

Domestic Violence Murder in Yorktown 2nd in Area in Three weeks



Geraldine Krecmer, left, was killed by Salvatore Ciniglio



A second domestic violence murder in Northern Westchester has the Yorktown-Somers communities wondering why.

On Nov. 9, Yorktown Police received a call of a shooting at the Coach n Four Apartments on East Main Street, Jefferson Valley. Residents heard gunshots at 930PM.

Upon arrival, Yorktown Police found 63-year-old Geraldine Krecmer dead from a gunshot wound. The shooter fled the scene before the police arrived. A shelter-in-place order was issued for the communities near the apartment complex, located near the DeCicco's shopping plaza in Jefferson Valley.

Police were quickly able to identify the shooter as Salvatore Ciniglio, 51, with no address (homeless).

Ciniglio was involved in an estranged relationship with Krecmer's daughter, and the two have a child.

Police departments across Westchester, and the NYPD, searched for the vehicle that Ciniglio was said to be driving.

Thanks to video surveillance on most major roadways, the vehicle was found

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Homeotwn Hero & Olympic Gold Medalist Kate Douglass to Visit Pelham Picture House Nov. 19



Olympic medalist and hometown hero Kate Douglass will visit The Picture House Pelham on Tuesday, November 19th, from 5:00 to 6:30 PM, for an exciting evening celebrating her remarkable swimming achievements in the Paris Olympics 2024. Fans and community members are invited to join in as Douglass relives her most thrilling Olympic moments, followed by an engaging conversation, a signing session, and special giveaways. Tickets are FREE but reservations are required.

This exclusive visit comes after The Picture House hosted standing-room-only viewing parties in July and August, where the Pelham community gathered to cheer on their local legend as she competed on the Olympic stage. The energy and enthusiasm from these events highlighted the community's deep support for Douglass, making this upcoming event a heartfelt reunion. "Following our amazing viewing parties during her Olympic run, we are thrilled to welcome Kate to The Picture House and reunite her fans and supporters once again," said Clayton Bushong, Executive Director of The Picture House Regional Film Center.

Douglass also expressed her gratitude, "The support I've received from Pelham has been incredible, and I'm so thankful for it. I'm excited to stop by The Picture House to say thanks in person and share this experience with everyone who's cheered me on along the way."

The event is generously sponsored by Kristin Bischoff at Julia B. Fee Sotheby's International Realty.

Event Details: Special highlight viewing, conversation, and signing session with Olympic Medalist Kate Douglass at The Picture House Pelham, 175 Wolfs Lane, Pelham. Tickets are FREE but limited to four per person. Reserve today at <https://www.thepicturehouse.org/movie/kate-douglass-watch-party-qa-and-signing/>

Latimer Presents Sixth County Budget in a Row with 0% Tax Levy Increase



L-R—Deputy County Exec. Ken Jenkins, County Exec George Latimer, Chairman of the Board Vedat Gashi, Legis. Jewel Williams-Johnson, Legis. Terry Clements

Westchester County Executive George Latimer presented his seventh budget proposal to the Westchester County Board of Legislators, unveiling a \$2.5 billion plan that prioritizes vital services for County residents, while upholding fiscal responsibility. The 2025 Proposed County Operating Budget maintains the same tax levy as 2024 for the County General Fund, marking the sixth consecutive year without an increase.

Latimer said: "The proposed 2025 budget reflects our dedication to responsible financial management while maintaining freezing tax rates for the last six budgets. This budget prioritizes key areas such as public safety, emergency pre

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Different Views on the Westchester Immigrant Protection Act, IPA

By Dan Murphy

In the final days of Election 2024, Fernando Jimenez, 40, was arrested and charged with the murder of 15-year-old Michael Raimondi in Somers. Jimenez shot Michael, Matthew (13), and Christina Raimondi, his former girlfriend, in their apartment.

According to ICE, Jimenez was an illegal immigrant in the country. "Fernando Andres Jimenez Meza is a 40-year-old unlawfully present citizen of Chile who entered the United States on an unknown date and location without inspection, admission, or parole by an immigration official. U.S. Border Patrol encountered him at or near Tecate, Calif., on Aug. 11, 2004. During this encounter, he claimed to be Erik Melendez-Arellano from Mexico, after which he was voluntarily returned to Mexico. Jimenez unlawfully reentered the United States at some point after that encounter.

"ERO New York City lodged an immigration detainer with Westchester County Jail, Oct. 30, where Jimenez is currently being held on local charges. Regardless of nationality, ICE makes custody determinations on a case-by-

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Could George Latimer Have Defeated Mike Lawler?



By James Vespe

As the Democratic Party laments the loss of a Congressional seat in a district with thousands more voters registered as Democrats than Republicans, it should probably wonder if it succumbed to a failing displayed by the Republican party two years ago: Choosing star power...with baggage...over substance, without it.

In the Republican party's case, it was nominating TV doctor Mehmet Oz and football star Herschel Walker for Senate seats in Pennsylvania and Georgia. In New York it may have been nominating Mondaire Jones for the Congressional seat held by Mike Lawler.

Yes, Mondaire Jones already served in Congress, achieved national recognition as one of its first members who was both Black and gay, and graduated from two of the finest schools in America, Stanford University and Harvard Law School.

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NY Attorney General James' Office to Host Gun Buyback Event in Peekskill Nov. 16

A prior gun buyback by NYAG James' office

On Saturday, November 16th, from 10:00 AM – 1:00 PM, New York Attorney General Letitia James and the New York State Police, Peekskill Police Department, Westchester District Attorney's Office, and the Peekskill chapter of the NAACP will host a community gun buyback event at the United Methodist Church of Peekskill in Peekskill, located at 1040 Main Street, Peekskill NY 10566.

This event is part of Attorney General James' ongoing effort to help protect New York communities from gun violence and to keep families safe. The Office of the Attorney General (OAG) accepts – with no questions asked – working and non-working unloaded firearms in exchange for compensation on site. The OAG provides money in the form of prepaid gift cards when a gun is received and secured by law enforcement officers on site.

The OAG will be providing the following amount for firearms turned in on site:

- \$500 per assault rifle
- \$250 per handgun
- \$75 per rifle or shotgun
- \$25 per non-working, replica, antique, homemade, or 3D printed gun
- *Anyone bringing homemade or 3D printed guns will be paid a total of \$25, regardless of how many are turned in.

The guns must be transported to the drop-off site unloaded, in the trunk of the vehicle, in a plastic or paper bag, or box. This is an amnesty program, in which no questions will be asked about the person dropping off the gun. If the person is surrendering firearms that must be removed from a permit, an ID and a pistol, rifle, or shotgun permit must be presented.

If you require an accommodation to participate in a program, service, or activity of our office, please contact our ADA Administrator at ADA.administrator@ag.ny.gov, preferably 48 hours before the event.

WESTCHESTER COUNTY URGES RESIDENTS TO CONSERVE WATER AS DROUGHT WATCH CONTINUES

Westchester County Encourages Voluntary Water Conservation From Residents as Drought Watch Continues

New York City issued a Drought Watch that affects Westchester County water supplies. As part of the Drought Watch, Westchester County residents are asked by the County's Department of Environmental Facilities to practice water conservation measures. Additional notifications will be made should the Drought Watch escalate to a Drought Warning or Drought Emergency.

To support water conservation, the County recommends that residents:

- Limit lawn and garden watering to early morning or evening hours to minimize evaporation
- Check and fix leaks in plumbing, faucets, and hoses
- Run dishwashers and laundry machines only with full loads
- Avoid washing vehicles or hosing down sidewalks

Residents can visit the following sites for drought conservation measures:
 Water Saving Tips - DEP
 WaterSense | US EPA

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Second Arrest Made by SPCA Westchester of Penny Berk, Founder of Rescue Right/Owner of Northwind Kennels in Bedford



Felix and Nellie had to be euthanized



SPCA Westchester announced today that their Humane Law Enforcement Unit (HLE), under the direction of Ernest Lungaro, arrested Penny Berk of Bedford, NY for a second time and have charged her with two additional counts of animal cruelty, totaling 7 counts to date.

On October 4, 2023 SPCA Westchester officials observed two Cattle Dog/Australian Shepherd mixes in distress and displaying severe symptoms of the Distemper Virus while in Ms. Berk's care. The two mixes, named Felix and Nelly (formally Sasha) were coughing and having difficulty breathing. They were also lethargic and had visible nasal discharges. Felix and Nelly were brought to a local animal hospital where they were diagnosed with the Distemper Virus and had to be euthanized as their condition had deteriorated to the point that they could not be saved. No records could be produced by Ms. Berk showing that either dog had received veterinary care. It appears that Felix and Nelly entered Rescue Right on or before April 30, 2023.

Ms. Berk was also arrested by SPCA Westchester officials and charged with 5 counts of animal cruelty this past July when five Bernese Mountain Dogs were discovered in critical condition at Rescue Right while suffering with the Distemper Virus after being denied veterinary care. It is important to note that the Distemper Virus is highly preventable with proper vaccinations and timely medical treatment. Felix and Nelly, like the 5 Bernese Mountain Dogs, were neglected for too long by Ms. Berk. They suffered and never truly had a chance.

Ms. Berk's next court appearance is set for January 6th at the Mount Kisco Justice Court. If you witness or suspect an animal is being abused or neglected, please call the SPCA's Cruelty Hotline at (914) 941-7797.



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For more information, call me at 914-793-5654 or email me at thasnyder1@verizon.net.

Yonkers City Council Considers Public Mask Ban

The Yonkers City Council is reviewing a proposed law which would amend the City Code to restrict “WEARING A MASK, HOOD, OR OTHER DEVICE ON PUBLIC PROPERTY”

The Council has not yet voted on this item. It is currently in the Legislation & Codes Committee Chaired by Majority Whip John Rubbo.

