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Westchester Rising

YonkersTimes.com

Friday June 21, 2024

We Endorse: George Latimer for Congress Democrats Have Had Enough of Bowman



George Latimer

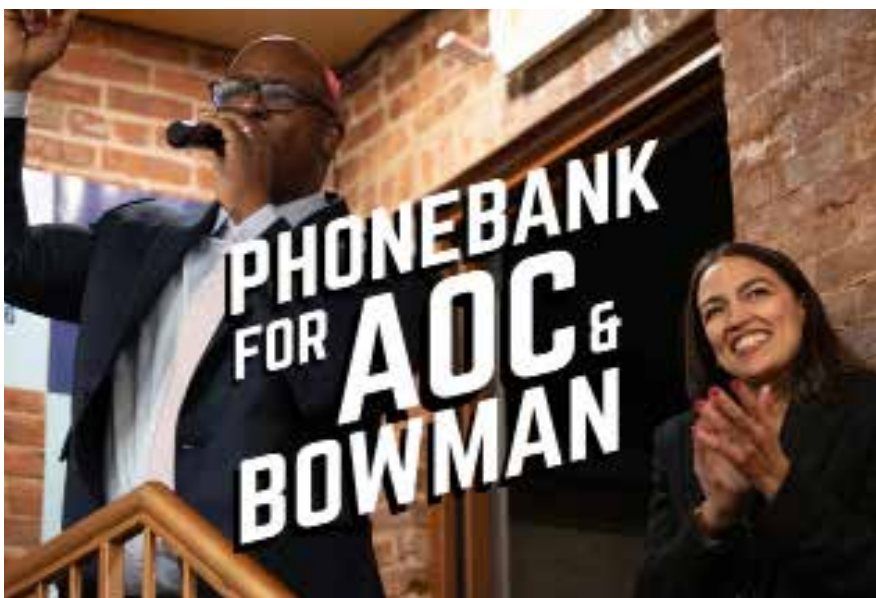
The Democratic Primary election in New York's 16th Congressional District this Tuesday may very well be one of the most important primaries in the country this year. Not only will it determine who will represent this solid blue district in the U.S. House of Representatives, but it will also be a bellwether for the future direction of the Democratic Party.

When Jamaal Bowman, a self-proclaimed 'radical,' was elected in 2020, he aligned himself with 'The Squad,' the most extreme far-left caucus in the House. He began representing what he calls a 'movement.' However, we question whether this 'movement' truly aligns with the views of his constituents.

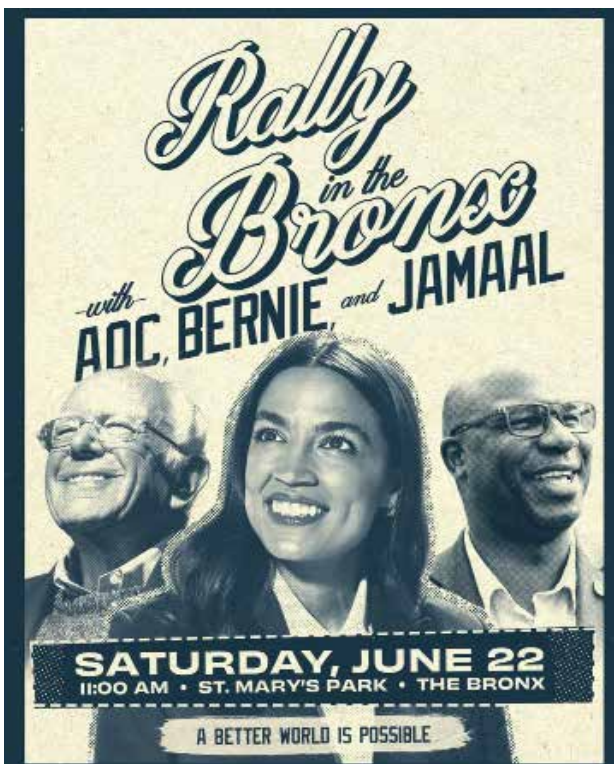
Refusing to compromise his rigid ideology, he voted against many of President Biden's bi-partisan accomplishments, including the infrastructure bill, the debt ceiling deal, the child tax credit, and the federal budget. Bowman's votes mirrored that of Marjorie Taylor Green and other members of the far-right Freedom Caucus. Although the far-left and far-right voted against these bills for different reasons, it highlights that both extremes refuse to compromise for the greater good of the country.

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Can AOC and Bernie Save Bowman?



By Dan Murphy



Congresswoman Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez has taken notice that one of her fellow squad members, Rep. Jamaal Bowman, is in jeopardy of losing his democratic primary to Westchester County Executive George Latimer. AOC and Senator Bernie Sanders are planning to come to Westchester and the Bronx for Bowman this weekend.

But it might be too little too late, and several Westchester democrats believe that AOC and Sanders will not attract any of the small

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How Come No one is talking about William Wagstaff's Federal Conviction?



William Wagstaff, left

"As a democratic chair, I'm very concerned about the quality of candidates that carry our banner in November. The republicans would have a field day running against him if he is our candidate,"

*-John Filiberti,
Eastchester Democratic
Chair*

By Dan Murphy

During his campaign speeches, and in his address to district leaders at the Westchester Democratic convention in the spring, William Wagstaff, candidate for Westchester District Attorney, referenced his criminal past.

"Almost 20 years ago, when I started law school, I was on Federal house arrest," said Wagstaff.

Many Westchester Democrats have wondered what crime Wagstaff was convicted that resulted in his house arrest. Other democrats are not aware that Wagstaff was convicted of a crime while seeking to become the chief law enforcement official in Westchester.

A criminal search resulted in discovery of the case -USA vs. Wagstaff, Federal Case # case number: 7:04-mj-00115 filed in 2004, charged Wagstaff with Fraud with identification documents. He pled guilty and was sentenced to three years' probation, which included house arrest.

According to people familiar with this incident, Wagstaff used a credit card scanner to steal credit card numbers from customers at his father's gas station. In addition to probation and house arrest, Wagstaff was required to pay restitution to the victims totaling \$15,076.23.

Wagstaff did share the fact that he was convicted of a Federal crime with members of the Westchester Democratic Executive Committee, and with all district leaders at the Westchester Democratic Convention held earlier this year.

Westchester democrats we spoke to were concerned about Wagstaff's criminal past, combined with his recent inability to pay his Federal income taxes on time.

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Ossining Student Arrested by NYPD for Attack on Jewish Columbia Student with Rock



Crimestoppers NYPD photo of Zuhdi Ahmed, before he surrendered to police

Zuhdi Ahmed, 20, of Ossining was arrested by the NYPD for throwing a rock at a Jewish student at Columbia University student. Ahmed was recently arrested for the incident which occurred on April 20. He is charging with assault and hate crimes including menacing, and criminal possession of a weapon. The student, Jonathan Lederer, 22, had his Israeli flag burned during the incident where three young men including Ahmed, confronted him on West 116th Street and Ahmed threw a rock at his face. Ahmed, a student at Hunter College, recently surrendered to the NYPD. More on this story in the future.

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Hampton Inn Elmsford Employees Allege Management turned Blind Eye to Prostitution, Drug Use and Human Trafficking in Lawsuit

A lawsuit was filed in New York State Supreme Court on behalf of thirteen past and present employees of the Hampton by Hilton in White Plains, Westchester County, NY pursuant to the New York State Executive Law, Article 15, Human Rights Law, § 290, et. seq. (the “NYSHRL”) and the Trafficking Victims Protection Act (“TVPA”) against the Schulte Hospitality Group, the Hampton Inn, Hilton Worldwide and the individual managers of the hotel seeking equitable relief and monetary damages to redress injuries resulting from sexual harassment and hostile work environment at the Hampton by Hilton, located at 200 West Main Street, Elmsford, New York. It is alleged that the work environment was permeated with criminal activity, prostitution, drug use, violence, and human trafficking, that was created, condoned, and tolerated by the defendants. The plaintiffs in this case are represented by their attorneys, Murtagh, Cossu, Venditti & Castro-Blanco, LLP. (A copy of the Complaint is attached to this Release)

The complaint details how the plaintiffs/employees in this case endured violence and multiple indignities. It is alleged that Pimps and Johns solicited the plaintiffs for sex and attempted to recruit them with offers of “fast easy money.” Employees saw 15-20 Johns entering and leaving a room during a single shift. Female employees were groped and often hid in locked rooms for fear of rape or assault. Male employees were repeatedly solicited by the prostitutes, grabbed and told explicitly what sexual acts would be done. Prostitutes roamed the halls scantily dressed and Johns disrobed in the hallways.

The complaint alleges that violent incidents abounded. Employees heard prostitutes being beaten in their rooms. Employees witnessed a prostitute chased down the hall by a man with a knife. A male employee was attacked by an apparently drugged John. When these and other complaints were brought to the hotel manager, employees were told, “What happens in the hotel stays in the hotel.”

The plaintiffs further allege that management was involved and complicit in the criminal activity. On one occasion when there was a dispute between a John and a prostitute, the manager intervened, knocking on the door saying, “It’s me, TJ open up.” When told by the prostitute that a John wouldn’t pay, he replied, “Don’t worry, I’ll take care of it.” One Plaintiff was directed by the manager to take one of the Asian prostitutes to the airport. Management offered discounted rates to the prostitutes, accepted cash payments and took rooms “off-line” to assist prostitutes in conducting their business. The continued presence of prostitution, drug use and violence enabled management to continue to profit from illicit and illegal conduct. When confronted by employees at a meeting about the ongoing criminality, the manager replied, “Let me tell you guys something, if it weren’t for the prostitutes, none of you guys would have a job right now.”

In November of 2022, an employee sent a two-page, single spaced letter to the Schulte Hospitality Management confidential reporting site detailing the continuing and unacceptable criminal conduct taking place at the hotel, and the fear employees had of working under those conditions. Her complaint was ignored. Only when her attorney sent a letter to the regional manager asking that the situation be addressed, and that confidentiality be maintained as to the “whistleblower,” was any action taken. Unfortunately, after the manager was dismissed, the whistleblower was told by another employee that the manager knew that it was her that reported the criminal activity and she was told to “watch out.” She was fearful for her life, as on several occasions in the past, the manager told her that he had a gun.

The defendants failed to enact and enforce company-wide policies to quash the criminal activity, prostitution, violence, and sex trafficking. As a result, the Hampton Inn has become a venue of choice for criminal activity, as pimps and prostitutes capitalized on the defendants’ complacency and complicity, and the defendants profited from the crimes taking place. Even today, “escorts” advertise openly on websites that they will provide a variety of sexual services and list the Hampton Inn address as their place of business.

The White Plains law firm of Murtagh, Cossu, Venditti & Castro-Blanco are representing the employees.

Questions Raised as Mirza Drops Out of Race for Westchester DA, Endorses Wagstaff



Adeel Mirza

By Dan Murphy

Adeel Mirza, one of three democratic candidates for Westchester County District Attorney, ended his campaign on June 14, just one day before early voting began for the Democratic Primary on June 25. In his statement, Mirza endorsed William Wagstaff for Westchester DA.

“I ran for District Attorney because, after almost two decades in the Westchester DA’s office, I had the experience to run the office, reform it, and keep families safe. Throughout this campaign, I have had the incredible opportunity to visit every corner of our county, meeting people, leaders, and activists who care deeply about our communities’ futures. I am deeply grateful for the support and encouragement from every community in Westchester.”

“The District Attorney’s office is a vital piece of that future, and whoever holds the office must be someone who holds our Democratic values – and always has. That is why, after much reflection and many conversations, I have decided to stop campaigning and back William Wagstaff for District Attorney. I have gotten to know William throughout this race, and he is kind, generous, thoughtful, and reform-minded. He will run the office with integrity and keep families safe while pursuing justice for all, regardless of race, religion, ethnicity, gender identity, or economic status,” said Mirza.

