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Troubling Allegations from Mamaroneck Village Manager in EEOC Complaint Against Natchez



Village of Mamaroneck Manager Jerry Barberio, right, has a number of alarming accusations against Village Trustee Dan Natchez, left

“Stay Away from Trustee Natchez”

By Dan Murphy

Village of Mamaroneck Manager Jerry Barberio has filed a discrimination complaint against his employer, and Village Trustee Dan Natchez, who he alleges “on-going retaliation for having opposed sexual advances by one of the Village Trustees, Daniel Natchez.” Barberio, who is married, claims that when he first started working for the Village he was commuting from New Jersey, while in the process of moving his family.

Natchez offered his spare bedroom as a place for Barberio to “sleep over.” When Barberio politely declined, Natchez offered again for Barberio to “sleep over,” and that it when Barberio thought things started to get creepy.

According to the complaint, which can be found at the following link –https://www.themamaroneckproject.com/_files/ugd/782b32_21bf4ac8e42045cbb0cc1efc0a59eb0e.pdf

“Trustee Natchez was very interested in about where i was staying..both incidents were very inappropriate and uncomfortable...despite my initial rejection, he persisted in making the advances again. I reported the unwanted advances to Mayor Tom Murphy, who advised me to just “stay away” from Trustee Natchez.”

Barberio was so creeped out by Natchez’s advances that he cancelled a lunch meeting with him on several occasions but finally agreed because, “I felt pressure from him to meet.”

At the lunch meeting, Natchez moved from inquiring about having a sleep over to telling Barberio to “back off” a certain Village employee who was “under investigation for theft of time.” Barberio advised the other trustees about this incident, which is important if there is a paper trail and if this case ends up going to trial.

The most damning part of the report is when Barberio writes, “On Sept. 7, 2020 I received a police report regarding disturbing behavior in a public park towards children. The complaint was from the mother of a young child who is a resident in the village alleging that an older man was taking pictures at the Harbor Island Park Playground. I learned that the older man was Trustee Natchez, and upon infor-

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Dr. Gitig, Mount Sinai Doctors-Westchester What You Need to Know About Cholesterol



“If you have high cholesterol, or are at risk, there are two ways to lower it. Make a lifestyle change or with medication.”

Dr. Alon Gitig,
Director of Cardiology
Mount Sinai Doctors-Westchester

By Dan Murphy

All of us have heard about cholesterol, but very few know what it does, and how to control it. Dr. Alon Gitig, Director of Cardiology at Mount Sinai Doctors-Westchester spoke with us to try and inform our readers about cholesterol and how it can impact your heart health.

“Cholesterol is an oily substance made in the body for biological uses. It does have a function, and your body does need cholesterol to build healthy cells. We need cholesterol, but we need it to be controlled, and in the places where it was meant to be. There are biological functions of cholesterol which are important for health, for example in cell membranes or in certain hormones such as sex hormones.”

When Can Cholesterol Become a Heart Health Risk? “Most of my patients are aware that high levels of cholesterol can increase your risk of heart disease. Cholesterol becomes a problem when we see it in large amounts in the blood stream. This leads to plaque formation along the walls of a patient’s arteries. Plaque is what can cause narrowed arteries or, if plaque becomes biologically active and ruptures, it can cause sudden clotting, and lead to heart attack or stroke.”

How Can We Change Our Habits to Control Cholesterol? “I advise my patients to eat a diet that has low amounts of saturated fat by cutting back on meat and dairy, and to eat more plant-based foods. Feeding studies performed in humans have shown that eating greater amount of cholesterol (common sources are egg yolks and shrimp) usually does not lead to elevations in blood cholesterol levels. For most people, eating diets high in saturated fat, especially processed fast foods, is what elevates cholesterol levels, especially dairy and red meat. “

“In societies where people’s lifestyles more resemble pre-Industrial Revolution times, they are almost immune from high cholesterol and related artery diseases. This is because their diets are comprised primarily of unprocessed foods, mostly

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How Much Money Did former Mt. Vernon Comptroller Reynolds Cost the Taxpayers?



Former Mount Vernon Comptroller Deborah Reynolds, left may have cost city taxpayers more than \$2 Million

DA Rocah Investigating, NYS Comptroller DiNapoli Issue Scathing Report, Former Deputy County Executive Jay Hashmall Paid \$300,000 in Taxpayer Funds Not Approved by the City Council

By Dan Murphy

Two years after her election as Mayor of the City of Mount Vernon, and Shawyn Patterson-Howard is still cleaning up the financial mess left behind by former Comptroller Deborah Reynolds.

NYS Comptroller Tom DiNapoli issued a scathing report against former Mount Vernon Comptroller Deborah Reynolds, who during a two-year period between 2018-2020 changed back accounts, started paying some bills and invoices without the approval of the Three member Board of Estimated, made up of the Mayor and the Council President, started making electronic payments to some vendors in an effort to elude watch of the City Council and two Mayors (Thomas and Howard), did not pay many vendors, incurring overdue fees, court judgments and fines that also tarnished the financial reputation of the City, and spent more than \$320,000 on legal fees to defend her against all of the accusations listed above, all of which were confirmed by DiNapoli’s audit.

“The lack of operational controls and failure by the former city comptroller to complete basic financial functions contributed to Mount Vernon’s fiscal crisis,” DiNapoli said. “It is time for city officials to turn the page and overhaul their fiscal operations. I am encouraged by the response of Mayor Patterson-Howard and the city council and urge them and the new city Comptroller Darren Morton to act immediately to implement our recommendations.”

Mount Vernon Mayor Shawyn Patterson-Howard said, “I believe the report accurately confirms the dire concerns and challenging issues we’ve endured since the beginning of this administration. The audit report is proof and documentation of gross negligence by former Comptroller Reynolds. I believe this audit report showcases a lack of transparency, lack of segregation of duties, manipulation of policies and the need for further criminal investigation by the New York State Attorney General and Westchester County District Attorney.”

Mayor Patterson-Howard called for an investigation one year ago. Westchester District Attorney Mimi Rocah’s office said after the comptrollers’ report was issued that “We are aware of the OSC report. The OSC report presents very serious issues and the community is understandably concerned. Since we are in the midst of an ongoing investigation, we will have no further comment at this time.”

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Byrne Wins Putnam GOP Nomination for County Exec.; Slater to Run for Assembly?



Two of Northern Westchester & Putnam County’s Young Republican stars L-R- Assemblymember Kevin Byrne and Yorktown Supervisor Matt Slater

By Dan Murphy

On Feb. 16, in a decisive 148-76 vote, members of the Putnam County Republican Committee selected Assemblyman Kevin Byrne to be their nominee as the next Putnam County Executive. Byrne was nominated by Southeast GOP committeeman and former Assemblyman Will Stephens, Jr., who praised Kevin as a “remarkable leader who has demonstrated a proven ability to work with people and accomplish real results for the people of Putnam County.

“The nomination was seconded by long-time Carmel GOP committeeman and former county GOP First Vice Chairman Jack Hufnagel, who highlighted Kevin’s dedication, commitment, and integrity. In thanking the committee, Byrne noted that “those following this process closely know that my team and I had to work very hard to merit this crucial endorsement.

“We did what Putnam Republicans always do: keep the faith and reach out, every day, to make the case to our friends and neighbors. We’ve been rewarded with their trust and support, for which I’m extremely grateful. “Now I’m honored to move forward with all my fellow Republicans to win the votes and confidence of everyone in Putnam County, no matter their Party, as a leader determined to keep this beautiful place, the place I’ve called home my entire life, the best for living, working, and raising a family—today, and for the future!”

County Legislator Carl Albano finished second in the voting for the GOP nod for County Executive. The current county executive, MaryEllen Odell is term limited.

Westchester republicans tell us that Yorktown Supervisor Matt Slater will run for the Assembly seat in the 94th District, currently held by Kevin Byrne. Byrne, is giving up the seat to run for Putnam County Executive.

