

# Westchester Rising

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## Where Else Can Migrants Stay in Westchester?



Westchester County Executive George Latimer's call for compassion and acceptance of some of the 67,000 migrants currently overflowing the shelters and hotels of New York City, has been met with opposition from republicans, and with some democrats wondering where else the migrants can go in the county.

There are currently 100 migrant families housed at the Ramada Inn on Tuckahoe Road in Yonkers. Published reports have NYC Mayor Adams and his administration looking for more locations in Westchester. Other reports have the Adams administration looking in New Rochelle, Mt. Vernon and White Plains for more locations.

We received several email letters to the editor about the migrant crisis and Westchester's response to it. "I wondered why all of our elected officials in Westchester, most of who are democrats, keep saying that this is a federal problem that demands a federal solution. While I agree with that, I also wonder why nobody asked or questioned President Biden about the impact that the migrant crisis is having on our area?" asked Jean Madsen.

Another reader writes, "I just heard that the financial impact on the City of New York and their budget from the now 67,000 immigrants who have been bused into the city will be \$5 Billion. Governor Hochul gave New York City \$1 Billion to help pay the costs.

"Let's do the math. If New York City is housing migrants in 30,000 hotels, as has been reported, at \$100 per night, that would be \$3 Million per day. In the Ramada Inn Yonkers, the migrants are to stay up to one year. If you multiply the \$3 Million by 350 days, that cost exceeds the \$1 Billion that Hochul gave Mayor Adams. My question is what happens after one year and the money runs out?" wrote Rich Morgal.

Finally, Michelle D'Agostino writes, "I live in Eastchester but my cousins live in New Rochelle and Mt. Vernon. I don't think its fair for all of the migrants to go to Westchester's big cities, including Yonkers and White Plains. It always seems that is where the homeless end up and now the migrants are going."

"What about some of the wealthier communities in Westchester? Can they share the burden? As a Christian, I agree with what County Executive Latimer said about helping others, but lets take that thought to another level and ask, what about housing some of the migrants in Rye?"

NY Assembly republicans have proposed legislation requiring migrants to undergo background checks, but according to the U.S. Refugee Admision Program, security screening and background checks are already required.

*continued on pg 4-*

## Three Mt. Vernon Mayor's Seek to Stay or Return to City Hall; Democratic Primary June 27



By Dan Murphy

It is rare for a former Mayor to challenge an incumbent Mayor, and unheard of for a third former Mayor to join the fray. That is what has happened in the City of Mt. Vernon, with incumbent Mayor Shawyn Patterson-Howard seeking reelection.

She will be challenged by former City Council President and interim Mayor Andre Wallace. Both Patterson-Howard and Wallace obtained enough signatures to get on the ballot and will faceoff in a Democratic Primary June

A third former Mayor of Mt. Vernon, Richard Thomas, attempted to get on the ballot but his petitions were deemed invalid. Thomas will attempt to run as a write in.

Mayor Patterson-Howard has the endorsement of establishment is with Mayor Patterson-the Mt. Vernon Democratic Committee. But her four years as Mayor have seen the city

Mount Vernon Mayor Shawyn Patterson-Howard, right, with Vice-President Kamala Harris



Former Mayor Andre Wallace

*continued on pg 3-*

## Playland Opens for 2023 Season With New Rides, Entertainment & Dining Options



Enjoying the adrenaline rush of the Dragon Coaster, cooling down in the new Playland Pool, and savoring bites and brews while taking in the sights and sounds of Long Island Sound, all are a sample of summer experiences at Playland, one of the nation's most beloved amusement parks since opening in 1928 with over 40 rides and attractions. Located in Rye in Westchester County, Playland is a National Historic Landmark and a summer tradition for the entire New York City metro area, which opened to the public on Saturday, May 20, 2023 through September 15, 2023. A complimentary roundtrip shuttle service from the MetroNorth Railroad station in Rye is available during the summer season, as well as regular Bee-Line bus service, which provides easy connections to an attraction that has served so many generations of families.

As one of the only amusement parks in the U.S. designed in Art Deco architecture, Playland is home to thrilling and historic rides including Whip (1929), Derby Racer (1929), Dragon Coaster (1929), The Carousel (1929), and numerous other adventures for all ages and excitement levels. The newest ride is the Old Rye Motorbike Factory, which debuted in 2022. This year, guests can expect new rides including the custom-built Jack the Puppeteer, a fun, family-friendly ride that takes the visitors on an exhilarating spinning adventure, which will be available later in the 2023 summer season.

"Playland has been a multi-generational destination for millions of visitors in the greater New York region for almost a century," said Jeff Davis, General Manager of Playland. "As we continue to grow and build the park for the next 100 years, we are thrilled to introduce a diverse range of new experiences for all our visitors to enjoy from dining, outdoor adventures, entertainment, events, rides, and more, while preserving the incredible history of the park. In addition to our popular rides and games, our new visitors are often surprised to find direct access to our beach, pool and lake, available right on-site. We have something for everyone at all ages, so look forward to welcoming everyone this season."

Additional NEW experiences for 2023 at Playland include the following:  
• New Fountain Plaza Show – Featuring a synchronized musical, water, and light show to welcome all guests throughout the day and night.

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## Republican National Committee Open's Hispanic Outreach Center in Northern Westchester



L-R-NYGOP Chair Ed Cox, Republican National Committee Chair Ronna McDaniel, Congressman Mike Lawler, with other republicans

By Dan Murphy

RNC Chair Ronna McDaniel came to Northern Westchester last week, to open a Republican Hispanic Community Outreach Center in Cortland Manor. The center's opening is part of an effort by the NY and National GOP to help Congressman Mike Lawler in his reelection bid next year.

Rep. Lawler won election last year by defeating Congressman Sean Patrick Maloney. Next year, Lawler is expected to face former Westchester Congressman Mondaire Jones, in the 17th Congressional District, which includes northern Westchester, Putnam and Rockland counties.

With 19% of residents in the 17th CD being Latino, Lawler and republicans are hoping to reach out and connect on several issues that the Latino community may be inclined to vote republican on. "I was proud to celebrate the opening of the RNC's new Hispanic Community Center in Cortland this weekend with RNC Chairwoman Ronna McDaniel, New York Republican Party Chairman Ed Cox, Westchester Republican County Committee Chairman Doug Colety, Assemblyman Matt Slater, and so many other leaders and members of our Hudson Valley community. To our Latino communities in Haverstraw, Peekskill, Ossining,

*continued on pg 5-*

## Senate Leader Stewart-Cousins Honors Dr. Lucy Rockefeller Waletzky as a Woman of Distinction



*Dr. Lucy Rockefeller-Waletzky, left, with Senate Majority Leader Stewart-Cousins*

Senate Majority Leader Andrea Stewart-Cousins honored Dr. Lucy Rockefeller Waletzky at the 2023 NYS Senate Women of Distinction Ceremony. Majority Leader Stewart-Cousins selected Dr. Waletzky for her remarkable advocacy, philanthropy, and commitment to the preservation of New York State Parks.

