

Westchester Rising

PRESORT-STD
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
White Plains, NY
Permit #7164

Yonkerstimes.com

www.RisingMediaGroup.com

Friday October 1, 2021

Should Elected Officials and Candidates Campaigning in Westchester Be Vaccinated?



"I had COVID and beat COVID. I get tested every week for my job and I follow every protocol,"
-James Nolan,
republican County Board candidate,
15th District

By Dan Murphy

Last week, we interviewed James Nolan, republican candidate for the Westchester County Board of Legislators in the 15th District, (Bronxville and East Yonkers). Nolan is challenging democratic Legislator Ruth Walter, in a race identified by many as the most competitive of the 17 BOL seats up for election Nov. 2.

After our interview we learned that Nolan is not vaccinated for COVID-19. Nolan told us that "I had COVID and beat COVID. I get tested every week for my job in the Yonkers Public Schools. I follow every protocol in the YPS and in my campaign. If I wasn't tested, I wouldn't be let into school for my job."

Nolan, who works for the Yonkers Public Schools and was born and raised in Yonkers, said that his campaign is getting a lot of good feedback from the thousands of people he has met so far in his active campaign. "A lot of people I speak to doesn't know what a county legislator does," said Nolan who says one issue he heard alot about on the campaign trail is the need to help flooding victims from the Bronx River in Bronxville and East Yonkers.

"Seniors are also desparate for a voice and are having problems paying their property taxes during the pandemic. While our country property taxes haven't gone up, they raised the sales tax. I want to make an impact and provide that voice."

Nolan has the endorsement from 9 unions, and from republicans, including former County Legislator in the 15th District Gordon Burrows, Bronxville Mayor Mary Marvin, Yonkers City Council Minority Leader Mike Breen, and County Legislator Margaret Cunzio, the only other non dem on the BOL. "Elected officials and former elected officials like what I'm about," We asked Nolan his thoughts if he were the only republican

continued on pg 7-

Financial Report Finds \$900k "Missing" From Mt. Vernon Library Budget

SAVE MOUNT VERNON

HERE ARE JUST SOME OF THE FINANCIAL FALLACIES

DUE TO THE INEPT ACTIONS OF THE MT. VERNON LIBRARY BOARD OF TRUSTEES

- Over 1400 transactions covering almost 5 million of dollars over seven years were not entered into the general ledger.
- Questionable transactions that are not consistent with a Library's normal course of business totaling over \$50,000 were found on the library's only debit card.
- The Mount Vernon Public Library's 501c3 status has been revoked by the IRS. No form 990s have been submitted since 2017
- No bank reconciliations occurred for 7 years across more than a dozen bank accounts. That is over 1000 months of bank reconciliations not completed for about \$30million in public funding.
- This is taxpayer money and we say ENOUGH is ENOUGH. The Mount Vernon Public Library Board of Trustees must answer this simple question, "WHERE IS THE MONEY"?

Save Mount Vernon is a group of community organizers and activist, led by Atif Coleman, Jesse Van Lew, Naz Duncan, Geoff Munroe and Lauren Raysor. The Save Mount Vernon movement identifies and exposes the total disregard to public safety, public trust, and lack of transparency by our city, county, state, and federal governments. Our mission is to bring awareness to the city residents of the FACTS VS FALSE PROPAGANDA spewed out by public officials.

By Dan Murphy

A financial report for the Mount Vernon Public Library, from the financial-accounting firm of DSJ-CPA, Demasco, Sena, and Jahelka shows questionable debit card purchases, 1408 transactions that were not posted in the general ledger, and a lack of resposne from the IRS, who noted that the library has lost its tax-exempt status. The report also indicates a \$900,000 variance, or discrepancy, between the fiscal 2021 and 2022 Library budgets.

The report was brought to light by a group called Save Mount Vernon, whose organizers include Atif Coleman, Jesse Van Lew and Naz Duncan. Save Mount Vernon is holding a press conference on Sept. 27 to highlight the alarming financial troubles at the library.

continued on pg 6-

Republican Candidates for County Executive, County Clerk Won't Debate? Why Not? Latimer Picks Up Unusual Chamber Endorsement Republicans concerned about Local Town elections



Westchester GOP candidates for County Clerk, Scooter Scott, left and County Executive Christine Sculti

By Dan Murphy

Are political debates fast becoming a thing of the past? The Westchester League of Women Voters, (LWV), longtime sponsors of candidate forums in Westchester County, announced on Sept. 27 that they were cancelling their upcoming forums for County Executive and County Clerk because of a lack of participation of the republican candidate for County Executive Christine Sculti, and the GOP candidate for County Clerk, Scooter Scott.

Another traditional debate, hosted by the Business Council of Westchester, also had to be cancelled because of Sculti's non-participation. "My opponent yesterday decided not to debate with me before the League of Women Voters, and she previously also decided not to debate with me before the Business Council," said County Executive George Latimer on Facebook.

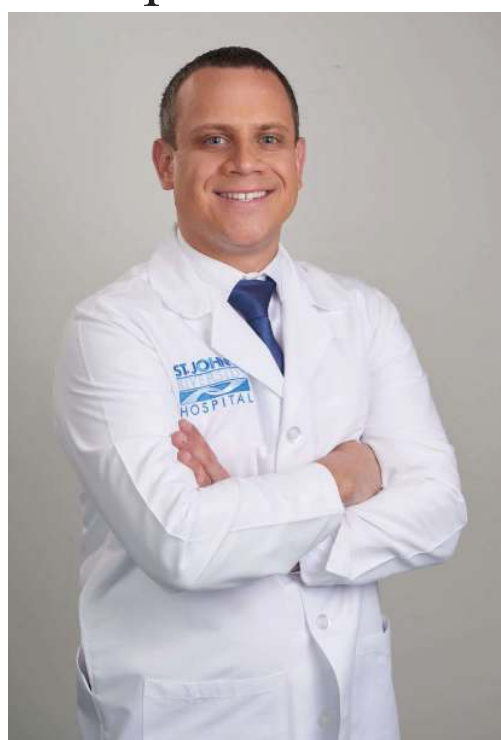
"While I am ready to defend my record of results, debates require both sides to agree to participate. Therefore the voters will not get to see us side by side addressing each other's comments and arguments. I have sought public office and been successful many times - and I accept and believe in the process that tests us and questions us. The sharpest metal is forged in the hottest fire.

"A campaign is not simply about lawn signs and posters or rallying your base alone. It is about presenting a program for the future that addresses the issue at hand; stoking fear and using divisive rhetoric does not help you lead people. Regardless, I am anxious to make my case that results matter more than rhetoric and while we are certainly not perfect, we have done a honest job on behalf of this County. And that Results matter. Not rhetoric," said Latimer.

Both Latimer and incumbent democratic County Clerk Tim Itoni accepted the League of Women Voters' invitation to participate, but the organization's policy requires at least two participants for a candidates forum to be held. "It is disappointing that the residents of Westchester County will not be able to hear

continued on pg 7-

St John's Riverside Hospital Offers Peripheral Nerve Stimulation (PNS)



Dr. Stephen Erosa, left, shares new alternative treatment for chronic pain management

By Dan Murphy

All of us have experienced some form of pain during our lives from injury or illness. When pain is experienced for longer than 3-6 months, it's called chronic pain, which can affect your physical movements (standing, sitting, walking) and your ability to work. And when you experience chronic pain for months, it can impact your emotional health and lead to excessive use of pain medication.

Dr. Stephen Erosa, an interventional spine and pain specialist with St. John's Riverside Hospital, wants our readers to consider another option: Peripheral Nerve Stimulation (PNS). "I see many patients with chronic pain in their neck, shoulder, spine, hip, and knee, which is nerve-related. Some of this pain is post-surgical; after the surgery to alleviate pain, it seems to continue. Fortunately, St. John's Hospital is the only hospital in lower Westchester that is offering Peripheral Nerve Stimulation," said Dr. Erosa, who explained the process of PNS.

"We electrically stimulate specific nerves, which reprograms them to override the pain, and potentially provide you with long-term pain relief, without the need for a permanent implant, surgery or opiate medication."

"This procedure is performed under ultrasound guidance, like any other knee injection, shoulder injection, or nerve block procedure. But instead of injecting medication into the area, we place a small, strand-like hair-size wire that blocks your pain electrically. I know this might sound daunting, but this procedure is minimally invasive, reversible, and repeatable. And it can get you feeling better for longer."

continued on pg 7-

Riding on Tuckahoe Road



Potholes, craters and uneven surfaces dot Tuckahoe Road, Yonkers. More photos online at YonkersTimes.com

By Phil Pepe

I decided to write this report on poor road conditions on Tuckahoe Road not because in my career work I worked in the fields of transportation and infrastructure investment and authored by-lined articles for senior transportation officials on those public policy issues. Not because as a college student I earned money for college working summers as a laborer for the Westchester County Department of Road Maintenance repairing and paving County roads, but simply because I was sick and tired of the jarring sensation of my car bouncing over sunken and lopsided manhole covers, depressed road surfaces, and in one case a large utility grate near Boo Wilson Park that has clearly led a hard life.