We spoke to Supervisor Slater, who said, “I can confirm that I participated in a candidate screening for the 94th AD with Westchester and Putnam GOP officials. I’m excited to take the next steps in the nomination process.”

But other Westchester republicans told us that the process to replace Byrne for a seat that has been held by Republicans for decades has moved farther along. “It’s a done deal, Slater is running for Assembly. While he was happy in his Yorktown Supervisor’s position, members of the party urged him to run. Also,

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Shimsky Beats Abinanti in Democratic Assembly Mini-Convention; June Primary Next



On Feb. 22, County Legislator MaryJane Shimsky's campaign for New York State Assembly received a big boost when she won the Westchester Democratic Party's nomination at a mini-convention. Shimsky, pictured left, defeated incumbent Tom Abinanti for the Democratic nomination in the 92nd Assembly District, which includes most of Greenburgh, Mount Pleasant, and parts of Yonkers. The totals were 55% for Shimsky, 37% for Abinanti, and 8% abstained.

"I am honored to have the support of the Democratic Party. Democratic leaders in the 92nd District know that we need change and new energy, with an Assembly member who listens and truly upholds our progressive values,"

"The last few years have shown the importance of collaborative leadership, and the need for leaders who listen to scientists and public health experts. I have spent my career building strong coalitions and delivering tangible results. As Assembly member, I'll be ready to hit the ground running to strengthen our resiliency, improve our public health resources, promote social justice, and rebuild our infrastructure."

Abinanti had objected to the mini convention, in a story we posted at <http://yonkerstimes.com/wp-admin/post.php?post=15194&action=edit>

Abinanti's comments resulted in a response from Shimsky's campaign spokesperson Daniele de Groot. "Democrats had a convention because we live in a democracy, and members of the party made their voices heard loud and clear last night. If a 12-year incumbent doesn't understand why that's important, especially now, maybe he's in the wrong party."

Now Abinanti and Shimsky will face off in a Democratic Primary in June. Shimsky was first elected to the County Board of Legislators in 2011. Abinanti was first elected to the Assembly in 2010.

State Police Find Loaded Handgun, Drunk Driver in I-95 Traffic Stop



On February 23, 2022, State Police arrested Joshua C. Barnes, 41, of Loris, South Carolina, for one count of criminal possession of a weapon 2nd degree, a class C felony, two counts of criminal possession of a weapon 4th degree, a class A misdemeanor, two counts of possessing a loaded firearm in a motor vehicle under NYS Environmental Conservation Law, and one count of driving while intoxicated.

On February 23, 2022, at about 12:54 a.m., troopers stopped a vehicle being driven by Barnes on I-95 in the city of New Rochelle for multiple traffic violations. Troopers approached the vehicle and located a box of ammunition on the center console, and Barnes admitted to being in possession of firearms. While interviewing Barnes, Troopers smelled an odor of alcoholic beverages and Barnes subsequently failed standardized field sobriety tests. Troopers searched the vehicle and located a loaded Glock 27 .40 caliber handgun, two high capacity pistol magazines, a loaded Smith and Wesson Compass 6.5 Creedmoor rifle, a loaded .22 caliber rifle, an unloaded .270 caliber rifle, and assorted rounds of ammunition. Barnes was arraigned in New Rochelle City Court and ordered held at the Westchester County. He's due back in court on March 3, 2022.

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). See flyer below for more information on how to attend this lecture on March 16. in person and via Zoom.

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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.

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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 Dombrowski, Constance Kehoe

March 16, 2022, 4:00 - 6:00 p.m.
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See the information in the email to attend in-person or watch on Zoom

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Westchester Rallies for Ukraine!



Westchester elected officials attending Mass at Ukrainian Catholic Church in Yonkers include: County Executive George Latimer, State Senate Majority Leader Andrea Stewart-Cousins, Mayor Mike Spano, State Senator Shelley Mayer, County BOL Chair Catherine Borgia, County Legislators Vedat Gashi, David Tubiolo, James Nolan, Yonkers City Council Minority Leader Mike Breen

Latimer Celebrates Mass at St. Michael the Archangel Ukrainian Catholic Church

In the wake of the current crisis overseas, Westchester County Executive George Latimer declared Sunday, February 27 a Day of Prayer for Ukraine in Westchester County. He celebrated mass with the Ukrainian community in Yonkers at St. Michael the Archangel Ukrainian Catholic Church.

Latimer said: "We are here in a human capacity. We see the humanity here in the Ukrainian community of Yonkers, in Westchester County, and by extension, the world. We are praying, all of us, for justice to be done in Ukraine. We will continue to pray for peace in Eastern Europe and across the globe."

Father Kiril Angelov, Pastor of St. Michael the Archangel Ukrainian Catholic Church said: "Being together here at Saint Michael the Archangel shows we are praying together. I am convinced prayer will win. We thank the County Executive and all our elected officials for standing with us during this difficult time. Let us continue to pray for Ukraine."

St. Michael the Archangel Ukrainian Catholic Church has been in the Yonkers community since 1899 and serves more than 400 families in their parish.

According to the latest census data, there are 1,767 Westchester residents were born in Ukraine and 6,393 Westchester residents with Ukrainian ancestry. The municipalities with the largest populations reporting Ukrainian ancestry were Yonkers and Greenburgh, with 1,745 reporting Ukrainian ancestry in Yonkers and 793 in Greenburgh.

Blake Lively & Ryan Reynolds to Match \$1 Million in Donations for Ukrainian Refugees



Westchester County's Hollywood power couple, Blake Lively and Ryan Reynolds, are matching all donations made to the @UNRefugeeAgency to help the refugee crisis for displaced Ukrainians.

Right now, the crisis in Ukraine is forcing families to flee their homes. Please make a donation today to send lifesaving aid to displaced Ukrainians, and @VancityReynolds & @blakelively will match your gift \$1-for-\$1 up to \$1,000,000.

"@VancityReynolds & I are doubling every \$donated to @UNRefugeeAgency up to \$1,000,000 click below if you can join us @UNRefugeeAgency is on the ground providing lifesaving aid, & working with neighboring countries to ensure protection for the 50,000+ who were just forced to flee," Tweeted Blake Lively.

"In 48 hours, countless Ukrainians were forced to flee their homes to neighboring countries. They need protection. When you donate, we'll match it up to \$1,000,000, creating double the support," Tweeted Reynolds.

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NYAG James Orders Westchester Broadway Theater to Refund \$1.1 Million to Customers



On March 1, New York Attorney General Letitia James announced that her office has recovered more than \$1 million for thousands of customers who bought tickets to Westchester Broadway Theater (WBT), but were denied refunds when performances were canceled due to pandemic-related closures. The WBT, a live theater company formerly located in Elmsford, has agreed to refund tickets and gift certificates purchased prior to the start of the pandemic in March 2020. Customers have already begun receiving their refund checks.

"After the Westchester Broadway Theater took its final bow, thousands of theatergoers were unable to get refunds for tickets they had already purchased," said Attorney General James. "For months, theatergoers were stuck in the wings, but today, my office helped put more than \$1 million back into New Yorkers' pockets. While the curtains are finally closed on this saga, we will continue to go after companies that refuse to reimburse consumers."

The WBT provides dinner and live theater performances of popular musicals and concerts on an open stage. As of March 2020, the theater had sold more than 30,000 tickets to upcoming performances which were canceled when WBT was forced to close because of the COVID-19 pandemic. Following the shutdown, the Office of the Attorney General (OAG) received numerous complaints from ticketholders that WBT refused to issue refunds for canceled shows. In October 2020, OAG opened an investigation into WBT after it was reported that the theater was permanently closing and would not reimburse patrons. Instead, WBT created a ticket exchange policy with the White Plains Performing Arts Center (WPPAC), whereby WPPAC would honor tickets and gift cards bought for WBT shows. However, no refund option was offered to WBT ticketholders, and the ticket exchange did not honor the value of the dinner portion of WBT tickets. Only 930 WBT ticket holders participated in the ticket exchange.