The proposed law reads, “No person or persons shall within the City of Yonkers, while wearing any mask, hood or device whereby any portion of the face is so hidden, concealed, or covered as to conceal the identity of the wearer, enter upon, or be, or appear upon or within the public property of the City.

The provisions of this chapter shall not apply to persons:

- Wearing a traditional holiday costume on the occasion of the holiday;
- Wearing a face covering for a religious purpose;
- Lawfully engaging in trade and employment or in a sporting activity where a mask is worn for the purpose of ensuring the physical safety of the wearer or because of the nature of the occupation, trade, profession, or sporting activity;
- Using a mask in a theatrical production, including use in Mardi gras celebrations and masquerade balls;
- Wearing a face covering to protect the wearer from the elements while participating in a weather affected activity, including a winter sporting event;
- Wearing a gas mask prescribed in emergency management drills and exercises or emergencies;
- Wearing a mask for the purpose of complying with the guidance of any health care agency or health care provider or to otherwise protect against the spread of infectious diseases; or Lawfully engaged in First Amendment activities.

The purpose of the proposed law would be to address safety concerns related to the wearing of face covers that cause the face to be so hidden, concealed, or covered as to conceal the identity of the wearer, and to address safety concerns related to the wearing of face covers that cause the face to be so hidden, concealed, or covered as to conceal the identity of the wearer.

Violators would face fines of \$250.

Nassau County has passed a similar mask ban. Nassau County’s “Mask Transparency Act” was signed into law on August 14, 2024 and is in effect. The upstate village of Ballston Spa has also passed a mask ban.

“This is not an abridgment of anybody’s rights. Nobody has a constitutional right to hide their identity in public,” said Nassau County Executive Bruce Blakeman. “This is a broad public safety measure. What we’ve seen is people using masks to shoplift, to carjack, to rob banks, and this is activity we want to stop.”

Exceptions in Nassau include:

“...shall not apply to facial coverings worn to protect the health or safety of the wearer, for religious or cultural purposes, or for the peaceful celebration of a holiday or similar religious or cultural event for which the wearing of masks or facial coverings are customarily worn.”

The NY Civil Liberties Union opposes the ban. “This comes as COVID-19 continues to surge and anti-war protestors face increased doxxing and targeted surveillance. New York rightly repealed its prior mask ban at the start of the COVID-19 pandemic. Implementing a new ban will inevitably be used to disproportionately target, surveil, and criminalize protestors with controversial views, ostracize people with disabilities and their loved ones, and hurt Black, Brown, and Muslim New Yorkers.

Any mask ban will inevitably be selectively enforced and weaponized against New Yorkers who are Muslim, Black, and other people of color – all of whom already face disproportionate targeting, surveillance, and abuse by police. Police should not have legal authority to arrest or ticket people who are engaged in cultural, religious, or political expression, and wearing a mask should not be a crime.

Mask bans will undermine public health and push people with disabilities and those who are immunocompromised further into society’s margins.

All New Yorkers should be assured of our right to wear a mask, and no one should have to fear harassment, intimidation, or arrest for trying to protect ourselves or our loved ones.

People should not be criminalized for what they wear. Laws that criminalize

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The



By Eric Wolf Schoen



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Westchester County Department of Correction Holds Culinary Graduation Ceremony



The Westchester County Department of Correction and Aramark Food Service recognized four residents who graduated from a culinary training program at the Westchester County Jail. In partnership with Aramark, this 'IN-2-WORK' culinary certificate program requires eight weeks of vocational training, incorporating both in-class lectures and hands-on culinary training, totaling 40 hours of formal instruction. In addition to the hands-on culinary training, this program focuses on kitchen safety in food storage, preparation and serving. Students who successfully completed this formal training received a ServSafe certificate that's recognized as the national standard in the food service industry. Through coordination with Aramark Food Service, graduating students will have access to a web portal of available employment opportunities, assistance with writing resumes and the availability of scholarships for further study.

In addressing the five graduates, Correction Commissioner Joseph K. Spano stated firmly: "At our agency, we don't judge incarcerated individuals. From the moment someone is remanded into our care, we focus on assessment, treatment and the rehabilitation process. I thank and commend you for volunteering to participate in this program and many others offered at WDOC. Doing so demonstrates your commitment and desire to get on a better life path, and should greatly aid your transition when you return back to your family and community."

Aramark District Manager Robert Love said: "Aramark Correctional Services is proud to continue its partnership with Westchester County in offering our IN-2-WORK programming to the residents of Westchester County Correction. For many years, this program has received tremendous support from Commissioner Spano and designated members of his team, including First Deputy Commissioner Nory Padilla and Assistant Warden Jeremiah Tejada. Working together, we have enhanced culinary aspects to the program, and feel that our graduates will have that much more to offer prospective employers when they re-enter the workforce. A special thanks to our local IN-2-WORK facilitator Chef Darnel Pierre and on-site Director Sharron Watkins for being instrumental in building and supporting the new program curriculum."

Program participant Dominick Labarta said: "I look forward to using what I have learned in the future to meal prep and possibly get a job in a restaurant kitchen."

Program participant Omar Green said: "The program was a wonderful experience full of knowledge, our instructor did a great job of teaching culinary skills. I love the fact that I can apply for a scholarship and that I can get my family involved in the program upon release."

Program participant Lyle Long: "I really enjoyed the class and I think it helps inmates stay on a successful path upon re-entry."

At the conclusion of the graduation ceremony, the twenty-five attendees from WDOC, Aramark and 914 United enjoyed meals prepared by the students.

Peekskill Man Sentenced to 30 Years for Fatal Shooting of Poughkeepsie Father

Defendant shot his girlfriend's former partner multiple times in front of their children

Westchester County District Attorney Miriam E. Rocah announced today that a Peekskill man was sentenced to 30 years in state prison for the fatal shooting of 53-year-old Ernest Wilson of Poughkeepsie.

DA Rocah said: "In this brazen and senseless act of gun violence this defendant left children traumatized and without a father. Now that this defendant is removed from our streets and brought to justice, we hope the family of Ernest Wilson can begin to find closure and healing."

After pleading guilty on May 17, the defendant, Reginald McClure, 40, who has prior felony convictions, was sentenced on Nov. 7 before New York State Supreme Court Justice James McCarty in Westchester County to 25 years on the charge of Manslaughter in the First Degree and five years for each of the two counts of Criminal Possession of a Weapon in the Second Degree, all felonies.

The sentences for the gun charges will run concurrently to each other and consecutive to the 25-year sentence on the manslaughter charge.

At approximately 7:32 p.m. on May 21, 2023, the victim was dropping off his child with the child's mother, the defendant's girlfriend, at her Sherman Avenue home in Peekskill. Seeing the defendant walking up the street, the victim extended his hand to greet the defendant, who, in return, fired six rounds from a 9mm firearm striking the victim twice, in the arm and buttock.

The shooting was witnessed by the victim's two children.

The victim was transported to Westchester Medical Center in Valhalla, where he died as a result of his injuries on May 24, 2023.

The defendant fled the scene but was apprehended and arrested at a Yonkers hotel on May 25, 2023, following an investigation by the Peekskill Police Department and the FBI's Westchester Safe Streets Task Force.

At the time of capture, the defendant was illegally in possession of two loaded firearms.

The Westchester County Department of Public Safety, the Yonkers Police Department and the New York State Police assisted with the investigation.

In a victim impact statement read in court, one of the children said: "My father was a wonderful man...and now I can never share another birthday with my birthday twin, I could never crack another joke with my father and...I can never watch our favorite Marvel movies again....You took the most valuable thing of my life...my father."

The case was prosecuted by Assistant District Attorney Celia Curtis of the Trials and Investigations Division.

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Letter to the Editor: Violence in the United States

Criminal Aliens Released in the U.S. “Committing Crimes Against Americans at an Alarming Rate.” “This is part of The House Judiciary Report on the Consequence of the Biden-Harris Administration’s Open Border Policies.”

Additionally, a well-known government watch-dog periodical stated; “Of the millions of illegal immigrants who have entered the United States under the Biden Administration’s radical open border policies, over 617,000 have criminal records, and they are victimizing Americans and terrorizing communities throughout the nation.”

“When you see a rattlesnake poised to strike you, do not wait until he has struck, before you crush him.” (President Franklin D. Roosevelt)

Source-Judicial Watch-Verdict pg.15- November 2024 issue

Joe Pettit, Yorktown

Mask Ban, continued from pg 3-

someone’s attire fly in the face of free expression principles target vulnerable communities and threaten the foundation of our civil liberties

Law enforcement must respect the religious practices of everyone they come into contact with. If you wear a niqab or burqua, you should not be required to remove your religious garb unless absolutely necessary – for instance, should you be arrested, law enforcement can mandate your face is unencumbered if your photograph must be taken.

The ban, which has exemptions for health and religious reasons, is touted as a public safety measure meant to target those who commit crimes while wearing face coverings.

Howard Kopel, a member of the Nassau County Legislature, or county council, said the measure was introduced in response to “antisemitic incidents, often perpetrated by those in masks,” since the start of the Israel-Hamas war on Oct. 7.

New York Governor, Kathy Hochul said in June that she was considering a mask ban in the NYC subways.

In Nassau the vote for the mask ban was along political lines, with 12 republicans voting yes and 7 democrats voting no.

In Yonkers, the mask ban has been proposed by the democratic majority on the council, but also appears to have republican support.

Media reports have already begun to highlight the threats of lawsuits to the Nassau mask ban.

Ray Rice Named 2024 Grand Marshal of New Rochelle Thanksgiving Parade -Nov. 23



The New Rochelle Chamber of Commerce proudly announces the 2024 Grand Marshal of the New Rochelle Thanksgiving Parade, Ray Rice, pictured left. Ray will have the honor of leading the 60th Annual Thanksgiving Parade as its Grand Marshal on Saturday, November 23, 2024 when the Parade kicks off at 10am.

