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Friday September 29, 2023

## Hartsdale Physics Teacher Charged With Sending Sex Material to Agent Posing as a 13 Year Old



photo of Hartsdale resident Kostas Fekkas, from Federal court documents

On Sept. 15, SDNY US Attorney Damian Williams, announced that KOSTAS FEKKAS, a/k/a “Constantine Fekkas,” a/k/a “C.J. Justice,” was arrested on September 14, 2023, and charged via a criminal Complaint filed in White Plains federal court with possession of child pornography, receipt of child pornography, and attempted transfer of obscene material. FEKKAS was presented in White Plains federal court yesterday before U.S. Magistrate Judge Judith C. McCarthy, who ordered that FEKKAS be detained.

SDNY US Attorney Damian Williams said, “Kostas Fekkas’s alleged conduct is despicable. As a teacher, Fekkas was entrusted with the care and well-being of children, who he in turn allegedly sought to victimize. I’m grateful to our diligent law enforcement partners and the dedicated prosecutors of this office for bringing charges in this important case, and I encourage anyone who believes they may have

*continued on pg 7-*

### New Lawsuit Claims

## “Something Stinks in the Town of Yorktown”

### AAA Carting Sues Town of Yorktown & CRP Over Latest Garbage Contract

By Dan Murphy

A lawsuit filed against the Town of Yorktown and the Town Board says, “Something stinks in the Town of Yorktown.” It concerns the 8 months of inability to deliver a service that every homeowner expects in Yorktown; to have their trash and recycling removed, every week, reliably.

On September 5, the Town of Yorktown Board made two decisions regarding trash and recycling services for 10,000 homeowners. The Town Board terminated its garbage contract with Competitive Carting, after waiting way too long to end their agreement with the failed carter, and then agreed to a one year “Emergency” contract with CRP Sanitation to collect the trash and recycling. The Town claims that it has a right to award an Emergency contract and avoid a health issue if the garbage was not collected.

Shortly after, AAA Carting, who collected garbage for the town for five years prior, but was not awarded the contract for 2023, filed a lawsuit against the Town and all Town Board members and Supervisor Tom Diana.

The lawsuit claims that there was no Emergency which gave the town the power and right to award a one-year garbage contract, and that the original contract, with Competitive Carting was illegally awarded. “AAA has always maintained, Competitive Carting was not a “responsible” bidder.”

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## Hochul Signs Bill-Any Registered Voter Can Vote by Mail in 2024

**ABSENTEE  
VOTING  
BY MAIL**

Republican sue against law, claim that Constitutional Amendment is required

By Dan Murphy

Governor Kathy Hochul signed into law a bill that allows any registered voter in the state to cast their vote by mail, starting in 2024. Voters would be able to request a mail ballot through their Board of Elections. The BOE would be required to create an online system where voters can apply and review their application.

The legislation, included in a package of election related bills, is similar to a referendum to the state constitution that failed in 2021 Article II, Section 2 of the New York State Constitution states that voters are only allowed to cast an absentee ballot when they are physically absent from their county of residence or unable to appear at their polling location due to illness or disability.

Republicans immediately filed a lawsuit challenging the validity of Hochul and the legislature to pass a law without a Constitutional Amendment.

“By safeguarding the integrity of our electoral process and ensuring equal access to the ballot box, we empower every New Yorker to have their voice heard,” Governor Hochul said. “New York State remains committed to strengthening our democratic process, championing the right to vote for every citizen and cementing our place as a national leader on voting rights.”

“New York is a better place when more people vote, and the legislation signed into law today will help get votes counted and increase turnout and participation in elections, Assembly Speaker Carl Heastie said. “The Assembly Majority will continue to work with our partners in government to safeguard our democracy and to ensure every eligible voter has the opportunity to cast their ballot and have their vote counted.”

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## Congressman Lawler Speaks Out: Will Not Vote to Close Government; Doesn't Support Biden Impeach; Asks Schumer-Where's the Help for Migrant Crisis?



By Dan Murphy

If you live in the 17th Congressional district, which includes half of Westchester County, you have already been receiving political mailings from democratic and progressive interest groups seeking to label Congressman Mike Lawler as a “MAGA Republican.”

Rep. Lawler has taken the middle of the road on many issues facing our country, while at the same time, pointing out how powerful New York Democrats haven't helped New York City and the 100,000 migrants that have come in over the past year.

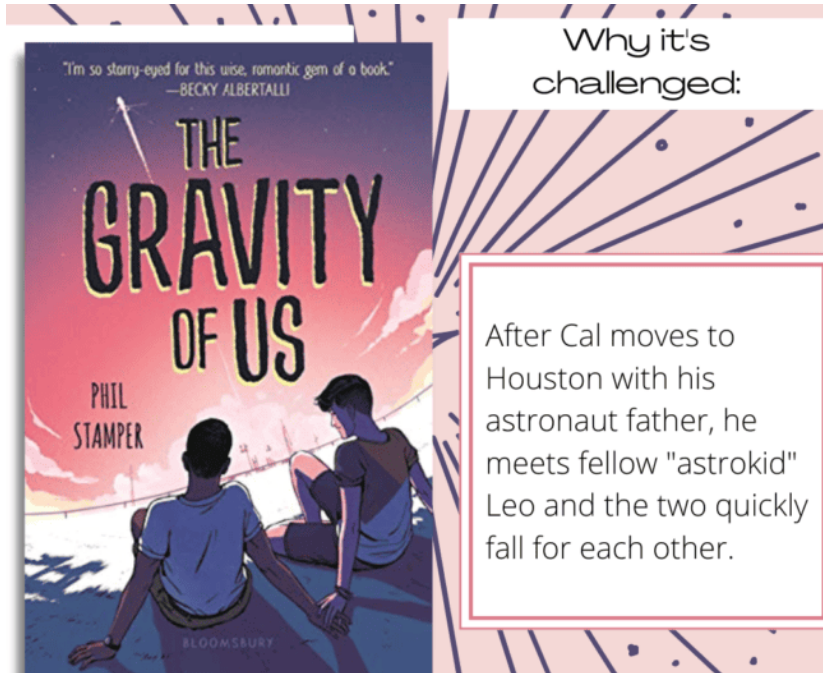
**Issue 1: Possible Government Shutdown:** Negotiations continue between President Biden's White House and Speaker of the House Kevin McCarthy on coming to an agreement to keep the US Government open and operating, and the government funded.

