

## Assemblyman Matt Slater Exposes AOC's Lie About Yorktown and It Goes Viral in MAGA World



**Above: Blogger-Podcaster Benny Johnson's Visit to Yorktown to Look into AOC Now Has 9 Million Views**

**Rep. Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez Lived in Yorktown Heights, Not the Bronx, from Age 5-17, Graduated from Yorktown High School in 2007**

**By Dan Murphy**

Past and present residents of Yorktown Heights, NY, including this reporter, are saying "job well done" to Assemblyman Matt Slater for exposing Congresswoman Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez for hiding the fact that she did not grow up in the Bronx but that she grew up in Yorktown Heights and was a graduate of Yorktown High School.

We wrote about this topic back in 2021 (<https://yonkerstimes.com/letter-to-aoc-please-come-home-to-yorktown-for-christmas/>) and wrote, "I also have wondered why AOC does not use her history in Yorktown as part of her story, and explain how her parents made sacrifices to ensure that she had a better life than their own."

AOC could have used her life story as an example of the American Dream and how hard her parents worked to get her out of the Bronx and up to Yorktown. Many Yorktown residents share the same life story, including my family, who moved in 1972.

What cracked the AOC story wide open was a recent Twitter-X exchange between AOC and President Donald Trump. AOC called for Trump's impeachment

*continued on pg 15-*

## Lawsuit Filed Against Mt. Vernon Mayor; Is It Legit?



**left: Mt. Vernon resident Gabriel Thompson, right; arrested former Coach Murray**

**By Dan Murphy**

Last month, Mt. Vernon resident and taxpayer Gabriel Thompson filed a lawsuit against Mt. Vernon Mayor Shawn Patterson-Howard, alleging illegal use of taxpayer funds. Thompson's suit also alleges that the Mayor improperly tipped off a coach who is now charged by the Westchester DA of sexual abuse of a 13 year old.

Other allegations against the Mayor include:

During the period leading up to the May 20, 2025, Mount Vernon School Board Trustee and Library Board Trustee elections, Defendant Patterson-Howard misused her position as Mayor—and leveraged official city branding and resources—to publicly endorse candidates in what is intended to be a fair, non-partisan election. In doing so, she disparaged opposing candidates and engaged in conduct that compromised public trust and safety.

According to the suit,

Patterson-Howard Alerts Child Molester of Pending Allegations

On or around April 28, 2025, Defendant Patterson-Howard was sent a text message alerting her to deeply troubling allegations concerning an individual closely associated with her:

*continued on pg 10-*

## NYAG James Announces Conviction of Westchester Social Worker for Stealing \$200K from Elderly



**Chantel Chenault Fraudulently Withdrew and Spent Funds Belonging to a 95-Year-Old Suffering from Dementia Under Her Care**

**On July 3, New York Attorney General Letitia James announced the guilty plea of Chantel Chenault, a caseworker with Westchester County Adult Protective Services (APS), for stealing more than \$200,000 from an elderly woman suffering from de-**

mentia while under her care. An investigation by the Office of the Attorney General (OAG) found that from March 2017 to June 2022, Chenault manipulated the victim and used the victim's bank card to withdraw hundreds of thousands of dollars from her checking account. Chenault transferred over \$500,000 from the elderly woman's retirement accounts to the woman's checking account and would bring the woman to the bank to make withdrawals multiple times per month. Chenault also regularly used the woman's ATM card at casinos without permission, primarily Empire World Casino in Yonkers. On June 26, Chenault pleaded guilty to Grand Larceny in the Second Degree in Westchester County.

"Elderly New Yorkers deserves trustworthy caretakers allowing them to live their later years in dignity and security," said Attorney General James. "Chantel Chenault abused her position to steal a vulnerable woman's retirement savings, and my office is bringing her to justice. I will continue to go after anyone who tries to manipulate or steal from seniors in need."

*continued on pg 14-*

## Westchester Homeowners, Families Making Less than \$500k Did the Best From Big Beautiful Bill



**LawlerVotes Yes**

**Latimer No**

**By Dan Murphy**

A Federal budget to keep the US Government open passed by the slimmest of margins just before the July 4 holiday, with Vice-President JD Vance breaking a 50-50 tie in the Senate and the House passing the budget bill by a 219-213 margin.

Westchester's two Congressmembers, voted differently, with Democrat George Latimer a No and Republican Mike Lawler a YES.

Calling it a "cruel budget that will hurt people who can least afford it," Rep. Latimer said: "President Trump and Congressional Republicans made a promise to bring down costs and help working Americans. Instead, they have pushed this tax scam that will make life more expensive for families who need Medicaid and SNAP to survive and give significant tax cuts to billionaires and the ultra-wealthy. All while adding \$3.3 trillion to our national debt.

"196,000 people in my district who rely on Medicaid could have it taken away, including 73,000 children and 27,000 seniors. 74,000 people who rely on SNAP may not be able to put food on their tables, straining food banks that are already seeing high levels of need. New Yorkers will continue to pay more in federal taxes without a full restoration of the State and Local Tax deduction. And it guts environmental protections established by the Inflation Reduction Act.

*continued on pg 14-*

## Westchester County and Taxpayers Win Arbitration Against Standard Amusement Over Playland -Page 2

## Rent Guideline Board OK's Small Increases-Page 4

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

## State Legislature Passes Paulin & Mayer Bill to Ensure Nonprofits Get Paid On Time & Stay Afloat



Assemblywoman Amy Paulin, top left, and State Senator Shelley B. Mayer top right, announced the passage of their bill, A.7616/S.7001, in both the New York State Assembly and Senate—an urgently needed victory for New York’s nonprofit sector and the millions of residents who rely on its services. The bill, which now awaits the Governor’s signature, reforms New York’s Prompt Contracting Law to ensure nonprofits are paid on time, treated fairly, and equipped to continue delivering essential safety net services across the state.

Nonprofits in New York provide critical services on behalf of the state—early childhood education, mental health counseling, housing for the homeless, substance use treatment, legal services, and more. Yet the current state contracting system has too often undermined their ability to operate, with chronic delays, inconsistent processes across agencies, and reimbursement lagging for months—sometimes over a year.

A recent survey found that 33% of nonprofits holding contracts with New York State were owed more than \$58 million for services already delivered. When extrapolated statewide, the amount owed to nonprofits exceeds \$650 million—money that’s already been appropriated but not paid. These delays force nonprofits to drain their reserves, take out loans to meet payroll, and in some cases, scale back or shut down programs.

Assemblywoman Paulin and Senator Mayer’s bill introduces long-overdue reforms, which would:

- Improve consistency in contracting across all agencies.
- Streamline contract renewals and improve timeliness.
- Clarify when nonprofits can expect payment schedules and ensure interest on late payments.
- Ensure automatic contract advances so that nonprofits do not have to take on unsustainable debt to front costs for essential services.
- Recognize and reimburse the real cost of delivering services, including overhead.
- Ensure nonprofits are not being penalized for minor errors in vouchers.

“These nonprofits are doing the State’s work—feeding the hungry, housing the homeless, helping our most vulnerable residents—and we’ve been asking them to finance that work themselves while waiting for overdue payments,” said Assemblywoman Paulin. “It’s unsustainable and unacceptable. This bill provides the structure, fairness, and predictability that nonprofits need to stay afloat and serve the people who depend on them.”

*continued on pg 7-*

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## Westchester County and Taxpayers Win Arbitration Against Standard Amusement Over Playland



*By Dan Murphy*

Westchester County government, and the taxpayers of Westchester County, received good news on June 26 when an arbitration panel determined that Standard Amusements, the operators of Playland Amusement Park in Rye for the past 4 years, attempt to walk away from the 30-year agreement they had to operate the park was in violation of the agreement between the two parties.

On January 20, Standard Amusements gave the keys to Playland back to Westchester County. But its not that simple. Tens of millions, if not hundreds of millions of dollars has been spent, or will be spent by Standard and Westchester County.

The contract gives Westchester County the right to cure any reasons that Standard may raise before the contract can be terminated.

One day after Standard informed Westchester County that they were terminating their own contract to run Playland, Westchester informed Standard that they were in default by walking away in January, Standard Amusements put the County in the difficult position of trying to piece together enough rides and entertainment to make Playland an enjoyable experience. Several comments on Facebook point to the fact that some families are disappointed because many rides remain closed.

County Executive Ken Jenkins said, “The Arbitration Panel’s ruling regarding Playland is a significant victory for the people of Westchester County. The Panel affirmed what we’ve said from day one — Standard Amusements had no right to try to tear up a 30-year agreement without giving the County the contractually required opportunity to cure. Their attempted termination was not just wrong — it was legally baseless.

“This ruling exposes Standard’s effort for what it was: an irresponsible attempt to walk away from their obligations and shift blame onto the County. They ignored the clear language in the contract and their rush to terminate was a direct threat to Playland’s future and to the significant public investment made to restore and preserve our beloved park.

“Today, we move forward, as we have done since Standard walked away. We continue to work on our \$150-million-dollar investment by repairing rides, opening concession stands and serving up summer memories and fun. We are moving forward on the damages claim, and we won’t stop until we have a settlement that works for the people on Westchester County.

“While I am County Executive, Westchester County will never be bullied, pushed around or manipulated— especially over a public asset that exists for the joy of children. Here in Westchester we always defend the taxpayers of this County with everything we’ve got,” said Jenkins.

Now that the first hurdle of winning arbitration has been cleared, the question now becomes how much more money does Westchester have to pay Standard for their investment in the park over the past four years.

