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## Control of Congress Puts Westchester in the National Spotlight

### Westchester Democrats Hold Unity Rally for Maloney, With Biaggi Adding Her Support



L-R-Senate Majority Leader Andrea Stewart-Cousins, Rep. Sean Patrick Maloney, State Sen. Alessandra Biaggi, Deputy County Executive Ken Jenkiins, Senator Shelley Mayer

By Dan Murphy

On Sept. 27, Westchester democrats rallied in Tarrytown to support Congressman Sean Patrick Maloney, who is in the political fight of his life on November 8. Rep. Maloney, who is also the chair of the Democratic Congressional Campaign Committee, DCCC, is running against republican assemblyman Mike Lawler in the 17th congressional district, which includes mid-northern Westchester, Rockland, Putnam Counties and parts of Dutchess County.

Every prominent Westchester democrat attended, and lent their support to Maloney, including State Senate Majority Leader Andrea Stewart-Cousins, County Executive George Latimer, State Senator Shelley Mayer, Deputy County Executive Ken Jenkins, and others.

The most notable Westchester democrat that came out to support Maloney at the unity rally was his former opponent in the democratic primary for Congress in NY-17, State Senator Alessandra Biaggi.

"After primaries are over, this is exactly what we should expect. We all know that the majority in Congress runs through New York and we have to make sure that we re-elect Sean Patrick Maloney," said Biaggi, who recently moved to Bedford and will no longer be a member of the State Senate at the end of the year.

The two other issues that were highlighted at the rally, and have been used by democrats supporting Maloney are tying Lawler to former President Donald Trump, by calling him 'MAGA Mike', and no highlight the issue of abortion by reminding voters of Maloney's support for a woman's right to choose and the republican party's stance, and the recent US Supreme Court decision overturning Roe v Wade.

"There has never been a more important time to elect champions of reproductive choice," said Biaggi.

Westchester Democratic Chair Suzanne Berger made it clear how important this Congressional race is. "If we don't keep 17, we don't keep the House."

*Continued on pg 5-*

### Baseball Coach from Mt. Vernon Gets 4-Years in Jail for Sexual Activity with a 16-Year Old



Westchester County District Attorney Miriam E. Rocah announced that 31-year-old Mount Vernon resident and baseball coach Robert Pope, pictured left, was sentenced on Sept. 22, 2022, to the maximum term of four years in state prison for engaging in sexual activity with a 16-year-old.

"This defendant was someone who was entrusted to care and mentor young people, and he egregiously violated the trust of the victim, the victim's family and the entire community," DA Rocah said. "Today's sentencing serves as notice that there will be no sanctuary in Westchester for anyone who preys upon minors or children – our most vulnerable of victims. Our office is committed to helping survivors of sexual abuse while working to ensure abusers are fully held accountable."

In March 2022, the defendant pled guilty to Criminal Sexual Act in the Third Degree, a felony, in Westchester County Court. In accordance with his sentence, the defendant will also be subject to 10 years of post-release supervision and will be required to register as a sex offender.

On April 11, 2021, at approximately 2:13 p.m., the defendant communicated with the victim through text messages and expressed his desire to see the victim. The defendant then traveled to the victim's location, where the defendant subjected the victim to sexual activity.

Following the defendant's arrest by the Mount Vernon Police Department on June 15, 2021, the Westchester County District Attorney's Office, in conjunction with the U.S. Attorney's Office for the Southern District of New York, conducted an investigation. As a result of that investigation, the defendant is currently facing additional federal charges.

The case was before Judge Barry Warhit, and the sentence was imposed by Judge James McCarty, in Westchester County Court. The case was prosecuted by Child Abuse Bureau Chief Christine Hatfield and Assistant District Attorney Marissa Morra-Wynn. The public is encouraged to report any tips or incidents of sexual assault or child abuse to the Westchester County District Attorney's Office at (914) 995-TIPS (8477).

### Lawler: Maloney is Untruthful in TV Ads About My Stance on Abortion



Assemblyman and Congressional candidate Mike Lawler

By Dan Murphy

*Note: As a registered independent voter in the 17th Congressional District, I have been inundated with a number of mailings and TV ads on YouTube and Cable TV from the campaigns of both candidates, Democrat Rep. Sean Patrick Maloney and Republican Mike Lawler. One continued target for the democrats against Lawler is on the issue of abortion.*

*One TV ad, link here- [https://mycmag.kantarmediana.com/KMICmagvidbin2/HOUSE\\_NY17\\_MALONEY\\_EXTREME\\_MAGA\\_WING.html](https://mycmag.kantarmediana.com/KMICmagvidbin2/HOUSE_NY17_MALONEY_EXTREME_MAGA_WING.html), has Maloney claiming that Lawler "opposes abortion rights" and that he "supports a national ban on abortion."*

*Below is an Op-Ed from Lawler titled, My Actual Position on Abortion.*

#### *My Actual Position on Abortion*

By Michael V. Lawler

American politics can get ugly. Candidate positions are so often misconstrued by opponents that it's vitally important to get the truth out to voters in every way possible.

In my race for Congress in New York 17th District — all or parts of Rockland, Westchester, Putnam, and Dutchess counties — I've been amazed, for example, by how much my position on abortion has been misrepresented, and I use that word generously, by my opponent. I barely recognize myself in the mailers and television ads being used against me.

Let me be clear: I am personally pro-life, while also supporting the right to an abortion in cases of rape, incest, or if the mothers' health/life is in jeopardy. For the record, I'm also opposed to a federal ban on abortion and would vote against one.

