

New Rochelle Review



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INSIDE THIS ISSUE...WW Magazine Winter 2025!

Senator Nathalia Fernandez Secures \$250,000 for New Rochelle YMCA Upgrades

New York State Senator Nathalia Fernandez announced \$250,000 in state funding to support vital upgrades to the New Rochelle YMCA's pool and aquatics facility. The investment will fund the installation of a new dehumidifier system to improve air quality, preserve the pool infrastructure, and ensure the YMCA can continue providing life-saving aquatic programs to families across New Rochelle, Pelham, Mount Vernon, Larchmont, and surrounding communities.

The New Rochelle YMCA's pool is one of the few remaining accessible community pools in Westchester County, offering swim lessons, lifeguard training, water exercise, and recreational programs for residents of all ages. The new dehumidification system will create a safer, more sustainable environment and support the Y's mission to promote wellness and inclusion throughout the region.

"I am proud to deliver this funding to



the New Rochelle YMCA, a cornerstone of health, safety, and community for families across Westchester. For generations, this pool has taught children how to swim, provided life-saving training, and offered neighbors a place to gather and grow stronger together. Investing in upgrades ensures the YMCA can continue to serve our community for decades to come. I look forward to seeing the pos-

itive impact this project will have on local families for years ahead," said Senator Nathalia Fernandez.

"This grant is a tremendous investment in the health and future of our communities and we appreciate the hard

work Senator Fernandez and her staff did to secure this funding," said Jennifer Ryan Safsel, CEO of the New Rochelle YMCA. "Our pool is one of only a few YMCA pools still open and affordable which allows us the ability to—teach children how to be safe in the water, gives families a place to connect, and supports wellness for people of all ages. Thanks to the CREST program and the leadership of Senator Fernandez,

we are able to create a safe, sustainable, and welcoming environment for everyone who walks through our doors."

"As the Chief Volunteer Officer and Board Chair we are so grateful and thrilled to accept this check from Senator Fernandez to fix the dehumidification system over our pool. With the state's help, We have come so far in bringing our pool- a critical resource for our community- into tip top shape and look forward to continuing to work with New York State and Senator Fernandez for years to come," said Martha Solinger.

This \$250,000 grant was secured through the Community Resiliency, Economic Sustainability, and Technology (CREST) Program, a state initiative that invests in local infrastructure and community development projects.

For more information about the New Rochelle YMCA and its programs, visit nrymca.org

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Source: OKMLS, 2024, total dollar volume of single family homes sold by agent, New Rochelle school district. Jocelyn ranks in the Top 1% in Westchester County by single family homes sold, total dollar volume, 2024. Top 1.5% in the United States by Real Trends, America's Best.
Source: OKMLS, 1/1/2025 - 11/15/2025, total dollar volume, units sold and listed of single family homes sold by agent, New Rochelle school district.

From the Office of the New Rochelle City Manager



NEW ROCHELLE CITY MANAGER
WILFREDO MELENDEZ

Dear Neighbors,

As we close out 2025 and my first year as City Manager, I gratefully look back on a year of progress, defined by milestones we have reached and by the steady steps forward that have made a meaningful difference. As outlined in my 2025 Work Plan, we have furthered our work throughout the year in the areas of Public Safety and Emergency Preparedness, Environmental Sustainability and Stewardship, Economic Development, Opportunity Prosperity and Growth, Community Building and Resilient Infrastructure. We have much to applaud: the rollout of MobileNR app; increased Community Engagement by our Police and Fire Departments; the adoption of an updated GreenNR sustainability plan, completion of a Climate

Vulnerability Assessment and development of a Climate Adaptation Plan; the launch of our downtown Retail Strategy and the Vanguard Initiative; continuation of our robust Summer Youth Employment Program and increased Senior Citizen programming; and improvements to our roadways, downtown parking garages, and stormwater systems, just to name a few.

In November I presented my 2026 proposed budget to the City Council. The budget addresses Council priorities and resident needs while maintaining service levels and continuing our investment in critical infrastructure, stays within the tax cap and for the first time in over a decade, does not utilize our unassigned fund balance to help balance the budget. Proposed 2026 Budget Initiatives include Year Three of the Ten-Year Flood Mitigation Program, increasing roadway repaving and repairs citywide, continued investment in economic development and businesses, capital improvements at Ward Acres Park, implementation of a Community Forest Management Plan, and so much more. After a public hearing (December 2nd) and Council input, I am confident the final budget will be adopted in December.

