

## Cait Conley Wins Democratic Primary in NY-17

By Dan Murphy



Democratic nominee for Congress NY-17 Cait Conley, right, with County Legislator Colin Smith

Cait Conley cruised to a 17 point victory on June 23 in the democratic primary for Congress in NY-17 Tuesday night. Conley got 49% of the vote, with Beth Davidson second with 32% and Effie Phillips-Staley with 15%.

Conley, a West Point graduate with 16 years of combat service, had the endorsement and support from VoteVets. "VoteVets invested \$1 million into this race, using veteran voices to introduce Conley to voters and highlight her military service. We're proud to have done our part to put the strongest can

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## 34 Years of Public Service and Counting in Greenburgh

### Paul Feiner Wins Democratic Primary



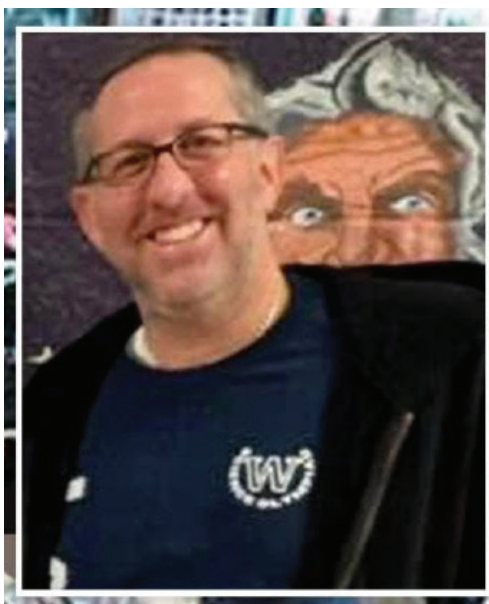
By Dan Murphy

In today's throw-the-bums-out political climate, there are a few exceptions to the rule that the public tires of our elected officials after 8, 10, or 12 years.

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## Henry Wallace: America's Forgotten Vice-President and his Westchester Farm

## Westlake HS Teacher Arrested in Connecticut for Attempted Sexual Assault of a Child



Raymond Szczerba, left, a Westlake High School science teacher in the Mt. Pleasant School District, was arrested on June 7 in Stamford, CT, and according to media reports, was charged with attempted sexual assault and enticement of a minor.

Szczerba was quickly placed on administrative leave by the school district pending the outcome of his case. He was also removed from the school district's social media posts.

Szczerba was a co-advisor of the Westlake High School's Science Olympiad Team, which was highlighted by the school district for their recent success. Now, parents and other students are concerned about what else Szczerba might have done at Westlake HS.

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President FDR, right, with Vice-President Henry Wallace. Photo from the FDR Presidential Library.

By Dan Murphy

Most Americans know that Harry Truman was President Franklyn Roosevelt's last vice president. But do you know who FDR's VP was before Truman? His name was Henry Wallace, who served from 1941 to 1944.

Known by many historians as our "Forgotten Vice President", Wallace was removed from the vice-presidency in a strange, backroom political deal at the 1944

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## This Land in Who's Land? VP Vance or Bruce Springsteen?

## Eastchester HS Senior Andrew Pecchioni Makes a Difference Volunteering with EVAC



Meet Andrew Pecchioni, above. Andrew is currently a member at EVAC that serves as a "third" on the ambulance. What this means is that Andrew is a CPR certified personnel that assists the duty crews with different tasks while on calls and at the station. Andrew is the son of former Eastchester PD sergeant Korynn Pecchioni. Andrew recently completed his 6 week senior internship at EVAC and plans on going to college in South Carolina to study biology with a premed track. Andrew comes from a family of first responders and joined EVAC to get a head start on learning to interact with patients and to serve the community he grew up in. Andrew has been a vital part of daily operations and

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See Story on Page 8

**Yonkers Resident, Group Home Employees Charged**

**with Stealing Over \$47,000 from Residents with Disabilities**

Westchester County District Attorney Susan Cacace and New York State Comptroller Thomas P. DiNapoli announced that two group home employees have been charged in connection with an alleged scheme to make personal purchases using the banking information of group home residents with disabilities.

Nadajah Jackson, 28, of Yonkers, was charged with one count each of Grand Larceny in the Third Degree, a class D felony, Grand Larceny in the Fourth Degree, a class E felony, Scheme to Defraud in the First Degree, a class E felony, and two counts of Petit Larceny, a class A misdemeanor.

She was arraigned on the charges Tuesday afternoon in Tarrytown Justice Court. She was released on her own recognizance, as none of the charges are bail eligible. She is due back in court on July 1.

Destiny Galan, 25, of Staten Island, was charged with Grand Larceny in the Fourth Degree, a class E felony, Scheme to Defraud in the First Degree, a class E felony, and Petit Larceny, a class A misdemeanor. She is set to be arraigned in Tarrytown Justice Court on July 1.

DA Cacace said: "I am outraged that two individuals entrusted with caring for our most vulnerable residents instead allegedly bilked them of tens of thousands of dollars. My office will not sit idle as our neighbors with disabilities have their pockets picked. I am thankful that our strong collaboration with Comptroller DiNapoli and the Tarrytown police has brought these two defendants to justice, and we will seek to ensure that all the victims from this alleged scheme are made whole."

Comptroller DiNapoli said: "The defendants' alleged actions are simply outrageous and heartless. Nadajah Jackson and Destiny Galan allegedly exploited vulnerable individuals entrusted to their care to line their own pockets. Now, thanks to my partnership with Westchester D.A. Cacace, we will ensure that justice is served and they are held accountable for their cruel actions."

As alleged in a felony complaint filed with the court, Jackson, an employee of the Association For Mentally Ill Children of Westchester (AMIC), made numerous purchases from Amazon and other merchants between November 2022 and January 2025 totaling \$45,448.47 by debiting the bank accounts of four AMIC residents.

As alleged in another felony complaint filed with the court, Galan, an AMIC employee, made personal Amazon purchases between May 2024 and August 2024 totaling \$2,038.03, which included expenditures on women's clothing and food, by debiting the bank accounts of two AMIC residents.

The victims of this scheme are adults with varying degrees of intellectual and physical disability.

This case was investigated by the Office of the New York State Comptroller, the Tarrytown Police Department and the Investigators Squad within the Westchester County District Attorney's Office, with assistance from the Economic Crimes Bureau.

The case is being prosecuted by Complex and Pattern Crimes Deputy Bureau Chief Courtney Johnson.

**Westchester Rent Guidelines Board OK's 3.5% Rent Increase**

**4.5% for two-year leases**

**BRI: Progress on RGB Vote, but Cost Pressures Persist**

On June 22, the Westchester County Rent Guidelines Board approved rent adjustments of 3.5% for one-year leases and 4.5% for two-year leases for rent-stabilized apartments, effective October 1, 2026.

The Building & Realty Institute of the Hudson Valley (BRI) said the approved increases represent a departure from the lower adjustments adopted in recent years, while noting that housing providers continue to face significant financial pressures from rising operating costs and regulatory requirements.

"The Board's decision is a more realistic recognition of the challenges facing housing providers," said Alana Ciuffetelli, Chair of the BRI's Apartment Owners Advisory Council (AOAC). "However, owners continue to face pressures that affect their ability to maintain, improve, and preserve their properties over the long term."

Operating costs continue to rise across nearly every category, including insurance (10.3%), utilities (5.2%), oil and gas (7.5%), and higher interest rates (5%). Property owners are also anticipating higher regulatory costs in the next year, including from the NYS Department of Health Lead Rental Registry program, which takes effect this year.

The BRI noted that while the approved adjustments provide some relief, many housing providers continue to grapple with years of accumulated cost increases that have outpaced allowable rental income. The approved increases also remain below the current rate of inflation, further illustrating the ongoing gap between rising costs and available revenue. In addition to rising day-to-day operating expenses, owners of older rent-stabilized buildings face growing demands related to building systems, capital improvements, and compliance with new state and local regulations.

"We know affordability remains a concern for many residents, and property owners understand those challenges," Ciuffetelli said. "At the same time, preserving safe, quality housing requires ongoing investment. The long-term health of Westchester's rent-stabilized housing stock depends on ensuring that owners have the ability to keep pace with rising costs and continue investing in their buildings."

The BRI emphasized that maintaining and preserving existing housing must remain a priority as Westchester continues to confront a regional housing shortage. The organization will continue advocating for policies that support housing preservation, encourage investment in aging buildings, and ensure that rent-stabilized housing remains sustainable for both residents and housing providers.

