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Friday April 30, 2021

## The Billionaire Next Door: Meet Westchester's Wealthiest Residents



David Siegel



Thomas Secunda

By Dan Murphy

The 1996 book, *The Millionaire Next Door*, by William Danko, tells the story about how your next door neighbor might have great wealth, due in part because they live unassuming lives and by not spending lavishly.

According to *Forbes Magazine*, and their *Forbes 35th Annual World's Billionaires List*, by Kerry Dolan, 10 Billionaires call Westchester County home.

Two live in Rye, and one each in Mt. Kisco, Katonah, Scarsdale, Croton on Hudson, Yorktown, Larchmont, Tarrytown and Bedford.

Westchester's #1 Billionaire is David Siegel, Two Sigma Investments, \$6.5 billion, Scarsdale. Siegel, 59, is the co-founder of Two Sigma Investments, a Hedge Fund with \$60 Billion in assets. Siegel got a computer science Ph.D. from MIT.

#2-Thomas Secunda, Bloomberg LP, \$3.5 billion, Croton-on-Hudson. Secunda, 66, is a co-founder of financial services and media company Bloomberg LP.

Together with Michael Bloomberg, Secunda help build the companies terminal business, which continues to be Wall Street's top seller and accounts for 80% of the companies revenues.

**David Gottesman, First Manhattan Co., \$2.8 billion, Rye.** David "Sandy" Gottesman's made his fortune by becoming an early investor in Berkshire Hathaway, Warren Buffet's company. He is the founder of the investment firm First Manhattan Co., which has \$20 Billion in assets.

**Jeffrey Talpins, Element Capital Management, \$2.1 billion, Larchmont.** Jeffrey Talpins, 46, manages the hedge fund Element Capital Management, with \$17 billion in assets. Talpin is one of the young traders on Wall Street who has worked for Citigroup and Goldman Sachs, has a diversified port-

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## Divided County Board OK's Playland Settlement: Four Democrats Vote No



Playland's historic Dragon Coaster

**"Public parks don't have to make money."  
-Legislator Damon Maher**

By Dan Murphy

On April 12, The Westchester County Board of Legislators, by a vote of 13-4, approved a bankruptcy court settlement with Standard Amusements over the future management of Playland, the county owned, and taxpayer funded amusement park.

Five years ago, former County Executive Rob Astorino proposed a public private partnership for Playland. Standard Amusements was chosen to be the manager-operator in 2015, but lawsuits and a bankruptcy filing by Standard stretched out the transfer of power.

The current County Executive, George Latimer, elected in 2017, sought ways to get Westchester County out of the Playland agreement with

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## Political Shenanigans are Back for Westchester Elections in 2021



Gregory Cannata

By Dan Murphy

A Mount Vernon lawyer who is chair of the city Board of Ethics and had hoped to make a Democratic primary run for City Council in June has been arrested and charged with attempted coercion after threatening a political opponent who challenged signatures on his nominating petitions.

Gregory Cannata was arraigned on the misdemeanor attempted coercion charge on April 20 in Mount Vernon City Court and pled not guilty.

The complaint outlined a range of actions taken by Cannata against Council Member Janice Duarte after her campaign challenged signatures on Cannata's nominating petitions for the June 22 City Council Democratic primary. The Westchester Board of Elections ultimately determined that Cannata's petitions did not have the required number of valid signatures, and he will therefore not appear on the ballot.

"Politics is politics, but, as charged, Mr. Cannata's threats against Ms. Duarte crossed the line from competitive to criminal under New York's coercion statute when he tried to intimidate her to drop legally permissible challenges to signatures on his nominating petitions," said Westchester DA Miriam E. Rocah. "Mr. Cannata could have availed himself of a legal process to object to those challenges, but instead he turned to threats and

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## County Clerk Candidate Shanae Williams Condemns 2019 Pay Raises for Idoni & BOL



Yonkers Councilmember and County Clerk candidate Shanae Williams

By Dan Murphy

If there's one thing that taxpayers rarely, if ever, support, its elected officials voting themselves a pay hike. Yonkers City Councilwoman and Westchester County Clerk candidate Shanae Williams reminded democrats and progressives of a county budget deal in 2019 that raised salaries for many of Westchester County governments top employees, including County Clerk Tim Idoni, the person that Williams hopes to defeat in a democratic primary June 22.

Idoni's salary jumped from \$153,000 to \$195,000 after the budget agreement, which called for the County Sales tax to be increased by 1% in exchange for salary increases for members of the County Legislature, and most top county officials and their staff. County Executive George Latimer did not take the pay hike.

"These pay increases were irresponsible in 2019 and are utterly unacceptable in light of the financial crunch caused by the COVID-19 pandemic immediately after they were enacted," said Williams. "I do not understand how elected officials can look taxpayers in the eye while raising taxes and simultaneously granting themselves a massive pay raise. The last year has caused countless families and businesses in our county to struggle, and although I have heard the justification for the pay raises, I believe that public servants must be exactly that, and demonstrate leadership by making sacrifices for the public good. There is absolutely no justification

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## Another Million Dollar Fentanyl Bust in Westchester



### 25,000 Fentanyl pills and 38 Kilos were taken off the streets

Several million dollars' worth of opiates and other narcotics, including what is alleged to be fentanyl, was seized last week in Mount Vernon following a joint investigation by the U.S. Drug Enforcement Administration's (DEA) New York Drug Enforcement Task Force (NYDETF), New Jersey State Police and the Westchester District Attorney's Office, DA Miriam E. Rocah said today.

Approximately 25,000 pills alleged to be fentanyl, many marked "M30," and an estimated 38 kilograms of alleged narcotics including heroin, cocaine, and fentanyl were found packaged and ready for sale in an apartment in Mount Vernon. In a contemporaneous search warrant executed at a residence in Yonkers, an estimated \$35,000 in cash was seized. The substances have been sent to the DEA's Northeast Regional Laboratory for analysis.

An individual was arrested in New Jersey by New Jersey State Police in connection with the seized narcotics, and was charged in Mount Vernon with two counts of Criminal Possession of a Controlled Substance in the First Degree, pending extradition to Westchester.

DA Rocah said: "Drug overdoses and overdose deaths are plaguing Westchester and our region. We are committed to doing everything we can to get drugs off of our streets and out of our communities and to help fight opiate addiction. We are grateful for the hard work of the New York Drug Enforcement Task Force – including the DEA, NYPD and New York State Police – and the New Jersey State Police for helping us in this effort."

