

Scarsdale Sentinel



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Scarsdale Village Budget Would Raise Property Taxes Nearly 5 Percent

BY STEPHEN E. LIPKEN

Scarsdale Mayor Justin K. Arest convened the April 14 meeting by noting the loss of former U.S. Representative Eliot Engel, who died on April 10 at the age of 79. Congressman Engel represented Scarsdale, part of the 16th Congressional District from 2013 until 2021. “Over his 32-year Congressional career, he served as Chairman of the House Foreign Affairs Committee and left a record of achievement in Foreign Policy and human rights that earned him respect across the aisle,” Arest stated. “Our condolences go to his family and all who knew and worked with him.” Mayor Arest requested a moment of silence in his memory.



Mayor Justin K. Arest

The proposed 2026-2027 Fiscal Year Budget was then reviewed. The budget calls for an increase in the tax levy of 5.36 percent or \$2,721,201 which exceeds the New York State Tax Cap. This increase equates to a 4.86 percent increase

on the tax rate or \$423.77 for the average household.

According to Village Manager Alexandra H. Marshall, personnel costs including salary, health insurance and pension contributions are the biggest expense driver. The increase from Fiscal Year 2025-2026 in non-discretionary budget items alone totals \$2,530,813, which exceeds the allowable levy increase under the tax cap formula of 3.65 percent or \$1,849,461.

Despite rising personnel costs, the 2026-2027 Tentative Budget includes no increase in full-time positions and an overall head-count decrease of two permanent part-time positions in the Police and Human Resources Departments.

The budget also calls for an appropriation of fund balance of \$3 million towards the redevelopment of the Scarsdale Municipal Pool Complex and replacement of Fire Engine 55 at an estimated \$1.75 million. The Village has also earmarked debt for stormwater im-

provements at an estimated cost of \$8.2 million.

The Village Hall roof replacement of \$980,000 is included as well as improvements to Winston Field at \$6.6 million.

Scarsdale Schools Address Antisemitic Incident

Scarsdale School Board President Jim Dugan resigned following community uproar over an antisemitic incident at Scarsdale High School in mid-April. Several signs advertising the Israeli Culture Club’s celebration of Israel’s 78th Independence Day were removed from hallway walls, and some of them were put in boys’ bathrooms. The School Government’s Instagram post advertising the event received two replies criticizing the event using vulgar language.



Jim Dugan

The students responsible were identified and disciplined and the event went on as planned. In response to the incident, the school board is developing a new set of guidelines for school sponsored events

Consistent with prior conversations about future capital needs in the Water Department, water rates will increase by 3.0%, effective June 1, 2026. The Library Fund is experiencing an overall increase of 5.19%.

and released the following letter to the community.

Dear Scarsdale Community,

Earlier this evening, Board President Jim Dugan announced that he will be stepping aside from that role for the remainder of this school year. He will continue to serve as a member of our Board, until the end of his term, and remain an important voice in our deliberations and the decisions we make as we work through the serious issues facing our district, and the work still to be done for our upcoming budget and bond referendum votes on May 19. Effective immediately, Colleen Brown, our Vice

continued on page 5



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Scarsdale to Hold Memorial Day Parade Children's Float Competition

In honor of the 250th anniversary of the founding of the United States and the 325th anniversary of Scarsdale, the Village of Scarsdale has developed a Children's Float Competition to be featured at the Memorial Day Parade on May 25.

Residents are encouraged to use their creativity and join us in commemorating these important anniversaries!

Rules & Guidelines

- Entries must be submitted via online submission form by May 15 at 5 PM. Go to <https://portal.laserfiche.com/p4167/forms/float>
- Float themes must focus on honoring America and/or remembering our troops. Float designs must not include imagery or language that is offensive, divisive, or unsuitable for public display.
- Float designs are subject to approval by the Village of Scarsdale and must adhere to the rules and guidelines set forth in this document. The Village reserves the right to make a final determination regarding float eligibility on the day of the event.
- Floats may not be motorized or attached to a motor vehicle in any way. Floats must be pulled by hand (i.e. wagon, cart, etc.).
- No animals are permitted to walk within the parade route.
- Participants are prohibited from throwing items from the parade route into the crowd.
- All members of the float group must be listed as participants on the sign-up form.

Eligibility

- Participants must be residents of the Village of Scarsdale or Mamaroneck Strip to submit a design.
- If the participant is under the age of 18, parent/guardian signature is required upon submission.

For questions or further information, contact Ruby Tower at rtower@scarsdale.gov.

Destination Scarsdale Returns



Destination Scarsdale returns on Sunday, May 3, kicking off the weekly community gathering that is part community festival and part business showcase. Held alongside the Scarsdale Farmers Market, this program brings a steady flow of residents, families and visitors directly into the heart of Scarsdale on Chase Road.

Destination Scarsdale offers local businesses a unique opportunity to gain meaningful exposure while engaging directly with residents and visitors. To learn more about Destination Scarsdale and sign up to participate, go to <https://scarsdalebusinessalliance.com/destination-scarsdale/>

May events include Beauty & Fitness in the Park on May 17 and Scarsdale's 325th Birthday Bash on May 31. The Sidewalk Sale, taking place July 30, 31, and August 1, is another signature event that draws significant foot traffic to the Village. It offers a unique opportunity to be part of a high-energy, community-wide shopping experience.

To participate in Destination Scarsdale, all businesses must be current Scarsdale Business Alliance (SBA) members in good standing and compliant with Village of Scarsdale requirements. This includes submitting the required insurance documentation in advance.

Insurance requirements include:

- Signed and notarized Hold Harmless form
- Certificate of Insurance (COI) listing the Village of Scarsdale
- COI listing the Scarsdale Business Alliance (please follow the sample exactly)

These events are designed to give local businesses meaningful exposure across both in-person engagement and SBA's digital platforms, helping to build awareness, attract new customers, and strengthen presence within the community.

Destination Scarsdale runs weekly through Sunday, November 23.

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Scarsdale School Bond Vote Set for May 19

If approved by voters, the referendum will raise funds to construct improvements and alterations to District school buildings and/or sites, including building additions to provide additional classroom, library, multipurpose and other space; improvements to the heating, ventilation, air conditioning, fire safety, plumbing, public address, lighting and building management systems; interior reconstruction and space reconfiguration; construction of ADA improvements; technology infrastructure improvements; replacement of flooring, ceilings, doors, railings and bleachers; parking, sidewalk and pavement improvements; the construction of athletic and recreational enhancements and improvements, including the construction/installation of natural and synthetic turf fields; and softball and other field improvements. The amount is not to exceed the estimated total cost of \$101,707,875.