Yes, its true that Tuckahoe Road is one of the most heavily trafficked roadways in Yonkers, with average daily traffic in the range of 47,000 vehicles, many of them trucks, which only add to the road's woes. So it is understandable that the road takes a beating, but that only fortifies the case for it to be in better repair. Poor road surfaces are not only uncomfortable to drive on, damaging to tires, suspensions, alignment, etc, but there are safety issues as well. In some spots one has to hold onto the steering wheel to maintain course.

Responsibility for road repair is shared. The area from the Bronx River to the Thruway Bridge by the Regency Hotel is Westchester County's to maintain. From there on, the City of Yonkers. takes over to Saw Mill River Road.

For whatever reason the westbound lanes seem most in need of repair. Just past Roosevelt High School by 625 Tuckahoe Road are a couple of sunken manhole covers. Not far away at Wainwright Avenue, there are three such in a cluster. A memorable dip when you hit them.

It's not clear at this writing when these were last inspected by the County or what plans are for repair. If the manhole covers are the responsibility of utilities, they should be notified accordingly. If the County's to repair, well, delaying repair means they will only get worse. Drivers deserve a better ride.

On the City of Yonkers side, a spot in the right hand lane in front of the Regency Hotel is famous for being rutted and depressed. Although this area is New York State DOT owned, City of Yonkers is paid by the State to perform ordinary maintenance. But the 'fix' here is structural and the city's position, and it seems quite fair is that this major repair falls to the State. City officials say they are in touch with NYS State DOT in this regard.

Farther on heading west, a utility grate is in progressively worsening condition. I sometimes fear the entire thing will just drop out of sight with some poor soul's Honda going along for the ride! Yonkers confirms they are working with the utility to address this. Long overdue, but good news.

While political candidates and elected officials like to tout high toned ideals, grand schemes, the truth is some of the most important and 'audible' issues are on the granular level – like maintaining roads. Considered not sexy in the political sense, but touches citizens and businesses in a very fundamental way.

A candidate saying, " I'll conduct a review of local roadways and bring them up to driveable and safety standard," can really resonate. 'Your tax dollars at work', a sign sometimes seen by roadway projects. Citizens 'get it.' Business 'get it.' More important, voters 'get it.'

Well maintained highways and roads keep cities, counties and states competitive for business. When transportation related businesses become too exasperated with traffic delays, overtime costs for drivers, fuel cost, they look for better venues. In the 1980's, New York State lost countless jobs and hundreds of thousands of residents, many following their employment to states known for high quality roadways – the Carolinas chief among them. Then-Governor Mario M. Cuomo seemed to acknowledge that with his 'Rebuild New York Bond Issue.' (By the way a new transportation bond issue for New York State is long overdue.)

In Indiana toll roads are privately owned through arrangements known as PPP – Public Private Partnerships, often known as 'Where Wall Street meets Main Street.' Highly sophisticated investment groups and government agencies enter into detailed maintenance and hiring agreements that run for years. The private entity oversees the highways, or other transportation hub, like an airport, the government gets a regular check and is freed of maintenance responsibilities. The Chicago Skyway, long a sore spot as poorly maintained with endless congestion, was one such. Turned over to a private investment group with transportation experts included, it was soon well maintained and with greatly improved traffic flow.

In working on this article, I found it encouraging where municipal officials, especially in Yonkers, were both interested and anxious to address roadway issues. And just driving around Yonkers recently I see a number of new paving projects going forward. All to the good!

Reminds me of the blazing hot summer days when I was the guy rolling the hot asphalt or swinging a pick to get a pot hole ready to be filled! Little did I imagine then that those experiences would come to play a role in my career work.

Phil Pepe worked as Assistant to the late Yonkers Mayor Angelo R. Martinelli from 1982-86 during which time he oversaw The Special Downtown Development Projects of the Mayor's office including the renovation of the historic Yonkers Main Train Station, writing the successful case for Yonkers' Amtrak stop, and the original Yonkers Farmers Market. In 1986 he formed a public affairs and communications consulting practice with clients in the fields of transportation, economic development, and environmental practice in New York State, five other states, and in eastern Canada.

Pace Women's Justice Center Focuses on Empowerment During Domestic Violence Awareness Month

Pace Women's Justice Center (PWJC) introduces a month long series of events during Domestic Violence Awareness Month. This October, PWJC's October...month of EMPOWERMENT events honors the arduous journey, from victim to survivor, of the thousands of clients its represents annually, and the millions of victims of abuse globally. The series includes a variety of events, socially distanced and virtual, to create opportunities to safely gather and participate in a community of support. The events are open to the public and range from free to single fee for streaming or attending (donations are welcome).

The series kicks off with an outdoor Cocktail Reception followed by a Concert on Wednesday, October 6th at 5:30 p.m. The private performance features MILCK, a musician and advocate who rose to fame at the 2017 Women's March with her original song "Quiet". Tickets start at \$275. The event will be held at the patio and band shell of the Westchester Country Club and requires proof of vaccination. On Sunday October 24th, PWJC will host its second event, a Wellness Hike coordinated by PUSH PERSONAL TRAINING. Location will be provided to registrants by email. This event is free, donations are suggested, and proof of vaccination is required.

The Month of Empowerment program will close with the film, DONNA-STRONGER THAN PRETTY. The movie, by Director Jaret Martino, is based on his mother's life and personal experience. He will host an exclusive virtual Q&A session on THURSDAY, OCTOBER 28th at 8:00 p.m. via ZOOM. A restricted link to view the film will be available for one week prior to the Q&A session. Tickets are \$25 per person.

PWJC's free civil legal services provide victims of abuse and sexual assault opportunities and resources to empower themselves and begin their journey away from abuse and towards healing. Your support will directly help victims of abuse.

For more information <https://law.pace.edu/wjc>

Pound Ridge Harvest Festival Returns Oct 2. 1pm-6pm at Pound Ridge Town Park, Featuring Gin Blossoms

The Pound Ridge Partnership invites you to celebrate local food and culture alongside great music and activities for the entire family. Local restaurants, specialty food purveyors and craft beer garden create an Oktoberfest style event. This year's Harvest Festival is excited to welcome Craft New York, as its Presenting Partner, to feature a brand new beverage portfolio, including Sloop Juice Bomb IPA, Narragansett Lager, Von Trapp Oktoberfest, Hudson North Pumpkin Cider, Lagunitas Little Sumpin', and Archer Roose Wines. The newly formed partnership is expected to be an annual and integral part of Harvest Festival, as well as be supportive of other Pound Ridge Partnership events.

The Root Beer Garden includes a Hot Cider Bar to keep you warm! Kids can enjoy rides and inflatables with crafts, fun games and prizes provided by local sponsors. The Scarecrow Competition allows teams to show some imagination and creative decorating skills. Limited VIP tickets will be sold, benefits include on-site parking, exclusive viewing area and swag bag and fast pass that will boost you to the front of selected lines. This year's headliner is a band that has undoubtedly left its mark on the Rock music map, Gin Blossoms. The opening bands are the Battle of the Band Winners, Alex Cano, Logan Spaleta and VACANCY selected during Pound Ridge Proud Day on June 6th.

No individual tickets needed, just a parking fee \$20.00. Limited VIP passes available. This year's proceeds will further enhance the business district with "Harvest Walk" and host a summer concert series in the newly created Village Green.

Visit the website for more updates: www.poundridgeharvestfestival.com Follow us on Instagram @poundridgeharvestfestival and on Facebook @pharvestfest.

**Your First Step
Toward a Secure Future**

EXAMINATION APPLICATION FILING DEADLINE: OCTOBER 23

Correction Officer Trainee

- \$45,712 hiring rate
- \$48,081 after 6 months
- \$55,057 after 1 year
- PAID time off
- GREAT benefits
- Retire after 25 years
AT ANY AGE

Apply on-line today or download exam information at:
<https://www.cs.ny.gov/jobseeker/>

Additional information about the position of correction officer is available on our website at <https://www.cs.ny.gov/>

**Corrections and
Community Supervision**

KATHY HOCHUL, GOVERNOR • ANTHONY J. ANNUNCI, ACTING COMMISSIONER

An Equal Opportunity Employer

Lift.

