

# Westchester Rising

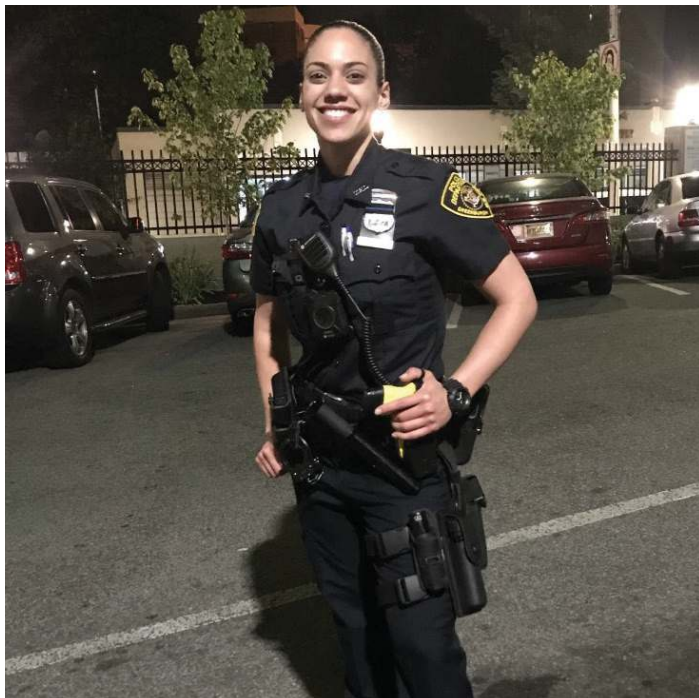
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Friday October 8, 2021

## Bisexual Greenburgh Cop Files Sexual Harassment Lawsuit



**Greenburgh  
Police  
Officer  
Kristin  
Stein**

By Dan Murphy

A bombshell lawsuit against the Town of Greenburgh, the Greenburgh Police Department, and 16 Greenburgh Police officers alleges a pattern of sexual harassment against Officer Kristin Stein.

The allegations in Stein's lawsuit include a sexual assault from a 2019 incident in the Greenburgh Police headquarters where Officer Stein was leaning over a table to collect pamphlets when police officer Jeff Cerone, "grinded against her rear, rammed himself into her backside with his genitals, then threw her towards the middle of the room", according to the lawsuit.

Several Greenburgh police officers are caught on a body cam recording laughing after the alleged sexual assault took place, but it does not show the actions of Cerone. One officer that was not laughing was Kristin Stein's brother, who was also a Greenburgh cop, and was in the room. The body cam was from police officer John Pilla, who had mistakenly turned it on during roll call.

Numerous other incidents of inappropriate texts, comments, sexual jokes, remarks, sexual solicitations, negative work assignments, silent treatment, uninvited sexual attention, displaying pornographic photos, are all alleged in the suit, filed in Federal Court in White Plains this summer.

Kristin Stein was born in Greenburgh, went to the Ardsley schools, and comes from a family of police officers. Become a cop in her hometown was like a dream come true when she was appointed in 2017.

"Both of my parents are retired NYPD. My uncle, and godmother and lots of family and friends were police officer. And my brother is a police officer. It runs in the family, its hereditary. I looked up to my family and wanted to become a police officer since I was five years old. There was no pressure to do so from my parents, but they were extremely proud when it happened," said Stein, who said that she was harassed for more than one

*continued on pg 7-*

## SOS Claims Victory as Lakeland School Board Accepts Superintendent Lyons Resignation



"Today's announcement must be a wake up call for school administrators across Westchest, namely that parents will not stand by as their children are taught to hate America and hate one another by viewing their fellow students as oppressors or oppressed,"

**-Save Our Schools  
Westchester Founder  
Angela Barone-Sculti**

**Dr. Brendan Lyons, left**

By Dan Murphy --Yorktown for Justice Response on pg 3-

Whenever a Schools Superintendent tenders their resignation in October, just one month into a school year, barring a medical or other personal emergency, red flags are raised. The announcement on Oct. 2 that Lakeland Superintendent Dr. Brendan Lyons was resigning, and that his resignation was accepted by a 7-2 vote of the Board of Education has many parents and staff in the Lakeland School District asking why? Lyons was hired 14 months ago in 2020.

"This morning, the Board accepted Dr. Brendan Lyons' resignation at a Board of Education Special Meeting. Dr. Lyons' departure is amicable. We thank him for his service to the District and wish him much success in his future endeavors. As noted in the minutes of the District's Annual Organizational Meeting (held on July 8, 2021), Dr. Karen Gagliardi will assume the role of Acting Superintendent of Schools until an Interim Superintendent is appointed. We anticipate that an appointment may be made as soon as the next Board of Education meeting, to be held on Thursday, October 7, 2021.

"We trust that our Lakeland community will work together to make this time of transition as seamless as possible for everyone. Our focus is, and will always be, the well-being of the children of this district. We will keep the school community informed about our decision-making as we move forward," wrote the School Board in a joint statement.

Dr. Lyons statement reads, "It has been with great pride that I have served as your Superintendent these past 14 months, as we navigated the ups and downs of the pandemic. I couldn't be prouder of our community working together to ensure a full return to in-person learning this September."

"Nevertheless, I must inform you that I will be leaving Lakeland, effective September 30, to tend to family matters and pursue other opportunities. Whatever the future may hold, please remain unified in service to the children of Lakeland. I wish you all the best," stated Lyons.

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## Republicans Look to Maintain Majorities in Eastchester, Harrison and Yorktown

*County Executive Latimer Expected to Help Local democrats*



**Yorktown Supervisor Matt Slater, left, and Eastchester Supervisor Tony Colavita, right, are Westchester's two top republican office holders**

With Harrison Supervisor Ron Belmont retiring, and not running for re-election this year, the two remaining popular republicans in Westchester County are Eastchester Supervisor Tony Colavita and Yorktown Supervisor Matt Slater.