A resident of Pleasantville, Dr. Waletzky has been a passionate advocate for the protection and enhancement of New York State Parks. From her tenure as Chair of the Taconic Regional Parks Commission to her instrumental role as Chair of the New York State Council of Parks, she has displayed an extraordinary commitment to preserving the natural beauty and accessibility of these cherished spaces.

“Dr. Lucy Rockefeller Waletzky’s tireless efforts to support and enhance New York State Parks have had an incredible impact on our community,” said Senator Stewart-Cousins. “Her generosity, leadership, and dedication is truly commendable. It has been wonderful to see her many successes in preserving our natural resources, ensuring that they can be appreciated by New Yorkers for generations to come.”

Dr. Waletzky’s philanthropic endeavors have been vital to preserving and improving New York State Parks. In 2003, she donated 84 acres to the state, protecting a vital portion of the Rockefeller State Park Preserve in Westchester. Her donation of 10 acres to Westchester County expanded public parking for visitors utilizing the North County TrailWay bike path, enhancing its accessibility. Dr. Waletzky also funded the conversion of an 80-year-old historic schoolhouse into a new State Parks headquarters for the Taconic Region in 2009, ensuring the preservation of a valued piece of history.

“I am humbled by this recognition and express my sincere appreciation to Senator Stewart-Cousins, a long-time friend and park supporter. Among the greatest honors of my life was serving along with Commissioners Carol Ash, Rose Harvey, and Erik Kulleseid as chair of both the Taconic Regional Commission and the New York State Council of Parks. With their support, and that of the Open Space Institute, Parks & Trails New York, and my fellow regional park commissioners, we shed light on the poor condition of our rundown state parks and created a new constituency for these critical recreational, cultural, and natural resources. I could not be prouder of what we accomplished to upgrade our state parks and make them the world-class destinations they deserve to be,” said Dr. Waletzky.

## Ossining HS-Regeneron Scholars Congratulated for Science Fair Awards



Westchester County congratulates #RegeneronISEF grand award winners, Ossining Union Free School District seniors Sarah Gardner and Sarah Jennings!

Sarah Jennings took 1st place in the World in Cellular & Molecular Biology and received \$5000 plus \$1000 for the school and \$1000 for the local WESEF science fair. Sarah Gardner took 2nd place in Physics & Astronomy and \$2000. at the 2023 Regeneron International Science and Engineering Fair (ISEF), held on May 14 -19 in Dallas, Texas.

Both Gardner and Jennings were named Regeneron Scholars earlier this year, and were students in the Science Research Program at Ossining High School, which is quickly becoming one of the best high school science programs in Westchester County.

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Dr. Erosa speaks about  
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# Costco Wants to Replace Your Neighborhood Wine & Liquor Store

OP ED By Tony Russo & Michael Correra

All across the country, multi-billion dollar big box and warehouse companies have been planning and seeking a complete takeover of states' retail wine and liquor industries. New York state's local wine and liquor merchants must start preparing now for a big fight ahead.

As recently as 2019, Costco announced an expansion of Instacart same-day alcohol deliveries to 200 of its stores in 11 states and Washington DC. While mega big box retailers like Costco offering alcohol might sound convenient for some, the stark reality is that it would devastate an entire industry responsible for creating some 35,000 jobs and generating nearly \$4.5 billion in tax revenue across all corners of New York State in 2020. This is a scenario local mom-and-pop retailers across other business sectors have seen before. As giant, well-funded corporations move into an industry, they squeeze out locally based family-owned shops that have served a community for generations—similar to the way pharmacy giants like CVS or Walgreens have all but eradicated neighborhood pharmacies.

There was a time when every neighborhood across Westchester and the Hudson Valley had specialty stores, but that is sadly evaporating with the homogenization of retail at the feet of Wall Street funded investors. To add perspective about the economic might of a local business killing a company like Costco, each and every warehouse location sells an average of \$192 million in goods annually. The company boasts 19 locations within New York, with a half a million dollars of daily revenue at each store. In 2022, Costco reported an annual revenue of \$226 billion, a 15 percent increase from 2021. Not only does Costco have substantial buying power, but because each of Costco's 123 million members pays between \$60 and \$120 annually for the right to shop in its stores, the company is able to sell wine and alcohol at or below anyone else's cost.

For any small merchant, Costco's prices and tentacles are impossible to match. Its ability to squeeze suppliers to sell in bulk at bare bones costs would destroy any competitors in the same or even neighboring counties. If the New York State Legislature enacts changes to our alcohol sales laws – intended to protect consumers and minors from accessing this controlled substance – simply to give a pass to yet another big box store takeover, that would cut deep into many communities.

Their business model is to swallow up small businesses and make them extinct. Granting this big box behemoth a green light to take over New York won't just negatively impact the fabric of a few communities but rather create a ripple effect that will leave the consumer landscape of our towns, villages, and cities in further desolation. This sudden rush to "reform" New York's alcohol control laws – supposedly because of needs recognized during the pandemic – is not only misguided, but it inches us closer to a frightening scene from the 2006 sci-fi comedy, "Idiocracy."

In the film, a U.S. Army librarian wakes up 500 years into the future, and into a world dominated by one store to get anything at all – even a law degree – that is, a gigantic city-sized Costco.

If our leaders in Albany and at the county level waive the checkered flag for yet another a big box takeover – reminiscent of what Home Depot, Barnes & Noble or Bed, Bath & Beyond did to smaller shopkeepers – it could be the nail in the coffin for our retail wine and spirits industry, and its nearly 3,500 New York liquor merchants. It's up to New York's leaders to just say no and take a stand to protect local small business owners, as well as maintain the fabric of our state economy, and our way of life, against further corporate encroachment.

Tony Russo owns Aries Wines & Spirits in White Plains. Michael Correra owns Michael-Towne Wines & Spirits in Brooklyn. He is executive director of the Metropolitan Package Store Association, representing 3,500 of New York's small business liquor stores.

## Mt Vernon Mayor, continued from pg 1-

trying to overcome the same challenges it faced under Mayor Thomas and Mayor Wallace, including crime, taxes and quality of life issues.

Four years ago, Patterson-Howard ran as the new alternative. Now she runs as the incumbent. Under her watch, Mt. Vernon was able to open Memorial Field, with the help of Westchester County government.

This election, Andre Wallace's campaign for Mayor is running for change, and with the support of residents who want to Save Mount Vernon.

