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Friday November 3, 2023

Rep. Bowman Pleads Guilty to Misdemeanor for Pulling Fire Alarm, But His Story Doesn't Jive After 2nd Video Shows Him Pulling Down Signs



Congressman Jamaal Bowman taking down Emergency Signs before pulling the alarm in DC

By Dan Murphy

Last week, Westchester Congressman Jamaal Bowman pled guilty to a misdemeanor charge of falsely pulling a fire alarm, for his actions on Sept. 30 at the U.S. Capitol. At the time the House of Representatives was set to vote on a bill that would fund the government, Bowman was caught on video pulling a fire alarm in the Cannon office building, which has an underground tunnel to the Capitol and the House chambers.

Capitol police evacuated the building, and the vote was delayed. Bowman has claimed that he pulled the alarm without knowing that it would trigger an alarm.

After the agreement, in which Bowman plead guilty in exchange for a fine of \$1,000- and 3-months' probation, after which the charges will be dropped, Bowman again explained his version of events

To the Washington DC media, "I was trying to get out the door. I was rushing to a vote. I'm thankful that we have an agreement in place, and I'm thankful that in three months it's going to be dismissed. And now let's move on."

And then to Black Westchester, who got the news first. "I'm thankful for the quick resolution from the District of Columbia Attorney General's office on this issue and grateful that the United States Capitol Police General Counsel's office agreed I did not obstruct nor intend to obstruct any House vote or proceedings. I am responsible for activating a fire alarm, I will be paying the fine issued, and I look forward to these charges being ultimately dropped."

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2024 Yorktown Budget Hikes Garbage Taxes by 10%

"Yorktown needs financially responsible management, not politicians who pave over their mistakes with taxpayer dollars,"
--Jann Mirchandani, Town Supervisor candidate

The Town of Yorktown's tentative budget proposes a garbage tax increase from roughly \$5.8 million in 2023 to \$6.4 million in 2024: A 10% increase to garbage tax. An additional 5% increase is also being bought off with fund balance (page 90 of the pdf, page 80 of the document) - but that cost could fall on Yorktown's residents in future years.

The budget also identifies that garbage costs will nearly double from 2023 to 2024, rising from \$2.2 million in 2023 to \$4.2 million in 2024. (page 92 of the pdf, page 82 of the document)

This comes after Tom Diana and the Yorktown Town Board entered into a new emergency contract - following the 9 month collapse of their previously approved contract with Competitive Carting. The Board's first choice for the contract, Competitive Carting, missed over 40,000 garbage pickups over 9 months, and financially collapsed resulting in the repossession of its garbage trucks, all before the Board terminated the contract to find a new vendor.

The 'A New Day for Yorktown' slate, composed of Jann Mirchandani (running for Town Supervisor), Diana Quast (running for re-election as Yorktown Town Clerk), Steve Shaw and Tom Marron (running for Town Council) are challenging Tom Diana and the Town Board in next week's election. The 'A New Day' slate have highlighted these issues and are calling attention to the Board's fiscal management of Yorktown.

Jann Mirchandani said: "This year's budget shows exactly where this Board's priorities lie: Their political bottom line. Garbage taxes are up and this new contract is double what we're spending this year - if you look at the numbers the Board is putting forward! Yorktown needs financially responsible management, not politicians who pave over their mistakes with taxpayer dollars."

Tom Marron said: "Over and over again, this Town Board has said one thing and done another. They said they solved the garbage problem - that we are saving money! That's not what their budget says. Their budget says garbage taxes are up 10%, with another 5% coming down the pipe. Their budget says this new contract is almost double what we spent in 2023. Yorktown needs new leadership and we're working to secure that for the people that live here."

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Man Arrested with Loaded Gun in Car Covered with Hate Speech & Swastikas



On Oct. 26, Westchester County District Attorney Miriam E. Rocah announced that an Elmsford man was arrested and charged for possessing a loaded semi-automatic weapon without a permit that was found inside his car.

DA Rocah said: "I thank our federal and local law enforcement partners for working together expeditiously to seize the illegal firearm and apprehend this defendant."

The defendant, Hani Saleh, 47, of Elmsford, was arraigned in White Plains City Court before Judge John Collins and charged with Criminal Possession of a Weapon in the Second Degree, a felony. The defendant was remanded and his next court date is Nov. 2.

At approximately 10:30 a.m. on Oct. 25, it is alleged that the defendant, who had no permit to legally purchase or possess firearms in New York, was in possession of a semi-automatic firearm and a loaded magazine containing 10 .40 caliber rounds of ammunition, which were found under the driver's seat of his vehicle.

White Plains Public Safety apprehended the defendant after he was observed driving his car around White Plains. The vehicle was covered in writing and images, as depicted in the photographs filed with the court.

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Accusations Against Ex Lakeland Teacher Highlight Need for Changes to Education Laws



A social media photo of former teacher Alex Mendoza, who has been accused of sexually abusing a student in a lawsuit

By Dan Murphy

Families in the Lakeland School District who had children that attend Walter Panas High School from 2015-2023 are absorbing the sex allegations made against former teacher Alex Mendoza by a former student.

In a lawsuit filed this year, the student alleges that when she was 16 and 17 years old, Medoza abused her by having sex with her in school on numerous occasions.

We highlight this story again because there are reports that Mendoza was having sex with others students at Panas. Some of the students may not be willing to come forward and be forced to tell what happened to them, but the matter is being investigated by the Westchester County Police and the Westchester District Attorney.

Mendoza, through his attorney, denies the allegations, but he resigned his Panas teaching post shortly after the school district was made aware of the allegations. Why Mendoza resigned if he did not commit the allegations is not clear.

Many parents are wondering why Mendoza was able to move on from Lakeland and continue teaching. Mendoza taught summer school in the Greenburgh-North Castle school district, and then taught in the Woodbury-Monroe School District this fall until Woodbury was made aware of the allegations against Mendoza by LoHud.com reporter David Mackay-Wilson. <https://www.lohud.com/story/news/local/westchester/cortlandt/2023/10/18/resigned-orange-county-ny-teacher-accused-of-sex-abuse-in-westchester/71131596007/>

The Lakeland School District said that they reported Mendoza to the NYS Education Department in April. But State law protects accused teachers from revocation of their teaching license until a review proceeding is concluded.

But according to the State Education Department professional discipline of teachers in New York State is divided between employment—the responsibility of a local school district—and certification—the responsibility of the State Education Department (SED).

