

Republican State Senate Candidate Gina Arena: Pro-Women, Pro-Girl and Pro-Choice



By Dan Murphy

State Senate candidate Gina Arena (SD-40) today announced that her campaign has released “Pro-Women, Pro-Girl, and Pro-Choice”, a :40 digital ad outlining her advocacy for women and girls of every age.

“Pro-Women, Pro-Girl, and Pro-Choice” highlights Ms. Arena’s efforts to save Girls Sports from the State Board of Regents push to merge Girls and Boys Sports in New York, and from strident progressive ideologues advocating for biological males on girls’ and women’s sports teams. Ms. Arena argues that’s not fair to girls, who have worked hard to win places on teams and, potentially, to earn college scholarships.

“To be pro-women you also have to be pro-girl,” Ms. Arena, a mother of eight (six girls), said. “There’s a major threat to Girls Sports coming down in New York and I urge women throughout the state to join me in speaking out about it. Girls have every right to have sports of their own, and after 50 years of feminist progress in this area, I’m downright shocked at how little Albany thinks of these girls’ dreams and efforts.”

In another digital ad, Arena touches on several of the issues affecting New York families, including high taxes, broken promises, crime, government corruption, education challenges, and the \$15 congestion pricing tax.

“It’s both heartwarming and revealing to see how many friends and neighbors want to appear in these ads,” Ms. Arena said. “People know that New York is failing them, and they want to tell their stories. But even more than that, they want a representative in the state senate with common sense again, and I’m humbled that they’re putting their confidence in me. New Yorkers are not being well

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NY State Comptroller Tom DiNapoli Honors Westchester Hispanic Leaders



State Comptroller DiNapoli and event honorees. L to R: José Alvarado, Westchester County Legislator District 17; Maria Kercado, President of Labor Council for Latin American Advancement; Judith Aucar, Executive Director, El Centro Hispano, Inc. and Yadira Ramos-Herbert, Mayor of New Rochelle.

New York State Comptroller Thomas P. DiNapoli’s Hispanic Heritage Month event this year recognized several individuals and an organization working to make a difference in the Hispanic and Latino communities:

José Alvarado, Westchester County Legislator, District 17

Yadira Ramos-Herbert, first Latina Mayor of the City of New Rochelle

Maria Kercado, President, Labor Council for Latin American Advancement (LCLAA) Westchester Chapter, AFL-CIO and Executive Vice President, Retired 1199 SEIU, UHWE

Judith Aucar, Executive Director, El Centro Hispano, Inc.

The annual event was held this year at Cafetero Coffee Company in New Rochelle in Westchester County on September 17. Westchester County’s Hispanic population has grown faster than the state and nation. In 2020, 269,334 people in Westchester County identified as Hispanic or Latino, which is 26.8% of the county’s population, according to 2020 census data. That number represents a 30.1% increase over the past 10 years.

County Legislators Unanimous in “Tri-Partisan” Support of Extending Terms to Four Years

Former BOL candidate from Yonkers says Vote No



“This proposal enjoys true-partisan support – tripartisan if you consider that I am a proud member of the Conservative party. We all believe that this proposal will not only improve the efficiency of our government but will also enhance the quality of representation our constituents deserve.

---County Legislator Margaret Cunzio

**Read it all Online at
Yonkerstimes.COM**



“SIMPLE TRUTH 1: Two-year terms keep politicians more accountable and in line with what their constituents want. PERIOD. SIMPLE TRUTH 2: Prop Two does not benefit the citizen-taxpayers, it benefits politicians.”

-Debbie Kozak, Yonkers

By Dan Murphy

Another important ballot proposition on the ballot in Westchester County on Nov. 5 would extend the term of county legislators from 2 years to 4 years. County legislators currently serve 2 year terms, and there are mixed opinions on whether the extension is a good or a bad idea.

First is the surprise that this reporter had when I realized that the item would be on the ballot on Nov. 5 and I had not heard nor read anything about it until a Sept. 26 release from the BOL, which read,

“In a collaborative and bipartisan effort, the Westchester County Board of Legislators is proposing an amendment to Chapter 107 of the Laws of Westchester County, known as Westchester County Proposition No. 2024-1, that will extend the terms of County Legislators from two to four years, while keeping existing term limits in place. This change would allow legislators to concentrate more fully on the needs of their constituents, focus on policy proposals rather than

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Senate Majority Leader Stewart-Cousins Hosts Roundtable to Tout Violence Prevention Initiatives



11 nonprofits supported with state funds met to discuss the success of anti-violence initiatives at Brother 2 Brother 914’s Yonkers Knockouts Boxing gym

New York State Senate Majority Leader Andrea Stewart-Cousins met with nearly a dozen nonprofit organizations on Wednesday in Yonkers for a roundtable discussion on how multidisciplinary approaches have been reducing violence and creating a safer New York for all.

“We’re seeing significant progress towards our public safety goals, thanks to the efforts of law enforcement and our community partners – not just here in Yonkers and Westchester, but across New York State,” Majority Leader Stewart-Cousins said.

At Wednesday’s roundtable, Sen. Stewart-Cousins touted a report from the Division of Criminal Justice Services indicating New York has seen a significant

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\$41 Million Plan Announced to Transform Montefiore Mount Vernon Hospital



Guided by extensive community engagement and spearheaded by Mayor Shawyn Patterson-Howard and Montefiore leadership, this transformative project prioritizes equitable healthcare access tailored to the needs of Mount Vernon residents

Mount Vernon Mayor Shawyn Patterson-Howard, in partnership with Montefiore Health System, today revealed transformative plans for Montefiore Mount Vernon Hospital designed to meet the community's unique healthcare needs and establish a new benchmark for accessible care. Backed by a \$41-million capital investment from New York State, Montefiore Mount Vernon has laid out plans to become a sustainable, community model for both inpatient and outpatient care. This extensive plan underscores Montefiore's commitment to leading the future of medical care and their dedication to the Mount Vernon community.

"This is more than a financial investment — it's a commitment to collaboration and continued advocacy for the health, wellbeing, and future of Mount Vernon," said Mount Vernon Mayor, Shawyn Patterson-Howard. "This transformation will provide our residents with state-of-the-art facilities and comprehensive care, underscoring our collective dedication to a healthier future for our city. With the support of Senator Jamaal Bailey, Assemblyman J. Gary Pretlow, and \$41M in secured funding from New York State, Montefiore will revitalize and expand services at Montefiore Mount Vernon Hospital to address our community's healthcare needs. We have come a long way, and I am excited about the direction we are going. FORWARD TOGETHER."

"Over the last couple of years, we have engaged with our patients, community members, and local leaders to truly understand and address the specific healthcare needs of Mount Vernon," stated Reginald Jordan, Vice President for Clinical Services & Executive Director, Montefiore Wakefield Hospital and Montefiore Mount Vernon Hospital. "This plan is a direct outcome of listening to those voices and constant support from our local and state officials. We are deeply grateful to Mayor Shawyn Patterson-Howard for her leadership and the community at large for their trust and collaborative spirit. This initiative goes beyond mere infrastructure; it's about building on Montefiore's ongoing commitment to deliver exceptional, accessible healthcare that resonates with the needs of our communities."

The comprehensive revitalization strategy focuses on expanding and modernizing critical areas of the hospital. Key projects include the redesign of the Emergency Department (ED). Currently, the ED can accommodate 20,000 visits each year. With the planned upgrades, it will be able to accommodate 50,000 visits, marking a 150% increase in capacity.

The transformation plan addresses the complex challenges involving transferring patients to other facilities due to lack of operating rooms (ORs) and ORs doubling as a Gastroenterology Unit. Under these plans, Montefiore will expand the operating rooms, and will outfit them with state-of-the-art equipment, thus reducing the need to transfer patients.

The plan also includes the modernization of the Family Health Center, including improvements to the lobby, exam rooms, and support centers, to enhance the patient experience. These investments will not only increase access to care, but also qualitatively improve the environment that patients need and deserve.

"Montefiore's approach to transforming Montefiore Mount Vernon Hospital has exemplified what it means to lead with inclusivity and community engagement," said Frances-Ann Lightsey and Takisia Whites, Co-Presidents of the Montefiore Mount Vernon Community Advisory Board. "Their dedication to incorporating input from community members has ensured that the development not only reflects but actively promotes our collective needs and values. We extend our

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The Welcome Home Westchester Campaign Unveils "5 in 25" Agenda,

Urges Local Governments to Take Housing Action This Year



Assemblymember Dana Levenberg, speaking at 5 in 2025 Press Conference in Yonkers, with former Yonkers Council President Chuck Lesnick, Tim Foley and other housing advocates

On September 23, 2024, the Welcome Home Westchester campaign launched an opening salvo and sought to reignite the debate around building the housing we need in advance of the 2025 legislative session in Albany.

In a press conference held in Yonkers steps from the Ludlow Metro North Station, campaign speakers challenged all city, town, and village elected officials throughout Westchester to not wait for state action but instead to commit to taking specific actions to address the housing shortage and an affordability crisis which threatens the health of the local economy and the vibrancy of Westchester County's communities. They further called on residents and activists in every city, town, and village to insist that their communities be part of the housing solution, and neither to wait for action from Governor Kathy Hochul and the State Legislature, nor to let only a dozen or so communities monopolize the economic benefits, the possibilities of infrastructure funding, and the moral imperative to make Westchester a welcoming community for all who wish to live and work here.

The campaign also unveiled its "5 in 2025" Agenda, highlighting 5 actions that municipalities can take on their own to remove barriers to building the housing needed.

Those five options include:

- 1-Produce a Housing Action Plan
- 2-Create a fast-track environmental review for sustainable, energy efficient housing and transit-oriented development
- 3-Promote Accessory Dwelling Units, (ADU) and Transit Oriented Development, (TOD)
- 4-Establish a Core Curriculum for Volunteer Land Use Board Member Training
- 5-Use the new State provided tools and become a pro-housing community

Read the 5 in 2025 agenda at welcomhomewestchester.org/five-in-25-policy-agenda/

Assemblywoman Dana Levenberg (95th Assembly District), who herself had led efforts to carefully and thoughtfully increase the supply of badly needed housing as Town Supervisor for Ossining and has proven to be a leader on the Assembly Committee on Housing, joined campaign speakers to offer her thoughts on what progress is possible in Albany.

Other speakers emphasized that, given the size and dire effects of the housing shortage, every community had a responsibility to choose one of the five elements of the policy agenda and determine what would work for their own community. The other speakers included Michael Romita of Westchester County Association (WCA), Nance Shatzkin of Croton Housing Network, Dr. Kevin Middleton of Acts Church in Yonkers, and Tim Foley of the Building & Realty Institute (BRI).

Michael Romita, President and CEO of Westchester County Association said: "New York's housing crisis, particularly acute in our suburbs, continues to undermine the health of our economy and the vibrancy of our communities. It will not

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Paying Homage to the Real Meaning of Baseball: Mr. Peter Edward Rose Sr.



