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SPECIAL EDITION

lifightforcharity.org

Monday
November 23, 2026

The Nation's Most Unique Charity Networking Event

LONG ISLAND FIGHT FOR CHARITY
est. 2003
LI COMMUNITY CHEST



BENEFITING CHARITIES

LONG ISLAND Community Chest
Helping Long Islanders One at a Time

Eden II Programs
SERVICE • SCIENCE • PASSION

Catholic Health

girl scouts of suffolk county

Circle of Life 40 years

NEWGROUND
Breaking the Cycle of Homelessness.

PAWS OF WAR
Help A Vet ★ Save A Pet

RGM
Ramona's Gift to Music

This is the new
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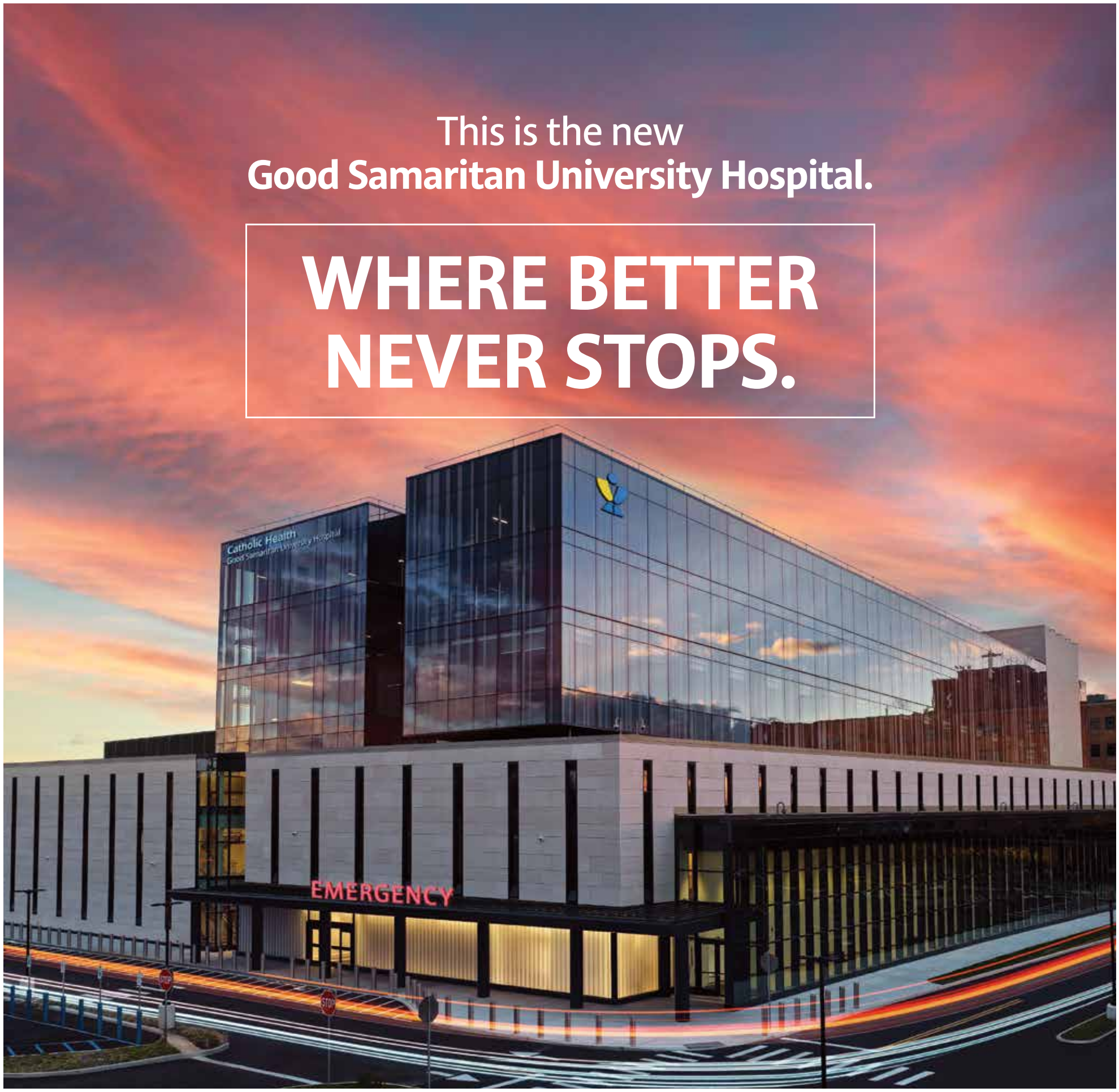
WHERE BETTER NEVER STOPS.



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Catholic Health
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Main Event Agenda

Masters of Ceremonies



Sal "The Hammer" Ferro
The Ferro Foundation

Sid Farooqi
Professional Sportscaster and
Public Address Announcer
President of Vertigo Social,
a digital marketing firm



Opening Ceremony ..... 6:30 pm

National Anthem

Introduction of Founders..... Jeff Cohen, Jamie Austin, Matt Silver

Boxing Bouts ..... 6:45 pm

LIST OF BOXING BOUTS AVAILABLE AT THE MAIN EVENT

Thank You and Closing Ceremony ..... 9:30 pm

After Party - Main Lobby Bar at the Hilton..... 9:30 pm - 11:00 pm

To Our Incredible Long Island Fight for Charity Fans and Supporters,

They say stepping into a boxing ring requires a special kind of courage, but the real fight we handle every day is the one against hardship in our Long Island community. After celebrating our milestone 20th anniversary last year, we are officially stepping into 2026 with our fists up, our hearts open, and our sights set on making the 21st Annual Main Event our most impactful and successful year yet.

What started as a wild, joke-turned-reality idea back in 2003 between the three of us (Jamie Austin, Matt Silver, and Jeff Cohen) has evolved into Long Island's premier charity networking event.

This event thrives on pure, selfless grit. For the last six months, a phenomenal new class of volunteer 2026 Charity Boxers has been enduring grueling training, balancing family life, and pushing past physical limits—all to raise much needed funds for our Long Island community. They are the heart of this Main Event and this evening. When you see them tonight in the ring and at the After Party, please give them the standing ovation they rightfully deserve.

They follow in the footsteps of nearly 400 brave alumni boxers who laid the groundwork for this legacy. Thanks to that collective dedication, we have been able to provide more than 60 Long Island non-profits with over $2 million, providing a vital lifeline to the families and individuals who need it most right here on Long Island.

An event this large doesn't run on its own. We are backed by a powerhouse board and committee, USA Boxing, elite trainers, generous corporate sponsors, dedicated volunteers and restaurant partners providing the delicious food you are enjoying here tonight. Most of all, we thank you, our attendees - our fans - who have packed the Hilton's ballroom and cheered for our Charity Boxers over the last two decades. Together, we've changed the narrative for thousands of men, women, and children living on Long Island.

As we look around the room tonight, we are very grateful for what the Main Event has become and continues to be year after year. What a legacy we all have created!

The bell has rung, the lights are up, the music is pumping, the Charity Boxers are ready and the fight for a better Long Island continues tonight. Thank you for standing in our corner.



Enjoy the 21st
Long Island Fight for Charity!
Jamie, Matt, and Jeff
LIFFC Founders

Charities That Have Benefited

Adults and Children with Learning and Development Disabilities (ACLD)
American Heart Association
America's Vet Dog
Angela's House
Arthritis Foundation, Long Island Chapter
Big Brothers Big Sisters of Long Island
Breast Cancer Resource Foundation
Camp Pa Qua Tuck
Cancer Center for Kids
Captain Kathy Mazza/Lodge 2163A
Catholic Health
Chaminade High School
Christa House
Clark Gillies Foundation
Coalition Against Child Abuse and Neglect
Council of Unity
Eden II / Genesis School
Education & Assistance Corporation (EAC)
Eye of the Tiger Boxing
Family Residences and Essential Enterprises, Inc. (FREE)
Ferro Foundation
Find a Cure Today (FACT)
Foundation for Sight and Sound
Foundation for the Advancement of Autistic Persons (FAAP)
Fraiser Foundation
Girl Scouts of Suffolk County
Good Fellows of Suffolk County
Hispanic Cultural Center
Imperfectly Perfect
Interfaith Nutrition Network (INN)
Island Home Builder's Care
John Theissen Children Foundation
Kids Chance of New York
Knit the Rainbow
Long Island Alzheimer's & Dementia Center (LIAD)
Long Island Community Chest (LICC)
Long Island Works Coalition
Lymphatic Research Foundation, Inc.
Marty Lyons Foundation
Michael Magro Foundation
Momma's House
Nassau County Police Widows and Orphans Fund
Nassau / Suffolk Autism Society of America
National Multiple Sclerosis Society, Long Island Chapter
New Ground
Operation Healing Forces
Pat Covelli Foundation
Paws of War
Pay It Forward Long Island, Inc.
Pet Peeves
Rising Star Foundation, Inc.
ROHHAD Fight Inc.
Scleroderma Foundation
Smile Farms
St. Anthony's Padre Pio Fund
Suffolk Sheriff's Foundation
Teen Challenge
The Asperger Autism Network
The Morgan Center
The National Foundation from Human Potential
The Rachel Quinn's Children's Foundation
The Rehabilitation Institute
TIKVA Children's Home
TKO Strong
Welcoming Home Our Heroes
Winning Beyond Winning
Winter's Center for Autism
Winthrop University Hospital Pediatric Inpatient Center
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THANK YOU to all the attendees, without whom we could not succeed.

LONG ISLAND Community Chest

Helping Long Islanders One at a Time

Our Story
The Long Island Community Chest is interested in helping people who have nowhere else to turn. Individuals who have exhausted all traditional means of help.

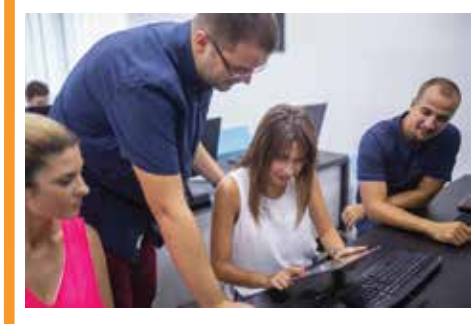
Our founders, Matt Silver and Jamie Austin, have been involved in many charities and not-for-profit organizations on Long Island, and wanted to create an organization that gave back to their local community. They wanted to see the rewards of their fundraising efforts in person. By helping specific individuals directly, they can get to know those they help.

Our Approach
Long Island Community Chest is an on-going fund to provide immediate short-term financial support to individuals and families on Long Island.

Recipients shall be individuals or families recently experiencing traumatic life altering setbacks to their day to day lives. Individuals who have exhausted all traditional means of help such as a parent unable to work because of a car accident, or someone unable to pay for unexpected medical problems. The LICC is interested in helping specific, identifiable people who have nowhere else to turn.









