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# Westchester Rising

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# 77 Black & Hispanic Teens Missing In New York State; Many From Westchester





Nayelis Perez Santiago, left, and Kayla Stewart, both from Westchester and missing By Dennis Richmond Jr.

Steven Small, 16, went missing less than two weeks ago in New York City. There was no national media coverage for him. Jayden Bethea-Mendez, 17, went missing in Dobbs Ferry last month. I didn't see anything about this on News12. The same month, Toni Boyce, 16, went missing in Pleasantville. Kayla Stewart, 15, and Nashyilah Jackson-Irby, 14, both went missing in Pleasantville within the past year

According to the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children, 77 Black, and Hispanic young adults are missing in New York. Those missing in Yonkers, Nayelis Perez Santiago, Yoxy Zuniga Romero, and Melvin Garay Murillo, are Hispanic. Unfortunately, most Black and Hispanic teenagers that go missing never get national media coverage. A Google search for the name "Gabby" instantly pulls up articles about Gabby Petito. Gabby, 22, is a recently slain white woman. Gabby received national media coverage, but Steven, Jayden, Yoxy, and Nayelis didn't.

"Tens of thousands of Black girls and women go missing every year. Last year, that figure was nearly 100,000. Yet their cases hardly ever grab national headlines," says NPR. "A journalist in California is doing what she can to try to change that, by telling as many of their stories as she can — and hopefully helping them get the justice they deserve. Our Black Girls centers on the often untold stories of Black girls and women who have gone missing or, in some cases, were found dead under mysterious circumstances." The website was created three years ago by Erika Marie Rivers.

Why are Black and Hispanic teenagers specifically targeted? Dr. Umar Johnson and the late Dick Gregory talked about organ harvesting. People are stealing organs from Black and Hispanic people. Illegal activity, such as payment for this process, takes place on the dark web. Some of the cases of these missing teenagers may have a connection to the dark web.

Other than organ harvesting, teenagers are missing due to sex trafficking. A man was arrested for sex trafficking in Detroit as recently as October 14th. A man in Milwaukee, 45, was arrested too. According to FOX6 Milwaukee, some of his

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# Mount Sinai's Dr. Tsang Says Early Detection of Breast Cancer Saves Lives



Dr. Ashley Tsang, left, from
Mount Sinai-Doctors
Westchester, Encourages Women
to Get Screened During Breast
Cancer Awareness Month in
October

The announcement by U.S. Senator and former Presidential candidate Amy Klobuchar in September that she had been diagnosed and treated for breast cancer in 2021, is a case that should be shared with women about how early detection and screening can lead to successful treatment, according to Dr. Ashley Tsang, Mount Sinai Doctors-Westchester.

On Sept. 9th Senator Klobuchar, 61, wrote, "In February of this year, doctors found small white spots called calcifications during a routine mammogram. After this was discovered, I had a biopsy and then learned that I had Stage 1A breast cancer.

"After a number of other tests, I returned to Mayo and had a lumpectomy on the right breast which involved the removal of the cancer. In May, I completed a course of radiation treatment, and after additional follow-up visits, it was determined in August that the treatment went well. At this point my doctors believe that my chances of developing cancer again are no greater than the average person." said Klobuchar.

average person," said Klobuchar.

Dr. Tsang said that Klobuchar's successful early diagnosis and treatment of breast cancer should be used as an example and wake up call for women about the importance of how patients can use screenings to maintain their own health, especially during Breast Cancer Awareness month in October 2021.

"We know that one in eight women get breast cancer, and that figure has not changed in decades, despite the advancements in health care and medical research, "said Dr. Tsang. "The fact that Sen. Klobuchar had a mammogram in February, and they detected something which a biopsy confirmed was Stage 1A Breast Cancer, shows that for those patients who are found to have something abnormal on a screening mammogram and if it is caught early, like Klobuchar, it can save their life."

"The two most common presentations of breast cancer are a palpable breast mass, or an abnormal screening mammogram. The latter presentation is often early stage, and the earlier breast cancer is diagnosed, treatments like chemotherapy may not be necessary," said Dr. Tsang.

Sen. Klobuchar continued, "I also want to call attention to the fact that many people have been delaying physicals and routine examinations because of the pandemic. I know that because I delayed mine. Studies have found that thousands of people who missed their mammogram due to the pandemic may be living with undetected breast cancer.

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# We Endorse: George Latimer for Westchester County Executive



On Election Day 2017, George Latimer, left, was elected Westchester County Executive. Three years later, the COVID-19 pandemic began, with an initial outbreak in New Rochelle. Since then, everything has changed, including what is required from our elected officials. Latimer was forced to lead Westchester through our most difficult time since September 11, 2001. He has done so with a calm reassurance that is needed during times of trouble. He has also been able to encourage residents of our county to wear masks and get vaccinated, not only for their own health and safety, but for their families and community.

Latimer was elected during pre-pandemic politics in Westchester. Now he asks for your vote in a post-pandemic political world, and he has earned that vote. We endorse Latimer for re-election as County Executive because we have seen results and not just rhetoric from him during a time of crisis.

During the pandemic, County government in Westchester has helped deliver PPE and vaccines to the people of Westchester. Under Latimer's leadership, county government has provided assistance in the form of rent payments, small business assistance and food assistance, providing needed help to keep many residents in their homes, and with food on the table.

Unfortunately, whether someone should get vaccinated has become a political issue in Westchester and across our country. Latimer has called out residents in our county who refused to wear a mask when the pandemic was raging, and has urged county employees and the people of Westchester to get vaccinated. We agree with Latimer, and stand with him and with the medical and scientific community on this issue, which in our view, is critical to get us back to normal.

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# We Endorse; Tony Colavita for Eastchester Supervisor



For the past 18 years, our newspaper has had the pleasure of supporting the leadership of Tony Colavita, left, as Eastchester Supervisor. More important, the voters in the Town of Eastchester have supported Colavita by reelecting him nine times.

The reason for that is simple. East-chester Town government has worked under Colavita's leadership. The residents of the Town demand that their tax dollars are watched and not wasted, but also that services in the town are kept at a high standard.

Colavita gets it and gets it done. That is why the Town of Eastchester is one of the remaining republican local governments in Westchester.

In 2021, Colavita and the Town Board became the first local government in Westchester to 'Opt-Out' of permitting legal marijuana dispensiaries and cafes in their community. All five members of the Eastchester Town Board are republicans and we endorse the candidacy's of republican Town Board members seeking re-election with Supervisor Colavita; Luigi Marcoccia and Teresa Nicholson.

The Town of Eastchester has consistently been cited as one of the best places to live, in part because of the balance that Colavita and the Town Board have been able to find between raising property taxes and delivering town services. That is the reason for Colavita's longevity, and it is the reason why we endorse him for re-election again. If it ain't broke don't fix it Eastchester!

