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The Debate over Busing in Westchester: Latimer Fires Back at Critical Bee Line Report



"In your zeal to find fault with our efforts, you have shown your unwillingness to be "included" but rather to sit outside the process and be critical. So be it,"
County Executive George Latimer

By Dan Murphy

For those of us who have lived in Westchester for most of our lives, the Bee Line Bus service has provided reliable and safe transportation for residents for 50 years. A public private partnership between Liberty Lines Bus Company, and Westchester County Government, is a unique one, but one that many believe has provided the best arrangement for both the taxpayer and the riders.

On October 17, the Tri-State Transportation Campaign, issued a report critical of the PPP between the county and liberty lines, but also critical of the way county government has handled bus service for its residents.

"Today, the residents of Westchester County are saddled with an antiquated, under-performing, inefficient and unaccountable bus system that is woefully inadequate for today and tomorrow's needs... Routes are generally infrequent, do not go where lots of people want to go, and operating costs are above-average while service levels are below average. Performance metrics based on public data prove that Westchester County's transit is inferior in most respects to the service in peer jurisdictions like Nassau County," states the summary of the report.

The report goes on to blame the so-called "inadequacy of the Bee-Line", on "an opaque governance system granting a permanent contract monopoly to a private company with minimal public oversight, a lack of responsiveness to evolving consumer preferences, and decades of political leadership that neglected transit riders' needs."

Westchester County Executive George Latimer responded to the report in a letter, dated Oct. 25 and in comments to this reporter. Latimer explained that upon taking office in 2018, his administration was not ready to cancel the PPP with

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Par 3 Developers Warn Slater's Breach of Contract Will Cost Taxpayers Millions



Valley Fields Golf Course renovations continue

By Dan Murphy

At the same time that progress is being made to open Valley Fields Golf Course, a Par 3 golf course in Jefferson Valley, Town of Yorktown, the Town government, under the leadership of Supervisor Matt Slater, continues to move forward with seeking a new concessionaire with an RFP without any compensation to RC Development, the current developer, while the Golf Course is under contract.

Larry Nussbaum, President of RC Development, is now warning the taxpayers of Yorktown that Slater's actions, will cost the taxpayers millions.

We reached out to Supervisor Slater, who is also running for Assembly at the same time that his self imposed drama over the golf course continues to heat up. We requested an interview with Slater to answer the allegations made against him in an advertisement that ran in Westchester Rising and online at Yonkerstimes.com on October 21, (<https://yonkerstimes.com/assisting-matt-slater-in-understanding-the-details-of-the-par-3-public-private-partnership/>)

Slater responded to our request for an interview with an email dated Oct. 20 which read, "I won't be commenting since you already told me you made up your mind on this issue and because there is pending litigation and a court date related to the building code violations associated with this property. By the way, if that's what the golf course looks like why isn't it open? Why hasn't the Town Board been advised of a date certain for operation upon multiple requests?"

Prior to his email above, Slater sent us the following email about a prior story we had written about the course, (<https://yonkerstimes.com/as-slater-runs-for-assembly-golf-course-lawsuit-accuses-him-of-interference/>)
1-Your article is missing some key facts such as RC Rec employees illegally living on the premise, the electrical contractor revoking his original approval of their work because of unsafe conditions and the many attempts by the Town board to work with the licensee only to have him refuse to attend town board meetings.

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As Early Voting Begins, Dems Urged to Vote or... **Red Wave!**



Lee Zeldin and Kathy Hochul debate

By Dan Murphy

Governor Kathy Hochul and her republican opponent, Congressman Lee Zeldin, appeared for their only debate on Oct. 25. The debate was held on Spectrum News, a cable channel that most Westchester cable subscribers do not have.

Both candidates threw punches at each other. Supporters of both candidates were not likely swayed at the arguments presented. But for the 8% of so undecided, or independents, here's our play by play.

Hochul attacked Zeldin for his vote not to certify the 2020 Presidential election and for his support for former President Trump and his opposition to abortion.

Zeldin attacked Hochul for her failure to control crime across the state but especially in New York City. Hochul fire back at Zeldin for his votes against gun control in Congress.

Zeldin criticized Hochul for her pay to play culture in her office, including the COVID test that the taxpayers had to pay double for and the \$650 Million in taxpayer funds for a new stadium in Buffalo for the Bills.

When asked about his vote not to certify the election of President Joe Biden in 2020, Zeldin did not back off his decision, adding "there are still issues in the states of Pennsylvania and Arizona."

But Zeldin was able to differentiate his view on COVID testing, (that it should not be mandatory for children) and on legal marijuana (he doesn't want to have to

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Who Made the \$1 Million Anonymous Donation to Iona?



Iona President Dr. Seamus Carey

Growing up in Queens, he was just like any other kid from a working-class family in New York. Today, he's a successful entrepreneur eager to give back to the school that started it all – Iona. In making an anonymous \$1 million gift, this former student-athlete says he doesn't want any recognition. He just wants others to join him.

"I want to motivate anyone who was able to get ahead in life because Iona gave them a chance to pause, reflect and give back now," he said. "I actually was going to go to Princeton University, but my dad couldn't afford to send me. Iona gave me the scholarships I needed to be able to go to college."

And it's not just about giving financially, he is quick to add.

Go to a game. Mentor a student. Offer an internship or recruit graduates for jobs. Even if it's just making it back to campus once a year for Homecoming, he believes in the power of Gael Nation and wants to engage more of his fellow alumni than ever in supporting the next generation.

"You can leave your mark in a number of ways," he said. "I always say, when you can look in the mirror and say you did something good for others – what a feeling; there is nothing better."

In particular, the gift will support strategic initiatives of University President Seamus Carey, Ph.D., who joined Iona in July 2019 and set out on a path of innovation. Shortly into his presidency, however, Iona was on the front lines of the COVID-19 pandemic, forcing Carey to make swift and decisive moves. Hailed as the "first to close, first to re-open," Iona nevertheless pushed ahead under Carey's leadership.

Today, the results speak for themselves.

Not only has new student enrollment spiked a remarkable 30 percent over the past three years, but Iona has also acquired a second campus and is developing a premier school of health sciences in collaboration with one of the nation's top hospitals.

