



**FRANCESCO'S
FOUNDATION**

PRESS



www.francescosfoundation.org

AN ADVENTURE IN WELLNESS

PURIST

**KELLY
RIPA**
MORNING TV'S
REIGNING
QUEEN

HOW TO POWER
YOUR BRAIN

CANNABINOIDS
AND INTIMACY

+

JOAN BAEZ
CANDACE BUSHNELL
RENÉE COX
ROBERT DOWNEY JR.
A.M. HOMES



MINDFUL

A MOTHER'S TALE

After her son's suicide, **Diana Cochran** sprang into action and created Francesco's Foundation to raise awareness about the deadly consequences of bullying.

In the early hours of October 21, 2021, my life changed forever.

I heard a frantic banging on my front door in Water Mill. It was my older son, Jamie, in floods of tears. He told me Francesco, his brother, was dead. He had died by suicide on Little Plains Beach in Southampton a few hours after midnight. He was 17 years old.

All I could do was scream WHY WHY WHY WHY, again and again for what seemed like an eternity. How could this happen? I had just dropped him at school the morning of October 20. He had turned around and given me a huge hug and smile and shouted, "I love you, Mummy!" That was the last time I saw him. The night before, we'd had a lovely dinner at the Bell & Anchor in Sag Harbor. Francesco was so excited about his upcoming interview at Amherst College. He had just got a 1520 SAT score and was an honors student with straight A's, all of which came easily to him.

My partner, Jennifer Allsop, in an attempt to get me out of my despair following Francesco's death, suggested we go skiing in Aspen and stay with her friend Melissa Temple. Melissa was the president of AspenOUT, a nonprofit organization that provides financial assistance to grassroots charities helping the LGBTQ community in Aspen as well as nationally. She thought Jen and I should start a nonprofit in Francesco's honor to help other teens—to help prevent bullying and teen suicide, especially those in high-risk categories such as those in the LGBTQ community.

It had transpired over the last few weeks of Francesco's life that he had been cyberbullied because of his sexual orientation. Francesco had been openly bisexual among his friends since he was 15. He grew up in an environment where your sexuality didn't define who you were, and suddenly he was being ridiculed and gossiped about, his only outlet being a site with bold, cartoony graphics, which most parents assume is focused on video games. But on this site he shared his darkest thoughts with total strangers.

Jennifer and I set about creating Francesco's Foundation with the sponsorship of AspenOUT.



from left: Diana and Francesco Cochran, Jennifer Allsop

We decided we should have three pillars: the prevention of bullying and suicide, gun safety with minors in the house, and internet safety. We are already working with an established nonprofit, the Yes Institute. It provides teachers, parents and students with the tools to help teenagers through programs they create in communities and schools, specifically to prevent bullying and suicide. The Yes Institute has 28 years of experience working in

several states all over the U.S.

I have also just lobbied in Washington for Ethan's Law, a nonpartisan safe-storage law that has already been passed in Connecticut to protect minors from unsecured guns in the home. After meetings with several congressmen and senators, I had the honor of a private conference with Nancy Pelosi. I am lobbying to make this commonsense law federal. Regarding internet safety, we aim to educate parents and teens about the dangers of certain internet sites. We are also in preliminary talks with a mental health sports charity, RALLY4EVER, to help get disadvantaged teens away from their devices and involved in healthy activities. This charity has been set up by Louise Fleming, a BBC tennis commentator and former professional tennis player.

There is no greater time to prevent teen suicide. According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, 1 in 5 teenagers thinks about killing themselves. A recent Gallup poll shows that 19.7% of Generation Z members identify as LGBTQ, and LGBTQ teenagers are four times more likely to attempt suicide than their peers.

After the devastation of my precious son's death, I have chosen to honor Francesco's memory by creating a foundation with my partner, Jennifer. Francesco's Foundation has been set up to help prevent the worst of tragedies happening to other parents and families and to help save valuable teenage lives. francescosfoundation.org
If you are having thoughts of suicide, help is available by calling or texting 988, the Suicide and Crisis Lifeline. 🌸



The inaugural gala in support of the foundation is on September 16, from 6PM, at EHP Resort & Marina.

Yogi Document

PURIST

NEW YORK

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LIFESTYLES

MAGAZINE

**ALL
THAT
GLITTERS**

AN INTERVIEW WITH
JEWELRY DESIGNER

ANNA ZUCKERMAN



FRANCESCO'S FOUNDATION

SEEKING AN END TO TEEN SUICIDE

By HARRY BRADS

Francesco's Foundation has been created to help prevent teenage suicide by providing financial support for education in schools, where the focus will be on the prevention of all types of bullying, including that of the LGBTQ+ community. It focuses on education about the risks of teenagers engaging in dangerous activities online, education about the dangers of leaving firearms unsecured with teenagers in the house—all of which contribute to heightening risks of teenage suicide.

Seventeen-year-old Francesco took his life with an unsecured shotgun in October 2021 on a warm evening in the Hamptons. The police discovered him after a call from a school friend. No parent should ever have to live with that image.

The aftermath of his death has devastated his two mothers, who lived apart, family and friends from Winchester College in the UK, and his latest school, The Stony Brook Prep School.

Before Francesco's unexpected death, he had an exciting future ahead of him. For a seventeen-year-old, he had already accomplished a lot, gaining entry to Winchester College in the UK, amongst the top high schools in the world. He played the violin at Carnegie Hall and Lincoln Center, was an accomplished sailor, and was very popular with students and teachers alike. He had a great sense of humor and a zest for life. He was an honor and straight-A student, gaining an SAT score in the top 99th percentile. He was very excited about an interview at Amherst only two days after he took his life. Francesco had no history of depression or drug or alcohol use.

Francesco was open about his sexuality and had confided in everyone but his family. First with his girlfriend in Ireland, then more recently with his boyfriend and with all his school friends in the UK and USA. His only mistake had been divulging his questioning sexuality to school friends in the USA; the last few weeks of his life were the target of spiteful, malicious lies, gay slurs, and ridicule due to his sexual orientation. Finally, one night he was unable to take anymore, and he had a very uncharacteristic night of recklessness. Although he had not set out to end his life that night, he did.

Francesco's Foundation has been set up by Francesco's mother, Diana, and her partner, Jennifer, to honor his memory and to help reduce the terrible risk of teenage suicide by providing financial help for charities investing in the education of teenage mental health.



Francesco's Foundation is a 501c (3) registered charity whose mission is to promote hope and prevent teen suicide. The Organization has a holistic vision for achieving this goal and provides grants to various organizations and individuals. Francesco's Foundation partners with organizations that work to end online and offline bullying of LGBTQ+ teens, increase access to mental health and other supportive services, promote awareness of best practices for firearm storage, and more. In addition, the foundation provides grants for supportive services and college tuition.

The foundation aims to work towards introducing legislation regarding the safe storage of sporting shotguns—not intended for self-defense but for sport, and therefore not protected by the second amendment. This legislation would pertain mainly when minors are in the same house where a shotgun is stored.

Diana Cochran and her partner, Jennifer Allsop, are working tirelessly to make changes at schools to protect the mental health of teenagers and help prevent more unnecessary teenage suicides. In addition, they are working to make significant changes to the country with the help of Board members.

Their efforts echo the social issues raised by the president in his 2023 State of The Union Address, where President Biden said, "Let's do more on mental health, especially for our children. When millions of young people struggle with bullying, violence, and trauma, we owe them greater access to mental health care at school."

The foundation has set a date for an inaugural fundraiser this September 2023 in partnership with AspenOut. For more information on Francesco's Foundation and purchasing tickets, visit francescosfoundation.org; for HamptonsOut, visit hamptonsout.com

METROPOLITAN

LUXURY MAGAZINE

PALM BEACH

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FRANCESCO'S FOUNDATION LAUNCHED TO HELP PREVENT TEENAGE SUICIDE

Francesco (photo credit: Francesco's Foundation)

501c(3) Registered Charity Plans Inaugural Fundraising Event in the Hamptons This Summer 2023

Francesco's Foundation has been created to help prevent teenage suicide through providing financial support for education in schools, where the focus will be on prevention of all types of bullying including and in particular that of the LGBTQIA+ community, education about the risks of teenagers engaging in dangerous activities on-line, education about the risks of leaving firearms unsecured with teenagers in the house - all of which contribute to heightening risks of teenage suicide.

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The aftermath of his death has devastated his two mothers, who lived apart, family and friends from Winchester College in the UK and his latest school, The Stony Brook Prep School. Some close young friends have had mental breakdowns and

were unable to return to their studies-all these lives will be severely affected forever-such was the love that they all had for Francesco. For his parents the grief is unimaginable and a life sentence.

Prior to Francesco's unexpected death he had a very exciting future ahead of him. For a seventeen-year-old boy he had already accomplished a lot-gaining entry to Winchester College in the UK, amongst the top high schools in the world, he had played the violin at both Carnegie Hall and the Lincoln Center, was an accomplished sailor, very popular with students and teachers alike. He had a great sense of humor and a zest for life. He was an honors and straight A student and had gained an SAT score in the top 99th percentile. He was very excited about an interview at Amherst, only two days after he took his life. He had no history of depression, drug or alcohol use.

