

Greenburgh Police Officer & Whistleblower Kristin Stein Still Fighting for Justice

How the “Thin Blue Line” Became a Shield for Corruption



By Dan Murphy

Four years ago, we wrote about a bombshell lawsuit against the Town of Greenburgh, the Greenburgh Police Department, and 16 Greenburgh Police officers, alleging a pattern of sexual harassment, sexual assault, and retaliation against Police Officer Kristin Stein.

A lawsuit filled with evidence and integrity is now used to show what will happen if you tell the truth at the Greenburgh Police Department.

Almost 7 years after the assault, Officer Stein is still fighting for justice, and we are here to fight with her.

A recent Journal News article reported that 14 of the 17 claims made by Stein in the lawsuit have been dismissed by Federal Court Judge Philip Halperin, including the 2019 sexual assault

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Town of Yorktown Condemns Swastika Carved Into Tree at Turkey Mountain, Urges Public Vigilance



Yorktown officials strongly condemned the discovery of a swastika carved into a tree at Turkey Mountain on August 10.

Town officials learned about the hateful graffiti late Saturday night after seeing the image on social media. Volunteers with the town’s Trail Committee removed the offensive symbol early Sunday morning, demonstrating the town’s unwavering commitment to immediately eradicating symbols of hate from public spaces.

The Yorktown Police Department has launched an investigation into the incident

and is actively working to identify the individuals responsible, including tracking down those who posted images of the swastika on social media.

“Yorktown stands united against all forms of bigotry and intolerance. This act is profoundly offensive, disappointing, and unacceptable. We urge anyone who encounters hateful graffiti or offensive symbols and words in our public spaces to report them to the Yorktown Police Department immediately. Your swift action helps us maintain a safe and inclusive environment for everyone, said Supervisor Ed Lachterman.

Lachterman was critical of some candidates for the Town Board who posted photos of the hateful graffiti on social media. “While the intent may have been to inform, the manner in which some candidates chose to publicize this incident, particularly by posting images of the swastika on social media, was inappropriate and insensitive attention-mongering,” Lachterman added.

“Such actions risk amplifying the hateful message and distract from the collaborative efforts needed to address these serious issues responsibly. We must focus on unity and effective action, not political opportunism.”

The Town of Yorktown remains committed to fostering a welcoming and respectful community for all residents and will continue to work diligently with law enforcement to address and prosecute acts of hate.

Assemblyman Matt Slater said, “Hate has no home in Yorktown. This type of behavior is against our community values, and as the great Yorktown Police Department has demonstrated in the past, those who perpetrate these disgusting acts will be held accountable. I applaud Yorktown Supervisor Ed Lachterman and the town for its quick action and continued focus on combating all forms of hate when it raises its wicked head.”

Several months ago, two hate symbols were found by the Town at the Yorktown Skate Park behind Town Hall, and at Jack DeVito Veterans Memorial Field.

Lachterman told Halston Media-Yorktown News that the earlier incidents are not similar to this incident because the Swastika at Turkey Mountain was carved while the others were spray-painted, and that the Turkey Mountain location was much more remote than downtown Yorktown.

I See Dead People...Voting in Mt. Vernon City Council Candidate Alleges Voter Fraud



By Dan Murphy

A democratic candidate for Mt. Vernon City Council has filed a lawsuit against the Westchester County Board of Elections and its two commissioners, alleging that the voters rolls in Mt. Vernon included dead people and that the voter rolls increased by 30% in one year.

Bill Schwartz, left, is a Mt. Vernon resident and member of the Mt. Vernon Democratic Party. He ran for City Council in a democratic primary that included seven candidates, with three

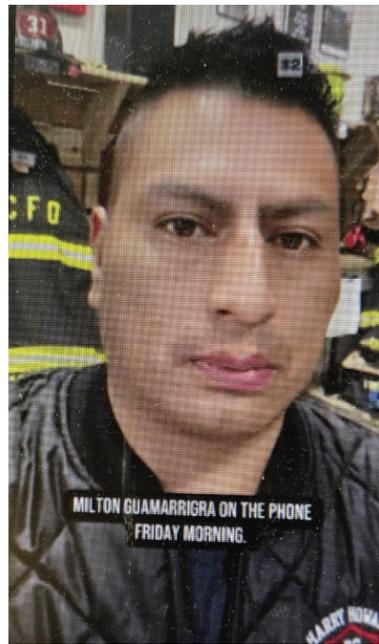
candidates moving onto the November elections, but in Mt. Vernon, the winner of the democratic primary is the de facto winner already, because of the 10-1 enrollment edge for Mt. Vernon Democrats.

The lawsuit states, “The requested relief arises from documented irregularities and credible allegations of election fraud in the June 24, 2025 Democratic Primary, including the unexplained addition of over 9,600 new voter IDs, purging of enrolled voters without notice, and mismatches in voter ID and registration data.

Petitioner Bill Schwartz is a duly enrolled voter residing in the City of Mount Vernon, Westchester County, New York. Petitioner has standing as a voter

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ICE Makes Two More Detentions in Port Chester and Peekskill



Milton Guamarriga, left, and Amy Lituma with son right

By Dan Murphy

Two recent detentions and apprehensions by ICE in Westchester County are different from the case that made news last week: The 5 day detention of Scarsdale HS graduate Yeonsoo Go.

On July 29, Milton Guamarriga, a volunteer fire fighter in Port Chester, was detained by ICE and is now in their custody in a Michigan jail. Guamarriga, 43, has lived in Port Chester for more than 20 years. His wife and children are

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Significant Support, Lingering Concerns at First CAC Hearing on Empire City Casino License



Members of the MGM Citizens Advisory Committee, L-R-Maria Fernandez, Joe Apicella, Chair Jim Cavanaugh, Frank Jereis. Not pictured Larry Wilson.
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Attorney General James Announces First Indictments Under New Deed Theft Law



Deepa Roy and Victor Quimis Stole The Home of an Elderly Queens Widow While She Received End-of-Life Hospice Care

Indictments Are First Brought by AG James Using New Criminal Deed Theft Law She Championed

New York Attorney General Letitia James announced the indictments of Deepa Roy, 68, of Manhattan and Victor Quimis, 39, of Queens, who worked together to steal the home of Renuka Bherwani, an elderly widow living in Kew Gardens Hills, Queens, while she was receiving end-of-life hospice care in her home. An investigation by the Office of the Attorney General (OAG) found that Roy and Quimis forged Bherwani's signature on documents transferring ownership of her home to themselves. Roy and Quimis later forged additional documents in order to transfer ownership of the home to Hunter Studios & Developer Corp. (Hunter Studios), a corporation owned by Quimis. Quimis then obtained a \$552,500 mortgage on the property, allowing him to steal over \$300,000 after paying off Bherwani's prior mortgage and liens in his name. Both Roy and Quimis were charged with multiple felonies for their roles in the scheme. This case is the first of its kind brought under New York's new deed theft law advanced by Attorney General James that criminalizes deed theft and gives OAG original jurisdiction to prosecute deed theft cases.

"Deepa Roy and Victor Quimis preyed on an elderly widow in hospice to steal the home she owned for nearly 40 years," said Attorney General James. "Cases like this one are exactly why I fought to advance new laws empowering my office to prosecute deed theft and protect New Yorkers' homes. I will continue to use the law as both a sword and a shield to stop these despicable crimes and ensure this home is returned to the Bherwani family."

In 2020, Mrs. Bherwani began receiving in-home care from health aides in the Kew Gardens Hills home she had owned since 1986 with her late husband, Mohan Bherwani. In March 2021, while suffering from dementia, she granted her son, Kamal Bherwani, and daughter-in-law, Sabita Bherwani, full power of attorney to manage her affairs. In 2022, around the time when Mohan passed away, Roy began visiting Mrs. Bherwani in her home, claiming to her aides that she was one of her friends. In the summer of 2024, Roy attempted to persuade Mrs. Bherwani's health aides to allow her to live in a spare room in the home. Kamal and Sabita rejected this request.

In October 2024, Roy and Quimis allegedly forged a deed with Mrs. Bherwani's signature transferring ownership of her home to themselves for free. Mrs. Bherwani's signature was notarized with a forged signature and incorrectly dated stamp from a Nassau County licensed notary. Roy and Quimis also used Mrs. Bherwani's forged signature on a number of other required real estate transfer documents, including a registration form for water and sewer billing from the New York City Department of Environmental Protection (DEP).

In December 2024, Quimis and Roy used a second forged deed to transfer ownership of the home to Hunter Studios. The Nassau County notary's signature was again forged on these documents. Quimis used this second fraudulent deed to obtain a mortgage for \$552,500. He used this money to pay off Mrs. Bherwani remaining mortgage and liens that were now in his name. He then laundered the proceeds by transferring the remaining \$312,037.57 to Hunter Studios' bank accounts, which he used for his personal benefit. Roy received at least \$15,000 for her role in the deed theft via a bank check from the stolen proceeds with a memo line stating, "Per agreement".

Kamal and Sabita discovered the deed theft in December 2024 while opening mail at the home, where Mrs. Bherwani still lived and was receiving in-home care. Kamal and Sabita found a letter addressed to Quimis from DEP, which congratulated him on becoming the "new owner" of the home and provided instructions on how to set up an online account to pay bills. They reported the deed theft to OAG shortly after.

Quimis was arrested on August 4 and charged with four counts of Grand Larceny in the First Degree, two counts of Offering a False Instrument for Filing in the First Degree, Residential Mortgage Fraud in the Second Degree, Money Laundering in the Second Degree, two counts of Criminal Possession of a Forged Instrument in the Second Degree, and Scheme to Defraud in the First Degree. Roy remains at large and faces the same charges.

This is the first deed theft case brought under a new law championed by Attorney General James, which creates a crime of deed theft and gives OAG jurisdiction to prosecute it. If convicted, Quimis and Roy face a maximum sentence of eight and one-third to 25 years in prison.

New Yorkers who believe they are a victim of deed theft are encouraged to contact OAG by calling 1(800) 771-7755, emailing deedtheft@ag.ny.gov, or filing a confidential complaint.

Letters to the Editor: Name The Rte.9 Pedestrian/Bike Bridge For Pete Seeger

Last week NYS announced that a new 270-foot pedestrian and bicycle bridge along Route 9 in Tarrytown over the NYS Thruway had been completed. Great news!

I believe that the bridge should be named in honor of Pete Seeger who did more than most to improve the Hudson River. For much of the last 50 years of his life Pete was active in promoting action to clean up the Hudson River through the Hudson River Sloop Clearwater organization, dealing with everything from PCB contamination of the river caused by industrial manufacturing, to pesticide runoff, to harbor dredge spoil disposal.

