

## Library Snapshot Presented at Board Meeting

BY STEPHEN E. LIPKEN

A short, concise Harrison Town/Village Board meeting was held on Thursday, December 15th, conducted by Mayor/Supervisor Richard Dionisio, who called for a Moment of Silence "for all the families in Ukraine."

A highlight of the meeting was a presentation of a Harrison Public Library (HPL) "2022 Third Quarter Snapshot" (Q3) by HPL Trustee Andrea Mignone. Q3 Library Stats: 46,783 Items Circulated; 27,465 Library Visitors; 8,475 People Attended the 350 Events Held.

In addition, Nikki Erlick, *NY Times* bestselling

novelist, "was our Summer Reading Ambassador and Teatro Grattaciolo presented 'The Neapolitan Song: A Tribute.'"

Summer Reading Program Recap: 442 Children Registered; 184 Programs Offered; 5,082 children attended, and 18,893 books checked out. Mignone happily noted that the Library returned to Pre-Pandemic hours.

Mignone then discussed installing generators for disaster mitigation and erecting a digital sign outside Harrison Library, like the one outside of Harrison School to be used in tandem with Town, announcing current events.

Town Clerk Jackie Greer requested approval

to sell up to 50 Non-Resident Commuter Parking Permits for 2023 at cost of \$1,000 each. Harrison residents pay \$750. Village Attorney Jonathan Kraut emphasized that the permits are not subject to automatic renewal. Greer said that 30 to 40 parking spots are available.

The Board approved Supervisor Di-



Harrison Library Trustee Andrea Mignone

onisio's request to renew the contract with Weather Works, a complete forecast and storm alert service to deliver weather predictions to DPW, Police and Emergency Services at an annual cost of \$1,650.

Finally, Deputy Village Attorney Andrea C. Rendo requested the Board to adopt Public Health Emergency Operations Plan, pursuant to NYS Labor Law, which was amended following the COVID-19 Pandemic and requires public employees to adopt a plan for operations in event of a declared state of emergency involving a communicable disease.

## Plan to Renovate Deteriorated Residential Sanitary Sewage Pipes

The Town of Harrison has approved a plan to repair and replace deteriorated sanitary sewage pipes for Harrison making it the first community in Westchester to create a clean-up program for its residents.

The town is entering a contract with Pipelogix LMS to provide residents with affordable solutions.

A substantial source of pollution in the Sound comes from cracked sanitary sewer lines, which transport sanitary wastewater from homes to wastewater treatment plants for the removal of pollutants. A failure to maintain the sewer infrastructure, including failure to prevent excess



inflow and infiltration of stormwater into cracked sewer lines, causes the discharge of raw and partially treated sewage into the Long Island Sound. Overflows and leaks of raw or partially treated sewage expose the public to bacteria, viruses, and other pathogens.

The Town of Harrison has elected and consented to make a difference in cleaning the environment. Harrison

has agreed to establish a sewer lateral program to assist homeowners with the maintenance and replacement of their aging and leaking sewer pipes.

Attorney Albert J. Pirro, a partner in the White Plains Law Firm of Abrams Fensterman, representing Pipelogix LMS, a leader in Sewer Lateral Programs, said, "The Town of Harrison has agreed to enter into a contract with Pipelogix to provide Harrison property owners with an affordable sewer lateral service and repair program. Pipelogix presently provides this service in the City of Long Island and The Village of Valley Community in Westchester County to institute this

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**Are You Ready to Sell In This Changing Market?**

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Increase in YTD Median Sale Price  
(2022 vs 2021)

Call or text me **914.393.9115** for a private consultation.

Information source: HGMLS: SF -01/01 - 12/15 - 2021-2020 Small number of listings may skew the results. Information deemed reliable but not guaranteed.



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HOULIHAN LAWRENCE

Source: OKMLS, 1/1/22-12/31/22, total dollar volume of single family homes sold by agent, Harrison School District. Source: OKMLS 1/1/22-11/15/22, Total Units Sold, Harrison school district, Single Family Homes by Agent

# Latimer Launches Tobacco Free Program

Science has made it perfectly clear over the last 60 years that smoking is a dangerous and potentially fatal habit. With that at the forefront, Westchester County Executive George Latimer has launched the Westchester Tobacco Free Program, a two-prong approach to lowering the smoking rate in the County.

“Addiction to nicotine products has cut short numerous lives to lung disease, heart disease and related illnesses; has robbed otherwise healthy individuals of their good health; has robbed families of fathers, mothers, siblings and other loved ones prematurely. That is why we are tackling the issue head on with Westchester Tobacco Free, a robust education and enforcement Program,” Latimer said.

The County will fund and implement a robust \$3 million dollar public education campaign to all residents, highlighting the dangers of tobacco usage, offering efforts to help smokers quit smoking, and to support local community efforts to reduce smoking. This will include a new direct grant Program to community-based non-profits directly involved in tobacco-cessation as part of their anti-addiction efforts, and particularly those groups like local NAACP branches who have advocated for efforts to reduce smoking in communities of color.

The Program will be crafted with the assistance and oversight of members of the Board of Legislators to ensure the County is reaching all smokers, regardless of their geographic or demographic status. This effort will involve the Health Department, Community Mental Health Department, Youth Board and other related departments and offices of Westchester County Government to

ensure its success.

The County will develop a multi-level Program, working with state and local government resources to ensure improved enforcement of the existing Tobacco 21 age limit. Under the leadership of Deputy County Executive Ken Jenkins, the County will convene a conference with representatives from law enforcement agencies, prosecutorial and judicial offices, business leaders and youth organization leaders to develop a thorough plan to make sure no person under the age of 21 is able to obtain any type of tobacco product, which is clearly illegal by means of County, State and Federal law.

Jenkins said, “There is a path forward, and that path includes fighting addiction with all parties at the table. We need to identify what is necessary to ensure that Tobacco 21, the current law prohibiting sales of tobacco to those under 21, is being enforced.”

History of anti-smoking initiatives in Westchester County: Ended smoking in public settings, including bars and restaurants (1996); Funded a tobacco-cessation education effort utilizing tobacco settlement funds (1999); Ended all sales of tobacco products to minors under the age of 21 (2018). Subsequently, both the State of New York, and the United States, has made tobacco sales illegal for all who have not yet reached their 21st birthday.

Latimer said, “In the report of the New York State Department of Health [August 2021], Westchester County had the lowest percent of adult current smokers among the 62 counties, 7.0%. However, we are not yet satisfied; we can do more.”

# Money Now Available to Help Eligible New Yorkers Cover Home Heating Costs

Governor Kathy Hochul recently announced that New York State has received an additional \$63 million in federal funding that will be used to increase the base home heating assistance eligible households will receive. With the additional funding, eligible homeowners and renters could receive up to \$1,126 from the Home Energy Assistance Program to help keep their homes warm this winter in the face of higher energy costs. New York has received more than \$412 million in federal funding for HEAP this winter, up from \$387 million last year.

“As temperatures dip this winter, my administration is committed to making sure all New Yorkers are able to heat their homes,” Governor Hochul said. “Through this federal funding, we can help more families cover their energy bills and still have the money to pay for other household needs, like food and medicine. As New Yorkers face higher energy costs, this is a critical resource for families to ensure their homes are safe and warm this winter.”

HEAP, overseen by the Office of Temporary and Disability Assistance, is federally funded. The higher benefit levels took effect on December 11, 2022. Eligible households



Governor Kathy Hochul

can receive one Regular HEAP benefit per season with a maximum of \$1,126, depending on their income, household size, how they heat their home and if the household includes a vulnerable family member. Previously, the maximum benefit had been \$976.

The value of the Regular HEAP benefits had already increased over last winter by anywhere from 14 to 33 percent, depending how the home is heated. This additional

funding boosts those increases to between 30 and 56 percent over last year.