My support for life was reaffirmed for me when my wife and I experienced a miscarriage in 2020. Thankfully, we were blessed with a healthy baby girl this year!

I recognize that abortion has always been a lightning-rod issue in this country, and June's Supreme Court Decision overturning Roe v. Wade brought it back to the forefront in many states across America.

The decision changes nothing in New York, though. Abortion was made legal here in 1970, under a Republican governor and a Republican-led state senate and assembly, interestingly, and our laws have only moved leftward since. Too far left, in my opinion.

In 2019, New York went all the way, allowing abortions right up until the moment of birth for virtually any reason - something I vehemently oppose - aligning

*Continued on pg 7-*

### Latimer Returns Westchester County Finances Back to Solid Fiscal Ground

*Westchester County's Fiscal Stress Score Raised to "No Designation," the Highest Designation Attainable by NYS Comptroller DiNapoli*

*Village of Pelham Only West. Local Government Designated Stressful*

When County Executive George Latimer first took office in 2018, one of his top priorities was restoring the County's finances to solid, fiscal ground. According to the New York State Comptroller, Westchester's finances have improved dramatically for fiscal year 2021, with the County's fiscal stress score raised to "no designation" – the highest category achievable. Coupled with the County's bond ratings now standing at "stable" by all three major rating agencies, Latimer has put the County's finances on the path to fiscal success.

Latimer said: "This designation is the result of more than four full years of smart, prudent fiscal management, no matter what variables were thrown our way. We have always had a plan in place to improve the County's finances, and that plan has been successfully executed as proven by the New York State Comptroller's Office. Our fiscal stress score dropped significantly from 56.7 to 14.6 in just one year, a direct result of exceptional 2021 financial results."

Westchester County Commissioner of Finance Karin Hابلow said: "This is great news for Westchester County taxpayers. This administration has worked extremely hard to increase our reserves, cut taxes and implement fiscally responsible budgets. This score represents an independent validation that tax dollars are being managed responsibly under the leadership of County Executive Latimer."

With the County's fiscal stress score at "no designation," and all three major bond rating agencies listing the County in "stable" condition, Latimer looks forward to further improving the County's fiscal outlook throughout his second term as County Executive.

DiNapoli's report found only the Village of Pelham on his financial stress list, and the Village of Pelham and the City of Albany were the only two local governments in NY State that were on the list in both 2020 and 2021.

Several local governments in Westchester did not file their financial information with the Comptroller's office, so a review could not be made. DiNapoli said that it was concerning that local governments in Westchester, including Irvington, Mt. Kisco, Mt. Vernon, New Rochelle, Pound Ridge, and Sleepy Hollow, did not file because it showed, "An inability to file basic financials in a timely manner often indicates a lack of proper financial management; a lack of timely financial data may prevent local officials from taking necessary steps to avoid a fiscal crisis; and a failure to provide reports indicates a lack of financial transparency."

The number of local governments designated in fiscal stress decreased substantially in FYE 2021, due largely to the infusion of one-time federal aid and an increase in sales tax revenues for calendar year entities. Most non-calendar year entities did not receive these increases in federal aid and sales tax revenue during FYE 2021, but instead will see the effect of them during their FYE 2022.

## Westchester Woman Recalls Mom's Dementia: "A Disease No One Wanted to Speak About"



*Cindy Shmerler, with her mom Paula Shmerler on her wedding day*

Cindy Shmerler of Pleasantville says public awareness and acceptance of Alzheimer's disease has come a long way since her mother, Paula Shmerler, suffered with it in the 2000s. Now a board member with the Alzheimer's Association Hudson Valley Chapter, Cindy Shmerler said the disease was rarely discussed when her family was living with it.

"I learned so much by having gone through this, and especially having gone through it when it was a quiet, subtle epidemic that nobody talked about. We suffered in silence a lot. I hope people aren't suffering in silence now — and if they are, they shouldn't be, because the only way we're going to solve this crisis is by more people talking about it. No one prepared us for what we were going to go through."

Cindy Shmerler describes her mother as a talented and accomplished woman. "She was the first female graduate in interior design from the architecture school at Washington University in St. Louis, and she flew on some of the first prop planes. She was a champion golfer, she was a bridge player, she knitted. She did all those things that they tell you ward off Alzheimer's," she said. "When we looked back, we realized that my mother's mother and my mother's grandmother both had Alzheimer's, too. My grandmother was a society woman in New York, and nobody talked about it. Everyone said she was senile, and no one knew what that meant."

She said things have changed dramatically since then. "People want it out there, they want people to know. First of all, it explains a lot, so you don't have to hide somebody in the back closet of your house. We used to take my mother out all the time," she said. "And, yes, people would look. It's very easy to spot someone with Alzheimer's if you've been around it before. You see it in everybody's face."

Shmerler said her family's denial was shattered when her mother fell down the stairs and had to be hospitalized. "She was standing at the top of the stairs and didn't know where to go, took a step and fell down the stairs, shattering her femur. At White Plains Hospital, they said she was sundowning," she recalled. Sundowning is what happens when someone has dementia and becomes restless, agitated or confused as the evening approaches.

"It was probably five years from the time we accepted it. We knew what was happening. You know when you don't want to admit something, and you don't want to deal with it."

