

Newsday

# explore **LI**

## to **bob** or not

SHORTER STYLE  
TRENDING ON  
THE RED CARPET  
— AND LI

**B4**

**CULINARY KINGPIN** Meet Tom Schaudel a restaurant legend on LI [newsday.com/feedme](http://newsday.com/feedme)



# BEHOLD,

**BY ANNE BRATSKAIR**
*Special to Newsday*

**T**he bob is back. The hairstyle in this modern iteration is busting loose — it's got the moves and the motion — and it shouts attitude. Plenty of red carpet celebrities, including Regina King, Julia Garner and Robin Wright, bypassed sleek updos and formal chignons in favor of windswept bobs (and their longer sisters, lobs) at this season's awards shows. Gabrielle Union celebrated her dramatic bob on Instagram in June.

Earlier this month, pop star Ashanti, a Glen Cove native, sported a platinum blonde blunt-cut bob and is, she says, "loving my new 'do because it's so easy and chic." She calls the look "confident and strong," and is getting great feedback. "The reaction has been amazing . . . lots of calls and texts."

## FLAPPERS TO ANNA WINTOUR

Of course, the style is far from new. Flappers wore the chin-length 'do in the 1920s; in the '60s the legendary Vidal Sassoon perfected his own geometric five-point variation. For some women (designer Coco Chanel and Vogue magazine's editor-in-chief Anna Wintour come to mind) the bob is a signature look.

It's also the signature haircut for Anthony DeFranco, who owns two salons — one in Huntington, the other Plainview — and who trained at Vidal Sassoon back in the day. It's definitely evolved, he says.

"Today's bobs are messier, choppy, shattered and layered — and the more tousled they are, the cooler they look. It's rough but still polished, and anything that doesn't move is just plain dated," he says.

One of his clients, Susan Ortenberg, 43, of Kings Park, recently allowed DeFranco to work his bob magic.

"I've never done anything so drastic," says Ortenberg of the 6 inches DeFranco sliced off her hair. "It's a major difference, and I love it. So does my husband. People tell me I look so much younger." And she appreciates the ease. "All I have to do is flip it over, shake my head, fluff it, and it looks so good."

Likewise, Stony Brook University student Elana Howe, 21, is getting raves


NUBEST SALON AND SPA

**Stony Brook University student Elana Howe, 21, left long tresses behind after a makeover at nuBest Salon and Spa in Manhasset.**



# SHAGGY BOBS

The long and short of today's swingy, messy, easy looks



**HERE AND ON THE COVER** Anthony DeFranco gives Susan Ortenberg, also pictured at right, a choppy bob with many layers at the Plainview salon that bears his name.

about the striking bob cut she got from Jamie Mazzei, the owner of nuBest Salon and Spa in Manhasset.

"It was definitely a chop," says Howe of the 6 inches Mazzei lopped off. "My hair was so boring before, and now it's really cool, fresh and stands out. My friends were like, 'Wow!'" She likes that it is

easy to work with and a bit untamed. "I try to be perfect in other areas of my life, but with my hair, not so much."

## 'PERFECTLY IMPERFECT'

That's the beauty of the bob — "it's perfectly imperfect," says Mazzei. The appeal is partially because of the bob's versatility — it can be worn

straight or wavy. And for hair-stylists, the bob goes beyond being just a haircut.

"It seems simple, but it's actually a very complicated style," says Mazzei. "A lot of creativity goes into the process." In the end, he says, his clients appreciate the new edge and attitude the bob conveys . . . "even a little bit of swagger."



Ortenberg, of Kings Park, says she loves the ease of her new style: Flip, shake, fluff and go.



## CELEBS WITH EASY, BREEZY CUTS



Actress Gabrielle Union



Actress Julia Garner



Pop star Ashanti



Actress Regina King



Actress Robin Wright