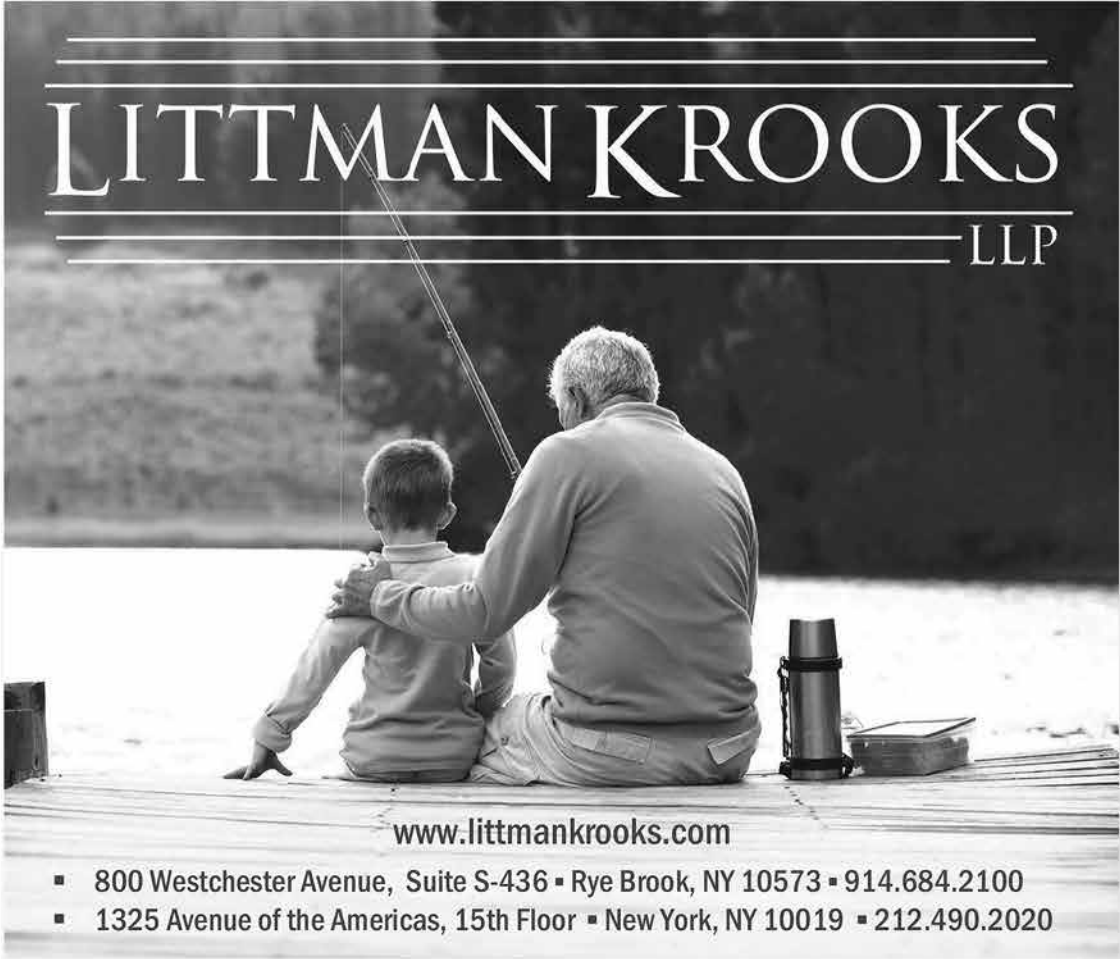
Households that heat with oil, kerosene, or propane will now receive a base payment of \$1,050, up from \$675 last year; those that heat with wood, wood pellets, coal, or corn, will receive \$685, up from \$525 last year; and those that heat with electricity or natural gas will receive \$500, up from \$350 last year.

Households that received a Regular HEAP benefit before the higher amounts took effect will receive a supplemental benefit to make up the difference. Those supplemental payments are expected to be issued beginning in early 2023. As with all HEAP payments, benefits are issued directly to the household’s heating vendor.

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# White Plains Hospital Named One of Best General Hospitals in Nation for 3rd Year in a Row



White Plains Hospital has once again been named a Top General Hospital by the Leapfrog Group. This is the third consecutive year the Hospital has been recognized as one of the highest-performing hospitals in the nation – making it one of 115 in the United States and one of just two hospitals in New York state to receive this distinction.

According to the Leapfrog Group, Top Hospitals have higher quality maternity care, lower infection rates, and better systems in place to prevent medication errors, among other laudable qualities. To be eligible for consideration, Hospitals must meet the high standards defined in the Top Hospital Methodology, including receiving an “A” in the most recent round of Leapfrog’s Hospital Safety Grade. White Plains Hospital has received 8 consecutive “A’s,” including the most recent ranking in November.

“We are extremely proud to be consistently named among the top hospitals in the country,” said Dr. Rafael Torres, Chief Quality Officer at White Plains Hospital. “This accolade validates our commitment to providing patients with quality care and serves as another testament to the dedication of our entire staff to the highest patient outcomes.”

Recognition as a Leapfrog Top Hospital is the latest award for high-quality care that White Plains Hospital has received this year. In July, it became one of just eight hospitals in New York state to receive a five-star quality rating from the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) — the highest distinction offered by that federal agency.

Founded in 2000 by large employers and other purchasers, The Leapfrog Group is a national nonprofit organization driving a movement for giant leaps forward in the quality and

safety of American health care. The flagship Leapfrog Hospital Survey collects and transparently reports hospital performance, empowering purchasers to find the highest-value care and giving consumers the lifesaving information, they need to make informed decisions. The Leapfrog Hospital Safety Grade, Leapfrog’s other main initiative, assigns letter grades to hospitals based on their record of patient safety, helping consumers protect themselves and their families from errors, injuries, accidents and infections.

White Plains Hospital is a proud member of the Montefiore Health System, serving as its tertiary hub of advanced care in the Hudson Valley. The Hospital is a 292-bed not-for-profit health care organization with the primary mission of providing exceptional acute and preventive medical care to all people who live in, work in or visit Westchester County and its surrounding areas. Centers of Excellence include the Center for Cancer Care and The William & Sylvia Silberstein Neonatal & Maternity Center. The Hospital’s Flanzer Emergency Department is the busiest in Westchester County. White Plains Hospital performs lifesaving emergency and elective angioplasty in its Joan and Alan Herfort, MD, Cardiac Catheterization Laboratory and Marie Promuto Cardiac Catheterization Laboratory and in 2021, the Hospital formally launched its cardiac surgery program with its first-ever open-heart surgery in partnership with world-class cardiac surgeons from Montefiore Einstein. White Plains Hospital has outpatient medical facilities across Westchester, including multispecialty practices in Armonk, New Rochelle, Somers and Yorktown Heights; and Scarsdale Medical Group locations in Harrison and Scarsdale.

# Latimer Signs 2023 County Budget

On December 13, Westchester County Executive George Latimer signed his 2023 Westchester County Budget, cutting the County Property Tax Levy by \$6 million dollars, flanked by members of the Westchester County Departments of Emergency Services, Corrections, Probation and Public Safety. The Budget was passed by the County Board of Legislators earlier in the day, bipartisan 17-0.

Latimer said, “I am signing this budget today and thinking of all the families who are preparing for the holidays – this budget is for them. We have cut taxes again and have done so while also expanding the programs and services they have come to depend on. I am proud of this budget, and our collaboration with the Board of Legislators; this is what honest and fair governing is, that is who we are as an administration and as a County.”

The total budget is \$2.365 billion and includes Latimer’s fourth County property tax cut in a row.

**Closing 2022 with projected \$65.9 million operating surplus**  
No borrowing for tax certs  
No borrowing for pension  
No use of fund balance

**2023 Budget contains no borrowing or one-shots**  
No borrowing for tax certs  
No use of fund balance  
No borrowing for cash flow

County Board of Legislators Chairwoman Catherine Borgia: “Westchester County is stronger and in a better state financially, and we are paying it forward to our residents. We’ve prioritized meaningful investments in areas that affect our constituents every day. Parents receiving subsidies can now pay less out of pocket to afford better quality childcare. We’re closing the digital divide by expanding internet access throughout the County. We’ve increased funding for community-based organizations providing services directly to those who need them. I am excited for all that we will accomplish in 2023 through mutual commitment and collaboration with the County Executive’s Office.”

Westchester County Legislator Terry Clements said: “As Chair of the Committee on Public Safety, we’ve identified the need to efficiently fund our public safety and law enforcement departments. Through this budget, we’ve added millions of dollars to the de-



County Executive George Latimer

partments that will keep Westchester residents safe and secure.”

Finance Commissioner Karin Hallow said: “The County Executive has once again passed a balanced budget that includes a cut to the property tax levy. We, as a County, have greatly improved our financial position while continuing to offer the services needed and sought out by its residents. I want to thank County Executive Latimer and the Board of Legislators for passing a fiscally responsible budget that once again will position Westchester County as a financially stable entity for years to come.”

The 2023 Budget funds the Departments of Corrections, Public Safety, Probation and Emergency Services at the highest levels in Westchester County history:

- Correction \$156.6 million
  - Public Safety \$59.1 million
  - Probation \$50.2 million
  - Department of Emergency Services \$13 million
- Economic Development Director Bridget Gibbons said: “The County Executive’s consistent investment in economic development to support our existing businesses and inspire the launch of new businesses in Westchester creates a business-friendly environment in the County. Life sciences companies, advanced manufacturing companies, tech start-ups and others are thriving here, and we are proud to provide training, education and other resources to support them.”

The Budget allots \$218.7 million for the County Health Department, that includes \$1 million for maternal mortality. Additionally, the budget is expanding funding to Federally Qualified Health Centers/Neighborhood Health Centers by \$1 million bringing the total to \$3 million.

Health Commissioner Sherlita Amler, MD, said: “Thank you to County Executive Latimer and the County Board of Legislators for allowing the Health Department in the 2023 Budget to refocus our attention on our core public health priorities and essential services aimed at improving the health of our communities.”

The 2023 Budget has \$17.2 million for the Department of Community Mental Health (DCMH), specifically the Project Alliance Mobile Crisis Response Team, \$6.1 million for Crisis Network and 988 Suicide Crisis Lifeline, \$565,000 for Opioid Response and Overdose Prevention Initiative and \$737,892 Early Childhood Mental Health Services.

