

The Long Island ADVANCE

Rumbles, roars, screams at The Gateway's Mott Farmhouse



Photos credit Rob Seifert

BY LINDA LEUZZI

Uh oh! The suspected murderer Jeb-ediah Mott is still lurking in Bellport.

Is he in the kitchen overseeing bloody entrails on the table? Did he pop out from the window en route to the "Welcome to Our Home" sign? What about that scarecrow? Funny how he looks like a neighbor we knew. And that booming thunder noise.

Prokofiev's classic "Dance of the Knights," it ain't.

Over 100 people will pitch in as scary professional and volunteer actors, macabre lighting and sound experts, technical assistants and "helpers," to guide you through The Gateway's Haunted Playhouse, a terrifying maze of twists and turns past "Fear Flaps" through the old Mott Farmhouse. It's a two-week fundraiser that runs through Oct. 31.

Haunt director Michael Baker gave us the detailed scoop on the theme on the Friday afternoon of its inaugural night.

"There was a horrible event here years ago and the Mott Farm closed. The son of the farmer took revenge on the people who bullied his sister," explained Baker. "He killed them, stuffed their bodies dressed as scare-

See **HAUNTED PLAYHOUSE** on page 11

Council map with least change adopted

Over 40 speakers
express concerns
during public hearing

BY NICOLE FUENTES

The Town of Brookhaven held a public hearing to discuss the commission's proposed map on Thursday, Sept. 29, to amend Chapter 27 entitled "Procedures for Ballot Propositions Proposing Ward (Council) Districts and Reapportionment." Directly following the hearing, the town board approved the new map, which will set council district lines for the next 10 years.

According to the town, the new map maintains the vast majority of residents without change, meaning 90.55 percent will remain in the same council district from the last cycle. The map also improves compactness, with 100 percent of North Bellport now existing within District 4; currently, a portion is in District 5. The change, according to the town, was done in response to the community's request over the past several years to be represented by a single council member, as well as the increase in the minority population in every district when compared to the 2010 population. Additionally, the new map has 10 split hamlets in comparison to the current 13 split communities. The communities to remain split will remain so, due to community requests to maintain likeminded neighborhoods rather than zip codes. These communities include Coram, which will remain split in order to maintain Gordon Heights as a community, while zip code 11720 will remain with Centereach, including South Setauket Park. Also, the new map reduces the number of school districts that are split from nine to four.

Initially, at the start of the over three-hour public hearing, the sole Democratic councilmember, Jonathan Kornreich, intensely questioned the mapmaker, Dan Schaefer, from Skyline Consulting, and scrutinized the process.

"I would not have supported a map

See **DISTRICT MAP** on page 7

Pizza prodigy: The young entrepreneur

2020 William Floyd
graduate opens newly
renovated pizzeria

BY SHANA BRAFF

In September, the vacant space which was most recently the location for Aliyana's Pizzeria, at 520 Mastic Road in Mastic Beach, reopened under new ownership. While various establishments opening in this location is nothing new, the fact that the new sole owner is Anthony Miller, a 19-year-old, 2020

graduate of William Floyd High School, is something to take note of, as it's not every day that someone so young has the drive, vision, and determination to open their own business, especially with the odds seemingly stacked against him.

However, this doesn't seem to deter the excitement of Miller, his proud mother, Bettyann—who works there on Fridays and Saturdays—or his large extended family, who was there to support him in his new business venture while enjoying the delicious fruits of this labor of love, on Sept. 7, when they had a

See **PIZZA PRODIGY** on page 16



Anthony Miller at work doing his dream job.

Courtesy Photo




PATCHOGUE VILLAGE

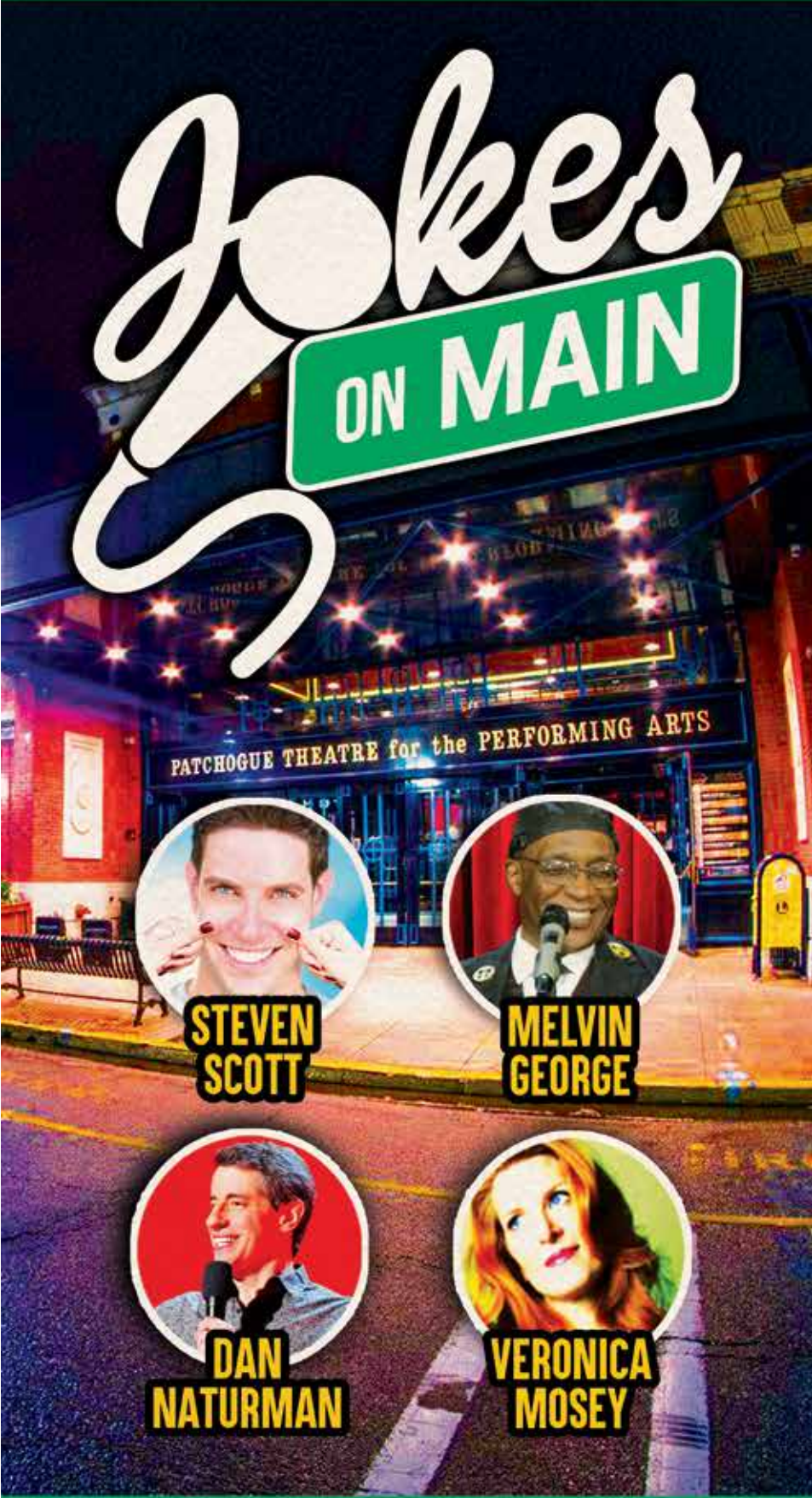
Hispanic Heritage parade rescheduled PAGE 3

Site of George Washington visit confirmed PAGE 6

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SCAN TO PURCHASE



Legendary jazz saxophonist to be honored

On Wednesday, Oct. 12, two legends will come together for one memorable night of music. That's the night Long Island's longest-running jazz jam pays tribute to Long Island Music Hall of Fame honoree and Guinness World Record holder Pat DeRosa, who at nearly 101 is the oldest professional sax man in America.

For more than 25 years, musicians from the local area, New York City and beyond have found their way to the regular Wednesday night jam at East Patchogue's Dunton Inn to sit in with the Bill Rignola Quartet and test their chops in this freewheeling jam. Rignola, a saxophonist who celebrates his 89th birthday in October, has welcomed and mentored dozens of young musicians and singers hungry for opportunities to improvise with seasoned players in an open jam setting. Meanwhile, DeRosa, who among other accomplishments taught music in the Huntington public schools, has also mentored many young musicians while also playing professionally.

"As the oldest jazz jam on Long Island, I thought it was high time we honored the oldest professional sax man in the country, who just happens to live right here in our local community," said Rignola. "I'm looking forward to playing with Pat. It should be quite a night."



PAT DeROSA
and his Orchestra

This special event gets underway at 8 p.m. and is open until 11 p.m. to musicians who would like to play with Rignola and DeRosa. The Dunton Inn is located on the corner of South Country Road and Dunton Avenue in East Patchogue, NY. No reservations required and no cover charge to play.

Courtesy photo

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First-ever Hispanic Heritage parade rescheduled

Prominent community members set to be honored

BY SHANA BRAFF

The first-ever Hispanic Heritage Parade on Main Street, which was scheduled for Sunday, October 2, at noon, was postponed due to inclement weather, and will now be held on Sunday, Oct. 23 at noon.

Patchogue's first Hispanic trustee Lizbeth Carrillo was one of the main organizers of this event, which she explained is expected to be the largest parade in the village in its inaugural year, even surpassing the Christmas parade which is historically the biggest one in the community. Clearly, this is an

event that is long overdue in the area, and which has garnered overwhelming support, not just from the Hispanic community, but also from the entire village.

Carrillo explained that the grand marshal, Joselo Lucero, was selected for this honor because of his activism, which began in 2008, extending his anti-bias and anti-bullying message to thousands of schools, places of worship, and community organizations across Long Island.

"We're talking about a different world than we are in now. Back in 2008, there were reports, and everything, showing that a lot of immigrant communities were in the shadows, and how we are today; I think it's like full circle," she said. "We were in the shadows, and now in 2022, we're on Main Street."

The parade's ambassador will be Maria Giustizia. She is the superin-

tendent of the Parks and Recreation Department for the village.

"I'm the one behind the scenes typically. I oversee all the parades," she said, proud of the honor. "My grandfather was Mexican. He was from the Yucatan, and my grandmother was from Puerto Rico. My great-grandfather was a Spaniard from the Canary Islands in Spain."

While this is the first Hispanic Heritage parade in the village, it is not the first time that the Hispanic community has been an integral part of the parades in Patchogue. MaryAnn Rivera-Nugent will be honored at the upcoming parade on behalf of her grandmother, "Doña" Isabel Rodriguez, who was instrumental in organizing the Hispanic float in the Fourth of July parades held in the village during the late 1970s. This was in addition to a variety of advocacy she

was active in on behalf of the Hispanic community in the area, despite being a Puerto Rican immigrant who barely spoke any English and had only had a third-grade education.

"She came by herself. She was in her late 20s. She had children [already], and she came to New York and started working as a beautician at a beauty salon," said Rivera-Nugent, who lived with her grandmother in Patchogue and participated in parades with her as a girl. Rivera-Nugent witnessed how the whole community knew her and honored her with the title "Doña Isabel," which was a sign of the highest respect.

Rodriguez will be honored posthumously, as an early example of the contributions that the Hispanic community has brought to the Village of Patchogue, often going unnoticed, for almost a century. ■



(Left to right) At one of the events organized by Isabel Rodriguez in Patchogue in 1984: Pictured with MaryAnn Rivera-Nugent, her older daughter Raquel, and her mother Alicia Rivera, who met Rivera-Nugent's father at the Hispanic Social Club that Rodriguez started in Patchogue around 1960.



A page from a scrapbook that Isabel Rodriguez kept (she always managed to have professional photographers willing to donate their time to document her events and community outreach for posterity). On the bottom left is an image of the Goya float that Rodriguez managed to get for the Fourth of July parade in Patchogue circa 1976.