Everyone who enjoys water sports on the Hudson owes Pete Seeger a huge debt of thanks.

Shortly after Pete Seeger died, I suggested that the new bridge over the Hudson (the Mario Cuomo Bridge) be named in Pete's honor. That suggestion was rejected. I then suggested that the walkway/bike path over the bridge be named in his honor. That was also rejected. We now have a new bridge and a new Governor. I'm hopeful that Pete's life and legacy will be honored. Those of us who enjoy the Hudson should reflect on Pete Seeger's contributions and never forget what he did for the river.

PAUL FEINER
Greenburgh Town Supervisor

To the Editor:

Congressman Mike Lawler held a raucous press conference last week to take credit for the raised cap on SALT deductions, his signature issue.

Previously, homeowners could deduct the full amount of their state and local taxes on their federal tax returns. In 2017, President Trump imposed a cap of \$10,000 on those deductions. Rep. Lawler is taking a victory lap for getting that limit raised to \$40,000 as part of the One Big Beautiful Bill that recently passed by one vote in each house of Congress. Now, those who itemize their federal returns can take this larger SALT deduction.

So why all the fuss about this big "win"? Who would object to a tax deduction? It turns out there's a reason that President Trump wanted this Big Mac of a bill passed quickly. Because just like a Big Mac, it's stuffed with things that are not so good for you. Dozens of Lawler's constituents showed up to the press conference to remind him that in voting for the raised SALT cap, he also voted to slash funding for Medicaid, SNAP (food stamps), and the federal subsidies that help people to buy health insurance. He also voted to increase the funding for ICE to \$75 billion, turning our country into a police state where masked officers can abduct our neighbors without due process and send them off to inhumane detention centers. Lawler also voted to give tax breaks to the wealthiest Americans, exploding the federal deficit to the point where it will trigger the PAYGO Act, resulting in mandatory cuts to Medicare.

But Mike Lawler is hoping that you'll just be happy with your extra SALT Big Mac and not notice all the really nasty stuff inside.

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NY17 Congressional Candidate Jessica Reinmann: Impeach or Remove RFK Jr. as HHS Secretary



"We cannot have a health secretary whose actions harm Americans health"

Jessica Reinmann

JDemocrat Jessica Reinmann, candidate for Congress in New York's 17th District, called for Congress to immediately impeach Health Secretary Robert F. Kennedy Jr. and remove him from office due to his continued promotion of false information, jeopardizing the health of Americans and people around the world. The US Constitution allows for the impeachment of Cabinet Secretaries for "behaving in a manner grossly incompatible with the office,"[1] which Kennedy has done, repeatedly.

Kennedy has promoted measles misinformation during Texas' worst measles outbreak in 30 years[2]; he has promoted dangerous misinformation about the cause of AIDS[3]; he has promoted false information on the impact of vaccines on various medical conditions including falsely linking them to autism[4]; he has recklessly promoted a plan to encourage avian flu to be allowed to spread unchecked[5], which experts agree would be a disaster on multiple levels; and most recently, he has canceled over \$500 million in vaccine research[6] that would help America and the world better respond to future diseases like COVID.

"Secretary Kennedy and the Trump Administration's actions undermine America's health, undermine our national security, and undermine our ability to protect our families," said Reinmann. "All medical professionals operate under a 'first, do no harm' oath, and we cannot have a Health Secretary whose actions cause harm. Congress must act before more people are harmed and more damage is done to our health care infrastructure and responsiveness."

"When I see a problem, I fix it," said Reinmann. "And if Congress does not act now, one of my first actions after getting elected will be to file impeachment charges against Mr. Kennedy."

Jessica Reinmann is an attorney, entrepreneur and anti-poverty advocate who founded 914Cares to address poverty in the Lower Hudson Valley. Her campaign continues to gain momentum, with endorsements from Shawyn Patterson-Howard (Mount Vernon Mayor), Joe Rende (North Castle Town Supervisor), Nancy Low-Hogan (Former Rockland County Legislator), Michele Gregson (Founder of Jewish Women of Westchester), Robert Greenstein (Former New Castle Town Supervisor), Nora M. Nicholson (Village Board of Croton-on-Hudson Trustee), Althema Goodson (Ossining Public Library Trustee), Michael Hogan (Former Orangetown Democratic Committee Chairman & Member of the NYS Democratic Committee), Angela Davis-Farrish (Affordable Housing and Community Advocate), Jane Kimmel Shepardson (Former President, Chappaqua Board of Education), Hilary Grasso (Former President, Chappaqua Board of Education), Dawn Greenberg (Co-Founder of Up2Us), and more.

Promises, Promises

By Eric Wolf Schoen



So where do we go from here?

We were promised a wall. A wall to keep our people safe and that will keep those who do not belong here out of our country,

So we got a half a wall.

We were promised an end to the conflict in the Middle East and it still goes on destroying lives, property with no end in sight.

Government agencies, many doing important work had their employees fired or drastically cut back. With no backups put in place. This continues destroying lives and putting people in a massive state of confusion. And they get mixed information as to how to proceed

It's time that we consumers boycott agencies that take away jobs from Americans and our friends!

Reach Eric Wolf Schoen at ewschoen@icloud.com.

Arena Calls Out Gov. Hochul's Mid-Decade Redistricting

Scam: "Power Grabs Aren't Public Service; Unhealthy for Democracy."

Former State Senate candidate Gina Arena (NY-40) called out Governor Kathy Hochul today for "cynically attempting to redraw New York's legislative lines mid-decade," calling it a "blatant political power grab that flies in the face of a healthy democracy."

"District lines are supposed to be redrawn once a decade—after the census—not whenever a desperate politician feels her grip on power slipping," Arena charged. "Governor Hochul isn't protecting voters—she's protecting incumbents, and that's not healthy for a working democracy. It's The People who are supposed to decide their representatives, not the government."

Ms. Arena, who ran a strong campaign in the Lower Hudson Valley in 2024, hinted that voters may be seeing her name again soon. "Albany insiders can play games all they want. I'll be right here—ready to fight for the people they keep forgetting."

"21st Century Tammany Hall shenanigans need to go," Ms. Arena continued. "Voters deserve better than rigged maps and rigged outcomes. A healthy democracy is what New York needs to move forward and prosper."

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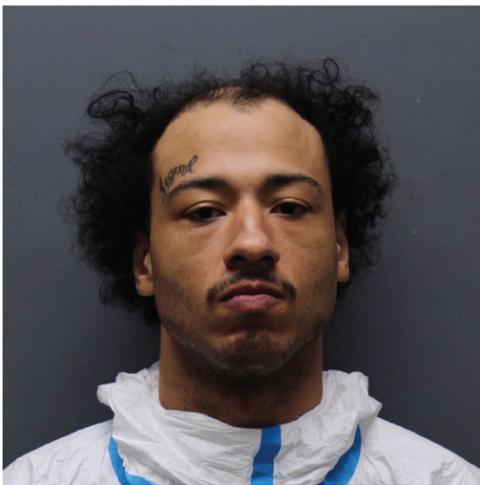
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Yonkers Police Charge Man in Shooting-Homicide



Xavier Palmer

Just before 12:30 am on August 11, 2025, the Yonkers Police Department responded to the area of 30 Cliff Street on a report of a male who had been shot. Upon arrival, Officers located a 41-year-old male with a gunshot wound to his chest. Emergency medical care was rendered on scene, and the victim was transported to an area hospital. He unfortunately succumbed to his wound and was later pronounced deceased. The victim is identified as 41-year-old James Hardy, of Yonkers.

Detectives from the Yonkers Police Major Case Squad and Crime Scene Unit responded to process the scene and investigate. The investigation revealed that this was a targeted incident stemming from a dispute between the suspect and the victim. While engaged in an argument on the sidewalk, the suspect discharged a firearm at the victim, striking him in the chest before fleeing the scene.

Detectives identified the suspect as 28-year-old Xavier PALMER of Yonkers. He was arrested earlier today by Detectives with the assistance of YPD ESU & FBI Westchester Safe Streets Task Force, and is being charged with Murder 2nd Degree and Criminal Possession of a Weapon 2nd Degree, both felonies.

“Great work by our Detectives in identifying and apprehending the shooter in this case within just 12 hours of the incident,” Police Commissioner Christopher Sapienza stated. “We will not tolerate senseless violence on our streets. If you commit these acts here, you will be apprehended and delivered to the justice system. We extend our condolences to the victim’s family and friends in this difficult time.”

This case is being prosecuted by the Westchester County District Attorney’s Office.

Note: Booking charges are merely accusations, and the suspect is presumed innocent until found guilty in a court of law.

County BOL Invests in the Safety and Success of Families and Students

The Westchester County Board of Legislators authorized critical improvements for the County’s largest family shelter plus after-school programming for sixth-graders in Yonkers during its meeting on Monday, August 4, 2025.

The Board acted to directly enhance residents’ daily lives by ensuring safe, healthy living conditions for vulnerable families and provide essential resources to help sixth-grade students successfully navigate one of the most challenging academic transitions.

Investing in Safe, Healthy Conditions at County’s Largest Family Shelter

The Board allocated \$855,000 in bonds to fund essential infrastructure improvements at the Coachman Family Center in White Plains, Westchester County’s largest family homeless shelter. The investment will address three key areas: replacing deteriorating water service lines, upgrading the fire suppression system, and relocating and improving ventilation systems that serve commercial spaces, including a nail salon and barber shop, within the facility.

Currently, up to 100 families with 189 children live at the Coachman while working toward securing permanent housing and independence. The facility provides housing-focused case management services including skill building, advocacy, crisis intervention, and connection to community resources. Families also have access to on-site childcare for preschoolers and a youth center for school-age children.

The infrastructure upgrades will improve air quality and building reliability for all shelter residents. The improvements represent the Board’s ongoing commitment to empowering families of all backgrounds as they work to achieve stability.

Legislator Jewel Williams Johnson, Chair of the Board’s Budget and Appropriations Committee, said of the investment, “Updating and modernizing the infrastructure of our shelter system is not just a matter of maintenance—it is a matter of dignity for our unhoused neighbors. The planned improvements to the Coachman Family Center in my district will enhance both the living spaces for those seeking stability and the commercial areas leased by long-standing tenants. These upgrades will ensure safer, more functional environments for all who use the building, while the continued revenue from these businesses helps sustain essential services.”