House Republicans have threatened to shut down the government unless democrats agree to spending cuts, while democrats don't want a government shutdown, but don't want to concede to the republicans demands.

In the middle are a few House republicans speaking common sense; one is Rep. Lawler, who said, “I didn't come here to shut the government down or play stupid games so we could raise \$5 dollar donations by claiming we're doing something and sticking it to the administration, when in fact all they would be doing is screwing the American people. You're not saving money in a shutdown. In fact, it's

*continued on pg 7-*

## Chappaqua Children's Book Festival to Include "Banned Book" Section -September 30



Why it's challenged:

After Cal moves to Houston with his astronaut father, he meets fellow "astrokid" Leo and the two quickly fall for each other.

The 10th Anniversary of the Chappaqua Children's Book Festival (CCBF) will take place on Saturday, September 30, from 10 am to 4 pm at the Chappaqua Train Station in Chappaqua, New York. This year's Festival will be the largest one yet, with 180 authors in attendance and celebrity authors Mary Pope Osborne and Alan Gratz leading the charge.

Admission and parking are free, and the event will be held rain or shine (<http://www.ccbfestival.org/>). CCBF is proud to announce that it is a recipient of

*continued on pg 5-*

## Con Edison's Scholar Athlete of the Week: Grady Leonard, Lakeland High School



Grady Leonard, left

By Dan Murphy

Congratulations to Grady Leonard, a senior at Lakeland High School, for being named Con Edison's Athlete of the week for week 2.

Every week, Con Edison celebrates local students who are excelling not only in athletics, but in all parts of community with the naming of their Con Edison Athlete of the Week.

Grady, who lives in Mahopac, is the Quarterback and Captain for the Lakeland Hornets Varsity. Last week, Grady threw for 281 yards and 4 touchdowns, while also running for 75 yards and 1 touchdown in a 41-13

*continued on pg 4-*



**Woman Murdered by Girlfriend in New Rochelle  
Body Remains in Apartment for a Week**



*New Rochelle home at 155 Franklin Avenue where dead body was found*

The New Rochelle police department reported the following: And on Friday, September 15, 2023 new Rochelle police received a report that a deceased body was seen a third floor apartment of a multi family home on Franklin Avenue. New Rochelle detectives responded and located at deceased body of a female in her twenties in the apartment.

Detectives quickly developed leads that led to them finding a person of interest who was located in a hotel in Elmsford, who was shortly thereafter taken into custody without incident.

The identity of the deceased is still under investigation but is believed at this time could possibly be a roommate of the person of interest. New Rochelle detectives are working closely with the Westchester County District attorney's office and the office of medical examiner to determine the identity of the deceased female.

The Person of interest, who is the resident of the apartment where the body was found, was soon found to be a suspect in causing the death of the victim and charged as such. Kenya Tilford, 40, of New Rochelle was charged with second degree murder in the killing of a roommate.

Talk of the Sound (Talkofthesound.com) provided additional details after reviewing the felony complaint. New Rochelle police stated Tilford suffocated her roommate on or about September 7, then hit the corpse in her apartment for about a week.

Tilford denied killing her roommate, claiming she was in Virginia over the past week. She told police he suffers from mental illness and uses cocaine. Police interviewed Tilford on Friday and confronted her with video evidence from Home Depot in New Rochelle, where she obtained a hooded coverall, bleach, tarps, a storage bin in which the body was located, rubber gloves and a chainsaw," writes Robert Cox editor of Talk of the Sound.

Tilford is now in the Westchester County jail.

**The Picture House Offers Seniors  
Free Films on Tuesday Afternoons**



*The Picture House Film and Cinema  
in Bronxville and Pelham*

Moviegoers 65 and Older Enjoy FREE Films and Popcorn on Tuesday Afternoons at 2:30pm from September 2023 through June 2024

SENIOR CINEMA has kicked off at The Picture House Regional Film Center (www.thepicturehouse.org). Moviegoers 65 and older enjoy a great afternoon of film and friends at the theaters in Bronxville and Pelham on Tuesday afternoons at 2:30pm starting September 19th, 2023 and running to June, 2024.

"We are excited that Senior Cinema is back at both our Pelham and Bronxville locations," said Clayton Bushong, Executive Director of The Picture House. "Screenings will feature a wide selection of first run movies, including box-office hits, Indy flicks, documentaries, and international cinema. This is not just a free movie; it is an important quality of life element for Seniors in our community spaces as both a cultural and a social experience."

For free admission on Tuesdays, Seniors should head to the box office before showtime to pick up their ticket. Annual membership holders (\$55 for those 65+ ) will also enjoy free popcorn every time they visit the theater along with discounted tickets every day of the year.

Senior Cinema is made possible by grants from NY State Assembly member Amy Paulin, Con Edison and the Bronxville Community Foundation. As a reminder, The Picture House Regional Film Center offers half-priced tickets on Tuesdays for all other movie goers.

Dates for Senior Cinema:

- FALL 2023
- Sept. 26
- October 3,10,17,24,31
- November 7, 14, 21, 28
- December 5, 12, 19

- WINTER/SPRING 2024
- January 9,16,23,30
- February 6, 13, 20, 27
- March 5, 12, 19, 26
- April 2, 9, 16, 23, 30

For more information about The Picture House, please visit www.thepicturehouse.org, call (914) 738-7337, or email info@thepicturehouse.org.

**American Irish Association of Westchester**

49th Anniversary Dinner Dance, Sunday 29 October 2023, at The Fairways at Dunwoodie, 1 Wasylenko Lane, Yonkers, New York 10701.

1pm - Mass of Remembrance & Thanksgiving; 2pm - Cocktails  
3pm to 6pm – Buffet Dinner, Program and Dancing

**Honorees**

- Irish Woman of the Year-Meagan Hartnett
- Irish Man of the Year-Thomas Fitzpatrick
- Irish American Community Service Award-Christine McCarvill
- Spirit of St. Patrick Award-Most Rev. Gerald T. Walsh
- Music-Celtic Mikes

Tickets-\$90.00. Reservations are strongly recommended & appreciated by 10/21/2023 Please mail checks payable to A.I.A. c/o Eileen Carey, 100 DeHaven Drive #109, Yonkers, New York 10703, Telephone: (914) 963-1407

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## Two Yonkers Cops Thanked for Service Above & Beyond



Yonkers Police Officers Salem, left, and Petrucelli, right

From the Yonkers Police Department: We got this email from a very thankful resident applauding the great work of our 4th Precinct Officers Salem and Petrucelli. Officers Salem and Petrucelli went above and beyond to help a mother and her children- driving them to a hotel, getting the children new school supplies, and just being there for them when they were needed the most. Great work, ladies!

