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A recent mailer sent out to democrats in the 16th Congressional District

By Dan Murphy

Voter participation and turnout for the democratic congressional primary between Congressman Jamaal Bowman and County Executive George Latimer in (NY-16, Westchester and parts of the Bronx) is expected to reach a record high.

Here are some deadlines and important dates for voters from the League of Women Voters and the Board of Elections:

New York State recently allowed ALL voters to vote early by mail by requesting an Early Mail Ballot: Any registered voter may apply for an early mail ballot. This allows voters to request a ballot early without providing a reason, which used to be the only way to vote by mail through an absentee ballot.

Saturday, June 15: Last day NYS voter registration form must be received by the Board of Election by mail or in person.

Saturday, June 15: Last day for an application for a mailed absentee ballot or a mailed early mail ballot to be received by the Board of Elections.

Monday, June 24: Last day to apply in person at the Westchester County Board of Elections (25 Quarropas Street, White Plains, NY 10601) for an absentee ballot.

Tuesday, June 25, 2024: Last day to postmark a completed absentee or early mail ballot (must be received by Tuesday, July 2, 2024)

Early Voting:

Early Voting in NY State will be held from Saturday, June 15, 2024 – Sunday, June 23, 2024

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Why Are We So Divided Over the NYS ERA?

THE NYS EQUAL RIGHTS AMENDMENT



By Dan Murphy

A proposed amendment to the New York State Constitution called the Equal Rights Amendment has divided New Yorkers as much as the upcoming Presidential election.

Specifically, the proposed amendment, which would have to be approved by the voters in a referendum in November, states:

No person shall be denied the equal protection of the laws of this state or any subdivision thereof. No person shall, because of race, color, ethnicity, national origin, age, disability creed, or religion, or sex, including sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression, pregnancy, pregnancy outcomes, and reproductive healthcare and autonomy, be subjected to any discrimination in their civil rights by any other person or by any firm, corporation, or institution, or by the state or

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Tuckahoe Mayor Andino Ditches Village for "The Suburbs"



Tuckahoe Mayor Omayra Andino

By Dan Muirphy

Residents of Eastchester and the Village of Tuckahoe have more questions for Tuckahoe Mayor Omayra Andino after Journal News reporter David Mackay Wilson's story uncovered the fact that Andino purchased an Briarcliff home for \$990,000 just 6 days before she was re-elected for a second term as Tuckahoe Mayor, and that she indicated to the lender that the property would be her primary residence.

Wilson's story, which can be read at www.lohud.com/story/news/local/westchester/tuckahoe/2024/05/28/tuckahoe-ny-mayor-andino-bought-ossining-home-as-principal-residence/73826063007/, includes a link to mortgage documents, which show Andino listing the property as her primary residence and not a second home. The documents also show that Andino was represented at the closing by Tuckahoe Village attorney Gary Gjertsen, who shortly after Andino's purchase, was re-appointed as the Village Attorney.

Tuckahoe residents who live in the same co-op building that Andino calls her residence, at 14 Westview, say "she is never there. I haven't seen her in some time."

Andino saved money on her mortgage, by obtaining a lower interest rate for the new property, by listing it as her primary residence, and admitted to Mackay Wilson that it will be her primary residence at some point. While some realtors have called this intentional misrepresentation mortgage fraud, it is hardly ever enforced.

Many believe that Andino was hoping to have the Briarcliff home purchase go unnoticed until November 2024, which would mark one year since she purchased the property, and at which point her lender would not require her to keep it as a primary residence. Mortgage documents available online, through the County Clerks office, show that the mortgage terms require Andino to reside in

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Yorktown Democrats Endorse Susan Siegel for Council- Experience Counts!



Former Supervisor Susan Siegel

June 23 Special Election

The Yorktown Democratic Committee (YDC) voted at their nominating meeting on Thursday, May 23rd to unanimously endorse Susan Siegel for the Special Election for Councilmember to be held on Tuesday, July 23rd.

A 54 year Yorktown resident, Susan has been involved in town government in various capacities: As president of the Yorktown League of Women Voters, newspaper reporter, town supervisor (2010-2011), councilwoman (2015). From 2008-2021 Susan hosted the Citizens for an informed Yorktown website, ciyinfo.org, which posted summaries of Town Board and Planning Board meetings, and she has been as a long time community advocate on a host of issues. For the past several months, she has authored a guest column in the Yorktown

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Westchester County DA's Office and New Rochelle Police Hold Gun Buyback June 1



OFFICE OF THE WESTCHESTER COUNTY DISTRICT ATTORNEY MIRIAM E. ROCAH

NEW ROCHELLE POLICE DEPARTMENT

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COMMUNITY GUN BUYBACK

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- \$25 PRE-PAID GIFT CARD NON-WORKING GUN

SATURDAY, JUNE 1, 2024
10:00AM - 2:00PM

SHILOH BAPTIST CHURCH
185 LINCOLN AVE. NEW ROCHELLE, NY 10801

GUNS MUST BE UNLOADED AND PLACED IN A PAPER/PLASTIC BAG OR BOX. IF TRANSPORTED BY CAR, GUNS MUST BE UNLOADED, AND IN THE TRUNK, PLACED IN A PLASTIC/PAPER BAG OR BOX. PAYMENT SUBJECT TO SCREENING BY ON-SITE OFFICIALS.

3D-PRINTED GUNS ARE NOT ELIGIBLE FOR THIS BUYBACK. LICENSED GUN DEALERS, ACTIVE OR RETIRED LAW ENFORCEMENT ARE NOT ELIGIBLE TO PARTICIPATE.

FOR MORE INFORMATION VISIT: bit.ly/jun1gbb

Westchester County District Attorney's Office (914) 995-3586
New Rochelle Police Department (914) 654-2300

Up to \$250 pre-paid gift cards will be offered for surrendered firearms with no questions asked

Westchester County District Attorney's Office and the New Rochelle Police Department will host a community gun buyback event on Saturday, June 1 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at Shiloh Baptist Church located at 185 Lincoln Avenue in New Rochelle. Eligible participants will be offered up to \$250 in pre-paid gift cards for surrendered firearms with no questions asked.

Westchester County District Attorney Miriam E. Rocah said: "As we begin National Gun Violence Awareness Month, we are proud to partner with the New Rochelle Police Department on our continuing efforts to reduce gun-involved incidents, including gun suicides. We hope the public takes advantage of this amnesty program—no I.D. is required, and no questions will be asked—to remove firearms from our communities and help prevent guns from ending up in the wrong hands."

New Rochelle Police Department Commissioner Robert Gazzola said: "The New Rochelle Police Department is partnering with the Westchester County District Attorney's Office in this gun buyback program to help enhance community safety. By offering a safe and anonymous means for individuals to surrender firearms, we reduce the risk of these weapons falling into the wrong hands. This program not only removes guns from circulation but also prevents accidents, suicides, and potential use in criminal activities."

Shiloh Baptist Church Dr. Rev. H. Lee Jordan said: "Community input in gun violence prevention and intervention is key to helping keep our neighborhoods safe. We are proud to partner with the D.A.'s Office and the New Rochelle Police Department to provide a safe space to host this gun buyback event."

Guns must be unloaded and placed in a plastic bag, paper bag or box. If transported by car, guns must be unloaded, and in the trunk, placed in a plastic bag, paper bag or box. Identification will not be required, and no questions will be asked.

Participants will be offered money in the form of pre-paid gift cards: \$250 for assault rifles, \$200 for handguns, \$100 for shotguns or rifles, and \$25 for non-working guns. Payment is subject to inspection and screening onsite by officials. There is no limit to the number of firearms that can be surrendered.

Licensed gun dealers and active or retired members of law enforcement are not eligible to participate, and 3-D printed guns are not eligible for the buyback program. For more information, visit [bit.ly/jun1gbb]bit.ly/jun1gbb.

Kathleen Reckling Named New CEO of ArtsWestchester



Kathleen Reckling

After an extensive national search, ArtsWestchester's Board of Directors announced today the appointment of Kathleen Reckling as its new CEO, effective July 1, 2024. She is succeeding Janet Langsam who, after 33 years of stalwart leadership at ArtsWestchester bolstering the county's cultural infrastructure, is transitioning from CEO to CEO Emerita.

Reckling joined ArtsWestchester in 2011, and during her tenure has held key leadership roles: spearheading the Arts Council's exhibition program over the last decade, serving as Director of Public Programs and most recently serving as Chief Operating Officer for the organization. Among her numerous honors and recognitions, Reckling was selected as a Business Council of Westchester Rising Star in 2020 and a 914INC. Wunderkind in 2015.

"In appointing Kathleen as our next CEO, the ArtsWestchester Board affirms our confidence in Kathleen's leadership abilities and strategic expertise expressed in her numerous ArtsWestchester successes, achievements, and her commitment to the Westchester arts community and affiliates. Kathleen's vision for ArtsWestchester will build on the organization's notable legacy and further enhance ArtsWestchester's mission to bring the arts to all Westchester residents," said Marie Smith, President of the Board of Directors of ArtsWestchester.

"I am thrilled that ArtsWestchester has selected Kathleen Reckling as its new CEO. With her long-time service, rising through the ranks at ArtsWestchester, Kathleen brings a level of expertise, strategic leadership, vision and energy that will propel this storied organization to the next level," said ArtsWestchester Board Member Edward J. Lewis III, President & CEO, Caramoor.

"It's a great honor to take on this incredible leadership position at ArtsWestchester, an organization that is deeply respected and that has significant personal meaning for me," said Reckling. "I am excited to continue my work alongside our dedicated Board of Directors and many community partners. This is an exceptionally dynamic time for the arts in the lower Hudson Valley, with a booming creative workforce and unbounded vision among our many new and established cultural organizations. I look forward to guiding and empowering our talented team as we seek new opportunities to expand our impact and support of this diverse and ever-growing arts sector."

Reckling is a sought-out partner in public art, working across the public and private sectors to deliver inspiring works of art. In 2016, she was recognized as an emerging leader in the field by Americans for the Arts with a scholarship to its annual Public Art Conference. She oversaw the creation and installation of "Best of Westchester" winning "Metropolis Sunrise," a six-story textile sculpture by Amanda Browder for the façade of ArtsWestchester's building. Despite a pause in project activities due to the COVID-19 pandemic, 1,000 volunteers

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Scamming, A Growing Threat to Us All Sound View Summit-May Edition



Left to right: Paul Corrigan, Christine Hatfield, and Lt. P. J. Trujillo

By Rina Beder

With the exponential rise and sophistication of scams, how can you identify a scam and what proactive measures can you take to avoid being taken in the first place? The Larchmont-Mamaroneck Local Summit's final meeting of the season held on May 14th focused on these pressing questions.

Exponential Rise in Scams

Lieutenant P. J. Trujillo of the Investigations Division in the Village of Mamaroneck Police Department reported that in 2020 alone, victims lost \$4.1 billion to a variety of scams. "Five years ago, we saw a scam report maybe once a month and now we are seeing it on an almost daily basis" said Paul Corrigan, Branch Manager at the Larchmont branch of Wells Fargo Bank. There has been a similar increase of cases reported to the Westchester County D.A.'s office.

Typically, "scammers target individuals who are living alone, immigrants, a grieving spouse, the disabled, and the elderly", Lt. Trujillo said. According to Christine Hatfield, Chief of the Child Abuse and Elder Abuse Bureaus in the Westchester County District Attorney's Office, teens are also targeted.