DEA Special Agent in Charge Ray Donovan said: "Two milligrams of fentanyl can cause death, and taking this large amount of fentanyl out of distribution has saved lives. This seizure is indicative of how traffickers are making street drugs highly potent and highly addictive by adding fentanyl. This is a warning that local traffickers vary methods of distribution, some selling only fentanyl and some selling mixtures of fentanyl and other drugs. Therefore, drug users beware, what you may think is one drug, is really laced with something more powerful and deadly."

New York State Police Acting Superintendent Kevin P. Bruen said: "The relentless work and collaborative efforts of law enforcement at all levels has resulted in the seizure of millions of dollars in deadly drugs and the removal of a dangerous criminal who threatened the safety and security of our neighborhoods. We have zero tolerance for those who sell these deadly, illegal drugs."

## LSHV Thanks State Lawmakers for Investing in Civil Legal Services



Front Row l. to r.: Assemblymember Sayegh, Assemblymember Burdick, Senate Majority Leader Andrea Stewart-Cousins, LSHV Board Vice President Fran Pantaleo, Senator Shelley Mayer, LSHV CEO Rachel Halperin; Back Row l. to r.: LSHV staff members Joanne Sirotkin, Alexandra Schweitzer, LSHV client Renee Campbell, LSHV Board members Paul Adler and Amber Juenegens, and Assemblymember Ken Zebrowski.

Legal Services of the Hudson Valley (LSHV), thanked State Lawmakers for their continued support in the recently passed State Budget and for recognizing the growing need for civil legal services in our communities.

Senate Majority Leader Andrea Stewart-Cousins joined LSHV to announce the over \$2.6 million allocated in various contracts throughout the Hudson Valley in the recently enacted State Budget to provide free civil legal services.

The list of NYS funding:  
 Disability Advocacy Project (DAP) – \$558,493  
 Homeowner Protection Program (HOPP) – \$642,000/year for three years  
 Legal Services Assistance Fund (LSAF) – \$151,667  
 AIDS Institute – \$288,305  
 OCFS Kinship Legal Project – \$92,400  
 Westchester Eviction Prevention and Kinship Project – \$400,000  
 Rockland Domestic Violence Project – \$90,000  
 Veterans and Military Families Project – \$380,000 (\$50,000 increase for Westchester/Putnam)

LSHV is grateful to the State lawmakers who have recognized the critical need for civil legal services. Rachel Halperin, CEO, LSHV thanked those present and stated: "Our representatives have a deep understanding of the important role civil legal services played during the pandemic and the essential role it will play in our region's recovery." This funding from the State comes at a critical time as we face mounting need and support families in recovering from the past year. COVID hit the most vulnerable among us the hardest. Rachel continued: "By funding Legal Services of the Hudson Valley, our elected officials have shown that equal access to justice is a cornerstone of our democracy and our society. It is a wise investment in our communities and it puts people first."

Senate Majority Leader Andrea Stewart-Cousins announced: "The COVID-19 pandemic has highlighted, more than ever before, the need for free legal services for low income residents. We thank the hardworking team of attorneys and staff at Legal Services for their commitment to ensuring more Hudson Valley residents have access to fair legal representation. The fund-

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## Westchester County Parks Prepare To Open: New Parks Pass Offered



Westchester County Parks are Beginning to Reopen for the 2021 Season. Beginning Memorial Day: Playland Beach will be open during weekends through June 25th, and will be open seven days a week after June 25th.

Croton Point Beach will be open during weekends through June 25th will be open Wednesday-Saturday after June 25th

Beginning June 25: Saxon Woods, Tibbets Brook, and Wilson Woods Parks will be open seven days a week

Playland Park will reopen to the public beginning June 26th, and will be open as follows: Wednesday to Sunday between 12:00 pm - 4:00 pm and 5:00 pm - 9:00 pm

The 2021 summer season will run from June 25th to Labor Day. Park reservations are recommended the day of, as park capacity will be 25%. Please note that Playland Pool will be closed for renovation until Summer 2022.

Westchester County has also launched a new park pass. With the same great benefits as before, the Westchester County Department of Parks, Recreation and Conservation has redesigned its classic park pass to improve branding and generate repeat business.

Park passes are now full color, feature the Parks' logo, and include a traditional credit card-sized pass as well as a smaller card that can be attached to a key chain. Both cards include a barcode, which identifies the user. While there is no photo on the card, the user's photo, account number and information will appear on screen when scanned at park entrances.

Park passes can be purchased at the following locations:

Blue Mountain Reservation, Cortlandt Manor

Croton Point Park, Croton-on-Hudson

Dunwoodie Golf Course, Yonkers

Hudson Hills Golf Course, Ossining

Maple Moor Golf Course, White Plains

Mohansic Golf Course, Yorktown Heights

Saxon Woods Golf Course, Scarsdale

Sprain Lake Golf Course, Yonkers

Ward Pound Ridge Reservation, Cross River

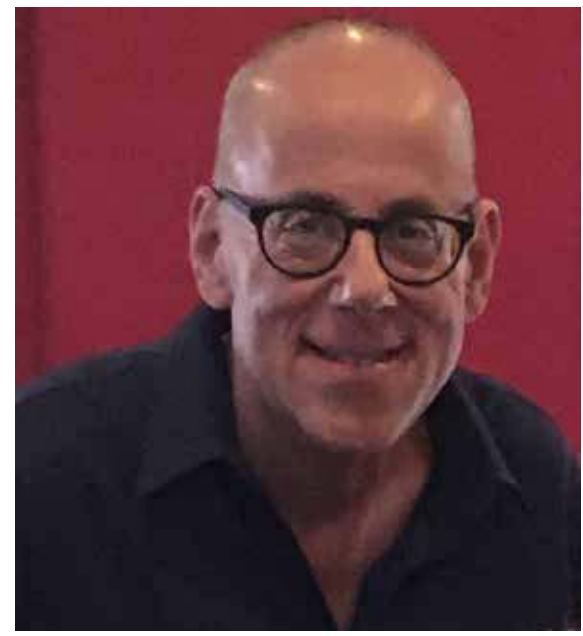
Westchester County Parks Department, Ardsley

Park passes are valid for three years and can be purchased for \$90 by Westchester County residents over the age of 18. Junior park passes are available for those age 12 to 17, for the same price, with additional rules surrounding guests. Senior citizen park passes for those over age 60 are valid for six years.

Westchester County park passes entitle holders access to the tennis courts at Tibbets Brook Park in Yonkers and all County pools and beaches. They also provide discounts for camping, boat launching, picnicking, golfing and parking where fees apply, except for at Playland.

Valid park passes will still be honored and should be replaced with the new card upon expiration. For more information, visit <https://parks.westchestergov.com/park-passes>.

## So Much to Chat About!



By Eric W. Schoen

There is so much going on in the news that we will explore this week. Some good, some bad, some truly sad!

