

Westchester Rising

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Latimer Proposes County Budget for 2024 with No Tax Levy Increase for Fifth Consecutive Year

Belmont Gets 2,114 Write in Votes for Harrison Supervisor; N. Castle Election Has 1 Vote Lead



County Executive George Latimer, with his finance team and Deputy County Executive Ken Jenkins, presenting 2024 proposed county budget

Westchester County Executive George Latimer announced his proposed 2024 Operating Budget, his sixth, marking another significant step in the County's journey to fiscal stability, sustainable development and enhanced public services.

Latimer said: "The 2024 Proposed Westchester County Operating Budget totals \$2.4 billion and continues a commitment to programs that meet the needs of Westchester County residents. The proposed Operating Budget for 2024 maintains the same County property tax levy as 2023, marking the fifth consecutive year without a levy increase. This budget is a testament to our commitment to the residents of Westchester County."

Budget Director Larry Soule said: "Since 2018 we have worked hard, under County Executive Latimer, to restore fiscal stability and improve the overall state of Westchester County. This dedication has yielded impressive results, as indicated by independent credit rating agencies. This is a proud day for the County."

According to the fiscal bond rating services, Westchester's financial outlook is stable and positive, and NYS Comptroller Tom DiNapoli recently lowered the fiscal stress score for the County to zero. This is the best score a municipality can achieve, indicating outstanding financial stability.

Westchester County Government will complete 2023 without borrowing for Tax Certioraris or for pensions, and will not have had to tap into fund balance.

Latimer said: "This is great news for our County, as it demonstrates our commitment to responsible budgeting and holding taxes steady. This budget continues to place particular emphasis on public safety and emergency preparedness, housing, health and mental health services, as well as environmental and economic development programs. There are no one-shots, borrowing for operating expenditures, or use of any fund balance."

and no increase in property tax levy-Included in Latimer's budget plan are:

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Former Harrison Supervisor Ron Belmont, left, with General Baumgarden at Harrison Veteran's Day celebration

By Dan Murphy

Write in candidate and Former Harrison Supervisor-Mayor Ron Belmont is awaiting the results of 2,114 write in votes case for Town Supervisor on Nov. 7. Belmont ran one of the more successful write-in campaigns in Westchester history, and while most of the write in votes cast still have to be reviewed and counted, at the Board of Elections, Belmont is believed to have most or all of the 2,114 votes cast.

Republican Supervisor-Mayor Rich Dionisio got 1,984 votes, with democrat Mark Jaffe at 1,827. Dionisio leads until the Belmont votes are counted and reviewed. Belmont's estimated total of 2,114 votes gives him a 130 vote lead over Dionisio. The Board of Elections, and Dionisio's campaign attorneys, will be reviewing each and every write in vote for errors.

Many believed that the two republicans in the race, Dionisio and Belmont, would split the vote and give the victory to the democrat, Mark Jaffe. But Jaffe finished third, 150 votes short of Dionisio and an estimated 280 votes from Belmont.

This election might be in the courts for a while before a winner is declared. Congratulations to Ron Belmont for running a successful, campaign that shows the overwhelming popularity and respect the people in Harrison have for Ron Belmont. The numbers also show that Belmont's campaign was able to explain to voters that while his name was not on the ballot, and then to explain how to write Belmont's name in-not an easy task.

In the Town of North Castle, one vote separates Town Supervisor candidates, democrat Joseph Rende, 1,569 and republican Barbara DiGiacinto, 1,568, with an automatic recount underway.

Democrats in North Castle won the two council seats, Jose Berra and Saleem Hussain, and the town clerk and town judge races on the ballot.

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Did You Know that Frosty the Snowman's is From Westchester? Armonk Parade Set for Nov. 26

Clay Tiffany - Gadfly, Truthteller, Pest, Movie Star Dirty Cop Nick Tartaglione & Jeffrey Epstein Part of Story



By Dan Murphy

Every year in the Westchester Town of North Castle, a holiday tradition is held celebrating the birthplace of Frosty the Snowman. In the Westchester village of Armonk, a parade is held to commemorate the fact that the famous story, and movie that most of us have watched again and again on television, hails from Westchester.

The lyricist of the winter holiday classic, Steve Nelson, was a frequent visitor to Armonk after World War II from his home in nearby White Plains. In 1950, he wrote the song's lyrics, which he put to Jack Rollins' music; it was the same year that he was looking for land in Armonk on which to build his new home. Gene Autry recorded the song that year, making it an instant classic, following his earlier hit of "Rudolph the Red-Nosed Reindeer."

Two years later, Nelson moved his young family to Armonk, where he lived until his death in 1981. In 1957, "Frosty the Snowman" was recorded again by Perry Como, solidifying it as a perennial song of the season. This success was followed by an animated version in 1969, now seen annually on TV.

Located in the Town of North Castle, Armonk's historic district is the "Village Square" mentioned in the song's lyrics where Frosty dared the children to "catch me if you can."

Lifelong Armonk resident and town Councilwoman Barbara DiGiacinto said: "It was pretty much common knowledge that Mr. Nelson had Armonk in mind when he wrote the song. (As a matter of fact, the traffic cop in the song who hollered 'Stop!' to Frosty was said to be based on the town's former Chief of Police John Hergenhan, who just happened to be my uncle."

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Clay Tiffany

By Dan Murphy

Many of our readers may not know or remember the name Clay Tiffany, the bombastic host of a cable TV access show, Dirge for the Charlatans, which aired out of an Ossining cable access studio in the late 1990's. Tiffany, a Briarcliff resident, would rant about corruption and scandal, and would target whoever he believed was on the wrong side of good government.

Tiffany's accusations of corruption and wrongdoing in local government and the Briarcliff school district resulted in some notoriety. The show was entertaining and informative but was not always correct in its accusations. Tiffany named the people in local government who he accused of wrongdoing, and one was Briarcliff Manor police officer Nick Tartaglione. Tartaglione was a young, hulking presence who Tiffany was accusing of being a "rogue cop."