You can find more information regarding the 2026 proposed budget at www.newrochelleny.gov/2026proposedbudget and you can view all of the budget presentations that were made to City Council at <https://newrochelleny.gov/proposedpresentation>.

Here are a few updates and reminders:

Free Holiday Parking Downtown: In continuation of a holiday tradition and to encourage holiday shopping in New Rochelle, enjoy free two-hour parking in the City at most of our Municipal Lots December 1- 31 from 9 AM to 9 PM. The City will also offer free two-hour parking at the New Roc Garage for the Fifth Annual Holiday Market during operating hours.

Holiday Market Returns: Enjoy our annual festive market indoors this year at New Roc City(29 LeCount Place, 2nd floor). Step into a charming winter village featuring artisans, artists, crafters, delicious food, live performances and an indoor skating rink. The market will be open from November 28 through December 14, weekdays from 4-8 PM and Saturdays & Sundays from noon- 8 PM.

North Avenue Bridge Construction Update: The North Avenue bridge replacement project is entering its final phase of construction with the reopening of a single southbound lane to traffic, allowing motorists to travel downtown without a detour at Lockwood Avenue or Memorial Highway. Northbound traffic will continue to travel

in a single lane through the work zone as the contractor conducts final work on the new span, including completing sidewalks, installing traffic signals and roadway lighting, and finishing construction at a pocket park. Traffic is anticipated to be in its final configuration on the bridge by the end of the year—two travel lanes in each direction and a dedicated lane on southbound North Avenue to turn left onto Garden Street, weather permitting.

Holiday Events: Finally, the City will have a number of special events for the holiday season. In addition to the Holiday Market, events include Drive-Thru Selfie with Santa, Rudolph's Red-Nosed Romp, the Chamber of Commerce Holiday Lighting, Santa's Parks Tours, and the Kid's Roc'n New Year's Eve event at Ryan Sinkfield Park.

Information on all of the above are on our City website, newrochelleny.gov and our social media channels.

As we close out 2025, I am grateful for the dedicated employees of all of our departments and bureaus, who work hard to serve the community all year long. And I want to extend my thanks for the support from all of you in New Rochelle who continue to do your best for our neighborhoods and our City. I wish you all a safe, happy and healthy holiday season.



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Annual New Rochelle Holiday Market Returns, Bringing Together Community and Seasonal Spirit

The City of New Rochelle's Annual Holiday Market has returned for the fifth year, marking the beginning of the holiday season by fostering festive community spirit and supporting small businesses. Featuring a mix of over 60 vendors, including local artisans and a lively ambiance, the market's lineup highlights the diverse makeup of the City's many minority and women-owned businesses and entrepreneurs (MWBs). New this year, the Holiday Market moved from its usual location at the New Rochelle Train Station to a new space in New Roc City, allowing shoppers to get out of the winter cold and encouraging visitors to enjoy the lively, activated space full of family-friendly retail offerings and other seasonal activities. A full list of vendors and more information can be found at <https://ideallynewrochelle.com/events/holiday-market/>.

"We're thrilled to once again bring together our business community and residents for the annual New Rochelle Holiday Market," said New Rochelle Mayor Yadira Ramos-Herbert. "This year marks an exciting new chapter of holiday enjoyment in the New Rochelle chapter as we host the event for the first time at New Roc City—one of our community's



most vibrant destinations. It's inspiring to see this dynamic landmark of our City space come alive with local vendors, holiday cheer, and the spirit of connection that defines New Rochelle. As we look ahead to 2026, we remain committed to expanding opportunities that support small businesses and create inclusive, engaging spaces for all."

The Holiday Market, open through December 14, features a mix of "permanent" and rotating vendors, offering a fresh array of options with each visit. Visitors can shop from a diverse group of vendors, including Gaelles French Pastries, Mom to Jax handmade candles, and favorite The Humble Bumble bookstore. Additionally, guests can enjoy

a varied selection of culinary options from a dedicated section of food & beverage vendors, representing local restaurants and rotating regularly for new offerings upon every visit. Shoppers are also be treated to a lively soundtrack of live performances including songs from

Frozen Live, Broadway renditions, and local schools and choirs, and beats from a live DJ, plus a live princess meet and greet.

