

## “Make America Gag Again,” Rep. Latimer on Trump’s Idea to Accept a “Free” Jet from Qatar



By Dan Murphy

Westchester Congressman George Latimer recently addressed the House of Representatives about President Trump’s proposal to accept a \$400 Jet from the Emirate of Qatar as a gift.

Latimer quoted the NY Post Editorial Board, which usually supports the President, but this time opposes Trump’s acceptance of the Jet.

“This week, the NY Post Editorial Board wrote about President Trump’s plan to accept a “free gift” from Qatar of a \$400 million Boeing 747-8 Jet.

“What is President Trump thinking? He’s bragging of winning a \$400 million “gift” — a “palace in the sky” Boeing 747-8 jet — from Qatar that, in effect, he’ll

*continued on pg 14-*

## Jenkins Signs Deep Fakes Law, Now A Crime to Distribute and Post Digitally Deceptive Material



L-R-County Legislator David Imamura, Eastchester Supervisor Anthony Colavita, District Attorney Susan Cacace, County Legislator Judah Holstein, County Executive Ken Jenkins, County Legislator David Tubiolo, Eastchester Councilman Anthony Giacobbe

County Executive Ken Jenkins recently signed legislation prohibiting the unlawful use of digitally deceptive material in Westchester. Digitally deceptive material, or what many know as “deep fakes,” refers to content such as images, videos, or text that have been created or modified by artificial intelligence (AI) to present false information. The legislation closes gaps in the penal law if someone not only impersonates a person’s image or video image, but also their voice, or anything else relating to their likeness using AI. The new law expands penalties for the creation and distribution of digitally enhanced media, ensuring Westchester County’s residents are better protected from the circulation of harmful, false content.

Jenkins said: “Using digital tools to create something that is seemingly authentic, with the intent of deceiving others, will not be tolerated in Westchester. This new law provides an additional level of protection for our residents, especially our seniors, who have increasingly fallen victim to harassment and scams. I want to thank the Westchester County Board of Legislators for introducing this new bill that addresses gaps that exist due to the progressing world of AI.”

*continued on pg 14-*

Read it all Online at  
[Yonkerstimes.com](http://Yonkerstimes.com)

## Feds Arrest Eastchester Coach Thomas Puccini for Sexploitation, Receipt & Distribution Of Child Pornography-Four Victims



On May 21, SDNY US Attorney Jay Clayton announced the arrest of Thomas Puccini, or Eastchester on charges of the sexual exploitation of three minors and with receiving and distributing child pornography. Puccini was arrested and presented today before U.S. Magistrate Judge Judith C. McCarthy in White Plains federal court and detained.

“Thomas James Puccini’s alleged crimes are every parent’s nightmare,” said U.S. Attorney Jay Clayton. “Puccini, a football coach, held himself out as a trusted member of his school community, yet

he was preying on our most innocent and vulnerable. The women and men of the Southern District will use every tool available to bring to justice those who exploit our children.” In November 2024, former Westchester DA Mimi Rocah announced the arrest of Puccini for Grand Larceny, based on his on the felony charge of grand larceny in the fourth degree for obtaining images and videos of a sexual nature from a teen.

*continued on pg 10-*

## Every Westchester School Budget Passes, Including 2 that Exceeded Tax Cap

By Dan Murphy

Voters in school districts across Westchester overwhelmingly approved school budgets for the upcoming 2025-26 school year on May 20. Voters and taxpayers in every school district approved their budget, and two school districts won approval for budgets that exceeded the 2% property tax cap.

A 60% yes vote is required for a school budget that exceeds the tax cap, and in the Mamamoneck School District and the New Rochelle District, both districts got more than 60% approval. In Mamaroneck, the property tax levy increase was 4.98%. In New Rochelle 66% of voters approved a budget with a 3.95% tax levy increase. Only the Mahopac School District, just over the border in Putnam County, did voters reject the proposed \$145.1 Million budget by a vote of 1,189 for and 1,248 against. Further inquiry is required to see why voters in Mahopac rejected a budget that fell within the property tax cap. In Yorktown the budget vote was Yes: 656, No: 232 for the school districts \$123 Million spending plan. In Mt. Vernon voters approved a \$272.2 millBudget for 2025-26 School Year by a vote of 1,400 yes-and-1,138 no.

## “We’re Looking Forward” Ain’t Good Enough Schumer & Jeffries Refuse to Answer Questions About Biden’s Mental Decline Proven in Book



By Dan Murphy

First, let us say that we are hoping and praying for former President Joe Biden’s recovery from Prostate Cancer.

The Biden family’s announcement comes days after the release of a new book by CNN’s Jake Tapper and Axios’ Alex Thompson titled Original Sin: President Biden’s Decline, Its Coverup, and His Disastrous Choice to Run Again.

The book details concerns from Democratic insiders about Biden’s mental acuity during his Presidency and 2024 campaign. Cabinet members and others working in the Biden White House claim they were kept away from President Biden and did not see him for the last months of his Presidency.

Other reports in the book --

In the months before President Biden debated President Trump in June of 2024, many democrats spoke to the media about President Biden’s health and mental capacity.

Two top Congressional democrats are from New York: Senate Minority Leader Chuck Schumer and House Minority Leader Hakeem Jeffries.

*continued on pg 15-*

## Westchester is Ready for MGM -Full Scale Casino



**Yonkers City Council Poised to Make History with Empire City Casino Zoning Vote** On May 28, the Yonkers City Council is expected to cast a historic vote that could forever alter the city's economic future: approval of the zoning changes necessary to transform Empire City Casino into a full-scale commercial casino. The decision marks a pivotal moment in Yonkers' 21st-century story—a first step toward unlocking more than \$3 billion in private investment from MGM Resorts International.

MGM, which acquired the iconic Empire City property in 2019 for \$850 million, has already invested significantly into revitalizing the facility and prioritizing its workforce. The company has doubled employee wages, added near-zero-cost college degree programs, built a state-of-the-art employee dining facility and tech lounge, and offers free meals to staff. The results are clear: soaring employee retention and a job destination sought after by Yonkers residents.

But MGM's next chapter for Empire City is bigger than anything Yonkers has ever seen. The company is committing another \$2.2 billion in a phase one redevelopment of the property—an investment that would triple the workforce with 2,000 new six-figure jobs, thousands of construction jobs, and significant new economic activity that will revitalize businesses throughout the city.

Empire City is already a major economic engine. As a Video Lottery Terminal (VLT) facility since 2006, it boasts one of the largest casino floors in the country and generates over \$300 million annually for New York State's education fund—more than \$5 billion to date. These funds help offset property taxes for homeowners and support the horse racing industry, which has called Yonkers Raceway home since 1899.

Now, as one of just three remaining licenses available in New York State, Empire City is the only applicant located outside New York City following the exit of Las Vegas Sands' bid in Nassau County from race. But MGM faces a competitive playing field—one that is far from level. Unlike most applicants, MGM must guarantee over \$420 million in tax obligations from the outset, including more than \$300 million for the state's education fund, \$60 million for racing purses, and over \$60 million to be shared between Yonkers, Westchester, Rockland, and Putnam counties.

Most crucially, Yonkers is the only municipality in the running that will receive a direct annual revenue share: 10% of gross gaming tax revenue. That translates to \$55 million in the first year alone when including payroll, sales, and property taxes, with year-over-year increases projected as the property develops.

The May 28 vote will clear the way for Empire City to submit its official casino application to the state by the June 27 deadline. From there, a Community Advisory Council will hold public hearings to gauge neighborhood support. Without clear community backing, the application cannot proceed.

What happens over the next few weeks will be watched across New York. The City of Yonkers stands on the threshold of a transformative economic moment. For the first time in its history, the City Council has the opportunity to usher in a multi-billion dollar investment that will create jobs, generate revenue, and secure long-term prosperity.

*continued on pg 12-*

**Send us your letters, announcements, opinions, photos and story ideas to [dmurphy@risingmediagroup.com](mailto:dmurphy@risingmediagroup.com)**

## Westchester County Open Temporary Bridge to Glen Island Park-Maintains Access for Community



*County Legislators Join County Executive Ken Jenkins with temporary bridge in the background below*



Westchester County Executive Ken Jenkins joined County officials, project engineers and members of the community to celebrate the opening of the temporary Glen Island movable bridge. The movable bridge, now open to vehicle traffic, will allow continued access to Glen Island Park during the full rehabilitation of the nearly century-old permanent bridge, while maintaining marine and recreational boat traffic.

The Glen Island Bridge, built in 1930, is the only connection for vehicles, pedestrians and cyclists to access Glen Island Park. The bridge rehabilitation project, led by the Westchester County Department of Public Works and Transportation (DPW&T), is a major infrastructure project designed to improve safety, extend the bridge's lifespan and preserve its historic character. The opening of the temporary bridge marks the project's first major construction milestone.

Jenkins said: "The opening of the temporary bridge represents an important step forward in our work to protect and improve one of Westchester's most cherished public parks. Glen Island Park is a destination for residents and visitors alike, and we knew from the start that closing off access was never an option. With this temporary bridge in place, we're able to continue welcoming the public while investing in the long-term future of the Glen Island Bridge. I want to thank the community for their patience, and our County teams for their leadership."

Westchester County DPW&T Commissioner Hugh J. Greechan said: "This milestone is a testament to the hard work and coordination of our County team, engineers, consultants and contractors. Constructing a temporary movable bridge of this scale while protecting marine access and pedestrian safety was no small feat. We have now created a safe and efficient detour that allows our team to complete essential repairs on the historic bridge, without cutting off access to the park."

*continued on pg 12-*

## Yorktown Police arrest 15-Year Old Who Painted Anti Semitic Graffiti at Two Town Parks



Yorktown Supervisor Ed Lachterman announces an arrest

A 15-year-old male Yorktown resident has been arrested in connection with the hateful and vulgar graffiti discovered at two town parks.

The graffiti, found by residents on Sunday, targeted the Jack DeVito Veterans Memorial Track & Field and the Patriot Skate Park. The disturbing graffiti included anti-Semitic, racist and homophobic words at the skate park and profane images and words at the track.

Following an investigation, police quickly identified the juvenile as the suspect. On Thursday, the boy, accompanied by his parents, surrendered to authorities at police headquarters.

The juvenile is charged with second-degree hate crime/criminal mischief, a felony; third-degree criminal mischief, a felony; and two counts of making graffiti, a misdemeanor. The estimated cost of the damage to Town property is \$2,300.00.

Yorktown Police Chief Robert Noble said that a Yorktown Police officer noticed unusual activity around 3 a.m. on Sunday and logged the activity, which helped investigators solve the case.

“We’re paid to run down things that just don’t look right. And that’s what happened here,” said Chief Noble, who addressed the public during a press conference. “I remain proud of the intelligent, resourceful and professional police work demonstrated by members of the Yorktown Police Department. You live in a safe community, and you have an outstanding police department. It’s the reason I keep coming back to work every day. It’s a special place.”

The defendant was released into the custody of his parents and is scheduled to appear in the Westchester County Department of Probation on Thursday, June 5, at 2 p.m.

Supervisor Ed Lachterman praised the police department’s ties to the community, and he noted that the arrest does not end the matter.

