

# Scarsdale Sentinel

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scarsdalesentinel.com



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## A Heartfelt Thank You to the Scarsdale Community

As we look ahead to the next chapter in Scarsdale's history, I want to take a moment to express my deepest gratitude to you—the residents of this wonderful Village. Your engagement, your support, and your commitment to our community are what make Scarsdale truly special.

On March 18, you cast your votes in the Village election, and I am honored and humbled to continue serving as your Mayor alongside returning Trustee Dara Gruenberg, newly elected Trustees Jason Kofman and David Goldschmidt, and the rest of the Board of Trustees. Together, we will work hard to uphold the values that define our Village and build on the progress we have made.

Scarsdale is not just a place; it is a community built on a foundation of civic engagement, volunteerism, and shared purpose. I feel truly fortunate to live in a Village where dedication to service, collaboration, and the greater good take precedence over partisanship and personal ambition. It is a Village where neighbors support one another, where challenges are met with thoughtful solutions, and where the future is



shaped by the collective efforts of its people.

I hope to see many of you at our upcoming community events, including the Destination Sunday kickoff on Sunday, May 4. This event will mark not only the return of our popular Farmers Market in the Village Center but also the start of the Westchester Parks Foundation's Bicycle Sunday program on the Bronx River Parkway. I also look forward to gathering together at our annual Memorial Day Parade on May 26. The ceremony will begin at 10 a.m. in Chase Park, with the parade to follow as we come together to remember and honor those who gave their lives in service to our nation.

I am excited about the journey ahead, and I look forward to working with each and every one of you to make Scarsdale an even better place to live. Thank you for your trust, your support, and your dedication to our community.

With gratitude,

Justin Arest, Mayor, Village of Scarsdale

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# St. Vincent's Hospital Westchester Honors Outstanding Student Volunteers at 33rd Annual Youth Awards

St. Vincent's Hospital Westchester, a division of Saint Joseph's Medical Center, and the Auxiliary Board of St. Vincent's Hospital Westchester celebrated the winners of the 33rd Annual Youth Awards, recognizing 20 high school students for their exceptional volunteer service and commitment to St. Vincent's values.

Approximately 100 supporters, including students' families, high school guidance counselors, and school representatives, attended the event on March 13. In addition to receiving the St. Vincent's Youth Award, honorees were presented with U.S. Congressional Certificates of Achievement from Congressman George Latimer.

Peter Briggs, U.S. Squash Hall of Famer and Chairman of Squash at The Apawamis Club, delivered the keynote address. Reflecting on his lifelong dedication to mentorship and community service, he commended the students for their accomplishments and encouraged them to continue making a difference. A former Harvard University squash captain and head coach at Cornell University, Briggs has mentored generations of student-athletes and continues to inspire young people through his work.

The St. Vincent's Annual Youth Awards



(Front from left) Wes Lichtenstein, Miranda Zapata-Mardini, Isabella Bendick, Katie Jacobs, Daisy Aquilar, Sarina Metsch, Kaitlyn Horgan and Joey Lipple-Smetana. (Back from left) Robert Brock, Saint Joseph's Medical Center President & CEO Michael J. Spicer, Connor Librandi, Jack Levin, Christian Vega, John Mazzola, Gabriel Froehlich, Guest Speaker Peter Briggs, Teagan Young, Kathryn Kmetz, Sabhah Grenouillon and Bernadette Kingham-Bez, Executive Director of St. Vincent's Hospital Westchester and Senior Vice President of Saint Joseph's Medical Center.

were established in 1993 by the Auxiliary Board of St. Vincent's Hospital Westchester to recognize young people who support St. Vincent's values and to promote lifelong patterns of volunteerism. Each year, the awards honor students from area high schools whose service best exemplifies these values.

This year's honorees include:

- Daisy Aguilar – Port Chester High School
- Isabella Bendick – Maria Regina High School
- Robert Brock – Fordham Preparatory School
- Gabriel Froehlich – Mamaroneck High

School

- Sabhah Grenouillon – Rye Neck High School
- Kaitlyn Horgan – The Ursuline School
- Katie Jacobs – School of the Holy Child
- Kathryn Kmetz – Rye High School
- Jack Levin – Scarsdale High School
- Connor Librandi – Archbishop Stepinac High School
- Wes Lichtenstein – Rye Country Day School
- Joey Lipple-Smetana – Harrison High School
- John Mazzola – Iona Preparatory School

- Sarina Metsch – Byram Hills High School
- Vivi Nguyen – White Plains High School
- Tadhg O'Brien – Rye High School
- Christian Vega – Iona Preparatory School
- Madelyn Williams – Bronxville High School
- Teagan Young – Mamaroneck High School
- Miranda Zapata-Mardini – Sacred Heart Greenwich

"We are deeply honored to recognize these exceptional young people. Their dedication to service and their embodiment of St. Vincent's values are a powerful inspiration to our community," said Michael J. Spicer, President and CEO of Saint Joseph's Medical Center.

"These remarkable students have shown extraordinary compassion through their volunteer efforts. They truly represent the heart of St. Vincent's, and we are confident they will continue to make a lasting difference," said Bernadette Kingham-Bez, Senior Vice President.

To make a donation to St. Vincent's Hospital Westchester and support programs like the Youth Awards, as well as efforts to enhance patient care, visit [saintjosephs.org/about-us/ways-to-give/donate/st-vincent's-honor-and-memorial-donations](http://saintjosephs.org/about-us/ways-to-give/donate/st-vincent's-honor-and-memorial-donations).

## Scarsdale Edgemont Family Counseling Service Announces 2025 Rising Star & Inaugural Guiding Star Award Recipients

Scarsdale Edgemont Family Counseling Service (SFCS) is proud to announce the recipients of its prestigious 2025 awards: the annual Rising Star Award and the newly established Guiding Star Award. These honors recognize exceptional individuals who have demonstrated unwavering dedication to community service and leadership. Support SFCS by purchasing tickets or sponsorships at [SFCSGALA.org](http://SFCSGALA.org).



Rachel Krisbergh

has distinguished herself through her outstanding leadership and contributions to numerous Scarsdale organizations, reflecting a deep commitment to fostering community growth and engagement.

In addition, SFCS is thrilled to introduce the Guiding Star Award, designed to honor those who have made a sustained, transformative impact within

the community. The inaugural recipient, MaryEllen Saenger, is recognized for her steadfast leadership within SFCS, particularly through her dedication to the Aging in Place program.

MaryEllen's efforts have significantly enhanced the lives of many residents, embodying the spirit of volunteerism and

service in both Scarsdale and Edgemont.

Both awards will be presented at the SFCS 2025 Annual Benefit Gala on Thursday, May 15, 2025, at the Scarsdale Golf Club.

"SFCS is incredibly fortunate to have such remarkable individuals supporting our mission," said James Genova, LCSW, Executive Director of Scarsdale Edgemont Family Counseling Service. "Rachel and MaryEllen exemplify the values that SFCS stands for—strengthening families, fostering community well-being, and inspiring others through leadership and service. Their dedication and volunteerism are shining examples for all of our residents, and we are honored to celebrate their contributions this year."



MaryEllen Saenger

About Scarsdale Edgemont Family Counseling Service -- Scarsdale Edgemont Family Counseling Service (SFCS) is a nationally recognized family service agency, accredited by the Council on Accreditation. For over 100 years, SFCS has served as a cornerstone in the community, offering counseling services and supportive programs for individuals and families at every stage of life. Our mission is to strengthen and support family life

and contribute to the overall well-being of our residents. At SFCS, we believe that strong families are the foundation of a healthy, thriving community.