SED understands that the Lakeland Central School District (Lakeland) received allegations in May 2023 that a certified teacher it employed had sex with a minor student. Local school districts are responsible for ensuring that inappropriate behavior is addressed and reported to appropriate oversight agencies, including law enforcement. In this respect, unreported resignations involving child abuse in an education setting are prohibited by Education Law § 1133.

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Sexual contact with a child unquestionably raises a substantial question of

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Westchester DA Mimi Rocah Will Not Run for Reelection in 2025:

Her Honesty & Early Announcement Should be Commended



Westchester DA Mimi Rocah

By Dan Murphy

Westchester District Attorney Mimi Rocah made a surprise announcement last week when she announced that she would not seek reelection when her first, four-year term ends in 2025. Rocah was elected in 2021 when she defeated then DA Anthony Scarpino.

Rocah’s announcement, made two years before her next possible election, and her decision to step aside despite the likelihood of an easy reelection for years to come, proves that “I do not fit the mold of a career politician.”

“This has been a difficult decision but one that is right for me and my family at this time. As I approached the decision whether to run for a second term, my thoughts have been occupied in recent weeks by the terrorist attack on Israel and the aftermath, which has profoundly and personally impacted me in ways that I did not expect. I do not know what my next role will be. But I do know that I will work to raise public awareness and advocate for the extremely necessary ethical reforms for our country, continue to fight for truth and justice, and work on pressing national and world-wide issues.”

“I am tremendously proud of what we have accomplished. Driving change at any level is challenging, especially through the COVID-19 pandemic and massive changes in discovery rules. I am grateful to the career prosecutors and staff who have stepped up to new challenges during tough times, and our newer hires who are helping usher in a new era of criminal justice. What we have achieved together is remarkable.”

“I do not fit the mold of a career politician. I have approached the role of DA as I have always approached being a prosecutor over the past 20 years: I make decisions about cases and policies based on facts, law, public safety, and what is the right thing to do. I have never made decisions based on political or personal motivations.”

While every DA will have their detractors, most believe that Rocah was fair and was able to balance prosecutions for violent crime with compassion for lower-level offenses, including marijuana crimes.

In another statement, Rocah, wrote in the days after the attack by Hamas on Israel. “I write to you with a very heavy and broken heart. I write as your District Attorney, who is a Jewish woman and a daughter of a Holocaust survivor, devastated by the unthinkable atrocities we have witnessed this past week. The unconscionable violence and terrorism by Hamas—the kidnapping and slaughter of families in their homes, burning people alive, raping young women, and dragging their bloody bodies through the streets—is nothing less than evil.

“The history and politics of the Mideast is plainly complex. However, condemning acts of violence carried out by a terrorist organization should not be up for debate. As much as I have been angered by those seeking to use this moment of terror to advance a political agenda, I have been heartened by the much broader outpouring of support for the Israeli people in this most distressing moment.

“As your DA, I want you to know that ensuring the safety and security of

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Stepinac Hoops Star Boogie Fland to Play for Kentucky, Coach John Calipari



Boogie Fland

By Dan Murphy

Stepinac High School superstar point guard Boogie Fland announced last week his commitment to attend Kentucky University next fall. Fland, who was ranked by many in the college basketball scouting media as the top high school point guard in the country, will now play for legendary coach John Calipari at Kentucky.

“I chose Kentucky because of the history of success with the guards that have come through there. Coach Cal is going to challenge me to be the best version of myself. He didn’t promise me anything, playing time, shots- He only promised me a chance to compete and fight! The first fight is with myself every day and I’m betting on me!” said the 6’2” Fland.

More than 30 of the top college basketball programs recruited Fland. The final three schools came down to Indiana, Alabama and Kentucky.

Calipari has developed point guards including Devin Booker of the Phoenix Suns. Coach Cal made several visits to Stepinac to recruit Fland.

At a press conference held at Stepinac to make the announcement, Boogie’s mom, Shakima Smith said that she chose Stepinac High school for her son to attend, but that the college decision was his to make.

Stepinac basketball coach Pat Massoroni said “Boogie doesn’t get a lot of credit for his ability to defend and rebound. He’s so long and athletic, and he cares. He shoots it well and makes the right decision.

Fland averaged 18 points, 4 rebounds and 4 assists per game in his Stepinac career, which has one more season before he’s off to Kentucky.

Stepinac High School has become a basketball powerhouse, with former players AJ Griffin attending Duke, and RJ Davis attending the University of North Carolina.

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From Bowman to Target



By Eric Wolf Schoen

I miss a week and the following week I have two weeks to cover. But there is a lot going on that needs to be mentioned and discussed. And, Hallelujah almost 30 years since I ventured into a store in California to pick up linens to accompany a bed I had bought for a friend who was gracious enough to lend me a house for a week in Southern California, the store where I got those linens and I had never heard of, Target has finally come home to roost in Yonkers.

Let's start out with our fire bell pulling Congressman, Jamaal Bowman. I don't have to repeat what happened in detail because we have heard the story ad nauseam. Former teacher, former Principal, wants to delay an important vote in Congress so he pulls a fire alarm and said he did it because he thought that was the alarm on the door that wouldn't open allowing him to exit.

Washington, DC is far from perfect but fortunately someone placed a camera by the door and the House security got everything on tape. So Dick Tracey was not needed to head up an investigation.

The sad thing is that for this crime which could have hurt or killed but certainly frightened those not only in the building where Bowman was but other buildings where the alarm could be heard, Bowman will walk away with no punishment. Just think of the panic your family or mine would have if we were in Washington, DC in the current tense climate we are in and heard a fire or any alarm and saw people running.

At the minimum he should lose some of the committee assignments he has. I blame both Democrats and Republicans for this failure. A steep fine, yes! But basically his punishment is no worse than a child writing, 'I will not pull a fire alarm' 1000 times on a blackboard. And they didn't make that part of his punishment which they should have!

I have never seen anything like the antisemitism going on now on college campuses and at grade schools throughout this country. And most of these students could not find the Middle East on a map. Making antisemitic statements that hurt others is wrong, surrounding young Jewish People in a library so they can't get out is wrong, but everyone who can peacefully March and express their opinion, isn't that what the 1st. Amendment is all about?

Those of you who listened to my radio show before the Christmas and Chanukah season last year may remember a gentleman by the name of Richard Gottlieb who I referred to as the 'Toy Guru.' He was the man that members of the media would quote whether they were doing a story on Barbie or G.I. Joe. His vast knowledge of the toy business and its history made him the royalty.

Sadly we lost Richard last week. We thank him for all the the knowledge he imparted and all the children and adults who he brought smiles to their faces. He had a very unique job that he did with dignity and class. Proud to say my radio show was the last TV or radio show he was on.

