

# **CALL BOX**

Official Newsletter of

#### THE SHIELDS - LONG ISLAND, INC.

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LONGISLANDSHIELDS.COM

June/July 2025





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# **NEXT MEETING**

# NEXT MEETING Thursday June 19th Noon

@ The Coral House

#### **UPCOMING EVENTS**

Sunday June 15th Father's Day

Friday July 4th Independence Day

Monday September 1st Labor Day

Thursday September 4th Meeting @ The Coral House - 7pm

Thursday September 23rd Rosh Hashanah

Monday October 13th Columbus Day

Thursday October 30th Meeting @ The Coral House - Noon

**Sunday November 2nd Daylight Saving Time End** 

Tuesday November 4th Election Day

Tuesday November 11th Veteran's Day

Thursday December 11th Meeting @ The Coral House - Noon

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

#### PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

As you can see from the front cover we once again descended on Long Island National Cemetery and dressed the graves of thousands of veterans who have paid the ultimate sacrifice. This annual tradition is truly one of the most heartwarming ways to spend several hours on Saturday morning of Memorial Day weekend. Along with FOP Lodge #69, we met early in the morning at section 2A and within two hours the entire section was dressed. Thank you to all the members of the LI Shields and President Mike Kutzma, Lodge #69, and all his members for "never forgetting"

A week after the grave dressing Nassau County once again hosted the Games for the Physically Challenged at Mitchel Field. Sean Kelleher stepped up and organized us to assist with security and just to have a presence at the games. Once again the games went off without a hitch and not only was it a pleasure to volunteer, but it's a tremendous joy to watch these athletes compete. It truly puts a smile on your face. Thank you Sean for being the contact person.

Please keep Kathy Kalt and Jack D'Arcy in your thoughts and prayers as they are both recovering from surgeries. Our heartfelt condolences go out to Tammy Lestingi on the loss of her mother. Godspeed. Also, please keep Lynn Bettinger in your thoughts and prayers. Lynn is the wife of Keith Bettinger, Corresponding Secretary, who was recently released from the hospital and will begin chemo treatments. Stay strong Lynn, we will keep you in our prayers. If anyone is interested in visiting Rich Petito, he is up to seeing you. Rich is at Huntington Hills Center for Health and Rehabilitation in Melville.

Our legal team presented the oral arguments before the Supreme Court State of New York 2nd division and we are now awaiting their decision. This is the big case for Medicare so | Mike Villa, President

lets pray that things fall into line as they have been all along. Unfortunately, we have legal fees to pay. There will be a raffle at the next meeting with \$100 in lottery tickets scratch offs and a basket of cheer. Please be as generous as your means allow. On

Saturday May 10th there was a street co naming in honor of Det. Vito Navarra at Ulmer Street and 28th Avenue. Through the untiring efforts of Det. Randy Jurgensen with the assistance of City Council Member Vickie Paladino, this was finally accomplished. It was a beautiful morning and the street across from his partner Ptl. Phil Cardillo was co-named Det. Vito Navarra Way. Not far away on the other intersection is the co named street for our own PO Timmy Motto. It's hard to believe that Timmy is gone four years. Keith Bettinger wrote a tribute to Timmy and it's in this issue.

The dates for the fall Shield's meetings have been set. We will meet after the summer break on Thursday September 4th at 7pm, Thursday October 30th at noon and Thursday December 11th at noon. All meetings will be at the Coral House in Baldwin. Please note the time of the September meeting will be in the evening. We have received several correspondence with members asking for an evening meeting because of work commitments.

Dues notices have been mailed out, so if you haven't already sent it back please get dues in as soon as possible. Thank you to everyone who made additional donations. Little things like this really make a big difference when we put our scholarship's together.

I look forward to seeing everyone at the next meeting, June 19th - noon at the Coral House. Scholarship awards presentation.

Stay sate,



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#### **CHAPLAIN'S REPORT**

#### HANDLING TROUBLESOME ECHOES

One big worry keeps reappearing in the news regularly. An article in Palm Point Behavioral Health written August 12, 2024 said it this way: "Police officers are frequently exposed to critical incidents such as violent crimes, accidents These deaths. traumatic experiences trigger Postcan Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD), a debilitating condition characterized by flashbacks, nightmares severe anxiety.