Legislator Nancy E. Barr said, “The Board’s approval to finance improvements at the Coachman Family Center is yet another example of the County’s commitment to maintaining and investing in county-owned infrastructure before facilities fall into disrepair, which would require even larger expenditures down the road. This center is a critical asset for Westchester residents facing homelessness as a result of eviction, house fires, storm damage, medical emergencies, or chronic health issues.”

Partnering with Yonkers to Support Students’ Transition to Middle School

The Board also endorsed an inter-municipal agreement (IMA) with the City of Yonkers to fund the Yonkers Sixth Grade Leadership Academy, an after-school program designed to help sixth-grade students successfully transition into middle school through weekly lessons on leadership and social skills, self-development, anti-bullying, academics, and mental health. The program will be open to all current Yonkers youth in sixth grade and will be taught by on-site staff and special guest instructors.

Under the approved cost-sharing arrangement, Westchester County will contribute up to \$110,000 with Yonkers providing a 100% match for the program this year. This partnership addresses a critical developmental period for youth by providing essential guidance during the challenging transition from elementary to middle school. The Westchester County Youth Bureau will collaborate with The City of Yonkers Youth Bureau to oversee the program.

Board Vice Chair José I. Alvarado said of the agreement, “I’m proud to support this funding—not only as Vice-Chair of the Board of Legislators, but as a representative of the City. This unique program gives our young people the chance to grow through fun, hands-on learning experiences that focus on respect, goal setting, self-care, and personal presentation. We’ve already seen incredible growth in students, and parents are truly grateful. The City of Yonkers Youth Bureau’s Youth Leadership Academy is making a real difference, and I believe it will continue to help our youth thrive as they transition into middle school and beyond.”

Legislator David J. Tubiolo said, “As one of the members of the Board of Legislators proudly serving the third largest city in New York State, I am delighted to support this initiative that provides opportunity to our community’s greatest resource: the youth. Funding this inter-municipal agreement between the County and City of Yonkers’ Sixth Grade Leadership Academy will provide our youngsters with the tools they need as they make this pivotal transition in their academic and life journeys.”

Minority Whip James Nolan said, “I’m proud to support the approval of this \$220,000 agreement with Yonkers to fund the Sixth Grade Leadership Academy. This after-school program plays a vital role in helping students successfully transition into middle school, build confidence, and develop the skills they need to thrive. As a graduate of the Yonkers Public School System, I know the importance programs like these play.”

Legislator Shanae Williams said, “The Board’s approval of the \$220,000 IMA with Yonkers is a significant investment in our youth at a pivotal stage in their development. Not all children learn the same way-- the Sixth Grade Leadership Academy offers a dynamic, alternative approach to reinforce academic skills and support diverse learning needs.”

Fourth Precinct Community Council

The Fourth Precinct's Community Council will hold its monthly meeting at 7:00 PM on Thursday, August 21, 2025, in the meeting room at the Fourth Police Precinct at 53 Shonnard Terrace. Anyone who lives or works in the area served by the Fourth Police Precinct is welcome to attend. All elected officials are also welcome. Captain Jeremiah Foley, Precinct Commander, and Lieutenant Robert Varley will be available to discuss your issues and matters of interest.



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ReX2 Deploys Digital Scanning Technology to Create Digital Twins of Buildings



Mattie Wilkes with a LIDAR camera at 1 Executive Blvd. in Yonkers. Photo courtesy of the BCW.

In a significant stride for real estate innovation, the Business Council of Westchester's Westchester Innovation Network (WIN) recently facilitated a digital scan of a Simone Development Companies property by ReX2, a company at the forefront of digital-twin technology.

The scanning of One Executive Boulevard in North Yonkers, a medical office building newly acquired and renovated by Simone Development, served as a crucial test and demonstration of ReX2's capabilities. A scan of the building, known as a digital twin, allowed ReX2 to create videos that allow prospective tenants to have a 3D experience walking through the building's finished and unfinished spaces.

"The goal was originally to bring people into the space," said Mattie Wilkes, ReX2's founder. "Anybody on Simone's leasing team can guide people, whether over the phone or on Zoom, through the whole building."

Wilkes, 26, of Mount Kisco, established ReX2 just over three years ago, focusing on creating tailor made digital twins of physical spaces, differentiating itself significantly from standard virtual tours.

Unlike typical virtual walkthroughs that feature standard imagery, ReX2 uses LIDAR (Light Detection and Ranging) and infrared scanning. LIDAR devices emit laser light pulses to measure distances to objects and walls to create 3D models of any environment. This versatile technology can map terrain, assess hazards, and guide autonomous vehicles.

The digital twinning of a property allows architects to export measurements directly into CAD software for proposals, printing, and even generate floor plans for buildings where none exist.

The on-site scanning for One Executive Boulevard took approximately four days, followed by several weeks of collaborative work with Simone Development's in-house leasing, construction, and property management teams for editing and information integration. Wilkes praised the experience of working with the Simone team, specifically commending director of leasing Jeremy Schwartz and vice-president of leasing Josh Gopan for their helpfulness and communication.

"We are very enthusiastic about supporting the WIN program by partnering with ReX2 to test their emerging real estate technology. The ReX2 team created an incredible 3D digital twin of our North Yonkers medical property at One Executive Blvd, which will be a phenomenal tool for our leasing team," said Patricia Simone, Principal & President of Simone Management Group and a BCW board member. "This project truly embodies the mission of the BCW to connect businesses in our community so that they can support each other and grow the economy."

The match between ReX2 and Simone Development reflects the BCW WIN's mission to pair emerging innovators with established local companies to foster the latest ideas, drive research and discovery, and cultivate job growth in Westchester County.

"We are thrilled that WIN facilitated such an impactful match between ReX2 and Simone Development Companies," said BCW president and CEO Marsha Gordon. "Introducing cutting-edge technology to one of Westchester County's leading commercial real estate development companies exemplifies the WIN program's primary mission: to empower business leaders to embrace innovative solutions, ensuring they continue to thrive and drive economic growth in our region."

Mount Pleasant Chief Paul Oliva, Jr. Elected President of NY State Chiefs of Police Association



Mount Pleasant Supervisor Carl Fulgenzi, left, administers an oath of office to Mount Pleasant Police Chief Paul Oliva, Jr. at NYSACOP's training conference on July 14, 2025.

Mount Pleasant Police Chief Paul Oliva, Jr. has been elected President of the New York State Association of Chiefs of Police's (NYSACOP) Board of Officers.

Chief Oliva took his oath of office on July 14 at the organization's 2025 Training Conference in Monticello. Chief Oliva's election marks a significant moment, as he assumes the presidency 45 years after his father, former Mount Pleasant Police Chief Paul Oliva, Sr., took an oath of office in 1980 to lead the same association. His father led the Mount Pleasant Police Department from 1968 until 1992.

"It is an incredible honor to be elected to lead the New York State Association of Chiefs of Police, especially following in the footsteps of my father," said Chief Oliva. "This organization is devoted to excellence in law enforcement and ensuring justice for all, and I am deeply committed to upholding that legacy."

The NYSACOP is a not-for-profit organization dedicated to serving the people of New York in the maintenance of law and order and to supporting the more than 500 police chiefs. The primary purpose of the association is to gather, disseminate, and promote useful information to New York's law enforcement agencies.

"Chief Oliva's dedication and outstanding leadership have been invaluable to our community, and I have no doubt that his vision and commitment will help the New York State Association of Chiefs of Police continue to thrive and achieve new heights in serving law enforcement across the state," said Mount Pleasant Supervisor Carl Fulgenzi.

Chief Oliva, Jr. has served as the Mount Pleasant Police Department's chief of police since 2014, following 25 years of service to the force as an officer, sergeant, and lieutenant. He initially joined the Mount Pleasant Police in 1988.

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NOTICE OF SERVICE OF PROCESS BY PUBLICATION

STATE OF NEW YORK WESTCHESTER COUNTY

In the District Court

25CV005296-400 Child Custody Proceeding To against Andre Peart:

Take notice that a pleading seeking relief against you has been filed in the above-entitled Child Custody proceeding. The nature of the relief being sought is as follows:

Child Custody Complaint in Guilford County, North Carolina

You are required to make defense to such pleading not later than August 23, 2025 and upon your failure to do so the party seeking service against you will apply to the court for the relief sought.

This, the 28th day of July, 2025

Kelley Brosky, Atty. for the Plaintiff

122 N. Elm St., Suite 900, Greensboro, NC 27401

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

Notice of formation of LCS Advisers LLC. Arts. Of Org. filed with SSNY on 7/11/2025. 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, 260 Garth Road, Apt. 2d4, Scarsdale, NY 10583. Purpose: any lawful activity

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

Notice of Formation of PRINCE & BROADWAY PROPERTIES LLC. Arts. of Org. filed with SSNY on 1/22/25. Office location: Westchester County. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process may be served. SSNY shall mail process to 172 Rockne Road, Yonkers, NY 10701. Purpose: any lawful act or activity.

Notice of formation of LIQUID ASSET SERVICES LLC. Application for Authority Filed with the SSNY on 12/05/2024. Office: Westchester County. SSNY designated as agent of the LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail copy of process to THE LLC, 46 LINCOLN AVENUE, PORT CHESTER, NY 10573. Purpose: any lawful act or activity.

NOTICE OF FORMATION of Super Smart Future LLC. Arts. of Org. filed with Sec. of State of NY (SSNY) on 04/20/2023. Office Location: Westchester County. SSNY designated as agent of the LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: Super Smart Future LLC, 58 Valley Rd, Katonah, NY 10536. Purpose: any lawful activity.

Notice of formation of IT TAKES ALL KINDS PICTURES, LLC. Arts. of Org. filed with the SSNY on 03/21/2025. 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, Republic Registered Agent Services Inc. 54 State Street Suite 804 Albany, NY 12207. Purpose: Any lawful

Notice of Formation of SteenShots LLC. Arts. of Org. filed with the SSNY on 03/12/2025. Office Location: 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, 343 South 3rd Avenue, Mt. Venron NY 10550. Purpose: Any lawful activity.

Notice of formation of 1M Consulting LLC filed with the SSNY on 11/05/2024 with the existence date as 01/01/2025. Office: Westchester County. SSNY designated as agent of the LLC upon whole processes against it may be served. SSNY shall mail copy of processes to the LLC, 3 Ward Street, Hastings-on-Hudson, NY 10706. Purpose: Any lawful activity.

