

# Westchester Rising

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## Lowey Endorses Gashi for Congress

Assemblymember Paulin, BOL Chair Borgia, Among Westchester Women to Endorse Gashi Over Bowman



Former Congresswoman Nita Lowey, with Congressional candidate Vedat Gashi and his son, Leka

—Two of Westchester’s long serving former members of Congress did something rarely seen in democratic party politics. They endorsed a democratic challenger against a sitting democratic incumbent member of Congress.

Former Congresswoman Nita Lowey and former Congressman Eliot Engel endorsed County Legislator Vedat Gashi for Congress in the upcoming democratic primary on Aug. 23 in district NY-16, which including the Bronx and all of Southern Westchester.

Lowey’s endorsement is considered more surprising and important for Gashi. Engel lost to Bowman in a democratic primary two years ago. “Over the course of my 32 years in Congress, I represented nearly all of the communities now included in the 16th CD. As Chair of the House Appropriations Committee, I focused on national, international and local issues of importance to my Westchester constituents,” said Lowey. “Today, I announce my enthusiastic support of Vedat Gashi for Congress. Vedat is young, smart, experienced, and hard working. He shares my values and priorities. If elected, he will be a worthy successor.”

Lowey joins a diverse group of supporters that include two other prominent female Westchester democrats: Assembly member Amy Paulin and Westchester County BOL Chair Catherine Borgia. Assembly member Sandy Galef, Yonkers Mayor Mike Spano.

Several Unions have also endorsed Gashi’s campaign, including Teamsters Local 456, Asbestos Workers Local 91, Boilermakers Local 5, Bricklayers Allied Crafts Local 5, Building Laborers Local 235, Westchester County Corrections Superior Officers Association, Building Trades Council, Dockbuilders Local 1556, Ironworkers Local 40, Teamsters Local 813, Teamsters Local 814 and Tile, Marble, and Terrazzo Local 7, and more.

Gashi said, “I am humbled to have earned the endorsement of former congresswoman Nita M. Lowey, a true champion for progressive priorities. I am committed to not only fight but win for our democracy and the families of the Bronx and Westchester. I am committed to bringing real progress to all of the residents across the 16th district and vow to do just that when I am elected.

One candidate seeking to replace Congressman Jamaal Bowman in the democratic primary Aug. 23, Mark Jaffe, from Harrison, dropped out of the race. the realities of the campaign have convinced me that I could best serve by supporting

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**Latimer, Westchester County Government, Create \$10 Million Landlord-Tenant Assistance Program- see story on pg 3**

**Two Suspects Walk Out of Walmart Cortlandt Manor With \$3,244 in Merchandise**



two suspects seen walking out of Walmart, Cortlandt Manor with unpaid merch

By Dan Murphy

The State Police in Cortlandt are investigating the theft of over \$3,244 worth of merchandise from Walmart located at 3133 East Main Street Mohegan Lake, NY 10547, at approximately 2:00 p.m. on July 16, 2022. The two pictured suspects left the store in a dark colored 2-door sedan.

Anyone with any possible information regarding the possible identity or location of the pictured individuals is asked to please contact the New York State Police at (914) 769-2600. Please refer to case number 10951422.

## Putnam County DA, Seeks to Have DiFiore Disbarred for Protecting Attorney Galgano Caught on Phone Wiretap Tampering with a juror but never charged

Listen to the tape at Yonkerstimes.com



Former Putnam County DA Adam Levy, left, has filed a grievance against former Westchester DA Janet DiFiore, concerning attorney George Galgano, right By Dan Murphy

Former Putnam County District Attorney Adam Levy, the son of “Judge Judy” has filed a grievance against NYS Chief Judge Janet DiFiore, claiming that she abused her office and violated judicial ethics code to protect Westchester attorney George Galgano.

Levy’s complaint alleges “The evidence is incontrovertible,” that DiFiore “abused her power, violated her oath of office, and violated the Rules of Professional Responsibility...to protect George Galgano from the consequences of his actions.”...

Based on “recently unsealed wiretap intercepts, internal emails and documents subpoenaed from the Westchester County DA’s Office, sworn deposition testimony, and other assorted documents publicly filed and exchanged during civil discovery in the matter of George Galgano v. County of Putnam, New York et al,” Levy makes the case that DiFiore improperly protected Galgano, who served as her campaign finance co-chair when she ran for Westchester DA.

Levy also alleges that through her Deputy DA Luciano, “DiFiore willfully and unlawfully obstructed justice by impeding, obstructing, hindering, and preventing my office’s investigation and prosecution, Westchester County District Attorney’s Office’ investigation and prosecution, and this Committee’s investigation into George Galgano, by withholding documents and impeding the governmental function of his prosecution, and preventing prosecutors from performing their official

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## Town of Eastchester Law Prohibiting Sale of Vaping Devices Rule Constitutional



“Keeping our citizens, especially our youth, safe by limiting accessibility to the products specified in our law is our top priority. I am glad the Town of Eastchester prevailed.”  
-Supervisor Anthony Colavita

By Dan Murphy

At the September 3rd, 2019 Town Board meeting, Eastchester was one of the first Towns to adopt a local law to prevent the sale of electronic Nicotine Delivery products within the Town. The law which is known as “Electronic Nicotine Delivery Product Law” prohibits the sale of tobacco substitutes containing nicotine from being sold in the Town. This includes, but is not limited to: e-cigarettes, vapes, vaporizers, vape pens, lozenges or other candy, drinks, liquid nicotine or other e-liquids or inhalers.

Countless studies have shown that these products are heavily favored by the youth of the community. Therefore, the adoption of this law would prevent easy access for our youth and protect the health, safety and welfare of the community.

Upon the Town enacting the Law, the Eastchester Police Department began enforcing such Law whereby summonses were issued to various merchants who continued to sell these hazardous products.

Rather than complying with the Law, a group of merchants brought a Federal Lawsuit against the Town of Eastchester alleging that the “Anti-Vaping Law was unconstitutional. That Law was upheld by a Federal Court in the Southern District of New York.

Supervisor Colavita and the Town Board were also the first to opt out of participating in the New York State Marijuana Retail Sales Program as well.

Supervisor Colavita stated, “Keeping our citizens, especially our youth, safe by limiting accessibility to the products specified in our law is our top priority. I am glad the Town of Eastchester prevailed.”



