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Friday April 14, 2023

## WAKE UP WESTCHESTER! Holtec to Start Dumping Nuclear Waste Into Hudson Early



By Dan Murphy

Instead of listening to the public, Holtec, the owner of the Indian Point power plant in Westchester, has decided to speed up their planned dumping of contaminated waste in the Hudson River in 30 days, three months earlier than a planned August dump. The decision may be a plan to beat the State of New York in passing a law that bans this practice.

As Riverkeeper has pointed out, there are other options to dumping in the now clean and beloved Hudson River that Pete Seeger worked most of his life to make pristine.

Riverkeeper identified four options to dumping in the Hudson:

I- Hold the wastewater on site. Although no definite holding time was discussed at the meeting, storage on site was. We believe an initial 12 year period would be appropriate. After 12 years, tritium's half-life (the radioactive isotope) will have cut its activity by 50%. During this 12-year period we would like Holtec to explore separation of the tritium, solidification, and any other options that emerge.

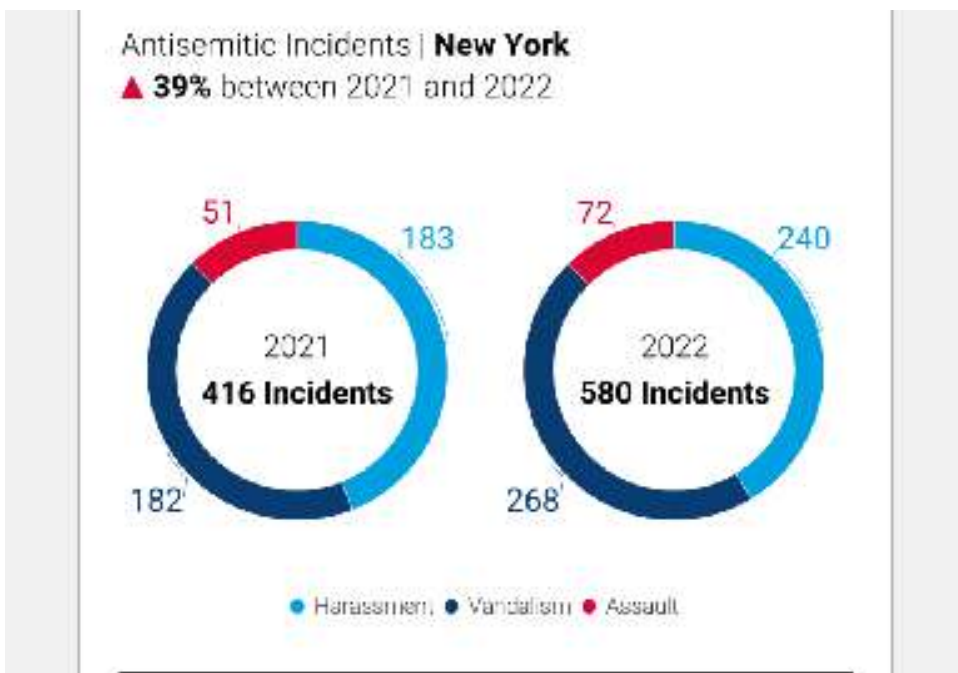
II- Transfer the wastewater to out-of-state sites. The danger of transporting radioactive waste on our roads and railways increases the risk to millions of people as accidents have and will occur in an uncontrolled environment. Even if safe transport is successful, transferring the problems of radioactive waste to other communities is not fair or equitable.

III- Allow for evaporation of the wastewater. Evaporation methods for the wastewater are a poor option as after the evaporation is absorbed into the air the contaminants will fall back to the ground, covering a much wider footprint that could include schools, parks and residential areas. A consensus emerged during the DOB meeting rejecting this option.

IV- Discharge the wastewater in the Hudson River. This is the method the plant used while it was still operating. We believe it is time to take a precautionary approach and end the practice of dumping radioactive wastewater into the Hudson.

*continued on pg 5-*

## ADL Report: NY State Has Most Reported Anti-Semitic Incidents: 23 in Westchester



On March 23, ADL (the Anti-Defamation League) released new data showing that, in 2022, New York State once again had the most reported antisemitic incidents of any state across the nation. In 2022, ADL recorded a staggering 580 incidents in New York, which is a 39% increase relative to the 416 incidents reported in 2021. Incidents in New York alone accounted for 15.7% of all documented antisemitic incidents in the United States in 2022.

ADL observed increases across all three categories tracked in the Audit of Antisemitic Incidents: harassment, vandalism and assault. Of particular concern were 72 reported incidents of antisemitic assault, which accounted for 65% of all antisemitic assaults reported nationwide in 2022. This is a 41% increase from the previous record of 51 antisemitic assaults recorded in New York in 2021. ADL also saw notable increases in reported incidents of antisemitic harassment and vandalism, particularly incidents involving swastikas.

Nationwide, reported antisemitic incidents in 2022 reached an all-time high of 3,697 incidents, which represented a 36% increase compared to the 2,717 incidents recorded in 2021.

"The findings of ADL's 2022 Audit of Antisemitic Incidents should serve as a wakeup call for everyone," said Scott Richman, ADL New York/New Jersey Regional Director. "We have hit another grim record with 580 reported antisemitic incidents recorded in New York State, including an appalling 72 assaults. All New Yorkers should be able to live without fear of harassment and violence. Antisemitism is a pervasive issue that requires a whole-of-society response. We call on all of our partners – in government, education institutions, interfaith organizations, law enforcement or elsewhere – to help confront antisemitism whenever and wherever it occurs." Forty percent of all reported incidents involved the display of a Nazi swastika, which serves as the most significant and notorious symbol of antisemitism and white supremacy. These 233 incidents represented a 45% increase relative to the 161 incidents involving swastikas that were documented in 2021.

While most of the total number of antisemitic incidents recorded, 68%, took place in the five boroughs of New York City, Westchester reported 23 anti-semitic incidents. We are in the process of breaking out the 23 incidents and report back on

*continued on pg 5-*

## Competitive Carting Fined \$22,000 By Solid Waste Commission



*Are More Fines Coming for Co-Mingling Garbage with Recyclables?*

By Dan Murphy

Documents obtained through FOIL from the Westchester Solid Waste Commission, (SWC), reveal that Competitive Carting has been fined \$22,000 for violations in 2023. Competitive was awarded the contract to collect residential garbage and recycling in the Town of Yorktown by the Town Board and former Supervisor Matt Slater last year, and the results have been "a disaster" according to many residents who have joined a Facebook group dedicated to problems with the service.

In a letter dated, Feb. 27, 2023, Perry Kadanoff, Executive Director of the Westchester Solid Waste Commission writes to Brian Amico, President Competitive Carting, of a hearing concerning 11 violations on charges of not properly registering and labeling vehicles and containers with the Solid Waste Commission.

The complaint states that as of January 1, 2023, "Competitive Carting Corporation had only one vehicle registered with the Solid Waste Commission." Inspectors for the Solid Waste Commission observed "multiple vehicles collecting, storing and hauling solid waste," with unregistered vehicles. The same Competitive garbage trucks were also illegally dumping at the Waste Transfer Station in Peekskill because they were not registered with the SWC.

On Jan 2 and Jan 3, 2023, five Competitive Carting Trucks were seen dumping at the waste transfer station without proper registration, for a total of ten violations.