"I really like Seamus and the vision he brings to Iona," said the alumnus. "Being an entrepreneur, I think big. He's thinking big. As a new person coming back into Iona, I see tremendous potential. I see the school is just going to another level."

In recognizing the gift, Carey said he is both grateful and inspired by the generous support.

"We have charted an ambitious path for Iona, recognizing we need the help of talented, dedicated and generous alumni to help us realize our goals," Carey said.

Notably, in May 2021, Carey finalized the acquisition of Iona's new, 28-acre campus in Bronxville, N.Y., formerly home to Concordia College. Shortly thereaf-

Continued on pg 5-

66 Black & Hispanic Teens Missing in NY: Many from Westchester & Yonkers



Missing teens from Yonkers, Keira Leon, left, Ethan Aponte and Aiden Early

Visit www.missingkids.org/ to learn more.

By Dennis Richmond Jr.

Ashley Williamson, 16, went missing last month in Mount Vernon. There was no major media coverage for her. Keira Leon, 13, went missing last month in Yonkers. I didn't see anything on News12 Westchester. Jayden Jennings, 17, went missing from Dobbs Ferry less than a week before Ashley. Nobody sent out an alert. Ethan Aponte, 16, went missing in Yonkers in June. Why are so many Black and Hispanic children going missing in New York?

According to the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children, as of October 24th, 2022, 66 Black and Hispanic teenagers are missing in New York. Those missing in Yonkers, Keira Leon, Ethan Aponte, and Aiden Early, are all under 18-years-old. Unfortunately, most Black, and Hispanic teenagers that go missing never get national media coverage. Last year, a Google search for the name "Gabby" instantly pulled up articles about Gabby Petito. Gabby, 22, was a slain white woman. Gabby received national media coverage, but Keira, Ethan, and Aiden didn't.

In 2021, NPR said, "tens of thousands of Black girls and women go missing every year. Last year, that figure was nearly 100,000. Yet their cases hardly ever grab national headlines." A journalist in California is doing what she can to try to change that, by telling as many of their stories as she can — and hopefully helping them get the justice they deserve. Our Black Girls centers on the often untold stories of Black girls and women who have gone missing or, in some cases, were found dead under mysterious circumstances." The website was created four years ago by Erika Marie Rivers.

Why are Black and Hispanic teenagers specifically targeted? Dr. Umar Johnson and the late Dick Gregory talked about organ harvesting. People are stealing organs from Black and Hispanic people. Illegal activity, such as payment for this process, takes place on the dark web. Hopefully, none of the 66 missing children might have a connection to the dark web.

Other than organ harvesting, teenagers are missing due to sex trafficking. Last year, a man was arrested for sex trafficking in Detroit on October 14th. A man in Milwaukee, 45, was arrested last year too. According to FOX6 Milwaukee, some of his charges include "interstate transportation for prostitution" and "interstate transportation of a minor for criminal sexual activity." On October 24th of this year, Florida police broke up a sex trafficking ring. This stuff is serious. Dozens of Black and Hispanic teens are going missing, and there's no outcry. Where is the national media attention?

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

Visit <https://www.missingkids.org/> to learn more.

Research Suggests that A Flu Shot Protects Your Brain from Dementia



October is the official start of flu season, and the time when many people consider getting a flu shot. In addition to protecting you from the flu, the shot may also help protect your brain.

A study released this summer found that getting an annual flu vaccination was associated with a 40 percent decrease in the risk of developing Alzheimer's disease over the next four years. The same researchers, who are from The University of Texas' McGovern Medical School, conducted an earlier study presented at the Alzheimer's Association International Conference that found that a single flu vaccination could reduce the risk of Alzheimer's by 17 percent and additional vaccinations in a lifetime reduced it even more.

"Our study suggests that regular use of a very accessible and relatively cheap intervention — the flu shot — may significantly reduce risk of Alzheimer's dementia," said Dr. Albert Amran, who was involved in the research at The University of Texas.

The newer study included more than 2 million people over age 65. Previous studies were smaller and often focused on people with chronic health conditions. By including a more general group of older adults, the new study's results add weight to the idea that a flu shot could reduce Alzheimer's risk.

YOUR MEMORY & INFECTIONS: KNOW YOUR RISK

Prior studies have found that infections — including the flu, pneumonia, urinary tract infections, gum disease, and COVID-19 — are associated with the onset and worsening of memory and thinking problems.

It's not surprising then that researchers have also found an association between vaccinations and a decreased risk of dementia. A study at Duke University's Social Science Research Institute found that getting a vaccination against pneumonia between the ages of 65 and 75 reduced Alzheimer's risk by up to 40 percent. Similar results have been found in recent studies of people who received tetanus, diphtheria, pertussis (Tdap); hepatitis; or shingles vaccinations.

"These findings are important because anything we can do to decrease the number of people with Alzheimer's has vast benefits. Preventing or delaying the progression of Alzheimer's lowers the burden on family caregivers, and on our state's health systems," said Doris Saintil Phildor, MPH, the New York Health Systems Director at the Alzheimer's Association.

To learn more about risk factors for Alzheimer's and ways to reduce your risk, visit www.alz.org/alzheimers-dementia/what-is-alzheimers/causes-and-risk-factors

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Larchmont Mobster Convicted of Killing His Dad, Wanted to Kill His Brother Also



This month, a federal jury in Brooklyn today convicted Anthony Zottola, Sr, left, and Himen Ross of murder-for-hire conspiracy and murder-for-hire in the October 4, 2018 killing of 71-year-old Sylvester Zottola as he waited to pick up a cup of coffee at a McDonald's drive-thru in the Bronx. The jury also found the defendants guilty of causing Sylvester Zottola's death through the use of a firearm and unlawful use and possession of firearms. They face mandatory life terms when sentenced by United States District Judge Hector Gonzalez. A third defendant, Alfred Lopez, was acquitted.

Breon Peace, United States Attorney for the Eastern District of New York, Michael J. Driscoll, Assistant Director-in-Charge, Federal Bureau of Investigation, New York Field Office (FBI), and Keechant L. Sewell, Commissioner, New York City Police Department (NYPD), announced the verdict.