I grew up in Wagner Houses in East Harlem. 54 years ago living there at the age of nine I became a fan of the Cincinnati Reds (The Big Red Machine). The most dominant team in Major League Baseball during the 1970's winning six division titles 4 national league championships and two World Series championships in 1975 and 1976. The main reason why the Big Red Machine was so successful was Pete Rose. He was the heart and soul of that team and he was what baseball should be all about. He played hard and he played for the love of the game. That was shown with every hit and his thunderous and aggressive play. That was demonstrated in the 1970

All star game and his famous knocking over catcher Ray Fosse at home plate to score for the national league. I remember seeing that with my late father and that certainly had an impression on me. He had a perennial over 300 batting average, most players are not able to do that. His four thousand two hundred and fifty six hits is more than any other player in Major League Baseball history. The term "team player" is like every thing else in this society predicated on a lie a myth, but team player was exactly what Pete Rose was, playing multiple positions in the outfield and third and first base. From what I can see as a fan back then and in retrospect, for Pete Rose it was never about the money it was indeed a "love of the game"! Very few athletes can say that no matter what sport they are in especially with the perversion of sports during this period

because of George Steinbrenner and his stewarding the genesis of the free agent era that has had a rippling affect across the four major sports in this country. Rose said in a 1975 interview during the World Series in reference to the big red machine "

It doesn't matter who you are or what color you are as long you play as hard as you can". I remember that and as a 14 year old living in coop city at the time and being exposed to the racism in from whites living there it also impacted me. The Cincinnati Reds were quite culturally and racially diverse, echoing what Rose said. The line up had Pete Rose, Jonny Bench, George Foster, Cae

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Next Year Is Going to Be a Better Year!



By Eric Wolf Schoen

I woke up on Wednesday Morning. The newspaper and radio were filled with stories about how the local Police would be working with laypersons at Jewish houses of worship to provide increased security for the holidays. I would later that evening participate in one such activity.

I woke up Wednesday morning to reports that Iran had attacked Israel with a 200 Ballistic missile barrage. This is the largest barrage to date. The missiles had been shot down and thank god no one was killed or secretly injured.

I woke up Wednesday morning to learn that Canada's immigration policies are letting many terrorists into the United States planning mass killings of Jewish people. And all this going on as we get ready for the first anniversary of the October 7 attacks. God only knows what this may bring.

Happy New Year! Sadly, this is a tough time for Jews in America.

Whether in be on college campuses or grocery stores, Jewish people are subject to a tremendous amount of antisemitism. The Jews, who built this country and its many institutions of higher education are not being shown the respect that we deserve.

The Jewish holidays are late this year. Your cost of traditional foods like brisket, the chickens, the chopped liver have all gone sky high. In the middle we are hit by a shipping strike that will increase prices more because of the ingredients in these these foods And many other foods served this time of year are all ready high in cost!

But wait a minute. Look at the calendar. Rosh Hashanah in October?! Who made that decision? It's pretty late!

Actually, the Jewish holidays fall right on time. The Jewish or Hebrew calendar is a lunisolar calendar created and used by the Hebrew people—it's "lunar" in that every month follows the phases of the moon, and "solar" because the calendar's 12 months follow the earth's orbit around the sun. So stop worrying where it falls and start celebrating. You won't see confetti flying but we do use a special device to welcome the New Year. The device is a Shofar.

A shofar is an ancient musical horn typically made of a ram's horn, used for Jewish religious purposes. Like the modern bugle, the shofar lacks control done by varying the player's embouchure. lipping is the use of the lips, facial muscles, tongue, and teeth in playing a wind instrument. This includes shaping the lips to the mouthpiece of a woodwind instrument or the mouthpiece of a brass instrument.

The shofar is blown in synagogue services on Rosh Hashanah and at the end of Yom Kippur; it is also blown every weekday morning in the month of Elul running up to Rosh Hashanah.[2] Shofars come in a variety of sizes and shapes, depending on the choice of animal and level of finish.

I have recently started to learn how to play the shofar. I've had one for over 30 years but my shofar was small and difficult to play. I have the good fortune to be able to use a shofar that was owned by mom's dear friend Claire Simkins.

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Brandeis Center, ADL & Stand With Us Expand Helpline on Antisemitism in NY K-12 Schools

The Louis D. Brandeis Center for Human Rights Under Law, ADL (the Anti-Defamation League), and StandWithUs, along with a coalition of leading law firms, today announced the launch of a helpline in K-12 schools to provide pro bono legal assistance to parents whose children are experiencing antisemitism in Massachusetts and New York. The helpline follows a successful pilot program in California, the first state for which the hotline was launched after a series of troubling antisemitic incidents in the state's K-12 schools.

Antisemitic incidents in elementary, middle and high schools in MA and NY have increased significantly over the last year. Reported incidents in K-12 schools in MA nearly doubled in 2023 — 101 (up from 53 incidents in 2022) while incidents in K-12 schools in NY climbed to 173 (up from 53 incidents in 2022).

The alarming rise in both the sheer number and intensity of antisemitic incidents in K-12 schools in New York and Massachusetts have made it clear that parents, students and educators need an option for legal help, said Peggy Shukur, ADL Vice President, East Division. "Particularly in situations where responses to antisemitism are inadequate or worse, access to high-quality legal assistance is a crucial tool to ensure a safe learning environment. By providing these legal efforts, this helpline will empower Jewish students, teachers and parents to take action to fight against antisemitic harassment and bigotry."

"Day after day, students across our state are facing a barrage of antisemitic incidents in K-12 schools," said Scott Richman, ADL NY/NJ Regional Director. "Increasingly, those incidents have required legal assistance. Alongside our impactful anti-hate education programs, this pro bono legal helpline is a welcome addition to the arsenal of tools at our disposal to fight the antisemitic prejudice that we see in our schools."

As a result of the California K-12 pilot program, in February 2024, Brandeis and ADL filed a complaint with the U.S. Department of Education's Office for Civil Rights (OCR) against the Berkeley school district for failing to take action to end the nonstop bullying and harassment of Jewish students by peers and teachers. Since its launch, the CA hotline has received an influx of K-12 incidents. These include a wide variety of antisemitic incident reports including Jewish students being harassed, intimidated, and threatened with violence because of their religion.

"The barrage of antisemitic harassment, intimidation, and attacks against Jewish students is unfortunately not contained within the campus gates," stated Brandeis Center Vice Chair and General Counsel Rachel Lerman. "Coast to coast, Jewish K-12 students have been verbally and physically bullied, threatened, and assaulted by peers who absorb anti-Israel and antisemitic rhetoric from some of their teachers. They have been told they are hated and should all be killed, spat on, called dirty Jew, told to go to the gas chambers, slandered, and threatened with violence. Administrations cannot be allowed to turn a blind eye to the intimidation, bullying and antisemitic rhetoric their students endure within their schools. Our team of lawyers stand ready to use the law to hold schools accountable to enforce their own rules as Jewish students are subjected to a virulently hostile environment. This must stop."

Parents, teachers, and other interested adults in MA and NY can use the Legal Protection K-12 Helpline to report incidents of antisemitic discrimination, intimidation, harassment, vandalism or violence that may necessitate legal action. Lawyers will conduct in-depth information-gathering interviews with persons who file reports. In some instances, they may provide pro bono representation on behalf of victims or provide referrals to organizations that can provide non-legal assistance. The lawyers will also, with permission of the individuals involved, use the reports to better understand the scope of the problem and report it to officials responsible for ensuring the laws are followed. If schools do not take action, they will be held accountable.

"CJP's Center for Combating Antisemitism is excited to support this important hotline as a proactive resource for parents, educators, and students," said Melissa Garlick, Senior Director, Combating Antisemitism and Building Civic Engagement at Combined Jewish Philanthropies (CJP). "This initiative will serve as a valuable tool for our community to help address and prevent antisemitism, offering guidance, support, and solutions to foster safe and respectful learning environments. By working together, we're empowering school communities to not only respond to incidents but to build a culture of inclusion, understanding, and mutual respect."

"Consistent with our longstanding commitment to combating antisemitism in schools, on campus, and within the community, StandWithUs remains proud to be part of this coalition dedicated to protecting K-12 students from antisemitic harassment and discrimination, said Carly Gammill, Director of Legal Policy at the StandWithUs Saidoff Legal Department. "The expansion of the initiative into Massachusetts and New York comes at a time when antisemitism continues to plague students in our nation's schools and will help ensure broader access to legal resources for students seeking to address attacks against their Jewish identity."

This expansion builds upon continued efforts to address antisemitism in a variety of educational settings. In November 2023, Brandeis and ADL, along with Hillel International, Gibson, Dunn & Crutcher LLP, and other leading law firms, launched the Campus Antisemitism Legal Line (CALL), a helpline to assist students and faculty experiencing antisemitism on college campuses. More than 650 college students and faculty have used this important resource to report incidents and request assistance.

Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 prohibits educational institutions that receive federal funding from discriminating against, or allowing others to discriminate against, students on the basis of actual or perceived race, color, and national origin. Title VI protects Jews based on their shared ancestral and ethnic identity. The Department of Education's Office for Civil Rights recognizes that harassing, marginalizing, demonizing, and excluding Jewish students based on the Zionist component of their Jewish identity is unlawful under Title VI.

To report an incident at a K-12 school, click here: <https://www.legal-protection.org/k-12>

To report an incident at a college or university, click here: <https://www.legal-protection.org/>

New Rochelle Man Arrested for Multiple Sex Offenses Against Multiple Teenage Children



On September 20th, 2024, New Rochelle Detectives with assistance from the Westchester County District Attorney's Office culminated an investigation that led to the arrest of one Fernando Rincon for multiple sex offenses against multiple teenage children.

Due to nature of the offenses and the privacy of the victims, the details of the incidents are being withheld.

If anyone has any information regarding Fernando Rincon's dealing with any children who may be victims, they are asked to call New Rochelle Detectives at 914-654-2300.

Fernando Rincon, 52 years of age, of New Rochelle, NY, is charged with New York State Penal Law Sections;

220.03 Criminal Possession of a Controlled Substance 7th Degree – A Misdemeanor

130.45 Criminal Sexual Act 2nd Degree (3 Counts) – D Felony

263.05 Use of a Child Less than 17 YOA in a Sexual Performance (4 Counts) – C Felony

130.40 Criminal Sexual Act 3rd Degree – E Felony

Letter to the Editor:

Déjà Vu???

"During the summer of 1939, the world watched with mounting outrage and distress as Adolf Hitler threatened to bring it to war once more. By then, his Nazi army had absorbed the Rhineland, Austria, and Czechoslovakia and was threatening to invade Poland, at which point both Britain and France had vowed to take military action."

"The United States was slow in mobilizing its forces; the army was woefully undermanned---perhaps equal only to that of a third---world

Nation---and the air corps planes and navy ships were mostly outdated.

What limited force the country had, also lacked anything the German arsenal of heavy tanks, armored cars, self-propelled artillery, and other mechanized combat vehicles."(Winston Groom)

"Those who cannot learn from history, are doomed to repeat it."

(George Santayana)

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Democratic Nominee George Latimer Committed to Restoring the Full “SALT” Deduction



Congressional candidate George Latimer

Congressional Candidate for the 16th District in New York, Democrat George Latimer today announced as part of his economic and housing plan his commitment to restore the full deduction for State and Local Taxes (“SALT”) for taxpayers in the Bronx and Westchester. As County Executive, Latimer has fought to control the tax burden on homeowners, and he will continue fighting to protect pocketbooks and wallets as the district’s representative in Washington DC. “New York taxpayers continue to face an unfair economic burden as a result of Donald Trump and congressional Republicans drastically capping the SALT deduction in 2017; a change implemented knowingly to have a disproportionate negative impact on homeowners in states like New York,” said NY-16 Congressional Candidate George Latimer. “While spun as a tax on the rich, the SALT deduction cap has a disproportionate impact on seniors and the middle class in my district, where property values and the cost-of-living rank among the highest in the nation. Working with Kamala Harris and House Democratic leadership to restore the full SALT deduction will be a top priority of mine as a member of Congress.” In 2017, with the support of Republican House and Senate majorities, former President Trump signed into law the so called “Tax Cuts and Jobs Act”, drastically capping the SALT deduction to \$10,000 for both individual and joint filing taxpayers. Prior to implementing the SALT cap, New York residents were entitled to deduct the full amount of state and local taxes against their federal income tax liability. The cap has a disproportionate impact on New Yorkers subject to local property taxes, where the median home price is ranked 3rd in the nation. While imposing this unfair burden on middle class New Yorkers, Trump and his cronies gave massive tax breaks to billionaires and for corporations moving their profits overseas. In a further slight to New York taxpayers, Congressional Republicans rejected an opportunity to provide some relief by increasing the deduction cap this past February. Restoring the full SALT deduction for his constituents is part and parcel to Latimer’s record of fighting for taxpayers while maintaining a high level of essential government services. This includes Latimer’s signing of five consecutive county property tax cuts, as well as raising the real property tax exemption for veterans, and providing tax exemptions for volunteer fire and EMS workers who give their time to protect our community.