Tiffany continued the weekly accusations against Tartaglione, until Tartaglione flew into a steroid like rage, assaulting Tiffany while he was swimming alone on the Hudson River in 1999. Tiffany sued Tartaglione and the Briarcliff Police Department and kept talking about it on his show.

This resulted in a second, more ruthless beating, that left Tiffany in the hospital and scarred him for the rest of his life. The FBI began investigating and Tiffany won a lawsuit against the Village and Tartaglione for \$200,000, but his life was never the same. He died in 2015 a broken man but did have a moment of notoriety in Westchester because of his public access shows, lawsuits and confrontations with Tartaglione.

Tartaglione was fired, and then rehired by the Briarcliff Police

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Holiday Events at Westchester State Parks



Above: St. Nicholas Day Celebration: 12 noon-4pm at Philipse Manor Hall State Historic Site | FREE Also known as Sinterklaas, this holiday is based on the Catholic feast day of Turkish bishop St. Nicholas of Myrna, which in the 17th and 18th centuries became a popular Dutch holiday. Join us for a visit from St. Nicholas himself, historical games, ornament crafts, gingerbread decorating, live music, and more! Sponsored by the Friends of Philipse Manor Hall. Visit PhilipseManorHall.org for more information.

Below: Jingle Bell Parade! December 10, 1 – 2 pm Get into the holiday spirit and dress up for the occasion as you sip hot cider and walk around the lake alongside horses, carriages, and your fur-babies in costume. Enjoy carolers singing live and stop by the Swan Lake kiosk to enter to win a prize for best horse costume or best dog costume. Dogs must be leashed at all times. This family-friendly event is FREE. Carriage rides are also available. Photo courtesy of RangerSu. Visit RockefellerStateParkPreserve.org for more information.



**Connor Boekel, Byram Hills High School,
Named Con Edison Scholar-Athlete of the Week**



Connor Boekel

By Dan Murphy

Congratulations to Connor Boekel, a senior at Byram Hills High school, for being named a Con Edison Scholar-Athlete of the week. Connor is a member of the BHHS Bobcats Boys Soccer team, which this season brought home a Class A Sectional Title.

And now the Bobcats move on to the State Final Four, with Boekel leading the way. Connor’s defense has made him the MVP of recent playoff games, and overall, the stingy BHHS Boys Soccer defense has allowed only 10 goals in 22 games this year.

Connor plays center back for the team and has anchored the defense as captain. Connor was also recently named as All-Section and was nominated for All-State. He is the anchor of the defense that only plays with three defenders. In soccer speak, he controls the middle of the field pretty much by himself.

Boekel also plays outfield for the Byram Hills Varsity Baseball team for the past two years. He is captain of both the Boys Soccer and Baseball teams. He is a two-time captain of the soccer team.

Connor is the recipient this year of the Sylvia Rogers Memorial Scholarship, awarded to two senior student-athletes who achieved great things on the fields of play and the classroom.

Academically, Boekel is a member of the Mu Alpha Theta Math Honor Society and the World Language Honor Society, with academic excellence in Spanish. He is also a member of the AP Scholars, a club that represents students who have an average of 4 on the AP Exams.

In the summer of 2023, Connor was a student Researcher at the Delgoffe Lab in association with the UPMC Hillman Cancer, Center University of Pittsburgh, where he completed a study on mechanisms of oncolytic virotherapy: vaccinia virus in addition to melanoma targeting T cells treating melanoma cancer cells in vitro.

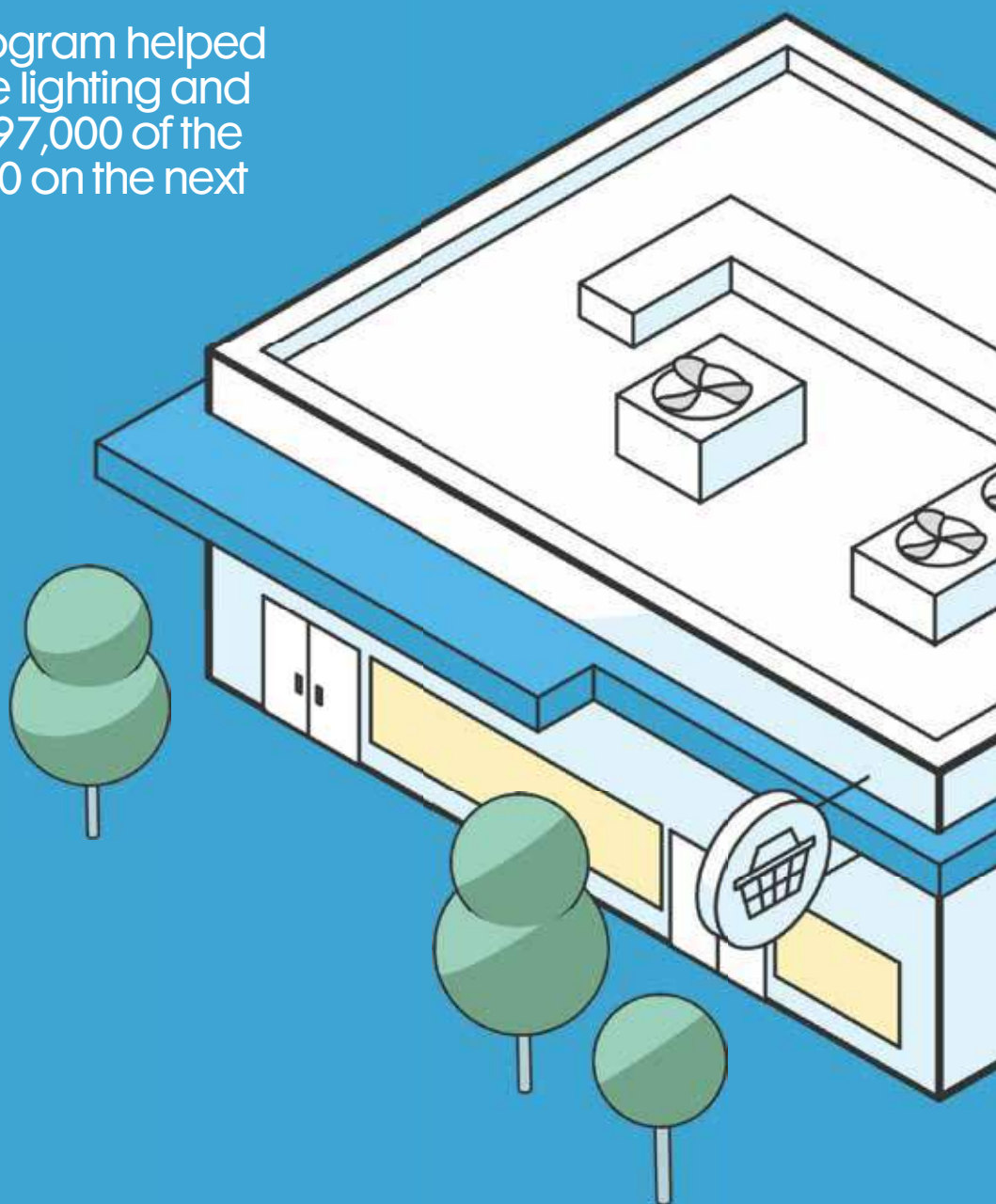
His volunteer work includes serving in the Stayin’ Alive Charity Race, and as a volunteer -tutor at the Cottage School. Connor is on track for graduation with a 4.081 GPA, with 6 AP courses completed.

