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YonkersTimes.com

Friday March 8, 2024

“Drugstore Cowboys” Break Into Westchester Pharmacies, Steal Narcotic Pills & Drugs



Taconic Pharmacy in Jefferson Valley had a break in on March 3

By Dan Murphy

The movie “Drugstore Cowboy” with Matt Dillon and Kelly Lynch, portrayed a drug addicted couple who would break into small pharmacies and steal their narcotic prescription drugs. A modern-day group of drugstore cowboys are on the loose and have broken into three Westchester pharmacies and several more in Putnam County and the Hudson Valley in recent weeks.

In the Jefferson Valley part of Yorktown, two small pharmacies were broken into and robbed of their pain pills. Jefferson Valley Pharmacy was broken into two weeks ago, and this week Taconic Pharmacy had their front door shattered and their meds gone. The two pharmacies are located less than ¼ mile apart.

The thieves were wearing masks, making it difficult to ID surveillance cameras in both Yorktown Pharmacies and in their shopping centers. Yorktown Police also have a large police presence in the Jefferson Valley neighborhood.

Putnam County Sheriff Kevin J. McConville reported an investigation into a burglary of a pharmacy in the Town of Southeast. “On February 12, 2024, at

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Westchester Celebrates Saint Patrick’s Day With Parades Across the County



left-Peekskill Saint Patrick’s Day Parade Grand Marshal and former Governor George Pataki with Piper Joe Brady

bottom left-Sound Shore Saint Patrick’s Day Parade Grand Marshall Chance Mullen

below-Eastchester Saint Patrick’s Day Parade Grand Marshal John Fix with wife Judy



See story on pg 15

Westchester Teachers, Parents and Elected Officials Rally for More State Education Aid



A Mount Vernon student tells Governor Hochul like it is!

By Dan Murphy

A rally was recently held in the Mount Vernon school district to oppose State Education Aid cuts proposed by Governor Kathy Hochul in her 2024 budget plan. New York State United Teachers President Melinda Person led the rally with local union leaders, district administration, parents, and elected officials to “call out the harsh effects” of Governor Kathy Hochul’s proposed NY State budget.

This is the first year that Hochul has proposed actual cuts in some state funding to local school districts. The executive budget proposes to stop using the current Consumer Price Index (CPI), which is 3.8 percent, and instead begin using a 10-year rolling average of 2.4 percent.

And Foundation Aid, which has been a funding vehicle used to make state education aid more equitable has been reduced for many school districts in Hochul’s plan. About half of Westchester school district will receive an increase in foundation aid and half will receive a reduction of about 5%.

The other way that State Education Aid can be reduced to local school districts is the elimination of the ‘Save Harmless provision’ which guaranteed that local school districts would receive at least the same amount of funding - The Hold Harmless provision was removed for school districts. Hold Harmless ensures that schools receive at least the same amount of state aid as the previous year. As a result, school districts with factors such as declining enrollment are

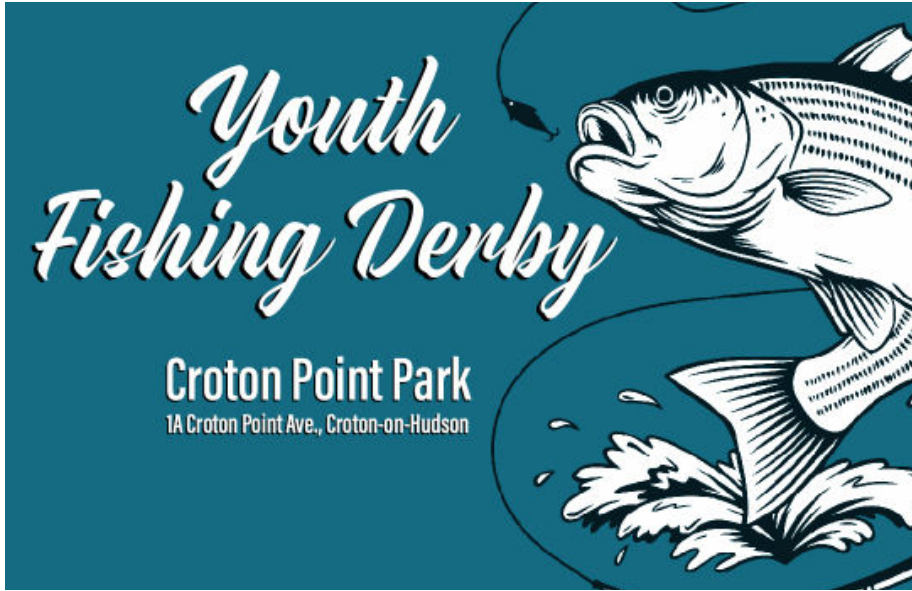
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Congressional Candidate Marty Dolan: Bowman is Not a Progressive, He is a Radical Dolan Releases Progressive Scorecard on Bowman, AOC

Progressive Scorecard	Jamaal Bowman	AOC
Income Inequality/ state and local income tax	✗	✗
\$30 Trillion Debt	✗	✗
Northern Exodus	✗	✗
Unfunded Pensions	✗	✗
Retail Crime	✗	✗
Work From home/ E-Commerce	✗	✗
Drug Addiction	✗	✗
Chaotic State/ Federal Relationships	✗	✗
DEI	✓	✓
Team Play	✗	✗

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Registration Open for Westchester Parks/Hudson River Fishermen's Association Fishing Derby



Westchester County Parks and the Hudson River Fishermen's Association will host their inaugural Youth Fishing Derby on Saturday, April 6, from 10 a.m. – 2 p.m. at Croton Point Park in Croton on Hudson.

Westchester County Parks Commissioner, Kathy O'Connor said, "Fishing is one of the most popular outdoor activities in the United States. We are excited to partner with the Hudson River Fishermen's Association and to offer a new program for County youth to enjoy."

Children ages 8 through 16 are invited to participate. Adult/parental supervision is required. Equipment and bait will be provided, or you can bring your own. Check in is at 9:30 a.m.; derby starts at 10 a.m. Prizes will be awarded for 1st, 2nd and 3rd place.

Pre-registration is required through Eventbrite for this free event.

Rain date is Sunday, April 7. Deadline for registration is Friday, April 5.

For more information visit the Westchester County Parks or call (914) 231-4645.

Croton Point Park is located at 1A Croton Point Avenue, Croton-on-Hudson, NY 10520.

Letter to the Editor:

Jann Mirchandani is the Best Candidate for Yorktown Supervisor in the Upcoming April 16 Special Election

Jann Mirchandani is the best candidate for Yorktown Supervisor in the upcoming Special Election on Tuesday, April 16. As a successful businesswoman, The Council Commissioner on the Executive Committee of the Greater Hudson Valley Council of the Boy Scouts of America, a Board Member of the Hudson Valley Gateway Chamber of Commerce (HVGCC) and a longtime community leader and marathon runner, she is the only candidate that embodies strength, fortitude, tenacity, a fine attention to detail, financial expertise and who will work collaboratively across the aisle for every single Yorktown citizen. Let's take this opportunity to expand the Town Board and bring a much-needed voice into Yorktown's leadership. The Yorktown Town Board has been virtually the same for the last 10 years; isn't it time for an update? Vote for Jann Mirchandani on Tuesday, April 16 for Yorktown Supervisor and elect an expertly qualified and a proven leader that is ready to serve

Jennie Sunshine, Yorktown

West Point Band & Westchester Symphonic Winds Present Two March Performances

Westchester Symphonic Winds (WSW) marks a milestone event for their 2023-2024 season as they join the West Point Band for a collaborative concert featuring both groups performing individually and in a combined ensemble. To better serve communities on both sides of the Hudson River, the groups are performing the program twice during the month of March. The West Point Band hosts the first performance on March 9 at 2 pm at Eisenhower Hall Theatre at West Point. Westchester Symphonic Winds hosts the second performance on March 16 at 2 pm at White Plains High School.

With past WSW performances showcasing individual members of the West Point Band as soloists, the collaborative concerts this March are a greatly anticipated first for WSW. Curt Ebersole, WSW's Music Director and Conductor, shared, "This unique opportunity, to play alongside the esteemed and historic West Point Band on the stage at Eisenhower Hall Theatre, is truly a treasure for our members. We're looking forward to sharing this special musical celebration!"

The concert program includes works spanning three centuries by nine American composers and one Australian composer, Percy Grainger, who resided in White Plains for forty years and gained American citizenship as a bandsman in the United States Army. As part of the West Point Band's 2024 Winter Concert Series the collaborative concerts are free and open to all. Tickets are not required.

Established in 1817, the West Point Band is the United States Army's oldest band and the oldest continuously-operating unit at West Point. Its lineage can be traced to the field musicians assigned by George Washington in 1778 at the establishment of West Point as a permanent military post.

Now in its 36th season, WSW is an adult community-based wind and percussion ensemble of 60 musicians from Westchester County and the tri-state metropolitan area. The ensemble is in residence at Tarrytown Music Hall in Tarrytown, New York and marks its tenth annual Independence Day performance at the Caramoor Center for Music and the Arts in Katonah, New York this July.

For additional information on the collaborative concerts and a full schedule of the West Point Band's 2024 Winter Concert series, visit <https://westpointband.com/winterconcertseries.html>. To learn more about WSW and view the 2023-2024 season brochure, visit www.westchestersymphonicwinds.org.

NY State Legislature Approves Congressional Maps
Slight Modifications Made from Ind. Commission Maps
Some changes upstate but No Change to NY-16 and NY-17

By Dan Murphy

Westchester County finally has two finalized Congressional maps, after the NYS Legislature made minor adjustments to the maps drawn by the Independent Redistricting Commission, IRC, led by Ken Jenkins. Governor Kathy Hochul signed the new maps into law last week.

The adjustments were made to a few upstate congressional districts, but Westchester's two congressional districts, NY-16, NY-17 were kept the same as the IRC recommended.

In District 16-Congressman Jamaal Bowman's district added Co-Op City which will give Bowman slightly more black democrats in the district. And NY-17, Congressman Mike Lawler's district, had not changed and remains as the IRC drew it.

But the democratic controlled State Senate and Assembly paid the price for tweaking the congressional maps, as editorial boards and good government groups criticized democrats for not taking the IRC's maps and approving them as is.

One Daily News headline read: **Redistricting's final chapter: The Dems fought a damaging and costly fight for nothing.**

The New York State League of Women Voters wrote, "The New York State Legislature has once again undermined the intent and promise of the constitutional amendment establishing the Independent Redistricting Commission by voting down a new plan for congressional districts approved 9-1 by the bipartisan IRC and drawing its own new district lines. The recent actions, including the Legislature's redrawing of maps, leads to confusion and uncertainty for voters and potential candidates."

Westchester County Executive George Latimer, who is running for Congress in NY16 stated, "As we've said before, this is the next step in a long process; the State Senate and Assembly have done their jobs to move this forward and now we will see if there is litigation. Whatever the final lines provide, we will be aggressively reaching out to all residents of this district to bring our message of electing a Congressman who can deliver real progressive results that benefit the people of our area."

Upstate Republican and former Congressman John Faso, who led the effort to file suit against a democratic plan to gerrymander the congressional lines two years ago, commented on the new plans and indicated that he will not be filing a lawsuit.