"Over the course of more than a year, the elderly victim, Sylvester Zottola, was stalked, beaten, and stabbed, never knowing who orchestrated the attacks. It was his own son, who was so determined to control the family's lucrative real estate business that he hired a gang of hit men to murder his father," stated United States Attorney Peace. "For sentencing his father to a violent death, Anthony Zottola and his co-defendant will spend the rest of their lives in prison where they belong as a result of today's verdict. I thank our prosecutors, the FBI Special Agents and NYPD detectives for their tremendous investigative work solving this cold-blooded crime and bringing the defendants to justice."

Sylvester Zottola controlled a residential real estate portfolio consisting of multi-family rental properties that was valued at tens of millions of dollars at the time of his death. Defendant Anthony Zottola helped manage his father Sylvester Zottola's real estate business by maintaining the properties, collecting rent, and helping to run A&S Maintenance, a company that was jointly owned by Anthony and his brother Salvatore Zottola. Anthony Zottola plotted to kill his father and his brother so that he could take control of the family business.

As proven at trial, Anthony Zottola hired co-conspirator Bushawn Shelton to kill his father and his brother, Salvatore. Shelton recruited others to commit the murders, and together they engaged in a year-long conspiracy to carry out a series of violent attacks against Sylvester and Salvatore Zottola. Salvatore, who testified at trial, endured several violent attacks on his life. On November 26, 2017, Sylvester Zottola was menaced at gunpoint by a masked individual. On December 27, 2017, three men invaded Sylvester Zottola's residence, struck him on the head with a gun, stabbed him multiple times, and slashed his throat. Zottola survived the attack. Then on July 11, 2018, a gunman shot Salvatore Zottola in the head, chest, and hand in front of his residence. Zottola survived the shooting.

A tracking device was placed on Sylvester Zottola's car, allowing Ross to track him to the McDonald's restaurant on Webster Avenue where Ross fatally shot the victim multiple times. Ross and Shelton exchanged texts immediately after the hit, and then Shelton and Anthony Zottola exchanged texts, in which Anthony was informed that his father had just been murdered. Shelton texted Anthony Zottola: "Can we party today or tomorrow?" Antho-

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Election Day and Halloween



by Eric Wolf Schoen

It's hard to believe that Election Day is less than 2 weeks away. Campaign signs are up all over town, and for the most part candidates are keeping signs off city property. County and State property, well that's another story. I think the word got around from Mayor Mike Spano pretty quickly this year that signs are illegal on city property and only legal on private property with the owner's permission or on billboards that are on private property again with the owners permission.

This year's election is a 'puzzlement.' Let's face it, our elected officials on the state level, Andrea Stewart Cousins, Shelley Mayor, Nader Sayegh and Gary Pretlow do a good job 'bringing home the bacon' negating for the most part the horrible fiscal situations Yonkers and it's hard working employees have gone through for so many years. The fact that we have a good leadership team who have worked their way up the Albany ladder is cause for celebration. But many of us disagree with the way our legislators vote on the issues.

The bail reforms made over the last few years have put criminals on the streets and not in jail cells. We read of those who committed crimes being let go without bail walking the streets of our cities simply committing more crimes and again walking out of jail with a little penalty. It's a vicious cycle that must come to an end. What's the saying? You do the crime you do the time. It's that simple. But we have watered down the bail laws to allow criminals to be set free.

What does this do? Frankly make us afraid to go out the door. Put fear in use that we are next. A society cannot be run this way. Meaning the revolving door must stop. Legislators are supposed to represent the opinions of their constituents. I have said it before the residents in the 4 districts in Yonkers discussed above are not in favor of bail reform as it is right now. When criminals do crimes they belong in jail and away from the general population. It's as simple as that.

We know that Andrea, Shelley, Nader and Gary are all incredibly honest. They are kind and provide good constituent services. They care about us and our needs. They must take more interest in their constituents safety. Yonkers is the 6th safest city of its size which should make us feel good. Tell that to the guy that got mugged. Tell that to the three people who recently died of overdoses of phenylalalyne given to them by people with no care for life. Tell that to the next person involved in a crime.

So in my case, I will vote for Nader and Andrea as their opponents have failed, maybe due to lack of money, to come to the table to get where their messages across. In Nader's case with the proposed court ordered redistricting by the State Assembly he might not be my Assemblyman in the not to distant future with court ordered redistricting. Additional craziness court ordered. You want to know what turns off voters. An approved districting plan overturned by the judiciary requiring a third and fourth vote for their assemblyman. 'Who's on first, What's on second?'

Make sure you vote for 8 judges on the ballot and the environmental proposition on the reverse side of the ballot. 8 judges? Either they are unhappy with their jobs or have reached retirement age.

Continued on pg 6-

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Students Deepen Passion for the Environment at Untermyer Gardens



The Untermyer Gardens is a spectacular destination in Yonkers with breathtaking panoramic views of the Hudson River.

In 2019, Untermyer Gardens formed a partnership with Yonkers Partners in Education (YPIE) and started offering summer internships to Yonkers Public High School students to assist in beautifying the gardens. This summer, Yonkers students continued to enhance the beauty of these magnificent gardens and make a meaningful impact at one of the most visited destinations in Westchester.

“For me, this place gives me lots of opportunities,” said Catherine, a Yonkers high school student. “It’s my first working experience and it’s a very good one because I get to see beautiful sites all day while I’m working and it gives you a good sense of pride.”

“It’s a great learning experience because they can take this anywhere in life,” said Untermyer Gardener Liz Dreeben. “Whether they decide to do this for living, they can plant a garden, make a path, use a shovel. They’ve learned a lot and it’s fun.”

This summer, students continued to work on the vegetable garden they created last year. They cut back ryegrass, turned over the soil, and planted hundreds of herbs and sunflower seeds.

“The sunflower is the national flower of the county of Ukraine,” said Liz. “The students felt that would be an especially meaningful addition to these Gardens.”

Yonkers student interns planted perennials on the rhododendron walk, restored paths with wood chips, and made steps on the paths with hills using more than 30 oak rounds. They also sifted compost, planted at the entry gatehouse, and reinstalled the tiles of the grand Vista staircase that leads from the Walled Garden to the Hudson River.

“To be honest, when I would go to parks, I would just look at the wood chips and mulch and I didn’t realize that someone had to work to do this,” said Malak, YPIE high school student. “Now, that I’m doing this and I see how hard it is, I look at all of this from a different perspective.”