Scammers find their targets in a variety of ways. Information is readily available online, explained Lt. Trujillo. For example, when individuals sign up for loyalty points or a credit card, information can be extracted and their profile can be sold. "Scammers only need a little bit of information to start the process and once they start you talking on the phone they are able to verify further information." Both Lt. Trujillo and Hatfield noted that teens are vulnerable, especially when they enter information on encrypted sites or gaming platforms. "Speak to your children and let them know that people can put them in a compromising position and then try to extort" Trujillo said.

Current Scams: Online, In person, Over the phone

Much like a virus trying to avoid detection, scams are evolving. Most rely on a sense of urgency to be successful, said Hatfield. Examples include:

A caller poses as a representative of Medicare or other health insurance company and informs the individual of an issue with the account. They go on to ask for personal information and possibly bank information.

IRS phones saying money is owed;

Grandparent scam where loved one calls saying they have been arrested or injured and need funds;

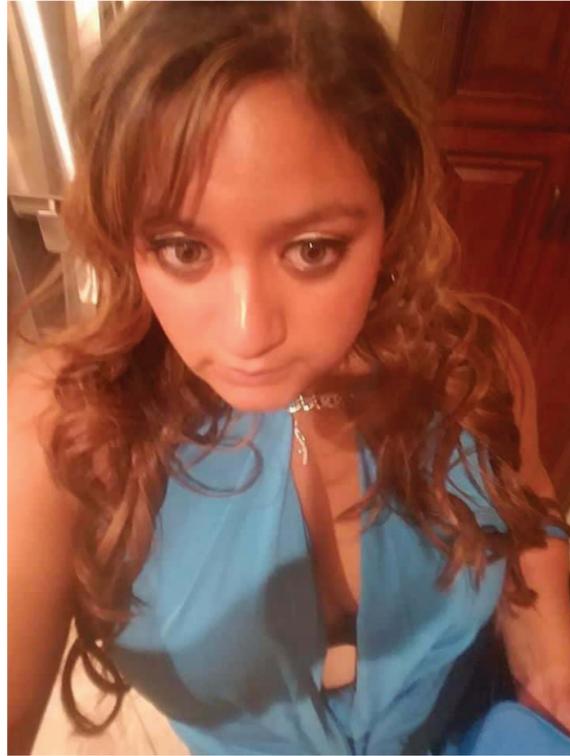
Lottery scams;

Utility scam saying your AC or heat will be turned off unless there is an immediate payment by phone; and

A call from a number that appears to be your bank (referred to as spoofing) saying your account has been compromised, followed by asking you to close the account and transfer funds to a new account.

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Former Yonkers Teacher Caught Having Sex with Student Headed to Jail: Danger to the Community



Sandy Carazas-Pinez

By Dan Murphy

NYC Federal Judge John Cronan has sent former Yonkers teacher Sandy Carazas-Pinez to prison after she violated the terms of her bail related to her arrest last year after she was caught having sex and filming the acts, with a minor student at the Biondi School in Yonkers, a school for special needs children.

Carazas-Pinez has been out on bail after her arrest last year, and the conditions of her bail were strict; she was restricted to home confinement except for a few permissible circumstances. She was also banned from having any interactions with children under 18.

Carazas-Pinez had a GPS monitor on her but she violated the terms of her confinement when she was permitted to leave her home and cash a check but instead went to a restaurant and a "wooded area."

After being kicked out of the home she shared with her husband, Carazas-Pinez was recently staying with her parents. For the past month, she has been an inmate at the Metropolitan Detention Center

Here is the story and charges against her from 2023.

On July 12, SDNY US Attorney Damian Williams announced the unsealing of a two-count Indictment charging SANDY CARAZAS-PINEZ with enticing a minor victim to engage in illegal sexual activity and production of child pornography. As alleged in the Indictment, CARAZAS-PINEZ, a former high school teacher at the Biondi School in Yonkers, enticed one of her 16-year old students to engage in sexual activity with her and further induced the same student to participate in live-streamed sexually explicit conduct while on video calls with CARAZAS-PINEZ. CARAZAS-PINEZ was arrested on July 13 and no longer works for the Yonkers Public Schools.

CARAZAS-PINEZ was a high school teacher at a school for kindergarten through 12th grade students located in Yonkers, New York ("School-1"). From in or about November 2022 through in or about February 2023, CARAZAS-PINEZ abused her position as a teacher at School-1 by inducing and attempting to induce a student ("Minor Victim-1") at School-1 into a sexual relationship with CARAZAS-PINEZ. Minor Victim-1 was 16 years old at the time of the abuse.

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DiNapoli Report Examines Troubling Child Poverty Trend

A new report by State Comptroller Thomas P. DiNapoli details troubling child poverty trends across the state, including a child poverty rate that is one of the worst in the nation and alarmingly high in some cities.

“A staggering number of children live in poverty in New York,” DiNapoli said. “Research shows that poverty presents serious barriers to healthy child development. Despite unstable economic conditions during the pandemic, child poverty dropped by half because the government expanded programs to help families and children. When these measures expired, the problem got worse. The state and federal government have the solutions to lift more children out of poverty, and we should act with urgency to use them.”

DiNapoli’s report found:

Nearly one in five New York children live in poverty. More than 2.7 million New Yorkers were living in poverty in 2022, and more than a quarter (735,742) were children. Under the Official Poverty Measure (OPM), 18.8% of New York’s children were in poverty in 2022. Almost half of all children living in poverty in the state are in deep poverty, meaning they are in a household with income that is 50% below the federal poverty line. An individual or household is considered to be in poverty when they do not have the financial resources to meet basic needs such as food, clothing and shelter, or access to a minimum standard of living, as defined by the U.S. Census Bureau.

New York state’s child poverty rate is one of the worst in the nation. New York ranked 41st in the nation in 2022. The rate was at least six percentage points higher than states that border New York and second highest among its five most populous peer states: California, Florida, Texas, Illinois and Pennsylvania.

The gap in child poverty rates between New York and the U.S. has been widening since 2019. A decade ago, child poverty rates in New York and the nation were equivalent, at about 22.8%. Since 2021, child poverty had continued to decrease nationally but not in New York, producing a gap of 2.5 percentage points. If New York’s 2022 rates were equivalent to the national average, approximately 100,000 fewer children would be in poverty.

Poverty in Upstate Cities Among Worst in U.S.

When compared to other U.S. cities with similar population levels, Albany, Syracuse, Rochester, and Buffalo have child poverty rates that are double the average rate of their cohort cities. Between 40 to 46% of children in Syracuse, Rochester, and Buffalo were living in poverty in 2022, and they rank second, fifth, and seventh among the largest cities in the U.S. with the highest rates of child poverty.

Child Poverty and COVID Relief

The U.S. Census Bureau has two methods of measuring poverty: the OPM and the Supplemental Poverty Measure (SPM). While OPM is the basis for calculating assistance for many social safety net programs, the SPM is a broader measure based on out-of-pocket household spending that includes the impact of all non-cash benefits. Between 2019 and 2021, the SPM child poverty rate dropped by 54% in the nation and 51% in New York, indicative of how meaningful the COVID relief benefits were to households across the nation. These relief measures included expanded benefits under the Child Tax Credit (CTC); enhanced food benefits (SNAP); and emergency rental assistance, among others. As these programs lapsed, the SPM rates for children doubled (and in some cases tripled) in all but 10 states in 2022. In New York, the rate more than doubled to 20.2%, passing its pre-pandemic level of 18.6% in 2019.

New federal legislation that would expand the current federal CTC passed the House of Representatives on Jan. 31, 2024, but has not passed the Senate. While the proposal would not increase the CTC to 2021 levels, it would significantly improve the benefit for low-income families. DiNapoli urged for the passing of the federal CTC expansion in the Senate and signing by President Biden as soon as possible.

Recent State Policies to Reduce Child Poverty

The New York State Child Poverty Reduction Advisory Council (CPRAC) is working to produce recommendations to reduce child poverty by half by 2031.

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THE 27TH ANNUAL ASIAN-AMERICAN HERITAGE FESTIVAL SCHEDULED FOR SATURDAY, JUNE 1

The 27th Annual Asian-American Heritage Festival will take place on Saturday, June 1, from 12 p.m. to 6 p.m. at Kensico Dam Plaza in Valhalla.

This cultural festival will showcase Chinese, Korean, Japanese, Indian, Thai and Vietnamese cultures with live songs, dances, musical performances, Asian arts and cultural exhibits, Chinese paper cutting and origami, and ethnic foods. It will also include, children’s entertainment, balloon sculptures, games and face painting. Free medical and dental screenings will be available to attendees.

Westchester County Executive George Latimer said, “Westchester takes pride in the shared spirit among its many diverse cultures. Experiencing other backgrounds broadens one’s perspective, fostering a greater understanding of the varied ways our county’s populations live and think.”

Westchester County Parks Commissioner Kathy O’Connor said, “Though May is Asian-American and Pacific Islander Heritage Month, this festival will extend the celebration into June. Folks of all ages can enjoy the activities, dances, music and culinary delights at one of our most beloved parks.”

The festival will be held rain or shine. Seating is informal; bring blankets or folding chairs for seating on the lawn. No coolers will be allowed. Admission and parking are free, except for Irish-American festival.

The other heritage festivals in the series are:

Albanian, Sunday, June 2, 12 p.m. to 6 p.m., Kensico Dam Plaza, Valhalla

African-American, Sunday, June 23, 12 p.m. to 6 p.m., Kensico Dam Plaza, Valhalla

Hispanic, Sunday, July 7, 12 p.m. to 6 p.m., Kensico Dam Plaza, Valhalla

Irish-American, Saturday, July 14, 12 p.m. to 6 p.m., Ridge Road Park, Hartsdale (admission: \$5 adults; free for ages 14 and under)*

Italian, Sunday, July 21, 12 p.m. to 6 p.m., Kensico Dam Plaza, Valhalla

Arab, Sunday, July 21, 12 p.m. to 6 p.m., Ridge Road Park, Hartsdale

India, Sunday, Aug. 4, 12 p.m. to 6 p.m., Kensico Dam Plaza, Valhalla

Ecuadorian, Sunday, Aug. 11, 12 p.m. to 6 p.m., Croton Point Park, Croton-On-Hudson

Jewish, Sunday, Aug. 18 12 p.m. to 6 p.m., Kensico Dam Plaza, Valhalla

Muslim Heritage, Sunday, Aug. 25, 12 p.m. to 6 p.m., Kensico Dam Plaza, Valhalla

Please be advised that the Bronx River Parkway will be closed for Bicycle Sundays in June from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. and in July from 8 a.m. to 12 p.m. The parkway will be closed between Scarsdale Road in Yonkers and the Westchester County Center in White Plains. Kensico Dam Plaza can be accessed via Route 22, from the north or south.

Kensico Dam Plaza is at the north end of the Bronx River Parkway, in Valhalla. (Directions) Ridge Road Park is at 287 Ridge Road, Hartsdale (Directions

For more information, visit parks.westchestergov.com or call (914) 864-PARK; dates and times are subject to change.

This event is sponsored by Westchester County Parks and OCA – Westchester and Hudson Valley Chapter, with support from Arts Westchester.

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Assemblywoman Paulin Sponsors Bill to Safeguard Doctors' Ability to Give Accurate Abortion Information



Assemblywoman Amy Paulin, left, with Robin Chappelle Golston, President & CEO, Planned Parenthood Empire State

Assemblywoman Amy Paulin, State Senator Rachel May, legislators and advocates rallied today in support of legislation A5297/S6616 (Paulin/May) which would prohibit hospitals from preventing health care practitioners from providing medically accurate information and care related to pregnancy complications.

