

Yorktown Deputy Supervisor Sergio Esposito to Challenge Senator Pete Harckham

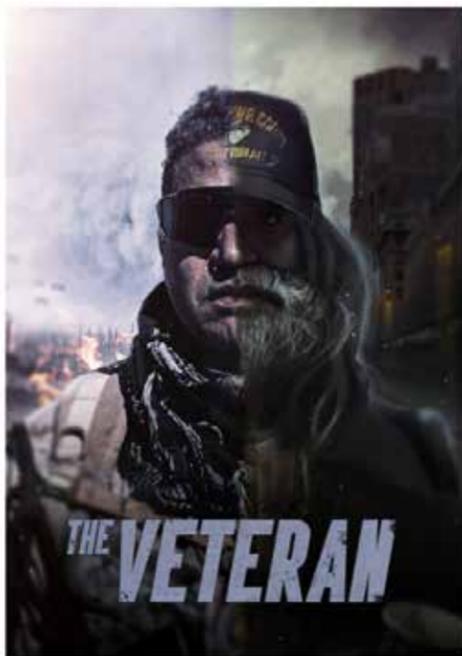


By Dan Murphy

Yonkerstimes.com has learned that Yorktown Councilman and Deputy Supervisor Sergio Esposito will be challenging State Senator Pete Harckham in the 40th District, which includes Northern Westchester and Putnam Counties. A

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Westchester Filmmaker Movie Highlights an American Tragedy: Homeless Veterans



Moive Poster for The Veteran, left by Filmmaker Wilfred La Salle, right

See Story on Page 5

Ursuline Track Coach Retires after 36 Years



Coach Jan Mitchell P'96 GP'25 shaped generations of student-athletes through discipline, resilience, and teamwork

After 36 years leading the Cross Country and Track and Field teams at The Ursuline School, Coach Jan Mitchell P'96 GP'25 will retire at the conclusion of the 2025-26 school year, closing a 51-year coaching career that has influenced generations of student-athletes at both the high school and collegiate levels.

Mitchell founded Ursuline's Cross Country and Track and Field program in 1990, building it from the ground up and establishing a foundation that would define the school's programs for decades. Over more than thirty years, he coached thousands of young women and shaped a program rooted in discipline, resilience, and teamwork.

Before and during his tenure at Ursuline, Mitchell also coached at Iona Prepara-

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We Need an Energy Rebate Check from Hochul and A Tariff Rebate Check from Trump!



By Dan Murphy
Two proposals aim to provide financial relief to Westchester families facing rising costs. The first, from Republicans in the state Assembly and Senate, calls for an Energy Rebate check of up to \$400. The second, a federal plan, could provide

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NYPD Sgt. Arrested for Vehicular Homicide-That Killed a Peekskill Dad -BAC Triple the Limit-Follow Her Fatal Path



Pleasantville Road Exit where Tiffany Howell took the left lane onto incoming northbound traffic on the Taconic

Media reports state that Howell's blood alcohol level at the time of the crash was allegedly .26, the source said. The legal limit is .08.

On March 2, New York Attorney General Letitia James announced the indictment, arrest, and arraignment of Tiffany Howell, 47, of Warwick, Orange County, on the charges of Aggravated Vehicular Homicide (a class B Felony), Manslaughter in the Second Degree (a class C Felony), Vehicular Manslaughter in the First Degree (a class C Felony), and two counts of Vehicular Manslaughter in the Sec-

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Actor Lilo Brancato Talks About Addiction, Recovery & Growing Up in Yonkers



Lilo Brancato

By Dan Murphy

Many readers remember Lilo Brancato as Calogero in Robert De Niro's 1993 film, A Bronx Tale, and as Matthew Bevilaqua, a young mobster, in The Sopranos.

Raised in Yonkers, Lilo has experienced many ups and downs since his breakout role over 30 years ago, including struggles with addiction, arrest, and jail time.

Lilo has been sober for years and now shares his story to help others battling addiction.

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Spring 2026 Hudson Valley Restaurant Week Underway: \$24.95- \$44.95 Lunches & Dinners

Homicide on Taconic continued from pg 1-



As spring unfolds across the Hudson Valley, Westchester restaurants are welcoming guests for the Spring 2026 Hudson Valley Restaurant Week that will run from March 2–15. To mark the start of two weeks’ worth of unique dining offers and deals, Westchester County hosted a culinary kick-off event at Zwilling Cooking Studio in Pleasantville, NY — bringing together chefs, hospitality leaders, media and community partners to celebrate one of the region’s signature dining events.

The kickoff showcased the creativity and diversity of Westchester’s dining scene with live cooking demonstrations alongside chefs from the Zwilling Cooking Studio and featuring three of this year’s participating restaurants and their signature dishes: Freddy’s Restaurant (Pleasantville), Red Horse by David Burke (White Plains) and Dubrovnik Restaurant (New Rochelle). Hudson Valley Restaurant Week is one of Westchester’s most impactful seasonal tourism initiatives. With visitor spend reaching \$2.4 billion in 2024 — including \$876 million in food and beverage sales, which was a 12% increase year over year — Restaurant Week continues to play a key role in driving visitation and supporting the local economy.

The Spring 2026 Hudson Valley Restaurant Week will feature 51 participating restaurants, offering specially priced prix-fixe lunch and dinner menus that encourage residents and visitors to explore new establishments while supporting local favorites.

Westchester County Executive Ken Jenkins said: “Hudson Valley Restaurant Week highlights the extraordinary talent of our chefs and the strength of our hospitality community. Events like this not only showcase Westchester as a premier culinary destination, they generate real economic activity for our restaurants, small businesses and workforce. I encourage everyone to take advantage of Restaurant Week and experience the remarkable flavors found throughout our County.”

Westchester County Tourism & Film Director Natasha Caputo said: “Travel and tourism continue to be a powerful economic engine for Westchester. Restaurant Week helps drive that momentum by increasing visitation, supporting local businesses and encouraging discovery. The spring kickoff demonstrated the creativity and energy that make Westchester a premier culinary destination.”

Hudson Valley Magazine Associate Publisher Lauren Buerger said: “This kickoff party was a taste of what makes Hudson Valley Restaurant Week so special. From talented chefs to incredible food, and a strong sense of community. It’s the perfect way to launch two weeks dedicated to exploring and supporting our local restaurant scene.”

Hudson Valley Restaurant Week continues to serve as both a celebration of local cuisine and a strategic tourism initiative. With many participating restaurants located near Metro-North stations, visitors can seamlessly combine dining with shopping, arts, and cultural attractions, or an overnight stay at one of Westchester’s many hotels. At all locations, diners can savor fresh, delicious fare with prix-fixe lunches and dinners priced at \$24.95, \$29.95, \$39.95, or \$44.95 (tax, beverages, and gratuity not included).

For more information about Hudson Valley Restaurant Week, visit: hvmag.com/events/restaurant-week.



Manuel Boitel



NYPD Sgt. Tiffany Howell

ond Degree (a class D Felony). The indictment alleges that on January 22, 2026, Sergeant Howell drove her personal vehicle while intoxicated and in a manner that caused the death of Manuel Boitel. Sergeant Howell was off-duty at the time.

Howell was arraigned today by Judge George Fufido at Westchester County Court. Judge Fufido set bail at a \$250,000 bond, or a \$500,000 partially secured bond, with a \$100,000 cash alternative. Sergeant Howell is due back in court on March 18 before Judge Anne B. Bianchi. The maximum sentence on the top count is eight and one-third to 25 years in prison.

Attorney General James alleges that at 11:37 p.m. on January 22, in Westchester County, Sergeant Howell was driving south in the northbound lanes of the Taconic State Parkway at more than 50 mph when she crashed head-on into the car driven by Mr. Boitel, causing his death. Attorney General James alleges that Sergeant Howell was intoxicated at the time. Mr. Boitel was taken to a local hospital, where he was pronounced dead shortly after midnight.

She was driving her Infiniti south in the northbound lanes of the Taconic State Parkway in Mount Pleasant when she slammed into Boitel's Toyota about 11:40 p.m., authorities say.

Medics rushed Boitel to Westchester Medical Center but he couldn't be saved. Boitel was returning home from his job as a doorman at Manhattans St. Tropez luxury condominium building on E. 64th St. near First Ave.

Howell had just left a Holy Smoke 2026 cigar social she helped organize at Moms Cigar Warehouse in Scarsdale. The social featured an open bar, buffet-style dinner and premium cigars. She was taken to the same hospital as Boitel but with non-life-threatening injuries.

Boitel had when he was younger talked of becoming a cop and was a big fan of law enforcement.

