

LI People ON THE MOVE

LAW



Christina K. Ng of Fresh Meadows has been hired as an associate in the workers' compensation practice group at **Goldberg Segalla** in Garden City. She was staff counsel for the **American International Group** in Jericho.



Kai Y. Gao of Glen Cove, a legal intern at **Blodnick Fazio & Associates** in Garden City, has joined the firm as an associate.

HEALTH CARE

Stony Brook University School of Medicine appoints two cardiothoracic surgeons.



Dr. Joann Chikwe of Wading River, professor of cardiovascular surgery at the **Icahn School of Medicine** at Mount Sinai and chair of the department of cardiovascular surgery at **Mount Sinai West** and **Mount Sinai St. Luke's Hospital** in Manhattan, has been appointed chief of the division of cardiothoracic surgery in the department of surgery and co-director of the **Stony Brook University Heart Institute**.



Dr. Henry J. Tannous of Nissequogue, assistant professor of cardiovascular surgery at the **Icahn School of Medicine** at Mount Sinai and cardiothoracic surgeon at **Mount Sinai Hospital** has been named clinical associate professor of surgery in the division of cardiothoracic surgery in the department of surgery.

— DIANE DANIELS

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Best Buy says it will close its Lawrence store by Nov. 12 for economic reasons. Sixty employees face possible layoffs.

BEST BUY TO CLOSE LAWRENCE STORE

BY AISHA AL-MUSLIM
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The Best Buy store in Lawrence is slated to close this fall, resulting in 60 employees possibly facing layoffs, according to a state regulatory filing and a company official.

The 30,000-square-foot store, on 345 Rockaway Tpke. at the Bay Harbour Mall, is scheduled to close by Nov. 12.

The layoffs are scheduled for the same time period, according to the notice posted yesterday on the New York State Department of Labor's website.

The company said in the state filing that it is closing the Lawrence store due to economic reasons. The affected workers are not represented by a union, the filing said.

Best Buy decided not to renew the Lawrence store

lease, a company spokeswoman said yesterday. The company will assist employees in finding positions at other Best Buy stores. Those employees that don't get jobs at other stores will receive a severance package, she said.

The Lawrence store, which opened in 2007, closed for about six months after it flooded during superstorm Sandy in 2012. It was remod-

eled and reopened in 2013, the company said.

Under the state Worker Adjustment and Retraining Notification Act, companies with at least 50 full-time employees must file a 90-day notice of a planned closing or mass layoff.

Aside from the Lawrence store, there are 10 Best Buy stores on Long Island, excluding Best Buy Mobile stores.

Tesla isn't alone in offering advanced features

The Associated Press

With all the attention paid to Tesla Motors' Autopilot system, you'd think the company was the only one making cars that can almost drive themselves. But many automakers have rolled out cars that do what Teslas do.

The difference: Tesla debuted Autopilot, a suite of semiautonomous driving features, with a swagger, while others tread more carefully.

Tesla's Autopilot allows the car to maintain a set speed, brake automatically and stay centered in its lane. Most luxury vehicles — and even some mainstream ones like the Honda Civic — can do the same. When Tesla upped the ante by offering automatic lane-changing, Mercedes-Benz quickly matched that.

"I don't think Tesla is way ahead in terms of the technology. They view themselves as a technology company, so they're going to push it," said Adrian Lund, president of the

Insurance Institute for Highway Safety, an insurer-funded group.

Critics have accused Tesla of pushing too far, too fast following a crash in Florida that killed the driver of a Model S with Autopilot engaged.

Mercedes-Benz recently pulled an ad, titled "The Future," after Consumer Reports complained it implied that the 2017 E-Class sedan is capable of self-driving. The fine print for the ad says the car can't drive itself, but Mercedes said it didn't want to confuse drivers.

General Motors delayed the introduction of its Tesla-like Super Cruise system because of safety concerns.

"They don't deploy it because they know that things can fail," said Raj Rajkumar, a computer engineering professor at Carnegie Mellon University who leads its autonomous vehicle research.

For the most part, traditional automakers modestly tout semiautonomous driving features as safety options. An



Mercedes-Benz 2017 E-Class sedans can include semiautonomous features as well as keyless entry and cabin air filtration.

ad for the Infiniti Q50 sedan, for example, shows a driver thinking about projects and deadlines as his car looks out for hazards.

Tesla's Autopilot comes as a separate \$2,500 software update on the Model S sedan, which starts at \$66,000. Mercedes charges \$11,250 for a package of semiautonomous features on the 2017 E-Class

that also includes keyless entry, satellite radio and cabin air filtration. The E-Class starts at \$52,150.

Consumers must also play a name game when hunting for advanced driving features. Volvo's semiautonomous system is called "Pilot Assist," while BMW's is "Driving Assistant Plus" and Subaru's is "EyeSight."