**CONNECTED EXPERIENCES LLC Arts. of Org. filed with SSNY on 01/30/2026. Office: Westchester Co. SSNY designated agent for process and shall mail copy to LLC at 212 Colabaugh Pond Rd, Croton On Hudson, NY, 10520. Purpose: any lawful act.**

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## Can the Completion of the Champlain Hudson Power Express Pipeline Lower our Energy Bills?

*Line Will Meet Up to 20% of New York City's Energy Needs with Emission-Free Hydropower and Benefit Disadvantaged Communities Most Impacted by Climate Change*

*One of the Largest Transmission Projects in New York State in the Last 50 Years*

Governor Kathy Hochul announced that the 339-mile Champlain Hudson Power Express (CHPE), one of New York's largest transmission infrastructure projects in 50 years, can now deliver reliable, clean energy from Canada directly to New York City. CHPE is expected to deliver 10.4 terawatt-hours of clean energy per year to the New York Metro area – meeting up to 20% of the city's needs – and reduce carbon emissions by 37 million metric tons through 2040. This will provide significant public health benefits by reducing harmful emissions and local air contaminants in New York City, and, in particular, historically underserved communities.

"The Champlain Hudson Power Express transmission line is one of the first projects I championed as Governor, and is a game changer when it comes to keeping the lights on, helping build a cleaner future and holding costs down," Governor Hochul said. "With its completion, we are powering 1 million New York City homes with needed clean energy that will serve communities for generations to come. This project is further proof that despite the unprecedented federal headwinds we are facing, New York will remain a national climate and clean energy leader into the future."

The CHPE transmission line, part of the Governor's all-of-the-above approach to energy designed to keep the lights on and costs down for New Yorkers, will help replace the power lost with the closure of the Indian Point nuclear plant. Since Indian Point's closure, New York City has had to rely more on gas-fired plants that have caused emissions downstate to grow.

The CHPE project, contracted by the New York State Energy Research and Development Authority (NYSERDA) and developed by Transmission Developers Inc, in partnership with Hydro-Québec, is expected to provide more than \$3.4 billion in economic investment over the life of the 25-year contract and has already supported more than 1,400 family-sustaining construction and operations jobs statewide. Additionally, CHPE's Green Economy Fund, a \$40 million fund, has already awarded \$2 million to organizations focused on disadvantaged communities, workforce development and job retraining, intended to facilitate entry into the clean energy economy.

New York State Energy Research and Development Authority President and CEO Doreen M. Harris said, "Today we turn a page in New York's energy history by bringing a transformative volume of clean energy to the nation's largest city. Not only does this project demonstrate the benefits of Governor Hochul's commitment to diverse energy resources, but it brings increased reliability to our grid by delivering enough electricity to power over one million homes, reducing pollution and improving air quality in our most vulnerable communities."

Selected in September 2021 as part of the Tier 4 solicitation administered by NYSERDA, CHPE construction began in 2022. The 1,250-megawatt High Voltage Direct Current (HVDC) transmission line runs from Montreal, Quebec to the Astoria Energy Complex in Queens and connects to the grid at the newly expanded New York Power Authority Astoria Annex substation. NYPA also supported TDI in their building of a new nearly four-mile underground transmission line, called the Astoria Rainey Cable (ARC), that connects the Astoria Annex to Con Edison's Rainey substation.

The CHPE project, which is hosted by many local municipalities and counties, executed multiple project labor agreements totaling more than three million union labor hours. It is the longest fully buried transmission line in North America and was strategically buried underground and underwater to increase long-term reliability and minimize environmental and community impact.

CHPE is a critical component of New York's diverse mix of resources and supply infrastructure which supports its State Energy Plan by delivering clean, firm hydropower and renewable energy into a high-demand region, helping relieve congestion, improve system flexibility, and reduce reliance on more expensive gas-powered generation. The State Energy Plan highlights transmission as essential infrastructure for integrating new clean generation at scale and managing future load growth efficiently.

## Drunk Driver Falls Asleep on the Side of I-95 with a Half-Kilo of Cocaine in the Car

On June 21, 2026, New York State Police assigned to SP New Rochelle arrested Miguel Perez Mendez, 43, of Bronx, N.Y., for felony drug possession and DWI after he was found asleep in a vehicle along the Thruway in Westchester County.

At approximately 7:15 p.m. on June 21, troopers observed a vehicle parked on the right shoulder of the New York State Thruway (I-95) northbound in the village of Mamaroneck, with the operator and sole occupant, identified as Perez Mendez, asleep in the driver's seat. During a welfare check of Perez Mendez, troopers administered standardized field sobriety tests, which were indicative of intoxication. He was placed under arrest for DWI.

While conducting an inventory of the vehicle, troopers seized approximately 436.8 grams of cocaine.

Perez Mendez was transported to SP New Rochelle for processing, where he refused to provide a breath sample, and an additional approximately 0.3 grams of cocaine was located. Perez Mendez was charged with the following:

- PL 220.21 (01) Criminal possession of a controlled substance, 1st degree
- PL 220.16 (01) Criminal possession of a controlled substance, 3rd degree, Intent to Sell
- PL 220.03 Criminal possession of a controlled substance, 7th degree
- VTL 1192(3) Driving While Intoxicated, 1st Offense
- VTL 0511 (03A3) Aggravated Unlicensed Operation

Perez Mendez was arraigned in the Mamaroneck Village Court and released on his own recognizance pending a future court date.

## Should Our Police Still be Making Arrests for Fireworks?

On June 25th, 2026, at about 6:00 PM, New Rochelle Police culminated an investigation into illegal fireworks sales with the arrest of a local resident selling \$500 worth of dangerous fireworks.

Through investigative leads, officers identified Jushwa Budhu, 25, as a suspect in the illegal sale of fireworks via an online platform operating out of New Rochelle. The investigation led to a transaction in which Mr. Budhu was taken into custody without incident. Mr. Budhu was booked and is scheduled to appear in New Rochelle Court on July 7th, 2026.

Officers recovered the fireworks involved in the transaction, which were valued at \$500 or more.

The New Rochelle Police Department encourages residents to report the illegal sale of fireworks or other suspicious activity on our non-emergency number (914) 654-2300 or anonymously at (914) 632-COPS.

ARRESTED:

Jushwa Budhu, 25 years of age, of New Rochelle, NY.

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## Applications Open For September 11th Descendants Scholarship Program for HS Seniors

Barasch & McGarry Charitable Foundation Awards \$125,000 in Scholarships in Honor of the 25th Remembrance of 9/11

As the nation approaches the 25th Remembrance of September 11, the Barasch & McGarry Charitable Foundation has opened applications for its September 11th Descendants Scholarship Program, which will award five \$25,000 scholarships, totaling \$125,000, to graduating high school seniors whose families have lost a loved one to a September 11-related illness.

The Foundation, dedicated to honoring first responders, survivors, and their families, created the scholarship program to invest in the futures of young people who have grown up in the shadow of a loss they may not have fully understood, but whose lives have been profoundly shaped by the lasting impact of 9/11. The one-time scholarships are funded through the partnership of Barasch & McGarry, lawyers for the 9/11 community, and are being awarded in recognition of the 25th Remembrance of the attacks.

The World Trade Center Health Program, created in 2010 under the James Zadroga 9/11 Health and Compensation Act, has certified more than 140,000 people from all 50 states with 9/11-related health conditions and confirmed the deaths of more than 9,000 people from 9/11-related illnesses, nearly three times the number of people killed on September 11, 2001.

"While this year's graduating seniors were not yet born when the attacks occurred, many grew up experiencing the loss of a parent or loved one to a 9/11-related illness," said Michael Barasch, Managing Partner of Barasch & McGarry. "Through these five \$25,000 scholarships, we hope to honor their resilience, support their educational goals, and invest in the next generation. Twenty-five years later, 9/11 continues to affect families across the country, and these students are living proof of that lasting impact."

Eligible students must be accepted to an accredited college, university, community college, vocational school, or trade school at the time the scholarship is awarded. The scholarships will be paid directly to the recipient's educational institution.

Scholarship recipients will be notified by August 3 and recognized at the "Giving Back Benefit: Honoring the 25th Remembrance of 9/11" on September 2.

In addition to scholarship opportunities, the Barasch & McGarry charitable Foundation provides grants to nonprofit organizations that support, advocate for, and deliver services to the 9/11 community.

Barasch & McGarry, lawyers for the 9/11 community, is a New York-based law firm that has been at the forefront of legal and policy-driven advocacy for 9/11 first responders, survivors, and victims' families since 2001.

### Westlake Teacher arrested, continued from pg 1-

Raymond Szczerba, left, a Westlake High School science teacher in the Mt. Pleasant School District, was arrested on June 7 in Stamford, CT, and according to media reports, was charged with attempted sexual assault and enticement of a minor.