The irony is that he regularly donated to funds supporting police officers, as he always dreamed of becoming one himself, family members said of Boitel in a GoFundMe post.

Howell, suspended from NYPD, risks up to 25 years in prison if convicted of aggravated vehicular homicide.

In an exclusive that you can only find here at Yonkerstimes.com, we have been able to determine where Sgt. Howell got on the Taconic the wrong way.

The photo above shows the Northbound exit to the Taconic Parkway at Pleasantville Road. There is also a ramp for cars exiting northbound on the Taconic. Based on the road mile marker on the Taconic where the accident is alleged to have occurred, this is where Howell made the fatal mistake, and took the left ramp instead of the right ramp.

It appears that there was no exiting traffic when she got on the wrong way, because she traveled a bit (about a 1/4 mile) before striking.

The question that we have is how Howell got to that location on her way home from Scarsdale to her Dutchess County home.

Mom's Cigar Warehouse is located on the Yonkers-Scarsdale border on Central Park Avenue. From there, Howell likely got on the Taconic northbound, but somehow ended up on Pleasantville Road in Pleasantville. She then attempted to get back on the Taconic, and ended the life of a hard working, family man from Peekskill.

A GoFundMe page set up for Boitel has raised \$70,000. <https://www.gofundme.com/f/54r6c-support-for-my-aunt-after-tragic-loss>.

We have been following this case from Sal Greco, on X @TheSalGreco, and on YouTube at <https://www.youtube.com/@TheSalGrecoShow>.

Greco has been calling for justice for the family of Boitel, and although it may have taken a while, justice was served.

Our question is, where were the friends of Sgt. Howell at this fundraiser and how could they let her drive home. With a BAC, three times the legal limit, she should have been forced to stay with a friend or get a hotel. We also don't know if Howell refused a BAC on the scene. In that case, her BAC was taken at the hospital, where it was likely lower from when she took that fatal wrong turn.

Please, let this be a lesson for all, don't drink and drive!

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Plus One Gathers NY-17 Residents for 57 Dinners



On February 7th and 7 PM Plus One, a new PAC whose focus is to bring neighbors together and in doing so strengthen our communities and democracy gathered for 57 dinners.

Over 40 individuals hosted dinners across the 57 towns and villages of NY17 (Putnam, Rockland, and parts of Westchester and Dutchess counties). 500 neighbors joined for the dinners.

In reading the survey responses of some of the 57 Dinners hosts it was clear that people used the event to spark connections that not only fostered closer relationships but also engendered in dinner attendees the desire to be more active in support of their neighbor and with respect to issues that concern them.

Host Victoria Wu Zazyczny of Nanuet is a great example. She noted that among her 16 dinner guests, “some came as strangers to each other, acquaintances, or neighbors who never socialized with each other. We left as one community,” and then went on to describe how her action-oriented dinner group had shared information about an emergency food provider organization in her community, Porch Nanuet, as well as information about the 5 Calls app that helps voters contact their congressional representatives.

Members of host Stephanie Perrell’s group of 21 dinner guests in Bedford have already agreed to organize a baking day as their next activity-oriented get together and were extending invitations to not just other dinner guests but to people who had missed attending. This, too, was a group that “shared laughs and felt a sense of belonging around new people.” Stephanie particularly valued the “spontaneous conversations” happening among her guests and suggested that Plus One more actively promote the idea that strong community bonds form the foundation of healthy democracies.

The most commonly requested follow-ups from our hosts were for more opportunities for community activity-based events, ranging from efforts that would support vulnerable people in their own communities to political activities like voter registration drives, canvassing and political candidate information events. This is exactly what we hoped for from this exercise of bringing people together — new connections and incremental energy to support their communities in the ways they see best.

years. Esposito raised his three children here; he has grown his business here and has contributed to the well-being of the community. Councilman Esposito has been a champion of the youth in Yorktown supporting and promoting an array of initiatives both in our community and in our school districts.

Previously, Esposito served as President of the Yorktown Chamber of Commerce. An immigrant from Italy, he also runs his own specialty information technology business. His involvement extends beyond business— he was the secretary of the Town’s Ethics Committee, and a respected member of the Yorktown Heights Volunteer Fire Department. Among his proudest contributions is his partnership with Camp Sunshine, which has raised funds to support families with children facing life-threatening illnesses by providing critical help and counseling. Esposito got the most votes out of all of the republicans on the ballot in Yorktown last year.

Senator Harckham is serving his fourth two-year term. He has defeated incumbent State Senator Terrence Murphy in 2018, former County Executive Rob Astorino in 2020, and Gina Arena in 2022 and 2024. Republicans we spoke to are excited about Esposito stepping forward to challenge Sen. Harckham.

Tuckahoe Resident Philip Castracucco Pleads Guilty to Filing False Tax Return for Masonry Company Totalling \$4.5 Million

Philip Castracucco Underreported More Than \$3.5 Million of Business Receipts and More Than \$1 Million of Salaries and Wages Paid

United States Attorney for the Southern District of New York, Jay Clayton, and Special Agent in Charge of the New York Field Office of the Internal Revenue Service, Criminal Investigation (“IRS-CI”), Harry T. Chavis, Jr., announced that PHILIP CASTRACUCCO pled guilty today to filing false U.S. Individual Income Tax Returns before U.S. District Judge Jessica G. L. Clarke in White Plains federal court.

“As he admitted today in court, Philip Castracucco filed false tax returns that underreported income from his business,” said U.S. Attorney Jay Clayton. “Castracucco attempted to avoid paying his full obligation back to the government, one we all collectively share for essential services and infrastructure. He has now pled guilty to a federal crime and faces time in prison. Cheating on your taxes is stealing from your fellow New Yorkers.”

“Philip Castracucco concealed income from the IRS and evaded the payment of taxes, contributing to our nation’s tax gap in the process. With today’s guilty plea, he is being held accountable. This outcome demonstrates the strength of our investigative efforts and our commitment to safeguarding the public from financial misconduct. He now faces the consequences of choosing fraud over compliance,” said IRS-CI Special Agent in Charge Harry T. Chavis, Jr.

According to the Information, public court proceedings and filings, as well as CASTRACUCCO’s admissions during his plea allocation:

CASTRACUCCO was the owner of a contracting business (“Company-1”) that performed construction work, primarily for masonry projects in the vicinity of Westchester County, New York. From 2017 through 2022, CASTRACUCCO caused Company-1 business receipt checks in a total amount of more than \$3.5 million to be cashed through a check cashing business and converted to cash, rather than deposited into Company-1’s business bank account. CASTRACUCCO used this cash to pay salaries and wages to himself and his employees; for other items purchased for his own benefit; and for materials used by Company-1.

From 2018 through 2023, CASTRACUCCO filed with the Internal Revenue Service (“IRS”) U.S. Income Tax Returns for an S Corporation, IRS Forms 1120-S, for Company-1 that omitted its gross receipts from the aforementioned checks and more than \$1 million of salaries and wages paid by Company-1 to CASTRACUCCO and others. CASTRACUCCO also caused to be filed with the IRS Forms 941, Employer’s Quarterly Federal Tax Returns, for Company-1 that omitted these salaries and wages.

From 2020 through 2023, CASTRACUCCO filed and caused to be filed with the IRS personal U.S. Individual Income Tax Returns, IRS Forms 1040, that omitted more than \$900,000 of business income CASTRACUCCO received from Company-1.

CASTRACUCCO, 63, of Tuckahoe, New York, pled guilty to one count of making and subscribing to false U.S. Individual Income Tax Returns, which carries a maximum sentence of three years in prison. CASTRACUCCO has agreed to pay restitution to the IRS, representing the additional tax due and owing as a result of his conduct, in an amount no less than \$359,646.57. Sentencing before Judge Clarke is scheduled for September 9, 2026.

Esposito, continued from pg 1-

flyer was posted on social media with the republican candidates collecting signatures and Esposito’s name is the GOP’s candidate for State Senate in D-40.

Sergio Esposito is currently serving as Town Councilman and Deputy Supervisor. In addition to his leadership roles in local government, he is a dedicated first responder, serving as a Volunteer Deputy Sheriff with the Westchester County Department of Public Safety.

Councilman Esposito is proud to call Yorktown home and has lived here for over 30

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Westchester County Executive Jenkins Introduces Prevailing Wage Act

“We stand firmly with organized labor.”

Westchester County Executive Ken Jenkins has introduced legislation to the Westchester County Board of Legislators that would require landlords leasing property to the County to use contractors and subcontractors who pay prevailing wages for certain construction projects performed on County-leased facilities.

