

## MLK in Westchester: Twelve Historic Visits over Eleven Years



L-R-Ossie Davis, Dr. King, Rev. Wyatt Tee Walker, Rev Ralph Abernathy, Phyllis Brown, Rev. Richard Dixon Jr. photo from WP 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 built in front of the county office building in White Plains to memorialize his life and his time spent in Westchester. Dr. King's birthday on Jan 15 1929 was made a federal holiday in 1983.

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

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## Hochul: Free Lunch for Every K-12 Student



left: Gov. Kathy Hochul announcing free lunch for all K-12 students

By Dan Murphy

First Time in State History, New York Will Cover the Cost of All School Meals to Help Address Food Insecurity and Ensure Every Stu-

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## 8 Years After Her Murder, Family of Shamoya Mckenzie Get \$9.6 Judgement Against Killers

**"You will not kill someone and get away with it"**



the family of Shamoya at her grave



Shamoya McKenzie

By Dan Murphy

It has been eight years since Westchester heard the sad news that 13-year old Mount Vernon resident Shamoya McKenzie was shot and killed after being an innocent bystander caught in the middle of a gang shootout. McKenzie had a bright future and wanted to play basketball at UCONN. A federal judge

Sham- continued on pg 15-

## Westchester's Best & Brightest! 17 High School Seniors Named Regeneron Science Semi-Finalists



top left -Yorktown High School students Chinmayi Goyal & Makayla Winslow top right- Byram Hills HS student Andrew Levy bottom left-Ossining High School students Anthony Jiang and Haylli Yunga

See Story on page 9-

## Is It Over bBefore Its Begun? Democrats Nominate Jenkins for Special Election Feb. 17



County Executive Ken Jenkins, left at podium

By Dan Murphy

We received the following letter from an Eastchester resident. "Mr. Murphy, I have been a resident of Eastchester for 48 years. I have voted for, and supported Tony Colavita Sr., and Tony Colavita Jr. I was hoping that Tony would run for Westchester County Executive. He has not taken a salary increase in his job as Supervisor for two decades. He doesn't crave the spotlight and just wants to

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## Thanks Coach O'Donnell for 38 Years of Service as Stepinac High School Football Coach

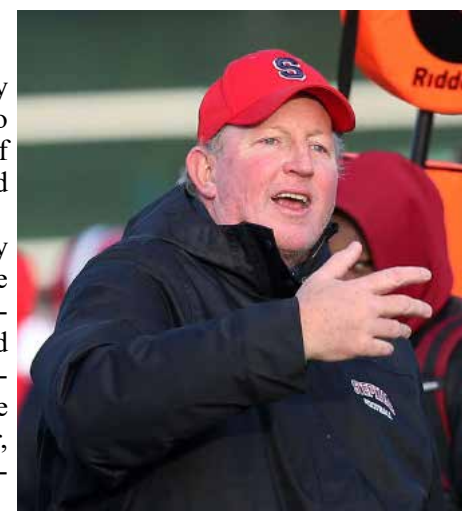
By Dan Murphy

We wanted to highlight one of the many coaches in Westchester who give back to their players over and over again. One of those coaches is Mike O'Donnell, head coach of Stepinac HS Football.

"After 38 incredible years of exemplary service and unwavering dedication, Mike O'Donnell, our esteemed Athletic Director and Head Football Coach, has decided to step down from his role as Head Football Coach. Thankfully, he will continue to serve our school as Athletic Director, ensuring his legacy of excellence continues to guide our athletic programs.

"Coach O'Donnell's commitment to Stepinac has been nothing short of extraordinary. For nearly four decades, he has been a steadfast leader, mentor, and role model, shaping the lives of thousands of students and players. His care, concern, and tireless efforts have left an indelible mark on our school community.

"We are deeply grateful to Coach Mike O'Donnell for his decades of dedication and the profound impact he has had on our students, our program, and our community. His leadership and commitment have left an indelible mark on Stepinac, and we are fortunate that he will continue to serve as our Athletic Di



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## Your Ticket to the Oscars – The Picture House- Bronxville Film Club Starts Jan. 20



**YOUR TICKET TO THE OSCARS!**

JOIN FILM EXPERT  
**JOE NEUMAIER** FOR A  
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NOMINATED FILMS!

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January 20th 7pm – A Complete Unknown  
January 27th 7pm TBA  
February 3rd 7pm TBA  
February 10th 7pm TBA  
February 17th 7pm TBA  
February 24th 7pm TBA

ALL TBA FILMS TO BE DECIDED AFTER  
NOMINATIONS ON JANUARY 19TH

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COMPETITION FOR FUN PRIZES

**THE PICTURE HOUSE  
BRONXVILLE  
FILM CLUB**

The Picture House Regional Film Center is excited to announce Your Ticket to the Oscars, a brand-new six week film club series starting Monday, January 20th, at 7:00pm in Bronxville. The series will be hosted by veteran film critic Joe Neumaier, host of The Movie Minute of 710AM-WOR, offering attendees exclusive behind-the-scenes insights, Oscar predictions, and engaging discussions after each screening.

This exclusive Film Club kicks off on January 20th with a screening of A Complete Unknown, showcasing Timothée Chalamet’s captivating performance as Bob Dylan. The five additional screenings will be revealed following the announcement of the 2025 Oscar nominations. The series concludes with a special free broadcast of the 97th Academy Awards on March 2nd in Bronxville, exclusively for Film Club attendees, who will also have the chance to enter an Oscar Ballot pool for a shot at winning tickets to a future Film Club series.

“We’re thrilled to start the new year with Your Ticket to the Oscars, giving our community the chance to engage with some of the year’s most anticipated films in a way that reflects our mission to foster a shared cinema experience,” said Clayton Bushong, Executive Director of The Picture House Regional Film Center. “With veteran critic Joe Neumaier leading the discussions, this series offers a unique blend of exclusive screenings, Oscar predictions, and behind-the-scenes insights, all in line with our commitment to presenting the best in independent, international, and classic cinema. It’s the perfect way to bring movie lovers together for awards season.”

“The film year 2024 brought us electrifying performances, dynamic scripts, masterful direction, and stories and viewpoints that illuminated the world around us,” says Neumaier. “I’m looking forward to bringing a selection of Oscar-nominated titles to The Picture House audiences, followed by in-depth talkbacks with my fellow movie-lovers – and hear what they think of these Academy Award hopefuls.”

Joe Neumaier is an on-air film critic for New York’s 710AM-WOR. He has been an entertainment journalist, movie critic, onstage moderator, and radio/TV commentator for over 30 years.

For more information or to reserve your pass for Your Ticket to the Oscars series, go to <https://www.thepicturehouse.org/tph-film-club>.

## Unlawful Demolition at Historic Ward House Violates Tuckahoe’s Preservation Law



Historic Ward House in Tuckahoe

Demolition Began Despite Westchester County’s \$2.5 Million 2025 Budget Allocation to Preserve, Protect and Restore This Historic Landmark

The Friends of the Ward House filed a petition in the state Supreme Court today seeking a judge’s order to stop a developer from continuing unlawful demolition at the landmarked Ward House in Tuckahoe.

The improper action by the developer—Biggest Fish Westchester LLC—directly violates the village’s Historic Preservation Law. According to the law, “the building department shall not issue a building permit for proposed work to a local landmark until a certificate of appropriateness has first been approved by the Historic Preservation Commission.”

Despite this clear requirement, village officials issued an interior demolition permit without obtaining the necessary certificate of appropriateness from the Tuckahoe Historic Preservation Commission. This oversight undermines the ordinance’s intent to safeguard local landmarks.

“This action is clearly a calculated effort by the current owner of the Ward House to engage in piecemeal demolition, gradually degrading the property’s historical value,” said Sal Provenzano of the Friends of the Ward House. “Such tactics are an affront to the preservation of Tuckahoe’s heritage and set a dangerous precedent for other landmarked properties in the village.”

The Friends of the Ward House urge village officials to enforce the historic preservation ordinance without exceptions and call on the community to demand accountability.

“Village officials must begin an investigation to understand how this permit was issued without proper approval, and steps must be taken to prevent such breaches from occurring in the future,” added Provenzano. “Any further work on the Ward House should stop immediately until the Historic Preservation Commission reviews and approves the data in accordance with the law.”

The Ward House was the scene of important moments in American history. Captain Samuel Crawford, a patriot and key figure in the American Revolutionary War, was mortally wounded and dozens of patriots were killed in front of the building. The house’s namesake, Stephen Ward, served as town supervisor, county judge, state senator, and Member of Congress, further cementing its place in history.

The Friends of the Ward House, a 501(c)(3) nonprofit, remains dedicated to preserving this iconic landmark. The organization calls on all residents to join in protecting this symbol of Tuckahoe’s rich heritage.



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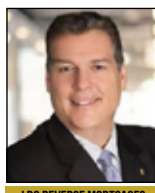
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## Westchester County Executive Jenkins Signs Land Acquisition Act - \$10M for Affordable Housing

## George to Washington- Ken to White Plains



99 Church Street White Plains

Joined by members of the Westchester County Board of Legislators, Westchester County Executive Kenneth W. Jenkins signed a Land Acquisition Act allocating \$10,000,000 for the purchase of property in downtown White Plains for the construction of affordable housing. The property includes two buildings located at 99 Church Street and 6 Cottage Place, and will support the development of 108 affordable homeownership units for first time homebuyers, and 89 parking spaces. The Land Acquisition Act is the first piece of legislation Jenkins will sign as County Executive, proving that furthering fair and affordable housing opportunities remains a top priority in Westchester.

Jenkins said: "We are continuing on our path to create as many affordable housing opportunities as possible for Westchester County's residents. Every member of our community should have the right to make a home here, and housing needs to be available at a price point that all people can afford. This Land Acquisition Act is filling a critical need, and when we allocate significant funding for these kinds of projects, we are helping to improve the quality of life for our residents and families."

