# Westchester Rising

YonkersTimes.com

Friday November 22-29, 2024

# It's Official: Ken Jenkins Announces Run for Westchester County Executive



Deputy County Executive Ken Jenkins

Yonkers Mayor Spano Announces He is Not Running

#### By Dan Murphy

Westchester Deputy County Executive Ken Jenkins announced his candidacy for Westchester County Executive on Nov. 12.

Jenkins has served as Deputy County Executive for the past 7 years under County Executive George Latimer.

With Latimer elected to Congress, Jenkins has announced his hope to succeed Latimer.

At his campaign kickoff in White Plains. Jenkins committed to building on the progress achieved in recent years and ensuring Westchester continues.

Jenkins said: "As Depu-

ty County Executive, I have been privileged to work on behalf of our communities, lowering property taxes, expanding affordable housing, and securing investments that make Westchester safer, healthier, and more equitable. Westchester is a place of limitless potential, and I am ready to lead us forward with a vision

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



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

# How Much Will a \$9 Congestion Pricing Toll Affect Westchester?



Plan Rushed Through Before Trump Takes Office

#### By Dan Murphy

How many Westchester residents commute to work in Manhattan five days a week? And how many of those commuters drive to work?

That question comes after Governor Kathy pushed through Congestion Pricing, a \$9 toll to drive to Manhattan below 60th Street. Hochul's decision comes after she tabled congestion pricing during the election season. Now that President Trump is ready to take office in January, Hochul has made passing congestion pricing a priority before Trump 47 goes live.

While Westchester and New York Republicans are outraged, Westchester Democrats are largely silent.

Under the plan, the toll structure for entering New York City's Central Busi

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# How One Student Teaches Us to Give Back on Thanksgiving



Left-Right
Jordan
Mendez,
his mom
Khaleelah
Bond, and
Yonkers High
School Science
Teacher Ms.
Kavanaugh
See story on

# Family of Peekskill Man Who Died in NYC Stabbing Attack Wants Justice



Angel Landi

By Dan Murphy

36-year-old Angel Landi came to the United States 20 years ago from Ecuador. He lived in a boarding house in Peekskill and worked in construction. He also took care of his nephew after his sister died.

Angel was working in Manhattan on Nov. 18 when he was stabbed to death

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## Six Defendants Charged With Narcotics Conspiracy In Peekskill



Peekskill's Bohlmann Towers

Damian Williams, the United States Attorney for the Southern District of New York, and James E. Dennehy, the Assistant Director in Charge of the New York Field Office of the Federal Bureau of Investigation ("FBI"), announced the arrest of six individuals charged with participating in a drug conspiracy that distributed large amounts of cocaine and fentanyl on the streets of Peekskill, New York. The defendants, JASON TINSLEY, a/k/a "Floss," JEROME REED, a/k/a "Pops," RAKIM MAYO, a/k/a "Bo," THOMAS RYAN, GARY BURKETT, and MIESHA CATO, were arrested and arraigned on Tuesday before U.S. Magistrate Judge Andrew E. Krause. The case is assigned to U.S. District Judge Kenneth M. Karas.

U.S. Attorney Damian Williams said: "As alleged in the Indictment, the defendants participated in a conspiracy to flood the streets of Peekskill with cocaine, crack, and fentanyl. They allegedly operated throughout the City of Peekskill, on the street and in public housing complexes, disrupting people's everyday lives and brazenly infesting the streets and residential buildings of Peekskill with dangerous drugs while they sought to get rich. Our investigation remains ongoing, and I thank our law enforcement partners and the career prosecutors of this Office who are working tirelessly to keep drug dealers and dangerous illegal drugs out of our communities."

FBI Assistant Director in Charge James E. Dennehy said: "These six defendants allegedly organized a regional narcotics trade to supply significant amounts of highly addictive drugs, including cocaine and fentanyl, through various personal and intermediary transactions. The alleged conspiracy operated on the streets and within local residential complexes, putting the wellbeing and safety of residents at risk through the increased presence of illegal drugs. The FBI will continue to dismantle and terminate the flow of illegal drugs plaguing our communities."

As alleged in the Indictment unsealed in White Plains federal court and statements made in court proceedings:

From roughly April 2024 until their arrests this week, the defendants participated in a conspiracy to supply and distribute large amounts of primarily cocaine, crack cocaine, and fentanyl in Peekskill, New York, along with methamphetamine and other narcotics. They operated out of multiple residential buildings, including Peekskill's Bohlmann Towers and Dunbar Heights public housing complexes, actively selling drugs everyday themselves and through street sellers and couriers.

In addition to arresting the defendants on Tuesday, the FBI, City of Peekskill Police Department, the Westchester County Police Department, and other members of the FBI's Westchester County Safe Streets Task Force and its partners also executed multiple search warrants in Peekskill, Brooklyn, and New Jersey. In these searches, members of law enforcement discovered multiple kilograms of methamphetamine and crack cocaine, PCP, multiple firearms and rounds of ammunition, and over \$100,000 of cash and jewelry.

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# Talner Jewelry & Giftware in New Rochelle to Close After 96 Years



Co-owners Albert Tarantino (L) and Brian Heaps (R)

For nearly a century, Talner Fine Jewelry & Giftware has served customers in New Rochelle and the surrounding areas in Westchester County. Now, as one of the longest-standing businesses in New Rochelle, it will be closing its doors as the owners begin their well-deserved retirement.

#### Retirement Sale for All Budgets

To mark the passing of an era, Talner Fine Jewelry & Giftware is holding a retirement sale open to the public starting Thursday, November 14. The sale allows customers to own a piece of the Talner legacy, with discounts on classic diamonds, estate pieces, contemporary designs, gemstones and more. Other items for sale include platinum, white, yellow and rose gold rings, bridal jewelry, pendants, earrings and a wide selection of watches and giftware.

The sale is expected to attract long-time patrons and new customers alike. "There's something for everyone," said co-owner Albert Tarantino, who began working at the store at age 14 in 1967. Expect prices for every budget, from \$30,000 jewelry pieces to \$10 items.

#### Legacy of Service and Craftsmanship

Shopkeeper Leonard Italiano founded the store in 1927, and his brother Joseph joined it before taking over its management duties after Leonard died in 1941. The store has been a fixture on Main Street for 97 years.

Eventually, ownership was passed down through generations to Arnold Heaps in the 1950s. That's where Tarantino entered Talner Jewelry's story. He began working at the store at the age of 14 and has been there ever since. Brian Heaps joined the business in 1983 after Arnold retired. He and Albert remain as coowners.

#### Multiple Generations of Customers

Serving multiple generations of customers over the years, Heaps and Tarantino said their business philosophy is founded on integrity and exceptional personal service, which keeps shoppers coming back. "Someone will come in and say, 'My grandmother and mother got their engagement rings here," Tarantino said.

"To have their children and their children's children continue to shop here is something special for us," Heaps said. "It's great to know that people and families have had the confidence in us all these years."

#### Grateful for Community Support

As Talner Fine Jewelry & Giftware prepares to close, Tarantino and Heaps expressed appreciation for the community's loyalty and support.

Both are looking forward to retirement but find the decision to close the store bittersweet. "It has been a significant part of our lives and our customers' lives," said Tarantino. "I'm excited for retirement, but it will be a big change for me and the community."

The Talner Fine Jewelry & Giftware Retirement Sale has begun. Sale hours are 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday-Saturday; closed Sunday-Monday.

The store is located at 565 Main St, (corner of Main Street and Centre Street) New Rochelle, NY 10801. For more info.: Visit https://talner.net/ or call 914-632-3692.



# Rethinking How to Take Control of your Health Care



Larchmont specialist emphasizes good communication skills; channels personal experience into creation of free application to help others

#### By Claudine Hutton

Amidst an overburdened health care system, it's more critical than ever that patients and their caregivers learn to effectively advocate for themselves. And sometimes, technology can help.

