



Numerous Appointments Announced at Town Board Meeting



BY STEPHEN E. LIPKEN

Harrison Mayor Thomas Scappaticci called the August 20th Town Board meeting, beginning with the Town Board Agenda, Report from Supervisor on Decisions Made Following Town Board Meeting held on July 16th and Special Town Board Meeting held on July 27th .

The Town was authorized to enter into a Consulting Agreement with Mau-

reen MacKenzie in the Comptroller’s Office, effective August 1st at a per diem rate of \$900 not to exceed 3 days per week.

The Office of Deputy Comptroller was established, with appointment of Michael Piccini as Deputy Comptroller for \$15,000 per annum, pro-rated to be paid bi-weekly.

Other appointments included Natalie Miller to Architectural Review

Board, probational appointment of Maryann Riccobono to the position of Senior Office Assistant Automated, and provisional appointment of Tullia Mohr to Senior Office Assistant Comptroller.

Retirements included firefighter Adam Straface and Senior Auto Mechanic Joseph J. Salerno, who worked for Harrison for over 25 years.

Regarding Personnel, requests by Debra Scocchera, Personnel Benefits Manager were approved to probationally appoint Trevor J. Meyler to the position of Recreation Assistant, Diana Hart to position of Staff Assistant-Finance and Admin. Comptroller and Thomas Acampora to the position of Recreation Supervisor, Senior Citizen, all effective Monday, August 24th.

Under Actions and Resolutions, Town Clerk Angela Sposato requested approval to expand payment methods

for all transactions in the Town Clerk’s Office to include American Express, Apple Pay, Google Pay and Automated Clearing House transactions.

Superintendent of Recreation Gerry Salvo requested Town Board approval to enter into agreement with ActiveNet (Recreation Department Software) for one year at the cost of \$19,000 which will be invoiced annually.

Building Inspector Rocco Germani requested to hold the annual Making Strides Against Breast Cancer Walk, sponsored by American Cancer Society at Manhattanville College on Saturday, October 18th from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.

After much discussion, including Gary Chiarella addressing flooding, the Moratorium on Multifamily Dwellings item was adjourned to the Thursday, September 17th Board Meeting.



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Harrison's "Reading with the Huskies" Sparks a Love of Books and Reading



The Harrison Central School District's summer reading program, Reading with the Huskies, concluded its fourth successful summer of bringing Harrison High School students together with emerging readers across the district's four elementary schools. The program encourages elementary students to explore new places, meet memorable characters and discover new adventures through reading. As reading facilitators, Harrison High School students read a curated selection of titles and participated in training to prepare them to lead enthusiastic, engaging book discussions with students in third, fourth and fifth grades. Over the past four years, the program has not only fostered connections between elementary and high school students but also helped spark a lasting interest in and love of literature among our youngest readers. This summer, seventy elementary students participated in the virtual book talks.

Department of Emergency Services Launches Fire Safety Campaign



The Department of Emergency Services (DES) launched a fire safety campaign to help residents reduce the risk of fire in their homes. In a series of videos, the Department is focusing on some of the major causes of fires in the home and outlining steps that people can take to reduce their risk. The campaign also includes practical tips on maintaining smoke detectors and preparing a family evacuation plan in case a fire occurs. The series of Public Service Announcement videos was announced by County Executive Ken Jenkins.

Jenkins said, "Recently, the 60 Control communications center at DES dispatched 17 structural fire events throughout the County. We are focused on giving people the information they need to keep themselves and their families' safe." The campaign is the result of a rise in public inquiries for fire safety information in the wake of deadly fires in Westchester this year.

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Sustainable Westchester Secures \$750,000 New York State Investment to Expand Affordable Clean Energy Access

Sustainable Westchester announced the receipt of \$750,000 in New York State funding, made possible through the leadership of Senate Majority Leader Andrea Stewart-Cousins, to expand clean energy programs serving residents and businesses across Westchester County. The investment arrives at a critical moment: energy costs are climbing, air quality alerts are rising, clean energy is the lowest cost long term solution, and Westchester's communities are deeply engaged in charting a more sustainable future.

The funding will support four interconnected areas of work:

- Deepening municipal engagement to help local governments meet state climate and clean energy benchmarks.
 - Establishing a new opt-in clean energy supply program to reconnect residents and businesses with renewable electricity.
 - Advancing an ambitious solar expansion strategy aimed at tripling rooftop solar and achieving a ten-fold increase in parking lot solar canopies across the county.
 - Preserving Sustainable Westchester's existing suite of programs that serve the region's more than one million residents.
- "As utility bills rise and the urgency of



Tom Watson, Executive Director of Sustainable Westchester

the climate crisis grows, Westchester residents deserve access to clean, affordable energy, not fossil fuels by default," said Tom Watson, Executive Director of Sustainable Westchester. "This critical investment will expand programs that empower our communities to take control of their energy future."

