundation and sent to Patchogue Garden Club, P.O. Box 3030, Patchogue, NY 11772. For

information, call Carol at 631-475-3445.

Bowling Fundraiser – L.I. Community Hospital and Clare Rose Strike it Pink fundraiser event Sunday, March 8 at Bowl Long Island, Patchogue, 3-5 p.m. \$35 per person includes shoes, 2 hours of bowling, beer and popcorn. To RSVP, contact Marilyn Konnerth at 631-654-7577 or email MKonnerth@LICommunityHospital.org.

Democratic Fundraiser – Meet Democratic Candidate for Congress Bridget Fleming at a wine and cheese fundraiser Sunday, March 15 at the home of Jane and Larry Tierney, 267 Beaver Dam Rd., Brookhaven Hamlet, 4 p.m. RSVP to tierneylarry2@gmail.com.

Career EDGE – Dress for Success® Brookhaven’s seminar series for women who are unemployed or underemployed that focuses on personal and professional development, held at Brookhaven Town Hall, April 1, 8, 15, 22, 30 and Wednesday, May 6, 9:30 a.m. to 2 p.m. To register, call 631-451-9127.

Pathways to Success – Learn to code in 6 months with this free software engineering program offered by Brookhaven Town, Monday through Friday, at Syosset Facility, starting March 2, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Upon acceptance into the program, participants will be provided with additional scholarship benefits. To learn about the program, visit www.code.nebulaacademy.com.

South Country Pre-K, Kindergarten – The South Country Central School District will conduct registration for the 2020-21 school year from March 2 through March 27. For information, call 631-730-1617 or visit the district website at www.southcountry.org.

Defensive Driving – American Safety Inc., 6-hour course at Henrietta Acampora Rec

Center, Blue Point, on Saturday, March 28, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Fee: \$25 for senior citizens, veterans and handicapped, and \$40 for non-residents and all others. To register, call 631-363-5193.

Food Bank Collection – Medford Multi-care Center for Living, 3115 Horseblock Road in Medford, has a continuous nonperishable food drive collection for Long Island Cares. Drop off donations in the lobby. Call Debbie at 631-730-3075 for information.

INN Soup Kitchen – St. Joseph the Worker Church, 510 Narragansett Ave., East Patchogue serves home-cooked meals every Tuesday night, 6-7 p.m. No reservations needed. All welcome. Not handicapped accessible.

Free Food – Word of Life opens its food pantry every Tuesday at 6:30-8:30 p.m. for those in need. Sunday service is at 11 a.m. Bring photo I.D. for your first visit. Pantry located at 15 Frowein Rd., Bldg. F4 in Center Moriches. Call 631-208-4050 for more information.

Adult Mentors – Colonial Youth and Family Services is looking for adults who want to show an example of community involvement and pride. To get involved, call Ray Hopp at 631-281-4461.

Career Counseling – Patchogue-Medford Library career counseling appointments are available Monday evenings 5:45-8:45 p.m. Call 631-654-4700, ext. 248 for an appointment.

Thrift Shop – “The Barn” thrift shop at the Bayport Methodist Church, 482 Middle Rd., now features seasonal clothing, shoes, small appliances, toys and more. Open Thurs. to Sat.; 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. For additional information, call 631-472-2533.

Bottles for the Brave – Organizations,

churches, schools and gyms are invited to participate in collecting and contributing redeemable plastic water bottles to create a better life for our military and their families on Long Island. Help clean up the earth as well as support our troops. For information, call Pam at 631-394-6267.

Suicide Prevention & Crisis Care – Find a broad spectrum of counseling help from one of the trained mental health professionals at Family Service League. For a full list of services, visit www.fslhi.org or call 631-427-3700.

Passport Acceptance Facility – Patchogue-Medford Library can now process applications for a U.S. passport. Forms available at the library or online at: www.travel.state.gov. For information or to make an appointment, call 631-654-4700, ext. 213.

Immigration Counseling – Meet with an attorney who can answer your immigration questions at the Patchogue-Medford Library, Tuesdays, 3-7 p.m. Call 631-654-4700, ext. 228 for an appointment.