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THANK YOU LONG ISLAND FIGHT FOR CHARITY FOR 21 YEARS OF CONTINUED SUPPORT

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PSP Turnkey Solutions

Jeff Cohen
Community Leader

Matt Silver
Business Leader

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EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
Elissa Weick

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Tammy Severino
Girl Scouts of Suffolk County

Matthew Silver
Business Leader

Elissa Weick
Executive Director



Welcome to the 2026 Main Event

After becoming aware of Fight For Charity (FFC) from a client I participated as a boxer in 2009. I was inspired before, during and after my fight by the efforts and dedication of the founders Jeff Cohen, Matt Silver, and Jamie Austin who took their concept of an amateur boxing event for charity to become a reality. That vision has inspired over 400 people to put on gloves and experience the journey. Learning to box is half the journey. The other half is approaching friends, family, and business associates to financially support each boxer. When I boxed, I was able to rally enough support to be awarded the Joel Hamroff award, presented to the top fundraiser each year. An achievement I am still proud of but happy to have seen others raise more. After my fight, I approached the trio about staying involved and have spearheaded the committee to invite restaurants that support us every year to be a part of the evening's success.

As the event chairman for 2026/27, I am determined to continue the success of the event and ensure it continues for many years as the founders had envisioned. This has also become a family affair as my son Zach boxed in 2023 just before joining the Air Force. In addition, my wife Carol has volunteered over the years to help wherever needed. You will see her assisting our VIP guests tonight.

Our roster of boxers includes over 20 dedicated people who attended our information meeting back in March and signed up. And much like Rocky winded after a few minutes during his first morning run, they are now all finely tuned athletes ready to battle the champion Apollo Creed. I thank each one of you for agreeing to be part of the 2026 FFC "Main Event." We are all proud of you and look forward to you staying involved as part of our alumni boxers. You all have a ticket for life to future Main Events.

This event doesn't happen on its own, committee members and volunteers work all year long to put on the best show possible. I want to thank our dedicated Long Island Community Chest (LICC) Board, who provide the financial and logistical support we need each year. In addition, our hotel partner, Hilton Long Island, provides us with the venue and staff needed. Special thanks to Laraine, who is part of the yearlong planning committee as we get ready for fight night. I would like to thank USA Boxing, Sonya Lamonakis and the Academy of Boxing in Huntington, where our athletes train under the supervision of Frankie G and his staff.

This year we assembled a group of past boxers to serve as our boxer liaisons. Co-Chair Boxer Coordinators, Dimitri Sevastos, Rob Madden, and Esperanza Viera deserve a shout out for all their dedication. Additional thanks to Marc Palker who has stepped up to lead the restaurant committee this year allowing me to focus on other responsibilities of putting on the Main Event. Nancy Magrini who works tirelessly on all events throughout the year as we prepare for fight night. Nancy joined the LICC board earlier this year and has been a great addition. Elissa Weick provides the logistical support for the event that includes having all boxers qualified medically and approved by USA boxing. She has been the rock of the event for over a decade now and assists the event chairman and founders. Whenever I am not sure of something, I know I can call on her and she has the answers.

Above all, a massive thank you goes out to all of you, our Sponsors, attendees and friends who have packed the Hilton ballroom year after year and have rallied behind our Charity Boxers for the past two decades. Working together, we have rewritten the future for thousands of men, women, and children across Long Island. I feel immense pride and gratitude for what the Main Event has grown into and how it continues to thrive year after year. This is a powerful legacy that everyone in this room tonight built together.

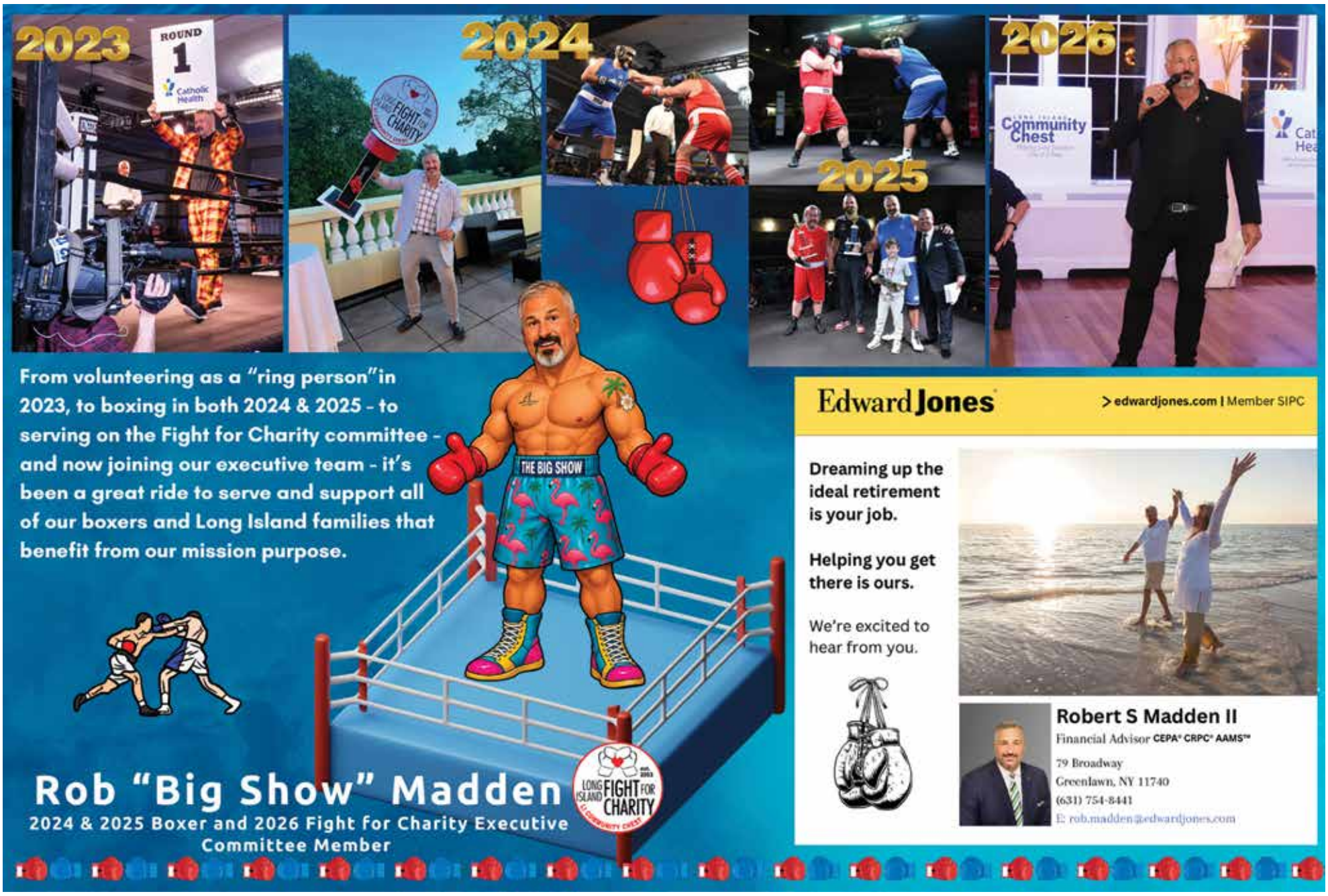
Thank you for standing in our corner,

Chuck Merritt
2026 LIFFC President



Proud to Support

the Class of 2026 Boxers



LONG ISLAND FIGHT FOR CHARITY BOXER PROFILES

Darren Belcher

"Ctrl - Alt - Defeat"

Family Residences and Essential Enterprises, Inc.



By day, Darren Belcher is the Senior Vice President of Technology Services at Family Residences and Essential Enterprises (FREE), where he keeps systems running, users supported, and cybersecurity threats firmly on the ropes. With over 10 years at FREE, Darren has dedicated his career to using technology to ultimately support individuals with a range of disabilities. Behind every great mission is an IT professional making sure everything works.

By night and weekends, he's trading keyboards & mice for boxing gloves as "Ctrl-Alt-Defeat". While he's usually busy fighting phishing emails, Darren decided it was time to push past his comfort zone and test those skills in the ring.

Training for the Long Island Fight for Charity has been a humbling experience; turns out you can't fix everything with a re-boot. Still, Darren is embracing the challenge, because just like in IT, sometimes you must take a few hits before you find the right solution. And unlike his usual work, these punches aren't coming from users asking why the Wi-Fi isn't working.

When asked why he's stepping into the ring, Darren puts it simply:

"I fight to support a mission that changes lives. Every punch helps raise awareness and bring support to individuals who deserve it most, and it's my way of giving back to a community that has given so much."

With grit, humor, and a mindset that's equal parts IT support and sheer determination, Darren is ready to give it his all. Whether he's defending a network or himself, one thing is certain, he's not backing down without a fight and if things get tough, he's already tried unplugging himself and plugging back in.

Ralph Benzakein

"The Closer"

Cresa



Ralph is a Senior Vice President with Cresa, the world's largest tenant-only commercial real estate firm, where he advises organizations on lease renewals, relocations, expansions, and overall portfolio strategy. His work is rooted in a tenant- and occupier-focused approach, giving clients the benefit of conflict-free representation and strategic guidance tailored to their specific needs.

A meaningful part of Ralph's practice includes serving not-for-profit organizations, whose space needs often require a careful balance of mission, budget, flexibility, and timing.

In addition to his brokerage work, Ralph is active in industry leadership. He serves as President of CIBS Long Island, the Commercial Industrial Brokers Society of Long Island, where he plays a key role in advancing the organization's professional standards, member engagement, and strategic direction. His leadership reflects a broader commitment to strengthening the Long Island commercial real estate community and supporting the next generation of brokers. He is also a member of SIOR, one of the industry's most respected professional designations, underscoring his expertise and credibility in the office and industrial sectors.

A portion of his fundraising efforts will be donated to CIBS Charities.

THANK YOU

TO OUR COMMITTEE

Another great year, made possible by you.

COMMITTEE CHAIRS

CHAIRMAN CHUCK MERRITT
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR ELISSA WEICK

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STEVE KIRSCHBAUM • ROB MADDEN • DIMITRI SEVASTOS
ESPERANZA VIERA • JOHN REDICAN • KEN MARCUS
NANCY MAGRINI • MARC PALKER • BILL CORBETT

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MAY OUR 21ST YEAR BE THE BEST ONE YET!

Jamie Austin, FOUNDER

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FIGHTING FOR A STRONGER, MORE INCLUSIVE LONG ISLAND!

Family Residences and Essential Enterprises, Inc. (FREE) is a human services organization dedicated to providing a broad range of support and services to more than 5,500 individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities, mental illness, substance use disorders, and traumatic brain injuries.

