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Official Newsletter of

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Jan./Feb. 2024





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NEXT MEETING

NEXT MEETING
Thursday February 8th
Noon
@ The Coral House

UPCOMING EVENTS

Tuesday February 13th
Special Election

Wednesday February 14th
Ash Wednesday

Wednesday February 14th
Valentine's Day

Thursday February 15th
Meeting @ The Coral House
Noon Luncheon

Monday February 19th
President's Day

Sunday March 10th
Daylight Saving Time

Sunday March 17th
St. Patrick's Day

Sunday March 31st
Easter Sunday

Monday April 15th
Tax Day

Thursday April 18th -
Membership Meeting @ The Coral House
Noon

Sunday May 12th-
Mother's Day

Monday May 27th
Memorial Day

THE SHIELDS OF LONG ISLAND ON THE WEB:
LongIslandShields.com

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Hello everyone, Happy New Year. I hope everyone had a great Christmas, Hanukkah or whichever holiday you celebrate. It's always a blessing to spend time with family and friends as year to year things change. Cherish all the time we have to spend together. As you know, time passes in the blink of an eye. This past January 17th would have been Tim Motto's 66th birthday. Please keep Tim and all our deceased members and family in your thoughts and prayers.

As I'm sure everyone is aware, this past January 8th Retired Chief Joe Esposito passed away. Chief Esposito served in the NYPD for 45 years beginning in 1968 as a Police Trainee before being appointed to Patrolman in 1971. I had the pleasure to meet the Chief on several occasions and he was always pleasant with a big smile and a strong handshake. He courageously battled brain cancer, but unfortunately he succumbed to it. May he rest in eternal peace.

I want to send out a huge thank you to our membership on two fronts. The first is for your continued generosity to the NYC Organization of Public Service Retirees. We passed the "hat" around at our last meeting and with the donations from the September meeting, we were able to send a donation of \$1,500 from the LI Shields to Marianne and her board. I am also pleased to let you know that they reached their goal of raising \$150,000 by the end of last year. Unfortunately, we cannot stop donating. The City is still appealing our victories in the hopes of getting them over turned and bankrupting us in the process. As always, please be as generous as your means allow. I know I mentioned this before, but I cannot thank Dan Murray enough for his continued information on the progress of our appeals.

Second huge thank you is for all the unwrapped toys that were donated from

the membership for the children who reside at SCO. On Monday December 18th Luke Johnson, Pete Caso and myself loaded up the back of my car and delivered a mountain of toys. The staff that helps run SCO is always so happy to see us and get these gifts donated. We make a huge impact on so many children who are there at no fault of their own.

Lou Demarco, Artie Chin and Frank Ferreyra did great work dressing the graves of our veterans and some of our recently deceased members for Christmas. Artie and Frank made sure to visit Ptl. Cardillo, and PO's Timmy Motto, Mark Di Nome and Richie Milla. Thank you men, outstanding work never forgetting. It is that time of the year. Dues are due. Kathy has sent out dues notices. If you didn't receive it, kindly see Kathy at the next meeting or use the application in the Call Box. Thank you to everyone who made additional donations with their dues last year. It makes a difference and helps defray our costs. If you can donate, please do. Thank you.

There is a special election on Tuesday February 13th. The seat in congress that was vacated when George Santos was expelled is going to be filled. Mazi Pilip is running against Tom Suozzi. If you know anything about Suozzi, then you know not to vote for him. I have spoken with Graig Rizzo, Nassau Republican Party, and he assures me that Mazi is the right person for congress. The Nassau County Police Unions have endorsed Mazi for Congress. If you live in the district and can vote, please do. Elections have consequences.

Our next meeting is Thursday February 8th, Noon, at The Coral House in Baldwin.

I hope to see everyone there,

Mike Villa, President



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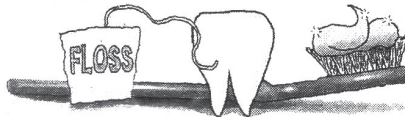
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CHAPLAIN'S REPORT

How About Those Ants?!

