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Congressman Lawler to Gov. Hochul Don't Give Up the Stove!



By Dan Murphy

Westchester Congressman Mike Lawler is calling out a proposal by Governor Kathy Hochul, and the Federal government, to phase out Gas stoves in new buildings by the end of the decade.

Hochul made the proposal in her recent state of the state address, while the Federal Consumer Product Safety Commission said it was considering restrictions or regulations that apply to new stoves.

Rep. Lawler sent out an email blast that read, "Joe Biden and Kathy Hochul want to ban gas stoves and force homeowners to convert their homes from gas to electric, which would cost the average homeowner \$35,000. We need a responsible energy policy that is affordable and reliable. They believe that each time you boil water, cook pasta, make eggs, or even fry bacon; you are harming the environment and yourself!"

Mike and Team Lawler saw this and thought how crazy of an idea this is and knew it was time to stand up against this outrageous proposal. That is why we created the "Don't Give up the Stove" Merchandise! Don't let the environmental extremists dictate how you run your own home."

Among the items for sale at the Lawler merch online store include mugs, t-shirts and sweatshirts. Visit <https://secure.winred.com/lawler-for-congress/storefront/?collection=save-our-stoves#>

Gov. Hochul, in her State of the State address last week, proposed New York to become the first state in the country to ban natural gas heating and appliances in new buildings by 2030, citing the fact that buildings are among the biggest sources of global warming. Some cities, including NYC have limited gas hook ups in new construction.

In Southern Westchester, Con Edison placed a ban on new natural gas connections for new construction last year.

On the Federal level, a member of the Consumer Product Safety Commission Richard Trumka Jr. said "Any option is on the table. Products that can't be made safe can be banned."

That resulted in republican congressman Ronny Jackson saying, "I'll NEVER give up my gas stove. If the maniacs in the White House come for my stove, they can pry it from my cold dead hands. COME AND TAKE IT!!"

The Biden administration said they were not looking to ban stoves and that the President would not support such an idea, and the Chair of the CPSC Alex Hoehn-Saric said, "I am not looking to ban gas stoves and the CPSC has no proceeding to do so." But she added, "Research indicates that emissions from gas stoves can be hazardous, and the CPSC is looking for ways to reduce related indoor air quality hazards."

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Fired Westchester Librarian Picketing for Justice-"It may be legal, but is it moral, ethical?"



By Dan Murphy

Visitors to the Scarsdale Public Library may have noticed someone picketing outside with a sign that reads "Heartless Treatment of Library Staff." That person is Robin Stettensch, pictured left, who worked as a librarian since 1989.

In 2017, the library was preparing to close for a \$21,000,000 expansion. Yet while millions were lavishly spent on the expansion, long-term employees received harrowing news. Scarsdale Library Director, Elizabeth Bermei, announced all the part-timers would lose their jobs and there would be no guarantee of a job when the library reopened. If an employee were lucky enough to be rehired, they would be forced to start back at an entry level salary - as if they were a completely new employee.

Robin Stettensch, an employee for more than 25 years, chose to stand up for herself and what she believes is right - and her pleas for reconsideration fell on deaf ears.

Fifteen months ago, Stettensch began to picket in front of the library. Stettensch started working there in 1988 at 22 years old, as a clerk and then as a librarian trainee, as she obtained her Masters in Library Science degree. She was a full-time librarian for 11 years before making the hard decision to go part-time to take care of her first child.

By the time of the library expansion her eldest son was preparing to go to college and her salary was more important than ever. A salary reset would be devastating to the family's finances not only in the present but the future as well, since retirement earnings are partly based on your final average salary. Stettensch explained, "Each year of service your salary slowly goes up because there are Union raises, so every year counts. For Scarsdale to choose to fund a lavish \$21.7

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Have You No Shame-Ed Lachterman? Town Clerk Quast Falsely Attacked at Yorktown Mtg.

Survey Shows Republicans Scheming to Get Democrat Quast, Out of Office with Fake News!



Yorktown Councilman Ed Lachterman, left, is being criticized for his attack of Town Clerk Diana Quast, right, at a Town Board meeting last month.

By Dan Murphy

Attempts by republicans in Yorktown to 'cancel' and discredit the reputation of the only elected democrat, Town Clerk Diana Quast, have backfired, with many residents wondering why Councilman Ed Lachterman berated Quast for a half-hour at a Town Board meeting last month, falsely accusing her of not preserving the minutes of the meetings without having any knowledge about the process, or reading the minutes himself.

And, Westchester Rising has received a copy of a survey sent out by Yorktown republicans which show that they had devised a plan to discredit Quast so that Jenna Lennox-Belcastro could win election this fall as Town Clerk. Lennon-Belcastro was the assistant to former Supervisor Matt Slater and is in the same position for Supervisor Tom Diana.

We became aware of the antics of Lachterman after reading a letter in both the Yorktown News and the Examiner from Yorktown resident Phil Corrao, who writes, Yorktown Town Board Abused the Public Trust Over Meeting Minutes

"The Yorktown Town Board meeting on Dec. 13, 2022, began with a political statement, which was made at taxpayer expense. Councilman Lachterman claimed that the Town Board's written meeting minutes were not available to the public.

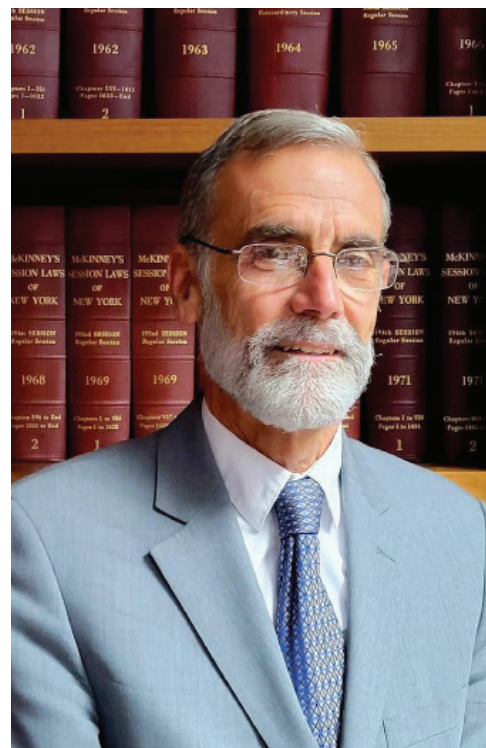
"In actuality, these minutes were available in four different locations. Additionally, they were no longer even considered to be the official minutes.

"Last February, New York State law changed, which made video recordings the official minutes of Town Board meetings. This made the need for written minutes obsolete. But our town clerk continued to provide written minutes for the benefit of our residents.

"The councilman wasn't aware that the written minutes are in four locations. Nor was he aware that the video recording of the meeting was the official record of the meeting. And for nearly two years did he even notice that the written minutes

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County Legislator Maher to Run for New Rochelle Mayor; Legislator Nolan Announces Reelection, and a Rematch with Ruth Walter



County Legislators Damon Maher, left, and James Nolan right

By Dan Murphy

County Legislator Damon Maher, one of the bodies most progressive members, recently announced that he will not run for reelection to the BOL, but will instead run for Mayor of New Rochelle.

"I will not be running for reelection to the Westchester County Board of Legislators, District 10, this year. I am proud to have been part of the new Democratic majority that came in 5 years ago that invests tens of millions of dollars in affordable housing and infrastructure each year, and has reduced childcare costs for low-income working families, protected immigrants and the most vulnerable workers and kept guns and abusive animal acts out of our beloved County Center," said Maher in a statement.