Some have questioned the timing of Mirza’s exit from the DA’s race. “What kind of deal did Adeel cut with Wagstaff? What is he getting for getting out and endorsing Wagstaff?” asked one Westchester Democratic leader.

Mirza’s departure now leaves Wagstaff and Susan Cacace as the two remaining democrats in the race for Westchester DA. Cacace’s campaign commented on Mirza’s departure from the race. “We are not surprised by Adeel Mirza’s decision to stop campaigning in the race for Westchester District Attorney, nor are we surprised by his questionable decision to endorse William Wagstaff. What is truly disappointing is that Mr. Mirza’s campaign was built solely around disparaging Susan Cacace, the only woman in the race for DA, a lifelong Democrat and clearly the most experienced and qualified candidate.

“The choice for the next Westchester DA has only become clearer. Susan Cacace’s decades of experience as a Westchester County Court Judge, Assistant DA and criminal defense attorney make her far more qualified to keep Westchester safe than any other candidate. This sentiment is shared by current DA Mimi Rocah, the Westchester County Democratic Committee and dozens of other well respected elected officials and law enforcement organizations throughout the county who have proudly endorsed Susan Cacace.

“Undecided voters should ask an important question. Will William Wagstaff, who seeks to become the chief law enforcement official in the county, accept the endorsement of an accused sexual harasser who was disgracefully fired from the DA’s Office and whose campaign was run by a convicted felon? The race for District Attorney is far too important to ignore these important decisions,” stated the Cacace campaign.

Mirza recently settled a sexual harassment lawsuit filed by a former colleague in the Westchester DA’s office, and most of the more than \$100,00 spent

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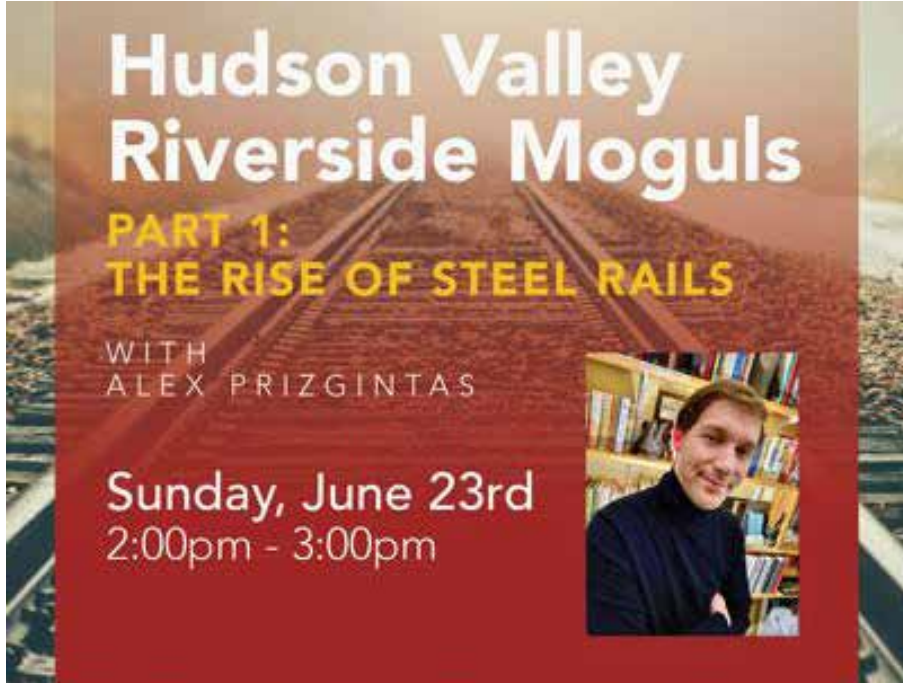
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Hudson Valley Riverside Moguls
 Sunday June 23, Hendrick Hudson Library



The Hendrick Hudson Library presents, From the Vanderbilts of Hyde Park to Jay Gould's purchase of Tarrytown's Lyndhurst estate and the vast land holdings of E. H. Harriman in Orange County, the Hudson Valley has been home to many of the Gilded Age's most illustrious, and infamous, titans of industry. Though their empires were not always centered in New York, the glamorous estates of these nineteenth-century moguls offer glimpses into a rich era of the past that binds the nation with the Hudson Valley. Join author, historian, musician, and preservationist Alex Prizgintas as he shares the stories of "riverside moguls" from the Hudson Valley and the transformation of their estates through time. Part one of this program focuses on five figures from the growth of American Railroads. Stay tuned for Part two, which will be presented in the fall.

Registration is required at <https://hendrickhudson.librarycalendar.com/event/hudson-valley-riverside-moguls-part-1-rise-steel-rails-4497>.

The Hendrick Hudson Library is located at 185 Kings Ferry Rd, Montrose, NY 10548.

And Now, the End is Near!

By Eric Wolf Schoen



Well Friends, if you think Tuesday, June 25 is simply National Strawberry Parfait Day, National Camp Counts Day (honoring the amazing day and sleep away camps we still have in this country) or National Goat Cheese Day, you must have been sleeping under a rock for the last several months.

Tuesday, June 25 is Primary Day for Federal, State, County and local offices in New York State.

Yes, we are talking among other contests the Primary for Congress in New York's 16th District which features incumbent Jamaal Bowman being challenged by Westchester County Executive George Latimer. One of the most expensive primaries in the history of this country, the last numbers I saw showed over \$23 million dollars being by the candidates. That's a lot on money!

People on both sides of the battle are passionate about the candidates and their positions on the issues. I find this level of passion to be almost equal to the national passion on the Biden /Trump race. Many friendships have been strained, new alliances between people of all political stripes have been formed, and though it's hard to believe there are still people who don't realize they are eligible to vote in the NY 16 Primary.

Bottom line is that if you have received a crazy amount of mail from candidates Bowman and Latimer, you live in the district. Early voting at specially designated sites, which are probably not your normal polling location continues through this Sunday. Do we really need these early polling locations to be open for 2 weeks prior to Primary Day for all elections or should they only be open for the Presidential Election every 4 years. It will be interesting to compare the percentage of people who vote in a highly contested Presidential Primary to the percentage of people who vote in a highly contested Congressional Primary as we have on Tuesday.

Board of Elections staff have a difficult enough job recruiting poll workers for the big presidential elections where you have a steady stream of voters vs. elections like the Congressional, state and county elections which attract far fewer people. The only reason the Board of Elections can obtain the large numbers of workers they need is because they have increased the pay scale. Bottom line is that it's a 5:30 a.m. to 9:30 p.m. job not always working in the best of conditions. Yes they have talked about voting by mail but the elected officials are afraid they would lose their power.

I have been very clear with you who I am supporting for Congress in NY 16, a man who I believe will uphold the dignity of the office as his distinguished predecessors had whether it be Nita Lowey, Elliot Engel, Richard Ottinger, Mario Biaggi or Peter Peysner. That man is Westchester County Executive George Latimer.

Last week I shared with you some personal reasons why I am backing my friend George that go far beyond what you will see in the public endorsements that run in our regional newspapers. Most newspaper editorials are written by editorial boards based on stories contained in their newspapers and don't truly represent personal knowledge of the candidates.

When I support a candidate, I know their positions on issues of importance to the community as I live in that community. When the current Congressman Mr. Bowman voted against the Infrastructure Bill, I spoke to local officials, real estate leaders, union leaders and the folks like you and my neighbors who are

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Bowman Hasn't Voted in Congress Since May 23

By Dan Murphy

Westchester Congressman Jamaal Bowman has been Missing in Action in the House of Representatives, and has not cast a vote since May 23, according to Politico. And one vote that Bowman missed is a vote on the National Defense Authorization Act.

The National Defense Authorization Act, (NDAA), authorizes funding levels for the U.S. Military. House Republicans included in the bill restrictions for service members and their families to access abortion care. Specifically, the bill would bar the Defense Department from paying for service members or their family who have to travel out of states for abortion care.

Democrat Rep. Mikie Sherrill, a Navy Veteran and member of the Armed Services Committee, said that Republicans were attempting to “shove their extremist culture war agenda down the throats of the American people.”

Bowman was absent for this vote, and his opponent, Westchester County Executive George Latimer reminded voters in the district about Bowman’s absence from more than 50 votes on the House floor over the past three weeks.

“Yesterday, 207 House Dems voted against the National Defense Authorization Act, which among other things further restricts the ability of servicemembers & their families to access abortion care. Jamaal Bowman missed the vote, causing it to pass by 1 single vote. I believe we should always prioritize #RealResultsNotRhetoric. My opponent has voted against key Democratic policies like @JoeBiden’s infrastructure bill. Yesterday he could have stood on his principles & stopped this anti-choice, anti LGBTQ+ legislation from passing. He didn’t,” said Latimer on X.

Latimer’s reference to the 208-207 vote was for the House Rule for the 2025 House Defense Authorization Bill. And while the actual bill passed 217-199, if Bowman was present to vote against it, the Bill would have been defeated. In the House, if there is a tie, the item fails. Bowman was not present for either votes.

Westchester Pharmacy Owner & Physician Charged with Diverting Oxycodone for Cash



Dr. Mordechai Bar

On June 5, Damian Williams, the United States Attorney for the Southern District of New York announced the unsealing of Complaints charging Feroze Nazirbage, a pharmacy owner, and Mordechai Bar, a physician, with illegally diverting oxycodone and other controlled substances. Both NAZIRBAGE and BAR were arrested today and will be presented tomorrow in White Plains federal court.

U.S. ATTORNEY DAMIAN WILLIAMS SAID: “AS ALLEGED, DR. MORDECHAI BAR AND FEROCZE NAZIRBAGE BREACHED THE TRUST THAT WAS PLACED IN THEM TO PRESCRIBE AND DISPENSE CONTROLLED SUBSTANCES ONLY FOR LEGITIMATE MEDICAL PURPOSES. THEY ALLEGEDLY USED THEIR POSITIONS AS HEALTHCARE PROFESSIONALS AS A COVER FOR WHAT AMOUNTED TO NO MORE THAN COMMON DRUG DEALING OPERATIONS. WE WILL NOT TOLERATE THE ILLEGAL SALE OF OXYCODONE AND OTHER ADDICTIVE SUBSTANCES INTO THE COMMUNITY, WHETHER THOSE SALES TAKE PLACE ON THE STREET CORNER, AT A DOCTOR’S OFFICE, OR BEHIND A PHARMACY COUNTER.”

DEA Special Agent in Charge Frank A. Tarentino III said: “The arrests today of Doctor Mordechai Bar and pharmacy owner Feroze Nazirbage are the result of the DEA’s commitment in pursuing those individuals who allegedly exacerbate the ongoing opioid crisis. As alleged, these two healthcare professionals, who illegally diverted the highly addictive oxycodone for cash had a responsibility of protecting patients’ lives, not destroying them. The DEA will relentlessly pursue those individuals responsible for putting profits and greed over the health of their patients.”

FBI Assistant Director in Charge James Smith said: “In exchange for financial compensation, Feroze Nazirbage and Mordechai Bar, a pharmacy owner and physician, respectively, allegedly conspired to distribute controlled substances – including oxycodone – without a legitimate prescription or patient medical examination. Failing their ethical duty to do good, the defendants allegedly abused their positions in healthcare by serving as suppliers for a highly addictive narcotic while greedily pocketing the rewards. With assistance from our law enforcement partners, today’s charges reflect the FBI’s intolerance of those who selfishly jeopardize the health of others, especially those entrusted with prioritizing and preserving the wellness of our city.”