We strongly believe in the two party system of government, and the importance of having a choice when you go into the polls to vote. Tony Colavita has become the senior republican statesman in Westchester County, and this newspaper is proud to endorse candidates, and good public servants, from both sides of the aisle.

#### Westchester's \$5 Million Wedding: Jennifer Gates Ties the Knot Before 300 in North Salem



Jennifer Gates with her husband, Nayel Nassar

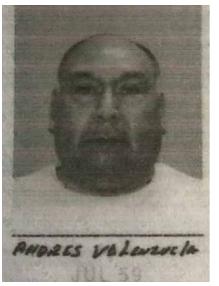
By Dan Murphy

Westchester resident Jennifer Gates, 25, married Nayel Nassar, 30, on her 124-acre horse farm in North Salem on Oct. 16. Neighbors in this most exclusive part of Westchester, including David Letterman, were not thrilled about all of the construction and disruptions on the quiet street, just off Route 116 in preparations for the big event. The roadway leading up to the farm was closed on the wedding day, as North Salem Police and Gates' allowed only neighbors and the 300 guests attending toget by, as efforts were also made to try and stop drones from flying over to photograph the bride, groom and the parents of the bride, Bill and Melinda Gates.

Bill and Melinda purchased the horse farm for Jennifer in 2018 upon her graduation from Standford University. Jennifer is currently an MD candidate at Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai. Jennifer and Nayel met at an equestrian event, and both are avid horse riders.

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# Hard Working Taxi Driver Murdered in New Rochelle: Police Catch, Arrest Killer in Shootout





Percel Lamont Ross, right, was arrested after a shootout with police for the the murder of Andres Valenzuela, right.

Andres Valenzuela, 62, of New Rochelle, was murdered on Octobe 14 at 250 AM, after finishing his shift as a tax driver. His body was found in the parking lot of Juliano's Caterers on Main Street in New Rochelle by police who were driving on partol and saw his body.

Officers went to assist and found Valenzuela with 2 gun shot wounds. He was taken to the hospital where he was pronounced dead. Valenzuela had worked for 10 years with Express City Taxi in New Rochelle, sometimes working 7 days a week.

The murder of this hard working man, who was doing nothing wrong but working late a night, should not be accepted or tolerated by the people of New Rochelle, or Westchester County.

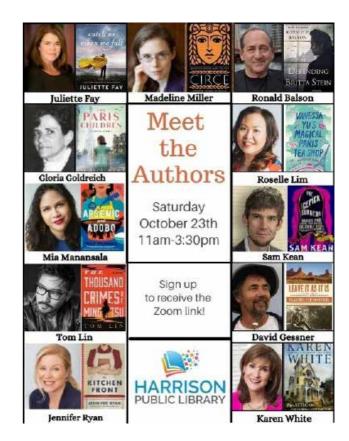
On October 17th, 2021, after an exhaustive and extensive investigation, in collaboration with the FBI SafeStreets Task Force and the Westchester County Police Real Time Crime Center, New Rochelle Police and the FBI conducted surveillance on a housing project apartment complex in Brooklyn where the suspect of the October 14th Cab Driver Homicide was believed to be.

At about 10:30am New Rochelle Police Detectives located the suspect in the courtyard of the complex and attempted to apprehend him. As the police identified themselves and ordered him to stop, the suspect began shooting at the police and attempted to flee on foot. The suspect continued to shoot at police in various directions as they converged on him. Several officers returned fire. The suspect ultimately surrendered when he ran out of ammunition. No one was injured in the gun fire.

The suspect was taken into custody by New Rochelle Detectives and then turned over to the FBI. He is facing federal charges in addition to the murder charge for killing Andres Valenzuela on October 14th in New Rochelle. The gun used today to shoot at the police was a .22 caliber revolver and is believed to be the same weapon used in the Cab Driver Homicide. It was taken into evidence and a ballistics check is forthcoming. Percell Lamont Ross, 52 years of age, of Covington, Virginia was a rested, to be charged with Homicide as well as multiple other charges stemming from today's incident. Ross is a wanted Fugitive from Justice in Connecticut for Attempted Murder and for Sex Trafficking in Virginia.



# Harrison Public Library Presents Meet the Authors Free Online, Oct 23, 11am-330pm



Free Zoom Program -

Register at https://www.harrisonpl.org/events/harrison/18192

Join the Harrison Public Library for its annual Meet the Authors event, which is being held online. Meet your favorite authors and discover new writers. There is something for everyone! Registration is required to receive the Zoom link.

This year the library will feature the following authors of Contemporary Fiction, Family Saga, Historical Fiction, Mythology, Mystery, Contemporary Fiction, and Non-Fiction:

Ronald Balson — Defending Britta Stein, Eli's Promise, Karolina's Twins Juliette Fay — Catch Us When We Fall, City of Flickering Light, The Tumbling Sisters, Shelter Me

David Gessner — Leave It As It Is: A Journey Through Theodore Roosevelt's American Wilderness; All the Wild That Remains

Gloria Goldreich – The Paris Children, Dinner with Anna Karenina

Sam Kean — The Icepick Surgeon: Murder, Fraud, Sabotage, Piracy, and Other Dastardly Deeds Perpetrated in the Name of Science

Roselle Lim — Vanessa Yu's Magical Paris Tea Shop; Natalie Tan's Book of Luck and Fortune;

Tom Lin — The Thousand Crimes of Ming-Tsu

Mia P. Manansala — Arsenic and Adobo

Madeline Miller — Circe; Song of Achilles

Jennifer Ryan – The Kitchen Front, The Spies of Shilling Lane, and The Chilbury Ladies Choir