A few days later, Maher added, "I have decided the right fit for me would be the job of Mayor of my beloved City of New Rochelle. More importantly, and humbly, I suggest to you that I would be the right fit for the job, based on my many years of engagement and real work in and for the many communities of this City."

Maheer will face a democratic opponent in the June primary. New Rochelle

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Teatown's Eaglefest Returns Feb. 4



The Eagles are landing! Teatown's Hudson River EagleFest, an annual festival celebrating the once endangered bald eagle's winter migration to the Hudson River, returns on February 4, 2023. The highly anticipated event at Westchester County's Croton Point Park, returns live after two years of virtual programming with live bird shows featuring birds of prey, bird spotting walks, educational programming, exhibits, crafts and games for children all in heated tents, plus food trucks, and more!

Elected officials joined Teatown organizers and naturalists at Croton Point Park on Jan. 11 to announce EagleFest's return. Wildlife rehabilitator Bobby Horvath, who will be one of a number of presenters at EagleFest, brought his eagle Montana and did a demonstration for the crowd which included 1st graders from Ossining's Brookside Elementary School.

"We are so excited to return to Croton Point Park along the Hudson River to celebrate EagleFest," said Kevin Carter, Executive Director of Teatown Lake Reservation, which organizes the event. "EagleFest brings people of all ages together to share a very uplifting story: the rebound of the bald eagle from the brink of extinction. It is a great winter event where families can learn about nature and the natural world up close and personal."

Westchester County Executive George Latimer said, "Eagle Fest is one of the great Westchester events not to be missed. It is a showcase of both the tireless environmental conservation efforts that have been ongoing throughout our county as well as one of our most beautiful park," said Latimer.

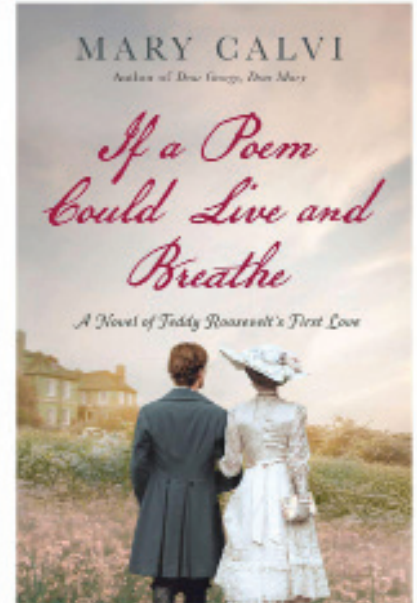
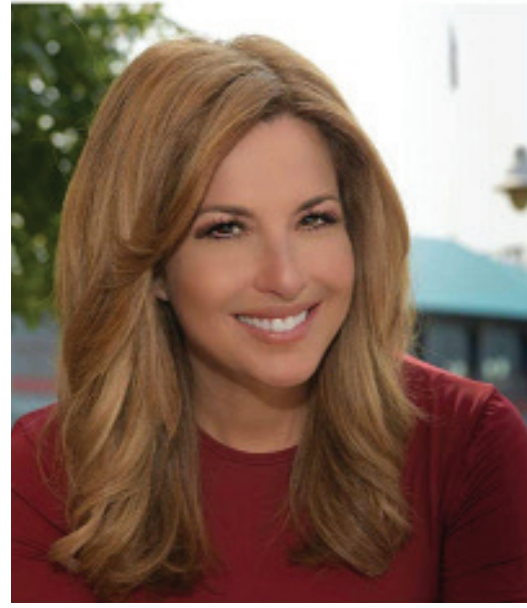
NYS Senator Peter Harckham said, "This popular event, which is part of an ongoing public-private partnership between Westchester County and Teatown, works to promote ecotourism and raises awareness of the beauty and majesty of our natural wildlife, and how we must protect, at all costs, our high-soaring neighbors and the ecosystems that enable them to thrive."

Each year, thousands flock to Croton Point Park to see live bird-of-prey shows and demonstrations, and wild bald eagles and other birds of prey thriving in their natural habitat along the Hudson River. Bald eagles, once on the brink of extirpation due to chemicals like DDT, have rebounded as a result of federal and state protections, and can now be seen nesting and hunting along the River.

NYS Assemblywoman Dana Levenberg urged people to attend this inspiring event. "I hope many people will continue to flock to this amazing event, with lots of opportunities for young and old alike to appreciate all our Hudson River has to offer."

For a complete schedule visit the website at <https://www.teatown.org/events/eaglefest/>. Pre sale tickets are \$30 for adults.

Mary Calvi Pens Second Presidential "First Love" Book, About Teddy Roosevelt



Mary Calvi, and her new book

In 2019, Mary Calvi, morning anchor for WCBS-TV and the First Lady of Yonkers, penned Dear George, Dear Mary: A Novel of George Washington's First Love. The book's success, which included being turned into a made for TV documentary by the Smithsonian channel, included references to her home in Yonkers, and one of the oldest buildings in New York State, Philipse Manor Hall.

Through extensive research, Calvi wondered whether George Washington's heart belonged not to Martha, but to his first love, Mary Philipse, in her book. Now, in her second work of historical fiction, If A Poem Could Live and Breathe,

Calvi again questions the history books. Using her journalistic skills to uncover the previously unpublished love letters written between Theodore Roosevelt and first wife, Alice Lee, Calvi provides a new understanding of their romance and ill-fated marriage. (Lee died post-childbirth at the young age of 22).

The love letters, long thought to have been destroyed, allowed Calvi to illustrate how Lee, a woman many historians wrote off as unimportant to the development of Roosevelt, did indeed help shape him into the man and future president he would become.

History has dismissed Alice Lee, possibly because of how biographers portrayed her and her relationship with Theodore. Edmund Morris, in his Pulitzer prize-winning biography of Roosevelt, wrote "... all love-letters between himself and Alice—with four trivial exceptions—were destroyed. Photographs of Alice were torn out of their paper frames."

But Calvi discovered nearly 40 love letters and never-before-published photographs between Roosevelt and Lee, donated to Harvard University by Alice Lee's great grand-daughter in 1990. Calvi included 36 of the letters in If A Poem Could Live and Breathe.

During her research at Harvard, Calvi writes in the book, "After reading through the last of the letters, I decided it might be a good idea to take a photograph with them while seated at one of a number of long wooden tables inside Houghton Library at Harvard University where they are stored. As I did, I was taken aback by what was hanging on the wall behind me: a portrait of President Roosevelt. Maybe he wanted them to be seen."

Calvi meticulously transcribed each letter and donated those transcriptions to Harvard University for future researchers. The book, and the love letters show that

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Westchester DA Rocah Finds Poor Bookkeeping But No Criminal Activity at Mt. Vernon Library



STATEMENT BY WESTCHESTER COUNTY DISTRICT ATTORNEY MIRIAM E. ROCAH ON THE CLOSING OF THE MOUNT VERNON PUBLIC LIBRARY INVESTIGATION

“Amid allegations of financial mismanagement, fraud and theft, the Westchester County District Attorney’s Office initiated an investigation into the finances of the Mount Vernon Public Library (“Library”). The purpose of the investigation was to determine if any individual or entity associated with the Library engaged in criminal conduct, and if it was appropriate to bring criminal charges against any individual or entity.

“Our comprehensive investigation consisted of the review of voluminous financial records, Library records, documents and information obtained via grand jury subpoena, and certain information that was publicly available. We worked in cooperation with the Office of the New York State Comptroller, which provided invaluable resources and assistance.