Congressman Mike Lawler said, "I was glad to see both the Senate and Assembly exhibit restraint when it came to their final map. While there were numerous attempts throughout this process to engage in a partisan gerrymander, the final map largely abides by the New York Independent Redistricting Commission's bipartisan version and ensures fair, competitive districts across the state. Today's bipartisan vote is a win for the voters and a win against partisan gerrymandering."

David Wasserman of the Cook Political Report, said NY democrats changes to the maps were "mild and not wild."

"The new NY map nets Dems perhaps half a seat vs. the current court-drawn plan. It's designed to avoid a court fight & a far cry from the 3-4 seat swing Republicans engineered in North Carolina," Tweeted Wasserman.

Former Congressman Mondaire Jones had previously said that he would accept the boundaries as is in NY-17.

No Animal Crackers in My Soup!



By Eric Wolf Schoen

As a kid I loved the little box of Barnum's Animal Crackers, little cookies in the shape of animals in the circus themed box. What kid didn't love to carry the little box around with the handle attached. Could the little box cost maybe a \$1 when I was young?

I go to CVS the other day and yes they had my childhood and frankly adulthood favorite little box with the animals in tow. I looked at the price \$3.59! Could not believe it so I went online. \$3.59 for the little box. Are they crazy? Looked at Walgreens website. \$3.29. My head is still spinning.

What is going on with the price of everything but especially food in this world? A meal at 5 Guys (they cook in peanut oil so do not go into the store or eat food from there if you are allergic to peanuts) is \$24 for one person. We are talking about a burger, fries, a beverage and maybe a little dessert. A family of 4 close to \$100 for burgers? Incredible!

While we are talking burgers, Wendy's the hamburger chain floated the idea of surge pricing meaning that the prices would be higher when they were busy and lower when they were not. This brilliant idea was shot down by their customers and now is a distant memory. But to think that a restaurant chain would change their prices based on how busy they are? Kind of almost as stupid as the congestion pricing planned for New York City!

Have you tried to find old fashion Tide detergent in the box at CVS or Walgreens or other stores? Many don't carry it anymore. I bought the former 66 ounce box which is now 56 ounces through Amazon at a price higher than what the 66 ounce box use to cost. And the stores that have detergent have it under lock and key. It's sad that we as a society have come to this.

Kleenex are at a higher price with fewer tissues in the box. The price of Pet food if you can find it boggles the mind. You have to take out a second mortgage to go out for dinner. All of these price increases are post pandemic.

And to screw us all, such as those who enjoy a night in New York City the city will impose congestion pricing after a series of sham hearings after the cameras have already gone up. There is still time to offer your comments on what will certainly increase prices of everything that travels through the New York area.

Go to new.mta.info by March 11. There you will find several ways to submit comments: via an online form, via email, by calling the Central Business District Tolling Program at 646-252-7440 or mailing your comments to Central Business District Tolling Program, 2 Broadway, 23rd Floor

New York, NY 10004. Again, all Comments must be received no later than 11:59 p.m. on March 11, 2024. Comments received after that date and time will not be considered.

Remember: money from Congestion Pricing will go to mass transportation improvements, not road improvements. The pothole you see today is the pothole you will see TOMMORROW!

Back to the animal crackers. There is nothing that you can tell me costs so much to charge \$3.59 for that little box. Manufacturers of these products saw an opening and they must be stopped. Don't buy that little box. Buy a big bag of animal crackers if you must. Order over \$35 worth of things from Walmart and you get free 2 day shipping. Open a Target card and shipping on most items is free. You know about Amazon Prime that costs you some money but many times can save you in the long run.

The next President of these great United States will have to have a plan in place to drive down these crazy prices. By the way, I went to Acme, a chain all around WESTCHESTER and their prices are often \$1 more than competitors

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Shooting at New Rochelle Burger King at 8pm -17-Year Old Arrested



blood stained gun taken from 17 year old, photo from New Rochelle Police

On March 1st, 2024, at about 7:50pm, New Rochelle Police received multiple calls about an altercation at the New Roc City Burger King restaurant located at 33 LeCount place.

There were multiple reports of a large altercation inside as well as gun shots fired outside the restaurant. Officers responded and found 9mm shell casings on the sidewalk outside the restaurant. Witnesses reported that several groups of males were running from the scene.

New Rochelle Detectives were able to locate the suspect in the shooting several blocks from the scene. As Detectives approached the suspect he began to flee on foot, while reaching into his waistband. After a brief foot pursuit Detectives were able to apprehend him. He was found to be in possession of a Taurus 9mm handgun. Detectives placed him under arrest and transported him to New Rochelle Police Headquarters. Further investigation revealed that this incident stemmed from a physical altercation involving two groups of males inside the restaurant.

The suspect, who was found to be a 17-year-old juvenile, sustained a laceration in the melee and then shot multiple rounds at the fleeing group. There were no reports of anyone being hit with the gunfire at this time.

ARRESTED: Male Juvenile (name withheld due to Juvenile status), 17 years of age, of the Bronx, NY.

CHARGES: New York State Penal Law Sections:

265.03 Criminal Possession of a Weapon 2nd Degree – C Felony

265.02 Criminal Possession of a Weapon 3rd Degree – Defaced Firearm – D Felony

120.25 Reckless Endangerment 1st Degree – D Felony

Wartburg Honors 500+ Volunteers for Service



L-R-Chloe Tomasso, Cristle Collins Judd, Emily Bloom, Hannah Lee, Rosabelle DuBois and Nelson Rodriguez.

Wartburg, a prominent senior residential and healthcare provider in lower Westchester County, recently honored the remarkable service of more than 500 volunteers at its Volunteer Recognition Luncheon. Over 110 attendees congregated at Wartburg’s Gatz Conference Center to commemorate the dedication of these volunteers, who collectively contributed nearly 50,000 hours of service throughout 2023. Dr. David J. Gentner, Wartburg’s President & CEO, expressed gratitude, acknowledging the vital role volunteers play in the organization’s foundation and ongoing success, stating, “This organization was founded by volunteers, our Board of Directors, and your dedication to service will always be appreciated.”

Among the recognitions, Sarah Lawrence College received the Community Partner of the Year Award for its outstanding support and collaboration with Wartburg’s senior community. Noteworthy achievements included successful events, podcast series, book clubs, and intergenerational programming, all of which significantly enriched the lives of Wartburg’s senior residents. Additionally, Sister Mary Elizabeth DeBoer was honored with the Claudia Brigman Volunteer of the Year Award for her unwavering commitment to providing spiritual care and comfort to Wartburg residents, dedicating over 300 hours of service in 2023 alone. Furthermore, Home Depot was recognized as the 2023 Corporate Partner of the Year for its substantial contributions to Wartburg initiatives, including renovation projects and community events that enhanced the environment and experiences of Wartburg residents and visitors.

Reflecting Wartburg’s commitment to holistic care, the organization offers Spiritual Care Visitor Training, enabling volunteers to provide essential pastoral care skills and support. Over 30 graduates dedicated over 2,300 hours to bringing peace and spiritual care to residents, while Worship on Wheels volunteers donated 576 hours to transport nursing home residents to chapel services. Kerry Minto, Director of Volunteers, expressed profound gratitude for the selfless efforts of Wartburg’s volunteers, emphasizing their significant contributions in fostering a welcoming and enriching environment for residents and patients alike.

For information on Wartburg’s volunteer program, visit their website at Wartburg.org or call Kerry Minto at 914-513-5308 or kminto@wartburg.org.

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Congressman Bowman Invites Jonathan Alvarez, 914United Founder, as State of the Union Guest

Elena Olson, From Ursuline School, Named A Con Edison Scholar-Athlete of the Week



Jonathan Alvarez

Congressman Jamaal Bowman, Ed.D. (NY-16), officially announced he will welcome 914United Founder Jonathan Alvarez of Yonkers as his guest for the 2024 State of the Union address.

Jonathan Alvarez co-founded 914United with his best friend of over 28 years, John Cabrera. In addition to the work he does with 914United to support formerly incarcerated individuals and at-risk youth, he is involved with the My Brother's Keeper Initiative as a mentor and a Case Manager for Yonkers SNUG which works to reduce gun violence. He is also an Academic Outreach Coordinator in the Youth Offender Program in Westchester, providing educational support to incarcerated young people. While incarcerated, Alvarez received his GED and Bachelor of Arts in Social Studies from the Bard Prison Initiative.

"It is such an honor to announce that Jonathan Alvarez of Yonkers will be my special guest for this year's State of the Union address," said Congressman Jamaal Bowman, Ed.D. (NY-16). "Jonathan is a leader in our community who has committed himself to uplifting our youth, making sure that everyone has the resources they need to thrive, and prioritizing equity and justice. As a formerly incarcerated individual and founder of 914United, Jonathan has made it his mission to create and foster positive change in his community. Leaders like Jonathan make our district the vibrant, diverse, and welcoming place that we know. I am so proud to have him join me at the State of the Union."

"I am delighted and honored to have received an invitation from Congressman Jamaal Bowman to attend President Biden's State of the Union address," said Jonathan Alvarez, founder of 914United. "As our nation faces a critical juncture, the leadership of President Biden and Congressman Bowman is paramount. I look forward to participating in this historic occasion, recognizing the significance of their guidance during these challenging times."



Elena Olson

By Dan Murphy

Congratulations to Elena Olson, a senior at the Ursuline School, for being named a 2024 Con Edison Scholar Athlete of the week. Competing recently at the Section One Class A Championships, Elena continued her unbeaten streak in Section One as she won the 55m Hurdles for the third consecutive year! Just an incredible performance as she insisted on competing even with a back injury!

Elena still remains #9 in the State in the hurdles. She won the 55m hurdles for the 3rd consecutive year establishing herself as one of the finest hurdlers in Westchester history. It is extremely rare that an athlete has the ability to win the same event as a Sophomore-Junior-Senior. Elena is one of our Indoor Team Captains and will be a Captain this Spring. She displays outstanding leadership qualities! At school she is a peer ministry leader, Eucharistic minister and has logged more than 200 hours of service! Elena play soccer in the Fall and was this year's Soccer Team Captain!

Elena is one of Ursuline's Indoor Team Captains and will be a Captain this Spring. Elena played soccer in the Fall and was this year's Soccer Team Captain.

She displays outstanding leadership qualities as a peer ministry leader, Eucharistic minister and has logged more than 200 hours of service. Elena does not shy away from work as she is a student ambassador at Ursuline, a member of the warm hands and hearts club. This past summer she was the Senior Life Guard at the Saxon Woods Pool.

Elena has a 5.28 average out of a 5.00 weighted average and has taken a number of AP courses.

"Elena has consistently applied herself to becoming an excellent student-athlete with purpose and diligence. Elena is very conscientious and well-motivated. She is willing to work very hard for what she wants, shows initiative, responsibility and perseverance, yet never losing respect or concern for others. We have been fortunate to have Elena as a student at the Ursuline School – we are a better institution for having her as part of our class. She truly has become one of the finest student-athletes in Ursuline's history. Elena truly embodies what it means to be an Ursuline young woman. She was recruited by some of the best academic universities in the nation and will be continuing her education and running at Northeastern University in 2024." said Assistant Principal Mrs. Liz Lynch.

Elena lives in Hartsdale.

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A New Column Idea, But I need Your Help

By Dan Murphy

I am hoping to pen some political thoughts to our readers about the upcoming 2024 election, for all offices, local, state and for Congress and President.

I would ask our readers to help in this effort, and write to me at dmurphy@risingmediagroup.com your thoughts on the upcoming elections, and we will print them along with my thoughts. And let's all agree to disagree civilly.