Sponsorship opportunities and tickets for the SFCS 2025 Annual Benefit Gala can be purchased at [SFCSGALA.org](http://SFCSGALA.org) or call (914) 723-3281.

# State Senate Majority Leader Andrea Stewart-Cousins and Senator Shelley B. Mayer Host Women's History Month Panel: Leading in a Challenging Time

Senate Majority Leader Andrea Stewart-Cousins and Senator Shelley B. Mayer hosted a panel discussion to celebrate Women's History Month on Friday, March 21. This year's theme, "Moving Forward Together! Women, Education and Inspiring Generations," was highlighted through the panel titled "Leading in a Challenging Time."

Majority Leader Stewart-Cousins and Senator Mayer were pleased to feature five local leaders who shared their insights on guiding their communities and inspiring others to envision a better future despite the obstacles they encounter.

The panelists included Maritza Fasack, Founder of the Women United of Westchester Social Club (WUW); Jirandy Martinez, Executive Director of the Community Resource Center; Eileen O'Connor, Co-Founder and Leader of NYCD16; Kate Permut, Chair of the Westchester Women's Agenda; and Javon M. Trottman-Floyd, Chief Operating Officer of the YWCA of White Plains and Central Westchester.



*L to R: Majority Leader Andrea Stewart-Cousins, Senator Shelley B. Mayer, Javon M. Trottman-Floyd, Maritza Fasack, Eileen O'Connor, Jirandy Martinez, and Kate Permut.*

Senate Majority Leader Andrea Stewart-Cousins said, "It is always the right time to celebrate all that women have achieved and contributed in our world, but especially so in these uncertain times as our hard-fought rights are under attack. The journeys and ac-

complishments of this panel of exceptional women align perfectly with this year's Women's History Month theme 'Moving Forward Together! Women Educating and Inspiring Generations.' We all gained inspiration from hearing their stories as we continue to fight for

our rights, knowing progress is not inevitable. I thank all of the panelists for joining us, and Senator Shelley Mayer for co-hosting this event with me to celebrate these amazing Westchester women."

Senator Shelley Mayer said, "I was delighted to host this important panel discussion alongside my friend Majority Leader Andrea Stewart-Cousins. During every Women's History Month, we recognize the hard work, intelligence, determination and dedication of women leaders in our community. This year, as we navigate hard times, it is more important than ever to remember the support we have around us and that together, we can overcome any difficulties that may arise. I thank Senate Majority Leader Stewart-Cousins for co-hosting this event and I thank the five incredible panelists for sharing their insight with the community."

Visit <https://www.facebook.com/andrea.stewartcousins/videos/3925017371079444/?rdid=82fx02kz-YSYkMuES#> to watch the panel.

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

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# Scarsdale Fire Department Welcomes New Firefighter

The Village of Scarsdale and the Scarsdale Fire Department are pleased to announce the appointment of Rocca Latella as a firefighter. Formally appointed on February 24, Latella brings extensive experience as both a volunteer firefighter and EMT. Fire Chief Christopher Mytych expressed confidence in Latella's abilities, stating that his familiarity with the fire service and the Scarsdale Fire Department will make him "an asset to the Village." Latella will begin his tenure with 20 weeks of training at the Westchester County Career Fire Academy before returning to Scarsdale for his permanent assignment.



## Scarsdale Adult School to Receive Scarsdale Foundation's 2025 Spotlight Award

Scarsdale Adult School has been chosen as the honoree of the Scarsdale Foundation's 2025 Spotlight Award on April 24 at the Mamaroneck Beach & Yacht Club!

In 2023, the Scarsdale Foundation began selecting a "Spotlight Award" recipient in recognition of an individual or an organization that has made a significant impact and brought about positive change in one targeted sphere of community engagement.

The dinner will pay tribute to Scarsdale Adult School while celebrating the spirit and culture of volunteerism in Scarsdale. Funds raised support the Scarsdale Foundation's mission of quietly but effectively helping local individuals and community organizations through need based student scholarships and project grants. This year's Spotlight Award is a wonderful example of two Scarsdale institutions supporting each other in furtherance of education.

To be seated with fellow SAS board members, advisory committee members, students, and staff at the celebration, please indicate "Scarsdale Adult School seating" when purchasing tickets.

Tickets to Scarsdale Foundation Bowl Dinner are available at <https://www.wizevents.com/scarsdalefoundation2025/?id=9906>

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## Memorial Day Parade Registration Now Open

The Village of Scarsdale invites local organizations to participate in this year's Memorial Day Parade on May 26. The event will begin with a ceremony at 10:00 a.m. at Chase Park, with participant assembly starting at 9:00 a.m. The parade will follow a one-mile route through the Village, concluding back at Chase Park around 11:30 a.m. Organizations interested in marching must register online by May 12, at [scarsdale.gov/memorialday](http://scarsdale.gov/memorialday). For more information, contact the Manager's Office at 914-722-1110.

## Village Enhances Park Benches with Cost-Effective Restoration



The Village of Scarsdale has taken a cost-effective approach to restoring worn park benches, saving taxpayers over \$16,000. Over time, natural wear and exposure to the elements led to lichen and moss accumulating on the wooden slats of many benches throughout the Village's parks. A quote from the manufacturer for replacement slats exceeded \$17,000, prompting the Village to explore a more economical solution. Under the direction of Superintendent Gray, staff purchased, cut, and stained new pine slats, completing the restoration for just over \$1,000. Davis Park was the first location to receive the newly restored benches. Residents can look forward to refreshed benches in other parks as the effort continues.

## Register Now for Spring Weekly Pickleball Clinics

The Scarsdale Recreation Department is offering weekly adult pickleball clinics at the Crossway courts starting April 21. Sessions run on Mondays, Wednesdays, Thursdays, and Saturdays for three or four weeks, lasting 60 or 90 minutes. Fees range from \$165 to \$220. A 2025 pickleball permit is required, and participants must wear sneakers and use instructor-provided paddles. Register online at [scarsdale.gov/catalog](http://scarsdale.gov/catalog) or in person at the Scarsdale Recreation Department, located at 244 Heathcote Road.

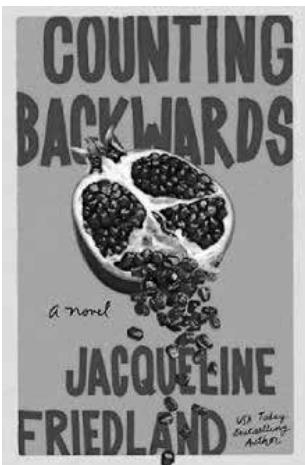
## Scarsdale Teen Travel Camp: Summer Adventures Await

The Scarsdale Parks, Recreation & Conservation Department's Teen Travel Camp offers an exciting summer experience filled with daily trips to water parks, amusement parks, challenge courses, and more. Open to students entering grades six through eight in the fall, the camp is available in two sessions: a three-week session from July 7 to July 25 for \$2,725 and a two-week session from July 28 to August 8 for \$1,960. Trip itineraries vary by session, and times will depend on the destination. For more details, visit Camp Central or call the Recreation Department at (914) 722-1160. Early registration is encouraged as space is limited.

# Local Author Releases New Novel

Jacqueline Friedland's books have been called ferociously insightful, wholly engrossing and unputdownable. She delivers her most thought-provoking book yet with COUNTING BACKWARDS (On Sale, March; Harper Muse; hardcover) a legal thriller that deftly tackles timely-yet-timeless issues such as reproductive rights, incarceration, and society's expectations of women and mothers. Based on true stories from the 1920s and 2020, COUNTING BACKWARDS is a reminder that progress is rarely a straight line and always hard-won.