Congratulations to all of this year's boxers for your commitment, courage, and community spirit—all in support of Long Island's charities making a real difference every day!





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DARREN "CNTRL-ALT-DEFEAT" BELCHER

In the ring, it takes courage to fight. In our community, it takes heart to make a difference.

FREE proudly supports Darren as he steps into the ring for the Long Island Fight for Charity, championing a cause that changes lives and strengthens our community.

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LONG ISLAND FIGHT FOR CHARITY BOXER PROFILES

Keith Comiskey

"The Celtic Viking"

Harp and Hound Islip



Keith "The Celtic Viking" Comiskey isn't built for comfort, he's built for combat.

Standing 6'3" and weighing 240 pounds, the Babylon, New York native brings a blue-collar mentality into every fight. A mechanic by day, bouncer by night, and lifelong multi-sport athlete, Comiskey knows only one way forward: relentless pressure, hard work, and zero quit.

As a husband and a father, he's driven by something bigger than himself. This event is for charity, and he's proud to give back while showing his three children the importance of supporting a good cause. Proceeds exceeding the minimum amount will go to Good Sam Pediatrics for the incredible work they showed his daughter Hallie as a baby, and every child lucky enough to be in their care.

"The Celtic Viking" represents his warrior mentality: relentless, powerful, and unwilling to quit. When the bell rings, expect nothing but heart, pressure, and a fight from start to finish.

James Donnelly

"The Safe Haven"

Safe Haven Insurance Agency



If you had told me a few years ago that I'd be stepping into a boxing ring in front of 1,200 people, I probably would have laughed. But that's exactly why I'm doing it.

Life has taught me that growth happens when we step outside our comfort zone. I've built businesses, overcome challenges, lost more than 70 pounds, and dedicated my life to helping others protect their families and their futures.

This fight is another opportunity to push myself, not for personal glory, but for a purpose much bigger than me.

As the Founder and CEO of Safe Haven Insurance Agency, I spend every day helping individuals, families, and business owners navigate some of life's biggest decisions. My work has always been about serving people, and that same passion has led me to become actively involved with organizations throughout Long Island. I currently serve as the Co-Chair of the Long Island Chapter of the National Aging in Place Council (NAIPC), Committee Member of the Alzheimer's Association Fire Island Walk, and on the Board of Directors PULSE CPSEA.

My passion for Alzheimer's advocacy is deeply personal. Watching my grandmother battle dementia changed the course of my life. I had the privilege of serving as her healthcare proxy alongside my cousin, and that experience opened my eyes to the challenges families face when caring for someone they love. It also inspired my mission to educate others, advocate for seniors, and support organizations that provide hope, care, and resources to families facing similar journeys.

Above everything else, I'm a husband and a father. If my children remember one thing about me, I hope it's not the businesses I built or the titles I held. I hope they remember that I showed up for people, kept my word, and never stopped trying to make my community a better place.

Long Island Fight for Charity represents everything I believe in, perseverance, community, and using our talents to make a difference. Every mile I've run, every punch I've thrown in training, and every dollar raised has been for the people whose lives will be impacted by these incredible charities.

I'm honored to be part of the Fight for Charity Class of 2026. Thank you for believing in this mission, for supporting these amazing organizations, and for standing in my corner. Together, we're proving that when a community comes together, we can accomplish something far greater than any one of us could do alone.

Thank you for putting your heart into making a difference.



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and Long Island Fight for Charity

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LONG ISLAND FIGHT FOR CHARITY BOXER PROFILES

Dean Franzese

"The Machine"

TFG Mortgage



Dean A. Franzese is the Founder and CEO of TFG Mortgage, a mortgage company built for clients who expect more than a one-size-fits-all approach to financing.

With a background as an active loan officer, Dean brings a hands-on, deal-driven perspective to every transaction. TFG Mortgage specializes in both traditional lending and non-qualified mortgage (Non-QM) solutions, structuring financing for self-employed borrowers, real estate investors, and clients with complex financial profiles.

At the same time, Dean and his team are equally passionate about helping first-time homebuyers achieve homeownership. Whether it's a seasoned investor or a first-time buyer, the mission remains the same...Deliver clear guidance, thoughtful strategy, and a level of service that makes the process feel seamless and empowering.

Rather than forcing clients into rigid guidelines, TFG Mortgage takes a strategic approach. Leveraging a wide network of lending partners to deliver tailored solutions, competitive pricing, and efficiency from application to closing. The result is a more flexible, client-first experience built around opportunity, not limitations!

Dean is also the founder of TFG Media, a brand and content platform/media company designed to help TFG Mortgage loan officers and referral partners elevate their presence in today's digital landscape. Through strategic content, social media positioning, and modern marketing systems, TFG Media supports professionals within the TFG ecosystem, as well as other businesses. TFG Media's mission is to build recognizable brands that drive consistent growth and long-term opportunities.

Outside of business, Dean prioritizes what matters most. Time with his daughter Gianna, meaningful relationships, and personal growth. Whether he's traveling, boxing, or on the golf course, he approaches life with the same discipline he brings to business. He is passionate about giving back to his community and takes pride in showing others that success isn't reserved for a select few. It's built by those willing to put in the work!

Maggie Gorman

"The Ferocious Beast"

Eden II Genesis



Maggie "The Ferocious Beast" Gorman is stepping into the ring for her first charity boxing fight - and she's not coming alone. She's bringing a whole lot of heart, determination, and a reason bigger than herself.

Maggie works with children with autism, and this fight is a chance to give back to a community that has had such a meaningful impact on her life. She knows firsthand the strength, resilience, and individuality of the people she fights for.

Every round, every punch, and every ounce of sweat represents something bigger than herself. She's not just fighting to win - she's fighting for a purpose.

She may be new to the ring, but she's no stranger to fighting for what she believes in.

The bell will ring. The gloves will go up. And the Ferocious Beast will be ready.

Over $2,000,000 Donated to Local Charities

THANK YOU for 21 Years

LONG ISLAND FIGHT FOR CHARITY est. 2003 LI COMMUNITY CHEST

Thanks to everyone who made it possible

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RESTAURANTS • FANS



"THE HELLENIC HAMMER"

DIMITRI SEVASTOS

2024 LIFFC Boxer Alumni
Executive Committee Member
Founder & President, Optimus Group

LONG ISLAND FIGHT FOR CHARITY · 2026

CONGRATULATIONS TO THE CLASS OF 2026

To every fighter stepping into the ring at Hilton Long Island on **November 23**: the early mornings, the sparring rounds and every dollar raised make a real difference for local families and charities. Leave it all in the ring.

> I stepped into the ring in **2024** and now serve on the **LIFFC Executive Committee**, helping the next class train, fundraise and make it to fight night. It's an honor to be in your corner.
>
> — DIMITRI SEVASTOS

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LONG ISLAND FIGHT FOR CHARITY BOXER PROFILES

Davon Harris

"Him-othy"

Weichert Realtors



Born and raised in Queens, New York, Davon K. Harris moved to Deer Park, Long Island at the age of 13, where he grew up and developed a strong connection to the Long Island community.

Davon has been working in real estate since 2020 and is currently a real estate agent with Weichert Prince & Associates. Through real estate, he has built his career around helping people navigate some of the biggest financial and personal decisions of their lives.

Giving back to the community has always been important to Davon, which is why he decided to take on one of his biggest personal challenges yet: stepping into the ring for the Long Island Fight for Charity.

For the past six months, Davon has dedicated himself to intense training, discipline, and preparation for fight night. Every workout, every round, and every early morning has been leading up to this moment. But this fight isn't just about boxing — it's about using the opportunity to make a difference.

Six months of training. One night in the ring.

One opportunity to fight for something bigger than myself.

Join me in the fight and help me make a difference in our community.

Idris Jones

"IJ GucciLou"

Eden II Genesis

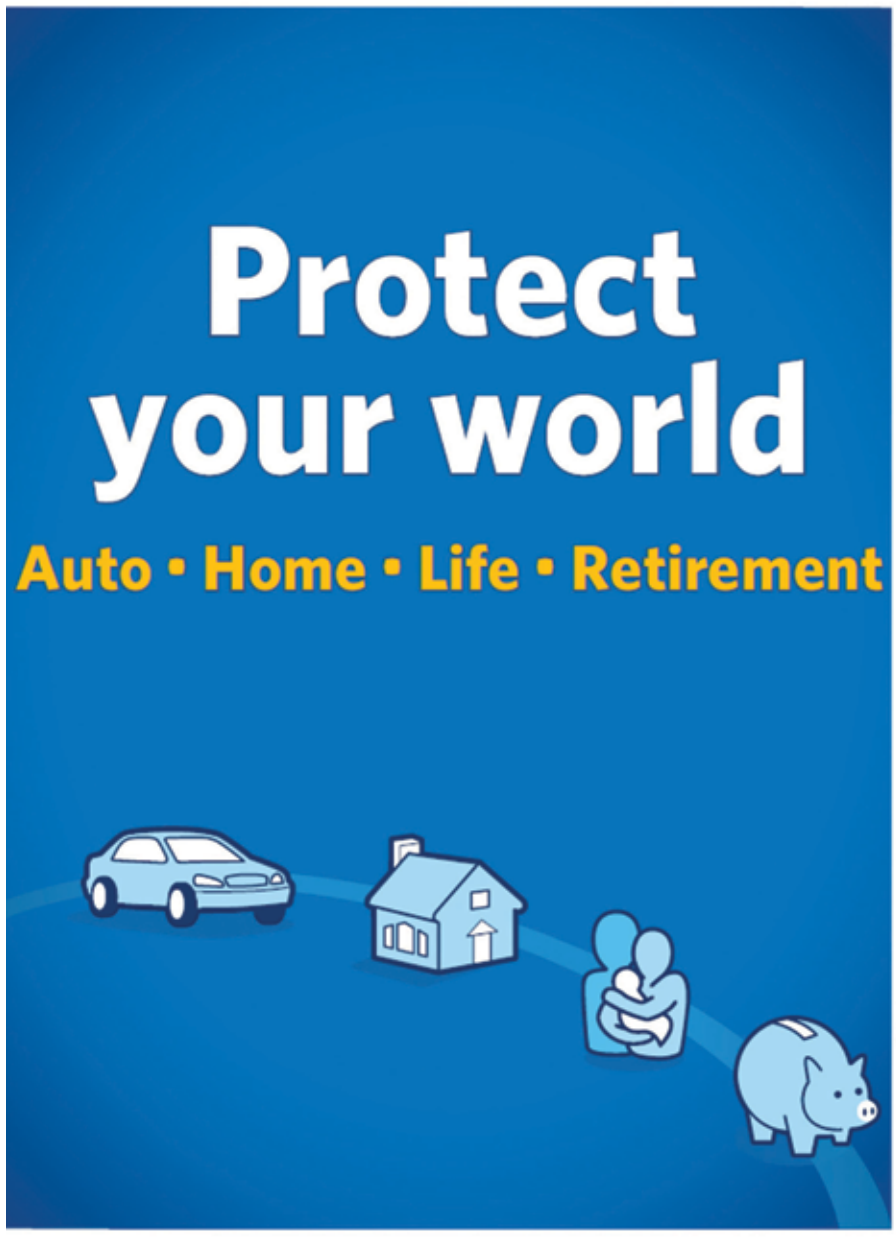


My name is Idris Jones, but for Fight for Charity, I'm stepping into the ring as IJGucciLou! I'm a special education teacher from Baldwin, Long Island, proudly representing Eden 2 Programs.