"I would like to start off by saying how appreciative I am for the Yonkers Police Department, Yonkers Police Officer Salem and Police Officer Petrucelli who helped me and my children when we had no where or no one else to turn to. Both officers came and showed empathy, patience and went above and beyond to help me and my children find immediate shelter and even offered further resources

"Police officer Salem and Petrucelli even went out of their way to bring my children to a local hotel where we were able to have a safe nights sleep. The next day they brought all three of my children bookbags filled with school supplies from Mayor Mike Spano's office just in time for school.

"I'm very thankful for this donation. These bookbags put a smile on my children's faces.

"I came to this country only a few years ago and even with my situation, I am thankful for being here and to have met Officers Salem and Petrucelli and to live in the city of Yonkers. Name Withheld."

## A Prayer for Our Emergency Workers



By Eric Wolf Schoen

Sometimes when I go to synagogue, a particular prayer hits home with me. This Yom Kippur during our Service of Healing and Hope, a service to give us strength everyday to overcome obstacles before us, a particular prayer made me think of what goes on in the world around us and what we should be doing but may not be.

I'd like to share the words with you:

Whenever we hear the sound of a passing ambulance, instead of being annoyed because we are delayed, we offer a prayer that the ambulance arrives in time. We should pray to God that the fire trucks arrive in time to save the endangered people and home. We should also pray that no firefighter be injured. And when we hear police sirens, we should implore God that the police respond in time for the emergency. Thus, we become better, more loving people. The very act of praying motivates us to empathize with those who are suffering and in need of our prayers. Loving one's neighbor is usually carried out through tangible acts. (Joseph Telushkin, Jewish Values).

The prayer encourages us to relax, take our time and worry about those that need to be worried about. Think about this next time you fall into one of the situations or anytime an emergency occurs!

### Hot Topics:

When my sister heard that migrants were being housed at the Roosevelt Hotel, she said to herself that hotel sounds very familiar. Then we both remembered that was the hotel where our parents were married. Now neither of us were there on that July 4 summer day, but it is sad that one of the most fashionable hotels in New York City is not being put to its original use as one of the most glamorous wedding venues of New York City!

I think it's time Senator Bob Menendez gives it up. Gold bars in this stash? He may not be our Senator but like the Senator who wears hoodies to work and now has the approval of the Senate, his repeated indictments reflect poorly on the institution and our country. At press time the junior Senator from New Jersey, Cory Booker has called for his resignation. He should!

Several people have written to me that the Red Light Camera at Midland Ave and Yonkers Avenue is sending out tickets to people who never crossed the intersection. Make sure before you pay that you review the ticket online to make sure it's your car and the correct intersection where the infraction took place.

Congestion pricing in New York City is scheduled to start in the spring and no one has told the people of Westchester including those of us in Yonkers what it will mean to us. This is the big mystery. In fact the whole program is one big mystery that will truly spring on us. Will we have to pay \$23 to cross 60th Street in New York. Will discounts come with paying the toll on the Henry Hudson Bridge. Kudos to the Yonkers City Council for challenging this in court.

The big news in Yonkers is of course the October 22 Target opening. I was talking to a member of the overnight crew who told me the staff is as excited as Yonkers area residents are.

Can you believe fentanyl is being sold out of a Day Care Center. And the drug was being stored on the mats the children were resting on? Let's be real here there are a lot of places where drugs are being sold illegally camouflaged as other types of businesses. If you know something say something so another poor baby doesn't get killed.

Years ago Yonkers had a League of Woman Voters that would not only study issues and present position papers but around Election Day serve as moderators for candidate debates at civic groups all over town. Sometimes 2-3 debates in one night. Now Yonkers is part of the Rivertowns League, and the one Mayoral candidate debate will be online. My have things changed!

I'm tired as you probably are of those disgusting spotted lanternfly pests flying around, quite often landing on our car windshields. And they don't move when the car moves, they are like stuck to the windshield. They are big and disgusting. WESTCHESTER County will try to eliminate them with high powered vacuums. Kudos to County Executive George Latimer. But remember, the best way to get rid of them is to step on them. They seem to be easier to catch and slower then other pests, and stepping on them, well gets rid of them!

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

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# Letters:

Dear Editor-

Your front page article about WVOX-Westchester News and Talk Radio Station (WVOX's Closure Points a Sad Day for Local Media) brought a rush of fond memories to this reader. Bill O'Shaughnessy's media outlet was truly this County's Speaker's Corner.

Tuning in to 1460 AM one would heard a wide variety of views, opinions and thoughts.

Over the years, I had the immense pleasure to be a guest on several different programs. Those conversations with so many wonderful hosts covered such divergent subjects as music, sports, politics and local history.

Being behind the microphone was a thrill. But even more fun was who you may bump into at the studio. Twice, I met the sports guru Bill "The Amazin" Mazur and tried to stump him with baseball trivia. Could not be done "The Amazin" swiftly and correctly answered all questions. Crossed paths with Governor Mario Cuomo at VOX's front door as he jumped into his limo to head to another event.

A key remembrance was getting a call from VOX manager Don Stevens to come by and pick up an item from Mr. O'Shaughnessy. The gift was an inscribed and signed copy of his first book "It All Comes Back to Me Now".

Indeed, your page one story did so for me, thank you.

Sincerely,  
John Vorperian, White Plains

**Letter: JUSTICE**

A child dies because day care workers and a one of their spouses are storing fentanyl in a day care center in close proximity to the children for whom these individuals are supposed to be caring. Furthermore, once the deadly effects of the drug start manifesting, these heinous individuals conspire to remove the drug from the premises before seeking to acquire life saving aide for the stricken children.

The question this tragedy poses is NOT what is wrong with society. Rather, the question is to what extent have low life, subhuman criminals been empowered to inflict their greed and moral bankruptcy upon the innocent, in this case upon the most precious of the law abiding, upon our society's children. We, the law abiding, are sick and damned tired of ourselves and our loved ones being viewed as acceptable collateral damage for an agenda of criminal empowerment that wrong thinking, misguided politicians have inflicted upon us.

We are tired of lenient plea bargaining protocols which empower criminals to continue their reign of terror instead of facing the full consequence of their dastardly acts. There should be no doubt and no question that the criminal subhumans among us should see the same harm they have inflicted upon others be inflicted upon themselves.

