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Friday September 2, 2022

Ossining Man Gets Arrested for Two DWI's in 18 Hours?



For those of us concerned about how the dangerous practice of drunk driving continues in our area, the news earlier this summer that in Putnam County a Westchester resident was arrested for DWI TWO TIMES in 18 Hours.

On July 17, 2022, Deputies arrested the same driver for Driving While Intoxicated within an eighteen-hour period. The first arrest occurred at 3:05 am when a vehicle, being operated by Mario Castro-Castro, 23, of Ossining, was observed traveling at approximately 30 miles per hour and failing to maintain itself in the lane of traffic northbound on the Taconic State Parkway in the Town of Putnam Valley. The driver failed field sobriety tests and was processed at the Sheriff's Office and issued tickets returnable in Putnam Valley Court.

At 9:20 pm, a different Deputy observed a vehicle traveling southbound on Peekskill Hollow Rd near Bryant Pond Rd. The vehicle was observed crossing over the solid yellow line and failing to signal a lane change, and a traffic stop was initiated. The same driver, Mario Castro-Castro, 23, of Ossining, was again arrested for Driving While Intoxicated and was issued tickets returnable in Putnam Valley Court.

We have all heard about repeat DWI offenders but this is ridiculous. Obviously, this young man did not learn his lesson, nor did he decide to take a taxi or Uber to travel to drink and get drunk.

Mothers Against Drunk Driving, MADD, reported that 91% of the drivers operating vehicles at or above a .08% BAC in all of the nations fatal accidents had prior convictions for driving while impaired. That means less than 10% of these accidents that ended lives after a night of drinking were first-time offenders.

We renew our call to immediately prevent drunk drivers like Mr. Castro-Castro from getting behind the wheel until they pay their debt to society. And a note to Mr. Castro-Castro; you are lucky you didn't kill someone.

This individual had no remorse for what he did, nor did he care about the lives of others on the road that he put at risk. One way to stop some repeat offenders is to require ignition locks on their cars. Mandating ignition interlocks for those who have been convicted of a first offense DUI will reduce the threat of those drivers getting behind the wheel of their car again for a second offense DUI or third offense DUI. They will have to be completely sober if they want their vehicle to start. In this case, an ignition lock wouldn't have been put on his car in 18 hours. The best way to stop this person is to suspend his license for as long as possible.

AG James to CVS & Walgreens: Denying Access to Reproductive Healthcare is Illegal in NY



By Dan Murphy

On Aug. 30, New York Attorney General Letitia James took action to protect New Yorkers' access to reproductive health care prescriptions and products at CVS and Walgreens pharmacies. Employees at CVS and Walgreens stores in other states have reportedly refused to provide customers with birth control, condoms, emergency contraceptives, and/or other medications related to reproductive health.

Attorney General James sent letters to both CVS and Walgreens reminding the retail pharmacy giants that it is illegal in New York to deny customers prescribed or over-the-counter medications or products related to reproductive health care.

"Pharmacies have a responsibility to safeguard New Yorkers' health, including by providing reproductive health care medications and products," said Attorney General James. "The actions taken by some CVS and Walgreens employees in other states have sparked concerns nationwide and have raised serious questions that must be addressed. Let me be clear: I will not accept New Yorkers being denied access to essential health care products and services. I am proud to stand up for New Yorkers' reproductive rights, and I will always fight to preserve access to birth control and other reproductive health medications and options."

New Yorkers seeking contraception or other reproductive health products at these two major chains have a right to receive those essential products. Reports from other states indicate that some employees at CVS and at Walgreens have refused to provide reproductive health products or services, and some Walgreens employees have even mistreated consumers by publicly harassing, embarrassing, and shaming them. In her letters, Attorney General James makes clear that similar behavior by CVS or Walgreens employees at any of their more than 1,000 locations throughout New York state is a violation of New York's public health and civil rights laws.

Attorney General James requests that CVS and Walgreens provide more infor-

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Mike Lawler: Westchester Families Can't Afford Sean Maloney; The Big November Election



Congressional candidate Mike Lawler, left, with Republican candidate for Governor Lee Zeldin, middle, and Yorktown Supervisor and Assembly candidate Matt Slater

By Dan Murphy

With the confusing NY primaries behind us, (one in June one in August), political watchers are wondering if voter discontent over inflation, crime, and college student loan bailouts will result in a 'Red Wave,' and will that Red Wave include Westchester?

The biggest election in our area that will provide you with that answer is the race for Congress in the 17th District, between incumbent Democratic Congressman Sean Patrick Maloney, and Republican Assemblyman Mike Lawler. Both Maloney and Lawler easily won their primaries.

The district includes Northern Westchester, Putnam and Rockland Counties. Maloney has represented Northern Westchester and Putnam for most of his 10 years in the House, but is not known in Rockland, where Lawler lives and represents the county in the Assembly.

This election will be closely watched, and invested in by both parties, and could help tip the balance to a republican House majority. Maloney also serves as the Chair of the Democratic Congressional Campaign Committee, DCCC, which makes his re-election important to democrats, but his defeat a big feather in the cap of republicans.

Lawler has not waited to go on the offensive by claiming that Hudson Valley families can't afford to pay for Maloney's representation, which included votes to raise taxes, and his support of congestion pricing and the student loan bailout. "Rep. Sean Patrick Maloney insists on making life even more expensive for working- and middle-class New Yorkers already struggling to get by in a state with some of the highest taxes and inflation in America.

"Within just the past few weeks alone, Mr. Maloney has supported a trifecta of new taxes and fees on Hudson Valley families — a middle-class tax increase as part of the misnamed 'Inflation Reduction Act'; a \$9-\$23 daily congestion pricing tax on commuters driving into Manhattan south of 60th Street, and a \$10,000 student loan giveaway that will force middle-and working-class families to bear the cost of loans taken out by strangers earning up to \$125,000 per year. That pass along will be especially galling to hard working trade professionals who couldn't afford college for themselves, but now have to help pay for other people's higher education.

"Millionaire Maloney is a classic tax-spend-and-borrow extremist who genuinely believes he can spend our money better than we can. He has no sense what-

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Westchester Split on Student Loan Forgiveness; Pay your Taxes if You Owe Them



"This is the bailout working class millennials (and their parents) desperately needed, and I think this will stimulate the economy and save a generation,"

-County Legislator

David Tubiolo

By Dan Murphy

Westchester County Legislator David Tubiolo's support for President Biden's \$10,000 loan forgiveness plan shows how divided residents of Westchester, and voters across the country are on the issue. (See story above; Congressional candidate Mike Lawler is opposed).

Tubiolo writes, "I celebrate the action taken by the Federal Government to reduce the liability on millions of hard working Americans. I paid off my student loans before this forgiveness initiative. but I experienced first hand the sacrifices I had to make for a decade to overcome high interest rates and what seemed like never ending payments. We were made to believe this was the only way to achieve social mobility, but this deprived many of us from economic opportunities our previous generation enjoyed, like buying homes at a younger age.