“Our investigation revealed evidence of poor bookkeeping and other evidence of mismanagement related to the Library’s finances, but did not uncover evidence to support the filing of any criminal charges. Specifically, we did not find evidence to support the contention that any money has been embezzled, misappropriated or otherwise stolen from the Library or that any individual or entity engaged in fraud or criminal misconduct. Having reached these conclusions, our investigation is now closed.”

WESTCHESTER MAN SENTENCED FOR OPERATING PONZI SCHEME, STOLE MORE THAN \$1M

James Doyle Sentenced to Five Years’ Probation for Scheme that Stole More Than \$1 Million from Unsuspecting Investors

New York Attorney General Letitia James and New York State Department of Taxation and Finance Acting Commissioner Amanda Hiller announced the sentences of Carl Carro (61, of Delaware County) and James Doyle (74, of Westchester County) for operating a nearly decade-long Ponzi scheme that defrauded investors in New York and throughout the nation of more than \$1 million. Carro pled guilty last October to Money Laundering in the Second Degree (class C felony), Securities Fraud under the Martin Act (class E felony), Scheme to Defraud in the First Degree (class E felony), and Repeated Failure to File Personal Income Tax Returns (class E felony). Doyle pled guilty in July 2021 to Money Laundering in the Second Degree (class C felony) and Scheme to Defraud in the First Degree (class E felony). Carro was sentenced to 4 to 8 years in prison and Doyle was sentenced to five years’ probation. As part of their respective sentences, Carro and Doyle agreed to pay a total of more than \$1 million in judgments to the victims of their scheme.

“New Yorkers deserve the peace of mind of knowing that when they invest their hard-earned money, it won’t be stolen by shameless fraudsters,” said Attorney General James. “For nearly a decade, Carl Carro and James Doyle pocketed more than \$1 million dollars from investors who trusted them with their funds. I thank the Department of Taxation and Finance and Acting Commissioner Hiller for their critical support in our efforts to bring these bad actors to justice. My office will always work to protect the interests of New Yorkers and ensure anyone seeking to take advantage or violate state laws is held accountable.”

Yesterday’s sentences are the result of a joint investigation by the Office of the Attorney General (OAG) and the Department of Taxation and Finance’s (DTF) Criminal Investigations Division. In January 2021, both Carro and Doyle were arrested and charged with multiple crimes for their roles in the Ponzi scheme.

As outlined in the complaints, Carro and Doyle solicited investments in their companies, Endeavor Management Solutions and Endeavor Consultancy, from more than 50 individuals in New York and other states between January 2012 and December 2020. Carro and Doyle misrepresented to investors that Endeavor was a headhunting firm hired by prestigious clients to find candidates for openings on their boards of directors. They first lured investors with false promises of interviews for board positions and then offered purported no-risk investment opportunities in their firm. The two defendants promised their victims that investments would be held in an untouched cash reserve fund that allegedly held over \$1 million and guaranteed a 10 to 20 percent return on investment after 30 days.

I Got the Dreaded Red Light Camera Ticket



By Eric Wolf Schoen

I knew it was coming. Everyone else I know got at least one. It comes in an envelope with the words highlighted ATTENTION REQUIRED in Vomit blue, the return address is Red Light Camera Traffic Safety Program!

It came right after New Years, a time people are just finishing opening their cards and sending return greetings. so with its jolly vomit blue color you might just think it was a belated card. Drum roll please, now it’s time to open the envelope to see where I was a bad boy.

The ‘violation’ took place at Yonkers and Midland Avenue. A quick look at the letter shows 3 pictures that must have been lifted from a lousy computer. One is the license plate on the back of my car. One is a picture of a truck filled filled with debris. The third picture is so dark it’s hard to Make out what’s going on.

Gee I thought ,wasn’t this the place my sister got her red light not Long ago? The pictures are so unclear it’s Hard to see even if it is daylight. Yes, my sister got her ticket at the same placement.

For an hour I tried to log on to the website that would give me the video and ability to see what actually occurred with no success . Finally I logged on and saw the picture of my infraction. Had I gone through the red light? Nope. Had my car passed the street lines That are blurred in Yonkers as they haven’t been repainted. Yes. Was the area leading to the bridge a quick stop. Yes.

Let me remind you I am the slowest driver in yonkers second to my sister. I follow the speed limits and if You honk me I go slower. Try to pull around me and I’ll make it difficult for you to move. I Drive slow even in a speed area.

Refresh my memory. Isn’t this a Red Light Camera Program Supposed to catch you when you

Go through a red light camera? When did all these other violations to hit motorists with tickets come into play?

If the city is going to go beyond a simple passing of a red light to issue ‘notice of Liability,’ Yonkers should put the types of violations they are going to ticket for on the city website. they also should put red light location signage clear for all to see and like every other WESTCHESTER municipality on the approach to red light cameras. The signs accomplish everything the Red Light Cameras do without the hefty monetary donation to the city. And as always, the little people get hurt first!

So the question is to pay or fight it? What’s the old saying, ‘You Can’t Fight City.’ So I decided instead of waisting my time or aggravating myself more I would pay. But the fine is just not \$50. It’s \$65 including \$15 for a public safety fee. And they make it even harder to get on the website to pay which took 45 minutes.

But wait we are not finished. Want to pay for the violation with charge card. (You can’t send money through the phone). There’s \$1.99 fee for that. So the \$50 Red Light Ticket, Public Safety Fee of \$15 and \$1.99 pay by charge comes to \$66.99. Highway Robbery? You got it. A dirty rotten shame. That’s a better explanation. Let’s not even talk about the cars that go through red lights or have their mufflers in violation with city code or are double parked or are in a handicap spot without proper signage. I could go on and on for hours. They never get ticketed. And here little ‘ol’ me is stopping before the red light.

You see all these cars speeding through town? I’m stopping before a red light, and the speeding cars get away with murder.

Just to make sure you are clear, the whole City Council sent a home rule message to our State Legislators requesting Red Light Cameras, the legislators in Albany passed the legislation, and the Governor, probably Cuomo at the time sealed it with his approval.

And just so you know the same lobbyist for the company that got the contract to install the red light cameras contract was the same lobbyist that lobbied with the Albany politicians for the city to have this program everyone loves.

And if you think the big shots are paying for their Red Light Tickets, sorry friends it doesn’t work that way in the BIG YO (Yonkers.)

Mr. Santos

Everyone is questioning how George Santos could be Congressman. Blame it on the politicians that did not vet him. Blame it on the Long Island Republican Party and New York State Party and Team to get Republicans elected in Congress.who did not vet him. Bet it on the lazy Long Island and New York City Press that did not vet him. Blame it on all the people who know him who didn’t spill the beans. Enough blame? His election is the biggest and best comedy show in town!

