

Westchester Rising

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Police Outraged at Judge Who Released Man Without Bail Who Broke a Cops Nose



Johnny McCray, left, Had 13 Prior Convictions; right -County Court Judge Maurice Williams

The men and women of the Yonkers Police Benevolent Association are outraged by the horrendous decision of Westchester County Court Judge Maurice D. Williams to release without bail a violent criminal who viciously assaulted a Yonkers police officer.

On September 6th, 2023, Yonkers Police Officers responded to Yonkers Avenue in the area of Cypress Street on a report of a medical call for "a male down on the sidewalk." The Officers located this male, confirmed he was breathing, and assisted him into an ambulance for required further treatment. A short time later, this male, identified as 39-year-old Johnny McCray, attempted to exit the ambulance. The Officers and medical staff exercised great patience to convince McCray to remain in the ambulance.

Completely unprovoked, McCray then delivered a sucker punch to a Police Officer's face, breaking his nose. The Officers pulled McCray to the ground, where he was handcuffed. McCray was charged with Assault 2nd on a Police Officer, a Felony, among other charges. He was appropriately remanded in Yonkers Criminal Court to the County Jail at his arraignment, pending a bail application hearing.

The Westchester County District Attorney's Office requested a significant amount of bail for McCray for this assault on a Police Officer. Incredibly, Westchester County Court Judge Maurice D. Williams ignored this request and recklessly released McCray on his own re-

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Judge Says Conservative Party Chair Hugh Fox Committed Fraud at Judicial Convention



Westchester Conservative Party Chair Hugh Fox

By Dan Murphy

Last month, we reported on complaints made against Hugh Fox, Chairman of the Westchester County Conservative Party, for endorsing democratic candidates for office over republican -conservative candidates. Fox, in written documents and public comments, nonsensically blames the conservative party endorsements for democrats over republicans on former County Executive Rob Astorino. That story, Hugh Fox is Destroying the Westchester Conservative Party came from Westchester republicans complaining the Fox was endorsing democratic candidates across the county who share NONE of the beliefs of the Conservative Party, and that anyone who had even a distant history with Astorino would not receive the Conservative Party's endorsement.

In 2022, Fox gave the Conservative line to Five Democratic, progressive, pro-abortion candidates for State Supreme Court. And this year, Fox did the same thing, giving the Conservative Party line to four democratic State Supreme Court Judicial candidates over the republican candidates at the Conservative Party's Judicial Convention for the 9th Judicial District, held in August. Despite the negative attention given to his decision to endorse candidates without regard for their liberal views, Fox, denied Judges with a more conservative philosophy the Conservative Party line...again.

But four Conservative party members filed a lawsuit against Fox, other members of the party and all 8 candidates who sought the C line for State Supreme Court Judge. The lawsuit alleged fraud at the Conservative Party convention, and the case ended up before State Supreme Court Judge Thomas Marcelle from Albany County. Judge Marcelle interviewed witnesses at the convention and made his decision on September 11.

Judge Marcelle writes, "On August 13, 2023, delegates of the Conservative Party assembled for a judicial convention for the Ninth Judicial District. Four slots for Supreme Court Justice were available. However, eight candidates contested the party's endorsement. The convention was not only contested; it was contentious. And what exactly happened at the convention is a matter of some dispute. Therefore, the court held a trial and finds the relevant facts, based upon the credible evidence and the fair inferences made therefrom, as follows:

36 delegates were present for the convention. Judge Marcelle took particular notice of one witness, Evelyn Kahlow, chair of the Lewisboro Conservative Town Committee and Presiding Officer and Secretary of the 9th Judicial District Conservative Convention. "In particular, the court finds the testimony of Evelyn Kahlow to be incredible and unreliable. Ms. Kahlow was unable to provide straightforward answers to the most basic questions; she evaded the inquiries of opposing counsel, offered contradictory testimony, and routinely provided unresponsive answers. Therefore, the court disregards her testimony. The comprehensible portion of her testimony were scripted lines that had been spoon fed to her and then regurgitated on the stand."

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Westchester Health Commish: New COVID Vaccine Recommended for All- 6 Months and Up

CDC NEW COVID VACCINE

The Westchester County Department of Health wants residents to know an updated COVID-19 vaccine that targets the variant currently circulating has been approved for use, and is recommended for everyone six months and older to protect against serious illness. Health Commissioner Sherlita Amler, MD, said: "With new variants circulating, please schedule COVID-19 vaccines for your whole family, as soon as possible. Vaccination protects you and it protects those around you who are more vulnerable to complications, such as infants too young to be vaccinated, seniors and people with chronic health conditions."

Most people with health insurance can find the vaccine at pharmacies, and healthcare providers. The Westchester County Health Department will offer this booster to children eligible for the Vaccines for Children Program, and to adults who are not insured or who are underinsured. Vaccines will be available by appointment only. To learn whether you or your children are eligible and to schedule a visit, call 914-995-5800, and to find a vaccine near you, go to www.vaccines.gov.

Yorktown Dems Blast GOP Town Board for Garbage Fiasco; Claim Costs Rise by 25%



Yorktown Dems-L-R-Steve Shaw, Diana Quast, Jann Mirchandani, Tom Maron

Submitted By Yorktown Democrats

The Town of Yorktown has issued an emergency trash contract to CRP, after 40,000 missed garbage pickups and nine months of unanswered questions by Tom Diana and the Town Board's preferred vendor, Competitive Carting. This new contract represents a 25% increase in garbage costs for Yorktown over a 12 month period, putting pressure on the Town's already stretched budget.

Competitive Carting's contract cost Yorktown roughly \$288,000 per month, which would have increased to roughly \$300,000 per month in 2024. Over the next 12 months, Yorktown would have paid about \$3.4 million under this contract.

The new contract with CRP Sanitation Inc. will cost the town \$358,000 per month. Now, the Town will pay about \$4.3 million over the next 12 months – a 25% increase on the old contract.

The Town's payment history to Competitive and new contract with CRP are available here: bit.ly/ANDYLINKTREE

Yorktown's finances are already stretched thin under Tom Diana and the Town Board, with the Town's delayed sewer project costs escalating by \$5 million or more this year, an ongoing lawsuit from AAA Carting strengthened by the Town's belated cancellation of Competitive's contract, increases in paving costs, and more. Worse, rumors are circulating that Competitive Carting may sue the Town, exacerbating already significant legal costs.

Last year, Tom Diana and the Town Board predicted that a 9% tax increase would be necessary by 2024 in order to keep the Town operational. Now, Yorktown will either need to dramatically hike taxes or dip into its reserves – risking a downgrade in its bond rating, and a further escalation of costs – to keep the lights on at Town Hall.

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Westchester County Dedicates Sept. 14 as Pediatric Cancer Foundation Day



L-R: Dr. Sherlita Amler, Westchester Health Commissioner; NY State Senator Shelley Mayer; Nancy E. Barr, County Legislator; Stephanie Mittman, Pediatric Cancer Foundation; Pamela Strauss Peligri, Pediatric Cancer Foundation; Catherine Parker, County Legislator; County Executive George Latimer

Westchester County Executive George Latimer, together with State Senator Shelley Mayer and County Legislators Nancy E. Barr and Catherine Parker, dedicated September 14 as Pediatric Cancer Foundation Day as September is Childhood Cancer Awareness Month. Pediatric cancer is the leading cause of non-accidental deaths in children. Latimer said the day will be dedicated to the children and families who are battling or have battled pediatric cancer, and the tireless work that is being done to eradicate pediatric cancer.