"It's necessary to pass this bill to protect New Yorkers in the face of continued threats to reproductive health care at the federal level," said Assemblywoman Amy Paulin. "Some argue that federal law, specifically EMTALA, already provides these protections. However, based on 2 recent Supreme Court cases, hostile states are attempting to argue that their abortion bans cannot be preempted by EMTALA and that EMTALA can only compel treatment when the pregnant patient is at risk of death."

"These cases will give the Supreme Court the opportunity to allow hostile states to deny care to pregnant patients in exactly those circumstances protected by this legislation and to overturn the longstanding interpretation of EMTALA that applies nationwide," continued Paulin.

"This bill is another step in ensuring New York remains a safe harbor for women seeking reproductive and pregnancy-related health care. Doctors, nurses, and other health care providers must be able to provide critical information and care when a patient needs it. By passing this bill, we can ensure women receive the care they need, when they need it, from a provider they trust," said Senator Rachel May.

Many advocates and legislators joined the rally in support.

Robin Chappelle Golston, President & CEO, Planned Parenthood Empire State Acts said, "At Planned Parenthood, we believe that patients and their providers should be driving decision-making around the information and health care they may need, not politicians or bureaucratic policies that don't reflect modern standards of care. Across this country, we are hearing harrowing stories of pregnant individuals experiencing a miscarriage and being turned away from urgent care - threatening their health and well-being. This June, we expect the Supreme Court to rule in a case challenging a federal law, the Emergency Medical Treatment and Active Labor Act (EMTALA), that requires hospitals to provide necessary stabilizing treatment to pregnant patients in emergencies. It is unbelievable that we live in a country where the health and life of a pregnant person is callously disregarded because of the extreme beliefs of a few.

We applaud Assemblymember Paulin and Senator May for championing this legislation that will align our state law with the federal protections of EMTALA, and ensure that providers can communicate medically accurate and comprehensive information to their patients, and deliver miscarriage management care when necessary to preserve a pregnant patient's health or life."

State Senator Krueger, Co-Chair of the Bipartisan Pro Choice Legislative Caucus said, "There have already been far too many reports nationwide of people experiencing pregnancy complications who sought treatment at ERs and were turned away or forced to wait for hours until approval was granted to provide

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You Read It Here First! Joseph Spennato Charged with Attempted Murder of NC Cop



Joseph Spennato

Last week, Westchester Rising uncovered the person responsible for attacking a North Castle police officer with a knife as two officers responded to an emergency call for assistance on May 20. We were able to identify that person as Joseph Spennato, and found his photo, above, along with a number of strange videos on social media.

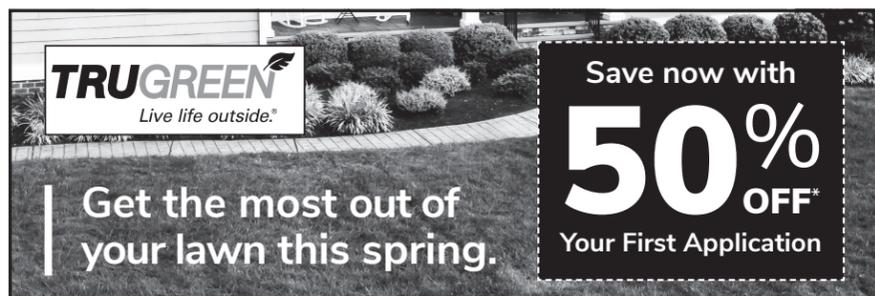
On May 28 Spennato, 38, was charged with the attempted murder of North Castle Police Sgt. William McClure. Spennato remains at Westchester Medical Center where he is recovering after being shot by North Castle police during the attack.

North Castle Police reported that their two officers, Sgt. William McClure and Police Officer Chris Costa, initially went to Spennato's home, at 14 Hallock Place, at 12:26 p.m. to assist a 78-year-old woman who needed medical care. While at the residence, the officers encountered Spennato and knew that there were two bench warrants for his arrest.

When the officers attempted to take him into custody, he allegedly grabbed a knife and attempted to stab McClure, who was wearing a ballistic vest, multiple times in the back. He was then shot two times by Costa.

Westchester County Police were requested to take over the investigation, which it conducted along with the Westchester County District Attorney's Office.

Spennato was ordered held without bail at arraignment and will be remanded to Westchester County Jail upon his release from the hospital.



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Notice of formation of WIT SOCCER LLC. Arts. of Org. filed with the SSNY on 4/18/2024. Office: Westchester County. SSNY designated as agent of the LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail copy of process to the LLC, 390 Heritage Hls, Unit D, Somers, NY 10589-1989. Purpose: Any lawful activity.

Notice of formation of Resonance Interactive LLC. Arts. of Org. filed with the SSNY on 5/14/2024. Office: Westchester County. SSNY designated as agent of the LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail copy of process to the LLC, 17 Arlington Road, Scarsdale NY, 10583. Purpose: Any lawful activity.

Notice of formation of Studio Elise LLC filed with the SSNY on 04/05/2024. Office: Westchester County. SSNY designated as agent of the LLC upon whole processes against it may be served. SSNY shall mail copy of processes to the LLC, 3 Ward Street, Hastings-on-Hudson, NY 10706. Purpose: Any lawful activity.

Notice of formation of Lee & Mazie's LLC. Articles of Organization filed with the SSNY Office on 04/02/2024 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 : Lee & Mazie's LLC 1 Sherwood Terrace Apt 5D Yonkers, NY 10704 Purpose: Any lawful purpose. Latest date upon which LLC is to dissolve: No specific date.

Notice of Formation of KW Services NY LLC. Articles of Organization filed with Secretary of State of New York (SSNY) on 3/30/24. Office location: Westchester County. SSNY is designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to 875 King Street Chappaqua NY 10514. Purpose: any lawful act or activity.

NOTICE OF FORMATION of Intentional Journey Psychotherapy, LCSW, PLLC. Arts of Org filed with Secy. of State of NY (SSNY) on 4/8/24. Office location: NY County. SSNY designated as agent upon whom process may be served and shall mail copy of process against PLLC to 1374 Midland Ave, Suite 410, Bronxville, NY 10708. Purpose: any lawful act.

Notice of Formation of Northern Lights Massage Therapy PLLC. Arts. of Org. filed with SSNY on 8/21/23. Office location: Westchester County. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process may be served. SSNY shall mail process to 409 North Broadway Apt 38 Yonkers NY 10701. Purpose: any lawful act or activity.

Notice of Formation of RR 207 Consulting, LLC. Arts. of Org. filed with SSNY on 03/27/24. Office location: Westchester County. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process may be served. SSNY shall mail process to 603 Warburton Ave, Ste 2, Hastings-on-Hudson, NY, 10706. Purpose: any lawful act or activity.

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State Senator Harckham Supports Carmel Moratorium on Energy Storage Systems

Letter to Carmel Supervisor Notes Forthcoming Legislation on Sound Siting, Safety of Future "Battery Farms" and Need for Including Local Stakeholders

New York State Senator Pete Harckham declared his "full support" for a moratorium on energy storage systems in the Town of Carmel in a letter sent today to Carmel Town Supervisor Michael Cazzari. Additionally, Harckham stated that he will be introducing new state legislation to ensure sound siting and storage system safety while also guaranteeing that all local stakeholders are included in the development process.

Harckham said his District Office has fielded numerous calls and emails over the past several weeks from constituents about the proposed "Union Energy Center" being developed by East Point Energy, a firm based in Charlottesville, Virginia, which will be sited on a 93.5-acre parcel of land off Miller Road in Mahopac, adjacent to the border of the Town of Somers, and include a 116-megawatt battery energy storage system, two substations and two enclosure pads.

Many of the calls to Harckham's office are from Somers residents who have voiced concerns that they do not have any say in Carmel's siting decision-making, hence the need for a more comprehensive approach in future energy storage system proposals.

In his letter to Cazzari, Harckham applauded the Carmel Town Board for planning to hold a public hearing on a possible moratorium next month. In April, Harckham sent a letter to the Town of Carmel Planning Board and asked that there be a "robust public engagement process" regarding a grid-scale energy storage system project in Mahopac.

"The Board has my full support in pursuing a temporary moratorium until it has had the opportunity to consider more comprehensive local regulations," states Harckham. "I appreciate and respect the independence of the Town of Carmel as it relates to land use matters. The proximity of the Miller Road site to homes and properties in the adjoining municipalities makes this proposed project particularly sensitive."

The energy storage system project is meant to reduce some of the strain on the regional electric grid, which would be helpful during blackouts; it would also alleviate some costs to both the electric utility and consumers. The system would be connected directly to the electricity grid in Mahopac, where it is under operation of New York State Electric and Gas (NYSEG).

Harckham writes the new legislation he will be introducing will support local governments as they contend with other proposals for energy storage systems or "battery farms." A proposed 100-megawatt battery storage facility located in Queens, NY, slightly smaller in size to what is planned for Carmel, would be 130,680 square-feet, according to a Public Service Commission document—about three acres in size and larger than a city block in Manhattan.

The new legislation, Harckham states, would "ensure sound siting, best standards for energy storage system safety and guarantee all stakeholders are heard." An earlier bill was called back recently after new regulatory language in the FY2024-2025 State Budget made it unworkable.

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THE CITY OF YONKERS/YONKERS PUBLIC SCHOOLS, BUREAU OF PURCHASING, One Larkin Center, 3RD Floor, Yonkers, New York 10701 (Located in the Yonkers Riverfront Library Building across from the Metro-North train station) will receive sealed Bids and Proposals for the following projects until 2:00 PM, on the dates below.

Sealed Bids will be publicly opened and read at the address above in the 3rd Floor Finance Conference Room.

The building is open from 8:30 AM to 4:00 PM for receiving packages via courier services and in person. If delivering bids in person, individuals must see the Public Safety Officer in the library atrium, who will contact Purchasing to meet the individual at the 3rd floor elevator.

Those interested in listening to the bid opening and the reading of bids can dial Conference Call number 1-701-802-5221 and enter Access Code 1354203 when prompted.

Solicitation documents are available for downloading from the Empire State Purchasing Group website at <http://www.empirestatebidsystem.com/>. The City welcomes and encourages participation by local and minority and women owned business enterprises.

1. Bid RFB-7135A – Opening date: 6/14/2024: Twelve-month contract to purchase up to 50 Motorola Vigilant, or Yonkers approved equal, license plate reading cameras and accessories-the initial purchase will be for 13 sets (VB).

2. Bid RFB-7164A – Opening date: 6/14/2024: Pick-up, removal, and lawful disposal of rock and dirt from the City of Yonkers lots and yards as needed (NG).

3. Bid RFB-7168 – Opening date: 6/14/2024: Purchase of one Hamm model HD 12 VV Tandem Vibratory Roller and trailer, or Yonkers approved equal (FB).

4. Bid RFB-7169 – Opening date: 6/14/2024: Purchase of 44 Dayton Armor Level III, or Yonkers approved equal, rifle plates (NG).

5. Bid RFB-7170 – Opening date: 6/14/2024: Purchase of 2 Innvotronics MK-4 Soft Body Tactical robots, or Yonkers approved equal (NG).

6. Bid RFB-7171 – Opening date: 6/14/2024: Twelve-month contract to Purchase up to 170 sets of Tyvek 400 suits, or Yonkers approved equal. The initial order will be for 85 suits (AC).