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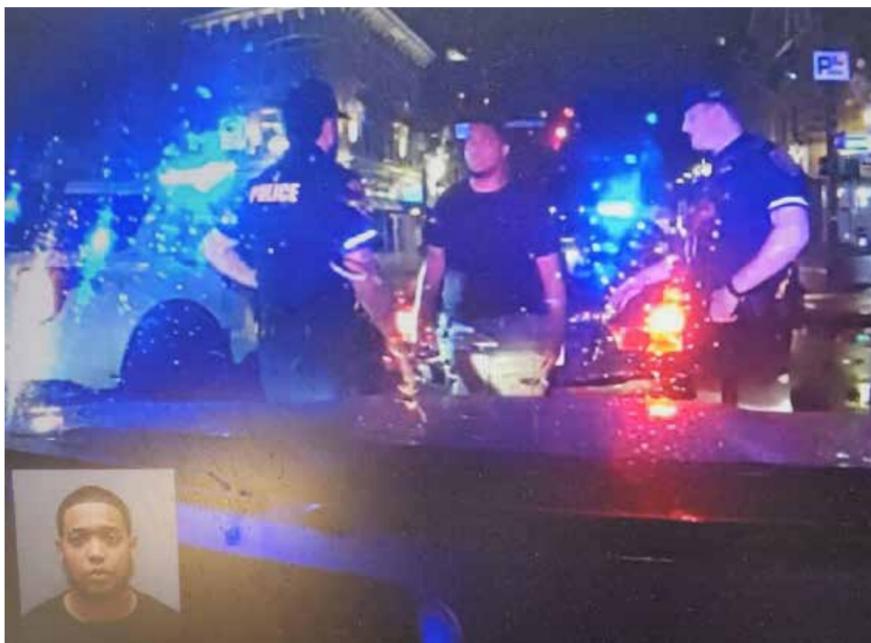
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## Yonkers Cop Run Over by Man Asleep at the Wheel at 3am-Chase Ends in New Rochelle-Driver Arrested



Just after 3:00 am this morning, Yonkers Police Officers approached a vehicle in the area of 219 Nepperhan Avenue after observing that the driver appeared to be sleeping, to check on his well-being. The vehicle also did not have both license plates properly affixed, and it was parked facing the wrong direction. After waking the driver, he refused to lower the windows, stared at the Officers, then accelerated his vehicle to flee. As he accelerated, he struck one of our Officers, pinning his right leg between the suspect's vehicle and the Officer's patrol vehicle.

The injured Officer's partner relayed license plate information for the fleeing vehicle to Headquarters, and we relayed it to neighboring police agencies. Our friends at the New Rochelle Police Department spotted the vehicle after they received an alert on their License Plate Reader System. They apprehended the suspect, later identified as Edward ARIAS (24) of New Rochelle, and we came by to formally identify him and take him back to our jail.

Our Officer is doing well, recovering at home after spending the day in an area hospital being treated for a non-life-threatening leg injury. ARIAS was charged with Assault 2nd Degree and Leaving the Scene of an Accident with Serious Physical Injury.

This incident highlights a few things- the dangers of being a Police Officer, the restraint and great work of our Officers, the power of law enforcement technology to be able to apprehend suspects safely, coordination between Police Departments here in Westchester, and the importance of following the orders of Police Officers when you encounter one.

We're glad our Officer will be ok, and we want to thank New Rochelle PD for their great work and assistance!

## Letter to the Editor: Officials are Human and Not Perfect

It seems like our elected officials are expected to be perfect, or near perfect, and that is really unfair. Governor Cuomo was positive overall, and he misses trying to be helpful and serve the public. But all he gets now is public abuse, and if that continues then he shouldn't try to get back into office.

I hope his mother is OK, and I'm sure this isn't easy for her to deal with, and she shouldn't have to! Some people learn to hate and be critical more than anything else at times.

Maybe we should have only robots in government instead of people  
Let's ask Elon Musk to handle that, OK?

**Jimmy F, Port Chester**

## Westchester Rent Guidelines Board Approves Increases of 2% for 1-Yr Leases & 3% for 2-Yrsr

The Building and Realty Institute of Westchester & the Mid-Hudson Region (BRI) Warns of Long-Term Consequences as Rent Guidelines Board Vote Falls Short of Inflation

On June 26, the Westchester County Rent Guidelines Board approved a rent adjustment of 2% for one-year leases and 3% for two-year leases starting October 1, 2025, through September 30, 2026, with a final vote of 5-3.

While the new increases prevent another destructive rent freeze, they again fall short of what is required to keep up with rising costs. The current inflation rate stands at 3.9%, meaning the board's approved adjustments amount to a real-dollar rent cut for property owners managing aging, rent-stabilized buildings.

"Once again, we're staring down the same math problem with the same dangerous answer," said Alana Ciuffetelli, Chair of the BRI's Apartment Owners Advisory Council (AOAC). "These increases do not match the surging costs of insurance, fuel, water, repairs, and local compliance. It's becoming nearly impossible to keep buildings safe and well-maintained without the financial tools to do so."

Over the past year, insurance premiums for multifamily buildings have soared 26% on average, with some property owners seeing annual premiums per unit surpass \$1,770. That's a 103% jump from four years ago, and that's if owners can even find coverage—more and more insurers are pulling out of the rent-stabilized market entirely.

"These increases are crumbs at a time when owners need tools, not barriers," said Ciuffetelli. "Every day, we see more buildings slipping into disrepair because their owners are trapped between regulatory overreach and economic neglect."

The consequences of the Housing Stability and Tenant Protection Act (HSTPA) of 2019 continue to cascade through the system. The inability to raise rents in step with costs has led to widespread devaluation of rent-stabilized buildings, diminishing access to financing for critical repairs and even threatening bank portfolios.

Meanwhile, the limited Individual Apartment Improvement (IAI) cap—currently \$30,000—is a fraction of what's needed for full-scale renovations, which typically cost between \$100,000 and \$150,000. Applications for Major Capital Improvements (MCI) have dropped 83% over the last five years, reflecting the sheer economic uncertainty facing property owners.

"Tonight's vote sends a clear message to owners: keep providing more with less," Ciuffetelli said. "But this model is unsustainable—and eventually, we're all going to pay the price."

County Legislator Emiljana Ulaj posted, "WE WON! The Westchester Rent Guidelines Board voted to allow a common sense 2% increase on 1 year leases for all ETPA properties across Westchester County bucking the trend of exorbitant rate increases across the region. Just this month, Legislator Shanae Williams and I worked on a letter to the RGB urging them to set a modest increase that protects tenants while providing landlords with the resources they need to meet operational expenses. Onward!"

## NYSUT Statement on 2025 Regents Exams Issues

NYSUT President Melinda Person released the following statement regarding reported issues with the 2025 New York Regents exams, specifically the Biology and Earth Science exams.

"We heard many reports from our members that this year's Biology and Earth Science exams contained topics and questions with unforeseen, off-curriculum material. Educators work tirelessly to prepare students for success in accordance with state-approved standards. When tests don't align with these standards, it creates confusion, undermines confidence, and is unfair to students and educators alike.

"NYSUT stands firmly behind our educators and students. Watching students who have worked hard and prepared throughout the year struggle with off-topic materials is disappointing and frustrating for our educators. We are actively working with SED to ensure this doesn't happen again and to create better alignment moving forward so every student has the opportunity to demonstrate what they've learned."

The Regents exams were held in mid-June. Districts, educators and students are now receiving scores from those tests.

Editor's Note: If you or your child were affected by this error, please contact us at [d Murphy@risingmediagroup.com](mailto:d Murphy@risingmediagroup.com)

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## Letter to the Editor and to all of our members of Congress who voted “Yes” for the BBB:

I’m trying to understand how our “Christian” representatives who approved the Big Brutal (NOT Beautiful) Bill think that it is OK. What do they think being a Christian means? Just belonging to a Christian Church? Research “what does it mean to be a Christian” and you will find numerous variations of “following Jesus Christ, believing in his life, death, and resurrection, and striving to live according to his teachings” (emphasis is mine)

Our “Christian” brethren voted YES on this bill, to take away medical care from people who can’t afford it on their own, to take away SNAP benefits from people who cannot afford to feed their children, to cut essential services, like education, medical research, NOAA, etc. And the latest action is to “detain” people in cages, under tents, in the extreme heat and humidity of the Everglades, surrounded by alligators and poisonous snakes. How many of them will survive those conditions? Some Floridians are referring to it as “Alligator Auschwitz”. These people have not been convicted of a crime. Much as the Jews in Hitler’s regime were sent to concentration camps on the basis of religion, detainees are sent there because they are brown. Even if they are undocumented, this solution is unconscionable. THEY ARE STILL HUMAN BEINGS and they should be treated as such.

I drove through Western NY yesterday and saw many billboards about Christian beliefs, one of which said “When you die...you will see God.” I ask those who supported this bill, what will you say when God asks you “What did you do for the least of my brethren?”

Maria Modica-Snow  
Peekskill

## K-9’s Make Great Cops! Drug Bust on the Taconic Yields 1.5 Kilos of Cocaine



### NY State Police K-9 Wild, left, Helps Uncover Drugs

On Monday, June 30, 2025, members of the New York State Police Troop K Community Stabilization Unit (CSU) observed a Ford sedan traveling northbound on the Taconic State Parkway in the Town of Stanford in violation of New York State Vehicle and Traffic Law.

The driver and sole occupant was identified as Tamar W. Knight, 41, of Niskayuna, NY.

State Police K9 Wild conducted an exterior sniff of the vehicle and alerted to the presence of narcotics. A subsequent probable cause search of the vehicle led to the discovery of approximately 1,436 grams of cocaine concealed in the trunk.

During the search, Knight attempted to flee on foot but was immediately apprehended and taken into custody without further incident.

Knight was arrested and charged with Criminal Possession of a Controlled Substance in the 1st Degree (Class A-I felony); Criminal Possession of a Controlled Substance in the 3rd Degree – Intent to Sell (Class B felony); Obstruction of Governmental Administration (Class A misdemeanor) Knight was remanded to the Dutchess County Jail without bail.

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## 33rd Annual Swim Across America –Open Water Swim Makes Waves to Fight Cancer



July 26 Open Water Swim Brings 800+ Swimmers and Volunteers to Dive Into Long Island Sound to Support Cancer Research + 8 Additional Pool Swims Support Kids Swimming for Kids

Join the 33rd annual Swim Across America – Long Island Sound open water swim to make waves to fight cancer on Saturday, July 26, 2025. This fun and inspiring event attracts more than 800 swimmers, volunteers, supporters and spectators, and is Swim Across America’s largest open water swim in the U.S. With swim lengths of 2K, 5K and 10K, plus a 1/2-mile pool swim on July 26, the swim has an event for everyone. There are also an additional eight pool swims starting June 27 and running through August 2 at area clubs that are KIDS Swimming FOR KIDS in support of pediatric cancer research. Established in 1992, Swim Across America – Long Island Sound is closing in on raising a record \$30 million dollars for its local New York beneficiaries, including Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center, Columbia University Cancer Center, Cancer Support Team and Weill Cornell Medical Center. Register to swim, volunteer or donate at [swimacrossamerica.org/longislandsound](http://swimacrossamerica.org/longislandsound).

This year’s Swim Across America – Long Island Sound event includes its large open water swim on July 26, that is a point-to-point swim leaving from the Larchmont Yacht Club and swimming to the Larchmont Shore Club. There are also additional pool swims at:

- Westchester Country Club in Rye, New York (July 12).
- Oriente Beach Club in Mamaroneck, New York (July 19).
- Chappaqua S&T Club in Chappaqua, New York (July 20).
- Coveleigh Club in Rye, New York (July 23).
- Scarsdale Golf Club in Hartsdale, New York (July 24).
- Larchmont Shore Club in Larchmont (July 26 in conjunction with the open water swim).