The Pediatric Cancer Foundation (PCF) is a Mamaroneck-based nonprofit that has been on the front lines in the fight against pediatric cancer for 53 years. During that timeframe, PCF has distributed more than \$20M to doctors and researchers, while also helping to increase the childhood cancer survival rate from 58% in 1970, to over 80% today.

To learn more about PCF or how community members can play a role in helping to advance important pediatric cancer research efforts, please call PCF Director, Nancy Joselson at 914-777-3127 or visit pcfcares.org.

After Aaron Rodgers Injury, Dr. Kelly, Mt. Sinai Doctors, Offers Advice to “Weekend Warriors”



Dr. Meghan Kelly

By Dan Murphy

NY Jets QB Aaron Rodgers suffered a season ending injury after just four plays in the first game of the year on September 11, when he ruptured his Achilles tendon. Rodgers, 39, has played in the NFL for 18 years.

We spoke to Dr. Meghan Kelly, Assistant Professor, Foot & Ankle Surgery, Mount Sinai Icahn School of Medicine, to find out more about Rodgers injury and how it affects everyday athletes, including those of us who exercise and play sports occasionally as “Weekend Warriors.”

“Achilles ruptures are terrible injuries and are common with professional athletes like Aaron Rodgers. But I see these injuries quite frequently with my patients.

“The tendon of the Achilles pops when it ruptures. It is probably the second most common sports injury that I see, with ankle fractures being the first.

“For high performance athletes like Rodgers, it is a very predictable scenario to see him go down, and the Achilles pop, without any significant contact.

“For most of the population, Achilles injuries happen in the springtime, after we hibernate for the winter and don’t exercise a lot. Our bodies are not used to a high energy workout and patients come in with Achilles injuries.

“Rodgers injury came in the fall because the NFL conditioning schedule is different from the rest of us; NFL players work out and prepare their bodies for the regular season over the summer.

“But this injury can occur in professional athletes when their bodies are not quite ready yet, or they are having persistent issues with their calves.

“The patients that I see that come in with an ruptured Achilles feel like they got shot in the leg. And it happens in all types of professional and recreational sports including soccer, basketball and surfing –and we are now seeing this type of injury from Pickleball,” said Dr. Kelly

Is it common for a person of Rodgers age to sustain a torn Achilles? “The typical age is late 30’s -40’s, and it’s very typical for a weekend warrior, who exercises heavily.”

“But we also see a ruptured Achilles in younger athletes at an elite level. The explosive motion that is required for professional sports lends itself to this type of injury.

The Achilles tendon is a strong fibrous cord that connects the muscles in the back of your calf to your heel bone. “It’s like when you curl weights with your bicep and lift it up and bring the weight down. The blood flow comes to the Achilles from the heel and calf muscle -and a lack of blood flow in the middle of the tendon is when the rupture occurs.”

Rodgers sustained his injury at MetLife Stadium in New Jersey, which has an astro turf field. Does this type of injury occur more on turf than grass?

“Studies do show an increase in injuries overall on turf, including turf toe, which many athletes have. A lot of athletes also like low profile shoes that don’t have a lot of protection but allow them to push off better. The World Cup recently announced that their games will be played on natural grass moving forward.

Is this type of injury avoidable?

“Stretching is important and specifically Achilles strengthening exercises. You can find examples on YouTube. These types of exercises, rehab strengthening exercises, can help prevent your Achilles from popping.

“Warming up properly, especially if you are occasionally exercising is also important. But it is not 100% preventable. The #1 question about Achilles injuries that I get from patients is how can I make sure this won’t happen to the other side—other leg.

“I think what happened to Rodgers is that his level of physical activity was so great, and he was exerting so much force on his calf, that it ruptured.

“New York Nets basketball star Kevin Durant had a similar injury, and he came down on it and boom. A lot of times it’s just the wrong place at the wrong time.

What is the average rehabilitation time for your patients?

“For most of my patients it takes a full year to get better, but some athletes are able to get back to playing again after 6-7 months. It helps if you are younger. I’ve had surfers back on the waves, or patients dancing at their wedding after 5 months. A lot of it is getting over the fear factor that it is going to rupture again,” said Dr. Kelly.

For Rodgers, six months from his Sept 11 injury is March 11, and the Super Bowl is Feb. 11. So its unlikely that he will be back this season.

“Even though Rodgers is 39, relatively old for professional sports, I remind my patients that Cam Akers of the NFL Rams ruptured his Achilles at the age of 23,” said Dr. Kelly, who was at the game between the Jets and the Bills. “Nobody went home happy that night. Bills fans were mad that we lost, and Jets fan were mad that they lost Rodgers -most likely for this year.”

Dr. Meghan Kelly is an Assistant Professor of Foot and Ankle Surgery at Mount Sinai specializing in foot and ankle disorders. Prior to medical school Dr. Kelly received her PhD in physiology and biophysics from Boston University School of Medicine researching cellular metabolism and the effects of exercise. She is also involved with the American Orthopaedic Foot and Ankle Society, serving on the health policy and humanitarian committees and a member of the Ruth Jackson Orthopaedic Society.

Visit mountsinai.org for more information.

Sound View Summit Addresses Homeowners Risk of Flooding



Daniel Sarnoff, Deputy Village Manager of the Village of Mamaroneck, left; JoAnne Murray, president and owner of Allan Block Insurance Agency, right

By Larry Thaul

An evacuation plan, proper insurance, and structural modifications can help homeowners deal with the risk of flooding during the increasing number and severity of storms in our area according to panelists at the September 12th webinar of the Larchmont-Mamaroneck Local Summit.

Daniel Sarnoff, Village of Mamaroneck Deputy Village Manager, whose responsibilities include flood mitigation, stressed the need for advanced preparation for potential evacuation. He recommended a “Ready to Go” bag of necessities: 1 gallon of water/day, a radio with batteries, external cell phone battery packs, first aid kit, a whistle, moist towelettes, duct tape, dust mask, etc. (for a complete list, see: Ready.Gov/kit)

JoAnne Murray, president of the Allen J. Flood Insurance Agency, Tarrytown, explained that our topography is actually changing given the cumulative effect of residential development on the ground’s ability to absorb rain. For this reason, fully 40% of floods do not occur in flood zones! The attitude of “it won’t happen to me” must be replaced with thoughtful consideration of adding flood insurance to homeowner’s insurance, even for those not located in flood zones. Homeowners should request a “flood determination” which will show the nearest flood zone. Separately, renters can purchase contents insurance for their belongings even if the owner does carry flood insurance on the building.

Regarding FEMA flood insurance, Ms. Murray indicated that depending upon the property’s exact longitude and latitude, there can be extremely large variations in policy costs. FEMA will not reconstruct a basement nor pay for a hotel room while a homeowner is displaced. However, it will cover the furnace, hot water heater, and HVAC system. Separate contents coverage is required to cover washer-dryers in the basement. Premiums vary based upon whether your home is in an “A” zone or a “B” zone and coverage can be building-only, building and contents, or just contents.

Homeowners in a flood zone must sign off if they reject an offer of flood insurance. New construction in a flood zone must be built above the established base flood level. Elevating older premises in that area can result in substantial flood insurance premium savings. The federal government will pay up to 75% of the cost of elevating a home based upon its damage history. Buyouts of homes up to 75% of their pre-flood value are based upon NYS-wide values, and thus limited in our high-cost area.

