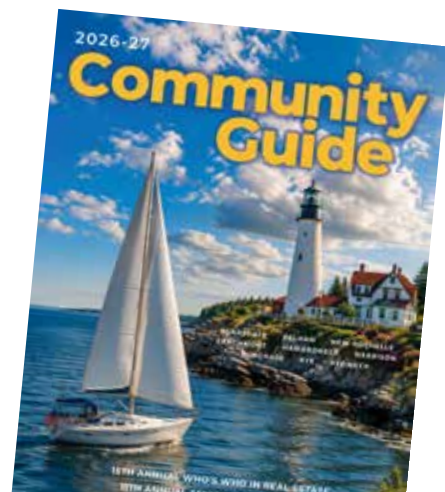


Harrison Herald



october 2026 - vol. 33 - issue 10

harrisonherald.com

YOUR NEW COMMUNITY GUIDE IS HERE!

Salvo Outlines “Great to Live in Harrison” and Columbus Day Observation Festivities



BY STEPHEN E. LIPKEN

Harrison Town/Village Supervisor Thomas Scappaticci opened the September 17th Town/Village Board meeting, beginning with Recreation Superintendent Gerry Salvo outlining the “Great to Live in Harrison” and Columbus Day Observation festivities. The Car Show and Music will take place on Saturday, October 10th from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. at the West Harrison Business District; and the Block Party, Concert and Fireworks will take place at 7:00 p.m. at the West Harrison Fire Department.

The Great to Live in Harrison Parade will take place on Sunday, October 11th at 10:30 a.m. (line-up at 10:00 a.m.) and a festival at Ma Riis Park immediately following the parade (rain date Monday, October 12th).

continued on page 10

Harrison High School Debate Team Off to an Impressive Start to Season

The Harrison High School Debate Team has launched the 2026-27 season with an impressive start. Just weeks into the new season, Harrison debaters have earned top finishes at some of the country’s most competitive tournaments and are proving that they are ready to compete at the highest levels of high school debate. Senior Flynn Williams already has earned two bids to the Tournament of Champions and is currently ranked the #1 Lincoln-Douglas debater nationally by the National Speech and Debate Association, as well as the #1 Lincoln-Douglas debater in New York.



At the Harvard Season Opener, Jordan Blake placed second, Gabi Catanzariti placed fifth, and Kevin Iwanski placed seventh. Sebastian Engle advanced to the top 16 among 129 debaters at the Loyola tournament in California. The team also excelled at the National Speech & Debate Association’s Season Opener, where Flynn Williams placed third among 231 competitors from across the country, earning his first qualifying bid to the Tournament of Champions. Kevin Iwanski advanced to the top 16, while Sebastian Engle and Atharv Gandhi also earned awards. Atharv is currently ranked the #20 Lincoln-Douglas debater nationally by the National Speech and Debate Association, and

continued on page 2

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Diverse Abilities Job and Resource Fair

Westchester County will proudly host its ninth Diverse Abilities Job and Resource Fair at Westchester County Center in White Plains on October 14. This unique event is a win-win for job seekers with disabilities and hiring companies, having connected more than 1,900 job seekers and employers since the event's inception.

Employers, resource providers and job seekers interested in participating in the October 14 job fair can register by visiting: <https://luma.com/fjsk9ing>.

For an up-to-date list of Westchester County's job fairs, and other skills training opportunities, visit <https://westchestercatalyst.com/events/>.

Harrison High School Debate Team Off to an Impressive Start to Season

continued from page 1

#2 in New York.

At the Greenhill tournament in Texas, Flynn Williams placed seventh among 94 of the nation's top debaters, earning his second qualifying bid to the Tournament of Champions and his ninth bid in the last three years. Sebastian Engle also turned in a strong performance, placing among the top 30. At the JV level, Ashley Cho won the Lexington JV Round Robin and Oviya Gandhi was named Top Speaker.

With these strong finishes at the start of the season, the HHS Debate Team has established an impressive record and continues to demonstrate the skill, preparation, and dedication as one of the top debate teams in the country.

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Orientation Programs Prepare Students for Success at Harrison High School and LMK Middle School



Louis M. Klein Middle School 6th grade students review class schedules with Assistant Principal Dominique Payano.

Harrison's incoming sixth and ninth grade students were introduced to their new schools at orientation sessions held at Louis M. Klein Middle School and Harrison High School. Orientation day is the final step in the district's transition programs, which begin in January and are designed to support students in becoming familiar with their surroundings, asking questions, meeting teachers, and acclimating to their new environment. At orientation students met with their school counselors, received class schedules, located lockers and, guided by peer leaders, explored their new school buildings in a welcoming, relaxed setting. This district's Director of Guidance, Kelly Malczewski, reflected on the experience, "By eliminating some of the uncertainty of the first day, orientation helps students build confidence and prepare for a successful experience at a new school." Based on the smiles, excitement, and new friendships made, the students are off to a great start.



With class schedules in hand, Harrison High School 9th grade students explore their new school, guided by peer leaders.

harrisonherald.com

20th Annual Westchester Children's Association's Advocacy Breakfast

Westchester Children's Association (WCA) will host their 20th Annual Advocacy Breakfast in October with the theme: "Beyond the Silo: Building Connected Systems for Every Child." The Kathryn Wasserman Davis Child Advocacy Lecture will be delivered by keynote speaker Dr. Da-Mia Harris-Madden, Commissioner of the New York State Office of Children and Family Services (OCFS). The event will take place on Tuesday, October 20 at 8:00am at the Harrison Meadows Country Club, located at 123 North Street in Harrison. Tickets are \$75 per person and can be purchased at <https://wca4kids.org/>.

This year's breakfast is sponsored by WMC Health Maria Ferrari Children's Hospital and Hudson Valley Credit Union and will focus on building connected systems that work better for every child. By bringing together advocates, policymakers, community leaders, and child-serving professionals, the breakfast will foster a meaningful conversation about collaboration and the systems that shape children's lives.