Assist.

Inspire.

Enlighten.

Essays.

Commentary.

Editorials.

Books.

O'Shaughnessy.

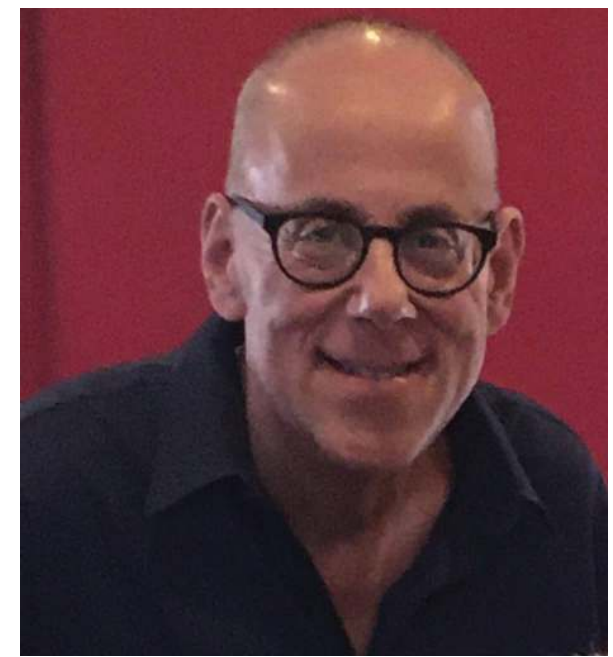
1460 AM

WVOX.COM Worldwide

New York State's
most influential station.

National Kidney Donation Org. (NKDO) Organ Trail Bike Ride Comes to Yorktown

James Nolan, Stop Campaigning Door to Door!



above: Yorktown Councilman Vishnu Patel, presents proclamation to Mark Scotch. Below: Scotch with County Legislator Vedat Gashi

By Eric Schoen



On Sept. 23, the Yorktown Democratic Committee (YDC) welcomed Mark Scotch on his 1,600-mile journey from Martha's Vineyard to Plover, Wisconsin to raise awareness for living kidney donations. Mark Scotch, a kidney donor and marathon cyclist with NKDO.org made a stop on the Northern County Trail in Yorktown Heights. This journey is aptly named The Organ Trail.

Mark pointed out that 13 Americans die every day for lack of a kidney donor. 100,000 Americans are waiting for donors. "Mark's journey on the Organ Trail is significant— every mile he rides celebrates his donation, showing that living kidney donors can do anything and showcases the need for kidney donation. If you're in need of a kidney or want to be a donor, or a donor mentor, please reach out to NKDO.org."

Leesa Thompson, our Cortlandt neighbor, and kidney recipient brought The Organ Trail event to the attention of the Yorktown Democratic Committee. Leesa said "On behalf of NKDO and NKR, I'm so delighted that we welcomed Mark, and his colleagues, Steve and Jeff on their journey. As a kidney recipient, I'm so grateful to donors everywhere for giving recipients the opportunity for a new lease on life." The YDC encourages supporting the 37 million Americans affected by kidney disease and may have to wait 7-10 years for a kidney and may already be too sick or too late. We wish Mark success with his continuing journey on The Organ Trail to raise awareness."

Yorktown Councilmember Vishnu Patel presented Scotch with a proclamation from the Town, and County Legislator Vedat Gashi presented a proclamation from County government, and State Senator Peter Harkham's office also presented a state proclamation.

Others in attendance to support the efforts of NKDO.org, and Scotch's bike ride included Town Councilwoman Alice Rocker, Diana Quast and Lanny Gilbert.

Mark Scotch departed from Martha's Vineyard Hospital on Sept. 19 to ride his bicycle to his home in Wisconsin. Mark was joined by non-directed donor and Iron Man athlete Steve Wilson. Mark will be advocating for awareness of the need for living kidney donation, with particular emphasis on the conditions endured by dialysis patients as they await a transplant. Safe travels, Mark, and may the wind be at your back.

Unlike other organizations with substantial overhead expenses, NKDO is a relatively small nonprofit, and your contribution goes directly toward continued education and advocacy regarding living kidney donation. We achieve this via various channels including social media and web presence, mainstream media, industry expert videos with transplant leaders, and educational conferences.

Visit NKDO.org for more information.

I want to start out by asking you a question. How would you feel if in the middle of a pandemic, an unvaccinated candidate for public office knocked on your 80 year old parents door asking them to support him/her for office? The candidate did not tell them he was unvaccinated. Ringing the downstairs doorbell if it was an apartment building to get in, walking the halls, wringing doorbells and meeting your parents face to face.

If you are like me you would be pretty upset. This, my friends is what is going on in Westchester County Legislative District 15, the race between Incumbent Democrat Ruth Walter and newcomer Republican James Nolan. Mr. Nolan has chosen not to receive a Covid vaccine. He must stop campaigning door to door immediately.

I believe everyone should receive a the Covid vaccine unless they have a medical reason authenticated by a doctor who is knowledgeable about the virus, the vaccine and its side affects or a religious reason for not doing it. The Journal News did an excellent piece over the weekend regarding religions opposed to vaccination. There aren't many of them.

If you don't want to take the vaccine it's your choice. No one likes injecting a foreign substance in their body, particularly something so new. It's all we have at this point to stop people from getting very ill and potentially dying. Dying like 2330 Westchester residents as of September 26. 2522 fatalities in Westchester as of September 26. This according to the Westchester County Dashboard.

If you don't want to take the vaccine, I really do not want you in my company. Particularly not in the close quarters of a radio station studio. I have family and friends and don't care to get ill and pass anything on to them. Yes, some who have taken the vaccine have come down with Covid. But the vast majority of people who are getting very sick and dying have not been vaccinated.

What upset me most about the Dolan case is how I found out that he was not vaccinated. I think I was the last person in Westchester to know. I had messaged him on September 20 at 9:06 a.m. that I would like him and his opponent, incumbent Ruth Walter to appear on the Westchester Rising Radio Show on WVOX on October 7 to discuss issues affecting the district he was running for. At 9:59 he messaged me back that he would appear.

On September 23, the date of our first very successful discussion with Lakisha Collins Bellamy and Ron Matten, Candidates for City Council President, at I got a message from Nolan asking 'Do we have to show a negative Covid test to get into the WVOX studio. I messaged him back that you have to be fully vaccinated. He responded, 'and if we aren't?' Now I would have much more respect for him. If he came out and said he wasn't vaccinated, is that a problem, and how can we deal with the problem in terms of the radio show. He didn't. While it is preferable and better for the show and our audience if both candidates are in studio, we would make accommodation.

He then asked if there was any way he could show a negative Covid test the day of or before the program. I told him station policy is you must be fully vaccinated. In fact that is my policy, even if it wasn't the station policy.

The forum will go on. October 7, 10 a.m.-11:00 a.m. on WVOX 1460 AM, WVOX.com and click on listen live or via the fine WVOX app for download free from the App Store. We hold our elected officials to a high standard. Who would have thought there was a problem with the vaccination status of a candidate when most elected officials are out there beating the drums for people to get vaccinated. Speaking of beating the drums, I asked the Mayor of Yonkers, Mike Spano and Bronxville Mayor Mary Marvin to comment on an unvaccinated individual going door to door campaigning in their respective city/village. As of press time, I have heard from neither Spano nor Marvin. This worries me, but if they want to allow this activity to go on it's on their shoulders god forbid someone gets sick or some-

continued on pg 6-

DENTAL Insurance
from Physicians Mutual Insurance Company
Call to get your FREE Information Kit
1-855-225-1434
Dental50Plus.com/mypress

District Opening
Fallsburg School District
Mathematics Teacher
(3 Year Grant Funded Position)
NYS 7-12 Cert. Required
Please forward resume & Fallsburg's application (located at fallsburgcd.net) by Oct 6th
To fallsburg-recruitment@ecbooes.org
Attn: Math Teacher position EOE

ESTATE SALE - LOG HOMES
PAY THE BALANCE OWED ONLY!!!
AMERICAN LOG HOMES IS ASSISTING **JUST RELEASED**
ESTATE & ACCOUNT SETTLEMENT ON HOUSES.
4 Log Home lots calling for BALANCE OWED, FREE DELIVERY
1 Model 1000-Corral \$40,000 BALANCE OWED \$17,000
2 Model 1200-South \$40,000 BALANCE OWED \$19,000
3 Model 1200-Broad \$40,000 BALANCE OWED \$19,000
4 Model 1000-Regent \$42,000 BALANCE OWED \$16,000
Before Calling View House Plans at
www.americanloghomesandcabins.com
NEW - HOMES HAVE NOT BEEN MANUFACTURED
• Make any plan design changes you desire!
• Comes with Complete Building Blueprints & Construction Manual
• Windows, Doors, and Roofing not included
• NO TIME LIMIT FOR DELIVERY!
BBB A+ Rating
OFFER NOT AVAILABLE TO AMERICAN LOG HOME DEALERS
SERIOUS ONLY REPLY. Call (704) 602-3035 ask for Accounting Dept.