Following a flooding event, Mr. Sarnoff stressed making sure the area is safe to reenter especially if electrical or gas service has been compromised. To prevent losses such as mold forming, remove water at the earliest. Prepare in advance a list of clean up and restoration specialists, plumbers and electricians. Ms. Murray urged homeowners to document contents via photos before a flood and continue through various stages of the loss until work is completed, telling a story. Ask your insurance agent how to handle the claims process. ConEd will only turn service back on once a licensed electrician certifies repairs have been satisfactorily completed.

NYS consumer protection legislation is now pending that will mandate home sellers to make full disclosures of prior flooding events to prospective purchasers. FEMA now requires homeowners to release the Comprehensive Loss Underwriting Exchange report (“CLUE Report”) to prospective purchasers on request. It shows claims history on the property and is used primarily by insurers in underwriting policies. Under federal law, owners can request a copy of their CLUE report from Lexis-Nexis toll-free at 866-312-8076 or by visiting consumer.risk.lexisnexis.com. Insurers discourage small claims because they add to renewal rate increases. Separately, there is a provision in the tax code allowing for a deduction for property losses which exceed 10% of adjusted gross income (consult your tax advisor for specifics.)

Mr. Sarnoff pointed out that when sunny days return, engineers and architects can help design solutions to prevent future flooding. They can map a plan around the movement of water on your property. Waterproofing walls can help in the search for water entry points since they will turn color upon contact with water.

As waters rise, there are clearly measures we can take as we face the risk of flooding.

The Larchmont/Mamaroneck Local Summit is an informal community council that seeks to make a better life for the community by keeping it informed of major issues of concern. Join us for the next meeting which will be held in person at Westchester Jewish Center, 175 Rockland Avenue, Mamaroneck, NY 10543, on Tuesday, October 10th at 8:00 a.m. where the topic will be “Neighbors Helping Neighbors: Meeting the Needs of Families in Crisis.” Visit us online: www.localsummitlm.org

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Remembering Pearl Quarles



The people of Westchester are remembering the legacy of The Hon. Pearl C. Quarles who passed away on September 6th at the age of 92. Quarles served as the first President of the New Rochelle Board of Education and the first African American woman elected as a Westchester County legislator.

Quarles was born in Virginia in 1931. She attended New Rochelle schools, graduating from New Rochelle high school in 1949. She continued a course of study at the American Institute of banking and became the first African American woman to work in a white-collar position in the Westchester County banking industry.

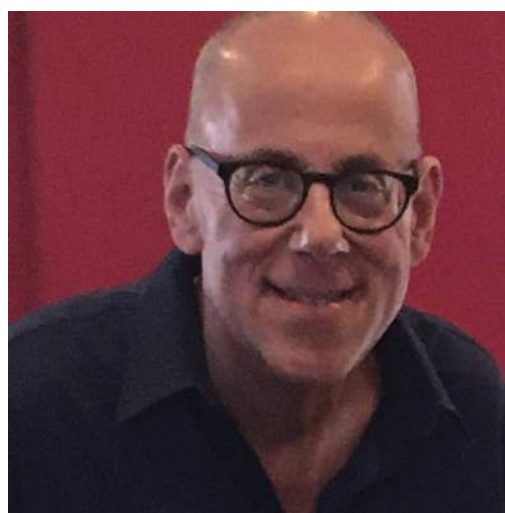
After spending time as a stay-at-home mother Quarles worked for the county of Westchester as a program specialist and supervisor, retiring in 2002. She then began her career as a public servant on the New Rochelle Board of Education and as a Westchester County legislator representing the 8th legislative district. Quarles became a longtime member and past president of the county wide black women's political caucus and served on the executive committee of the New Rochelle chapter of the NAACP.

Quarles was a devout Christian and lifelong member of the Shiloh Baptist Church in New Rochelle and worked with the Girl Scouts and the Boy Scouts in New Rochelle. Her service as a cub scout den leader in New Rochelle in the 1960s included scouts Tim Idoni and her son Ernest.

Westchester Deputy County Executive Ken Jenkins called Quarles, "A beacon of strength, resilience, and purpose, she shattered ceilings and blazed paths for so many of us. Her impact is immeasurable, from her groundbreaking roles in Westchester to her influential leadership in the New Rochelle community and throughout New York State. While we mourn her loss, we hold dear the stories, lessons, and memories she's graced us with. Here's to a phenomenal woman whose legacy will forever light our way."

Quarles is most known in Westchester political circles when she crossed party lines and endorsed republican Rob Astorino for County Executive over New Rochelle Mayor Noam Bramson in 2013. Quarles appeared in a Cable TV commercial, aired again and against, with Quarles saying "Westchester Can't Afford Noam Bramson".

New Year, Same Problems



By Eric Wolf Schoen

And so, we have entered the Jewish New Year 5784 with the same problems and questions we entered 5783. Why did Rosh Hashanah fall so early this year? Our Rabbis tell us Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur fall as they are supposed to fall.

Online threats were made to Westchester synagogues but it seems these threats are made to synagogues every year. Our County Executive has his yearly press conference either before the threats are made alerting the public to the fact that extra police presence will be put in place for the Jewish holidays or after the threats are made stating the County takes the threats seriously and will beef up security around all Jewish houses of worship and religious institutions.

It's a sort of broken record when this same information is passed on year after year To the community Which takes it very seriously. The day we don't take it seriously god forbid will be the day something serious happens. All of our synagogues and their staff go through security training every year, and the cost of private security goes up and up every year. It's like car insurance. You hope you don't need it but it's there in case we do.

Again this year the President is in town during holiday week to address the United Nations. His entourage is massive consisting of motorcycles, SUV's, the Presidential cars with those beefed up, heavy doors for security a Secret Service Agent is the only person who can open and close them. Do we really need such heavy doors on the Presidential vehicles barely allowing us to open them? And so many vehicles to accompany the President. Someone will make a determination one day that this security is not needed and we don't need a city of vehicles to protect the President. These vehicles stop traffic all over New York City and cause massive traffic jams between the downtown area and our regional airports. God forbid your car gets stuck in one of these frozen zones it can be hours before you can get moving again.

Not one day goes by after the opening of schools that we don't have a situation with cars illegally passing school buses. The Journal News found this on the first day of school, cars causing danger for our school children. Simply remember WESTCHESTER is not New York City. In New York if the side signs to stop are out on the bus, you precede with caution after making a full stop at the stop signs projecting from the bus. In WESTCHESTER the signs can be out but you don't proceed until after all the pedestrians crossing have taken place and the signs are resting against the side of the bus.

The annual New York State Thruway toll calculation is another yearly event particularly given the construction of the new Tappan ZEE bridge and its massive costs. Tolls really haven't gone up too high on the Tappan Zee, but you and I are going to have to pay the bill somehow. Congestion pricing strikes it's yearly bell, but this year the Legislature has come up with a price schedule for vehicles that go south of 60th street in Manhattan that nobody likes. It's bad enough Covid has hurt traffic in Manhattan, the new Congestion pricing system will truly kill motorists ability to get around town.

New controversies to be added this year include use of an old Dorm at Manhattan College in the Bronx to house those who have crossed the border mostly illegally and the serious crime problem in New York. Crimes closes even the Dollar Tree stores caused by the bail reform laws in New York and reduced charges for shoplifting.