Szczerba was quickly placed on administrative leave by the school district pending the outcome of his case. He was also removed from the school district's social media posts.

Szczerba was a co-advisor of the Westlake High School's Science Olympiad Team, which was highlighted by the school district for their recent success. Now, parents and other students are concerned about what else Szczerba might have done at Westlake HS. Szczerba, 45, was listed as an Earth Science, Environmental Science and Oceanography teacher.

News 12 reported that "Court records show Raymond Szczerba was arrested Sunday." June 7, but because the arrest was made in Connecticut, we have been having trouble obtaining the police report or court complaint to provide more details.

According to the law firm of Ruane, "Enticing a minor is considered a sex crime in the state of Connecticut. This crime is governed by Connecticut General Statute § 53a-90, which defines enticing a minor as a situation where a person uses some sort of computer service to knowingly persuade, entice, or coerce any person under the age of 18 years old to engage in prostitution or another sexual activity that the person knows is a crime. It is important to note that in order to commit the crime of enticing a minor, a person must know that the other party is under the age of 18, and knowingly coerce them into a sexual act anyway. If, for example, you asked a person over an online chat how old they were, and they told you 21, you could use this as a defense to the crime. You were under the impression that the other party was over the age of 18, and therefore did not knowingly commit this crime."

## Regarding Can You be LBGT and Still Love God? LTE

The essential question is which God you love: the God and Father of Jesus Christ, or the "god of this world." God wrote His will in His Word. He defines what love is, and what it is not. When one determines to do otherwise, how is that loving the true God and Creator who made male and female and designed their bodies for each other? Logically, if you love God, you will put His will above your own.

The law of Moses distinguished His believers from the pagan cultures that surrounded them. Jesus Christ fulfilled the law and made his spiritual power available to believers. On Pentecost the spirit of God in Christ became available to those who are born again (Colossians 1:27), adding a dimension that natural men do not have, and brought in the administration of the church of grace. "That the righteousness of the law might be fulfilled in us, who walk not after the flesh, but after the Spirit. For they that are after the flesh do mind the things of the flesh; but they that are after the Spirit the things of the Spirit." (Romans 8:4-5) Those who have the spirit of God can rise above and overcome the temptations of the flesh. The epistle to the Romans warns that homosexuality, murder, adultery, making idols, and bearing false witness are unrighteousness. The question every individual has to ask himself or herself is: Whom will you serve: the GOD who created the heavens and the universe, or the god of this world by serving the lusts of the flesh?

If Jesus Christ was "tempted in all points like as we are yet without sin," (Hebrews 2:18; 4:15), then he had to face the temptation of homosexuality. Since being born again means that it is Christ in us the hope of glory, that power from on high enables us to resist that temptation as well as others. "There hath no temptation taken you but such as is common to man: but God is faithful, who will not suffer you to be tempted above that ye are able; but will with the temptation also make a way to escape, that ye may be able to bear it." (1 Corinthians 10:13) People can resist sexual temptations of all kinds, tell the truth instead of lies, not make idols, not verbally or physically abuse someone with whom they disagree, and many other behaviors which do not honor God and edify others. The first three chapters of Ephesians show what God has made us and how He empowered us through Jesus Christ. Chapters four through six show how to live in that love and power practically--how to love God and others.

How do you show that you love God? To love God, you have to know God by studying His Word daily. "Study to shew thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth." (2 Timothy 2:15) Jesus Christ said: "If ye love me, keep my commandments." (John 14:15) "And Jesus answered and said unto him, If a man love me, he will keep my words: and my Father will love him, and we will come unto him, and make our abode with him." (John 14:23) "If ye keep my commandments, ye shall abide in my love; even as I have kept my Father's commandments, and abide in his love." (John 15:10)

Romans is a doctrinal epistle of the church in the age of grace. The key is "And be not conformed to this world: but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind, that ye may prove what is that good, and acceptable, and perfect, will of God. (Romans 12:2) Transformed in the original is metamorphoo, to have a change of nature, like a caterpillar metamorphing into a butterfly.

The first doctrinal epistle shows what is not loving God: "Because that, when they knew God, they glorified him not as God, neither were thankful; but became vain in their imaginations, and their foolish heart was darkened. Professing themselves to be wise, they became fools, and changed the glory of the uncorruptible God into an image made like to corruptible man, and to birds, and four-footed beasts, and creeping things. Wherefore God also gave them up to uncleanness through the lusts of their own hearts, to dishonour their own bodies between themselves: Who changed the truth of God into a lie, and worshipped and served the creature more than the Creator, who is blessed for ever. Amen. For this cause God gave them up unto vile affections: for even their women did change the natural use into that which is against nature: And likewise also the men, leaving the natural use of the woman, burned in their lust one toward another; men with men working that which is unseemly, and receiving in themselves that recompence of their error which was meet. And even as they did not like to retain God in their knowledge, God gave them over to a reprobate mind, to do those things which are not convenient. Backbiters, haters of God, spiteful, proud, boasters, inventors of evil things, disobedient to parents, Being filled with all unrighteousness, fornication, wickedness, covetousness, maliciousness; full of envy, murder, debate, deceit, malignity; whisperers, Without understanding, covenantbreakers, without natural affection, implacable, unmerciful: (Romans 1:21-31)

Someone can be born again, have the eternal life spirit of God and fall prey to the sins of the flesh. The choice is between serving the lusts of the flesh as in Romans 1 or living and being blessed by endeavoring to live in God's way in Ephesians.

What is the believer's responsibility in the grace administration? No one except Jesus Christ lived a perfect life, but the believer's responsibility for the age of grace is "That we henceforth be no more children, tossed to and fro, and carried about with every wind of doctrine, by the sleight of men, and cunning craftiness, whereby they lie in wait to deceive; but speaking the truth in love, may grow up into him in all things, which is the head, even Christ..That ye put off concerning the former conversation [behavior] the old man, which is corrupt according to the deceitful lusts;

And be renewed in the spirit of your mind; And that ye put on the new man, which after God is created in righteousness and true holiness. (Ephesians 4:14,15, 22-24)

Why should we do this? Because God is the inventor and designer of the human heart, mind, and body. Because He is omniscient and knows the long term consequences of actions we may feel like doing. Because He perfect love and promised: "For the LORD God is a sun and shield: the LORD will give grace and glory: no good thing will he withhold from them that walk uprightly. (Psalm 84:11) and "Beloved I wish above all things that thou mayest prosper and be in health, even as thy soul prospereth." (3 John 2).

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## Local Student Uses Sports Business to Make Economics More Engaging



Brayden White

Every week, my class opened up the same: not with a definition, but a decision. I'm Brayden White, a high school student at The Frisch School, and the founder of BOW Sports Capital, a free economics program I built and run for middle schoolers.

Each session, I'd send a link, and students would load up a simulation I created, handing them the keys to a front office. In one of them, each student ran a team payroll and had to decide whether keeping their star was worth crossing into the luxury tax. Nobody told them what "luxury tax" meant; they learned it the way real general managers do: by paying it.

That's the whole idea behind BOW Sports Capital. The name comes from my initials, but the project comes from a simple observation. I loved sports. I knew kids who loved sports. And I knew almost none of them loved economics, even though the two are basically the same subject. A salary cap is a budget constraint. A trade deadline is supply and demand. A rookie contract is a bet on future value. The economics was hiding inside the box scores the whole time.

So, I built a class around it. This past year I ran two six-week Zoom sessions for about 30 middle school students. Each class mixed three things: short slide lessons, open discussions, and the part the kids cared about most, the simulations. I built them with Claude Code, and the simulations became the engine that let students understand the business. There's a luxury tax game where you manage a roster under real cap pressure. There's an NFL draft game where you weigh risk against upside with every pick. There are trade negotiations, ticket pricing decisions, and roster-building challenges. Hiding inside each one is a concept teachers have spent decades trying to get kids to care about: incentives, opportunity cost, scarcity, market value, risk.

Kids kept showing up week after week, kept asking for more, and parents told me their kids were recommending the class to friends.

Because BOW Sports Capital is free and runs entirely on Zoom, students can join from anywhere. You don't need to be good at math. You don't even need to be a huge sports fan. You just need to be curious about why things cost what they cost and why people make the decisions they make. That's all economics is; Sports just happens to be the best disguise it's ever worn.