"This \$750,000 investment will help make our communities healthier while connecting residents to affordable, clean ener-

gy options, enabling real progress on the air quality concerns our communities have been raising for years. I want to thank Governor Hochul and Speaker Heastie for their partnership in securing this funding for Sustainable Westchester," said Senate Majority Leader Andrea Stewart-Cousins. "This organization has spent more than a decade proving what regional collaboration can accomplish, and this investment will help them triple rooftop solar, expand parking lot solar canopies ten-fold, and protect programs like GridRewards that are already saving residents money. Investments like this one reflect our shared commitment to building a cleaner, more resilient New York for generations to come."

The solar initiative, which the Clinton Global Initiative supports as a Commitment to Action, represents a particularly bold ambition. Fewer than 7% of Westchester homes currently have rooftop solar, and only 2% of suitable surface parking lots have solar canopies. Sustainable Westchester's multi-year strategy — combining proactive site identification, streamlined municipal permitting, and bundled procurement — aims to change that dramatically. At full scale, projected new installations could generate enough clean elec-

tricity to power a city larger than White Plains, while creating nearly 300 local jobs in solar sales, design, installation, and maintenance.

On the municipal front, Sustainable Westchester will expand its support for participation in New York State's Climate Smart Communities and Clean Energy Communities programs, initiatives through which the organization has already helped Westchester municipalities earn more than \$500,000 in funding. Enhanced services will include individualized needs assessments, outreach in low-to-moderate income communities, and volunteer mobilization. Alongside these new efforts, the funding will help preserve Sustainable Westchester's core programs, including GridRewards — New York's first residential demand-response program — as well as Community Solar, EnergySmart Homes, MOVE electric vehicle charging infrastructure, and workforce development initiatives that ensure that all communities benefit economically from the expansion of clean energy capacity.

Sustainable Westchester is a 501(c)(3) non-profit created by and for the municipalities of Westchester County to advance climate mitigation and clean energy.



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Huguenot Lodge No. 46 Celebrates 230th Anniversary

Huguenot Lodge No. 46, Free and Accepted Masons, one of Westchester County's oldest civic institutions, will commemorate its 230th anniversary by honoring the Friends of the Ward House, Inc. and Westchester County Executive Kenneth W. Jenkins during the lodge's 230th Anniversary Gala on Saturday, September 19, from 6 PM to 8 PM, at the Mount Kisco Masonic Hall, 11 Carpenter Avenue.

To commemorate the milestone, Huguenot Lodge No. 46 has established the Jonathan Ward Heritage Award, an annual recognition honoring individuals and organizations whose vision, leadership, public service and stewardship have made enduring contributions to the history, heritage and quality of life of Westchester County. The award is named in honor of Jonathan Ward, son of famed Westchester Patriot Stephen Ward, and founding member of Huguenot Lodge No. 46, who served as sheriff of Westchester County, as a member of the New York State Senate, and in the U.S. House of Representatives. His legacy of service to both Freemasonry and the people of Westchester County continue to embody the principles the award is intended to recognize.

"For 230 years, Huguenot Lodge No. 46 has quietly served Westchester County through the principles of Freemasonry and a commitment to community," said Lee Justo, Master of Huguenot Lodge No. 46 and Deputy Grand Historian Emeritus of the Grand Lodge of the State of New York. "The Jonathan Ward Heritage Award will ensure that each year we recognize individuals and organizations whose service has enriched our county and whose legacy deserves to be celebrated. We are honored to present the inaugural awards to County Executive Kenneth Jenkins and the Friends of the Ward House."

"It is a privilege to be recognized by Huguenot Lodge No. 46 during this historic milestone," said Westchester County Executive Ken Jenkins. "Westchester's history belongs to all of us, and preserving places like the Ward House helps ensure future generations understand the people and events that shaped our County and our nation."

September 11 Ceremonies Planned

Westchester County marks 25 years since the terrorist attacks on the World Trade Center with an Interfaith Prayer Vigil at 5 PM on Thursday, September 10 and a Memorial Service at 2 PM on Friday, September 11. Both events will be held at the Rising and 9/11 First Responders Memorial at Kensico Dam Plaza, 1 Bronx River Parkway, Valhalla.

Westchester County's September 11th Memorial incorporates the names of all the Westchester residents who died, the communities in which they lived and a quote about them from their loved ones. These words are engraved along the outside of the memorial's circular base. Steel rods extend from the base like the spokes of a wheel before reaching skyward and intertwining. The memorial is surrounded by landscaping that includes perennial plantings and park benches.

The memorial is located at the intersection of many pathways and viewpoints, and thereby extends its presence into the surrounding landscape. The Rising is an open structure. It can be approached from all directions and allows people of all ages and abilities to view it, as well as move through it.