Notice of Formation of FUSE WORKS LLC. Articles of Organization filed with the Secretary of State of New York (SSNY) on 04/11/2025. Office location: Westchester County, NY. SSNY is designated as agent of the LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail a copy of process to: 54 Brosnan Pl, Tuckahoe, NY 10707. Purpose: Any lawful purpose.

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

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

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

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

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

1) Bid No. RFB-7505 – Opening date: 09/05/2025: Twelve-month contract with additional Twelve-Month Option to provide on-call roofing maintenance and repair services for City owned facilities (NG).

2) Bid No. RFB-7508 – Opening Date: 08/27/2025: Provide Cisco Flex (Or Yonkers Approved Equal) for On-Premises Calling for Education Software Licenses (NG).

3) Bid No. RFB-7507 – Opening Date: 09/05/2025: Twelve-month contract with an option to renew for the purchase of ½” crush stone as needed (TN).

4) Bid No. RFB-7510 – Opening Date: 09/05/2025: Purchase of Urban SBK Speed and Traffic Calming data software licenses (or Yonkers Approved Equal) (VB).

5) Bid No. RFB-7509 – Opening date: 9/5/2025: General construction contract for the exterior door replacement at Paideia School 15 (MM).

6) Bid No. RFB-7511 – Opening date: 9/5/2025: Purchase of 1-10 Buick Envista Sport Touring Model (or Yonkers approved equal) (MM).

Notice of Formation of Math Power LLC. Arts. Of Org. filed with SSNY On 07/12/2025. Office: Westchester County. SSNY designated as agent of the LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail copy of process to the LLC, 35 Florence St, Yonkers, NY 10704. Purpose: Any lawful activity.

Notice of formation of BLUEPRINTS AND BEYOND LLC. Arts of Org. filed with Secretary of State of New York (SSNY) on February 4th, 2025. Office location: Westchester County. SSNY has been designated as agent of the LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail a copy of the process to the LLC: 70 Ashburton Avenue, Apt. 7H, Yonkers, New York, 10701. Purpose: Any lawful purpose.

Name of formation of THEOAK LLC. Date of filing Articles of Organization with the Secretary of State (SSNY) 6/14/24. The LLC is located in Westchester County. The SSNY has been designated as agent of the LLC upon whom process against it may be served. The post office address to which the SSNY shall mail a copy of any process against it served is to the principal business location at c/o 669 Main Street, Unit 605, New Rochelle NY 10801. Purpose: any lawful act or activity.

Notice of Formation of 155 ROUTE 202 LLC. Arts. Of Org. filed with SSNY on 07/10/2025. 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, 401 Broadway, Suit 1111, NY, NY 10013. Purpose: Any lawful activity.

Notice of Formation of Beautifully Hauled LLC. Arts. Of Org. filed with SSNY on 07/15/2025. Office Location: 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 28 Chestnut Street, Yonkers NY 10701. Purpose: Any lawful activity.

YONKERS POLICE DEPARTMENT

NOTICE OF ABANDONED VEHICLE

I, Christopher Sapienza, Commissioner of the Yonkers Police Department, do hereby issue the following notice pursuant to Sections 109-144 and 109-147 of the Code of the City of Yonkers:

A 2017 Honda CRV, identified by VIN # 2HKRW2H92HH617063) has been lawfully impounded since 05/02/25 and to this date no owner has come forward to claim any interest in this vehicle. Any persons having a legal interest in this vehicle may seek recovery of said vehicle by contacting Lt. Gregory Forshey no later than 09/12/25. If such person has a legal right to the vehicle, they shall be responsible for all costs incurred by the City to remove and store said vehicle and for the cost to publish any notice.

If this vehicle is not claimed by 09/12/25, the vehicle shall be deemed abandoned and title shall vest with the City on 09/12/25, (20 business days from the date of publication).

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opinions, photos & story ideas to
dmurphy@risingmediagroup.com**

Dr. James Yu Now Available to Bring Pain Relief to Patients



James Yu, DO, MS

Saint Joseph's Medical Center is proud to announce that James Yu, DO, MS, will be available to provide safe and effective pain relief to patients.

Dr. Yu, who is now affiliated with Saint Joseph's Medical Center, is a dual-trained anesthesiologist and interventional pain management physician who is dedicated to helping patients achieve lasting relief from chronic pain. Dr. Yu offers advanced, evidence-based treatment options that are tailored to each patient's

needs and focused on improving their quality of life.

A native of New York, Dr. Yu earned both his master's degree in biomedical sciences and his medical degree from Touro College of Osteopathic Medicine, where he also conducted research in neuroscience and pain medicine. He completed his residency in anesthesiology at the University of Illinois Chicago, followed by subspecialty training through the prestigious Tri-Institutional Pain Fellowship, where he trained at Weill Cornell-NY Presbyterian Hospital, Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center, and the Hospital for Special Surgery.

Dr. Yu brings extensive experience in minimally invasive techniques to treat a wide range of acute and chronic pain conditions. His approach is rooted in providing safe, patient-centered care that helps restore function and promote long-term wellness. He offers expert diagnosis and treatment for a variety of pain conditions, including neck and low back pain, disc herniations and degenerative disc disease, arthritis of the cervical/lumbar spine, spinal stenosis and sciatica, peripheral nerve pain and diabetic neuropathy, vertebral compression fractures, joint pain (shoulder, hip, knee), muscular pain, tendonitis, bursitis, complex regional pain syndrome, post-surgical pain, abdominal and pelvic pain, cancer-related pain, migraine headaches, and treatment-resistant anxiety and PTSD.

Dr. Yu offers a wide array of interventional and non-surgical treatments, including epidural steroid injections, nerve blocks, radiofrequency ablation, joint and trigger point injections, neuromodulation (spinal cord stimulation), endoscopic discectomy, regenerative medicine therapies (PRP), stellate ganglion blocks (for PTSD, anxiety, long COVID), and non-narcotic medication management. His approach to pain management is guided by compassion, clinical excellence, and collaboration. His care model includes detailed evaluations to identify the root cause of pain, personalized treatment plans designed for long-term relief, coordination with physical therapists, surgeons, and specialists, and ongoing patient education to support self-management and recovery.

Dr. Yu will have office space in Southern Westchester Orthopedics and Sports Medicine, located at 970 North Broadway, Suite 204 in Yonkers.

To schedule an appointment with Dr. Yu, please call 516-229-1443.

For more information, visit saintjosephs.org.

Remembering Michael Richard Bennett: A Yonkers Treasure



Mike Bennett

Michael Bennett, aged 91, of Fort Mill, South Carolina, passed away peacefully at home on August 5, 2025. The family will host a celebration of life at Edwards Dowdle Funeral Home in Dobbs Ferry on Thursday, August 14, 2025 at 10:30 am.

Born in Yonkers, New York, Mike was the son of James Bennett and Julia Curley. He attended Yonkers High School and after graduating, went directly into the Navy, serving on an AKA during the Korean Conflict. He went to navigational school in Bainbridge, Maryland and when a civilian again, attended City College in New York for two years.

While working in Albany, New York for over thirty years, he assisted three State Senators – John E. ("Chippie") Flynn, Christian Ambruster and William F. Condon. At the same time, he also worked as a bricklayer in New York City for over 25 years. In Albany, he served as a lobbyist for the National Electrical Contractors Association for more than 15 years, as well as the Sandy Hook and Hudson River Pilots. Mike served as a Legislative Advisor for the New York State Bricklayers and Allied Craftsmen, was a member of the New York State Conference of the B.A.C. Committee on apprenticeship and training and served as a consultant to the Pointers, Caulkers and Cleaners on Building and Mason Restoration.

Mike worked on a project related to the deceased Yonkers' veterans of the Korean Conflict, along with the annual P.A.L. Poster Contest in Yonkers.

Roberta and Mike were married for 52 years. They lived in Hastings-on-Hudson, New York for over 45 years and moved to South Carolina in 2020. They have three sons - Rob (Lorraine), Jimmy and Michael - and three grandchildren – Sophie, Brodie and Molly. Mike is survived by two sisters - Peggy Boscarino and Mary Lou Magner.

Editor's Note: I spent many happy days with Mike Bennett. Together with his amigo, photographer Ed Whitman, Mike would travel the city and take the photographs which we would run in our Yonkers Rising paper. These photos would come in almost every week for years, with Mike providing a keen eye to which photos should be included and which photo should make it to the front page.

Mike was a non-partisan supporter of the Mayor of Yonkers and the City of Yonkers. With his work and Ed's photos, Mike presented the positive side of Yonkers, through its people and organizations. They came into my office with their photos when Phil Amicone was Mayor and then when Mike Spano was Mayor.

Mike was a big part of the Yonkers PAL and helped serve thousands of young adults by keeping the door at the Walshin Center open.

I learned about the Chosin River, and Yonkers history, and legendary Yonkers figures like Tom Brogan from Mike, who served on the staff of one of Yonkers famous politicians: State Senator John Flynn.

God Bless Roberta and his family, I am glad that you got to spend these last few years with Mike.



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Hudson Piers Affordable Housing Program

38 NEWLY CONSTRUCTED UNITS at 55 Riverside Dr, Yonkers, NY, 10701

Who Should Apply?

Individuals or households who meet the income and household size requirements listed in the table below may apply. Qualified applicants will be required to meet additional selection criteria.

AVAILABLE UNITS AND INCOME REQUIREMENTS

BAND I 100% AREA MEDIAN INCOME (AMI) UNITS	Unit Size	Monthly Rent ¹	Units Available		Household Size ²	Annual Household Income ³ (Minimum – Maximum) ⁴	
	BAND I 100% AREA MEDIAN INCOME (AMI) UNITS	Studio	30% of the household income	2	→	1 person	\$96,390 - \$119,000
2 person						\$110,160 - \$136,000	
1 bedroom		30% of the household income	9	→	1 person	\$96,390 - \$119,000	
					2 person	\$110,160 - \$136,000	
					3 person	\$123,930 - \$153,000	
2 bedroom		30% of the household income	3	→	2 person	\$110,160 - \$136,000	
					3 person	\$123,930 - \$153,000	
					4 person	\$137,700 - \$170,000	
3 bedroom		30% of the household income	1	→	5 person	\$148,716 - \$183,600	
	3 person				\$123,930 - \$153,000		
	4 person				\$137,700 - \$170,000		
BAND II 80% AREA MEDIAN INCOME (AMI) UNITS	Studio	30% of the household income	2	→	1 person	\$78,540 - \$95,200	
					2 person	\$89,760 - \$108,800	
	1 bedroom	30% of the household income	4	→	1 person	\$78,540 - \$95,200	
					2 person	\$89,760 - \$108,800	
					3 person	\$100,980 - \$122,400	
	2 bedroom	30% of the household income	2	→	2 person	\$89,760 - \$108,800	
					3 person	\$100,980 - \$122,400	
					4 person	\$112,200 - \$136,000	
	BAND III 65% AREA MEDIAN INCOME (AMI) UNITS	Studio	30% of the household income	3	→	1 person	\$47,600 - \$77,350
2 person						\$54,400 - \$88,400	
1 bedroom		30% of the household income	6	→	1 person	\$47,600 - \$77,350	
					2 person	\$54,400 - \$88,400	
					3 person	\$61,200 - \$99,450	
2 bedroom		30% of the household income	5	→	2 person	\$54,400 - \$88,400	
					3 person	\$61,200 - \$99,450	
					4 person	\$68,000 - \$110,500	
3 bedroom		30% of the household income	1	→	5 person	\$73,440 - \$119,340	
	3 person				\$61,200 - \$99,450		
	4 person				\$68,000 - \$110,500		
						6 person	\$78,880 - \$128,180

¹Rent includes gas for cooking.