In Westchester, the political headlines have been filled with the race for Congress between Congressman Jamaal Bowman, County Executive George Latimer and Mary Dolan.

Both Bowman and Latimer have been slugging it out and slinging mud, or getting someone else to mudsling about their opponent.

Dolan has criticized Bowman for his naming a cop-killer a Wall of Fame hero. This race is now incredibly close between Bowman and Latimer. And we still have about 100 days to go.

Latimer has taken criticism from Black Westchester for challenging a black, incumbent member of his own party, and a lot more.

Westchester's other Congressional contest, in NY-17 has a current member of Congress facing off against a former member of Congress. Rep. Mike Lawler and former Rep. Mondaire Jones

This race may be more important to determine which party has control of the House in 2025. Lawler won his election in 2022 by 2100 votes. 2024 is a Presidential year. How will that impact this election?

We received an email from Senator Pete Harckham's campaign, touting their recent fund raising numbers. And they bragged about how far ahead they were in fund raising than Harckham's opponent, republican Gina Arena. I thought that the dig at Arena was in poor taste and unwarranted. Harckman easily defeated Arena two years ago, and has done a good job representing the 40th district, where I live.

Finally, petitions are out for all candidates. Next week, I will be writing about how difficult it is for independent candidate to circulate petitions and get on the ballot. Especially in Statewide races.

District Attorney Susan Cacace is on a democratic petition along with the four candidates for Judge. Some had questioned whether this was allowed, because if they wanted to sign for the judges they also had to sign the same petition for Cacace.

But democrats we spoke to said this has always been the case, and the endorsed candidates of the Westchester County democratic committee often put their names on the same petition because it makes it easier for volunteers to collect signatures.

Cacace won the Westchester Democratic convention by a 60%-40% margin over William Wagstaff. But Wagstaff is making this an interesting contest with the number of high profile, elected democrats, supporting his campaign.

Notice of formation of Ashlee B. Media, LLC. Arts. of Org. filed with the SSNY on 1/6/2023. 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, 520 Pelhamdale Avenue, Pelham, NY 10803. Purpose: Any lawful activity.

Notice of Formation of NORTHERN WESTCHESTER KITCHEN & BATH LLC. Arts. Of Org filed with SSNY on 11/28/2023. Office location: Westchester County. Registered Agent to mail process and may be served: ZENBUSINESS INC, 41 STATE STREET SUITE 112, ALBANY, NY 12207. Purpose: Any lawful activity.

Formation of TARRYTOWN 44 LLC filed with the Secy. of State of NY (SSNY) on 11/17/2023. Office loc.: Westchester County. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. The address SSNY shall mail process to Benjamin Sinanaj, 4 Farm Way Dr., Ardsley, NY 10502. Purpose: Any lawful activity.

Notice of formation of Palisades Property Management LLC filed with the SSNY on 1/18/2024. Office: Westchester County. SSNY designated as agent of the LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail copy of process to The Mulford Corporation, 1511 Central Park Ave, Yonkers NY 10710. Purpose: Any lawful activity.

Notice of Formation of Calimero II, LLC. Articles of Organization filed with Secretary of State of New York (SSNY) on 12/4/2023. Office Location: Westchester County. SSNY is designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to Marie H. Durif-O'Dowd, 1632 First Avenue, Apartment 326, New York, NY 10028. Purpose: Any lawful act or activity.

Ana Lucia Nail Lounge LLC, LLC. Arts. of Org. filed with the SSNY on 1/8/24.. Office: New York 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, 115 Chelsea Street Hawthorne, NY 10532. Purpose: Any lawful purpose.

Notice of formation of ALPHONSE, JULIE & GLENN CONSULTING LLC. filed with the SSNY on 01/30/2024. Office: Westchester County. SSNY designated as agent of the LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail copy of process to the LLC, 142 Garth Rd. Ste. 3N Scarsdale NY 10583. Purpose: Any lawful activity.

Formation of TRUIH LLC filed with the Secy. of State of NY (SSNY) on 8/15/2023. Office loc.: Westchester County. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. The address SSNY shall mail process to Lawrence Rebbecchi, 550 Green Dolphin Dr., Placida, FL 33946. Purpose: Any lawful activity.

Notice of Formation of 326 PROSPECT AVE LLC. Articles of Organization filed with SSNY on 03/24/2023. Office location: Westchester County. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process may be served. SSNY shall mail process to Brian Caldwell at 130 Franklin Avenue, Harrison, NY 10528. Purpose: any lawful act or activity.

Notice of formation of Jaylee's Beauty Lounge, LLC. Arts. of Org. filed with the SSNY on 10/29/23. 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, 55 Cole Street, Ste. 101, Yonkers, NY, 10710. Purpose: Any lawful activity.

Notice of Formation of Yugen Creationz LLC. Arts. Of. Org. filed with the SSNY on 1/28/024. Office: Westchester County. SSNY designated as the agent of the LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail copy of process to the LLC, 10 Commerce Dr, 102. New Rochelle, NY 10801. Purpose: Any lawful activity.

Formation of 25 COUNTY ROUTE 62 LLC filed with the Secy. of State of NY (SSNY) on 10/6/2023. Office loc.: Westchester County. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. The principal business loc. and address SSNY shall mail process to is Floann and Raymond Landeck, 79 Pembroke Dr., Yonkers, NY 10710. Purpose: Any lawful activity.

Notice of formation of SurgeExpand, LLC. filed with the SSNY on 10/16/2023. 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, 324 Palisade Ave -1F, Yonkers, NY 10703. Purpose: Any lawful activity.

Notice of Formation of A Soft Delicate Flower LLC. Arts of Org. filed with the SSNY on 1/3/24. Office location: Westchester County. SSNY is designated as agent upon whom process against the LLC may be served. SSNY shall mail process to 1840 Crompond Road Peekskill NY 10566. Purpose: any lawful act.

Notice of formation of D & E Guest Reality Management, LLC. Arts. of Org. filed with the SSNY on 09/15/2023. 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, D & E Guest Reality Management LLC, 79-81 Main Street, P.O. Box 1100, Yonkers, NY 10702. Purpose: Any lawful activity.

Notice of Formation of Pachamama Vibes, LLC. Articles of Organization were filed with the Secretary of State of New York (SSNY) on 11/20/2023. Office location: Westchester County. SSNY has been designated as agent of LLC upon whom process may be served. SSNY shall mail a copy of any process against the LLC served upon him or her to the company c/o United States Corporation Agents, Inc. 7014 13th Ave., Suite 202, Brooklyn, NY 11228. Principal business address: 762 Hoover Avenue, Peekskill NY 10566. Purpose: Any lawful acts.

Notice of formation of a Limited Liability Company ETAMNI LLC Articles of Organization filed with the SSNY Office on 01/29/2024 Office Location: Westchester County. SSNY has been designated as agent of the LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail a copy of process to : 2 Hudson Street Apt 4G Yonkers, NY 10701 Purpose: Any lawful purpose. Latest date upon which LLC is to dissolve: No specific date.

Notice of formation of a Limited Liability Company ETAMNI FAMILY CLEANING LLC Articles of Organization filed with the SSNY Office on 01/29/2024 Office Location: Westchester County. SSNY has been designated as agent of the LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail a copy of process to : 2 Hudson Street Apt 4G Yonkers, NY 10701 Purpose: Any lawful purpose. Latest date upon which LLC is to dissolve: No specific date.

Notice of formation of a Limited Liability Company DAVIS AND DAVIS MEDICAL TRANSPORTATION LLC Articles of Organization filed with the SSNY Office on 01/29/2024 Office Location: Westchester County. SSNY has been designated as agent of the LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail a copy of process to : 2 Hudson Street Apt 4G Yonkers, NY 10701 Purpose: Any lawful purpose. Latest date upon which LLC is to dissolve: No specific date.

Notice of Formation of Safety First Shooting LLC. Arts. Of Org. filed with the SSNY on 2/13/2024. Office: Westchester County. SSNY designated as agent of the LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail copy of process to the LLC, 465 Tuckahoe Road suite #1168 Yonkers NY 10710. Purpose: Any lawful activity.

Notice of Formation of Buffsicle, LLC. Articles of Org filed with SSNY on 12/15/2023. Office Location: Westchester County. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: 41 Old Post Road, Rye, NY, 10580. Purpose: any lawful purpose or activity.

Congressional Candidate Marty Dolan: Bowman is Not a Progressive -He's a Radical

By Dan Murphy

Last week, we ran a paid advertisement from Congressional candidate Marty Dolan. Dolan, who is running for Congress in NY District 16, (the Bronx and Westchester). Dolan released a "Progressive Scorecard" for the current member of Congress in NY-16, Rep. Jamaal Bowman, and for Congresswoman Alexandra Ocasio-Cortez, (AOC).

Bowman and AOC embrace the label "progressive champions," but Dolan said, "Bowman is not a progressive, he is a radical," and says that Bowman does not represent the values and issues that are important to New York voters.

The scorecard included a failing grade for both Bowman and AOC on issues like income inequality, the National Debt, unfunded pensions, and the half million former New Yorkers who left NY last year.

"These are the critical issues that I am running on, but both Congressman Bowman and Congresswoman Ocasio-Cortez are not focused on these issues at all. And the voters of New York are concerned about these issues. And that is the question that I am asking the residents of NY-16: Is this the type of leadership and representation that you want?"

"Voters I have spoken to find it very offensive when there is no discussion from our congressman about property taxes in Westchester, and the fact that we got slammed by the republicans in 2017 with SALT, (State and Local Taxes)," said Dolan, referring to the \$10,000 cap on deductions for property taxes and state taxes from your federal tax return.

"Westchester homeowners pay the highest property taxes in the world, and our congressman has zero interest in any of this. He never talks about tax relief, or anything that an astute financial person would talk about. And there are negative consequences to Congressman Bowman not talking about these issues," said Dolan, the son of an immigrant, who grew up in Westchester but believes his experiences living in Europe and around the USA as a strategic advisor to start-up companies in AI and new technologies can benefit New York City and New York State voters.

Both Rep. Bowman and Rep. Ocasio-Cortez, who is a graduate of Yorktown High School, are self-described members of "The Squad," a group of six ultra-progressive House democrats. Dolan says that AOC's stances have not only hurt her New York City district, but all of New York State.

"I don't see any difference between Bowman and AOC. Nothing that they are doing is improving the financial health of New York. Their focus is on DEI (Diversity, Equity and Inclusion). The progressives have been a total failure on all of the issues that matter for NY, and AOC is included in my progressive survey because she has done the same amount of damage to New Yorkers that Congressman Bowman has done."

Dolan points to AOC leading the opposition to an Amazon plant and headquarters to be built in her district in Queens, NYC, in 2019. The Amazon HQ2 was to create at least 25,000 middle class jobs for New Yorkers and generate \$30 Billion in new revenue that would have justified the \$3 Billion in tax incentives asked for by Amazon. Instead, AOC called the tax incentives "a scam of public funds."

"New York City had won the competition to bring an Amazon headquarters to New York City, and to her (AOC's) district, and they said they didn't want it. It's like the Jets winning the Super Bowl and giving back the trophy. And the site is still vacant, and not creating any jobs or generating any tax revenue.