To RSVP, email communications@westchestercountyny.gov.



County Executive Ken Jenkins

I am grateful for this recognition and applaud everyone whose commitment keeps our history alive."

"The Friends of the Ward House is deeply honored to receive the inaugural Jonathan Ward Heritage Award as Huguenot Lodge No. 46 celebrates its remarkable 230th anniversary," said Sal Provenzano, President and Chair of the Friends of the Ward House. "Receiving this recognition during the 250th anniversary of our nation's independence makes it especially meaningful. We are proud to help preserve Jonathan Ward's legacy and grateful for Huguenot Lodge's longstanding friendship and commitment to protecting our shared history."

County Executive Jenkins will receive the inaugural award in recognition of his distinguished career in public service and his steadfast commitment to preserving Westchester County's history while strengthening its communities. Among his many accomplishments, Jenkins played a pivotal leadership role in helping secure the future of the historic Ward House, which was razed during the war by British troops and rebuilt by Jonathan Ward in the 1790s after the war. Jenkins actions ensure that one of the county's most significant colonial landmarks will continue to educate and inspire future generations.

The Friends of the Ward House, Inc. are receiving the award in recognition of years

Department of Emergency Services Launches Fire Safety Campaign

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The first video released late last month focuses on fire safety in the kitchen, an area of the home where a sizable number of fires occur.

Among the tips in this video:

- Keep all pot handles facing inward to prevent a child or pet from pulling a pot off the stove;
- Keep a lid handy when cooking, especially when frying, to be prepared to smother any fire that might start in a pot or pan;
- Always have a fire extinguisher nearby when cooking, and keep it in a place where it can safely reached if a stove fire occurs;
- Never leave food cooking unattended on the stove.

The other videos focus on: preventing common causes of fire in bedrooms; maintaining smoke detectors and replacing them, or their batteries, on a regular schedule; and creating – and practicing – a family evacuation plan. The four videos can be found on the Westchester County Government YouTube page.

DES Commissioner Susan Spear said, "There have been several recent severe and fatal fires here in Westchester. The Department of Emergency Services wants to be sure residents have useful information to help prevent house fires and know what to do in case of a fire. We focused on the most prevalent types of fires – kitchen and bedroom, as well as smoke and carbon monoxide detectors, and family evacuation plans. These simple tips can save lives."

Chief Mark Iannucci of the DES Fire Division said residents can get more fire safety information from their local fire departments as well as DES. He said residents should use the non-emergency phone number to contact fire agencies in this instance and only use 911 in an emergency.

Westchester County Invites Residents to Help Shape the Future of Recycling

Westchester County is partnering with Environmental Leaders of Color (ELOC) to encourage residents to participate in a new countywide recycling survey aimed at improving awareness and use of the Westchester County Household Material Recovery Facility (H-MRF) and identifying opportunities to strengthen recycling services across the County.

Developed as part of a student-led sustainability initiative, the brief online survey gathers feedback on residents' re-

cycling habits, familiarity with the H-MRF and ideas for improving access to recycling resources. The survey takes less than two minutes to complete and will help inform future outreach, education and sustainability efforts throughout Westchester County.

Westchester County Executive Ken Jenkins said: "Every resident has a role to play in protecting our environment, and every voice matters as we continue to im-

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Harrison High School DECA Business Club Students Earn Unprecedented 17 Spots at National Competition



A record-breaking 17 students qualified for the National DECA Competition (ICDC) by finishing within the top seven in their events at the 66th New York State DECA Competition. An additional seven students finished within the top 10.

The 2026 state tournament was the largest in the history of the competition with over 3,500 students in attendance. The competition was intense, but Harrison High School students exceeded the already high expectations. Students par-

ticipated in the various DECA functions, workshops, and meetings. Many of the competitions require a written exam as well as a live-action role-play. This year Harrison an unprecedented 96 students attended the state competition, with many receiving awards in their various business competitions.

Club President and four-time National competition qualifier, Addison Valente reflected on the experience at the state competition, "The NYS DECA trip is one

of the most exciting and rewarding experiences our club has each year...One of the most memorable moments of the trip was the awards ceremony. Watching our entire chapter cheer for one another was incredible...Every time a member was called, our section erupted with excitement and pride. Seeing everyone support each other so enthusiastically showed how strong our chapter community truly is."

The following seventeen students placed in the top seven of New York State and qualified to compete at the National competition in Atlanta, GA.

1st Place: Addison Valente: Restaurant & Food Service Management (4th time qualifying for Nationals); Jonathan Lewis: Hotel & Lodging Management (3rd time qualifying for Nationals); Liam Azar: Quick Serve Restaurant Management

(2nd time qualifying for Nationals); Evan Schwartz: Retail Merchandising (2nd time qualifying for Nationals); Emily Salemo: Franchise Business Plan (2nd time qualifying for Nationals).

