

Harrison Mayor Helped Rezone His Own Land Then Sold It for \$2.9 Million

Richard Dionisio participated in multiple votes related to a controversial rezoning effort without publicly disclosing his financial interest.



By Chris Bragg, NY Focus

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Harrison Mayor
Richard Dionisio, left

A Westchester County town's top elected official helped advance a rezoning law that significantly increased the value of land he owned — then sold that land to a developer for nearly \$3 million, reaping a substantial personal profit.

Records reviewed by New York Focus show Harrison Supervisor and Mayor Richard Dionisio participated in multiple votes related to a controversial rezoning effort without publicly disclosing his financial interest. He stepped aside from one key vote, but other actions potentially violate town ethics rules and raise conflict of interest concerns that have galvanized public opposition to the project.

Even before this revelation, a proposed housing project in the rezoned area had sparked pushback in Harrison, an affluent suburban town and village of about 30,000 that lies roughly 30 minutes northeast of the Bronx, with residents questioning the plan to build a six-story, 140-apartment tower in the middle of a floodplain.

Dionisio won election in 2021 on a platform that included transparency.

An electrician and real estate investor by trade, he bought the 15,000-square-foot property in downtown Harrison in 2012 for \$500,000 through an LLC he manages with a partner; its assessed value last year was \$1.09 million. The holding has in recent years been the site of a home and a business facing Oakland Avenue, a

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What Are Accessible Dwelling Units? Yorktown Becomes 7th Locale in Westchester to Approve Use



The Town Board has voted to permit accessory dwelling units (ADUs) in all single-family residential zones.

This significant legislative change aims to diversify housing options, ease financial burdens for homeowners, and enhance the welfare of the community. An ADU is a second, smaller dwelling unit located on the property of an existing home. These units can be attached within the primary building, added to the same building, or attached in a separate building. *-continued on pg 12-*

Lawler Staff Tried to Ban My Pen From His Town Hall!



Letter-Op Ed:

After emptying my pockets for security, I was told to collect, my keys, wallet, small note pad, everything except my pen!

In astonishment, I asked if this was a joke? They guy said no, since it could be used as a "weapon" then nodded towards a stack of random pens piled on the table behind him. I really needed my pen to finish writing questions I might ask if called on & to take notes.

I am not one to simply accept a lame explanation for this ridiculous rule, so thinking quickly, I took out the thin ink cartridge and said he can keep the rest. He insisted that I still couldn't go in with it, at which point I asked to speak to a Lawler staff member.

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Westchester BOL Dems & Assemblymember Levenburg, Oppose Use of Military in LA Protests



The Majority Democratic Caucus of the Westchester County Board of Legislators strongly opposes the Trump administration's unprecedented deployment of 4,000 National Guard troops and 700 Marines to Los Angeles since Friday. This action represents a dangerous overreach of federal power that undermines constitutional principles and threatens basic civil liberties.

The administration has deployed military forces against citizens exercising their right to peaceful protest without demonstrating the extraordinary circumstances that would justify such measures. This decision is clearly motivated by politics rather than genuine public safety concerns.

Even more egregious is the administration's exploitation of a legal loophole to commandeer California's own National Guard, forcing them to act under federal direction against the express wishes of the state's governor. This unprecedented federal seizure of state military forces violates the fundamental balance of power between states and the federal government that protects states from federal over-

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Who Is Litzy Janel Saavedra? And Why Was She Arrested by ICE in Yonkers Recently?



2 photos of Litzy Saavedra, left from ICE, right from NYS Sex Offender Registry

By Dan Murphy

Last week, ICE announced its most prominent arrest of an illegal resident with a criminal record in Westchester to date. The announcement was part of the arrests of thousands of migrants in various cities across the U.S. over Memorial Day weekend, according to Immigration and Customs Enforcement.

ICE's Enforcement and Removal Operations (ERO) arrested Litzy Janel Saavedra, 26, of Mexico, who was served a Notice to Appear. Saavedra, who is in the U.S. illegally, has a criminal history that includes a 2022 conviction for third-degree felony rape in Yonkers, New York.

Media reports had ICE spotted in Yonkers around the time of Saavedra's arrest. Her last known address was on Oak Street in Yonkers.

A Notice to Appear (NTA), also known as Form I-862, is a legal document issued by the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) that starts removal proceedings against an individual in immigration court. It notifies the individual of

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Scarsdale Golfer Punches Ticket to US Open at Oakmont



Congratulations to James Nicholas of Scarsdale, who qualified for the 125th U.S. Open Championship at Oakmont Country Club. The 2015 graduate of Scarsdale High School, finally broke through after several attempts, and will play in his first US Open this week.

Nicholas was the 2017 Metropolitan Golf Association Player of the Year "My game has been trending year over year. I have had this circled on my calendar since I was 15 years old," said Nicholas afterward.

Nicholas added, "The MGA means

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Senator Mayer Nominates Staff Sergeant Anthony Rabasco to NYS Senate Hall of Fame



Senator Shelley Mayer is honored to announce Staff Sergeant Anthony Rabasco as her nominee for the 2025 New York State Senate Veterans Hall of Fame. Staff Sergeant Rabasco, a lifelong Westchester resident and Korean War veteran, was honored during a ceremony in Albany on Tuesday, May 27.

Born in January 1928, Anthony Rabasco grew up in Mount Vernon as a first generation American during the Great Depression. To support his family, he worked various jobs from a young age, including shining shoes and delivering ice. His natural talent and curiosity led him to the electrical trade as a teenager, where he held a job carrying materials to and from job sites for electricians. He later attended an electrical trade high school that allowed him to hone his skills and laid the foundation for his future career.

Shortly after graduating high school, Staff Sergeant Rabasco enlisted in the U.S. Army, and served in the Signal Corps during the Korean War. His role involved maintaining critical communications between headquarters and front-line units, often placing him in combat zones for extended periods. He endured harsh conditions, including severe frostbite and recurring malaria. He returned home in 1952 decorated with four Bronze Stars and a field promotion to Staff Sergeant.

After his service, Staff Sergeant Rabasco co-founded Metro Electric, contributing to postwar housing developments and infrastructure projects throughout Westchester. He later reorganized Metro Electric into Bosco Electric, becoming the sole proprietor after the initial partnership was disbanded. After 30+ years of successful business, urban renewal claimed the building that held his shop and Staff Sergeant Rabasco changed directions and continued his career as an electrical inspector well into his 80s.

Staff Sergeant Rabasco has four devoted sons and two grandsons. Today, he remains a pillar of the Westchester community and a proud example of enduring service.

Senator Shelley B. Mayer said, "It is with profound honor that I induct Staff Sergeant Anthony Rabasco to the New York State Senate 2025 Veterans Hall of Fame. Staff Sergeant Rabasco's courage, resilience, and dedication both in combat and in his life afterward embody the spirit of service that defines our veterans and service members. For far too long, Korean War Veterans have been overlooked and carrying the story of Staff Sergeant Rabasco is a powerful reminder of his sacrifices, his family's, and of all those who served in Korea. I am proud to recognize him and his legacy with this well-deserved honor."

The New York State Veterans Hall of Fame was created to recognize and honor distinguished veterans from across New York State for their military service and ongoing dedication to their communities. Each year, one veteran from every Senate district is nominated to the Hall of Fame and celebrated for their extraordinary commitment to country and community.

Four Teens Arrested for \$100,000 in Damage to Tarrytown Lighthouse



Richard Barrero in Tarrytown Court, photo from Facebook

A fourth person was charged in connection with the weekend arson and vandalism spree at the historic Tarrytown Lighthouse in Sleepy Hollow.

The 17-year-old boy was the last suspect being sought by Westchester County Police. He is being charged as a juvenile and his name is being withheld due to his age.

Another 17-year-old and two other suspects, ages 18 and 19, were previously charged. The two older teens were each charged with Arson 3rd Degree, Burglary 3rd Degree and Criminal Mischief 2nd Degree, felonies.

Westchester County Police have charged three people in connection with the weekend arson and vandalism spree at the historic Tarrytown Lighthouse in Sleepy Hollow.

Two suspects, ages 18 and 19, have been arraigned in Sleepy Hollow Village Court. They are each charged with Arson 3rd Degree, Burglary 3rd Degree and Criminal Mischief 2nd Degree, felonies.

Those suspects are identified as Elvin Ayavaca, 18, of White Plains and Richard Barrero, 19, of Harrison.

The third suspect, a 17-year-old, was charged as a juvenile. He was arraigned in the Youth Part of Westchester County Court. He is not being identified due to his age. A remaining suspect is still being sought.

The damage to the Hudson River Lighthouse was discovered about 9:40 a.m. Saturday by a Westchester County Parks employee. Upon arriving at the lighthouse, the employee observed a smoke condition, broken windows and other property damage.

Destruction at the lighthouse, which is listed on the National Register of Historic Places, included:

- Significant fire damage to the flooring on the first floor;
- Multiple broken windows on the first and second floors;
- Multiple items destroyed, including valuable antiques, other furniture and items of historical significance;
- Damage to about 35 antique books that were removed from shelves and strewn about the floor.

The Westchester County Parks Department is working to complete a detailed damage assessment. A preliminary estimate places damages at about \$100,000, though that figure is subject to change. The Parks Department has also suspended all scheduled public tours of the lighthouse at this time.