So the Jewish New Year 5784 is filled with the same problems and issues as we had during the year 5783. Nevertheless, for those celebrating the Jewish New Year let me wish you and your family a year filled with good health and happiness in a world of Shalom, Peace!

BRIEFS:

It's sad that Senators don't have to wear a suit, tie, or sports jackets and pants due to legislation that came out of the United States Senate. It all started when Senator John Fetterman took ill and he showed up wearing a hoodie. It's sad that our prestigious Senate has sunk so low that it's members can show up in any clothing and not take pride in their service to this country.

There is legislation the Governor is going to sign that requires all New York City school staff to know how to properly use an epipen. Governor Hochul is expanding the scope of the legislation to include school staff throughout the state in the proper use of the epipen.

First it was the writers and the actors in Hollywood who went on strike. The job action continues as we approach the start of the new season of television shows and movies. We are at the point where every new show is a game show. And some of them are horrific. Hollywood needs to get its act together and settle this strike.

Now the Auto Workers unions are on strike. We know how difficult it was to get a vehicle during the pandemic. The strike by the Auto Workers will sadly bring a repeat of this. Our elected and appointed officials must enter the picture and bring our Auto Workers back to the negotiating table. It is a severe problem when you can't go to the showroom and get the car you want as they are not being built.

Reach Eric Schoen at thistooisyonkers@aol.com, follow him on Twitter (X) @ericyonkers or friend him on Facebook Eric Schoen...just look for him in the picture with Joan Rivers!

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Senator Harckhman & Assembly Member Levenberg Call for Fencing on Bridges to Prevent Suicides

New York State Senators Pete Harckham and James Skoufis; Assemblymembers Dana Levenberg, Chris Eachus and Jonathan Jacobson; and suicide prevention advocates held a press conference today and called on the New York State Bridge Authority (NYSBA) to invest in means restriction fencing, also known as climb deterrent fencing, to be installed on five area bridges overseen by the New York State Bridge Authority.

"It's time to safeguard our friends and neighbors who are thinking of suicide in one simple way: by erecting means restriction or climb deterrent fencing on five area bridges," said Harckham. "We are calling on the New York State Bridge Authority to make this life saving investment, because waiting just one more day invites another tragedy that could be avoided."

Two years ago, Sen. Harckham introduced legislation in the New York Senate (S.7310) requiring the installation of means restriction fencing on all five bridges under the jurisdiction of the New York State Bridge Authority, and a press conference was held at the exact same place at Riverfront Green Park in Peekskill to announce the bill. (Sen. Skoufis was a prime cosponsor.)

Since then, another 10 people have taken their lives on these bridges. Another life was lost on Walkway Over the Hudson, also under jurisdiction of NYSBA. The bill, now S.2708, was reintroduced in January 2023.

"These are eleven unnecessary deaths, and eleven loved ones not celebrating birthdays or holidays or graduations," Harckham added. "Eleven preventable deaths: because studies have shown that means restriction or climb deterrent fencing can prevent up to 90% of the deaths by suicide from people on bridges."

Harckham noted that NYSBA has conducted an engineering study and held public outreach on erecting means restriction or climb deterrent fencing on its five bridges. On Sept. 21, NYSBA will vote whether to include capital funding between \$10 and \$63 million for the fencing—and the elected officials and advocates are urging the Bridge Authority to commit spending for the fencing.

Means restrictive fencing and other forms of barrier installation are proven methods of causing individuals to pause and to get through the intense, often brief, moment of suicide crisis. The fencing also gives suicidal individuals time to think and reconsider, as well as time for the intense suicidal risk to diminish, or for someone to intervene with mental health support and resources.

In comparing all bridge suicide prevention approaches, physically restricting access works best. Moreover, research consistently shows that the majority of those averted from a suicide attempt at a bridge do not go on to complete suicide elsewhere or with another method. Overall suicide deaths often decline throughout the surrounding area after bridge barriers are in place. The subsequent reduction in media coverage of suicides by jumping helps remove the allure of bridge locations as "suicide magnets" and helps to reduce copycat suicides.

Maria Itoni, Hudson Valley / Westchester area director of the American Foundation for Suicide Prevention, said, "The Hudson Valley / Westchester Chapter of the American Foundation for Suicide Prevention and its advocates fully support bridge barriers. The New York State Bridge Authority must install means restriction fencing on its bridges. These six bridges provide lethal means for about 10 publicly reported suicides and attempts per year. The Bridge Authority has the power to help reduce the suicide rate by installing bridge barriers."

Assemblymember Dana Levenberg said, "Two of our Peekskill constituents lost their lives to suicide earlier this year, not far from where we are standing now. They joined too many others lost to our society's ongoing mental health crisis. Safety measures like the fencing we are proposing today must be part of a multifaceted approach to preventing suicide in our communities, along with proactive support for mental wellness and interventions for those who are at increased risk of suicide."

Westchester Legislator Erika Lang Pierce said, "A little over two years ago, I received the call no family should ever have to receive: a beloved family member had just ended his life on the Bear Mountain Bridge. Since that day, at least eleven more families have received the same news. We know from research that barriers are extremely effective at reducing suicides on bridges. If we had fencing on the five bridges managed by the Bridge Authority, these 11 people and my uncle and the dozens that came before them, would overwhelmingly still be with us, living their lives. The time is now to stop this madness. We need to install barriers. The Bear Mountain Bridge should not be a bridge of death."

Roy Ettore, a Somers resident who spoke at the press conference with his wife Lucille, said, "We lost our daughter Nicole six years ago next week. She died by suicide. One of her attempts included jumping off the bridge over the Saw Mill River Parkway. With the help of passersby, I was able to prevent her from jumping. All too often you hear of a distressed person jumping from a bridge to end their life. The call today to install barriers on bridges will prevent people from doing this, and we appreciate the support for this very important initiative to help protect our loved ones."

Letters:

Letter to the Editor:

County Court Judge Maurice Williams released without bail a low life with a lengthy rap sheet after the assailant, Johnny McCray engaged in an unprovoked attack upon a Yonkers Police Officer resulting in the Officer's nose being broken. That this assault took place in and of itself is extremely concerning. However, what is exponentially further alarming is that County Court Judge Maurice Williams saw fit to release the assailant without bail. To any sane individual it should be painfully obvious that Judge Williams' judgment is deeply flawed and as such he should be removed from the bench immediately. The Judge's complete disregard for the harm inflicted upon the Officer and by extension to the safety of all law abiding individuals renders him unfit to serve. The message of criminal empowerment that permitting this cowardly, criminal assailant to walk sends is beyond toxic. One can only wonder if Judge Williams were to have his nose broken in an unprovoked attack by a criminal assailant if he were to concur with a decision to release the assailant without bond? Where I grew up in the Bronx there was a statement that spoke to the need for minimal intelligence. That statement was, "You are NOT permitted to be that stupid!". Who gave Judge Williams that prohibited license?

Jerry Longarzo Yonkers

To the Editor:

"All I want to do is this. I just want to find 11,780 votes."

That's what Donald Trump said to Georgia's secretary of state when he was pressuring him to illegally overturn the 2020 presidential election results in the state of Georgia.