WBT has agreed to refund a total of \$1,127,258.84 to thousands of customers, even the ones who participated in the ticket exchange with WPPAC. Gift certificate holders who show a receipt may also be eligible for a refund or may use the gift card at WBT's new location in Chappaqua.

Today's agreement is the latest in Attorney General James' ongoing efforts to refund New York consumers for events canceled in the wake of the pandemic. Last year, OAG returned \$427,000 to New Yorkers who paid deposits for events at Greentree Country Club in New Rochelle, but had their events canceled. To date, Attorney General James has recovered millions of dollars for New Yorkers in refunds for pandemic-related shutdowns.

"Once again, Attorney General James has helped consumers get the refunds they deserve," said Senate Majority Leader Andrea Stewart-Cousins. "Many Westchester residents and others bought tickets to the Westchester Broadway Theater and because of COVID restrictions the performances were canceled, but the tickets were not refunded. I thank the Attorney General for her continued successful efforts on behalf of New York's consumers."

"The COVID-19 pandemic resulted in an ultimate shutdown of all entertainment facilities and activities, including a cancellation of all programming at the Westchester Broadway Theater," said State Senator Alessandra Biaggi. "However, it is unfair and dishonest for the Westchester Broadway Theater to refuse customers refunds for canceled programming due to circumstances beyond the customers' control. I am incredibly grateful to Attorney General James for fighting for patrons of the theater who were denied refunds, and ensuring that New Yorkers receive the reimbursements they are owed."

"The pandemic caused widespread economic despair to many businesses statewide, but in the case of the Westchester Broadway Theater, that is no excuse to withhold ticket refunds from customers for cancelled performances," said State Senator Pete Hareckham. "Attorney General James deserves thanks for making sure these customers finally got their money back."

"The closure of the Westchester Broadway Theater was an incredible loss for our community, but that does not mean we should sacrifice consumer protections," said State Senator Shelley Mayer. "I thank Attorney General Letitia James for her work to secure reimbursements that patrons deserve for canceled performances and meals."

"I applaud the Attorney General's persistence on behalf of our residents. The Attorney General has demonstrated that consumer protection is an important part of what we do as elected officials," said Assemblymember Tom Abinanti. "The pandemic is no excuse for businesses to take advantage of their customers."

"I applaud Attorney General James for her strong and successful efforts to return money to our local residents," said Assemblymember Sandy Galef. "When theater events were canceled due to COVID, you would expect a refund to be available to the ticket purchasers. With the Attorney General's involvement ticket holders will receive those refunds. This is a win for consumers."

"One cannot understate the importance of returning money to consumers who likely had given up hope that they would be repaid," said Assemblymember Steve Otis. "We are all thankful for the good work of Attorney General James in protecting these customers and having their payments returned."

"People deserve to get their money back for canceled events," said Assemblymember Amy Paulin. "I applaud Attorney General James for securing reimbursement funds for the thousands of consumers who purchased tickets to Westchester Broadway Theater shows which they didn't get to see due to the theater's closure."

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Dear Senators Stewart-Cousins, Mayer and Assemblymember Sayegh



By Eric W. Schoen

I write to you today because I am concerned with what's going on this state. This letter comes after I exited the TJ Maxx at Cross County Square Mall and saw a man running out of the store with at least 20 garments on hangers into a waiting car. I know he didn't pay for them. This was confirmed to me. Sadly, no one stopped him.

When I inquired why no one stopped him, I was told that sadly this is the cost of doing business. Management doesn't know if the man has a knife or a gun and is not willing to put a member of their staff earning \$15 an hour at risk.

I write to you as I witness people in grocery stores I shop in blatantly putting items in their 'reusable' bags and walking out of the store without paying for them. This is not only happening in Yonkers and Westchester but is so bad in New York City that some Duane Reade stores in popular locations are closing their doors because theft is so rampant.

Years ago when a person entered a merchant with their own shopping bag, it would be left at the entrance to the store, numbered and returned upon exit. New reusable bag laws preclude this, though many stores post signs telling shoppers not to shop in their reusable bags. I warned our readers about problems that would come about with shoppers bringing in and walking around the store with reusable bags. My warnings have come to fruition.

I write to you as man smeared human feces on a woman's face in an unprovoked rush-hour attack inside a Bronx subway station. A homeless man with a lengthy arrest history has been charged with smearing a stranger with human feces as she waited for a subway train in the Bronx, in a revolting caught-on-camera attack.

To quote the woman, "I got out of work and was waiting for train, sat down for a moment," the victim told ABC 7, speaking in Spanish through a translator. "All of a sudden, a man approaches me. He hits me in the face and throws a bag of feces. He spreads it all over my face, in my hair, without a motive, for no reason." "It happened so quickly, I didn't even realize," she added. "Once he left, it sunk in what occurred." The man who did it, Frank Abrokwa, 37, was arrested.

A friend went into a donut shop, left her pocketbook in her car and within a minute, a thief broke the window in her car and ran away with the pocketbook. The convenience store I shop in has security cameras and mirrors throughout the store employees must monitor to prevent theft. We all witnessed the shocking thefts at the Westchester Mall in the Louis Vuitton and Burberry stores.

Supermarkets in Yonkers have to hire off duty Police Officers to stand at their entrance and exit doors to prevent theft. Many items in the stores are under lock and key otherwise they would disappear. I purchased an inexpensive hair care product at a major drug store chain in Yonkers that was wrapped tightly with an anti-theft device. The manager told me they are waiting for more locked cases to secure merchandise.

Managers also tell me that security is tighter at a mall like Ridge Hill than in open malls like Cross County or Cross County Square or stores along Central Avenue or Getty Square where it's easy to get away and not get noticed.

It used to be you had to ask a fellow consumer in Starbucks or Panera to watch your computer when you stepped away to use the facilities. Thieves don't want a used computer or an iPad that with a couple of clicks you can disengage. They want the \$3000 Louis Vuitton bag or the \$2000 in dresses they can quickly turn into cash.

Andrea, Shelley and Nader you have to be seeing what I am seeing. It is going on in the community, Yonkers you live in and represent and all throughout Westchester and our State. It's affecting the people who got you elected to office when you first ran. It is affecting your neighbors and friends. Basically, thefts make the costs of products higher for all of your constituents as well as for the members of your family.

Bail reform is not working when those that have committed crimes are let out of jail 40, 50 times. I'm not going to blame it all on bail reform, but judges letting criminals committing these crimes walk free is not making the situation better. The Judges have told you this. Basically, Criminals know they can come to New York State and do as they wish and walk away scot-free.

You have heard from the Mayor of New York City, Eric Adams, a former member of Law enforcement and the Mayor of Yonkers, Mike Spano that bail reform is not working. These elected officials and their Police Commissioners have their boots on the ground everyday in the city you live in and the neighboring community. Their Police Officers fear that doing their jobs will get them in trouble, not the criminals committing the crime.

Mental health services in this state are hampered by low reimbursement rates and the lack of providers. Try to get an appointment for a member of your family god forbid in need in the State insurance plan. Due to Covid and other factors, it's like fishing without bait. And our children have been hurt by attending school on Zoom one day and masked the next. Our state should be providing incentives for those in medical school to go into Psychiatry and Psychology and Social work.

Andrea (I hope you don't mind me calling you by your first name) I know you since we worked together during the Zaleski Mayoral Administration at Yonkers City Hall in 1992. That's over 30 years. I know you deeply care about public service and the constituents you serve. I remember my staff assisting you

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Tajian Nelson Named Democratic Commissioner at Westchester Board of Elections



Tajian Nelson, left will become the next Democratic Commissioner at the Westchester County Board of Elections

Will Make History as the First, Black, Female Westchester County Board of Elections Commissioner

On Feb. 16, Tajian Nelson was unanimously selected by the Westchester County Democratic Party's Executive Committee to become the next Democratic Commissioner at the Board of Elections.

Nelson replaces Reginald LaFayette who passed away last month. The Westchester County Board of Legislators is expected to adopt the appointment.