Ray Rice is being recognized for his prowess on the field, and more importantly, his commitment to serve those in need – especially young people – in both his hometown of New Rochelle and his new home in Baltimore. As Grand Marshal, Ray will ride down the Parade route along North Avenue in style with his family on a float to greet friends and neighbors.

Ray Rice played football for the New Rochelle High School Huguenots and is considered a football legend for the school. Ray was the Huguenots' primary running back and led the team to a state championship in 2003. He also set a New York state record for rushing yards in a game with 462 yards in 2004. NRHS lost only one game in each of Ray’s three seasons of varsity football. Ray was a two-time Journal News Player of the Year.

Ray attended Rutgers University from 2005-2007. Ray is the all-time leading rusher in Rutgers history, amassing 4,926 yards. He finished seventh in the Heisman Trophy voting in 2006.

Ray entered the 2008 NFL Draft and was drafted by the Baltimore Ravens in the second round. He played for the Ravens from 2008 to 2013. He had 1,430 carries for 6,180 yards, 369 catches for 3,034 yards and scored 43 touchdowns.

Ray’s career awards and highlights: Superbowl Champion (XLVII); three-time Pro Bowl selection (2009, 2011, 2012); two-time second-team All-Pro selection (2009, 2011).

Ray is known for his community service both in New Rochelle and Baltimore. Ray was awarded the Community Spirit Award from the New Rochelle Fund for Educational Excellence in March 2010. In 2012, he was voted the city of Baltimore’s Most Charitable Person. In 2012 Ray created the Ray Rice Charitable Foundation which helps children at local hospitals, runs football camps for less privileged children, hosts annual school supply and toy drives, engages in community building and hosts food drives in both Baltimore and Westchester.

“I am honored to be the Grand Marshal for the Thanksgiving Day parade,” said Ray Rice. “Thank you, New Rochelle, for not giving up on me and my family!! I hope to serve as a beacon of hope to the youth of New Rochelle.”

“Ray Rice’s decades long commitment to New Rochelle - and later Baltimore - is an amazing legacy of community service and outreach that continues to this day,” said Catherine White, Executive Director, NR Chamber of Commerce.

“The New Rochelle Thanksgiving Parade is a NR Chamber and City tradition. It’s evolved from a small night-time Thanksgiving Eve event to become the 2nd largest Thanksgiving Parade in the state. The NR Chamber is proud to be celebrating the 60th anniversary of the Parade and we congratulate Ray Rice as Grand Marshal,” said Rob Hayes, President of the NR Chamber of Commerce and owner of The Beechmont Tavern.

The Parade route will be along North Avenue – beginning at Eastchester Road and ending at Bonnefoy Place. The parade will feature floats and giant parade balloons including New Rochelle’s own iconic Mighty Mouse, Tom the Turkey, Peppa Pig and others. There will be marching bands, vintage cars and firetrucks, dancers, singers, bands and marchers from Iona University and Monroe University, local schools, businesses and community organizations. And, of course, Santa will be there too!

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COUNTY OF WESTCHESTER

U.S. BANK TRUST NATIONAL ASSOCIATION, NOT IN ITS INDIVIDUAL CAPACITY BUT SOLELY AS OWNER TRUSTEE FOR RCF 2 ACQUISITION TRUST,

-against-

OMOWUMI LONGE, ET AL.

NOTICE OF SALE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN pursuant to a Final Judgment of Foreclosure and entered in the Office of the Clerk of the County of Westchester on June 20, 2024, wherein U.S. BANK TRUST NATIONAL ASSOCIATION, NOT IN ITS INDIVIDUAL CAPACITY BUT SOLELY AS OWNER TRUSTEE FOR RCF 2 ACQUISITION TRUST is the Plaintiff and OMOWUMI LONGE, ET AL. are the Defendant(s). I, the undersigned Referee will sell at public auction at the WESTCHESTER COUNTY COURTHOUSE,,LOBBY, 111 DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING JR. BLVD., WHITE PLAINS, NY 10601, on December 2, 2024 at 9:30AM, premises known as 437 SOUTH 5TH AVENUE, MOUNT VERNON, NY 10550; and the following tax map identification, 169.39-3091-37.

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Premises will be sold subject to provisions of filed Judgment Index No.: 68185/2022. Robert Huffjay, Esq. - Referee. Robertson, Anschutz, Schneid, Crane & Partners, PLLC 900 Merchants Concourse, Suite 310, Westbury, New York 11590, Attorneys for Plaintiff. All foreclosure sales will be conducted in accordance with Covid-19 guidelines including, but not limited to, social distancing and mask wearing. *LOCATION OF SALE SUBJECT TO CHANGE DAY OF IN ACCORDANCE WITH COURT/CLERK DIRECTIVES.

CORPORATION NOTICE
CITY OF YONKERS-NEW YORK

PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, pursuant to law, that the City Council of the City of Yonkers, New York will hold a Public Hearing on Tuesday, November 26 at 7:00 PM in the City Council Chambers, 40 South Broadway, Yonkers, New York on the following ordinance to inform the public and review the public purpose, pursuant to Eminent Domain Procedure Law, of the proposed acquisition of the leasehold held by All County Bus ,LLC, located at 76 Fernbrook Street, also known as a portion of Section 1, Block 615, Lot 1 designated on the Official Tax Map of the City of Yonkers, for the development of a waterfront park, to wit:

PROPOSED ORDINANCE

A SPECIAL ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING AND DIRECTING THE ACQUISITION OF THE FOLLOWING LEASEHOLD INTEREST AT 76 FERNBROOK STREET REQUIRED IN CONNECTION WITH THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE WATERFRONT PARK AT FERNBROOK STREET

All persons having an interest in the leasehold, which acquisition is required for the development of the waterfront park, are invited to attend the hearing to give oral or written statements concerning the proposed acquisition,

Further information may be obtained at the City Clerk's office, City Hall, 40 South Broadway, Yonkers, New York and on the City's Website.

VINCENT SPANO
City Clerk
November 6, 2024

Notice of formation of Hampton Estate Care LLC. Arts. of Org. filed with the SSNY on 09/17/2024. 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, 35 Greenacres Avenue, Scarsdale, NY 10583. Purpose: Any lawful activity.

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 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 130 FRANKLIN AVE LLC. Articles of Organization filed with SSNY on 10/15/2024. Office location: Westchester County. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process may be served. SSNY shall mail process to Brian Caldwell at 68 North Steet, Harrison, NY 10528. Purpose: any lawful act or activity.

TOWN OF EASTCHESTER

LEGAL NOTICE OF HEARING ON

2025 PRELIMINARY BUDGET

Please take notice that the Town Board of the Town of Eastchester shall hold its annual budget hearing on TUESDAY, DECEMBER 3, 2024 to consider the adoption of the Town of Eastchester's 2025 calendar year budget. Said hearing on this Preliminary Budget shall be held at the Town Hall, 40 Mill Road, Eastchester, New York at 7:30 p.m.

The salaries of Elected Officials incorporated in said preliminary budget are as follows:

| | | Each | Total |
|-------------------|-----|----------|-----------|
| Supervisor | (1) | \$98,093 | \$ 98,093 |
| Council Members | (4) | \$22,000 | \$ 88,000 |
| Judges | (2) | \$50,000 | \$100,000 |
| Receiver of Taxes | (1) | \$70,000 | \$ 70,000 |
| Town Clerk | (1) | \$87,605 | \$ 87,605 |

All residents of the community may present written or oral comments at the above-described place, date and time.

BY THE ORDER OF THE SUPERVISOR AND
THE TOWN BOARD OF THE TOWN OF
EASTCHESTER, NEW YORK
JOSEPH D. DOOLEY
TOWN CLERK

LEGAL NOTICE

The ordinance, a summary of which is published herewith, has been adopted on November 12, 2024, and approved by the Mayor on November 13, 2024, and the validity of the obligations authorized by such ordinance may be hereafter contested only if such obligations were authorized for an object or purpose for which the CITY OF YONKERS, in the County of Westchester, New York, is not authorized to expend money or if the provisions of law which should have been complied with as of the date of publication of this Notice were not substantially complied with, and an action, suit or proceeding contesting such validity is commenced within twenty days after the publication of this Notice, or such obligations were authorized in violation of the provisions of the constitution.

Vincent E. Spano City Clerk City of Yonkers, New York

SPECIAL ORDINANCE 56-2024

BOND ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF YONKERS, NEW YORK AUTHORIZING THE PREPARATION OF DESIGN PLANS AND SPECIFICATIONS FOR CAPITAL PROJECTS TO BE UNDERTAKEN PURSUANT TO THE YONKERS CITY SCHOOL DISTRICT JOINT SCHOOLS CONSTRUCTION AND MODERNIZATION ACT; STATING THE ESTIMATED MAXIMUM COST THEREOF IS \$3,000,000; APPROPRIATING SAID AMOUNT THEREFOR AND AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE OF BONDS OF SAID CITY IN THE PRINCIPAL AMOUNT OF NOT TO EXCEED \$3,000,000 TO FINANCE SAID APPROPRIATION

The bonds are authorized to finance the cost of the preparation of design plans and specifications for capital projects to be undertaken pursuant to the Yonkers City School District Joint Schools Construction and Modernization Act.

The maximum amount of obligations to be issued is \$3,000,000.

The period of probable usefulness associated with the project is five (5) years.

Pursuant to the provisions of Section 17 of the Special Local Finance and Budget Act of the City of Yonkers, constituting Chapters 488 and 489 of the Laws of 1976 of the State of New York (herein called the "Act"), the City is authorized and directed to include the pledge and agreement of the State of New York (herein called the "State") contained in said Section 17 of the Act, in the ordinance, and the Act provides that upon payment for the bonds or notes by the original and all subsequent holders thereof the inclusion of such pledge and agreement shall be deemed conclusive evidence of valuable consideration received by the State and City for such pledge and agreement and of reliance upon such pledge and agreement by any holder and that any action by the State contrary to or inconsistent with the provisions of such pledge and agreement shall be void.

