

Scarsdale Sentinel



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Scarsdale Board Plans for Property Tax Cap

BY STEPHEN E. LIPKEN

Scarsdale Mayor Justin K. Arest noted at the March 10 board of trustees meeting that some municipal projects may have to be put off to balance the 2026-27 village budget. “New York State’s Property Tax Cap for us this year is approximately a 3.65 percent increase to the Tax Levy,” Arest said. “If you take the core cost drivers that we do not fully control, personnel costs offset by collective bargaining agreements, pension obligations and insurance markets, those increases alone make up five percent. The only way to stay within the tax cap is to defer maintenance.”



Mayor Justin K. Arest

Agenda Resolutions encompassed adopting a Negative State Environmental Quality Review Act (SEQRA) Determination for Proposed Village Pool Project; Construction of a Natatorium and Year-Round Bathhouse Building; Construc-

tion of Various Outdoor Pools; Consider Participation in the Long Island Sound Watershed Intermunicipal Council (LIS-WIC) and Approval of an Intermunicipal Agreement; License Agreement for Operation of Valet Parking Services; Accepting Gift of an Outfield Netting Systems from Scarsdale Travel Softball and Resolution Authorizing a Professional Service Agreement for Design Services for Sanitation Incinerator Building Demolition Project.

Arest recognized several meaningful March observances, including the joyful Jewish Purim holiday, and Holi, a festival of color celebrated by many in the Hindu community. “March is also a month of important month-long recognitions, including Women’s History Month honoring the contributions and achievements of women throughout our nation’s history. March 8 was also International Women’s Day.

“Irish-American Heritage Month was celebrated this month, recognizing the legacy of Irish-Americans in shaping our communities. For many residents, Ramadan is also underway. Ramadan is expected to continue through much of this month. To everyone observing I want to say, ‘Ramadan mubarak’ and wish you a month of

reflection, compassion and peace.” Arest noted that Eid al-fitr ends Ramadan and is on March 20 or 21, depending on sighting of the new crescent moon.

“St. Patrick’s Day is Tuesday, March 17 and because the third Tuesday in March happens to be St. Patrick’s Day, Election Day moves to Wednesday, March 18.”

The 2026 Scarsdale Bowl Dinner Honors Terri Simon and Scarsdale Historical Society

The annual Scarsdale Bowl Dinner is a celebration of the spirit of volunteerism that makes the community so special. Each year the Scarsdale Foundation honors those who have gone above and beyond in service to Scarsdale. This year, Terri Simon will receive the prestigious Bowl Award for more than three decades of dedicated volunteerism. The Scarsdale Historical Society will be honored with the Spotlight Award, celebrating its remarkable contributions to village life in Scarsdale since 1973.

The Scarsdale Bowl Dinner will



be held on Thursday, April 23, at the Mamaroneck Beach & Yacht Club, 555 South Barry Avenue. This fun and uplifting event is open to everyone in

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JCCMW Celebrates 70 Years of Community, Culture and Connection

The Jewish Community Center Mid-Westchester (JCCMW) in Scarsdale celebrated 70 years of community, culture, and connection at its Annual Benefit on March 8. The milestone evening honored the generations who built the organization's foundation and the young leaders shaping its future.

In 1955, 22 families met to establish what was originally known as the Y, now the JCCMW. In 1967, with the support of dozens of founding families, the organization broke ground on its current Wilmot Road location.

For seven decades, the JCCMW remained true to its core mission: enriching the lives of families in the community through programs that inspire, support, and bring people together. The evening honored The Arnow Family, David Raizen, Jill and Robert Serling, and Elaine and Alan Weiler, who represented the original founding families of the JCCMW for their lasting impact on the organization. Teen volunteers Eli Friedlander, Kate Glick, Micah Grandwetter, and Alexis Levine were recognized for their dedication, commitment, and service, representing the bright future of the JCCMW community.

"The JCC Mid-Westchester is a place where people feel safe, people feel proud, and people feel welcome," shared Elise Dowell, JCCMW CEO. "I am so excited to see what the next 70 years hold for the JCCMW."

To learn more about the JCCMW, visit jccmw.org.



Elise Dowell, Rachel Moseley (JCCMW Board President) and elected officials Mayor of Scarsdale Justin Arest, Mayor of New Rochelle Yadira Ramos-Herbert, New York State Assemblywoman Amy Paulin, White Plains Common Council President Victoria Presser, Westchester County Executive Ken Jenkins, Westchester County Legislator Judah Holstein, and Congressman George Latimer.

914Cares Appoints Lisa Horten as New CEO

914Cares, Westchester County's leading nonprofit dedicated to addressing basic needs insecurity, appointed Lisa Horten as its new Chief Executive Officer.

