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## Schumer to Cuomo -Distribute Rent Federal Rent Relief Now



### COVID Rent Relief Program

August 31 Deadline for End of eviction protection looming

By Dan Murphy

New York State received \$2.4 Billion in rent relief for tenants and landlords as part of the Federal COVID relief program, under the Emergency Rental Assistance Program. As of July 25, most of the funds have not been dispersed by New York State government, resulting in front page headlines and a call from New York US Senator, and the Senate Majority Leader Charles Schumer to say “No More Delay.”

More than 150,000 New Yorker tenants, and their landlords, have yet to receive any assistance. The funds were supposed to be released by the NY State Office of Temporary Disability Assistance, OTDA.

The program will cover up to 12 months of unpaid rent and utilities accrued since March 13, 2020, and “rent burdened” households — or those in which more than 30% of the household monthly income goes toward rent — can qualify for three additional months of future rent.

On July 25, Standing with tenants and tenant advocates, U.S. Senator Charles Schumer called on the State Office of Temporary and Disability Assistance (ODTA) to move heaven and earth to get much-delayed federal rent relief into the pockets of people who need it before it’s too late. Schumer made public a formal letter to the state agency and said the more than \$2 billion he secured for the state and tenants—as part of the larger COVID relief bill he pushed through the Senate—cannot be delayed any further and that the program being utilized by the State of New York to get the dollars out needs to be improved immediately to move even faster, especially as the State of New York’s eviction moratorium deadline of August 31st and U.S. Treasury’s mandated date for beginning to reallocate funds at the end of September approaches. As reflected in the data released by the Department of Treasury for the month of June, New York State was one of only two states that had given out \$0 in federal rent relief. Today, Schumer is demanding swift action to reverse this deeply concerning status report.

“Thousands and thousands of New York tenants could be deprived of critical rent relief checks if the state doesn’t move more quickly on getting this money out,” said U.S. Senator Charles Schumer “Today, I am formally

*continued on pg 7-*

## Summit Club in Armonk Brings New Golf Experience to Westchester



The 17th Hole at The Summit Club at Armonk

By Dan Murphy

The Summit Club at Armonk celebrated the official grand opening of its Rees Jones renovated 18-hole golf course with a ribbon cutting ceremony and inaugural tournament for members and invited guests on July 24. The course is phase one of a comprehensive master plan that will include extensive recreational and fitness amenities, a new clubhouse and 73 luxury condominium residences.

The masterful transformation of the former Brynwood Golf & Country Club gives area golfers the opportunity to play a first-class Jones design by joining this new brand of club that has been styled as “the private club experience reimagined.”

The golf course presents a good test for golfers of all handicaps and will play to 6,700 yards from the back tees to a par of 71. The par-5 14th hole already has been recognized by Westchester magazine as one of the great new golf holes among the county’s recently improved or renovated courses.

“The extensive golf course improvements will make The Summit Club at Armonk a place that all levels of golfers can enjoy in a natural landscape that offers dramatic elevation changes and stunning panoramic views of the New York countryside,” said Rees Jones.

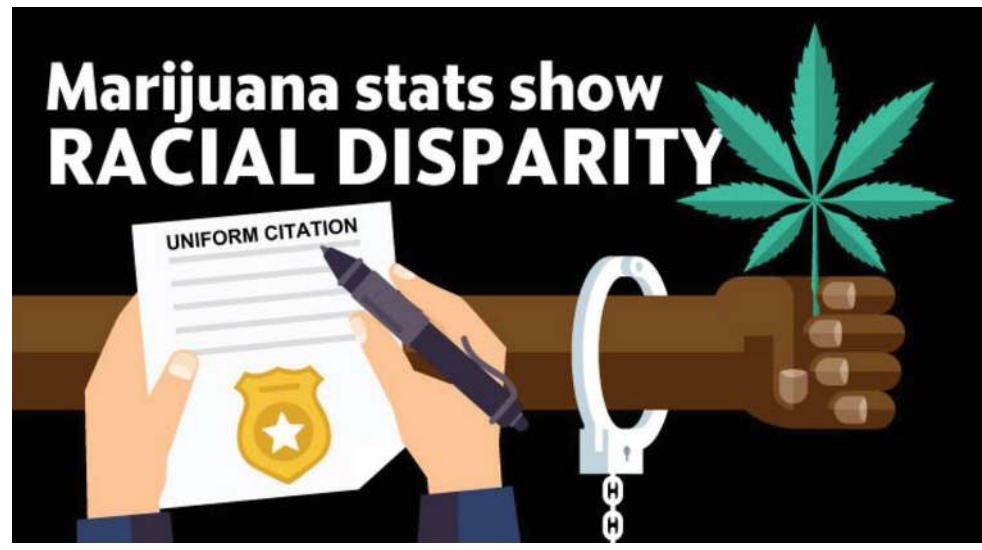
This reporter has played this course under prior owners, including when it was the Canyon Club. My recent 18-hole round was enjoyable, and the changes made by Jones were noticeable and added to the experience.

The most significant course improvements include three new holes on the back nine, the rebuilding of all fairway and greenside bunkers along with the addition of some unique locations to give players additional shot options. Several greens complexes were added in order to provide new greenside chipping areas, and a number of landing zones were created on a few holes to improve their playability.

“We are pleased with the responses we have heard from the golfers and how much they are enjoying the changes and improvements to

*continued on pg 7-*

## DA Rocah Dismisses All Marijuana Possession Cases: Indicts Dobbs Ferry Cop Slasher for Att. Murder



By Dan Murphy

On July 26, Westchester District Attorney Mimi Rocah announced that the courts have granted her petition to dismiss all marijuana cases involving felony and misdemeanor charges of marijuana possession or sale.

“Dismissing all marijuana cases, including underlying bench warrants, has been a priority of mine, and the legislature’s repeal of Article 221 was long overdue. The decriminalization of marijuana possession is critical given the discriminatory way marijuana laws have been used to incarcerate people of color.” DA Rocah said. “While Black and white Americans used marijuana at similar rates, people of color are much more likely to be arrested than white Americans for marijuana possession. Our office is committed to reducing this disparity and the dismissal of these cases is an important step.”

Despite roughly equal usage rates, Black people are 3.73 times more likely than white people to be arrested for marijuana. “The decriminalization of low-level marijuana related offenses will prevent people from getting unnecessarily involved with the criminal justice system,” Rocah said. “Having to disclose an arrest and record can impact many facets of their life, including limiting employment and housing opportunities.”

A total of 184 cases have been dismissed by the Westchester District Attorney’s Office. Rocah’s Office will not go forward with prosecuting future violations or misdemeanors. In local court, prosecutors will continue to identify warrants for standalone marijuana charges that would no longer be prosecutable and will calendar these cases, recall the warrants and dismiss the charges.

In another matter, a Dobbs Ferry man was indicted by a Westchester County Grand Jury for the attempted murder of a police officer after stab-

*continued on pg 7-*

## Trump Returns to Westchester for NY GOP Fundraiser August 5



By Dan Murphy

New York State Republican Party Chairman Nick Langworthy announced through an email invitation to NYGOP leaders and contributors that former President Donald Trump will headline a fundraiser on August 5 in Westchester County. The exact location of the event has not been revealed, but it is widely believed that it will be held at the Trump National Golf Club, in the village.