A complete copy of the Bond Ordinance summarized above shall be available for public inspection during normal business hours at the office of the City Clerk, 40 South Broadway, Yonkers, New York 10701.

DATED: November 13, 2024
Yonkers, New York

Westchester Rising

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

WCT Stand Up Comedy Night-Nov. 22

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MEET THE AUTHOR JANET SHERLUND

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wct
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PRESENTS

Stand-up COMEDY NIGHT

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Featuring:
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Tom Nemeč
Jim Mendrinos

WCTHEATER.ORG
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WCT is proud to be a grantee of Arts Westchester with funding made possible by Westchester County government with the support of County Executive George Latimer.

ARTSW

– On Friday, November 22, Westchester Collaborative Theater (WCT) will present the latest in its series of highly acclaimed Stand-Up Comedy Nights, featuring three NYC-based stand-up comedians known nationwide through their many TV and film appearances. Headlining an outstanding evening will be veteran comic Ellen Karis. Karis is the “Greek Goddess of Comedy” and has performed stand-up comedy throughout North America. She has had three TV comedy specials, her latest on the Dry Bar Comedy Channel called “Dreams Don’t Come True.” She is the host of a weekly podcast, “Sweet and Salty with Ellen Karis,” which is in its ninth season, and has appeared on Amazon Prime’s The Marvelous Mrs. Maisel and Sisters, a film starring Tina Fey and Amy Poehler. Karis is also the author of a children’s book, Special People: Godparents in the Orthodox Christian Faith.

The featured comic will be Tom Nemeč, a working comedian and actor for over 20 years. He has appeared with a variety of well-known comics including Dom Irrera, Michael Winslow, Jim Norton and Kevin Nealon. Nemeč can be seen as the fire chief in the movie “Green Point Tavern”. He has appeared in a few different web series including “Bruber” and PN & Friends. Nemeč has also created his own children’s book, Owenopolis. A day in the life of a little boy from Brooklyn.

Jim Mendrinos, the host for the evening, is returning from a successful WCT show in August. A staple of the NYC comedy scene, he has worked for David Letterman, The Tonight Show, The Chevy Chase Show, Head of theClass, and SNL. Mendrinos has performed on Comedy Central, Current TV, SiTV, HBO and the BBC and has an hour-long special, Not Dead Yet, on Amazon Video Direct. Mendrinos teaches TV Writing for Gotham Writers Workshop.

The cabaret-style performance begins at 8:00 pm at WCT’s black box performance space, 23 Water Street in Ossining. The house will open at 7:30pm. Tickets are \$30; cash bar and refreshments will be available. Purchase tickets online at: <https://wct-presents-stand-up-comedy-night-nov-22.eventbrite.com/>

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Thanks for Your Service to the Greatest Generation - WW2 Veterans



Pequenakonck Elementary School (North Salem) hosted a poignant ceremony for its inaugural Veterans Day Assembly, welcoming more than 40 local veterans representing five military branches. The honored guests were the parents, uncles, grandparents, great-grandparents, coaches, and neighbors of Pequenakonck students, who held hands with their veteran guests as they made their way through the applauding crowd filling the gymnasium.

One hundred-year-old U.S. Army Air Force veteran Quentin Nicastro, pictured top left, shared his wartime experiences, recounting being drafted as a teenager, training with his flight crew, and serving during WWII. His great-grandson, a Pequenakonck student, escorted him to a small reception after the ceremony.

“The Marine Corps is always going to be part of me,” said Darien Huff, a recent U.S. Marine Corps veteran and Pequenakonck parent. He said the event provided a meaningful sense of camaraderie among the veterans. “We’re all brothers here. That 100-year-old vet, he’s my brother too.”

Another World War II Veteran is pictured bottom left. Thanks for your service and God Bless America.



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Patrick Murray, MD; Paul S. Ragusa, MD; Thomas Schmicker, MD
Eric Spencer, MD; Mario Voloshin, DPM, FACFAS



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It's a Wild, Wildlife: Saving Endangered Animals Through Art



Artist Amanda Lynne with two pieces from the Wildlife series, Marbled Prairie Dogs and Marbled Monarch

By M. Trommer

Over the past two years, Blue Door Art Center artist, Amanda Lynne has completed a series of nineteen mixed media pieces entitled “Wildlife.” The pieces depict endangered species of animals. The artist pledged to donate twenty-five percent of sales to wildlife conservation, specific to the animals depicted.

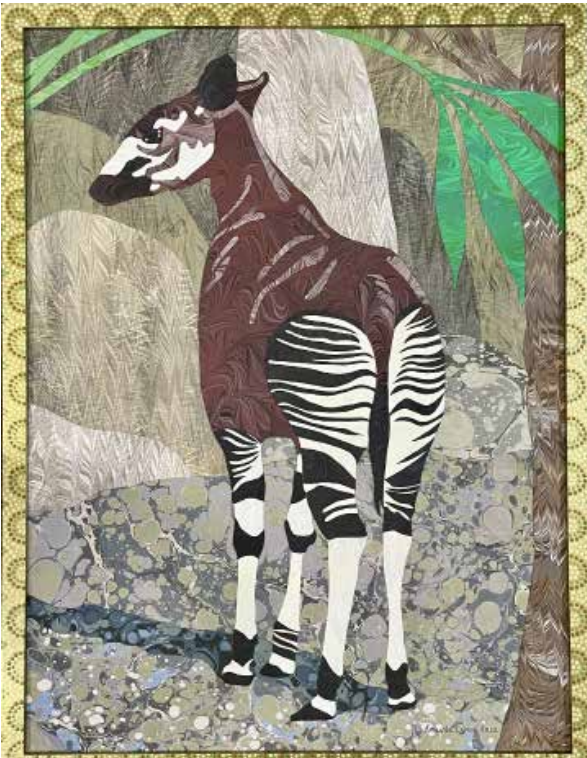
The works in the “Wildlife” series were created with the artist’s own hand-marbled papers. Using her own photographs as reference, these papers were cut and collaged to form the animal images, which were then placed in upcycled hand painted frames.

“Amanda’s work is charming and whimsical however, on closer inspection, the craftsmanship and attention to detail are incredible. We admire her commitment to animals and the environment.” said Blue Door Gallery Director, Michele Amaro.

To date, eight of the nineteen pieces in the series have been sold, resulting in the artist’s donation of \$800 to wildlife conservation, with half of these pieces being sold through Blue Door Art Center at 13 Riverdale, Ave in Yonkers, NY.

You can view this amazing “Wildlife” artwork and more at amandalynnstudio.com.

left: Marbled Okapi, mixed media, photos by Amanda Lynne



American Irish Association of Westchester Celebrates 50th Anniversary at Dinner Dance



L-R-Honorees Denise and John Donaghy, Rev. Paul Mooney MHM and Keith Murphy



L-R-Ron Matten, Mary Hoar, State Senator Shelley Mayer, Catherine Marshall



Brigid Flynn with students from the Flynn Irish dance studio. Photos by Donna Davis
See Story on page 10-

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American Irish Association of Westchester Celebrates 50th Anniversary at Dinner Dance

On October 27, the American-Irish Association of Westchester celebrated their 50th anniversary with a dinner dance at the Fairways at Dunwoodie.

The annual Mass of Thanksgiving was celebrated and recently deceased members and deceased former presidents and board chairpersons were remembered at Mass.

This year's honorees were:

Irish Man of the Year was John Donaghy, Irish Woman of the Year Denise Donaghy who are a husband and wife team.

Father Paul Mooney a Mill Hill Missioner Priest received the Saint Patrick Spirit Award

Keith Murphy was the recipient of our Irish American Community Service award.

Entertainment was provided by the New York Studio of Irish Adult Dancers, and harpist students and students of the popular Brigid Flynn Dance School.

The association each year provides scholarships, sponsors the annual Heritage Day co-sponsored with the Westchester County Parks and Recreation Department and the annual dinner Dance and Mass. We aim to preserve the foundation of our Irish heritage to keep the "tradition alive" and to ensure the continuation and celebration of our cultural identity.

Visit <https://www.facebook.com/AmericanIrishAssociationOfWestchester> to learn more.

Not Goodbye: An Open Letter from John Isaac to Yonkers

To my friends and neighbors in the 90th Assembly District, and throughout Yonkers and Westchester, I write this note to close the election season. First and foremost, if the love of family can make a man rich, you can call me Elon Musk!

My lovely wife, daughter and son, along with my extended family, gave me the strength to carry on an exhausting campaign every day. Similarly, my sisters and brothers in the Indian community and Asian American Republican Committee were with me and carried my campaign every step of the way with their love, their financial support, their hard work and their understanding of the issues and how they affect our community.

To Nader Sayegh, I say congratulations on winning yet another term in Albany. I pray that when he is sworn in again, he will be mindful of who he serves. He was re-elected by a majority of voters in the 90th district. Nader Sayegh is responsible to do the right thing not for himself or Governor Hochul or Andrea Stewart-Cousins.

He is not there to be of service to New York City politicians, special interest lobbyists, or his fellow democrats in the supermajority. He is beholden to you: Yonkers families, to Yonkers first responders, Yonkers veterans, Yonkers teachers, Yonkers seniors Yonkers legal immigrants and first generation Americans, and the Yonkers disabled community.

Of course I am very disappointed in the outcome of the election, but I am energized and so very grateful for the amazing support I received from a record number of voters who believed in our platform of lower taxes, safer streets, common sense immigration laws and funding Yonkers schools. I remain proud of our campaign that did not fear or engage in drama or hyperbole, but rather stuck to the facts of my opponent's record and the needs of the greater Yonkers community.