Maria Giustizia, the ambassador of the first Hispanic Heritage parade in Patchogue and the supervisor of the village's Parks and Recreation Department. Courtesy Photos

Grand marshal will be activist Joselo Lucero

Parade to be held on Sunday Oct. 23

BY SHANA BRAFF

When senseless tragedy strikes in life, we have two options: we can either succumb to overwhelming grief and helplessness, or we can mourn for our loss, and then use what transpired as fuel to contribute to making the world a better place with a renewed sense of purpose and determination in the belief that it's possible to prevent the unthinkable from happening again through awareness, activism, and outreach.

Joselo Lucero undoubtedly falls into the latter category, which is why he's being honored as grand marshal of the first-annual Hispanic Heritage parade on Main Street. The event was scheduled for this past Sunday, but due to the inclement weather, the much-anticipated and powerful promenade has been moved to Sunday, Oct. 23, beginning at noon.

Patchogue drew national scrutiny when Ecuadorean immigrant Marcelo Lucero was fatally stabbed on Nov. 8, 2008, in the village, after he and his friend were ambushed by seven teenagers who had gone out for the explicit purpose of finding Latinos to target for attack. The adolescents who came to be notoriously known by the moniker the "Patchogue 7" were each sentenced to varying amounts of prison time. Since then, Lucero has been a voice for the voiceless, engaging in activism on behalf of his brother and all those who have been, or could be, targets for hate crimes, harassment, or



Joselo Lucero giving one of his many presentations on diversity, anti-bias awareness and acceptance, while helping to give a voice to the previously voiceless.

Courtesy photo

bullying due to being viewed as different or "other" from the dominant culture or in-group.

This heartbreaking incident at least had a silver lining, leading to an unexpected career pivot for the articulate Lucero, who answered the calling to raise awareness about this growing blight, which was once hidden behind suburban picket fences and deep denial.

"It's an honor. I really appreciate it and am also really excited at beginning a new chapter. The Hispanic parade represents diversity in the community, but also more importantly, it's to show the community our culture and how we contributed to the United States," said Lucero. "The Spanish population is growing, and we are so diverse. Just the culture itself, starting even with the language, and also with the food, and it's amazing how the Hispanic community has contributed to this country with so many good things."

In the aim of his passionate commitment to preventing, or at least reducing,

attacks of a similar nature, Lucero joined the Hagedorn Foundation, which works to buttress his efforts to build a sustainable outreach program which educates, challenges, informs, and persuades toward the ultimate objective of leading to a decrease in hate crimes across Long Island. Program components encompass presentations given to audiences ranging from middle and high school students to members of faith communities and even reaching out to national conferences. Lucero accompanies his compelling personal trajectory and adept communication skills with auxiliary materials to bring his message to life, including videos, documentaries, PowerPoint slides, photos and more.

Since joining the Hagedorn Foundation in 2011, Lucero has presented to more than 1,000 students, teachers, and community leaders, in addition to being a part of a dozen national conferences. His laudable work has earned him regional and national acclaim and appreciation. He was a recipient of the New York Civil Liberties Union (NYCLU) Equality Award in 2010, recognized by the Central American Refugee Center (CARECEN) in 2011, named a 40 under 40 Rising Star by the Hispanic Coalition of New York in 2012, and received the Joseph McNeil Award in 2014.

Among the national conferences he has been invited to attend and present at are the W.K. Kellogg Foundation America Healing Conference in North Carolina from the years 2010 to 2013; the National Hispanic Caucus of State Legislators in New Mexico in 2012; the American Association of Teachers of Spanish and Portuguese Annual Conference in Texas in 2013; and the American Federation of Teachers conference in Washington, D.C., in 2015.

Lucero's poignant message and unforgettable delivery has garnered accolades at notable events such as the Black Student Network conference at Teachers College in New York City and the Nassau and Suffolk County Human Rights conferences. Lucero has also given presentations at the Brooklyn School for Collaborative Studies, Facing History and Ourselves, Unity Day, the Rotary Club in Patchogue, and he also supports and participates in the LIFE Through My Eyes summer program in Patchogue, which was formed in response to Marcelo Lucero's death.

Marcelo encourages all students to share their personal narratives through digital storytelling. Part of the anti-bias and anti-violence advocate's mission is to aid in selecting the recipient for the Marcelo Lucero Award Scholarship, housed at two local schools on Long Island, as well as the Fera Lucero Scholarship, which is administered by the United Nations Plural Plus Film Festival.

Lucero was surprised to have been nominated for the position of grand marshal, but also acknowledges the crucial part he's played, especially in recent years, when it seems like the world has been more polarized than ever.

"I think I'm contributing to education, especially in schools, the last few years, when we have so much division and anger," he said. "I think a lot of people stereotype the immigrants in general, but you have to understand, everybody comes to this country just to make a better life, but also to contribute to society."

To find out more information or to contact Joselo Lucero regarding his advocacy and speaking engagements you can reach him at joselolucero@yahoo.com. ■

REVIEW

An East End staple with undeniably good ice cream

Over 30 homemade flavors at Magic Fountain

BY NICOLE FUENTES

Is it safe to assume almost every native Suffolk County Long Islander knows of, or has been to Magic Fountain in Mattituck? Though we all know the place with the painted-face ice cream cones and crazy good seasonal flavors, what you might not know is it originally opened at a Dairy Queen in 1966.

Since then, the original owners at the time weren't willing to compromise taste and made the switch to Magic Fountain. Over the years, it became one of only five surviving independently owned Magic Fountains in the country, including shops in Bay Ridge, New Jersey, and Florida.

Back in 2007, the current owner, Choudry Ali, known as simply "Ali," purchased the ice cream shop and brought it back to its roots of selling 100 percent homemade ice cream.

"My wife grew up in Mattituck and we saw the opportunity and bought it,"



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Owner Choudry Ali takes a break from ice cream making to pose with his servers.

he said, noting that they currently live nearby in Jamesport. "I always wanted to own my own business and create something unique."

After working hard for a couple of years, the Magic Fountain was transformed into what everyone currently loves and knows, with over 30 homemade flavors and dozens of seasonal ones, including beet ginger, fig and honey, sweet corn, coffee Oreo and caramel latte. But everyone's favorite is seemingly the Blue Cookie Monster.

Ali not only creates the recipes himself, but also handmakes them all on his own. His wife, Journey, who has another career, helps manage the office, and Ali has another employee who is his cake decorator, in addition to several servers.

"I have a lot of fun creating new flavors and meeting lots of great people—locals

and travelers from different states with stories. It's fun stuff," he said, proud of his business. "I appreciate our customers for keeping us in business all these years." ■



The Blue Cookie Monster ice cream and mocha chip. All photos adv/fuentes

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INSIDE

Around Town 9 **OpEd** 10
Classifieds 28 **Public Notices** 23
From the Archives 19 **Sports** 13 & 18
Obituaries 20

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Investigation indicates historic Hart's Tavern location

Historical Society partners with Premier Private Locating

BY LINDA LEUZZI

PATCHOGUE VILLAGE The Premier Private Locating truck pulled into Lakeview Cemetery on a drizzly Monday morning at 8 p.m. with Sal Cuce, a 35-year veteran, and trainee Brian Doyle.

Greater Patchogue Historical Society treasurer Steve Lucas, with other trustees, was waiting to start the Hart's Tavern search utilizing their equipment. President George Washington had documented in his diary that he dined at the tavern on April 22, 1790. A year after, Thomas Jefferson's diary also mentions Hart's Tavern in Patchogue as a stop en route to William Floyd's home, in Mastic Beach. Lucas's nonprofit was hoping to find remnants of the tavern's foundation.

Marketing specialist Noah Makely, whose family owns Premier in Bohemia, explained the process. "The equipment is a type of baby stroller, with a ground-penetrating radar device that emits radio waves 15 to 20 feet in the ground," he said.

If there's an object, or void, it shows up on a screen affixed to the handles.

"Most of the time, we're hired to find utility lines, or old gas tanks," Makely continued. "We've done a couple of historic searches in the past, but they were treasure-related. We did have someone



Greater Patchogue Historical Society treasurer Steve Lucas (center) confers with Premier Private Locating staffers Brian Doyle (left) and (right) Noah Makely at Lakeview Cemetery in a quest to find the exact location of Hart's Tavern, where President George Washington dined in 1790.

ADV/Leuzzi

from Sayville recently call us because he suspected a Civil War burial site in his backyard."

The Premier team tackled the east portion by the entrance of the cemetery off West Main Street, where there were no burials. First, they marked off areas where electric lines were located in red. Then pink flags started popping up, almost in a straight, line indicating a form. By 8:30 a.m., they had eight on the western end, six on the eastern end, in a grid formation.

"I'm looking at Sal," said Makely. "He's seeing consistent stuff. I'm trying to find foundational images on my phone to show him."

Cuce was beaming with his finds. "As I push it, the screen rolls with a footage counter," he said. "It keeps track of where you walk and if there's an anomaly, or form. The image looks like a heartbeat. It's 2 feet down, what we're finding. I'm definitely seeing something."

The formation of the finds was consistent; it wasn't rock after rock, Cuce explained.

"It's looking like a lengthwise line," added Doyle.

At least a dozen historical enthusiasts were there to view the process. Greater Patchogue Chamber of Commerce executive director David Kennedy was one of them. "There's been a lot of speculation about the Hart's Tavern location," Kennedy said. "It would be nice if they find something."

Friends of Bellport Bay co-founder Thomas Schultz had driven over, as well as Rob Fleming, who gives cemetery and Main Street tours and was filming a synopsis of the Premier process

with Lucas for his Eastport-South Manor High School class.

The Daughters of the American Revolution, Col. Josiah Smith Chapter, placed a monument on the west side of the cemetery in 1925 about Hart's Tavern, without knowing its exact location. In 1999, GPHS added a New York State marker.

GPHS and Lakeview Cemetery volunteer Arlene Capobianco, who's performed many cleanups with husband, Christopher, was one of the first to arrive. "Arlene has been the dedicated researcher on Hart's Tavern," pointed out Lucas.

"I've found that Gilbert Hart owned this property," she said, getting the information from the Suffolk County Historian's Office. "We have him owning the property, and there were buildings on it which he would have had to own. I've gone back as far as 1719."

The team headed a bit north. "I asked them to extend the area," Lucas said. "There are stories there may have been more than one structure, thanks to Arlene." There was no eureka moment, however.

But Lucas was happy with the findings.

"We found definite evidence of a structure there. Taverns were always built close to a main road, and since it was the only evidence of a structure found, and it was on the property owned by Gilbert Hart as researched by Arlene, I'm pretty confident it was Hart's Tavern," Lucas said. "Also, 100 years after Hart's Tavern there was Elizabeth Oakes Smith home. It was called The Willows, which stood in the same area, so it has to be the same thing." ■



Premier Private Locating lead technician specialist Sal Cuce utilizes the ground-penetrating radar device to detect a foundation for Hart's Tavern, as Premier marketing specialist Noah Makely looks on. The flags denote a formation.