*continued on pg 4-*

## Court Ruling Opens the Door for Marijuana Stores, Cafes in Westchester County



By Dan Murphy

The slow rollout of legal marijuana dispensaries in New York State has also included NO legal marijuana dispensaries in Westchester County. That is because of a lawsuit filed against the NYS Cannabis law, which resulted in a Federal Judge issuing a temporary restraining order from any dispensaries opening in Westchester and the Hudson Valley.

But a recent Federal Appeals Court decision lifted the ban on dispensaries in Westchester, giving the NYS Cannabis Control Board the power to hand out the first license and location to legally sell marijuana in Westchester.

So far the NYS CCB has issued 66 license, but less than ten have opened. One of the requirements to receive a Conditional Adult Use Retail Dispensary program (CAURD) in NY is that owners of the pot business must have been convicted of a cannabis-related offense before legalization, or have a parent or spouse who was convicted.

The NYS CCB originally had 17 of its CUARD licenses set aside for the Mid-Hudson region which includes Westchester. Now they have doubled the CAURD licenses available, and 34 are now reserved for Mid-Hudson.

"I am pleased with the courts decision," said Governor Kathy Hochul. "For the first time, New Yorkers in nearly every region of the state will have access to safer, high-quality, adult-use cannabis products."

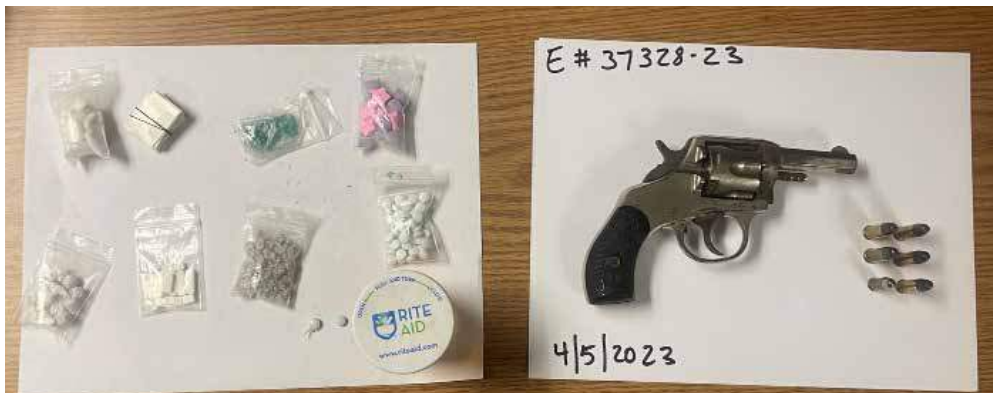
27 Westchester communities have already banned the sale of Marijuana. So Ardsley, Bronxville, Eastchester, Elmsford, Irvington, Larchmont, Lewisboro, Mamaroneck Town, Mamaroneck Village, Mount Kisco, Mount Pleasant, New Castle, North Castle, North Salem, Pelham Manor, Pleasantville, Port Chester, Rye City, Rye Brook, Somers, Tuckahoe, Yorktown and Harrison, and Ardsley, Elmsford, Dobbs Ferry and Irvington will not have a dispensary or cafe.

Four Westchester Cities, Mount Vernon, New Rochelle, White Plains and Yonkers, and the Town of Pound Ridge and the Village of Sleepy Hollow will allow marijuana sales. Look for an award by the NYS CCB on Monday for a license to go to a business in one or more of those locales.

At its meeting on April 3, the New York State Office of Cannabis Management (OCM) awarded licenses to five companies in the Mid-Hudson region, including Buddy LLC- Owned by Joshua Mercado, LaAnthony Bannister and Regina Smith in the Mid-Hudson Region of New York State. For (4) years Joshua Mercado, a justice involved applicant, owned & operated First Class Vending Machines Corp. Mercado is said to be looking for a retail location on Central Park Avenue in Yonkers. The other four licenses were awarded to: Blaze 420 LLC- Owned by Milka

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## Westchester Police Find Gun, Drugs in Stolen Car



Twelve minutes after a car was reported stolen in Yonkers, WCPD Patrol officers recovered it, took three persons into custody, seized a loaded handgun and confiscated a bunch of illegal narcotics.

How's that for fast work! The incident unfolded at 8:05 p.m. last night when Yonkers PD advised that a 2009 Acura MDX had just been stolen on Tuckahoe Road. Detectives in Real Time Crime began to do their thing and in short order advised that the stolen car was now traveling north on the Taconic State Parkway in Mount Pleasant.

Sgt. Paglicua and POs Peterman and B. Moskalik located the vehicle near Pleasantville Road and made a traffic stop just south of the Millwood exit. A loaded handgun was seized along with 10 glassine envelopes of heroin, six bundles of crack cocaine and 84 pills (Xanax, Ecstasy and Oxycodone.)

All three persons in the vehicle were subsequently charged with Criminal Possession of Stolen Property 4th Degree, a felony. Additionally, the driver was charged with having the handgun and the front seat passenger with possessing the narcotics.

In addition to the CPSP 4th charge, Erik Flakes, 19 of Newburgh was charged with Criminal Possession of a Weapon 2nd Degree, and Austin Raymond, 19, of Port Jervis was charged with Criminal Possession of a Controlled Substance 3rd Degree (Intent to Sell).

The rear seat passenger was a 16-year-old who was wearing an interesting, but non-criminal item: a court-ordered ankle monitor. So this wasn't his first rodeo with the criminal justice system.

The two adults were held for arraignment in New Castle Town Court. The juvenile was released to his mom with an appearance ticket to an answer his charge in Westchester Family Court at a future date.

The case has been turned over to detectives in the General Investigations Unit for additional investigation.

Once again, great results by our Patrol officers in the field with the assistance of detectives in RTC and GIU. Well done, all!

## Latimer & Westchester BOL Want Cameras on School Buses to Catch Drivers Who Won't Stop



*Latimer introduces bill to add \$300 Fines for Violators Who Don't Comply with School Bus Stop Signs*

Westchester County Executive George Latimer & Board of Legislators Chairwoman Catherine Borgia are pleased to announce their efforts to increase safety for our school children. This bill would authorize the County to work with local districts to equip cameras on school bus stop signs and enforce penalties on drivers who fail to stop at them.

This authorization is required under New York State Vehicle and Traffic law § 1174-a, which "imposes monetary liability for failure of a motor vehicle operator to comply with school bus red visual signals and stop arm," for any jurisdiction, including Counties, Towns & Cities which maintain any roads.

Latimer said: "The safety of our school children is paramount to all of us in government. This simple legislation satisfies the requirement by New York State Law to authorize these cameras and penalties in Westchester County. I look forward to continuing our great partnership with the Westchester County Board of Legislators to improve the safety conditions on our roads for school buses and school children."

Board of Legislators Chairwoman Catherine Borgia said: "Installing cameras on school buses stop signs is a practical, simple way to protect our children's safety. Let's make the roads safer for everyone, starting with our most vulnerable passengers."

Legislator Vedat Gashi said: "We saw the effectiveness of school bus stop arm cameras in Somers. This safety feature is necessary to hold reckless drivers accountable. I look forward to working with County Executive Latimer and my colleagues to expand the program to the rest of Westchester and keep children and families safe."