“We now have to continue to focus on the education of people, something that we work on quite often,” said Supervisor Lachterman. “Because something like this happens, it does not mean that the people involved are necessarily evil people. It does not mean that the community you live in is a bad community. It’s humanity, or lack of it in some cases. We will stand today, tomorrow and every day to try to bring that education through, to try to work with our residents to make sure that they are in a safe community so that everyone is respected for who they are.”

Councilman Sergio Esposito said that preventing hate speech among youth is a parental responsibility. “It begins with the parents talking to their children putting them in the right mindset where they can be open and accepting. I don’t think this was out of malice, it was something that could have been prevented through education,” said Councilman Esposito.

## Maria Regina HS Honors Greatest Generation on 80th Anniversary of VE Day



Maria Regina, the renowned all-girls Catholic High School, recently honored the Greatest Generation on the 80th anniversary of VE Day with special events. They included guest speaker Sharon Engelman Colabello, pictured above, daughter of a decorated WW 11 veteran and noted Ardsley resident and business owner, Martin Engleman. She spoke about her father’s service as a sergeant in the U.S. Army with students in the Junior History and English classes, and how it inspired her to lead the successful Military Tribute Banners initiative for the Village of Ansley and other communities.

As part of Colabello’s presentation, she shared some of the letters her late father wrote home when he served during World War 11. In one of the attached photos, she proudly displays photo of her father. On the wall behind her is an extensive array of photos of Greatest Generation members of the families of students, administration, faculty and staff.

In the second photo, students review photos of Martin Engleman that Sharon used in her presentation about how her father exemplified the Greatest Generation.

The students have also undertaken a virtual Greatest Generation Wall of Honor comprising photos and profiles of family members among others who served in that epic conflict against tyranny. It is an ongoing project that will be archived on the school’s website, [www.MariaRegina.org](http://www.MariaRegina.org), where other photos from Colabello’s visit can be viewed. As a post on the site notes: “We’re grateful to Sharon for helping preserve the memory and values of the Greatest Generation. We thank, we remember, we honor the Greatest Generation always.”

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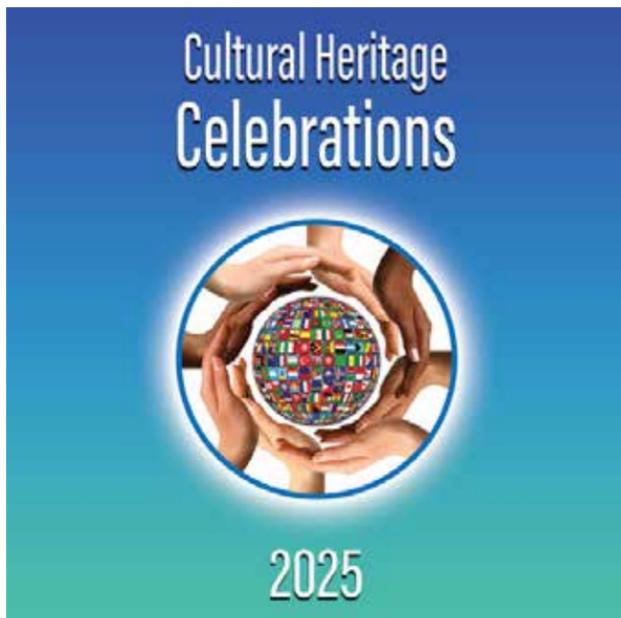
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## Asian-American Heritage Festival to Be Held Saturday May 31-Kensico Dam Plaza, Valhalla



*Expect a vibrant tribute to Asian-American traditions, arts and music!*

The 28th Annual Asian-American Heritage Festival will take place on Saturday, May 31, from 12 p.m. to 6 p.m. at Kensico Dam Plaza in Valhalla.

The celebration will showcase Chinese, Korean, Japanese, Thai and Indonesian cultures with live songs, dances, musical performances, ethnic foods, Asian arts and cultural exhibits, and Chinese paper cutting and origami. There will also be children’s entertainment, balloon sculptures, games and face painting.

Westchester County Executive Ken Jenkins said: “May is Asian-American Heritage Month. This vivacious celebration will let everyone learn more about the remarkable history of Asian Americans and applaud their many diverse and significant contributions to our society. Our Heritage Festivals are a great way to have the community come together to honor the variety of cultures and traditions of our neighbors.”

Commissioner of the Westchester County Department of Parks, Recreation and Conservation Kathy O’Connor said: “People of all ethnic backgrounds appreciate this event because it blends festivity, community and cultural education. It’s a chance to connect, learn, and celebrate together in the heart of our public spaces.”

The festival will be held rain or shine. Seating is informal; bring blankets or folding chairs for seating on the lawn. Coolers aren’t allowed. Admission and parking are free.\*

The other heritage festivals in the 2025 series are:

Albanian, Sunday, June 1, noon to 6 p.m., Kensico Dam Plaza, Valhalla

African-American, Sunday, June 22, noon to 6 p.m., Kensico Dam Plaza, Valhalla

Hispanic, Sunday, July 13, noon to 6 p.m., Kensico Dam Plaza, Valhalla

Irish-American, Sunday, July 13, noon to 6 p.m., Ridge Road Park, Hartsdale

\*Admission: \$5 adults; free ages 14 and under

Italian, Sunday, July 20, noon to 6 p.m., Kensico Dam Plaza, Valhalla

Arab, Sunday, July 20, noon to 6 p.m., Ridge Road Park, Hartsdale

India, Sunday, Aug. 3, noon to 6 p.m., Kensico Dam Plaza, Valhalla

Jewish, Sunday, Aug. 17, noon to 6 p.m., Kensico Dam Plaza, Valhalla

Muslim, Sunday, Aug. 24, noon to 6 p.m., Kensico Dam Plaza, Valhalla

Kensico Dam Plaza is at the north end of the Bronx River Parkway, in Valhalla.

Ridge Road Park is at 287 Ridge Road, Hartsdale.

This event is sponsored by Westchester County Parks and the Westchester & Hudson Valley Chapter of OCA. For more information, call (914) 231-4500.

## Pope Francis didn’t just talk the talk but walked the walk



The Catholic Church has been here for more than 2000 years. Starting with Constantine the first Roman Catholic emperor during the third and fourth centuries.

It has a history of violence and subjugation that is one of the main reasons why there are 1.4 billion Catholics, many that are people of color. Constantine started a period of conquering and subjugation after his conversion to Christianity in 312 AD that continued with the Iberian Peninsula empires of Spain and Portugal where the Catholic Church sanctioned the conquering of Africa and Latin/Indigenous America.

That is the reason why, and the corporate media as well as academic institutions will never talk about this, there is such an allegiance by people of color around the world to the Catholic Church. Centuries of enslavement and the colonial relationship of the west to the so-called third world solidified this allegiance.

There have been popes that have gone to war in order to foist Christianity on other lands as well take Jerusalem as the crusades demonstrated. The “ Doctrine of Discovery “ promulgated by the Catholic Church in the 15th century also opened the flood gates of violence and domination of indigenous peoples by the Catholic Church.

This history is important in order to understand how we have arrived here, and to see that people like St Francis of Assisi and Pope Francis are more an exception as far as the true meaning of Jesus of Nazareth in the Catholic Church.

Pope Francis was a modern day St Francis of Assisi. His very basic lifestyle that rejected all of the Amenities if you will that a high ranking Catholic prelate let alone the Pope would normally assume spoke volumes to the real meaning of Jesus of Nazareth.

As Malcolm X said in a speech in May of 1962 “ They accused Jesus of sedition because he was with the prostitutes the despised the leopors and if Jesus was here today he would be with the so called American Negro”.

This is what St Francis of Assisi epitomized when he established his Franciscan order of brothers who begged for resources in order to feed and serve the poor. Which also led to an order of mendicant sisters who did the same thing.

This is the legacy of Pope Francis. He contradicted the perverted Christianity in this society which demonizes the poor and calls them lazy. He also articulated the real meaning of Jesus of Nazareth when he said “ the LGBTQ Community are also gods children and that we should not be afraid of sharing immigrants and the poor with the world community “. One of your frequent contributors to this publication,with her searing Archie Bunker way of thinking does not understand that.

The perverted Christianity that this person reflects is quite common especially in this country. In this country you are defined as a better person based upon your asset base. That is something that no one reading this can deny. Pope Francis was the exact opposite because his papacy stressed serving the poor and the infirmed.

His theme was no different than what the Reverend Dr Martin Luther King Jr, Mohatmas K Gandhi and Malcolm X died fighting for. There are many Catholics who understand this. Unfortunately there are many more that don’t.

Where their very material lifestyle and their contempt for the poor makes their Catholicism a categorical fraud. I certainly was exposed to this hypocrisy working for 40 years on Wall Street. Pope Francis died in the way that he lived, his home going was set in a very basic coffin without an elaborate marker detailing who he was.

Jorge Mario Bergoglio not only talked the talk but more importantly walked the walk of his faith. The United States, especially today, with its incessant decadence and hypocrisy could learn a lot from this Amazing grace called Pope Francis.

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**Send us your letters, announcements, opinions, photos and story ideas to [dmurphy@risingmediagroup.com](mailto:dmurphy@risingmediagroup.com)**

## LM Lions Recognize Service to the Youth



LM Lions President Lina Pasquale, STEM'S Meg Kaufer, LM Lions Secretary Diane Oldham & VP Marie Moreno, Port Chester-Rye Districts Katherine Sinsabaugh

Continuing its "year of the youth" initiative and mission to support community service groups and programs aiding youth, the Larchmont Mamaroneck Lions presented 2 grants in the amount of \$1,000 each to Port Chester Schools "Mural of Unity" and the STEM Co-Op Summer Enrichment Program at their May 15th luncheon meeting. Grant recipients were selected by a committee consisting of LM Lions President Lina Pasquale, VP Marie Moreno and Secretary Diane Oldham. Accepting the grants were STEM President Meg Kaufer and Port Chester-Rye UFSD Supervisor of Fine and Performing Arts Katherine Sinsabaugh.

### STEM Co-Op Summer Enrichment

The Larchmont-Mamaroneck Lions Club grant will support Co-Op Summer Enrichment, a vibrant, high-impact summer camp that blends hands-on STEM learning with traditional summer fun for children from low-income households in the Mamaroneck School District. This summer, Co-Op is poised to reach over 240 students, 90% from high need families, while also providing job training and employment to over 40 local teens and young adults, creating a multi-generational model of community impact.

Margaret Käufer, President of The STEM Alliance and Co-Op Lead Administrator celebrated this grant saying, "As both a Lion and the leader of Co-Op, I'm deeply honored by this grant because it reflects the very heart of our shared missions: to serve youth, uplift families, and strengthen our community. Co-Op is more than a summer camp. It's a launching pad for opportunity, joy, and learning, and the Lions' support ensures that every child, regardless of income, can grow, tinker, swim, and shine."