Our country has come to the point where we have to screen members of Congress before they enter the House chamber? The No. 3 House Democratic leader, Rep. Jim Clyburn, has been fined \$5,000 after Capitol Police reported he avoided being screened before entering the House chamber, the House Ethics Committee said last Friday.

The 80 year old South Carolina congressman is serving his 15th term in the House. He is the first Democrat to be fined under security screening rules the House imposed this year after the violent Jan. 6 storming of the Capitol by supporters of then-President Donald Trump. Three Republicans have been fined, most recently Kentucky Rep. Harold Rogers, who is 83 and has also appealed. Clyburn's fine, which he is appealing is \$5000.

If our elected officials have to go through this screening, imagine the screening you and I will have to go through if we want to go to their respective offices and greet them or lobby them in person on issues important to us?

As we go to press, a Queens highway cop diverting traffic from a fatal Long Island Expressway crash was run down and killed early Tuesday by a drunken hit-and-run driver with a suspended license. NYPD Highway Officer Anastasios Tsakos, 43, was directing cars away from a single-car crash near Francis Lewis Blvd. in the eastbound lanes when he was struck "head on" by a passing red Volkswagen Passat.

By the way, the driver of the single-car crash also had a suspended license. One person in that car was killed. Do we really think that with the legalization of recreational marijuana things are going to get better on our roadways. Tsakos leaves behind a wife and 2 children. We pray for them.

People have been driving crazy on our roads particularly since the start of the pandemic. If you are doing the speed limit chances are you will be honked at by the driver behind you who will also flash their lights. With more people going back to work driving their cars this crazy behavior better stop or we are bound to see more senseless tragedy.

89 people short on the Census and New York will now lose a Congressional seat. This as a result of national population shifts according to census data released Monday. The loss might have been avoided if just a few dozen more people in the state had been counted!

New York's population grew by more than 4% over the past decade, according to the 2020 census figures, but that increase didn't keep pace with larger gains in other parts of the country. If just 89 more people had been counted in New York, and no other states counted more residents, it would have held on to all 27 of its current seats in congress, according to Kristin Koslap, senior technical expert for 2020 Census Apportionment.

According to the person who ran New York's Census operation, President Trump is to blame for closing down Census operations 2 weeks early and Governor Andrew Cuomo is also to blame for not providing promised funding for census operations. Well, here we go again! Another investigation! When does it stop?

Plenty of Covid vaccine and only 43% of Americans have received a dosage. And of those who received Pfizer and Moderna vaccines, 5 million people didn't go back for the second dose. Those in the know are saying that people are fearful of the supposed bad reactions that people have had to the second dose.

One dose will give you some coverage but you really need the two doses of Pfizer and Moderna and to wait two weeks until after your second dose to be fully covered. Didn't we see and hear of all those people who died when there was no vaccine available. And now because of the fear of a slight reaction that a friend of a friend had people are afraid to get fully vaccinated! Makes no sense to me.

By the way, 8 million people received the Johnson and Johnson vaccine before the pause which is now over. Of the 8 million people, 15 people developed the blood clotting conditions and 3 have died. According to the National Center for Health Statistics, the Death rate is 869.7 deaths per 100,000 population every year in our country. You don't want to see anyone die, but 3 out of 8 million is certainly not a reason why you shouldn't get the needle with the Johnson and Johnson vaccine in your arm! And with Johnson and Johnson you get 1 needle not two!

The Yonkers Office for the Aging (914-377-6822) and Scarsdale Am-

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## State DOT Begins Paving-Resurfacing on Five State Routes in Westchester



New York State Department of Transportation Commissioner Marie Therese Dominguez today announced that work is getting underway on a \$15.7 million project to resurface sections of four key roadways in Westchester County. The project will enhance safety and improve travel conditions on 11.5 miles of roadways that provide access to some of the county's busiest villages and town centers, as well as the Westchester County Airport and Interstate 287. Roadways to be resurfaced include State Route 9 in the villages of Tarrytown and Sleepy Hollow, State Route 22 and State Route 433 in the Town of North Castle, and State Route 120 in the Village of Harrison and Town of North Castle.

"As New York State recovers from the Covid-19 pandemic and more of our economy reopens, it's imperative that we keep investing in our roads and bridges to ensure they are ready to meet the demands of the 21st Century," Commissioner Dominguez said. "This project will enhance safety and improve driving conditions on some of the most important roadways in Westchester County, facilitating the smooth flow of people and goods for many years to come."

While preliminary work has already begun, resurfacing of the roadways will begin in July and employ the use of a reinforced asphalt overlay, which is a stronger and longer-lasting material than the existing surface. The project will also repair or upgrade shoulders, guide rails, basins, gutters, and curb ramps. Traffic signals will also be updated to enhance vehicle flow.

Consistent with Governor Cuomo's Drivers First initiative, the project has been planned to minimize impacts to traffic and adjacent communities. Paving operations will occur between 8 p.m. and 6 a.m. with periodic nighttime road closures.

The project is expected to be complete by late 2021. The paving projects include:

State Route 9 from State Route 119 in the Village of Tarrytown to College Avenue in the Village of Sleepy Hollow.

State Route 22 from Route 120 to Middle Patent Road in the Town of North Castle

State Route 433 from the Connecticut state line to State Route 22 in the Town of North Castle

State Route 120 from Lake Street in the Village of Harrison to the Greenwich American Centre in the Town of North Castle

State Route 120 from Westchester Avenue to Westerleigh Road in the Village of Harrison

Senator Majority Leader Andrea Stewart-Cousins said, "The New York State Senate Majority invested more than ever before in infrastructure in the budget to grow New York's competitiveness and build back better. This investment ensures that NYSDOT can perform more road resurfacing projects like these, to make roads safer. These projects are important to our local communities. No one wants to damage a vehicle or have an accident due to a pothole. We must continue to support investment in our roadways so we provide the infrastructure improvements critical to our local economies and quality of life."

Senator Shelly Mayer said, "I am so pleased that the State Department of Transportation is beginning this \$15.7 million project to resurface Westchester roads. I am particularly appreciative of these critical investments in State Routes 120 in Harrison and North Castle, State Routes 22 and 433 in North Castle. Each and every day, I hear from residents as they see and experience how important these investments are for their quality of life and the success of the economy."

Westchester County Executive George Latimer said, "These pavement resurfacing projects will serve as a boost to area residents and businesses who rely on the County and State's infrastructure for smooth passage each day. Maintaining our roads is a vital function of government – and one that can be seen every day. I look forward to seeing the completion of this project."

Motorists are urged to slow down and drive responsibly in work zones. Fines are doubled for speeding in a work zone. Convictions of two or more speeding violations in a work zone could result in the suspension of an individual's driver license. For up-to-date travel information, call 511, visit [www.511NY.org](http://www.511NY.org) or download the free 511NY mobile app.