"Every fall, WCA gathers parents, educators, community members, government officials, and other key stakeholders to address a pressing issue affecting children. This year, as we celebrate our 20th advocacy breakfast, we are focusing on breaking down institutional silos to create a more unified support network for our youth," stated Adam Rabinovitch, Executive Director of WCA. "Attendees will walk away with insights that will help them feel empowered to participate in meaningful, systemic change."

Founded in 1914, the Westchester Children's Association is the only independent child advocacy organization in Westchester County. WCA uses data, research, and community engagement to drive policy solutions that ensure every child is healthy, safe, and prepared for life's challenges, regardless of race, income, or zip code.

Senior Law Day Announced

Westchester County Executive Ken Jenkins announced that the 26th Annual Senior Law Day will take place on Thursday, October 8, 2026, from 8:45 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the Westchester County Center, 198 Central Avenue, White Plains.

This free community event for Westchester County seniors will feature 16 educational workshops, one-on-one consultations, and opportunities to connect with experienced elder law attorneys, certified financial planners, geriatric care managers, and Medicare specialists. Free parking will be available.

Westchester County Executive Ken Jenkins said: "Senior Law Day is about making sure our older adults and their families have the information, resources and support they need to plan for the future with confidence. From estate planning and health care decisions to financial planning and long-term care, these are important issues that can feel overwhelming when you're navigating them alone. I'm proud that County is once again partnering with the Senior Law Day Collaborative and our community partners to make this important guidance accessible to our seniors throughout Westchester."

Acting Commissioner of Senior Programs and Services Randolph Scott said: "We can't stress enough the importance of planning, especially when it comes to aging. Senior Law Day helps Westchester families navigate the legal, financial, and health-related concerns that all of us experience as we grow older."

The event is open to all Westchester County seniors and their families. While advance registration is encouraged, walk-ins are welcome. Sign-ups for free 15-minute consultations are only available on-site. To register in advance, visit the Senior Law Day website at <https://www.seniorlawday.info/sld-event-2026/>.

Senior Law Day is presented by the Westchester County Department of Senior Programs and Services (DSPS), the Westchester Public/Private Partnership for Aging Services (WPPP), and one of WPPP's initiatives, the Senior Law Day Collaborative. The Collaborative is co-chaired by Melinda Bellus, Attorney-in-Charge, Yonkers Office, Legal Services of the Hudson Valley, Megan Brown, Communications & Marketing Coordinator, Westchester Library System, Samantha Lyons, Partner, Enea, Scanlan, & Sirignano LLP, and Sarah A. Steckler, Esq., Partner, Warshaw Burstein LLP.

For more information, contact Bruce Segall at 914- 980-4703 or bruce@marketing-sense2.com.



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Attorney Advertising

Table Hopping with Morris Gut: Fall Drives to Farms and Markets

Want to visit a farmstand or pick your own apples or pumpkins, savor some cider and doughnuts, too? Take a flavorful fall foliage drive with the whole family. Here are some great destinations, and be sure to check ahead for hours and availability:

Ramsey's Farm, 17 Ramsey Road, Scarsdale, a longstanding tradition. As colorful and friendly as ever. Seasonal flowers and bounty. 914-723-3817

Mangone's Nursery & Farmers Market, 1427 E. Boston Post Road, Mamaroneck. This past year they activated the Soup Shack serving Lobster Rolls. This fall they are offering cider doughnuts, too. 914-698-3865

Westchester Greenhouses & Farm, 332 W. Hartsdale Ave., Hartsdale. The seasonal harvest grown locally. 914-949-9403 www.westchestergreenhouses.com

Thompson's Cider Mill, 335 Blinn Road, Croton-On-Hudson & Thompson's

Fable Farm, 1311 Kitchawan Road (Rt.134), Ossining. Local fall artisanal foods like cider, donuts and pies. Cider Tasting Room. Next to Teatown Lake Reservation. 914-409-3433 www.thompsonscidermill.com

Wilken's Farm, 1313 Whitehall Road, Yorktown Heights. Marking their 106th year, visit the farmers market or pick your own apples, peaches, pumpkins, even Christmas Trees. Open Wednesday-Sunday, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. thru mid-Dec. 914-245-5111 www.wilkensfarm.com

Stuart's Fruit Farm, 62 Granite Springs Road, Granite Springs. This farm has been operating since 1828, strewn with old tractors and rural artifacts, you can pick your own fruit and produce or visit the farmers market for fresh cider donuts and pies. Open daily 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. 914-245-2784 www.stuartsfarm.com

Muscoot Farmers Market, Route 100, Katonah, part of Muscoot Farm. Over 20

vendors. The farmers market operates every Sunday from 9:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. through November. Free admission. For further info: 914-864-7283, or www.muscootfarm.org

Salinger's Orchards, 200 Guinea Rad, Brewster. Farm market & bakery. No pick your own, fresh picked apples at the market. The Bus on the grounds provides food & beverage. 845-277-3521 www.salingersorchards.com

Hilltop Farm and Environmental Center is an historic working farm dating back to the 18th Century, spanning 187 hilly acres. It is owned and operated

by Westchester County and supported by Friends of Hilltop. 10% of produce grown is donated to food pantries and soup kitchens. Hilltop Hanover Farm, 1271 Hanover Street, Yorktown Heights. 914-862-5050 www.hilltophanoverfarm.org

(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. E-mail: gutreactions@op-tonline.net)

Rye High School Boys Lacrosse Team Honored with Rye Recognition of Excellence Award



The Rye City School District celebrated the 2026 New York State championship Rye High School varsity boys lacrosse team during the Sept. 8 board of education meeting, recognizing the student-athletes with the Rye Recognition of Excellence Award for their historic achievement.

The Rye Recognition of Excellence Awards honor students who have achieved the highest levels in academics, the arts and athletics. The boys lacrosse team earned the distinction after winning the first New York State boys lacrosse championship in Rye High School history.