Westchester County Commissioner of Planning Blanca Lopez said: "We are excited to invest in this development that provides opportunities for individuals and families looking to purchase affordable homes. This particular development touches upon several planning goals that we have been discussing for some time now. It implements adaptive reuse of a former office/dormitory building into housing, it addresses the need to increasing the number of homeownership housing, and it is a transit-oriented development located in downtown White Plains and near various modes of public transportation."

Board of Legislators Chairman Vedat Gashi said: "As we enter the new year, I am elated that Westchester County continues to prioritize fair and affordable housing, specifically homeownership. Thank you, colleagues, for your tremendous work on this issue and thank you, County Executive Ken Jenkins for your commitment and for signing this important law into action."

Legislator Jewel Williams Johnson said: "I am deeply thrilled and grateful that the first legislative act signed by newly appointed Westchester County Executive Ken Jenkins is the approval of an adaptive reuse affordable housing project in my district. This transformative initiative will bring 108 affordable condominium units to Westchester, offering hope and opportunity for families seeking the stability and pride of homeownership. At a time when our County urgently needs more affordable housing options, this project is a testament to our shared commitment to building a stronger, more equitable community. I applaud County Executive Jenkins for making this a priority and standing with us in the fight for housing affordability."

Legislator Shanae Williams said: "As the Housing Chair, I am proud to kick the year off by supporting this Land Acquisition Act that will help create much-needed affordable homeownership opportunities for Westchester residents. It's our goal at the BOL to focus more on affordable home ownership, not just rentals, so Westchester residents can invest here and raise their families here. This is just the beginning and we hope to see more municipalities throughout Westchester follow suit, with our support."



By Eric Wolf Schoen

It seems like our election cycles get longer and longer! And this one won't be finished until, according to plan there is a special election for County Executive in February! This to fill the seat vacated by George Latimer in his Congressional quest.

Can we come up with some way to lessen the number of elections! This has got to cause the county a lot of money. I never thought I would say it but maybe we need public financing.

But you know what? Ken Jenkins could save the county a lot of money piggy banking off one of his last roles. One day I walked into the APPLE Store at Ridge Hill and who was behind the Genius Desk, the APPLE version of a Help Desk! Mr. Jenkins himself.

No I am not crazy. Other than the dentist there is no place I would rather not be than the APPLE store. Mr. Jenkins told me there was a least 1 County Legislator that agreed with me. How money saving it would be to have Mr. Jenkins as the County computer guru, and how time saving it would be for a journalist like me to go to the 9th floor for some computer help.

So many issues face our county. A battery control system to prevent the dangers caused by these highly explosive batteries throughout the county. One issue I know many people are concerned about is the lack of buses on major holidays. The lack of buses on major holidays? This affects people going to grandma's house Christmas Day as well as workers trying to earn some money on major holidays.

So George Latimer goes to Washington. So many issues before Congress right now. When I look at my electric bill it seems to go up and up everyday. You think twice before you take that car for a spin. Just make sure your car is tuned up you're putting winter fluids in it. And that we are producing fuel in this country as opposed to purchasing gas from far abroad.

It just boggles my mind when I see the price for prescription drugs particularly after my recent hospital stay. If Canada can cap the price, why can't we? Why is our country not buying cheaper drugs from Canada. Bottom line: too much money from lobbyists and drug manufactures makes the cost of drugs so high!

Getting drugs into hands of good people who really need them and away from those that abuse them. That's the way the system is supposed to work. I can never figure out why it's so hard to track legal drug distribution in our country.

Congressional hearings on the names of those who will lead this country. Well, that's always a problem. Somehow even the most off the wall candidate gets through to a seat in the Presidents cabinet.

All we can do is pray that we have selected the best County Executive and Congressman to do the job. Congratulations and welcome to your new jobs serving the people of Westchester and our country.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR LOVELY NOTES:

You may have read that my sister and I donated 500 dreidels to the students of the new Sotomayer School in memory of my parents, Rita and Sidney Schoen. The students were enjoying Christmas, and we wanted them to enjoy our holiday in this, the first year of a magnificent new school. Principal Elda Mejias was so

*continued on pg 12-*

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## John Allen Announces Campaign to Succeed Westchester County Clerk Tim Idoni



*"We must finish the job" declares long-serving Deputy County Clerk John Allen, left*

Deputy Westchester County Clerk John Allen, an active Port Chester Democrat and one of the architects behind the County's best-in-state governmental systems, today announced his candidacy to succeed his mentor Tim Idoni as Westchester County Clerk.

"These are challenging times for government, public service and our democracy," said Allen. "For the last 19 years, it has been my honor to serve as Deputy County Clerk here in Westchester and to help Tim Idoni implement a vision for truly collaborative and transparent government – a model for how county government should operate and frankly, a testament to Democratic leadership in Westchester.

"We should continue to build on this legacy of innovation and progress. That is why I am officially announcing my campaign for Westchester County Clerk."

Allen brings unmatched experience and knowledge to the position. As Deputy County Clerk for Technology Initiatives, Allen helped to lead a transformation in responsiveness, accessibility, accountability and transparency in how our county government operates as the Clerk's office worked to eliminate paper and increase electronic transactions that reduce costs, while improving speed and quality of services for residents and professionals alike.

"These are dangerous times for those of us who believe in building trust in government," said Allen. "We in Westchester have been building a stronger relationship with the residents of the county over the last two decades. I do not undertake this campaign lightly, and I know there are other candidates who will make persuasive political cases for the Democratic nomination – but I urge our Democratic committees and district leaders to consider experience, vision, and accomplishment in the office."

Under Allen's leadership, the Office of the County Clerk has used new technology to improve efficiency, has spearheaded legal e-filing through the NYS-CEF system, which has expanded and improved throughout the State due largely to the early participation and feedback from the Westchester County Clerk. After County Clerk Idoni successfully lobbied the State Legislature to pass an eRecording law, Westchester County was the first county in the state to record a land record that was electronically transmitted, enabling the Westchester County Clerk's Office to record documents within minutes of being received. Under Allen's leadership, the office expanded the scanning of legal records and developed a new portal, Westchester Records Online, to enable residents to easily access records from anywhere in the world.

"As my colleagues in government know, this has saved the County significant funds, allowing for expenditures elsewhere and zero tax increases," said Allen. "I intend to continue to implement efficiencies through professional management and innovative technology initiatives."

Allen is native of the County, and a longtime resident of Port Chester, where he serves as an elected Trustee. For two decades, he has worked to preserve voting rights and ballot access as a leader of the New York Democratic Lawyers Council.

"Our County Clerk's office is recognized by our peers as the best in New York State," said Allen. "I am very proud of that record, and we need to make sure that it continues. As we've seen elsewhere in County government, this is a real opportunity for an experienced and fully vetted Deputy to step up into the leadership role without any interruption of service or changes in policy."

Allen has been meeting with Democratic committees and district leaders in anticipation of next month's Democratic nominating convention. He will appear with other candidates before the Executive Committee at the Democratic Party's January 15th meeting.

## In Trouble with the IRS or the NYS Tax Department?

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## White Plains Council Member Justin Brasch Announces Mayoral Campaign



*White Plains Common Council Member Justin Brasch Announces Mayoral Campaign*

Democratic White Plains Common Council Member Justin Brasch announced his mayoral campaign at a rally with numerous Democratic leaders and supporters on Jan. 8. State Senator Shelley Mayer; Assemblymember Chris Burdick; Democratic Majority Leader of the County Legislature Tyrae Woodson Samuels; County Legislators Judah Holstein, Jewel Williams Johnson, and Terry Clements; White Plains Council Members John Martin, Rich Payne, and Victoria Presser; and White Plains Democratic Chair Tim James were in attendance.

"Since moving to White Plains 22 years ago, I have served on the Budget Committee for Westchester County, the Planning Board for the White Plains, on the Budget Committee for the School Board, as President of the Common Council and Chair of the Youth Bureau. I am excited to announce my Candidacy for Mayor of White Plains as a continuation of this public service," said Brasch.

"This is a tremendous responsibility, and if the voters choose to honor me with this position, it is something that I am sincerely looking forward to because I believe that we must carry on Mayor Roach's legacy and keep our diverse and thriving City moving in the right direction.

"I plan to lead my campaign as I will lead the city – bringing people together, creating an inclusive movement, facing challenges head-on, and uplifting the most vulnerable in our community. I am committed to increasing affordable housing and making our city sustainable to build a better future for our youth. We need to create more accessible parks and green spaces, and improve our climate resiliency," said Brasch.

A resident of White Plains for over 20 years, Justin is a landlord-tenant attorney. He was first elected to the Common Council in 2017 and has served as Council President and as Chair of the White Plains Youth Bureau. Justin is a longtime Democratic leader and has been involved with numerous community organizations, including White Plains Planning Board; White Plains School Board Budget Advisory Committee; Westchester County Legislature's Citizens Budget Advisory Committee; White Plains Multimodal Transportation Center Stakeholder Task Force; NYC Sierra Club Political Committee; and Mid-Manhattan NAACP. Justin and his wife Juli have three children.

## AARP Offers Free Tax Assistance at New Rochelle Library

*Assistance offered Tuesdays and Thursdays, beginning Tuesday, February 4*

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 4 through Tuesday, April 15, 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. Participants are reminded to bring with them last year's federal and state returns and supporting documentation, as well as an official photo identification and a social security card, or other comparable documentation. Tax documents should be printed out to ensure accuracy. Learn more at [nrpl.org](http://nrpl.org).

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## Letter to the Editor:

**Dear Editor:**

I'm a mother who fears for my family in a warming world.

I'm writing to urge you to increase your coverage of corporate responsibility in fashion. Corporations continue to pollute, and it is only through greater transparency that we will achieve change in this sector.

Some actions we would like to see include referencing the Stand Earth Scorecard, detailed articles about what fashion corporations are doing to reduce their emissions, and coverage of key legislation.

<https://stand.earth/fashion/>

Please support these important actions to educate the public and help save our planet.