Now, I will return to my work and my family and friends, with an eye to the blessed occasion of my daughter's wedding next spring. In the meantime, if you see me at the store or in church, please say hi. I promise not to hand you a palm card.

Sincerely, John Isaac

Transgender Day of Remembrance: Selena Gonzalez Speaks Truth



Selena Gonzalez

By Dennis Richmond Jr.

As we approach November 20th, Transgender Day of Remembrance (TDOR), I am reminded of the immense challenges facing the LGBTQ+ community—challenges that extend far beyond our own disagreements. From heated debates about identity and appearance to the growing threats from a broader society, it is clear: trans lives are under attack.

In the past year alone, the Human Rights Campaign (HRC) has recorded alarming numbers of trans women, particularly Black and Latina trans women, murdered across the country. As of this article, at least 29 trans or gender non-conforming people have been violently killed in 2024, while at least 38 lost their lives in 2023. These statistics are not just numbers; they represent human beings—siblings, children, and friends—whose lives were brutally cut short simply because of who they were.

The violence targeting trans folx often goes unacknowledged, obscured by societal biases and hateful rhetoric from those in power. It is not only "straight" men who are responsible for this epidemic of violence; it is men from all walks of life—bisexual, gay, and those who are DL—who are complicit in this horrific trend. It is shameful, and it must end.

In conversation with Selena Gonzalez, a trans artist, activist, and agency worker, she shared: "As a trans woman, I know what it feels like to have your existence threatened daily. The mortality rate for transgender people is shockingly disproportionate compared to cisgender individuals. It's a painful reminder that, in this country, our lives are considered disposable."

Selena's words resonate deeply. The political landscape is worsening, with laws actively seeking to strip away the humanity of the LGBTQ+ community. States are banning gender-affirming care and attacking LGBTQ+ education, disregarding the fact that these resources save lives. "Representation and education are our lifelines," Selena emphasized. "When we speak up, we fight against the silence that endangers us."

As allies, folx must do more. People need to advocate for policies that protect trans people, donate to organizations that provide support and safety, and educate themselves about the issues they face. This Transgender Day of Remembrance, let's not only mourn the lives lost but commit ourselves to the fight for equality and justice. We must acknowledge our role in perpetuating systemic violence and actively work to dismantle it.

This is more than a call for remembrance; it's a call for change.

Dennis Richmond, Jr., an educator, historian, and writer, illuminates the experiences of Black, Latinx, and LGBTQ+ communities in Yonkers and NYC through his journalism. Stay connected with him by following @NewYorkStakz on social media.

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The Night America Became Great Again!

Immigrant Protection Act, continued from pg 1-



By Frank Spotorno, left

On Tuesday Nov. 5th Vice President Kamala Harris and 500 of her loyalist supporters gathered in Washington DC with hundreds of cases of champagne, a Two Million Dollar fireworks display and a custom-built glass roof to be shattered, all to celebrate Harris' victory over Trump as the first Female President of the United States.

Mexico rejoiced because they could keep sending criminals to America. With their terrorists, Hizballah, Hamas, and ISIS were pleased to be able to continue infiltrating America. China would not have been crying. Russia would not have been whining, North Korea would not have been recalling their forces, Iran would not have been surrendering its weapons to Israel. Trump is back!

Newsweek had already published and shipped the next issue with the cover "Madam President" and a detailed analysis of precisely how the Harris political machine had captured the Electoral College with a whopping 324 votes. They had her acceptance speech in an article gracefully calling for all Americans to join with her...

Among the 500+ giddy followers were those who had already received confirmation of their future assignments and high paid government jobs in the White House, FBI, Department of Labor, Ambassadorships and the list goes on. All were assured of at least four (4) and probably eight years of lucrative jobs that they had dedicated over 3 years of their lives to achieving. They had all rented or bought housing in D.C. or nearby in Georgetown. Reservations had been made at 5-star hotels in Washington DC for the PARTY.

They knew the fix was in. Every poll and every media outlet except Fox News and Drudge was in the tank for Kamala and against Trump. ABC had supplied Kamala with the debate questions in advance. Every media pundit and many polls had Kamala with an overwhelming lead. Then, in a few short days, the odds in Las Vegas started to favor Trump while Harris and her campaign team prepared iced the champagne.

And within 5 short hours on election night, it all came crashing down. It finally started to crumble, one by one, the states that would elect our next President: Michigan, Wisconsin, Pennsylvania, North Carolina, Georgia, Arizona. The working class had been overlooked and trampled on far too long. On November 5, 2024, we all got up to our feet and rose up against our oppressors and the rest of the nation, from coast to coast.

We fought back against our jobs being shipped overseas while our towns filled with illegal migrants got everything and Americans got nothing. We fought back against a system in which we could go to jail while the elites could violate the law and still stroll through a Presidential election. We fought, we took to voting booths and we won!!

This wasn't a vote. It was an uprising. We were ordinary men and women chipping away at the Berlin Wall. Who were these people? They were us! Leftovers and flyover country.

We don't have bachelor's degrees, and most of us never set foot in a Starbucks. We are the working class of America. They said we had the wrong ideas, the wrong clothes and the ridiculous values that we all shared.

They were wrong about everything. Illegal immigration? They thought it was here to stay. But our daughters who are afraid of being murdered by the "unaccompanied illegals" when they go to work in NYC, they came out and voted.

The politicians and pundits had talked of getting us to adapt to the inevitable future, boys participating in woman sports, men using women's bathrooms. But instead, we got in our pickup trucks and cars and drove out to vote. And we, the patriots of America, changed everything.

Americans were told that walls couldn't be built, and factories couldn't be opened. That treaties couldn't be unsigned, and wars couldn't be won. It was impossible to ban terrorists from coming to America or to deport the illegal aliens turning towns and cities into gangland territories.

It was all impossible. But 71.7 million Americans did the impossible. They turned the world upside down. It's morning in America again. But CNN is weeping, MSNBC is wailing, ABC calls it a tantrum, NBC damns it. It wasn't supposed to happen. The same machine that crushed the American people for four straight years, the mass of government, corporations and non-profits that ran the country, was set to win.

Instead, the people stood in front of the machine. They went to vote even though they were told it was useless. They mailed in their absentee ballots even while Kamala Harris was planning her fireworks victory celebration. They looked at the empty factories and barren farms. They drove through the early cold. They waited in line. They came home to their children to tell them that they had done their best for their future. They bet on America. And they won.

Some of us have been working for more than 30 years to tell the American people that these trade deals have not only destroyed the very fabric of the great American economy, it also played an important role in deteriorating our Global Eco-System. Western civilization stood by, did nothing, all in pursuit of the almighty dollar, while our home and our planet has slowly been deteriorating.

Now we can rebuild and in time the world may be a better place again, if not for us, for our children.

Congratulations Mr. President! But more importantly, a thank you goes out to our Heavenly Father and his only begotten Son, Jesus Christ, for sparing Trump's life, not once....but twice!

Frank Spotorno was the Republican and Conservative party candidate for Congress in NY-14 in 2016. He is the co-founder of Bring our Jobs Home and lives in Yonkers.

case basis, in accordance with U.S. law and U.S. Department of Homeland Security policy, considering the circumstances of each case. ERO officers make decisions on associated enforcement actions and apply prosecutorial discretion in a responsible manner, informed by their experience as law enforcement professionals and in a way that best protects the communities we serve.

"Noncitizens who are apprehended by ICE have their case reviewed by an ICE officer to determine their custody status. Noncitizens subject to mandatory detention are placed in ICE detention facilities, while those who are released constitute ERO's non-detained docket. ICE officers weigh a variety of factors when making general custody determinations, including criminal record, immigration history, community ties, flight risk, and whether the individual poses a potential threat to public safety or national security," said an ICE spokesperson.

According to the Yonkers Police Department, Jimenez was arrested in 2018 for DWI but was released and fined \$500.

Republicans running for office on Nov. 5 highlighted the incident, and criticized New York State's Sanctuary status, and Westchester's passage of the Immigrant Protection Act in 2018.

"The suspect in this horrific crime... could have and should have been deported long ago after his arrest for drunk driving in Yonkers in 2018, He should have been handed over to ICE. Instead, Westchester County sanctuary status prevents law enforcement from coordinating with federal immigration authorities. As a result, a violent criminal was protected from deportation and remained in our community," said Congressman Mike Lawler.

Assemblyman Matt Slater said, "This tragedy took place three miles from my house. It should make every resident sick knowing the suspect was arrested in 2018 and released because of Westchester County's sanctuary policies that were approved earlier that year. This horrific tragedy would have never occurred if Westchester's 'sanctuary county' law had not been passed."

Last week, County Executive and Congressman-elect George Latimer held a press conference and called out Lawler and Slater for "not telling the truth."

"There is no sanctuary for Fernando Jimenez. He will face accountability for his actions. Anyone who says otherwise is not telling you the truth."

"He (Jimenez) is in the Westchester County Jail. The case will be transferred to the Westchester County Court, where it is expected that ICE will get an order from a Judge to take custody.

"He will not be released to the public. We have maintained a dialogue with ICE, and he will not be released. He was apprehended 20 years ago and he was deported and found a way back. Deporting him again is no value. He must face prosecution.

"Westchester County law allows for ICE to take possession of any individual if they obtain a federal order, which is easy to obtain. We will comply with that order."

Back in 2020, County Executive Latimer said, "This law does not make Westchester a sanctuary county. I personally will debate any individual who'd like to make that assertion. What this bill does do, it goes to the heart of protecting good, honest citizens."

In 2018, County Legislators John Testa and Margaret Cuzio, wrote an op-ed explaining their No votes on the IPA, which passed 10-3.

"Despite its name, the Immigrant Protection Act does not provide new protections for our immigrant community. In fact, the IPA, as it is written, protects criminals while putting innocent people in greater danger.