Superintendent of Schools Dr. Tricia Murray congratulated the student-athletes and reflected on the teamwork, resilience and leadership that contributed to their championship season. Throughout the year, the team embraced the motto, "It's always about the WE and never about the ME," putting their collective goals ahead of individual accomplishments.

"This team's success was much more than what happened on the lacrosse field," Murray said. "With a new coach at the helm, the players built trust in one another, put the needs of the team ahead of themselves, and committed to working together toward a common goal."

Murray also recognized the leadership of the team's senior class and the contributions of the coaches, families and Rye youth lacrosse program. She noted that the championship represented years of hard work and support from throughout the Rye community.

Assemblymember Steve Otis and City of Rye Councilmember Keith Cunningham also joined the recognition of the team during the meeting. The student-athletes received additional certificates recognizing their achievement from state Sen. Shelley B. Mayer and Westchester County Executive Kenneth W. Jenkins.

The championship and the values that helped the team achieve it reflect The Rye Commitment, including collaboration, resilience and working together toward shared goals.

"To our student-athletes: You have made Rye history," Murray said. "You brought home the first New York State Boys Lacrosse Championship in Rye High School history, and you did it by demonstrating what can happen when a group of people believes in one another and puts the 'WE' before the 'ME.'"

Congratulations to the 2026 New York State champion Rye Garnets on this historic accomplishment and their Rye Recognition of Excellence Award.

Rye High School Seniors Named National Merit Scholarship Semifinalists



Rye High School seniors Zachary Choo and Vlad Moscaliuc, who were named semifinalists in the 2027 National Merit Scholarship Program, are pictured with Superintendent of Schools Dr. Tricia Murray and Rye High School Principal Andrew Hara.

Rye High School seniors Zachary Choo and Vlad Moscaliuc have been named semifinalists in the 2027 National Merit Scholarship Program, earning recognition among a select group of academically accomplished students from across the country.

More than 1.2 million high school juniors from approximately 20,000 high schools entered the 2027 National Merit Scholarship Program by taking the 2025 Preliminary SAT/National Merit Scholarship Qualifying Test. More than 16,000 students nationwide advanced to the semifinalist stage, representing less than 1% of U.S. high school seniors.

As semifinalists, Choo and Moscaliuc now have the opportunity to continue in the competition for approximately 6,700 National Merit Scholarships worth nearly \$24 million that will be offered in the spring. More than 15,000 semifinalists are expected to advance to finalist standing, with finalists selected through an application process that considers their academic records, school and community involvement, leadership, honors and other accomplishments.

The students' achievement reflects their dedication to academic excellence and embodies the spirit of The Rye Commitment, which encourages students to think critically, pursue meaningful learning experiences and continue growing as learners and members of their communities.

Rye City School District congratulates Choo and Moscaliuc on this outstanding achievement and wishes them continued success as they advance in the National Merit Scholarship competition.

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Four Days of Fall Fun at Muscoot Farm

Get ready for four days of fall and Halloween fun at Muscoot Farm, Friday, October 9 through Monday, October 12. The extended weekend features a special screening of Hocus Pocus with appearances by actor Larry Bagby who played Ernie “Ice” in the film, the annual Pumpkin Picking Festival, live music, hayrides, and more. The celebration begins on Friday, October 9 with a screening of Hocus Pocus at 7 p.m. Actor Larry Bagby will join fans at Mus-

coot Farm for a VIP experience beginning at 5 p.m. and will introduce the film. Tickets for the movie are \$10 per person. The \$60 VIP experience includes admission to the movie, a photo with Bagby, an autograph and a small-group Q&A session. Tickets are on sale now. Costumes are encouraged. The fall fun continues Saturday, October 10 through Monday, October 12, with Muscoot Farm’s annual Pumpkin Picking Festival from 10:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. each

day. Visitors can enjoy hay rides, live music, wool spinners, and donuts and cider while supplies last. Westchester County Executive Ken Jenkins said: “Muscoot Farm’s annual Pumpkin Picking Festival is one of Westchester’s most cherished fall traditions. I’m excited to add a movie night this year and thrilled to welcome actor Larry Bagby to help kick off the celebration. It’s a wonderful opportunity for families to enjoy the



season together and make memories that last for years to come.” Acting Commissioner of the Westchester County Department of Parks, Recreation and Conservation William Bland said: “There’s a lot happening at Muscoot Farm over this four-day weekend, with something different to enjoy each day. From Friday night’s movie screening to the Pumpkin Picking Festival, farmers market and live music throughout the weekend, visitors can choose their own way to spend the day at the farm.” On Saturday, October 10, Bagby will return for a special meet-and-greet near the pumpkin patch from 1 p.m. to 3 p.m. The band, The Leftovers, will provide live music from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. On Sunday, Oct. 11, Muscoot Farm’s weekly Farmers Market will be open from 9:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. Bagby will also take the stage as the day’s musical guest, beginning at 11 a.m. The Pumpkin Picking Festival wraps up Monday, October 12, with live music from Way Behind the Sun beginning at 11 a.m. Hay rides will run from 10:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. each day and are \$5 per person; children ages 2 and under are free. Pumpkin prices vary by size. Tickets for the Saturday, October 10, meet-and-greet with Bagby are \$30 for a photo, \$30 for an autograph or \$50 for both. Venmo, PayPal, Apple Pay and cash will be accepted. Proceeds benefit the Friends of Muscoot Farm. Muscoot Farm is located at 51 Route 100 in Katonah.



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Wed, Oct. 21, 6-8 pm

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A Lasting Tribute to Congresswoman Nita M. Lowey

Westchester County honored the extraordinary life, leadership and legacy of Congresswoman Nita M. Lowey with the dedication of the United States Congresswoman Nita M. Lowey Community Green at Kensico Dam Plaza.

For more than three decades, Lowey served the people of Westchester County in the United States House of Representatives, earning a reputation as a tireless advocate for the communities she represented and a powerful voice on behalf of families, children, environmental protection, health care, education and critical federal investments.