This is just one piece of the evidence that led a grand jury of everyday Georgians to indict former President Donald Trump and key allies—including his lawyers Rudy Giuliani and John Eastman and White House Chief of Staff Mark Meadows—on 41 criminal charges for attempting to overturn the results of the 2020 election in Georgia.

Trump led a criminal conspiracy that included 18 co-defendants and 30 unindicted co-conspirators to commit fraud and illegally reverse the will of Georgia voters, even though Trump and his team already knew he'd lost.

When all else failed, the January 6th insurrection was Trump's last desperate attempt to cling to power. Elected officials and law enforcement officers were attacked, simply for doing their jobs—acting on the will of the people and certifying the election results. It was violent, destructive, and in some cases, fatal.

There can be no more serious crime than a conspiracy to overturn the foundation of our democracy itself: the vote of the American people. Fame, fortune, and former office cannot and should not prevent someone from standing trial and being held accountable for their crimes.

Sincerely,

Ricardo Fondeur, Pelham

Police Outraged, continued from pg 1-

cognizance.

McCray is currently on Parole through 2027 for an Attempted Robbery conviction from 2017, in which he served most of his 5-year prison sentence. McCray is a repeat violent offender who, aside from punching a uniformed Police Officer in the face, has a lengthy record of 13 total Criminal Convictions (6 Felonies and 7 Misdemeanors) dating back over 20 years and has a history of not making his court appearances.

"The people of Westchester should be outraged by Judge Williams' decision to release McCray without bail" stated Yonkers PBA President and President of the Affiliated Police Associations of Westchester Det. Keith Olson. "Johnny McCray has led a life of violent crime, mostly terrorizing the unfortunate people in his own community. In this case, McCray violently attacked a uniformed police officer when that same officer was trying to help him. Judge Williams' decision to release this menace to society without bail is appalling. Both McCray and Judge Williams must be held accountable for their actions."

Yonkers Mayor Mike Spano said, "This situation involving the assault on one of our Yonkers Police Officers is the very definition of insanity. The justice system is consistently bailing out criminal offenders. This Officer is now out on leave and not able to do his job, while this offender is able to continue to make a living. How can any reasonable person expect that we can protect the public if we can't even protect our Police Officers? We need to step up and re-commit to keep those proven to hurt and plague the community in jail where they belong. Period."

According to the Yonkers Police Department statement McCray convinced Judge Williams to release him by "issuing a simple apology and mentioning an upcoming job interview."

Yonkers Police Commissioner Christopher Sapienza stated, "Every day, we ask our Police Officers to put their lives on the line to protect our community. All we ask is that the justice system stands up for our Officers and all victims of crime with the punishments imposed in court. Criminal acts cannot come without repercussions. If we continue to tell offenders that crime, especially violent crime, is not taken seriously by the decisions made in our courts, we can be sure that judges' inaction and gentle approach to punishing repeat felons will severely undermine and limit the effectiveness of any crime-fighting strategy."

The video from Police bodycam footage shows the officer and the EMT calmly trying to get McCray to go to the hospital before he punches the officer. <https://www.facebook.com/YonkersPD/videos/1787836821660204>

Judge Williams ran unopposed for County Court Judge in 2022, and was elected to a 10-year term.

"Background: Williams has served the Westchester community for over 16 years as a litigator in criminal and family courts with a focus on criminal, family, and immigration law. His most notable work includes representing youths charged with criminal offenses, earning him a seat on the Raise-the-Age Panel for Westchester County Courts in 2018," wrote The Purchase Phoenix.

County Legislator James Nolan stated, "I'm outraged to hear that County Court Judge Maurice Williams released Johnny McCray without bail despite the Westchester District Attorney Office requesting he be held with bail. Last week, Johnny McCray cowardly suckered punched a police officer while being helped into an ambulance. The officer is out on medical leave while McCray is allowed to freely walk the streets. Our pro-criminal Justice System is complete nonsense and we can no longer protect citizens. We need radical changes to our Criminal Justice laws or situation like these will continue to become more and more common. Enough is enough, we demand change! I stand with Yonkers Police and all law enforcement. I will continue to push for changes to not only protect constituents but law enforcement officers."

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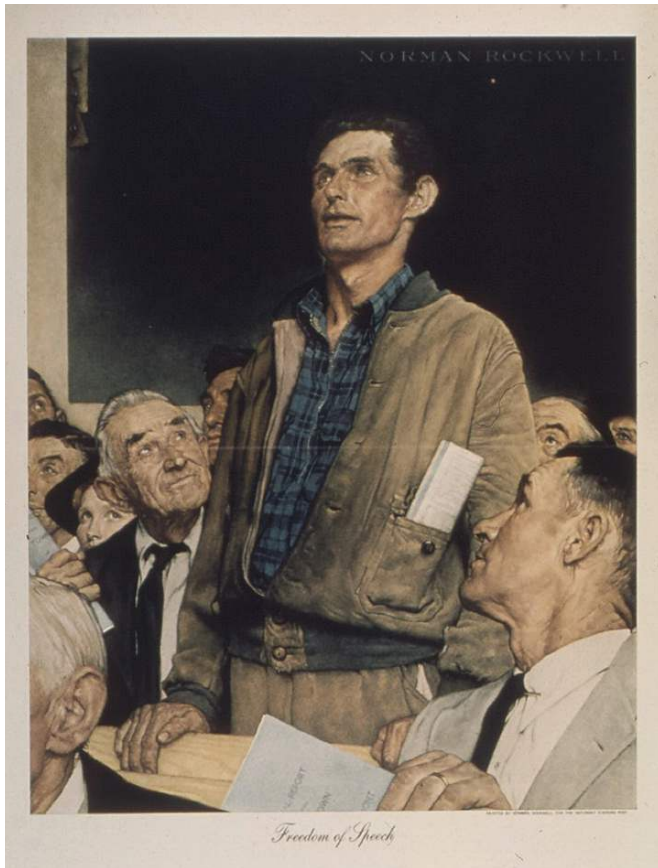
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NY Coalition for Open Government Issues Report: Silence is not Golden

NY Should Recognize the Public's Right to Speak at Government Meetings



Norman Rockwell's Freedom of Speech

The phrase "speech is silver, silence is golden" is an old Egyptian proverb, which makes the point that not saying anything is often better than speaking too much or saying something inappropriate. While this is great life advice, the New York State Legislature has silenced the public by not mandating the public's right to speak in New York's Open Meetings Law.

In New York State, the public is allowed to speak at a town board meeting only if government officials in their good graces allow it and in 175 towns across the state it is not allowed. In 175 towns the public is gagged and not allowed to speak to their town board. There are also villages, cities and counties, where the public is not allowed to speak.

The New York Coalition for Open Government reviewed the websites and meeting minutes of every town in NY State (933), to determine if they allowed public comments at their regular board meetings. This data provides the most comprehensive overview of public participation in town meetings ever done.