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43 Officers Graduate from Westchester County Police Academy

Will go to work for seven police departments in Westchester



Forty-three recruits – including four from the Westchester County Police Department – graduated Friday from the Westchester County Police Academy. They are headed off to work at seven departments in Westchester and one in Putnam.

The new officers, who completed 22 weeks of training at the police academy in Valhalla, received their diplomas before a packed house at the SUNY Purchase Recital Hall.

County Executive Ken Jenkins and Public Safety Commissioner Terrance Raynor presented the graduates of the 159th Session of Basic Recruit School with their diplomas and congratulated them for mastering the physical and academic demands of the Academy.

“These recruits were required to bring their best effort to the Academy every day. Nothing less would be accepted. Their presence at this graduation ceremony is proof they kept their end of the bargain,” Jenkins said.

The county executive also thanked the family members in attendance for the love and support they have provided, and will continue to provide, to the region’s newest police officers.

“I know you are proud of these new officers. And I know there will be times you will worry about them. My dad was a police officer and I am familiar with those emotions, and more, when a loved one serves in law enforcement,” he said.

Raynor urged the graduates to treat all members of the public with fairness and respect in the performance of their duties.

“The state of policing in this country demands that you embrace the concept of police and community working together. I encourage you to engage your communities with humility and respect. Treat people with fairness and empathy, no matter their race, religion or socio-economic status. Converse with others the way you would like your loved ones spoken to. The instruction you received at the Academy enables you to be the guardians your community seeks.”

The graduates and their departments are:

Westchester County: Denis Halloran, Anthony Multari, Matthew Rasulo, Dakota Ridzik.

Greenburgh: Jamil Sanders.

Kent: Brian Chacha.

Mount Pleasant: Nicholas Euvino.

Mount Vernon: Tariq Abdullah, Kojo Adofo, Akeem Answer, Stephen Armstead, Jessica Baker, Everton Barnett, Patrick Gordian, Frankie Martinez, Arly Mejia, Steven Moreano, David Sassano, Tajmi Smith-Anderson, Shamar Walker, Justin Wallace.

SUNY Purchase: Madelyn Contreras Giron.

Tuckahoe: Melvin Banks

White Plains: Nicole DeSousa, David Diez-Canseco, Anthony Grycel, Kian McGeever, Mark Perez III, Angel Sime.

Yonkers: Eric Bargamian, Nicholas Coelho, Michael Cristantiello, Christian Kowach, Joseph Mancuso, Glory Moncion Allen, DeJuan Morrison, Patrick Murphy, Daniel Noll, Conor O’Donnell, Brandon Renzi, Alonzo Rose, Jason Vargas Jr., Brett Wangenstein.

The Best Movie Father Was... David X Cohen

Barbra Streisand Robert Redford
the Way We Were



By Jim Vespe

Ask most people to name their favorite movie father and they’ll probably say Atticus Finch from *To Kill A Mockingbird*, or if they value strength over sweetness, Don Corleone, or if they’re sarcastic or sadistic, Darth Vader.

But my choice would be someone I know almost nothing about, never saw, whose name I have only heard once.

David X. Cohen.

His time on screen consists of a single mention: at the end of *The Way We Were*, when Barbra Streisand (Katie) runs into Robert Redford (Hubbell) outside of the Plaza Hotel. Hubbell had fathered her child, and apparently left mother and daughter soon afterwards, losing contact with them both.

He was now a successful television writer, accompanied by the kind of woman you would expect to see on Hubbell’s arm: as blonde and stunning as he is, and probably unable to name the Vice President of the United States.

Hubbell knows Katie is married, and asks if her husband is a good father to the child he abandoned.

Katie assures him he is.

She then volunteers his name... “David X Cohen.”

And adds, “for the only David X Cohen in the phone book.”

That is all we know about David X Cohen. And it is all we need to know.

I picture him as an attorney, or a CPA, or a healthcare professional, perhaps an orthodontist who spends one afternoon a week at a clinic in Harlem fitting braces on poor Black children.

I don’t see him as a garment center jobber or a builder of tract houses on Long Island...Katie could never marry someone like that...or as a Senior Vice President, anywhere. The kind of companies that had Senior Vice Presidents in the 1950’s rarely hired, or much less promoted, men named David X Cohen.

But mostly I see him as a decidedly average guy, definitely not better looking than Hubbell (who is?) but surely a better person.

He has chosen to marry a feisty woman whose baggage includes another man’s daughter, and over the years he has been there for this little girl.

Reading the bedtime stories he knows so well he can close the book and recite them from memory.

Sitting through endless ballet recitals.

Going door to door with her to distribute the Girl Scout cookies she has sold.

Congratulating her for her A’s, consoling her for her D’s.

Buying her a puppy that she promised to clean up after, and cleaning up after it when she didn’t.

He has probably not yet sat up with her half the night, trying to convince her that the first boy to break her heart is not worth her tears, but he someday will.

So on Father’s Day, let us salute the David X Cohens of the world. They define what it means to be a father.

And, if Katie’s daughter ever met Hubbell, I’m sure she would gladly introduce him...

...to her Dad.

Because it takes a minute to be able to call yourself a father, but it requires a lifetime to deserve to call yourself a dad.

And as she and David X Cohen walked away from Hubbell, she will probably say, perhaps not under her breath...after all, she is the daughter of a woman played by Barbra Streisand:

“What a schmuck.”

Jim Vespe, Mamaroneck

Jim Vespe is a retired advertising copywriter and comedy writer who lives in Mamaroneck.

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Rep. Latimer's Bipartisan Bill to Help Small Businesses Passes House Unanimously



On June 3, U.S. Representative George Latimer's (NY-16) bill, the Transparency and Predictability in Small Business Opportunities Act, passed the House of Representatives unanimously. The bipartisan bill, co-led by Congressman Mark Alford (MO-04), also passed unanimously out of the House Committee on Small Business in March.

"Small business owners are often resource constrained. Every day, these individuals engage in a variety of business-related activities, from selling products to developing marketing materials to handling compliance issues," said Rep. Latimer. "It can be confusing and deeply frustrating for a small business owner if a federal agency decides to cancel a solicitation without transparency into why that decision has been made. If we are serious about bringing more small businesses into federal contracting, we must ensure that business owners have confidence and trust in their federal partners."

Once a federal agency determines they have a need for certain products or services, the agency's acquisition personnel will post a solicitation on the federal government's SAM.gov website for a contract to fill the requirements. When responding to a solicitation, small businesses can spend significant time and costs preparing a proposal.

Rep. Latimer continued, "Last year, the Small Business Committee heard testimony from a small business owner that said solicitation proposals can cost a small business upwards of \$10,000 worth of labor to draft, develop, review, and execute. With that in mind, it can be rightfully frustrating for a small business owner if a federal agency decides to cancel a solicitation without transparency into why that decision has been made."

The Transparency and Predictability in Small Business Opportunities Act would require the Small Business Administrator to:

Issue regulations addressing canceled solicitations for contracts that small businesses are eligible for to provide for the disclosure of additional information about why the solicitation was canceled and any plans to reissue the solicitation; and

Require a federal agency's Office of Small & Disadvantaged Business Utilization (OSDBU) to help small businesses seek additional opportunities if a solicitation on which they made an offer is canceled.

You can watch Rep. Latimer speaking about his bill on the House floor at www.c-span.org/clip/us-house-of-representatives/user-clip-rep-latimer-small-business-transparency/5164656

Melissa DeLuise, Maria Regina High School 2025 Valedictorian from Yonkers, Pays Tribute to the Greatest Generation



Melissa DeLuise of Yonkers, Maria Regina High School's Class of 2025 Valedictorian, paid tribute to the Greatest Generation as part of her address during recent graduation ceremonies at the renowned all-girls Catholic high school.

Melissa, who will continue her studies at Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute majoring in both Engineering and Pre-Law, cited the inspiration that the Greatest Generation's example holds for her generation. Her comments are an appropriate capstone to Maria Regina's major initiative to honor the Greatest Generation with special events and student projects underway since May 8, the 80th anniversary of VE-Day, marking victory over the Nazi regime in Europe during World War II.

She shared with her classmates and audience of proud family members, alumnae and members of the administration, faculty and staff: "While we reflect back on our high school years with nostalgia or look forward with hope and uncertainty, understand that our real strength doesn't lie just in our past achievements or future goals—it lies in our character, compassion, and courage. This year marks the 80th anniversary of Victory in Europe Day, in which the Greatest Generation—those who endured the hardships of the Great Depression and rose to fight in World War II—showed the world what bravery, unity, and sacrifice truly meant. We honor and are inspired by the men and women who defended our freedom.

"They remind us that there is immense power and potential within each of us. Even when facing adversity, our fortitude, resilience, spirit, and determination are what drive us towards excellence. Our past and future do not solely define us; rather, the values and mindset we choose shape our identity, propel us in life, and push us to influence the world.

She added: "Congratulations, once again, to the outstanding Class of 2025. I wish you nothing but good fortune and the absolute best in your future endeavors. Thank you for being the best class I could have ever imagined. You've made these four years special. Go live courageously!"

Principal Maria Carozza-McCaffrey (Class of '99) noted: "Melissa's address not only tapped into the emotion for a generation that is sadly fading from the scene whose selfless sacrifices made it possible for freedom to endure. But, it is also very historical as the Class of 2025 was the first Maria Regina class to graduate under the first American Pope. As it turns out, the announcement of the new Pope's election was also made on May 8 VE Day. It is so fitting that Melissa's final words to her classmates and all of us who bore witness: "Go live courageously!"