As alleged in the two Complaints filed on May 30, 2024, in White Plains federal court and unsealed today:[1]

Oxycodone, a Schedule II narcotic, is a highly addictive opioid analgesic that is used to treat severe and chronic pain conditions, such as post-operative pain, severe back and orthopedic injuries, as well as pain associated with certain forms of cancer and other terminal illnesses. Oxycodone prescriptions are in high demand and have significant cash value to drug dealers. The street value of oxycodone depends on the number of milligrams of oxycodone in each tablet, and in and around the New York City area, each milligram of oxycodone roughly translates to around \$1 in street value.

NAZIRBAGE is associated with multiple pharmacies in and around New York City, including F&N Pharmacy, of which he is the president, and QV Pharmacy, where he has been observed working and directing customers. From at least about December 2022 up to the date of the Complaint, NAZIRBAGE has conspired with others to dispense or distribute oxycodone and other controlled substances, in violation of the law, in exchange for cash. In addition to filling prescriptions that he knew were not issued for a legitimate medical purpose by

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Yonkers Councilman Merante Gives Back Pay Raise to Local Organizations



On June 11, Yonkers City Councilmember Merante presented a \$ 500 check to the Homefield Association at their monthly meeting. The Homefield Association is a community group that serves the Homefield section of Yonkers. In addition to having a community center they also sponsor various activities throughout the year for the families of the Homefield community.

When the Yonkers City Council voted to give themselves a historic 20% pay raise late last December, 6th District Councilmember Anthony J. Merante VOTED NO. Merante vehemently objected to this pay raise which he felt was unwarranted for a part-time job. Merante, a Certified Public Accountant said “The Council should not vote for salary increases for itself, only for future elected officials. He quipped to his current colleagues and to those potentially seeking office, “if you don’t like the salary, then don’t run for the office”. Merante is the only Yonkers Councilmember to refuse a City funded car and free gas, This too he felt was a needless expense being charged to taxpayers.

Merante has now embarked on a “Give Back Program”. He will be donating a portion of the recent raise back to local organizations. Merante said, “I wanted to help those who are helping others in the community. This program will continue throughout my time in office. The Council job should be about serving the public and not serving oneself. My mantra has always been “It’s All About You” the people of Yonkers.”

Westchester Collaborative Theater (WCT)
Presents the Oren Neiman Trio June 29



On Saturday, June 29, The Oren Neiman Trio, a group whose compositions explore a combination of jazz sensibility with Middle Eastern rhythms and melody, will make a rare return local appearance in Westchester Collaborative Theater (WCT)'s Music in the Box Series. Serenity Now is a new trio album by Israeli-born, New York-based guitarist Oren Neiman. The album, Neiman's third as a bandleader, is a genre blending exploration of Middle Eastern rhythms, jazz sensibility and a rock attitude.

The trio features fellow Israelis Daniel Ori on bass and Nadav Snir-Zelniker on drums. Both are prominent sidemen in the New York jazz scene, recording and playing with top jazz and world musicians such as Oz Noy, Lionel Loueke, Kenwood Dennard, Marcus Printup, Frank London, Jamie Haddad, Mark Turner, Dave Liebman, and Aaron Goldberg among others. The trio's long-standing friendship and camaraderie is apparent in every musical interaction, which makes for an experience filled with surprises and moments of connection.

Paying tribute to the music of their childhoods, the trio utilizes a variety of folkloric musical traditions into an album that, like many within Middle Eastern jazz, hybridizes various cultural attributes into compositions that reflect the complexities of our modern world. Fearless, comfortable with a variety of genres and styles of music, a deep trust and confidence binds their collective musical ambitions.

"Neiman creates intricate and tightly knit melodies...an instrumental virtuoso in his own right," wrote Jakob Baekgaard in All About Jazz

The Oren Neiman Trio will perform two sets at 7:30 and 9:00 pm in an evening of Middle Eastern-inspired jazz at WCT's black box performance space, 23 Water St. in Ossining. Cash bar and refreshments available. Purchase seats online at the ticketing website:

<https://wct-presents-oren-neiman-trio-june-29.eventbrite.com>

(limited seating available.)

For upcoming theater and music events visit <http://www.wctheater.org/>

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38th Annual African-American Heritage
Festival June 23, Kensico Dam Valhalla

Join us to celebrate African-American culture and raise awareness about Physical and Mental Health at the African-American Heritage Festival on Sunday, June 23 from noon to 6 p.m. at Kensico Dam Plaza in Valhalla.

County Executive George Latimer said, "We gather at Kensico Dam Plaza to celebrate and take the opportunity to learn about the different cultures that make up the fabric of Westchester County. African American culture includes values and principles such as unity, patriotism, social cohesion, respect for authority and elders, and a sense of community life. This sentiment, communalism, is the belief that the success of the individual and the group are inseparable. By being culturally aware, we can recognize and appreciate other people's beliefs, customs, and values to interact with them without prejudice or judgement. This leads to more cultural connections and fewer interpersonal conflicts arising from cultural differences."

Parks Commissioner Kathleen O'Connor said, "African American culture has had a profound impact on music, giving birth to various genres such as jazz, blues, gospel, R&B, hip-hop and reggae. Music is the universal language that unites us all, so dust off those dancing shoes and get your groove on with family and friends on the great lawn at Kensico Dam Plaza."

There will be live entertainment, music, dance, drama, poetry, ethnic foods, line dancing, cultural arts and crafts, health vendors, educational vendors and much more. The festival will be held rain or shine. Seating is informal; bring blankets or folding chairs for seating on the lawn. No coolers will be allowed. Admission and parking are free. Carpooling or taking mass transit is encouraged. A free shuttle service will be offered (by Accredited Limousine Service) to and from Valhalla and North White Plains Train Stations from 1:00 p.m. until 6:00 p.m.

The other heritage festivals are: (all at Kensico Dam Plaza, Valhalla)

· Hispanic Sunday, July 7 Noon – 6 p.m.

· Irish-American Saturday, July 14, 12 p.m. to 6 p.m., Ridge Road Park, Hartsdale (admission: \$5 adults; free for ages 14 and under)*

· Italian Sunday, July 21 Noon – 6 p.m.

· India Sunday, Aug. 4 Noon – 6 p.m.

· Jewish Sunday, Aug. 18 Noon – 6 p.m.

· Muslim Sunday, Aug. 25 Noon – 6 p.m.

The African-American Heritage Festival is co-sponsored by Westchester County Parks and the Coalition of African American Organizations. Kensico Dam Plaza is located at 1 Bronx River Parkway, Valhalla. More information or call (914) 864-PARK. Please be advised that on Sunday, June 23, the Bronx River Parkway will be closed for Bicycle Sundays from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. between Scarsdale Road in Yonkers and the Westchester County Center in White Plains.

Dear Editor,

Donald Trump was found guilty by a jury of everyday Americans on 34 felony counts. He is finally being held accountable for one of his many illegal schemes to gain and hold onto power. His conviction is a reminder that no one—including a former president—is above the law. And it's another reminder that Trump still poses a major threat to our democracy.

When he was President, Trump attacked our fundamental freedoms, from our freedom to vote in 2020 when he attempted to overturn the will of the people, to appointing three extreme Supreme Court justices that overturned Roe v. Wade and abortion rights for millions of Americans.

The New York trial may be over, but Donald Trump still faces three additional indictments and 54 criminal charges for a litany of crimes, including federal charges for his efforts to incite violence and overturn the will of voters after he knew he'd lost the 2020 election. And on top of all that, he's STILL running for president.

Our fundamental freedoms are on the line. Don't let a convicted fraudster hold the highest office in our land. It's up to us to stand up and defeat Trump at the ballot box this November.

Sincerely,
Grace Levine
Yonkers

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Notice of formation of Studio Elise LLC filed with the SSNY on 04/05/2024. Office: Westchester County. SSNY designated as agent of the LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail copy of processes to the LLC, 3 Ward Street, Hastings-on-Hudson, NY 10706. Purpose: Any lawful activity.

Notice of formation of Lee & Mazie's LLC. Articles of Organization filed with the SSNY Office on 04/02/2024 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 : Lee & Mazie's LLC 1 Sherwood Terrace Apt 5D Yonkers, NY 10704 Purpose: Any lawful purpose. Latest date upon which LLC is to dissolve: No specific date.

Notice of Formation of KW Services NY LLC. Articles of Organization filed with Secretary of State of New York (SSNY) on 3/30/24. Office location: Westchester County. SSNY is designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to 875 King Street Chappaqua NY 10514. Purpose: any lawful act or activity.

NOTICE OF FORMATION of Intentional Journey Psychotherapy, LCSW, PLLC. Arts of Org filed with Secy. of State of NY (SSNY) on 4/8/24. Office location: NY County. SSNY designated as agent upon whom process may be served and shall mail copy of process against PLLC to 1374 Midland Ave, Suite 410, Bronxville, NY 10708. Purpose: any lawful act.

Notice of Formation of Northern Lights Massage Therapy PLLC. Arts. of Org. filed with SSNY on 8/21/23. Office location: Westchester County. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process may be served. SSNY shall mail process to 409 North Broadway Apt 38 Yonkers NY 10701. Purpose: any lawful act or activity.

Notice of Formation of RR 207 Consulting, LLC. Arts. of Org. filed with SSNY on 03/27/24. Office location: Westchester County. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process may be served. SSNY shall mail process to 603 Warburton Ave, Ste 2, Hastings-on-Hudson, NY, 10706. Purpose: any lawful act or activity.

LEGAL NOTICE OF

APPLICATION FOR CHANGE OF ZONE DISTRICT CLASSIFICATION

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, pursuant to law, that a meeting of the City Council of the City of Yonkers, to be held on **Wednesday, June 26, 2024 at 6:45 PM** in the City Council Chambers, 40 South Broadway, Yonkers, New York, the City Council will proceed to give a public hearing on the application of OCD Properties Inc., **Owner/Petitioner** in relation to a requested change of zone district classification from the present S-50 Zoning District ("S-50 District") to a CM Zoning District ("CM District"), for the following described parcel of land, to wit:

Section 3. Block 3270 Lot 192 on the Official Tax Map of the City of Yonkers.

Said property is vacant land situated adjacent and to the south and east of 1228 Saw Mill River Road and fronts on Saw Mill River Road to the south and Prior Place to the east, and is known as 1212 Saw Mill River Road.

The Owner/Petitioner proposes to construct a parking lot to serve the adjacent parcel located at 1228 Saw Mill River Road.

FURTHER NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, that, pursuant to law, the notice is sent to you as an owner of land within a radius of 200 feet of the area of land affected by the proposed change of zone or land directly opposite thereto extending 200 feet from the street frontage of such opposite lands.

You may present to the City Council a protest against the proposed change of zone if you are opposed thereto. Such protest must be in writing, signed by you and acknowledged by you before a Notary Public or Commissioner of Deeds; it must state your name and address, describe your own property Tax Map and Block Numbers, and by Street Number, and by other appropriate description showing the dimensions and area of your property, and that it is either within the area of land affected by the proposed change of zone, or within a radius of 200 feet of said area of land so affected or within 200 feet from the street frontage of land directly opposite to the land so affected; that you object to the proposed change of zone and the grounds for such objection.

This notice is sent to you by as required by Rules of the Yonkers City Council and the General City Law.

VINCENT SPANO, City Clerk

CORPORATION NOTICE CITY OF YONKERS-NEW YORK

PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE

Notice is hereby given, pursuant to law, that the Mayor of the City of Yonkers, New York, will hold a Public Hearing on Wednesday, June 26, 2024 at 5:00pm, Mayor's Reception Room, 2nd floor, 40 South Broadway, Yonkers, New York, to hear all interested parties and citizens regarding the adoption of the following Local Law, to wit:

A LOCAL LAW AMENDING ARTICLE IX OF THE CHARTER OF THE CITY OF YONKERS IN RELATION TO SEWER RENTS.