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Activists Call On Gov. Hochul To Stop Algonquin Pipeline Expansion

It's Beginning to Look a Lot like Thanksgiving

By Eric Wolf Schoen



map of proposed pipeline expansion

On Nov. 14, activists rallied outside the shuttered Indian Point nuclear plant in Peekskill, calling on Governor Hochul to stop the latest proposed expansion of the area's Algonquin Pipeline. In 2016, three activists were arrested at the very same site for blocking construction of a 42-inch pipeline constructed as part of the Algonquin Incremental Pipeline Expansion. In addition, two older 30-inch and one 26-inch pipelines run underneath the plant. Decommissioning at Indian Point houses over 2,000 tons of irradiated fuel rods in addition to other radioactive waste.

Today's protest was part of a coordinated week of action with similar rallies held along the pipeline which runs from the Hudson Valley through Connecticut to Massachusetts.

Dubbed "Project Maple," pipeline owner Enbridge's proposal would significantly expand the amount of gas transmitted through the Algonquin Pipeline under the Indian Point property, despite New York's Climate Leadership & Community Protection Act which mandates greenhouse gas emissions reductions of at least 85 percent by 2050 and the state's nation-leading ban on fossil fuels in new buildings, which will go into effect in 2026.

"Fracked gas is unwelcome in New York," said Food & Water Watch Senior NY Organizer Santosh Nandabalan. "Proposals to expand the reach of this dirty fossil fuel will come at our direct peril, bringing climate change fueled disasters like this summer's deadly flooding, higher energy bills, and serious health problems. New York's nation-leading climate law and ban on fossil fuels in new homes are incompatible with gas pipeline expansion in our borders. Governor Hochul must send a crystal clear message to Enbridge — Project Maple has no place in New York."

"Project Maple is a sweet-sounding name for a project that stinks," said Assemblywoman Dana Levenberg, who represents the area. "At a time when we are pushing so hard to reduce our greenhouse gas emissions, I cannot abide the expansion of this type of infrastructure, particularly to be co-located in an area as sensitive as that around Indian Point. I implore the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission and the regulatory authorities of the states impacted by this proposal to stop Project Maple in its tracks. All of us in the proposed Project Maple area should instead re-double our efforts to incentivize the development of renewable energy projects and storage capacity."

"We fought the AIM expansion, then the Atlantic Bridge expansion, then the Access Northeast expansion, and now they want to come back again for the fourth time in 10 years for another expansion? Our community is in enough danger. We want renewable energy, not more fracked gas. Especially given the risks at Indian Point, the Buchanan-Verplanck Elementary School, and through our community, Governor Hochul must join governors in New England to hold the line against new fossil fuel infrastructure," said Courtney Williams, a scientist, activist, Peekskill resident, and founder of Safe Energy Rights Group.

"It is appalling that—once again—we have to fight the expansion of a fracked gas pipeline placed inexplicably close to the Indian Point nuclear power plant, the site of large amounts of radioactive waste," said Iris Hiskey Arno of NYCD16 Indivisible. "Expanding this fracked gas pipeline is a dangerous step backwards that we simply cannot afford".

Enbridge submitted a bid for the project with the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission on September 12. The expansion of up to 750,000 extra dekatherms of fracked gas per day may necessitate additional pipeline construction.

Where does time go? It seems like only yesterday that we were carving the Thanksgiving 2022 turkey dishing out the sweet potatoes with marshmallows, stuffing and vegetables! And here we go again, the 2023 turkey and accompaniments will be on our plates next week! Is it possible that a year has gone by? Did someone take a month out of the calendar?

Though Tom Turkey may not have gone up in price a lot, the price of everything that goes with it has skyrocketed out of sight. No afternoon delight! These price increases have been blamed on everything. I was looking at the leftover from Halloween Reese's Peanut Butter Cups (actually in the shape of a turtle) that were half price at the CVS. Six turtles for a little under \$5!

I couldn't believe that price so I asked the salesclerk if the actual price was \$10 for the package. She said yes it was. Thank god practically no children ring my doorbell. The price for candy is insane! I figured let me treat myself to the package, eating only one turtle at 175 calories a day. I opened the package and the turtles which are the same thing as the cups tasted different. Same thing for a carton of dad's favorite, Breyer's Ice Cream which I haven't had in years but tasted different. Lemon Ice cups same thing.

Have they reformulated the ice cream, lemon ice and Reese's? They didn't seem as sweet as in the past. Could they have cut the sugar due to its' increasing cost? Something is up with these food items as well as others I enjoyed which just don't taste the same. Price goes up, quality goes down. Wonderful.

So a warning. Don't be shocked if the foods you have traditionally enjoyed cost more and don't taste the same. With many of these items I don't believe that ingredient costs have gone up in price because of the economy, inflation, the pandemic or some other reason. I think manufacturers are just trying to screw us. By the way, Stew Leonard, Jr. says buy a fresh turkey over frozen. I agree with him!