7. Bid RFB-7172 – Opening date: 6/28/2024: Furnish and install shelving and racks on three 2023 Ford Transit vans and one 2023 Ford F150 Lightning (FB).

8. Bid RFB-7174 – Opening date: 6/14/2024: Purchase of American Pneumatic Tools, or Yonkers approved equal, paving breakers and rock drills – 12 items (KAS).

9. Bid RFB-7175 – Opening date: 6/14/2024: Purchase of 3 Karcher Chariot, or Yonkers approved equal, floor scrubbing machines (KAS).

10. Bid RFB-7176 – Opening date: 6/14/2024: Purchase of 24 CavCom, or Yonkers approved equal, in-ear communication systems (VB).

11. Bid RFB-7177 – Opening date: 6/21/2024: Twelve-month contract to purchase up to 320 tons of fine mortar sand as needed (VB).

12. Bid RFB-7178 – Opening date: 6/21/2024: Twelve-month contract to purchase up to 760 tons of ½” crushed stone as needed (VB).

13. Bid IFB-7179 - Opening date: 6/28/2024: Asbestos abatement at City Hall, 40 South Broadway, 1st Police Precinct, 730 East Grassy Sprain Road, and DPW Service Center, 1130 Nepperhan Avenue (FB).

14. Bid IFB-7180 - Opening date: 6/28/2024: Furnish and install new motor at the station 2 pump at the Hillview Pump Station, 371 Central Park Avenue (AC).

15. Bid RFB-7181: Opening date: 6/14/2024: Purchase of six Neptune, or Yonkers approved equal, metering pumps (KAS).

16. Bid RFB-7183 – Opening date: 6/14/2024: Twelve-month contract, with option to renew for 12-months, to provide on-call exterminating of City owned lots and catch basins (FB).

17. Bid IFB-7184 – Opening date: 6/28/2024: Twelve-month contract to resurface state touring roads within the City of Yonkers (KS).

18. Bid RFB-7185 – Opening date: 6/14/2024: Twelve-month contract to purchase Fresh Step, or Yonkers approved equal, non-clumping cat litter in 35 lb. bags, approximately 60,000 pounds (NG).

19. Bid RFB-7186 – Opening date: 6/28/2024: Repair wall at the Organic Yard, 610 Nepperhan Avenue, Yonkers, NY (KAS).

20. Bid RFB-7187 – Opening date: 6/28/2024: Twelve-month contract, with option to renew for 12-months, to provide maintenance and repairs to playground equipment throughout the Yonkers School District (FB).

21. Bid RFB-7194 – Opening date: 6/14/2024: Twelve-month contract to purchase up to 3 Hurst spreaders, cutters, rams, chain & shackles, and power supplies (VB).

22. Bid RFB-7195 – Opening date: 6/21/2024: Twelve-month contract to purchase various pool chemical as needed (NG).

23. Bid RFB-7197 – Opening date: 6/21/2024: Twenty-four month contract, with option to renew for 12-months, to provide on-call maintenance and emergency repairs to the remote water distribution monitoring systems (KS).

24. Bid RFB-7199 – Opening date: 6/21/2024: Purchase of one Toyota model 8FBCHU25, or Yonkers approved equal, electric forklift with charging station (VB).

25. Bid RFB-7200 – Opening date: 6/21/2024: Purchase of Kappler and Tingley Rubber, or Yonkers approved equals, personal protective equipment, 10 items (KS).

26. Bid RFB-7201 – Opening date: 6/28/2024: Twelve-month contract, with option to renew for 12-months, to provide maintenance and repairs to fire suppression systems within the Yonkers School District (FB).

27. Bid RFB-7202 – Opening date: 6/14/2024: Furnish and install repair parts on Fisher Scientific water purification system (VB).

Reckling, continued from pg 2-

from across Westchester participated in the artwork's creation. In addition, she managed the Serious Fun Arts Fest, a five-day public art festival produced in collaboration with I Love NY, the City of White Plains, the White Plains BID, and 11 property developers. Working in partnership with the NYS Thruway Authority and the Arts Council of Rockland, she oversaw the commissioning of 10 major works of art for the Gov. Mario M. Cuomo Bridge. In addition, she managed the commissioning of "Peaceful Journey" by Eto Otigbe, monument to Dwight Myers, known professionally as Heavy D, a trailblazing hip-hop artist and Mount Vernon resident. The two-story sculpture was created for 42 Broad Street, an Alexander Development property in Mount Vernon.

In her various roles at ArtsWestchester, Reckling has been an advocate for area artists. As Gallery Director, she grew ArtsWestchester's exhibitions program into a regional leader by securing significant National Endowment for the Arts funding in every fiscal year since 2014. Over 2020, she oversaw the creation and administration of a COVID-19 Relief Fund that distributed emergency grants of \$500 to Westchester artists. In addition, she successfully secured an American Rescue Plan Act Local Arts Agency Subgrant from the NEA to expand and administer a new grant program, Voices for Change which supports the creation of new work by Hudson Valley regional artists.

As Director of Public Programs, she championed ArtsWestchester's commitment to advancing equity, diversity, inclusion, and accessibility in and through the arts. Under her supervision, ArtsWestchester established a Social Justice Committee, deepened allyship with the LGBTQ+ community and initiated ongoing public programs developed in collaboration with a diverse array of Westchester's cultural communities, including the outdoor concert series Westchester Roots. Among the department's notable achievements was the formation of the Westchester Heritage Ambassador Corps. Supported by a major two-year grant from the Institute of Museum and Library Services, the Heritage Ambassador Program is a community scholars training initiative that supports the development of cultural leaders and programming in under-resourced Westchester communities.

Reckling holds a Master of Arts in Art History from Columbia University Graduate School of Arts & Sciences, and a Bachelor of Arts in Economics from Columbia College of Columbia University. In 2012, she received Columbia College Alumni Association's Dean's Award. Reckling trained in curatorial departments at institutions in New York City and Westchester, including the Hudson River Museum, the Museum of Modern Art, and the National Museum of the American Indian New York.

A life-long Westchester resident, Reckling is a former internationally ranked fencer who competed in two US Olympic Trials. She captained the Columbia University Fencing Team to a Top 3 finish at the 2007 NCAA Division 1 Championships and to the Ivy League Conference Championship title. Since 2020, she has served as Board President of Fencers Club, INC, the oldest, continuously running school dedicated to the sport of fencing in North America.

**2024 Pride Month Series:
How Three Trans Women Lead Change**



Clockwise: Angelique Piwinski, Nekia Zulu, and Cienna Rosalina

By: Dennis Richmond, Jr.

Sometimes, not all of our voices are heard. This is especially true for the trans community. Cienna Rosalina, Nekia Zulu, and Angelique Piwinski are shining stars who refuse to be silent. They're showing bravery in big cities like New York and quieter places like Tampa. They're breaking free from stereotypes and showing everyone how powerful they are. Their stories are all about courage and never giving up. They want everyone to see them, accept them, and treat them fairly- by any means necessary.

Cienna Rosalina: Cienna Rosalina is a 23-year-old content creator and trans activist from Yonkers, New York, who exemplifies the power of self-expression and advocacy in the digital age. With over 165,000 followers on TikTok and millions of views on her videos, Cienna utilizes social media as a platform to share her experiences and uplift other trans folk. "Bravery as a trans woman is standing on what you believe in," she asserts, embodying resilience in the face of adversity. Cienna's online presence not only amplifies her voice but also fosters a sense of community and solidarity among her followers.

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**Kennedy for President Campaign Submits
135,519 Signatures to Get on Ballot in NY**



On May 28, the Kennedy for President campaign announced that it had submitted 135,519 signatures to the NYS Board of Elections, more than three times the required 45,000 signature to get on the ballot for President in the Empire State.

Dozens of volunteers carried more than 70 volumes of signatures into the New York State Board of Elections office in Albany. "The scale of this grassroots effort has been monumental and proves the strength of our ground game in a way many claimed was impossible," said Will Boothby, Kennedy campaign northeast regional field director. "In six weeks, the campaign has held two rallies, a college bus tour, and hundreds of local events. More than 900 volunteers representing all 63 counties stepped up for this historic effort."

"The State of New York has stacked the deck against independent candidates in every way possible, combining the worst aspects of ballot access restrictions into one amalgamation designed to stop any candidate from achieving what we have achieved today."

New York utilizes the following stringent rules: a byzantine set of rules for the final processed documents; congressional district requirements for signatures that must be proven to be met before submission; requiring manual validation of all signatures; confusing tests of residency, forcing signers to put downtowns as opposed to the postally accepted hamlets; one of the shortest petitioning windows in the nation allowing only six weeks for collection; and one of the highest number of signatures required in the nation.

In spite of this, the Kennedy campaign has made history in the state that once elected Robert F. Kennedy as their U.S. Senator and where Robert F. Kennedy Jr. began his environmental career by spearheading the project to clean up the Hudson River from corporate polluters.

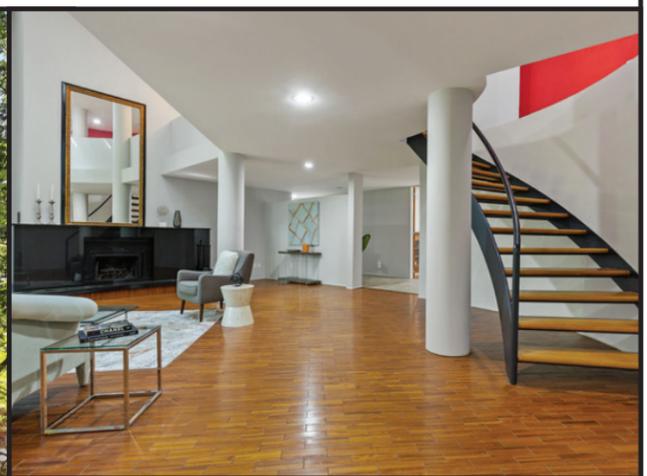
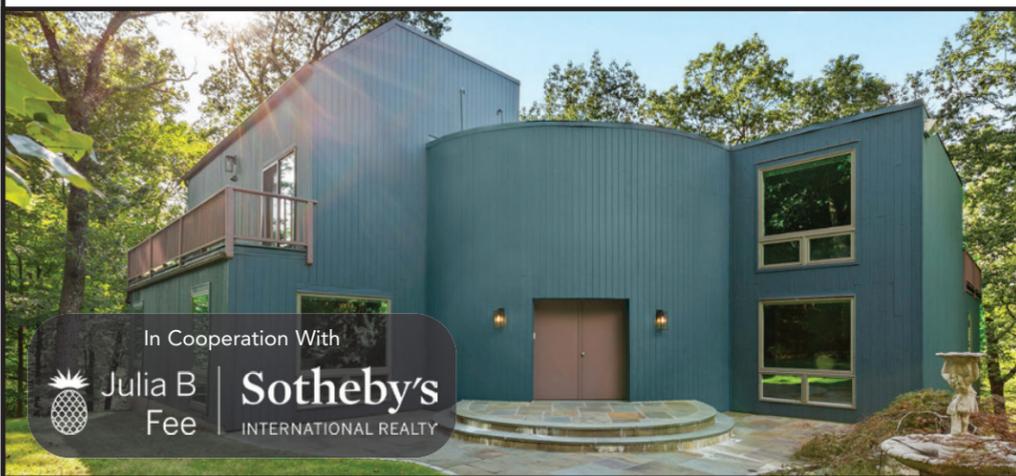
"This accomplishment is a testament to the strength of our movement," said Emma Diment, Kennedy campaign field digital director. "We've talked with hundreds of thousands of New York voters who are thrilled to have a third option this November."