ADV/Leuzzi

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Retirement community proposed for Sipp Avenue

Town passes change of zone for development

BY NICOLE FUENTES

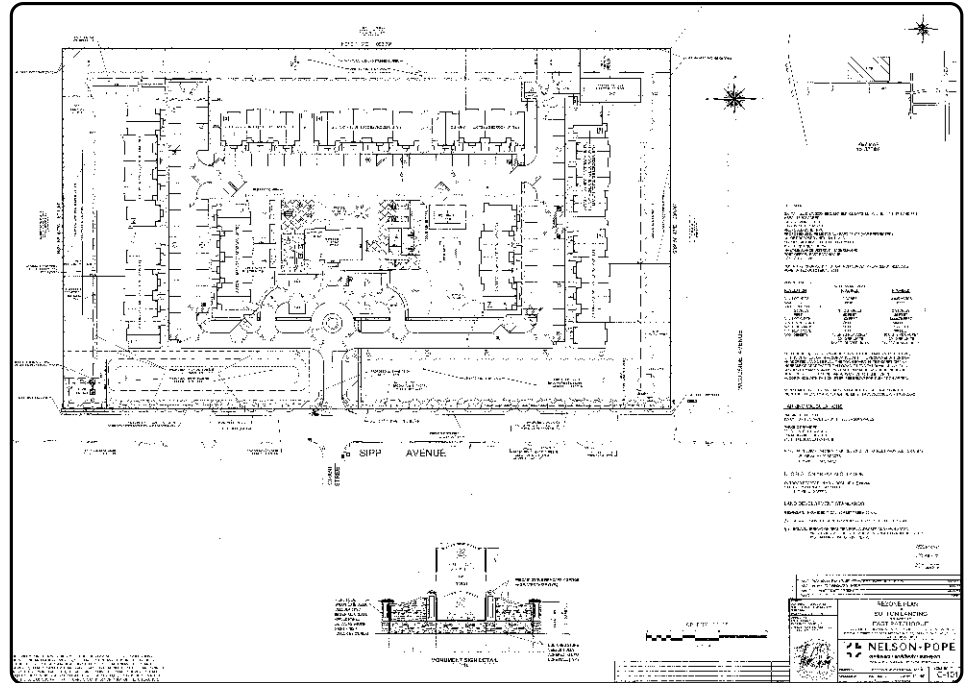
The Town of Brookhaven passed a change of zone as well as a change of covenant for the proposed planned retirement community residence, Sutton Landing, to be located on Sipp Avenue in East Patchogue.

The resolution granted the application a change of zone from Planned Retirement Congregate Housing Community

to Planned Retirement Community Residence District and Amendment.

The developers have committed to a 100-foot natural and/or substantially landscaped front yard along the frontage of Sipp Avenue, with the exception of access and a 40-foot buffer along the southerly and westerly side and rear yards. The facility will be limited to one unit per 2,000 square feet and not more than three-stories (50 feet) in height. The premises will be kept at no more than 139 units including amenities such as a pool, club house, pickleball courts, cornhole, a putting green, and walking paths.

Prior to the removal of the covenant, according to the town and the developer,



the area allowed for 300 units. However, with this proposal, there will be 139 units. Despite the change in density, a few members of the public spoke with concerns over traffic on Sipp Avenue.

The board passed the change of zone immediately following the public hearing.

Starbucks approved for Route 112

In addition, during the meeting, the

town board approved an application of 718 Medford LLC for a Change of Zone from J Business 2 to J Business 5, for a special permit for a Starbucks with an accessory drive-through on the west side of Route 112 just south of Woodside Avenue in Patchogue. During the meeting, councilman Neil Foley promised there would be no entrances or exits on Old Medford.

File photos

Sandspit Marina fully renovated

The joint project between the Village of Patchogue and Town of Brookhaven has been recently completed. Though it did remove some old trees to create more parking, the town made good on their promise to add green space.

Over the last few years, the Town of

Brookhaven has invested about \$1.5 million into the revitalization of Sandspit Marina with the addition of a new bulkhead, pavement, and a renovated ferry building.

Last year, according to councilman Neil Foley, the bathrooms were demolished and were rebuilt. This year, they also completed the paving portion, which also included new drainage.



Photo courtesy Patti Kelly

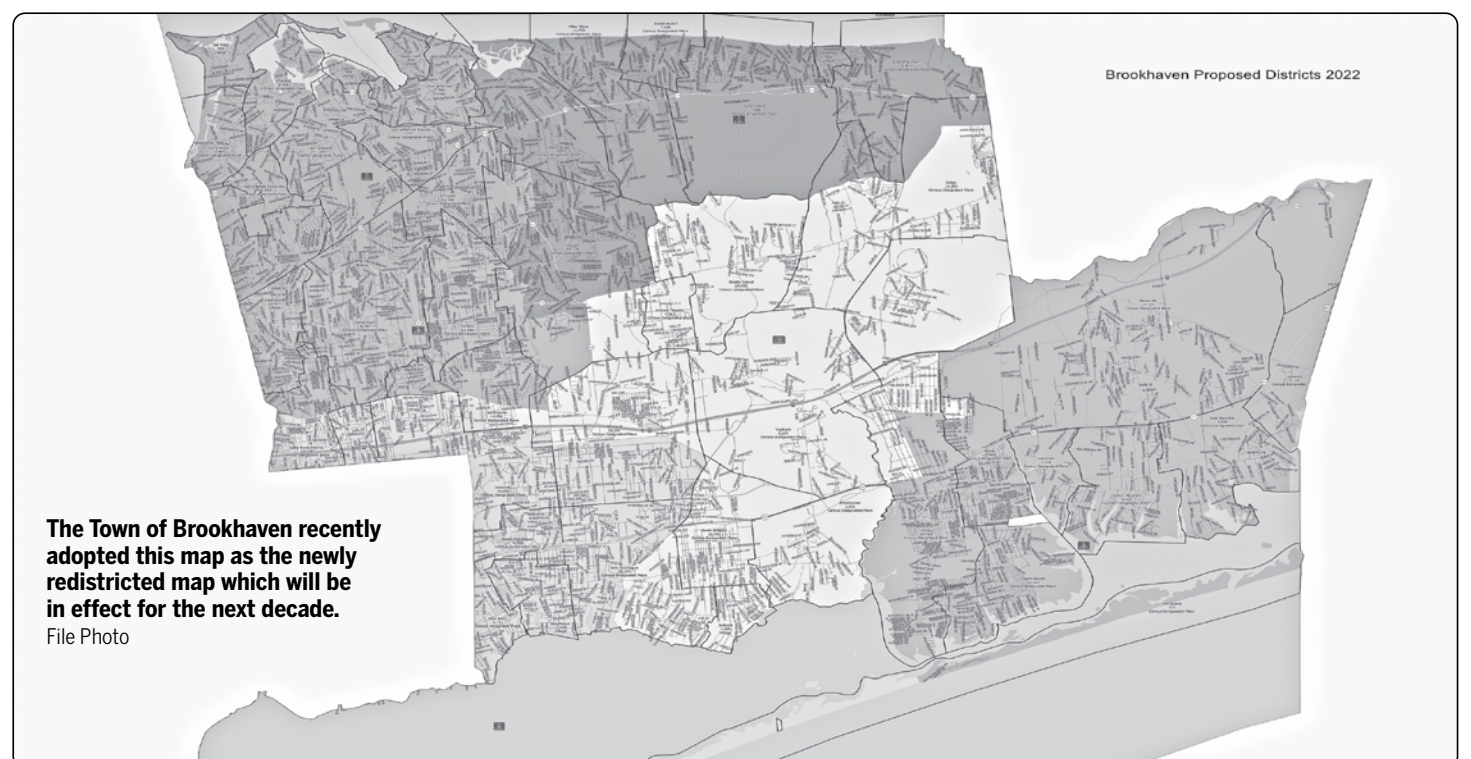
DISTRICT LINES: New map adopted for next 10 years

FROM PAGE 1

that undermines the voice of communities of color," he said. "[Despite the deeply flawed process,] this map represents a true compromise and gives everyone something to be unhappy about."

However, he acknowledges the map was the map with least change and did not contain any gerrymandering. He then voted yes to the map as part of a unanimous 7-0 vote. He also suggested that the board will consider fixing the process for the future.

Directly following the discussion, over 40 members spoke during the hearing, including several scripted responses from both sides of the political spectrum. Many of the speakers spoke on behalf of the Coram area, which is the only district split in four. Additional speakers spoke about minority populations with concerns of diluting their voice/voting power. Other speakers spoke in favor of maintaining Gordon Heights as a whole, as well as Middle Island. Others also questioned the process in which the commission conducted the redistricting while also suggesting the Brookhaven NAACP should have been considered. ■



The Town of Brookhaven recently adopted this map as the newly redistricted map which will be in effect for the next decade.

File Photo

HISTORICAL CORNER

Bellport-Brookhaven Historical Society Walking Tour

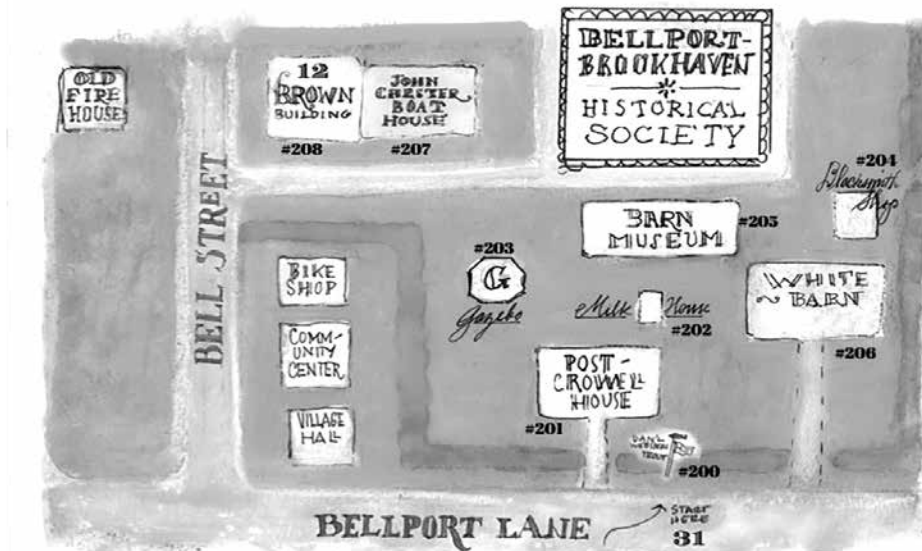
BY MARIANA DOMINGUEZ

Each week, reporter and history-lover Mariana Dominguez visits a historical location on the South Shore or attends a local lecture on historical topics. This week, she did the Bellport Brookhaven Historical Society Walking Tour of the eight sites and buildings on the society's grounds.

I was so excited to finally get to do the walking tour of the Bellport-Brookhaven Historical Society's home at 31 Bellport Lane. The Bellport-Brookhaven Historical Society and the Post-Morrow Foundation created three audio walking tours, and this was the last one I did. This specific tour was of the society's Post-Crowell House and the house's surrounding buildings and features.

To listen to the tour, visitors call a phone number and input the number of the stop they would like to learn more about. There is a handy map on the society's website that helps guide visitors. The Post-Crowell House tour features eight stops and begins at the flagpole at 31 Bellport Lane. According to the tour, the flagpole bears a gilded replica of a trout fish that is inspired by the story that Daniel Webster caught a trout in the area that weighed a whopping 14 and a half pounds.

The next stop on the tour is the Post Crowell House, which was built in 1833 by shipbuilder Hiram Post. The last resident of the house was one of the founders of the historical society and gifted the home to the society in 1967. Behind the home is the milk house, which helped keep food fresh and is original to the home. The gazebo on the property is a recent copy of the original gazebo on the property, which came from Bellport Lane. After several rounds of restoration, the original gazebo was unable to be further restored and the duplicate was built. A fun stop on the tour is the blacksmith shop, which features a large selection of tools dating back to the Civil War. In addition, there is the Barn Museum



The map showing all of the stops on the audio tour.

Courtesy photo



The Post-Crowell House is owned by the Bellport-Brookhaven Historical Society. ADV/Dominguez

Shopping event!

On Saturday and Sunday, Oct. 8 and 9, the Bellport Chamber of Commerce will be hosting Discover Bellport, encouraging visitors to come explore dining and shopping in the beautiful village.



um that was moved from the municipal town lot on Bellport Lane in 1972 and holds exhibits in the first-floor horse stalls that shows what life was like years ago. The final stop on the tour is the Brown Building, which was built in the last quarter of the 19th century. It was bequeathed to the society in 1970.