Dining out for Thanksgiving? Not everyone in the world eats turkey. Most prix fixe menus included selections other than turkey in the past. I looked at a list this year of restaurants offering Thanksgiving dinner. The only thing on the prix fixe meal as a main course was turkey. The price? \$100 + per person. Now turkey is turkey. Before you go out to eat and spend \$100 for turkey, please consider buying a whole one and eating at home. And where did pumpkin cheesecake come from. Is there a law that says pumpkin must be in everything for Thanksgiving?

Stores have been having Black Friday sales for a month. The big Black Friday bargain doesn't seem to exist anymore. Fortunately most malls and retail stores are closed Thanksgiving Day opening early Friday morning. It allows their staff to enjoy the holiday as they should. But you know, in a strange way I miss the stores opening at midnight Friday morning and standing in the cold waiting to purchase that big screen television set. Crazy me!

People travel Sunday to Wednesday before Thanksgiving. But everyone wants to come home on Sunday. Remember that when planning your travels. Be careful driving. I can't believe the crazy way people drive during a regular day. It is worse on a holiday. Try to drive off hours when the crazies are not out there. And pray a police officer is nearby because when people see police on the road they behave like ladies and gentlemen.

A record number of people are expected to be on the roads and using our airports this Thanksgiving. Check the rules for parking because without a reservation on site at our airports the prices are more insane than they usually are. John Kennedy and Fiorello LaGuardia are turning in their graves when they see the prices their namesake airports charge to park.

As we go to press the lights are being placed on the Rockefeller Christmas tree and Wednesday was the first traffic red light alert day. Have you ever seen Macy's Thanksgiving Day Parade in person? We live so close to what people

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Corrections Officer and Westchester Resident Indicted for Smuggling Contraband Into Sing Sing

Westchester County District Attorney Miriam E. Rocah announced that two men, including a correction officer, were arraigned on an indictment that charges the defendants with smuggling contraband to incarcerated individuals at Sing Sing Correctional Facility in Ossining in exchange for payments.

DA Rocah said: "A correction officer allegedly violated his oath and duty by working with someone outside the facility to create a potentially dangerous environment for the incarcerated population and his fellow officers. Our office will continue to work with the New York State Department of Corrections and Community Supervision to investigate and prosecute those who participate in these kinds of schemes."

The defendants were arrested by the Westchester County District Attorney's Office today and arraigned before Judge Robert Prisco in Westchester County Court after a Westchester County Grand Jury indicted them on the following charges:

Jose Estevez-Luciano, 33, of Irvington, a New York State correction officer assigned to Sing Sing since 2015, was charged with Conspiracy in the Fifth Degree, Bribe Receiving in the Second Degree, 12 counts of Bribe Receiving in the Third Degree, 12 counts of Promoting Prison Contraband in the First Degree, Promoting Prison Contraband in the Second Degree, and 13 counts of Official Misconduct.

Francis De La Cruz, 24, of Sleepy Hollow, was charged with Conspiracy in the Fifth Degree, Bribe Receiving in the Second Degree, 12 counts of Bribe Receiving in the Third Degree, 12 counts of Promoting Prison Contraband in the First Degree, and Promoting Prison Contraband in the Second Degree.

The indictment alleges that the defendants conspired to smuggle cell phones and other contraband into Sing Sing between Oct. 14, 2021 and Aug. 2, 2023. Specifically, it is alleged that the defendants agreed that De La Cruz would receive the contraband and accept payments from associates of the incarcerated individuals at the direction of Estevez-Luciano, and thereafter De La Cruz would provide the contraband to Estevez-Luciano who would deliver the contraband to the incarcerated individuals in exchange for the payments.

It is further alleged that Estevez-Luciano did in fact smuggle cell phones and other contraband into the prison and delivered it to incarcerated individuals with the agreement to accept payments, including one such payment being in excess of \$5,000.

The Public Integrity and Law Enforcement Integrity Bureau of the Westchester County District Attorney's Office and the New York State Department of Corrections and Community Supervision Office of Special Investigations, conducted the investigation. Estevez-Luciano was suspended without pay following his arraignment.

Eric Schoen, continued from pg 3-

around the country and the world are watching and would love the opportunity to see in person. It's a fun experience for the family- hot chocolate, warm pretzels and chestnuts roasting on the open fire sold by vendors to munch on.

Most places that need volunteers to serve Thanksgiving Dinner have more people than they can use. Remember, there are 364 more days in the year that charities need volunteers. Check on your neighbors and if they are alone invite them to join you at your dining table. Isn't that what Thanksgiving is all about?

There are discount tickets with the exception of a few big hits for all the shows on Broadway. The new Barry Manilow show, Harmony is perfect given the times we are living in. In Yonkers check out the Showcase Cinemas movie plan which brings the cost of a movie down to a little over \$5 a person. Other movie theaters have similar discount plans.

Yes, the world we live in is a little topsy turvy right now. Organizations sponsor days when people can do something good for charity. Every day is a good day for you to help individuals and organizations in our community. Do something good everyday and you will feel better yourself.

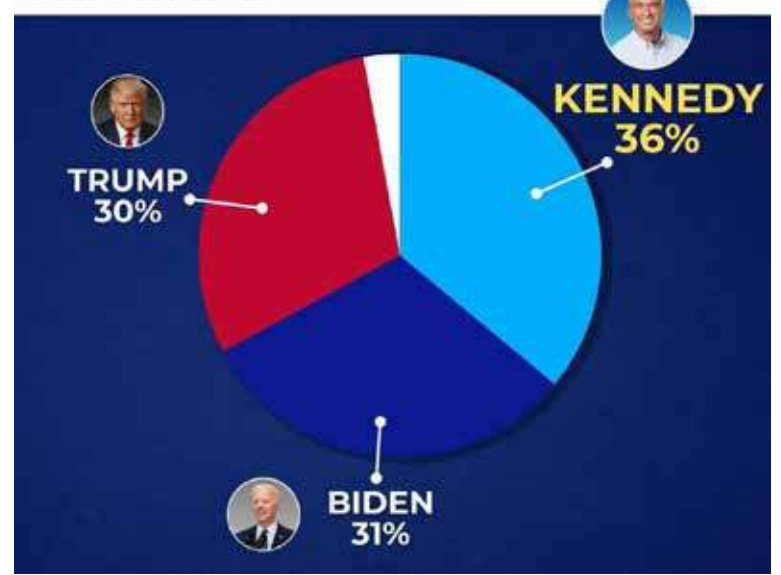
We pray for peace in the world and an end to all the conflicts that exist. From my family to yours a very Happy Thanksgiving filled with good health, happiness and love.

