

## Yorktown Residents Fight Proposed Cell Tower Near Granite Springs Wetlands



By Dan Murphy

A proposed cell tower to be built along Granite Springs Road in Yorktown has been met with opposition from more than 50 residents. Yorktown resident Jennie Sunshine writes in a letter to the editor, Fight the Yorktown Cell Tower in the Granite Springs Wetland & Next to Homes

“Don’t let them do it! Don’t let the Town of Yorktown sell or lease a piece of their wetland to put a large, unnecessary, 10-story cell tower directly next to my neighbor’s homes and backyards! I live about a mile north of the proposed tower and our family and neighbor’s cell service is just fine, including in bad weather. If you live on or near Granite Springs Road, around Curry Street (south), Sparkle Lake, Weatherby Street, Royce Court or near Quaker Church

*continued on pg 11-*

## Eastchester Supervisor Colavita Sworn In



Eastchester Supervisor Anthony Colavita takes the oath of office from Justice Janet Calano with his wife and family looking on

A Swearing-in Ceremony was held at tonight’s Town Board Meeting. Our reelected candidates were sworn in and are ready to start their new terms. Con

*continued on pg 7-*

## MLK In Westchester: 12 Visits Over 11 Years



L-R-Ossie Davis, Dr. King, Rev. Wyatt Tee Walker, Rev Ralph Abernathy, Phyllis Brown, Rev. Richard Dixon Jr., photo from White Plains Library Collection

By Dan Murphy

Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. visited Westchester on 12 occasions over an 11-year period (1956-1967), before his life was cut short on April 4, 1968, at the age of 39. In 2007, a memorial was erected in front of the county office building in White Plains to honor his life and time spent in Westchester. Dr. King’s birthday on January 15, 1929, was made a federal holiday in 1983.

One of the best summaries about Dr. King’s visits to Westchester was written

*continued on pg 6-*

## The \$5 Million Dollar Man: Peter Chatsky Congressional Candidate that Has Both Parties Curious

By Dan Murphy



Peter Chatsky

Westchester has had its share of wealthy candidates running for office. Republican Ted Dunn, who ran for County Executive, comes to mind. Dunn spent \$3 million to run against Andy Spano in 1997, losing 57% to 40%.

Nearly 30 years later, the \$3 million Dunn spent is about \$5 million today, which is the amount Peter Chatsky has floated as a possible check he would write to fund his own campaign.

Chatsky, a Briarcliff Manor Deputy Mayor who has vowed to donate \$5 Million to his campaign if he becomes the democratic nominee to take on Congressman Mike Lawler in November, has used his checkbook to garner coverage in the 17th District of NY, which includes Westchester, and some national coverage.

For a candidate in a crowded democratic field of 7 democratic candidates, Chatsky’s pledge got him in front of the pack. What does he stand for? According to his website, <https://chatskyforcongress.com.>, Chatsky states

The System is Broken. We’re Not Waiting to Fix It. We’re up against a corrupted government, a politicized court, and a party trying to erase what makes America strong. We won’t sit back.

Take on Big Pharma to lower the cost of prescription drugs.

Care Is a Right, Not a Privilege. Expand healthcare, childcare, eldercare – it’s for our future. Universal health insurance. Restore Medicaid, expand SNAP, and Universal Pre-K.

Clean Up Corruption, Restore Trust. Ban lawmakers from trading stocks. No blind trust loopholes. No excuses.

Supreme Court Reform—Now. The Supreme Court has gone rogue. Justices play politics with zero accountability. Set term or age limits—lifetime power was never the plan. Pass real anti-gerrymandering laws, national early voting,

*continued on pg 10-*

## Two Different Views on Minnesota ICE Shooting

From State Senator Shelley Mayer

“I am deeply disturbed and full of anger about the killing of Renee Nicole Good, an unarmed mother, by a United States Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) agent in Minneapolis on January 7. This action, and President Trump’s reckless defense of it, must be condemned in the strongest terms, and the agent and those in charge must be held accountable. The video is clear – Ms. Good was seeking to turn away from the officer as he opened fire.

“We have seen in case after case that President Trump and his administration have empowered unidentified, masked, unknown and untrained ICE agents to act as a domestic police force to instill fear in our communities, and to act outside the basics of the American system of laws. That must change. ICE must be publicly identifiable to the public, comply with our system of laws, and held accountable for their actions. Justice demands nothing less.”

At a rally held outside the county courthouse in White Plains, Mayer said, “Spoke my mind after the killing of Renee Good – we cannot accept a militarized domestic police force threatening and abducting our neighbors and our communities. Good’s death cannot be explained away no matter how they try. Hastings-on-Hudson, Mamaroneck, White Plains. Thank you to those willing to come out and speak out!”

Dean Politopoulos, retired Yonkers Police Officer and former candidate for Yonkers City Council President, said “If there is anything we learned in the last couple of years, it’s that people of good conscience cannot stand aside while law breakers act with impunity; we must support the men and women who enforce our laws and place themselves in harm’s way. This isn’t just about a shooting event that remains to be investigated, rather the notion that it has somehow become ok and justified to challenge our local and federal officers and intervene in law enforcement operations. This is a failure of decades without civic education and weak leadership by so many elected officials.”

“I stand with ICE and local, state, and federal law enforcement.”

Why do we print both on the front page? Because both can be true, and both opinions should be considered and listened to, calmly and with respect.

## Vigil Held for Maria Coto by DSS Workers After Killer Gets 23 Year Jail Sentence



From CSEA Region 3-This morning, the long-awaited verdict in the murder of CSEA member Maria Coto was announced in Westchester Supreme Court. Maria's killer was sentenced to 23 years to life in state prison.

Our union sister died last year after being brutally attacked while carrying out her duties as a Child Protective Services senior caseworker in Peekskill.

Following today's verdict, CSEA Westchester County Local 860 President Hattie Adams hosted a vigil outside the courthouse. The event was a sea of pink, Maria's trademark color. Adams thanked the jurors for their steadfast work, and noted the tireless work of District Attorney Susan Cacace and her prosecutors, who worked so passionately to get justice for Maria.

We heard from others, too, including Maria's supervisor and friend Christine Leoce and Jane Meunier-Gorman, our regional Occupational Safety and Health specialist. Mr. Anthony Christie, a DSS supervisor who is also a pastor, provided a blessing.

This is just the start, however. Our union's Occupational Safety and Health Department is working with CSEA units to move forward a project aimed at improving safe working conditions for the members of our union who work in the community like Maria did. We're also continuing the push for legislative action to improve caseworker safety and appreciate the support expressed today from Sen. Pete Harkcham and Assemblymember Dana Levenberg, who worked last year on initial legislation.

Westchester District Attorney Susan Cacace said, "We stand firmly and unapologetically for the safety of our county employees, and we will not stop advocating for new protections for county employees to ensure no other family has to live through the same tragedy as Maria's family. May Maria forever rest in peace."

## Stepinac Senior from Yonkers Accepted to Columbia



Archbishop Stepinac High School is proud to announce that Joel Kuadugah '26 of Yonkers, pictured above, has been accepted to The Fu Foundation School of Engineering & Applied Science, Class of 2030, at Columbia University, through the highly competitive QuestBridge National College Match program.

Joel applied to Columbia University through QuestBridge, a nationally recognized organization that connects high-achieving students from low-income backgrounds with top colleges and universities. QuestBridge is dedicated to expanding access to higher education regardless of race, geography, or academic interest. In 2025, the QuestBridge National College Match connected 2,550 high school seniors with full scholarships to leading colleges and universities across the country.

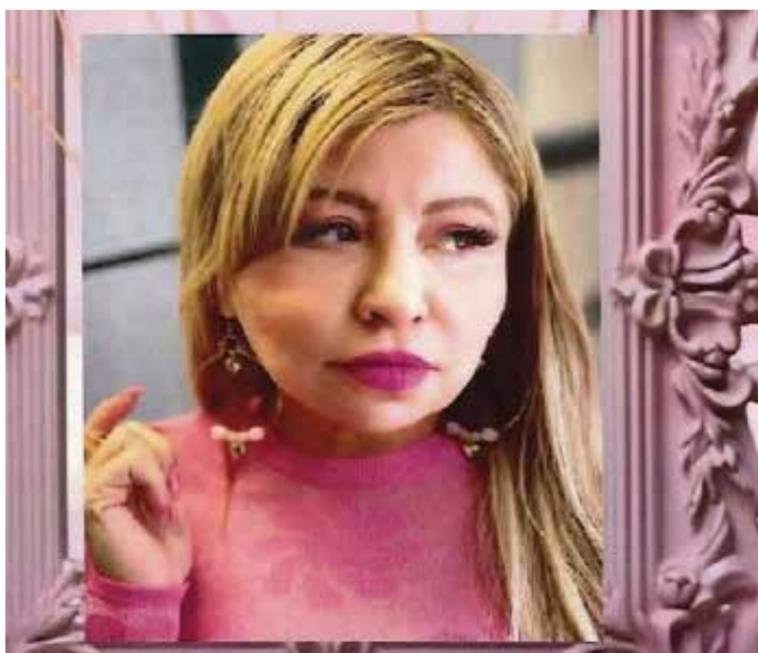
Through this match, Joel has earned a comprehensive four-year scholarship to Columbia University that covers tuition, housing, meals, books, and other educational expenses, ensuring he can fully focus on his academic pursuits in engineering without financial burden.

Reflecting on the moment he learned he had been matched with Columbia, Joel shared that the achievement was made possible by the support of those around him. "I am deeply grateful to everyone who has helped me along my path: my family, whose sacrifices and encouragement made this possible; my friends, who kept me grounded; the teachers and mentors who enabled me to aim high; and all the programs and communities that opened doors for me and expanded my perspective," Joel said. "This milestone reflects all of your support."

At Stepinac High School, Joel has excelled academically and as a leader within the school community. He is a member of the Susan & Daniel P. Mahoney '67 Engineering Honors Academy and the Latin National Honor Society and Math National Honor Society. Joel is also actively involved in Classroom Crusaders, Rotary Club, Coding Club, and the Business Ventures Club.