WARREN COUNTY
REAL ESTATE AUCTION EVENTS
Tax Foreclosed Real Estate Auction
LIVE AUCTION
25+ Properties
Saturday, October 16, 2021
Registration: 9:00 AM • Auction Start: 10:00 AM
Location: Warren County Courthouse
1340 State Route 9, Lake George, NY 12845
Complete sale details at www.warrencauction.com
County Owned Real Estate Auction
ONLINE ONLY AUCTION
276 Bay Road, Queensbury, NY
Fax ID: 502-4-1-2 — 1.09 Acres
Online Bidding Starts: October 1, 2021
Online Auction Closes: October 26, 2021, 10AM
* Separate Registration Required *
Complete sale details at www.276bayroad.com
AUCTIONS INTERNATIONAL
PROFESSIONAL AUCTIONEERS
For more information call 1-800-636-1401

Notice of Formation of Sol Hairstylist, LLC. Articles of Organization filed with SSNY on 06/25/2021. Office: Westchester County. SSNY designated as agent of the LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail copy of process to the LLC, 92 Halstead Avenue, Harrison, NY 10528. Purpose: Any lawful purpose.

Letters to the Editor:

My name is Dennis Richmond, Jr., and I'm a 26-year-old New Yorker. Since March of 2020, I've been doing good. I made sure to wear my mask indoors and outdoors, I was socially distant, and I received both shots of the Pfizer COVID vaccine. I ran around New York City earlier this month, hitting everywhere from the Burnside Avenue section of the Bronx to the East New York Section of Brooklyn and from the Howard Beach section of Queens to Midtown Manhattan. I did most of this running around- maskless. On Saturday, September 18th, 2021, I tested positive for COVID-19.

The first thing that I had to do was let everybody I was around, know that they were exposed to COVID. Why were they exposed? Because of me. Even though I didn't expose people on purpose, reaching out to people was an experience. One person asked me, "Is this a joke?" It wasn't. Somebody else had told me "Thank you for telling me." That was a nice response, considering I just furthered the pandemic because I didn't want to wear a mask.

After hearing some interesting responses, things got crazy. One person who I was around told me that if they tested positive for it, they wouldn't tell anybody. Wait. If you catch the Rona, you're not telling anybody around you? Somebody else dared to tell me after I told them my diagnosis, "that explains why I haven't felt good all week." Are, you, serious? For real? Don't tell me that. I wasn't glad to know that I had to let my relatives, who are seniors, know that they were exposed to COVID too. I had seen an uncle of mine who's 81. I had to let him and my aunt know.

I felt the urge to post my diagnoses on social media. I did, and I got a myriad of reactions and comments as a result. The amount of love that people showed me from social media and elsewhere was beautiful. This person lives in Queens, this one lives in Virginia, this one lives in Harlem, and this one lives in Pennsylvania. It was something. Things got crazy yet again when I started to have conversations with people around my age about getting vaccinated. Young adults are so quick to smoke something and get high but hesitant to take a vaccine. It doesn't make sense. You don't know what's in that loud, gelato, sour, or kush, but you'll smoke it. God, forbid you have to take a vaccine so you won't spread a deadly virus.

Since COVID-19, I lost weight, I slept a ridiculous amount of time, and I had to quarantine in my room, in my house. If I had to say anything at all, it would be to please, just get vaccinated. For real. Get vaccinated

Dennis Richmond, Jr., Yonkers

Letter to the Editor:

As the war rages on over what should be taught in schools, it's interesting to note that Humane Education is being ignored and not being taught - though it is in fact mandated, enacted as NYS Education Law Sec. 809. Teaching students to show kindness and respect for animals will translate by extension into treating each other the same way - that should be the standard for our children instead of engendering rancor, assigning labels and division.

Humane Ed should begin with a ban on animal dissection in school, which lays the groundwork for contempt of other beings - who have a right to share this earth without being 'test' subjects or academic 'points' for children or anyone else. Animal dissection is a foundation primer for making children callous and insensitive. Many are frightened into this vile activity - which serves absolutely no purpose - with the threat of a failing or mediocre grade; many are encouraged into bullying laughter at others, and at the poor animal victims as well.

But there's another awful lesson - which is showing children they have the 'right' to dominate and harm those who can't fight back. Children, the elderly and the animals are the most victimized in society; the schools would do a huge service by guiding young minds toward good citizenship and being stewards of this earth instead of plunderers of it.

Teaching Humane Ed is just a hop-and-a-skip to teaching young people to treat each other with respect and kindness - a necessary lesson that's also been completely ignored by the Board of Education along with other failings.

Finally, by including animals in the circle of kindness and compassion - currently mandated though totally excluded - teachers will be showing students that even the littlest of us deserve decency, dignity and esteem, instead of placing barriers between us - by species or anything else.

And that's what teaching is all about after all.

Kiley Blackman, Animal Defenders of Westchester, www.ADOW.org.

Hey Westchester, It's Time to Get Your Flu Shot



County Executive George Latimer getting flu shot

Westchester County Executive George Latimer, pictured above, rolled up his sleeve and got a flu shot at Westchester County Department of Health clinic in White Plains.

Urging residents to follow his lead, Latimer said: "Schedule your flu shot today, don't wait. The flu can be miserable and it should be taken seriously. This vaccine will help keep you and your family healthy well into 2022."

Flu shots are available for a fee from many area pharmacists and medical offices.

The County Health Department is on track to provide up to 2,000 flu vaccines this fall, mostly to County employees. A public flu clinic will be announced at a later date.

Health Commissioner Sherlita Amler, MD, said: "Everyone six months and older should get an annual flu shot. Flu can make otherwise healthy adults and children very ill and it can be deadly. The sooner you get vaccinated, the better. Flu symptoms can be confused with COVID-19, so your flu shot can help your doctor treat you if you do become sick. Vaccines for flu and COVID-19 offer the best protection we have to fight these diseases. And you also help your community by protecting people around you who are more vulnerable to flu complications, such as infants too young to be vaccinated, seniors and people with chronic health conditions."

Flu activity is usually highest between December and February, but can last into May. One flu vaccine now provides protection all season long and can prevent illness or reduce the severity of flu symptoms. The vaccine becomes fully effective after about two weeks.

Dr. Amler said that anyone who does get a respiratory infection should consider COVID/influenza testing. To avoid spreading germs to others, it is recommended that residents wear a mask; cough or sneeze into their elbow; wash their hands frequently with soap and water; stay home until 24 hours after their fever subsides to avoid spreading germs; clean surfaces they touch frequently, such as doorknobs, water faucets, refrigerator handles and telephones; and get plenty of rest.

Lasdon Park to Host First Ever Movie Night Abbott & Costello Meet Frankenstein, Oct. 2



Grab a blanket, lawn chair and laugh your way into the Halloween spirit, Saturday, Oct. 2, at Lasdon Park and Arboretum's first ever movie night to watch Abbott and Costello Meet Frankenstein (1948). Tickets go on sale Thursday, Sept. 30.

Westchester County Executive George Latimer said, "Halloween is a fun time of year for all ages and the classic film, Abbott and Costello Meet Frankenstein, is a fun way to bring residents together to get into the Halloween spirit."

Commissioner of the Department of Parks, Recreation and Conservation Kathy O'Connor said: "Westchester County Parks loves hosting movie nights and we're excited to host at Lasdon Park for the first time ever, with such a classic film."

Come hungry as Walter's Hot Dog truck will be on site for dinner and snacks for the whole family.

Tickets will be available to purchase online beginning Thursday, Sept. 30: <https://www.lasdonpark.org/event/movie-night-at-lasdon/>. Tickets are \$10 for adults, \$5 for children. Admission and parking are free. Gates open at 6 p.m., movie starts at 7 p.m. Rain date is Saturday, Oct. 9.

Event is presented by the Friends of Lasdon Park and Arboretum and sponsored by Bedford Playhouse, home of the Clive Davis Arts Center.

Lasdon Park, Arboretum and Veterans Memorial is a Westchester County Park on Route 35 in Somers. The GPS address is 2610 Amawalk Road, Katonah, NY 10536.

