



Democratic fundraiser

The Scarsdale Democratic Town Committee will host a fundraiser Thursday, Aug. 11, from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. at the Scarsdale home of Amy Paulin and Ira Schuman with special guest New York State Comptroller Tom DiNapoli. Wine, pizza will be served.

Funds raised will go directly to supporting local Democratic candidates and to generating voter interest in upcoming state and federal elections.

To attend, RSVP by sending a donation via check made out to the Scarsdale Democratic Town Committee, mailed to Scarsdale Democratic Committee Town Chair Myra Saul, 5 Lincoln Road, Scarsdale, or submit a donation via PayPal at <https://bit.ly/3OnMVMY>. Address will be provided upon registration.

Voter registration update

Responding to a motion filed by the New York State Board of Elections Aug. 3, NYS Supreme Court Judge Patrick McAllister has set a deadline of Aug. 11 for voters to register with a party or to change party affiliation before the August primary.

Applications must be received by a board of elections on that date. Any application received on or after Aug. 12 will not be effective immediately, but will become effective Aug. 30, seven days after the Aug. 23 primary. Early voting takes place Aug. 13-21.

The court order closes the loophole that would have allowed voters to change party affiliation by voting via affidavit ballot or a court order in the August primary.

Download a voter registration form at <https://bit.ly/3bsPmR8>.

Movie under the stars

White Plains Hospital Screenings Under the Stars presented free of charge by Westchester County Parks and Sharc Creative continues with the 2021 family comedy, "Boss Baby 2: Family Business," Wednesday, Aug. 17, at Kensico Dam Plaza, Valhalla.

Gates open at 5:30 p.m.; movie begins at sundown. Moviegoers should bring blankets, chairs and a picnic. Refreshments will be available for sale.

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Shoppers at the sidewalk sale in the village July 29.

Sidewalk sale is huge success once again

By LEAH BREAKSTONE

SCARSDALE — It is hard to resist a good deal, especially when you're benefiting local businesses and shopping outdoors in gorgeous weather.

The annual sidewalk sale, hosted by Scarsdale Business Alliance, took place Thursday, July 28 through Saturday, July 30 in Scarsdale Village. Stores such as I Am More, Rothman's, Mixology, Bronx River Books and others set up outdoor displays full of items on sale.

While clearing inventory is always an objective during the sale, store employees expressed their enjoyment of interacting with customers. "Since I don't live in Scarsdale, I like getting to meet the different people that live here," said Ruby Horowitz, an employee at I Am More. She also explained that it's much easier to engage with customers at their outside display versus their inside one, as people stop briefly to look at items while walking through the village.

Jessica Bergman of Holsten Jewelers said there are specific customers who come out each year just for the sale, "which I like because they may not come in all the time but some people are doing their Christmas or Hanukkah shopping early, and they like to come and see what we have going on," she said.

A highlight of the sale for Great Stuff co-owner Dina Grossman was "the energy of all the customers coming in and being excited about products and deals and seeing the village alive ... I love seeing the village filled."

Many of the stores were selling older inventory, but regardless, people bought plenty. At I Am More, customers were attracted to timeless pieces like jeans and tank tops, according to Horowitz. Bergman explained that customers were attracted to minimalist, yellow gold, and colorful jewelry at Holsten's. At Great Stuff, Grossman said peo-



Julia Kent, Anna Feldstein and Zach Berman organized a Chalk the Dale event July 29.

ple were buying "a little bit of everything. People love a good deal. So if they're buying a blouse, they want a good deal. People are buying things that they feel like they're getting a good price on."

In addition to Scarsdale's own brick-and-mortar establishments, vendors such as Cutco knives, Shapero, Rumble, Rethink Connect and Venture Photography sold goods and services in tents that

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State declares health emergency as monkeypox cases spread

1 in 4 cases nationwide now in New York

By VALERIE ABRAHAMAS

REGION — New York State has emerged as a center of the monkeypox outbreak with more than 1,748 cases as of Aug. 4 — about 25% of all cases in the U.S. — and the department of health has confirmed 47 cases in Westchester.

After New York State Commissioner of Health Dr. Mary T. Bassett called the spread of monkeypox an "imminent threat" on July 29, Gov. Kathy Hochul declared a state disaster emergency. The executive order allows the state to respond quickly to suspend local laws and enact rules, as necessary, to help slow the spread and to obtain additional vaccines from national stockpiles.

The World Health Organization

(WHO) declared the outbreak a public health emergency last month, and the U.S. nationwide total has reached more than 6,300 confirmed cases in 48 states since early May, including several in children. Though the West African type of monkeypox currently dominant in the U.S. has a very low fatality rate, the number of cases is expected to rise, and demand for monkeypox vaccines has outpaced supply.

The U.S. does not currently have enough vaccines to protect all at-risk individuals. As of July 30, 780,000 vaccine doses have been sent to states, with just 171,030 allotted to New York State where officials estimate some 150,000 residents may be at risk of exposure. More than 100,000 more doses will soon be sent to New York, Gov. Hochul announced Thursday.