Computer Basics One-on-One – Get personalized assistance with computer basics at Patchogue-Medford Library, Tuesdays, 1-3 p.m. For an appointment, call 631-654-4700, ext. 152.

Vendors Wanted

April 4 – AMVETS Ladies Auxiliary Post #18 Craft and Vendor Sale fundraiser at the hall, 141 Carleton Ave., East Islip, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Call Gloria Morck at 631-277-9842.

May 23 – Yard Sale/Craft Fair at St. Mark’s Church, Islip, 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Call 516-459-2976.

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Tree Farm Manager F/T sought by Summerhill Landscapes, Inc. (Amagansett, NY) (2 pos). Monitor plant hlth & maturity; supv horticultural functions; dev budget. Reqts: BS in horticulture or arboriculture + 2 yrs exp. Must have knwl (thru edu, paid or unpaid internship, or prior work) in plant propagation & care, pruning, soil & plant disease control. Mail CV to: HR, Summerhill Landscapes, Inc., 6 Shaw Rd, Sag Harbor, NY 11963

Office Space

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Help Wanted

Help Wanted

Help Wanted

IT & EBusiness Consulting Services, Inc. has openings for the below positions:

Senior Data Engineer (ITE202001) with Bachelor's degree in Computer Science/Applications, Engineering (any), Technology or related and 5 yrs of exp to work on designing software solutions based on the technical requirements. Working on the Data Modeling and prepare the Physical database Design for the assigned projects. ETL jobs using Informatica and other ETL tools. Testing code to implement and review each step of the newly developed product. Writing scripts using Teradata utilities BTEQ, Fast load, Multiload.

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Suffolk County School District accepting applications. Salary: \$15/hour. Final candidates will be fingerprinted for mandatory SED clearance. Must stay in compliance and will be subject to random drug testing. Certification as per NYSED Regulations of the Commissioner Transportation Part 156. District will provide training, certification and recertification, as needed. This is a 10-month position, Monday through Friday, 25 Hours per week as follows: 5:45 a.m. - 9:00 a.m. and 2:15 p.m. - 4:30 p.m. (subject to change). Send resume and letter of interest before March 5, 2020 to: Emily Eckstrum, Director of Personnel
C/O Andrea Bustos de Romagna, Senior Office Assistant for Personnel
Bayport-Blue Point UFSD,
189 Academy Street, Bayport, NY 11705

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More Classifieds on the next page.

PUBLIC NOTICES CONTINUED FROM PAGE 23

irregularities in the proposals received, all in the best interests of the Town. The Town of Brookhaven welcomes and encourages minorities and women-owned businesses and HUD Section 3 businesses to participate in the bidding process.

LATE PROPOSALS WILL BE REJECTED
LIA, 20781, 2/27 I

LEGAL NOTICE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Architectural Review Board of the Incorporated Village of Patchogue, N.Y. will meet at the Municipal Building, 14 Baker Street, Patchogue, N.Y. on Tuesday, March 10, 2020 at 7:30 p.m. and will hold a public hearing for the purpose of reviewing the application received from:

Angel Quiroga, 219 East Main Street, seeks permission to erect new 20' x 22' wall sign on south elevation. Subject premises is located in the D-3 Business

Zone.
20-07
February 27, 2020
Karen Zorzenon,
Chairperson
Architectural Review Board
LIA, 20782, 2/27 I

INCORPORATED VILLAGE OF BELLPORT SUFFOLK COUNTY, NEW YORK

NOTICE TO BIDDERS SEALED BIDS will be received by the Authority at:
BELLPORT VILLAGE HALL
29 BELLPORT LANE
BELLPORT, NEW YORK 11713

For the Contract MUNICIPAL WATER-FRONT IMPROVEMENTS OF

ROCK DOCK, BROWNS LANE, OSBORN PARK BULKHEAD & FERRY DOCK

Received bids will be publicly opened and read aloud by the Clerk at: 1:00 PM ON MARCH 18

OF 2020
All Bids must be sealed and submitted in the pre-marked envelope provided with the Bid Documents or must be sealed and submitted in a package envelope **MARKED IN THE SAME WAY** as the pre-marked envelope provided with the Bid Documents.