It is time for an eye for an eye and a tooth for a tooth. Those whose murderous actions steal/ destroy the lives of innocent others should be sent to hell as expeditiously as possible. They should no longer be permitted to stain, to mutilate, to harm the society that they have so grievously violated. It is time to send those whose premeditated, self-serving, vile acts have resulted in the loss of innocent life to be compelled to forfeit their own lives.

Victims should not merely be compelled to be the recipients of thoughts and prayers. Rather, they and all who are law abiding should see justice, swift and sure. The law abiding deserve no less. Those whose actions clearly demonstrate a depraved indifference to humanity do not merit inclusion in the human race.

They have definitively forfeited the rights of humankind. Their soulless actions prove that they are subhumans. Their continued existence makes a mockery of the tears and agony of those who they have victimized. Their continued existence is therefore unacceptable. Let their fate send a message to those who harbor atrocities in their hearts and minds. You will be held ACCOUNTABLE.

Jerry Longarzo, Yonkers

**Con Ed Player of the Week, con't from pg 1-**

win over Henry Hudson HS.

As a junior, Grady was named All-Conference for football, and totaled 18 touchdowns and 1750 yards for the year. Grady leads by example both on and off the field. As a junior, Grady played with a brace on his non-throwing hand due to sustaining a broken bone during the second game of the season.

"Grady is an excellent student and works extremely hard in the classroom. As you can imagine. Grady has great time management skills that allow him to be a successful student-athlete and maintain the grades that he does. Grady also has a positive rapport with his teachers and classmates at LHS and is a positive influence in the building, said Lakeland HS Principal Bianca Raniolo.

Grady has completed or is taking in his senior year 13 AP or college link courses at Lakeland, and currently has a 92 GPA. Grady is a member of the National Honor Society. He has also worked at Benvenuto's 2 Restaurant in Mohegan Lake.

This season is Grady's third on the Lakeland Varsity Football team, and he is blossoming into a star, with 5 total touchdowns passing and running, and over 600 yards passing and 120 yards rushing so far this year. Lakeland has gotten off to a 2-1 start, and Grady is 7-5 in games he started, winning 4 of his last 5 starts.

Grady has also been successful on the basketball court in his high school career at Lakeland. As a junior, he was the second leading scorer on a team that went to the final four in class A. This was Lakeland's first appearance in the County Center in more than a decade, and Grady was named All-League.

"The thing that separates Grady from other candidates for this award is the fact that he is also a very good student who is greatly respected by his peers, as well as his teachers. While he has had tremendous success on the athletic field, he remains modest and driven off the field. He is currently receiving interest from many high-profile academic colleges to play football at the collegiate level. I believe he is more than qualified for this award," said Coach Ryan Shilling.

Notice is hereby given that a license, 1361004 for beer, wine, & liquor has been applied for by the undersigned to sell beer, wine, & liquor at retail in a Catering Hall under the Alcoholic Beverage Control Law at the business known as Grand Encanto Event Venue at 18 Guion Street, Yonkers, NY 10701 for on premises consumption.

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## Westchester County Parks to Loan Local Governments Vacuums to Kill Spotted Lanterflies

Earlier this year, the Westchester County Department of Parks, Recreation and Conservation acquired high-powered vacuums to help reduce the number of Spotted Lanternflies in County Parks and has since acquired 10 more designated to loan to local municipalities.

Municipal employees can request vacuums through a request form; equipment is given out on a first come, first served basis.

Westchester County Executive George Latimer said, "Westchester County is taking proactive steps to combat the Spotted Lanternfly invasion, from equipping our parks with high-powered vacuums to supporting our local municipalities in their efforts. We're working together to combat this threat to our environment."

Commissioner of the Westchester County Department of Parks, Recreation and Conservation, Kathy O'Connor said, "Our parks have seen tremendous success in utilizing vacuums to help reduce the number of Spotted Lanternflies. I'm thrilled we have acquired additional vacuums to help other parts of the County do the same."

Westchester County is collecting data from the municipal employees who use the vacuums to help track exact locations of Spotted Lanternflies. Information can be shared with the County by scanning a QR code that is placed on the vacuums. Data that is being compiled includes the municipality, exact location, number of canisters used and life-stage of the Spotted Lanternfly.

The County is continuing to urge homeowners to kill the invasive and report them via iNaturalist.

## County Clerk's Mobile Office Rolls Through Westchester

The popular County Clerk Mobile Office will continue visiting communities throughout the county this Fall to streamline government services and make them more accessible to the community.

Under the leadership of Westchester County Clerk Timothy C. Idoni, the mobile office has already visited 20 towns or cities, with many more still to come. The County Clerk's Mobile Office provides free notary services, the ability to preserve your military discharge papers (DD-214), file a business certificate, and the most popular service, passport application assistance. So far this year, the county clerk staff on the Mobile Office has already assisted with well over 300 passport applications.

"We are committed to making government services accessible and convenient for every community. Whether you need assistance with passports, notary services, preserving important documents, the Westchester County Clerk's Office is here to help," said Idoni. "With the exception of 2020, we have sent out the mobile office every year I have served as Clerk, and it is always a big hit." Added Clerk Idoni, "We send it to every corner of the county, from Pelham to Peekskill, and from North Salem, to Yonkers, and everywhere in between, ensuring every Westchester resident has the opportunity to take advantage of its services."

The schedule for September and October is listed below, but the new stops may be added, and you can stay up to date with the following link: <https://www.westchesterclerk.com/services/community-outreach> All times are 10 am – 1 pm unless otherwise specified.

9/30 – Sleepy Hollow (10 am-2 pm) Lot 21 Across from Village Hall, 28 Beekman Avenue Sleepy Hollow, NY 10591

10/3 – Somers -Reis Park, 82 Primrose Street, Route 139 Somers, NY 10589

10/5 – Yonkers Tibbets Brook Pool, 355 Midland Avenue Yonkers, NY 10704

10/10 – White Plains Saxon Woods Pool, 1800 Mamaroneck Avenue, White Plains, NY 10605

10/17 – Scarsdale Chase Road at Boniface Circle

10/24 – New Rochelle New Rochelle Public Library, 1 Library Plaza, Lawton Street New Rochelle, NY 10801

The County Clerk staff can assist you with any questions or concerns. Feel free to contact them at 995-3082 on weekdays between 8:30 am and 4:30 pm, or visit their website at [www.WestchesterClerk.com] for more information.

