

## Thousands Sign County Legislator Nolan's Petition to Keep Brother's Killer Behind Bars

## Lakeland Superintendent Among Growing Number of Public Servants Double Dipping

Some Parents Disappointed in Gagliardi



County Legislator James Nolan, left, with brother Mike Nolan

By Dan Murphy

September 18 of this year will mark the 10th anniversary of the murder of Mike Nolan. Nolan, a star pitcher from Yonkers who was just drafted by the Oakland A's at the time of his death, was shot and killed in the Burger King parking lot in Yonkers.

One of the four individuals involved in Nolan's death, Tejmitra Singh, is up for parole. Mike Nolan's brother, Westchester County Legislator James Nolan, has sponsored an online petition to keep Singh behind bars.

The petition reads:

On September 18, 2015, my brother Michael Nolan was tragically gunned down in a Burger King parking lot. He was an innocent bystander caught in a senseless act of violence with an illegal gun. His murderers tore our family apart, leaving a void that can never truly be filled. One of the individuals responsible for this horrific crime is Tejmitra Singh, who was found guilty of planning the shooting that ended my brother's life.

Tejmitra Singh was sentenced to 12 years in prison for his role in the murder of my brother. Despite this, New York State's criminal law permits individuals to seek early release after serving 80% of their sentence based on 'good behavior.' This means Tejmitra Singh could soon be eligible for parole as early as October, a possibility that deeply concerns many.

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## DA Cacace & Judge Loehr Disagree on Bail for Gas Station Road Rage Incident



AI Photo from Grok

Dispute Over Who Was in Line First at Gas Station Results in Assault, Arrest, and Dispute Over Bail in Westchester

By Dan Murphy

A South Carolina man is charged with a hate crime over an alleged assault at a Mamaroneck gas station on Aug. 9.

Westchester County District Attorney Susan Cacace announced that Carl Jones, 57, of Spartanburg, S.C., was arrested and charged with a felony for allegedly attacking a Hispanic man while they were both waiting in line at a Mamaroneck gas station.

During the confrontation between the two men over who was in line first at a Mamaroneck gas station, Jones is accused of telling the victim, a Hispanic man, to "go back to your country."

Jones also told police after the incident that he joked with the man about ICE, but Jones was arrested for choking the man during the dispute. He was arraigned on one count each of Assault in the Third Degree as a Hate Crime, a class E felony, and Criminal Obstruction of Breathing or Blood Circulation, a class A misdemeanor.

Mamaroneck Village Court Justice Christie Derrico issued a temporary order of protection on behalf of the victim. Jones is due back in court on Aug. 28.

At a bail hearing before Westchester County Court Judge Melissa Loehr, prosecutors requested that the defendant be held on bail in the amount of \$20,000 cash, \$50,000 fully secured bond, or \$75,000 partially secured bond at 10%.

Judge Loehr denied the bail application, instead releasing Jones on his own recognizance and requiring him to meet with a social worker to determine whether he needs any services.

This is one of the few instances where the DA and a Westchester judge disagreed about the conditions of release for a defendant.

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Lakeland Schools Superintendent Dr. Karen Gagliardi

By Dan Murphy

When we heard the news that Lakeland Central School District Superintendent Dr. Gagliardi was retiring from her position, my wife and daughter wondered why. Gagliardi was my daughter's Principal at Thomas Jefferson Elementary School and has served us, the taxpayers and residents, in the district well.

But then a few days later, the Yorktown News reported that the Lakeland Board of Education rehired Gagliardi to a new three-year term as superintendent on Aug. 14.

"We're fortunate to have a superintendent of schools who cares deeply about the school community and the education of our children," said Board of Education President Becky Burfeind during the board's Aug. 14 business meeting.

Gagliardi was able to retire under a provision in the 2025-26 state budget that secured benefits for her family, Burfeind said. She added that Gagliardi has agreed to return to the position at a "significantly lower salary," which will remain unchanged for the duration of the new three-year term.

"The total savings for the district accumulates to approximately \$400,000 over the next three years," Burfeind said. "This is simply a business decision that makes sense, both for the district from a fiduciary perspective and for Dr. Gagliardi."

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## "An Insult to the Taxpayers." Did Tarrytown Overpay for a New Firetruck by \$1 Million?

For Delivery in 3 years? With No Competitive Bidding?



Tarrytown Village Paid a Whopping \$2.95M for a Rolls Royce Seagrave Truck

By Dan Murphy

We received the following letter from Tarrytown resident John Stiloski.

Dear staff

I am writing as a concerned taxpayer regarding the Village of Tarrytown's recent \$2,945 million ladder truck purchase—an alarming example of non-transparent government spending made without competitive bidding or public input.

Residents only learned the actual cost of the truck when the Village Board passed a \$2.9 million budget allocation—after the contract had already been signed. There was no opportunity for public feedback or scrutiny, and the entire process appears to have been conducted behind closed doors.

Meanwhile, the City of Yonkers was able to purchase six front-line fire apparatus and have all six delivered and in service in just 198 days—at a significantly lower total cost. Why does Tarrytown face 4- to 5-year delivery timelines for single vehicles at more than double the cost?

Furthermore, Gaberelli Mack, the vendor for Rosenbauer with a history of supplying Tarrytown, reportedly offered a similar ladder truck with a pump for \$1.8 million—with fixed pricing and delivery in 18 months.

This entire process—marked by misinformation, lack of competitive bidding, extended delivery times, and inflated costs—demands a full and immediate review. Tarrytown residents deserve transparency, accountability, and responsible financial stewardship.

I urge you to take this issue seriously and work toward reopening and investigating this purchase decision.

Sincerely, John Stiloski

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## Letters to the Editor:

*Mr. Murphy, a quick thought on one of your recent stories.*

On-[yonkerstimes.com/how-the-thin-blue-line-became-a-shield-for-corruption/](https://yonkerstimes.com/how-the-thin-blue-line-became-a-shield-for-corruption/), first, I want to thank Kristin Stein for her attempts to serve the community that she grew up in as a Police Officer. It is my understanding that her brother is still a member of the Greenburgh Police Department and her father was also a police officer. She comes from a proud family of law enforcement, and it is shameful how other officers treated her.

I do not care about Officer Stein's sexuality, it should play no role in protecting our community. But I do find it ironic that as a member of the LGBTQ community, Kristin Stein received ZERO support from the progressive-democratic community, who usually speaks LOUD and PROUD when it comes to people in the LGBTQ community.

Where was the outrage for Stein? Where were the protests from the progressive community? the democratic community? the Gay and Lesbian community?

Shame on you for not speaking up for Officer Stein when she needed the support. And I hope that the Town of Greenburgh has to write a big fat check for what happened to you -God Bless--*Tracey Carlucci, Westchester voter*

### To the Editor:

I see your point about not doxxing the identify of the various westchester residents that you cited in your recent piece.

<https://yonkerstimes.com/note-to-the-fight-lawler-crowd-doxxing-his-supporters-doesnt-help-your-cause/>

I can understand that , however when your piece morphed into a pathological hatred of Trump it was missing the point as far as why there is contempt for Trump and the magnitude of his evil! Donald Trump is Cosa Nostra on steroids he has been since he was under the tutelage of Roy Cohn. The same Roy Cohn who knew or worked for Sam Giancana, santos trafficante and Carlo Gambino. Roy Cohn in a New York magazine article was described as an EVIL human being besides being the racist piece of filth that helped Trump and his father not rent to black and brown ww2 war veterans in Stuyvesant town in nyc .

Trump's good friend,when he ran casinos in Atlantic City, was mob boss Nicholas Scarfo who died 8 years ago. Whenever there were union issues or other problems with his casino he would call Nicholas Scarfo to straighten things out. Many banks will not loan to him because he has ripped them off. Trump has called Mexicans criminals and rapists. Implemented a Muslim ban from the white supremacist and Nazi officer stephen miller. He has called people from Haiti animals that eats dogs.

Mike Johnson , his speaker of the house, is tied to white supremacists and the family research council a lgbtq hate group. He has killed people with his brutally racist detention center where 95 percent of the people that have died could have been prevented with proper medical care according to various immigrants rights groups and the ACLU.

He has cut off aid to people in need as far as international hunger relief agencies like U.S. Aid. People are dying daily from that , I found that out personally from someone that I know who works for the UN.They are putting black and Latino immigrants in cages and in the case of a Latino woman reported recently she did not receive water for twenty four waters.

Racist refuse like Nassau County Bruce Blakeman is augmenting to this brutally racist and evil immigration policy by incarcerating people in a detention center in Nassau county where blakeman admits he doesn't know whether these people are criminal or not.

As Robert DeNiro said "Donald Trump is not just a bad person he is EVIL." So if there is as you describe a pathological hatred for Trump there is a reason for that.

*Cliff Jackson  
Larchmont*

### To the Editor:

I have read that MGM Resorts is pitching a major transformation of the Empire City Casino in Yonkers. Any plans to expand the casino must prioritize closing the horseracing facility as the first order of business. Yonkers Raceway in particular has a long history of animal abuse, drugs, and environmental violations. Any transformation needs to address the egregious nature of horseracing by eliminating it completely.