“I’ve had a great time with the YPIE interns this year and last,” said Untermyer Gardener John Jacono. “They have shown me day in and day out that this new generation of young adults who ease my thoughts on our future as a society as a whole.”

This partnership has had an impact on beautifying the Gardens as well as providing experiences that will stay with YPIE students always.

“You’re able to see what people do for a living. And, you can see whether it’s right for you because you’ve experienced it,” continued Malak. “It’s cool to see how everyone here is so passionate and how they love what they are doing. It’s gardening, but it’s so much more.”

Learn more at untermyergardens.org and ypie.org.

Senator Mayer Recognizes Miller’s Toys as a Historic Business



State Senator Shelley Mayer, with Assemblyman Steve Otis at Miller’s Toys in Mamaroneck

New York State Senator Shelley B. Mayer today announced Miller’s Toys of Mamaroneck has been added to the New York State Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation’s Historic Business Preservation Registry.

The online registry was established by the legislature in 2020, as many businesses faced new and unique challenges, to honor and promote New York businesses that have been in operation for at least 50 years and that have contributed to their communities’ character and history. It aims to provide educational and promotional assistance to ensure continued viability and success.

“Whether it was a trip to pick out a special treat or a first bicycle, many of our neighbors have fond memories of Miller’s Toys. Thank you to Miller’s Toys for providing decades of fun to the children of Mamaroneck and surrounding communities, and to Brooke and Taka Andrews for their commitment to the family business,” said Senator Mayer.

Miller’s Toys Owners Brooke and Taka Andrews said: “We are honored and humbled to be recognized by New York State as a Historic Business. It’s been our privilege to serve our community by striving to bring best-in-class products and services to multiple generations of local families. We hope that we can continue to bring fun, friendship and fitness to these families for years to come.”

Brooke and Taka Andrews are the third generation of the Miller family to own and operate Miller’s Toys in Mamaroneck. Irving Miller first opened the store on Mamaroneck Avenue in 1948. A few years later, he moved the business across the street to its current location, which features a brick exterior and large show windows. Miller’s mainly sold bicycles in the early years before introducing all sorts of outdoor play equipment including swing sets and trampolines in the 1970s. To this day, the store continues to expand and diversify its offerings for Westchester families.

Assemblyman Steve Otis said: “Miller’s Toys has been part of the childhood history and memory of generations of Westchester families. From toys, bikes, outdoor equipment, games and clothing – every visit to Miller’s brings excitement. It is fitting that Miller’s is now recognized in the NYS Historic Business Preservation Registry.”

Westchester County Legislator Catherine Parker said: “For those of us who live in the Sound Shore and have children in our lives, Miller’s Toys has been a staple of our shopping for holiday and birthday gifts for many years. As a former retailer myself, I know that it is no small accomplishment to keep evolving and reinventing to sustain business in a growing online world. Congratulations to Miller’s Toys for its recognition to the NYS Historic Business Preservation Registry.”

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Letters to the Editor:

Re Cop Shot in Bristol , Ct Ambush A Yorktown High School Alum
Westchester Rising, October 21

Mr. Murphy:

On October 12 a domestic violence call, which was actually a ploy, brought three Bristol Connecticut police officers to a home where they were ambushed. Two were killed, the third wounded. That brought back memories of Michael Frey. Frey was an Eastchester policeman who in 1996 responded to a domestic violence call. Again, a ploy. When Frey got out of his patrol car he was shot from the second floor of the house. He died.

Eastchester has never forgotten. One reads about the impact of Frey's death on Eastchester and the various memorials concerning that death these many years later. The Eastchester police department has a car bumper sticker honoring Michael Frey. As long as I had a car, which meant several different ones over the years, I always made sure to put such a sticker on the bumper of my car.

Bristol now, bringing back memories of Eastchester then, speak to the horrendous number nationally of recent shootings of police officers, with injuries and deaths. Unfortunately, there will be more.

Donald Nawi, Scarsdale

To the Editor:

When Lee Zeldin was a Congressional Representative, in November 2020 Zeldin sent emails to then-President Donald Trump's chief of staff, offering advice on how to challenge and overturn the 2020 election. Zeldin has been a full-blown Trump supporter, and continues to be so. Like Trump, Zeldin says that the election results are fixed unless he wins.

Zeldin denies democracy and would violate all the votes of anyone who disagrees with him, reasons that he must be defeated for our democracy to continue.

Crime is now far below the levels of the 1980s, when more than 2,000 people every year were murdered in New York City, yet now Zeldin preys upon and promotes fear, without offering any actual solutions to reducing crime.

Robert Kalfus , Yonkers

Mobster Kills Father, continued from pg 3-

ny Zottola assured Shelton that he would have Shelton's payment for carrying out the murder ready soon: "I have the cases of water in a day or so." A photograph later recovered from one of Shelton's cellular telephones depicts a cardboard box of bottled water, as well as over \$200,000 in banded currency. Shelton pleaded guilty in August 2022 to murder-for-hire conspiracy and murder-for-hire. He is awaiting sentencing.

The government's case is being prosecuted by the Office's Organized Crime and Gangs Section. Assistant United States Attorneys Kayla Bensing, Emily J. Dean, Devon Lash, and Andrew Roddin are in charge of the prosecution, with the assistance of paralegal Brittany Wissel.

The Defendants:

HIMEN ROSS (also known as "Ace" and "A Boggie")

Age: 36
Bronx, New York

ANTHONY ZOTTOLA, SR.

Age: 44
Larchmont, New York

Iona, \$1 Million Donation, continued from pg 1-

ter, in July 2021, Carey announced a \$20 million gift to establish the NewYork-Presbyterian Iona School of Health Sciences. The school's new state-of-the-art facilities are set to open on the Bronxville campus in January 2023.

Outside of the classroom, meanwhile, Carey has expanded opportunities by adding new club sports, performing arts, service opportunities and more. He also had the foresight to hire Hall of Fame men's basketball coach Rick Pitino, and the team went undefeated to sold-out crowds at home last season. Leveraging this momentum, Carey in July 2022 announced that Iona had officially graduated from a college to a University. The move not only reflects the prestige of an Iona education, but also the diversity of academic programs available across Iona's three schools: the School of Arts & Science, LaPenta School of Business, and the NewYork-Presbyterian Iona School of Health Sciences.