ECC Nominating Committee Sets 2026-2027 Slate

The Edgemont Community Council (ECC) Nominating Committee announced its 2026-2027 slate. Serving on this year's ECC Nominating Committee were Sharon Makower Bench, Dolya Fleck, Meredith Cohen, Amy Foote, and Adam Lessler, with Jennifer Frain serving as Chair.

Officers: 1-Year Term Ending June 30, 2027

President: Dylan F. Pyne
First Vice President: Eliana Weissman
Second Vice President: Sharyn Lewis
Treasurer: Anshu Kalhan
Secretary: Sharon Makower Bench

At-Large Directors: 3-Year Term Ending June 30, 2029

Adam Lessler, Manali Misra, Debra Rothschild, Elizabeth Sinha, and Deborah Shane

At-Large Director: 1-Year Term Ending June 30, 2027

Dylan Pyne

Neighborhood Director: 1-Year Term Ending June 30, 2027

Iilir Tota (*Central Park Avenue*)
Tamim Nazif (*Cotswold*)
Peter Blier (*Fort Hill*)
Ross Vinograd (*Greenridge*)
Brian Weiss (*Longview*)
Iraida Gonzalez (*Northern Greenville*)
Hila Gotthelf (*Old Edgemont*)
Krista Cassaniti (*Southern Greenville*)

SBNC Chair: 1-Year Term Ending June 30, 2027

Sharyn Lewis

SBNC Member: 2-Year Term Ending June 30, 2028

Vacant (*Central Park Ave*)
Vacant (*Central Park Ave*)
Danielle DeMaio (*Cotswold*)
Gabi Maxwell (*Cotswold*)
Roxana Story (*Cotswold*)
Michael Goldstein (*Fort Hill*)
Debra Rothschild (*Fort Hill*)
Nali Misra (*Greenridge*)
Saurabh Gupta (*Longview*)
Payal Lakhani (*Northern Greenville*)
Jill Lerman (*Old Edgemont*)
Emily Mitchell (*Old Edgemont*)

SBNC Member: 1-Year Term Ending June 30, 2027

Laura Wilker (*Greenridge*)
Laura Nukho (*Northern Greenville*)

In accordance with the SBNC Rules and Procedures, the ECC Nominating Committee timely solicited and received nominations for Southern Greenville SBNC members prior to the March 3, 2026 deadline. As four (4) eligible residents were duly nominated for three (3) available seats, an election will be held on May 19, 2026 to elect three (3) SBNC members to represent Southern Greenville. The four (4) nominees are Rod Burns, Jill Chesler, Fiona Li-Weisser, and Nicole Papapostolou, who are each seeking to serve on the SBNC for the first time and, if elected, would serve a two-year term.

Residents of a neighborhood with a vacancy who would like to learn more about getting involved with the SBNC,



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Upcoming Events at the Scarsdale Public Library

Hybrid: Motherhood in Art

Tuesday, May 5, 4:30 PM

Holiness. Love. Contentment. Devotion. Duty. Strength. Few subjects in art have been as endlessly depicted and interpreted as motherhood. Join local artist and art historian Beverly Shipko for a fascinating and thoughtful look at the many ways that mothers have appeared in art through the centuries—and how artists have captured the beauty, tenderness, and complexity of motherhood. Register here: <https://bit.ly/3Q3KPZw>

Drop-in Crayon Club

Thursday, May 7, 2 PM

Color at the library! We'll provide the crayons and coloring sheets. You provide the creativity! Registration is not required. Children will be admitted on a first come, first served basis as space permits.

Demystifying Medicare and Healthcare Coverage for Seniors with Julie Woodward

Saturday, May 9, 9:30 AM

Demystifying Medicare is the perfect program for anyone trying to navigate a complicated healthcare system for older adults. It's for people who already have Medicare, as well as those soon to be 65, planning their retirement, or assisting relatives and friends with paperwork and medical decisions. In this engaging interactive session, you will learn about the various parts of Medicare and the costs associated with medical and drug insurance provided by the government and private companies. Register here: <https://bit.ly/4sA9K49>

The Immigration Debate: Historical Perspectives and Current Enforcement Efforts

Monday, May 11, 7 PM

The United States has always been a nation of immigrants, but questions of who and how have united public debate from the very beginning. Join Scarsdale local and retired attorney Robert Groban for a clear-sighted look at the historical context of the nation's immigration laws, the origins of contemporary controversies over topics such as asylum, migrant workers, and family-based immigration, and disputes over current enforcement efforts. Register here: <https://bit.ly/4tRESxj>

Wild Facts About Wild Mushrooms

Saturday, May 16, 11 AM

Explore the diverse and fascinating world of wild mushrooms! This approachable presentation, led by experienced mycophile Lisa Solomon, will delve into the surprising variety of colors, shapes, sizes, and even smells found in fungi, challenging common myths along the way. Participants will learn to identify major genera and their defining characteristics, discover essential gear for forest foraging, and review safety rules for collecting and cooking edible varieties. Register here: <https://bit.ly/41CinjO>

Viola Festival

Saturday, May 16, 2 PM

Join us for an afternoon of beautiful music at the Viola Festival in the Scott Room. Enjoy a wonderful program of solo and ensemble performances from the talented teachers and students of the Scarsdale community. The performance will showcase the artistry and dedication of these rising musicians. For all ages. Registration suggested. Go to <https://bit.ly/426oV7w>

FIRST LEGO League: The Journey to Becoming Regional Champions

Sunday, May 17, 3 PM

STEAM enthusiasts of all ages: Hear from the current season winners of FIRST® LEGO® League's Hudson Valley regional tournament—History Guardians—including two local Scarsdale students! They would like to introduce other Scarsdale community members to FIRST® LEGO® League, and share how they identified real world problems, their methodology, design, and even some technical aspects of the process they followed to complete the Unearthed™ challenge, in which teams were expected to develop and code robots capable of completing 16 missions related to archeology. Their robots with functional attachments will be on display at the program, and after a brief presentation, they will answer questions from their curious audience. Register here: <https://bit.ly/48Ozenk>

Little Harmoninas

Monday, May 18, 10:30 AM

Children and parents are welcome to join a super interactive, educational and fun music program. There's lots of jumping, sing-a-longs, dancing, rhythm, learning and of course, BUBBLES! Registration is not required. Children will be admitted as space permits.