## Plan to Renovate Deteriorated Residential Sanitary Sewage Pipes

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program.”

Under the program, the Town of Harrison will incur no costs. Pipelogix would charge individual homeowners approximately \$14.95 per month for which Pipelogix clears blockages, and trenchless replaces broken and deteriorated pipes, all without additional cost to the Harrison homeowner.

The Pipelogix Program permits Harrison

homeowners who do not wish to participate in the program to opt out during the annual opt-out period. However, since homeowners are generally unaware of deteriorated or broken underground sewer pipes, many see the program as an insurance policy. In municipalities in Long Island that have adopted the program, 85% of residents participated.

# Manhattanville Puts Focus on the Future

With a clear focus on the future, Manhattanville College has announced a series of steps that will reshape its academic programs to align with the interests and goals of today's students while remaining true to its founding principles and spirit.

The college, which traces its roots to 1841 as Catholic academy for girls in Manhattan's Upper East Side and was chartered as college in 1917, is adding new offerings to attract students and eliminating some programs with chronically low enrollment to continue to thrive and secure its long-term future.

"We must continue to respond and adapt to changing needs and demands of our students," said Interim President Louise Feroe, Ph.D. "Manhattanville has evolved throughout its long history and learned important lessons over the past few years about the changing landscape of higher education accelerated by the pandemic. As a result, we have emerged ready for the next step in our evolution aiming at our mission of educating students to be ethical and socially responsible leaders in a global society. We must continue be relevant to our smart, savvy students as we pre-



Interim President Louise Feroe, Ph.D.

pare them to enter a world that is radically different from the world we knew. We need to equip them for the world as they find it now," she said. "Change is inevitable, and while not often easy, the path we are forging for the future – one that translates the liberal arts for the 21st century -- will ensure that Manhattanville flourishes and is here for future generations."

"The overall impact of rapid and ongoing changes in the demographic, academic and cultural landscape poses challenges to all institutions of higher learning.

Ignoring or denying them is not option," Feroe said. "Manhattanville is continuously monitoring, evaluating, and seeking to understand and adjust the academic curriculum and overall campus life to the needs of today's students. Reforming critical functions of the college is required to sustain Manhattanville's viability for the future. We will continue to work to address key areas, functions, and processes to enhance the student experience. This will result in both academic and administrative staff changes. I suspect this pattern of continuous review and adjustment will define all of higher education in this country going forward."

In 2020 Manhattanville opened a School of Nursing and Health Sciences. The new school admitted more than 70 nursing students during its first year and continues to grow. Since its opening, Manhattanville has added a Family Nurse Practitioner program and acquired Concordia College's Radiologic Technologies program. The school offers two undergraduate degrees in nursing: Bachelor of Science in Nursing for traditional 4-year and transfer students, as well as a Bachelor of Science in Nursing for second-degree students who already hold a bachelor's degree. The school of nursing has recently added graduate programs for those seeking to become Family Nurse Practitioners and nurse leaders and a Pharm Tech program.

Feroe noted that "the School of Nursing and Health Science will continue to be an area of growth for Manhattanville. The nursing field continues to expand at an accelerated rate, with the federal government projecting 17% annual growth through 2028. Employment data projections also show strong growth potential for Radiologic Technologists with 30,000 new jobs expected by 2026."

**Online learning:** Online learning has quickly grown at colleges and universities nationwide. The college recently launched robust and competitive online programs with the assistance of Academic Partnerships LLC, a company special-

izing in technology for online learning. Online learning attracts students who would not otherwise attend Manhattanville, although it does not provide revenue streams comparable to those of in-person students.

**Center for Design Thinking:** Manhattanville is one of the few liberal arts colleges to offer an undergraduate Certificate in Design Thinking, giving students a leg up with employers looking for critical thinking skills. A systematic approach to solving problems, Design Thinking has gained popularity in recent years among business leaders and others because of its emphasis on innovative solutions to complex issues.

**Becoming a Hispanic Serving Institution:** In 2021 Manhattanville's application to become a Hispanic Serving Institution was approved by the U.S. Department of Education. This designation allows the College to seek federal funding to provide more resources and support for Hispanic students.

**Literacy Partnership with Windward School:** Earlier this year, the School of Education signed an agreement with the Windward School, one of the top-rated schools for children with language-based learning disabilities. Beginning next fall, Manhattanville will offer Windward's teachers an exclusive master's degree program which will serve to attract additional enrollment to the School of Education and enhance its reputation. The college is now working jointly with Windward on offering a certificate for educators who work with students with dyslexia.

# In West Harrison, Fordham Westchester Launches Brewing Institute

Fordham University's School of Professional and Continuing Studies (PCS) at Westchester in West Harrison, has announced the newest addition to its academic offerings: courses in brewing beer. Fordham Brewing Institute is open for registration, offering classes for the novice and the experienced brewer. "Beer Brewing 101: The Ultimate Beginner's Guide" will take place at the Fordham Westchester campus in West Harrison on Feb. 25. "Practical Brewing (Intermediate/Advanced)" is a three-part program that will take place at Broken Bow Brewery in Tuckahoe in March.

For those who have thought about making their own beer but don't know where to start, Beer Brewing 101 will introduce home brewing. Students will learn about the different beer styles and the ingredients needed, plus get a walkthrough of the step-by-step process of extract brewing in a friendly, hands-on format. The class is taught by John Fix, a home brewer with nearly 30 years of experience, and no equipment is necessary, and the two-and-a-half-hour course is \$80. The Brewshop at Cornell's in Eastchester, which Fix created, will offer a discount for students who need home equipment to hit the ground running.

"This is a great introduction to what may become a lifelong hobby, or even a career in the booming craft beverage industry," said Fix. "And at an affordable price, the course makes a great holiday gift!"

The Practical Brewing program is designed for people who have experience home brewing or

for those who have worked in a brewery and want to advance. Students will benefit from a deep dive into the ingredients, process, and subtleties in the craft of brewing beer. Upon completion of the three-class course, students will better understand the brewing's chemical process, ingredient profiles, and flavor characteristics, plus how to avoid the most common pitfalls. Students will create their own craft beer using the all-grain method, under the instruction of the president and head brewers at Broken Bow Brewery, receiving expert advice on perfecting its flavor. No equipment is needed, with class demonstrations using a professional pilot system. The eight-hour (over three sessions) course is \$550.

"We're so excited to partner with Fordham to share the all-grain brewing method with hobbyists," said Michael LaMothe, President and Founder of Broken Bow Brewery. "It's the purest form of beer-making and the method by which you can greatly influence the outcome of the finished product – the perfect beer."

"Fordham built this program to complement growing interests in brewing, sparked by the delicious beer being crafted locally," Dr. Anthony R.



Fordham Brewing Institute class taught by Kasey Schwartz of Broken Bow Brewery

Davidson, dean, Fordham PCS. "Working with a community of local brewers to offer these courses has been an absolute pleasure, and I'm eager to see where the Brewing Institute goes from here!"

. Visit <https://www.fordham.edu/pcs> for more information.

## Money Now Available to Help Eligible New Yorkers Cover Home Heating Costs

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Office of Temporary and Disability Assistance Commissioner Daniel W. Tietz said, "The Home Energy Assistance Program is especially important to help some of our most vulnerable New Yorkers keep their homes warm in the wintertime. Anyone who thinks they may be eligible should be apply as soon as possible so they can continue to heat their homes as the colder temperatures set in."

The U.S. Energy Information Administration anticipates significantly higher heating fuel prices this winter, and the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration forecasts slightly colder temperatures for New York State, underscoring the importance of this additional funding for HEAP.

Applications for assistance are accepted at local departments of social services in person or by phone, with funding provided on a first-come, first-served basis. Residents outside of New York City may also apply online for Regular HEAP benefits.

New Yorkers that have already received a Regular HEAP benefit and continue to fall behind on their utility bills or are running short of heating fuel may also qualify for a one-time Emergency HEAP benefit. Applications for Emergency benefits will be accepted starting on January 3, 2023.



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# The Mystic Muse on Exhibit at The Harrison Public Library

Harrison Public Library, 2 Bruce Avenue, presents "The Mystic Muse" by Payal Shah, on display from January 8 to February 3, 2023. A meet the artist reception will be held on January 14 from 3:00 to 5:00pm.

"I create in charcoals, fluid art, acrylics and decoupage. I am a Certified Zentangle artist," Shah states. "I love to read, travel, and create."

Presenting at the show is one of her first loves. In Sanskrit, mandala means both circle and center, implying that it represents both the visible world around us and the invisible one, deep inside our minds and bodies. Mandalas are used in various cultures as a symbol for meditation, protection, positive vibes, and spiritual upliftment.

The habit of creating and collecting mandalas is a transformative practice that is intended to restore inner peace and wisdom within.

The belief is that by entering the mandala and proceeding towards its center, you are guided through the cosmic process of transforming the universe from one of suffering into one of joy and happiness.