Tickets start at \$1,000 per person, and \$5,000 per couple, which includes a photo with Trump. A separate reception and roundtable costs \$25,000 per couple. All money raised will go to the NYGOP and not to any Trump political campaign account or PAC. The former President is said to be considering another run for President in 2024.

“No matter where his official residence is, he’ll always be a New Yorker,” said GOP Chairman Langworthy, who recently met with Trump at Trump Tower. “As the Republican Party of New York, we are committed to providing the ideas and leadership necessary to ensure that government works for the people. Our heritage is rooted in the philosophy that all people are created equal with the inalienable rights to life, freedom, and the pursuit of happiness. We believe it is the people, not the government who are the best stewards of our exceptional nation and state, The NYGOP’s mission is to fight for the policies, candidates, and elected leaders who are committed to these values and creating a strong and bright future for the Empire State.”

The August 5 event will feature an interesting dynamic for Republicans in Westchester and in New York State. In the past, democrats have used pictures with several republican candidates for office with Trump as negative mailing pieces to both divide support between supporters of Trump and ‘never Trump’ republicans. State Senator Peter Harekham used a photo of former State Senator Terrence Murphy with Trump, as did County Executive George Latimer against former County Executive Rob Astorino.

*continued on pg 7-*

## Westchester Native Henry Davis #1 Pick in Major League Baseball Draft



MLB #1 Pick, of the Pittsburgh Pirates, Henry Davis

Henry Davis, who attended Fox Lane High School in Bedford and starred for his high school baseball team, was picked by the Pittsburgh Pirates with the #1 overall pick in the 2021 Major League Baseball draft, held in July.

According to MLB.com, Davis, a 21 year old, 6'2" catcher, "propelled himself into award consideration in his junior year — he was one of three finalists for the Buster Posey National Collegiate Catcher of the Year Award, and a semifinalist in consideration for both the Dick Howser Trophy and Golden Spikes Award," writes Shanthi Sepe-Chepuru.

"Davis spent his COVID-19 offseason in his hometown of Bedford, NY, and in an attempt to get some work in, reached out to Matt Barnes and Adam Ottavino and offered to catch their bullpen sessions. They each accepted, and Ottavino went even further, connecting Davis with Yankees catcher Kyle Higashioka, who gave him advice on improving his defense and receiving."

Some believe that Davis is the best college hitter in the draft. After Fox Lane, Davis attended the University of Louisville, hitting .370 with 15 home runs last year. Defensively, Davis is highly rated, with a good arm to throw out base stealers.

"I'm just honored, honestly," Davis said, according to MLB.com. "I've got a lot of amazing people in my life who have helped make this possible, so credit to them. I'm very excited."

"He checks a lot of boxes," Pittsburgh Pirates General Manager Ben Cherington said about Davis. "We've had a lot of fun getting to know him."

## Go Fund Me Set up for Mother-Daughter Trapped Under Drunk Drivers Car



David Poncurak, above from his Facebook account, (photo from Yonkers Voice), trapped Mirna and her 8 month old baby, left, under his car after crashing into a Yonkers storefront, photo Courtesy of [INSERTGFLINK].

By Dan Murphy

A GoFundMe account has been set up to pay for the medical bills of a mother who was trapped under a vehicle, driven by a drunk driver, that crashed into a Yonkers storefront. On Friday, July 23rd, 2021 at approximately 8:30AM, members of the Yonkers Police Department responded to 124 Lake Avenue on a motor vehicle accident. An individual operating a 2005 Hyundai Elantra was traveling northbound on Morningside Avenue and turned westbound onto Lake Avenue.

While doing so, the operator struck a curb, a parked vehicle, two pedestrians, and then continued to accelerate into the storefront of a barbershop at that location. 4th Precinct Officers Fusco and Samoyedny were in a nearby bagel shop getting breakfast when they heard the collision and went to investigate, finding a pedestrian down in the wreckage of the crash inside the barber shop.

The officers came to realize that in addition to the adult female pedestrian, her infant daughter was also injured and was trapped under the vehicle. The officers with the help of bystanders heroically LIFTED THE VEHICLE off of the baby so she could be rescued and given medical aid. The officers then rendered medical aid to both victims while requesting the necessary additional resources to the scene.

The pedestrians were found to be a 36 year old female along with her 8-month-old infant daughter; their identities will not be released at this time. The mother sustained a serious femur fracture and the infant sustained a skull fracture along with 3rd degree burns to her back and foot. Both the mother and the infant were transported to a local trauma center where they are still being treated but are expected to survive their injuries. The owner of the barber shop sustained a minor laceration. No other injuries were reported.

Detectives from the Major Case Squad, Crime Scene Unit, and Digital Forensics Unit, as well as Officers from the Accident Investigation Unit were called to the scene to investigate. The operator of the vehicle was detained at scene, as was a female passenger found to be in the vehicle. Neither sustained any reported injuries.

The investigation ultimately yielded that the operator had a suspended license; the vehicle he was operating was properly registered to a Yonkers resident. Investigators further found an alcoholic beverage in the vehicle. Due to the nature of the incident, a test was conducted to determine the alcohol/drug content of the vehicle operator's blood.

The operator was identified as DAVID PONCURAK, a 43-year-old resident of Yonkers. After a lengthy investigation, PONCURAK was placed under arrest and charged with Driving While Intoxicated, Vehicular Assault 2nd, and Aggravated Unlicensed Operation 2nd. He is being held overnight in the Yonkers City Jail awaiting arraignment tomorrow morning.

Police Commissioner John J. Mueller stated, "It is always a tragedy when someone is injured by the reckless and criminal acts of another person, and that is only amplified when those injured include an infant. Luckily, two veteran officers of Yonkers' Finest just happened to be getting breakfast next door and quickly took action along with members of the community to rescue a child trapped under the vehicle and render aid to her mother. The actions taken are nothing short of heroic. The individual arrested in this incident will now have to face the consequences of his alleged behavior."

The GoFundMe fundraiser launched to help support the mother, Mirna, and her baby girl. The GoFundMe organizer recently posted an update stating that Mirna is recovering really well and "feels so thankful that everyone is showing support." Per the fundraiser, Mirna's baby girl will need surgery for her injuries.

To view the GoFundMe, please visit: <https://gf.me/v/c/55h2/help-mirna-with-medical-expenses>.

## Free Back to School Vaccines Available

The Westchester County Department of Health will now book appointments for its free back-to-school vaccine clinics in Yonkers on Mondays and Thursdays from July 26 through the end of August and on Friday in White Plains from July 23 through the end of August for children to have the vaccines they need for school.

Health Commissioner Sherlita Amler, MD, said: "Our clinics have the vaccines children need to start their in-person learning on time, including COVID-19 vaccines for children ages 12 and older. I also encourage families with their own healthcare provider to call now and avoid the September rush, because there are many families who must catch up on visits they missed during the past pandemic year."

All children who do not have their required immunizations must have their first dose of vaccinations within 14 days from the first day of school. This requirement follows legislation enacted in 2019 that removed non-medical exemptions for children in public, private or parochial school through 12th grade as well as childcare programs. Parents and guardians of these children must show that they have made appointments for all required follow-up doses within 30 days of the start of school.