That was the message from Dr. Tina Sadarangani, geriatric specialist and professor at the NYU School of Medicine and College of Nursing, at the November 11th meeting of the Larchmont-Mamaroneck Local Summit.

"I believe that healthcare providers in this country care deeply," said Dr. Sadarangani. "[But] they are working within a system that is fundamentally broken and challenged....so you need to really help them and push for the care you need."

In her hour-long talk, Dr. Sadarangani interlaced professional knowledge with insights from caring for her own father, who was diagnosed with end-stage kidney disease after a Covid infection in 2021. She said learning to manage his treatment was eye-opening. "I've spent much time in school and gotten a lot of training, and none of that could have prepared me to sit on the other side as caregiver."

Like many, they suffered long waits, fragmented and delayed care, and the stress of overburdened practitioners. And, under the current model known as "shared decision-making," it became increasingly evident how much was expected from them. "It's no longer 'doctor knows best," she said. "It's you coming to the table and saying 'OK doctor, tell me a little bit more about that. Tell me what my alternative options are."

As the self-described "quarterback" of her father's care team, she also realized the importance of making the most of their time with his physicians. (According to peer-reviewed research, the average time a primary care physician spends with a patient is about 18 minutes, and patients tend to speak for only a fraction of that.)

That means good communication skills are essential. Unfortunately, patients and their caregivers often show up for appointments unprepared: they lack critical data, forget the questions they meant to ask, or miss key points their doctor was trying to convey. All of these missteps can lead to less-than-optimal outcomes. If multiple family members are involved, communication can feel like a game of telephone.

So to help patients and caregivers take better control of their care, Dr. Sadarangani and her team at NYU set out to interview doctors, caregivers, patients, adult day center staff and others about the information they needed to

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## Holiday 'Congestion' is Here!



By Eric Wolf Schoen

Thanksgiving is Next Thursday. And the streets of Westchester are congested with visitors and friends and people eager to make this year more special than the last year. But

The first congestion we have to deal with is good old congestion pricing.

Like me, the various readers I spoke to were totally against this new level of taxation, So I said to myself, let me call Albany, ask my legislators if they are for or against congestion pricing, tell my legislators my feelings against it and encourage them to tell the Governor not to support any Congestion pricing 'tax.' We don't care if was fifteen dollars or nine dollars

Assemblyman Nader Sayegh said he was speaking out against Congestion pricing,

Senator Andrea Stewart Cousins Press Person gave me this quote from the Senator: "I have always made it clear that whatever the state does regarding congestion pricing must address congestion, environmental concerns and resources for the MTA. We hope this is a start to that process and we will continue to work toward this goal during the session."

Sadly, typical political language. Surprised to hear this from a State, Senator who lives in a district that will not benefit from this costly tax. So many of the Senators constituents travel to New York by car and many cannot afford this tax. A night on the town. A Broadway show. Forget about it.

So we wait. The Governor knows the opposition to this tax. And as I have said before, we will wait to see what happens.

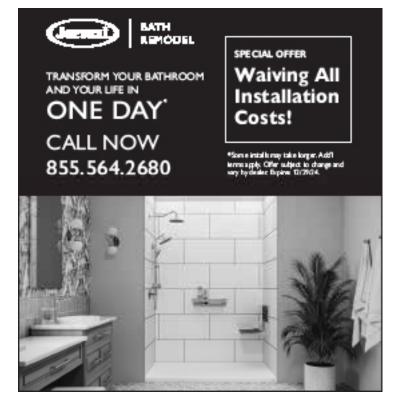
So Congestion is not only at the Governor's office. You will find it at the grocery store as folks pay ridiculous prices for their Thanksgiving feasts. This is a holiday where you have to comparison shop. There are bargains out there to be found. So many things at the Dollar Tree stores in Yonkers and throughout WESTCHESTER. You just need to shop around.

And remember that though things might be a little tight for all of there are many folks worse off then we are.

Can I:remind you on Black Friday to comparison shop, and get there early for those specials that are limited. Retailors tend to discount older models at good prices.

I hope that you and your family have a bountiful Thanksgiving Feast and deal with congestion around you without shouting and screaming. If you have plans to go out of town leave plenty of time! Drive safely, and a little exercise after dinner helps the digestion of food? From my house to yours, Happy Thanksgiving!





## Purchase College Celebrates Ribbon Cutting for ADA Compliant Bus Stop, with \$250K

Grant from Senator Mayer



Senator Shelley Mayer, Purchase College President Milagros "Milly" Peña, and student leaders at the celebration of the college's new ADA compliant bus stop

State Investment Spearheaded by Senator Shelley B. Mayer Made Upgrades

New York State Senator Shelley B. Mayer joined Purchase College President, Milagros "Milly" Peña and other College leaders on Thursday, November 14 at 3:30pm to celebrate the ribbon cutting of a new ADA compliant bus stop which was made possible, along with other accessibility upgrades, by substantial state funding in the amount of \$250,00 spearheaded by Senator Mayer.

Senator Mayer and President Peña were joined by Purchase College staff from the Office of Disability Resources and students who spoke about the importance of ensuring that the campus is fully accessible to all who work, study, and visit the campus.

Purchase College President Milagros "Milly" Peña said, "Upgrading our entry to and from campus and within our campus, is at the heart of our commitment to fostering a community that is safe, accessible, and accepting, and where students of all backgrounds, identities, and abilities are welcome and valued. On behalf of Purchase College, I am grateful to Senator Mayer for her continued support of our community and for her dedication to removing barriers to public education."

State Senator Shelley B. Mayer said, "I am pleased to have helped secure \$250,000 in state funding for Purchase College to develop a fully ADA compliant bus stop and to attend this ceremony alongside President Peña and members of the Purchase College community. This important upgrade will ensure members of our community with varying abilities have access to the campus. I thank President Peña and Purchase College for their outstanding commitment to accessibility. Special thanks to Majority Leader Andrea Stewart-Cousins for providing our community with the resources to make this substantial improve-



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## The Seventh Annual Rye Free Reading Room Spelling Bee Celebrates Local Talent





Left, High School Bee Winner Peter Wilmont, Right-Middle School Winner Ben Martin. Trophies handed out by Library Director Chris Shoemaker

On Veterans Day, Monday, November 11, 2024, the Rye Free Reading Room hosted its Seventh Annual Spelling Bee. Library Director Chris Shoemaker welcomed twelve enthusiastic middle and high school students who arrived ready to test their spelling skills and compete for top scholarship prizes. Rye patrons and sisters, Cara Giacomo and Adrienne Mecca, served as official word readers for the event.

Participants competed for two scholarship awards generously sponsored by local supporters: a \$2,500 high school scholarship provided by Carpet Trends and a \$500 middle school scholarship donated by the Riccio and Mecca families. Next year, the library will be adding a section for 4th and 5th graders to vie for the elementary school title.

This year's competition saw two first-time contestants take the spotlight. After eight rounds, 8th grader Ben Martin clinched victory for the middle school level by correctly spelling "strong."

Following twelve rounds, 10th grader Peter Wilmot earned the high school title with the winning word "puzzling."

As champions, Ben and Peter will have their names engraved on the permanent Spelling Bee trophy displayed in the library's main reading room. Both winners will also receive their individual trophies and scholarship awards at the library's annual meeting in February 2025.

For more information, go to www.ryelibrary.org or call 914-231-3161.



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

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

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

For more information, call me at 914-793-5654 or email me at thas nyder 1@ verizon.net.

Have A Happy Thanksgiving, and if you have the ability, help make sure others have a Happy Thanksgiving

#### Westchester Santa Fun Run Set for Dec. 4th



Healthcare Discussion, continued from pg 3-

to make good healthcare decisions. They used that feedback to create CareMobi: a free mobile health application for iPhone and Android devices that helps patients, caregivers and physicians coordinate care and organize key health information all in one place.