Distance-wise, this tour is the shortest and most manageable of the audio tours offered by the society. It is a great chance to get outside and learn about local places. To access the map and number for the audio tour, visit bbhsmuseum.org.

Coming up next at the society will be a visit to Ketcham Inn in Center Moriches on Saturday, Oct. 8. For more information, visit bbhsmuseum.org. ■

Homecoming season is approaching!

Stock photo



BY SHANA BRAFF

Few things besides the changing colors of the leaves and, more recently,

pumpkin spice lattes, are more synonymous with early autumn than high school football season, and with it the timeless rites of passage of the home-

coming parade, game, and concurrent fall festivities such as the memorable homecoming dance and the crowning of the local king and queen of the high school scene. The *LI Advance* has compiled, for your convenience, a list of all the homecoming games occurring at local districts, as well as any associated events and parades, which you may wish to attend or volunteer to participate in, as we welcome this cozy school- and community-spirited season.

South Country

Saturday, Oct. 22, there will be a parade at 11 a.m. followed by the big game at 2 p.m. at Bellport High School. The theme of the day will be the global and cosmopolitan-inspired "Cities of the World."

William Floyd

Homecoming is scheduled for Saturday, Oct. 15. The festivities will kick off on Friday, Oct. 14, with a pep rally at the

end of the school day, followed by the homecoming dance later that evening. On Saturday, Oct. 15, there will also be a parade held on campus with school and community groups beginning at the high school's south lot and marching to the Lincoln Avenue Sports Complex. The parade lineup is scheduled for 12:30 p.m. in the south parking lot of the high school. Then the homecoming coronation will take place at 1:30 p.m. on the football field, followed by the game at 2:30 p.m. (against Ward Melville). The time-traveling theme for this year's homecoming event is "Decades."

Patchogue-Medford

On Saturday, Oct. 22, the game starts at 2 p.m. following the parade which begins at 9:30 a.m. at the Four Corners on Main Street and will continue to Rider Avenue. There will be class skits performed in the high-school auditorium and west gym at 11:45 a.m. to bolster school spirit and camaraderie before the game. ■

OP-ED

The annual mammogram saves lives, so please get one

BY DR. JOCELYN PARK

Each year when October rolls around, health care leaders and much of the public focus on breast cancer awareness by participating in walks to raise money for research or for families dealing with the disease.

You'll also see pink lights, ribbons and shirts—and all of it is an appreciative acknowledgement of support for a cancer that continues to strike women at an alarming rate. The National Cancer Institute predicts that 287,850 women will be diagnosed with breast cancer in 2022. It remains the most common type of cancer, ahead of second-place prostate cancer.

Part of the messaging during breast cancer awareness month also revolves around the importance of preventative care and how the key to survival is catching breast cancer early.

This can't be amplified enough. It's a key piece of the message, and it might save the life of someone you love.

Mammograms are often successful at detecting breast cancer early, and before a lump can be felt in a clinical or self-examination, which means they're usually caught at a stage where they're more curable and/or haven't spread to lymph nodes or other organs.

Fortunately, most women are aware of the importance of going through an annual mammogram, but age gaps remain.

For instance, the Center for Disease Control and Prevention tracked the age of women who had a mammogram between 1987 and 2019. It found that only about 60 percent of women from 40 to 49 years of age had a mammogram within a two-year period in 2019. That number jumped to 77 percent of women over 50, which means women in their 40s are at greater risk of not catching breast cancer as quickly. I strongly recommend women in their 40s go through the routine, but possibly lifesaving examination.

The National Cancer Institute predicts that women 54 or younger will make up nearly 30 percent of new breast cancer diagnosis in 2022. Women in that age group also will represent 15 percent of about 43,000 breast cancer deaths that are expected this year.

Northwell recommends women 40 and over get annual mammograms, and for women who are genetically predisposed to getting breast cancer, that age is even younger. Our radiologists are witnesses to how younger women have survived breast cancer because of a routine mammogram.

Every woman should talk to her doctor about family history of cancers, genetic testing, breast density, diet and general health, and don't push off the annual mammogram.

Sources: <https://seer.cancer.gov/stat-facts/html/breast.html>

<https://www.cdc.gov/nchs/data/abus/2020-2021/CanBrTest.pdf>

Dr. Jocelyn Park is the associate chief of breast imaging for the eastern region at Northwell Health

REVIEW

'Blonde' ambition hits a nerve

Marilyn Monroe film is controversial, brilliant, and polarizing

BY SAM DESMOND

When I first read that there would be a scene in Andrew Dominik's "Blonde" that was from the perspective of a woman's intimate lower half, I immediately thought of the brutal self-mutilation scene with a giant pair of kitchen shears from Lars von Trier's "Antichrist," where my good friend and fellow art critic, Brian Alessandro, a champion of avant-garde filmmaking himself, said of his trip to the theater for the latter, "All I saw were arms flying up in the air out of shock, awe, and disgust. I think everyone watched that scene through their fingers." Such was my expectation of Dominik's "Blonde."

It sounded too extreme and art-house to really convince me it would be anything but a rehash of the Marilyn Monroe story, and as a big fan of "Norma Jean & Marilyn," could not believe anything could come close to the duality of the Ashley Judd/Mira Sorvino feminist flick. (But again, it's probably debated now whether even that movie counted as a feminist telling of Monroe's story, because apparently feminism, like all other ideologies championing for the marginalized, can't involve the vulnera-

bility, only sheer bravado, and an annoying meta-awareness of historical placing anymore.)

The first 10 to 15 minutes of "Blonde" did not engage me.

I even texted Brian that I was bored after a transition scene with flying magazine covers and an eye-roll-worthy zoom-in shot of a ringing phone, but he told me to watch it and I'm forever grateful that I did, because the next 90 minutes were even better than the Joyce Carol Oates novel (yes, novel, it's not a factual account of Monroe's life, yet another unnecessary criticism of Dominik's vision) that inspired the movie.

What is so prophetic and inspiring about Dominik's take of Monroe—and likely where all the hate towards the film comes from, with it being called "trauma porn"—is the full abandonment of reverence, glamour, or even beauty for the film goddess that leaves the audience unsettled because it tears apart our own obsession and genuflection for celebrity.

Ana de Armas has the face and the body to be Marilyn, but we see how despite all that power borne from her physical beauty, it counts for naught in her personal relationships with men, because, to emphasize recurring theme of the film, she is just "meat."

Some critics of the film (annoyingly, a lot of whom didn't even watch the damn thing) said it showed Marilyn as one-dimensional, a perennial victim, and "not all the things she actually was."

But, if these critics had watched the whole movie, they would see that Dominik's Marilyn throughout the film is well-read, gracious, and kind. She manages to become what each man she pines for needs: for Joe DiMaggio, a simple girl wanting a family; for Arthur Miller, someone who could explain why Magda didn't love him back; for the unnamed President, a glamorous sojourn.

If the treatment of Marilyn is traumatic, then we must also look at the brutally abusive portrayals of the men in the film as well. Dominik, and indeed Oates's, world does not spare us the ego and brutality of men that fuels the trauma of Marilyn, and what I imagine, are women who see themselves in that cruelty as well.

The multiple fetuses who talk to Marilyn directly are a bit much and a little ham-handed, but adds to the innocence and longing that is central to the character.

We want so much to make heroes that overcome their enemies, and ultimately our own, that we fail to see the heroics in someone, whether fictionalized or not, who isn't perfectly strong at all moments.

But this Marilyn is. It's just not perhaps the strength our world today wants to see from women.

But, after all, this story of Marilyn was ultimately told by a woman, and what is more feminist than a woman creating art on her own terms? ■

LETTERS DEADLINE IS MONDAY AT 5 P.M.

'Travels with George'

I read the *Advance's* article on Hart's Tavern with great interest. Nathaniel Philbrick's book "Travels with George" tells of George Washington's stop in Patchogue near the Lakeview Cemetery and that he bought baked potatoes from some boys. The source for that story is an article in *The Journal of Long Island History* (Spring 1961, Volume I, Number 1), available at the Suffolk County Historical Society Library in Riverhead. According to Kenn Stryker-Rodda, Washington visited Long Island in April 1790, and he recounts a story from the Hart family: "When Washington arrived, a group of boys were roasting sweet potatoes in a fire by the roadside. The Hart boy, hearing the President's

voice, pressed up to the side of his coach and offered a potato, which he received and ate with pleasure. After thanking the boy, Washington presented him with an English shilling that has been preserved in the family." If you find yourself traveling the road by the cemetery in October, in the gloaming of the evening, you might chance upon a couple of boys roasting their dinner in a crackling fire of fall leaves. Pull your coat tight, if only because the air has a chill. If addressed by one of the boys, don't be surprised if his accent sounds strange or his clothing looks unusual. If offered a potato, kindly accept and remember to press a coin into his palm.

Sincerely,
J. Downs
Bellport

THE ADVANCE WELCOMES LETTERS.

We reserve the right to decide whether a letter is acceptable for publication and to edit for accuracy, clarity and length. Letters deemed potentially libelous or that malign a person or a group will not be published. Letters should not exceed 250 words. You can reach us by mail, or email ADVletters@optonline.net. Please include your full name, address, phone number, and/or email address. If we receive many letters on a given topic, we will print a representative sample of the opinions expressed. On occasion, we may run additional letters online.

ELECTION ENDORSEMENT LETTERS:

The Advance will not accept letters endorsing a candidate for the issue before any election.

CORRECTION

Last week's article titled "Free sewer hookup for residential homes" indicated residents could sign up for the project. However, there is no signing

up. The residents included in the project were the ones at the meeting and were already notified that they are in Phase 1, which is the only phase that is currently funded. Additionally,

it referenced the wrong extension for project inquiries. For those interested in more information they should contact: sewers@patchoguevillage.org. We regret the error.

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It is not our aim to tell readers what to think, but to provide them with food for thought and to make interpretive editorial comment on the news

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HAUNTED PLAYHOUSE: Tickets on sale now

FROM PAGE 1

crows, and hung them in the village. He also killed their father.”

The suspected Jebediah Mott is still at large.

You'll see tractor equipment, loaned out from Isabella Rossellini's Mama Farm, by the entrance off South Country Road.

“We start with the tractors and farm-hand bumpkins who worked for the missing Jebediah, except that they're not bumpkins, they're twisted wraiths and will be lurking,” Baker elaborated, “possibly warning you not to come.”

The theme includes finding the distant family member who's selling the farm equipment to prepare for a bank auction.

Along with the tractors, there's a graveyard on the western area with headstones and ghoulish spectres.

The Midway is the queuing location before you enter inside. There's a Guest Services stop with a sinister heckling puppet, a Zombie Shooting Gallery offering target shooting with haunted surprises, and a Coffin Ride.

“It's an interactive carnival ride where you buy a token, get inside the coffin, and have the experience of being buried alive,” Baker elaborated. “It's a 4-D interactive buried alive experience, and there's a monitor so guests can watch your reaction.”

Hired security will be present. Everyone will be wanded, with bags and backpacks checked. Guests will have a placement number.

“When your number is called, you get in the queue,” said Baker. A Fear Garden with beers on tap and a selection of wines for 21 and older, soft drinks, and snacks are available. Billie Jean's Grill food truck, on select nights, is available offering comfort foods.

Director of development and public relations Scot Allan said The Gateway had pulled out all the stops for this



Haunt director Michael Baker gets into scare mode with journalist Linda Leuzzi.

Photo by Scot Allan.