Cracking the Code—Mystery and Thriller Fiction with Geoff Loftus

Tuesday, May 19, 6 PM

Are you caught up in trying to figure out who put those 13 dead bodies in the basement? Not to mention why and how they ended up there? Or do you prefer a straight-up confrontation of good guys versus bad guys? Who, why, and how form the basis of a mystery. The conflict of good and bad is a thriller. What makes a mystery different from a thriller? And what about tales of suspense? Or action novels? Join local writer Geoff Loftus as he explains how authors use elements of these genres to craft interesting narratives and engaging characters that keep readers turning the page. Along the way, he will offer examples from his own Jack Tyrrell thrillers. Register here: <https://bit.ly/48yWVQy>

Mindfulness Retreat

Saturday, May 30, 2 PM to 4 PM

Come relax and rejuvenate with activities guaranteed to ease your mind! Learn mindfulness techniques from professional counselors, paint mini canvases, create brilliant mandalas, decorate candle holders with markers, and more! For teens in Grades 6 to 12. Registration is required. Go to <https://bit.ly/4mv8yxT>

Scarsdale High School Wins in Aquatic Ecology at County Envirothon

The 2026 Westchester County Regional Envirothon was held last month at Croton Point Park in Croton-on-Hudson, where 15 high schools in the region tested their knowledge of environmental topics including aquatic ecology, forestry, soils and land use, wildlife, and environmental issues via a hands-on competition.

The winners were Pleasantville High School 14A in Forestry, Mahopac High School 8B in Soils and Land Use, Fox Lane High School 12 A in Wildlife, Ossining High School 19B in Current Issue, Scarsdale High School 4A in Aquatic Ecology and Rye Country Day School 11B in Oral Presentation. Mount Academy 3A was the overall champion and Scarsdale High School 4A was the Westchester County winner and will represent the County at the New York State Envirothon.

Westchester County Executive Ken Jenkins said: "I'm continually impressed by the passion and intelligence the students of the Envirothon portray every year. Between their teamwork, dedication and knowledge, I'm confident that the future of Westchester County's environment is in great hands. Thank you to everyone who participated today, including our volunteers, and congratulations to our overall winner, Mount Academy 3A."

Commissioner of the Westchester County Planning Department Blanca Lopez said: "Each year, Planning Department staff is proud to partner with our colleagues in the Department of Parks, Recreation and Conservation to organize the Envirothon, a high school environmental education competition. We are especially grateful for the strong support of our partners, including the members of the Soil and Water Conservation District, whose volunteer efforts make this event possible. This year's Envirothon promises to be our most exciting yet, with a record number of high schools from across the County participating and a strong slate of competitions planned."

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President, will assume the responsibilities and leadership of the presidency until the board can elect a new president at an upcoming board meeting, consistent with Board policy.

This was an extremely difficult and personal decision for Jim; one we know he did not want to make. For nearly 20 years, Jim and his family have been a part of the Scarsdale community. He has contributed tirelessly of himself in service to others through community organizations and, over the past five years, our school district. His dedication to our students and commitment to this community have been unwavering and heartfelt. He has been a driving force for many of the innovative and precedent-setting initiatives our District has implemented that continue to earn Scarsdale Schools a reputation as one of the finest public-school districts in the country.

As Jim shared in his letter to the community, the circumstances that unfolded over the past week at our high school and involving a member of his family led him to this difficult decision. Putting the community first, Jim did not want to be a distraction that might intrude on the Board's work ahead, including responding to the recent antisemitic incidents with the seriousness they demand. We thank Jim for his leadership over this past year and know he will continue to be a strong advocate for our community throughout the rest of his term as a trustee.

As we noted in our letter to the community last Saturday, this Board condemns, in absolute terms, all forms of antisemitism, hate, and discrimination. The students responsible will be dealt with to the fullest extent possible as determined by our Student Code of Conduct. At no

time should any student in Scarsdale Schools feel unsafe, disrespected or be a target because of their religion, background, race, or who they are or what they believe in.

We are committed to creating and sustaining learning environments in our schools that reflect respect, inclusivity, civil discourse, and an acknowledgment of our differences. What occurred last Friday made clear that, regardless of the various programs and processes we have, we still need to do more. To that end, this week several members of our Board attended a workshop at Purchase College entitled, "Identifying and Addressing Antisemitism in our Schools," co-sponsored by Westchester Jewish Council. In addition, we will be reaching out to community partners to seek input, guidance, and what our next steps should be to raise awareness of the serious harm caused by all acts of hate.

We know there is anger, frustration, and pain in our community. We feel it also. We also know we must continue to engage, listen and lead with purpose, to ensure our schools are places that support our students' well-being and ability to achieve their full potential. We can only accomplish this when we all work together in service of our children. Together, with understanding, we will build trust, unity, and come through this difficult time stronger and more united.

Colleen Brown, Vice President
Leah Dembitzer
James Dugan
Suzie Hahn
Robert Klein
Laura Liu
Amber Yusuf

Scarsdale Police Blotter

Sunday, March 15, 2026, 6:15 PM: A 30-year-old Yonkers woman was charged with third-degree aggravated unlicensed operation of a motor vehicle, passing a red light and driving an unregistered motor vehicle after police stopped her car on Popham Road.

Wednesday, March 18, 2026, 5:48 PM: A Scarsdale student reported that she lost her \$250 Apple AirPods and later tracked them to an address in Mount Vernon.

Thursday, March 19, 2026, 7:26 PM: A resident of Ardmore Road reported that she sent \$2,000 via Zelle to someone who claimed to be from JP Morgan who told her the money was needed to stop a fraudulent bank account from being set up under her name. After she sent the money, police said, she realized it was a scam.

Friday, March 20, 2026, 12:02 AM: Two Scarsdale residences were egged, police said. A Carman Road resident reported that it was the fifth time his home had been egged.

Tuesday, March 24, 2025, 8:19 PM: James Zecca, 45, of Stamford, Connecticut, was charged with driving while intoxicated, refusal to take a breath test, driving without a license and following another motor vehicle too closely after police responded to a motor vehicle accident on Heathcote Road.