### Port Chester Schools "Mural of Unity: Bridging Communities Through Art

The Port Chester-Rye UFSD School District has been awarded a Lions Club Grant to develop a community-building mural at Port Chester Middle School. This project, titled "Mural of Unity: Bridging Communities Through Art," was submitted by Dr. Katherine Sinsabaugh, the district's Supervisor of Fine and Performing Arts. The initiative addresses the significant transition for students from four distinct elementary schools to the middle school. The "Mural of Unity" aims to ease this transition by promoting unity and community among incoming students, celebrating their diverse backgrounds, and fostering a shared identity at the middle school level. The mural will feature four panels, each representing one of the elementary schools. Fifth-grade students will create symbols representing their school's unique character, which will then be incorporated into the mural. Middle school students, under the guidance of their art teacher and community volunteers, will paint the mural.

The Larchmont Mamaroneck Lions mission is to support - with funding, volunteers & advocacy, local service groups by bringing community leaders together to determine needs, resources & achieve solutions. The LM Lions are part of Lions Clubs International, the world's largest service organization of over 1.4 million members. The Lions signature cause is Vision/Blindness, along with Hunger, the Environment, Diabetes, Childhood Cancer and the future of our Youth. They are signatories of the United Nations resolutions on women's and refugee rights, and are currently active in Afghanistan & Ukrainian refugee resettlement. In addition, affordable housing is a local Lions priority. For more, visit [www.lmlionsclub.org/](http://www.lmlionsclub.org/)

## Croton Man Arrested for Bomb Throwing Dispute with Neighbor



On May 14, the Croton on Hudson Police Department announced the arrest of Shea Kirschbaum, 38, of Croton.

"On May 11 at 648 PM officers were dispatched to a home on Van Wyck Street for a reported explosion.

"Upon arrival, officers observed an area where an explosion had occurred from an unknown explosive device. The explosion damaged multiple items on personal property.

"Detectives responded and determined that the explosive device was thrown onto the property after a neighbor dispute.

"The Westchester County Police Department Bomb Squad was notified in

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"Upon arrival, officers observed an area where an explosion had occurred from an unknown explosive device. The explosion damaged multiple items on personal property.

"Detectives responded and determined that the explosive device was thrown onto the property after a neighbor dispute.

"The Westchester County Police Department Bomb Squad was notified in order to identify the explosive.

"The bomb squad was successfully able to identify the explosive as a 3-inch commercial display mortar, which is illegal to possess in New York State.

"The individual who caused the explosion was later identified as Mr. Kirschbaum. A search warrant was obtained for his property and no additional explosives were located.

"Mr. Kirschbaum was arrested and charged with Mischief in the First Degree for damaging the property of another person by means of an explosive, a Class B Felony. He was arraigned in the Village Justice Court and released on his own recognizance, with a future return date."

### Letters to the Editor:

**Editor's Note:** We are frequently asked why we publish letters to the editor that appear to be form letters with all of the same content. Our answer is simple: If that person lives in Westchester and took the time to email us and put their name to that letter, we will publish

Please cover corporate climate responsibility in fashion.

Dear Yonkers Times,

I'm a person of faith who feels called to care for people and steward the earth.

I'm writing to urge you to increase your coverage of corporate responsibility in fashion. Corporations continue to pollute, and it is only through greater transparency that we will achieve change in this sector.

Some actions we would like to see include referencing the Stand Earth Scorecard, detailed articles about what fashion corporations are doing to reduce their emissions, and coverage of key legislation.

<https://stand.earth/fashion/>

Please support these important actions to educate the public and help save our planet.

Sincerely, Judith Zingher, Elmsford, New York

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Public Notice Notice of Public Hearing  
Town of Eastchester Architectural Review Board

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Architectural Review Board of the Town of Eastchester will hold a public hearing on Thursday, June 5th, 2025 at 7 PM at the Town of Eastchester, 40 Mill Road, Eastchester, NY in the Court room auditorium on the site plan application for 11 Maple Ave, Section 44, block 10, lot 7 for a review of the architectural features of the proposed alteration of the 2 family to a 3 family. The public is invited to attend the hearing and voice their opinion on the application, a copy of the notice has been mailed to the owners within 200 foot radius of the property.

Name of formation of THEOAK LLC. Date of filing Articles of Organization with the Secretary of State (SSNY) 6/14/24. The LLC is located in Westchester County. The SSNY has been designated as agent of the LLC upon whom process against it may be served. The post office address to which the SSNY shall mail a copy of any process against it served is to the principal business location at c/o 669 Main Street, Unit 605, New Rochelle NY 10801. Purpose: any lawful act or activity.

Notice of Formation of FUSE WORKS LLC. Articles of Organization filed with the Secretary of State of New York (SSNY) on 04/11/2025. Office location: Westchester County, NY. SSNY is designated as agent of the LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail a copy of process to: 54 Brosnan Pl, Tuckahoe, NY 10707. Purpose: Any lawful purpose.

Notice of formation of BLUEPRINTS AND BEYOND LLC. Arts of Org. filed with Secretary of State of New York (SSNY) on February 4th, 2025. 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 the process to the LLC: 70 Ashburton Avenue, Apt. 7H, Yonkers, New York, 10701. Purpose: Any lawful purpose.

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

Notice of Formation of OnPoint Home Designs LLC. Arts. of Org. filed with the SSNY on 8/28/2024. 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, 14 Crosby Court, Cortlandt Manor NY 10567. Purpose: Any lawful purpose.

NOTICE OF FORMATION OF Whispering Hearth, LLC. Arts. of Org. filed with the SSNY on 03/12/2025. Office Location: Westchester County. SSNY has been designated as agent of the LLC upon whom process against it may be served. The address to which the Secretary of State shall mail a copy of any process against the LLC is: 3 Orlando Ave, Ardsley, NY 10502. Purpose: Any lawful activity.

Notice of formation of LIQUID ASSET SERVICES LLC. Application for Authority Filed with the SSNY on 12/05/2024. Office: Westchester County. SSNY designated as agent of the LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail copy of process to THE LLC, 46 LINCOLN AVENUE, PORT CHESTER, NY 10573. Purpose: any lawful act or activity.

NOTICE OF FORMATION of Super Smart Future LLC. Arts. of Org. filed with Sec. of State of NY (SSNY) on 04/20/2023. Office Location: Westchester County. SSNY designated as agent of the LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: Super Smart Future LLC, 58 Valley Rd, Katonah, NY 10536. Purpose: any lawful activity.

Notice of formation of IT TAKES ALL KINDS PICTURES, LLC. Arts. of Org. filed with the SSNY on 03/21/2025. Office: Westchester County. SSNY designated as agent of the LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail copy of process to the LLC, Republic Registered Agent Services Inc. 54 State Street Suite 804 Albany, NY 12207. Purpose: Any lawful

Notice of Formation of SteenShotz LLC. Arts. of Org. filed with the SSNY on 03/12/2025. Office Location: 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, 343 South 3rd Avenue, Mt. Venron NY 10550. Purpose: Any lawful activity.

Notice of formation of 1M Consulting LLC filed with the SSNY on 11/05/2024 with the existence date as 01/01/2025. Office: Westchester County. SSNY designated as agent of the LLC upon whole processes against it may be served. SSNY shall mail copy of processes to the LLC, 3 Ward Street, Hastings-on-Hudson, NY 10706. Purpose: Any lawful activity.

Notice of formation of Bridgeway Physical Therapy, PLLC. Arts. of Org. filed with the SSNY on 12/05/2024. Office: Westchester County. SSNY designated as agent of the PLLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail copy of process to the PLLC, 50 Clinton Place PH5, New Rochelle, NY 10801. Purpose: Provide Physical Therapy Care

Notice of formation of Natalie Stopka Studio, LLC. Art. of Org. filed with SSNY 05/15/2025. Office location: Westchester County. SSNY has been designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served and SSNY shall mail copy of process to the LLC at 160 Shonnard Terrace, Yonkers, NY 10701. Purpose: any lawful purpose.

**Notice of formation of Great Livings , LLC. Arts. Of Org. Filed with the NY department of state on 03/25/2025 Office Location: Bronx. UNITED STATES CORPORATION AGENTS, INC. 7014 13TH AVENUE , SUITE 202 BROOKLYN, NY, 11228, USA, designated as agent of the LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail a copy of the process to 228 PARK AVE S #948027 NEW YORK, NY 10003. Purpose : Any lawful activity.**

## ASSESSOR'S NOTICE

PUBLIC NOTICE is hereby given that the Assessor for the Town of Eastchester, Westchester County, New York has completed the tentative assessment roll of the real property for the year 2025 and that a copy has been left at the office of the Town Clerk, Town Hall, 40 Mill Road, Eastchester, New York, where the same may be seen and examined daily except Saturdays and Sundays, between the hours of 9:00 AM and 3:00 PM by any persons interested therein, until the third Tuesday, June 17, 2025.

THE ASSESSOR WILL BE IN ATTENDANCE WITH THE ASSESSMENT ROLL BY APPOINTMENT ONLY:

Tuesday June 10 from 9:00 AM to 4:00 PM

Wednesday June 11 from 9:00 AM to 4:00 PM

THE BOARD OF ASSESSMENT REVIEW WILL MEET IN THE COMMUNITY ROOM OF TOWN HALL BY APPOINTMENT ON:

Tuesday June 17 from 10:00 AM to 12:00 PM & 6:00 to 8:00 PM

To receive protests and to hear and examine all complaints in relation to any and all assessments on the application of any person conceiving himself aggrieved.

The said roll is the official roll for the following taxes, for the year 2026, County, Town and School Taxes, Union Free School Districts Nos. 1 & 2, the Bronx Valley & the Hutchinson Valley Sewer Assessments.

Forms upon which complaints may be made and a publication containing the procedures for contesting an assessment can be obtained at the office of the Town Assessor.

Michelle Liscio  
Assessor  
Town of Eastchester

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 and Proposals 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 Sealed Bids 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 No. RFB-7465 – Opening date: 06/06/2025: Purchase of 34 Dayton #7HY65, or Yonkers approved equal, Aluminum 35.4" diameter, 36.5 horse power roof fans with motors (KS).

2. Bid No. RFB-7466 – Opening date: 06/20/2025: Twenty-four month contract, for the purchase of Police uniforms and equipment, per Yonkers specifications, as needed, 35 items (KS).

3. Bid No. RFB-7468 – Opening date: 06/20/2025: Thirty-six month contract to provide preventive maintenance and repairs Schneider switchgear and motor control equipment, as needed (AC).

4. Bid No. RFB-7469 – Opening date: 06/13/2025: Twelve-month contract, with option to renew for 12-months, to provide on-call plumbing maintenance and repairs for City of Yonkers government buildings (KS).

5. Bid No. RFB-7470 – Opening date: 06/06/2025: Purchase of Generac SG series 50kW, 120/208V, 3ph, natural gas generator package, or Yonkers approved equal (KAS).

6. Bid No. RFB-7471 – Opening date: 06/06/2025: Purchase of Broadcast Pix, Inc. BP-FXPix Pak FX Hybrid production package, inclusive of installation and training, or Yonkers approved equal (KAS).

7. Bid No. RFB-7472 – Opening date: 06/06/2025: Purchase of 4 Eaton 9PX Series PART # 9PX6K UPS batteries, or Yonkers approved equal (NG).

8. Bid No. RFB-7473 – Opening date: 06/13/2025: Six-month contract for the printing/purchase of 300,000 PVB late notices as needed (KS).

9. Bid No. RFB-7474 – Opening date: 06/06/2025: Purchase of 24 Motorola APX6000 UHF R2 Model 2.5 portable radios & accessories, or Yonkers approved equal (VB).