## Village Lutheran Church Youth Collect Care Kits for Lutheran World Relief



Youth from Village Lutheran Church took part in a mission project during March to give back during the season of Lent. The youth group led by Village Lutheran Church's Associate Pastor Scott Geminn, collected supplies to create Personal Care Kits. The kits were then shipped to Lutheran World Relief and distributed to those in need around the world.

Over the past few weeks, church members and school families have donated specific items requested by Lutheran World Relief for the Personal Care Kits. These items include dark colored bath towels, 4-5 oz. bars of soap, adult toothbrushes, adult sturdy combs, and nail clippers. These simple gifts improve the standard of living for people around the world. Families at home assembled these kits as a way to show their Christian love for others around the world.

Fifty three kits were collected during the timeframe of the Mission Project. "This was a great mission project for the youth," stated Rev. Geminn. "They were able to shop with their families for the supplies, and personally create the kits."

The Village Lutheran Church Youth Program is about "Building our Future!" The VLC Youth Group welcomes all Voyager (3rd –6th Grade), Lifer (7th –8th grade) and Crusader (9th -12th grade) Youth and their focus is three-fold: explore faith, serve others, and have fun.

Village Lutheran Church & The Chapel School are located at 172 White Plains Road in Bronxville. More information is also available at the church's website [www.VLC-NY.ORG](http://www.VLC-NY.ORG) or the Lutheran World Relief website at [www.lwr.org](http://www.lwr.org).

### Political Shenanigans, continued from pg 1-

intimidation, which we believe amount to attempted coercion."

Cannata reached out to Duarte on April 9 regarding his objection to the petition challenges. He left her a voicemail stating "I just want you to understand that there – that there are consequences."

Later that same day, Duarte recorded a phone conversation with Cannata in which he stated that, if Duarte's campaign did not withdraw objections to signatures on his petitions, "it will be my singular focus between now and June 22nd to work against you individually." Cannata also said, "I am going to be ruthless with you. I will be sending out weekly emails, blasting you every chance I get," and "So if you want to take that risk then, you know, then, then, then proceed the way you're proceeding."

Following the phone conversation, Cannata sent to Duarte a sample of the email he intended to send to Mount Vernon voters, which was sharply critical of Duarte's actions while serving on the City Council. On April 11, Cannata sent a text message to Duarte stating that "the first letter will go out at 4:00 tomorrow if the objection is not withdrawn." Cannata did send the email the following day to registered Democrats in Mount Vernon.

Duarte told an investigator that she feared financial impacts from Cannata's actions, and was also concerned for her physical safety. The case was investigated by the Westchester DA's Office and is being prosecuted by Assistant District Attorney Cooper Gorrie.

A statement released by Mt. Vernon Forward, MVF, on the arrest of Gregory Cannata reads: "Once again, Mount Vernon has been touched by political scandal, this time in our own race for City Council. As a coalition dedicated to ending dirty politics and infighting in our city, the Mount Vernon Forward team condemns the tactics of threats and intimidation uncovered by the District Attorney. Although we are opponents in our primary, we stand in solidarity with our fellow Democratic colleague Councilwoman Duarte at this time. No one should be attacked by bullying and attempted intimidation. Mr. Cannata should resign immediately from the Board of Ethics. We call on all the candidates for public office in Mount Vernon to adhere to better ethical standards and to desist from attacks, false charges, threats and disinformation. We also thank District Attorney Rocah for her office's serious attention to this case, and to our city's elections. As we continue this campaign, we're recommitting to positive messages aimed at a better future for everyone," stated MVF, and council candidates Danielle Browne, Cathlin Gleason, and Ed Poteat.

Mt. Vernon isn't the only place where questionable political conduct has occurred in 2021. The Working Families Party in Westchester has been able to fight off several attempts to place non WFP candidates on their primary ballot. Westchester Demomcrate Chair Suzanne Berger commented on one of those attempts in the race for County Clerk.

In Yonkers, two city council races have included accusations of candidates knocking on doors of those who signed petitions verifying if the signatures were not forged, and in another council race, one candidate has accused her opponents of hiring an investigator to follow her around the district. And its only April!

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## Yonkers Police Make Arrest in Fatal Stabbing of Store Owner for Stealing a Baseball Hat



**Ruben Martinez-Campos**

On Tuesday, April 20th, 2021 at approximately 5:40 PM, members of the Yonkers Police Department responded to 240 New Main Street at the Premier Fashion clothing store on a report of a stabbing incident with the victim at scene and the suspect having fled on foot. First Responders located the male victim with apparent stab wounds to his chest and rendered medical aid; he was transported to a local area trauma center where he ultimately died of his injuries. The victim is identified as Ruben Martinez-Campos, a 47-year-old resident of New Main Street, Yonkers.

At the same time, police officers began canvassing for the suspect and cordoned-off the crime scene. A criminal investigation was initiated. Detectives from the Major Case Squad, Crime Scene Unit, and Digital Forensics Unit responded to the scene to interview subjects and witnesses, process physical evidence, and recover surveillance video.

Investigation has yielded that the male suspect was involved in a physical altercation on New Main Street with a local cab driver; the suspect then entered the Premier Fashion clothing store and allegedly attempted to steal a baseball cap; he was then approached by the store owner who attempted to stop him; an altercation ensued outside the store on New Main Street when the suspect allegedly stabbed the store owner in the chest more than once and fled the scene.

Detectives quickly developed information identifying a person of interest. Within 24-hours of the incident, investigators located the suspect in the village of Elmsford yesterday morning and placed him into custody without incident.

The suspect is identified as Tyrese L. SHUBRICK, a 21-year-old resident of Yonkers Avenue in this City. SHUBRICK was booked on one charge of Manslaughter 1, a Class B Violent Felony in the New York State Penal Law; he is scheduled to be arraigned later today.

Mayor Mike Spano stated, "Job well done by our men and women in blue for their work in apprehending this individual. Their swift and accurate work can now ease the minds of the area businesses and residents. We will continue to invest in measures that will keep our neighborhoods safe and secure to help prevent incidents like this happening again."

Police Commissioner John J. Mueller stated, "Great job by our Yonkers Police Officers, Detectives, and Supervisors in apprehending this criminal in short order, who will now be prosecuted to the fullest extent of the law and face the consequences of his actions. I hope this arrest brings some degree of relief to Mr. Martinez-Campos' family and community; and sends a clear message to those individuals who would perpetrate violence in our City, that the Yonkers Police is ever committed to quickly finding you, arresting you, and delivering you into the Criminal Justice System."