The proposed law, titled the “Westchester County Lessor Prevailing Wage Act,” addresses the current law by ensuring that construction workers on projects undertaken for the County, but performed on leased rather than publicly owned property, receive fair, prevailing wages consistent with the County’s longstanding commitment to equitable labor standards.

Under New York State Labor Law, prevailing wages are required on public work projects. However, when construction takes place on privately owned property leased by the County, those projects may not always meet the legal definition of “public work,” even when they directly benefit County operations and the public. As a result, workers on those projects are not currently guaranteed prevailing wages.

Jenkins said: “We stand firmly with organized labor. This legislation ensures fairness and consistency across all construction projects undertaken for Westchester County. When work is done to support County government and serve our residents, the workers performing that work deserve fair pay. By addresses the situation, we are protecting workers, promoting high-quality construction and ensuring that our public investments reflect our values.”

Business Representative Local 3 IBEW Louis Sanchez said: “Today we introduced the Leaseback Bill, a measure designed to close this loophole and ensure that all workers receive the wages and benefits they deserve. This Leaseback Bill is an essential step toward safeguarding workers’ rights while strengthening our local economy, bringing us one-step closer to economic justice for all.”

The legislation would apply to lease agreements with terms of 10 years or more and to construction projects exceeding \$250,000 that are undertaken at the request of, or on behalf of, the County. Under the proposed law, lessors would be required to hire contractors and subcontractors who pay prevailing wages and maintain certified payroll records to verify compliance.

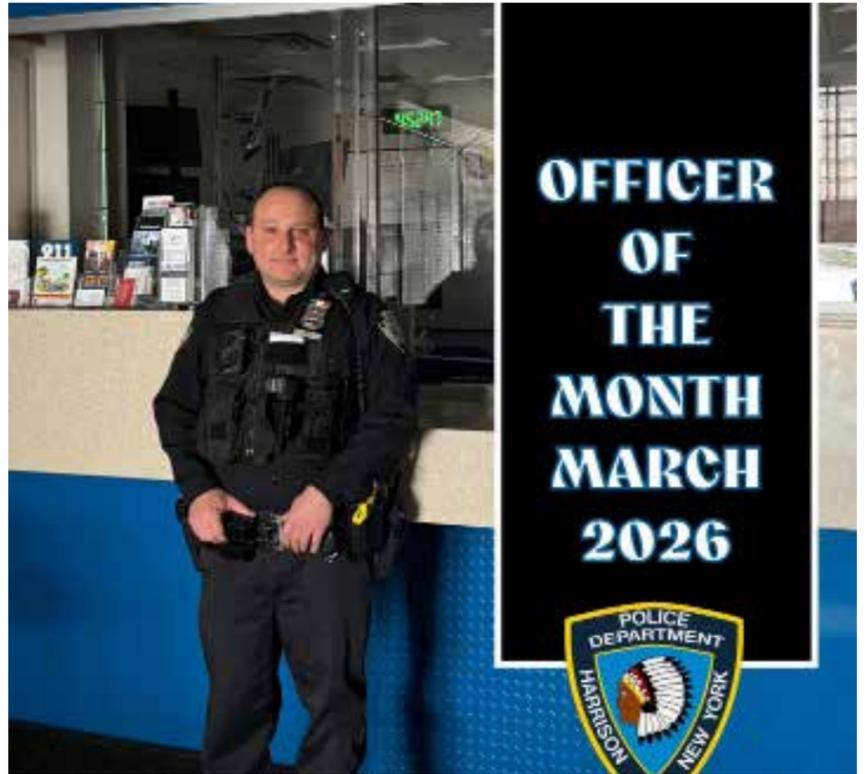
The measure also protects the County’s operational and financial interests by helping ensure that construction projects are completed safely, efficiently and to high professional standards. Research and industry experience consistently show that prevailing wage requirements support skilled workforces, improve safety outcomes and reduce costly delays and deficiencies.

The legislation includes exemptions for emergency construction work when necessary to protect public health and safety and would apply to new lease agreements entered into beginning 120 days after adoption.

The Westchester County Board of Legislators will consider the legislation in the coming weeks.

Send us your letters, announcements, opinions, photos & story ideas to dmurphy@risingmediagroup.com

Great Police Work by Harrison Police Officer Joseph Ader



On February 17, 2026, at approximately 2:35 PM, Police Officer Joseph Ader of the Harrison Police Department conducted a traffic stop after observing multiple traffic violations. What initially appeared to be a routine traffic stop quickly evolved into a significant criminal investigation.

During the stop, Officer Ader determined that the driver was operating the vehicle with multiple suspensions on his license and had initially provided false identifying information. As the investigation progressed, Officer Ader uncovered evidence linking both occupants to broader criminal activity.

A search of the vehicle and subsequent investigation led to the recovery of multiple forged driver’s licenses, stolen credit cards, blank business checks belonging to a homeowner’s association, bank account statements, controlled substances, and drug paraphernalia. The driver was charged with Aggravated Unlicensed Operation of a Motor Vehicle, False Personation,

Criminal Possession of a Controlled Substance, Criminal Possession of Stolen Property, and multiple traffic violations. The passenger was also arrested and charged accordingly.

Further investigation determined that the recovered property was connected to active identity theft and grand larceny investigations in Connecticut and on Long Island. Both victims confirmed the fraudulent use of their information.

Officer Ader’s proactive enforcement and thorough investigative efforts led to the arrest of two individuals involved in significant criminal activity extending beyond our jurisdiction. His actions reflect great credit upon himself and the Harrison Police Department and exemplify the dedication deserving of Officer of the Month recognition.

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Westchester BOL Celebrates Irish American Heritage Month



Legislator David Tubiolo, Sandra Feeny-Charles, BOL Chair Vedat Gashi



Legislator Tyrae Woodson-Samuels, Pauline Galvin, BOL Chair Vedat Gashi

The Westchester County Board of Legislators marked Irish American Heritage Month on Monday evening with a ceremony honoring two remarkable change-makers: Sandra Feeny-Charles, Executive Director of the Aisling Center in Yonkers and an inspirational humanitarian who worked with the international organization Concern Worldwide, and Pauline M. Galvin, Chairwoman of the Yonkers Planning Board and a driving force behind the Untermeyer Performing Arts Council, Richmond Community Services, and the McLean Avenue Merchants Association.

Chairman Vedat Gashi (D–New Castle, Ossining, Somers, Yorktown), who convened the ceremony and welcomed guests, said, “We’re proud to honor two extraordinary women whose Irish heritage and decades of dedication to community embody the very best of the Irish American tradition. Sandra Feeny-Charles and Pauline Galvin represent the work ethic and compassion that have driven Irish Americans to help build Westchester into the vibrant place it is today.

Legislator David J. Tubiolo (D–Yonkers, Mount Vernon) said, “I am delighted to have the opportunity to honor my good friend Sandra Feeny-Charles, Executive Director of Aisling Center. The Aisling Center has been a centripetal force at the heart of McLean Avenue, also known as ‘The Emerald Mile,’ and that is thanks to the dedication and hard work of Sandra and her entire team. As the legislator for District 14, it has been my privilege to work with Sandra over the years as she has helped organize toy drives, food drives, free luncheons and meal delivery programs for our seniors, assistance with navigating social programs, and so much more. Congratulations to Sandra for being our honoree for Irish American Heritage Month here at the Westchester County Board of Legislators, and we thank her for all that she does for our community.”

Legislator Tyrae Woodson-Samuels (D–Mount Vernon) said, “I chose Pauline Galvin as my Irish Heritage Month honoree because she embodies the spirit of service, resilience, and community leadership that defines both Irish heritage and the best of Westchester. Her commitment to lifting others and strengthening our community has made a lasting impact that is deserving of this recognition.”

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The map features descriptions of more than 50 sites in Westchester and the Bronx (which was the southern portion of Westchester until the late 1800s). The project was made possible by volunteer work, private donations and support from New York State and Westchester County.