Nelson will become the first, black female Commissioner of the Westchester County Board of Elections.

Nelson has worked at the BOE under LaFayette for many years, and her appointment was not controversial or contested.

On Feb. 16 she posted, "Last night I received the unanimous vote and support from the Westchester County Democratic Committee's Executive Committee to become the next Democratic Board of Elections Commissioner, which will make me the first black female Westchester County Board of Elections Commissioner. I will be completing Commissioner LaFayette's term effective in early March once signed off/approved by the Board of Legislators. I am truly beyond humbled and honored to have received the faith and support from all members in the Executive Committee from Chairwoman Suzanne Berger, First Vice Chair MaryAnn Carr, all Twelve Vice Chairs, my fellow officers, all 25 City and Town Chairs, State Committee members, former Chairs and our affiliate groups: Black Dems, Women Dems, Westchester Young Dems, Hispanic Dems, Hudson Valley Stonewall Dems and Westchester Asian American Dems. I must give special thanks to my Mt. Vernon Dems Chair Mary Graves and Somers/Northern Westchester Coalition Chair Christine Robbins for nominating me and to Yonkers Dems Chair Tom Meier for making the motion for all the Town/City Chairs to be listed as additional seconders to my nomination. Special shout-out and thanks to Westchester Black Women's Political Caucus President Subomi Macaulay and my fellow chapter caucus sisters throughout the County especially my Mt. Vernon Chapter for their letter of support from the beginning and always. I also want to thank my State, County and Local Elected officials for their love and support as well, especially those from the Senate and Assembly who stopped by our meeting last night to address the committee. Last but never least to my family and friends near and far, BOE Family, Mt. Vernon Dems, thank you for always having my back, holding me up, being my biggest cheerleaders, and supporting me through the good times and bad. I know you will always be by my side and my love for all of you knows no bounds. Thank you to my numerous angels in heaven guiding and watching over me always, my beloved Lou, Popi, Nani, Dad, Rochelle, Gladys, Uncle Will, the newest one Reggie, among a host of other family friends, too many to list. I look forward to everyone's continued support as I will be seeking the nomination for the new term beginning January 2023 later this year. THANKS AGAIN TO EVERYONE! I will definitely make you PROUD!"

Jovan Richards, Executive Director at Westchester County Democratic Committee posted, I want to join in the applause for my friend and mentor Tajian Nelson. For the remainder of the year (and god willing the next four years) we will refer to her as the Honorable Board of Elections Commissioner Tajian Nelson. I know how hard Tajian worked for this, because I had a front row seat. I'm proud of my friend. While you were grieving your mentor, you were also hard at work ensuring his legacy would not be forgotten and beginning your legacy as the first woman of color in this role. Congratulations, friend."

The position of Westchester County Board of Elections Commissioner is one of the most prestigious, and among the highest salaried positions in County government. Doug Colety is the republican commissioner at the BOE.

This story was first reported at <https://thewestchesterinsider.blogspot.com/>.

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.

NYAG James gets \$1.1 M Refund from WBT, con't from pg. 3-

"Westchester residents supported the Westchester Broadway Theater for years, only to see the organization shut down and then ticket refunds to thousands of our residents," said Assemblymember Nader Sayegh. "I applaud Attorney General Letitia James for steadfastly pursuing this case and securing more than \$1 million in ticket refunds for patrons who deserved not only their money back, but better treatment for their support of Westchester Broadway Theater for many years. It is good to see justice prevail."

If consumers are having issues receiving a refund on a deposit for an event cancelled due to COVID-19 statewide regulations, they are encouraged to fill out an OAG complaint form or call the office's hotline at (800) 771-7755.

County Executive Latimer Signs Order to Create Task Force on Cybersecurity



L-R-Westchester County DoIT Marguerite Beirne, County Exec. George Latimer, Chair of the Cybersecurity Task Force Ruth Walter, Deputy County Exec. Ken Jenkins

In response to local governments becoming increasingly susceptible to cybersecurity threats over the past decade, County Executive George Latimer has signed an Executive Order to create a Task Force on Cybersecurity. The Task Force will be charged with reviewing the County's current cybersecurity policies, and developing new procedures to enhance the long-standing efforts of the County's Department of Information Technology (DoIT). Together with DoIT, the Task Force will ensure the County will be protected if it ever fell victim to a major breach or cybersecurity attack.

Latimer said: "It is crucial that Westchester County take the necessary steps to anticipate and prepare for a possible cybersecurity threat, which could pose a significant risk to our water systems and utilities, school districts and health-care facilities, airport and other County operations. We very much appreciate the good work of the County's Department of Information Technology, and feel that a strong cybersecurity strategy will arm us with the tools we need to prevent a breach that could access, alter, delete or destroy sensitive data or information."

Commissioner of Westchester County DoIT Marguerite Beirne said: "Cybersecurity has been DoIT's top strategic priority for many years, and we are laser-focused on ensuring the security of all areas of technology that County departments rely on to deliver services, be it desktops, servers, network infrastructure, applications or phones. DoIT will continue to balance the need for new IT solutions with the "human side" of cybersecurity, encouraging all staff to take advantage of available cybersecurity training opportunities. Nearly 2,000 employees have already participated in our latest round of training, so we know the interest is high among staff and we look forward to expanding training offerings even more in the future."

Former Westchester County Legislator and Chair of the Cybersecurity Task Force Ruth Walter said: "It is clear that cybersecurity is in the news. From ransomware attacks on government infrastructure, to non-profits having their donor lists stolen to identity theft in our own homes, we are living in a digital world that continues to evolve new threats from local, national and international bad actors. Westchester County, with its excellent IT Department and resources, is well-positioned to lead the discussion among experts and municipal officials. As a small business owner, former County Legislator and mom, I appreciate the County Executive's forethought in setting up this crucial Task Force to help make families and businesses safe in Westchester County. We can encourage best practices, encourage other municipalities within Westchester to examine their systems and have a frank discussion of the known and potential threats that are circulating in our workplaces. We know the costs of doing nothing are too high to pay."

Westchester County Director of Operations Joan McDonald will serve as Technical Advisor to the Cybersecurity Task Force. In 2015, President Obama appointed McDonald to the National Infrastructure Advisory Council (NIAC). McDonald served on NIAC through 2020, and participated in several national cybersecurity studies.

In addition to recommending new cybersecurity strategies, legislation and funding priorities to reduce the risk of cyberattacks, it will also ensure that all Westchester County employees receive the proper training on cybersecurity threats. The Executive Order takes effect immediately.

Westchester County Police Launch New Mobile App for Apple & An-

The Westchester County Department of Public Safety is launching a new mobile app to enable residents and visitors to receive emergency notifications and traffic alerts, learn more about County Police programs and services, and connect with our officers in a new way.

The app, which is available for Apple and Android phones, is designed to provide valuable information to Westchester residents, non-residents who work in the County, and anyone visiting Westchester for business or pleasure. Enter Westchester County PD in the app store search bar to locate and download it.

County Executive George Latimer noted that a mobile app was among the suggestions made by the County's Police Reform and Reimagining Committee to strengthen the relationship between the police and community. "The mobile app is just the newest tool that the Westchester County Police is utilizing to interact with the people they protect and serve," Latimer said.

Public Safety Commissioner Thomas A. Gleason said, "We engage with the public on multiple social media platforms and at the numerous community relations events we host or participate in. This new mobile app gives us another way to share information with, and receive information from, members of the public," he said.

- By downloading the app, users will be able to:
- Sign up to receive emergency notifications and traffic alerts; Send feedback, whether a compliment or a complaint;
 - Provide tips about criminal activity, quality-of-life concerns or traffic conditions; Learn about scheduled County Police-sponsored community events and programs;
 - Get information and links about how to obtain accident reports, submit a Freedom of Information Law request or apply for a pistol permit;
 - Connect directly with the School Resource Officer at their child's school in the Hendrick Hudson, Lakeland, North Salem and Somers school districts; Connect with Division and Unit commanders at headquarters and local precincts.