Said hearing may be adjourned from time to time as necessary. Further information, including access to a copy of said proposed local law, may be obtained at the City Clerk's office, City Hall, 40 South Broadway, Yonkers, New York and on the City's Website.

MIKE SPANO, Mayor, Date: June 14, 2024

LEGAL NOTICE
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS
PUBLIC HEARING
PROPOSED WATER RENT INCREASES
I, Thomas Meier, Commissioner of the Department of Public Works in the City of Yonkers, do hereby call a public hearing on the proposed scale of water rent on Wednesday, June 26, 2024, in the Law Library, Rm. 300, City Hall, 40 South Broadway, Yonkers, New York, at 5:30 p.m. The Proposed Scale of Water Rents is available for inspection by the public until June 26, 2024 at: The Office of the City Clerk, City Hall, 40 S. Broadway, Yonkers NY 10701.
THOMAS MEIER, COMMISSIONER
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS
Dated: June 17, 2024

PROPOSED SCALE OF WATER RENTS

	Current Rates	Proposed Rates
First 1 Million cubic feet (per 100 cubic feet)	\$4.69	\$4.92
Over 1 Million cubic feet (per 100 cubic feet)	\$4.69	\$4.92
Minimum Semi-Annual Charges	\$117.86	\$123.64

LEGAL NOTICE

The ordinance, a summary of which is published herewith, has been adopted on June 11, 2024, and approved by the Mayor on June 11, 2024, and the validity of the obligations authorized by such ordinance may be hereafter contested only if such obligations were authorized for an object or purpose for which the CITY OF YONKERS, in the County of Westchester, New York, is not authorized to expend money or if the provisions of law which should have been complied with as of the date of publication of this Notice were not substantially complied with, and an action, suit or proceeding contesting such validity is commenced within twenty days after the publication of this Notice, or such obligations were authorized in violation of the provisions of the constitution.

Vincent E. Spano, City Clerk

City of Yonkers, New York

SPECIAL ORDINANCE NO. 35-2024

BOND ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF YONKERS, NEW YORK AUTHORIZING THE ACQUISITION OF BOOKS AND EQUIPMENT FOR USE BY THE BOARD OF EDUCATION; STATING THE ESTIMATED MAXIMUM COST THEREOF IS \$5,400,000; APPROPRIATING SAID AMOUNT THEREFOR; AND AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE OF BONDS OF SAID CITY IN THE PRINCIPAL AMOUNT OF NOT TO EXCEED \$5,400,000 TO FINANCE SAID APPROPRIATION

The bonds are authorized to finance the acquisition of books and equipment for use by the Board of Education.

The amount of obligations to be issued is not to exceed \$5,400,000.

The period of probable usefulness of the acquisition of books, software and equipment for use by the Board of Education, is five (5) years.

Pursuant to the provisions of Section 17 of the Special Local Finance and Budget Act of the City of Yonkers, constituting Chapters 488 and 489 of the Laws of 1976 of the State of New York (herein called the "Act"), the City is authorized and directed to include the pledge and agreement of the State of New York (herein called the "State") contained in said Section 17 of the Act, in the ordinance, and the Act provides that upon payment for the bonds or notes by the original and all subsequent holders thereof the inclusion of such pledge and agreement shall be deemed conclusive evidence of valuable consideration received by the State and City for such pledge and agreement and of reliance upon such pledge and agreement by any holder and that any action by the State contrary to or inconsistent with the provisions of such pledge and agreement shall be void.

A complete copy of the Bond Ordinance summarized above shall be available for public inspection during normal business hours at the office of the City Clerk, 40 South Broadway, Yonkers, New York 10701.

DATED: June 13, 2024
Yonkers, New York

Notice of formation of Resonance Interactive LLC. Arts. of Org. filed with the SSNY on 5/14/2024. Office: Westchester County. SSNY designated as agent of the LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail copy of process to the LLC, 17 Arlington Road, Scarsdale NY, 10583. Purpose: Any lawful activity.

Notice of formation of WIT SOCCER LLC. Arts. of Org. filed with the SSNY on 4/18/2024. Office: Westchester County. SSNY designated as agent of the LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail copy of process to the LLC, 390 Heritage Hls, Unit D, Somers, NY 10589-1989. Purpose: Any lawful activity.

Scenic Hudson Honors Majority Leader Stewart-Cousins for Environmental Leadership



Scenic Hudson President Ned Sullivan with Majority Leader Andrea Stewart-Cousins

New York State Senate Majority Leader Andrea Stewart-Cousins was honored for her leadership and dedication to environmental issues at Scenic Hudson’s annual gala Sojourner Truth State Park in Kingston on Saturday, June 8. This event celebrated the contributions of female environmental champions from across the Hudson Valley, recognizing their relentless efforts to preserve and protect our natural resources.

“Everything in this 520-acre park, built on a former industrial property has benefited from Senator Stewart-Cousins’ steadfast commitment to investing in sustainability,” said Scenic Hudson President Ned Sullivan. “Senator Stewart-Cousins championed both the Environmental Protection Fund and the \$4.2 billion Environmental Bond Act, which made possible not only the creation of the state park, but future improvements as well. Over the course of more than 30 years in public service in local, county and state government, Senator Stewart-Cousins has been a pioneering exemplar of female leadership, acting with courage, determination and an unwavering commitment to the environment.”

The creation of Sojourner Truth State Park was a project undertaken by Scenic Hudson in collaboration with the New York State Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation and the Palisades Interstate Park Commission. The event marked the opening of the new park and the enduring efforts of Scenic Hudson, which is in its seventh decade of saving land, creating one-of-a-kind parks, and responding to the climate crisis.

continued on pg 11-

LEGAL NOTICE

The ordinance, a summary of which is published herewith, has been adopted on June 11, 2024, and approved by the Mayor on June 11, 2024, and the validity of the obligations authorized by such ordinance may be hereafter contested only if such obligations were authorized for an object or purpose for which the CITY OF YONKERS, in the County of Westchester, New York, is not authorized to expend money or if the provisions of law which should have been complied with as of the date of publication of this Notice were not substantially complied with, and an action, suit or proceeding contesting such validity is commenced within twenty days after the publication of this Notice, or such obligations were authorized in violation of the provisions of the constitution.

Vincent E. Spano, City Clerk
City of Yonkers, New York

SPECIAL ORDINANCE NO.36-2024

BOND ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF YONKERS, NEW YORK AUTHORIZING FUNDING FOR VARIOUS CAPITAL PROJECTS INCLUDED IN THE SCHOOLS FACILITIES MANAGEMENT PLAN FOR THE BOARD OF EDUCATION, AS AMENDED; STATING THE ESTIMATED MAXIMUM COST THEREOF IS \$10,000,000; APPROPRIATING SAID AMOUNT THEREFOR; AND AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE OF BONDS OF SAID CITY IN THE PRINCIPAL AMOUNT OF NOT TO EXCEED \$10,000,000 TO FINANCE SAID APPROPRIATION

The bonds are authorized to finance various capital projects included in the School Facilities Management Plan for the Board of Education, as amended.

The amount of obligations to be issued is not to exceed \$10,000,000.

The period of usefulness associated with the construction of improvements to various school buildings and the sites thereof, is thirty (30) years.

Pursuant to the provisions of Section 17 of the Special Local Finance and Budget Act of the City of Yonkers, constituting Chapters 488 and 489 of the Laws of 1976 of the State of New York (herein called the “Act”), the City is authorized and directed to include the pledge and agreement of the State of New York (herein called the “State”) contained in said Section 17 of the Act, in the ordinance, and the Act provides that upon payment for the bonds or notes by the original and all subsequent holders thereof the inclusion of such pledge and agreement shall be deemed conclusive evidence of valuable consideration received by the State and City for such pledge and agreement and of reliance upon such pledge and agreement by any holder and that any action by the State contrary to or inconsistent with the provisions of such pledge and agreement shall be void.

A complete copy of the Bond Ordinance summarized above shall be available for public inspection during normal business hours at the office of the City Clerk, 40 South Broadway, Yonkers, New York 10701.

DATED: June 13, 2024
Yonkers, New York

Westchester Pools and Beaches to Open This Weekend During Heat Wave



CROTON AND GLEN ISLAND BEACHES, AND SAXON WOODS AND SPRAIN RIDGE POOLS to Open -June 19-June 21

Due to the anticipated heatwave, two Westchester County Beaches and Pools will be open for residents to cool off.

Croton Point Beach in Croton-on-Hudson and Glen Island Beach in New Rochelle will be open from Wednesday, June 19 through Sunday, June 23, 11 a.m. to 6:30 p.m., and Saxon Woods Pool in White Plains and Sprain Ridge Pool in Yonkers will be open from Wednesday, June 19 through Friday, June 21, 1 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. Last entry for all facilities is 6 p.m.

Westchester County Executive George Latimer said, “Having the opportunity to stay cool during a heatwave is important and I thank the Westchester County Parks Department for being able to open up four facilities to help our community.”

Commissioner of the Westchester County Department of Parks, Recreation and Conservation, Kathy O’Connor said, “I’m so proud of my staff for coming together to open up and provide this necessary service to residents.”

Proof of Westchester County residency required at Saxon Woods Pool, Sprain Ride Pool and Glen Island Beach. Admission fees apply; parking fees apply at Croton Point and Glen Island Beaches.

LEGAL NOTICE

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Vincent E. Spano, City Clerk
City of Yonkers, New York

SPECIAL ORDINANCE NO.37-2024

BOND ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF YONKERS, NEW YORK AUTHORIZING FUNDING FOR VARIOUS CAPITAL PROJECTS INCLUDED IN THE CITY’S 2024-2025 CAPITAL BUDGET, AS AMENDED; STATING THE TOTAL ESTIMATED MAXIMUM COST THEREOF IS \$48,533,086; APPROPRIATING SAID AMOUNT THEREFOR; AND AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE OF BONDS OF SAID CITY IN THE PRINCIPAL AMOUNT OF NOT TO EXCEED \$48,533,086 TO FINANCE SAID APPROPRIATION

The bonds are authorized to finance various capital projects included in the City’s 2024-2025 Capital Budget, as amended.

The amount of obligations to be issued is \$48,533,086.

The periods of usefulness are various periods from 3 to 40 years.

Pursuant to the provisions of Section 17 of the Special Local Finance and Budget Act of the City of Yonkers, constituting Chapters 488 and 489 of the Laws of 1976 of the State of New York (herein called the “Act”), the City is authorized and directed to include the pledge and agreement of the State of New York (herein called the “State”) contained in said Section 17 of the Act, in the ordinance, and the Act provides that upon payment for the bonds or notes by the original and all subsequent holders thereof the inclusion of such pledge and agreement shall be deemed conclusive evidence of valuable consideration received by the State and City for such pledge and agreement and of reliance upon such pledge and agreement by any holder and that any action by the State contrary to or inconsistent with the provisions of such pledge and agreement shall be void.

A complete copy of the Bond Ordinance summarized above shall be available for public inspection during normal business hours at the office of the City Clerk, 40 South Broadway, Yonkers, New York 10701.

DATED: June 13, 2024 Yonkers, New York

State Senator Mayer Awards Students with Citizen and Youth Leadership Awards



State Senator Shelley B. Mayer awarded 30 students in the 37th Senate District with the 2024 Citizenship Award and 13 students with the Youth Leadership Award on Thursday, June 13 at Blind Brook High School. Senator Mayer’s Citizenship Award recognizes students who have made exemplary contributions through community service, extracurricular activities or daily actions to serve their schools or community. The NYS Senate Youth Leadership Award recognizes outstanding high school students for excellence in the classroom, athletics, and in extracurricular or community activities.