Patterson-Howard's campaign and supporters were able to remove Thomas from the ballot, but Wallace's signatures were valid.

"I believe that we need new ideas and new leadership to combat the crime and rising taxes that plague our city. As your mayor, I will have the courage to stand up and present bold solutions to these challenges. It's time to send a clear message that the people of Mount Vernon deserve better," said Wallace.

The winner of the democratic primary on June 27 will be the next Mayor in the November election, barring an extraordinary circumstance, with registered democrats making up 80% of the city's voters.

# In Your Face



by Eric Wolf Schoen

In my first government class at Pace University in Pleasantville, the teacher put up three letters on the chalkboard. CYA. COVER YOUR ASS! She reminded us that not only did C stand for cover, it also stood for compromise. She said if we grasped those two concepts we would make it in government.

So I see our Congressman Jamal Bowman on the steps of the Capitol screaming at Representative Marjorie Taylor Green. Now I totally disagree with Green philosophically, but to have a rather tall man going after this petite short woman I thought was unacceptable. I guess I wasn't the only one to find it unacceptable. AOC pulled Jamal away and said it wasn't worth him getting in a spat with her.

The sensational aspects of the occasion were picked up by the New York Times and other media, that being the goal of Congressman Jamal.

Was there any need for a shouting match. Did Bowman have to be in Green's face? Maybe if he was trying to show off looking for publicity for his run for Mayor of New York City as the gossip has it. Personally I think he has a long way to go.

But as a constituent of Bowman's I was embarrassed by the episode. And I thought of compromise, or at least conversation which would have accomplished more than the 'In Your Face' match-off which was embarrassing to one of Bowman's colleague that, even though she said Green wasn't worth the tussle.

I also read as you did the letter in these papers a letter from numerous Rabbis criticizing Bowman's Anti-Israel positions. I thought we were passed that. No matter what the issue is, you can't become Mayor of New York City if you are anti Israel. A word to the wise Brother Jamal.

What did we see Tuesday at the White House? A truck crashed into a surrounding gate intentionally. And what was in that truck? A Nazi flag. Anti Israel sentiment just feed into these crazies driving into the White House gates. I guarantee the majority of Americans support Israel and the Jewish people.

And now as we head into Memorial Day Weekend some lighter notes of the day:

-Ever dream to be a lifeguard? New York and surrounding counties need you now more than ever. Lifeguard shortages are all over, and with the area pools opening in a month you still have time, however short to brush up on those swimming skills to patrol an area pool. You don't have to have a perfect body you can cover up with a long T-shirt!

-Did you know that the Roosevelt Hotel in New York City ballroom, where migrants are being welcomed into New York once was the home of Guy Lombardo's televised New Year's celebration. My have things come a long way!

If you were at the Taylor Swift concert held in the pouring rain in Massachusetts last week and collected some rainwater that water apparently is worth some money. It has been sold in little jars as a collectible for the water logged occasion.

People won't go on the subway in New York as it is for fear of crime. Now the MTA is talking about raising the subway fares 15 cents to \$2.95. What they should be doing is lowering the fares not increasing them. How about putting more police officers on the subways. You don't attract people to the subways they are afraid to go on to begin with by increasing fares. What could the MTA be thinking? On top of this they have introduced new gates that are harder for fare beaters to jump. This is a way to increase fares, but the gates will take a long while to put in. So subway riders for the time being will have an increase of fares come Labor Day.

The campaign to save AM radio in new and used cars is alive and well. Car manufactures claim that AM radio interferes with the cars systems. Pressure has been put on manufactures by listeners of the radio and it seems to be working. WABC AM radio collected 7500 signatures and as we go to press got one manufacturer to agree to not eliminate AM radio. AM radio is a major source of emergency communication. At this point your best bet is to contact your Congressman to encourage the continuance of this important method of communication. Text AM TO 52886. Or check out the web pages for your favorite AM station to see if they are collecting electronic signatures to stop the end of AM radio.

What does this tell you. Most Americans want another candidate other the two major contenders to run for President. Where is this candidate coming from? None of the candidates announced so far have shown the spark we are looking for. One thing for sure, the Republican debate stage will be full!

Cryotherapy is the hottest thing now for losing weight and freezing off that extra fat.

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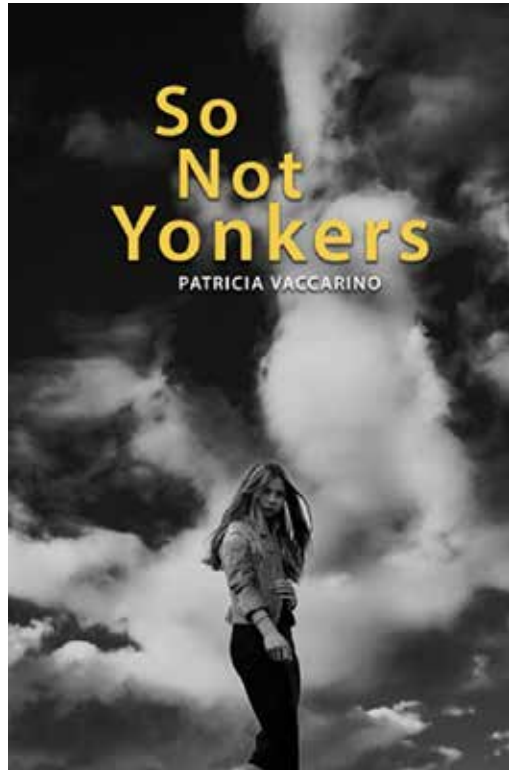
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## The Trust Between the Mainstream Media and the Working Class is Broken



### *So Not Yonkers is Realistic Fiction About the Working Class*

So Not Yonkers, the third book in the Yonkers Trilogy by Patricia Vaccarino, is realistic fiction that examines a grim reality—the world is rigged against everyone who is either poor or from the working class. Although the Yonkers Trilogy covers the time from 1969 to 1973, the issues prevalent then are the same issues that we grapple with today.

America's working class is struggling with real life issues, including, but not limited to, economic disparity, racism, sexual harassment, abortion, child abuse, homophobia, mental illness, violence, death, lost love and lost friendship. Yet today's mainstream media does not reflect this reality. The working class is consistently portrayed by mainstream media as narrow minded, rigid conformists to alt-right conservative family values. This is a fundamental disconnect from reality.

Any time there is a fundamental disconnect between what is real and what is not, there is a breakdown of trust. The trust between the working class and the mainstream media has long been broken.

In the article Through the Working Class in the Columbia Journalism Review (Winter 2019), Steven Greenhouse asserted that after the 2016 election, "there was a sense of panic in many newsrooms—journalists had missed a huge part of the Trump story because, ensconced on the coasts, they hadn't been adequately covering working-class Americans' hardships, worries, and resentments." Mr. Greenhouse further asserts "that over the past two years, the media has worked hard to restore the working class to its rightful place in the nation's political narrative."

