

GLEN COVE Record Pilot

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Thanks From SAFE

On Saturday, June 11, several hundred Glen Cove residents were able to receive information about local services and programs that promote family health, family unity, and a substance abuse free family environment. The 9th Annual Family Awareness Day Sponsored by the SAFE Glen Cove Coalition was a tremendous success. Raffles, DJ music, food and a spectacular substance abuse prevention program performed by a professional Stunt Cyclist on a beautiful sunny day at Morgan Park was enjoyed by all who attended.

On behalf of SAFE, we wish to thank area businesses, city and local agencies, and volunteers who helped to make this possible: SAFE, the Glen Cove Youth Bureau, Glen Cove After 3 Program, The Anti-Tobacco Action Coalition of Long Island, Glen Cove YMCA, NY Life, Affinity Health, The Safe Center of Long Island, NY State Department of Health, LI Health and Welfare Council, Wilson's Martial Arts, Risa Smiley Time Face Painting, Adrenaline Entertainment, Chris Clark Stunt Show, DJ Gary Rivera, Girl Scouts, LICADD, Kona Ice, ARNG Counter Drug Task Force & the Glen Cove Fire Department.

Generous donations from SAFE Board and staff members, Glen Cove PBA, Nassau County Bar Association We Care Fund, New York State Office of Alcoholism and Substance Abuse Services, the City of Glen Cove, the Glen Cove United Methodist Church, the Glen Cove Lions Club, The Pool Store of LI, Panera Bread, La Placitia, The View Grill, Franks Beer & Soda, The Glen Cove Beer Distributor, Vito's Pizza, Pollo Campero, Bagel Cafe and Starbucks which provided free advertising, entertainment and food. Raffle prizes that promoted family togetherness and community involvement included Elite Resorts, The Downtown Cafe., Rising Tide, NY Jets, Adventure Land, YMCA, St. Rocco Bakery, Ben's, La Famiglia, Fabulous Nail and Spa, NY Cosmos,

NY Giants, Long Island Ducks, Chicago Cubs, Sal's Pizza, Bagel Café, Starbucks, Splash Splash, Melba's New Look, Locust Valley Bagels, Valley Trophy, Glen Cove Cinema, Alsteade Farms, NY Red Bulls, Sundown, Salon Pop, John W. Engeman Theater and Glen Floors.

This year's event was chaired by SAFE's administrative assistant Patti Averopoulos, with the support of the FAD Planning Committee that included SAFE staff: Ashley Ferruffino, Laurent Caballero, Spiro Tsirkas and coalition volunteers Donna Christ and Maria Rivera Hlatky and Mary Cooper. Event volunteers included SAFE Board members Georgie Connett, Tony Jimenez, Larry Fischer, Reverend William Wendler, Anne Marie Gailius and Mary Behang. Community volunteers included Isabella Bifano, Joanna Christ, Haley Gielbeda, Carolina Guastella Franmarie Hlatky Rivera and Monsi Munoz.

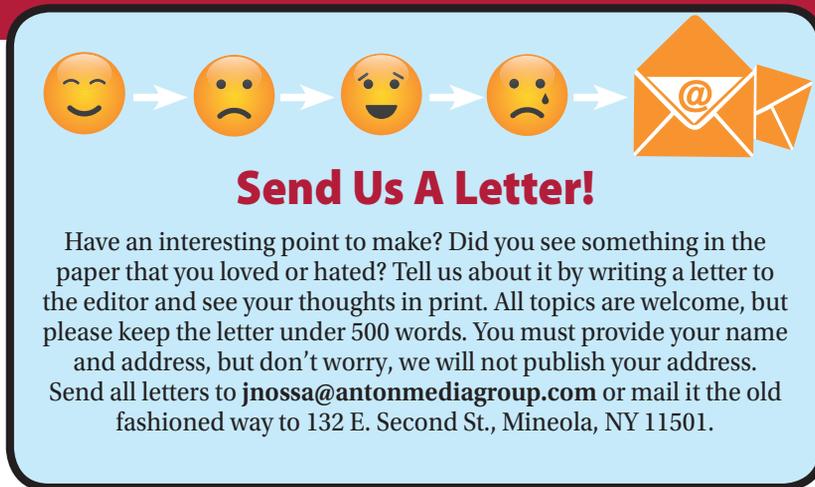
A special thank you to attendees Mayor Reginald Spinello, City Councilman Roderick Watson and Councilwoman Pamela Panzenback, Delia DeRiggi Whitton, City Hall's Parks & Recreation Department who not only helped with the use of Morgan Park, but the department's director Darcy Belyea and staff José Benitez and Cipriano Yanes graciously assisted with event preparations and set-up, which greatly contributed to a very successful event.

The SAFE Glen Cove Coalition is grateful for the opportunity to educate the community on the risks of substance abuse and to provide prevention materials and healthy alternatives that are available to our children and families.

—Georgie Connett,
SAFE Board Chair

Angel Mailman

The smell of grilled burgers and franks filled the air and friendly chatter set the mood throughout the courtyard barbecue. Suddenly, the



Send Us A Letter!

Have an interesting point to make? Did you see something in the paper that you loved or hated? Tell us about it by writing a letter to the editor and see your thoughts in print. All topics are welcome, but please keep the letter under 500 words. You must provide your name and address, but don't worry, we will not publish your address. Send all letters to jnossa@antonmediagroup.com or mail it the old fashioned way to 132 E. Second St., Mineola, NY 11501.

group beside me lowered their voices and began discussing someone with a tone of sadness. At first, I thought someone was ill or even worse, died. Not the case! The conversation was about our mailman, Tom, who had just retired. Stories were exchanged and I joined the group as we each confirmed our fondness for him.

Most mail carriers are hard-working, efficient and above all, courteous. Tom was all that, but so much more. We were always guaranteed a big friendly smile on a scorching summer's day or a frost-bitten winter's morning. I've seen him patiently hold a handful of letters in the maillot so a child, smiling in delight, could retrieve them and take them to her mom. With pounds of mail slung over his shoulder he would stop and carry an elderly woman's packages up the stairway or assist a young mother who just dropped her baby's tote bag. Personally, I was fortunate to have him place my mail on my foyer table since he knew my injured back prevented me from bending down. His acts of kindness were endless.

If you had witnessed the exchange of admiration at the barbecue, you would have felt you were in a "Modern Day Mayberry." One neighbor told of his days in the Navy when he wrote home to his folks. He always included a "Hi Tom" on the side of his postcard.

He took time to loosen stubborn pickle jar lids, took a minute to

listen to the scrambled words of an autistic boy and informed residents when their postage was inadequate. These daily kindnesses were not uncommon.

Someone also mentioned that "Tommy" never had his hand out for a tip. People displayed their appreciation with hot chocolate and cold water, depending on the weather, or a simple candy treat.

One would guess Tom's little special services would affect mail delivery. Not true! I could set my clock with his timely delivery. He could move!

I never knew his full name. To most he was referred to as "Tommy, the mailman." I kidded him once that he was "The Angel Mailman."

So... "Tommy Angel Mailman," if you're reading this, I believe it would be fair to say all of us at Truesdell Village wish you a wonderful retirement! Also, best wishes to you and your family for a healthy, happy life. We will sorely miss your efficient service and most of all "You Just Being You."

—Diana "DeeGee" Beasley



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