Notice of Formation of MultiUniverse, LLC. Arts. of Org. filed with the SSNY on 08/21/2021. Office: Westchester County. SSNY designated as agent of the LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail copy of process to the LLC, 28 Jean Lane, Hartsdale, NY 10530. Purpose: Any lawful purpose.

Notice of formation of Erin Lyles, LLC. Arts. of Org. filed with the SSNY on 8/30/2021. Office: Westchester County. SSNY designated as agent of the LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail copy of process to the LLC, 23 Addison Street, Larchmont, NY 10538. Purpose: Any lawful purpose.

Notice of Formation of Mastering Every Available Network, LLC. Arts. of Org. filed with SSNY on May 11, 2021, office location: Westchester County. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process may be served. SSNY shall mail process to P.O. Box 22, Mount Vernon New York 10551, Purpose: any unlawful act or activity.

Notice of Formation of 8th Street LLC filed with United States Corporation Agents, INC 7014 13th Avenue Brooklyn, NY, 11228, USA on 6-29-2021. Office Westchester County. The United States Corporation Agents, INC. Designated as agent off LLC upon whom process against it may be served. United States Corporation Agents, INC shall mail copy of process to the LLC 300 Mamaroneck Ave unit 522 White Plains, NY 10605. Purpose : Any lawful purpose.

SUPPORT CONNECTION'S SUPPORT-A-WALK
For Breast & Ovarian Cancer
SUNDAY 10.3.21 | *Walk With Us, Wherever You Are.*
supportconnection.org

GENERAC
Prepare for power outages with a Generac home standby generator
REQUEST A FREE QUOTE!
877-516-1160
FREE 7-Year Extended Warranty* A \$695 Value!
Limited Time Offer - Call for Details
Special Financing Available
Subject to Credit Approval
*To qualify, consumers must request a quote, purchase, install and activate the generator with a participating dealer. Call for a full list of terms and conditions.

Westchester Mourns Valerie Reyes Death Again as Killer Gets 30 Years for Brutal Abduction-Murder



On September 23, Javier Da Silva was sentenced to 30 years in prison for kidnapping Valerie Reyes in New Rochelle, and unlawfully transporting her to Connecticut, where her body was found approximately a week later. DA SILVA, who was arrested in Flushing, Queens in February 2019, pled guilty before U.S. District Judge Vincent Briccetti on February 4, 2020. Reyes, a 24 year old bookstore employee and artist, had broken off their relationship 9 months before her death.

On the day of his sentencing, as Da Silva appeared to be trying to ask Federal Judge Vincent Briccetti for a lenient sentence, Valerie Reyes' mother, Norma Sanchez set to record straight. "A mother can never wants to face a terrible day like this. It would take a day to describe the joy Valerie brought into their lives, My boys are all heart-broken and devastated. You are a selfish, greedy soulless person. Today, I hope Valerie finds the justice she deserves."

Da Silva, pleaded guilty in 2020 to Reyes' homicide, which occurred in Jan. 2019. US District Court Vincent Briccetti sentence Da Silva in White Plains. "What you did to this woman was sickening. ... Anyone who could do such a thing is not a good person, by definition. Anyone who can do a thing like that is an evil person. Justice requires an evil deed be punished by a lengthy prison sentence," said Judge Briccetti.

In the late evening of January 28, 2019, Da Silva rented a car from a garage in Flushing, New York and drove to the Reyes' residence in New Rochelle, New York, arriving in the early morning hours of January 29, 2019. Before he entered the Reyes' home, Da Silva switched his phone to "airplane mode." Sometime after Da Silva entered the Victim's apartment, the two had a violent altercation, during which the Reyes suffered head trauma, bruising around the face, and a large hematoma to her forehead. Da Silva then kidnapped Reyes, covering her mouth with several layers of packing tape and binding her feet and hands with packing tape and twine and putting her in a suitcase—before disposing of her body, still inside the suitcase, in Connecticut. Over the ensuing days, Da Silva used Reyes' debit card on various occasions to withdraw approximately \$5,350 in cash from her bank account. Da Silva also sold an iPad belonging to the Victim in the days following her death.

On January 30, 2019, the Victim was reported missing to the New Rochelle Police Department. A few days later, on February 5, 2019, her body was recovered in a red suitcase alongside a public road in the Town of Greenwich, Connecticut. The Connecticut Medical Examiner's Office later concluded that the Victim died of homicidal asphyxiation. The case was tried in Federal Court because Da Silva transported Reyes across state lines.

U.S. Attorney Audrey Strauss stated: "Javier Da Silva committed a horrific kidnapping that resulted in the death of a young woman. In the days after, he used her ATM card to empty her bank account and then attempted to cover up the evidence of his conduct. Valerie Reyes, the victim of this crime, was in the prime of her life when it was senselessly ended by Da Silva's abhorrent act. Those who commit violence, especially those who kill, will not escape justice."

May God Bless Valerie Reyes and her family.

20 Year Old Mount Vernon Resident Aliyah Waiters Shot and Killed

Twenty year-old Mount Vernon resident Aliyah Waiters was shot killed on Sept. 25 after being struck in the head by a bullet. The shooting happened on South Third Avenue in Mt. Vernon at 2:30 a.m. Waiters was taken to Jacobi Medical Center in the Bronx and put on life support before she was pronounced dead.

No arrests have been made as Mt. Vernon Police continue their investigation. Mount Vernon Mayor Shawyn Patterson-Howard released a statement mourning Waiters' death, and adding that she heard the gunshots in the middle of Saturday near her home.

U.S. Rep. Jamaal Bowman, U.S. Senate Majority Leader Chuck Schumer, U.S. Senator Kirsten Gillibrand, New York State Senators Jamaal T. Bailey and Alessandra Biaggi, Assemblyman J. Gary Pretlow, Mount Vernon Mayor Shawyn Patterson-Howard, Mount Vernon City Council President Marcus Griffith, Mount Vernon City Councilman Derrick Thompson, and Mount Vernon City Councilwoman Janice Duarte, and Pastor Darren M. Morton issued the following statement over the weekend:

"We were devastated and heartbroken to learn that a 20-year-old woman was shot in the head in Mount Vernon early Saturday morning at approximately 2:30 a.m. Our offices will continue to work with the mayor, and other elected officials to end incidents of gun violence in Mount Vernon. Every life is sacred and It is going to take all of us to get this done. Every elected official, every member of the clergy, every educator, community member, health care provider and resident, must work together to stop the violence in Mount Vernon and beyond. There is so much good work already happening in Mount Vernon, and that needs to be recognized, uplifted and multiplied. Every life is precious and every life is worth saving. Let us work together to save lives.

"If you have any information regarding this incident or the potential of future incidents of violence, please text confidentially to 914-314-5091. This is a non-police confidential private line."

Mount Vernon Mayor Shawyn Patterson-Howard said, "The loss of every life to gun violence is tragic and preventable. Today, Mount Vernon mourns for 20-year-old Aliyah Waiters, whose death comes amid a spike in murders in cities across the country. This hurts, particularly because Mount Vernon has made great strides in the past year to reduce violent crime. Our hearts and prayers go out to the Waiters family and all families impacted by violence in this community. With the help of the public, Mount Vernon will find the shooter and bring them to justice. We'll continue fighting to end the scourge of gun violence and ensure the safety of residents, its times like this where Mount Vernon must come together to work for the safe community that we all want and deserve."

Westchester County Pilot Program to Offer Doulas to Qualifying Pregnant Women



Pilot Program in partnership with Lower Hudson Valley Perinatal Network Children's Health & Research Foundation

In Westchester County, Black women are more likely to deliver babies with low birth weight, more likely to have premature births, and more likely to have their babies die. With those statistics in mind – and hoping to change them – the County has launched a pilot program with the Lower Hudson Valley Perinatal Network Children's Health and Research Foundation to offer doulas to qualifying Westchester County pregnant women.

County Executive George Latimer said: "I know that as a man I can never fully understand the birthing process – but as a husband, a father of a daughter and the grandfather to a young girl – I can tell you I am listening to you and I hear you. We can do better when it comes to these alarming statistics, and we will. You can count on my continued support of this most important issue. I commend the Office for Women, the Women's Advisory Board and the many local organizations committed to this work who have advocated tirelessly on the issue of improving birth outcomes for Black women."

Certified doulas have been shown to increase positive health outcomes, including reducing birth complications for the mother and the baby. The Program will cover labor/birth and postpartum doulas, offer Medicaid to eligible pregnant mothers.

Westchester County Health Commissioner Sherlita Amler, MD said: "By providing doulas we aim to reduce cesarean rates, shorten labor, reduce requests for epidurals, reduce use of Pitocin and increase breastfeeding, while providing environments of respect, and active listening. We want our moms to feel safe and cared for. Research proves that when pregnant women's voices are heard, positive birth outcomes are increased."