"We have a new Bronxville campus; we have a world-class collaboration with NewYork-Presbyterian; we are now a University - Iona is like a tree with deep roots ready to really grow. And I absolutely think we're just scratching the surface," said the alumnus. "I'm beyond excited to be back in the mix at Iona. But it's not about me; we're doing this all together as one. I just want to be an inspiration to others. It's time to look in the mirror and say, 'What can I do for the school that helped me?'"

Maloney and Lawler, and Supporters, Spend Millions in Race for Congress, NY-17



Rep. Sean Patrick Maloney, left, Assemblyman Mike Lawler, right

By Dan Murphy

Why did House Republican leader Kevin McCarthy decide to spend \$4 Million in the final weeks of the Congressional race in NY-17 between Sean Patrick Maloney and Mike Lawler? Why are some Westchester democrats "not felling good" about Maloney's chances, as the momentum across the country for republicans lands in the Hudson Valley of New York?

McCarthy's announcement resulted in Maloney making a strange comment, that as Chair of the DCCC, the House Democratic Congressional Campaign Committee, he will not decide whether the DCCC will invest in his own race. "I have decided to recuse myself from any spending decisions involving my own race. We'll let the professional staff handle that."

That odd proclamation had many scratching their heads. "Did the "professional staff" make the decision to force Rep. Mondaire Jones out of the race?" and "Find myself searching for that Animal House "B-sh-t!" clip." were tweeted by Lawler campaign manager Bill O'Reilly.

Others thought that the announcement "showed weakness." "I thought Maloney was in trouble before he announced that as chair of the DCCC he wasn't going to spend on his own race? Who believes that and if you want to believe it, then does that mean that you don't consider your race worth spending in?" said one Westchester democratic leader. "He (Maloney) just isn't inspiring anybody to get out and volunteer for him. And I think all democrats in New York are going to need people to get out and knock on doors."

Update: Days after making this announcement, the DCCC bought \$600,000 in ads for Maloney's campaign.

"Rep. Sean Maloney, who's job as Chairman of the Democratic Congressional Campaign Committee (DCCC), is to distribute money to the campaigns of Democratic candidates for congress all across America, is now siphoning money away from other candidates from his own party in a desperate last-minute attempt to save his own faltering campaign, it was learned today. Maloney's DCCC just put more than \$600,000 of its funds behind ads falsely attacking Mr. Maloney's opponent, Assemblyman Mike Lawler, according to news reports," stated the Lawler campaign.

Mr. Maloney has been further lambasted by members of his own party for spending millions of dollars in DCCC funds to fund 'far-right-wing' Republicans in a Machiavellian attempt to interfere with GOP primaries.

"Sean Maloney's selfishness knows no bounds," said Lawler spokesman Bill O'Reilly. "He is now robbing money from his fellow Democrats in a desperate attempt to save his own hide. He should have thought of what might happen to his candidacy before championing cashless bail, raising taxes on the middle class, and blowing a huge hole in the pockets of his constituents with ill-conceived inflationary votes."

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smell it while walking with his daughters).

Response to the debate and the race in general: "I don't think Hochul is running a great campaign. She is intelligent but is soft spoken. She doesn't have the charisma that Cuomo or Clinton has its just not her style," said one Westchester democratic party leader, who echoed the sentiment of some elected democrats we spoke to who are "concerned" about the election results to come on Nov. 8.

Westchester republicans we spoke to said, "we couldn't ask for anything more. Zeldin definitely has a chance to win, even democrats will tell you that. How does that translate to Westchester? I think Lawler wins and after that I don't know. Maybe Gina Arena against Pete Harckham for State Senate?"

Another Westchester republican said, "crime is not a problem in Westchester. George Latimer and Mike Spano have been able to get that message out. So, if crime is not a huge problem in the 3rd largest state in New York, how can republicans in Westchester use that issue?"

Another democrat, "We need every democrat to get out and vote November 8. That is the only way we are going to push back on the Red Wave. I think all of our democrats will win here in Westchester, but Hochul needs our help and our other statewide democratic candidates."

One independent said, "If Zeldin doesn't win, it will be because of the 2% or 3% of the never Trumpers who could not vote for him. If Hochul wins by a nose, maybe republicans should have nominated a Harry Wilson type, who couldn't be tied to Trump."

Eric Schoen, continued from pg 3-

HALLOWEEN

Remember the good old days. Wearing a Halloween costume mom had made but boy did it itch. Face makeup adding to the gloriousness of the costume. Halloween parties in classrooms where kids would bring in baked goods from home (mom didn't bake so Mr. Entenmanns or Yonkers Pastry saved the day.) the giant Halloween parade on South Broadway where all the ghosts and goblins came out. Going Trick or Treating and not having to worry that some foreign substance was in Your candy.

Moms making trick or treat bags filled with candy and prizes. From year to year we knew who gave out the best candy and treat bags and hit those apartments first. Opening the door in my costume and helping mom give out candy bags greeting my neighbors also having fun with their kids. The several parents who 'costumed up' joining their kiddies in all the festivities. The question 'what costume would the teacher wear?' With some teachers festively dressing up and the uncreative, boring teachers who just went to Woolworth's for \$1 black witches hat. Those were the ones to be worried about.

Using little orange boxes to collect for Donations for UNICEF. Would kids now a days know what Unicef is? Classes that collected the most money for Unicef Having a PIZZA party sponsored by the PTA.

My most outrageous Halloween. Marching with my colleagues in the Housing and Buildings Department as Monica Lewinsky, yes the Clinton lady. Blue jump suit and all, the famous 'stain' on the jump suit created by using wooden glue. It was a cold day but no coats over our glorious attire. We went all through City Hall including the Mayor's office. John Spencer was Mayor and I didn't know how he would take it. Would I receive my walking papers? He took it in stride laughing with all the other City Hall 'big shots'.

Second most outrageous costume. A friend called me a couple of hours before the big costume parade in the Village in Manhattan to tell me we were going to the village and dress up. The shelves at Woolworths were practically empty. I saw a nun costume in extra Large. I quickly tried it on. It fit. And off we went to the parade of parades. And who was in the front row of spectators. A friend of mine from school. We laughed, went out for a drink and a good time was had by all. By the way my friend went dressed as a hooker. He had spent over \$100 for his outfit versus the \$10 I had spent. He was upset as my \$10 Nun's costume received more attention in the parade then his did. Ah, fun, memories.