"This was a huge mistake, and points to Bowman and AOC being all about headline and more interested in national recognition and not working for the people in their districts. New York City and all of us in New York State deserve far better representation than what Bowman and AOC stand for," said Dolan, who recently confronted Bowman at a Police Community Council meeting in Yonkers regarding his placing a convicted police killer on a Wall of Heroes at a Bronx school that Bowman worked at.

"He (Bowman) takes radical positions, like placing a poster of a cop killer on a Wall of Heroes in a school in the Bronx. I don't think that is representative of our values in the district and in New York."

"And March is Women's History Month, and Congressman Bowman discussed all of the great women in our history. But he didn't mention a single white woman. How do you talk about women's history without mentioning Hillary Clinton, or Senator Gillibrand, or Nancy Pelosi?"

"Westchester is an integrated community, and voters find his behavior, and lack of sensitivity, offensive. It's not what the voters want in their representative. I think Congressman Bowman isn't a progressive-he's a radical. And voters in New York want change," said Dolan.

Joanne Chesimard (Assata Shakur), Jamaal Bowman and the police: Letter to the Editor

I have been a contributor to this publication spanning thirteen years. Thanks to the efforts of Dan Murphy who has been gracious to publish many of my pieces that I know the larger white community has had issues with as well as Mr. Murphy himself. But it is a testimony to Dan that he is a true journalist in that he has consistently published what I have presented. However his story about Assata Shakur is categorically wrong because it presents a good vs. Evil narrative when it comes to black cop killers and white police officers which is rarely the truth or whole story in these types of incidences and many others.

Assata Shakur was NOT a terrorist and the FBI has been a criminal organization for generations under J Edgar Hoover that includes its local field office in Rye. There is a book by former FBI Agent Mike German called "Disrupt Discredit and Divide how the FBI damages democracy". He details the racial profiling of people of color as well as the profiling of fbi agents of color especially if they are Asian, black and certainly if they are Muslim. Where these agents of color have sued the FBI for their criminal behavior and racist behavior and sometimes lost their jobs. Meanwhile white supremacist groups, that FBI head Christopher Wray has said "are the biggest domestic terrorist threat" have received "kid glove" treatment from white fbi agents and their ingratiating agents of color who are thoroughly colonized in their thinking. What Mike German has detailed I have seen corroborated by other sources. Assata Shakur was a member of the Black Liberation Army an off shoot of the Black Panther Party for self defense. That came into existence because of generations of pathological white violence north and south where police violence as documented by the kerner commission and Knapp commission has been a major factor in explaining the rioting that went on in the Black community especially from 1963 to 1968. Francesco Serpico who was the major impetus to Mayoy Lindsay directing Judge Whitman Knapp to convene the commission that had his eponymous name showed is courage and intrepidity and is my hero and brought home the fact that all cops are not heroes and in many cases are criminals. Serpico had been talking about police corruption and police violence particularly in the black community back in 1967 and no one responded until 1970, When the Knapp Commission was formed, did something finally happen. This violence was paralleled to what police forces had done nationally especially in the cities. When legendary rhythm and blues singer Sam Cook was murdered in 1964 a leading official of the Los Angeles police department said in response to his death, the murder occurred in

Los Angeles, "it is just a case of a nigger being killed". Assata Shakur and the black liberation army like revolutionary George Jackson and the black panther party we're fighting a lawless violence prone and racist police environment that had been brutalizing and killing black people and people of color for decades with impunity. So like the deacons that were formed in the early 1960's to fight pathological white violence from the greater white community as well as the police the panthers as well as the BLA were organized to protect the black community. The BLA was accused of robbing banks, and killing drug dealers and killing police officers but this blanket good vs evil definition like everything else in America was predicated on a lie. For one thing Shakur was exonerated from most of the initial charges she was accused of and with the history of police misconduct and violence mandates a reevaluation of how these two groups were demonized. J Edgar Hoover administered in conjunction with the Illinois State attorney general Hanrahan and the Chicago police department the execution of Black Panther party members Fred Hampton and Mark Clark in a 5 am raid on their apartment with 6 others where the Chicago pd shot 99 bullets into the apartment killing Hampton and Clark and almost killing Hamptons girlfriend who lay next to him eight months pregnant in 1969. Hoover also advised Dr. King to commit suicide with all of the salacious information he had about Kings indiscretion. He did this and for 40 years as head of the FBI ignored and did nothing about all of the bombings murders and rapes that whites committed against blacks especially during the period of American apartheid. Why there is a building named after this racist disgrace of law enforcement is beyond my bandwidth of understanding. J Edgar Hoover was pure evil like much of American History. Many officers of color especially the younger ones don't know this evil history and will come to the same conclusion as Dan Murphy and others that when cops are killed by so-called black terrorists that it is always a case of good vs evil. No it's not, and the NYPD has never been "Ny city's finest" that is a LIE just ask the legacies of James Baldwin or Malcolm X. Yes police officers have a difficult job because they are on the front lines dealing with all of the fallout of how THOROUGHLY uncivilized this society is as Dr. King said and police officers have one of the highest suicide rates in the country because of this. But they are by no stretch of the imagination all heroes, the history I just delineated brings that home. So yes I support, along with many others, Congress Bowmans decision not to apologize for Assata Shakur appearing as a hero at that school because I understand why she would be defined as such. Malcolm X said white America and the press "Will make you think the criminal is the victim and the victim is the criminal". Like Anthony Curtis Blanks, who should have been released years ago with the circumstances that the Larchmont PBA ignored and rejected because of their entrenched racism that I have seen for 34 years, Assata Shakur is not a terrorist and should be allowed to come back to the United States. If Shakur is a terrorist many members of the Fraternal order of the Police alive and who have passed away are terrorist.

Clifford Jackson
Larchmont

Notice of Formation of THE NAVIE THERAPY GROUP L.L.C., LLC filed with SSNY on 08/29/23. Office: WESTCHESTER County. SSNY designated agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail a copy of the process to LLC: 200 Bloomingdale Road, Suite 1A, White Plains, NY 10605. Purpose: any lawful act or activity.

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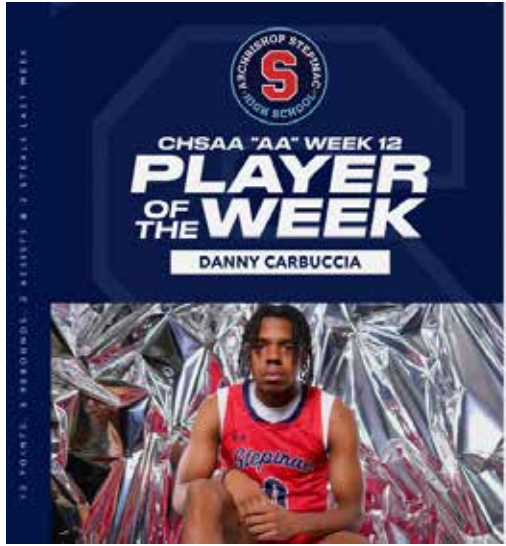
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Yonkers Public Library - Riverfront

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Questions: hello@untappedsolutions.io

Three Stepinac HS Basketball Stars Named to Catholic All League Team



Archbishop Stepinac High School is thrilled to announce that three members of its Crusaders Varsity Basketball Program have been selected to receive 2023-2024 Catholic High School Athletic Association "AA" Basketball All-League Honors along with the prestigious Coach of the Year honor.

Johnuel "Boogie" Fland has been named Most Valuable Player. Fland, a senior from the Bronx who has signed to play basketball at the University of Kentucky next year, showcased impressive stats throughout the season, averaging 17.9 points, 6.4 rebounds, 4.0 assists, and 2.6 steals per game. He also boasted a shooting percentage of 51% from the field and 38% from behind the arc. Fland's exceptional performance on the court garnered interest from over 30 colleges and universities, culminating in his recent recognition as a McDonald's All-American, marking a historic achievement as the third player in Stepinac history to receive this honor.

Braylan Ritvo has been named 1st Team All-League. Ritvo, a senior from New York City who has committed to playing basketball at Quinnipiac University next year, averaged 15.0 points, 5.5 rebounds, and 1.3 blocks per game. Additionally, Ritvo was named the Most Valuable Player in Stepinac's second matchup at the Hoophall West Classic against Corona Centennial (CA), where he scored 30 points and shot 8 for 10 from behind the arc.

Danny Carbuccia has been named 3rd Team All-League. Carbuccia, a junior from Yonkers, was recently chosen to represent the Dominican Republic at the 2024 Basketball Without Borders Global Camp All-Star Team during the NBA's All-Star Weekend. Throughout the regular season, he maintained impressive averages of 9.6 points, 3.2 rebounds, and a team-leading 5.9 assists per game.

Head Coach Patrick Massaroni of White Plains has been named Coach of the Year. A Stepinac alumnus (Class of '06), Massaroni is in his ninth year coaching the Stepinac Varsity Basketball Team, and alongside assistant coaches Rodney Swain, Allan Sheppard, and Alexis Nunez, guided the Crusaders to an impressive 21-3 overall record, including a flawless 15-0 performance in league play. Under Massaroni's leadership, Stepinac has secured two CHSAA "AA" City Championships. Currently, the team holds the 10th spot in the United States according to ESPN's High School Basketball Rankings.

Ira Goldman Memorial Concert at Untermyer Park Yonkers March 10

Spring is Near



Photographer Robert Kalufs sent us this photo with this note: I attach for our readers the welcome first sign of spring, purple and white crocuses pushes and sprouting through the earth.

And Remember to Spring Ahead Your Clocks This Weekend

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Blood Drive in Memory of CJ Hackett

In Memoriam

BLOOD DRIVE


THURSDAY, MARCH 14TH
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Archbishop Stepinac High School
950 Mamaroneck Ave. White Plains, NY

In loving Memory of **Christopher Jack "CJ" Hackett**



Christopher Jack "CJ" Hackett of Yonkers, New York passed away on August 4, 2022. He was 16 years old. Born in White Plains Hospital to Christopher and Yvonne Hackett on May 16, 2006, Christopher was the oldest of three children. He was raised in Yonkers where he attended St. Paul The Apostle Pre K School until his eighth-grade graduation. Christopher continued his education at Archbishop Stepinac High School where he was about to begin his junior year in September. When it came to academics and good grades Christopher excelled. He was a self-starter. When his homework was complete you could find him playing basketball, pulling wheels on his bicycle, or hanging out with his sister Lefee and brother Harry. His summers were spent with his dad in the Catskill mountains shooting skeet, sitting around campfires with his family and riding his dirt bike. Christopher was also a hardworking teenager. He enjoyed working summers at Gavins Fish Country Inn in East Durham. Christopher worked as a waiter where he was loved by his work colleagues and loyal customers. He had a huge circle of friends, his closest being his Nan whom he called many times during the week. Christopher will be remembered as a kind, loving and honest soul. He was a loyal friend to those who knew him. He was the best kid any parent could ask for.

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**Historic Homes of New Rochelle:
 A Bus Tour of Mediterranean Revival Homes**



Historic homes in New Rochelle include an impressive array of styles that were popular during the heyday of its growth in the Roaring Twenties, including Mediterranean Revival. The style was inspired by the villas of Spain, Italy, and Portugal. By blending their characteristic stucco walls, archways, tile roofs, and patios and balconies, Americans sought to capture the warmth, relaxation, and leisurely feel of a European resort.

Our bus tour will take you throughout New Rochelle to see a collection of these homes, highlighted with special interior stops along the way!

This is a one-time-only event, space is limited.

The bus start/stop location will be in New Rochelle, specific details will be provided prior to the tour via email.

