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Friday March 11, 2022

Is Westchester Ready for It's First Chick-Fil-A?



Published reports have the popular Chick-Fil-A chain of restaurants finally making their entry into Westchester County, with a proposal to open the chicken stoe on Central Park Avenue in Yonkers. The location is said to be a 2205 Central Park Avenue, the former location of an HSBC bank.

The location is a good one for any fast food type of restaurant, because of all the drivers an activity along Yonkers commercial and retail stretch of properties. And Chick-Fil-A has become so popular that it might increase buyers and shoppers to the area.

Efforts to allow Chick-Fil-A to occupy some of the food locations along the New York State Thruway which are under renovation were objected to by some state legislators because of the companies policies towards the LGBTQ+ community. "We are requesting that you re-examine the list of approved concessions for these rest spots considering Chick-fil-A's action against the LGBTQ+ community," said a number of democratic state senators and assemblymembers.

The \$1.5 Million project is currently making its way through the building and zoning board process and approval before eventually coming before the City Council for final approval.

All Chick-Fil-A restaurants are closed on Sunday, which originated with the founder, Truett Cathy, closing all of his locations because of his Christian faith. The opinion on whether this helps or hurts business is mixed, with some believing that being closed on a day when most are off from work adds to the desirability to get something that you can't have all the time. Other's believe that it makes bad business sense to close any retail chain of store on Sunday.

Currently, the closest Chick-Fil-A locations near Westchester are in Manhattan, or in Danbury, Ct. Opposition to Chick-Fil-A has come from LGBTQ organizations who led a national boycott of the chain in 2017. Several donations by the company to Chrisitan groups that support traditional marriage have been called into question. But despite some opposition, Chick-fil-A has continued to grow in recent years, with 2,700 locations in 47 states, Washington, D.C., and Canada.

The delays in opening a Westchester location clearly had something to do with the founder's views. But now, those who love the chicken are hoping that Chick Fil A will open a location at the Jefferson Valley Mall.

Ossining HS Girls Basketball Player Subjected to Racial Slur During Game in Poughkeepsie



By Dan Murphy

The Ossining High School Girls Varsity Basketball program is the 'Gold Standard' of programs in Westchester and in New York State. Under the leadership of Coach Dan Ricci, the Ossining Girls Basketball program has won 5 AA State Championships in the past nine years, including four in a row; 2013,2014,2015,2016, 2019.

So, for anyone to insult any player on the best girls basketball program in our area is an insult to all of us in Westchester, and those of us who love to watch basketball played the right way and at its best, which is what Coach Ricci delivers year in and year out.

During a recent game in Poughkeepsie, a fan from Our Lady of Lourdes basketbol team shouted out a racial slur at Ossining Junior Isabella Florez as she was taking a free throw. This was a Section 1 playoff game, and not a joke for anyone playing and for the friends and family at the game.

Her mother, Daisy Florez, was at the game and recording it on her cell phone when she heard the word. The word came from the student section of the Lourdes grandstand.

"When you're a parent, the first thing you want to do is record your kids in action. And then everybody heard it," said Mrs. Florez. "It's bad enough seeing others go through something like this and it really hurts when something like that is directed at you. This is not acceptable. Nobody should have to go through something like this. Isabella has been setting an example. In our culture, you don't see a lot of Hispanic girls playing sports because they don't feel comfortable in that space and this will only discourage them."

Her husband and Isabella's father William Florez was also at the game, and along with other Ossining parents confronted the Lourdes staff at the game, and said, "They were denying it happened. Instead, they were looking to justify the behavior, saying the kids sometimes yell out the names of different foods to distract shooters. I mean, even if that was true ... I think even a fifth-grader knows better."

After the game Catherine Merryman, the President of Our Lady of Lourdes, issued a statment, "Our Lady of Lourdes High School teaches young women and

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Westchester Republicans Split on Who Should Run Against Hochul for Governor; Zeldin Wins Convention, But Westchester residents Astorino & Wilson Still in the Race



GOP candidates for Governor from Westchester, L-R, Rob Astorino and Harry Wilson

By Dan Murphy

Will there be a Red Wave of Republican support across Westchester County, and New York State this November, as residents and voters cast their votes against bail reform, soaring gas prices and inflation?

Two Westchester residents are hoping that the answer is yes and that they will be on the top of the republican ticket as the GOP nominees for Governor. Former Westchester County Executive Rob Astorino, and businessman Harry Wilson are two of four republicans out collecting signatures to compete in a GOP primary in June.

Long Island Congressman Lee Zeldin won the GOP convention held on March 1, and was selected by 85% of the delegates to be the party's nominee for Governor. But two days after the GOP convention, a Zogby/Unite NY poll found that Astorino would do best against Governor Kathy Hochul in a one on one matchup this November.

The poll has Hochul with a 49%-35% lead over Astorino, (+14), a 50%-35% lead over Congressman Lee Zeldin, a 50%-34% lead over Harry Wilson, and a 52%-33% lead over Andrew Guiliani.

"Rob Astorino is the only Republican candidate for governor holding Kathy Hochul under the important 50% mark in the latest Zogby Poll. And unlike two other GOP candidates in the race, Rob hasn't even started running TV ads yet," writes Astorino campaign manager Phil Oliva, in an email to supporters.

"This poll is bad news for Hochul. A Marist poll eight years ago to the day had Rob down 40 points to Cuomo. Rob ended up closing that gap by nearly 27 points. He only needs to close a 14-point gap this time and the political winds are certainly with us. For further perspective, George Pataki was trailing Mario Cuomo by 12 points in a Zogby poll from Spring of 1994 and we all know how that election turned out."

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Regeneron to Invest \$1.4 Billion in Tarrytown Campus Expansion



By Dan Murphy

In what is one of the largest development projects to come before the Westchester County Industrial Development Agency, the IDA Board on February 25 voted preliminary approval of financial incentives for Phase 2 of Regeneron's major expansion of its Tarrytown campus. The 724,000-square-foot project represents a total investment by Regeneron of \$1.39 billion resulting in the creation of at least 700 new full-time jobs and nearly 800 construction jobs.

"Today's historic vote by the IDA is an important affirmation of Westchester County's ongoing commitment to economic development and job creation. The financial incentives to be provided to Regeneron by the IDA will result in tremendous economic dividends for our County with hundreds of new construction jobs as well as hundreds of new well-paying jobs in the booming life sciences industry," said Westchester County Executive George Latimer.

"The Westchester IDA applauds Regeneron for its continued investment in our County's economy with this major expansion of its Tarrytown campus. Today's significant vote is yet another example of how the IDA is working to promote economic development in Westchester by creating, attracting and retaining jobs," said IDA Chair Joan McDonald.

The new facility would house multiple new R&D laboratories, administrative buildings, and amenities supporting the company's important work of turning groundbreaking science into much needed medicines. The project would encompass the design, construction and fit-out of up to eight buildings, three parking garages, and a central utility plant. The project, which has received approval from the Town of Greenburgh Planning Department, would begin between April and June of this year, and is expected to be completed by the end of 2027.

According to an economic impact report prepared for the IDA by Camoin Associates, construction of the project will result in 789 jobs during the construction phase, generating \$100 million in total earnings. It is estimated that approximately 70% of these new earnings will be spent within Westchester County and 25% of that spending will generate sales tax revenue for the County. A cost benefit analysis shows that Regeneron's project will generate a return of approximately \$1.62 of

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State Police Arrest 19 Year Old Somers Man Who Threw a Brick Through Somers Barracks Window



NY State Police from Somers arrested Anthony M. Cacace, or Somers, with Criminal Mischief in the 2nd Degree, a Class D Felony. Cacace was arrested on Feb. 28, for the incident which occurred on Feb. 24.

At the time of the incident State Police believed that the suspect threw the brick through the window and then escaped on ATV. The resulting pursuit involved a helicopter through some of the wooded areas in Somers, but were unsuccessful. No word on how troopers came to find and arrest Cacace.

State Police might have looked to see the locations of ATV owners in the Somers area. Or perhaps a Good Samaritan came forward to turn in Cacace.