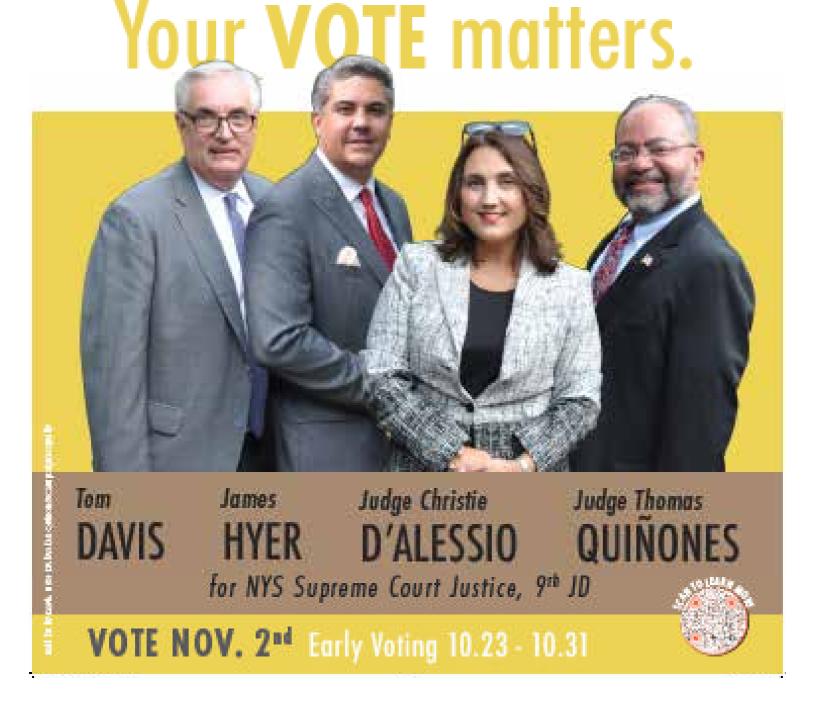
Karen White – The Attic on Queens Street (Tradd Street Mystery Series); The Last Night in London.

The full schedule will be posted on the library's website at www.harrisonpl.org/events. Registration is required to receive the Zoom link.



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Integrity matters. Justice matters. Experience matters.



#### Two Local Westchester Judges Look to Make History



Westchester County Executive George Latimer, center, has endorsed Judge Tom Quinones, left, and Judge Christie D'Alessio for State Supreme Court

By Dan Murphy

Two local Westchester Judges are running for election to the State Supreme Court in the 9th Judicial District, (Westchester, Putnam, Rockland, Dutchess and Orange Counties). Yonkers City Court Judge Tom Quinones is seeking to become the first Hispanic elected to the Supreme Court from Westchester. Greenburgh Town Justice Christie D'Alessio is the only female candidate for Supreme Court this year in the 9th JD.

Both Judge Quinones and Judge D'Alessio have over 20 years of legal experience in addition to their time on the local bench. First elected to the Yonkers City Court in 2016, Judge Quinones has presided over one of the busiest local courtrooms in Westchester for the past five years.

Prior to sitting on the Yonkers Court, Quinones served for 20 years as a Family Court Magistrate in NY County, where he presided over court proceedings including determinations of support, both contested and uncontested paternity proceedings, and other family court matters. Judge Quinones also served as a Chief Hearing Examiner for the New York City Department of Health, giving him four decades of service to the people of New York in the court system

An active participant in community life in Yonkers, Judge Quinones has served for 10 years on the Yonkers Exchange Club. He is married to his wife of 25 years, Odette, and they have three children.

Greenburgh Town Justice Christie D'Alessio brings more than 20 years of legal service to the people of Westchester, and wants to continue that service as a Supreme Court Judge. Elected to the Greenburgh Town Court in 2018, D'Alessio has served as a Westchester County Assistant Attorney from 2001-2014, and as a court attorney to State Supreme Court Judge Minihan.

A respected jurist with a proven record of experience and integrity, Judge D'Alessio has served on the Greenburth Town Court since 2018, where she has presided over criminal, civil and small claims matters, and youth court proceedings. Judge D'Allesio has also served as an acting Judge in several local City and Village courts across Westchester, including of Yonkers, White Plains, Elmsford, Irvington, Larchmont, Sleepy Hollow, Tuckahoe and Mamaroneck.

A dedicated wife and mother of three, Judge D'Allesio is known as a Judge who renders justice to the people with compassion, fairness and common sense. "Raised in a modest blue-collar family, I have always followed my parents' example to work hard for opportunities. I have never forgotten my humble roots which keeps me grounded and drives me to serve the community with care. To make a

## **Supermarkets Swept Empty**



By Eric W. Schoen

What's going on in our grocery stores? It took me visits to 2 supermarkets, Family Dollar and Dollar Tree earlier this week to pick up the things I needed. Store shelves are empty unless you go everyday when shipments come in. Even then you don't know what you will find.

It started a month ago. My sister wanted Cat food, cat litter, plain white vinegar and baking soda for her cat, Sidney (named after my dad who had a belly like Sidney does). Anyone who has a cat knows you don't just change the food or litter on the cat based on what's on sale. Three grocery stores, two in Yonkers and one in New Rochelle to find the correct cat litter and cat food. (Now don't tell me to go online and order. The brands she uses are sold out online.)

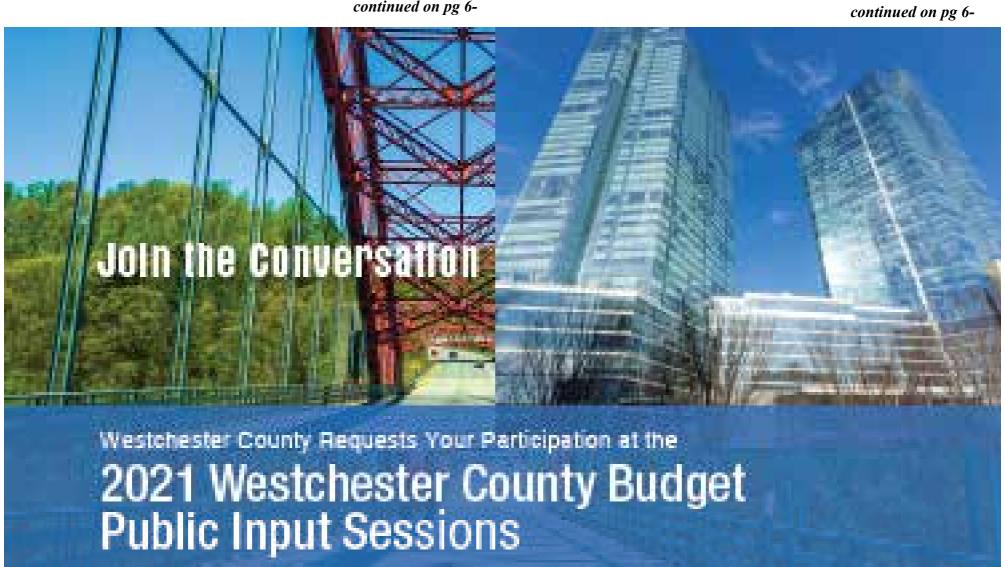
My sister uses the vinegar and baking soda to keep the cat litter fresh. Vinegar is used by many to clean as it is inexpensive. They had a few bottles of the expensive Heinz Vinegar, but none of the store brand vinegar. Same with the baking soda. Since many of the store brand products are made by the same companies who make the name brands, are manufacturers only shipping the more expensive name brands so we have to pay more?