# DEMOCRAT VEDAT GASHI

## REAL PROGRESS. REAL RESULTS.

**Vedat Gashi** came to America as a refugee from a country without democracy. He and his family worked hard and built a life here. As a Westchester County legislator, Vedat's delivered. He's cut taxes, invested in our infrastructure, and passed meaningful gun safety legislation.

Now, Vedat's running for Congress because he sees our democracy at a crossroads: Trump, January 6, spiking crime, and the recent abortion ruling show we need action. **Vedat is a commonsense Democrat who will work to fund our police; address inflation; support President Biden, including on climate change; and stand with our allies, like Israel and Ukraine, to deliver for us in these uncommon and risky times.**

### VEDAT GASHI IS ENDORSED BY

(Ret.) CONGRESSWOMAN NITA LOWEY

YONKERS MAYOR MIKE SPANO

TEAMSTERS LOCAL 456



## VOTE VEDAT GASHI FOR CONGRESS



**DEMOCRATIC PRIMARY  
VOTE BY AUGUST 23**

## JAMAAL BOWMAN: THE WRONG PRIORITIES.

Jamaal Bowman hasn't delivered for us. With our democracy under attack, crime spiking, inflation out of control, and now an attack on women's health care – Bowman's spent more time fighting with Democrats than actually delivering for us. Bowman wants to defund the police,<sup>1</sup> voted against President Biden's infrastructure bill,<sup>2</sup> and he has turned his back on our international allies.<sup>3</sup> **Bowman has the wrong priorities.**



**REJECT JAMAAL BOWMAN'S  
FAILED RECORD ON AUGUST 23.**

CHECK THE FACTS: 1. CNN Interview w. Jamaal Bowman, 12/3/20. 2. New York Post, 11/6/21. 3. Newsweek, 3/10/22; H. Res. 1123, 5/16/22; Jewish Insider, 2/15/22



## Westchester County Launches \$10 Million Landlord-Tenant Assistance Program

### Financial Help for Landlords

#### Landlord Tenant Assistance Program (LTAP)

LTAP will allow small landlords who own eight units or less, who maintain rent levels that are affordable to residents, to apply for up to **\$25,000 per unit for repairs** to their rental properties.

To be eligible, landlords/owners must charge rents for households earning between 60% and 100% of the Area Median Income (AMI)

Home improvements may include roof replacement, or upgrades to electrical, windows, accessibility ramps, plumbing and heating systems.

To learn more, please visit

<https://homes.westchestergov.com/landlord-tenant-assistance-program-ltap>



George Latimer, County Executive  
Norma V. Drummond, Commissioner  
Department of Planning



## Kill Spotted Lanter Flies; Retire Bowman



By Eric Wolf Schoen

Just to show you how corrupt the political and judicial system is, as of press time last week the court and the specific judge handling the case from Steuben County in New York wherever that is was allowing voters to change their registration up to Primary Day, August 23. The Steuben judge got a letter from the State Board of Elections asking him to change the date you could enroll in a party to August 8 because they knew many people would take advantage of this in the Maloney vs. Nadler race and the Bowman race..

With less than a week the judge pulled the plug on his own ruling because of political pressure from the incumbents. What a corrupt system we have. At least in the Maloney vs. Nadler race we will finally get rid of one of the criminals who only care about themselves and don't care about the people. Hopefully the third candidate in the race will split the vote and get rid of two people who have been in office too long. So friends, because of the corrupt system we have the strategies I outlined for you last week won't work,

Now as for Jamaal Bowman, I urge you to support Vedat Gashi in the race, Gashi has been in the race all along and is not a trying to be a spoiler like Catherine Parker is. Let's face it, Bowman doesn't represents issues important to the people of Yonkers and is part of the liberal, cut the police AOC Wing of the party. He has voted against Israel numerous times according to the Jewish Press. He has not been a supporter of our friends in the Ukraine.

How Bowman obtained his seat? Incumbent Eliot Engel who supported Israel and the Ukraine and was a leader in foreign policy took his seat for granted. His seniority and the fact that he kept most of his staff in district to deal with constituent issues was lost when Bowman was elected. I have heard Engel is supporting Vedat Gashi and I know Yonkers Mayor Mike Spano and a host of unions and political and business leaders are.

Jamaal Bowman doesn't represent us in Washington. He represents a section of the Democratic Party that will hurt this country. I hope you join me in voting for Vedat Gashi on Primary Day, April 23. Our country, our state, our county and Yonkers need someone to fight for us!

Early voting starts August 13. And you can send someone from your family to the Board of Elections up to the day before the primary to get your absentee ballot. On to other issues of the day!

### Kill Spotted Lantern Fly

Among the other things we need to take down right away is the spotted lantern fly. These pretty butterfly looking things give themselves away when you see multiple spots on a butterfly. If you don't stomp on them, they will eat vegetation and destroy your trees, particularly fruit trees.

We don't like to kill insects but when they do more harm then good it's time to go!

### Shopping baskets as Reusable Grocery Bags

Don't go looking for those shopping baskets when you go to the grocery store anymore. Apparently, people forget their reusable bags, carry their groceries out of the store in the baskets and take them home. Who knows if they ever bring them back.

See friends, this is what you get when you force people to use reusable shopping bags. And some stores have the gaul to charge 25 or 50 cents for a paper bag that costs them less than a nickel. And the bags are flimsy and don't even have a handles.

We need laws where paper bags are available for 5 or 10 cents each, are sturdy and have handles. Disposable cloth bags can get dirty. I don't like carrying my bags of groceries home in reusable bags. As you know I am against the use of reusable bags. Watch for a law with a fine for stealing grocery baskets similar to the fine for removing shopping carts from grocery store premises.

Hey wait a minute. If you have a vehicle that can accommodate it, why not wheel your shopping cart right into your vehicle? A good way to sort the frozen from other perishables to make it easy when your unpacking your groceries into the fridge, freezer and pantry! Let's me stop giving you crazy ideas!

### Cascade Campaign

So the makers of Cascade, the dishwasher soap want you to use your dishwasher again. The cost of a load of dishes washed in the dishwasher costs less than if you wash each dish individually. And look at all the labor it saves. And your dishes come out sparkling clean. I guess the comparison is with a full dishwasher load and takes into consideration the costs of soap and water. You need a dishwasher to complete this test which many of us do not have!