"This is the bailout working class millennials (and their parents) desperately needed, and I think this will stimulate the economy and save a generation. We really need to talk about how we can control the cost of higher education, and also invest in more Career Technical Education like BOCES so adolescents and young adults are more aware of their opportunities. Average college tuition tripled in my lifetime, even when adjusted for inflation. Developing a career and getting started in life shouldn't put us at the high risk of bankruptcy," writes Tubiolo, whose social media account was filled with supporters and opponents of the bailout.

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SPCA Westchester assists in the Humane Society's Work to Find Placement for 4,000 Abused Beagles



abused Beagles rescued by SPCA of Westchester from Virginia



SPCA Westchester welcomed nearly a dozen beagles to its Animal Rescue Center in Briarcliff Manor, NY as part of the group of beagles to be removed from a mass-breeding facility riddled with animal welfare concerns. The Humane Society of the United States is coordinating the removal of approximately 4,000 beagles housed at an Envigo RMS LLC facility in Cumberland, VA which bred dogs to be sold to laboratories for animal experimentation.

The transfer plan was submitted by the Department of Justice and Envigo RMS LLC, with the agreement of the Humane Society of the United States to assume the responsibility of coordinating placement. The transfer will take place in stages over the next 60 days, and the dogs will be up for adoption via SPCA Westchester and other shelters and rescues.

"It's unimaginable what these poor dogs have gone through, says Shannon Laukhuf, Executive Director of SPCA Westchester, and we're honored the SPCA was asked to assist in giving these deserving, brave beagles a second chance. We'll be placing them into foster and forever homes shortly and encourage anyone interested to email Eileen@spcawestchester.org."

The transfer plan comes as a result of a lawsuit filed against Envigo by the Department of Justice in May, alleging Animal Welfare Act violations at the facility. Repeated federal inspections have resulted in dozens of violations, including findings that some dogs had been "euthanized" without first receiving anesthesia, that dogs had received inadequate veterinary care and insufficient food, and that they were living in unsanitary conditions.

"It takes a massive network of compassionate, expert shelters and rescues to make an operation of this scale possible," said Lindsay Hamrick, shelter outreach and engagement director for the Humane Society of the United States. "We are deeply grateful to each organization that is stepping up to find these dogs the loving homes they so deserve." SPCA Westchester is located at 590 North State Road, Briarcliff Manor, NY 10510. Please visit spcawestchester.org for further information.

Read it All Online at Yonkerstimes.com

Senator Mayer Presents Jirany Martinez with Women of Distinction Award



State Senator Shelley Mayer, left, with Jirany Martinez

On Women's Equality Day, New York State Senator Shelley B. Mayer presented Community Resource Center Executive Director Jirany Martinez, both pictured above, a lifelong advocate for social justice and immigrant rights, with the 2022 New York State Senate Women of Distinction Award.

Senator Shelley B. Mayer said: "I am thrilled to present Jirany with the 2022 Women of Distinction Award. Jirany has been an indispensable force for structural social, political, and economic change in the lives of immigrants in Westchester and across New York. Most recently, in the wake of Hurricane Ida last September, which devastated Mamaroneck and destroyed the Community Resource Center's building, Jirany and her team assisted over 300 community members whose lives were upended by the storm. She is a tremendous force for good in our community and is extremely deserving of this award."

Community Resource Center Executive Director Jirany Martinez said: "I am honored. This award is not mine alone – it belongs to my team and to the people. I hope that other young women who identify as first generation, immigrant, daughters of working families, feel as proud and inspired as I do to receive this Women of Distinction Award. ¡Si se puede!"

A Mamaroneck native and daughter of hard-working Colombian immigrants, Martinez started her work with CRC in 2008 as an ESL teacher. Since becoming executive director in 2016, she and her team have dedicated themselves to empowering immigrant and low-income families by providing the resources and advocacy to help them become self-reliant and thriving members of the community. Currently, CRC serves over 3,800 individuals in Westchester County through grassroots direct-service and partnerships with dozens of community organizations.

The New York State Senate Women of Distinction Award is given annually to one woman in each Senate District for her outstanding contributions to the community. A virtual ceremony recognizing all the 2022 honorees is available on the New York State Senate website. Senator Mayer has previously honored Elizabeth Baird Saenger, Rhiannon Navin and Nicole Scheindlin with this award.

Different Views, continued from pg 1-

Another topic of interest for our readers in Westchester is the recent hiring of 87,000 additional employees in the IRS. Opposition to the plan comes from the thought that armed IRS agents will be breaking down your door to collect your unpaid taxes. One of our readers disagrees writing, "Mr. Murphy, I have read with interest your stories about Westchester resident Anthony Futia, and his refusal to pay his income tax based on his view of the constitution. I would separate Mr. Futia, from the many Americans who don't want the IRS hiring more agents to get any American from paying the taxes that they owe. I pay my taxes every year, and quite frankly I want everyone to do so. It's only fair. My advice to those who don't want to pay their taxes is, elect people to change the tax code. And of the 87,000 new IRS employees, they will be replacing the 56,000 IRS employees set to retire, writes Helen Conger, from Verplank.

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September 11th Ceremonies Announced in Eastchester, Mamaroneck and at Westchester Memorial The Rising in Valhalla

Several Westchester Communities have announced their plans to commemorate September 11, 2001. The Town of Mamaroneck along with the Village of Mamaroneck and the Village of Larchmont, is planning to hold a Tri-Municipal Ceremony on Sunday, September 11, 2022 at 5:00 PM.

The ceremony will be held at "Girl Scout Rock" in Memorial Park on Myrtle Boulevard and is an opportunity for the community to gather together in a cooperative spirit of support and remembrance. Participants will include members of the Fire and Police Departments of the Town of Mamaroneck and Villages of Mamaroneck and Larchmont, the Mamaroneck EMS and Larchmont Volunteer Ambulance Corp, Veterans, members of the Clergy, local Girl Scout and Boy Scout troops, and public officials. All in the community are welcome to attend.

Each year on September 11th, the Town of Mamaroneck hosts a Tri-Municipal Memorial Ceremony for the communities of the Town of Mamaroneck, Village of Larchmont, and Village of Mamaroneck at "Girl Scout Rock" in Memorial Park in the Town of Mamaroneck. The Girl Scouts created the September 11th Memorial which lists the names of those Larchmont-Mamaroneck community members who were lost on that tragic day. Hundreds of people have attended this event which has been hosted in Memorial Park since 2002. Note: The location is on Myrtle Boulevard between Chatsworth Avenue and Baldwin Avenue, opposite Billy and Pete's Restaurant in Larchmont.