Even with the market's new indoor location, shoppers are still able to enjoy a favorite winter pastime: ice skating. An artificial ice-skating rink will be a highlight for families and visitors of all ages to enjoy for free.

For the first time, market-goers are experiencing the event at New Roc City in downtown New Rochelle. This lively new location offers a dynamic destination to spend an hour or an afternoon, taking advantage of a diverse collection of shops, dining, and entertainment beyond

the Holiday Market.

After a morning of shopping the market, guests and families can check out the latest offerings from the Parks and Recreation Department at the newly opened Downtown Rec Center, test their strength at Bananas Axe Cabana axe-throwing, bounce around Sky Zone trampoline park, or practice their skills at Soccerroof ahead of next year's World Cup. The move marks an exciting new chapter for the event, reflecting the City's continued commitment to fostering vibrant community spaces that celebrate local businesses and bring residents together.

Shoppers need not brave the winter cold to enjoy the Holiday Market – visitors can park on the New Roc City garage's fourth floor for direct access to the market via the new Skybridge covered walkway. Thanks to a new resolution adopted by the New Rochelle City Council, shoppers can take advantage of 2 hours of free parking on the third and fourth floor of the garage during Holiday Market hours. And those located around the City or traveling to New Rochelle via Metro-North can look out for CircuitNR service to shuttle them to and from New Roc City free of charge.

Boys & Girls Club of New Rochelle and CEO Honored for Outstanding Leadership and Innovation

The Boys & Girls Club of New Rochelle recently received several prestigious honors from Boys & Girls Clubs of America recognizing outstanding leadership and innovation across the organization.

CEO Becky Mazzanobile was named the Northeast Area Council CEO of the Year for the second consecutive year, honoring her exemplary leadership, service and contributions to the Boys & Girls Club movement and to the New Rochelle and Westchester communities.

The award celebrates CEOs who demonstrate exceptional dedication to advancing youth development, strengthening community partnerships and driving organizational excellence at the local, regional and national levels. Mazzanobile, was also recently elected to the Board of Directors of the Northeast Boys & Girls Clubs Alliance, where she will help guide statewide collaboration, legislative engagement and the expansion of quality youth development programs across the region.

"I am humbled to be named, for the second straight year, as the Chief Executive Officer of the Year for the Boys & Girls Club New York/Long Island Area Council for leadership and service," said Mazzanobile. "Last year, I was gratified by the Boys & Girls Clubs of America's recognition preceding this year's election to the Alliance's Board of Directors. I

share every honor with our amazing staff who prioritize great futures for our youths every day."

The Club's Chief Program Officer, William Iannuzzi, earned the Advocacy Innovation Award for the organization's exceptional youth civic engagement programming. The honor recognizes Boys & Girls Clubs that empower teens to analyze issues, advocate for their communities and elevate their voices through youth-led projects and collaboration with local leaders.

The award was presented to Iannuzzi on behalf of the Club during the Boys & Girls Clubs of America's Northeast Leadership Conference, held Oct. 7-10 in Fajardo, Puerto Rico. The Boys & Girls Club of New Rochelle was also recognized as one of the top five Boys & Girls Clubs in the Northeast for its excellence in youth advocacy and civic engagement.

These distinctions highlight both the organization's shared commitment to empowering teens through initiatives such as Think, Learn, Create Change (TLC), Youth Civics Day and the Keystone Club, programs that help young people identify community issues, develop leadership skills and take action to create meaningful change.

"This recognition of Will Iannuzzi reflects the dedication and passion of our entire team,"



Becky Mazzanobile and William Iannuzzi

said Mazzanobile. "Every day, our staff and volunteers work tirelessly to create opportunities for young people to learn, lead and thrive. To see our advocacy and leadership initiatives celebrated on a national stage reinforces that our strategic approaches and programs in New Rochelle are not only meaningful locally but vital to the success of the Boys & Girls Club movement nationwide. It's another example of how great futures truly start here."

Jim Clark, President and CEO of Boys & Girls Clubs of America, acknowledged Boys & Girls Club of New Rochelle and its staff during his keynote remarks, highlighting the Club's impact and recognizing Teen Director Gustavo Morales and Youth Development Specialist Juan Ruiz Diaz for their exceptional work and leadership within the movement.