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## Harrison Host's First Monthly Coffee & Community Conversations



L-R-Lily Neuman, Director of Community Outreach and Prevention at Maxwell Institute/Division of St. Vincent's Westchester. Assemblyman Chris Burdick, State Senator Shelley Mayer, Harrison Mayor Richard Dionisio, all holding Narcan.

The Town/Village of Harrison recently held its first event aimed at bringing the community together to discuss topics of concern. On September 21, the topic was "Drugs, Alcohol and Addiction."

The conversation was led by Dr. Christopher Aloeos, and Eliza Zimmerer, LMSW, MPH. Attendees learned the concept of addiction as a disease and reasons young people may engage in substance abuse behavior.

Additionally, attendees learned how to explore the environment of a teenager and learn to spot signs of possible substance use and risky behavior- a training known as "Hidden in Plain Site: as well as Narcan training by Lily Neuman Director of Community Outreach and Prevention Education.

The event was well attended and very well received. The target audience was parents, and local law makers; NYS Senator Shelley Mayer, NYS Assemblyman 93rd District Chris Burdick and Harrison Mayor Richard Dionisio, were also in attendance.

The next Community Coffee is Tuesday October 17th 10am at the Harrison Meadows Country Club. The topic is "Social Media"; the advancement in technology and it relates to our children's mental wellness and safety.

### Virtual Support Groups in October for Women with Breast, Ovarian, all Other Gynecological Cancers

Support Connection, Inc. is a not-for profit organization that provides free, confidential support services and programs for people affected by breast, ovarian, or other gynecological cancers. They offer monthly support groups which focus on topics pertaining to living with breast, ovarian, and all gynecological cancers through all stages of diagnosis, treatment, and post-treatment.

Support Groups are offered on virtual platforms (Zoom or toll-free teleconference), making them accessible to women from the comfort of their homes, regardless of where they live. The organization does have a nationwide reach. All groups are open to new members as well as past participants. Advance registration is required: call 914-962-6402 or 800-532-4290 to register.

To view all of support groups in a comprehensive calendar: <https://supportconnection.org/calendar/>

Please also note: Support Connection's Peer Counselors are available for unlimited, one-on-one individual counseling and assistance via phone and email: call 800-532-4290 or submit an online request at [supportconnection.org/contact-a-counselor](https://supportconnection.org/contact-a-counselor)

The following virtual support groups are scheduled for October 2023:  
Breast, Ovarian, & Gynecological Cancer Zoom Support Groups:  
Wednesday, October 4 at 7pm  
Tuesday, October 10 at 10am  
Wednesday, October 18 at 7pm  
Wednesday, October 25 at 7pm

Advanced Stage or Metastatic Breast Cancer Toll-Free Telephone Support Group: Monday, October 2 at 7pm

Ovarian Cancer Toll-Free Telephone Support Group:  
Wednesday, October 11 at 7pm  
Breast Cancer Zoom Support Group:  
Monday, October 16 at 7pm

## Four Maria Regina HS Students Named National Hispanic Scholars



(l-r): Sophia Rojas, Nia Rodriguez, Isabella Caamano, Marilyn Samuelian

Maria Regina High School has kicked off the annual National Hispanic Heritage Month celebration with the announcement that four students earned the prestigious 2023 College Board National Hispanic Scholars ranking for their outstanding academic achievements.

The honorees are seniors Isabella Caamano of White Plains; Nia Rodriguez of the Bronx and Sophia Rojas of Yorktown Heights and junior Marilyn Samuelian of Bronxville.

In an email to the renowned all-girls Catholic high school, the College Board noted that the students qualified for the honor by having a GPA of 3.5 or higher and were among "the top 10 percent in the annual rigorous College Board assessments."

Principal Maria Carozza-McCaffrey (Class of '99) congratulated Isabella, Marilyn, Nia and Sophia "for distinguishing themselves in joining a select group of National Hispanic Scholars out of a huge pool of eligible applicants. That is a testament to their college-level scholarly performance and Maria Regina's commitment to instilling the desire for academic excellence in each and every student."

The College Board said: "We're proud to celebrate our students and their hard work in high school. Doing the work is the hard part. Being recognized for it should be easy. And for students planning for life after high school, the award is an opportunity to get recognized by colleges that are actively looking for diverse talent." To learn more, visit [www.mariaregina.org](http://www.mariaregina.org).

### Banned books, continued from pg 1-

the WestchesterArts 2023 Arts Alive grant, given to support community-based arts and cultural projects developed by cultural groups and organizations.

In its tenth year, the annual festival, promoting community, inclusivity, and literacy, will have authors covering different reading levels and multiple genres, including a larger selection of graphic novels than in years past, LGTBQ themes, and books that celebrate diversity.

This year, we are highlighting banned books, with a dedicated section of the festival. There have been so many children's books banned in school districts across the country recently and we are excited to promote those books by authors like Maulik Pancholy, Phil Stamper, and Ryan Sala among others.

Maulik Pancholy is a well-known actor from NBC's 30 Rock and award-winning children's book author. His second novel, *Nikhil Out Loud*, is a 2023 Lambda Literary Award winner and a Kirkus Best Book of 2022. A longtime advocate for the LGBTQIA+ and AAPI (Asian American and Pacific Islander) communities, Pancholy was appointed by President Barack Obama to serve on the President's Advisory Commission on AAPIs. He is the cofounder and chair of ActToChange.org—a national nonprofit dedicated to ending bullying for AAPI youth and fostering a world where all young people can celebrate their identities.

Phil Stamper is the bestselling author of *Golden Boys*, *The Gravity of Us*, and other queer books for kids and teens. His stories are packed with queer joy, and his characters are often too ambitious for their own good. Born and raised in a rural village near Dayton, Ohio

Ryan La Sala writes about surreal things happening to queer people. He is the author behind the luminous and terrifying horror *The Honeys*, which is in development to become a major motion picture with *Anonymous Content*. His previous titles include the riotously imaginative *Reverie*, and the brilliantly constructed *Be Dazzled*, both of which made the Kids' Indie Next List. The books of *Reverie*, *La Sala's* and *Pancholy* have been banned in the States of Texas and Florida.

Other highlights of the festival include fan favorites Pinkalicious author Victoria Kann returning to the festival this year, as well as Sonja Cherry-Paul, Author of *Stamped (For Kids)*, a very important adaptation of the New York Times best-seller introducing kids to the history of racism and antiracism in America.