*Sincerely Diana Wendell, Hastings On Hudson, New York*

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### BYE-BYE BIDEN—

As the “Biden Bunch,” prepares to “ride into the sunset”, a brief summary of his administration, can be summed up as follows, “No Socialist government conducting the entire life and industry of the country could afford to allow free, sharp, or violently-worded expressions of public discontent. They would have to fall back on some form of Gestapo, no doubt very humanely directed in the first instance. And this would nip opinion in the bud; it would stop criticism as it reared its head, and it would gather all the power to the supreme party and the party leaders, rising like stately pinnacles above their vast bureaucracies of civil servants, no longer servants, and no longer civil, and where would the ordinary simple folk—the common people, as they like to call them in America—where would they be, once this mighty organism had got them in its grip.”

(Sir Winston Churchill—“Party Politics Again” 1945)

*Joe Pettit, Yorktown Hts.*

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### Yonkers Anti-Roommate Bill: A Threat to Affordable Housing and Community Stability

*By Virginia Perez*

The Yonkers City Council didn't get the memo. New York families are hurting. We can barely pay our bills. Rising costs have affected everything from the quality of food we serve our children — fresh produce is for rich people now — to home thermostat settings which seem to drop another degree or two with every passing year.

But of all our rising expenses, housing is the worst. Ask the Governor. Ask the State Legislature. Or just look at the data. New York is suffering a massive housing crisis, so why would the Yonkers City Council do anything to make it worse?

The Council is bizarrely considering an ill-conceived “anti-roommate” bill that would devastate hardworking residents in single-family and two-family homes across the city, particularly on the west-side of Yonkers where I grew up. As written, the proposed law would presume that more than three unrelated people living in a home do not constitute a “family.” This arbitrary definition targets individuals sharing homes with friends, coworkers, or others, subjecting them to fines and even eviction at the sole discretion of the building commissioner.

This legislation is not just impractical—it's dangerous. A similar law passed in Austin, Texas, a decade ago led to skyrocketing rents and an affordability crisis there. Recognizing the harm caused, the Austin City Council reversed course in 2023, dismantling the restrictive policy. As Austin council member Zo Qadri aptly put it, “At a time when the state [legislature] is doing the most to police marginalized people's lives, and a time when rents continue to go up over \$200 a month upon renewal, the city of Austin must stop policing people's relationships they choose in order to afford housing in this city.”

Beyond the devastating impact on residents, this bill could also jeopardize Yonkers' future funding. The city receives grant funds from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development and Westchester County, and one of the stipulations of this funding is that Yonkers must not enact legislation that makes housing less affordable, which is exactly what this legislation would do. By driving up housing costs and limiting shared housing options, this bill directly contradicts that requirement, potentially putting critical grant funding at risk. This action leaves the City at risk of litigation, a potential loss of millions of dollars in funding, and a consequent increase in taxes to make up any shortfall. No one wants that.

Many single, hardworking residents rely on shared housing to make ends meet. It's how people get by in inflationary times like these. If this law passes, the city risks creating a cascade of evictions, further reducing affordable housing options and punishing those who are simply trying to live within their means. Instead of policing personal relationships, Yonkers must prioritize policies that expand access to affordable housing and protect residents from displacement.

Everyone knows that working- and middle-class New Yorkers are feeling the pinch. “Affordability” is the new buzzword for politicians on both sides of the aisle. Whether they do or don't, our elected leaders want us to believe they're feeling our pain. Except in Yonkers. Here, evidently, the message hasn't arrived.

Please contact your local council members to express your opposition to these harmful policies, and show your support by attending the public hearing at Yonkers City Hall on Tuesday, January 28th at 6:45pm!

Yonkers City Council must reject this proposal. Housing is a fundamental need, and people should have the freedom to choose how and with whom they live. Let's learn from Austin's mistakes and ensure Yonkers remains a place where all residents can find—and afford—a home.

*Virginia Perez was born in the Dominican Republic and came to the United States with her family as a young girl. A Yonkers resident, she attended Yonkers Public Schools and graduated from Saunders Trade and Technical High School. Virginia served as a Westchester County Legislator for the 17th District from 2012 to 2019, making her the highest-ranking Latina in Westchester County history.*

## To Gov. Hochul: Be a champion by taking a public stand in favor of making medical aid in dying legal

### Op Ed-from Compassion & Choices

Assemblywoman Amy Paulin is a sponsor of the Medical Aid in Dying act, which she calls “one of my top priority bills for the 2025 session.”

Nearly 80 Legislators Join Assem. Paulin & Sen. Hoylman-Sigal Sponsoring the Reintroduced Medical Aid in Dying Act

Corinne Carey, Compassion & Choices' senior campaign director for New York/New Jersey, implored Governor Kathy Hochul to listen to the New Yorkers who have been urging her to lead on passing the recently reintroduced Medical Aid in Dying Act (A.136/S.138) – with nearly 80 legislative sponsors – and be a champion for bodily autonomy at the end of life.

Ten states, including New Jersey, Vermont and Maine, as well as Washington, D.C., have authorized medical aid in dying, which allows a terminally ill, mentally capable adult with six months or less to live to request a prescription from their doctor for medication they can take to die peacefully if their pain or suffering becomes too great. Over the last quarter-century, more than one-third of patients requesting the prescription never use it, but experience great peace of mind knowing the option is available to them.

“So many advocates for medical aid in dying have recently written to Governor Hochul to share their stories for why they are asking the Governor to be a champion on bodily autonomy at the end of life, as she is on other bodily autonomy issues,” Carey said. “Their stories are compelling, both for those who are dealing with diagnoses of cancer or ALS, and for those who have witnessed the peaceful death of a loved one in one of the 10 states where medical aid in dying is legal.”

Jonathan Thaler, son of Pat Koch Thaler (sister of former New York City Mayor Ed Koch), who died at the age of 92, November 16, 2024 in New Jersey using medical aid in dying, said: “When speaking about her coming death, my mother said, ‘Make sure that we use the right terms. I am not committing suicide; I am using medical aid in dying. I am not coming to the end of my life by choice.’

“Mom died peacefully and gracefully, surrounded by her loved ones after living a full life,” Thaler said. “Governor, you have the opportunity to provide a true blessing to the people of New York – in honor of my mother and uncle – and be a champion by taking a public stand in favor of making medical aid in dying legal in New York. Governor Hochul, please be our champion.”

A recent YouGov poll showed New Yorkers overwhelmingly support medical aid in dying, 72-23%, including strong majorities of Democrats, Republicans and independents, as well as Black, white, Latino, and Asian voters, and voters from every region of the state.

The legislation starts the session with 55 Assembly sponsors and 24 Senate sponsors. Iris Dudman, a 74-year-old Westchester County resident, diagnosed with glioblastoma, a brain tumor with an average survival rate of 12-18 months, on November 11, 2024, said: “I have been looking into finding a doctor in Vermont, the closest state that allows out-of-state residents to take advantage of their medical aid in dying law. But I really want to be in my home, surrounded by the people I love and not have to make many trips to Vermont to find the choice I want. “Please help me. You have the power to give me the option to skip the last miserable days, weeks, or a few months if I so choose. It should be my right,” Dudman said.

Nancy Murphy, whose sister, Joan Kline, died in August 2016 from incurable ovarian cancer, using Vermont's medical aid in dying law, said: “That loving, beautiful, peaceful chosen transition allowed us to bond with her and she with us in a way that is beyond description. Our grieving is mixed with admiration for her courage and determination and with pride that we as a family came together in mutual support of her decision. “Medical aid in dying was a blessing for her and for all of us. I urge you to help make that blessing available to all New Yorkers in 2025,” Murphy said.

The Medical Aid in Dying Act is supported by numerous advocacy groups in the state, including: 1 in 9 LI Breast Cancer Action Coalition, Breast Cancer Coalition of Rochester, Catholic Vote Common Good, Gay Men's Health Crisis (GMHC), Harlem United, Indivisible Westchester, Latino Commission on AIDS, Latinos for Healthcare Equity, League of Women Voters of NYS, Medical Society of State of NY (MSSNY), New York Civil Liberties Union (NYCLU), NYS Bar Association, NYS Council of Churches, NYS Nurses Association (NYSNA), NYS Public Health Association NOW-NY, Planned Parenthood Empire State Acts, SAGE NY (Services for LGBT elders), StateWide Senior Action Council, Westchester Coalition for Legal Abortion, WESPAC Foundation, Women's Bar Assn. of NYS.

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**JCC Mid Westchester: MLK Day of Service Food Drive**

Join the JCC Mid Westchester on January 20, any time between 10 a.m. and 3 p.m., to honor Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. and combat food injustice by assembling Blizzard Boxes. Assemble a full non-perishable meal (a Blizzard Box) and craft a personalized note to accompany it. Participants will also explore the community's connection to Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. and his teachings. All ages are welcome! JCC Mid Westchester, 999 Wilmot Rd., Scarsdale, NY 10583. Registration required. Register here, one ticket per person (not per family) so the JCC can have an accurate count of participation.

**The Sharing Shelf: MLK Day of Service Community Clothing Sort**

Join The Sharing Shelf in Port Chester on January 20 from 10 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. and help sort through donated clothing for community members in need. New and trained volunteers are welcome. This event is open to adults aged 18 years and above and children ages 14-17 with their own parent. Pre-registration is required, absolutely no walk-ins; please also complete this online waiver prior to attending. Space is limited, if you can no longer attend, please delete your registration. Questions? Contact Kate Levy, Director of Volunteers, at [klevy@sharingshelf.org](mailto:klevy@sharingshelf.org).

Notice of formation of S2K REAL ESTATE HOLDINGS, LLC. Arts. of Org. filed with the SSNY on 12/09/2024. 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 NCH REGISTERED AGENT, 42 BROADWAY, FL 12-200, NEW YORK, NY, 10004-3892. Purpose: Any lawful activity.