*continued on pg 6-*

## New Rochelle Bar Owner Gets Probation for Stiffing Employees Out of \$23k Wages



**Paul Hurley, Proprietor**

*Hurley's Steakhouse & Pub • 15 Division Avenue • New Rochelle, NY • HurleysSteakhouse.com*

### *Paul Hurley in a YouTube video-picture*

Westchester County District Attorney Miriam E. Rocah announced that New Rochelle resident Paul Hurley, 57, was sentenced on September 14, 2022, to three years of probation for failing to pay more than \$23,000 in wages to eight workers he employed as cooks, dishwashers, food runners, kitchen runners and waiters at his New Rochelle restaurant, Hurley's Steakhouse and Pub. The Court also ordered the defendant to pay full restitution to the victims.

"Low-wage workers are the invisible labor force and more vulnerable to wage theft. Not paying these workers, who are already earning low wages, is an egregious exploitation of hardworking people and it is a crime," DA Rocah said. "The dedicated attorneys and investigators in my office are committed to cracking down on bad actors who deny workers their pay, and protecting workers in Westchester County."

The defendant pled guilty in June 2022 to Failure to Pay Wages, a misdemeanor, for not paying the eight employees a total of \$23,114 for their work between October 2018 and June 2019. The Westchester County District Attorney's Office arrested the defendant on February 5, 2020, following an investigation conducted by the New York State Department of Labor and the Economic Crimes Bureau of the District Attorney's Office.

This case is a result of a coordinated effort by the Wage Theft Task Force to combat wage theft, support workers and recover owed wages. It is one of hundreds of agreements and convictions secured statewide requiring more than a dozen businesses and 265 individuals to pay nearly \$3 million in wage restitution and contributions owed to workers and New York State. The Westchester County District Attorney's Office is part of the Wage Theft Task Force with the New York State Department of Labor, the New York State Attorney General and District Attorneys across the state.

The New York State Department of Labor also launched a new online wage theft reporting system to allow for the public to directly report wage theft. The hotline, 833-910-4378, offers language interpretation services, and is designed to protect workers privacy and safety. The public can also report any instances of wage theft and labor crimes directly to the Westchester County District Attorney's Office at 914-955-8477(TIPS). We offer language assistance and do not ask about documentation status.

The case was before Judge Alexandra Murphy in Westchester County Court, and was prosecuted by Economic Crimes Bureau Chief Gwen Galef of the Trials and Investigations Division.

Hurley's Steakhouse and Pub is now closed.

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## United Way, DoorDash and Elected Officials Celebrate 75,000 Food Deliveries to Families

## So Many Questions.....



State Senate Majority Leader Andrea Stewart-Cousins, left, and Assemblywoman Sandy Galef, celebrate milestone in helping food insecure

Event recognized Ossining High School's contributions to Project DASH, where students prepare and hand out bags of fresh fruits/veggies delivered by Dashers

On Sept. 28, United Way of Westchester and Putnam and DoorDash celebrated 75,000 deliveries together through DoorDash's Project DASH initiative. The organizations hosted a press conference at Ossining High School with students and teachers as well as New York State Senate Majority Leader Andrea Stewart-Cousins, New York State Assemblymember Sandy Galef, Ossining Town Supervisor Dana Levenberg and Westchester County Legislative Chair Catherine Borgia.

Since 2020, DoorDash has partnered with United Way Worldwide and its chapters to support the families impacted by food insecurity. The event marked 75,000 local deliveries through the local partnership, as well as 1 million deliveries in partnership with United Way nationally.

The event also recognized participants and teachers in Ossining High School's OPRIME program, where students prepare and hand out bags of fresh fruit and vegetables from Feeding Westchester, which are then delivered by Dashers to local households facing food insecurity. The program gives students opportunities to learn valuable practical and social skills in a hands-on environment, while connecting with their community.

"Thanks to DoorDash, United Way of Westchester and Putnam and Feeding Westchester for making 75,000 deliveries of nutritious food to residents in our area," said New York State Senate Majority Leader Andrea Stewart-Cousins. "And a special thank you to the Ossining High School students who contributed to this important effort. Even in affluent Westchester, 37 percent of households are at risk for hunger. We need more partnerships like these that address food insecurity with creative solutions that put food on the table for families who would otherwise go without."

"By teaming up with DoorDash and 40 local partners such as Feeding Westchester and the Ossining School District, United Way works to close the transportation gap that prevents too many seniors and families from accessing the nutritious produce and pantry staples," said United Way of Westchester and Putnam CEO Tom Gabriel.

"Every month 1,000 households are provided nourishing food and educational activities directly to their doorsteps. That is incredible and ensures that children and their families can depend on having nutritious food in their homes. Partners like United Way and DoorDash are so valuable," said President & CEO of Feeding Westchester, Karen C. Erren.

"I am thankful for our partnership with United Way, Feeding Westchester, and DoorDash because we know that it is making a huge difference," said Dr. Raymond Sanchez, Ossining Schools Superintendent. "It provides the opportunity to meet our families where they are at, not putting the onus on them to have to come to us. It ensures that they retain their dignity while getting the resources they need, and it certainly has a positive impact on student achievement. We know if students are hungry, they cannot learn as well."

"Thank you to United Way of Westchester and Putnam, Ossining High School and DoorDash for providing nutritious food to those in need and raising awareness of food insecurity in our community," said New York State Assemblywoman Sandy Galef. "Not every family in the community is equipped with the transportation necessary to obtain the food they need. We're especially proud of our students who have demonstrated a commitment to fighting food insecurity at such a young age - they are representative of the bright future ahead of us."

Project DASH enables government and nonprofit partners to use DoorDash to facilitate deliveries for social impact and increase access to food and critical essentials in their communities. Overall, Project DASH has powered over 2.5 million deliveries of meals across the U.S. and Canada.