Legislator Erika Pierce said: "Distracted drivers pass stopped school buses every single day in our county, putting our children at risk. Despite best efforts, the scale of the problem is beyond what our police and school bus drivers can handle. They need access to programs like this to help them keep our kids safe."

Under this the County is authorized to enter into agreements with school districts for the installation, maintenance and use of school bus photo violation monitoring systems. Each school district located within the County that would

*continued on pg 7-*

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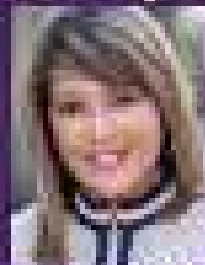
## Keeping Hope Alive Across Diverse Communities: Caregiving Resources for Alzheimer's Disease



### Featured speakers



Dr. Mark Carillo



Kayse Jones



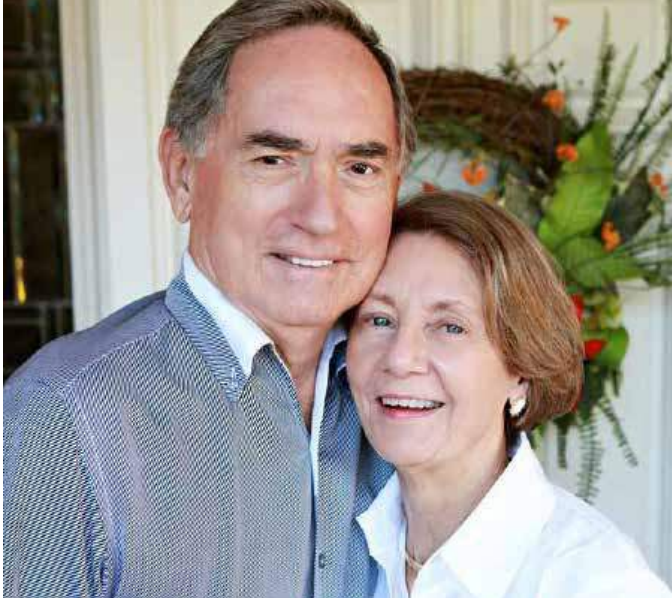
Andrew  
Carson

The Alzheimer's Association Hudson Valley Chapter is pleased to announce our biennial diversity, equity and inclusion symposium — "Keeping Hope Alive Across Diverse Communities: Caregiving Resources for Alzheimer's Disease."

This virtual symposium seeks to address diverse communities and provide information, support and hope for caregivers. Our speakers will talk about the latest research and treatments in Alzheimer's disease, the impact of aging and the disease on diverse communities and the perspective of someone living with the disease. To register, call the Alzheimer's Association at 800.272.3900.



## New Alzheimer's Association Report Finds Direct Care Workforce Shortage Looming



The Alzheimer's Association 2023 Alzheimer's Disease Facts and Figures report, (<https://www.alz.org/alzheimers-dementia/facts-figures>) finds a shortage looming for direct care workers in New York and across the country. Direct care workers, including nurse aides, nursing assistants, home health aides and personal care aides play a vital role in caring for people living with Alzheimer's and other dementia in private homes, community-based settings such as adult day services and residential care, skilled nursing homes and other settings. According to the report, an estimated 1.2 million additional direct care workers will be needed between 2020 and 2030 — more new workers than in any other single occupation in the United States.

In 2020, there were an estimated 510,870 home health and personal care aids in New York state, according to the report. By 2030, 710,570 will be needed — a 39.1 percent increase.

Although more direct care workers will be needed in the years ahead, the long-term care field is already struggling to fill existing direct care positions. Turnover rates are high in this workforce — estimated at 64 percent annually for direct care workers providing home care and 99 percent for nursing assistants in nursing homes, according to the report.

"The report sounds an important alarm on the urgent need to attract and retain these essential front-line care workers," Sobel said. "These valuable professionals are not only providing direct care to people living with Alzheimer's and other dementia, but they are vital in supporting family caregivers, particularly for those providing in-home care."

This year's report also examines the capacity of the medical specialty workforce essential for diagnosis, treatment and ongoing care for people living with Alzheimer's and all other dementia. The shortage of dementia care specialists could soon become a crisis for Alzheimer's disease care, especially with the recent Food and Drug Administration (FDA) approval of new treatments targeting the underlying biology of Alzheimer's disease, which is reframing the healthcare landscape for people with early-stage Alzheimer's or mild cognitive impairment (MCI) due to Alzheimer's disease.

According to the report, most states, including New York will have to nearly triple the number of geriatricians to effectively care for those 65 and older who are projected to have Alzheimer's dementia in 2050. In 2021, there were only 568 geriatricians statewide. By 2050, 818 geriatricians will be needed to care for just 10 percent of residents across the state living with Alzheimer's dementia.

Visit Facebook: @ALZHudsonvalley for more information.

## Leader of \$8 Million Medicaid Fraud Scheme From Yonkers Gets 95 Months Jail

Damian Williams, the United States Attorney for the Southern District of New York, announced that JULIO ALVARADO was sentenced to 95 months in prison for leading a sprawling scheme to defraud Medicaid of millions of dollars through the billing of fraudulent transportation claims. ALVARADO previously pled guilty to one count of healthcare fraud. U.S. District Judge Kimba M. Wood imposed today's sentence.

U.S. Attorney Damian Williams said: "Julio Alvarado was the leader of a multi-million-dollar scheme to defraud Medicaid by filing false claims for medical transportation services that were never provided. He brazenly lined his own pockets with Medicaid funds meant to help the neediest New Yorkers. Today's sentence makes clear that this type of criminal conduct will be prosecuted and punished to the full extent of the law."

According to court filings and statements made in court proceedings: From August 2017 to February 2020, KJ Transportation C Services Inc. ("KJ") was paid more than \$20 million for providing transportation services for Medicaid enrollees in the New York City area. A large volume of those claims were fraudulent. In some instances, the Medicaid recipient was deceased or out of the country when KJ claimed it was transporting that person to medical appointments. In other instances, the company used stolen identities, whereby the Medicaid recipient had never heard of KJ and had never taken any rides with the company. In other instances, the Medicaid recipients had received unlawful kickbacks from defendants in exchange for either providing KJ their Medicaid information or for fraudulently scheduling trips they did not take.

ALVARADO, who supervised more than a dozen other participants in the scheme, was responsible for billing more than \$8 million in fraudulent trip claims.

In addition to the prison term, ALVARADO, 63, of Yonkers, New York, was sentenced to three years of supervised release and ordered to pay \$8,507,115 in restitution and to forfeit \$8,507,115.

## Pelham Woman Sentenced to 3-Years Prison for Drunk Driving Crash that Killed Two Passengers

Westchester County District Attorney Miriam E. Rocah announced today that a Pelham woman was sentenced to one to three years in prison for driving drunk and causing the April 2021 vehicular crash in Mamaroneck that resulted in the death of two passengers.

DA Rocah said: "The defendant's decision to drive while intoxicated caused the tragic death of two young victims who were friends of the defendant. We thank the families of the victims for working with our Office during a very difficult time."

On April 11, 2021, at approximately 2:37 a.m., Bethzy Higueros, 23, was driving in excess of 80 miles per hour on Boston Post Road in Mamaroneck with two passengers in her car when she drove through a red light and crashed into a utility pole, shearing off both passenger side doors. The car caught fire after the collision. The defendant, who was 21 at time of the incident, had a blood alcohol content of .17 and an expired driver's permit.