Payal Shah was raised in Mumbai, India and lives in Westchester now. She is a trained artist. Having studied Interior Design and Decoration in Mumbai and Visual Arts in New York, she found



the perfect amalgamation of her talent and passion by customizing paintings to enhance residential and commercial spaces.

She is the co-founder and partner at Artzevous, an India based art company that provides a platform for upcoming and established artists to display and sell their artwork.

For more information call 914-835-0324 or see <https://www.harrisonpl.org/events/9897829>.

## Harrison Public Library Programs

### Westchester Breathes: Breath, Body and Mind Workshop

**Fridays, Jan. 6, 13 & 20 at 9:30 am ET - Online**

This series runs on Fridays through the 20 and is led by Ann Fleuchaus & Elena Falcone. No experience is required. Register online at [conversations.westchesterlibraries.org/breathe](https://www.westchesterlibraries.org/breathe)

### Discount Driver Course

**Saturday, Jan. 7, from 10 am to 4 pm - On Site**

**Register at [www.harrisonpl.org/events](https://www.harrisonpl.org/events)**

Join instructor Sam Eskander for a 6-hour defensive driving course being held in the library. The fee of \$30 is paid to the instructor. There will be a 30-minute lunch break and two 5-minute breaks (morning and afternoon). Completion certificates will be provided at the end of the class.

### Health & Wellness Series with Dr. Kaushik: Inflammation

**Tuesday, Jan. 10, 7 pm ET - Online**

**Register for the Zoom link at**

**[www.harrisonpl.org/events](https://www.harrisonpl.org/events)**

Join Dr. Somesh Kaushik for a new health series. The first talk will focus on "Inflammation," the buzz-word of late - as the underlying cause of many, if not all, disorders. It does appear to be true that all disorders do have inflammation as a component. The question is which came first - the inflammation or the disorder? Inflammation can be due to any number of reasons from stress or trauma, to diet, lifestyle, or emotional issues. Ayurveda's goal is to determine the underlying source of a



### Revolutionary Westchester 250-Living History-to-Go with Storyteller Joy Kelly Smith

**Saturday, Jan. 15, at 2 pm - On Site**

**Register at [www.harrisonpl.org/events](https://www.harrisonpl.org/events)**

In celebration of the 250th anniversary of the American Revolutionary War, the Harrison Library will be hosting this Revolutionary Westchester 250-Living History-to-Go event with storyteller Joy Kelly Smith. This program is made possible through a grant from Revolutionary Westchester 250 which builds awareness and appreciation for Westchester's Revolutionary War Era History, in anticipation of the nation's 250th anniversary of the American Revolution in 2026.

# Universal Symbol Used to Designate Every Legally Sold Cannabis Product as Regulated

On December 15, Governor Kathy Hochul unveiled a "New York State Licensed Cannabis Dispensary" verification tool that will be posted in the windows of legally licensed retail dispensaries, which are set to begin opening by the end of 2022. The designation will ensure consumers know they are buying from a dispensary regulated by New York State. A universal symbol on each product sold will also show that it is up to standards set by the state. The combination provides consumers certainty that they have acquired a tested, regulated product.

"It's critical for New York's cannabis consumers to understand the risks of buying untested, illicit products and to have the tools to guide them to the safer, legal market that's poised to open," Governor Hochul said. "These tools will help to protect public health and strengthen our ability to deliver the equitable cannabis market our law envisions. We will continue to work with our partners in municipalities across the state to enforce the law and shutdown illicit operators who are selling products that put New Yorkers at risk."

As stores continue to open in the first quarter of 2023, the state will also be releasing a public education campaign called "Why Buy Legal New York," which will explain the benefits of purchasing legal adult-use cannabis for cannabis consumers in New York State. The campaign will discuss the risks of buying untested illicit products, and how those products undermine the goals of New York's cannabis law to build the most equitable and inclusive cannabis market in the nation.

Tremaine Wright, Chair of the Cannabis Control Board, said, "The dispensary verification tool unveiled by Governor Hochul today combined with



requirements for the universal symbol on regulated products sets us off on the right foot. It is critical that consumers know and trust that the new, legal cannabis market offers tested products and follows protocols designed to protect public health. These efforts combined with rigorous enforcement, will help build a stable, legal marketplace."

Chris Alexander, Executive Director of the Office of Cannabis Management, said, "We will use every tool available to strengthen the equitable, legal adult-use cannabis market we're building and the dispensary verification tool Governor Hochul unveiled today is one step in that process. Our enforcement team has been growing its partnerships and ramping up activity from Buffalo to New York City and will continue to do so until these illicit stores and trucks are shutdown."

The dispensary verification tool unveiled will be posted in the front windows of each legally licensed dispensary. It will include a QR code that can be scanned by consumers and local community members. Additionally, a similar version will be available for licensees who are looking to jump start sales through delivery.

Every product sold will also include a "universal symbol" designating it as a tested, regulated product. Consumers should check both the storefront for the dispensary verification tool and the product label to ensure they're purchasing a safer product.

### Rugelach Baking Workshop with Baked with Love

**Wednesday, Jan. 25, 7 pm ET - On Site**

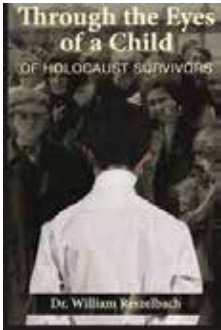
Learn how to bake rugelach, a delicious, traditional Jewish dessert, with Baked with Love. Rugelach are little cookies made of pastry dough usually containing some sort of cream cheese or sour cream. The dough is then flattened, filled with nuts, raisins, sugar, and cinnamon and then rolled into triangles or horns. These traditional Jewish desserts get their name from the Yiddish word rugel, meaning "royal." Registration is required to reserve a spot.

### Holocaust Remembrance Day

**Lecture: *Through the Eyes of a Child of Holocaust Survivors***

**Thursday, Jan. 26, 7 pm ET - Online**  
**Register at [www.harrisonpl.org/events](https://www.harrisonpl.org/events)**

Dr. William Reszelbach will discuss his book, *Through the Eyes of a Child of Holocaust Survivors* in honor of Holocaust Remembrance Day. After an atypical childhood during which he was raised by two Holocaust survivors, Dr. William Reszelbach has devoted years sharing his story with audiences, and learning its roots in Holocaust history, Jewish tradition, and post-World War II culture



across Europe. In his first book, he brings together his extensive studies on the Holocaust as well as the life of Adolf Hitler, several anecdotes from his childhood and early adult life, the Jewish faith, his recent trip to Poland with the March of the Living, and modern-day anti-Semitism. This program is being offered in partnership with the Tuckahoe Public Library.

### The Human Library Event

**Saturday, Jan. 28, 11 am - 3 pm - On Site**

**Register online at [www.harrisonpl.org/events](https://www.harrisonpl.org/events)**

The Harrison Library will be hosting its first Human Library event. The Human Library is designed to build a positive framework for conversations that can challenge stereotypes and prejudices

through dialogue. The Human Library® is, in the true sense of the word, a library of people. Readers can borrow human beings serving as open books and have conversations to which they would not normally have access. Every human book represents a group in our society that is often subjected to prejudice, stigmatization or discrimination because of their lifestyle, diagnosis, belief, disability, social status, ethnic origin etc. Join for a meaningful and powerful event.

Call the library at 835-0324 for more information.





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FROM OUR HOMES TO YOURS



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## Senator Gillibrand Helps Package Food for Kids for The Holidays



On December 12, U.S. Senator Kirsten Gillibrand joined food bank executives at Feeding Westchester to package food for students ahead of the holidays.

Karen Erren, President and CEO of Feeding Westchester, helped Sen. Gillibrand pack breakfast bags for students dealing with food insecurity. Feeding Westchester provides food for 71,000 children in need each month through partnerships with local schools, daycares, libraries, and other organizations. Children receive nutritious, kid-friendly, easy-to-prepare food, when otherwise they may go without.

"With the cost of food and other necessities skyrocketing, we must work with local partners like Feeding Westchester to address food insecurity across the state," said U.S. Senator Gillibrand. "I'll keep fighting in Congress to make sure every child in New York always knows where their next meal is coming from."

Senator Gillibrand, a long-standing advocate

for child nutrition programs, helped pass the Keep Kids Fed Act, which allowed schools and summer meal providers to continue serving free meals, to extend meal delivery and grab-and-go options, to ease paperwork requirements, and to provide funding to help schools offset the increased cost of food and operating expenses.

Senator Gillibrand has also laid out additional proposals to fight food insecurity, including More Options to Develop and Enhance Remote Nutrition in WIC Act, or MODERN WIC Act, which would enable women and children to certify for WIC benefits remotely, greatly easing the process. Her bipartisan Summer Meals Act would expand eligibility for free meals to more students in low-income areas and improve nutrition in rural, underserved, and hard-to-reach areas. Gillibrand is also pushing to fully fund the Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children (WIC) program for fiscal year 2023.

## BCW Announces Election of Jamie Schutzer as New Chairman of the Board of Directors

The Business Council of Westchester, the county's largest and most influential business membership organization, has announced the election of Jamie Schutzer as its new Chairman.