Joel's guidance counselor, Maria Buda, emphasized the significance of his accomplishment and the dedication behind it. She noted that Joel's success is a reflection of his perseverance, intellectual curiosity, and commitment to excellence, adding that his acceptance to Columbia through QuestBridge highlights both his academic strength and his determination to take full advantage of every opportunity presented to him.

Archbishop Stepinac High School congratulates Joel Kuadugah '26 on this outstanding achievement and looks forward to celebrating his continued success as he prepares to begin his studies at Columbia University.



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Send us your letters, announcements, opinions, photos & story ideas to [dmurphy@risingmediagroup.com](mailto:dmurphy@risingmediagroup.com)



## Latimer and Lawler Agree: on 3 Year Extension of ACA Subsidy: Now its Up to Schumer

By Dan Murphy

In a rare occurrence, Westchester's two members of Congress, Rep. George Latimer and Rep. Mike Lalwer voted the same, Yes, when on January 8, 2026, the House passed a bill to extend the Affordable Care Act (ACA) enhanced premium tax credits for three years. This was a significant bipartisan move that occurred after the subsidies had officially expired on December 31, 2025.

### Key Details of the Vote

**The Vote Count:** The measure passed 230–196.

**Bipartisan Support:** While the effort was led by Democrats, 17 Republicans broke party lines to vote in favor of the extension.

**The Mechanism:** To get the bill to the floor, supporters used a discharge petition. This rare procedural move allowed them to bypass House Speaker Mike Johnson, who had opposed a "clean" extension without broader reforms.

**The Goal:** The extension aims to prevent a spike in health insurance premiums. Without these subsidies, the Congressional Budget Office (CBO) and other analysts estimated that premiums for many enrollees could roughly double.

### What's Next?

The bill now moves to the Senate, where its path is more difficult: **The 60-Vote Threshold:** To pass the Senate, the bill will likely need at least 60 votes to overcome a filibuster, requiring significant Republican support.

**Potential Compromises:** Senate negotiators are already discussing modifica-

tions, such as a shorter two-year extension or adding income caps and "guardrails" against fraud to make the bill more palatable to conservative lawmakers.

**Trump's Stance:** President Trump has expressed opposition to a clean extension and has signaled he might use his veto authority if the final bill does not include specific reforms or spending offsets.

NY US Senator and Democratic leader Sen. Chuck Schumer will now have to forge a compromise and get 13 republicans to cross over and join with the 47 democrats in the Senate to pass a bill, or Schumer can bring several democrats to join with the republican majority in the Senate.

### Why It Matters to You

If you currently have a plan through the ACA Marketplace (like Health-Care.gov), the expiration of these credits at the end of 2025 means you may have already seen higher premium estimates for your 2026 coverage. If this bill (or a Senate compromise) is signed into law, those subsidies would be retroactively or prospectively restored, significantly lowering monthly costs for millions of Americans.

Rep. Latimer tweeted, "The hard work and determination of Democrats paid off today with the passage of the a 3-year extension of ACA enhanced tax credits. Today is a big win for Americans but the work continues. I call on the Senate to immediately take up this bill to lower healthcare costs!"

Rep. Lawler said, "Our healthcare system is broken and has been for years. Today I voted, in a bipartisan way, to advance enhanced ACA tax credits while we continue working toward a permanent fix that lowers costs for families across the Hudson Valley. I look forward to working with my colleagues in the Senate and voting on a bipartisan solution in the weeks ahead."

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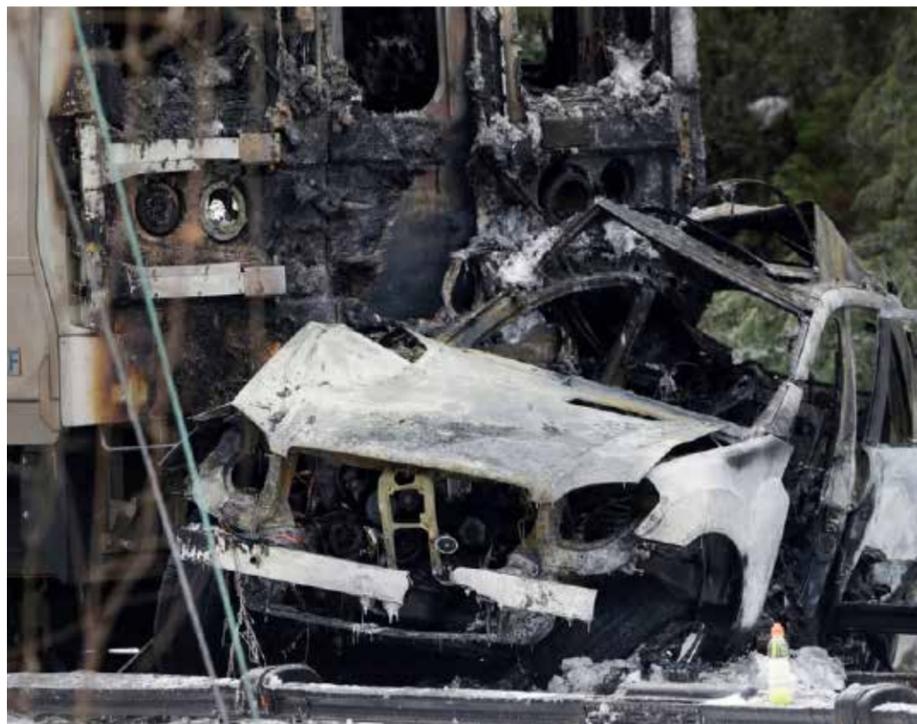
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**Community Baptist Church located in Yonkers, NY is seeking a Worship Director & Musician to lead weekly services and grow our vibrant music ministry. Candidates should be skilled in piano/keyboard, passionate about worship, collaborative with pastors and choir, and gifted in leadership. Responsibilities include directing rehearsals, mentoring musicians, and supporting special events. We offer a welcoming, Christ-centered community and compensation based on experience.**

**Please send resume and video links to Rev. Dr. Nigel O. Cole at revnigelocale156@gmail.com.**

Notice of Formation of Infinity Strategies Group LLC. Arts of Org. Filed with SSNY on September 1, 2025. Office location: Westchester County, New York. SSNY designated as agent of the LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail copy of process to the LLC, 255 Huguenot Street, Apt 913, New Rochelle, NY 10801. Purpose: Any lawful purpose.

## MTA Pays \$182 Million to Settle SUV-Train Collision in Valhalla in 2015



The MTA and Metro-North reached a more than \$182 million settlement in January 2026 for a deadly February 2015 train-SUV collision in Valhalla, Westchester, killing six and injuring many; the payout, one of the largest for a U.S. railroad crash, goes to victims' families after a jury found the MTA largely liable, with funds directed to the five passengers killed and other injured parties, following years of litigation over the crash where a third rail caught fire and pierced the SUV.

### Key Details of the Settlement:

**Amount:** Over \$182 million.

**Victims:** Families of five passengers killed on the train and other injured survivors.

**Fault:** A 2024 jury found Metro-North 71% liable for the deaths/injuries of train passengers and 63% for the SUV driver's death.

**Cause:** An SUV got stuck on the tracks, and the train's electrified third rail ripped up, piercing the vehicle and causing a fire, as per ABC News.

**Significance:** It's the deadliest crash in Metro-North's history and one of the largest railroad settlement payouts ever, as noted by Lohud and People.com.

### Background:

The crash occurred on February 3, 2015, at the Commerce Street crossing in Valhalla, New York, reports Lohud.

The SUV driver, Ellen Brody, was also killed.

Lawyers for victims have stated the settlement took too long and the issues (like third rail design) weren't fixed for years, according to Instagram and ABC News.

Notice of formation of MPMX, LLC. Arts. of Org. filed with the SSNY on 02/06/2025 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, 8 Lane Street Fl. 1 Yonkers, NY 10601 Purpose: Any lawful activity.

Notice of Formation of S.I.T. Staying In Touch LLC. Arts. of Org. filed with the New York Secretary of State on December 25, 2025. Office location: Westchester County. New York Secretary of State designated as agent of the LLC upon whom process may be served. New York Secretary of State shall mail process to: Donald George McIntosh III, 137 Morningside Pl, Yonkers, NY 10703. Purpose: any lawful act or activity.

Notice of formation of Hardcore In The 914 LLC Arts. Of Org. filed with SSNY on 1/5/2026. Office location: Westchester County. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process may be served. SSNY shall mail process to Hardcore In The 914 8 Arden Drive, Hartsdale New York 10530. Purpose: any lawful act or activity.

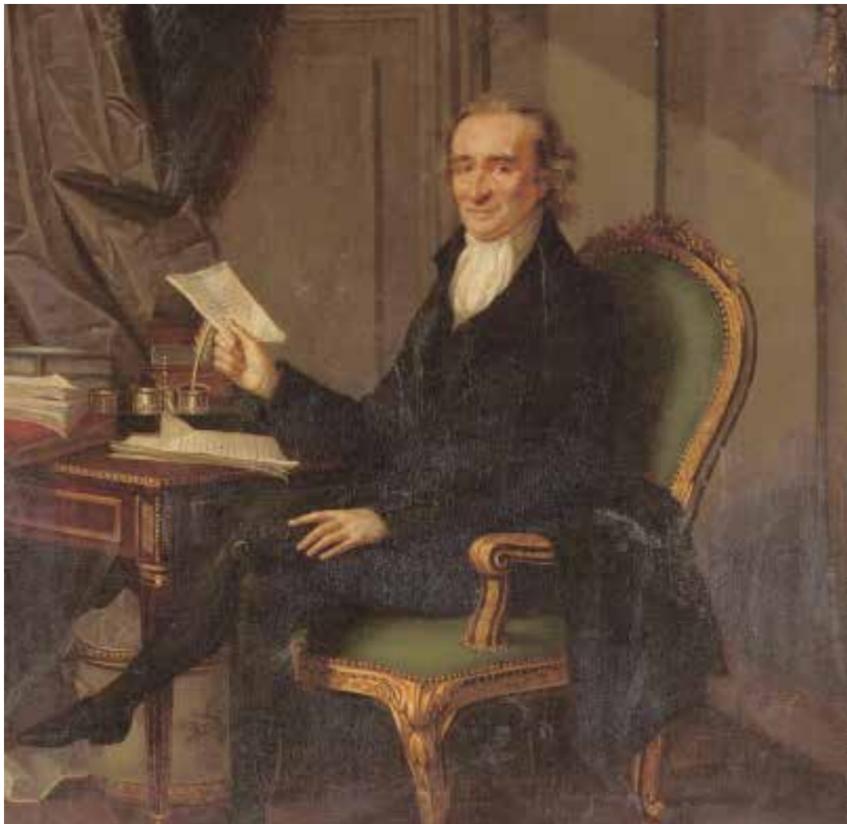
Notice of Formation of Schmoose Pack Projects LLC. Arts. of Org. filed with the SSNY on 09/20/2024. Office: Westchester County. SSNY designated as agent of the LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail copy of process to Bruce Wong 10 Station Square Forest Hills, NY 11375. Purpose: Any lawful act or activity.