### Dipping is Back

Is it me or do I see people dipping again. Cookies into coffee, chips into the big dishes at Panera, I've never seen so many people dipping or you could say dunking when they do it with a donut or sandwich. Dipping and dunking is something my grandparents use to do. Grandpa would put his crackers into his soup. What do you call that when you smash up crackers or put those little round

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Front Row L-R Joan Grangenois-Thomas, Majority Leader Christopher Johnson, Legislator Tyrae Woodson-Samuels, Jackie Shaw BOL Chair Catherine Borgia, County Executive George Latimer, Back Row L-R Legislator Nancy Barr, Norma Drummond, Blanca Lopez

### Funds may be used for Needed Repairs to Rental Properties, In exchange for Landlords Maintaining Affordable Rents

Furthering his commitment to preserving affordable housing in communities across Westchester, County Executive George Latimer is announcing the Landlord Tenant Assistance Program (LTAP). LTAP will allow small landlords who own eight units or less, who maintain rent levels that are affordable to residents, to apply for up to \$25,000 per unit for repairs to their rental properties. To be eligible, landlords/owners must charge rents that are affordable to households earning between 60% and 100% of the Area Median Income (AMI), and home improvements may include, but are not limited to, roof replacement, or upgrades to electrical, windows, accessibility ramps, plumbing and heating systems. With \$10M available in funds, 400 units can be rehabilitated.

Rent levels, with utilities included, must adhere to the following 2022 HUD Guidelines:

Bedroom Size	60% AMI Rent Levels	80% AMI Rent Levels	100% AMI Rent Levels
Studio	\$1,457	\$1,942	\$2,427
1 Bedroom	\$1,665	\$2,219	\$2,773
2 Bedroom	\$1,873	\$2,497	\$3,119
3 Bedroom	\$2,080	\$2,773	\$3,465

County Executive Latimer said: "The Covid-19 pandemic, and its aftermath, have greatly impacted our small landlords who have not been able to receive rent increases to make improvements to their properties in years. My administration stands committed to preserving affordable housing in all of our communities, and this funding will help our landlords make upgrades that will ultimately preserve the life of these units. We hope the prospect of receiving up to \$25,000 per unit will incentivize our landlords to maintain their rental properties at a price point that everyone can afford."

Commissioner of the Department of Planning Norma Drummond said: "The Planning Department is excited to launch this program that particularly assists small landlords who need to make much needed repairs to their rental units. By-

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## DiNapoli: Lax Medicaid Oversight Results in \$700 Million in Improper Payments

AUDIT FINDS PAYMENTS WERE MADE FOR RECIPIENTS WHO WERE INELIGIBLE FOR MEDICAID MANAGED LONG-TERM CARE PROGRAM COVERAGE; ALSO, \$2.8 BILLION SPENT TO COVER MANAGED LONG-TERM CARE PATIENTS WHO RECEIVED MINIMAL CARE

Hundreds of millions of dollars were spent on Medicaid Managed Long-Term Care (MLTC) costs for individuals who no longer qualified for the program, according to an audit by State Comptroller Thomas P. DiNapoli. The audit found that inadequate oversight by the state Department of Health (DOH) over a period of more than six years resulted in over \$700 million in overpayments for ineligible members and \$2.8 billion for minimal services for eligible members.

“My latest Medicaid audit found more examples of how oversight weaknesses impose unnecessary costs on taxpayers. This time, failure to effectively monitor money allowed \$701 million worth of improper spending, and may have also led to unsatisfactory long-term care for eligible patients in need,” said State Comptroller DiNapoli. “I urge DOH to recoup any overpayments and improve oversight of its managed long-term care program so that patients receive the services they are entitled to.”

Medicaid’s MLTC program provides long-term care services, such as home health care and nursing home care, to chronically ill or disabled patients. To be eligible, patients must meet certain criteria, such as needing community-based long-term care (CBLTC) services for more than 120 days. Some individuals are automatically enrolled in MLTC, others can choose to voluntarily enroll. DOH contracts with Maximus Health Services Inc. (Maximus) to assess whether individuals who voluntarily enroll meet the MLTC criteria.

MLTC plans were responsible for doing semi-annual assessments of their membership to determine whether members still qualified to remain in MLTC and on their plans. Over the audit period examined from January 2015 to March 2021, auditors found issues with MLTC plans’ review of member eligibility and their processes for removing members who no longer qualified for MLTC. In one example, Medicaid made 48 monthly premium payments to an MLTC plan from 2016 to 2021, totaling \$151,490, on behalf of a patient who should not have been allowed to remain in the MLTC program. Despite their ineligibility, the member was continually assessed as eligible and needing MLTC.

Besides ineligible individuals remaining enrolled in MLTC plans, in some cases, eligible members may not be receiving services that were paid for. Auditors found 626,435 payments, totaling \$2.8 billion, that were made on behalf of 51,947 members who only received minimal services. MLTC is for chronically ill and disabled individuals who wish to remain home and in their communities. Yet, 42% of these members only received between 1 to 30 days of services during their 6-month assessment periods (e.g., a patient may have only received 1 day of service over 6 months, while another may have averaged only 5 days of services each month over 6 months). In some cases, MLTC plans received premium payments that significantly exceeded the services they paid for. For example, one MLTC member who was reassessed six times as requiring community-based care received fewer than 28 days of services during each 6-month assessment period. The state’s payments for this patient’s care totaled \$268,724 over the 3-year time period, yet the patient received a mere \$13,907 worth of services.

Oversight of the MLTC program is critical because it helps ensure members get the care they need and contains costs. These are services that are more expensive than others because the premiums paid to MLTC plans are often higher than other types of Medicaid managed care. Individuals who are not eligible for MLTC but still eligible for Medicaid can be moved to less costly Medicaid coverage. MLTC plan officials and DOH attributed issues with membership management and service delivery to several factors including: the inability to get in contact with members believed to be ineligible; the COVID-19 pandemic; and DOH’s lack of systems to identify members who are not receiving services.