10. Bid No. RFB-7475 – Opening date: 06/06/2025: Purchase of Honeywell, or Yonkers approved equal, Chemical, Biological, Radiological, Nuclear, and Explosives ("CBRNE") equipment and supplies (VB).

11. Bid No. RFB-7426A – Opening date: 06/06/2025: Twelve-month contract, to purchase up to 750 cases (25 per case) of DuPont Tyvek 400, or Yonkers approved equal, coveralls. The initial purchase will be for a quantity of 200 cases, (AC).

## Westchester County Beaches to Open Memorial Day Weekend



### County Pools to Open June 27

Celebrate the unofficial start of summer with a trip to the beach as Croton Point Beach in Croton-on-Hudson, Glen Island Beach in New Rochelle and Playland Beach in Rye will open on a pre-season basis, Saturday, Sunday and Monday, May 24, 25 and 26, weather permitting.

The beaches will be open weekends and holidays only through Sunday, June 22, then Glen Island and Playland Beaches will open daily beginning Friday, June 27 and Croton Point Beach will be open Saturdays, Sundays and holidays through Labor Day, Monday, Sept. 1. Hours are 11 a.m. to 6:30 p.m., with last entry at 6 p.m.; proof of Westchester County residency is required at Glen Island. Entry and parking fees apply.

Beginning Friday, June 27, all five County-owned pools: Playland Pool in Rye, Saxon Woods in White Plains, Sprain Ridge and The Brook at Tibbetts in Yonkers and Willson's Waves Pool in Mt. Vernon, will open daily through Labor Day, from 11 a.m. to 6:30 p.m., with last entry at 6 p.m.; entry fees apply at all facilities and parking fees apply at Tibbetts Brook Park. Proof of residency is required at all pools.

Westchester County Executive Ken Jenkins said: "Westchester County's pools and beaches are stunning local treasures—perfect for people to unwind, soak up the summer sun, and create lasting memories with family and friends. Whether you're going for a swim or relaxing on the beach, our parks offer something special for all to enjoy. I'm thrilled to welcome everyone back to our exceptional pools and beautiful beaches for a memorable summer in Westchester County."

Commissioner of the Westchester County Department of Parks, Recreation and Conservation Kathy O'Connor said: "Summer is our busiest—and most exciting—time of year. Our pools and beaches are open, and our wide variety of countless activities and programs throughout the County are packed with fun. I can't wait to see our parks filled with families, friends and smiles."

Westchester County residency is required at Glen Island Park, Saxon Woods Pool, Sprain Ridge Pool, The Brook at Tibbetts and Willson's Waves Pool. Proof of residency must be shown with either a Westchester County Park Pass or a New York State driver's license showing a valid Westchester County address. Admission fees apply at all of the beach and pool facilities and parking fees apply at Tibbetts Brook Park, Croton Point and Glen Island. Park Passes also offer discounted admission and parking and are available at a variety of locations.

This year, Saxon Woods is celebrating its 100th anniversary and will launch a 100-Lap Challenge along with a variety of other activities to mark this milestone. Family Fun Days, DJ Days and the Sand Art Competition at Glen Island will also return; dates to be announced. Participation is free; admission and parking rules apply.

## In Trouble with the IRS or the NYS Tax Department?

In trouble with the IRS or the New York State Tax Department? I can help. My name is Gerald Snyder, and I am an enrolled agent and a former IRS Group Manager. I have successfully represented clients before the IRA and the NYS Tax Department for over 25 years. I resolve liens, levies, seizures, income tax and sales audits, and penalties and trust fund recovery issues. I also handle unfiled tax returns.

I operate from convenient offices at 73 Market Street in Ridge Hill, Yonkers, NY. My fees are reasonable and I offer a free initial consultation. I offer in-person meetings. Why deal with an unknown person online when you can meet with me in person?

For more information, call me at 914-793-5654 or email me at [thasnyder1@verizon.net](mailto:thasnyder1@verizon.net).

**Read it all Online at [Yonkerstimes.com](http://Yonkerstimes.com)**

## MTA Announces Return of Weekend Service on Haverstraw-Ossining Ferry Beginning Sat May 24



### Ferry Service Will Run Hourly on Weekends Through Sunday, October 12

#### Pilot Program Builds Off Successful Launch Last Year

The Metropolitan Transit Authority (MTA) today announced the return of weekend service on Metro-North Railroad's Haverstraw-Ossining Ferry. Now in its second year, this pilot program will offer hourly service across the Hudson River beginning Saturday, May 24, with ferries timed to connect at Ossining with trains to and from New York City.

The schedules will remain in effect through Sunday, Oct. 12. Ferries will not operate on Memorial Day, Independence Day or Labor Day. "The Haverstraw-Ossining weekend ferry is a great way to experience the beauty of the Hudson Valley," said Metro-North Railroad President Justin Vonashek.

"The 15-minute, 5½-mile ride allows everyone to fully enjoy the majestic scenery along the Hudson River – something you can't do behind the wheel of a car. And it extends Rockland residents' alternative to driving into New York City into summer weekends, as well as opening Haverstraw's attractions to visitors from the east side of the river."

"Rockland County is once again proud to welcome visitors from across the region with the return of the Haverstraw-Ossining Weekend Ferry Service," said Rockland County Executive Ed Day. "Thanks to our Transport of Rockland [TOR] Weekend Ferry Connection bus, travelers can easily reach some of the many unique destinations and attractions Rockland has to offer—all without needing a car."

"As we prepare to embark on a fun and festive Memorial Day Weekend and the unofficial kick-off to summer, we are thrilled that weekend ferry service will be returning for residents to enjoy from Westchester to Rockland counties," said Westchester County Executive Ken Jenkins.

The ferry will operate hourly service between 10:23 a.m. and 7:46 p.m. on weekends. An adult one-way ticket on the Haverstraw-Ossining ferry costs \$4.50. Seniors (62 or older), people with disabilities, and Medicare recipients pay \$2.25 with appropriate ID. Children 5 and under ride free on the ferry. Children aged 6-11 pay \$2.25. A 10-trip ferry ticket is available for \$38.25.

First launched last May, the weekend ferry service is designed to enhance the reach of Metro-North to Rockland County and serve as an alternative to driving to New York City. During the opening weekend in May 2024, the ferry averaged 240 riders a day. In June, that grew to an average of 284 riders daily, and in July, ridership reached an average of 455 riders a day on the weekend. The ferry set a record of 822 riders on Sunday, July 21.

As part of the return of weekend ferry service, Metro-North continues to offer discounts on monthly ferry tickets as well as three other ways to cross the Hudson into Orange and Rockland Counties: the Newburgh-Beacon Ferry, the Newburgh-Beacon bus, and the Hudson Link bus service between Rockland County and Tarrytown and White Plains via the Gov. Mario M. Cuomo Bridge.

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## Yonkers Charter School Celebrates 20th Anniversary, Honors Governor Pataki Founders



L-R CSEE co-founder Sobeida Cruz, William Cotter, Lydia Cotter, Diane Cotter Liesching, Gov. George Pataki, Lynne Ward of National Resources, CSEE co-founder Eduardo LaGuerre, FSEE co-chair Elizabeth Bracken-Thompson.

Community leaders joined with former Gov. George Pataki and the Foundation in Support of Educational Excellence (FSEE) on May 1st to celebrate 20 years of public charter schools in Yonkers.

The gala reception at Kanopi in White Plains commemorated the 20th anniversary of the Charter School of Educational Excellence (CSEE) and celebrated the school's remarkable journey.

The evening highlighted the contributions of former New York Governor George E. Pataki, whose leadership was pivotal in establishing charter schools in New York State. Attendees also paid tribute to CSEE's visionary founders, Eduardo LaGuerre and Sobeida Cruz, and the late real estate developer Joe Cotter, for their dedication and support.

"The gala was a tremendous success, celebrating two decades of educational excellence and honoring the individuals who have made CSEE a beacon of opportunity for our students," said Elizabeth Bracken-Thompson, the FSEE's co-chair. "We are incredibly grateful for the support of our community and look forward to continuing our mission."

The foundation presented a memorial plaque to Lynne Ward of National Resources to honor the late Joe Cotter's contributions as more than 230 guests cheered.

The event also showcased CSEE's recent achievements, including the opening of a state-of-the-art fitness center, the girls' volleyball team's state championship victory, and the school's production of Seussical the Musical.

The evening featured an exquisite dining experience crafted by acclaimed Chef Anthony Goncalves at Kanopi. The funds raised will support FSEE's ongoing mission to provide critical enrichment programs and opportunities for CSEE students.

## The Arc Westchester Foundation Raises \$500,000 at A Matter of Taste Event



This year's attendees were generous during the spirited paddle raise at The Arc Westchester Foundation's 2025 annual dinner, raising more money than in any paddle raise in the organization's history demonstrating their support for individuals with developmental disabilities.

Celebrating Inclusion, Community, Partnership, and Culinary Excellence for the Benefit of People with Developmental Disabilities

The Arc Westchester Foundation, dedicated to enriching the lives of people with developmental disabilities and their families, hosted its flagship fundraiser, 'A Matter of Taste,' on April 30th at Glen Island Harbour Club in New Rochelle. This was the 18th year for this popular event, which featured 20 area restaurants serving nearly 400 attendees. The event raised \$500,000 which will be used to support The Arc Westchester programs and services.

"This evening is always a joyful one, but it's also a reminder of what bring us together: a shared commitment to building a stronger, more inclusive future for people with developmental disabilities. That future is possible because supporters, like those who attend our event, speak up, and give generously to keep the momentum going," stated Barry Clark, Executive Director of The Arc Westchester Foundation. He added, "Now is a time of uncertainty as it pertains to government funding for those with disabilities. The attendees, who raised their paddles this year in record numbers, were motivated to support our cause, donating more money than in any other paddle raise in the organization's history."

The theme of the event focused on the power of community and family, highlighting how working together makes a meaningful difference in the lives of people with developmental disabilities. This year's honorees demonstrate what true partnership looks like by creating job opportunities and advocating for care and support. It was a celebration of dedication, inclusion, and teamwork.

*continued on pg 10-*

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QUESTIONS: CALL 914-323-5550

**\*\*STUDENTS MUST BE IN MIDDLE OR HIGH SCHOOL**

## Westchester Legislators Celebrate Jewish Heritage Month by Honoring Two Organizations



left: Legislator Judah Holstein and BOL Chair Vedat Gashi with representatives from Community Security Services



left: Legislator Erika Pierce and BOL Chair Vedat Gashi with volunteers from the Community Thanksgiving Dinner Program

The Westchester County Board of Legislators celebrated Jewish American Heritage Month on Monday night with a ceremony honoring two esteemed organizations: the Community Thanksgiving Dinner Program hosted by Temple Shaaray Tefila in Bedford Corners, an interfaith volunteer effort which has fed thousands for more than 20 years, and Community Security Services, a White Plains-based national nonprofit empowering volunteers to protect Jewish institutions and gatherings from security threats.