- Through visual charts, the report will show:
- 93% of towns have a website;
 - 78% of towns allow the public to comment at their meetings, 22% do not;
 - 51% of towns have public comments occur at the beginning of their meetings, 28% at the end of their meetings and 21% do both;
 - 83% of towns do not impose a time limit for speaking, 17% do, with the average limit being 3 minutes;
 - 80% of towns allow the public to speak regarding agenda and non-agenda items, 6% limit comments to agenda items only and 14% we could not determine;

Report Recommendations include:

- Public comments should occur at the beginning of a meeting before any voting on agenda items occurs;
- The public should be allowed to speak regarding agenda items and non-agenda items;
- At a minimum, the public should be allowed to speak for at least three minutes;
- There should be no requirement to register to speak several days or hours before a meeting occurs;
- People should not be required to provide their name, address or topic they plan to discuss prior to speaking;
- Any established rules for speaking should be in writing, made available to the public and applied equally to all;
- Meeting minutes should reflect what public comments occurred at a meeting;
- The New York State Legislature should amend the Open Meetings Law to mandate that public bodies must provide an opportunity for the public to speak at their meetings. 13 states mandate hearing from the public at meetings (Alaska, Arkansas, California, Hawaii, Louisiana, Montana, Nebraska, Nevada, New Jersey, North Carolina, Pennsylvania, Tennessee, Vermont).

We are pleased to report that Assemblymember Carrie Woerner, has expressed interest in sponsoring such a bill.

Read the report at:

<http://nyopengov.org/docs/Silence%20Is%20Not%20Golden%20Report.pdf>

Editor's Note: We will be asking our Westchester Assembly members and State Senators to sponsor such a bill.

Tony Futia Brings His Lawsuit Against IRS to Westchester County Board



Westchester resident Tony Futia, left, who is currently involved in a Federal lawsuit against the IRS challenging whether the Federal Income Tax is voluntary, took his case to the Westchester County Board of Legislators on September 18.

In the public comment portion of the meeting, Futia outlined his case and left documents from his lawsuit, Futia vs. the United States, for every legislator.

Futia briefly reviewed the 16th Amendment to the US Constitution, which reads, The Congress shall have power to lay and collect taxes on incomes, from whatever source derived, without apportionment among the several States, and without regard to any census or enumeration.

Futia argues that the 16th Amendment does not require all Americans to pay a Federal Income tax. Only Federal employees are required to pay an income tax, and there is no law that says every other American has to pay a Federal income tax.

Futia also argues that New York State did not ratify the 16th amendment in 1911. "Any law requiring a person to sign and file a tax return would violate that person's 5th Amendment right not to be a witness against himself and his 5th and 14th Amendment right to due process. That's why the IRS declares the filing of a tax return to be voluntary," argues Futia

Futia, who has not paid his income tax since 2014, became more public about his views that the Federal income tax is voluntary in our newspapers and online at Yonkerstimes.com last year. Since then, several notices of liens have been placed on his social security, pension and bank accounts, by the Westchester County Clerk and the NYS Comptroller's office.

But Futia believes that the liens placed on his pension are invalid because they are not signed by a judge, and added that he will file lawsuits against the county clerk and state comptroller for improperly enforcing the liens. Read all about Futia's case at Yonkerstimes.com and on his go fund me page, www.gofundme.com/f/help-me-fight-the-irs-to-benefit-all-americans.

Pharmacies in New York State Now Carry Narcan

Naloxone, known widely by the commercial brand name Narcan, is now available at pharmacies in New York state as the federal Food and Drug Administration expands access nationwide. Naloxone can reverse the effects of a drug overdose from heroin, fentanyl, and prescription opioids.

Major pharmacies such as Walgreens, CVS, Walmart, and Rite Aid are expected to begin carrying the medication both online and in stores beginning this month, according to a Tuesday release from the governor's office.

While it is likely that not all naloxone administrations are reported, over 35,000 naloxone administrations have been reported to the state's health department. This summer, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention reported that there were an estimated 110,000 fatalities from drug overdoses, numbers consistent with rises in recent years.

New York state is receiving more than \$2 billion through various settlement agreements with opioid manufacturers and pharmaceutical companies that were secured by Attorney General Letitia James. A portion of the funding from settlements go directly to municipalities, with the remainder deposited into a dedicated fund to support prevention, treatment, harm reduction and recovery efforts to address the ongoing opioid epidemic, managed through the Opioid Settlement Fund Advisory Board.

Free naloxone, as well as fentanyl and xylazine test strips, can be ordered through a new ordering portal on the Office of Addiction Services and Supports website. The agency also offers free virtual naloxone training.

New Yorkers struggling with an addiction can find help by calling the state's toll-free, 24-hour, seven-day-a-week HOPEline at 1-877-8-HOPENY (1-877-846-7369) or by texting HOPENY (Short Code 467369). Available addiction treatment including crisis/detox, inpatient, residential, or outpatient care can be found using the NYS OASAS Treatment Availability Dashboard at FindAddictionTreatment.ny.gov or through the NYS OASAS website.

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Notice of formation of My Mind Is Magic, LLC. Arts. of Org. filed with the SSNY on 3/14/2023. 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, 20 South Broadway Suite 420, Yonkers, NY 10701. Purpose: Any lawful activity.

Notice of Formation of LIVE LONG LIVE STRONG FITNESS LLC. Arts. of Org. filed with SSNY on 11/07/22. Office location: Westchester. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process may be served. SSNY shall mail process to the LLC, 33 Sherwood Ave, apt. 3w, Yonkers, NY 10704. Purpose: any lawful act or activity.

Formation of LIMESMASHER LLC filed with the Secy. of State of NY (SSNY) on 6/2/2023. Office loc.: Westchester County. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. The address SSNY shall mail process to Michael Limekiller, 938 Saw Mill River Rd., Yonkers, NY 10710. Purpose: Any lawful activity.

Notice of formation of True to Life Counseling Psychotherapy Services, LCSW PLLC. Arts. of Org. filed with the SSNY on 5/26/2023 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 at 50 Riverdale Avenue Suite 15J, Yonkers, Ny 10701. Purpose: Any lawful purpose.

Notice of formation of 54 TOWER PLACE LLC of Org. filed with the SSNY on 07/10/2023. Office: Westchester County. RAED MALAMMARI designated as agent of the LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail copy of the process to the LLC, 54 TOWER PLACE YONKERS, NY 10703 Purpose: Real Estate.

Formation of OFF THE MILL LLC filed with the Secy. of State of NY (SSNY) on 6/29/2023. Office loc.: Westchester County. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. The address SSNY shall mail process to Desmond Clarke, 1271 Saw Mill River Rd., Yonkers, NY 10710. Purpose: Any lawful activity.

Notice of Formation of Hanyst RX Consulting LLC. Arts. of Org. filed with SSNY on 9/2/23. Office Location: Westchester County. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process may be served. SSNY shall mail process to 35 Florence Street, Yonkers, NY 10704. Purpose: Pharmacy Consulting

Notice of Formation of RyPlunk LLC Arts. Of Org. filed with SSNY on 7/28/2023. Office location: Westchester County. SSNY designated as agent of the LLC upon whom process may be served. SSNY shall mail process to the LLC, 104 Seminary Avenue, Yonkers, NY 10704. Purpose: any lawful act or activity.

Notice of Formation of Pro-Ductiv Exhaust System Services LLC. Articles of Organization filed with the Secretary of State of New York (SSNY) on (09/04/2023). Location: (Westchester County). SSNY designated as agent for service of process on LLC. SSNY shall mail a copy of process to: (70 Hillside Avenue Apt. 1R, Yonkers, NY 10703). Purpose: Any lawful purpose.

Formation of TRUIH LLC filed with the Secy. of State of NY (SSNY) on 8/15/2023. Office loc.: Westchester County. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. The address SSNY shall mail process to Lawrence Rebbecchi, 550 Green Dolphin Dr., Placida, FL 33946. Purpose: Any lawful activity.