Lake Isle Club in Eastchester, New York (August 2).

Swim Across America – Long Island Sound KIDS Swimming FOR KIDS program raises funds specifically for pediatric cancer research. Only 4% of cancer funding is directed towards pediatric cancer research and Swim Across America – Long Island Sound is trying to change that by donating 20% of all proceeds from this year’s swim to pediatric cancer research at Memorial Sloan Kettering Kids and NY Presbyterian Children’s Hospital research labs.

New this year is the addition of Dash the Dolphin, Swim Across America’s mascot, and plush toy, which will be available for a \$30 donation. For every Dash the Dolphin plush toy purchased, one will be given to a pediatric cancer patient in a buy-one, give-one program and then provided to pediatric cancer patients in the New York City area through Swim Across America’s beneficiaries.

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## Professional Wrestler from Harrison Gets His Wish



*County Legislator David Tubiolo, left, with Giovanni Roselli*



*Romeo Roselli at the Westchester County Center*

Giovanni “Romeo” Roselli, a seasoned veteran of the professional wrestling industry, performed in a one-of-a-kind event on May 10, 2025, at the iconic Westchester County Center in White Plains, New York. This special event will feature top-tier talent, including The Hardy Boys, Mick Foley, and Mickie James, with Roselli himself stepping into the ring for his highly anticipated retirement match.

After graduating from Harrison High School in 1998, the West Harrison native entered the wrestling world in 2000, quickly establishing himself on the independent circuit before relocating to Ohio Valley Wrestling in Louisville, Kentucky. Shortly thereafter, he was signed to a WWE contract and appeared on the RAW roster. His career also took him to Puerto Rico, where he captured the Puerto Rican Championship, as well as Italy, where he held the NWE World Heavyweight Championship.

Though Giovanni has performed around the world, there is one place he has never wrestled—one place that has always held deep personal significance to him: the Westchester County Center. This is the venue where, as a child, he would watch wrestling events and dream of one day stepping into the ring. It’s a place that holds cherished memories and symbolizes the beginning of his passion for the sport.

Giovanni is determined to have one final match—a retirement match at the venue that shaped his love for wrestling. This event will not only mark the culmination of his career, but it will also be a special moment for his 7-year-

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Pursuant to a Judgment of Foreclosure and Sale duly entered on April 18, 2025, I, the undersigned Referee will sell at public auction at the Westchester County Courthouse, Lobby, 111 Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Boulevard, White Plains, NY 10601 on June 23, 2025 at 9:30 a.m., premises known as 500 High Point Drive a/k/a 500 Highpoint Drive, Unit 5506, Hartsdale, NY 10530. All that certain plot, piece or parcel of land, with the buildings and improvements thereon erected, situate, lying and being in the Town of Greenburgh, County of Westchester and State of New York, Section 8.80, Block 50-1 and Lot 0.5506 together with an undivided 0.403 percent interest in the Common Elements. Approximate amount of judgment is \$205,373.34 plus interest and costs. Premises will be sold subject to provisions of filed Judgment Index #59828/2022.

Julie C. Curley, Esq., Referee

Friedman Vartolo LLP, 85 Broad Street, Suite 501, New York, New York 10004, Attorneys for Plaintiff. Firm File No.: 230321-1.

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 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 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 Offlo LLC. Arts. of Org. filed with the SSNY on 05/23/2025. 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, 1112 Wilmot Rd, STE 91H, Scarsdale NY 10583. Purpose: Any lawful purpose.

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 SteenShotz 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 Natalie Stopka Studio, LLC. Art. of Org. filed with SSNY 05/15/2025. Office location: Westchester County. SSNY has been designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served and SSNY shall mail copy of process to the LLC at 160 Shonnard Terrace, Yonkers, NY 10701. Purpose: any lawful purpose.

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TOWN OF EASTCHESTER

LEGAL NOTICE

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that the Supervisor and the Town Board of the Town of Eastchester, will hold a Public Hearing at the Eastchester Town Hall at 40 Mill Road, Eastchester, New York on TUESDAY, AUGUST 12, 2025 at 7:30 pm, to consider the adoption of a Local Law, 2-2025 "Traffic Control Photo Violation Monitoring System". A copy of the proposed local law is available in the Town Clerk's office at Eastchester Town Hall, 40 Mill Road, Eastchester, New York, 10709.

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

BY THE ORDER OF THE SUPERVISOR AND THE TOWN BOARD OF THE TOWN OF EASTCHESTER, NEW YORK  
JOSEPH D. DOOLEY  
TOWN CLERK

Notice of formation of Great Livinggs , LLC. Arts. Of Org. Filed with the NY department of state on 03/25/2025 Office Location: Bronx. UNITED STATES CORPORATION AGENTS, INC.7014 13TH AVENUE , SUITE 202 BROOKLYN, NY, 11228, USA, designated as agent of the LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail a copy of the process to 228 PARK AVE S #948027 NEW YORK, NY 10003. Purpose : Any lawful activity.

Notice of formation of ARTEYA LLC. Arts. of Org. filed with the SSNY on 05/19/2025. Office Location: Westchester. ZENBUSINESSINC, 41 State Street, Suite 112, Albany, NY 12207, designated as agent of the LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail a copy of the process to ZENBUSINESSINC. 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 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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**.-Thomas Jefferson**

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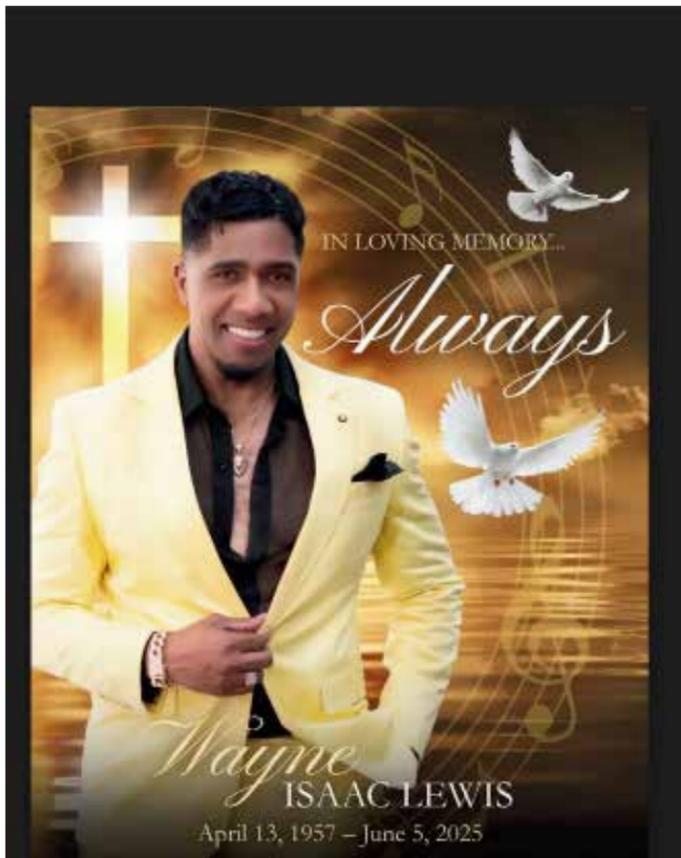
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## Westchester Remembers Wayne Lewis, Atlantic Starr Co-Founder, Valhalla Native



Wayne Lewis, founding member of the R&B group Atlantic Starr, who had hits in the '80s with "Always," "Circles," and "Secret Lovers," died June 5, 2025, at the age of 68. No details on his death have been reported.

Lewis was one of three Lewis brothers who formed Atlantic Starr in the late 1970s. His brothers David and Jonathan, along with collaborators that included longtime members Porter Carroll Jr., Clifford Archer, and Joseph Phillips, and singers Sharon Bryant and Barbara Weathers, formed the core of the band during their heyday, though the group would see close to 20 members come and go over the years. Lewis sang and played keyboards, and he co-wrote the band's biggest hits. Atlantic Starr first hit the R&B charts with their No. 2 hit "Circles" in 1982, but it was their 1987 hit "Always" that thrust them fully into the mainstream, hitting No. 1 on the Billboard Hot 100. "My First Love" and "Secret Lovers" also proved to be big crossover hits. When the single "Masterpiece" hit No. 3 on the pop and R&B charts in 1992, it marked the last major hit for the band. Though their hit-making days were behind them, Lewis and Atlantic Starr continued to tour and perform for decades, with dates booked through 2025. The band announced Lewis' passing on Instagram.

Fans on Instagram responded to the news with memories of the music Lewis helped give them. "My 1st concert ... thank you for the greatest musical experience," Lesley Sauls Mundy said, while Juana Harris posted, "Thank you for the music you gave us. Thank you for sharing your gift to the world."

Wayne Isaac Lewis was born on April 13, 1957, in Valhalla. He began singing with his brother David at First Seventh Day Adventist Church of White Plains, and attended Woodlands High School in Hartsdale.

The memorial service was held at Woodlands HS on June 30. Rest in peace.

Visit our story link online to learn more

<https://yonkerstimes.com/westchester-remembers-wayne-lewis-atlantic-starr-co-founder-valhalla-native/>

### Non profits, continued from pg 2-

The bill also ensures nonprofits aren't penalized for minor administrative errors in vouchers and recognizes the real cost of delivering services, including overhead expenses.

State Senator Shelley B. Mayer said, "I am very pleased that my colleague, Assemblywoman Amy Paulin, and I have successfully passed this bill to support our not-for-profit organizations in both the Assembly and Senate this session. Our not-for-profit organizations provide essential support, resources, and services to all of our communities. However, for years, they have had to navigate complex contractual processes to receive timely and contractually required reimbursements from state grants. This creates tremendous fiscal and operational problems, ultimately limiting the quality and quantity of services they can offer to those in need. This bill finally addresses these problems by clarifying and streamlining the reimbursement process. Thank you to Nonprofit Westchester for their strong advocacy to find a legislative solution to this problem. Now I urge Governor Hochul to sign this legislation as soon as possible."

Jan Fisher, Executive Director of Nonprofit Westchester, applauded the bill's passage: "This legislation is not just about streamlining bureaucracy—it's about ensuring the survival of New York's nonprofit sector at a time when it's needed most. Nonprofits are being destabilized by state delays just when our communities are relying on us to provide critical safety net services and defend civil rights in an uncertain federal landscape. These reforms recognize that we are partners—not afterthoughts—in delivering life-saving services."

As more nonprofits report difficulty recruiting and retaining staff due to financial instability, this legislation offers timely and targeted solutions that will help safeguard the continuity of essential services.

"With this bill, we're not just supporting nonprofits," said Paulin, "we're supporting the families, children, seniors, and communities they serve."