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HAMPTONS POWER COUPLE





FRANCESCO'S FOUNDATION

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A major new report from the CDC published in February 2023 shows that there has been a huge increase in teenage suicide, especially amongst girls and the LGBTQ community. The report shows that one in four teenagers identifying as lesbian, bisexual or gay attempted suicide in the first half of 2021. Nearly 50% of teenagers identifying as lesbian, gay or bisexual seriously considered suicide in the same time frame. One in three teenage girls reported seriously considering suicide.

Gun violence is now the leading cause of death in children 0-19 years in the United States. Nearly half of those gun deaths are by suicide. The foundation aims to work towards introducing legislation regarding the safe storage of sporting shotguns - those that are not intended for self-defense but for sport, and therefore not protected by the second amendment. This legislation would pertain particularly when there are minors in the same house a shotgun is stored.

Gaming sites like Discord rank amongst the top five apps or platforms for content flagged by its algorithms for severe violence, bullying, sexual content and suicide ideation. Most parents have no idea their children are engaging in such dangerous activities.

Diana Cochran and her partner, Jennifer Allsop are working tirelessly to make changes at schools to protect the mental health of teenagers and help prevent more unnecessary teenage suicides. They are working to make significant changes to the country with the help of Board members.

Their efforts echo the social issues raised by the president in his 2023 State of The Union Address where President Biden said, "Let's do more on mental health, especially for our children. When millions of young people are struggling with bullying, violence and trauma we owe them greater access to mental health care at school."

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Tickets are on sale now at www.Francescosfoundation.org and www.HamptonOut.com

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Photo credits: Francesco's Foundation



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FRANCESCO'S FOUNDATION

*Sets the Conversation on Teenage
Suicide Prevention.*

Inaugural Event in the Hamptons at the Home of
co-Founder Diana Cochran

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Summer Colony
BEACHCOMBER

BY ALEX LITTLEFIELD

It is so nice to finally be here! I arrived late Thursday night. I was totally exhausted and went straight to bed. Got up Friday morning and walked into town to get a cup of coffee and check things out. I was delighted to see Buddy on his leash, standing guard at Ralph's Barber Shop.

Upon the rest of the day unpacking and getting settled in. That evening it was off to the Canoe Place Inn for a concert and dinner.

Fever Productions presented Candlelight, a concert by a tribute band performing the music of Queen. Imagine a dark room with the only light source coming from thousands of artificial candles spread out all over the place. It was amazing.

You can imagine my surprise when four young ladies took the stage with their stringed instruments — two violins, a cello and viola. This was not what I expected. I have to say, Queen hit on the strings was an incredible experience, and the audience was into it, providing the vocals for all the songs.

Afterward, we had dinner outside at the Canoe Place Inn restaurant. The place was overflowing with customers. Our server was Evan, who thankfully took great care of us. By the way, dinner was delicious.

Saturday, I spent the day walking the grounds of six stunning homes in Southampton for the inaugural Southampton Animal Shelter Garden Tour. Afterward, there was a party at the lovely home of Elizabeth Robertson. Guests enjoyed cocktails and tea sandwiches on the lawn while checking out several dogs that were available for adoption.



Elizabeth Robertson and Sandra McConnell at the cocktail party for the Southampton Animal Shelter Garden Tour.

Seen chatting about the garden tour: Maggie Kirkbride, Nancy Stone, Renee Scholthorpe, Bridget Fitzgerald, Peter Hallock, Christ Meskar, Barbara Glatt, Howard Martin, Lucy Pugh, Sandra McConnell, Ann Vawney, Lyn Hansen, Elizabeth Hignell, Susie Wagner, Annette Gaddes, William Manuka, Rosalie Brisson and Debbie Bascroft.

Next stop of the night was the Southampton Arts Center for a cocktail party titled "Whimsy in the Garden." Due to the unpredictable weather, the center made the decision to move the event inside, which was a great idea.

Guests walked the rooms of the center admiring five amazing exhibits of Harry Benson photographs that adorn the walls. We were treated to an incredible array of nibbles prepared by Robbin Wolf Givens, who outdid themselves that night — absolutely delicious.

I had the pleasure of meeting the center's new executive director, Christina Strao-Field. I think she will be an excellent addition to SAC.

Seen enjoying the evening: Emily and Erin Awar, Sylvia Harnburg, Mary Slattery, Joelle O'Hanlon, Peter Hallock, newly elected Mayor Bill Mangano, Ellen Webb, Sheila and Steve Landsberg, Paul Travis and Mark Fehander, Helena and Rob Valradi-ano, Peter Davis, Ted Hildeer, Oron Cummings, Robert Lehman, Lauren Day Roberts, Elizabeth Molares, Brendan Johnson and Katie Whipple, Suzanne Caldwell, Polly and Roy Stevenson, Whitney Stevens, and James and Peter Gregory. You can see all the pictures from the event in the "On The Town" section of the paper.

The last stop of the night was at a private home on Nox-



Diana Cochran, Joseph Zolbeczak, Jennifer Allsop and Kevin McManamon at the Francesco's Foundation cocktail party.

Pat's. The evening was to raise awareness and funds for Francesco's Foundation. The aim of the foundation is to provide financial support for established and grassroots charities to combat the effects of cyber bullying and noncyber bullying on the mental health of teenagers.

They work especially closely with the LGBT community to provide funds to ensure a sanctuary of life for union with relation to safe storage of guns in homes.

The foundation works to educate parents to look for the signs that their children are being bullied. They also work with teachers and law enforcement to try to prevent bullying in schools.

Unfortunately, this was founded because Francesco was bullied and thought the only answer was to take his own life. It was a very emotional evening for all the guests, and especially for me. I found it so heartwarming. I commend Diana Cochran for having the strength to set up this foundation in honor of her son.

Seen listening intently to the speeches: Brian Brady, Debbie Bascroft, Kevin McManamon, Jennifer Allsop, Katherine Heald, Erin Urmas, Ebon Llyfjani, Maria and Soren White, Norren Douvan, Sara Shala, Joan Shafferoff, Elena Gibbs, Jack Harcourt, Leticia Diaz, Anthony King, Brooke Kelly Murray and Patrick Murray.

Sunday evening I headed over to the Southampton Arts Center for "Fashion Lives" with Fern Mallis. Fern hosts a series of talks at the 52nd Street Y, where she has interviewed some of the biggest names in the fashion industry.

This night, close friends and colleagues Stan Herman and Jeffrey Banks turned the ta-



Stan Herman, Fern Mallis and Jeffrey Banks at Fashion Lives: "AFashion Lives" at SAC.

blets on Fern and interviewed her. The audience learned about her career in the world of fashion and how she was the driving force putting together Fashion Week in New York City under the tents at Bryant Park, also known as 7th on 6th.

Guests enjoying the talk included: James and Peter Gregory, Nancy Stone, Pam Walker, Susie Wagner, Arthur Elgert and his wife, Greta, Lee Fryd, Susan Cashling, Ted Taylor, Kara Ross, Ilyn Kronmeyer, Joe Diamond and Ellen Webb. Afterward, Fern signed copies of her new book, "Fashion Icons 2."

This weekend has some of my favorite events of the summer. On Friday night, the Southampton Penn Air Home will host its annual American Peasie Game for the kids, great food and Great Brews will make for a fantastic night.

The Crawford girls will host their annual Fourth of July jewelry show this Saturday and Sunday. Thank goodness, and need a gift for a dear friend. Sip a little champagne and shop for some bling.

On Saturday night, the Southampton History Museum will host its annual Halley House Gala at the Halley

Homestead on South Main Street. Celebrate our village's history while enjoying cocktails and a wonderful silent auction.

Sunday evening, the Bagin Memorial Library will host a Cabaret Night. The event starts at 5:30 p.m. on the terrace, followed by a wonderful fashion.

And don't forget the Fourth of July Parade on Tuesday — it's not to be missed.

Hope to see you there!

Alex Littlefield
beachcomber@presspost.com

The Southhampton Press

WESTERN EDITION

WIRE:

East End Little League's 12 All-Stars are battling in District 36 Tournament. **A35**



MONOGRAPH:

The work of Stella Lamont Roehmi Architects is subject of new book. **R1**



ORDER UP!:

At The Hampton Maid, a successive generation is leaving things up in the kitchen. **B1**



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Crossing the Finish Line

Alexander Joseph Markland O'Henry receives his diploma at Westhampton Beach High School on Friday evening. Right, Hampton Bays High School valedictorian Liam Setton takes as offie with Principal Christopher Robert. **Graduation, Page A23** DINA SHERIDAN



BESS Is Still A Hot Topic In Town

Officials address a rising level of concern

BY KATY NEHRILL

Battery energy storage systems, and in particular one proposed off the North Road in Hampton Bays, have dominated discussion in Southhampton Town Hall this week with the Town Board voting to schedule a public hearing on a three-month moratorium on BESS applications at its Tuesday, June 27, meeting.