The County Health Department can help. Families with no insurance, ChildHealth Plus or Medicaid, should call the County Health Department to schedule an appointment for vaccines at no charge. Call (914) 995-5800 to find out if you qualify and to make an appointment at

—the County Health Department, 20 S. Broadway, 2nd floor in Yonkers, Mondays, July 26, through Aug. 30 from 4 p.m. to 7 p.m., Thursdays, July 29 through Aug. 26, 4 p.m. to 7 p.m,

—and at the County Health Department, 134 Court Street in White Plains, Fridays, July 23 through Aug. 27, from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.

## The Fingerprint Proves It Was Michelangelo

Forensics technology has come a long way if it can prove that a 500 year old fingerprint belonged to Renaissance artist and sculptor Michelangelo. The Association of Mature American Citizens [AMAC] reports that experts at London's Victoria & Albert Museum spotted what could be his thumbprint on a small, wax figurine -- a prototype for what would have been a life-size marble statue, one of many to adorn the elaborate tomb of Pope Julius II.

A senior curator at the museum called it "an exciting prospect that one of Michelangelo's prints could have survived in the wax. Such marks would suggest the physical presence of the creative process of an artist."



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# DiNapoli: Property Tax Cap Will Be 2% in '22, as Inflation Returns



By Dan Murphy

NYS Comptroller Tom DiNapoli gave Westchester homeowners good news when he announced on July 14 that the Property tax cap will be 2% for 2022 for local governments, including Westchester County government, and all towns, cities and villages.

"Allowable tax levy growth will be limited to 2% for a third time in four years for local governments with calendar fiscal years," DiNapoli said. "As the economy recovers from the pandemic, local governments have seen some revenues rebound and have benefited from one-time federal financial assistance. At the same time, the risk of inflationary cost increases and the need for investments that will stimulate economic growth and fund essential services may lead to challenging budget decisions ahead."

The tax cap, which first applied to local governments and school districts in 2012, limits annual tax levy increases to the lesser of the rate of inflation or 2% with certain exceptions, including a provision that allows municipalities to override the tax cap.

The 2% cap for the 2022 fiscal year is the third time since 2019 that municipalities with a calendar year fiscal year (Jan. 1 through Dec. 31) had their levy growth capped at that amount. In 2021, the allowable levy growth was 1.56%.

The 2% tax cap announcement comes at a time when inflation has returned and is surging at a rate of 5.4% over the past 12 months. During the 2021 calendar year, inflation has increased at a rate of .66% per month, which would work out to a rate of 7.9% for the entire 2021 year.

The biggest increase comes from used cars and trucks, which increased by 10.5% in June alone, and a whopping 45.2% over the past year.

Airfares are up 2.7% in June and are up 24.6% from last summer, during the middle of the pandemic. Some of the increases in inflation are due to comparisons to COVID slumps in the economy.

Food prices overall are up 2.4% for the past year and .8% in June. Meats are up 6% in June alone, and eggs are up 3%. Dining out prices went up .7% in June, primarily because of the cost of hiring workers in a difficult employment market for companies in need of low wage workers.

Energy prices have increased overall by 24% in the past year, and gas prices are up 45% from 2020, and 2.5% in June. Visit <https://www.bls.gov/news.release/cpi.nr0.htm>, for more information.

# Guns? Maybe Spano is Right! And RIP Jackie Mason



By Eric W. Schoen

The visit would be accompanied by all the pomp and circumstance due a visit by the Governor or his Lieutenant to any special event in Yonkers or any other city. Nowadays with what's going on in Albany, the chances of a visit by the Lt. Governor are more probable than a visit by Governor Cuomo himself.

I would bet Yonkers Police were assigned, taking them off the street fighting crime and protecting the residents of Yonkers. Protecting us from Gun Violence. That's what the meeting was all about. For those of you who don't know, the Lt. Governor is Kathy Hochul. I've never met the woman, but she seems very nice and those I know that know her have a lot of respect for her.

However, if she was walking down South Broadway in Getty Square by herself, doubt most folks would know who she was! Her boss, well that's another story.

Around the time of Hochul's visit, Yonkers Mayor Mike Spano tweeted that the lieutenant governor "comes to Yonkers with little to offer." Those are some mighty big words coming from a man so close to Governor Cuomo who I assumed sent the Lt. Governor to visit the city of gracious living. (He later deleted the tweet.)

The Lt. Governor was in Yonkers to meet with local officials and 'community leaders' on combating gun violence. Seems like they always invite the same 'community leaders.' In this case I don't think they got the list from Mayor Spano. Same 'community leaders' but sadly, the situation doesn't change much.

You would think they would have invited the leaders of the Police Community Councils in Yonkers. These unpaid folks meet monthly with the citizenry to discuss concerns in their neighborhood. Pretty sure combating gun violence is one of them. Nope. The Captains that are in charge of the precincts in Yonkers. Guess their invitations got lost in the mail.

Strangely, according to the Journal News, the meeting was closed to the press. In a way that can be a good idea so participants don't 'play to the press' to get their 15 minutes of Andy Warhol fame. Most have gotten much more than that in a week! But given the circumstances lately it seems that most appearances with Governor Cuomo or his subordinates have been press listen, limited press questions events.

But there's always some announcement the press is informed of made at these events. Like the icing on the cake. In this case, the state has identified 10 ZIP codes in Yonkers, Mount Vernon and Spring Valley that have been hit the hardest, and are providing summer jobs for 253 youth aged 15 to 24 in those cluster zones - and 580 long-term jobs.

Do you find the announcement of summer jobs on July 21 for those 15-24, many who will return to high school or college in a month logical? As someone who has run summer job training programs in Yonkers and Westchester County while in college, I can tell you that it will take at least a week to find and process these youth. By the way, 253 jobs spread upon 3 communities is a drop in the bucket compared to the need.

continued on pg 6-

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# BLM Mural Defaced in Mamaroneck



On July 12 Mamaroneck Police arrested a 23-year old Mamaroneck resident for allegedly vandalizing a Black Lives Matter mural painted on the street at Van Rans Place near Columbus Park and the village train station. The defacing of the mural allegedly took place in the middle of the afternoon and when Village police arrived they found a paint can nearby.

Mamaroneck Mayor Tom Murphy posted the following. "Dear All, It would appear that the BLM memorial was vandalized. The police are investigating if they find conclusively that this was purposefully vandalized (as it would appear but we should let the investigation play out) I would hope this is classified as a hate crime and the full weight of the law is exercised against the culprits. This ignorant and unkind act will definitely not be what defines us as a community. We will repair and repaint the memorial in the same spirit of cooperation and understanding that was evident when we came together as a community to create it. I believe that this happened because we are a community that has worked to begin the process of open dialogue to heal the pain and hurt that racism has caused in our society. This is an act of fear from those who sense that society is changing for the better. That society is becoming more fair and more tolerant despite their efforts to roll back progress. Let us continue to bind up the wounds that hundreds of years of racism, both explicit and implicit, have created. Let's not leave the task of healing to the next generation. Let us boldly and bravely do the difficult work that has too long been avoided and ignored. I have a marrow deep faith in the goodness and kindness of Mamaroneck's residents. I have seen it in action too often to ever doubt it. I know that we will do our duty and not leave this legacy to our children and grandchildren. All live won't matter, until Black Lives Matter!"