Upcoming Debates for Westchester Candidates on the Ballot for November 5 Election

Cacace Declines LWV Debate with Sarcone Should Debates be in Person? Or Still Zoom?

By Dan Murphy

A number of debates have been scheduled in October for almost every elected office on the ballot November 5. The Westchester League of Women Voters, LWV, as usual, has a number of their forums upcoming but some candidates have decided to skip their planned debate.

In a press release, the LWV-Westchester wrote, “The League of Women Voters of Westchester announces that it will not be holding Candidate Forums for the U.S. Congressional District 17 race or for the Westchester District Attorney race.

With respect to the race for U.S. CD 17, Democratic candidate Mondaire Jones had stated that he was available for the proposed October 21, 2024 forum at the Ossining Public Library. However, incumbent Congressman Michael Lawler, Republican candidate, would not commit to any date.

With respect to the race for Westchester County DA, Republican candidate John Sarcone had accepted the invitation for the proposed October 24, 2024 forum at the White Plains Public Library. However, Democratic candidate Susan Cacace declined to participate.

A candidates’ meeting with only one candidate present is an “empty chair” meeting, and is not permitted under LWVW rules and its policy of nonpartisanship. LWVW regrets that these important proposed educational events for voters had to be cancelled.

“This is a lost opportunity for the public to hear directly from candidates in person and to address their own questions to them,” stated Westchester County League President Kathy Meany. “We strive to run forums in a respectful, non-partisan environment that encourages civil discourse and allows candidates to communicate with the people they are seeking to represent. It is a disappointment that there will be no such in-person opportunity for voters residing in Westchester [for purposes of the U.S. CD 17 and Westchester County DA races].”

Sarcone said, in a statement, that Cacace’s decision not to debate was, “a threat to democracy and a slap in the face of Westchester voters..that my opponent refuses to face the voters and defend her radical positions.”

Cacace’s campaign, through a spokesperson, explained that “Susan has always made herself accessible to people all across Westchester and will continue reaching out to voters to discuss her vision for the office and her plans to keep Westchester safe,” adding that “Her opponent, on the other hand, has no credible campaign to speak of. He has failed to raise any money, has not produced a website, has no social media presence, and zero visibility. The voters deserve better.”

We could not find a Sarcone for District Attorney website on Facebook as we write this story, nor could we find any donations or filings of any kind on the NY Board of Elections.

Recently, Sarcone issued two releases, send out by republican campaign consultant Chapin Fay. One was regarding the indictment of Eric Adams, and the other was an endorsement from former NYPD detective Bo Dietl.

Sarcone also does not have the Conservative Party line. Last year, Sarcone was the republican candidate for State Supreme Court, and also did not have the Conservative Party line. A lawsuit was filed against the Westchester Conservative Party Chair Hugh Fox, but Fox won in the end, and Conservatives endorsed the democratic candidates for State Supreme Court, who went on to win in November.

This year, Fox and the Westchester Conservative Party have endorsed Cacace for DA, and the democratic candidates for State Supreme Court again. One issue that some conservatives in Westchester have with this decision is that while democrats are running a statewide and national campaign to protect a woman’s right to abortion, most conservatives don’t agree.

Lawler and Jones have agreed to participate in a debate on News 12 Wednesday, October 16 at 8:30pm, which will be moderated by News 12’s Tara Rosenblum.

One thought that we have heard from many candidates is their desire to hold in

continued on pg 6-

Saving a Life EVERY 11 MINUTES

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

Debates, continued from pg 5-

person debates. During COVID, all debates were held on Zoom, and some are still held on Zoom. We agree. The LWV is hosting a number of debates both in person and on Zoom for those who can't attend. We do enjoy the post debate videos that we can watch at our leisure.

In the other Westchester race for Congress, NY-16, democrat George Latimer and republican Miriam Levitt-Flisser will participate in a LWV Debate on October 17, from 7pm to 8:30pm at the White Plains Public Library

Other LWV debates include:

NYS Senate District 35-Khristen Kerr (R) vs. Andrea Stewart-Cousins (D)
Wednesday, October 16, 2024 -7pm to 8pm--via Zoom

NYS Senate District 37-Tricia S. Lindsay (R) vs. Shelley Mayer (D)
Tuesday, October 22, 2024-7pm to 8:30pm- White Plains Public Library

NYS Senate District 40
Gina Arena (R) vs. Peter Harekham (D)-Wednesday, October 9, 2024
7pm - Hybrid Event-Virtual via Zoom-In person at New Castle Town Hall

NYS Assembly District 88
Thomas Fix, Jr. (R) vs. Amy Paulin (D)
Wednesday, October 16, 2024-7pm to 8:15pm-New Rochelle City Hall

NYS Assembly District 90
John Isaac (R) vs. Nader J. Sayegh (D)-Tuesday, October 22, 2024- 6:30pm to 7:30pm
Grinton I. Will Library in Yonkers

NYS Assembly District 92
Alessandro Crocco (R) vs. MaryJane Shimsky (D)
Thursday, October 10, 2024- 6:30pm to 7:30pm
Greenburgh Public Library

NYS Assembly District 95
Michael Capalbo (R) vs. Dana Levenberg (D)
Monday, October 7, 2024- 7pm to 8pm
Ossining Public Library

Editors Note: If you know of an additional candidate's debate, please email us at dmurphy@risingmediagroup.com so we can highlight it.

Arena, Pro-Choice, continued from pg 1-

well served by their government leaders right now. They need change.”

Arena explained her pro-choice position in a recent OP-ED in USA Today

Yes, New York, there are pro-choice Republicans. I'm one of them. Two years ago I ran for State Senate. As an everyday mom who had never been in public office, I was naïve about the process. A few weeks before Election Day, the attack ads began — more than a million dollars worth. Right on my head. I expected my opponent to go after me. The race was close. But I didn't expect the ads to be so gross and dishonest. They blanketed local airwaves, painting me, ridiculously, hurtfully, as anti-choice and anti-women. (Psst: I'm a pro-choice woman and mother.)

I've had the same position for going on 50 years.

Personal choice means everything to me. I would never presume to make a choice for someone else, especially where reproductive freedom is concerned. As a lifelong Catholic, I place tremendous value on life, but my beliefs are just that. My beliefs. Others can decide for themselves. Including my daughters.

I am pro-girl, pro-women, and pro-choice.

Don't let anyone tell you otherwise.

Arena is running for State Senate in the 40th District against Senator Pete Harekham. The 40th District includes the Westchester communities of Peekskill, Bedford, Cortlandt, Lewisboro, New Castle, North Salem, Ossining, Somers, Yorktown, Mount Kisco, Briarcliff Manor, Buchanan, Croton-on-Hudson and Ossining

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

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

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

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

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

1. Bid No. RFB-7334 – Opening date: 10/25/2024: Twenty-four month contract, with option to renew for 12-months, to provide parts and repair services, as needed, for Freightliner trucks (FB).

2. Bid No. RFB-7336 – Opening date: 10/25/2024: Twelve-month contract, with option to renew for 12-months, to purchase, as needed, various manhole heads, covers, grates, and frames (36 items) manufactured per Yonkers specifications (AC).

3. Bid No. RFB-7337 – Opening date: 10/25/2024: Twelve-month contract, with option to renew for 12-months, to provide monthly cleaning, disposal, and replacement of the collection nets in the Saw Mill River at the Larkin Plaza Day-lighting (KS).

4. Bid No. RFB-7341 – Opening date: 11/01/2024: Purchase of 350 Frigid-aire model FHWW144TE1, or Yonkers approved equal, 115V, 114,300 BTU air conditioners with window mounting kits (KAS).

5. Bid No. RFB-7342 – Opening date: 11/01/2024: Purchase of various Hurst, or Yonkers approved equals, rescue tools and accessories, 6 items (VB).

6. Bid No. RFB-7343 – Opening date: 11/01/2024: Provide full string replacement of 16 batteries for the Galaxy VS UPS System in the Forensic Laboratory located at Yonkers Police Headquarters, 104 South Broadway, Yonkers, NY 10710 (AC).

7. Bid No. IFB-7344 – Opening date: 10/25/2024: Lintel/masonry repairs at School 32, 1 Montclair Place, Yonkers, NY 10710 (MM).

Notice of formation of Schmoose Pack Projects LLC. Arts. of Org. filed with the SSNY on 09/20/2024. Office: Westchester County. SSNY designated as agent of the LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail copy of process to Bruce Wong 10 Station Square Forest Hills, NY 11375. Purpose: Any lawful act or activity.

Notice of formation of CUADRADO LAW PLLC. Arts. of Org. filed with the SSNY on 08/19/2024. Office: Westchester County. SSNY designated as agent of the LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail copy of process to the LLC, 295 Main Street, MT KISCO NY 10549.

Notice of formation of Grace For Today Desserts, LLC. Arts. of Org. filed with the SSNY on 08/30/2024 Office: Westchester County. SSNY designated as agent of the LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail copy of process to the LLC, 10 Hilltop Lane, Thornwood, NY 10594. Purpose: Any lawful activity.

Notice of formation of La Estrofa Entertainment, LLC. Arts. of Org. filed with the SSNY on 06/06/2022. Office: Westchester County. SSNY designated as agent of the LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail a copy of the process to La Estrofa Entertainment, LLC, P.O. Box 1049, Yonkers, NY 10703. Purpose: Any lawful activity.

OnPoint Home Designs LLC. Arts. of Org. filed with the SSNY on 8/28/2024. Office: Westchester County. SSNY designated as agent of the LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail copy of process to the LLC, 14 Crosby Court, Cortlandt Manor NY 10567. Purpose: Any lawful purpose.

Notice of Formation of NERVE Media LLC. Arts. of Org. filed with the SSNY on 5/11/2024. Office: Westchester County. SSNY designated as agent of the LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail copy of process to the LLC, 224 W 35TH St Ste 500, #825 New York, NY, 10001. Purpose: Any lawful activity.

Notice of formation of C BY Mayra LLC. Arts. of Org. filed with the SSNY on 08/03/2024. Office: Westchester County. SSNY designated as agent of the LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail copy of process to the LLC, 3 Sherwood Terrace, apt 3K Yonkers NY 10704. Purpose: Any lawful activity

Notice of formation of Maranatha Health Career Training School, LLC. Arts. of Org. filed with the SSNY on 8/13/2024. Office: Westchester County. SSNY designated as agent of the LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail copy of process to the LLC, 7 ODELL PLAZA POST OFFICE BOX 1243, YONKERS, NY, 10703, USA. Purpose: Any lawful activity.

Notice of formation of Hampton Estate Care LLC. Arts. of Org. filed with the SSNY on 09/17/2024. Office: Westchester County. SSNY designated as agent of the LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail copy of process to the LLC, 35 Greenacres Avenue, Scarsdale, NY 10583. Purpose: Any lawful activity.