The year is 1927. A young, destitute woman in Virginia named Carrie Buck stands at the center of an extraordinary legal battle at the forefront of the American eugenics conversation. Uneducated and without any support, she spends her youth dreaming about a different future—one separate from her exploitative foster family—unknowing of the ripples her small, country life will have on an entire nation.



Flash forward to 2022. Jessa wants to have it all—the job title of her dreams, a loving marriage with her husband, Vance, and, above all else, a baby. But when her painstaking efforts to conceive fall flat, she struggles to find larger meaning in her life. The decision she makes next threatens to change everything.

Faced with the opportunity to take on a pro bono case at a nearby ICE detention center, Jessa decides to pick up the thread of her family's long history of activism by representing detainee Isobel Pérez, hoping to help her secure citizenship and ultimately reunite her with her young daughter. However, what first appears to be a routine immigration case quickly reveals itself as something far more sinister. Horrified and outraged by this revelation, Jessa must make a decision: risk her career and relationship by leading the charge on an ambitious class action lawsuit or remain silent.

In this absolute tour de force of a novel inspired by true events, Friedland

expertly weaves between the past and the present, tying together the voices of Carrie, Jessa, and the countless brave women at the detention center seeking restitution. Friedland boldly encourages readers to consider the ways in which reproductive justice must extend beyond access to abortion while highlighting the urgency of what is truly at stake; COUNTING BACKWARDS thus serves as a necessary, powerful, and timely reminder that progress is rarely linear, and the fight for justice is always one worth undertaking, no matter the risk.

Counting Backwards by Jacqueline Friedland | March 11, 2025 | Harper Muse | Hardcover (9781400347346) / Paperback (9781400347308) / eBook / Audiobook |



**About the Author**  
-- Scarsdale resident, Jacqueline Friedland is the author of four other titles, including USA Today and Amazon bestsellers He Gets That From Me and Trouble the Water. She graduated Magna cum Laude from both the University of Pennsylvania and NYU Law School before

going on to briefly pursue commercial litigation. She then pivoted to teaching, securing a position at the Benjamin Cardozo School of Law, where she taught Legal Writing and Lawyering Skills (all while working on her first novel!) Eventually deciding to focus on writing full time, Jacqueline returned to school to get her Masters in Fine Arts from Sarah Lawrence College. For more visit, jacquelinefriedland.com.

## Scarsdale Annual Legislative Advocacy Breakfast



Scarsdale High School students, Assembly Member Amy Paulin, elected leaders from Scarsdale Village, Scarsdale Schools, New York State and Westchester County joined together at Greenacres Elementary School for the annual legislative advocacy breakfast hosted by the Scarsdale PT Council.

Assemblymember Paulin remarked, "I was impressed and inspired by the students, whose questions demonstrated a remarkable level of civic engagement."

## A Note from Assemblymember Amy Paulin

On Tuesday, March 25, my fellow legislators and I submitted a letter to the NYS Public Service Commission (PSC) to fight for Westchester residents against Con Edison's proposed double-digit rate increase.

The PSC is reviewing Con Edison's proposed rate hikes, which, if approved, will increase residential customers' bills by an average of 11.4% for electricity and 13.3% for gas by 2026.

The PSC is now accepting public comments. Your input about these proposed electric and gas delivery price hikes is critical and will be considered by the PSC before making any final decisions.

Here's how to ensure your voice is heard.

The PSC is holding virtual public hearings at the following times:

Tuesday, April 8, 2025 - 1:00 PM and 5:30 PM

Wednesday, April 9, 2025 - 1:00 PM and 5:30 PM

In order to speak at a virtual hearing:

Register by April 7 (for April 8 hearings) or April 8 (for April 9 hearings)

Register online: <https://dps.ny.gov/calendar>

Or register by phone: Call 1-800-342-3330

You can also submit written comments (which are due by November 21, 2025):

Online: [www.dps.ny.gov](http://www.dps.ny.gov), search for case "25-E-0072" or "25-G-0073" and click "Post Comments"

By mail: Hon. Michelle L. Phillips, Secretary, Public Service Commission, Three Empire State Plaza, Albany, NY 12223-1350.

Comments can also be submitted by phone: Call the Opinion Line at 1-800-335-2120. Special accommodations are available for persons with disabilities or language barriers by calling 1-518-473-9463.

Please make your voice heard!

Sincerely,

Amy Paulin

Member of Assembly

# A Love for Libraries: Community Member Receives Special Honor

The Scarsdale Public Library is delighted to announce the winner of this year's Love Your Library promotion! Congratulations to Susan Douglass, a dedicated library patron, local author, and active member of the Scarsdale community.

Each year, the Love Your Library promotion celebrates the enthusiasm and support of our residents. A long-time advocate for the library, Susan has previously presented at author talks to discuss her published work, *Barb's Story*, and is currently working on her next novel, which explores the world of ballerinas.

Susan expressed special appreciation for the reference librarians, whose expertise has been instrumental in helping her research authentic settings and themes for her writing. Beyond research, she enjoys attending the library's diverse programs, exploring local history exhibits, and using the study rooms as a quiet space to write. Having witnessed the library's transformation over the years, she values it as a vital hub for learning and creativity.



Susan Douglass

As this year's winner, Susan received a selection of handcrafted items from the library's Makerspace. Residents interested in exploring their own cre-

ativity can learn more about the Makerspace by visiting the library's website or reaching out directly.

## A Special Visit and a New Library Card Holder

This month also welcomed special guests—Detective Wilder and wellness dog, Sushi, of the Scarsdale Police Department. Sushi even received a library card, making it official: our library truly welcomes all members of the community! If you are a resident who does not yet have a library card, we invite you to stop by with your ID and proof of residence to receive one on the spot. Your card grants access to an extensive collection of books, digital resources, and even free museum passes made possible by the Friends of the Scarsdale Library.

## Community Reflections

We are deeply grateful to everyone who shared their experiences during the Love Your Library promotion. Many community members expressed appreciation for the friendly and dedicated library staff, whose passion makes the library a welcoming space for all. Speaking of passionate library staff, Sarah Rodriguez, SPL's children's collection development librarian, was just recently recognized for her role in selecting this year's Newbery award winner as a member of the Newbery Selection committee.

Below are a few of the many responses we received from the community.

- Let me count the ways: The beautiful new building, the welcoming staff, access to books, e-books and audio-books, no fines!, wonderful events and art exhibits.
- The kind and friendly staff, variety of programming, gorgeous facility, children's room!
- The children's room librarians are so friendly and give wonderful recommendations
- The Scarsdale library is almost like a second home for me. The librarians are SO helpful and so kind.
- I like how the librarians are friendly and how I can have a place to go to feel comfortable.
- Access to newly published books and the elimination of late fines. That was an absolute game changer for me.

For more information on upcoming library events, programs, and Makerspace opportunities, visit [scarsdalelibrary.org](http://scarsdalelibrary.org) or stop by and see what's new!

The Scarsdale Public Library strives to encourage the joy of reading, the exploration of ideas, and the pursuit of lifelong learning for the children and adults of our community.

## Volunteer New York! Announces Winners of the 45th Annual Volunteer Spirit Awards, Presented by Regeneron

Volunteer New York! has announced that seven local volunteers will be honored during their 45th annual Volunteer Spirit Awards breakfast benefit, presented by Regeneron. Volunteer New York!'s popular breakfast benefit will take place at the Westchester Marriott at 670 White Plains Road, Tarrytown, on Friday, April 11, 2024, from 7:45 AM – 11 AM with a post-event networking component for guests beginning at 10 AM.