The mainstream media has yet to earn the trust of the working class. The May 10, 2023, CNN Town Hall meeting featuring Donald Trump is a powerful example of how the mainstream media treats the working class with fear, loathing, and ridicule.

In the media industry, members of televised audiences are always carefully vetted.

The CNN town hall meeting deliberately staged an audience whose members were intentionally meant to appear as crass and stupid, loudly cheering in response to Trump's every lie and indiscretion.

The media holds the working class responsible for the rise of Donald Trump. The working class is aware that it is the mainstream media who created Mr. Trump and continues to push him to the top of the daily news cycle.

The latest media trends sourced on criticalmention.com indicate that a fierce debate is taking place about how journalists ought to cover the former President as he seeks another term. Author and columnist Joe Klein said the media has not figured out how to cover Trump.

Instead, journalists ought to think about how they are covering the working class. Start by asking, "Who is the working class?" Working class adults are stereotypically defined as those lacking a college degree. Yet in today's economy, a UPS delivery driver, a Starbucks barista, and an uber driver who all have college degrees would still be defined as working class. A 2022 Gallup poll found that 46 percent of American adults identified as either "working" or "lower" class, with the rest identifying as "upper," "upper-middle," or "middle" class.

According to Patricia Vaccarino, "The media has lost touch with the working class who want to read about people they can relate to or about people they can realistically aspire to become. Instead of realistically portraying working-class people in the media or in literature, Kyle Rittenhouse is cast as the poster child for working-class alienation. Both the mainstream media and the publishing industry have intentionally diffused the power of the working class by portraying them as small-minded, stupid and weak, thereby diminishing their worth."

Vaccarino will be featured in a Yonkers Public Library's Author's Chat on June 22. Vaccarino has also written, *The Death of a Library: An American Tragedy*, about the circumstances that led to the demolition of the Yonkers Carnegie Library in 1982.

## Letter to the Editor: Latimer is Not Alone in His Views Concerning Migrant Crisis

I have listened to our County Executive George Latimer, and have read in your paper, his comments about trying to welcome in some of the migrants crossing the border into Westchester. I agree with his sentiments and wanted to point your readers attention to an Op-Ed column from Ruth Messinger, former Manhattan Borough President, wrote for Passover. Thanks Myrna Goldman, Scarsdale.

"As Passover begins this week, it provides us with a critical opportunity to reflect on immigration, freedom, and the holiday's relevance for Jews and non-Jews alike. Today more than ever.

"When strangers reside with you in your land, you shall not wrong them. The strangers who reside with you shall be to you as your citizens; you shall love each one as yourself, for you were strangers in the land of Egypt." Leviticus 19:33-34

"So the Bible reminds us as we celebrate Passover. We look back to the persecution and enslavement of the Jews in Egypt, and remember their flight to freedom. We are urged to reflect on what it means to be a stranger, and recommit to welcoming and caring for the strangers in our midst.

"Let's remember that we, as Americans, were once strangers in this land, and not so long ago. Let's remember that our forebears took risks to come to unknown shores. For me, the Passover story is a story about human rights, about the intrinsic right of every person to flee harm at the hands of an oppressor – and about the fundamental responsibility each of us has to see those from another land not as "aliens," but as human beings worthy of our concern, compassion, respect, and love.

"Last year, New York City saw a huge influx of buses arriving at the Port Authority carrying thousands of immigrants shipped like cargo on the orders of Texas Governor Greg Abbott. (Surely a new low in ruthlessly exploiting human suffering for political gain.) I have been one of many volunteers on site to welcome these strangers to our city. The location has become a hub where immigrants, who after they arrive often end up living in city-run shelters, come looking for food, clothing, and services. And what they want more than anything is jobs.

"The volunteers have been extraordinary. They have donated more clothing than is possible to imagine, are engaging houses of worship in the shelter effort, and are now signing up additional volunteers to do even more. . . . As a lifelong New Yorker, I can say with confidence that the Port Authority Bus Terminal is on nobody's list of great travel destinations. But as I think about the meaning of Passover, about the lessons it has to teach us about freedom and the moral obligation that every Jew and non-Jew shares to do right by strangers, this maligned New York City location feels sacred. It has become a beacon for the strangers among us – a place to get clothing, a cup of coffee or something to eat, and a helping hand from people who see new arrivals and do not look away. . . . good people find a way – and sometimes in the most unlikely places," writes Messinger.

### *Migrants in Westchester Continued from pg 1-*

"New York City, a long time ago, made a decision they wanted to be a sanctuary city and now they're struggling to deal with this issue and are trying to push it on to many of our counties," said Assembly Minority Leader Will Barclay.

Republican Assemblyman Matt Slater, from Yorktown, said, "This needs to be a wake-up call for New York state and New York City that their purely political and misguided policies are acting as a magnet that has brought the crisis at the southern border right to our front yards. Now with Homeland Security Secretary Mayorkas releasing migrants on their honor, with no court date or process in place, New York must take the necessary actions to register and track those who have crossed the border illegally to ensure our communities are protected and they do not fall through the cracks of our broken system."

"We were not prepared for this," said Republican State Senate Minority Leader Rob Ort said in Albany Wednesday. "I call on the president and [Adams] to come up with a real plan and be honest with New Yorkers about who's going to be displaced, who's going to pay for it. What's it going to cost New Yorkers — the ones who pay the bill?"

Westchester State Senate Majority Leader Andrea Stewart-Cousins said, "The federal government needs to be better partners in this situation. There has to be more interaction and more collaboration on the federal level — all of us have to be able to work together to deal with this crisis."

Putnam County Executive Kevin Byrne declared a state of emergency in an effort to try to keep NYC from moving migrants into Putnam County hotels or other locations. Putnam County now joins Rockland, Orange and Sullivan counties who have declared similar emergencies.

"The purpose of these executive orders is to give the county the ability to preserve residents' rights, protect their well-being, and enforce county established laws and codes, in the wake of what has clearly become a disorganized, muddied operation by New York City officials," said Byrne. "New York City continues to rely on its poorly planned operations which set the stage to overburden and place significant hardship on communities in the Hudson Valley and further upstate," said Byrne.

Governor Kathy Hochul has ordered SUNY campuses to review their available space, and vacant colleges, like the old College of New Rochelle, are also possible migrant locations.

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## DiNapoli Comments on State Budget Passage

NYS Comptroller Tom DiNapoli recently commented on the recently adopted NYS Budget for 2023-24.