Horten brings a strong background in nonprofit leadership, community engagement, and strategic development to her new role. Since 2021, she has been deeply involved in advancing 914Cares' mission and has demonstrated a steadfast commitment to ensuring that families in Westchester have access to essential resources, including diapers, clothing, and hygiene products.

Horten will lead the organization's strategic vision, expand partnerships, and strengthen programs that support vulnerable children and families throughout the county.

"Lisa's passion for service, deep understanding of our community, and proven leadership make her the ideal person to lead 914Cares into its next chapter," said Jessica Reinmann, Founder and Chairman of the Board of Directors of 914Cares. "We are confident that under her guidance, our impact will continue to grow."

Since joining the organization as Chief External Relations Officer in 2021, Horten has led 914Cares' development efforts, securing key partnerships with foundations and donors to significantly increase its revenue and strengthen capacity.

Prior to joining 914Cares, she had a 15-year editorial career in digital and print media, and has extensive experience in community leadership through various Westchester non-profits. In 2024, Horten, a Pelham resident, was named a New York State Assembly Woman of Distinction by Assemblymember Amy Paulin.

"I'm immensely honored to be entrusted with leading this incredible organization, which makes such a difference for families across Westchester County," said Horten. "The tight-knit collaboration of our dedicated staff, volunteers, community partners, boards, and supporters truly sets us apart, and allows us to maximize our impact throughout the community."

As CEO, Horten will focus on expanding 914Cares' capacity to meet growing demand, strengthening the community partner network, and ensuring that more Westchester families have access to basic essentials.



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Catherine Borgia Appointed Acting Director of the Westchester County Office for Women

Westchester County Executive Ken Jenkins appointed Catherine Borgia Acting Director of the Office for Women, citing her decades-long commitment to advancing the rights of women and children, and her proven record of leadership in public service, advocacy and organizational transformation.

A lifelong advocate for gender equity, economic justice and reproductive autonomy, Borgia brings more than 25 years of experience championing policies that expand opportunity and protect vulnerable communities.

Jenkins said: "As a County, we are committed to protecting and empowering women, children and all members of protected classes. Throughout Catherine's career, she has been a fearless advocate for pay equity, access to childcare, reproductive health protections, safe leave for victims of intimate partner violence and due process. She understands that advancing equality requires both strong policy and compassionate leadership. She is the right person to lead the Office for Women at this critical moment."

Borgia said: "I am grateful for this opportunity and I thank County Executive Jenkins for this role. In this office, our focus will be clear, we will work every day to ensure wom-



en and families in Westchester have access to economic opportunity, reproductive autonomy, safe communities and the support systems they deserve. We will continue to stand up for survivors of violence, advance equity in the workplace, and protect the rights of all protected classes. Equality is not abstract – it is about real people, real families and real futures."

Most recently, Borgia has served as

Special Advisor to the County Executive on Women and Families, following six terms as a Westchester County Legislator representing the 9th District. During her tenure on the Board of Legislators, she served as Chair of the Board, Chair of the Budget and Appropriations Committee, Majority Leader and Chair of multiple key committees. In these leadership roles, she helped restore the County's fiscal health, guided budgetary and economic development initiatives, and ensured County policies centered women, families and marginalized residents.

Borgia currently serves as staff coordinator for the Westchester Gun Violence Prevention Task Force, focusing on the impact of gun violence on survivors and families. Her advocacy has consistently elevated the voices of those most affected, particularly women and children who experience disproportionate harm from violence and economic instability.

Borgia holds an MBA from New York University's Stern School of Business and a bachelor's degree from Binghamton University. She is a lifetime member of the Girl Scouts of America, an active community volunteer and the recipient of numerous awards recognizing her leadership and service.

The 2026 Scarsdale Bowl Dinner Honors Terri Simon and Scarsdale Historical Society