By Eric Wolf Schoen

This week, I ask you to put on your thinking cap. Sometimes it's good just to sit back and think!

Do we really need pumpkin spiced garbage bags and all the other pumpkin spiced things on the market as Halloween approaches?

They are giving flight attendants more time to rest. Though necessary isn't going to screw up an already messy travel schedule for many?

Heat is required in New York City apartments from October 1 through May 1. Yonkers Only requires it October 15 through May 15. Why?

Can't we accomplish alternate side of the street parking in an hour everyday it is on versus the 2 hours that inconvenience drivers?

Parking meters on most of the planet require you to put money in and get the time you pay for. Yonkers requires you to put your license plate number in, an extra step. How many people know their license plate number? Is that really needed?

They painted such a small portion of Midland avenue for the Columbus Day Parade. Couldn't they have Painted the parade route, Midland Avenue and Seminary avenue? The little portion they painted looked so nice.

When will the baseball season be over? It's October already and it will be October 5 before the regular season ends. Add the playoffs, wild card and World Series and you are getting close to November .

What rocket scientist decided to put the tent city for those coming in over our borders in a flood zone that floods every time there is a major rain storm? Then it flooded and they moved it!

What happened to the old fashioned Halloween party people used to have. Is it just for the candy, or do we still collect money in the little orange boxes for UNICEF or those in need. Remember the scare with people putting razor blades in apples? If you get any apples are you eating them? It's terrible wasting good fruit any time particularly now when it's so expensive. Can't you just cut the apple and enjoy it?

Do people still eat candy apples and jelly apples and caramel apples, or have enough teeth been pulled out and/or damaged? Mom lost a tooth when she had a candy apple on the boardwalk in ATLANTIC City. Can't someone come up with a softer solution where you don't break your teeth. Like a chocolate apple with the brown bonnet ice cream topping so that dentists don't make a lot of money.

The poor Marist College father who was visiting his son on Parent's Weekend and ended up in the middle of a shooting shot dead by a couple of thugs. He just happened to be at the wrong place at the wrong time. Of course the thugs room at the hotel they were staying at was filed with ammunition and materials to make Explosives.

We usually spend the holidays with my dear cousin, former Yonkers Dentist Dr. Fred Meyerowitz and family. Fred passed away shortly before the holidays after a long illness. Why could he not have waited one more year so we could celebrate one last time? Fred and his wife had a deep interest in the Holocaust and Jewish studies and we would have heated discussions during the holidays. Fred enjoyed keeping up with dentistry even when he retired.

You go to the grocery store and the aisles are bare and they say the food is on a barge or a truck somewhere. Where is this barge or truck situated at? And why have prices gone up so much lately.

Return of pandemic adopted animals such as Guinea pigs, rabbit ,ducklings, chicks and birds to overloaded animal shelters. Their owners 'adopted' them when they needed them for comfort and company but don't need them anymore or realize the major upkeep these animals require.

Black Friday Holiday shopping deals in early October? Have the ships and grocery stores merchandise arrived. Or did merchants order too much ? Or since they know merchants want to get rid of some excess merchandise and they know consumers will be Halloween shopping looking for bargains as candy is so expensive and people have accumulated their holiday money why not hit them while the iron is hot.

Another booster shot has come out for Covid. Should I get it? Should my kids get the existing shots? Are we going to turn green from all these shots?

Should I get my Covid Booster at same time as I get My flu shot. Or should I wait a few weeks and not get them both together? Do I need a flu shot this year with so many shots going into my body?

Did you go to the Yonkers Will library October 1 for the wonderful musical program? Will we see you November 20 for the next one?

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## Strike Averted- 1,400 Hudson Valley 32BJ- SEIU Residential Building Workers & BRI Reach Deal

*Tentative Agreement on 4-Year Contract*



After weeks of negotiations, on Sept. 30, The Building and Realty Institute (BRI) and 32BJ SEIU, tentatively agreed to a four-year agreement that will affect 1,400 residential building service workers in 500 co-ops, condos, and rental apartment buildings across the Mid-Hudson region.

The agreement, which takes the place of the previous four-year contract which expires at midnight on September 30, is pending a ratification vote by the members of 32BJ. Once ratified, the contract will extend to September 30, 2026.

The new contract calls for a 15.71% wage increase over four years, and continues to provide full employer-funded health benefits covering medical, dental, optical and prescription drug coverage. The agreement extends full employer-funded pensions and access to the union's legal services and training funds, as well as retaining the generous holiday and leave policies from past contracts.

"Hudson Valley workers exercised their power and have now won a phenomenal agreement," said 32BJ President Kyle Bragg. "Not only have they won excellent wage and pension increases to keep up with the rising cost of living, but this tentative agreement crucially protects their great employer-paid healthcare while maintaining the integrity of their bargaining unit. I want to express my congratulations to these essential Hudson Valley workers!"

"The property owners, managing agents, co-op shareholders, and condo residents who make up the BRI appreciate the essential and hard-working men and women who staff residential buildings throughout the Hudson Valley," said Tim Foley, CEO of the BRI. "We are very glad to have reached an agreement that maintains their benefits and delivers the highest annual wage increases since our contract began, but structured in such a way as to make it affordable and sustainable for middle-class residents being squeezed by higher energy, utilities, insurance, and building supplies costs. We respect our workers for their exceptional performance during the difficult circumstances caused by the pandemic and the effort they put in every day to keep the residents who rely on them safe, and look forward to continuing our partnership to keep New Yorkers in housing that is secure, dignified, and affordable."