3.5 hours (approx.)

Rates

Adult: \$75

Student: \$49

Visit <https://allevents.in/new%20rochelle/historic-homes-of-new-rochelle-a-bus-tour-of-mediterranean-revival-homes/200026180374654>, for more information.

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Send us your letters, announcements, opinions, photos and story ideas to

dmurphy@risingmediagroup.com

Yonkers Mayor Spano & Hillside Food Outreach Combat Food Insecurity



L-R Kathy Purdy, CEO and Founder, Hillside Food Outreach, Mayor Mike Spano, City of Yonkers Norma Vanable, a senior-aged Yonkers resident & Hillside client, Renee Redmond, Volunteer, Hillside Food Outreach

On Feb. 28, Yonkers Mayor Mike Spano and Hillside Food Outreach, a local non-profit that provides free and nutritious groceries to over 2,000 low-income limited mobility families, seniors, veterans, and the chronically ill, teamed up to deliver healthy food to a Yonkers-based residence experiencing food insecurity issues. The delivery was made to Norma Vanable, a senior-aged Yonkers resident whose daughter unfortunately passed away from cancer, leaving her to raise and feed five young grandchildren on her own.

According to a study by the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA), more than 17 million American households currently suffer from food insecurity, representing the largest increase since the 2008 financial crisis.

As food insecurity reaches its highest point nationally since the 2008 financial crisis, Hillside Food Outreach continues to deliver high-quality, nutritious groceries free of charge to low-income limited mobility families, seniors, veterans, and the chronically ill who cannot access traditional food pantries.

The organization was founded in 1997 in Westchester, N.Y. by Kathleen Purdy, who conceived of the program in honor of her late grandmother – whose kindness and lifelong charity inspired a mission to help others. What began as a micro-endeavor to feed a few seniors in their community has grown into an essential food delivery organization, now serving more than 2,000 neighbors in need throughout Westchester, Putnam and Fairfield Counties, each and every month.

Hillside Food Outreach is headquartered in Mount Kisco, N.Y. and may be reached at 914-747-0095 or by visiting HillsideFoodOutreach.org.

Yonkers IDA Votes Final Approval of Financial Incentives for Teutonia Hall

& approved Electric Transmission Line Under Hudson



The Yonkers Industrial Development Agency (YIDA) voted on February 29 for final approval of financial incentives for Teutonia Hall, a \$458 million mixed-use residential complex featuring two luxury 41-story towers. It is one of the largest developments to come before the YIDA in recent years.

The two-phase project, which is located at 4 Buena Vista Avenue, will feature a total of 906 apartments of which 91 will be affordable. The complex will include 2,900 square feet of active street-level commercial use space and 907 parking spaces. The lower six stories of the buildings would comprise a podium, which would serve as a parking facility for residents with approximately 907 parking spaces. The anticipated construction start date for Phase 1 is

September 2024 with completion in December of 2027. Construction of Phase 2 is anticipated to start in December 2028 with completion in December of 2031.

Project developer AMS Acquisitions was approved for \$12,924,830 in sales tax exemptions and \$4,549,646 in mortgage recording tax exemptions. The two phases of the project are estimated to create 1,100 construction jobs. According to a cost-benefit analysis, the project will create \$2.35 for every \$1.00 of incentives. The developer is also requesting a 20-year PILOT.

In other business, the YIDA voted preliminary approval of financial incentives for Champlain Hudson Power Express (CHPE) for the underwater installation of a 1,250MW electric transmission line along 4.3 miles of the Hudson River in Yonkers. The project cost is estimated at \$22.5 million.

The CHPE cable is bringing inexpensive hydro power from Quebec to New York City over a 339-mile route of which 60% is in waterways. Installation of the cable in the Hudson River in Yonkers is currently planned during the period of August-September 2025. CHPE is requesting a sales tax exemption of \$1,996,875.

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Dear Editor,

As the special election for Yorktown NY Supervisor on April 16 approaches, it's crucial for residents to consider who will lead our community with vision, integrity, and dedication. In my view, Jann Mirchandani stands out as the most qualified candidate for this important role.

Jann Mirchandani brings a wealth of experience and a fresh perspective to the table. With a background in business management and community service, Mirchandani understands the complexities of our town's needs and possesses the skills necessary to address them effectively.

One of the key reasons why Mirchandani is the best choice for Yorktown NY Supervisor is her unwavering commitment to transparency and accountability in government. She has pledged to work closely with residents, listen to their concerns, and ensure that their voices are heard in decision-making processes. This commitment to openness and accessibility is essential for fostering trust and engagement within our community.

Furthermore, Mirchandani has outlined a comprehensive plan to tackle critical issues facing Yorktown, including infrastructure improvements, economic development, and environmental sustainability. Her forward-thinking approach prioritizes long-term planning and responsible stewardship of our resources, ensuring that Yorktown remains a vibrant and thriving place to live for generations to come.

In addition to her professional qualifications, Mirchandani has a proven track record of service to our community. Whether through volunteering with local organizations or advocating for positive change, she has demonstrated her dedication to making Yorktown a better place for all its residents.

In contrast to other candidates, Mirchandani offers a fresh perspective and a pragmatic approach to governance. She understands the importance of collaboration and consensus-building in achieving meaningful results, and she is committed to working tirelessly on behalf of all Yorktown residents, regardless of party affiliation.

In conclusion, I urge my fellow residents to cast their vote for Jann Mirchandani in the upcoming special election for Yorktown NY Supervisor. With her experience, integrity, and passion for service, she is the best choice to lead our community forward.

Sincerely, Anne(Nancy)Fleurat, 37 Year resident of Yorktown

ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS AGENDA

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE: THE CITY OF YONKERS ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS MEETING SCHEDULED FOR WEDNESDAY, MARCH 20, 2024 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, Zone: BR (B30132) (Adjourned to MAY 2024)

5810 – Use & Area Variance – David S. Steinmetz, Esq. & Jacob E. Amir, Esq., on behalf of TCP Realty LLC, owners, on premises known as 143-151 Woodworth Avenue, Block: 2102, Lots: 4, 5, 11, 39 & 41, Zone: C (B32117) (Adjourned to APRIL 2024) https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1H-uwlmlnZ67PdqnXin47LX7kkvY8uwUh?usp=share_link

5836 – Use & Area Variance – Mastrogiacomo Engineering PC, on behalf of My Main Man LLC, owner, on premises known as 47 High Street aka 102 Park Avenue, Block: 2167, Lot: 1.3, Zone: MG (B32874) <https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1KcvFoSwZw6ljqBkVUcJQsWyXq4z4Pn-x?usp=sharing>

5838 – Use Variance – Shahin Badaly, P.E., on behalf of 222 Lake Partners LLC, owner, on premises known as 222 Lake Avenue, Block: 2179, Lot: 1, Zone: A&I (B32787) <https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1ckpicpipRFStOnVZ118vQjNIPcnXIrS3?usp=sharing>

5843 – Area Variance - Keith P. Brown, Esq., on behalf of GettyMart, Inc., owner, and Global Montello Group Corp., lessee, on premises known as 286-290 Ashburton Avenue, Block: 2067, Lot: 1, Zone: I (B30675) <https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1cBV9cH4gmAG4aViVTkhhwnMI41X4gBG?usp=sharing>

5846 – Use & Area Variance – Andrew Romano, Esq., on behalf of 166 Yonkers Ave LLC, owner, on premises known as 166 Yonkers Avenue, Block: 446, Lot: 8, Zone: BA (B32605) <https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1ZgbV5J1JyCicKwpgACcltpoW8eOLE8ME?usp=sharing>

NEW HEARINGS

5847 – Area Variance – Andrew Romano, Esq., on behalf of Mark & Luljeta Lumaj, owners, on premises known as 121-125 Sterling Avenue, Block: 6266, Lots: 27 & 29, Zone: T (A249) https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1omdWDKMJdfh9FJE_hY2ahKW5GH1-Au-n?usp=sharing

5848 – Area Variance - Andrew Romano, Esq., on behalf of Montero Service Group Corp, owner, on premises known as 74 Maple Street, Block: 457, Lot: 11, Zone: M (B30091) https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1RvyUzj_4MI3ENgf9aq_ZjHbiGTM8Tul1?usp=sharing

5849 – Area Variance - Andrew Romano, Esq., on behalf of Sherena Doldron, owner, on premises known as 26 Cornell Ave, Block: 111, Lot: 22.32, Zone: A (B28235) <https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1QWuIINnN5i53mal6tWqHsKu5cfNX2d6B?usp=sharing>

5850 – Area Variance – Kathleen Bradshaw, Esq., on behalf of 194 Yonkers Avenue LLC, owner, on premises known as 182 Fillmore Street aka 194 Yonkers Avenue, Block: 405, Lots: 1, 2, 3, 5, 7, 8, 9, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, Zone: BA (B31340) https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1rndP3X61j_scy3P25c-FkrsMpUyXHf34?usp=sharing

**FL!P Circus Returns to Cross County
for Extended Visit March 8-April 2
Exciting Family Fun Under Its Intimate Big Top
No Animals -Ukrainian Troop of Performers**



The multi-talented performers of Bingo Troupe all hail from Ukraine

FL!P Circus (www.FlipCircus.com), has been winning over audiences since debuting in 2022. The intimate big top experience, created by the Vazquez family, is hitting the road again with its brand-new Tour '24 production. Hailed as one of America's best new family entertainment events, this new show was specially curated to showcase an incredible and eclectic mix of international human performers. The new production brings its national tour to the Cross Country Center in Yonkers, NY (March 8 – April 2). Tickets are on sale now.

The art form of circus has been part of America's entertainment landscape for over 200 years. Evoking this great American tradition, FL!p Circus combines the classic and the contemporary to bring families and friends together for a memorable experience. There's something for everyone in this circus adventure that takes place under a distinctive red and white striped, 800-seat, climate-controlled big top tent. For those who like to be close to the action, no seat at FL!p Circus is more than 50 feet from the ring. You might even find yourself being brought into the fun. And of course there's a generous concession stand featuring an assortment of delicious treats. At FL!p Circus, leave your cares at the door and enter a world where the laughs are plentiful and the wows only stop when the show ends.

The international flair of the show is led by Brazil's favorite clown, Gleyston "Bubi" Guiner bringing his classic comedic routines and side-splitting antics to America for the first time. If you like daring acrobatic feats, FL!p Circus is the place to be! From India, Hasan Ansari thrills audiences on the rarely seen Pole Mallakhamb performing body-bending maneuvers on a wooden pole leaving you wondering how a human body can do that. Anastasia & Misha, from Ukraine, present a stunningly synchronized and poetic presentation of dance and acrobatics.

Pavel Valla Bertini, a fifth-generation performer from the Czech Republic, keeps audiences on the edge of their seats with his unparalleled one, three and even fifteen-wheeled unicycle skills! The award-winning Bingo Troupe, direct from Ukraine, showcases their signature electrifying mix of dance and acrobatics. No circus would be complete without juggling, and FL!p Circus features one of the very best acts of its kind. From Chile, the Reyes Brothers, demonstrate the incredible, fast paced juggling skills with which they have amazed audiences all over the world. The live FL!p Circus Band provides the versatile soundtrack to all the action. If you're looking for high-energy fun that the entire family can enjoy, grab your tickets to FL!p Circus. Don't miss this exciting big top experience.