Senator Mayer led a roundtable discussion with the student recipients to showcase their activities and to learn more about each student’s work for their communities. The students were able to discuss the initiatives they pursued and the ideas they have. Senator Mayer then presented the students with certificates of achievement for their outstanding involvement in the community.

Senator Shelley B. Mayer said, “I am delighted to present the 2024 Citizenship Awards and Youth Leadership Awards to these remarkable students in my district. They have all done excellent work in the community, investing much of their time and energy into making Westchester a better place for us all. As Chair of the Senate Education Committee, I am inspired by their work and I appreciated learning their stories and hearing about their plans for the future. I would like to thank Principal Dr. Jennifer Chirles and Blind Brook High School for hosting this ceremony.”

Dr. Jennifer Chirles, Principal of Blind Brook High School, said, “I am continually impressed with this generation of students. The group of students selected this year truly stand out amongst their peers in the varying ways they lead and contribute to the school and broader community. Their contributions to their school, on the field, in the classroom, during extracurriculars, or in their communities are as varied as the students themselves. They were each nominated by their school, indicating that their contributions have been recognized by the adults around them and are seen as the citizens and leaders of the future. We congratulate them on this honor and thank Senator Mayer for recognizing our students.”

Students from Blind Brook High School, Byram Hills High School, Rye Neck High School, Scarsdale High School and White Plains High School were recognized with the Youth Leadership Award. Students from Bronxville High School, Blind Brook High School, Charles E. Gorton High School, Eastchester High School, Fox Lane High School, Harrison High School, Mamaroneck High School, New Rochelle High School, Port Chester High School, Rochambeau Alternative High School, Roosevelt High School, Rye High School, Rye Neck High School, Scarsdale High School, Tuckahoe High School, and White Plains High School were recognized with the Citizenship Award.

Each student was nominated by a teacher or school administrator.

DEMOCRAT SUSAN CACACE

for Westchester District Attorney

THE *right* EXPERIENCE

RATED 100% PRO-CHOICE GUN SENSE CANDIDATE

60+ ENDORSEMENTS AND GROWING

KEN JENKINS
Deputy County Executive

SHELLEY MAYER
NYS Senator

AMY PAULIN
Assembly Member

MIKE SPANO
Yonkers Mayor

Affiliated
Police Assoc. of
Westchester

West. Putnam
Building &
Construction Trades

Hispanic
Democrats of
Westchester

West. Putnam
Central Labor
Body AFL-CIO

See www.CacaceforDA.com for full list.

VOTE BY JUNE 25

DEMOCRATIC PRIMARY

PAID FOR BY CACACE FOR DA

Read it all Online at Yonkerstimes.com

Over 60 Electeds Call on Gov. Hochul to Stop Algonquin Pipeline Expansion



Rally against Gas Pipeline expansion, photo by Marilyn Ellie

At a rally on June 17, 69 state and local elected officials delivered a letter calling on Governor Hochul to take an early stance against Enbridge’s dangerous proposed fracked gas pipeline expansion, dubbed Project Maple, by committing to denying any upcoming permits for the project.

The proposal would significantly expand the amount of fracked gas transmitted through the Algonquin Pipeline, contrary to the intent of New York’s climate law which mandates greenhouse gas emissions reductions of at least 85 percent by 2050 and the state’s nation-leading ban on fossil fuels in new buildings, which will go into effect in 2026.

Last fall, at a rally outside the shuttered Indian Point nuclear site, feet from the Algonquin pipeline’s path, New Yorkers delivered a letter from more than 90 environmental groups urging elected officials to take a stand against the destructive project.

Food & Water Watch Senior New York Organizer Santosh Nandabalan said: “The clock is ticking to move New York off fossil fuels, and make good on our landmark climate law. Enbridge’s fracked gas expansion proposal will take us in the wrong direction. We are proud to stand with elected officials throughout New York in demanding Governor Hochul come out against this dangerous project. Hochul must commit to denying all state permits for Enbridge’s last ditch fossil fuel expansion.”

State Assemblywoman Dana Levenberg (95th District) said, “Why would we build infrastructure that will be obsolete before the end of its life? As renewable options become less expensive and easier to choose, more and more consumers are rejecting outdated dirty energy options. We need to have the courage to reject fossil fuel industry lies and say no to things like Project Maple. We have a state law, the Climate Leadership and Community Protection Act, that actually obligates us to do this. We cannot take this step backward; we must push forward with building our renewable energy future, where we will see lower costs and cleaner air and water.”

State Assemblymember MaryJane Shimsky (92nd District) said: “I join my government colleagues, environmental groups, and citizens throughout New York — and up the East Coast from New Jersey to Massachusetts — in opposing the proposed enlargement of the Algonquin Gas Transmission Line. This project would pose new risks to our environment and local communities, including those near Indian Point, and would put New York that much farther from meeting its climate goals. I urge Governor Hochul to protect the progress we have made in reducing our reliance on fossil fuels, and deny Enbridge the permits needed for any further expansion of the Algonquin pipeline.”

DEMOCRAT

GEORGE LATIMER

FOR CONGRESS

REAL RESULTS. NOT RHETORIC.




With 35 years of public service experience, serving in the Assembly, Senate, and as County Executive, **DEMOCRAT GEORGE LATIMER** has an unmatched track record of delivering real progressive results for all New Yorkers.

 PASSED	 PASSED	 PASSED	 PASSED	 PASSED	 PASSED	 PASSED
STATE ASSAULT WEAPONS BAN	CLINIC ACCESS LAW	MARRIAGE EQUALITY	UNIVERSAL GUN BACKGROUND CHECKS	AFFORDABLE HOUSING INVESTMENTS	CARBON REDUCTION REQUIREMENTS	INFRASTRUCTURE FUNDS TO IMPROVE FLOODING, ROADS, AND TRANSIT

Now George is running for Congress to protect our democracy from MAGA extremism, stand strong with Israel and the Ukraine, and deliver the results we need on stronger gun laws, reproductive rights, climate change, housing, and more.

ENDORSED BY

















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PAID FOR BY GEORGE LATIMER FOR CONGRESS

Pharmacist-Doctor-Oxycodone, continued from pg 4-

by a practitioner acting within the usual course of professional practice, NAZIRBAGE also repeatedly sold controlled substances to a customer without a prescription in what is commonly referred to as a “backdoor sale.” During one of those sales, NAZIRBAGE gave that customer a handwritten menu of various prescription drugs and their per-pill cost for future backdoor sales (pictured below):

BAR is a physician whose practice is located in New Rochelle, New York. From at least in or about January 2023 up to the date of the Complaint, BAR conspired with others to provide prescriptions not issued for a legitimate medical purpose for oxycodone, amphetamine, and alprazolam to patients in exchange for cash payments. BAR issued those prescriptions without conducting medical examinations of the patients and, in many cases, without even speaking to or meeting with the patients.

NAZIRBAGE, 50, of Bellerose, New York, is charged with one count of conspiring to illegally dispense or distribute oxycodone and other controlled substances, which carries a maximum sentence of 20 years in prison, and 11 counts of dispensing or distributing oxycodone and other controlled substances, each of which carries a maximum sentence of 20 years in prison.

BAR, 71, of Larchmont, New York, is charged with one count of conspiring to illegally dispense or distribute oxycodone and other controlled substances, which carries a maximum sentence of 20 years in prison, and 12 counts of dispensing or distributing oxycodone and other controlled substances, each of which carries a maximum sentence of 20 years in prison.

Mr. Williams praised the outstanding efforts of the DEA, HHS-OIG, the FBI, and IRS-CI. He also thanked the DEA Task Force Officers from the Yonkers Police Department, the Westchester County Police Department, the Putnam Sheriff Department, the Orangetown Police Department, and the Rockland Sheriff Department. He added that the investigation is ongoing. Any individuals who believe they have information that may be relevant to this investigation should contact DEA Victim/Witness Coordinator James Lee at James.H.Lee@dea.gov and/or by calling (646) 529-4042.

This effort is part of an Organized Crime Drug Enforcement Task Forces (“OCDETF”) operation. OCDETF identifies, disrupts, and dismantles the highest-level criminal organizations that threaten the United States using a prosecutor-led, intelligence-driven, multi-agency approach. Additional information about the OCDETF Program can be found at <https://www.justice.gov/OCDETF>.

LEGAL NOTICE

The ordinance, a summary of which is published herewith, has been adopted on June 11, 2024, and approved by the Mayor on June 11, 2024, and the validity of the obligations authorized by such ordinance may be hereafter contested only if such obligations were authorized for an object or purpose for which the CITY OF YONKERS, in the County of Westchester, New York, is not authorized to expend money or if the provisions of law which should have been complied with as of the date of publication of this Notice were not substantially complied with, and an action, suit or proceeding contesting such validity is commenced within twenty days after the publication of this Notice, or such obligations were authorized in violation of the provisions of the constitution.

Vincent E. Spano
City Clerk
City of Yonkers, New York

SPECIAL ORDINANCE NO.29 - 2024

BOND ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF YONKERS, NEW YORK, AUTHORIZING THE PAYMENT OF VARIOUS TAX CERTIORARI JUDGMENTS, COMPROMISED CLAIMS AND SETTLED CLAIMS APPROVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL DURING FISCAL YEAR 2024-2025, STATING THE ESTIMATED MAXIMUM COST THEREOF IS \$15,000,000, APPROPRIATING SAID AMOUNT THEREFOR, AND AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE OF BONDS OF SAID CITY IN THE PRINCIPAL AMOUNT OF NOT TO EXCEED \$15,000,000 TO FINANCE SAID APPROPRIATION.

The bonds are authorized to finance various tax certiorari judgments, compromised claims and settled claims against the City.

The period of probable usefulness is a minimum five (5) years and maximum twenty (20) years, dependent on the total amount of tax certiorari claims paid in a single fiscal year.

The amount of obligations to be issued is \$15,000,000.

A complete copy of the Bond Ordinance summarized above shall be available for public inspection during normal business hours at the office of the Clerk of the City at City Hall, in Yonkers, New York.

DATED: June 13, 2024
Yonkers, New York

Chef Peter Kelly Unveils Prix Fixe Dinner at Apropos



Chef Peter Kelly, above, has designed a two-course summer prix fixe dinner at Apropos restaurant.

The special menu starts with a choice of appetizers that include wild mushroom cappuccino with porcini foam and black pepper biscotti; a salad of red and yellow watermelon with feta cheese, kaffir lime oil, tiny greens, and toasted cumin; or mini duck tacos with cucumber, scallions, and hoisin sauce.

The three entrée options are roasted Chatham cod with lemon capers, curried couscous, and green and yellow squash; roasted Hudson Valley chicken, parmigiano polenta, chicken jus and spring vegetables; or baked eggplant stuffed with basil ricotta, San Marzano tomatoes and fresh mozzarella.

The prix fixe dinner option is available Sunday through Thursday, and the cost is \$39.95 per person.

Kelly, whose restaurants in the Hudson Valley include X2O in Yonkers, is best known for his interpretation of contemporary American cuisine that has earned accolades on national television and in the hospitality sector.

Apropos has undergone a dining room revitalization, an expanded wine selection and an elevated menu presenting local ingredients that are prepared with European techniques and Asian embellishments.

Apropos is in the Abbey Inn & Spa, 900 Fort Hill Road, Peekskill. Reservations can be made at 914-739-3546.