To learn more, visit www.mariaregina.org.

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State Senate Advances Sweeping Utility Reforms to Protect New York Ratepayers



Majority Leader Andrea Stewart-Cousins leads a press conference announcing legislative package to protect ratepayers

In a landmark move to aid countless New Yorkers overwhelmed by soaring utility costs and alleged unfair treatment by energy providers, the State Senate Thursday adopted a sweeping package of eight bills aimed at overhauling the Public Service Commission (PSC) to ensure fairness, transparency, and accountability for utility customers across New York State.

Said Majority Leader Stewart-Cousins: “This isn’t just about numbers on a bill—it’s about families in Yonkers struggling to pay for heat in winter, seniors in Dobbs Ferry scared to run their air conditioners in summer, or small businesses in Mount Pleasant forced to choose between survival and utility costs. I’ve received calls from far too many constituents struggling with their utility bills and being left in the dark during outages. Meanwhile, utility companies keep cashing record profits. This package flips the script—putting people over profits. Utilities are a lifeline, not a luxury. For too long, New Yorkers have been treated as cash cows by companies that answer to shareholders, not the people. Today, we’re fighting back.”

The legislation addresses systemic failures at the PSC, which has repeatedly approved rate hikes while failing to hold utilities accountable for poor service. The eight bills would:

Require Early Warnings for Rate Hikes: Families will receive alerts via text, email, and their monthly bills if utilities propose raising rates, giving them time to voice concerns.

Restore Consumer Representation: A consumer advocate will join the State Energy Planning Board to ensure everyday New Yorkers have a voice in energy decisions.

Punish Utilities for Pain and Suffering: The PSC will now consider non-economic damages—like stress from power outages—when fining utilities for misconduct.

Reform PSC Leadership: Expand the PSC to eight members, add an experienced consumer advocate to the PSC’s board, bar former utility employees from joining the commission for two years, and mandate the agency prioritize affordable, reliable service.

Stop Retroactive Rate Gouging: Extend the timeline for reviewing rate hikes to 14 months, giving advocates and the PSC more time to challenge unfair requests.

Return Excess Profits to Ratepayers: Utilities can’t pocket extra money if they exceed profit limits—those funds will go back to customers.

Create 24/7 Outage Hotlines: Utilities must provide a toll-free number for residents to report power failures instantly.

Alert Families to Soaring Energy Bills: Launch a program to notify customers when their energy use—and costs—exceed a threshold they set.

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Ossining Launches Fire-Ever “Hungry on the Hudson” Restaurant Week



June 20-29, a Week of Dining, Culture, and Community

The Greater Ossining Chamber of Commerce is proud to announce the launch of its inaugural “Hungry on Hudson” Restaurant Week, June 20 -29, an exciting celebration of local flavor, community pride, and small business support, kicking off this month with more than two dozen participating restaurants and cultural partners.

Greater Ossining Chamber of Commerce Vice President, Greg Young said: “We are thrilled to be bringing this event to the banks of the Hudson River in beautiful – and hungry – Ossining and Briarcliff Manor! The official Hungry on Hudson landing page is up [www.hungryonhudson.com] and visitors should browse participating restaurants! You can search based on cuisines, family-friendliness, outdoor seating, drink specials, and more. The site will also list special events and more fun for the family!”

Ossining Town Supervisor Liz Feldman said: “We are so excited the Chamber of Commerce and restaurants are working together to display the flavors, cuisines, and culture of Ossining. This is a great opportunity for people to enjoy a sampling of the diverse variety of dining options in our community.”

From fan-favorite eateries to creative cultural experiences, this weeklong event will spotlight everything that makes Ossining a destination for food lovers and community explorers alike.

Participating Restaurants (So Far):

Hungry on the Hudson is already serving up an impressive lineup of more than twenty restaurants and eateries, with more joining daily. Featured spots include:

- | | |
|-----------------------------------|--|
| Sing Sing Kill Brewery | The 19th Hole Indoor Golf Restaurant and Bar |
| The Tasty Table | Donato’s Trattoria |
| Richie’s Kitchen | Tekatito |
| Brothers Fish and Chips | Capri Pizza & Pasta |
| DD’s Diner | Wanna Empanada |
| Yama Fuji | Frankie’s Pizza & Pasta |
| Scarduzio’s Deli Catering & Pizza | Thai Dishes |
| Penny Lick Ice Cream | Dive Oyster House |
| Early Bird | Terra Nova Fusion |
| 105Ten | Live Up Juice Bar |

Additional community partners and organizations will also be hosting activities and events during the week, including:

- Bethany Arts Community, Torview Swim & Tennis Club
- Den of Wax, Westchester Collaborative Theater
- Sing Sing Prison Museum, Hudson Valley Books For Humanity
- Ossining Riverworks

Special Event Highlight: “Dinner & A Movie” at Market Square

On June 27, the Chamber of Commerce will host a free community screening of E.T. in Market Square, with pre-show dining encouraged at local participating restaurants. Families are invited to bring chairs and blankets for this under-the-stars experience, which begins at sunset (approximately 8:45 PM).

Young said: “This initiative wouldn’t be possible without the generous support of our sponsors — including our Grand Sponsor, WBP Partners, and local Sponsors and Partners like PostAll, our Chamber of Commerce, and Macaroni Kid. Their commitment to Ossining and Briarcliff Manor’s small businesses and vibrant downtowns has made this week possible. Whether you’re a longtime local or a first-time visitor, Hungry on Hudson offers the perfect excuse to experience Ossining at its very best. Bring your appetite — and your sense of adventure.”

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NOTICE OF SALE

SUPREME COURT COUNTY OF WESTCHESTER, WILMINGTON SAVINGS FUND SOCIETY, FSB, AS OWNER TRUSTEE OF THE RESIDENTIAL CREDIT OPPORTUNITIES TRUST VIII-A, Plaintiff, vs. PUBLIC ADMINISTRATOR OF WESTCHESTER COUNTY, AS ADMINISTRATOR OF THE ESTATE OF BETTIE A. LAMBTON, ET AL., Defendant(s).

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 Whispering Hearth, LLC. Arts. of Org. filed with the SSNY on 03/12/2025. Office Location: Westchester County. SSNY has been designated as agent of the LLC upon whom process against it may be served. The address to which the Secretary of State shall mail a copy of any process against the LLC is: 3 Orlando Ave, Ardsley, NY 10502. Purpose: Any lawful activity.

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

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

Notice of formation of IT TAKES ALL KINDS PICTURES, LLC. Arts. of Org. filed with the SSNY on 03/21/2025. Office: Westchester County. SSNY designated as agent of the LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail copy of process to the LLC, Republic Registered Agent Services Inc. 54 State Street Suite 804 Albany, NY 12207. Purpose: Any lawful

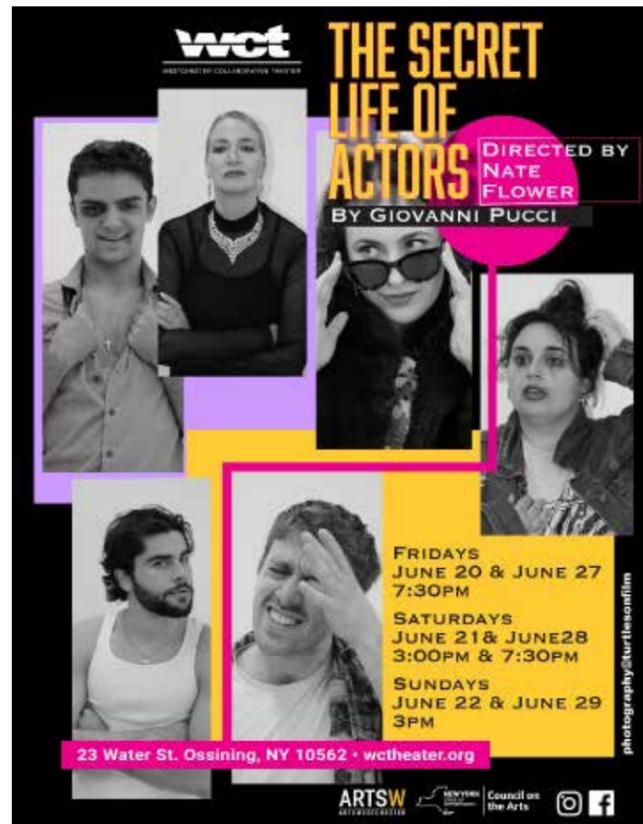
Notice of Formation of SteenShotz LLC. Arts. of Org. filed with the SSNY on 03/12/2025. Office Location: Westchester County. SSNY designated as agent of the LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail copy of process to the LLC, 343 South 3rd Avenue, Mt. Venron NY 10550. Purpose: 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 Bridgeway Physical Therapy, PLLC. Arts. of Org. filed with the SSNY on 12/05/2024. Office: Westchester County. SSNY designated as agent of the PLLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail copy of process to the PLLC, 50 Clinton Place PH5, New Rochelle, NY 10801. Purpose: Provide Physical Therapy Care

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.