*Thank you, Christina DeRespiris, New Rochelle*

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## First Positive West Nile Virus Case Reported in Westchester for 2025



### County Health Department Reminds Residents to Remove Standing Water and Use Repellents

Westchester County has learned of its first positive human case of West Nile Virus this year, which was confirmed in a Yonkers man.

Health Commissioner Dr. Sherlita Amler said: "This first case of West Nile Virus should remind all of us to remove standing water around our homes every time after it rains, and use repellents when we spend time outdoors, especially from dusk to dawn, when mosquitoes are most active."

The Westchester County Department of Health will evaluate the nearby area for standing water around the resident's home and nearby catch basins, and treat those with larvicide as needed.

Residents should walk around their property and remove any standing water to prevent mosquitos from breeding. Check flower pot drip trays, kiddie pools, play equipment and other items left outdoors. Residents who notice large areas of standing water on public property should report them to the County Health Department at (914) 813-5000.

Throughout the season, the County Health Department traps and tests mosquitoes to track the presence of viruses they carry. For more ideas on how to reduce the mosquito population near your home, go to <https://health.westchestergov.com/west-nile-virus>

West Nile Virus most often causes a mild or moderate flu-like illness, with fever, headache, body aches and joint pain but can be more serious, especially for people age 65 and older, and those with underlying medical conditions.

#### Tips to Avoid West Nile:

Avoid the outdoors at dusk when mosquitoes are active and feeding. Use insect repellents and follow the label instructions.

Adults can use insect repellents with up to 30 percent DEET on infants over two months of age by applying the product to their own hands and then rubbing it onto their children, avoiding their children's hands, eyes and mouth.

When sitting outdoors, run a fan. The breeze it creates will help repel mosquitos.

Wear long pants, long-sleeved shirts and socks when outdoors, especially in areas where mosquitoes are active and feeding.

- Check around your property for anything that can hold water, and pour it out or put it away. Mosquitos don't travel far from a water source.

- Remove discarded tires.

- Drill holes in the bottoms of all recycling containers that are left outdoors.

- Turn over plastic wading pools, buckets and wheelbarrows when not in use.

- Change the water in birdbaths at least twice weekly.

- Keep storm drains and gutters clear of leaves and debris.

- Continue to chlorinate swimming pools, outdoor spas and hot tubs until properly winterized or drained for the season. Also, if not chlorinated, drain any water that collects on their covers.

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## Mt. Vernon Police Department Coordinates Gun Drop Off



The Mount Vernon Police Department issued a statement addressing a bag containing firearms left in a parking lot. The MVPD explained that a community member contacted them to arrange the surrender of firearms, ammunition, a firearm scope, and a bulletproof vest. A department representative coordinated a time and location for the collection of these items.

On August 4th, the scheduled drop-off and immediate retrieval took place in the parking lot across from City Hall.

The department asserts that such exchanges are occasionally facilitated as a means of reducing violence and removing firearms from the community.

The department ask that anyone with information about any crime to contact the MVPD Detective Division at 914-665-2510, all calls will be kept confidential. You can also submit an anonymous tip via our "Text-A-Tip" by texting "MVPD" and your tip to 847411.

Some residents have questioned the decision by the MVPD.

St. Mary's Friends To Hold Fundraising Event—  
Thursday, September 25, 5 to 7pm  
The "fun-raising" will be at St. Mary's Parish Hall

St. Mary's Friends has announced the launch of a "fun-raising" event that will be held on Thursday, September 25, 2025, 5 to 7pm, at St. Mary's Parish Hall. The Parish Hall is located at St. Mary's Church (Church of the Immaculate Conception), 103 South Broadway in Yonkers, New York 10701.

The event is being held to raise funds to repair, renovate and restore the church. This special "fun-raising" event is also an opportunity for people in the community to get to know one another. The event welcomes all members of the Yonkers community, and beyond, including both former and current parishioners of the parish. All are invited for a good time that includes great food, live entertainment, music, and community-building.

Guests will be asked to register and donate a nominal contribution at the door. Give whatever you can! If you have questions, comments, please email [stmarysfriends-org@gmail.com](mailto:stmarysfriends-org@gmail.com).

Members of St. Mary's Friends will be present to answer questions about recent renovation projects and fundraising efforts. In the coming months, St. Mary's Friends plans to host additional events that will serve the St. Mary's greater community and raise awareness for its renovation projects.

St. Mary's Friends, Inc. is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization formed in the State of New York. St. Mary's Church (Church of the Immaculate Conception) is located in Yonkers, New York, and was founded in 1848. The Church is the oldest Roman Catholic Parish in the City of Yonkers and is known as the "Cathedral of the Hudson River Valley." For more information, please see [www.StMarysFriends.org](http://www.StMarysFriends.org).

## Going to Teach in Oklahoma? Everyone out of the Pool!

By Eric Wolf Schoen



Did you wake up earlier this week and hear that potential teachers in Oklahoma would be required to take a test to see, in a nutshell how they stand politically prior to appointment. Here in a country where we have hard enough time recruiting teachers, now we elected officials playing games with the small pool we have.

So what kind of tests can we have? If I like vanilla pudding or strawberry vs. chocolate, does that make me a liberal? If I like to use my finger to get the pudding out of the bottom of the cup and my friend doesn't does that categorize us?

How about if I like my meat well done but others like it rare. Does that make me a conservative if I like meat well cooked?

If I wear clothing from Bloomingdale's and my friend likes clothing from Burlington does that make me a conservative.

If I like a concert on the piano and my friend likes a concert on the trombone, does that put me anywhere special politically.

This whole thing is another Trump move make the teaching profession, Everyone Out of the Pool!

Another summer has come and gone. Whether the beach, a swimming pool or other body of water we took a dip and enjoyed every minute of it. The weather is changing. Hurricane remnants flowing our way this week. Time for everyone to be careful when you are in the pool or at the beach. Don't go in the water if the lifeguard and signs say so. And if you go in the water adults make sure you're watching the children,p. And. Good to have other eyes out there keeping every sone say.

Dad always told the story of how he learned to swim in the Hudson River. My sister was told by her instructor to jump in the pool and she would be in the advance class. She jumped and would up end up swimming with those the best swimmers in her group. She went on to direct day camps were she saw to it that every child learned how to swim.

As for me, my parent and sister and family friends tossed me around the pool and I quickly became the good swimmer I am. The great Marge BRUNO also taught me how to swim at Tibbets Brook Pool.

Swimming exercises all parts of your body, but don't go in the water alone or swim in water above your ability.

Let's keep everyone safe for many more summers! Contact the Red Cross for information on where you can get low cost, high quality swim classes. Remember, how do you become a good swimmer?

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## Who Holds Yonkers' Future? Inside the Casino Community Advisory Council

By Dan Murphy

The race for one of New York's three downstate commercial casino licenses has put Yonkers at the center of a high-stakes battle that will likely shape the city's financial future. At the heart of this process is the Community Advisory Council (CAC), a five-member panel tasked with one question: does Empire City Casino by MGM Resorts have true community support to transform into a full-scale casino?

The answer to that question could mean the difference between an economic lifeline and fiscal uncertainty for Yonkers.

In 2022, New York State authorized a process to award the three remaining full-scale commercial casino licenses. The Gaming Facility Location Board, under the New York State Gaming Commission, is overseeing the competitive process and has indicated that it can award up to three, can award fewer, and isn't mandated to award any of them. Applicants must demonstrate not only financial strength and development plans, but also something harder to quantify: whether their host communities want them there.

That's where the Community Advisory Councils come in. Each proposed casino site is assigned a CAC composed of appointees of local elected officials. In Yonkers, that includes appointees by the Governor, the Senate and Assembly representatives, the County Executive, and the Mayor. Their charge is to review MGM's application, host at least two public hearings, and issue a formal finding of support or opposition no later than September 30, 2025. Without CAC approval, the application cannot move forward to be considered by the four-person Gaming Facility Location Board.

There's a lot at stake for Yonkers. Empire City Casino, long operating as a video lottery terminal racino, is the city's largest private employer and taxpayer. MGM Resorts has pledged to invest an additional \$2.3 billion to convert the property into a resort casino with live-dealer table games, a 5,000-capacity entertainment venue, meeting and event space, a BetMGM sports book, VIP gaming lounge, new restaurants, and more. The company argues the project would create thousands of union jobs and generate hundreds of millions in tax revenue for New York, Yonkers, and Westchester, Rockland and Putnam counties.

For Yonkers, securing one of the three licenses has been described as "the golden goose" needed to keep its budget balanced. If the CAC votes "no," the city may lose its chance at this transformative opportunity, while competing bids in Queens, Manhattan, and Brooklyn move forward.

The CAC has already held one public hearing, and the second is set for September 16. The council is also accepting written comments via email. If community opposition outweighs support, the path to approval could close.

"Brace yourselves, Yonkers residents," said one local advocate. "If this doesn't go through, the future may not be so bright at all."