"Receiving recognition from Boys & Girls

Clubs of America President Jim Clark was both humbling and energizing," said Iannuzzi. "It was a proud moment to see two of our staff members, both former Club teens, acknowledged for their leadership and innovation. This award validates the intentional efforts we've made to elevate youth voice and advocacy at every level of our organization."

The Boys & Girls Club of New Rochelle's award-winning civic engagement initiatives include Think, Learn, Create Change (TLC), a hands-on advocacy program where teens identify community issues, research their root causes, and design youth-led projects that promote meaningful solutions. The Keystone Club, the organization's premier teen leadership program, empowers members to plan and lead service projects, build strong character and explore educational and career pathways while giving back to their communities.

Additionally, Youth Civics Day brings together teens, elected officials and community leaders for a day of dialogue and collaboration, allowing young people to share their perspectives, practice public speaking and experience civic engagement in action. Together, these programs help youth strengthen their leadership skills, elevate their voices and take active roles in shaping positive change in New Rochelle and beyond.

City of New Rochelle Adopts Vacant Storefront Registry to Strengthen Commercial Corridors and Data Insights

The City of New Rochelle has adopted an ordinance to establish the City's first ever Vacant Storefront Registry, a new resource designed to track and reduce commercial vacancies in real time. As part of New Rochelle's comprehensive Vanguard Initiative to strengthen the local downtown economy and revitalize the city's retail landscape, the registry will provide valuable data to help the City better understand vacancy patterns, support property owners, and attract the right businesses to available spaces. While the registry applies citywide, special attention will be given to downtown, where roughly 70% of vacant storefronts are concentrated.

The new ordinance requires owners of properties with vacant storefront — those that are located on the ground floor and have not been in use for 90 days or more — to register with the City within 30 days of entering vacancy through a simple online form. Owners who fail to maintain properties to code, adhere to vacancy standards, or enroll in the registry may be subject to warnings or citations.

Throughout the first year, the City will actively engage with property owners to explain the process, share resources, and help fill spaces efficiently. During the program's first year, there will be no fee for registration, with enforcement focused only on ensuring compliance and proper property maintenance. Beginning in year two, property owners will be required to renew their registration annually for a \$1,000 fee. The fee will cover essential administrative and technology costs associated with managing and analyzing registry data.

"Downtown New Rochelle is evolving into a more vibrant, connected, and inclusive place for businesses and residents alike," said New Rochelle Mayor Yadira Ramos Herbert. "Through our Vanguard Initiative we're improving the public realm, increasing accessibility, and offering incentives to help small businesses start, grow, and thrive right here. The new Vacant Storefront Registry builds on that momentum — giving us a smart, data-driven way to track vacancies, fill spaces faster, and better understand what our business community needs to succeed."

"As we anticipate 15,000 newcom-

ers to downtown New Rochelle over the next decade, we're working to transform our retail sector for current and future community members alike. The Vacant Storefront Registry is a crucial component of our efforts," said New Rochelle City Manager Wilfredo Melendez. "By creating a transparent, data-driven understanding of local vacancies, we'll be able to accelerate downtown revitalization, support small business growth, and strengthen public-private collaboration across our commercial corridors. This tool allows us to track ground floor vacancies in real time, address the underlying causes, better support our businesses, and attract new investment to our city."

"By establishing the Vacant Storefront Registry, we are taking a proactive, insight-led approach to downtown revitalization," said Adam Salgado, Development Commissioner. "This initiative not only helps us identify and address vacant spaces more efficiently, but it strengthens our partnership with property owners and business leaders. Importantly, it's a strategy that can be replicated by other cities facing similar challenges, offering a smart, transparent way to keep downtowns vibrant, attract new investment, and support local businesses."

The Vacant Storefront Registry is one of several strategies driving the City's comprehensive plan to revitalize downtown New Rochelle's retail landscape. The signature Vanguard Initiative, launched at the end of 2024, includes public realm and accessibility improvements, retail enhancements, fast-track zoning, and tenant incentives to foster an environment where small businesses can succeed. To date, the City has also awarded funding to 11 downtown businesses through its \$2.25 million Retail Tenant Improvement Fund.