Funded by the National Institutes of Health, CareMobi securely holds data such as doctors' contacts, appointments, test results and medications. Patients and caregivers can create a care team and exchange updates with family members, paid caregivers, and providers who are involved in the day to day care.

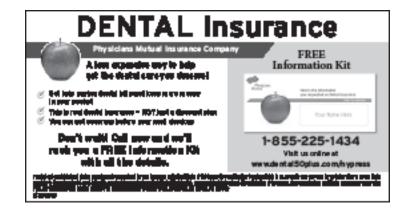
The application also helps document and relay all-important observations from home, such as eating and sleeping habits, weight and blood pressure, and even moods and social behaviors. Together, these details illustrate the patient's full "story," which—when shared with the physician— can help humanize care, overcome potential bias, and establish an achievable goal for the patient's recovery.

CareMobi even helps users record conversations with medical staff and transcribe them for future reference.

Sixty percent of Americans are managing at least one chronic condition, and another 53 million are caring for people who are seriously ill. Dr. Sadarangani hopes that more universal access to technology will help them navigate the challenges of our modern healthcare system. But even without an iPhone, she says a few timetested tips can make a difference in a patient's care:

- Never leave a doctor's appointment without asking, "When would you like to see me next? And how do I get in touch with you if I have questions between now and then? And what is the time frame within which I should expect a response?"
- Patients should always bring someone else to the appointment, since research shows that they remember less than half of what their doctors say afterwards.
- Remember to ask the doctor, if the patient were a member of your family, would you recommend the same treatment? "You want to make sure that you know what they're prescribing you and what they're recommending is what they would do for someone they loved," she said.

The Larchmont-Mamaroneck Local Summit is an informal community council that seeks to make a better life for the community by keeping it informed of major issues of concern. Deputy County Executive Ken Jenkins will be the Local Summit's guest speaker on December 10. For more information: https://www.local-summitlm.org/ To view recorded programs on LMC Media: https://lmcmedia.org/.



# How One Student Teaches Us to Give Back on Thanksgiving

By Dan Murphy

It's that time of year when we should all try to help others for the holidays. For the past two years, we have highlighted the efforts of Jordan Mendez, a high school student who started a food and clothing drive to help families struggling to make ends meet.

Two years ago, we met Jordan Mendez, a student at Yonkers High School. Jordan had been working with his student government to collect food, clothing, and hygiene products to give away at a holiday celebration at the Yonkers Riverfront Library.

Last year, Jordan was able to collect clothing to help his fellow students, "who felt insecure about their clothes." "My desire to help people has manifested in my everyday activities, including turning gardening projects into a way to address food insecurity, using photography for social impact, and talking to people to inspire them to become uplifters. A small donation can make a big difference," writes Mendez.

"I know most people want to help but don't know how. So I came up with the idea of doing something and giving everyone the chance to help. "

"This year is The Moxie Project's 3rd Annual Thanksgiving Drive where we will be giving food, clothes, hygiene products, and religious items for free, for all members of our community. Donating to this project helps us help the members of our community who deserve a good Thanksgiving. Any and all donations are appreciated.

"The Moxie Project started my freshman year in Yonkers High School. I was inspired to organize an annual thanksgiving drive when my mother decided to give away the excess food from the rest stations at the Tour De Yonkers biking event. It was something about being in Getty Square to feed others that connected my personal altruistic interests with an immediate path to help others.

"Effective activism is like a virus: anyone exposed to it is consumed by its effects and changes their actions in accordance. In a word, it's contagious; seeing others smile and knowing they're better off because of you is infectious and desirable to spread. That's how I felt. I didn't just want to help others, I wanted to share my love of helping with as many as I could.

"Over the past two years I've grown personally, professionally and intellectually. To have Moxie is to have courage, to have determination, to persevere; in a word, to have unwavering conviction and spirit. These are the traits that are necessary to create and execute a movement and thus, the traits that are necessary for us to activate in others. With not just a selfish desire but a moral imperative to do good, I wanted to turn The Moxie Project into an effort shared by all for addressing humanitarian crises anywhere I can.

"By the time this article is out, I'll have submitted my Articles of Incorporation to make The Moxie Project a nonprofit. Through this project I have continuously fed members of the community through agricultural efforts and I'm looking to the City to help me institutionalize a sustainable infrastructure of services for Yonkers Residents.

"God willing, I'll graduate next year as an eagle scout and although I've left Yonkers High School, I hope to have left an impact on that school and for Yonkers High School to continue with their support for the thanksgiving drive. I hope, with the support of the local government, to have established an urban farm dedicated to feeding single mothers and our homeless friends. I hope by the time I graduate, to have shaken the city and to have my neighbors as invested in this movement as I am.

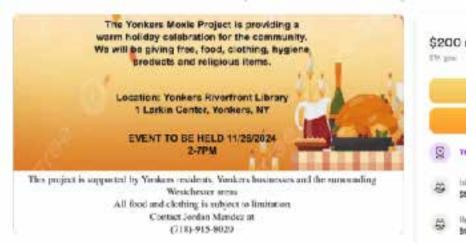
"If anyone would like to contribute I have an active GoFundMe where people can donate money so we can do more good.

www.gofundme.com/f/donate-to-the-moxie-projects-community-drive?

Jordan is pictured with his mother and Ms. Kavanaugh from Yonkers High School. "Ms. Kavanaugh made this project possible by believing in me the most in this project. She let me take time out of her science classes to build support and put boxes in her classroom for students to drop off clothes. She also helped me organize the project conceptually. She played a huge role.

Editor's Note: We hope this story has inspired you to try and make a positive difference in someone's life this Holiday Season. Or at least to make a donation to Jordan's Yonkers Moxie Project. And have a Happy Thanksgiving!

#### Donate to The Moxie Project's Community Drive



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

Read it all Online at Yonkerstimes.com

SUPREME COURT OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK COUNTY OF WESTCHESTER

U.S. BANK TRUST NATIONAL ASSOCIATION, NOT IN ITS INDIVID-UAL CAPACITY BUT SOLELY AS OWNER TRUSTEE FOR RCF 2 AC-QUISITION 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 ACOUISITION 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. MAR-TIN 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-

ALL THAT CERTAIN PLOT PIECE OR PARCEL OF LAND, WITH THE BUILDINGS AND IMPROVEMENTS THEREON ERECTED, SITUATE, LYING AND BEING IN THE CITY OF MOUNT VERNON, COUNTY OF WESTCHESTER AND STATE OF NEW YORK

Premises will be sold subject to provisions of filed Judgment Index No.: 68185/2022. Robert Hufjay, 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.

Notice of Formation of David A. Langner, Esq., PLLC filed Arts. of Org. with NY Sec. of State (NYSS) on 11/18/2024. Office: Westchester County. NYSS was designated PLLC's agent for service of process, and shall mail process to 87 Hawkes Ave., #2104, Ossining, NY 10562. Purpose: Practice of Law.

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.