**Notice of formation of GCMA2 Real Estate Group LLC Arts. of Org. filed with the SSNY on 11/29/204. 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, 66 Hutchinson Blvd, Scarsdale, NY 10583. Purpose: Any lawful activity.**

Name of Limited Liability Company (LLC): THEOAK LLC. Date of filing Articles of Organization with the Secretary of State (SSNY) 6/14/24. The LLC is located in Westchester County. The SSNY has been designated as agent of the LLC upon whom process against it may be served. The post office address to which the SSNY shall mail a copy of any process against it served is to the principal business location at c/o 669 Main Street, Unit 605, New Rochelle NY 10801. Purpose: any lawful act or activity.

Notice of formation of Hampton Estate Care LLC. Arts. of Org. filed with the SSNY on 09/17/2024. 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 the LLC, 35 Greenacres Avenue, Scarsdale, NY 10583. Purpose: Any lawful 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 130 FRANKLIN AVE LLC. Articles of Organization filed with SSNY on 10/15/2024. Office location: Westchester County. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process may be served. SSNY shall mail process to Brian Caldwell at 68 North Steet, Harrison, NY 10528. Purpose: any lawful act or activity.**

**Notice of Formation of OnPoint Home Designs LLC. Arts. of Org. filed with the SSNY on 8/28/2024. 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 the LLC, 14 Crosby Court, Cortlandt Manor NY 10567. Purpose: Any lawful purpose.**

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 for the following project until 2:00 PM, on the date 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 Bid 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/> and the New York State Contract Reporter at <https://www.nyscr.ny.gov/>

The City welcomes and encourages participation by local and minority and women owned business enterprises.

BID NO. IFB-7010: LUDLOW STREET BRIDGE REHABILITATION – OPENING DATE: FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 28, 2025 AT 2:00 PM EST.

Federal Aid Project -- PIN 8762.22 / BIN 2254720  
PROJECT VENUE: Ludlow Street Bridge, above Metro North Railroad Ludlow Street, between Bridge Street and Fernbrook Street Yonkers, NY 10701  
OWNER: City of Yonkers, City Hall, 40 South Broadway, Yonkers, NY 10701  
PURCHASING CONTACT: TOM COLLICH - PHONE: (914) 377-6035  
EMAIL: [Thomas.collich@YonkersNY.gov](mailto:Thomas.collich@YonkersNY.gov)

All bids must include the completed Bid Forms, Non-Collusive Bidding and Disbarment Certifications, and Lobbying Certifications. This is a unit price bid as described in the Instructions to Bidders. No bidder may withdraw his/her bid within forty-five (45) calendar days after the actual date of the opening thereof.

**Public Work Contractor and Subcontractor Registry**

Starting December 30, 2024, all contractors and subcontractors submitting bids or performing construction work on public work projects or private projects covered by Article 8 of the Labor Law are required to register with the New York State Department of Labor (“NYS DOL”) under Labor Law Section 220-i. <https://dol.ny.gov/contractor-and-subcontractor-landing>

The law defines a “contractor” as any entity entering into a contract to perform construction, demolition, reconstruction, excavation, rehabilitation, repair, installation, renovation, alteration, or custom fabrication. The law defines “subcontractor” as any entity subcontracting with a contractor to perform construction, demolition, reconstruction, excavation, rehabilitation, repair, installation, renovation, alteration, or custom fabrication, which is subject to Article 8 of the Labor Law. Contractors are responsible for verifying that any subcontractors they work with are registered.

Contractors need to be registered before submitting any new bids or commencing new work on a covered project on or after December 30, 2024. Failure to submit the Certificate of Registration with your bid will result in the disqualification of your bid.

Subcontractors need to be registered before commencing new work on a covered project on or after December 30, 2024. NYSDOL encourages all contractors and subcontractors to register as soon as possible to obtain a Certificate of Registration to avoid negatively impacting a bidding period or project schedule.

TIME FOR PERFORMANCE OF CONTRACT: 270 Consecutive Calendar Days  
PREVAILING WAGE: NY State, Westchester County Federal Davis-Bacon, Westchester County  
BID BOND: 5% PERFORMANCE BOND: 100 % PAYMENT BOND: 100 %  
THE FOLLOWING GOALS APPLY TO THIS FEDERAL AID CONTRACT:  
DBE PARTICIPATION GOAL: 10% EEO WORKFORCE GOALS: M – 22.6%; W – 6.9%

Rehabilitation of the Ludlow Street Bridge over the Metro North Railroad Hudson Line. Replacement of armored joints and bearing plates; repair of deteriorated structural steel and structural concrete, concrete piers, and concrete abutments. Replace approaches, wearing course, sidewalks, ramps, and curbs. Work also includes bridge lifting; sawcutting; clearing & grubbing; concrete repairs; signs and signposts; fencing; asphalt and milling; protective sealing; pavement markings; traffic control; survey operations; materials testing; field office, etc.

This project is a locally administered Federal Aid Project, submitted in accordance with the Highway Law and the Standard Specifications officially finalized and adopted on January 1, 2025, as posted on NYS Department of Transportation’s website. BIDDERS SHALL NOTE THE FOLLOWING:

- There are no residence or geographical restrictions for this bid;
- There is no M/WBE language included;
- DBE (10%) and EEO (M-22.6% and W-6.9%) requirements are applicable to this contract. The successful Contractor must demonstrate good faith efforts toward achieving the project’s participation goals. Contractor shall utilize the New York State Directory of Certified DBE vendors to identify potential participation partners. This Directory can be found at: <https://nysucp.newnycontracts.com/>;
- Where state, local, and federal requirements may differ, the federal requirements prevail;
- The resulting contract will not contain retainage requirements;
- The successful contractor and all subcontractors will need to complete and submit a NYS Uniform Contracting Questionnaire (CCA-2) if don’t already have one on file (completed & submitted online).
- The use of the NYSDOT approved civil rights reporting software, Equitable Business Opportunities (EBO), is required. Access authorization to EBO can be found at <https://ebo.dot.ny.gov/>.

PRE BID MEETING: MONDAY, FEBRUARY 10, 2025 AT 11:00 AM  
Meet at the bridge structure, Ludlow Street between Bridge and Fernbrook Streets, Yonkers, NY 10701

REQUESTS FOR INFORMATION AND BID ADDENDA: Bidders shall promptly notify Tom Collich, not less than ten days prior to the bid opening, of any errors, omissions, conflicts or ambiguity within the Contract Documents. All questions regarding the contents of this bid must be submitted in writing to the Purchasing Contact listed above. Questions should be submitted by email. Answers to all inquiries will be given to all prospective vendors in the form of a formal addendum to the solicitation and shall be annexed to and become part of the ensuing contract. Any addenda will be published on the respective project-bid pages at the New York State Contract Reporter and Empire State Municipal Purchasing Group websites.

The City of Yonkers reserves the right to consider the bids for forty-five (45) days after receipt before awarding any Contract, and to waive any minor informalities in, and to reject, any and all bids. All bids are subject to final review and approval by the City of Yonkers Board of Contract and Supply before any award of contract may be made. Receipt of bids by the City of Yonkers shall not be construed as authority to bind the City of Yonkers.



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[Yonkerstimes.com](http://Yonkerstimes.com)**

SURROGATE'S COURT - DELAWARE COUNTY

File No. 92-097/A

SUPPLEMENTAL 17-A GUARDIANSHIP CITATION [SCPA 1757]

THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK  
By the Grace of God Free and Independent

To: **Edward T. Magenheimer**, and if he be deceased, to the heirs and distributes of Edward T. Magenheimer, purported brother of EUGENE F. MAGENHEIMER, and I said distributes be dead, their legal representatives, disitrbutees and successors in interest, and all of whom are unknown and whose names and addresses are unknown and whose names and addresses cannot be found with reasonable diligence.

A petition having been duly filed by **Donnamarie C. Giannone** who is domiciled at 37 Baldwin Dr, Berkeley Heights, New Jersey 07922

YOU ARE HEREBY CITED TO SHOW CAUSE before the Surrogate's Court, Delaware County, at 3 Court Street, Delhi, New York, on January 22, 2025 at 9:30 o'clock in the fore/afternoon of that day, why letter of guardianship of the

- person
- property
- person and property
- limited guardianship of the property

of **Eugene F. Magenheimer** should not be granted to **Donnamarie C. Giannone**;

Why the appointment of \_\_\_\_\_ as Alternate Standby Guardian of the

- person
- property
- person and property
- limited guardianship of the property

of **Eugene F. Magenheimer** should not be granted;

Why the appointment of \_\_\_\_\_ as Second Alternate Standby Guardian of the

- person
- property
- person and property
- limited guardianship of the property

of **Eugene F. Magenheimer** should not be granted;

Why the appointment of \_\_\_\_\_ as Third Alternate Standby Guardian of the

- person
- property
- person and property
- limited guardianship of the property

of **Eugene F. Magenheimer** should not be granted;

and why a hearing  should be held  should not be held;

and why the appearance of Respondent  should be  should not be required at the hearing; and why the guardian of the person should not be authorized and empowered to make all decisions with respect to the

medical and dental needs of the Respondent and to render consent to any medical procedures which are necessary to the health and welfare of the Respondent, unless the court directs otherwise. A health care decision may include a decision to withhold or withdraw life-sustaining treatment as defined in subdivision (j) of §1.03 of the Mental Hygiene Law.

Further relief requested:

Dated, Attested, and Sealed,  
December 16, 2024  
(Seal)



HON. **JOHN L. HUBBARD**

Surrogate

*Rebecca G. Yoman*  
Chief Clerk

**Andrea L. Gellen**

Name of Attorney for Petitioner(s)

**Gellen Law PLLC**

Firm Name

**271 Hooker Avenue, Poughkeepsie, New York 12603**  
Address

**(845) 204-8673**

Telephone

**andrea@gellenlaw.com**  
Email (optional)

**NOTE: This citation is served upon you as required by law. You are not required to appear. However, if you fail to appear it will be assumed by the court that you do not object to the relief requested. You have a right to have an attorney appear for you.**

Notice of formation of Ambit Psychological Services, PLLC. Arts. of Org. filed with SSNY 12/17/24. Office: Westchester County.. SSNY designated as agent of PLLC upon whom process may be served. SSNY shall mail copy of process to 933 Mamaroneck Ave Ste 202, Mamaroneck NY 10543. Purpose: Any lawful activity.