We had hoped that our reporting would result in an arrest made, and we are glad that this young man will have to face a judge for his actions, which luckily, did not hurt a state police officer. The taxpayers will have to pay for the window replacement, but the situation could have been worse if a visitor to the barracks were injured.

Anyone with information on this incident should contact the NYS Police Somers at 914-234-9292.

In another State Police matter in Somers, on March 1, 2022, the New York State Police in conjunction with the Westchester County Department of Probation arrested Vincenzo Fidanza, age 40, of Somers, for what one person called "A Pharmacy of Illegal Drugs in his home."

Fidanza was charged with two counts of Criminal Possession of a Controlled Substance in the 2nd degree, a class A-II felony, two counts of Criminal Possession of a Controlled Substance in the 3rd degree, a class B felony, Criminal Possession of a Controlled Substance in the 4th degree, a class C felony, two counts of Criminal Possession of a Controlled Substance in the 5th degree, Criminal Possession of Cannabis in the 1st degree, all class D felonies, Criminal Possession of Cannabis in the 3rd degree, and Criminal Possession of a Weapon, both class A misdemeanors.

Subsequent to an investigation with the Westchester County Department of Probation, Vincenzo Fidanza was found to possess approximately 21.5 lbs. of marijuana, 2.7 lbs. of Psilocybin mushrooms, 246.9 grams of THC oil, 101 grams of marijuana wax, 1516.2 grams of amphetamines, 552.2 grams of alprazolam, 2.4 grams of cocaine, and 11 grams of oxycodone. Fidanza also possessed one Romarm SA/CUGIR AK-47, one Eagle Arms Eagle-15, and one 12-gauge Mossberg shotgun in violation of his terms of probation.

Fidanza was arraigned before the Honorable Judge McDermott of the town of Somers Court and remanded to the Westchester County Jail without bail.

Yonkers Assemblyman Introduces "Stop Russian Aggression Act"



Yonkers Assemblyman Nader Sayegh, right, Congressman Jamaal Bowman left, and State Senator Elijah Reichlin-Melnick, at podium

At a news conference at the Ukrainian Youth Center in Yonkers, New York State Senator Elijah Reichlin-Melnick (D-Rockland/Westchester) and Yonkers Assemblyman Nader Sayegh urged support of legislation they have introduced known as the "Stop Russian Aggression Act."

"In response to Russian President Vladimir Putin's invasion of Ukraine, the legislation I sponsor in the Assembly will block the awarding of New York State contracts to any company conducting business in Russia. Further, the legislation instructs the New York State Comptroller to begin the process of divesting the state retirement system pension fund from any investment in companies that do business in Russia," said Sayegh.

Senator Reichlin-Melnick said Russia's unprovoked and illegal invasion of Ukraine demands the strongest possible response. New York State does not invest in or support companies that do business in North Korea or Iran, and Vladimir Putin's reckless actions have now put Russia in the company of these rogue nations.

Already fellow Assembly members are stepping up to Co-Sponsor the Stop Russian Aggression Act, and at the news conference my Senate colleague Senator Shelley Mayer predicted the legislation will be passed.

Congressman Jamaal Bowman attended the news conference to voice his support for the State legislation and provided an update on action underway in Congress. He added, "We have to stop Vladimir Putin at all costs and one of the first steps to stopping Putin is to choke off their economy."

Sayegh thanked the Ukrainian Youth Center for hosting us and the SUMA Federal Credit Union for their technical support. "The Russian invasion of Ukraine has quickly turned into a humanitarian crisis as over 1 million people have fled their country while untold thousands are living in subway tunnels to avoid missile strikes and artillery shelling.

For anyone looking for a credible organization or location to drop off donations or make a contribution, here are a few from the Yonkers Ukrainian community.

- Ukrainian American Youth Center, 301 Palisades Avenue, Yonkers, NY 10703. 914-476-6781. Items Needed: Children's clothing, Diapers all sizes, Baby products including: toys, cups, lotion, clothing, & over the counter medication
- Monetary donations can also be dropped off in person at SUMA (Yonkers) Federal Credit Union, 125 Corporate Boulevard, Yonkers, NY 10701 (Checks made payable to UCCA). For more information, contact Jaroslaw Palylyk, President of the local Ukrainian Congress Committee of America at palylykj@gmail.com.
- * Afya Foundation, 140 Saw Mill River Road, Yonkers, NY 10701. 914-920-5081. afyafoundation.org/. This charitable non-profit, delivers supplies to suffering people all over the world, and they are good at it.

Last weekend, 286 volunteers came out to the Afya warehouse in Yonkers to help us sort and prep materials for #Ukraine. Volunteers included nurses from New York State Nurses Association, volunteers with UJA-Federation of New York and Friends of Pound Ridge, and Matt Hennessy of the Atlanta Falcons. Volunteers sorted more than 24,000 pounds of medical supplies!

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Latimer, Westchester County Mark Two Year Anniversary of First COVID Case; 2,687 Deaths



To commemorate the two-year anniversary of Westchester County's first confirmed coronavirus case, a ceremony was held March 3 in the lobby of the Michaelian Office Building, one of two locations for the County's "Ribbons of Remembrance" memorial, with another location at Lenoir Preserve in Yonkers. The Ribbons of Remembrance memorial in both locations, is a place to attach ribbons in memory of loved ones lost to COVID-19. To date, the County has lost 2,687 lives to the virus.

County Executive George Latimer said, in the past two years, Westchester residents have rallied together but are still in many ways grieving and healing, "What today is about is remembering those we have lost not as merely an integer or statistic, but as human beings and the valued members of our community that they were. The past two years have been filled with low points and dark days but we must push on and we must believe that we will beat back this pandemic with vaccinations and smart choices."

The event started at 2p.m. with an interfaith prayer service led by Reverend Tim Dalton, Rabbi Howard Goldsmith and Imam Shaffieq Chace. Music was provided by the White Plains High School String Ensemble.

Deputy County Executive Ken Jenkins said: "March 3 is a day may of us would like to forget, but it is a day we must all remember. It was at that point that we, as a society, changed – but we live to tell the tale. While we have had incredible loss, we have also seen our incredible strength and devotion to one another. Each one of the lives lost will never be forgotten."

Westchester County Board Chairwoman Catherine Borgia said: "We hope and pray that the darkest days of the COVID-19 pandemic are behind us. We look forward to a new life of celebrating milestones face to face, not over Zoom; learning, working, and having fun again together in the flesh. But we know we are forever changed — and that's especially true for those of us who lost loved ones to this deadly scourge. Today, and every day, we remember them. We offer our strength to those left with a hole in their lives and pain in their hearts. We also have seen the cracks COVID exposed in society, cracks we must work to repair. We commit ourselves to continuing vigilance against future variants, to helping families and businesses recover, to supporting those still suffering with long COVID, and to providing mental health support especially for our children. The pandemic has reminded us that the journey from darkness to light is one we bear best when we make it together."

Reverend Tim Dalton said: "We remember them today with faith. We give thanks for them with hope that we will be reunited. And we honor them with our love and life."

Rabbi Howard Goldsmith said: "It is an honor to participate in this important moment of memory for our county. While things are safer now than they have ever been, we are still losing dear members of our community to this awful disease. Jewish tradition reminds us that protecting life is our first obligation as children of God. As we begin to live life more normally, we must always balance our freedoms with our obligation to keep others in our community safe."