There will be a voluntary on-site walkthrough at: 11:00 AM ON MARCH 6TH OF 2020 Meeting at: BELLPORT VILLAGE HALL
29 BELLPORT LANE
BELLPORT, NEW YORK 11713

Plans & Specifications Contract plans and specifications are available at the Village Hall on at 8 AM on March 2nd. A non-refundable fee of \$100.00 for the plans and specifications is required. Payment can be made by check, cash or money order. All previous addendums shall be provided electronically within 48 hours of receipt

of payment. Future addendums shall be provided only to companies on the plan-holder list. Bonding & Insurance No bids shall be received unless made in writing on forms furnished, and unless accompanied by a Certified Check or Bid Bond made payable to the Village of Bellport for an amount not less than five (5%) percent of the Bid price.

Equal Opportunity The Authority is an Equal Opportunity employer. The Authority reserves the right to reject and declare invalid any or all bids and to waive any informalities or irregularities in the proposals received.
LIA, 20783, 2/27 I

LEGAL NOTICE OF ESTOPPEL

The bond resolution, summary of which is published herewith, has been adopted on December 16, 2019 and the validity of the obligations authorized

by such resolution may be hereafter contested only if such obligations were authorized for an object or purpose for which the Village of Bellport, Suffolk County, New York, is not authorized to expend money, or if the provisions of law which should have been complied with as of the date of publication of this notice were not substantially complied with, and an action, suit or proceeding contesting such validity is commenced within twenty days after the date of publication of this notice, or such obligations were authorized in violation of the provisions of the Constitution. Such resolution was subject to a permissive referendum. The period of time has elapsed for the submission and filing of a petition for a permissive referendum, and a valid petition has not been submitted and filed.

A complete copy of the resolution summarized

herewith is available for public inspection during regular business hours at the Office of the Village Clerk for a period of twenty days from the date of publication of this Notice.

Dated: Bellport, New York, February 25, 2020.

John E. Kocay
Village Clerk

BOND RESOLUTION DATED DECEMBER 16, 2019.

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING IMPROVEMENTS TO THE MUNICIPAL DOCK IN AND FOR THE VILLAGE OF BELLPORT, SUFFOLK COUNTY, NEW YORK, AT A MAXIMUM ESTIMATED COST OF \$2,600,000 AND AUTHORIZING, SUBJECT TO PERMISSIVE REFERENDUM, THE ISSUANCE OF \$2,600,000 SERIAL BONDS OF SAID VILLAGE TO PAY THE

COST THEREOF.
Specific object or purpose: Improvements to the municipal dock
Maximum estimated cost: \$2,600,000
Period of probable usefulness: Twenty years

Amount of obligations to be issued: \$2,600,000 bonds

LIA, 20784, 2/27 I

VILLAGE OF BELLPORT BOARD OF TRUSTEES NOTICE OF SPECIAL BOARD MEETING

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that Bellport Village Board of Trustees will be holding a Special Board Meeting on Tuesday March 3, 2020 at 6:00pm in Village Hall, located at 29 Bellport Lane, Bellport NY 11713. Following will be a Budget Work Session at Village Hall.