I joined Fight for Charity for a purpose much bigger than myself. I wanted the opportunity to raise money for Long Island Community Chest and Eden 2 Programs, while helping spread awareness for the incredible work these organizations do. I also wanted to become part of a growing community that brings people together through competition, charity, and a shared commitment to giving back.

For me, Fight for Charity is a win-win-win situation. It gives me the opportunity to build discipline and challenge myself, give back to causes I wholeheartedly believe in, and, on top of all that, learn some self-defense along the way.

When I step into that ring as IJGucciLou, I'm not just fighting for myself—I'm fighting to represent my students, Eden 2 Programs, Long Island Community Chest, and a community that continues to show what can happen when people come together for a great cause.



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Some people think Allstate only protects your car. Truth is, Allstate can also protect your home or apartment, your boat, your motorcycle - even your retirement and your life. And the more of your world you put in Good Hands, the more you can save.



Marcus Family Agency
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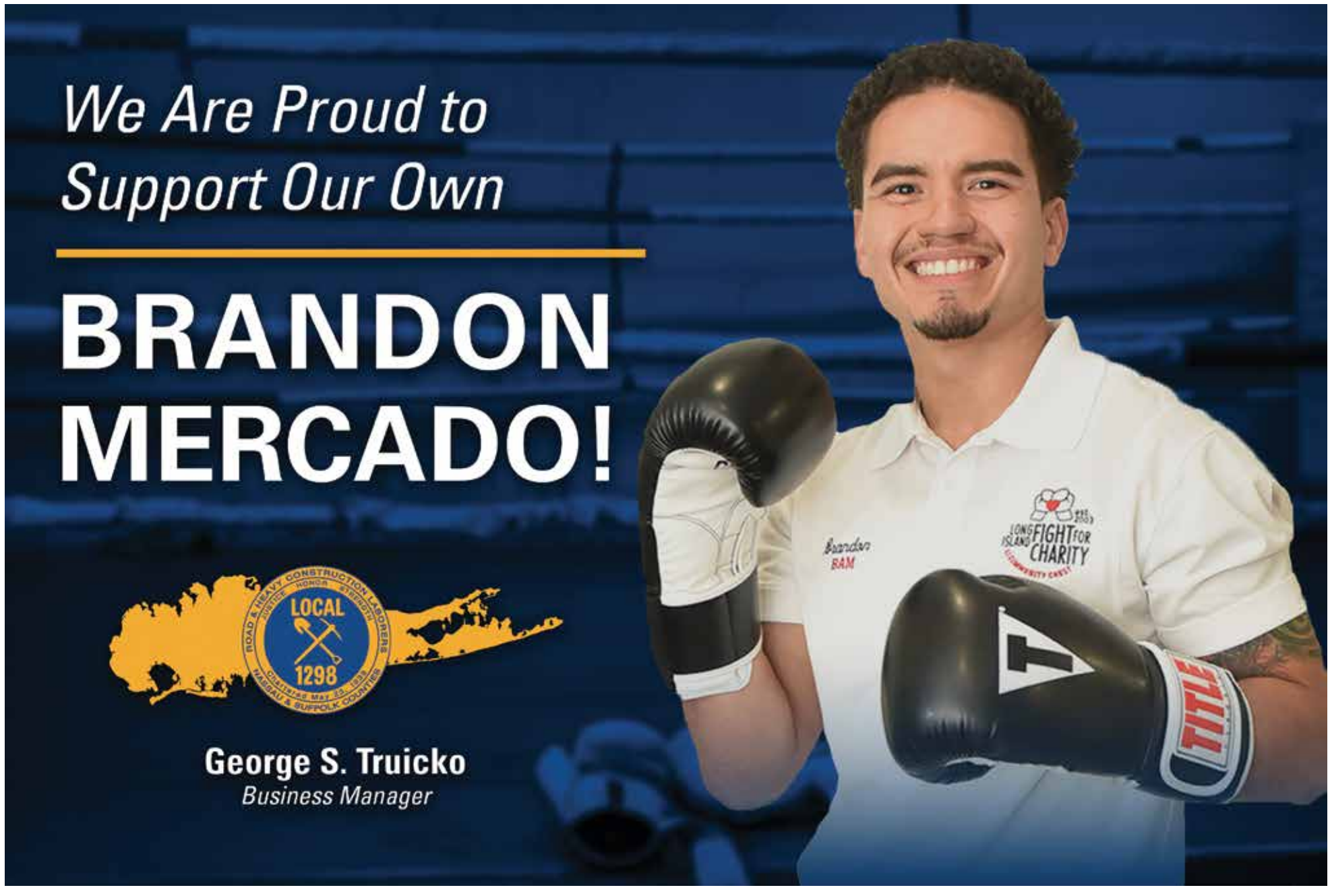

LONG ISLAND FIGHT FOR CHARITY BOXER PROFILES

Brian Klansky

"The Killa"

KODE Labs



Meet Brian "The Killa" Klansky

By day, Brian Klansky is a sales director at KODE Labs, a cloud operating system for buildings using AI to make buildings smarter, more sustainable and eventually autonomous. Brian runs the East Coast and has over 30 years experience in technology sales.

Brian has been married to his wife, Rupa, for 28 years. They have two sons and are both life-long "strong" islanders and SUNY Albany graduates.

Brian has been a member of Rumble Boxing for over 3 years and finally decided to take the leap to see if he could get into a real ring, and not just a bag that doesn't hit back and fight!

As a life-long Plainview resident, the idea that he could challenge himself while raising money for local families in need, was too great an opportunity to pass up.

Charles Kunken

"Charlie Cool"

Milk in the Matrix Publishing



Charles "Charlie Cool" Kunken is a writer and creator hailing from Huntington, NY. A father of three, he is the founder of Milk in the Matrix Publishing set to release his debut novel this winter, 'The Ganymede Job', a heist thriller set at the intersection of Hollywood and Big Tech. Trained in finance at the NYU Stern School of Business he has spent two decades in tech and corporate finance with a focus on the meeting of art and science.

Although the former baseball and basketball player is no stranger to competition, preparing for the Long Island Fight for Charity echoes the way Charlie has always sought out new challenges. Training mirrors his life's philosophy: life isn't about asking why hard things happen, it's about asking yourself how are you going to move through them. Charlie is fighting to show people that it's never too late to change your life. This is one writer who isn't afraid to get a little ink on his hands.

Linking up with the Long Island Community Chest was a natural fit as the organization represents many of Charlie's core values including the importance of looking out for one another and lifting up our neighbors and friends. In addition to fighting for LICC Charlie will be directing half of his additional proceeds towards the Variety Child Learning Center—an organization that empowers children with learning, language, and behavioral challenges through early intervention and specialized education programs—where his eldest daughter attended pre-school for two years.

Charlie wishes to thank all the supporters joining the Cool Kids corner and everybody supporting the Long Island Fight for Charity.





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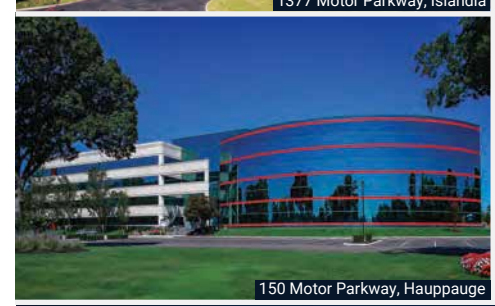
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LONG ISLAND FIGHT FOR CHARITY BOXER PROFILES

Brandon Mercado

"BAM"

Athletic Movement Protocol



Some people wait for their comfort zone to feel too small before they step outside it. Brandon runs toward that edge on purpose.

As a Sports Performance Coach and Director of Training at AMP Personal Training, Brandon has built his career around one belief: everyone has another level in them. He coaches youth athletes taking their first steps in a sport, professionals sharpening their edge, and adults rewriting what "healthy" looks like for their lives, meeting every single one of them exactly where they are, and pushing them exactly where they want to go.

He knows what it takes to compete, because he's lived it. A former Division 1 and Division 2 wrestler at LIU Post, Brandon fought for every inch on the mat — and became the first person in his family to graduate college. That same relentless drive now shows up in how he leads AMP's coaching staff, holding the bar high so every member gets the best experience possible, every single day.

But Brandon's biggest wins aren't measured in PRs. They're measured in people. He gives his time and energy to Jericho Cares, The Spina Bifida Association, and Achilles International — and right now, he's deep in training for the NYC Marathon, chasing 26.2 miles for the same reason he does everything else: because it matters to someone.

Stepping into the ring for Long Island Fight for Charity is Brandon doing what he does best: choosing the hard thing, on purpose, for a reason bigger than himself. He's ready to get uncomfortable, learn something new, and leave everything he has in the ring, all in support of a great cause.