Notice of Formation of Sets n Sweats LLC, filed with SSNY on August 24, 2025. Office: Westchester County. SSNY designated agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail copy of process to LLC: 515 Boston Post Rd, #1034 Portchester, NY, 10573, USA Purpose: any lawful act or activity.

Digital Infrastructure Services LLC, Arts. of Org. filed with NY Dept. of State on 10/22/25. Office: Westchester County. NY DOS designated as agent for service of process; DOS shall mail copy of process to 7 Ridgeway Cir White Plains, NY 10605. Purpose: any lawful purpose.

Notice of Formation of Lifestyle Rehabilitation, LLC filed with SSNY on 10/27/2025. 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, 56 Martha Place, Chappaqua, NY, 10514. Purpose: Physical Therapy.

“Thomas Paine and the Promise of America,”  
at the New Rochelle Library Jan. 17



Thomas Paine

Are you a history buff, or simply curious about the stories that shaped our world? Join us for the launch of “The Past Pages Society: NRPL History Book Club”, on January 17 at 11:00 am. Each month, we’ll explore engaging titles that connect history with art, culture, politics, and the stories often left out of textbooks. We’ll start by reading “Thomas Paine and the Promise of America”, by Harvey J. Kaye, in honor of the 250th anniversary of the United States.

Come share ideas, learn from different perspectives, and enjoy lively conversation with fellow history enthusiasts, register at [bit.ly/NRPL\\_PastPages\\_Jan2026](https://bit.ly/NRPL_PastPages_Jan2026)

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**Our Car Insurance in Westchester is too Damn High**  
**Hochul Makes Proposals in State of the State Address**

By Dan Murphy

Understanding that some of our readers do not own a car, one of the reasons why driving a car in New York State is unaffordable is that Car Insurance in NY is way too high. Governor Kathy Hochul, in her State of the State address on Jan. 13, proposed measures to bring down car insurance rates.

First let me rant a bit on this topic, and I think it will resonate with many of you. My family drives carefully has little or no violations or tickets in the past several years. We are concerned about younger, aggressive drivers, speeding up our ass and over the speed limit.

We are also concerned with drivers with illegal and fake license plates and out of state license plates. Why are there so many out of state cars on the road in NY? Could the answer be that the insurance rates in those states are significantly less?

“Governor Kathy Hochul today announced a series of common sense reforms to bring down auto insurance rates and take action against bad actors whose fraudulent claims drive up costs for hardworking New Yorkers as part of her 2026 State of the State. The new proposals include a whole-of-government approach to crack down on auto insurance fraud. These proposals build on Governor Hochul’s efforts to make New York more affordable and put money back into the pockets of hardworking New Yorkers.

“Car insurance rates are just too damn high, especially at a time when families are feeling squeezed by the cost of living,” Governor Hochul said. “High car insurance rates don’t just impact drivers, they impact all New Yorkers when businesses pass on increased costs to customers. These reforms will crack down on fraud, help drive costs down and put money back in the pockets of hardworking New Yorkers.”

New Yorkers pay some of the highest car insurance rates in the nation — totaling just over \$4,000 annually on average, nearly \$1,500 above the national average. Car insurance rates are driven up by a combination of fraud, litigation, legal loopholes, and enforcement gaps, with staged crashes and associated insurance fraud inflating everyone’s premiums by as much as \$300 per year on average according to some estimates.

**Cracking Down on Fraud To Lower Rates for Everyday New Yorkers**

Fraud is a major driver of elevated auto insurance premiums. Increasingly sophisticated actors stage elaborate accidents, designed to allow for “jackpot” payouts from insurance companies or jury awards. These schemes imperil the safety of honest drivers, cause property damage, and increase rates for drivers across the state. Increasingly, scams go beyond just one bad actor at the wheel and are orchestrated by organized criminal conspiracies.

Unfortunately, these scams are becoming more prevalent. In 2023, there were 1,729 staged crashes in New York State, which ranks second highest in the nation for incidents of staged fraud. In total, insurance carriers reported 38,270 incidents of suspected motor vehicle insurance fraud to the New York State Department of Financial Services (DFS) Insurance Frauds Bureau in 2023 — a record high. According to the Insurance Information Institute, staged crashes and associated insurance fraud inflate everyone’s premiums by as much as \$300 per year on average.

To combat these organized criminal efforts, Governor Hochul is taking a whole-of-government approach to cracking down on auto insurance fraud. The Governor will reinvigorate the State’s Motor Vehicle Theft and Insurance Fraud Prevention Board, empowering it to redouble its efforts toward zealously investigating and prosecuting insurance fraud across the state. This will include directly tasking DFS, DMV, DCJS, and NYSP with a more proactive and coordinated approach to enforcement, including dedicated resources and staff at both DFS and NYSP focused on auto insurance, and ensuring coordination in law enforcement response.

As the State investigates and builds cases against scammers and fraudsters, the Governor will ensure her agencies are partnering with prosecutors statewide to ensure crimes are not going unpunished. To equip prosecutors with the tools they need to shut down organized crime rings, Governor Hochul will offer legislation to ensure prosecutors can seek criminal penalties against any individual responsible for organizing a staged accident, not just the particular individual behind the wheel. Working hand in hand with District Attorneys across New York, the State will seek to help build cases that put an end to the organized fraud that’s robbing New Yorkers via elevated insurance rates.

Governor Hochul will also advance additional efforts to take on medical providers who participate in fraud by signing off on phony medical diagnoses that result in enormous payouts, increasing the probability that these white-collar crimes will lead to temporary or permanent loss of licensure for the providers who commit them.

State agencies will also seek to take action when New York drivers illegally register their vehicles in other states, which artificially decreases their coverage and raises costs for law-abiding New York drivers.

**Strengthening Insurer Anti-Fraud Programs**

Insurance companies must play a central role in tackling fraudulent behavior that targets their policyholders. However, current law handcuffs insurers’ ability to protect their law-abiding customers against fraud and abuse by capping the time they have to identify, investigate, and report instances of fraud to just 30 days.

To ensure fraud is being identified and punished, the Governor will increase the timeframe insurers have to report fraud and reduce barriers to alleging fraud in court, giving insurers more time to investigate claims and avoid paying fraudulent ones. Legislation will balance increased flexibility to crack down on fraud with the need to preserve crucial consumer protections, such as allowing policy-holders to collect 2 percent interest on any payment insurers hold back as an incentive to ensure insurers continue to move quickly on evaluating genuine claims.

**Limiting Damages for Individuals Engaging in Unlawful Behavior at the Time of an Accident**

When drivers are engaging in unlawful behavior at the time of an incident, they shouldn’t be able to win sizable insurance payouts. However, current law permits individuals committing crimes, including impaired driving, to receive generous payouts — including for pain and suffering and emotional distress — which are paid from the premiums contributed by law-abiding drivers.

Governor Hochul will cap the payout on these types of non-economic damages for drivers engaging in criminal behavior at the time of the incident. Specific crimes that would warrant the capping of damages include:

-Uninsured motorists, who have violated state financial responsibility laws, con-

*continued on pg 9-*

*MLK in Westchester, continued from pg 1-*

by Andy Bass for the Westchester County Historical Society in 2018. A special edition of the Westchester Historian, the society's quarterly magazine, features Bass's lengthy, detailed, and interesting piece. We encourage our readers, and lovers of Westchester history or MLK Jr., to purchase this magazine and read Bass's piece, available at the Westchester Historical Society's office in Elmsford for \$10.

This story is not online. We thank Bass for his historical masterpiece and use it as a reference for our story about King's Westchester visits for our readers.

Dr King visited Westchester to give speeches, visit friends and colleagues in the civil rights movement, and raise money for the Southern Christian Leadership Conference, his organization fighting to secure civil rights for black Americans in the South. We have taken out King's two visits to Yonkers to use as a separate story for our Yonkers Rising paper and online at Yonkerstimes.com.

Dr. King's first visit to Westchester, in May 1956, marked the beginning of his local engagements. He stayed at the Hastings-on-Hudson home of Psychologists Kenneth and Mamie Phipps Clark, whose studies on the effects of racial segregation on black children were key contributions to the Brown v. Board of Education case before the Supreme Court in 1954.

King and Dr. Kenneth Clark became friends after the Brown decision, and the Clarks raised money to help the King family's security. When King accepted an invitation to speak at an NAACP Legal Defense and Educational Fund Dinner at the Waldorf Astoria in 1956, the Clarks invited him to stay in their Hastings home.

Dr. King, Coretta Scott King, and their young daughter Yolonda stayed with the Clarks for one night. Bass writes that the 1956 visit was Dr. King's "only visit to Westchester in which he was accompanied by Coretta or any of his children, "and "the only time he stayed overnight in the country."

Eleven years later, King would return to the Clarks' home once again.