New Rochelle is also reinvesting \$36 million of development revenue directly back into its downtown. This commitment fuels business openings while funding public art installations, EV charging stations, enhanced public spaces, and other community assets. As a result of these efforts and early successes, the City projects that downtown retail demand will grow by 36 percent within the next decade.

City Manager Melendez Presents Proposed Budget for FY 2026



BY STEPHEN E. LIPKEN

New Rochelle Mayor Yadira Ramos-Herbert convened the November 12th Committee of the Whole (COW) meeting, beginning with City Manager Wilfredo Melendez's presentation of \$256 million Proposed Budget for Fiscal Year 2026.

The proposed tax increase of 2.46% complies with the NYS tax cap legislation. The average homeowner will see an increase of \$103, equating to approximately \$9 per month.

Proposed Budget continues funding positions in the Police Department that were added during 2025. The City's infrastructure will be supported with sanitary sewer, storm drain enhancements and continuation of a 10-year Capital Plan. Economic development will progress with Downtown Revitalization Initiative (DRI)-funded projects and Complete Streets.

Union contractual obligations for employee salaries, health insurance and pension increases account for the remainder of rise in expenses included in proposed Budget. These increases will be funded by tax revenue, fees, grant funding and anticipated increases in one-time revenue streams generated from the City's development program.

Development Commissioner Adam Salgado discussed Proposed Authorization to execute Inter-

municipal Agreement with Westchester County regarding funding for City-owned Electric Vehicle Charging Stations. Resolution authorizing City Manager to enter into an agreement with INF Associates via existing Sourcewell contract to install Electric Vehicle Charging stations at New Roc Garage; proposed authorization to accept donation of Electric Vehicle Charging Stations and execute a Site Owner Agreement with Voltpost, Inc.

Regarding Proposed Application for Westchester County Stormwater Management Law Program, Resolution rescinds Resolution No. 2025-164, adopted October 21, 2025 and authorizes City Manager to submit application and documentation for Westchester County Stormwater Management Law (BPL-26) Grant Program relative to the LINC Flood Mitigation Project and commits required revised local match of \$16 million.

Proposed authorization to submit Application under the NYS Pro Housing Technical Assistance Program, authorizing City Manager to submit an application to NYS Homes and Community Renewal under 2025 Pro Housing Communities Technical Assistance Program and finally, Proposed Resolution authorizing the acceptance of 10 trees from New York Power Authority under the 2025 Tree Power Program.

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City of New Rochelle Unveils New Digital Tools to Boost Downtown Growth and Support Local Businesses

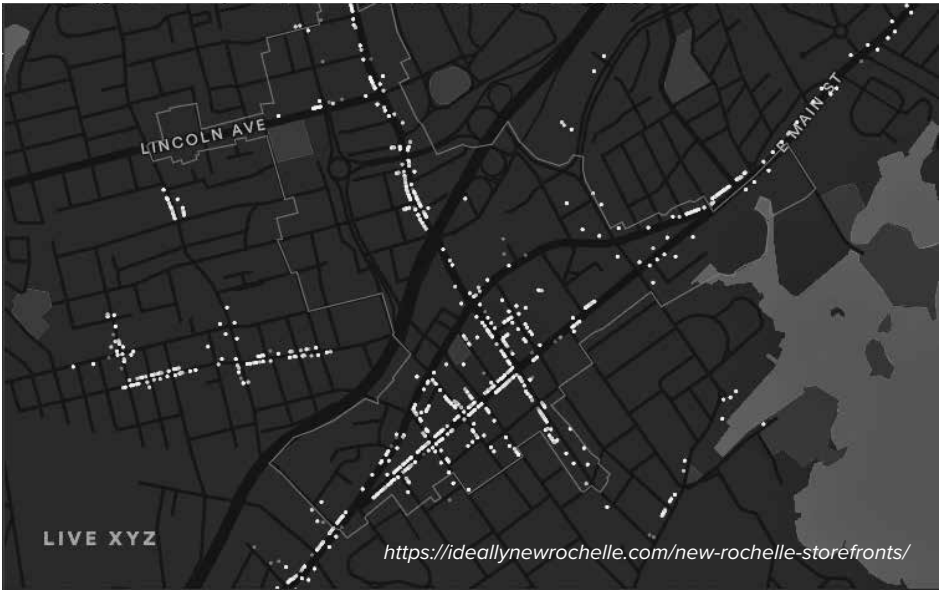
The City of New Rochelle today announced the launch of the LiveXYZ Storefront Map & Directory and New Rochelle Downtown Vanguard Dashboard – two new digital tools designed to strengthen the local downtown business ecosystem, improve retail visibility, and provide the City, brokers, and prospective tenants with unprecedented timely insights into downtown activity.