Show times are 7:30pm on weekdays and 1:00pm, 4:00pm and 7:00pm on Saturdays and Sundays. For tickets and additional information, please visit www.FlipCircus.com. Tickets start at \$30.00 (children) and \$50.00 (adults) with senior/military/handicap discounts available. A special family four pack discount is available online. Tickets can also be purchased in person at the box office during each engagement.

Note: There are no animal performances in FL!P Circus.



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Tax Return Prep for Working Families

WPWDB Volunteer Income Tax Assistance Program

is available now through April 15.



VITA student tax preparers

The Westchester-Putnam Workforce Development Board (WPWDB) and Westchester County Executive George Latimer hosted an IRS endorsed “Volunteer Income Tax Assistance” (VITA) Program Kickoff event to increase awareness of the free tax prep assistance available to Westchester County residents and the qualifications necessary to receive federal tax credits.

The VITA program helps low- and moderate-income individuals and families eligible for the Federal Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC) file their taxes for free, including people with disabilities, senior citizens, and those for whom English is a second language. To make sure the program delivers maximum benefits, VITA relies on dedicated volunteers to act as greeters, and assist with translation and call-center operations. Tax preparation is done by IRS-certified volunteers with FREE electronic filing.

Westchester County Executive George Latimer said: “What started as a small program in 1969, to help the IRS increase taxpayer education, has evolved into a critical resource for low- and moderate-income taxpayers. Today, the VITA program ensures accurate tax returns, equitable access to the tax code, and needed tax refunds for our working families and individuals who most need them.”

Yonkers Mayor Mike Spano said: “We are proud to provide our hard-working residents access to free tax prep services they can trust and rely on right in their local community. We’re especially pleased that VITA services will be offered for the first time at the WCC Campus at the Cross County Shopping Center.”

The program is delivered through a collaboration of partners who worked diligently to coordinate the day-to-day operations—2-1-1 Hudson Valley/United Way of Westchester and Putnam; the IRS; Westchester County Government; Westchester Community College, Valhalla and Cross County Campuses; Mercy University, Dobbs Ferry and Bronx Campuses; Ossining High School; Ossining Youth Bureau; Westchester Jewish Community Services; and the Westchester-Putnam Career Center Network.

Call 211 or 1-800-899-1479 to make an appointment at one of the nine locations listed. VITA Free Tax Prep Program Runs through April.

White Plains Career Center, 120 Bloomingdale Road, 2nd Floor, White Plains, NY 10605 Note: Entrance at rear of the building. To April 15 | Mondays: 4 pm–8 pm. Saturdays, beginning February 17, ending April 13: 10:00 am–4:00 pm. By appointment only.

Mercy University—Dobbs Ferry Campus. 555 Broadway, Victory Hall, Room 100, Dobbs Ferry, NY 10552. Dates/Times: Saturdays: February 3 to April 13 | 9:30 am–3:30 pm. Last Day: April 13

Mount Vernon Career Center. 130 Mount Vernon Avenue, Mount Vernon, NY 10550. Fridays, starting February 16 to April 12 | 10:00 am–4:00 pm Saturdays, starting February 17 to April 13: 9 am–3 pm

Ossining Youth Bureau, Joseph G. Caputo Community Center, 95 Broadway, Ossining, NY 10562. Saturdays, starting February 17 to April 13 | 10:00 am–4:00 pm Last Day: April 13

Ossining High School, 29 South Highland Avenue, Ossining, NY 1056. Mondays: 3:30 pm–8 pm | Last Day: April 15

Westchester Community College (Gateway Center, Valhalla Campus), 75 Grasslands Road, Room G144, Valhalla, NY 10595. Mon. & Wed.: 9 am–4 pm. Last Day: April 15

Westchester Community College (Cross County Campus), 843 Kimball Avenue (Learning Commons), Yonkers, NY 10704. Saturdays, | 1:00 pm–4:00 pm. Last Day: April 13

Westchester Jewish Community Services – Hartsdale, 141 North Central Avenue, Hartsdale, NY 10530. Tuesdays and Thursdays, 5:00 pm–7:00 pm Last Day: April 11

Who Qualifies for EITC? The potential maximum tax credit includes federal, state and New York City credits and depends on income, marital status and number of qualifying children in the household. Qualifying children can be a son, daughter, grandchild, adopted child, step child or foster child as long as the child is under 19 years of age, under the age of 24 if a full-time student, or be permanently and totally disabled at any time during the year. The child must have the same principal residence as the taxpayer for more than half the tax year and not provide more than one-half of his/her own support for the year.

The Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) Free Tax Prep program is a national initiative sponsored by the IRS and the state Office of Temporary and Disability Assistance to help low- and moderate-income residents qualify for federal and state earned income tax credits (EITC). VITA Student Initiative: This year, students from Mt. Vernon High School will be volunteering for the program as part of the VITA Student Initiative, a partnership with students from Ossining HS, Westchester Community College and Mercy University. Eleven students were trained and received IRS certification to prepare returns..

State Education Funding, continued from pg 1-

receiving less funding.

The Mount Vernon School District would lose \$3 Million in State Aid in Hochul’s budget plan, which is a 3.5% aid cut. To protest the cuts, Dr. K. Veronica Smith, Acting Superintendent; Keith McCall, president of the Mount Vernon Federation of Teachers; Warren Mitchell, Board of Education Trustee; Jamaal Bowman, congressman; Shelley Mayer, state senator; J. Gary Pretlow, assemblyman; Nader J. Sayegh, assemblyman; Michael Benedetto, state representative; Dana Levenberg, assemblyman; Matt Slater, assemblyman; Mary-Jane C. Shimsky, assemblywoman; Steven Otis, assemblyman; Chris Burdick, assemblyman; and George Latimer, county executive; all spoke and expressed disagreement with the governor’s decision.

“I just want to make it clear that these 2.9 million dollars are pivotal to our school district,” said Dr. Smith. “A budget cut of that size would be a major setback for our students and programs, as we are already in the midst of recovery from past financial struggles.”

“In our schools today, we are providing the social safety net for our communities,” said Melinda Person, President of New York State United Teachers. “We feed children, we provide mental health services, we support families. We do all of the work to take care of our students so that they get what they need. And the cost of that is part of our education budget. So, when you cut Foundation Aid, you cut our ability to provide basic needs and services to communities.”

About half of the school districts in the state are also facing potential cuts. Federal Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief (ESSER) funding is also set to expire in September 2024, resulting in less federal funding on top of the state cuts.

“2.9 million in cuts is not something that you can actually think of with a clear heart and conscience knowing that we are a school district that is in significant fiscal stress,” said Trustee Mitchell. “Those cuts are coming to the people who are actually teaching, serving and protecting our children. You’re talking about our security workers, our food service, our CSEA. And we’re talking about our teachers, who are the true commodity and the true value of our District.”

A reduction of Foundation Aid also disproportionately affects Mount Vernon schools. Building Aid, which is a part of the total state aid package, is calculated based on the median income of households in the county. Mount Vernon has the lowest median income in Westchester County.”

“There is no more important investment than the investments we make in our children,” said Congressman Bowman. “When we invest in education, child-care and pre-K we see tremendous economic outcomes. We see the lowering of costs in our justice system and our healthcare system, and we give our kids the access and the opportunity to realize their full potential.”

“I am urging everyone to write to the Governor’s office and state legislators imploring them to not remove this much needed funding for our District from the state’s budget,” said Dr. Smith. “With your voices added, we can show just how important this funding is for the Mount Vernon City School District. It is truly pivotal for us.”

Hochul has argued that some wealthier school districts do not need any state aid increases, but that poorer school districts should be supported.

And the state has no longer has a legal commitment to deliver large increases in state education aid to certain school districts, which were agreed to settle a lawsuit.

Combined with Federal COVID funds ending, Hochul is trying to control education aid for the first time in 5 years.

But State legislators from Westchester are ready to fight to restore and even increase state education aid. Led by State Senate Majority Leader Andrea Stewart-Cousins and Senate Education Chair Shelley Mayer, their constituents of parents, staff and unions are calling for a restoration of the proposed cuts.

“I continue to be vocal about the necessity of restoring funds owed to our schools in the final New York State budget due April 1st. As Chair of the Senate Education Committee, this is my number one priority in the budget negotiations. Please join my efforts by calling the Governor at 1-518-474-8390 to express your views,” said Sen. Mayer, who called the proposed cuts “devastating” and “absolutely dramatic.”

Look for another New York State budget battle in the month of March leading up to a budget vote in April. Assemblyman Matt Slater also opposes the cuts. “Last year Gov. Hochul sent \$1 billion in education funding to the MTA and now is proposing devastating cuts in State aid to public schools across New York State. As a proud graduate from Yorktown High School and a father of two enrolled in public school,” Slater called Hochul’s proposed cuts “reckless”.

Local property tax increases from School Boards and School Districts are the only other funding option. In some cases, voters would be asked to override the 2% tax cap, when school budgets begin to be released next month.

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News in Yonkers and around Westchester

Pharmacy break-ins, continued from pg 1-

approximately 3:45 am, Deputies were dispatched to the JNR Pharmacy for a commercial burglar alarm activation. Upon arrival it was determined that the front glass door was smashed, and that unknown suspect(s) had entered the building but fled before the deputy's arrival. The owner was contacted and is in the process of determining the amount and type of loss. Sheriff's Deputies and Investigators are looking into this case and working with other law enforcement agencies to determine whether it is related to other pharmacy burglaries that have occurred recently in the area."

Another incident in Bedford occurred one hour after the Southeast break in. "On February 12, 2024, at approximately 4:18am, officers were dispatched to the Bedford Pharmacy located in Bedford Village for a commercial burglar alarm activation. Officers quickly arrived and observed that the front glass door was smashed and that unknown suspect(s) had entered the building, stealing multiple types of medicine but fled prior to patrol officers arrival. The Bedford Police Department's Detective Bureau is investigating this case and working with other law enforcement agencies to determine whether it is related to other pharmacy burglaries that have occurred recently in the area."

Further north the Beekman Pharmacy was robbed in the same way, and the same drugs stolen.

The thieves have drawn the attention of the Drug Enforcement Agency in New York who reports that pharmacy thefts tripled since 2021. While typically, the drug store break ins are by drug addicts, the DEA said that this recent rash of break ins, and the similar way in which they have been conducted, could indicate a gang, or organized crime groups involvement.

DEA officials said the people who break in typically used to be individual drug users, but they are now seeing a transition to organized crime carried out by groups.

The Putnam County Sheriff is treating the incidents as if they are connected. Westchester law enforcement has been quiet about these incidents and are searching for suspects.

One of the pharmacies burglarized was installing a safe to place their narcotic prescriptions in for overnight safety.

THE CITY OF YONKERS/YONKERS PUBLIC SCHOOLS, BUREAU OF PURCHASING, One Larkin Center, 3RD Floor, Yonkers, New York 10701 (Located in the Yonkers Riverfront Library Building across from the Metro-North train station) will receive sealed Bids for the following projects until 2:00 PM, on the dates below.

Sealed Bids will be publicly opened and read at the address above in the 3rd Floor Finance Conference Room.

The building is open from 8:30 AM to 4:00 PM for receiving packages via courier services and in person. If delivering bids in person, individuals must see the Public Safety Officer in the library atrium, who will contact Purchasing to meet the individual at the 3rd floor elevator.

Those interested in listening to the bid opening and the reading of bids can dial Conference Call number 1-701-802-5221 and enter Access Code 1354203 when prompted.