The mural was painted in October of 2020, but not before the Village Board voted against its creation before changing its vote to approve it, without taxpayer funds but by private contributions. Mamaroneck resident and mural organizer Jarrett Winchester said that the mural had been vandalized before this recent incident.

The 23 year old man, whose identity has not been released, was charged with Felony 4th degree criminal mischief as a hate crime.

A similar incident of defacing a BLM mural occurred in Greenburgh earlier this year, but no arrests have been made in that case.

## The Ultimate Smokers Warning

Is the Marlboro Man getting his walking papers? It seems that way, says the Association of Mature American Citizens [AMAC], which reports that Philip Morris has announced that they'll stop selling cigarettes in the U.K. It won't happen for ten years, according to CEO Jacek Olczak who said it's part of Britain's effort to put an end to "traditional" cigarette smoking. Philip Morris brands have been available to smokers there for a hundred years.

It marks the end of an era and yet another blow for smokers and cigarette producers. And, as one wag put it, Sir Walter Raleigh must be rolling over in his grave. You remember him. He's the guy who brought tobacco to England in the first place, in 1586, to be precise.

**Notice of formation of 475 Sierra Vista Lane, LLC. Arts. of Org. filed on 07/23/2021. Office location: Westchester. SSNY designated as agent of the LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail copy of process to the LLC, 20 Skywood Court, Yonkers, NY 10710. Purpose: Any lawful purpose.**

**Notice of formation of 394 Sierra Vista Lane, LLC. Arts. of Org filed on 07/23/2021. Office location: Westchester. SSNY designated as agent of the LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail copy of process to the LLC, 20 Skywood Court, Yonkers, NY 10710. Purpose: Any lawful purpose.**

# Westchester Geopossibilities Gives Homeowners Ability to Assess All-Electric Geothermal HVAC



A new online resource enables Westchester County property owners to easily assess the feasibility of geothermal heating and cooling for any building or property in the County. The free, user-friendly tool – "Westchester GeoPossibilities," [geopossibilities.ny.gov](http://geopossibilities.ny.gov) provides information for this gas constrained area by providing information and assistance on energy efficiency and clean heating solutions that reduce carbon emissions.

Sustainable Westchester and the Westchester County Association, supported by The New York State Energy Research and Development Authority (NYSERDA), will host a virtual event on Thursday, July 22 at noon. The event will provide an opportunity for property owners to see a demonstration of the Westchester GeoPossibilities resource, learn about the many benefits of geothermal heating and cooling, and explore the financial and environmental savings potential for their building(s).

Geothermal heating and cooling can replace all existing HVAC systems in all buildings. Larger buildings and properties, including office complexes, medical facilities, academic campuses and housing developments are particularly well suited to benefit. A geothermal system draws on the thermal energy naturally stored below ground to provide highly efficient heating and cooling. The thermal energy is exchanged with a fluid circulating through a series of underground pipes and then passes through a heat pump to provide heated or cooled air to the building. In winter, the heat pump extracts heat from the subsurface to warm the building, while in summer the heat pump cools the building by moving heat from the building into the ground.

Westchester County Executive, George Latimer said, "In order to protect our planet for generations to come, it will take innovative solutions across a broad spectrum of industries. With the launch of the GeoPossibilities Tool, building developers and homeowners will have easier access to the information they need to create clean heating and cooling systems without detrimentally impacting this economic driver. These cleaner systems will generate greener communities with an energy cost savings, benefitting all both now and in the future."

"We are pleased to partner with NYSERDA and the WCA to bring this important tool to our municipalities, businesses, building owners and real estate developers in Westchester. The ability to quickly assess a site for geothermal feasibility is essential to adoption of this clean heating and cooling solution and to the transition to clean energy for our buildings," said Nina Orville, Executive Director of Sustainable Westchester.

"New York State now has one of the strongest climate change laws in the world. In order to meet this ambitious challenge, stakeholders will need to be proactive, and our businesses and building owners will need the tools and incentives to help them adapt. GeoPossibilities is just the latest of many programs offered by NYSERDA to help move us towards a stronger and more sustainable future. Thank you to Sustainable Westchester and NYSERDA for partnering with the WCA to get out the message," said Michael Romita, President and CEO of the Westchester County Association.

Doreen M. Harris, President and CEO, NYSERDA, said, "We are proud to partner with Sustainable Westchester, the Westchester County Association, and our other partners to bring Westchester GeoPossibilities to fruition in support of accelerating the adoption of clean heating and cooling technology across the region. This important resource is easy to use, designed to help building owners make informed decisions, and encourages the installation of geothermal heating and cooling systems to help Westchester, and New York State as a whole, reduce harmful emissions and foster cleaner places to live and work."

Westchester GeoPossibilities has been supported by NYSERDA and helps advance New York State's nation-leading climate and clean energy goals under the Climate Leadership and Community Protection Act (Climate Act). The consulting engineering firm Goldman Copeland, which created a Geothermal Screening Tool for New York City, has collaborated with Stone Environmental, Over Morgen, and Flux Tailor in developing this resource.

To learn more about the Westchester GeoPossibilities tool attend the virtual event on July 22. To speak with experts from any of the organizations involved, please contact Maria Genovesi, Director of Marketing, Communications & Outreach at Sustainable Westchester at [maria@sustainablewestchester.org](mailto:maria@sustainablewestchester.org) or 914-242-4725 x104.

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## NY Court Dismisses Civil Rights Suit Filed by Mt. Pleasant Church

A NY State Supreme Court ruled on July 6 that a Civil Rights lawsuit filed by The Legion of Christ against the Town of Mount Pleasant presented no evidence of discrimination by town officials and dismissed the suit for a lack of evidence.

The legal argument were made over the fact that the Town Assessor determined that an undeveloped, 161-acre piece of property in Thornwood, Mt. Pleasant was taxable. The Roman Catholic order based in Cheshire, Conn. had sought a tax-exempt status as a religious group.

The Legion bought the former conference center in 1996. It consisted of two parcels, a 164-acre unimproved area and a contiguous 97-acre parcel that contained the conference center. In 1997, the Legion applied to the Town for a tax-exempt status for the unimproved parcel, which the Town denied, beginning 25 years of litigation.

The Legion of Christ no longer owns the former conference center. In 2017, EF Academy opened a private boarding high school on the property. The Legion still owns the unimproved parcel and is trying to sell the property to one of several interested developers.

"I'm pleased that the Supreme Court continues to uphold the Town Assessor's determination of the taxability of the Legion's 161-acre vacant property. This was never about religious discrimination," said Town Supervisor Carl Fulgenzi. "The two decisions are an enormous benefit to the taxpayers of the Town ensuring that our institutional properties are paying their fair share of property taxes so that the property tax burden of our residents is mitigated."

## Former Yonkers Police Commissioner Gardner Under Fire For Sourcing Against Fellow Officers



Former YPD Commissioner Charles Gardner

By Dan Murphy

"Say It Ain't So Chuck" is the response from some of our readers to the fact that former Yonkers Police Commissioner Charles Gardner was named as a source by Hezi Aris for his Blue Truth series of columns which defamed the current Police Commissioner John Mueller, and PBA President Det. Keith Olson.

Our story, "Judge Rules That Online Blogger Hezi Aris -Yonkers Tribune is NOT a Journalist," which ran in the July 16 issue and which can be found online at YonkersTimes.com, has been the talk of Yonkers.