### Swim Across America, continued from pg 5-

"The Swim Across America – Long Island Sound open water swim and pool swims are some of the most inspiring events you will ever attend," said Jean Fufidio, event director with Swim Across America. "The gathering of so many families and so many individuals who are honoring those who have been impacted by cancer, whether as a patient or survivor themselves, or to honor a loved one or friend, is an incredible thing to witness. To hear their stories and to learn about those whom cancer has touched and to experience the love and support to help others is just palpable. The feeling of wanting to make a change and to do something for those who have experienced cancer is huge."

Fufidio also noted, "Cancer knows no boundaries. It impacts adults, young adults and children. Diagnoses of young adults globally have risen by 79%. But here's how Swim Across America Long Island Sound is making a positive impact. A recent Time Magazine story, 'The Race to Explain Why More Young Adults are Getting Cancer' mentioned the ground-breaking, rectal clinical trials done by one of our very own fellow doctors, with a 100% response rate. A subsequent trial that was expanded to other gastrointestinal MMRd type cancers and published in The New England Journal of Medicine in April showed an astounding 80% success rate with immunotherapy alone – no surgery, chemotherapy or radiation."

Now in its 33rd year, Swim Across America – Long Island Sound has contributed nearly \$30 million towards cancer research, resulting in FDA approved immunotherapy treatments of Keytruda, Opdivo and Yervoy. What's more is the money raised locally stays local, providing cancer care and research grants to The Cancer Support Team, a Westchester-based home care program offering free services to patients and their families; to New York Presbyterian Children's Hospital Pediatric Oncology Lab; to Memorial Sloan-Kettering Research Laboratories of Dr. Diaz and Dr. Kung Kids Department of Pediatrics; and to Weill Cornell Medicine Research Laboratory of Dr. Wolchok and Dr. Merghoub.

Nationally, Swim Across America has generated more than \$100 million for cancer research since its founding 1987, supporting more than 60 research projects each year in 25 markets. The Long Island Sound swim is the organization's largest event and highest fundraiser.

Please support the hundreds of swimmers and volunteers who will be making waves on Saturday, July 26, at the Swim Across America – Long Island Sound open water swim + eight pool swims from June through August that will help Swim Across America – Long Island Sound reach its 2025 \$2 million goal to allocate even more dollars towards grants that are working towards a cure.

To learn more about Swim Across America – Long Island Sound or to register to swim, volunteer or donate, visit [swimacrossamerica.org/longislandsound](http://swimacrossamerica.org/longislandsound). For the July 26 Swim Across America – Long Island Sound eight pool swims this summer, register or donate at [swimacrossamerica.org/longislandsound](http://swimacrossamerica.org/longislandsound).

### Harrison wrestler, continued from pg 5-

old daughter, who has never had the opportunity to see her father wrestle live. This event is more than just a wrestling match. It's a celebration of legacy, passion, and the fulfillment of a lifelong dream.

On May 10, Roselli stepped into the spotlight at the Westchester County Center, going head-to-head with ring veteran Mike Mondo in a thrilling, hard-hitting battle before 3,000 fans in an atmosphere crackling with electricity and emotion.

In recognition of this milestone event, the County of Westchester officially proclaimed Friday, May 9th as Giovanni Roselli Day. The announcement received media coverage from News12 Westchester, underscoring its regional impact.

The event was highlighted by the presence of County Legislator David Tubiolo, who presented Roselli with the official proclamation in front of family, friends, and supporters. News12 Westchester was also on hand to cover the special occasion, capturing the emotion and significance of the moment for broadcast.

"This is truly an honor," said Roselli. "To be recognized by the county where I grew up—and just before I have my final match in the building where my dream began—is beyond anything I could have imagined."

The proclamation recognizes Roselli's two-decade career in the ring, which has taken him from small-town venues to global arenas, including Madison Square Garden and international championships in Italy. Outside of wrestling, Giovanni has become a respected figure in the fields of wellness, personal development, and entertainment—appearing in film, on television, and inspiring others through coaching and public speaking.

Congratulations to Giovanni 'Johnny' Roselli aka Romeo for his outstanding career and retirement as a professional wrestler.

He is best known for his work with World Wrestling Entertainment (WWE), on its RAW brand, as one half of the tag team "The Heart Throbs".

Roselli also appeared in the Movie The Wrestler with Mickey Rourke. He is a nationally recognized fitness coach, author, and presenter.

He is currently a Master Instructor for ViPR PRO and its parent company, Institute of Motion. Giovanni also serves as a Master Instructor for Kettlebell Athletics and CoreTex® Fitness. He has worked as a Master Trainer, content creator, and education consultant for Nike, and designed the nationally launched Equinox signature class 'Fully Loaded'.

Visit [GiovanniRoselli.com](http://GiovanniRoselli.com) for more information.

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# Hudson River Music Festival Returns to Croton Point Park in Memory of Pete Seeger!



*Tom Chapin, on Banjo, playing Pete Seeger tunes*

**By Dan Murphy**

Back in the 1970s, my parents took me to several concerts at Croton Point Park hosted by Pete Seeger. A young classmate of mine, David Matthews, also attended the festivals. The concerts were held to raise money and awareness to help clean up the Hudson River. With Seeger's help, the Hudson River was cleaned up, and Pete's simple "folk picnics," as he liked to call the festivals, continued on for decades and were called the Clearwater Festival, after Pete's boat Clearwater that he used to highlight the pollution in the Hudson that called out for healing.

In 2022, the festival was cancelled. But three years later, we are thrilled to see that the Festival has returned to Croton Point Park, under the name RiverFest FPS (For Pete's Sake), and was a great success.

On June 14, the Hudson River Music Festival took over Croton Point Park for a full day of live music, family activities, celebration and outdoor fun. Presented by Riverfest FPS (For Pete's Sake), Dayglo Presents, and Harper House Music Foundation and rooted in the spirit of Toshi and Pete Seeger's folk picnics, the new festival brought together music lovers, environmental advocates, and families for a vibrant celebration. The all-ages festival united people in a gathering fueled by a shared love for the river, music, and activism. From the musical performances to community-driven experiences, the festival embodied a new chapter rooted in a beloved tradition. Read the festival recap in Relix.

Mainstage musical acts included Grahame Lesh & Friends – featuring Rick Mitarotonda (Goose), Oteil Burbridge (Dead & Company, Allman Brothers Band), Taylor Goldsmith, Griffin Goldsmith (Dawes), Rob Barraco (Phil Lesh Quintet), Jennifer Hartswick (Trey Anastasio Band), – Lucius featuring Griffin & Taylor Goldsmith, Madison Cunningham, Preservation Hall Jazz Band, Steve Earle & Friends, Jorma Kaukonen (Hot Tuna, Jefferson Airplane), and Tom Chapin & Friends. Keeping the festival accessible to all, ASL interpreters were provided for all performances.

Special activities also included the iconic Earthball, Pete & Toshi's Grove, the Circle of Song, and family friendly performances from the Arm of the Sea Puppet Show and The Rock and Roll Playhouse, as well as the mesmerizing Boat Flotilla presented by Riverkeeper, where colorful boats gathered along the Hudson River to move in harmony. The organizers also dedicated the event to their dear friend, colleague and mentor Jeremy Tepper (November 18, 1963 – June 14, 2024). Jeremy's importance to the three presenting entities served as inspiration for bringing the event back to Croton Point Park.

**Festival Highlights:**

The day kicked off with Grammy award winning folk legend Tom Chapin, David Amram, and The Chapin Sisters leading a heartfelt performance dedicated to Toshi and Pete Seeger. Festival goers held hands and sang along as the Chapin family performed in a heartfelt and joyful moment of unity.

Excitement erupted among festival goers as colorful boats and a spraying fire boat paused along the Hudson river to say hello to the crowd. The flotilla was represented by Riverkeeper, as they celebrate the annual fish migration and promote local clean waters.

The festival was committed to create a zero waste day. Reusable water stations were scattered throughout the festival grounds and zero-waste volunteers were ready to help festival-goers separate recyclables (plastic, glass, metal) from food scraps and other compostable materials (napkins, compostable servingware).

Families flocked to The Rock and Roll Playhouse performance, where kids could dance to the live music of Bob Dylan and Pete Seeger while getting their face painted or blow giant bubbles right next door.

The festival was also made possible by the dedication and hard work of 125 volunteers. From managing shifts and assisting with accessibility to educating attendees about composting and creating moments of joy for families, these volunteers brought Pete Seeger's vision of community to life. Their contributions ensured the festival was welcoming, organized, and memorable for all.

After a full day of family fun, food, nature and mainstage sets by all star acts, Grahame Lesh & friends closed out the day on the main stage with incredible musicianship and good vibes.

ABOUT RIVERFEST FPS (FOR PETE'S SAKE) RiverFest FPS (For Pete's Sake) (RFPS), a not-for-profit, 501(c)(3) corporation, co-founded by Mitzi Elkes, Hal Cohen and Roy Volpe, is the promoter of the Hudson River Music Festival (HRMF). RFPS's mission is to create and operate a multi-cultural music festival dedicated to educating attendees about environmental issues and a sustainable planet. Honoring the legacy of Pete and Toshi Seeger, the HRMF, through a blend of music, art, and activism, inspiring environmental stewardship, social justice, and community engagement while celebrating the Hudson River's profound cultural and ecological importance.

We will see all of you next year at the Hudson River Music Festival, for Pete's Sake!

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# Senator Mayer Recognizes 38 Westchester Students with Citizenship Awards



*Top L to R: Trevor Smith, David Matz, Lens Isaac, Lenex Minnow, Lenny Toribio, Fawad Khan Ahmad, Nicholas Mercado, Olivia Naporano, Jake Solar. Middle L to R: Cecilia Grace Halliday, Liberty Wilson, Megan Matias, Jessenia Abrego, Abigail Halperin, Dayra Lupita Cruz, Dahlia Nava, Joshua Montvelisky, Julianna Blackman, Jeff Schubert. Bottom (sitting) L to R: Taryn DeCrescenzo, Kamila El-Moselhy, Ashley Stangel, Senator Shelley B. Mayer, Emily Goldman, Ava Cross, Asa Hamlin.*

State Senator Shelley Mayer recognized 38 students in the 37th Senate District with the 2025 Citizenship Award on Monday, June 23 at White Plains High School. Senator Mayer’s Citizenship Award recognizes students who have made exemplary contributions through civic involvement, community service, extracurricular activities or daily actions to serve their schools or community. Senator Mayer led a roundtable discussion with the student recipients to showcase their activities and to learn more about each student’s work for their communities. The students had an opportunity to discuss their activities, the initiatives they pursued, and the ideas and plans they have for the future. Senator Mayer then presented the students with certificates of achievement for their outstanding involvement in the community. Senator Shelley B. Mayer said, “I am delighted to present the 2025 Citizenship Awards to these remarkably bright and enthusiastic students. They have all done extraordinary work in their schools and in their communities, investing much of their time and energy into making Westchester a better place for us all and for future generations. As Chair of the Senate Education Committee, I am inspired by their work, and I appreciate the opportunity to hear their stories as well as their plans for the future. I would like to thank Principal Emerly Martinez and White Plains High School for hosting this ceremony, as well as all the family members and supporters of these terrific young people.”