In addition, the app has designated pages that can be utilized by government officials in the Town/Village of Mount Kisco and the Town of Cortlandt to push out local emergency alerts and other municipal government information. The Westchester County Police provides contractual police services to those two municipalities.

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Feiner Explains Con Ed Bills & How Westchester Green Power Rates are Cheaper Right Now

Greenburgh Supervisor Paul Feiner sent out the following email letter to the residents of the Town:

Are you upset with your Con Ed bills? If yes, you are not alone. Con Ed rates have skyrocketed and many residents have contacted me and other elected officials to complain.

YOUR CON ED BILL IS GOING UP EVEN IF YOU ARE ENROLLED IN AN ESCO BECAUSE THERE IS NO COMPETITION FOR DELIVERY COSTS

There are two portions of your monthly bill—one that you have no control over and one that you do. Two thirds of your Con Ed bill is for delivery charges. Con Ed is a monopoly and you have no option to use another supplier. Everyone (whether they are enrolled in Sustainable Westchester's ESCO or Con Ed) is experiencing larger bills.

ABOUT ONE THIRD OF YOUR CON ED BILL GOES TO PAY FOR SUPPLY PORTION. ESCO'S OFFER COMPETITION BUT IT'S ONLY FOR THE SUPPLY PORTION OF THE BILLS—BY ENROLLING IN AN ESCO THIS PORTION OF YOUR BILL IS CHEAPER THAN CON ED'S AT THE CURRENT TIME

There is competition for the supply portion of your Con Ed bill. You can enroll in an ESCO. This portion of your bill represents about one third of your total bill. Greenburgh and many other communities in Westchester have entered into an agreement with Sustainable Westchester to provide competition to Con Ed for the supply costs. Everyone is enrolled in the ESCO unless you have opted out or have joined another ESCO. The Sustainable Westchester ESCO is a fixed rate. Our contract ends in June and during the life of the contract (which started in January, 2021) rates were fixed at 7.41 cents. They can't go up and can't go down. Those rates are still 7.41 cents for 100% renewable and 6.75 cents for Standard supply. They are good until June 30th after which point we'll have a new contract. If the market stays like this, the new rates at that point will likely go up to some unknown degree. All customers would get a notification letter with the new rates and could opt out (or change supply) then if they choose.

Currently, the fixed rates for the ESCO is better for consumers than Con Ed rates. But, that was not always the case. Last year there were months when Con Ed rates were lower than the ESCO. I anticipate that in the coming months the Sustainable Westchester rates will be more favorable than Con Ed's.

If you are not in the program now, that means either:

You had opted out at some earlier point: after opting out once, we would not include you in subsequent mailings / automatic opt ins. People who opt out can opt back in at any time however.

You have been with a private ESCO supplier: Is it possible you are with an ESCO that has a variable rate that has shot up also? Or you were with one and that contract just finished recently?

You have a block on your account: Maybe you had an unpleasant experience with an ESCO, called Con Ed and they suggested that you could do this. With a utility block, you cannot join a private supplier until you call Con Ed to remove the block.

You are with the utilities Home Energy Assistance Program: Customers in this program cannot participate in the community energy program

It should be understood that it does take a finite amount of time to enroll (or exit, which you can do at any time) in Westchester Power because it happens on your next meter read date, not instantaneously. If that meter read is very soon – say, in the next couple of days, chances are you would not be enrolled until the subsequent read date.

If you are interested in opting in to Westchester Power, you can do so easily on the website at <https://sustainablewestchester.org/index.php/wp/energy-choices/#energychoices>, or call our office at 914-242-4725. PAUL FEINER Greenburgh Town Supervisor.

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 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.

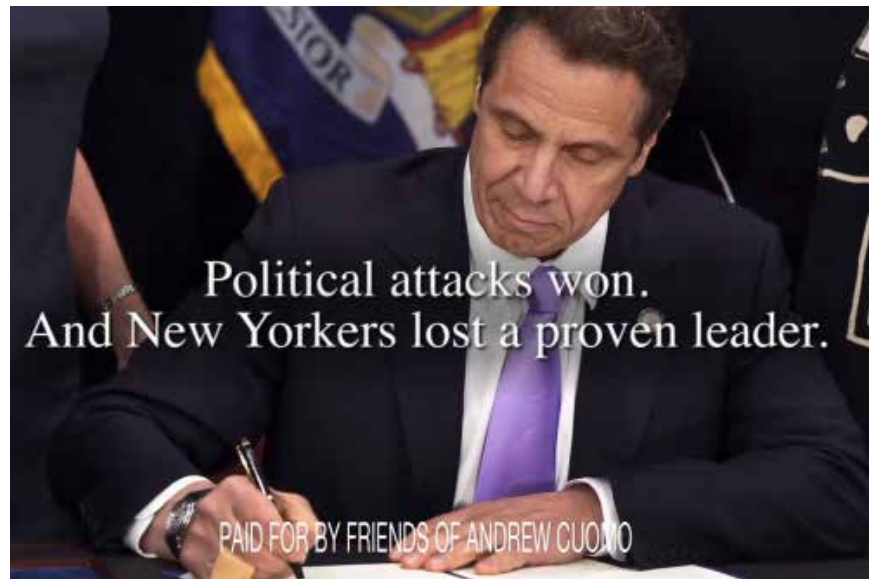
Notice of formation of LOREDANA VICARI PHOTOGRAPHY LLC Articles of Organization filed with the SSNY Office on 10/6/21 Office Location: Westchester County. SSNY has been designated as agent of the LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail a copy of process to : C/O LOREDANA VICARI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

Women's Groups, NYAG James, Criticize Andrew Cuomo TV Ads; "Shame on serial sexual harasser"



Former NY Governor Andrew Cuomo may have gotten the initial media response that he wanted from a 30-second commercial titled Politics vs The Law, which the fact that criminal charges were not filed against him, and claims that NY Attorney General Letitia James ignored exculpatory evidence about Cuomo's accusers. The TV ad includes the voices of Rachel Maddow and a Daily News editorial headline which read an innocent man. "Political attacks won, And New Yorkers lost a proven leader," is how the ad ends.

The ad, paid for with some of the \$16 Million that Cuomo has remaining in his campaign war chest, got the requisite buzz from the media, most of who speculated if, when and where Cuomo would return to politics and run for office.

But after the one day of media buzz, the responses from Women's organizations and Female elected officials across the state realistically put an end to any notion that Andrew Cuomo will ever run for any office again.

NY Attorney General Letitia James, who continues to be the target of many of Cuomo's attacks, from his spokesman, Rich Azzopardi and his attorney Rita Glavin, blasted the TV ad. "The only thing Andrew Cuomo has proven himself to be is a serial sexual harasser and a threat to women in the workplace, no TV ad can change that. It's shameful that after multiple investigations found Cuomo's victims to be credible, he continues to attack their accounts rather than take responsibility for his own actions."

Nine women's rights organizations also released a statement saying "Shame on Cuomo."

"Instead of accepting responsibility, serial sexual harasser Andrew Cuomo continues to challenge the accounts of victims. Multiple investigations have found the accounts of these women to be credible. The media should stop giving a platform to abusers like Cuomo. As evidenced by recent public polling, New Yorkers believe the women who bravely came forward about Cuomo's abuse; they think Cuomo was right to leave office in disgrace. This attempt to claim exoneration won't work. Shame on serial sexual harasser Andrew Cuomo."

The organizations signing the statement include:
 –Jenna Bimbi, Executive Director, NY Birth Control Action Fund
 –Liuba Grechen Shirley, Founder and CEO, Vote Mama
 –Kathleen Landy, Executive Director, The Feminist Institute
 –Catherine Lederer-Plaskett, President/Chair, WCLA – Choice Matters
 –Sophie Nir, Executive Director, Eleanor's Legacy
 –Jamila Pringle-Fynes, President, NYC Black Women's Political Club
 –Heidi Sieck, Co-Founder and CEO, #VoteProChoice
 –Marti Speranza Wong, Executive Director, Amplify Her
 –The Executive Leadership Team, Women of Color for Progress

Upstate NY Congresswoman Elise Stefanik tweeted, "This is desperately de-ranked. New Yorkers don't want an apology tour from a corrupt criminal. Andrew Cuomo should be behind bars, not on our TV screens." Rep. Stefanik is a conservative, Trump republican, but her comments echo those of the democrats who wrote the letter.