Notice of formation of JJMB PROPERTIES LLC. Art. of Org. filed with the Sec of State of NY (SSNY) on 06/27/2023. Office location, County of Westchester. SSNY has been designated as agent of the LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process served to:, c/o Incomp Services, Inc - 99 Washington Ave., Suite 805-A, Albany, NY 12210. Purpose: any lawful act.

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Notice of formation of a Limited Liability Company ENH Assets Limited Liability Company Articles of Organization filed with the SSNY Office on 10/28/22 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 process to : ENH Assets Limited Liability Company 465 Tuckahoe Road #1189 Yonkers, NY 10710 Purpose: Any lawful purpose.

SUPPLEMENTAL SUMMONS—SUPREME COURT OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK, COUNTY OF WESTCHESTER – MCLP ASSET COMPANY, INC., Plaintiff, -against- JEROMIO B. EDWARDS A/K/A JEROMIO EDWARDS, IF HE BE LIVING AND IF HE BE DEAD, THE UNKNOWN HEIRS-AT-LAW, NEXT-OF-KIN, DISTRIBUTEES, EXECUTORS, ADMINISTRATORS, TRUSTEES, DEWISEES, LEGATEES, ASSIGNEES, LIENORS, CREDITORS AND SUCCESSORS IN INTEREST AND GENERALLY ALL PERSONS AND PARTIES HAVING OR CLAIMING, UNDER, BY OR THROUGH JEROMIO B. EDWARDS A/K/A JEROMIO EDWARDS, BY PURCHASE, INHERITANCE, LIEN OR OTHERWISE, ANY RIGHT, TITLE OR INTEREST IN AND TO THE PREMISES DESCRIBED IN THE COMPLAINT HEREIN; NEW YORK STATE DEPARTMENT OF TAXATION AND FINANCE; VINCI FREELAND; UNITED STATES OF AMERICA (SOUTHERN DISTRICT), Defendants - Index No. 69420/2022 Plaintiff Designates Westchester County as the Place of Trial. The Basis of Venue is that the subject premises is situated in Westchester County. To the above named Defendants—YOU ARE HEREBY SUMMONED to answer to answer the complaint in this action and to serve a copy of your answer, or if the complaint is not served with this summons, to serve a notice of appearance on the Plaintiff’s attorneys within thirty days after the service of this summons, exclusive of the day of service, and in case of your failure to appear or answer, judgment will be taken against you by default for the relief demanded in the complaint. That this Supplemental Summons is being filed pursuant to an order of the court dated July 26, 2023. NOTICE-YOU ARE IN DANGER OF LOSING YOUR HOME – If you do not respond to this summons and complaint by serving a copy of the answer on the attorney for the mortgage company who filed this foreclosure proceeding against you and filing the answer with the court, a default judgment may be entered and you can lose your home. Speak to an attorney or go to the court where your case is pending for further information on how to answer the summons and protect your property. Sending a payment to the mortgage company will not stop the foreclosure action. YOU MUST RESPOND BY SERVING A COPY OF THE ANSWER ON THE ATTORNEY FOR THE PLAINTIFF (MCLP ASSET COMPANY, INC) AND FILING THE ANSWER WITH THE COURT. The foregoing summons is served upon you by publication pursuant to an order of the Honorable Charles D. Wood, J.S.C. Dated: August 18, 2023 Filed: August 18, 2023. The object of this action is to foreclose a mortgage and covering the premises known as 322 S 3RD Avenue, Mount Vernon, NY 10550. Dated and Filed: August 23, 2023 Knuckles, Komosinski & Manfro, LLP, Attorney for Plaintiff, By: Richard F. Komosinski, Esq. 565 Taxter Road, Suite 590 Elmsford, New York 10523 Tel: (914) 345-3020

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Fox was elected the Chair of the 9th JD Conservative convention, which was made up of the Conservative Party's from Westchester, Putnam, Dutchess, Rockland and Orange Counties. "In total, eight candidate names were placed before the delegation for nomination: Francesca Connolly, Larry J. Schwartz, Rolf M. Thorson, Charley Wood, (four democrats) and John Sarcone, III, Karen Ostberg, Susan M. Sullivan-Bisceglia, and John Ciampoli (four republicans).

"A vote was taken on the nominee by a show of hands. Fox counted the hands and then announced the results of the vote to the convention. Fox testified that his count of the hand vote for each candidate resulted in a majority of votes for Connolly, Schwartz, Thorson, and Wood, while Sarcone, Ostberg, Sullivan-Bisceglia, and Ciampoli fell short of a majority. This voting method left much to be desired from an accuracy standpoint," writes Judge Marcelle.

"The disorganized, mottled way the people were flung about the room made it impossible for the rank-and-file delegates to observe and ascertain the actual vote count for any of the candidates...On at least one occasion more votes were tallied then there were eligible delegates. Delegate Phil Polizzatto requested, in front of the rest of the convention, that the votes for each nominee be taken by roll call. Fox unilaterally refused this request, stating that he did not have enough time to take a vote by roll call. The ruling of the chair went unchallenged.

However, Judge Marcelle points out in his decision, that opponents to Fox's method of madness did not properly object to the procedure used to take the vote. "Delegates did not like the outcome, but it was clear the delegates did not challenge the process employed by Fox.

"The lawsuit alleges that Fox did not call for nominations to the committee to fill vacancies, a NYS election law requirement. But Fox and his allies claimed otherwise. Judge Marcelle writes, "Fox claims that there was a motion, a second and a voice vote that properly established a committee to fill vacancies. The accuracy and the truthfulness of Fox's testimony is contested.

"Before resolving the issue, the court needs to address its view of Fox's credibility. Fox's testimony seemed tailored, scripted, rote, and insincere—it also conflicted with his previous statements. Moreover, the testimony at trial established that Fox improperly exercised the power of the chair on multiple occasions. From this fact, the court infers Fox's motive was to reach a desired result and not to have a fair process at the convention...Fox's testimony comes tainted with insincerity and deception."

Based on the testimony of two Conservative Party members, Judge Marcelle determined that "The court finds that the convention never voted on a committee to fill vacancies. Rather, Fox took it upon himself, post-convention, to insert into the minutes and the certificate of nomination a fabrication that the convention properly created a committee to fill vacancies."

The lawsuit alleges that NYS Election Law requires a roll call but that it was not held, and therefore Judge Marcelle should void the results of the convention. But Judge Marcelle found that only the Committee to Fill Vacancies was improperly held, and that the petitioners waited too long to contest the results of the entire convention. So Fox's Conservative Party Convention Circus stands, but without a committee to fill vacancies, which is rarely needed or used.

But Judge Marcelle understood that Fox had "unclean hands" in this whole escapade, writing "Fox's submission of fraudulent minutes is immoral conduct. "While the court is deeply troubled and disturbed by the irregularities accompanying the convention and the filing of fraudulent documents, since the committee to fill vacancies was invalidly created, the remedy should be to invalidate only that committee.

Moreover, since a committee to fill vacancies is not required by the Election Law such invalidation should have no bearing on the validity of the nominations...Fox knowingly filed minutes and a certificate that were materially fraudulent. The court cannot quite ignore Fox's fraud and bless his actions," writes Marcelle.


Some Conservative Party members in Westchester, and in the 9th JD, are saying that "Fox is Finished" after Judge Marcelle's findings. "How can he maintain chairmanship or state executive committee after these findings? What does the state committee think about all of this?" said one Conservative.