"The Act will make it more difficult to make transfers of prisoners at the county jail who are wanted on federal charges by Homeland Security. The jail provides a safe and neutral place to make such transfers. Under this act, transfers would be moved into the community which poses greater risks for innocent members of the community and Law Enforcement.

We want our immigrant community to feel safe and welcome in Westchester County. Shielding people who are accused of committing crimes from federal authorities is dangerous and irresponsible. Just to make that point clear two county executives have issued executive orders to specifically direct county police to not engage in immigration enforcement or inquire about immigration status. County Executive Spano issued his Executive Order No. 4 in 2006, and County Executive Astorino updated the directive further in September of 2017. The subject of these executive orders is exactly what the IPA is purported to address but does not.

The IPA states that "County Law Enforcement Agencies (CLEA) shall not communicate with Federal Immigration Authorities." One exception to this directive contained in an earlier version of the IPA was if the individual was a known gang member. This is a reasonable exception since we know of MS-13's growing presence on Long Island which is close proximity to Westchester. Why not include this provision since there are national databases that could be used to identify such individuals? However, it was removed and when we asked for it to remain in the law, it was denied."

With the election of President Trump, the debate will continue. And we would welcome to host a debate between Congressman-elect Latimer and Congressman Lawler, or Assemblyman Slater on the issue.

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Hope to hear from you! Thanks!

Murder in Yorktown, continued from pg 1-

in the Bronx, and just over two hours after the shooting, Ciniglio was pulled over by NYPD and shot himself as officers approached the car.

Yorktown Police Chief Robert Noble said in a statement, "We need to thank all of our local, county, state, city, federal and district attorney law enforcement partners, who assisted us this evening. We thank the public for their patience, support, and understanding. Our thoughts, prayers and support are with the family of the victim of this violent crime."

On Oct. 28, less than three miles away from the shooting at Coach n Four, Fernando Jiminez shot his estranged girlfriend, Chistina Raimondi, and her two sons, Michael, 15, and Matthew, 13. Michael Raimondi, a sophomore at Somers High School, died as a result of his injuries.

Another police search ensued until Jiminez was found hiding in Putnam Valley one day after the shooting. He is charged with second-degree murder and two charges of attempted murder.

The obituary for Geraldine Krecmer reads

Geraldine "Geri" Krecmer of Jefferson Valley, NY passed away unexpectedly on November 9, 2024. Born on August 26, 1961, in the Bronx, NY to Patrick and Rose (Stirpe) Monaghan, Geri's infectious smile and boundless energy brought light into the lives of all who knew her.

Geri's life was a testament to her unwavering dedication to her family and her work. She was a Senior Coordinator for Cablevision, now known as Altice. However, Geri's professional achievements paled in comparison to the love and care she poured into her family.

Geri had an enduring love for the beach, trips to Cape May and the Jersey Shore held a special place in her heart. It was there that she found solace in the rhythm of the waves and the warmth of the sun. Her love for the shore was a reflection of her spirit—free, joyful, and full of wonder.

Those who knew Geri would describe her as thoughtful and loving, words that only begin to capture her character. She had a gift for making others feel seen and heard, and her presence was a source of comfort and strength.

Geri is survived by her sons Thomas "TJ" Wilkinson, Dylan Wilkinson, Anthony Sales, and her daughter Jessica Sales. She is also survived by her brother, Patrick Monaghan, and her joy multiplied with the arrival of her grandchildren Gianna, Angelina, and Valentina. She embraced her role as a grandmother with the same passion and enthusiasm she brought to every aspect of her life.

Geri's journey through life was a beautiful illustration of what it means to care deeply for others. She will be profoundly missed, but the impact of her love will continue to resonate.

Visiting will be held on Thursday, November 14th from 4-8 PM at Joseph J. Smith Funeral Home. A Mass of Christian Burial will be celebrated on Friday, November 15th at 10 AM at St. John the Evangelist Church in Mahopac. A private cremation will follow.

In lieu of flowers, please make memorial contributions in her name to the Putnam/Northern Westchester Women's Resource Center, www.pnwrc.org.

State Senator Pete Harckham and Assembly member Amy Paulin have announced that they are reintroducing their legislation that requires police officers to take temporary custody of firearms when responding to reports of family or domestic violence. Right now, police officers under the Safe Homes Act of 2020 merely have the option of removing firearms that are in plain sight or are discovered during a consensual or lawful search.

"Too many domestic violence incidents involve shootings that could be avoided if handguns and other firearms were temporarily removed from the possession of accused defendants pending court action," said Harckham. "This common-sense legislation is meant to protect residents at risk of further violence, and will save lives while safety plans can be put in place for the abused partner and children. And if illegal firearms are discovered during such required removals, that will only help keep our communities safer in the long run."

"Domestic violence and gun violence are deeply connected, as was tragically evidenced by the shooting this past weekend in Westchester County. This legislation, which I sponsored with State Senator Harckham, is a common-sense step to protect victims of domestic violence from the same fate."

Harckham and Paulin's legislation (S.2012 / A.2413) was introduced initially in January 2023. Advancement of the legislation earlier this year was put on pause while the United States Supreme Court decided on a case (United States v. Rahimi) objecting to a federal law that bars anyone subject to a domestic violence restraining order from possessing a gun. Although the court ruled on June 21, 2024, that the federal law did not violate the Constitution's Second Amendment, the New York State Legislature's annual session had been adjourned already. The ruling, though, made it likely that the two lawmakers' legislation would not be challenged in court.

The legislation simply requires that the law enforcement officers responding to a report of family or domestic violence his legislation seeks to provide further protections to victims by mandating police officers seize firearms in plain sight during a domestic violence call. This includes firearms that individuals may have a license to carry and which they are in possession of when arrested on the suspicion of such family or domestic violence offense.

Additionally, this bill calls for the return of such firearms and carry licenses within one hundred and twenty hours (or five days) after removal from individuals upon arrest during family or domestic violence incidents. effecting such seizures. Such legislation is necessary to ensure that firearms do not return to dangerous hands before the courts have had sufficient time to file any necessary charges to protect victims.

The announcement that this legislation will be reintroduced at the start of the next legislative session comes just days after a Yorktown woman was shot to death during a domestic violence incident on Saturday, Nov. 9. A child was killed and two people critically wounded during another domestic violence shooting in Somers on Oct. 30. Also, a retired police officer shot and killed his wife, a fifth-grade teacher in the Eastchester public schools, on Oct. 16 in their Yonkers home before turning the gun on himself.

19 Year Old New Rochelle Man Arrested for Rape of Intoxicated 13-Year Old Girl

From the New Rochelle Police Department

Suspect Arrested in Connection to Sexual Assault of 13-Year-Old Girl

On November 7, 2024, New Rochelle Police arrested a 19-year-old man in connection to the assault of a 13-year-old girl. The arrest follows an investigation that began when the victim, highly intoxicated, was transported to the hospital and reported that she might have been sexually assaulted.

Upon receiving the report, detectives immediately began their investigation. They were able to confirm that a crime had occurred, with the suspect, later identified as Joey Valencia, providing alcohol to the victim, who was 13 years old.

Detectives, posing as the victim, successfully made contact with the suspect and engaged in communications. During this interaction, it was reiterated to the suspect the true age of the victim. Despite this, the suspect continued to express interest in meeting up with the victim again, further implicating himself in the criminal activity. Later that evening, detectives arranged a meeting with the suspect. When the suspect arrived, he was taken into custody without incident.

The investigation is ongoing, and detectives are working to determine if there are additional victims. Valencia is currently being held for arraignment.

ARRESTED: Joey Valencia, 19 years of age, of New Rochelle, NY.

CHARGES:

New York State Penal Law Sections:

130.30 Rape 2nd Degree – D Felony

110/130.30 Attempted Rape 2nd Degree – E Felony

260.10 Endangering the Welfare of a Child – A Misdemeanor

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Weekend Events in Westchester County Parks

SATURDAY, NOV. 16

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

The History and Highlights of Lasdon, 10 a.m. - 11 a.m. Tour the William and Mildred Memorial Garden, magnolia trees, lilacs, conifers and azalea garden.

Get details and register <https://www.lasdonpark.org/event/the-history-and-highlights-of-lasdon-2/2024-11-16/>

Edith G. Read Wildlife Sanctuary, Rye: (914) 967-8720

Winter Duck Migration Observation, 10 a.m. - 11:30 a.m. Look through a tripod scope to observe the behavior and movements of these waterfowl visitors. Please bring binoculars.

Cranberry Lake Preserve, North White Plains: (914) 428-1005

Intro to Outdoor Skills, 10 a.m. - 11:30 a.m. Learn the skills necessary to set up camp, start a fire, tie useful knots and read a map. Recommended for ages 8 and up.

Merestead Estate, Mount Kisco: (914) 864-7958

Naturalist's Choice at Merestead, 10 a.m. - 11:30 a.m. Join a County naturalist or curator on a moderate hike with some inclines to discover nature's surprises while also learning a bit about Merestead's beautiful grounds. Meet at the carriage house on the south side of Byram Lake Road. Foul weather will cancel the event.

Marshlands Conservancy, Rye: (914) 835-4466

Take Out the Trash!, 10 a.m. - 11:30 a.m. Help keep our salt marsh beautiful by collecting trash left by the tides. It's a great way to have fun, get some exercise and give something back to the earth.

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

Holiday Wreath Decorating Workshop, 10 a.m. - 12 p.m. and 1 p.m.-3 p.m.

Teens and adults can celebrate the holiday season by making their own holiday wreaths. \$80 per session. Register <https://www.lasdonpark.org/series/holiday-wreath-decorating-workshop/> Limited availability.

Hilltop Hanover Farm and Environmental Center, Yorktown Heights: (914) 862-5050.