2nd Place: Jonah Peligri & Avery Sickles: Finance Operations.

3rd Place: Nolan Simmons: Automotive Series Marketing (3rd time qualifying for Nationals); Marissa Lusardi: Human Resource Management; Reese Haines & Brynn Ensign: Business Solutions Project; Cassandra DiBlasi & Selin Cangir: Sales Project.

4th Place: Sophie Wong: Personal Financial Literacy.

6th Place: Riko Suzuki & Zoe Kim: Buying & Merchandising Operations; Arata Yamazaki: Accounting Applications (2nd time qualifying for Nationals).

Summer Fitness Program Builds Harrison Students' Strength, Speed and Confidence



Student athletes from Harrison High School and LMK Middle School made the most of their summer vacation at the district's six-week Summer Strength and Performance Program, led by district teachers and certified Strength and Conditioning Coaches Derrick Fish and Marina Caminita. Designed for middle and high school athletes of all experience levels, the program provided students with the opportunity to build strength and improve athletic performance. Workouts combined foundational and sport-specific training and conditioning, including weightlifting, medicine ball exercises, plyometrics, sprinting, core stability, agility and change-of-direction drills. Each full-body workout was carefully structured and designed to meet athletes where they are, from beginner to advanced, emphasizing proper technique, strength and power development, joint mobility and stability, speed and agility, endurance and work capacity, while helping athletes develop the skills and physical foundation to perform safely and effectively. The program included two morning sessions from 6:45-8:00 a.m. and 8:15-9:30 a.m. Attendance was strong throughout the summer, with 120 students participating in the program. The program provided a great opportunity for students to improve athletic performance both individually and collectively as a team.

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Westchester Teen Crowned
Miss New York Pre-Teen 2026

Maya Morgan, age 12 of Westchester County, has been crowned Miss New York State Pre-Teen 2026.

Maya is a competitive swimmer, dancer, actress and model who is also deeply proud of her Polish-American heritage. As Miss New York State Pre-Teen, she hopes to use her title to encourage other young girls to believe in themselves, embrace new challenges, and give back to their communities.



What Makes People Feel Like They
Belong at Work?

BY REESE MARROW, HARRISON HIGH SCHOOL

Working while still in high school made me start paying attention to things I had never really thought about before. Why can two people doing similar jobs have completely different experiences at work? Why does one workplace make employees feel comfortable speaking up, while another makes them want to stay quiet?

Those questions eventually became an independent research project on workplace belonging and employee experience.

I surveyed 273 people across different ages, industries and levels of work experience. I also spoke with leaders from several professional backgrounds to understand the same questions from a management perspective. I focused on communication, recognition, leadership, coworker relationships, growth opportunities, employee voice and psychological safety—whether people feel comfortable asking questions, sharing ideas or admitting mistakes.

One of the biggest things I learned was that workplace belonging is rarely created by one major policy or benefit. It is often built through much smaller, everyday experiences.

Relationships were especially important. Respondents overwhelmingly connected positive coworker relationships with greater workplace satisfaction. Growth opportunities also stood out when people were asked what contributed most to their satisfaction. In written responses and conversations, people repeatedly came back to communication, trust, recognition and how managers respond when employees speak up.

The interviews also showed me why there probably isn't one perfect workplace culture. A large company, a healthcare organization and a small creative business can face completely different challenges. What works in one setting does not necessarily make sense in another. But across those differences, similar ideas kept coming up: people want to feel respected, informed and able to contribute.

I didn't want the project to end as a research paper sitting on my computer. I wanted to see whether I could turn what I learned into something people could actually use.

That led me to create the Workplace Belonging Toolkit, a free practical resource for employers and managers. It includes a five-minute workplace check, employee pulse survey, manager conversation guide and a 30-day plan for testing one small workplace improvement at a time. I also included a short section for teenagers entering the workforce for the first time.

My next goal is to work with local employers willing to try parts of the toolkit and tell me what works, what doesn't and what needs to change. I'm also continuing to speak with professionals and researchers so I can keep improving both the research and the resource.

This project started because I was curious about what I was seeing in my own jobs. It has made me realize how much there still is to learn about something most of us will spend a huge part of our lives doing: going to work.

To view *Workplace Belonging Toolkit*, visit www.harrisonherald.com



JOEL KUADUGAH
CLASS OF 2026
Rehabilitation Engineering Intern
at Blythedale Children's Hospital
President of Classroom Crusaders
Rotary Club Vice President
QuestBridge National
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Joel Kuadugah has always been driven by a passion for learning, creating, and finding solutions that make a difference. Through his work in Stepinac's Susan and Daniel P. Mahoney '67 Engineering Honors Academy, research, and hands-on engineering experiences, he has built a remarkable pathway fueled by curiosity and determination.