DiNapoli’s audit recommended: A review of the \$701 million in improper payments identified in the report to ensure overpayments are appropriately recovered; Development of a process to ensure timely MLTC disenrollment of members who are no longer eligible for MLTC care; Re-assessment of the process and time frame for disenrolling ineligible members from MLTC; Monitoring of MLTC enrollees to ensure they are properly assessed and receiving the appropriate level of care. In response to our audit, DOH generally agreed with the recommendations and indicated that actions are being taken to address them.

## Letter to the Editor: Yorktown Councilman Sergio Esposito-Stop Selling AR-15’s !



### An automatic weapon for sale on American Arms, Yorktown website

After the school shooting in Uvalde, and learning about the autopsy reports on the destroyed bodies of those dear, innocent young children, I spent time reading more about the AR-15 and its effect on the human body. When I read that those parents had to provide DNA samples in order to help identify their own children, I was heartbroken and had to understand more.

What I found out is that the AR-15 is basically a weapon of war that was meant to blow humans apart.

Eugene Stoner, a Marine Corps veteran, worked on making firearms more effective (i.e., kill better and faster). He developed a firing mechanism for a new kind of lightweight rifle. His efforts led to success when General Willard G. Wyman asked Stoner to modify his rifle to fire a redesigned .223-calibre round weighing roughly a tenth of an ounce.

Based on a recent New Yorker article I found that the AR-15 and AR-15 style weapons, could fire their .223-calibre bullets at nearly three times the speed of sound. The tiny bullets grow unstable much more quickly than other bullets, causing them to tumble through the body, tearing apart tissue and organs. The pressure “can shatter your skull or squeeze brain tissue through your sinuses. It might also fragment inside the body, scattering small pieces of themselves and increasing the damage.”

Stoner sold the manufacturing rights for the AR-15 in 1959. Then the marketing campaigns began. Politicians and firearms manufacturers hyped crime rates, and The National Rifle Association ran ads asking, “Why can’t a policeman be there when you need him?” and “Should you shoot a rapist before he cuts your throat?”

Civilian AR-15 style weapons differ from their military cousins because the Firearm Owners Protection Act bans machine guns. Thus, the AR-15 style weapons have a mechanical block on the trigger, to avoid being labeled a machine gun. But gun manufactures and clever gun enthusiasts have an easy way to bypass this mechanism. This makes it the apparent weapon of choice for mass shootings.

I ask our Town Councilman, Sergio Esposito to stop selling these disgusting weapons. They are not for hunting or target practice. Yorktown citizens didn’t want Vape shops, marijuana shops but certainly don’t need AR15 shops.

There’s no law stopping Councilman Esposito from selling AR-15 style weapons, but if he stopped selling them it would be an indication that he doesn’t support these killings. Who knows where his guns are used?

### A very concerned citizen: Stuart Friedman, 39 year resident of Yorktown

### Assistance for Landlords and Tenants continued from pg 3-

fering this program, we know that we will help small landlords and renters alike, who were hit hard by the pandemic. LTAP funds will preserve and enhance smaller multi-family housing stock in the County that will improve the living conditions of many county residents and maintain its affordability.”

Chairwoman of the Westchester County Board of Legislators Catherine Borgia said: “I am grateful for our partnership with County Executive Latimer in negotiating this funding into the 2022 budget. This will have a positive effect for both landlords and tenants.”

Board of Legislators Majority Leader Chris Johnson said: “In Westchester, we are not only committed to keeping people in their homes, we are committed to making sure those homes are safe and healthy places to reside. As renters and landlords are working to get back on their feet from the pandemic, I am happy to partner with the County Executive to provide the funding for programs that not only keep a roof over people’s heads, but to make sure those roofs aren’t leaking as well.”

Legislator Tyrae Woodson-Samuels said: “Landlords are struggling to get back on their feet as rents were frozen during the COVID-19 pandemic. It is my hope that they will take advantage of this program which will help them pay for needed building repairs for their tenants. We have to work together on the entire picture to make sure we have safe apartments for our residents to live in.”

A Westchester County Rehabilitation Specialist will inspect the property after an application has been submitted to the Department of Planning. If the property qualifies, a three-party contract will be signed between the County, the landlord/owner and the contractor, for work to be completed by contractors that are licensed and insured to work in Westchester County. Funds will be disbursed directly to the contractor from the County after a progress inspection has been completed.

Interested landlords/owners should call or email Gaitre Rambharose in the Westchester County Department of Planning at 914-995-2429 or gqrh@westchestergov.com.

Send your letters and opinions to [risingmediagroup@gmail.com](mailto:risingmediagroup@gmail.com)

Read it all online at [Yonkerstimes.com](http://Yonkerstimes.com)



Sarah Lawrence College & Yonkers Arts Offer Documentary Filmmaker Workshop for Teens



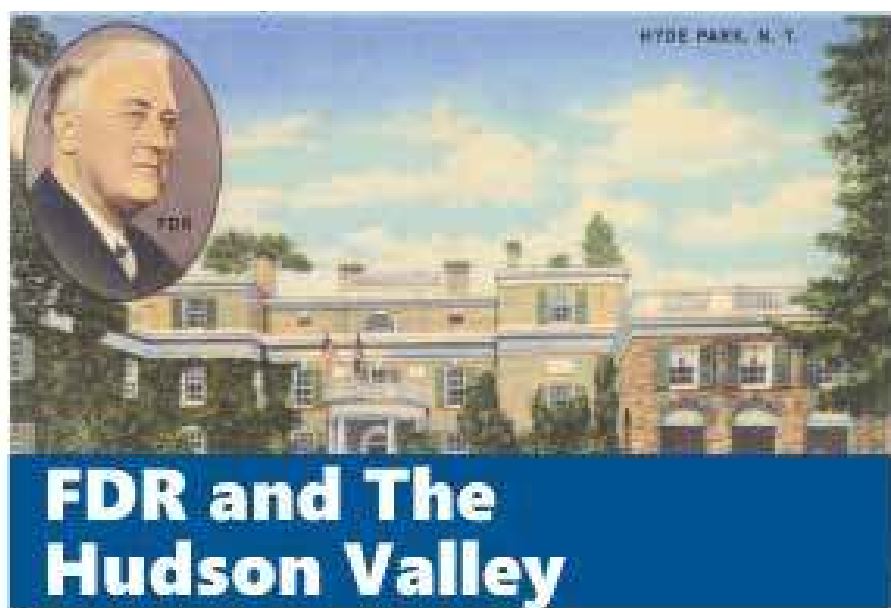
Sarah Lawrence College and Yonkers Arts join together to offer a week-long filmmaking workshop for teens in Yonkers. We'll provide an active and creative learning experience where students learn to write, direct, shoot and edit their own short project. Students will complete a short film surrounding the activation of the DMX exhibition that's coming to Yonkers this September.