May 22, 1957: New Rochelle

The New Rochelle NAACP invited Dr King to speak to their branch during the Montgomery Bus Boycott in Alabama. Reverend Melvin DeWitt Bullock, president of the New Rochelle NAACP, was the Pastor of the New Rochelle Union Baptist Church and was leading a movement to desegregate the New Rochelle public schools.

In 1962, the US Supreme Court found that New Rochelle school authorities had, in fact, gerrymandered district lines to create segregated school districts. The court ordered the school to be desegregated, and students in its district were permitted to enroll at other New Rochelle schools.

On May 27, 1957, roughly 900 people filled Bethesda Baptist Church of New Rochelle to hear King speak in Westchester for the first time. King did not return to New Rochelle despite several invitations from Rev. Bullock. During the 1960s, King was getting hundreds of invitations to speak across the country.

Bullock and King remained in touch, but as Bass writes, both died before their 40th Birthdays.

In September of 1966, Rev. Bullock was found murdered in his New Rochelle home. There was no forced entry, and Bullock was found alone. 57 years later, Rev. Bullock's murder remains an unsolved crime.

April 19, 1958: White Plains

In 1957, King signed a book deal with Harper & Brothers to write about the Montgomery Boycotts. White Plains resident Hermine Issacs Popper was hired to help edit King's book. Popper had also been involved with the Urban League of Westchester. The two met at the Popper's White Plains home on April 19. King's book *Stride Toward Freedom: The Montgomery Story* was a best seller, and Popper went on to work with King on two other books, *Why We Can't Wait*, in 1964, and *Where do We Go From Here: Chaos or Community*, in 1967.

April 30, 1959-Mt. Vernon. Bass writes about a little-known event, when in early 1959, King was almost killed when a mentally ill woman stabbed him during a Harlem book signing. King underwent surgery and spent two weeks in the hospital. Several months after the attack, King agreed to appear at Mount Vernon's Grace Baptist Church, in part because of the large capacity of the church. More than 1000 attended and heard King urge them to become more active in the civil rights struggle, but to

do so without hate or violence. More than \$12,000 was raised for the SCLC.

March 31, 1960, Scarsdale. The Reverend Dr. M Forest Ashbrook, Deacon of the Scarsdale Community Baptist Church, invited King to speak. The invitation came in 1959; King agreed to speak in March of 1960, indicating King's hectic schedule and backlog of events.

Like King, Ashbrook was a committed pacifist, and King's topic in this address was "Loving Your Enemies." Bass notes how Coretta Scott King later wrote about the importance of this sermon, which she said "was built on many private discussions we had about Gandhi and nonviolence and the power of Jesus's love to change a person's heart and behavior. A standing room crowd filled the Scarsdale Community Baptist Church to hear King's words.

September 21st, 1962, Mount Vernon: King was invited by Reverend Richard Dixon Jr. to speak at a large voter registration drive in Mount Vernon. Dixon was the Pastor at Mt. Vernon's Macedonia Baptist Church. King and Dixon knew each other through their fathers, who were close friends.

Dixon also agreed to hold an SCLC fundraiser, and King agreed to attend. The event was held at the larger First Methodist Church in Mt. Vernon. Speakers at the rally included Mount Vernon resident, actor, and civil rights legend Ossie Davis. King told the crowd that "a threat to justice anywhere is a threat to justice everywhere. We will change the discord into a symphony of brotherhood. I firmly believe that we shall overcome."

More than 1000 heard King's sermon, and more than \$28,000 was raised for the SCLC. Dixon later served as the President of the Urban League of Westchester.

December 11, 1962, White Plains: The biggest event Dr. King attended in Westchester was held at the County Center in White Plains. Noted civil rights activist, attorney, and Rye resident William Kunstler organized the event. King took note of Kunstler's legal work on behalf of the freedom riders.

The 4200-seat county center would host King and Sammy Davis Jr. Prices ranged from \$2.50 to \$50, with a \$50 ticket including a reception with King. New York Senator Herbert Lehman and Westchester Congressman Ogden Reid were the event's chairmen. Jackie Robinson, Harry Belafonte, and Sidney Poitier also lent support. Expectations were not met: actual attendance was 3500, and the money raised was \$12,000.

Three months before the event, in September 1962, a member of the American Nazi Party rushed to a platform where King was speaking and struck him twice in the face, explaining that he became enraged with King when he announced that Davis would be on the stage with King at the county center. Davis had married a white woman, Mae Britt, and King's attacker opposed 'race mixing.

1964 Pocantico Hills: Another fascinating part of Bass's story is the relationship between Dr. King and Nelson Rockefeller. Rockefeller became an ally of King's starting in 1958, when he paid for King's medical bills after the stabbing, writing "The importance of your work to make the American dream come true for all our citizens. All who truly share in that dream shall do everything possible to assist you. This is the great moral issue before America today. I have complete faith in the ultimate outcome; the only question is how long, oh Lord, how long, more power to you," wrote Rockefeller to King in 1962.

When two churches were burned in Georgia, Rockefeller donated \$10,000 to rebuild, and when the SCLC ran out of money to bail out their protestors, Rockefeller had King's NY legal advisor Clarence Jones go to the Rockefeller family's Chase Manhattan, where he was handed a bag with \$100,000 in cash for bail money.

King agreed to attend a Rockefeller fundraiser for the Urban League of Westchester in 1964. 80 guests, including Jackie Robinson, listened to King talk about the Civil Rights bill before Congress. King argued that the Civil Rights bill should not be watered down. King criticized Senator Barry Goldwater for saying that civil rights should be left up to the states. "If such matters were left to Wallace or Alabama, it would take 200 years to complete...No state has the right to do wrong."

Nelson Rockefeller made a personal donation of \$25,000 to the SCLC after King's remarks. He also helped pay for and organize King's funeral in Atlanta in 1968.

October 29, 1956: Eastchester & Scarsdale:

King's last public appearance in Westchester was thanks to Scarsdale resident and real estate developer John Marquesse, who was close to King advisor Clarence Jones. Marquesse made donations to the SCLC, was active in the civil rights movement, and served on the board of Abbott House. King agreed to attend a fundraiser for Abbott House at Schrafft's Country Restaurant in Eastchester. A private event at the Marquesse home before the dinner was attended by 200, with another 600 attending the dinner.

King's sermon "The Dignity of Family Life" focused on a then-recent report by New York Senator Daniel Patrick Moynihan on fatherless black families. King said that Moynihan's report was alarming, and that the need was "to see it as a social catastrophe and meet it with an adequacy of resources." The dinner raised more than \$6000 for Abbott House and \$3,000 for the SCLC. King's address for Abbott House is the only one recorded and published.

May 27, 1967: Hastings-on-Hudson:

King's final visit to Westchester was a return to his friends Kenneth & Mamie Phipps Clark. Kenneth Clark has convened the leaders of the Civil Rights movement in the country to his home, including King and Andrew Young of the SCLC.

Some of those in attendance did not agree with King's objections to the Vietnam War, believing that opposition to the war would hurt the civil rights movement.

After King's death, Kenneth Clark said, "Martin Luther King was the closest to a genuine saint that I have ever known...Even when he was angry at the thoughtless or cruel things people said or did, he never expressed his anger...Great human beings are rare. I think he is among the greatest spirits civilization has produced."

Bass ends his work by quoting King from his 1965 address-"I have always appreciated the great support and the warm expressions of goodwill that I have gained during my visits to Westchester County."

What better way to remember Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. than recalling those he personally touched through his visits to Westchester? And thanks again to Andy Bass for memorializing his 12 visits, documented with 232 footnotes, many of which were used for this story.

The Effect of  
**ASTHMA**  
on the Black  
Community

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WESTCHESTER COUNTY  
AFRICAN AMERICAN ADVISORY  
BOARD ASTHMA COMMITTEE  
PRESENTS

**ASTHMA  
INFORMATION  
COMMUNITY FORUM**

Yonkers Public Library  
- Riverfront Library  
Yonkers Rm.

**January 26, 2026**  
6:00 pm - 7:30 pm

**1 Larkin Center, Yonkers, NY**  
10701

Breathe Better. Live Stronger.

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Contact Us:  
**914-260-4649**

## Eastchester Town Board



*The All Republican Eastchester Town Board for 2026, L-R-Sheila Marcotte, Anthony Giacobbe, Tony Colavita, Theresa Nicholson, Luigi Marcoccia*

continued from pg 1-

gratulations and best of luck to Supervisor Anthony Colavita, Town Councilman Luigi Marcoccia and Town Councilwoman Theresa Nicholson.

Thank you to Town Justice Janet Calano for performing the ceremony.

Colavita took the oath for a 12th, two-year term as Supervisor in Eastchester. 2026 will be his 23rd year leading the Town. He is the second longest serving Supervisor in Westchester County.

Greenburgh Supervisor Paul Feiner was first elected in 199.

## Senator Shelley Mayer Announces State Grant for Harrison Police Department



*L-R: Chief John Vasta, Senator Shelley Mayer, and Lt. Carmine Gentile*

New York State Senator Shelley Mayer joined the Harrison Police Department on Tuesday, January 6, to announce \$100,000 in state funding, secured by Senator Mayer, to assist the department in purchasing three new Harley Davidson Police motorcycles, equipped and outfitted with the proper lights, sirens, decals, and an additional battery. The Harrison Police Department's Motorcycle Unit will utilize these motorcycles for parades, funeral processions, and patrol operations when weather conditions permit.

State Senator Shelley B. Mayer said, "I am pleased to have secured \$100,000 in State funding to help the Harrison Police Department purchase three fully equipped Harley-Davidson police motorcycles. It is crucial that our officers have the necessary tools and resources to keep our community safe. Thank you to Police Chief John Vasta, Lt. Carmine Gentile, and the dedicated members of the Harrison Police Department for your continued commitment to public safety."

Harrison Police Chief John T. Vasta said, "I would like to take this opportunity to thank Senator Mayer for the diligent efforts in the planning, submitting, and awarding of New York State grant funds to the Harrison Police Department. This CREST grant funding has been put to good use – with the purchase of three fully outfitted Harley Davidson Police Motorcycles. Our motorcycle unit contributes greatly to the Department's Mission by improving highway safety through education and enforcement, as well as providing escorts of dignitaries and funeral processions."