New Rochelle resident Veronica Diaz Ayala, 20, died at the scene, and Itzel Oliveros, 19, also of New Rochelle, was transported to Jacobi Medical Center in the Bronx, where she died on June 6, 2021.

The Town of Mamaroneck Police Department arrested the defendant on December 9, 2021. The Westchester County Department of Public Safety, the Village of Mamaroneck Police Department and the Larchmont Police Department assisted with the investigation.

On December 14, 2022, the defendant pleaded guilty to Vehicular Manslaughter in the First Degree, a felony, and Driving While Intoxicated, a misdemeanor.

The case was before Judge James McCarty in Westchester County Court, and was prosecuted by New Rochelle Branch Chief Craig Ascher.

## Garbage Fines continued from pg 1-

Another violation on Jan. 9 had another Competitive truck dumping without proper registration, for a total of 11 violations at \$2,000 each, Total=\$22,000.

SWC inspectors also found containers with the name -Sterling Superior Services, being emptied by Competitive Carting.

The more serious allegations against Competitive Carting are that they comingling recyclables with garbage FOR THE ENTIRE MONTH OF JANUARY. In the SWC documents we obtained, an SWC Inspector met with the plant manager of the transfer station in Peekskill in Jan. 2023, and was told that Competitive Carting was "turned away for having too much comingling or recyclables with municipal waste."

According to the contract between the Town of Yorktown and Competitive, fines of \$10,000 per month should be made against Competitive for comingling. But according to a request we made last month, no fines have been issued by the Town against Competitive.

The Westchester Department of Environmental Facilities, DEF, also monitors violations of collecting recyclables. We have FOIL'd DEF for any fines issued to Competitive.

According to our sources, video evidence exists of Competitive not separating the recyclables and the garbage because their trucks did not have the capability to separate. One complaint made to DEF claims that in a similar size Town like Yorktown, 29 tons of recyclable waste was removed in the month of January, but Competitive collected only 5 tons. Where did the other 20+ tons of recyclables go? To the garbage dump. "Most garbage companies get fined for having a few pieces of cardboard mixed in with their garbage. Competitive dumped tons of recyclables with their garbage. The fines should be astronomical," said one person in the industry.

A lawsuit filed against the Town of Yorktown by AAA Carting continues. AAA claims in the suit that the Town did not award the contract to the lowest, responsible bidder because Competitive is not responsible.

A Facebook page from Yorktown residents FED UP with the poor quality of performance by Competitive continues. Photos have been taken of Competitive carts with other company names driving around, pickups late at night, truck breakdowns, drivers working beyond the allowable 60 hours, and more.

Some residents are wondering when the Town will admit the wrong committed when Slater was Supervisor and move on. Perhaps it will take a judge to do that for the taxpayers who just want their garbage removed and recycling to be recycled. Much more on this story in the weeks to come. Last month, one Yorktown resident came forward willing to join the AAA lawsuit. We need that person to contact us again at [dmurphy@risingmediagroup.com](mailto:dmurphy@risingmediagroup.com).

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## Yorktown to Receive \$1 million for Three-month Park Closure

The company that operates the Algonquin Gas Pipeline will pay Yorktown \$1,050,000 as compensation for the three-month closure of Woodlands Legacy Fields due to a Christmas sinkhole.

Supervisor Tom Diana negotiated the compensation with Enbridge, the pipeline's operator. "Enbridge is making a good-faith payment to the people of Yorktown for inadvertently depriving them of the use of this popular park. I thank Enbridge for its corporate responsibility to communities that are hosts to the company's pipelines," said Supervisor Diana.

The park closed on Christmas Eve when a sinkhole formed in the park at the pipeline right-of-way. After an analysis, Enbridge subsequently poured fill materials into the sinkhole to ensure the support for the pipeline. Enbridge officials are scheduled to attend a Town Board meeting on April 18 to report on their response.

As part of Enbridge's safety monitoring, the company will conduct semi-weekly aerial patrols of the gas line right of way, monthly site visits and electrical resistance surveys to ensure that new sinkholes do not form.

The reopening of the park on April 1 coincided with the beginning of little league baseball games at the park.

Enbridge's natural gas network moves about 20 percent of all gas consumed in the U.S. Its gas transmission and midstream pipelines cover about 73,796 miles in 30 U.S. states, five Canadian provinces and offshore in the Gulf of Mexico.

### Holtec, continued from pg 1-

After Holtec's announcement, which they were required to give the public 30 days notice before dumping again, was blasted by State Senator Pete Harchkham, Assemblymember Dana Levenberg and Westchester County Executive George Latimer.

State Senator Pete Harchkham said, "While we have been in the middle of communications with Holtec centered on finding alternatives to dumping millions of gallons of radioactive wastewater into the Hudson River, its decision to expedite this action from August to May is simply an act of bad faith and corporate arrogance. It is no wonder that the communities along the river and even beyond continue to be outraged by Holtec's handling of Indian Point's decommissioning.

"Holtec's agreeing to allow the state to test the radioactive wastewater as it travels to the Hudson is a small concession gained by our state agencies but not a solution to the problem. The point is that the DOB, residents and business owners should not be put into a 'last to know' position when it comes to dumping radioactive wastewater into the Hudson River. Holtec continues to pursue a course of action with scant acknowledgment of our communities' concerns about this critical issue."

State Assemblywoman Dana Levenberg said, "Yesterday, Holtec informed the Indian Point Decommissioning Oversight board that they intend to speed up their plan to begin discharging radioactive wastewater into the Hudson River as early as May. I am grateful to the Decommissioning Oversight Board and Riverkeeper for insisting that Holtec give us 30 days notice before any planned discharge into the river. Holtec's timing shows profound disrespect for our community, particularly as we are approaching the season when so many are turning to the river for fishing, swimming, boating, and so much more. This is the number one issue constituents write to me about – I have heard from hundreds of community members who are opposed to Holtec's plan. Many municipalities, including Westchester & Rockland counties, have passed resolutions opposing this plan and supporting the efforts of Senator Pete Harchkham, myself, and a bipartisan coalition of state legislators to increase the state's power over its own waterways. It is clear that the decision to move faster than planned is an attempt to sidestep the efforts of state representatives to explore alternatives.

Westchester County Executive George Latimer said, "The announcement by Holtec to expedite this plan, in the midst of ongoing discussions with State officials, community stakeholders and local municipalities, is an outrageous one. The impacted communities have far too much at stake for any treated water dumping to occur on a timeline quicker than what was expected. It is a mistake for Holtec to act before full public vetting of all options and acting without convincing residents and local governments why the other options have been overridden for consideration. Through the Indian Point Decommissioning Board, which the County has a seat at the table on, the County is requesting an exact list of all elements and components which will be tested for. I am urging Holtec and all parties involved to suspend their current plans, and to hold continued conversations on this decision and any subsequent actions that may be taken in order to ensure that residents of and visitors to our beautiful, scenic riverfronts are best protected."

What can be done? More on this next week.

## Fire Warning Issued for Westchester County & Hudson Valley Region

County Executive George Latimer is advising residents that Westchester is currently at a heightened risk for woodland fires and is urging people to take precautions to prevent them.

The current dry conditions have increased the risk of fire in County parks and wooded areas in Westchester and the Hudson Valley region, he said. In recent days, a number of number of large brush fires have occurred around the County.

