**SPECIAL SECTION: Power List** – LI's Most Influential

**LEADING LAWYERS: Acclaimed Attorneys** – Soaring Legal Eagles

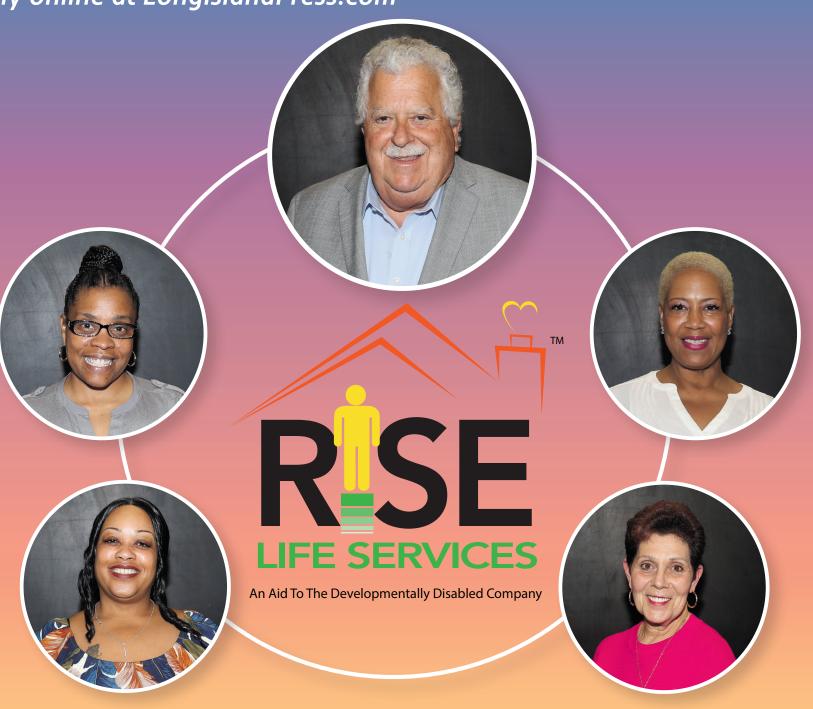
**DO THIS: Comeback Summer** – Where to go, what to do



Celebrating 200 Years

# elebrating 200 Years June 2021 | VOLUME 200, NO.6 ONG ISLAND PRESS

Daily online at LongIslandPress.com



# RISINGUP

Nonprofit Rise Life Services Aids Long Islanders in Need

# FROM THE PUBLISHER

It's June on Long Island, and that means school will soon be replaced by fun in the sun.

Of course, for some people, the serious work of helping Long Islanders never lets up. For example, the staff members of the nonprofit RISE Life Services, this month's cover story, have been busier than ever providing food and services to the increasing number of local residents negatively affected by the pandemic-induced economic slowdown.

The courts are also busier than ever, thanks to the backlog in court cases ushered in by the Covid-19 shutdown. Looking to hire a lawyer for a case of your own? Check out this month's special section on LI's leading lawyers.

In Press Business, beat reporter Claude Solnik gives readers a look at local entrepreneurs who were inspired to launch new businesses despite the coronavirus. Speaking of business, this issue also features the 18th annual *Long Island Press* Power List, celebrating the region's most influential movers and shakers who help make the region a better place every day.

In Press Health, we have men's fitness tips for ditching the "dad bod." In Long Island Family we have a Father's Day gift guide to help find the perfect present for pop. And in Press Home, we take a look at the latest interior design trends.

As far as all that fun in the sun goes, in Press Buzz our reporters round up all the LGBTQ-friendly fun of Pride Month, toast the latest new restaurant, brewery and craft cocktail, and our Do This! listings preview the growing list of live music events that are finally coming back as the virus wanes.

And in Rear View, Associate Editor Annie Wilkinson recalls Henry Fonda, the Oscar-winning everyman's actor who never took an acting class. But when he first set foot onstage he was happy to hide behind a mask. He subsisted on rice while going on cattle calls for parts. When success hit, he vacationed in the Hamptons and wed his fifth wife, in Mineola.

As always, don't forget to like *Long Island Press* on Facebook, follow up on Twitter, Instagram, and LinkedIn, and sign up for our email newsletters rounding up everything you may have missed on the updated-daily longislandpress.com!

Happy summer!

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Sincerely.

Ioanna Austin

Publisher, Long Island Press

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#### **CARE TO COMMENT?**

Got something to say about a story we published? Email us at letters@longislandpress.com

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#### IN THE NEWS

## **WEB BRIEFS**

# LI AT A GLANCE

# MANHASSET SCHOOL SUP UNDER FIRE AMID SEXUAL HARASSMENT PROBE

Members of the Manhasset community are calling for the resignation of their school district's superintendent after an independent investigation found that he violated the district's sexual harassment policy.

Dr. Vincent Butera, Superintendent of Manhasset School District, is the subject of at least six complaints of sexual harassment made by a female teacher who no longer works in the district, according to a *Manhasset Press* article that was published on May 5.

The teacher sent a letter in September 2020 to the Manhasset Board of Education, which subsequently sought independent counsel to investigate the allegations. The counsel found that Butera violated the sexual harassment policy and offered

the Board of Education recommendations for moving forward, said Pat Aitken, presi-

dent of the board, during a board public meeting.

"Appropriate steps were taken consistent with the recommendations of the independent counsel," Aitken said.

-Briana Bonfiglio

# 3 NYPD COPS BUSTED FOR BRIBERY, DRUGS

Three NYPD officers from Long Island were charged for their alleged roles in a towing company bribery scheme as well as drug trafficking, prosecutors announced on May 11.

34-year-old Heather Busch, of Massapequa, 36-year-old Robert Hassett, of Farmingville, and 44-year-old Robert Smith, of Plainview, were arrested on May 11 and charged with five counts of using interstate facilities to commit bribery and two counts of conspiracy to violate the Travel Act. Smith is also charged with attempting to transport at least one kilogram of heroin and possessing a firearm during the commission of that crime.