Westchester County Executive Ken Jenkins said: “Nita Lowey dedicated her life to public service and to making life better for the people she represented. Her impact can be seen and felt throughout Westchester County, not only in the investments and initiatives she championed, but in the example she set as a leader of integrity, compassion and determination. It is fitting that this beautiful public space at Kensico Dam Plaza now carries her name and will serve as a lasting reminder of an extraordinary public servant and an extraordinary Westchester resident.”

New York State Assemblywoman Amy Paulin said: “Congresswoman Nita Lowey was an extraordinary public servant and a true role model for all of us in public life. I always admired her intelligence and integrity, as well as her ability to work across the aisle to get things done. She was always available and accessible to me and the people who needed her, which was truly appreciated. She was deeply committed to the ideals of public service and to making a difference in the lives of the people she represented, which are values I’ve always tried to embrace in my own work. Nita was a role model for women in politics, and really for all elected officials. It is wonderful to see her legacy honored with the Nita M. Lowey Community Green, a fitting tribute to a remarkable woman.”

New York State Assemblyman Steve Otis said: “For those of us Nita represented, she served with determination and dedication, fighting for critical funding for New York State and successfully bringing in resources regardless of who held the majority in the House. To the nation, Nita will always be remembered as a trailblazing leader whose skill and effective service brought breakthrough after breakthrough to benefit the environment, women’s rights, education, childcare, and public health. We honor Nita and recognize her special place in American history with this dedication today.”

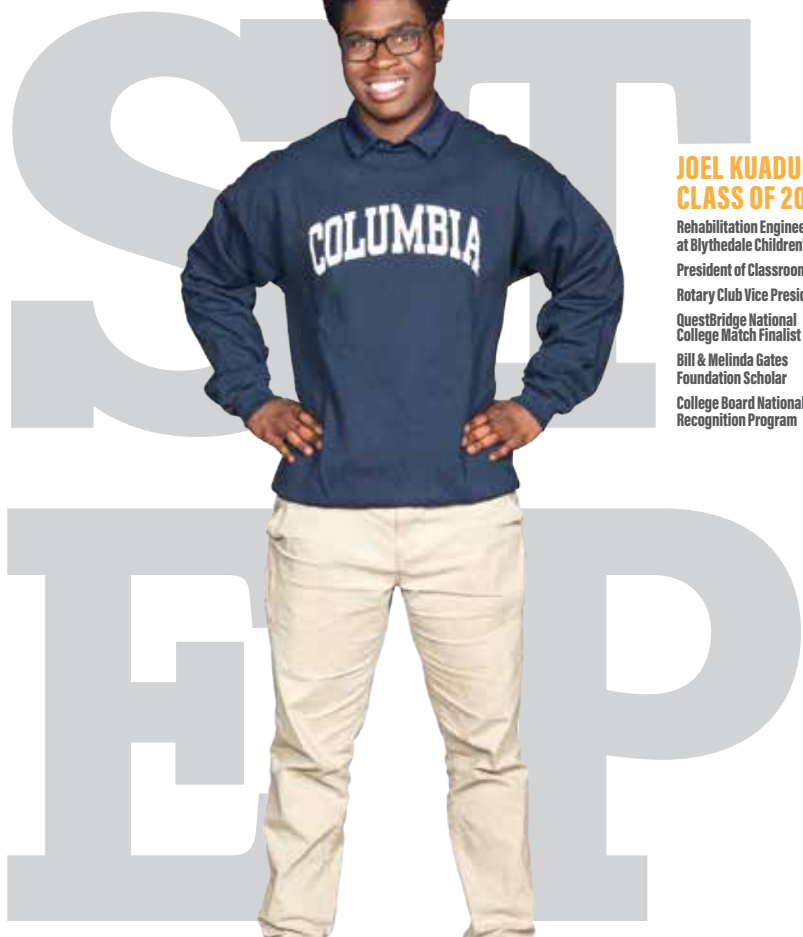
Congresswoman Nita M. Lowey’s District Director Patricia Keegan said: “Thank you to Westchester County Executive Ken Jenkins and the Westchester County Board of Legislators for dedicating this beautiful site as the Congresswoman Nita M. Lowey Community Green. Throughout her 32 years in the House of Representatives, Nita set a high standard for public service. She listened to her constituents’ concerns, helped solved their problems and partnered with them to make our communities even better places to live, work and play. May the Community Green - a free, accessible park for celebrations of our country’s democracy and our residents’ cultures as well as quiet walks at every season of the year - inspire all of us to carry on her work of helping our neighbors and protecting our democracy.”

Lowey represented parts of Westchester County in Congress from 1989 through her retirement in 2021. During her 32 years in the House of Representatives, she rose to become Chairwoman of the House Appropriations Committee, becoming the first woman in congressional history to hold the position. She died March 15, 2025.

Throughout her career, Lowey fought to bring federal resources home to Westchester and the region while championing issues of national and international significance. Her leadership helped strengthen local communities, protect the environment, support public transportation, expand access to health care and education, and improve the lives of children and families.

The dedication ceremony drew hundreds of attendees, including elected officials from every level of government, family members, friends and residents whose lives were touched by Congresswoman Lowey’s decades of public service. Among those in attendance was former President Bill Clinton, who joined the community in honoring her extraordinary legacy.