As he begins his studies in Biomedical Engineering at Columbia University, Joel is ready to turn today's ideas into tomorrow's innovations.



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Table Hopping with Morris Gut: Prime Season for Oysters has Arrived

Mollusk experts say oysters are best consumed from September to April. The coming fall season is one of the best times to enjoy them. Oyster aficionados cannot seem to consume enough, and more eateries throughout the area are serving these slippery delicacies. Here are some of the best spots to indulge in the Bronx and Westchester. Check ahead for availability...

Town House Kitchen, 559 Main Street, New Rochelle (914-278-9278) Owner Tom Middleton's creative team has brought the Queen City's burgeoning downtown a creative American Bistro. East Coast oysters are available daily. www.townhousekd.com

One Rare Steakhouse, 16 East Parkway, Scarsdale (914-330-8488) Restaurateur Harry Sinanaj opened a handsome bastion for beef right in the heart of Scarsdale. They also serve East and West Coast Oysters with all the trimmings. www.oneraresteahouse.com

Bistro de Ville, 185 Summerfield Street, Scarsdale (914-574-6364) From the same creative team who brought us Farmer & the Fish Restaurants, this bistro brings a delightful daily dose of Gallic favorites. They feature Fisher's Island



Oysters at lunch and dinner. www.bistrodeville.com

Freebird Kitchen & Bar, 161 Mamaroneck Avenue, White Plains (914-607-2476) Nick Fusco and his team serve a southern themed locally sourced menu, fresh oysters included. Great daily happy hours. Rooftop dining and imbibing. www.freebirdkitchenandbar.com

Eastchester Fish Gourmet, 837 White Plains Road, Scarsdale (914-725-3450) A longtime favorite for seafood lovers. Oysters served daily in the formal restaurant

or Go Fish next door. www.eastchesterfish.com

Kenny's on the Water, 2 Pelham Road, New Rochelle, at the Municipal Marina. (914-999-4918) Open for business while the marina is under construction. The Raw Bar offers a variety of oysters throughout the day. Valet parking. www.kennysonthewater.com

Red Horse by David Burke, The Opus Westchester, 221 Main Street, White Plains. (914-469-5713) Chef Burke serves East and West Coast Oysters daily out of this modern American steakhouse. Happy Hours, too. www.redhorsebydb.com

Gus's Franklin Park Restaurant, 126 Halstead Avenue, Harrison (914-835-9804) 80 years running and still going strong. Oysters served daily. Hearty tavern menu. Market next door. www.gusseafood.com

Cosenza's Fish Market, 2354 Arthur Avenue, Bronx (718-364-8510) It's right in the heart of Little Italy, a full-fledged fish

market with counters set up as an Oyster Bar and Clam Bar. Take your pick and enjoy a fresh platter rustic style right on the bustling sidewalk.

Randazzo's Seafood, 2327 Arthur Avenue, Bronx (718-367-4139) Started three generations ago by a Sicilian family of fisherman, this market has oysters in stock all season. Current hours: 7 AM to 6 PM. www.randazzoseafood.com

Sea Shore Restaurant, 591 City Island Avenue, City Island, Bronx. (718-885-0300) Jeffrey Weiner and his veteran crew serve abundant platters of seafood at this sprawling 95-year-old institution, Blue Point oysters included. Daily happy hours. www.seashorerestaurant.com

Bread & Brine, 119 Main Street, Hastings-On-Hudson (914-479-5243) The place bustles inside and out, and 'summers in Maine' is the theme. Oysters are a seasonal treat. www.breadandbrinehoh.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 more than 30 years. He may be reached at 914-235-6591. Email gutreaactions@optonline.net

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Beyond the Dorm Room Checklist: Legal Planning for College Students

BY BERNARD A. KROOKS,
CERTIFIED ELDER LAW ATTORNEY
SPECIAL GUEST CONTRIBUTOR:
AMY C. O'HARA,
CERTIFIED ELDER LAW ATTORNEY

Sending a child to college involves more than selecting courses, furnishing a dorm room, and purchasing a meal plan. There are also important legal documents that every family should consider before the semester begins: a power of attorney and a health care proxy.

These documents may seem unnecessary for a healthy young adult, but emergencies are, by definition, unexpected. Once a child turns 18, a parent no longer has automatic legal authority to make decisions or handle matters on the child's behalf. This is true even if the student remains financially dependent on the parents, is covered by their health insurance, or is attending a college for which the parents are paying.

The Legal Significance of Turning 18

Until a child reaches adulthood, parents generally have legal authority to make medical and financial decisions for the child. Once the child turns 18, that authority ends. The student is now an adult in the eyes of the law, and parents may encounter significant obstacles if the student becomes ill, is injured, or is otherwise unable to manage their affairs.