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Lyndhurst's 2024 Season Continues with Rose Weekend June 9 & 10



Nature lovers, gardeners, and those looking for family fun will definitely want to stop and smell the roses during Rose Weekend 2024 at Lyndhurst.

The event, which happens Saturday, June 8th and Sunday, June 9th from 10 AM-3 PM, has everything from gorgeous gardens to puppet shows, potting workshops, horticultural walk-and-talks, a popup café, and more, and is sure to appeal to all ages.

Following on the heels of the wildly successful flower-filled Lyndhurst in Bloom event in April, Rose Weekend is filled with a bounty of offerings that go way beyond just roses. Rose Weekend attendees will be able to enjoy the sights and smells of hundreds of roses (and can even purchase a rare "Helen Gould Rose" to take home as a souvenir), attend potting workshops, see puppet shows, listen to a rosarian talk with Peter Winne, participate in a rose bouquet demo, and take part in a garden book talk. Gardening professionals (from Seeds of Design, Ardsley Pollinator Pathway, Seed on Hudson, and Hudson Compost) will be on site to answer questions, and walk-and-talks will explore different trees and plants with expert guidance. All these activities are included in the price of admission.

On Saturday, a popup café will be selling lunch and snacks, and Penny Lick Ice Cream Company will have ice cream for sale. On Sunday, in addition to lunch, snacks, and ice cream, mocktails will be available from Aperó Vespa.

Lyndhurst's fabled rose garden was first developed in the early 1900s when Helen Gould (a philanthropist and member of New York City's wealthy Gould family) was at Lyndhurst. During World War II, the garden was neglected, but in the 1960s, the Garden Club of Irvington began to restore the rose garden.

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Lag BaOmer Celebrated in Yonkers



See story on page 13

Chabad of Yonkers Rabbi Mendy Hurwitz places tefillin on Bruno Amaro's forehead and arm Photo (c) Robert Kalfus



L-R Rabbi Yoel Hurwitz, brother of Rabbi Mendy, made a large cotton candy looking like a streimel hat, and holding it over the head of his brother Rabbi Mendy Hurwitz Photo (c) Robert Kalfus.

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Child Poverty, continued from pg 4-

CPRAC is looking to implement evidence-based solutions. In its 2023 Progress Report, CPRAC recognized that a combination of policies will be needed to meet the state’s child poverty reduction goal while balancing the overall cost to the state.

The recently enacted State Budget for State Fiscal Year 2024-25 includes measures that could have near-term impacts on the most severe pockets of child poverty in the state, including a \$50 million anti-poverty pilot program using federal funds for families with children living in concentrated areas of poverty in Syracuse, Rochester and Buffalo. If this initiative is successful, it could serve as a model to fight child poverty statewide.

“Child poverty is a policy choice,” said Larry Marx, CEO of The Children’s Agenda. “No child is born destined to live in poverty, and the fact that nearly one of every two children in Rochester do – along with so many others in New York State - is a failure of public policy. We cannot afford the cost, morally or financially, of carrying 735,742 kids through childhoods wracked by poverty. New York state needs to adopt a robust antipoverty tax credit for families, like the pandemic-era expansion of the federal Child Tax Credit.”

“Poverty across New York State remains unconscionably high, especially among our state’s youngest residents,” said Aqua Y. Porter, Executive Director of the Rochester-Monroe Anti-Poverty Initiative. “While we have seen some important progress in reducing these rates over the last decade, we know that more critical investments and decisive actions are needed to bring upward mobility to all of our state’s residents. Policy changes and strategic investment in families can make a significant difference, which was proven with the expansion of the federal Child Tax Credit that led to a historic reduction in poverty in the United States. We look forward to working with partners at the state level to take further necessary steps, including expanded tax credits to help working families and increasing the shelter allowance to Fair Market Rent so families can afford quality housing. We applaud the state for addressing this crisis with the urgency and decisive action it deserves.”

“State Comptroller DiNapoli’s report on child poverty underscores the ubiquity and severity of this issue across the Empire State. In New York City alone, one out of every four children live in poverty. The Comptroller’s report should inspire us to support and expand proven solutions like the state’s child tax credit and earned income tax credit that we know can reduce child poverty,” said Richard R. Buery, Jr., CEO of Robin Hood. “Later this year, the Child Poverty Reduction Advisory Council will release its final recommendations to cut child poverty in half in 10 years. I hope our lawmakers will lean into the findings of the Comptroller’s report to forge consensus around achieving this goal.”

“We are grateful to State Comptroller DiNapoli for this important report,” said Nancy Kern Eaton, President of United Way of Central New York. “Poverty has devastating impacts on children, particularly young children. There are few investments with a higher potential of return than funding for strategies to address child poverty. We at United Way share Comptroller DiNapoli’s sense of urgency. We look forward to working with all who are committed to lifting children out of poverty. United, we can build a strong and healthy New York.”

“Our children living in poverty are facing challenges some would find insurmountable,” said Melanie Littlejohn, President & CEO of Central New York Community Foundation. “Whether it’s food or housing insecurity, living in uncertainty creates trauma which can impact a child’s long-term ability to be successful in school. Children that fall behind in school are less likely to complete high school and college, making it hard to later become employed. When every child has a safe and reliable place to live, access to healthy and consistent meals, and community schools with wrap around services, the cycle of poverty begins to crack open, giving our children the opportunity to thrive. This is why the Central New York Community Foundation supports community-based organizations and programs who are committed to address the social determinants that often lead to poverty.”

WEEKEND EVENTS IN WESTCHESTER COUNTY PARKS

SATURDAY, JUNE 1

Merestead Estate, Mount Kisco: (914) 864-7958. Junebirds on Location, 10 a.m. - 11:30 a.m. Welcome in the new month with our feathered friends! We will observe the migrants and year-round residents of birds. Please bring binoculars. Meet at the Merestead Meadow parking lot.

Marshlands Conservancy, Rye: (914) 835-4466

Birding for Beginners, 10 a.m. - 11:30 a.m. It’s springtime, and that means it’s a great opportunity to observe bird behavior during the nesting season. Bring binoculars. Meet at the nature center. Led by Chris Mignone of Central Westchester Audubon.

Lasdon Park and Arboretum, Katonah: (914) 864-7268. Lasdon Green Squad, 10 a.m. - 2 p.m. Every Saturday through November. Get details and register at <https://www.lasdonpark.org/event/lasdon-green-squad/2024-06-01/>

Hilltop Hanover Farm and Environmental Center, Yorktown Heights: (914) 862-5050 Old Time Music Jam Session, 11:30 a.m. – 3:30 p.m.

Join our community of old-time musicians in our historic house at for a jam session! Whether you want to pick up your instrument and play along with this Appalachian folk-style genre or to simply listen and enjoy, this open session is for all to join. Free. Get details at <https://hilltophanoverfarm.org/events/event-calendar.html/event/2024/06/01/1717259400/old-time-music-jam-all-welcome/472028>

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

Beach Is Open, 11 a.m. - 6:30 p.m. The beach will be open on June 19, weekends through Sunday, June 23, and daily from Friday, June 28 through Monday, Sept. 2; weather permitting; no admittance after 6 p.m.; parking and beach admission fees apply. Westchester County residency is required for admission, with a County Park Pass, a valid NYS driver’s license or a valid NYS ID with a Westchester County address.

Croton Point Park, Croton-on-Hudson: (914) 862-5290. Beach Is Open, 11 a.m. - 6:30 p.m. The beach will be open weekends in June and on June 19. The beach will be open Wednesday through Sunday, from Friday, June 28 through Monday, Sept. 2; weather permitting; no admittance after 6 p.m.; parking and beach fees apply; Westchester residency is not required.

Lasdon Park and Arboretum, Katonah: (914) 864-7268. Patterns In Nature Exhibition, 10 a.m. – 3:45 p.m. Explore the mesmerizing tapestry of patterns that can be found everywhere in this interactive exhibit and flower show. Thursdays through Sundays until August 31. Get details and tickets at <https://www.lasdonpark.org/event/patterns-in-nature-2/2024-06-01/>

Kensico Dam Plaza, Valhalla: (914) 231-4033. Asian Heritage Festival, 12 p.m. - 6 p.m. Admission and parking are free. Get details at <https://parks.westchestergov.com/press-releases/3327-the-45th-annual-polish-heritage-festival-to-kick-off-2024-cultural-heritage-celebrations>

Trailside Nature Museum at Ward Pound Ridge Reservation, Cross River: (914) 864-7322 Sustainable Flower-Pressing Workshop, 1 p.m. - 2 p.m.

Would you like to keep your flowers for more than a few weeks in a vase? Learn how to press flowers so they can be preserved for years! Together we’ll enjoy a guided hike filled with sustainable flower harvesting. Enjoy some time at Trailside by creating your own pressed flower artwork.

Lenoir Preserve, Yonkers: (914) 968-5851. History Tour, 1 p.m. - 2:30 p.m. Lenoir has an interesting historical background, with centuries of fascinating owners and various uses for the land. Join us on a leisurely 1-mile walk around the preserve to learn all about it. For ages 1- and up.

Westchester County Center, White Plains: (914) 995-4050. WWE Super-Show Summer Tour, 7:30 p.m. - 10:30 p.m. WWE Live Returns to the County Center! Doors Open: 6 p.m. Show: 7:30 p.m. Get details and tickets at <https://countycenter.biz/event/w-supershow-summer-tour/>

SUNDAY, JUNE 2

Lasdon Park and Arboretum, Katonah: (914) 864-7268. Bird Walk, 8 a.m. - 10 a.m. Come to for an early morning bird walk with Tait Johansson, the Bedford Audubon Society naturalist. Wear sturdy shoes and bring binoculars. The walk will leave from the Conservatory plaza outside the Welcome Center. Free, rain or shine. Also: Oct. 19. Register at <https://www.lasdonpark.org/event/audubon-bird-walk/2024-06-02/>

Alfred B. DelBello Muscoot Farm, Somers: (914) 864-7282. Farmers Market, 9:30 a.m. - 2:30 p.m. Our market, which supports farmers and sustainable efforts in our area, features more than 25 local vendors every Sunday until Nov. 17. Get details at <https://www.muscootfarm.org/programs-events/event-calendar.html/event/2024/06/02/1717338600/farmers-market/479750>

Lasdon Park and Arboretum, Katonah: (914) 864-7268. Gardening Sundays, 10 a.m. - 12 p.m. Get details and register at <https://www.lasdonpark.org/event/gardening-sundays/2024-06-02/>

The Bronx River Parkway- Bicycle Sundays, 10 a.m. - 1:45 p.m. A portion of the parkway is closed to cars for the exclusive use of non-motorized bicyclists and scooters, as well as in-line skaters, walkers and joggers. Runs through July and starts again in Sept. through Oct. 6. Get details at <https://www.thewpf.org/events/uat2xxrxqzb9rr27qs0f7v961nhmc1-yprk5-a4g45-3t9xr-w5ja6-37rw7-pk4n7-2f8nk-f4c5c-8w89a-7nwnm-szc32-6sknj-fkmpn>

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

DJ Day, 12 p.m. - 4 p.m. Come for a swim and enjoy music at the beach! Proof of Westchester County is residency required. Participation is free; admission and parking fees apply; weather permitting.

Get details at <https://parks.westchestergov.com/family-fun-days>

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

Coyotes: Masters of Survival Through the Seasons, 2 p.m. - 3:30 p.m.