Solicitation documents are available for downloading from the Empire State Purchasing Group website at <http://www.empirestatebidsystem.com/>. The City welcomes and encourages participation by local and minority and women owned business enterprises.

1. Bid RFB-7108 – Opening date: 3/15/2024: Purchase of 29 packs of Texas Instruments TI-84 Plus CE EZ-Spot Graphing Calculator Teacher Packs (10 calculators/pack) and 20 TI-34 Multiview EZ-Spot Scientific Calculator Teacher Packs (10 calculators/pack) (LC).

2. Bid IFB-7111 – Opening date: 3/15/2024: Twelve-month contract, with option to renew for 12-months, for the on call rehabilitation and emergency repairs of storm, sanitary, and combined sewers using the Shotcrete method (KS).

3. Bid IFB-7112 – Opening date: 3/15/2024: Twelve-month contract, with option to renew for 12-months, for the on call rehabilitation and emergency repairs of storm, sanitary, and combined sewers using the Cured-in-Place method (KS).

4. Bid RFB-7114 – Opening date: 3/15/2024: One time purchase of French Fitness, or Yonkers approved equal, gym equipment for the 3rd Police Precinct (VB).

5. Bid RFB-7115 – Opening date: 3/15/2024: Twelve-month contract for the immediate purchase of one refurbished Stryker LifePak 15 medical monitor and accessories, or Yonkers approved equal, and one Stryker LUCAS 3 CPR device and accessories, or Yonkers approved equal with option to purchase additional units (VB).

6. Bid IFB-7116 – Opening date: 4/12/2024: Part 2 of Playground & Building Upgrades" at Schools 27, 28, 29 & 15; 1 GC Contract for PS27 & PS15; 1 Electrical Contract for PS27, 28, 29 & 15 (AC).

7. Bid RFB-7117 – Opening date: 4/05/2024: Purchase of various Lane-Light Traffic Technologies, or Yonkers approved equal, In-Road Crosswalk components (120 items) (MM).

8. Bid RFB-7120 – Opening date: 3/15/2024: Purchase of one 4WD, model year 2024, Chevrolet Tahoe RST, or Yonkers approved equal, configured per City specifications (MM).

9. Bid RFB-7121 – Opening date: 3/15/2024: Purchase of five 4WD, model year 2024, Ford Expedition Limited, or Yonkers approved equal, configured per City specifications (MM).

10. Bid RFB-7122 – Opening date 4/05/2024: Furnish and install a pre-engineered, 100-foot-by-100-foot by 20-foot eave height, clear span steel building at 120 Fullerton Avenue to serve as a Police and Fire Training Center (MM).

11. Bid IFB-6936A – Opening date: 4/05/2024: High-Tech Security Upgrades at Lincoln High School, 375 Kneeland Avenue - Single Prime General Construction Contract (DC).

Weekend Events in Westchester County Parks

SATURDAY, MARCH 9

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

Animal Interactions, 10 a.m. - 11 a.m. Join us for a private experience and enter one of our enclosures where you will see, touch and learn more about an animal of the farmer's choice. Get details and pre-register at <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/animal-interactions-tickets-773107303757>

Marshlands Conservancy, Rye: (914) 835-4466

Climate Change, Habitat Change, 10 a.m. - 11:30 a.m. Take a walk with us through some of Marshlands' habitats while we discuss how the changes in climate might impact existing conditions and how nature might respond to such challenges. Dress warmly.

Miller House, 140 Virginia Road, White Plains: (914) 428-1005

Miller House Open House, 11 a.m. - 1 p.m. Drop in to visit the former home of the Ann and Elijah Miller family, an average colonial Westchester family whose lives were changed forever when Gen. George Washington and his army fought for American independence.

Trailside Nature Museum at Ward Pound Ridge Reservation, Cross River: (914) 864-7322 Winter Arts and Crafts, 1 p.m. - 2 p.m. Let's make some nature-inspired winter arts and crafts together! For all ages.

Edith G. Read Wildlife Sanctuary, Rye: (914) 967-8720. Exploring the Geology of the Shoreline, 1 p.m. - 2:30 p.m. We will discover, collect and dissect some of the geological historical formations of the Sanctuary and the Long Island Shoreline. It's a nice travelogue through the formation of part of the east coast.

Lenoir Preserve, Yonkers: (914) 968-5851. Sugarhouse Chat, 1 p.m. - 3 p.m.

Stop by between 1 and 3 to see our sugar shack in action! We will be inside using the evaporator to boil down gallons of Lenoir's very own maple sap until we have sweet maple syrup! For all ages.

Alfred B. DelBello Muscoot Farm, Somers: (914) 864-7282. Maple Munchies, 2 p.m. - 3 p.m. Learn about all the ways to use maple syrup in the kitchen while cooking up a maple-themed culinary treat! Also: March 30. Get details and register at <https://www.muscootfarm.org/programs-events/event-calendar.html/event/2024/03/09/1710010800/maple-munchies/463308>

SUNDAY, MARCH 10

Merestead Estate, Mount Kisco: (914) 864-7958. Merestead Bird Walk, 9:30 a.m. - 11 a.m. We'll walk among Merestead's meadows. Hiking shoes are recommended. Register at 914-428-1005.

Alfred B. DelBello Muscoot Farm, Somers: (914) 864-7282. Pancake Breakfast, 11 a.m. - 2 p.m. Join us to celebrate the end of our sugaring season! Enjoy some pancakes and taste our house-made syrup! Get details and register at <https://www.muscootfarm.org/programs-events/event-calendar.html/event/2024/03/10/muscoot-farm-s-pancake-breakfast/463309>

Edith G. Read Wildlife Sanctuary, Rye: (914) 967-8720. The Big 10 Ants of the Northeast, 2 p.m. - 3:30 p.m. Get an overview of different species and identification, with specimens of ants in the northeast.

Lasdon Park and Arboretum, Katonah: (914) 864-7268. Sip, Nibble and Learn: Lasdon BC (Before a County Park), 2 p.m. - 3:30 p.m. Get details and register at <https://www.lasdonpark.org/event/sip-nibble-learn-lasdon-bc-before-a-county-park-2/>

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Former NYU Director of Finance Pleads Guilty in \$3.5 Million Fraud

New York State Comptroller Thomas DiNapoli and Manhattan District Attorney Alvin L. Bragg Jr. today announced the guilty plea of CINDY TAPPE, 57, for orchestrating an approximately \$3.5 million 6-year fraud relating to two New York University ("NYU") programs. TAPPE used her position as the Director of Finance and Administration for NYU's Metropolitan Center for Research on Equity and Transformation of Schools (the "Metro Center") to divert approximately \$3.5 million intended for minority and women owned businesses. She ultimately routed \$3.3 million to bank accounts held by two shell companies TAPPE created, using some of the funds for NYU payments and employee reimbursements, but keeping more than \$660,000 to pay for personal expenses, including renovations to her home in Connecticut and an \$80,000 swimming pool.

TAPPE pleaded guilty to one count of Grand Larceny in the Second Degree. Under the terms of the plea, TAPPE will be sentenced to five years' probation, sign a written waiver of right to appeal, and provide full restitution in the amount of \$663,209.07 in advance of sentencing. She will be sentenced on April 16, 2024.

"Cindy Tappe shamelessly used her high-ranking position at NYU to steal more than \$660,000 in state funds," New York State Comptroller Thomas P. DiNapoli said. "Her actions cheated MWBEs out of critical funding opportunities and deprived student programs of key resources meant to aid children with special needs and young English Language learners. I thank District Attorney Bragg for his partnership in uncovering her wrongdoing and for holding her accountable."

"Cindy Tappe took advantage of her position as the NYU Director of Finance and Administration by diverting funds that were intended to benefit students for her own personal gain. Her fraudulent actions not only threatened to affect the quality of education for students with disabilities and multilingual students, but denied our city's minority and women owned business enterprises a chance to fairly compete for funding," said District Attorney Bragg. "In Manhattan, we will continue to root out fraud committed at the expense of our students and businesses. I thank the New York State Comptroller's Office for its partnership in this investigation."

According to court documents, statements made on the record in court, and as admitted in the defendant's guilty plea, between 2011 and 2018, the New York State Education Department awarded NYU \$23 million for the Metro Center to administer two New York State programs:

the Regional Bilingual Education Resource Network ("RBE-RN"), which helps school districts improve results for English language learners, and the Technical Assistance Center on Disproportionality ("TAC-D"), which addresses disproportionality in special education.

The RBE-RN and TAC-D agreements required that a certain percentage of subcontractors on grant-related projects be awarded to certified minority and women owned business enterprises ("MWBE"), in accordance with state law.

Between February 2012 and December 2018, TAPPE was the Director of Finance and Administration for Metro Center. TAPPE arranged for three certified MWBE subcontractors to receive the overwhelming majority of MWBE payments. In total, NYU paid the three companies approximately \$3.527 million to provide services related to the grants. To justify the payments, the companies submitted fictitious invoices drafted by TAPPE and pasted on their letterhead.

None of the companies performed work on the contracts. Instead, they functioned as pass-throughs, taking between 3% and 6% of the invoice amounts as "overhead," and sending the remainder of \$3.352 million to two fictitious shell companies created by TAPPE: High Galaxy Inc. ("High Galaxy"), and PCM Group Inc. ("PCM"). A portion of the funds were then used to pay legitimate grant-related expenses, and to reimburse NYU employees for expenses incurred or services rendered without any NYU oversight.

Moreover, TAPPE used the High Galaxy and PCM accounts to steal at least \$660,000, by using that money to pay her personal expenses. She used the accounts to pay for home renovations – including a new \$80,000 swimming pool – and her ordinary living expenses.

In September 2018, an NYU program director confronted TAPPE about the payments being made to the MWBE subcontractors. In response, she emailed the head of the RBE-RN and TAC-D programs explaining the role those companies played – without mentioning High Galaxy, PCM, or her relationship with the MWBE subcontractors. Instead, she falsely stated that NYU had "developed good working relationships with these companies," and that she had "found no other companies that offer the same suite of services for price."

Soon thereafter, NYU reported the theft to the New York State Department of Education, which relayed the allegations to the Comptroller's Office. After conducting an investigation, the Comptroller's Division of Investigations referred the case to the Manhattan D.A.'s Office for prosecution.

Assistant D.A.s Adam Maltz and Jaime Hickey-Mendoza are handling the prosecution of this case under the supervision of Assistant D.A.s Michael Ohm (Deputy Chief of the Rackets Bureau), Judy Salwen (Principal Deputy Chief of the Rackets Bureau), and Jodie Kane (Chief of the Rackets Bureau and Acting Chief of the Investigation Division). Former Assistant D.A. Gilda Mariani, Trial Preparation Assistant Shriya Shinde, and Rackets Investigator David Caban assisted with the investigation.

Comptroller DiNapoli's Division of Investigations conducted the investigation for the Office for the State Comptroller. Cindy Tappe is from Westport, Connecticut.

Barnabas Students Complete "100 Acts of Kindness"



Saint Barnabas High School (SBHS) student representatives presented 100+ men's pairs of socks to Shawn Kingston Chief, Center for Development & Civic Engagement, at the James J. Peters Department of Veterans Affairs Medical Center in the Bronx. The school's February collection was spearheaded by its Student Council, promoting "100 Acts of Kindness" as part of Saint Barnabas High School's 100th Anniversary Celebration. SBHS has been educating young women since 1924 to be leaders and inspiring community service. To learn more about Saint Barnabas High School and its 100th Anniversary plans, visit www.stbarnabashigh.com

Eric Schoen, continued from pg 3-

petitors Stop and Shop and ShopRite. The only way this craziness is going to end is if we stop buying the \$3.59 box of animal crackers and only buy what we must eat.