Senator Mayer recognized: Cecilia Grace Halliday and Joshua Montvelisky of Blind Brook High School; Megan Matias and Liberty Wilson of Bronxville High School; Emily Goldman and Ashley Stangel from Byram Hills High School; Fawad Khan Ahmad and Dayra Lupita Cruz from Charles E. Gorton High School; Kate Kim and Trevor Smith from Eastchester High School; Caitlin O’Connor and David Matz from Fox Lane High School; Julianna Blackman and Olivia Naporano from Harrison High School; Jeff Schubert and Aldijana Srdanovic from Lincoln High School; Katherine Gramajo and Nicholas Mercado from Mamaroneck High School; Jessenia Abrego and Jake Solar from New Rochelle High School; Daisy Aguilar and Taryn DeCrescenzo from Port Chester High School; Lens Isaac and Dahlia Nava from Riverside High School; Lenex Minnow and Lenny Toribio from Roosevelt High School; Ava Cross and Brady Howard from Rye High School; Rachele Candamil and Melani Linares from Rye Neck High School; Omar Abuali and Amberly Nunez from Saunders Trades and Technical High School; Kamila El-Moselhy and Layden Kennedy from Scarsdale High School; Leila Gargiulo and John Manginelli from Tuckahoe High School; and Abigail Halperin and Asa Hamlin from White Plains High School. Each student was nominated by a teacher or school administrator.



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**FRIDAY JULY 11, 2025 - WESTCHESTER RISING -PAGE 10**

PUBLIC NOTICE A GENERAL ORDINANCE AMENDING SECTION 109-160 OF ARTICLE XVII, CHAPTER 109, PART 2, ARTICLE XVII OF THE CODE OF THE CITY OF YONKERS RELATING TO PENALTIES FOR PARKING VIOLATIONS Notice is hereby given that the City Council of the City of Yonkers has adopted the abovementioned legislation that amends the City Code to discourage double-parking within the City of Yonkers by increasing the penalties for illegal parking within the City of Yonkers and by updating the maximum charges permitted for towing services and vehicle storage to reflect present and actual labor, equipment, costs, and effort for various towing services within the City of Yonkers.

Parking, standing and stopping violations shall be punished as follows:

Type of Violation	Fee	
Expired meter (on street)	\$30	
Overtime parking at meter (on street)	\$30	
Expired meter (off street)	\$30	
Failed to activate meter (on street)	\$30	
Overtime parking at meter (off street)	\$30	
Failed to activate meter (off street)	\$30	
Parking in 2 meter spaces (on street)	\$50	
Parking rear to meter (on street)	\$50	
Parking in 2 meter spaces (off street)	\$50	
Parking rear to meter (off street)	\$50	
No parking	\$50	
Overtime parking, no meter	\$50	
Parking in driveway, public or private	\$100	
Parking within 30 feet of stop sign	\$50	
Parking within 10 feet of crosswalk at intersection	\$60	
Parking in loading zone	\$50	
M/T 12 inches from curb, 2-way street	\$50	
M/T 12 inches from curb, 1-way street	\$50	
Parking left side to curb, 2-way street	\$50	
Parking wrong direction, 2-way street	\$50	
Parking wrong direction, 1-way street	\$50	
Parking opposite construction site	\$50	
Improper parking	\$50	
Parked rear to curb	\$50	
Improper angle parking	\$50	
Angle parking prohibited, 2-way street	\$50	
Angle parking prohibited, 1-way street	\$50	
Wheels not turned to curb on hill	\$50	Fee
Parking a trailer, semitrailer, tractor-trailer, tractor, house-on-wheels, bus or school bus	\$500	Fee
Other Commercial vehicle/bus parking	\$50	
Parked on bridge	\$50	
Unattended vehicle	\$70	
Parked at theater entrance	\$50	
Parked on private property	\$50	
Parked without lights	\$50	
Inspection violations	\$50	
Parked on entrance or exit ramps, state highway	\$50	
Parked on state highway	\$50	
Parked alongside curb cut	\$100	
Parked for purpose of vehicle sale	\$50	
Parked for vehicle repair, except emergency	\$125	Fee
Parked on highway with speed limit over 35 mph for purpose of selling frozen desserts	\$50	Fee
Parked within safety island	\$60	
Parked within crosswalk	\$60	
Parked within intersection	\$60	
Parked on sidewalk	\$160	
No standing	\$70	
No stopping	\$70	
No stopping, bus stop	\$50	
Stopped on pavement	\$50	
Registration violations	\$70	
Unregistered motorcycle	\$70	
Tab improperly on plate	\$70	
License plate violations	\$90	
No current license plate	\$90	
Unauthorized license plate	\$90	
Parked leaving L/T 10 feet roadway	\$90	
Restricted area	\$70	
Restricted area, parking lot	\$70	
Restricted area, off street	\$70	
Restricted, raceway parking	\$70	
Obstructing traffic	\$90	
Obstructing traffic, L/T 10 feet roadway	\$90	
Double-parked	\$150	Fee
Double-parked commuting hours (Mon. - Fri. 7:00 a.m. to 10:00 a.m. and 3:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m., excluding holidays)	\$100	Fee
Parked within 15 feet of fire hydrant	\$125	
Parked in fire zone	\$90	
Parked within 20 feet of fire station entrance	\$90	
Parked in tow-away zone	\$90	
Emergency snow removal	\$90	
Parked in handicap space, no permit, on street	\$200	
Parked in handicap space, no permit, off street	\$100	
Abandoned vehicle	\$450	
Abandoned vehicle in an emergency a designated emergency	\$500	Fee

All other parking violations, including violations of Article 32 of the New York State Vehicle and Traffic Law \$50

In the event that a respondent does not enter a plea or remit the fine due for a parking, standing or stopping violation as and when required by this chapter, then they shall pay a late payment penalty equal and in addition to the scheduled fine for the violation charged. In the event that a vehicle is towed pursuant to this chapter, the owner or person entitled to possession of the vehicle shall pay a towing charge and a storage charge as set by the rules and regulations of the City of Yonkers. These charges shall be in addition to any fines or penalties for illegal stopping, standing, parking, abandonment or any other offense under this chapter. Towing and storage charges shall be paid as lawfully. No vehicle shall be released unless all towing and storage fees, outstanding parking violations, and related penalties are paid in full. The following fees shall be the maximum charged for all passenger cars, regardless of weight, for either private towing or towing pursuant to roster call or impound: A maximum charge of \$350 for passenger vehicles, and \$150 for mopeds The above maximum charge shall include:

- [1] Winching (if required)    [2] Use of dollies/skates    [3] Lockout service (if required)    [4] Shrink wrap application for broken or missing windows

Storage charges shall be at the rate of not more than \$75 for each 24 hours or part thereof for passenger vehicles, and for mopeds, \$35 for each 24 hours. All vehicles must be stored on the premises of the licensee, whether indoors or outdoors, and shall not be permitted on City streets. Truck and trailer storage shall be at the rate of not more than \$350 for small to medium size trucks and \$550 for large trucks for each 24 hours or part thereof. Administrative fees may be charged at a maximum rate of \$100 for the retrieval of owner/lienholder information and mailing of certified letters to all relevant parties. Heavy towing is a maximum charge of \$750 per hour with a 2-hour minimum charge and \$650 per hour thereafter. The complete text of the ordinance is on file and may be examined at the Office of the City Clerk, City Hall, 40 S. Broadway, Yonkers, NY 10701. Dated: July 9, 2025 Vincent Spano City Clerk

## Civil Rights Advocate Marc Fishman Condemns Westchester Judge for Retaliation & Disability Discrimination

Playland, continued from pg 2-



Marc Fishman, a disabled father and outspoken civil rights advocate, is calling on the New York State Commission on Judicial Conduct to remove Westchester County Judge Michelle Schauer for what he describes as blatant retaliation and disability discrimination. Fishman also urges Governor Kathy Hochul to appoint a civil rights monitor over Westchester’s courts to prevent further systemic abuse against vulnerable New Yorkers.

Fishman, who recently won a federal ruling affirming his right to reasonable accommodations, now faces retaliation from Judge Schauer, who issued a court order suspending his FERPA rights—the federal protections guaranteeing parents access to their children’s educational records. Fishman asserts the suspension was not based on any educational or legal rationale, but as punishment for exercising his civil rights and challenging the county’s noncompliance with disability law.

“Judge Schauer’s actions make clear that in Westchester, if you’re disabled and dare to demand equal treatment, you will be punished,” said Fishman. “Her order to suspend my federally protected access to my son’s education is a direct attack—not just on me, but on every disabled parent in this state.”

Fishman’s call for action follows a pattern he described in a widely shared op-ed in LoHud earlier this year. In the piece, he detailed the ways in which New York’s judicial system often ignores or enables civil rights violations against the disabled, particularly in family court settings. He warned then—as he warns now—that accountability is urgently needed.

“The Commission on Judicial Conduct too often fails to act when judges violate the rights of New York’s most vulnerable,” Fishman said. “Their silence when it comes to disability discrimination sends a dangerous message: that our rights don’t matter.”

Fishman is now urging Governor Hochul to take executive action by installing a civil rights monitor over Westchester’s courts, similar to other oversight measures in jurisdictions plagued by racial or disability bias.

“Governor Hochul has an opportunity to show that New York means what it says about equity and justice,” said Fishman. “Without oversight, Westchester’s courts will continue to operate as a system of exclusion and retaliation.”

Fishman’s case highlights a broader crisis in New York’s family courts, where litigants with disabilities often face barriers to access, systemic hostility, and denial of fundamental rights. His federal court victory affirmed the need for reasonable accommodations under the ADA, but the backlash he now faces raises urgent questions about how state courts handle such mandates.