Electronic Donations: Zelle ID email: WCDSSHolidayGiftDrive@gmail.com
FOR ANY QUESTIONS CONTACT: Barbara Sabater at bms?@WestchesterCountyNY.gov or call (914) 995-1937

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, December 3, 2024 at 6:45 P.M. in the City Council Chambers, 40 South Broadway, Yonkers, New York on the following General Ordinance, to wit:

#### PROPOSED GENERAL ORDINANCE

A PROPOSED GENERAL ORDINANCE AMENDING GENERAL ORDI-NANCE 4-2000, ALSO KNOWN AS CHAPTER 43 OF THE CODE OF THE CITY OF YONKERS, COMMONLY KNOWN AS THE ZONING ORDI-NANCE OF THE CITY OF YONKERS AND THE ACCOMPANYING ZON-ING MAP: A) TO RECLASSIFY AND REZONE THE PROPERTIES LO-CATED AT: 1) 24 ALEXANDER STREET; 2) 60 ALEXANDER STREET; 3) 58 ALEXANDER STREET REAR; 4) 62 ALEXANDER STREET; 5) 72 AL-EXANDER STREET; 6) 80 ALEXANDER STREET; 7) 110 ALEXANDER STREET; 8) 104 ALEXANDER STREET; AND 9) 60 BABCOCK PLACE, WHICH PROPERTIES ARE ALSO DESIGNATED ON THE OFFICIAL TAX MAP OF THE CITY AS SECTION 2608, LOT 1, 14.18. 70, 20.23, 25, 35 AND BLOCK 2618, LOTS 1, 2 AND 200 RESPECTIVELY FROM I DISTRICT TO D-MX DISTRICT; B) TO AMEND 43 ATTACHMENT 16 OF THE ZONING ORDINANCE ENTITLED "MAP D: DISTRICTS" TO RECLASSIFY AND REZONE THE ABOVE-REFERENCED PROPERTIES FROM I DISTRICT TO D-MX DISTRICT; AND C) TO AMEND 43 ATTACHMENT 14 OF THE ZONING ORDINANCE ENTITLED "MAP B: HEIGHT DISTRICT MAP" TO INCLUDE THE ABOVE-REFERENCED PROPERTIES AND TO AL-LOW A MAXIMUM PERMITTED BUILDING HEIGHT OF 325 FEET.

VINCENT SPANO City Clerk

**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, December 3rd, 2024 at 7:00 P.M. in the City Council Chambers, 40 South Broadway, Yonkers, New York on the following

Appeal of the Self-Storage Moratorium contained in General Ordinance 9-2024, to wit:

PROPOSED APPEAL

A PROPOSED GENERAL ORDINANCE DECIDING MEHRANCO LLC'S **APPEAL** 

REQUESTING RELIEF FROM GENERAL ORDINANCE 9-2024 THAT INSTITUTED AN EIGHT-MONTH MORATORIUM ON SELF-STORAGE FACILITIES WITHIN THE CITY OF YONKERS.

Said hearing may be adjourned from time to time as necessary. Further information, including access to a copy of said Appeal, may be obtained at the Yonkers City Clerk's

Office located at City Hall — Room 102, 40 S. Broadway, Yonkers, NY 10701

VINCENT SPANO City Clerk November 20, 2024



#### The Old Mill Singers Annual Holiday Concert



The Old Mill Singers Annual Holiday Concert Julie Harris Theater at the Clear View School 480 Albany Post Road, Briarcliff Manor, NY 10510

Saturday, December 7th at 7 PM and Sunday, December 8th at 3 PM

The Old Mill Singers choral group, directed by Nell Macdonald, will celebrate the Holiday Season with "Holiday Thrills & Chills" on Saturday, December 7th at 7 PM and Sunday, December 8th at 3 PM at the Clear View School in Briarcliff Manor.

Old traditional holiday favorites, including some international tunes, and some very current festive selections will delight all. The fabulous "Kids Chorus" will also help deck the halls with their rollicking performances.... Hearing sleigh bells? It's probably Santa tuning up. He's surely on his way to join the fun!

Lots of "Thrills & Chills" musical entertainment, laughter and treats will fill your stockings and warm your hearts! Don't miss this great annual holiday event!!

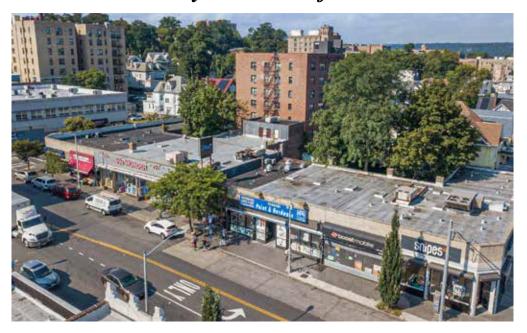
The Old Mill Singers & Kids Chorus are men, women and children who hail from throughout Westchester County and perform at local nursing homes and community events. New members are always welcome. Auditions are not required. You just need to sing in tune,

Concert tickets: Adults-\$20, Seniors-\$15, Children (12 & under)-\$5
Available at the door and from any Old Mill Singer. For further information, please visit www.oldmillsingers.org or email us at oldmillsingers@gmail.com





Houlihan Lawrence Commercial Announces Sale of 18,000 SF Retail Property at 465-479 South Broadway in Yonkers for \$4.7 Million



465-479 South Broadway, Yonkers

Houlihan Lawrence Commercial, a division of Houlihan Lawrence, the leading real estate firm serving New York City's northern suburbs, has announced the sale of 465-479 South Broadway, Yonkers, NY for \$4.7 million.

The seller was exclusively represented by Garry Klein, Regional Manager and the purchaser, a regional investor, was represented by Jared Stone, Associate Broker; of Klein Stone Commercial at Houlihan Lawrence.

The single-story retail property consists of nine storefronts, totaling over 18,000 square feet, and sold for over \$260 per square foot. The anchor tenant Snipes is bolstered by a roster of long-term tenants including Yonkers Paint & Hardware and other neighborhood retailers. The property is strategically located in the Central Subdistrict of the South Broadway District, which is undergoing a revitalization and has long-term future development potential.

"The purchaser saw tremendous upside and future rent growth both due to upcoming lease renewals and in their plans to upgrade the building and the tenancy, enabling us to achieve the seller's pricing expectations," stated Klein. "Dealing with a professional investment group that owned other retail assets in the area made this a real strategic fit for the purchaser," added Stone.

Houlihan Lawrence Commercial, a full-service division, specializes in Investment Opportunities, Office, Multifamily, Industrial and Retail Sales and Leasing, Land Acquisition, Development, and Municipal Approval Consultation. With local expertise in the markets north of New York City, the Commercial Group has a database of buyers and sellers throughout the country to effectively market commercial properties and opportunities on a national level. For more information, please contact Mike Rackenberg, mrackenberg@houlihanlawrence.com or 973-609-2105.







## Lakeland High School Field Hockey Team Wins Class B Championship



Congratulations to the Lakeland Hornets Field Hockey team! After a tight first half against Our Lady of Lourdes High School, the Lakeland Hornets dominated the second half to become the Class B Regional Champions with a score of 9-0. They move on to the States semi-finals next weekend

Lakeland field hockey team (20-3) ended their strong season in the NYS Class B Championship game today. Burnt Hills-Ballston Lake High School (20-0) proved why they're undefeated, taking the win with a 3-0 score at Arlington High School. We're proud of the Hornets for an incredible season and their hard work every game!



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#### FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 22-29, 2024 - WESTCHESTER RISING - PAGE 9

Apple Cinemas Opens ScreenX Theater in White Plains

LM Lions Announce 2024-25 Peace Poster **Contest Winners** 



Apple Cinemas White Plains will open a new Movie Theater at 237 Martin Ave White Plains, with state of the art Screen X technology, pictured above.

ScreenX is a cinematic experience like no other. ScreenX engages viewers, drawing them into a cinematic journey with its multi-projection system and 270-degree panoramic experience. With three screens surrounding your field of view, your attention on the center is broadened to include the side screens to feel totally immersed in the film. To enhance the experience, there is an option to order BurgerFi food from your seat and have it delivered as well! Ordering and delivery options include food, alcohol, ice cream, and drinks.

Experience the biggest blockbusters in a 270-degree panoramic view with ScreenX! Using award-winning, cutting-edge technology, ScreenX takes audiences beyond the frame of a traditional movie screen by expanding the action to specially formatted side walls that open up during key moments in the story.

The theater is open. Visit https://www.facebook.com/AppleWhitePlains, for more information.