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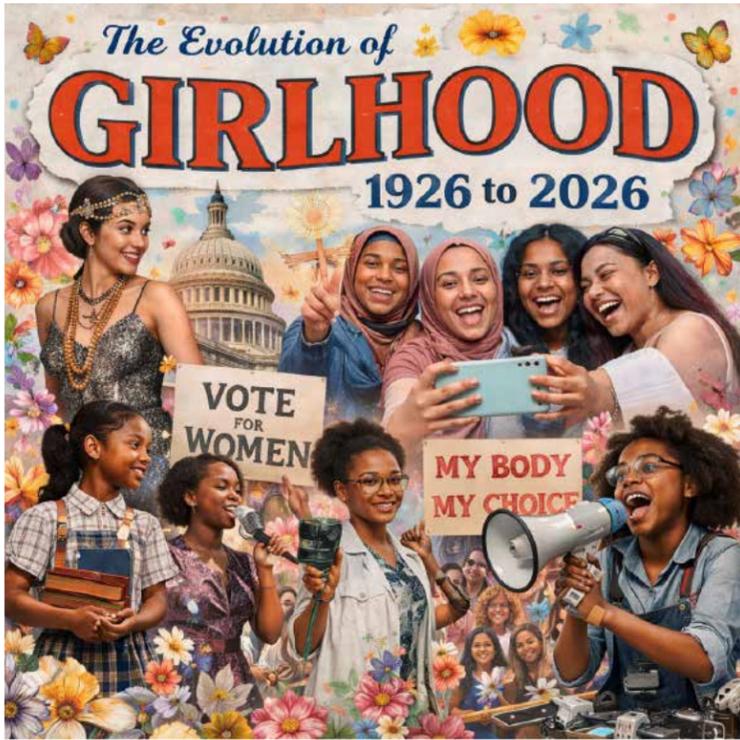
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The Evolution of Girlhood: From 1926 to 2026



By **Dennis Richmond, Jr.**

In 1926, girlhood was defined by expectation. In 2026, it is defined by negotiation.

A century ago, most girls in America were raised the same way. Education for girls was expanding, but college remained out of reach for most, especially Black girls in the South and working-class girls across the country. The right to vote had only recently been secured through the Nineteenth Amendment to the United States Constitution, and while there was progress, political power did not immediately translate into social equality. For many, being an innocent girl ended pretty quickly. Marriage, domestic labor, factory work, and caregiving made girls grow up fast.

But even in 1926, girlhood was shifting. The “flappers” were taking folks by storm. Young women cut their hair, shortened their hemlines, and claimed public space in ways that unsettled older generations. In Harlem, the cultural awakening of the Harlem Renaissance showcased writers, performers, and thinkers who challenged the nation’s racial and gender hierarchies.

Fast forward to 2026, and girlhood is different. Girls grow up online as much as they do offline. Identity is partially created in digital spaces. A teenage girl can build a life from her phone, have thousands or millions of followers on social media, and publicly articulate her gender and sexuality in ways that may have seemed unimaginable a century ago. With that, she might experience unrealistic beauty standards driven by an algorithm. She might also have to hear political debates over her body — from men.

Education isn’t a dream—it’s almost an expectation. Girls outperform boys on many academic measures and lead student governments, robotics teams, and protest movements. Young activists — from climate organizers to gun-violence advocates — have reshaped civic engagement. They are not waiting to “grow up” to claim influence. They are asserting it in real time.

Still, a lot of things are separate and not equal. Black girls are disproportionately disciplined in schools. Sometimes they are seen as disruptive. And let’s not even talk about the higher rates of poverty and systemic barriers. Globally, access to education and safety remains uneven. The promise of progress has never been evenly distributed.

The craziest change in 100 years may not be legal or technological. It might be philosophical. In 1926, girlhood was something society defined for girls. In 2026, girlhood is increasingly something girls define for themselves.

Girls, cis women, and trans women are athletes and coders, caretakers and critics, tradition-keepers and disruptors. They inherit a century of struggle — and possibility. And they carry the torch.

Dennis Richmond, Jr. (@NewYorkStakz) is a journalist, historian, and educator from Yonkers, NY. He writes to uplift unheard voices, honor history, and inspire change.

Stepinac High School Makes History with Three 2026 McDonald’s All-Americans



Stepinac High School is proud to announce a historic milestone in high school basketball. For the first time ever, a traditional, non-boarding high school has three McDonald’s All-Americans on the same roster in the same year:

Jasiah Jervis ’26 (The Bronx) – headed to Michigan State University

Adonis Ratliff ’26 (New Rochelle) – signed with the University of Southern California

Darius Ratliff ’26 (New Rochelle) – signed with the University of Southern California

These extraordinary student-athletes were recog-

nized during a Press Conference and Jersey Presentation Ceremony on March 10.

Coach Patrick Massaroni ’06 stated, “The dedication, skill, and teamwork these three young athletes have shown is truly remarkable. To have three All-Americans on one roster in the same year is unprecedented for our program.”

The trio will compete in the 2026 McDonald’s All-American Game on Tuesday, March 31, 2026, at 9:00 PM EST in Glendale, Arizona, airing on ESPN. This moment represents not only their individual talent but also the strong basketball culture Stepinac continues to cultivate.

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Mary Hoar

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PHILIPSE MANOR HALL STATE HISTORIC SITE | 29 WARBURTON AVE. YONKERS, NY

Lilo Brancato, continued from pg 1-

He recently spoke to SJRH about his journey from Hollywood stardom, through addiction, to sobriety—and how sharing his story supports others in recovery.

Lilo recently sat down with Denise Mananas, Associate Vice President for External Affairs from St. John's Riverside Hospital, for an episode of Riverside Reflections.

Q-Thanks for being here

A-Well, you know, I'm from Yonkers. I wasn't born here, but I was raised here. I was born in Bogota, Colombia, and I was adopted when I was four months old by Italians. My parents met in South Yonkers. It was like an Italian enclave.

My whole life, I went to school in Yonkers. I started at Sacred Heart, but just after I finished the 10th grade, I got thrown out. And then I got thrown out of Westlake High School up in Thornwood for using a fake address. So, my mother said, just go to Roosevelt; my paisan is over there. So, between all the throw-outs and the days looking for a new school, I went to school for 30 days that whole year.

So it was like May, and I'm in Roosevelt. And I remember I was walking down the hallway with a teacher. And I wanted to get out of going to school for the rest of the year. So, I told him, "Hey, you know, like, maybe I missed so many days." Is this year even going to count? Shouldn't I just come back in September, and we'll start all over? You know what he told me? I'll never forget this in my life. He said, you know why Mussolini made the buses run? And I said, no. Why? He goes because he was the boss. Like I'm the boss here. He said, You come to school, and you'll pass. And I passed 11th grade.

So now, over that summer vacation, I started drinking. I was sleeping in my friend's car.

I was a bad kid, a very bad guy in school. And then I remember it was the day after the 4th of July 1992. I heard about the Bronx Tale, and I heard a lot of kids were reading for it. But you think it's, like, such a long shot. This is not going to happen to you to be in this movie. It's not like it's a little part where it's like, oh, we got two scenes in a movie, but then this is the movie. You are the movie; you narrate it.

Q-So, what was that experience like once you got it?

A-Well, they found me on the beach. We went to the beach on July 5th. My brother called me out of the water because the guy was handing out flyers. My brother said, wait till you see my brother. He looks just like DeNiro. Then I went to audition, and then I got called down to Manhattan. And then I kept getting calls, callbacks. Once I met De Niro, it started to feel more real.

Q-But it had never really occurred to you to be an actor before?

A-I saw a psychiatrist when I was a kid because I was bad, and the school recommended it. I used to ride my bike to this Doctor. He was on Mile Square Road, literally right up the street. He did say you would be good in the dramatic arts. And when I got the part, he said I told you you'd be a good actor.

Q-So, you grew up in Yonkers, and you got into that movie? It was after the movie that you kind of got yourself into a little trouble.

A-Yeah, well, then I started smoking weed, and then it went from that to the next thing.

Q-What was the next thing?

A-I was a crack addict, then a heroin addict. I was spending almost \$1,000 a day at this point.

I did a scene in The Sopranos with Furio. When he comes in, I'm in my underwear. I was high on dope from the night before. That was around the time I lost my cousin. Her name was Dina. She was 21 years old. She died of brain cancer. She suffered for many years.

I was taking pills at the time, and the pills were becoming so big that the government started cracking down on them, and it made it harder for you to get on the street. So, what does that leave you then? It leaves you heroin. Then you go to that, and then, you know, you're snorting 15, 20 bags a day. Then you realize I'm spending \$2,200 a day, and somebody says, "Hey, well, if you put it in your arm, it will only be \$40." But I never went that way because I had money. But that wasn't my rock bottom.

Q-You've given us quite a story. What was that turning point for you? What happened that made that click in your brain?

A-I got in trouble on December 10th, 2005. So, all of 2006, I was in Rikers Island. I was in NIC, which is North Infirmery Command, because I got shot three times.

Q-And that was not your low point.

A-No, it wasn't.

Q-Interesting.

A-Because if anything, I was in pain. So, I wanted more pain medication because I was an addict, a junkie, and because I was in real pain, I was craving those. After the North Infirmery Command, which is a hospital, they moved me over to the main building.