Tickets for Gateway's Haunted Playhouse are \$40 online, \$50 at the door. Go to www.FearLI.com to order. Fast Passes are available for additional charge. Recommended for ages 13 and older. Because of its intricate nature and narrow passageways, the production is not wheelchair accessible. A Not So Scary Kids Adventure is available Saturday and Sunday afternoon from noon to 4 p.m. in October recommended for children 3 and up. Tickets are \$20 per person. (No infants. No strollers, carriages or baby carriers permitted in the tour.) For tickets, click on www.thegatewayhauntedplayhouse.com.

one after the pandemic. “We're trying to get back to normal after COVID,” he said. “We also have a food truck on certain nights, brand-new automation and lights. We're very excited.”

Baker said acting-wise, the zombies and ghouls involve paid actors, volunteers, and youths from The Acting School. “We do an improvisational scare exercise every night,” he said. “It's not scripted, and everyone knows the boundaries within the story.” Also, it takes six makeup artists two and a half hours to produce the makeup.

Gateway “Rent” director Matt Karis popped his head in during the interview. “He drove all the way from Virginia to work with us,” Baker pointed out. “We also have people coming in from other distances to be involved with this production.”

Gateway's Haunted House fame, in its 13th year, has attracted fans far and wide because of its continual creativity and originality. “It happens all the time when I'm wearing a Gateway Haunted House jacket or sweatshirt in the village or elsewhere,” Baker said. “Someone always taps me on the shoulder to say how much they love it. I was even in Disney World, and someone came up to me and said, ‘Oh God, you work there?’ It's great!” ■



Family fun for all!

Come one, come all! Mini witches and warlocks, mini pumpkins and cats, mini monsters and fairies, mini superheroes and bats. Take a stroll through the Gateway's Not So Scary Kids Adventure at Gateway's Haunted Playhouse, held Saturday and Sunday afternoons from noon to 4 p.m. in October.

Children explore a well-lit, Halloween-themed playhouse that introduces fun characters along the way. Tickets are \$20 per person. Admission includes a pumpkin bounce, hay maze, and other lawn activities. Tickets are sold for specific 15-minute entry times.

Recommended for children ages 3 and up and those who might not be ready for Gateway's Haunted Playhouse at night. Absolutely no newborns or infants are permitted, for their own safety. No strollers, carriages, or baby carriers of any kind are permitted inside the tour.

Gateway casting call

The Gateway Performing Arts Center of Suffolk County is holding an open call by appointment for youth and adult actors of all ages, ethnicities, and genders for its upcoming mainstage production of “A Christmas Carol: The Musical.” Actors must move and sing well.

“A Christmas Carol: The Musical” will be directed by David Ruttura (associate director: “School of Rock,” “Phantom of the Opera,” “Spider Man: Turn Off the Dark”) and choreographed by Debbie Roshe. Rehearsals begin Nov. 29 and run through Dec. 16. Performances run Dec. 16-28, with no performances on Dec. 24 and 25.

Audition breakdown:

Grace Smythe- female identifying, must believably play 9-12-year-old. Daughter of Mr. Smythe.

Martha Cratchit- female identifying, must believably play 10-11-year-old. Oldest daughter of the Cratchit family.

Tiny Tim- male identifying, must look 6-8 years old. Youngest and sickly child of the Cratchit family, but always full of hope.

Jonathan- male identifying, must believably play 10-12-year-old. Street urchin.

Scrooge at 8- male identifying, youngest version of Scrooge when he was still full of hope and dreams.

Scrooge at 12- male identifying, mid-



dle version of Scrooge. Lonely, misses his family and sister.

Fan at 10- female identifying, Scrooge's younger sister. Must sing well.

Nicholas- male identifying, 10-14 years old.

Ensemble children- 8-16 years old to play various roles including Cratchit children, Fred and Sally's children, street children, etc. Must sing well. Will also be considered for understudy roles.

Ensemble adults- 20-40 years old to play various roles including townspeople, party guests, etc. Must sing well. Will also be considered for understudy roles.

Youth Audition Information: We will be holding auditions BY APPOINTMENT ONLY on Tuesday, October 18, beginning at 4p p.m. Please email casting@thegateway.org for your audition time. Please prepare 32 bars in the

style of the show and bring a headshot and resume for the casting team. All youth must be fully vaccinated against Covid-19. To see if you are up to date with your vaccinations, please visit <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/vaccines/stay-up-to-date.html>

Adult Audition Information: Adult actors must submit a prescreen tape of a 32-bar audition cut to casting@thegateway.org by Saturday, October 15th at 5:00pm and include a headshot and resume. If there is further interest, callbacks will be held by appointment on Tuesday, October 18 beginning at 4 p.m. All adults must be fully vaccinated against Covid-19. To see if you are up to date with your vaccinations, please visit <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/vaccines/stay-up-to-date.html> ■

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The Long Island
ADVANCE SPORTS

Floyd wins seventh-straight Parkway Power Bowl game

Through heavy wind and rain, the William Floyd Colonials emerged victorious against rival Longwood by a score of 13-7 in Parkway Power Bowl XI. The victory was William Floyd's seventh-straight over Longwood, and improved their lifetime record in the series to an impressive

9-2. The win also cemented the Colonials' place atop the Division I standings as the only team remaining with an undefeated 4-0 record.

A late Dylan Harris rushing touchdown sealed the win for the Colonials. The William Floyd defense put the finishing touches on the game when they forced Longwood into consecutive turnovers—one interception and one fumble—capping off their dominant effort.

Next on the schedule for William Floyd (4-0) is a road game at Brentwood (1-3) on Saturday, Oct. 8 at 1:30 p.m. The Colonials are off to a great start in their quest for a 14th Suffolk County championship and sixth Long Island championship in program history.

The Parkway Power Bowl is a yearly contest pitting the two rivals against each other for bragging rights in a key divisional game while promoting the ideals of sportsmanship, goodwill, community relations and healthy competition. The contest is named for the William Floyd Parkway, a thoroughfare that connects both school districts and is served by the Suffolk County Police Department. Aside from bragging rights, the winner gets a plaque with the final score engraved on the trophy, donated by the William Floyd Alumni Association, along with the opportunity to house it in their school until next year's game. ■



Coach Longo celebrates.

Photos Courtesy of William Floyd School District



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sjny.edu/wizards



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Carport success sparks idea for another

Village seeks solar to generate sewage plant

BY NICOLE FUENTES

After the successful installation of the solar carport located in the rear parking lot of the Patchogue Theatre for the Performing Arts, on Oak Street in Patchogue Village, officials are now dedicated to making the same happen at the soon-to-be reworked Sixth District County Court lot, located behind West Main Street.

The idea, mayor Paul Pontieri said, would be to utilize the proposed carport to generate the village's sewage treatment plant, located just southeast on Hammond Street. Pontieri estimated the solar would offset costs about 25 to 30 percent, resulting in savings that would basically pay for the project. According to Pontieri, the plant generates nearly 50 percent of the village's overall electrical costs. Last month, for example, electric costs were about \$38,000, of which the plant generated about \$17,000 to \$19,000 of that number.

The cost of the new solar carport is not yet known, as the talks are preliminary. However, the cost to rebuild the lot is \$2.1 million, funded in part by the sewage treatment plant grants. The reworked lot costs will be funded by the \$1 million formerly acquired county jump-start grant. The remaining money will be funded by the to-be-installed meters at that location. Additionally, Johnson Controls, Pontieri explained, uses a formula to cover costs upfront to be paid by savings over time, which will be a consideration for the solar carport, hopefully costing nothing to the taxpayer.

Also, during the recent Johnson Controls award ceremony, Legis. Dominick Thorne promised to help see the court lot project through, stating that he was "100



The county's Sixth District Court lot is in the midst of a redesign and could be the potential new site of another solar carport, which would help generate the sewage treatment plant.



Village of Patchogue BID executive director Dennis Smith stands in front of the newly installed and functioning solar carport behind the Patchogue Theatre for the Performing Arts.

percent behind" them.

The much-anticipated work to the lot itself, Pontieri said, is going out to bid sometime this month and will gain about 65 to 70 spots. Work is expected to start by the spring, with limited construction time; if all goes well, the carport will become a summer job.

The existing solar carport, which broke ground in March and is currently up and running, was built similar to the one recently installed in Lindenhurst as part of a Johnson Controls project. The project is expected to generate about 250,000 KW per year, which will be sold back to the grid for about \$32,000, supporting roughly 40 homes.

Also in March, the Village of Patchogue Board of Trustees approved a resolution to hire LK McLean Associates, P.C., for the design of the reconstruction and expansion of the existing municipal lot located behind the Suffolk County Sixth

District Court. The trustees, at that time, approved to expend \$63,700 for the design of the lot as well as an additional \$17,613 for additional services related to the design.

The project will entail repaving, restriping and expansion, as well as making the road safer and more accessible for the bus. The project will also feature a newly redesigned rapid bus transit station on West Street, allowing for the bus to pull off to the side and pick up and drop off riders, as part of the county's goal of becoming more transit-oriented.

The major reason the original deck parking plan was ditched, Pontieri said, is because compared to the number of spots added, the \$7 million price tag was just too costly. The deck parking garage would have originally provided about 100 spaces. Currently, the lot features 134 spaces; deck parking would have created 236 and the new proposal 185 to 190. ■

PATCHOGUE GIVEN GLOBAL LEADER AWARD

Johnson Controls (NYSE: JCI), the global leader for smart, healthy, and sustainable buildings, today announced the first winners of a new buildings' innovation award called OpenBlue Pioneers. Each OpenBlue Pioneer has proven instrumental in driving the future of smart, healthy and sustainable buildings; innovating with Johnson Controls AI-enabled OpenBlue technology to transform their spaces, businesses and communities. In recognition, the winners have each been awarded a Blueprint of the Future Industry Award which recognizes outstanding examples of visionary thinking and digital transformation.

The first recipient of the OpenBlue Pioneers award demonstrates global ambition across sectors: The Village of Patchogue is setting the gold standard for community revitalization. The visionary Village of Patchogue, located on Long Island, New York, USA is preserving a green tomorrow for future generations with smart environmental solutions. Showcasing a future-focused mindset and a passion to preserve natural resources, improve quality of life, and protect the ecosystem, the Village of Patchogue will save \$8.2 million in the next 25 years through Johnson Controls energy efficient upgrades to HVAC, lighting, and temperature control systems. The mayor was given the award last week.

Adv/Fuentes



Painting shells and raising money

Academy Street sixth-grader Jace Black started painting shells during his summer stays at Davis Park. In the summer of 2021, the 10-year-old started selling the shells at Davis Park to give back to a special cause. That summer, he raised \$100 for cancer research with the help of little sister and fourth-grader, Leah. Fast-forward to this summer, and Jace, now 11, and his sister painted shells again, this time raising \$200 for their church, Our Lady of the Snow's food pantry, in Blue Point. "I love my community and I like helping others because they need it," Jace said of his act of kindness.

-Nicole Fuentes



A bilingual little library

Last weekend, the Village of Patchogue Parks and Recreation Department installed a little free library with the help of Eagle Scout

Ryan Cruz. This library is the village's first bilingual children's outdoor library. The concept is to allow the public borrow a book or add one, or just come by and sit on the bench with a friend and read. The

village Department of Public Works also added a small brick patio to make the space more inviting. ■

Courtesy photos



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Sharon, Breast Surgeon Anastasia Bakoulis, DO (top right), and Nurse Navigator Laura Vogeli, RN (bottom left).