"We are delighted to announce the election of Jamie Schutzer as our new Board Chairman. Jamie has extensive experience with business and civic organizations on a local and state level as well as expertise in legislative issues. We look forward to his leadership in the year ahead as we continue our proactive leadership in legislative advocacy, economic development, talent recruitment, and innovation, through the Westchester Innovation Network, designed to position Westchester as a hub for innovation," said BCW President and CEO Marsha Gordon.

Schutzer is a Senior Partner of JDM Benefits, an Alera Group Company. He is an employee benefits and health insurance expert with more than 25 years in a variety of leadership positions. Through JDM Benefits, the firm he joined as a partner in 2011, Jamie has provided health insurance and benefits consulting for employers of all sizes in the New York Metro area. Before joining JDM Benefits, Jamie spent over 15 years working in sales and consulting for Wellpoint/Anthem and Oxford Health Plans/UnitedHealthcare.



Jamie Schutzer

Schutzer is very active in civic and business organizations serving on the New York State Health Benefit Exchange Regional Advisory Council, the New York State Association of Health Underwriters (Past President, Current Legislative Chair), Westchester-Putnam Workforce Development Board and as an active Board Member, and Executive Committee Member of the Business Council of Westchester, where he also serves as the Treasurer. He holds licenses for life, accident & health, and property and casualty insurance, and is well-versed with key legislative and regulatory issues which impact clients on a local, state and

national level.

Schutzer is a graduate of the University at Albany with a degree in Political Science and was the recipient of the Daniel Colacino Legislative Excellence Award, the New York Metro Association of Health Underwriters (NYMAHU) Lifetime Achievement Award, National Association of Health Underwriters (NAHU) Distinguished Service Award and the 2015 Employee Benefits Advisors "14 Politically Active Brokers to Know Across the U.S." In 2021, he was recipient of the Alera Group 2021 President's Club Award.

Visit [thebcw.org](https://thebcw.org) to connect today.

## Orpheus Chamber Orchestra at The Performing Arts Center



On Sunday, January 22, 2023 at 3pm, Orpheus Chamber Orchestra and acclaimed violinist Renaud Capuçon will perform a program titled *Change the Frame* in the Recital Hall at The Performing Arts Center, Purchase College (The Purchase PAC).

*Change the Frame* opens with *View (Un)* titled, a new work by composer Hanna Benn. This piece was commissioned by Orpheus for their 50th anniversary, and inspired by works of art in the Museum of Modern Art (MoMa) collection. Renaud Capuçon is the featured soloist in Prokofiev's unflinching *Sonata in F minor* for Violin, Strings, and Percussion Op. 80, arranged by Andrei Pushkarev. Building on the concept of music inspired by art, the program continues with Mussorgsky's vibrant *Pictures at an Exhibition*, in a special arrangement by Jannina Norpoth (educator, arranger, violinist for PUBLIQuartet).

"When first commissioned by Orpheus to imagine my own *Pictures at an Exhibition*, I roamed the MoMA's halls in early 2022 looking for pieces that spoke to me, and in turn could speak to one another. What resulted is a set of tone poems which move between reflection and celebration, mourning and joy," says Hanna Benn

The concert will be preceded by an Artist Talk, free to all ticketholders, providing insight and context for audience members.

"The Artist Talks are a valued part of the experience for our patrons and we look forward to re-launching the lobby space as a vital place for audience/artist interaction," comments Ian Driver, Interim Managing Director of The PAC. He continues: "For 2022-2023, we have curated a season that speaks to our values of innovation and inclusion; we remain steadfast in our commitment to artistic excellence. We will continue many initiatives that were successful prior to the pandemic and that serve a cultural need in

the community, such as our long-time relationship with Orpheus Chamber Orchestra."

Orpheus Chamber Orchestra is a cultural icon in New York City's vibrant classical music scene. Famously conductor-less since its inception, Orpheus is built upon a democratic model of operations in which all musicians are equal, all decisions are shared, and all artistic leadership is appointed from within. This season marks a major milestone in the Orchestra's history, as it reaches its 50th anniversary in 2022/23. At home in New York and in the many concert halls it visits in the U.S. and beyond, Orpheus begins its next fifty years with a renewed commitment to enriching and reflecting the surrounding community. Orpheus Chamber Orchestra has been a welcome and regular presence on The Purchase PAC's stages for more than a decade.

French violinist Renaud Capuçon is firmly established internationally as a major soloist, recitalist and chamber musician. He is known and loved for his poise, depth of tone and virtuosity, and he works with the world's most prestigious orchestras, artists, venues and festivals.

A composer, vocalist, and genre-spanning collaborator, Hanna Benn has been creating music for over a decade. Her multi-disciplinary approach has incorporated dance, opera, and theater — blurring genre and discovering new sonic landscapes in the process.

Orpheus Chamber Orchestra *Change the Frame* with Renaud Capuçon will take place on Sunday, January 22 at 3pm in The Purchase PAC's Recital Hall. The Artist Talk will begin at 2:15pm. Individual tickets are \$80 and \$45. Discounts are available for seniors, students, children, Purchase College alumni, veterans, and groups.

Ticketing and event information can be found on The PAC's website: <https://www.artscenter.org/events/orpheus-chamber-orchestra/>

# New Unit Will Implement a Campaign Promoting Acceptance, Inclusion, Tolerance and Understanding of Diversity

Governor Kathy Hochul recently announced that the New York State Division of Human Rights is launching a statewide Hate and Bias Prevention Unit, which is charged with leading public education and outreach efforts, serving as an early warning detection system in local communities, and quickly mobilizing to support areas and communities in which a bias incident has occurred.

"New York State will use every tool at its disposal to eliminate hate and bias from our communities," Governor Hochul said. "We will not let the rise in hate incidents that we see happening online, across the country and across the world, take root here at home."

"We cannot allow ignorance, fear, and hatred to damage the enormous amount of work we've done to move our state forward," said Lieutenant Governor Antonio Delgado. "The partnerships that we're building within communities and across the state will ensure what we know to be true which is that love always prevails over hate."

Division of Human Rights Commissioner Maria L. Imperial said, "Everyone - no matter what color they are, or who they love, or what they believe - should feel safe when they go to work, or go dancing, or visit a house of worship, or send their kids off to school. This new unit will advance our mission of equal opportunity, access, and dignity

for all in our state."

As part of this new Unit's mandate, the Division is organizing 10 regional councils across the state made up of local stakeholders. These councils will provide a place for community members to share concerns, organize educational programming, host hate crime prevention and community healing events, conduct trainings in conflict resolution, and facilitate the filing of complaints with the Division and other relevant agencies. The Unit also will develop a rapid response team to assist communities affected by a bias or hate incident.

The Hate and Bias Prevention Unit also will be responsible for establishing and implementing a statewide campaign promoting acceptance, inclusion, tolerance, and understanding of diversity, as required by legislation signed in November by Governor Hochul. The campaign will coordinate and cooperate with public and private organizations, including, but not limited to, local governments, community groups, school districts, places



Governor Kathy Hochul

of worship, charitable organizations, and foundations and will develop educational materials to be published on the internet, social media, and other platforms to reach the public. The Division also works with the New York State Police to educate New Yorkers on the State's hate crimes laws.

The announcement builds upon Governor Hochul's long-standing commitment to combatting hate and violence across the state. The Governor announced \$96 million in state and federal funding to safeguard non-profit, community-based organizations at risk of hate crimes and attacks; \$10 million in state funding through the Securing Reproductive Health Centers Program to improve safety and security of patients and employees at reproductive health care centers and abortion services providers that may be at risk of crimes or attacks because of their mission, services, ideology or beliefs; and established within the state Division of Homeland Security and Emergency Services a Domestic

Terrorism Prevention Unit and directed \$10 million in state grant funds to support county governments as they develop domestic terrorism prevention plans and threat assessment and management teams in the wake of the horrific white supremacist attack on the Tops Market in Buffalo.

The Division annually investigates more than 5,000 complaints of discrimination from individuals across the state. The agency also has the authority to initiate investigations and file complaints alleging violations of the state anti-discrimination law and last year, the Division secured more than \$6.2 million in monetary damages for individuals who have experienced discrimination. The Division also works with the New York State Police to educate New Yorkers on the State's hate crimes laws.

New York has the proud distinction of being the first state in the nation to enact a Human Rights Law, affording every citizen "an equal opportunity to enjoy a full and productive life." The New York State Division of Human Rights is dedicated to eliminating discrimination, remedying injustice, and promoting equal opportunity, access, and dignity through enforcement of the Human Rights Law. Individuals interested in finding out more information or filing a complaint, visit the DHR website.

## Westchester County Legislative District Maps Redrawn

In a special meeting on December 13, the Westchester County Board of Legislators voted 14-2 to adopt new County legislative district maps. The maps were drawn and amended three times throughout the past year in consultation with redistricting experts from the Benjamin Center at SUNY New Paltz and through general public input. In total, the BOL hosted five public input sessions, a public hearing, and allowed for comments to be submitted in writing, as well.