## Read it all Online at Yonkerstimes.com





Juliette Closson French American School Hommocks Middle School



Elizabeth Stewart

See Story on Page 15



Eva Maldari Rye Neck Middle School



**Grace Bubolz** Saints John & Paul Schoo



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### Peekskill Drug Bust, continued from pg 2-

## Celebrate the Season at Hoff-Barthelson Music School's Annual Holiday Music Festival



Get ready to ring in the holiday season at Hoff-Barthelson Music School's Holiday Music Festival on Sunday, December 8, 2024, from 10:00 am to 6:00 pm. This beloved annual event offers a perfect blend of holiday cheer, live music, and festive shopping. From dynamic student performances to unique gifts, it promises to be a day filled with music, community, and celebration.

"We look forward to this event every year because it truly showcases the incredible talent of our students while offering a fun, festive way to bring people together," said Gabriella Sanna, Executive Director of Hoff-Barthelson Music School. "It's a wonderful opportunity for the community to experience live music, support local artists, and support the programs that make HBMS such a special place for students of all ages."

Festival Highlights:

- Live Performances: Experience a day filled with the rich and diverse sounds of live music performed by Hoff-Barthelson students, showcasing their talent across a wide range of genres. From the joyful, ringing notes of the handbells to intricate harmonies of chamber and choral music, to the vibrant energy and lively rhythms of the jazz ensembles, the Festival offers something for every musical taste. The full performance schedule is as follows:
  - · 11:00 am: Handbells and Petite, Beginner, and Junior Choruses
  - · 1:00 pm: Advanced and Adult Jazz Ensembles
  - · 2:30 pm: Handbells, Flute, Clarinet, and Viola Clubs
  - · 4:00 pm: Suzuki Strings, Piano, and Guitar-· 5:30 pm: Chamber Music
- · HB Holiday Boutique: Get a jump start on your holiday shopping at the HB Holiday Boutique, featuring a selection of unique, artisanal gifts, including floral designs by Muriel Fleurs, exquisite wearable art, and home décor by Janet Sikirica Fiber Arts, hand-thrown functional and decorative pottery by Mako Pottery, and exclusive HB-inspired merchandise.
- · Silent Auction: Don't miss the chance to bid on a curated selection of items in the Silent Auction, which opens on November 24, 2024. With everything from concert tickets to exclusive experiences, the auction is the perfect way to find that special gift or treat yourself. Items can be viewed at www.hbms.org.

· Delicious Food: Enjoy a variety of light fare and sweets at the HB Café, offering a perfect complement to the musical performances.

All proceeds from the event will go directly to Hoff-Barthelson Music School's programs, enhancing educational opportunities and providing financial aid to ensure that every student has the chance to thrive.

"At Hoff-Barthelson, we are passionate about fostering creativity and community through music," said Sanna. "The Holiday Music Festival is a wonderful reminder of the power of the arts to connect us all. Whether you're attending for the performances, shopping for unique gifts, or simply enjoying the festive atmosphere, this annual event is a highlight of the season for music lovers of all ages."

For more information, including details on the Silent Auction, visit www.hbms. org



If you have any information about this case, please contact the FBI at 1-800-Call-FBI or tips.fbi.gov.

TINSLEY, 42, of Peekskill, New York; REED, 35, of Peekskill, New York; MAYO, 35, of Brooklyn, New York; RYAN, 43, of Brooklyn, New York; BUR-KETT, 62, of Peekskill, New York; and CATO, 37, of Peekskill, New York, are charged with narcotics conspiracy, which carries a maximum sentence of life in prison and a mandatory minimum sentence of 10 years in prison.

The maximum potential sentence in this case is prescribed by Congress and is provided here for informational purposes only, as any sentencing of the defendants will be determined by a judge.

Mr. Williams praised the outstanding work of the FBI Westchester County Safe Streets Task Force, the City of Peekskill Police Department, the Westchester County Police Department, and the Drug Enforcement Administration. Mr. Williams also thanked the Yorktown Police Department, the New York City Police Department, and the New York State Police.

According to the indictment, "the controlled substances involved in the offenses were five kilograms and more of cocaine and 40 grams of fentanyl.

#### Frosty Parade, continued from pg 1-

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."

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.

This year's parade will take place on Sunday, December 1st

12:30 PM - 3:30 PM: Fun Activities for all ages!

4:00 PM: Frosty Day Parade

4:30 PM: Lighting Ceremony

Visit the BHEF in downtown Armonk for hot cocoa and festive temporary tattoos!



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

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#### Jenkins for County Exec, continued from pg 1-

rooted in opportunity, safety, and sustainability."

County Executive George Latimer said: "Ken Jenkins has been an invaluable partner in advancing Westchester County's progress the past few years. His experience, integrity, and commitment to our county make him the ideal leader to take on the role of County Executive. Ken understands our residents' needs and knows how to get things done."

New York State Senate Majority Leader Andrea Stewart-Cousins said: "I've known Ken for years and I know that he has a deep understanding of Westchester's needs and a track record of delivering meaningful results. Ken will make an outstanding County Executive, and I'm proud to support him."

New York State Senator Shelley Mayer said: "Ken knows how to make government work for the common good. He listens to county residents from Mt. Vernon to North Salem and will make sure county government delivers the services we want and need. Ken is committed to working with each of our cities, towns and villages to address their challenges and move Westchester forward for all its residents. That is why I am proud to endorse him for County Executive."

New York State Senator Pete Harckham said: "Ken is a dedicated leader with a strong record of service to Westchester County. His approach to governance is collaborative, effective, and results-driven. No one is more prepared to lead Westchester County government than Ken Jenkins, and I am proud to support him as the next County Executive."

White Plains Mayor Thomas Roach said: "During my time as Mayor I have worked closely with Ken on a number of issues and I have seen first hand that he has the experience, knowledge, and heart that Westchester needs. He understands what makes our communities unique and how to enhance our quality of life. Ken's leadership will be invaluable as we continue building a stronger, more resilient county."

New Rochelle Mayor Yadira Ramos-Herbert said: "Ken has been a tireless advocate for the issues that matter most to our families. His leadership and vision for a more affordable and inclusive Westchester are exactly what we need, and I'm proud to support him."

Mount Vernon Mayor Shawyn Patterson-Howard said: "Ken has been a trusted leader who deeply understands the challenges our communities face. From affordability to public safety, Ken has the experience and commitment to address the needs of Westchester residents."

This is Jenkins third run for County Executive. Noam Bramson was the democratic candidate for County Executive in 2013 and Latimer was the dems nominee in 2017 and 2021.

Yonkers Mayor Mike Spano, who was considering a run for County Executive, announced last week that he is not a candidate. Spano said that he looks forward to serving Yonkers during the remaining three years of his current term as Mayor.

At the same time, said Spano, he intends to sit down with Deputy County Executive Ken Jenkins, who is the only announced candidate for County Executive thus far, to hear how Jenkins believes he can deliver for Yonkers should he win the position.

"Yonkers is the largest municipality in Westchester and is New York State's third largest city, making the City's support essential for any County Executive candidate to succeed," noted Spano, adding, "Ken Jenkins is from Yonkers so he knows the City's needs and challenges. I look forward to hearing his agenda to meet those needs and keep Yonkers moving in the right direction."

Spano said that how the County spends its substantial housing, infrastructure and social services budgets are critical to the people of Yonkers.

"The next County Executive is going to have to win two elections in 2025, possibly three if there is a primary," said Spano, adding, "Yonkers is ready to support those who support us."

Current County Executive George Latimer will be vacating the position to take a seat in the House of Representatives in January. The Westchester County Legislature will name an interim County Executive who will serve until a special election early in the year. The winner will have to run again in the general election taking place in November of 2025. In addition, there could be a party primary to determine the candidate for the general election.