Wednesday, March 25, 2026, 3:23 PM: A Meadow Road man reported that he received a notice from Credit Collection Services for an unpaid balance on two vehicle insurance policies with GEICO. He told police he does not have any insurance policies with GEICO, and last year someone attempted to purchase a Mercedes in New Jersey using his name and personal identification.

Thursday, March 26, 2026, 4:20 AM: A Bronx man told police that while he was making a left turn onto Weaver Street from Quaker Ridge Road, an animal ran across the road, causing him to veer off the road into a rock wall.

Monday, March 30, 2026, 11:30 AM: A Scarsdale man reported that 25 pieces of jewelry were missing from the safe-deposit box at his bank.

Monday, March 30, 2026, 9:54 PM: The Scarsdale Fire Department put out a small fire near the basketball court of Edgewood Elementary School, 1 Roosevelt Place.

Tuesday, March 31, 2026, 9:09 PM: A wallet containing a school ID, MTA card and VISA credit card was found near the Scarsdale Train Station and turned in to police.

Wednesday, April 1, 2026, 9:24 AM: A Pandora bracelet was found on Hyatt Field on Boulevard and turned in to police.

Wednesday, April 1, 2026, 11:03 PM: A resident of Lyons Road told police that a man took a package from his door step. He said that he didn't order anything and didn't know how the package was on his property.

Thursday, April 2, 2026, 12:56 PM: After a traffic stop on Popham Road, a 53-year-old Yonkers man was charged with second-degree aggravated unlicensed operation of a motor vehicle and driving a vehicle with a suspended registration.

Tuesday, April 7, 2026, 11:22 AM: A 38-year-old man told police that his Lenovo ThinkPad laptop, Sony headphones, phone charger and umbrella were stolen from his home on Boulevard.

Thursday, April 2, 2026, 4:08 PM: A 33-year-old Mount Vernon man was charged with third-degree aggravated unlicensed operation of a motor vehicle and operating a vehicle without stoplights after his car was stopped on Chase Road.

Tuesday, April 7, 2026, 4:08 PM: A Tory Lane resident told police that his email account had been fraudulently used to redeem his airline credit card points for the purchase of two gift cards.

Thursday, April 9, 2026, 2:58 PM: A man reported that he lost his wallet containing credit and debit cards and identification at the intersection of Chase Road and Boniface Circle.

Beware of Phishing Scam Impersonating Scarsdale Board Members

The Village of Scarsdale has identified a phishing scam impersonating Land Use Board members. These spam emails have been sent using fake email addresses, attempting to deceive residents and applicants into making payments. Official Village communications will only come from verified Village email addresses ending in @scarsdale.gov.

Residents are encouraged to exercise caution and not respond to or engage with suspicious messages claiming to represent the Planning Board, Zoning Board, or any other land use staff member. Scarsdale residents are advised not to respond to any suspicious emails asking for payment.

If you believe you may have received a suspicious email regarding a land use application payment, contact the Planning Department at 914-722-1131.

County Board Hosts Mock Legislature for Young Adults with Disabilities

The Westchester County Board of Legislators recently hosted 13 young adults with developmental disabilities for its first mock legislative session designed specifically for them. Participants had the opportunity to debate and vote on public policy in a real-world setting.

The session, held in the Board's legislative chamber, featured participants from the Aspiring LeaDDers program, a 10-month collaboration between Volunteer New York!'s RISE program and the Westchester Institute for Human Development (WIHD). RISE (Readiness thru Integrated Service Engagement) helps young adults with intellectual and developmental disabilities build leadership skills by strengthening self-confidence, fostering relationships, and empowering participants to find their voices. RISE connects program members to community volunteer opportunities.

Participants took on the role of county legislators, debating and voting on a simulated resolution to establish an annual Disability Employment Awareness Week, including a county-led conference to address employment barriers. Speaking from personal experience, they led a thoughtful and engaged discussion from the chamber floor.

Board Chairman Vedat Gashi (D-New Castle, Ossining, Somers, Yorktown) opened the session and welcomed participants. He said, "We are proud to welcome these young adults to the legislative chamber. Programs like Aspiring LeaDDers give participants the chance to step into leadership roles, engage in meaningful discussion, and see firsthand how county government works. Their voices matter, and today they are showing the value they bring to our community."

Colleen Victory, a Board staff member hired through The Arc Westchester, a nonprofit that supports people with disabilities, participated in the public comment por-



tion. She spoke in favor of the proposed resolution.

The Board's Mock Legislature program typically serves elementary, middle, and high school students. This marks the first time it has been adapted for young adults with developmental disabilities, opening the door to broader participation and new perspectives.

Legislators Nancy E. Barr, David T. Imamura, Jenn Puja, Anant Nambiar, Jewel Williams Johnson, and a staff representative for Majority Leader Judah Holstein attended, along with Minority Leader Margaret A. Cunzio and Minority Whip James Nolan. Board Members presented Certificates of Merit to participants from their districts at the end of the event.

Volunteer New York!'s Executive Director Polly Lagana, Senior Director of Programs Katie Pfeifer, and Senior Director of Development Dylan Pyne were also present at the historic event.

Program organizers said the session is part of a broader effort to support self-advocacy and prepare participants for employment and community leadership.

Patti Colombo, RISE Program Manager and co-facilitator of the Aspiring LeaDDers program, said, "I'd like to thank Legislator Erika Pierce, whom I met at the County's ADA Anniversary celebration last July, for taking a personal interest in helping develop this experience as part of our 10-month leadership curriculum and for ensuring accommodations were in place. These Aspiring LeaDDers are highly motivated to strengthen their self-advocacy skills, grow as leaders in our community, and are committed, loyal employees. Any organization would be fortunate to welcome them as new hires."

Jacob Kuligowski, Aspiring LeaDDers participant, said, "If [people with disabilities] were given the chance to work they would be taxpayers themselves.... I would like to thank Legislator Pierce and all the other legislators for their time and attention."

914Cares Holds Inaugural Youth Symposium

914Cares successfully hosted its first-ever Youth Symposium: The Power of Youth in Service on April 14, welcoming 54 students from 13 Westchester county high schools and community leaders from across Westchester County to its Arming headquarters. The event served as a bridge between today's changemakers and the philanthropic leaders of tomorrow, focusing on the vital roles of collaboration, advocacy, and social impact.

The symposium provided a unique, multi-dimensional look at the nonprofit sector, combining high-level panel discussions with a tangible volunteer activity. Students engaged directly with professionals from health-care, government, and corporate social responsibility.