So this Halloween, enjoy yourself. Keep off the alcoholic refreshments. Make sure that for children adults check all of their candy. Use your brains to make sure you get all treats and no tricks. And a fun time will be had by all.

Then there was the year I was the Lion King. I wore grandmas old fur jacket, fur stole to wrap. Around my head, and another stole to wrap my hands. It's Halloween, go for it?

Reach Eric Schoen at thistoosyonkers@aol.com. Follow him on Twitter @ericyonkers. Listen to Eric Schoen on the Westchester Rising Radio Show alternating Thursday's from 10-11 a.m. On WVOX 1460 AM, WVOX.com click listen or download the WVOX app from the App Store free of charge.

Slater, Par 3 Golf Dispute, continued from pg 1-

2-Not to mention, the principle of RC Rec created a partially executed amendment to the license without the Town Board's knowledge, input or approval that among other things granted itself a 10 year extension. While they try to dispute the validity of this document, it is clear it is not recognized by the Town Board.

3-Additionally, the Town Board voted unanimously on all actions pertaining to the Par 3. The continued smear campaign that I took unilateral action on this is patently false.

4- I can continue to go on, but like you, I grew up learning to play on that course and would love for it to be open. However, considering the full scope of the situation at hand it is clear we do not have a functioning partnership, and more importantly, we do not have a completed or safe site," emailed Slater.

We asked Mr. Nussbaum to answer Slater's questions. Here is Mr. Nussbaum's response: "Thank you for your interest and allowing me to address Slater's grossly misinformed allegations. I can provide back up for each of my responses

Question 1 - Yorktown's alleged violation issued, Violation Number 10315, only concerns 2 Recreational Trailers Stored in the parking lot. These Trailers are our work trailers where all our records and expensive equipment is stored. No Violation issued concerning any employees living on the premises. Slater's public statements again do not reflect Yorktown's own official record.

In the Sept 6 Par 3 resolution Slater refers to an Electric Inspection Certificate being rescinded on July 12, 2022. Please ask Slater to provide evidence of this false allegation. I have written evidence from the Inspection Company that the Certificate is currently in force and has been in force everyday since it was issued.

Concerning negotiating with Yorktown, I have met directly with Slater several times. At each of our meetings to negotiate Slater's concerns, I ask Slater if this is an official meeting. His answer is always No, you have to negotiate with the complete town board with the town attorney present. I refuse to negotiate with a Committee and informed Slater that the original contract and first amendment were negotiated with the Commissioner of the Sports and Recreation Commission, duly authorized to negotiate these contracts, who in turn presented the Commission's agreement to the Town Board.

2-The Second Amendment was negotiated over several months with the Yorktown Sports and Recreation Commissioner along with the Deputy Supervisor and Councilman Tom Diana. Yorktown's Sports and Recreation emailed me directly the Second Amendment, Yorktown crafted, memorializing our agreements with their request to sign the agreement, have the document notarized and forward back the properly executed, now in effect, Second Amendment document. In the English Parliament, Slater would be called out for his "inexactitude", a polite expression for Slater's lack of accuracy or precision. In urbonics, Slater jam your hype.

3-Slater, in his tirade against RC at the July 5, 2022 Televised Town Board Meeting, Slater's obviously "bullying the Councilmen" to approve his illegal resolutions is apparent to all when reviewing that portion of the Town Board Meeting. In addition Slater slipped and admitted, on the televised meeting, that the Par 3 portion of the meeting was rehearsed earlier that day.

4-Under Slater's direction, Yorktown has breached the duly executed contracts with RC Recreation Development LLC repeatedly. The current lawsuit outlines several of these breaches. The latest breach is the issuance of the RFP to replace RC Recreation Development LLC at the 3 Par while an exclusive in force Concession Agreement exists.

"My advise to Yorktown Residents is to urge the Town Board, at their budget meetings, to establish a 10 Million Dollar Contingent Liability, at these budget sessions, for the Federal and NYS court awards to RC Recreation Development LLC for Slater's breaches of contract and his attempt to transfer the Par 3 property to a new operator WITHOUT ANY COMPENSATION. THIS WILL NEVER HAPPEN. YORKTOWN RESIDENTS BEWARE," writes Nussbaum.

On Sept 6, the Yorktown Town Board Resolution referred to RC's breach of contract for violations based on section 104.4 of the NYS Property Maintenance Code, a code that regulates minimum maintenance for existing buildings in use with a currently in force Certificate of Occupancy (CO). The new club house is a new building, still under construction, not in use and has never applied for a CO.

This Sept 6 Resolution states that the cure period for these violations is Nov. 15 and if the Golf Course and New Club House is not open by Nov 15, Yorktown, NY, will terminate the contracts with RC because of a breach of contract. The court case, scheduled by the Yorktown Court is currently scheduled for Nov 29, 2022 is well after the resolution date to terminate the contract.

"This represents another Key Stone Cop episode in the typical Slater strategy and in addition the agreements between RC and Yorktown do NOT have a date certain to open," said Nussbaum.

In the meantime, the course continues to get closer and closer to being ready for golfers, but it would not make sense to open in November. That has always been the view of this reporter, who just wants to play this course from my youth again.

Notice of formation of TRStack Business Consulting LLC. Arts. of Org. filed with the SSNY on 09/22/2022. 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, 180 Forest Avenue, Rye, N.Y. 10580. Purpose: Any lawful activity.

Notice of Formation of Professional Limited Liability Company. Name of PLLC: Sokol Acupuncture PLLC. Articles of Organization filed with NYDOS: October 11, 2022. Office of the PLLC: 1 Columbia Ave Apt A10 Hartsdale NY 10530. Westchester County. The NYSS has been designated as the agent upon whom process may be served. NYSS may mail a copy of process to the PLLC at: 1 Columbia Ave Apt A10 Hartsdale NY 10530. No specific dissolution date. The purpose of the PLLC is to provide acupuncture services.

Notice of formation of Beagal, LLC. Arts. of Org. filed with the SSNY on 10/11/2022. 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, 47 Washington Blvd Mt Vernon NY 10550. Purpose: Any lawful activity.

Notice of formation of WRITESTRONG LLC. Arts. of Org. filed with the SSNY on 8/30/2022. 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 1/2 Spruce St, Sleepy Hollow, NY. Purpose: Any lawful activity.