Clinics that give free vaccines are prioritizing single doses of the FDA-

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COURTESY FHI STUDIOS

Rendering of a proposed esplanade to replace the tent on Spencer Place.

Public input sought on village center study

SCARSDALE VILLAGE — A Village Center Strategic Mobility and Placemaking Study is in the works as local officials look to change the village's physical environment in ways that will benefit Scarsdale for decades to come. Residents and others interested in the project are invited to participate in a hybrid workshop Tuesday, Aug. 9, at 6 p.m. by Zoom or in person at Rutherford Hall, 1001 Post Road.

Consultants from Hartford-based FHI Studios, hired by the village earlier this year, will present draft planning concepts and solicit feedback from the community to help further shape and refine their recommendations.

In a press release Aug. 1, village officials noted: "Importantly, the concepts were developed through a series of public engagement efforts and your continued participation is critical to our success, so please take time from your busy summer schedule to attend and offer your perspective."

People can also submit comments online at any time prior to the study concluding.

According to the press release, the

study's primary goals for the village center are to:

- increase pedestrian and cyclist safety;
- provide enhanced access for persons of all ages and abilities;
- improve traffic flow and circulation;
- activate public spaces; and
- incorporate sustainability concepts in the effort.

For the Inquirer's previous coverage of the project, the planners' site visits and public engagement, see <https://bit.ly/3vxz68s> and <https://bit.ly/3PvKnrC>.

More information on the study is available at the project website: <https://www.scarsdalemobility.com>. Questions or requests for information can be made by email to Scarsdale Village Planner Greg Cutler at gcutler@scarsdale.com or by phone at 914-722-1132.

To access the Zoom meeting on Aug. 9, go to <https://bit.ly/3PVy7XR> or use meeting ID 931 8370 3358 on the Zoom app.

— Valerie Abrahamas

District 16 congressional candidates face off in LWV forum

By KRIS DILORENZO

REGION — New York's primary elections for U.S. congressional seats take place Aug. 23, with early voting running Aug. 13 through Aug. 21. Congressman Jamaal Bowman, after one term, has three challengers in the primary for District 16. All four participated in a League of Women Voters of Westchester's candidates forum Monday, July 25.

Suzanne Kavie, first vice president of the LWV Executive Committee, moderated the debate on Zoom.

District 16 was redrawn this spring to cover part of northern Bronx and the southern half of Westchester County, including Scarsdale and Edgemont, Ardsley, Dobbs Ferry, Hastings and Irvington. Hartsdale and a small part of Scarsdale were formerly in District 17, represented by Mondaire Jones.

Research from The City of New York Graduate Center reveals that the new district boundaries effected a decrease in District 16's Black population from 29.5% to 20.5%; an increase in the White population from 33% to 40%, with the



CONTRIBUTED PHOTOS

Incumbent Jamaal Bowman, Vedat Gashi, Mark Jaffe and Catherine Parker will vie for District 16's U.S. Congressional seat in the NY primary Aug. 23.

Hispanic population stable at 29% and Asian/Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders at 7%. Bowman has stated that the new maps dilute the voting power of low-income and Black communities.

Two candidates, Catherine Parker and Vedat Gashi, are members of the Westchester County Board of Legislators.

Parker has served since 2013. Gashi completed his first two-year term this past Jan. 1. The fourth candidate, Mark Jaffe, has been president and CEO of the Greater New York Chamber of Commerce for two decades.

Each candidate presented opening and closing remarks and answered the same

10 questions.

Asked what they considered the most important issue facing the country, and the federal government's role in it, Gashi chose gun control, Bowman stated climate change, and Jaffe said the environment. For Parker, "There isn't one priority issue. At the top of the list is Roe v. Wade — what are we going to do? — and the New York 'concealed carry' gun law."

"Now that Roe v. Wade has been overturned," Kavie asked next, "what role does the federal government have in abortion access?"

Bowman, Jaffe and Gashi agreed: Roe v. Wade must be codified; Bowman wants the Hyde Amendment repealed and the Women's Health Protection Act passed, as does Parker. (The Senate blocked it in February.)

Parker stated, "This is really personal for me. The overturn of Roe v. Wade has taken women back 50 years. I marched and protested for years." Parker was a co-sponsor of Westchester County's Reproductive Health Care Facilities Access Act, which was passed in June.

"We need to fight the male politicians in Washington who get to decide what a woman does with her body ... I will fight for free birth control," Parker asserted. "I will fight for the Equal Rights Amendment."

Regarding what climate change legislation they would propose, hoping for bipartisan support, Bowman replied, "I look forward to working with Republicans as soon as they stop trying to destroy our democracy." He wants to cut utility costs, engage public schools in a "green" initiative, and acquire government investment in retrofitting for heat pumps, working with NYSERDA (New York State Energy Research and Development Authority) and Sustainable Westchester.

A question about "a road map to peace in the Middle East" put Bowman in the hot seat. Bowman voted against the Abraham Accords, an agreement stating, in part, "We encourage efforts to promote interfaith and intercultural dialogue to advance a culture of peace among the three Abrahamic religions

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