Board Chairman Vedat Gashi (D- New Castle, Ossining, Somers, Yorktown) convened the ceremony, welcoming guests and inviting Rabbi Jonathan Morgenstern of Young Israel of Scarsdale to deliver the evening's meaningful invocation. Gashi said, "Jewish American Heritage Month honors the profound contri

## Senate Majority Leader Stewart-Cousins Honors Honors Woman of Distinction Stephanie Gabaud



New York State Senate Majority Leader Andrea Stewart-Cousins proudly honored Stephanie Gabaud at the 2025 New York State Senate Women of Distinction Ceremony on Tuesday in Albany. Stephanie, a resident of the Elizabeth Seton Children's Center in Yonkers, was selected for her extraordinary advocacy, unwavering courage, and transformative leadership on behalf of medically complex children and young adults.

The annual Women of Distinction celebration, hosted by the New York State Senate, recognizes outstanding women from across New York who have made meaningful contributions to their communities, broken barriers, and uplifted others through service, leadership, and perseverance.

"Stephanie Gabaud is a shining example of what it means to be a Woman of Distinction," said Senate Majority Leader Andrea Stewart-Cousins. "Her strength, spirit, and dedication to advocating for medically complex young people is nothing short of heroic. Despite facing tremendous health challenges since birth, Stephanie has become a national and international voice for change, a compassionate leader, and an inspiration to all who meet her. I am honored to recognize her with this well-deserved award."

"Being honored as a Woman of Distinction by the New York State Senate was truly one of the best days of my life and brought me to tears," said Woman of Distinction Stephanie Gabaud. "It was made even more special because it came from my mentor and inspiration, Senate Majority Leader Andrea Stewart-Cousins. This award – and the incredible women I share it with – makes me realize how change comes from believing that even one voice can make a difference. This award isn't just recognition... it's motivation to keep going for young adults like me who need the Elizabeth Seton Children's future young adult center as a home to call their own."

Stephanie has lived at Elizabeth Seton Children's Center since she was just three months old, courageously confronting a lifetime of serious medical conditions, including spina bifida, Arnold-Chiari malformation, and hydrocephalus. She has endured numerous surgeries and procedures, yet continues to face each day with resilience and hope – drawing strength from her deep love of music, art, and service.

Stephanie is now the International Spokesperson for Elizabeth Seton Children's Center and an Associate of the Sisters of Charity of New York, advocating for young adults with serious medical needs who face life-or-death consequences when they lose access to pediatric care when they turn 21 – a problem known as the "aging-out" crisis.

Stephanie helped lead the effort to create the first skilled nursing facility in the U.S. designed just for young adults with complex health conditions. In 2024, she was named a Westchester Magazine Healthcare Hero for her hard work. She continues to inspire and guide others at the Children's Center. Her story shows how one person's voice can make a big difference in improving care for those who need it most.

"Watching Stephanie receive the honor as a New York State Senate Woman of Distinction by Senate Majority Leader Andrea Stewart-Cousins was a moment I'll always remember," said Elizabeth Seton Children's Center CEO Pat Tursi. "The

*continued on pg 11-*

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starting when the victim was 17 years old, by threatening to expose confidential information about the victim.

At the time, DA Rocah urged the public to come forward if they were victims of Puccini, and the Federal indictment against him appears to show that at least four other victims did come forward.

Westchester County District Attorney Susan Cacace said: "For months, our criminal investigators worked hard to build the strongest possible case against the defendant, and today's federal charges are the product of these efforts. I extend my thanks to U.S. Attorney for the Southern District of New York Jay Clayton for his collaboration and partnership on this case. Our office will continue to assist S.D.N.Y. throughout all phases of Mr. Puccini's prosecution."

As alleged in the Complaint filed on May 20, 2025 in White Plains federal court and statements made in court[1]:

THOMAS JAMES PUCCINI worked as a football coach for a high school ("School-1") in Westchester County. In July of 2024, PUCCINI became the interim athletic director for the school district in which the high school was located.

Victim-1: In November 2021, Victim-1, who was 17 years old and a student at School-1, was contacted by a Snapchat account with the name "alex\_fundi2." Victim-1 received a nude image of a female from "alex\_fundi2" and believed that he was communicating with a female. "She" told him that she knew him and went to School-1. Victim-1 sent "her" nude photos of himself, including photos showing his penis. After sending images for approximately a week or two, Victim-1 blocked the "alex\_fundi2" account. Then, Victim-1 received messages from a CashApp account ("CashTag-1") directing Victim-1 to add "alex\_fundi2" back. The messages stated, among other things, "I have your pics and vids," and told Victim-1 to "add me or I send your pics." Victim-1 unblocked "alex\_fundi2" and sent "alex\_fundi2" sexually explicit images of Victim-1.

Victim-1 continued to send sexually explicit images to "alex\_fundi2" until in or about 2023, when Victim-1 was a freshman in college.

The user of CashTag-1 provided CashApp with the name "Thomas Puccini," PUCCINI's date of birth, and PUCCINI's address in Westchester. Records from Snapchat relating to the "alex\_fundi2" account show that an IP address that returned to PUCCINI's residence in Westchester County was used over 13,000 times to access the "alex\_fundi2" account. Further, the "alex\_fundi2" account is associated with an email that begins with "puccini01" and ends in ".edu."

Victim-2: Victim-2 and other middle-schoolers used School-1's weight room to prepare for Junior Varsity football. PUCCINI supervised them in the weight room. Beginning when Victim-2 was 13 years old and in eighth grade, PUCCINI communicated with Victim-2 through Snapchat, using a Snapchat account with the user name, "tommytuts66," and requested that Victim-2 take and send PUCCINI photos and videos of Victim-2's penis. PUCCINI also sent Victim-2 photos of his penis. PUCCINI specified exactly what he wanted Victim-2 to show him, and, based on his instructions, Victim-2, on numerous occasions, took and sent PUCCINI photos and videos showing various angles of Victim-2's penis, showing Victim-2 masturbating, showing Victim-2 "finishing" (i.e., ejaculating) with the audio on, and showing Victim-2 laying with his semen on his chest. On numerous occasions, at PUCCINI's request, PUCCINI and Victim-2 would "race" to see who could masturbate to ejaculation first. The winner would have to send a video or photo capturing the "finish."

A search warrant executed at PUCCINI's residence on November 1, 2024 resulted in the seizure of, among other things, PUCCINI's desktop computer. The computer contained an iCloud backup with approximately 8000 messages to or from Victim-2 between January 2017 and December 2020. In hundreds of these messages, PUCCINI referred to masturbating, to Victim-2's penis, and/or requested that Victim-2 take and send him photos of his penis.

Victim-3: Victim-3, who was 16 years old, and "alex\_fundi2" communicated via Snapchat in 2023. Victim-3 took and transmitted sexually explicit images to "alex\_fundi2" in exchange for the promise of expensive gifts. On January 10, 2023, at approximately 11:24 p.m., "alex\_fundi2" told Victim-3, "If I send you for the jacket, I'm going to need you to send those 2 vids and then.... As many vids as I want and of anything that I want until Monday." At 11:25 p.m., Victim-3 responded, "monday" and "jesus" and "and as long as it doesn't involve ass stuff." Thereafter, Victim-3 transmitted numerous files to "alex\_fundi2" containing sexually explicit images of Victim-3.

Victim-4: Victim-4 and "alex\_fundi2" communicated via Snapchat in 2023. Victim-4 told "alex\_fundi2" that he was 18 years old and "alex\_fundi2" told Victim-4 that he was similarly aged. "Alex\_fundi2" asked Victim-4 for sexually explicit images of Victim-4 when he was 15 or 16. On June 11, 2023, at approximately 1:50 p.m., Victim-4 transmitted a sexually explicit photo and a sexually explicit video of Victim-4 to "alex\_fundi2." In both the photo and video, Victim-4 was 15.

In November 2024, PUCCINI was charged in Westchester County, New York with Grand Larceny in the Fourth Degree.

On an occasion in February 2022, the "alex\_fundi2" account engaged in a conversation with a user ("User-1") on Snapchat and asked, "Can I give you a snapchat to add and you try to get pics/vids from the account?" User-1 told "alex\_fundi2," "Sure" and "I don't mind being yo undercover bud." Thereafter, "alex\_fundi2" transmitted a Snapchat user name to User-1. The Snapchat user name belonged to a student who had attended School-1 from 2015 to 2019. PUCCINI's desk top computer contained thousands of messages with that student from in or about August 2015 to September 2020. Many of the messages contained requests for sexually explicit images from the student.

PUCCINI changed the display name of the "alex\_fundi2" account on multiple occasions and the various display names he used included, Young & Horny," "Young NY Vers Bottom Horny," "Zach," "Alexandra Fundi," "Alex Fundi," "Horny Twink," and "zach\_parker0."

There may be more victims of this alleged conduct. If you have information to report or you had contact with the Snapchat accounts, "alex\_fundi2," "tommytuts66," or any of the display names described above contact Homeland Security Investigations through its toll-free Tip Line at 1-866-DHS-2-ICE or by completing its online tip form. Both are staffed around the clock by investigators. From outside the U.S. and Canada, callers should dial 802-872-6199. Hearing-impaired users can call TTY 802-872-6196.

PUCCINI, 28, of Eastchester, New York is charged in Counts One, Two and Three with sexual exploitation of a minor. Counts One, Two and Three each carry a maximum sentence of thirty years' imprisonment and a mandatory minimum of fifteen years' imprisonment. Count Four carries a maximum of twenty years' imprisonment and a mandatory minimum of five years. The statutory maximum sentences are prescribed by Congress and are provided here for informational purposes only, as any sentencing of the defendant will be determined by the judge.

Mr. Clayton praised the efforts of Homeland Security Investigations, the Westchester County District Attorney's Office, the Westchester County Police Department, the Eastchester Police Department, the Rockland Police Department, the Lake Forest Police Department, and the Cullman County Sheriff's Office.

The prosecution is being handled by the Office's White Plains Division. Assistant United States Attorney Marcia S. Cohen is in charge of the prosecution.

## Westchester Children's Association Applauds

### NYS Budget for Putting Children & Families

The Westchester Children's Association (WCA) proudly celebrates a New York State budget that takes meaningful steps toward building a stronger, more equitable future for children, youth, and families. The 2025 Enacted Budget includes several key victories that directly respond to the needs of communities across the state—especially those working the hardest to make ends meet.

"We extend our deepest gratitude to the New York State Legislature and the Governor for prioritizing the well-being of children and families," said Allison Lake, Executive Director of WCA. "Their leadership has resulted in critical investments that will have a lasting impact on the lives of countless children and families across New York."

The budget includes historic commitments across several policy areas. Highlights include:

- Empire State Child Credit
- \$1,000 per child under age 4
- \$500 per child ages 4–16
- Eliminates income phase-in

#### Universal School Meals

- Free school meals for all students in schools participating in the National School Lunch Program

#### Housing Access Voucher Program

- \$50 million to launch a 4-year state-funded rental assistance pilot program

#### Child Care Assistance

- \$400 million in additional funding for the Child Care Assistance Program
- \$110 million for new and renovated childcare facilities

#### Birth Allowance for Beginning Year (BABY) Benefit

- \$8.5 million to provide a one-time \$1,800 payment to public assistance recipients upon the birth of a child

These investments represent a major step forward in ensuring that every child in New York has the opportunity to grow up healthy, safe, and ready to succeed," said Angel Gray, Policy and Program Manager at WCA. "From expanding the Empire State Child Credit and offering free school meals to launching a housing stability program and boosting childcare support—this budget recognizes that children's needs cannot wait."