In the Town of Eastchester, the annual September 11th Memorial Service will be held on Sunday, September 11th, 2022 beginning at 8:35am in front of the Eastchester Town Hall located at 40 Mill Road. In the event of rain, the ceremony will be moved inside and capacity will be limited. The brief service will reflect on the events of that tragic day twenty-one years ago and remember all of the lives that were lost.

Westchester County will hold their annual ceremony on Sunday, September 11 as we honor and remember the Westchester County residents we have lost. The Memorial Ceremony at The Rising will take place at 3 p.m. at Kensico Dam Plaza in Valhalla.

The Forgotten Vice-President and His Westchester Farm



President Roosevelt with his then Vice-President Henry Wallace in 1941

By Dan Murphy

Most Americans know that Harry Truman was President Franklyn Roosevelt's last vice-president. But do you know who was FDR's VP before Truman? His name was Henry Wallace, who served from 1941-1944.

Known by many historians as our "Forgotten Vice President", Wallace was removed from the vice-presidency in a strange, backroom political deal at the 1944 democratic convention, and replaced by unknown Senator Harry Truman. After running as a third-party candidate for President in 1948, Wallace retired from politics and bought a farm in South Salem which still stands today.

Wallace was America's first true Progressive vice president, and a visionary who fought for Civil Rights, women's rights, peace with Russia, and health insurance for all Americans. With today's democratic party embracing the progressive values and beliefs that Wallace stood for more than 80 years ago, the hope is that Wallace's memory and legacy will finally be realized.

First and foremost, Henry Wallace was a farmer, from Iowa. His father, Harry Wallace, was also a farmer and a republican who served as Secretary of Agriculture under President Harding.

In 1932 Henry Wallace supported FDR in his Presidential bid and was appointed Agriculture Secretary in the Roosevelt administration, where he served from 1933-1940. The Great Depression brought out the best in Wallace, who helped restore order to the failing farm industry. Wallace became one of the stars of the FDR-New Deal administration, which was one of the reasons why Roosevelt picked Wallace as his Vice-President in 1940.

FDR admired Wallace's support of the New Deal policies and his support of aiding Britain during the early part of WWII. FDR's insistence that Wallace serve with him as VP, while unpopular and controversial with some, was enough, and Eleanor Roosevelt's speech at the convention (FDR did not attend), sealed the deal.

For the next four years, FDR's advisors and all Americans understood that Wallace would succeed an aging Roosevelt as our next President. NY Times journalist James Reston dubbed Wallace, "the new Assistant President," writing in 1941 that Wallace's "decisions in the next few months or years will undoubtedly affect your job, your rent, and the price of your groceries. And, what's more important, his decisions may determine the outcome of the war and the basis of the peace."

In 1942, Wallace gave his famous, 'Common Man' speech, which outlined Wallace's vision, to help America's poor and working class after WWII ended. "Some have spoken of the American Century. I say that the century on which we are entering—the century which will come out of this war—can be and must be the century of the common man. There must be neither military nor economic imperialism. . . International cartels that serve American greed and the German will to power must go. . . The people's revolution is on the march, and the devil and all his angels cannot prevail against it."

In 1944, Wallace took a good-will mission to Russian and China, where he was welcomed, as a partner with both countries fighting Axis Germany and Japan.

A 1944 Gallup Poll found Wallace the most popular democratic sans FDR, but many democratic party insiders saw Wallace as a dangerous future president, because of what they perceived as his pro-communist, Soviet beliefs, which were never proven. Wallace only wanted to work with Stalin and Russia after WWII, instead of heading into a Cold War that lasted 45 years.

In 1940 FDR insisted on Wallace as his VP. In 1944 an ailing FDR didn't fight hard enough for Wallace, giving the democratic party bosses the chance to steal the vice-presidential nomination for Harry Truman.

Wallace served out his term as VP until 1945. FDR died 82 days later; Wallace fell three months short of becoming president and was indeed a heartbeat away from becoming our 33rd President.

Wallace served under Truman as Commerce Secretary for two years. In 1948 Wallace challenged Truman and ran as a third-party Progressive party candidate for President. His platform called for an end to desegregation, civil rights for black and white, equal rights for men and women, a call for national health insurance, and peaceful coexistence with Russia.

Wallace' 1948 Presidential campaign included bravely campaigning in the south, where he denounced racism by registering voters with a multiracial campaign staff and refused to speak to segregated crowds. He faced threats of violence and was pelted with eggs and vegetables. His running mate, Glen Taylor, was arrested when he tried to use a door marked "Colored."

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Unit Size	Unit Count	Initial Rent**	Rent Restriction	Accessibility Features
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1 Bedroom	14 units**	\$1,300.00	30% Area Median Income	3 units (Mobility)
2 Bedroom	12 units**	\$1,650.00	30% Area Median Income	3 units (Mobility)
Studio	4 units**	\$1,450.00	30% Area Median Income	NA
1 Bedroom	13 units	\$1,500.00	30% Area Median Income	3 units (Hearing/Vision) 2 units (Mobility)
2 Bedroom	10 units	\$1,872.00	30% Area Median Income	NA
1 Bedroom	5 units	\$1,850.00	30% Area Median Income	1 unit (Hearing/Vision)
2 Bedroom	5 units	\$2,200.00	30% Area Median Income	1 unit (Mobility)
Studio	2 units	\$1,850.00	30% Area Median Income	NA
1 Bedroom	3 units	\$1,850.00	30% Area Median Income	NA
2 Bedroom	5 units	\$2,200.00	30% Area Median Income	NA

* Rent and availability are subject to change at any time.

** Select homes (20 units) will be set aside for formerly homeless households and referred to the community via the Westchester County Continuum of Care Partnership for the Homeless (CoC Partnership) and other organizations serving the homeless.

- Selection by Lottery. Applications will be made available starting July 15, 2022. You may obtain an application by giving us a call at 914-821-1132 | TTY: 711, emailing us at warburton@tdcinc.org or visiting our website, www.theridgewaycommunities.com and clicking on Leasing Information.
- All paper applications should be returned/mailed to our management office at 43 Ashburton Avenue, Yonkers, NY 10701 or emailed to us at warburton@tdcinc.org. Applications can also be completed online on our website, www.theridgewaycommunities.com, under Leasing Information. Online applications are preferred.
- We will hold two virtual information sessions for those interested in applying on 07/27/2022 from 6pm – 7pm and on 08/17/2022 from 6pm – 7pm. Links to those sessions will be made available on the Leasing Information page on our website.
- The deadline to apply for the Lottery will be Tuesday, September 13, 2022 (mailed applications must be postmarked by this date). Applications received after this date will not be included in the Lottery and will be entered on a waitlist based on date/time stamp of application receipt following those ranked Lottery applicants.
- Housing Lottery will be held electronically at 10:00a.m. and recorded on 09/28/2022 – the Lottery link will be made available on the Leasing Information page on our website.
- All applicants must be determined eligible in accordance with the Department of HUD regulations and must meet the family size requirements for a designated bedroom size (maximum of 2 persons per bedroom; minimum of 1 person per bedroom preference) as well as maximum income of all family members (please see our website for limits). Your application must also be complete to be eligible for Lottery submission. If your application shows that you are eligible, you will be notified in writing by mail or electronic mail prior to the Lottery date and you will be provided an Application Registration Number (ineligible applicants will also be notified in writing and will be provided the chance to appeal). Only eligible applications will be entered into the Lottery. Your place on the waitlist will be decided by a Lottery.
- PLEASE NOTE THAT YOUR POSITION ON THE WAITLIST MAY NOT BE DICTATED BY YOUR LOTTERY NUMBER SINCE THOSE WITH A PREFERENCE WILL TAKE PRIORITY.
- After the Lottery, the waiting list will remain open until further notice. Applications will be processed in order of receipt from that point forward.
- For more information, language assistance, or reasonable accommodations for persons with disabilities please call 914-821-1132 | TTY: 711 or email warburton@tdcinc.org.