An at-times obstreperous audience questioned two board members at a Hampton Bays Civic Association meeting on Monday night, and still another discussion about the sustainable energy strategy took place during the June 22 Town Board work session. Meanwhile, an online petition in opposition to the project garnered over 2,000 signatures in just 30 days.

Speakers at the podium during Tuesday night's Town Board meeting reiterated a laundry list of concerns that have been voiced since the Canal Southhampton Battery Storage application came to light earlier this year. Fearful of the new and untried technology, community members are worried about the potential for a disastrous fire and adamantly opposed

See **D3N1**, Page A1

OBITUARY

'Sonny' Mattera, 91, Served Up Bonhomie

BY CELIA REILLY



Sonny Mattera with his grandchildren, from left Anthony, Sofia and Victoria Mattera.

Village Prime Abaco opened in East Quogue in 1988, but over the years it has been in business, it has been known by a much simpler name: Sonny's. Anthony "Sonny" Mattera, a Queens native who opened the butcher shop and Italian specialties store 35 years ago, became a fixture in the East Quogue community, known as much for his vibrant personality, sense of humor and deep love for his family as for the

high-quality burgers, homemade meatballs and sauce, and top-quality cuts of meat that made his business a success. He died on June 12, at the age of 91.

The risk personified by the pandemic kept Sonny out of the store in recent years, although it has been in good hands for a long time, with his youngest son, Michael, running the show alongside his older brother, John.

A half-hour-long video compilation put together for Son-

ny's milestone 90th birthday in 2021 allowed friends and family who may have visited the store to deliver their birthday wishes in person, and express their love and gratitude to him. What they shared gets to the heart of what he meant to people who knew him over the years. Several people in the video said that Sonny was "like a father" to them; one said he named his dog after Sonny.

One longtime customer spoke

See **D3N1**, Page A13



Southampton Town Councilman Rick Marti. KATY NEHRILL

BOONE'S ROCK JOURNEY STARTED HERE

Bassist for The Lovin' Spoonful returns for show on the East End, where his roots grow deep

BY KATY NEHRILL

When Steve Boone takes the stage with his band, The Lovin' Spoonful, at the Westhampton Beach Performing Arts Center on July 2, you could say it will be more than just a gig for the musician and his legendary band.

It will, in fact, be a homecoming. That's because Boone, the Spoonful's longtime — and original — bass player, is a local boy in the most authentic sense of the term.

Back in the 1920s and 1930s, Boone's

family owned The Howell House Hotel in Westhampton Beach — it was demolished in the 1970s — and Boone's nephew Emmett Boone is the husband of WHBPA's director, Julianne Penza Boone. A 1964 graduate of Westhampton Beach High School, who was added to the school's Wall of Fame in 2012, Boone even helped out at the Hampton Chronicle, a precursor to The Southampton Press. His 19th edition, when his mother managed the newspaper.

"I would help her deliver papers whenever her regular boy wouldn't show

up," recalled Boone in a recent phone interview. "It was great. Having a room in the newspaper business was a neat thing."

But, in fact, Boone's local connections go even farther back and further east — specifically, to East Hampton, where his family moved when he was 15 years old. Boone still recalls with nostalgia the minimal traffic, laid-back vibe and pristine naturalism of the town that defined his youth and life on the East End in those days.

See **D3N1**, Page A10



Steve Boone with Mama Cass. CHRISTOPHER SHERIDAN



IN FOCUS:
Guid Hall's galleries
reopen with 'Tonic Cox:
A Proof of Being.' B1

FREE TAKE ONE WITH YOU!



MONOGRAPH:
The work of Stella Lavont
Rough Architects is subject
of new book. R1



ALL-STARS:
East Hampton Little League
teams are off and running in
District 36 tournaments. A32

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The Class Of 2023 Takes a Bow

East Hampton High School graduation on Friday night. Right, East Hampton High School salutatorian Aryan Chah. See *Graduation*, Page A19



School Faces Difficult Budget Choices

Wainscott has 'a lot on the table'

BY MICHAEL WRIGHT

Still clearly shell-shocked by the rejection from voters of a budget that could threaten the very existence of the Wainscott School District, the school's administrators and School Board this past week began hashing out exactly what their options for closing the budget deficit the vote has left them with.

The choices are few. Preschool and possibly even kindergarten programs could be dropped—neither is mandated as part of a school district's required programming.

Students who were due to matriculate out of the two-room, pre-kindergarten-to-third grade classrooms in fourth grade classes in other regional districts could be kept in Wainscott because, perhaps ironically, expanding the grades at the school could represent a savings.

Officials said that the district's ability to fund some of the highest special education services for students also could be in question.

"There's going to be a lot on the table," David Tagan, the president of the Wainscott School Board, said during a clear first discussion by board members and school administrators on Wednesday, June 21—less than 24 hours after the Wainscott budget failed for a second time, despite having received a majority of votes in favor of allowing it. "We may have to tell people we are not funding pre-K next year. We may have classes staying here next year."

With a shortfall of at least \$2.2 million between what state law will allow the operating budget to be in light of the

See WAINSCOTT, Page A1

A New Inlet for Napeague Harbor Is a Costly Proposal

Trustees weigh benefits of in-depth study

BY MICHAEL WRIGHT

The East Hampton Town Trustees are wrestling with the issue of a new study of Napeague Harbor and what it means for their long-held belief that re-establishing a second inlet into the harbor is a necessary step to restoring the ecological health of the harbor after years of decline.

Members of the Trustees seemed split to some extent, at least at first blush, about whether the benefits to the

harbor of reopening a new inlet at the eastern end of what is known as Hicks Island—but has been a peninsula since 2007—is worth the high cost of the scientific analysis, engineering and eventual dredging work that would be required to establish a new primary inlet.

After the completion of a preliminary analysis of the harbor, officials from the Peconic Estuary Program, which funded

Before the expense of the work, the price of the studies looms large.

See TRUSTEES, Page A7

A HOMECOMING FOR A BAND WITH LOCAL ROOTS

BY ANNETTE WHALE

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Steve Boone with Mama Cass.

Fame in 2012, Boone even helped out at the Hampton Chronicle, a precursor to The Southampton Press-Western Edition, when his mother managed the newspaper. "I would help her deliver papers whenever her regular boy wouldn't show up," recalled Boone in a recent phone interview. "It was

See SPOONFUL, Page A6



The Kingsmen performing at the Cottage Inn in East Hampton. Back, from left, Steve Boone, Joe Butler, Sonny Bohari and drummer Jan Bucher. Front: Skip Boone and Clay Sotnick.

Summer Colony BEACHCOMBER

BY KELLIE THIBOD

It is so nice to finally be here! I learned late Thursday night I was sadly scheduled and soon straight to bed. Got up Friday morning and walked into town to get a cup of coffee and check things out. I was delighted to see Ricky on his beach, standing guard at Ralph's Barber Shop.

Upon the set of the dry-unpacking and getting settled in. That evening, it was off to the Canoe Place Inn for a concert and dinner.

River Productions presented Candlelight, a concert by a tribute band performing the music of Queen. Imagine a dark room with the only light source coming from thousands of artificial candles spread out all over the place. It was amazing.

You can imagine my surprise when four young ladies took the stage with their stringed instruments — two violins, a cello and viola. This was not what I expected! I have to say, Queen's hit on the strings was an incredible experience, and the audience was into it, providing the vocals for all the songs.

Afterward, we had dinner outside at the Canoe Place Inn restaurant. The place was overflowing with customers. Our server was Fran, who thankfully took great care of us. In the way, dinner was delicious.

Saturday, I spent the day walking the grounds of six stunning homes in Southampton for the inaugural Southampton Animal Shelter Garden Tour. Afterward, there was a party at the lovely home of Elizabeth Roberts. Guests enjoyed cocktails and tea sandwiches on the lawn while checking out several dogs that were available for adoption.



Elizabeth Robertson and Sandra McComel at the cocktail party at the Southampton Animal Shelter Garden Tour.

Seem chatting about the garden tour. Maggie Killebride, Nancy Stone, Anne Killebride, Blythe Fitzgerald, Peter Hallock, Christy Meskhat, Barbara Glatt, Howard Martin, Lucy Polg, Sandra McComel, Jan Vannoy, Ivo Hauser, Elizabeth Elgert, Susie Wagner, Annette Geddes, William Manoska, Rosalie Robinson and Debbie Bancroft.

Next stop of the night was the Southampton Arts Center for a cocktail party titled "Whiskey in the Garden." Due to the unpredictable weather, the center made the decision to move the event inside, which was a great idea.

Guests walked the rooms of the center admiring the amazing exhibit of Harry Benson photographs that adorn the walls. We were treated to an incredible array of exhibits prepared by Robbin Wolfe Carrison, who opened themselves that night — absolutely delicious.

I had the pleasure of meeting the center's new executive director, Christina Mann Field. I think she will be an excellent addition to SAC.