Westchester Collaborative Theater (WCT) To Premiere The Secret Life of Actors



Provocative New Play by Giovanni Pucci directed by Nathan Flower of NYU Tisch

For two consecutive weekends running Friday, June 20 through Sunday, June 29, Westchester Collaborative Theater (WCT) in Ossining will premiere a provocative new play, *The Secret Life of Actors*, a masterful blend of black comedy and stark drama by Giovanni Pucci (Congers), directed by NYU Tisch Drama Department Associate Arts Professor Nathan Flower (Ossining). The play takes audiences on a wild and shocking ride as it exposes the brutality, blind ambition and cringe-inducing hilarity of the life of a struggling actor. In three distinct stories audiences will meet a handful of actors and related bystanders who are drawn together through an imagined, Off-Off-Broadway production of Shakespeare's *Richard III*.

Says Pucci, "The Secret Life of Actors examines the very human struggle to weave the often incongruous strands of our lives into one meaningful narrative."

Flower adds, "There's a dark and absurd side to being an actor and Giovanni's play captures that. He takes it to the extreme but only barely! For anyone who has ever put serious time into the hustle-and-grind of being an actor these stories seem well within the realm of the possible."

The cast of *The Secret Life of Actors* is: Jessica Valente (Brewster), Brenna Hughes (Inwood), Missy Flower (Ossining), Dan Teutul (Montgomery), Finn Haney and Marcos Ortiz. The tech crew includes Abi Lief, intimacy coordinator, Nic Coccaro (Croton) fight choreographer, Allison Schneider (New City) stage manager/lighting op, and sound op Kim Chandler (New Rochelle).

Performances will be held at Westchester Collaborative Theater (WCT), 23 Water Street in Ossining, Friday and Saturday evenings, June 20, 21, 27 and 28 at 7:30 pm; Saturday and Sunday matinees June 21, 22, 28 and 29 at 3 pm. A talkback will follow the Saturday, June 21 matinee. Tickets are \$25, \$20 for WCT members, students and seniors. Tickets can be purchased online at: <https://WCT-presents-TheSecretLifeofActors.eventbrite.com>.

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 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.

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 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.

Fatha Freddie Elixir Shines at ArtsWestchester's Ballroom Exhibit



Dennis Richmond Jr., right with Fatha Freddie

By Dennis Richmond, Jr.

The opening of *Legendary Looks: The Art of Effects Design* in House Ballroom lit up the ArtsWestchester Gallery this June with bold fashion, rich history, and undeniable energy. Running through July 20, the exhibition spotlights the artistry of the LGBTQ+ House Ballroom community through garments, sketches, flyers, and immersive media.

Curated by ballroom trailblazers Twiggy Pucci Garçon, Jonovia Chase Lanvin, and Michael Roberson Maison-Margiela, the showcase honors the creativity and cultural legacy of ballroom effects design.

A standout of the evening was Fatha Freddie Elixir, whose 2024 tribute to fashion icon Pepper LaBeija turned heads and captured hearts. "This moment isn't just mine—it belongs to ballroom," Freddie said during an exclusive interview. Radiating style with an all-black TELFAR bag in hand, Freddie was both gracious and grounded. "I look up to the scene that shaped me. It's surreal to see how far it's come."

Attendees included Yonkers native Michael Stephens, Isaiah Latimer of Far Rockaway, and the incomparable Leiomy Maldonado, who greeted fans before entering the packed gallery.

More than sixteen visionary looks from names like DeeDee Lanvin, Miss Shalae Basquiat, Giovanni 007, and Cameo Cameo filled the space with color, texture, and narrative. Even Afrofuturist Garçon stopped by, sharing moments from the show on social media.

Freddie's presence in the exhibit wasn't just personal—it was historic. "Pepper LaBeija inspired everything I do," he said. In honoring the past and electrifying the present, Freddie proves that ballroom remains a force—vibrant, powerful, and proudly visible.

Legendary Looks is more than a gallery show—it's a love letter to Black and Brown LGBTQ+ brilliance, and Fatha Freddie is helping write the next chapter.

Dennis Richmond, Jr. (@NewYorkStakz) is a journalist, historian, and educator from Yonkers, NY. He writes to uplift unheard voices, honor history, and inspire change.

Two Arrested in New Rochelle Over Fight Over Parking Spot

Police Officer Assaulted



Google Maps Photo of 45-47 Charles Street

New Rochelle Police Respond to Violent Dispute Over Parking Spot -From the NRPD

On Sunday, June 8, 2025, at approximately 12:00 AM, New Rochelle Police officers responded to a report of a large dispute at 45/47 Charles Street involving a parking spot that escalated into a violent altercation.

Upon arrival, officers determined that a confrontation between two families residing at the address had turned physical. Brothers Shachari Brembridge and Shaan Morales allegedly assaulted their neighbors, a father, mother, and daughter. The mother contacted her son, Thamus Frazier, to inform him of the incident. When Mr. Frazier arrived at the scene, he engaged in a physical altercation with the two brothers.

During the incident, Thamus Frazier assaulted two New Rochelle police officers and resisted arrest. Officers were able to take Mr. Frazier, Mr. Brembridge, and Mr. Morales into custody. All three individuals were arrested and are being held pending arraignment. Orders of Protection have been issued for the involved parties.

The two officers who were assaulted received treatment at a local hospital for minor injuries and have since been released. Both officers have returned to duty.

The New Rochelle Police Department is committed to ensuring the safety and well-being of our community. We take incidents of violence seriously and will continue to investigate this matter

thoroughly. Anyone with additional information is encouraged to contact the New Rochelle

Police Department at (914) 654-2300, or anonymously at (914) 632-COPS.

ARRESTED:

Shaan Morales, 24 years of age, and Shachari Brembridge, 19 years of age, both of New Rochelle, NY, were charged with New York State Penal Law Section: 120.00 Assault 3rd Degree – A Misdemeanor

Thamus Frazier, 28 years of age, of New Rochelle, NY, was charged with New York State Penal Law Sections: 120.05 Assault 2nd Degree – D Felony

205.30 Resisting Arrest – A Misdemeanor

195.05 Obstruction of Governmental Administration – A Misdemeanor.

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Hilltop Hanover Farm & Environmental Center Unveils its New Enhanced Education Garden



Hilltop Hanover Farm & Environmental Center unveiled its Education Garden, an upgraded area designed to be a dynamic, interactive farming demonstration space. This innovative garden and its outdoor classroom will be a central educational hub visited by thousands of school-age children annually.

The Education Garden is fully ADA-compliant, which ensures accessibility for visitors of all abilities and allows everyone to participate hands-on in the farming process. The eight in-ground and two fully ADA-compliant raised beds for growing food, in addition to a planted perimeter that features a mix of local ecotype native plants, demonstrates the interconnectedness of our food, environments and human well-being.

The addition of permeable paving helps mitigate flooding by absorbing stormwater, while a rainwater capture system collects runoff from the roof of a newly constructed outdoor classroom portico that turns the site into a living lesson on sustainable water use. The covered outdoor classroom provides a year-round learning environment protected from the elements, and the newly built tool shed ensures that tools used by students and volunteers are stored safely and efficiently.

County Executive Ken Jenkins said: "Hilltop Hanover Farm's Education Garden was designed to demonstrate what sustainable, inclusive and educational agriculture can look like. It's a space that brings the community together while modeling environmental best practices. The Farm's civic involvement and preservation of farmland strengthen food security, inspire environmental stewardship and empower the next generation of farmers."

continued on pg 10-

Celebrate Pride Month at The Picture House with Two Special Screenings & Conversations

THE PICTURE HOUSE REGIONAL FILM CENTER

CELEBRATE PRIDE MONTH AT THE PICTURE HOUSE

Join us for two unforgettable evenings of film and conversation as we honor **LGBTQ+** stories on the big screen. TPH Resident Film Critic Joe Neumaier brings his industry insight and lively commentary to lead energetic post-film discussions.

Victor/Victoria – Sunday, June 22 at 7PM in Pelham

Sunday, June 29 at 7PM in Bronxville – Another Country

Come for the films, stay for the conversation.

The Picture House Regional Film Center invites audiences to celebrate Pride Month with two special evenings dedicated to LGBTQ+ stories on the big screen. Each screening will be followed by a dynamic conversation led by TPH Resident Film Critic Joe Neumaier, the longtime host of The Movie Minute on 710AM-WOR and a veteran film critic with over 30 years of industry experience.

SCREENINGS:

Victor/Victoria: Sunday, June 22 at 7:00 PM – The Picture House Pelham. A sparkling, gender-bending musical comedy starring Julie Andrews.

Another Country: Sunday, June 29 at 7:00 PM – The Picture House Bronxville. A powerful British drama based on the early life of spy Guy Burgess and his

continued on pg 10-



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SHE'S "4" YOU!**

PAID FOR BY THE COMMITTEE TO RE-ELECT LAKISHA FOR PRESIDENT

Picture House, continued from pg 9-

Harrison Public Library

years at Cambridge.

Post-film discussions will explore the historical significance, behind-the-scenes stories, and cultural legacy of each film, all delivered with Neumaier's signature wit and depth of insight.