Yes, it's about those little ant-type critters... the little, tiny (1/32nd inch?) invaders who enter our tiled bathroom through a hole you could barely get a common pin to clear. They come into our bathtub in droves. They go for the smallest puddle of water and somehow take it back to the nest to supply the colony's needs (or so we surmise).

Want to smooch one of them? You can try; but they'll roll up into a period-shaped ball just the right size for a printed text and quickly uncurl... and run away as if nothing had happened.

We've gone the ant trap route. We've tried boric acid in the areas in which they seem most present. We've tried Lysol disinfectant and "Scrubbing Bubbles Bathroom Cleaner" (to override the effectiveness of the pheromone trail they must be leaving to guide the next phalanx to the desired terrain.) And we've tried rinsing them down the drain.

Yet they still keep coming. And we marvel, as they go about their ant-work, at how absolutely wonderfully they're made.

Although miniscule, they move very quickly. On a scale with a dog, for example, I'd bet they're making 40 mph. without breaking a sweat (if ants could sweat). And their energy level is impressive; they're little energizer bunnies. They frequently stop – really still. You'd think they'd "passed away," but if you wait a few minutes, you'll see them take off to running again just as they had done before. Wherever there

is a "puddle," these pesky foragers gather 'round the moisture like so many cows around a trough of oats. [PS- the "puddle" is only an indentation in the anti-slip design embossed in the tub's floor. What's dry to humans is a pond to these creatures.]

Again I must say, we marvel.... So much life and determined motion.... incased in so small a body – it is astonishing.

It's December as I write. But our next scheduled meeting, February 15, 2024, at noon at the Coral House will find that we're closer to spring on March 19 than we could imagine – only 32 days! The wonders of spring challenge our human comprehension and offer glimpses of the Creator's awesome powers. If you're tired of the drab gray of leafless trees and dead grass all around us, then cheer up!.... the onset of the time of greening is coming!

The darkened skies of winter will quickly come and go.... Yes, we've had enough! Let nature with its charms of new life cheer our hearts as we learn once again what it means to "stand in awe" of the wonders of life in all of its forms!

On our home front, however, those ants have just got to go! They can live anywhere around us, but they can't live with us, no matter how wondrous they are!

Yours in the fellowship,

Chaplain JGAnderson

MEMBERSHIP CORNER

2024 Shields Long Island Dues Renewal

Name _____ DOB _____

Address _____

Phone # _____ Cell # _____

Email address _____

2024 Dues \$40 (\$45 after 12/1/18) _____

Raffle Tickets \$20 _____

Challenge Coins # _____ X \$10 each _____

Extra Membership Cards # _____ X \$2 each _____

Extra Decals # _____ X \$2 each _____

Donation - Thank you! _____

Total – Check payable to: Shields Long Island _____

Please include in the return envelope this dues renewal form, your check, your raffle ticket stubs, and your membership renewal form.

MOVING???

Please notify us 4-6 weeks in advance if you are moving to insure that you will receive your copy of the CALL BOX. Please attach the old mailing label to the change of address form below and mail it to:

Kathleen Kalt
159 Pacific St.

Massapequa, Park 11762
CHANGE OF ADDRESS

Please print your new address & phone below

NAME

NEW ADDRESS

CITY

STATE

ZIP

PHONE #

E-MAIL ADDRESS

ATTACH OLD MAILING LABEL HERE



THE SHIELDS of Long Island Inc.

PLEASE SEND ALL APPLICATIONS TO:

Luke Johnson
99 MEYERS AVE.
HICKSVILLE, NY 11801

2024 Scholarship Application

COMPLETE APPLICATION AND SUBMIT TO SCHOLARSHIP CHAIRMAN LUKE JOHNSON Must be Received BY JUNE 1, 2024

QUALIFICATIONS: You must be a fully paid member for the PRESENT and TWO PRIOR YEARS. Your dependent child must be entering the first year of an Accredited Undergraduate College during September 2024. Only one child per family may win (per year) however more than one child per family may apply. Submit a \$20 check made out to The Shields of Long Island for each child. Awards will be chosen by lottery. Students attending college tuition free are not eligible.