Seem enjoying the evening. Emily and Erin Aves, Sylvia Houtingsma, Mary Slattery, Joelle O'Hanlon, Peter Hallock, newly elected Mayor Bill Manque, Elias Weich, Beth and Steve Landsberg, Paul Trevis and Mark Fehander, Helena and Bob Valeriani, Peter Drick, Ted Hillier, Owen Cummings, Robert Lehman, Lauren Day Roberts, Elizabeth Mulvane, Brendan Johnson and Katie Whipple, Suzanne Caldwell, Polly and Roy Stevenson, Whitney Steves, and Janice and Peter Gregory. You can see all the pictures from the event in the "On The Town" section of the paper.

The last stop of the night was at a private home on Bay.



Dana Cochran, Joseph Zolozak, Jennifer Allsup and Kevin McMannan at the Francisco's Foundation cocktail party.

Pat's. The evening was to raise awareness and funds for Francisco's Foundation. The aim of the foundation is to provide financial support for established and emerging charities to combat the effects of cyber bullying and identity theft, along with the mental health of teenagers.

They work especially closely with the LGBT community to provide funds to ensure a safety of life for anyone with relation to safe usage of gas in homes.

The foundation works to educate parents to look for the signs that their children are being bullied. They also work with schools and law enforcement to try to prevent bullying in schools.

Unfortunately, this was cancelled because Francisco was injured and thought the only answer was to take his own life. It was a very emotional evening for all the guests, and especially for me. I found it so heartbreaking. I commended Dana Cochran for having the strength to set up the foundation in honor of her son.

Seem listening intently to the speaker. Brian Brady, Debbie Bancroft, Kevin McMannan, Jennifer Allsup, Katherine Holbert, Erin Urtes, Elton Lijak, Maria and Susan White, Susan Desmar, Sara Shala, Joan Shaloff, Elena Gibbs, Jack Harriott, Lorna Diaz, Anthony King, Brooke Kelly Murray and Patrick Moore.

Sunday evening I headed over to the Southampton Arts Center for "Fashion Live" with Fern Malin. Fern hosts a series of talks at the "Old Store", where she has featured some of the biggest names in the fashion industry. This night, close friends and colleagues Susie Herman and Jeffrey Banks joined the ta-



Susie Herman, Fern Malin and Jeffrey Banks at Fashion Live.

lks on Fern and interviewed her. The audience learned about her career in the world of fashion and how she was the driving force putting together Fashion Week in New York City under the tents at Bryant Park, also known as 7th on 6th.

Guests enjoying the talk included Janice and Peter Gregory, Nancy Stone, Pam Walker, Susie Wagner, Arthur Elgert and his wife, Greta, Lee Fryd, Susane Carlsberg, Ted Taylor, Kara Ross, Elyn Kroonenoye, Joe Diamond and Ellen Weich. Afterward, Fern signed copies of her new book, "Fashion Icons 2."

This weekend has some of my favorite events of the summer. On Friday night, the Southampton Fresh Air Home will host its annual American Picnic. Games for the kids, great food and Grand fireworks will make for a fantastic night.

The Crawford girls will host their annual Fourth of July jewelry show this Saturday and Sunday. Thank goodness, and send a gift for a dear friend. Sip a little champagne and shop for somebling.

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Homestead on South Main Street. Celebrate our village's history while enjoying cocktails and a wonderful silent auction.

Sunday evening, the Hampton Memorial Library will host a Cabaret Night. The event starts at 5:30 pm, on the terrace, followed by a wonderful show.

And don't forget the Fourth of July Parade on Tuesday — it's not to be missed. Hope to see you there!

Alex Lindfield
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Featured Pieces by
Sandra Herman



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LEGAL ADVERTISING:
Friday, June 30th by 12 p.m.



Because of the 4th
of July Holiday, our
deadlines are early for
the issue of July 6th, 2023.

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ALL-STARS:
Southampton Little League teams are firing well in District 36 Tournament. **A40**



WHODUNNIT?:
Boy Street Theater's noir-inspired 'Red M for Murder' opens this week. **B1**



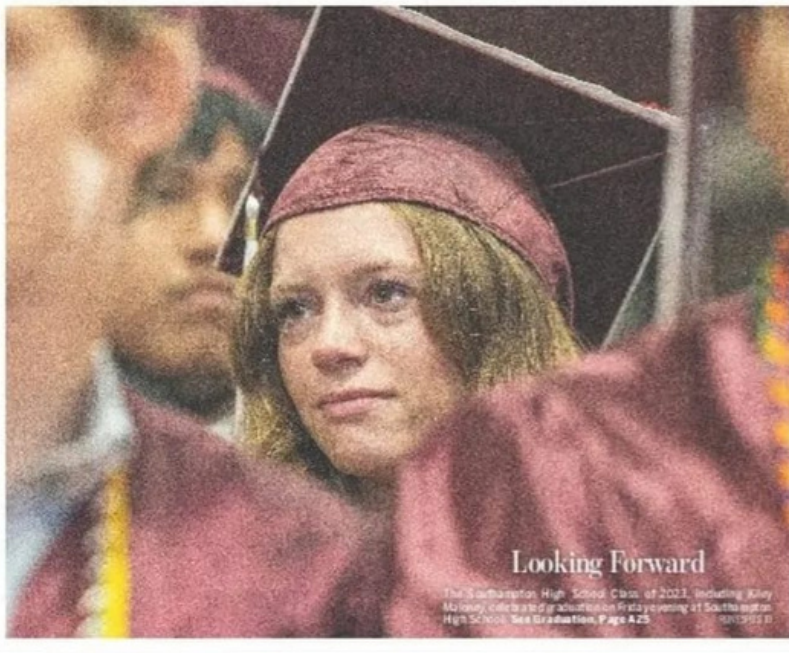
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Looking Forward

The Southampton High School Class of 2023, including Kiley McJannet, celebrates graduation this evening at Southampton High School. **See GRADUATION, Page A25**

Fire District Wants New Station

Site in Water Mill purchased for project

BY KATY HEBELL

When a massive fire broke out at a home in Water Mill on the Sunday afternoon of Memorial Day weekend, volunteers who live in the hamlet had another kind of battle on their hands before they could turn their attention to the flames: traffic.

Members living in the hamlet had to try to get to their apparatus at the fire station on Hampton Road in Southampton Village, then turn back east and race to the scene. Anyone over stuck in the "made-parade" or holiday congestion on the stretch from the County Road 39 terminus to the hamlet's downtown knows it can take 10 minutes to move just a mile.

Some 18 years ago, when the Southampton Board of Fire Commissioners was formed, members were tasked with finding a site suitable for a fire station in Water Mill. On Thursday, June 22, commissioners David Price and Roy Wilkes appeared before the Southampton Town Planning Board with a concept they believe is the right one.

The fire district has procured a 4.3-acre property located at 318 Upper Seven Ponds Road and showed the board a plan for a 4,620-square-foot fire station. The goal of the work session, Wilkes said, was to start a dialogue with the board and the community.

The commissioners will hold a meeting open to the public to offer further details of the plan next month.

Environmental planner Michael Schiano of Inter-Science Research Associates in Southampton offered an

Traffic is a factor in the need for a new facility.

A Heartfelt Tribute to Windsor

Town Hall unveils memorial on anniversary of ruling

BY KATY HEBELL

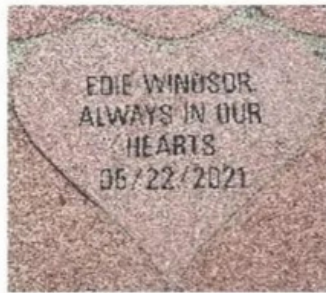
It was a foggy Monday afternoon at Southampton Town Hall, but the message was clear: Love wins.

On June 26, the 10th anniversary of the landmark U.S. Supreme Court decision striking down Section 3 of the Defense of Marriage Act, town officials, advocates, local dignitaries and supporters gathered to admire and dedicate a memorial named for Edith Windsor. She was the part-time Southampton resident who brought the legal action challenging the section and emerged victorious in a historic 2013 court ruling.

Envisioned as a platform where civil marriage ceremonies may take place, the Edith Windsor Heart Project is a heart-shaped memorial tribute. Noted in the

grounds at the front corner of Town Hall, the monument comprises a large stone circle with a giant heart inside it with over 250 interlocking hearts within it. Diamond shapes decorate a ring around the circle, reflective of the brooch Windsor wore on her lapel in 2004 at a time when she couldn't be legally married or even publicly engaged to Thom Spyer, her partner for over 40 years.

The couple married in Canada in 2007. But, when Spyer died, Windsor learned she was barred from spousal inheritance exemptions under DOMA, which was federal law. She sued the federal government and on June 26, 2013, in a 5-4 decision, the Supreme Court ruled in her favor. The ruling was a landmark legal victory for



Some individual hearts are inscribed.

KATY HEBELL

See **WINDSOR**, Page A30

See **TOWN**, Page A15

CHALONER REFLECTS ON THE CHALLENGES AHEAD

BY JOSEPH SHAW

After more than 16 years at the helm of what is now Stony Brook Southampton Hospital, Robert Chaloner got in his last day in the office on Wednesday, June 21.

Starting July 1, Dr. Fredric Weisbaum, who headed up the hospital's medical staff, will serve as the facility's top administrator while Stony Brook Medicine conducts a search for a new chief administrative officer. "It's wonderful for me having him move into the interim role," Chaloner said of Weisbaum. "Because it's so seamless. He



Robert Chaloner

Center in Marshfield, Wisconsin, which he starts on July 10.