The funding was awarded through the New York State Senate's Community Resiliency, Economic Sustainability, and Technology (CREST) Program.

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News in Yonkers and around Westchester

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SUPREME COURT OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK  
COUNTY OF WESTCHESTER

-----X Index No.  
Date Summons Filed:  
LAZIZI KHAMIDOV,  
Plaintiff,  
-against-  
TONYA DAZIAH JAMES,  
Defendant.  
-----X

Plaintiff designates Westchester County as the place of trial.  
The basis of venue is Defendant's residence.

**SUMMONS**

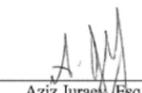
Defendant resides at 185 Riverdale Avenue, Apt. 8I, Yonkers, New York 10705.

**ACTION FOR DIVORCE**

To the above named Defendant:

**YOU ARE HEREBY SUMMONED** to answer the complaint in this action and to serve a copy of your answer on Plaintiff's Attorneys within twenty (20) days after the service of this summons, exclusive of the day of service, where service is made by delivery upon you personally within the State of New York, or within thirty (30) days after completion of service where service is made in any other manner. In case of your failure to appear or answer, judgment will be taken against you by default for the relief demanded in the complaint.

Dated: 05/12/2025

  
Aziz Juraev, Esq.  
Law Office of Aziz Dzhuraev  
Attorneys for Plaintiff

SUPREME COURT OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK  
COUNTY OF WESTCHESTER

-----X Index No.  
LAZIZI KHAMIDOV,  
Plaintiff,  
-against-  
TONYA DAZIAH JAMES,  
Defendant.  
-----X

**VERIFIED COMPLAINT  
ACTION FOR DIVORCE**

The Plaintiff, complaining of the Defendant, alleges the following:

- FIRST:** The parties are over the age of 18 years.
- SECOND:** This court has jurisdiction to hear this action for divorce. The Plaintiff has resided in New York State for a continuous period in excess of two years immediately preceding the commencement of this action.
- THIRD:** The Plaintiff and Defendant were married to each other on July 16, 2021, in Bridgeport, Connecticut.  
The marriage was not performed by a clergyman, minister or leader of the Society for Ethical Culture.
- FOURTH:** There is no child as a result of this marriage, and no child is expected.  
The Plaintiff resides at 515 E 7th Street, Apt. 3S, Brooklyn, New York 11218. The Defendant resides at 185 Riverdale Avenue, Apt. 8I, Yonkers, New York 10705.  
The parties are covered by the following group health plans:  
Plaintiff  
Group Health Plan: NOT APPLICABLE  
Defendant  
Group Health Plan: NOT APPLICABLE
- FIFTH:** The grounds for divorce are as follows: Irretrievable Breakdown of the Relationship for at Least Six Months (DRL Sec. 170(7)): The relationship between the Plaintiff and Defendant has broken down irretrievably for a period of at least six months.

**SIXTH:** There is no judgment in any court for a divorce and no other matrimonial action for divorce between the parties is pending in this Court or in any other court of competent jurisdiction.

**SEVENTH:** Neither the Wife nor the Husband needs maintenance.

**WHEREFORE,** the Plaintiff demands judgment against the Defendant, dissolving the marriage between the parties to this action, and granting the following relief:

- That the parties do not require maintenance and no claim will be made by either party for maintenance.
- That the parties do not require payment of counsel and experts' fees and expenses.
- That the Court grant such other and further relief as the Court may deem fit and proper.

The parties have divided up the marital property, and no claim will be made by either party under equitable distribution.

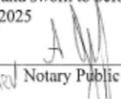
Dated: 05/12/2025

  
Lazizi Khamidov

STATE OF NEW YORK, COUNTY OF Kings, ss.

I, Lazizi Khamidov, am the Plaintiff in the within action for a divorce. I have read the foregoing Complaint and know the contents thereof. The contents of the Complaint are true to my own knowledge, except as to those matters therein stated to be alleged upon information and belief, and as to those matters I believe them to be true.

  
Lazizi Khamidov

Subscribed and sworn to before me on 05/12/2025  
  
Aziz Juraev, Notary Public

Aziz Juraev  
Notary Public  
Registration No. 02DZ6409183  
Qualified in Kings County  
Commission Expires 09/21/2028

My commission expires on 09/21/2028

## Two Westchester Parks to Offer Winter Mini Camps During February Break

Muscoot Farm in Katonah and Cranberry Lake Preserve in North White Plains will offer Winter Mini Camps during February break, beginning Tuesday, February 17. Registration opens Monday, January 12 at 12 noon.

Muscoot Farm's camp is offered to students in grades four through six and will run Tuesday, February 17 through Friday, February 20 from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Families may sign up children for one, two, three or all four days. The program fee is \$75 per day or \$250 for the full, four-day program.

Cranberry Lake Preserve's camp is for students in grades five through eight and will run from Tuesday, February 17 through Thursday, February 19 from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. The three-day session is \$225 per camper.

Both camps are designed to connect kids with agriculture and nature during the colder months by participating in a variety of hands-on activities that give them insight into outdoor skills, winter ecology, and life on the farm and in the forest.

Registration opens Monday, January 12 at noon for Westchester County residents, and Monday, January 19, for non-residents.

Muscoot Farm is located on NY Route 100 in Katonah. Cranberry Lake Preserve is located at 1609 Old Orchard Street in North White Plains.

Westchester County Executive Ken Jenkins said: "Westchester County Parks provide meaningful opportunities for children to learn, explore and stay engaged year-round. These winter mini camps create fun, educational experiences that keep kids active and engaged while school is out."

### TAX SALE NOTICE CITY OF YONKERS

Department of Finance and Management Services, Office of the Commissioner, City Hall, Yonkers, New York.

Pursuant to the provisions of Chapter 452, Laws of 1908, known as the Supplemental Charter of the City of Yonkers, as amended by Chapter 725, of the Laws of 1917, adding thereto a new article numbered Article V-a, as further amended by Chapter 487, Laws of 1922, and as further amended by Chapter 667, Laws of 1933, as amended by Article IX Section 1 of Local Law No. 20-1961, as amended by Section 57 of Local Law 11 of 1995, and any subsequent amendments thereto, known as the Charter of the City of Yonkers, I, the undersigned Commissioner of Finance and Management Services of the City of Yonkers, do hereby give public notice:

That the respective owners of the lands and tenements in the City of Yonkers on which any taxes or assessments have been imposed and became a lien and have remained unpaid for one year since the same were due and payable are required to pay the amount of said taxes and assessments, together with all unpaid taxes and assessments affecting such lands and tenements, which became a lien and were due and payable prior to December 26, 2025 with all penalties thereon remaining unpaid, together with the interest thereon at the rate provided by law from the time the same became due and payable to the time of payment, and the charges of this notice and all other costs and charges accrued thereon to the time of payment, to the Commissioner of Finance and Management Services of the City of Yonkers, at his office in the City Hall, Yonkers, New York.

And Notice is hereby given that if default be made in such payment, the lien of the City of Yonkers, upon said lands and tenements for any tax or assessment, which became a lien so as to be due and payable before December 26, 2025; will be sold at public auction in the Ceremonial Court Room, 4th Floor, City Hall, 40 South Broadway, in the City of Yonkers, on Wednesday, May 13, 2026, at 10:00 A.M. of that rate, for the lowest rate of interest, not exceeding 12 per centum per annum, at which time any person or persons shall offer to take the same in consideration of advancing the said taxes and assessments and penalties, as the case may be, the interest thereon as aforesaid to the time of sale, the charges of notice and all other costs and charges accrued thereon; and that such sale will be continued from time to time until all said liens of taxes and assessments shall be sold.

The transfer of tax liens to be executed and delivered to the purchaser thereof pursuant to the terms of said sale shall be subject to the lien for and the right of the City of Yonkers to collect and receive all taxes and assessments and penalties and interest thereon which became due and payable, of which became a lien upon said lands and tenements on and after the date mentioned in the advertisement for sale as stated herein, namely, the 26th day of December.

Each of the tax liens referred to in this advertisement will be sold subject to the provisions of the Federal Servicemembers Civil Relief Act and amendments thereto and Section 314 of the New York State Military Law.

Notice is hereby further given that a particular and detailed statement of the property affected by this sale, together with the total amount of the tax lien thereon, which is to be sold will hereafter be published in the official newspaper(s) of the City of Yonkers.

### FURTHER OR ADDITIONAL TAX SALE NOTICE

In addition to the foregoing Tax Sale Notice and Statutes therein described, the further or additional notice is given setting forth the lots and parcels of land, including the street address thereof, on which the tax lien is to be sold together with the aggregate amount of tax lien thereon, and the assessed valuation of every said lot and parcel as described in the 2024 Tax Rolls as approved by the Department of Assessment and Taxation and confirmed by the City Council.

The name set forth is that of the person, corporation or legal entity appearing on the tax rolls as the owner or occupant of the lot or parcel of land upon which the tax lien is to be sold.

The first item is the Comptroller's Tax Lien Number; the second is that of the person appearing on the tax rolls as the owner or occupant of the property; the third is the location of the property as described on the tax rolls which includes the Section, Block and Lot Numbers as shown on the Official City Map; the fourth is the assessed valuation unimproved as shown on the tax rolls; the fifth is the total assessed valuation as shown on the tax rolls; the last group of figures is the total amount of the lien which is to be sold.

**John Liszewski, Commissioner of Finance and Management Services**

tributing to additional cost in the insurance market;

-Individuals convicted of driving while impaired at the time of the incident; and -Individuals committing a felony (or fleeing one) at the time of an incident.

Limiting Damages for Individuals Who Are “Mostly” At Fault in Causing an Accident

New York is in a minority of states that allow drivers that are deemed “mostly” at fault in an accident to still collect extensive damages, including non-economic damages mentioned above. This means that in New York, even the driver deemed mostly at fault for an accident can walk away with a sizable payout for that accident.