Could there be so many of the store brands waiting to be shipped at the ports in California? A sales clerk told me the lack of vinegar is because people are eating salads. All of a sudden people are eating salads with white vinegar on them? Don't people buy the 100's of brands of expensive vinegar like the Balsamic from Modena on store shelves?

Let's talk about my trip. Remember I am 1 person. I wanted deli made tuna salad (I know I am nuts paying \$10 a pound ) which Stop and Shop had none. I wanted high protein, low calorie, high fiber frozen pancakes. Out of stock for weeks. I wanted pocket frozen sandwiches from Sandwich brothers. Egg and Cheese, Cheeseburger, all they had was Sausage and Cheese. Little Table Talk sugar free \$1 apple pies. None. I did see a brand of low calories, high protein, high fiber sandwich rolls. It was October 15. They were dated October 14. Covered with green mold.

I needed Vicks Vapor Rub for a chest cold I felt coming on. \$9? My father who swore that consuming a spoon full of vapor rub when you were sick killed anything would roll over in his grave if I spent that much. I ended up purchasing Dollar Tree vapor rub which when put on your chest does the same thing as the \$9

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Refuse the 2022 Westchester County budget is finalized, come and share your principles of acroiters. This year's information is as follows:

#### Monday, October 25

11 a.m. to 1 p.m. New Rochelle City Hall Council Ciparties - 18 Flow New Ruchelle, New York 1980)

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4 to 6 p.m. Mount Kless Public Library 100 Fact Main Street Mount Klass, New York 10549

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#### "Obituary Burglar" Found Guilty of Robbing Westchetster Homes When Family's at Funeral



Westchester County District Attorney Miriam E. Rocah announced that after a week-long trial, a jury on Thursday found Bronx resident Latonia Stewart guilty of burglarizing six homes of families she targeted because they were attending funeral services of loved ones between 2017

Stewart, 30, was found guilty on October 14, 2021, of six counts of Burglary in the Second Degree and Criminal Possession of Stolen Property in the Fourth Degree, both felonies. Stewart faces a sentence range from a minimum of 3 1/2 years to a maximum of 15 years in a state prison on each burglary count.

Between December 2017 and May 2018, Stewart burglarized the homes of six Westchester County residents in Cortlandt, Greenburgh, Ossining, Rye Brook, Scarsdale, and Tarrytown who were out of the house attending their spouse's wake or funeral service. Stewart targeted the homes after searching through obituaries online. Jewelry, watches, silverware and other valuables were stolen. Stewart used a sledge hammer to break windows and glass doors to gain entry into certain homes, and caused further damage to the homes once inside.

On May 1, 2018, Greenburgh Police arrested Stewart after observing her driving away from the home of a deceased person with jewelry in the vehicle and the website with an obituary pulled up on her cellphone. Following her arrest, police recovered more stolen items and burglar's tools in her car and at her Bronx resi-

The Greenburgh Police Department and the District Attorney's Office investigated the case, with assistance from the New York State Police, Greenwich Police Department, Ossining Police Department, Rye Brook Police Department, Scarsdale Police Department, and Tarrytown Police Department.

"It is absolutely appalling that people mourning the loss of a loved one were specifically targeted and taken advantage of in such a cruel and heinous manner," DA Rocah said. "I commend the great work of my team, the Greenburgh Police Department, and the other law enforcement partners who handled this case, and I hope that this verdict brings some measure of comfort to the victims."

The case is before Judge David Zuckerman in Westchester County Court and is being prosecuted by Senior Assistant District Attorney Stefanie DeNise and Assistant District Attorney Michelle Calvi. Stewart is scheduled to be sentenced on November 22, 2021.

#### Westchester's \$5 Million Wedding, continued from pg 1-

All guests were required to be vaccinted or tested prior to admission. Wedding performers included Coldplay and Harry Hudson who performed at the ceremony. With Westchester County Airport less than 30 minutes from the wedding site, many guests flew in and were transported up Interstate 684 to the wedding. Who were among the 300 guests has still been kept a secret, except for Georgina Bloomberg, daughter of former NYC Mayor Michael Bloomberg who also owns a horse farm nearby and is also an equistrian.

Jennifer Gates is well liked in North Salem, where everyone tried to keep a low profile and stay out of the public eye. The Town is calling the event the biggest party we have ever seen, while others are grumbling about how the Gates family built a little city for the wedding. An Islamic regligious ceremony was held on Friday nigth, which was attended by the immediate family.

Noted Westchester chef Jean-Georges prepared some of the wedding weekend meals. The wedding was catered by Creative Edge Catering, The wedding planner was Marcy Blum Events. The bridge wore a Vera Wang dress.

The Gates' also tried to thank their neighbors for their patience during the massive construction on the horse farm of solarium like, glass windowed strucutures for the guests by sending out gifts of wine and vouchers for local restaurants. Most of the neighbors were appreciative of the gesture and wished the new couple all the best. The estimated price tag for the nuptials is between \$2-\$5 Million. But when money is no object, who's counting?

#### Missing Children, continued from pg 1-

charges include "interstate transportation for prostitution" and "interstate transportation of a minor for criminal sexual activity." Dozens of Black and Hispanic teens are going missing, and there's no outcry. Where is the national media atten-

I don't know if any of the missing teenagers in New York are victims of organ harvesting or sex trafficking. The hope is that the families and friends of all these victims find their loved ones. That could only happen when more people start

Visit https://www.missingkids.org/home, to learn more about the National

Center for Missing and Exploited Children.

Dennis Richmond, Jr., is an author and journalist focused on the Black, Latinx, and LGBTQIA+ Community. He has covered HBCUs periodically for six years at Yonkers Rising. Richmond lives in Yonkers. Follow him on Twitter @NewYorkStakz.



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#### **Senator Mayer Holds Forum on Antisemitism**



Westchester State Senator Shelley Mayer held an online discussion on October 6 titled, Combating Antisemitism, Addressing and Preventing the Rise in Antisemitism. Panelists included Westchester DA Mimi Rocah, Scott Richman Regional Director, ADL, NY-NJ, and Tejash Sanchala, Executive Director, Westchester County Human Rights Commission.

Senator Mayer started off the discussion with an overall comment about the rise in antisemitism in Westchester County, New York State and across the country. "As a Jewish elected official, I believe this is an American problem. It's not only a problem that Jews are targeted. It's a problem when hate it so prevalent in our communities and exhibited through acts of violence, intimidation or anything else that gets in the way of our diverse communities."