Registration for the next session opens soon. You can register at this link: <https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLScWtoBaZ6jtJxRCWKWqSHOzd-nKTFeOIk-NQRcw9oXYmmewig/viewform?usp=header>

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## Top NY Women Leaders Gather in Westchester For Conversation on Politics, Leadership, and The Future of NYS



L-R-NYAG Letitia James, Candidate for Lt. Governor Adrienne Adams, Senate Majority Leader Andrea Stewart-Cousins, County Legislator Jewel Williams Johnson

Legislator Jewel Williams Johnson hosted a successful re-election fundraiser at Silver Pro Music featuring a dynamic panel on Monday, June 15, bringing together dozens of supporters, community leaders, elected officials, and residents for an engaging and thought-provoking discussion on the current political climate in New York State and across the country.

The event featured an intimate and meaningful conversation with NYS Senate Majority Leader Andrea Stewart-Cousins, NYS Lieutenant Governor Candidate and former New York City Council Speaker Adrienne Adams, and New York State Attorney General Letitia James. Together, the leaders reflected on public service, leadership, the realities of governing in a challenging national moment, and what it means to be a powerful Black woman helping shape the future of New York.

Adrienne Adams shared her personal journey into politics, speaking candidly about the experiences, values, and community commitments that led her to public service. She also reflected on the significance of being selected as the running mate to Governor Kathy Hochul and what that moment has meant for her as a leader, a woman, and a public servant. Her remarks highlighted the importance of representation, resilience, and stepping into leadership with purpose.

Senate Majority Leader Andrea Stewart-Cousins offered insight into the recently adopted New York State budget, highlighting key accomplishments and investments that will support families, strengthen communities, and move the state forward. She spoke about the importance of delivering results while remaining grounded in the needs of everyday New Yorkers, especially during a time when many residents are looking for stability, affordability, and responsive government.

Attorney General Letitia James also energized the room with remarks focused

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"Rhythm of Celebration" by artist Alison Cox. Photo by Julie Cousins  
By: M. Trommer

As the nation prepares to celebrate its 250th birthday, local artists are marking the occasion in a uniquely creative way - with cake.

"Cake," a new exhibition opening Saturday, June 27, at the Blue Door Art Center, features nearly 30 artists from Yonkers and across Westchester County. Participants were invited to create three-dimensional cake sculptures inspired by their hopes, dreams, as the country approaches this historic milestone.

The exhibition showcases a variety of whimsical, heartfelt, and imaginative works, transforming the familiar birthday cake into a powerful symbol of celebration, reflection, and community. Visitors can expect an array of inventive creations that highlight the talent and creativity of the region's artists. "We bring art to the people, for the people," commented gallery director, Michele Amaro.

The Blue Door Art Center is located at 13 Riverdale Ave. in Yonkers. The exhibition runs from June 27 thru July 25, 2026 and welcomes the public to join in this artistic celebration of America's upcoming 250th birthday. Running beside "Cake," the crowd-pleasing exhibition "Red, White, Blue and You" continues its' run due to popular demand. Visit [www.bluedoorartcenter.org](http://www.bluedoorartcenter.org) to learn more.

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*Who's Right About What America Is -- J.D. Vance Vs. Bruce Springsteen*  
By Michael Gold

As America celebrates its 250th birthday, there are now two competing visions of America – President Trump's ideal of the country is one where whites from northern Europe are the true and only owners of the land and people of color are not welcome.

Bruce Springsteen, of all people, provides a counter-ideal – one where immigrants from all over the world can come to this country, work hard and become part of the American vision of inclusion and shared prosperity. The question becomes – which vision will win?

"I think the people whose ancestors fought in the Civil War have a hell of a lot more claim over America than the people who say they don't belong," Vance said in a July 2025 speech to the Claremont Institute, a conservative think based in California.

It's interesting that J.D. Vance married a woman of Indian heritage. Does he believe she has a lesser "claim" over America than himself and his fellow Americans of Scots/Irish heritage? This is the same guy who said Haitian immigrants were eating cats and dogs in Springfield, Ohio, during the 2024 election, with no evidence of course. So, you know, he's got a tendency to twist things and just make stuff up.

Now, those Haitians, about 350,000 of them, who had temporary protected status (TPS), who were here legally, are going to be ordered by the Trump Administration to leave the country and go back to Haiti. Six thousand Syrians, who had escaped a civil war and also had TPS, are going to have to leave as well.

Haiti is an extremely dangerous country. The U.S. State Department warns people, "Do not travel to Haiti due to the risk of crime, terrorism, kidnapping, unrest, and limited health care."

There are good reasons these people escaped Haiti. But they also came here because of the promise of America. The Haitians didn't want to go to China, Russia or Iran. Neither would I. About 10,000 to 15,000 Haitian immigrants live in Springfield, Ohio. They're working in warehouses, manufacturing and services. They've opened restaurants and grocery stores, according to the city of Springfield (source: [HTTps://springfieldohio.gov/immigration-faqs/](https://springfieldohio.gov/immigration-faqs/)).

In other words, they are living productive lives and contributing to the prosperity of the community. While the Trump Administration is busy deporting people of color, it's intent on importing white people. Trump has informed Congress he wants to allow 10,000 more white South Africans into the U.S. This will cost taxpayers approximately \$100 million (source: <https://www.cbsnews.com/news/trump-administration-thousands-more-afrikanders-refugees/>).

Bruce Springsteen, the mega-watt rock star, whose own ethnic heritage is a mix of Dutch, Irish and Italian, offers a more welcoming perspective. He often sang in concerts, "This Land is Your Land," by Woody Guthrie, now a classical American song.

In 2006 Springsteen composed a song, called "American Land," which builds on Guthrie's work, providing us a far more expansive vista of what America is than J.D. Vance. I didn't know about this song until a few years ago, when I heard it on one of Sirius XM's 400 radio channels. But ever since I heard "American Land," it has inspired me. The song provides a counter-story to the policies of the Trump Administration, which lets us know that people of color and minority religions simply don't count as much as white Christians from the old Confederate states.

The music of "American Land" is laden with Irish penny whistles, fiddles and something called a frame drum. What it says is equally as powerful. It's told from the perspective of an immigrant in either the nineteenth or early twentieth century. Here are samples of the lyrics from different points in the song:

"I docked at Ellis Island in the city of light and spire, I wandered to the valley of red-hot steel and fire, We made the steel that built the cities with the sweat of our two hands, We made our home in the American Land.

"The McNicholases, the Posalskis, the Smiths, Zerillis, too, The Blacks, the Irish, Italians, the Germans and the Jews, They come across the water, a thousand miles from home, With nothing in their bellies but the fire down below.

"They died building the railroads, they worked to bones and skin, They died in the fields and factories, names scattered in the wind, They died to get here a hundred years ago, they're still dying now. There's treasure for the taking, for any hard-working man, Who will make his home in the American Land."

My two grandfathers came to Ellis Island. There are millions of Americans who can proudly say that. My paternal grandfather arrived in the early 1900s, as a baby. His mother and father lived in Russia, and they wanted nothing to do with it.

Grandpa Abe grew up on the Lower East Side. He was forced to drop out of middle school to earn money for his very large family when his father died suddenly and got a job in a slaughterhouse. He eventually started his own business and created a good life for himself and his children.

There are millions of Americans who can proudly say that. Wherever they came from, they re-created themselves as Americans – Germans fleeing the revolution of 1848, Irish escaping the deadly potato famine, Italians desperate to escape poverty and instability, Jews leaving Russia in droves because of state-sponsored slaughters and persecutions by the Czarist government.

A Vietnam veteran I once interviewed had come from Italy in 1959. He worked as a radio operator during the war. He was almost killed twice during his service. He took shrapnel in his legs from bombs and was shot in the arm. Joe earned two Bronze Stars, got a high school diploma while still in the Army, and worked for IBM for 37 years.

A second vet I met, also Italian, went to Vietnam too. He got shot during battle as well. His name is John. He won the Silver Star and a Purple Heart. John lost a lot of buddies, plus his cousin, during combat. He told me he had read the entire Bible 18 times. John became a plumber and drove a taxi at night to support his family.

I taught elementary school in New York City for almost twenty years and met children from all over the world – Ecuador, Peru, Yemen, the Dominican Republic, Honduras, Kenya, the Ivory Coast, Mexico, Dominican Republic.

One of my students, a black girl from a Caribbean island, earned a full scholarship to Spence, a top private school in Manhattan. Another one of my students, a Hispanic kid, got into Stuyvesant High, one of the city's toughest schools for math, science, engineering and technology. In the east Bronx, there are now thousands of families from Bangladesh. I taught a number of Bengali kids. Their families were driven to succeed. The vast majority of my Bengali students worked hard to learn English. The parents talked to them about how important school was. They made the kids work. The parents were working hard themselves. They lived in apartment buildings in a neighborhood filled with windowless warehouses, auto body shops, bad air, and pigeons on the street everywhere. They wanted a better world and were busy striving for it.