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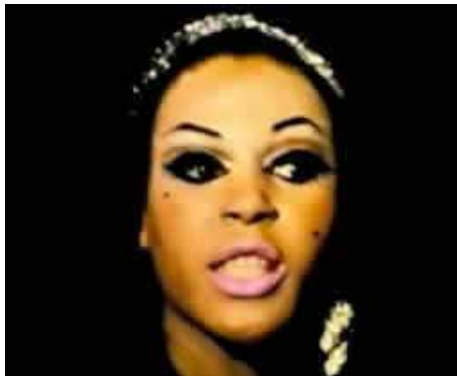
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LGBTQ+ History Month: The World of New York's Ballroom Culture



Crystal LaBeija

By: Dennis Richmond, Jr.

Entering a ballroom in New York is like stepping into a dazzling showcase of talent and expression, featuring butch queens, the girls, and maybe even some trade. These terms capture the essence of the LGBTQ+ community thriving in the city's rich ballroom culture—a vibrant form of expression rooted primarily in Black and Latinx communities.

Ballroom culture traces its origins back to the Harlem Renaissance, with influences that can even be seen as far back as the 19th century. The scene has evolved significantly, particularly since the 1970s when the first ballroom houses began to take shape. A "house" represents a chosen family or community, providing support and camaraderie for its members. Sajuan Scott, an international vogue instructor and Kiki Scene icon, emphasizes the importance of houses, stating, "A house is important within ballroom because it grants people seeking acceptance a feeling of assurance and security. It also enhances the chance to practice talents among peers who understand the journey."

In 1972, two pivotal figures, Crystal LaBeija and Lottie LaBeija, hosted a groundbreaking ball specifically for Black and Brown LGBTQ+ individuals. Titled "Crystal & Lottie Presents: The 1st Annual House of LaBeija Ball," this event emerged after Crystal faced discrimination at the All-America Beauty Pageant in the late 1960s. It was during this time that she coined the term "house," marking a significant milestone in ballroom history.

Fast forward to 2024, and ballroom culture continues to thrive and evolve. Isaiah Latimer, who works under the moniker Constance Lee Busted, reflects on the importance of pioneers like Crystal and Lottie. He expresses gratitude for their perseverance, stating, "They were pioneers who didn't give up."

In conclusion, the ballroom scene stands as a powerful testament to resilience and creativity, enriching New York's culture. By providing a space for self-expression and connection, it honors the legacy of those who came before while fostering a sense of community that thrives today. As seen in the recent events in Yonkers and Mount Vernon, the spirit of ballroom culture continues to unite and inspire during Pride Month, ensuring that its vibrant essence remains an integral part of the ongoing celebration of diversity and identity in our city.

Thank you, Crystal LaBeija and Lottie LaBeija.

Dennis Richmond, Jr., an educator, historian, and writer, illuminates the experiences of Black, Latinx, and LGBTQ+ communities in Yonkers and NYC through his journalism. Stay connected with him by following @NewYorkStakz on social media.

Irvington Theater Announces Grand Reopening Events This Fall



The 122-year-old venue will open its doors to the community for the first time since 2020 after undergoing an extensive renovation to restore its historic charm.

After nearly 5 years, Irvington Theater — the 122-year-old performing arts venue located inside Irvington, New York's historic Town Hall — is reopening its doors to neighbors throughout Westchester County and the greater New York City metropolitan area.

All fall long, IT will host and present a series of not-to-be-missed events, kicking off Saturday, October 26 from 2-4pm with the Irvington Theater Open House! Be the first to behold the completely refreshed theater space, explore the refurbished lobby and dressing rooms, and see the new color scheme and custom carpet in person! This free event will include light refreshments live music by multi-instrumentalist Miyuki Furtado, providing a wonderful opportunity for neighbors to connect with staff, the theater commission, and the Friends of the Irvington Theater. No registration required; just show up!

On Saturday, November 9 at 7:30pm, the theater will host "Laugh Out Loud: A Night of Comedy to Celebrate Irvington Theater's Grand Reopening!" Leave the kids at home and grab your partner or a group of friends for a riotous night of all-star comedy in Irvington. Headlined by mainstay of the NYC comedy scene, Lenny Marcus (The Late Show with David Letterman, The Daily Show), the lineup also includes Ophira Eisenberg (NPR's Ask Me Another

The Late Late Show), Mike Feeney (The Tonight Show with Jimmy Fallon, Last Call with Carson Daly), and Erin Jackson (Late Night with Seth Meyers, CONAN). Tickets start at \$35 and are on sale now at www.irvingtontheater.com.

"I am extremely excited to open our doors up to the public again so they can see all the work that has gone on during our closure," said Theater Manager Gregory Allen in a statement. "The excitement of our staff and theater commission is palpable as we work towards our Open House on October 25 and Grand Reopening on November 9. So many new people have moved to our Village since we've been physically closed, and we can't wait to share with them all that that Irvington Theater has to offer."

Like most arts organizations, Irvington Theater first closed its doors in 2020 due to the pandemic, triggering a multi-year pivot to a series of online and in-person, offsite events known as #IrvingtonAnywhere. When restrictions on in-person gathering began to ease, the doors to Irvington Theater remained closed; an interior facelift was well underway, which included replacing the audio console, upgrading the lighting and sound systems, refreshing the lobby and dressing rooms, and re-gold leafing the entire proscenium arch.

At that point, it had been more than 40 years since the theater had undergone a significant renovation, and the decades-old ventilation system couldn't meet the standards of the moment. In 2021, thanks to the help of the Irvington Village Board, State Senator Andrea Stewart-Cousins, and the NYS Assembly, a plan to install a state-of-the-art HVAC system was approved, kicking off another major construction project that will allow the theater to operate year-round for the first time in its history.

In addition to the grand reopening events, IT will also welcome back its Arts Partners to the venue this fall, with productions like Clocktower Players' The Color Purple in concert and Broadway Training Center's Les Misérables (School Edition). In 2025, Irvington Theater will also host their own beloved offerings like As iFF (All Shorts Irvington Film Festival) and the Arts Incubator Short Play Fest at their historic performing arts space. Learn more about these events, and more to be announced, at www.irvingtontheater.com.

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

-Thomas Jefferson

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Harckham, Bedford Teachers' Association Hold Food Drive in Mount Kisco



1,700 pounds of food and \$1,570 in cash donations for the Mount Kisco Interfaith Food Pantry

New York State Senator Pete Harckham and the Bedford Teachers' Association held a special Hunger Action Month food drive today at the Mount Kisco Elementary School, collecting more than 1,700 pounds of food and \$1,570 in cash donations for the Mount Kisco Interfaith Food Pantry, which helps to feed some of the neediest members of the community, including many seniors. "Even in today's drizzling rain, residents of Mount Kisco and neighboring communities brought their donations to our food drive, for which we are very grateful," said Harckham. "People know there is food insecurity among our neighbors, and that we all can help as we are able. A big thank you to the Bedford Teachers' Association members and all the volunteers who were here to help." In the 16 prior food drives since March 2020—one each in Sleepy Hollow, Ossining, Mohegan Lake, Bedford, Brewster, Pleasantville, Croton-on-Hudson, Somers, Yorktown Heights and Katonah, and two drives in Carmel, Mount Kisco and Peekskill—Harckham and volunteers have collected about 51,000 pounds of food items and over \$12,000 in cash donations so far.

Now in its 33rd year, the Mount Kisco Interfaith Food Pantry operates out of the United Methodist Church of Mount Kisco. The pantry has fed over 110,000 people in 2024, 26% of which were children and 11% were seniors.

Trina Ward Fontaine, executive director of the Mount Kisco Interfaith Food Pantry, said, "We are building awareness in the northern Westchester community about the existence of food insecurity. As the only weekly choice food pantry in the communities we serve, we see demand continuing to increase. In September, we have fed an average of 730 families a week, an all-time high. We couldn't do it without partners like the Bedford Teachers' Association and Senator Harckham's office."

Tarrytown Lighthouse Tours to Start Oct. 5



Explore five decks of the Tarrytown Lighthouse in Sleepy Hollow while learning about its history on curator-led tours beginning Saturday, Oct. 5. Tours are free and registration is open.

The tours are 45-minutes each and are limited to 24 people. Upcoming schedule is as follows: Saturday, Oct. 5, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., Saturday, Oct. 12, 10 a.m. to 1 p.m., Saturday, Oct. 19, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., Sunday, Oct. 27, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Westchester County Executive George Latimer said, "Earlier this year, we completed a \$3.4 million capital project to refurbish the Tarrytown Lighthouse in Sleepy Hollow to its most authentic rendition. I'm excited to welcome the public in, to view it and learn about such a tremendous piece of Westchester County history."

Tarrytown Lighthouse in Sleepy Hollow was built in 1883 in response to pleas by local steamship companies for assistance in navigating dangerous shoals. It was a critical guide for Hudson River shipping for 68 years before it was decommissioned in 1961 once the Tappan Zee Bridge was built. The Lighthouse is listed on the National Register of Historic Places. The Tarrytown Lighthouse in Sleepy Hollow is located in Kingsland Point Park off Palmer Avenue. The Lighthouse is accessed by a 10 minute walk from the parking lot along the Riverwalk path. Parking fees may apply.

Gold Star Mothers Honored



Gold Star Mother Hope Hollinsworth-Coaxum of Yonkers

In a solemn ceremony Westchester County honored the sacrifice of the families of military service members who lost their lives in the service of our country.

Westchester County Executive George Latimer and Veterans Service Agency Director Ron Tocci led the County's annual Gold Star Mothers & Families Memorial Tribute Ceremony at Westchester's Memorial Walkway at Kensico Dam Plaza, where 17 County veterans who fell in service since the 9/11 attacks were remembered with hand and rifle salutes and the sounding of "Taps."

Those assembled heard moving works from Gold Star Mother Hope Hollinsworth-Coaxum of Yonkers, whose son, Army Staff Sergeant Courtney Hollinsworth, died in Operation Iraqi Freedom in 2007, and whose sacrifice is commemorated on the Walkway.

Latimer said: "As a county and a nation, we remember everyone who served and fell in the line of duty, and we honor their sacrifice, but it's important to remember that their sacrifice is not theirs alone. There's a family proudly standing behind everyone who goes off to serve. And when a service member falls, there's a family that grieves. We have a duty to our Gold Star Families to support them in their grief, to lift them up, to honor their sacrifice, and to provide them whatever help they need for all they've given for us."

Deputy County Executive Ken Jenkins said: "Most of us have not lost a son or daughter, a spouse or sibling, in military service. We don't live with that intense paradox of pride in their service and grief for their loss. But we do live with a responsibility to our Gold Star Families, not just to support them with services but to make sure they feel our love and respect, to say every day, 'We see you, we are humbled by your sacrifice, and we are here for you.'"

Tocci said: "As parents, there's nothing more profound than the hopes and dreams we have for our children, including hopes and dreams for a fulfilling life of service. Those hopes and dreams for their service don't end with a folded flag, a rifle salute, a Gold Star, but for families whose loved ones choose a life of military service, the possibility of that ending is very real. Today, and every day, we say to all the Gold Star Moms and Gold Star families, thank you for your service too. We know your sacrifice is indelible, and we promise never to forget it."

The national remembrance of Gold Star Mother's Day began in 1936, marked on the last Sunday in September. Since 2011, commemoration has been amended to be Gold Star Mother's and Family's Day.