One of the hot spots in Westchester against Fox is in Eastchester, where Fox refused to give the Conservative Party endorsement to Republican Anthony Giacobbe. Instead Fox gave the endorsement to Eastchester Conservative Chair Bob Fois, who is now running for Town Board in November.

And how did Fois vote during the Conservative Party convention? He voted for all 4 democratic judicial candidates. It should be noted that just weeks after endorsing 4 pro abortion judges, Fois shamelessly attended the right to life breakfast which was held Sept 16 at the Castle Royal in Yonkers. "Is this someone who deserves to be running on the Conservative line," asked one Westchester Conservative in attendance at the breakfast.


An appeal has been filed to have Judge Marcelle's decision, that the challenges made to the convention were not timely, overturned.

Local Chef Adam Kaye to Demonstrate How to Reduce Food Waste with Delicious Recipes




Free Community Class:

Reduce Food Waste with Delicious Recipes
from Renowned Local Chef Adam Kaye



Join Adam for a cooking demonstration on how to maximize flavor and minimize food waste in your kitchen!
At the Town of Mamaroneck Senior Center
Wednesday, September 27
7:00 pm - 8:00 pm



Register at LMCCE.org
Offered in partnership with Town of Mamaroneck Sustainability Collaborative

The Town of Mamaroneck, in conjunction with the Larchmont-Mamaroneck Center for Continuing Education, is offering a free class for those who would like creative and healthy ways to deal with food that has been left in the fridge! This is not just a cooking demo class, but also an important solution to the problem of food waste in our nation as the Chef will show participants how to prepare leftover food rather than throwing them in the trash and adding them to the waste stream. This is part of an educational and fun program our community received a grant for called, Love your Food.

Yorktown Dems continued from pg 1-

Board. Instead, Tom Diana and the Town Board meet behind closed doors, and promise that we're saving money because of \$150,000 in fines. Look at the transaction history. Five minutes with a calculator and anyone can see how wrong they are. CRP gets \$70,000 more than Competitive each paycheck. They get 25% more over 12 months. That isn't saving money! This same thing happened when Yorktown hired Competitive in 2012."

Marron said: "This Town Board is mismanaging Yorktown. Not only have they kept residents in the dark time and time again, but they refuse to acknowledge the serious financial problems the Town is facing. How are regular people supposed to live here if the Board's hiking our taxes every year to pay for their mistakes?"

Shaw said: "Yorktown has new costs coming in from every direction. Even with the raise Competitive would've gotten in the new year, under the new emergency contract we're still paying about \$400,000 more than we would have over these next 6 months. Why? Because Tom Diana and the Town Board ignored the obvious issues with Competitive's track record, ignored concerns raised by residents throughout the contract process, and then ignored residents' complaints about the inevitable problems for the last nine months. Yorktown needs accountable, honest leadership."

Election Day is on Tuesday, November 7th: Yorktown will need a new garbage contract when the 12 month emergency contract with CRP expires in 2024. This year's election will decide who navigates that bidding process, and who will vote on that new contract.

Support is growing for a government that puts Yorktown first. Tom Diana and the Town Board have made serious mistakes and continue to do their work behind closed doors, where the public can't be heard. Residents want open government, new ideas, and solutions – not excuses. #ANewDayforYorktown stands ready with solutions.





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Con Edison's Scholar-Athlete of the Week Returns for 2023

Pumpkin Picking Fundraiser Returns to Muscoot Farm



DJ DeMatteo
Mahopac High School

By Dan Murphy

The Con Edison Scholastic Sports Award Program has returned for its 73rd season. At last year's dinner, 32 winners were celebrated and 4 were given a total of \$25,000 in scholarships.

Every week, Con Edison celebrates local students who are excelling not only in athletics, but in academics, and in all parts of community with the naming of their Con Edison's Athlete of the Week. We hope to report on this year's athlete of the week both online and in our papers, and we also hope to expand the program into Yonkers.

Meet Dominick (DJ) DeMatteo, a senior Quarterback at Mahopac High School. DJ recently led Mahopac to a 28-14 come-from-behind road victory over Harrison on Sept. 8, with 4 TD passes.

A two-way starter, DeMatteo, plays middle linebacker on defense and makes the calls on both the offensive and defensive side of the of the ball.

As a junior, DJ was an All-League football selection, and also was a significant contributor on Mahopac's Varsity Baseball Team last Spring, batting .318 with 2 HRs. He also threw out 7 base runners as the starting catcher.

DeMatteo serves as the Captain of the Varsity Football team, but leads by example off the field as well. His community service work includes participating with events affiliated with St. John's the Evangelist Church, and other organizations.

DJ has also volunteered for the last several years with the Mahopac Sports (Youth) Association as a Youth Football Coach, Youth Flag Football Official and Clock Manager. He also volunteered as a coach for the Mahopac Sports (Youth) Association as a baseball coach for many baseball clinics.

DeMatteo academic successes include membership in the Mu Alpha Theta Society (Mathematics), the Science National Honor Society, the National Honor Society. He also serves and an active participant on the Student Athletic Council.

DJ's college course work at Mahopac High School includes College English, AP Calculus, SUPA Public Pol/Part. In Gov. His GPA is an unweighted 96.33.

"DJ displays outstanding character and commitment to academic excellence and consistently challenges himself by qualifying and enrolling in honors, college and advanced placement courses," said Mahopac HS Guidance Counselor Terry Lauchman. "He always looks out for others and is someone others can count on. He is someone others look up to and is a positive role model and a team player both athletically and academically. He also believes in giving back to his community and always thinks of others in need."

Congratulations DJ DeMatteo on being named Con Edison's Athlete of the Week for Week 1.



Pick your perfect pumpkin at Muscoot Farm at its annual Pumpkin Picking Fundraiser, Saturday through Monday, Oct. 7 through 9, 10 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.

Event is free; pumpkins vary in price based on size. Hayrides are \$5 per person, ages 3 and under are free; cash only. Cider and doughnuts will also be on sale. Attendees will be able to visit the farm animals.

Muscoot Farm's weekly Farmers Market will be open all three days from 9:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. Visit muscootfarm.org for an up-to-date list of vendors.

Westchester County Executive George Latimer said, "The Pumpkin Picking Fundraiser at Muscoot Farm is an event not to miss every fall. There's nothing better than spending an autumn day with the family, picking pumpkins, going on hay rides and visiting farm animals."

Muscoot Farm will open at 9:30 a.m. for the duration of the Pumpkin Picking Fundraiser only. The pumpkin patch will close at 3:30 p.m. and the hayrides run from 10:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. The trails will be closed for the duration of the event.

Event benefits the Friends of Muscoot Farm, which preserves and interprets, for the public benefit, the agricultural, cultural and natural heritage of a Westchester County farm, circa 1880 – 1930.

Alfred B. DelBello Muscoot Farm, a 777-acre, early 1900s interpretive farm, is a Westchester County Park. It is open daily and offers a variety of interpretive programs to the public on weekends throughout the year. For more information, visit muscootfarm.org or call (914) 864-7286.



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NOT SHOWN: Evan Gaines, MD; Vishal A. Mehta, MD; Patrick Murray, MD; Paul S. Ragusa, MD; Daniel Shein, MD; David Shein, MD; Eric Spencer, MD; Mario Voloshin, DPM, FACFAS



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