"We have gone through so much and given so much to keep our residents and buildings safe during the pandemic – before the vaccines and before real PPE," said building superintendent Tony Castiglione. "This agreement feels like we're getting some recognition for all that we've sacrificed."

"I guess we won't be going on strike. I have been working as a doorman for 35 years, and the last two years have been like nothing I've ever seen," said doorman Felix Cano. "When the pandemic hit, we got inundated with packages. It feels good to get a tentative agreement that honors all that we've done."

Lisa DeRosa, president of the BRI and DeRosa Builders, agreed that the tentative agreement was fair to all sides. "We take great pride in our ability to be a source of solid, middle-class jobs, and to provide excellent services to the residents of our buildings. Despite massive economic headwinds from the effects of the Housing Stability and Tenant Protection Act, the eviction moratorium, the extra costs to keep residents and workers safe during the pandemic, and the rise of inflation, we believe we have an agreement that is both respectful for these essential workers and sustainable for our residents. We are grateful for the performance and commitment of our residential building service workers during these challenging times and looking forward to further partnership during the challenges ahead."

## Westchester Innovation Network Participant Lessonbee Wins \$100k Google Award



*Lessonbee Founder and CEO Reva McPollom*

The health education tech company Lessonbee has won a \$100,000 award from the Google for Startups Initiative. Based in Mount Vernon, N.Y., Lessonbee joined the Westchester Innovation Network (WIN) in the spring and the early-stage ed-tech company was matched with the Yonkers housing authority, which is also working with several other WIN participants.

Lessonbee is one of 50 recipients of financial support from the initiative's Black Founders Fund, which provides cash awards to Black led startups that have participated in Google's programs or have been nominated by Google's partner community or a previous recipient. Besides the cash award, Lessonbee will receive Google Cloud credits and hands-on support to help their start-up grow.

"Google's award is a great honor for our company, and it motivates us to continue our work to bring diverse health education content to young people," said Lessonbee Founder and CEO Reva McPollom. "We are excited about our work with the BCW and the opportunity the WIN program has given us to meet face-to-face with young people who need comprehensive health education."

WIN is an initiative of the Business Council of Westchester to propel innovation forward as the foundation for the future of economic growth in Westchester County, N.Y. The program matches innovators with local collaborators to test new products.

Lessonbee delivers culturally relevant health and emotional-skills programs. The company's self-paced online content library with skill-building lessons for middle- to high-school grades has produced measurable gains in classrooms where it has been deployed.

Marsha Gordon, president and CEO of the Business Council of Westchester, which launched WIN in December, said, "LessonBee is a dynamic tech company that is driving innovation in the education sector. We congratulate Reva and Lessonbee for this deserved recognition and we look forward to the results from their work with the Yonkers housing authority."

In October, Lessonbee will target children living in complexes operated by the Yonkers Municipal Housing Authority with its instructional program.

## Letter to the Editor:

To the Editor,

When you go to the polls to vote this fall, please remember to turn your ballot over and vote YES for Proposition 1, the \$4.2 billion New York Clean Water, Clean Air, and Green Jobs Bond Act.

Proceeds from this bond issue will offer every community in New York State the opportunity to:

- Mitigate climate change through the purchase of electric school buses, creation of green buildings, addressing air and water pollution, especially in disadvantaged communities, etc.
- Reduce flooding risks through property buyouts, shoreline protection, waterfront revitalization, etc.
- Provide open space and land conservation through land acquisition, farmland protection, expansion of fish hatcheries, etc.
- Improve water quality through municipal water infrastructure improvements, upgrading storm water systems, etc.

Fully 35-40% of the funds will be devoted to the disadvantaged communities that have borne the brunt of air and water pollution in the past, and the projects financed by the bonds are projected to create more than 84,000 good paying green jobs. And the financing of the bonds will result in no noticeable increase in your state taxes.

It's a win-win-win for everyone in New York. So Flip-Your-Ballot and vote YES for Proposition 1. We'll all be better off for that.

Sincerely,  
Joel E. Gingold, Croton-on-Hudon

*Eric Schoen, Continued from pg 3-*

The Weather was yucky for Yom Kippur. Why was the weather crappy. Isn't it supposed to be nice for the Jewish holidays?

Oh, so many questions. Will we ever find the answers? I'll leave you with this short prayer, Gmar Hatimah Tova:

For those I may have wronged, I ask forgiveness.  
To those I may have helped, I wish I had done more.  
To those I neglected to help, I ask for understanding.  
To those who helped me, I thank you with all of my heart.

I thank my cousin Sharon for sharing that with me from her Yiddish group on Facebook. And I wish you friends, Jew and non-Jew a happy, a healthy New Year in a world of Peace.

Reach Eric Schoen at [thistoisonkers@aol.com](mailto:thistoisonkers@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.

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**BID Advertisement Legal Notice**

Notice is hereby given that the Eastchester Public Library will receive sealed bids for **REBID - RESTROOM AND ELEVATOR MACHINE ROOM RECONSTRUCTION- EASTCHESTER PUBLIC LIBRARY**, 11 Oakridge Place, Eastchester, New York 10709, in accordance with the Documents prepared by the office of Lothrop Associates LLP, Architects, 333 Westchester Avenue, White Plains, NY 10604.

All proposals shall be on a lump sum basis and include all Restroom and Elevator Machine Room reconstruction work under a single Contract. Segregated proposals will not be accepted. In general, the work includes demolition, excavation, new foundations, interior renovations, and related mechanical, plumbing and electrical work.