We received a dozen emails and letters about the story, most of which focused on the fact that Aris, in court papers, revealed that former Police Commissioner Gardner was one of his two primary sources for the Yonkers Tribune's series of stories ironically titled Blue Truth. In fact, most of the Blue Truth stories were not true, as Aris also had to admit in court papers that he had no sources for some of the most harmful stories to the reputations of both Mueller and Olson.

One letter titled, "Say it Ain't So Gardner, Yonkers resident Gene Tierney writes, "Mr. Murphy, I am a reader of your newspapers, and all media in Yonkers and across Westchester County. I knew that Mr. Aris was being sued by three Yonkers Police officers for defamation, from the story that you wrote last year. And, as a reader of the Yonkers Tribune over the years, including the Blue Truth series of stories, I was actually not surprised to hear that Aris is in legal troubles, because I did not believe some of the Blue Truth stories that I was reading. But what did surprise me and actually shock me, was that former Yonkers Police Commissioner Charles Gardner was named by Aris as one of his sources for the anti-police columns that he wrote. I actually doubted the story that you wrote, Mr. Murphy, so I contacted some of my friends in Yonkers law enforcement, who verified this fact.

"Now I want to know how far did Gardner go in trying to ruin the careers of two of his fellow police officers in Yonkers? Did he confirm some of the stories that Aris has now admitted were not true? Has Gardner been called in for a deposition in this case? I'm sure that he is hiding under a rock after this fact was revealed. My friends in Yonkers law enforcement told me that he is now considered 'A Rat' by his fellow members of the YPD.

"Back in 1919, after members of the Chicago White Sox were found guilty of throwing the World Series, a little boy went up to Shoeless Joe Jackson and said, Say it Ain't So Joe! I would have to add Say it Ain't So Chuck! Why did you try to ruin the careers of two leaders in the Yonkers Police Dept.? One of who is now Commissioner?"-Gene Tierney, Yonkers

Another one of our readers wanted more facts about Gardner. "Your story about Hezi being sued for defamation does not include enough facts about former Commissioner Gardner. I would like to see the proof that he indeed was a source for the Blue Truth stories written against Commissioner Mueller and Det. Olson, thanks Kathy Quinn, Yonkers."

Ms. Quinn, thanks for your letter and thanks for reading. I can refer you to court documents concerning this case, which can be read online or at the county courthouse. One document, titled, Defendants responses to Moran's Discovery Demands, item #34-reads "Former Police Commissioner Gardner so reported to Mr. Aris but did not share with him documents."

In another document, titled, Defendants Responses to Mueller Demands, item #8-"Defendants have communicated with Ray Montero, former Police Chief Gardner and Kenneth Davis." There are several other instances in court documents which reference Gardner as a source.

A few City Hall insiders were shocked that Gardner would betray his fellow officers in blue. "At first I didn't believe it but I guess that Chuck is a wolf in sheeps clothing and he fooled us all. The question is why would he do this to Mueller and to Olson? He only had a few years left before he retired. Imagine the damage he did to these two and their families, to be accused of things that never happened. I guess Gardner lied to a lot of people and led a double life," said one top Yonkers official.

Several of our readers have asked what was Gardner's motive? "To Yonkers Rising, it has been out there for some time that Ray Montero clearly had an axe to grind against Mueller and Olson and that is why he was a source for Hezi and Blue Truth. But Gardner? Why would Gardner do such a stupid thing? Just like any Cop, and any criminal case-what's the motive?" asked Katie Holmes. Some say it was for power, some say it was jealousy aimed at Mueller, who would replace him as Commissioner.

## Alzheimer's Association Hudson Valley Welcomes New Westchester Walk Director



Esther McCarthy

The Alzheimer's Association Hudson Valley Chapter is pleased to announce it has hired a walk director for the Westchester Walk to End Alzheimer's. Esther McCarthy joined the Alzheimer's Association Hudson Valley Chapter in April. She has more than 20 years of experience in strategic planning, community engagement and volunteer management.

Prior to joining the Hudson Valley Chapter, McCarthy was the associate director of community relations at Mercy College, where she strengthened relationships with community-based organizations, legislative offices and other key stakeholders to establish and maintain support for the college. Before that, she managed all aspects of a \$1 million Walk for the Leukemia Lymphoma Society as the Westchester senior campaign manager.

"We're thrilled to have Esther as part of our team. She has a depth of experience that is truly an asset to our organization," said David Sobel, Executive Director of the Alzheimer's Association Hudson Valley Chapter.

McCarthy said she is excited to work with the Hudson Valley team, as the chapter has assisted her mother, who has Alzheimer's disease, and her father, who is her mother's primary caregiver — for the past 10 years. "It is an honor to have joined the Alzheimer's Association Hudson Valley Chapter. I am happy to be a part of this Association and proud of the work we do," McCarthy said. "It is especially meaningful to me, personally, as I have experienced the impact of the services the Alzheimer's Association has provided for my family. I feel very fortunate to have this opportunity and excited to be a part of such an important organization that is changing people's lives."

During the COVID-19 pandemic, the Alzheimer's Association Hudson Valley Chapter continued to offer its programs and services online and by phone. These include care consultations, where families affected by dementia can speak with a licensed social worker about helpful community resources as well as support groups where caregivers, family members, and people in the early stage of the disease can share their experiences with others who understand.

The chapter also offers free educational and social webinars for the general public and families living with Alzheimer's and other forms of dementia. Some of these are gradually returning to an in-person format. For specific dates, times — and in some cases, locations — for support groups, educational and social webinars, visit [alz.org/hudsonvalley](http://alz.org/hudsonvalley) or call the 24/7 hotline 800.272.3900 to register. Pre-recorded online educational programs are also available.

Held annually in more than 600 communities nationwide, the Alzheimer's Association's Walk to End Alzheimer's® is the world's largest event to raise awareness and funds for Alzheimer's care, support and research. The Westchester Walk to End Alzheimer's has been among the top 30 highest fundraising walks in the country for the past five years. Last year, despite the pandemic, it continued this trend, raising more than \$430,000.

The Hudson Valley Chapter serves families living with dementia in seven counties in New York, including Dutchess, Orange, Putnam, Rockland, Sullivan, Ulster, and Westchester. To learn more about the programs and services offered locally, visit [alz.org/hudsonvalley](http://alz.org/hudsonvalley).

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continued on pg 6-

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Notice of formation of Daphne Cuts, LLC. Arts. of Org. filed with the SSNY on 05/10/2021. Office: Westchester County. SSNY designated as agent of the LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail copy of process to the LLC, 59 Fairmont Ave, Hastings on Hudson, NY 10706. Purpose: Any lawful purpose.

Notice of Formation of The Vision Junkie LLC. Arts. of Org. filed with SSNY on 5/14/2021. Office location: Westchester County. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process may be served. SSNY shall mail process to The Vision Junkie LLC, 100 Riverdale Ave., Apt. 8C., Yonkers, NY 10701 Purpose: any lawful act or activity.

Notice of formation of SaucyGuava, LLC Arts. of Org. filed with the SSNY on 05/21/2021. Office: Westchester County. SSNY designated as agent of the LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail copy of process to the LLC, 332 Palisade Ave Apt C1, Yonkers, NY 10703-2918. Purpose: Any lawful purpose.