Highlights from the Symposium: The morning featured two cornerstone panel discussions that pulled back the curtain on how Westchester's social safety net operates:

- *Collaborating for Change in Westchester County:* Moderated by Limarie Cabrera, Director of Data, Operations & Finance, Westchester Children's Association, this session featured representatives from 914Cares, Theodore D. Young Community Center, United Way of Westchester and Putnam, and White Plains Hospital. The conversation centered on how organizations must work together—rather than in silos—to address the complex needs of Westchester families.

- *Careers That Change Communities:* Moderated by Suzanne Gardos, Director of Operations, Nonprofit Westchester, panelists from 914Cares, NeighborsLink, Hope's Door, Ossining Union



Free School District and Regeneron illustrated that a "career in service" can range from grassroots advocacy to corporate philanthropy.

Service in Action: The event went beyond dialogue, as students participated in a hands-on volunteer activity between sessions. Students packed 240 Flow Kits (containing period pads and liners), and 450 Hygiene Kits (personal care products), all basic essentials that 914Cares distributes to local children and families through its 200-plus community partners.

"Today was about showing young people that their passion for helping others has a professional home," said Lisa Horten, 914Cares Chief Executive Officer. "Seeing these students engage with our leaders and roll up their sleeves to do the work proves that the future of Westchester is in very capable hands."

914Cares is a Westchester County nonprofit committed to ensuring that children and families in need have access to the basic essentials required to live with dignity and opportunity. Through the distribution of clothing, diapers, hygiene and period products, and books, 914Cares helps address the everyday barriers that can impact a child's health, confidence, and ability to thrive. By working in close partnership with 200-plus community organizations, 914Cares responds to urgent needs while also raising awareness about poverty and inspiring collective action across the community. Through service, advocacy, and collaboration, 914Cares is building a stronger, more compassionate Westchester for all.

For more information, visit www.914cares.org.

JCCMW Presents *Russ & Daughters: 100 Years of Appetizing*

The Jewish Community Center of Mid-Westchester (JCCMW), 999 Wilmot Road, Scarsdale, will present an evening of food, history, and storytelling on Tuesday, May 19, with Niki Russ Federman and Josh Russ Tupper of the Manhattan restaurant Russ & Daughters in celebration of their new cookbook, *100 Years of Appetizing*. The program will feature a conversation moderated by local chef and writer Danielle Colen, along with a delicious tasting reception highlighting iconic dishes from the beloved Lower East Side institution.

Founded in 1907 by Jewish immigrant Joel Russ, Russ & Daughters began as a humble pushcart selling herring and grew into one of New York City's most iconic appetizing shops. Now in its fourth generation of family ownership, the business continues to honor its rich culinary heritage while evolving for new audiences.

Russ & Daughters: 100 Years of Appetizing captures this legacy through personal stories, behind-the-counter insights, and more than 100 recipes. The cookbook includes guides to signature offerings such as smoked salmon, sable, sturgeon, herring, and caviar, alongside beloved classics like latkes, matzo ball soup, babka, and bagels.

For more information and to register, visit jccmw.org/event/russ-daughters



Snow Days to Heat Waves: How Local Climate Has Changed

BY MILAN SIL

Scarsdale, with its tree-lined streets and strong sense of community, is a special place to call home. Growing up here, I was familiar with what changes to expect each season. Winters brought cherished snow days off school, spring was marked by rain showers, fall by crisp days and summer stretched into long periods of warm weather. However, recent Westchester County data suggests that these patterns are changing.

In the past two decades, average temperatures in our area have seen an annual increase of approximately 2 to 3° Fahrenheit. This shift is most apparent in extreme heat conditions. In the mid-2000s, our region had about 10 to 15 days per year with temperatures reaching 90° or higher. However, in some recent years, that number has climbed to the 20 to 25 day range. What used to be occasional 95° days, now appear more regularly, sometimes in back-to-back stretches known as heat waves.

Winters are changing in the opposite direction. The number of freezing days has declined from approximately 110 days per year to 90. Overall, there has been a steady move toward milder and shorter winters. Less harsh winters means fewer of those coveted snow days off from school.

Data on rainfall isn't so straightforward. Although the total amount of precipitation has not changed dramatically, the way it falls day to

day has. Heavy rainfall events, or days with at least one inch of precipitation, have increased from about 5 to 8 days per year to 8 to 12 days per year, often causing local flooding.

Data from NOAA's Storm Events Database supports that pattern. It shows an increase in reported extreme weather events across Westchester County, particularly heavy rain and flooding occurrences.

County-level data further confirms that these are not isolated events, but rather part of a trend across Westchester County. These findings are also consistent with climate research across the Northeast, which has documented an increase in temperatures, more frequent heat waves, and a larger amount of heavy rainfall incidents over recent decades.

The climate is warming, and its effects are reshaping daily life for students and families in Scarsdale. Hotter summers make it harder to spend time outside, less predictable winters affect school schedules and activities, and frequent heavy storms lead to flooding and travel disruptions. But the data makes one thing clear: the climate is changing, and it's happening right here in Scarsdale.

Editor's Note: Milan Sil is a junior at Edgemont Junior/Senior High School with an interest in data science and public policy. His analysis is based on daily temperature and precipitation records from NOAA's National Center for Environmental Information, using the Yonkers weather station, which is the closest long-term station to Scarsdale.

Hartsdale Teacher Wins \$25,000 Educator Award

Harry Shontz, a high school social studies teacher at The Leffell School in Hartsdale, was named New York's 2025-2026 Milken Educator Award recipient. Milken Educator Awards Founder Lowell Milken made the announcement at a school assembly on April 17. The recognition comes with a financial prize of \$25,000. He is the first educator from Westchester County to receive the award.



"Harry Shontz is a remarkable educator by enveloping students in the rich tapestry of history to bridge the past, present and future," said Lowell Milken. "In so doing, Harry sparks critical thinking, intellectual curiosity, and the passion to become productive citizens of our global society."

In addition to his teaching duties, Shontz is chair of Leffell's history department, shaping curriculum and materials with fellow history teachers. These efforts include creating new interest-driven elective classes—American women's history; law, crime and punishment in global history; modern Israeli history; social and political change and revolution; and immigration and multicultural America. Shontz sits on multiple committees and is a leading voice on schoolwide instructional initiatives and policy, where he helped revamp the master schedule while prioritizing Leffell's rigorous academic and Judaic education priorities. He has been instrumental in designing the Agora Seminars, launching in fall 2026, which, in the spirit of a public square, will develop advanced analytical thinking in constitutional law; international relations; political philosophy and comparative government; Jewish law; ethics; and the literature of law, politics, and power.