JOEL KUADUGAH
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Recognition Program

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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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OCTOBER 25 & 27



Calendar of Events



NEW FREE Nature Program for Grades 6-8

Sheldrake Environmental Center
685 Weaver Street, Larchmont

A new initiative for middle-schoolers called “Wild in the Woods.” This FREE after-school program is designed to foster nature connection and confer related wellness benefits for kids in grades 6-8. Numerous reports link time spent in nature with positive health benefits, including enhanced cognitive function, stress reduction, improved sleep quality, improved mood, reduced anxiety/depression, and improved immunity. Wild in the Woods is designed to help middle schoolers unplug and form nature connections in a low-key, social setting. Program Schedule: Thursdays, September-May (with some exceptions; 25 weeks in total). Start date: September 24, 3:00-3:30 pm - Arrivals, snacks, down time, activities, 3:30-4:30 pm - Program topic of the week. Topics: Vary by week—e.g., yoga, pond exploration, art, writing, volunteering, etc. Registration is by week. Students can pick and choose. Eligibility: Kids in grades 6-8; Must live or attend school in Larchmont, Mamaroneck, Rye Neck, Rye, Port Chester, Harrison, or New Rochelle. Wild in the Woods is made possible by a Community Grant from the Junior League of Westchester on the Sound. We’re extremely grateful to have been chosen for this coveted honor! sheldrakecenter.org/tweens-and-teens/

Thursdays, September-May (with some exceptions; 25 weeks in total). Start date: September 24, 3:00-3:30 pm - Arrivals, snacks, down time, activities, 3:30-4:30 pm - Program topic of the week. Topics: Vary by week—e.g., yoga, pond exploration, art, writing, volunteering, etc. Registration is by week. Students can pick and choose. Eligibility: Kids in grades 6-8; Must live or attend school in Larchmont, Mamaroneck, Rye Neck, Rye, Port Chester, Harrison, or New Rochelle. Wild in the Woods is made possible by a Community Grant from the Junior League of Westchester on the Sound. We’re extremely grateful to have been chosen for this coveted honor! sheldrakecenter.org/tweens-and-teens/



The Harrison Players Community Theatre Group Presents: SORDID LIVES by Del Shores

Directed by Anthony J. Valbiro. Produced by Special Arrangement with Concord Theatricals. Thursday, Oct. 22nd and Friday, Oct. 23rd, 2026 at 8:00 PM; Saturday, Oct. 24th, 2026 at 2:00 PM and 8:00 PM; Sunday, Oct. 25th, 2026 at 2:00 PM. Admission \$30 per person. The Veterans’ Memorial Building, 210 Halstead Avenue, Harrison. Email/Information: harrisonplayers@yahoo.com. Website/Information and TICKETS: <http://www.harrisonplayers.org>



Spooktacular Oktoberfest at Edith G. Read Wildlife Sanctuary

Get ready for a weekend filled with autumn magic, Halloween thrills and plenty of family fun as the Spooktacular Oktoberfest comes to Edith G. Read Wildlife Sanctuary in Rye on Saturday and Sunday, October 17 and 18. Tickets are on sale now at <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/spooktacular-oktoberfest-at-edith-g-read-wildlife-sanctuary-tickets-1999803297496?aff=oddtcreator>. This festive fall celebration will have something for everyone, including live music, Halloween crafts, a haunted house, bounce house, pumpkin painting, s’mores, hayrides, and trick-or-treating. Guests can also enjoy food and beverage vendors, live animals from The Nature Company and much more. Guests are encouraged to come dressed in their favorite costumes and explore the Sanctuary’s beautiful trails while enjoying the crisp fall air and spectacular views along Long Island Sound. The weekend’s entertainment lineup will include live music from The Saddle Ridge Ramblers and singer/songwriter Mani Cregan, adding a festive soundtrack to the celebration. Admission is \$25 per person, and children ages three and under are free. Event is from 1 p.m. to 5:30 p.m. each day. Parking for the event is located in Playland’s parking lot. Rain or shine. Edith G. Read Wildlife Sanctuary is located at 1 Playland Parkway in Rye, NY, past the amusement park.

Event is from 1 p.m. to 5:30 p.m. each day. Parking for the event is located in Playland’s parking lot. Rain or shine. Edith G. Read Wildlife Sanctuary is located at 1 Playland Parkway in Rye, NY, past the amusement park.

Westchester County Seeks Input from Local Businesses

County Executive Ken Jenkins and the Westchester County Office of Economic Development are inviting local business owners to participate in a brief survey to help identify the needs, challenges, and priorities facing Westchester’s business community. The survey, which will take less than 5 minutes to complete, can be accessed by visiting WestchesterCatalyst.com and via the Office of Economic Development’s social media channels (Facebook, Instagram & LinkedIn). The Westchester County Business Survey is open to all local business owners and will remain open through October 8. Businesses across diverse disciplines – from manufacturing and professional services to life sciences and finance, and beyond – are all encouraged to share their insights by completing this short survey. This is an opportunity for business leaders to amplify their voices and help guide the direction of future programming and resources offered by the Westchester County Office of Economic Development. The short survey is available here: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/K8CT73B>.



Yes She Can’s annual Art Exhibition

October 15 from 6 to 9pm

Westchester Children’s Museum

100 Playland Pkwy, Rye

Celebrating the creativity, talent and diverse perspectives of neurodivergent artists. Held in honor of National Disability Employment Awareness Month (NDEAM), the exhibition will

feature original artwork created by talented artists whose work reflects their individual experiences, interests and ways of seeing the world. Guests will have the opportunity to view, and purchase, a wide range of artwork and celebrate the accomplishments of artists with autism and other learning differences. The evening will also highlight the importance of creating opportunities for neurodivergent individuals to share their talents, build skills and participate fully in their communities and the workforce. Learn more at <https://yesshecaninc.org/ysc-4th-annual-art-exhibition-2026/>.

Westchester County Department of Senior Programs & Services Notice of Public Hearing

The Westchester County Department of Senior Programs and Services will hold its annual public hearing on Friday, October 23, 2026, from 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. at the Westchester County Center, 198 Central Avenue, White Plains. The Department will unveil the 2027 Update to the 2024-2028 Four-Year Area Plan on the use of proposed funds from the Older Americans Act and the New York State Programs for the Elderly. The final area plan, incorporating public input, will be submitted to the New York State Office for the Aging after approval by Westchester County Executive Ken Jenkins. The hearing provides a venue for individuals to learn about and speak out on concerns that affect Westchester County seniors and their families. Registration is not required to attend or speak at the meeting. The plan will be distributed at the public hearing and is also available upon request starting Monday, October 19. To request a copy of the plan, for any other information, or for accommodations, please contact Andrew Crawford at aqcq@westchestercountyny.gov or call 914-813-6408. Written comments on the plan must be sent by Friday, November 6 to Westchester County Department of Senior Programs and Services, 9 South First Avenue, 10th Floor, Mount Vernon, NY, 10550, Attention: Sherine Kurien or via e-mail to sqkm@westchestercountyny.gov.