WHERE:

The Picture House Pelham – 175 Wolfs Lane, Pelham, NY 10803

The Picture House Bronxville – 84 Kraft Avenue, Bronxville, NY 10708

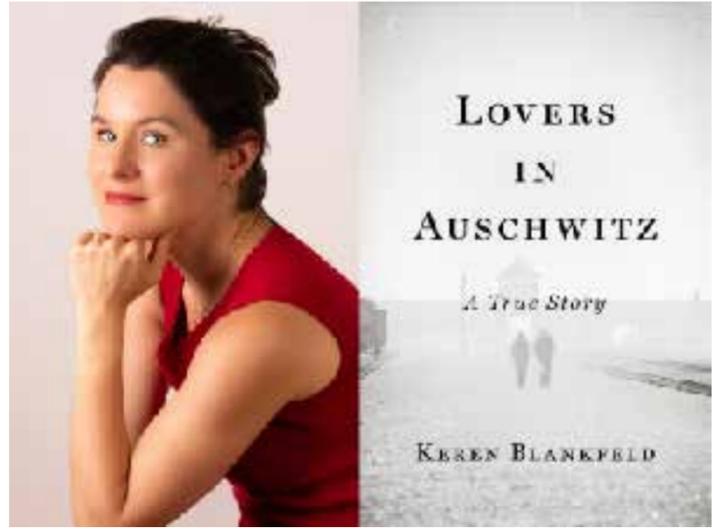
“At The Picture House, we believe in the power of film to build empathy, spark conversation, and celebrate the diversity of human experience. We're proud to honor Pride Month with two incredible films that highlight LGBTQ+ voices and stories. Joe Neumaier has become a fan favorite among our members—his post-film conversations are thoughtful, engaging, and always leave audiences reflecting and connecting long after the credits roll,” said Clayton Bushong, Executive Director, The Picture House Regional Film Center.

Visit www.thepicturehouse.org, for more information.

AUTHORS IN CONVERSATION: KEREN BLANKFELD

SATURDAY, JUNE 21 | 2 PM

REGISTRATION IS REQUIRED TO RECEIVE THE ZOOM LINK



Authors Marcia Butler and Karen Blankfeld will discuss their latest books with us online. Registration is required to receive the Zoom link. Keren Blankfeld is an award-winning journalist who has written for the New York Times, The Smithsonian, and others. Her first book, *Lovers in Auschwitz: A True Story*, was published in 2024, and is being translated to 16 languages. Keren began her journalism career reporting on a sewage facility in New Jersey. In 2008 she joined Forbes Magazine where she wrote about billionaires and served as a staff writer and editor. She now writes about immigrants and refugees. Keren has been a guest on CNN, BBC World News and E! Entertainment. She teaches reporting and writing at the Columbia Graduate School of Journalism. All programs are free and open to the public. Additional information is available on our website at www.harrisonpl.org.

WESTCHESTER COUNTY WILL HELP BRING HOMEGROWN PRODUCE TO PORT CHESTER THROUGH EDUCATIONAL GROW BAG PROGRAM

Westchester County's Department of Environmental Facilities Will Join Westchester Land Trust and D.I.G Farm for Successful Student-Led Grow Bag Program

Port Chester Middle School will distribute 60 grow bags to residents on Thursday, June 12, from 3:30 to 5 p.m. as part of its Grow Bag Program. The initiative encourages families to grow fruits and vegetables at home, promotes healthy food choices, and provides hands-on gardening experience.

The program is a collaborative effort led by Allison Fasano, a teacher who runs the garden at Port Chester Middle School, and Westchester Land Trust, who supplied the grow bags, resources, and program support. Student interns of D.I.G. Farm, founded by Allison Turcan, assisted by planting vegetable seedlings in the grow bags.

New this year, the Westchester County Department of Environmental Facilities (DEF) provided CompostED support. Master Composter Aleks Jagiello developed a custom potting soil mix using compost made at CompostED, peat moss and soil amendments donated by Westchester Land Trust. CompostED creates nutrient-rich compost from food waste collected from local food pantries, including Feeding Westchester, which will also distribute food during the grow bag pickup.

Westchester County Executive Ken Jenkins said: "Grow bag programs engage residents and youth, provide science education about the role of composting in supporting our soil and support those in our community who are taking control of their health by growing fresh vegetables and herbs. DEF's support of these programs is just one example of my administration's holistic approach to supporting County residents."

Westchester County First Deputy Commissioner of Environmental Facilities Louis Vetrone said: "When we first imagined the possibilities of CompostED, we knew it would provide on-site education about the benefits and methods of composting. We believed in a full-circle model, where inedible food donated to pantries could be composted and returned to the community through gardens. These grow bag programs go even further by bringing compost education and healthy food access directly into homes."

The Grow Bag Program continues to serve as an example of how public agencies, educators and nonprofits can collaborate to promote sustainability and improve public health.

In May 2025, CompostED supported a similar initiative in Mount Vernon, which was spearheaded by the Alpha Kappa Alpha sorority (Zeta Nu Omega Chapter) and supported by Westchester Land Trust and D.I.G. Farm. For that program, DEF donated all necessary soil amendments and compost to provide 6.5 cubic yards of potting soil, which allowed the initiative to distribute 250 grow bags to families in Mount Vernon.

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Hilltop Hanover Farm, continued from pg 9-

Hilltop Hanover is a leader in promoting sustainable agriculture, environmental stewardship and equitable food systems. It donates 25 percent of its annual harvest through a dozen local food access partners. All food grown in the Education Garden is donated through its food access partners.

Commissioner of the Westchester County Department of Parks, Recreation and Conservation Kathy O'Connor said: "Educating the public on farming practices is one of Hilltop Hanover Farm's top priorities, and the addition of its Education Garden will add a new layer of hands-on learning and inspiration for visitors of all ages."

The Education Garden was made possible through generous financial support from The Friends of Hilltop Hanover Farm, Con Edison, and an anonymous foundation.

Hilltop Hanover Farm & Environmental Center is owned and operated by the Westchester County Department of Parks, Recreation & Conservation. It's located at 1271 Hanover Street in Yorktown Heights, NY.

For more information about Hilltop Hanover Farm & Environmental Center, please visit hilltophanoverfarm.org.

No Federal Oversight for Police Departments Including Mount Vernon:

Westchester's Moment to Lead by Transforming the DOJ's Exit into a Win for Justice

Op-Ed by Marie Bell

In May 2025, the Department of Justice (DOJ) dropped oversight of nearly two dozen police departments, including Mount Vernon's, leaving unaddressed, systemic issues like excessive force, evidence planting, illegal searches, and discriminatory practices flagged in a 2024 DOJ report. Sparked by former Westchester DA Mimi Rocah's 2021 referral after a Gothamist expose, this federal pullback leaves a stain of skepticism and distrust that will unfortunately undermine ethical policing, and by extension prosecutorial outcomes in Westchester.

But for Westchester, it can be a golden opportunity to lead with self-governance and forward-thinking high-quality policing standards. Westchester has always advocated for less federal overreach and micromanagement of the one-size fits all approach, and since this scathing DOJ report detailing civil rights violations has already been widely published, the opportunity has now presented itself for a tailor-made solution.

The DOJ's exit highlights a gap that Westchester can fill by adopting ISO-9001, a global quality management standard for all police departments in Westchester. Unlike DCJS accreditation that concentrates on meeting state-specific training and operational standards, ISO-9001 ensures standardized evidence handling, transparent complaint resolution, and community engagement, turning Mount Vernon's challenges into a model for ethical reform, and restoring its credibility post-DOJ report. DCJS certification was not designed to prevent, detect or stop any of the Civil Rights or ethical concerns highlighted in the DOJ's 2024 report.

One of the most unique parts of adopting this Quality Management System (QMS), is the incorporation of Community Engagement by way of public feedback, such as community surveys or forums to meet ISO-9001 customer satisfaction requirement. While this system has been primarily aligned with private industries, it is the perfect tool to meet the moment of 21st century demands of ethical and professional standards in policing, with clear guidelines, transparency and measurable outcomes.

Westchester would lead the way in the northeast, following the ambitious move of two southwestern states: Phoenix Police Department in Arizona has adopted ISO-9001 in a number of their divisions since 2003, and since 2011 Houston Police Department in Texas has also adopted ISO-9001 in two of their divisions. Both have received certification.

The Westchester DA as the top law enforcement agency within the county must lead this charge since (a) the DOJ's 2024 report of Mount Vernon's efforts to police itself was highly critical. And (b), since the Westchester DA's office under Rocah, validated the DOJ's 2024 findings by vacating dozens of cases connected with the civil rights violations.

By championing ISO-9001, the DA can strengthen prosecutions with reliable data, boost the pilot program for ethical justice and rebuild trust and transparency in Westchester communities, especially Mount Vernon, that have been shaken by the DOJ's 2024 findings.

To preserve the apolitical stance and nature of the criminal justice system, faced with opposing decisions of successive federal administrations, Westchester County must robustly address the deficiencies highlighted in the DOJ's report from the Biden administration and sustain reform momentum following the oversight exit under the Trump administration.

Author: Marie Bell, an advocate for public safety.

ADU's, continued from pg 1-

"This is a thoughtful step forward for Yorktown," said Supervisor Ed Latcherman. "The ADU legislation aligns with our 2010 Comprehensive Plan and directly addresses housing needs within our community. It provides a flexible and impactful solution that benefits homeowners and those seeking more accessible housing options, all while maintaining the character of our single-family neighborhoods."

The creation of an ADU will require a special permit approved by the Zoning Board, followed by an administrative review and building permit from the building department.

The legislation, adopted by the Town Board on May 20, incorporates mitigation measures to address potential density impacts, limiting ADUs to a maximum of two bedrooms and 800 square feet. It also requires owner-occupancy of either the main dwelling or the ADU and robust environmental and design standards.