WCA emphasized that these policy wins are not the finish line. As federal programs face growing uncertainty, New York must continue to lead with bold investments and strong advocacy to ensure long-term equity and opportunity for every family.

"Our work doesn't stop here," said Allison Lake. "We must protect these hard-won gains, expand support where it's still lacking, and ensure that every child—no matter their race or zip code—has the chance to thrive."

### ARC Raises \$500k, continued from pg 8-

The Family Partner Award was bestowed upon the Daddino Family, honoring their dedication and long-standing support of The Arc Westchester. For over 30 years, Daphne and Patrick Daddino have been active members of the Arc community. Daphne's sister Susan resides in one of The Arc's group homes, and Daphne has served nine years on the board, contributing to many key committees including Strategic Planning, Nominating, Incident Review, and Program Quality Improvement. She has also been a fierce and compassionate advocate for those who have no family by representing them through the Guardianship Committee, ensuring that they live lives filled with choice, dignity and happiness. Daphne sees guardianship as "love that doesn't fade, a lasting promise that no one will be forgotten or left behind." When the pandemic hit, Patrick was instrumental in securing critical supplies for The Arc Westchester, helping to deliver masks and other resources to protect the people served by the organization and the staff who care for them. He also helped secure support from the Jack DeVito Foundation, further strengthening the organization's mission. Together, the Daddino Family has embodied advocacy and partnership through their service and dedication.

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## Yonkers NAACP Unit #2188 Returns with New Officers and Same Mission



*NAACP Yonkers President Kisha Skipper, left with Judge Verris Shako*



*The officers and executive committee members of the Yonkers NAACP*

On Monday, May 12, the Officers and Executive Committee Members of the Yonkers Branch of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP) were sworn-in at the Sarah Lawrence College Center for the Urban River at Beczak.

The ceremony was officiated by The Honorable Verris Shako, a Yonkers City Court Judge. The national was established in 1909 and is America's oldest and largest civil rights organization.

The Yonkers NAACP Unit #2188 was formed in 1961 and is most known for the desegregation case entitled "United States and Yonkers Branch of the NAACP v. Yonkers Board of Education".

The Officers and Committee Members are as follows: President-Kisha D. Skipper, Vice President-Karen Edmonson, Secretary-Nyla B. Green, Assistant Secretary-Eric A. Johnson, Treasurer-Christine Fils-Aime, Assistant Treasurer-Patricia Duggett, Executive Committee Members- Phillip Armstrong, Lydia E. Blakely, Rev. Frank E. Coleman, Jr., Rev. Margaret Fountain-Coleman, Reggie Crews, Tyrone Glover, Jeanette Harris, Steven Siebert and Jacqueline White.

Branch President Kisha Skipper quoted the national organization's message in expressing that "The NAACP advocates, agitates, and litigates for the civil rights due to Black America...From classrooms and courtrooms to city halls and Congress, our network of members across the country works to secure the social and political power that will end race-based discrimination."

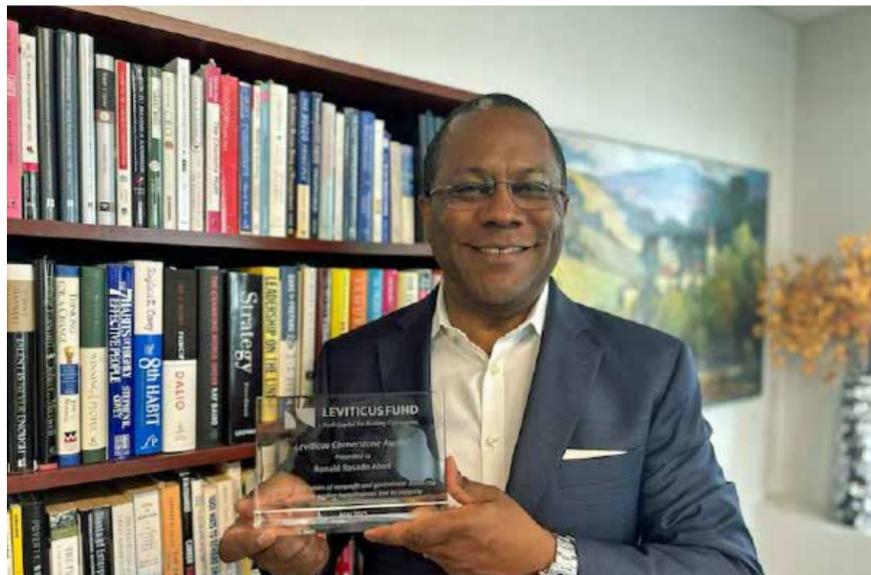
I look forward to working with the newly elected officers and executive committee members in the fight for racial equity and against any/all systems that negatively impact residents in and around the City of Yonkers. The vision for the unit is to increase civic education and engagement, while continuing our advocacy and activism around housing, education, criminal justice, environmental and climate justice and youth services. I look forward to reestablishment of our Youth Council and all efforts to ensure that Black people and all persons of color obtain equitable opportunities in our communities."

Past President and Vice President Karen Edmonson stated: "I felt compelled to serve especially during these unprecedented times in America. The Yonkers Branch has a long history of serving this community, having changed the educational and housing landscapes in extraordinary ways. We will continue our mission to address the gaps with hopes that they will once again be narrowed."

Immediate Past President Rev. Frank E. Coleman, Jr. added: "It is with great pleasure that the mantle can be passed to the new leadership of the Yonkers Branch. Serving as President has been one of the most rewarding experiences since returning to New York and I will remain committed to the mission of the organization and supportive of newly elected President Kisha Skipper and the entire Unit.

You may join this multigenerational network of activists dismantling structural racism by using your power to take action on the most pressing issues of our time. [www.naacp.org](http://www.naacp.org). The Yonkers NAACP will meet every 4th Monday at the Sarah Lawrence College Center for the Urban River at Beczak beginning at 7:00PM. Follow Us on Facebook and Instagram.

## Leviticus Fund Honors Ron Abad With 2025 Cornerstone Award



Ron Abad, CEO of Community Housing Innovations (CHI), was presented the Leviticus Fund 2025 Cornerstone Award. He was recognized at the Leviticus Fund's Annual Meeting of Members held May 14 for nonprofit and government leadership in service to ending homelessness and its indignity.

"Ron brings a wealth of experience to his service on our board, especially through his leadership of CHI," said Greg Maher, Executive Director of the Leviticus Fund. "He has consistently demonstrated deep, faith-based resolve to helping under-resourced individuals facing challenges, in particular those lacking safe and affordable housing

Abad joined the board of the Leviticus Fund in 2022 with three decades of experience in the creation of supportive housing, homeless shelters, and community-based health care. He is founding pastor of Freedom Hill Church, an Assemblies of God congregation in Westchester County.

"I am humbled to receive the Cornerstone Award, which is so meaningful because God is my cornerstone," said Abad. "I never separate my faith from my work. I believe that God has called us individually to live our best lives, serve others, and love God as well as our neighbors. God put me on a path 30 years ago to work in the housing area because my family faced housing problems in the Bronx. I have always believed that everyone needs a home – and our work is about the basic dignity of having a place to live. These uncertain times put that dignity at risk. But my faith is strong, and serving on the board of the Leviticus Fund is an honor. I don't see this as work; it's a calling."

According to Maher, "The mission of Community Housing Innovations aligns very closely with the Leviticus Fund's efforts to create opportunities for vulnerable, low-income people to thrive and live with dignity. We established the Cornerstone Award in 2015 to recognize those who have made extraordinary contributions to promoting poverty relief, and are pleased to be able to highlight Ron's work as well as that of CHI."

Community Housing Innovations provides housing and human services to promote social and economic independence, aims to end generational poverty, and helps individuals and families secure quality housing and employment. CHI has secured loans to support its work from the Leviticus Fund. Prior to CHI, Abad served as the Assistant Commissioner of the New York City Department of Homeless Services, first in Family Services and then in Planning and Development. He also worked for Urban Pathways and Acacia Network.

The Leviticus 25:23 Alternative Fund is rooted in faith and the call for access to economic improvement. The Fund provides flexible capital, expertise, and advocacy to propel the growth of healthier communities. Leviticus creates opportunities for vulnerable, low-income people to thrive and live with dignity. For more information, visit [www.leviticusfund.org](http://www.leviticusfund.org).

Community Housing Innovations is a not-for-profit housing and human services organization that serves Westchester, Long Island, Hudson Valley and New York City. CHI believes quality, affordable housing provides a firm foundation for a prosperous life. For more information visit [www.communityhousing.org](http://www.communityhousing.org).

### *Woman of Distinction, continued from pg 9-*

spirit of love, strength and shared purpose in the room was palpable. It was humbling to be in the presence of such remarkable women. Every honoree is driven not by recognition, but rather by a desire to uplift their communities, advocate for the greater good and help build a better future – not only in their communities, but across our State and throughout the world. I am truly inspired by their stories, their resilience and the collective power of women leading with heart, integrity and vision."

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## County Board Holds First Community Listening Session on Co Ed Rate Hikes in Cortlandt

MGM Casino, *continued from pg 2-*

That opportunity may never come again. Yonkers Mayor Mike Spano recently commented and lent his support, pointing out that MGM Empire Casino in Yonkers is “Shovel Ready Now”

In light of yet another New York City competitor dropping its bid for a casino, Yonkers Mayor Mike Spano today called upon New York State to award full casino licenses for Yonkers at MGM Empire City Casino and the Aqueduct racino now, and award the remaining license later.

“We have two racinos whose owners are ready to pay the State a billion dollars in application fees today, and to start generating hundreds of millions of dollars in new taxes tomorrow,” said Mayor Spano, adding, “We all know that the cutbacks from Washington are going to cause holes in the State and local budgets by the end of the year, so let’s be proactive.”

Mayor Spano’s statement comes after the announcement yesterday that the Related Companies and Wynn are dropping their proposal to build a casino in Hudson Yards on Manhattan’s West Side. Another major proposal, by Las Vegas Sands to build a casino near Nassau Coliseum, has already been withdrawn. Each of the remaining proposals faces significant community opposition, unlike the Yonkers and Aqueduct proposals which have local community support.

“New York should move ahead right away with the two proposals that enjoy community support and are shovel ready to go,” said Mayor Spano. “We’ve already lost too much time. Let’s not lose any more.”

Mayor Spano noted that the proposal to convert the MGM Empire Casino in Yonkers would result in significant increased tax payments to the State, the City of Yonkers, and Westchester County.

The projected economic benefits to Yonkers and Westchester County include:  
\$34 million in annual funds to the City of Yonkers, an increase of \$15 million annually

+2,000 new direct hires (tripling the existing workforce at Empire City Casino)

+\$340 million in 10-year gaming tax benefit to the City of Yonkers

+\$170 million in 10-year gaming tax benefit to Westchester County

“This is an unmatched opportunity for Yonkers and our region, let’s not lose momentum – because we all can win!” added Mayor Spano.