The Volunteer Spirit Awards breakfast benefit is held annually in April during Global Volunteer Month to honor volunteers in Westchester, Rockland, and Putnam Counties. The event is attended by over 550 "who's who" leaders from the community, including representatives from the business, nonprofit, and public sectors, to honor extraordinary individuals and groups who have made a significant difference in their communi-



Christian Dias

ties. Nominations are held for five categories, and an independent panel of judges selects one individual volunteer or nonprofit group for each category.

"This year's honorees exemplify the incredible power of volunteerism to create real, lasting change in our communities. Their dedication and selflessness remind us that service is not just an ideal — it's actually doing what it takes to build a more connected, compassionate, and resilient world," said Volunteer New York! Interim Executive Director, Suzanne Tillman. "As we celebrate Volunteer New York's 75th anniversary, we recognize the multitude of people who have given their time and heart to making a difference. We are proud to uplift these seven extraordinary individuals and grateful to our sponsors and supporters who make this



Rowen Dias

celebration possible."

Tickets, congratulatory journal ads, and event sponsorship opportunities are currently available online at [volunteernewyork.org/awards](http://volunteernewyork.org/awards). For all inquiries, please contact Dylan Pyne at [dylan@volunteernewyork.org](mailto:dylan@volunteernewyork.org).

### MEET THE 2025 WINNERS

#### *Education & Literacy Award:*

Kimberly Janeway for volunteer action with Family Service Society of Yonkers Presented by The Seiden Family

**Quality of Life Award:** Chivas Wakuta for volunteer action with One Sandwich at a Time Presented by PCSB Community Foundation

**Resiliency Award:** Najib Arsalan and Freshta Nazari for volunteer action with Open Arms for Refugees Presented by WMCHealth

**Social Advocacy Award:** Paul Adler, Esq. *continued on page 11*

# Eye Q Optometrist Celebrates Ribbon Cutting of New Flagship Location

The New Rochelle Chamber of Commerce hosted a ribbon cutting for the new flagship location of Eye Q Optometrist at 1483 Weaver Street, Scarsdale on Friday, January 31, 2025. The event celebrated Eye Q Optometrist's third location – with other offices in NYC and Scarsdale.

Mayor Yadira Ramos-Herbert was in attendance and shared welcoming words along with several City of New Rochelle representatives, Westchester County representatives and the New Rochelle Chamber of Commerce.

"We are thrilled that Eye Q Optometrist has chosen New Rochelle to open their flagship location. Today is more than just a celebration of a thriving business, it's a celebration of family and legacy," said New Rochelle Mayor Yadira Ramos-Herbert. "This 27-year business is a testament to the evolution of outstanding businesses that call New Rochelle home. We look forward to supporting them for another 27+ years."

First opening its doors in Manhattan in 1997, Eye Q Optometrist is a family-owned business. Husband and wife co-owners, Stacy Zlatin (CEO) and Dr Abraham Zlatin O.D., FIAOMC, have now proudly added son Dr. Zach Zlatin O.D., M.S., IACMM, to their team of doctors.

Eye Q Optometrist provides innovative eye care services to patients from New York City, New Rochelle & Scarsdale. They offer comprehensive eye health assessments, ocular disease diagnosis and treatment, contact lens evaluation and fitting, and prescriptions.

"We are excited to celebrate the grand opening of our flagship location and the 20th anniversary of Eye Q in



Mariana Jusufaj, NR Small Business & MWBE Relations Manager; Shari Rosen Ascher, Westchester County Director Policy & Programs for Small Business and Chambers of Commerce; Will Melendez, City Manager; Stacy Zlatin; Dr. Zach Zlatin; Dr Abraham Zlatin; Mayor Yadira Ramos-Herbert; Matt Stern, City Council Representative; Judah Holstein, Westchester County Legislator; Martha Lopez, City Council Representative & Westchester County Director of Minority and Women-Owned Business Development; Glenia Rojas, NR Chamber of Commerce; Catherine White, Executive Director NR Chamber

Westchester! What an incredible journey it has been," said Dr Abraham Zlatin, co-owner of Eye Q Optometrist. "In 1977 when we opened our first location at NYC, we only dreamed of all this. It wouldn't have been possible without the Eye Q team - their dedication, passion, and hard work make Eye Q what it is today. We're looking forward to many more years of success, growth, and helping our community see the world more clearly."

Attendees at the ribbon cutting included Mayor Yadira Ramos-Herbert; Will Melendez, City Manager; Matt Stern, City Council Representative; Martha Lopez, City Council Representative & Westchester County Director of Minority and Women-Owned Business Development; Shari Rosen Ascher, Westchester County Director Policy & Programs for Small Business and Chambers of Commerce; Judah Holstein, Westchester County Legislator; Mariana Jusufaj, NR Small Business & MWBE Relations Manager; Glenia Rojas, NR Chamber of Commerce, and Catherine White, Executive Director NR Chamber.

"It's fantastic to celebrate the Zlatin family's 27-year success in business and we're thrilled that they have chosen New Rochelle for their flagship location," said Catherine White, Executive Director of the NR Chamber. "It was great to see old and new customers on hand to tour the new studio and book appointments. We wish them continued success."

Eye Q Optometrist is open Tuesday – Saturday in their Westchester locations and Monday – Saturday in NYC. For hours and more information visit <https://www.eyeqdr.com/>

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## Girl Scouts Learn Safety Skills

The Scarsdale Edgemont Girl Scouts hosted a self-defense workshop on Sunday, March 2, at the Betty Taubert Girl Scout House, bringing together 30 Girl Scouts in grades six through twelve. Led by Kat Colucci, owner of On Guard Academy, the three-hour session focused on situational awareness, self-defense techniques, and social media safety.

Participants learned how to recognize and avoid dangerous situations, as well as how to protect themselves if necessary. Deputy Mayor Dara Gruenberg was honored to attend the event, which provided invaluable life skills for the girls.





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# spring home improvement

## Homeowners' Handbook NAVIGATING NEW HVAC REFRIGERANTS

(Family Features) Homeowners may not realize it, but one compound impacts their lives nearly every day: refrigerant. Capable of transforming from liquid to gas and back again, it absorbs and transfers heat as a key part of air conditioning and heat pump systems that keep you comfortable no matter the weather.

As part of your air conditioner or heat pump system, it helps transfer heat and humidity out of your home for cooling or draws heat from outdoor air and brings it inside for heating. However, while concerns about climate change heat up, gov-



ernment leaders are enacting policies that enforce greater control over the anticipated global warming potential (GWP) of refrigerants.

In fact, the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) is limiting the GWP of refrigerants in equipment

*continued on page 9*

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## spring home improvement

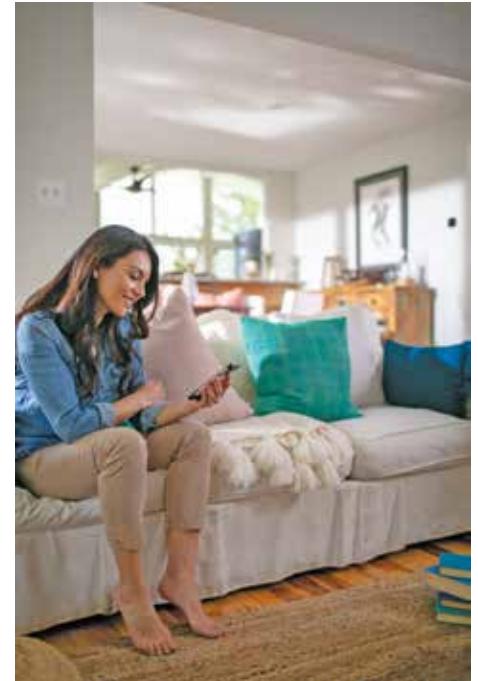
### Homeowners' Handbook NAVIGATING NEW HVAC REFRIGERANTS

*continued from page 8*

starting in 2025. At the same time, the EPA is implementing a phasedown on the supply of existing, higher GWP refrigerants.