But I was still getting drugs there. I was getting morphine and OxyContin. I was getting, you know, everything at jail. And my mom would send money orders. But she didn't know it was for drugs. She thought it was for cigarettes. I had another kid in the next cell block. He was a blood, and he was getting heroin straight from New York, you know, bundles. The mailman was letting it in. He got arrested right out in the parking lot. We saw the whole thing. It was on Eyewitness News.

So, November 12th, 2006. I took 4 bags of heroin, and I'm smoking a cigarette in the TV room, and next thing you know, I felt like I wanted to swallow my tongue. I was overdosing, I overdosed, I had to literally hold my tongue and run to my cell and lie down.

Q: Was that the low point?

A-No, because I still liked how powerful these drugs are. They taped my cell off with yellow tape. It was a crime scene. New York City detectives came and interrogated me because they wanted to know... Where are you getting this? You're a high-profile guy. How does this come in here?

After I overdosed, they gave me a urinalysis. They found out, and then I

went to the box. But before I went to the box, I was still getting high because the kid had it, and we were still doing it. Just to show you the strength of the addiction, how powerful it is. That's my point.

Q-Yeah. That's very interesting. So, let's go to the low point.

A-Well, the low point is after I overdose, I'm doing it, doing it, doing it, doing it, doing it, doing it. And then I go to the box. And then my cousin Pat, who became a lawyer, came to see me. He knew that I was in there for overdosing, and he was very disappointed. Like, you know, you got all this. All of us here. We love you. We want to see you beat this.

And for some reason, that day it just clicked, and after that, I never had the desire to get high again. It was like a modern-day miracle. I wanted to show the world I can do this. It's just about your mindset; that's everything.

Q-All right, so now you're in jail, and you had that moment, and you kind of got clarity. How did you follow that up? Because I know you accessed care through one of our programs, our New Focus Center. Tell me about that process.

A-Well, when I first came home on parole, I had to attend a drug program. I think it was a 90-day program. It was definitely necessary for me for the transition, right? And it kept me in check for a few months, and I just learned how to, you know, walk around outside without doing anything stupid.

But I could see it was like a symbiosis, a mutually beneficial relationship that we had altogether because it's like, this is the city that I grew up in, and I lived in. Right. And a lot of these people there went to jail with me. They sold me drugs. We did drugs together.

So now everything is full circle. And I see a lot of people that I know from the street. But now you're in a position to actually help them because now you came home from jail, like people know what you went through, but now they see you're sober and stuff like that, and just me helping other people and seeing all the people that did need help and how helpful I could be to them just based on me being in movies and stuff like that. I don't think I'm better than anyone because of it, but some people, because you were in those situations, maybe will tend to listen to you a little bit more.

Q-You've had great success.

A-Right? This is a pretty cool thing I can actually help people with, because by doing that, I'm helping myself. I'm telling you to do the right thing. You don't need this. Come on, man, you know what I mean? So now you told that person that. So that person's hanging on your every word and listening to you for guidance, for courage. You can't go do that and be bad now, because he's going to say he was just telling me, and then they're going to fall off the deep end.

Q-So, when you were in treatment for 90 days, what was it about the conversation and the daily habit of that, that that really worked for you? Did it set your life on a different kind of trajectory that you were able to then sort of navigate going out into the real world?

A-When you're in prison, you are going to have structure in your life, which is something that so many addicts desperately need and they don't have. They have all this free time and no structure, and then they go do drugs because there's nothing else to do. But prison incorporates structure in your life, right?

But then, when you come home, a lot of that structure is gone. But what New Focus did for me was that I had to go five days a week, and they had structure. So, it was like a part of your day. And I live by structure-you have to have that.

And you just figure everything out for yourself. But this helps you figure it out, you know, like, alright, now it's time. And it's just, it's very necessary if you're in recovery, you have to have structure in your life.

Q-I have to believe that sharing your story does aid your recovery. It does keep you on track, right?

A-Because it's almost like you're out here preaching about your recovery and the right things to do. Then it's almost like an embarrassment to relapse. I'm building myself up so much that it makes it so much harder to go back, because what a fool I'm gonna look like. And that helps me. Whatever works. You know what I mean?

Q-So, let's talk about some of the things you're doing. You have a podcast, The Culture Project. Right. Tell me about that.

A-We give you more choices so you can live more. It's a treatment center in New Jersey. And it's just basically, you know, helping people be the best version of themselves, you know what I mean?

Q-Who are they inviting to be guests on that?

A-Well, we've had a few rappers just to show, like the kind of rags-to-riches stories we got: the girl from A Bronx Tale, and Domenick Lombardozzi, who was in A Bronx Tale. He's in a lot of stuff now. I'm the director of public relations, but I'm also boots on the ground. I run groups and similar activities. That's the stuff I really like.

Q-So, are you acting now? Are you back in that?

A-I like to do my own things. I co-wrote a film called Sleepyhead, and then I wrote one called Never Meet Your Heroes. It's about addiction with the girl Taral Hicks from A Bronx Tale. We have a daughter. Her character is a nurse, and she's going to work in this hospital.

Q-You talked earlier about growing up in Yonkers. Why come back to Yonkers? What is it about Yonkers?

A-Well, I've got all my family here. The familiarity. It's not a bad place to live. New York City is right here. You got access to trains, and upstate's right there. So Yonkers is nice.

Q-I wanted to know what message you would have for young people, adolescents today, who are faced with making decisions about what they're going to do and what they're not going to do.

A-I mean, obviously, they are at a crossroad in their lives, to, you know, either go right or left, and there's a lot of decision-making at that point. But the decision to use or not do drugs is a no-brainer. Look at the mistakes that others have made and how drugs and alcohol have impacted their lives. Because you're going to be no different if you go down that road. So, learn from others' mistakes. That's what I would say.

Watch the episode at link— <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Jgguw4AN6eM&t=32s>

Purim and Persia: A Day of Light and Gladness and Remembrance of God's Deliverance

By *Judith Niewiadomski, Yonkers*

Today (March 3) is Purim, the day that celebrates the deliverance of God's people from annihilation by the evil Amalekite Haman in Persia. The Amalekites were the people who attacked the weakest of the children of Israel as they were making their way to the Promised Land. Deuteronomy 25:17- 19 "Remember what Amalek did unto thee by the way, when ye were come forth out of Egypt; How he met thee by the way, and smote the hindmost of thee, even all that were feeble behind thee, when thou wast faint and weary; and he feared not God. Therefore it shall be, when the LORD thy God hath given thee rest from all thine enemies round about, in the land which the LORD thy God giveth thee for an inheritance to possess it, that thou shalt blot out the remembrance of Amalek from under heaven; thou shalt not forget it."

The Amalekites were terrorists who preyed upon the weakest of the Israelites: the feeble, women and children, sneaking up behind them, cowards who avoided the warriors and slaughtered innocents. King Saul, the first king of Israel, lost his throne and the right of passing it down, to David because he spared Agag, the king of the Amalekites despite being told to execute him. His disobedience to spare a fellow king, had long term evil consequences. Centuries later, an Amalekite descendant of the royal line of Agag, highly placed in the Persian court named Haman, tried to exterminate all the Judeans (Jews) not only in their own country, but in all the realm that the Persian empire controlled. This would not have happened had Saul destroyed the royal line of Amalek and its murderous, genocidal ideology.

The Amalakite Haman, a man of Belial was a top tier advisor to the king of the Persian empire. Haman's actions show that he wanted to be king, wanted adulation like a god. The highest levels of power weren't enough for him and no freedom of thought or religion was acceptable to him. Second only to the king, like Lucifer, he wanted all control and all power over all. (Sounds like some mullahs we used to know.) Haman manipulated the king so he could use Persian government to kill all the Judeans because Mordecai recognized how evil Haman was spiritually and would not bow to him.

Through the courage of Mordecai's niece, Esther, who was willing to sacrifice her life, God's people were saved. Sometimes it takes one man or one woman in the right place at the right time, believing God and taking simple but often risky actions that enables God to move and bring deliverance. Our believing and willingness to put God's ability above the circumstances enables Him to act in our lives. Unable to change the legislation, the king gave advanced notice and told the Judeans to arm themselves and fight for their lives. They did so, rid the land of their enemies, brought more people to the true God, and established a cultural principle of religious tolerance that continues among many of the Persian people to this day in spite of the islamonazi totalitarian mullahs.