Westchester District Attorney Mimi Rocah said, "I am heartbroken by the tragic and senseless death of Ruben Martinez-Campos, a store owner in downtown Yonkers who was stabbed to death after confronting a man who stole a baseball cap from his store. I know that the community shares my relief that suspect Tyrese Shubrick was apprehended within 24 hours thanks to the diligent work of the Yonkers Police Department in partnership with our office, and is currently in custody. Shubrick will be arraigned on a manslaughter charge and the DA's Office is committed to ensuring that he is held accountable for his actions to the fullest extent of the law. The Assistant District Attorney prosecuting the case has been in contact with Mr. Martinez-Campos' family members, and all of us in the DA's Office extend our deepest condolences to them on this terrible loss."

## Hoff Barthelson Music School's Orchestra Holds Auditions for 2021-22 Season



Students in grades 9 through 12 are invited to be a part of one of the finest high school orchestras in the United States! Auditions for Hoff-Barthelson Music School's Festival Orchestra will be held online Tuesday, May 18, 3:00 – 6:00 pm; Friday, May 21, 6:00 – 10:00 pm; and Tuesday, May 25, 3:00 – 6:00 pm.

Hoff-Barthelson's Festival Orchestra is a full symphonic orchestra for high school students at the highest level of technical ability and musical artistry. Under the direction of Jun Nakabayashi, the Festival Orchestra performs three concerts annually; two are with guest artists of international stature. The Orchestra meets on Tuesday evenings from 7:15 – 9:30 pm. Members of the Orchestra participate in sectional coachings with members of the New York Philharmonic. Students not yet in high school but who demonstrate exceptional ability and maturity may also audition.

Festival Orchestra Information Meeting – Monday, May 3 at 7:30 pm via Zoom

Join Festival Orchestra Music Director Jun Nakabayashi and HBMS Executive Director Ken Cole on Monday, May 3, 2021, for an online information session about plans for the 2021-2022 Festival Orchestra Season addressing the audition process, repertoire, performances, standards of excellence, and special precautions to ensure safety during rehearsals and performances.

For information about audition requirements, visit [www.hbms.org](http://www.hbms.org) or contact the Orchestra's Manager, Mark Kushnir at [festivalorchestra@hbms.org](mailto:festivalorchestra@hbms.org).

### LSHV, continued from pg 2-

ing secured in the budget will help Legal Services continue to fight for our most vulnerable."

Senator Shelley Mayer said, "I am so pleased our enacted NYS budget provides much needed funding to Legal Services of the Hudson Valley (LSHV). Too often low-income residents are in court fighting to maintain housing or secure benefits, and they must do so without representation and the knowledge and protection of their rights that representation provides. As we rebuild from the pandemic, LSHV's services will be more important than ever."

Individuals living paycheck to paycheck were unable to keep up and are now facing evictions, foreclosures, loss of benefits and health issues like never before. These funds will allow us to provide free civil legal services to the individuals living in crisis within our community. It supports the work we do with individuals and families who are disabled, living with AIDS, LGBTQ, veterans and military families. It supports individuals and families facing eviction, foreclosure, fighting for rights and protections in family court, and survivors of domestic violence. Overall, the funding supports LSHV's ongoing effort to seek legal equity throughout our region for all individuals. We recognize the tireless commitment of our NYS elected officials to those in greatest need and are grateful to them for securing this funding.

"I applaud Legal Services of the Hudson Valley for providing many of my constituents with critically needed legal assistance as the pandemic hit the most vulnerable in Yonkers," said Assemblyman Nader Sayegh. "I supported providing \$2.6 million in the State Budget for Legal Services of the Hudson Valley because the pandemic leaves so many living in crisis in Yonkers who desperately need legal services."

"Without Legal Services of the Hudson Valley, I could be homeless, on the street with no place to go. Legal Services does a job not all can do. There are so many people, just like myself, that could never afford to pay for an attorney to represent them and have nowhere else to turn. I am forever grateful," said LSHV client Renee Campbell.

For more information about Legal Services of the Hudson Valley, visit <https://www.lshv.org>.



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**Legal Notices**

**Classifieds**

SUPREME COURT OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK  
COUNTY OF WESTCHESTER

JUDITH MILOWE

Plaintiff,

- against -

JOHN JOSEPH WIEMERS

Defendant.

Index No. 65087/2020  
Date Summons  
Filed: 23rd day of November, 2020

**SUPPLEMENTAL  
SUMMONS WITH NOTICE**  
Filed March 2, 2021

This action is brought in the County of Westchester because said County is the County where the Plaintiff resides.

**ACTION FOR A DIVORCE**

To the Defendant:

YOU ARE HEREBY SUMMONED AND REQUIRED TO RESPOND TO THIS SUMMONS and to the requests for relief made by the Plaintiff by serving a written Notice of Appearance on the Plaintiff's attorney, at the address stated below.

If this Summons with Notice was served upon you within the State of New York by personal delivery, you must respond WITHIN 20 DAYS after service, exclusive of the day of service. If this Summons with Notice was not personally delivered to you within the State of New York you must respond WITHIN 30 DAYS after service is complete in accordance with the requirements of the Civil Practice Law and Rules.

THE NATURE OF THIS ACTION IS TO OBTAIN A JUDGMENT OF DIVORCE, DISSOLVING THE MARRIAGE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN PLAINTIFF AND DEFENDANT.

THIS ACTION FOR DIVORCE IS BASED UPON THE FOLLOWING GROUND OR GROUNDS: The relationship between Plaintiff and Defendant has broken down irretrievably for a period of at least six months, pursuant to Domestic Relations Law Section 170(7).

THE RELIEF SOUGHT BY THE PLAINTIFF IN THIS ACTION IS A JUDGMENT DIVORCING THE PARTIES AND DISSOLVING THE MARITAL RELATIONSHIP WHICH HAS HERETOFORE EXISTED.

PLAINTIFF ALSO REQUESTS THAT SUCH JUDGMENT GRANT THE FOLLOWING ITEMS OF ADDITIONAL AND ANCILLARY RELIEF:

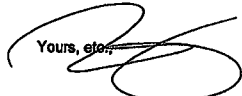
(A) Awarding Plaintiff equitable distribution of marital property, including a distributive award to Plaintiff if required or appropriate to effect such equitable distribution; (b) Declaring Plaintiff's separate property; (c) Granting such party the right to resume the use of any maiden name or other pre-marriage surname; and (d) Awarding Plaintiff such other and further relief as to the court may seem just and proper, together with the costs and disbursements of this action.

Pursuant to Domestic Relations Law § 255, effective October 9, 2009, notice is hereby given that once the judgment of divorce is signed, a party hereto may or may not be eligible to be covered under the other party's health insurance plan, depending on the terms of the plan.