In 2019, the nationwide maternal mortality rate for black women was 44 per 100,000 births – that is two and a half times the rate for white mothers (17.9), according to the CDC. In other words, black women are two and a half times more likely to die from a pregnancy-related cause than white women. The pilot program will begin with \$75,000 with options to expand.

Liberty Lines Faces Bus Driver Shortage for Bee-Line Westchester County Bus Service

With many bus drivers across the country deciding not to go back to work, a shortage of both school bus drivers and transit bus drivers has landed in Westchester County. Liberty Lines Transit, who operates the Westchester County Bee Line buses, issued the following statement on Sept. 22.

"Over the past 18 months transit systems throughout the country have faced unprecedented challenges. Liberty Lines, like all other transit operators, is facing a shortage of bus drivers due to the pandemic. We are taking this shortage seriously and are actively recruiting new Bee-Line bus drivers daily, currently running three classes to train new drivers.

"We recognize the impact this is having on our ridership and are constantly adjusting drivers' schedules to minimize disruptions. The proactive management of the operation has resulted in less than three percent of trips that have been impacted.

"Currently, the impact of the shortage is resulting in some passengers needing to wait extra time for a bus. We are working hard to limit the amount of wait time between buses and are minimizing it as much as possible. We are trying not to impact routes where we have a high volume of passengers and, for the most part, we have been successful.

"The primary goal of Liberty Lines is to provide the best service possible to our riders. The Bee-Line Bus System is safe and reliable. We apologize for this inconvenience. We are working to remedy the issues as soon as possible."

COMPUTER PROBLEMS?



Geeks on Site

Call Now for a FREE Diagnosis
1-866-848-0045

Friendly
Certified Computer
Repair Experts

Simply mention coupon
code 42513 and get

\$20 OFF

any service you need!



HOMEOWNER FUNDING

When you need a
new roof, windows
or doors and need
help paying for
them, call us.

800-736-9629

NYImprovementFund.com

PROGRAMS AVAILABLE RIGHT NOW FOR NEW YORK RESIDENTS

Roofing | Windows | Siding | Insulation | Walk-In Tubs

Leaf Filter

BACKED BY A YEAR-ROUND CLOG-FREE GUARANTEE

15% OFF
10% OFF

FINANCING THAT FITS YOUR BUDGET

CALL US TODAY FOR A FREE ESTIMATE

1-855-478-9473

SUPREME COURT OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK –
COUNTY OF WESTCHESTER
INDEX # 65171/2020 FILED: 8/11/2021
SUPPLEMENTAL SUMMONS

Plaintiff designates WESTCHESTER County as the place of trial. The basis of venue is: The location of the real property being foreclosed. BANK OF AMERICA, NA, Plaintiff, against UNKNOWN HEIRS OF THE ESTATE OF MARY A. DAVIS A/K/A MARY DAVIS A/K/A MARY A PICKNEY A/K/A MARY PICKNEY A/K/A MARY PICKNEY DAVIS A/K/A MARY TEMPLE DAVIS, if they be living and if they be dead, the respective heirs-at-law, next-of-kin, distributees, executors, administrators, trustees, devisees, legatees, assignees, lienors, creditors and successors in interest and generally all persons having or claiming under, by or through said defendant(s) who may be deceased, by purchase, inheritance, lien or inheritance, any right, title or interest in or to the real property described in the Complaint, NEW YORK STATE DEPARTMENT OF TAXATION AND FINANCE, UNITED STATES OF AMERICA – INTERNAL REVENUE SERVICE, Defendant(s). To the above named Defendant(s): YOU ARE HEREBY SUMMONED to Answer the Complaint in this action and to serve a copy of your Answer, or, if the Complaint is not served with this Summons, to serve a Notice of Appearance on the Plaintiff's attorney(s) within twenty (20) days after the service of this Summons, exclusive of the day of service (or within thirty (30) days after service is complete if this Summons is not personally delivered to you within the State of New York); and in case of your failure to appear or answer, judgment will be taken against you by default for the relief demanded in the complaint.

The foregoing summons is served upon you by publication pursuant to an order of the Honorable David F. Everett, a Justice of the Supreme Court of the State of New York, Westchester County, granted on the 3rd day of August, 2021, and filed with the Verified Complaint and other papers in the office of the County Clerk of Westchester County. The object of this action is to bar and forever foreclose of and from all right, title, interest, claim, lien and equity of redemption in and to real property situated in the County of Westchester being known as and by 12 RISLEY PLACE, NEW ROCHELLE, NY 10801, bearing tax map designation Section: 4 Block: 1320 Lot: 0038, which is more fully described in the Schedule "A" attached to the Verified Complaint. Aldridge Pite, LLP. Attorneys for the Plaintiff, 40 Marcus Drive, Suite 200, Melville, NY 11747 Our File 1395-241B

Classifieds:

Attorney

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

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

Buying / Selling

Buying diamonds, gold, silver, all fine jewelry and watches, coins, paintings, better furs, complete estates. We simply pay more! Call Barry 914-260-8783 or e-mail Americabuying@aol.com

Education / Career Training

COMPUTER & IT TRAINING PROGRAM! Train ONLINE to get the skills to become a Computer & Help Desk Professional now! Grants and Scholarships available for certain programs for qualified applicants. Call CTI for details! (844) 947-0192 (M-F 8am-6pm ET)

Education / Career Training

TRAIN AT HOME TO DO MEDICAL BILLING! Become a Medical Office Professional online at CTI! Get Trained, Certified & ready to work in months! Call 855-543-6440. (M-F 8am-6pm ET)

For Sale

Privacy Hedges – FALL BLOWOUT! 5/6ft Arborvitae. Regular price \$199, Now only \$69 each. FREE Installation/FREE delivery, Trees are selling fast! 518-536-1367 www.lowcosttreefarm.com

Health

VIAGRA & CIALIS! 60 pills for \$99. 100 pills for \$150. FREE shipping. Money back guaranteed! 1-855-579-8907

Help Wanted

HOTEL CLEANING NYC- QUEENS- WHITE PLAINS. T&L Cleaning is looking for Housekeeping Staff for various Hotels. Room Attendants, Laundry Attendants, House-persons and Supervisors. Apply on-line at: tlcleaningservices.com/apply or call 1-800-610-4770

Home Improvement:

The Generac PWRcell, a solar plus battery storage system. SAVE money, reduce your reliance on the grid, prepare for power outages and power your home. Full installation services available. \$0 Down Financing Option. Request a FREE, no obligation, quote today. Call 1-888-871-0194

Never Pay For Covered Home Repairs Again! Complete Care Home Warranty COVERS ALL MAJOR SYSTEMS AND APPLIANCES. 30 DAY RISK FREE. \$200.00 OFF + 2 FREE Months! 866-440-6501

Eliminate gutter cleaning forever! LeafFilter, the most advanced debris-blocking gutter protection. Schedule a FREE LeafFilter estimate today. 15% off and 0% financing for those who qualify. PLUS Senior & Military Discounts. Call 1-877-763-2379

Miscellaneous

BEST SATELLITE TV with 2 Year Price Guarantee! \$59.99/mo with 190 channels and 3 months free premium movie channels! Free next day installation! Call 888-508-5313

Real Estate For Sale

30 Acres Only \$99,900! Minutes to Bennington VT. Great views, Open and Wooded, Trails Throughout, Abundant Wildlife! Town road with power and telephone. All surveyed, owner financing. 802-447-0779

TV Internet Phone

Get DIRECTV! ONLY \$69.99/month! 155 Channels & 1000s of Shows/Movies On Demand (w/SELECT All Included Package.) PLUS Stream on Up to FIVE Screens Simultaneously at No Additional Cost. Call DIRECTV 1-888-534-6918

DISH TV \$64.99 For 190 Channels + \$14.95 High Speed Internet. Free Installation, Smart HD DVR Included, Free Voice Remote. Some restrictions apply. Promo Expires 1/21/22. 1-888-609-9405

Mount Vernon Library, continued from pg 3-

“We are challenging the elected officials to step up and take some action. YOU are our customer service representatives. It’s time you represent us.#SaveMountVernon demands are simple. The residents have seen the worst with the past administrations, and they will not put up with it over and over again. The city residents want to put an end to this embarrassment.We are rejecting the corruption, the retaliatory mentality, and poor judgment emerging from any administration. Our mission is to bring awareness to the city residents of the FACTS VS FALSE PROPAGANDA spewed out by public officials.Most Administrations are very good at distracting people from the truth. We demand the elected officials step up and take some action.Please share any stories or issues you have with the city. YOU have a VOICE.We will #SaveMountVernon and rebuild,” said Save Mount Vernon.