Listen to Eric Schoen on the Westchester Rising Radio Show Thursday’s from 10-11 a.m. On WVOX 1460 AM, go to WVOX.com and click the arrow to listen to the live stream or download the WVOX app from the App Store free of charge

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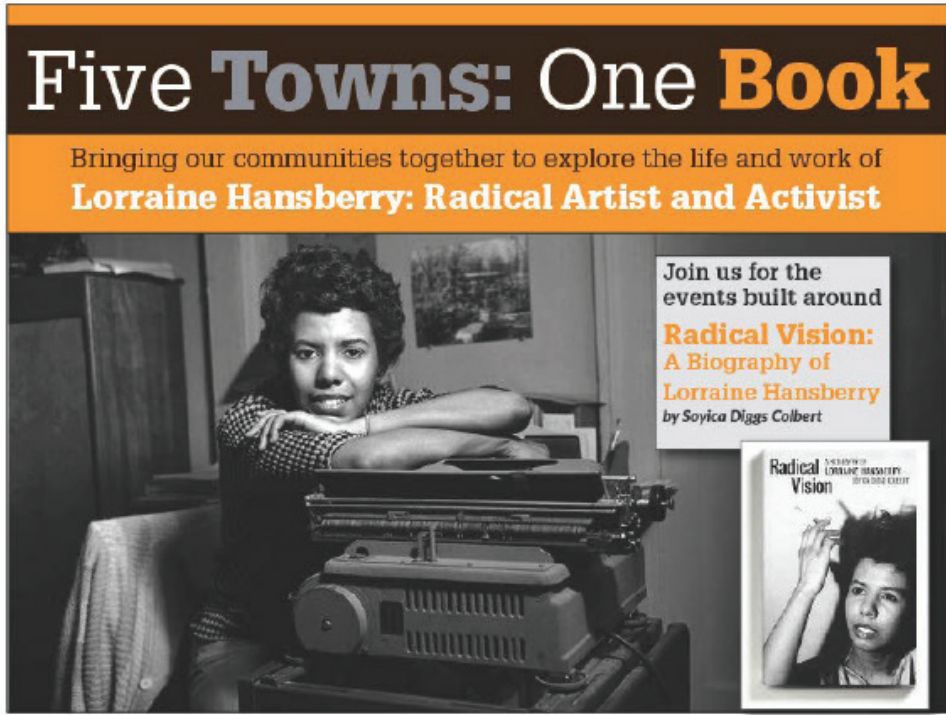
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Five Towns: One Book Author, Artist & Activist Lorraine Hansberry

New York's Climate Plan will Boost Economy & Quality of Life

OP-ED, By Anshul Gupta



The Coalition for Understanding Racism through Education (CURE), in partnership with The Lorraine Hansberry Coalition (LHC) and five Westchester public libraries, will host the third annual “Five Towns: One Book,” a series of free events featuring a discussion on February 11th, with Soyica Diggs Colbert author of Radical Vision, A Biography of Lorraine Hansberry followed by four events that run from March through April 15th.

Five Towns: One Book draws on the life and work of Lorraine Hansberry. Hansberry was most noted for her play, A Raisin in the Sun, about a Black family, which opened on Broadway to great success. It addressed many themes such as Redlining, Afrocentrism and who has access to the American Dream. Hansberry was the first Black playwright and the youngest American to win a New York Critics’ Circle award.

Throughout her life she was heavily involved in the Civil Rights and Black Freedom Movements as an activist and journalist working side by side with the likes of James Baldwin, W.E.B DuBois and Nina Simone. She was a lesbian in a heterosexual marriage with her soulmate and fellow activist Bob Nemiroff. She died in Croton on Hudson at 34 of pancreatic cancer.

The main event to kick off the series will be an intimate, roundtable discussion with Dr. Colbert about Radical Vision moderated by Nicole Alifante from CURE, Lynda Jones from The Lorraine Hansberry Coalition and Tejash Sanchala from the Westchester Humans Rights Commission. Dr. Soyica Diggs Colbert is the Idol Family Professor of African American Studies and Performing Arts at Georgetown University. Her research interests span the centuries, from Harriet Tubman to Beyoncé, and from poetics to performance.

All events are in person but will be recorded and live streamed on LMC Media Youtube. Saturday, February 11th at 2pm - Croton Free Library. To view the complete list of events and to register, visit <https://www.learnwithcure.com/events>.

county board races, continued from pg 1-

Councilwoman Yadira Ramos-Herbert will be Maher’s formidable opponent. Ramos-Herbert has the support from the Hispanic Democrats of Westchester and New Rochelle Mayor Noam Bramson, who is not seeking re-election.

Maher’s seat on the BOL, District 10, will also be up for grabs in November. Manuel Cassanova, a New Rochelle hispanic democrat who ran for Congress last year, has already announced his candidacy.

Republican Anthony Giacobbe almost shocked the political world in Westchester in almost beating Maher, losing by only a few hundred votes. Giacobbe was an unknown candidate who knocked on thousands of doors and spoke about family values and fiscal conservatism. That message still resonates in Eastchester, one of the last republican strongholds left in the county.

But the recent redistricting of the 17 BOL districts took out a little bit of Eastchester and added a little bit more of New Rochelle, adding a few hundred democrats to the districts enrollment. No word from Giacobbe yet, but stay tuned.

Legislator James Nolan announced that he is running for re-election to the BOL from District 15. Nolan, a republican, won election in 2021, defeating Ruth Walter in a close contest.

Walter is expected to run again, setting up a rematch. This district has also been modified through redistricting to include parts of Eastchester and Mt. Vernon with Bronxville and parts of East Yonkers.

“I am excited to announce my reelection campaign. Westchester is a unique and wonderful place to live. It’s been the pleasure of a lifetime to represent Bronxville and Yonkers. I’m excited to include residents of Eastchester and Mount Vernon as my constituents next year!” said Legislator Nolan.

“I took office last year during a very difficult time for our Country. We were still in the midst of the COVID-19 pandemic. The week I became a county legislator, there were over 3,000 new COVID cases a day. We have continued to inch further and further into a recession throughout my term. This economic slump has been perpetuated by a 40 year high in inflation. Despite all these obstacles, I have never stopped trying to do my best for residents. The biggest lesson I’ve learned since taking office is that every action has a reaction and this especially proves true when Governments craft legislation. I’m excited to campaign on my record this year.”

Nolan has been outspoken on many issues, including Backing the Blue, opposing the menthol cigarette ban, opposing the westchester clinic access law. He is a strong supporters of Westchester unions and workers rights. More recently, Nolan is working on the rampant shoplifting and snatch and grabs in local drug stores and supermarkets.

Nolan also served as the Westchester Chair of Lee Zeldin’s campaign for Governor. Like Giacobbe, Nolan is a tireless campaigner and will certainly work hard for his reelection. In December, Nolan made comments about the way in which his district was redrawn.

“As I have said many times, these are gerrymandered districts to give the Democrat party an unfair advantage in next year’s elections. The plans passed last night have the same deficiencies that the defunct districts that the Democrats in Albany tried to pass earlier this year. Passing this plan has opened the County into a lengthy & costly lawsuit that will most likely be successful. The district that I represent has been one of the districts that have been radically altered. I have lost neighborhoods in Yonkers that I won like Dunwoodie and instead was given Democrat areas in Yonkers and Mount Vernon to try to ensure I won’t be reelected. There is no explanation for this move, which needlessly splits Mount Vernon 3 ways in the process. The map also splits every single municipality in Westchester that Zeldin won. This was done to keep seats from not being competitive for the Republican party, and in some cases from Moderate Democrats. This whole process was shameful and partisan. I think that the incoming litigation will be successful and the districts will have to be redrawn. There will be nobody to blame, but a few hyper-partisan Legislators.” said legislator James Nolan.

The most recent reports by the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change, prepared and reviewed by thousands of scientists and experts from 195 countries, spell a grim climate prognosis after decades of inaction by governments due in large part to the well-documented campaigns of denial, doubt, and delay by the fossil-fuel industry and its abettors. Meanwhile, climate deterioration marked by worsening fires, floods, droughts, and storms such as hurricane Ida that devastated Yonkers has tracked even worse than scientists’ predictions. Barring immediate concerted efforts, our world could be unrecognizable by the end of the century.

The end of the century is within the lifetime of a child born today. Recognizing the shrinking window to make amends, governments worldwide have been spurred into action in recent years, and New York state – the world’s 11th largest economy – passed a landmark climate law, The Climate Leadership and Community Protection Act, in 2019. Soon afterward, the fossil-fuel industry and its allies launched a progressively intensifying campaign to malign the law by exploiting our innate fears of change and the unknown.