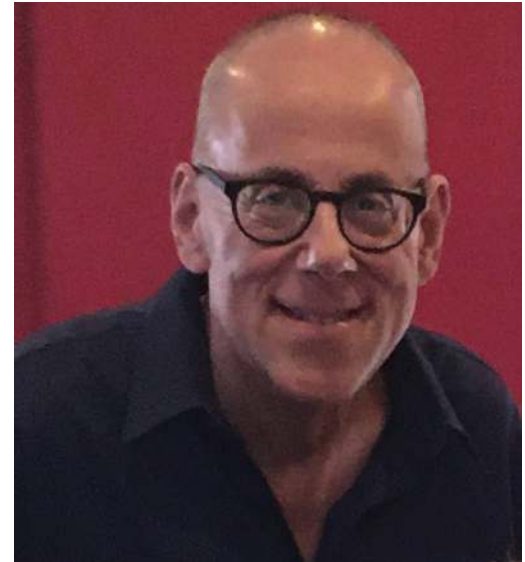
Imam Shaffieq Chace said: "The lesson we all should learn from this virus is just how the world came together and unite to fight it by coming up with a vaccine in a timeframe that was impossible to accomplish before. This morning it was announced on channel 12 news that if you test positive at your pharmacy you will be able to get the antiviral medication to treat you right there free of charge. What an accomplishment! It shows when UNITED what we can accomplish. If we unite in this way not only in science but in our politics, in our faith and in other ways we can stop so many other viruses like inequality, racism, poverty and even what's happening in Eastern Europe and elsewhere."

Westchester County Health Commissioner Dr. Sherlita Amler "March 3 is a difficult day as we remember the thousands of people we have lost to this devastating disease. Two years later, we have learned first-hand just how important vaccinations and boosters are to preventing severe disease, hospitalization and death. This anniversary should serve as a reminder to everyone to take their health seriously. Every life is precious, and we do not want to see one more family suffer a loss to COVID-19."

Washington, Rochambeau and the Grand Reconnaissance

The Grand Reconnaissance was the joint French American military operation in Westchester County and the Bronx, in July 1781. It is an overlooked moment in the history of the American Revolution, but it was a pivotal moment for the fate of the young United States. From their joint encampment in Greenburgh, the French and Americans troops moved to southern Westchester and spent three days surveying the British strength in upper Manhattan to determine if a successful attack there was possible. It soon became clear that it was not, and the allies made the fateful decision to march together to Yorktown, Virginia, where they were victorious, and the British General Lord Cornwallis surrendered to them. Without this Reconnaissance, U.S. history could have had a much different outcome. Dr. Iris de Rode, author and lecturer, will share her findings on the Grand Reconnaissance, based on a report of one of its participants, the Major General Chastellux (1734-1788).

It's a Crazy World We Live In



By Eric W. Schoen

Where do I start. Crazy weather, 70+ degrees on Monday. On Tuesday as we go to press, the winds are blowing and the temperature is in the 40's. Snow predicted for later in the week. These temperature changes are no fun for many of us with bad backs. Should we blame it on Global Warning. Or is it simply March coming in like a lion and going out (hopefully) like a lamb?

Gas prices hit a record \$4.17 a gallon. Maybe in Arkansas but not around these parts. The United States cutting off imports of fuel from Russia? Didn't I hear Trump and Biden and the Democrats and Republicans who served as President before them state we were not relying on foreign oil? The end of Covid restrictions have more people going back to the office with sticker shock when they fill up their gas tanks.

How many more Senators and Congressman are going to call on the United States government to lift the gas tax and open up our petroleum reserves. Whenever gas prices go up we here these cries from Congress. Does it ever happen? Or are our leaders in Washington just saying this stuff to make us feel good!

Russia. What they are doing to the poor Ukrainians is terrible. But when will we learn that you can't trust the leaders of Russia, whether it be Putin or his predecessors. Russia wants world dominance. They will always want world dominance.

You come to Yonkers and so many of the Barber Shops owned by Italian men have been taken over by Russians, many of them Jewish. They are smart. They know the government of Russia is always up to its old tricks, and they escape to the United States of America.

Nothing is more representative of our country than baseball. The players in 2022 make more money than Babe Ruth and Hank Aaron. They get better benefits, have better working conditions, gorgeous new ball parks quite often subsidized with taxpayer, yes that means our money. They are not playing at the Polo Grounds. They get treated like kings and if you want an autograph kid you better be ready to pay for it!

With all the money players and the team owners make, as we come out of a pandemic where we all need things in our lives to make us happy like a nice summer day at the ballpark, buy me some peanuts and Cracker Jacks, the players and owners can't come to a financial agreement to make both sides happy? Both sides should be ashamed of themselves.

And you know when they come to an agreement all it will mean is higher prices to go to the ballgame. Higher prices to park your car. Higher prices for peanuts and Cracker Jacks and dirty water hot dogs sold by the man coming up and down the aisles of the stadium! I hope they go back to 9 inning games for double headers. Even though to make money expect fewer double headers on the schedule or separate admission ones!

The pandemic is over or at least we are at the point where we are learning to live with it like the flu or a common cold. Look how quickly Queen Elizabeth, 95 years old overcame Covid and stood side by side with the Canadian Prime Minister. And can you please explain to me why people at a big park like Tibbetts are wearing masks outdoors?

If you want to wear a mask it is your right to wear one and no one whether it be a government official in Florida or a person at a store that says masks are optional should shame you because you are doing what you want to do. The ability to select whether or not you want to wear a mask. Isn't that what people like the Governor of Florida have been preaching all through the pandemic?

New York's former Governor on a comeback tour? Spending the millions he has in campaign funds to try to prove to us that he is a knight in shining armor! Going to a church to preach not for forgiveness but to boost his own ego. Thank god the Attorney General of New York State promptly put this man with loose hands and an ego bigger than our former President in his place.

As of this weekend there will be no print edition of the local paper the Journal News. So what will all those people who want to read the local obituaries (one of the main reasons why people read the paper) or the news 2 days old do? How about the municipalities that designate an official daily newspaper for legal notices. And legal notices from a variety of sources that must be in print.

I think that's enough craziness for this week. Now onto some positive things. Yonkers is the Happiest City New York City in the Country!

According to an online publication called Wallethub, Yonkers ranks as the happiest city in New York State and 44th Happiest City in the Nation. I'll tell you why!

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REVOLUTIONARY WESTCHESTER 250 PRESENTS

Washington, Rochambeau and the Grand Reconnaissance

JULY 21-23, 1781

The Grand Reconnaissance was the joint French American military operation in Westchester County and the Bronx, in July 1781. It is an overlooked moment in the history of the American Revolution, but it was a pivotal moment for the fate of the young United States.

From their joint encampment in Greenburgh, French and American troops moved to southern Westchester and spent three days surveying the British strength in upper Manhattan to determine if a successful attack there was possible. It soon became clear that it was not, and the allies made the fateful decision to march together to Yorktown, Virginia, where they were victorious, and the British General Lord Cornwallis surrendered to them. Without this Reconnaissance, U.S. history could have had a much different outcome.

Dr. Iris de Rode, author and lecturer, earned her doctoral degree in France in 2019 and has done extensive research on the French participation in the American Revolution, based on unpublished French sources. During her lecture, she will share her findings on the Grand Reconnaissance, based on a report of one of its participants, the Major General Chastellux (1734-1788).

Forum Participants: Dr. Erik Weisberg, Nick Dembowksi, Constance Kehoe

March 16, 2022, 4:00 - 6:00 p.m.
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201 Seminary Ave., Yonkers, N.Y.

See the information in the email to attend in-person or watch on Zoom

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This concert is free and open to the public

Done in cooperation with Mayor Mike Spano and the Yonkers Department of Parks, Recreation and Conservation. Funding is received from Arts Westchester with support from Westchester County Government, The City of Yonkers, Andrea Stewart Cousins, Senator Shelley Mayer, Assemblyman Nader Sayegh, the Ira Goldman Memorial Fund, and our loyal arts patrons.

Rye Doctor Used COVID Funds for "Greed and Not Need"



Dr. Ameet Goyal

8 Year Prison sentence, and total payment of \$9 Million due; Funds used for county club and winery

On Feb. 3, US Attorney for the SDNY Damian Williams announced that Dr. Ameet Goyal was sentenced to 96 months in prison for orchestrating a seven-year healthcare fraud scheme by falsely billing for millions of dollars of upcoded procedures. Dr. Goyal was also sentenced for fraudulently obtaining two Government-guaranteed loans intended to help small businesses during the COVID-19 pandemic while he was facing charges on pretrial release for the healthcare fraud scheme.