Notice of formation of IM Consulting LLC filed with the SSNY on 11/05/2024 with the existence date as 01/01/2025. Office: Westchester County. SSNY designated as agent of the LLC upon whole processes against it may be served. SSNY shall mail copy of processes to the LLC, 3 Ward Street, Hastings-on-Hudson, NY 10706. Purpose: Any lawful activity.

Notice of formation of Chic Nails Room LLC. Arts. of Org. filed with the SSNY on 09/24/2024. 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 the LLC, 356 Riverdale Ave. #1, Yonkers, NY, 10705. Purpose: Any lawful activity.

Notice of formation of LIQUID ASSET SERVICES LLC. Application for Authority Filed with the SSNY on 12/05/2024. 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 THE LLC, 46 LINCOLN AVENUE, PORT CHESTER, NY 10573. Purpose: any lawful act or activity.

*Is It Over, continued from pg 1-*

keep our town safe, and our town services top notch, while also controlling our property taxes.”

“I wanted to share with you what a friend of mine told me were the reasons why Tony decided not to run.

1-It is becoming almost impossible for a republican to win countywide in Westchester. The enrollment numbers are more than 2-1 in favor of democrats

2-The recent 2024 Presidential election While Trump was winning the presidency across the country, Harris won Westchester 63%-37%. Some parts of New York City cast more votes for Trump than here in Westchester.

3-George Latimer’s election to Congress left a vacancy for Ken Jenkins to fill. It also created a condensed election cycle this year, with a special election in February.

4-Jenkins clearly has a head start in the election for County Executive. He was appointed by the Board of Legislators and will be nominated by Westchester Democrats for the special election.

Westchester residents and voters are watching Jenkins serve as County Executive. And so far, he fits the role well.

It would take a perfect storm of politics in Westchester to elect a republican. That didn’t happen in 2025.

Tony, I wished you would have run for County Executive, but I understand why you decided against it,”

Herman Miller, Eastchester, NY

Westchester GOP Chairman Doug Colety told us that he will be running a republican candidate for County Executive both in the special election in February and in November.

Colety would not discuss any names, but the three that we have heard are:

Colavita, County Legislator James Nolan and Assemblman Matt Slater.

Colavita and Nolan have declined, while Slater has been asked by the GOP to run.

No word yet, but the clock is ticking.

*“The key to the future of the world, is finding the optimistic stories and letting them be known.”*

*— Pete Seeger*

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



## Purchase College Hosts “Shark Tank” Startup Competition for Student Entrepreneurs



On Wednesday, December 4, Purchase College, SUNY took a page from reality television when they presented their own startup pitching competition, modeled on the popular ABC show Shark Tank. The Seventh Annual Shark Tank Competition gave students the opportunity to pitch their business ideas to entrepreneurs and investors.

The judges and audience determined the winners who received awards for their business pursuits. The \$5,000 in prizes was provided by the Dr. E. Lawrence Deckinger Family Foundation.

This year’s grand prize of \$2,500 for new business idea went to Meghana Ambati, a Chemistry major and Pre-med Studies student who pitched her idea for “Feeding Greens,” a company that will buy produce with mild imperfections (which grocery stores reject) from farmers at a discount rate and will distribute them for sale at discount prices in school systems within communities that are food deserts.

The award for Purchase Community Enhancement for \$1,500 went to Oliver Culliton, a Psychology major whose nonprofit business idea, “Beyond the Blurb,” will sponsor a lecture series at Purchase that will focus on student mental health.

The Audience Favorite Prize for \$1,000 went to Everett Currier and Kirry Kaufer. Everett is a MA student in the Entrepreneurship in the Arts program and Kirry is a Creative Writing major. They pitched an idea for “The Den,” a student space they would like to create at Purchase that would give students a place to build community by coming together to play board games and have music performances.

“Shark Tank offers Purchase students incredible opportunities. We have contestants who are already running their small businesses, and the competition provides them with the chance to contemplate scaling up and dreaming big. Additionally, we have students who only have their big idea, and Shark Tank assists them in formalizing it into a doable business plan,” said Assistant Professor of Economics, Iuliia Chikish, who spearheaded the competition.

This year’s Shark Tank event was made possible by generous contributions from the Dr. E. Lawrence Deckinger Family Foundation.

The “sharks” were a diverse group of entrepreneurs who provided invaluable feedback after each student’s presentation.

They included: Nick Read, Founder and CFO of Read & Right LLC  
David Settanni ‘09, CFO of Settanni Financial  
Priya Tejpal, 2023 Shark Tank winner and Restaurant Entrepreneur  
Julie Tsai, Real Estate expert at William Raveis and Entrepreneur  
John Tucker, Co-founder of SalsaFresca Grill

## Music at Asbury Presents “Black, Hot & Blue”



MUSIC AT ASBURY FREE CONCERT SERIES:  
SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 1 AT 7 PM; SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 2 AT 3 PM

Asbury-Crestwood United Methodist Church is delighted to present a Black History Month program titled “Black, Hot & Blue: Celebrating the Black Artist and the Great American Torch Song Book.” Admission is FREE, but tax-deductible donations are gratefully accepted.

BLACK, HOT AND BLUE is an original musical revue celebrating the great black artists of mid-twentieth century America who popularized many standards from the Great American Songbook. With songs and stories, we will pay tribute to such great performers as Ella Fitzgerald, Billie Holiday, Louis Armstrong, Nat King Cole, Lena Horne, Fats Waller, Bessie Smith, Sarah Vaughan, Sam Cooke, Ethel Waters, Etta James, and more. Through their unique artistic gifts, these singers left an indelible stamp on American popular music. BLACK, HOT AND BLUE will feature music of Rodgers & Hart, George Gershwin, Hoagy Carmichael, Jerome Kern, Harold Arlen, Cole Porter, among others.

Created, written and directed by Mauro Contrastano. Music direction by John Dominick III. Choreography by Jill Paganelli. Starring: Richard Anderson; Bria Hydrick; Micah Meryman; Simone Palmer; Earnest Simpkins; Shayla Williams

Music at Asbury was launched in November of 2014 by Lu Gmoser, founding producer of Asbury Summer Theatre, and renowned music educator, Dr. Earl F. Groner. As a program of Asbury-Crestwood United Methodist Church, Music at Asbury is designed to serve as a social service to the community, offering free performances by some of New York City and the Hudson Valley’s finest musical artists.

Concerts are held in the sanctuary at Asbury United Methodist Church, 167 Scarsdale Rd, Tuckahoe, NY; ample parking is available. Admission is free of charge but reservations are strongly recommended; please visit [www.MusicAtAsbury.com](http://www.MusicAtAsbury.com) or call 914-779-3722 to reserve a general admission seat. Priority seating will be given to those with reservations. “Black, Hot & Blue” is made possible in part by a 2024 Arts Alive Grant from ArtsWestchester.

The Rev. Jason Radmacher is pastor of Asbury Church and Mary Thombs is Minister of Music and Chair of Music at Asbury.

# WIN A NEW JEEP

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**Documentary Screening:**  
**The Peekskill Riots**  
Episode Two: The Friendly Town By The River

January 23rd  
6pm

John C. Hart  
Library  
Yorktown

Jon Scott Bennett is returning next Thursday 1/23 to screen Part 2 of his Docuseries, The Peekskill Riots. Watch the story of the riots begin to unfold, followed by a special Q&A with the director himself! Register online: <https://yorktown.library-calendar.com/.../documentary...>





**Regeneron Science Semifinalists from Westchester**

clockwise: Top left, Vivek Malik, Hackley School, above-The Ursuline School Isabella Vembenil, top right-Axel Robinson and Madeleine Pachella, Pelham High School;

middle left: Elena Coelho Adams, New Rochelle High School; middle right-Sara Mae Jankovic, Nora Morton and Meadow Zhang, Greeley High School



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By Dan Murphy

Congratulations to the 17 Westchester High School students who were named Regeneron Science Talent Search scholar semifinalists. The Regeneron Science Talent Search is the nation's oldest and most prestigious science and math research competition for high school seniors. Out of the 1,800 students who entered Regeneron's STS, only 300 semifinalists across the country were given this honor.

Students submitted original research in critically important scientific fields of study. Regeneron STS focuses on identifying, inspiring, and engaging the nation's most promising young scientists.

The list of Regeneron scholars from Westchester includes:

Hackley School (Tarrytown): Congratulations to Hackley senior Vivek Malik who was recognized for his work in understanding the immune system, titled "Novel characterization of Plexin D1's Role in Regulating the Macrophage Immune Response."

Horace Greeley High School (Chappaqua):

Exciting news from Greeley and the Science Research program! We are thrilled to announce that three of our senior science researchers—Sara Mae Jankovic, Nora Morton and Meadow Zhang—have been named among the Top 300 Scholars of Regeneron's Science Talent Search! Huge congratulations to these talented students!

Sara Jankovic for "Toppling the Domino Effect: A Novel Approach to Predicting Systemic Banking Distress Using Interacting Networks Analysis";

Nora Morton for "Evaluation of the Performance of Wave Attenuation Devices (WADs) at a Coastal Marsh Shoreline Using a Smartphone-Based Wave Intensity Sensor (WILSON)";

Zhang Meadow for "Leveraging Lipid Nanoparticle Technology for the Targeted Delivery of mRNA to Germinal Center B Cells."