IN THE EVENT THAT YOU FAIL TO APPEAR OR ANSWER, JUDGMENT WILL BE TAKEN AGAINST YOU, by default, for the relief demanded in this Summons with Notice.

The relief sought is a judgment of absolute divorce in favor of the Plaintiff dissolving the marriage between the parties in this action AND any other relief the court deems fit and proper.

Dated: March 2, 2021

Yours, etc., 

NICHOLAS P. BARONE, ESQ.  
LAW OFFICES OF NICHOLAS BARONE  
Attorney for Plaintiff  
44 Church Street  
White Plains, NY 10601  
(914) 683-8200

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JAMES HARDEE ENTERPRISES LLC. Art. of Org. filed with the SSNY on 02/01/2021. 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, 20 Bonnefoy Place Apt.3 New Rochelle, NY 10805. Purpose: Any lawful purpose.

Notice of Formation of HAT Photography LLC. Art. of Org. filed with Secy. of State of NY (SSNY) on 3/18/2021. Office: Westchester County. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail copy of process to: 6 N. Pearl St, Unit 404-F, Port Chester, NY 10573. Purpose: any lawful act or activity.

Notice of Formation of Bratdog LLC. Arts. Of Org. filed with the SSNY on 02/26/2021. Office: Westchester County. SSNY designated as the agent of the LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail copy of process to the LLC, Shantell James, 11 Lanark Road, Yonkers, NY 10705. Purpose: Any lawful purpose.

Notice of formation of Holmes: Meetings, Marketing & Events LLC. Arts.of Org. filed with the SSNY on 01/13/2021. 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, 505 E Lincoln Avenue, #515, Mount Vernon, NY 10552. Purpose: Any lawful purpose.

Notice of formation of LIB Scholastics Sources, LLC. Articles of Organization filed with the Secretary of State of New York (SSNY) on 04/06/2021. Office location: Westchester County. SSNY is designated as an agent of the LLC upon whom the process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail a copy of process to: 20 Water Grant Street, Apt 324, Yonkers, NY 10701.

Notice of formation of Street Meatz, LLC. Arts. of Org. filed with the SSNY on 04/06/2021. 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, 28 Frazier Place, Yonkers, NY 10704 Purpose: Any lawful purpose.

Notice is hereby given at an application, number pending has been applied for by Real Brazilian BBQ Corp for a license to sell liquor in a restaurant under the alcoholic beverage control law at 145 Gramatan Ave Mt Vernon, NY for on premises consumption.

Notice of formation of SJK Treasure House , LLC. DBA Royalty PR Consultant Agency filed with the SSNY on 02/17/2021. 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, 130 Mount Vernon Ave. Mount Vernon, NY Purpose: Any lawful purpose.

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**Westchester Rising**

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SUPREME COURT OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK  
COUNTY OF WESTCHESTER

-----X

BOARD OF MANAGERS OF MEADOWS CONDOMINIUM,  
on behalf of the Unit Owners of Meadows Condominium,  
pursuant to Real Property Law, Section 339-aa,

Plaintiff,

- against -

REFeree'S NOTICE  
OF SALE IN  
FORECLOSURE

Acting Justice Assigned:  
Hon. Janet C. Malone

Defendants.

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE THAT pursuant to a money judgment and judgment of foreclosure and sale in the above-entitled foreclosure action dated November 30, 2020 and entered on December 29, 2020 in the office of the County Clerk of Westchester County, I, the undersigned referee named in said judgment, will sell in one parcel at public auction on the 4th day of June, 2021 at Courtroom 200 at the Courthouse at 111 Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd., Room 200, White Plains, NY 10601 at 11:30 a.m., the unit known as 14 High Meadow Trail, Peekskill, NY 10566, City of Peekskill, County of Westchester, New York (Tax Parcel Section 23.19, Block 1, Lot 24./1902), and as designated in the Declaration establishing a plan for the Condominium recorded in the Office of the Clerk of Westchester County, Division of Land Records, at Liber 8876 at page 186, and more particularly described as:

ALL those certain pieces or parcels of Real Property being part of a condominium known as "Meadow Condominium", in the City of Peekskill, County of Westchester and State of New York, being known and designated as follows:

UNIT No. 18B together with 1/92 percent undivided interest in the common elements.

THE above described unit and the undivided percentage of interest in the common elements of the condominium appurtenant to each unit, are defined in the Declaration of Condominium hereafter referred to. The above described units are to be used for residential purposes. The real property above described is a Unit shown on the floor plans of a Condominium prepared and certified by Flavio Franco and filed in the Office of the Clerk of the County of Westchester on the 29th day of March, 1984, as Map No. 21879 Page 21880, defined in the Declaration of Condominium entitled, "Meadows Condominium", under Article 9-B of the New York Real Property Law, dated February 21, 1985 and recorded in the Office of the Clerk of the County of Westchester, Division of Land Records, on the 29th day of March, 1985 in Liber 8064 of Conveyances at Page 129, covering the property therein described.

Said premises are sold subject to the prior mortgage lien of U.S. Bank National Association, as Successor To Bank Of America, N.A. Successor by Merger To LaSalle Bank N.A. as Trustee For the Mortgage Loan Asset-Backed Certificates, Series 2006-FF18, as Assignee, subject to all taxes, assessments, and water rates which are liens upon the Premises, and subject to all covenants and restrictions of record and any state of facts an accurate survey may show.

The approximate amount of the lien to satisfy for which the above-described property is to be sold is \$20,928.04, together with interest thereon from December 29, 2020, as well as the sum which is owed to the plaintiff by the defendant Shannon Simpson on account of common charges, late fees, assessments, and costs which accrue from December 2, 2019, to the date of conveyance of the premises pursuant to the judgment of foreclosure and sale, together with Referee's fees of \$750.00, and the expenses of the sale.

Stuart Ball, Esq., Referee

**County Clerks Race, continued from pg 1-**

for such drastic pay increases to elected officials' salaries in a single budget cycle, and I believe that Westchester taxpayers deserve better."

The raises were approved after the Nov. 2019 election, for the 2020 County budget. The vote was taken in December 2019, four months before COVID-19 changed everything. At the time many Westchester residents, including fiscal conservatives but also progressive democrats, opposed the pay raises.

"The proposed salary increases are over the top and insulting to the thousands of unionized employees who make Westchester County work each and every day," said CSEA Westchester President Karen Pecora.

Another group of Westchester residents circulated a petition in an effort to overturn the pay raises. Since that vote, most taxpayers (and this reporter) had forgotten about the issue.