This workshop is presented by Yeong Ran Kim - the Mellon Digital Media Fellow at Sarah Lawrence College. It will take place at the Yonkers Arts Project Space (216 Lake Ave, Yonkers, NY, 10701) from August 15 to August 20. The workshop will be from 1:00pm to 4:00pm.

To register, visit-<https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSeFfdnakDmD3FSknqEPiM-W1mD0EMxyp6gg8tXD4J9ZZiv1w/viewform>.

Yonkers Library Presents: FDR and The Hudson Valley

Zoom Program August 17



Wednesday, August 17  
6 pm | Zoom



"All that is in me cries out to return to my home along the Hudson River," Franklin Roosevelt said near the end of his life. The Roosevelt Estate in Hyde Park, NY was a place where FDR's ideals, ambitions and character were shaped.

Cosponsored by the Yonkers Historical Society

[ypl.org/events](http://ypl.org/events)

"All that is in me cries out to return to my home along the Hudson River," Franklin Roosevelt said near the end of his life. The Roosevelt Estate in Hyde Park, NY was a place where FDR's ideals, ambitions and character were shaped. This session explores the magic the Hudson River Valley held for him.

To register, visit <https://www.facebook.com/events/432464118818964> or [www.ypl.org/](http://www.ypl.org/), or call 914-337-1500

Letter to the Editor: New Forward Party Good News for America

I read with great interest your story about the formation of a new 3rd Party in American politics – the “Forward Party” (August 5, 2022 edition of Westchester Rising).

The history of American third parties has not been encouraging – the only minor party that supplanted one of the two major parties was the Republican Party which was formed from the ranks of the old Whig and Free Soil Parties, as well as disaffected Democrats in 1854. It took the GOP six years to elect one of its own members – Abraham Lincoln – to the Presidency in 1860, on the eve of the Civil War.

In recent years, the Reform Party candidacy in 1992 of H. Ross Perot who received nearly 19% of the popular vote for President, and former Alabama Governor George C. Wallace who received, in 1968, 14% of the popular vote and 46 electoral votes – had some impact on American politics, but their parties ceased to exist after a few election cycles. The Progressive Party, born of the farmers’ revolt of the late 19th Century, had some success in getting the two major parties to adopt policy positions on: women’s suffrage; direct election of U.S. Senators; taxation reform, social security and regulation of child labor.

However, I believe that this new party has the potential to become more successful than their predecessors for a number of reasons:

- American politics today has become much more polarized in nature, with the two parties resembling more tribes than coalitions;
- More American voters are demanding practical, centrist policy solutions to major issues;
- The two parties are bleeding support – according to recent opinion surveys by Gallup and others (June 2022), 27% of voters identify as Republicans; 27% identify as Democrats and 43% as Independent or third party. In New York City alone last year, nearly 100,000 voters changed their Republican Party registration;

- A study done in 2018 by the Independent Voter project found that in 9 states – Alaska; Colorado; Connecticut; Iowa; Maine; Massachusetts; New Hampshire; New Jersey; and Rhode Island -- independent voters outnumber registrations in both parties. In our own state, 3.5 million voters are currently not registered with a political party.

Obviously, the potential for success for the Forward Party is there. It will require structure, organization; financing and ballot access in all 50 states and the District of Columbia. Most of all, FP will need a platform of sensible, practical policy solutions and dynamic candidates willing to stand up for these ideals at all levels.

This is a welcome development, and I am hopeful for its success. Like most things in life, time will tell. Stay tuned.

-Stephen R. Rolandi, Larchmont.

*(The writer is an adjunct professor of public administration and formerly served in the administrations of New York City Mayors Rudy Giuliani and Michael Bloomberg. An Independent Republican, he was National Vice President and Treasurer of the Ripon Society and was a delegate to the 2022 Principles First Summit in February in Washington, DC.)*

White Plains Hospital Screenings Under the Stars Continues with Boss Baby 2 Family Business



White Plains Hospital Screenings Under the Stars presented by Westchester County Parks and Share Creative continues with the family comedy, Boss Baby 2: Family Business (2021-PG) on Wednesday, Aug. 17, at Kensico Dam Plaza, Valhalla.

County Executive George Latimer said, “Summer is far from over, continue to enjoy the warm weather with another outdoor movie! Take this opportunity to get outside and spend some quality time with family and friends.”

Parks Commissioner, Kathleen O’Connor said, “It has been so wonderful seeing the residents of Westchester come together to enjoy all of our fun events. Join us at our very own ‘Central Park’ for another delightful night of family entertainment.”

The gates open at 5:30 p.m. and movies begin at sundown. Event is rain or shine. Admission and parking are free. Moviegoers should bring blankets, folding chairs, and a picnic. Refreshments will be available for sale.

The other movies in the series are:

Spider-Man: No Way Home (2021-PG 13) on Saturday, Sept. 17, at Glen Island Park, New Rochelle

The Addams Family 2 (2021-PG) on Friday, Oct. 21, at Croton Point Park, Croton-on-Hudson

The White Plains Hospital Screenings Under the Stars is presented by Westchester County Parks and Share Creative with Westchester Parks Foundation, and support from Westchester Talk Radio, 100.7 WHUD, 107.1 The Peak, Palisades Mazda, The Premier Collection, Look Dine-In Cinemas, Valley Bank, Hamlethub, Robison, LLP, Inspiria Outdoor Advertising, and Westchester Magazine. Movies may be cancelled due to inclement weather conditions.

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## All About Joel Comes to Kensico Dam Plaza Aug. 13, for Robison Summer Concert Series

The Robison Summer Concert Series continues with David Clark's All About Joel, a musical tribute to Billy Joel, on Saturday, Aug. 13, at Kensico Dam Plaza in Valhalla.