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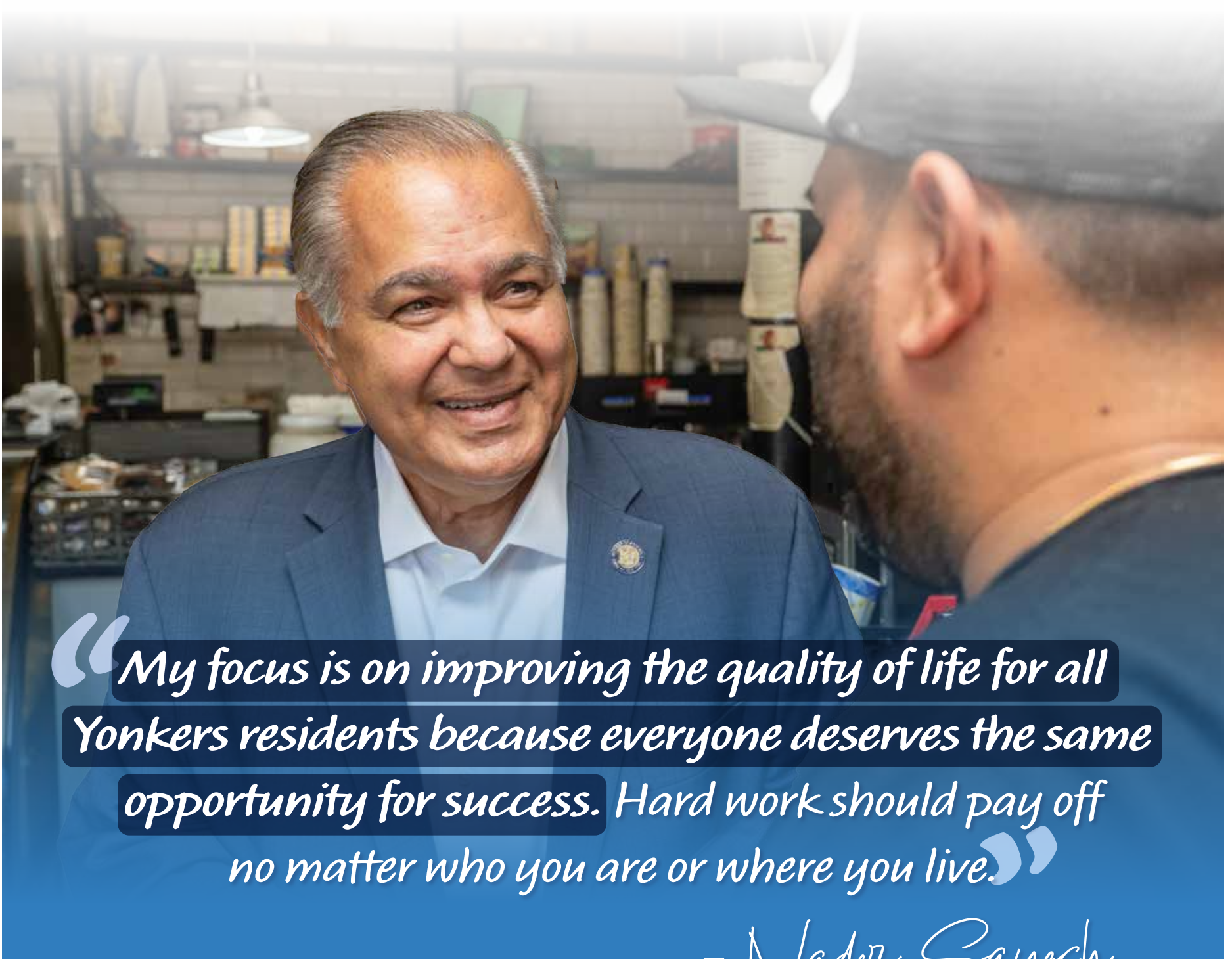
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“My focus is on improving the quality of life for all Yonkers residents because everyone deserves the same opportunity for success. Hard work should pay off no matter who you are or where you live.”

- Nader Sayegh

SAFER COMMUNITIES

Nader Sayegh strengthened penalties for organized shoplifting and gave judges more discretion to hold dangerous criminals accountable for their actions. He also brought back more funding for local police departments and will work with the federal government on commonsense solutions to the immigration crisis. **Sayegh is endorsed by Yonkers, County, NYC and State police.**

INFLATION RELIEF

Nader Sayegh is working to provide relief for residents and businesses struggling with inflation. He voted to raise the state’s minimum wage, speed up middle-class tax cuts, expand child care assistance, and help first-time homebuyers.

BETTER SCHOOLS

Nader Sayegh secured a record increase in state funding for Yonkers public schools, which helped restore extracurricular activities like sports, music, art, library, and support services.

PROTECTING OUR RIGHTS

Nader Sayegh will defend a woman’s right to choose. He voted to strengthen protections for reproductive freedom, and can be counted on to stand up to conservative attempts to roll back the clock and take away our hard-won individual rights and freedoms.



A family man, Nader Sayegh has always called Yonkers home, growing up in Southwest Yonkers with his seven siblings. He and his wife, Sana, built their life together here, raising their five daughters, all who attended Yonkers public schools, achieving successful careers.



After working his way through college and law school, Nader dedicated his life to public service. He served for over 40 years as a teacher, principal, college professor and President of the Yonkers Board of Education. Nader worked hard to better our education system by helping increase graduation rates and expanding after-school programs. He also served as a captain in the New York Guard.

To find your polling place scan here:



NADER SAYEGH 
for ASSEMBLY | DISTRICT 90

Weekend Events at Westchester Parks

SATURDAY, OCT. 5

Hilltop Hanover Farm and Environmental Center, Yorktown Heights: (914) 862-5050. Head for the Hilltop: 5K & Kids' Fun Run, 8:30 a.m. - 10 a.m.

The Fun Run is for ages 6 and under; starts at 8:30 a.m. The 5K starts at 9 a.m. and is open to all ages. Then, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., enjoy our Health & Wellness Day: a free, family day centered on human and environmental health.

Get details and register <https://hilltophanoverfarm.org/events/event-calendar.html/event/2024/10/05/head-for-the-hilltop-5k-kids-fun-run/486433>

Merestead Estate, Mount Kisco: (914) 864-7958. Raptor Revolver Hike, 10 a.m. - 11:30 a.m. We will venture on a journey to seek out our feathered gliders of the skies and other feathered movers. Please bring binoculars. Meet in the meadow parking lot.

Marshlands Conservancy, Rye: (914) 835-4466. Take Out the Trash!, 10 a.m. - 11:30 a.m. Help keep our salt marsh beautiful by collecting trash left by the tides. It's a great way to have fun, get some exercise and give back to the earth.

Lasdon Park and Arboretum, Katonah: (914) 864-7268. Mandala of Harmony: Connecting with Nature, 10 a.m. - 11:30 a.m. Discover the profound connection between nature and creativity. For teens and adults. Rain date: Oct. 19.

Get details and register <https://www.lasdonpark.org/event/mandala-of-harmony-connecting-with-nature/>

Lasdon Park and Arboretum, Katonah: (914) 864-7268. Lasdon Green Squad, 10 a.m. - 2 p.m. Every Saturday through November. Get details and register <https://www.lasdonpark.org/event/lasdon-green-squad/2024-10-05/>

Hilltop Hanover Farm and Environmental Center, Yorktown Heights: (914) 862-5050 Old Time Music Jam, 10 a.m. - 3 p.m. This event is a monthly gathering of local, acoustic musicians who play traditional Appalachian fiddle music. Come to play or listen; enjoy the community that music can create! Musicians of all levels are welcome. Also: Nov. 2; Dec. 7. Get details <https://hilltophanoverfarm.org/events/event-calendar.html/event/2024/10/05/1728145800/old-time-music-jam/472028>

Trailside Nature Museum at Ward Pound Ridge Reservation, Cross River: (914) 864-7322. Wildflower Garden Tour, 1 p.m. - 2 p.m. All ages are invited to join us for a guided nature walk through our historic wildflower garden!

Lenoir Preserve, Yonkers: (914) 968-5851. Fall Phenology, 1 p.m. - 2 p.m.

Ages 8 and older are invited to take a walk with us around the preserve to learn about and witness the seasonal changes in our plants and wildlife this time of year.

Westchester County Center, White Plains: (914) 995-4050. Mac & Cheese Festival, 1 p.m. - 5 p.m. Whether you're a traditionalist who loves the classic cheesy goodness or an adventurous eater looking to try something new, a mac & cheese masterpiece is waiting for you. Get details and tickets <https://countycenter.biz/event/westchester-mac-cheese-festival/>

SUNDAY, OCT. 6

Alfred B. DeBello Muscote Farm, Somers: (914) 864-7282. Farmers Market, 9:30 a.m. - 2:30 p.m. Our market, which supports farmers and sustainable efforts in our area, features more than 25 local vendors every Sunday until Nov. 17.

Get details <https://www.muscotefarm.org/markets/farmers-market-information.html>

Lasdon Park and Arboretum, Katonah: (914) 864-7268. Bird Watching for Children, 10 a.m. - 11 a.m. Children ages 7 to 9 will listen to a story, learn the basics of bird watching outdoors, and then make a bird craft. Free. Register <https://www.lasdonpark.org/event/bird-watching-for-children/>

Lasdon Park and Arboretum, Katonah: (914) 864-7268. Gardening Sundays, 10 a.m. - 12 p.m. Get details and register <https://www.lasdonpark.org/event/gardening-sundays/2024-10-06/>

The Bronx River Parkway. Bicycle Sunday, 10 a.m. - 2 p.m. Bike, walk or jog a 13.1-mile loop of the Bronx River Parkway from White Plains to Yonkers. A portion of the parkway is closed to cars for the exclusive use of non-motorized bicyclists and scooters, as well as in-line skaters, walkers and joggers; through Oct. 13.

Get details <https://parks.westchestergov.com/bicycle-sundays>

Lasdon Park and Arboretum, Katonah: (914) 864-7268. Autumn Discovery Walk, 11 a.m. - 12 p.m. Join a walking tour and discover the many ways that autumn creates its beauty and interest. The tour meets at the green entrance gate off of the parking lot's upper level.

Croton Point Park, Croton-on-Hudson: (914) 862-5290. Archaeology Day, 12 p.m. - 4 p.m. Led by the Lower Hudson Chapter of the New York State Archaeological Association, all ages can dig into archaeology at the Nature Center. Learn about Croton Point's fascinating past through bricks, bottles, flint and shells.

Cranberry Lake Preserve, North White Plains: (914) 428-1005. Wildflower Walk, 12:30 p.m. - 2 p.m. Discover what's in bloom around the lake during this 2-mile walk. Hiking shoes are recommended.

Violence Prevention, continued from pg 1-

statewide decline in gun violence of 28 percent in 2024, with Yonkers seeing a decrease of 56 percent, according to data collected through the New York State Gun Involved Violence Elimination (GIVE) initiative.

Sen. Stewart-Cousins said Wednesday that she recognizes the importance of well-funded law enforcement agencies in the fight against crime, and the key role community organizations play at the local and regional level in further advancing strategies to combat violence and address its root causes in our communities. Sen. Stewart-Cousins, a longtime supporter of violence prevention initiatives in Westchester and across New York State, has been instrumental in securing millions in state funding for dozens of local organizations that are helping make communities safer. Wednesday's roundtable participants were just some of many which have received funding thanks to Sen. Stewart-Cousins.

Organizations in attendance included African American Men of Westchester, Brother 2 Brother 914, CLUSTER, Grandpas United, the PeaceMobile Team, Ruff Ryders to the Rescue, Warburton, Woodworth and Ravine, Inc., YMCA Yonkers, YWCA Yonkers, and 914 United.