“The \$229 billion Enacted Budget for State Fiscal Year (SFY) 2023-24 includes new recurring spending for schools, mental health services, and health care, as well as resources for the Metropolitan Transportation Authority (MTA) and for emergency rental assistance. Preliminary estimates show All Funds spending will grow nearly 4% year-over-year amid a projected drop in revenues and as temporary federal aid is spent down, according to an analysis by State Comptroller Thomas P. DiNapoli.

“Earlier in the week, DiNapoli reported that state tax collections in April totaled just over \$10.9 billion, a \$7.2 billion, or 39.9%, decrease from last April, and \$4.4 billion lower than projections in the Division of the Budget’s (DOB) 2024 Updated Executive Budget Financial Plan, the most recent plan available. The decline was primarily in the Personal Income Tax (PIT).

“The Enacted State Budget funds critical services, including fully funding Foundation Aid for our schools, programs to help New Yorkers that are still struggling in our post-pandemic world and stabilizing the MTA after massive ridership declines,” DiNapoli said. “It also comes at a time when revenues appear to be softening, inflation persists, and the federal government has yet to reach a deal on the debt ceiling. The state has made progress in building up reserve funds, but policymakers need to carefully monitor the economy and work to put the state on a sustainable fiscal course.”

### Decline in Projected Revenues

“Based upon DOB’s most recent Financial Plan projections, as well as Executive and legislative estimates associated with changes included in the Enacted Budget, All Funds revenues for SFY 2023-24 are projected to be almost \$9.2 billion, or 3.9%, lower than SFY 2022-23. These declines include a forecasted reduction in tax receipts of \$3.5 billion, or 3.2%. This follows a decrease in tax revenues of 7.8% in SFY 2022-23. Lower collections were primarily concentrated in the PIT reflecting an estimated 26% decline in Wall Street bonuses, the volatility in the financial markets and its impact on estimated payments throughout the year, as well as the tax credits claimed for the first year of the Pass-Through Entity Tax.”

## Affordable Health Screenings Coming to Yonkers May 31

Residents living in and around the Yonkers, New York can learn about their risk for cardiovascular disease, osteoporosis, diabetes, and other chronic, serious conditions with affordable screenings by Life Line Screening. Courtyard by Marriott Yonkers will host this community event on 5/31/2023. The site is located at 5 Executive Blvd in Yonkers.

Screenings can check for:

- The level of plaque buildup in your arteries, related to risk for cardiovascular disease, stroke and overall vascular health.
- Narrowing of the smaller arteries of your ankles and feet, called Peripheral Arterial Disease
- HDL and LDL Cholesterol levels
- Bone density as a risk for possible osteoporosis

Screenings are affordable and convenient. Free parking is also available.

Special package pricing starts at \$159, but consultants will work with you to create a package that is right for you based on your age and risk factors. Call 1-877-237-1287 or visit our website at [www.lifelinescreening.com](http://www.lifelinescreening.com). Pre-registration is require

### Republican Hispanic Outreach Continued from pg 1-

Sleepy Hollow, Tarrytown, Mount Kisco, and across #NY17 — we welcome you, we want you to be part of the Republican Party, we want you to be able to succeed and achieve your dreams, your hopes, your vision for your future and that of your families, and we want you to have all of the economic opportunities America has to offer,” said Lawler.

NY GOP Chair Ed Cox was also in attendance, as were Assemblyman Matt Slater and County Legislator James Nolan. Together with Lawler, Slater and Nolan make up the only three elected republicans in county, state, and federal office from Westchester County. Former Westchester County Executive Rob Astorino was also in attendance.

The presence of RNC Chair McDaniel is proof of how important Lawler’s reelection is to the GOP. Republicans hold a narrow 5 seat majority in the House. The Hispanic Community Center is located at 2050 East. Main Street, Cortlandt. McDaniel told reporters that this is the earliest that the RNC has opened an outreach center, with many upcoming events coming. “they’re going to know that the Republican Party is their home and Mike Lawler should remain their congressman,” McDaniel said.

NYGOP Chair Ed Cox said that republicans will need all the help they can get next year, 2024, a Presidential year that usually, “in blue states a lot of Democrats show up, so it’s going to be a hard fight.” Cox predicted that democrats could spend up to \$50 Million to win back the 17th CD.

## Mt. Vernon Man Indicted for Murder of Tamani Turner:

### Attempted to Destroy Evidence and Flee to Jamaica



Tamani Turner

Westchester County District Attorney Miriam E. Rocah announced that a Mount Vernon man was arraigned on an indictment charging him with the April 2023 murder of 18-year-old Tamani Turner in Mount Vernon.

DA Rocah said: “Another young life has been tragically lost because of an alleged merciless act of gun violence. Thanks to the swift action of our law enforcement partners, we can now work to secure justice for Tamani Turner, his family and the Mount Vernon community.”

A Westchester County Grand Jury indicted Akeem Grant, 33, for Murder in the Second Degree, Criminal Possession of a Weapon in the Second Degree, Arson in the Third Degree, and Tampering with Physical Evidence, all felonies. The defendant was arraigned before Judge Maurice D. Williams in Westchester County Court on May 18, 2023, and remanded. The defendant also has a pending animal abuse case in Mount Vernon City Court.

On April 6, 2023, at approximately 12:35 p.m., the defendant, while sitting in his car, allegedly shot the victim two times in the torso while he was standing on the passenger side of the parked car on Garden Avenue in Mount Vernon. The victim was transported to Montefiore New Rochelle Hospital and then Jacobi Medical Center in the Bronx, where he underwent emergency surgery, but ultimately died. It is further alleged the defendant set fire to his car in the Bronx, in order to destroy evidence.

The defendant was arrested at the Philadelphia International Airport attempting to board a plane to Jamaica on April 7, 2023. The investigation was conducted by the Mount Vernon Police Department and the FBI’s Westchester Safe Streets Task Force.

The case is before Judge Anne Minihan in Westchester County Court, and is being prosecuted by Major Case Bureau Chief Nadine Nagler and Assistant District Attorney Timothy O’Hara, both of the Trials and Investigations Division.

The charges against the defendant are merely an accusation, and the defendant is presumed innocent unless and until proven guilty.

## Mount Vernon Man Sentenced to 25 Years to Life for Murder; Fled to New Jersey for 3 Months

### Defendant shot victim five times following verbal dispute; multi-agency investigation led to arrest in New Jersey three months after defendant fled

Westchester County District Attorney Miriam E. Rocah announced today that a Mount Vernon man was sentenced to 25 years to life in state prison for the murder of 28-year-old Mount Vernon resident Kashawn Smith.

DA Rocah said: “Today, we have secured justice for Kashawn Smith and accountability for this defendant’s callous and violent crime.”

After a three-week trial, a jury on February 7, 2023, found John Bobbitt, 45, guilty of Murder in the Second Degree and Criminal Possession of a Weapon in the Second Degree, both felonies.