In imposing the sentence today, U.S. District Judge Cathy Seibel noted, "Fraud doesn't fully capture how blatant this was and how unjustified this was... This was not about need, it was about greed." GOYAL previously pled guilty to all charges in a six-count superseding Indictment before Judge Seibel on September 13, 2021.

In addition to the prison term, GOYAL was sentenced today to five years of supervised release, and ordered to pay forfeiture of \$3.6 million and restitution of \$3.6 million. GOYAL has already paid approximately \$1.79 million toward these obligations.

U.S. Attorney Damian Williams said: "A prominent ophthalmologist and oculoplastic surgeon who has now surrendered his medical license, AMEET GOYAL was blinded by greed. Over a seven-year period, he preyed on the trust placed in him and cheated patients and insurance companies of \$3.6 million in false charges. To cover his tracks, he created fictitious operative reports, seeded across hundreds of patient files, violating the integrity of patients' medical records and making it more difficult for subsequent doctors to evaluate their care.

"He sent patients who could not pay the upcoded bills to a collection agency, decimating their credit. He pressured other doctors to join the scheme and threatened to retaliate against their livelihood and careers. Even after being arrested for this scheme, GOYAL committed a breathtaking new fraud and stole \$637,200 from the Paycheck Protection Program in the early days of a devastating pandemic. For his crimes, GOYAL will serve a substantial sentence in prison."

According to the allegations contained in the Indictment, court filings, and statements made during court proceedings:

At all relevant times, GOYAL owned and operated the ophthalmology practice Ameet Goyal M.D. P.C., doing business as Rye Eye Associates, with offices in Rye, Mt. Kisco, and Wappingers Falls, New York, and Greenwich, Connecticut (the "Practice"). Between 2010 and 2017, GOYAL engaged in widespread healthcare fraud by consistently "upcoding" simpler, lower-paying surgical procedures and examinations as complex, higher-paying major operations in fraudulent billings submitted to Medicare, private insurance companies, and patients. As a result, GOYAL fraudulently obtained at least \$3.6 million in payments for procedures he did not perform. GOYAL failed to obtain proper and, at times, any consent for the upcoded procedures he falsely claimed to have performed. As part of the scheme, GOYAL routinely falsified patient medical records, authoring fictitious templated operative reports that matched the complex operation he billed rather than the different minor procedure he actually performed. GOYAL also pressured other employees in his Practice to engage in the scheme, and threatened the livelihood of employees who refused to comply. GOYAL caused patients to pay thousands of dollars out of pocket for fraudulently billed charges, and initiated debt collection proceedings against patients who did not pay the full amounts of those false charges. As a result of his fraudulent billings, GOYAL was the highest-billing doctor in the tri-state area for several of his fraudulently billed codes, one of which he billed seven times more frequently than all doctors in the tri-state area combined. GOYAL was indicted for the healthcare fraud charges in November 2019 and was released on bail.

In or about April 2020, GOYAL applied to the SBA and Bank-1, a federally insured institution, for over \$630,000 in Government-guaranteed loans through the PPP, SBA's Paycheck Protection Program. Specifically, on or about April 21, 2020, GOYAL applied for a loan in the amount of \$358,700 for the business "Ameet Goyal," with his own social security number and e-mail address. On or about April 29, 2020, GOYAL applied for a second loan in the amount of \$278,500, with a business name "Rye eye associates," using the Employer Identification Number for Ameet Goyal, M.D. P.C and a different email address controlled by GOYAL. To substantiate each loan, however, GOYAL submitted the exact same underlying payroll expense report, showing the same employees and payroll costs.

On both applications, GOYAL falsely answered that he was not facing any pending criminal charges, and electronically placed his initials "AG" directly under his "No" response. GOYAL also falsely certified, among other things, that his business would not receive another PPP loan until the end of the year. After obtaining approval from Bank-1 and the SBA through his fraudulent misrepresentations, GOYAL executed loan notes for two loans. On May 4, 2020, GOYAL received the first loan of \$358,700, and on May 11, 2021, GOYAL received the second loan of \$278,500. GOYAL used the business checking account into which these funds were deposited to pay business and personal expenses, including by making a payment to a country club in Westchester, New York within days of receiving the first loan, as well as payments to a California vineyard and golf merchandise website.

Harcckham Announces Re-Election Campaign for State Senate: Slater Announces Assembly Run



State Senator Peter Harckham, left and Yorktown Supervisor Matt Slater

State Senator Peter Harckham announced his reelection campaign at the end of February, in the newly formed 42nd Senate District, having served previously in the 40th Senate District.

"The last two years have been incredibly difficult for all of us. But I am proud to say that my team and I have been with you every step of the way. We helped thousands of families get unemployment benefits; we held 11 food drives, four blood drives and a winter coat drive; and we distributed thousands of masks and test kits to our under-served communities. Also, we passed record increases in education funding and held taxes down. During the pandemic, we funded small businesses while helping tenants and homeowners behind on payments. And I delivered over \$1.6 million to our local first responders for public safety upgrades. Many of my legislative accomplishments include passing landmark legislation to expand Pre-K, address the opioid crisis, fight climate change and protect our fragile drinking water supplies. I am proud to say today that I am running for another term as your New York State Senator. If we have learned anything over the last two years, it is this: if we work together, we can accomplish great things to make New York fairer, safer and more affordable," said Sen. Harckham in his announcement.

Harckham has served four years in the State Senate, defeating former State Senator Terrence Murphy and former County Executive Rob Astorino. Harckham also has the endorsement of the Working Families Party.

On March 5, Yorktown Supervisor Matt Slater announced his intention to seek the Republican and Conservative Party endorsements for the 94th Assembly District, and in an early move, the Affiliated Police Associations of Westchester (APA) have endorsed his candidacy. The APA represents more than 50 law enforcement organizations from Westchester County and more than 5,000 law enforcement officers.

"One party leadership in Albany caused the disastrous repeal of cash bail in New York State, high energy prices and partisan attacks on parental control over our schools and local zoning," said Supervisor Slater. "I'm proud of my work to protect taxpayers, create smart economic growth and improve our quality of life. In the State Assembly, I will fight for hardworking families in Putnam and Westchester counties to keep them safe, combat runaway inflation and make our communities a better place to live."

As Yorktown Supervisor, Slater has cut \$4 million in spending, reduced the size of town government and enacted the first property tax cut in 25 years. To grow the local economy and ease the burden on residential property taxpayers by expanding the commercial tax base,

Keith Olson, President of the Affiliated Police Associations of Westchester as well as the Yonkers PBA said, "Matt Slater has always stood with the men and women of law enforcement. The APA knows he will go to Albany to put an end to the reckless bail reforms that have kept dangerous repeat criminals on our streets and have made our communities and state less safe. Matt Slater is the only candidate for the 94th Assembly we support because he is the law and order candidate who will be a strong voice for our members and our communities."

"Anyone who has been paying attention knows the laws passed by the state legislature fail to keep our families and police officers safe," Slater said. "I am unapologetic of my support for our law enforcement officers and first responders which is why I will introduce legislation that stops localities from defunding their police departments."

NewYork-Presbyterian to Create New Ambulatory Care Facility in White Plains

NewYork-Presbyterian announced today that it will establish a state-of-the-art, multi-specialty ambulatory care facility in White Plains, bringing an even broader range of its ambulatory, primary and preventive care services to the communities of Westchester County.

Featuring care from ColumbiaDoctors clinical teams, this new facility will give patients convenient access to increasingly in-demand specialties for adults and children, all close to home. The facility will be located in the former WestPark office complex, recently purchased by NewYork-Presbyterian, which is situated on a 25-acre campus at 1111-1129 Westchester Avenue in White Plains.

NewYork-Presbyterian plans to offer a wide range of outpatient services in the new facility, which is expected to house centers of excellence in areas ranging from women's health to cancer care and neuroscience, wellness services and resources, and facilities including imaging, endoscopy suites, exam and diagnostic rooms, and ambulatory procedure rooms.