Thanksgiving Cook 'n' Share, 11 a.m. - 2 p.m. Join us to cook in advance some farm-fresh Thanksgiving sides to share with a neighbor, friend or someone else who may appreciate a home-cooked meal this holiday season. Free. Pre-register <https://hilltophanoverfarm.org/events/event/2024/11/16/thanksgiving-cook-n-share/502529>

Alfred B. DeBello Muscote Farm, Somers: (914) 864-7282

Book Buddies, 12 p.m. - 3 p.m. Come into one of our animal enclosures and encourage your child to read in a unique atmosphere. Bring your favorite books or pick from our collection! \$10 fee for a 30-minute time slot; rain or shine, so please dress appropriately. Also: Dec. 14, 28. Pre-register <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/book-buddies-program-at-muscote-farm-tickets-1010582548607?aff=ebdsoporgprofile>

Edith G. Read Wildlife Sanctuary, Rye: (914) 967-8720

Remember Fall Shelter Building, 1 p.m. - 2:30 p.m. This popular program brings people together by working alongside each other to create a structure in less than two hours!

Lenoir Preserve, Yonkers: (914) 968-5851

Naturalist's Choice Hike, 1 p.m. - 2:30 p.m. Join our staff on a guided, 1.5-mile hike around the Preserve to learn about the park and the creatures living in it. Hiking shoes and a water bottle are recommended. Hike is steep and narrow in some places.

Marshlands Conservancy, Rye: (914) 835-4466

History of Marshlands Hike, 1 p.m. - 2:30 p.m. Take a walk with us to learn about Marshlands' fascinating history.

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

Lasdon Green Squad, 1 p.m. - 3 p.m. Every Saturday through Dec. 7. Get details and register <https://www.lasdonpark.org/event/lasdon-green-squad-2/2024-11-16/>

SUNDAY, NOV. 17

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

Yoga in the Gardens, 9:30 a.m. - 10:30 a.m. A gentle discovery of the amazing benefits of a yoga practice. \$25 through \$180. Also: Nov. 24. Get details and register <https://www.lasdonpark.org/event/yoga-in-the-gardens/2024-11-17/>

Alfred B. DeBello Muscote Farm, Somers: (914) 864-7282

Farmers Market, 9:30 a.m. - 2:30 p.m. Today is our final 2024 farmers market, which supports farmers and sustainable efforts in our area and features more than 25 local vendors. Get details <https://www.muscotefarm.org/markets/farmers-market-information.html>

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

Gardening Sundays, 10 a.m. - 12 p.m. Get details and register <https://www.lasdonpark.org/event/gardening-sundays/2024-11-17/>

Trailside Nature Museum at Ward Pound Ridge Reservation, Cross River: (914) 864-7322

Fall Ecosystems Exploration, 1 p.m. - 2 p.m. Join us for a guided hike through our changing environment to see how the life around us prepares for winter.

County Budget, continued from pg 1-

paredness, housing, health and mental health services, as well as environmental and economic development programs.”

Deputy County Executive Ken Jenkins said: “This budget underscores this administration’s commitment to meeting community needs through robust funding for essential programs and services. Key initiatives will continue to receive support, reflecting a balanced approach that safeguards resident services without adding to the tax burden.”

This budget comes on the heels of Westchester County being recognized by Fitch Ratings with a prestigious “AAA” credit rating, S&P Global Ratings revising its outlook on the County from stable to positive and affirming its “AA+” long-term rating on the County’s existing general obligation bonds, and Moody’s Investors Service affirming the County’s credit position as “Aa1 stable.”

Other key measures supporting the County’s fiscal health include adequately preparing for labor contracts, avoiding borrowing for operating expenses, refraining from using the fund balance and maintaining cash flow without borrowing.

AFFORDABLE HOUSING

The 2025 budget places a significant emphasis on the need for fair and affordable housing. The County will be launching the Office of Housing Counsel to provide grants for legal services and eviction diversion. Also, \$50 million has been allocated for affordable housing development. Additionally, we are continuing funding for various housing subsidy and eviction prevention programs including \$500 thousand for on-call planning consultants to expedite implementation of affordable housing and flood mitigation projects.

The Building & Realty Institute of Westchester CEO Tim Foley said: “Few counties across New York State can claim the level of investment in housing affordability over the past several years that Westchester can. The proposed budget builds on strategies with a proven track record, like the New Lands Acquisition fund for affordable housing, the Housing Infrastructure Fund, and the Office of Housing Counsel, which can facilitate settlements in disputes between tenants and property owners, keeping both parties out of the morass of housing court. At a time when housing is one of the top affordability concerns nationwide, the proposed budget puts the concerns of current and future homeowners and renters front and center.”

The County will also be enhancing the Fair Housing Community programming through the revitalized Human Rights Commission.

PUBLIC SAFETY & PROBATION & EMERGENCY SERVICES

The proposed 2025 budget is the fourth consecutive budget that provides record funding of \$303 million for public safety. Funding consists of:

- \$78 million for County Police
- \$161 million for Department of Correction
- \$46 million for Probation
- \$18 million for Emergency Services

Department of Public Safety Commissioner Terrance Raynor said: “This proposed budget ensures that the Department of Public Safety will continue to be fully staffed and able to provide the uniformed and investigative services that are critical to keeping Westchester safe. It enables us to fulfill our primary responsibilities and also provide vital support to municipal police departments in our County. I am grateful to the County Executive for the support he continually demonstrates for our Department and its officers.”

The budget also includes funding for a new class of correction officers and 308 sworn police officers. Additionally, Westchester County continues its strong commitment to programs and services to assist victims of Domestic Violence with over \$5 million for legal, therapeutic, medical and training programs.

ENVIRONMENTAL INITIATIVES

Environment and climate resiliency initiatives include the Municipal EV charging grant program, Climate Action Council’s planning institute technical assistance for NYS grants for municipalities, expansion of free compost giveaway days, continuation of the municipal food waste program and institution of several new recycling programs including fats, oil and grease (FOGs) recycling at the Household Material Recovery Facility.

Director of Energy Conservation and Sustainability Peter McCartt said: “The County is ever constant on adding sustainable infrastructure, programs, and initiatives for our government operations as well as for our municipal partners and the residents of Westchester. We truly are on the forefront of innovative measures that help the businesses, towns, and people here in New York State and the U.S. for the betterment of the local and global environment.”

Executive Director of Sustainable Westchester, Inc. Noam Bramson said: “The proposed 2025 budget builds on Westchester County’s impressive record of environmental leadership through both ongoing and new initiatives. We look forward to continuing our strong partnership in support of clean energy, green workforce development, waste reduction, and other critical objectives that improve the health, vitality, fairness, and sustainability of our region.”

Additionally, 304 of the County’s fleet of 325 buses are now electric-hybrid or fully electric greatly reducing our reliance on fossil fuels. The remaining 21 diesel buses will be replaced with electric-hybrid or fully electric buses in 2025. Over 600 new EV chargers are in process of being installed all across the County for public use.

CHILD CARE AND FOOD SECURITY

The 2025 Budget also addresses affordable child care and food security. The County has earmarked, \$78 million for childcare subsidies, an increase of \$22 million from the prior year. Child Care Council of Westchester, Inc. Executive Director Kathleen Halas said: “Once again, Westchester County demonstrates its leadership on child care with a continued historic investment. Recognizing that child care costs pose a serious challenge for many household budgets, Westchester County has significantly reduced the affordability barrier, enabling many more parents to enter and remain in the jobs on which we all depend such as healthcare, education, hospitality, retail and more. On behalf of the parents who can go to work confident that their children are also safe, cared for and

Op-Ed: The election of Donald Trump: A statement about a declining Empire that continues a foundation of white supremacy

By Clifford Jackson, Larchmont

Donald Trumps election as the 47th president has been called the greatest comeback in presidential history. He is the second president since Grover Cleveland to be elected to a second term nonsuccessively. This election brings home how sick and decadent the American Empire is and that white supremacy, this countrys foundation, has included many people of color in its manifestation on today’s political and certainly social stage. So-called pundits and the corporate media have painted a very distorted reason for Trumps victory. They said that Trumps victory was a” pocket book “vote. That was a small part of why he won. A culture of depravity, hatred and a pathological sense of entitlement has driven this support of Donald Trump by white America.” Make America Great Again” is a Canard a false hood. America was never great and” its history of unspeakable crimes that would disgrace a nation of savages “ As Frederick Douglass said in his “ take on the Fourth of July” speech on July 5 1852 brings this point home. Historically whites have always been the real “illegal aliens “in this country. Just ask all of the indigenous tribes that have been put on reservations for centuries by the progenitors of white America today.

These are the same people that described Indians, in the Declaration of Independence and constitution, as “ SAVAGES “. It is the white western world that has ravaged and raped Latin America, Africa and Asia for 5 centuries creating the so-called “ third world “ and the resulting immigration crisis which is a direct byproduct of this rapine by the white western world. Yet the very sick “Archie Bunker” response from a majority of white America is “ that happened a hundred years ago”. This searing ignorance does not understand that it didn’t just happen a hundred years ago. This is a continuum of entitlement, racism and physical and economic violence by white America that has never stopped. The ghettos, barrios and Indian reservations today are a direct result of white pathological violence economic and physical for generations. “Operation WETBACK”, is a part of this continuum of white pathological violence where this brutally racist policy during the Eisenhower Administration in 1953 led to more than 1 million illegal and legal Mexican-Americans being deported back to Mexico. The very name of this policy shows how America has been a tradition of racism from its inception, What really is making this insane and showing how sick and deranged this history of America is is the impact of colonialism. That makes many black, Latino, south Asian, philipino,Polynesian people clones of the very people that have wiped out their indigenous cultures and histories and made them accept this history of violence and racism in a subliminal sense as being justified. It is the reason why millions of people of color are Christian and Catholic. That was determined by colonialism literally centuries before they were born.