All interested parties are welcome
John Kocay
Village Clerk
LIA, 20785, 2/27 I

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The Long Island Advance

Your Hometown Paper

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<p>Landscaping</p> <p>STEVEN F. UHRIE LANDSCAPING Snowplowing, Shrub Pruning, Clean Ups, Log Splitting. HI - 62748 631-560-0913</p>	<p>Finance</p> <p>DENIED SOCIAL SECURITY Disability? Appeal! If you're 50+, filed SSD and denied, our attorneys can help! Win or Pay Nothing! Strong, recent work history needed. 866-979-0096 [Stappacher Law Offices LLC Principal Office: 224 Adams Ave Scranton PA 18503]. {N}</p>	<p>Entertainment</p> <p>The South Bay Band www.facebook.com/southbaybandli • Mike 631-579-1538 Playing the classic rock you love</p>	<p>Adoption</p> <p>ADOPTION Adopting Your Newborn Is Life's Greatest Gift Your baby will be loved and cherished forever. Expenses paid EDITE 646-241-8730</p>	<p>Health</p> <p>Life Alert I'm never alone Life Alert® is always here for me even when away from home. One touch of a button sends help fast, 24/7. Help at Home Help On-the-Go FIRST AID KIT FREE! WHEN YOU ORDER! Batteries Never Need Charging.</p> <p>For a FREE brochure call: 1-800-404-9776</p>	<p>Health</p> <p>DENTAL Insurance Physicians Mutual Insurance Company FREE Information Kit A less expensive way to help get the dental care you deserve! CALL NOW! 1-855-225-1434 Get help paying dental bills and keep more money in your pocket This is real dental insurance - NOT just a discount plan You can get coverage before your next checkup Don't wait! Call now and we'll rush you a FREE Information Kit with all the details. www.dental50plus.com/nypress MB17-NM003Ec</p>
<p>SHOP LOCALLY!</p> <p>Antiques & Collectibles</p> <p>WANTED: RARE RECORD COLLECTIONS, Autographs, memorabilia, obscure artists. All sizes/categories. Housecalls, drop-offs. All About Records 396 Rockaway Ave. #E Valley Stream Chuck 516-945-7705 groupsound@aol.com. {N}</p> <p>Auto Donations</p> <p>DONATE YOUR CAR to Wheels For Wishes, benefiting Make-A-Wish. We offer free towing and your donation is 100% tax deductible. Call (631) 317-2014 Today! {N}</p>	<p>For Sale</p> <p>PRIVACY HEDGES -SPRING BLOWOUT SALE 6ft Arborvitae Reg \$179 Now \$80 Beautiful, Nursery Grown. FREE Installation/FREE delivery, Limited Supply! ORDER NOW: 518-536-1367 www.lowcosttreefarm.com. {N}</p> <p>ADVERTISE YOUR ESTATE or YARDSALE! IN YOUR HOMETOWN PAPER! 631-475-1000</p>			<p>Health</p> <p>SAVE ON YOUR NEXT PRESCRIPTION! World Health Link. Price Match Guarantee! Prescriptions Required. CIPA Certified. Over 1500 medications available. CALL Today For A Free Price Quote. 1-866-569-7986 Call Now! {N}</p>	<p>Health</p> <p>LIVE PAIN FREE with CBD products from AceWellness. We guarantee highest quality, most competitive pricing on CBD products. Softgels, oils, skincare, Vape & more. Coupon Code: PRINT20 1-844-532-2950. {N}</p>

FROM THE ARCHIVES OF THE LONG ISLAND ADVANCE

Keatings celebrate silver wedding anniversary

75 Years Ago

FEBRUARY 1945

Mrs. Arthur R. Edwards of Cedar Avenue has received word that her husband, Sgt. **Arthur R. Edwards**, has arrived safely somewhere in Belgium.

At the meeting Tuesday afternoon of Girl Scout Troop 10 in the Patchogue Jewish Center, the girls entertained their mothers. Miss **Marion Young** of Bellport, Girl Scout committee chairman, was a guest. The girls were taught folk dancing by Mrs. **A. McCord** of the Medford Avenue School.

Miss **Catherine E. Johnson** of Thorne Street spent the holiday and weekend visiting Miss **Edna Dilger** of Reading, Pa., her former roommate at West Chester State Teachers College.

Mr. and Mrs. **Frank Astone** of Cleveland Street have announced the engagement of their daughter, Miss **Teresa Astone**, to Master Sgt. **Dominick Spaccarotella**, son of Mr. and Mrs. **Frank Spaccarotella** of Waverly Avenue. Sgt. Spaccarotella, who has just returned after three years of service in Panama, is spending five days here before leaving for a new assignment in the state of Washington.

T/Sgt. **William Biggs** of the Marine Corps arrived last Tuesday to spend 30 days with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. **Wilbur Biggs** of Mulford Street, after serving a year and four months in the South Pacific area. He has been awarded two presidential citations for participation in the battles at Guadalcanal and Guam.

The faculty of Patchogue High School once again showed the Varsity Club basketball players how it is done, by whipping the latter, 29-20, last Thursday evening in the school gym. **Ed Rant** led the winners with 13 tallies, while **Gus Bauts** paced the

Varsity with 9. In the special boxing matches held before the game, the results were: **Recchio** vs. **Thomas**, draw; **Benincase** kayoed **Hughes**; **Ransome** scored a technical kayo over **Stauss**.