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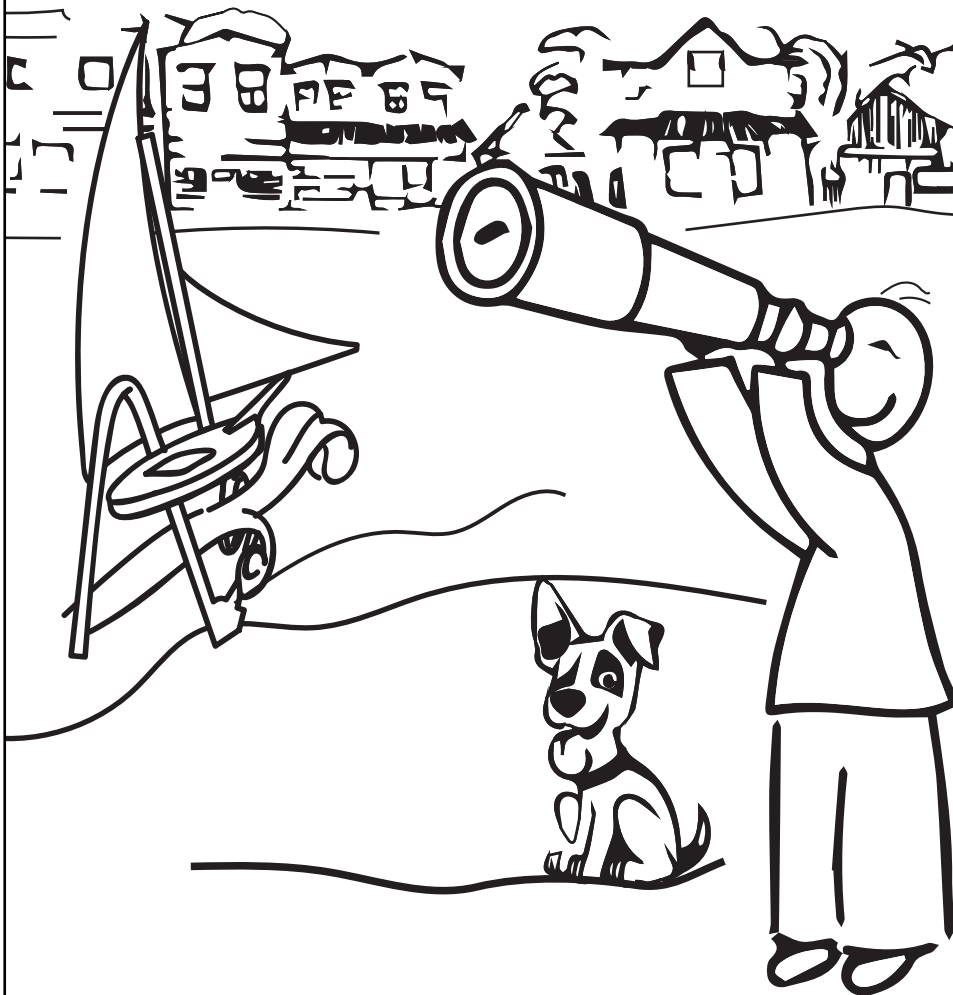
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Giovanni Naso
INTERIORS

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bellportchamber.org

PIZZA PRODIGY: Grab a slice

FROM PAGE 1



Anthony Miller surrounded by his big, supportive family who always encourage him to follow his dreams. Courtesy Photo

family night at the newly renovated pizzeria, before the official grand opening the next day.

"He just had a desire to open his own pizza place. He's been telling me for two years," said Bettyann about her ambitious teenage son. She added that there has unfortunately been skepticism from some members of the community about the new establishment, due to the history of several pizza places coming and going in that location, but her confident and hardworking son is up for the challenge.

Bettyann explained, on a Saturday morning at the eatery before opening, about the history of the location, which her son immediately saw as the perfect opportunity to fulfil his dream.

"It would switch owners every year, and he's actually up against that because there's so much negativity," she said. "So, we're constantly up against all these comments that it will never last, which is sad. Like, give the kid a chance."

Whatever the past legacy of this location, Miller only has his young and visionary eyes set on the future. He completely renovated the locale himself prior to opening. In addition to working in pizza places since he was 14, he also has expertise partnering with his father, Chris Miller, for Miller Dry Wall, the company that the elder Miller opened about two decades ago.

Miller graduated a year early at 17, at the height of the pandemic, so, unfortunately, he missed out on many once-in-a-lifetime events such as going to prom, but the undeterred young man still has a bright future ahead of him and knows that the best is yet to come.

In addition to new ownership and new renovations, from floor to ceiling, there are also new cooks, including a head chef from the beloved pizzeria, Aegean Pizza, which was a longtime local favorite and stalwart holdout in the moribund Sun Vet Mall, before recently closing. So, for anyone who misses that pizzeria's beloved cuisine, you know where to go now to satisfy all your Italian comfort-food cravings.

"I started when I was young, and I fell in love with the business. I worked for other people for a long time, and I really just wanted to work for myself," he said. "I really like making pizza. I cook, and I like all parts of the business. For me, I like when it gets busy. I like the rush."

Miller is already thinking about ideas for themed events to bring the community together, such as comedy and paint nights. He's also in the development stages with a member of the Sons of Italy to teach patrons how to make their own fresh mozzarella, to take a "piece" of this innovative establishment home with them.

Some of the signature pies at this new venue include barbecue buffalo pizza, chicken ranch, and chicken and broccoli, with the most unique pie being the evocatively named Graffiti Pizza, which consists of their homemade vodka sauce, marinara sauce, rigatoni, and fresh basil. The owner and member of Gen Z is also cognizant of being amenable to a variety of dietary restrictions and preferences.

"I do have gluten-free [pizza], and people can bring in their own vegan cheese because I know certain people like different things, but if you want to do something like that I can always accommodate," he added. Before opening for another busy Saturday, Miller invited, "Come down and give us a shot. I think you'll be happy."

Anthony's Pizza is currently open from 11 a.m. to 10 p.m. and closed on Tuesdays. For the full menu and information on upcoming events go to anthonyspizzaof-masticbeach.com or visit them on Facebook. ■

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The Long Island ADVANCE SPORTS

Patchogue-Medford varsity football kicked off season



BY JORDAN STANKOVICH

The Patchogue-Medford varsity football team kicked off their 2022 season under the lights on Friday, Sept. 9 vs. Longwood. Kickoff was half-past 6 p.m. The green-and-gold Lions visited 181 Buffalo Avenue facing the black-and-red Raiders.

Longwood won the season opener 41-12. Longwood's running backs carried the freight offensively. Terrance Robinson accumulated 170 yards on the ground, scoring three touchdowns. Anthony Ordonez contributed to 83 yards rushing, scoring a 25-yarder. The Raiders scored touchdowns in the second and fourth quarters. Justin Marcia-Joachim caught a 16-yard TD strike from quarterback Kieran Hughes. Jesse Andrade made a fumble recovery and turned the miscue into a 66-yard return for a half-dozen.

In dire need of a win, the Raiders

responded eight days later. Kickoff was at 1 p.m. and the Red and Black used their home field advantage hosting the Central Islip Buccaneers. Pat-Med dominated CI 35-14, improving to 1-1.

This time, Pat-Med's running game were the keys to victory. Joe Kelly ran the football seven times, tacking on 76 rushing yards, finding his way into the end zone thrice on a two-yard run, 28-yard dash, and eight-yard red zone hustle. John Coutard ran 169 yards on 18 carries. Hughes threw for 85 yards with two touchdown throws. C.J. Forgione caught a 15-yard bullet for 6 points and Jayden Isselbacher reeled in a 17-yard laser crossing the plane. Linebacker Beyrim Ayari bestowed a solid defensive performance. He blocked a punt, recovered a fumble, sacked the quarterback, and made seven tackles. All five touchdowns were succeeded by 5 successful

PAT's (point after touchdown). Anthony Jean-Baptiste kicked two extra points through the uprights and Alex DeLuca had a trio of 1-point boots ensuing the six-digit scores.

Friday, Sept. 23, was a chilly evening with shimmering winds at Pat-Med High vs. the William Floyd Colonials. William Floyd topped Pat-Med 34-6 and were in control the entire game as the Raiders trailed 21-0 at halftime. For William Floyd, Dylan Harris had 17 carries for 120 rushing yards, caught a 53-yard pass from QB LaDuke Harris for a touchdown, and made an 18-yard TD run. In the fourth quarter, Kieran Hughes threw a 12-yard touchdown to Justin Marcia-Joachim.

Then, on a misty matinee on Oct. 1, the Raiders came from behind on the road in the fourth quarter to beat the Brentwood Indians. Hughes threw for

220 yards and four touchdowns. Forgione and Isselbacher each caught touchdowns in the first half, Forgione for eight yards and Isselbacher for 30. Brentwood led 16-6 in the second, but Pat-Med clawed back prior to halftime as Justin Marcia-Joachim caught Hughes's TD for 45 yards, trimming the deficit 16-14. Pat-Med scored 15 unanswered points in the second half and shutout their opponent. The game was deadlocked following Anthony Jean-Baptiste's third quarter safety for 2 points and 13 more points in the fourth quarter completed the comeback, Pat-Med 29, Brentwood 16. Defensively, Alex Hoffman made a fumble recovery and a sack while 10 tackles were made by Jesse Andrade. The Raiders concluded week four on the left side of the scoreboard, and the win put them at .500 with a 2-2 record as they next travel to Walt Whitman.

Courtesy photo

A volleyball star among us!

Volleyball star Nicole Antos of Bellport High School flaunted 109 kills and 57 blocks last season. This season, she was up to 23 kills and 15 blocks in the first three games. She is currently first in the county for blocks with 73, and fifth in the county for kills with 105. Antos is 17 and as senior at Bellport. She has been playing volleyball since seventh grade under coaches Auth, Watson and Hoff. "Time flies when you're having fun," she said of her love for the game.

Courtesy photo



St. Joseph's University to host Harlem wizards

St. Joseph's University will host St. Joe's Night with the world-famous Harlem Wizards on Friday, Oct. 14 at 7 p.m. The event is open to the public and will feature a night of tricks, hoops and alley-oops. Doors open at 6 p.m.; game begins at 7 p.m. Tickets are \$20; \$10 for students. Purchase tickets at sjny.edu/wizards. St. Joseph's University, New York is located at 155 West Roe Blvd. in Patchogue. The game will be held in the John A. Danzi Athletic Center on campus. For more information, call 631.687.5197.

FROM THE ARCHIVES OF THE LONG ISLAND ADVANCE

75 Years Ago

OCTOBER 1947

An open house in celebration of the 21st birthdays of **Leroy and Leslie Ackerly** was held at their home on West Avenue, Patchogue, Saturday. Leslie was 21 on Sept. 20, but Leroy was 21 when he was overseas, so he had to celebrate a belated birthday. About 35 were present and a large birthday cake with both their names on it was enjoyed.

Last weekend Mrs. **Thomas Hughes, Harry Hughes, Philip Pape** and Miss **Edith Hughes** motored to Greenburg, Pa., where Miss Hughes is a student at Seton Hill College. Miss Hughes has been spending the summer at her home on Jayne Avenue.

Mrs. **Delia Blanjean** of Phoenix, Ariz., is visiting her sister, Mrs. **Frank X. Mayer** of Maple Avenue. Mr. and Mrs. Blanjean had greenhouses on Division Street, Patchogue, around 1914 and at that time were one of the first to make funeral pieces.

George Welbourne, son of Mrs. A. Welbourne of Patchogue, has enrolled in the Refrigeration, Heating, Ventilating and Air Conditioning Institute of the Milwaukee School of Engineering. He commenced classes Monday.

Mr. and Mrs. **Otto Behme**, who have lived on Silver Street for 18 years, have moved to Roe Boulevard, east. Mr. Behme has recently opened a new bakery on Medford Avenue, Patchogue.

Mr. and Mrs. **Frank P. Gaible** of Hulse Place announce the engagement of their daughter, **Lucille Carman**, to **Richard Barthelme**, son of Mr. and Mrs. Harry Barthelme of Bell Avenue, Blue Point.

Mr. and Mrs. **Arthur Horn** of Wheeler Court, Patchogue, won a first-prize blue ribbon with their black cocker spaniel, **Suzy Q.**, at the 9th annual Dog Show of the Suffolk County Kennel Club, held Saturday at the South Bay Golf Club, Bay Shore. The show was for the benefit of the polio fund of St. Charles Hospital, Port Jefferson.