That sounds crazy but who can afford the crazy prices at the grocery store anymore?

THE PRIMARIES

God love our New York State Legislature. They have created total confusion regarding the Primary dates.

The absentee ballot many of you received last week is for the Presidential Primary which is April 2. You select a candidate and a slate of electors. These people will go to the political party convention and vote for the candidate they have pledged their vote to.

At press time it looks like the decision on the Presidential Candidates has been made in Super Tuesday voting. So New York will not play a major role in Presidential candidate selection.

Two friends said to me they saw Jamaal Bowman on the Presidential ballot. No friends that is a Jamaal Bailey. I do not know this individual, he could be the greatest thing since sliced bread but he is not Congressman Jamaal Bowman. So don't think that if you don't vote for him you are voting against our fire alarm pulling Congressman.

The Primary for Congressional and State Races is June 25. This is the date you can cast your ballot for George Latimer or the current Congressman or a Marty Dolan who I spoke about last week.

Now let's say you have never voted before, just turned 18 or new to the area. You can still register as a Democrat and cast your ballot in the Democratic Primary for Congress for Mr. Bowman's seat. If a new voter registers up to 10 days prior to the Primary as a Democrat (up to the first date of early voting) you can join the many others concerned with Congressman Bowman's behavior and inability to represent the wishes of his constituents.

HEAT SEASON IS ON UNTIL MAY 31

Check your local codes but in WESTCHESTER bottom line is landowners of apartment buildings and multifamily homes have been instructed to maintain a minimum temperature of 68 degrees at all times.

If you are not receiving sufficient heat get a room thermometer and put it in the middle of your apartment to get a value. If it is 68 degrees your landlord is providing sufficient heat, if not call

Yonkers Housing at 914-377-6500.

Briefs:

RIP Flaco the Owl

Oscars this week. Watch Oppenheimer which will be the big winner.

Rita Moreno. 92 years young. Presenting at the Oscars. In a new film to hit theaters shortly

Bowman of the week: Video of him leading the charge to free Palestine with Congresswoman Rashida Tlaib.

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Westchester Saint Patrick's Day Parades -2024

Eastchester St. Patrick's Day Parade-March 10

Mass at Immaculate Conception Church in Tuckahoe at 10am, followed by breakfast. Donations of Irish soda bread for breakfast are welcome! Grand Marshal John Fix leads the parade step off at 3pm from Immaculate Conception Church, goes up Main St to Rt 22 and ends at Lake Isle. Honorees are Patty Russell George and Billy George!!

For Marchers, Shuttle buses begin at 12:45pm at Lake Isle and last shuttle from Lake Isle to Immaculate. The parade starts at 3pm from the Immaculate Conception School and proceeds north on Main Street, Eastchester.

At the White Plains Road intersection, it continues north on White Plains Road to Lake Isle Country Club.

John Fix III is 2024 Grand Marshal for the 18th Annual EIASC's St. Patrick's Parade. He was co-owner of his family's retail hardware business, Cornell's Hardware, until it was recently sold to Aubuchon Hardware, a family-owned chain based in Massachusetts.

Aubuchon Hardware kept the name Cornell's Hardware, which is still located at 310 White Plains Road in Eastchester.

He is a born and lifelong resident of Eastchester, and is now Inventory Control Manager for all Aubuchon-owned stores including Cornell's. Fix is known for his active local business leadership. His interest in brewing beer and local business growth extends to collaborations with Broken Bow Brewery in Tuckahoe.

Fix's Irish heritage stems from his maternal grandparents who emigrated from Ireland to the US in 1930. They were from Galway and Mayo, and in 2019 he applied for and was granted Irish citizenship.

His deep commitment to the Town of Eastchester includes being past board member—Family & Community Services of Eastchester, and volunteer work with Tuckahoe/Eastchester Girl Scouts, Eastchester/Tuckahoe Chamber of Commerce, Relay For Life of Eastchester and Eastchester 5K Race. He is a graduate of Eastchester High School and was inducted to the EHS Hall of Fame in 2015. His wife, Judy Fix, is known for her extensive volunteer work with the local Girl Scouts and public schools.

Peekskill St. Patrick's Day Parade-March 9

Former New York State Governor and Peekskill Mayor George Pataki will lead the 35th Annual St. Patrick's Day Parade in Peekskill on Saturday, March 9. Pataki, 78, was installed as the parade's Grand Marshal earlier this month during a sold-out event at The Abbey Inn & Spa.

Joining Pataki as aides will be former Peekskill Mayor Richard Jackson, Holy Spirit Church Rev. Vernon Wickremantunge, retired Peekskill Police Officer Pam Sgroi and Peekskill High School security aide Pete Peterson.

The festivities kick off March 9 with an Irish flag raising ceremony at 10:30 a.m. at Peekskill City Hall. A special parade mass will take place at 1:30 p.m. at Church of the Assumption.

Immediately after the mass, the parade will start near Assumption Church. Marchers will head down Union Ave., then South St., Division St., Main St. and James St. The reviewing stand will be located on the corner of James and Park streets.

Pataki, who was born in Peekskill and graduated from Peekskill High School, served as mayor of his native city from 1981 to 1984. He served in the Assembly and Senate in Albany from 1985 to 1994 and was elected the 53rd governor of New York in 1995, holding office for three terms.

Sound Shore St. Patrick's Day Parade-March 24

The Sound Shore St. Patrick's Day Parade is scheduled to kick off at 1:30pm on Sunday, March 24, along Mamaroneck Avenue. This year's Grand Marshal is Chance Mullen, who has been the Mayor of the Village of Pelham since 2019. The Sound Shore St. Patrick's Day Parade is a celebration of Irish American heritage and the American immigrant experience for the entire Sound Shore community, from Port Chester to The Pelhams.

The Inaugural "Running of the Gingers" will begin at this year's Sound Shore Parade. Inspired by the traditional "Running of the Bulls" in Pamplona, Spain, join us for an exciting and fun-filled event to kick off the St. Patrick's Day Parade on March 24, 2024. Be part of the action as parade onlookers cheer you on during the 1-mile run, starting at 1:00 PM on Mamaroneck Avenue near Mamaroneck Avenue School.

White Plains 25th Annual-St. Patrick's Day Parade-March 9-Noon-Along Mamaroneck Avenue. Parade Day begins with 9am Mass at Our Lady of Sorrows Church. In celebration of the 25th Anniversary, all past grand marshals will collectively serve as the "honorary grand marshal" for the 2024 parade.

Yonkers St. Patrick's Day Parade: Now the Second Largest St. Patrick's Day Parade in New York State, the Yonkers Saint Patrick's Day Parade on McLean Avenue will take place on March 23. The Grand Marshal is Moira Kiernan. For all of Westchester's Irish-Americans, or Irish for a day, the Yonkers parade has turned into a truly unforgettable experience.

Visit <http://www.yonkersstpatricksparade.org/>

Visit us online at
Yonkerstimes.com

Nuvance Health to Join Northwell Health



From left: John M. Murphy, MD, president and CEO of Nuvance Health, shakes hands with Northwell President and CEO Michael Dowling, at a signing ceremony. Credit Northwell Health

Northwell Health and Nuvance Health, two nonprofit, mission-driven health care organizations, today announced they have entered into a strategic agreement to form a new integrated regional health system serving communities across two states. The proposed agreement will allow the organizations to come together formally upon receipt of necessary regulatory approval.

"This partnership opens a new and exciting chapter for Northwell and Nuvance Health and provides an incredible opportunity to enhance both health systems and take patient care and services to an even higher level," said Michael Dowling, president and CEO of Northwell Health. "We have similar missions in providing high-quality care for patients in the communities we serve. We look forward to building on the care that Nuvance Health's 14,000 staff members and providers deliver each and every day."

"By joining forces with Northwell Health, we are taking a giant leap forward in our shared mission to enhance the quality, accessibility and equity of the health care we provide to our communities," said John M. Murphy, MD, president and CEO of Nuvance Health. "This agreement enables us to make significant improvements to health outcomes for community hospitals and to deliver unparalleled care and drive positive change in the health care landscape."

Northwell and Nuvance Health will combine the strengths of both organizations and advance the level of care for patients in New York and Connecticut. The new regional system will bring greater access to primary, specialty and hospital care through a diverse network of combined 14,500 providers and over 1,000 sites of care, including 28 hospitals. Northwell will make significant investments in Nuvance Health, helping it continue to evolve as a high-quality and comprehensive health care system serving communities throughout New York and Connecticut.

Both Northwell and Nuvance Health reaffirm their commitments to the goals and objectives defined in the initial letter of intent. The integrated health system will: Deliver Extraordinary Clinical Care Locally to Patients:

"This agreement marks an important milestone for both Nuvance Health and Northwell, mission-driven organizations with similar values and an optimistic vision for the future of health care," said Margaret Crotty, chair of the Northwell Board of Trustees. "Together we can create something truly special – an integrated health system that is even better positioned to care for the communities we serve"

"Our collaboration with Northwell Health builds upon the strong foundation of our ongoing relationship," said Anne Roby, chair of the Nuvance Health Board of Directors. "Together, we will address the evolving needs of our communities more efficiently and effectively, ensuring the delivery of compassionate, high-quality care locally."

Both Northwell and Nuvance Health reaffirm their commitments to the goals and objectives defined in the initial letter of intent. The integrated health system will:

Deliver Extraordinary Clinical Care Locally to Patients:

With increased capacity to invest in medical advancements and innovation, the integrated system would better serve patients in their respective markets and communities. When Nuvance Health joins Northwell, local communities would have access to coordinated care across western Connecticut, the Hudson Valley, New York City and Long Island. The care delivered in these sites would span the full range of ambulatory, hospital and post-acute services.

Create Healthier Communities: Combining Nuvance Health with the resources of Northwell would enable the organizations to meet the evolving, varied needs of local communities more quickly, more efficiently and more effectively. Together, both organizations would have the ability to make significant improvements to health outcomes and address health disparities across the communities they serve. As nonprofit organizations, Northwell and Nuvance Health would also continue to provide care to anyone, regardless of their ability to pay.

Expedite Medical Innovation:By joining Northwell, Nuvance Health would gain access to the clinical, operating and financial resources of one of the nation's largest integrated health systems. Combining purchasing power, clinical capabilities and expertise from both organizations would help drive even greater innovation, enhanced care and services offerings. Building on each organization's research, education and clinical care infrastructure, the combined entity would accelerate innovation in patient care and advance medical research that can help transform lives.

Workforce Opportunities:

The agreement would increase the opportunity to attract and retain top talent, including physicians, nurses, surgical and research specialists as well as allied health and business professionals. By coming together, medical staff and employees would have greater professional growth opportunities, new career prospects and the chance to work with some of the best in the industry. This could include academic pathways for health professionals to acquire additional degrees and for new graduates to fill high-demand positions.

Visit <https://www.northwell.edu/about-northwell> or <https://www.nuvance-health.org/about-us> for more information.



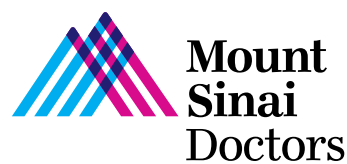
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