The Bible is not a book of meaningless stories, but a record of real people, who believed God and overcame challenges, brought delieverance to individuals and sometimes to their nation. Their examples are for our learning, models of real people rising up above their emotions and the circumstances they see and feel, to reach up to trust God to deliver via His infinitely diversified wisdom, mercy, and power. Some had to go out and wage war. Esther had to risk entering the presence of the king without being summoned, which was an automatic death sentence—on the spot—unless the king granted mercy. In this case he did.

Contrary to the impulse to vent and rage that culture today encourages, Esther exercised discipline, wisdom, and self restraint to make a simple request and wait for the right time. God is omniscient. He understood the king's thinking and nature and impulses in ways that Esther never could by her five senses knowledge. But God knows what is in the heart of every man and what inspires and enrages and motivates him. God guided her in how to handle the situation to get the best results.

Esther and Mordecai changed Persia forever. As a result of the deliverance of the Judeans, Persians had a tradition of religious tolerance. When Israel was occupied by the Romans, Persian Magi who were the only ones who recognized the spiritual significance of astronomical events at the time of the birth of Christ. These Magi were Persian Zoroastrians. (Zoroastrianism is still one of the major religions of Persia and has several basic concepts similar to Judaism and Christianity.)

Iran has lived under islamic repression since 1979. Today, they are much closer to freedom and self-determination, thanks to America and Israel. The takedown of the islamo-nazi regime will greatly curtail the terrorism of Hezbollah which attacks Israel frequently. Hezbollah killed and drove out most of the Christians from Lebanon, which was supposed to be a Christian safe space country. Hezsbollah, funded by the Iranian usurper mullahs, killed over 200 US Marines in Beirut. Iran's mullahs have caused thousands of deaths, including teaching Al Qaeda how to take down two US embassies in Africa; Iran's mullahs fund Hamas' terrorist attacks as well. And they have killed more muslims in their devilish lust for totalitarian control than anyone else. It isn't just Jews and Christians and Hindus that they persecute.

Pray that the Iranians are able to establish what the Iranian Resistance has been fighting for years (and were betrayed by Obama) —a secular government, personal freedom, and religious toleration. The whole world will benefit if Iran becomes a tolerant, peaceful nation.

Notice of Formation of Lifestyle Rehabilitation, LLC filed with SSNY on 10/27/2025. 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, 56 Martha Place, Chappaqua, NY, 10514. Purpose: Physical Therapy.

Notice of Formation of JB HUDSON LINE LLC. Articles of Organization filed with the Secretary of State of New York (SSNY) on 01/20/2026. Office location: Westchester County, NY. SSNY is designated as agent of the LLC upon whom process against it may bse served. SSNY shall mail a copy of process to: 59 Alta Vista Dr, Yonkers, NY, 10710. Purpose: any lawful activity.

Notice of formation of JJ VILL, LLC. Arts. of Org. filed with the SSNY on 11/29/2025. 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, 64 Mountindale Road, Yonkers, NY 10710. Purpose: Any lawful activity

Notice of formation of Monte Builders Group, LLC. Arts. of Org. filed with the SSNY on 02/18/2026. 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, 23 Bronxville Ln Yonkers, NY 10708. Purpose: Any lawful activity

Notice of formation of DoubleStripe Associates LLC. Arts. of Org. filed with the SSNY on 2/7/2026. 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, 23 Mt. Joy Ave., Scarsdale, NY 10583. Purpose: Any lawful activity

Notice of formation of MPMX, LLC. Arts. of Org. filed with the SSNY on 02/06/2025 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, 8 Lane Street Fl. 1 Yonkers, NY 10601 Purpose: Any lawful activity.

Notice of Formation of Infinity Strategies Group LLC. Arts of Org. Filed with SSNY on September 1, 2025. Office location: Westchester County, New York. SSNY designated as agent of the LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail copy of process to the LLC, 255 Huguenot Street, Apt 913, New Rochelle, NY 10801. Purpose: Any lawful purpose.

Notice of formation of Hardcore In The 914 LLC Arts. Of Org. filed with SSNY on 1/5/2026. Office location: Westchester County. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process may be served. SSNY shall mail process to Hardcore In The 914 8 Arden Drive, Hartsdale New York 10530. Purpose: any lawful act or activity.

Digital Infrastructure Services LLC, Arts. of Org. filed with NY Dept. of State on 10/22/25. Office: Westchester County. NY DOS designated as agent for service of process; DOS shall mail copy of process to 7 Ridgeway Cir White Plains, NY 10605. Purpose: any lawful purpose.

Notice of formation of Rat Attack Snacks, LLC. Arts. of Org. filed with the SSNY on 3/2/2026. 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, 516 Park Avenue Yonkers NY 10703. Purpose: Any lawful activity

Notice of formation of Supreme Site Safety, LLC. Arts. of Org. filed with the SSNY on 02/28/2026. 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, 318 Mile Square Road, Yonkers, NY 10701. Purpose: Any lawful activity

Notice of Formation of YureeshStyle LLC, a domestic LLC. Articles of Organization filed with the Secy of State of NY (SSNY) on 2/10/26. Office location: Westchester County. SSNY designated as agent upon whom process may be served. SSNY shall mail a copy of any process to the LLC at 35 S Broadway, K6, Irvington, NY 10533. Purpose: Any lawful activity.

Notice of Formation of Israelov Law, PLLC. Articles of Organization filed with SSNY on 01/27/2026. Office Location: Westchester. The SSNY has been designated as agent of the PLLC upon whom process against it may be served. The address to which the SSNY shall mail a copy of any process against the PLLC is: 51 Nethermont Ave, White Plains, NY 10603. Purpose: Any lawful activity.

Notice of formation of Senara & Co, LLC. Articles of Organization filed with the Secretary of State of New York (SSNY) on 01/29/2026. NY office location: Westchester County. SSNY has been designated as agent of the LLC upon whom process against it may be served. The address to which the SSNY shall mail a copy of any process against the LLC served is 455 Tarrytown Road, Suite 1307, White Plains, NY 10607. Purpose/character of LLC: Any lawful purpose.

Notice of Formation of Schmoose Pack Projects LLC. Arts. of Org. filed with the SSNY on 09/20/2024. Office: Westchester County. SSNY designated as agent of the LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail copy of process to Bruce Wong 10 Station Square Forest Hills, NY 11375. Purpose: Any lawful act or activity.

Notice of Formation of S.I.T. Staying In Touch LLC. Arts. of Org. filed with the New York Secretary of State on December 25, 2025. Office location: Westchester County. New York Secretary of State designated as agent of the LLC upon whom process may be served. New York Secretary of State shall mail process to: Donald George McIntosh III, 137 Morningside Pl, Yonkers, NY 10703. Purpose: any lawful act or activity.

Notice of Formation of FOREVER JADE LLC, filed with SSNY on 02/10/2026. Office: Westchester County. SSNY designated agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail copy of process to the LLC: ZENBUSINESS INC. 41 State Street, Suite 112, Albany, NY 12207. Purpose: any lawful act or activity.

Ursuline Track Coach , continued from pg 1-

tory School, contributing to a five-decade career in track and field. His experience across institutions informed a coaching philosophy centered on long-term development, accountability, and personal growth.

“When I founded Ursuline’s program in 1990, I knew absolutely nothing about coaching girls,” Mitchell wrote in a letter announcing his retirement. “I could never have imagined how deeply this sport, and the young women involved in it, would shape my life.”

Under his leadership, Ursuline teams competed in cross country, indoor track, and outdoor track, earning league titles, championship appearances, and individual honors. In 2014, he was inducted into The Ursuline School’s Athletics Hall of Fame, a distinctive honor recognizing his leadership and lasting impact on the program.

Throughout his career, Mitchell consistently emphasized lessons that extended beyond competition.

“Coach Mitchell built Ursuline’s program from the ground up and sustained it with a consistent approach that both challenges and supports our girls,” said Mrs. Dawn Cerrone, Ursuline’s athletic director. “He has been an iconic leader of our cross country and track and field programs, with a visionary understanding of the value these opportunities bring to our student-athletes. His long career reflects not only his deep dedication to the sport but also the tremendous respect he commands. For the thousands of girls who have participated in his programs, regardless of their starting point, he has inspired each of them to grow beyond what they ever imagined possible,” Cerrone added.

“Coaching has never been just about times, distances or medals,” Mitchell wrote. “It has been about teaching discipline, resilience, and teamwork, values that extend well beyond the track.”

Mitchell’s connection to Ursuline is also personal. He coached his daughter, Lara ’96, and later his granddaughter, Lily ’25, a rare multigenerational experience that reflects the enduring relationships formed within the program. Over the years, he remained closely connected to alumnae and, in some cases, coached the children of former athletes.