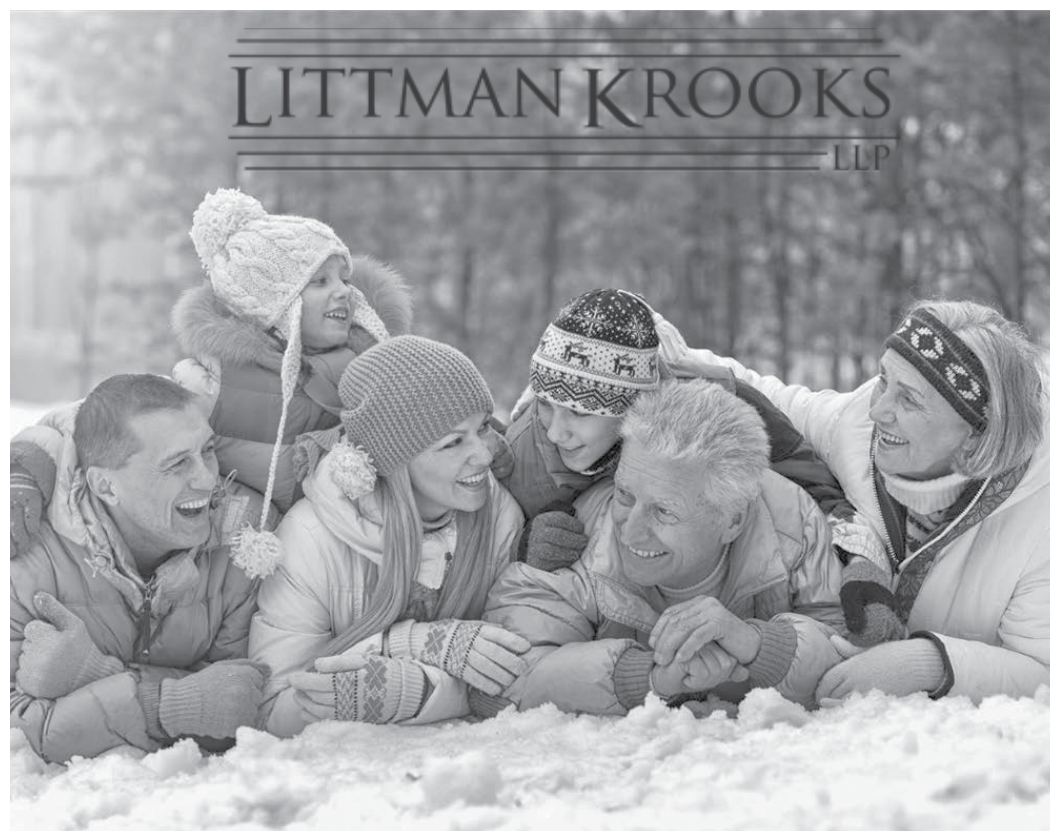
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Scarsdale! Whether you're a longtime resident or a first-time attendee, come connect with neighbors, enjoy heartfelt tributes, and be part of this unique gathering in Scarsdale.

"People come to Scarsdale for many reasons," said Scarsdale Bowl committee chair Pam Fuehrer. "Once settled, they notice how highly-treasured community bonds are formed around volunteerism. The connective tissue of our town is clearly neighbors helping neighbors. This unique core of Scarsdale is strengthened by action and is exponentially enhanced by inspiration. Terri and the Scarsdale Historical Society are devoted to both. With deep gratitude and joy, let's come together and salute their impact!"

For more information about the Scarsdale Foundation Bowl Dinner or the honorees, visit www.scarsdalefoundation.org.

To RSVP and learn about the impact of your support, or to be a corporate partner, go to www.wizevents.com/scarsdalefoundation2026.



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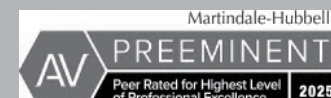
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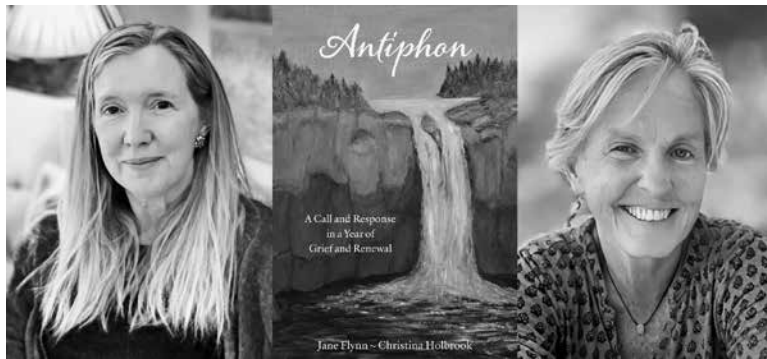
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Scarsdale Friends Publish Memoir



Christina Holbrook and Jane Flynn

Two friends find themselves confronting live-shattering circumstances: the death of a child by suicide and the diagnosis of a glioblastoma brain tumor. Engulfed by pain, they ask each other: “What if? What if we just write to each other? Anything. Just write.”

Over the course of the next year, these two women—one in New York City, the other in the Rocky Mountains of Colorado—embark on a deliberate correspondence to rescue themselves and each other from overwhelming grief. Their words would become a lifeline and the inspiration for the new memoir *Antiphon: A Call and Response in a Year of Grief and Renewal* (Ikaros Books). As the months pass, the act of writing and bearing witness to one another transforms each woman’s journey through terrible loss into a courageous affirmation of resilience and of lives well lived.