²Household size includes everyone who will live with you, including parents and children. Subject to occupancy criteria.

³Household earnings includes salary, hourly wages, tips, Social Security, child support, and other income. Income guidelines subject to change.

⁴A family may only participate in the COY AHO program if this will be their primary residence.

⁵Employees of MHACY and Mulford Corporation are prohibited from applying and are ineligible for consideration.

⁶Other Rental subsidies may not be used in conjunction with Affordable Housing Program.

How Do You Apply?

Apply online starting **08/22/2025 11:59pm**. To apply online, please go to www.hudsonpiers.com. Once on the website, click the "Apply for Affordable" button to get started. Only send one application per household. Do not submit duplicate applications. Applicants who submit more than one application may be disqualified.

When is the Deadline?

Applications will be accepted until units are filled. Applications not selected will remain on the waiting list.

What Happens After You Submit an application?

After the application deadline, submissions will be reviewed on a first-come, first-served basis. Please note that applicants will be considered in the order in which their documents are completed. If your application is selected, you will be asked to submit documentation through a secure online platform called Rent Café. All household members over the age of 18 will be subject to a credit and background check.

For questions or inquiries, please email HPaffordable@mulfordcorporation.com.

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A DICK VAN DYKE SHOW CELEBRATION WITH LARRY MATHEWS (AKA RITCHIE PETRIE) AT

THE NEW ROCHELLE LIBRARY Sept. 13



Larry Mathews, as Richie Petrie above, and today, below

The New Rochelle Public Library (NRPL), in partnership with the New Rochelle Council on the Arts (NRCA), is thrilled to present a nostalgic celebration of The Dick Van Dyke Show, one of television’s most beloved sitcoms. On Saturday, September 13, 2025, 12:00 – 4:00 pm, actor Larry Mathews—best known as Ritchie Petrie—returns to New Rochelle, the show’s fictional hometown, for an unforgettable afternoon of memories, laughter, and behind-the-scenes stories.

Mathews, who grew up on screen as the son of Rob and Laura Petrie (played by Dick Van Dyke and Mary Tyler Moore), will share personal reflections of working alongside comedy legends including Rose Marie and Morey Amsterdam



.Event Highlights Include:

Live commentary during a screening of Mathews’ favorite episode, Never Name a Duck

Never-before-seen color home movies and rare behind-the-scenes photos from the set

Audience Q&A, with chances to win autographed memorabilia

Meet-and-greet reception with selfie and autograph opportunities (fees apply; cash only)

Special exhibit of vintage memorabilia and replica props from the show

Moderated by David Van Deusen, publisher of The Walnut Times, a fan newsletter dedicated to The Dick Van Dyke Show

“New Rochelle has always been proud to be part of television history through The Dick Van Dyke Show,” said Eugenia Schatoff, Executive Director of the New Rochelle Public Library. “Welcoming Larry Mathews back to his TV ‘hometown’ is a treat for fans of all ages, and a wonderful opportunity to celebrate a show that brought so much laughter and joy to so many.”

“The New Rochelle Council on the Arts is delighted to co-sponsor this event with the NRPL,” says NRCA President Theresda Kump Leghorn. “It’s a wonderful opportunity to celebrate New Rochelle’s unique place in the fabric of American culture.”

This free program is open to all, but registration is required at bit.ly/NRPL_DickVanDyke_09_2025, and seating is first-come, first-served. The New Rochelle Public Library is located at 1 Library Plaza, New Rochelle, NY 10801.

Majority Leader Stewart-Cousins Funds Odell Rochambeau Museum



The nonprofit Friends of Odell House Rochambeau Headquarters will turn the historic house, long in disrepair, into a museum of Westchester’s revolutionary war efforts with help from a \$250,000 state grant secured by Senate Majority Leader Andrea Stewart-Cousins.

The museum, tentatively set to open in the spring of 2026, in time for nationwide observances of America’s 250th birthday, will feature exhibits throughout the house’s ten rooms, providing guests with an immersive and educational experience, telling the story of the house and its pivotal role in the Revolutionary War.

Said Majority Leader Andrea Stewart-Cousins: “It was my pleasure to deliver the funds needed to see this visionary museum project to completion. Here in the Town of Greenburgh, we have a site as deeply rooted in our nation’s founding as any in the country, and our community is blessed to have dedicated organizations like the Friends of Odell House Rochambeau Headquarters to serve as stewards of this remarkable historical resource. I look forward to seeing these exhibits completed when the museum opens to the public.”

Majority Leader Stewart-Cousins visited the Odell House property in Hartsdale to meet with the nonprofit’s representatives and get a sneak peek of some of the artifacts the museum will feature when it opens.

Said Friends of Odell House Rochambeau Headquarters President Susan Seal: “I am so grateful to the Majority Leader for providing the key funding for the museum exhibits. The Senator has been our enthusiastic supporter from the very beginning and this major grant allows us to build modern, interactive and informative exhibits that will engage and excite visitors.”

The Odell House dates to 1732 and served as headquarters for Gen. George Washington’s French ally, Gen. Count de Rochambeau during the Revolutionary War. It was there, in 1781, that Rochambeau and Washington hatched the plan to march the Continental and French armies south from New York to Virginia to confront the British. Just a few weeks later, the pair led their forces to victory over British troops at Yorktown, effectively ending the war and securing American independence. The house is named for Revolutionary soldier Col. John Odell, a key guide to Gen. Washington during the war. Odell purchased the property after the war ended and five generations of his descendants lived in the Hartsdale home. When the Town of Greenburgh took ownership in 2020, the work to transform it into a museum began.

Restoration of the house has been underway since 2021 and is nearly complete thanks in part to more than \$2 million in funding from the New York State Department of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation and supported with a \$500,000 grant from Majority Leader Stewart-Cousins. The museum will contain the many relics and historic artifacts which the Friends are meticulously cataloging for themed exhibits, with a goal to open to the public next spring.

Friends of Odell House Rochambeau Headquarters representatives who joined Majority Leader Stewart-Cousins are: President Susan Seal, Vice President Tom Hay, Secretary Vaneska Pasqua, Co-Treasurer David Seal, Communications Director Marc Cheshire, Sandy Morrissey, Ken Jones, Rob Pellegrino, Peter Marcus, Amelia Bucarelli and Bob Hermann.

Mayor Mike Spano's BACKPACK TO SCHOOL DRIVE supplies list



Please Donate the Following Supplies through August 18th

- backpacks
- crayons
- colored pencils
- washable markers
- glue sticks
- Elmer's Glue
- rulers
- pink erasers
- #2 pencils
- pencil sharpeners
- loose leaf paper
- composition books
- pencil pouches
- pocket folders
- hand sanitizer
- tissue packets
- masks/face coverings

Mayor Spano has officially launched the 14th Annual Yonkers “Backpack to School” Drive! Through August 18, you can donate new backpacks and school supplies at the following drop-off locations: Yonkers City Hall (40 S Broadway), Riverfront Library (1 Larkin Center) Grinton I. Will Library (1500 Central Park Ave), Crestwood Library (16 Thompson St), Police Precinct 1 – 730 E. Grassy Sprain Rd, Police Precinct 2 – 441 Central Park Ave, Police Precinct 3 – 435 Riverdale Ave, Police Precinct 4 – 53 Shonard Place. More info: yonkersny.gov/backpackdrive

Significant Support, Lingering Concerns at First CAC Hearing on Empire City Casino License

By Dan Murphy

The Yonkers Community Advisory Council (CAC), made up of five appointees by local and state elected officials, held its first public hearing on Aug. 11 at the Will Library to gather public feedback to determine whether there is community support for MGM Resorts’ application for a full commercial casino license for Empire City Casino.

CAC Chair Jim Cavanaugh said, “The members of the CAC are charged with reviewing the Empire City application, receiving public comments, and determining whether the project should be advanced to the next stage of the process. Today is for public comment.”

Cavanaugh said that the second public hearing will take place on September 16 at the Yonkers Montessori Academy, 160 Woodlawn Ave., at 6 pm.

Comments regarding MGM Empire City may be submitted via email to MGMEmpireCityPublicComment@nystec.com

Of the approximately 50 attendees, nearly 40 offered testimony. More than half vocally supported the application, citing job creation, economic growth, and increased tax revenue as key benefits. Several highlighted the stability Empire City has brought to Yonkers since transitioning from Yonkers Raceway two decades ago, a harness racetrack that once drew massive crowds of 25,000–30,000 nightly during horse racing’s heyday, and which now operates with steady, dispersed patronage and no citywide spike in crime or traffic.

Ed Cook, Vice President of the Westchester Building Trades Council, said, “This isn’t just about casino expansion, it’s about opportunity, investment, and building a better future for Yonkers. MGM provides good-paying jobs and real careers. And they do it with integrity. But none of this will happen without your support.”

Many residents applauded the proposed investment, noting that the casino already contributes significantly to the local economy and school funding. State contributions exceed \$300 million annually to the state education fund and millions more in local taxes. With the Yonkers Public Schools (YPS), facing continued yearly budget deficits averaging \$50 million per school year, some speakers questioned how the existing funds generated by the casino are allocated and why Yonkers wasn’t receiving a larger financial benefit from the state when the city is home to such a significant generator of education funding.

Armondo Ramiro said, “I am born and raised in Yonkers, and Yonkers needs this project. It will open career paths in the trades, generate millions in tax revenue, and provide the funding we need to fix our aging schools and support city services. We have a world-class company willing to continue to invest in our city and its people.”