During the period of the alleged crimes, all three defendants were NYPD officers assigned to the 105th

Precinct in Queens. Smith retired from the NYPD in March 2020.

"As alleged, the defendants shamelessly violated their oaths of office and the public trust by trading their badges for cash payments," stated Acting United States Attorney Mark J. Lesko. "This office will vigorously pursue corrupt public servants like these defendants, who exploited their positions as police officers for personal gain."

According to charges, starting in September 2016 NYPD Officers Smith and Hassett allegedly responded to automobile accidents by directing the damaged vehicles to a licensed tow trucking and automobile repair business operated by an individual instead of using the de-

chapter director at the NYCLU, said in a statement. "We will continue to take action to ensure 50-a is repealed in theory and practice across New York State by obtaining full documentation of misconduct long withheld from the public."

The Village of Freeport did not respond to the *Press'* request for comment.

-BB



p a r t ment's Directed Accident Response Program (DARP). DARP requires all NYPD officers to identify an

appropriate licensed tow trucking business to respond to the scene of the automobile accident and remove the damaged vehicles from the scene, and to ensure that no one particular business received favored treatment, officers are required to utilize a computer system that randomly selects a licensed tow trucking business

 $\hbox{\it -Emily Davenport,} \hbox{\it amNewYork Metro}$ 

#### **NYCLU SUES FREEPORT PD FOR RECORDS**

The New York Civil Liberties Union (NYCLU) filed a lawsuit on May 7 against the Village of Freeport Police Department for allegedly denying the group access to police misconduct records.

The civil rights group said the police department has denied its Freedom of Information Law (FOIL) requests for records of misconduct that did and did not lead to discipline of an officer. The group also said the department denied its administrative appeal of that denied request in December 2020. The lawsuit comes after the repeal of Section 50-a of the state Civil Rights Law, which previously allowed police officers' personnel records to be shielded from public scrutiny.

"[Freeport PD] cannot ignore the fact that 50-a was repealed, and police transparency is essential to police accountability," Susan Gottehrer, Nassau County

# CANNABIS COMPANY BUYS \$42.M NORTH FORK FARM

A fast-growing cannabis company has purchased a 34-acre property in Jamesport for \$42.5 million from Van de Wetering Greenhouses in one of the largest purchases in the burgeoning industry. It is the first known marijuana-related real estate buy on the East End since New York State legalized adult-use cannabis in March.

Columbia Care Inc., which already operates a medical cannabis dispensary in Riverhead, has plans for a cultivation site at 5784 Sound Avenue with the first harvest and sales for the state's medical marijuana program expected later this year.

The purchase is being completed in two phases, the second of which will include 740,000 square feet of greenhouse space, which Van de Wetering currently uses for growing ornamental flowers and other plants. The space allows for 200,000 square feet of "incremental grow capacity, situated perfectly for both retail distribution to Columbia Care's three NYC and Long Island dispensaries and wholesale distribution to the most densely populated metropolitan area in the United States," according to a statement. It will be one of the largest operating greenhouse sites on East Coast, the company said.

The total purchase price of \$42.5M includes \$15 million in cash and \$27.5 million in Columbia Care stock, the publicly traded company said in its announcement.

-Taylor K. Vecsey, Behind The Hedges

#### **CORNER OFFICE**

## RIVKIN RADLER MANAGING PARTNER EVAN KRINICK

BY CLAUDE SOLNIK

During Evan Krinick's eight-and-a-half year tenure as managing partner at Uniondale-based Rivkin Radler, the firm has grown in size, scope, and depth. We talked with him about law, management, the pandemic, and the future.

Can you describe the role of managing partner? A managing partner acts as the chief executive officer of the law firm. We have close to 400 employees, and more than 200 attorneys spread out over five offices. I am helped by an amazing administrative team that helps us manage all the

we are resilient. What seems difficult is very possible if you have a positive attitude and you work together. We were pleasantly surprised at how quickly we could transition to a remote environment and satisfy our clients' needs.

How will the firm operate differently, if at all, after the pandemic? That's under careful consideration. We will act differently. What that will look like has yet to be decided. I don't think anybody thinks we're going back to precisely the way things were prepandemic. We set up focus groups in the firm to make sure all stakeholders, from partners to associates,

gery centers all face unique

challenges and that requires

What are the firm's plans for the future?

One of the things we're most proud of in recent times is the increased diversity among our professional staff. It's something we worked very hard on and had some success with and are working hard to continue. A more diverse law firm is a better law firm. It provides diversity of thinking and better solutions for client problems. From 2014 to now, we've gone from nine to 23 female partners, 14 female associates and counsel to 41 female associates and counsel. We have seven otherwise diverse partners and 19

otherwise diverse associates and counsel.

What advice would you have for those considering a career as a lawyer? I would tell anyone who wanted to be a lawyer today to be sure that you're passionate about wanting to help people. It's a challenging profession, a rewarding profession, but it's a profession of hard-working people.

What makes a lawyer a good fit at Rivkin Radler? I think the most important quality for lawyers at Rivkin Radler is their personality and ability to be a team player. They have to buy into the old sentiment that says no one person can accomplish as much alone as a group of people working together.

> What are the biggest challenges for lawyers today? I think the biggest challenge is to find the right worklife balance. The world we live in makes that much more challenging than when I started practicing law. Lawyers sometimes struggle to find that work-life balance. There needs to be a balance in what you do for a living and what you are as a

## No one person can accomplish as much alone as a group of people working together.

nonlegal aspects of the law firm. My job is to make sure the firm runs smoothly so our lawyers can practice law, providing the services our clients need.

Can you describe some of the firm's major accomplishments during your tenure? I think we've succeeded over the last eight years in expanding the depth and breadth of a number of our practice areas to meet the growing needs of our clients. We grew from fewer than 150 attorneys to slightly more than 200 attorneys. We added considerable talent in a variety of practice areas, most recently, in light of what's coming down from Washington, taxes, and other regulations. We expanded our practice in what was formerly the trusts and estates area, and is now called personal, family, and business planning. We expanded our health services practice, where we represent physicians, medical practice groups, healthcare systems and hospitals in acquisitions, compliance, and regulatory matters. The depth of our practice and the size of our firm has grown.