Colavita is the long service Supervisor in Eastchester, while Slater is finishing his first two year term as Supervisor in Yorktown. And both republicans serve in two of the most republican heavy towns in Westchester. Colavita has opposition in his bid for re-election Nov. 2, in Democrat John Eickemeyer.

Slater has no opposition in his re-election bid, with Yorktown democrats having mixed views about running a candidate against the popular Slater. Some believed that by not running a candidate for Supervisor, fewer republicans would come out to vote for Slater, and for the town board and county board races in Yorktown.

Others believed that democrats should have run a candidate against Slater, with one Westchester democrat telling us, "If you leave an office like Supervisor empty, it shows weakness in your party. Plus Slater is a rising star and you always want to put someone in the ring against him." Slater is rumored to be considering a run for Assembly, if Assemblyman Kevin Byrne runs for Putnam County Executive, or for Westchester County Executive in four years. "Slater is the #1 Republican in Westchester, no doubt about it," said one county republican.

Eastchester Supervisor Tony Colavita has done the impossible in today's political climate. He has remained a popular and effective leader. He is respected and appreciated for his leadership over the town, and has found a balance between controlling spending in the Town's budget in a community that has among the highest property taxes in the county for many homes on smaller property lots, while at the same time maintaining the services that these same residents and taxpayers expect.

The Eastchester Town Board is the only local government in Westchester that has all republican members, Colavita and the Eastchester GOP

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## Diverse Slate of State Supreme Court Democratic Candidates Set to Make History



**L-R-Tom Davis, James Hyer, Judge Christine D'Alessio, Judge Tom Quinones**

By Dan Murphy

One of the choices that Westchester voters will make on Nov. 2 and in early voting, will be to elect five members of the NYS Supreme Court from the 9th Judicial District, which includes Westchester, Putnam, Rockland, Orange and Dutchess Counties.

This year's slate of democratic State Supreme Court candidates comprises a diverse group that if elected, will make history. Three of the five democratic judicial candidates are from Westchester. They are: Yonkers City Court Judge Tom Quinones, Greenburgh Town Justice Christie D'Alessio and attorney James Hyer. Rounding out the ticket are Dutchess County attorney Tom Davis and incumbent State Supreme Court Judge Robert Berliner.

Yonkers City Court Judge Tom Quinones is seeking to become the first Hispanic Judge elected to the State Supreme Court from Westchester. First elected to the Yonkers City Court in 2016, Judge Quinones has presided over one of the busiest local courtrooms in Westchester for the past five years.

Prior to sitting on the Yonkers Court, Quinones served for 20 years as a Family Court Magistrate in NY County, where he presided over court proceedings including determinations of support, both contested and uncontested paternity proceedings, and other family court matters.

Judge Quinones also served as a Chief Hearing Examiner for the New York City Department of Health, giving him four decades of service to the

*continued on pg 7-*

## Lost Baroque Masterpiece on Display at Iona College



*A painting attributed to Cesare Dandini is on display at Iona College's Ryan Library.*

A Baroque painting considered lost to art history for more than 50 years is on exhibit at Iona College through December. A sharp-eyed art historian, Iona College visual arts professor Thomas Ruggio, knew that a painting of the Holy Family with the infant St. John was a 17th-century Italian Baroque work when he visited the Church of the Holy Family, which is two blocks from Iona College's campus.

"I'm used to wandering into churches and I find it very peaceful. I was there at least three times before I noticed the painting one day when the lights were on brightly," said Ruggio, whose scholarly research includes the history and techniques of old Italian masters. "I knew it was a 17th-century painting. It's something you expect to find in Italy, but it was really out of place in a church in New York."

After conferring with fellow scholars in Italy and at the Metropolitan Museum of Art, Cesare Dandini was identified as the artist. The painting is connected to at least three other paintings by Dandini, including work in the Metropolitan Museum of Art and in the Hermitage Museum.

Dandini was part of a family of painters living and working in Florence during the Baroque period. Dandini lived from 1596 to 1657. Dandini worked and studied with the artists Francesco Curradi, Cristofano Allori, and Domenico Passignano, and made his own reputation as one of the best Italian painters of the 17th century.

The painting was possibly purchased in Rome by Monsignor Charles Fitzgerald to commemorate the 50th anniversary of the Church of the Holy Family. The painting was long considered lost to the world of art history and the congregation did not know that they had a Dandini work in their possession.

"Cesare Dandini's Holy Family with the Infant St. John: A Rediscovered Florentine Baroque Masterpiece" is an exhibition curated by Professor Ruggio at Iona College's Ryan Library. The exhibition focuses on the painting, as well as information about the artist's life and development, to help tell the story of a creative journey and process that took place in Florence, Italy, during the 1600s.

This free exhibition is open to the public for viewing in Iona's Ryan Library from 9 a.m. to 7 p.m. daily. The Ryan Library is located at 715 North Avenue, New Rochelle. The news of the painting's rediscovery received international coverage.

## Pumpkin Picking Fundraiser at Muscoot Farm



Put on your favorite fall sweater and bring your loved ones to Muscoot Farm for pumpkin picking and hay rides at its Pumpkin Picking Fundraiser, Saturday through Monday, Oct. 9 through 11, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Hayrides return this year and are \$5 per person, ages 3 and under are free; cash only. Face masks required on hayride. Admission to the event is free, registration is required for 30-minute timeslots in the pumpkin patch: <https://westchestercountyparks.eventbrite.com/>. Last admission and hay ride is 3 p.m. Pumpkin prices vary by size. Credit card accepted.