The legislation limits one ADU per lot and sets height restrictions for detached units to maintain neighborhood scale. For properties serviced by septic systems, owners must demonstrate the system's adequacy and obtain necessary County Health permits.

According to the Westchester County Housing Needs Assessment (November 2019), a significant number of Yorktown households face severe housing cost burdens. This legislation is anticipated to generate 30-40 housing units, contributing to the broader regional effort to address housing affordability. Neighboring Westchester County municipalities, such as Briarcliff Manor, Buchanan, Croton on Hudson, Hastings on Hudson, Irvington, and Pleasantville, have adopted ADU legislation.

LA Protests, continued from pg 1-

reach. The last time a president deployed the National Guard against a governor's wishes was in 1965 when President Johnson sent troops to Alabama—to protect civil rights demonstrators, not suppress them.

We call for immediate respect for the Constitution and established democratic norms. The broad authorization to deploy troops wherever immigration-related protests might occur sets a dangerous precedent. This includes peaceful demonstrations and directly threatens every American's right to speak out against their government.

This deployment crosses the line between civilian law enforcement and military control of American streets. We stand with Governor Hochul and Attorney General James in calling for this decision to be reversed and urging all elected leaders to stand up and defend the constitutional rights that protect every American's freedom to assemble and speak out.

Assemblymember Dana Levenburg said, "Through increasingly frightening immigration actions, the Trump administration is attempting to turn our communities into a police state. The unnecessary federalization of California's National Guard and deployment of U.S. Marines are a massive escalation of this effort. Notably, Trump declined to take similar actions during riots in 2020 or during the insurrection at the Capitol on January 6, strongly suggesting he knows he is wrong right now. As a state legislator, I stand with the many governors, including our own, who have condemned this abuse of power against California.

Moreover, the tactics of Trump's ICE are creating needless levels of fear and confusion in our communities. Their habit of having masked plainclothes officers take people away is already being imitated by predators, leading to a situation where people will not be able to tell the difference between law enforcement and criminals. This is a recipe for disaster that puts residents and law enforcement officials in unnecessary danger.

The rise in cases of mistaken identity, wrongful detention, and unlawful deportation indicates that ICE agents are growing desperate to hit quotas and getting sloppier in their work, putting everyone at risk. The federal government needs to focus its efforts on actual criminals and allow our local law enforcement to keep families safe, instead of tearing people from their loved ones without due process.

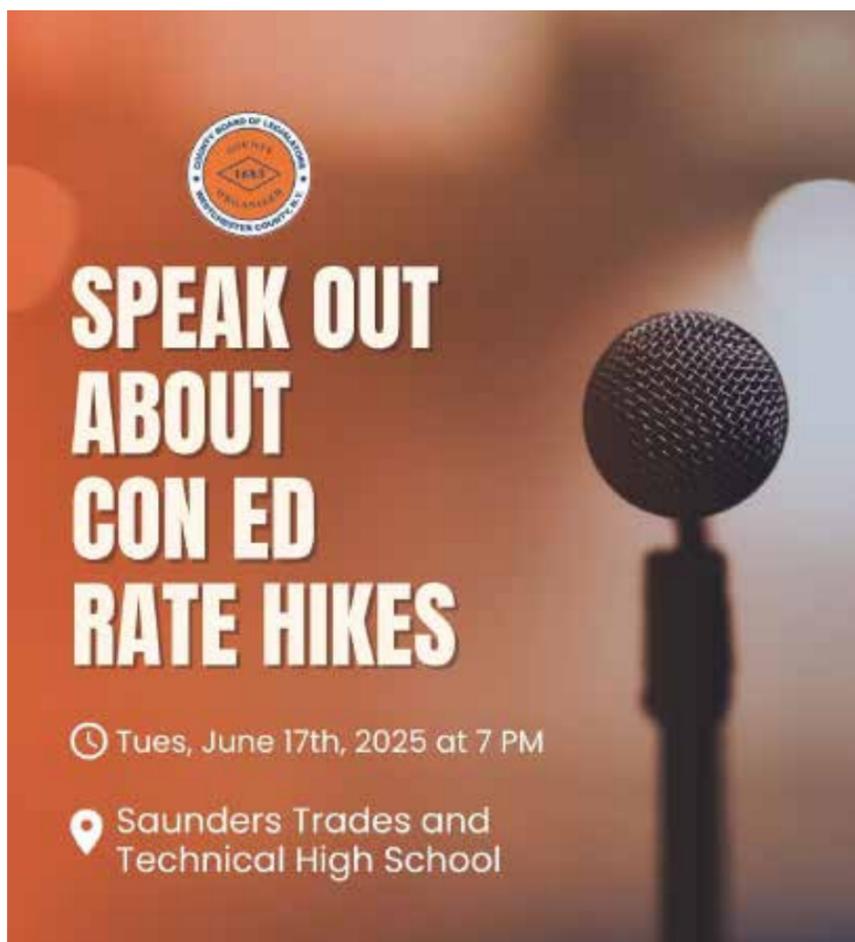
Parents shouldn't have to live in fear that their children will be 'disappeared' by masked agents. Americans should not have to carry around a dozen proofs of identity just in case an agent demands to see their papers, with no guarantee that an agent will actually acknowledge their legitimacy. And we cannot be silent as this administration ignores the Constitution and threatens to use military force against Americans. We deserve to be safe and free; the federal government can and should pursue comprehensive immigration reform instead of totalitarianism. We must all stand together right now and reject these attacks on our liberty."

County Legislator James Nolan, the only republican on the board, did not agree with the BOL statement, posting, "My colleagues from the Westchester County Board of Legislators Democratic Caucus have chosen to engage in issues that do not directly concern them. They recently released a statement about the violent protests in Los Angeles and the President's decision to deploy the military to uphold the law and protect citizens from chaos, looting, and destruction. This stance is not only hypocritical but also quite amusing, as many of these same colleagues ignore pressing issues right here in Westchester County and New York State. If you are turning a blind eye to local problems, you have no business commenting on events happening in another state on the other side of the country.

"Let's be clear: everyone has the right to peacefully protest. However, when protests turn violent and cause harm, they become riots, and such behavior is unacceptable. It is ironic that when Governor Hochul called in the National Guard to address issues at the prison—stemming from her pro-criminal policies and the recent firings of corrections officers—none of the Democrats in Albany or Westchester County spoke out against the deployment or in defense of the very laws that endanger both corrections officers and inmates. If President Trump finds it necessary to mobilize the National Guard to restore order because Democrat-led municipalities refuse to act, he has the authority to protect the people of this nation and hold criminals accountable."

Westchester Rising

PO Box 705, Yonkers NY 10702-914-815-1388. Proudly serving the the people of Westchester with hyperlocal news. Member NY Press Association. Legal notice inquiries to: risinglegalnotice@gmail.com. Daniel Murphy, Publisher & Editor in Chief, dmurphy@risingmediagroup.com. Bayan Baker, Assistant to the Editor in Chief risingmediagroup@gmail.com.



“Were it left to me to decide if we should have a government without newspapers, or newspapers without a government, I should not hesitate a moment to prefer the latter.-Thomas Jefferson

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Weekend Events in Westchester County Parks

SATURDAY, JUNE 14

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

Morning Grooming, 8:30 a.m. - 9:30 a.m. Experience the joy of grooming our friendly horses and donkeys! This hands-on program lets kids ages 12 and older help care for our animals through brushing and grooming, which supports coat maintenance and encourages positive socialization. \$20 per person. Get details: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/morning-grooming-tickets-1264412835829?aff=ebdsoporgprofile>

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

Migrant Leftovers, 10 a.m. - 11:30 a.m. We will observe all types of birds, from late arrivals to summer campers to year-round residents. Please bring binoculars.

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

Medicinal Plant and Tree Tour, 10 a.m. - 11 a.m. Urban naturalist Bruce Rosenberg will lead a free tour to examine over 20 plants and trees in the Arboretum that have medicinal qualities and are used to treat physical and mental conditions. All of these plants can be grown in your own backyard and are available at local nurseries.

Get details and register: <https://www.lasdonpark.org/event/medicinal-plant-and-tree-tour/2025-06-14/>

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

Lasdon Green Squad, 10 a.m. - 3 p.m. Every Saturday through November and for those age 14 and older, 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. Get details and register: <https://www.lasdonpark.org/event/lasdon-green-squad-2-2/2025-06-14/>

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

Book Buddies, 10:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. Join us for a unique reading experience in one of our animal enclosures, where children ages 7 and up can enjoy reading in an engaging and unique environment. \$10. Get details and register: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/book-buddies-tickets-1267662385319?aff=ebdsoporgprofile>

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

Beach Is Open, 11 a.m. - 6:30 p.m. The beach will be open weekends and June 19 through Sunday, June 22. Open daily from Friday, June 27, through Monday, Sept. 1; weather permitting. No admittance after 6 p.m. Parking and beach admission fees apply. Westchester County residency is required for admission, with a County Park Pass, a valid New York State driver's license or a valid New York State ID with a Westchester County address. Get details: <https://parks.westchestergov.com/swim>

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

Hudson River Music Festival, 11 a.m. - 9 p.m. Rooted in the spirit of Pete and Toshi Seeger, the festival is a joyful, all-ages gathering that unites music, community and environmental action. Fueled by a shared love for the Hudson, it's a soulful celebration of nature, activism and the next chapter in a beloved tradition. Get details and tickets: <https://www.hudsonrivermusicfestival.com/>

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

Art Show, 12 p.m. - 4 p.m. Artist Loren Anderson's exhibit "Of Nature" is open for viewing in the main house weekends in June.