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

Siegel Accuses Town Board of Violating Open Meetings Law



Susan Siegel

Susan Siegel, candidate for the open seat on the Yorktown Town Board and a long time community advocate, again accused the Town Board of violating the New York State Open Meetings Law when it apparently discussed spending taxpayer money behind closed doors in executive session meetings.

In two separate resolutions, the Board voted Tuesday to spend \$1 million without any prior open session discussion. “The issue isn’t what the money is being spent on,” Siegel said. “The issue is that decisions to spend taxpayer money must be discussed in an open session meeting. It’s the law.”

A regular attendee at Town Board meetings, Siegel pointed out that once a resolution authorizing an expenditure is on the Board’s agenda, it typically means the Board has already discussed the expenditure and decided to approve it. “That’s not how it’s supposed to be,” she said.

The first resolution was for \$478,000 to purchase body cameras for the Police Department and was based on a discussion dating back to 2021. No decision to move forward with the purchase was made at that time. The second resolution for \$539,000 modified the initial, and estimated, amount of money the town will contribute towards the improvements to the Route 118/Underhill Avenue intersection that are part of the Underhill Farm development.

Siegel also expressed concern over the Board’s continued failure to discuss how the remaining federal ARPA money will be spent. “There doesn’t seem to be a carefully thought out plan, at least not one that has been shared with residents,” she said. “Instead, spending authorizations simply show up on the agenda and typically there’s no discussion. It appears that the Board is making piecemeal decisions without any coherent plan.”

A third expenditure, this one for only \$13,000, appeared to also be based on closed door executive session discussions. The resolution authorizing the expenditure simply stated that it was to update a 2018 Hallocks Mill report without saying why the update was needed.

However, in response to Siegel’s question, Supervisor Lachterman had the town engineer explain that the 2018 report needed to be updated because the town was applying for a new grant for the long-delayed sewer extension project. But instead of the grant being for the 315 houses in the

original sewer district, the town was now planning to sewer 650 houses and so it needed new cost information.

”When did the Board discuss this changed plan for Hallocks Mill sewers?” Siegel asked. “Do Board members have any idea if the remaining 335 unsewered residents actually want to be sewered?”

Siegel pledged that if the voters put her on the Town Board in the July special election, she’ll be their independent advocate for open and transparent town government.

This is not the first time Siegel has accused Town Boards of violating the Open Meetings Law.

In 2017, Siegel took the town to court over a closed door executive session that discussed creating a new staff position. In a conference setting, the judge advised the town attorney that because the creation of a new position would increase expenses and had tax implications it needed to be discussed in open session.

Stewart-Cousins honored, continued from pg

“New York is blessed with abundant natural resources and environmental diversity. Protecting and preserving these precious resources is paramount for the well-being of current and future generations,” Sen. Stewart-Cousins said. “I am deeply honored to be recognized by Scenic Hudson, an organization which has shown unwavering dedication to maintaining New York’s natural beauty and environment. I extend my heartfelt congratulations to my fellow honorees, whose efforts and commitment inspire us all to strive for a more sustainable future.”

Senator Stewart-Cousins was honored alongside other distinguished women leaders in environmental policy: Lucy Rockefeller Waletzky, M.D., former NY State Parks Commission Chair; Yvonne Flowers, Mayor of Poughkeepsie; Shaniqua Bowden, Director of Cultural Engagement and Sustainable Living for the Kingston Land Trust; and Kathy Lawrence, founding Board Chair of the Greater Newburgh Parks Conservancy.

Sojourner Truth, a renowned African-American abolitionist and women’s rights activist born into slavery in New York in the late 1700s, gained her freedom in 1827 and became known for her powerful anti-slavery speeches and unwavering dedication to social justice. Scenic Hudson said Saturday’s honorees embody Sojourner Truth’s passion, fearlessness, and leadership in their work, exemplifying the values of justice and service while advancing environmental sustainability.

sick and tired of getting flat tires when they take local roads to buy their groceries at the supermarket. These same people don’t buy Bowman’s pathetic rationale that he knew the bill had enough votes to pass, wanted more dollars in a bill that would address more needs and that’s why he voted against the bill.

Bowman’s fire alarm stunt is nothing to laugh about. My friends out of this country know what he did. All of his constituents were embarrassed by his antics, and the slap on the wrist he got, well he might as well not have received any punishment. People could have panicked and lives could have been lost. The videotape showed he was lying, And I want to remind you that Mr. Bowman was a High School Principal. He knows the seriousness of the stunt he performed. I am sure that if one of his students pulled a fire alarm they would have receive an extensive suspension or expulsion.

He waffles everyday on his positions on Israel and the Middle East. There are many more people with far more extensive qualifications than your columnist who have weighed in on his foreign policy flaws.

You would find each of the Congresspersons I mentioned earlier at events in their Congressional District. The loud cry from his constituents? Where is our Congressman? Oh wait a minute, there he is on MSNBC. No sneakers and shorts on MSNBC. But add to that attire a polo shirt and you have what he wore to church dinner several weeks ago.

All I can say is that people in NY 16 want a Congressman who will make them proud and represent them with dignity. Someone who is visible in the district and has staff that will help them when they have to deal with the bureaucracy that is the Federal Government.

George Latimer won’t embarrass us in Washington, D.C., the world and right here at home. He will embrace our ideas and truly be a vital force in Congress. The people in NY 16 deserve nothing less and nothing but the best!

For District Attorney it’s a No Brainer: Susan Cacace

Full disclosure. I knew Judge Susan Cacace’s grandmother, long time leader in the WESTCHESTER Democratic Party. We were District Leaders in the same Ward in Yonkers, and I would often drive her home from political club meetings. I knew her dad and know her brothers.

Years ago Judicial Candidates in WESTCHESTER would run for their first election only on the Democrat and some minor party lines. If they won they would often run for a second term or the remainder of their term on all political party lines. This handshake ‘deal’ existed for many years until Democratic enrollment increased and Democrats were as they are now able to get elected almost exclusively on the Democratic line.

For her opponents to say that Judge Cacace ran on the Republican and Conservative lines years ago and represents the values of those parties shows their unfamiliarity with the history of the Judiciary in WESTCHESTER. Judge Cacace served on the WESTCHESTER Judiciary for a distinguished 20 year period. She did her job, and I never heard negative comments about her performance.

She will prosecute without the fanfare of a Jeanine Pirro. She will make an excellent District Attorney for Westchester County.

Campaign Signs Littering our Roadways

Political signs are ok on private property, not ok on public property. The candidates, including Judicial candidates know the laws. They break them. Yonkers Mayor Mike Spano must establish a task force after the election. Political signs lessen the value of homes in an area and are pollution. Put up whatever sign you want on your property, but not on property that is in the public domain! Impose the hefty fines outlined in the City Charter and candidates and their supporters won’t break the laws!

Reach Eric Schoen at thistooisonkers@aol.com, or friend him on Facebook Eric Schoen...just look for him in the picture with Joan Rivers!

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Wagstaff, continued from pg 1-

"In my opinion, this disqualifies him from getting my vote," said Tom Meier, Chair of the Yonkers Democratic Committee. "The question for voters is whether to put him in charge of the DA's office in Westchester when he has no experience as a prosecutor and that he has a criminal record.

"And it is my understanding that the crimes he committed were at his father's gas station. He frauded the people who were customers at his father's business. This is not a victimless crime and he has shown no remorse for it.

"In fact he is wearing the crime he committed as a badge of honor and a reason for voters to elect him DA, and hasn't shown any remorse for what he did. While I believe in second chances, if you are running for chief law enforcement officer for Westchester County, District Attorney's need to be held to the highest standards.

"When you combine this with the fact that he didn't pay his taxes, it all adds to a lack of character. I want someone impeccable leading the office of DA, and someone who abides by the laws, and who sat as a judge and who worked in the DA's office. That person is Susan Cacace.

"Everyone has to be held accountable to the law, including our former President. It doesn't motivate democrats in Yonkers to vote for him," said Meier.

A Sound Shore Democratic leader said, "To say that you should be elected DA based on the fact that you stole credit cards from your father's customers is nonsense. That's doesn't quality you."

"My concern is that you did this and then 20 years later you didn't pay your taxes and you made up a nonsensical excuse. If you were making \$375,000 per year from the City of Mount Vernon as a special prosecutor, and you had a lot of other income, but you couldn't pay your taxes? It's the age old question-if you can handle your personal finances, why should we trust you to manage the Office of District Attorney?"

"Wagstaff acknowledges that he has no experience as a prosecutor but will "reimagine" the job. But given your past, are you really ready and qualified to be our DA?"

Others have wondered if Wagstaff would pass a background check to be a law enforcement officer. "Mr. Wagstaff seeks to become the chief law enforcement officer in Westchester County. But the reality is that because of his past conduct it is highly unlikely that he could pass the background check to get hired as a probationary police officer. This, combined with the fact that he has no experience whatsoever as a prosecutor, should tell voters that he is unfit and unprepared to be our next District Attorney," writes former Yonkers PBA President Keith Olson.

Eastchester Democratic Chair John Filiberti said, "As a democratic chair, I'm very concerned about the quality of candidates that carry our banner in November. The republicans would have a field day running against him if he is our candidate in November, Susan Cacace has four times the experience than Wagstaff, and we need to remind people that he has virtually no criminal court experience. This should not be a competitive race in my opinion. She is by far the best qualified to become district attorney."

Wagstaff was charged in Federal Court with Fraud because one or more of the banks that were frauded by Wagstaff's illegal activities contacted the FBI. Or the crime, or fraudulent activity, must involve interstate or foreign commerce. Why was Wagstaff placed under house arrest when he was charged with probation? Local attorneys say that he may have been placed under house arrest before his final conviction, or that his house arrest was part of his probation sentence.

We confirmed with the Cacace campaign that the candidate has not been convicted of a crime.

Westchester District Attorney Mimi Rocah, who is not running for reelection and has endorsed Cacace said, "Susan Cacace's extensive experience as both a prosecutor and a judge makes her an outstanding choice for District Attorney. She has a deep commitment to justice, and I am confident she will continue to advance the crucial work we have undertaken over the past four years to modernize the District Attorney's Office. Susan is the clear choice to lead the office, and build on a record of public safety and fairness."

Wagstaff was hired as a part-time Special Prosecutor by Mount Vernon Mayor Shawyn Patterson-Howard, who is one of Wagstaff's biggest supporters.

The Journal News was the first to report that Wagstaff did not pay his income taxes six years until he began to run for District Attorney. A total of \$189,112 was overdue including \$112,712 for 2020.

The Wagstaff campaign claimed that the candidate was waiting for future lawsuit settlements to come in to pay his past due taxes, but that excuse made no sense to most democrats. And Wagstaff didn't share his tax troubles to the Westchester Democratic Executive Committee.

Some question how Wagstaff got involved in a credit card scheme when he was in his early 20's. "This type of crime doesn't happen by accident and hit tax troubles point to a continued pattern. I would listen to the people who are raising red flags. They know his record, and they have concerns," said one democrat.

Mirza, DA's Race, continued from pg 2-

by Mirza's campaign were negative attacks against Cacace. And Mirza's final comment in his statement was, "What we can not have is a District Attorney who has run on the Republican and a Conservative Party lines – we need a Democrat who has always been staunchly pro-choice and supports common sense gun legislation. William Wagstaff will be a District Attorney we can be proud of, and I am asking all my supporters to vote for him."

Some Westchester democrats questioned the rationale for attacking Cacace, the only woman in the race, who is seeking to replace Mimi Rocah. "I think Adeel wanted to get back into the DA's office. But the way he went about it, sending out mailings attacking Cacace, without introducing himself to voters, resulted in dismal poll numbers that had him behind Wagstaff and Cacace."