"NewYork-Presbyterian is proud to be expanding access to our world-class care across Westchester," said Dr. Steven J. Corwin, president and CEO of NewYork-Presbyterian. "We understand the importance of having high-quality, comprehensive health care services available close to where you live and work. We look forward to continuing to provide the best care to our patients and neighbors in Westchester."

The new White Plains facility will build upon the exceptional health services currently offered by NewYork-Presbyterian in Westchester. NewYork-Presbyterian operates three hospitals in the county – NewYork-Presbyterian Lawrence Hospital, NewYork-Presbyterian Hudson Valley Hospital and the NewYork-Presbyterian Westchester Behavioral Health Center – and partners with a broad network of ColumbiaDoctors medical group practices throughout the area.

For more information, visit www.nyp.org.

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Yorktown Celebrates the 2022 Maple-Sugaring Season with March Activities



Yorktown will highlight its rich and continuing agricultural legacy throughout March as it joins with White Oak Farm, Furci's restaurant, the Yorktown Grange, and others to celebrate maple sugaring season with fresh maple syrup and food/drink specials.

On two special Maple Weekends—March 19-20 and March 26-27—White Oak Farm will offer tours of the sugarhouse, boiling and tapping demonstrations, a maple history movie in its sugarhouse theater, sugarbush walks, samples and tastings, local vendors selling their organic food products, as well as a store featuring a full line of maple products.

“Yorktown has Westchester County's only maple syrup producer, which gives our residents and visitors an opportunity to enjoy a truly local product,” said Supervisor Matt Slater. “White Oak Farm's sustainably produced product helps to preserve open space while providing jobs and economic activity in Yorktown.”

White Oak Farm will be open weekends from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. White Oak Farm is located at 680 Croton Lake Road (Route 129) in Yorktown Heights and it produces about 800 gallons of maple syrup in an average year. It takes 60-80 gallons of maple sap to produce a gallon of maple syrup.

“We are the southernmost commercial maple producer in New York State, operating a state-of-the-art sugarhouse offering all maple grades and container sizes,” said White Oak Farm owner Bri Hart.

Throughout March, Furci's restaurant will offer special dishes that incorporate maple syrup. Furci's offerings include maple-syrup-dipped shrimp and scallops wrapped in bacon; maple-syrup marinated pork tenderloin; and a maple crumb cake.

“The maple specials will showcase our talented cooks,” said Furci's owner Carmine Furci. “These specials should also remind everyone to support local farms.”

On both Maple Weekends, the Yorktown Grange Hall at 99 Moseman Road will host a pancake breakfast with seating at 9 a.m. and 10:30 a.m. Tickets cost \$20 and \$10 for children 3-12 years old.

New York is the nation's second-largest producer of maple syrup after Vermont, supplying about 19% of the national total production. In 2021, New York produced 647,000 gallons of maple syrup.

Late February and March are the maple-sap harvest period in New York, when sap flows from sugar maples.

The ideal weather conditions for sap collection are daytime temperatures around 40 degrees Fahrenheit and nighttime temperatures below freezing. Sustained warm temperatures provide an environment for a rapid release of sap by trees.

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

Notice of formation of Will On Wheels Transport Services LLC Articles of Organization filed with the SSNY Office on 02/18/2022 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 : C/O Will on Wheels Transport Services LLC, 519 Locust Street 1B Mount Vernon, NY 10552 Purpose: Any lawful purpose.

Notice of formation of Aiyana's Creations LLC. Arts. of Org. filed with the SSNY on 12/20/2021. Office: Westchester County. United States Corporation Agents Inc., 7014 13th Avenue, Suite 202, Brooklyn, NY, 11228 designated as agent of the LLC upon whom process against it may be served. US Corporation Agents Inc shall mail copy of process to the LLC, 127 Ramsey Avenue, Yonkers, NY 10701. Purpose: Any lawful activity.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that a license, Number 1339572, for Beer, Liquor, Wine & Cider has been applied for by the undersigned to sell Beer, Liquor, Wine & Cider at retail in a Restaurant under the Alcoholic Beverage Control Law at 188 Waverly Street, Yonkers, NY 10701, NY, Westchester County, for on-premises consumption. JESMYR CORP. d/b/a EL CALVARIO COCINA MEXICANA

Notice of formation of JGS Notary Services LLC Articles of Organization filed with the SSNY Office on 10/28/21 Office Location: Westchester County. SSNY has been designated as agent of the LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail a copy of process to : C/O JGS Notary Services LLC , 588 Warburton Apt 2 Yonkers, NY 10701 Purpose: Any lawful purpose.

Notice of formation of LOREDANA VICARI PHOTOGRAPHY LLC Articles of Organization filed with the SSNY Office on 10/6/21 Office Location: Westchester County. SSNY has been designated as agent of the LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail a copy of process to : C/O LOREDANA VICARI PHOTOGRAPHY LLC , 125 Dunwoodie Street Yonkers, NY 10704 Purpose: Any lawful purpose.

Notice is hereby given that a license , # pending has been applied for by Dazzles Restaurant & Lounge, Inc to sell liquor at retail in a restaurant under the Alcoholic Beverage Control Law at 130 132 S. 4th Ave. Mt Vernon NY for on premises consumption.

Notice of Formation of HSKickz Company LLC. Articles of Organization filed with Secretary of State of New York (SSNY) on 12/09/2021. Office location: Westchester County. SSNY is designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: 3 Bainton Street, Yonkers, New York 10704. Purpose: any lawful act or activity.

Notice of Formation of BARK BARK BROTHAS LLC. Articles of Organization filed with the Secretary of State (SSNY) on 02/09/2022. Office location: Westchester County. SSNY has been designated as agent of the LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail copy of process to the LLC, 50 Riverdale Avenue, 2H, Yonkers, NY 10701. Purpose: Any lawful activity.

Notice of formation of Molcan Management LLC. Arts. of Org. filed with the SSNY on 11/9/2021. Office: Westchester County. SSNY designated as agent of the LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail copy of process to the LLC, 34 Wickes Ave Yonkers, NY 10701. Purpose: Any lawful activity.

2022 Saint Patrick's Day Parades in Westchester

March 12, White Plains, 12 noon. The parade will begin on Mamaroneck Avenue. Parade's Grand Marshal James Houlihan. whiteplainsaintpatricks-day.com.

March 13, Eastchester, 3pm. Starts at Immaculate Conception Church, Tuckahoe. Grand Marshal of the parade is Timothy C. McGrath. eastchesterirish.org/st-patrick-s-day-parade.

March 13-Mahopac, 2pm. Route 6. Grand Marhsal Ed “Eddie” McDowell. facebook.com/NWP.St.PatricksDayParade.

March 13-Sleepy-Hollow/Tarrytown, 1:30 p.m, Route 9, Main Street Tarrytown.

March 17-NYC-5th Avenue, 12 noon.

March 19- Yonkers Saint Patrick's Day Parade on McLean Avenue, 1 p.m.

March 20 Mamaroneck, 130pm, Mamaroneck Avenue.

Metro-North to Add 66 Trains on March 27

Officials from the Metropolitan Transportation Authority outlined Metro-North's post-pandemic plans at BCW webinar

The Metropolitan Transportation Authority will add 66 trains to Metro-North's weekday schedule on March 27 as part of its post-Covid efforts to restore regular service.

MTA chair and CEO Janno Lieber and Catherine Rinaldi, president of Metro-North Railroad and interim president of Long Island Rail Road, described their agency's post-pandemic plans today at the BCW's Political Leadership Series. Besides adding the 66 trains to the weekday schedule, the executives described how they are prioritizing increased ridership, enhanced rider safety, luring hybrid workers and replacing infrastructure essential to safely running trains into Grand Central Terminal.

Lieber said a priority is reestablishing a sense of personal safety in the transit network.

“We've all seen the press coverage of some of the recent horrific that took place in the mass transit system, on the subway in particular. We're not going to tolerate violence or attacks on our workforce or our riders,” said Lieber. “We don't want an environment of disorder.”

The emphasis on rules means the MTA is asking police to crack down on smoking, shopping carts and other mass-transit prohibitions.