A non-mandatory pre-bid conference will be held at the site on **October 26 at 10:00 AM** local time.

Proposals will be received until **2:00 PM local time on November 2, 2022** at the Office of The Town Clerk, Eastchester Town Hall, 40 Mill Road, Eastchester, New York 10709, at which time they will be publicly opened and read aloud. Bid documents will be made available at 9:00 AM on October 14, 2022 and may be obtained from the Architect as follows:

All prospective bidders must register with Lothrop AssociatesLLP via e mail in order to obtain the bid documents. The following information is required:

1. Company name, address, phone number.
2. Contact person and e mail address.
3. Fax number (optional).
4. Request access to FTP site or Drop Box to obtain bid documents.

Send the above information via e mail to: [vlisanti@lothropassociates.com](mailto:vlisanti@lothropassociates.com)

Upon receipt of this information, a password will be sent to the registered prospective bidder via e-mail and prospective bidders may then download the bid documents. Bids will be accepted only from registered bidders. Only registered bidders will be notified of addenda availability via the FTP site or Drop Box.

Bid security shall be submitted with each bid in the amount of five percent (5%) of the Base Bid.

Bidders must be properly licensed under the laws governing their respective trades and be able to obtain Insurance and Bonds required for the Work.

The successful Bidder shall be required to furnish and pay for satisfactory Performance and Labor and Material Payment Bonds in the amount of one hundred percent (100%) of the total Contract Amount.

All bids shall be submitted either in person or by mail in an opaque, sealed envelope clearly marked "REBID - RESTROOM AND ELEVATOR MACHINE ROOM RECONSTRUCTION – EASTCHESTER PUBLIC LIBRARY", addressed to: Town Clerk, Eastchester Town Hall, 40 Mill Road, Eastchester, New York 10709. Unless otherwise permitted by law, no bids may be withdrawn for a period of forty-five (45) days after the date of the bid opening.

Time of Completion: **150 calendar days from Notice to Proceed.**

The Library reserves the right to reject all bids and to waive any informality or irregularity in any or all bids.

LATE BIDS - All bids received after the deadline date and time stated above will not be considered and will be returned to the bidder unopened. The bidder assumes the risk of any delay in the mail or in the handling of the mail by Owner's employees or volunteers. Whether sent by mail or by means of personal delivery, the bidder assumes all responsibility for having the bid deposited on time at the place specified.

Dated: October 10, 2022

Town of Eastchester, 40 Mill Road, Eastchester, New York 10709

**Mother Daughter Dementia, Continued from pg 2-**

And her mother also went out of her way to seem unchanged as the dementia progressed. "Somebody would come up to the table, and she would say "How are you?" and we would all chuckle because we knew she had no idea who they were."

She said it was hard not knowing how much her mother knew. "What she did or didn't know, I think that gnawed at me in the most profound way. It just killed me that I couldn't get inside her brain to find out," she said.

While for many families, the disease advances to a point when they can no longer care for their loved one and have to move them to a facility, the Shmerlers never had to make this choice. The family was assisted by professional caregivers so she could remain at home.

"She was at home until the day she died. It was rough on my father and rough on all of us. I only saw my father get upset once, when he said, 'What do you mean, why are you asking me that again?' I said to him, 'She doesn't want to be like this. It's not a choice. That's when we realized how precarious the situation was.'"

Eventually, her mother could no longer recognize her or speak. "My mother hadn't spoken in probably a year, and certainly didn't know who I was. She probably realized I was someone she loved or someone she liked, because I was there constantly. She would play cards by herself. She would sit and shuffle the cards all day long. When she died, we found the cards scattered under the chair."

"Towards the end, she looked up and said, 'It wasn't supposed to be like this.' That was a lot of words for her to use when she hadn't spoken," she recalled. "I have not a single regret knowing that I was there for my mother and my father. We did everything in our power."

Now she said she notices more openness about Alzheimer's in the younger generation. "They're more willing to talk about it because they don't fear. They're more hopeful," she said. "My mother did all the right things. She exercised, she ate right, she did the New York Times crossword in pen. In the end, we do what we can, and we hope that we leave a legacy for the next generation. I'm not a scientist; all I can do is help raise some of the funds that can help."

**To learn more about the programs and services offered locally, visit [alz.org/hudsonvalley](http://alz.org/hudsonvalley).**

Notice of 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

**Westchester Rising**

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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.

Formation of DRUMCOBRADY LLC filed with the Secy. of State of NY (SSNY) on 8/10/2022. Office loc.: Westchester County. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. The address SSNY shall mail process to Gabriel Carbin, 70 Alexander Ave., Yonkers, NY 10704. Purpose: Any lawful activity.

Notice of Formation of NYA Trucking LLC. Arts. of Org. filed with the SSNY on 08/25/2022. Office location: Westchester SSNY designated as agent of the LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail copy of process to the LLC, 87 High Street, Apt 6G, Yonkers NY 10703. Purpose: Any lawful activity.

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Notice of Formation of Them Houghs LLC. Articles of Organization filed with Secretary of State of NY (SSNY) on 8/5/2022. Office location: Westchester County. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY should mail process to; 49 Greenwood RD Yonkers NY 10701. Purpose: Any lawful purpose.

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.

Application for Authority of 17 Valerie Drive, LLC filed with the Secy. of State of NY (SSNY) 8/8/2022. Formed in FL 8/5/2022. Office loc.: Westchester County. SSNY is designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. The principal business loc. and address SSNY shall mail copy of process is 5204 Europa Dr., Apt. L, Boynton Beach, FL 33437. Arts. of Organization filed with the Secy. of State, R.A. Gray Bldg., 500 S. Bronough St., Tallahassee, FL 32399. Purpose: Any lawful activity.