Representatives from participating organizations detailed a host of strategic programming initiatives which reach a diverse audience across Westchester, from children to seniors, across a myriad of disciplines including civil service and criminal justice programs, mental health crisis intervention services, and "credible messenger" programs which provide positive role models and resources for the community. Speakers had the opportunity to speak about their unique programs to fight against violence, and report to Sen. Stewart-Cousins on how their organization is using state funding she delivered to advance those objectives.

"What the Senator brings to us with state funding, is the ability to turn an idea into reality. You can have the best idea in the world but eventually you're going to need support to turn that idea into a reality, and that's what Sen. Stewart-Cousins does for us," said Warburton, Woodworth and Ravine, Inc. director Dwayne Cloud.

Sen. Stewart-Cousins said one of her major takeaways from the roundtable was that participating organizations demonstrated a keen interest in building and maintaining relationships and partnerships with each other.

"So many of the programs and services these organizations provide are complementary and even intersecting, and today's roundtable not only serves to help share useful information, but also lays the groundwork for new and expanded partnerships and initiatives for the future, and I'm proud to have facilitated this discussion," Sen. Stewart-Cousins said.

Wednesday's roundtable was held at Brother 2 Brother 914's Yonkers Knockouts Boxing gym at 29 S Broadway in Yonkers. Brothers John and Darrell Morrison, the founders and executives of Brother 2 Brother, thanked Sen. Stewart-Cousins for her support.

"Because the Senator has helped us with funding, our community organizations can do so many things," Brother 2 Brother 914 director John Morrison said. "We'd like to thank the Majority Leader for letting us host today's event. It was a great event, and all the community leaders came together to say how much we love doing the work that we do."

Read it all Online
at Yonkerstimes.com

Classifieds

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

Read it all Online at Yonkerstimes.com

Bring your family to Muscoot Farm for the Pumpkin Picking Fundraiser Oct 12-4

Nothing announces October like the sight of a plump, hardy pumpkin! Pick your perfect pumpkin at Muscoot Farm's Annual Pumpkin Picking Fundraiser. This year's fun-tastic seasonal event is Saturday, Oct. 12 through Monday, Oct. 14, from 10 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. each day.

The event is free, and each pumpkin's price will be based on its size. Hayrides are \$5 per person, with ages 2 and under free. Delicious cider and doughnuts will also be for sale. Attendees can see Muscoot's engaging animals in their pens and enjoy free kids' activities. Cash, Venmo and credit cards are accepted.

And on Sunday, drop in on Muscoot's weekly Farmers Market, which supports local farmers and sustainable efforts in our area. It's open every Sunday from 9:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. until November 17. Visit muscootfarm.org for an up-to-date list of vendors.

Westchester County Executive George Latimer said, "The crisp air, colorful fall leaves, and the sight of countless pumpkins scattered across a field create a festive and inviting atmosphere. It's an adventure to search for the perfect pumpkin, whether you're looking for a small one for decorating or a large one for carving."

Muscoot Farm opens at 10 a.m.; and 9:30 a.m. on Sunday for the Farmers Market. The pumpkin patch will close at 3:30 p.m., and the hayrides run from 10:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. The trails will be closed during the event.

This event benefits the Friends of Muscoot Farm, which preserves and interprets, for the public benefit, the agricultural, cultural and natural heritage of a Westchester County farm, circa 1880 - 1930.

Alfred B. DelBello Muscoot Farm, a 777-acre, early 1900s interpretive farm, is owned and operated by the Westchester County Department of Parks, Recreation on Conservation. It is open daily and offers a variety of interpretive programs to the public on weekends throughout the year. For more information, visit muscootfarm.org or call (914) 864-7286.

Eric Schoen, continued from pg 3-

I put the call out for a large shofar, and Claire's son David said his mom of blessed memory would be delighted if I used her shofar.

Learning the shofar is my project for the year. You don't have to be Jewish to have a new project. . The great Martha Stewart said we should learn something new every day.

So while I learn the shofar, why don't you learn something new too! And for all my Jewish and non-Jewish friends, a Happy, Healthy New Year in a world of Shalom, Peace!

Reach Eric Schoen at thistooisyonkers@aol.com, or friend him on Facebook Eric Schoen...just look for him in the picture with Joan Rivers!

MUST BE 18 YEARS OF AGE OR OLDER TO PLAY IN NEW YORK LOTTERY GAME. PLAY RESPONSIBLY. 24-HOUR PROBLEM GAMING HOTLINE: 1-877-5-HOTLINE

be magically wished away. Rather, we need our local towns and villages to see past the NIMBY rhetoric and to work with us. Welcome Home Westchester's 'Five in '25' agenda is positive and straightforward. It asks each community to choose a single action to encourage more housing in a way that makes sense for them. Not everyone can do the same thing, but everyone should do something."

Tim Foley, CEO of the Building & Realty Institute (BRI), said: "In the world of housing, the buck stops at the local level. Mayors, Supervisors, Trustees, Councilmembers and the dedicated volunteers who make up local land use boards have the ultimate authority on what gets built where, and whether their neighborhoods remain mired in the outdated and inefficient processes that led to the housing shortage crunch or will be welcoming to all who want to live and work here. With our 'Five in 2025' we're highlighting the policies that we know work because they are already working in one of Westchester's diverse communities without upsetting quality of life or overtaxing our infrastructure. The time to act is now."

Jan Fisher, Executive Director of Nonprofit Westchester (NPW), said: "Non-profit Westchester is proud to be part of the Welcome Home Westchester campaign, amplifying the efforts of nonprofits that are tirelessly ensuring the voices of those most affected by the housing crisis—families and individuals in urgent need of affordable housing—are heard. As the voice for Westchester's nonprofit sector, we are committed to advocating for solutions that provide safe, accessible, and affordable homes for everyone in our community."

Nance Shatzkin, President of Croton Housing Network, said: "The housing we created in Croton has helped the whole community. It created places for my friends' parents to move as they aged out of their homes, it brought school kids who have added to our diversity and the experience of all our children, it's brought volunteers to our fire and social service organizations, and it's allowed friends of mine to come back to the village they love. And more growth – in your community – will do the same."

Dr. Kevin Middleton, Pastor of Act Church in Yonkers, said: "The issue of housing is not just about making space for people to live in homes, it's about first making space for people to live in our hearts. All people deserve to be housed, sheltered, cared for, and protected, and to not give that is a violation of our own humanity."

The event concluded with a call to action, urging all members of the community and families who are concerned by the crisis to come together and commit to the "5 in 2025" Agenda. The Welcome Home Westchester campaign believes that with concerted effort and community engagement, Westchester County can tackle the housing crisis and build a more inclusive and vibrant future for all its residents and those who wish to live here.

The Welcome Home Westchester campaign is a multi-stakeholder advocacy effort consisting of business and nonprofit leaders, academics, think tanks, faith leaders, and community advocates working together to drive a new public conversation around fixing the housing shortage in Westchester County. Visit welcomehomewestchester.org/ for more information.

our gratitude to Montefiore for their commitment to making this process as inclusive and community driven as possible, and for their investment in the well-being of the City of Mount Vernon."

Other elected officials shared their support and praise:

"Having grown up in Mount Vernon and walked these streets with my aging parents, I know firsthand how essential it is to expand healthcare services here," said Westchester County Executive George Latimer. "I commend Mayor Shawyn Patterson-Howard for her visionary leadership and Montefiore's commitment to shaping a positive future for Montefiore Mount Vernon Hospital. This transformative plan not only addresses the vital needs of residents, but also secures the financial sustainability required to deliver world-class healthcare for generations to come."

Senior Pastor, Dr. W. Franklyn Richardson, Grace Baptist Church remarked, "The enhancements at Montefiore Mount Vernon Hospital underscore a powerful commitment to ensuring that every member of our community must have access to superior healthcare. This development is crucial for those in underserved positions and reflects a profound dedication to addressing and rectifying healthcare disparities."

"Montefiore's commitment to enhancing healthcare access in Mount Vernon represents a pivotal shift towards greater health equity," said Reverend, Dr. Stephen Pogue, Greater Centennial AME Zion Church. "Our community's most underserved members will greatly benefit from this initiative, which promises to broaden the availability and improve the quality of healthcare services. I am deeply thankful to Montefiore and Mayor Shawyn Patterson-Howard for prioritizing the needs of those who have historically been left behind in our healthcare system."

"The transformative upgrades at Montefiore Mount Vernon Hospital bring a wave of optimism and significant improvements in addressing health equity," said Judith Watson, RN, BSN, MPH, CEO, Westchester Community Health Center. "This development is crucial as it enhances access to primary and specialty care services in Mount Vernon and throughout Westchester County."

"When the residents of Mount Vernon spoke, Montefiore not only listened, they acted expeditiously. As healthcare is redefined, we look at access and equity as the centerpieces for a healthy community, especially for those from underserved communities," said New York State Senator Jamaal T. Bailey.

"Today's announcement is a landmark moment for healthcare in our district," said New York State Assembly Member J. Gary Pretlow. "This vision not only promises enhanced healthcare services for our residents but also signifies a major step forward in our ongoing efforts to ensure everyone in our community has access to the high-quality care they deserve. I commend Mayor Shawyn Patterson-Howard and Montefiore for their leadership on this issue."

[Read it all Online at Yonkerstimes.com](http://Yonkerstimes.com)

SUPREME COURT OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK

COUNTY OF WESTCHESTER ; Index No. 59236/2023 Filed 04/07/2023 Plaintiff

MORTGAGE ASSETS MANAGEMENT, LLC VS.

UNKNOWN HEIRS OF THE ESTATE OF LUCIETTA BORGIA; DONNAMARIE DISTASIO, HEIR-AT LAW OF THE ESTATE OF LUCIETTA BORGIA; RICHARD DISTASIO, HEIR-AT LAW OF THE ESTATE OF LUCIETTA BORGIA; SUSTAINABLE NEIGHBORHOODS LLC; NEW YORK STATE DEPARTMENT OF TAXATION AND FINANCE; UNITED STATES OF AMERICA O/B/O INTERNAL REVENUE SERVICE; "JOHN DOE #1" through "JOHN DOE #12," the last twelve names being fictitious and unknown to plaintiff, the persons or parties intended being the tenants, occupants, persons or corporations, if any, having or claiming an interest in or lien upon the Subject Property described in the Complaint,

PUBLICATION

TO THE ABOVE NAMED DEFENDANTS:

UNKNOWN HEIRS OF THE ESTATE OF LUCIETTA BORGIA

YOU ARE HEREBY SUMMONED to answer the Amended Complaint in the above captioned action and to serve a copy of your Answer on the Plaintiff's attorney within twenty (20) days after the service of this Summons, exclusive of the day of service, or within thirty (30) days after completion of service where service is made in any other manner than by personal delivery within the State. The United States of America, if designated as a Defendant in this action may answer to appear within sixty (60) days of service hereof. In case of your failure to appear or answer, judgment will be taken against you by default for the relief demanded in the Amended Complaint.

NOTICE

YOU ARE IN DANGER OF LOSING YOUR HOME

If you do not respond to this Summons and Amended Complaint by serving a copy of the answer on the attorney for the mortgage company who filed this foreclosure

proceeding against you and filing the answer with the court, a default judgment may be entered and you can lose your home.

Speak to an attorney or go to the court where your case is pending for further information on how to answer the publication and protect your property.

Sending payment to your mortgage company will not stop this foreclosure action.

YOU MUST RESPOND BY SERVING A COPY OF THE ANSWER ON THE ATTORNEY FOR THE PLAINTIFF (MORTGAGE ASSETS MANAGEMENT, LLC) AND FILING THE ANSWER WITH THE COURT.