The addition of 66 trains to Metro-North's three lines will allow for faster morning commutes and bring the railroad to 89% of its pre-pandemic service, although weekday ridership is still at about 50% of pre-pandemic levels. Weekend ridership is back at 100% of pre-pandemic levels.

“We are seeing extremely strong ridership east of the Hudson over the past couple of weeks,” said Rinaldi. “We're hoping it's a harbinger of things to come in the spring as more and more employees start to come back, even if it's a couple of days a week.”

The agency's plan to lure back commuters who are adopting hybrid work schedules includes the introduction of a new 20-trip ticket package, which targets commuters who do not need the expense of a monthly pass because they only travel to Manhattan two or three days a week.

“We're still waiting to see how many days a week people start coming back to work, but we are prepared to greet them with this increased service,” said Rinaldi. “We're especially interested to see what the 20-trip ticket does. We saw a nice take-up with that last week because it does seem to reflect the realities of this post-Covid ridership.”

The MTA officials also touted Metro-North's on-time performance, which was at 97% for the past two years. The MTA is also lobbying to ensure that its Hudson Line trains receive permission to use Amtrak lines along Manhattan's west side when Metro-North service becomes available at Penn Station. As for New Haven Line access to Penn Station, the agency is performing site surveys and advance designing of the four new Bronx stations and track work. Penn Station access is expected to begin in 2027.

Work continues on congestion pricing, the plan to charge vehicles that enter mid- and lower Manhattan during peak traffic hours. The agency is in the middle of a federal environmental review and the implementation of the tolling infrastructure is scheduled to begin in 2023.

Lieber said congestion pricing is not about punishing drivers. “The congestion is harming our ability to deliver key services... We have to have buses. We have to have ambulances and other emergency vehicles be able to get around... We have to make it possible for all the delivery trucks that are now the reality of our modern economy to make their way around. That is what, among other things, is pressing us to adopt a congestion-pricing system,” Lieber said. BCW Executive Vice President John Ravitz moderated this morning's webinar. Ravitz said restoring confidence in public safety is paramount to encouraging riders to use the system. He noted that the MTA plays a critical role in helping to bring back economic development to Westchester County and that a strong transit system is a vital service that helps with staff recruitment and retains businesses in Westchester County.

On behalf of the BCW, Ravitz pledged to help the MTA accomplish its public safety goals. “Please know that you have our support and anything we can do to help continue to try to bring some—as we've said—common sense back into this process. We will be there for you,” said Ravitz.

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Choir Festival, Hymn Sing March 20, Dobbs Ferry



On Sunday, March 20, at 3:00pm, The Sacred Heart Dobbs Ferry, 417 Broadway Dobbs Ferry NY will present an exciting Choral Festival with Sacred Heart Church Choirs joined by guest choristers from surrounding communities and audience will have a hymn sing involving over hundred performers.

The selection will include the best loved hymns from all church year including Advent, Christmas, Lent and Easter. The orchestra will include strings, brass, percussion, bells, piano, and organ and promises to be a memorable event. Everyone is invited to sing, and you are welcome to come to the dress rehearsal from 1 pm, prior to the concert as a part of the choir or just come as an audience at 3pm. For more information, please contact Music Director, Dr. Sándor Szabó,

The concert is free, and all are welcome. The Sacred Heart Church, 417 Broadway NY. For more information please call 914-693-0119 , info@sh-olp.com.

**CORPORATION NOTICE
CITY OF YONKERS-NEW YORK
PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE**

Notice is hereby given, pursuant to law, that the City Council of the City of Yonkers, New York will hold a Public Hearing on Tuesday, March 8, 2022 at 7:00 P.M. in the City Council Chambers, 40 South Broadway, Yonkers, New York on the following Resolution, to wit:

PROPOSED RESOLUTION

A PROPOSED RESOLUTION APPROVING THE SUBMISSION OF GRANT APPLICATION TO THE NYS DIVISION OF HOMES AND COMMUNITY RENEWAL'S (HCR) COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT (CDBG) CORONAVIRUS AID, RELIEF AND ECONOMIC SECURITY ACT (CARES) PROGRAM TO HELP FUND THREE COMMUNITY INITIATIVES.

VINCENT SPANO, City Clerk

Notice of formation of Thomas Family Taste LLC. Arts. Of Org. filed with the SSNY on 07/20/2021. Office: Westchester County. SSNY designated as the agent of the LCC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail copy of process to the LLC, 268 Van Cortlandt Park Avenue, Yonkers, NY 10705. Purpose: Any lawful activity.

Notice of formation of Gelpdawg Media LLC..Articles of Organization filed with the New York Department of State on 12/01/2021. Office location: Westchester County. The New York Secretary of State is designated as agent of the LLC upon whom process against it may be served upon him or her to the company c/o United States Corporation Agents, Inc., 7014 13th Ave, 202, Brooklyn, NY 11228. Principal business address: 428 Marlborough Rd., Yonkers, NY 10701. Purpose: Any lawful acts.

Notice of formation of Love Jones 360 Experience LLC Articles of Organization filed with the SSNY Office on 9/23/21 Office Location: Westchester County. SSNY has been designated as agent of the LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail a copy of process to : C/O Love Jones 360 Experience LLC , 41 Ridgeview Terrace Elmsford, NY 10523 Purpose: Any lawful purpose.

Yonkers Man Tasered at Orlando Airport for Attacking Woman, Children in Drunken Rage



More than 272,000 people watched Ryan Martin, left 'Freak Out' at the Orlando Airport.

<https://youtu.be/ZSwbqteiTeg>

Ryan Martin, from Yonkers is, or you haven't seen the video of his drunken tirade at Orlando Airport on March 3,

But in reality this is a sad situation because Martin, who got drunk, missed his flight and then tried to get on another flight, and in between assaulted a wife and daughter of a New Jersey Sheriff on vacation at Disney.

Ryan Austin Martin is a large white male, 280 pounds, and airport security and the Orlando Police were unable to control him until using a taser gun several times to get Martin down and under control.

During his tirade, Martin said to airport security "don't come near my, I'll kill you." and promised to put on a "mother f*** show"

Martin was arrested and released after spending a night in jail on \$2,950 bond.

Passengers waiting for other flights and departing off of a plane that Martin thought he could board were nervous afraid of him.

Martin not only fought with security and police, but grabbed a women after she reportedly refused to hold his drink.

We are in the process of obtaining the police report but have been told by law enforcement that he followed the mother and her children after security tried to move them to safety.

He was arrested on Thursday March 3, and charged with resisting an officer with violence, child abuse, domestic violence, batter and disorderly intoxication.

NJ Morris County Sheriff Jim Gannon, who is pictured in green in the video was interviewed by Save Jersey and WNBC TV in New York City. Sheriff Gannon said,

"He was very aggressive towards that uniformed officer, who did a phenomenal job. And so, there was a taser deployment and then we went to the ground and I assisted in handcuffing the individual,"

Martin is now forever banned from flying "the friendly skies" of United.

The incident has been picked by media across the country, and in Canada and Great Britain. Everyone loves to report on an airport road rage incident, and especially one that many people shot video from their cell phones.

Watch the video at YonkersTime.Com

<http://yonkerstimes.com/yonkers-man-tasered-at-orlando-airport-for-attacking-woman-children-in-drunken-rage/>

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Ursuline School Cabaret Raises \$2K for Ukraine



A Broadway review cast, directed and choreographed by Ursuline School students raised more than \$2,000 for charitable causes including children affected by the war in Ukraine. The 4th Annual Ursuline Charity Cabaret is a school tradition which raises thousands of dollars each year for a charitable cause. The benefit, which has been in the planning for months, split the proceeds between Sanctuary for Families, an organization that helps victims of domestic violence and Voices of Children, a non-profit Ukrainian organization that helps support children affected by the war. Performances included numbers from Hamilton, Newsies, Little Mermaid, Into the Woods, LalaLand, Shrek the Musical, Falsettos, Dear Evan Hansen, Mean Girls, and Beetlejuice.