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Siegel, Yorktown, continued from pg 1-

News focused on town issues. And most recently she returned to providing meeting summaries of Town Board and Planning Board meetings on a blog format, yorktownbettergovernmentorg.wordpress.com.

While following town government issues, Susan raised three children who graduated from Yorktown schools, earned a Master's degree in Public Administration from Pace University and started two small businesses: a communications consulting firm in 1984 and in 1992 a niche book publishing business. In 2014, she helped found the Yorktown Trail Town Committee and is currently its president.

Susan Siegel said: "I'm privileged to have been selected by the Yorktown Democratic Committee to be its candidate in the July 23rd Special Election to fill the vacant council seat on the Town Board. I'm ready to meet the voters, debate my opponent, and I'll be ready to start work on Day One if you honor me with your support and vote for me."

YDC Co-Chair Mark A. Lieberman said: "Susan has previously served on the Yorktown Town Board as a Councilmember and as a Supervisor making her the most qualified candidate for office in years. For those of you that attend Board meetings, or read Susan's column in Yorktown News, or follow her Blog on the most important issues facing our town it is clear that she, by far, is the most knowledgeable and experienced candidate. Susan will bring intelligence and transparency to our town. She will make critical town decisions public once again."

YDC Co-Chair Marni Rabin-Marron said: "Susan is ever present at town board meetings. She has the experience and acumen to decipher issues in such a way that helps town residents get clarity on how town council decisions affect the daily living expenses and quality of life for all of Yorktown families. Ms. Siegel, a former Yorktown Town Supervisor and councilperson, understands the importance of keeping our Town Board accountable. Her extensive experience and prudent judgment will bring much-needed balance to our Town Board. She is supremely qualified to sit on the Town Board as our next Councilperson."

We have taken a page out of the new Supervisor's playbook that municipal experience counts. The Yorktown Democrats are proud to be running the most experienced candidate in this Special Election. The candidate with real municipal experience!

Yorktown Democrats encourage all residents to register to vote and to turn out for the Special Election. To learn more about registering to vote, requesting absentee ballots, and more, please visit our website: <https://yorktowndemocrats.com>.

The vacancy on the Town Board occurred when Ed Lachterman was elected Supervisor last month. Yorktown republicans have nominated Donna Diana, the widow of former Supervisor Tom Diana, to fill the vacant council seat.

Pride Month, continued from pg 8-

Angelique Piwinski: Angelique Piwinski, an activist, speaker, and congressionally recognized, award-winning trans woman, embodies a legacy of resilience and perseverance. Having been present during the historic Stonewall Uprising in 1969, Angelique has witnessed firsthand the struggles and triumphs of the LGBTQ+ community. Despite facing countless challenges throughout her journey, Angelique remains a steadfast advocate for trans rights, offering support and guidance to those who seek her wisdom. "I don't even know that I'm doing it," she humbly remarks, emphasizing the organic nature of her impact. Through her activism and storytelling, Angelique continues to inspire generations of trans folks to embrace their authenticity and stand tall in their truth.

Nekia Zulu: Nekia Zulu, a 23-year-old multi-talented entertainer, radiates confidence and resilience in her pursuit of artistic expression. With a passion for creating safe spaces for her community, Nekia fearlessly confronts societal norms and expectations, refusing to be confined by others' perceptions. "If someone affects you enough to get in your psyche, be brave to overcome that. But I just am," she declares, embodying a spirit of unwavering self-assurance. Through her artistry and activism, Nekia challenges stereotypes and empowers trans folks to embrace their identities unapologetically.

Collectively, Cienna, Angelique, and Nekia embody the spirit of resilience and authenticity, paving the way for greater visibility and acceptance within the trans community. Despite the systemic barriers and discrimination they may face, these remarkable women remain steadfast in their commitment to creating a more inclusive and equitable society for all of us.

The Data: According to recent statistics, trans folks continue to experience disproportionate rates of violence, discrimination, and marginalization in America. A report by the Human Rights Campaign revealed that at least 44 transgender or gender non-conforming people were fatally shot or killed by other violent means in 2020, marking the deadliest year on record for the transgender community. Additionally, a study by the National Center for Transgender Equality found that nearly one in three transgender individuals experienced homelessness at some point in their lives, with a significant percentage reporting mistreatment or harassment while seeking shelter. The Human Rights Campaign also reports at least eleven trans folks killed in 2024.

Despite these challenges, the resilience and courage demonstrated by Cienna Rosalina, Angelique Piwinski, Nekia Zulu, and countless other trans folks serve as a testament to the power of authenticity and solidarity. As we celebrate Pride Month and reflect on the progress made in the fight for LGBTQ+ rights, let us honor the legacies of these remarkable women and reaffirm our commitment to creating a world where all individuals can live authentically, free from fear and discrimination. When we say LGBT, always remember the T.

Dennis Richmond, Jr., an educator, historian, and writer, illuminates the experiences of Black, Latinx, and LGBTQ+ communities in Yonkers and NYC through his journalism. Stay connected with him by following @NewYorkStakz on social media.

Paulin, continued from pg 5-

medically-necessary treatment. Now, with EMTALA protections for pregnant people in jeopardy at the U.S. Supreme Court, some of the reproductive protections New Yorker's enjoy may be at risk. That makes this legislation from Assemblywoman Paulin and Sen. May so critical. We must ensure that pregnant people here in New York receive accurate medical information and medically-necessary treatment."

Assembly Member Rebecca A. Seawright said, "I am proud to co-sponsor and support Bill A.5297-A. While New York strongly protects reproductive rights, federal efforts threaten pregnancy-related health care nationwide. Bill A.5297-A would secure existing safeguards so medical professionals can share vital information with patients, provide essential services, and ensure their well-being without limitation or fear of reprisal from hospitals. New York must remain a haven for public health."

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Read it all Online at Yonkerstimes.com

We will provide all locations in Westchester County in next week's paper.

Several outside groups are encouraging voters to be aware of their voting options and to make sure that they cast a vote on June 25. One group that is empowering voters to cast a ballot in the upcoming NY-16 democratic primary is Westchester Unites. Driven by Teach Coalition, Westchester Unites is making sure that Jewish democratic voters in the 16th district are ready to make their voices heard on June 25.

Westchester Unites is not supporting any candidate, but is seeking to empower voters through outreach, education and engagement in an effort to maximize turnout.

Earlier this year, more than 2,000 voters in the district changed their enrollment to democrat, allowing them to vote in the June 25 primary. And Westchester Unites has sent out direct mailings, text messages and videos, and through an army of local volunteers have made phone calls and knocked on doors in the district.

Westchester Unites (WestchesterUnitesCoalition.org) has an office located in New Rochelle, at 1297 North Avenue.

"Our mission is that we want to make sure that the Jewish vote in District 16 is robust and that the whole community is going to take part in the outcome. This race will be decided in the primary, so you have to vote in the primary on June 25," said Dan Mitzner, COO & Director of Government Affairs, Teach Coalition.

"We also want voters to be aware of the different ways and opportunities to vote. We have over 700 active volunteers, and by partnering with other groups, we are ensuring that every likely Jewish voter is contacted.

So far, 32.34% of the early mail ballots have been requested by likely Jewish voters (our target audience), while likely Jewish voters make up only 9.33% of the population. And likely Jewish voters are requesting early mail ballots at a rate nearly 5 times likely non-Jewish voters.

"The numbers are good and what is being done is working. We are looking at this in a multiphase campaign. Phase one has been a success, and it speaks to the enthusiasm of the Jewish community to get involved in this election," said Mitzner.

Westchester Unites will be following the election timeline and will continue their efforts to include a shift to in person, early voting starting June 15.

The Westchester League of Women Voters will host a debate between Bowman and Latimer on June 10 via zoom. Visit <https://my.lww.org/new-york/westchester>.

Kennedy, continued from pg 8-

The campaign's aggressive ballot access plan will ensure the Kennedy-Shanahan ticket is on the ballot in all 50 states and the District of Columbia. The ballot access plan is fully funded with more than \$15 million raised.

The Kennedy-Shanahan ticket is officially on the ballot in seven states — Utah, Michigan, California, Delaware, Oklahoma, Hawaii, and Texas. It has collected enough signatures for ballot access in nine other states — New Hampshire, Nevada, North Carolina, Idaho, Nebraska, Iowa, Ohio, New Jersey, and now New York.

The Kennedy-Shanahan campaign has collected the signatures needed for ballot access in 16 states, totaling 229 electoral votes, 43% of the 538 total electoral votes nationwide.

"Getting 'Bobby on the Ballot' in my home state is one of the greatest achievements of my life," said New York volunteer Tammi Palmeri. "I understand what's at stake for our country and I'm grateful there's a candidate I can believe in."

On May 1, the Kennedy campaign released results from a Zogby poll showing Kennedy beats both Presidents Biden and Trump in head-to-head matchups. Kennedy is the first independent ever to defeat both major party candidates in head-to-head matchups.

Learn more at Kennedy24.com.

Teacher Jailed for Bail Violation, continued from pg 3-

It was the unidentified minor student who broke of the relationship with Carazas-Pinez, but not after she threatened him to punish him at school if he didn't continue their sexual activity.

Eventually, the two were seen together outside of the school, and others had witnessed the inappropriate behavior inside the school. Carazas-Pinez was terminated in March.

The married mother of three later emailed another former student a day after he turned 18 to wish him happy birthday.

While technically not a violation, "it seems to fly in the face of the spirit of the conditions," Cronan said in a hearing, a transcript shows. Prosecutors said it fit the teacher's "pattern of grooming" a student for sex. Her own lawyer called the behavior "troubling."

any agency or subdivision of the state pursuant to law.

Currently, the ERA amendment will not be on the ballot in November, because NYS Supreme Court Judge Daniel Doyle ruled that the amendment was not properly presented to the NYS Attorney General based on a technicality.

The New York constitution requires that a proposed amendment must be presented to the attorney general to ensure that the proposal is not in conflict with other provisions of the constitution. NY Attorney General James is appealing Doyle's ruling.

Westchester Democrats, and abortion rights supporters, want the ERA on the ballot and approved by the voters. Assembly member MaryJane Shimsky said, "We need the ERA now precisely because of the extremists who would scapegoat children for political gain and the dangers their culture wars are creating in our communities. New Yorkers know that we are stronger together and when we stand up for each other. Should the ERA proposition be restored to the ballot, I expect that it will pass with broad popular support."

Andrea Miller, president of the National Institute for Reproductive Health, a national advocacy group, described the amendment as "exciting" and a "first of its kind" in how it expressly links sex discrimination and reproductive rights to LGBTQ+ rights and others.

"This would be the first time that a state constitution would explicitly name all of those as being encompassed by sex discrimination and within the context of sex discrimination," she said.

The ERA isn't just about a single issue," said Emma Corbett, state director of communications for Planned Parenthood Empire State Acts. "Fewer and fewer voters are single-issue voters these days. There's this real opportunity to codify those freedoms for New York, and I think voters are gonna respond positively to that."

Westchester District Attorney candidate Susan Cacace said, "Access to a safe and legal abortion is a fundamental aspect of reproductive healthcare," said Judge Cacace, a strong champion of reproductive rights. "By passing the NY ERA, we have the chance to permanently keep abortion legal in New York and protect it from the kinds of threats to these freedoms that we are seeing play out all across the country. I urge everyone who cares about access to healthcare to support the amendment."