Westchester County Executive George Latimer said, "Fall in Westchester is such a beautiful time of year and Muscoot Farm is a great place to celebrate the season with friends and family."

Westchester County Parks Commissioner Kathy O'Connor said, "The annual pumpkin picking event is a beloved Westchester tradition and we're excited to have the hayrides return safely this year."

While you're there, you will be able to visit the animals, but the trails will be closed all weekend. On Saturday and Sunday, Oct. 9 and 10, you can also visit the Muscoot Farm art show located in the Main House first floor gallery, featuring October artist Hudson River Potters and the Farmers Market will also be open Sunday, Oct. 10.

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 a Westchester County Park. 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](http://muscootfarm.org) or call (914) 864-7286.

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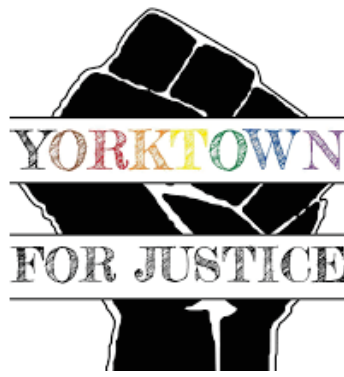
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## Yorktown for Justice Announces Continued Support for Diversity, Equity, & Inclusion in Lakeland School District



Yorktown for Justice (YFJ), a community group dedicated to advancing equity and justice for residents in Yorktown and beyond, reaffirms its support for the Diversity, Equity & Inclusion (DEI) initiative and committee formed by the Lakeland Central School District Board (LCSD) Board of Education (BOE). It also strongly urges the board and Acting Superintendent, Dr. Karen Gagliardi, to continue forward with the important work started under Superintendent Dr. Brendan Lyons' leadership.

"Due to Dr. Lyons' unexpected and unfortunate departure, combined with misguided opposition from some community members and organizations, we have serious concerns that the future of this necessary committee is in jeopardy," said Marisa Ragonese, YFJ Founder and DEI Committee Member. "The initial decision to pursue DEI work in the LCSD was because students and alumni shared their personal stories of discrimination in our schools. We must continue to move this committee forward - as many other neighboring districts are already doing - to ensure every single one of our students and staff feels supported and safe in our schools. We believe the existing programs in our schools are not achieving these goals, and that the various parent groups in opposition to DEI are spreading disinformation while playing politics with students' lives."

Dr. Lyons proposed the formation of the committee and the BOE approved it, appointing Dr. Gess LeBlanc, Associate Professor of Developmental and Educational Psychology, Hunter College, to moderate. Dr. LeBlanc has been a consultant in the district doing similar work at Copper Beech Middle School and is a trusted resource familiar with the LCSD community. The committee consists of approximately 30 members including parents, students, teachers, support staff, administrators, and board members. They identified four areas of focus: School Climate, Curriculum, Professional Development, and Staff Diversity.

Despite reports to the contrary, the committee has made extremely modest progress since being formed and has made no changes to the curriculum.

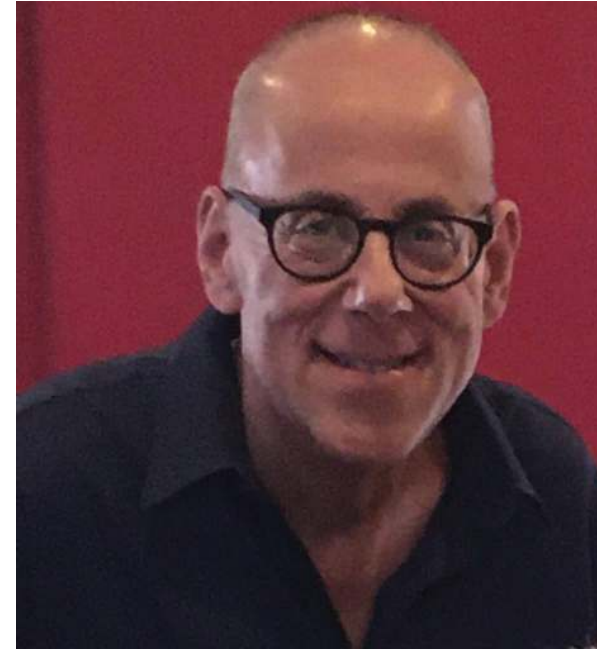
To date, the committee has met four times and presented its goals at the June 10, 2021 board meeting. The immediate next step would be to collect data that paints a picture of school climate in order to identify areas for improvement.

Many neighboring districts recognize the importance of DEI in helping students navigate their current environment while preparing them for the future. Carmel, Katonah-Lewisboro, Mahopac and Yorktown are continuing with their DEI committees and student/club initiatives at all levels.

"It's unfortunate that a positive initiative that supports the district's mission and core beliefs has been maligned by detractors as something harmful to our students when it was developed to be the exact opposite," added Joe Ascanio, YFJ Member. "Our district educators are not going to hurt or shame children, as some have suggested. That claim is simply untrue at best, and a blatant lie at worst. If the majority of the public allowed the committee to further lay out its goals and plans, they would not just support but embrace its work."

About Yorktown for Justice Yorktown for Justice brings together residents and neighbors to work collaboratively towards equity and justice in the community through education, advocacy and activism. The group partners with a range of community organizations including town government, Yorktown Police Department, Parks and Recreation, event planning groups, and both the Yorktown and Lakeland Boards of Education. Yorktown for Justice welcomes thoughtful and respectful discussion. Be willing to learn — and be willing to teach. Visit us at: [yorktownforjustice.org](http://yorktownforjustice.org).

## Wait A Minute Mr. Postman!



By Eric W. Schoen

Remember the good old days at the United States Postal Service, USPS. Mail men and woman would deliver the mail neatly dressed in their uniforms. You knew their name. You knew approximately what time they would arrive. The only deviation would be on the one day your mail person had off. If you went on vacation the mail person would bring your mail to your home or apartment the day you returned.