To the above named defendants: The foregoing Publication is served upon you by publication pursuant to an order of the Hon. Paul I Marx, J.S.C, a Justice of the Supreme Court of the State of N.Y., dated September 06, 2024 and filed along with the supporting papers in the Westchester County Clerk's Office. This is an action to foreclose a mortgage on the property located 26 Gail Road, Yonkers, NY 10710 Section: 4 Block: 4863 Lot: 56

Westchester County is designated as the place of

trial based upon the location of the property being foreclosed. Attorneys for

Plaintiff: Stern & Eisenberg, PC, 20 Commerce Drive, Suite 230, Cranford, NJ 07016 T:(516) 630-0288.

sar Geronimo, Ken Griffey, Jack Billingham, Pedro Borbon, Dave Concepcion, Don Gullet, Tony Perez, Bill Plummer and the great Joe Morgan. The 1973 national league championship was memorable as far as an example where good pitching will always defeat good hitting. Where the Ny Mets led by Tom Seaver defeated the Cincinnati Reds in a hard fought 5 game series 3 games to 2. The highlight of the series was Rose's famous scuffle with Bud Harrelson that turned into a bench clearing brawl when he slid into second base causing Rose to be public enemy number one with ny Mets fans. Rose was booed vociferously by met fans with subsequent visits to shea Stadium. He was able to exact his revenge in an afternoon game at shea in 1978, that I took my younger brother to see, where he hit three home runs as the Cincinnati Reds soundly defeated the Ny Mets 14-7. Pete Rose belongs in the Hall of fame. What he did leading to his exile from Major League Baseball has categorically nothing to do with his stellar 23 year career. In a society where almost every sector and industry is corrupt and illegal activities happen daily especially in the banking, and Wall Street industries his violation is not significant. Especially where we have a former president of the United States running for president with 34 felonies, there is no way in hell with the fact that betting on sports is legal now that Peter Edward Rose Sr. (Charlie Hustle) should be denied entry into the hall of fame. No one deserves entry more than him.

SUPREME COURT OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK
 COUNTY OF WESTCHESTER
 INDEX NO: 70289/2023
 D/O/F: 11/03/2023

SUPPLEMENTAL SUMMONS

Property Address: 351 South 3rd Avenue a/k/a 351 Third Avenue South a/k/a 351 South 3rd Street, Mount Vernon, New York 10550

Plaintiff designates Westchester County as the place of trial. Venue is based upon the County in which the property is situated.

BRITE FAMILY LLC,

Plaintiff,

-against-

BRENDA O. JONES A/K/A BRENDA JONES A/K/A BRENDA A. JONES, if living, and if she be dead, grantees, mortgagees, lienors, heirs, devisees, distributees or successors in interest of such of them as may be dead, and their husbands and wives, heirs, devisees, distributees and successors in interest, all of whom and whose names and places of residence are unknown to Plaintiff;

TEMICKA L. JONES A/K/A TEMICKA JONES A/K/A TENICKA JONES A/K/A TEMICKA C. JONES A/K/A TOMICKA L. JONES, if living, and if she be dead, grantees, mortgagees, lienors, heirs, devisees, distributees or successors in interest of such of them as may be dead, and their husbands and wives, heirs, devisees, distributees and successors in interest, all of whom and whose names and places of residence are unknown to Plaintiff;

DOUGLAS R. DRAYGOH A/K/A DOUGLAS DRAYGOH A/K/A DOUGLAS R. MADDOX, if living, and if he be dead, grantees, mortgagees, lienors, heirs, devisees, distributees or successors in interest of such of them as may be dead, and their husbands and wives, heirs, devisees, distributees and successors in interest, all of whom and whose names and places of residence are unknown to Plaintiff; UNITED STATES OF AMERICA O/B/O INTERNAL REVENUE SERVICE, NEW YORK STATE DEPARTMENT OF TAXATION AND FINANCE;

"JOHN DOES" and "JANE DOES", said names being fictitious, parties intended being possible tenants or occupants of premises, and corporations, other entities or persons who claim, or may claim, a lien against the premises,
 Defendant(s).

TO THE ABOVE-NAMED DEFENDANTS:

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 Attorneys within twenty (20) days after service of this Summons, exclusive of the day of service, where service is made by delivery upon you personally within the State, or within thirty (30) days after completion of service where service is made in any other manner, 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.

TO THE ABOVE NAMED DEFENDANTS: The foregoing Summons is served upon you by publication pursuant to an Order of the Hon. Nancy Quinn Koba, a Justice of the Supreme Court, Westchester County, entered Sept. 16, 2024 and filed with the complaint and other papers in the Westchester County Clerk's Office.

THE OBJECT OF THE ACTION is to foreclose a mortgage recorded in the Westchester County Clerk's Office on September 29, 2021 in Control #612713799, covering premises k/a 351 South 3rd Avenue a/k/a 351 Third Avenue South a/k/a 351 South 3rd Street, Mount Vernon, NY 10550 a/k/a Section 169.31, Block 3115, Lot 24.

NOTICE

YOU ARE IN DANGER OF LOSING YOUR HOME

If you do not respond to this summons and complaint by serving a copy of the answer on the attorney for the mortgage company who filed this foreclosure proceeding against you and filing the answer with the court, a default judgment may be entered and you can lose your home.

Speak to an attorney or go to the court where your case is pending for further information on how to answer the summons and protect your property.

Sending a payment to your mortgage company will not stop this foreclosure action.

YOU MUST RESPOND BY SERVING A COPY OF THE ANSWER ON THE ATTORNEY FOR THE PLAINTIFF (MORTGAGE COMPANY) AND FILING THE ANSWER WITH THE COURT.

The following notice is intended only for the defendants who are owners of the premises sought to be foreclosed or who are liable upon the debt for which the mortgage stands as security.

YOU ARE HEREBY PUT ON NOTICE THAT WE ARE ATTEMPTING TO COLLECT A DEBT, AND ANY INFORMATION OBTAINED WILL BE USED FOR THAT PURPOSE.

PLEASE BE AWARE:

(1) that debt collectors, in accordance with the Fair Debt Collection Practices Act, 15 U.S.C. § 1692 et seq., are prohibited from engaging in abusive, deceptive, an unfair debt collection efforts, including, but not limited to:

- i. the use or threat of violence;
- ii. the use of obscene or profane language; and
- iii. repeated phone calls made with the intent to annoy, abuse, or harass.

(2) If a creditor or debt collector receives a money judgment against you in court, state and federal laws may prevent the following types of income from being taken to pay the debt:

1. Supplemental security income, (SSI);
2. Social security;
3. Public assistance (welfare);
4. Spousal support, maintenance (alimony) or child support;
5. Unemployment benefits;
6. Disability benefits;
7. Workers' compensation benefits;
8. Public or private pensions;
9. Veterans' benefits;
10. Federal student loans, federal student grants, and federal work study funds; and
11. Ninety percent of your wages or salary earned in the last sixty days.

TO THE DEFENDANTS, except Brenda O. Jones, Temicka L. Jones, and Douglas Draygoh: The Plaintiff makes no personal claim against you in this action.

TO THE DEFENDANTS: Brenda O. Jones, Temicka L. Jones, and Douglas Draygoh: If you have obtained an order of discharge from the Bankruptcy court, which includes this debt, and you have not reaffirmed your liability for this debt, this law firm is not alleging that you have any personal liability for this debt and does not seek a money judgment against you. Even if a discharge has been obtained, this lawsuit to foreclose the mortgage will continue and we will seek a judgment authorizing the sale of the mortgaged premises.

Dated:

Sandy J. Stolar, Esq.,
 Margolin, Weinreb & Nierer, LLP, Attorneys for Plaintiff
 165 Eileen Way, Suite 101, Syosset, New York 11791-516-921-3838
 #101810

constant campaigning, reduce the cost of administering elections, and align with the standard set by a majority of New York State county legislative bodies, which already have four-year terms.

“Chairman Vedat Gashi (D-New Castle, Ossining, Somers, Yorktown) said, “By extending the length of Legislators’ terms, we’re saving taxpayer dollars by allowing us to hold fewer elections and creating a more effective and efficient system to serve the needs of today’s voters so that Legislators can focus on the work they were elected to do, rather than constantly campaigning. I’ve spoken to voters throughout the County from Yorktown to Yonkers, and they’ve all told me the same thing – they want us to focus on policy, not politics – and this proposal allows us to do that.”

Key Benefits of Four-Year Terms

Cost Savings for Taxpayers:

Elections can be costly — for both candidates and taxpayers. And the cost of elections continues to increase. This proposal is expected to significantly reduce the financial burden of administering elections, allowing public funds to be redirected to essential services.

Reduced Campaigning:

A four-year term will enable Legislators to spend less time fundraising and campaigning, resulting in fewer campaign mailings, campaign phone calls, and other messaging to residents. This shift will allow Legislators to dedicate more time to legislative work and community engagement.

Delivering Results:

A single legislative proposal can take several months or even years to develop. A four-year term will enable County Legislators to oversee the implementation of their enacted policies. It would also help ensure that County funds secured for a specific project are used in a timely fashion and for their intended purpose, allowing for more thoughtful and impactful legislation.

Expertise and Experience:

Legislative issues are often intricate and multifaceted. A four-year term gives Legislators the time to develop the expertise required to address these challenges effectively.

If Proposition 2 does not pass, Legislators will run for office in 2025, 2026, and 2028 (due to the new state election schedule). If Proposition 2 does pass, Legislators will run in 2025 and then again in 2028 (due to the new state election schedule).

As part of this proposal, a mandatory referendum is required to allow Westchester voters to approve this change.

Co-sponsor of this proposal, Minority Legislator Margaret Cunzio (C -North Castle, Mount Pleasant, Sleepy Hollow, Harrison) said, “This proposal enjoys true-partisan support – tripartisan if you consider that I am a proud member of the Conservative party. We all believe that this proposal will not only improve the efficiency of our government but will also enhance the quality of representation our constituents deserve. We will still have our term limits in place and this does not change that. We encourage voters to approve this initiative, which aims to enhance our efforts on the issues that matter most to our community.”

Co-sponsor Legislator Benjamin Boykin (D-White Plains, Scarsdale, West Harrison), who was recently elected as President of the New York State Association of Counties (NYSAC), said, “Over 70% of the counties across New York State have already moved on to longer terms. It is a common-sense piece of legislation. By adopting this change, Westchester will align itself with surrounding counties and empower Legislators to address pressing community issues with the time and attention they deserve.” *continued top right*

Yonkers resident Debbie Kozak, who ran for County Board in District 16 last year, opposes the measure. She writes

“PROP TWO – Don’t Let Them Get Away with It: Vote NO! With Westchesterites distracted by vacations and other activities these past few months our County Legislators managed to cook up and quietly push through a ‘tri-partisan’ plan to double their terms of office from two to four years.

Upon County Exec George Latimer’s signature that change to be known as Prop Two, sets up a second outrageous proposal on the Nov. 5 ballot that we citizen-taxpayers have neither asked for nor know very much about. (The first was the even more obnoxious Prop One, or phony Equal Rights Amendment – to which we’ve already recommended voters deliver a resounding ‘HELL NO’ and therefore need not address here.)

“Should individuals serving in the position of Westchester County Legislator serve four-year terms instead of two-year terms?” is what Prop Two asks – to which the only logical answer must also be a resounding NO, and here are the reasons why:

The 17-member Board of Legislators maintains that changing term lengths will “substantially decrease taxpayer expenditures on election coordination and administration” and “redirect the funds towards critical priorities such as public safety, infrastructure investments and vital social services.”