**Maria Fernandez, Esq.**

**Appointed by Governor Kathy Hochul**

**Title: Deputy Secretary for Education, NYS Executive Chamber**

Maria Fernandez brings two decades of legal and compliance expertise, including senior roles at IBM and Direct Energy. Now serving as Deputy Secretary for Education, she oversees policy for New York's K-12 and higher education systems, with a focus on workforce development. Recognized on City & State's Latino Power 100 list, Fernandez is widely respected for her leadership on equity and ethics.

**Larry Wilson**

**Appointed by Senate Majority Leader Andrea Stewart-Cousins**

**Title: President, Hyatt Civic Association**

Larry Wilson is a familiar name in southeast Yonkers. As president of the Hyatt Association, he has spent years advocating for homeowners and small businesses near Empire City. Wilson has been outspoken on issues like traffic congestion, stormwater management, and transparency in development reviews. He has previously criticized the planning process around the casino for insufficient public input. Supporters of MGM's bid will likely need to convince him and his neighbors that their concerns about environmental, safety, and quality-of-life impacts are being addressed with concrete mitigation measures.

**Frank Jereis**

**Appointed by Assemblymember Nader Sayegh**

**Title: Executive Director, Yonkers Democratic Party; Chief of Staff to Assemblymember Sayegh**

At just 23 years old, Frank Jereis is already entrenched in Yonkers politics. As both Executive Director of the city's Democratic Party and chief of staff to Assemblymember Sayegh, he has his finger on the pulse of local politics and community coalitions. Though new to the public spotlight, Jereis' role positions him as a bridge between neighborhood stakeholders, elected officials, and business interests. He has not made public statements about casino licensing, but observers expect him to weigh how the project aligns with labor standards, socioeconomic impacts, and local Democratic priorities.

*continued on pg 7-*

## Stepinac High School Welcomes New Head Athletic Trainer from Burke Rehabilitation



**Haley Wilton**

Archbishop Stepinac High School is proud to announce the appointment of Haley Wilton, MS, LAT, ATC, as the new Head Athletic Trainer, through a multi-year agreement with Burke Rehabilitation®. This appointment marks the next step of Stepinac's valued relationship with Burke, a nationally recognized and accredited not-for-profit healthcare provider specializing in rehabilitation treatment, research, and graduate medical education.

"We are thrilled to welcome Haley to the Stepinac community," said Stepinac Athletic Director Mike O'Donnell. "Her passion for sports medicine, combined with her dedication to the physical and mental well-being of student-athletes, makes her a tremendous asset to our program."

In her role, Haley will oversee injury prevention, treatment, and rehabilitation for all Stepinac athletic teams. Beyond the field, she is committed to educating student-athletes, families, and coaches to promote safe practices and informed decision-making that enhance long-term health and performance.

"Through our relationship with Archbishop Stepinac High School, we are proud to support the health and well-being of student-athletes through the delivery of high-quality care," said Burke's Sports Medicine Fellowship Program Director and Stepinac Athletics Medical Director, Bram Newman, MD, FAAPMR, CAQSM, DipABLM. "Haley will undoubtedly support Stepinac's student-athletes through personalized care and attention to their individual needs that will prioritize their health and safety."

A graduate of SUNY Oneonta, Haley earned her Bachelor of Science in Exercise Science before completing her Master's degree in Athletic Training at SUNY Cortland. Her professional journey includes working with athletes across a variety of sports and competitive levels, most recently serving with Army Football during the spring ball season at the United States Military Academy at West Point.

Haley shared her excitement about joining Stepinac, saying, "I look forward to creating a positive, safe, and supportive environment for our athletes. I'm honored to be part of the Stepinac family and bring the Burke level of care to Stepinac's student-athletes. I can't wait to support them throughout their seasons, high school careers, and into the future by focusing on care and education and empowering them to make informed decisions about their health."

Please join us in giving Haley Wilton a warm Crusader welcome as she begins this new chapter with Stepinac Athletics.

For more information about Archbishop Stepinac High School's athletic programs, visit [www.stepinac.org](http://www.stepinac.org). For details about Burke Rehabilitation Sports Medicine and Rehabilitation services, visit <https://www.burke.org/medical-services/sports-medicine-rehabilitation/>.

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## Yorktown Responds to High School Students Paving Requests



Members of the Yorktown Town Board with staff at the Downing commuter lot on August 18, 2025. Photo courtesy of the Town of Yorktown.

Yorktown High School students will have a smooth start to the academic year after a major facelift for a commuter parking lot next to the campus.

Resurfacing work at the Downing Park commuter parking lot began on Monday with crew laying new asphalt. The approximately \$250,000 rehabilitation is expected to be completed by the end of the week, and the lot will be fully striped by the first day of school.

For years, students have navigated cracked and uneven surfaces, and many brought their concerns directly to the Town Board.

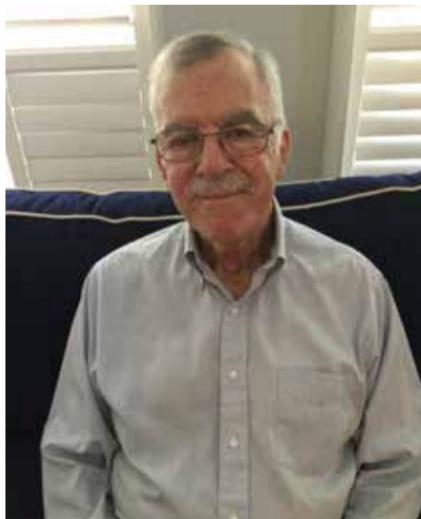
"This was really the kids, not only advocating, but petitioning their local government to get something done," said Supervisor Ed Lachterman. "We listen to all the voices out there."

The work at the commuter lot is the latest public amenity improvement.

"Over the last couple of years, we've really been focusing on our parks' infrastructure," said parks Superintendent James Martorano, Jr. "A lot of these projects are not fancy, but they are making sure that our parks will last for many years to come."

"It's a great lesson in government. The kids spoke up," said Deputy Supervisor Sergio Esposito. "We are committed to Yorktown."

## "Every Day is Veterans Day" for Yonkers Resident Who Records & Preserves Veterans Oral Histories



Bob Abate

By Bryan Fumagalli

One day in May of 1945, Yonkers resident Bob Abate was a 3-year-old playing with his toys in the kitchen of his family's South Bronx apartment when his parents suddenly exploded into a kaleidoscope of emotions.

"The war is over, the war is over!" they shouted as they hugged each other," recalls Abate. "I had no idea what the words meant, but I knew it was something special. Turns out, news had just come over the radio that the war in Europe was over."

World War II's Victory in Europe Day was May 8, 1945, and since that moment Abate has kept American veterans in his heart. Of the 48 tenants in his apartment building growing up, six were returning veterans, one of whom was badly wounded. He and his father made trips to a Staten Island hospital to visit him.

"All I remember as a 4-year-old little boy were these white clad nurses pushing wounded sailors, soldiers and Marines up a grassy knoll," he said. "It had a profound effect on me."

Fast forward to 1998 and the release of 'Saving Private Ryan.' As he watched the movie, Abate remembered that a few years earlier he'd saved a special edition newspaper featuring dozens of local veterans who served in the war.

"They still had telephone books back in those days and I called every man in that paper on the phone to say thank you," said Abate, himself a Navy veteran. "Without exception, they said, 'There is nothing to thank me for. I did my duty. The people you really want to thank you can't because they are still over there under little white crosses.'"

It wasn't long, however, before Abate was visiting with veterans in their homes listening to them tell their stories, all the while preserving it on tape. The result is an oral history comprising over 200 hours of recordings from 100 interviews, 35 of which are in his book, "Ordinary Heroes – In Their Own Words – The Stories of World War II Combat Veterans from Pearl Harbor to D-Day to Tokyo Bay."

"I have not found a publisher and that is fine because it was never my intention to make money off this," said Abate, who is in the process of having the recordings preserved. "This is for those men and their family members, all of whom I have contacted to see if they would like to have a recording."

From working with a member of congress to ensure a veteran received a unit citation to helping the late Ray Hyman of Mahopac obtain the fins he used as a Navy frogman in the Pacific, Abate became close with several of the men and their family members.

"Every day is Memorial Day, and every day is Veterans Day." Bob Abate can be contacted at rpaabate@gmail.com.

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\*Free toilet with purchase and installation of a walk-in-tub or walk-in-shower only. Offer available while supplies last. No cash value. Must present offer at time of purchase. Cannot be combined with any other offer. Restrictions apply. Offer available in select markets only. CDA 1082185 MSCB 3082898 08/23/25 12/31/25

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Approved applications will have the water/sewer/line quality report over availability. PROGRAMS NOT-QUALIFIED FOR STATE GOV PROGRAMS. 11/20/24 08/22/25

"The key to the future of the world is finding the optimistic stories and letting them be known."