A few years ago I ran into one of my former Bengali students. She'd gotten into the City College of New York and was studying computer engineering. She went to

**Paul Feiner, continued from pg 1-**

The best exception is Greenburgh Supervisor Paul Feiner, who just won the democratic primary over his toughest opponent in decades, Barry McGoey. With Greenburgh democrats holding all seats in Town government, Feiner's victory, by a 56%-44% margin on June 23, ensures that he will serve his 35th year in office in 2027...God willing.

Paul Feiner has always been a different type of politician, and that is part of the reason he keeps getting elected and re-elected. Feiner thanked McGoey for running against him after his victory. "I would like to take this opportunity to thank Barry McGoey, my opponent for Greenburgh Town Supervisor, for providing voters with a meaningful choice in the recent primary. Our democracy depends not only on those who win elections but also on those like Barry who were willing to participate, present differing ideas, and offer voters meaningful choices.

"Barry might not have won the election. But he gave voters an alternative and offered the electorate the opportunity to think about different ideas and visions for the future. He raised important issues like affordability, financial management controls, service consolidation, drainage, and sewer issues, drawing additional attention to them. I will reflect on his suggestions and know that I will be a better Supervisor as a result of the campaign.

"His campaign encouraged civic engagement – motivated people on both sides to learn about their town government, to volunteer, and to vote. The turnout in this primary was higher than ever.

"Barry devoted lots of time, effort, and personal sacrifice to his campaign and was dignified and classy when he lost the election, supporting the outcome.

"I was a friend of Barry before the primary. And hope to be friends in the future. I wish Barry great success in his future endeavors and welcome his input, involvement, and help. Contested elections are important. Good people like Barry sometimes lose an election. They should be proud of their contributions to democracy," said Feiner.

The Westchester County Democratic Party and Choice Matter PAC both endorsed and supported McGoey. Feiner commented on this, writing, "Most recently, Catherine Lederer Plaskett sent a mailing across Greenburgh in support of my opponent. Although I support the right of anyone to work on behalf of the candidate of their choice, Catherine's mailing implied that I am not pro-choice.

"I find this extremely upsetting and the type of dirty politicking that has made this race so distasteful. Throughout my decades-long career, I have championed women's rights and progressive ideals. Catherine's support for my opponent, who until recently was a registered Republican and Conservative, is disappointing, as the Conservative Party has only supported Right to Life candidates. Democracy should mandate one set of facts, not lies and last-minute representations that could impact the vote."

Here is what Pro-Choice Voter PAC mailed out to Greenburgh Democrats in the days before the primary.

"New Challenges Require New Leadership!"

Dear Pro-Choice Voters,

Abortion is not safe here in New York. Reproductive healthcare facilities are being targeted at an unprecedented level. Violence has hit an all-time high – and in 2021, a White Plains clinic suffered the worst invasion in New York history.

Since the overturning of Roe v. Wade, extremists have declared war on states where abortion is legal. We in Greenburgh remember the 1990s in Dobbs Ferry when an abortion provider faced vicious anti-abortion protests week after week, month after month. We must be prepared.

As President and CEO of WCLA – Choice Matters, I have spent the last 20 years working to elect individuals who both unequivocally support comprehensive reproductive health care and will deliver the support and protections we need. Dobbs Ferry's successful handling of that nightmare speaks to that – as does the fortitude of a former New Rochelle mayor who withstood a pressure campaign from religious organizations demanding restrictive zoning changes to block Planned Parenthood.

New challenges require new leadership, and we must vote wisely. After 35 years, Greenburgh's 17-term incumbent Supervisor is not up to the challenge.

As a 40+ year resident of Greenburgh, I ask you to join me in voting for Barry McGoey for Greenburgh Town Supervisor. Barry has professionalism and experience critical to protecting our rights.

Onward, Catherine Lederer-Plaskett VOTE FOR BARRY MCGOEY ON JUNE 23, 2026!

One Greenburgh resident told us, "Paul keeps getting re-elected because he answers the phone. And that is a rare occurrence in politics today. Good luck not getting a voicemail message that never gets returned. He loves his job, and this is his life. While many would enjoy retirement by now, keep on keeping on, Paul!"

a high school prom with another one of my students, a Hispanic boy, who, she told me, was now at Manhattan University. The boy's father was a bus driver for the city. These immigrants still believe in the American dream, as Bruce Springsteen does. As I do. Are Italian war veterans, my United Nations of students and me somehow less American than J.D. Vance's white Civil War descendants?

The father of our country, George Washington, stated something important and vital that directly contradicts J.D. Vance's pinched, country club exclusion-like version of America, rooted in blood and soil. Instead, Washington insisted that the United States is a country of ideals. Washington penned a letter to a Newport, Rhode Island Jewish congregation in 1790, which stated, in part: "The citizens of the United States of America have a right to applaud themselves for having given to mankind examples of an enlarged and liberal policy—a policy worthy of imitation. All possess alike liberty of conscience and immunities of citizenship.

"It is now no more that toleration is spoken of as if it were the indulgence of one class of people that another enjoyed the exercise of their inherent natural rights, for, happily, the Government of the United States, which gives to bigotry no sanction, to persecution no assistance, requires only that they who live under its protection should demean themselves as good citizens in giving it on all occasions their effectual support." Take that, J.D. Vance! Washington has given us a tremendous gift, one that keeps on giving. That's the America I believe in. That's the America of which I am proud. That's the America we need.

Michael Gold is a columnist for The Yonkers Times. His work has been published in The New York Daily News, The Albany Times-Union, The Hartford Courant and other newspapers. He's a volunteer trustee with the Putnam County Land Trust.

*Henry Wallace, Westchester Farm, continued from pg 1-*

democratic convention and replaced by unknown Senator Harry Truman. After running as a third-party candidate for President in 1948, Wallace retired from politics and bought a farm in South Salem, which still stands today.

Wallace was America's first true Progressive vice president, and a visionary who fought for Civil Rights, women's rights, peace with Russia, and health insurance for all Americans. With today's democratic party embracing the progressive values and beliefs that Wallace stood for more than 80 years ago, the hope is that Wallace's memory and legacy will finally be realized.

First and foremost, Henry Wallace was a farmer from Iowa. His father, Harry Wallace, was also a farmer and a republican who served as Secretary of Agriculture under President Harding.

In 1932, Henry Wallace supported FDR in his Presidential bid and was appointed Secretary of Agriculture in the Roosevelt administration, where he served from 1933 to 1940. The Great Depression brought out the best in Wallace, who helped restore order to the failing farm industry. Wallace became one of the stars of the FDR New Deal administration, which was one of the reasons Roosevelt picked Wallace as his Vice President in 1940.

FDR admired Wallace's support of the New Deal policies and his support of aiding Britain during the early part of WWII. FDR's insistence that Wallace serve with him as VP, while unpopular and controversial with some, was enough, and Eleanor Roosevelt's speech at the convention (FDR did not attend) sealed the deal.

For the next four years, FDR's advisors and all Americans understood that Wallace would succeed an aging Roosevelt as our next President. NY Times journalist James Reston dubbed Wallace, "the new Assistant President," writing in 1941 that Wallace's "decisions in the next few months or years will undoubtedly affect your job, your rent, and the price of your groceries. And, what's more important, his decisions may determine the outcome of the war and the basis of the peace."

In 1942, Wallace gave his famous 'Common Man' speech, which outlined his vision to help America's poor and working class after WWII ended. "Some have spoken of the American Century. I say that the century in which we are entering—the century which will come out of this war—can be and must be the century of the common man. There must be neither military nor economic imperialism. . . . International cartels that serve American greed and the German will to power must go. . . . The people's revolution is on the march, and the devil and all his angels cannot prevail against it."

In 1944, Wallace undertook a goodwill mission to Russia and China, where he was welcomed as a partner by both countries, which were fighting Axis Germany and Japan.

A 1944 Gallup Poll found Wallace to be the most popular Democratic candidate, except for FDR, but many Democratic Party insiders saw Wallace as a dangerous future president because of what they perceived as his pro-communist, pro-Soviet beliefs, which were never proven. Wallace only wanted to work with Stalin and Russia after WWII, rather than entering a 45-year Cold War.

In 1940, FDR insisted on Wallace as his VP. In 1944, an ailing FDR didn't fight hard enough for Wallace, giving the democratic party bosses the chance to steal the vice-presidential nomination for Harry Truman.

Wallace served out his term as VP until 1945. FDR died 82 days later; Wallace fell three months short of becoming president and was indeed a heartbeat away from becoming our 33rd President.