Westchester County Youth Bureau and Youth Board Open Nominations for The 2026 Youth Service Awards

The Westchester County Youth Bureau and Youth Board are seeking nominations for the annual Youth Service Awards, which recognizes 11th and 12th grade students living in Westchester County who have demonstrated outstanding leadership and service to their community. Full details regarding the award criteria and nomination process are available on the Youth Bureau at <https://youth.westchestercountyny.gov/events-and-award-ceremonies>. The completed form must be submitted through the website by Friday, October 9, 2026 at 5 p.m. The awards ceremony will be held on Thursday, December 3, 2026 at 5 p.m. at the Michaelian Office Building in White Plains. For further information, contact the Westchester County Youth Bureau at (914) 995-2745 or email YouthAwards@westchestercountyny.gov.

Going Into Surgery? Make Sure Your Estate Planning Documents Are in Order

What’s Happening at the Harrison Public Library

BY BERNARD A. KROOKS, CERTIFIED
ELDER LAW ATTORNEY
SPECIAL CONTRIBUTOR: JOEL KROOKS, ESQ.

When preparing for surgery, most people focus on the procedure, recovery, transportation, and post-operative care. Estate planning documents, however, are often overlooked. Whether surgery is routine or serious, it is important to make sure the right people have the legal authority to act for you if you are temporarily unable to make decisions yourself.

Too often, people wait until the day before surgery—or even until they are already in the hospital—to address these issues. A little advance planning can make a significant difference.

Health Care Proxy: One of the most important documents to have before surgery is a Health Care Proxy. This document allows you to appoint someone you trust to make medical decisions for you if you are unable to do so.

Your agent may need to communicate with doctors, consent to treatment, address rehabilitation options, or make other important medical decisions. Choose someone who understands your wishes and can make difficult decisions under pressure. It is also wise to name an alternate agent in case your first choice is unavailable.

Simply telling a spouse, child, sibling, or friend what you would want is not the same as giving that person legal authority to act.

Living Will: A Living Will works together with a Health Care Proxy. While the Health Care Proxy identifies the person who will make medical decisions, a Living Will provides written guidance about your wishes concerning life-sustaining treatment if you cannot communicate.

These may include decisions involving artificial nutrition and hydration, mechanical ventilation, resuscitation, and other medical interventions. Although these can be difficult subjects to discuss, putting your wishes in writing can spare your family from having to guess what you would have wanted during a medical crisis.

Power of Attorney: Medical decisions are only part of the picture. If you are temporarily incapacitated after surgery, someone may also need to handle financial and legal matters.

A properly drafted Durable Power of Attorney can allow your agent to pay bills, communicate with banks and insurance companies, manage property, and handle other financial matters. Many people assume a spouse or adult child automatically has this authority, but that is not always the case.

Without a Power of Attorney, even routine financial matters can become difficult. In more serious situations, the lack of proper planning can result in the need for a costly guardianship proceeding.

Review Your Will, Trusts and Beneficiary Designations: Surgery is also a good reminder to review your Will and any trusts. Ask whether they still reflect your wishes and whether the people named as Executor or Trustee remain the right choices. Consider whether there have been marriages, divorces, births, deaths, or other significant family changes.

If you have a Revocable Trust, make sure it has been properly funded. Having a trust document is only part of the planning; assets generally need to be properly titled or coordinated with the trust.

You should also review beneficiary designations on retirement accounts, life insurance policies, annuities, and other accounts that pass directly to named beneficiaries. These designations can take precedence over instructions in your Will, so outdated information could unintentionally undermine your overall estate plan.

Don’t Wait Until the Last Minute: Perhaps the most important advice is simple: don’t wait until the day before surgery to begin estate planning.

Good planning takes time. Your attorney needs to understand your family, assets, goals, and concerns. Documents may need to be drafted or revised, and proper witnessing or notarization may be required.

Waiting until you are already hospitalized can create additional complications, particularly if anesthesia, strong pain medication, or a significant medical event affects your ability to make decisions. A hospital room is rarely the ideal place to make important estate planning decisions.

The better approach is to prepare while you are healthy and able to thoughtfully consider your options.

Plan Before You Need the Documents: Most surgeries go as planned, but preparing for the unexpected is an important part of protecting yourself and your family.

Before undergoing surgery, make sure your Health Care Proxy, Living Will, Power of Attorney, Will, trusts, and beneficiary designations are current. Make sure the people you have appointed understand their roles and know where important documents can be found.

The best time to prepare for an emergency is before there is one.

Bernard A. Krooks, Esq., is a founding partner of Littman Krooks LLP. He was named the 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) and is a 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 at www.littmankrooks.com.

9th Annual Author Event
Harrison Public Library & Purchase Free Library Present
Huge Author Event
October 17 at the Halperin Building from 10:30am to 5:15pm
Meet the authors, discover the story behind the pages, and get your copies signed.
Complete details at <https://www.harrisonpl.org/authors>

A Spooktacular Paws Parade
Wednesday, October 28, 5:00pm - 6:00pm
Riis Park
Join us for “A Spooktacular Paws Parade” where your pup’s costume is the star of the show! Parade your pooch around Ma Riis park to spooky music and get in the Halloween spirit! In addition to our pupstastic parade you can also make a bandana for your dog or have your pup go through an obstacle course to test their amazing skills. To Register, fill out the “A Spooktacular Paws Parade Entry Form” at <https://www.harrisonpl.org/events/17442888> so that we can know a little bit more about you fantastic pup!