Commissioner Richard G. Wishnie of the Department of Emergency Services noted that New York State has issued a high fire danger warning for Westchester, which indicates that an elevated fire potential exists due to dry conditions, low relative humidity and strong winds.

"Conditions right now are very dry – we haven't seen rain for a number of days – and the risk of fire in our parks and wooded areas is very high," Wishnie said.

Brush fires have occurred in the last few days in Saxon Woods Park in the Scarsdale/White Plains area and in Cortlandt, Greenburgh, Harrison, Lewisboro, Mount Pleasant, New Rochelle, North Castle, North Salem, Ossining and Pelham Manor.

Latimer also noted that a statewide outdoor burn ban is in effect through May 14. This ban is an annual occurrence because the risk of outdoor fires generally is highest in the spring. Details on the burn ban can be found on the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation web site: [dec.ny.gov](http://dec.ny.gov).

Latimer provided a few safety tips for residents and visitors to follow to prevent outdoor fires:

- Where camp fires are permitted, limit their size and never leave one unattended. Make sure it has been fully extinguished before leaving a campsite.
- The burning of tree limbs or other organic debris is not permitted while the burn ban is in effect.
- Safely dispose of any charcoal used in a grill or ashes from wood burned in a fireplace.
- Extinguish cigarettes and other lightened materials safely and do not drop them in any wooded or grassy area.
- If you observe any smoke or small fire in any park or wooded area, please call 911 immediately so it can be quickly contained.

"When conditions are this dry, a small brush fire can spread rapidly and grow significantly in size in a very short period of time," Wishnie said. "We are asking the public to take precautions to prevent a woodland fire. A simple, careless action could trigger the beginnings of a serious fire."

### ADL, continued from pg 1-

what communities they occurred in and the type of incident.

The 72 incidents of antisemitic assault recorded in 2022 represented a 41% increase compared to 51 incidents in 2021. The volume of incidents is appalling, with an average of more than one assault per week. Fourteen of the incidents involved stealing or knocking off traditional religious head coverings (including hats, wigs, and yarmulkes). At least ten incidents of antisemitic assault targeted children or teenagers. Jewish individuals were punched, slapped, chased, targeted with fireworks, eggs, garbage and, in multiple cases, shot with BB guns. Examples of antisemitic assaults recorded in 2022 include:

While yelling "Hey Jew," an individual shot a BB gun at a person in a highly populated Orthodox Jewish neighborhood. (March 2022; Brooklyn, NY)  
A 13-year-old Jewish boy was chased by two teenagers who grabbed the boy's yarmulke off his head. (August 2022; Staten Island, NY)  
An individual made antisemitic remarks, including "Kanye 2024." A short time later, he struck a Jewish person from behind on a bicycle, causing him to fall and suffer serious injuries. (December 2022; Manhattan, NY)

In New York, there were 12 recorded antisemitic bomb threats in 2022. Ten of these were at Jewish Community Centers, one at a Holocaust Memorial Center and one at a Jewish university. Three of these specifically referenced the horrific shooting in Buffalo on May 14, 2022, where a white supremacist gunman opened fire at a supermarket and killed 10 people and injured 3 others.

A total of 53 antisemitic incidents in New York in 2022 were recorded in K-12 schools (excluding Jewish schools).

In 2022, ADL recorded 22 incidents of harassment, up from 10 in 2021, 13 incidents of vandalism, up from 3 in 2021, and 3 incidents of offensive literature distribution, up from one in 2021, on college campuses.

At CUNY's Baruch College, a Jewish student was harassed in an elevator by someone yelling "Kanye and Hitler were right," one of many incidents sparked by the antisemitic statements of Kanye West in the fall.

White supremacist groups continued to maintain an active presence in New York in 2022, using propaganda to communicate their hateful messages more broadly and to recruit new members. In 2022, ADL documented 123 distribution incidents in New York State.

In 2022, 17 of the 33 antisemitic white supremacist propaganda distributions had connections to one network, the Goyim Defense League (GDL). GDL is a relatively small network of extremists with the goal of spreading antisemitic myths and conspiracy theories. In one instance, individuals associated with the GDL dropped a banner over the Bronx River Parkway which read, "Kanye is Right About the Jews!"

Underreporting continues to be a challenge in many communities, as victims of bias crimes and antisemitic incidents – particularly those in marginalized communities – face significant barriers to reporting in the first instance.

ADL encourages all members of the public to report incidents of antisemitism directly to ADL here: [adl.org/reportincident](http://adl.org/reportincident).

The adl has also created a map which tracks incidents of hate at [www.adl.org/resources/tools-to-track-hate/heat-map](http://www.adl.org/resources/tools-to-track-hate/heat-map).

More at [www.adl.org](http://www.adl.org).

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SUPREME COURT - COUNTY OF WESTCHESTER

MANUFACTURERS AND TRADERS TRUST COMPANY A/K/A M&T, SUCCESSOR BY MERGER WITH HUDSON CITY SAVINGS BANK, Plaintiff -against- MICHAEL FRITH, LAURA DESHON, et al Defendant(s). Pursuant to a Judgment of Foreclosure and Sale entered herein and dated March 5, 2020, I, the undersigned Referee will sell at public auction at public auction in the Lobby of the Westchester County Courthouse, 111 Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd., White Plains, NY on April 25, 2023 at 9:30 a.m. premises situate, lying and being in the Town of Cortlandt, County of Westchester and State of New York, bounded and described as follows: BEGINNING at a point on the easterly side of Sunny Way, where the same is intersected by the division line between Lot Nos. 266 and 267 on Map No. 6584; being a plot 100.00 feet by 200.00 feet by 100.00 feet by 200.00 feet.

ALSO, situate, lying and being in the Town of Cortland, County of Westchester and State of New York, bounded and described as follows: BEGINNING at a point on the dividing line between Lot 37 and Lot 38 on the above mentioned map where the same is intersected by the northerly line of Lot 267 as shown on Map entitled, as filed Map No. 6584 and which point is distant 99.58 feet southerly as measured along said dividing line between Lot 37 and Lot 38 from the southerly boundary of Red Oak Lane as same is shown on Filed Map No. 25985; RUNNING THENCE South East, 24.00 feet; South West, 89.53 feet; South West 13.64 feet; THENCE North East, 100.00 feet. Section: 34.17 Block: 1 and Lot: 14 All bidders must wear a face mask/shield at all times and social distancing must be observed by all bidders at all times. Bidders who do not comply with the face mask and/or the social distancing mandate will be removed from the auction. Said premises known as 10 SUNNY WAY, CORTLANDT MANOR, NY Approximate amount of lien \$432,385.27 plus interest & costs. Premises will be sold subject to provisions of filed Judgment and Terms of Sale. If the sale is set aside for any reason, the Purchaser at the sale shall be entitled only to a return of the deposit paid. The Purchaser shall have no further recourse against the Mortgagor, the Mortgagee or the Mortgagee's attorney. Index Number 53628/2017.