Shontz joins a national network of more than 3,000 Milken Educators spanning the Awards' nearly 40-year history as a preeminent teacher-recognition program. Hailed as the "Oscars of Teaching," the Awards initiative has no formal application or nomination process. Outstanding K-12 educators are sought out while early to mid-career for what they have achieved—and for the promise of what they will accomplish given the resources and opportunities afforded by the Award.





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Two Candidates Nominated to the Scarsdale School Board

The 2026 School Board Nominating Committee (SBNC) selected **Omer Wiczyc** and **Kevin Ziegler** for the 2026 non-partisan slate for election to the Scarsdale Board of Education. If elected during the school board election on May 19, Wiczyc and Ziegler will assume their roles as first-term school board members effective July 1.

Omer Wiczyc: Wiczyc has been a resident of Scarsdale for 10 years where he and his wife have raised their two children. He has demonstrated a deep commitment to public service, both professionally and personally. Omer holds a bachelor's degree from

Brandeis University and a JD from New York University School of Law. He spent 20 years at the Bronx District Attorney's Office. While there, he was a supervisor with the Rackets Bureau, followed by being the Deputy Chief and later Chief of the Public Integrity Bureau. In 2024, he joined The Louis D. Brandeis Center for Human Rights Under Law as Senior Counsel, where he now works to protect civil rights in education.

In his personal life, Wiczyc continues this commitment to service for our local community. He has served as a member and then Chairperson of Scarsdale's Citizens' Nominating

Committee (CNC), as well as on the CNC Election Committee. He is a member of the Scarsdale Forum, including holding the role of President. Wiczyc currently serves as the Chair of Scarsdale's Judicial Qualifying Committee and is on Scarsdale's Advisory Council on Communications.

As a seasoned litigator, Wiczyc brings strong analytical skills, sound judgment, and the ability to communicate clearly and persuasively. His legal background, combined with his experience in commercial real estate and finance through his family's business, gives him valuable insight into complex operational and financial matters. Just as important, he is described as warm, approachable, hardworking, and genuinely invested in the people around him. These attributes, paired with the deep knowledge he has of our community based on his years of volunteering and his professional experience, position him to be a welcome addition to the School Board.

Kevin Ziegler: Ziegler, his wife, and their three sons have been thrilled to call Scarsdale home since 2023. Ziegler holds a bachelor's degree in Journalism from Ohio University and an MBA from Northwestern University. He is the Vice President for Global Distribution for Hyatt Hotels Corporation, overseeing a global team that is accountable for strategy, technology management, and negotiations for Hyatt's largest booking channel partnerships. He previously worked in leadership roles for Marriott International, and before entering the lodging industry, Ziegler worked for 10 years in public relations in media and crisis management. He was Manager of Communications at Cleveland Clinic, Senior Account Executive at the public relations firm Dix & Eaton, and Director of Strategic Communications at Cleveland State University.

In addition to his professional experience, Ziegler also brings volunteer and civic experience. During his time in Cleveland, he served for five years on an appointed committee advising the city of Cleveland Heights on the allocation of several million dollars annually of federal grants to a combination of community agencies and infrastructure priorities. He has also served as an advisory board member for American Hotel and Lodging

Association and HSMAI (hotel sales/marketing professional association). Ziegler is a coach for Scarsdale Little League as well as the Scarsdale basketball clinics, and a member of the Fox Meadow Neighborhood Association.

Ziegler is described as being analytical, a thoughtful listener and communicator, collaborative, and a person of integrity who very much cherishes a strong public education system. These attributes, combined with his financial, managerial, and public relations acumen make him a strong candidate for the School Board.

The Nominating Committee: The SBNC is a non-partisan committee comprised of 30 voting members (with representatives from each of the five elementary districts) who serve for a three-year term, and is chaired by two non-voting members. Over the course of Sunday meetings from January through March, this year's committee conducted extensive candidate outreach to encourage interested community members to apply, listened to applicant presentations, questioned them, conducted detailed due diligence on all applicants, and considered potential candidates' qualifications and characteristics. Pursuant to the SBNC Resolution, committee deliberations concerning candidates are confidential and the SBNC selects candidates "solely on their qualifications to serve the community" and not on their campaigning abilities or positions on specific issues. All discussions, deliberations, and references shared in Committee are instructed to be kept confidential. Informed and engaged residents willing to serve on the SBNC and the School Board, along with voter participation, help to ensure the highest quality school board leadership.

Voters in the Scarsdale School District are encouraged to vote on Tuesday, May 19, at the Scarsdale Middle School, 134 Mamaroneck Road. In addition to voting for two School Board seats, District voters will also be voting on a proposed School District Budget for the 2026-27 school year and a School Capital Improvements Bond.

For more information on the SBNC, visit <http://scarsdalesbnc.org>.



BOND 2026 - A FORWARD-THINKING, RESPONSIVE VISION FOR THE FUTURE

The proposed 2026 Bond Plan focuses on maintaining and strengthening the high-quality learning environments that the Scarsdale community demands. The plan includes improvements that support student and faculty health and wellness, upgrades to aging infrastructure, and enhancements to classrooms and learning spaces that support today's educational programs.

Critical Expansion at Edgewood and Fox Meadow Schools

- Accommodate increasing enrollment
- Provide dedicated and flexible learning spaces
- Preserve elementary neighborhood stability

Expansion of Playing Fields

- New multipurpose turf field at the Middle School
- New softball and practice fields at Greenacres
- Quaker Ridge front field drainage mitigation

These improvements will add significant playing time for our District teams, as well as increase access for community groups and youth leagues.

Air Conditioning in Large Spaces and Heathcote Classrooms

- Districtwide in nearly all large spaces, such as gymnasiums, libraries, and multipurpose rooms that are not already equipped with AC units.
- Split AC units for all Heathcote classrooms to accommodate Heathcote's unique building design.

Bond 2026 also provides for critical Districtwide infrastructure system repairs, replacements and upgrades.



We encourage you to learn more about Bond 2026, including complete financial and taxpayer impact information. Visit scarsdaleschools.org/bond2026, or scan the QR code below.