Thomas Meier, who Chairs the Yonkers Democratic City Committee, stated, "Yonkers has made tremendous progress under Mike Spano, and I am glad to hear he wants to continue that progress. I also agree that Yonkers needs to hear from Ken Jenkins and any other candidate seeking to become County Executive and how he or she will work with our City on behalf of its residents."

Spano concluded, "Thank you to all those who reached out to me and encouraged me to run for County Executive. I am committed to Yonkers for the remainder of my term."

Currently, there are no other announced candidates for County Executive, from either party, other than Jenkins.



## Holiday Lane at American Christmas in Mt. Vernon Open for the Season and for Your Visit



American Christmas opened its doors to the public for the third consecutive year on November 7 and celebrated Holiday Lane at American Christmas in grand style with a ribbon-cutting ceremony and a tour for local dignitaries, elected officials, and the Executive Directors of three nonprofit organizations that will benefit from 100% of the net ticket sales.

Located at 30 Warren Place in Mt. Vernon, American Christmas has been designing and installing the world's most iconic holiday displays for over 50 years. In New York those include landmarks like Rockefeller Center, Radio City Music Hall, Macy's, Cartier, Harry Winston, Ralph Lauren, and J. Crew, to name just a few. Across America they work in 30 states and decorate some of the most prestigious locations including Rodeo Drive in Beverly Hills.

This year, their showroom has once again been transformed into 'Holiday Lane,' a magical Christmas walk-thru for children and adults alike, perfect for taking those memorable Christmas photos. Holiday Lane at American Christmas features 100,000 twinkling lights, many whimsical animatronics, and festive figurines. Visitors can also shop at the on-site retail store, Christmas in America, which offers unique ornaments, decorations, pre-lit Christmas trees, infinity lights, and more.

Holiday Lane will remain open through December 29 and Santa will visit several days throughout the season. Dates and times are available on the website where people can purchase tickets from \$10 - \$25. All net proceeds will benefit the Mount Vernon Boys & Girls Club, Northeast STEM Academy of Mt. Vernon, and Youth Community Outreach Program of Mount Vernon.

About American Christmas

American Christmas was founded in 1968 and acquired by MK Illumination in 2017, making it the largest provider of festive lighting in the world. It provides turnkey solutions for incredibly complex and intricate commercial Christmas displays used by retail stores, building lobbies, corporate headquarters, hotels, malls and more across 30 states. American Christmas services include design and development, manufacturing and assembly, distribution, installation, removal, refurbishment, and storage.

For information, on commercial Christmas decorations, , click the links or visit www.americanchristmas.com.





Hope to heer from you! Thanks!

#### FRIDAY NOVEMBER 22-29, 2024 PAGE 12 WESTCHESTER RISING

Manhattanville to Host Holiday Concert with GRAMMY Winning Opera Singer Will Liverman and Acclaimed Pianist Judith Lynn Stillman



L to R:
GRAMMY
Awardwinning
baritone Will
Liverman;
pianist and
composer
Judith Lynn
Stillman

This holiday season, Manhattanville University will host a spectacular evening of music featuring GRAMMY Award-winning baritone Will Liverman and acclaimed pianist Judith Lynn Stillman. This exclusive performance in O'Byrne Chapel promises an unforgettable showcase of world-class artistry. Together, Liverman's rich baritone and Stillman's celebrated piano artistry bring art songs, arias, festive selections, and original compositions to life through their extraordinary collaboration.

The performance marks one of Liverman's few appearances outside the Metropolitan Opera in New York City.

The concert will take place on Thursday, December 19, at 7:30 PM on the Manhattanville campus (O'Byrne Chapel) at 2900 Purchase Street in Purchase, NY. General admission tickets are \$75, while a limited number of \$250 VIP tickets include a special post-concert reception and photo opportunity. Tickets are available here.

Judith Lynn Stillman and Will Liverman's ESSENTIAL BUSINESS: A Mini-Opera with film, musical score, and piano/instrumentals by Judith Lynn Stillman, featuring Will Liverman, was the First Prize winner of the worldwide OperaVision/Opera Europa International Quarantine Competition. The film was spotlighted as "a watching and listening highlight" by The Guardian. Liverman and Stillman also performed Art Song to Aria at the Nazarian Center for the Performing Arts. Their duo recital included the world premiere of Stillman's song cycle, "Where There's A Will...", commissioned by Liverman.

"This concert promises to be an extraordinary experience, bringing together two remarkable musical artists in an intimate setting," said Frank D. Sánchez, Ph.D., President of Manhattanville University. "The O'Byrne Chapel is a beautiful building with wonderful acoustics, making it the perfect venue for what is sure to be a magical evening."

Visit https://alumni.mville.edu/s/1851/interior.aspx?sid=1851&gid=2&pgid =1492&content\_id=1675, to purchase tickets. Music at Asbury Presents "God Bless Us, Everyone"



Music at Asbury Presents "God Bless Us, Everyone"



Holiday Tradition in its Fourth Year-Sunday December 8-4pm

Asbury-Crestwood United Methodist Church is delighted to present the third performance of its popular free holiday program, "God Bless Us, Everyone," part of the Music at Asbury series. The show is a staged reading of Dickens' classic holiday story, A Christmas Carol, complemented with songs by Alan Menken and Lynn Ahrens, Alan Silvestri and Glen Ballard, and a selection of familiar Christmas carols for the audience to sing along. This is a 75-minute program with no intermission.

Directed and conceived by Mauro Contrastano, with Mary Thombs as music director, "God Bless Us, Everyone" stars Mauro Contrastano, Laura Leopard, Martin McGeachy, and J.T. O'Connor. Jonathan Riss will serve as the organist, with soloists Joseph Diaz, tenor; Katherine Logan, soprano; Nick Stephens, trumpet; Michael Quigley, Ruth Chiamulera, Carmela Sirico, Jeannine Padula Goche, Robin Aleman, and Gary Skidmore from Asbury Summer Theatre; the Asbury UMC Choir, and young people from the Riverarts voice studio of Mary Thombs. Reservations are strongly suggested. Reservations can be made online at http://www.musicatasbury.com or by calling the church office 914-779-3722 and leaving a message with name, phone number, email address, and number in your party.

Music at Asbury was launched in November of 2014 by Lu Gmoser, founding producer of Asbury Summer Theatre, and Dr. Earl F. Groner. As a program of Asbury-Crestwood United Methodist Church, Music at Asbury is designed to serve as a social service to the community, offering free performances by some of New York City and the Hudson Valley's finest musical artists. The December 8 performance will open with a short tribute to Music at Asbury founder Lu Gmoser, who passed away in September.

Program is made possible in part by a 2024 Arts Alive Grant from ArtsWestchester and an Art\$Westchester Challenge Grant.

Asbury Church was founded December 10, 1771 and has worshiped as a congregation continuously in Tuckahoe for 250 years. The Rev. Jason Radmacher is pastor of Asbury Church and Mary Thombs is Minister of Music and Chair of Music at Asbury.



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#### Weekend Events in Westchester County Parks

SATURDAY, NOV. 23

Alfred B. DelBello Muscoot Farm, Somers: (914) 864-7282 Book Buddies, 9 a.m. - 12 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! Also: Dec. 21.

Get details and register https://www.eventbrite.com/e/book-buddies-program-at-muscoot-farm-tickets-1009763037427?aff=ebdsoporgprofile

Marshlands Conservancy, Rye: (914) 835-4466

Nature Sketchbook Walk, 10 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.

Sketching in nature is a great practice for building nature observation skills and can be a wonderful mindfulness practice. In this relaxed and guided program, we will capture a quick representation of natural objects, landscape features, and more as we walk around the landscape. Bring a sketchbook and pencil, or borrow one of ours. No previous art training is necessary.

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

Natural Holiday Ornaments, 10 a.m. - 2 p.m.