Westchester residents run for Governor, continued from pg. 1-

In 2010, republican Harry Wilson narrowly lost the race for NYS Comptroller to democrat Tom DiNapoli, 51%-46%, the closest a republican has come to winning statewide office in a generation. On Feb. 22, Wilson announced that he is running in the republican primary for Governor of New York.

"I'm running for Governor to turn around New York. Our state is totally broken. Rising crime, sky-high taxes, closed schools, corrupt politicians. I've spent my career turning around failing organizations. Let's get this done," said Wilson, a Westchester resident and native of Johnstown, in upstate New York.

In a two-minute video message Wilson laid out his message of "Cleaning Up Albany." "Hard-working people have had problem after problem caused by Albany. We don't have to sit idly by and watch it get worse. A career politician can't fix it, but I can."

"The career politicians and Albany insiders have abused the taxpayers for too long. Corruption has been rampant. The last two elected governors, Andrew Cuomo and Eliot Spitzer, have resigned in disgrace. Enough is enough. Harry Wilson is an outsider who can't be bought. He's not part of the Albany political club where corruption seems to just be another day at the office. Instead, he'll clean it up. He'll enact a tough ethics plan, term limits for all elected officials, and he'll hold the politicians accountable. And if the politicians don't start putting the people first, Harry will make sure they don't get paid."

Lowering Taxes and getting tough on crime are two issues highlighted by Wilson in his campaign kickoff message. "I'll end bloated budgets, repeal the Cuomo-Hochul tax hikes, and keep going. It won't be easy. The politicians want business as usual. But they've never met someone like me. I'm running for governor to give every single family across this state the future they deserve."

"New York gets more unaffordable every year. The politicians in Albany waste more money than any other state. As a result, our taxes are sky high. Harry will turn that around. He'll repeal every Cuomo/Hochul tax increase and then keep going after that."

"Violent crime has spiked dramatically in New York. Instead of supporting the police and getting tough on crime, the politicians have coddled criminals and pushed to defund the police. Harry Wilson will take the opposite approach. He'll be tough on crime and back the police. He'll increase funding for police and put more police on the street. If a liberal prosecutor doesn't want to enforce the law, Wilson will fire the prosecutor. Wilson will eliminate cashless bail."

Harry Wilson is the founder and CEO of the MAEVA Group, a firm that specializes in trying to turn around struggling businesses. He was a senior adviser for President Barack Obama's Task Force on the Auto Industry, a panel that helped oversee the bailout of General Motors and Chrysler in 2009. Wilson got 6% of the GOP delegates support at the NY Convention last week, and has begun to air TV ads.

Andrew Guiliani, son of former NYC Mayor Rudy Guiliani, got 1% of the vote at the convention, but continues to poll well among conservative and ultra-conservative NY voters.

The first test for all four republicans is to collect enough signatures to get on the ballot for a GOP Primary in June. Petitions are being circulated now.

Still unclear is whether a Red Wave of republican support will happen, and can still happen in Westchester. Westchester democratic opinions are mixed about what will happen this fall, with some believing that they will win big with Governor Hochul on top of the ticket. Others are fearful that a Red Wave could happen if the trend continues over the summer, regarding inflation, bail reform and gas prices.

One democrat told us that "our party can't wait for November, with Lee Zeldin on top of the republican ticket, it will be hard for any of their local candidates to win." Westchester republicans are putting up several candidates for Assembly and Senate races in the hopes of a Red Wave. We wait for that list of candidates.

Racial Slur at Ossining Girls Basketball Game con't from pg. 1-

men from many racial, ethnic, and economic backgrounds, a values-infused curriculum, based upon the example of Jesus Christ. Racism is contrary to the teachings of the Catholic Church and contrary to the values of all Catholic schools, including Our Lady of Lourdes. We have and will continue to hold our entire school community, including our students, to the highest standards of behavior."

The response from the Catholic school administration was not enough for many in Ossining, including Superintendent Ray Sanchez. "We do not condone or tolerate messages that cause harm. I want to be clear that the Ossining Union Free School District is committed to providing a school environment where all students feel welcomed, accepted, and safe. We hope that Our Lady of Lourdes High School will join us in our mission to provide safe spaces for all students and take the necessary actions now and in the future. There's a difference between intent and impact, and this clearly had an impact. We think it's obviously inappropriate and appalling."

A complaint has also been registered with Section 1. In a similar incident that occurred last month in Rockland County, with fans from Pearl River high school, resulted in Pearl River losing all of their remaining home playoff games. "We will not tolerate negative statements or actions, inclusive of racial or discriminatory comments or slurs. The organization firmly believes in the values that athletics can bring to student-athletes and their communities. These values can only exist in an environment absent of discrimination and hate," said Section 1 Executive Director Todd Santabarbera said in a statement.

The Florez family was not satisfied with what they viewed as a half hearted apology. "I would like to see more awareness coming from this. Educate people on the impact this has on self-esteem. People need to be more culturally aware. I also think protocols should be in place to enforce respect. The least they could've done was ask the students to leave the premises."

Mr. Florez makes a good point. Ossining parents attempted to speak with Lourdes administrators immediately after the hate was spoken. At that time, if this incident were taken serious, the game could have been stopped and the student who said it could have been identified or the entire bleachers could have been emptied.

Mrs. Florez said that while Isabella has been hurt by all of this, "we're speaking out so nobody else has to go through something like this. Her little sister plays basketball and was at the game and Isabella was upset she had to see this."

Some remedies exist to make sure these types of incidents don't continue to happen, but none are easy. Video cameras could be placed to record the bleacher crowds to make sure future culprits are identified. Or ID's could be recorded for every spectator, so that the home team knows every person in attendance.

The other option is to force some, or one of the surrounding students in the bleachers, who heard the word and saw who said it, to come forward. It is up to the Principal and Assistant Principal of the school to take this issue seriously enough to get the answers that the Florez family want and deserve.

Spring Ahead Set Your Clocks on March 13

Adjust your clocks Saturday night! Daylight Saving Time begins on Sunday, March 13, 2022, at 2:00 A.M. At this time, we "spring forward" one hour!

Regeneron, continued from pg. 1-

County tax revenue for each \$1.00 of County incentives awarded which is at the top of the range of projects previously approved by the IDA.

Regeneron, an industry-leading biotechnology company and Westchester's largest private employer, currently has more than 3,300 full-time employees at its corporate and R&D headquarters at 777 Old Saw Mill River Road in Tarrytown. Founded and led by physician-scientists, the company has nine FDA-approved treatments and numerous product candidates in development, almost all of which were invented in Regeneron's Tarrytown laboratories. Its medicines help people with eye diseases, allergic and inflammatory diseases, cancer, cardiovascular and metabolic diseases, rare diseases and infectious diseases like COVID-19 and Ebola. Last year, Regeneron announced that it plans to invest about \$1.8 billion over six years to expand its facilities in Westchester and the Mid-Hudson region.

Regeneron indicated that it considered alternative sites in New Jersey for the expansion, noting that New Jersey has the highest concentration of scientists and engineers in the nation. Regeneron requested a sales tax exemption of approximately \$47.5 million and real property tax exemption of approximately \$125.3 million. In addition to the financial assistance sought from the IDA, Regeneron has been granted \$100 million in other public incentives to partially defray the cost of the proposed project capital investment.

Eric Schoen, continued from pg. 3-

According to an online publication called Wallethub, Yonkers ranks as the happiest city in New York State and 44th Happiest City in the Nation. I'll tell you why!

On March 19 Yonkers will after a 2 year hiatus host it's grand St. Patrick's Day Parade on McLean Avenue, the 'Emerald Mile' of Yonkers with the finest Grand Marshall a parade could ever have, Pat McCrudden. Pat and her husband Larry do so much for our community, and Pat's recognition is long overdue. You could not pick a finer, fairer person than Pat. Two days earlier on St. Patrick's Day WVOX 1460 AM honors their morning hosts, Dennis Nardone and Miss Tonny from noon to 5:00 p.m. at the Mirage Cafe and Restaurant across from Iona College, hosted by the legendary Bill O'Shaughnessy!