*continued on pg 10 -*



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

CITY COUNCIL PRESIDENT  
LAKISHA COLLINS-BELLAMY  
PRESENTS

**MLK JR.**  
**COMMUNITY  
BREAKFAST @  
THE NEPP**

*...The Dream lives on*

**MONDAY, JANUARY 20TH  
342 WARBURTON AVE | 9-11AM  
WITH SPECIAL INVITED GUESTS**

**FREE ADMISSION  
REGISTRATION IS REQUIRED  
BY JAN 17TH 914.377.6060  
SPACE IS LIMITED**



**Regeneron semi-finalists, continued from pg 9-**

New Rochelle High School:  
 Elena Coelho Adams for "Music to My Eyes: The Relationships Between Auditory and Visual Input and the Formation of Synesthetic Associations."  
 The Ursuline School (New Rochelle):  
 Isabella Vembenil for "Beyond the Heartbeat: A Novel Machine Learning Approach to Identifying Palliative Care Candidates in Heart Failure"  
 Ossining High School:  
 Anthony Jiang for "Short-Formatted Video Product Advertisements Influence on Purchasing Behavior Among Children and Adolescents" for "Modeling Eccentricity and Spin-Precession in Binary Black Hole Gravitational Wave Events Using the Effective One-Body Method."  
 Pelham Memorial High School:  
 Axel Robinson for "Insomnia phenotypes and their adverse health effects."  
 Madeleine Pachella for "Analyzing B Cell Classification Changes in the Cerebrospinal Fluid and Blood Influenced by Ocrelizumab Treatment in Multiple Sclerosis"  
 Byram Hills High School (Armonk):  
 Andrew Levy for "Analyzing Extracellular Vesicles for Prediction of Head and Neck Squamous Cell Carcinoma Patient Immunotherapy Response."  
 Edgemont High School (Greenville):  
 Kento Hong for "Investigating the Effects of Hemarthrosis on the Structure and Function of ACL Repair."  
 Dobbs Ferry High School:  
 Lilianne Williams-Ameen for "The Next Generation: An Exploration of Youth Attitudes on Climate Change in Alaska and Northern Canada."  
 Scarsdale High School:  
 Kelly Deng for "Macrophage-stimulating protein/ROM (MST1R) sensitivity underlies the pathogenesis of premenstrual dysphoric disorder: potential for novel pharmacological interventions via transcriptomic imputation."  
 Harrison High School:  
 Reese Potash for "Lack of School Engagement as a Mediator between Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs) and Juvenile Offending."  
 Yorktown High School:  
 Chinmayi Goyal for "MyoAssist: An Innovative AI-Based, User-Driven Exoskeletal Assistive Control System for Individuals with Movement Disabilities."  
 Makayla Winslow for "Transglutaminase as a novel mediator of dopamine toxicity in Parkinson's disease."  
 Each student was awarded \$2,000 and each student's high school was awarded \$4,000.  
 Scholars were chosen based on their outstanding research, leadership skills, community involvement, commitment to academics, creativity in asking scientific questions and exceptional promise as STEM leaders demonstrated through the submission of their original, independent research projects, essays and recommendations.  
 For more information, visit <https://www.societyforscience.org/regeneron-sts/2025-scholars/>

SUPREME COURT OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK  
 COUNTY OF WESTCHESTER

-----X

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.: 1360/2022

PETITION AND  
 NOTICE OF FORECLOSURE

-----X

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: **Mr. Patrick Ricci, 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 21st day of April 2025.

**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: January 10, 2025

Enforcing Officer:  
 Patrick Ricci  
 Receiver of Taxes

Attorneys for Tax District:  
 Abrams Fensterman, LLP  
 Attorneys for Town of North Castle  
 81 Main Street, Suite 400, White Plains, New York 10601  
 (914) 607-7010

SCHEDULE A

Parcel ID	Name	Property Address
100.04-2-51	Richard Gizzi	Wampus Lakes Dr. Armonk, NY 10504
101.01-1-34	Agovino Armonk Estates LLC Formerly: East Coast Dev.Corp.	4 Armonk Hts Rd. Armonk, NY 10504
107.02-2-46	4 Ledgewood Pl LLC	4 Ledgewood Pl. Armonk, NY 10504
108.04-1-9	Hysen Mehmetaj	17 Sterling Rd S Armonk, NY 10504
122.12-3-8.4	Kensico View HOA Inc.	1 Massaro Ct. N White Plains, NY 10603
122.12-5-62	Northcastle Spot Properties LLC	850 N Broadway N White Plains, NY 10603
122.16-1-28	Thomas Stuart	43 Virginia Rd. N White Plains, NY 10603
123.01-1-6	Park Lane Co LP	Old Orchard St. N White Plains, NY 10603

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**Looking for 1960's-1990's**  
**I PAY CASH! Located in**  
**Yonkers -Text or call**  
**Andrew at 914-646-1718.**

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*Coach O'Donnell, continued from pg 1-*

*Free Lunch, continued from pg 1-*

rector," said the President of Stepinac High School, Rev. Thomas Collins '79. He is the epitome of a Catholic high school coach: loyal, steadfast, and a man of unwavering integrity. Under his leadership, the football program has thrived, not just in victories but in cultivating young men of character and faith. His dedication has truly set the standard for what it means to serve with passion and purpose.

Coach O'Donnell compiled 238 wins and became Varsity Head Coach in the fall of 1988. He is the winningest coach in the history of Stepinac.

Coach O'Donnell said goodbye to coaching below. Thanks for showing us how to impact thousands of athletes lives in a positive way, without incident.

dent Can Eat for Free

Governor Hochul's Initiative Will Save Families an Estimated \$165 on Groceries Per Child Each Month

Program Will Put Money Back in Parents' Pockets, Encourage Healthy Habits, and Set More New York Students Up for Success

Governor Kathy Hochul today announced a historic initiative to ensure every single one of New York's over 2.7 million students can receive breakfast and lunch for free at school. This monumental program will help save parents money, address food insecurity among New York kids, and create more opportunities for students to succeed. Governor Hochul will unveil this proposal later today on Long Island at Westbury Middle School, a district that has seen first-hand how universal free meals have improved outcomes for students and families.

"The research is clear: good food in the lunchroom creates good grades in the classroom," Governor Hochul said. "I'm proposing free school meals for every student in New York – giving kids the sustenance they need and putting more money back in parents' pockets."

Offering free school meals is an effective way to help keep kids in school and able to focus in the classroom. By eliminating any financial requirements to receive this benefit, New York State will level the playing field and give parents back the money they would be spending. Free school meals are estimated to save families \$165 per child in grocery spending each month and have been shown to support learning, boost test scores, and improve attendance and classroom behavior.

Such an ambitious proposal has not been attempted by New York State before now, and Governor Hochul has continued to prioritize free school meals throughout her time in office. The FY 2025 Enacted Budget included \$180 million to help incentivize eligible schools to participate in the federal Community Eligibility Provision (CEP) program, allowing all students in participating schools to eat breakfast and lunch at no charge regardless of their families' income. This new State of the State initiative will cover the cost of free lunch and breakfast for every student at every school in New York State regardless of their participation in the program, which will expand eligibility to nearly 300,000 additional students.

NYSUT President Melinda Person said, "Every day in our schools, educators see hungry children who would likely qualify for existing free meal programs, but fall through the cracks due to stigma or bureaucracy. Nearly one in six New York children faces food insecurity, and this critical initiative to provide universal free meals for all students — regardless of their ZIP code or family income — will reduce food anxiety, improve mental and physical health, and support students' ability to thrive. Every child, no matter their circumstances, deserves the nutrition they need to grow and learn."

Community Food Advocates Executive Director Liz Accles said, "The Healthy School Meals for All Coalition has always believed in the power of government to work for the good of the people. Universal Free School Meals is an immediately tangible and prime example of this principle in action. We thank Governor Hochul for championing this issue and making it a top priority—we are absolutely thrilled."

Hunger Solutions New York CEO Andrés J. Vives said, "With today's announcement, Governor Hochul has made it clear New York will lead the way in ensuring all children have access to the food they need to thrive. Universal access to free school breakfast and lunch will alleviate hunger, support children's mental and physical health, and provide much-needed financial relief to families struggling with high costs of living. We applaud the Governor's championing of this historic investment and look forward to working with the Legislature to ensure this proposal is included in the final budget."

As of 2024, eight states—California, Colorado, Maine, New Mexico, Massachusetts, Minnesota, Vermont, and Michigan—have passed legislation to make HSMFA a reality in their states. View a map of current statewide policies and actions.

The proposal will also reduce the cost of free breakfast and lunch for some high need school districts, including Yonkers. Several years ago, the City Council debated whether to require parents to pay their share of the school lunch program for their children. The unpaid tab had grown to more than \$100,000.

The plan will also allow those students who previously did not qualify for free lunch to take advantage of it, which will destigmatize the concept of the free breakfast-lunch program.

**"COACHING AT STEPINAC HAS BEEN THE HONOR OF MY CAREER & LIFE.**

**"THIS IS A SPECIAL PLACE WITH EXTRAORDINARY PEOPLE, AND I AM DEEPLY GRATEFUL FOR THE RELATIONSHIPS I'VE BUILT OVER THE LAST 45 YEARS. TOGETHER, WE ACHIEVED THINGS THAT MANY THOUGHT IMPOSSIBLE, AND I AM STEPPING DOWN KNOWING I GAVE EVERYTHING I HAD FOR THIS PROGRAM & SCHOOL. I WANT TO THANK OUR PLAYERS, COACHES, STAFF & FANS FOR THEIR UNWAVERING SUPPORT AND DEDICATION SINCE MY ARRIVAL TO HELP BUILD A GREAT PROGRAM.**

**I HAVE WORKED WITH MANY GREAT COACHES HERE AT STEPINAC & HAVE BEEN LUCKY TO LEARN FROM SOME OF THE BEST DON LARKIN, GENE DORIS, FRANK HENDERSON, PAT MASSARONI, BILLY KANE, BERNIE CONOLLY & JON DEMARCO TO NAME A FEW. WE HAVE COMPETED AGAINST SO MANY GREAT COACHES IN THE CHSFL THE BEST LEAGUE IN THE STATE.**

**I HAVE BEEN SO LUCKY TO COACH SO MANY GREAT PLAYERS OVER THE YEARS, WHO I WILL ALWAYS CALL MY FRIENDS. COACHING IS NOT ABOUT WINNING OR LOSING, IT IS ABOUT THE PLAYERS. WATCHING THEM BECOME BETTER ATHLETES & BETTER PEOPLE. MANY PEOPLE WISH THEY COULD COACH SPORTS AT THE HS LEVEL. IT IS NOT EASY BUT IS VERY REWARDING TO BE ABLE TO IMPACT SO MANY LIVES & MAKE A DIFFERENCE.**