For example, if a college student is hospitalized following an accident, medical providers may be restricted from sharing information with the parents. Similarly, parents may not be able to access the student's bank account, address an insurance issue, communicate with a landlord, or handle another urgent financial matter without proper legal authorization.

Advance directives allow the student to decide, in advance, who should have authority to assist if the need arises.

The Health Care Proxy

A health care proxy permits a student to designate a trusted person, usually a parent or another close family member, to make medical decisions if the student becomes unable to make or communicate those decisions personally. The student remains in control of all medical decisions for as long as the student is able to make them.

The document becomes especially important when a student is unconscious, under anesthesia, seriously injured, or experiencing a medical or mental health crisis that affects the student's ability to communicate. The designated health care agent can speak with physicians, review treatment options, and make decisions based on the student's wishes.

The student should discuss personal values and preferences with the selected agent. Although no family wants to contemplate a serious medical emergency, a brief conversation beforehand can provide invaluable guidance during a crisis.

A separate authorization permitting the re-

lease of protected health information may also be advisable. This can help parents obtain information and communicate with health care providers even when the student remains capable of making medical decisions.

The Power of Attorney

A power of attorney addresses financial and legal matters rather than medical decisions. Through this document, the student appoints an agent to act on the student's behalf.

Depending on the authority included in the document, the agent may be able to communicate with financial institutions, access accounts, address insurance claims, sign documents, handle housing matters, pay bills, file tax returns, or resolve other administrative problems. This can be particularly useful if the student is studying far from home, traveling abroad, or temporarily unable to manage these matters because of an illness or injury.

Signing a power of attorney does not prevent the student from continuing to control their own finances. It simply gives another trusted person the legal authority to assist when necessary. The document can also be revoked or revised while the student has legal capacity.

Choosing the Right Agents

The individuals selected under these documents should be trustworthy, responsible, and willing to act. A student may appoint the same person under both documents or choose different people for medical and financial matters. It is also wise to name a successor in case the first person is unavailable.

The documents should be prepared and signed before the student leaves for college. Copies should be provided to the appointed agents, and the student should know how to access them electronically. Because state laws differ, families should consult an attorney about the appropriate documents, particularly when the student attends college outside the student's home state.

A Simple Step That Can Prevent a Crisis

A health care proxy and power of attorney do not take independence away from a college student. To the contrary, they allow the student to decide who may help and what authority that person will have.

Most families will never need to use these documents. If an emergency occurs, however, having them in place can mean the difference between obtaining immediate assistance and facing delay, uncertainty, or even a court proceeding. Preparing advance directives should therefore be viewed as a routine part of getting ready for college, along with registering for classes, arranging housing, and packing for the semester.

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. Call 914-684-2100 or visit the firm's website at www.littmankrooks.com.

Westchester County Executive Ken Jenkins Joins Volunteer New York! to Commemorate The 25th Anniversary of 9/11 Through Countywide Days of Service

To honor the lives lost and forever changed by the events of September 11, 2001, Westchester County Executive Ken Jenkins and Volunteer New York! will host the 16th annual 9/11 Days of Service across Westchester County from Sept. 8-11.

Jenkins said: "The 25th anniversary of Sept. 11 is an opportunity to remember those we lost, honor the heroes who answered the call and elevate the spirit of service that united our nation in the days that followed. Through Westchester County's 9/11 Days of Service, we invite residents of all ages to come together and carry forward the legacy of compassion and resilience that emerged from one of our country's darkest days. Every act of service, no matter how small, is a meaningful way to honor those whose lives were forever changed."

Registration is now open at www.volunteernewyork.org/serve for volunteer opportunities that address local needs, including combating food insecurity and supporting a blood drive with the New York Blood Center. Activities include writing letters to deployed military personnel, packing 50,000 meals, preparing sandwiches and assembling hygiene kits for the unhoused, among other projects hosted at various locations across Westchester County.

Volunteer New York! Executive Director Polly Lagana said: "As our country commemorates the 25th anniversary of 9/11, we are honored to work with the county to make our 9/11 Days of Service the largest volunteer event in our County – open to all. Our community needs volunteerism more than ever, to meet the most critical needs facing our community and to build connection and unity. Resources will be available to inspire and educate our community members on ways they can participate in volunteerism throughout the year."

Robison is the lead sponsor of this event, with additional support from Empire City Casino by MGM Resorts, 911Day and AmeriCorps, WMC Health, and The Construction Industry Council.



Volunteer New York! Executive Director Polly Lagana

Robison General Manager Shannon Lambert said: "For the 11th year in a row, Robison is proud to support '9/11 Days of Service' day of service in honor of those whose lives were changed forever by this tragic event. Amidst the catastrophic loss of life, we witnessed heroism and a unified spirit that strengthened our communities and brought out the best in all of us. Service to community is a value at

the core of our business, and we thank Westchester County for allowing us to join Volunteer New York! in supporting this important remembrance."