Asad Mohammad

"Daredevil"

Mount Sinai

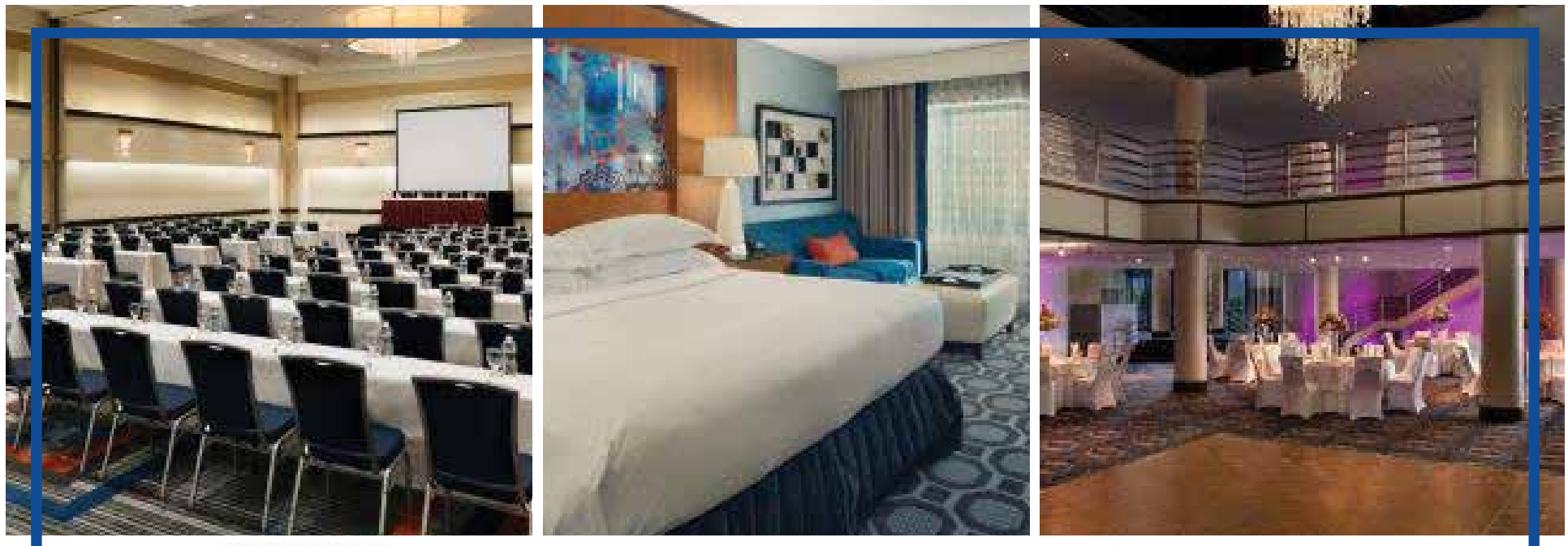


By day, Dr. Asad Mohammad is a New York City based cardiologist, caring for patients and saving lives. By night, and often in the early hours before or after long hospital shifts, he's in training, preparing to step into the ring for the LI Fight for Charity.

For Asad, the fight is bigger than boxing. "I train and fight for those who cannot fight for themselves. We are not an island. We are a product of those behind us, and those in front of us." That belief fuels every round, every punch and every drop of sweat.

Under the guidance of his esteemed coach, Professor Jason Lee, Asad trains wherever and whenever he can, from upstate New York to the parks of NYC, making no excuses and wasting no opportunities.

This year, Asad brings the same dedication, focus, and compassion he shows his patients into the ring. When the bell rings, it's not just about the fight in front of him, it's about the cause, the community, and the people he's fighting for.



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LONG ISLAND FIGHT FOR CHARITY BOXER PROFILES

Craig Moulton

"The Trashman"

Metropolitan Commercial Bank



Craig is a First Vice President in Commercial Lending at Metropolitan Commercial Bank, where he spends his days helping businesses grow and his nights apparently wondering why he volunteered to get pummeled in the face.

He signed up for Long Island Fight for Charity because he wanted to support a great cause, challenge himself, and—most importantly—find out what it's actually like to take a punch. He's approaching the training with enthusiasm, a healthy amount of respect for the sport, and questionable decision-making.

Outside of work and training, Craig is a proud father to a 4-year-old son and a 2-year-old daughter. Between raising two young kids, building his career, and preparing for fight night, he's quickly learning that getting hit may actually be the relaxing part.

Craig is excited to step into the ring, raise money for a great cause, and hopefully make it through the night with his dignity—and teeth—intact.

Peter Murawski

"The Polish Hammer"

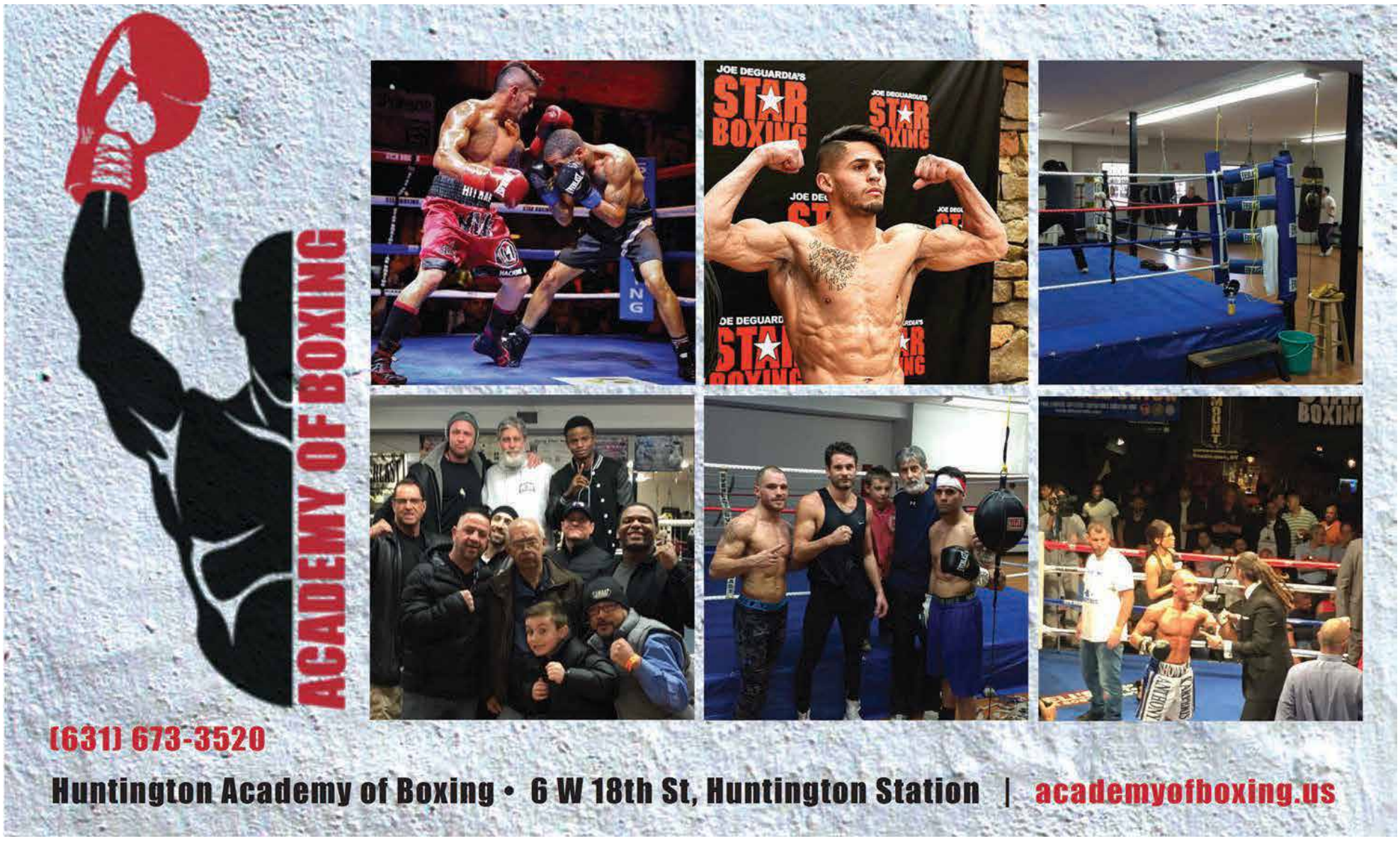


Born in Buffalo, NY, in 1978 and raised in Williston Park, Peter "The Polish Hammer" Murawski Jr. is a formidable force stepping into the boxing ring. Standing at a towering 6'3" and weighing in over 220lbs, he is no stranger to the intense grind of heavy combat sports. A standout athlete at Chaminade High School, Peter dominated the mats as a fierce high school wrestler—winning two prestigious CHSAA State Titles—while also making an impact on the football field. His athletic success earned him a spot at Hofstra University, where he competed at the NCAA Division I level. Unfortunately, his collegiate wrestling career was derailed by an injury during his sophomore year, leaving a chapter of his competitive athletic journey unfinished.

Rather than stepping away from the sport, Peter channeled his passion into leadership and education. For the past 13 years, he has served as a wrestling coach at Chaminade High School, giving back to the same historic program that shaped him. Today, he shapes lives daily as a professional Physical Education teacher and Certified Personal Trainer, dedicating his life to fitness, strength, and building mental toughness in others.

Outside of the gym and the classroom, Peter's ultimate motivation comes from his family. Married to his wife, Dina, right before the onset of the pandemic, they are the proud parents of two young children, Marcella and Peter.

Now, Peter is bringing his massive frame and lifelong competitive spirit back into the square circle. He is trading the wrestling mats for boxing gloves, pushing his physical limits once again for a greater purpose. For Peter, stepping through the ropes at the Long Island Fight for Charity is the ultimate way to utilize his athletic drive to protect, support, and raise crucial funds for families in need across Long Island.





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"Boxing was always a part of my family, starting with my grandfather, James Winters, to eventually my late father, Joe Winters, who was a professional boxer. Growing up around the sport has taught me so many core values that I keep with me today and I continue to hold onto so many memories of being in the boxing gym, in the locker room before a fight with fighters, and going to many big fight night events with my dad."

"I am fighting for the Winters Center for Autism. I can't wait to step out of my comfort zone, step in the ring and honor my father's legacy of boxing while also fighting for something much bigger than myself and continue to help enhance the lives of adults with autism."



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LONG ISLAND FIGHT FOR CHARITY BOXER PROFILES

Elvis Regis

"Entertainment"

ReMax Real Estate



Elvis is here to show his son that anything is possible when you put your mind to it.

Elvis works in real estate, helping families achieve the dream of homeownership. But beyond his career, the title and identity that matter most to him are simply being his son's father.

Elvis finds incredible joy in helping families find a place to call home—almost as much as he cherishes spending quality time with his son.

One of the defining moments of Elvis's life was becoming a father. That journey took on an even deeper meaning when he learned his son was on the autism spectrum. From that moment, Elvis embraced a new perspective on life, parenting, and what it truly means to advocate for your child.

He often reminds himself and his son:

"It's not easy, but it's not hard. You just have to figure it out."

That motto has become a way of life for Elvis—a reminder that when life throws a curveball, you don't give up. You figure it out together.

When Elvis and his son were welcomed by the Nassau Suffolk Autism Society, they immediately felt a sense of belonging. Supporting this organization through Long Island Fight for Charity felt like a natural way to give back to a community that made them feel at home from day one.

Elvis is fighting not only for his son, but for every child and family affected by autism. He wants to help create a place where families feel supported, understood, and welcomed—just as he and his son have.

This fight is for his son. This fight is for their community. And this fight is for every family who deserves to know they are not alone.

Miguel Roxas

"The Manila Gorilla"

Northwell Health



Miguel Rixas is a Corporate Manager at Northwell Health within the FlexStaff division and a proud graduate of Stony Brook University, where he spent four years as a student athlete.

Outside of this professional career, Miguel's greatest accomplishment are his two amazing daughters and his wife, with whom he will celebrate their 10 year wedding anniversary this December. Getting his wife's approval to step into the ring was a battle of its own!