Many of you will be going to vote and will notice 2 proposals on the ballot. The first proposal allows voters to decide whether or not to lift debt limits for schools in small New York State cities. The second ballot proposal would extend a long-running rule allowing municipalities to exclude sewer system construction costs from their debt limits. Nothing you need to worry about.

UNICEF is the United Nations International Children's Emergency fund. UNICEF works in over 190 countries and territories to save children's lives, to defend their rights, and to help them fulfill their potential, from early childhood through adolescence. One of their major fundraisers is their Halloween drive where together with their Trick or Treating candy bags children use orange colored boxes to collect coins for Unicef aKa 'Trick or Treat for UNICEF.' The program has drawn questions over the years. My mom was the mother in charge of the Unicef campaign for Yonkers Public School 13 and one year the school administration forced her to collect the orange boxes outside of school grounds. She sat outside for two cold days to collect the money to forward to Unicef.

I see the Scarsdale School District suspended their Trick or Treat campaign. I don't know what the reason was, but if Unicef met the Rita Schoen's (my mom) smell test than it is good enough for Scarsdale. You can find changes with every fundraiser and non profit organization, and the goal should be to make sure the organization uses their donations well and in line with the broader needs of charity in this case children.

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Marks Fang Speaks at Salvation Army Yonkers Citadel Corps Annual Dinner



Mark Fang, Yonkers Exec. Director of City Commission on Human Rights

The Salvation Army Yonkers Citadel Corps, held its annual dinner on October 12th, at the Dunwoodie Country Club, honoring Yancy Carrasco, a technical project manager at Akamai Technologies, and Wilson Soto, a police officer with the Metropolitan Transportation Authority.

Carrasco and Soto were chosen as this year's honorees based on their years of service to the community. Carrasco has volunteered hours of service to several organizations, including Fordham's Campus Ministry, Habitat for Humanity and Circle K International. Soto has been an MTA police officer for the past 28 years, and is the head advisor to the MTA's Exploring Youth Program.

The dinner was well attended and hosted by Geoffrey and Marisabel Swires, both Majors in the Salvation Army and leaders of the Salvation Army's Yonkers office. Mayor Mike Spano and Assemblyman Nader Sayegh were in attendance and gave proclamations to the Citadel Corps and the honorees.

The keynote speaker for the evening was Mark Fang, executive director of the City of Yonkers Commission on Human Rights and a former Director of the Westchester County Department of Consumer Protection and the County's Human Rights Commission. Fang, a veteran and Lieutenant Colonel in the United States Army Reserves, praised the faith-based work of the Salvation Army and likened his years as an Army reservist to the work of the Salvation Army corps:

"I have loved being a soldier in the Reserves for basically my whole adult life, and I bet you as well love being soldiers. As the Reservist is a Citizen-Soldier, you are all Christian-Soldiers, Fang said."

In his speech, Fang reflected on the March 2021 hate crime attack in which an elderly Asian woman was badly beaten in the vestibule of her Riverdale Avenue apartment building by Tamil Esco, who called the woman an "Asian Bitch," in the course of his relentless and brutal assault of her. Esco later entered a plea of guilty to assault as a hate crime and sentenced to a term of imprisonment of 17 years, for which Fang praised Westchester County District Attorney Mimi Rocah for bringing justice to Esco that was "swift and certain."

Fang closed with a poignant and thought-provoking reflection on hate crimes and, more basically, the nature of hate: "What really sticks out most in my mind about this hate crime attack was what Mayor Mike Spano said on the steps of City Hall at a news conference with the Filipino Consul and other community leaders. What he said was something very profound, and clearly from the heart. What he said was to the effect of: "We can put more police on the streets; we can have special patrols; we can put up cameras; etc., but we can't change what's here (pointing to his heart). We can't change the heart."

"But what was the Mayor saying? What did he mean? What he was saying is that when it comes to hate and racism, of course law enforcement and bringing offenders to justice is important, but as a society it can only take us so far. We need to go beyond this.

"We need to build a society based on love, charity, grace, our common humanity, and if I dare say—on Faith. All of the things, that are cornerstone principles of the Salvation Army. Our world is obviously broken. We need to double down on our Faith, on the principles that have made the Salvation Army such an enduring organization. We need you more than ever."

To the Editor,

Members of the bipartisan Congressional Animal Protection Caucus should support a massive increase in federal funding for cultivated-meat research. For readers who aren't familiar with the term, cultivated meat is grown from livestock cells, without slaughter. No other policy, with a reasonable shot of becoming law, has the potential to reduce more animal suffering and death.

While cultivated meat is currently sold in a few high-end restaurants, it faces a number of technological hurdles in order to compete with slaughtered options. Perhaps the most important of these is lowering its cost. This can be achieved with public money for research. I hope the compassionate legislators who make up the Congressional Animal Protection Caucus will prioritize the goal.

Jon Hochschartner
Granby, CT,

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New Rochelle Police Obtain Arrest Warrant for Mtayari Dixon on Murder Charge



New Rochelle Detectives have obtained a Warrant of Arrest regarding a Homicide that occurred on October 26th, 2022 on Horton Avenue and Colonel Lee Archer Boulevard. The NRPD is looking to arrest Mtayari Z. Dixon, 29, formerly of New Rochelle but currently known to reside in Stamford, Connecticut.

The Warrant calls for full extradition from any U.S. State. Anyone with current information of his whereabouts are encouraged to call New Rochelle Police Detectives at 914-654-2300.

James Caldwell Jr, 29 years of age, of New Rochelle, died one year ago today. On October 26, 2022, at about 5:54pm, New Rochelle Police received multiple calls of shots fired, and that a person was shot near the intersection of Horton Avenue and Colonel Lee Archer Boulevard. Upon arrival, New Rochelle Police located a person on the ground with multiple gunshot wounds.

New Rochelle Police, Fire and Ambulance personnel administered first aid and the victim was transported to a local hospital. Caldwell, ultimately succumbed to his injuries.

Although New Rochelle Detectives have identified the person believed to be responsible for the murder, the suspect, Mtayari Dixon, is believed to be in hiding somewhere in the southern United States. New Rochelle Detectives have been working with other Law Enforcement agencies, including the FBI Safe Streets Task Force, to bring Mtayari Dixon to justice. We urge anyone with information on Dixon's whereabouts to contact the New Rochelle Police Department at 914-654-2300.