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Fordham Real Estate Institute & BCW Present Economic Outlook and Forecast in RE Market

Sept. 7 virtual event will feature top minds and market leaders on how rising interest rates, inflation and global uncertainty will shape Q4 and beyond

With rising interest rates, historic inflation and global economic uncertainty, all eyes are on commercial real estate. What will this mean for demand and value? Will CRE remain a hedge against inflation? What's next for the New York market? The Fordham Real Estate Institute (REI) and The Business Council of Westchester (BCW) will bring together leading industry experts Wednesday, Sept. 7 to delve into the data, weigh in on CRE's long-term viability, and share intel to help business professionals navigate the volatile landscape and succeed in a changing market.

The virtual conference, "Economic Outlook and Forecasting the New York Region's Real Estate Market," is the latest in a series of events REI and BCW have partnered on to focus on the hottest topics shaping the real estate industry.

"This has been another unprecedented year for so many business sectors, including real estate, with escalating economic uncertainty coming on the heels of a global pandemic," said Dr. Anthony R. Davidson, dean, Fordham University School of Professional and Continuing Studies. "Our goal at the Fordham Real Estate Institute is to bring together the sharpest minds to ensure we are at the forefront of the latest trends and prepared to lead the way forward. The BCW has been the ideal partner in that effort, and we look forward to hosting another spectacular event."

The program will feature a thought-provoking panel discussion moderated by Dr. Marsha Gordon, president and CEO, BCW. Panel participants are:

- Kathleen Corton, CEO, CIO and managing partner, Hillcrest Finance LLC
- Eamonn D'Arcy, professor of International Real Estate, Henley Business School, England
- Christopher Deutsch, vice president, China CITIC Bank International Limited
- Charles Dougherty, vice president and economist, Wells Fargo
- Timothy M. Jones, CEO, Robert Martin Company, LLC
- Nicole LaRusso, Senior Director for Research & Analysis, U.S. North Region, CBRE Group Inc.

"As always, we are delighted to partner with Fordham University and bring together such an impressive panel of industry leaders to share best practices for navigating an ever-changing landscape," said Gordon. "As we look to the fourth quarter and beyond, it is critically important to have these in-depth and engaging conversations to ensure our business and real estate communities are well-positioned to tackle the challenges and remain poised for continued success."

"Economic Outlook and Forecasting the New York Region's Real Estate Market" will take place Wednesday, Sept. 7 from 9 a.m. – 10 a.m. via Zoom. The Presenting Sponsor for the event is Wells Fargo and the Supporting Sponsor is Westchester County. Contributing sponsors include the Hudson Gateway Association of Realtors and Simone Development Cos. To register, visit- https://us06web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_aAW-3wk4QeqA54Z-oOKTSA

Lawler vs Maloney, continued from pg 1-

soever what living in New York is like. He also broke his promise to reverse the State and Local Tax (SALT) Deduction Cap that hiked taxes on tens of thousands of middle-class Hudson Valley families, despite his Democrat colleagues controlling all three branches of the federal government for the past two years.

"I adamantly oppose President Biden's naked, \$10,000 bribe of students; I'll stop congestion pricing dead in its tracks if I'm elected, and I'll give Hudson Valley families real tax relief, which will include the reversal of SALT. They are desperate for some real economic relief," said Lawler, who last month, said Maloney is full of baloney regarding his support for the so-called "Inflation Reduction Act."

"House Democrats passed the so-called 'Inflation Reduction Act' - a bill that will do nothing to combat inflation and instead raises taxes in the middle of a recession," said Lawler. "Not only that, but it fails to address the disastrous SALT situation for Hudson Valley residents, unleashes a tsunami of IRS auditors on working and middle-class families, imposes new fees that will result in higher energy costs, and causes our GDP to shrink over the course of the next decade."

"The Inflation Reduction Act and Sean Patrick Maloney are both full of baloney and bad for the taxpayers of New York," continued Lawler. "At least voters can replace one of them at the ballot box this November."

RealClearPolitics rates NY-17 as a "Toss-Up" in November's General Election, and Republican House Leader Kevin McCarthy said, "Assemblyman Mike Lawler is a smart, energetic leader who works day and night to make New York safer and more affordable for his constituents. He has not only earned my personal support in this race, but he's also been designated as 'On the Radar' by the National Republican Congressional Committee's (NRCC) 'Young Guns' program. Make no mistake about it: Mike Lawler will win in November and help us take back the majority."

Lawler also criticized Maloney in his role as DCCC Chair to attempt to nominate far right republicans in their primary races across the country. "New Yorkers are trying to put food on the table, and Sean Patrick Maloney is running around the country playing political games," Assemblyman Lawler said. "Families I speak with in the Hudson Valley want relief — from crime, taxes, and rising food and gas prices — and Mr. Maloney doesn't seem to care about their needs at all. For him, it's all about reelecting Nancy Pelosi as Speaker, Joe Biden as President in 2024, and himself as DCCC chairman."

"New Yorkers deserve representatives who show up for work, not a celebrity congressman. When we needed public safety, he gave us cashless bail. When we needed tax relief, he raised taxes. When inflation began eating up household budgets, Maloney, Pelosi, and Biden raised middle class taxes and spent hundreds of billions more, guaranteeing higher inflation."

"I actually talk to my neighbors, and more importantly, I listen to them: Here's what they say: Prices at the pump and at the supermarket are killing us; We need the SALT tax reversed; cashless bail overturned, and police budgets re-funded; We need solutions in Washington, not endless partisanship and progressive madness, and We want our children educated, not brainwashed," said Lawler, who lives in Pearl River.

Westchester republicans also nominated Miriam Levitt Flisser, the former Mayor of Scarsdale, to run in the 16th Congressional District against Rep. Jamaal Bowman. While some in Westchester claim that this race might be closer than some think, we will take a look at Flisser's campaign in the upcoming weeks to see if it is real.