County Executive George Latimer said, "Take a trip down memory lane during this great performance. Grab your family, friends and dancing shoes for a night full of the Piano Man's classic pop songs!"

Parks Commissioner Kathleen O'Connor said, "Here's another chance to come and enjoy Kensico's great lawn with a New York State of Mind on a warm summer evening."

All concerts will be ticketed-admission events, with purchase available by online pre-sale only. Tickets are \$10 per person. Children 5 years and older require a ticket. Pre-purchase tickets online only at <https://maingatetickets.com/events/view/1303>. Tickets will not be available for purchase onsite on the day of the event.

Seating will be general admission style.

Gates open at 6 p.m., concerts begin at 7 p.m. and parking is free. Please bring blankets and lawn chairs for seating and coolers are permitted.

The final concert of the series is:

Friday, Aug. 26 | 45 Riots and SAGE – A one-night festival of blazing R&B, jazz, soul and dance!

For more information, call 914-864-PARK or visit [parks.westchestergov.com](https://www.parks.westchestergov.com).

## Yonkers Firefighter Caught in Atlantic City Underage Sex Sting, Immediately Fired

A Yonkers Firefighter who was arrested in Atlantic City, NJ on Aug. 1, and charged with luring/enticing a child by various means, was immediately fired by Mayor Mike Spano. Joseph Donofrio, 31, was part of a 17 people arrested in an Atlantic City, NJ sting operation led by two YouTubers.

Predator Catchers PA, <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCmUTnV4K-GVI5yPqTNS51XgQ> and

MrWeb <https://www.youtube.com/c/WEBWatchEveryBrowser> posed as underage children on social media sites and agreed to meet the pervs at a location near the Atlantic City boardwalk. The suspects would then be confronted and the AC Police would come in for the arrest.

Donofrio was being held in the Atlantic County Justice Facility, and faces 5-10 years in jail if convicted.

Here is the release from the Atlantic City PD. "Since July 16, 2022, the Atlantic City Police Department has arrested 17 men for attempting to lure a minor with assistance from concerned citizens groups. The concerned citizens were engaged in posing as underage children on various social media sites. They would then confront the individual and notify police. The citizens group provided the responding officers with screen shots of conversations and detailed information that was shared between the citizens group and the suspects."

All of the arrested individuals were remanded to the Atlantic County Justice Facility with the exception of Yee, who was issued a summons pending a future court date. The public is reminded that charges are mere allegations and the accused are considered innocent until proven guilty.

Anyone with additional information is urged to contact the Atlantic City Police Department Criminal Investigations Section at 609-347-5766. Information can be text to tip411 (847411). Begin the text with ACPD. All texts are anonymous." end of ACPD release.

In a statement, Yonkers Mayor Michael Spano called the charges appalling and nothing short of predatory, and fired Donofrio.

Great work by the two YouTubers and by the ACPD for working with these citizen volunteers who are looking to protect underage children.

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.

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

Nabisco crackers in your soup? Everything old is new again!

### *Make a Lane of the West Side Highway a Bicycle Lane*

Who comes up with these brilliant ideas. A New York City Councilman wants to make a lane of the West Side Highway below 57th street now and above 57th Street later a bicycle only lane. There's a group of people out there who will do anything to screw motorists. Imagine with the current West Side Highway traffic bikes fighting for space? Bicyclists wanting to get into Manhattan can take any of the avenues up or down town. You want to have people come into Manhattan without cars? Make the damn subways safe and clean. Get rid of the homeless riding the trains. Put a police officer on every subway, particularly at night. That will reduce cars and allow for brilliant ideas like this to even be considered.

### *Reduce drug prices*

Let's hope the new bill out of Congress will lower the price of drugs and put some competition in the market. And put a cap on the out of pocket costs for those paying exorbitant amounts of coinsurance to meet crazy deductibles. I see it with friends who have limited health insurance policies with high deductibles on expensive medications!

### *Shooting over Cold French Fries and sauce for Chinese food?*

And the mother of the French Fry shooter says her some has to do what he has to do. Crazy! We pray for the young man who lost his life over cold fries. How sick!

***Reach Eric Schoen at [thistoosyonkers@aol.com](mailto:thistoosyonkers@aol.com). Follow him on Twitter @ericyonkers. Listen to Eric Schoen on the Westchester Rising Radio Show alternating Thursday's from 10-11 a.m. On WVOX 1460 AM, WVOX.com click listen or download the WVOX app from the App Store free of charge.***

NOTICE OF SALE SUPREME COURT COUNTY OF WESTCHESTER DYNASTY, LLC, Plaintiff AGAINST CGSRE ACQUISITION CORP, ET AL., Defendant(s) Pursuant to a Judgment of Foreclosure and Sale duly entered October 22, 2021, I, the undersigned Referee will sell at public auction at the Lobby of the Westchester County Courthouse, 111 Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Boulevard, White Plains, NY on August 15, 2022 at 9:30AM, premises known as 68 Runyon Avenue, Yonkers, NY 10710. All that certain lot piece or parcel of land, with the buildings and improvements erected, situate, lying and being in the City of Yonkers, County of Westchester and State of New York, Section 3 Block 3112 Lot 59+60. Approximate amount of judgment \$1,792,943.78 plus interest and costs. Premises will be sold subject to provisions of filed Judgment Index #50855/2019. The aforementioned auction will be conducted in accordance with the WESTCHESTER County COVID-19 Protocols located on the Office of Court Administration (OCA) website (<https://ww2.nycourts.gov/Admin/oca.shtm>) and as such all persons must comply with social distancing, wearing masks and screening practices in effect at the time of this foreclosure sale. Anthony J. Centone, Esq., Referee CLAIR GJERTSEN & WEATHERS PLLC 4 New King Street, Suite 140 White Plains, NY 10604 50855-2019 72689

Notice of formation of Color It Black, LLC. of Org. filed with the SSNY on 01/28/2022. 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 Color It Black LLC, 33 Cliffside Drive, Yonkers, NY 10710 Purpose: Any lawful activity.

Notice of formation of Sweeney Tech, LLC. Arts. of Org. filed with the SSNY on 06/16/2022. 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, 14 Alta Place, Yonkers, NY 10710. Purpose: Any lawful activity.