Estimates have Cuomo spending \$369,000 on the ad buy. Westchester District Attorney Mimi Rocah was one of four DA's in New York State that declined to press charges against Cuomo. But what Cuomo, who resigned last year after 11 women accused him of sexual harrasment and AG James conducted an investigation in which she believed the accusers, is that just because criminal charges were not made against him, he is not exonerated, or forgiven, or will be welcomed back to the NY Democratic Party.

A recent Sienna poll found 60% of New Yorkers still view Cuomo unfavorably, and 56% of voters still believe that Cuomo was not vindicated. Sienna pollster Steve Greenburgh summed it all up the best when he said, "New Yorkers are not ready to forgive and forget when it comes to Cuomo."

We also wonder if any of the donors to Cuomo's campaign would want a refund, instead of watching the wasterful spending of political funds for a candidate with no party to run in and no office to run for.

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Westchester County Accepting Applications for 2022 Business FIRST Grant Program

Up to \$17 million in funding available to support nonprofits and religious organizations impacted by COVID-19 pandemic

The Westchester County Office of Economic Development is now accepting applications for the 2022 Westchester County Business FIRST grant program. This year's grant program will provide up to \$17 million to support nonprofits and religious organizations facing challenges as a result of the COVID-19 crisis. Applications will be accepted online starting today and the application period will remain open for about four weeks.

Westchester County Executive George Latimer said: "Our nonprofits and religious organizations have been a vital resource to the communities they support throughout the duration of the pandemic. This round of grant funding is an investment in organizations that are critical to our residents and in need of financial relief."

Westchester County Director of Economic Development Bridget Gibbons said: "Westchester County's nonprofits and religious organizations play an important role in our community and our economy. Many of these organizations have faced an increased demand for services, significant costs for personal protective equipment (PPE), loss of funding and other pandemic-related challenges that have impacted their operating costs and income. This grant funding will help to cover some of their expenses as they continue providing invaluable services throughout our communities."

Westchester County Business FIRST: Financial Investments for Recovery and a Sustainable Tomorrow provides immediate financial relief to organizations in Westchester County that have been negatively impacted by the pandemic. This round of funding will provide qualifying nonprofits and religious organizations with grants of up to \$45,000. Grants will be provided on a reimbursable basis only and recipients must provide receipts to Community Capital before any funds will be disbursed.

The County is offering technical assistance to help nonprofit and religious organizations with the application process. The goal is to ensure that the process to complete the application and submit it, along with the required documentation, isn't a barrier to potential applicants. To facilitate this a number of experienced nonprofits will be providing support, led by Jan Fisher, Executive Director of Nonprofit Westchester. Organizations needing help applying for a grant can email [Business-FIRST@westchestergov.com.]Business-FIRST@westchestergov.com.

To be eligible for a grant, the organization's primary location must be in Westchester County. The organization must be currently open with plans to stay open, or temporarily closed with plans to reopen in 2022.

Organizations who received funding from the federal government through the Paycheck Protection Program (PPP) or the Economic Injury Disaster Loan (EIDL) are eligible to apply but the use of the 2022 Business FIRST grant funds should not duplicate purposes. Organizations who received a Business FIRST Grant in 2020 from Westchester County are not eligible for this grant opportunity, nor are organizations who received or will receive a Shuttered Venue Operators Grant from the SBA.

The Westchester County Business FIRST grant program is being administered by the Westchester County Office of Economic Development through the American Rescue Plan. For more information on the application process, visit <https://westchestercatalyst.com/business-first-programs/grants/>.

Notice of formation of a Limited Liability Company 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.

Notice of Formation of J's Admin, LLC. Arts. of Org. filed with SSNY on 1/12/22. Office location: Westchester County. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process may be served. SSNY shall mail process to Julia Rea 69 Dale Ave Apt 6 Ossining, NY 10562. Purpose: any lawful act or activity.

SUPREME COURT OF THE STATE OF
NEW YORK – COUNTY OF WESTCHESTER
INDEX # 67098/2018 FILED: 1/7/2022
SECOND SUPPLEMENTAL SUMMONS

Plaintiff designates Westchester County as the Place of Trial. Designation of Venue is based upon the situs of the Subject Property. Subject property: 15 S Kensico Avenue, White Plains, NY 10601. U.S. BANK NATIONAL ASSOCIATION, AS TRUSTEE FOR J.P. MORGAN MORTGAGE ACQUISITION CORP. 2005-OPT2, ASSET BACKED PASS-THROUGH CERTIFICATES, SERIES 2005-OPT2, Plaintiff, against ARIANA ALVARADO AS ADMINISTRATRIX AND HEIR OF THE ESTATE OF JORGE E ALVARADO A/K/A JOSE ALVARADO, DIANA ALVARADO AS HEIR OF THE ESTATE OF JORGE E ALVARADO A/K/A JOSE ALVARADO, if they be living and if they be dead, the respective heirs-at-law, next-of-kin, distributees, executors, administrators, trustees, devisees, legatees, assignees, lienors, creditors and successors in interest and generally all persons having or claiming under, by or through said defendant(s) who may be deceased, by purchase, inheritance, lien or inheritance, any right, title or interest in or to the real property described in the Complaint, SARA ZARI, THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK, UNITED STATES OF AMERICA INTERNAL REVENUE SERVICE, NEW YORK STATE DEPARTMENT OF TAXATION AND FINANCE and "JOHN DOE" and "JANE DOE" the last two names being fictitious, said parties intended being tenants or occupants, if any, having or claiming an interest in, or lien upon the premises described in the complaint, Defendant(s). TO THE ABOVE NAMED DEFENDANTS: YOU ARE HEREBY SUMMONED to answer the Complaint in this action and to serve a copy of your answer, or, if the Complaint is not served with this Summons, to serve a notice of appearance on the Plaintiff's Attorney within twenty (20) days after the service of this Summons, exclusive of the day of service (or within thirty (30) days after the service is complete if this Summons is not personally delivered to you within the State of New York) in the event the United States of America is made a party defendant, the time to answer for the said United States of America shall not expire until sixty (60) days after service of the Summons; and in case of your failure to appear or answer, judgment will be taken against you by default for the relief demanded in the Complaint. NOTICE YOU ARE IN DANGER OF LOSING YOUR HOME. If you do not respond to this summons and complaint by serving a copy of the answer on the attorney for the mortgage company who filed this foreclosure proceeding against you and filing the answer with the court, a default judgment may be entered and you can lose your home. Speak to an attorney or go to the court where your case is pending for further information on how to answer the summons and protect your property. Sending a payment to your mortgage company will not stop this foreclosure action. YOU MUST RESPOND BY SERVING A COPY OF THE ANSWER ON THE ATTORNEY FOR THE PLAINTIFF (MORTGAGE COMPANY) AND FILING THE ANSWER WITH THE COURT. The foregoing summons is served upon you by publication pursuant to an order of the Honorable Janet C Malone, a Justice of the Supreme Court of the State of New York, Westchester County, granted on the 6th day of January, 2022, and filed with the Complaint and other papers in the office of the County Clerk of Westchester County. The object of this action is to foreclose a mortgage upon the premises described below, executed by JORGE ALVARADO to OPTION ONE MORTGAGE CORPORATION, bearing date September 14, 2005 and recorded in Control No. 452910566 in the County of Westchester on October 27, 2005, which was modified by Loan Modification Agreement on September 1, 2010 creating a new principle amount of \$646,397.52, which was assigned to U.S. BANK NATIONAL ASSOCIATION, AS TRUSTEE FOR J.P. MORGAN MORTGAGE ACQUISITION CORP. 2005-OPT2, ASSET BACKED PASS-THROUGH CERTIFICATES, SERIES 2005-OPT2 by assignment executed August 1, 2018 and recorded on August 6, 2018, in Control No. 582153544. Said premises being known as and by 15 S Kensico Avenue, White Plains, NY 10601, bearing tax map designation Section: 126.53, Block: 4, Lot: 6, which is more fully described in the Schedule "A" attached to the Complaint. Aldridge Pite, LLP. Attorneys for the Plaintiff, 40 Marcus Drive, Suite 200, Melville, NY 11747 Our File 1221-2159B

Zeldin Wins NY GOP Convention for Governor: Astorino, Wilson and Guiliani all Say They Will Petition to Get on Primary Ballot

Zeldin-85% Astorino-7%
Wilson-7% Guiliani-1%

Byrne and Slater, continued from pg. 1-

he has been thinking about this for a while, since Kevin (Byrne) decided to run for County Executive. Once Kevin won the GOP nomination for Putnam County Exec. so decisively, that sealed the deal. Matt was asked to step up and he's doing it," said a Westchester republican and elected official.