He spoke from his local office at the hospital on his last day, via Zoom, in a conversation that has been lightly edited for clarity and length.

See **Q&A**, Page A12

Village Faces Uphill Battle

National Grid-owned site is not currently available for purchase

BY CAUDIN RILEY

The 66-acre parcel that Southampton Village officials have eyed as a potential site for a sewage treatment plant — necessary to bring its long-held plan of creating a village sewer district to fruition — is just currently available, and the village would need a lot to go its way if it hopes to one day acquire all or some of the property.

The property, owned by National Grid, is not for sale, according to State Assem-

bliman Fred W. Thiele Jr., who spoke with representatives from the utility company last week.

National Grid officials told Thiele that the area is being

The sewage treatment plant would only require 4 acres, or roughly half of the site just outside the village.

the site will integrate into clean energy upgrades it will be making in the next few years.

The fact that the land is not currently for sale does not mean that the village can't approach representatives from National Grid and explore the possibility of using some or all of the land for a

sewage treatment plant. The plan would only require 4 acres, or roughly half of the site, meaning there is po-

See **WILMUT**, Page A8

Summer Galore
BEACHCOMBER

BY ADRIANNE HEDDERLEY

It is so nice to finally be here! I arrived late Thursday night. I was totally exhausted and went straight to bed. Got up Friday morning and walked into town to get a cup of coffee and check things out. I was delighted to see Ricky on his feet, standing guard at Ralph's Barber Shop.

In the mid of the day unpacking and getting settled in. That evening, it was off to the Canon Place Inn for a concert and dinner.

First Productions presented Candlelight, a concert by a tribute band performing the music of Queen. Imagine a dark room with the only light source coming from thousands of artificial candles spread out all over the place. It was amazing.

Who can imagine my surprise when four young ladies took the stage with their stringed instruments — two violins, a cello and viola. This was not what I expected! I have to say, Queen's hit on the strings was an incredible experience, and the audience was into it, providing the vocals for all the songs.

Afterward, we had dinner outside at the Canon Place Inn restaurant. The place was overflowing with customers. Our server was Evan, who thankfully took great care of us, by the way, dinner was delicious.

Saturday, I spent the day walking the grounds of an amazing home in Southampton for the inaugural Southampton Animal Shelter Garden Tour. Afterward, there was a party at the lovely home of Elizabeth Robertson. Guests enjoyed cocktails and tea sandwiches on the lawn while checking out several dogs that were available for adoption.



Elizabeth Robertson and Sandra McConell at the cocktail party for the Southampton Animal Shelter Garden Tour.

Seen chatting about the garden tour: Maggie Kirkbride, Nancy Stone, Bruce Schaffner, David Fitzgerald, Peter Hallock, Christi Menzies, Barbara Glass, Howard Martin, Josephine, Sandra McCann, Ann Vasey, Lyn Hauer, Elizabeth Elgert, Susie Wagner, Annette Geddes, William Macneil, Rosalie Britton and Debbie Rascovitz.

Next stop of the night was the Southampton Arts Center for a cocktail party titled "Whiskey in the Garden." Due to the unpredictable weather, the center made the decision to move the event inside, which was a great idea.

Guests walked the rooms of the center admiring the amazing exhibit of Harry Benson photographs that adorn the walls. We were treated to an incredible array of nibbles prepared by Robbin Wolfe Torres, who offered themselves that night — absolutely delicious.

I had the pleasure of meeting the center's new executive director, Christina Strausfeld. I think she will be an excellent addition to SAC.

Seen enjoying the evening: Emily and Erin Avsar, Sylvia Henningsen, Mary Slattery, Isabelle O'Hanlon, Peter Hallock, newly elected Mayor Bill Managar, Elan Webb, Sheila and Steve Landberg, Paul Trach and Mack Richardson, Helena and Bob Vahrwald, Peter Dusk, Ted Hildner, Orson Cummings, Robert Lohman, Lauren Day Roberts, Elizabeth Mulvaney, Brenda Johnston and Katie Whipple, Suzanne Caldwell, Polly and Roy Stevenson, Whitney Stevens, and James and Peter Gregory. You can see all the pictures from the event in the "On The Town" section of the paper.

The last stop of the night was at a private home on Noxoc



Dana Cochran, Joseph Zolozak, Jennifer Allsop and Kevin McManis at the Francesc's Foundation cocktail party.

Park. The evening was to raise awareness and funds for Francesc's Foundation. The aim of the foundation is to provide financial support for established and grassroots charities to combat the effects of cyberbullying and identity theft, which is a major health concern.

They work especially closely with the LGBT community to provide funds to ensure a safe life for anyone with relation to safe storage of guns in homes.

The foundation works to educate parents to look for signs that their children are being bullied. They also work with teachers and law enforcement to try to prevent bullying in schools.

Unfortunately, this was founded because Francesco was bullied and thought the only answer was to take his own life. It was a very emotional evening for all the guests and especially for me. I found it so heartwarming I commend Dana Cochran for having the strength to set up the foundation in honor of her son.

Seen listening intently to the speeches: Brian Brady, Debbie Rascovitz, Kevin McManis, Jennifer Allsop, Katherine Holshel, Eric Britton, Elton Lijank, Maria and Susan White, Susann Donovan, Sara Shala, Jan Shaffert, Elena Gibbs, Jack Harriott, Laina Diaz, Anthony King, Brooke Kelly Murray and Patrick Murray.

Sunday evening, I headed over to the Southampton Arts Center for "Fashion Lives" with Fern Malika. Fern hosts a series of talks at the 12nd Street, where she has interviewed some of the biggest names in the fashion industry.

This night, close friends and colleagues Stan Herman and Jeffrey Banks turned the ta-



Stan Herman, Fern Malika and Jeffrey Banks at fashion talks: "AFashion Lives" at SAC.

ble on Fern and interviewed her. The audience learned about her career in the world of fashion and how she was the driving force putting together Fashion Week in New York City under the tents at Bryant Park, also known as 7th on 6th.

Guests enjoying the talk included: James and Peter Gregory, Nancy Stone, Pam Walker, Susie Wagner, Arthur Elgert and his wife, Greta, Lee Fryd, Susane Cashberg, Ted Taylor, Kara Ross, Elyn Kroonseyer, Joe Diamond and Elton Webb. Afterward, Fern signed copies of her new book, "Fashion Icons 2."

This weekend has some of my favorite events of the summer. On Friday night, the Southampton Fish Air Home will host its annual American Picnic. Get out for the kids, great food and Grand fireworks will make for a fantastic night.

The Cranford girls will host their annual Fourth of July jewelry show this Saturday and Sunday. Thank goodness, and need a gift for a dear friend. Stop a little champagne and shop for some bling.

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And don't forget the Fourth of July Parade on Tuesday — it's not to be missed. Hope to see you there!

Alex Lindfield
leadcolumnist
alex@expresspress.com

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Featured Pieces by Angela Harman



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Her Own Path

First-ever Division I female baseball player is on the Whalers. pg. A39

Whodunnit?

Bay Street Theater's noir-inspired 'Dial M for Murder' opens this week. pg. B1



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THURSDAY, JUNE 29, 2023 VOLUME 164 NO. 52

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Town Hall Celebrates LGBTQ+ Icon

Memorial will double as a perfect spot to get married. > Page A2

Q&A: Chaloner Reflects on His Tenure

Hospital's top official looks back, and also offers some advice. > Page A6

The Group That Lights The Fuse

Sag Harbor's fireworks are an annual treat thanks to these folks. > Page A8

ON THE SCREEN

SAG HARBOR CINEMA
SHOWING THIS WEEK:
Indiana Jones and the Dial of Destiny (PG-13)
Armageddon (PG-13)
Fast X (PG-13)
Nocturnal (NR)
Risky Business (R)
That's Life! (PG-13)
sagharborcinema.org

WEEKEND WEATHER

Thursday, June 29
Partly Cloudy
Temps in the low 70s

Friday, June 30
Partly Cloudy
Temps in the mid 70s

Saturday, July 1
Mostly Sunny
Temps in the mid 70s

Sunday, July 2
Sunny
Temps in the mid 70s

INSIDE

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The Hamletton Reviewer of KRISTEN DEHLER



Hats Off!

Pleasant High School graduates celebrate on Saturday evening. See Graduation, Page A23

Mayor Lobs a Shot at Police Chief

Colleagues say dispute likely can be resolved now

BY STEPHEN J. KOZL

When Jim Larocca was elected Sag Harbor Village mayor in 2022, one of his priorities, he said this week, was to negotiate a new contract with Police Chief Austin J. McGuire, whose pact with the village expired on July 1 of that year — the same day Larocca took office.

With just two days remaining in Larocca's term, McGuire still has no deal, and the outgoing mayor finds himself isolated among his colleagues on the board as he seeks to hold down costs to the village and acquire better performance by the chief.