The other race that many republicans in Westchester point to is the race for Assembly in the 90th District, in Yonkers. Democratic Assemblyman Nader Sayegh is being challenged by Yonkers City Councilman Mike Breen. The race is being called "the battle of the nice guys" because of both men's friendly demeanor, but a Yonkers republican told us, "it could go negative quickly, and if the red wave ever extends into Westchester, look out."

Westchester Leads All NYS Counties in Using Federal Rescue Plan to Prevent Homelessness

WESTCHESTER LEADS ALL NYS COUNTIES IN USING FEDERAL RESCUE PLAN PROGRAM TO PREVENT HOMELESSNESS

Westchester County is leading all counties in New York in using a new American Rescue Plan program to keep our most vulnerable families and individuals from homelessness. Westchester has helped nearly 200 individuals and families find leases for permanent homes through the federal Emergency Housing Voucher program. That's more than any other county in the state, including all of New York City. Since the program got underway last November, 195 Westchester households have moved in to permanent housing or are scheduled to move in by September 1.

County Executive George Latimer said: "When the COVID pandemic hit, we had grave concerns about its impact on people being able to stay in their homes, especially those who are most vulnerable. By staying ahead of the curve and using all available resources to keep people from homelessness, we're not only preventing human tragedy for those individuals and families, but we're reducing the social and economic costs of homelessness for everyone in Westchester."

Westchester
GOV.COM

George Latimer
Westchester County Executive

With more than one million people collectively calling Westchester County home, County Executive George Latimer is proving his commitment to the availability and opportunity for affordable housing. Since the start of Latimer's administration in 2018, more than 4,700 affordable housing units have been built, went under construction or are in the pipeline. Through new construction and redevelopment, homes to buy or apartments to rent, and a designated number of affordable units for seniors, Latimer is ensuring affordable housing is available to everyone, in nearly every town and village in Westchester.

Latimer said: "We want Westchester County to be home to anyone who wishes to join us here, and providing affordable housing opportunities is a big part of that. In County government, it is our job to make sure that housing is available, that it is fair and accessible to everyone, and that it is at a price point that everyone can afford. This is about filling a critical need that people have, and we are helping Westchester's families when we can get them into decent housing that they can afford."

Latimer has allocated millions of dollars in the budget each year to develop and rehabilitate affordable housing units. A combined total of \$50M that was allocated in the 2022 Capital Budget represents the largest single year commitment to affordable housing in the County's history.

Latimer also recently reviewed the efforts that Westchester County government has made to prevent homelessness.

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Westchester's success is a result of diligent advanced planning by the County's Department of Social Services and the County's partner in the program, Westhab. And the County's proactive response to processing applications has put Westchester in a position to help even more people than anticipated as additional federal application slots become available. There are currently 76 additional referrals completed on the waitlist just in case more applications become available.

Department of Social Services Commissioner Leonard G. Townes said: "When we got word that this program was being discussed in Congress, we didn't wait. Even before it was passed we had selected a partner, began developing criteria for those who might qualify, and worked to identify people who could be helped by the program as well as landlords who would be interested in leases. When final approvals came, we were able to hit the ground running. This is a program that focuses on people most at risk of homelessness and in need of safe, stable homes like domestic violence survivors. For them, time is of the essence, and so it was for us as well."

Latimer said: "In the end, government programs are only as good as our ability to execute on them. I want to thank Commissioner Townes and the staff at DSS and Westhab for their example of proactive leadership in leveraging federal funds to help County residents most in need of help."

The Emergency Housing Voucher (EHV) program is available through the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA). It focuses on individuals and families who are homeless, at-risk of homelessness, fleeing, or attempting to flee, domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, stalking, or human trafficking, or were recently homeless or have a high risk of housing instability. Participants live in housing of their choice while paying approximately 30 percent of their monthly income on rent. The remaining rent is paid directly to landlords through the voucher program, which protects landlords by ensuring payment of that portion of the rent.

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FINANCING AVAILABLE WITH APPROVED CREDIT

MGM-Empire City Casino Presents \$100K in Grants to Local Westchester Non-Profits



Eight area nonprofits benefit from MGM Resorts employee and guest-driven Community Grants Program

Empire City Casino by MGM Resorts (“Empire City”) donated \$102,000 to eight local nonprofit organizations through multiple grant funding opportunities. Grants were distributed to organizations providing services in the core MGM Resorts philanthropy areas. These areas include food insecurity programs that provide access to nutritious meals, educational programs that support academic success, workforce development initiatives providing educational and training programs to prepare individuals for sustainable career opportunities and a new initiative this year, the homelessness initiative, to support organizations making an impact in combating homelessness in our surrounding communities.

“Our company, employees and guests alike strongly believe in giving back to our communities,” said Ed Domingo, Vice President and General Manager at Empire City. “All eight grant recipients provide crucial resources and programming to Bronx and Westchester residents and we’re incredibly proud to support their efforts.”

This year’s grant recipients include Catholic Charities of the Archdiocese of New York (“Catholic Charities”) which received \$10,000 to fund a mobile food pantry targeting area food deserts, Yonkers Family YMCA which will utilize their \$10,000 grant to expand their hot meals programs, and Feeding Westchester which also received \$10,000 to expand their food recovery initiatives. All organizations fight food insecurity in the City of Yonkers and throughout Westchester County. United Way of Westchester & Putnam (UWWP) received two grants to support education initiatives. Their Education United Program and Summer Learning Program received a \$10,000 grant to provide educational materials such as backpacks, school supplies and nutrition education to low-income and academically at-risk youth and families in Yonkers and Mount Vernon. UWWP received a second grant of \$12,000 to launch a new program that focuses on youth violence prevention and mental health awareness.

In the area of workforce development, a grant directed to Greyston Foundation of \$10,000 will support their Workforce Education and Training Program, which provides occupational courses designed to place individuals in permanent jobs within high-demand sectors. A second \$10,000 grant was awarded to Catholic Charities to support their workforce development programs in Yonkers. An additional \$10,000 workforce development grant was awarded to VISIONS/Services for the Blind and Visually Impaired, a nonprofit provider of free services for visually impaired individuals and their families.

“VISIONS is thrilled to be selected as a grant recipient,” said Nancy D. Miller, VISIONS/Services for the Blind and Visually Impaired Executive Director/CEO. “The casino’s support enables blind youth to achieve their work readiness and employment goals. They’re helping increase the number of working blind people above the current 40% employment rate for blind job seekers, compared to nearly double the number who are sighted and working. Thank you Empire City Casino for making such a major difference in the lives of blind New Yorkers.”

Through a new initiative, guests had the opportunity to direct change from winning vouchers to the MGM Resorts Foundation to fund grants for local nonprofits focused on homelessness efforts. BronxWorks received a \$10,000 grant to support workforce development programs focused on currently unhoused individuals. The Guidance Center of Westchester, which helps individuals find permanent housing, received a \$10,000 grant which will support furnishing apartments for individuals receiving services in their programs.