“We’ve been friends for over forty-five years, since high school,” Chris and Jane explain, remembering with humor their experiences as the awkward and unlikely co-captains of the Scarsdale High School JV Field Hockey team. Both women went on to attend Wellesley College outside Boston. “But our adult lives took very different trajectories, and part of what this epistolary project allowed us to explore, as we reckoned with grief and mortality, were those experiences that we all share, that make us who we are as human beings: the desire for love, the challenge of navigating close personal relationships, the reality of grief and loss, the longing for a life of meaning.

“We have loved these months of corre-

sponding with each other for the simple yet life-affirming feeling of having someone to walk with in the deep woods. We have come to believe that the conversation between us could resonate with others. And if this is so, then that is grace.”

About the Authors: Jane Flynn Jane received her bachelor’s degree from Wellesley College, and her JD from Harvard Law School. She left family, friends and profession behind to follow her future husband to Athens, Greece, in 1990. She learned Greek and, over the next 30 years, raised two sons while navigating the services to support her younger son with autism, cofounding an autism advocacy nonprofit and serving on the board of the Mediterranean Garden Society. Jane returned to New York in late 2020 following the death of her younger son by suicide. *Antiphon* is her first published work.

Christina Holbrook Christina graduated with a bachelor’s degree from Wellesley College and spent most of her career in New York City involved in the printing and publishing of art and photography books. She now lives in Breckenridge, Colorado, with her husband Alan. Christina has worked as a columnist for the Summit Daily newspaper in Colorado, and her short stories have appeared in a number of literary journals. All the Flowers of the Mountain, her first novel, was published by Sunroom Studios in 2022 and received the 2023 Colorado Book Award for Romance, the 2023 IPPY Bronze Medal for Romance, and the 2025 IPPY Silver Medal for Fiction Audiobook.

Scarsdale Business Alliance Empowers Next Generation Through Youth Alliance Program



The Scarsdale Business Alliance (SBA) is continuing its mission of strengthening the local business community by investing in its future leaders through the Scarsdale Business Youth Alliance (SBYA), a hands-on internship and leadership development program for local students.

Designed to bridge the gap between classroom learning and real-world experience, the SBYA gives students the opportunity to work directly alongside local business owners and community leaders. Participants gain exposure to marketing, communications, event management, and business development while contributing to real SBA initiatives and Village-wide events.

Through the program, students at-

tend monthly meetings, support community events, and collaborate on projects that directly impact Scarsdale’s business ecosystem. The experience is designed to build leadership, teamwork, and professional communication skills while reinforcing the importance of civic engagement and local economic vitality.

As the SBA continues to serve as the connector between businesses, the Village, and residents, the SBYA reflects a long-term commitment to building a strong, engaged, and locally invested next generation of Scarsdale leaders.

Learn more at <https://scarsdalebusinessalliance.com/scarsdale-youth-business-alliance/>

Friends of the Scarsdale Library Holds a Spring Fundraiser

The Friends of the Scarsdale Library will hold a Casino Royale Gala on Friday, April 17 at 7 PM at the Beach Point Club, 900 Rushmore Avenue, Mamaroneck. This year’s mission promises an evening of black-tie elegance, and high-stakes excitement—all in support of the Scarsdale Public Library. Prepare for a night worthy of James Bond himself: exquisite food and beverages, lively music, fun casino-style games, and an interactive balloon-pop raffle that will keep guests immersed in the action.

The 2024 gala raised more than \$140,000, and with your partnership, the Friends aim to surpass that achievement. Your support, by attending, sponsoring, or contributing to the silent auction/raffle, directly fuels library programming, concerts, classes, writing workshops, new technology, and more—ensuring that the Scarsdale Library remains an indispensable hub for learning, creativity, and community.

We invite Scarsdale residents and businesses to attend, become a gala sponsor and/or make a silent auction/raffle donation. These opportunities offer powerful community impact and exceptional visibility for your business or organization.

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2026 SPRING HOME & GARDEN IMPROVEMENT

Start Planning Now for a Thriving Spring Garden

(Family Features) While winter weather puts outdoor gardening on pause in most parts of the country, the colder months offer a perfect opportunity to begin preparing for a lush garden come springtime.

With a little creativity, and some extra time spent creating a plan, you can set yourself on a path toward success before the growing season even begins.

Assess Your Space and Research Ideas

Evaluate your current garden, taking note of what worked well last season and where improvements can be made. Use this downtime to sketch an updated layout, research companion plants and decide which fruits, vegetables or flowers you want to grow next based on what did (or didn't) work last spring.

Build an Updated Blueprint

Winter is the ideal time to upgrade your garden design and make tweaks for efficiency. Use the offseason to consider crop rotation patterns for optimal soil health as well as ways to maximize your space such as raised beds, trellises or containers. You can also make a list of materials needed for any new features you may be adding, such as an irrigation system, and map out their placement so you're ready to build as soon as the weather allows.