How did the firm respond to the pandemic? We've taken a very cautious, conservative approach to working during the pandemic. Our singular goal has been the safety of our workforce and their families. For a long time, we prohibited anyone other than essential personnel to come to the office. We only, starting this week, required staff and attorneys to come to the office two days a week. For the balance of the last 14 months, we encouraged people to work remotely. We learned administrators to staff, can offer thoughts and observations. We'll gather those and try to come up with policies that make sense for the firm in the long term. What areas of law are going strong and what areas have slowed? Litigation has, of course, slowed down recently, because the courts just now are starting to figure out how person. to recover from the pandemic. That's deferred. Litigation will have to continue and be completed. A practice area going quite strongly, in addition to planning and tax work, is real estate. There's a lot of lease negotiation going on, investment in properties, not necessarily in New York, but by New York investors. There's a fair amount of work going on in the health industry. Hospitals, doctors, and ambulatory sur-

Evan Krinick helps lead the largest law firm on Long Island.

# THE A LIST

# LI'S LEADING LAWYERS

-Compiled by Maia Vines

	NAME	FIRM ADDRESS/ WEBSITE	PRACTICE AREA	NOTES
1	Robert Abrams of Abrams, Fensterman, Eisman, Formato, Ferrara, Wolf & Carone, LLP	3 Dakota Dr., Suite 300, Lake Success, abramslaw. com	Elder Law, Estate Litigation, Estate Planning, Guardianship Law, Trustees & Estates	Co-founder and executive partner of Abrams, Fensterman, Eisman, Formato, Ferrara, Wolf & Carone, LLP, Robert Abrams has presented programs geared towards educating attorneys, consumers and healthcare professionals. He has also founded the Aging and Longevity Law Institute at the Touro Law Center in Central Islip.
2	Bruce Barket of Barket, Epstein, Kearon, Aldea & LoTurco, LLP	666 Old Country Rd., Garden City, barketepstein.com	Criminal Defense, Federal Court Crimes, Homicide/ Murder, White Collar Crimes	Bruce Barket is a founding partner at Barket, Epstein, Kearon, Aldea & LoTurco, LLP, who specializes in criminal defense cases. Last year, Barket received the Charles F. Crimi Memorial Award from the New York State Bar Association's criminal justice section.
3	Fred Brewington of The Law Offices of Fred K. Brewington	556 Peninsula Blvd., Hempstead, brewingtonlaw.com	Civil Rights, Criminal Law, Wrongful Death, Personal Injury, Police Misconduct	Respected lawyer with his own private practice, Fred Brewington serves as an adjunct professor at Jacob D. Fuchsberg Law Center, Touro College. Brewington is also a member of various associations such as the New York State and State of New Jersey Bar Associations, National Employment Lawyers Association, and Nassau County Bar Association.
4	Albert W. Chianese of Chianese & Reilly, P.C.	100 Merrick Rd. Suite 103E, Rockville Centre, dentalmallawyer.com	Dental Malpractice, Medical Malpractice, Personal Injury	In 2016, Albert W. Chianese formed the dental malpractice firm Chianese & Reilly, P.C. with longtime associate Thomas P. Reilly. He has been recognized by Super Lawyers Metro as a top attorney in the New York Metro area for plaintiff personal injury medical malpractice.
5	Kim M. Ciesinski of ADR Law, PLLC	600 Old Country Rd. Suite 310, Garden City, adrlawny.com	Collaborative Divorce, Mediation, Negotiated Settlement	After co-founding Schwartz & Ciesinksi, LLP, Kim M. Ciesinski created the ADR law firm for family divorce matters in 2017.
6	Cara Cronin of Cronin & Cronin Law Firm, PLLC	200 Old Country Rd. Suite 470, Mineola, NY, cronintaxlaw.com	Property Tax Reductions, Condemnation, IDA Property Taxes	Cara Cronin is well versed in property tax valuations services, including tax certiorari cases. Cronin sits on the executive board of the Long Island Real Estate Group, and on the board of directors for The Safe Center Long Island.
7	Amy Marion of Abrams, Fensterman, Eisman, Formato, Ferrara, Wolf & Carone, LLP	3 Dakota Dr. Suite 300, Lake Success, abramslaw. com	Civil Litigation, Civil Rights, Criminal Defense	As a graduate of Hofstra University School of Law, Amy Marion offers legal representation covering several practices in Lake Success and has received high ratings on Super Lawyers.
8	Jacqueline Mecchella Bushwack of Rivkin Radler, LLP	926 RXR Plz., Uniondale, rivkinradler.com	Complex Torts & Product Liability, Critical Incident Response, General Liability, Medical Malpractice Defense	Jacqueline Mecchella Bushwack, partner of Rivkin Radler, LLP, co-chairs the American Bar Association's Subcommittee of Book Projects as well as the Work/Life Management Subcommittee of the Section of Litigation's Woman Advocate Committee.
9	Howard M. Miller of Bond, Schoeneck & King, PLLC	1010 Franklin Ave. Suite 200, Garden City, bsk.com	Labor, Employment	Deputy managing member of Bond, Schoeneck & King, PLLC, Howard M. Miller represents both businesses and employees in areas of education law and employment litigation.
10	Christopher H. Palmer of Cullen and Dykman LLP	100 Quentin Roosevelt Blvd., Garden City, cullenllp.com	Financial transactions, Land Use	Palmer represents commercial banks and financial institutions in structuring and negotiating a wide array of financing transactions, and also regularly advises clients regarding compliance with federal, state, and local banking regulations.
11	Hon. Gregory P. Peterson of Berkman, Henoch, Peterson, Peddy & Fenchel, P.C.	100 Garden City Plz., Garden City, bhpp.com	Real Estate, Land Use & Zoning, Municipal & Governmental Affairs	Hon. Gregory P. Peterson, who counsels developers on real estate law, serves on the board of directors for the Nassau Lawyers Association of L.I.
12	David S. Pollack of Winkler Kurtz, LLP	1201 Route 112 Suite 200, Port Jefferson Station, winklerkurtz.com	Personal Injury, Medical Malpractice	Since his admission to the Bar in 1981, Pollack has successfully established a career in plaintiff malpractice law, having tried over 70 medical malpractice cases to verdict.
13	Alan Van Praag of Chalos & Co., P.C.	55 Hamilton Ave., Oyster Bay, chaloslaw.com	Commercial & Civil Litigation, Bankruptcy, Admiralty & Maritime, International & Commercial Transactions, Liability Defense	Counsel to Chalos & Co, P.C., Van Praag has been a representative for foreign governments in international matters and for clients involved in commercial contract disputes.
14	Leslie H. Tayne of Tayne Law Group, P.C.	135 Pinelawn Rd. Suite 250N, Melville, attorney- newyork.com	Student Loan Debt, Business Debt, Credit Card Debt Relief	Tayne's exceptional work as a debt settlement attorney has earned Tayne Law Group, P.C., the title of Bethpage Federal Credit Union's best debt consolidation service for eight consecutive years.
15	Karen J. Tenenbaum of Tenenbaum Law, P.C.	534 Broadhollow Rd. Suite 301, Melville, litaxattorney.com	IRS Tax Issues, NYS Tax Issues	Karen J. Tenenbaum is a Melville-based tax attorney with over 35 years of experience. Tenenbaum has won a number of awards including the Leadership in Law Award from Long Island Business News, and was named a Long Island Power Woman in Business by the Long Island Press.
16	Jerome A. Wisselman of Wisselman, Harounian & Associates, P.C.	1010 Northern Blvd. Suite 300, Great Neck, lawjaw. com	Divorce, Paternity, Visitation Rights, Real Estate Law, Wills and Estate Planning, Child Custody, Child Support	Managing partner of divorce and family law firm, Wisselman, Harounian & Associates, Jerome A. Wisselman has co-authored many publications on topics like child custody and child support throughout his career.