Hochul Signs Senator Mayer's Bill to Limit Sale of Diet Pills to Children

First-In-The-Nation Bill Will Protect Minors From Harmful, Under-Regulated Supplements

Governor Kathy Hochul signed into law a bill sponsored by Senator Shelley Mayer and Assemblywoman Nily Rozic that will ban the sale of over-the-counter diet pills and supplements for weight loss and muscle building to minors (S.5823C/A.5610D). This first-in-the-nation law will curb access to under-regulated products that contain harmful ingredients and hurt youth development. It creates age verification guidelines for both retailers and delivery sellers while safeguarding kids' well-being by ensuring that they are not exposed to unhealthy weight control behaviors.

Senator Shelley B. Mayer said, "I am pleased New York is taking action to protect young people from falling victim to dangerous, under-regulated diet pills that can lead to adverse health outcomes and eating disorders. As Chair of the Senate Committee on Education, I am committed to protecting and improving the health and well-being of young people. It is disheartening to see generations of young adults struggling to meet unrealistic societal expectations, leading them to trying short term, dangerous solutions. I thank my colleague, Assemblymember Nily Rozic for championing this legislation in the Assembly and Governor Kathy Hochul for signing it into law."

"Diet pills, weight loss, and muscle-building supplements are often marketed as quick fixes for insecurities. It is our responsibility to protect vulnerable and impressionable kids from harmful products that have serious physical and mental health consequences," said Assemblywoman Nily Rozic. "This new law is an important measure in combating diet culture and ensuring the safety of New York's youngest consumers. I thank Senator Mayer for her partnership in the State Senate and Governor Hochul for signing it into law."

Dietary supplements are dangerously under-regulated. Studies have found these products are laced with unapproved pharmaceutical ingredients, illicit anabolic steroids, experimental and banned stimulants, and other dangerous chemicals. Research often demonstrates that the use of these products may be a warning sign for the presence or risk of an eating disorder. Young people who take over-the-counter diet pills are more likely to develop an eating disorder than those who do not.

More than 1.7 million, or 9 percent of New Yorkers, will suffer from an eating disorder throughout their lifetime. Eating disorders cause immense harm to individuals, communities, and our state, costing the state more than \$3.9 billion a year in direct medical care costs and lost productivity. Tragically, more than 10,000 lose their lives each year nationally as a direct result of an eating disorder.

The new law focuses on the marketing and advertising of over-the-counter diet pills and muscle-building supplements to minors by establishing age verification guidelines for retailers and delivery sellers.

Village and Town of Mamaroneck Governments Fight Over Bridge Repair and Police Overtime

A strange and unusual lack of cooperation has ensued between the Town of Mamaroneck Government and the Village of Mamaroneck Government.

We received this From the Town of Mamaroneck:

The NYSDOT has identified the Waverly Avenue Bridge as being structurally deficient. The Town, as the owner of the Bridge, is undertaking a \$4.54 million project to replace the Bridge.

The Town's contractor attempted to commence work by installing the necessary barricades at the Bridge. The Village has, without permission of the Town, removed the barricades demanding that the Town pay nearly \$750,000 to the Village for police overtime for traffic control. The amount appears out of line and unjustified.

The Town recognizes the importance of traffic control in the affected area. We are attempting to resolve the situation; however, the Mamaroneck Village Manager has refused to attend meetings between the Town and Village. There is no one from the Village with authority to make the final decision who is attending the meetings.

The Town is attempting to resolve this issue expeditiously for the benefit of the community but needs cooperation from the Village to do so.

On October 18, the Village of Mamaroneck posted the following:

Yesterday, we received word from the Town of Mamaroneck, NY that the Waverley Avenue Bridge will be CLOSED beginning Friday, October 20th, at 10:00AM. This closure is necessary to facilitate the replacement of the bridge. Motorists should follow the posted detour utilizing Hoyt Avenue as an alternate route. Access to local businesses in the vicinity of the bridge will be maintained at all times. The duration of the Bridge Closure is currently expected to be 10 months. Motorists are urged to slow down and drive responsibly in work zones.

The Village of Mamaroneck wishes to thank our colleagues and partners at the Town of Mamaroneck, NY, who are solely responsible for the replacement of the bridge, for putting together an informational webpage on their website about the Waverley Avenue Bridge Replacement Project. We encourage you to visit www.bit.ly/WaverlyAvenueBridge for periodic updates as well as contact information for the Waverley Avenue Bridge Replacement Project.

The bridge was expected to open in the summer of 2024.

On behalf of the people and taxpayers of Mamaroneck, we urge you to sit down and figure this dispute out. Or perhaps there is another, more prominent elected official, who can help get both sides to the table to figure this out?

DiNapoli: NYC Will Spend \$12 Billion on Migrants Over Next Two Years-Who Will Pay?

New York State Comptroller Thomas P. DiNapoli recently launched a new online tool to monitor emergency spending related to assistance for asylum seekers by New York state and New York City. State agencies have spent \$316.2 million in State Fiscal Year (SFY) 2023-24 on resources for asylum seekers through Sept. 30. New York City's estimated total spending from Fiscal Year (FY) 2023 and FY 2024 through Sept. 30 is \$1.89 billion.

"New York City and state are facing substantial costs for helping people seeking refuge in this country and needing assistance with their basic needs," DiNapoli said. "My office has launched a new tool to provide transparency on this emergency spending and show why additional funding and logistical support is needed from the federal government."

The tool breaks down state and city spending by agency. For state agencies, the figures include only spending specifically earmarked by them for activities such as housing, emergency response, resettlement funding, and general and transportation. The data will be updated monthly.

DiNapoli added that NYC has increased expected spending amounts to \$4.7 billion for FY 2024 and \$6.1 billion for FY 2025, respectively. That would total \$12.6 Billion over a three year period. No estimates were made or given as to how much the assistance for migrants would cost the taxpayers of New York State, and the people of Westchester.

The Comptroller's online link is at https://www.osc.state.ny.us/reports/asylum-seeker-spending-report?utm_medium=email&utm_source=govdelivery, and will update monthly.

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NOLAN RACKS UP 23 UNION ENDORSEMENTS IN REELEC-

County Legislator James Nolan recently announced that his reelection has been endorsed by 23 unions and labor boards. Nolan said he believes "in advocating for fair labor practices and maintaining an active and productive relationship with union leadership to guarantee benefits and wages for hardworking men and women."

Nolan, an employee with the Yonkers Department of Public Works, DPW, and a member of Teamsters Local 456, has received endorsements from Affiliated Police Associations of Westchester inc.