"I am disappointed that none of our county elected officials have considered returning or scaling back these raises in light of the county's current economic condition," said Williams. "In the last year, the County accepted over \$168 million in federal relief money while continuing to collect an increased sales tax; these pay raises are emblematic of politics as usual where taxpayers pay the price of our politicians' greed. I believe that this pay increase was partially responsible for County Clerk Idoni's decision to go back on his promise to not run for a fifth term, giving him an opportunity to substantially pad his already sizeable pension. Our county has many challenges to face, and the compensation of our elected officials certainly isn't a priority: we deserve better."

In highlighting this issue, Williams is "rocking the boat" for many establishment democrats, who hold positions of power and earn a six figure salary and benefits while working in government. "I am not in the business of protecting the establishment. Westchester County deserves leadership with a desire to serve the public. As your next County Clerk, I will reject backroom politics and maintain an office that is transparent, taxpayer-friendly, and ethical."

The other question that Williams is asking while highlighting this issue is, has the democratic party in Westchester moved away from letting some earn public salaries of more than \$200,000 while others are suffering dramatically during the pandemic? Has the Westchester Democratic party of 2021 become so much more progressive that it believes that the pay raises given in 2019 are "irresponsible" as Williams calls them?

It's up to Westchester democrats to decide, and until the June 22 democratic primary, Williams will not be silenced. "I am disappointed by the intimidation tactics used by the party establishment to undermine our campaign, and efforts to vilify my candidacy because I am an independent thinker. My campaign and service in government is motivated by my genuine desire to deliver meaningful change and reform to our community, not by financial gain."

**Westchester Billionaires, continued from pg 1-**

folio in his fund, has one of the best returns of any Hedge Fund (almost 20% per year), and is ultra secretive. He does not want to be seen, but the best chance is around Larchmont on weekends.

**Leonard Schleifer, Regeneron Pharmaceuticals, \$1.8 billion, Tarrytown.** Leonard Schleifer, 68, co-founded the biotech-pharmaceutical company, whose HQ's are in Tarrytown. Schleifer remains CEO and has been at the helm as the company released six FDA approved medicines, and last year began efforts to create an antibody for COVID-19.

**Nelson Peltz, Trian Fund Management, \$1.6 billion, Bedford.** Nelson Peltz, 78, is one of the better known members of this list, because of his history on Wall Street in the 1980's as a leader in corporate buyouts leveraged by junk bonds. Since then he is the founder of Trian Fund Management, which has \$8.5 Billion in assets. Peltz like to target a company and improve its value, like he did with Pepsico, selling his shares in 2016 for a 50% return.

**Barry Silbert, cryptocurrency, \$1.6 billion, Rye.** Barry Silbert, 44, is another one of the young traders on the list. He is the founder and CEO of Digital Currency Group (DCG), a conglomerate of five cryptocurrency-focused companies, including digital asset manager Grayscale, which oversees \$28 billion worth of Bitcoin, Ether and other assets. He is a former investment banker and Nasdaq trader.

**Michael Steinhardt, hedge funds, \$1.2 billion, Mount Kisco.** One of the founding fathers of the Hedge Fund, Michael Steinhardt, 78, closed his fund in 1995, after a run of great returns from the 1980's. He then returned to Wall Street with the fund WisdomTree Investments, where he served on the board and is a shareholder. WisdomTree focuses on ETF investments.

**George Yancopoulos, Regeneron Pharmaceuticals, \$1.1 billion, Yorktown Heights-** George Yancopoulos, 61, is the chief scientific officer of biotech firm Regeneron. He has an MD and a PHD from Columbia and was a biology professor at the age of 28. He joined Regeneron one year after it was founded in 1989, and has led the invention of approved drugs at the company.

Yancopoulos is more well known in his community than his fellow billionaires. He gave a recent speech at last year's Yorktown High School graduation (drive-in) where he said, "I believe Black lives matter, though I do not think it should be a crime to say that all lives matter."

**George Soros, Katonah.** George Soros, 90, became known in 1992 when he made \$1 Billion by shorting the British Pound, and became the man who broke the Bank of England. He managed money until 2011, when he then shifted \$18 Billion of his wealth to his Open Society Foundation, with assets of \$8.4 Billion. More known for his work for progressive causes, Soros has been critical of former President Donald Trump and Chinese President Xi. His helicopter can frequently be seen flying into his Katonah property, but he also owns several other houses and large apartments in NYC and the Hamptons.

Are there other Westchester Billionaires that were missed by Forbes or may be flying under the radar? Perhaps. If you know of someone, email us at [dmurphy@risingmediagroup.com](mailto:dmurphy@risingmediagroup.com).

**Eric Schoen, continued from pg 3-**

bulance Corps (914) 722-2288 are working to provide Covid vaccinations for the homebound.

We hear of more juvenile Covid cases. We see more kids playing sports. Don't get me wrong, sports are an important part of a young adults high school experience. But if your kid is playing sports remember Pfizer vaccines can be given to young people 16 and over and Moderna is authorized for those 18 and over. Participation in sports is a decision parents and their children have to make but a friend of mine who is a doctor doesn't recommend it.

We are hearing reports again of people putting off routine doctor and dentist visits out of fear of contracting Covid-19. Not smart. In terms of dentists they have been practicing sophisticated hygiene practices for years. It's never fun going to the dentist, but you should have no fear if your dentist is following all the proper protocols. It's rare you see a doctor who isn't masked up and gloved up in an office constantly sanitized.

Finally, lessons for the candidate in Yonkers 4th District who was recently removed from the ballot. And a lesson for all candidates. #1. No palm cards (the card that tells you their miraculous accomplishments) on car windshields. This candidate put a card on my sister's windshield, it rained and she spent a half hour scraping it off. #2. Don't drop a bunch of your palm cards in the entrance hallway of a building you can't get into. They end up blowing all over the place, the Super throws them in the garbage and will never vote for you.

#3. Don't dump palm cards in shopping bags or put them in bags you are distributing. In an apartment building push them all the way under the door. Better yet, hand them to people. And pray they will read them!

**Reach Eric Schoen at [thistoisonkers@aol.com](mailto:thistoisonkers@aol.com). Follow him on Twitter @ericynkers. Listen to Eric Schoen and Dan Murphy on the Westchester Rising Radio Show Thursday's from 10-11 a.m. On WVOX 1460 AM, go to [WVOX.com](http://WVOX.com) and click the arrow to listen to the live stream or download the WVOX app from the App Store free of charge.**

**Playland continued from pg 1-**

Standard, citing failure to comply with a number of requirements. Standard sought federal bankruptcy protection to enforce the 2016 contract, but the judge urged both sides to negotiate an amended agreement.