If you lived in an apartment building you didn't need to have your mail addressed to you with an apartment number. You didn't know the zip code you were sending your letter to. Someone at the post office would look it up and add it. If you got a package the mail person would ring your doorbell vs. just leaving the package at your door with no knock. The mail person would go out of their way to leave your package with a neighbor so it wouldn't sit on the porch or at your apartment door.

So what happened? Try leaving off the zip code. Return. Try leaving office the apartment number. Return. Package, thrown at your door with no knock to see if you are home. Yep. Left with a neighbor? Fat chance.

Other than at the Post Office, chances are the person delivering your mail is not in regulation uniform. Probably has a head set or ear buds listening to music. If you have a slot do you think that mail is going to be put in it. If it is half is probably sticking out. Perfect for criminals to get to.

I don't blame the mail carriers. I blame the supervisors. Try to reach a supervisor at the 10701 post office in Yonkers. Better chance of reaching the President. I've been told by other Post Office Supervisors that trying to reach anyone at the 10701 Post Office in the beautiful, old building in Getty Square on Main Street is an impossible task. I've experienced it myself. Only when you go in person and raise holy hell will you get a response.

This all started when 10-15 years ago the postal service tried to modernize bringing in young college graduates that knew nothing about mail delivery. The postal service years ago would promote from within. Now you have kids who have never delivered a piece of mail running the candy store.

And friends, sad to say it's going to get worse. Donald Trump got a majority on the Post Office Board of Directors and brought in some clown named Louis DeJoy, a businessman who knows nothing about the postal service. His mission given to him by President Trump was to make the post office self sufficient and cut wherever he could.

Now I'm not just blaming President Trump for this mess. I am blaming President Biden too. Biden obtained a majority of Board Members at the Postal Service but for some strange reason, unbeknownst to man DeJoy still sits in charge. DeJoy is universally hated by Democrats and Republicans. Remember, the Post Office is one of the few agencies that touches the lives of every America. We all get mail delivery, some more than others. And we want that mail delivered promptly. Much of it like bills and magazines and business documents is time sensitive.

Do we hear a peep out of the United States Senate to get rid of DeJoy? A peep from Congress to get rid of DeJoy? In Yiddish it's called bubkis (nothing). The internet is great, but it will never replace good mail service. The Congressman who represents Westchester, Jamaal Bowman is more concerned about Rikers Island than all of his constituents who rely on the mail. Some to get checks they live on, communications from beloved family members, packages in a COVID world where many are ordering over the internet.

Rikers Island has been a problem before Congressman Bowman even dreamed about running for Congress. Mayor deBlasio, not one of my favorite characters devised a plan to house those at Rikers Island in smaller jails in the neighborhoods where those being detained come from. Of course who wants a jail in their neighborhood? Congressman Bowman and his federal and state colleagues make believe that the conditions in Rikers Island developed overnight.

People who are incarcerated are innocent until proven guilty. That's the beauty of America. But in our society there are some people who do bad things. They must be taken off the streets. They deserve basic accommodations, three square meals, and rehabilitation so they don't do the same things over again. A timely hearing to determine their innocence or guilty.

Those who are guilty of serious crimes deserve serious jail time. The bail reform passed by the State Legislature several years ago is a disaster. Yonkers Mayor Mike Spano said it earlier this week in the pages of our daily newspaper. I've heard it said again and again by the same State officials that approved it. Meanwhile you have the District Attorney in Manhattan saying don't set high bail. Some officials say let those who have committed crimes leave Rikers Island. Something wrong with this picture. Wonder why businesses have not come back to New York. People are afraid of crime. Period!

*continued on pg 5-*

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

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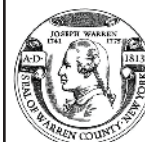
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## Screenings Under the Stars Drive in Movies Expanded



Pumpkin spice season brings an expanded drive-in movie line up to Westchester County Parks as Screenings Under the Stars, sponsored by White Plains Hospital, continues at Kensico Dam Plaza in Valhalla and Croton Point Park in Croton-on-Hudson.

Westchester County Executive George Latimer said, "Through the generosity of our partner, White Plains Hospital, we are delighted to extend the popular family-friendly, drive-in movie program into sweater weather. I am grateful for the support of our partners who make such programming a reality for the families of Westchester."

Commissioner of the Department of Parks, Recreation and Conservation Kathy O'Connor said: "There's no better way to spend a crisp, fall night than watching a fun Halloween movie with family and friends on the big screen. Thank you to our dedicated staff for making this event possible."

All movies will be held on Friday night after dark:--October 15 Goosebumps 2: Haunted Halloween PG (2018) at Kensico Dam Plaza, Valhalla

-October 22 Hocus Pocus PG (1993) at Croton Point Park, Croton-on-Hudson  
Gates open at 5:30 p.m., movies at dusk. Event is rain or shine. All movies will be ticketed-admission events, with purchase available by online pre-sale only. Tickets are \$25 per car and there will be limited capacity following distancing protocols. The ticket link will be listed at parks.westchestergov.com.

Tickets go on sale for Goosebumps 2: Haunted Halloween today, Wednesday, October 6, at 2 p.m. online at <https://www.showclix.com/event/screenings-2021>

Tickets go on sale for Hocus Pocus on Wednesday, October 13, at 2 p.m. online at <https://www.showclix.com/event/screenings-2021>.

### State Supreme Court Elections, continued from pg 1-

people of New York in the court system.

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

Assemblyman Nader Sayegh said, "This year we have a very special election for NYS Supreme Court Justice serving in Westchester County. Judge Thomas Quinones currently serves on the Yonkers City Court.