Gloria Gallo and **Lois Nagle** recently entertained the members of Girl Scout Troop 5 at a Valentine party. Next week the girls will start lessons in repairing old lampshades under the direction of Miss Anthony. **Marlene Slessinger**, **Lillian Cameron** and **Rosemarie Felice** were recently admitted to membership.

Miss **Vivian Rose**, who has been spending a week with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. **Donald Rose** of Washington Avenue, left today for Boston, Mass., to resume her studies at Tufts College, where she is a junior.

50 Years Ago

FEBRUARY 1970

A triple birthday was celebrated by **John, Jeanette** and **James De Lucia**, triplet children of Mr. and Mrs. **Mario De Lucia** of Wilmarth Street, Patchogue. The three tots were 6 years old Sunday. They have an older brother, Mario, 11, and a sister, Gayle, who is 9.

A cherry pie festival was held at Nesenger Chevrolet in Patchogue over the George Washington Birthday weekend. Scores of people responded to the invitation to come in for free cherry pie.

Mr. and Mrs. **William E. Keating Sr.** of Bay Avenue were given a surprise reception at the Patchogue Yacht Club Feb. 14, in honor of their 25th wedding anniversary, by their son-in-law and daughter, Mr. and Mrs. **Bruce Seaman** of Westminster, Mass., and their son and daughter-in-law, Mr. and Mrs. **William E. Keating** of Bay Avenue. The reception, replete with all the bridal trimmings and attended by 50 people, was a first

for the couple, whose original wedding day was held during war times.

One of 38 students named to the Dean's List at Finch College, New York City, for the first semester of the present academic year, is Miss **Kathryn Modica**, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. **George S. Modica** of North Ocean Avenue. Miss Modica, a junior at the college, is majoring in Italian.

Miss **Deborah Winans** of North Prospect Avenue is a participant in the Yankton College Opera Workshop, which presented "Cosi Fan Tutte" comic opera by Mozart, last Thursday, Friday and Saturday.

Past presidents of the Bay Avenue School PTA were given special recognition as the association celebrated Founder's Day at its February meeting. Mrs. **Eunice Jones**, who served as president in 1929-30, received a corsage from the current president, Mrs. **Mary Roberts**.

In training in the field of electronics is Airman **Franklin Wilson** of Patchogue. He is serving at Shaw AFB, S.C.

Mr. and Mrs. **Frank William Miskosky** of South Country Road, East Patchogue, observed their 50th wedding anniversary in two celebrations. The first was at a family gathering at the Better 'Ole restaurant in Brookhaven hamlet last Saturday. The second celebration was at the home of their daughter, Mrs. **Theodore Bozotis**, East Setauket, Sunday, with many friends and family attending.

Mr. and Mrs. **Malcolm Johnson** of Country Club Road, Bellport, returned Monday from a trip to Baltimore, Md., where they visited Mrs. Johnson's relatives.

Mr. and Mrs. **Malcolm Fleming** of Academy Lane entertained at a family dinner party Saturday in honor of Mrs. Fleming's mother, Mrs. **Henriette Heins** of Amityville, celebrating her 80th birthday. Also attend-

ing the party were her son and daughter-in-law, Mr. and Mrs. **Robert W. D. Heins** of Patchogue, six grandchildren and one great-grandchild.

Brian W. Smith, son of Mr. and Mrs. **Roland F. Smith**, has qualified as an associate member in the American Society of Civil Engineers. He is at present working on his master's degree, majoring in the field of hydraulics at the University of Missouri at Rolla.

John Ince Jr., son of Mr. and Mrs. John Ince of Browns Lane, has returned home after completing his four years of service in the U.S. Army Air Corps and receiving his official discharge. He served as a helicopter pilot.

Dr. and Mrs. **James Lennox** of Bieselin Road celebrated their 55th wedding anniversary with a few of their friends at their home Feb. 14.

E. Douglas Loesch, son of Mr. and Mrs. **Edmund Loesch** of Maple Street, Blue Point, has been named to the Dean's List at Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute, Troy, N.Y. He is a June 1969 graduate of James Wilson Young High School, Bayport, and a recipient of a Grumman Engineering scholarship.