Recent polling in the race had both Mirza and Wagstaff far behind Cacace, with a large segment of Westchester democrats undecided. The reason? The Bowman-Latimer race for Congress was sucking all of the oxygen out of the DA's race.

Polling in Bowman-Latimer had very few voters undecided. They have made their minds up and are already voting early. But in the DA's race, almost half of democrats have yet to make up their mind.

Now polling will have to be conducted with just two DA democratic candidates to choose from: William Wagstaff and Susan Cacace.

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WEEKEND EVENTS IN WESTCHESTER COUNTY PARKS

SATURDAY, JUNE 22

Croton Point Park, Croton-on-Hudson: (914) 862-5290. Small Group Birding, 7 a.m. - 10 a.m. Reservations are required at SawMillRiverAudubon.org.

Croton Point Park, Croton-on-Hudson: (914) 862-5290. Saturday Morning Hike, 9 a.m. - 11 a.m. Join the village historian and the park naturalist to stretch your legs and learn about the nature and history of Croton Point. Meet at the entrance to the RV Park. Ages 6 and up; moderate difficulty; wear sturdy shoes.

Lasdon Park and Arboretum, Katonah: (914) 864-7268. Lasdon Green Squad, 10 a.m. - 2 p.m. Every Saturday through November. Get details and register at <https://www.lasdonpark.org/event/lasdon-green-squad/2024-06-22/>

Lasdon Park and Arboretum, Katonah: (914) 864-7268. Patterns In Nature Exhibition, 10 a.m. - 4 p.m. Explore the mesmerizing tapestry of patterns that can be found everywhere in this interactive exhibit and flower show. Saturdays through Sundays until August 31. Get details and tickets at <https://www.lasdonpark.org/store/patterns-in-nature-exhibit/>

Glen Island Park, New Rochelle: (914) 813-6720. Beach Is Open, 11 a.m. - 6:30 p.m. The beach will be open on weekends through Sunday, June 23, and then daily from Friday, June 28 through Monday, Sept. 2; weather permitting; no admittance after 6 p.m.; parking and beach admission fees apply. Westchester County residency is required for admission, with a County Park Pass, a valid NYS driver's license or a valid NYS ID with a Westchester County address. Get details at <https://parks.westchestergov.com/pools-and-beaches>

Croton Point Park, Croton-on-Hudson: (914) 862-5290

Beach Is Open, 11 a.m. - 6:30 p.m. The beach will be open weekends through Sunday, June 24, and then Thursdays through Sundays until Monday, Sept. 2; weather permitting; no admittance after 6 p.m.; parking and beach admission fees apply. Westchester residency is not required. Get details at <https://parks.westchestergov.com/pools-and-beaches>

Croton Point Park, Croton-on-Hudson: (914) 862-5290. DJ Day, 12 p.m. - 4 p.m. Come for a swim and enjoy music at the beach! Participation is free; admission and parking fees apply; weather permitting. Get details at <https://parks.westchestergov.com/family-fun-days>

Hilltop Hanover Farm and Environmental Center, Yorktown Heights: (914) 862-5050 Plant ID Class: Invasive Species Walk, 1 p.m. - 3 p.m.

Get details at <https://hilltophanoverfarm.org/events/event/2024/06/22/plant-id-class-invasive-species-walk/472723>

SUNDAY, JUNE 23

Alfred B. DelBello Muscote Farm, Somers: (914) 864-7282

Farmers Market, 9:30 a.m. - 2:30 p.m. Our market, which supports farmers and sustainable efforts in our area, features more than 25 local vendors every Sunday until Nov. 17. Get details at <https://www.muscotefarm.org/markets/farmers-market-information.html>

Lasdon Park and Arboretum, Katonah: (914) 864-7268

Gardening Sundays, 10 a.m. - 12 p.m. Get details and register at <https://www.lasdonpark.org/event/gardening-sundays/2024-06-23/>

The Bronx River Parkway, Bicycle Sundays, 10 a.m. - 1:45 p.m. A portion of the parkway is closed to cars for the exclusive use of non-motorized bicyclists and scooters, as well as in-line skaters, walkers and joggers. Runs through July and resumes Sept. through Oct. 6. Get details at <https://www.thewpf.org/events/uat2xxrqxb9rr27qs0f7v961nhmc1-yrpk5-a4g45-3t9xr-w5ja6-37rw7-pk4n7-2f8nk-f4c5c-8w89a-7nwnm-szc32-6sknj-fkmpn>

Glen Island Park, New Rochelle: (914) 813-6720. DJ Day, 12 p.m. - 4 p.m. Come for a swim and enjoy music at the beach! Proof of Westchester County is residency required. Participation is free; admission and parking fees apply; weather permitting. Get details <https://parks.westchestergov.com/family-fun-days>

Kensico Dam Plaza, Valhalla: (914) 231-4033 African-American Heritage Festival. 12 p.m. - 6 p.m. Admission and parking are free. Get details at <https://parks.westchestergov.com/press-releases/3327-the-45th-annual-polish-heritage-festival-to-kick-off-2024-cultural-heritage-celebrations>

AOC, Bowman, continued from pg

I-

number of undecided voters left in the upcoming Bowman-Latimer democratic primary on June 25.

The focus for the Bowman campaign may now be to get out its base of supporters, who are members of the Working Families Party, Westchester Progressives, Indivisible Westchester, Jews for Jamaal and Protect Our Power. So, it has brought in two of the democratic party's most progressive members and recognizable faces; AOC and Senator Bernie Sanders.

Sanders will come to Hastings on Hudson for a rally for Bowman on June 21 from 4-530pm at MacEachron Park, 44 W Main St, Hastings-on-Hudson, NY 10706

And on June 22, Sanders and AOC will rally with Bowman in the Bronx, from 11am-2pm, at St. Mary's Park, 450 St. Ann's Ave, Bronx, NY 10455.

The political calculation in the Bowman campaign is that if they can motivate their voters they can still win. Younger voters are also a target for Bowman's campaign in the final days. According to City & State, Bowman (<https://www.cityandstateny.com/politics/2024/06/jamaal-bowman-has-given-changing-minds-turnout-his-only-hope/397406/?oref=csny-homepage-top-story>) told a crowd of supporters to "quit your jobs" and help the campaign in the final week. Bowman told the group his predictions for the primary.

I-Record voter turnout in the first days of early voting and on election day.

II -"It's going to get into the evening, and we're going to be watching the news, and at about 10:30 p.m., some news anchor is going to say, 'I have seen enough. Congressman Jamaal Bowman has won his primary in spite of AIPAC spending the most amount of money ever. I'm not going to lose.'"

AOC wrote, "As we speak, AIPAC and corporate lobby interests are pouring tens of millions of dollars to unseat @jamaalbowmanny and stoke cynicism in our own district in to tear apart working people and the movement from the inside. Why? Because we are some of the only members of Congress to stand up for the dignity of Palestinians, demand a ceasefire, and not accept a single dime from special interests and corporate lobbies - from Wall Street banks to defense contractors. We will not let them win. In order to prevail, we must put out a call to all who care for progress and believe in taking action to advance and protect change. We will be rallying next Saturday alongside @berniesanders, @jamaalbowmanny, labor and social movement leaders, and more to turn out canvassers, votes, and organizing from NYC to Westchester County."

Latimer's supporters include Hillary Clinton, whose recent endorsement included, "With Trump on the ballot, we need strong, principled Democrats in Congress more than ever. In Congress, George Latimer will protect abortion rights, stand up to the NRA, and fight for President Biden's agenda—just like he's always done. Make a plan to vote by June 25th!"

Another criticism of Bowman and his congressional staff is that they never return calls or perform constituent services. Greenburgh Supervisor Paul Feiner said, "I deal with thousands of complaints a year and do it personally, and I reach out to every elected official," said Paul Feiner, the town supervisor of Greenburgh. "I practically never get a response from his office."

Total spending on the race has now reached \$22 Million, which includes \$7 Million for Bowman.

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ANIMAL DEFENDERS OF WESTCHESTER

ENDORSE LATIMER FOR CONGRESS

Animal Defenders of Westchester (ADOW) is proud to endorse George Latimer for Congress.

Mr Latimer has worked hard to cut taxes and fight for civil rights and racial equality. As a state representative, Latimer passed an assault weapons ban and universal background checks, sponsored legislation on housing, invested hundreds of millions in our communities and infrastructure plus rebuilding our roads and bridges and the community's decades-neglected Memorial Field, making it 'the Jewel of Mt. Vernon.' He created thousands of new units of affordable housing, and made the County Bus system free during the summers and holidays. Latimer has taken executive action to lower property taxes, strengthen healthcare, worked to protect reproductive rights for women, and for marriage equality.

But despite his busy schedule meeting the needs of his constituents, he always found a moment to help the most profoundly voiceless residents as well.

Most notably, Latimer introduced a bill curtailing the blatantly pro-slaughter actions of the NYSDEC - a unfair, wildly discriminatory 'environmental' agency established almost 100 years ago, staffed solely with hunters by law, specifically barring non-hunters - creating a biased pro-slaughter agenda.

Instead, Latimer's bill, called the Right to Know bill, calls for prior notice to the public before DEC wildlife slaughters, public meetings, and providing information on humane alternatives. Latimer also was a leading voice for clean waterways, stopping animal-user circuses and facilitating adoptions from animal shelters.

Sadly, Rep. Bowman chose to ignore our simple request for his position on humane treatment for animals. We just weren't important enough for him to respond - even though in 2024 worldwide governments are now addressing the issue of decent treatment for sentient, intelligent beings who are horribly mistreated due to greed, ignorance and apathy; they realize animals have the same pain-producing nervous system as us, they love their babies as we love ours. Great leaders don't only respond to special interest groups and favored causes. Great leaders stand up to all injustice - even to the most helpless, least powerful residents, even the ones who can't vote. But we can vote for them.

Animal advocates are everywhere, in every country on earth. We are changing the world.

We lobby government officials, we run for office, we are game changers and policy makers; we've passed state laws: We are a force to be reckoned with. This is not a new effort; creating humane legislation began centuries ago.

We have heroes speaking for animals: "We must fight against the spirit of unconscious cruelty with which we treat the animals. Animals suffer as much as we do. True humanity does not allow us to impose such sufferings on them."

~Albert Schweitzer

"Heaven is by favor; if it were by merit your dog would go in and you would stay out." ~ Mark Twain

"Never be afraid to do what's right, especially if the wellbeing of a person or animal is at stake." ~ Dr. Martin Luther King

"We cannot have peace among men whose hearts find delight in killing any living creature. By every act that glorifies or even tolerates such moronic delight in killing, we set back the progress of humanity." ~ Rachel Carson

Those of us who help animals frequently help 'people' causes; we have compassion for suffering no matter who is the recipient. A caring heart is a caring heart - it does not discriminate.

Intelligent politicians help all unfortunate inhabitants - not just the ones who can vote for them. Politicians need to understand that we are an enduring movement and a voting bloc. Change takes time: It took women almost 100 yrs to get the vote in this country...but the right course is in front of us.

For Rep. Bowman, or any persons seeking public office, we suggest that if someone asks you a humane question - or any reasonable question - you should answer; it's what great leaders do. There's a Biblical phrase about not forgetting to "acknowledge strangers, for thereby some have entertained angels unawares." It's just a matter of showing people respect.

George Latimer has served this state honorably as a champion for its quality of life. He works hard to make this a welcoming, decent place for all its residents - even the littlest. In addition to the multitude of endorsements he's already received, we humbly and heartfully add our own.