The changes include a phasedown of high-GWP refrigerants commonly used in home air conditioning and refrigeration, introduction of alternative refrigerants with lower GWP that maintain efficiency and requiring manufacturers to comply with new standards for energy efficiency and environmental impact.

Despite these policy updates, you may not necessarily need a new air conditioner or heat pump. Here's what homeowners need to know, courtesy of the experts at Carrier, a world leader in high-technology heating, air conditioning and refrigeration solutions:



*continued on page 10*

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# spring home improvement

## Homeowners' Handbook

### NAVIGATING NEW HVAC REFRIGERANTS

*continued from page 10*

#### Environmental Awareness and the Impact on Existing Home Systems

Transitioning away from high-GWP refrigerants contributes positively toward reducing your carbon footprint. These anticipated changes aim not only at reducing environmental impact

but also at promoting technological advancements in heating and cooling solutions that benefit both consumers and the planet over time. If you have an existing system using older refrigerants like R-22 or R-410A, it can still be serviced; however, it's possible repair costs may increase due to reduced availability.

#### Maintenance and Servicing

Regular maintenance becomes more crucial as systems age. Ensure your HVAC technician is knowledgeable about the new requirements and safely handling different types of refrigerants.

#### Considerations for New Purchases

When purchasing a new air conditioner or heat pump, be sure to check for energy efficiency ratings that align with the updated regulations and look for models using low-GWP refrigerants. For example, Puron Advance from Carrier will replace existing refrigerants in all its residential ducted and ductless and light commercial products. This innovative refrigerant, also known as R-454B, not only meets the EPA's anticipated GWP limits for refrigerants but exceeds the new requirements with a GWP of 466, a 75% reduction compared to R-410A.

#### Incentives and Rebates

If you're shopping for a new air conditioner or heat pump, keep an eye out for government incentives or rebates aimed at encouraging homeowners to upgrade their systems in compliance with new standards.

#### Consult Professionals

Owning a home is a lot of work on its own, and EPA regulations on your cooling and heating systems may be the furthest thing from your mind. If you believe you're due for service or a new system, engage HVAC professionals – like the trusted experts at Carrier – who are up to date on regulatory changes. Always check local regulations for specific details applicable in your area since policies can vary by region beyond federal guidelines.

To find more information on the changes or connect with an HVAC professional, visit [Carrier.com/Residential](http://Carrier.com/Residential).

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# Volunteer New York! Announces Winners of the 45th Annual Volunteer Spirit Awards, Presented by Regeneron

continued from page 6

for volunteer action with NAACP – Nyack Branch Presented by United Way of Westchester and Putnam

**Youth Leadership Award:** Christian and Rowan Dias

for volunteer action with Able Athletics, Inc. Presented by PKF O'Connor Davies, LLP

Legacy Award: Volunteer New York!

Every year Volunteer New York! selects a recipient for its Legacy Award that goes to a business or civic leader who has made a personal and professional commitment to volunteerism, has significantly supported the values and mission of Volunteer New York!, and who encourages deep employee and community engagement in service. This year, the Volunteer Spirit Awards will also serve as Volunteer New York!'s 75th anniversary celebration. By honoring Volunteer New York! with the 2025 Legacy Award, we celebrate not just the organization itself, but the thousands of volunteers, partners, and supporters who have fueled our mission over the past 75 years.

The mission of Volunteer New York! is to mobilize the communities of Westchester, Rockland, and Putnam Counties to address its greatest challenges. We envision a community that is vibrant, resilient, and equitable, and believe volunteerism and civic engagement are critical strategies to achieve this vision. Last year alone, Volunteer New York! mobilized more than 35,000 volunteers, who contributed over 457,000 hours of service to 300 local nonprofits — an economic value of \$16.9 million reinvested into our community. The Legacy Award recognizes this impact and our ongoing commitment to strengthening our communities through service.

## 2025 VSA AWARD JUDGES

Amy Allen, Patrick Bardsley, Tom Gabriel, Phillip Ham, Joseph Kenner, Michelle A. Nicholas, Kara Pacheco, Daniel Patrick,

Alessandra Restiano, Becky Silverstein, Linda Tyler, Lilian Wu

## VOLUNTEER SPIRIT AWARD 2025 EVENT SPONSORS

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## 2025 STEERING COMMITTEE

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## 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 achieving 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 35,000 volunteers to take action and coordinated more than 457,000 hours of service that supported more than 300 nonprofits and local organizations, providing a value of \$16.9 million back to our community.

The Corporate Champions who strongly support the mission of Volunteer New York! include: The Journal News & LoHud.com, MasterCard, Pepsico, Regeneron, Con Edison, Morgan Stanley, M&T Bank, PKF O'Connor Davies, LLP, Retirement Transformed, Robison Oil Corporation, Webster Bank, Hudson Valley Credit Union, PCSB Community Foundation, WMCHHealth, Empire City Casino by MGM Resorts, RAND Engineering & Architecture, and Starr Insurance. 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 ROWAN DIAS AND CHRISTIAN DIAS

Teenagers Rowan and Christian Dias have already made a meaningful impact on the world. As passionate lacrosse players practicing in their backyard, the boys noticed that their younger sister, Elle, who is neurodivergent, loved watching them but found it difficult to join in. Rowan and Christian realized that when they adjusted the game to meet her needs, she was able to participate. Inspired by this, they created their own program to teach her in a way that made her feel included.

Seeing how well Elle responded, they had an idea – what if they could help other children with special needs as well? With that thought, Able Athletics, Inc. (originally called Able Lacrosse) was born. They began with just one young athlete. Rowan and Christian visited his home, brought him a small lacrosse stick, and worked through adaptive drills with

the support of a therapist. The brothers carefully planned the sessions, while the therapist helped tailor the drills to the child's needs.

As their program grew, they partnered with a local lacrosse coach, bringing in entire teams as volunteers. This expansion allowed more children to participate and benefit from inclusive sports. Over time, Able Athletics, Inc. broadened beyond lacrosse, adding multiple sports, multi-week sessions, and even tournaments. Some of their athletes have competed in national lacrosse and field hockey tournaments, playing alongside both neurotypical children and other children with special needs. Rowan has also introduced Able Athletics, Inc. to his boarding school, bringing wheelchairs so that his classmates without disabilities could experience playing basketball from a different perspective.

Rowan and Christian note that Able Athletics, Inc. enriches not only the athletes but also the volunteers. Each volunteer completes an onboarding course that equips them with the skills to interact with the athletes and break down social barriers. At its heart, the organization is dedicated to fostering understanding and inclusion for people with special needs. The brothers especially love “seeing the smiles on everyone’s faces” – from the athletes and their parents to the volunteers who help make it all possible.

Looking ahead, Rowan and Christian dream of expanding the program’s reach, believing that “there are children with special needs everywhere” who could benefit from inclusive sports. They envision a world where athletes like his sister feel accepted and valued, both in sports and in everyday life. Together, the brothers strive to inspire others to recognize that inclusion matters—and with each throw and catch, they are getting closer to making that vision a reality.