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prepare your garden beds by adding compost, leaves or organic matter in late winter, ensuring nutrients are available when spring arrives. Also remember to test your soil's pH level now, which can help guide your fertilization plan.

Start Seeds Indoors

If you're eager to get your hands dirty, consider starting your seeds indoors. Early seed starting gives plants a head start, allowing you to transplant stronger seedlings outdoors when temperatures warm.

Get Organized

Use the slower pace of winter to clean and sharpen your garden tools, sort through leftover seeds and make a supply checklist so you're ready to dig in when warmer days arrive.

Find more advice to get your garden ready to burst to life in spring at eLivingtoday.com. Photo courtesy of Shutterstock

Create a Cozy Outdoor Space with a Backyard Firepit

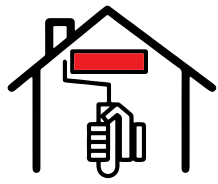
(Family Features) A firepit can serve as a warm and inviting backyard retreat, perfect for roasting marshmallows for s'mores or stargazing while wrapped in cozy blankets. Before you can share time around the firepit with loved ones, however, consider these tips to elevate your outdoor space.

Choosing the Right Design

When it comes to building a DIY firepit, the design you choose can significantly impact the aesthetics and functionality. From classic stone pits to modern metal designs, the options are nearly endless. Think about the size and shape as well. Circular designs are traditional and encourage conversation while square or rectangular pits offer a more contemporary look.

Gathering Materials and Tools

Essential materials include bricks, stones or metal parts for the structure, as well as gravel or sand for the base. Fireproof materials are a must to ensure safety and longevity. You'll also need tools such as a shovel for digging the base, a level to ensure even construction and adhesive or mortar for binding materials together. Depending on your design, you may require a metal fire ring, grill grate or mesh cover.



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Create a Cozy Outdoor Space with a Backyard Firepit

continued from page 8

Keeping Safety in Mind

Safety should be your top priority when building and using a backyard firepit. Always place your firepit at least 10 feet away from any structures, trees or flammable materials. Make sure the area is clear of dry leaves and other debris that could catch fire. Consider installing a spark screen to prevent embers from escaping and always keep a bucket of water or fire extinguisher nearby.



Enhancing Ambiance with Seating and Lighting

Creating a cozy atmosphere around your firepit involves more than just the fire itself. Comfortable seating is essential for making your outdoor space inviting. Choose weather-resistant chairs, benches or DIY log stools arranged in a circle to foster conversation. Ambient lighting from string lights, lanterns or solar-powered path lights can elevate the mood and extend the usability of your firepit into the evening. Consider adding citronella candles or torches to keep insects at bay while enhancing the ambiance.

Visit eLivingtoday.com to find more ideas to enhance your living spaces. Photo courtesy of Shutterstock



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Table Hopping with Morris Gut: Where to Dine After the Spring Orchid Show at

The annual Orchid Show at the New York Botanical Garden in the Bronx runs through April 26TH. This year's colorful theme: 'Mr. Flower Fantastic's Concrete Jungle'. (For additional info: www.nybg.org) After taking in all that beauty, we do get hungry. Here are a few great stops on the way back to Westchester...

BASILICO: This lovely dining room and bar opened 6 months ago by hospitality veterans Nick Demaliaj and Jetmir Arifaj. It is a global mix of Mediterranean/Italian/American specialties. Chef Leonardo Pavia offers such dishes as Spaghetti Bolognese, Squid Ink Linguine, Braised Short Ribs, Zuppa di Pesce, a surprising Coq au Vin, even a big juicy Wagyu Truffle Burger. Nick & Jetonir had worked previously worked at the iconic Russian Tea Room in Manhattan. Open 7 days for lunch, dinner, weekend brunch. Prix fixe

lunches available. Basilico Restaurant, 142 Fifth Ave., Pelham. 914-740-5900 www.basilicopelham.com

PELHAM PIZZERIA: Pelham Pizzeria & Ristorante has been marking over 45 years in Pelham with a classic Italian American menu and first-rate pizza specialties. The display case beckons with its fresh baked pizzas by the slice: Sausage Pie with signature lumps of tasty sausage; Spinach Pie, White Pizza, and Chicken Cutlet Pie. Many of the classic Italian American red-sauce favorites are here: Veal, Chicken, Shrimp or Eggplant Parmigiana; Homemade Lasagna; Baked Manicotti; Veal or Chicken Francese; Shrimp Scampi; Veal Marsala; and hearty Grilled Chicken with Broccoli Rabe and Potatoes. Portions are generous. Pelham Pizzeria & Ristorante, 113 Fifth Ave., Pelham. Phone: 914-738-3554.