Redistricting is required every 10 years after a new census. The 2020 U.S. census revealed that Westchester County's population had increased, putting the county over the one million mark for the first time in history. Because the increase is greater in some parts of the County than others, the work was to readjust legislative districts so that the population of each are as equitably split as possible. This readjustment ensures equal representation for all residents and will reflect local municipalities more accurately.

The new maps were generated to address areas of the County that have grown large, diverse populations. These new maps establish a Black-majority district in Mt. Vernon (CLD-13); Yonkers forms one minority-plurality district (CLD-16) and one Hispanic-majority district (CLD-17). Expanded borders created a minority-plurality district in New Rochelle (CLD-11); and there is a



BOL Chairwoman Catherine Borgia

minority-opportunity district created in Port Chester (CLD-6).

Chairwoman Catherine Borgia stated, "After over a year of listening to feedback from proactive and engaged voters, I am proud of the maps we've put forth. It has not been a simple process, but with community involvement, we've managed to create boundaries that allow communities to grow comfortably for the next ten years."

In addition to addressing diversity parameters, the new maps make several communities whole which have been segmented in prior maps. These communities include the localities of Peekskill, Briarcliff, Sleepy Hollow, and unincorporated Greenburgh. Making these changes will make the respective districts more compact without compromising other redistricting parameters.

Majority Leader Christopher Johnson iterated, "A fundamental part of our democracy is making certain that all voters are represented equally and fairly. Westchester's growth in population and diversity demands that we increase the voting power for all communities through redistricting." He continued, "It is my hope that Westchester residents see themselves reflected in those representing them in this Body."

The newly adopted maps will go into effect in time for County legislative races in 2023.

## Flood Mitigation Pressing Issue at Harrison Planning Board Meeting

BY STEPHEN E. LIPKEN

A meeting of the Harrison Planning Board was conducted by Chair, Joseph Stout on Tuesday, December 20, 2022, beginning with adoption of the Renaissance Harrison Mixed Use Community Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS) Scoping Document.

Regarding 14 Highland Ridge Lane Subdivision, attorney Michael Zarin, Zarin and Steinmetz reported that the neighbor withdrew his request for a Cul-de-Sac but is negotiating a shared water main, accepting a 180-day extension to study this matter.

Referring to 81 Crystal Street, Zarin requested a video inspection of the pipes crossing the corner of property along with removal of an existing tree to be replaced by 3 new trees. There was some ongoing confusion regarding coverage of an impervious area. Existing coverage is now 2,530 square feet, with two houses,

3,220 square feet, an additional 690 square feet.

Homeowner Tina Martinez stressed that she was in water "up to her waist. That is why I am not in my home (81 Crystal Street). It has not been rebuilt. I had to rescue my daughter and rescued a neighbor. I have 24 years of experience as a firefighter. I lost every room, except for one and intend to make this property better for my children."

Resident Rob Porto quoted Chapter 146 regarding flood hazards. "Driveways are suspect, with impervious paving. You have driveways with small holes, mashed down by cars. The water is going to run off. There is the struggle to keep these houses out of the floodways. The drives with their fancy pavers are in the floodways.

"The pipe that water is going into, Sterling Ridge, Duck Pond and whole area is funneled into those pipes. Will two more houses put more water into the yards? I definitely think so."



Harrison Town Planner Pat Cleary

[www.harrisonherald.com](http://www.harrisonherald.com)



# An Elevator Speech Delivering a Message



BY BERNARD A. KROOKS, CERTIFIED ELDER LAW ATTORNEY

According to Wikipedia, an elevator speech is a short description of an idea, product, or company that explains the concept in a way such that any listener can understand it in a short period of time. Experts say that you should keep your elevator speech short and sweet, with the goal being to deliver your message in under a minute. Basically, the concept is to be able to tell someone what you do in the time it takes to go on a brief elevator ride.

So, here is my elevator speech: our law practice is focused on legal problems faced by individuals as they age and individuals with special needs. However, in many instances our actual clients are family members (and loved ones) of seniors and individuals with special needs who seek our representation on behalf of their loved one.

Many of our clients come to us for help in preparing their estate plans, including a last will and testament, living trust, health care proxy, living will, and durable power of attorney. In any event, estate planning is not about forms and documents; it is about making sure that your wishes are carried out upon incapacity or death.

People who are trustee of a trust have ongoing responsibilities to the trust beneficiaries. Our firm can help you manage these duties and ensure that you are in compliance with all legal and tax requirements. A trust can serve many purposes and it is important that the administration of the trust is conducted in a manner consistent with the trust creator's intent.

Our special needs planning practice focuses on assisting individuals with special needs and their families achieve the highest quality of life possible. We advocate to ensure that our clients

have access to all appropriate government benefits to which they are entitled. We also assist clients with special needs trusts to help protect their assets for their loved ones and with guardianship for people who cannot manage their own affairs due to illness or incapacity.

While New York's probate process is not particularly complex, it can still be overwhelming for many. Our firm helps executors of estates perform their legal duties to ensure that the decedent's final affairs are settled properly.

About 70% of all Americans will need long-term care at home, in an assisted living facility or in a nursing home. The cost of long-term care in the New York metropolitan area can be more than \$200,000 a year. Failure to plan in advance can result in the loss of significant personal assets. By planning in advance, you can take the necessary steps to ensure that your choices regarding who will manage your finances and health care are followed in the event you become incapacitated. Moreover, with proper planning, you can minimize your out-of-pocket costs for long-term care. Our firm can help explain the available options to you and help you make the right choices for you and your family.

Every child with a disability is entitled to a free and appropriate public education. We represent individuals and their families to ensure that school districts are held accountable and provide the type of education that the law requires, regardless of disability. Our firm takes a collaborative approach and works with school district representatives to make sure the child's Individualized Education Program (IEP) meets the child's individual needs; however, we are prepared to go to court, if necessary, to protect our client's interests.

There you have it. My elevator speech, and then some. I hope to see you in the elevator!

*Bernard A. Krooks, Esq., is a founding partner of Littman Krooks LLP. He was named 2021 "Lawyer of the Year" by Best Lawyers in America® for excellence in Elder Law and has been honored as one of the "Best Lawyers" in America since 2008. He was elected to the Estate Planning Hall of Fame by the National Association of Estate Planners & Councils (NAEPC). Krooks is past Chair of the Elder Law Committee of the American College of Trust and Estate Counsel (ACTEC). Mr. Krooks may be reached at (914-684-2100) or by visiting the firm's website at [www.littmankrooks.com](http://www.littmankrooks.com).*

## TABLE HOPPING with Morris Gut LOOKING FORWARD TO TASTY CULINARY IN 2023!

I have had many fine culinary encounters in 2022. Looking back, here is a short list of favorite dishes and dining venues you should try not to miss this new year!

### LINGUINE VONGOLE AT TRATTORIA VIVOLO, HARRISON!

Owner Dean Vivolo serves a wonderful Paglia e Fieno con Funghi, with its mix of mushroom ragu, scallions, crispy prosciutto, and pecorino cheese. The Linguine Vongole is not to be missed. We enjoy it with a side of tender Broccoli Rape. Chef Vivolo's robust regional Italian cuisine is served out of a restored diner just across from Harrison's Metro-North station. Sit at the counter, tuck into a booth, or take a table in the rear greenhouse and enjoy the surprising contemporary and traditional flavors emanating from his kitchen: tasty thin-crust pizza; fresh old-fashioned Meatballs and Sausage; Crostino di Polenta, topped with wild mushrooms, gorgonzola, and tomato sauce; Lasagna Bolognese al Forno; Osso Buco, tender braised veal shank; occasional Roasted Porchetta. Great staff. Good wine list. Sparkling lights evenings. Closed Mondays. Free parking. Trattoria Vivolo, 301 Halstead Ave., Harrison. 914-835-6199 [www.trattoriavivolo.com](http://www.trattoriavivolo.com)

### GLOBAL FLAVORS AT MARIA, NEW ROCHELLE!

Three-time winners of Michelin's prestigious 'Bib Gourmet' Award, brothers Peter and Giovanni Cucullo have been causing a stir in New Rochelle, drawing patronage from all over the county to their flavorful riff on Italian/global cooking. Named after Mama, Maria's has become a regular haunt for me. Love their happy hours from 3 p.m. to 7 p.m. when they offer some favorite beverages and small plates that are loaded with flavor. I am

hooked on such eclectic dishes as: Glazed Pork Ribs, Truffled Green Beans, Grilled Sausage with sweet & spicy Peruvian peppers, Mom's Meatballs, Cauliflower Fritters, and Roasted Shishito Peppers. Special mention must go to their Baked Rigatoni and tender baby Lamb Chops. Pleasant dining room and bar filled with artifacts from home. Good networking spot. The family also operates bustling Fratelli's Pizza and Pops Café next door. Maria, 11 Huguenot St., New Rochelle. Take-out & delivery. Closed Sundays. 914-636-0006 [www.marianewrochelle.com](http://www.marianewrochelle.com)