New Yorkers are being incessantly exposed to fear mongering that the state’s climate action plan threatens their energy reliability and affordability when the prime cause of energy supply disruptions and price spikes is our reliance on fossil fuels, which leaves us at the mercy of unpredictable international geopolitics.

Burning fossil-fuels in buildings for space and water heating is New York’s largest source of carbon pollution, and therefore, is a major target of disinformation. Forgoing gas connections in new construction in favor of highly efficient and reliable cold-climate heat pumps is a goal that cannot be met, some have opined. Never mind that a bulk of Westchester county has had a gas moratorium for over three years.

Not only did the sky not fall, the county experienced robust population and economic growth outpacing the rest of the state. As a bonus, we built some fabulous modern, healthy all-electric homes and buildings, some right here in Yonkers, and showed what is possible when we leave fossil fuels and closed mindedness behind.

Fears of grid capacity and power failures are often raised. But our electric grid is stressed in the summer while the heat pumps add to the winter electricity demand. Major utilities like LIPA and Con Edison support all-electric new construction to begin an orderly transition to a pollution-free buildings sector while our energy infrastructure evolves in tandem.

Even fossil-fueled heating doesn’t work during power failures without expensive generators. A look at poweroutage.us would reveal that beyond severe weather events, power outages are uncommon. However, almost every winter day, HVAC technicians and plumbers crisscross towns and villages all over the state, rushing to rescue hundreds if not thousands of customers with heat outages from broken boilers, furnaces, and water heaters.

There are good reasons for the business community and the business councils to break with the fossil fuel industry in support of New York’s climate plan, including its building decarbonization provisions. Due to generous tax credits from the federal Inflation Reduction Act, the more heat pumps we install, the fewer tax dollars will flow out of the state. On the other hand, burning fossil-fuels that New York doesn’t produce drains funds from the state.

With the US becoming the world’s largest exporter of liquified natural gas, domestic prices will be determined by the highest international bidder. The era of cheap natural gas is over, but New York’s gas utilities are still adding tens of thousands of new customers each year, creating unnecessary additional demand that increases pressure on supply prices. The more than 200 million dollars of annual cost of free hookups to these customers is also tacked onto everyone’s delivery charges. This is akin to a tax levied on ratepaying families and small businesses to fund free new gas hookups and distorts building economics in favor of an uneconomical fuel.

Continuing to build with fossil fuels not only makes cleaning our building stock harder in the future, but also exacerbates inequities and perpetuates harm. Expansion of the gas distribution network adds to everyone’s energy burden, but as a portion, takes a larger bite out of lower incomes.

The outdoor pollution from burning fossil fuels in buildings, responsible for thousands of deaths and billions in healthcare costs in New York, accumulates more readily in denser neighborhoods common in Yonkers and the Bronx. Smaller dwellings suffer higher concentrations of indoor pollution from leakage and combustion of gas linked to myriad health risks, including asthma among children and dementia among the elderly.

A climate-driven energy transition isn’t just good for our health but also for healthy job growth. According to the 2022 Clean Energy Industry Report, energy-efficiency and building electrification is the largest segment of New York’s clean energy jobs that grew 13% over five years to 165,000 compared to an 11% decline to 141,000 in conventional energy over the same period.

We don’t need to look beyond Westchester for evidence. After prototyping an efficient method for installing geothermal heat pumps, Dandelion Energy chose New York to start a business due to its market potential and supportive policies. Now headquartered in Mt. Kisco, the company has never stopped hiring since installing its first system in 2018 and has expanded into three neighboring states. Each year, its systems enable hundreds of new families to start heating and cooling their homes without paying astronomical utility bills or polluting their neighborhoods.

Powerful polluting and profiteering interests hell-bent on stalling our progress towards a healthier, sustainable energy future have been telling us to slow down for decades. Heeding them is not an option, because that’s exactly what has brought us to a point where a transition with speed and scale is our only option for leaving a livable climate for our children and grandchildren.

Anshul Gupta is a research scientist and a member of the Westchester chapter of the Climate Reality Project.

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NYC Man Sentence to 25 Years for 2018 Murder of 34 Year Old Tarrytown Mom

Shot in Her Home Before Shooter Throws Out Gun in Trash at Bus Stop



-Jessica Wiltse, left and gun found in bus stop garbage can

Westchester County District Attorney Miriam E. Rocah and Tarrytown Police Chief John Barbelet announced that a New York City man was sentenced to 25 years to life for the 2018 murder of Tarrytown mother Jessica Wiltse.

DA Rocah said: "Today's sentence is justice for the heinous and cold-blooded murder of Jessica Wiltse, a mother of two who was shot and killed in a place where she should have felt safest - her home. I commend the Tarrytown Police Department for their leadership and our law enforcement partners for their assistance in securing this conviction on behalf of the victim's family."

Chief Barbelet said: "Cynell Brown committed a vicious crime in our Village. Through the dedicated efforts of numerous investigators and law enforcement personnel, Mr. Brown was brought to justice and will now be held accountable for his actions. Our thoughts remain with the victim's family members."

On Nov. 16, 2022, after a four-week trial, a jury found Cynell Brown, 32, guilty of Murder in the Second Degree, Criminal Possession of a Weapon in the Second Degree, Criminal Possession of a Controlled Substance in the Fourth Degree, and two counts of Tampering with Physical Evidence, all felonies.

On Feb. 27, 2018, at approximately 7:10 a.m., the defendant used a .45 caliber semiautomatic pistol to shoot the 34-year-old victim two times, striking her in the chest and arm, in her home on White Plains Road in Tarrytown. The victim was transported to Westchester Medical Center in Valhalla, where she was pronounced dead.

During the investigation, police recovered the gun that the defendant used to murder the victim in a garbage can at a bus stop near the victim's home and a suitcase near the garbage can that contained papers with the defendant's name and phone number. Police also recovered a bag of cocaine that the defendant discarded from the window of a cab as he fled the scene. Police also obtained surveillance video showing the defendant purchasing a number of grocery items the night before the murder that were later recovered from the victim's home.

The defendant was apprehended by the Port Authority Police Department at the Port Authority Bus Terminal in Manhattan on the evening of Feb. 27, 2018, with the assistance of the FBI's Westchester Safe Streets Task Force. The multi-agency pursuit and investigation was conducted by the Tarrytown Police Department, with the assistance of the Greenburgh Police Department, the Westchester County Department of Public Safety, the Greenburgh Drug and Alcohol Task Force, the Ardsley Police Department, the Dobbs Ferry Police Department, the Irvington Police Department, the Sleepy Hollow Police Department, the FBI's Westchester Safe Streets Task Force, the Metropolitan Transportation Authority Police Department, the New York State Police, the Westchester County Department of Laboratories and Research, and the Westchester County District Attorney's Office.

Don't Give Up The Stove, continued from pg 1-

"The president does not support banning gas stoves," White House press secretary Karine Jean-Pierre said at a press briefing on Wednesday. "And the Consumer Product Safety Commission, which is independent, is not banning gas stoves."

But the CPSC is studying gas stove emissions and ways to address potential health risks and is seeking public input on the issue in the spring. In Dec. the Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC), said in mid-December that the commission will consider regulating indoor air pollution from gas stoves. Environmental groups have cited studies which show links to childhood asthma. An estimated 40 million American homes rely on gas.

Some restaurants clam that they cannot operate without a gas stove, saying that electric stoves cannot cook meals thoroughly in a suitable amount of time.