When he's not working or training, Miguel enjoys spending quality time with his family, hitting the golf course, enjoying a good cigar, and making memories with the people who matter most. Family always comes first, but he's ready to step outside his comfort zone and take on a new challenge!

"Go Get 'em Maggie"

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Maggie Gorman

"The Ferocious Beast"

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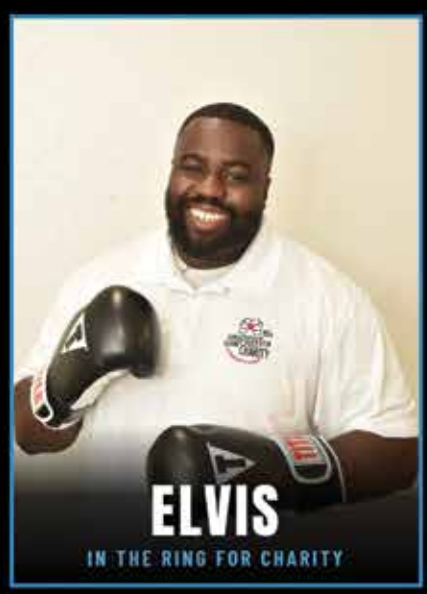

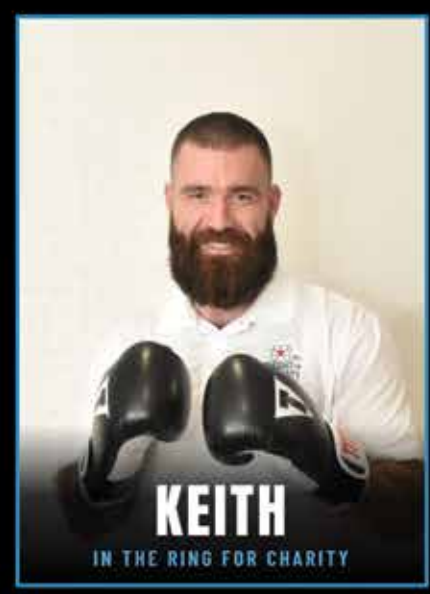

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LONG ISLAND FIGHT FOR CHARITY BOXER PROFILES

Bart Schiavo

"Hands of Steel"

Schiavo Steel Co., Inc.



Bart Schiavo is the Owner & President of Schiavo Steel, a third-generation structural steel fabrication company serving the New York Metropolitan Area for over 60 years.

Bart supports multiple charities such as Save The Children and St Jude Children's Hospital.

"I fell in love with boxing over 20 years ago. I've always been passionate about the sport, and through my 20's and 30's, fighting had always been something I wanted to do. Being a business owner, however, never allowed me the time to dedicate myself 100%. When I first had the opportunity to fight for LIFFC in 2022, it was a great opportunity to be a part of something with others that are probably in that same boat (or just getting into boxing now) and finally have a real amateur fight - and it's for an amazing cause! I've had the pleasure of fighting for this great organization three times now, and I'm really excited to do it for a fourth!"

Bart resides in Huntington with his wife Maria, their three children, Nicholas, Noah and Briella, and their dog, Mr. Nelson.

Kris Schmidt

"Portuguese Tease"

Geico



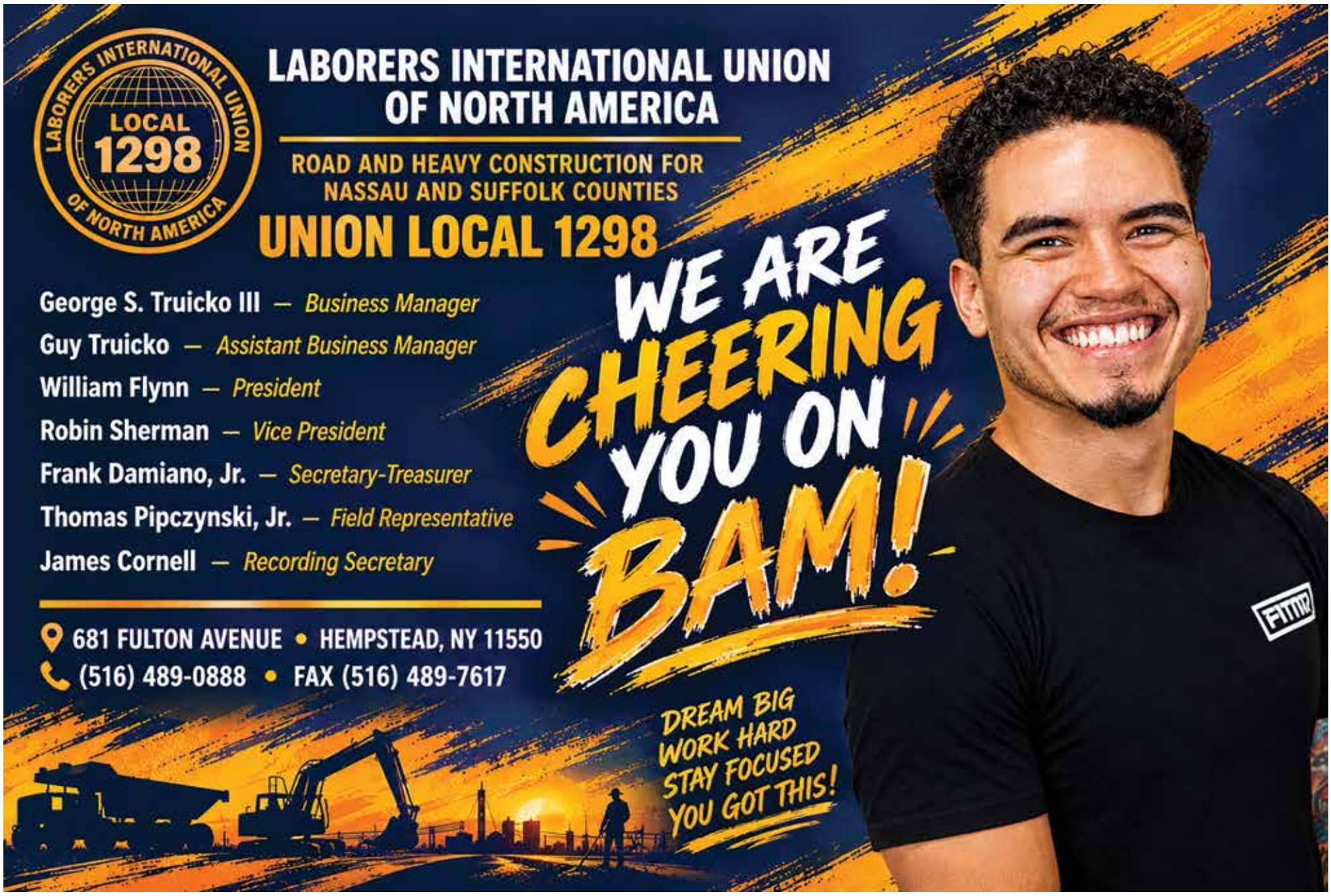
Kris Schmidt is 44 years young and currently resides in Kings Park NY. Kris grew up in Oakdale and graduated from Connetquot High School in 2000. While living on the south shore, Kris was a member of the West Sayville Fire Department. It was during this time that the passion to help local communities started to develop.

This passion only grew when Kris was named the Recycled Rides Program coordinator for GEICO. Under this program, Kris was instrumental in donating refurbished vehicles to local veterans and charitable organizations within the community.

Kris became interested in fighting for charity after watching News 12. Being surrounded by family illness at the time, Kris promptly signed up to honor the fight demonstrated by his parents while battling cancer. Kris quickly agreed to enter the class of 2026 upon being selected.

Kris is the proud father to Hallie and Ava and husband to Amanda Schmidt. Kris not only fights for charity, but to show his children that some things are worth fighting for.

With his parents, wife, children and friends in attendance at the fight, Kris is going to show that hard work pays off, even when it does not come easily.



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LONG ISLAND FIGHT FOR CHARITY BOXER PROFILES

Joseph Spollen

"Jab Master Joe"

J.P. Spollen Health Advisors



Joseph began his healthcare career as a nursing assistant at a New York City cancer hospital and later became a Registered Nurse on the same unit. There he developed a passion for wound healing and went on to become a wound specialist.

After completing his Master's degree, he served as a nursing supervisor. Years later — now a husband and father of three — he designed and implemented a staffing platform that improved resource utilization and patient care across inpatient, emergency, pediatric, and critical care units.

After 12 years at the same hospital, Joseph moved into the home care space to gain an end to end understanding of the care continuum. This work gave him firsthand insight into the growing need for dedicated care management and skilled wound care.

Today he provides those services privately through J.P. Spollen Health Advisors, guiding patients and families through complex diagnoses and care needs.
He is fighting in the Long Island Fight for Charity as Jab Master Joe Spollen to support the Winters Center for Autism, which helps adults with autism find training, jobs, and a more inclusive life on Long Island.

Derek Tonne

"Captain Hook"

GCS Mirror and Glass



A proud Long Islander from Speonk, Derek Tonne is no stranger to hard work, grit, and showing up when it counts, qualities that should serve him well in the ring.

Derek is the owner of GCS Long Island, where he designs and installs high-end custom glass shower enclosures, railings, and mirrors for clients across New York. An entrepreneur at heart, he previously founded Sea Glass Interiors NY and has built a reputation for craftsmanship, reliability, and a no-shortcuts approach to his work.

Before going all-in on building his businesses, Derek spent a decade at sea as a U.S. Merchant Mariner, rising to Chief Mate and earning his 3rd Mate Unlimited / Master of Towing credentials. A graduate of the State University of New York Maritime College, he's spent his career navigating challenges head-on and now he's trading the open water for the canvas.

Derek is stepping into the ring for Long Island Fight for Charity to put that same determination toward a cause bigger than himself, helping to support our beneficiary organizations and the Long Island community he calls home. He's training hard, swinging for the fences, and ready to make every round count.



Patrick Winters

"Iceman"

Winters Center for Autism



Patrick Winters was born and raised in Smithtown, NY.

Boxing was always a part of my family, starting with my grandfather, James Winters, to eventually my late father, Joe Winters, who was a professional boxer. Growing up around the sport has taught me so many core values that I keep with me today and I continue to hold onto so many memories of being in the boxing gym, in the locker room before a fight with fighters, and going to many big fight night events with my dad. From shows that he ran at the Huntington Townhouse, to going to MSG to watch a big fight, boxing has always had a deeper meaning to me. To be able to step in the ring at the Hilton, where my father ran shows himself, is a true full circle moment.

I am fighting for the Winters Center for Autism. The Winters Center for Autism is a group of dedicated people working together to enhance the lives of adults with autism through job creation, training and placement to address the excessive unemployment rate among people with autism. Although there are many programs that provide excellent services for children and teens, there is a huge gap in the number of services and opportunities for adults with autism.