Formation of LNE CONSTRUCTION, LLC filed with the Secy. of State of NY (SSNY) on 6/21/2022. Office loc.: Westchester County. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. The address SSNY shall mail process to James Saisa, 25 Harvard Ave., Yonkers, NY 10710. Purpose: Any lawful activity.

Notice of formation of Sutton E.L.S Ent, LLC. Arts. of Org. filed with the SSNY on 08/18/2021. 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, 103 McLean Avenue Apt.# 3b, Yonkers NY 10467. Purpose: Any lawful activity.

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 LaceMafia LLC Arts. of Org. filed with the SSNY on 4/20/2022. 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, 7014 13th Avenue, Suite 202 Brooklyn, NY 11228. Purpose: Any lawful purpose.

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.

## Classifieds

### ***Auto Donations***

Wheels For Wishes benefiting Make-A-Wish® Northeast New York. Your Car Donations Matter NOW More Than Ever! Free Vehicle Pick Up ANYWHERE. We Accept Most Vehicles Running or Not. 100% Tax Deductible. Minimal To No Human Contact. Call: (877) 798-9474. Car Donation Foundation d/b/a Wheels For Wishes. [www.wheelsforwishes.org](http://www.wheelsforwishes.org).

Drive Out Breast Cancer: Donate a car today! The benefits of donating your car or boat: Fast Free Pickup - 24hr Response Tax Deduction - Easy To Do! Call 24/7: 855-905-4755

### ***Buying / Selling***

Turn the boxes of old comic books sitting in your garage into cash money! Call George (917) 652-9128 or email [gbrook@pipeline.com](mailto:gbrook@pipeline.com)

Buying diamonds, gold, silver, all fine jewelry and watches, coins, paintings, better furs, complete estates. We simply pay more! Call Barry 914-260-8783 or e-mail [Americabuying@aol.com](mailto:Americabuying@aol.com)

### ***Education / Career Training***

COMPUTER & IT TRAINING PROGRAM! Train ONLINE to get the skills to become a Computer & Help Desk Professional now! Grants and Scholarships available for certain programs for qualified applicants. Call CTI for details! 844-947-0192 (M-F 8am-6pm ET). Computer with internet is required.

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### ***Miscellaneous***

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SUPREME COURT OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK  
COUNTY OF WESTCHESTER

In the Matter of the Foreclosure of Tax  
Liens by Proceeding in Rem Pursuant to  
Article Eleven of the Real Property Tax  
Law by the Town of North Castle

Index No.: 2116/2021

**PETITION AND  
NOTICE OF FORECLOSURE**

The above-captioned proceeding is hereby commenced to enforce the payment of delinquent taxes or other lawful charges which have accumulated and become liens against certain property. The parcels to which this proceeding applies are identified on Schedule A of this Petition, which is annexed hereto and made a part hereof. This document serves both as a Petition of Foreclosure and a Notice of Foreclosure for purposes of this proceeding.

**Effect of filing:** All persons having or claiming to have an interest in the real property described in such petition are hereby notified that the filing of this petition constitutes the commencement by the Tax District of a proceeding in the court specified in the caption above to foreclose each of the tax liens therein described by a foreclosure proceeding in rem.

**Nature of proceeding:** Such proceeding is brought against the real property only and is to foreclose the tax liens described in such petition. No personal judgment will be entered herein for such taxes or other legal charges or any part thereof.

**Persons affected:** This notice is directed to all persons owning or having or claiming to have an interest in the real property described in this petition. Such persons are hereby notified further that a duplicate of such petition has been filed in the office of the Enforcing Officer of the Tax District and will remain open for public inspection up to and including the date specified below as the last day for redemption.

**Right of redemption:** Any person having or claiming to have an interest in any such real property and the legal right thereto may, on or before said date, redeem the same by paying the amount of all such unpaid tax liens thereon, including all interest and penalties and other legal charges which are included in the lien against such real property, computed to and including the date of redemption. Such payments shall be made to: Ms. Patricia A. Colombo, Receiver of Taxes, Town of North Castle, 17 Bedford Road, Armonk, New York 10504. In the event that such taxes are paid by a person other than the record owner of such real property, the person so paying shall be entitled to have the tax liens affected thereby satisfied of record.

**Last day for redemption:** The last day for redemption is hereby fixed as the 15th day of October 2022.

**Service of answer:** Every person having any right, title or interest in or lien upon any parcel of real property described in this petition may serve a duly verified answer upon the attorney for

the Tax District setting forth in detail the nature and amount of his or her interest and any defense or objection to the foreclosure. Such answer must be filed in the office of the County Clerk and served upon the attorney for the Tax District on or before the date above mentioned as the last day for redemption.

**Failure to redeem or answer:** In the event of failure to redeem or answer by any person having the right to redeem or answer, such person shall be forever barred and foreclosed of all his or her right, title and interest and equity of redemption in and to the parcel described in such petition and a judgment in foreclosure may be taken by default.

Dated: July 8, 2022

Enforcing Officer:

Patricia A. Colombo  
Receiver of Taxes

State of New York )  
County of Westchester ) ss.:

I, Patricia A. Colombo, being duly sworn, depose and say: I am the Enforcing Officer for the Town of North Castle. I have read this Petition which I have signed and I am familiar with its contents. The contents of this Petition are true to the best of my knowledge, based upon the records of the Tax Receiver. I do not know of any errors or omissions in this Petition.

Patricia A. Colombo  
Receiver of Taxes

Sworn before me this  
\_\_\_\_\_ day of July 2022

Notary Public

Attorneys for Tax District:

Stephens, Baroni, Reilly & Lewis, LLP  
Attorneys for Town of Somers  
175 Main Street, Suite 800  
White Plains, New York 10601  
(914) 761-0300

**SCHEDULE A**

Parcel ID	Name	Property Address
95.01-2-1	Ramirez	336 Bedford Banksville Rd
95.03-2-17	Mook Baer	54 Hickory Kingdom Road
101.02-4-8	ERF	2 Elm Place
101.03-3-39	Anita Louise Ehrman	3 Greenway Road
101.04-2-28	Bank of New York	Windmill Road
102.04-1-33	Goodman	12 Cowdray Park Drive
102.04-1-35	Unknown	Bates Lane
108.02-2-72	Davis	7 Banksville Road
108.03-1-43	Stonewall LLC	145 Bedford Road
108.03-2-77	Colombo	Nichols Road
122.12-5-17.2	Lombardi	12 Rock Cliff Place
122.16-3-27	N White Properties LLC	698 N Broadway

**Mayer Seeks Nominations for NYS Empire Awards**

—New York State Senator Shelley B. Mayer today announced that she is seeking nominations of small businesses and nonprofits for the New York State Empire Award, which honors organizations that make outstanding contributions to the growth, prosperity and betterment of their community and New York State.