-Pete Seeger-

Notice of Public Hearing  
Town of Eastchester Zoning Board of Appeals  
Notice is hereby given that the Zoning Board of Appeals of the Town of Eastchester will hold a public hearing on Tuesday, September 9, 2025, at 7pm.  
At the Town of Eastchester Town Hall, 40 Mill Road, Eastchester NY, in the courtroom/auditorium, on the application of  
Single Family Dwelling Expansion PGA Consulting LLC  
For  
Front and Side Street Setbacks & Gross floor area variance  
related to: VERTICAL EXPANSION WITHIN EXISTING BUILDING FOOT-  
PRINT (REQUIRES VARIANCES)  
(describe the proposed project)  
AND 2ND STORY ADDITION IN REAR (CONFORMS TO ZONING ORDINANCE)  
Affecting the premise identified as the following Section, Block and Lot on the tax map of the Town of Eastchester  
Section 51, Block 1, Lot 1  
And located at the following address:  
62 BRAMBACH AVE  
Visit the town's website ([www.eastchester.gov](http://www.eastchester.gov)) to access the most current agenda prior to each meeting. If you have any questions regarding the Public Hearing or any of the agenda items, you can contact the Building & Planning Department at (914) 771-3319.

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-7500 – Opening date: 09/05/2025: Purchase of 1 (One) 2025 Ford Expedition Active 4X4 (or Yonkers Approved Equal) (FB).

2) Bid No. RFB-7513 – Opening Date: 09/05/2025: 12-Month contract with an additional 12-Month option to provide exterminator services at 45 City of Yonkers facilities (FB).

3) Bid No. RFB-7514 – Opening Date: 09/05/2025: 12-Month contract with an additional 12-Month option to provide parts, repairs, truck and car springs for the City of Yonkers Department of Public Works (FB).

4) Bid No. RFB-7515 – Opening Date: 09/12/2025: 12-Month contract to provide annual maintenance of compressors at EJ Murray Memorial Skating Center (FB).

5) Bid No. RFB-7516 – Opening Date: 09/12/2025: One-Time Removal, Purchase and Installation of 2 (Two) Oil Separators at EJ Murray Memorial Skating Center (FB).

6) Bid No. RFB-7517 – Opening Date: 09/12/2025: 12-Month contract with an additional 12-Month option to provide Emergency standby snow removal services for the City of Yonkers (FB).

Notice of formation JUST SHIPSHAPE LLC Arts. Of Org. filed with the Secretary of State of New York (SSNY) on [07/17/2025]. Office location: Westchester county. ENTITY PROTECT REGISTERED AGENT SERVICES LLC is designated as agent of the LLC upon whom process against it may be served. ENTITY PROTECT REGISTERED AGENT SERVICES LLC shall mail a copy of process to the LLC, 1 ALEXANDER STREET APT 314, Yonkers, New York, NY 10701. Purpose: Any lawful purpose.

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.

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 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.

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.

**Send us your letters, announcements, opinions,**

**photos and story ideas to**

**[dmurphy@risingmediagroup.com](mailto:dmurphy@risingmediagroup.com)**

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



## Yonkers YMCA to Hold Back-to-School Supply Giveaway Aug. 29

**Come join us for a fun-filled afternoon and get FREE school supplies for your kids!**

We're giving away free school supplies to students in our community. Bring your family and stock up for the new school year!

**WHEN:**  
Friday, August 29th  
1:00 PM - 5:00 PM

**WHERE:**  
17 Riverdale Ave., Yonkers, NY 10701

**Want to help?**

- Donate supplies! Drop them off at the Y beforehand or bring them to the event.
- Spread the word—tell families who could benefit!

Let's make this school year a success together! See you there!

**Sign up for After School Program!**  
School is around the corner...  
Sign up here so your childcare is covered, all while they're learning, snacking, and running around!

**YONKERS Y.M.C.A.**  
17 RIVERDALE AVE., YONKERS, NY 10701  
TEL: 914.964.4DOC

**Read it all Online  
at Yonkers Times.com**

## Hartsdale Kiwanis Club Carnival Aug 28-31



**HARTSDALE KIWANIS CLUB**

**CARNIVAL**

**Richard Presser Park**  
North Central Avenue - Hartsdale, NY

**LABOR DAY WEEKEND**  
Thursday - Monday

★ Rides ★ Games ★ Food ★ Fun ★

**Thursday, August 28<sup>th</sup>: 5:00 - 10:00pm**  
**Friday, August 29<sup>th</sup>: 5:00 - 10:00pm**  
**Saturday, August 30<sup>th</sup>: 2:00 - 10:00pm**  
**Sunday, August 31<sup>st</sup>: 2:00 - 10:00pm**  
**Monday, September 1<sup>st</sup>: 2:00 - 9:00pm**

Join us for Kiwanis Club of Hartsdale's 2025 Carnival at Richard Presser Park. This event raises critical funds for students, seniors, schools and charitable endeavors in the Hartsdale and Greenburgh part of our community. It is an event not to be missed!



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— Ken C., MAKOplasty® knee replacement patient

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\*Source: Based on WOC follow-up survey

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MAKOplasty® Specialist

NOT SHOWN:  
Jordan Fakhoury, DO; Evan Gaines, MD; Patrick Murray, MD  
Paul S. Ragusa, MD; Thomas Schmicker, MD; Mario Voloshin, DPM, FACFAS



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## 2025 Cultural Celebrations Close with Muslim Heritage Festival on August 24



Embrace diverse traditions, food, music and art at Kensico Dam Plaza.

The final event in Westchester County’s cultural heritage series this year will be the Muslim Heritage Festival, on Sunday, August 24, from 12 noon to 6 p.m. at Kensico Dam Plaza in Valhalla.

This vibrant commemoration offers the public a unique opportunity to explore the rich heritage of Muslim communities through live performances, music, a bustling market, arts and crafts, food trucks, and educational experiences highlighting American Muslim culture.

Westchester County Executive Ken Jenkins said: “The Muslim Festival is a meaningful way to celebrate the diversity that makes Westchester strong. It’s a chance to enjoy the vibrancy of Muslim culture and foster understanding and unity among all who call this county home.”

Commissioner of the Westchester County Department of Parks, Recreation and Conservation Kathy O’Connor said: “The backdrop of the historic Kensico Dam and reservoir adds a unique and picturesque element to every event we hold there. The plaza’s accessibility and free admission also make it attractive to the general public.”

Admission and parking are free. The festival will be held rain or shine. Seating is informal; blankets or lawn chairs are recommended. Coolers are not allowed. Carpooling or taking mass transit is encouraged. To attend the festival via Metro-North, take the Harlem Line to the Valhalla Station, which is a short walk from the park.

Presented by Ahlan-NY and co-sponsored by Westchester County Parks, the Muslim Heritage Festival is a welcoming celebration open to all.

Kensico Dam Plaza is located at the north end of the Bronx River Parkway in Valhalla. For more information, call (914) 231-4500.

## Girl Scouts Donate 360 Pounds of Cookies to Feeding Westchester



Iconic brand will offer a surprise to neighbors in need

Feeding Westchester received a sweet surprise thanks to the Girl Scouts of the Scarsdale-Edgemont Service Unit, part of Girl Scouts Heart of the Hudson, Inc. On August 20, the troop dropped off 52 cases—360 pounds—of Girl Scout Cookies to Feeding Westchester’s Distribution Center.

As part of the Girl Scout Cookie Program, customers have the option to donate their purchases to Operation Cookie Drop or a local charity of choice. The Scarsdale-Edgemont Girl Scouts selected Feeding Westchester, ensuring their community’s food bank could share the cookies with neighbors in need.

The cookies will be incorporated into Feeding Westchester’s regular food distributions, offering a welcomed treat to families visiting partner food pantries across the county.

### Help Pack A Virtual Lunchbox

It’s that time already: Kids across Westchester are headed back to the classroom for another year of learning and growing!

But as the cost of food and other living essentials rise and wages stay low, more than 1-in-3 Westchester households are at risk of hunger. That means many students will return to school without the energy and nourishment they need to focus and thrive.

Feeding Westchester is always here for every family who needs fresh fruits, vegetables and proteins, no matter the time of year. But this work doesn’t happen without your help — and the easiest way you can learn more about how to make a difference is to pack a virtual lunchbox today.

Visit: [https://surveys.signforgood.com/fw-aug25-fill-a-lunchbox?\\_](https://surveys.signforgood.com/fw-aug25-fill-a-lunchbox?_)

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## 130 New York Elected Officials Urge Hochul to Stop Trump's Pipeline Push



Letter highlights statewide opposition to the Williams NESE pipeline, citing higher utility bills and community, climate risks

Dozens of residents and activists from New York Communities for Change, Food & Water Watch, Fridays for Future NYC and Climate Defenders joined local representatives Tuesday to release a letter from 130 New York elected officials calling on Governor Hochul to reject the proposed Williams NESE pipeline. Speakers warned the project, which would raise utility bills and threaten local waters, is moving forward without meaningful public input.

"So many of us in Rockaway had to evacuate when Hurricane Sandy hit and the flooding ruined our homes. Governor Hochul can't let Trump get away with pushing the dirty, expensive Williams pipeline, which would mean higher utility bills and a higher likelihood of my home getting hit by more flooding," said Arlene Phipps, Rockaway resident and New York Communities for Change member. "My bills are already too high and my insurance keeps going up due to the flooding. It's time for the governor to step up to Trump and look out for people like me who want to just afford to live here instead of Big Oil billionaires who make a profit sinking our homes."