- Westchester COBA
- Eastchester PBA
- Westchester County Correction Superior Officers Association
- Yonkers PBA
- Westchester County Police PBA
- Bronxville PBA
- Yonkers Police Captain's, Lieutenant's, & Sergeant's Association – CLSA
- Yonkers Firefighters Local 628
- Westchester Putnam Building and Construction Trades Council
- North Atlantic States Regional Council of Carpenters 32BJ
- Teamsters Local 456
- Eastchester Firefighters IAFF Local 916
- New York State Nurses Association
- CSEA Local 860 Westchester County
- CSEA Region 3 LOCAL 21Seiu
- YonkersMetallic Lathers and Reinforcing Ironworkers Local 46 – New York & Vicinity
- Westchester/Putnam Central Labor Body AFL-CIO

Nolan, a republican, is being challenged by former County Legislator Ruth Walter, a democrat.

Usually, union support for elected officials goes to the democratic candidates, so Nolan's large amount of union support is significant.

Four of the unions listed above have switched their endorsements, from Walter two years ago, to Nolan this year. They are: New York State Nurses Association, 32BJ, Local 21 Plumbers & Steamfitters, and the North Atlantic States Regional Council of Carpenters.

We still believe that the rank and file Union members of Westchester County have the best interests of all the people at heart.

Walter has been critical of Nolan and the fact that he holds two jobs, one as a Yonkers DPW worker and one as a county legislator. On more than one occasion, Walter has accused Nolan of double dipping, or taking two salaries from the taxpayers.

We do not agree, and perhaps all of the unions who supported Nolan do not agree with Walter either. Nolan's work in the DPW is a real job, and he earns his pay every day on a DPW truck. We believe that this experience is a benefit to the voters in the district.

In his two years on the BOL, Nolan voted against the Clinic Access Bill, which Walter has also highlighted. But in explaining his vote, Nolan said that he believe the law was unconstitutional and urged his colleagues not to support it. It appears that Nolan's logic was correct, the Westchester law may be headed to the US Supreme Court and the BOL has already amended it.

We also do not agree with Walter's characterization of Nolan as MAGA. Yes, Nolan is a republican, but he is the only republican on the county board, and only one of two who are not democrats. It is important, in our view, to have opposing voice and views heard in our county government.

Nolan was elected two years ago by the same electorate who knew what he was and what he stood for. Nothing has changed over the past two years, in our view, to warrant a change or his removal.

We admire Walter's knowledge of the issues of the day, but the voters in the district appreciate Nolan's willingness to be active and present in the community. Yes, James Nolan is a different type of politician but that's OK, and maybe its a breath of fresh air. We endorse James Nolan for County Board 15th District, East Yonkers and Bronxville.

Military Tribute Banners for Ardsley's 14 Fallen World War II Sons on Display in November



some of the 14 Military Tribute Banners for Ardsley's 14 Fallen World War II Sons on display on Heatherdell Road in Ardsley

For the first time, Military Tribute Banners for the Village of Ardsley's 14 Fallen World War II sons, are on display throughout November to celebrate Veterans Month. The moving tribute will provide the community an opportunity to see what the young men looked like more than 80 years ago attired in the military uniforms they wore in the epic battles they fought and lost their lives defending freedom during World War II. Their names are engraved in Ardsley's Wall of Honor in Pascone Park but the Ardsley community until now has only officially honor their sacrifices during Memorial Day ceremonies. They all graduated from Ardsley High School.

When Ardsley launched its Military Tribute Banners initiative a year ago, because no surviving family members and friends of the 14 young men could be located, it was not possible to represent this special Greatest Generation group.

But, thanks to the generosity of the Ardsley American Legion Post 458 and Ardsley Fire Engine #1 which each sponsored six banners and a local businessman, Maurice Hyacinthe, who sponsored two banners, all 14 are not only among the 105 in this year's expanded display (last year there were 59) but they are grouped together consecutively on street poles lining a major road in the village which also boasts a sidewalk.

Sharon Colabello is the lead organizer of Ardsley's Military Tribute Banners program, which began a year ago, Colabello was inspired to lead the Ardsley initiative because of the deep pride she and her family have for her late father Marty Engleman, a decorated World War II veteran. His banner was among Ardsley's inaugural group of banners.

12 of the 14 banners run consecutively between Heatherdell at Crestview to Heatherdell and Jordan Lane. The two other banners are on display at Heatherdell near Revolutionary Road.

Bowman Fire Alarm Part 2, continued from pg 1-

Days after his guilty plea, a second video of the event surfaced which shows Bowman pulling down two signs on the doors of the building before yanking the alarm. The sign reads -Emergency Exit Only-Push Until Alarm Sounds -Door Will Unlock in 30 Seconds

While Bowman is seen in the video pulling down the signs, he is not seen checking the doors to exit. And there is no reason for Bowman to leave through the doors to vote; all members of Congress and their staff use the underground tunnel.

The second video can be viewed at <https://youtu.be/8uSGUeOp4P0>.

Several Westchester democrats have previously commented that they believe Bowman version of events, but that was before the second video was made public. No comment, or no further coverage on this by any other Westchester media outlet, other than Black Westchester, who was the first to report on the plea deal.

Now, we are more concerned about Congressman Bowman telling the truth about what happened to his constituents. And his explanation does not make sense, even more so now that the second video shows more detail about his actions.

Some are also questioning the timing of the release of the second, incriminating video, AFTER the plea agreement was reached.

Classifieds

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YONKERS POLICE DEPARTMENT
NOTICE OF ABANDONED VEHICLE

I, Christopher Sapienza, Commissioner of the Yonkers Police Department, do hereby issue the following notice pursuant to Sections 109-144 and 109-147 of the Code of the City of Yonkers:

A 2019 Nissan Altima, bearing Virginia license plate USX8319 (and identified by VIN # 1N4BL4EV5KC207924) has been lawfully impounded since 09/25/20 and to this date no owner has come forward to claim any interest in this vehicle.

Any persons having a legal interest in this vehicle may seek recovery of said vehicle by contacting Lt. Gregory Forshey no later than 11/09/23. If such person has a legal right to the vehicle, they shall be responsible for all costs incurred by the City to remove and store said vehicle and for the cost to publish any notice.

If this vehicle is not claimed by 12/01/23, the vehicle shall be deemed abandoned and title shall vest with the City on 12/01/23, (20 business days from the date of publication).

YONKERS POLICE DEPARTMENT
NOTICE OF ABANDONED VEHICLE

I, Christopher Sapienza, Commissioner of the Yonkers Police Department, do hereby issue the following notice pursuant to Sections 109-144 and 109-147 of the Code of the City of Yonkers:

A 2022 Honda CRV, bearing New York license plate KWF2355 (and identified by VIN # 5J6RT6H81NL032919) has been lawfully impounded since 01/26/23 and to this date no owner has come forward to claim any interest in this vehicle.