The millions of people of color that voted for Trump accept that Trump has emboldened white supremacy. Will have white supremacists like Stephen Miller and Elise Stefanik in his Administration. In her case she had a series of hearings in congress on antisemitism towards Jews and ignored the daily antisemitism and concomitant genocide against Palestinians by the Israelis. Her racism doesn’t care that Palestinians are also Semitic speaking people and therefore subject to antisemitism. . These millions of people of color who voted for Trump also voted for someone that has described Mexicans as rapists and all Latin American illegal immigrants as murderers and criminals . As well as Haitians as animals that eats dogs and cats. Donald Trump is EVIL and with all of his history of xenophobia, racism that has also said , “we should only have immigrants from Norway and the Scandinavian countries. “This is what colonialism does creating this kind of malaise within black and brown communities to give legitimacy to this evil. They also voted for someone that did the same thing that the confederates did 160 years ago. They were rewarded with compensation for the loss of slave property as well as 100 years of American Apartheid raping and slaughtering black people with impunity. Trump has been rewarded for his attack on the capital and all of the violence and treasonous acts with a second Administration. This goes to show that America HAS NEVER EVER BEEN ABOUT THE RULE OF LAW. A convicted felon with 34 felonies elected president of the United States makes the previous statement obvious.

White Mob rule has always been the force that impacts and determines policy in this country.

Clifford Jackson, Larchmont

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Unite NY Releases 2024 New York State

Latimer-Lawler, continued from pg 1-

Election Results Analysis

Unite New York, a nonprofit, nonpartisan movement focused on engaging and empowering voters on important issues of reform, released a statement on the 2024 election and detailed analysis, as well as key takeaways from Election Day.

Unite NY's Executive Director Timothy Dunn made the following statement about this year's Election Day:

"There are plenty of lessons to be learned from this year's election, and it actually started before so-called Election Day. Early voting saw an increase of nearly half a million votes compared to 2020. New Yorkers want to vote on their own time and early voting meets that need. We need our state lawmakers to recognize that to boost voter turnout and engagement, we need to make important changes to the voting process. That includes more ballot initiatives like we saw on this year's ballot. Proposal 1, along with the presidential election are two of the reasons why 64% of voters turned out to the poll. And while that number was higher than 2022, voter turnout in 2024 was actually lower than 2020. If New York wants to get serious about ending voter apathy, we need give people a reason to go to the polls and that starts with important reforms like term limits, rank choice voting, and perhaps most importantly, allowing all voters to participate in primaries. We look forward to partnering with our state lawmakers willing to embrace these reforms and improving democracy in New York."

Here are some additional key data points from this year's election and attached you will find detailed analysis of voter turnout based on publicly available information from the New York State Board of Elections.

In 2024: 800,000 fewer votes were cast for President in New York compared to 2020

Kamala Harris won New York State by a margin of 54.64-43.27 (11%), despite Democrats outnumbering Republicans by more than 2-1.

Prop 1 was approved by a margin of 56.58-34.94 (22%)

Five races were competitive:

Just 3 (of 26) House Races were decided by less than 5% of the vote. The most expensive house primary in history in June resulted in a near 40% win for the democratic nominee.

Just 2 (of 63) State Senate races were decided by less than 5% of the vote, with nearly 1/3 uncontested (19 of 63 with no opponents) and the 2/3 with competition saw an average margin of victory of 24%.

Only 11 (of 150) Assembly races were decided by less than 5% of the vote, with more than 1/3 uncontested (57 out of 150 with no opponents) and the 2/3 with competition seeing an average margin of victory of 27%

More competitive elections entice more people to cast their vote

Nearly 40% of ballots cast for President featured undervotes down the ballot, with lower participation rates in 95 of the 249 down-ballot House and State Legislature races.

Unite NY is a movement focused on engaging and empowering voters on important issues of reform that will allow for more voices and more choices and ultimately, more democracy. The membership organization seeks a more fair, open, and representative democracy that results in the voice of voters being heard by evolving the electoral system so that officials put what more voters want ahead of party interests. Learn more at UniteNY.org.

But as a Congressman he said an awful lot of stuff that many Hudson Valley residents might have thought was plain awful, was rated one of its least bipartisan members, and by seeking election from a New York city district two years ago, looked more like a sailor in search of a safe harbor than a candidate focused on serving the residents of the Hudson Valley.

Ironically, his elite education might actually have been a negative to voters who may more closely identify with candidates who earned degrees from schools that they or their family members may have attended: Like good old Fordham University, from where both George Latimer and his predecessor as Westchester County Executive, Rob Astorino, graduated, or another school in The Bronx, Manhattan College, which claims Mike Lawler as an alumnus.

Each campaign understandably played up their opponent's perceived vulnerabilities: Jones portrayed Lawler as a rubber stamp for Donald Trump, who would gut womens' healthcare rights, and Lawler amplified previous comments by Jones that could be construed as hostile to the police and detrimental to public safety.

By contrast, a George Latimer-type Democratic candidate would have had both a strong local record on bread-and-butter issues like schools, roads, and taxes, and no past comments that could incense or inflame potential voters; there would have been no Lawler commercials beginning with a Latimer-type being praised by Alessandria Ocasio-Cortez.

On the bright side, it became clear that, whoever was elected President, Westchester would be represented in Congress by members of each political party. And anyone who is familiar with George Latimer's record of bipartisanship in the county legislature, the state senate, and as Westchester County Executive, knows he may give Mike Lawler a challenge for fourth most bipartisan member of Congress.

Indeed, the New York Yankees thrived in 1961 with the "M & M" team of Mickey Mantle and Roger Maris; Westchester may also do well under the "L & L" team of Lawler and Latimer.

So while it's a shame the Democratic Party couldn't clone George Latimer and run that candidate in the 16th district, they shouldn't give up hope of reclaiming the district in 2026:

When Mike Lawler runs for Governor.

You might not have heard it here first, but you definitely aren't hearing it here last.

Editor's Note: Politico has been reporting that Congressman Lawler is interested in running for Governor. In a recent interview with Politico, Assemblyman Matt Slater, Politico highlighted the possibility that Lawler would run for Governor and Slater would run for Lawler's seat in Congress. "Listen, opportunities come, right?" Slater said.

The next race for NY Governor is in 2026. Lawler would have to not run for reelection to Congress in '26 to run for Governor.

Some republicans that we talk to say that there are other NY Republicans who would be interested in running for Governor, and if Lawler runs for Governor, other republicans interested in running for his congressional seat in NY-17.

Republicans would almost certainly like Lawler to stay in Congress, and run for reelection in 2026, because of the extra-small majority the GOP will hold in the House.

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The City of Yonkers and The Toby Project
Are Offering
A Free Mobile Spay and Neuter Clinic in Yonkers
For Feral/Abandoned/Homeless Cats

Saturday, November 23rd
8:00 AM

You must be a resident of Yonkers to participate.
Capacity is limited, spots must be reserved by calling 646-306-3738
This free clinic in the Toby Project's mobile surgical truck is only for feral cats, no owned animals/pets.
Cats must be in traps. No walk ins, by appointment only.
Vaccines, snap tests, revolution etc available on the day of surgery.
Recovery space must be provided by rescuers.
Call to reserve your spot! Address in Yonkers will be given when booking appointment

www.tobyproject.org



MAYOR MIKE SPANO

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

Untermeyer Gardens Conservancy Searching for Holiday Tree Donation for Grand Illumination



Inaugurated in 2015, the Untermeyer Gardens Conservancy's Grand Holiday Illumination has quickly become a Yonkers tradition, and thousands of visitors come to enjoy the spectacle. Come for FREE and see the Walled Garden lit with more than 100,000 lights and listen to holiday music from many traditions.

The 2024 Grand Holiday Illumination opens on Saturday, December 7 at 5:30 p.m. and is then open every night through Monday, January 1, from 4:30 until 8:00 p.m., free to the public with NO RESERVATIONS required. Illumination is OPEN on Christmas Day and New Year's Day.

Our Grand Holiday Illumination is only three and a half weeks away, and we are on the lookout for a holiday tree to be installed in the center of the Walled Garden. Every year, we have been fortunate to receive a tree donated by a local homeowner, often because the tree has become too big for their property. We need an evergreen tree around 21–25 feet tall that will fit through the Walled Garden gate. If you have or know of a tree that might be donated, please contact Timothy Tilghman at ttilghman@untermyergardens.org or 845-642-3688; he will meet with you to evaluate the tree's suitability.

Our Illumination features more than 100,000 lights draped over the magnificent architectural and horticultural features of our Indo-Persian Walled Garden. We install them ourselves, which takes the gardeners about three full weeks, followed by their disassembly during much of January. Once again, students from Saunders High School in Yonkers will be fabricating framework for a new light display on the lower terrace. It's quite an operation!

Taking the Polar Plunge for a Good Cause



Rye high school students take the Polar Plunge



L-R: Patricia Gray, M.S Ed English Department, Moderator, The Polar Plunge; Iona Prep student Sean Dowling Catherine Demartino, Rye Rotary Club

The 17th Annual Westchester Polar Plunge, hosted by Special Olympics New York, returned to Playland Beach on Nov. 9 with more than 1,000 participants.

Iona Preparatory School in New Rochelle continues to give back to the community by raising over \$62,000 for the 2024 Westchester Polar Plunge that took place on November 11 at Playland Beach in Rye, NY. The Iona Prep Plungers – made up of over 100 Iona Prep students and their families/friends - raised over \$62,000 for the Special Olympics, the largest team amount representing 27% of the organization's goal. Team Co-Caption Sean Dowling from Yonkers was awarded a \$500 check toward his tuition since he was the second highest donor/fundraiser for the plunge. Catherine Demartino from the Rye Rotary Club awarded him the scholarship.

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