Together, these tools advance the goals of the City’s signature Vanguard Initiative to activate the first floors of downtown buildings and create a more welcoming, accessible, and economically resilient city center. Alongside recent efforts—such as the adoption of the City’s Vacant Storefront Registry—they establish a unified, data-driven system for filling ground-floor vacancies, supporting entrepreneurs, and increasing transparency across one of New Rochelle’s main commercial corridors.

The Downtown Vanguard Dashboard is an interactive public platform that combines timely data on demographics and housing, downtown retail activity — including LiveXYZ updates on openings and occupancy — and metrics on cleanliness and safety. Updated quarterly, the dashboard offers a clear, comprehensive snapshot of downtown’s health, helping track progress and guide future investments.

Complementing this, the Storefront Map & Directory — developed in partnership with LiveXYZ — is a comprehensive, citywide digital map of all ground-floor storefronts, both occupied and vacant. Updated every 90 days and equipped with search filters and bookmarking features, the tool allows prospective tenants, brokers, and residents to easily identify available spaces, explore business types, and understand the composition of the city’s retail landscape. It is the first tool of its kind to launch in New York State outside of New York City, bringing a new level of clarity and insight into New Rochelle’s retail landscape.

“As New York’s fastest-growing city, we’re committed to making downtown New Rochelle more open and connected than ever,” said New Rochelle Mayor Yadira Ramos-Herbert. “These new tools give everyone, from residents to retailers to developers, a clear window into what’s happening downtown, helping more people see the opportunities that make our city such a vibrant place to invest and grow.”



“With 15,000 new residents expected downtown in the coming years, we’re entering an incredible moment of opportunity,” said City Manager Wilfredo Melendez. “These tools will help local businesses meet that demand and guide the City’s decisions with data insights – fueling a thriving, inclusive, and forward-looking downtown economy.”

“Active ground floors are what bring a city to life,” said Development Commissioner Adam Salgado. “By integrating the LiveXYZ tool with our new dashboard, we’re giving small businesses and investors a clear view of what’s happening downtown—and giving ourselves the

information needed to adapt strategies, refine policies, and accelerate the momentum we’re seeing across the city.”

The LiveXYZ tool and dashboard are one of several strategies driving the City’s comprehensive plan to revitalize downtown New Rochelle’s retail landscape. The signature Vanguard Initiative, launched at the end of 2024, includes public realm and accessibility improvements, retail enhancements, fast-track zoning, and tenant incentives to foster an environment where small businesses can succeed. To date, the City has also awarded funding to 11 downtown businesses through its \$2.25 million Retail Tenant Improvement Fund.

New Rochelle is also reinvesting \$36 million of development revenue directly back into its downtown. This commitment fuels business openings while funding public art installations, EV charging stations, enhanced public spaces, and other community assets. As a result of these efforts and early successes, the City projects that downtown retail demand will grow by 36 percent within the next decade.

New Rochelle Public Library Foundation Cuts the Ribbon on Children’s Garden Space

Despite the autumn chill in the air the New Rochelle Public Library is abloom: An underutilized outdoor area has been transformed into a beautiful new Children’s Garden, creating an outdoor learning space where curiosity, creativity and community can take root. Elected officials and community leaders were on hand as the New Rochelle Public Library Foundation hosted a ribbon cutting event for the new Children’s Garden at the NRPL on Wednesday, October 29th.

“Many of our youngest library visitors do not have back yards, and now they do,” said NRPL Foundation co-President Stephanie Tomei. “This new garden space is their backyard, a space for connection, learning, and enrichment.”

NRPL Director Eugenia Schatoff agreed, adding “The Children’s Garden reflects our commitment to creating spaces where young minds can explore, imagine, and grow. It’s a beautiful extension of the Library’s mission to nurture lifelong learning and strengthen our connection with the community.”