There are several authors joining the festival who are new to CCBF, and we are so excited! Mary Pope Osborne, the author of the *Magic Tree House* series, is our headlining author; we are so excited to have her. Also new to the festival is Alan Gratz, New York Times best-selling author of 19 young children's novels.

For more information, visit <http://www.ccbfestival.org/> or follow the CCBF at [www.facebook.com/chappaquachildrensbokfestival](https://www.facebook.com/chappaquachildrensbokfestival).

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**Vote by Mail, continued from pg 1-**

During COVID, starting in 2020, several changes were made easing restrictions to get an absentee ballot. Most of those changes have expired.

Hochul signed a number of election law related bills, including:

S. 7394-A (Gianaris)/A. 7632-A (Reyes), establishes a system for early voting by mail. This legislation will create a process allowing all eligible, registered New York State voters the opportunity to vote early by mail in advance of an election. A new application process will be developed to facilitate voter requests for early mail ballots pursuant to this legislation. Voters will be able to request mail ballots up to ten days prior to the election in which they would like to vote early by mail; boards of election will then provide mail ballots with postage paid return envelopes to all eligible and registered voters. Early mail ballots must then be mailed back to the appropriate board of elections no later than election day and must be received by the board no later than seven days after election day. This legislation represents a significant expansion of ballot access in New York State and will provide millions of New York voters with an easy, safe, and secure means of voting early by mail ballot.

State Senate Deputy Majority Leader Michael Gianaris said, "Voting is a fundamental right and the easier we make it to vote, the healthier our democracy will be. I am proud the Governor signed these bills as we continue to build on our important work expanding access to the ballot box for all New Yorkers."

Three other bills were signed into law which were sponsored by Westchester State legislators.

S. 6195 (Myrie)/A.1177 (Paulin) allows absentee ballots to be counted if they have been taped and show no signs of tampering, to ensure these absentee ballots can still be counted despite minor defects.

Assemblymember Amy Paulin said, "If a voter seals the affirmation envelope of an absentee ballot with tape, glue or any other binding agent, and the ballot is otherwise valid, that ballot should absolutely be counted. In recent years, and in particular since Covid, the use of absentee ballots has greatly increased in New York. I thank Governor Hochul for signing this legislation today and taking this step to ensure that New Yorkers votes are counted."

S. 1733-A (Mayer)/A.5180-A (Wallace) requires local boards of education, BOCES, charter schools and non-public schools to adopt policies to promote student voter registration and pre-registration.

State Senator Shelley B. Mayer said, "I applaud Governor Kathy Hochul for her commitment to strengthening the future of our democracy in New York State by signing this legislative package, including my bill to establish a school voter registration and pre-registration programs. It is critical to the future of our democracy that children and young adults learn the habits and importance of civic engagement and are encouraged to participate fully in our democracy."

S. 5965-A (Bailey)/A. 4009-A (Gibbs) requires local jails to provide voter registration information to individuals of voting age being released from a local correctional facility.

State Senator Jamaal T. Bailey said, "Our vote is our power, and I am proud to sponsor this legislation alongside Assemblymember Eddie Gibbs to ensure that every New Yorker, regardless of their past, is empowered to exercise this fundamental right. By ensuring that justice-involved New Yorkers are informed about their voting rights, this legislation is a critical step towards ending the disenfranchisement of formerly incarcerated individuals and rectifying systemic injustices that have disproportionately marginalized Black and Brown communities. I want to thank my colleagues in both houses for their commitment to a more equitable and inclusive democracy."

S. 5984-A (Kavanagh)/A. 6132-A (Carroll) creates a "Golden Day" on the first day of the early voting period when New Yorkers can register to vote and cast their ballots at their polling place all on the same day.

S. 6519-A (Kavanagh)/A. 1565-A (Simon) establishes a deadline for changing the location of a polling place for an early voting period.

S. 587 (Comrie)/A.268 (Walker) requires the New York State Board of Elections to develop and provide a training program for poll workers.

S. 7550 (Stewart-Cousins)/A. 7690 (Heastie) schedules the Presidential Primary Election for April 2, 2024.

S. 350 (Jackson)/A. 5874 (Walker) prohibits "forum shopping" in constitutional challenges for election cases.

NY Republican Congresswoman Elise Stefanik said, "Kathy Hochul and extreme New York Democrats are trying to destroy what is left of election integrity in New York. Under Kathy Hochul's failed leadership, elections are less secure and less transparent and will now be unconstitutional. As a New York voter, I am proud to lead this coalition in defending basic election integrity on behalf of all New Yorkers."

NY GOP Chair Ed Cox said, "When Democrats can't compete, they cheat. This cynical attempt to overrule the will of the voters and undermine the Democratic process is being challenged in court. Rather than work to stem the flow of our most productive taxpaying citizens out of the state, radical progressives are working to manipulate elections in their favor in their pursuit of power at all costs."

Supporters of the bills included Common Cause New York Executive Director Susan Lerner.

"This package of pro-voter bills will help train poll workers, ease voter registration for students and detained New Yorkers, guarantee more votes count, and allow New Yorkers to vote by mail. We know vote by mail works: New York used it successfully in 2020 when faced with the COVID-19 pandemic. As a non-partisan voting rights organization with decades of experience, Common Cause/NY knows that not only is this absolutely legal under our constitution, but the right reform for New York to adopt."

League of Women Voters of New York State Executive Director Laura Ladd Bierman said, "The League is pleased that the Governor is signing this package of election-related bills that will facilitate easier access to voting for all New Yorkers. Allowing all voters to have their votes count is critical to strengthening our democracy."

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, DEVISEES, 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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Notice of formation of Westchester Renal Hypertension and primary care, PLLC. Arts. of Org. filed with the SSNY on 2/15/23. 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, 32 Hays str, Pleasantville , NY 10570. Purpose: Any lawful activity.

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

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.

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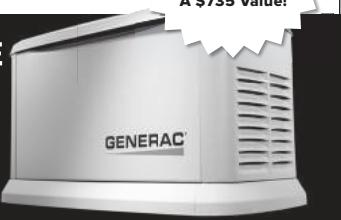
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going to cost more money in a shutdown. And at the end of the day, they're weakening our hand and the Speaker's hand to negotiate," said Lawler on the Hugh Hewitt radio show.

Lawler supports two ways to keep the US Government open. Members of the Problem Solvers caucus, (64 House members, 32 democrats and 32 republicans including Lawler) have passed a framework to avoid a shutdown.

Lawler has also suggested that he may cross party lines and vote with the House democrats to keep the government open. Lawler is one of just a few NY House republicans willing to do so, but only 5 republicans are needed to join with the democrats in keeping the government open.