Notice of Formation of Designs by Isa, LLC. Arts. of Org. filed with the SSNY on 8/2/2022. 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, 1529 Hanover Street Yorktown Heights, NY 10598. Purpose: Any lawful activity.

Notice of Formation of LWL Entertainment LLC. Articles of Organization filed with Secretary of State of New York (SSNY) on 8/17/22. Office location: 11 West Prospect Avenue, Third Floor, Mount Vernon, New York, Westchester County. The Law Offices of Lauren P. Raysor is designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: 11 West Prospect Avenue, Third Floor, Mount Vernon, New York 10550. Purpose: any lawful act or 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.

**Classifieds**

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To learn more about the financial incentives provided by the Yonkers IDA, visit [yonkersida.com](http://yonkersida.com) or call (914) 509-8651.



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## Apples and Orange County:

Perfect Combination for Pick It Yourself Orchards



In orchards across Orange County, N.Y., apples are ripening on the trees, waiting for families to come from all over the northeast to pick them.

The county is the perfect spot for apple picking in the crisp, autumn air and among spectacular scenery, just an hour from New York City. Dozens of varieties flourish in the region, ripening at different times, so there always something new to self-harvest at the “U-Pick” farms through October.

“Who says apples and Orange don’t mix? In Orange County, N.Y., they’re the perfect combination!” said Amanda Dana, Director of Orange County Tourism & film. “Our orchards offer a medley of apples throughout the season and the trees’ branches hang low with fruit waiting to be plucked. And there’s so much more to do and see – including hay rides, corn mazes, live music and farm stores stuffed with local produce, baked goods and preserves – that one day just isn’t enough. Stay for the weekend in one of our many charming lodging options.”

Check individual farms in Orange County, N.Y., for what they offer. They include:

**Apple Ridge Orchards, 101 Jessup Road, Warwick:** The owners promise the most scenic and rustic pick-your-own orchard around. Come to pluck the apples from the trees, visit the farm stand for fresh-pressed apple cider and homemade apple cider doughnuts; pet and feed the farm animals that have been handfed since they were babies; and take a tractor-pulled hayride. <https://appleridgeorchards.com/>

**Lawrence Farms Orchards, 39 Colandrea Road, Newburgh:** The pick-it-yourself fun at Lawrence Farms Orchards goes far beyond apples. In addition to 15 varieties of fall’s favorite fruit, you can also pick grapes, corn, peppers (both sweet and spicy) and much more. Check the website for a list of which crops grow month to month, and call ahead to find out what’s available. Kids will love the miniature New England-style play village. The concession stand’s treats include classic apple cider doughnuts, pies and cookies, and also chicken tenders, hot dogs, paninis and much more. Birthday packages are available. <http://lawrence-farmsorchards.org>.

**Ochs Orchard, 4 Ochs Lane, Warwick:** The orchard grows more than 25 varieties of apples, but there’s no need to be confused about what to pick when. Consult the hand chart on the Ochs’ website that tells when the different varieties are ripe and which are best for eating, baking into pies or simmering into applesauce. While you’re there, enjoy a delicious ice cream cone or milk shake with flavors made from the farm’s own berries and fruits. Also visit the farm animals and stop in the farm market, open every day. <https://www.ochsorchard.net>.

**Pennings Orchard and Farm Market, 169 Route 94, Warwick:** More than 20 varieties of apples grow on the 50 acres of orchards that have been in the same family for generations. Reservations are strongly suggested for weekend apple-picking visits. There is also a beer garden and a cidery for hard ciders and fresh ciders made from the orchard’s apples. The Harvest Grill offers farm-to-table meals. Kids will love the petting zoo. <https://penningsfarmmarket.com>.

**Sleepy Hills Orchard and Greenhouses, 1328 Route 284, Johnson:** Check which apples are ripe and ready to be plucked from the trees on this 47-acre, family-owned farm. You’ll also find flowers and local and homegrown produce for sale, as well as fall décor and accessories and bagged mulch and soil. <http://www.sleepyhillsorchard.com/>

**Soons Orchards, 23 Soons Circle, New Hampton:** Harvest time is a great time to visit the orchards, when the store is brimming with homegrown fruit and vegetables, local greens and much more. In the trees, more than 50 varieties of apples ripen throughout the season, waiting for families to come pick them. At the Orchard Hill Cider Mill Tap Room, enjoy a meal or snacks, hand-crafted cocktails and wines, beers and spirits as well as the homegrown and homemade hard ciders. <https://www.soonsorchards.com>.

To find out more about these and other orchards on the Orange County Tourism website. Visit [www.OrangeTourism.org](http://www.OrangeTourism.org) for a full list of lodging, activities, and attractions.

A comprehensive listing of area attractions, lodging, and events can be found at [www.OrangeTourism.org](http://www.OrangeTourism.org). Additionally, a fun, free, 56-page travel guide is available for digital download at <https://orangetourism.org/travel-guide/>.

### Lawler Continued from pg 1-

itself with nations like China and North Korea, where abortions are used as a form of population control and gender selection. Most European countries, in contrast, allow abortions only in the first trimester.

New York prohibits parents from being notified if their minor daughter seeks an abortion - and also allows non doctors to perform abortions, which effectively means that many low-income New Yorkers receive abortions from non-physicians today. Wherever one stands on the abortion issue, that doesn’t seem fair.