Notice of formation of iFantasy, LLC. Arts of Org. filed with the SSNY on 6/8/2021. Office: Westchester County. SSNY designated as agent of the LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail copy of process to the LLC, 7014 13th Avenue, Suite 202 Brooklyn, NY 11228 . Purpose: Any lawful purpose.

Notice of formation of THE LAST PACK LLC. Arts. of Org. filed with the SSNY on 03/05/2021. Office: Westchester County, New York. SSNY has been designated as Agent of the LLC upon whom the process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail a copy of process to the LLC, Joseph A. Candelario 74 Radford Ave., Yonkers, NY 10705. Purpose: Any lawful act.

Notice of Formation of Capital Efficient Strategies LLC. Arts. of Org. filed with SSNY on May 10, 2021. Office location: Westchester County. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process may be served. SSNY shall mail process to 128 Fuller Road Briarcliff Manor NY 10510. Purpose: any lawful act or activity

Notice of Formation of Pumpkin Vine Publishing, LLC. Arts. of Org. filed with SSNY on 6/11/21. Office location: Westchester County. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process may be served. SSNY shall mail process to Pumpkin Vine Publishing LLC, 22 Boulder Trail, Bronxville, New York 10708. Purpose: any lawful act or activity.

Notice of formation of MJV Construction LLC. Arts. of Org. filed with the SSNY on 03/29/2021. Office location: 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, 455 Tarrytown Road, Mailbox 1135, White Plains, NY 10607. Purpose: any lawful purpose.

NOTICE OF FORMATION OF LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY (LLC). NAME: TRUCK & CAR REPAIR CENTER LLC, LLC Articles of Organization were filed with the Secretary of State of New York (SSNY) on 06/01/21. Office location: Westchester County. SSNY has been designated as agent of the LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail a copy of process to: United Corporate Services, Inc. 10 Bank St Ste 560. White Plains, NY 10606. Purpose: any lawful business activity.

Notice of Formation of Joyful Ventures LLC. Filed with the SSNY on 06/07/2021. Office: Westchester County. SSNY designated as agent of the LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail copy of process to the LLC, 145 Valentine Lane apt#4E, Yonkers, NY 10705. Purpose: Any lawful purpose.

Notice of Formation of SUHANA HOLDINGS LLC. Filed with the SSNY On 05/10/2021. Office location: Westcheter 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, 27 Ravine Avenue, Apt. 2B, Yonkers NY 10701. Purpose: Any lawful purpose.

TOWN OF EASTCHESTER  
LEGAL NOTICE

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that the Supervisor and the Town Board of the Town of Eastchester, will hold a public hearing at Eastchester Town Hall, 40 Mill Road, Eastchester, New York on TUESDAY, August 10, 2021 at 8:00 o'clock p.m., to consider the adoption of a Local Law amending Local Law 2-2018 known as "The Telecommunications Franchising and Licensing Law within the Town of Eastchester". A copy of the proposed local law is available in the Town Clerk's office at Eastchester Town Hall, 40 Mill Road, Eastchester, New York 10709.

All interested parties are urged to attend this hearing, at which time, they will be given an opportunity to express their opinion for or against the above proposed local law.

BY THE ORDER OF THE SUPERVISOR AND THE TOWN BOARD OF THE TOWN OF EASTCHESTER, NEW YORK  
LINDA LAIRD, TOWN CLERK

*Eric Schoen, continued from pg 3-*

My only hope is that these are existing jobs Yonkers gets from the State and Federal governments every year and fills when school lets out in June. At least the 15-24 year olds get 2 months of salary. 600 At risk youth ages 18-24 in Yonkers zip codes 10701, 10703, 10704, 10705 and 10710 as well as Mount Vernon zip codes 10550 and 10552 and Spring Valley will be eligible for full time jobs through state Work Force Development Boards. A drop in the bucket, but it's better than nothing.

But are you starting to see that maybe the initial tweet from Mayor Spano was right. Lt. Governor Hochul 'came to Yonkers with little to offer.' No money for additional police to protect our streets. No resolution to the crazy bail reforms signed by the Governor putting criminals back on Yonkers streets.

Hochul noted the state's approach to combating violence has three components. First is removing illegal guns. Sounds great, but How are they doing that? Gun buy back programs? No details. Second is providing support services for mental health and substance use. This at a time when, as was told to my friend seeking services for her covered child Governor Cuomo quietly reimposed \$25 copays for Telehealth mental health programs for employees covered by the state insurance plan June 19. Even though Governor Cuomo says the state has reopened, most mental health professionals still see clients via Telehealth. And the federal COVID emergency ends in October.

The last part of the approach is providing opportunities for people to choose a nonviolent path. When I hear generic phrases like that without specifics, all it does is lead me to believe that Spano is right.

I've had my disagreements with Mayor Mike, particularly over the middle of the night extension of term limits when he pledged to me he would never do it, didn't want it, and clearly said at a public event it was not on his agenda. I've known Mike a long time. He complimented me one time and said, 'Eric, you know where all the bodies are buried in Yonkers!'

Mayor Spano. Don't delete your tweets. Say what's on your mind. Because if you don't, the situation regarding gun violence is only going to get worse. You were right. The Lt. Governor came to Yonkers with little to offer. She and her boss have got to deliver more. Soon!

*R.I.P. Jackie Mason*

As a kid who grew up vacationing in the wonderful hotels of the Catskill Mountains, I was exposed at an early age to the humor of great comedians like Joan Rivers, David Brenner, Sal Richards, Alan King, Jan Murray, Red Buttons, Don Rickles and of course Jackie Mason.

Their humor was not for everyone. Some nights they would be totally on point, and some nights they were a bit off key. But there were many more nights that they were on point than off key. And my parents, my sister and I looked forward every summer to being entertained. Yes, sometimes the jokes were the same, but most often the comedians presented new, hilarious material. After the all you can eat Catskill hotel dinners, they truly provided belly laughs.

The Catskills hotels slowly shuttered, air fare got cheap, and South Florida called. Many of these comedians would travel in the winter to the sunshine of Florida. If you hit your dates correctly you could catch up with them. Nostalgic visits.

I remember staying at a hotel where the great Jackie Mason was performing. Mom was with me, visiting her friends in Florida while I did my thing. One night we went to see Jackie Mason perform. The venue had seen its days, the orchestra played for the musical guest who came on before Mason and for your dancing pleasure. The showroom was packed. I was a little older and my appreciation of the humor of Jackie Mason grew stronger.

Jackie would perform on Broadway and I would try to catch him as often as I could. One night I was standing in line waiting to get in behind the great William O'SHAUGHNESSY. This was long before I became a host on his wonderful radio station. I greeted him, told him I was from Westchester and familiar with his stations. He gave me that unique glowing smile.

That night, a little known Senator from Peekskill and his wife were in the audience. My friend and I went to say hello. We chatted with him and his wife Libby, and since Broadway was a long way from Peekskill she was happy to chat with us as she new few in the audience.

Mason introduced Pataki from the stage. He didn't get the greatest reception as no one knew him and folks liked Mario Cuomo. Well, as they say the rest is history.

I would in later years run into Jackie eating matzah ball soup and thick brisket sandwiches at the now shuttered Edison Cafe on 47th Street. If you said hello to him he would warmly greet you, often with a joke. And of course a smile. He will be missed!