# Visit [scarsdale sentinel.com](http://scarsdale sentinel.com)

# Upcoming Events at the Scarsdale Public Library

**Blood Drive** - Friday, April 11, 10:00 AM  
Save a life this year! Stop by the Scott Room to donate blood with the New York Blood Center. One in three people will need a blood transfusion during their lives. Blood can only be stored for 42 days, so there is a continuous need for the generosity of you and your community. Walk-ins are possible, but we strongly recommend registering to ensure a time slot that is convenient for you. <https://bit.ly/4hAdUDC>

## Chinese Movie Matinee - American Dreams in China (2013)

Saturday, April 12, 2025  
2:00 PM

Join us in the Scott Room for a family friendly Chinese language film. This program works to provide Chinese families with an environment where their culture is celebrated and appreciated through films. Each film will be screened in either Mandarin or Cantonese with English subtitles. The film for April is the 2013 comedy drama American Dreams in China. Loosely based on the true story of the New Oriental Education & Technology Group, the film begins in 1985 during the start of China's study-abroad craze when students were convinced that the most reliable,

most prestigious way to get ahead was to study at an American school. <https://bit.ly/3DwpFNN>

## VIRTUAL: McCarthyism and the Scarsdale Schools - A Deep Dive into the Battle of the Books

Wednesday, April 16, 7:30 PM  
Join local history librarian Dan Glauber for this lecture on the Battle of the Books. From 1949 to 1954, a group of residents calling themselves the Committee of 10, and later the Citizens Committee, waged a battle against what they saw as the infiltration of Scarsdale schools by Communists and fellow travelers. <https://bit.ly/4kINLWn>

## Jazz Appreciation with David Schroeder

- Thursday, April 17, 4:30 PM  
Jazz lovers and anyone interested in music history won't want to miss this fascinating discussion from Dave Schroeder, musician and Music Professor of Jazz Studies at NYU Steinhardt! Join us in the Scott Room to hear some of the amazing anecdotes and insights from the talented artists and musicians he has interviewed over the years as well as a solo performance on some truly unique instruments such as the Mongolian ever buree. <https://bit.ly/4kJmPpc>

## Foot and Ankle Health with ONS

Friday, April 18, 12:00 PM  
Visit the Scott Room to learn from ONS foot and ankle surgeon Jordan Pasternack for an approachable and helpful look at the health of the foot. Full of excellent tips for avoiding the need to see a foot and ankle specialist especially as you age, this presentation will help keep you confidently active! There will be time for questions at the end. <https://bit.ly/4kriarX>

## Renewal: Music and Poetry Speak

Saturday, April 26, 2:30 PM  
The Scarsdale Public Library and the Hoff Barthelson Music School invite you to enjoy an afternoon of poetry and jazz. The event will showcase members of the Scarsdale Public Library poetry community and the Hoff-Barthelson Music School Adult Jazz Ensemble, under the direction of Ed Palermo. Refreshments will be served. <https://bit.ly/41TQiUK>

April is National Child Abuse Prevention Month, as well as Sexual Assault Awareness Month.

## Hybrid: I Ain't Done Yet! - Preventing And Recovering From Abuse

Tuesday, April 29, 7:00 PM  
Join local author and educator Letitia Gottsche for a courageous and empowering series of readings from her memoir I Ain't Done Yet!, a deeply personal collection of essays on survivorship, resilience, and kindness. A panel of speakers will join Ms. Gottsche to lead an in-depth discussion on recognizing abuse, understanding victim behaviors, and accessing community resources for healing. <https://bit.ly/4bWVTyf>

## Hybrid Film Discussion: It Ends With Us

Wednesday, April 30, 7:00 PM  
Please join us for this important discussion exploring the portrayal of domestic abuse in the recently released film, It Ends With Us. This will be a hybrid program, with the option to join either in the library or via Zoom with the option to interact with the discussion using the Q&A feature. This program is presented by the Scarsdale Public Library, the Junior League of Central Westchester, and The Scarsdale Edgemont Family Counseling Service's Scarsdale Safe Coalition. <https://bit.ly/3FuAJLV>

# Simone Development Joins with Yonkers Mayor Mike Spano to Welcome Italian Oven Restaurant to Boyce Thompson Center

Executives from Simone Development Companies joined with Yonkers Mayor Mike Spano and the owners of Italian Oven for a ribbon-cutting ceremony on March 12 to celebrate the grand opening of Italian Oven at the Boyce Thompson Center.

"Italian Oven is family owned and operated. My brother and myself are the owners and my two daughters Nicoletta and Cristina, and my brother's two daughters Amanda and Angelina will be running the restaurant," said Owner Anna Maria Oppedisano. "We will be serving a variety of different pizzas along with deliciously prepared pasta dishes stemming from Southern Italy. We take pride in our hospitality and the quality ingredients in our food," she added.

"We are delighted to welcome Italian Oven to our growing roster of retail tenants at the Boyce Thompson Center. These businesses are a great amenity not only for those who work at the Boyce Thompson Center and for patients visiting our medical tenants, but for the entire surrounding Yonkers community," said Joe Simone, President of Simone Development Companies.

Located at 1084-1088 North Broadway, the Boyce Thompson Center is an 85,000-square-foot mixed-use property featuring medical offices, retail shops and restaurants. The center offers free parking and a grand outdoor plaza with public seat-



Simone Development Director of Leasing Jeremy Schwartz; Salvatore Oppedisano; Operating Manager Cristina Sakellaridis; Operating Manager Nicoletta Sakellaridis; Owner Anna Maria Oppedisano; Mayor Mike Spano; Owner Peter Oppedisano; Operating Manager Amanda Oppedisano; Operating Manager Angelina Oppedisano and Simone Development Property Manager Giovanni Puerta.

ing. Medical tenants include St. John's Riverside Hospital, Westmed Medical Group/Summit Health, Columbia Doctors, Mount Sinai Doctors, ENT and Allergy Associates, Motion PT, Metro Vein Centers, Gastroenterology of Westchester and Riverside Dental. Retail tenants include Tompkins Mahopac Bank, Soyo Nails, Hudson River Vision, Family Wellness Pharmacy, Juvanni Med Spa, Family Wellness Pharmacy, The Taco Project, Enbu Asian Fusion, Starbucks, Executive Wine & Spirits and Fresh & co.

About Simone Development Companies -- Simone Development Companies is a full-service real estate investment company specializing in the acquisition and development of healthcare, mixed-use, office, industrial, retail and residential properties. Headquartered at the Hutchinson Metro Center, it boasts a portfolio of over 7 million square feet throughout the Bronx, Manhattan, Queens, Long Island, Westchester County, Orange and Fairfield Counties and New Jersey. With expertise spanning

acquisition, development, construction, finance, asset management, accounting, leasing and property management, Simone Development Companies is set apart by its vertically integrated management team, long-term asset ownership and its pursuit of visionary development.

# Hey Dad, Can I Borrow Some Money?



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

We all want to do right by our children. Sometimes, even as adults, our children encounter cash flow issues and need a little help. So, as parents we are often called upon to lend money to our children. As lawyers, we hear similar stories all the time: parent advances money to a child and the child is not making payments on the loan. So, the legal question is how should you handle loans in an estate plan? Should the outstanding balance of the loan count against the child's inheritance on your death? Alternatively, do you wish to forgive the child's loan on your death?