Any persons having a legal interest in this vehicle may seek recovery of said vehicle by contacting Lt. Gregory Forshey no later than 11/09/23. If such person has a legal right to the vehicle, they shall be responsible for all costs incurred by the City to remove and store said vehicle and for the cost to publish any notice.

If this vehicle is not claimed by 12/01/23, twenty (20) business days after this publication, the vehicle shall be deemed abandoned and title shall vest with the City on 12/01/23, (20 business days from the date of publication)

PUBLIC NOTICE

A Local Law amending Chapter 85 entitled, “Forfeiture of Vehicles in Connection With Criminal Acts” in relation to forfeiture of vehicles attempting to evade police officers.

Notice is hereby given that the City Council of the City of Yonkers has adopted the abovementioned legislation that provides a means for the City to seize and subsequently seek the forfeiture of vehicles used in the attempt to flee/evade police officers to reduce and eliminate the occurrences of high-speed chases or dangers involving police chases within the City of Yonkers.

The penalties for offenses pursuant to this ordinance are as follows:

A civil action seeking forfeiture brought pursuant to this section shall be commenced in the County of Westchester within sixty (60) days after such person has been convicted of any offense arising out of his or her arrest or summons under section eleven hundred eighty-two of the Vehicle and Traffic Law, if brought pursuant to subsection A. of this section, or within sixty (60) days after such person has been convicted of any offense arising out of his or her arrest or summons under sections 270.25, 270.30, or 270.35 of the Penal Law, if brought pursuant to subsection B. of this section. The Yonkers Police Department shall make a timely notification to the Office of the Corporation Counsel regarding such conviction, or other disposition of the applicable criminal action or proceeding regarding such person.

The complete text of the ordinance is on file and may be examined at the Office of the City Clerk, City Hall, 40 S. Broadway, Yonkers, NY 10701.

Dated: October 25, 2023

Vincent Spano City Clerk

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 Pembroke Dr., Yonkers, NY 10710. Purpose: Any lawful 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.

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

Classifieds

Attorney YONKERS ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS AGENDA
PLEASE TAKE NOTICE: THE CITY OF YONKERS ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS MEETING SCHEDULED FOR WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 15, 2023 AT 6:00 PM, WILL BE HELD IN YONKERS CITY HALL, 40 SOUTH BROADWAY, 4TH FLOOR (building is handicapped accessible). PLEASE BE SURE TO CHECK OUR WEBSITE FOR INFORMATION AND UPDATES WWW.YONKERSNY.GOV .

OPEN CONTINUED HEARINGS

5790 – Area Variance – James Veneruso, Esq., on behalf of Mehranco Limited Liability Co., owner, on premises known as 1999 Central Park Avenue, Block: 4385, Lot: 42.43, Zone: BR (B30132) (Adjourned to Feb. 2024)

5797 – Area Variance – Andrew Romano, Esq., on behalf of Marketin Hila/110 Ravine Realty LLC, owner, on premises known as 110 Ravine Avenue, Block: 2118, Lot: 39, Zone: A (B29521) https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1H-4V45sMcWs0_3rOyDixjXc_ttYGnZq?usp=share_link

5810 – Use & Area Variance - David S. Steinmetz, Esq. & Jacob E. Amir, Esq., on behalf of TCP Realty LLC, owners, on premises known as 143-151 Woodworth Avenue, Block: 2102, Lots: 4, 5, 11, 39 & 41, Zone: C (B32117) https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1H-uwlmlnZ67PdqnXin47LX7kkyY8uwUh?usp=share_link

5818 – Area Variance – William Null, Esq. of Cuddy & Feder LLP, on behalf of UB Tanglewood LLC, owner, on premises known as 2248 aka 2270 Central Park Avenue, Block: 4800, Lot: 60, Zone: BR (B32155) https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1kfspSJjpCbe9uAOtY_sNZ PQ3dPgh7Lm?usp=sharing

5820 – Area Variance – Andrew Romano, Esq., on behalf of Mountain Portfolio Owner NY LLC, owner, on premises known as 380 Riverdale Avenue, Block: 130, Lot: 1, Zone: BA (B22026) https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1h3FBZlCdBqsNnUILEZxutFeFSJ9xC8fj?usp=sharing

5823 – Area Variance – Zarin & Steinmetz LLP, on behalf of CPD NY Energy Corp, owner, on premises known as 1250 Nepperhan Avenue, Block: 3182, Lot: 2, Zone: I (B32100) https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/16KK7VQdcakUWvDXKM98DB4TaFVrwweeG?usp=sharing

5826 – Area Variance – Stephen Veneruso, Esq., on behalf of 1270 Saw Mill Associates LLC, owner, on premises known as 1270 Saw Mill River Road, Block: 3270, Lot: 220, Zone: CM (B32288) https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1_-38xILKNDY3aRGWIdljFRB6NspZE1U6?usp=sharing

5828 – Area Variance – Andrew Romano, Esq., on behalf of JSJ Lawrence Realty Corp, owner, on premises known as 23 Lawrence Street, Block: 122, Lot: 32, Zone: A (B30161) https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1C7zj3irUHMTUipFAPsXDbnHv-cgx6sdf?usp=sharing

5829 – Area Variance – Andrew Romano, Esq., on behalf of Alba Developers Inc., owner, on premises known as 173 Linden Street, Block: 477, Lot: 38, Zone: M (B21173) https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1QUk9ksqWVXq-t4O0q9bscrkPQutJJIgV?usp=sharing

5830 – Area Variance & Improvement to a Non-Conforming Use – Theodore G. Rieper, R.A., on behalf of Yumi Chen, owner, on premises known as 13 Randolph Street, Block: 119, Lot: 27, Zone: BR (B29946) https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1wVme_xqCrB3OLyxOtwFR_auVaChddTdD?usp=sharing

5831 – Area Variance – Andrew Romano, Esq., on behalf of 43 New Ave LLC, owner, on premises known as 44 New Avenue, Block: 6250, Lot: 51, Zone: M (B32519) https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1xyvLIG4p-m39Yqs1AZGR3DSYoh7UuTff?usp=sharing

5832 – Area Variance – Marisa Kaufman, owner, on behalf of herself, on premises known as 20 aka 16 Wiltshire Place, Block: 5608, Lot: 6, Zone: S-50 (B29329) https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1s8YIbjqX10ycLMrMMw3x6UQbKbYM48Kt?usp=sharing