Other board members, often speaking only on background because of the sensitivity of the matter, say the stalled negotiations are largely Larocca's fault and the result of a personality clash between him and McGuire, one of several that they say plagued Larocca's administration. They say they are confident that negotiations will pick up in earnest when Larocca is no longer in the picture.

Larocca pointed to the chief's salary as a key issue.

See VILLAGE, Page A14

Fire District Wants New Station in Water Mill

BY NITTYHURRL

When a massive fire broke out at a home in Water Mill on the Sunday afternoon of Memorial Day weekend, volunteers who live in the hamlet had another kind of battle on their hands before they could turn their attention to the blaze itself. Members living in the hamlet had to try to get to their apartments at the fire station on Hampton Road in Southampton Village, then turn back east and race to the scene. Anyone ever stuck in the "trade parade" or holiday congestion on the stretch from the County Road 28 terminus to the hamlet's down-

See TOWN, Page A12



Chris Gioninger in Alaska in June 2022.

WEATHERMAN WALKS AFTER HARASSMENT

Sag Harbor native assailed in Iowa

BY STEPHEN J. KOZL

Chris Gioninger was going into second grade at Sag Harbor Elementary School when Hurricane Bob gave a glancing blow to eastern Long Island on August 19, 1991. The experience, he said, inspired him to become a weatherman, a job he held for 18 years while working for television stations across the Northeast. But after landing a job in 2021 as the chief meteorologist at KCCI, the CBS affiliate in Des Moines, Iowa, Gioninger began to experience a new storm in the form of frightening emails that arrived in his inbox from a viewer who opposed his reporting on the effects of climate change.

"Getting sick and tired of your liberal conspiracy theo-

ry on the weather," one stated. "Climate changes every day, always has, always will, your [sic] pushing nothing but a Biden hoax, go back to where you came from." Other, more threatening messages followed, including one asking for his home address, because "we conservative Iowans would like to give you an Iowa welcome you will never forget."

The impact took its toll, and Gioninger began to suffer from the effects of post-traumatic stress disorder, which, he said, left him exhausted and unable to focus on his work.

The man responsible for the emails admitted to doing so last August and was fined, but Gioninger still felt threatened. "In Iowa, the fine for

See CLIMATE, Page A13

Summer Colony
BEACHCOMBER

BY KATHLEEN

It is so nice to finally be here! I landed late Thursday night and was totally exhausted and went straight to bed. Got up Friday morning and walked into town to get a cup of coffee and check things out. I was delighted to see Ricky on his usual, standing guard at Ralph's Barber Shop.

Up until the rest of the day unpacking and getting settled in. That evening it was off to the Casco Place Inn for a concert and dinner.

Seven Productions presented Goodnight, a concert by a tribute band performing the music of Queen. Imagine a dark room with the only light source coming from thousands of artificial candles spread out all over the place. It was amazing.

You can imagine my surprise when four young ladies took the stage with their stringed instruments — two violins, a cello and viola. This was not what I expected! I have to say, Queen hits on the strings was an incredible experience, and the audience was into it, providing the vocals for all the songs.

Afterward, we had dinner outside at the Casco Place Inn restaurant. The place was overflowing with customers. Our server was Evan, who thankfully took great care of us. By the way, dinner was delicious.

Saturday, I spent the day walking the grounds of the stunning homes in Southampton for the inaugural Southampton Animal Shelter Garden Tour. Afterward, there was a party at the lovely home of Elizabeth Roberts. Guests enjoyed cocktails and tea sandwiches on the lawn while checking out several dogs that were available for adoption.

Seem chatting about the garden tour: Maggie Kalkbrenner, Nancy Stone, Neve Schullhorn, Bridget Fitzgerald, Peter Hallock, Cheryl Meekat, Barbara Clark, Rosemary Martin, Lucy Pugh, Sandra McCasell, Ann Vavony, Lynn Houser, Elizabeth Bignell, Susie Wagner, Jessica Grubbs, William Mankoska, Rosalie Robinson and Debbie Hancock.

Next stop of the night was the Southampton Arts Center for a cocktail party titled "Whiskey in the Garden." Due to the unpredictable weather, the center made the decision to move the event inside, which was a great idea.

Guests walked the rooms of the center viewing the amazing exhibit of Harry Benson photographs that adorn the walls. We were treated to an incredible array of exhibits prepared by Debbie Webb Garrison, who outdid herself that night — absolutely delicious.

I had the pleasure of meeting the center's new executive director, Christina Stroudfield. I think she will be an excellent addition to SAC.

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Diana Cochran, Joseph Zolotarek, Jennifer Allsup and Kevin McManis at the Francoise's Foundation cocktail party. (SAGHARBOR EXPRESS)

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This night, close friends and colleagues Stan Herman and Jeffrey Banks joined the ta-



Stan Herman, Fern Malin and Jeffrey Banks at Fashion Lives. (SAGHARBOR EXPRESS)

lons on Fern and interwoven her. The audience learned about her career in the world of fashion and how she was the driving force putting together Fashion Week in New York City under the tent at Bryant Park, also known as 7th on 6th.

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Homestead on South Main Street. Celebrate our village's history while enjoying cocktails and a wonderful silent auction.

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And don't forget the Fourth of July Parade on Tuesday — it's not to be missed.

Hope to see you there!
Alex Lindfield
headofhouse@regatta.org



Elizabeth Roberts and Sandra McCasell at the cocktail party for the Southampton Animal Shelter Garden Tour.

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EARLY ADVERTISING DEADLINES
for the Issue of July 6th, 2023

REAL ESTATE SECTION ADVERTISING:
Thursday, June 29th at 4 p.m.

ARTS SECTION ADVERTISING:
Friday, June 30th by 1 p.m.

CLASSIFIED ADVERTISING:
Friday, June 30th by 3 p.m.

LEGAL ADVERTISING:
Friday, June 30th by 12 p.m.

Because of the 4th of July Holiday, our deadlines are early for the issue of July 6th, 2023.

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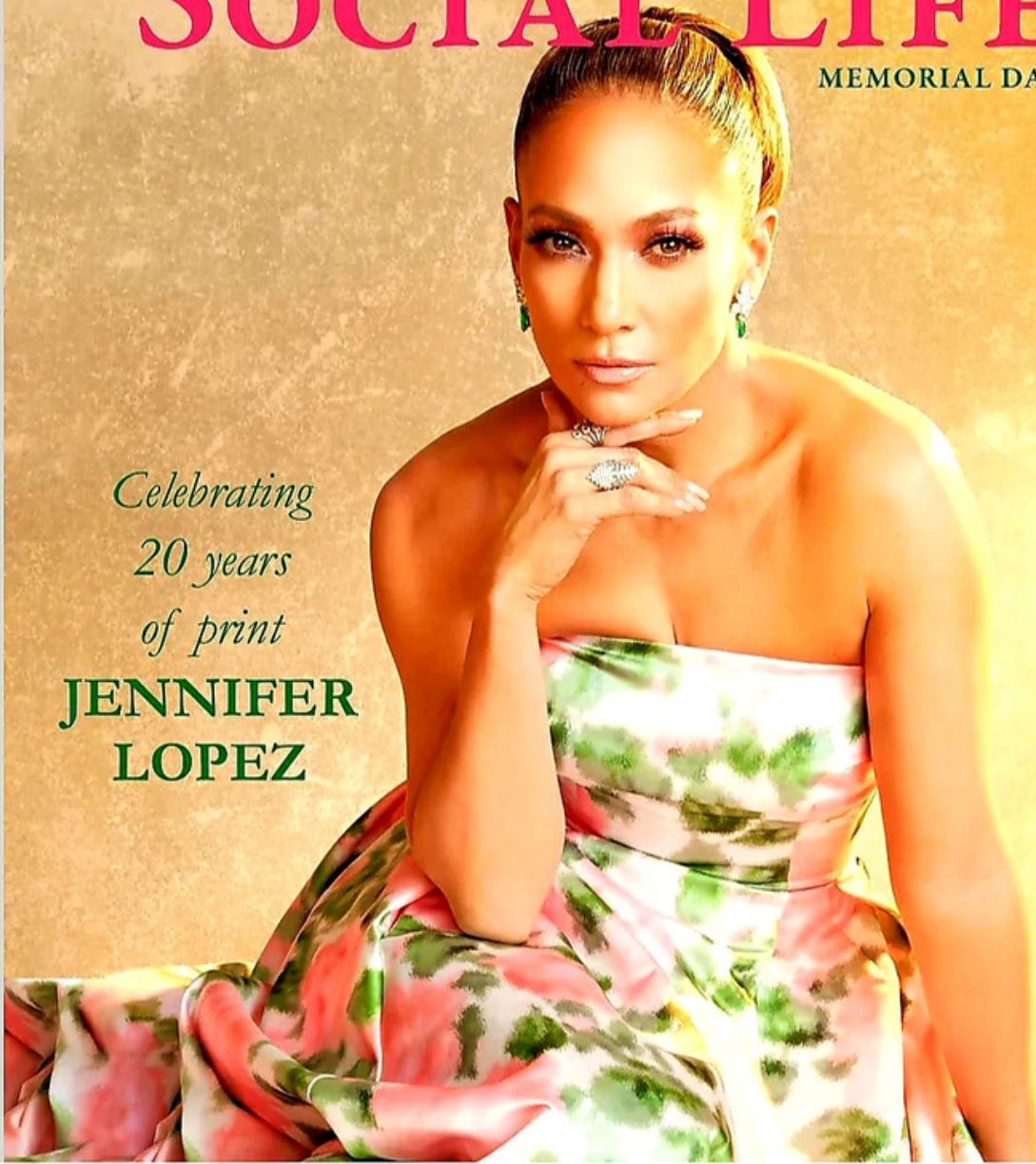
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SOCIAL LIFE