Let us start off by saying that there is no right or wrong way to do this. You should do what is appropriate for you and your family. There is no requirement that you make your beneficiaries repay

loans, and there is no prohibition against doing so. You get to do what you want. However, it is important for you to be clear in your estate planning documents what your intentions are. Even if your children are getting along while you are alive, lack of clarity regarding repayment of loans may cause problems after your death; especially if the other children did not know about the loan or how much it was for. Perhaps you did not actually "loan" the money at all. Maybe you intended it to be a gift, with no strings attached. Or maybe you intended to reduce that child's share of your estate by the loan amount. What about interest on the loan? Perhaps you did not realize that the IRS may impute interest income to you on certain intra-family loans or may treat the forgiveness of certain loans as a gift.

Over the years, we have seen many different scenarios involving gifts or loans to family members. For example, one client advanced his daughter Jenna \$150,000 to help her make a down payment on her new home. After she bought the home, she started paying back the money, even though the client told her she did not have to. Another client paid his son Kyle's college tuition, which amounted to over \$200,000 over four years. Kyle is now a successful businessman and although the parent never expected to be repaid, he was

surprised that John never even offered. So, what do you do? If Jenna were your daughter, would you reduce her inheritance by the amount of money, which was not returned, that you gave her to buy a new home. If Kyle were your son, would you consider treating your payment of his college tuition as an advancement on his share of your estate? These are tough questions that require deep thought and communication with all interested family members in order to minimize potential problems down the road. Whatever you decide, you should consider adding language in your will or trust just to make things clear.

To make sure that your estate planning documents are clear with respect to your intentions regarding family loans, you should make sure your attorney knows about all loans or any advancements that could potentially be treated as loans. To avoid unnecessary litigation, it is important for your documents to be precise. One of your children might not be happy if they feel that they were not treated equally. If you think one of your children owes you money, please tell us about it so that we may address it as part of the estate planning process. If some of the loan has already been paid off, we need to know about that too. Since these situations often change over time, you should make a point of keeping us up to

date periodically so that your estate plan continues to reflect your most current wishes.

All too often, family loans end up under the category of "no good deed goes unpunished" and sometimes lead to family strife or worse, costly litigation among family members. Do yourself and your family a favor, please be clear about your intentions and communicate those intentions to all necessary parties.

Remember, you can also structure the money to your child as a gift instead of a loan. You can gift up to \$19,000 a year to your child without having to file a gift tax return. You can gift more than the \$19,000 a year, but you will need to file a gift tax return and your federal estate tax exemption will decrease. In some circumstances, this may be a better option than a loan.

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

## Table Hopping with Morris Gut: Jill's Holds Official Grand Opening

Partners Ro Flanagan and Chef Brendan Donohue of Jill's Bar & Restaurant gathered with Mamaroneck Town officials and members of the Mamaroneck Chamber of Commerce for a ribbon cutting ceremony on March 14th. Town Supervisor Jaine Elkind Eney officiated.

Dynamic hostess Ro Flanagan conceived of Jill's, a colorful ode to modern Ireland. Walk inside the airy dining room and be lavished with a palette of colors: blue, green, pink, orange, yellow and flowery murals covering the walls. The daylight spills through large picture windows highlighting the long sparkling bar and marble mosaic tiled floors and artwork. Contemporary lighting and multi-color velvet cushioned high tops and tables surround the room. There is a semi-private banquette seating area for greater intimacy.

Chef Donohue's kitchen serves a winning combination of gastropub favorites, modern-American and European specialties along with a good dose of



Center - Ro Flanagan (Green Jacket) Flanked by Chef Brendan Donohue and Mamaroneck Town Supervisor Jaine Elkind Eney

hospitality. The Fried Chicken Sandwich is a winner. Changing specialties include Truffle Parm Fries, Chili Roasted Cauliflower, Lobster Cobb Salad, Braised Beef Short Ribs, Ahi Tuna

Bowl, and Surf & Turf Tacos.

A relaxing Weekend Brunch is served Saturday & Sunday, 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. Specialties include Egglettes, Benny's, Irish Mammy's Eggs & Soldiers,

Kale Caesar Salad, and Chicken & Biscuits. There is a bottomless brunch option.

The house prides itself on a variety of curated specialty cocktails, draft and bottled beers, and vintage wines. The bar is a great place for networking. Happy hours feature specially priced cocktails and bar snacks: Tuesday through Thursday, 4 p.m. to 6 p.m.

The same group also operate popular Jack's Bar & Restaurant in Eastchester along with founder Shane Clifford.

Jill's, 100 W. Boston Post Road, Mamaroneck, off the corner of Mamaroneck Ave. Happy Hours. Weekend brunch. Closed Mondays. 914-341-1776 [www.jillsbarandrestaurant.com](http://www.jillsbarandrestaurant.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 over 30 years. He may be reached at: 914-235-6591. Email: [gutreactions@optonline.net](mailto:gutreactions@optonline.net))*

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# Scarsdale Sentinel



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# Calendar of Events



## Bartow-Pell Mansion Museum & Gardens

### Secret Garden Party Fundraiser

895 Shore Road, Bronx

Step into Bartow-Pell's enchanted secret garden for an unforgettable evening! Join us at the beautiful mansion for a night of delightful cocktails, then extend your experience with dinner at select private venues hosted by generous supporters of the museum. It will be a night of beauty, connections and fundraising for this wonderful gem. \* silent auction & raffle. Cocktail party from 5:00-7:00pm at the mansion. Dinner 7:30 pm at various locations. Garden Glam attire. Ticket prices: Cocktail party \$125, Cocktail party at the door \$150, Cocktail party and dinner \$250. <https://www.bartowpellmansionmuseum.org/events/save-the-date-secret-garden-party-fundraiser/>



### Cosmic Splendor: Jewelry from the Collections of Van Cleef & Arpels

Opening April 11

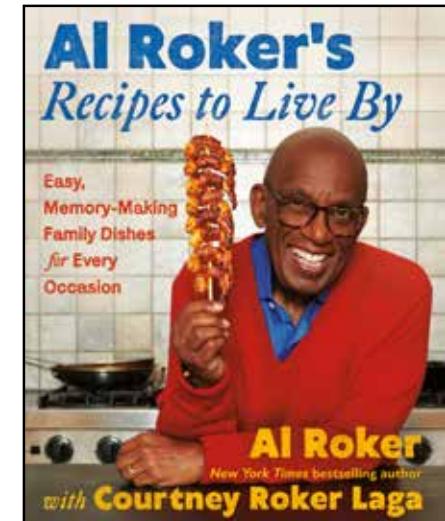
American Museum of Natural History  
200 Central Park West, New York, NY

A stunning assemblage of astronomically inspired jewelry from the collections of the renowned French High Jewelry Maison founded in Paris' Place Vendôme in 1906. From dramatic necklaces depicting rockets in flight to gem-encrusted pendants inspired by distant nebulae and watches with intricate mechanisms that trace the transit of planetary bodies, Cosmic Splendor will feature nearly 70 celestial, mythological, and astrological jewelry creations that celebrate the wonders and mysteries of the cosmos. Visit <https://www.amnh.org/exhibitions/cosmic-jewelry-van-cleef-and-arpels-collection>



### Whiskers and Tails at Weinberg Nature Center

The Weinberg Nature Center's Whiskers and Tails event on Saturday, April 5, from 1 to 2:30 p.m. at the open amphitheater will feature a native wildlife presentation and interactive discussion. Wildlife rehabilitators from the center and Pennsylvania will introduce participants to rabbits, flying squirrels, groundhogs, and more, exploring their role in the ecosystem and what to do if an injured animal is found. Best suited for ages 4 and up, the event costs \$15 per individual and \$40 per family for residents, \$17 per individual and \$46 per family for those in the Mamaroneck Strip, and \$18 per individual and \$48 per family for non-residents. Space is limited to 30 participants. Register at [scarsdale.gov/catalog](https://scarsdale.gov/catalog) or call 914-722-1160. For more information, contact WNC Director Sam Weinstock at [sweinstock@scarsdale.gov](mailto:sweinstock@scarsdale.gov).