Supporters emphasized that the project promises 2,000 new direct jobs, 6,500 construction jobs, and thousands more indirect positions that are expected to be generated by having a renowned entertainment venue built in the city. They expect the full casino with expanded amenities to attract visitors across the region, including tourists from New York City and residents from Westchester to Bergen County and Fairfield County, strengthening local commerce.

Maria Paxos-Pampafikos from the Royal Regency Hotel, said, “MGM is the 3rd largest ticket seller for live events in the United States. In phase 1, MGM can bring in top-tier entertainment. Studies have found that the existing hotels can readily accommodate the incoming tourists. Let’s keep more tourism dollars in the local economy with this smart market investment.

Many praised MGM Resorts for its philanthropic presence, supporting nonprofits with significant funding, in-kind giving for local organizations, including costly signage printing and prize donations, and including significant funding in their designs that will include infrastructure improvements to benefit residents even outside the immediate vicinity of the casino, including stormwater systems and traffic upgrades.

“MGM’s growth will ensure that the raceway and casino will continue supporting jobs and giving back to the community. Our UPAC free summer concerts are made possible in part by MGM resorts,” said Yonkers Historian Mary Hoar.

“They have put Yonkers first, and are just 13 miles from midtown. It’s a critical piece of our city’s future and will create thousands of jobs. The raceway and now the casino have been here for more than a century. They are here and they want to stay here. We must protect our history by securing our future.”

Some attendees expressed frustration with what they saw as a lack of outreach by city officials. Despite live-streamed meetings and posted calendars, residents said they often feel uninformed about major projects impacting their neighborhoods.

A number of speakers shifted focus to the aging infrastructure and lack of investment by the administration, particularly flooding due to unmodernized sewers in the city’s hilly terrain. Some urged the CAC to consider whether MGM’s infrastructure contributions would be sufficient for neighborhoods beyond the casino site.

County Legislator David Tubiolo expressed concerns about the project. “I stand here to voice my concerns, as a fourth-generation Yonkersite. This project will bring an increase in traffic, an increase in noise, and the need for more emergency services.

“We cannot put a price tag on our quality of life; we need guarantees. The council has unanimously approved the zoning, and I urge this body to urge them to have more of a conversation about this project. We are good neighbors; treat us as such, and help us get to yes.”

Councilman Anthony Merante stated after the meeting, “Last night, I attended the public hearing at the Grinton I. Will Library where about 60 residents came to speak on the proposed \$2.3 billion expansion of Empire City Casino. I want to strongly encourage anyone with concerns or opinions about this project to make your voice heard before the MGM Empire City Community Advisory Committee, which will vote on September 30.

“MGM Resorts has applied for a commercial casino license that would allow for a major redevelopment, including a renovation and expansion of the gaming area, three full-service restaurants, a parking garage, and a new 5,000-seat entertainment venue designed to attract A-list performers and events. MGM says the project would bring new destination dining and a first-of-its-kind entertainment experience to our region.

“Last night’s testimony showed just how divided our community is. Supporters say the project would bring much-needed revenue to fix our aging schools, improve infrastructure, and support essential city services. Opponents worry that despite the casino’s promises, our schools remain underfunded and quality-of-life concerns could be overlooked. I will remain vigilant and serve as a watchdog throughout this process to ensure promises are kept and safeguards are in place.”

Other speakers pointed to the fact that concerns about increased congestion and crime echoed those voiced in the early 2000s when the casino was first being planned. However, Empire City has operated 20 hours a day for two decades without a measurable increase in crime, according to city data, and those familiar with the project details noted that rigorous design and mitigation efforts have been incorporated into the casino’s expansion proposals that will significantly improve current traffic complaints, stormwater management, and police resources.

Two candidates for City Council and County Board spoke up against the proposal. Michael Pineda, republican candidate for county board, said, “I am a union member, and I’m not in favor of this. This is a done deal between the administration and the casino, promising the same empty dreams. I’m not concerned about downtown Yonkers, I’m concerned about my neighborhood. There are no permanent benefits proposed.”

Tony Solieri, republican candidate for City Council, 4th district said, “Yes this will bring jobs, but what about the people most affected who live within a mile of the casino? I’ve been here for 51 years and believe that this will hurt us, the people in my district. We should get a bigger portion of the benefits.”

The CAC will hold one more public hearing on Tuesday, September 16 at 6 p.m. at the Yonkers Montessori Academy before making its recommendation to the state’s Facility Siting Board by September 30.

Comments regarding MGM Empire City may be submitted via email to MGMEmpireCityPublicComment@nystec.com

The five members of the CAC are:

Jim Cavanaugh, Chair appointed by Mayor Mike Spano

Joe Apicalla appointed by County Executive Ken Jenkins

Maria Fernandez appointed by Governor Kathy Hochul

Larry Wilson appointed by State Senate Majority Leader Andrea Stewart-Cousins

Frank Jereis, appointed by Assemblyman Nader Sayegh.

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Remembering Delfim Heusler

Dead Voters, continued from pg 1-



Delfim Heusler, left

By Dan Murphy

I was surprised when I heard the news that Delfim Heusler had passed away over the weekend of Aug. 8-10, 2025 at the age of 53.

I was friends with Del for almost 30 years. We go back to the days of Publisher Ralph Martinelli and the Yonkers Home News & Times in the 1990's.

More recently, Del ran a website, Yonkers Insider, which was a down-the-middle newsite for people interested in Yonkers and Westchester.

I was in contact with Del every day. He kept me informed about what the blogosphere was up to. Before the

Elections, we would gather and make our predictions.

He loved politics and was knowledgeable about almost every political figure in Westchester. There were very few people in Westchester who knew every elected official, what community they represented, and how many signatures they had to get to be on the ballot. Delfim has some serious knowledge about Westchester politics, and over the years, he build a list of contacts and connections that helped him get information before others.

That is why it was good to hear Mayor Spano, County Executive Jenkins, and DA Cacace offer their condolences.

"He was a local blogger who loved Yonkers and wanted to make a difference through his storytelling. Rest in Peace, Delfim Heusler, Founder of Yonkers Insider," said Yonkers Mayor Mike Spano.

"Westchester County is saddened by the passing of Delfim Heusler, publisher of the Yonkers Insider, an online publication that has covered news in Yonkers and Westchester County for over 21 years. Delfim was committed to keeping residents informed, providing consistent coverage of local government, community events, and issues that mattered most to his readers. His dedication to transparency and public access to information made him a trusted voice in Yonkers and beyond," said Westchester County Executive Ken Jenkins.

"On behalf of Westchester County, I extend my deepest condolences to Heusler's family, friends, and colleagues. His work had a profound impact on our community, and his legacy will endure through the many people and stories he touched," said Westchester District Attorney Susan Cacace.

Del would have appreciated these kind words from the political leaders of Westchester. And anyone who knew Del at the end of his life knew that he was happy, and enjoying his life and coverage of Yonkers and Westchester.

The best post on Facebook that sums up Del, and my feelings on his loss, comes from my friend Matt Richter, who wrote. "I am so sad to hear of the passing of Delfim Heusler. Del was a remarkably kind and gentle man.

"We texted at least 4 or 5 days every week, and I always felt uplifted from his messages. Del has run a modest but earnest politics blog focused on the City of Yonkers for a long time.

"Several years ago, I suggested he start selling advertising on his blog, and over the following weeks, we talked about how that would work. He tackled the advertising model, and he was so happy with the response he got.

"He would let me know about every new client he signed and when he got a check."

"I am so proud of all that Delfim accomplished in his too-short life. He had long odds against him, but he overcame all the challenges and contributed mightily, in his way, to Yonkers and Westchester County politics."

"This is a picture following a haircut a few weeks ago. He always texted me pics after a fresh haircut."

"God bless Delfim. Reunited with your Mom and Dad. RIP, my friend. I will miss you a lot." Wrote Richter.

No news yet on a service for Delfim Heusler.

whose fundamental right to vote is at risk due to Respondents' failure to maintain an accurate and lawful registration roll.

Respondents Tajian M. Nelson and Douglas A. Colety are the Democratic and Republican Commissioners of the Westchester County Board of Elections. Respondent Westchester County Board of Elections is responsible for maintaining the voter registration list and administering elections in Westchester County.

The spreadsheet titled "2025-07-10_mt Vernon June 2025 active and inactive 07102579" ("Active/Inactive File") contains 44,021 total records with 44,021 unique voter IDs. Of the 44,021, there are 31,311 democrats, 8,589 with no party, 2,821 republicans, and 1,300+ others (IND, CON, WOR, etc.). There are 41,512 active voters and 2,509 inactive voters. The earliest birthdate listed is 1897-10-13 and the latest is 2007-07-10. Earliest voter registration is 1927-10-12 and the latest is 2025-07-09. The last vote date ranges from 1995-11-07 to 2025-06-24.

The spreadsheet titled "mt Vernon voters and history 12052469" ("Voter History File) contains 34,386 total records with 34,386 unique voter IDs. Party enrollment is: democratic: 25,900, no party: 5,369, republican: 2,167, and others: 950+. Voter status (active/inactive) is not included in this file. The earliest birthdate is 1901-01-01 and the latest birthdate is 2006-11-03. The earliest registration date is 1927-10-12, and the latest is registration date is 2024-11-06. The last vote date ranges from 1995-11-07 to 2024-11-05.

On even a cursory review, these files are deeply problematic. They show:

A net increase of over 10,000 voter IDs, a 30% growth in 13 months.

Registrants born over 120 years ago.

Voters listed who have not cast a ballot in over a decade.

Changes to Voter ID birthdates, addresses, and party affiliations across records.

The continued inclusion of registrants born in 1901 or earlier strongly indicates deceased individuals have not been removed in compliance with the law. The presence of voters who have not voted in more than two general elections, without evidence of confirmation notice, further suggests failure to perform legally required list maintenance.

The presence of voters who have not voted in more than two general elections, without evidence of confirmation notice, further suggests failure to perform legally required list maintenance.

Notably, Petitioner, together with local residents, has submitted several FOIL requests to the Westchester County Board of Elections seeking essential records, including detailed voter roll update logs, precinct-level registration activity, and absentee ballot data. As required under Public Officers Law § 89(3)(a), the Board must acknowledge FOIL requests within five business days and either produce documents or provide a timeline—typically 20 business days—for production. However, based on prior experience with delayed and incomplete responses, these records will likely not be delivered before relevant legal filing deadlines for Mandamus and Article 78 relief.