2026 BOND PLAN REFERENDUM VOTE
May 19, 2026 • 7:00 AM - 9:00 PM
Scarsdale Middle School Gymnasium



Planning for Emergency Hospitalizations: An Estate Planning Perspective

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

No one expects to be hospitalized suddenly. Yet accidents, unexpected illnesses, or medical crises can happen at any time. While we cannot control when emergencies occur, we can prepare for them. From an estate planning perspective, thoughtful preparation for an emergency hospitalization can reduce stress, protect your wishes, and ensure that your loved ones are able to help when you need them most.

Emergency planning is not just for older adults or those with chronic illness. Every adult should have a plan in place that allows trusted individuals to step in quickly if they become unable to communicate or manage their affairs.

Health Care Directives: Your Voice When You Cannot Speak: At the core of emergency planning are health care directives. These documents allow you to legally appoint someone to make medical decisions for you if you cannot make them yourself and provide guidance about your wishes.

A Health Care Proxy designates a trusted person to make medical decisions on your behalf if you are unable to do so. This person should understand your values and be willing to advocate for your wishes, even in stressful situations. It is recommended to name at least one alternate agent in case your primary agent is unavailable.

A Living Will expresses your preferences regarding life-sustaining treatment, such as resuscitation, artificial nutrition and hydration, and mechanical ventilation. While not every situation can be anticipated, providing written guidance helps your health care agent know your wishes.

A HIPAA authorization should also be included. This document allows medical providers to share your health information with the individuals you designate. Without it, even close family members may have difficulty obtaining updates from doctors or hospitals.

Power of Attorney: Managing Financial and Legal Matters: An unexpected hospitalization can also interrupt your ability to manage finances or legal matters. A **Power of Attorney** allows a trusted agent to handle financial tasks such as paying bills, managing accounts, communicating with insurance companies, or handling real estate matters if you are incapacitated.

Without this document, your family may need to pursue a court-appointed guardianship to manage your affairs, which can be time-consuming, costly, and emotionally draining. A properly drafted power of attorney allows someone to step in immediately and keep your financial life running smoothly.

Create an Emergency Information Packet: In addition to legal documents, it is important to assemble a practical emergency

information packet. This packet should be easy to access and shared with key individuals. Consider including the following:

Emergency Contact List: Prepare a list of people who should be contacted in an emergency, including family members, close friends, and professional advisors. Include phone numbers, email addresses, and the order in which they should be contacted. Make sure your designated health care agent is clearly identified.

Medication List: Maintain a current list of all medications you take, including dosages, prescribing physicians, and any allergies. In an emergency, having accurate medication information can be critical to safe treatment. Update this list regularly and keep a copy in your wallet or phone.

Doctor and Medical Provider List: Include contact information for your primary care physician, specialists, therapists, and pharmacy. This helps hospital staff quickly obtain medical history and coordinate care.

Insurance Information: Keep copies of your health insurance cards, Medicare or Medicaid information, and any supplemental policies. Knowing your coverage can help your loved ones navigate billing and coverage issues more easily.

Care for Dependents and Pets: Emer-

gency planning should also address the needs of those who rely on you.

If you care for minor children, older relatives, or individuals with disabilities, create written instructions about their daily routines, medications, and key contacts. Identify who will step in temporarily to provide care if you are hospitalized. While formal legal arrangements may be necessary for long-term care, even short-term planning is invaluable during an emergency.

Do not forget about pets. Identify a trusted friend, neighbor, or family member who can take responsibility for them on short notice. Provide information about feeding schedules, veterinary contacts, medications, and any special needs. Some people include a small emergency fund or written authorization to allow a designated person to obtain veterinary care if needed.

Where to Store and Share Information: Having documents and information prepared is only helpful if they can be located quickly. Store originals of your estate planning documents in a secure but accessible location. Inform your agents and trusted family members where to find them. Consider providing copies to your health care agent and keeping digital versions in a secure, shared folder.

Many people also carry a wallet card not-

ing that they have a health care proxy and listing an emergency contact. Some smartphones allow you to display emergency contacts and medical information on the lock screen.

Review and Update Regularly: Emergency planning is not a one-time task. Review your documents and information at least every few years, or after major life events such as marriage, divorce, relocation, or changes in health. Ensure that the individuals you have chosen as agents are still willing and able to serve.

Preparing for emergency hospitalizations may feel uncomfortable, but it is one of the most thoughtful gifts you can give your loved ones. By putting clear legal documents and practical plans in place, you reduce uncertainty and ensure that your wishes are honored.

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.

Table Hopping with Morris Gut: Outdoor Farmers Markets Reopen

Get ready for some delicious spring/summer foraging...

THE PELHAM MARKET Opens May 10th. Sundays 10:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. Harmon Ave. & Fifth Ave. Go to Facebook, or www.pelhammarket.org

LARCHMONT FARMERS MARKET, Metro North Station at Chatsworth Ave./Myrtle Blvd., Larchmont. Saturdays, Year round. 8:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. www.downtoearthmarkets.com

SCARSDALE FARMERS MARKET Sundays, 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Spencer Place at Chase Road, near Metro-North station. www.downtoearthmarkets.com

RYE FARMERS MARKET, operates Sundays, 8:30 a.m. to 1 p.m., Rye parking lot, Theo Fremd Ave. www.downtoearthmarkets.com

WHITE PLAINS FARMERS MARKET, the popular outdoor White Plains Farmers Market is in full swing on Wednesdays, 8:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. It takes place on Court Street between Martine and Main Streets. www.cityofwhiteplains.com

MUSCOOT FARMERS MARKET Starts May 10. Muscoot Farmers Market, part of Muscoot Farm on Rt. 100 in Ka-

tonah, has reopened for the season. The market operates every Sunday from 9:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. thru November. Free admission. For further info: 914-864-7283, or www.muscotfarm.org

IRVINGTON FARMERS MARKET Year Round. Main Street School Lot, 110 Main St., Irvington. Sundays, 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. www.theirvingtonfarmersmarket.org

PLEASANTVILLE FARMERS MARKET It will continue to operate at 10 Memorial Place every Saturday from 8:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. Parking at the Metro-North parking lot. www.pleasantvillefarmersmarket.org

MOUNT KISCO FARMERS & MAKERS MARKET Every Sunday starting May 17th thru November. Kirby Plaza near Metro North. 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. www.mkfarmersmarket.com