"Abortion is a legal right in New York and no one should feel threatened if they are attempting to seek care. If elected District Attorney, I vow to vigorously prosecute anyone who disrupts a patient's access to abortion services," said Cacace. "I will also work tirelessly with law enforcement to make sure that they are given all relevant and up to date information about the state and county laws protecting these rights."

Opponents to the ERA include the Coalition to Protect Kids, who calls the ERA the Parent Replacement Act. "New York State Attorney General Letitia James is filing a Notice of Appeal to try to resurrect the Parent Replacement Act, which would, among other things, deny the parents of school-age children the right to know if their kids are undergoing gender transition treatments. The measure, Proposition One, would also give biological males a Constitutional right to compete on girls' and women's' sports teams in the State of New York.

"The New York State Supreme Court was right to reject this ballot initiative. The way in which it was passed was plainly unconstitutional, as the court found. But the issue with the initiative cuts far deeper: In addition to taking away the rights of girls and women to compete in fair sports matches, and in addition to stripping New York parents of the fundamental right to protect their children from potential harm. This proposal in no way reflects the will of New Yorkers. Indeed, 66% of New Yorkers surveyed in a recent Siena College Research Institute Poll said they want girls' and womens' sports protected from biological males, who have clear physical advantages," said Greg Garvey, Executive Director, Coalition to Protect Kids-NY

Democrats on the Westchester County Board of Legislators issued a statement supporting the ERA. "The Democratic Caucus of the Westchester County Board of Legislators strongly supports the New York Equal Rights Amendment and the inclusion of reproductive rights within New York State's Constitution. We are disappointed by the recent ruling from a Supreme Court in Livingston County, which denies voters the chance to weigh in on this vital issue. We commend Attorney General Letitia James for her steadfast defense of these fundamental rights and remain confident in her ongoing advocacy for all New Yorkers.

"While our State Constitution safeguards certain rights, it currently lacks explicit protections against gender-based discrimination and other crucial classifications. This gap underscores the urgency of initiatives like the Equal Rights Amendment, especially given the US Supreme Court's reversal of Roe v. Wade. This recent effort to remove ERA from the ballot will hopefully be reversed, but the very attempt underscores our need for this ballot measure. We call on our colleagues in government and constituents to join us in supporting these critical measures to ensure equity and justice for all individuals across our state so that New Yorkers can flip the ballot over and vote yes in November."

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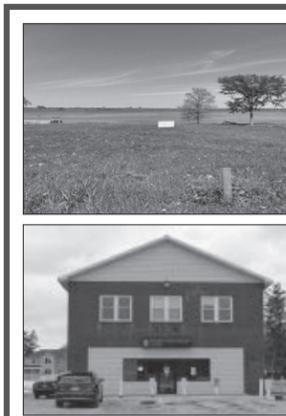
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Lag BaOmer Celebrated in Yonkers

Lag BaOmer, the minor Jewish holiday, was celebrated May 26th, this past Sunday. The holiday's name refers to the 33rd night and day of counting from the second night of Passover, marking the progression of the Hebrews leaving their Exodus of slavery in Egypt, to seven weeks later, when on the 50th day, they received the Torah at the foot of Mount Sinai, celebrated with the festival of Shavuot (weeks).

Many Jewish synagogues and communities celebrate Lag BaOmer with traditional bonfires, childrens' games, bow and arrow, Israeli food and salads, kosher marshmallows burnt to a crisp, burgers, frankfurters, french fries, pickles, potato chips and BBQ.

At Chabad of Yonkers, Rabbi Yoel Hurwitz created a giant cotton candy shape resembling a traditional 'streimel' to place on the head of his brother, Rabbi Mendy Hurwitz, head of Chabad of Yonkers, who urged many men to wrap tefillin on their arms and forehead and recite blessings, with the help of his son, Haim Hurwitz. For information on activities, contact Chabad of Yonkers at (914) 963-8888 or Rabbi@JewishYonkers.com.

Northeast Jewish Center's Rabbi Craig Glasser manned the industrial size grills located outside, and cooked all the hamburgers, frankfurters, delicious roast chicken, and also served French fries, potato salad, pickles, potato chips and the usual BBQ foods, with options for vegan eaters. Kosher marshmallows cooked over a safe bonfire and watermelon were served for dessert.

Almost 100 people enjoyed sitting outdoors in dry, warm weather, seeing the stars in the sky come out and the musical stars of Pey Dalid's non-stop musical performance bringing "the fire of HaShem to the world" which moved some to dance, and almost everyone to sing and clap to their favorite musical numbers.

Guitarist Shlomo Walker explained the band's name, saying "In Hebrew the letter, Pey represents the number 8, the spiritual and infinite, and Dalid represents the number 4, the physical and finite. Our music bridges the core of those dualities, connecting not only with our Jewish brothers and sisters but with all people throughout the world."

Based in Yonkers, Pey Dalid has performed as a band for more than two decades, is available for all types of events, and has three studio albums.

Learn about the Yonkers synagogue's events and services at (914) 337-0268 and at <https://www.NortheastJewishCenter.org>.

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"The key to the future of the world, is finding the optimistic stories and letting them be known."

— Pete Seeger

Positioned for Success ; A program, launched by recent Penn grad and Mt. Vernon Native Taussia Boadi provides academic support to middle school students affected by gun violence.

A program, launched by recent Penn grads Taussia Boadi and Cheryl Nnadi provides academic support to middle school students affected by gun violence.

Recent College of Arts and Sciences grads Taussia Boadi and Cheryl Nnadi connected right away during their first year at Penn. They are both native New Yorkers—Boadi from Westchester, Nnadi from Queens—who have focused on educational equity through community service since their high school days.

So when Nnadi, a criminology major, heard about the Projects for Progress (P4P) awards, she called Boadi right away, knowing it could be an opportunity for the two to put their passions into a program of their own creation.

Their project, Positioned for Success, was a 2023 P4P winner and is aimed at providing academic support to Philadelphia middle school students involved in the welfare system and affected by gun violence. The goal is to boost academic performances and break the pattern of vulnerable Black youth entering the juvenile justice system. They were advised by mentor Ariane Thomas, director of the Professional Counseling Program in the Graduate School of Education.

“We wanted to give these kids a support system outside of their home or school network by bringing in college students who look like them, who are high achievers and who have come very far despite their background,” says Boadi, who just graduated with a degree in sociology. “We wanted to let the kids that we’re mentoring know that they, too, can overcome and they, too, can fulfill their goals and dreams and achieve the things that they want to achieve.”

Their approach was four-pronged, focusing on academic enrichment such as homework help, high school preparation and application help, mentoring from the one-on-one engagement with other Penn volunteers, and what they call “experience normalization.”

“We understood that the students we work with might not have the opportunity to engage in the same activities their wealthier peers might. So, we planned trips to Penn’s campus, Six Flags, and museums around the city,” Boadi says. “We wanted to allow them to just experience life and be middle schoolers and have fun.”

Unveiled in 2020, the Projects for Progress are managed by Penn’s Office of Social Equity & Community, which distributes as much as \$100,000 each to chosen teams of Penn students, faculty, and staff working to promote equity and inclusion in Philadelphia by addressing topics like health care, education, systemic racism, and environmental justice.

The program got underway last semester with about 15 students and the same number of mentors. They helped with homework, played games to boost critical thinking skills, and on Saturdays took the students out for a mix of educational and just plain fun activities, including visits to the Penn Relays, the Barnes Museum, the Museum of Illusions, and Six Flags.

“Seeing them have an increased dedication to doing their homework and actually having fun with some of the assignments that we give them has been so rewarding,” Nnadi said. “A lot of them have come back to us with their report cards saying, ‘Look at my grades! They’ve increased!’”

It wasn’t just grades that were going up. Attendance was as well.

Boadi told a story of one student who told her that, because her mom works night shifts, she has to watch her siblings, and by the time her mom gets home she sometimes can’t get to school until almost 11 a.m., so she would just stay home on those days. “But she told me that on Wednesdays she tells her mom she needs to be at school for the program. And she said that what we do is what she looks forward to and that’s what helps get her through the week,” Boadi says. “I think that’s a sentiment that has been common among our cohort. They want to come to school, and they want to be there for the programming, and they want to be better students.”

Addressing educational inequity

Thomas says she was immediately inspired by Boadi’s and Nnadi’s passion and personal commitment to the project. “Taussia and Cheryl came to me with an idea and asked me to join them on this journey; it was honestly the first time I worked closely with Penn undergraduates,” she says. “Throughout the year, I’ve witnessed their professionalism and leadership in action. They inspired their peers, mentored them and the middle schoolers, and will leave a strong legacy of service to the community. But even more importantly they built a family and laid the foundation for a long-lasting impact on the lives of both the children and the mentors.”

Nnadi says that taking classes at Penn that gave her the opportunity to explore the problem of educational inequity has also increased her dedication to the cause. She ran a similar program in her neighborhood in Queens and says she feels passionately about achieving educational equity because of her personal experience living in an underfunded community while attending high school in an affluent neighborhood.

She received a scholarship to attend classes at a test preparation center that helped her gain admission into her high school, and attending that high school helped her gain admission to Penn. “My pathway was influenced by one person taking a chance on me. That’s something I wanted to provide for other students,” Nnadi says.

Boadi took inspiration from a writing seminar her first year at Penn called Saving Schools, and she did her final project on restorative justice and how policing in schools is hurting educational outcomes for students of color. “For this program, we wanted to get kids who aren’t in the juvenile justice system to participate so that we’re able to improve their outcomes,” she says, “because they are at a very high risk. Black students especially are at high risk of entering that system of being funneled through there because of the way policing happens in schools.”

Just before Commencement, the duo wrapped up programming with their first cohort, which was based at Comegys Elementary School.

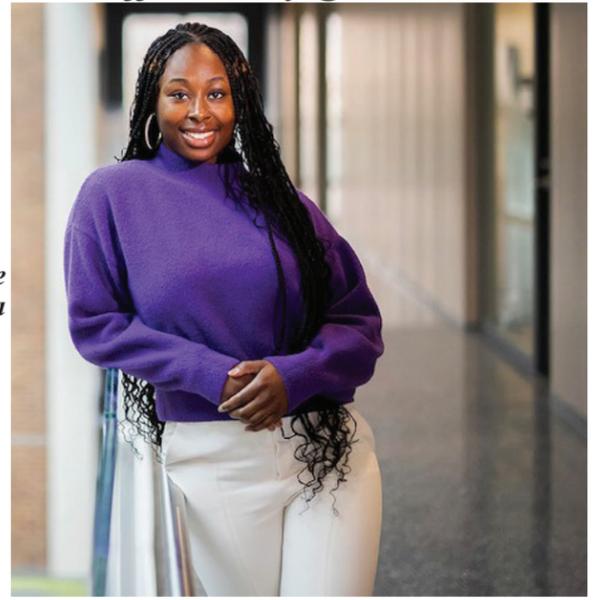
The last day of our program was extremely emotional for all involved, they said. “The kids were like, ‘Wait, like, this is the last session? Can we please meet again?’ Just begging and a lot of tears were shed,” Boadi says.

Even though Boadi and Nnadi have graduated, a group of dedicated mentors plan to continue the project in the next year. They both hope Positioned for Success can become a Penn club at some point, to help support it financially.

Nnadi says their success is a great message for anyone at Penn who “has that big crazy idea that they believe is unachievable.”

“When we found out we won this prize, we were in utter shock,” she says. “And now a year later, we’re again in utter shock about how far our program has come and are excited to see what the future holds for Positioned for Success.”