"Jews have been very much on the receiving end of anti-Semitism, but it has gotten much worse this year. This has caused me to say that we need to actually confront this and speak up, and find effective solutions to reduce anti-Semitism, and make clear that it is unacceptable," said Sen. Mayer, who is Chair of the Senate Edu-

"We have a challenge to educate our children about anti-Semitism and all forms of hate, and we have not done a good job of that. NYS Education guidelines state that students must be taught about the inhumanities of genocide, slavery, and the Holocaust. They must be taught in school and students are to be taught at an early level. In Yonkers students are taught by hearing from Holocaust survivors. We need to make sure that these stories are told, and students have a personal connection, before a generation leaves us," said Mayer.

Scott Richman explained that the ADL, Anti-Defamation League, tracks cases of Anti-Semitism and Hate Crimes. "We are living in a time of fear in the Jewish community and a rise in anti-Semitism. We began to see an uptick in 2011. In 2013, there were 1,000 antisemitic incidents; that number has doubled to over 2,000 in 2020. You would think that the number of incidents would have dropped significantly because of the lockdown, it did not. Why is this the case? Because antisemitism morphed, and found a way while we were in lockdown to spread through social media and became virtual," said Richman, who said that 2019 had the highest number of antisemitic incidents in our region, and in 2021, incidents have risen by 75% due to the Israeli-Hamas conflicts in May.

"We have seen a marked increase in antisemitic incidents, and we are responding to each incident by reaching out to victims, law enforcement and government officials. There are 30 antisemitic incidents reported every week. And while these incidents are impacting the Jewish community, they are really impacting all of us. Hate impacts all of us, and if you tolerate one form of hate then you are tolerating all forms of hate," said Richman who added that the ADL has tracked incidents of white supremacist propaganda in Westchester last year that included stickers and flyers placed across the county, including one incident where 200 flyers were dropped which read, "Have a Very White Christmas."

The ADL also holds a program with local schools titled No Place for Hate, in which schools that engage students and staff in dialogue and active learning on the topics of bias, bullying and inclusion are given a banner to put outside their school.

Tejahsh Sanchala, explained the work of the Westchester County Human Rights Commission. The county recently passed a bill that expanded the scope of the human rights law to include discrimination against many aspects of daily life, including neighbor on neighbor harassment and street harassment. The Westchester Human Rights Commission will now be charged with the power to investigate and adjudicate

Sanchala outlined violations of the human rights law would include if an employer has a 'no head covering policy' or if an employee is subject to antisemitic comments in the workplace. "At the commission, we champion the message that viruses don't discriminate. It has been reported that 15% of Jewish Americans under the age of 30 are black, Hispanic, Asian or multiple, non-white races. If you see an antisemitic or hate incident, the most important thing to do is report it to us, or the ADL, or the DA's office."

Westchester District Attorney Mimi Rocah explained that personally, "my father and his parents were Holocaust survivors from Romania. "My office has not received a spike in the numbers but any one incident that happens creates an environment of fear. But it also creates an opportunity in law enforcement to show the positive side and support victims and the community and help build trust."

"Acts of hate, and hate crimes are not necessarily the same thing. Hate crimes are some of the hardest crimes that we as prosecutors face to get enough evidence to prosecute. We need evidence that a crime occurred, but we also need to demonstrate that the perpetrator intentionally committed the crime because of a heightened element of intent."

"In most of these cases, the victim can feel they were targeted but the evidence of showing and proving that isn't as straight forward. We need to show the perpetrators bigoted beliefs. It's hard to do but its out job to try and do it," said Rocah.

Two recent instances that were not included in the forum, but we have reported on include antisemitic incidents in the Yorktown Department of Public Works when Eric DiBartolo was Superintendent that included Swastikas and the Nazi salute in front of a Jewish employee of the Town.

And in Briarcliff Manor recently, The Proud Boys, which have been identified as a Hate Group by the Southern Poverty Law Center, held a protest rally in support of former President Donald Trump. And the founder of the Proud Boys, Gavin McInnes, lives in Larchmont.





### Letters to the Editor:

Editor's Note: In our October 15 issue, we ran a story based on a letter we received titled Do We Want Our Elected Officials Selling Guns? That story has resulted in a number of letters in support of Sergio Esposito, candidate for Yorktown Town Board. None of the letters below address the story, which can be found online at http://yonkerstimes.com/do-we-want-our-elected-officials-selling-guns-our-readers-speak-out/.

One of our readers responded to our story writing, "Bravo to you for doing this story. My issue if you would like to write more about Sergio is he has a computer company that has a nonworking website. What's that all about? The company is in Mamaroneck so why is he not a member of the Mamaroneck Chamber of Commerce, or Westchester Business Council? Having a nonworking website for a computer company is like going to a dentist with no teeth," writes W. Frank from Yorktown.

The Right Man Right Now

I can tell you that Sergio Esposito is the right man right now for Yorktown Town Council. He is articulate, smart, hard working and the most civic minded person I have met.

Sergio helped me when I had questions about stimulus checks. If you remember there was a period where many of us were waiting for our checks which were not forthcoming. At that time many people were reporting that they had received their payment while many others were wondering where their desperately needed checks were

Sergio Esposito, of course, answered the call. He was readily available to take questions and just listen. At one point he disseminated a list that reflected the government's distribution schedule. The list was alphabetical and also reflected the expected receive date. He then took it one step further and provided a link to look up the status of your payment.

Sergio utilized his role at the Chamber and his close partnerships in town to get the information out to all the citizens of Yorktown. This really helped ease the anxiety which many of us were feeling.

Thank you, Sergio Esposito! You have my vote and that of my entire family. Toni Reynolds, Yorktown Resident

#### Letter:

Yorktown needs Sergio Esposito! As a small business owner and resident, I have seen politicians come and go but I have never seen a candidate as qualified and as dedicated as Sergio Esposito. Sergio genuinely cares for Yorktown and genuinely cares and listens to your concerns.

I have had many dealings with Sergio and all of them have been pleasant, informative, and extremely productive. As the owner of Sunrise Carpentry, I often share some of my ideas for Yorktown and how we could get REAL revitalization going. Sergio always listens!

Through his many hours of dedicated volunteer work at The Yorktown Chamber Of Commerce, Sergio has developed a close and personal relationship with many businesses' owners. He has also helped promote the town and businesses in an unprecedented way. He has excelled as The President of The Yorktown Chamber and I would say, without question, that he is the best President I have ever seen.

Sergio is the right man for the job. He is a leader that does not shy from making decisions, his bipartisan nature is commendable, his drive to see Yorktown succeed is unquestionable and his knowledge of the town issues is astonishing. He is ready to serve and can get started on day 1.

Vote for new ideas, new energy, and new leadership. Vote for Sergio Esposito. Brian Goc, Sunrise Carpentry, Yorktown Resident

#### To The Editor:

I want to personally thank Sergio Esposito for advocating for our town, our citizens and our small businesses, especially mine. Sergio was instrumental in formulating the "outside dining" legislation which allowed my business to survive. I remember talking about it when with him by phone and he even came to my business to ask my opinion and get my input on what I would like to have seen in the new legislation.