Reach Eric Schoen at thistooisonkers@aol.com, follow him on Twitter (X) @ericyonkers or friend him on Facebook Eric Schoen...just look for him in the picture with Joan Rivers!

Two Polls Have RFK Jr Leading Biden and Trump with Independents and Voters Under 45

POLL: RFK, Jr. outpaces Biden, Trump among Independents

Quinnipiac University, Nov 1, 2023



A 2024 Presidential poll by Quinnipiac University found that Robert F. Kennedy Jr. gets 22% in a three-way race that includes President Joe Biden and former President Donald Trump.

"When the hypothetical 2024 general election matchup broadens to include environmental lawyer and anti- vaccine activist Robert F. Kennedy, Jr. who is running as an independent candidate, Biden receives 39 percent support, Trump receives 36 percent support, and Kennedy receives 22 percent support.

"Among independents, 36 percent support Kennedy, 31 percent support Trump, and 30 percent support Biden."

"When progressive activist Cornel West who is running as an independent candidate is added to make a four-person hypothetical 2024 general election matchup, voters give Biden 36 percent support, Trump 35 percent support, Kennedy 19 percent support, and West 6 percent support. Among independents, 33 percent support Kennedy, 30 percent support Trump, 27 percent support Biden, and 8 percent support West.

"With minority and younger voters seeming intrigued, Kennedy, for now, enjoys the kind of demographic support his charismatic father and uncles generated decades ago," said Quinnipiac University Polling Analyst Tim Malloy.

In a NYTimes-Sienna Poll, Kennedy gets the support of 24% of registered voters, and in the five battleground states included in the poll, Kennedy gets 26% in Arizona, 24% in Georgia, 26% in Michigan, 23% in Nevada, 23% in Pennsylvania and 22% in Wisconsin.

Biden polls at 33% and Trump at 35% in these same five states, putting RFK Jr. 11 points behind the President and former President.

Another glaring number that comes out of the Times-Sienna poll is that with younger voters, under the age of 44, RFK Jr. is beating both Biden and Trump, with Kennedy at 32%, Biden at 30% and Trump at 29%.

Both the Quinnipiac poll and the Times-Sienna poll give us a similar snapshot of the support for Kennedy at around 23%. An independent candidate for President has not polled north of 20% since Ross Perot hit 30% in the summer of 1992.

And both polls give Kennedy three segments of the American electorate to build his campaign around: Minority voters, younger voters and independents.

And all of the support for Kennedy comes amid a mainstream media blackout of RFK Jr.'s campaign.

Connor Boekel, continued from pg 2-

"Connor is heavily involved in our athletic programs, playing on the Varsity Soccer and Varsity Baseball teams throughout high school. He consistently shows up through both teams, whether starting or not, to commit to his teammates and bring the spirit. Notably, he was named captain of the soccer team during his junior year, which seldom happens. This is due to his helpful nature and willingness to go the extra mile to guide his teammates," said Coach Matt Allen.

"When someone needs assistance, Connor is the first person to stand up and offer a helping hand. He enjoys learning and working with others, which will help make his college experience successful. I am excited to see what he does next," writes Keara Hunt, School Counselor.

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Clay Tiffany, continued from pg 1-

Department. He later “retired” and moved upstate where he became a drug dealer, eventually killing four of his drug partners. He was convicted of murder and is now serving a life sentence.

While in prison awaiting trial in the Manhattan Correctional Center, Tartaglione was a prison mate of Jeffrey Epstein. In fact, Tartaglione was cell mates with Epstein in the days and weeks before Epstein “hung himself” in his prison cell.

The story of Tiffany, Tartaglione and Epstein has drawn the interest of Emmy award-winning producer Gary Cohen, who has created nine documentary films for ESPN’s 30 for 30 series.

“This is about free speech and how free speech isn’t always pretty. But it’s effective in keeping the public informed and the public servants accountable. Clay Tiffany was an ugly, necessary part of the system,” said Cohen.

“Clay did something that made the system work better, and there is a concern that we are losing that ability by the local press to hold people accountable for bad behavior. Tiffany was a voice, a true citizen journalist. While he wasn’t right all of the time, once in a while he hit a nerve that needs to be hit. More of these voices are disappearing.

“It’s this erosion that creates the need for Clay Tiffany, and the object lesson is Tartaglione. Clay was screaming that Tartaglione was a rogue cop before he was a drug dealer. He was an inconvenient truth to the system,” said Cohen.

Phil Reisman, the Dean of Westchester journalists at the turn of the millennium, wrote that Tiffany “ultimately aspired to nobility, even when he crossed the line of civility,” and called him “a controversial, iconoclastic gadfly in a quest for truth.”

Reisman was one of many Westchester residents who didn’t care for Tiffany’s antics. Tiffany had a bad habit of showing up unannounced to confront elected officials and journalists when he disagreed with what they were doing or weren’t doing. Most people who knew of Tiffany did not like him.

Tiffany also heckled DA Jeanine Pirro on several occasions, blurting out “how’s your husband,” referring to Al Pirro and his tax troubles. And then again at her book signing, “what’s the matter, Jeanine, did you have a bad face lift?”

Actor John C. Reilly created a character for an American comedy TV series called Check It Out with Dr. Steve Brule, who has an uncanny similarity to Tiffany and his public access show. ([Link- https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=z5bMr_0Zoc0&list=RDQMpy76GerwR-g&start_radio=1](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=z5bMr_0Zoc0&list=RDQMpy76GerwR-g&start_radio=1))

What is required for Cohen to begin his work is to find copies of Tiffany’s Dirge shows. A few episodes are on YouTube, <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7SJ3vkUHFQc&t=63s>

Perhaps a Tiffany aficionado has copies of most or all of the shows on VHS tapes. We want to help Cohen in this effort and believe that he has found a great topic for a documentary.