The Children’s Garden was created to accommodate growing demand: Each



year the New Rochelle Public Library welcomes more than 26,000 children and family members to nearly 1,000 programs that spark imagination, learning and joy. That means that the Children’s Room is often stretched for space, and during the COVID-19 crisis the need for an outdoor space became undeniable. In response the New Rochelle Public Library Foundation went to work, partnering with the City of New Rochelle and NRPL staff to secure a competitive \$250,000 ARPA grant to fund construction.

“While \$250,000 is a lot of money, much of it you cannot see,” explained Stephanie Tomei. “A lot of money went into electrical, drainage, and dealing with remediation of an underground tank. So while we have a beautiful new space, many of the dollars spent on this project are not visible to the eye. That’s why tonight we are launching a campaign to complete the vision, recreating the magic of the wonderful children’s room OUTSIDE, where learning will bloom and

continued on page 11



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New Rochelle High School Standout Jeronimo “Jero” Velasquez Named Section 1 Soccer Player of the Year

In a first for the school, New Rochelle High School senior Jero Velasquez is the New York State Public High School Athletic Association’s (NYSPHSAA) Section 1 Boys’ Soccer Player of the Year.

Velasquez, the team’s captain and goalie, is a three-time All-Section player, two-time All-State, and the League’s Most Valuable Player. He is nominated for the All-Region and All-America Teams as well. If he is selected as an All-America, Velasquez would be distinguished as one of the top 50 high school players in the nation.

Velasquez led the Huguenots to a Section 1 Class AAA Co-Championship, finishing the season with a 14-2-3 record. This is the New Rochelle High School Varsity Soccer Team’s second section title, which they last won in 2017.

“From the moment we had our first training session in the summer, I could feel something was different. There was energy, hunger running through all of us that made me realize that this year was going to be unforgettable,” said Velasquez. “We won as one, we lost as one, and did everything as one big family every day. We created memories that will last forever.”

In addition to Velasquez, Adrian Medina and Josemiguel Ayala were named All-Section players; Julian Ocegüera and Damian Torres received All-Section Honorable Mentions; Nicolas Canales and Rayan Pierre-Louise received All-League nominations.

Coach Jarohan Garcia was named League Coach of the Year and was a finalist for Section 1 Coach of the Year. He praised his team for their athleticism, academics, and character, and thanked the assistant coaches who helped lead the team to victory: Assistant Head Coach Gustavo Barbosa, and Assistant Coaches Francis McCarthy, JP Goncalves, Luis Ayala, and Alejandro Ramirez, with whom he has coached the team for eleven years.

“To us, this program is more than just soccer. It’s our community and we’re proud of it. The boys are a perfect example and personify that spirit every time they come to school or step on the soccer field,” said Garcia.



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FROM THE BERKOWITZ MARRONE TEAM

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We wish you all the best of the season.... family, friends, health & happiness.
If you are Home For The Holidays... Enjoy!

If you're planning to celebrate the holidays in a new home next year... start putting that wish list together and we will help you make it a reality (we'll even check it twice)!

Now is the time to ponder, plan and give yourselves the gift of hope and dreams.

We are here with and for you. In this season of sharing, let's share some of your best ideas with ours and make them all come true for you.