Most states — including Colorado, Connecticut, Delaware, Massachusetts and New Jersey — however, have common-sense rules which only permit recovery of damages if a plaintiff is not primarily at fault for the accident. Governor Hochul will seek changes to New York’s laws that will limit the non-economic damages a driver can obtain if they are mostly at fault for an accident, introducing a measure of accountability for who is compensated by insurance after an incident.

Tightening the Serious Injury Threshold

New York’s no-fault insurance law allows for individuals injured in an auto accident to make claims for compensation that stretches beyond reimbursement for the medical expenses or lost wages associated with an injury. This additional compensation is intended to offer support for the pain and suffering of victims with serious injuries. The “serious injury” threshold is intended to screen out minor injuries from personal injury litigation in keeping with the original intent of the no-fault law to reserve litigation only for auto accidents causing serious harm.

However, New York’s legal definition of serious injury is vague, applied inconsistently, and can include temporary injuries that only sideline an individual for a short time following an accident rather than the more significant injuries that would merit further payouts. Without a fair and firm definition of serious injuries, individuals without significant harms may try to game the system to win astronomically high “jackpot” awards from courts associated with these harms—raising rates for everyone else. The Governor will reform the serious injury threshold by proposing objective and fair medical standards for what actually qualifies as a serious injury. This will create clear and objective criteria for what constitutes a serious injury, avoid unnecessary and expensive litigation, and will help stop instances where individuals are attempting to exploit a system to attempt to win payouts that are not aligned with the severity of their injuries and push everyone else’s rates up.

Ensuring Consumers, Not Insurance Companies, Benefit From Savings

Since the 1970s, DFS has maintained the Excess Profit Law as a critical consumer protection against auto insurers making excess profits on the backs of consumers. This law acts as a “circuit breaker” by requiring auto insurers to return any profit exceeding a certain threshold directly to policyholders. While carriers have recently operated at a net loss, reforms to the auto insurance law as proposed above would be expected to generate significant operational savings for the industry. To ensure that savings as a result of the Governor’s proposals are passed on to New Yorker policyholders as appropriate, if these reforms are enacted, Governor Hochul will direct DFS to re-examine the Excess Profit Law and in particular the current threshold trigger, ensuring consumers are prioritized.

Increasing Transparency For Policyholders in the Auto Insurance Market

Too often, auto insurance rates for policyholders rise without explanation, or relation to any identifiable change in context. In a time of high rates, New Yorkers deserve to understand when and why their insurance premiums go up. The Governor will increase transparency by requiring insurers to notify policyholders about rate changes, explain why the changes are happening, and offer additional context upon written request.

Improving Incentives To Drive Safely

While guarding against bad actors gaming the system, insurance companies should also seek opportunities to reward drivers who play by the rules and keep themselves and others safe. Governor Hochul will seek to reduce insurance costs by enlisting drivers as partners in her efforts to make our roads safer, leveraging technology to reduce insurance rates. Governor Hochul will require insurance companies to offer discounts on insurance rates when drivers opt into programs that have been shown to reduce the incidents of unsafe and expensive accidents. Under the Governor’s proposed reforms, New York drivers who opt into programs which utilize devices, cameras, or smartphone apps to monitor driving behavior will be eligible for discounted personalized rates, with safer drivers offered lower premiums. This initiative will help put safer drivers on the road while lowering premiums across the board.

## CORPORATION NOTICE CITY OF YONKERS-NEW YORK

### PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE

Notice is hereby given, pursuant to law, that the City Council of the City of Yonkers, New York will hold a Public Hearing on Tuesday, January 27 at 6:30 PM in the City Council Chambers, 40 South Broadway, Yonkers, New York on the following resolution, to wit:

### PROPOSED RESOLUTION

#### A RESOLUTION OF THE YONKERS CITY COUNCIL TO HONOR THE FAMILY AND COMMUNITY’S REQUEST TO HONORARILY RENAME PROSPECT STREET JAMES EDWARD DEGREE WAY

Anyone wishing to speak may sign up on the night of the hearing at the hearing site. Each speaker shall be permitted three minutes and speakers shall be called in the order in which they have signed up. Said hearing may be adjourned from time to time as necessary. Further information may be obtained at the City Clerk’s office, City Hall, 40 South Broadway, Yonkers, New York and on the City’s Website.

VINCENT SPANO, City Clerk

January 14, 2026

### NOTICE OF SALE SUPREME COURT - COUNTY OF WESTCHESTER

The Bank of New York Mellon Trust Company, N.A. f/k/a The Bank of New York Trust Company, N.A. as Trustee for Multi-class Mortgage Pass-Through Certificates, ChaseFlex Trust Series 2001-2,

Plaintiff,

Against

Ismael Vargas; Morel Carmen; Sonya Quintana

Defendant(s)

Pursuant to a Judgment of Foreclosure and Sale, duly entered 06/13/2024, I, the undersigned Referee, will sell at public auction, in the lobby of the Westchester County Supreme Courthouse 111 Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., Blvd., White Plains, NY 10601 on 2/10/2026 at 9:30AM, premises known as 27 Radford Street, Yonkers, New York 10705 a/k/a 25 Radford Street, Yonkers, New York 10705, and described as follows:

ALL that certain plot piece or parcel of land, with the buildings and improvements thereon erected, situate, lying and being in the City of Yonkers, County of Westchester and State of New York.

Section 1 Block 117 Lot 23, 24, and 25.

The approximate amount of the current Judgment lien is \$939,640.48 plus interest and costs. The Premises will be sold subject to provisions of the aforesaid Judgment of Foreclosure and Sale; Index # 51062/2019

Stuart Ball, Esq., Referee.

SHELDON MAY & ASSOCIATES Attorneys at Law, 255 Merrick Road, Rockville Centre, NY 11570

Dated: 12/19/2025 File Number: 35091 MB 1/30

THE CITY OF YONKERS/YONKERS PUBLIC SCHOOLS, BUREAU OF PURCHASING, One Larkin Center, 3RD Floor, Yonkers, New York 10701 (Located in the Yonkers Riverfront Library Building across from the Metro-North train station) will receive sealed Bids and Proposals for the following projects until 2:00 PM, on the dates below.

Sealed Bids will be publicly opened and read at the address above in the 3rd Floor Finance Conference Room.

The building is open from 8:30 AM to 4:00 PM for receiving packages via courier services and in person. If delivering bids in person, individuals must see the Public Safety Officer in the library atrium, who will contact Purchasing to meet the individual at the 3rd floor elevator.

Those interested in listening to the Sealed Bids opening and the reading of bids can dial Conference Call number 1-701-802-5221 and enter Access Code 1354203 when prompted.

Solicitation documents are available for downloading from the Empire State Purchasing Group website at <http://www.empirestatebidsystem.com/>. The City welcomes and encourages participation by local and minority and women owned business enterprises.

1) Bid No. RFB-7569 – Opening Date: 1/30/2026: 12-month period with additional 12-month period contract for Pick-up, removal, and lawful disposal of rock and dirt and asphalt from the City of Yonkers lots and yards (FB).

2) Bid No. IFB-7553A - Opening date: 2/6/2026: City of Yonkers Police Department 2nd Precinct Asbestos Abatement and Main Lobby Renovations (TN/MM).

3) Bid No. RFB-7570 – Opening Date: 01/30/2026: Furnish and deliver Cisco Nexus, or equal, equipment and licenses (NG).

4) Bid No. RFB-7571 – Opening Date: 1/30/2026: 2-Year Contract to furnish Laptops, Wi-Fi Hotspots and Digital Writing Pads for Yonkers Public Schools (CA).

5) Bid No. RFB-7572 – Opening Date: 1/30/2026: 2-Year Contract to TI-84+CE Calculators for Yonkers Public Schools (CA).

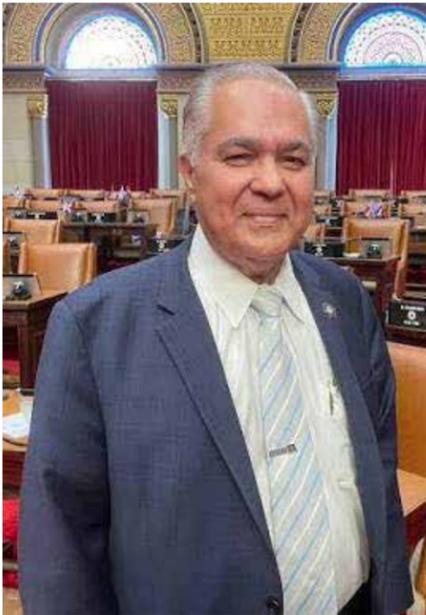
6) Bid No. RFB-7573 – Opening Date: 2/6/2026: Furnish and Install Xybix (or Yonkers approved equal) dispatch workstations for the Yonkers Police Department (UASI Federal Funds) (VB).

7) Bid No. IFB-7568 – Opening Date: 2/13/2026: City Hall Parapet Rehabilitation and Related Services (MM).

### **Westchester Rising**

PO Box 705, Yonkers NY 10702-914-815-1388. Proudly serving the the people of Westchester with hyperlocal news. Member NY Press Association. Legal notice inquiries to: [risinglegalnotice@gmail.com](mailto:risinglegalnotice@gmail.com). Daniel Murphy, Publisher & Editor in Chief, [dmurphy@risingmediagroup.com](mailto:dmurphy@risingmediagroup.com). Bayan Baker, Assistant to the Editor in Chief [risingmediagroup@gmail.com](mailto:risingmediagroup@gmail.com).

## Assemblyman Nader Sayegh Will Not Seek Reelection: A Lifelong Advocate for Yonkers



New York State Assemblyman Nader Sayegh announced last week that he will not seek re-election, choosing instead to focus on local opportunities while completing a strong final legislative year representing the City of Yonkers.

Sayegh has served as an Assemblyman representing the City of Yonkers since November 2018, bringing a lifelong career in education and law to Albany as a steadfast advocate for Yonkers. Throughout his tenure, he has been a leading voice on education equity, most notably helping drive long-overdue changes to the State Educational Aid Formula and highlighting the longstanding funding challenges facing the Yonkers Public School District.