Anyone in possession of, or with information on who has video tapes of Dirge for the Charlatans can contact us at d Murphy@risingmediagroup.com, or Cohen at gary@triplethreatchannel.com.

At the time of Tiffany’s 200 broadcasts, I was a resident of Briarcliff Manor, and found his show to be oddly entertaining and unique, and occasionally breaking some news of interest.

Clay Tiffany was a journalist seeking to uncover the truth and the truth as he saw it. And like any journalist and their works, the people have a choice. You can read it or watch it or turn the channel.

Former Westchester Deputy County Executive Arrested for Hit and Run



mug shot of Neil DeLuca

By Dan Murphy

The news that former Westchester County Deputy County Executive Neil DeLuca was arrested and charged with leaving the scene of an accident after striking a 66-year old woman was disturbing.

The incident happened in the Town of Mount Pleasant on October 21. DeLuca is accused of hitting the woman at 7:45 pm on Bradhurst Avenue. Another motorist witnessed the accident and called the police.

An investigation by Mount Pleasant police found a piece of the car that struck the woman. Further investigation identified the vehicle involved and DeLuca was found to be an owner of the vehicle. Police interviewed DeLuca and he was placed under arrest.

DeLuca was arraigned in Mount Pleasant Town Court on October 22 and charged with a felony charge of leaving the scene of a serious injury motor vehicle accident and with unlicensed operation.

The woman was taken to Westchester Medical Center with serious injuries.

“As chief of the department, I could not be more proud of all involved personnel to bring this investigation to a successful conclusion culminating in the arrest of this offender,” said Mount Pleasant Police Chief Paul Oliva. “Our thoughts and prayers are with the victim.”

Prior to serving as Deputy County Executive under County Executive Andrew O’Rourke from 1991-1996, DeLuca, 74, served as Yonkers City Manager from 1988 to 199. He is President of the DeLuca Group, a real estate development consulting firm.

Mt. Pleasant Judge Mark Rubeo also issued an order of protection preventing DeLuca with having any contact with the victim or witness.

This incident is disturbing because DeLuca is a retired public servant with a generous pension. Due to the injuries sustained by the victim, it is clear that DeLuca knew that an accident had happened but decided to flee.

Police didn’t get to interview DeLuca for 24 hours, preventing DeLuca from being examined for intoxication. He was also charged with driving without a license.

Most retired election officials obey the laws of their community. DeLuca had no regard for the woman he seriously injured. Shame on you-Neil DeLuca.

Letter to the Editor--The Unseen Struggles of Our Veterans

By Angelo M. Valente, Executive Director of the Partnership for a Drug-Free NJ

As Veterans Day draws near, we are reminded to pay homage to the brave individuals who serve our nation. This solemn day calls for more than reflection; it demands an acknowledgment of the stark realities many veterans contend with post-service, especially the battles waged against mental health disorders and addiction.

Troubling figures from the Department of Veterans Affairs suggest that nearly 10% of veterans returning from combat zones like Iraq and Afghanistan grapple with substance misuse. These numbers cast light on a distressing trend of substance reliance among veterans, a pattern often set in motion by the harrowing experiences encountered during active duty.

Our duty as a nation is to recognize the issues veterans face. On Veterans Day—and indeed every day—we must elevate our commitment to our veterans’ mental well-being and rehabilitation. Advocacy for better access to mental health and addiction services is not just a gesture of gratitude but a necessary action to ensure that those who have served can reclaim the peace and stability they so richly deserve. Let this Veterans Day be a beacon of hope and a call to action, reaffirming our unwavering support for the brave souls who have served our country.



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

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

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

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

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

1. RFB-7062 - Opening date: 12/1/2023: Purchase 2023 Tahoe LT 4WD Vehicle or newer (MM).
2. RFB-7050A - Opening date: 12/1/2023: Purchase of (2) new Ford Transit Passenger Vans T-350 XL AWD - REBID (MM).
3. RFB-7063 - Opening date: 12/13/2023: Provide maintenance and repairs to fuel dispensing equipment and petroleum bulk storage tanks, as needed (KS).
4. RFB-7048A - Opening date: 12/1/2023: Furnish and deliver up to sixty (60) Kintronics, or Yonkers approved equal, camera enclosures and ubiquities - REBID (NG).
5. RFB-7061 - Opening date: 12/8/2023: Furnish and install three (3) Chargepoint, or Yonkers approved equal, charging stations at two (2) Yonkers Police Department locations (NG).
6. IFB-7064 - Opening date: 12/13/2023: Kitchen Upgrades at PEARLS Hawthorne (AC).
7. RFB-7065 - Opening date: 12/8/2023: Repair of Clock, Intercom & P.A Systems (FB).
8. RFB-7066 - Opening date: 12/8/2023: Chemical Treatment and Cooling Tower Maintenance Program (VB).
9. RFP-486 - Opening date: 12/1/2023: Provide Traffic Study Mc Lean Avenue (DC).
10. IFB-6891A – Opening date: 12/13/2023: Gym Complex and Site Upgrades at Lincoln High School - REBID (AC).
11. RFB-7035A - Opening date: 12/8/2023: Window Replacement – Part 2 of Roof, Heating Plant & Window Replacement and Interior Upgrades at Martin Luther King School - REBID (MM).
12. RFB-6949A – Opening date: 12/13/2023: Furnish and Deliver Corbin Russwin, or Yonkers approved equal, locks and hardware for schools - REBID (KAS).
13. RFB 7067 – Opening date: 12/13/2023: Furnish and deliver Fire Department uniforms, as needed (KS).
14. RFB 7068 – Opening date: 12/13/2023: Paint Safety lines as Vehicle Maintenance Department on the garage floor (FB).