Lenoir Preserve, Yonkers: (914) 968-5851

Picture This! Wildlife of Lenoir, 1 p.m. - 2 p.m. Join us for a presentation on the wildlife, their habitats and their habits, captured on our trail cameras.

Trailside Nature Museum at Ward Pound Ridge Reservation, Cross River: (914) 864-7322

Flower-Pressing 101 and Botanical Arts & Crafts, 1 p.m. - 2 p.m. Have you ever looked at the Reservation's beautiful flowers and wondered what their names were? Join us at Trailside to learn how to identify wildflower species and each plant's unique uses.

Miller House, White Plains: (914) 428-1005

Kids' Flag Day Crafts, 1 p.m. - 2:30 p.m. Join the staff for hands-on crafts and activities to learn all about flags and their symbolism.

Marshlands Conservancy, Rye: (914) 835-4466

Horseshoe Crabs, 1 p.m. - 2:30 p.m. Witness the wondrous phenomenon of horseshoe crabs arriving at Marshlands' shoreline during the mid-day high tide. This event has been happening here seasonally for thousands of years. Meet at the nature center; weather permitting.

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

Volunteer Work Project: Checking the Hiking Trails for Debris, 1 p.m. - 2:30 p.m. Help ensure that our trails are ready for summertime patrons. Please bring work gloves. Hand tools will be provided; great for service credit hours. Get details: <https://friendsofreadwildlifesanctuary.org/event/volunteer-checking-the-hiking-trails-for-debris/>

Westchester County Center, White Plains: (914) 995-4050

Star Boxing, 7 p.m. The thrilling bouts include Rajon Chance vs. Yan Carlos Perez, and Yonkers' undefeated prospect Harley Burke vs. the FDNY's Louis Maietta. Also: Richard "Popeye" Rivera, King David Malul, Austin Cassese, Isiah Flaherty and other Star Boxing action. Get tickets: <https://countycenter.biz/event/joe-deguardia-brings-star-boxing-to-the-westchester-county-center/>

continued on pg 15-

Harrison Mayor, continued from pg 1-

main downtown thoroughfare. Just days before Dionisio's first term began in 2022, a developer — The Stagg Group, a significant builder of housing in the Bronx and Westchester County — purchased more than two acres directly next to his land. During the second year of Dionisio's tenure, the Town of Harrison moved to rezone seven adjoining parcels, including the ones owned by Stagg Group and the Dionisio company.

In early 2023, Town Planner Pat Cleary was given an "assignment" to study whether to rezone the land, according to public comments by the village's attorney. It's not clear who gave the assignment, though the town planner works under Dionisio.

The 18 acres are primarily a business district covered with pavement, and frequent floods afflict streets and basements in the area. In the memo, Cleary found that changing the land's use could "tangibly improve" flooding, and he recommended a rezoning allowing for multifamily development that accounted for the hazard of a floodplain.

Dionisio declined to tell New York Focus whether he'd directed Cleary to write the memo, say when he first discussed a possible land sale with the developer, or answer other questions. According to a town board resolution, Dionisio controls the board's agendas. Throughout 2023, the rezoning issue appeared on them multiple times.

Dionisio voted on the topic on several occasions that year, according to board meeting minutes. He voted to send the zoning proposal to the town planning board; to declare the town board the lead agency for environmental review; and to schedule a public hearing. He also later voted to adopt amendments.

Once, at an August 2023 hearing to consider the proposal, Dionisio recused himself and left without explanation. Minutes later, the first resident to speak noted that, based on her research, Dionisio owned property in the proposed rezoning.

When the town board voted 3-0 to adopt the rezoning that day, Dionisio was not present. While he did not answer questions from New York Focus, Dionisio did email constituents in March denouncing the "inaccuracies and half-truths" being disseminated online about his actions. He argued that Cleary is a "Renown" [sic] town planner, who had served in approximately five different administrations, and said that the entire five-person town board — not just him — had voted to refer the rezoning matter to the planning board. And he noted his recusal.

That one recusal may not have gone far enough. The town code requires any board member who has a financial interest in a matter before the body — and takes certain actions related to it — to publicly disclose "the nature and extent of such interest" to the official record. When Dionisio recused himself from one meeting, and voted during others, he did not make that disclosure.

The code also prohibits a town official from taking action where a person has a financial interest that might "reasonably" be deemed to create a conflict of interest.

A similar situation presented itself three years ago. A town supervisor in Putnam County held a financial interest leading to her recusal from voting on the adoption of a local law. Still, she voted on certain motions related to that law. As a result, a state appellate court ruled, the supervisor's "conflict of interest" tainted the enactment of the law, which was overturned.

Mark Davies, the former executive director of New York City's government ethics board, told New York Focus that "recusal" should mean that a person doesn't participate in a matter "in any way."

Steven Leventhal, a New York-based attorney who specializes in municipal ethics issues, agreed. "Recusal means having nothing to do with the matter," Leventhal said. "You can't influence the outcome. And if you do, it's not a legitimate recusal."

In January, the Stagg Group bought the Oakland Avenue property from the Dionisio company for \$2.9 million — more than two and a half times the assessed value.

The price was "far higher than any buyer would have paid for the property in the absence of the zoning change," said Harrison resident Sara Benson at a town board meeting this month. "This novel zoning change — defining an entirely new set of standards — appears to have been purpose-built to deliver an economic windfall for Mayor Dionisio," Benson said.

Dionisio, who was seated across the hearing room at the meeting, did not respond.

Two months after purchasing Dionisio's land, the Stagg Group submitted plans detailing its proposed 140-unit apartment tower — the first project in the newly rezoned area to come before the Harrison government.

The purchase of the supervisor's land had been a boon to the developer's proposal. The Stagg Group now held property adjoining a main street in downtown Harrison, one not in a floodplain. Previously, only a small side road — which was in the floodplain — had access to the potential major housing development.

The Stagg Group expected strong demand for the market-rate apartments in a region that sorely needed them, and all living space was to be at least two feet above the 500-year base flood elevation. For the project to go forward, however, the town government still needed to sign off.

Many residents argued that adding a large-scale housing development would make flooding more severe, not less. Jen Maurer, who lives on Oakland Avenue, said during a town meeting in 2023 that flooding in the area had gotten "much, much, much worse."

Beaver Swamp Brook, directly east of the proposed development, often floods nearby streets. "Those houses over there, they're flooded anytime it rains," Maurer said. "It's going to take a situation that's already gotten so much worse over the years and make it unbearable."

Opposition gained traction. An online group denouncing the project and Dionisio garnered social media attention. Petitions circulated door-to-door received hundreds of signatures. At a meeting this Thursday, the town board was expected to adopt a six-month moratorium on new downtown development. With Dionisio and two town board members up for reelection this November, the pause would have pushed this charged issue past Election Day.

Then, amid this increasing uproar, the divisive development was suddenly no more. Last week, New York Focus sent the Stagg Group detailed questions about the rezoning and its dealings with Dionisio. The company did not respond, but its attorney sent a letter to Dionisio and the town board on Tuesday withdrawing its application for the housing project.

The letter did not address the alleged conflict of interest but said that the company had owned its downtown property for a "considerable period of time" — about a year and a half — before the rezoning vote. Dionisio recused himself from the unanimous vote, the letter noted. Explaining the abrupt decision, the attorney wrote that the developer had "heard the concern of both the Town Board and the area residents." The company had already spent hundreds of thousands of dollars related to the development — and Supervisor Dionisio had already cashed out.

Yonkers Teen Indicted for New Year's Murder; DA Calls for Changes to "Raise the Age" Law



Omar Bonilla

Westchester County District Attorney Susan Cacace announced that a 17-year old Yonkers resident was indicted for Murder, Attempted Murder and numerous weapons charges for his role in two separate shootings in Yonkers.

The defendant, who was 16 years old at the time of these incidents, was charged by indictment with Murder in the Second Degree for his role in the shooting death of Omar Bonilla. This homicide occurred on Locust Hill Ave. at Lafayette Pl. in Yonkers on New Year's Day this year.

The defendant was also charged with Attempted Murder in the Second Degree for his role in another Yonkers shooting which occurred on December 14, 2024. He also faces three separate counts of Criminal Possession of a Weapon in the Second Degree in connection to these shootings.

He was arraigned on May 23, 2025 where he pleaded not guilty to all charges. Due to his age he was remanded to the custody of the Westchester County Department of Corrections at Woodfield Cottage.

The defendant faces an additional charge of Criminal Possession of a Weapon in the Second Degree for yet another incident where he was allegedly found in possession of a loaded firearm on April 29th in Yonkers.

DA Cacace said: "When examining the facts surrounding the violent crimes alleged in these indictments, it becomes clear that our most violent criminals are continuing to exploit New York State's "Raise the Age" law. The DA's Office will continue to do everything we can to hold these violent, young criminals accountable for their actions however we, as a society, must closely study this issue and, if necessary, adjust our laws for the sake of safety and justice."

The defendant faces a maximum sentence of 25 years to life for the Murder charge.

This investigation was conducted by the Yonkers Police Department.

This case is being prosecuted by the DA's Office's Homicide Bureau and Violent Criminal Enterprise Bureau.