MEMORIAL DAY

*Celebrating
20 years
of print*
**JENNIFER
LOPEZ**



Saturday, June 24

This is the newest charity this season, created to tackle the harrowing issue of teenage suicide. The inaugural event in association with AspenOut will be an intimate conversation with the co-founder and mother Diana Cochran at her home in Water Mill, ahead of its September 16 fundraiser at EHP Resort and Marina. **francescosfoundation.org**

METROPOLITAN

LUXURY MAGAZINE

APRIL 2023

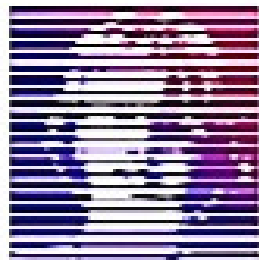


FASHION, BEAUTY & **BROADWAY**

PHOTOGRAPHY BY JOHN F. COOPER

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FRANCESCO'S FOUNDATION

questioning sexuality to school friends in the USA. & the last few weeks of his life was the target of spiteful, malicious lies, gay slurs and ridicule due to his sexual orientation. One night he was unable to take any more and he had a very uncharacteristic night of recklessness and although he had not set out to end his life that night he did.

Francesco's Foundation has been set up by Francesco's mother, Diana and her partner, Jennifer to honor the memory of Francesco and to help reduce the terrible risk of teenage suicide by providing financial help for charities investing in the education of teenage mental health.

Francesco's Foundation is a (501)(c)(3) registered charity whose mission is to promote hope and prevent teen suicide. The Organization has a holistic vision for how to achieve this goal and provide grants to a range of organizations and individuals. Francesco's Foundation partner with organizations that work to end online and offline bullying of LGBTQ teens, increase access to mental health and other supportive services, promote awareness of best practices for firearm storage, and more. In addition, the Charity also provide grants for supportive services and college tuition.

A major new report from the CDC published in February 2023 shows that there has been a huge increase in teenage suicide, especially amongst girls and the LGBTQ community. The report shows that one in four teenagers identifying as lesbian, bisexual or gay attempted suicide in the first half of 2021. Nearly 50% of teenagers identifying as lesbian, gay or bisexual seriously considered suicide in the same time frame. One in three teenage girls reported seriously considering suicide.

Gun violence is now the leading cause of death in children 0-19 years in the United States. Nearly half of those gun deaths are by suicide. The foundation aims to work towards introducing legislation regarding the safe storage of sporting shotguns - those that are not intended for self-defense but for sport, and therefore not protected by the second amendment. This legislation would pertain particularly when there are minors in the same house a shotgun is stored.

Gaming sites like Discord rank amongst the top five apps or platforms for content flagged by its algorithms for severe violence, bullying, sexual content and suicide ideation. Most parents have no idea their children are engaging in such dangerous activities.

Diana Cochran and her partner, Jennifer Alltop are working tirelessly to make changes at schools to protect the mental health of teenagers and help prevent more unnecessary teenage suicides. They are working to make significant changes to the country with the help of Board members.

Their efforts echo the social issues raised by the president in his 2023 State of The Union Address where President Biden said, "Let's do more on mental health, especially for our children. When millions of young people are struggling with bullying, violence and trauma we owe them greater access to mental health care at school."

The foundation has set the date for an inaugural fundraiser this September 2023 in partnership with AspenOut.

Tickets are on sale now at www.Francescosfoundation.org and www.HamptonOut.com

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MANHATTAN
SUMMER 2023



Jean
Shafiroff

First Lady of
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*The 50 most Beautiful in
the Arts & Philanthropy*



Photo credit: Francesco's Foundation



FRANCESCO'S FOUNDATION

will be severely affected forever such was the love that they all had for Francesco. For his parents the grief is insupportable and a life sentence.

Prior to Francesco's unexpected death he had a very exciting future ahead of him. For a seventeen-year-old boy he had already accomplished a lot gaining entry to Winchester College in the UK amongst the top high schools in the world, he had played the violin at both Carnegie Hall and the Lincoln Center, was an accomplished swimmer, very popular with students and teachers alike. He had a great sense of humor and a zest for life. He was an honors and straight A student and had gained an SAT score in the top 99th percentile. He was very excited about an interview at Amherst, only two days after he took his life. He had no history of depression, drug or alcohol use.

Francesco was open about his sexuality & had confided in everyone but his family. First with his girlfriend in Ireland, then more recently with his boyfriend & with all his school friends in the UK & USA. His only mistake had been in divulging his questioning sexuality to school friends in the USA & the last few weeks of his life was the target of spiteful, malicious lies, gay slurs and ridicule due to his sexual orientation. One night he was unable to take any more and he had a very characteristic night of reckless rage and although he had not set out to end his life that night he did.

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Tickets are on sale now at www.Francescosfoundation.org and www.HamptonOut.com

FRANCESCO'S FOUNDATION

*Sets the Conversation on Teenage
Suicide Prevention.*

**Inaugural Event in the Hamptons at the Home of
co-Founder Diana Cochran**

Francesco's Foundation has been created to help prevent teenage suicide through providing financial support for education in schools, where the focus will be on prevention of all types of bullying including and in particular that of the LGBTQ+ community, education about the risks of teenagers engaging in dangerous activities on-line, education about the risks of leaving fire arms unsecured with teenagers in the home – all of which contribute to heightening risks of teenage suicide.

Seventeen-year-old Francesco took his life with an unsecured shotgun at 2:00 am on October 21st, 2021 on a warm October evening on a moonlit beach in the Hamptons. He was discovered by the police after a call from a school friend. He had to be identified by his dentist – so devastating is the destruction from a shotgun suicide. No parent should ever have to live with that image.

The aftermath of his death has devastated his two mothers, who lived apart, family and friends from Winchester College in the UK and his last school, The Stony Brook Prep School. Some close young friends have had mental health issues and were unable to return to their studies all these lives



Beachcomber, June 29



Diana Cochran, Joseph Zolobczuk,
Jennifer Allsop and Kevin McManamon
at the Francesco's Foundation cocktail
party. GREG D'ELIA



Beyond The Great White Way

JUNE 21, 2023



A summer scene outside The Metropolitan Museum of Art. Photo: JH.

PARTY PICTURES • BY: DAVID PATRICK

COLUMBIA



Fred Devito and Elizabeth Halfpapp.



L. to r.: Dr. Jennifer Jablow and Jordan Lippner; Diana Cochran and Jennifer Allsop.





DOJ's dubious timing to demand Hunter biz pal's jailing as he preps House testimony

'ARCH' ENEMY



The Justice Department is pushing for Devon Archer (above) to report to prison — just days ahead of the former Hunter Biden business partner's hotly anticipated congressional testimony, according to new court documents. Manhattan federal prosecutors on Saturday filed a letter requesting a judge set a date for Archer, 58, to start his one-year sentence in a fraud case unrelated to the first son's various scandals.

PAGES 4 & 5

NY Post Photo Team



Somers fights cancer again

Page Six

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Rudest 'Family'

THIS "Housewife" is hating on a household name. "Real Housewives of New Jersey" star **Teresa Giudice** has said that "Modern Family" actress **Sofia Vergara** is the "rudest" celebrity she's ever met. The reality star made the claim on her subtly titled "Nameste BStches" podcast. Chatting with co-host **Melissa Meister**, Giudice recalled an incident from 2017, when Vergara (right) allegedly appeared reluctant to snap a pic with her backstage at a talk show. "I saw her whole demeanor, and then I heard her say to her p.r. person, 'Why are you making me take a picture with that lady?'" she alleged. Vergara has not publicly responded.



Cane and able

MOVIE star and sometimes rocker **Johnny Depp** was seen in Boston Friday night using a cane ahead of a gig, which had been previously postponed due to an ankle injury. The actor, 60, was performing with his band, Hollywood Vampires. We previously reported that the band was forced to postpone three US tour dates due to Depp (above) being sidelined. He was in a boot after "a painful injury to his ankle following his recent appearances," his act said, and he was "advised by his doctor not to travel."

Suzanne Somers is putting work on the back burner after recently fighting cancer again, Page Six has exclusively learned.

Fans grew concerned about the "Three's Company" icon, 76, as she hasn't appeared recently on her popular Facebook Live show with her producer husband, **Alan Hamel**.

Hamel told Page Six exclusively that Somers has been dealing with health issues.

He noted that his wife, a longtime health advocate, has bravely fought cancer before over the years — including a breast cancer diagnosis in her 50s, as well as skin cancer in her 30s, and she also had a hysterectomy years ago.