Member: _____ Shields# _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____ Child's Name: _____

Relationship & applicants SS#: _____

School Name & Address: _____

Registrar's Phone #: _____

Dependent child for the purpose of our scholarship award includes the actual child or grandchild of a member (as defined by law). Any child who the member is a legal guardian, adopted or otherwise, or a child who resides with a member and is totally dependent of the member's financial support.

SPECIAL NEEDS AWARD

Handled Confidentially. This award will be presented to a dependent child of a fully paid member for the present and two prior years, who is developmentally and/or physically challenged. The child must be attending a state recognized, be it at work, training or school program, for the Developmental and/or Physically Challenged. Previous award recipient are not eligible.

Submit applications and a \$20 check to The Shields of Long Island, indicate for the Special Needs Award. Must be received by June 1st, 2024





Luke Johnson , Pete Caso & Myself dropping off Gifts at SCO.



Guest Speakers Kathleen Lombardi & Colleen DiLello Give Great Speech on use of Narcam.

PO of the Month



Det. Tim Harrington , P.O. Danielle Renna & Det. Kevin Goodspeed Accept P.O. of the Month Award

On Saturday, July 8, 2023 at approximately 11:30 hours, members of the 102nd Precinct Detective Squad and Queens South Homicide were notified and responded to 108-19 Jamaica Ave. in regards to a male shot in front of the location. Details are as follows:

Upon arrival to the scene, detectives were directed by responding officers to 108-19 Jamaica Ave. where the victim Mr. Hamod Saeidi (M/AP86) was shot one time in his back. The victim was removed to Jamaica Hospital by EMS prior to Detectives arrival. The victim was pronounced deceased at 1200 hours by DR. McKenzie. While on scene detectives were able to canvass the surrounding area and interview multiple witnesses as well as canvass for probative video. Video collected by Detectives does portray the perpetrator a male Hispanic with a green shirt drive by on a blue motorized scooter and five multiple shots towards the victim at approximately 1127 hours. (3) 9mm shell casings and 5 fragmented bullets were recovered from that location.

The perpetrator then proceeded westbound on Jamaica Ave. and turned northbound on 108th St. and did shoot towards civilians as he rounds the corner. (1) 9mm shell casing was recovered from that location.

The perpetrator proceeded to the intersection of Hillside Ave. and 126th St. where approximately 1135 hours, based on video collected by Detectives he discharged at least one round into a gray Toyota Sienna Mini Van and struck the victim Mr. Ozgur (M/H/44) in his left cheek. The victim was transported to Jamaica Hospital and was intubated and in critical condition. (1) 9mm shell casing, a copper fragment, and lead fragment were recovered from the scene.

The perpetrator then proceeded South towards Jamaica Ave. When he reached Jamaica Ave. he proceeded to travel eastbound. At

approximately 1136 hours, based off of video collected by Detectives the male perpetrator fired 3 rounds towards another civilian walking along the sidewalk at the intersection of Jamaica Ave. and 131st St. missing him. 3 shell casings were recovered from that location. The perpetrator then continued eastbound on Jamaica Ave. and when he reached the intersection of Jamaica Ave. and 134th St. at approximately 1137 hours, based off video collected by detectives he fired multiple rounds and struck the victim Mr. Jorge Balseca (M/H/63) in his right shoulder. The victim was transported to Jamaica Hospital.

At approximately 1310 hours Officer from the 103rd Precinct were canvassing in regards to the numerous shootings in the 102 Precinct as well as the (1) in the confines of the 75 Precinct. At this time Officers observed a male fitting the description in the vicinity of Sutphin Boulevard and Archer Ave. The male perpetrator tried to flee from police and did lose control of his scooter. After a brief foot pursuit the wanted perpetrator Thomas Abreu (M/H/25) was placed under arrest at the corner of Sutphin Boulevard and 94 Ave.