### FRESH SEASONAL BREWS AT WOLF & WARRIOR, WHITE PLAINS!

Owner/Brewmeister Michael Chiltern brought White Plains its first microbrewery 3 years ago and it's a good one. He has updated his hours and is now serving his brews and a new menu all afternoon and evening from noon, Tuesday thru Sunday. The tasting room and open-air backyard has been expanded with extra seating. The crew is friendly and knowledgeable. A daily selection of brews is listed on a big colorful blackboard. Comforting new specialties coming out of the kitchen include: Birria Tacos, Blazin' Wings, Hand Cut Free Range Chicken Tenders, a variety of Brew House Burgers, and Slammin' Sandwiches like the South Paw Philly Cheesesteak. Enjoyed my Passion Wolf IPA there recently. Closed Mondays. Wolf & Warrior Brewing, 195A E. Post Road, White Plains. 914-368-8617 [www.wolfandwarrior.com](http://www.wolfandwarrior.com)

### HEARTY IRISH AMERICAN AT JACK'S BAR, EASTCHESTER!

Owner Shane Clifford and his staff have been drawing a fine crowd. The space has been totally remodeled and offers an enhanced Irish/Ameri-

can tavern menu on steroids. The best way to describe it. Generous specialties coming out of Chef Brendan Donohoe's kitchen include a refreshing Harvest Green Salad; Double-Stacked Smash Burger; decadent Short Rib Mac N' Cheese; Jack's Meatballs; Seared Scallops; Chicken Curry; Burrata Pizza out of their woodfired oven; Berkshire Pork Chop; and Grilled Lamb Sliders. The staff could not be more friendly. Open daily. Indoor & outdoor seating. TVs. Municipal parking; free evenings. Jack's Bar, 219 Main St., Eastchester. 914-652-7650 [www.jackseastchester.com](http://www.jackseastchester.com)

### SOUTHERN COMFORTS AT FREEBIRD, WHITE PLAINS!

I have enjoyed my visits to Freebird Kitchen & Bar this past year. We have devoured Fried Calamari, meaty Racks of Baby Back Ribs, Cobb Salad, spicy Chicken Wings, crispy Brussels Sprouts. Shrimp & Grits and Braised Short Ribs, too. The cooking here is very satisfying, and all done with a friendly southern theme. Portions are ample and shareable. The lighting and those artsy birds hanging from the ceiling in the dining room give it a magical atmosphere. There is a seasonal rooftop. Sunday Night Jam sessions. Sprawling bar. Craft beers. Happy hours: Tues.-Thurs. 4-6pm; Fri. 2-6 p.m. Freebird, 161 Mamaroneck Ave., White Plains. Open Tuesday thru Sunday for lunch, dinner & weekend brunch. 914-607-2476 [www.freebirdkitchenandbar.com](http://www.freebirdkitchenandbar.com)

### TOWN HOUSE CONTEMPORARY CUISINE, NEW ROCHELLE!

Set in a 3-story restored building in the heart of the 'Queen City's' massive Main Street renewal, proprietor Tom Middleton of Pelham and Chef Chris dos Reis, a native of New Rochelle, offer a

seasonal menu of global dishes using fresh, local ingredients. Amiable manager Mariana Rodriguez and her crew will help you thru your meal with aplomb. Our first meal here was a dazzling flavorful hit, and unique to the downtown. Fresh oysters, Kimchi Tempura Green Beans, grilled cauliflower, and a delicious Line Caught Sea Bass, green garlic, parsnip, cabbage. There's an upscale Town House Burger, too. Check Open Thursday-Sunday, dinner only. Private party facilities. Spirited bar/cocktails. Good networking spot. Town House, 559 Main Street, New Rochelle. 914-278-9278 [www.townhousenewro.com](http://www.townhousenewro.com)

### GRAND INDIAN SUNDAY BUFFET AT TANDOORI, PORT CHESTER!

Bharat Patel, proprietor of long running Tandoori Taste of India, has moved his restaurant into a new contemporized location along Westchester Ave., Port Chester. They are now offering a generous all-you-can-eat Indian Buffet on Sundays. The same management team owns and operates Indi Q in Armonk. The dining room and bar area are separated. Light grey walls are highlighted by modern industrial fixtures, lighting, and colorful Indian artifacts. At a recent sitting, we enjoyed a dramatically presented Stuffed Dosa with masala spiced potatoes, served with coconut chutney and sambar. An order of Chicken Curry was an herbal delight. Marinated Salmon cooked in the tandoor oven was juicy and delicious. Tandoori Taste of India, 223 Westchester Ave., Port Chester. Just up the street from the Capitol Theatre concert hall. Closed Tuesdays. 914-937-2727. [www.tandooritas-teofindia.com](http://www.tandooritas-teofindia.com) Indi Q, 61 Old Rte. 22, Armonk. 914-273-5931 [www.indiqarmonk.com](http://www.indiqarmonk.com)

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# Program Will Support Passengers with Hidden Disabilities and Accessibility Needs



The next time you see a sunflower lanyard at Westchester County Airport, take notice. Just in time for the busy holiday travel season, Westchester County Airport is launching the Hidden Disabilities Sunflower Program to support passengers with hidden disabilities and accessibility needs. When travelers voluntarily choose to wear a sunflower lanyard, it is a way for them to discreetly inform others that they have a disability. The Program is designed to support all passengers who use Westchester County Airport, and ensure they have a positive travel experience.

Westchester County Executive George Latimer said, "Just because you cannot see a person's disability, does not mean that it doesn't exist. It is important that we care for all of our passengers at Westchester County Airport, and in particular in this enhanced way for those with accessibility needs. The Sunflower Program will help people with hidden disabilities inform others – using their lanyard – that they may need additional support services, which we are happy to provide."

A few key points about the Hidden Disabilities Sunflower Program are as follows:

Passengers who voluntarily wear a sunflower lanyard do not need to disclose their disability.

Wearing a sunflower lanyard will not expedite you through TSA security screening.

Passengers can use their sunflower lanyards and other products at other airports and businesses that support the Hidden Disabilities Sunflower.

Airport Manager April L. Gasparri said, "Westchester County Airport community is thrilled to launch this important program. With over 750,000 departing passengers projected for this year, I'm certain we host many travelers with hidden disabilities. Inclusivity is part of our county's fiber; it's only natural to make it organic in an airport travel journey."

Federal Security Director Robert Duffy said, "The Transportation Security Administration (TSA) is a proud supporter of the Hidden Disabilities Sunflower Program. Today, we at the TSA are pleased to assist the leadership of the Westchester

County Airport in starting this very important and highly successful program at HPN. We at the TSA constantly strive to provide thorough and effective security screening at all airports in a professional and respectful manner. The use of Sunflower Lanyards will help us to better serve the needs of the traveling public by bringing to our attention those passengers who may require additional time and assistance as they pass through our security screening checkpoints."

Director of the Westchester County Office for People with Disabilities Evan Latainer said, "Here is another example of Westchester County working with the disabled community in providing valuable resources to a customer base that utilizes everyday services here in Westchester. The Sunflower Program provides passengers who happen to need assistance a subtle way for airport staff to recognize that the wearer might need some assistance to navigate through the airport."

Chairperson of the Advisory Council on People with Disabilities Carin Horowitz said, "The Sunflower Lanyard Program is just one of many ways in which the Westchester County Airport is working to address the needs of people with disabilities coming through its doors. As the Chairperson of the County Executive's Advisory Council on People with Disabilities, we are excited to propel our partnership with airport leadership to move these initiatives forward that increase accessibility and awareness at the airport."

President and CEO of Skyqueen Enterprises Millie Becker said, "I speak from personal experience when I say The County has been a leader and a model for Autism Early Intervention. Westchester County Health professionals led our family to the resources and guidance we needed to help our son John learn and grow. As a proud member of the airport community, I am grateful to the County Executive and the Airport Manager for bringing the Sunflower Lanyard Program to HPN. Traveling is a stressful experience and now families with Special Needs will know the airport has the resources and to make their experience as easy and enjoyable as possible."

# Harrison Police Department Santa and Helpers Visit CPW's United Preschool Center



On December 16, 2022, Santa made an early visit to the students at Cerebral Palsy of Westchester's United Preschool Center. He was accompanied by officers from the Harrison Police Department, who have been visiting the preschool with Santa for over 18 years and are happy to act as his helpers.

The event was held at Wilson House – a large open indoor space adjacent to the preschool's main building. Gifts were donated by local residents and distributed by five members of the Harrison Police Department. Students of the United Preschool Center participate in many other festive activities in December. Opportunities are provided both in and out of the classroom for the students to learn about the various winter holidays and a winter music concert will be held in January.

The United Preschool Center (UPC), located at 456 North Street in White Plains, offers an integrated learning experience for children with and without disabilities. Program administrators

collaborate with various school districts throughout Westchester County, and UPC is an authorized Universal Full-

Day Pre-Kindergarten program site for the White Plains School District. The United Preschool Center is a division of Cerebral Palsy of Westchester.