Mt. Vernon native and Penn grad Taussia Boadi



Mayor Ditches Tuckahoe, continued from pg 1-

the Ossining property for at least one year after closing.

And that part of her mortgage does not coincide with the New York State Village Law, which requires elected officials to reside in the Village that they serve. Oddly enough the Village Code is silent to residency requirements and that is something that some residents want to see changed.

But regardless of whether Andino committed mortgage fraud on her lender, Tuckahoe residents are outraged about Andino’s explanation to Mackay Wilson that she wanted to buy a home in “the suburbs.”

“The Mayor of our Village doesn’t think that Tuckahoe is in the suburbs? She has to get out of here with her family to enjoy life?” said one Tuckahoe resident.

“Our Mayor has a choice to make. Either she should live in Tuckahoe, for real, or resign and live in Ossining. Why do some of our elected officials feel like they are entitled not to play by the rules?”

The other convenient fact in the LoHud.com story is that Andino’s Ossining home is 5 miles away from her work, at the The Institutes Of Applied Human Dynamics. Andino works as the CEO at a salary of \$325,000 per year, according to Pro-Publica.

Many Tuckahoe residents don’t believe Andino’s story, that she really lives in Tuckahoe and commutes to work every weekday, when her Ossining home cuts her commute by 40 minutes every day. “She bought the Ossining home to be closer to work, that’s obvious,” said another Tuckahoe resident.

The LoHud.com story also includes a photo of Andino’s car in the driveway of her Ossining home. Some Tuckahoe residents have delved into Andino’s residency issue further, and have determined that Andino, Village Manager David Burke, and Deputy Mayor Cara Kronen, attended the New York Conference of Mayors in Albany from May 15 - May 17 on or about the same time that the photo was taken.

And sources close to Village Hall tell us that the vehicle taken to Albany was an unmarked Tuckahoe Police vehicle reserved for criminal investigations which was taken out of service for their use. We ask the following-Who takes an unmarked police car to a conference for 3 days? Is this something that is done on a regular basis for Village officials? Couldn’t one of the three officials have taken their own car and gotten reimbursed? How many Village employees were aware that the mayor lived in Ossining? Did they pick her up in Ossining on their way to Albany?

It seems that there are more questions than answers but one thing is abundantly clear - there are increasing calls for the mayor to resign.

Lyndhurst, continued from pg 9-

Now, the Lyndhurst Rose Garden contains approximately 500 roses. Old garden and shrub roses include Bourbon, damask, hybrid foetida, hybrid musk, hybrid perpetual, rugosa, moss, and pimpinellifolia. Modern roses in the garden include hybrid tea, floribunda, polyantha, grandiflora, modern shrubs, ramblers, and climbers. The garden includes “single” roses with 4-7 petals, “semi-double” roses with 8-14 petals, and “very double” roses which may have as many as 40 petals.

Helen Gould roses will be for sale in the Welcome Center Courtyard. The “Helen Gould” rose, described as “watermelon” colored and popular in its time, was later renamed “Red Maman Cochet.” Of the five Maman Cochet sister roses (pink, yellow, crimson, white, and red) only the white and pink varieties exist today. During her time at Lyndhurst, Helen Gould’s rose garden was full of pink rose blooms. Bring home this unique souvenir of Lyndhurst’s horticultural past.

Tickets are \$30 per car + service fees Registration is required. Purchase tickets, see the full schedule of events, and register for events: <https://lyndhurst.org/events/rose-weekend-2024/>

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Historic Hudson Valley Unveil Interactive Graphic Novel: 'Kofi's Fire'

Scams, continued from pg 3-



New digital project brings to life story of the 1741 "New York Conspiracy," sheds light on Black experience in colonial New York

The Sleepy Hollow-based education non-profit Historic Hudson Valley is launching Kofi's Fire, an interactive graphic novel based on the true story of the "New York Conspiracy of 1741" and Kofi, an enslaved man who was accused of being one of the ringleaders of the uprising.

Kofi, who was enslaved by the merchant Philipse family and is linked with the history of Philipsburg Manor, a National Historic Landmark in Sleepy Hollow, N.Y., was charged with being one of the instigators of a supposed plot that resulted in the arrest of nearly two hundred colonists, most of them enslaved men and women, who were accused of conspiring to set fire to Manhattan in a bid for power and freedom. As many as forty enslaved people were executed for their alleged role in the conspiracy.

Drawing from trial transcripts, contemporary letters, and newspaper accounts, this fictionalized account brings the gripping story of the revolt and Kofi's trial to vivid life with accessible storytelling, vibrant art, and user-driven, interactive elements. Additionally, Kofi's Fire depicts the Black and immigrant community in colonial New York with all the sensitivity and scholarship that is the hallmark of Historic Hudson Valley's approach to the story of Northern slavery.

The digital experience, which will have lesson plans and other tools for 7th-12th grade teachers to use in Social Studies and ELA classrooms, allows readers to experience life in colonial New York, hear from members of Kofi's community, bear witness to the injustices of enslavement, and celebrate their courage and perseverance. The graphic novel serves not only as a valuable resource for students, but for anyone interested in understanding the complexities of slavery in the colonial North.

"This innovative project tackles the critical need for accessible, accurate resources about the history of slavery in our region," said Dr. Elizabeth Bradley, vice president of programs and engagement at Historic Hudson Valley. "By sharing the story of Kofi and the events of the '1741 New York Conspiracy,' we aim to educate and engage a wider audience about this often-neglected chapter in our nation's past."

Kofi's Fire builds on Historic Hudson Valley's 25 years of experience presenting the history of enslavement to school and public audiences in ways designed to increase empathy and understanding. The organization has shared the story of slavery in the colonial North through public and school tours at Philipsburg Manor since 1999, supported by guidance from its African American Advisory Board and distinguished faculty advisors. In 2019, the organization added to its digital education footprint by producing the award-winning digital interactive documentary, *People Not Property* (hudsonvalley.org/peoplenotproperty).

"We are honored to have received critical funding from the National Endowment for the Humanities to create this important resource," said Dr. Bradley. "And we are grateful to have worked with the guidance of scholars such as Leslie Harris, professor in the Department of History at Northwestern University and author of *Slavery in New York*; Hassan Jeffries, associate professor of African American history at Ohio State University and author of *Bloody Lowndes: Civil Rights and Black Power in Alabama's Black Belt*; and Jill Lepore, professor of American History at Harvard University and author of *New York Burning: Liberty, Slavery and Conspiracy in Eighteenth-Century Manhattan*."

Historic Hudson Valley worked closely with Blue Telescope, an award-winning interactive design firm, to launch this ambitious project. Blue Telescope provided design, development, and media production expertise, and a dedicated, Black-led creative team, including author Deirdre Hollman (founder of Black Comics Collective), illustrator Velicia Gourdin, creative designer Reese Patillo, and creative director William "GoodWill" Ellis, who helped steer the project's creative vision.

The website is available to the general public for free at hudsonvalley.org/kofisfire. Visitors to The Pinkster Festival on Saturday, May 25, can also experience the website on-site in the Visitor Center at Philipsburg Manor in Sleepy Hollow.

This project was made possible in part by the National Endowment for the Humanities: Democracy Demands Wisdom. Any views, findings, conclusions, or recommendations expressed in this Web resource, do not necessarily represent those of the National Endowment for the Humanities.

To experience Kofi's Fire, visit hudsonvalley.org/kofisfire

Don't be a Victim

"We are constantly advising our customers to not write checks" said Corrigan. But, if necessary, use a gel pen with permanent ink. Why? First, to avoid "check washing" a chemical process which criminals use to change the name of the payee and amount of the check. And, second, to avoid the schemes of online gangs working with post office employees to open envelopes, photograph checks, post them online for sale, and reissue them. Another way banking customers can protect themselves is to pay attention to the balance alerts that go to your device and flag unusual banking activity.

In order to avoid having your credit card information stolen by a skimming device affixed to a reader "we are advising our customers to not insert a credit card and to tap their phone or credit card instead" Corrigan stated.

Spoofing is big, said Hatfield and scammers can spoof a variety of numbers. "Hang up and call the bank or the utility company to verify, said Hatfield. "Wells Fargo is not going to ask you for money on the phone or ask you to open a new account" Corrigan continued.

Hatfield went on to warn that strangers should not be allowed inside your home. Lt. Trujillo spoke of an instance where individuals posed as utility workers and gained entry to a home. While the homeowner was showing the "worker" to the basement, the second individual robbed the home. He advised that one should "close the door, call your neighbor or call law enforcement and say that you are not sure of what is going on."

Nicole Gamble, an Assistant District Attorney in Westchester County from the Economic Crime Bureau, joined the panel and warned individuals to be vigilant, especially when someone comes into your home. "I have been handling financial prosecutions for 25 years and it was always the person who knows you. It is only routinely now where it is scams from abroad".

Gamble went on to advise that those with answering machines should use the automated message and let the machines do its job. If you do pick up a call from a number you don't recognize "say hello and don't say yes. The 'yes' can be used to authorize a transaction."

With the evolution of AI and growing sophistication of scammers it is important to stay informed. "I don't mean to scare you" said Gamble "but I do mean to scare you."

The Larchmont-Mamaroneck Local Summit is an informal community council that seeks to make a better life for the community by keeping it informed of major issues of concern. Watch for emails in September announcing programs for the new season. Visit the Local Summit online: <https://www.localsummitlm.org/> LMC Media: <https://lmcmedia.org/>.

SUPREME COURT OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK COUNTY OF WESTCHESTER

WILMINGTON SAVINGS FUND SOCIETY, FSB. NOT IN ITS INDIVIDUAL CAPACITY BUT SOLELY AS OWNER TRUSTEE FOR CASCADE FUNDING MORTGAGE TRUST HB5,

-against-

MILES MYERS, IF LIVING, AND IF SHE/HE BE DEAD, ET AL.

NOTICE OF SALE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN pursuant to a Final Judgment of Foreclosure and entered in the Office of the Clerk of the County of Westchester on March 01, 2024, wherein WILMINGTON SAVINGS FUND SOCIETY, FSB. NOT IN ITS INDIVIDUAL CAPACITY BUT SOLELY AS OWNER TRUSTEE FOR CASCADE FUNDING MORTGAGE TRUST HB5 is the Plaintiff and MILES MYERS, IF LIVING, AND IF SHE/HE BE DEAD, ET AL. are the Defendant(s). I, the undersigned Referee will sell at public auction at the WESTCHESTER COUNTY COURTHOUSE, LOBBY, 111 DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING JR. BLVD., WHITE PLAINS, NY 10601, on June 26, 2024 at 9:30AM, premises known as 263 LOCUST AVENUE, CORTLANDT MANOR, NY 10567; and the following tax map identification, 23.11-3-5.

ALL THAT CERTAIN PLOT, PIECE OR PARCEL OF LAND, SITUATE, LYING AND BEING IN THE TOWN OF CORTANDT, COUNTY OF WESTCHESTER AND STATE OF NEW YORK

Premises will be sold subject to provisions of filed Judgment Index No.: 62983/2021. Melanie Finkel, Esq. - Referee. Robertson, Anschutz, Schneid, Crane & Partners, PLLC 900 Merchants Concourse, Suite 310, Westbury, New York 11590, Attorneys for Plaintiff. All foreclosure sales will be conducted in accordance with Covid-19 guidelines including, but not limited to, social distancing and mask wearing. *LOCATION OF SALE SUBJECT TO CHANGE DAY OF IN ACCORDANCE WITH COURT/CLERK DIRECTIVES.

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