Under the State’s current timetable, the three remaining downstate casino licenses will not be awarded until December, which Mayor Spano said wastes yet another six months of increased revenues and jobs.



County residents passionately detailed the devastating impact of Con Edison’s soaring utility rates last night at the Westchester County Board of Legislators’ first Community Listening Session in Cortlandt’s Town Hall. It was the first in a series of public forums the Board will host across the County in the coming months to give people a platform to voice their concerns about the utility company.

Con Edison’s proposed rate increases would surge residential electricity bills an average of 11.4% and gas bills 13.3% by 2026, adding to rates already widely considered unconscionably high in Westchester County.

A local Vietnam veteran expressed deep frustration, noting many Westchester veterans living on fixed disability pension checks struggle to afford basic expenses, let alone rising utility costs. He called it “insult to injury” for those who served their country. Other speakers described bundling their children up indoors during cold weather and lighting fires in their homes to avoid turning on heat—an alarming indicator of how unaffordable the service has become for everyday families.

The session is part of the Board’s ongoing advocacy for residents following their March decision for the County to become a party to the major rate case against Con Edison under review by the New York State Public Service Commission. This move ensures proceedings prioritize the voices of people directly impacted by exorbitant utility rates.

Board Chairman Vedat Gashi and Legislators Colin Smith, Emiljana Ulaj, Erika Pierce, Shanae Williams, James Nolan, and Catherine Parker attended the session to hear directly from residents struggling with high bills and the consequences of a system many described as broken and unjust.

The Board will hold the second Community Listening Session at Irvington Town Hall Theater on Tuesday, June 3rd from 7:00 to 9:00 PM. The public is encouraged to attend.

### ***BOL, Jewish Heritage Month, continued from pg 9-***

butions our Jewish neighbors, friends and family have made to Westchester County’s cultural, social and educational life throughout history. It reminds us that diversity strengthens our local democracy, and that the Jewish tradition of social justice continues to inspire positive change throughout our communities. It is my privilege to recognize two extraordinary organizations that embody the core values of compassion and community service.”

Legislator Erika L. Pierce (D- Bedford, Lewisboro, Mount Kisco, North Salem, Pound Ridge, Somers) honored the Community Thanksgiving Dinner Program and said, “Every year, for over 20 years, this program has brought the community together to provide free Thanksgiving meals to those who might otherwise go without. A typical year involves 1,000 volunteers pitching in through countless ways - from shopping to cooking to serving – resulting in meals for 4,000 people in Westchester, Putnam and the Bronx. This community effort, hosted by Temple Shaaray Tefila in Bedford Corners, includes the contributions of volunteers from many area temples and other local organizations and churches. I can think of no other local effort which better illustrates Tikkun Olam, a core concept in Judaism, which signifies the collective effort to heal the world through acts that include loving kindness. It is my extreme honor to recognize this program, and the compassion it helps to generate, as part of our Jewish Heritage Celebration.”

Legislator Judah Holstein (D- Eastchester, New Rochelle, Tuckahoe) honored Community Security Services (CSS) and said, “As someone deeply connected to synagogues and Jewish institutions across my district and beyond, I know many of the CSS volunteers personally. They are friends and neighbors who give their time to train, prepare, and quietly protect others so our community can gather, celebrate, and pray in peace. In the face of the astonishing rise in antisemitism across this country and around the world, CSS has become a trusted and vital presence in Westchester. I am proud to honor CSS and all of its volunteers and staff this Jewish American Heritage Month for empowering our community from within and for helping ensure that our values of safety, solidarity, and resilience endure.”

**“Were it left to me to decide if we should have a government without newspapers, or newspapers without a government, I should not hesitate a moment to prefer the latter.**

**-Thomas Jefferson**

### ***Glen Island Bridge, continued from pg 2-***

Westchester County’s Department of Parks, Recreation and Conservation Commissioner Kathy O’Connor said: “Glen Island is a crucial part of the County’s parks system and a year-round destination for families and outdoor enthusiasts. Maintaining access to the park throughout construction was a top priority, and we are pleased that this new temporary bridge will ensure residents and guests can continue to enjoy everything Glen Island has to offer. I want to thank our team and our partners for their leadership and collaboration.”

Westchester County’s Department of Parks, Recreation and Conservation First Deputy Commissioner Peter Tartaglia said: “This project protects a key piece of infrastructure and safeguards access to a space that holds deep meaning for so many in our community. Glen Island has always been where people come together for recreation and to relax, celebrate and connect with nature.”

Prior to launching construction, Westchester County sought input from residents, park users and the maritime community. Their feedback shaped the project scope and led to the construction of the temporary bridge. The temporary bridge will open to marine traffic on May 22, 2025. The full rehabilitation project includes a new bridge deck, sidewalks, floor beams, railings, lighting and electrical and mechanical upgrades, structural steel and masonry repairs. Work on the permanent bridge has begun, with a planned reopening to traffic in summer 2026.

For updates and project information, visit:

<https://publicworks.westchestergov.com/glen-island-approach-bridge-rehabilitation>.

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## Weekend Events in Westchester County Parks

### SATURDAY, MAY 24

Lasdon Park, Arboretum and Veterans Memorial, Katonah: (914) 864-7268  
Medicinal Plant and Tree Tour, 10 a.m. - 11 a.m. An urban naturalist will lead a walking tour to look at over 20 plants and trees at Lasdon that have medicinal qualities that are used to treat physical and mental conditions. Also: June 14.

Get details and register: <https://www.lasdonpark.org/event/medicinal-plant-and-tree-tour/2025-05-24/>

Hanover Farm and Environmental Center, Yorktown Heights: (914) 862-5050  
Community Farm Workday, 10 a.m. - 12 p.m. Join us for a fun and fulfilling day. Get your hands dirty and help out with various tasks around the farm.

Get tickets: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/community-farm-work-day-tickets-1353274272779?aff=oddttdcreator>

Lenoir Preserve, Yonkers: (914) 968-5851. Community Science: Climate Watch, 10 a.m. - 12 p.m. If you would like to participate in conservation research projects, join the Lenoir staff in the meadow behind the mansion to learn about Climate Watch, how you can get involved and to do some spring birdwatching.

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

Lasdon Green Squad, 10 a.m. - 2 p.m. Every Saturday through November and for those age 14 and older. Volunteers will work with Lasdon staff on tasks such as invasive species removal, planting, watering, weeding, trail maintenance, mulching, trash clean up, and other tasks. Get details and register: <https://www.lasdonpark.org/event/lasdon-green-squad-2-2/2025-05-24/>

Marshlands Conservancy, Rye: (914) 835-4466. Fairytales & Trails!, 11 a.m. - 1 p.m. The woodland fairies are out there, but where do they live and what do they do all day? Master storyteller Jonathan Kruk knows, and he has tales and legends to tell! Join us for this enchanted walk along the forested trails. Maybe you'll see fairy houses hidden amongst the trees! Parking is limited, so please carpool if possible.

Playland Park, Rye: (914) 813-7010. Playland Park Opening Day, 11 a.m. - 6:30 p.m. Playland Park's Opening Ceremony will take place at the front gate of Playland. The park will open immediately after. Admission to the park and rides will be free for Memorial Day Weekend and parking will be \$10. Also May 25 and 26. Get details: <https://www.facebook.com/PlaylandParkWestchesterCounty>

Glen Island Park, New Rochelle: (914) 813-6720. Beach Opening Day, 11 a.m. - 6:30 p.m. The beach will be open weekends and holidays through Sunday, June 22. Open daily from Friday, June 27, through Monday, Sept. 1; weather permitting. No admittance after 6 p.m. Parking and beach admission fees apply. Westchester County residency is required for admission, with a County Park Pass, a valid New York State driver's license or a valid New York State ID with a Westchester address. Get details: <https://parks.westchestergov.com/swim>

Playland Beach, Rye: (914) 813-7010. Beach Opening Day, 11 a.m. - 6:30 p.m. The beach will be open weekends and holidays through Sunday, June 22. Open daily from Friday, June 27, through Monday, Sept. 1; weather permitting. No admittance after 6 p.m. Parking and beach admission fees apply. Westchester County residency is not required for admission. Get details: <https://parks.westchestergov.com/playland-park-info/playland-beach-and-pool-fees>

Croton Point Park, Croton-on-Hudson: (914) 862-5290. Beach Opening Day, 11 a.m. - 6:30 p.m. The beach will be open weekends, Memorial Day and 4th of July through Labor Day, Monday, Sept. 1; weather permitting. No admittance after 6 p.m. Parking and beach admission fees apply. Westchester residency is not required for admission. Get details: <https://parks.westchestergov.com/swim>

Alfred B. DelBello Muscote Farm, Katonah: (914) 864-7282. BLOOM!, 12 p.m. - 4 p.m. The Westchester Watercolor Group presents its exhibit in Muscote's main house Saturdays and Sundays in May. Get details: <https://www.muscotefarm.org/programs-events/event/2025/05/17/1747501200/bloom-westchester-watercolor-group-exhibit/522251>

Miller House, White Plains: (914) 428-1005. 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 George Washington and his army fought for American independence. Located at 140 Virginia Road, White Plains.

Alfred B. DelBello Muscote Farm, Katonah: (914) 864-7282. Biological Diversity Day, 1 p.m. - 3 p.m. Join us at the Environmental Learning Center (ELC) to identify and document other organisms around the farm, other than our farm animals. Join the Muscote Biodiversity Club on iNaturalist and enter all the species you find. Whoever uploads the largest variety in species will win a prize. Free. Reserve your spot: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/biological-diversity-day-tickets-1267571914719?aff=ebdsoporgprofile>

### SUNDAY, MAY 25

Alfred B. DelBello Muscote Farm, Katonah: (914) 864-7282. Farmers Market, 9:30 a.m. - 2:30 p.m. The market supports farmers and sustainable efforts in our area, featuring over 30 local vendors every Sunday until Nov. 16. Get details: <https://www.muscotefarm.org/markets/>

*continued on pg 14*

**Make America Gag Again, continued from pg 1-**

eventually own personally.

Sorry, this “gift” is far from free; Qatar will surely expect something in return.

And the optics are beyond awful, especially as Congress mulls hundreds of billions in Medicaid cuts.

That not only looks bad; it creates all kinds of conflicts of interest and runs smack into the Constitution’s Emoluments Clause, which prohibits foreign gifts.

but given all the foreign investments and conflicts of interest — and now a \$400 million plane — they seem designed to benefit the president more than anything.” End of Post Editorial.

Latimer concludes, “This from the NY Post Editorial Board. I couldn’t have said it better.”

Next week: Latimer and Lawler disagree on the SALT Deduction and Trump’s Big and Beautiful Budget Bill

**Deep Fakes Law, continued from pg 1-**

The law classifies the use of digitally deceptive content as a Class B misdemeanor, punishable by imprisonment, fine or both. The law increases to a Class A misdemeanor if a person violates the law during the commission of another crime, or if the offender has a prior conviction for the same offense within the last ten years.

Digitally deceptive material can include any still or video image, audio, text, or technological representation of a person’s name, picture, likeness or voice that has been modified to:

Exhibit authenticity or an appearance that is visually or audibly indistinguishable from reality; or

Depict a scenario that did not actually occur, or has been altered in a significant way from how it actually occurred through digitization.