I have had the pleasure as an attorney to appear before Judge Quinones and I can attest to his compassion, leadership, awareness of the needs of many young men and women, problems that may arise as the result of other social issues, and I can tell you Judge Quinones is fair and someone who listens to all sides. Judge Quinones is able to make decisions that are in the best interests of law enforcement, best interests of social justice and each and every individual," said Sayegh. .

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

A respected jurist with a proven record of experience and integrity, Judge D'Alessio has served on the Greenburgh Town Court since 2018, where she has presided over criminal, civil and small claims matters, and youth court proceedings.

Judge D'Allesio has also served as an acting Judge in several local City and Village courts across Westchester, including of Yonkers, White Plains, Elmsford, Irvington, Larchmont, Sleepy Hollow, Tuckahoe and Mamaroneck.

A dedicated wife and mother of three, Judge D'Allesio is known as a Judge who renders justice to the people with compassion, fairness and common sense. "Raised in a modest blue-collar family, I have always followed my parents' example to work hard for opportunities. I have never forgotten my humble roots which keeps me grounded and drives me to serve the community with care. To make a timely decision backed by reason and compassion and rooted in law. This is my goal every single time I take the bench," said Judge D'Alessio.

Attorney James Hyer is currently the President of the Westchester County Bar Association. Hyer has also served as an Administrative Law Judge for the Westchester County Human Rights Commission, Corporate Counsel for the Legal Aid Society of Westchester, and a Hearing Officer for the WCBA Grievance Committee.

If elected to the bench, Hyer would be the first openly gay Judge on the State Supreme Court in the 9th JD.

Attorney Tom Davis has spent much of his life and legal career as an advocate for the disabled. He is a former trustee of the Down Syndrome Association of the Hudson Valley and is a member of the Executive Committee of Abilities First, Inc., a large not-for-profit agency providing residential, educational and rehabilitative services to the developmentally and intellectually disabled.

An-accomplished and respected Supreme Court practitioner, Davis brings 29 years of legal experience in complex cases as a trial attorney. A Dutchess County resident, Davis is a Fair minded attorney known for temperament that is suited to serving on the judiciary.

Through the course of his 29-years of practicing law, Tom has predominantly represented individuals, not corporations or institutions. His experience representing those who have come to the courts for justice has taught him that every person who appears in court deserves respect, compassion and fairness.

Also running on the democratic ticket is incumbent State Supreme Court Judge Robert Berliner. Judge Berliner was elected to serve as a Justice of the State Supreme Court in the 9th Judicial District since 2008. Berliner, who lives in Rockland with his wife Fran of 45 years, 2 children and 3 grandchildren

Prior to his election to Supreme Court, Justice Berliner served in the Rockland County surrogates court and foreclosure court, and in the Westchester Country Matrimonial part.

Berliner brings the experience of serving on the Supreme Court for the past thirteen years, where he has distinguished himself as a fair, even handed Justice.

The Republican candidates for State Supreme Court in the 9th JD are, Rich Guertin, James Hendry III, and Mark Starkman. Tom Davis is running on both party lines.

Early voting starts on October 23 and the last day to register and vote in Oct. 8.

## Westchester County Veterans Service Agency Member Dan Griffin Honored



Dan Griffin, photo by Robert Kalfus

Westchester County Executive George Latimer is honored to share that Dan Griffin of the Westchester County Service Agency, a Veteran himself, was honored earlier this month by the New York State American Legion as a Service Officer of the Year.

Latimer said: "During this past year and a half, Dan – like so many County employees – stepped up to show what true public service is. The job of the Veteran Service Agency is no easy task, and during a pandemic matters were complicated greatly. But Dan's work earned that award and the County is proud of him for it. Dan served his Country admirably and now as a Veteran does the same for our County. Join me in thanking Dan for his service."

The New York State American Legion Chapter is part of the greater network of American Legions, the nation's largest wartime veteran's organization. It was chartered and incorporated by Congress in 1919 as a patriotic veterans organization devoted to mutual helpfulness.

Griffin said: "This is an honor I am proud to receive, but I am even prouder of the work done by our office to assist Westchester County's Veteran population. Westchester has a proud tradition of service honoring and assisting our Vets and we are honored to continue that legacy."

The Westchester County Veterans Service Agency works year-round to ensure that veterans and their dependents receive the maximum benefits from the federal Department of Veterans Affairs and other agencies at all levels of government. Veteran Service Agency Director Ron Tocci said: "Dan is a dedicated public servant as he was a dedicated service member. This award is a testament to that steadfast dedication."

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## RXR Realty's Recycled Computer Kits Aid Hurricane Ida Flood Victims



**Flood victims receive free computer replacements at The STEM Alliance's distribution site in Mamaroneck, NY. Photo by Philippa Wharton,**

RXR Realty (RXR), a leading real estate owner, operator, and developer in the New York Tri-State area, provided recycled computer kits to flood victims this past Sunday, September 27, in a continuing effort to bridge the digital divide for some of Westchester County's most vulnerable residents who were disproportionately impacted by the flooding brought on by Hurricane Ida.

The distribution, led by The STEM Alliance in partnership with the Westchester Library System, provided 36 individuals with refurbished mini towers, new screens, webcams, and keyboards. Abigail Hernandez, a STEM Alliance Program Assistant from Mamaroneck coordinated the distribution. "Families expressed their gratitude," she said. "Their kids are returning to school, and they need these devices to complete assignments and access Google Classroom. These computers will also help parents stay connected with teachers."

With education ever more reliant on digital connectivity, RXR is committed to improving access to digital tools that make it possible for all students to be successful. The STEM Alliance conducted this work as part of their Digital Equity Now initiative which is working to ensure all Westchester homes have one-to-one device access for all family members.