Chick-Fil-A, a place loved by so many fast food junkies will open a location at the old HSBC branch on Central Avenue in Yonkers. I haven't had Chick-Fil-A in years, and was never a big fan of their crinkle cut fries that tasted like the ones mom made out of the Birds Eye bag when we were kids. But I'll give it a second chance now that they have non fried foods and salads and wraps on the menu.

Yonkers Brewing Company is serving a 1.5 pound mega burger. Nothing better than a juicy burger from this Yonkers institution. It's meant for 1 but I am sure they will let you share it with a buddy or someone special in your life!

Pizza Barn is safely ensconced at their new location on Central Park Avenue across from the Raceway. There you will find the Super Slice, a giant slice of pizza that is perfect for sharing!

Not too far away are Yonkers institutions like DeLite European Style Bakery, Clairmont Diner serving some of the biggest portions at reasonable prices, Louie and Johnnies serving great Italian food and three stores catering to the large Yonkers Italian Community right next to each other across from the Raceway. The food at these institutions and others in a 3 block radius will bring smiles to your face and not hurt your wallet too badly!

And finally, Target at Cross County Mall in the old John Wanamaker's/Sears building is looking like it's getting getting more and more ready everyday to open its doors. Over 25 years since I first stepped into a Target in Los Angeles, California. For those of you who have never been in a Target I'll do a column ahead of time to tell you what to expect.

Beautiful city and county parks, a delightful waterfront where you can live, fish, dine or just sit and watch the boats go by, Yonkers has something for everyone! That's why it's the Happiest City in New York, host to Yonkers Rising and the Rising Media Group of Newspapers that you are reading. But to continue the paper going we need your support. Buy a reasonably priced advertisement for your business. A friend did recently and was impressed with the price and the business that came from an ad. Patronize those businesses who advertise. And make sure you read about all the happy things going on in Yonkers and throughout WESTCHESTER in these papers every week. Remember you can always find us at yonkerstimes.com!

A Brief: I attended the Dua Lipa concert at Madison Square Garden last week. What a fun concert. After the last two years we all need to find fun things to do. Whether it be Cher or Madonna or Dua Lipa, I like performers who fly in the air during their performance. Dua Lipa did not disappoint!

Reach Eric Schoen at thistoisonkers@aol.com. Follow him on Twitter @ericyonkers. Listen to Eric Schoen on the Westchester Rising Radio Show alternating Thursday's from 10-11 a.m. On WVOX 1460 AM, WVOX.com click listen or download the WVOX app from the App Store free of charge.

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March is American Red Cross Month Latimer Honors Westchester Chapter



Westchester County Executive George Latimer honored the Westchester Chapter of the American Red Cross with a proclamation presentation. March is designated as American Red Cross Month to recognize local volunteers and donors to give of their time and resources to help community members in need, delivering hope and help during disaster.

Latimer said: "The American Red Cross responds to disaster big and small, by providing shelter, food, emotional support and other necessities to those affected. In Westchester, we know these volunteers are committed and dedicated to helping neighbors get back on their feet or navigate through difficult times. We are proud to recognize their continued efforts during the month of March and always."

American Red Cross Metro New York North Chapter CEO Stephanie Ashley Dunn said: "When emergencies strike, American Red Cross volunteers springs into action with relief, care, and hope — whenever and wherever they are needed.

As we honor of these heroes during our Red Cross Month celebration, we ask our neighbors in Westchester to join us to provide help and hope by making a donation, giving blood, volunteering or learning lifesaving skills.

Latimer also recognized the efforts of The Red Cross Metro New York North Chapter's Disaster Response Team. The group was essential in its response to Hurricane Ida, rushing to deliver urgent relief to neighbors coping with loss and trauma. In the past year alone, the Red Cross Metro New York Chapter responded to nearly 150 local disasters. They installed 369 free smoke alarms and educated nearly 700 adults and children in emergency preparedness. In our area the Red Cross provided over 700 services to military members, veterans and families last year and collects on average 7,000 units of blood from our generous blood donors.

Maria Regina, HS, All Girls Marching Band to Perform at Five St. Patrick's Day Parades



NYC, Yonkers, White Plains, Eastchester and Throggs Neck Celebrations

When Irish Eyes Are Smiling will be plentiful for Maria Regina High School's first-ever marching band during this year's St. Patrick's Day celebrations. The all-girls talented ensemble, rare onto itself, will not only have the honor of participating in the New York City parade on March 17—the oldest and largest St. Patrick's Parade in the world—but will also march in four other popular regional parades honoring the patron saint of Ireland.

Maria Regina's band will join a contingent of thousands of marchers and bands from throughout the New York metro area and pass His Eminence Timothy Cardinal Dolan, Archbishop of New York, who will review the procession from the steps of St. Patrick's Cathedral. Throngs of celebrants lining both sides of the avenue's route stretching from 44th Street to 79th Street will cheer the marchers. Maria Regina's band is scheduled to march between 1:45 to 3:15 PM. A tradition since 1762, this will be the first New York City St. Patrick's Parade since the pandemic struck two years.

It will be a very busy week for Maria Regina's band, starting with the White Plains parade on Saturday, March 12, from 11:30 AM to 1 PM. On Sunday, March 13, it will march in two parades, first, at Throggs Neck, the Bronx, from 11 AM to 12:30 and then at Eastchester from 1:45 to 3:15 PM. The band will conclude at the Yonkers parade on Saturday, March 19, from 1 to 2:30 PM.

Maria Regina's marching band made its debut last October in the 44th Annual Bronx Columbus Day Parade, the only all-girls among the 50 groups, including several other high school ensembles that marched in the popular community event. Outfitted with brand new special uniforms and equipped with bells, snare and bass drums, Maria Regina's 11 young musicians are: Twin sisters Allison and Emily Ibarra of Mt. Vernon (both play bells); sisters Clevisa Bujaj (bells) and Jessica Bujaj (bass drum) of the Bronx; Shaiyenne Noisette (snare drum) of Mt. Vernon; Angelina Costa (bells) of Yonkers; Kelly Cambillo (snare drum) of White Plains; Nathalie Bello (bass drum) of Elmsford and Gianna Buccieri (bells) of Port Chester; Amber Korcz of Peekskill and Mariam Ahmed of Dover Plains leading the Marching Band.

Musical experience and the ability to read music are not required to participate in either the band or string and rhythm orchestra. Both are under the direction of Steven Finkelstein, a professional percussionist who previously served as the marching band and orchestra director and music instructor at Aquinas High School in the Bronx.



Town of Yorktown New York Housing Choice Voucher (HCV) Program (Section 8) Opens its Waiting List for Two Days Only ONLINE ONLY Thursday, April 28, 2022-Friday, April 29, 2022

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that The Town of Yorktown Housing Choice Voucher (HCV) Program announces the acceptance of preliminary applications for housing assistance during the dates of April 28th, 2022 at 12:01 am through April 29th, 2022 at 11:59 pm. ET. The list will close immediately following the aforementioned timeframe.

Pre-applications will **only be accepted online**. The Town of Yorktown has no preferences of any kind. Applicants do not need to rush to apply as this wait list is not on a first- come, first-served basis. All pre-applicants will have an equal opportunity of being selected. Five hundred qualified applicants will be placed on the list by random lottery.

Applicants can apply at <https://www.waitlistcheck.com/NY1819-3766>

The Housing Choice Voucher Program assistance covers the rent portion that exceeds approximately 30% of an eligible family's monthly income. Any and all income-eligible households may submit a pre-application. Acceptance and/or assistance are based on income verification and other eligibility requirements.

In order to qualify, your total household income for all family members must be below the maximum income levels, based on family size as follows:

Family Size	Income Limits: (income limits are current and subject to change)
1-	\$44,650
2-	\$51,000
3-	\$57,400
4-	\$63,750
5-	\$68,850
6-	\$73,950
7-	\$79,050
8-	\$84,150

Reasonable Accommodation:

If you are a person with a disability and require a reasonable accommodation in order to submit an application, please contact the Section 8 office in writing (must include a phone contact number), post marked no later than April 22, 2022.



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