Just in time for the holiday season, children of all ages will make ornaments from natural materials that include pinecones, twigs and a wooden dinosaur. Free; walk in anytime between 10 a.m. - 2 p.m. (no walk-ins accepted after 1:30 p.m.).

Get details https://www.lasdonpark.org/event/natural-holiday-ornaments/

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

Harvest + Craft: Winter Greenery, 11 a.m. - 2 p.m.

In this class, learn how to forage and harvest evergreens to make sustainable decorative wreaths, garlands and other greenery to take home. For ages 12 and older. Supplies are included in the program fee. \$28.52 per person.

Get details and pre-register https://www.eventbrite.com/e/harvest-craft-winter-greenery-tickets-1069606143769?aff=oddtdtcreator

Lenoir Preserve, Yonkers: (914) 968-5851

Turkey Day, 1 p.m. - 2 p.m.

Wild turkeys are all over Westchester! To celebrate Thanksgiving weekend, learn some cool turkey facts and make a turkey-themed craft! This indoor-outdoor program is for all ages.

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

A Late Look at the Invasives and Tree Pruning, 1 p.m. - 2:30 p.m.

Now is a good time to control vegetation because many plant species are dormant. Please bring work gloves. Hand tools will be provided.

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

Cool-Season Tree ID, 1:30 p.m. - 2:30 p.m.

Learn how to identify common deciduous trees and evergreens during changing seasons.

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-2/2024-11-23/

Kensico Dam Plaza, Valhalla: (914) 231-4033

Westchester Winter Wonderland Drive-Thru Holiday Light Extravaganza, 5 p.m. - 9:30 p.m.

Make priceless memories with your family and take a 1.2-mile drive through Kensico Dam Plaza to see it dazzle in thousands of lights. Open most nights through Dec. 31; \$35 per car.

Get details and reservations https://feverup.com/m/249901

SUNDAY, NOV. 24

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.

Get details and register https://www.lasdonpark.org/event/yoga-in-the-gardens/2024-11-24/

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/2024-11-24/

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

Turkey Lurking, 12:30 p.m. - 2:30 p.m.

Drop in on the nature center for some crafts and turkey facts. Take a short self-guided walk to learn about their habitat.

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

#### FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 22-29, 2024 - WESTCHESTER RISING - PAGE 14

#### Congestion Pricing, continued from pg 1-

ness District (Manhattan below 60th Street) would initially be as follows, starting at midnight on January 5, 2025:

Passenger vehicles (once per day): \$9

Motorcycles (once per day): \$4.50

Small trucks and non-commuter buses: \$14.40

Large trucks and sightseeing buses: \$21.60

The average commuter would pay more than \$2,000 a year to drive into midtown Manhattan and the \$9 toll is set to increase to \$12 in 2028.

The money raised will be used for capital projects for the MTA subway and bus systems in NYC, not for Metro-North or the LIRR.

"The way that the Governor pulled the proposed \$15 toll just before the election, and now has brought it back at \$9, only fuels the general distrust people have in their government. And all of this done without making and cuts or attempts to control the fraud and abuse in the MTA, is noteworthy," said one Westchester commuter. "How about the \$700 million in lost revenue people who don't pay their tolls or fares?

Some believe that Hochul doomed her political future by enacting congestion pricing. One of those is Congressman Mike Lawler, rumored to be preparing a run for Governor against Hochul in 2026.

"New York State needs a Governor committed to lowering costs on working families, fixing the MTA's broken and corrupt budget, and making things a little easier for all New Yorkers. Sadly, Governor Hochul doesn't appear to be up to the task," said Lawler.

One democrat who did speak up against congestion pricing was Congressman Pat Ryan (D, NY-18). "You simply cannot put a tax on the backs of Hudson Valley families with zero plan to use the additional revenue to actually bolster service in the Hudson Valley."

"I thought we were done with this. The fact that the governor is back peddling so quickly after the election reveals how blatantly political this rehearsed reversal is," Putnam County Executive Kevin Byrne said. "Charging drivers additional fees for driving through an area to fund the MTA instead of fixing what's broken with our mass transit system will only worsen the nation's inflation crisis with more regressive taxation. Many of our county residents, our small business owners, and first responders commute into the city and already struggle to afford the basics. This is offensive."

Statement by Susan Lee, President, New Yorkers Against Congestion Pricing Tax

We are extremely disappointed with Governor Hochul's decision to reinstate the Congestion Pricing Toll-Tax. Unfortunately, the Governor decided to listen to the well-funded groups who are in the minority instead of the voters of New York State.

On Election Day, New Yorkers and the nation sent a message loud and clear: affordability and inflation are chief among the concerns of voters. In the June Siena College poll, New Yorkers overwhelmingly rejected the inflationary and regressive economic impacts of the Congestion Pricing Toll-Tax by 2:1. The last thing New York needs and New Yorkers want is another Tax to increase our cost of living more and make things even less affordable. This toll-tax will have rippling effects on our still struggling recovery. That's why New Yorkers Against Congestion Pricing Tax, a coalition of residents from diverse neighborhoods around and outside New York City, initiated and continue to pursue a lawsuit to demand that the Federal Highway Administration perform an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) to show the real impacts of Congestion Pricing (CP) on our communities. The last thing New York needs and New Yorkers want is to increase our cost of living more and make things even less affordable. It's time that our Governor and our leaders READ THE ROOM, and end Congestion Pricing once and for all."

"New Yorkers no longer trust Governor Kathy Hochul — and why should they? The governor has officially broken faith with New Yorkers by moving forward with a deeply unpopular new tax after cynically 'pausing' it right before the 2024 elections. In doing so, Mrs. Hochul has insulted the intelligence and pocketbooks of working- and middle-class New Yorkers who genuinely believed Mrs. Hochul's controversial tax was gone when they voted less than two weeks ago.

"This tax, which was passed as a budget bill to avoid legislative debate, was never about street congestion or the environment. It will simply shift traffic and pollution to lower-income communities. Indeed, the Congestion Pricing Tax has always and only been about the constant deficits run by an incompetent and bureaucratically bloated MTA that fails to collect more than \$700 million in toll, bus, and subway fares each year. This same MTA has spent more on consultants for the Second Avenue Subway than on its construction, and New York continues to pay multiple times per track mile than any other city on the planet.

"Governor Hochul just pulled a fast one on New Yorkers. They will never forget it." Conservative Party Chairman Gerard Kassar

Lawler's campaign also unveiled CongestionPricingSucks.com. "Governor Hochul's congestion pricing scheme is nothing more than a massive new tax on working families, daily commuters, college students, and residents who just want to travel within the city they call home. Frankly, this plan amounts to legalized theft by a governor and state government that is out-of-control and out-of-touch with everyday New Yorkers," said Congressman Lawler.

Keep NYC Congestion Free said, "Governor Kathy Hochul burned us. And she did it in the most cynical way. Not only is she assaulting our pocketbooks, but she has also insulted our intelligence. This is a governor who can no longer be trusted.

"Working- and middle-class New Yorkers were manipulated into believing the Congestion Tax was gone when Democrats needed votes, and then, within days of the election, she let the hammer fall on New Yorkers again.

Assemblyman Matt Slater said, "Kathy Hochul lied. She wants to tax New Yorkers just to drive to work to bail out the bloated and mismanaged MTA. We need a new governor."