To learn more, please visit <https://empirecitycasino.mgmresorts.com/en/about-us/community-engagement.html>

Latimer, County Government Announces Inflation Busting Measure to Help Residents

Bee Line Bus Ridership Up 30% Due to Free Summer Fares

Whether you were traveling for work, play or a summer beach day – Westchester County residents enjoyed free rides on the Bee-Line Bus this summer from June 1 through Labor Day. The free fares program was valid on all buses in the fixed route bus system including the express route into Manhattan, and the Bee-Line Para-Transit System. Bee-Line bus ridership soared this summer, up approximately 20% on weekdays and 45% on weekends compared to levels in May 2022. Residents who normally purchase a 30-day unlimited MetroCard, saved nearly \$400 this summer. Thousands of residents participated in the free rides program, which will conclude on September 6.

Westchester County Executive George Latimer said: “Every dollar counts. In Westchester County, we are working hard to combat rising costs by finding new and innovative ways to provide relief. This summer, we wanted to give people a reason to ride the Bee-Line bus, but more importantly, we want to provide an opportunity for our residents to save some money. While our free fare program may be coming to an end, we have a robust number of cost-saving programs we are rolling out now for residents to take advantage of this fall and winter.”

Free fares on the Bee-Line Bus are part of a larger program Latimer created to address inflation, including free admittance to Westchester County’s pools and beaches on certain days, and free commuter parking at the North White Plains Commuter lot, and the County Center parking lot from July 1 through August 31.

The fall and winter additional cost-saving programs Westchester County residents can participate in are as follows:

Lowering the Sales Tax on Residential Energy

Latimer has proposed lowering or eliminating the sales tax on residential energy on a quarterly basis, from December 1, 2022 – February 28, 2023. The sales tax elimination covers home heating oil, propane, natural gas, electric, coal and wood for residential heating purposes. It covers homeowners as well as rental units, and landlords/renters will be eligible depending on the structure of the unit’s heat and electric use.

Civil Service Exams: Westchester County is waiving the fees for Civil Service Exams through December 31.

Zero Tuition Increase at SUNY Westchester Community College

Together with SUNY Westchester Community College Trustees and the Westchester County Board of Legislators earlier this summer Latimer announced WCC will be holding the line on tuition for the 2022-2023 school year. The flat tuition reflects ongoing challenges faced by students and families who are struggling with rising costs due to inflation, and uncertainty surrounding the COVID-19 pandemic. Annual full-time credit-student tuition is \$4,730 – the lowest tuition among colleges in the region.

Feeding Westchester and Food Pantry Funding

Latimer has increased funding to Feeding Westchester by \$700,000. This doubles what was included in the 2022 budget, and covers the increased cost of food and fuel. Feeding Westchester has experienced an increase this year of \$0.71 per pound across the foods they provide, compared to \$0.60 per pound last year. Feeding Westchester is also seeing an 18% year over year increase in food costs.

Purchase College Announces Fall 2022 Durst Lecture Series

Purchase College, SUNY is pleased to announce that Nobel Prize-winning poet and essayist Louise Glück has been selected to serve as the Fall 2022 Roy and Shirley Durst Distinguished Chair in Literature. She will offer a reading and conversation on Wednesday, September 21 at 6pm. Later in the semester she will be in conversation with Professor Monica Ferrell via Zoom on Thursday, November 10 at 7pm.

Glück’s appearances will serve as the centerpiece of the fall’s Durst Distinguished Lecture Series, which brings renowned writers to the Westchester community. Other highlighted events in the series include a reading and conversation with Hernan Diaz on Thursday October 6 at 6pm and a conversation between Reginald Dwayne Betts and Nicholas Dawidoff on Thursday, November 3 at 6pm.

All events are free and open to the public. Registration is required. Event details, including registration and location, can be found at purchase.edu/durst.

A Reading and Conversation, with Louise Glück, Wednesday, September 21, 6:00 PM – 7:00 PM.

Louise Glück, winner of the 2020 Nobel Prize in Literature, is the author of two collections of essays and thirteen books of poems, including most recently Winter Recipes from the Collective (2021). Her many awards include the National Humanities Medal, the Pulitzer Prize for The Wild Iris, the National Book Award for Faithful and Virtuous Night, the National Book Critics Circle Award for The Triumph of Achilles, the Bollingen Prize for Poetry, the Los Angeles Times Book Prize for Poems 1962-2012, and the Wallace Stevens Award from the Academy of American Poets. She teaches at Yale University and Stanford University and lives in Cambridge, Massachusetts.

Hernan Diaz, A Reading and Conversation, Thursday, October 6, 6 – 7 PM.

Hernan Diaz is the author of two novels: In the Distance (2017), a finalist for the Pulitzer Prize for Fiction and PEN/Faulkner Award and winner of the Saroyan International Prize, the Cabell Award, the Prix Page America, and the New American Voices Award, among other distinctions; and Trust (2022), which was recently long-listed for the Booker Prize. He holds a PhD from NYU, edits an academic journal at Columbia University, and is the author of Borges, Between History of Eternity.

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Classifieds

NYAG, CVS, Walgreens continued from pg 1-

Antiques and Collectibles

ANTIQUA LOVERS TAKE NOTE! BRIMFIELD IS HERE – ALL SHOWS! September 6-11, New shows open daily! BrimfieldAntiqueFleaMarket.com. 2023 Show Dates: May 9-14, July 11-16, September 5-10

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TOWN OF EASTCHESTER EASTCHESTER/TUCKAHOE SCHOOL TAXES

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT I HAVE THIS DAY RECEIVED THE WARRANT TO COLLECT THE SCHOOL TAXES FOR 2022-2023 FOR FISCAL YEAR JULY 1, 2022 TO JUNE 30, 2023 EASTCHESTER UNION FREE SCHOOL DISTRICT TUCKAHOE UNION FREE SCHOOL DISTRICT AT MY OFFICE Town Hall, 40 Mill Road, Eastchester, N.Y. OFFICE HOURS 8:30 A.M. TO 4:30 P.M OFFICE CLOSED ON SATURDAYS

TAXES DUE SEPTEMBER 1, 2022

TO AVOID PENALTY, the first half must be received by Sept. 30, 2022. The second half school taxes are payable by January 31, 2023.