PTSD can significantly impact an officer's ability to function both on and off duty, making it a critical concern in law enforcement mental health." But this is nothing new! That portion of the Bible called Psalms the writing of which goes back more than three thousand years - advised people who wish to lead honest and meaningful lives: "Do not fret because of the wicked; do not be envious of wrongdoers." [Psalm 37:1]. In contemporary language would probably sound "Don't let coarse something like: and evil people get you down and ruin the good things that have come your way! Don't crave the lifestyles of the kind of people who think only about themselves and would do whatever it would take - to get it."

That passage offers a helpful insight - "Trust in doing what is right and what is helpful and healthy to others around you - and you'll sleep better at night and also friends and neighbors who see the way you conduct yourself will cherish a good opinion of you.

It sounds a bit like the classic "golden Rule" I"Do to others as vou do to you" - a common way of

referring to Leviticus 19:18, "Love your neighbor as yourself ",One thing is certain: to live in such an honorable way as this brings satisfaction and an unchallenged morality. Resist being envious of rich people who never appreciate beauty, faithfulness, or respect because their only goal is showing off their "top-of-the-heap" positions! Good mental health is based upon such.

A good thing it is - to appreciate the wonders of things around us, such as considering (while driving on Northern State, for example) how just a few weeks ago the scenery to the left and right were bare trees, looking grey or shades of blackbrown and now are bright greens of splendid variety! So simple a thing as this opens us to the miracles we might otherwise take for granted - an aspect of mental health that is not locked in to negativity.

But the psalm takes it one step turther: "for the wrong-doers will soon fade like the grass and wither for they will soon fade like the plants." In other words - don't think the selfish ones have "got it made!" for they'll be gone sone enough, leaving no memories in the hearts of others regarding any good they had contributed to their fellows! Therefore - trust in the Greater Power who has created you, do good to others, and live in the land and enjoy security. And... if disturbing memories stil cause trouble, share it with the kind of people who willisten and help bear some of the burden.

Yours in the fellowship, JG Anderson, Chaplain

#### I Wish You Met Tim

I wish you met Tim. Tim Motto was a New York City Police Officer, who during his police career, was assigned to the Twenty Eighth Precinct, known to all New York City cops as the Two-Eight, located in Harlem. The Two-Eight is a very active precinct. Tim was an active cop and eventually he was injured and forced to retire.

However, retirement never slowed Tim down. He joined multiple police organizations. While at one organization's meeting Tim would be walking around the room handing out applications for other police associations.

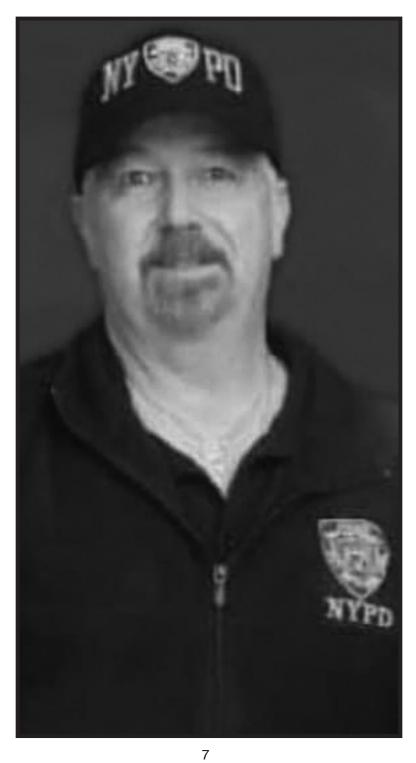
Handing out applications wasn't the only thing Tim did. When he went ti organization meetings, he lobbied for more support for police widows and their children. Tim also lobbied so theese fal:len heros of Law enforcement would never be forgotten. He would walk into a precinct commander's office and tell him what needed to be done to remember a fallen officer from a particular precinct. This can be seen in his efforts to be sure Patrolman Philip Cardillo, murdered at the Harlem Mosque, in April 1972, would never be forgotten. Tim led the awy appearing at meetings and telling the officers the street in front of the Two-Eight Precinct should renamed Patrolman Philip Cardillo Way. He also made sure the Cardillo family members were advised of the progress as well as when the ceremony renaming of the street would take place. included the neighborhood in his efforts to memorialize Patrolman Phil Cardillo. Tim helped organized precinct members versus community group basketball games. Following the game, Tim would walk into the precinct commander's office and hand over blue basketballs for the precinct commander to hand out. Tim never stole the limelight.