I can't wait to step out of my comfort zone, step in the ring and honor my father's legacy of boxing while also fighting for something much bigger than myself and continue to help enhance the lives of adults with autism. Patrick Winters was born and raised in Smithtown, NY.


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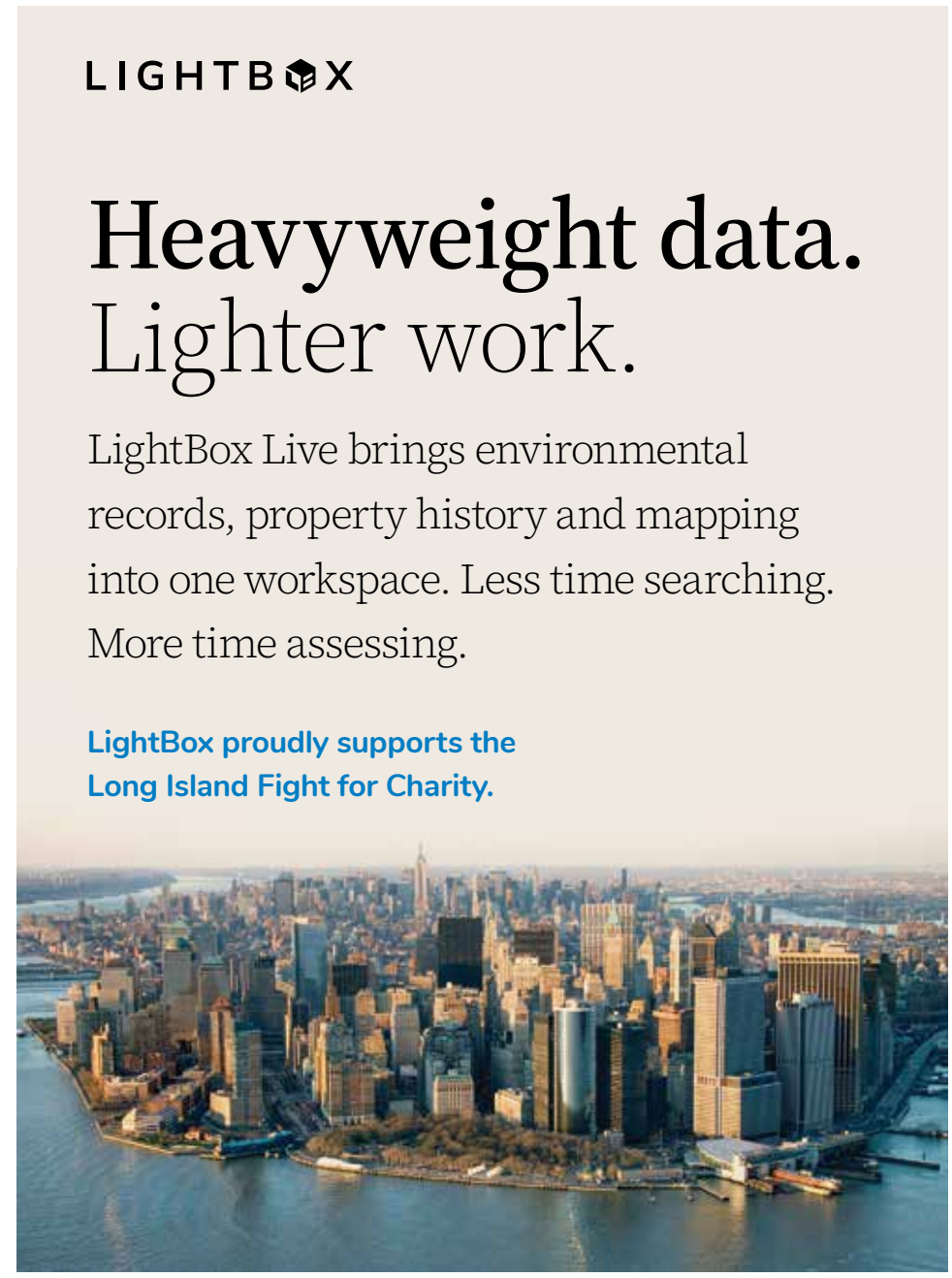
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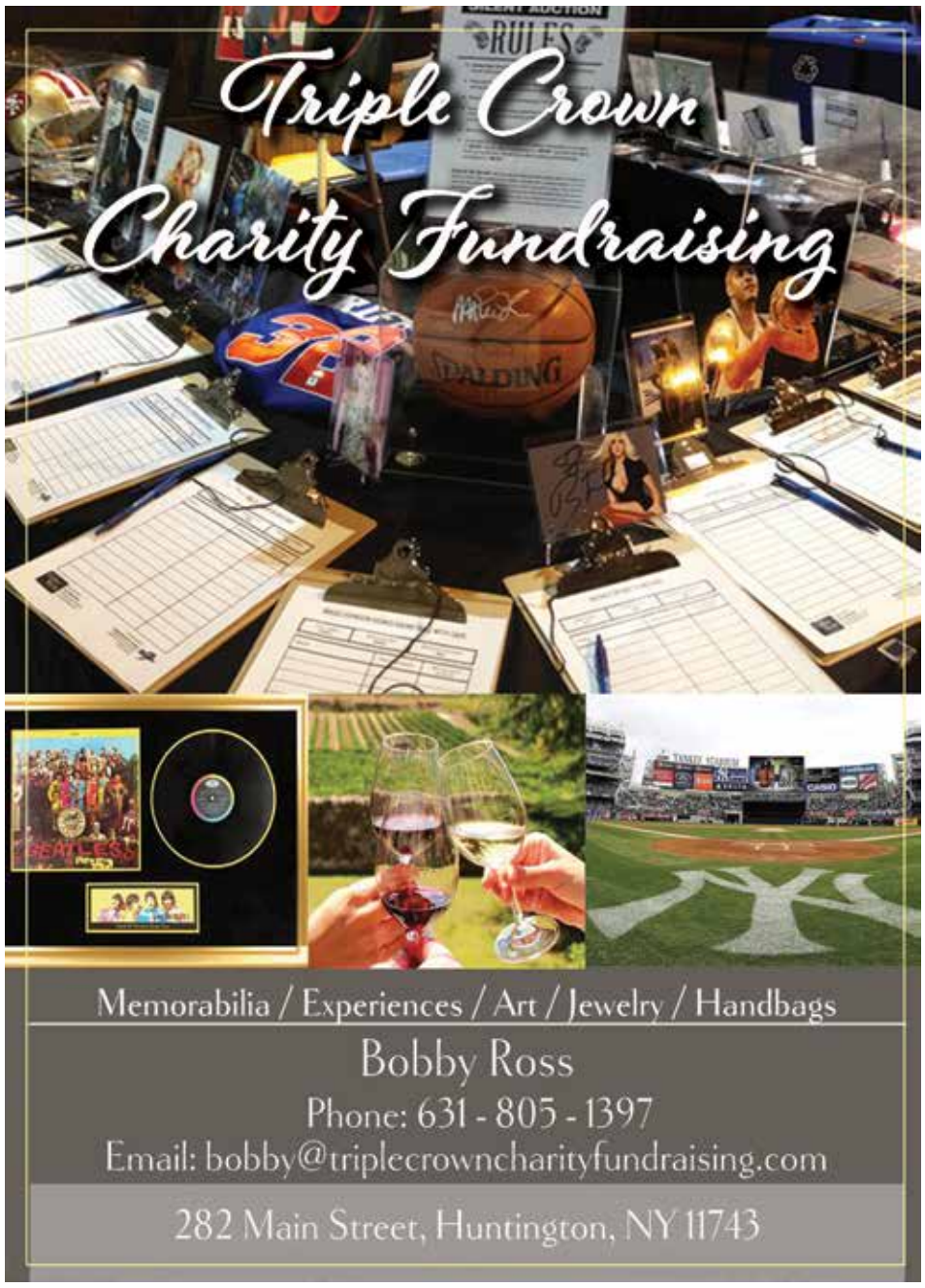
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Best Wishes to James Donnelly & all LIFFC Fighters!

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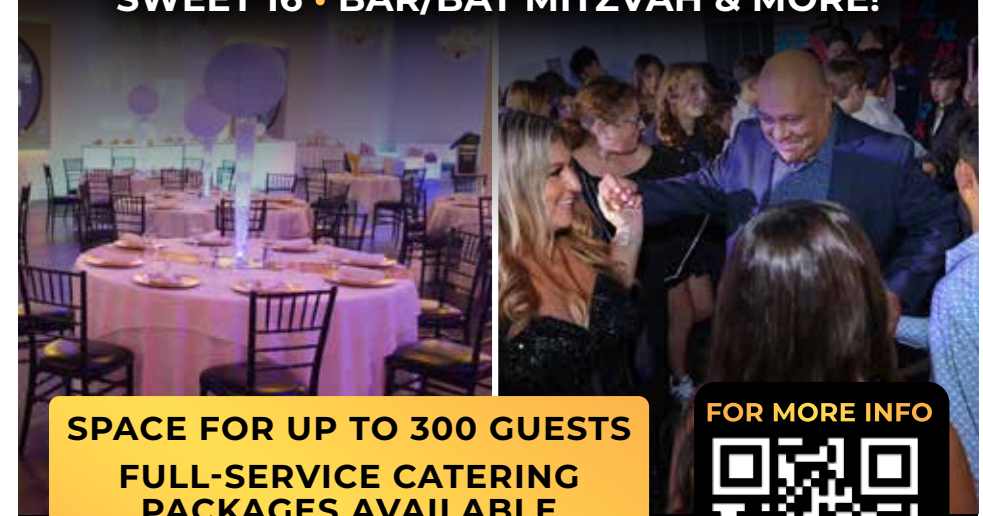