Wallace served under Truman as Commerce Secretary for two years. In 1948, Wallace challenged Truman and ran as a third-party Progressive Party candidate for President. His platform called for an end to desegregation, civil rights for black and white people, equal rights for men and women, national health insurance, and peaceful coexistence with Russia.

Wallace's 1948 Presidential campaign included bravely campaigning in the South, where he denounced racism by registering voters with a multiracial campaign staff and refused to speak to segregated crowds. He faced threats of violence and was pelted with eggs and vegetables. His running mate, Glen Taylor, was arrested when he tried to use a door marked "Colored."

Wallace would ask Folk Singer Pete Seeger, "Are you an American? Am I in America?" as the two campaigned across the southern states, and at the end of each day, Wallace would ask for what came to be known as the campaign's theme song of sorts. "Passing Through": "I was at Franklin Roosevelt's side, / Just a while before he died, / 'One world must come out of World War Two.'

The same people who Wallace fought to get civil and equal rights voted for Truman. Wallace received 1 million votes, 2.4% of the vote, and finished fourth, behind Truman, Dewey, and Segregationist Strom Thurmond.

After 1948, Wallace faded away from political life. Henry and Ilo Wallace bought Farvue Farm in South Salem in 1946. They made some restorations to the century-old farmhouse and settled into the slower-paced life of South Salem. Henry's real passion in life was the betterment of the world through agriculture. On his beloved Farvue Farm, he experimented with chickens and strawberries.

He sought the "perfect" chicken – one that could be raised for its meat and its egg-laying ability. An enormous chicken house became one of the landmarks of the 100-acre farm.

Another pet project of Henry's was perfecting a strawberry cross between a common berry, like the Ozark, and the delicate French wild strawberry, a cross that would yield a commercial berry that tasted good and could be shipped long distances.

Thirty years earlier, in 1922, Henry Wallace was working to increase the quality of corn crops by crossbreeding and inbreeding. Working with a Chinese strain and one supplied by the plant geneticist Donald Jones, Wallace developed what became the first commercially successful hybrid corn, which he turned into Pioneer Hi-Bred, a hybrid-seed company.

Vice President Wallace loved his years in South Salem, where he died in 1965. He was frequently seen in and around town and helped raise funds for the South Salem library and fire department. He was a true man of the people, a regular guy if any vice president could be. He was also a man of Christian faith.

The Wallace family has kept Farvue Farm as it was 70 years ago, and it remains a 100-acre piece of private green space. Not open to the public, the farm, managed by caretakers, grows some vegetables and trees for sale but primarily serves as an unofficial museum dedicated to a great American and Westchester resident.

Henry Wallace's history as a progressive democrat 75 years ago should be examined and highlighted more by progressive democrats of today. A great politician, agriculturalist, economist, author, and businessman, Henry Wallace, was, most of all, a great American.

Henry Wallace deserves his proper place in American history. Perhaps we can get the Wallace family, or someone else, to create a Henry Wallace Center for Progressive Studies at Farvue Farm. The people of Westchester and New York need to learn more about this great American. I wonder how much greater this great country would be if Henry Wallace became our next President in 1945. And I would encourage the progressive democratic leaders of today to learn more about Henry Wallace,

*Letter to the Editor:*

**Lawler Raises Living Costs Again and Again  
Congressman Mike Lawler continuously makes life more expensive.**

**Lawler does not have a solution.  
Because he is the problem!**

We are all suffering from higher grocery bills, outrageous healthcare and healthcare insurance charges, expensive gas, and crushing interest rates on mortgages and credit cards. Since Lawler entered office in 2025, prices have climbed more than 14 percent overall, with food up over 22 percent, and rent up 24 percent.

Lawler's support of an unnecessary war with Iran sent living costs up even higher. The May inflation rate rose to 4.2%. This is way above the Federal Reserve Bank target of 2%, and it may trigger even higher interest rates.

At the same time, our national debt has ballooned to \$39 trillion due to unfettered spending. Our national debt is now larger than our entire economy. Imagine that you earn \$75,000 tax free and owe \$80,000! That's why U.S. household debt has reached an all-time high of \$18.8 trillion.

Economists warn that when debt grows faster than the economy, it drives up our borrowing costs, slows wage growth, and increases prices for everyday goods.

Yet Congressman Lawler supported legislation that will add roughly \$3.4 trillion more to the deficit over the next decade. You cannot claim to be concerned about inflation and the debt while voting to make both substantially worse.

Higher deficits put upward pressure on interest rates. That means higher mortgage payments, more expensive car loans, and record credit card rates. These higher costs hit working families directly. Meanwhile, cuts to programs like Medicaid and SNAP, shift even more financial burden onto households that are already struggling to keep up.

According to the Bureau of Labor Statistics, there has been a rise of "Stealth Layoffs and Contract Work". Many companies have moved away from traditional full-time W-2 hiring, in order to limit overhead costs like health insurance and retirement matching. Employers are favoring contract work. This trend replaces stable, reliable incomes with unpredictable earnings, no benefits, and individualized financial risk, thus cutting benefits and raising families' costs for medical care even more.

We need leadership who will take fiscal responsibility seriously and understand that reckless policies in Washington translate into higher costs here at home. Right now, Mike Lawler's record is making life much more expensive for the people whom he represents.

On November 3rd, I'll be proud to vote for Cait Conley because, quite simply, we cannot afford to keep Lawler as our Congressman.

**Mark A. Lieberman, Yorktown**

*Top NY Women, continued from pg 6-*

on her unwavering dedication to the Office of the Attorney General and the people of New York. She underscored her commitment to justice, accountability, and protecting New Yorkers, while reminding attendees of the responsibility public servants have to stand firm in moments of uncertainty.

Throughout the evening, all three leaders expressed optimism about the future of New York State and emphasized the importance of continued civic engagement, strong local leadership, and community-centered public service. Each speaker offered enthusiastic support for Legislator Williams Johnson and praised her commitment to the residents of District 8 and Westchester County.

The evening also drew a distinguished group of elected and Democratic leaders, including U.S. Congressman George Latimer, Westchester County Executive Ken Jenkins, who introduced Legislator Williams Johnson, New York State Senator Shelley Mayer, New York State Assemblymember MaryJane Shinsky, and Westchester County Democratic Committee Chair Suzanne Berger. Their presence reflected broad support for Legislator Williams Johnson's continued leadership and service to District 8 and Westchester County.

"This evening was far more than a fundraiser; it was a powerful reminder of what purposeful leadership, representation, and public service can look like when rooted in courage, experience, and community," said Legislator Jewel Williams Johnson. "I was deeply honored to be joined by Attorney General Letitia James, Senate Majority Leader Andrea Stewart-Cousins, and Adrienne Adams — three extraordinary African American women whose leadership continues to shape New York in profound ways. Their reflections on service, resilience, governing, justice, and the future of our state were inspiring and deeply affirming. I am grateful for their support, and even more grateful for the example they continue to set for women, communities of color, and all who believe government should be a force for equity, opportunity, and progress."

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**WESTCHESTER COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTION AND SOUTHERN WESTCHESTER BOCES/SPRAIN BROOK ACADEMY CELEBRATE 2026 COMMENCEMENT CEREMONY**

(Eight incarcerated individuals received their High School Equivalency (HSE) diplomas during a commencement ceremony at the Westchester County Department of Correction (WCDOC). The ceremony, conducted in partnership with long-time educational partner Southern Westchester BOCES/Sprain Brook Academy, also recognized four students who have successfully completed portions of the HSE examination and continue working toward earning their diplomas.

The graduates successfully passed all four subject examinations required to earn a High School Equivalency diploma. The exam measures proficiency in mathematics, science, reading language arts and social studies. Family members joined each student at the ceremony to celebrate the milestone.

Of the eight graduates, four participated in the Incarcerated Youth Program, which provides academic and vocational instruction to eligible incarcerated individuals between the ages of 18 and 24. The curriculum is aligned with New York State learning standards and helps students earn high school credits while preparing them for the High School Equivalency diploma. The remaining four graduates participated in the Adult Literacy Program, which provides HSE preparation, basic literacy instruction and English for Speakers of Other Languages (ESOL) coursework for individuals over age 21.

Both programs are facilitated by Southern Westchester BOCES personnel at WCDOC and operate in accordance with standards established by the New York State Education Department.

Westchester County Executive Ken Jenkins said: "This graduation represents hope, opportunity and positive change. It highlights these individuals' determination to improve their lives and pursue a brighter future. I commend the students for their dedication to education and for taking advantage of the many rehabilitative programs offered by our Department of Correction. I also extend my sincere appreciation to Southern Westchester BOCES/Sprain Brook Academy for its longstanding partnership and commitment to supporting incarcerated individuals."