"Donald Trump wants to force New Yorkers into dirty, dangerous fracked gas pipelines that drive up our bills and put our communities at risk," said New York Lieutenant Governor Antonio Delgado. "The Williams NESE pipeline threatens our water, our beaches, and our climate — and it's already been rejected for good reason. Governor Hochul should reject this project once and for all and put the people of New York ahead of fossil fuel interests."

"The DEC rejected the NESE pipeline 5 years ago as a threat to public health, but Trump is trying to lock New York into decades of debt and dirty energy," said New York City Comptroller Brad Lander. "The \$1.4B NESE pipeline is costly, toxic, and unnecessary and 13,000 New Yorkers have made it clear: we do not want the Williams Pipeline!"

Despite being rejected multiple times, Williams Co. has reapplied for permits to construct a massive pipeline through the waters off the Rockaways. Just this month, over 11,000 public comments were filed in opposition to the project, and nearly 1,000 New Yorkers joined Lieutenant Governor Delgado and local assembly members in a march calling on Governor Hochul to stop it.

The letter includes elected officials from across the state, including those facing other pipeline threats under Trump. Alongside NESE, Williams' Constitution pipeline and Enbridge's Project Maple are also under review and could raise utility bills for New Yorkers if approved.

"As soon as we heard there were plans afoot to construct more pipelines in New York, our village board immediately moved to pass a resolution against the proposals including the Williams NESE project," said Mayor Niki Armacost of Hastings-on-Hudson. "Westchester residents are already facing massive rate hikes and with the climate crisis only getting worse, we need our Governor to hear what residents are saying. We cannot afford higher energy bills and the pipeline expansions must stop."

"From Long Island to Binghamton, New York's elected officials, including Lieutenant Governor Delgado, are sending a message to Governor Hochul: Stand up to Donald Trump and block this dangerous, expensive and unnecessary fracked gas pipeline," said Emily Skydel, Senior Organizer with Food & Water Watch.

Westchester electeds who signed the letter include; Assembly members Dana Levenberg, MaryJane Shimsky and Chris Burdick.

## DOMESTIC VIOLENCE ASSAILANT GETS 12 YEARS IN PRISON FOR MERCILESS, NEAR-FATAL STABBING SPREE

Westchester County District Attorney Susan Cacace announced that a White Plains man who tried to kill his wife by repeatedly stabbing her with a knife and chasing her down the street will spend 12 years in state prison.

Carlos Obed-Tovar, 35, was sentenced Thursday by Judge James McCarty, who further ordered him to undergo 5 years of post-release supervision once his prison sentence is complete.

DA Cacace said: "The incalculable damage done by this defendant, and the depravity displayed as he hunted his partner down the street, are harrowing reminders of the consequences of domestic violence.

"The victim's perseverance through this attack and her commitment to assisting with this prosecution show that courage can be found even in moments of profound darkness.

"I also wish to recognize the good Samaritans who stood by to assist the victim during the assault. Their heroic actions are a credit to the entire Westchester community."

On May 4, 2024, the victim was inside her basement apartment with her then-6-year-old daughter and Obed-Tovar. After learning that the victim had a conversation with a male colleague at her place of employment, Obed-Tovar retrieved a knife from the kitchen and began stabbing the victim all over her body, including the inside of her fingers, which she had held up as a means of self-defense.

The victim managed to wrangle the knife away from Obed-Tovar, only for him to go and retrieve another knife from the kitchen with the aim of continuing to stab her. The victim fled from the apartment, and Obed-Tovar pursued her down the street, catching up to her and repeatedly stabbing her with a second knife with such force that the handle broke off and the blade was lodged in her head.

His actions caught the attention of a good Samaritan, later identified as White Plains resident Armando Gramajo, who demanded that the defendant cease his conduct, which he did. Gramajo summoned for the assistance of his daughter, Shayla, then a nursing student, who ran outside with clean bedsheets to apply pressure to the victim's open wounds.

The victim was left with approximately 35 cuts and stabs all over her body and permanent damage to her vocal cords.

In a victim impact statement read aloud at sentencing, the victim stated the following: "I still don't understand how I survived after 35 cuts and stabs you inflicted. The only thing clear to me is that God is great. He knows my heart and knows I was not a bad person. The only thing I know is that I survived for a purpose, and I am grateful to everyone who has helped and supported me through this process."

Gramajo will be presented with a civilian hero award by the District Attorney in October. Shayla is now a nurse specializing in plastic surgery.

The investigation was conducted by the White Plains Police Department.

The case was prosecuted by Domestic Violence Bureau Chief Joyce Miller and Assistant District Attorney Alexandra Kontos.

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Minimum purchase of 4

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State Senator Mayer, Congressman Latimer, Feeding Westchester, and the Carver Center Sound the Alarm  
on Immediate Harm of Trump Budget Bill on SNAP Programs in Westchester



State Senator Shelley B. Mayer and U.S. Congressman George Latimer joined Feeding Westchester and the Carver Center in Port Chester, along with members of the Westchester County Board of Legislators Nancy Barr, Ben Boykin, Erika Pierce, Jewel Williams Johnson and Judah Holstein, today to sound the alarm about the devastating impact that President Donald Trump’s H.R.1, the alleged “One Big Beautiful Bill (OB BB),” will have on SNAP benefits and food distribution in New York and specifically in Westchester County.

H.R. 1 reduces the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP), which helps Americans across the country put food on the table, by 20%, approximately \$200 billion, forcing states and counties to compensate for the resulting need. Over the next several years, states and counties will face increases in the amount they are required to cover for SNAP benefits, placing undue stress on them to cover the costs. In sum, H.R. 1 forces \$55 billion in SNAP benefits and administrative costs on the states, many of which will also be forced down to our counties. If states cannot cover the costs, they will be forced to eliminate or reduce the programs altogether.

H.R. 1 imposes additional and punitive work requirements for those eligible to receive SNAP benefits, many of whom already have work requirements. Effective once implementation guidance from the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) is provided, SNAP’s work requirements will be expanded to include homeless individuals, young people who have recently aged out of childcare, veterans, adults aged 55-64, and adults with children aged 14 and older. It also restricts waivers of the work requirement to areas with an unemployment rate of over 10%.

Although undocumented immigrants individually were already ineligible to receive SNAP benefits, H.R.1 eliminates eligibility for those who were previously able to achieve SNAP, such as asylum seekers, documented refugees, and others with humanitarian immigration status.

TOWN OF EASTCHESTER  
EASTCHESTER/TUCKAHOE  
SCHOOL TAXES

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT I HAVE THIS DAY  
RECEIVED THE WARRANT TO COLLECT THE  
SCHOOL TAXES FOR 2025-2026  
FOR FISCAL YEAR JULY 1, 2025 TO JUNE 30, 2026  
EASTCHESTER UNION FREE SCHOOL DISTRICT  
TUCKAHOE UNION FREE SCHOOL DISTRICT  
AT MY OFFICE

Town Hall, 40 Mill Road, Eastchester, N.Y.  
OFFICE HOURS 8:30 A.M. TO 4:30 P.M.  
OFFICE CLOSED ON SATURDAYS  
TAXES DUE  
SEPTEMBER 1, 2025

TO AVOID PENALTY, the first half must be received by Sept. 30, 2025. The second half school taxes are payable by January 31, 2026.

IMPORTANT: Official U.S. Postal Service postmarks are accepted to secure a penalty-free payment if postmarked on or before the due date. FedEx UPS, and DHL mailed to 40 Mill Road, Eastchester can also be accepted as timely if showing a mailing on or before the due date. However, metered mail postmarks (such as Pitney-Bowes or Quadiant/ Neopost, for example) are NOT acceptable for this purpose under the NYS Real Property Tax Law (RPTL), and neither are foreign postmarks. An envelope without any postmark-- or an illegible postmark-- is deemed under the law to have been made on the date of delivery to the collecting officer. If the due date is not met, the following Penalties prescribed by tax law for deferred payment apply:

Rates of Penalties  
SECTION 550-A WESTCHESTER COUNTY  
TAX LAW PENALTY SCHEDULE

	First Half Due Sept 1st	Second Half Due Jan 1st
During SEPTEMBER (Taxes payable without penalty on or before September 30, 2025)	NONE	-
During OCTOBER	2 Percent	-
During NOVEMBER	5 Percent	-
During DECEMBER and JANUARY	7 Percent	-
During FEBRUARY and MARCH	10 Percent	10 Percent
During APRIL	12 Percent	12 Percent
During MAY	13 Percent	13 Percent
During JUNE	14 Percent	14 Percent

July 1st-2026, Delinquent taxes will be filed with the Westchester County Clerk’s Office.  
In addition, 1% per month thereafter until completion of IN-REM foreclosure.

ROCCO N. CACCIOLA  
RECEIVER OF TAXES

Dated August 21, 2025

The bill also restricts the USDA’s ability to update the Thrifty Food Plan, which is used to calculate SNAP benefits based on the lowest estimated cost of a nutritious diet. As inflation continues to grow, these changes will result in capping monthly SNAP benefits for many individuals and families as prices rise, further straining their ability to afford basic necessities.