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

*Former YPD Commissioner Gardner Under Fire continued from pg 5-*

"It is irrefutable that Hezi Aris has admitted that former Yonkers Police Commissioner Charles Gardner was a frequent source for his "Blue Truth" stories. This comes as no surprise to those who've followed this series of defamatory articles, especially to those of us who've been unfairly targeted and harmed by them. I think it's an understatement to say that Chuck Gardner and a few others owe the public an honest explanation of their roles in this fiasco," said Det. Keith Olson, a defendant in the suit.

Some of the other claims posted online about this lawsuit claim that it is a "Slapp Suit," that has no merit. To those I would ask them to read the decision from Judge Lefkowitz, most of which is printed in our story from last week. Judge Lefkowitz ruled in favor of the officers, and also ruled that Hezi Aris is not a journalist. She also permitted the suit to continue, and its headed towards damages against him., That is not a slapp-suit, but it is real trouble for Mr. Aris, and many in Yonkers are saying ITS ABOUT TIME!

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**State Delays Releasing Federal Rent Relief ,cont. from pg 1-**

asking ODTA to move heaven and earth to fix the mess, pick up the pace and get this federal money out the door before it's too late for tenants and landlords. The message today is: tenant relief now. No more delay."

Schumer lamented with tenants and state lawmakers that only a pitance of the federal funds have gone out—in light of vast public pressure. He said it is good the State is finalizing its process for disbursing dollars and some funds are trickling out, but that we will need a waterfall of funds to avoid the looming deadlines, both related to evictions and Treasury mandates at the end of September.

"How it works with federal funds is that if you don't use them, you could potentially lose them, and that would be very bad," Schumer added. "New York already sends enough money to the feds. These dollars are meant for New Yorkers. That's why I fought so hard for them, and our tenants, in the first place."

"New York State tenants have been suffering since the beginning of this unprecedented pandemic with both an economic and health crisis. The over \$2 billion in rent relief that Senator Schumer obtained for tenants and landlords has the potential to be life saving for our clients. However, since the program opened, our clients are experiencing a challenging application process, glitchy website and opaque rules and procedures and almost no money has been paid out. We thank Senator Schumer for his leadership on this issue and call on the state to fix the problems and spend this money," said Judith Goldiner of the Legal Aid Society.

"If the State Office of Temporary and Disability Assistance doesn't figure out how to send money to New Yorkers in need soon, tens of thousands of our neighbors will be evicted. The Federal Government sent us this money for a reason, now we must get it to those who qualify. I'm greatly appreciative, as all New Yorkers should be, of U.S. Senate Majority Leader Chuck Schumer for securing these funds in the first place, and for his efforts to unlock them to help our neighbors stay in their homes once eviction moratoriums are set to lapse at the end of August," said NYS Senator Brad Hoylman.

Schumer explained that these dollars were a hard fight at the federal level and that they were fought for so people who needed them could get the assistance they needed fast to avoid the threat of eviction or overwhelming debt piling up. Schumer said more than 100,000 New York City residents and about 1,000 on Long Island have already applied for these funds and need the dollars flowing and that further delay could cost New York. According to a survey of rent-regulated apartments by the Community Housing Improvement Program, NYC renters owe over a billion dollars in rent. New York lags far behind other states in delivering rent relief, with Texas already having distributed 388 million to 61,100 households, according to the Associated Press.

Nearly half of Americans either missed at least one rent or mortgage payment in 2020 during the pandemic. That amounts to nearly \$6,000 in back rent for the average household, according to the Urban Institute. Schumer, today, said New York must immediately fix this issue so that people with rent and utility bills that piled up amid the worst of COVID can make back payments and get back on their feet with landlords and their lives.

The New York State Association of REALTORS, 64,000 members, called on Governor Andrew Cuomo to direct all resources necessary to the State Office of Temporary Disability Assistance so that the disgraceful delay in sending aid to renters and landlords can end immediately. Based on reported comments from ODTA, no funds are likely to be expended for another two weeks, making the total delay almost two months. Families and small businesses need this aid and state government inaction is the only thing standing in the way.

The state Legislature extended the eviction moratorium to Aug. 31. The State ODTA is hoping to get checks out for the first 100,000 applicants by early August.

Editor's Note: Since our original story on this matter, which we posted online at YonkersTimes.com on July 25, there has been a public outcry at New York State government to release the federal funds for rent relief, including front page stories in the New York City daily papers, resulting in Governor Cuomo announcing that extra staff have been hired to expedite payments.

The question for many New Yorkers that remains is, why can't our state government work without being shamed into doing so?

**Summit Club, Armonk, continued from pg 1-**

The Summit Club at Armonk," remarked Jones, who has also redesigned Bethpage Black, Montauk Downs, and Pinehurst #7. "Our objective was to bring the golf experience to a level that complements the natural beauty of the site and stunning views of the countryside."

What Jones did not do, to his credit, was to tear up a golf course that deserved to be preserved. Instead he added to a classic Westchester layout with his signature, trademarks, including additional bunkers and higher rough, making The Summit Club a course that requires hitting the right club to the correct location, or else you will be in the sand or high grass.

All of the changes make it a fair test, more in line with county clubs in the region. The greens are rolling nicely and the course is ready for your visit. The last 5 holes are a tough but fair challenge for the average golfer. The golf range and practice facilities were also upgraded and a new short game area was added.

"The Summit Club at Armonk represents a visionary rebranding of the traditional country club and will appeal to new members as the golf lifestyle reimagined," said Jeffrey B. Mendell, Managing Partner. "The Summit Club will be a 21st century lifestyle community with golf, tennis, fitness and wellness within a resort-like environment. Members will enjoy first class hospitality and services similar to being on a great vacation without leaving home."

The Summit Club at Armonk has several special membership opportunities for every age group and for residents in Armonk, and throughout Westchester, Putnam and Connecticut.

In addition to the renovated golf course, The Summit Club at Armonk plans on offering exceptional amenities that will open in phases over the next few years. A temporary reception center, pro shop and outdoor dining terrace are now operational. Future plans include a pool, fitness center and casual dining breaks ground later this year. The new clubhouse and tennis courts are expected to commence construction in 2023.

"The Summit Club is being designed as a 21st century lifestyle community with a focus on golf, tennis, fitness and wellness within a resort-like environment," said Jeffrey B. Mendell, Managing Partner. "Our orientation is to make golf more fun and less stuffy."

For more information, visit [www.thesummitclub.net](http://www.thesummitclub.net). For membership inquiries, contact Membership Director Leslie Dixon at [ldixon@thesummitclub.net](mailto:ldixon@thesummitclub.net) or call (914) 273-9300.

**COVID Vaccine Has Its Benefits**

Gary Smith of Arlington, TX got an unexpected bonus when he got himself vaccinated against the COVID-19 virus, according to the Association of Mature American Citizens [AMAC]. Not only did he get increased immunity to the disease, he also got a free lottery ticket as part of an incentive to convince more people to get their shots.

Perhaps the fact that his scratch-off ticket made him an instant millionaire will further incentivize people to get "vaxxed," as they say. In any event his million dollar payoff will come in handy; he's getting married and he says it will go a long way toward having "the wedding and honeymoon of my dreams with my future wife."