On April 28, 2020, at approximately 10 p.m., following a verbal dispute with the victim, whom he knew, the defendant used a .380 caliber semi-automatic pistol to shoot the victim five times, striking him in the head, chest, torso and back, on Millington Street in Mount Vernon. The victim was transported to Montefiore Mount Vernon Hospital, where he was pronounced dead.

The defendant was located and apprehended at a relative’s home in Newark, New Jersey, on July 13, 2020, following an investigation by the Mount Vernon Police Department, the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms, the Newark Police Department, the Westchester County District Attorney’s Office and the Essex County Prosecutor’s Office. After his arrest, the defendant was returned to New York.

The case was before Judge Robert Neary in Westchester County Court, and was prosecuted by Homicide Bureau Chief Lana Hochheiser and Bureau Chief Daniel Flecha, both of the Trials and Investigations Division.

what day and relative of councilman.

### Playland, continued from pg 1-

New Dining Experiences with Panoramic Waterfront Views – The NEW Tiki Beach is an upscale eatery with indoor and outdoor seating, as well as picturesque views of the Long Island Sound. In addition, Captain Lawrence Beer Garden is a more casual space adjacent to Tiki Beach with outdoor seating to enjoy a few brews. Come visit and taste the whipped ricotta cheese with honey and truffle sauce. Evening entertainment will also be available for a scenic al fresco dining experience.

The 2023 Day Pass is \$39.99, while the Day Pass for Westchester County residents is \$29.99. The 2023 Season Pass includes access to all rides and is available at \$109.99, while the Westchester County Resident 2023 Season Pass is \$99.99 with proof of residency. For more information and a calendar of events, visit [www.playland.com](http://www.playland.com).

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Notice of Formation of CR8TIONZ, LLC. Arts. of Org. filed with SSNY on 2/21/23. Office location: Westchester County. REPUBLIC REGISTERED AGENT SERVICES INC. designated as agent of LLC upon whom process may be served. SSNY shall mail process to 1434 Western Ave, Suite 1 #7811 Albany, NY 12203 . Purpose: any lawful act or activity.

Notice of formation of Cake Bar By Charlene, LLC. Arts. Of Org. filed with the SSNY on 02/08/2023. Office: Westchester County. SSNY designated as agent of the LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail copy of process to the LLC, 1 Glenwood avenue, 18E, Yonkers, NY 10701. Purpose: Any lawful activity.

Notice of formation of R.O.S.Y. LLC. filed with the SSNY EIN on 2/22/2023. Office: Westchester County. SSNY designated as agent of the LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail copy of process to the LLC, 2803 Larkspur Street, Yorktown Hts, NY 10598. Purpose: Real Estate

Notice of Formation of Hatter Luxury Eyewear LLC filed with New York State Department of State on March 11, 2023, Office location: Westchester County. United States Corporation Agents, Inc. is designated as the agent of LLC upon whom process may be served. SSNY shall mail process to 7014 13th Avenue, Suite 202, Brooklyn, NY 11228. Purpose: any lawful act or activity.

Notice of Formation of ATSOLO HOLDINGS, LLC. Arts. of Org. filed with SSNY on 1/13/23. Office location: Westchester County. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process may be served. SSNY shall mail process to The Law Office of Adrian T. Solomon, Esq., 2585 Broadway Suite 235, New York 10027. Purpose: any lawful act or activity.

Notice of Formation of THE BOSS BAR & RESTAURANT, LLC. Arts. of Org. filed with SSNY on 1/13/23. Office location: Westchester County. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process may be served. SSNY shall mail process to The Law Office of Adrian T. Solomon, Esq., 2585 Broadway Suite 235, New York 10027. Purpose: any lawful act or activity.

Notice of Formation of LIVE LONG LIVE STRONG FITNESS LLC. Arts. of Org. filed with SSNY on 11/07/22. Office location: Westchester. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process may be served. SSNY shall mail process to the LLC, 33 Sherwood Ave, apt. 3w, Yonkers, NY 10704. Purpose: any lawful act or activity.

Notice of formation of Peek Holdings LLC. Arts. of Org. filed with the SSNY on 4/8/2023. Office: Westchester County. SSNY designated as agent of the LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail copy of process to the LLC, 43 Nob Ct, New Rochelle, NY 10804. Purpose: Any lawful activity.

Notice of formation of Thornwood Books LLC. Arts. of Org filed with the SSNY on 02/25/2023. Office: Westchester County. U.S. Corp. Agents, Inc. designated as agent of the LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail copy of process to U.S. Corp. Agents, Inc, 7014 13th Ave Suite 202 Brooklyn, NY 11228. Purpose: Any lawful purpose.

Auto Donations

**Classifieds**

Auto Donations

Drive Out Breast Cancer: Donate a car today! The benefits of donating your car or boat: Fast Free Pickup - 24hr Response Tax Deduction - Easy To Do! Call 24/7: 855-905-4755

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Motives Thru Fabric LLC. Filed with Angel Luis Morales III. Office: Westchester County. Angel Luis Morales III designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. Angel Luis Morales III Shall mail a copy of process to the LLC, 35 Montague Street, Yonkers, NY 10703. Purpose: Any lawful activity.

Notice of Formation of Kate Klostet LLC. Arts. of Org. filed with SSNY on 02/21/2023. Office location: Westchester County. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process may be served. SSNY shall mail process to 27 Brook Street, Croton on Hudson, New York, 10520. Purpose: any lawful act or activity.

Notice of Formation of AADNYS TECHNOLOGIES LLC. Art. of Org. filed with the SSNY on 01/30/2023. Office: Westchester County. SSNY designated as agent of the LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail copy of process to the LLC, 6 Lewiston Ct, Briarcliff Manor NY, 10510. Purpose: Any lawful activity.

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**Harckham, Levenberg Bill to Stop Radiological Wastewater Discharge into the Hudson Advances**

**Legislation aimed at protecting the economic vitality of Hudson River businesses and communities**

New York State Senator Pete Harckham and Assemblywoman Dana Levenberg announced today that the legislation (S.6893/A.7208) they introduced to protect the Hudson Valley from the adverse and substantial economic impact resulting from the disposal of radiological agents by decommissioning nuclear power plants has passed through the Environmental Conservation Committee of both houses of the New York State Legislature.

The bill addresses the interests of communities along the Hudson River, which are highly concerned that radiological substances put into the river as part of the decommissioning process will have both short- and long-term effects on local real estate values and economic development.

“We have to protect the economic vitality of the communities alongside the Hudson River, which is the backbone of the region, every which way we can—this means being hyper-vigilant about any actions that could cause home and business owners to suffer economic distress,” said Harckham. “The best way to protect the economic interests along the river is to keep this important natural resource as free from contaminants as possible.”