### SUPREME COURT - COUNTY OF WESTCHESTER.

THE BANK OF NEW YORK MELLON FKA THE BANK OF NEW YORK AS TRUSTEE FOR THE CERTIFICATEHOLDERS OF CWBMS, INC., CHL MORTGAGE PASS-THROUGH TRUST 2005-15, MORTGAGE PASS-THROUGH CERTIFICATES, SERIES 2005-15, Plaintiff -against-HANNA P. WAGNER; ERIC WAGNER AS EXECUTOR OF THE ESTATE OF DAVID WAGNER, et al Defendant(s). Pursuant to a Judgment of Foreclosure and Sale dated April 15, 2025 and entered on April 16, 2025, and an Amended Judgement of Foreclosure and Sale dated May 21, 2025 and entered on May 22, 2025, I, the undersigned Referee will sell at public auction in the Lobby of the Westchester County Courthouse, 111 Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd., White Plains, NY on August 12, 2025 at 9:30 a.m. premises situate, lying and being in the Town of Eastchester, County of Westchester and State of New York, known and designated as SBL# 66-1-260

Said premises known as 70 HOWARD AVENUE, EASTCHESTER, NY 10709

Approximate amount of lien \$986,012.00 plus interest & costs.

Premises will be sold subject to provisions of filed Judgment and Terms of Sale.

Index Number 64049/2021.  
ANTHONY S. COLAVITA, ESQ., Referee

Pincus Law Group, PLLC  
Attorney(s) for Plaintiff  
425 RXR Plaza, Uniondale, NY 11556

County Government asked the Board of Legislators for \$36 Million to pay Standard, but gave them only \$24 Million. \$12 Million is still to be determined, and county government is hoping to get a ruling that they do not have to pay Standard the remaining \$12 Million because they illegally walked away from their contractual obligation.

Westchester County government is now in the process of repairing Playland with a \$150 million investment from the taxpayers.

So the taxpayers of Westchester may be able to get back \$12 million owed to Standard Amusements, but this whole experiment of having a private, for profit company operate Playland for the people and taxpayers was a failed experiment that has cost the taxpayers over \$100 Million.

The idea came about from former County Executive Rob Astorino, who presented the idea back in 2017, and it sounded good. But in the years that Standard operated Playland, there were Facebook comments from families complaining about the costs to enjoy the park, including a large entrance fee, that did not include the cost of rides.

**In our view**, the reason that Standard Amusements attempted to walk away in January was because they realized that this was a failed financial concept. It just wasn’t profitable, or profitable enough to continue.

That’s too bad for the people of Westchester, who now have to pay for the repairs to the park while waiting for all the rides and entertainment to return to 100% up and running.

This is not the fault of the County Executive, or the Board of Legislators. Just a bad deal gone really bad.

The good news is that Playland is free to enter for all to enjoy. And if you don’t like the rides that are available so far, consider it a walk through a Westchester waterfront park.

**Editor’s Note:** We received email from a representative of Standard Amusements. I wanted to quickly point out this sentence in your article: “The reason that Standard Amusements attempted to walk away in January was because they realized that this was a failed financial concept. It just wasn’t profitable, or profitable enough to continue.” The sentiment that Standard Amusement’s investment was unprofitable is misleading. As Standard has repeatedly stated, the decision to orderly terminate the agreement with the County was due to the County’s lack of cooperation, further outlined in Standard Amusements May 7 statement: Standard Amusements Sets the Record Straight on Playland Transition.

We edited the sentence with In our view, above

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# A Tsunami of Anime Hits Yonkers

*Mt. Vernon Mayor Sued, continued from pg 1*



Artist “Othelia” with her featured artwork “Family Photo” in front of Blue Door Art Center, Photo by M. Trommer

By M. Trommer

“ANIME, East Meets West Thru Art and Pop Culture,” a new exhibition, opened at the Blue Door Art Center on June 28 and will run through July 26, 2025. Visitors at the opening of “ANIME” were greeted by cosplayers dressed up as favorite characters from the Sailor Moon and Jujutsu Kaisen anime. One parent pointed to the collection of anime pins on his vest and commented, “I am as excited as my kids!”

A collection of brightly colored anime-inspired paintings, drawings, artifacts, fan art, and installations fills the gallery. Twenty artists from ages 11 to 82 have their work featured. Many artists hail from Yonkers and surrounding Westchester, but some artists come from out of state and as far away as the United Kingdom.

Co-curator and gallery director, Michele Amaro, enthused “I have always been fascinated with Japanese art and culture. To see anime so popular amongst teens, and so pervasive in our popular culture, I knew it was time to bring it to Blue Door.”

The Japanese art of anime short for animation, is a highly stylized and graphic art form. From “manga” Japanese comic books, that have been adapted to anime cartoon series or animated films, this genre has given offshoots to many cultural crossovers such as food, fashion and entertainment.

What makes this exhibition unique is the interpretation of anime through the culture lens that is personal to each artist. If you are not sure what anime is or are a diehard fan, there is something to explore. Interactive exhibits will draw you into this larger-than-life world. Take a photo with giant parrot in a princess gown. No longer part of a subculture, anime is for everyone.

Visit this free exhibition at Blue Door Art Center, 13 Riverdale Avenue, Yonkers, NY, on Thursdays and Fridays from 3 – 6pm or Saturday from 1 – 6pm thru July 26th.

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Separately, I’m hearing troubling reports that a middle-aged close associate of yours is accused of having inappropriate physical relations with a 14-year-old eighth grader and of stealing from a nonprofit organization. It is also being reported that you were aware of both allegations. Is this true?”

Ex. B (Screenshot of Text).

This message did not include the name of any individual, nor did it provide identifying details. Despite this, what followed raises serious questions about Defendant Patterson-Howard’s judgment, priorities, and potential obstruction of justice.

On information and belief, Defendant Patterson-Howard not only shared the text message with Murray, but she summoned him to her office at City Hall to do so.

On May 15, 2025, following a press conference by Westchester County District Attorney Susan Cacace announcing Murray’s arrest, Defendant Patterson-Howard issued a public statement claiming that she had recently received “a vague, anonymous, and suspicious text message containing allegations of sexual misconduct.” The mayor stated: While the message lacked specific details and appeared politically motivated, I did not hesitate to act. . . . Allegations of this nature must always be treated with urgency and care . . . . I immediately contacted the Westchester County District Attorney’s Office . . . . I treat all allegations of sexual abuse with the gravity they deserve and have followed all proper protocols to allow justice to take its full and fair course.

Defendant Patterson-Howard’s statement omitted several critical facts: (1) that she contacted the accused directly before, or in very close proximity to, contacting the District Attorney, (2) that she somehow identified Dwayne Murray as the subject of a “vague, anonymous” complaint, and (3) that summoning an alleged child molester to City Hall and personally disclosing the complaint cannot reasonably be construed as “following proper protocols.”

These actions raise serious concerns about Defendant Patterson-Howard’s judgment, her potential interference with an active or anticipated criminal investigation, and her motivations for prioritizing communication with the alleged perpetrator over immediate notification to law enforcement authorities. They also call into question whether her actions were motivated by her political alliance with Murray during a contested local election. Notably, Murray was previously engaged to, and still living with school board trustee candidate Erica Petersen, whom Defendant Patterson-Howard publicly supported.

The suit also attempts to link Mayor Patterson-Howard to a group “Rise Up Mount Vernon.”

Defamatory Website Promoted by Patterson-Howard Allies

On or around June 20, 2025, a political organization known as “Rise Up Mount Vernon”—which, on information and belief, acts as a political surrogate for Defendant Patterson-Howard—launched a website designed to defame Democratic City Council candidates Nicholas Mastrogiorgio and Andre Wallace. The site is styled in the format of political opposition research and contains personal photographs, disparaging statements, and misleading or inflammatory narratives about the candidates. At the bottom of the site, in small print, is the disclaimer: “Paid for by Rise Up Mount Vernon.”

The design, tone, and timing of this website make it indistinguishable from a digital extension of Defendant Patterson-Howard’s campaign efforts. Its content closely mirrors language and tactics seen in the mayor’s other campaign literature and mailers, reinforcing the inference of a coordinated and sanctioned smear campaign.

The nature of the site—anonymous in design but clearly affiliated with political operatives closely aligned with Defendant Patterson-Howard—illustrates a calculated attempt to undermine political opponents while shielding the mayor from direct accountability. The site’s launch in the final days before the June 2025 primary suggests a deliberate strategy to cause reputational harm with minimal time for rebuttal or correction.

Coordinated Smear Campaign via Social Media

In addition to the defamatory website, Defendant Patterson-Howard and her allies are believed to have initiated a coordinated telephone and social media campaign around the same time, soliciting individuals to publicly attack and discredit opposition candidates online. Several individuals who received these calls have come forward, stating that Mayor Patterson-Howard personally asked them to post defamatory content on social media.

Obstructing a law enforcement investigation is a felony. Act accordingly.

In a statement issued from City Hall, Patterson-Howard stated, “This is a politically motivated and frivolous lawsuit filed by a so-called activist,” she said. “Unfortunately, it will force the City to divert valuable resources at a time when we are focused on public safety, economic development, and housing for our residents. It seeks to drag Mount Vernon back to an era of chaos and confusion we’ve worked so hard to move beyond. When I took office, I promised to lead with integrity and not to do anything that would embarrass our community and I have kept that promise. We will allow this matter to play out in court.”

Legal experts analysis of the suit:

In Yonkers, the Mayor’s security detail is based on threat assessments and safety vulnerability. Wherever the Mayor goes, so goes his security detail. You cannot separate the Mayor from the person. To accuse Mayor Patterson-Howard of using her police officer to travel around the city as an illegal act will be difficult to prove.

If Mayor Patterson-Howard did tip off Dwayne Murray before the DA announced his arrest is a criminal accusation, which will be resolved in criminal courts and by the DA.

Regarding Rise Up Mt. Vernon, first it will have to be proven that the charges made by the group were defamatory or illegal. If there is a finding against Rise Up Mt. Vernon, the next hurdle will be to determine Mayor Patterson-Howard’s affiliation and involvement with the group.