Senator Shelley B. Mayer said: “Our district is fortunate to have many small businesses and nonprofits that enrich our lives and create connections in our community. Whether they provide food, culture, a place to gather, or direct assistance to people in need – we benefit from their leadership, generosity, and innovation every day. I hope you’ll nominate one that has made a difference in your life or your community!”

To submit a nomination, visit [bit.ly/SD37EmpireAward](http://bit.ly/SD37EmpireAward). Businesses and nonprofits must be located in Senate District 37 to be considered. The deadline to nominate is Friday, August 19. For more information, call (914) 934-5250 or email [elavin@nysenate.gov](mailto:elavin@nysenate.gov).

**Levy vs DiFiore, Galgano Continued from pg 1-**

function to take legal action against Galgano by means of her interference.“

Levy also filed a grievance against Galgano in 2014, seeking his disbarment. “Unlike DiFiore, in December 2014, I filed a grievance against Galgano that included the jury tampering and filing a false statement with the court.. My complaint was transferred to Brooklyn on 1/2/15 and dismissed on 2/10/16. **This Committee’s decision to close the matter, in Galgano’s favor, without conducting any investigation reeked of a coverup.**“

Through evidence submitted to the NYS Greivance Committee which are attached in Levy’s complaint, Galgano was charged with trying to influence witnesses in a Putnam rape case; found with cocaine in his Westchester office while law enforcement was conducting a search warrant; and was accused of tampering with a juror in a Westchester case before Judge David Zuckerman.

Levy writes in his grievance, “On 6/17/14, my office’s wiretap intercepted a conversation during which Galgano, who was trying a case in Westchester County, gave his Office Manager Stefani Capolongo directions, both in a phone call and via text messages (which he later deleted), describing how a Westchester County prospective juror, known to her, should respond to voir dire questions so as to deceive the DA and court as to her partiality. Galgano further directed Capolongo to make sure no one talks to anyone, including the police, a directive that was followed because no one did ultimately cooperate with the police.”

At the time, Galgano was the subject to a wiretap on his phone, because of his attempts at tampering and bribing witnesses in the Putnam County rape case. Then Putnam DA Levy legally obtained the wiretap, which we have included above for you to listen to.

Galgano says in the call to his employee Capolongo, “She (the juror) should act pro-prosecution. She should say that I have friends who are cops, but I can be fair. So she doesn’t get bumped. Don’t tell her that I spoke to you.”

Galgano was attempting to place this juror on a criminal case he was defending before Judge Zuckerman. Galgano was never charged with juror tampering. Why?

The charges against Galgano for the drugs found in his law office were eventually dismissed, and he was never charged with this crime. Why?

Levy’s complaint alleges “The evidence is incontrovertible,” that DiFiore “abused her power, violated her oath of office, and violated the Rules of Professional Responsibility...to protect George Galgano from the consequences of his actions.”

DiFiore announced her upcoming retirement as Chief Judge after a complaint was filed with the Commission on Judicial Conduct.

Much more on this story at [Yonkerstimes.com](http://Yonkerstimes.com), and more to come.

**Lowey Endorses Gashi Continued from pg 1-**

County Legislator Vedat Gashi. “Legislator Gashi has proven that he shares my values. Currently he is the best Congressional candidate to fight for; affordable health-care, protecting women’s rights, sensible gun control, sustainable environmental reforms, keeping our communities safe, equality for all, honesty in Government and critical infrastructure investments. I strongly endorse him and urge all my supporters to stand with Vedat in the Democratic primary on August 23rd,” said Jaffe.

Some Westchester democrats continue to question why, County Legislator Catherine Parker remains in the race, considering the other female Democratic electeds backing Gashi, including two of her fellow county legislators.

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**TOWN OF EASTCHESTER PUBLIC AUCTION OF IN REM PROPERTIES**

September 7 – 9, 2022 – Online-Only Bidding -Registration Opens August 23<sup>rd</sup>

Auctions to commence promptly at 1:00pm and 2:00pm

[www.MaltzAuctions.com](http://www.MaltzAuctions.com) - 516-349-7022 - info@MaltzAuctions.com

**77 ALKAMONT AVENUE, SCARSDALE, NY 10803**



Two lots (larger one improved) sold together; the smaller lot is not a separate building lot.

Improved lot has a two-story colonial with four bedrooms, full basement, patio/deck, attached garage and a fireplace.

Bidding Opens 9/7/22 at 1:00pm and Closes 9/9/22 at 1:00pm

**Opening Bid: \$ 510,000.00**

**73 BELLA VISTA STREET, TUCKAHOE, NY 10707**



Two-story colonial with three bedrooms, eat-in kitchen, dining room, living room with a fireplace, patio/deck and one-car garage.

Bidding Opens 9/7/22 at 2:00pm and Closes 9/9/22 at 2:00pm

**Opening Bid: \$ 430,000.00**

Additional photographs, detailed information and instructions to bid online can be found on [MaltzAuctions.com](http://MaltzAuctions.com). The Auctioneer's Office can also be reached at 516.349.7022 or [info@MaltzAuctions.com](mailto:info@MaltzAuctions.com). Contact the Auctioneer's Office with any questions pertaining to the properties or the Online Auction Process.



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\*Source: Based on WOC follow-up survey

NOT SHOWN: Evan Gaines, MD; Vishal A. Mehta, MD; Patrick Murray, MD; Paul S. Ragusa, MD; Daniel Shein, MD; David Shein, MD; Eric Spencer, MD; Mario Voloshin, DPM, FACFAS



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**St John's Riverside Hospital Presents: Post Op Pain in the Neck Webinar August 17**

**Simon Morr, MD Neurosurgeon Speaks About Post-op Neck Pain Options**

Here is the registration link: <https://hipaa.jot-form.com/222145198333151>