TAKE ACTION:

Online registration is now open for individuals, groups, schools and families at www.volunteernewyork.org/serve. Several family-friendly volunteer opportunities are available. Advanced registration is required to participate. Projects will take place Sept. 8-11.

2026 9/11 Days of Service EVENT SCHEDULE

www.volunteernewyork.org/serve

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 8

Yonkers Partners in Education

· YPIE Serves for 9/11 Day (Exclusive to YPIE Students)

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 9

Iona University

· Youth In Action for 9/11 Day: 4:30 PM – 6 PM

-- Create Laundry Sachets for HOPE Community Services

-- Assemble Hygiene Kits for WestCOP Oasis Emergency Overnight Shelter

-- Pack Snack Bags for the Boys & Girls Club of New Rochelle

-- Create Mindfulness Kits for Cancer Support Community of Greater NY & CT

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 10 Westchester County Center

· Give Back Together for 9/11 Day:
Shifts from 12 PM – 1:30 PM, 2:30 PM – 3:30 PM, and 4:30 PM – 6 PM.

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- Create Scarves for the Westchester Continuum of Care Partnership for the Homeless
- Create Cards & Activity Pouches for Troops served by United for the Troops
- Create Laundry Sachets for Lifting Up Westchester
- Create Mindfulness Kits for Hope's Door
- Make Sandwiches with One Sandwich at a Time
- Donate Blood to the New York Blood Center

**FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 11
Monroe University**

· Pack 50,000 Meals for 9/11 Day:
Shifts from 11 AM – 12:30 PM and 1 PM – 2:30 PM.

About Volunteer New York! Volunteer New York!'s mission is to mobilize our community to address its greatest challenges. We envision a community that is vibrant, resilient, and equitable and see volunteerism and civic engagement as important and powerful strategies to achieve this vision. Volunteer New York! is a one-stop resource devoted to increasing volunteerism in Westchester and our surrounding communities.

Last year, Volunteer New York! helped to inspire more than 40,000

volunteers to take action and to coordinate more than 531,000 hours of service that supported more than 300 nonprofits and local organizations, providing a value of \$20.4 million back to our community.

Volunteer New York!'s Corporate Champions include: The Journal News & LoHud.com, MasterCard, New York State Power Authority Canal Corporation, Regeneron, Morgan Stanley, M&T Bank, PKF O'Connor Davies, Robison, Webster Bank, Corporate AV, PCSB Community Foundation, WMC Health, Empire City Casino, Million Air, Neuberger, Paraco, RAND, Rethink Capital, UBS Financial Services, and Yankwitt LLP. With additional and ongoing support from U.S. Department of Health & Human Services, the New York State Office for Aging, and the Westchester County Department of Senior Programs and Services.

About 9/11 Day: Founded in 2002, the nonprofit 9/11 Day led the successful effort to establish September 11 as a federally recognized National Day of Service and Remembrance. Each year, tens of millions of Americans observe the day by performing good deeds in honor of those who perished, were injured or sickened; the survivors; the first responders; and all who rose to serve in the aftermath of the Septem-

ber 11, 2001, terrorist attacks. Learn more at 911day.org.

About Robison: For more than 100 years, Robison has been a staple in Westchester and Putnam counties, servicing thousands of homes while earning an A+ from the Better Business Bureau. Robison's longevity can be attributed to its ability to keep up with customers' comfort needs and convenience. Robison delivers biofuel in place of traditional 100% petroleum-based fuels. Robison also installs and services the

latest eco-friendly heating and cooling equipment and offers state-of-the-art energy-efficient heating and cooling systems that can reduce your energy consumption and help you save money. Robison is a "one-stop shop" where homeowners can have all of their energy needs satisfied. Robison has staff working 24/7 to respond promptly and efficiently to any home service demand. For the past 100 years, and now more than ever, "You've Got A Friend In Robison!"

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www.westchester-women.com

Calendar of Events



Lykke Li
Wednesday, September 16, 2026, 7 p.m.
The Grace Rainey Rogers Auditorium
The Met, Fifth Avenue, 1000 Fifth Avenue, New York, NY 10028
Fifteen years after Lykke Li first topped charts with her hit song “I Follow Rivers,” the Swedish star has officially entered her “existential era” with her latest album, *The Afterparty* (2026). Join Li for a special performance that brings *The Afterparty* to life in a one-of-a-kind setting. Don’t miss this dreamy evening of lush soundscapes, electric beats, and a singular voice’s exploration of the human psyche’s inner darkness. Ticket Prices: \$35–\$130. Visit <https://engage.metmuseum.org/events/metlivearts/2026-27-season/lykke-li/>