# SO HAPPY TO CELEBRATE THE POWERLIST!

The past year has been one of the most challenging, both personally and professionally, for almost everyone. We all must be grateful for our health and I'm sure most of us have had the opportunity to review and adjust our priorities.

The one thing we all certainly miss is seeing our family, friends and co-workers, as well as having the opportunity to safely be in a room full of people with the chance to develop new relationships.

We are proud of the fact that our events team was able to be creative and pivot to continue to recognize those having a significant positive impact on our region. We certainly did things differently, but we were able to safely see many of our honorees, record them getting their awards and broadcast their achievements through our media (now including Zoom!).

We will continue to do a hybrid of small socially-distanced gatherings and broadcast events until it is safe to do otherwise, but our mission is the same: to let as many people as possible learn about those making a positive contribution, and to network fantastic people together!

Here's to a brighter year ahead and once again being able to see all of you in the near future!

Gratefully, Victoria Schneps President

Josh Schneps CEO Demetra Mattone Tonia N. Cimino Joseph Sirica Events Team

# TO WATCH VIDEOS OF OUR SPECIAL SPEAKERS, GO TO

www.longislandpress.com/2021/05/25/long-island-press-powerlisters-honored/

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# FONG ISLAND PRESS POWERS POWER

Long Island's Most Influential People

May 20, 2021

# Robert Abrams



#### **Executive Partner** Abrams, Fensterman, LLP

Robert Abrams (Bob) is the co-founder and an Executive Partner at Abrams, Fensterman, Fensterman, Eisman, Formato, Ferrara, Wolf & Carone, LLP, a New York Law Journal Top 100 law firm located in Lake Success, New York, with locations in Brooklyn, Manhattan and Rochester.

As Abrams created his law firm, he developed several practice verticals including Aging and Longevity Law, which includes areas of legal practice such as guardianships, life and retirement planning, estate litigation and health law. Both directly and indirectly as an Executive Partner at Abrams Fensterman, Abrams

has participated in many high profile cases, some of which helped to create and/or clarify existing law.

In addition to his diverse legal skills, Abrams has demonstrated a tremendous sensitivity and understanding of the challenges faced by family members of murder victims, as demonstrated by his representation of the families of Kathleen McCormack Durst, John Frankowski, Sr., and Joseph "Joey" Comunale.

Abrams served as Chair of both the Elder and Health Law sections of the New York State Bar Association (NYSBA). He has twice been invited to participate in the once in a decade White House Conference on Aging (WHCoA), the first of which was hosted by President Bill Clinton in 1995 and the second hosted by President George W. Bush in 2005. At the 2005 Conference, Bob coordinated the first ever WHCoA Technology Exhibit which showcased technological initiatives designed to improve the quality of life for older individuals in America and throughout the world.

# Charles A. Barragato, CPA, CFE



# **Office Managing Partner**

Charles Barragato has over three decades of experience providing sophisticated tax planning and advisory services to corporations, family offices, executives, and other high net-worth individuals.

Barragato contributes articles to The CPA Journal, The Tax Adviser, The Practical Accountant, Management Accounting, Taxation for Accountants, Taxation for Lawyers, Tax Ideas, California CPA, Practical Tax Strategies and provides commentary on tax and accounting issues to The Journal of Taxation,

Newsday, TheStreet.com and The Wall Street Journal. He is also a member of the College of Business faculty at Stony Brook University.

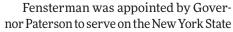
He is an active member of a number of professional organizations, including: the American Institute of CPAs, the New York State Society of CPAs ("NYSSCPA"), and the Association of Certified Fraud Examiners. He is a past president of the NYSSCPA's Suffolk Chapter, and has also served as chairman of its General Taxation Committee.

# **Howard Fensterman**

#### **Managing Partner** Abrams, Fensterman, LLP

Howard Fensterman is the Managing Partner at Abrams, Fensterman, Fensterman, Eisman, Formato, Ferrara, Wolf & Carone,

Fensterman is involved in all facets of the law firm's practice, including representing corporations, partnerships, LLCs and LLPs, as well as other business entities and individuals in connection with litigation, settlement negotiations, purchase and sale of business entities, asset-based lending, shareholder and partnership agreements, and real estate matters.