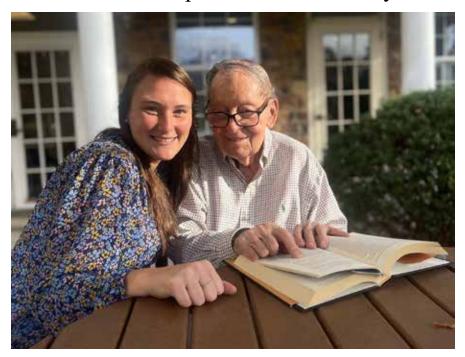
One Westchester democrat told us, "I am against this 150%. If you needed money for the MTA, then be honest and say that. This will only move congestion to other parts of the city. This also doesn't give any funds to Metro-North, which is the best way to truly reduce cars coming into the city. Make it more affordable for Westchester residents to take metro-north to Manhattan. This plan doesn't do that. If anything, congestion pricing will make it more unlikely that Westchester families will return to Manhattan to enjoy all that it has to offer.

Lawsuits, and efforts by republicans in congress to derail and repeal congestion pricing are being reviewed.

State Senate Majority Leader Andrea Stewart-Cousins was asked about the reduced Congestion pricing plan, and she reiterated what she has always said,

"I have always made it clear that whatever the state does regarding congestion pricing must address congestion, environmental concerns and resources for the MTA. We hope this is a start to that process and we will continue to work toward this goal during the session."

# Resident & Associate of The Fountains at RiverVue Thankful for a Unique Bond this Holiday Season



Reghan Gianelli, RiverVue community life director, with resident Rob Pitofsky.

Thanksgiving is often a time when families, friends and loved ones come together and celebrate all that they are thankful for each year. For resident Rob Pitofsky and Community Life Director Reghan Gianelli, The Fountains at RiverVue has given them both plenty of blessings to count – with the main one being each other.

Pitofsky came to the Watermark retirement community in 2021 after moving in and out of several other communities. According to him, "There was no question about it: I liked it. I came here with some trepidation, but I found this was my kind of place – a kind, welcoming place."

One of the first faces to welcome Pitofsky was Gianelli, the community life director of RiverVue for 9 years. Her job is all about creating experiences and bringing fun to the seniors of the community. "Reghan pours her heart into her work and she's always putting together a new event," Pitofsky explained.

The friendship between the two spans generations and in recent years has become even more special to Gianelli. After her grandparents passed away, Pitofsky became like a grandfather to her. Whenever they have a spare moment, the two eagerly seek each other out to laugh, talk and even cry together. "I feel like whenever I'm talking with Rob, we can just be silly and honest with each other," she said.

Gianelli and Pitofsky initially bonded over their shared interest in helping people, particularly as Pitofksy has become an ambassador for new residents. He provides a personal and honest perspective on life at The Fountains at RiverVue during tours, which he says often persuades potential residents to move to the community. "I reassure them that they will have connections and security if they move in. That they will always have a friend."

This year Gianelli and Pitofsky will celebrate their intergenerational friendship with the members of the community and staff at The Fountains at RiverVue this Thanksgiving on Thursday, Nov. 21. The community, along with friends and family, will hold the annual holiday dinner the week before Thanksgiving. "It's a big event with multiple seatings," Gianelli mentioned. "We want to make sure everyone and their loved ones get a chance to enjoy each other's company."

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



#### Peeskill Man Murdered, continued from pg 1-

by 51-year-old Ramon Rivera. After killing Landi, Rivera went on to stab and kill two more innocent New Yorkers.

Some are wondering how Rivera was able to continue his killing after murdering Landi. Landi was killed on the West Side, near the Water Club, while working on a construction site at 820AM. He was waiting for a ride to work.

Rivera then walked across Manhattan to the East River, where he stabbed and killed Chang Wang, 67, who was fishing, at 1030AM.

Rivera then walked back to the East Side and stabbed Wilma-Augustin, 36, near the United Nations building. She was a Haitian immigrant staying at the Americana Inn with her 8-year-old son.

Rivera is charged with three counts of first-degree murder.

Landi's family sat in the courtroom and waited for Rivera to be charged. Outside the courtroom, Vertha Landi, Angel's sister, wanted justice for her family. "The city should take responsibility for the disaster we've been left with. He died working, and we want justice,"

"He was sick, this person killed my brother and then went and killed two other people. I hope the mayor doesn't let him out, that he works together with other [officials] to keep him detained and not let him leave. "I need justice for my brother, I don't want his death to be in vain," said Vertha Landi.

"A hard-working man in construction was stabbed by a mentally ill person, and then we find out that he was freed eight times, so why did the system let this criminal walk out of the justice system?" said Walter Sinche with Ecuadorian International Alliance.

Rivera has a lengthy criminal history that includes burglary, assault, and other crimes in NY, New Jersey, Ohio, and Florida. He was recently released from jail in NY on October 17, arrested for Grand Larceny THAT day, and out on NYS No Cash Bail for stealing from a Manhattan store on Oct. 17.

Many are questioning why he was free to commit the three murders on Nov. 18. Rivera has been arrested eight times in New York City in the past year, including seven felonies and one misdemeanor.

"Angel Gustavo Lata-Landi. Say his name. And explain to his family how and why an unhoused, unhinged, and unrestrained mentally ill person with an extensive criminal record was allowed to roam freely," said one New Yorker.

According to the NYPD, Rivera had been living at the Bellevue Men's Shelter on East 30th Street. Rivera did not enter a plea through his legal aid attorney, pending a mental exam.

Rivera has also been charged with assaulting a corrections officer and sentenced to 90 days, in addition to the one-year prison sentence given for the burglary charges. He was released on 10/17 after serving two-thirds of his NYC sentence, which is SOP.

Angel Landi was known in Peekskill as a responsible and friendly person, who helped others in need.

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#### Letter to the Editor: Great Expectations

No, not the 1861 novel by Charles Dickens, but the 11/22/24 conference at the Supreme Court of the United States.

On that day the Justices of the U.S. Supreme Court will decide whether or not to proceed with a case that would finally define the principal rights of the people and principal obligations of the government that are secured by the Petition Clause of the First Amendment to the U.S. Constitution (and, by extension, each of the fifty State Constitutions).

At stake is the right of the people to hold the government accountable to their will, as expressed throughout the Constitution.

As goes the Court's decision, so goes our Constitutional Republic.

The case, Futia v. United States was brought by Anthony Futia, Jr., an 89 year old life-time resident and employee of the town of North Castle, N.Y.

The Supreme Court has docketed the case at 24-364.

Readers are encouraged to visit the Court's home page, enter the docket number and read Futia's historic "Petition for Writ of Certiorari" which was filed on September 27, 2024.

On November 1, 2024, finding no factual error in Futia's filing, the defendant waived its right to file a response.

Tony Futia, North White Plains

## LM Lions Announce 2024-25 Peace Poster Contest Winners

Juliette Closson from The French-American School, Elizabeth Stewart from Hommocks Middle School, Eva Maldari from Rye Neck Middle School and Grace Bubolz from Saints John & Paul School, have taken the first step to becoming an internationally recognized artist by winning the Larchmont Mamaroneck Lions local competition in the Lions International Peace Poster Contest.

In addition to the winners, the following runners up received honorable mentions: Olivia Zambrano from Hommocks Middle School, Esther Paquette & Ludivine Bessin from The French American School, Maddie Brauer & Madelynn Marciano from Rye Neck Middle School and Andrea Zihenni & Alexandra Jordanova from Saints John & Paul School.

These local winners were announced on November 14, 2024, at a special presentation at the Larchmont Village Center. The Lions International Peace Poster Contest is an annual worldwide competition for children 11-13 asking them to express their vision of world peace through art, based on a particular theme. This year's theme was Peace Without Limits. Winners and runners up from each school were selected by a panel of judges - Carey Federspiel, Lina Pasquale and Audrey Feller. The winning posters from each school will be entered into the international competition with the international winner announced at United Nations in the spring. This success of this contest depends on the support and guidance of the teachers. The Lions are honored to have worked with Victoria Rolett from the French-American School, Chris Borsari, Hommocks Middle School Principal, Trisha Appel from Rye Neck Middle School and Angela Howard from Saints John & Paul School.



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

-Thomas Jefferson



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