“Today’s consumers have more information at their fingertips than ever before, which is one reason why there is so much public outcry about the potential for renewed radiological discharges into the Hudson River,” said Levenberg. “People are more aware of what is happening around them now. They will surely factor in this information while making decisions about where to swim, sail, dine and so much more. We need to further tighten up our rules about what we allow to be discharged into our rivers and when, so we can be sure we are doing all we can to protect our local economy.”

Discharging radiological material from nuclear power plants into this important and treasured water waterway poses a multitude of problematic possibilities, including severe economic consequences, to the vested economic interests in the riverfront communities and beyond. Communities along the Hudson River remain concerned with the economic impacts on local real estate values and future development that could arise because of discharging nuclear waste from the decommissioning process, especially considering that these impacts are no longer “balanced” by economic benefits to those communities provided during the operation of the plant.

Notice of formation of Kalehoff Creative, LLC. Arts. of Org. filed with the SSNY on 10/30/2021. Office: Westchester County. SSNY designated as agent of the LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail copy of process to the LLC, 520 Pelhamdale Avenue, Pelham, NY 10803. Purpose: Any lawful activity.

Notice of Formation of Lee Lux Co, LLC. Arts of Org. filed with the SSNY on 2/14/2023. Office location: Westchester County. SSNY designated as an agent of the LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail copy of process to the LLC, 41 State Street, Suite 112, Albany, New York 12207. Purpose: any lawful act or activity.

NOTICE OF SERVICE BY PUBLICATION  
STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA  
MECKLENBURG COUNTY  
IN THE GENERAL COURT OF JUSTICE  
DISTRICT COURT DIVISION

Robin Garcia Martinez v. Keyci Gomez

23-CVD-4095

Attention “KEYCI GOMEZ”

Take notice that a pleading seeking relief against you has been filed in the above-entitled action. The nature of the relief being sought is as follows: Child Custody. You are required to make defense to such pleading no later than June 28, 2023, and upon your failure to do so the party seeking service against you will apply to the court for the relief sought.

This the 16st day of May 2023.

Christine L. Camacho  
Sussman Law Firm, PLLC  
9916 Monroe Road Charlotte, NC 28270  
Ph# (980) 598-8180

**Administrative Opening**  
**Monticello Central School**  
**Assistant Secondary Principal**  
The successful candidate should possess:  
Knowledge of research-based instructional programs & practices; exp. of teacher supervision & evaluation; a record of successfully improving learning experiences and enhancing school to home communication; and can provide a supportive environment with knowledge of social-emotional competencies, restorative practices, and promote a culturally responsive educational climate.  
Salary Range: \$85,000 to \$105,000  
NYS SDA/SAS/SBL Certification Required plus 3 yrs. exp. as a classroom teacher preferred.  
Please apply online by June 15th at <https://monticelloschools.tedk12.com/hire> or OLAS EOE

**Administrative Opening**  
**Monticello Central School**  
**High School Principal**  
The Monticello CSD is seeking forward thinking and dynamic School Building Principal who can lead MCSD’s highly engaged faculty, staff, parents, students, and community. The successful candidate will have a vision of educational excellence, be highly motivated, and demonstrates an ability to impact student learning.  
Starting Salary: \$150,000  
NYS SDA/SAS/SBL Certification Required plus 2 yrs. of previous administrative leadership and 3 yrs. exp as a classroom teacher preferred.  
Please apply online by June 15th at <https://monticelloschools.tedk12.com/hire> or OLAS EOE

**Administrative Opening**  
**Monticello Central School**  
**Assistant Elementary Principal**  
The successful candidate should possess:  
Knowledge of research-based instructional programs & practices; exp. of teacher supervision & evaluation; a record of successfully improving learning experiences and enhancing school to home communication; and can provide a supportive environment with knowledge of social-emotional competencies, restorative practices, and promote a culturally responsive educational climate.  
Salary Range: \$85,000 to \$105,000  
NYS SDA/SAS/SBL Certification Required plus 3 yrs. exp. as a classroom teacher preferred.  
Please apply online by June 15th at <https://monticelloschools.tedk12.com/hire> or OLAS EOE

**Iona Prep Celebrates 104th Commencement**



**Gregory Johnston, left and Allesandro Adornetto**

Iona Preparatory’s Upper School will graduate 163 young men during its 104th Commencement Exercises on Thursday, May 25 at 11AM, at its ancestral home of Iona University.

Robert H. McCooley, Jr., Class of 1983 and a Rye, N.Y., resident, will serve as the keynote speaker and 2023 Alumni Award Winner. The 2018 Iona Prep Hall of Famer and father of three Gaels Robert was the Alumni Association president from 1997 - 1999. Two years later he was appointed to the Iona Prep Board of Directors and served our school for a remarkable 12 years. He is a former board member of the New York Stock Exchange, NYSE Foundation, the Securities Industry Automation Corporation, and the National Organization of Investment Professionals. He currently serves as a Board Member at St. Vincent’s Hospital, Westchester, and for Youth INC.

Today, Robert is Vice Chairman of Nasdaq, responsible for leading business development for new listings in both Latin America and Asia Pacific, as well as overseeing relationship management with companies throughout their corporate lifecycle. Prior to joining Nasdaq in 2006, Robert founded and served as the Chief Executive Officer of The Griswold Company brokerage firm.

The roughly 90-minute ceremony will feature valedictory and salutatory addresses from Gregory Johnston, 17, of New Rochelle, and Alessandro Caio Adornetto, 17, of Yonkers, respectively.

A Peer Minister and member of the Leadership Committee, Johnston graduates with a 100.41 GPA. He was president of the Bring Change To Mind Club, co-president of the Biology Club and a singles player on the tennis team. Gregory will be attending the University of South Carolina Honors College this fall, majoring in biological sciences on the pre-med track with plans to become a physician. Caio Adornetto has maintained a 100.21 GPA over seven Advanced Placement and eight Honors classes. He is the president of National Honor Society and a member of the National Science Honor Society and National Italian Honor Society, as well as an AP Scholar. Caio Adornetto is also the president of the Chemistry Club, vice president of the STEM Club and the Fratelli d’Italia secretary. He has authored and self-published an introductory book on theoretical physics and is a member of the three-year Science Research Program, studying Brownian particle self-assembly. Caio Adornetto will attend the University of Pennsylvania in the fall.

Collectively, the Class of 2023 has amassed more than \$35 million in academic scholarships, with more than 82 percent of the graduates receiving merit-based awards averaging \$60,000 per scholarship – meaning an Iona Preparatory education all but pays for itself. Over the last 10 years, graduating classes have earned nearly a quarter of a billion in scholarship.