Joining the Marine Corps on its new 180-day delay program is **John Hafemeister** of Blue Point, under which he has been guaranteed aviation training. A senior at James Wilson Young High School, he will leave for boot camp after his graduation in June.

Playing this week at the Patchogue Theatre: "Funny Girl," starring Barbra Streisand and Omar Sharif; at the **Plaza Theatre:** "Midnight Cowboy," with Dustin Hoffman and Jon Voight; and at the **Patchogue Sunrise All-Weather Drive-In:** "Gone With the Wind," one of the greatest screen classics of all time!

— Compiled by Debbie Zampariello

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The Long Island
ADVANCE

PATCHOGUE VILLAGE

Calling all vegans, and foodies too

Plant-based menu comes to Toast Coffeehouse

BY JACQUELINE ROUTH

Whether you're a lifelong carnivore looking to mix things up or a devout vegan eager for options beyond your standard veggie burger, Toast Coffeehouse has something to satisfy your hunger. I sat down with owner Terence Scarlatos, general manager Andre du Chaussee and head chef Sean Fass to dig into their new vegan menu and to learn more about the genesis of this endeavor.

This carefully curated menu boasts twists on a handful of Toast classics like the Twin Sister Burrito and the Vegan Vienna Chicken as well as options like the Tofu Scramble and Coconut Multi-Grain French Toast, which have been on the menu for quite some time.

Toast's move to incorporate vegan menu options is about more than being trendy or turning a profit. It's about making a conscious and deliberate effort to be mindful about ingredients and their impact on the health of their customer base, both physically and philosophically.

"It's not like we're making money on this anytime soon," laughed Scarlatos, "but we're okay with that."

"We recognized that our customer base was evolving and that we should along with it," added Fass, a meat-eater himself. "I have to be on top of everyone in the kitchen. I'm here to make people happy, even if it requires a more meticulous hand to ensure that our dishes are

truly vegan."

This journey began long before 2020 but really kicked up when Andre was promoted to general manager this year.

"I've been plant-based for about seven years," said du Chaussee.

Andre, affectionately known as Dre, was influential in bringing these dynamic new menu options to life.

"The last time I had a vegan sausage-and-egg burrito like this was five years ago on the West Coast. ... California is always a few steps ahead of New York when it comes to plant-based nutrition,

and we're trying to remain a few steps ahead of the competition here at Toast," he said.

"We want to be the best at it," echoed Scarlatos.

Mission accomplished. These were hands-down some of the most delicious and satisfying, full-flavored vegan dishes I've ever had. New menu items can be an adjustment, but Fass hasn't missed a beat.

"It's never easy to cook for a perpetually packed house, no matter what the menu consists of," explained Fass. "It's all about execution, which is why we launched this new menu with such care. Keeping it simple allows us to do it right and do it really well."

With four locations in Suffolk County,

Scarlatos seems to have perfected the recipe for success both on and off the menu. From the hostess stand to the back of the house, no one is left out of the magic. This establishment continues to invest in what matters: great food, quality ingredients and an ability to work as a team to cultivate a winning atmosphere.

WHAT ARE PLANT-BASED ALTERNATIVES?

As plant-based alternatives continue to make their way into fast food establishments, big-box chains including Burger King and Dunkin' have hitched a ride on the Impossible meat train. Toast, however, has opted to feature Beyond meat on its menu. Why? "While Impossible meat is comprised of primarily soy, Beyond Meat is made of pea protein and beets,"

general manager du Chaussee explained. There is a substantial difference between the two when you take a look at the ingredients side by side. Beyond Meat is made up of the aforementioned ingredients as well as mung bean protein, apple extract, coconut oil and lemon juice. Its counterpart, the Impossible brand, is made from genetically modified soy. While it's still a good source of fiber, calcium and potassium, those who suffer from soy allergies and anyone mindful of their soy intake would be wise to refrain.

Kids' options start at \$7.95, and full-sized adult meals range from \$12.95 to \$16.95 with all the fixings.

My favorite: Twin Sister Burrito with home fries

Location: 46 E. Main St., Patchogue



Head chef Sean Fass cooks the bean-based "eggs" inside the Toast kitchen.