**Tastes better than it sounds**

Who would have thought that a serving of Macaroni and Cheese could be so refreshing on a hot summer day? The Association of Mature Citizens [AMAC] reports that the Brooklyn-based Van Leeuwen Ice Cream Company churned up a batch of Mac and Cheese flavored ice cream and it did the trick and got an "overwhelming response." The folks at Van Leeuwen boasted of its success on social media saying they were sold out in quick time.

**Rocah Dismisses Marijuana Charges , continued from pg 1-**

bing the officer in the head with a knife, Westchester District Attorney Miriam E. Rocah announced. Matthew Burke stabbed the uniformed police officer in his head as he was directing traffic at a construction site in the area of 200 Beacon Hill Drive during an unprovoked incident on May 20, 2021. The defendant was apprehended within a few minutes by members of the Dobbs Ferry Police Department with assistance of utility and construction workers who witnessed the violent attack.

Burke was indicted on the following counts: Attempted Murder in the First Degree, Attempted Murder in the Second Degree, Aggravated Assault Upon a Police Officer, Assault in the First Degree (two counts), and Criminal Possession of a Weapon in the Third Degree.

"This aggressive attack of a police officer is shocking and shows the danger these public servants face in the line of duty," DA Rocah said. "We are committed to ensuring justice for this officer and holding the attacker accountable for his actions."

Prior to the indictment, Burke was examined to see if he had the mental capacity to be charged with the crimes now filed against him. The identity of the police officer remains a mystery, and many residents in Greenburgh and the surrounding communities wish to offer him and his family support and best wishes. After being slashed, the officer told a Con Edison worker, "if I bleed out, make sure my wife and kids know that I love them,"

The 44-year-old sergeant has been with the department since 2008 and was promoted to sergeant in March. There has also been no motive, or reason for the attack, provided to the public.

**Trump Returns to Westchester , continued from pg 1-**

The three prominent republican candidates for Governor in 2022, Astorino, Congressman Lee Zeldin and Andrew Guiliani, are all expected to attend this event. Zeldin, who won a recent NY GOP straw poll, becoming the party's preferred candidate to challenge Governor Andrew Cuomo or another democratic nominee, has attempted to distance himself from Trump recently.

In 2020, Zeldin was a vocal supporter of Trump during his impeachment trial and also voted against certifying the presidential election. But Zeldin and his campaign team realize that Trump is one of the more toxic republican names in New York State, turning democrats out to vote against him and fellow republicans, and pushing independents and moderate republicans away from the state GOP.

Astorino also realizes the Trump effect in New York; it cost him many votes in his loss for County Executive in 2017 against Latimer, and in his recent narrow loss for State Senate against Harkham.

Andrew Guiliani, son of former NYC Mayor Rudy Guiliani, has embraced the former President and would love his endorsement for Governor, if it ever came. Andrew Guiliani was recently seen playing golf with Trump at his Bedminster, NJ course.

"I love President Trump. He is a good friend of mine, and I will never run away from that. One thing that New Yorkers will learn about me is I'm genuine and I'm not going to say something just to get elected, or just to get votes. I want to help New York and that's the reason why I'm doing this. I will continue to seek President Trump's counsel, both personally and professionally. I always consider him to be like an uncle to me," Guiliani told Spectrum News.

Two other republican long shots for Governor, Lewis County Sheriff Michael Carpinelli; and Derrick Gibson, are also expected to attend.

Many democrats are welcoming Trump back to Westchester, because politically he hurts republican candidates as much as he helps others.

"New Yorkers are far too smart to be impressed by the NY GOP's pandering of a failed president who will go down in history as among the nation's worst," said NY Democratic Chairman Jay Jacobs, adding that embracing Trump "defies all decency."

The former President's social media manager in The White House and currently is Dan Scavino who worked at Trump National and met the President on the golf course.

In addition to Trump National, the former President also owns Seven Springs, a massive, 230-acre estate that spans across the Towns of Bedford, New Castle and North Castle. Trump has owned the property for almost 20 years, and his attempts to turn it into a country club have failed. Eric Trump has lived at Seven Spring's with his family and has been seen around Westchester last year.

MDG Design + Construction is currently seeking construction Section 3 eligible applicants for a moderate rehabilitation project, Calcagno Homes Located in Yonkers, NY.

Section 3 eligible applicants are invited to submit a resume for the work in the following trades:

- Electrician Mechanic, Junior Foreman, & Helpers.
- Duct Installer & Refrigeration Piper.
- Plumber
- Elevator Repair and Maintenance (union)
- Roof Laborer
- Masonry Laborer
- General Laborer

Work is to be performed in Westchester County under Davis Bacon Act (prevailing wage) requirements.

Section 3 residents are:

- Public housing residents or
- Persons who live in the area where a HUD-assisted project is located and who have a household income that falls below HUD's income limits.

For more Section 3 information: <https://www.hud.gov/section3>. Eligible applicants must have an active Osha 30 card. If interested in applying, please send a resume with the position desired to: Jeffrey Goritz; [jgoritz@mdgny.com](mailto:jgoritz@mdgny.com)

**Baby Boomlet**

A COVID baby boom had been expected but it never happened-- at least not on a nationwide scale, says the Association of Mature American Citizens [AMAC]. But Andrews Women's Hospital in Fort Worth, TX experienced a mini boom recently, delivering 107 newborns in the space of just 91 hours. It's what can happen when you're cooped up at home under isolation with a lot of time on your hands such as what has been a fact of life for nearly one and a half years.



# A Diverse Workforce for a Diverse County



After graduating from law school, Leandra Eustache landed a job as a junior prosecutor at the New York City Taxi & Limousine Commission. She immediately began charting a path toward the career goal she had set for herself: a position in executive leadership.

“I hit the ground running and I took on roles of leadership pretty quickly,” she said. “I was able to move up the ranks and before I left I was managing the entire prosecution division.”

In 2019, Eustache found a new home for her talents and leadership skills, being appointed to head the Westchester County Taxi & Limousine Commission. These days, she is known by these titles: Chairperson and Chief Executive Officer.

“As chief executive officer, I oversee the operations of the office on a day-to-day basis. Our office licenses and regulates all of the for-hire vehicles in Westchester County. What makes me very passionate about the work that I do is that it has a very large impact on public safety. The drivers and vehicles that we license are

transporting passengers every day” she said.

In the County government, she said, she has found a supportive community of other women leaders, including working moms like herself.

“I know the struggles and challenges faced by women in the workforce. I do have an 8-year-old at home, in the third-grade, and school is completely remote. It can feel as though I’ve run a marathon by 8 a.m. each morning.” Eustache is also proud to be a role model for others who aspire to hold leadership positions one day.

“I grew up in a very disadvantaged socio-economic neighborhood,” said Eustache. “Growing up in that type of environment – obtaining positions of leadership doesn’t always seem possible. Being in such an important role is an example for young people of color who don’t think it’s possible they can succeed. I think it gives children of color hope.”

To receive notifications of all upcoming civil service exams, people can sign up to receive email notifications at <https://exams.westchestergov.com/webexam/emailSubscription/subscribe.htm>.



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FROM LEFT TO RIGHT:  
LOUIS ANDRONE, MD; ANDREW FADER, MD  
ANA ANDRONE, MD; ROLANDO CHUMACEIRO, MD;  
THOMAS APUZZO, MD; ROBERT DeMATTEO, MD



*“They treat me with respect.”*

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