Kiley Blackman, Founder, Animal Defenders of Westchester
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Letter to the Editor: My 34 years in**Larchmont and the Bowman Latimer race**

Next month will mark the 34th anniversary of our move to Larchmont. It was a part of the conditioning that many of us are impacted by consciously and subliminally to have a better life in this country by moving to suburbia. Larchmont at that time was a racially homogeneous community and it to a great extent it still is 34 years later. I grew up in public housing like Congressman Jamal Bowman. I was raised in Wagner houses in East Harlem, Congressman Bowman was raised in the East River Houses in lower Manhattan. People should keep in mind that Congressman Bowman and myself have lineages that from the racist history of this country, especially when it comes to housing, relegated his family and my parents to live in housing projects. Where all of the racist and vile definitions are sanctioned and promoted by 'white America'. There are whites who have grown up in housing projects in this country but there is a more of a class definition that will define them hierarchically. When Black and brown people live in the same milieu the subhuman and evil definitions will be applied to them by white America. These categorizations impact on the mores of the very people who live in these housing projects that produces some of the very behavior that lends legitimacy to the racism that produced these environments in the first place. Self-hatred in these communities continues to this day that lies directly in the hands of white America with their nefarious erasing of the histories of black and brown people. So those reading this should understand congressman Bowman and I have gone through alot more to get to the point that we both are today than our white counterparts especially those that live in suburbia. That is not "victimization" that is racial reality and as Malcolm X said "a by product of the American Social order".

When we moved here my lawyer, who represented us in our real estate transaction, she was Irish said "You sure you are going to be happy living here?". Then I met someone that i had gone to high school with in coop city who was Jewish, who was living in the coop in Larchmont that we were looking to move to, who said when I apprised him of our move, "You sure you are looking to do this?". At the time I did not think much of the two same exact questions that my lawyer and fellow Truman high school mate were asking. As time went on living in Larchmont I saw exactly what they both were talking about. The same year that I moved here I started to do my martial arts training, that I would do for the next 30 years. When practicing in "turtle park" in Larchmont I was stopped and accosted four times in less than three weeks by the Larchmont police. In each case I was just doing my Kata's, shadow boxing, dressed in work out fatigues. In one case the Larchmont police officer had his gun out asking me what I was doing? I realized that all of these incidences were instances of racial profiling that were precipitated by the people living in the community more than the police themselves.

I wrote a scathing letter to the Chief of the Larchmont Police at that time and he met me at my home and we spoke for an hour and a half and I knew from that conversation as well as the racial profiling that racism was a major part of the village of Larchmont. I begin to see "white entitlement" and a pseudo air of superiority from my white fellow Larchmonters that was almost suffocating. Also a level of "Archie Bunker" ignorance and racism in many of my conversations with people in the community. The "liberal Larchmont" label was a canard as I begin to understand and certainly see today. This level of racism was particularly present in the attitudes of doctors and lawyers here. The very people who are looked as pillars of the community in suburbia. This aspect of Larchmont as well as what I have seen in the surrounding communities of Scarsdale, Rye, Harrison and Briar Cliff helped to not only confirm what my lawyer and high school mate had said but propelled my social activism that has led me to contribute to this publication and others here in Westchester County for the past 28 years.

This level of racism impacted me because as the years went by and people in this community as well as the town of Mamaroneck who know me and my journalism told me about a local website called "Lynda Larch", and said that I was being attacked on this site because of journalistic contributions. I saw some of the comments from people in Larchmont on this site and they were some of the most racist and offensive comments about people of color. In particular these people would make disparaging comments about black and Latino people living in the housing project next door on fifth avenue. The people on fifth are the same people who work at the local stop and shop and shop rite making sure that people in Larchmont have their food shelved in these stores, as well as working for the local sanitation department ensuring that their garbage is picked up. They also work at the local schools making sure the children of Larchmont are supported in their development.

This kind of mentality has led to the groundswell of support for George Latimer in his efforts to unseat two term incumbent Jamal Bowman especially here in Larchmont. The Latimer signs that say "results not rhetoric" on many lawns here in Larchmont are not just about Latimer's prior years of service. This is about Jamal Bowman's stance on condemning the slaughter of Palestinian men, women and children daily. Everyday Palestinian children are having their limbs amputated as a result of the bombing of their homes, mosques, schools and areas that supposedly they would be safe. These people are literally starving, and the emaciated bodies of Palestinian children that the world is seeing daily makes me sick to my stomach. This is not a civilized society or village that supports this kind of barbarism. Jamal Bowman is obviously categorically against this but has said " Hamas is a terrorist group and that we should fight for a two state solution where Israelis and Palestinians will be safe and we have satisfied the objective which is peace ". Latimer has ignored what I just delineated about what has happened to Palestinians and contorted what Bowman has said about the ultimate objective which is peace.

When Latimer says "that the killing of Palestinians is a direct result of Hamas and they are the cause" is like saying in the case of the Tulsa Oklahoma Massacre of 1921, and all of the other thousands of cases of white mob violence, that a black man allegedly attacks a white woman and therefore in the case of Tulsa it gave whites the right to burn every black business available and slaughter hundreds of black people over three days. The difference between Tulsa and Palestine is that there was no attack on a white woman and the pathological white violence was unprovoked. In Palestine the tragedy and massacre of October 7th by no stretch of the imagination justifies the killing of more than 40,000 Palestinian men, women and children and the injury and mutilation of more than 70,000 others. Latimer seems not to understand that! This publication, along with Latimer, has distorted Bowman's record. These are the facts, besides his position on Palestine that he called for peace right after October 7th he has brought 1 billion dollars to the Bronx, Larchmont, Scarsdale, Mamaroneck, Rye funding the hiring of new teachers, violence prevention which is the number 1 healthcare crisis in this nation, affordable housing as well as green house jobs. He is also against bringing another casino to Westchester because he understands the human cost financially to people and the high suicide rate attached to gambling. Latimer supports casino gambling because of the economic windfall and once again ignoring the human costs that it will bring. The difference Bowman and Latimer is that Bowman is not a corporate big money lackey that Latimer is, he also is resigned to the fact that he may lose this race being on the right side of history going against the evil in Palestine. He is no different in this respect than Shirley Chisholm or Thaddeus Stevens and Charles Sumner. These three individuals are all congressional heroes that are all role models to us all. Black and Brown people in this district need to get out the vote. They are a key part to a Bowman victory besides "Jews for peace" and "Jews for Bowman". If my Jewish Brothers and Sisters in those organizations can come out and support Jamal Bowman then so can my black and Latino brother and sisters who live in my district. -Cliff Jackson Larchmont

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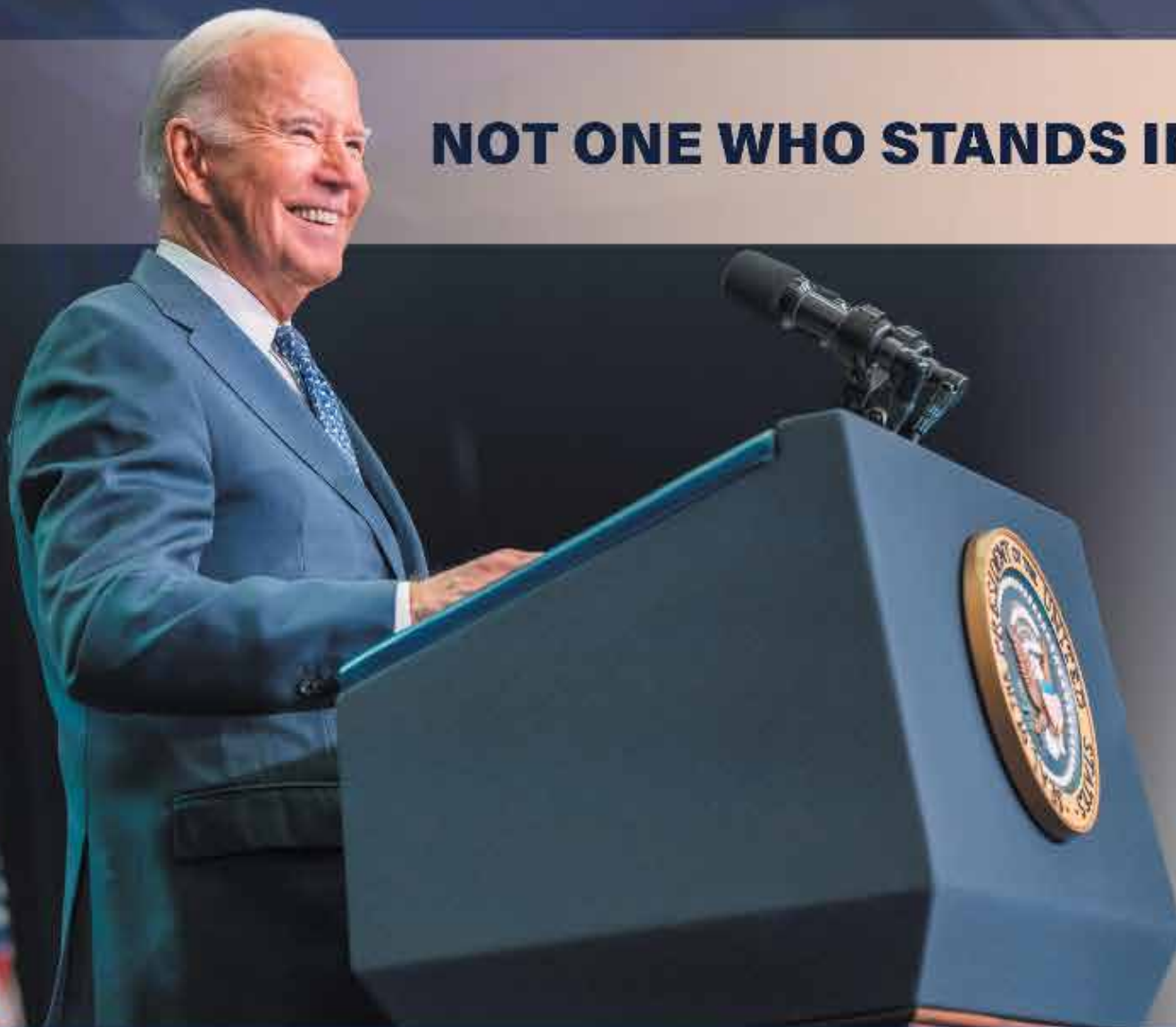
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Now more than ever, we need a Democrat who **STANDS WITH JOE BIDEN.**

NOT ONE WHO STANDS IN HIS WAY.



Despite the upcoming election, **Jamaal Bowman** has insulted the President and tried to block his agenda.



**GEORGE
LATIMER**

Results Over Rhetoric

- ✓ A progressive Democrat who gets results for us, will work everyday to represent the people.
- ✓ Will work and support President Biden's agenda to get things done.
- ✓ Will work to find common ground to solve our nation's problems.
- ✓ Will make us proud that he is our Congressman and will work to restore civility in politics.



**JAMAAL
BOWMAN**

Extremely Wrong for Us

- ✗ Represents a far-left movement, is a **self-described "radical"** with the endorsement of the Democratic Socialists of America.¹
- ✗ **Voted NO on many of President Biden's accomplishments**, like critical infrastructure funding for our district.²
- ✗ **A polarizing politician** whose rhetoric only fuels our country's divisions.³
- ✗ **Has embarrassed us**, from pulling a fire alarm in Congress to promoting conspiracy theories about 9/11.⁴

Vote NO on Jamaal Bowman on June 25

CHECK THE FACTS:

1. New York Post, 5/29/24; NPR, 6/17/21; 2. Spectrum News, 11/09/2; 3. Spectrum News, 6/04/24; The New York Times, 12/06/23; 4. NPR, 10/01/23; The Guardian, 1/31/24.