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

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## Weekend Events in Westchester County Parks

## SATURDAY, JULY 12

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: Aug. 23; Sept. 6. Get details and register: <https://www.lasdonpark.org/event/medicinal-plant-and-tree-tour-2/>

Hilltop Hanover Farm & Environmental Center, Yorktown Heights: (914) 862-5050. Tastings in the Field, 11 a.m. - 12 p.m. Come with us into our field to use your taste to note the similarities and differences within the family, genus and species of one of our crops. Each class in this series will highlight a different seasonal crop and explore how and why tastes vary and the benefits of these distinctions. For ages 6 and up. \$10 per person. Also: Aug. 9; Sept. 13. Register: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/tastings-in-the-field-tickets-1374759415419?aff=oddtcreator>

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>

Saxon Woods Park, White Plains: (914) 995-4480

DJ Day, 12 p.m. - 4 p.m. Come for a swim and enjoy music at the pool! Participation is free; admission and parking fees apply. Westchester County residency is required; weather permitting. Get details: <https://parks.westchestergov.com/family-fun-days>

Tibbetts Brook Park, Yonkers: (914) 231-2870

Family Fun Day, 12 p.m. - 4 p.m. Join us for a day with music, games and more for the entire family. Participation is free; admission and parking fees apply. Westchester County residency is required; weather permitting. Rain date: July 13. Get details: <https://parks.westchestergov.com/family-fun-days>

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

Art Exhibit: Color Touches the Soul, 12 p.m. - 4 p.m. This is a lyrical invitation into the emotional world of Westchester resident Gabriel Ceslov. It suggests beauty, vulnerability and the moving resonance of abstraction. Weekends throughout July. Get details: <https://www.muscotefarm.org/programs-events/event/2025/07/12/1752339600/july-art-show/527727>

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. Ages 14 and older. Get details and register: <https://www.lasdonpark.org/event/lasdon-green-squad-2-2/2025-07-12/>

## SUNDAY, JULY 13

The Bronx River Parkway

Bicycle Sunday, 8 a.m. - 12 p.m. A 13.1-mile loop from Westchester County Center south to Scarsdale Road in Yonkers is closed to cars. Open to non-motorized bicyclists, scooters and in-line skaters, e-bike class 1 only, plus walkers and joggers. Many points of entry and exit are along the way. Admission is free. Also: July 20, 27 (8 a.m. to 12 p.m.); Sept. 7, 14, 21 (10 a.m. to 2 p.m.); Oct. 5 (10 a.m. to 2 p.m.). Get details: <https://parks.westchestergov.com/bicycle-sundays>

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

Low-Tide Hike, 8:30 a.m. - 10 a.m. Explore Croton Point's shoreline with the park naturalist and learn about estuarine ecology, glacial geology and the deep history of this beautiful Hudson River promontory. Meet at the RV Park entrance. Free; ages six and up; some difficult terrain.

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

Farmers Market, 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. Backyard Beets, featuring band, Quasi Normal, will perform from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. Get details: <https://www.muscotefarm.org/markets/>

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

Gardening Sundays and Tuesdays, Weekly, 10 a.m. - 12 p.m. 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! Next: July 15. Get details and register: <https://www.lasdonpark.org/event/gardening-sundays-2/2025-07-13/>

Hilltop Hanover Farm & Environmental Center, Yorktown Heights: (914) 862-5050. July Community Farm Work Day: Garlic Harvest, 10 a.m. - 12 p.m.

Get your hands dirty and help us with the garlic harvest! It's a fun day out in the sun, working together with fellow community members to support our local farm. No experience necessary, just bring your enthusiasm and a willingness to learn. Come be a part of our farm family and enjoy the satisfaction of harvesting fresh garlic. Free. Get details and register: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/july-community-farm-work-day-garlic-harvest-tickets-1407702198169?aff=oddtcreator>

**Theft of \$200k continued from pg 1-**

As an APS caseworker, Chenault's duties included accompanying the victim to her bank once a month. As the victim's physical and mental health declined, Chenault became responsible for arranging for home health aides from a third-party provider to care for the victim. When Chenault went on medical leave in March 2022, the new caseworker at APS assigned to Chenault's victim noticed there had been a substantial drop in her assets in just a matter of months. Further investigation revealed that the woman's bank accounts and retirement accounts were entirely depleted, and as a result, she could no longer afford home health care. A forensic audit of her bank accounts identified a pattern of suspicious withdrawals and transfers, and the use of the victim's ATM card at times when she was homebound.

As a result of OAG's investigation, a guardian was appointed for the victim in April 2023. The guardian was then able to successfully secure \$881,062 in restitution to the victim from Westchester County, which was used for her housing and medical needs.

On June 26, Chenault pleaded guilty to the top-count charge of Grand Larceny in the Second Degree in Westchester County Court. As a result of her plea, Chenault faces a sentence of up to six months in jail.

The forensic investigation was undertaken by Auditor Investigator Bashiri Kirven, under the supervision of Deputy Chief Auditor Sandy Bizzarro. The audit team is led by Chief Auditor Kristen Fabbri.

Assistant Attorney General Nicholas Kyriacou handled the prosecution in this matter, under the supervision of Public Integrity Bureau Chief Gerard Murphy and Deputy Chief Kiran Heer, with assistance from former Senior Counsel Russell Satin and Senior Analyst Crystal Bisbano. Both the Investigations Bureau and the Public Integrity Bureau are part of the Division for Criminal Justice. The Division for Criminal Justice is led by Chief Deputy Attorney General José Maldonado and overseen by First Deputy Attorney General Jennifer Levy.

**Editor's Note: We received several emails from Licensed Social Workers who pointed out that Chenault was not a NYS Licensed Social Worker. So noted.**

**Budget Bill, continued from pg 1-**

"People will get sicker. Hospitals will close. Kids will go hungry. Families will pay more for gas and home electric bills while our world continues to warm due to climate change. No matter how you spin it, everyday Americans will suffer," said Latimer.

Lawler explained that one of the biggest pieces of the budget bill that he and a few other republicans in suburban districts was a increase in the SALT (State and Local Taxes) cap. Currently, families and individuals could only deduct \$10,000 in their property taxes and state taxes, on their federal tax return.

The new budget increased that amount from \$10,000 to \$40,000. "I made very clear when I came to Congress that this was a key issue, that we would fight to lift the cap. We have fought tirelessly for this."

Lawler said that the changes to Medicaid will not affect most Americans. "We are saying to receive Medicaid benefits, if you are an able-bodied adult— you should try to work 80 hours a month. The bottom line there is people will have enough time to understand that that is part of the requirement moving forward, for those folks. But New York state has the most expansive Medicaid program in the country. New York is going to continue to manage this system, no, I'm not concerned about eligible recipients receiving their Medicaid."

Illegal residents of New York will also have more difficulties receiving Medicaid under the new bill. Estimates have 1.2 million non-citizen new yorkers currently receiving Medicaid. The cost of the program is split between state and local governments.

There is an income limit for tax filers and their eligibility for SALT. Those earning less than \$500,000 are able to receive the \$40,000 SALT benefit.

The bill also extended the "Trump tax cuts" of 2017. So those Westchester residents who benefitted from the Trump Tax Cuts of 2017, but lost their SALT deduction, now have both, the Trump tax cuts, and a SALT deduction up to \$40,000 for those earning up to \$500,000.

That is why, in our view, the income bracket in Westchester that made out the best from the Big Beautiful Bill are individuals or families who own a home and earn up to \$500,000 per year.

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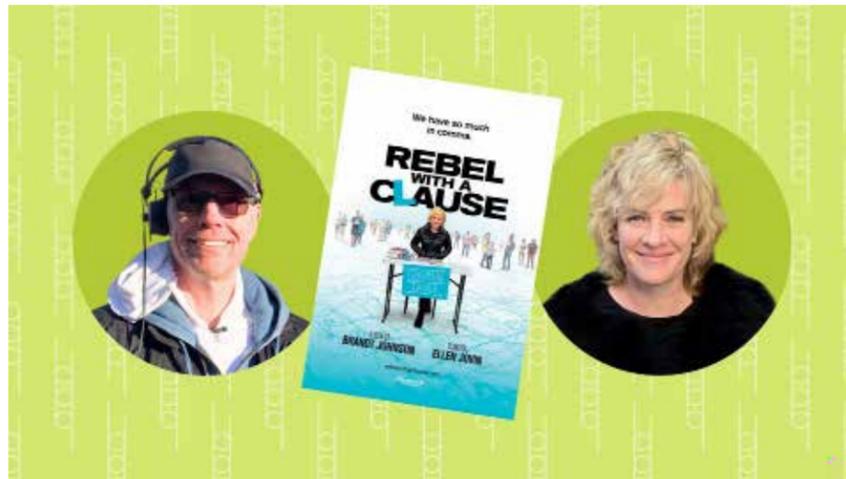
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**The Picture House Announces Encore Screening of Rebel with a Clause**

**Thursday, July 24th at 7:00 PM in Pelham**

A Docu-Comedy About Grammar, Connection, and the Road to All 50 States- Post Film Q&A with Filmmaker Brandt Johnson and Star Ellen Jovin; Book Signing with Ellen at the Grammar Table

After a popular screening and lively post-film discussion in Bronxville earlier this month, Rebel with a Clause is back by popular demand! The Picture House Regional Film Center is thrilled to present an encore screening of this heartwarming and hilarious new documentary by Brandt Johnson on Thursday, July 24 at 7:00 PM at The Picture House Pelham.

Ahead of the screening, guests are invited to stop by the Grammar Table in the lobby, where Ellen Jovin will be greeting audience members and signing copies of her bestselling book. After the film, Jovin and filmmaker Brandt Johnson will host a post-screening Q&A to continue the lively conversation.

"We were blown away by the incredible audience response to Rebel with a Clause in Bronxville," said Clayton Bushong, Executive Director of The Picture House Regional Film Center. "The mix of humor, humanity, and yes—grammar—sparked one of the most engaging conversations we've had. We're excited to bring this experience to our Pelham audience."

Called "a film about participles and gerunds" by The New York Times, this witty and timely doc follows grammar expert Ellen Jovin as she takes her "Grammar Table" on a 50-state journey—proving that even comma fights can bring us closer together. What began as a sidewalk experiment in New York City turned into a cross-country adventure of curiosity, connection, and punctuation.

Filed by her husband Brandt Johnson, Rebel with a Clause captures grammar-fueled encounters in parks, sidewalks, bookstores, and cafés across the country. The result is a funny, insightful portrait of American life and language—and a reminder of the surprising power of face-to-face conversation.

"Come for the grammar. Stay for the humanity," says Johnson.

Tickets are available now at [thepicturehouse.org](http://thepicturehouse.org).

**Read it all Online at  
Yonkerstimes.com**

**Westchester Parks Events, continued from pg 13-**

Kensico Dam Plaza, Valhalla: (914) 231-4033

Hispanic Heritage Festival, 12 p.m. - 6 p.m.

Experience a multitude of cultures this summer without ever leaving the country. Gather your family and friends, leave your passport at home and enjoy traditions from around the world. Get details: <https://parks.westchestergov.com/heritage-festivals>

Ridge Road Park, Hartsdale: (914) 946-8133

Irish Heritage Festival, 12 p.m. - 6 p.m.

Experience a multitude of cultures this summer without ever leaving the country. Gather your family and friends, leave your passport at home and enjoy traditions from around the world. Admission: \$5 adults; free for ages 14 and under. Get details: <https://parks.westchestergov.com/heritage-festivals>

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

Trail of Honor Guided Walk, 1 p.m. - 2 p.m.