Photo courtesy Shayna Ahrem

THE FAUX EGGS

And the eggs? "It's a bean that they've made to look and taste just like eggs," said owner Terence Scarlatos. They also contain less than 2 percent soy. ■

Wine and romance

PAC offers an evening celebrating art history and wine tasting

BY SAM DESMOND

Fittingly held post-Valentine's Day, the Patchogue Arts Council's popular "Wining About Art" series section on Romanticism came after the holiday of sappy hearts and flowers. A bit of a misnomer, the Romantic period of art, as event attendees learned, was characterized not by the sweet notions we have come to associate with the word "romantic" but rather an introspection into all the natural and carnal facets of the spirit of man.

Opening the lecture on Saturday evening, Feb. 22, was a series of famous "kisses" by masters of the period including Gustav Klimt and Edvard Munch. Contrasting the previous neoclassical era's staid and dignified images, Prof. John Cino dove into the overwhelming passion characterized by the Romantic period that held the intuitive heart over the reticent mind. The first "wine" to sample for the evening was aptly not a wine but a cider from England. Unlike most ciders that are made from apples, the Dunkertons Organic Perry was made from traditional varieties of Perry pears and described as pouring "golden and slightly hazily" (in line with the great works of J.M.W. Turner, whose moving color play always belied a shining sun amidst the pain of memory).

"[Turner] was known to have tied himself to the masts of ships to get the



The archetypal painting of the Romantic era, Henry Fuseli's "The Nightmare" delves into the subconscious to reveal a madness unseen in the daytime.

experience of the weather," said Cino about the extremes of Romantic artists in understanding nature's influence on the world.

Romantic masters, attuned and excited to the exotic and the natural, were drawn to ethereal landscapes such as the works of German artist Caspar David Friedrich, which featured a martyred Jesus on the cross in the midst of a forest for his altarpiece, "Tetschen Altar."

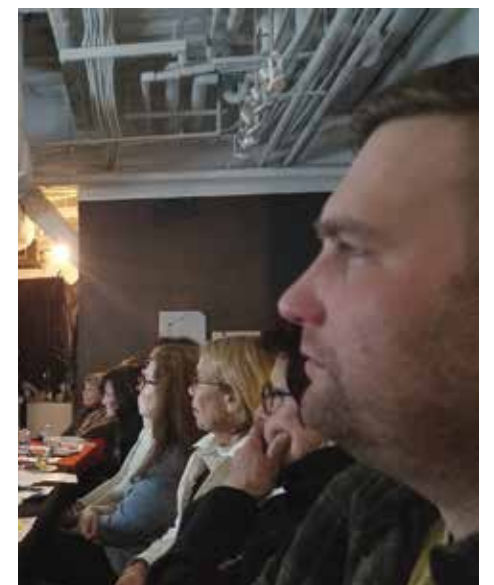
"The crucifix in the landscape is not central to the painting," said Cino of the ecclesiastical yet almost magical realism piece.

These works were matched with the characteristically sweet Rieslings of Ger-

many. The Dr. Loosen Riesling Kabinett Blue Slate 2018 was "floral-style, with a delicate profile, showing notes of orchard blossom, candied lime and pear." Pairing well with Asian cuisine, the wine was indicative of Romantic masters who had just begun to take in the richness of Eastern cultures and express them in their paintings, such as in the works of Eugene de la Croix or Jean Auguste Dominique Ingres's "Grand Odalisque," featuring beauties influenced from cultures abroad.

Ending the evening was a sojourn into the American interpretation of Romanticism with the Hudson River School. With allegorical paintings and represen-

tations of Native American inhabitants of the land, the masters of this region painted everything from mythological scenes to studies in illumination. Paired with sweets from the sumptuous Made-moiselle of Patchogue Bakery, which included heavenly meringues and Sansa Stark-approved lemon cakes, the Millbrook Riesling Late Harvest 2016 was a dessert wine capturing the intensity of passion and the unbounded nature discussed of the Romantic era. ■



With a full house, "Wining About Art: Romanticism" had an attentive audience that learned about the Romantic era's focus on nature, the exotic and the sublime.

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