Public Health and Health Planning Council in 2008 until his term ended in 2014. He formerly served on the Public Health & Planning Council's Establishment & Project Review Committee. Mr. Fensterman is a member of the Board of Trustees of the Crohn's and Colitis Foundation of America-Long Island Chapter.

Fensterman received his J.D. from Georgetown Law Center. He is admitted to practice in New York, New Jersey, Maryland, and the District of Columbia.

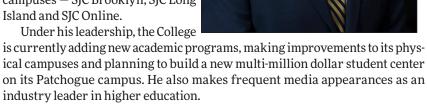
# Donald R. Boomgaarden, Ph.D.,

# St. Joseph's College

Donald R. Boomgaarden, Ph.D., is the eighth president of St. Joseph's College (SJC), New York.

During his time at SJC, Dr. Boomgaarden has overseen a successful reaccreditation with the Middle States Commission on Higher Education, launched a new strategic plan, grown the College's endowment by nearly 50 percent and seen record high enrollments on all three campuses — SJC Brooklyn, SJC Long Island and SJC Online.

Under his leadership, the College



Dr. Boomgaarden serves on the board of trustees for the Commission on Independent Colleges and Universities (CICU), is Board Chair of the Association of Colleges of Sisters of St. Joseph (ACSSJ), a steering committee member of the Long Island Regional Advisory Council on Higher Education (LIRACHE), where he is also chair to the Superintendents and College President's Partnership, and is chair of the Lower Hudson Valley Consortium of Catholic Colleges and Universities. He's been named one of the most influential Brooklynites by "Brooklyn Power 100" for two consecutive years.

Dr. Boomgaarden is a graduate of the Eastman School of Music and also studied at the University of Vienna, where he was a Fulbright Scholar. Dr. Boomgaarden also graduated from Harvard University's Institute for Management and Leadership in Education. Dr. Boomgaarden is a noted historian of opera, music aesthetics and harmonic theory.



# John Cameron, Jr.



# Founder & Managing Partner Cameron Engineering & Associates

A licensed professional engineer, marine engineer and U.S. patent holder, John Cameron, Jr. is the Founder and Managing Partner of Cameron Engineering & Associates, LLP. The Firm has completed 36 years of business in consulting engineering and planning serving the public and private sectors alike. Some of the Firm's major projects

have included the LIRR's Third Track Project, the Nassau Coliseum Renovation, FDNY's major firehouse house renovation project, Wyandanch Village, Garvies Point Development, Hofstra University Medical and Business Schools, Molloy College School of Nursing and many, many more.

An engineering graduate of the United States Merchant Marine Academy at Kings Point, Cameron also holds a Master's Degree in Environmental Science from Long Island University and has an honorary Doctor of Laws degree from Molloy College.

He serves on numerous not-for-profit boards including those of professional, civic and educational organizations, including the Long Island Regional Planning Council, where he serves as Chairman; the Holocaust Memorial and Tolerance Center of Nassau County, the Hofstra University and Stony Brook University Engineering Schools, the U.S. Merchant Marine Academy Alumni Association and others. For those contributions and personal achievements, John has been recognized many times in his career.

Aside from his passionate professional interests, Cameron has diverse personal interests including sports, music, art, travel, education, and the environment. He and his wife Loretta, reside in Rockville Centre as do their two married children and their families, with grandsons, Jack and Will and granddaughters, Frances and Kristin.

# **Charles Evdos**



# **Executive Director RISE Life Services**

Charles Evdos is a veteran executive and entrepreneur with over four decades of experience in fundraising, major gifts, estate-planning, finance, operations and business.

Evdos began his working career as a "Copy Boy" at the New York Daily News. He rose up the ranks at this iconic daily paper, to become an editorial assistant and TV/radio reporter, before concluding his storied 12-year career in journalism, as a business manager.

Evdos always had a passion for helping people and decided to leave journalism behind and join the not-for-profit sector. He has worked at Long Island Head Start as their Deputy Executive Director, APPLE, Inc. as the Chief Operating Officer and CFO and then as the Director of Development for United Cerebral Palsy Association of Nassau County, a position he held for over 13 years before joining Rise Life Services (an Aid To The Developmentally Disabled company), as its Executive Director.

# **Michael Dowling**

# President & CEO Northwell Health

Michael Dowling is one of health care's most influential voices, taking a stand on societal issues such as gun violence and immigration that many health system CEOs shy away from. As President and CEO of Northwell Health, he leads a clinical, academic and research enterprise with a workforce of more than 76,000 and annual revenue of \$14 billion.

Dowling has received numerous awards, including the Ellis Island Medal of Honor and a number of



honorary degrees from Fordham University, University College Dublin (Ireland) and the prestigious Queen's University Belfast. In 2017, he was served as the Grand Marshal of the Patrick's Day Parade in NYC and he chairs the Institute for Healthcare Improvement.

Prior to joining Northwell in 1995, Dowling served in New York State government for 12 years, including leadership roles as director of health, education and human services, commissioner of social services, deputy secretary and a chief adviser to former Governor Mario Cuomo. Earlier, he was a professor of social policy and an assistant dean of Fordham's Graduate School of Social Services.

# Dr. Nick Fitterman

# **Executive Director Huntington Hospital**

Dr. Nick Fitterman became the Executive Director of Huntington Hospital in October 2018. During this time he has led the hospital to a coveted 5-star rating from the centers for Medicare and Medicaid services. Huntington is the only Hospital in Suffolk County to achieve this recognition and one of only two on Long Island.

In March 2020 Huntington was the epicenter of the COVID-19 pandemic in Suffolk, caring for more



COVID patients than any other site that first month. The hospital enacted surge plans to allow the care of over 2000 COVID patients. Huntington quadrupled its intensive care unit capacity, implemented innovative treatment and triage programs allowing the hospital to meet the huge demands the pandemic placed on the health of our community.