GOLD SPRING FARMERS MARKET NOW AT BOSCOBEL The popular Cold Spring Farmers Market has moved to the historic Boscobel Estate Museum in Garrison. A lovely setting. It takes place every Saturday from 8:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. www.coldspringfarmersmarket.org

FARMERS MARKET AT JOHN JAY HOMESTEAD John Jay under construc-

tion. The farmer's market will continue to run every Saturday thru November, 9 a.m. – 2 p.m. Lot 2, 190 Katonah Ave., Katonah Village. First pick for members. www.johnjayhomestead.org

OSSINING FARMERS MARKET 'Down to Earth' Farmers' Market, corner of Main & Spring Streets, Ossining. Year round, Saturdays, 8:30 to 1 p.m. www.downtoearthmarkets.com

PEEKSKILL FARMERS MARKET, 1 Bank Street, Peekskill. (914-737-2780) The 2023 season will kick off on Saturday, June 6th, from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m., rain or shine. <https://discoverpeekskill.com>

CHAPPAQUA FARMERS MARKET at the Metro-North Station. Starting Saturday, May 9th. www.chappaquafarmersmarket.org

HUDSON VALLEY FARMERS MARKET, 15 Mount Ebo Road South, Brewster. Year round: Sundays 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

(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)

PickleRage Opens in New Rochelle

PickleRage, a premier indoor pickleball facility, is now open in New Rochelle. The 42,000-square-foot, climate-controlled venue features 13 regulation-size courts with joint-friendly CushionX surfaces, advanced LED lighting, locker rooms with showers and state-of-the-art smart court technology. Membership includes programming for players of all levels, led by an experienced coaching staff. Open from 7 AM to 10 PM daily.

Co-owner Henry Sztul says, "Our daytime hours are ideal for retirees and both work-from-home and stay-at-home parents seeking a break." Partner Brian Synder notes, "We offer leagues, tournaments, clinics, open play, and private lessons, giving opportunities to players of every skill level."

PickleRage is located at 173 Huguenot Street in New Rochelle. Customers can book courts via <https://pickleragenewrochelle.com> or by calling (914) 201-3414. Sign up for their newsletter and follow them on [Instagram.com/pickleragenewrochelle](https://www.instagram.com/pickleragenewrochelle) to learn more.

Scarsdale Sentinel



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Scarsdale Calendar



Warbler Walk

Saturday, May 9, 8:30 AM to 10 AM
 Lenoir Preserve, 19 Dudley St., Yonkers
 Witness the brilliant wave of warblers and other migrating birds flying north this spring, in a program led by a Park Naturalist. For more information, email John Phillips at jqpd@westchestercountyNY.gov



Guided Tour of the Tarrytown Lighthouse

Sat, May 9, 16, 23, 30, 10 AM to 2:30 PM
 Kingsland Point Park, Palmer Avenue, Sleepy Hollow
 Enjoy a 45-minute interpreter-led tour of the Tarrytown Lighthouse in Sleepy Hollow to learn about its history, significance, and what life for keepers was like. Tour is free, registration required. Go to <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/tarrytown-lighthouse-in-sleepy-hollow-tours-tickets-1984383808389?aff=oddtcreator>



Pyrography: Beginner's Techniques

Saturday, May 9, 1 PM to 2:30 PM
 Hilltop Hanover Farm, 1271 Hanover St., Yorktown Heights
 Learn the basics and take home your own wood burning art piece in this introductory pyrography class. No experience is necessary for this workshop. Available for adults and children ages 10 and older. Cost is \$15 per person. For more information, call (914) 862-5050.



From Dumplings to Kreplach: A Cross-Cultural Culinary Celebration

Thursday, May 28, 6:30 PM to 8:15 PM
 JCC Mid-Westchester, 999 Wilmot Road, Scarsdale
 Led by two professional chefs, participants will learn the art of crafting dumplings and kreplach—iconic dishes in Asian and Jewish cuisines. Attendees will prepare their own batches to take home, while gaining practical tips and techniques to recreate these recipes in their own kitchens. For more information or to register, visit jcmw.org/event/dumplings-to-kreplach

Westchester Clergy Faith Gathering for the National Day of Prayer

Thursday, May 7, 11 AM to 2 PM
 The Performing Arts Center, Purchase College, 735 Anderson Hill Road
 In a time marked by deep division, clergy have a critical role to play in bringing people together. This year, on the National Day of Prayer, join faith leaders from across Westchester in prioritizing the sacred work of dialogue—work that fosters genuine fellowship and helps build a meaningful community. Program includes lunch and is free of charge. For more information, email Tami Arnowitz at tami@wjcouncil.org.

Miles Davis at 100

Saturday, May 21, 7 PM
 Reid Castle, Manhattanville University, 2900 Purchase Street, Purchase
 Mark Morganelli & the Jazz Forum All-Stars will pay tribute to the ground-breaking artist. This concert will focus on Miles Davis's 1950's output, as reflected in the group's For Miles CD recorded in Torino, Italy. For more information, go to <https://mville.edu/about/reid-castle-events/jazz-at-reid-castle.php>.

An Audience with Poe

Saturdays May 23 to June 27, 3 PM, 5 PM, 7 PM
 The Library at Historic Hudson Valley, 639 Bedford Road, Sleepy Hollow
 Sip, savor, and shiver with Poe's darkest tales brought to life through storytelling, cocktails, and confections. Professional storytellers bring to life the "powerful graphic effect" that Washington Irving once praised in Edgar Allan Poe's writing, with haunting renditions of The Raven, The Tell-Tale Heart, The Black Cat, and The Masque of the Red Death. The tales are paired with complimentary cocktails or mocktails designed to capture the spirit of the stories. Learn more at hudsonvalley.org.

Piano Performance

Wednesday, May 27, 2 PM
 Woman's Club of Scarsdale, 37 Drake Road
 Classic pianist Dr. Irena Portenko will perform classical music selections. Dr. Portenko is a pianist, educator and mentor born in Kyiv, Ukraine. Free admission. To learn more, go to scarsdalewomensclub.org.

Light Up the Night

Saturday, June 13, 7 PM to 11 PM
 Bartow-Pell Mansion Museum, 895 Shore Road, Bronx
 A star-spangled celebration to celebrate America's 250th birthday and raise funds for the museum with cocktails, dinner and dancing under the stars in Bartow-Pell's formal gardens. For more information, email info@bpmm.org.



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