Over the past 25 years, the number of Westchester residents receiving SNAP benefits has nearly doubled, reaching over 77,000 individuals in 2022. As the cost of living - particularly food and housing - continues to rise, more individuals and families are becoming eligible for SNAP benefit assistance. At the same time, food pantries across Westchester have also seen a rise in demand. Any cuts to SNAP benefits will increase the demand for food pantries, forcing even more people to rely on these already-strained volunteer efforts. It will also harm local groceries and food stores that rely on SNAP income while they serve neighborhood needs.

State Senator Shelley B. Mayer said, “I am deeply distressed by the devastating impact H.R. 1 will have on our families and neighbors. These reckless and cruel cuts threaten many of our neighbors – children, seniors, veterans, disabled people, and working families who are already struggling to get by. We are fortunate to have great partners like Feeding Westchester and the Carver Center who work tirelessly everyday to feed and serve members of our community. But we cannot continue to ask ever more of our neighbors and community organizations, who are already stretched thin, while our federal government turns its back on our neighbors. We will continue to stand up and fight to ensure every New Yorker has the basic dignity of being able to put food on the table and live without hunger within our State and county.”

United States Rep. George Latimer said, “The Big Ugly law pushed by House Republicans and President Trump was a victory of ideology over reality. In the real world, this will take

*Road Rage continued from pg 1-*

DA Cacace said: "It is unconscionable that anyone would be targeted for Assault because of who they are or where they come from. Westchester is home to one of the most diverse populations in New York State, and hate will never be allowed to take root here.

"I urge anyone victimized by an act of hate to make a report to our dedicated Hate Crimes Unit at (914) 995-TIPS (8477)."

As alleged in charging documents and statements made on the record in court, at approximately 9:30 p.m. on Saturday, Aug. 9, Jones attacked the victim in this case, a Hispanic man, while they were both waiting in line at a Mamaroneck gas station. Jones is accused of targeting the victim because of his identity, telling him, "Go back to your country," and asking the victim if he had a green card.

At a court hearing, prosecutors alleged that at the time of the incident, the defendant admitted to police that he had made a joke to the victim about Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE).

Jones is further accused of grabbing the victim's throat and squeezing it. The Village of Mamaroneck Police Department investigated the case. Assistant District Attorney Brittany J. Burk, of the Hate Crimes Unit are prosecuting the case.

Many in Westchester have mixed views on what should happen to Mr. Jones. If he did not have the resources to post bond, Jones could have ended up in the Westchester County jail pending his next court appearance.

Others believe that Judge Loehr should have agreed with prosecutors and required Jones to post a bond.

Jones is guilty of escalating the road rage at a gas station incident by grabbing the man by the throat. We ask Mr. Jones if it was worth it to risk criminal prosecution over a spot in line at the gas station?

Everyone needs to calm down, on the roadways, and yes, at the gas station. If you believe you are the victim of someone else cutting in front of you at the line at the gas station, drive away, and get your gas elsewhere.

While we applaud Westchester DA Cacace and her office for their first 8 months in office, we are not sure if Mr. Jones deserved bail in this case.

What made this a hate crime, Assault in the Third Degree as a Hate Crime, a felony, was the words that Jones used during the confrontation.

*CAC, continued from pg 4-*

Joe Apicella is one of Westchester's most seasoned real estate executives. With decades of experience at MacQuesten Development and The Cappelli Organization, he has overseen billions in projects from White Plains to New Rochelle. His background includes major mixed-use towers, affordable housing, and transit-oriented developments. Apicella is known for navigating complex approvals and financing structures. He has not commented on MGM's bid, but his career suggests he will evaluate the project through a lens of economic development, infrastructure, and community benefits. His ties to both political and development circles give him outsized influence.

**Jim Cavanaugh**

*Appointed by Mayor Mike Spano*

*Title: Former Deputy Mayor of Yonkers; Former CEO of Yonkers IDA*

Jim Cavanaugh is a veteran political operative and public administrator. He has served as Eastchester Town Supervisor, Deputy Mayor of Yonkers, CEO of the Yonkers Industrial Development Agency, and Acting Planning Commissioner. Earlier in his career, he also lobbied on behalf of Empire City Casino before MGM acquired it. Cavanaugh is widely seen as a savvy insider with deep ties to the Spano political network. While he has avoided public comment on the casino process, his long track record of supporting revenue-generating development indicates he may lean toward approval, though not without weighing political and community dynamics.

As September 16 approaches, Yonkers residents have a critical role to play. The CAC will weigh not only MGM's promises, but also the public's voices. Written comments submitted by email to the designated address of MGMEmpireCity-PublicComment@nystec.com, along with testimony at the hearing, could tip the balance.

If the CAC votes "yes," Empire City advances to the next stage of licensing review and will be hard-pressed to compete against much larger projects in areas of New York City that have access to the pocketbooks of a significantly larger population, as well as nearly 70 million annual tourists. If the Yonkers council votes "no," MGM's \$2 billion vision for Yonkers dies on the spot.

For a city dependent on property taxes and state aid, the stakes could not be higher. The five council members, Fernandez, Wilson, Jereis, Apicella, and Cavanaugh, hold the power to decide whether Yonkers secures its golden goose or watches it fly away.

For now, the future of Yonkers hangs in the balance.

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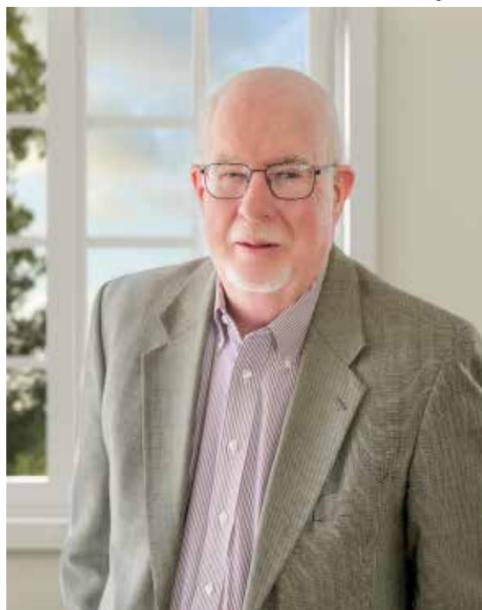
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**United Way of Westchester and Putnam Hosts Annual Day of Golf Benefit**



*James "Jim" O'Connor*

United Way of Westchester and Putnam (UWWP) will host their annual Applied Underwriters Invitational & Bud Hammer Memorial Day of Golf benefit on Monday, September 8th at the Scarsdale Golf Club. This signature event serves as a vital fundraiser, helping community members throughout Westchester and Putnam counties access necessities they struggle to afford.

United Way's Day of Golf will also honor White Plains, NY resident James "Jim" O'Connor, Vice President of Corporate Development at Empress EMS (Yonkers, NY), for his philanthropic commitment and community service.

Jim O'Connor has been involved in EMS for more than four decades, beginning his career in 1976 as one of the first paramedics in Westchester County, New York. In his various leadership roles, Jim has worked to expand ambulance services across New York City, Westchester County, the Hudson Valley, Philadelphia and its suburbs, Wilmington, Baltimore, and Pittsburgh. Jim has been active with many EMS organizations throughout his career, holding board positions locally, regionally and nationally, working tirelessly for EMTs and paramedics while fostering quality patient care and solid partnerships with healthcare and municipal leaders. Jim O'Connor bridges the gap between healthcare and community needs, ensuring vital services reach those who need them most.

United Way's Applied Underwriters Invitational & Bud Hammer Memorial Day of Golf benefit features a round of golf, on-course competitions and prizes, BBQ lunch, cocktail reception, dinner and silent auction. Limited foursomes are available for community members passionate about making a difference in Westchester and Putnam counties, providing the perfect environment for meaningful conversations between holes and valuable networking opportunities.

In addition to the incredible support of Title Sponsor, Applied Underwriters, this year's Day of Golf is generously sponsored by: Apple Bank; Atlantic Westchester; AVE Hamilton Green; Bankwell; Belway Electrical Contracting; Borg & Bryks LLP; CClean Commercial Cleaning; Customers Bank; Empire City Casino by MGM Resorts; Empress EMS; Foundation in Support of Educational Excellence; Levitt-Fuirst Associates, Ltd.; J. Matthew Lyness; Mutual of America; NuEnergen; PepsiCo; Regeneron; Solar Electric Systems, Westchester-Putnam Plumbers and Steamfitters Local 21; White Plains Hospital; and Wilson Elser.

For event questions or sponsorship opportunities, please contact Emilie Enciso, Manager of Special Events and Development at eenciso@uwwp.org or 914-997-6700.

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## Weekend Events in Westchester County Parks

### SATURDAY, AUG. 23

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

Medicinal Plant and Tree Tour, 10 a.m. - 11 a.m.

Urban naturalist Bruce Rosenberg leads a free tour that examines over 20 plants and trees in the Arboretum that have medicinal qualities and are used to treat physical and mental conditions. Also: Sept. 6.

Get details and register: <https://www.lasdonpark.org/event/medicinal-plant-and-tree-tour-3/>

Marshlands Conservancy, Rye: (914) 835-4466

Birding for Beginners, 10 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.

Bring binoculars and your love of birds! Led by Chris Mignone of Central Westchester Audubon.