Hamel, 87, continued: "She has now dealt with her cancer once again" — and that, "on June 6, she got an all clear, but cancer is tricky and we will now closely monitor everything going forward."

Hamel added, "All her doctors said if she didn't lead a chemical-free, organic life supported by bioidentical hormones, she wouldn't be with us." Though she is cancer-free, he said, "We decided to put work on the back burner for now and focus on her health."

In fun-loving Somers' absence, her Facebook show has been a family affair, hosted by daughter-in-law **Caroline** — who's also the head of

the star's company — as well as Caroline's grown daughters and Hamel's daughter, **Leslie Hamel**. "It's turned into this really wonderful family affair," hubby Hamel said.

We previously reported how Somers, the author of "A New Way to Age," took a break from the show due to an injury in 2020 when she needed neck surgery after a spill down some stairs at home. Hamel tells us Somers is still dealing with some health ramifications of that accident. "She also broke her neck in a terrible fall and the concussion created a bad case of hydrocephalus, which impacted her balance and walking," he said. We wish her a speedy recovery!



Sofia Vergara, fresh off her split from hubby **Joe Manganiello**, is single and ready to mingle in a tight leopard-print dress in West Hollywood, Calif.

Hoops & hopes

WE hear that former Nets star **Kevin Durant** was spotted hanging with fiery Australian pro tennis player **Nick Kyrgios**. But the athletes weren't only talking sports. Durant, now of the Suns, is the co-founder of media company Boardroom, which put on the "CNBC x Boardroom: Game Plan" conference in L.A. A spy said: "Kyrgios had spoken earlier in the day about his love of basketball and how thrilled he was to meet Durant." They also chatted with NBA stars **Paolo Banchero** and **Jalen Green**, as well as WNBA player **Lexie Brown**. Durant heads the firm with **Rich Kleiman**.

Sightings

DIANA Cochran and **Jennifer Allsop** at the launch of their Francesco's Foundation charity in Water Mill before a Sept. 16 fundraiser... **GERALDO Rivera** and his wife, **Erica Levy**, at T-Bar Southampton with pals, talking about how their daughter, **Soi**, will attend East Hampton Library's Author's Night for her debut book "Restrict"... **BROOKE Shields** seeing the "Roger Sichel & Friends: Artacom" exhibition at the Southampton Cultural Center.



Thigh master

ANYONE have the name of a good laser removal place? Pop star **Harry Styles** was spotted while on vacation in a bathing suit that revealed a tattoo on his thigh seemingly dedicated to his ex, **Olivia Wilde**. The former One Direction singer (above) flashed the ink on a boat in Bolzena, Italy. (Then again, there's also a One Direction tune called "Olivia.") In an odd twist, the word "colazione" — Italian for "breakfast" — also appeared to be inked on his leg. Could there be a connection between the two tats? Also on the boat were former "Late Late Show" host **James Corden** and Victoria's Secret model **Jacquelyn Jablonski**. Styles and Wilde dated for nearly two years and split in November.

Small pause for Grande, guy

ARIANA Grande and her boyfriend, **Ethan Slater**, are reportedly taking amicable time apart as he sorts out the details of his ongoing divorce. The "7 Rings" singer is giving the Broadway star "space" to "work things out" with his estranged wife, **Lilly Jay**, as the two navigate divorce and custody of their 11-month-old son, TMZ reported Saturday. The "Wicked" co-stars reportedly haven't seen each other in weeks as a result. Slater, whose relationship with Grande became public knowledge July 20, has been in New York hashing out the details with Jay, while the "God Is a Woman" songstress has been elsewhere, according to sources. Despite the distance, TMZ confirmed that Slater and Grande — who is in the midst of her own divorce — are still dating. Reps for the couple did not respond to Page Six's request for comment. Last week, Slater filed for divorce from Jay, his wife of nearly four years, in a New York court. The reason for the dissolution of their marriage was not available. It does not appear that Grande, 30, and her estranged husband, **Dalton Gomez**, have filed for divorce yet. According to TMZ, Slater and Jay have remained in contact daily regarding their child.

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METROPOLITAN

LUXURY MAGAZINE

JULY 2023

WWE SUPERSTAR
**CHARLOTTE
FLAIR**

PHOTOGRAPHER: MEGANE CLAIRE

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SILVER ANNIVERSARY SUMMER BBQ

CELEBRATIONS LAUNCH THE SOUTHAMPTON INN'S SUMMER SEASON

By Solome Langevin
Photo Credit: Lisa Tomburini



The award-winning Southampton Inn invited hotel guests, local residents and seasonal visitors to a celebration at the most desirable location in the heart of Southampton New York, kicking off the Hamptons summer season at the 2023 Annual Memorial Day Weekend Barbeque.

Guests celebrated the holiday al fresco at the pool patio surrounded by several acres of manicured lawns and private gardens, where they enjoyed a buffet of signature burgers, platters of traditional salads and tasty holiday classics prepared by Claude's Restaurant including a celebratory 25th Anniversary Cake. The pool patio bar kept all the participants hydrated with a wide selection of chilled refreshments to sip under the sun.

Notable attendees included: Shane Moan, Dede Gothelf, Terri Moan, Philip Gothelf, Jean Shafron, Diana Cochran, Jennifer Altop, Roger Sichel, Eileen Sichel, Cagri Karver, Larry Wohl, Lessa Rowland, Sara Shala, Consuelo Vanderbilt-Costin, Montgomery Frazier, Maria and Oleg Van Vodrop, Susan Bates, Camryn D'Alessio, Elana Gibbs, Eric Andrew, Carl Bolch, Peter Pizzino and Noreen Donovan.

Visit the Inn this summer in one of 90 renovated and comfortably furnished guestrooms, with 18 specifically designed for pets to enjoy with their owners. A weekend of pure relaxation awaits as each room is prepared with high-quality linens complete with triple sheeting over Tempur-Pedic mattresses, and renewed upscale toiletry brand, Gächrist & Soames. Guestrooms also feature complimentary Wi-Fi internet access, flat screen TV, small refrigerators and guest-controlled air conditioning and heating. Other features of the property include a library with fireplace, flexible indoor meeting spaces such as a conference room, a ballroom and a game room for children of all ages, and newly renovated eatery Claude's Restaurant, which offers a delicious, locally-sourced all-day menu.

Make the most of your summer getaway with on-site amenities and experiences. Every inch of the Southampton Inn's several acres of lawn space appeals to guests needs. The beautiful grounds of the Inn consist of several acres of manicured lawns and gardens. Amenities on the property include a 50-foot heated outdoor pool, all-weather tennis and pickle board court and shuffleboard.

The friendly and efficient staff at the Southampton Inn can assist busy travelers with a selection of exciting local excursions such as restaurant reservations, tours at art galleries, studios and the Southampton Historical Museum. During Summer 2023 through Labor Day, Southampton Inn guests can access the complimentary beach shuttle service to the renowned Coopers Beach. The Inn also partners with local organizations to offer tickets to charity events and galas. Guests can indulge in the finest wines at local vineyards, and Agawam Park, Avram Hall and the Cultural Center hosts weekly concerts for visitors. Golf tee times, surfing, kiteboarding plus tennis lessons, fishing and boating expeditions, plus hiking trips at nature conservancies are just a few experiences the entire Southampton have to offer, all carefully selected for Southampton Inn guests.

For the latest packages, deals and rates this summer, please visit www.southamptoninn.com

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Employer ID number:
38-4240977
Person to contact:
Name: Customer Service
ID number: 31954
Telephone: 877-829-5500
Accounting period ending:
April 30
Public charity status:
170(b)(1)(A)(vi)
Form 990 / 990-EZ / 990-N required:
Yes
Effective date of exemption:
August 12, 2022
Contribution deductibility:
Yes
Addendum applies:
No
DLN:
26053521008503

Dear Applicant:

We're pleased to tell you we determined you're exempt from federal income tax under Internal Revenue Code (IRC) Section 501(c)(3). Donors can deduct contributions they make to you under IRC Section 170. You're also qualified to receive tax deductible bequests, devises, transfers or gifts under Section 2055, 2106, or 2522. This letter could help resolve questions on your exempt status. Please keep it for your records.

Organizations exempt under IRC Section 501(c)(3) are further classified as either public charities or private foundations. We determined you're a public charity under the IRC Section listed at the top of this letter.

If we indicated at the top of this letter that you're required to file Form 990/990-EZ/990-N, our records show you're required to file an annual information return (Form 990 or Form 990-EZ) or electronic notice (Form 990-N, the e-Postcard). If you don't file a required return or notice for three consecutive years, your exempt status will be automatically revoked.

If we indicated at the top of this letter that an addendum applies, the enclosed addendum is an integral part of this letter.

For important information about your responsibilities as a tax-exempt organization, go to www.irs.gov/charities. Enter "4221-PC" in the search bar to view Publication 4221-PC, Compliance Guide for 501(c)(3) Public Charities, which describes your recordkeeping, reporting, and disclosure requirements.

Sincerely,

Stephen A. Martin
Director, Exempt Organizations
Rulings and Agreements

Letter 947 (Rev. 2-2020)
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