Westchester County Department of Correction Commissioner Joseph K. Spano said: "Your presence here today is critically important because it demonstrates your support for and belief in your loved one's commitment to creating positive change in their life."

Southern Westchester BOCES Director of Adult and Community Services Tracy Racicot said: "Earning a high school equivalency diploma or passing a GED subtest is not simply about achieving an academic milestone. It is often the moment when a person realizes that their past does not define their intellect or potential. For many of our students, this achievement represents the first positive recognition they have received. It becomes the foundation upon which they build new identities as scholars, mentors and productive citizens as they prepare for a brighter future."

County Legislator and Chair of the Westchester County Board of Legislators Public Safety Committee Terry Clements said: "Providing incarcerated individuals with an education and access to other important rehabilitation programs is not simply a 'feel good' initiative — it enhances public safety by giving them skills that are critical once they return home."

Westchester County Department of Correction Director of Program Development Barbara Lambros said: "I am extremely proud of our HSE graduates and the students who successfully passed individual subtests of the exam. Their determination, commitment and willingness to step outside their comfort zones have enabled them to achieve an important educational milestone and mark a meaningful turning point in their lives."

Commencement speaker Steven Brinson said: "I am proud of myself for achieving this goal. I would like to thank BOCES and their outstanding teachers. I also want to thank the Department of Correction staff for supporting me throughout this journey. They helped me believe in myself and never give up."

The Westchester County Department of Correction is recognized nationally for its comprehensive rehabilitation programming and has earned accreditation from the American Correctional Association and the National Commission on Correctional Health Care, as well as compliance certification under the Prison Rape Elimination Act (PREA).

**Notice of formation of 660 SAW MILL LCC. Arts. of Org. filed with the SSNY on 03/20/2026. Office: 4 Amawalk Point Road, Amawalk NY 10501 Westchester County. SSNY designated Brian O'Neill as agent of the LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail copy of process to the LLC, 4 Amawalk Point Rd, Amawalk NY 10501. Purpose: Real Estate**

**Notice of formation of LR Project Solutions LLC. Arts. of Org. filed with the SSNY on 3/10/2026. Office: Westchester County. SSNY designated as agent of the LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail copy of the process to the LLC, 108 Boulevard, Pelham, NY 10803. Purpose: Any lawful activity**

Notice of formation of Rat Attack Snacks, LLC. Arts. of Org. filed with the SSNY on 3/2/2026. 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, 516 Park Avenue Yonkers NY 10703. Purpose: Any lawful activity

**Notice of formation of DVH List Services, LLC. Arts. of Org. filed with the SSNY on 05/05/2026. 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, 69 Johnson Rd, Scarsdale NY 10583. Purpose: Any lawful activity**

**Notice of formation of Meri Health, LLC. Arts. of Org. filed with the SSNY on 5/27/26. 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, PO Box 134 Maryknoll, NY10545. Purpose: Any lawful activity**

*Cait Conley, continued from pg 1-*

didate forward in this race, and we'll be with Cait every step of the way as she takes on Mike Lawler this November."

Conley said on primary night, "Thank you to the voters of New York's 17th district who trusted me with their vote to be our fighter who takes on Mike Lawler in November. To everyone who voted for another candidate, I look forward to the opportunity to earn your support in taking back the Hudson Valley. We are united now by something much bigger than any one campaign: the fight to defeat Mike Lawler, take back the House, check this Administration, and deliver for the working families of the Hudson Valley.

"My entire life, I have stepped up to solve some of the toughest problems facing our country and delivered results when it mattered most. I spent 16 years in the Army, deploying six times to combat zones to keep our families safe. I've gone from the battlefield to the Situation Room when the stakes were life and death, and I sure as hell am not afraid of a lifelong political hack like Mike Lawler.

"Mike Lawler has had four years to fight for this district. But instead, he has put his own political career over our communities, chosen corruption over service, and voted 100% of the time with a MAGA agenda that has gutted our healthcare, jacked up costs, and undermined our democracy and freedoms. I didn't serve this country to watch it get sold out by a career politician who would rather protect his party than his constituents.

"The people of the Hudson Valley deserve better. They deserve a representative who fights for the veteran trying to get the benefits they earned, the senior trying to afford a prescription, the parent trying to keep up with grocery bills, the immigrant family searching for a brighter future, the small-business owner trying to make payroll, and the young person wondering whether they can afford to build a life here. Tonight, we celebrate. Tomorrow, we get back to work and take our country back."

**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 Town Hall at 40 Mill Road, Eastchester, New York on TUESDAY, JULY 14, 2026, at 7:30 o'clock p.m., to consider the adoption of a local law providing for the amendment of LOCAL LAW NO. 3 – 2000, The Vehicle And Traffic Code of The Town Of Eastchester, Article III, PARKING, STANDING AND STOPPING, §3-3, Sub-Section 8-12, Schedule XII: Parking Prohibited At All Times within the unincorporated Town of Eastchester. 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 SALE  
SUPREME COURT - COUNTY OF WESTCHESTER**

The Bank of New York Mellon Trust Company, N.A. f/k/a The Bank of New York Trust Company, N.A. as Trustee for Multi-class Mortgage Pass-Through Certificates, ChaseFlex Trust Series 2007-2,

Plaintiff,

Against  
Ismael Vargas; Morel Carmen; Sonya Quintana

Defendant(s)

Pursuant to a Judgment of Foreclosure and Sale, duly entered 06/13/2024, 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 10601 on 7/6/2026 at 9:30AM, premises known as 27 Radford Street, Yonkers, New York 10705 a/k/a 25 Radford Street, Yonkers, New York 10705, and described as follows:

ALL that certain plot piece or parcel of land, with the buildings and improvements thereon erected, situate, lying and being in the City of Yonkers, County of Westchester and State of New York.

Section 1 Block 117 Lot 23, 24 and 25.

The approximate amount of the current Judgment lien is \$939,640.48 plus interest and costs. The Premises will be sold subject to provisions of the aforesaid Judgment of Foreclosure and Sale; Index # 51062/2019

Stuart Ball, Esq., Referee.

SHELDON MAY & ASSOCIATES Attorneys at Law, 255 Merrick Road, Rockville Centre, NY 11570

Dated: 4/23/2026 File Number: 35091 CA

To commence the 30 days statutory time period for appeals as of right (CPLR 5512 (2)), you are advised to serve a copy of this order, with notice of entry, upon all parties

SUPREME COURT OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK  
COUNTY OF WESTCHESTER

-----X  
ANABEL CRUZ GARCIA,

Plaintiff, **ORDER**  
-against-

ERICK FIGUEROA GONZALEZ, Index No.: 51109/2025  
Defendant.  
-----X

**HYER, J.S.C.**

This matter was commenced with Plaintiff's filing of a summons and complaint (hereinafter "Complaint"),<sup>1</sup> seeking a judgment of divorce dissolving the parties' marriage pursuant to New York State Domestic Relations Law (hereinafter "DRL") § 170(7), based on an alleged irretrievable breakdown of the parties' relationship for a period in excess of six months,<sup>2</sup> along with other ancillary relief. Notably, no documents have been filed with respect to personal service of the Complaint by Plaintiff on Defendant.

On March 2, 2026, Plaintiff filed a request for judicial intervention,<sup>3</sup> along with the following documents: (1) a notice of motion; (2) proposed Order; and, (3) "Exhibit A" (hereinafter "Motion Sequence No. 1"),<sup>4</sup> seeking an *ex-parte* Order of this Court granting Plaintiff leave to serve the Complaint by an alternative means of service, that being service by publication.

<sup>1</sup> See, NYSCEF Doc. No. 1.  
<sup>2</sup> See, NYSCEF Doc. No. 1, ¶ "Fifth".  
<sup>3</sup> See, NYSCEF Doc. No. 4.  
<sup>4</sup> See, NYSCEF Doc. Nos. 2-3 & 5.

On March 3, 2026, an Order was entered, directing that Plaintiff appear in-person on March 9, 2026 at 9:00 a.m. for oral argument regarding Motion Sequence No. 1.

On March 9, 2026, a conference was held before the undersigned, whereafter an Order<sup>5</sup> was entered granting the relief sought in Motion Sequence No. 1 on the record, permitting Plaintiff to effectuate service of the Defendant by publication, specifically directing that the Plaintiff serve the Complaint and the Order resolving Motion Sequence No. 1, by publishing same within "Yonkers Rising" for a period of once per week for three consecutive weeks, with such service being effectuated by May 4, 2026, and a preliminary conference thereafter being held on May 8, 2026 at 2:00 p.m.