STUART I. BALL, ESQ., Referee  
David A. Gallo & Associates LLP, Attorney(s) for Plaintiff  
47 Hillside Avenue, 2nd Floor, Manhasset, NY 11030  
File# 7777.122

Business Intelligence Analyst, New Rochelle, NY Analyze business intelligence data to identify business needs; maintain & update data requirements & models to ensure quality & integrity of data; identify & doc business intelligence data to develop solutions for business operations; extract data structure & data types stored in database; present data dictionaries to management for approval; apply advanced analytic tools to develop customized solutions to various data investigations to enhance efficiency; communicate technical concepts & tools to clients; gather & analyze feedbacks regarding current data processes & propose improvements; use SQL, MySQL, HTML, CSS, Oracle, C++, Python. Bachelor in Computer Info Systems or Info Management + 1 year exp in job offered or as Data Specialist. Fax resume to HR Mgr, Benchmark Education, 914-813-9610.

***Eric Schoen continued from pg 3-***

witnessed panicked when they saw they had to pay by app and no one was there to help them. "We got rid of all the physical hardware in all our parking decks and put in apps so you can pay once and move from deck to deck throughout the property," a company spokesman said. Dumb move. Just move your car and keep your ticket on the windshield.

When Ridge Hill opened, they had a trolley that transported people from one end of the property to the other. The trolley was big, and no one was ever in it. It has sat in the parking lot across from WestMed abandoned for years. What they need is a smaller vehicle, 8-12 seater easy to get into to transport people around the mall. This way people can park and not worry about moving their cars. Getting in and out of your car and moving it from lot to lot requires a lot of walking. The smaller vehicle will allow people to avoid jumping in and out of their cars which can be annoying.

Handicap parking at Ridge Hill faces another problem that exists throughout Yonkers. People parking in handicapped designated spaces without the necessary permits. The City of Yonkers can send police officers in to ticket illegally parked cars but for some reason does not do it. The ticket fees, money that goes to city coffers is somewhere in the \$150-\$200 range. A police officer or parking enforcement agent can easily ticket 5 to 10 cars a day (I see that many illegal parked cars in one lot) bringing the city a minimum of \$1000 a day. State laws even allow specially trained citizens to ticket cars and bring in revenue. Why Yonkers refuses this moneymaker I will never figure out.

There needs to be more handicapped spots on the roads in and around Ridge Hill. There is plenty of room for them when you take away the spots reserved for "special vehicles" which are often occupied by individuals with OFFICIAL placards that have families, not "officials" come out of the car. This happens all the time and individuals using placards illegally should be fined and towed with their owners getting points on their license.

Ridge Hill is just that, a hill you must climb in your car to reach it. I don't see how they can change the access roads without major blasting and construction.

The movie theater also poses numerous problems including but not limited to access to it over a breezy bridge where you can lose your balance. The theater is in desperate need of repair which was put off during the pandemic. Why should I go Ridge Hill when Cross County and White Plains have been updated with comfortable reclining seats?

There are other flaws at Ridge Hill which I hope they correct when they makes changes to the mall. In the interim send your ideas how to update Ridge Hill to the management office, 1 Ridge Hill Blvd., Yonkers 10710 or via phone at 914-207-2900. And wish those involved all the best in turning the facility around to make it first class.

Editorial Note: While we are chatting retail, many have complained about the parking at Dollar Tree on South Broadway and McLean Avenue and the inability to find a place to park because of abandoned cars and cars illegally parked. After my visit there on Sunday with no parking available at either store especially the big lot on South Broadway I spoke to the powers that be to address the situation.

Listen to Eric Schoen on the Westchester Rising Radio Show Thursday's from 10-11 a.m. On WVOX 1460 AM, go to WVOX.com and click the arrow to listen to the live stream or download the WVOX app from the App Store free of charge. Reach him at thistooisonkers@aol.com.

***PUBLIC NOTICE  
YONKERS POLICE DEPARTMENT/  
NOTICE OF ABANDONED VEHICLE***

I, Christopher Sapienza, Commissioner of the Yonkers Police Department, do hereby issue the following notice pursuant to Sections 109-144 and 109-147 of the Code of the City of Yonkers:

A 2015 Jeep Grand Cherokee, bearing no license plates (and identified by VIN # 1C4RJFBG2FC193602) has been lawfully impounded since 10/21/22 and to this date no owner has come forward to claim any interest in this vehicle.

Any persons having a legal interest in this vehicle may seek recovery of said vehicle by contacting Lt. Gregory Forshey no later than April 19, 2023. If such person has a legal right to the vehicle, they shall be responsible for all costs incurred by the City to remove and store said vehicle and for the cost to publish any notice.

If the vehicle is not claimed by May 4, 2023, the vehicle shall be deemed abandoned and title shall vest with the City on May 4, 2023, (20 days from the date of publication).

Dated: April 14, 2023

Notice of Formation of AADNYS TECHNOLOGIES LLC. Art. of Org. filed with the SSNY on 01/30/2023. 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, 6 Lewiston Ct, Briarcliff Manor NY, 10510. Purpose: Any lawful activity.

**Westchester Parks Foundation to Host Largest Volunteer Earth Day Event April 22 1,000 Volunteers Expected**

Westchester Parks Foundation is getting ready for its largest volunteer event of the year with its annual Pitch in for Parks community cleanup program. The weeklong event will kick off on Monday, April 17, culminating on Earth Day, Saturday, April 22 with over 1000 volunteers bringing the national spotlight on environmental causes. The annual event, held in partnership with the Westchester County Parks Department, will take place throughout Westchester in celebration of Earth Week.

To help accommodate park stewards, additional projects have been added for volunteers, working as individuals, families, corporations, local businesses, or groups, for trash clean up, clearing trails and shorelines, restoring wildlife habitats, removing invasive vines from trees, painting, raking, and preparing and planting flower beds. Earth Day events will be held at Glen Island Park, New Rochelle; Tibbetts Brook Park, Yonkers; Bronx River Reservation at Westchester County Center, White Plains; and Blue Mountain Reservation in Peekskill.

Pre-registration is required to participate. All tools will be provided, and volunteers should wear clothes that can get dirty and closed toe shoes. For more information on how to volunteer for Pitch in for Parks, visit <https://www.thewp.org/events> and scroll down to the park in your neighborhood to sign up.

***Marijuana continued from pg 1-***

Morales Pereira and Gregory Pereira in the Mid-Hudson Region of New York State. For (15) years Milka Morales, a justice involved applicant, owned & operated First Steps Urban Outreach, Inc. a community training center for the Courts & DMV in The Bronx.

\* Royal Blend Dispensary LLC- Owned by Delaurna Murphy and Sonia Murphy in the Mid-Hudson Region of New York State. For (3) years Delaurna Murphy, a justice involved applicant, owned & operated Royal Blend Foods- A West Indian and Soul Food restaurant in Poughkeepsie, New York.

\* Buddega NYC, LLC- Owned by Eyasser Noboa, Jesus Fontanez, and Dipak Patel in the Mid-Hudson Region of New York State. For (7) years Eyasser Noboa, a justice involved applicant, owned & operated an e-Commerce retail online business.

\* Retail United Alliance, LLC- Owned by Vincent Ross, Matthew Bieri, Alykhan Budwani, and Herbert Sexton IV in the Mid-Hudson Region of New York State. For (4) years Vincent Ross, a justice involved applicant, owned and operated Laced Barber Lounge Barbershop in Poughkeepsie, New York.

The license recipients can open anywhere in the Mid-Hudson region, in a communities that have not banned the sale. Two of the licenses above are from owners of other businesses in Poughkeepsie.

***Abortion medication continued from pg 3-***

Medical Officer of PPHP. "Regardless of how these cases are decided, Planned Parenthood Hudson Peconic is dedicated to offering its patients the full range of abortion services, including in-clinic abortion and medication abortion with safe, evidence-based, effective methods."