“The questions posed by DSJ go back to as far as the 2015 Library budget. According to a release from Save Mount Vernon, ” DSJ reported to the Library Board that the library has not reconciled its financial record for seven years. The report states that there are several accounts in question, including a debit card issued to the library under the name of former library board president, Oscar Davis, Jr.

The DSJ report indicates that the debit card purchases are “not consistent with a library’s normal course of business.” DSJ discovered 596 debit card transactions totalling more than \$50,000. And the fact that the library lost its non for profit status three years ago, according to Save Mount Vernon, “may place in danger grant monies that were distributed during that time period as well as current grant applications.

Mr. Jess Van Lew, head of Save Mount Vernon said “We continue to wait for excuses as to why no investigation into the Mount Vernon Libraries failure to reconcile books, and to those 1,400 inquires into the ledger of \$4.9 Million. Save Mount Vernon demands accountability and answers to the citizens of Mount Vernon.”

Save Mount Vernon held a press conference outside the library on September 27. “We are asking for accountability. Someone in the government,. To district attorney Mimi Rocah, we voted for you. Mt. Vernon needs you.

“If there is any wrongdoing from the report that was put out, we are asking all county and elected officials, all the way up to NY Attorney General Letitia James and the State Comptroller, to investigate the Mount Vernon Public Library,” said Jess Van Lew.

The budget of the Mt. Vernon Library is not under the control of the City of Mount Vernon govemnet, nor under the perview of the City Comptroller.So far, no comment from Mayor Shawyn Patterson-Howard or members of the Mt. Vernon City Council, or any elected official in Westchester.

Eric Schoen, continued from pg 3-

thing worse happens.

I also asked the New York State Department of Health, yes the outgoing Dr. Harold Zucker’s office for comment on whether they thought an unvaccinated candidate should be campaigning door to door. Did I expect a response? If you think I did I have a bridge in Brooklyn to sell you. His office is probably to busy defending the many lawsuits brought by his order to return Covid positive patients to nursing homes. What a shanda (disgrace in Yiddish).

There are many ways for candidates to campaign other than going door to door. To be honest, I probably would ask a candidate who comes to my door to show in the window of the door to my apartment or house or through the peep hole or under the door their vaccination card before I opened the door for my safety. Candidates can call on the phone, send mail, lawn signs on their supporters lawns, posters in the window of businesses that support them, bumper stickers, sound trucks with local jurisdiction permit, the list does on and on. Skip the flyers on car windows. People get annoyed with them and if they get wet while on the windshield can lead to a major scraping job.

Two questions came up from the many people who answered the door when Nolan knocked. Should you just to be sure have a Covid test. I spoke to a doctor friend of mine who said that is a decision between the patient and his/her doctor. Lots of stories about people getting price gouged for Covid tests. Make sure you know the price before the place you go to administers the test.

The other question that came up is if Nolan is unvaccinated, how can he be working as a custodian in the Yonkers Public Schools. New York City is making all school employees be vaccinated. At press time New York City has set a 5:00 pm Friday, October 1 deadline for employees to receive their first shot. Yonkers is not. The Yonkers policy according to the districts website is:

Yonkers Board of Education employees and students must continue to wear masks at all times regardless of vaccination status while at school. On or before September 1, 2021, all employees of the Board of Education must be vaccinated or tested on a regular basis. All employees must provide proof of vaccination or proof of a negative COVID-19 test result based on a COVID-19 test administered within the prior seven-day period on a regular basis in accordance with the procedures and protocols implemented by the Superintendent of Schools and/or his designee.

If you are a parent of a Yonkers Public Schools student or a citizen of Yonkers and you have any questions regarding this policy, email the Trustees of the Yonkers Board of Education at trustees@yonkerspublicschools.org or call the district at 914-376-8000. To contact the Superintendent of the Yonkers Public Schools either use that phone number or follow the directions on this page from the districts website: <https://www.yonkerspublicschools.org/Page/1487>

Some good news. A report came out at press time that as Vaccine rates rise Covid cases fall 8% statewide. Keep up the good work New Yorkers.

And please James Nolan, Stop Campaigning Door to Door in Yonkers and Bronxville!

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

yonkerstimes.com

FINALLY
The only place to read
news that matters to
your community
ONLINE

YONKERS TIMES
News in Yonkers and around Westchester

Donate Your Car & Help Grant A Child's Wish

Help Local Children And Get Free & Easy Towing

Visit WheelsForWishes.org or call (877)-798-9474



Make A Wish

Car Donation Foundation d/b/a Wheels For Wishes. To learn more about our programs or financial information, call (212) 948-2000 or visit www.wheelsforwishes.org

Debates Cancelled, continued from pg 1-

WHERE THERE'S A WALK, THERE'S A WAY

The Alzheimer's Association Walk to End Alzheimer's is full of flowers, each carried by someone committed to ending this disease. Because like flowers, our participants don't stop when something is in their way. They keep raising funds and awareness for a breakthrough in the fight against Alzheimer's and all other dementia. Add your flower to the fight. Visit HudsonValleyWalks.org today!



Westchester
Walk to End Alzheimer's
Sunday, Oct. 3
at Westchester
Community College
Registration at 1 p.m.
Walk starts at 2 p.m.

Register at WestchesterWalk.org

St. John's Riverside Hospital PNS continued from pg 1-

Patients are awake during the procedure to make sure that the electrodes are properly placed so that Dr. Erosa can identify what level of stimulation the patient is comfortable with during a testing period. The electrode delivers rapid electrical pulses that feel like mild tingles and are placed near a nerve in the part of the body in pain. These signals can block and alter the pain signals that typically reach the brain.

No surgery is required and the patient goes home same day with a remote control to adjust the level of stimulation as needed. Temporary discomfort after the PNS procedure is minimal and treated with over-the-counter medication.

Dr. Stephen Erosa is a dual board-certified pain physician who focuses on rehabilitation and advanced interventions to help manage chronic pain. He offers a unique approach using his osteopathic, psychiatric, and interventional knowledge to create a comprehensive, holistic, personalized treatment plan for all his patients.

"It is my mission to identify the cause of your pain and provide a treatment that has the potential to provide the longest-lasting pain relief without the need for long-term oral medications. As a born and raised New Yorker, I have a passion for helping my community thrive."

PNS has been more commonly used in recent years for neuropathic pain and migraine headaches after several stimulation devices received FDA approval.

"For many of my patients, PNS is a game changer. It's low risk and high reward. It is a non-opioid therapy that is not a narcotic and provides up to a year in pain relief. In the world of pain management, we are always looking for new modalities that don't have the risk of medication abuse. Many of my patients have tried other methods but they still have pain. This gets them feeling better," said Dr. Erosa.

Andrea C. is one of Dr. Erosa's patients that has benefitted from PNS. She had the procedure at St. John's Riverside Hospital after experiencing chronic back pain for more than 10 years. "I've had two spinal surgeries and tried other things including medications before Dr. Erosa told me about PNS and recommended it for me. For many patients experiencing chronic pain it is worthy trying. It has worked wonders for me."

Andrea has 2 implants placed in her lower back and buttocks area in May and July of this year. The first implant worked and reduced her pain, but Dr. Erosa found another location on the other side of her lower back and buttocks which was suitable for another implant. Since the second implant, Andrea says that her pain level has gone from an 8 to a 3, which allows her to lead an active life once again. "Anyone with chronic back pain should consider PNS and go see Dr. Erosa. What do you have to lose in trying something else? Dr. Erosa has changed my life."

Dr. Erosa wants to make sure all our readers know about the different options available to them to alleviate chronic pain. "PNS is a treatment that not many people know about. I'm not just a pain medication doctor. This therapy can offer you relief and improve your function. That's why I want to get the word out, because if there is someone in the community who doesn't know about this, it's a disservice."

If you are a candidate for peripheral nerve stimulation for your chronic pain, contact Dr. Stephen Erosa at 914-964-4DOC, or visit or visit <https://bit.ly/2X5Kiv3> for more info.

Dr. Stephen Erosa completed his residency and fellowship training in Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation and Interventional Pain Medicine at the prestigious Albert Einstein College of Medicine in New York City.

Should candidates be vaccinated? continued below from pg 1-

on the board elected come 2022? "I would embrace it because all voices need to be heard."

"People want change. They don't want the same song and dance about just showing up for ceremonies. They have concerns and those concerns matter to me. Public safety is one issue, with crime going up. Affordability is another issue, and people want to see where their tax dollars are going. And our infrastructure problems needs to be addressed."