IMPORTANT: Official U.S. Postal Service postmarks are accepted to secure a penalty-free payment if postmarked on or before the due date. FedEx UPS, and DHL mailed to 40 Mill Road, Eastchester can also be accepted as timely if showing a mailing on or before the due date. However, metered mail postmarks (such as Pitney-Bowes or Quadiant/Neopost, for example) are NOT acceptable for this purpose under the NYS Real Property Tax Law (RPTL), and neither are foreign postmarks. An envelope without any postmark-- or an illegible postmark-- is deemed under the law to have been made on the date of delivery to the collecting officer. If the due date is not met, the following Penalties prescribed by tax law for deferred payment apply:

Rates of Penalties SECTION 550-A WESTCHESTER COUNTY TAX LAW PENALTY SCHEDULE

	First Half Due Sept 1st	Second Half Due Jan 1st
During SEPTEMBER (Taxes payable without penalty on or before September 30, 2022)	NONE	-
During OCTOBER	2 Percent	-
During NOVEMBER	5 Percent	-
During DECEMBER & JANUARY	7 Percent	-
During FEBRUARY and MARCH	10 Percent	10 Percent
During APRIL	12 Percent	12 Percent
During MAY	13 Percent	13 Percent
During JUNE	14 Percent	14 Percent

July 1st-2023, Delinquent taxes will be filed with the Westchester County Clerk's Office. In addition, 1% per month thereafter until completion of IN-REM foreclosure. ROCCO N. CACCIOLA RECEIVER OF TAXES Dated August 22, 2022

Information about their refusal policies, which Walgreens has stated allows pharmacists to step away from filing a prescription for which they have a moral objection. It appears that the policy, in practice, may infringe upon New Yorkers' rights. Attorney General James is also requesting that Walgreens and CVS provide more information about:

The amount of time that CVS and Walgreens consider "timely" in fulfilling a prescription or completing a sales transaction where there has been a refusal, and all complaints concerning CVS and Walgreens refusals at New York locations for the past six years. In July, Attorney General James sued CVS for violating antitrust laws and hurting New York safety net hospitals and clinics that provide care for underserved communities across the state. CVS required New York safety net hospitals and clinics to exclusively use a CVS-owned company, Wellpartner, to process and obtain federal subsidies on prescriptions filled at CVS pharmacies. CVS's scheme forced safety net health care providers to incur millions in additional costs, while CVS continued to benefit through its subsidiary. The lawsuit alleges that CVS's unfair business practice deprived safety net hospitals and clinics of critical federal funding that could have been used to improve and expand patient care.

"CVS's actions are a clear example of a large corporation using its clout and power to take advantage of institutions and vulnerable New Yorkers, but my office will not allow it. We are taking action to stop CVS's harmful practices and recoup critical funds to improve health care for our communities. When powerful corporations undermine the health and wellbeing of vulnerable communities in New York, they can expect to hear from my office." For years, CVS did not allow New York safety net hospitals and clinics to use the company of their choice to obtain subsidies on prescriptions filled at CVS pharmacies through the 340B federal program. This program allows safety net hospitals and clinics to purchase certain drugs at a discount from pharmaceutical companies and use the savings for patient care. To realize the benefits of the 340B program, safety net hospitals and clinics must contract with the pharmacies that are used by their patients. Under the CVS scheme, thousands of safety net health care providers across the state were only allowed to use Wellpartner to process claims filled at CVS retail and specialty pharmacies.

The lawsuit alleges that New York patients were the ultimate victims of CVS's unfair practice, which siphoned off critical federal funding from safety net health care providers that could have used the funds to improve access to health care for the neediest New Yorkers — including New Yorkers without health insurance or an ability to pay for health care.

Forgotten Vice-President, continued from pg 3-

Wallace would ask Folk Singer Pete Seeger, "Are you an American? Am I in America?" as the two campaigned across the southern states, and at the end of each day Wallace would ask for what came to be known as the campaigns theme song of sorts. "Passing Through": "I was at Franklin Roosevelt's side, / Just a while before he died, / 'One world must come out of World War Two.'

The same people that Wallace fought to get civil and equal rights for voted for Truman. Wallace received 1 million votes, 2.4% of the vote and finished fourth, behind Truman, Dewey, and segregationist Strom Thurmond.

After 1948, Wallace faded away from political life. Henry and Ilo Wallace bought Farvue Farm, in South Salem, 1946. They made some restorations to the century-old farmhouse and settled into the slower-paced life of South Salem. Henry's real passion in life was the betterment of the world through agriculture. On his beloved Farvue Farm he experimented with chickens and strawberries.

He sought the "perfect" chicken — one that could be raised for its meat and its egg-laying ability. An enormous chicken house became one of the landmarks of the 100-acre farm.

Another pet project of Henry's was the perfection of a strawberry cross between a common berry like the Ozark and the delicate French wild strawberry, a cross that would provide a commercial berry that also tasted good and could be shipped long distances.

Thirty years earlier, in 1922, Henry Wallace was working to increase the quality of corn crops by crossbreeding and inbreeding. Working with a Chinese strain and one supplied by the plant geneticist Donald Jones, Wallace developed what became the first commercially successful hybrid corn, which he turned into Pioneer Hi-Bred, a hybrid-seed company.

Vice President Wallace loved his years in South Salem, where he died in 1965. He was frequently seen in and around town and helped raise funds and contribute to the South Salem library and fire department. He was a true man of the people, a regular guy if any vice president could be. He was also a man of Christian faith.

The Wallace family has kept Farvue Farm as it was 70 years ago, and it remains a 100-acre piece of private green space. Not open to the public, the farm, managed by caretakers, grows some vegetables and trees for sale, but primarily stands as an unofficial museum to a great American, and Westchester resident.

Henry Wallace's history as a progressive democrat 75 years ago should be examined and highlighted more by progressive democrats of today. A great politician, agriculturalist, economist, author, and businessman, Henry Wallace, most of all was a great American.

Henry Wallace deserves his proper place in American history. Perhaps we can get the Wallace family, or someone else, to create a Henry Wallace Center for Progressive studies at Farvue Farm. He was, after all, one of our most famous Westchester residents.

Notice of Formation of Ari Cleanse and Glow LLC. Arts. of Org. filed with SSNY on 7/12/2022. Office location: Westchester County. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process may be served. SSNY shall mail process to Ari Cleanse and Glow 414 s 3rd Avenue, Mount Vernon NY 10550. Purpose: any lawful act or activity.

Notice of Formation of INNER THEIA LLC. Arts. of Org. filed with SSNY on 03/01/2022. Office location: Westchester County. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process may be served. SSNY shall mail process to Inner Theia LLC at 5 Aspen Road, Scarsdale NY 10581. Purpose: any lawful act or activity.

Notice of formation of Advent Ecom LLC. Arts. of Org. filed with the SSNY on 6/17/2022. Office: Westchester County. LEGALINC CORPORATE SERVICES INC. designated as agent of the LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail copy of process to LEGALINC CORPORATE SERVICES INC. at 1967 Wehrle Drive, Suite 1 #086, Buffalo, NY 14221. Purpose: Any lawful purpose

Notice of Formation of LAYBRIGHT LLC. Arts. of Org. filed with the SSNY on 07/10/2022. Office: Westchester County. SSNY designated as agent of the LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail copy of process to the LLC, 75 South Broadway, 4th Floor, White Plains, NY 10601. Purpose: Any lawful purpose.