John Guttridge of Patchogue is a candidate for the varsity football squad of Hobart College. The 19-year-old freshman is a graduate of Admiral Farragut Academy in N.J., where he earned his varsity letter in football and track. The 187-pound end is in a three-cornered dual for the right end spot and will see action this year, either with the varsity or junior varsity squad.

Mrs. **Louis Ringhouse** of Highland Avenue, as a guest of Mr. and Mrs. Nick Visbeck of Clifton, N.J., enjoyed a trip to Delaware Water Gap over the weekend. She also attended the opening night performance of the rodeo in Madison Square Garden.

John Curtis Young of Cedar Avenue is studying in the University of Missouri School of Mines and Metallurgy, Rolla, Mo.

Mr. and Mrs. **W. Wilson Lang** of Rider Avenue announce the birth of Sharon Patricia, Sept. 19.

Recent local weddings: Miss **Lois Marie Gerard** of Taber Street, Patchogue, became the bride of **Edmund Allen Hallock** of Carman Street, Patchogue, Aug. 30. Mr. and Mrs. Hallock are residing at Carman Street. Married in St. Paul's Episcopal Church, Patchogue, by the Rev. Michael G. Andreades of St. Demetrius Church, Jamaica, Aug. 24, were Miss **Helen Doukas**, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. James Doukas of South Ocean Avenue, Patchogue, and **Louis Paraschos** of Forest Hills. Mr. and Mrs. Paraschos are making their home with the bride's parents. Mr. Paraschos is attending the College of the City of New York.

Mr. and Mrs. **Clifford G. Scarlett**



From the Oct. 2, 1947 edition: These girls didn't catch any fish at the Four Corners last Wednesday noon, but found "fishing" more pleasant than some of the other phases of their initiation into Delta Delta Delta sorority of Patchogue girls. Pictured (left to right) are: Eileen Porter, Rosalie Cavanaugh, Joyce Waring, Eleanor McIntyre, Grace Tursellino, Marie Cabre, Bea Coffeieto and Lillian Justh. Standing are two "big sisters," Katherine McRae, secretary (at left), and Marjorie Barbour, president (right). Formal initiation of the eight "victims" above was held at the Domino Yacht Club Friday. Mrs. David Barbour and Mrs. Helen Gordon were hostesses.

of Oak Street have returned from a week's vacation motoring through Pennsylvania, Delaware and New York.

Louis Frisco of Gerard Street has returned to Johns Hopkins University, Baltimore, Md., after spending the summer with his mother, Mrs. Rose Frisco. Mr. Frisco is majoring in engineering.

Miss **Suzanne Conklin** is attending the Pratt Institute of Art, Brooklyn, department of design and illustration. Miss Conklin is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Howard S. Conklin of Bailey Avenue.

Mr. and Mrs. **Robert P. Conrad** have purchased the Mrs. **Marcella Payne** home on South Howells Point Road, Bellport, through the A and D Blakeslee Agency. Mr. Conrad is assistant director of the Brookhaven National Laboratory.

Mr. and Mrs. **Eugene V. Connett** of Thornhedge Road entertained a few friends at cocktails Saturday evening.

The **Chauncey Styrons** are going to occupy the **Worth Austin** cottage on Academy Lane for a few weeks and the Austins will move back into their big house, which was rented for the summer.

Harry Ferrier gave his new magic show to young members of the Bohemia Fire and Drum Corps at the American Legion Hall in Bohemia.

The Bellport Library announces that Miss **Marion Young** will take over the library for the winter in place of Mrs. **Katherine Miller**.

After three years in service, a large part of which was spent overseas in Germany, **Joseph Piro** is back home. After spending the weekend at home he returned to Camp Kilmer.

A girl was born to the **Fred Richardsons** Monday at Mather Memorial Hospital. The grandparents are Mr. and Mrs. **Walter Harrow** of North Howells Point Road.

Chamber music was enjoyed at the home of **Will and Jean Steele** on Woodruff Street Saturday night. Participating in the music were Mr. and Mrs. **Joseph Slechta**, formerly of Patchogue and now violinists with the Indianapolis Symphony Orchestra; Miss **Peggy Noble**,

Blue Point; **Glenn Schaffer**, Bellport, and Mrs. Steele.

Miss **Nancy Tibbs**, who ran the Nancy Tibbs gift shop and helped write the Busy Bellport column this summer, has returned to her job with George Jensen on Fifth Avenue. She will return to Bellport each weekend and her shop will be open for business on Saturdays.

The **Bellport High School** booters defeated Center Moriches, 3-1, last Wednesday night. The first goal for Bellport was made by **Kirchgessner**, who kicked a penalty. The second was made by **Nesbitt**, when he got a pass from Kirchgessner. **Frank Moscato** made the third, when he rushed the goalie.

50 Years Ago

OCTOBER 1972

The Patchogue-Medford High School student body recently celebrated their second annual Barbecue Dance, held on the school grounds. Over 400 students attended, as well as many faculty members. Leading the cooking chores were **Frank A. Juzwiak**, principal of the high school; Dr. **Albert R. Brinkman**, superintendent of the school district, and **Warren Budd**, student and member of the Key Club.

Police reported this week that a bartender at the **Riverside Bar and Grill**, Division Street, Patchogue, gave a customer \$140 in cash, with instructions to get change, at about 3 p.m. Saturday. The customer, known only as "Bob," did not return with the money. The bartender said "Bob" had been a customer in good standing for about eight years.

Stacy Lynn Farmer, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Peter Farmer of Patchogue, celebrated her second birthday recently on the family houseboat at Davis Park. Among the 31 guests attending were her grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. **Fred Perry**,

her great-grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. **Ernest Wruck**, and her uncle, **Bruce Perry**.

First-place winners in the annual Punt, Pass and Kick competition held last Saturday at the Rider Avenue Park received their trophies in ceremonies held at Patchogue Ford, which co-sponsored the contest with the Patchogue Jaycees. First-place winners were **Eric Theune, Chris Schlotterbeck Jr., Kevin Pyron, Christopher Molluso, Jeffrey Porter** and **Anthony Dragone**.

Happily married are Mr. and Mrs. **Curt Haviland**, whose ceremony was performed Sept. 9 in St. Francis de Sales R.C. Church, Patchogue. Bride, the former Miss **Jean Long** of Patchogue, is a registered nurse. Bridegroom is employed with an insurance agency. Their home is in Levittown.

Navy Lieutenant (j.g.) **Ralph Pierno**, son of Mrs. Angelo Pierno of Cedar Avenue, Patchogue, has received the Air Medal at the Naval Air Station, Pensacola, Fla. He has been awarded for his meritorious service as a helicopter aviator in Vietnam.

William Paxson, a sophomore from Patchogue, is a 1972 member of the Geneseo State soccer squad. Blue Knight varsity coach Carl Witzel announced last week that Paxson, now majoring in history, will compete in all 11 regular-season games.

Mr. and Mrs. **Vincent Dragone** of Mount Vernon Avenue, Patchogue, announce the engagement of their daughter, **Nanette**, to **Michael Anzalone**, son of Mr. and Mrs. Pat Anzalone of Old Medford Avenue, Medford. Miss Dragone is employed as a secretary for Smith and Jung. Mr. Anzalone is a line mechanic for Island Chrysler-Plymouth. No date has been set for the wedding.

Letters of commendation were given recently to four Bellport High School students signifying their high performance on the 1971 Preliminary Scholastic Aptitude Test National Merit Scholarship Qualifying Test (PSAT NMSQT). The students are **Thomas Savino, Jamie Pokorny, Tatsuo Shirane** and **Richard Dixon**.

Miss **Donna Ramirez**, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. John Ramirez of Circuit Road, Bellport, was surprised at a bridal shower given in her honor last Saturday evening by her sister, Miss **Jan Ramirez**, at the home of her parents. Donna will become the bride of **Thomas Clark** of East Norwalk, Conn.

Wood sculpture, assemblages and mobiles by **Michael Ince** of Bellport will be featured in a one-man show opening Sunday in the Old Southaven Gallery and continuing throughout the month. He and his wife, Pat, have recently rebuilt and added to an old barn in Bellport, creating an unusual contemporary home, using in part woods salvaged from old buildings in the area and furniture made by the artist.

Mrs. **Diane Nesi** of Maple Avenue celebrated her birthday on Monday with her husband, Anthony, her children Anthony, Laurie, Perry and Michael, as well as relatives and friends.

Playing this week at the **Patchogue Theatre**: Woody Allen in "Play it Again Sam"; at the **Sun/Wave Twin Cinema**: Stanley Kubrick's "A Clockwork Orange," and at the **Patchogue Sunrise All-Weather Drive-In**: "Funny Girl," starring Barbra Streisand and Omar Sharif.

-Compiled by **Debbie Zampariello**

DO YOU HAVE A GOOD PHOTOGRAPH FOR THIS PAGE? Mail it to: *Long Island Advance*, 20 Medford Avenue, Patchogue, New York 11772. Please include a brief, typewritten description of the photograph with your submission. All photos will be returned.

'I do it just to help people'

Long Island woman offers free caregiving consulting

BY MARIANA DOMINGUEZ

Sandy Brennan has worked in the caregiving industry for over 20 years. She began her journey in homecare, which she did for about a decade, before becoming a life-enrichment manager that plans activities for residents with memory impairment.

After two years, Brennan, 57, got a job as a sales coordinator for Atria and two years later she was promoted to director. It was at this job that Brennan said she started to see the joy of helping families that were in crisis and had nowhere else to turn. She noted that many people get incorrect information from the internet or even friends and family, and providing

answers and help to families was exceptionally meaningful.

After working various other health care jobs, Brennan, who lives in Lindenhurst, decided to create her own marketing business that specializes in strategies for health care companies. In 2019, Senior Living Renaissance, LLC, was born.

After about six months in her new position, a friend connected her with a gentleman whose wife had Alzheimer's and didn't quite know what to do. So, Brennan did what she does best and sat with him on the phone for a few hours and went over his various options, gave him advice, and offered connections that would help him. After the conversation, Brennan realized that she missed being able to assist families and decided to offer free caregiving consulting as part of her business.

"People should be able to go to somebody if they have a question," Brennan said of her free service. "Sometimes the social workers are busy and they just don't have time. Social workers do their best in the rehabs and hospitals, but they're short on time and they don't have hours to devote to each person as much as they want to."

She takes calls after hours, usually around 7 p.m., when she is done with her marketing job. A lot of the time, she said that she gives out contact information for the many people she has met in the industry over the years. And she noted that she doesn't take a fee when people call these resources.

"I thought it was important because you pay for a lot as it is with rehabilitation and everything else," Brennan said of not charging families for her services. "I felt that if I charged them, they wouldn't be so eager to call, and I want them to be able to reach me if they need help. I do it just to help people."

Some weeks, Brennan said she may take multiple calls, while sometimes things are quiet for a while. She helps people across Long Island with their questions and directs them to people who can help. In addition, Brennan created a private Facebook group that helps health care professionals connect and network.



Sandy Brennan provides free caregiver consulting to families on Long Island.

Photo courtesy of Sandy Brennan.

"I fell into the industry," Brennan laughed. "People tend to fall into this industry. No one actually chooses to do it. It's not in college curriculums, senior living advisor, or anything like that. It's interesting how you find out what you really want to do later on in your life."

For more information on Brennan and her services, visit seniorlivingconsultingservices.com. ■

OBITUARIES

Raymond Rignola

Raymond Rignola, 86, died Sept. 25. Mr. Rignola resided in Patchogue and was a retired carpenter.

He is survived by his wife of 67 years, Vivian (Rohrbach) Rignola; his six children, Cheryl Christie, Deborah Debono, Maryanne Gibney, Raymond Jr., Lisa Harrison and Beth Schlanger; his two brothers, Richard and Frank; and his 13 grandchildren and 13 great-grandchildren.