Application for Authority of ALLIED REAL ESTATE PHILADELPHIA, LLC filed with the Secy. of State of NY (SSNY) on 10/13/2022. Formed in PA 4/6/2005. Office loc.: Westchester County. SSNY is designated as agent of LLC on whom process against it may be served. The address SSNY shall mail copy of process to 2200 Walnut St., Philadelphia, PA 19103. The office address in PA is 2001 Hamilton St., Ste. 304, Philadelphia, PA 19130. Cert. of Organization filed with the Secy. of the Commonwealth, 302 N. Office Bldg., 401 North St., Harrisburg, PA 17120. Purpose: Any lawful activity.

Formation of OSSINING DEV LLC filed with the Secy. of State of NY (SSNY) 9/7/2022. Office loc.: Westchester County. The principal business address is 142-144 S. Highland Ave., Ossining, NY 10562. SSNY is designated as agent of the LLC upon whom process against it may be served. The address SSNY shall mail process to Ashish Parikh, 301 Rte. 17 N., Ste. 802, Rutherford, NJ 07070. Purpose: Any lawful activity.

Formation of PEEKSKILL ASSOCIATES, LLC filed with the Secy. of State of NY (SSNY) 9/12/2022. Office loc.: Westchester County. The principal business address is 1843 Main St., Peekskill, NY 10566. SSNY is designated as agent of the LLC upon whom process against it may be served. The address SSNY shall mail process to Robert LaScala, 204 Kings Hwy. S., Cherry Hill, NJ 08034. Purpose: Any lawful activity.

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 40 Mill Road, Eastchester, New York 10709

77 ALKAMONT AVENUE, SCARSDALE, NY 10803



Two lots (larger one improved) sold together; the smaller lot is not a separate building lot. Improved lot has a two-story colonial with four bedrooms, full basement, patio/deck, attached garage and a fireplace.

Opening Bid: \$ 495,000.00

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Two-story colonial with three bedrooms, eat-in kitchen, dining room, living room with a fireplace, patio/deck and one-car garage.

Opening Bid: \$ 410,000.00

Westchester Early Voting Times and Locations

Early voting: A nine-day early voting period runs from Saturday, October 29th to Sunday, November 6th. Registered voters will be able to cast their ballot at any of the County's 23 designated Early Voting locations.

Early Voting Hours: Saturday, October 29 and Sunday October 30-10am-6pm, Monday, October 31-8am-4pm, Tuesday November 1-Noon-8pm, Wednesday, November 2-8am-4pm, Thursday, November 3-Noon-8pm, Friday, November 4- 8am-4pm, Saturday, November 5-10am-6pm, Sunday November 6-10am-6pm

Westchester County Early Voting Locations

Eastchester Public Library, 11 Oakridge Place
 Hastings-On-Hudson Public Library, 7 Maple Avenue, Greenburgh Town Hall, 177 Hillside Avenue, White Plains
 St. Gregory The Great Church, 215 Halstead Avenue, Harrison, Mamaroneck Town Center, 740 W. Boston Post Road
 Mt. Kisco Municipal Building, 104 Main Street, Mt. Pleasant Community Center, 125 Lozza Drive, Valhalla
 Joseph G. Caputo Community Center, 95 Broadway, Ossining
 Pound Ridge Town House, 179 Westchester Avenue
 Rye Brook Firehouse, 940 King Street, Somers Town House, 335 Route 202
 Jefferson Village Annex, 3500 Hill Boulevard, Yorktown Heights
 Yorktown Cultural Center, 1974 Commerce Street
 Doles Center, 250 S. 6th Avenue, Mt. Vernon, Mt. Vernon City Hall, 1 Roosevelt Square
 New Rochelle City Hall Annex, 90 Beaufort Place
 New Rochelle United Methodist Church, 1200 North Avenue
 Peekskill Nutrition Center -Neighborhood Center, 4 Nelson Avenue
 Peekskill Lincoln Depot Museum, 10 S. Water Street
 Westchester County Board of Elections, 25 Quarropas Street, White Plains
 Grinton I. Will Library, 1500 Central Park Avenue, Yonkers
 Nodine Hill Community Center, 140 Fillmore Street, Yonkers
 Yonkers Riverfront Library, One Larkin Center, Yonkers

65 Year Old Arrested for Walking Out of Home Depot with Tool



On October 18, the New York State Police from the Cortlandt barracks announced an investigation into a larceny of a Ryobi power tool from the Home Depot on East Main Street in Mohegan Lake. The pictured subject was confronted by Home Depot staff members as he exited the store before fleeing on a black motorcycle.

On October 25, the suspect, Keith Kalish, age 65, of Cortlandt, was located and arrested for Petit Larceny, a class A misdemeanor.

Debate Over Busing, continued from pg 1-

Janine Rose Host Yonkers Chamber Debate



Former News 12 Anchor Janine Rose recently moderated a debate hosted by the Yonkers Chamber of Commerce at St. John's Riverside Hospital between, Assemblyman Nader Sayegh, left, and City Councilman Mike Breen. We miss you Janine!

Liberty Lines, but wanted to take a year to examine the operations and the needs of the people. So Latimer and Westchester County, negotiated a five-year extension with Liberty Lines, which was shorter than the usual 10-year extension.

Latimer was also able to negotiate a \$20 Million cost reduction for the people and taxpayers of Westchester in the new contract. Next year, (2023), Westchester will bid out the bus contract in an RFP, with Liberty Lines and others submitting their proposals.