Upon information and belief, further serious violations and anomalies will only be uncovered through a forensic examination of the June 2025 Primary election records and data. These anomalies include, but are not limited to:

a. Non-Democratic voters—such as Republicans and unaffiliated voters—who were erroneously included in Democratic poll books and allowed to cast Democratic ballots in the closed primary.

b. Discrepancies between the number of votes cast on certain voting machines and the number of enrolled Democrats who signed in at those polling places.

c. Voters being improperly directed away from their correct polling sites by election inspectors or individuals affiliated with opposing campaigns, resulting in disenfranchisement.

d. Ballots being cast by individuals who signed poll books using the names of duly enrolled voters to whom they did not belong—constituting unlawful and fraudulent voting by impersonation.

Petitioner seeks a writ of mandamus compelling Respondents to: (a) conduct a comprehensive forensic audit of all voter registration and list maintenance records, and absentee ballot activity from December 1, 2024 through the present; (b) audit all voting machines used in the June 24, 2025 Primary Election and reconcile machine tallies with paper ballot records; (c) restore the registration status of improperly purged voters; (d) certify in writing the voter list maintenance procedures and safeguards for the November 5, 2025 General Election; (e) disclose all voter ID, address, party, or status changes since December 1, 2024 with justifications; (f) refrain from making any further voter roll modifications without public disclosure and documentary support; (g) preserve all records relevant to voter registration, list maintenance, and ballot activity, including TIFF images, audit logs, and absentee ballot records.

As detailed in the attached affidavits of John Gallagher and Gregory Bonaparte, the Active/Inactive voter list includes numerous individuals marked as "active" who are, in fact, deceased, and have been for many years, as well as others who have not resided at the listed addresses for decades. These entries reflect a systemic failure to maintain accurate registration records and underscore the urgent need for judicial intervention.

For example, James E. Smith, Voter ID 97269956, is listed as an active voter living at 455 S. 2nd Avenue. James Smith moved to Virginia 12 years ago. Christina L. McCalla, Voter ID 01060501, is listed as an active voter living at 455 S. 2nd Avenue. Christina McCalla has been dead for over 15 years. Joyce Gallagher, Voter ID 00378004, is listed as an active voter living at 165 E. Devonia Avenue. Joyce Gallagher has been dead since 2002 and, despite multiple requests from Mr. Gallagher, the BOE has refused to correct its records.

"This lawsuit is about more than messy records," Schwartz, who lost a party primary bid last month, told The NY Post. "When the voter rolls are that sloppy and no one at the Board of Elections is answering questions, you start to wonder what else is slipping through the cracks — or being pushed through them."

The lawsuit was filed July 15 in Supreme Court in White Plains. The results of the democratic primary for city council in Mt. Vernon in June were:

ANDRE D. WALLACE	2,037	17%-winner
DEM CATHLIN B. GLEASON	2,251	18%-winner
DEM TANESIA M. WALTERS	1,668	14%
DEM ELVIRA M. CASTILLO	1,721	14%
DEM CYNTHIA A. TURNQUEST	1,960	16%-winner
DEM NICK MASTROGIORGIO	1,521	12%
DEM BILL A. SCHWARTZ	1,166	9%

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Weekend Events in Westchester County Parks

SATURDAY, AUG. 16

Croton Point Park, Croton-on-Hudson: (914) 862-5290

Beach Is Open, 11 a.m. - 6:30 p.m.

Weekends through Monday, Sept. 1; weather permitting. No admittance after 6 p.m. Parking and admission fees apply. Westchester County residency is not required for admission.

Get details: <https://parks.westchestergov.com/swim>

Willson's Woods Park, Mount Vernon: (914) 813-6990

DJ Day, 12 p.m. - 4 p.m.

Come for a swim and enjoy music at the pool! Participation is free; admission and parking fees apply. Westchester County residency is required; weather permitting.

Get details: <https://parks.westchestergov.com/family-fun-days>

Lasdon Park, Arboretum & Veterans Memorial, Katonah: (914) 864-7268

Lasdon Green Squad, 1 p.m. - 3 p.m.

Every Saturday from April to November join the Lasdon Green Squad to keep Lasdon, Westchester's Public Garden looking beautiful. Volunteers will work with Lasdon staff on tasks such as invasive species removal, planting, watering, weeding, trail maintenance, mulching, trash clean up, and other tasks. For those age 14 and older.

Get details and register: <https://www.lasdonpark.org/event/lasdon-green-squad-2-2/2025-08-16/>

Lasdon Park, Arboretum & Veterans Memorial, Katonah: (914) 864-7268

Family Garden Party, 11 a.m. - 3 p.m.

Bring the whole family and join us in the garden for a day of fun, games, crafts, hands-on activities, raffles, special garden tours, food trucks and a Mystery Gift Wheel. \$5 per person (ages two through 12).

Get details and register: <https://www.lasdonpark.org/event/family-garden-day/>

SUNDAY, AUG. 17

Alfred B. DelBello Muscote Farm, Somers: (914) 864-7282

Muscote Farmers Market and Barnyard Beets, 9:30 a.m. - 2:30 p.m.

The market supports farmers and sustainable efforts in our area, featuring over 30 local vendors every Sunday until Nov. 16. Shop while listening to music performances from local musicians from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. Check out the schedule.

Get details: <https://www.muscotefarm.org/markets/>

Lasdon Park, Arboretum and Veterans Museum, Katonah: (914) 864-7263

Gardening Sundays and Tuesdays, Weekly, 10 a.m. - noon

Enhance your gardening skills and plant knowledge by working side by side with the gardeners at Lasdon Park. Tasks include planting, watering, weeding, pruning, staking, deadheading, potting up and more! Through November. Also: Tuesday, Aug. 19.

Get details and register: <https://www.lasdonpark.org/event/gardening-sundays-2/2025-08-17/>

Lasdon Park, Arboretum & Veterans Memorial, Katonah: (914) 864-7268

Summer Garden Tour, 1 p.m. - 2 p.m.

Join the head gardener for a free stroll around Lasdon's gardens. See what's in bloom this time of year.

Registration required: <https://www.lasdonpark.org/event/summer-garden-tour/2025-08-17/>

2025 Tour de Yonkers



The 16th Annual Tour de Yonkers will take place on Sunday, September 28, 2025. The ride is the second largest participant sporting event on the Yonkers calendar (the largest being the Yonkers Marathon). Last year the Tour had over 400 riders. This enjoyable untimed event is open to all bike riders over the age of 18 with routes of 12, 25 and 50 miles. The routes include share-the-road streets, scenic park trails, and, for the longer ride, along the closed-to-traffic Bronx River Parkway. There will be a police escort for the first several miles.

The ride will start and end at the Beczak Environmental Center- Sarah Lawrence Center for the Urban River, 35 Alexander Street, located in picturesque Habershaw Park along the Hudson River. There is food provided at rest stops and at the finish. Tour participants receive a cycling jersey as part of their registration, \$65 until Sept. 1. Quantity of jerseys is limited so riders are urged to register early to insure they receive one. For more information and to register visit yonkersbikeclub.org

New York's Medicaid Spending Rate Remains the Highest of Any State- By Bill Hammond, EmpireCenter.org

New York's Medicaid program remained a spending outlier in 2024, with per-resident outlays that were 24 percent higher than those of any other state and 77 percent above the national average, according to a federal report recently released. The report provides timely context for the current discussion about how state leaders should respond to looming cutbacks in federal health funding. Its data suggest that New York has the capacity to absorb billions of dollars in reduced federal aid while continuing to operate a generous and well-funded Medicaid program by national standards.

Medicaid is a safety-net health plan for the low-income and disabled that is jointly financed by the federal government and the states. Friday's report from the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services summarizes almost \$1 trillion in nationwide spending on the program for the fiscal year ending in September 2024.

Although New York represents less than 6 percent of the U.S. population, its \$98 billion Medicaid budget accounted for more than 10 percent of national spending on the program.

New York's Medicaid spending per resident, at \$4,942, was by far the highest among the 50 states. The second-highest state was Kentucky at \$3,989 per resident, and the national average was \$2,791 per resident.

New York's No. 1 status reflects a combination of factors, including above-average enrollment (currently 35 percent of the population, including 47 percent of New York City residents), a broad array of covered benefits and relatively high payments to providers.

New York also operates the Essential Plan, an optional benefit under the Affordable Care Act that was exercised by only two other states, Minnesota and Oregon. New York's version is offered to people with incomes above the cut-off for Medicaid, from 138 percent to 250 percent of the poverty level, and covers 1.7 million enrollees, or 9 percent of the population.

The federal government currently foots the bill for the Essential Plan's entire \$13.7 billion budget, an amount not included in Friday's report.

Recently enacted federal budget legislation – known as the One Big Beautiful Bill Act – would scale back federal funding for both Medicaid and the Essential Plan. State officials have estimated that the changes will ultimately displace 1.5 million New Yorkers from coverage and cost the state \$13 billion in lost revenue or added expenses.

In the shorter term, the Budget Division has put the direct cost to the state health budget at \$3 billion to \$4 billion annually.

Significant as those amounts are, they are still smaller than the spending gaps between New York and neighboring states as documented in Thursday's CMS report.

If, for example, New York lowered its per-resident outlays to match the No. 2 state, Kentucky, its overall Medicaid spending would be \$19 billion less and the state government's share of those savings would be about \$8 billion.

If New York matched the spending rate of Massachusetts, its total Medicaid savings would be \$25 billion and the state-share savings would be \$11 billion.

And if New York matched the per-resident rate of New Jersey, the total savings would be \$48 billion and the state-share savings would be \$20 billion.

Yonkers Honors John Edward Bruce with Permanent Headstone After 100 Years



On August 9, the City of Yonkers held a special ceremony honoring the legacy of John Edward Bruce, a pioneering Black journalist, activist, and intellectual, who was buried in an unmarked grave at Oakland Cemetery in Yonkers for over 100 years.

A Headstone Revealing Ceremony was held to mark the placement of a permanent headstone for Bruce. This event follows last year's temporary marker placement ceremony, where Mayor Mike Spano issued an official proclamation recognizing August 11th as John Edward Bruce Day in the City of Yonkers.

This is the second phase of the tribute to John Edward Bruce (1856–1924), whose grave will finally be marked with a permanent headstone after nearly a century. Bruce, founded several New York newspapers more than 100 years ago and advocated for equal rights.

The first was the placement



of a temporary marker in August 2024, when Mayor Spano proclaimed August 11th "John Edward Bruce Day in Yonkers."

The final phase will include a public documentary and educational programs in his name.