Medication abortion, often called the "abortion pill," allows people a more private option to end an early pregnancy at home or wherever they feel most comfortable, while still getting necessary medical support and information. Medication abortions make up roughly half of all abortions in the U.S. They allow patients to manage their abortion safely, on their own terms, and has helped improve and expand access to abortion care.

Notice of Formation of CR8TIONZ, LLC. Arts. of Org. filed with SSNY on 2/21/23. Office location: Westchester County. REPUBLIC REGISTERED AGENT SERVICES INC. designated as agent of LLC upon whom process may be served. SSNY shall mail process to 1434 Western Ave, Suite 1 #7811 Albany, NY 12203. Purpose: any lawful act or activity.

Notice of formation of Cake Bar By Charlene, LLC. Arts. Of Org. filed with the SSNY on 02/08/2023. 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, 1 Glenwood avenue, 18E, Yonkers, NY 10701. Purpose: Any lawful activity.

Notice of formation of R.O.S.Y. LLC. filed with the SSNY EIN on 2/22/2023. 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, 2803 Larkspur Street, Yorktown Hts, NY 10598. Purpose: Real Estate

Notice of Formation of Hatter Luxury Eyewear LLC filed with New York State Department of State on March 11, 2023, Office location: Westchester County. United States Corporation Agents, Inc. is designated as the agent of LLC upon whom process may be served. SSNY shall mail process to 7014 13th Avenue, Suite 202, Brooklyn, NY 11228. Purpose: any lawful act or activity.

Notice of Formation of ATSOLO HOLDINGS, LLC. Arts. of Org. filed with SSNY on 1/13/23. Office location: Westchester County. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process may be served. SSNY shall mail process to The Law Office of Adrian T. Solomon, Esq., 2585 Broadway Suite 235, New York 10027. Purpose: any lawful act or activity.

Notice of Formation of THE BOSS BAR & RESTAURANT, LLC. Arts. of Org. filed with SSNY on 1/13/23. Office location: Westchester County. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process may be served. SSNY shall mail process to The Law Office of Adrian T. Solomon, Esq., 2585 Broadway Suite 235, New York 10027. Purpose: any lawful act or 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.

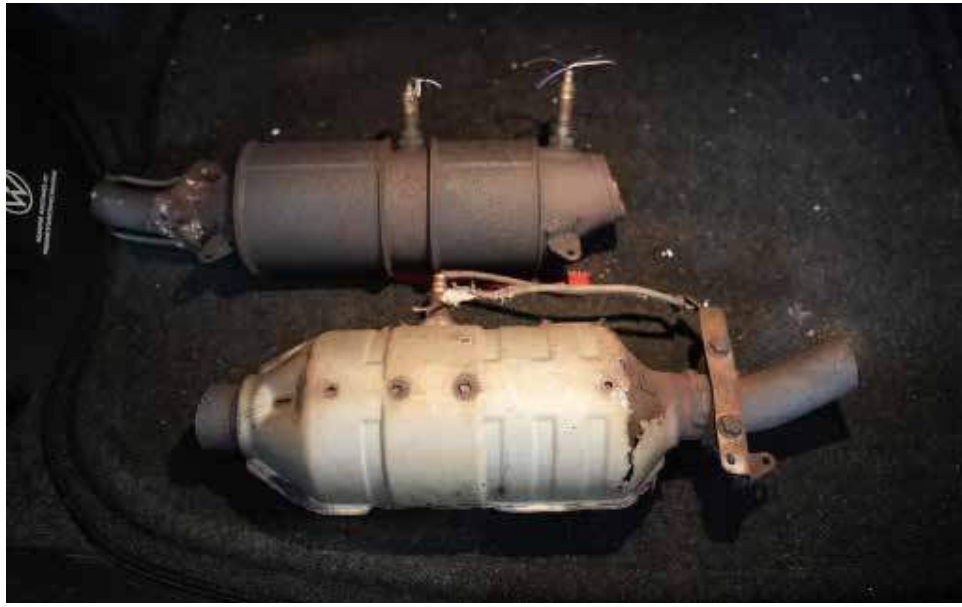
Notice of formation of Peek Holdings LLC. Arts. of Org. filed with the SSNY on 4/8/2023. Office: Westchester County. SSNY designated as agent of the LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail copy of process to the LLC, 43 Nob Ct, New Rochelle, NY 10804. Purpose: Any lawful activity.

Notice of formation of Thornwood Books LLC. Arts. of Org filed with the SSNY on 02/25/2023. Office: Westchester County. U.S. Corp. Agents, Inc. designated as agent of the LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail copy of process to U.S. Corp. Agents, Inc, 7014 13th Ave Suite 202 Brooklyn, NY 11228. Purpose: Any lawful purpose.

Notice of formation of Kalehoff Creative, LLC. Arts. of Org. filed with the SSNY on 10/30/2021. 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, 520 Pelhamdale Avenue, Pelham, NY 10803. Purpose: Any lawful activity.

Notice of Formation of Kate Klostet LLC. Arts. of Org. filed with SSNY on 02/21/2023. Office location: Westchester County. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process may be served. SSNY shall mail process to 27 Brook Street, Croton on Hudson, New York, 10520. Purpose: any lawful act or activity.

## County Police Make Arrest in Catalytic Converter Theft



WCPD / Patrol Services Division

Great job by Patrol this morning after officers recovered a stolen car in the wee hours and then discovered a couple of stolen catalytic converters in the trunk. Two New York City men were taken into custody.

The incident began at 4:43 a.m. when Real Time Crime broadcast an alert that a stolen 2022 Volkswagen Jetta with New Jersey plates was traveling on MacQuesten Parkway in Mount Vernon. PO Totaro located the vehicle on Mount Vernon Avenue and followed it while awaiting backup.

Lt. Ess and PO Hickey responded and the three Patrol units boxed the stolen car in on Bronx River Road in Yonkers. The officers spotted a sawzall and blades in the back seat, and the two catalytic converters were subsequently found in the trunk.

The Jetta was stolen a few days ago in Manhattan and is owned by a Jersey City resident who will be happy to get his vehicle back. Israel Pieter, 25, and Adan Belliard, 30, both of Manhattan were booked at headquarters on two felony charges each: Criminal Possession of Stolen Property 4th and 5th Degrees.

They were held for arraignment in Yonkers City Court. Detectives in the General Investigations Unit are seeking to determine where the catalytic converters were stolen. They have also shared info about the two suspects and the vehicle they were using with the law enforcement community in our area.