Bronx River Reservation, Tuckahoe: (914) 813-5038

Westchester Parks Foundation Volunteer Project, 10 a.m. - 1 p.m.

Volunteers are needed to help with its citizen science project—the Clean River Project—to address the issue of floatable trash, which is one of the three major water quality issues on the Bronx River.

Get details and register: <https://www.thewpf.org/volunteerwithus/clean-river-project-sponsored-by-pepsico-4-jentd-pw98s-le7ex>

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>

Sprain Ridge Park, Yonkers: (914) 231-3450

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

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>

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

Art Exhibit: "Second Time Around: More Works From Martin Munroe," 12 p.m. - 4 p.m. Munroe's journey continues down the road of acrylic and canvas. Weekends in August.

Get details: <https://www.muscotefarm.org/programs-events/art-shows-at-muscote.html>

Hilltop Hanover Farm & Environmental Center, Yorktown Heights: (914) 862-5050

Herb Drying for Beginners, 1 p.m. - 2 p.m.

With summer drawing to a close, ages 7 and older can learn how and why to harvest, dry, store and use some common herbs to have available throughout the year. \$5.

Pre-register: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/herb-drying-for-beginners-tickets-1376125541539?aff=oddtcreator>

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

Sip, Nibble and Craft: Stenciling, 1 p.m. - 2:30 p.m.

Ages 21 and older can learn the historic art of stenciling by decorating a trinket box while sipping and nibbling. \$15.

Registration required: <https://www.lasdonpark.org/event/sip-nibble-and-craft-stenciling/>

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-2-2/2025-08-23/>

Glen Island Park, New Rochelle: (914) 813-6720

Screenings Under the Stars, 8 p.m. - 10:30 p.m.

"Moana 2," (2024, rated PG). After receiving an unexpected call from her wayfinding ancestors, Moana must journey to the far seas of Oceania and into dangerous, long-lost waters for an adventure unlike anything she's ever faced. Free parking and admission.

Get details: <https://parks.westchestergov.com/movie-under-the-stars>

### SUNDAY, AUG. 24

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 band, The Red Dirt Girls, from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m.

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.

Get details and register: <https://www.lasdonpark.org/event/gardening-sundays-2/2025-08-24>.

*Nolan Petition, continued from pg 1-**Double Dipping, continued from pg 1-*

Tejmitra Singh is a violent criminal who played a pivotal role in orchestrating the murder of my innocent brother. Granting him early release would not only undermine the justice served for Michael but also pose a potential threat to the community at large. It sends a dangerous message that those who partake in heinous crimes can cut their sentences short without facing the full consequences.

Giving "good behavior" precedence over justice and accountability in such serious cases is troubling. Michael Nolan was robbed of his future due to the actions of individuals like Singh, and it is unjust to allow them a shortened sentence at the cost of victims' families' peace and security. Michael was unfortunately not allowed to come back after serving 80 percent of his time. Singh should serve every single day that he is supposed to be behind bars.

We call upon the New York State Parole Board to consider the severity of Singh's crime and deny any possibility of an early release. Michael deserves justice, and our community deserves safety. Please stand with us and sign this petition to ensure he serves his full sentence and does not get out on parole. Your signature can make a difference in honoring Michael's memory and maintaining justice.

Nolan said that more than 2,000 residents have signed the petition. "I want to extend my heartfelt thanks to everyone who has signed and shared it. The support has been overwhelming. We are truly grateful. I want to keep this momentum going. If you could help us continue this effort, it would mean so much! Thank you!"

Emails of Assembly Speaker Carl Heastie, State Senate Majority Leader Andrea Stewart-Cousins, and Governor Kathy Hochul are also on the petition link, <https://www.change.org/p/deny-parole-for-tejmitra-singh-convicted-murderer>.

"I frequently receive questions from those unfamiliar with my background about what inspired me to enter politics. The answer is simple: my brother Michael's horrific murder drove me to run for office. I'm also often asked why I confront the Governor and the Democrats who back pro-criminal laws. The reason is clear — four criminals are responsible for the brutal murder of my innocent brother.

"I've taken similar action against the other two perpetrators involved: Garth Cole, the driver and informant, and Darren Dawson, the one who supplied the gun. Unfortunately, due to the pro-criminal laws pushed by Governor Hochul and the Democrats, my requests to keep these criminals behind bars for their whole sentences have been denied, but I will continue to try.

"I understand the deep betrayal that comes from those who allow such injustice to occur through laws that transform innocent victims into casualties. It's time to call out those who advocate for pro-criminal policies and vote them out. They do not care about the innocent and the good; they only care about their own agendas," said Nolan, who serves as the only republican member of the Westchester County Board of Legislators. He has been a staunch supporter of law enforcement efforts to combat crime.

Nolan has proposed to amend the Immigrant Protection Act in Westchester, which was signed into law in 2018, and restricts the use of local law enforcement to assist in federal immigration investigations.

Nolan has proposed an amendment that would allow local law enforcement to work with ICE to detain and deport criminal illegal residents in Westchester. This individual is set to have his parole hearing this October, and I will not stand idly by.

After a recent NYC shooting that resulted in the death of an NYPD officer and three innocent civilians, Nolan and Legislator Catherine Parker exchanged words online.

Parker referenced the need for additional gun control measures after the shooter attacked people in a Manhattan office building with a semi-automatic rifle. When referencing republicans' overall objections to more gun control, someone posted, "it won't be until one of their loved ones is a victim," that republicans will support gun control.

Parker then posted, "sadly, not even that is true, just ask James Nolan."

Nolan asked Parker to apologize for bringing his brother's murder into the debate on gun control. Parker refused.

"I was prepared to let it go until Legislator Catherine Parker, one of my colleagues, decided to take to Facebook to reference my effort and then referenced my brother Michael's murder, which occurred ten years ago this year due to a 17-year-old criminal with an illegal gun. She made it both political and personal. It is reprehensible that Legislator Catherine Parker used the most tragic moment of my life to attack me. I am calling for a public apology from Legislator Catherine Parker, and I urge both the Westchester County Board of Legislators and the Westchester County Majority Caucus to condemn her comments publicly," said Nolan.

We agree with Nolan that his brother's unfortunate death should not be used as a political tool against him or anyone.

I interviewed Mike Nolan just before his death. He was excited to begin his career as a Major League pitcher, and his family and sports fans from Yonkers were looking forward to following his success.

One misconception about his death, in my view, is that nobody should be killed for "hanging out" in a Burger King parking lot. I have written about this before and stand by my words. I used to hang out in parking lots as a teenager with friends, drinking a few beers. Should I have been shot and killed?

And for those who escalated this dispute into gunshots and death, they should pay the price...the full price of their actions, and serve their entire sentence.

Residents in the school district are not happy with the decision. A group called Lakeland RISE has taken the lead. They write,

"The practice of "double-dipping" - allowing school administrators to retire, collect their pension, then be rehired by the same school district - is a misuse of taxpayer dollars. The recent situation with Dr. Gagliardi and the LCSB Board of Ed is a perfect example of why this loophole needs to be closed."

Lakeland resident Tracy Sadler Hormazabal, who ran for a school board seat in 2023 (and was endorsed by Lakeland RISE), agreed, saying "By rehiring a retiree, the board has also shut the door on fresh leadership and new perspectives that could strengthen our schools. Instead, we're told to accept business as usual — even if it means wasting public dollars and eroding community trust."

Lakeland RISE co-founder Jessica Mayes told Yonkers Times, "This is a net cost to the taxpayers, unless it's specifically designed to be cost-neutral. At the end of the day,

Gagliardi likely is going to get paid substantially more for doing the same job (and probably more than other superintendents in the area, unless they double-dip, too). Lakeland may not pay for it, but New York taxpayers will, one way or another. And for what? What has she done to merit it? Even if you approve of her performance (and many people in the community don't), it's hard to argue that she needs a substantial pay boost to continue doing it. That said, until we've seen actual details on her new contract, we cannot confirm her new compensation. The district should make the contract public immediately. We FOIed it but they are taking their time."

We reached out to our friends at EmpireCenter.org who told us in an email,

"Under the law (Section 211 of the Retirement and Social Security Law), the retired person cannot be hired right back at the same or a similar position to qualify for a waiver of the \$35,000 per year income limit. The per diem arrangement may not encroach on the income limit. Or the waiver described by the Comptroller may also waive the hire back provision. I don't have enough information to know the answer.

"Regardless, critics argue that allowing retirees to obtain 211 waivers stifles opportunities for younger employees to advance. And my experience with the complaints I receive about 211 waivers grants is that they come from internal or lateral candidates who do not get the job given to the retiree with the 211 waiver."

But New York school district employees, including highly paid administrators, are currently not subject to any income cap at all. In an effort to ease the teacher shortage, New York legislators amended the state's pension law to exempt school district employees from the cap. Lakeland RISE has called on state legislators to amend the law to require highly compensated administrators to play by the usual rules, including the income cap. They say:

"Section 212 of the Retirement and Social Security Law, which caps a pensioner's earnings at \$35,000 per year, has been temporarily suspended through June 30, 2027. This exemption, originally intended to address staffing shortages, is now being exploited by highly paid administrators.