Dr. Fitterman is thrilled to return to Huntington where he started his professional career in Internal medicine. After practicing as an Internist for 14 years he then founded the Hospital Medicine program at Huntington. The program resulted in reduced mortality and increased patient satisfaction. Dr. Fitterman was then tapped to lead the 16 Hospital medicine programs throughout all of Northwell Health as Vice Chair of Medicine. He helped grow these programs from 180 to over 360 physicians, standardizing operations and clinical care. Dr. Fitterman has been awarded Mastership by the American College of Physicians, has been promoted to Professor at the Donald and Barbara School of Medicine at Hofstra/Northwell, Chairs the ACP's national Performance measurement committee, and has 35 publications in peer reviewed journals.

# **Gregory Galdi**



#### Founder & President Custom Computer Specialists

Gregory Galdi is an accomplished entrepreneur, philanthropist, and information technology visionary. As founder and President of Hauppauge-headquartered Custom Computer Specialists, Galdi has helped transform the adoption of outsourced technology services within healthcare, education, commercial and non-profit

business, and local government.

Galdi was first introduced to technology

when he began his career as a chemist at Brookhaven National Laboratory. Shortly after, in 1979, he founded Custom Computer Specialists with a small storefront located in Riverhead. Four decades later, his technology solutions firm has grown to over 400 full-time employees with locations in New York, New Jersey, and Rhode Island—including a 100,000-sq.-ft facility on Long Island.

With his visionary perspective, Galdi has earned the Long Island University Southampton College's Distinguished Alumnus Award, is a three-time Entrepreneur of the Year finalist, and honored member of the Young Presidents'

Organization. He is a board member of the International Motor Racing Research Center, HIA-LI, and the Long Island University Board of Trustees

Impassioned with giving back to the communities he serves, Galdi has been frequently recognized for his philanthropic efforts, supporting Long Island's associations, hospitals, schools, and museums. He was also recognized at Parker Jewish Institute's annual gala for his many accomplishments.

Galdi is an avid auto racing enthusiast and resides on Long Island with his wife Linda.

# Evan H. Krinick



# Partner Rivkin Radler LLP

Evan H. Krinick, a partner with Rivkin Radler's Appeals, Commercial Litigation and Insurance Coverage practice groups, has been the firm's managing partner for eight years. During that time, he oversaw the growth of the firm from three offices and 140 attorneys to five offices and 200 attorneys. He founded the firm's insurance fraud practice, which now includes more than 30 attorneys representing numerous

carriers in multiple states.

Krinickwas the youngest person elected to the partnership of Rivkin Radler and the youngest elected to its management committee. He has argued close to 20 cases in the New York Court of Appeals on a variety of civil matters, and two criminal cases assigned by the Court. He has authored numerous amicus curiae briefs accepted by the NY Court of Appeal on issues of importance.

He is the lead counsel for Bethpage Federal Credit Union, and since 1993, he has served as outside counsel to LIPA.

Early in his career, Krinick represented the Town of Hempstead and Nassau County in landmark voting rights cases.

He is a member of the Long Island Association's Board of Directors and the Touro Law School Board of Governors, and he is the former Chairman of the NY Mentoring Partnership's Leadership Council.

A prolific writer, he writes a regular column on insurance fraud for the New York Law Journal. He lectures frequently to the New York State Bar Association and in other venues on appellate practice, civil procedure, expert witnesses, insurance bad faith and insurance coverage.

# Louis C. Grassi

#### Chief Executive Officer, Managing Partner Grassi CPAs

Louis C. Grassi is the Chief Executive Officer, Managing Partner of Grassi CPA's. He began his career in 1977 and has extensive experience in tax, accounting and consulting.

Grassi takes a proactive role with clients, performing such value-added services as profit-enhancement studies, operational reviews, performance benchmarking, forensic accounting,



incentive compensation programs, estate and succession planning, corporate restructuring, and corporate/family retreat facilitation. Grassi's counsel has proven instrumental to the success of many companies and high net worth families. Grassi's leadership, drive for success, and dedication to providing clients with high quality services has grown Grassi from a zero-base firm to being ranked the 66th largest firm in the country, and the top 17th largest firm in the New York area by Crain's New York Business. IPA has also recognized Grassi as a "Best of the Best Firms" for 10 consecutive years. The firm was also recognized by Crain's New York Business as one of the 50 Fastest Growing Businesses in New York City, and was ranked as the Best Place to Work by several publications.

Grassi was the former Chair of Moore North America, part of an international association of more than 300 independent accounting and consulting firms. As a nationally-recognized expert, Grassi is also frequently called upon as a lecturer and business advisor for companies and industry trade organizations. He has authored numerous local and national articles, also serving as a contributing editor to the Corporate Controller's Manual. Grassi was an adjunct professor at Columbia University teaching a graduate level course in finance and accounting.

# Dr. James Lentini

## President Molloy College

James Lentini, D.M.A., began his appointment as Molloy College's seventh president in June 2020. Dr. Lentini's strategic vision at Molloy includes expanding the institution's considerable impact in metropolitan New York in health professions, business, and education, rooted in a liberal arts core with strengths in the arts and sciences.

Prior to his appointment at Molloy, Dr. Lentini served as Senior Vice President for Academic Affairs and Provost at Oakland Uni-



versity (Rochester, Michigan) from 2013-2020. As the university's chief academic officer, he oversaw enrollment management and student success initiatives leading to record highs for enrollment, student retention, and graduation rates. For his accomplishments at Oakland University, Dr. Lentini was awarded the first-ever Presidential Medal of Excellence for exceptional leadership.

In addition to his administrative accomplishments, Dr. Lentini's is an internationally-recognized composer. He has received the Andrés Segovia International Composition Prize, the McHugh Composition Prize, a grant from "Meet the Composer," a Hanson Institute grant, and multiple awards from the American Society of Composers, Authors, and Publishers (ASCAP). Gramophone Magazine wrote that James Lentini is an "American classical music success story," while calling his composition Scenes from Sedona "...perhaps the best piece for viola and cello since Beethoven's 'Eyeglasses' Duet." Reviewer Howard Reich of the Chicago Tribune named Dr. Lentini's recording of large ensemble works entitled "Through Time and Place" one of the Best Classical Recordings of the Year for 2020.