He expressed gratitude to the assistant coaches, athletic directors, administrators, and families who supported the program’s growth over the years. He also reflected on his 1990 meeting with Sister Jean Baptiste Nicholson, OSU, who was the principal of The Ursuline School at the time and entrusted him with launching the Cross Country and Track programs. That conversation marked the beginning of a legacy that would shape thousands of young women over the next three decades.

“I will always be proud of the program we built and the thousands of young women who wore The Ursuline School uniform with pride,” he wrote. “Thank you for allowing me the honor of serving as a coach for 36 remarkable years.”

As Mitchell marks his final season at Ursuline, the school community honors a coach whose legacy reaches far beyond records and finish lines. It is measured in the discipline he required, the confidence he built, and the young women who carry those lessons with them long after their final race.

CORPORATION NOTICE
CITY OF YONKERS-NEW YORK
PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE

Notice is hereby given, pursuant to law, that the Mayor of the City of Yonkers, New York, will hold a Public Hearing on Wednesday, March 11, 2026 at 5:00 pm, Mayor’s Reception Room, 2nd floor, 40 South Broadway, Yonkers, New York, to hear all interested parties and citizens regarding the adoption of the following Local Law, to wit:

A LOCAL LAW AUTHORIZING THE CONVEYANCE OF THE FORMER
PUBLIC SCHOOL #9 FOR THE REDEVELOPMENT OF SAID PROPERTY

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

MIKE SPANO
Mayor
Date: March 3, 2026

CORPORATION NOTICE
CITY OF YONKERS-NEW YORK
PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE

Notice is hereby given, pursuant to law, that the Mayor of the City of Yonkers, New York, will hold a Public Hearing on Wednesday, March 11, 2026 at 5:10 pm, Mayor’s Reception Room, 2nd floor, 40 South Broadway, Yonkers, New York, to hear all interested parties and citizens regarding the adoption of the following Local Law, to wit:

LOCAL LAW AMENDING CHAPTER 43 OF THE CODE OF THE CITY
OF YONKERS TITLED "ZONING" BY AMENDING ARTICLE XV IN RE-
LATION TO AFFORDABLE HOUSING

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

MIKE SPANO
Mayor
Date: March 3, 2026

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE:

THE CITY OF YONKERS ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS MEETING SCHEDULED FOR WEDNESDAY, MARCH 18, 2026, AT 6:00 PM, WILL BE HELD IN YONKERS CITY HALL, 40 SOUTH BROADWAY, 4TH FLOOR (building is handicapped accessible).

PLEASE BE SURE TO CHECK OUR WEBSITE FOR INFORMATION AND UPDATES WWW.YONKERSNY.GOV .

OPEN/CONTINUED HEARINGS

#5790 – Area Variance - James Veneruso, Esq., on behalf of Mehranco Limited Liability Co., owner, on premises known as 1999 Central Park Avenue, Block: 4385, Lot: 42.43, (B30132) Zone: BR

https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1luztIIO9IzkFlbUNhKvFBj6CNY_bLXR5?usp=sharing

#5900 – Area Variance – Andrew Romano Esq., on behalf of WAG America LLC, on premises known as 38 Hunt Ave, Block:3137, Lot:16 (B0035424) Zone: S-50

https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1N-HiBBAFqe09tTtPWOCeh4OC1_expReA?usp=sharing

#5910 – Area Variances – Mark Blanchard, on behalf of Hudson Pointe, LLC., on premises known as 1205 Warburton Ave., Block: 3570, Lot: 1 (B0037131) Zone: MG.

https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/11PdzRuXEqveyqXwEFvD0_sZTxaGZPPSx?usp=sharing

#5912 – Area Variances – Andrew Romano, on behalf of Centro Cristiano Jehova es Mi Bandera, Inc. on premises known as 27 Glenwood Ave., Block: 2121, Lot: 30 (B0035776) Zone: M.

https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1eMQdFJtmqR4YVklU3LNxL_jJ6Ez4BbTo?usp=sharing

#5913 – Area Variance – Janet Giris, on behalf of Morris Westchester Upper Site Associates, LLC., on premises known as 79 Austin Ave., Block: 3285, Lot: 210 (B0034334) Zone: CM.

<https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1X9-XU8voN3LaCu4nsfuEMCr8tvWjw6?usp=sharing>

#5914 – Area Variances – Stephen A. Veneruso, on behalf of AVL Homes, LLC., on premises known as 69 Spruce St., Block: 430, Lot: 58 (B0036935) Zone: A.

https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1o_5iOmj08xCEPt6r-4_d-P1D4mE0WEk3?usp=sharing

#5494 & 5667 – Area Variance – Andrew Romano Esq. on behalf of 581 Development Corp, owner, on premises know as 581 Saw Mill River Road, Block:3100, Lot: 200, (B0011017) Zone: I

https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1RBWzAOsVzaQil_PUqgLtBDPWCngLyarV?usp=sharing

#5915 – Area Variance – Shahin Badaly, P.E on behalf of Ian Kim Ramos owner of 66 Pembroke Drive, Block:4468, Lot: 10 (B202406280) Zone: S-60

<https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1c35LzwHRQMiGxE8n204v6PQ9iuc-AFDd?usp=sharing>

#5916 – Area Variance – Steven A. Accinelli, on behalf of Tameshwar Kallicharan owner of 25 (aka 27) Hyatt Avenue, Block: 6245, Lot:25.26 (B0036837) Zone: T

https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1K1_zJm5Ynw9OStOhWWa-sAYH-wJ_qpxO?usp=sharing

#5917 – Area Variance – Steven A. Accinelli, on behalf of Constantinos D. Kavas, owner of 26 Hyatt Avenue, Block: 6417, Lot: # 60 (B0037471) Zone: T

https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1KNeXPgEqtzfVQRJGZMSZUJIDNG8Kq_Da?usp=sharing

#5919 – Area Variance – Shahin Badaly, P.E., on behalf of 231 Lockwood Ave LLC c/o Jagdish Mitter, owner of 139 Mile Square Road (aka 231 Lockwood Ave), Block: 2290, Lot: 20.25 (B0037342) Zone: T

https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1jQM0nB3_EjAWbhnPYTeUZQ14djMttBJC?usp=sharing

#5920 – Area Variance—Leo K. Napior on behalf of Gasoline & Car Wash Corp. of Yonkers, owner, on premises known as 360 Nepperhan Avenue (aka 364 Nepperhan Avenue), Block: 2067, Lot: 69 (B0037256) Zone: I, Industry

https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/187P6cI8mJzDCaP_VJoRHJseXnS6zOZNX?usp=sharing

#5921 (5895)– Area Variance – Steven A. Accinelli, on behalf of Pjeter Vukajs, owner of 9 Abner Place, Block: 6163, Lot: 32.34 (A0000269) Zone: T

<https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1bXRXBuH5WosPqIJdYzugg-QJzSUEOYli?usp=sharing>

NEW HEARINGS

#5922 – Area Variance – 76 Rutland Road, Block: 5412, Lot: 37. Zone: S-200, Detached Single-Family Dwelling on 200’ Lot. To Allow For: A new one-story place of worship with 81 paved parking spaces.

<https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1kP1OtqthWAJLLoIo26koMERSMjH1gTsh?usp=sharing>

Westchester Rising

PO Box 705, Yonkers NY 10702-914-815-1388. Proudly serving the the people of Yonkers with hyperlocal news. Member NY Press Association. Legal notice inquiries to: risinglegalnotice@gmail.com. Daniel Murphy, Publisher & Editor in Chief, dmurphy@risingmediagroup.com. Bayan Baker, Assistant to the Editor in Chief risingmediagroup@gmail.com.

Rebates, continued from pg 1-

\$1,751 in tariff rebates to every New Yorker after the recent US Supreme Court decision overturning the Trump tariffs.

Congressman George Latimer has called for an alternative to tariff revenue: refunds to small businesses. In a letter to Treasury Secretary Bessent and Homeland Security Secretary Noem, Rep. Latimer and 21 other House Democrats write,

We, the undersigned, write to express concern over the preparedness of the Departments of Treasury and Homeland Security (via U.S. Customs and Border Protection) to handle the large influx of protests likely to be filed in the event the United States Supreme Court determines that tariffs imposed by President Trump under the International Emergency Economic Powers Act (IEEPA) are illegal. We urge you to immediately dedicate sufficient departmental resources and personnel ahead of the Court's decision, with a focus on aiding America's small businesses and sparing them irreparable financial damage resulting from the termination of this policy.