"They want someone who is not a politician but wants to serve the public. I'm a member of the blue collar workforce. That's why I'm getting such a positive response. During the pandemic there were a lot of us out there helping people, and there were others who were not around and people didn't know who to turn to. You need to be seen in the most desperate times," said Nolan, who lost his brother Michael Nolan, who was shot and killed in Yonkers in 2015.

Since his brother's death, James has created and worked on community causes through the Michael Nolan foundation. "It always hard to remember, but it motivates me. I want his legacy to continue and to make our district better for everyone. I'm a Yonkers guy through and through. I want to stay here and raise my family here." Nolan also said that he is honored that his race is the #1 race for the BOL. "Our campaign is out there, knocking on thousands of doors and meeting people. This is a serious race," said James Nolan.

Editor's Note:

After our interview, we found out that James Nolan was not vaccinated for COVID-19, and that several residents had raised concerns about the fact that he was campaigning and knocking on doors while not vaccinated.

We contacted Nolan who said, "I'm not vaccinated and I have consulted with my doctor and due to my medical history I am waiting on my doctors advice to take it. I encourage people to get the vaccine if their doctor gives them the green light. I wear mask when required and socially distance myself!"

While on the campaign trail, Nolan knocked on a door of a nurse in Yonkers, who asked if he was vaccinated. She raised her objection to others and her concerns we have heard from other residents and voters in the district.

While on the campaign trail, Nolan knocked on a door of a nurse in Yonkers, who asked if he was vaccinated. She then spoke out against the fact that he was campaigning, and knocking on doors without a vaccination.

Nolan was also invited to a debate on WVOX radio 1460 AM, but because he is not vaccinated, would have to call in and cannot come into the studio.

Nolan's non-vax also raises the question, should we now ask all elected officials, and their opponents, if they are vaccinated? What about those who endorsed Nolan? Does this fact change their view?

The other question is if elected, would Nolan be welcome in the county board chambers if he is not vaccinated? Another county legislator from Yonkers, Legislator David Tubiolo, tested positive for COVID last year.

All of these questions will be up to the voters on Nov. 2, and next week we interview Legislator Ruth Walter.

the candidates in these two county-wide races discuss their views on the issues of importance to all of us. League Candidates Forums are an opportunity to hear from the candidates in a calm, respectful, nonpartisan setting that encourages civil discourse," League of Women Voters President Kathy Meany said in a statement announcing the cancellation of the events. "The Forums have even greater importance today when candidates' options for making themselves known to their constituents are greatly curtailed."

Meany urged Westchester County voters to "contact the candidates via email and social media to urge them to reconsider their decisions not to participate."

No comment yet from Sculti or Scott's campaign on why they declined to debate. In recent years, some republicans have been reluctant to participate in LWV debates for what some believe is a democratic bias in some forums against republican candidates.

But as one westchester republican told us, "You have to participate in any and all debates to get your message out and hope for a newsworthy event or slip up from your opponent. Especially, if you are the challenger, you have to get into any exchange you can with County Exec. Latimer and County Clerk Idoni. It's kind of like waiving the white flag not to do so."

Some democrats speculated that Sculti and Scott were hoping, by not debating, that they could "decrease democratic turnout and hope that there 38% comes out."

Another county democrat said it best, "Whoever is advising the republican candidate for county executive should know, if your not debating an incumbent you are not running at all."

Another recent event related to the County Executive's race came as a surprise to many political watchers, when the Sleepy Hollow-Tarrytown Chamber of Commerce endorsed Latimer for re-election. Local Chambers of Commerce usually don't get involved in politics, other to host a debate.

"During his first term as County Executive, George Latimer has shown steadfast support of Westchester's small businesses and the Chambers of Commerce that serve them. This support was amplified during the COVID-19 pandemic at a time when it was needed most. That is why, for the first time, the Sleepy Hollow Tarrytown Chamber of Commerce is endorsing George Latimer for re-election as County Executive," said the chamber in a statement.

Latimer said: "What my Administration has done the last four years is build new lines of communication that haven't existed before. From local governments, community organizations, businesses small and large and Chambers of Commerce like the Sleepy Hollow Tarrytown Chamber – everyone has a seat at the table and it produces real results. Not just rhetoric. Westchester's small businesses were hit hard during COVID-19 and I am proud of our efforts to be there for them."

Sleepy Hollow Tarrytown Chamber of Commerce Executive Director Stephanie Rodnick said: "County Executive George Latimer was there for us during some of the most challenging moments we faced as a Chamber, a Community, and a County during these last four years. His steadfast leadership during COVID-19, his commitment to seeing us through it, and his constant presence made it clear we must break our norms and endorse. George is a true friend and a great leader for Westchester County."

The statement from the chamber continues, "During his time as County Executive, Latimer has been a familiar face to local organizations – attending numerous meetings, listening to concerns, and always following up on shared issues. The support does not stop there. County Government provided direct aid to small businesses and Chambers of Commerce during the height of the pandemic – notably the Sleepy Hollow Tarrytown Chamber of which many non-profits organizations are members. Latimer understands that Westchester's greatest assets are the people who comprise it and work hard everyday, notably during some of the County's darker times."

Sleepy Hollow Tarrytown Chamber of Commerce President Laura Rey added: "From the commitment to restore the historic Tarrytown Lighthouse, a major tourist attraction for our community and boon to our Chamber members to opening the first line of communication to the Office of the County Executive, to providing needed PPE to our small businesses – George has always been there for us."

Latimer concluded: "I am honored to receive this endorsement. I know what this Chamber does for its community. Their hands-on commitment to building up not just themselves, but the County as a whole is evident through their constant involvement in our multi-chamber events. I am asking for Westchester County residents to once again put their trust in me and I am proud to have the support of the Sleepy Hollow Tarrytown Chamber."

Many republicans knew that Latimer would be a difficult County Executive to defeat in 2021. That is why most of the remaining, prominent republicans declined to run. And we repeat again that Sculti helped save the Westchester GOP from the embarrassment of not running a candidate for County Executive.

But Latimer's anticipated landslide is starting to worry local republicans in their races, notably in the Town's of Yorktown, Harrison and Eastchester. In Eastchester most believe that long-serving Supervisor Anthony Colavita is safe in his re-election, because of his name recognition, and positive response from the community about his leadership.

Republicans now hold all five seats on the Eastchester Town Board, and two seats are up for election Nov. 2. Eastchester Democrats have a slate of candidates for Supervisor and Town Board. More on this race later this month.

In Harrison, republicans and democrats are competing for who will control a majority on the Town Board and who will be the next Mayor-Supervisor. Republican councilman-deputy Mayor Rich Dioniso and democratic councilman Frank Gordon are in a heated contest. Two other seats on the town council are also in play.

And in Yorktown, while democrats failed to put up a candidate against republican Supervisor Matt Slater, they are running for the two seats up on the Town Board. Republicans currently hold a slim 3-2 majority.

One county republican told us, "Colavita in Eastchester and Slater in Yorktown are very popular, so both should be able to hold off any coattails that Latimer may have. But with Ron Belmont stepping down in Harrison, that's the one remaining GOP stronghold that I would be worried about. But its anybody's guess as to who turns out to vote in this race, how many ballots will be mailed in and who comes out early to vote. I don't think the turnout will be high."

Saving a Life EVERY 11 MINUTES

*I'm never
alone*

Life Alert® is always here for me.

One touch of a button sends help fast, 24/7.

Help at Home | Help On-the-Go

Life Alert® Batteries Never Need Charging.

For a FREE brochure call:
1-800-404-9776

LISTENING. CARING.

THE WAY MEDICINE
WAS MEANT TO BE



FROM LEFT TO RIGHT:
LOUIS ANDRONE, MD; ANDREW FADER, MD
ANA ANDRONE, MD; ROLANDO CHUMACEIRO, MD;
THOMAS APUZZO, MD; ROBERT DeMATTEO, MD



*"They treat me
with respect."*

Lourdes J., patient

ACCEPTING NEW PATIENTS | CLOSE-TO-HOME | BI-LINGUAL | POST COVID CARE REFERRALS
AMPLE FREE PARKING | EXTENDED HOURS | EFFICIENT, FRIENDLY ENVIRONMENT

Be Proactive. Open for Regular Appointments & Screenings.

914.207.0004

stjohnsmedgroup.com



© 2021 St. John's Riverside Hospital | All Rights Reserved.

You are invited

Join us at Kensico Dam as we Raise
the Italian flag in Celebration of
Italian Heritage Month

Tuesday, October 5 • 3:15 p.m.

Kensico Dam Plaza
1 Bronx River Parkway
Valhalla, NY 10595

facebook.com/westchestergov