Classifieds

Attorney
DIVORCE \$389 - Uncontested divorce papers prepared. Only one signature required. Poor person Application included if applicable. Separation agreements. Custody and support petitions. 518-274-0380

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**TOWN OF EASTCHESTER
LEGAL NOTICE OF HEARING ON
2024 PRELIMINARY BUDGET**

Please take notice that the Town Board of the Town of Eastchester shall hold its annual budget hearing on TUESDAY, DECEMBER 5, 2023 to consider the adoption of the Town of Eastchester’s 2024 calendar year budget. Said hearing on this Preliminary Budget shall be held at the Town Hall, 40 Mill Road, Eastchester, New York at 7:00 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) \$65,000	\$ 65,000
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
LINDA D. LAIRD TOWN CLERK

SUMMONS Supreme Court of New York, Westchester County U.S. BANK TRUST NATIONAL ASSOCIATION, NOT IN ITS INDIVIDUAL CAPACITY BUT SOLELY AS OWNER TRUSTEE FOR VRMTG ASSET TRUST, Plaintiff, -against- UNKNOWN HEIRS OF THE ESTATE OF KENNETH MOORE A/K/A KENNETH ARTHUR MOORE; ALECIA NATALEE MOORE, POSSIBLE ADMINISTRATRIX AND HEIR AND DISTRIBUTE OF THE ESTATE OF KENNETH MOORE A/K/A KENNETH ARTHUR MOORE; ALECIA NATALEE MOORE, AS NATURAL GUARDIAN OF DK A/K/A DDM A/K/A DDM A/K/A DM, MINOR HEIR AND DISTRIBUTE OF THE ESTATE OF KENNETH MOORE A/K/A KENNETH ARTHUR MOORE; KENTON MOORE, HEIR AND DISTRIBUTE OF THE ESTATE OF KENNETH MOORE A/K/A KENNETH ARTHUR MOORE; KADIA MOORE DAVIS, HEIR AND DISTRIBUTE OF THE ESTATE OF KENNETH MOORE A/K/A KENNETH ARTHUR MOORE; TANEISHA MOORE ISAAC, HEIR AND DISTRIBUTE OF THE ESTATE OF KENNETH MOORE A/K/A KENNETH ARTHUR MOORE; TAMARINE MOORE HENRY, HEIR AND DISTRIBUTE OF THE ESTATE OF KENNETH MOORE A/K/A KENNETH ARTHUR MOORE; JASON MOORE, HEIR AND DISTRIBUTE OF THE ESTATE OF KENNETH MOORE A/K/A KENNETH ARTHUR MOORE; LUSAN MOORE, HEIR AND DISTRIBUTE OF THE ESTATE OF KENNETH MOORE A/K/A KENNETH ARTHUR MOORE; KYLIE MOORE, HEIR AND DISTRIBUTE OF THE ESTATE OF KENNETH MOORE A/K/A KENNETH ARTHUR MOORE; NEW YORK STATE DEPARTMENT OF TAXATION AND FINANCE; UNITED STATES OF AMERICA (SOUTHERN DISTRICT) O/B/O INTERNAL REVENUE SERVICE; PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK; SUSTAINABLE NEIGHBORHOODS LLC; “JOHN DOE” AND “JANE DOE” said names being fictitious, it being the intention of Plaintiff to designate any and all occupants of premises being foreclosed herein,, Defendants. Index No. 63827/2023 Mortgaged Premises: 55 Vernon Avenue Mount Vernon, NY 10553 Section: 165.81 Block: 4029 Lot: 12. To The Above Named Defendant(s): YOU ARE HEREBY SUMMONED to answer the Complaint in the above entitled action and to serve a copy of your Answer on the Plaintiff’s attorney within twenty (20) days of the service of this Summons, exclusive of the day of service, or within thirty (30) days after service of the same is complete where service is made in any manner other than by personal delivery within the State. The United States of America, if designated as a Defendant in this action, may answer or appear within sixty (60) days of service. If you fail to appear or to answer within the aforementioned time frame, judgment will be taken against you by default for the relief demanded in the Complaint. NOTICE OF NATURE OF ACTION AND RELIEF SOUGHT THE OBJECTIVE of the above captioned action is to foreclose on a Mortgage to secure \$400,000.00 and interest, recorded in the Westchester County Clerk’s Office on April 2, 2007 under Control Number 470810667, covering the premises known as 55 Vernon Avenue, Mount Vernon, NY 10553. The relief sought herein is a final judgment directing sale of the premises described above to satisfy the debt secured by the mortgage described above. Plaintiff designates Westchester County as the place of trial. Venue is based upon the County in which the mortgaged premises is located.. NOTICE YOU ARE IN DANGER OF LOSING YOUR HOME If you do not respond to this summons and complaint by serving a copy of the answer on the attorney for the mortgage company who filed this foreclosure proceeding against you and filing the answer with the court, a default judgment may be entered and you can lose your home. Speak to an attorney or go to the court where your case is pending for further information on how to answer the summons and protect your property. Sending a payment to the mortgage company will not stop the foreclosure action. YOU MUST RESPOND BY SERVING A COPY OF THE ANSWER ON THE ATTORNEY FOR THE PLAINTIFF (MORTGAGE COMPANY) AND FILING THE ANSWER WITH THE COURT. FRIEDMAN VARTOLO, LLP 1325 Franklin Avenue, Suite 160 Garden City, New York 11530, Attorneys for Plaintiff.

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

Notice of Formation of RyPlunk LLC Arts. Of Org. filed with SSNY on 7/28/2023. Office location: Westchester County. SSNY designated as agent of the LLC upon whom process may be served. SSNY shall mail process to the LLC, 104 Seminary Avenue, Yonkers, NY 10704. Purpose: any lawful act or activity.

Notice of formation of Jaylee’s Beauty Lounge, LLC. Arts. of Org. filed with the SSNY on 10/29/23. Office: Westchester County. SSNY designated as agent of the LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail copy of process to the LLC, 55 Cole Street, Ste. 101, Yonkers, NY, 10710. Purpose: Any lawful activity.