Apple Cidering ~ In the Garden! Ages 5-12
Wednesday, October 7, 3:30pm - 4:30pm ET
West Harrison Branch - Garden
Join a naturalist from the Friends of Rye Nature Center as we explore the process of making apple cider. Get to know the different parts of the cider press and how to use them. Additionally, we’ll dive deeper into the anatomy of an apple along with the life of an apple tree. Following the program, participants will be able to taste some apple cider. This program will be in the garden. All children must be accompanied by a parent or caregiver. Wear warm clothes, jackets and hats to attend this program. Register at <https://www.harrisonpl.org/events/17592730>

Meet our Fall Maker-in-Residence, Arabelis Griffin!
We are delighted to re-introduce Arabelis Griffin, our Maker-in-Residence for Fall 2026! Beginner Reupholstery Series with Arabelis Griffin! Arabelis Griffin taught a series of popular art classes as our Summer 2025 Maker. This time around she is teaching reupholstery for beginners in three four-hour classes (the first class takes place in two parts). Visit <https://www.harrisonpl.org/maker-in-residence> to see her schedule.

Harrison Police Department Annual Open House
Saturday, October 10 from 10am to 2pm
650 North Street, Harrison
Featuring: New York State Police Helicopter, Westchester County Police, Mt. Pleasant Police Department, Local Fire Departments, Bicycle Helmets Donated by the Harrison Police Department, various PD Equipment, Harrison EMS Services, Hot Dogs, Popcorn, Cotton Candy, Face Painting & Jumping Castle provided by the Harrison PBA. Enjoy ice cream, music and lots of giveaways.

The Harrison Recreation Department presents the 47th It’s Great to Live in Harrison & Columbus Day Observance

Saturday, October 10 from 10am to 4pm
Car Show & Music -- West Harrison Business District
British Rock Show at Noon, Patrick Perone at 2:15pm
See the Seeing Red Band in West Harrison at 7pm, Fireworks immediately following at the West Harrison Firehouse. Complimentary refreshments provided by Wegmans.

Sunday, October 11
Parade at 10:30am, House Arrest Performance at 1:30pm, Festival at Ma Riis Park immediately following the parade. Food, rides, activities, and entertainment for all ages!

Rain date: Monday, October 12

New “Demystifying Medicare” Workshops in the Fall of 2026

“Demystifying Medicare” is a free, upbeat, comprehensive workshop for anyone who needs to understand how Medicare works — not only for people wanting to explore their options, but for those soon to be Medicare-eligible, approaching retirement, or helping relatives or friends with their medical decisions and paperwork.

A complete understanding of the whole system is key to making the best personal health coverage choices. Topics included are Original Medicare, Medicare Advantage and prescription drug plans, Medigaps (or supplements), EPIC, and cost-saving programs for people with limited resources.

People should be aware that recent legislative changes have affected broker commissions and the protocols for meeting with prospective enrollees. These changes may influence how information is presented and underscore the importance of seeking clear, complete, and up-to-date information when evaluating coverage options.

Volunteers presenting the “Demystifying Medicare” workshop and offering the individual counseling at the SBIC centers mentioned below are unaffiliated with any health insurance company, provider, or Medicare itself. They are HIICAP-certified counselors working in partnership with the Westchester Library System and Westchester County’s

Department of Senior Programs and Services (914) 813-6100.

The audio version of this workshop, handouts, displays and upcoming presentations can be found at seniors.westchesterlibraries.org/demystifyingmedicare/. Pre-registration is requested at the numbers listed for each event, or on the WLS voicemail (914) 231-3236.

Walk-in SBIC (Senior Benefits Individual Counseling) sessions are available at the Hart, Will and Greenburgh libraries during Fall Enrollment, 10 am – 1pm: check seniors.westchesterlibraries.org/senior-benefits/ for updates. Some questions can be answered by phone if contact info is left on the Helpline (914) 813-6100 for a call back. It’s also possible to schedule an individual counseling session to meet with a counselor at a convenient location.

Area locations include:

Harrison: Monday, October 5 at 5:30pm at the Harrison Public Library, 2 Bruce Avenue.

Rye: Saturday, October 24 at 10:15am at the Rye Free Reading Room, 1061 Boston Post Road.

Pelham: Thursday, October 29 at 5:30pm at the Town of Pelham Public Library, 530 Colonial Avenue.

Scarsdale: Saturday, November 7 at 9:30am at the Scarsdale Public Library, 54 Olmsted Road.

Salvo Outlines “Great to Live in Harrison” continued from page 1

Police Chief John Vasta requested approval for an agreement between the New York State Department of Motor Vehicles, through the Governor’s Traffic Safety Committee and the Police Department for participation in the Police Traffic Services Program.

The Harrison Police Department was awarded a total of \$17,737 to participate in the statewide Police Traffic Services Program. The goal of this program is to increase seat belt usage and reduce dangerous driving behaviors in an effort to prevent injuries and fatalities resulting from motor vehicle crashes.

Additionally, Scappaticci requested extending the library parking lot time from two to four hours daily.

In Village Business, Police Chief Vasta requested authorization to purchase firearms, flashlights, optics, spare magazines and related equipment from Atlantic Tactical, as well as holsters from Blade-Tech and adaptor plates from C&H Precision.

This purchase will include the trade-in of the Police Department’s current firearms and the acquisition of 90 new firearms.

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www.westchester-women.com

Revolution to Reach the Sound Shore

Beware of redcoats, whaleboats, smugglers and spies on the horizon – here comes *Revolution on the Sound!*

This October, Revolutionary Westchester 250 and its partner organizations will continue the commemoration of America's Semiquincentennial and salute local history with a series of immersive experiences and free public events that include talks, tours, exhibits and reenactments.

RW250 President Constance Kehoe said: "Independence Day gets all the fireworks and fanfare, but Revolution on the Sound! will help us all understand and appreciate that the fight for liberty from Britain and the struggle to found a new nation lasted long after the Declaration was adopted. We welcome the public to experience one or more of these events—watch a battle reenactment, pose a question at an author talk, explore a historic cemetery after dark, or simply join us for a round of Revolutionary War trivia."