"We absolutely need to rein in spending. But we only control one-third of the government. And when you don't control the Senate, and you don't control the White House, there's a reality that we have to deal with. We still have to govern," said Lawler.

Lawler's moderate comments drew the wrath of Congressman Matt Gaetz, who tweeted, "And you know what, if these New York Republicans want to go sign up with the Democrats... then maybe I'll head up to New York City and tell all those folks angry about the border crisis that it's their New York Republican representatives joining up with Democrats."

Lawler continued, "Unfortunately, we have some folks who are refusing to cooperate in a serious and meaningful way to find compromise within the caucus. These folks said no. They refused, because in some bizarre land that they live in, no, we don't need to fund the government in the short term.

"You need 218 votes. And some of these people are just stuck on this mindset that it's their way or the highway and that if they don't get what they want, they're going to stomp their feet and, you know, throw a temper tantrum until they do so. They basically leave people that are reasonable with very little choice but to find ways to work across the aisle," said Lawler.

Migrant Crisis: Lawler who lives in Rockland County, has publicly asked where the most powerful New York Democrat has been during the crisis: NY Senator and US Senate Majority Leader Chuck Schumer, Chuck Schumer, US Senate Majority Leader, from NY State, has done absolutely nothing and is silent. What happened to those Sunday press conferences? Chuck Schumer needs to get off his behind and do something. He represents New York State. Silence is unacceptable. The Southern border has been overrun-we now have 100,000 migrants coming to NYC in just the last year."

Most of Lawler's constituents do not want the migrant crisis to reach their suburban communities. But those same constituents wonder, why hasn't the Federal Government, and Leader Schumer, delivered funding for NYC to deal with the migrant crisis? Or if the House Republicans won't pass it, why hasn't Schumer and the senate democrats at least tried? Or why hasn't the Biden administration done something? Many believe that this issue will hurt democrats in 2024.

"This is a crisis of their own making. It's very similar to cashless bail," Lawler said. "I think it has been very poorly handled by the administration, they've allowed over 6 million migrants to cross our border since Joe Biden took office. You have a backlog of asylum-seekers: It's taking at minimum two to three years for these cases to be heard. Two thirds of the cases are being rejected when they're finally heard, because poverty, in and of itself, while tragic...is not the basis for asylum.

"My wife is an immigrant. She came here over a decade ago from Moldova. I've been through this process; it is a fundamentally broken process; it needs to be reformed.

"We need to secure the border; we need to stop the massive influx of not only undocumented migrants but fentanyl pouring across our border. The precursors are coming from China. It's being manufactured in Mexico; the drug cartels are trafficking it across the border. And it's killing tens of thousands of Americans a year," said Lawler.

When President Biden came to Westchester this year, for a speech at Westchester Community College, he had good things to say about Lawler. "Mike's on the other team, but you know what? Mike is the kind of guy that, when I was in the Congress, there was a kind of Republican I used to deal with. He's not one of those MAGA Republicans."

Lawler told President Biden that he would "support whatever (budget and debt) deal you and the speaker negotiate, but you need to negotiate."

The 17th Congressional District voted Biden over Trump by 10 points in 2020. So far, Lawler says that he would not vote to impeach President Biden. "if you're going to go down the road of impeachment, the facts and the evidence need to warrant it. I think people want reason—a rational, balanced approach to government, and they want to know that you're being an adult in handling these things. And [impeachment] is not something that should be just used because it was used in the prior Congress and administration. As of today, the House has not met the high bar of impeachment."

Lawler supports Speaker McCarthy. "I think the Speaker is doing a phenomenal job. He's fighting to put us in the best position to serve the American people and do the job we were elected to do."

Democrats are hopeful to beat Lawler next November. Former Congressman Mondaire Jones is the leading candidate to face off against Lawler next year. Jones was critical of President Biden's favorable comments about Lawler, saying "People were horrified when they heard what Joe Biden had to say."

Lawler said he is focused on, "delivering bipartisan results for our country and my district."

New York's 17th Congressional District includes all of Rockland, Putnam, and Dutchess, Counties, and mid-northern Westchester County.

information regarding Fekkas's alleged conduct to report this information at 1-866-DHS-2423 OR WWW.ICE.GOV/WEBFORM/ICE-TIP-FORM."

As alleged in the complaint, in December 2022, an undercover agent posing as a 13-year old girl named "Riley" had a conversation on KIK (a mobile messaging application) with someone the the username "C.J. Justice (C.J.)" C.J.'s KIK account was registered to the email address kfekkas@mercy.edu. Among other things, C.J. Introduced himself as a 30 year old mail from New York who teaches high school physics; sent multiple photographs of himself to Riley that resembled of photographs of Fekkas died had been posted on a public charter school's website; repeatedly asked Riley for photographs, including photographs of her "Body"; scented BTU of someone masturbating and several photographs of erect penis, including one from inside a classroom, two Riley; described the various kinds of sexual acts he wanted to engage in with Riley; and told Riley that he had sex "with a 10th grader once" and had "been searching every since" to have sex with a minor again.

In March 2023, law enforcement seized FEKKAS's cellphone and executed a search warrant to review the data extracted from the cellphone. They discovered that FEKKAS used a mobile application called HideU to hide, among other things, (i) a sexually explicit video in which a young female ("Victim-1") was rubbing and inserting her fingers into her vagina; (ii) a photograph of the same female with her pink sweatshirt pulled up to expose her breasts; and (iii) a photograph of the same female naked from the head down to her knees. In the video and the photographs, she was wearing a bracelet that spelled out an abbreviated version of her first name. The name on the bracelet matched the name of a Snapchat user who had a chat conversation with "Lysol1834," the Snapchat account username on FEKKAS's cellphone. After comparing Snapchat records with passport information, law enforcement confirmed that Victim-1 was a girl who was 12 years old at the time the photographs and sexually explicit video was taken.

Prior to his arrest, FEKKAS was a teacher at a public charter high school located in upper Manhattan, New York. It also appears that FEKKAS previously worked at several other schools in the Bronx and Westchester counties.

There may be more victims of this alleged conduct. If you have information to report, contact HSI through its toll-free Tip Line at 1-866-DHS-2423 or by completing its online tip form. Both are staffed around the clock by investigators. From outside the U.S. and Canada, callers should dial 802-872-6199. Hearing-impaired users can call TTY 802-872-6196.