The perpetrator was then transported to the 107 Precinct where Detectives interviewed him in regards to the incidents. The perpetrator did waive Miranda. The perpetrator stated in sum and substance that he did wake up at 136 Elton Ave. this morning. He stated that he was driving around on a blue motorized scooter, and did have a gun. The perpetrator stated that the Europe, The Russians and the Chinese were after him. When Detectives questioned him about shooting anyone the perpetrator then requested a lawyer. The defendant Thomas Abreu is being currently arrested, and charged with (1) Count of Murder 2, (2) counts of Attempted Murder, and (3) Counts of Criminal Possession of a Weapon -Firearm.

NYC
RETIRED TRANSIT POLICE OFFICER'S ASSOCIATION



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TUESDAY, JUNE 25TH, 2024 7:10 PM GAME

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Tickets are \$165 per seat, only a \$2.00 increase from last year.

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or email to hpb2270@optonline.net

E-mail is needed so I can forward the tickets to you when released.

Please include your contact cell phone number also. It is very important!

Mail checks to: Tom Greer 508 Harbor Rd, Cold Spring Harbor NY 11724

Thank you for your interest. Only 100 tickets will be available, so hurry and reserve yours now.

Tom Greer, Executive Secretary



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GOOD TO KNOW

Peter J. Caso, Esq.

Happy New Year to all and hoping it will be a good year for everyone. The new year brings new or changes to certain laws. This year one of those changes will affect your Required Minimum Distributions (RMD) from your Individual Retirement Account (IRA).

In December 2022, the Consolidated Appropriations Act of 2023, was signed into law which includes the SECURE 2.0 Act of 2022. Secure 2.0 incorporates important enhancements to regulations affecting IRAs and Achieving a Better Life Experience (ABLE) accounts.

Before the Secure Act, account holders were required to begin taking RMDs at age 70½. Under the Secure Act, the age to begin taking RMDs from your retirement plans was raised to age 72. Now under Secure 2.0 individuals who become 72 after December 31, 2022, and before January 1, 2033, can postpone taking their RMDs until they reach 73. Individuals who turn 74 after December 31, 2032, are not required to begin taking RMDs until age 75.

Due to Secure 2.0, the IRS is delaying the implementation of IRA RMD rules until 2024. Previously, the agency extended the 60-day rollover of certain retirement plan distributions was prolonged to Sept. 30, 2023. Prior to the passage of Secure 2.0, the IRS imposed a 50% surcharge for failing to take the full annual RMD from a retirement account. Secure 2.0 reduces the surcharge for tax years after December 29, 2022, by half, to 25%. Also, if the full amount is distributed by the earlier of the second year after the RMD was missed or before the IRS assesses the penalty, the surcharge is reduced to 10% for plans created under traditional IRAs and 401(a), 401(k), 403(b) and 457(b) plans. A further

point to be aware of is that any surcharge is counted as taxable income in the year in which the penalty was assessed.

Beginning this year (tax year 2024), the Secure 2.0 Act also eliminates RMDs for qualified employer Roth plan accounts. Participants in a 401(k), 403(b) and 457(b) plan with a designated Roth IRA feature will no longer have to consider the Roth accounts in their employer-sponsored plan when calculating their RMD. Previously, there was a difference in the rules that applied to Roth 401(k) accounts in employer plans versus Roth IRAs. Also, if the participant's FICA wages from the employer sponsoring the plan exceeded \$145,000 in the prior year, subject to annual cost of living adjustments in \$5,000 increments, the age 50 plus catch-up deferrals can only be contributed to the Roth IRA.

Also in 2024 under the Secure 2.0 Act, you will be allowed to take an early "emergency" distribution from your retirement account to cover unforeseeable or immediate financial needs. An emergency distribution of up to \$1,000, could only be taken once during the year, but won't be subject to the usual additional 10 % tax that applies to early distributions. But, if you choose not to repay the distribution within a certain time, you won't be allowed to take other emergency distributions for three years.

Disclaimer:

This article is for education and information purposes only, and is not intended to provide legal advice. No attorney-client relationship exists or is created by the use of this article or the information provided herein. This article should not be used as a substitute for competent legal advice from a professional attorney in your state.

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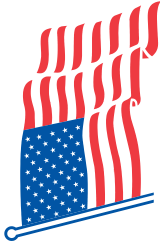


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