www.pelhampizzeria.com

ONE RARE STEAKHOUSE: Veteran restaurateur Harry Sinanaj of Ben & Jack's Steakhouse in Manhattan has opened Westchester's newest upscale bastion of beef at the former Zachy's Wine Shop space right in the Village of Scarsdale. The team at this handsomely designed 120-seat restaurant with sparkling bar will lavish you. From Chef Admir's kitchen come such specialties as: a daily selection of East or West Coast Oysters, Wedge Salad, Pappardelle with short ribs, classic Surf &

Turf, Porterhouse for 2 or more, and Tomahawk Steak. The bar is already a hot spot. Opens at 4 p.m.; weekends from 11:30 a.m. One Rare Italian Steakhouse, 16 East Parkway, Scarsdale. 914-330-8488 www.oneraresteakhouse.com

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

Scarsdale Police Blotter

Thursday, February 19, 2026, 2:37 PM: A 28-year-old Yonkers woman was hit by a Mercedes-Benz as she walked in the crosswalk on Christie Place. The woman said she was not injured, and police issued a summons for failure to yield to a pedestrian to the 80-year-old driver.

Saturday, February 21, 2026, 1:25 PM: Scarsdale police and firefighters responding to a report of a car fire on Ogden Road, found a vehicle engulfed in flames. The car's owner told police his vehicle began to smoke while he was driving on the Bronx River Parkway, so he pulled off onto Ogden Road and the car burst into flames. He was not injured, and the fire was extinguished.

Wednesday, February 25, 2026, 2:11 PM: A 26-year-old Bronx man was charged with speeding and third-degree aggravated unlicensed operation of a motor vehicle after a traffic stop on Popham Road.

Wednesday, February 25, 2026, 2:55 PM: A Tompkins Road resident reported that he received delivery of a coin worth \$1,267 but the package was empty and appeared to have been tampered with.

Thursday, February 26, 2026, 12:06 PM: After a traffic stop on Mamaroneck Road, a New Rochelle man received summonses for driving an uninspected motor vehicle and third-degree aggravated unlicensed operation of a motor vehicle.

Sunday, March 1, 2026, 5:47 PM: A 27-year-old Eastchester woman was issued citations for speeding, third-degree aggravated unlicensed operation of a motor vehicle, and operating a motor vehicle without insurance after police stopped her car on Post Road.

Monday, March 2, 2026, 2:28 PM: A Scarsdale man reported that a sticker was placed on the window of his car after he parked illegally in a lot on Overhill Avenue. After police told him the sticker was put on his car for unauthorized parking and could be removed, the man said he would pursue litigation to resolve the matter.

Monday, March 2, 2026, 5:15 PM: A fraudulent Verizon account was opened using the name of a resident of Fox Meadow Road.

Tuesday, March 3, 2026, 6:28 AM: A 28-year-old Mount Vernon man was issued summonses for failing to stop at a stop sign, third-degree aggravated unlicensed operation of a motor vehicle and operating a motor vehicle without insurance after police stopped his car on Walworth Avenue.

Wednesday, March 4, 2026, 4:06 PM: A Fenimore Road resident told police that her identity was used to open fraudulent WhatsApp and Wells Fargo Bank accounts.

Friday, March 6, 2026, 3:36 PM: A Scarsdale man reported that he purchased baseball cards on eBay for \$671.12, but only received an empty box from the seller.

Saturday, March 7, 2026, 4:31 AM: A Post Road resident told police that three times in the last hour, a man parked in his driveway and knocked on his front door before driving away. He did not recognize the man.

Sunday, March 8, 2026, 1:45 AM: Koranjaly Ramirez Concepcion, 45, of Yonkers was charged with driving while intoxicated, refusing to take a breath test, speeding, and resisting arrest after police stopped his 2020 Jeep on Post Road.

Standalone Trusts vs. Sub-Trusts



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

If you're having your estate planning prepared and want to create a trust for a child or family member, should you set up a standalone trust, or include trust provisions within your existing estate plan?

A standalone trust is a separate trust document created as its own standalone document. It is distinct from your main estate plan but can be referenced in your will or revocable living trust.

For example, your revocable trust might say that when you pass away, your assets should go into the "John Doe 2026 Trust," which was set up under a separate agreement on March 3, 2026. This separate document is called a standalone trust because it exists on its own, separate from your revocable trust.

The other option is a sub-trust, which is a trust that is written directly into your main will or revocable trust. This type of trust is not created until after you pass away. If it is created through a will, it only takes effect after the estate goes through probate, meaning it cannot avoid the probate process.

The purpose of the trust often drives whether you use a standalone trust or a sub-trust. Is it a special needs trust to protect a beneficiary who receives public benefits? Is it a descendants separate trust for one of your children? Do you want other beneficiaries to be able to see the terms of the trust?

Standalone trusts tend to be more ex-

pansive and complex, but they offer several benefits outlined below.