Sounds great, right? But there’s little to no hard projectable evidence that any ‘savings’ to be had by changing 17 Legislators’ term lengths so they don’t have to run for office will affect such objectives in any measurable way.

As taxpayers we should expect a thoroughgoing cost-saving analysis to support any such high-minded assertions. None has been done, and it’s my belief that if one had, the result wouldn’t be nearly as positive as is claimed.

Furthermore, the County Board of Elections would and will, as always, remain open for business during election periods even if and as the Legislator’s terms were to be changed, as primary and general elections always have and always will take place year after year after year.

And it’s the County Executive, not the Legislators, who administers those funds. Using the description of critical priorities to describe such broad generalizations as “public safety, infrastructure investments and social services” is nothing more than yet another SILLY WORD SALAD to scare readers into thinking that if they vote against this proposal monies for such priorities will decrease.

Yes, as civil rights attorney Bobbie Ann Cox is wont to say, ‘They think we’re stupid.’ And yes, they really do. Never has a County Executive, nor a Legislature, to our knowledge, admitted publicly to any ‘under-funding’ of these or other ‘priorities.’

We know this because, dontcha know, they all campaign on how so wonderfully well they always manage to plan, pass and fund their annual budgets.

One claim is that fewer elections would afford voters ‘the power to concentrate (on issues) rather than election activities.’ Huh? Another is that fewer election/longer terms will somehow “save on the cutting down of trees as paper for posters, palm cards and yard signs.”

Really, Legislators should get two additional years to save on campaign literature? Seriously, neither seems to be of credible benefit to taxpayers.

SIMPLE TRUTH 1: Two-year terms keep politicians more accountable and in line with what their constituents want. PERIOD.

Some additional FACTS the BOL hasn’t bothered to highlight: Legislators are not limited to six two-year terms. They’re limited to six consecutive two-year terms. What does that mean? If, for example, a Legislator is elected to five two-year terms (10 years), and then takes a term (or multiple) off, and gets reelected— the six consecutive two-year term clock re-starts. No big deal? Wrong!

Once a Legislator works 10 years, he/she qualifies for a county pension, and each year their pension increases by a certain percentage. Their base salary is \$75,000 plus they get additional monies for leadership positions and stipend(s) for being Chairmen of Special and Standing Committees, putting an annual part-time job salary at close to a respectable \$90,000.

Legislators with other county and/or municipal jobs accrue larger pensions – all of which is paid out by the taxpayers as fringe benefits. In 2023 the WC budget for employee fringe benefits exploded from the previous year by \$12 million (12.5%) to over \$192 million.

SIMPLE TRUTH 2: Prop Two does not benefit the citizen-taxpayers, it benefits politicians. Were they truly interested in decreasing expenditures, they could propose doubling the size of their constituency, cutting their number by half, and/or limiting total service to eight years.

FINAL FACT: Elected officials work for taxpayers, not the other way around. **CONCLUSION:** When you’ve finished voting for candidates for office on Nov. 5, flip the ballot over and cast a resounding NO vote to both Proposition One AND Proposition Two – because We’re Not Stupid.

OPINION by Debbie Kozak, President, John P. O’Leary NW Yonkers Republican Club and 2023 Republican Candidate Westchester County Legislator District 16 (Yonkers). For more info about the NWYR club go to www.Deb4Westchester.com

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DECLARATION OF LAND PATENT

LAND PATENT #: awarded to Caleb Heathcote, Joseph Theale, John Horton and others, dated the seventeenth day of February, 1701

KNOW ALL MEN AND WOMEN BY THESE PRESENTS, that I, Alena Karakova, BEING FIRST DULY SWORN AN OATH, deposes and says:

1. That, Alena Karakova, does certify and declare that I am "Assignee" in the LAND PATENT name above; That I have brought up said Land Patent in my name as it pertains to the land described below. The character of said property so claimed by patent, and legally described and referenced under the Patent listed above is:

All that certain plot, place or parcel of land, situate lying and being in the Town of North Castle, County of Westchester, State of New York, designated as Lot 6, as shown on a certain map entitled, "Amended Subdivision of Property prepared for Townsend Estates, LLC". Said map filed in the Westchester County Clerk's Office, Division of Land Records, October 13, 1999 as Map No.26435. Said Lot 6 being more particularly bounded and described as follows:

BEGINNING at a point formed by the intersection of the division line between Lot 5 and Lot 6 and the easterly boundary line of Stony Brook Place;
 THENCE easterly along said division line between Lot 5 and Lot 6, the following three courses and distances:
 South 75 degrees 50 minutes 56 seconds East 94.88 feet;
 North 87 degrees 23 minutes 18 seconds East 291.03 feet;
 North 72 degrees 21 minutes 57 seconds East 240.05 feet to lands now or formerly of Manganiello;
 THENCE southerly generally along the centerline of stone wall and along lands now or formerly of Manganiello, South 10 degrees 09 minutes 30 seconds West 67.00 feet;
 THENCE southerly continuing along said stone wall and along the division line between Lot 6 and Lot 7 as shown on said filed map, South 19 degrees 30 minutes 53 seconds West 392.94 feet to the division line between Lot 5 and Lot 7 as shown on said filed map;
 THENCE westerly along said division line between Lot 6 and 7, North 60 degrees 24 minutes 45 seconds West 532.37 feet;
 THENCE North 31 degrees 44 minutes 18 seconds West 72.41 feet to the easterly boundary line of Stony Brook Place;
 THENCE northerly along said easterly boundary line of Stony Brook Place on a curve bearing to the left having a radius of 55.00 feet and an arc length of 56.55 feet to the point or place of BEGINNING.

- That, Alena Karakova, is domiciled at 30-04 14th Street, Astoria, New York Republic USA NON-DOMESTIC. Unless otherwise stated, I have individual knowledge of the matters contained in this Declaration of Land Patent. I am fully competent to testify with respect to these matters.
- I, Alena Karakova, am an Assignee At Law and acceptor of that certain legally described portion of Land granted under the original certified LAND PATENT, which is duly authorized to be executed in pursuance of the supremacy of treaty law, citation and constitutional mandate, herein referenced, whereupon a duly authenticated true and correct lawful description, together with all hereditaments, tenements and pre-emptive rights arising.
- No claim is made herein, that I have been assigned the entire tract of land as described in the original patent. My assignment is inclusive of only the attached lawful description. The publishing of this DECLARATION OF LAND PATENT shall not deny or infringe on any right, privilege, or immunity of any other Heir or Assignee to any other portion of land covered in the above described patent.
- If this duly certified LAND PATENT is not challenged by a lawfully qualified party having a claim, lien, debt or other equitable interest in a court at law within sixty (60) days from the date of publishing and NOTICE, then the above described property shall become the allodial freehold of the Assignee or said Patent, the LAND PATENT

shall be considered henceforth perfected in my name, and all future claims against this land shall be forever waived.

- When a lawfully qualified sovereign State National natural person has a claim to title and is challenged, the court of competent original and exclusive jurisdiction is the Common law supreme court (Article III). Any action against a Patent by a corporate State or their respective statutory, legislative units (i.e., courts) would be an action AT Law which is outside the venue and jurisdiction of these Article I courts. There is no AT Law issue contained herein which may be heard in any of the State courts (Article I), nor can any court of Equity (Admiralty/Military set aside, annul, or correct a LAND PATENT).
- Therefore, said land remains unencumbered, free and clear, and without liens or lawfully attached in any way, and is hereby declared to be private land and private property, not subjected to any commercial forums (e.g., U.C.C.) whatsoever.
- Additionally, a Common Law courtesy of sixty (60) days is stipulated for any challenges hereto, otherwise, laches or estoppel shall forever bar the same against said ALLODIAL freehold estate; assessment lien theory to the contrary, notwithstanding. Therefore, said declaration, after sixty (60) days from date of publishing, if no challenges are brought forth and upheld, perfects ALLODIAL TITLE their name forever.

JURISDICTION

THE RECIPIENT HEREOF IS MANDATED by Article VI, §2 & 3, the 9th and 10th Amendments with reference to the 7th Amendment, enforced under Article III, §3, Clause 1, of the Constitution for the United States of America.

Pursuant to Title 28, USC §1746(1) and executed "without the United States," I affirm under penalty of perjury under the laws of the United States of America that the foregoing is true and correct, to the best of my belief and informed knowledge. And Further deponent saith not, I know affix my signature and official seal to all of the above affirmations with EXPLICIT RESERVATION OF ALL OF MY UNALIENABLE RIGHTS, WITHOUT PREJUDICE to any of those rights pursuant to U.C.C. 1-207 and U.C.C. 1-103.6

Respectfully,

By: 
 Alena Karakova
 Witness: 
 Svetlana Eliseicheva
 Witness: 
 Leni Goga

Notary Public as JURAT CERTIFICATE

NY State

Queens County The

United States of America

On September 16, 2024 date before me,

a Notary Public, personally appeared _____ who proved to me on the basis of satisfactory evidence to be the woman whose Name is subscribed to the within attached instrument and acknowledged to Me that she executed the same in her authorized capacity, And that by her autograph(s) on the instrument the woman executed, the instrument known as Declaration of
LAND PATENT

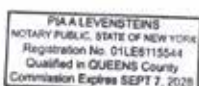
I certify under PENALTY OF PERJURY under the lawful laws of NY State that the foregoing paragraph is true and correct.

WITNESS my hand and official seal.

Signature 

of Notary / Jurat

seal



Habitat for Humanity ReStore Celebrates its 1 Year Anniversary in Yonkers



1ST ANNIVERSARY SALE
 470 Nepperhan Ave, Yonkers

20% OFF STOREWIDE

- family activities
- food & drinks
- live music

ADDITIONAL 10% OFF
*Valid on 100% off. Proceeds from sales go to Habitat for Humanity. Excludes 470 Nepperhan Ave. Yonkers, NY 10710.

Saturday Oct. 5 10am-5pm

Habitat NYC and Westchester will celebrate the 1st Anniversary of their flagship ReStore in Yonkers with storewide discounts, complimentary BBQ and drinks, and family-friendly activities alongside the local community, volunteers, customers, and local elected officials.

Habitat for Humanity New York City and Westchester County volunteers, staff and local community leaders will gather in Yonkers on Saturday for day-long festivities celebrating the 1-Year Anniversary of the nonprofit's flagship ReStore retail location at 470 Nepperhan Ave. Spanning 8,400-square-feet, this newest ReStore—the store that builds homes and reduces waste—features donated overstock and secondhand items for the home, such as furniture, appliances, art, home décor, and building materials, at 50 – 80% off their original retail prices. Proceeds from sales directly benefit Habitat's efforts to build and preserve affordable homes in the community.

The event will take place from 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., Saturday, October 5, 2024 at Habitat for Humanity NYC and Westchester ReStore 470 Nepperhan Avenue, Yonkers, NY 10710.

Yonkers Philharmonic Orchestra

Sponsored by Fine Arts Orchestral Society of Yonkers

Ariel Rudiakov – Music Director

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Saunders Trades and Technical High School
 183 Palmer Road, Yonkers, NY



HISPANIC HERITAGE CELEBRATION

- Concierto de Aranjuez* – Oren Fader, Guitar soloist – Joaquin Rodrigo (Spain)
- Libertango* – with two tango dancers – Astor Piazzolla (Argentina)
- Serenade for Strings* – Teresa Carreno (Venezuela)
- Bachianas Brazileras No. 5* – Heitor Villa-Lobos (Brazil)
- Mission: Impossible* – Lalo Schiffrin (Argentina)
- La Noche de los Mayas* (Revueltas film score) – adapted by Jose Yves Limantour (Mexico)

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