Among his many accomplishments, Sayegh along with his colleagues brought reforms to the State Education Funding Formula to the forefront, helped eliminate sales on the purchase of diapers, and consistently delivered historic levels of state funding to Yonkers. He has also directed more than \$12 million in discretionary funds to the district, supporting education, public safety, parks, healthcare, and local community civic and cultural initiatives.

Sayegh cited the recent implementation of a new outside income cap for

state legislators as a contributing factor to his decision, noting that it would make it impractical to continue his successful law practice while serving in the Assembly.

"It has been an honor to serve as Assemblyman for the people of Yonkers," Sayegh said. "Together, we have achieved meaningful progress—from reforming the state education aid formula to securing critical funding for our schools and community services. I look forward to a productive legislative year ahead and will continue to be a vocal advocate for the issues that matter most to Yonkers and our schools."

While he will not seek re-election, Sayegh emphasized his continued commitment to the city, stating that his work on behalf of Yonkers will continue beyond his time in the New York State Assembly and is looking at all local opportunities.

Editor's Note: Several interested Yonkers residents have already announced their candidacies to replace Sayegh, most notably Frank Jereis. We will highlight Jereis and all of the candidates we can find next week.

## AARP Offers Free Tax Assistance at New Rochelle Library

Free, in-person tax assistance through AARP Tax Aide will again be offered at the New Rochelle Public Library this tax season.

Assistance will be provided on a first come, first served basis; no appointments will be available. Assistance will be provided on Tuesdays and Thursdays, beginning Tuesday, February 3 through Tuesday, April 14, 9:00 am – 2:00 pm at the Main Library, 1 Library Plaza, New Rochelle.

Trained AARP volunteer counselors will meet with patrons in the library's Meeting Room and on the stage of the Theater, in the order in which they arrive. If demand is high, some days there may be a need to stop accepting new patrons before 2:00 pm to ensure service for those already in line.

*Chatsky, continued from pg 1-*

and paid time off to vote.

End the War on Our Neighborhoods. This country was built by immigrants—and we're not going to let ICE terrorize our neighborhoods. No more raids on homes, schools, or churches. No more detention camps. Unmask federal agents. Create a real path to citizenship, now.

Last year, Chatsky called on NY Senator Schumer to step down from leadership during the government shutdown. "Millions of Americans have suffered during this government shutdown, and millions more will suffer if this continuing resolution passes. Reopening the Government hands a win to Republicans who had every means of funding SNAP, for example, at any time during the entirety of the shutdown," Chatsky continued. "Those who voted to reopen the government without extending subsidies for the Affordable Care Act are putting the interests of party insiders above that of their constituents. Senator Schumer has lost the ability to lead his peers, as well as the confidence of his constituents."

Chatsky already has ads running on YouTube, which blame both parties' leadership for the problem in our country today.

Chatsky's campaign is running on affordability and on bucking the traditional party system. Chatsky believes that Democrats must chart a new course grounded in accountability, courage, and a renewed commitment to the American people and American Democracy.

Chatsky was immediately criticized from both sides of the political aisle, with Republicans concerned about his deep pockets and Democrats concerned that He is not the best candidate to take on Lawler.

The powerful democratic interest group WCLA-Choice Matters immediately went after Chatsky. "For a man who claims to be a progressive, Chatsky showed a different side of himself this week. Using some of the \$5 million dollars that he gave to his campaign, Chatsky has portrayed a fellow Democratic Primary woman challenger as a "stereotypical female" unable to make her own decisions, just like many Republicans do when they say women can't be trusted to make their own choices.

"What do women have to do to be taken seriously? Let's ask Democratic Primary Candidate Peter Chatsky who chose to introduce himself to the public with a sexist ad clearly mocking front runner Democratic Primary challenger Cait Conley – a woman who graduated from West Point in the top 2% of her class, earned master's degrees from both MIT and Harvard, served 16 years as an active Army officer, deployed overseas six times, was awarded three bronze stars, and then was Director of Counterterrorism on the National Security Council.

"A person's sense of humor often reveals a lot about their intelligence, character, values, and emotional state. What does it reveal about Chatsky that he needs to turn a powerful, articulate woman into a floppy, straggly-haired marionette, a punching bag? That sounds a lot like Trump.

"Chatsky offered no specific criticisms of Cait Conley, who is a fourth-generation Hudson Valley native. One can only wonder if he finds going head-to-head with female opponents emasculating.

"This Democratic Primary must focus on picking the candidate best able to defeat anti-choice extremist, MAGA Republican Lawler, and all contenders must stop attacking one another. Women across the United States need a pro-choice candidate who can win back CD 17, end of WCLA statement.

And The Daily Caller ran a hit-piece on Chatsky's wife Susan (<https://dailycaller.com/2026/01/12/susan-peter-chatsky-facebook-posts-bible-trump-stupid/>)

"Chatsky, a former board member of a local Planned Parenthood center, mocked the Bible and appeared to compare it to a popular children's book series in a December 2021 post.

"I really, really, really, don't care about your fucking stupid Bible," Chatsky wrote on Facebook. "It's a book. Should we live our lives according to Nancy Drew?"

The National Republican Congressional Committee (NRCC), House Republicans' campaign arm, slammed Chatsky's inflammatory comments in a statement.

"Radical Democrat Peter Chatsky and his wife are despicable," NRCC spokeswoman Maureen O'Toole said. "They unabashedly support using hateful, discriminatory rhetoric and violence to get what they want. That is no way to lead, and Chatsky is unfit to serve the Hudson Valley in Congress."

In October 2015, Susan Chatsky posted a graphic purportedly showing the number of mass shootings that year through September. In an exchange in the comments lamenting several shootings that day, she called for more drastic measures. "I hate to say this, but I think we need to deport white men in their 20's. Or put them in internment camps," Chatsky said. "I'll really miss my sons." Chatsky later backtracked on her statement.

Seven democrats have announced their candidacies in NY 17 to challenge Lawler. They are: Cait Conley, an Army combat veteran and former national security official, and Rockland County legislator Beth Davidson. Tarrytown Village Trustee Effie Phillips-Staley recently got the endorsement from former Congressman Jamaal Bowman.

Other candidates include -Chappaqua resident Jessica Reinmann, Croton resident Mike Sacks, and former FBI intelligence analyst John Sullivan.

Lawler's district is one of only three that voted for Kamala Harris for President in 2024, and republicans hold a razor-thin 5-seat majority in the House.

Lawler's campaign sent out a fundraising email. "An ally of Zohran Mamdani admitted he is prepared to spend at least \$5 Million to defeat Mike Lawler and flip NY 17."

We checked Chatsky's financial disclosures, and so far, he has loaned his campaign \$750,000. Chatsky has held several "Lawlerless Town Halls," including one in Mt. Pleasant last month

**Send us your letters, announcements, opinions, photos & story ideas to [dmurphy@risingmediagroup.com](mailto:dmurphy@risingmediagroup.com)**

Letter to the Editor: Please Investigate and Report on Medicaid Fraud in NY

We have all been watching the fraud uncovered by Nick Shriley who found that the State of Minnesota paid Billions to Child Care Centers who were not caring for any children.

As American taxpayers, all of us pay for half of the fraud in Minnesota, the other half is paid for by Minnesotans.

I would like to find out how much money we are spending on fraud here in New York on Medicaid.

As a Democrat, I want to pay for any Medicaid claims that are legitimate, but I do not want to waste on fraud.

I want to know if there is an organization in New York that is either working on this issue, or if we can start one.

I am willing to help in this effort.

*Sincerely, Bob Koch, Ossining*

*Cell Tower continued from pg 1-*

Road and Evergreen Street, you might soon have a giant 130-foot cell-phone tower, bigger than any building in Yorktown – placed right in your lap. They are considering placing this tower on the north side of Granite Springs Road – opposite the lake (between Curry Street and Quaker Church Road). Right now, it’s an expansive, quiet, beautiful wetland with trees, nature, animals, and waterfowl. Don’t let your children and families grow up with long-term radio-wave cell tower pollution, possible chemical run-off, a large fire hazard, reduced property values and a huge, unsightly tower visible from every angle. Please attend the Town Board meeting on Tuesday, February 3, 2026 at 7:30 p.m. at Yorktown Town Hall, 363 Underhill Avenue to learn more and have the chance to oppose this project. You can also email the 5 Town Board members and Town Clerk: Supervisor@yorktownny.gov, sesposito@yorktownny.gov, pmurphy@yorktownny.gov, ssiegel@yorktownny.gov, igilbert@yorktownny.gov, townclerk@yorktownny.gov.

Sunshine added, “The wetland is also not a good place for a cell tower in that there are many delicate species that will be harmed from either the radio waves, radiation or possible chemical run-off from the various machinery that will be installed there or the possible, repeated spraying of pesticides, insecticides or weed killer that will run into the wetland and lake and perhaps into people’s backyards. Note, this lake and water way does flow into various brooks which find their way into other lakes, streams and possibly even the surrounding water reservoirs.”

Yorktown Supervisor Ed Lachterman wrote the following letter to Town residents. Subject: Proposed Granite Springs Road Cell Tower Facility

I am writing to share important information regarding ongoing efforts to improve the Town’s wireless communications infrastructure, specifically the proposed installation of a cell tower on Granite Springs Road.

Reliable wireless service is not a luxury—it is a necessity for public safety, emergency response, education, business, and everyday communication. In recent years, gaps in coverage have been identified in portions of Yorktown. These gaps can delay emergency services, hinder remote work and learning, and limit access to critical information.

The Town has been working in coordination with the Northern Westchester County Cooperative Wireless Communications Master Plan, a regional initiative designed to ensure that all communities in our area have safe, reliable, and modern wireless infrastructure. This plan emphasizes strategic placement of facilities to maximize coverage while minimizing visual and environmental impacts. Both the Master Plan and Telecommunication Infrastructure Analysis for the Town of Yorktown is posted on the Town’s website.