While connectivity and computer access was a challenge for low income residents prior to Ida, the storm destroyed many devices making it even harder for families to stay connected for school, work and more. With the demand for devices even more pressing, The STEM Alliance and Westchester Library systems -- both nonprofit organizations -- are committed to continuing this critical work.

The RXR Digital Equity Device Recycling Initiative was designed to smartly recycle previously owned corporate computers and redistribute them to families without personal computers. The most recent distribution was the final phase of an RXR Realty donation that brought over 100 recycled computer kits to low-income residents across the County in 2021.

For more info: [www.theSTEMalliance.org](http://www.theSTEMalliance.org)

## Larchmont-Mamaroneck Lions Host Community Service Fair

The LM Lions hosted the first ever Community Service Fair on September 25th at the entrance if the Hommocks Rink. Many of the local service organizations took part in the Fair, giving the community the opportunity to learn about the service/volunteer opportunities that exist in their area of interest and how they can help.

Beyond unique Lion projects dedicated to eye health and the International Lions Peace Poster Contest for middle schoolers, the LM Lions goal is identifying community needs, and supporting the organizations who are addressing them. With this LM Lions objective in mind, the Fair also provided the opportunity for the individual organizations to connect, share ideas and determine how to provide mutual support.

Participating organizations included: At Home on the Sound, Community Resource Center, CURE, Fuller Center, Girl Scouts of Larchmont Mamaroneck, Junior League of Westchester on the Sound, Larchmont Avenue Church, Larchmont Environmental Committee, Larchmont Mamaroneck Hunger Task Force, Larchmont Mamaroneck Lions Club, Larchmont Mamaroneck Pollinator Pathways, LMC Media, Mamaroneck Historical Society, Mott Haven Fridge Network, Philanthropic Educational Organization (P.E.O.), Sheldrake Environmental Center, South East Consortium, St Augustines, St. Johns, STEM Alliance, Town of Mamaroneck, Washingtonville Housing Alliance and Village of Mamaroneck. Visit [lmlionsclub.org](http://lmlionsclub.org), for more information.

## SPCA Welcomes 21 Dogs Flown in for Adoption



SPCA Westchester welcomed 21 homeless dogs and puppies who were flown to Westchester Airport in partnership with Windy Ridge Rescue in South Carolina by animal rescue nonprofit group Amelia Air Animal Rescue. A plane carrying the dogs touched down at Ross Aviation West at the Westchester Airport on Saturday, October 2nd, pictured above.

A major missing link for many rural, often over-crowded shelters across the country is the ability to transport dogs and cats to more populated areas where larger numbers of potential adopters live. Amelia Air provides that missing link by offering compassionate air transport to deliver animals directly to Rescue and Adoption Centers who can find them loving, responsible homes.

Amelia Air Animal Rescue was co-founded by Petra Janney, niece of Academy Award winner, Allison Janney.

These 21 beautiful babies will all be available for adoption soon; we look forward to flying more missions with @spcawestchester, who recently opened a stunning new state-of-the-art facility in Briarcliff! Now its up to you to connect with the SPCA of Westchester to adopt one of these dogs. Visit [spcawestchester.org](http://spcawestchester.org) for more information.

*Eric Schoen, continued from pg 3-*

If you were to ask people in Yonkers, the second largest city in Congressman Bowman's district, the city where he lives what's more important to them, the quality of their mail service or the state of Rikers Island, I bet over half would not know what Rikers Island was. The Congressman is my neighbor in the Park Hill Section of Yonkers. People are upset about the lousy mail service we get. I speak to a broad spectrum of people in Congressman Bowman's district and very few have positive things to say about the United States Post Office.

President Biden has a majority on the United States Postal Service Board and can't get rid of DeJoy? And we wonder why we had the fiasco in Afghanistan? But I blame the postal service mess not only on Biden but on our United States Senators and Congressman who are allowing this debacle to happen.

DeJoy's plan. Examine and possibly raise postal rates twice a year. You can expect mail being delivered 140 or fewer miles to be delivered within two days. Within three days for mail traveling between 140 and 930 miles. Four days for mail traveling between 930 and 1,907 miles. And within five days for mail traveling longer distances. All increases over the current delivery time frame.

The increased time stems from a change that moves more mail delivery to roads and out of planes. About 20% of first-class mail was previously transported by air, but USPS said just 12% of mail will be sent by plane under the new changes. To be honest I view these time increases as a gift from DeJoy to Federal Express, United Parcel Service and other private services who will deliver the mail faster for a higher price. And provide campaign cash to DeJoy's supporters.

Something I never understood. A piece of standard 1 ounce mail from Yonkers to White Plains costs the same as the same piece of mail from Yonkers to California. This makes absolutely no sense. The transportation costs from Yonkers to California certainly are greater than the cost from Yonkers to White Plains. A package traveling the same distance costs more, why not a piece of plain 1 ounce mail. Has anyone every studied that? Good way to raise funds to keep mail travel times from changing.

Our friends who represent us in Washington, D.C. from the President on down have a lot of explaining to do how they let the once proud United States Postal Service go to shambles.

"Neither snow nor rain nor heat nor gloom of night stays these couriers from the swift completion of their appointed rounds" is emblazoned on the main Post Office in New York City. Is that true anymore?