5834 – Area Variance – James G. Dibbini, Esq., on behalf of Stephen Johnson, owner, on premises known as 444 Park Hill Avenue, Block: 101, Lot: 73, Zone: T (B32712) https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1Ptc88LxZQQFGudjdf8CMq3M8SDbe0GVd?usp=sharing

5835 – Area Variance – Andrew Romano, Esq., on behalf of Jesus Rebutti, owner, on premises known as 39 Spruce Street, Block: 438, Lot: 24, Zone: M (B31070) https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1jDnYDJZbCMxRqiuMBCesmh7FFE36y6O?usp=sharing

5836 – Use & Area Variance – Mastrogiacomo Engineering PC, on behalf of My Main Man LLC, owner, on premises known as 47 High Street aka 102 Park Avenue, Block: 2167, Lot: 1.3, Zone: MG (B32874) https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1KcvFoSwZw6ljqBkVUCJQsWyXq4z4Pn-x?usp=sharing

5837 – Use Variance – Joseph Fernandez, R.A., on behalf of B & N Apex Corp, owner, on premises known as 1051 Yonkers Avenue, Block: 6328, Lot: 49.54, Zone: B (B33009) https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1UFIvZ3cWgVUC9z_S753PsscJgnTnRYI?usp=sharing

5838 – Use Variance – Shahin Badaly, P.E., on behalf of 222 Lake Partners LLC, owner, on premises known as 222 Lake Avenue, Block: 2179, Lot: 1, Zone: A&I (B32787) https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1ckpicpipRFStOnVZ118vQjNIPcnXIrS3?usp=sharing

5839 – Area Variance - Kristen Motel, Esq., on behalf of ASKone LLC, lessee, on premises known as 743 Central Park Avenue, Block: 5081, Lot: 21.32, Zone: BR (B33098) https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1d2qauAwlwgUGud2MVscNBSzA7eOFC-dk?usp=sharing

5840 – Use Variance - Regina P. Murray, on behalf of Irene Wasiczko, owner, on premises known as 59 Virginia Place, Block: 3403, Lot: 48, Zone: S-60 (B33145) https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1nfdP49AVDNA9poDICTgmKGEKcXh0dQ?usp=sharing.

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 Realty 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 Realty Management LLC, 79-81 Main Street, P.O. Box 1100, Yonkers, NY 10702. 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.

Bowman & Target, continued from pg 3-

And Now, Welcome to TARGET in Yonkers!

Excitement was in the air when Target opened their new store in Yonkers at Cross County mall. The same quality brands we had to schlep to Mount Vernon or white plains for were now in a store that opened as Wanamakers, then switched to Sears and now was Target

Believe it or not there are many people who after so many years have never set foot in a Target. So to make your job easier, I cased the store to get some helpful information for you. First, there are bathrooms on both floors. Entrances on both floors. Make sure that you get your purchase bagged in one of their durable canvas shopping bags and take an extra bag, free of charge as they are sturdy and handy. Baby changing tables on both floors.

If you apply and receive a Target card and use it you immediately get 5% off your purchases. Circle club, their special bonus club members received 10% off a purchase last week. Having a credit card and that 10% discount Comes in handy when making that big electronics purchase!

The weekly circular runs on a Sunday to Saturday basis though many receive it with their home mailers. During the holidays additional circulars will be distributed.

Escalators are in the middle of the store. They are my favorite the 4 pack. Two on the outside for carrying passengers up and down, and two in the middle for ferrying your shopping cart. Do not, I repeat do not ferry your children or dogs in the elevators for your shopping carts. Do not ferry your pocketbook in the two inner elevators as the pocketbook or any other light item can get sucked into the elevator mechanism.

Starbucks with hot sandwiches is at the entrance that faces Red Lobster. Plenty of tables to enjoy your food by Starbucks on the 1st. level. Shopping carts can be taken to your car but please don't leave them stranded in the parking lot.

There are for the time being cashier banks on the 1st and second levels. The scan yourself machines were not working.

I saw an anonymous post on Facebook from a store employee saying everything was a mess because customers took things down and never put them back up. Let's try to keep this store clean so that it will be with us a very long time! More behind the scenes info coming soon!

Yonkers. This, Too is Target!

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!



Mendoza, Lakeland, continued from pg 1-

moral character. This means that the superintendent of a school district with knowledge thereof must report such allegations to SED pursuant to part 83 of the Commissioner's regulations. SED does not confirm or deny the existence of part 83 complaints until an investigation is closed, as knowledge of its existence may compromise the investigation. SED cannot publicly release any information on a part 83 investigation while pending.

Educators have a property interest in their teaching certificates. Thus, SED generally lacks the authority to revoke an educator's teaching certificate prior to a hearing and a final, adverse determination.

And that is the dilemma in the case of Mendoza. SED cannot act until a hearing is conducted by the Lakeland School District. But Mendoza resigned before that hearing could take place. This enabled Mendoza to move onto two other jobs.

Current law reflects the balance the Legislature has struck between teachers' due process rights and public safety. If the Legislature wishes to authorize interim revocation proceedings, it should amend the Education Law and provide resources to SED's OSPRA unit staff to implement it.

State Senator and Education Committee Chair Shelley Mayer said "I am very troubled that despite being aware of the allegations against Alex Mendoza for 6 months, SED is not able to suspend his teaching certification at this stage of the process. While teachers deserve due process, our highest responsibility is to the children who were put in harm's way when Mendoza returned to the classroom. I have spoken with Commissioner Betty Rosa and look forward to working with the State Education Department and my colleagues to amend existing law to ensure that SED has clear authority to temporarily suspend a teacher's certification in these extreme circumstances."

State Education Commissioner Betty A. Rosa said, "The Department supports legislative reform that would explicitly authorize the Commissioner of Education to suspend the teaching certificates of certified individuals where the Department receives corroborated evidence that a certificate holder engaged in violent or sexual conduct," .

Any changes to the current law would be reviewed by the New York State United Teachers union.

As the Mendoza allegations have been exposed, allegations have been made by a school district resident about three other teachers in the district having been engaged in inappropriate behavior. We will not print the names of the teachers who have been accused until accusations are made public, but there has not been a public denial, or rebuke of the accuser, Anthony Cassone.

Cassone did mention Mendoza in his social media before the lawsuit was filed or any stories about Mendoza's conduct was reported on.

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Driver with Gun, , continued from pg 1-

The case is under investigation by the White Plains Police Department, the Federal Bureau of Investigation's Joint Terrorism Task Force (JTTF) and the FBI's Westchester Safe Streets Task Force.