### Al Roker's Recipes to Live By

Easy, Memory-Making Family Dishes for Every Occasion

Al Roker  
New York Times bestselling author  
with Courtney Roker Laga

### Recipes to Live By: An Evening with Al Roker and Courtney Roker Laga

Thursday, April 3, 2025, 7 to 8:30pm at Scarsdale Middle School, \$50 (cookbook included) Meet Al Roker, New York's most famous weatherman, and his daughter, Courtney Roker Laga, as they discuss their new family cookbook, Al Roker's Recipes to Live By in conversation with Jonathan Aubrey, owner of the Scarsdale restaurant Micheline. Registration is now open for this special community event at [https://scarsdale.augusoft.net/index.cfm?method=ClassInfo.ClassInformation&int\\_class\\_id=13190&int\\_category\\_id=10&int\\_sub\\_category\\_id=113&int\\_catalog\\_id=0](https://scarsdale.augusoft.net/index.cfm?method=ClassInfo.ClassInformation&int_class_id=13190&int_category_id=10&int_sub_category_id=113&int_catalog_id=0). Please note: Registration includes a copy of the cookbook.

## Scarsdale Action for Youth

### Upcoming Webinars & Support Groups

April 8 - Launch, Don't Crash: Tips to Help them Fly the Nest

From managing anxiety and homesickness to improving sleep, brain health, and understanding the risks of drugs and alcohol, this session will provide parents with practical strategies to start now—so when the time comes to fly the nest, they're prepared to soar. Register at <https://share.hsforms.com/2ACIcPcxVS6iXp89abvDL-9wrs9fo>. Scarsdale Edgemont Family Counseling Service (SFCS), an accredited family service agency, is the Lead Agency and Fiscal Agent for Scarsdale Action for Youth.

### Lasdon Park and Arboretum's GreenScape Expo

April 5 from 8am to 4pm  
Learn a variety of ways to enhance outdoor spaces from industry experts. Attendees will have the opportunity to gain valuable insights from industry professionals; learn from live demonstrations and guided garden tours; browse diverse gardening supplies, outdoor decor and innovative landscape solutions all within the scenic grounds of Lasdon Park. Additionally, guests will be able to explore the lush tropical courtyard inside Lasdon's Conservatory, browse and meet a diverse range of vendors and enjoy delicious options from local food trucks. Tickets are available online only at [LasdonPark.org](https://LasdonPark.org) and are \$20 for adults, \$15 for seniors, and children 14 and under are free. Lasdon Park and Arboretum is a Westchester County Park on Route 35 in Katonah. The GPS address is 2610 Amawalk Road, Katonah, NY 10536.

Friday Night Concert Series: Rocky Middleton Jazz Ensemble  
April 4 at 7pm  
New Rochelle Public Library

### 1 Library Plaza, New Rochelle

Celebrate Jazz Appreciation Month with the Rocky Middleton Jazz Ensemble, performing classics from Duke Ellington, Miles Davis, and more. Experience the magic of America's greatest jazz legends live! Registration requested at [bit.ly/RockyJazz\\_04\\_2025](https://bit.ly/RockyJazz_04_2025)

### Attention: All 7th Graders!

Join the Salt Marsh Ecology After-School Program—a FREE, hands-on adventure where you'll explore, compete, and protect your local environment like a real scientist! Led by four passionate MHS juniors from the OCRA initiative, this program will have you: Conducting real environmental research; Participating in exciting, competitive activities (with prizes!); and Making a difference in your community. Tuesdays & Thursdays | 3:30-4:45 PM. Hommocks Conservation Area (behind Hommocks Middle School). April 22, 24, 29 & May 1, 6, 8, 13, 15. Express your interest now by filling out the form at [https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSfHnM3fSj0pe87Ub\\_wITTe91H9mNA7xU\\_7Q9bb-KjJ\\_8Zj7jQ/viewform](https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSfHnM3fSj0pe87Ub_wITTe91H9mNA7xU_7Q9bb-KjJ_8Zj7jQ/viewform)

### New Rochelle Art Association Dermot Gale Award Show: 2025

April 7 - 23, Regular Library Hours  
New Rochelle Public Library  
1 Library Plaza, New Rochelle  
Opening Reception, Tuesday April 8, 5 - 6:30 pm  
The New Rochelle Art Association presents  
The Dermot Gale Memorial Award for best 2D piece. This award was founded by Dermot Gale's family after his death in 1983. He was a former president of the Association, and an architect and painter who resided in Pelham and was a dedicated and active member of the Art Association for 40 years. There will be monetary prizes for the Dermot Gale Award (best 2D piece) and

Best of Show (\$100 each) as well as ribbons in all categories.

### Fundraising Concert for ALS United Greater New York

April 15, Cocktail Reception at 5:30, Performances start at 7:00 pm  
The Concert Hall, SUNY Purchase, 735 Anderson Hill Road, Purchase  
A one-of-a-kind fundraising concert for the ALS United Greater New York featuring a star-studded event honoring acclaimed producer and engineer Wayne Warnecke, a Westchester native battling ALS. "Musicians United for ALS," will feature an all-star lineup of musical talent and will raise funds to support those affected by the disease. Organized by Westchester musician Mickey Rosen, and supported by Title Sponsor The Lasdon Foundation, the evening will be MC'd by Vincent Pastore of The Sopranos and led by celebrated arranger and producer Rob Mathes as musical director. The evening will feature well-known talent including: Patty Smyth (Scandal), Paul Shaffer (Late Show with David Letterman), Rob Thomas (Matchbox Twenty), Chris Jasper (Isley Brothers), Average White Band and Lisa Fischer (Grammy Winning R&B Artist). A silent auction will feature exclusive items, including a signed tennis ball from John McEnroe and a guitar signed by Rob Thomas. Ticket Link: <https://alsunitedgreaternewyork.ticketspice.com/a-night-for-wayne>

### Tween Book Club Discussion: Squire & Knight by Scott Chantler

April 8, 4:30 - 5:30 pm  
New Rochelle Public Library  
1 Library Plaza, New Rochelle  
Join us for snacks, trivia, and to chat about this month's book club pick, Not Quite a Ghost by Anne Ursu. Registration for each discussion

begins four weeks before each discussion date. The first 10 registrants will be given a free copy of the book! Register by calling 914-813-3716 or visiting the Desk in the Children's Room. Location: 2nd Floor Meeting Room

### An Egyptian Celebration!

April 19, 3:00 - 3:45 pm  
New Rochelle Public Library  
1 Library Plaza, New Rochelle  
April is Arab-American Heritage Month! Celebrate with some of the colorful & festive traditions of Egypt. Families will see & experience the whirling dervish, the saidi stick dance & even a horse puppet will join in on the fun! Ages 4- 12. Location: Ossie Davis Theater

### Adult Art Workshop - Paper Weaving Workshop: Inspired by Ruth Asawa & Contemporary Women Artists

April 24, 10:00 am - 12:00pm  
New Rochelle Public Library  
1 Library Plaza, New Rochelle  
Discover the art of paper weaving in this hands-on workshop inspired by Ruth Asawa and contemporary women artists. Using magazines, printed materials, and found papers, you'll create a unique, frame-worthy work of art. All materials, including frames, will be provided—just bring your creativity! Location: 1st Floor Meeting Room



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