Now in its 73rd year, Cerebral Palsy of Westchester's mission is to advance the independence, productivity, and full citizenship of people with all developmental disabilities including autism, neurological impairments, intellectual disabilities, epilepsy, and cerebral palsy. Through a comprehensive network of educational programs, day services, residential sites, therapeutic services, employment training, recreation programs and advocacy, the agency helps thousands of children and adults in Westchester and Fairfield Counties live more productive and satisfying lives. The organization's motto is: Realizing Tomorrow's Potential . . . Today!

## Outstanding Food and Service at Meadows Social Kitchen and Bar

The Meadows Social Kitchen and Bar restaurant in the Harrison Meadows Country Club has opened its doors to club members and the public. Overlooking the breathtaking golf course, this historic spot offers both privacy and spaciousness.

Guests will enjoy a contemporary American-style menu infused with a modern twist. The approach is simple: they offer eclectic plates in a sleek ambiance setting combined with unique creative cocktails.

Vincent Corso, a long-time and respected restauranter in the Tri-State and Westchester area, has the helm as the Food and Beverage Director and is enthusiastic about welcoming club members and guests. "I have worked in this business for over 30 years," says Corso. "Even after all that time, my love for the hospitality industry remains the same. I am excited for the future of our industry and about bringing a new culinary destination to Harrison."

If you are looking to mark that special occasion, the on-site Team of Hospitality Professionals looks forward to providing guests with the finest in food, service, and amenities. First-class service for a first-class experience! Corso's philosophy will be creating memories with food. Whether it is a dinner, corporate, holiday, or special event, outstanding food and service will be the cornerstone of your dining experience at The Meadows. It is a unique meeting place for social, cultural, and community gatherings.

For more information call 914-925-7001.



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## AUDITION CALL

The Manor Club Theatre, 1023 Esplanade in Pelham, is auditioning for "Lovers and Other Strangers." 5 Men, 5 Women, ages 20 to 70. Auditions at the theatre on January 22, 2023 from 3:00pm to 5:00pm and January 23 from 7:00pm to 9:00pm. Show dates: March 12-14. For full information go to [tmcofelham.org](http://tmcofelham.org)

## GRAVE PLOT FOR SALE IN SHARON GARDENS

Beautiful plot (#573) in sold out Free Synagogue section. \$20,000 OBO. Call 203-918-4880.

## LIVE IN CARETAKER

Seeking a live in caretaker for elderly woman to assist with companionship, appointments and more. Contact me at 914-298-8872.

# Harrison Herald



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## Table Hopping with Morris Gut continued from page 12

TENDER BRISKET & PAT LA FREIDA BURGERS  
AT SMOKEHOUSE TAILGATE GRILL,  
NEW ROCHELLE & MAMARONECK!

Partners Mike Hoffer and Justin Zeytoonian re-opened their industrial-designed BBQ restaurant a year ago in The Rockwell, a new building along North Ave., New Rochelle, near IONA. It is directly across from the shuttered original which they founded in 2007. The well edited menu includes a good selection of craft beers along with signature Tacos, BBQ Chicken and Racks of Ribs. Recently, we ordered their popular Brisket, and it was flavorful and tender. The Tomahawk Burger is prepared with Pat La Frieda beef and is a satisfying winner. The new Smokehouse Tailgate Grill is located at 587 North Ave., New Rochelle, not far from IONA College. (914-813-8686). Their second location: Smokehouse Tailgate Grill, 320 Mamaroneck Ave., Mamaroneck. (914-341-1655). Now in Somers at The Pit inside DeCicco's Market. [www.shtailgate.com](http://www.shtailgate.com)

(Morris Gut is a restaurant marketing consultant and former restaurant trade magazine editor. He has been tracking and writing about the food and dining scene in greater Westchester for 30 years. He may be reached at: 914-235-6591. Email: [gutreactions@optonline.net](mailto:gutreactions@optonline.net))



# Harrison High School Model Congress Team Competes at Yale



Members of the Harrison High School Model Congress Team, Ben Gold, Alec Udell, and Lucy Neureuther, display awards won at Yale.

The HHS Model Congress team traveled to Yale to compete in person at their first Model Congress Conference of the year. Founded in 1993, Yale Model Congress hosts high school high school delegates assume responsibilities of elected officials

to debate real world issues. Alec Udell was named Best Delegate, Ben Gold and Lucy Neureuther both received honorable mentions. Everyone on the team was happy to return to in person competitions this year.

# Harrison High School Senior Shweta Nadagouda Receives OCA Student Leadership Award



Harrison High School Senior Shweta Nadagouda at the OCA 42nd Anniversary & Dynamic Achiever Awards Gala

Senior Shweta Nadagouda received the 2022 Student Leadership Award presented by the Organization of Chinese Americans - Westchester and Hudson Valley Chapter. The award is presented to students who demonstrate strong academic achievement, leadership, and perseverance. In

her essay Shweta described her future self as “a multifaceted woman who never ceases to work hard. A woman who learns from her mistakes and stands up when she falls.” The award was presented at the organization’s 42nd Anniversary & Dynamic Achiever Awards Gala.

# 2023 January Calendar



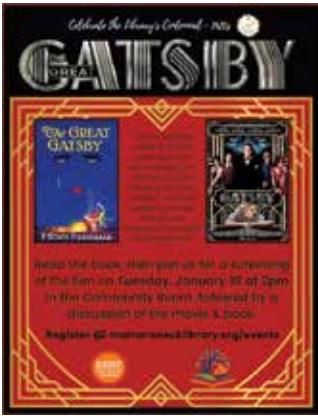
On view until January 14, artist Hilda Green Demsky is exhibiting in Gallery B of the Rye Arts Center, 51 Milton Road, Rye, as part of The Gratitude Project, curated by Jill Parry. The Gratitude Project exhibit is comprised of 36 oil on canvas paintings mounted alongside the poems that have inspired them. Call 914-967-0700 for details.

On January 8, join Jocelyn Kleiman from The Sheldrake Environmental Center, Larchmont, as she leads a Neighborhood Tree Walk sponsored by the Town of Mamaroneck Sustainability Collaborative. Sign up at sheldrakecenter.org/event/town-of-mamaroneck-winter-tree-walk



On January 20, Karen Ridder Stuart, a trained Jin Shin Jyutsu practitioner and self help instructor will be speaking at The Larchmont Library, 121 Larchmont Avenue, at 10 am on how to manage stress and anxiety. Call 914-834-2281 for more information.

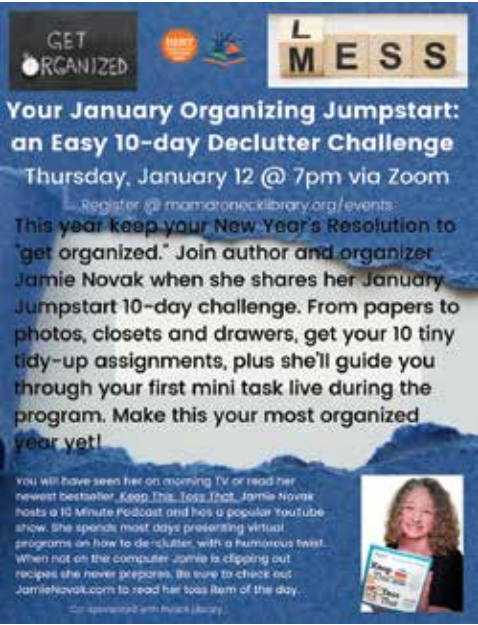
The Mamaroneck Public Library, 136 Prospect Avenue, will feature many January programs as follows:



On January 10, The Library presents the film, The Great Gatsby, followed by a discussion at

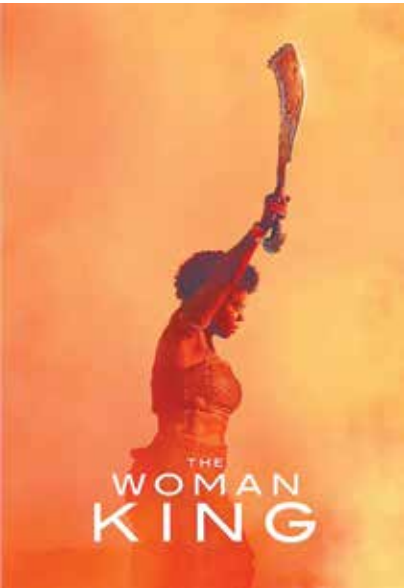
2pm in the community room.

Meditation classes for the New Year will be held on zoom at 7pm on January 10 and 24 and February 7.



On January 12, author Jaime Novak will discuss how to declutter at 7pm on zoom

On January 18 at 6:30 pm, the kick-off to the Mamaroneck Library’s centennial will be held at The Emelin Theatre, 153 Library Lane, Mamaroneck, with a movie series on Buster Keaton and his first feature film, The 3 Ages. A live musical performance will follow.



On January 19, The Mamaroneck Public Library will screen the movie, The Women King in the community room at 11am.

On January 20, Elizabeth O’Rourke will lead a poetry showcase at 4pm on zoom. Poems will be based on Hope for the New Year.

For all events, register at mamaroneck library.org/events



Start the New  
Year in front of a  
New Fireplace...



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