It's OK to Grieve, Let's Talk: An Open Discussion for Men Living with Loss

Support Connection, Inc. announces a free program: It's Okay to Grieve, Let's Talk: An Open Discussion for Men Living with Loss. It will be held via Zoom video conference on Tuesday, January 31, 2023, from 7 - 8 pm (NY Time).

Open to men nationwide who have lost a spouse or partner to breast, ovarian, or other gynecological cancer. Pre-registration is required. Must register no later than 5 pm (NY time) Monday, January 30, 2023. To register, call Support Connection, 914-962-6402 or 800-532-4290.

It is never possible to prepare yourself for the loss of a spouse or partner. Learning how to cope with the grief and the impact on your life is hard to do alone. Speaking with others who have also been through it is an excellent way to learn and feel less alone.

This program is open to all men who have experienced loss, regardless of how much time has gone by. The facilitator will lead the discussion, which will include the following topics:

- There is no one way to grieve: no right way, and no wrong way.
- Dealing with unexpected "trigger points" and reminders.
- Coping with loneliness.
- Giving yourself permission to move forward.

Fired Librarian Pickets for Justice, continued from pg 1-

million dollar "Taj Mahal" library expansion partially on the backs of their dedicated employees is truly unconscionable. And all of this happening in the 2nd wealthiest town in America!

While the powers that be have convinced themselves that purposely destroying employees was "fiscally responsible," I believe most people will instead find it "morally reprehensible."

Stettinisch met privately with the Library Director on 12-15-2017, and Bermel told her how highly she thought of Stettinisch (proven because she was one of only two librarians rehired to work at the temporary library Loft location) and promised she would get her job and salary back when the library reopened. "The Director gave me her word, so I trusted her. When the renovation was complete, she never followed through on that promise or gave me the professional courtesy of even discussing it with me. She completely ghosted me," said Stettinisch.

Bermel and other library staff were familiar with Stettinisch's family, who had suffered multiple traumas in past years on top of the loss of job and salary. Five years ago, her nephew, Gage Bellitto, tragically overdosed in his dorm at Columbia University while his uncle was mere feet away, desperately begging security and the dorm manager to check on him, to no avail. The Stettinisch family is currently trying to get a law passed so that if there is ever a concern for a student's life, an immediate check must be done.

At the beginning of the pandemic, Stettinisch's brother and Gage's Dad, Eastchester Town Councilman Glenn D. Bellitto, suddenly passed from COVID-19. The family was reeling from a second tragic loss. "The director knew the heartache my family has been through," said Stettinisch.

When the library reopened, new people were hired at an entry-level salary and Stettinisch never got her job back as promised. In August 2021 Stettinisch contacted the Mayor and Village Board, Library Board, and Friends of the Library Board, but received no response. 2 months after being completely ignored, Stettinisch started to picket in October 2021, which required a lot of courage, especially in a wealthy community like Scarsdale. "I was nervous and I didn't know what to expect," recalled Stettinisch. But the support it garnered has made her time protesting much easier. On her first day of picketing, two Scarsdale High School students approached and told Stettinisch they respected what she was doing and admired her courage.

Another encounter Stettinisch had was with a father, who stopped to tell her about his young daughter. He hopes his daughter learns from what Stettinisch is doing and will follow in her footsteps by sticking up for herself and for what's right by demanding justice in a peaceful, powerful way. "The positive ripple effect I seem to be having has been so inspiring. I'm so grateful people stop to talk to me and offer to help. Even people driving by honk, give me thumbs up, or a little wave. They all make a difference - they give me the courage to never give up," explained Stettinisch.

In November 2021, after only 1 month of picketing, Stettinisch saw the chance to make things right. A new hire had quit and the library was once again advertising for a librarian, so Stettinisch sent an email to the Library Board, Mayor and Village Board, Friends of the Library Board, and library director, offering that if her job and salary were given back to her as promised, she would end picketing. She received a terse response from the mayor saying she cannot comment on personnel.

Then, the library went on to hire someone new at an entry-level salary. Stettinisch said, "It's heartless to continually be ignored. And the hypocrisy is absolutely unreal as the powers that be in Scarsdale tout the importance of acting with integrity, and being loving and kind - while at the same time purposefully emotionally and financially devastating dedicated employees and their families."

And, showing their absolute lack of integrity yet again - the Library Board recently issued a deceitful statement about me which I have completely rebutted. Also, the local press has squashed stories as well as had proof that the Library Director promised me my job and salary back, yet they publicly proclaimed there was no proof. A true circling of the wagons. No matter - truth and justice will prevail," says Stettinisch.

After 15 months of picketing there has yet to be any progress with Stettinisch's case and she says that "the endgame is for me to get my job and salary back as promised as well as payment for all the months I should have been working. In 2017, distraught library employees went to the CSEA Union for help and were told they couldn't help us because, and I quote- "What the library is doing to all of you is "Sh*tty but Legal."

And so ultimately the big question is, as Stettinisch puts it: "It may be legal—but is it moral, ethical, or kind?"

The Scarsdale Library issued a statement that says in part, "An appropriate pathway exists for current or former employees to have any concern or grievance heard and considered. However, members of the public should note that the Scarsdale Public Library was extremely transparent throughout the library renovation and addition project, having also exceeded our regulatory responsibilities in implementing necessary workforce reductions. Because the Library expected 54 Olmsted to be closed for construction for at least two years, we were unable to make forward-looking commitments of continuing employment to any personnel released through our necessary workforce reduction. Rather, we exerted exceptional effort to assist such personnel in making the transition to retirement or other employment, as best met the needs of each of our former staff. Our current staffing levels and compensation plan reflect current operating needs and our commitment to fiscal stewardship."

Editor's Note: The decision by the Scarsdale Library to fire their part-time employees during their renovation was the wrong one to make, in our view. Part-time employees making less than \$30,000 per year could have been kept on the payroll, or put to work at other locations in the Village. To punish those making the least amount of money makes no sense, and is not the decent thing to do.

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**LEGAL NOTICE
IRRIGATION SYSTEM REHABILITATION
FOR LAKE ISLE COUNTRY CLUB GOLF COURSE**

Notice is hereby given that the Office of the Eastchester Town Clerk will receive sealed bids for "IRRIGATION SYSTEM REHABILITATION FOR LAKE ISLE COUNTRY CLUB GOLF COURSE", located at 660 White Plains Road, Eastchester, New York 10709.

All proposals shall be on a lump sum basis and include all turf irrigation system construction work under a single Contract. Segregated proposals will not be accepted. In general, the work includes the installation of a fully functional turf irrigation system. A non-mandatory pre-bid conference will be held at the site on **February 2, 2023** at reserved time slots. Contact Greens Superintendent Eric Yount to select a time slot at (914) 398-9325.

Proposals will be received until **2:00 PM local time on February 28, 2023** at the Office of The Town Clerk, Eastchester Town Hall, 40 Mill Road, Eastchester, New York 10709, at which time they will be publicly opened and read aloud. Bid documents will be made available at **2:00 PM on January 27, 2023** and may be obtained from the Office of the Town Clerk.

Bid security shall be submitted with each bid in the amount of five percent (5%) of the Base Bid. Bidders must be properly licensed under the laws governing their respective trades and be able to obtain Insurance and Bonds required for the Work. The successful Bidder shall be required to furnish and pay for satisfactory Performance and Labor and Material Payment Bonds in the amount of one hundred percent (100%) of the total Contract Amount.