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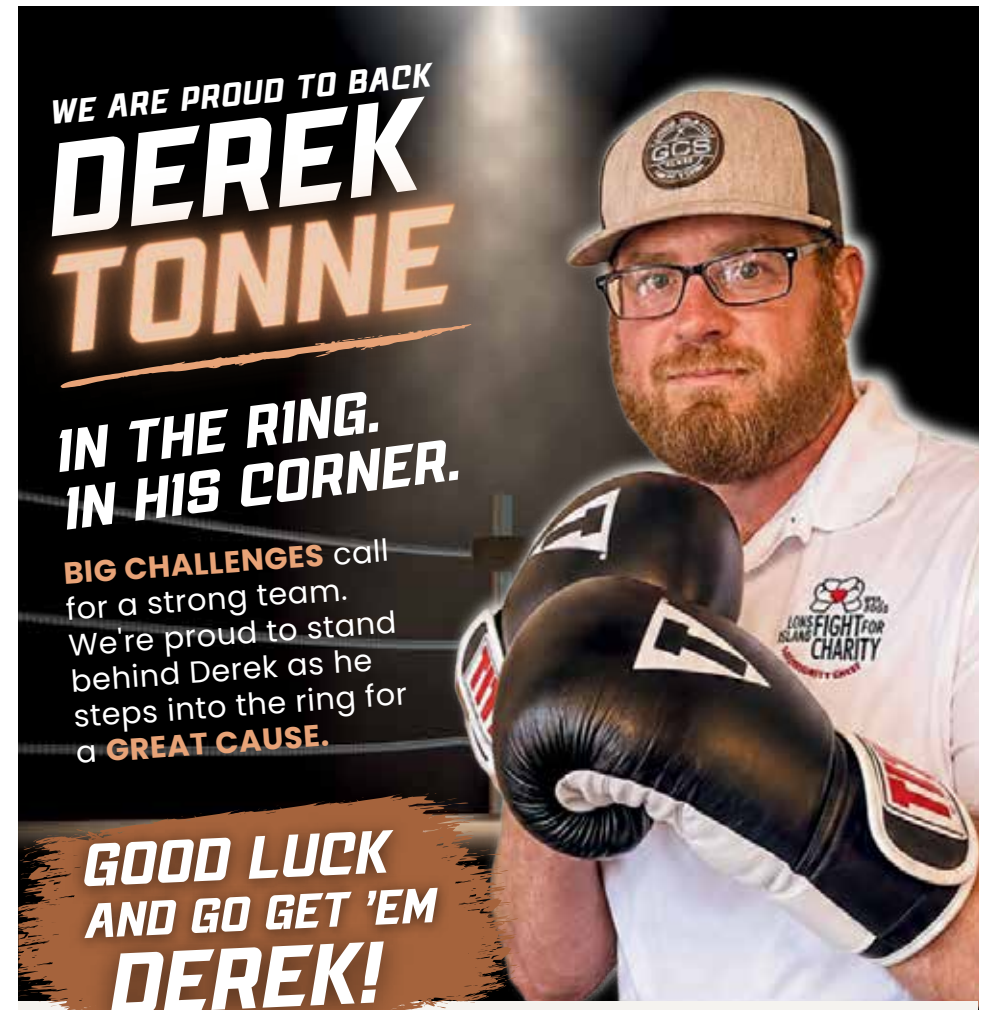

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Jeff Cohen
Denise Fortunato
Chazz Menedez
Lisa Moschitta
Matt Silver

2004
Vito Antuoferno
Jamie Austin
Mark Badami
Rob Basso
Brandon Bloom
Evan Bloom
Fred Catapano
Jeff Cohen
Eric Davis
Vanessa Dominguez
Gary Frank
Frank Grimaldi
Tim Healy
Steve Katz
Tom Kokinias
Vicki Lenzo
Lisa Moschitta
Christie Pennino
Joe Romano
Adam Schwam
Matt Silver
Marvin Soskil
Gregory Tellone
Chris Tombline
Heidi Tompkins

2005
Tracey Anastas
Tom Attivissimo
Jamie Austin
Donna Bakalor
Vince Brewer
Ed Camp
Robert Cassandro
Ken Cerini
Jeff Cohen
John Dnyprowsky
Maria Garcia
Michael Gates
Harold German
Kevin Gersh
Scott Guber
Linda Law
Heidi Lindsay
Ruth O'Sullivan
Richard Renner
Joe Romano
Kenny Santos
Danielle Schaefer
Matt Silver
John Stein
Bill Tempone
Chris Tombline
Heidi Tompkins

2006
Frank Biemann
Scott Blum
Norman Bluth
Sean Boyle
Ken Brower
Ed Camp
Tammy Card
Anthony Cavallaro
Jeff Cohen
John Dnyprowsky
Lou Fuoco
Greg Haralam
Joshua Horton
Jarrad Kulick
Dennis Lynch
Darren Martin
Rob Miner
Cliff Morgan
Marie O'Mara
Joe Romano
Matt Silver
Christopher Tombline
Linda Venturino
Jennifer Walsh
Tara Weaver
Merrill Zorn

2007
Sean Boyle
Ed Camp
Charles Cotsalas
John Dnyprowsky
Frank Fitts
Morgan Futch
Angelo Galati
Alex Gallego
Harold German
Spencer Horn
Brian Kramer
Linda Law
Gerard Marrone
Kim Masi
Wallace Matthews
Beth Meixner
Paul Musso
Michael Resnick
Joe Romano
Chris Tombline
Adam Cantiello

2008-2009
Ed Camp
Chuck Cotsalas
John Dalli
Michael Fliegelman
Mary Forte
Alan Ghidaleson
Anthony Giallanzo
Janine Giamboi
Scott Guber
Judie Karp
Ken Kern
Jason Lella
Billy Loud
Elizabeth Martone
Kim Masi
Alexander Ortiz
Matt Silver
Jessica Soskil
Sean Stellin
Chris Tombline
Robert Vanacore
Bob Venero
Donald Sullivan

2009
Gregg Aramanda
Andrea Attivisimo
Dana Battaglia
John Brady
Ed Camp
Mike Campiglia
Chuck Cotsalas
Claudia Diaz
Anthony Giallanzo
Laurinda Handlik
Paul Hyl
Jason Lella
Billy Loud
Kim Masi
Tina Masi
Chuck Merritt
Dana Nowick
Keith Piro
Mike Resnick
Tito Santiago
Joe Scarpa
John Schiavo
Rahsheen Slaughter
Bethany Thomas
Lauren Trezza
Alexandra Velez

2010
Mark Badami
Bryn Bershaw
Edward Camp
Felice Cantatore
Anthony Giallanzo
David Katzman
Richard Kaufman
Ari Lagow
John Langone
Dan Leverich
Mark O'Loughlin
Jarrett Plafker
Anne Shybunko
Michelle Smith
Shawna Terrel - Vickers
Kimberly Warantz
Robert Worlow

2012
Mario Asaro
Al Stanco
Dr. Jay Rothstein
Jeff Tempone
Ginny Armstrong
Dave Borg
John Brady
Lisa Cassar
Ken Braun
Dr. Deepak Kapoor
Nick Graziosi
Will Robles
Frank Sforza
Maureen Reininger
Jarrett Pflaker
Bill Mabanta
Carolina Sorto-Kai
Kevin Kelly
Eddie Mullally IV

2013
Terese Arenth
Roseanne Beovich
Steve Bernstein
Stefan Borovina
Keith Dawson
Steve East
Sal Ferro
Eli Fazzolari
Alex Gallego
Michael Haltman
Joanne Hutchins
Christine Ippolito
Kevin Kelly
Bill Mabanta
Sonja Nuttall
Joe Palumbo
Robert Renda
Wendy Sincuir
Leaf Steuernagel
Hugh Tanchuck
Chris Whittelsey
Scott Zuckerman

2014
Stefan Borovina
Caryn Calisi
Lisa Consolo
John Dalli
Michael Dellaquila
Peter Desiderio
Joanne Duchnowski
Jessica Gallone
Erik Gilmore
Anila Gjegji
Melissa Itoh
Rhonda Klch
James Mantione
Joe Palumbo
Jamie Stuart
Tai Vicari
Chris Zito

2015
Vincent Accardi
Paul Bartoszewski
Luis Batres
Dr. John Boccio
Chuck Campagna
Ernest Fair
Matthew Galiano
Michael Graziose
Cathleen Healey-Frosina
Laurette Holst
Rick Iaccarino
Filippo Impennato
Dr. Ron Mazza
Sinai Megibow
Lisa Mongelluzzo
Ian Murphy
Andrew Nerone
Jamie O'Mara
Todd Ringler
Michael Romano
Craig Simon
Peter Stein
Brendan Sweeney
Susan Vaughan

2016
Abraham Ahmed
Mohammed Bin Ali
Michael Bednar
Frank Bravata
Dave Compitello
Landon Dais
Jeff Goldstein
Scott Guber
Elena Lardizzone
Dan Leverich
Edison Lucero
Dr. Ron Mazza
Edgar Montenegro
Gayatrri Musraca
John Redican
Ray Rivera
Jason Russo
Tom Schorr

2017
Gregg Aramanda
Kyle Burkhardt
Johnathan Cartelli, Esq.
Eliud Custodio
Brooke DeLio
Austin Fierstadt
Stephany Giovinazzo
Jeff Goldstein
Addison LeMay
Ed Parry
Christen Pellegrini
Lauren Powers
Jair Romero
Jason Russo
Mike Signorelli
David Tan
Brian Weiner

2018
Walter Bonilla
Tara Bono
Stefan Borovina
Jane Chen
Tara DelBianco
Delia De Salvo
Steve East
Harold German
Grant Havasy
Robert Hepworth
Michael Holmstrom
Jon Hurd
Alyssa Kirschbaum
Jamie O'Mara
Nicholas Milazzo
Matthew Pomara
John Sebastiano IV
Genine Traina
Glen Tuifel
Chris Tombline
Sarah Walters
Bobbylee Watson
Scott Yamond
Mikey Zaharios

2019
Asher Allweiss
Dominick Bianco
Charles Castro
Shannon Chisholm
Virginia DeCeglia
Bert Lurch
Vincent Melillo
Jenna Natale
Baris Oztimurlenk
Alden "Hatch" Peffer
Tabetha Pradel
Adam Schwam
Karen Scutellaro
Phil Sorrentino
Joseph Vozza
Sarah Walters
Mikey Zaharios

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Paul Altamore
John Ankelman
Travis Buonocore
Tara Cohen
Ben Cooper
Keith Dawson
Virginia DeCeglia
Jen De la Cruz
Delia DeSalvo
Jose Dominguez
Tom Gibson
Marcus Gilmore
Dan Giraldo
Tabbethia Haubold
Jose Padro
Sahed Razi
Evan Russell
Dan Sapen
Bart Schiavo
Kevin Stephens
Dawn Strain

2023
Wayne Alden
Jason Canales
Steve Cohen
Trisha Devine
Jeffrey Ettenger
Gina Farese
Tom Gibson
Vincent Keaveny
Ken Marcus
Robert McBride
Matthew Mene
Akarsh Narang
Louis Pagonis
Scott Pitz
Sahed Razi
Bart Schiavo
Alyssa Smith

2024
Ken Marcus
Sammy Chu
Joseph DeSalvo
Eric Ramsay
Rob Madden
Michael Dellaquila
Esperanza Viera
Travis Frasier
Justice Lallier
Anthony Lambroia
Brian Schwartz
Dimitri Sevastos
Patrick Ryan
Zachary Merritt
Theodore Massillon

2025
Alex Altamirano
Donnie Blankenship
Tanya Brandes
Connor Campbell
Katy Cardinale
Genaro Cavazos
Robert DePalo, Jr.
Tabbethia Haubold
Michelle Laredo Torres
Laura Moakley
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Matteo Scarduzio
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