Other republicans in northern Westchester said they were surprised that Slater would run. "Matt's in a good spot in Yorktown. I don't imagine he's going to take on something like that, and I would be surprised if that happens. I had heard that Gina Arena and Bill Gouldman are two republicans who were interested in running for Kevin's Assembly seat," said a Northern Westchester republican.

The 94th Assembly District runs from Northern Westchester into Putnam County. One Putnam Republican told us, "Once Kevin won the Putnam GOP convention for County Executive so handily, I think there was a desire to put someone in place who would easily win and keep it in republican hands."

Others in Yorktown, who were no fans of Slater before his Assembly run leaked out, said, "He just got sworn in for a second term as Supervisor. If he was so happy in this position, he should have stayed here. A lot of people are now going to think that he is a career politician who used Yorktown as a stepping stone."

"I was hoping that Matt would stick around and run for County Executive (Westchester) in two years. He's the best chance to shake things up in county government, and I'm an independent. He's done a good job with our Town," said another longtime Yorktown resident.

Democrats presently do not have a candidate to run for the Assembly seat in the 94th D. One democrat who tried and lost was County Legislator Vedat Gashi, who is said to be running for Congress in the newly redrawn 16th District, and challenging Congressman Jamaal Bowman.

One republican leader down county told us, "We are looking for a candidate that is known in Westchester, or who has the resources to highlight the problems with bail reform and other issues that is making life more difficult for the residents of our county. We will have somebody soon."

Classifieds

Attorney

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Stay Away from Trustee Natchez, continued from pg. 1-

formal charges. ...an investigation was started by the Westchester County District Attorney's office on Dec. 7, 2020. ...The evidence submitted to the Village and Westchester County included photographs and video footage depicting Mr. Natchez walking along the beach taking photos of small children in bathing suits/bikinis. ...I urged the board members to 'deal with the issue.' I learned from Deputy Mayor Wenstrup that Mr. Natchez was previously warned about that very disturbing behavior approximately 10 years ago," states Barberio in his complaint to the NYS Human Rights Commission and the U.S. Equal Employment Opportunity Commission, EEOC.

Barberio alleges that Natchez used his friends to lodge hundreds of complaints at board meetings and filed unnecessary freedom of information requests to make his job more difficult.

Published reports in this case have Trustee Natchez saying "I cannot comment on a matter that may involve litigation," but adding "The allegations of the EEOC charge lack merit and are baseless. I look forward through independent investigation of the allegations and will be completely exonerated."

Another published report, on Patch.com, claim that the EEOC complaint "has now been referred to the Department of Justice." and, also from the Patch.com story written by Jeff Edwards, "While Mamaroneck Mayor Tom Murphy has admitted in public comments that he did not initially appreciate the gravity of Barberio's complaints, he told Patch that he agrees that the charges are "serious" and should be thoroughly investigated by appropriate, independent agencies."

Natchez is 78; Barbeiro is 54. All Village Trustees serve as Commissioners overseeing the Police Department.

Another report on this case, from the Larchmont Loop, has Mayor Murphy admitting, "It obviously made the mother uncomfortable," concerning Natchez leering behavior towards young children on the Village beach.

Uncomfortable is putting in kind. The mother, who we hope to speak with, didn't know who Trustee Natchez was, but only viewed him as an old "perv," walking on the beach photographing kids in their bathing suits.

Barberio wants to leave the Village of Mamaroneck's employment, and with three years remaining on his contract, wants to negotiate a buyout. Mayor Murphy has said that he does not support buying out Barberio's contract, which would require three votes on the village board, and would be paid for by the taxpayers of the Village of Mamaroneck.

Mayor Murphy told Polly Kreisman of the Larchmont Loop that "This will be eventually worked out, people don't have to worry."

Other Mamaroneck residents we spoke to "are worried" to put it mildly. More on this subject in the future.

Old Mt. Vernon Comptroller continued from pg. 1-

DiNapoli's 55 page report details numerous instances of improper expenditures by Reynolds. DA Rocah's investigation will determine if any of Reynolds actions rise to a criminal offense. DiNapoli's report, which can be read in its entirety at

<https://www.osc.state.ny.us/press/releases/2022/01/audit-finds-operational-and-oversight-failures-led-financial-instability-mount-vernon>

shows how Reynolds created a financial system of payments, bank accounts, and online transfers, that she used to without payments to some vendors while paying others. Millions of dollars in transactions were made by Reynolds without the required approval of the Mt. Vernon Board of Estimate, made up of the Mayor, Council President and Comptroller. A majority of the Board of Estimate is required to make any payments. Reynolds unilaterally decided to circumvent the Mount Vernon City Charter to concoct this scheme.

"The former Comptroller did not properly or transparently account for all non-payroll disbursements. Her failure to provide financial information or perform her duties resulted in the untimely payment of claims and litigation. As a result, the City's reputation with its vendors was damaged and the City paid for additional, potentially unnecessary, disbursements related to litigation," writes DiNapoli.

Reynolds made more than \$150 million in unauthorized electronic transactions. Some of these transactions were legitimate payments of bills and invoices for services provided to the city. But the way in which Reynolds created the new system of payments, around the authority of the Mayor and City Council, resulted in more than \$1.2 Million in late fees or lawsuits against the city for lack of payment, that the taxpayers of Mt. Vernon must pay for.

Reynolds also decided on her own to spend \$281,000 on a firewall and cloud based management system without the approval of the Mayor or the City Council. And Reynolds used this new system to hide payments or lack of payments to the Mayor, City Council and Department heads, who did not know whether vendors were getting paid.

DiNapoli's audit also found that Reynolds created a wire transfer system of electronic payments for expenditures with a bank without the approval of the Board of Estimate.

Reynolds claim that everything she did was to protect the taxpayers is disputed by Mayor Patterson-Howard who said that DiNapoli's audit "raises serious concerns about how much money has truly been moved around in the miasma of (Reynolds') office."

One innocent person, and Veteran, who got caught in Reynolds web of financial deception was Kristyn Vanderberg-Reed who was promoted to a position in City Hall that gave her a raise from \$59,000 to \$90,000. The raise was approved by the Board of Estimate, but Reynolds never gave her the salary increase, claiming that it would be a waste of taxpayer money to do so. Vanderberg-Reed had to sue the city for her salary increase.

But while there were some innocent victims of Comptroller Reynolds, there were others who benefited from her nefarious financial oversight. Attorney Jay Hashmall represented Reynolds in the many challenges to her conducting financial transactions without the lawful approval of the Board of Estimate.

Hashmall is the former Deputy County Executive under Andy Spano. Hashmall was paid \$327,938 for his services to Reynolds. But a court ruled that the City of Mount Vernon and its taxpayers did not have to foot the bill to defend Reynolds for her questionable financial actions.