From the Yorktown Infrastructure Analysis, the map to the right [below], which is valid for ten years, shows the coverage predictions from the existing personal wireless facilities in Yorktown. The areas outlined in blue, including a large area in the vicinity of Granite Springs, illustrate very poor to non-existent wireless coverage, which are the areas in greatest need of wireless infrastructure.

Working with this data, Homeland Towers conducted an Alternate Site Analysis, to evaluate potential locations for a new facility that would address the Granite Springs coverage gap. They reviewed four properties, locations of which are marked in the photo below:

2850 Sunrise Street, Parcel# 27.11-2-19 This Town parcel is designated Parkland, however, also contains a water department pumphouse on a small +/- ¼ acre parcel. The available space around the pumphouse was deemed small given the underground piping facilities. The elevation is +/- 470’ AMSL and distance to the closest residence is approx. 200’.

2997 Curry St, Parcel# 27.06-2-30. This Town parcel is designated Parkland and located adjacent a residential Townhouse community. While the elevation of this location is good, it is sloping downwards towards Sparkle Lake and would require considerable grading in close proximity to the back yard of the residences. The elevation is +/- 500’ AMSL and distance to the closest residence approx. 200’.

Sparkle Lake, Granite Springs Rd, Parcel# 27.10-3-11. This Town parcel is designated Parkland and located on Sparkle Lake. It is also located adjacent to a beach/swimming area behind the Parks & Recreation Building. The elevation is +/- 490’ AMSL and distance to the closest residence approximately 180’ and approx. 120’ from the lakefront.

Granite Springs Rd, Parcel# 27.11-1-33. This Town parcel is designated Parkland and located adjacent to the ‘Hallock Mill Wetlands’. This parcel is a ‘flag shaped’ type parcel with 50’ frontage on Granite Springs Rd and widening after approximately 200’. The elevation of this location is approx. +/- 500’ AMSL and the distance to the closest residence approx. 420’.

The conclusion reached by Homeland Towers is that the Granite Springs Road location (no. 4) offers the most effective balance of technical performance, public safety, and compliance with zoning and environmental considerations.

A public information session is tentatively scheduled for February 3, 2026. Residents will be invited to review Homeland Tower’s site proposal, the findings of the Alternative Site Analysis, ask questions, and share feedback. Your input is essential to this process, and I encourage you to participate so that we can make the most informed decision possible.

SUPREME COURT OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK  
 COUNTY OF WESTCHESTER  
 SUPPLEMENTAL SUMMONS  
 INDEX NO: 66684/2025  
 D/O/F: 07/10/2025  
 Property Address: 10 Tall Tulip Lane, Yonkers, NY 10710  
 Plaintiff designates Westchester County as the place of trial. Venue is based upon the County in which the property is situate.  
 AVAIL 3 LLC, NOT IN ITS INDIVIDUAL CAPACITY BUT SOLELY AS ADMINISTRATOR OF RESTORATION III TRUST,  
 Plaintiff,

-against-

Unknown heirs at law of HERMAN AUERBACH, his next of kin, distributees, executors, administrators, trustees, devisees, legatees, assignees, lienors, creditors, and successors in interest, and generally all persons having or claiming, under, by or through said defendant who may be deceased, by purchase, inheritance, lien or otherwise, any right title or interest in and to the premises described in the complaint herein, all of whom and whose names and places of residence are unknown to the plaintiff and cannot after diligent inquiry be ascertained; LYNN AUERBACH AS HEIR OF THE ESTATE OF HERMAN AUERBACH, GARY AUERBACH AS HEIR OF THE ESTATE OF HERMAN AUERBACH, BOARD OF MANAGERS OF THE WINCHESTER HOMEOWNERS ASSOCIATION, INC., UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, NEW YORK STATE DEPARTMENT OF TAXATION AND FINANCE;

“JOHN DOES” and “JANE DOES”, said names being fictitious, parties intended being possible tenants or occupants of premises, and corporations, other entities or persons who claim, or may claim, a lien against the premises,  
 Defendant(s).

-----X

TO THE ABOVE-NAMED DEFENDANTS:

YOU ARE HEREBY SUMMONED to answer the Complaint in this action, and to serve a copy of your Answer, or, if the Complaint is not served with this Summons, to serve a Notice of Appearance on the Plaintiff’s Attorneys within twenty (20) days after service of this Summons, exclusive of the day of service, where service is made by delivery upon you personally within the State, or within thirty (30) days after completion of service where service is made in any other manner, and in case of your failure to appear or answer, judgment will be taken against you by default for the relief demanded in the complaint.

TO THE ABOVE-NAMED DEFENDANTS: The foregoing Summons is served upon you by publication pursuant to an Order of the Hon. William J. Giacomo, a Justice of the Supreme Court, Westchester County, entered December 15, 2025 and filed with the complaint and other papers in the Westchester County Clerk’s Office.

THE OBJECT OF THE ACTION is to foreclose a mortgage dated February 21, 2025 and recorded in Control No. 650643550 on March 72025 in the Westchester County Clerk’s Office covering premises k/a 10 Tall Tulip Lane, Yonkers, NY 10710 a/k/a Section 4, Block 4402, Lot 306.

NOTICE YOU ARE IN DANGER OF LOSING YOUR HOME

If you do not respond to this summons and complaint by serving a copy of the answer on the attorney for the mortgage company who filed this foreclosure proceeding against you and filing the answer with the court, a default judgment may be entered and you can lose your home. Speak to an attorney or go to the court where your case is pending for further information on how to answer the summons and protect your property. Sending a payment to your mortgage company will not stop this foreclosure action. YOU MUST RESPOND BY SERVING A COPY OF THE ANSWER ON THE ATTORNEY FOR THE PLAINTIFF (MORTGAGE COMPANY) AND FILING THE ANSWER WITH THE COURT.

The following notice is intended only for the defendants who are owners of the premises sought to be foreclosed or who are liable upon the debt for which the mortgage stands as security.

YOU ARE HEREBY PUT ON NOTICE THAT WE ARE ATTEMPTING TO COLLECT A DEBT, AND ANY INFORMATION OBTAINED WILL BE USED FOR THAT PURPOSE.

PLEASE BE AWARE:

(1) that debt collectors, in accordance with the Fair Debt Collection Practices Act, 15 U.S.C. § 1692 et seq., are prohibited from engaging in abusive, deceptive, an unfair debt collection effort, including, but not limited to:

- i. the use or threat of violence;
- ii. the use of obscene or profane language; and
- iii. repeated phone calls made with the intent to annoy, abuse, or harass.

(2) If a creditor or debt collector receives a money judgment against you in court, state and federal laws may prevent the following types of income from being taken to pay the debt:

- 1. Supplemental security income, (SSI);
  - 2. Social security;
  - 3. Public assistance (welfare);
  - 4. Spousal support, maintenance (alimony) or child support;
  - 5. Unemployment benefits;
  - 6. Disability benefits;
  - 7. Workers’ compensation benefits;
  - 8. Public or private pensions;
  - 9. Veterans’ benefits;
  - 10. Federal student loans, federal student grants, and federal work study funds;
- and
- 11. Ninety percent of your wages or salary earned in the last sixty days.

TO THE DEFENDANTS: The Plaintiff makes no personal claim against you in this action.

TO THE DEFENDANTS: If you have obtained an order of discharge from the Bankruptcy court, which includes this debt, and you have not reaffirmed your liability for this debt, this law firm is not alleging that you have any personal liability for this debt and does not seek a money judgment against you. Even if a discharge has been obtained, this lawsuit to foreclose the mortgage will continue and we will seek a judgment authorizing the sale of the mortgaged premises. Dated: December 18, 2025 Sandy J. Stolar, Esq., MARGOLIN, WEINREB & NIERER, LLP, Attorneys for Plaintiff, 575 Underhill Boulevard, Suite 224, Syosset, New York 11791 516-921-3838- #102696



**ST. JOHN'S RIVERSIDE HOSPITAL**

**COAT DRIVE**  
 BENEFITING OUR BEHAVIORAL HEALTH SERVICES PATIENTS & CLIENTS  
**JAN 12<sup>TH</sup>-JAN 23<sup>RD</sup>**

**ADULT ONLY**  
 NEW OR GENTLY USED  
 COATS • HATS • SCARVES • GLOVES

**DROP OFF LOCATIONS**  
 ANDRUS PAVILION • DOBBS FERRY PAVILION • PARK CARE PAVILION SECURITY OFFICES



**BEEZAK**

YONKERS HISTORICAL SOCIETY  
 YONKERS HISTORIAN  
 PRESENTS

*Yonkers Tea Party*

JANUARY | 24 | 2026  
 2:00 - 4:30 p.m.

Beezak Environmental Education Center  
 35 Alexander Street Yonkers, N.Y.

Program includes a presentation featuring Historical Balladeer Linda Russell and tea and light refreshments.  
 Afternoon Tea Attire




IT'S NATIONAL BLOOD DONOR MONTH

**BLOOD DRIVE**

**WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 28<sup>TH</sup>**  
 10:00AM - 6:30PM

St. John's Riverside Hospital  
 967 North Broadway | Yonkers, NY 10701  
 Cafeteria | S2 Level

**BLOOD DONORS ARE URGENTLY NEEDED!**  
 To schedule an appointment, please scan QR code below.



For questions regarding medical eligibility and travel, please call (800)688-0900 or visit our website at [www.NYBC.org/eligibility](http://www.NYBC.org/eligibility)

**New York Blood Center**

800.933.BLOOD • [nybc.org](http://nybc.org)



**LET'S SAVE LIVES**

**UPCOMING 2026 DRIVES**

- April 29<sup>th</sup> | Dobbs Ferry Pavilion
- August 6<sup>th</sup> | Andrus Pavilion

**Prepare to donate**

-  Eat well and hydrate
-  Bring a photo ID
-  Feel good and symptom free
-  Must be 17+ or 16 with parental consent form
-  Meet minimum weight requirements

For full eligibility requirements and COVID-19 information, visit [nybc.org/eligibility](http://nybc.org/eligibility).