Sergio Esposito listened to my concerns and my recommendations and shortly thereafter he appeared at town board meetings advocating for the outside dining legislation that he helped formulate. As a side note many of my suggestions were in the proposed legislation. Thankfully the new legislation was enacted! Sergio even showed up one day with Supervisor Slater and brought along News 12 for an interview regarding the proposed redevelopment for The Yorktown Green shopping plaza. The man is unstoppable and truly dedicated.

Sergio Esposito is the only candidate that understands what our business sector needs and can get the job done.

eds and can get the job done.

Rob Crossett, Owner, Yorktown Grille

#### Bob Crossett, Owner, Yorktown Grille

#### Letter:

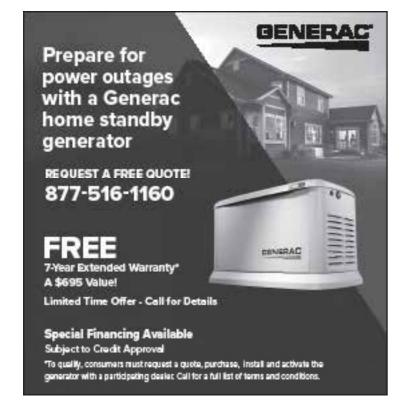
Before Covid-19 I had no idea who Sergio Esposito was. During the pandemic lockdown, I watched Supervisor Matt Slater's town Covid-19 updates (which were great and very informative). This is where I found out about Mr. Esposito.

I have watched him explain what businesses needed to do to survive. I've watched him talk about the PPP loan process and how it would help the local business owners. I've watched him talk about establishing a list of restaurants that provided takeout and a pledge from the residents to take part in helping. He also provided us with information on the stimulus packages and what was going on in Washington to help everyone of us. He worked with the town to help restaurants get outdoor dining established so they could survive.

Sergio Esposito really cares about the town, people and all the businesses that make this town a great place to live.

Being a small business owner himself, I feel that Sergio Esposito would be a valuable member of the town board. He will help keep this town thriving with business because of his concerns to help everyone succeed.

Patricia Costello, Yorktown resident



#### Vote for Peter Sisca for Rye Town Justice:

Peter Sisca is my friend and neighbor, and he is running for Rye Town Justice. He has 20 years of experience serving this community as a judge and is the only candidate for judge in this election who can claim such experience.

Not only does Peter bring significant experience as a judge to the table, but he also brings 36 years of practicing law. Prior to joining his father in private practice, Peter represented the Westchester County Department of Social Services in child abuse and child sexual abuse cases as an Assistant County Attorney in the Westchester County Attorneys' Office.

In private practice, Peter was a law guardian representing children in Family Court for many years and represents all different types of people in many different matters, treating each of them with the same respect that he shows each person who sets foot into his courtroom.

Before adjudicating any matter, he listens carefully to all sides, researches the law, and renders compassionate and fair justice. It is this type of person, this type of judge, that Rye Town should elect on November 2nd.

#### Letter to the Editor:

As a small business owner in Mohegan Lake I can tell you that surviving the pandemic has not been easy and as the owner of Michael Robert Salon the pandemic has been even more restrictive and taxing compared to other businesses.

I felt I needed information, so I decided to call Sergio Esposito and Sergio personally picked up the phone. I felt an instant connection and I genuinely believed he understood my concerns and that he would help me address them.

In speaking with Sergio, I was able to get definitive answers to my questions about the PPP loan process, questions that no one else was able to answer. He provided consistent, highly informative and frequent updates via the Towns TV Channel and via social media. His updates were factually based and they helped me tremendously.

Once we were able to open, I felt I needed help getting the word out so I called

Sergio Esposito once again. Sergio scheduled an in-person interview where we filmed a promotional video to promote my salon through various social media channels. My phone began to ring almost immediately with new and existing clients. Not only did his efforts help get me back in business but they helped grow my business as well.

Sergio Esposito has helped me and my employees in an enormous way and I see him all over town helping countless businesses which in turn helps all citizens. I am often amazed at how he is able to be in so many places at once and that is a tribute to his dedication to this town and his hard work ethics.

Sergio Esposito will make an excellent addition to the town board, and I can't wait to see how much he will continue to do for this town as a councilman!

John Boggi, Yorktown Resident

#### Letter:

On November 2nd, a very special person to me and our community is running for Yorktown Town Council. His name is Sergio Esposito. You may recognize the name, he is currently the President of the Yorktown Chamber of Commerce. In addition to his duties as president, he is also a local businessman, volunteer fireman, and secretary of the Yorktown Ethics Board. Over the past year and a half, he has worked feverishly during the pandemic to keep our local small business open and operating.

You may have seen him on facebook, promoting the very services necessary to keep our town and our community thriving. He has donated his time to promote many local charity events, such as Camp Sunshine, and festivals such as the San Gennero Feast and the Yorktown Street Fair.

He would be my choice to lead this town. So vote and mark your ballot for Sergio Esposito, this November for Yorktown Town Council.

Gary Gione, President & Senior Instructor Elite Defensive Tactics,

Ret. N.Y.P.D. Lieutenant

#### To the Editor:

Give voters a choice!! The two-party system depends on contested elections. If you live in the Town of North Castle, you will have only one choice for Town Supervisor this year: Democrat Mike Schiliro.

Make no mistake. I am not taking issue with Mr. Schiliro, who happens to be a popular public official who learned well how to be a successful politician from his brother, who served in the Obama administration—so popular that it is unlikely any opponent at this time could unseat him. I am not yearning for his defeat. My point is that both political parties owe the voters a choice, no matter how popular the incumbent. By both political parties picking and choosing the races they make results in bipartisan cronyism. Party leaders are shortchanging the democratic process.

Any incumbent, no matter how tenured or how formidable, should be accountable on Election Day. The only way to do that is for the opposing party to field a candidate who will make the incumbent justify his or her records. Any other form of challenge, from the press to dissatisfied constituents, holds no substance if voters can't act on it at the polls.

Ironically, Mr. Schiliro is a case in point. He is part of a reform group that, just a few years ago, seemed to have little chance at cracking North Castle's vaunted Republican machine. Yet he and other reform candidates persisted in their challenge, and today they claim a loyal constituency of their own. Even so, it is Mr. Schiliro's turn to defend his record and win continued voter support—or at least it should be.

Mr. Schiliro is a tough challenge for any Republican, but political grips can be broken, as Mr. Schiliro has proven in North Castle. How discouraging it must be for North Castle residents when the loyal opposition becomes no opposition at all.