- **Simplified Administration** – Trustees may avoid showing the full estate plan to banks or financial institutions.
- **Avoids Probate** – Unlike testamentary trusts under a Will, a standalone trust can operate immediately upon funding without probate delays.
- **Flexible Amendments** – Changes can target the standalone trust without affecting your main trust.
- **Facilitates Gifts from Others** – Family members can contribute directly to the standalone trust.
- **Comprehensive Coverage** – Standalone trusts can address more contingencies than a sub-trust, without overloading the primary trust document.

A standalone trust often offers stronger protection, more flexibility, and can sometimes be easier to manage. However, whether it makes sense to create a separate trust depends on your situation, the size of your estate, and whether you expect to make changes in the near future.

If the trust's purpose is straightforward, funding is minimal, or the trust ends at a certain age then embedding trust provisions in your revocable trust or will may suffice. This keeps the plan simpler, especially if you don't anticipate major changes in the near future.

Discuss your goals with an estate planning attorney. Together, you can weigh the cost/benefit trade-offs and determine the most practical solution for your family.

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). (914-684-2100) www.littmankrooks.com

Westchester Jewish Community Services (WJCS) will hold its 2026 Gala on Wednesday, April 15 at Brae Burn Country Club in Purchase at 6:30 PM. The evening will celebrate visionary leaders and partners whose dedication and innovation have profoundly strengthened the Westchester community.

At this year's Gala, WJCS will honor:

- Marion Morgenthal, co-founder of POINT (Pursuing Our INdependence Together), an independent living community in White Plains that empowers young adults with developmental disabilities to live with dignity, purpose, and increasing independence.
- Joe Torre Safe At Home, WJCS's partner in operating Margaret's Place, a nationally recognized school-based initiative dedicated to breaking the cycle of domestic violence and abuse through education, counseling, and empowerment.
- Yael Friedland, recipient of the Young Leadership Award and founder of Share Shabbat, a WJCS program that connects volunteers with Holocaust survivors across Westchester to deliver monthly Shabbat meals, foster meaningful connections, and preserve powerful personal histories.

"Our 2026 Gala honorees have made a remarkable impact on individuals and families facing complex and often overwhelming life challenges," said Seth Diamond, CEO of WJCS. "Through vision, compassion, and extraordinary commitment, they have developed innovative programs that not only meet urgent needs, but transform lives. We are deeply honored to celebrate their leadership and grateful that they are part of the WJCS community."

The 2026 Gala will bring together community leaders, philanthropists, and advocates to support WJCS's comprehensive programs serving children, adults, seniors, and families throughout Westchester County. Proceeds from the event will sustain critical services in mental health, trauma recovery, disability support, senior care, and community-based initiatives that provide hope and stability to thousands each year.

The WJCS April 15th Gala will also be debuting a special photography exhibit featuring Holocaust survivors from Westchester County. The portraits were taken by Armonk resident Yael Friedland.

To learn about WJCS Gala sponsorship opportunities and ticket information, go to www.wjcs.com/2026-gala.

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Scarsdale Calendar of Events



Threads of Connection: Traditional Forms, Contemporary Stories
Saturday, April 11 to Sunday, July 26
Hammond Museum & Japanese Stroll Garden, 28 Deveau Road, North Salem

Artists Mohamed A. Yakub and Jane Wilson-Marquis transform fabric into narrative, light into form, and garments into cultural bridges. A garment is never just attire. It holds memories, signals change, and carries culture across borders and generations. For more information,

email info@hammondmuseum.org.



Flower House & Market
Saturday, April 18, Sunday, April 19, 10 AM to 5 PM
Lyndhurst, 635 South Broadway, Tarrytown

The Gilded Age Lyndhurst mansion is transformed into three floors of a floral wonderland. Back and bigger than ever, Flower House is the continuation of the popular Flower Show, where floral designers transform Lyndhurst with over-the-top botanical displays that highlight and harmonize with Lyndhurst's opulent interiors and picturesque landscape. Tickets are \$29 to \$35. Learn more at <https://lyndhurst.org/events/lyndhurst-flower-house/>.

Credits: Installation by Penny Karvounis Flowers, photograph by Liflander Photography



Spring Bird Walk
Sunday, April 19, 8:30 AM to 10 AM

Untermeyer Gardens Conservancy, 945 North Broadway, Yonkers

Join Nelson Rodriguez for a morning of birdwatching. In addition to year-round residents, participants will encounter birds on their spring migration, such as finches, sparrows, warblers, and others. This walk is appropriate

for beginners and experienced birdwatchers. For tickets, go to <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/spring-bird-walk-april-19-registration-1984075588495?aff=oddtcreator>



Songs of America 250
Sunday, April 26, 4 PM

Hitchcock Presbyterian Church, 6 Greenacres Avenue, Scarsdale

The New Choral Society, directed by Dr. John T. King, will perform works by American composers. The program includes Chichester Psalms by Leonard Bernstein, The Testament of Freedom by Randall Thompson and the world premiere of In the Hearts of People by Jessica Meyer, based on text by Eleanor Roosevelt.