In his letter, Latimer was clearly not impressed with the report or the way in which they went about it. "Westchester County would like to bring to your attention areas where your three organizations have failed:

1. You failed to seek County input prior to issuing your report. I have worked with advocacy organizations over a broad array of issues. I don't always agree with the advocacy positions but it has been my experience that when an organization has criticized County operations, they have the professional courtesy to seek our input and feedback. You did not seek our input in advance of your project; you did not seek our opinion as you conducted your project.
2. You failed to recognize that the current contract Westchester County has with Liberty Lines was competitively procured. The contract was RFP'd in 2013 under the former County Executive Rob Astorino for five years with the option for a five-year extension. In early 2018, after coming in to office in January, we met with Veronica Vanterpool, Laura Rossi and David Bragdon. You requested that we do a new RFP at that time, rather than exercise the extension. We informed you at that time that we were going to exercise that option but would do a new competitive procurement in 2023 when the extension expires. I gave my word to the leadership of Tri-State then and I am honoring that word now.
3. You failed to do your homework. If you had reached out to us, you would have known that we have a working group to do the RFP; that we are evaluating best practices and performance measures and that we have retained TransPro to assist us in this endeavor.
4. You failed to recognize the progress that the County has made over the five years of my administration:
 - a. We are undertaking a robust, customer driven Mobility Study which will provide necessary input for the RFP. It is important to recognize that a suburban bus transit system with various population densities is not the same as an urban bus transit system like New York City.
 - b. The electrification of the Bee Line bus fleet. Of our total fleet of 325 buses, 279 are electric hybrid, and 6 are full electric. The remaining 40 diesel buses will be retired over the next 12-18 months and replaced with all electric or electric hybrid. This process has already reduced air pollution from diesel exhausts at bus stops - a benefit to the riding public which you failed to recognize in your report.
5. You failed to recognize the compassion the County has for our customers and for the TWU employees of Liberty Lines who were our partners during COVID. The County suspended Bee Line bus fares during COVID, from March through September 2020. We installed plexi-glass dividers on every single bus and held COVID vaccine clinics at the facilities for drivers and mechanics - true essential workers.
6. As a result of inflation, when I suspended the County sales tax on motor fuel, I suspended Bee Line bus fares for June, July, and August of 2022. We are the only County in New York to have done so. We are doing so again during the Thanksgiving and December Holiday season.

In summary without benefit of a scientific sampling of ridership opinion, failing to share your report conclusions before addressing them at a public press conference, you would now like us to be responsive and inclusive in our future planning. We will be inclusive. We will include the people of Westchester County, the bus riders of the Bee Line system, the businesses and entities that benefit or could benefit from the system. In your zeal to find fault with our efforts, you have shown your unwillingness to be "included" but rather to sit outside the process and be critical. So be it," writes Latimer.

While Latimer was critical of being "blindsided" by a report that some have viewed as "coming out of left field," other riders we spoke to questioned what was the goal of the Tri-State Transportation Campaigns report. "They mentioned Nassau County but Nassau has a lot more people and gets a larger subsidy from the state for their bus service. Northern Westchester has many rural parts to it, with fewer riders. It is not an easy job to provide bus service to Westchester."

"I would question what goal the tri-state transportation campaign has in issuing this report behind the back of our county executive? Do they want Westchester County and its taxpayers to buy a fleet of buses and hire its own drivers? What will the cost of that be? What will the bus fare for riders be? Will it be higher? Will it be double? Or was this just a hatchet job?"

"And after two years of COVID, and all that our drivers went through, this report doesn't seem reasonable. Sometimes a public-private partnership works and works better," said different riders we interviewed on the #7 Bus.



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Yonkers Police Bust Smoke Shops Already Selling Marijuana Products



Members of the #YonkersPD 2nd Precinct and 4th Precinct have been busy with the The City of Yonkers smoke shop task force (YFD, DHB, and Code Enforcement) inspecting local businesses for compliance. Inspections have taken place all over the City, including:

Ashburton Avenue, Bronx River Road, Central Park Avenue
Kimball Avenue, Lake Avenue, McLean Avenue, Palisade Avenue, Odell Avenue, Yonkers Avenue

186 Ashburton Avenue has been SHUT DOWN pending compliance
850 Bronx River Road has been SHUT DOWN pending compliance
15 Palisade Avenue has been SHUT DOWN pending compliance

Our goal is not to hurt small businesses and building owners; however, we will not allow unlawful premises to impact the quality-of-life of our communities. The City of Yonkers and Yonkers Police Department will continue to ensure that all establishments are operating within the confines of the law.

Hudson River Museum to Celebrate Halloween and Dia de Muertos



Trick or treat this year at our annual Halloween celebration and enjoy family-friendly activities! Explore our haunted historic home on a Gothic Glenview Tour, learn about the stars in our spooky planetarium show, The Sky Tonight: Night Frights, create a jar-o'-lantern to take home in our Family Art Workshop, and meet some scaly friends at our Live Reptile Show with the Wizard of Lizards! Guests who come in costume will receive candy in the lobby throughout the weekend.

In Mexico, Dia de Muertos, or Day of the Dead, is observed every year on November 1 and 2. Dia de Muertos is a special holiday meant to celebrate death and life, when, unlike any other holiday, mourning is transformed into celebration. Families create an ofrenda, or altar, where they honor the lives of their past loved ones. These ofrendas are believed to encourage visits from the departed souls as they hear their prayers, smell the food, and join the celebration!

Weekend events include:

Saturday, October 29: 12:30pm — Legends of the Night Sky: Perseus and Andromeda, 1-4pm — Corazones y Marionetas de Papel, 1pm — Gothic Glenview Historic Home Tour, 2pm — The Sky Tonight: Night Frights, 3pm — Gothic Glenview Historic Home Tour, 3:30pm — Beyond the Sun

Sunday, October 30: 12:30pm — Legends of the Night Sky: Perseus and Andromeda, 1-4pm — Jar-O'-Lantern, 1pm — Live Reptile Show, 1pm — Gothic Glenview Historic Home Tour, 2pm — The Sky Tonight: Night Frights, 3pm — Gothic Glenview Historic Home Tour, 3:30pm — Beyond the Sun

The Sky Tonight: Night Frights Saturday & Sunday, October 29 & 30, 2pm In celebration of Halloween, explore the scariest phenomena and creepiest sights the Universe has to offer. Bottomless black holes, ghostly nebulae, terrifying planets with rain made of liquid glass, and even some haunted-house worthy sites right here in the Solar System. But don't worry, the full moon won't turn you into a werewolf. Recommended for ages 8+; 60-minute live and interactive show. Advance reservations are encouraged.

Live Reptile Show with the Wizard of Lizards Sunday, October 30, 1-2pm Don't be scared—they won't bite! Enjoy a live and interactive exotic reptile show with the "Wizard of Lizards" from Reptile Party. Learn all about the habits and habitats of his eight scaly friends this HalloWeekend. Recommended for ages 5+.

Visit HRM.org for more information.

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