All bids shall be submitted either in person or by mail in an opaque, sealed envelope clearly marked "IRRIGATION SYSTEM REHABILITATION - LAKE ISLE COUNTY CLUB", addressed to: Town Clerk, Eastchester Town Hall, 40 Mill Road, Eastchester, New York 10709. Unless otherwise permitted by law, no bids may be withdrawn for a period of forty-five (45) days after the date of the bid opening.

TIME OF COMPLETION: 180 calendar days from Notice to Proceed.
The Town Board reserves the right to reject all bids and to waive any informality or irregularity in any or all bids.

LATE BIDS - All bids received after the deadline date and time stated above will not be considered and will be returned to the bidder unopened. The bidder assumes the risk of any delay in the mail or in the handling of the mail by Owner's employees or volunteers. Whether sent by mail or by means of personal delivery, the bidder assumes all responsibility for having the bid deposited on time at the place specified.

Dated: January 17, 2023 Town of Eastchester

40 Mill Road, Eastchester, NY

Notice of formation of JCJ Electrical LLC. Articles of Organization filed with the Secretary of State of New York on 01/06/2022. Office: Westchester County. SSNY designated as agent of the LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail copy of process to the LLC, 15 Dexter Road, Yonkers, NY 10710. Purpose: Any lawful activity.

NYTOPSOLUTIONS LLC of Org. filed with the SSNY on 04/06/2022. Office: Westchester County. SSNY designated as agent of the LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail copy of process to the LLC, 475 S. 4TH Avenue Mt. Vernon, NY 10550. Purpose: Any lawful activity.

Notice of formation of Beagal, LLC. Arts. of Org. filed with the SSNY on 10/11/2022. Office: Westchester County. SSNY designated as agent of the LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail copy of process to the LLC, 47 Washington Blvd Mt Vernon NY 10550. Purpose: Any lawful activity.

Notice of formation of 808 Commerce LLC, a domestic LLC. Arts. of Org. filed with Sec. of State of NY (SSNY) on 12/05/2022. Office location: Westchester County. SSNY is designated as agent upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: LLC at 808 Commerce Stret, Thornwood, NY 10594. Purpose: Any lawful act.

HRHELP SOLUTIONS LLC. Arts. of Org. filed with the SSNY on 11/04/2022. Office: Albany County. Republic Registered Agent LLC. designated as agent of the LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail copy of process to Registered Agent, at 600 Broadway, STE 200 Albany, NY 11207. Purpose: Any lawful purpose.

Notice of formation of PERIGONMED LLC. filed with the SSNY on 12/30/2022. Office: Westchester County. SSNY designated as agent of the LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail copy of process to the LLC, 73 Market st suit 300 Yonkers NY 10710. Purpose: Any lawful activity.

Notice of formation of PRESS START! Mobile Gaming LLC Arts. of Org. filed with SSNY on 01/03/2023. Office: Westchester County. SSNY designated as agent of the LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail a copy of the process to the LLC, 455 Tarrytown Rd Suite# 1521 White Plains NY, 10607. Purpose: Any lawful activity.

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**Municipal Housing Authority for the City of Yonkers
Public Notice of Revised Housing Choice Voucher Administrative Plan**

In accordance with federal law and regulation, the Municipal Housing Authority for the City of Yonkers (MHACY) is revising its Housing Choice Voucher (HCV) Administrative Plan. The proposed revisions to the HCV Administrative Plan are available for review and comment from Monday, January 16, 2023 to Wednesday, February 15, 2023, on the MHACY website: www.mhacy.org. To review the revisions to the Administrative Plan Chapter 4-1B Applying for Assistance [CV GB, 4-11-4-16]; Chapter 17-VI.D Selection from the Waiting List [24CFR 983.251 (c)]; and Chapter 18-V.E. Selection from the Waiting List [24 CFR 983.251 (c)] in its current and revised form, please visit the MHACY website at <https://www.mhacy.org/wpcontent/uploads/2023/01/Redline-Chapter-4-MHACY-Admin-Plan.pdf>.

Written comments on the proposed revisions must be addressed to "Attention: Marcie Ciuffetelli, Leased Housing Director, MHACY Administrative Plan" at the MHACY Main Administrative Office, 1511 Central Park Avenue, P.O. Box 35, Yonkers, NY 10710-0035, and must be received by the close of business (5:00 pm) on **Wednesday, February 15, 2023**.

Public hearings to receive public comments on the proposed revisions to the HCV Administrative Plan will be held on Thursday, February 16, 2023 at 11:00 am and 6:00 pm via the Zoom format. The Zoom meeting information can be accessed

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88678012872?pwd=cEJZMU1DZHkrM0FyeEIMTXhYUHZlZz09>

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86142079861?pwd=SUIScFhaaW1abFpUTCtVd1LUTHpadz09>

For questions regarding the HCV Administrative Plan proposed revisions, please contact Marcie Ciuffetelli at (914) 793-8400 ext 123.

Persons with disabilities requiring assistance or alternative formats, or wishing to submit comments in alternative formats can contact the MHACY Administrative Office, JoAnn Rodriguez at (914) 793-8400 ext 111 TTY 800-545-1833 ext 766.

Mary Calvi book on Teddy Roosevelt, continued from pg 2-

Theodore fell madly in love with Alice, won her heart, and married her. So why, after her tragic death, did Theodore never say her name again? This is the question Calvi attempted to answer with this book, and relishes in portraying Alice Lee in a new light.

Calvi's publisher St. Martin's Press will release the book on Valentine's Day, February 14, for print and for kindle and audible. On February 17, Calvi will discuss her book at the Riverfront Library Auditorium. Doors will open for "An Evening with Mary Calvi" at 6:15 p.m. and will include a presentation, followed by Q & A and book signing. Copies of her book will be available onsite for purchase, through a partnership with Womrath Bookshop. The public is invited to attend this free literary event, but registration is strongly encouraged, particularly for those wishing to purchase a book onsite.

This event is sponsored by the Foundation for the Yonkers Public Library. "We're delighted to have Mary share her new work with the people of Yonkers," said Nancy Maron, President of the Foundation, "People of all ages will love hearing about her passion and skill for uncovering stories that others have missed. And helping people seek out information is one of the greatest strengths of a library."

Copies of primary source materials, including many of the love letters, will be on display at the event. "We're excited to have Mary return to Yonkers Public Library to discuss If A Poem Could Live and Breathe," said Jesse Montero, library director, "This will be our biggest in-person author talk since the pandemic began, and there's a real hunger for these events."

Publishers Weekly has already lauded it as a "solid presidential love story" with a "magnetic narrative."

Yonkers Historian Mary Hoar read the book and said, "Mary Calvi's second novel is an amazing trip back, not only to late Nineteenth Century America, but also to the world of the innocence and romance of the first love of Theodore Roosevelt and Alice Hathaway Lee.

"Using primary sources, Ms. Calvi once again has brought powerful, historic characters to life, wrapped in impeccably researched history. She uses their own words to weave a tale of two young people meant to be together, sensitively writing of their discovery of each other, their journey to love, happiness and the anguish of loss.

"Theodore Roosevelt was a passionate man, a man of action enlightened by the beautiful, intelligent, passionate and gentle soul of his first love, Alice, a woman who sought to break the bonds restraining nineteenth century women, gently shaped Roosevelt's personal and political philosophies, forever changed by great love and tragedy," said Hoar.

Notice of formation of Castillo Adventures LLC. Arts. Of Org. filed with the SSNY on 9/7/2022. Office: Westchester County. United States Corporation Agents, INC. designated as agent of the LLC upon whom process against it may be served, and they shall mail copy of process to the LLC, 8084 Woodruff Avenue, Yonkers, NY 10708. Purpose: Real Estate and Rental Property.