Notice of Formation of Designs by Isa, LLC. Arts. of Org. filed with the SSNY on 8/2/2022. Office: Westchester County. SSNY designated as agent of the LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail copy of process to the LLC, 1529 Hanover Street, Yorktown Heights, NY 10598. Purpose: Any lawful activity.

Notice of Formation of Law Office of Ellen Cho, PLLC (PLLC). Articles of Organization filed with Secretary of State of New York (SSNY) on 12/17/21. Office location: Westchester County. SSNY is designated as agent of PLLC upon whom process may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: 50 Lincoln Avenue, Hastings on Hudson, NY 10706. Purpose: any lawful act or activity.

Halo Consulting Solutions LLC filed with the SSNY on 03/24/22. Office: Westchester County. Registered Agent Inc. designated as agent of the LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail copy of process to 27 Edgewold Rd. STE100, White Plains, NY 10607. Purpose: Any lawful purpose.

Application for Authority of 17 Valerie Drive, LLC filed with the Secy. of State of NY (SSNY) 8/8/2022. Formed in FL 8/5/2022. Office loc.: Westchester County. SSNY is designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. The principal business loc. and address SSNY shall mail copy of process is 5204 Europa Dr., Apt. L, Boynton Beach, FL 33437. Arts. of Organization filed with the Secy. of State, R.A. Gray Bldg., 500 S. Bronough St., Tallahassee, FL 32399. Purpose: Any lawful activity.

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Christella "Showtime" Cepeda Brings Golden Gloves Belt to Westchester: Are the Olympics Next?



National Golden Gloves Champ Christella Cepeda, with Coach John Morrison

By Dan Murphy

Congratulations to Christella Cepeda, a Yonkers native and graduate of Saunders High School, for her recent victory in the National Golden Gloves boxing championship held in Tulsa, Oklahoma. Cepeda, won four fights in a row to win the Golden Gloves National Championship (139 lbs.). The final match, against Texas state champion Briana Carrera, was tough but as Christella tells us "I jabbed her so many times, my arms were tired after for days."

The first match in Tulsa for Cepeda was a RSC (Referee Stops Contest) after having the ref come in to give four standing 8 counts to her opponent, after a few right hands and another few hooks.

Most of us boxing fans have heard about the Golden Gloves, which is now called Ringmaster in New York State. Cepeda won the NY State Ringmaster in her weight class to move onto Tulsa. She has fought before other New York State Ringmaster events, but recently she took a couple of years away from boxing during COVID.

But her boxing career is a true Yonkers success story. I came into the YMCA with my sister years ago. We heard about a boxing program being offered. My sister didn't stay with it, but I loved it. At the Yonkers Y, Christella met Boxing Coach John Morrison, and the two have trained together ever since. Now 28, Cepeda started boxing with Johnson when she was 16.

"She has a real talent for boxing, and she works hard. Two months after she came in, she had her first fight. Usually it takes 6 months, but she stood out. I saw right away how gifted and talented she was," said Morrison, who plans on opening a boxing gym called Knockouts, at 29 South Broadway, next month.

"After she won the NY Ringmaster, we felt good about going out to Tulsa for the national golden gloves, but we had no idea about her competition. Her second fight was a split decision and so was the last fight. It was close but she's the champ now," said Morrison.

Coach Morrison explained that the winner of the national golden gloves usually competes in the Olympic trials, to get a chance to represent the USA and go for the gold. The trials are in December. "She has a great shot at the Olympics. I believe that she can do whatever she sets her mind to. She has the determination, and when she gets in the ring, she becomes 'Showtime', her nickname."

"I'm proud of her ups and downs, we had a lot of fights that she won, but got robbed by the judges. But she kept working and now, seeing her dreams become a reality, is a great thing," said Morrison. "She is paving the way for other young kids in Yonkers. She is going to put Yonkers on the map for boxing."

Christella said that she is enjoying her recent championship and still has to decide about her future. She could try for the Olympics, or turn professional, or take some time off. "We are still trying to figure all of that out," said Cepeda, a graduate of Saunders High School and a lifelong Yonkers resident, born and raised and she still lives here today. "I'm proud to be from Yonkers and bring the belt back to my city. I hope to have a positive effect on kids, and maybe they will see what I did and think that they can do it."

Volunteer Westchester to Register for the 12th Annual 9/11: Serve + Remember Day of Service



County Executive George Latimer, center, Deputy County Executive Ken Jenkins, 2nd right, with volunteers and leaders of the Day of Service

In honor of those whose lives were lost or forever changed by the tragic events of September 11, 2001, Volunteer New York! and Westchester County Executive George Latimer have joined to present, along with support from Major Sponsor Robison Oil, our community's 12th annual "9/11: Serve + Remember" region-wide day of service that will take place on Saturday, September 10 and Sunday, September 11.

Through volunteering alongside our neighbors, we can build more equitable and just communities that advance racial equity, create opportunity, and foster respect for individual differences. This year's 9/11 Day volunteer opportunities will address a range of local needs, from supporting food pantries and hunger insecurity to community garden harvesting, outdoor clean-ups, nonprofit painting and revitalization projects, making blankets for children in hospitals, writing cards for our troops overseas, and more. For further info visit volunteernewyork.org/service or call 914-948-4452.

Latimer said: "Each year, Volunteer New York! takes to heart the notion that we must use this day of sorrow as motivation to better our collective tomorrows. We are once again honored to partner with this great organization as we serve and remember – and encourage all Westchester residents to do the same."

As it has been nearly 21 years since our nation was changed forever, an entire generation of young adults have been born and raised in the shadow of 9/11. Those of us who remember that day remain steeled by the resolve all Americans demonstrated in its aftermath. Including the thousands of local volunteers over the last 12 years who have served as part of 9/11: Serve + Remember. Local students and families are encouraged to participate this 9/11 Day and volunteer together as a way to instill a deeper connection to service and the significance of 9/11 for those born after 2001.

"The more years that pass, the more imperative it is we work even harder to rekindle the spirit of unity and service that arose in the aftermath of the tragic attacks of September 11. It's a day of tribute to those we lost, and the countless sacrifices made," said Volunteer New York! Executive Director, Jeanette Gisbert. "This year we have made sure people of all ages and abilities will find meaningful ways to serve. What act of kindness will you do this 9/11 Day?"

TO TAKE ACTION:

Online registration is now open for individuals, groups, schools, and families at serveandremember.org to sign up for one of over 25 family-friendly #911Day volunteer opportunities. Advanced registration is required to participate.

Projects on September 10 will be located on-site at various nonprofits throughout our region. Projects on September 11 will take place at only one of two volunteer hubs: Iona University in New Rochelle and the Shames JCC in Tarrytown.

For a complete listing of volunteer opportunities, visit

www.serveandremember.org, or www.volunteernewyork.org/service

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