### EARTH MONTH 2023 EVENTS AROUND WESTCHESTER

SATURDAY, APRIL 15	SUNDAY, APRIL 16	THURSDAY, APRIL 20
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Mamaroneck Spring Cleanup   10-12</li> <li>Tarrytown Repair Cafe   10-2</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Tarrytown (TEAC) Lakes Clean-up   10-2</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Bodford Farmers Club: Invasives to Natives Panel   10-2</li> <li>Westchester County Eco Awards   3:00 PM</li> </ul>
SATURDAY, APRIL 22		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Briarcliff Manor Earth Day 2023   10-2</li> <li>Hastings-On-Hudson Weekend Cleanup   9-4</li> <li>Katonah: TreeFest at Lasdon   10-12</li> <li>Larchmont Mamaroneck Earth Day Celebration   1-4</li> <li>Mount Vernon Earth Day at City Hall Plaza   11:00-2:00</li> <li>New Rochelle Earth Day Festival   12-4</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Ossining: Green Ossining 15th Annual Earth Day Festival   10-5</li> <li>Pleasantville: Rockefeller State Park Preserve Earth Day Celebration   10-3</li> <li>Pound Ridge: Every Day Earth Day Festival   11-3</li> <li>Sleepy Hollow Earth Day Litter Cleanup   10-12</li> <li>Celebration   12-2</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Tarrytown Bird Walk   8:30-10</li> <li>Villages Clean-ups   10-3</li> <li>Yonkers (FDR Park): Household Recycling Day   9-3</li> <li>Yonkers: Blessing of the Hudson River   7:30 AM</li> <li>Westchester (Multiple Locations): Pitch in for Parks   10-2</li> <li>Westchester (Multiple Locations): Great Saw Mill River Cleanup   10-1</li> </ul>
SUNDAY, APRIL 23	TUESDAY, APRIL 25	MAY DATES
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Hastings-On-Hudson Get Your Green On   12PM</li> <li>Mt. Kisco Earth Day Celebration   12-4</li> <li>Valhalla: CompostED   10-3:15</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Katonah-Lewisboro Sustainability Celebration   6-7:30 PM</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Riverkeeper Sweep   May 6   9-12</li> <li>Bedford 2023 &amp; Healthy Yards Earth Day Festival   May 7   12-3</li> <li>Net Zero Cities Conference   May 13   10-3</li> <li>White Plains Earth Day   May 13   11:30-2:30</li> </ul>
SATURDAY, APRIL 29		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Croton Earth Day Celebration   10-4</li> </ul>		

[SustainableWestchester.org/EarthDay2023](https://SustainableWestchester.org/EarthDay2023)

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### school bus cameras, continued from pg 1-

like to utilize the program must enter into an agreement with the County. Once a school district has entered into an agreement with the County, cameras will be installed to the external portion of school buses owned or operated by that school district or privately owned and operated. The County will cover the costs of the program.

A driver who violates the new law will be liable for the following monetary penalties:

- \$250 for a first violation;
- \$275 for a second violation committed within 18 months of the first violation;
- \$300 for a third violation or subsequent violation all of which were committed within 18 months from the first violation; and
- an additional penalty of \$25 for each violation for the failure to respond to a notice of liability within the prescribed time period.

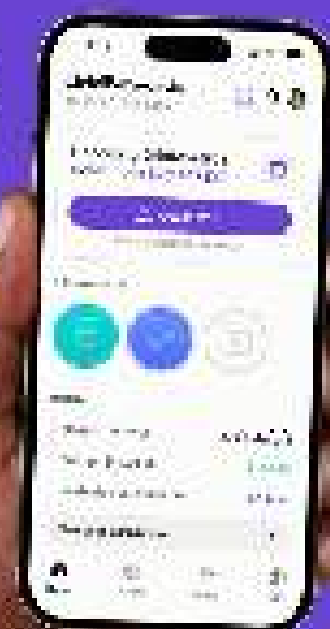
The penalties will not be counted as a 'conviction' on a driver's record nor will be used for motor vehicle insurance purposes.

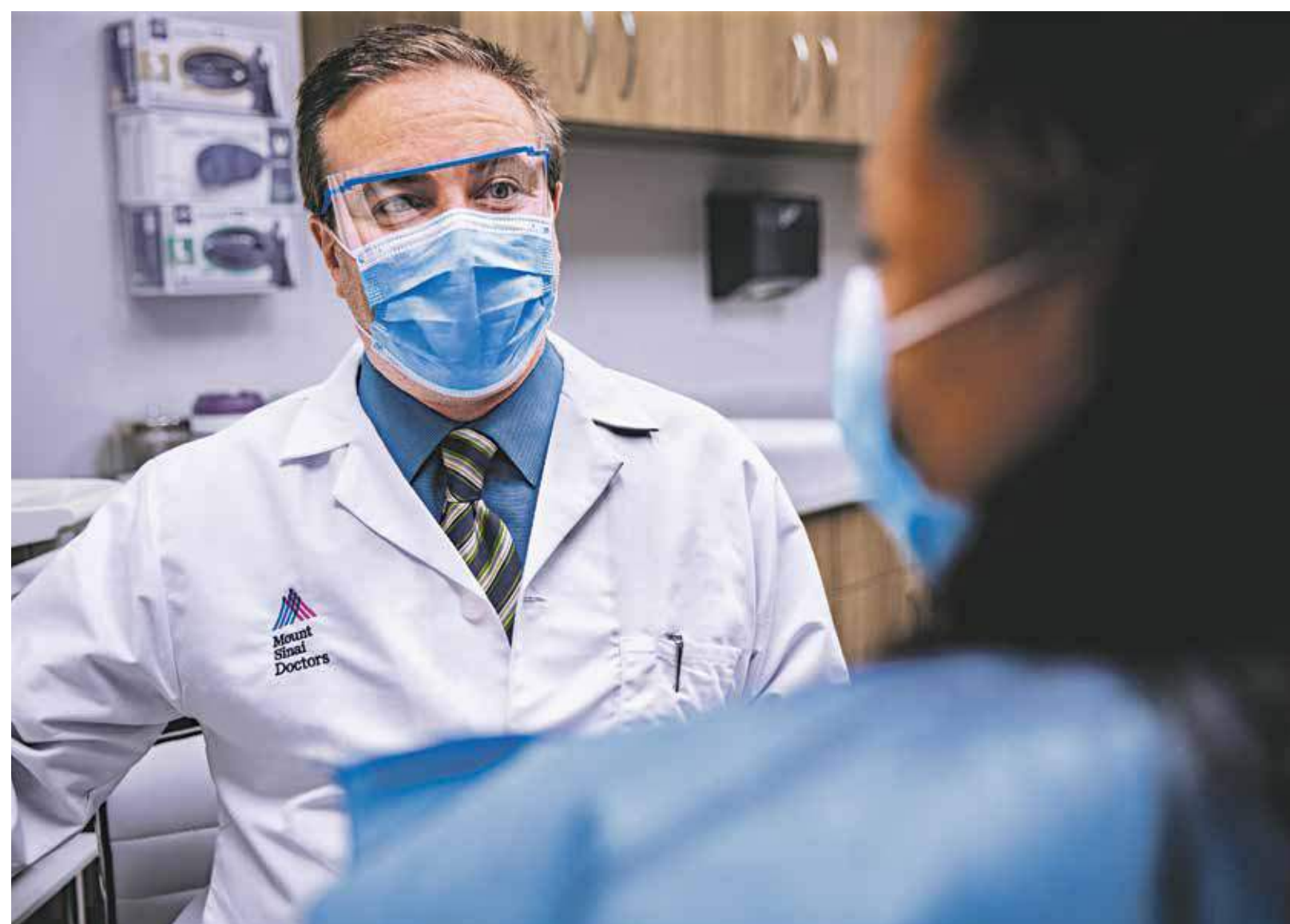
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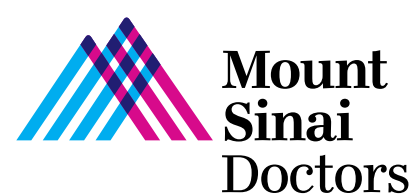
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