"On September 27, 2021, the Court held that the City's statutory scheme was disregarded by the former Comptroller when retaining outside counsel. Further, the Court held that "[t]o empower all public officials to retain independent counsel, whenever it is deemed desirable, effectively unilaterally empowers them to create municipal debt to the detriment of the public," according to DiNapoli's report.

The payments to Hashmall were not budgeted by the Mayor or Council. So what accounts did Reynolds use to pay Hashmall? "We received numerous complaints from City officials regarding the former Comptroller's use of outside counsel, including questions regarding the permissibility of their retention and where the funds were coming from to pay her outside counsel, given that the City's budget did not include appropriations for such expenses by the Finance Department," writes DiNapoli.

Reynolds used money from the Law Departments budget, and for budgeted funds for Labor Counsel and outside counsel, to pay for Hashmall. Reynolds also used "Unauthorized Electronic Disbursements of \$223,545 to the former Comptroller's outside counsel were made through unauthorized electronic disbursements," according to the audit.

On February 19, 2021, the City commenced a lawsuit against the former Comptroller, the law firm she retained, the primary attorney who has represented her," writes DiNapoli. The lawsuit continues to try and recoup some of the money paid to Hashmall.

Our headline asks if Comptroller Reynolds stole money from the taxpayers. The next question is how much money did she cost the taxpayers of Mount Vernon? We count more than \$2 Million from above, the most ridiculous being, "\$11,699 for work performed to replace a bullet proof door within the former Comptroller's office," according to DiNapoli's report.

The question that DA Rocah must determine is whether Reynolds actions rise to a crime or are just incompetence.

Don't Use These Passwords to Avoid Getting Hacked

Last year, there were 1,862 data breaches according to the Identity Theft Resource Center's 2021 Annual Data Breach Report. That is an all time high and a 68% increase over breaches in 2020. According to Lookout, the leader in delivering integrated Security, Privacy, and Identity Theft Protection solutions, 80% of people's emails are leaked on the dark web as a result of data breaches.

When data breaches happen, passwords for online accounts are also commonly leaked, leaving consumers at risk for identity theft. In order to keep your information safe Lookout has shared the top 20 passwords found on the dark web. **From Lookout.com.**

Top 20 Passwords Found On Dark Web:

123456	123456789	Qwerty	Password	12345
12345678	111111	1234567	123123	Qwerty123
1q2w3e	1234567890	DEFAULT	0	Abc123
654321	123321	Qwertyuiop	Iloveyou	666666

Mount Sinai Doctors, Cholesterol, continued from pg. 1-

from plant-based sources, and they have much higher levels of physical activity on a daily basis. We know that these factors are important in maintaining low blood cholesterol levels and healthy arteries," said Dr. Gitig.

What is an Average Cholesterol Value? What Should it be?

"In industrialized societies, the average LDL cholesterol values are in the range of 125-130 (mg/dL). While these values are typical, they are not likely optimal. Industrialized societies with these average cholesterol numbers have staggeringly high rates of arterial diseases caused by cholesterol plaque (coronary artery disease/heart attack, stroke, peripheral arterial disease of the legs)."

"And there are still certain areas of the world that live much more traditional lifestyles (some populations on the Greek Isles, areas of rural China and Japan, certain indigenous populations of Central and South America) whose people almost never develop arterial disease. The people living in those regions tend to have LDL cholesterol values in the 50-80 range."

What medications are available for Cholesterol? What are the benefits and risks of taking medications?

"The most used medications to lower cholesterol are called statins, which are also among the most widely prescribed class of medications in the world. Dozens of studies have been done investigating use, and we have many years of clinical observation in hundreds of millions of real-life patients."

"There is a ton of misinformation out there. Statins are possibly the most studied drugs in the history of the world, with probably more focus on their safety profile than any other medication. We know that in 5-20% of patients that can be side effects of muscle or joint pain, which can almost always be easily be reversed if the medication is stopped, or dose reduced," said Dr. Gitig, who warned about the misinformation regarding statins online.

"There are risks associated with ingesting any external substances such as Rx drugs or naturopathic herbal supplements, just as there are risks associated with ingesting alcohol. Several studies have found NO RISK in patients for increased dementia or changes in neurocognitive function who used statins."

"Here are the facts. Cholesterol is the principal component of plaque. You cannot get plaque in your arteries unless you get cholesterol in your bloodstream. The only way that cholesterol gets to the walls of the arteries is to be delivered through the blood stream."

"If you have high cholesterol, or are at risk, there are two ways to lower it. Make a lifestyle change or medication. Lifestyle is always the preferred approach in my opinion, as I believe that evidence suggests it has more powerful benefits. However I also believe in lower cholesterol targets than what most people assume are fine, and many people need medication to achieve those levels. You should have a thorough evaluation of your lifetime risk of arterial diseases by a doctor with experience in prevention. If your risk is elevated, I strongly suggest that you take action and remember that the risk of doing nothing is often much higher than the risk of serious medication side effects

"Exercise, diet and lifestyle changes, should all be a part of my patients' path to better heart health, and I work hard on this with the folks I treat. However I also believe that we have enough evidence to feel very confident that these medications, used correctly, are far more likely to help you achieve optimal health than to hurt you," said Dr. Gitig.

A standard blood test given to most patients during their physical is the usual way that cholesterol is tested. The most popular statins are Lipitor (atorvastatin), Crestor (rosuvastatin), and Zocor (simvastatin).

Alon Gitig, MD, is Director of Cardiology at Mount Sinai Doctors-Scarsdale and Mount Sinai Doctors-Yonkers. He is also an Assistant Professor of Cardiology, Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai, and Medical Director of the Heart Failure Management Program for the Mount Sinai Health Network.

To make an appointment, visit

<https://www.mountsinai.org/locations/westchester>.

Eric Schoen, continued from pg 3-

wrapping gifts for those in need at Christmas time.

Andrea It pains me when I hear a Sean Hannity or a Mark Levin or a Mark Simone, national and local radio hosts criticize you over issues such as bail reform or crime. I know you would not do anything to hurt the people you represent or the people of our state. They don't know you.

Shelley you too I know for many years. We sort of represent the old guard of Yonkers and know so much about the history of our city and it's players over the years. You have worked so hard with Andrea and Nader and Gary Pretlow (My fellow Selective Service Board Member) to bring more money to Yonkers for Education, money long overdue. Your knowledge of State Government is exemplary, and I know you know the crime situation in our state is hurting your friends and Constituents.

Nader, where do I begin. You and your brothers worked so hard at your uncle's Grocery Store, Saratoga Dairy on Lawrence Street to pay your way through college. You and your brothers went to school with my sister at Yonkers High School. We worked together as administrators in the Yonkers Public Schools. We have been friends for years. I know you see what is going on out there and know something is wrong and needs correction.

91% of New Yorkers in a recent Sienna College survey said crime in our state is a serious or somewhat serious problem. Two-thirds of blacks and Hispanics and 53 percent of whites said they were very or at least somewhat worried about being the victim of a crime.

Two-thirds of voters agree with New York City Mayor Eric Adams that the controversial bail law needs to be overhauled by giving judges the discretion to detain "dangerous" recidivist felons pending trial for a lesser offense. Under the current bail law, these defendants are automatically released pending trial if they're charged with a non-violent felony or misdemeanor crime that exempts them from cash bail consideration or detention. A total of 65 percent of the 803 Siena respondents said the bail law should be amended to take into account a defendant's prior violent record, and only 27 percent of voters said the law should not be changed.

New York State, Westchester County and Yonkers.... WE HAVE A PROBLEM. ANDREA, SHELLEY, NADER AND GARY, all elected to represent Yonkers and the great citizens of this State. We count on you to make New York State and our communities a safe place again.

Sincerely, Your Friend, Eric

Reach Eric Schoen at thistooisyonkers@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.



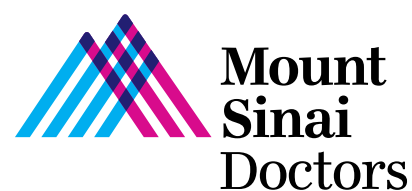
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