Westchester County District Attorney Susan Cacace said: “I am thankful for the partnership of our executive and legislative branches in providing this new tool to hold abusers accountable. Too often, gaps in existing laws allow advances in technology to outpace the criminal justice system. Impersonators who use AI, in any medium, will no longer be able to evade accountability. I look forward to continuing to address these key areas of concern with our government partners.”

Chairman of the Westchester County Board of Legislators Vedat Gashi said: “I would like to thank County Executive Ken Jenkins for signing this vital bill into law today. It will help protect our residents – especially seniors and other vulnerable members of our community – from the growing threat of malicious AI use. This bill addresses a critical gap in our legal system, and I commend Legislator Holstein for his dedication to this cause. It’s through the hard work of many, including the Westchester County District Attorney’s Office, that we’ve been able to take this important step toward ensuring our community is better protected from digital deception.”

Legislator Judah Holstein sponsored the law in partnership with the Westchester District Attorney’s Office and the County Law Department.

Holstein said: “AI has incredible potential, but when used maliciously, it can cause real harm, especially to our seniors, women and young people. I’m proud to see this law signed today. It will help protect residents from the growing threats of digital deception, including AI-driven ‘deep fakes’ used to impersonate individuals or depict them in obscene situations without consent. I want to thank County Executive Ken Jenkins for his leadership and our legislative team for their tireless work in crafting this important bill. This is a prime example of government working as it should. When leaders come together around common-sense solutions, we can act quickly to protect the public. I hope this legislation, and the collaborative, bipartisan effort behind it, serves as a model for the state and beyond.”

The law goes into effect immediately.

Jenkins made the announcement at the Eastchester Senior Center at Lake Isle Country Club, and was joined by Eastchester Supervisor Anthony Colavita and Councilman Anthony Giacobbe.

**County Parks this Weekend, continued from pg 13-**

Lasdon Park and Arboretum, Katonah: (914) 864-7263

Gardening Sundays and Tuesday, 10 a.m. - 12 p.m.

Enhance your gardening skills and plant knowledge by working side by side with the gardeners at Lasdon Park. Tasks include planting, watering, weeding, pruning, staking, deadheading, potting up, and more! Also: May 27.

Get details and register: <https://www.lasdonpark.org/event/gardening-sundays-2/2025-05-25/>

Lasdon Park and Arboretum, Katonah: (914) 864-7263

Garden Highlights Tour, 1 p.m. - 2 p.m.

Join one of the gardeners for a free walking tour of the native plants, annuals, perennials, and flowering and fruiting shrubs and trees. Rain or shine. Also: June 1, June 29.

Register: <https://www.lasdonpark.org/event/garden-highlights-tour/2025-05-25/>

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

Yoga in the Gardens, 9:30 a.m. - 11 a.m.

\$25. Also: June 8, 15.

Pre-registration required: <https://www.lasdonpark.org/event/yoga-in-the-gardens-2/2025-05-25/>

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**Thalle Industries Celebrates 40 Years of Growth, Community, and Service**

**L-R- George Pacchiana, Gloria Pacchiana, Westchester County Executive Ken Jenkins, Alina Pacchiana and Thalle president and CEO Glenn Pacchiana. Photo courtesy of Thalle Industries**

Thalle Industries marked its 40th anniversary with a grand celebration on April 11th at the Trump National Golf Club in Briarcliff Manor.

The event brought together elected officials, valued customers, and Thalle’s dedicated staff for an evening filled with music, food, and heartfelt tributes to the company’s remarkable journey.

“At Thalle, we operate like a family business,” said Thalle Industries President and CEO Glenn Pacchiana, who had three generations of his family present. “We value the contributions of every staff member, fostering an environment where everyone loves their job and strives for exceptional service. This dedication translates into a superior experience for our customers, who know they are working with a team that truly cares.”

The celebration highlighted Thalle Industries’ commitment to providing high-quality construction materials and its unwavering dedication to the communities it serves. As an environmentally responsible supplier of virgin and recycled aggregate, asphalt products and concrete, Thalle has become a cornerstone of the construction industry in the Hudson Valley and beyond. With facilities in Fishkill, Montrose, and Elmsford, New York, the company has consistently demonstrated its ability to deliver excellence and innovation.

Pacchiana also underscored the importance of social responsibility and giving back to the communities that have supported Thalle throughout its 40-year history.

“We believe in being good corporate citizens,” said Pacchiana. “Our commitment extends beyond providing quality materials to actively supporting local initiatives and organizations.”

Thalle Industries has a long-standing tradition of supporting various community groups, charities, and environmental organizations. Most recently, during the holiday season, the company made substantial donations to local food pantries in Fishkill, Montrose, and Elmsford. Thalle also proudly sponsors the Fresh Air Fund, providing opportunities for children from underserved communities.

As the pothole-filling season ramps up, Thalle Industries is prepared to meet the increased demand for asphalt. Its Fishkill plant can produce up to 350 tons of asphalt per hour, offering a diverse range of mixes, including porous, warm, and custom blends. Additionally, Thalle’s Virtual Quarry facilities in Elmsford and Montrose play a crucial role in recycling construction debris, including clean concrete and asphalt, promoting sustainable practices.

The 40th-anniversary celebration was a testament to Thalle Industries’ enduring success, rooted in its commitment to quality, community, and its dedicated team. The company looks forward to continuing its legacy of excellence and service for many years to come.

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Schumer, Jeffries, continued from pg 1-

The mainstream media are questioning both about their roles in possibly covering up President Biden's actual mental incapacity. However, both New Yorkers refuse to answer any questions.

Schumer, when pressed by CNN's Kasie Hunt on May 13, 2025, about whether he was aware of Biden's unfitness for a second term, responded, "We're looking forward," citing pressing issues like Medicaid cuts and avoiding direct answers. Similarly, when questioned on CNN, Jeffries emphasized the party's support for Biden's decision to pass the baton to Kamala Harris after his debate performance, sidestepping specifics about Biden's condition.

Both leaders faced criticism for allegedly downplaying or covering up Biden's decline. Schumer, who in February 2024 claimed Biden's mental acuity was "great" and dismissed concerns as "right-wing propaganda," was confronted with these statements on NBC's Meet the Press in January 2025. He insisted Democrats did not mislead the public, focusing instead on Biden's legislative record. Critics, including former NBC anchor Chuck Todd, accused Schumer and other Democratic leaders of enabling a coverup. Todd stated on CNN that Schumer was "as responsible as anybody else" for not addressing the issue sooner. In private meetings with Biden in July 2024, Jeffries reportedly expressed concerns about the electoral risks of Biden's candidacy, alongside Schumer and others like Nancy Pelosi, who urged Biden to step aside due to fears of losing Congress.

The book reports that Senate Minority Leader Chuck Schumer and House Democratic Leader Hakeem Jeffries privately expressed worries about Biden's mental fortitude and electoral viability in 2024. Schumer met Biden in Delaware on July 13, 2024, conveying concerns from his caucus about Democratic losses. Jeffries voiced similar fears about House races, suggesting Biden's candidacy could jeopardize the party's chances.

Both reportedly urged Biden to step aside, with Schumer allegedly denying claims of a coordinated "Plan B" involving himself, Jeffries, Barack Obama, and Nancy Pelosi. The book cites Democratic insiders like David Plouffe and Jon Favreau, who criticized Biden's decision to run again, blaming it for Kamala Harris' failed 107-day campaign after Biden's July 21, 2024, withdrawal.

Biden has denied these claims, stating on The View that reports of his mental decline lack evidence. Schumer and Jeffries have avoided direct comments on Biden's health, with Schumer focusing on "looking forward" and Jeffries emphasizing party unity post-Biden's withdrawal.

Indeed, what millions of Americans saw on TV during the last two years of Biden's Presidency has now been confirmed in the book and the 200 democratic sources cited in the book: President Biden was so lacking in mental capacity that his wife, Dr. Jill Biden, and five other close advisors kept him from the public, Cabinet members, and Democratic leaders of Congress.

One group that is to blame for this coverup, even more than the Biden family and his advisors, is the mainstream media. This includes Tapper, who never pushed back enough on assertions that Biden was hard-working and mentally fit. Tapper is now the book's co-author, who questions the media's role in the coverup.

The conservative media was reporting and asking questions about President Biden and what appeared to be his difficulties, both physical and mental.

Of course, everything changed after the June 2024 debate between Biden and Trump, when Biden could not stay coherent and answer questions thoroughly. He dropped out of his planned reelection in July of 2024.

But Biden should never have run for another term, based on his decline.

The best course of action is for ALL democrats to admit what we all know. President Biden was mentally and physically declining and should never have run for reelection. And those who saw him during 2024 should now admit what they saw and what they did or did not do.

Democrats must come clean on Biden to move on, win back the American people, and retake Congress and The White House.

NBC's Chuck Todd, no conservative in his own right, had this to say after Schumer refused to answer and only repeated, We are moving forward.

"He (Schumer) is among the people responsible for this—the leaders of the democratic party and the staff of The White House.

The reason why the democratic party has less credibility today, with a lower rating than an unpopular president (Trump)

Because of this distrust and the public belief that the democratic party leadership let them down and let this happen.

He (Schumer) is as responsible as anyone else. He was a leader in the party. He could have said something sooner," said Chuck Todd.

Many democratic progressives have called on Schumer to step down as democratic senate leader before the book came out and before his refusals to answer questions about what he saw in President Biden last year.

The one Democrat who could put Schumer and Jeffries in their place is Yorktown High School graduate Alexandra Ocasio-Cortez (AOC). But so far, she has sidestepped the question.

Our advice to Chuck and Hakeem is to tell the truth and get it over with, and then, yes, We can move forward.

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Riverside Moguls-May 29 Mt. Pleasant Library

Remember Those Lost on Memorial Day

**Riverside Moguls**  
*Wealth & Power in the Gilded Age*

**Thursday, May 29**  
 7pm at the Main Library

Join author, historian, and musician Alex Prizgintas as he returns for part two of Riverside Moguls: Wealth and Power in the Hudson Valley's Gilded Age at the Main Library Thursday, May 29 at 7pm. From Rockefeller's Kykuit Estate to the elaborate estates of Tuxedo Park, the Ogden-Mills Staatsburgh Estate, and more, Prizgintas combines rich information with photos, videos, & audio quotes to explore this extravagant and complicated era of the Hudson Valley's history.

Register: <https://buff.ly/U33wcmi>

**MEMORIAL DAY EVENTS**  
 — 2025 —  
 NEW ROCHELLE, NY

**SUNDAY, MAY 25**  
**10:00 AM DECORATION OF GRAVES**  
**HOLY SEPULCHRE CEMETERY**  
 Presented by American Legion Post 8, VFW Post 439 and the United Veterans Memorial and Patriotic Association

**MONDAY, MAY 26**  
**9:30 AM WATERSIDE CEREMONY**  
**HUDSON PARK**  
**11:00 AM MEMORIAL DAY CEREMONY**  
**AMERICAN LEGION POST 8, 112 NORTH AVE**  
 Presented by City of New Rochelle Veterans Advisory Committee, American Legion Post 8 and VFW Post 439  
 All welcome to join American Legion Post 8 for a BBQ following the 11AM Ceremony!

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*Thank You for Your Service*

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