Notice of formation of Creative Tiny Steps, LLC. Arts. of Org. filed with the SSNY on 11/09/2022. Office: Westchester County. SSNY designated as agent of the LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail copy of process to the LLC, 114 West Hartsdale ave, Hartsdale, NY 10530. Purpose: Any lawful activity

Notice of formation of KMCG LLC filed with the SSNY on 1/9/2023. 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, 221 Devoe Ave, Yonkers NY 10705. Purpose: Any lawful activity.

Scarsdale Golf Club gets approval for Tennis bubbles



The Scarsdale Golf Club has received approvals from the Town of Greenburgh permitting the seasonal enclosure of two tennis courts and other improvements to the golf club.

The club, at 1 Club Way in Hartsdale, is a full-service, family-focused club which has offered its members and guests world-class service, facilities and amenities since 1898. In addition to an 18-hole golf course, the club boasts six tennis courts, bowling, swimming, a summer day camp and is a venue for many special events.

In November of 2021, McCullough, Goldberger & Staudt LLP applied to the Town to install a temporary seasonal enclosure over two of the lower elevation tennis courts to allow for tennis play during colder months, as well as new pickleball courts to replace a dated practice court. Stormwater management facilities, ADA access, and emergency access have all been designed to serve the enclosure. Additionally, the club installed new safety netting along the 16th green to supplement existing landscaping.

The improvements required Site Plan, Steep Slope, Tree Removal, and variance approvals from the Town, all of which were granted after multiple public hearings. "We believe the addition of the seasonal enclosures for the tennis courts and new pickleball courts will allow club members to enjoy recreational activities year-round and represent a great improvement to the facilities," said Steven Wrabel, Partner with McCullough, Goldberger & Staudt LLP, which represented the club before the Town Board, Planning Board, and Zoning Board of Appeals.

Lachterman Unfairly attacks Quast, continued from pg 1-

weren't being stored where he had expected them to be.

"Councilman Lachterman hadn't looked at the minutes for nearly two years! And why, after all this time, did this become a Town Board issue? Why did our Town Board spend 30 minutes at a recent Town Board meeting on this subject?"

"Well, the reason became crystal clear on Tuesday, Dec. 27 during the holiday break, when a political survey was distributed to Yorktown residents asking (quite misleadingly) if they knew that the minutes of Town Board meetings were deliberately being withheld from the public.

"The entire Yorktown Town Board created a nonsensical reason to attack our town clerk. Unfortunately, it was for their own political purposes. This is outrageous! It's more than outrageous, it's an abuse of our public trust! Phil Corrao, Yorktown."

The meeting can be viewed at https://yorktownny.granicus.com/MediaPlayer.php?view_id=1&clip_id=1550

Most Yorktown residents we spoke to find it to be a disgraceful attack by Lachterman on a good public servant. We also wonder what Town Clerks from across Westchester County will think after taking a look.

We applaud Clerk Quast for keeping her cool and calmly answering all of the questions asked, under this unfair attack. Is this how you want your elected officials to be treated?

Several days after the meeting, Dec. 27, a survey was sent to Yorktown Democrats and independents by phone and text. We do not know who paid for the survey, but the slanted questions asked point to someone favorable to republicans in town. Anyone with information on who, or which group paid for the ad can email us in confidence at dmurphy@risingmediagroup.com. It is also interesting to note that the survey went out, with negative inferences about Quast, after a Town Board meeting that could not have gone any worse for Lachterman and anyone trying to discredit the clerk.

We have received screen shots of the texts and the questions. Two questions are "loaded" and are aimed, in our view, at discrediting the opinion of Town Clerk Quast by voters in Yorktown leading up to her reelection campaign this year.

1-Survey Question: Would you be more or less likely or less likely to vote to reelect Town Clerk Diana Quast if you knew that she secretly tried to extend the developers contract to build the town's par 3 golf course for another 10 years after the developer repeatedly missed deadlines and was charged with numerous violations.

Our Comment: Our readers know that we have been writing about the Par 3 for some time. The decision to close or extend the agreement with RC Recreation came from former Supervisor Matt Slater and the Town Board. It did not come from Town Clerk Quast. A Town Clerk does not have the authority to extend agreements with vendors. This is fake news.

2-Q-Would you be more or less likely to reelect Town Clerk Diana Quast if you knew that she failed to make town government more transparent by refusing to post the minutes of town board meetings on the town's website or make government information available to the public.

Clerk Quast explained herself in the video of the meeting and took apart Lachterman's arguments one by one. Residents we spoke to agree that the town clerk has done her job and the minutes are available to anyone who really wants to read them, and that the law has recently changed concerning minutes of public meetings.

Two other questions in the survey are about Jenna Lennox-Belcastro. **Q-**Would you be more likely to vote for Lennox-Belcastro knowing that she is a lifelong resident and wants to bring new ideas that will make the town more accountable to Yorktown taxpayers.

Q-Would you be more or less likely to vote for Lennox-Belcastro knowing that she has the support of Assemblyman Matt Slater?

Former Town Supervisor Susan Siegel said, "As someone very familiar with the workings of town government, I'm troubled by the clearly politically motivated attack on Town Clerk Diana Quast. The 2023 election campaign for town officials has started early and with the creation of a phony issue. Phony because the minutes, as well as other records kept in the town clerk's office, have always been readily available to the public. I should know. I make frequent requests for them," said Siegel.

Some residents questioned who paid for the survey and how did they get the names of those contacted? Email us at dmurphy@risingmediagroup.com.

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Nothing But the Truth.

What happens when Slater, Landi, Fon and Lachterman order Yorktown Employees to Break the Law?

Yorktown Employees - Do you have to do something illegal if your boss tells you to do it?

There is more detail to give when it comes whether you have to do something that is against the Law. If your Yorktown Employer directs you to do it, but first and foremost, I want to be clear that NYS Law's position is an unqualified "NO" to the title question.

Maybe you have been asked to lie on paperwork for a government agency or perhaps you were directed to disregard and ignore the law in carrying out your Yorktown responsibilities.

First, remember that people have free will. The legal system assumes you do at least. If you commit a crime, even at the direction of someone else, you can be held responsible for your actions. That does not mean that the person directing you to do it is not also guilty - they very likely are. It just means that "he told me to it" is not a particularly strong criminal defense.

Secondly, you should know about whistleblower protections. It is illegal to fire an employee for having reported illegal activity to a government agency, or for threatening to make such a report. That means that is you have been told to do something illegal as part of your job and you say no, and later you get fired because you said no, you can sue Yorktown for having fired you because you refused to break the law.



There have been a series of illegal activities, against RC, by Yorktown Employees directed to do so by their supervisors. Many of these egregious illegal actions will be dealt with in due course.

I am going to provide one of the more serious illegal actions taken by a Yorktown Building Department

Employee when the Yorktown Fire Code Inspector, on November 15, 2022, was directed to "not pass for inspection" the Extensive and Completed Fire Suppression System in the new Par 3 Club House.

In a sworn affidavit, the fire suppression contractor provided the following:

"On November 16, 2022, upon receiving the information that my company's fire Suppression System failed the Yorktown Building Department Inspection. I believed it to be impossible. I immediately went to the clubhouse and called the Yorktown

Fire Inspector. The Fire Inspector confirmed that the configuration of the fire suppression System was correct and admitted that the fire suppression system is approved, he stated "WE" do not like these people so we officially failed your work."

My recommendation is for the Yorktown Fire Inspector to immediately hire a criminal attorney.

There are numerous other illegal activities by Yorktown Employees, at Slater's and The Town Board's direction. Each one will be addressed individually, as our investigations are completed.