A private viewing was held at Robertaccio Funeral Home, Patchogue.

Kathryn C. Silver

Kathryn C. Silver, of Sayville, died Sept. 26.

She is survived by her children, Richard and wife, Karen, Patricia Russo



and husband, Amando, John and wife, Faith, Robert and wife, Theresa, and Thomas and wife, Fawn; her 11 grandchildren and four great-grandchildren; and her siblings, Regina Rendall, William, Ruth Meyer, Eileen Bradshaw, James and Edward.

She was predeceased by her husband, Richard; her daughter, Kathryn; and her sister, Mary McNamee.

Funeral arrangements were entrusted to Raynor & D'Andrea Funeral Home, Bayport. A funeral Mass was celebrated at St. Lawrence the Martyr R.C. Church, Sayville, followed by interment in Long Island National Cemetery, Pinelawn.

Donations may be made to Alzheimer's Foundation of America, 322 Eighth Avenue, 16th Floor, New York, NY 10001 (alzfdn.org).



You can read the Advance online at:

LongIslandAdvance.net

HELEN VRIONIS ROGERS

AUGUST 5, 1934 - SEPTEMBER 21, 2022

Born in New Rochelle, NY to Anna and James Vrionis, Helen Graduated Hempstead High School in 1954 and received her associate degree in Business Administration from Hofstra College in 1953. At the time of her retirement she was doing the bookkeeping for her son Michael in his business at MNL Marine in Patchogue.

Helen leaves her sons, Lawrence and Michael Lodi (Lisa), daughters, Sherry Sorrenti (Jules) and Kara Rooney; grandchildren, Michael and Erica, Jennifer and Andrew Notaro. Great grandchildren, Alexandra, Oliva, and Matthew Notaro, Dana (Carlos), Ricky, Cris and Marisa Martinez; beloved cousin Urania Argeropulos and family, and her loving cat "Hitchie" whom she adopted from ARC in Ft. Myers, FL. Her Papillon "Lulu" passed on March 13, 2018.

Helen is predeceased by her husband John (Jack) E. Rogers. Helen was an avid golfer, loved fishing, skiing and devoted volunteer at ARC (Animal Refuge Center) in Ft. Myers, FL. She attended Annunciation Greek Orthodox Church and St. Peter's Orthodox Church and a member of Hellenic-American Club of F. Myers.



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PETER THIEBERGER

Longtime Brookhaven resident Peter Thieberger died on August 30, 2022 at the age of 86. He had been working since 1965 as a particle physicist at Brookhaven National Lab (BNL), one of 17 national facilities overseen by the U.S. Department of Energy. He leaves behind a professional legacy of innovations in accelerator science and instrumentation that quietly influenced many developments in energy, technology and physics.

Born in Vienna, Austria on September 19, 1935, Peter relocated with his family to Argentina at a young age. He pursued a degree at the University of Buenos Aires School of Science in 1959 and moved his family to Stockholm, Sweden to complete his Ph.D. at the Nobel Institute for Physics. His family then settled in Suffolk County, NY, where Peter joined the BNL team and eventually became Chief of Operations and Senior Scientist at the world-renowned Tandem van de Graaff Facility and Relativistic Heavy Ion Collider (RHIC). He remained a pioneer in his field, devising and overseeing experiments, publishing countless studies with his peers and attracting outside companies to make use of BNL's cutting-edge facilities.

A gentle soul, Peter enjoyed spending time with family and interacting with his local community. He made charitable donations to a number of local organizations and was a great patron of music, drama and dance events in the area as well as in Manhattan. He embarked on a genealogical project to construct a Thieberger family tree and discovered many long lost relatives across the globe. He also took great efforts to connect his Argentinian family and friends with medical resources in the U.S. and helped assist a number of displaced South Americans with donations, employment and opportunities for growth.

Peter was fluent in German, Span-

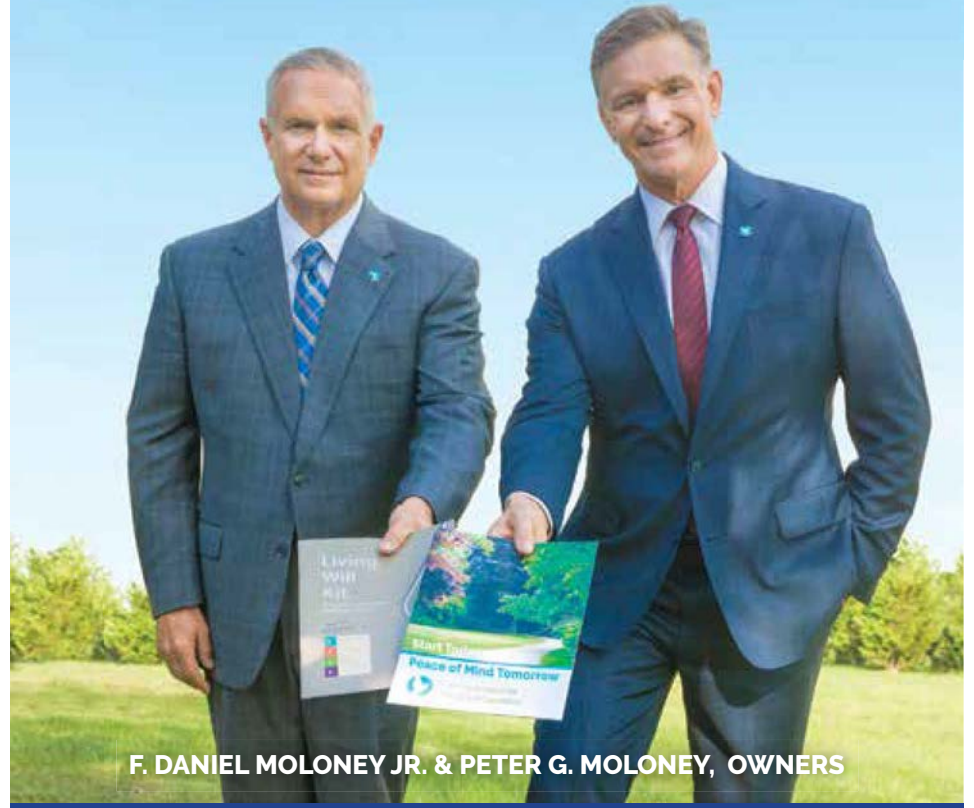


ish and English as well as Swedish during his years studying in Stockholm. When he wasn't visiting with family or friends, he enjoyed reading, watching movies, taking walks at Smith Point Beach or at local nature preserves and writing computer programs. A lover of animals from an early age, Peter was adored by the dogs and horses in his family. He was a generous neighbor, with a reputation for giving full-size candy bars on Halloween and occasionally hiring local kids to shovel him out after a blizzard. His gratitude and boisterous laughter touched everyone around him.

Peter is survived by his son Ed, daughter-in-law and granddaughter in Westchester County, NY, brother and sister-in-law, a niece and nephews and their families in Buenos Aires. The family has established a "Peter Thieberger Memorial STEM Scholarship" to be awarded annually to a Bellport High School senior pursuing a college degree in STEM fields (science, technology, engineering, mathematics). His legacy gift will benefit STEM students for generations and hopefully inspire others to support educational opportunities in these vital fields.

To make a donation, please contact STEMscholarship@thieberger.net.

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Bayport brews up bubble tea

High-end Chinese boba shop and bakery finds South Shore home

BY SAM DESMOND

The popular, posh, and Instagram-post-worthy drink, boba tea, has come to Bayport at The **BAYPORT** Whale Tea Bakery, making it one of the few bubble tea spots on the South Shore of Suffolk.

Allen Zhang, from Flushing, Queens—the epicenter of the boba tea world in New York City—said, “I have a friend in Bayport who told me there was no place close by to get bubble tea and I was scouting for a new location out east.” Zhang is the proprietor of a few boba tea shops in the Northeast.

With dozens of local community members posting on social media about their delightful experience sampling boba tea from Whale Tea’s expansive menu, Zhang said he has felt welcomed by Bayport and the surrounding area.

Many customers have come in who are curious about boba tea and tried it for the first time at Whale Tea.

“We have had so many people be open to trying something new, and it has been a great way to start the business,” said Zhang. “It’s been very busy and we’re trying to hire more people. We would like to hire local students so I can teach them the art of boba teamaking.”

Boba tea, also referred to as bubble tea, is a tea-based drink that originated in Taiwan in the early 1980s.

It most commonly consists of



The global phenomenon, bubble tea, is now available locally thanks to proprietor, Allen Zhang, who envisioned a new market for the Taiwanese concoction. Sweezy Photography

tea accompanied by chewy tapioca balls (“boba,” or “pearls”), but it can be made with other toppings as well, such as grass jelly, aloe vera, or red bean.

Bubble tea has many varieties and flavors, but the two most popular varieties are black pearl milk tea and green pearl milk tea.

At Whale Tea, the most requested and conventional versions are the brown sugar tea and fruit tea, made of jasmine green tea.

The younger crowd that has been frequenting Whale Tea has found an affinity for the fun “Poppin’ Boba,” a clear, juice-filled tapioca ball that comes in mango, strawberry, and yogurt varieties.

The Whale Tea Bakery is part of a

group of boba shops that originated in China and are part of an exclusive market of upscale, freshly made teas.

There are over 20 locations in the United States, with shops as far as Arizona.

What makes Whale Tea’s concoctions more luxurious is that they use only top-shelf ingredients for their bubble tea, which is home-brewed and never from powders.

“People will ask why our taro tea isn’t purple,” said Zhang, “but that’s because the powder is purple. We actually make

The Whale Tea Bakery at 771 Montauk Highway, Bayport, is offering a free birthday cake after the purchase of 10 bubble teas.

our taro tea from the vegetable, which resembles a sweet potato. We peel it and boil it and make almost a mashed potato from it that serves as the base for the tea.”

Whale Tea imports tea leaves directly from high-end suppliers in Taiwan and Japan.

Unlike other locations, the Bayport Whale Tea store has a full bakery, which Zhang has been using to turn out delectable American and Chinese pastries.

“We have made cupcakes and cake pops a lot, because we want to slowly introduce Chinese-style cakes to the community who may not have tried it before,” said Zhang.

The egg tart, a type of custard tart found in Hong Kong-style cuisine, is derived from the English custard tart and Portuguese pastel de nata, and the latest pastry to come out of the Whale Tea Bakery.

It is often served at dim sum restaurants and consists of an outer pastry crust filled with egg custard.

“We hope to popularize the egg tart and think that since it’s a type of fusion dessert, it will come off as familiar to people,” said Zhang. ■



Matcha, a popular Japanese flavor, is ubiquitous at the Whale Tea bakery. Sweezy Photography



The chiffon cake is made from freshly cooked taro, an herbaceous plant of the arum family (Araceae), and the taro frosting is made when combined with Swiss vanilla butter cream.

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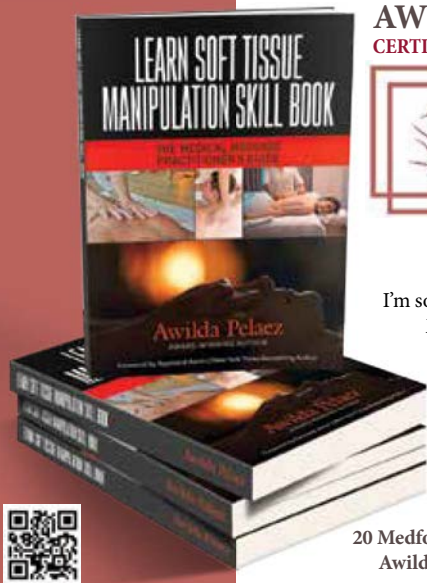
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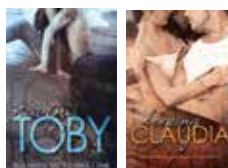
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