Thanks to the dedication of community partners and generous donors, RISEUP successfully raised the \$5,000 necessary for the headstone, which Minozzi and Sons have now completed.

A special thank you goes out to our major supporters: the Universal Negro Improvement Association (UNIA-ACL), New York State Senator Andrea Stewart-Cousins, New York State Assemblyman Nader Sayegh, the Beczak Environmental Education Center, the NAACP Yonkers Branch, Symra Brandon, CEO & President of Municipal Housing Authority City of Yonkers Wilson Kimball, and the City of Yonkers Mayor Mike Spano, along with many residents and organizations that contributed. In addition to the headstone fundraiser, RISEUP's president, Dr. Robert Baskerville has hosted multiple presentations on JEB's contributions and was recently awarded a \$25,000 Digital Justice Seed Grant from the American Council of Learned Societies (ACLS) to begin production onHistory With Grit, a pilot documentary focusing on Bruce's life in Yonkers. https://www.acls.org/recent-fellows/?program_id=40091&project_year=2025

Congressman Lawler Accepting Service Academy Nominations

CONGRESSMAN
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Congressional Service Academy Nominations

Rep. Lawler's service academy nomination application is now live on the website!

To be considered for a nomination to West Point, Annapolis, the Air Force Academy, or the Merchant Marine Academy, you must complete this application and interview process.

Apply at the link below.

Deadline to apply:
September 26, 2025

Now Open: Congressman Lawler's 2025 Service Academy Nomination Application!

If you're a high school senior or eligible candidate living in New York's 17th Congressional District and hoping to enter a U.S. Service Academy in 2026, this is your first step toward serving our nation.

Deadline to apply: September 26, 2025

Our service academies produce the next generation of military leaders, just as so many veterans in our community once answered the call. I'm proud to support young people ready to do the same.

Application form can be found at the link below:

<https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSdAdJEmUGqPv6lzWk3uNoTa0iiSrDLmcFx80Cgxcdd8aPL0nQ/viewform>.

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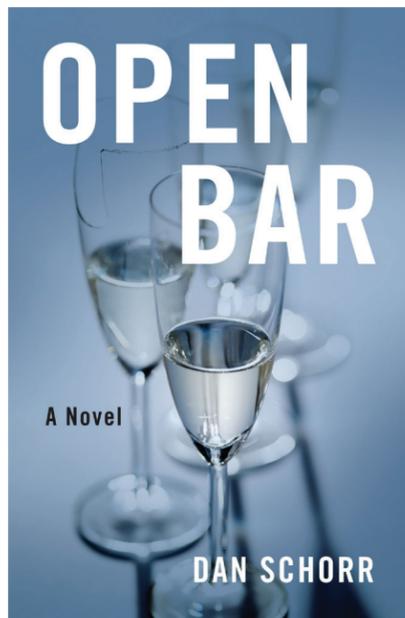
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News in Yonkers and around Westchester

Former Westchester Prosecutor & Yonkers Inspector General Dan Schorr Release New Book *Open Bar*



Dan Schorr

By Dan Murphy

Former Westchester Prosecutor and Yonkers Inspector General Dan Schorr celebrated the release of his second novel, *Open Bar*, with a reading and signing event on August 14 at the Bellefair Community Room in Rye Brook.

Open Bar is a collision of campus, corporate, and local politics when a high-profile sexual misconduct scandal rocks a prominent university.

When the longtime abuse by a university's softball coach of teenagers in its youth summer softball program—and the university's strategic cover-up of those crimes—comes to light, a community is turned

upside down in this drama-filled thriller perfect for fans of Kate Elizabeth Russell and Allison Leotta. Campus, corporate, and local politics collide when a high-profile sexual misconduct scandal rocks a prominent university.

Serena Stanfield, Mountain Hill University's human resources director, has just learned that the school's softball coach has been molesting teenagers in its youth summer softball program for years, and that the university has covered it up from both her and the public. Troy Abernathy, a junior associate at an international investigations firm, is navigating a turbulent, toxic workplace as the company aims to be retained by the university to investigate these sexual assault allegations.

Megan Black, a new member of the Mountain Hill City Council, is thrust into the fallout from the national scandal while she simultaneously focuses on securing a presidential commutation for her childhood friend, who is unfairly facing decades in prison after stabbing her abusive husband to death in self-defense.

As additional disturbing details of the coach's actions are uncovered, Serena, Troy, Megan, and other prominent community figures confront competing interests and unique obstacles while they each pursue different paths toward obtaining justice for the softball program's sexual abuse survivors—and offer conflicting understandings of what justice would even mean.

"Dan Schorr taps his years of real-world experience investigating sexual misconduct allegations to deliver a suspenseful, propulsive, and heart-wrenching novel – *Open Bar*."

—Gretchen Carlson, Journalist, co-founder Lift Our Voices, Female Empowerment Advocate, Author

"*Open Bar* is a gripping page-turner that follows the chaotic fallout from a top university's alarming sex abuse scandal. With fast-paced storytelling and compelling, memorable characters, Dan Schorr delivers a moving novel full of gritty realism, perceptive insights, and unexpected twists."

—Tara Rosenblum, Emmy-winning Senior Political & Investigative Reporter, News12 Network

Dan Schorr is a sexual misconduct investigator at his firm, Dan Schorr, LLC, and an adjunct professor at Fordham Law School. Previously, he served as a New York sex crimes prosecutor, the Inspector General for the City of Yonkers, and an adjunct law professor with Tsinghua University in Beijing, China. He has been a television legal analyst for Good Morning America, CNN, Fox News Channel, Law & Crime network, and elsewhere.

His first novel, *Final Table*, was published by SparkPress in 2021. Schorr lives in Rye Brook, New York with his wife and two children.

caught on camera.

In 2019, Stein alleged that she was a victim of a sexual assault while working in Greenburgh Police headquarters. While Stein leaned over a table, police officer Jeffrey Cerone "grinded against her rear, rammed himself into her backside with his genitals, then threw her towards the middle of the room", according to the lawsuit.

Don't believe her? THERE'S A VIDEO! Here's the link- (<https://www.lohud.com/videos/news/local/westchester/2021/08/18/greenburgh-ny-police-body-camera-officer-john-pilla/5569269001/>)

The body camera of the police officer, John Pilla, accidentally caught the whole thing on tape! In the video, several Greenburgh police officers are caught laughing hysterically after the assault occurred. At that time, Officer Stein was the only female officer in the room with approximately eight male officers.

Later in the video, both Officer Pilla and Officer Peter Schmidt are caught reenacting the sexual assault and explaining Officer Cerone's sexual fixation on Officer Stein. Officer Schmidt stated, "Totally uncalled for. I think he has a crush on her... Since the first day that she got here, he's been nothing but problems." In response to that, Officer Pilla stated, "He tries to assert his dominance to show you that he has the [male genitalia] in the relationship."

These two, as the other male officers, have now stated that they never saw anything.

These comments were a clear reference to Stein's sexual orientation and gender.

Stein, who identified as bi-sexual, believed that when the male officers in the Greenburgh Police Department found out about her sexuality, the harassment against her increased drastically. "At first, I was retaliated against because I was a woman, but it became a more hostile work environment once they found out that I had a girlfriend."

Multiple incidents of inappropriate texts, comments, sexual jokes, remarks, sexual solicitations, negative work assignments, silent treatment, uninvited sexual attention, and displays of pornographic photos are all alleged in the suit, filed in Federal Court in White Plains.

However, the only remaining defendants are the Town of Greenburgh, Chief Kobie Powell, and Captain Frank Farina. At the time of the assault, Powell was an officer and investigated the matter internally for the Greenburgh Police Department. He is now the Chief of Police.

This case has cost the taxpayers of Greenburgh a total of \$1.6 million. One of those taxpayers is the Stein family itself! Born and raised in Greenburgh, Stein, and her police officer-filled family are forced to pay for this injustice. Could the case have been settled earlier for this amount or close to it? The Town remains on the hook for any judgment if a jury finds the officers and the Town guilty, which could be millions.

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

The officers who proclaim that they didn't see the assault, even though it occurred right in front of them, are "sworn officers". With our trust and our tax dollars, they promised to tell the truth, to enforce the law, and to protect others. Instead, they watched another officer get hurt, ostracized and left to fight her despair alone. Stein stated, "They were witnessing something illegal and did nothing. We are mandated to report and get involved. Their involvement was mocking the situation and then lying about it when asked."

Since then, Stein applied for disability for her severe PTSD, Depression, and Anxiety, but has not been approved by the State, and has been denied by the Town.

Another fallacy about the inner workings of any police department is that not everyone is protected by the "Thin Blue Line". After Stein told the Town and the PD that she was suicidal, nobody cared or checked on her. She was stripped of everything she ever wanted and fought for, including her mental well-being. We continue to see suicide at a record high in law enforcement, and Greenburgh is adding to this inevitable statistic.

One of Stein's attorneys, James Castro-Blanco, told the Journal News "Kristin deserves her day in court, and deserves to have her story told, and that she deserves to have a jury of her peers, to see what happened, to explain to them what's happened to her, and to get the compensation that she deserves."

We went back and reviewed the documentation in the lawsuit. And our opinion has not changed AT ALL since 2021.

We find Kristin Stein to be believable. She came from a family of cops, was raised in Greenburgh, and wanted nothing more than to serve the community where she grew up.

This story could have had a positive ending. Instead, it has been a disaster for Stein and a blemish on the Greenburgh Police Department, regardless of the result of the suit.

We consider Kristin Stein to be a whistleblower. She was and still is a truthful and honest person and police officer. But, because she came forward with what were serious and inappropriate allegations, some caught on video, it is she who got pushed out.

Most police officers are good public servants. But for some of those good cops, the corruption around them destroys them, and they end up keeping their mouths shut and told to ignore wrongdoing so that they can keep their jobs.

Stein previously said that so many other female officers have also been victims of this disgusting behavior. And yet... still nothing is done.

But what will happen when this case goes to trial, and members of the Greenburgh Police Department are called to testify under oath. What will the other female officers of the GPD testify to?

Perhaps nothing, but is that a risk that the Town wants to take? We urge the leadership in the Town of Greenburgh to settle this case and move on.

Kristin Stein never deserved any of this. And if a jury finds that she has no legal claim to an award, what happened to her is still unacceptable.

The next pretrial conference is set for August 26. Judge Halperin has called the parties together to try and settle the case. The Town and the officers are reluctant to even discuss a settlement. If they continue their insistence, a trial by jury could happen next year.



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