This past year Tim was diagnosed with a horrific form of cancer. Many people hoped and prayed for his recovery. It was not to be.

Tim was in the hospital. He didn't to stay there for his final days. He wanted to go home and spend his remaining time with his family.

Plans were made for home hospice care. He was driven home from the hospital in an ambulance, accompanied by police friends. The ambulance was led by a car from the New York Sttate Fraternal Order of Police, one of Tim's many poplice organizations. Whenn the ambulance reached Tim's home, he was greeted by hundreds of people, police officers and neighbors alike. The crowd overflowed the street. Everyone waved blue glow sticks in the evening sky. They showed Tim the thin blue line had not fotrgotten him. Tim watched this show of support, from a bed in the front window of his home. On the front lawnstood a woman with a white poster board sign. On the posterboard was a very special heartfelt thank you. It simply read "NYPD WIDOWS LOVE TIM"

Two days later, on March 13, 2021 Tim died. I'm sure many officers were at the gates of heaven, waitin to welcome Tim home.





Ex Congressman Peter King



Father Chris Leads us in Prayer



Peter King Addresses Membership



Rick Rottkamp Updates us on New Tax Laws



Jack D'arcy talks about 50th anniversary of the end of Vietnam War.



Luke Johnson speaks about Scholarship program

#### 2025 Shields Long Island Dues Renewal

2025 Dues \$40 (\$50 after 1	2/1/24)		
Raffle Tickets \$20			
Challenge Coins	#	_ X \$10 each	
Extra Membership Cards	#	_ X \$2 each	
Extra Decals	#	_ X \$2 each	
Donation Thank you!			
Total - Payable to: Shields	Long I	sland	
Please include in the returr	n envelo	pe this dues re	newal form, your
check, your raffle ticket stu	ıbs, and	l your members	hip renewal form.
With membership going do	own a li	ttle each year, t	the money from
the raffle tickets and your	genero	us donations h	as become a
tremendous help in allowir	ng us to	assist our law	enforcement
community. Thank you in a	advance	for your conti	nued support.

Let's work together so we can keep the Shields Long Island around for many years to come.

Please check the address label of this envelope, to the right of your membership number is the last year you paid your dues. If you have any questions or ideas, please reach out to us. We always appreciate your thoughts on how to help improve our organization. And if you have an address change let us know.

Mike Villa

President, Shields Long Island

#### **Donations**

"The Shields would like to Thank everyone for additional donations on top of their Dues"

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#### **GOOD TO KNOW**

Peter J. Caso, Esq.

Now that summertime is upon us it is time to go on vacation. Some may take low-cost leisurely ones while others may be taking one that is very expensive, like that once-in-a-lifetime vacation. In either case, it may be prudent to check out travel insurance to protect your nonrefundable vacation investment if the unexpected occurs.

Travel insurance (sometimes referred to as trip insurance) is coverage designed to protect against risks and financial losses that could happen while traveling. The risks range from minor inconveniences such as missed airline connections and delayed luggage to more serious issues including injuries or major illness.

Some may believe that, where indicated, they have travel insurance coverage from their credit card. While some credit cards offer travel insurance, often, the coverage is limited. Travel insurance through your credit card may cover the cost of your trip if it's canceled, however, it likely won't cover expenses if you experience a medical emergency abroad.

Travel insurance policies generally fall into one of three tiers: basic, middle-tier and comprehensive coverage. The premium for travel insurance is estimated to be 4% to 11% of the total cost of a trip.

Although basic is often the most affordable option and includes benefits such as trip cancellation and lost baggage coverage, it may require that you pay a deductible in the event of sickness or injury.

Middle-tier coverage typically includes the same benefits as basic policies but adds a health insurance benefit.

A more expensive, comprehensive policy includes both the benefits of basic or middle-tier policies, plus other benefits like accidental death coverage. However, with a comprehensive policy, you'll more likely have to pay a higher claim limit.

Because older travelers are generally at higher risk of health problems, policies tend to be more expensive the older you are. It is estimated that the difference between a 40-year-old's and a 70-year-old's average cost of travel insurance may come to about \$100. But that doesn't mean senior citizens can't find affordable policies; shopping around and comparing plans is key.

Travel insurance can be tailored to cover the various needs of the traveler. It is recommended to research several travel insurance providers to find the best coverage that will satisfy your travel plans and your budget. When covered while traveling and should an unexpected matter arise, you'll be glad that you're protected.

#### Disclaimer:

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