A GoFundMe Page for Omar Bonilla's family has been created at <https://www.gofundme.com/f/support-omar-bonilla-srs-family-in-grief>. "We are heartbroken to share the devastating loss of Omar Bonilla SR, a man whose love, kindness, and strength touched everyone he met. A devoted father, a loving husband, and a loyal friend, OMAR BONILLA SR was the kind of person who always put others first. Tragically, OMAR BONILLA SR was taken from us far too soon in a senseless act of violence. He was both shot and attacked, leaving a void in the hearts of all who knew him. The funds raised will go toward funeral expenses, medical bills, and helping his wife and children navigate the days ahead without their beloved husband and father."

In 2018, New York State raised the age of criminal responsibility to 18. Before the change, New York was one of only two states that automatically prosecuted 16- and 17-year-olds as adults.

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'Emergency Medicaid' Surges to 480,000

By Bill Hammond, Empire Center NY

the charges against them and the requirement to appear in court to defend their case.

According to the NYS Division of Criminal Justice Sex Offender Registry, Saavedra was arrested in 2020 by the Yonkers Police Department's SOR Unit for Actual Sexual Intercourse and Actual Deviate Sexual Intercourse with a male victim who was 15.

"Mexican Litzzy Janel Saavedra was convicted of rape in Yonkers, so ICE NYC arrested her. She'll stay with us—off NY streets—pending immigration proceedings. Once inadmissible aliens complete their sentences, it's our duty to apprehend them for removal from our country."

Saavedra was 22 when she committed the crime of Felony Rape in the third degree. The victim did not consent, but there were factors other than incapacity to consent. Saavedra was sentenced to 10 years of probation in 2022. The victim was not a stranger and was coerced into the sex act. No pornography was used.

Saavedra was a registered sex offender for two and a half years and was residing in Yonkers before ICE apprehended her.

In New York, Rape in the Third Degree (Penal Law § 130.25) is a class E felony that is committed when a person engages in sexual intercourse with someone who is incapable of consent or engages in sexual intercourse without that person's consent. A person is deemed incapable of consent if they are under 17 years old or if they are otherwise incapable of consent due to a mental disability, physical helplessness, or some other factor. The offense also includes sexual intercourse with someone less than 17 years of age when the perpetrator is 21 years of age or older.

Judges can also impose a sentence of probation for up to 10 years if a prison sentence is not deemed necessary.

Conviction requires registration with the New York Sex Offender Registry as a Level 1, 2, or 3, depending on the risk of committing another sex offense.

The White House included Saavedra's arrest as part of its press releases on reducing illegal border crossings.

Illegal Crossings Plummet -The White House

As illegal border crossings plummet, the U.S. Border Patrol announced a soft-sided "migrant processing facility" in the San Diego Sector constructed under the Biden Administration has been dismantled after a 96%+ decline in illegal crossings along the sector.

The increased border enforcement is accompanied by the Trump Administration's efforts to arrest criminal illegal immigrants throughout the nation.

Meet a few of the sick criminal illegal immigrants arrested just over the past weekend:

Kevin Estuarde Hernandez, an 18-year-old illegal immigrant from Guatemala, was arrested in Boston. He is a suspected 18th Street Gang Member who was involved in a shooting between his gang and MS-13.

Jose Antonio Deras, a 45-year-old illegal immigrant from El Salvador, was arrested in Denver. He has pending charges for four felony counts of sexual assault on a child with a pattern of abuse. A judge ordered him removed from the country in 2009.

Eduardo Sanchez-Hernandez, a 32-year-old illegal immigrant from Mexico, was arrested in Newark. He has pending charges for sexual assault of a minor under 13 years old.

Litzzy Janel Saavedra, a 26-year-old illegal immigrant from Mexico, was arrested in New York City. He has a conviction for third-degree felony rape.

Another White House Press release included Saavedra and AOC, New York Congresswoman Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez, who graduated from Yorktown High School in Westchester.

Titled, AOC Wants to END the Agency Arresting Killers, Rapists in New York, The White House writes, "AOC, Democrat Party leader, calls for abolishing ICE. Meanwhile, the brave men and women of ICE get dangerous criminal illegal immigrants off our streets and protect American citizens. Why does AOC want to stop that?" — said White House spokeswoman Abigail Jackson.

While President Donald J. Trump, his administration, and the heroes of ICE work overtime to rid our country of criminal illegal immigrant killers, rapists, and gangbangers, top Democrats are doubling down on their call to eliminate the agency responsible for getting these animals off our streets.

"I believe that ICE, an agency that was just formed in 2003 during the Patriot Act era, is a rogue agency that should not exist," says Rep. Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez, the leader of the Democrat Party.

Where is the congresswoman's concern for her fellow New Yorkers who have been brutally killed, maimed, and raped by criminal illegal immigrants allowed to roam free due to New York's so-called "sanctuary" policies?

Including Litzzy Janel Saavedra, a Mexican national with a conviction for felony rape.

We have attempted to FOIL the police report or the felony complaint in this matter.

Unknown is how long Saavedra was in this country and Yonkers. It appears that after her arrest and conviction, she remained in Yonkers for 5 years until her recent apprehension.

SUNDAY, JUNE 15

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. Motor-powered vehicles are prohibited. Also: June 22, June 29 (8 a.m. - 12 p.m.); July 13, 20, 27 (8 a.m. to noon); 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>

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

Yoga in the Gardens, 9:30 a.m. - 11 a.m. \$25. Also: June 22, 29. Registration required: <https://www.lasdonpark.org/event/yoga-in-the-gardens-2/2025-06-15/>

Alfred B. DelBello Muscoot 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. Get details: <https://www.muscootfarm.org/markets/>

Lasdon Park, Arboretum & Veterans Memorial, 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! Also: Tuesday, June 17. Get details and register: <https://www.lasdonpark.org/event/gardening-sundays-2/2025-06-15/>

Alfred B. DelBello Muscoot Farm, Katonah: (914) 864-7282. Big Equipment Day, 12 p.m. - 3 p.m. Get up close with tractors, mowers and other equipment that does some of Muscoot's biggest jobs.

One of the biggest drivers of New York's Medicaid enrollment growth over the past decade has been "emergency Medicaid" for undocumented immigrants, newly released state records show.

The program – which is limited to short-term care for emergency conditions – has soared by 440,000 or more than 1,200 percent since 2014, according to Health Department records obtained by the Empire Center under the Freedom of Information Law.

As of March 2024, sign-ups for emergency Medicaid stood at 480,000, or 7 percent of total enrollment.

The only Medicaid cohort that grew by a larger amount was able-bodied, childless adults from 19 to 64, which increased by 796,000 or 68 percent. Overall, enrollment in the New York's version of the safety-net health plan for the lower-income and disabled was up 1.6 million or 28 percent from March 2014 to March 2024.

Emergency Medicaid enrollment is overwhelmingly concentrated downstate, with 74 percent of recipients living in New York City, 14 percent on Long Island and 12 percent in the Mid-Hudson region.

Officials attributed the spike to a policy change enacted in 2014, as the federal Affordable Care Act went into full effect. Through the state's newly established insurance exchange, immigrants ineligible for other forms of coverage were invited to pre-register for emergency Medicaid even if they didn't immediately need emergency care.

Enrollment has been rising at double-digit rates ever since, including a 33 percent spike during the first year of the Covid-19 pandemic and another 26 percent since 2022, as thousands of newly arrived migrants were bused to New York from border states.

Spending on emergency Medicaid has roughly tripled, from \$207 million in fiscal 2013-14 to \$639 million in fiscal 2023-24, officials said. Because more people were signing up without knowing if they would need care, the share of enrollees who used services in any given year has dropped from 43 percent to 21 percent, and the annual cost per enrollee has declined from \$5,700 to \$1,300, officials said.

In addition to emergency Medicaid, New York offers government-sponsored coverage through its Essential Plan to another 494,000 non-citizens. These include legal immigrants who arrived less than five years ago and people without green cards who are "permanently residing under color of law," such as those approved for asylum and people who qualify for President Obama's Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals program.

Lower-income legal immigrants who have resided in the U.S. for at least five years are eligible for regular Medicaid.

About 1.5 million non-citizens live in New York City, including 670,000 who are undocumented, according to estimates from the Center for Migration Studies.

The Empire Center obtained the figures on emergency Medicaid as part of a larger request seeking a breakdown of the eligibility categories for all Medicaid enrollees over the past decade. It was expected that this data would shed light on why the safety-net health plan has grown to be millions larger than New York's population living in poverty, as documented in a recent report.

Despite a delay of eight months, the Health Department's initial response in January was incomplete – omitting information on almost 1 million enrollees, as the Empire Center reported earlier this month.

The day after that post was published, the department provided a second data set that appeared to be more comprehensive – but which was puzzlingly inconsistent with the figures provided earlier.

The numbers for some eligibility categories went up substantially, while others went down. Categories that were counted separately in the first round were seemingly combined together in the second – and some disappeared completely.

Another issue is plausibility: The state reported Medicaid enrollment of 693,000 in a category for "pregnant consumers," which seems far too high. The state's most recently available vital statistics, from 2022, show that 206,000 women gave birth and 68,000 had abortions. Medicaid covered about half of each, indicated pregnant enrollees would have numbered about 137,000.

Visit empirecenter.org, for more information

Read it all Online at Yonkerstimes.com

**Weekend Events in Westchester County Parks,
continued from pg 13**

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