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

### Leave Opening Fallsburg School District Mathematics Teacher

Fallsburg Jr/Sr High School is seeking a qualified math teacher to fill a high school leave replacement vacancy available immediately through Nov 29, 2021. Candidates from all New York regions are encouraged to apply as this position can be taught virtually from a remote setting. An experienced candidate may perform all duties of the job virtually through synchronous teaching. Salary: \$105 to \$125 per day, increases to \$250 per day after 10 days. NYS 7-12 Cert. Required

Please forward resume & Fallsburg's application (located at [fallsburgcsd.net](http://fallsburgcsd.net)) by Oct 11th To [fallsburg-recruitment@scbores.org](mailto:fallsburg-recruitment@scbores.org) Attn: Math Teacher position EOE

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**TOWN OF EASTCHESTER LEGAL NOTICE**

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that the Supervisor and the Town Board of the Town of Eastchester, will hold a public hearing at the Town Hall, 40 Mill Road, Eastchester, New York on **TUESDAY, OCTOBER 19, 2021, at 8:00 o'clock p.m.,** to consider the adoption of a local law providing for the amendment of LOCAL LAW NO. 3 – 2000, The Vehicle And Traffic Code Of The Town Of Eastchester, Article II, Traffic Regulations, Section 2-9: Sub-Section 8-9, Schedule IX: Stop Intersections, in the unincorporated area of the Town of Eastchester. A copy of the proposed local law is available in the Town Clerk's office.

All interested parties are urged to attend this hearing, at which time, they will be given an opportunity to express their opinion for or against the above proposed local law.

BY THE ORDER OF THE SUPERVISOR AND THE TOWN BOARD OF THE TOWN OF EASTCHESTER, NEW YORK  
 LINDA DOHERTY TOWN CLERK

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

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

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

**Election Preview in three Westchester Town's cont. from pg 1-**

their slate of candidates, Town Board members Luigi Marcoccia, and Theresa Nicholson. Democrats continue to make headway in Eastchester but have a long way to go. The two democratic candidates for Town Board are Eileen DeLucia, and Niamh Hartnett Merluccio.

In Yorktown, democrats are running xx candidates for town board. Democrats are running Councilman Vishnu Patel and Lanny Gilbert for Town Board, Republicans are running Sergio Esposito and Luciana Haughwout. The outcome of this election will determine who holds a majority on the Town Board.

Harrison is the other Westchester town with a large number of republican residents and voters. But like the rest of the county, more democrats are moving in and more republicans are moving out. Without Mayor-Supervisor Ron Belmont at the top of the ticket, anything can happen this election.

Harrison republicans are running Town Councilman Rich Dionisio for Supervisor, and Liz Brown and Gina Evangelista for Town Council.

Democrats are running Town Councilman Frank Gordon for Supervisor and Rachel Berkey and Adam Weiner for Town Council.

The wildcard in the local races will be the race for county executive, between democrat George Latimer and republican Christine Sculti. Democrats see the possibility of a similar election result to 2017 when Latiimer beat Rob Astorino by 14 points in a "Blue Wave" of anti-Trump, democratic support.

Some predict a Latimer landslide of more than 20 points, but opinions are mixed as to what result a big Latimer win will have on the local races for Supervisor and Town Board.

Republicans think that there will be a push back to the progressive initiatives happening across the country, including defunding the police, or the spending and borrowing of Trillions of dollars, or immigration. And that will hurt democrats and help republicans locally.

Eastchester Republican Party Chairman Lou Reda said, "From what I'm hearing not only republicans are upset about the progressive, far-left turn our country is taking, but also independents and moderate democrats in Eastchester. They are fed up with out of control spending, crime, Afghanistan, everything the democrats have touched is a disaster.

"Supervisor Colavita and the Town Board have done an outstanding job in keeping Eastchester affordable and providing great quality services, which make our Town a great place to raise your family," said Reda.

Democrats see challenges in Harrison, Yorktown and Eastchester, but feel comfortable with Latimer at the top of the ticket. "Can Latimer, with his popularity, provide coattails to candidates for county board and town council in those remaining republican strongholds. I would also include Lewisboro, where there is a competitive race for County Board, (District #2 republican Gina Arena vs democrat Erika Pierce in an open seat with Legislator Kitley Covill not running) and where Sculit is spending a lot of time," said one county democrat.

"We saw this four years ago, when Damon Maher beat Sheila Marcotte, and after Jim Maisano retired, a republican couldn't win his seat. Latimer's coattails will have a lot to do with some other county board races, in District #1, (Dem, Legislator Colin Smith vs republican Joe Torres), and in District #4, (Dem Legislator Vedat Gashi vs. republican Robert Brower). This will be a test of his coattails and what republicans have left," said a Westchester county democrat.

More on the Westchester Election of 2021 online, at YonkersTimes.com, and in the weeks to come.

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**Lakeland School Superintendent Resigns, continued from pg 1-****Greenburgh Cop, continued from pg 1-**

Lyons would not comment any further when asked by members of the press why he resigned. Speculation has focused on the recent debate in the Lakeland Schools over Diversity, Equity and Inclusion, DEI, education.

That speculation was confirmed to some extent when Save Our Schools for Westchester issued a release shortly after Lyons resignation.

“Save Our Schools (SOS) for Westchester Children Founder/CEO Angela Barone Sculti congratulated the parents and community of the Lakeland Central School District, upon today’s Board of Education vote of 7 to 2 to accept the immediate resignation of superintendent Dr. Brendan Lyons.

“Said Ms. Barone Sculti: “Today’s vote and announcement on the resignation of the superintendent affirms the efforts of the community members and parents who have been fighting for transparency to ensure that the children of Lakeland Central School District will not be indoctrinated. I congratulate the 1,100 district residents who signed a petition against the teaching of Critical Race Theory in all of its various forms in Lakeland.

“Regrettably, the Superintendent failed to listen to the communities’ concerns and even denied what 1,100 community members understand – that implementing a radical teaching/learning paradigm — Critical Race Theory and its multiple forms, including, among others, Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion; and Culturally Responsive-Sustaining Education will fundamentally change how our children think, learn, and make life-changing decisions. I would also like to thank Judy McLaughlin for her courageous leadership and the Lakeland Chapter of SOS for leading the charge over the past several months to bring to light the promotion of Critical Race Theory in Lakeland Schools.