Yours truly, Anthony J. Futia, Jr, North Castle





#### Classifieds

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: SUPPLEMENTAL SUMMONS 855-905-4755

*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. The Mission, Program Information and Tuition is located at CareerTechnical.edu/consumer-information. (M-F 8am-6pm ET)

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

*Home Improvement*: Eliminate gutter cleaning forever! LeafFilter, the most advanced debrisblocking 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

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#### Eric Schoen, continued from pg 3-

product. Don't worry, I didn't consume a spoon full (note: PLEASE DON'T) but I do know other people whose parents believe in the magical affects of consuming vapor rub!

I went to Shoprite. They had the store made tuna fish. \$10.99 a pound. I'm worth it! They had 1, yes 1 box of the high protein pancakes. Is there some kind of run on Kodiak Cakes flapjacks? Plenty of kodiak cakes waffles in all varieties (Note Target has been out of the pancakes for weeks!). They didn't have the Sandwich Brothers pocket sandwiches. But they did have an item I had a \$9 off coupon for so I was a happy camper.

I like Mountain Dew Energy Drinks. It's only 80 calories, and I drink half the can at a sitting. \$1 to \$1.25 each. I know that if I go to the Family Dollar Store in the old library in Getty Square Square on a Sunday night (they are open to 9) I will find the Fruit Punch Mountain Dew Energy Drink I want. Not at Acme. Not at Stop and Shop. Not at Shoprite. Only at the Family Dollar store in Getty Square will I find them.

For right now, sadly the days of finding everything you want in one store are next to impossible. What day should you shop when the stores will have the largest stock of Merchandise. There is no answer to that question. I really feel sorry for families with children who are limited in what they will eat. Check store circulars weekly for items on sale but again that's no guarantee the store will have the product you want when you arrive. Sale on Cozy Shack sugar free rice and tapioca 4 packs. Sale at Stop and Shop started Friday. I went Friday. Manager said they never came in. Target Circle, Target's discount app had the Sandwich Brothers items at 25% off. Frozen food manager said they never came in. I notice the same lack of product with many Target Circle items.

What can I say? Buon Appetito!

HOT TOPICS:October 15 is the day the landlord must supply heat if the temperature is below 55 degrees. Heat or hot water complaints in Yonkers. Call the very kind Joanne at City Hall at 377-6560 or her supervisor, Pat Losco at 377-6527.

Talk in the Journal News about burying power lines underground to prevent outages. At a cost of millions of dollars per mile do you ever think it's going to happen. Keep dreaming.

When will they ever learn? Political signs are illegal on public property. They are legal on private property only with the permission of the property owner. Kudos to Yonkers Public Works employee Steve Squig and his crew who collect the illegally placed signs and return them to their rightful owners. Do they have to do that? No. Should the City of Yonkers enforce the laws on the books and fine candidates for illegally placed signs? Certainly would greatly enrich city coffers.

Congratulations to the Westchester Black Women's Political Caucus on their 45th Anniversary Celebration this past weekend. This organization and its members supplied the support monetarily and grass roots for many women in leadership roles today. We need many more political groups to help candidates from all backgrounds navigate our complex political

Gas prices keep going up and up. Who can we blame it on this week? Gas Buddy, Waze, AAA Mobile, Gas Guru, Mapquest, and GetUpside are some of the apps you can get on your iPhone that will connect you with the cheapest gas. Paying by credit card can add 10-20 cents per gallon so be careful. Look for shops that don't charge you more to pay with your credit card. As for me I hate pumping gas. Believe it or not many service stations that pump gas for you are cheaper than those where you have to pump gas yourself. And who wants to get their hands all messy.

Everyone knows what great libraries we have in Yonkers and Westchester. Many people have computers, iPads, iPhones, laptops and desktops sitting collecting dust. Yonkers Public Library has Tech Workshops for Seniors Tuesdays from 10:30 a.m.-12 Noon at the Will Library Computer Room. Tech Drop In for all ages where you can learn everything from setting up an email address to installing one of the apps I mentioned above takes place Wednesday and Thursday from 12-3 at the Riverfront Library. The doors of the Yonkers Public Library are wide open with a wonderful staff who can help you and magnificent resources for everything from preparing your resume to preparing your next vacation to preparing dinner! Visit www.ypl.org or call the library at 914-337-1500 for a wealth of information! So much is available for free online!

Many of you know that I am the long time President of the Friends of the Yonkers Public Library. For over 25 years prior to Covid we have presented live musicales attended by thousands of people. We had to lay low during the pandemic but I am happy to inform you that live music presented by Friends will be back at the Will Library in November. A little tickler. We have a Salute to ABBA featuring Larger than Life on November 14. You will have to be masked and we will only allow 100 attendees,. No dancing in the aisles, but it will be wonderful to have live music for all to enjoy!

Reach Eric Schoen at thistooisyonkers@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.

#### Judges, continued from pg 3timely decision backed by reason and compassion and rooted in law. This is my goal every

single time I take the bench," said Judge D'Alessio.

As with every non-presidential or non-gubenatorial election, turnout will be the key. for As one Westchester democrat said, "Our biggest opponent right now is apathy, so we need to do all we can to make sure everyone knows how important voting is in local elections."

The five democratic candidates for State Supreme Court in the 9th JD are Judge Quinones, Judge D'Alessio, sitting State Supreme Court Judge Robert Berliner, and attorneys Tom Davis and James Hyer. They are actively campaigning across Westchester County to earn your vote.

Don't sleep on this election. Early voting is starting October 23 and election day is November 2.

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

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. DA-VIS 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

NOTICE OF SALE SUPREME COURT, WESTCHESTER COUNTY INDEX NO.: 58848/2019 BONITA WEST LLC v. 164 ELM REALTY CORP., et al., Defendants.

Pursuant to Judgment of Foreclosure and Sale, dated January 22, 2020 and entered on January 24, 2020, I, the undersigned Referee, will sell at public auction, in the Courtroom 200 of the Westchester County Courthouse, 111 Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Boulevard, White Plains, New York on the 19th day of November, 2021 at 2:30 P.M., the premises directed by said Judgment to be sold, being in Section 1, Block 455, Lot 6 on the Tax Map of the City of Yonkers, County of Westchester, and known by the street number 164 Elm Street, Yonkers, New York.

Approximate amount of Judgment is \$23,431.15 plus interest, costs, attorneys' fees and advances. Said premises will be sold subject to the provisions of the filed Judgment and the Terms of Sale.