**County Legislator Christopher Johnson’s Residency Challenged; Williams Wants Inquiry**



**County Legislator Christopher Johnson, with wife Tai and son Joshua**

By Dan Murphy

LoHud.com investigative reporter David Mackay Wilson’s recently uncovered the fact that County Legislator Christopher Johnson lives in a \$770,000 home that is outside the 16th District that he represents in Northwest Yonkers.

Wilson also reported that Johnson maintains ownership in a subsidized condo that he purchased on North Broadway under the Yonkers Affordable Housing Program 10 years ago. While Johnson maintains that he resides in both residences, Wilson was able to uncover the fact that he is living most of the time in the home on Rose Hill Terrace with his wife Tai and son.

Johnson’s opponent for county board, City Councilwoman Shanae Williams, sent letters to the US Attorney and NYS Attorney General calling for an investigation to determine if Johnson committed fraud when he signed mortgage documents for the new home, while maintaining ownership of the affordable condo that is currently occupied by his brother and law and girlfriend.

Mr. Johnson’s condo at 421 North Broadway is a unit that was purchased by him under the City of Yonkers’ Affordable Housing Program, which was funded by Federal dollars, in 2010. Each year he is required to sign an occupancy declaration swearing that he is the primary residence of the unit. On May 31, 2022 he signed that declaration and subsequently closed on his new house in District 15 on June 10, 2022. To purchase the new home at 34 Rosehill Terrace using a Federal Housing Administration loan, he signed a document stating that his primary residence will be 34 Rosehill Terrace in order to qualify for the loan with favorable financing conditions.

“While there is a housing shortage and affordable housing crisis facing our nation, it is troubling to see County Legislator Johnson allege two residences to try to fool Federal Housing programs. He lied on official documents when he alleged both 421 North Broadway and 34 Rosehill Terrace to be his primary residence,” states Candidate Shanae Williams. “We need to have faith in our elected officials to have integrity and it is evidently clear that Johnson’s fraudulent activities warrant a full investigation.”

If and when Johnson sells the condo, it would be offered to a list of affordable housing applicants in Yonkers.

Johnson also has issues with his Board of Legislators post. The County Charter states: “Each county legislator shall be an elector of the county and a resident of the district from which he is elected. A county legislator who ceases to be a resident of such district from which he is elected shall forfeit his office and the same shall be deemed vacant.”

Williams has called on the Board of Legislators to remove Johnson, who moved into his Rose Hill Terrace home in 2022. Wilson’s reporting found that while Johnson maintains he occasionally resides in the North Broadway condo, a women at the residence told Wilson, “Chris does not live there” anymore, while neighbors confirm he resides on Rose Hill Terrace, which is currently outside the 16th District, until the newly drawn lines go into effect on Jan. 1, 2024. “The County Board of Legislators must abide by the County Charter and remove Johnson from the Board for abandoning the district that he was elected to represent,” said Williams

Yonkers Inspector General Liam McLaughlin told Wilson and the Journal News that his office would also be looking into the matter.

Johnson posted a Facebook video on May 24 in which he stated, “this is politics at its worst, politics at its ugliest.” Johnson criticized IG McLaughlin and the harassment against members of his family. “When I purchased the condo in 2010 I was making \$53,000 per year...If you want to keep talking about my family, you stop now.”

Johnson’s wife Tai, works for NY Attorney General Letitia James.

*Eric Schoen, continued from pg 3-*

Don’t think that if you move to Florida it will be easy to get into the top high schools and colleges. The migration south from Northerners has put top Florida schools in high demand.

Another brilliant idea from Congressman Bowman. House migrants in college dorms. During the summer these dorms are prepped For the coming school year. They are empty for less than 3 months. What happens when summer is over. Do they really think they are going to have permanent housing for the migrants by then. Doubt it.

And the Yonkers Mayoral Primary Campaign has begun. Spano signs all over Yonkers. The first piece of literature from Spano features former President Barack Obama praising the Yonkers My Brother’s Keeper Campaign. It’s going to be interesting what support Spano gets from traditionally liberal unions. Could this be another Eliot Engel upset. My bet today is that it is not!

**Listen to Eric Schoen on the Westchester Rising Radio Show Thursday’s from 10-11 a.m. On WVOX 1460 AM, go to WVOX.com and click the arrow to listen to the live stream or download the WVOX app from the App Store free of charge. Reach him at thistooisyonkers@aol.com.**

# Westchester County Youth Leadership Taskforce Honored



County Executive George Latimer recently honored a group of students from across Westchester who have worked throughout the school year to prevent substance abuse among their peers. The Westchester County Youth Leadership Taskforce consists of 60 students from 26 schools. These student leaders work in their schools and home communities to identify the needs of local youths and implement strategies to encourage them to make healthy choices.

“I applaud these students for the care and concern they have for their classmates and for their efforts to encourage all young people to live healthy lives,” Latimer said. “The work that we do on behalf of our County’s youth is stronger because of their input and contributions.”

About 30 students recently attended the taskforce’s last meeting of this school year, which was held at the Michaelian County office Building in White Plains. Latimer heard their perspectives on teen vaping, alcohol use, marijuana use and other substance abuse issues.

The Youth Leadership Taskforce is part of the Westchester Coalition for Drug and Alcohol Free Youth and is coordinated by Student Assistance Services in conjunction with the County’s Office of Drug Prevention and STOP-DWI. The taskforce is charged with contributing ideas for countywide substance use prevention strategies and implementing those strategies in members’ schools and local communities.

“We thank and honor our student leaders for their commitment to be positive influencers for their peers and make a difference in the County and their local communities. Their message to remain drug free and make healthy choices helps to foster physical and emotional well-being among their fellow students,” said Patricia McCarthy Tomassi, director of the Office of Drug Prevention and STOP-DWI.

A main focus for the youth taskforce this year was a ‘marijuana awareness campaign’ that was targeted for release around April 20. While that date has been associated with using marijuana, many schools designate it as “Healthy Brain Day” to remind students of the health risks of marijuana use by youth.

The taskforce is also part of the Westchester County Coalition for Drug and Alcohol Free Youth - the “umbrella” coalition for the approximately 25 local community substance use prevention coalitions in the County.

## **TOWN OF EASTCHESTER PUBLIC AUCTION OF IN REM PROPERTY**

June 15, 2023

Registration opens at 1:00 p.m.

Auction to commence promptly at 2:00 p.m.

Town of Eastchester Town Court

40 Mill Road, Eastchester, New York 10709

***73 BELLA VISTA STREET, TUCKAHOE, NY 10707***



Two-story colonial with three bedrooms, eat-in kitchen, dining room, living room with a fireplace, patio/deck and one-car garage.

**Opening Bid: \$ 375,000.00**