Notice of formation of a Limited Liability Company TM Studio Ink LLC Articles of Organization filed with the SSNY Office on 08/18/2023 Office Location: Westchester County SSNY has been designated as agent of the LLC upon whom process against it may be served SSNY shall mail a copy of process to : 5 Palisade Avenue Yonkers, NY 10701 Purpose: Any lawful purpose. Latest date upon which LLC is to dissolve: No specific date.

Notice of formation of a Limited Liability Company 2023 Holdings LLC Articles of Organization filed with the SSNY Office on 08/21/2023 Office Location: Westchester County SSNY has been designated as agent of the LLC upon whom process against it may be served SSNY shall mail a copy of process to : 5 Palisade Avenue Yonkers, NY 10701 Purpose: Any lawful purpose. Latest date upon which LLC is to dissolve: No specific date.

Notice of formation of D & E Guest Reality Management, LLC. Arts. of Org. filed with the SSNY on 09/15/2023. Office: Westchester County. SSNY designated as agent of the LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail copy of process to the LLC, D & E Guest Reality Management LLC, 79-81 Main Street, P.O. Box 1100, Yonkers, NY 10702. Purpose: Any lawful activity.

Buying Comics!

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Write in Campaign, continued from pg 1-

county budget, continued from pg 1-

Two reasons why DiGiacinto, a well known councilwoman, is only one vote away. The outgoing Supervisor, Michael Schiliro, who was not running for reelection endorsed DiGiacinto, the republican. And DiGiacinto also got 166 votes on the Conservative Party line.

Across the county on Nov. 7, Abortion rights referendum were on the ballot in Ohio and Virginia, helping turnout more democratic candidates. Despite claims to the contrary, abortion was not on the ballot in Westchester. Democrats still hold a 15-2 super majority on the county board. Xx

While we applaud the Westchester Republican Party for nominating candidates to run in many races, we never thought that the board could flip to republican control this year, or in any time in the future. Legislator Colin Smith's win for reelection in the 1st district was big for democrats.

The Westchester Conservative Party had a mix bag of results on election night. In Eastchester, they were soundly defeated. Bob Fois, the conservative candidate, got handily beaten by Sheila Marcotte and Anthony Giacobbe.

In Harrison, conservatives made no endorsement. Republican Supervisor Mayor Rich Dionisio might have gotten 200 votes on the line.

In the races for State Supreme Court Judge -9th Judicial District, conservative leaders from Westchester and other counties endorsed the four democratic candidates for the bench. Those four candidates won election on Nov. 7, but the votes they received on the conservative line were not enough to tip the balance. If the republican candidates had the conservative line, it is still not enough.

In the race for Yonkers City Court Judge, republican candidate Nick Sperenza did not get the conservative party line. City Court Judges Karen Beltran, and Judge Arthur Doran III, both democrats, also had the conservative line.

Beltran and Doran got 2,200 conservative votes and both won by 4500 votes. If you give the 2,200 conservative votes to Sperenza, he is very close to Doran's total. Beltran got the most votes out of the three, with 5,002.

One more write in campaign worth noting. This one for Putnam County Highway Superintendent. Michael Stern ran a write in campaign and won, defeating Gerald Ahler by 789 votes, 3,521 votes to 2,735.

Stern ran a MASSIVE publicity campaign, with signs all over the Northern Westchester-Putnam border, and several mailings to registered Putnam voters, and even a tent outside each polling place on election day, (just far enough away to be permissible). The cost could be \$100,000.

But Stern's effort is similar to Belmont in that Stern was able to educate voters that he is not on the ballot, and then get voters to write in his name.

But unlike Belmont, Stern was an unknown in Putnam County. His campaign also had to raise his name recognition. And they did both skillfully. To this reporter it shows that money spent, or invested wisely can help the right candidate not only pull off an upset, but do it as a write-in.

Tobacco Cessation: \$1.5 million dedicated to promoting tobacco cessation programs.

Social Services

- Childcare Scholarship Program – expand eligibility to 500% of FPL
- Food Security Funding – \$1.3 million

Child Care Council of Westchester, Inc. Executive Director Kathleen Halas said: "Once again, Westchester County removes child care barriers for hard-working parents, not only making them a more available and productive workforce, but also ensuring that their children, our future workforce, will be ready to go."

Environmental Initiatives – \$25 Million

-EV Charging Infrastructure at County Parking Facilities: A substantial investment of \$20 million to expand electric vehicle charging infrastructure at County parking facilities.

Emergency Services & Public Safety

-Full funding for all budgeted positions.

Ongoing Threat Assessment Management (TAM) Operations. New Initiatives for 2024

Flood, fire and non-FEMA emergency recovery program.

Funding for two nonprofit organizations, one in the northern part of the County and one in the southern part, to provide assistance to families in need during relocation and recovery. Total cost: \$300,000.

On-Call Planning Consultants, a total cost of \$500,000 to expedite implementation of affordable housing and flood mitigation projects. Addition of a Director of Flood Mitigation and Resiliency.

Frosty the Snowman, continued from pg 1-

During the holidays, where several religions are symbolized in civic and educational settings, Frosty the Snowman remains a symbol of the fun and excitement of the winter season. Ed Woodyard, a longtime organizer of the townwide holiday event commemorating Frosty noted, "Frosty reminds people of the magic to be found during this time of year, for young and old alike. The only thing the Frosty believes in is kids."

Events and activities will be held for three hours around town before the parade, which will travel north on Main Street to Maple Avenue, and then to Wampus Brook Park. Everyone is part of the parade, joining at the end to help welcome Frosty home for the holidays

New activities for this year's parade include miniature trains, animated animals, horse drawn wagon and a bubble truck. There will also be dancers, singers, marching bands Santa, and of course Frosty. The non-profit, Friends of Frosty is encouraging visitors to donate a coat or winter clothing to someone in need. clothing bins will be around town and at the North Castle Library.

For more information, visit www.ArmonkFrosty.com.

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TOWN OF EASTCHESTER PUBLIC AUCTION OF IN REM PROPERTY

November 30, 2023

Registration opens at 1:00 p.m.

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

Town of Eastchester Town Court

40 Mill Road, Eastchester, New York 10709

73 BELLA VISTA STREET, TUCKAHOE, NY 10707