FRANCIS APICELLA, ESQ., Referee. SANDERS, GUTMAN & BRODIE, P.C., Attorneys for Plaintiff, 18 North Central Avenue, Suite 204 Hartsdale, New York 10530 (718) 522-0666

#### Section 3 Work Opportunity

MDG Design + Construction is currently seeking construction Section 3 eligible applicants for a moderate rehabilitation project, Calcagno Homes Located in Yonkers,

Section 3 eligible applicants are invited to submit a resume for the work in the following trades:

- Duct Installer & Refrigeration Piper
- Plumber
- Roof Laborer
- Masonry Laborer
- General Laborer

Work is to be performed in Westchester County under Davis Bacon Act (prevailing wage) requirements.

Section 3 residents are:

- Public housing residents or
- Persons who live in the area where a HUD-assisted project is located and who have a household income that falls below HUD's income limits.

For more Section 3 information: https://www.hud.gov/section3 Eligible applicants must have an active Osha 30 card. If interested in applying, please send a resume with the position desired to:

Jeffrey Goritz; jgoritz@mdgny.com

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 uawful act or activity.

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.



#### Latimer for County Executive, continued from pg 1-

Latimer's leadership of Westchester County and its people through the pandemic is the primary reason we endorse his re-election. In times of crisis, leaders emerge and help us through our most difficult times. Latimer has done that, and we wonder how our county would have been without an experienced hand, and a leader willing to listen and work with everyone

Latimer's opponent, Christine Sculti, has argued that county government has gotten too big and is spending too much money. But in a time of crisis, this is the time that the people of Westchester need their county government even more. And on the issue of taxes, Latimer has reduced the county portion of a homeowners property tax bills in two of his four years, a major accomplishment for any county executive, regardless of party.

Sculti has criticized Latimer for raising other county taxes, but the big problem with taxes in Westchester, as most homeowners know and understand, is that we pay the highest property taxes in the United States. Latimer has worked to address that issue, and as a democrat, he has taken away one of the republicans most effective arguments. And Westchester County's Bond Rating has improved during Latimer's tenure.

Over the past four years, Westchester County government has also been able to complete projects that remained unfinished for years. These nuts-and-bolts issues may not be politically sexy, but to those affected they are meaningful.

Under Latimer's leadership, the Sprain Ridge Pool opened, the County resolved its affordable housing lawsuit and has built more affordable units than ever before, rebuilt the Family Court in New Rochelle, rebuilt the historic Miller House, and much of the county's auto and bus fleet are becoming electric.

The people of Westchester are safer now under County Executive George Latimer. Crime is down across the county, and there are no calls to defund the police.

The longtime argument from republicans that Westchester residents are fleeing the county because of taxes cannot be found in recent census figures, which have Westchester reaching one million residents for the first time. People are indeed yearning to live, work and raise a family in Westchester, and those of us who have lived here all our lives, like Latimer has, understand why.

For Westchester homeowners, the prices of their homes have also increased at a dramatic rate under Latimer, and even more so during the pandemic, where families needed space for their children to learn remotely.

Latimer has checked all the boxes, and all the metrics and issues, that an elected official is measured by, have improved, or been resolved under his leadership.

We applaud Christine Sculti for challenging Latimer at a time when no other republican would step up and do so. It is important for voters in Westchester to have a choice when they go to vote for County Executive, and we commend Sculti for giving voters that choice.

But Sculti's decision not to debate Latimer was a mistake, in our view. It denied giving the voters of Westchester a chance to see her in action, sharing her issues of concern with them.

In fact, much of Sculti's campaign has been much to do about things that county government has no control over, like federal immigration policy and the curriculum taught in the more than forty different Westchester school districts.

Part of Sculti's campaign focuses on education in Westchester's many school districts, and the diversity equity and inclusion curriculum being taught in some of those schools. Her mother is the co-founder of Save our Schools in Westchester and Putnam. Latimer has steered clear of the issue, in part because it doesn't fall under the purview of county government.

Beyond that, we haven't found a lot of substance in Sculti's campaign. When we look for alternative proposals to what Latimer has done from Sculti, we haven't found any. But we have found a lot of rhetoric and a philosophy that follows an ideology that resulted in a Blue Wave of democratic support in Westchester in 2017 that elected Latimer and many democrats.

There's not much room in a Westchester residents' life for rhetoric when you are locked down in a pandemic and in fear of your future and your family's health.

Unfortunately, Westchester County, like the rest of our country, is deeply divided politically, with democrats holding a majority, while republicans are in the minority, and about 25% of independent voters looking for a reason to vote, and able to tip the balance in a close election. We endorse George Latimer for re-election as Westchester County Executive. He has served the people of Westchester well during a difficult time and has earned your vote.

#### Dr. Tsang, Breast Cancer Awareness Month, continued from pg 1-

"It's easy to put off health screenings, just like I did. But I hope my experience is a reminder for every one of the values of routine health checkups, exams, and follow-through. I am so fortunate to have caught the cancer at an early enough stage and to not need chemotherapy or other extensive treatments."

Dr. Tsang said, "Those who are at average risk should begin screening mammograms at age 40, according to the American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists and the American College of Radiology. It is important to know if you are high risk for developing breast cancer, because a screening maybe required earlier, and it may also include an MRI of the breast.

"Women who are considered high risk are those with a family history of breast or ovarian cancer, those who carry a genetic mutation associated with increased risk, and patients who have had a prior breast biopsy which showed high risk lesions such as atypical ductal hyperplasia, atypical lobular hyperplasia, and lobular carcinoma in situ. "

"High risk screening would include an annual MRI of the breast and an annual mammogram alternating every six months. Women who have dense breasts may also have increased risk for breast cancer as it is often difficult to evaluate for small masses within the dense breast tissue.

NYS law requires women are notified if they have dense breast tissue, and those women should consider supplemental ultrasound along with their screening mammogram every year," said Dr. Tsang.

Senator Klobuchar and Dr. Tsang also agree on the fact that some patients have put off their medical testing and screenings because of COVID, but now is the time to catch up.

"Some women have been diagnosed at a later stage because the pandemic has delayed their annual screenings. It's important not to forget to continue your testing and screening routine at this time. Now is the time to catch up and get tested," said Dr. Tsang.

Florida First Lady Casey DeSantis also shared her breast cancer diagnosis during Breast Cancer Awareness Month in the hopes that it will inspire more women to get tested.

Ashley T. Tsang, MD is a board certified, fellowship-trained breast surgeon from Stanford School of Medicine, specializing in the treatment of benign and malignant diseases of the breast and management of patients at high risk for breast cancer. Dr. Tsang is Assistant Professor of Surgery at Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai, a Diplomate of the American Board of Surgery, and a member of the Society of Surgical Oncology and the American Society of Breast Surgeons.

Dr. Tsang has offices at Mount Sinai Doctors-Westchester in Scarsdale, 341 Central Park Avenue, (914)-370-5000. Visit https://www.mountsinai.org/locations/westchester for more information.





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