“Credit must also be given to the seven members of the Lakeland Central School District who did listen to parents’ concerns and voted for change. While SOS does not celebrate anyone losing their job, today’s announcement must be a wake-up call for school administrators across Westchester, namely, that parents will not stand by as their children are taught to hate America and hate one another, by viewing their fellow students as oppressors or oppressed. We will remain vocal in Lakeland and other communities which permit the teaching of Critical Race Theory in all of its various forms.”

Said Judy McLaughlin, Chairwoman of the Lakeland Chapter of SOS: “I want to truly thank the diverse men and women of the Lakeland Central School District community, who united to stand up against Critical Race Theory. Together, we were able to bring truth and transparency to the Lakeland Board of Education. Along every step was the tireless effort of Save Our Schools for Westchester Children founder, Angela Sculti, and the SOS Board. Together, we will be supporting the Lakeland Central School District going forward. We ask all school district communities to join the SOS team because we still have a great deal of work to do.”

When asked whether a similar effort was underway to push back on DEI education, (or CRT education, depending on who you talk to) a member of SOS told us, “Yes.”

At recent School Board meetings of both the Lakeland School District and the Yorktown School District, Superintendent’s Lyons and Yorktown Superintendent Dr. Ron Hattar both said that Critical Race Theory is not being taught in their schools.

The other Westchester School District that has had a spirited public debate over DEI education is in the Yorktown School District. Westchester Rising has been told that efforts are underway to remove the DEI curriculum in the Yorktown schools, “or make other personnel moves,” according to one source close to SOS.

Unlike Lakeland, there does not appear to be enough votes on the Yorktown School Board to warrant the elimination of DEI or the removal of any personnel associated with its implementation.

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

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

year.

The other part of Stein’s life story is that she is bi-sexual, and when the male officers in the Greenburgh Police Department found out, the harassment against her increased drastically. “At first, I was retaliated against because I was a woman, but it became a more hostile work environment once they found out that I had a girlfriend.”

Once Stein’s sexuality was known by the male officers, most of whom were married, an obsession or sorts began, an example of which included a text from Cerone asking “if she was going to the beach with her girlfriend in a bikini and high heels.”

Most of the officers in the room have claimed that they did not witness the incident, despite getting caught on the body cam laughing about it, and re-enacting what happened after the fact. “I was in police headquarters with my uniform on and my badge, and I was treated worse than a criminal,” said Stein.

Immediately after the 2019 incident, Lt. Martin asked Officer Cerone two times, “what just happened and what the F\*%^ just happened?” Cerone said “I don’t know.” After an investigation, Cerone was docked two weeks of vacation time.

Stein said that after the 2019 assault, “I was never spoken to again by my supervisors, to ask if I was ok or how I was being treated. Two supervisors, Lt. Martin, and Sgt. Fernandez followed protocol and reached out to me. All of the other officers either ignored me or engaged in talking poorly about me.”

Stein tried to transfer out of the Greenburgh Police Department to 8 Westchester police departments. She was hired by the Westchester County Police, only to have their offer rescinded because of what Stein and the lawsuit claims was the interference of Greenburgh Chief of Police Chris McNerney.

“I was given the job. I was told that I had the position, I passed all the drug psych interviews and was told that I had one of the highest scoring test scores. I had a start date. Now I’m blacklisted from every being a police officer again,” said Stein.

Stein and the lawsuit claim that Chief McNerney told someone in the Westchester County Police that Stein was “a sexual harassment liability.” “No explanation was given about why I didn’t get the job. I truly believe that Chief McNerney tried to keep me captive so that I became so miserable that I end up quitting. This falls on Officer Cerone and Chief McNerney.

“Every single word is truthful and factual. My main priority is to get out the truth about what happened. I need and want things to change, particularly in the Greenburgh Police Department. There are major, major issues with the Greenburgh PD.

“What happened to me was never addressed properly by the Greenburgh PD. I attempted to go through the normal way, by speaking with my supervisors, who opened an investigation. I want to be a role model for other women police officers so I’m willing to sacrifice and stand up for what is right and what is wrong.”

Officer Stein also brings up another important point. The officers that were in the room for assault are sworn to do something about it. “They were witnessing something illegal and did nothing. We are mandated to report and get involved. Their involvement was mocking the situation and then lying about it when asked.”

Sixteen officers are named defendants in the lawsuit they are: Brian Ryan, Robert Gramaglia, Kobie Powell, Brian Matthews, Frank Farina, Dennis Basulto, Eric Vlasity, Patrick Grady, Michael Cookingham, Alex Rodriguez, Brian Doherty, Dyana Albano, Frank Kozakiewicz, and Cerone, Pilla and McNerney.

“For more than one year I was sexually harassed. I felt someone thrust their groin into me, but it wasn’t just that assault but the retaliation against me and my brother after it happened. He was transferred and I was blacklisted,” said Stein, who is still employed by the Greenburgh police. She is using her accrued sick and vacation days to stay at home, after which she will be an unpaid employee. Are there other incidents in the Greenburgh Police Department? Or any crimes committed alleged in the lawsuit? Stay tuned.



## Join the Conversation



## Westchester County Requests Your Participation at the 2021 Westchester County Budget Public Input Sessions

Before the 2022 Westchester County budget is finalized, come and share your priorities for County programs and services. This year’s information is as follows:

### Monday, October 25

**11 a.m. to 1 p.m.**  
New Rochelle Town Hall  
Council Chambers – 1st floor  
515 North Avenue  
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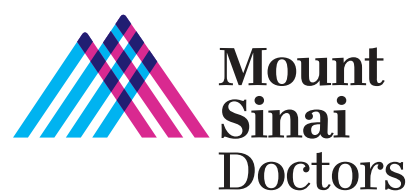
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