While I don’t agree with New York’s radical abortion laws, I do respect the will of the state’s voters whom the Supreme Court have given exclusive jurisdiction over the abortion issue. New York is a strongly pro-choice state. I get it.

One thing we all can agree on, hopefully, is that New York needs to do more to help vulnerable young women and families make the best decisions for themselves when pregnancies occur. I will always advocate for life, but I will never stand in judgment.

No one wants an abortion, and I sympathize with anyone struggling to make that choice.

As we move forward, there needs to be a more civilized discussion around this important issue, and a respect for differing viewpoints. If I am fortunate enough to be elected your congressman, I look forward to being part of that discussion and will pledge to always keep an open mind and open heart,” writes Lawler, who is the Republican and Conservative Party nominee for Congress in New York 17th District, which includes all or parts of Rockland, Westchester, Putnam, and Dutchess Counties.

### Westchester League of Women Voters to Host Congressional Candidate Forums:

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**CANDIDATE FORUMS**

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**Congressional District 17**  
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Mike Lawler \* Sean Patrick Maloney

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## Latimer to Westchester: Get Your Flu Shot and A COVID Booster



**Westchester County Executive George Latimer gets his vaccine from County Health Commissioner Dr. Sherlita Amler**

Flu season is officially upon us, and to encourage Westchester County's residents to stay healthy and safe, County Executive George Latimer rolled up his sleeves and got a flu shot and the bivalent COVID booster at the Health Department Clinic in White Plains on Oct. 4.

The Westchester County Health Department will offer both the flu vaccine and COVID-19 bivalent booster by appointment, every Monday and Friday in October from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m., at 134 Court Street in White Plains. The clinic is closed for the holiday on Monday, October 10.

Latimer said: "As we have seen since over the past two years, COVID-19 infection rates tend to rise during the fall and winter months, and the same goes for transmission of the flu. We should all be taking careful precautions to prevent the spread of COVID and the flu, and getting your vaccines will help us do that. It is strongly recommended to get both the bivalent COVID booster and the flu shot at the same time, to better protect yourself from both illnesses."

Health Commissioner Sherlita Amler, MD, said: "Combining vaccines is safe, and it is much more convenient to schedule both at the same time. Children often receive multiple shots at once, and you are much less likely to skip a vaccine if both are given together. Vaccines for flu and COVID-19 offer the best protection we have to fight these diseases, so the sooner you get vaccinated, the better."

Go to [www.westchestergov.com/health](http://www.westchestergov.com/health) to book your vaccine visit. Flu shots are available for anyone age three and older, and high-dose flu vaccine is available for people ages 65 and older. Children may receive a COVID-19 vaccine at the same time as they get a flu shot on Friday mornings this month. Bivalent COVID-19 boosters are available for adults and children ages 12 and up who received their most recent COVID-19 vaccine at least two months ago.

The Health Department also will hold a pop-up flu and COVID-19 vaccine and bivalent booster clinic at the Yonkers Riverfront Library, 1 Larkin Center, on Thursday, October 6 from 2 to 6:30 p.m. in the Main Entrance Atrium and Second Floor Children's Library. Appointments must be reserved online at [www.westchestergov.com/health](http://www.westchestergov.com/health).

Amler added: "We look to how flu behaves in the southern hemisphere for clues as to how our flu season will shape up. Australia just had its worst flu season in five years, and it started two months earlier than usual. Australian children and teens had the highest rates of flu among all age groups. We want to avoid a twin-demic, so please schedule both flu vaccines for everyone six months and older and COVID-19 boosters for everyone eligible as soon as possible" In the U.S. flu activity is usually highest between December and February, but can last into May.

## Two Yorktown HS Seniors Named National Merit Semifinalists



**From left: Spencer Kitts and Daniel Sheinin**

Yorktown High School seniors Daniel Sheinin and Spencer Kitts, pictured above, have been named semifinalists in the 68th annual National Merit Scholarship Program.

High school juniors entered the program by taking the 2021 Preliminary SAT/National Merit Scholarship Qualifying Test. The nationwide pool of semifinalists, which represents less than 1% of U.S. high school seniors, includes the highest-scoring entrants in each state.

"It feels pretty good," Sheinin said of the accomplishment. "I'm glad to be able to potentially receive a scholarship. I'm glad that my hard work paid off."

For Kitts, the key to performing well on the PSAT was to put in the work beforehand.

"I think that the classes and the school do a great job of preparing you for the test," Kitts said. "There's not really any additional stuff you have to do other than paying attention in class to do well."

These academically talented high school seniors will have an opportunity to continue in the competition and be eligible for scholarships. About 95% of the semifinalists are expected to attain finalist standing, and approximately half of the finalists will win a National Merit Scholarship, earning the title of Merit Scholar.

"We have to write an essay and submit that," Kitts said. "Then they'll take into account how good the essay is and also some other information about your transcript and how well you did on the SAT or ACT."

Kitts and Sheinin, whose favorite subjects include math and computer science, said they've felt supported during their time at Yorktown High School.

"I would say that Yorktown provides a lot of resources for kids to know what's going on," Sheinin said. "There are always a lot of resources and people who can help you if you want to study. And there's often workshops and things like that for people to get help."

Yorktown High School's Class of 2023 also produced 10 National Merit Scholarship Program Commended Students: Raka Bose, Hailee Carter, William Grossman, Katerina Kleinschmidt, Krishna Kumanan, Klara Kunz, Colin McCann, Jenna Scanlan, Ashley Song, and Ryan Tomeny.

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

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