**MY FAMILY HAS MADE SO MANY SACRIFICES OVER THE YEARS. STEPINAC FOOTBALL BECAME THEIR 2ND FAMILY AS WELL. I THANK THEM FOR ALL THE SUPPORT THROUGH THESE YEARS ON OUR JOURNEY**

**THE STEPINAC FOOTBALL FAMILY WILL ALWAYS BE MY FAMILY. SO MANY OF MY FORMER PLAYERS & COACHES HAVE GONE ON TO GREAT SUCCESSSES ON THE FIELDS ACROSS THE USA. I ALWAYS TAKE GREAT PRIDE IN SEEING THEM SUCCEED & ALWAYS HAVE BEEN HERE FOR THEM WIN OR LOSE. IT'S ALWAYS BEEN ABOUT THEM.**

**WHILE THIS CHAPTER IS ENDING, MY PRIDE IN WHAT WE'VE BUILT HERE WILL NEVER FADE. AFTER COMPLETING MY 37TH SEASON AS A HEAD COACH THE TIMING IS RIGHT FOR ME AND MY FAMILY TO STEP AWAY FROM MY LONG TIME ROLE AS HEAD COACH AT STEPINAC. I WILL CONTINUE MY ROLE AS AD AT THE SCHOOL & HELP ALL OUR STUDENTS ANY WAY I CAN.**

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## Mount Vernon Police Sergeant Pleads Guilty To Depriving An Individual's Constitutional Rights



former Mt. Vernon Police Sgt. Mario Stewart photo from <https://www.facebook.com/MTVNewsCenter>

During a Call for Assistance, Sgt. Mario Stewart Tased a Handcuffed, Restrained Individual Seven Times in Two Minutes

Edward Y. Kim, the Acting United States Attorney for the Southern District of New York, announced that MARIO STEWART, a Sergeant with the Mount Vernon Police Department ("MVPD"), pled guilty on Jan. 10 to using excessive force against an individual (the "Victim") while in Mount Vernon, New York, in violation of the Victim's rights under the U.S. Constitution. STEWART pled guilty today before U.S. Magistrate Judge Andrew E. Krause.

Acting U.S. Attorney Edward Y. Kim said: "Mario Stewart betrayed his duty as a Sergeant with the Mount Vernon Police Department. Stewart was called to the scene to aid a person in emotional distress. But instead of rendering aid, he deployed his taser on the individual seven times in the span of roughly two minutes, while the individual was helpless, and while several other MVPD officers were on scene to assist. This Office will fiercely protect constitutional rights and hold accountable those who abuse their authority to violate those rights."

According to the allegations contained in the Indictment and statements made in court:

On or about March 26, 2019, STEWART was employed as a Sergeant with the Mount Vernon Police Department. STEWART was assigned to the MVPD's Emergency Services Unit, which is responsible for, among other things, responding to individuals who are experiencing mental health crises. On that day, STEWART and six other MVPD officers received a call to assist the Victim in Mount Vernon, New York, as the Victim was experiencing a mental health crisis.

At the scene, STEWART and the other MVPD officers restrained the Victim, handcuffing his hands behind his back and securing his legs in a restraint bag in preparation to transport the Victim for medical assistance. When the MVPD officers were unable to pull the restraint bag over the Victim's chest because the Victim was holding onto one of the bag's straps, STEWART directed the Victim to release the strap. While STEWART deployed his taser all seven times, the Victim remained laying on the ground, handcuffed with his hands behind his back and his legs secured in the restraint bag. STEWART's actions caused bodily injury to the Victim, including extreme pain.

STEWART, 46, of Brooklyn, New York, pled guilty to one count of deprivation of rights under color of law, which carries a maximum sentence of 10 years in prison.

The maximum potential sentence is prescribed by Congress and is provided here for informational purposes only, as any sentencing of the defendant will be determined by the judge.

Mr. Kim praised the outstanding investigative work of the Federal Bureau of Investigation, and thanked the Westchester County District Attorney's Office and the Mount Vernon Police Department for their assistance with the investigation. The prosecution is being handled by the Office's Civil Rights Unit in the Criminal Division. Assistant U.S. Attorneys Sam Adelsberg and Jared Hoffman are in charge of the prosecution.

*Eric Schoen, continued from pg 3-*

excited when I called. She loves playing the dreidel game too.

We received beautiful thank you notes from the students. My sister, an Administrator for a private school in Manhattan for over 40 years was impressed with the quality of the notes. Students in Room 419, 306, ms. Alibasic's class and all the the classes that wrote such beautiful notes, we wish you a wonderful school year! Special thank you to the secretaries and clerical staff for their help!

Reach Eric Schoen at [thistooisyonkers@aol.com](mailto:thistooisyonkers@aol.com).

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## Defendant in I-95 "Road Rage" Shooting Incident Sentenced to 14 Years in Prison

New DA Susan Cacace Issues first Announcement

Stephen Escoffery used a firearm to shoot at a fellow motorist's vehicle during a motorway dispute.

Westchester County District Attorney Susan Cacace announced today that defendant Stephen Escoffery, 45, of Waterbury, Conn., was sentenced this morning to 14 years in prison following conviction at trial over a "road rage" dispute on I-95.

In addition to imposing the determinate prison sentence, Judge Maurice Dean Williams sentenced Mr. Escoffery to five years post-release supervision and issued an Order of Protection for the Victim.

Mr. Escoffery was convicted last month by a Westchester County jury of Criminal Possession of a Weapon in the Second Degree, Criminal Possession of a Weapon in the Third Degree, and Reckless Endangerment in the First Degree.

D.A. Cacace said: "Motorists on our public roadways expect to navigate traffic, not bullets. It is unacceptable to recklessly endanger the life of a fellow motorist for any reason. So-called "road rage" is never an appropriate response to motorway disputes. Today's sentence reflects the seriousness of the offense, and my office is committed to prosecuting incidents such as these that imperil public safety."

In Dec. 2022, the Victim was driving northbound in the left lane of I-95, in the vicinity of Harrison, N.Y., when Mr. Escoffery, driving a BMW, approached the rear of his vehicle. Following a non-verbal disagreement, Mr. Escoffery then pulled up beside the Victim's vehicle, waved a pistol at the Victim, and fired it, striking the Victim's vehicle.

In a victim impact statement read aloud by prosecutors during sentencing, the Victim stated that "the mental damage this incident has caused has been extremely challenging for me."

"Driving on the highway at night has become an anxiety-ridden experience for me," the statement continued.

The 14-year sentence applies to the Criminal Possession of a Weapon in the Second Degree count. Judge Williams provided prison sentences of 2 1/3 to 7 years on each of the remaining counts, however those sentences are to run concurrently with the 14-year term.

This case was investigated by New York State Police Troop K, Hawthorne Barracks. The lead investigator was Investigator Andrew Palladino. D.A. Cacace also commended the Westchester County Department of Public Safety, the City of Stamford Police Department, and the Waterbury Police Department for their assistance in the investigation.

The case was prosecuted by Assistant District Attorney Leigh Wellington and Deputy Chief Christopher Clark, both of the Violent Criminal Enterprise Bureau.

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## Classifieds

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## Weekend Events in Westchester County Parks

Winter Extravaganza Sports Memorabilia Trade Show, Jan. 18 (10 a.m. - 5 p.m.) and 19 (10 a.m. - 4 p.m.). Westchester County Center, White Plains: (914) 995-4050  
Get details <https://countycenter.biz/event/the-winter-extravaganza-sports-memorabilia-show/>

SATURDAY, JAN. 18  
Marshlands Conservancy, Rye: (914) 835-4466  
Naturalist's Choice Program, 10 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.  
Join us for a walk along the trails as we interpret the wonders that nature is showing us.

Edith G. Read Wildlife Sanctuary, Rye: (914) 967-8720  
Second Photography and Art Exhibit, 10 a.m. - 4 p.m.  
View people's talents and love for wildlife and nature through photography and artwork. Saturdays and Sundays through Jan. 25.

Cranberry Lake Preserve, North White Plains: (914) 428-1005  
Fireside Nature Storytime, 11 a.m. - 12 p.m.  
Join us next to an outdoor campfire for some children's stories. Marshmallows to follow! Dress for the weather.

Hilltop Hanover Farm and Environmental Center, Yorktown Heights: (914) 862-5050  
Hilltop History Walk, 11 a.m. - 12 p.m.  
We invite ages 12 and older to learn about the farm's history and operations during a walk with our curator. \$5 suggested donation.

Lenoir Preserve, Yonkers: (914) 968-5851  
Picture This! Trail Cameras for Wildlife Monitoring, 1 p.m. - 2 p.m.  
What kind of wildlife lives at Lenoir? Join us in the nature center for a look at what trail cameras are, how to use them and what we've captured in our park over the last year.

Alfred B. DelBello Muscote Farm, Somers: (914) 864-7282  
Animal Interactions, 1 p.m. - 2 p.m.  
Ages 8 and up can enter one of our enclosures to see, touch and learn about an animal of the farmer's choice. \$27.77 for two (one adult and one child, as adult supervision is required; or two adults). Meet at the reception center and wear sturdy, closed-toe footwear. Also: Feb. 22, March 22.  
Pre-registration required <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/animal-interactions-tickets-1105856158539?aff=ebdsoporgprofile>

Trailside Nature Museum at Ward Pound Ridge Reservation, Cross River: (914) 864-7322  
Winter Tree ID, 1 p.m. - 2 p.m.  
All ages are invited to learn how to identify common tree species without their foliage and find out each species' unique historic uses.

Edith G. Read Wildlife Sanctuary, Rye: (914) 967-8720  
Animals in Hibernation, 1 p.m. - 2:30 p.m.  
Where do animals go over the winter? Many of them hibernate, but hibernation takes many different forms. Join us for this program to learn more about types of hibernation for all sorts of animals found right here in the sanctuary.