In October of 1776, a massive British maritime invasion took place along the Sound shore communities in the Bronx and Westchester. The British fully expected to finish off Washington's army soon but, like a classic David and Goliath tale, the relatively small number of troublesome rebels delayed the British and foiled that plan.

A week later, British forces reached White Plains and the two armies faced off there. Washington survived to fight another day. In the years that followed, the waters of Long Island Sound were plied with privateers, smugglers, armed whaleboats and spies, as the struggle for intelligence and supplies made this area key to both sides. Nearly eight years later, on November 25, 1783, the mighty British forces evacuated New York City.

For a full slate of the Revolution on the Sound! Events, please visit <https://www.rw250.org/revolution-on-the-sound>

About Revolutionary Westchester 250: Visit <https://www.rw250.org/about>



Westchester Honors the Families of the Fallen at Gold Star Ceremony

Westchester County paid its respects to the families of fallen service members at the County's Annual Gold Star Mothers and Families Tribute Ceremony on last month.

Westchester County Executive Ken Jenkins and Veterans Service Agency Director Josh Gaccione were joined by local veterans, officials and military families for the ceremony, which included a special salute to each of the 17 fallen servicemembers lost during Operations Iraqi Freedom and Enduring Freedom who are memorialized at the Kensico Dam Plaza Walk of Honor.



Tuckahoe's Yoselin Brice, Air Force veteran and Gold Star spouse, who continues to serve the community as a Veterans Service Officer, shared with the gathering her personal story of finding joy, resilience and hope after the loss of her husband Navy Lt. Commander Charles E. Brice.

Veterans Service Agency Director Josh Gaccione said: "For those lost in service, their work is done, but for the loved ones they leave behind, their sacrifice is just beginning. Their endurance is a testament to human fortitude and personal courage. The courage of a Gold Star mom, to get up and face every new day living with the memory of their child's sacrifice – that's courage. The heroism of our Gold Star Families uniting to work for and support each other – that's heroism. The bravery of those who didn't ask for a Gold Star, carrying that emblem with dignity and honor – that's bravery."

Yoselin Brice said: "Our story is not simply about loss. It's a story about resilience. It's a story about finding joy again. It's a story about learning that even after the darkest chapter of your life, there can still be beautiful chapters ahead.... To the Gold Star families here today I want you to know this: Your loved ones are not forgotten. Your sacrifice is not forgotten, and your stories matter."

The tradition of wearing a gold star to signify a family member loss in service goes back to World War I. In 1936, Congress designated the last Sunday in September as Gold Star Mother's Day, now known as Gold Star Mother's and Families Day. After World War II, the Gold Star Lapel Pin was designated by Congress to be given to immediate family members of active-duty military killed in service.

Film and Television Production in Westchester Drives \$1.85 Billion in Economic Impact in 2025

Film and television production in Westchester generated \$1.85 billion in economic impact in 2025, according to a new annual economic impact report released today by Westchester County Executive Ken Jenkins. The data show significant growth in production, employment, and overall economic and fiscal impact — demonstrating the strength of the County's film-ready ecosystem and its ability to support every type of production, from recurring television series to commercial content and feature films.

Total jobs supported by the industry rose by 86% in 2025, from 3,103 to 5,757—with 2,434 tied directly to production activity. Total employee earnings reached \$535.6 million, including \$262.2 million in direct earnings. Productions filmed across the County for 1,636 total production days, demonstrating the continued strength of the film sector in Westchester.

Film production also generated meaningful local revenues, including \$4.3 million in sales tax and \$4.4 million in lodging-related sales and occupancy taxes. The County and its municipalities reported nearly \$1.7 million in permit, location, and rental fees. In total, the fiscal benefit of the film industry to Westchester County and its municipalities reached \$12.3 million in 2025, a 62% increase over 2024.

Westchester County Executive Ken Jenkins said: "These results show what happens when a County makes a real commitment to welcoming the film and television industry. We've focused on making Westchester easy to work in—streamlining permitting, coordinating across our municipalities, and making sure productions can find everything they need here. Our communities are film-friendly, our doors are open, and the industry is responding."

The County features eight New York State Qualified Production Facilities (QPFs), additional sound stages, studios and post-production facilities, a network of film-friendly municipalities, and hundreds of experienced local vendors — all accessible within a compact, diverse



"Your Friends & Neighbors." Photo courtesy of Apple.

geography.

Natasha Caputo, director of Westchester County Tourism & Film, said: "Westchester offers productions something increasingly valuable: the ability to sustain filming over time while accessing an extraordinary range of locations within a compact area. We have the fundamentals in place including diverse locations, soundstage infrastructure, and hundreds of local partners who understand the pace and demands of production. Just as importantly, we still have capacity and room to grow. Westchester is positioned to welcome more productions and continue delivering for the industry as it scales."

A Place Productions Return To: Apple TV+'s "Your Friends & Neighbors" illustrates Westchester's ability to support sustained, multi-location production. The series filmed repeatedly across multiple Westchester communities, including Briarcliff Manor, Harrison, Tarrytown, Rye, White Plains, and Yonkers, while anchoring production operations at Great Point Studios.

The production is currently filming episodes for season three in the County.

Shane Haden, location scout for "Your Friends & Neighbors," said: "Westchester's diversity helps us to show our story because of the variety of locations within a short distance. It gave us the range we needed to tell this story. Since it's relatively easy to move around Westchester, it helped on days that we had to move the entire company midday to another location for another look. Many of Westchester's towns are film-friendly; there's an appreciation and interest in filming from both commercial and residential community members."

Additional productions that recently filmed in Westchester include: Steven Spielberg's Disclosure Day (feature film), Elsbeth (CBS), The Gilded Age (HBO), Poker Face (Peacock), Severance (Apple TV+), The Fall & Rise of Reggie Dinkins (NBC), Focker-in-Law (feature film), and Marty Supreme (feature film).

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