These tariffs, first invoked by Executive Order on April 2, 2025, without prior approval by Congress, imposed a universal baseline tariff of 10% on countries around the world and levies ranging from 1% to 40% on dozens of specified trading partners selected by the President.¹ Many of us previously signed onto an amicus curiae brief opposing President Trump's imposition of these tariffs as having exceeded his authority beyond that which was lawfully delegated to him by Congress under the IEEPA.²

We are also gravely concerned about the impact of President Trump's imposed tariffs on small businesses across the country, specifically: According to the U.S. Chamber of Commerce, more than 97% of U.S. companies that import goods are small businesses. Small businesses typically lack large cash cushions or the leverage to negotiate bigger discounts with suppliers, and do not have a wide range of products to spread price increases around.

Many are reluctant to raise prices because they do not want to drive customers away, leaving them with shrinking profit margins. Even for companies that can pass the cost of tariffs on to customers immediately, many are worried that these added costs will impact their ability to remain competitive and profitable.

Those amounts are estimated by different sources anywhere between \$120 billion and \$1 trillion and growing every day while the Court waits to issue a decision.

We, as members of Congress, offer our commitment to work collectively with you to help the American small business sector - its owners and employees - through this crisis, and to ensure that this unfortunate episode is resolved and never repeated, end of letter.

A few weeks ago, New York Governor Kathy Hochul called on the Trump administration to refund the estimated \$13.5 billion in tariff payments for New Yorkers. According to the Yale Budget Lab, the average New York household has faced about \$1,751 in added costs since the tariffs were enacted last year.

"These senseless and illegal tariffs were just a tax on New York consumers, small businesses, and farmers — that's why I'm demanding a full refund," Governor Hochul said. "I will always fight for New Yorkers by staying focused on putting more money back in your pockets — not taking it away."

At the same time, calls are now being made for Hochul herself to refund \$2 billion in allocated funds for NYSEDA that have not yet been spent to New York taxpayers. State Senator Joseph Griffo writes, "New Yorkers are currently weathering some of the highest energy rates in the nation. Residential electricity rates in New York are roughly 50% higher than the national average and rose 7.6% in the past year, faster than the national average.

Since the Democratic majorities in the Legislature passed the Climate Leadership and Community Protection Act (CLCPA), electricity rates in New York have increased by 45%, leading New Yorkers to pay 30-40% more than their neighbors in Pennsylvania.

SUPREME COURT OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK
COUNTY OF WESTCHESTER

SUPPLEMENTAL SUMMONS

CROSSCOUNTRY MORTGAGE, LLC

Plaintiff,
vs.

INDEX NO. 70794/2025

Plaintiff designates WESTCHESTER as the
place of trial situs of the real property
Mortgaged Premises:
609 SAW MILL RIVER ROAD, ARDSLEY, NY 10502
Section: 6.70, Block: 44, Lot: 9

The 2025 fiscal year budget and financial plan for NYSEDA shows a surplus of approximately \$2 billion. During a recent Joint Budget hearing on Energy and Environmental Conservation, NYSEDA President Doreen Harris was urged to return these unspent funds to ratepayers as bill credits, which would provide relief to those who contributed the surplus through their utility bills.

"Following a recent Supreme Court decision, the governor called on the Trump Administration to provide tariff refunds to New Yorkers struggling financially," Sen. Griffo said. "She should do the same with this \$2 billion NYSEDA surplus that she controls to help those hit hard by rising utility bills. Returning this unspent funding to ratepayers is one way to provide immediate relief and make life a little easier for New Yorkers who are already stretched to the limit."

In light of these challenges, earlier this month, Sen. Griffo and his colleagues unveiled a package of legislation aimed at addressing New York's outrageous energy costs and offsetting the effects of costly energy mandates out of Albany. The "Lights On With Energy Relief," or LOWER, plan would provide Immediate Ratepayer Relief

400,000 New Yorkers have had their gas or electric service shut off for lack of payment. Estimates have a State rebate of up to \$400 for all New Yorkers. 8.2 million New Yorkers recently received an Inflation Refund Check.

Hudson Valley Assemblymember Didi Barrett has proposed a different plan: pausing state taxes on utility bills; providing bill credits for all ratepayers by using previously collected, unused Clean Energy Funds held by utility companies instead of ratepayers to support the state program; and returning excess revenue beyond a utility company's approved Return on Equity back to ratepayers in bill credits.

However, Barrett's bill does not have the support of the democratic leadership in Albany, and neither does the republican plan. Westchester families urgently need concrete relief.

V.C., MINOR CHILD, BY AND THROUGH HER NATURAL GUARDIAN JESSICA SALES, AS HEIR AND DISTRIBUTE OF THE ESTATE OF SALVATORE CINIGLIO; UNKNOWN HEIRS AND DISTRIBUTEES OF THE ESTATE OF SALVATORE CINIGLIO, any and all persons unknown to plaintiff, claiming, or who may claim to have an interest in, or general or specific lien upon the real property described in this action; such unknown persons being herein generally described and intended to be included in the following designation, namely: the wife, widow, husband, widower, heirs at law, next of kin, descendants, executors, administrators, devisees, legatees, creditors, trustees, committees, lienors, and assignees of such deceased, any and all persons deriving interest in or lien upon, or title to said real property by, through or under them, or either of them, and their respective wives, widows, husbands, widowers, heirs at law, next of kin, descendants, executors, administrators, devisees, legatees, creditors, trustees, committees, lienors and assigns, all of whom and whose names, except as stated, are unknown to plaintiff; NEW YORK STATE DEPARTMENT OF TAXATION AND FINANCE; UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,

"JOHN DOE #1" through "JOHN DOE #12," the last twelve names being fictitious and unknown to plaintiff, the persons or parties intended being the tenants, occupants, persons or corporations, if any, having or claiming an interest in or lien upon the premises, described in the complaint,
Defendants.

To the above named Defendants

YOU ARE HEREBY SUMMONED to answer the Complaint in the above entitled action and to serve a copy of your Answer on the plaintiff's attorney within twenty (20) days of the service of this Summons, exclusive of the day of service, or within thirty (30) days after service of the same is complete where service is made in any manner other than by personal delivery within the State. The United States of America, if designated as a defendant in this action, may answer or appear within sixty (60) days of service. Your failure to appear or to answer will result in a judgment against you by default for the relief demanded in the Complaint. In the event that a deficiency balance remains from the sale proceeds, a judgment may be entered against you.

NOTICE OF NATURE OF ACTION AND RELIEF SOUGHT

THE OBJECT of the above caption action is to foreclose a Mortgage to secure the sum of \$796,000.00 and interest, recorded on March 15, 2022, in Instrument Number 620673829, of the Public Records of WESTCHESTER County, New York., covering premises known as 609 SAW MILL RIVER ROAD, ARDSLEY, NY 10502.

The relief sought in the within action is a final judgment directing the sale of the premises described above to satisfy the debt secured by the Mortgage described above.

WESTCHESTER County is designated as the place of trial because the real property affected by this action is located in said county.

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 the mortgage company will not stop the 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.

Dated: February 15th, 2026

ROBERTSON, ANSCHUTZ, SCHNEID, CRANE & PARTNERS, PLLC

Attorney for Plaintiff

Matthew Rothstein, Esq.

900 Merchants Concourse, Suite 310

Westbury, NY 11590

516-280-7675

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CONGRESSIONAL ART COMPETITION

DUE BY: APRIL 10

- Open to all high school students who live or study in NY-16
- Artwork must be two-dimensional and no larger than 26 inches high and 26 inches wide
- Each entry must be original in concept, design, and execution

Scan for more info or visit our website at <https://latimer.house.gov/services/art-competition>

The winning artwork of our district's competition will be displayed for one year in the U.S. Capitol. The winning artist is also invited to Washington, D.C. for an awards ceremony.

2026
 PEEKSKILL ST. PATRICK'S PARADE DAY EVENTS

Saturday, March 14th at 3pm

12:00 noon
 IRISH FLAG RAISING
 PEEKSKILL CITY HALL

1:30pm
 MASS TO ST. PATRICK
 AT CHURCH OF THE ASSUMPTION

3pm PARADE!

Parade starts on S. Division at 2nd Street, proceeds north to Main Street, then east on Main Street then south on James Street then west on Brown Street where it will end between James Street and Elizabeth Street.

PRESENTED BY

Grand Marshal
 LOU PANZANARO JR.

Aide to the Grand Marshal
 JOHN BERLOW

Aide to the Grand Marshal
 DANA DAPSON

Aide to the Grand Marshal
 FIONA BRENNAN

Aide to the Grand Marshal
 FATHER ESTEBAN SANCHEZ

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