FEKKAS, 34, of Hartsdale, New York, is charged with attempted transfer of obscene material, which carries a maximum sentence of 10 years in prison; possession of child pornography, which carries a maximum sentence of 10 years in prison; and receipt of child pornography, which carries a mandatory minimum sentence of five years in prison and a maximum sentence of 20 years in prison.

**Something Stinks, continued from pg 1-**

Some interesting facts gleaned from the lawsuit include:

On the one-year contract bid, AAA was the lowest bidder at \$4,224,000 . CRP came in at \$4,296,000, \$72,000 higher, but was awarded the contract.

The suit continues, "AAA Carting was in fact the lowest responsible bidder and should have been awarded the Public Contract. After terminating the Public Contract with Competitive Carting, the Town, relying on a fictitious "emergency" awarded a one-year no-bid contract (the "No-Bid Contract") to respondent C.R.P. Sanitation, Inc. ("CRP").

"There was no emergency because as the Town was aware, AAA Carting was always ready, willing and able to immediately service the Public Contract under the terms of its Original Bid as the "lowest responsible bidder."

"The purported "emergency" was self-created by the Town by improperly and illegally awarding the Public Contract in the first instance, and the Town's need to hire a new hauler to replace Competitive Carting immediately so as to collect the Town's refuse and recycling was a foreseen and predictable event, precluding the Town from properly declaring an emergency and awarding the No-Bid Contract to CRP without the statutorily required public bid. The No-Bid Contract amount was also higher than the proposal that was submitted by AAA Carting when the Town asked AAA Carting to make a proposal for a one-year contract.

"Accordingly, the Town's obtaining proposals, purportedly to justify the "emergency" contract was yet another pretext because it awarded CRP the No-Bid Contract even though its proposal was higher than AAA Carting's. Something is seriously amiss here and this is exactly the reason why the procurement statutes were created more than 100 years ago.

"The Town created the entire situation by awarding the Public Contract to Competitive Carting in the first instance, despite the fact that Competitive Carting was not the lowest responsible bidder

"Something stinks in the Town of Yorktown other than the garbage,"

A footnote to the lawsuit reads, "CRP on a number of occasions informed AAA Carting that it did not want to get involved with the Town because it did not have the necessary equipment and trucks to service the Town. Indeed, CRP told AAA Carting that it only had one of the eight required trucks to service the Town. CRP further informed AAA Carting that it only provided a proposal to the Town because the Town told CRP that it did not want to give a contract to AAA Carting and only after the Town provided a hold harmless agreement against AAA Carting's claim."

AAA seeks to have the contract given to CRP annulled and that the court award the contract to AAA.

AAA has been on both sides of the contract BIDs for Yorktown trash. AAA first bid on a renewal to continue to remove the garbage last year. Competitive Carting came in at a lower bid, and won the contract, but could not do the job.

With the latest one year, so called emergency contract, AAA did have the lowest bid. But again, they were not awarded the contract.

Can AAA legally be denied the contract in both instances? Let the courts decide.

After the AAA lawsuit was filed, Supervisor Tom Diana explained the town will be able to recoup some of the money it is now paying CRP through a performance bond, which was required to be held for Competitive Carting.

The insurance company that posted the bond for Competitive will likely have to pay the town for Competitive lack of performance of the contract.

The town will not be able to recoup more than the terms garbage contract under competitive. They will not, "make money" on the insurance bond, as may have been stated.

But the cost of the garbage debacle in Yorktown may be more than a few thousand dollars. While CRP is doing a decent job so far, what will the residents do in November?

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## Hillary Comes Out to Support the Westchester Parks Foundation

## Middle School Teacher from Yonkers Talks Politics with Nikki Haley



L-R: Joe Stout, Executive Director Westchester Parks Foundation (WPF), Jane Solnick, Vice Chair, WPF; Emily Reynolds, Store Manager, Wegmans; Eileen Andreassi, Director of Recreational Therapy & Adaptive Sports, Burke Rehabilitation; Secretary Hillary Rodham Clinton; Dominick Montesano, President, Montesano Brothers Inc.; Elizabeth Bracken-Thompson, WPF Past Chair

Westchester Parks Foundation (WPF) hosted its 46th Annual Parks Are Essential gala Thursday, September 21, 2023, at Glen Island Harbour Club in New Rochelle, NY. Secretary Hillary Rodham Clinton received the inaugural Leadership Award, along with other honorees Montesano Bros, Inc., Wegmans, and the Adaptive Sports & Therapeutic Recreation Program at Burke Rehabilitation.

Over 450 people attended the event with funds benefiting the many WPF programs and services which preserve, enhance, and beautify Westchester County Parks including its recently launched Trails Are Essential Program and Merriwood at Camp Morty teen empowerment program. For more information on WPF log on to [www.thewpff.org](http://www.thewpff.org)



Presidential candidate Nikki Haley, with Dennis Richmond Jr.

Author and Yonkers resident Dennis Richmond Jr. recently appeared on a panel discussion on FOX and Friends with former U.S. Ambassador to the U.N. and Presidential hopeful Nimarata “Nikki” Haley. Richmond is an advocate for HBCUs (Historically Black Colleges and Universities) and writes about topics in the Black, Latinx, and LGBTQ+ communities.

After explaining to Haley, the former Governor of South Carolina, that his family comes from South Carolina, he is a graduate of Claflin University, an HBCU in SC, and that he student taught with a teacher who taught her, Richmond asked, “With folks shouting names in New York City like Trump and DeSantis, why should we be going for you?”

“I have executive experience, I was a two-term Governor, but I also have United Nations Foreign Policy experience. I had to negotiate with Russia and China. I had to deal with Iran and North Korea. We need to be ready. Also, it’s time for a new generational leader. We’ve got to get rid of the past, we’ve got to get rid of the negativity. We need to start focusing on someone who is tough and can make America strong and proud again,” said Haley. <https://www.foxnews.com/video/6337491033112>

Richmond, an independent voter, and author of *He Spoke at My School: An Educational Journey*, made his fourth FOX appearance by also showing support for law enforcement. “There’s a lot of folks in our country who like to think that our police officers, who are doing a wonderful job by the way, are all bad. Our police officers are us. We are the police. They are people of color, women, and they identify in different ways. If you look around New York City, police officers are diverse. So, we can’t paint people with one brush.”

*Dennis Richmond Jr. is an author and journalist focused on the Black, Latinx, and LGBTQ+ Communities. He lives in Yonkers. Follow him on X at @NewYorkStakz.*

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