# Seymour Liebman



Executive Vice President & Chief Administrative Officer Canon U.S.A., Inc.

Seymour Liebman is Executive Vice President, Chief Administrative Officer and General

Counsel of Canon U.S.A., Inc., Senior Managing Executive Officer of Canon Inc., Japan and Chairman of BriefCam, Ltd.

Liebman joined the Canon U.S.A. Accounting Division in 1974 as a Manager and was promoted to Vice President in 1987. In 1989, he established

the in-house legal department at Canon U.S.A., where he currently oversees almost 50 in-house attorneys including intellectual property attorneys. In 1996, he was promoted to Executive Vice President and General Manager for Administration and Regional Operations as well as being named General Counsel.

In addition to these positions, Liebman was appointed Chief Administrative Officer in 2008. He oversees all legal affairs and corporate administration functions for Canon Americas.

Liebman was the first non-Japanese Canon executive to be appointed an Executive Officer of Canon Inc. in Japan by the Company's shareholders and Board of Directors in 2009.

Liebman serves on the Board of Governors of the Touro Law Center, is vice chairman of the Long Island Association, a member of the Board of Directors of the Information Technology Industry Council and a member of the Council of Overseers for the Tilles Center. He is also a member of the Melville Employment Center

Advisory Committee.

Liebman was appointed by New York Governor Andrew Cuomo to the Long Island Regional Development Council and the New York State Life Science Advisory Board, and is a Hall of Fame Platinum Member of the Long Island Press PowerList.

# Christine M. Riordan, Ph.D.



# **President Adelphi University**

Christine M. Riordan, PhD, is the first woman to serve as president of Adelphi University. An internationally known expert in leadership development, team building, and diversity and inclusion, she is recognized for groundbreaking initiatives to personalize and transform the higher education experience.

Upon her appointment, Dr. Riordan worked with members from across Adelphi to create a

new strategic plan, Momentum, outlining transformational goals to strengthen the academic experience, deepen the commitment to student success, enhance the diversity and inclusion, increase fundraising, and earn Adelphi national recognition as a modern metropolitan university.

Since the start of the strategic plan, enrollment has since grown by 10 percent and the University has admitted the four most diverse classes in its history. Seventeen new degree programs and 11 accelerated dual degree programs have been launched. Alumni giving is at an all-time high. U.S. News & World Report has ranked Adelphi as a Best College, a Best College for First-Year Experiences, a Best College for Veterans, a Best Value School, and a Best Performer on Social Mobility. The University has also been named to the President's Higher Education Community Service Honor Roll and earned the Carnegie Community Engagement Classification.

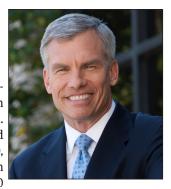
Dr. Riordan previously served as provost of the University of Kentucky and as dean of the Daniels College of Business at the University of Denver. She has published nearly 70 academic and business press articles, and her work has been cited more than 5,400 times by other authors.

# James Metzger

CE0

#### **The Whitmore Agency**

In 1989 James C. "Jim" Metzger put his insatiable drive and entrepreneurial instincts in action and opened The Whitmore Group Ltd. in Roslyn. Today, as the award-winning insurance and financial services agency's Chairman and CEO, Metzger continues to lead the business located in Garden City. There, the company has more than 70



employees, and is known as The Whitmore Agency. In addition to driving bottom-line business wins, Metzger is also a renowned Long Island philanthropist.

As he readily headlines on his personal website - jamesmetzger.net – "Everything I ever needed to know about business I learned on the sports field." He was a Suffolk County All-Star running back who started every game in his three-year varsity football career graduating in 1977 with the distinction of being the school's all-time leading scorer and rusher. His lacrosse accomplishments, almost unbelievably, were even more impressive. He was an All-American and Suffolk County scoring champion. After high school, Metzger played lacrosse at Hofstra. In his sophomore season he was named a Division I All-American.

After college, Metzger applied his talents and energy to building a career in insurance.

Over last three decades, Whitmore Agency, has steadily built the business to extend beyond insurance brokering. Besides a broad range of personal insurance services, the company focuses on special industries that include funeral services, transportation and livery, restaurants and hospitality, construction and bonding, fine arts and collectables, and the cannabis industry.

# Michael Serao

## Executive Vice President, Chief Administrative Officer First Central Savings Bank

Michael Serao has 21 years of banking experience including time at Commerce Bank in Astoria, Vice President of JPMorgan Chase, and Quontic Bank, also in Astoria. He now serves as Executive Vice President, Chief Administrative Officer at First Central Savings Bank headquartered in Glen Cove.



As Chief Administrative Officer, Serao has brought First Central Savings Bank, or as the community knows them, FCSB, into the 21st century. Through his advocacy as a game-changing player of the nonprofit sector and a prolific LGBTQ activist, Serao ignited change for clients looking for a full range of personal banking services at a brick and mortar institution with the ability to bank anywhere, anytime. By bringing FCSB's branding to a new level, Serao inspired the troops to make the change to "Banking the way it used to be, only better."

While FCSB's footprint has certainly grown, they take pride in playing an active role within the local communities they serve by knowing their customers and understanding their unique needs.

Serao leads the philanthropic mission of FCSB by securing funding for many nonprofits. Serao believes in the value of giving back. In 2018, he personally donated over \$100,000 in charitable contributions to nonprofit organizations. He has worked actively in the LGBTQ community as a former member of OUT Astoria and former President of the Western Queens LGBT Democratic Club. In 2018, Serao's activism in banking was recognized by The Long Island Press PowerList. That same year he was named "Person of the Year" by the Long Island Crisis Center for his philanthropic commitment to the LGBTQ community. His honors include: HX Magazine Businessman of the Year, Business Leadership Award from the Powhattan Democratic Club, and Man of the Year from the LIC Kiwanis. In 2014, the Huffington Post named him "The Banker Everyone Loves."