On May 8, 2026, a conference was held before Hon. Rolf M. Thorsen, J.S.C. in the absence of the undersigned, wherein Plaintiff appeared as a self-represented litigant and Defendant failed to appear or request an adjournment of the conference, with Plaintiff being assisted by a Spanish language Court interpreter, whereafter Plaintiff submitted proof of service by publication (hereinafter "Proof of Publication"),<sup>6</sup> confirming she had effectuated service on Defendant pursuant to this Court's Order, which was later filed by this Court. Therefore, the conference proceeded in Defendant's absence.

Pursuant to the Part Rules of the Hon. James L. Hyer, J.S.C. § (E)(a):

"Counsel, including per diem covering counsel, and self-represented litigants, must appear on time, be fully familiar with the action(s) on which they appear, be authorized and prepared to discuss all factual and legal issues presented by the litigation and settlement demands or offers, and be authorized to enter into any agreement on behalf of their client. Failure to comply with this Rule may be treated as a default for purposes of 22 NYCRR § 202.27 and/or may be treated as a failure to appear for purposes of 22 NYCRR § 130.2.1. In matrimonial actions, attorneys must appear with their clients for all conferences, unless such appearances are dispensed with by the Court on prior written request, on notice to the adversary, and if

<sup>5</sup> See, NYSCEF Doc. No. 8.  
<sup>6</sup> See, NYSCEF Doc. No. 9.

applicable, the children(s)'s attorney(s). If counsel or a party is unable to appear on time due to unforeseen circumstances (i.e., delays due to inclement weather or road closures), counsel should contact opposing counsel(s), and advise the Part Clerk or Court's staff, by telephone, as soon as possible. Tardy arrivals will not be tolerated."

Pursuant to the Part Rules of the Hon. James L. Hyer, J.S.C. § (E)(b):

"A request to adjourn a conference must be made in writing, by NYSCEF ONLY, except as provided in Section C(a), at least two (2) full business days in advance of the scheduled conference, unless there is an emergency."

Pursuant to Uniform Rules of the New York State Trial Courts § 202.27:

"At any scheduled call of a calendar or at any conference, if all parties do not appear and proceed or announce their readiness to proceed immediately or subject to the engagement of counsel, the judge may note the default on the record and enter an order as follows:

(a) If the plaintiff appears but the defendant does not, the judge may grant judgment by default or order an inquest.

(b) If the defendant appears but the plaintiff does not, the judge may dismiss the action and may order a severance of counterclaims or cross-claims.

(c) If no party appears, the judge may make such order as appears just."

**ACCORDINGLY, IT IS HEREBY:**

**ORDERED** that the Defendant is in default; and it is hereby

**ORDERED** that an Inquest shall be held on **July 10, 2026, at 10:00 a.m.**, wherein all parties must appear in-person to address all of the issues pending before this Court pertaining to this action, including but not limited to: (1) grounds for dissolution of the parties' marriage; (2) equitable distribution of marital property; (3) declaration of separate property; (4) claims of dissipation; (5) spousal support and maintenance; (6) child custody, access and support; (7) resumption of pre-marriage surnames; (8) attorneys' fees and litigation expense requests; and (9) any other issues arising out of the requested dissolution of the parties' marriage; and it is further

**LEGAL NOTICE**

The resolution, a summary of which is published herewith, has been adopted April 8, 2025 and amended May 19, 2026, and an abstract thereof has been published and posted as required by law and the period of time has elapsed for the submission and filing of a petition for a permissive referendum and a valid petition has not been submitted and filed. The validity of the obligations authorized by such resolution may be hereafter contested only if such obligations were authorized for an object or purpose for which the TOWN OF EASTCHESTER, in the County of Westchester, New York, is not authorized to expend money or if the provisions of law which should have been complied with as of the date of publication of this notice were not substantially complied with, and an action, suit or proceeding contesting such validity is commenced within twenty days after the date of publication of the notice, or such obligations were authorized in violation of the provisions of the constitution.

BY ORDER OF THE TOWN BOARD  
OF THE TOWN OF EASTCHESTER  
JOSEPH D. DOOLEY  
Town Clerk  
Town of Eastchester  
County of Westchester, New York

BOND RESOLUTION OF THE TOWN OF EASTCHESTER, NEW YORK, ADOPTED APRIL 8, 2025 AND AMENDED MAY 19, 2026, AUTHORIZING THE CONSTRUCTION OF RECREATIONAL IMPROVEMENTS AT LAKE ISLE COUNTRY CLUB, STATING THE ESTIMATED TOTAL COST THEREOF IS \$641,125; APPROPRIATING SAID AMOUNT THEREFOR; AND AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE OF \$641,125 SERIAL BONDS OF SAID TOWN TO FINANCE SAID APPROPRIATION.

Object or purpose: to construct cart path improvements, tree removal improvements, and roof reconstruction.

Amount of obligations to be issued: \$641,125

Period of probable usefulness: fifteen (15) years

A complete copy of the Bond Resolution summarized above shall be available for public inspection during normal business hours at the office of the Town Clerk, Town Hall, 40 Mill Road, Eastchester, New York.

Dated: May 19, 2026  
Eastchester, New York

Notice of Formation of Infinity Strategies Group LLC, Arts of Org. Filed with SSNY on September 1, 2025. Office location: Westchester County, New York. SSNY designated as agent of the LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail copy of process to the LLC, 255 Huguenot Street, Apt 913, New Rochelle, NY 10801. Purpose: Any lawful purpose.

Notice of formation of M.C.K. VENTURES LLC of Org. filed with the SSNY on 03/31/2026. 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 MCK VENTURES LLC 465 TUCKAHOE ROAD, #1304 YONKERS, NY, 10710. Purpose: Any lawful activity

Notice of formation of Digital Infrastructure Services LLC, Arts. of Org. filed with NY Dept. of State on 10/22/25. Office: Westchester County. NY DOS designated as agent for service of process; DOS shall mail copy of process to 7 Ridgeway Cir White Plains, NY 10605. Purpose: any lawful purpose.

**ORDERED** that by **July 3, 2026**, both parties shall file with the Court the following: (1)

Witness List for all witnesses to provide testimony at the Inquest with the understanding that if witnesses are not disclosed they will be precluded from testifying at the Inquest; and (2) Exhibit List with copies of all exhibits to be utilized at the Inquest with the understanding that if disclosure is not made pursuant to this directive exhibits will be precluded at Inquest; and it is further

**ORDERED** that by **June 26, 2026**, Plaintiff shall serve Defendant with a copy of this

Order with Notice of Entry, and a Notice, including a brief statement of the nature of the action and the relief sought; the sum of money for which judgment may be taken in case of default; a brief description of any real property of which title, possession, use or enjoyment could be affected by a default, within "Yonkers Rising", (914) 815-1388 – [dmurphy@risingmediagroup.com](mailto:dmurphy@risingmediagroup.com) – P.O. Box 705 Yonkers, NY 10702, as a publication identified that would most likely give notice to the Defendant of such Order and Notice, such documents to be published **once per week, for three successive weeks**; and it is further

**ORDERED** that by **June 26, 2026**, Plaintiff shall file with the Court proof of service of this Order with Notice of Entry via publication as set forth herein-above, by way of an affidavit or affirmation of service.

**The foregoing constitutes the Decision and Order of the Court.**

Dated: White Plains, New York  
May 8, 2026

ENTER:

  
HON. JAMES L. HYER, J.S.C.

Notice of formation of Digital Infrastructure Services LLC, Arts. of Org. filed with NY Dept. of State on 10/22/25. Office: Westchester County. NY DOS designated as agent for service of process; DOS shall mail copy of process to 7 Ridgeway Cir White Plains, NY 10605. Purpose: any lawful purpose.

Congratulations to Kisha Skipper for Winning the Democratic Primary for County Legislator



in District 15. And thanks to your son for his service!

A Family of Coyotes Spotted in Cortland Manor



**250th Anniversary**

**America's Birthday Parade**

Michael Grillo - Grand Marshal  
Dick Forliano - Grand Marshal Posthumously

**Saturday, July 11, 2026**

Parade Stepoff 11:00am  
☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆

Start at ICS and end at Lake Isle  
with more events from 12pm-4pm  
Food available for purchase

**BBQ - LIVE MUSIC**

Reading of the Declaration of Independence

Brought to you by: Eastchester Bronxville & Tuckahoe  
250th Anniversary Committee &  
Eastchester Veterans Association

**NewYork-Presbyterian**  
Westchester

Visit [www.ebi250committee.com](http://www.ebi250committee.com)  
for more information

# Your hands may not be free.

Your family's health coverage could be.

**Trusted locally for over 40 years.**  
MVP has helped people in our community find free and low-cost health plans that fit their lives.

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