The settlement agreement gives Westchester County more protections, oversight and better financial terms. That agreement was approved by the County Board but not without objection by four legislators who wanted more discussions, negotiations and what they see as required approval by NY State government over the transfer of parkland.

Westchester County and its taxpayers will now share in any profits over \$12 Million, and if Standard cannot generate at least \$12 million in gross revenue per year for four straight years, the County may terminate the contract. Standard Amusements will begin management at Playland starting in December of 2021, so this summer families can enjoy Playland as it always has been operated, as a Westchester County run park.

Those who voted for the agreement did so with the understanding that this was the best of two unpopular choices: to come to the best agreement for the county or continue the fight in court and in Albany.

BOL Chair Ben Boykin said, "The choice we faced in this vote was not between our theoretical best agreement or no agreement at all. Our choice was between voting to approve this settlement or voting not to approve this settlement and allowing Standard to assume the original contract in bankruptcy court. In approving this settlement, we are voting to give the County much better financial terms, more oversight over Standard's work and operations at Playland, and more outside investment from Standard in this park which is a jewel in the crown of our Parks Department. Thanks to getting us to this improved place for County taxpayers and residents."

Law and Major Contracts Chair Legislator Nancy Barr said, "Although this agreement might not represent the dream contract we would have negotiated if we were starting from scratch, it is clear after three months of deep and detailed review that this settlement represents enormously improved terms for the County and a better future for Playland."

Budget and Appropriations Chair Legislator Catherine Borgia said, "A legislator's duty as a financial fiduciary and as a steward of our parks means we often must make challenging and hard-nosed decisions, guided always by what we believe is in the best interests of the people of this County. In the final analysis, it is important that we not let the perfect be the enemy of the good."

Majority Leader Legislator MaryJane Shinsky said, "Reverting to the 2016 Astorino deal, or engaging in years of further litigation with limited likelihood of success, only risked further harm to our wonderful Jewel on the Sound. I am glad that my colleagues put aside emotion and acted as good fiduciaries."

Four democratic county legislators voted no on the Playland settlement: Legislators Damon Maher, Catherine Parker, David Tubiolo and Ruth Walter.

Legislator Parker represents the Rye community that is most affected by any changes to Playland. "This feels rushed. We haven't taken into account new information. The Mayor of Rye has some very serious concerns with the agreement and wanted to be heard. I'm very disappointed that this courtesy and protocol, to listen to the chief elected official in my district that abuts Playland, was not followed. The process cannot be separated from our policy. When we neglect things and rush, we make mistakes. For this reason, I will be voting no," said Parker.

Legislator Ruth Walter said, "I do have lingering concerns. I'm very concerned about the numbers that were presented by our partners, and if they add up, including a 40% increase in attendance which as we heard today from the Mayor of Rye will increase parking and sewage and law enforcement costs to the city. I'm also concerned about protecting full time union jobs at the park. We also need to protect affordability at Playland for those families in Westchester who can't afford to go to Disney."

Legislator David Tubiolo said, "This has been quite the discussion, and now we can vote our peace and our mind."

Legislator Maher and Chairman Boykin got into a heated debate over whether a legislator could 'hold over' the item for additional debate, after Chairman Boykin placed the item on Special Order. Boykin overruled Maher, who asked for an apology for "trying to follow the rules and advocate for Playland and the people of Westchester."

Maher raised a different point in the Playland debate, whether the State of NY has to approve the agreement because Playland is a county park. "Only the highest official, the State of New York, can give away or sell parkland. This kind of transaction needs to be approved by both houses of the state legislature and the Governor through an alienation of parkland. If you don't ask for approval by the state, you open yourselves up to litigation and we have already spent \$6 Million in legal costs on this agreement for Playland," said Maher.

"This may be the most important vote that any of us take. Playland is the Jewel in the Crown of Westchester Parks. How absurd would it be to have a 35-year exclusive lease with someone for another county park? What if this were happening at Memorial Field, or Scout Field, or the Hudson River Museum. Those are the terms of this agreement.

"Can we legally get out of this agreement? I don't think we have explored it enough and the people of Westchester deserve that. The job of an equity firm is to make money for their investors, and that is not a great model for Playland. Public parks don't have to make money," said Maher.

Legislator Jose Alvarado, a former Chair of the BOL Parks Committee, voiced his uneasiness over the vote, but he expressed his hope that Standard could work with the County and perform in a manner that would elevate the park, considering the bickering of the recent past. "The legislation before us is the result of an unfortunate set of circumstances. In my heart, I believe it was a serious mistake for the previous administration to abandon its responsibilities to Playland by outsourcing its management. After all, let's not forget the County has managed and cared for Playland for some 92 years. During the course of that time, Playland has created magic for millions of children and their families while establishing lifetime memories. Under the County's care, Playland has been an award-winning park, famous throughout the country and the industry.

"The 2016 management agreement was not a good one for the park in terms of County input and involvement, as well as in other areas. I applaud our current County Executive George Latimer's efforts to forge a new path. Despite his best efforts, that path led to bankruptcy court. That court now brings us here. While I still believe we should not be outsourcing management of Playland, I recognize that due to the legal proceedings we have no choice. In fact, failure to vote for this agreement will return us to the 2016 agreement, which we all know would be a giant step backwards. While I am not pleased by this, the only responsible thing to do is to vote 'yes' for the new agreement," said Alvarado.

Remaining questions about Standard Amusements include:

1-Whether it has the capital to operate Playland successfully. A required holding of \$17.5 Million in a bank account was part of the settlement. Some have called on a stricter requirement like having a letter of credit from a bank.

2-Standard does not own or operate any amusement facilities. Another parent company, United Parks, LLC, will manage and operate Playland on behalf of Standard. -- United Parks, LLC, currently only owns and operates Daytona Lagoon Waterpark and lists their Playland Contract, through Standard Amusements, LLC, on their website. They used to own and operate Hydro Adventures Waterpark and Family Entertainment Center in Poplar Bluff, MO, until they Closed the Park in 2020 due to COVID.

3- Required investments in the park will come from Standard, \$35 Million, and Westchester County taxpayers --\$126 Million. Will Standard, and its owner, Nicholas Singer, a native of Harrison who has publicly stated his desire to turn Playland around, come up with the required funds?

4- Standard has committed to continuing to hire a diverse slate of young seasonal workers during the summer as well as older workers. We hope this tradition continues.

Many Westchester residents on social media thanked County Executive George Latimer for his efforts to, at least, make the Playland settlement the best that it could be. Remember, that it was Latimer, upon taking office as County Executive, who cancelled the Playland agreement in 2019 that Astorino negotiated, only to be stymied by Standard's legal maneuvers which included Bankruptcy protection. And that was the primary reason why 13 members of the county board voted for the settlement.



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