# **PowerListers**

# DISTINGUISHED HONOREES



Terri Alessi-Miceli Hauppauge Industrial



Carol Allen
People's Alliance Federal
Credit Union



Matthew Aracich
Building & Construction
Trades Council of Nassau &
Suffolk Counties



Linda Armyn Bethpage Federal Credit Union



**Steve Bellone** Suffolk County Executive



**Stanley Bergman** Henry Schein



David Black Sid Jacobson JCC



Jan Burman Engel Burman



Alton Byrd Long Island Nets/BSE



Brad Calhoun Teachers Federal Credit Union



Dr. Isma Chaudhry
Islamic Center of Long
Island



HALL OF FAME
Dr. Kimberly Cline
Long Island University



Laura Curran Long Island Nets/BSE Global



Noel DiGerolamo Suffolk PBA



**Thomas DiNapoli** NYS Comptroller



Michael Dubb
The Beechwood Organization

# **PowerListers**



John Durso LI Federation of Labor



**Daniel Eichhorn PSEG LI** 



Michael Faltischek Ruskin Moscou Faltischek



Christine M. Fenske Baker Tilly US, LLP



Dr. Henry C. Foley New York Institute of Technology



Erik Gershwind MSC Industrial Supply



Doon Gibbs Brookhaven National Laboratory



Peter Goldsmith LISTnet



Carol A. Gomes Stony Brook Hospital



Dr. Joseph Greco Winthrop University Hospital



**Elaine Gross Erase Racism** 



Wayne Grosse
Bethpage Federal Credit
Union



Katherine Heaviside Epoch 5 Public Relations



Marc Herbst Long Island Contractors' Association



Richard Humann H2M Architects & Engineers



Robert A. Isaksen Bank of America



Kristen Jarnagin Discover Long Island



Janet Koch Life's Worc



Andrew Kubrick
Marks Paneth
Accountants & Advisors



Jon Ledecky NY Islanders



Gary Lewi Rubenstein Strategic Communications



Rick Lewis Mid-Island YJCC & Suffolk YJCC



Jason Lipiec M&T Bank



**Anthony Manetta** Cedar Communities



Richard T. Margulis LI Community Hospital

# **PowerListers**



Carolyn Mazzenga Marcum LLP



James McDermott Nassau County PBA



Rebecca O'Connell Chase Bank



**Kevin O'Connor DIME Bank** 



Paule Pachter Long Island Cares



Mitchell H. Pally Long Island Builders Institute



**Christopher Palmer** Cullen & Dykman LLP



Stuart Rabinowitz Hofstra University



Theresa Regnante United Way of LI



Dr. Jeffrey Reynolds Family & Children's Association



Patrick Ryder Nassau County Police Commissioner



**Dr. Timothy E. Sams** SUNY Old Westbury



Steven Santino People's United Bank



Steven Schlesinger Jaspan Schlesinger LLP



Todd Shapiro Todd Shapiro & Associates



**Anne Shybunko-Moore GSE Dynamics** 



Lloyd Singer Epoch 5 Public Relations



Tom Suozzi Congressman



Juliana Terian
Rallye Motor Company



Paul Trapani LISTnet



George Tsunis Chartwell Hotels



Dr. Jeffrey Vacirca NY Cancer & Blood Specialists



Catherine Verrelli Ernst & Young LLP



Dr. Jermaine Williams Nassau Community College



# POWERLISTERS CELEBRATED FOR



Kevin O'Connor, CEO, Dime Bank



Charles Evdos, RISE Life Services, with Dr. Donald Boomgaarden, St. Joseph's College



Richard Humann, H2M Architects & Engineers, Kristen Jarnagin, **Discover Long Island, and Anne** Shybunko-Moore



Katherine Heaviside, Epoch 5 Public Relations, with Michael Faltischek of Ruskin, Moscou, Faltischek, P.C.



Gary Lewi, Rubenstein Communications, John Cameron Jr., Cameron Engineering & Associates, Joan MacNaughton, Dan's Papers, Katherine Heaviside, Epoch 5 Public Relations, Dr. Donald Boomgaarden, St. Joseph's College, Marc Herbst, Long Island Contractors Association



Rick Lewis, Mid Island YJCC and Suffolk Y JCC



Patrick Ryder, Nassau **County Police Depart-**



**Brad Calhoun, Teachers Federal Credit Union** 



Michael Dowling, Northwell Health with Dr. Isma Chaudhry, Islamic Center of Long Island, Hall of Famer



**Victoria Schneps with Rebecca** O'Connell, Chase Bank



Jamie Moore, Anne Shybunko-Moore, GSE Dynamics, Charles Barragato, **BDO**, with his wife Kathy Barragato



**Adam Silvers & Michael Faltischek** of Ruskin, Moscou, Faltischek, P.C.



Alton Byrd, BSE Global with wife Francine Bailey-Byrd



Jason Lipiec, M&T Bank, with Danielle and Jacquelyn Lipiec

# MAKING LONG ISLAND GREAT





Gregory Galdi, Custom Computer Specialists, with Victoria Schneps



Janet Koch, Life's WORC, Suffolk County Executive Steve Bellone, Victoria Schneps



Jason Lipiec, M&T Bank



Victoria Schneps, Schneps Media, with Michael Dowling, Northwell Health and Elizabeth Aloni, Schneps Media



**Kevin O'Connor, Dime Bank** 



Dr. Jermaine Williams, Nassau Community College & James Lentini, D.M.A., Molloy College



Carol Allen, People's Alliance Federal Credit Union with her husband Michael Alfiero



Dr. Donald Boomgaarden, St. Joseph's College



Matthew Aracich, Building & Construction Trades Council of Nassau & Suffolk



Juliana Terian, Rallye Motor Company, and Vicki Schneps



Dr. Jermaine Williams, Nassau Community College, with Adrian Kerrigan



Cathy Verrelli, Ernst & Young LLP, with her husband Jason Verrelli



Dr. Jeffrey Reynolds, Family & Children's Association



Paul Trapani, LISTnet



David Black, Sid Jacobson JCC, engaged in conversation



There was a lot of networking at the in-person event