For tickets, go to <https://app.arts-people.com/index.php?show=285736>. Photo credit: Tony Allen Photography

Spring Soiree

Tuesday, April 14, 11 AM to 8 PM

Le Jardin du Roi, 95 King Street, Chappaqua

Celebrate spring and dine out in support of Hospice of Westchester (HOW) at Le Jardin du Roi. The restaurant will donate 10 percent of all revenue generated that day to support HOW's programs and services. To make a reservation, call Le Jardin du Roi at (914) 238-1368, and mention "Hospice". For more information about the event, contact Holly Benedict at (914) 682-1484, extension 122.

Movie Matinee: Eleanor the Great

Thursday, April 16, 1 PM to 3:15 PM

Bendheim Performing Arts Center, JCCMW, 999 Wilmot Road, Scarsdale

Directed by Scarlett Johansson, Eleanor the Great is a warm and poignant comedy-drama about grief, identity, and unexpected connection. After the death of her closest friend, 94-year-old Eleanor moves to New York City and, through a misunderstanding at a Holocaust survivors' support group, begins recounting her late friend's story as her own. Following the screening, New Rochelle Public Library Adult Services librarian and film historian Chris Poggiali will facilitate a discussion. Free admission. For more information, email adultprograms@jccmw.org.

Upcoming Events at the Scarsdale Public Library

If space is limited, these are the programs we would like to highlight:

Missing Sam with Thrity Umrigar, Friday, April 24, 7 PM

Come to the library for an evening with Ms. Umrigar in conversation with local editor Julie Moscow as they discuss Missing Sam and its current resonances, the writing process, and Ms. Umrigar's long and rich career.

A History of Jewish People in Scarsdale, Monday, April 6, 7 PM

In this program co-sponsored by the Library and the Scarsdale Historical Society, Village Historian Jordan Copeland traces the evolution of Jewish life in Scarsdale. bit.ly/4lmNo49

Autism Acceptance Month 2026, Saturday, April 18, 1 PM to 4:30 PM

April is Autism Acceptance Month! Come to the library for a fair-style event in celebration and support of individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities. bit.ly/4ruN6d7

Bridging Our Political Divide, Tuesday, April 28, 7 PM

Join professor and local author Kenneth Barish for a brief look at recent political history and the psychology of why we continue to disagree about some of the fundamental issues of American life. bit.ly/4cBfir1

Chinese Movie Matinee - The Piano in a Factory (2010), Saturday, April 4, 10 AM

Enjoy a family friendly Chinese language film! Each film will be screened in either Mandarin or Cantonese with English subtitles. bit.ly/3MWk4oJ

Movie Screening & Discussion - Value for Money (1955), Friday, April 10, 2 PM

Join Marcus Renna for this north country romantic farce playing on post-war British notions of class and obligation. bit.ly/4rsdhRE

Parks for the American People - The Legacy of Frederick Law Olmsted

Saturday, April 11, 11 AM

Come hear about Olmsted's legacy and the natural beauty of the parks he helped to build during a formative time in the nation's history. bit.ly/4d9TvqA

The Briefcase - The Story of the 222 Transport Holocaust Survivors

Tuesday, April 14, 7 PM

Come to the library to reflect and learn about a little known chapter in the history of the Holocaust—the remarkable story of 222 people who survived. bit.ly/4oYAKsq

Blood Drive, Friday, April 17, 10 AM to 4 PM

Stop by the Scott Room to donate blood with the New York Blood Center. Walk-ins are possible, but registration is strongly recommended. bit.ly/41iikxu

Poetry and Jazz, Sunday, April 19, 2:30 PM

The Scarsdale Public Library and the Hoff-Barthelson Music School invite you to enjoy an afternoon of poetry and jazz. bit.ly/4cG8Dfk

Spotting Scams & Staying Safe with AARP, Saturday, April 25, 2 PM

Spotting and avoiding scams can become second nature when you know the right steps to take to protect yourself and your loved ones. bit.ly/4oYB2G6

Minding Your Memory - Preventing Dementia and Staying Sharp for Life

Sunday, April 26, 1 PM

This discussion will focus on the underlying causes of memory loss and the latest science on keeping the brain sharp for life. bit.ly/46OO2BF

Shoulder Health with ONS, Thursday, April 30, 12:15 PM

Come to the library to hear more about the latest advances in shoulder health and learn the necessary vocabulary for discussing such matters with your own healthcare providers. bit.ly/4rZXTwT



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