The case is being prosecuted by the DA's Office White Plains Bureau.

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

White Plains Police description of the incident is:

On 10/25/23 at approximately 1023hrs, after receiving several reports of a suspicious vehicle covered with hate speech, Officers stopped a vehicle bearing an Arizona Registration at South Lexington Ave / Quarropas St. in White Plains. The license plate on the vehicle had been apparently illegally altered and the vehicle also had writing painted across the entire windshield obstructing the driver's view.

The driver was identified as Hani Saleh, M/W, 4/9/76 of Elmsford, N.Y.

Investigation revealed the license plate to be a forged instrument. An inventory subject to the vehicle being impounded revealed a .40 caliber handgun & several Arizona license plates along with a New York license plate.

Saleh was booked and processed for Criminal Possession of a Forged Instrument 2nd and Criminal Possession of a Weapon 2nd. He was also issued Traffic Summons for the violations.

We are currently working with Federal Law Enforcement Agencies. The investigation is ongoing.

DA Rocah, , continued from pg 2-

everyone--of all faiths--throughout the county remains my number one responsibility. That's why I am using the power of my Office to work with local, state, and federal officials to monitor threats to any and all communities at this time. I also pledge to continue to fight hate in all forms against all groups by aggressively prosecuting hate and bias motivated crimes, educating the public, and building trust.

"As an elected leader, it is my duty to publicly and unequivocally condemn the atrocities that happened in Israel. We should hope and expect that all elected leaders, whatever their views on issues, do the same. On a personal note, I ask that you please reach out to your Jewish friends, because even if they seem ok, they are not. They feel especially vulnerable and scared right now and I am certain that hearing from their friends brings great comfort," stated Rocah.

We appreciate your honesty and candor, and your ability to step away from a prominent position.

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The Gilded Age Season 2 Films
at Historical Westchester Locations



Season two of *The Gilded Age* included filming at Lyndhurst above

In the much-anticipated second season of the award-winning historical drama, “The Gilded Age,” Westchester once again takes center stage. Beginning at Lyndhurst in the opening shot of season one, the HBO series returned to film several episodes in Westchester locations that help to tell the story of the historic period the show depicts.

County Executive George Latimer said: “Having ‘The Gilded Age’ film its second season in Westchester not only shines a spotlight on our County’s rich history and stunning landscapes, but it demonstrates that we are a prime destination for top-tier film projects. Our diverse locations and spaces are a huge draw for the industry, which bring \$1.1 billion in economic activity to Westchester.”

Set in 1880s New York City, the eight-episode season delves into the opulent, old-money lifestyles of high-society New York, exploring themes of ambition and societal change, interwoven with several storylines: Bertha Russell’s attempts to force her way into elite social circles; her husband, George Russell’s union troubles at his Pittsburgh steel plant; Marian’s foray into teaching, and Peggy Scott’s activism, among others.

The intricate plot details unfold against a glamorous backdrop of historical estates. When scouting for film locations, the production team found much of what they needed in Westchester County according to Executive Producer David Crockett and Director Michael Engler.

Engler said: “It’s all about location, location, location. These magnificent homes and estates, now repurposed for public and civic use, still bear the unmistakable imprint of the Gilded Age. Look no further than Manhattanville College and Lyndhurst Castle for proof. It was invaluable to have those resources — you just can’t fake that.”

The production filmed in Westchester over a two-week period in summer 2022. Discovering “hidden gems” such as the Jacob Purdy House in White Plains. The 1720 farmhouse stood in for the Tuskegee classroom where Marion secretly teaches.

Crockett said: “It’s when you start to dive into the area and look for what else is from that era that you find these gems. The Jacob Purdy House was a literal diamond in the rough. It’s a perfect example of something unexpected that added a unique touch.”

Another new location for the production team included Reid Castle at Manhattanville College, which served as office and art gallery interiors for the show. Returning to Lyndhurst, which featured prominently in season one, offered fresh opportunities, as well. The production team also revisited Glenview Mansion at Hudson River Museum, which served as the interior for Mrs. Astor’s house, and Pace University in Pleasantville, which served as a restaurant interior and provided space for base camp.

Con Edison’s Scholar Athlete of the Week
Julia Wilkinson- Somers High School



Somers High School Super Swimmer-Diver Julia Wilkinson

Congratulations to Julia Wilkinson, a senior at Somers High school, for being named Con Edison’s Scholar Athlete of the week. Julia excels in both swimming and diving on the Somers Swim team. Last month Julia won the Horace Greeley Invitational and qualified for States with a 470.85 Dive score.

Julia placed 1st in the 200-yard medley relay, 50-yard freestyle, and 100-yard backstroke. She is currently ranked #1 in Section 1 Diving. As a dual event athlete (swim and dive), Julia stands out among her peers.

She was named a 2022 All American diver and was a USA Diving Junior National semifinalist. As a swimmer, Julia was a New York High School Sectional qualifier for 100-yard backstroke in swimming, and swam the relay and individual swimming and diving to help her varsity team win the League Championship in 2022.

Academically, Julia has earned a 4.0 GPA every marking period, and is a member of the National Honor Society. She has completed a number of AP and IB and honors courses.

Julia is also Vice President of Somers High School Strings & Chamber Orchestra, (she plays piano and violin), and a member of Somers High School Student Council and the Student Athletic Council

She has received the Excellence in English Award, Excellence in Orchestra Award, President’s Education Award, and the Student Council Leadership Award (3 consecutive years).

Outside of school, Julia founded the Find A Home Project to help rescue animals and find forever homes, and serves as a Volunteer junior swim and dive coach in her community teaching children the proper techniques of swimming and diving.

“Julia Wilkinson is an outstanding and well-rounded student with a commendable dedication to academics, athletics, and community service. Her rigorous course load and success in numerous AP classes exemplify her strong work ethic and intellectual abilities,” said Eileen Cawley, Guidance Counselor, Somers High School.

“Julia’s commitment to swimming/diving, both at the school and club levels, showcases her dedication and perseverance. Through this she has developed focus, determination, and the ability to handle pressure effectively. Her involvement as a volunteer coach for younger swimmers and her work at an animal shelter underscore her commitment to helping others and her broader community.

“As an active member of the student athletic council, Julia contributes to the enhancement of the school’s athletic programs and demonstrates leadership skills. Her role in this council reflects her ability to work collaboratively with others and make a positive impact on her school community. Julia’s talent as a musician and her membership in the elite chamber orchestra highlight her artistic abilities and her capacity for discipline and dedication in her pursuits,” said Cawley.

Julia has committed to attend Cornell University next year.

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