Free Fall Compost Giveaway
Wednesday, Sept. 16 – Croton Point Park, Croton-on-Hudson | 4 to 7 p.m.
Tuesday, Sept. 22 – Sprout Brook DEF Facility, Cortlandt | 4 to 7 p.m.
Wednesday, Sept. 30 – Household Material Recovery Facility, Valhalla | 4 to 7 p.m.
Saturday, Oct. 3 – Harrison Train Station, Harrison | 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.
Residents interested in purchasing compost bins or rain barrels must place their orders in advance and pick them up on Wednesday, Sept. 30, from 4 to 7 p.m. at the Household Material Recovery Facility, 15 Woods Road, Valhalla. Due to limited quantities, registration is required for all events. Residents must register online for a specific time slot to receive compost. Registration can be completed at: <https://environment.WestchesterCountyNY.gov/residential-compost-distribution-events>. Each registered resident will receive two one-cubic-foot bags of compost.. DEF staff will be on-site to verify registration and load pre-bagged compost into vehicles.



Hike Ward Pound Ridge
Please join Senators Shelley Mayer and Pete Harckham in partnership with Westchester County Parks for their annual guided hike at Ward Pound Ridge Reservation on Saturday, September 19 from 10 am to noon. The 1.2-mile hike will take approximately 1.5 hours to complete. The hike will launch from Meadow parking lot at 10am. The parking lot is located off Reservation Road, Pound Ridge. This is a free naturalist-guided hike of the River Trail. Registration is required: tinyurl.com/2026SenateHike For questions, contact Senator Harckman’s office at 914-241-4600 or email doody@nysenate.gov

Events at the Harrison Public Library

STEAM Fair with Westchester Children’s Museum
Saturday, September 12, 11:00am - 1:00pm
Halperin Building - Community Room, Riis Park
This program is made possible through the generous support of the Harrison Public Library Foundation. We extend our heartfelt gratitude to them for their commitment to enriching our community and fostering educational opportunities at the Library. Get ready for a hands-on afternoon of science, technology, engineering, art, and math in partnership with Westchester Children’s Museum. Families will explore a variety of interactive activity stations designed to spark curiosity, creativity, and problem-solving. This drop-in fair invites children to build, test, create, and discover through play. Perfect for curious minds and future inventors.

Mixed Media Collage: “Stories in Layers” - Maker-in-Residence
Saturday, September 19, 1:00pm - 3:00pm
Halperin Building - Community Room
Registration required. Participants create symbolic collages using recycled materials, exploring personal narrative through layering, texture, and intuitive composition. This workshop highlights how images, scraps, and fragments can come together to tell a deeper story. Materials (provided): Paper scraps, magazines; Recycled labels, tags, packaging. Focus: Symbolic imagery; Layering for meaning; Texture and contrast; Personal storytelling. NOTE: Registration opens two weeks before 9/19/26.

Dungeons and Dragons... IN SPACE!
Monday, September 28, 5:00pm - 8:00pm
Halperin Building - Conference Room
Registration required. Join us for a fun Role Playing adventure, but instead of swords and sorcery, we have lasers and space ships! This is going to be a monthly game with a recurring story, not a one shot. This specific session will be session 0, where we talk about the game, how it works, and build our characters. The first actual session is going to be on October 26th. You don’t have to have played D&D before in order to participate. This program is for grades 6-12

For the events taking place in September, visit www.harrisonpl.org

Westchester County Invites Residents to Help Shape the Future of Recycling

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prove our sustainability efforts. This partnership with Environmental Leaders of Color highlights the power of youth leadership and community engagement. Together, we can make recycling easier and increase awareness of available resources that lead to a healthier future for Westchester.”

Westchester County Department of Environmental Facilities Commissioner Vincent Kopicki said: “Recycling and proper disposal of household hazardous wastes provide simple and effective opportunities for residents to help protect our environment, but we can only improve our programs if we understand the needs of the people we serve. This survey will provide valuable insights into how residents use our resources and where we can improve. We encourage everyone to participate and help us continue building a cleaner, more sustainable Westchester County.”

Westchester County Director of Energy Conservation and Sustainability Peter L. McCartt said: “Community feedback is one of our more valuable planning tools. The information gathered through this survey will help us better understand residents’ needs, improve awareness of the Household Material Recovery Facility and continue expanding programs that reduce waste and promote environmental responsibility.”

Environmental Leaders of Color Executive Director Dr. Diana K. Williams said: “ELOC’s mission is to develop the next generation of environmental leaders, and this project shows what that looks like in practice: students identifying a real community need, building a tool to address it, and partnering with the County to put it into action. We thank Westchester County for embracing youth leadership, and we encourage every resident to take two minutes and make their voice count.”

To take the survey, visit: <https://www.westchestercountyny.gov/waste-management>

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