This policy is being abused by administrators who already significantly out-earn their staff (in some cases, by nearly five times), placing an unfair burden on taxpayers and leading to school budget cuts in crucial areas to sustain these inflated administrative costs.

Consider the following examples:

In 2013 Rye Brook Superintendent William Stark retired to begin collecting his \$200,000 annual pension, while simultaneously drawing a \$285,000 salary from the district.

In 2021 Harrison Superintendent Lou Wool, one of the highest-paid superintendents in New York State, collected more than \$700,000 in one year between his salary, pension, and unused vacation and sick days.

More recently, Lakeland Central School District Superintendent Karen Gagliardi retired for just two days prior to being rehired in the same role.

These cases are not isolated; they reflect a systemic issue that undermines public trust and fiscal responsibility. While many school districts face significant financial challenges, allowing administrators to collect a salary and a pension concurrently is not a prudent stewardship of public funds. Taxpayers deserve the same accountability from public institutions that is standard in the private sector.

I respectfully request that you take the following actions in the best interest of your constituents, children, and families:

Reinstate the waiver process that requires public agencies to seek formal approval before hiring a retired individual.

Extend the mandatory waiting period before a retiree can be rehired in the same district from one day to one year.

Enact transparency measures requiring districts to publicly disclose hiring decisions and compensation details involving retired personnel.

Ensuring fair, ethical, an sustainable use of public funds is not a partisan issue, but a matter of good governance and public trust."

Dr. Gagliardi's new salary has not been released to the public. She has worked in the Lakeland School District since 2003 and has been Superintendent since 2021, when she was appointed following the school board's controversial ouster of the previous superintendent.

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*Hope to hear from you! Thanks!*

Stiloski obviously a bit about the purchase of Fire Trucks. He should have been included in the discussion and the Village should have welcomed his ideas.

Instead he has been relegated to sending the Village FOIL request and has been outcast.

We consider Stiloski to be a whistleblower who wants the taxpayers in Tarrytown to be aware of the purchase.

After some investigation, we found Stiloski's claims to be accurate, and the Village's decision legal, but unwise. We don't think anything untoward was made in the purchase.

Tarrytown Village Administrator Richard Slingerland responded and stood by the purchase

"The Fire Department Washington Ladder Company Truck Committee represented by Chief Ray Tuohy and committee members Michael Coffey and Wes Cookingham attended a Board Work Session and proposed a Seagrave ladder vehicle. It was evaluated as specified by a qualified independent consultant who agreed with the recommendation for the vehicle without a pump and at the price of \$2,949,540, deliverable in the summer of 2028, as a reliable vehicle from a respected manufacturer. Given the track record of Seagrave fire trucks used in other jurisdictions, the reliability of Seagrave Fire Apparatus and the longevity of the company and the vehicles they manufacture, this apparatus should handily serve the Village well for 25 years or more. The Fire Department's truck committee did their research and made a recommendation, and the Village's staff and elected officials supported that recommendation."

We see this purchase more of members of the Fire Committee wanting the very best Fire Truck they can get regardless of price.

We agree with Stiloski that the timing for the truck to be delivered is another reason not to purchase it, in our view.

While the Village claims to have spoken to their consultant who approved the purchase, we have also spoken to people other than Stioski in the business of delivering Fire Trucks to local governments in Westchester County, who said that the two fire trucks in the discussion, Seagrave and Rosenbauer, are "almost the same truck."

"While Tarrytown didn't overpay for the Seagrave, and other communities in NY and on Long Island purchase Seagraves, the Rosenbauer is also a great truck. Yonkers is one of the busiest Fire Departments in Westchester, and if they bought Rosenbauer's, then it should be good enough for any Fire Department," said this Fire Truck expert, who questioned the value of cost (\$1 Million more) and delivery time (19 months vs 4 years) as the determining factors against the purchase.

Stiloski said about the Seagrave model purchased by Tarrytown "This truck, which lacks a pump and will take approximately 1,400 days to build, is now set to become the most expensive ladder truck in the country."

In a letter to the Mayor and Village Board, Stiloski writes, "Tarrytown, however, failed to open this purchase to bids, denying taxpayers the opportunity for fair pricing and due diligence.

The Village could have easily duplicated the County's specifications and manufacturer, securing a comparable 95-foot ladder truck with a pump for approximately \$1.8 million—and with a delivery time of around 20 months, not nearly four years. The County's vehicle was obtained with set pricing and a competitive bid process, ensuring both efficiency and accountability.

The question must be asked: does the Village not believe saving over \$1 million in taxpayer funds is important?" writes Stiloski, who has no financial stake in either Fire Truck production company.

He just makes a lot of sense to us, and should have been listened to.  
"Tarrytown could have:  
Saved \$1 million  
Obtained a better warranty  
Secured an apparatus with a pump, a longer ladder, and no hidden costs  
Locked in delivery by February 2027, fire-ready  
Instead, you saddled taxpayers with a bloated, faulty contract.  
Forget me and whatever personal dislike you have. Do right by the taxpayers – the very people who are forced to pay for your mistakes. This is an insult to the taxpayers," said Stiloski.

NEW ROCHELLE MAN SENTENCED TO 13 YEARS FOR SEXUALLY ASSAULTING TEENAGE BOYS

Westchester County District Attorney Susan Cacace announced that a New Rochelle man was sentenced Tuesday to 13 years in state prison for sexually assaulting three teenage boys.

Fernando Rincon, 53, of New Rochelle, had pleaded guilty in March to one count of Criminal Sexual Act in the Second Degree, a class D felony, and two counts of Criminal Sexual Act in the Third Degree, a class E felony.

Judge Robert Prisco, who handed down the sentence, further sentenced Rincon to 10 years of post-release supervision and issued permanent orders of protection on behalf of the victims. Rincon will also be required to register as a sex offender.

DA Cacace said: "The defendant preyed upon a vulnerable population in order to commit these sickening acts. The trauma these victims suffered through can never be undone. But owing to their courage, we have now been able to obtain a substantial penalty that will remove the defendant from liberty for over a decade."

Between January and April of last year, Rincon sexually assaulted three boys between the ages of 14 and 15, committing the crime of Criminal Sexual Act. In late 2024, state legislators repealed Criminal Sexual Act and reclassified this conduct as rape, though it was not retroactive.

Rincon was further accused of filming the victims during these encounters.

The case was investigated by the New Rochelle Police Department.

The case was prosecuted by Senior Assistant District Attorneys Charlotte Gu-dis and Stephanie Baehr, both of the Child and Elder Abuse Bureau.

Cuts to Food Assistance, continued from pg 11-

food away from working families, seniors, and veterans. It will make life harder and more expensive for many people, increasing the burden on places like Feeding Westchester. They do incredible work keeping our community fed but they aren't meant to replace a program like SNAP. I will keep working with partners at every level of government to ensure food banks have the resources they need at this difficult time."

Tami Wilson, Chief Operating Officer of Feeding Westchester, said, "Feeding Westchester, working with 175 partner organizations in our community, distributed over 21 million pounds of food last year, but the need has never been greater. With deep cuts to SNAP ahead, we're incredibly concerned for Westchester residents—including single parents, veterans, working families, and seniors—who will be left with even fewer options to put food on the table. We are committed to working with leaders at all levels of government to ensure every neighbor has the food they need."

Anne Bradner, CEO of the Carver Center, said, "Port Chester Carver Center is concerned for the health and welfare of our community in the face of anticipated cuts to government benefits, including SNAP and Medicaid. Port Chester's working families struggle to make ends meet, due in large part to the high cost of housing in the area. In the last five years Carver Center has significantly increased the amount of free food we distribute in the community: 700,000 lbs. of food distributed; and 28,732 visits to our food pantry in the past year. Efforts to address food insecurity in Port Chester have traditionally been shared by government, nonprofits, and private funders. We expect an increase in demand for food and case management services and are concerned about our ability to meet that demand."

Assembly Member Chris Burdick said, "The Republican budget cruelly slashes the safety net for the most vulnerable in our Nation, including \$200 billion from the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program or SNAP – formerly Food Stamps. New Yorkers' core values, regardless of political viewpoint, have long embraced helping those in need, who through no fault of their own, have fallen on hard times. These cruel cuts are unprecedented, unconscionable, and do not represent who we are as a people."

Assemblyman Steve Otis said, "Having worked with the feeding and nutritional programs in every community on the Sound Shore I know how devastating the federal SNAP cuts will be to Westchester residents in need of food. We have outstanding not-for-profits and houses of worship who have been serving Westchester's hungry for decades. The need in our county is great but often hidden. These cuts will impact families and place greater burdens on our already pressed food bank network. The Republican Congress and the president only care for people who have no needs, no problems, and no challenges in life. The cuts will have dire consequences."

According to the United States House Agriculture Committee, H.R. 1 cuts SNAP benefits for the 42 million Americans who depend on SNAP, including 16 million children, 8 million seniors, 4 million people with disabilities, and 1.2 million veterans. The House Committee on Budget estimates that at least 317,000 people in NY could lose some or all of their food assistance, including the 74,000 people on SNAP in New York's 16th Congressional District.

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