The historical significance of the sculptures and monuments along the Trail of Honor will be shared in a free guided walk by Mark Tolf, the curator of the Westchester County Veterans Museum. The trail is .3 miles long and gets very hilly. Meet at the Trail of Honor entrance. Also: Aug. 17; Sept. 14.

Register: <https://www.lasdonpark.org/event/trail-of-honor-guided-walk/>

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

Guided Farm Tour, 1 p.m. - 2 p.m.

Join one of our tour guides on a free tour around the farm to visit to learn about our animals and a few of our historic buildings. Also: Aug. 3, 24; Sept. 7.

Register: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/guided-farm-tours-tickets-139530468679?aff=ebdsoporgprofile>

Edith G. Read Wildlife Sanctuary, Rye: (914) 967-8720

Understanding Crows, 2 p.m. - 3:30 p.m.

Join the staff to learn about the intelligence, behavior and ecology of these ubiquitous corvids.

*AOC Yorktown, continued from pg 1-*  
ment over his decision to bomb Iran without approval from Congress. “The President’s disastrous decision to bomb Iran without authorization is a grave violation of the Constitution and Congressional War Powers. He has impulsively risked launching a war that may ensnare us for generations. It is absolutely and clearly grounds for impeachment.”

Trump responded with, “Instead of her constant complaining, Alexandria should go back home to Queens, where I was also brought up, and straighten out her filthy, disgusting, crime-ridden streets, in the District she ‘represents,’ and which she never goes to anymore.”

AOC responded with, “It only took you 5 months to break almost every promise you made. Also, I’m a Bronx girl. You should know that we can eat Queens boys for breakfast. Respectfully.”

This is where Assemblyman Matt Slater steps in. Slater attended Yorktown High School with AOC; he was a senior, and she was a freshman, then known as Sandy Cortez.

“If you’re a BX girl, then why are you in my Yorktown yearbook? Give it up already,” Slater tweeted, along with a yearbook photo of Sandy.

“She’s embarrassing herself for doing everything possible to avoid saying she grew up in the suburbs instead of the Bronx. She has said she visited extended family, and she has said she commuted. Now she’s in between. It’s clearly desperate attempts to protect the lie that she is from the Bronx,” said Slater. “She’s lying about her upbringing to win elections.”

Slater appeared on Fox News, where he said, “For years, AOC has lied about her upbringing in Yorktown to create her tough Bronx girl persona. What it shows is how the Democrat Party has turned its collective back on our suburban values.”

“She grew up in Yorktown, and she was on my track team. There’s an authenticity problem with the Democratic Party. They don’t connect with voters if they know the truth about them. Yorktown is nothing like the Bronx; she is a product of Yorktown.”

“The truth is AOC is Sandy Cortez, who went to Yorktown High School and lived at the corner of Friends Road and Longvue Street. It’s a disrespectful gesture towards our community.”

After Slater appeared on Fox News, the NY Post picked up the story, and so did the Conservative bloggers and podcasters, most notably Benny Johnson, who took a trip to Yorktown to check it all out. Calling it the biggest fraud in all of politics, Johnson’s video reached 9 million viewers, [https://x.com/search?q=benny%20johnson%20aoc&src=typed\\_query&f=top](https://x.com/search?q=benny%20johnson%20aoc&src=typed_query&f=top).

For the first time since her election to Congress in 2018, AOC felt the need to respond. “I’m proud of where I grew up and talk about it all the time. My mom cleaned houses, and I helped. We cleaned tutors’ homes in exchange for SAT Prep. Growing up between the Bronx and Yorktown deeply shaped my views of inequality, and it’s a big reason I believe the things I do today,” Tweeted AOC.

Her campaign pointed to her website, which also mentions the fact, “The state of Bronx public schools in the late ‘80s and early ‘90s sent her parents on a search for a solution. She ended up attending public school 40 minutes north in Yorktown, and much of her life was defined by the 40-minute commute between school and her family in the Bronx.”

A Vanity Fair story mentions Yorktown and acknowledges it as the place where she grew up and attended high school. “My dad would get coffee every day at the town Dunkin’ Donuts, and we would invite the cashiers over for dinner,” said AOC.

After her father’s death in 2008, the family struggled to pay the mortgage on the Yorktown home, forcing AOC to take a bartending job in NYC. “This is the story of a young Latina who’s trying to put food on the table for her family.” Alexandra Rojas, executive director of Justice Democrats, making the case for AOC 2024!. A 60 Minutes interview from years ago also mentions her time in Yorktown.

AOC also added, “I tell this story on the Fight the Oligarchy tour. When my dad died during the financial crisis, my mom almost got foreclosed on. GOP always thinks this is some gotcha, but I ran my whole campaign for Congress on this motto, “Your zip code shouldn’t determine your destiny.”

If you know Yorktown, AOC’s home was near Junior Pool and BOCES.

The other interesting aspect of the AOC-Yorktown story is how it falls perfectly in between the divided lines of our country’s politics.

A friend of mine who is a big AOC supporter and attended YHS around the same time as AOC and Slater said, “It’s funny to me because I’m not a millionaire. I’m not an elite Ivy school kid with a trust fund. Is that what is implied if you went to YHS? So, her family was located in Yorktown for a time. Who friggin cares?”

But Conservatives and MAGA members can’t get enough of it. “It not a crime to grow up in Yorktown, but pretending to be a product of inner-city struggle while your family fled to a leafy enclave for better schools? Classic D.C. hypocrisy. Gotcha AOC.”

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## How Washington’s Budget Bill Will Affect Health Care in New York

*By Bill Hammond, Empire Center NY <https://www.empirecenter.org/publications/how-washingtons-budget-bill-will-affect/>*

The federal budget bill given final approval by the House of Representatives on Thursday will cost New York billions per year in health-care funds and is expected to reduce enrollment in its government-run health plans by hundreds of thousands.

Yet the impact likely need not be as catastrophic as state leaders and industry officials have portrayed.

New York’s health-care system commands an extraordinarily high level of funding from both the public and private sectors – and therefore is better positioned than most to weather a loss of support from Washington.

In fact, total government funding for New York’s health-care system has risen so rapidly in the new budget that it could forfeit \$7 billion and still have more tax dollars to work with than it did in 2025.

Here is a summary of the so-called One Big Beautiful Bill’s major health-care provisions of importance to New York:

Excluding most non-naturalized immigrants from ACA tax credits and the Essential Plan

Fully undocumented immigrants were already excluded from federally funded health programs and subsidies.

The budget bill expands that rule to cover an additional group of legally present but non-naturalized immigrants – such as green-card holders who arrived fewer than five years ago, refugees applying for or granted asylum and people protected under Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals, or DACA.

Under current law those people are eligible for tax credits under the Affordable Care Act and for enrollment in New York’s Essential Plan, a Medicaid-like program financed through the ACA. Their eligibility is now set to end on Jan. 1, 2027.

The Hochul administration has estimated that this change will cost the Essential Plan \$7.6 billion in revenue and displace 730,000 of its 1.7 million enrollees.

Under a 2001 court ruling known as *Aliessa v. Novello*, the state is obliged to continue providing state-only Medicaid coverage for about 500,000 of those people with incomes below 138 percent of the poverty level. That is expected to cost the \$2.7 billion.

This one provision – which technically involves the ACA, not Medicaid – has by far the most significant implications for New York, with a combined effect of lost revenue and increased expenses totaling more than \$10 billion. However, the net loss to the health-care industry will be closer to \$5 billion.

Notably, the per-person cost of state-only Medicaid coverage is expected to be much lower than under the status quo. This is because the Essential Plan, through a glitch in its funding formula, had been receiving more federal aid than needed to pay its expenses. State officials responded by increasing its reimbursements for hospitals to 225 percent of the normal Medicaid fees.

Immigrant enrollees above the poverty threshold will have few options for alternate coverage. New York has some of the highest commercial insurance costs in the country, making plans prohibitively expensive for lower-income consumers without access to ACA tax credits.

Imposing a work requirement for non-disabled adult recipients

The single biggest money-saving provision of the budget legislation says that non-disabled adults on Medicaid must demonstrate at least 80 hours per month of “community engagement” in order to keep their benefits. This can include paid employment, education programs, community volunteering and other activities.

The Hochul administration has estimated that 1.2 million people – or more than half of its non-disabled adult enrollment – will be pushed out of coverage by this rule. This appears to be an extrapolation based on how previous work requirements have been implemented in Republican-run states. It’s likely that New York could minimize those losses by making its compliance system as user-friendly as allowed by the law.

State officials have not estimated the budgetary impact – but any decline in coverage would result in a savings.

Based on the average cost of coverage for the non-disabled adult population, a 1.2 million decline in enrollment would translate to about \$9 billion in Medicaid savings, including \$7.6 billion for Washington and \$1.4 billion for the state.

New York State recently made Medicaid coverage available for all resident over 65, regardless of their citizenship status.

### *Westchester Rising*

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Back to the Garden-July 12-Untermeyer Park Yonkers

Robison Free Summer Concert Series  
Kicks Off July 11



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-Visit/[www.undermyerperformingarts.org/](http://www.undermyerperformingarts.org/) to learn more.

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

The Robison Summer Concert Series is turning up the volume this year, with more music and more locations to get you dancing all summer long. In addition to Kensico Dam Plaza in Valhalla, concerts will also take place at Glen Island Park in New Rochelle. The series kicks off, Friday, July 11 at Kensico Dam Plaza with a performance by The Great American Soul Book.

With a wide range of musical styles—including country rock, a Taylor Swift tribute performance, soul, rock 'n' roll, and the Army's oldest active-duty band — there will be something for everyone to enjoy.

County Executive Ken Jenkins said: "We're proud to offer an outstanding concert lineup this year. Music brings people together, strengthens community spirit and creates opportunities for families and friends to connect. The beautiful settings at Kensico Dam Plaza and Glen Island provide the perfect backdrop to relax, enjoy and make lasting memories.

**Kensico Dam Plaza's lineup:**

- Friday, July 11: The Great American Soul Book
- Friday, July 18: The Jersey Tenors | From Frank Sinatra to Frankie Valli
- Friday, July 25: Love Story: A Tribute to Taylor Swift (
- Friday, Aug. 8: The West Point Band
- Friday, Aug. 22: The M80s New York's Premier '80s Rock Experience
- Friday, Aug. 29: Damn the Torpedoes: A Tom Petty Concert Experience

**Glen Island's lineup**

- Wednesday, July 16: The Silver Arrow Band
- Wednesday, Aug. 13: EPIC SOUL

The gates open at 6 p.m., and the concerts begin at 7 p.m. Admission and parking are free. Coolers are permitted, refreshments will be available for purchase.

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