SUNDAY, JAN. 19  
Croton Point Park, Croton-on-Hudson: (914) 862-5290  
Tracks & Traces, 9 a.m. - 10:30 a.m.  
Winter is a wonderful time to hike to see animal tracks and learn about local creatures and their unseen behaviors. Free; all ages; wear sturdy shoes. Meet at the entrance to the RV Park.

Alfred B. DelBello Muscote Farm, Somers: (914) 864-7282  
Bird Feeder Watch, 9 a.m. - 11 a.m.  
Stop by the environmental learning center for a morning of bird watching at our feeders. Bring binoculars to get the best views. Also: March 2.

Miller House, 140 Virginia Road, White Plains: (914) 428-1005  
Open House, 12 p.m. - 2 p.m.  
Drop in to visit the former home of the Ann and Elijah Miller family, an average colonial Westchester household whose lives were changed forever when George Washington and his army fought for American independence. Also: March 16.

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# Revolutionary War History Talk at The Eastchester Library Jan. 19



*Captain Theodosius Fowler*

Join us for an exploration of the fascinating life of Captain Theodosius Fowler, a Revolutionary War officer buried at St. Paul's. In this innovative presentation, a combination of a talk and re-enactment brings his story to life.

Richard Forliano, long-time Eastchester Town Historian and history teacher consultant, narrates Captain Fowler's military service. The captain himself is portrayed by St. Paul's living historian, Michael Grillo.

Registration not required. Light refreshments will be served.  
Date: Sunday, January 19, 2025 Time: 2:00 PM – 3:30 PM  
Location: Rashkoff Room

## WESTCHESTER COUNTY PARKS WINTER MINI CAMP REGISTRATION NOW OPEN

Children can learn a variety of outdoor winter skills in a park setting! When school is out in February, mini-camps at Westchester County Parks are in! Cranberry Lake Preserve in North White Plains and Muscoot Farm in Katonah are offering winter mini-camps from Monday, Feb. 17 through Friday, Feb. 20. Registration opens Thursday, Jan. 16 at noon.

Cranberry Lake Preserve's winter mini-camp is geared towards children in grades 5 through 8 and will teach outdoor skills including how to kindle fires, techniques for comfort in the winter woods and more. The camp will be in session from Tuesday, Feb. 18 through Thursday, Feb. 20.

Muscoot Farm's winter mini-camp will let children in grades 4 through 6 experience winter on the farm, which includes hands-on activities such as hiking, cooking, maple sugaring and more. A one-week session is available from Monday, Feb. 17 through Friday, Feb. 21. One-day options are also available during this time.

Westchester County Executive Ken Jenkins said, "Cranberry Lake Preserve's diverse habitats, including forests, wetlands and a serene lake, offer hands-on learning opportunities. Kids can explore nature trails, learn about wildlife, practice orienteering and discover local ecology. Those endeavors foster a love for the outdoors while building confidence and environmental awareness."

Commissioner of the Westchester County Department of Parks, Recreation and Conservation, Kathy O'Connor said, "Children love Muscoot Farm because it lets them indulge in so many engaging and educational activities. The farm features a variety of animals, such as goats, sheep, chickens and cows, which kids can see up close. Muscoot's interactive experiences and scenic walking trails make it a perfect location for our February mini-camps."

Cranberry Lake Preserve is at 1609 Old Orchard Street in North White Plains, and Muscoot Farm is at 51 Route 100 in Katonah. To Register, visit

[parks.westchestergov.com/children-camps/winter-mini-camp](http://parks.westchestergov.com/children-camps/winter-mini-camp)  
ps.

# 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 24, 2024 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 24, 2024; 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 14, 2025, 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 24 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 are 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 2023 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*

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*MLK in Westchester, County, continued from pg 1-*

Dr King's visited to Westchester to give speeches, visit friends and colleagues in the civil rights movement, and to raise money for the Southern Christian Leadership Conference, his organization that was 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 was in May of 1956, when he stayed at the Hastings on Hudson home of Psychologists Kenneth and Mamie Phipps Clark. The Clark's studies on the effects of racial segregation on black children were used in the Brown vs. Board of Education case before the United States Supreme Court in 1954.

King and Dr. Kenneth Clark became friends after the Brown decision, and the Clark's 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 Clark's invited him to stay in their Hastings home.

Dr. King, Coretta Scott King, and their young daughter Yolonda, stayed with the Clark's 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 Clark's 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's 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 desegregated and students within 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 1960's, 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 King 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 in 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, which gives us an indication of King's hectic schedule and backlog of events. Like King, Ashbrook was a committed pacifist, and King's topic for 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 mind's heart to 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 Pastor at Mt. Vernon's Macedonia Baptist Church. King and Dixon knew each other through their fathers, who were close friends. Dixon agreed to also 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 a \$50 ticket that include a reception with King. New York Senator Herbert Lehman and Westchester Congressman Ogden Reid were chairman of the event. Jackie Robinson, Harry Belafonte and Sidney Poitier also lent support. Expectations did not meet the actual attendance, 3500, and 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 to the Rockefeller family's Chase Manhattan back where he was handed a bag with \$100,000 in cash for bail money.

King agreed to attend a Rockefeller fund raiser 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 an 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, and was active in the civil rights movement and was a board member of Abbott House. King agreed to attend a fund raiser 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 NY Senator Daniel Patrick Moynihan about fatherless black family groups. 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 that is 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 a better way to remember Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. than recalling those that he touched personally with 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.

*Shamoya McKenzie continued from pg 1-*

has approved a \$9.6 million award to Nadine McKenzie, the mother of 13-year-old Shamoya McKenzie, A federal judge has approved a \$9.6 million award to Nadine McKenzie, the mother of 13-year-old Shamoya McKenzie,

The award is intended to hold the perpetrators accountable for their actions. In November, McKenzie expressed her hope that the award would send a powerful message that those who commit such heinous crimes will be held accountable.

"You will not kill someone and get away with it," she said. Nadine McKenzie filed a wrongful death lawsuit against the four men, which was recommended by a federal magistrate.

The four men involved in Shamoya's death are now in prison. In 2022, SINCERE SAVOY was sentenced to 22 years in prison, DAVID HARDY was sentenced to 31 years in prison. In 2021, MARQUIS COLLIER and JERMAINE HUGHLEY, were each sentenced to 27 years in prison.

The Goonies were engaged in a long-standing and violent feud with several rival Mount Vernon street gangs, including, among others, the "Boss Playa Family," the "Get Money Gangstas," the "Gunnas," and the "Much Better Gang". On December 31, 2016, HARDY, COLLIER, HUGHLEY and SAVOY attempted to murder a rival gang member in broad daylight by firing multiple shots at him in the vicinity of Tecumseh Avenue and Third Street in Mount Vernon, New York. The rival gang member suffered gunshot wounds but survived. One of the bullets, however, missed the intended target and struck the head of 13-year old Shamoya McKenzie, who was in the front passenger seat of a passing car, which was being driven by her mother. Shamoya McKenzie died as a result.

According to the judgment, McKenzie is awarded:

- US\$1,75M in compensatory damages against defendants David Hardy, Marquis Collier, Jermaine Hughley, and Sincere Savoy, jointly and severally.
- US\$2,625,000 in punitive damages against David Hardy.
- US\$1,750,000 in punitive damages against Marquis Collier.
- US\$1,750,000 in punitive damages against Jermaine Hughley.
- US\$1,750,000 in punitive damages against Sincere Savoy.

While the McKenzie family was awarded the judgement against the four men, she must now attempt to collect on the judgements.

McKenzie also filed a US\$15 million wrongful death suit against the City of Mount Vernon, resulting in a confidential settlement.

She stated, "You will not kill someone and get away with it."

Mrs. McKenzie recently commented for a story in Jamaica Star-<https://jamaica-star.com/article/news/20241128/painful-thanksgiving-mother-slain-teen>

"Those millions cannot bring back my daughter. I would give that up and just about everything I have just for Shamoya to be here with me. That money cannot take away what happened to my daughter but I appreciate the gesture,"

It was a horrific day as, when my daughter got shot and the police came, some of them were saying that I came to the area to buy drugs. I am a public notary and at the time I was working for CHASE bank for nine years. Instead of putting me in the ambulance with my daughter, they did not. They took me to an interrogation room instead. My child died and I wasn't by her side because I was being interrogated,"

"Shamoya was very loved by her school and community. It is a tragic loss across the board on so many different levels. Her killers caused pain for a lifetime and we will be watching them and, any money they come across, Ms McKenzie will get it," said attorney Stephen Drummond.



Lifeguards Wanted for Westchester County Parks-Register Now for Training Classes that Begin Jan. 19



Register Now!  
Lifeguard Training Classes Available.

Class Dates: Jan. 19, 26, Feb. 2 and 9; 11 a.m. - 6 p.m.

Theodore Young Community Center  
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Only open to applicants who pass the pre-test on Jan. 19 and will work for Westchester County Parks.

Participants must be 15 years of age by the end of the class.

You must be able to attend all classes to complete the course. Register at <https://parks.westchestergov.com/images/stories/pdfs/2025prelgrtrainapjan19tycc.pdf>

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Left to right Molly Quinn and Emma James-Finney both juniors at MRHS

On Jan. 10, more than 40 Maria Regina High School students participated in the school's annual Box City initiative, held in the school's courtyard to support the region's unsheltered homeless including children. During the 12 hours of solidarity with the homeless, the students participated in hourly prayers for the highly at-risk population who have been especially challenged during one of the coldest winters. In addition, Rudyard Whyte, board president of Midnight Run based in Dobbs Ferry, addressed the students and gave them an overview about the region's homeless population. The students raised funds that will be used for future breakfast runs and to make a donation to Midnight Run. In the 21 prior BOX City campaigns that the renowned all-girls Catholic high school held, a total of about \$50,000 was raised to help the homeless in Westchester communities and New York City. To learn visit [www.MariaRegina.org](http://www.MariaRegina.org).

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