*Peace,
Owen, Carol & Team*

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how plays the role of food for all future growth. When food is lacking, adapt, and thrive is compromised before preschool even begins. Hungry toddlers who struggle with language acquisition, in children who are slow to learn, the setbacks are not only measurable in studies, they are visible in classrooms. The link between early food insecurity and later outcomes is not coincidental. Children may struggle to regulate emotions, may have more difficulty forming relationships. These early disruptions ripple outward across their lives, affecting their relationships, and their long-term potential. A toddler who does not learn to learn the way their peers do. A preschooler who grows up in poverty but from the stress and confusion of living with instability, unable to explain what they feel or the strategies to cope with the signals of deeper struggles tied to unmet needs. A child too young to speak is already being shaped by the environment. Like Westchester, the presence of such early food insecurity and in food pantry lines or speak out about their struggles. Vulnerability is greatest, because the consequences are long-term. A child who enters kindergarten already behind begins to fall behind. A child who learns in their earliest years to cope with stress into every new experience. And as the National Association of Public Child Welfare Associations show, these outcomes are strongly associated with cognitive and socio-emotional development. It is not just about the present — it is about shaping the trajectory of a child's life. The consequences fall on children who are most vulnerable, not entirely on the adults and systems that are responsible. The damage of early food insecurity is not inevitable. The support they need when it matters most. Resilience provides more than calories; it provides the foundation for healthy development. A well-fed toddler is more emotionally, more engaged in play, and more resilient. A baby whose parents do not have access to food and formula or groceries grows up in a world of instability. A child can flourish. Each meal provided to a child is an investment, in emotional health, and in the promise of a better future. The impact of these earliest years has an outsized impact because it is the foundation, when the foundation for all future growth is laid. For young children and toddlers is therefore not just about the present, but about lifelong disadvantages before they even begin. The consequences extend outward across families and communities. Parents are relieved of one of their greatest fears, bonding, and building stable households. A child is ready to learn, reducing the gaps that can be filled. Communities commit to protecting the youngest from poverty, actively creating healthier, more resilient generations. The delays, behavioral problems, and diminished potential, what it really means is lost potential, untapped potential, and the places that can be changed. So while it is painful to see the children most at risk from food insecurity, it is equally important to act. These outcomes are not written in stone; they can be changed. Food insecurity may create delays, but it does not mean failure. Resilience, but nourishment builds resilience. Every bag of rice, every meal aimed at families with the youngest children is an investment in a brighter future tomorrow. By choosing to act, we can create a world where no parent has to watch a baby cry from hunger, that hunger is solvable as food insecurity. And we can prove, once again, that we deserve the greatest protection, the strongest support, and the best outcomes. The Association Network's 2021 study makes clear what families and communities need. Food insecurity is not simply a hardship of the present, it is a predictor of later outcomes. Food insecurity before the age of three were substantially more likely to be in school, and poorer socio-emotional development as they grew up. Food insecurity, and maternal depression, which means the presence of food insecurity in diminished outcomes. In other words, hunger is not a single factor fully explains away. Teachers often see the effects of food insecurity in language, struggling with focus, and in behavior. They note higher stress responses, developmental delays, and challenges. Parents themselves are often overwhelmed. Children fall behind or wrestle with the weight of the world to bear. These findings show that food insecurity is just one problem

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Each, it is a disruption to the entire process of growth. It slows emotional development that is shaped by stress instead of security, where the littlest ones carry the silent cost of unmet needs, direct and undeniable. Young children who do not get enough attachments, and may exhibit behavioral challenges as a result, not only their readiness for school but also their health. Those who receive enough consistent nourishment cannot focus on anything else in a household where food is scarce may act out more often for stability. And unlike older children, they do not yet have the words to say it. Their cries, their tantrums, their quiet withdrawal. Behind every one of these moments is the possibility of hunger, by circumstances outside of their control. For a child, hunger is often hidden. Infants and toddlers do not always show struggles, so their needs are less visible. Yet the effects of food insecurity at this stage extend far beyond the immediate cause of nutritional deficits may never be fully met, that home is marked by scarcity may be more common. Studies from the Journal of the American Academy of Pediatrics comes are consistent: food insecurity leads to cognitive delays, behavioral challenges, and even emotional problems. It's simply about being hungry in a household where an entire childhood. The tragedy is that for a child too young to advocate for themselves, the responsibility around them for protection. And yet, the lack of food security can be prevented if families receive reliable access to food during the first three years of life. The stability and security that are essential for a child is not only healthier physically but also emotionally. A child better able to form strong attachments, a child who has to worry constantly about hunger, a child in a household where stress is lower, a child whose young child is an investment in brain development of a stronger future. Every intervention that causes this is when the brain is most vulnerable, is being laid. Ensuring food security from the start, meeting immediate needs, it is about preventing the ripple effects of supporting the needs of communities. When young children are exposed to anxieties, allowing them to focus more on their own. When toddlers grow up secure, they are less likely to widen into lifelong inequities. And when a child experiences hunger, they are not only preventing harm but also generations. A statistic like "more likely to show signs of socio-emotional outcomes" may sound like a distant promise, and childhoods forever altered by circumstances. We acknowledge that children under three are at the heart of it. It is important to remember that this harm can be prevented. They are shaped by whether or not community food security creates opportunity. Hunger may be a lack of groceries, every stocked pantry, every support system. It is an investment not only in preventing hunger today but also in ensuring that no child's earliest years are defined by it. No toddler enters preschool already behind because of it. And for all, that the littlest ones — the most vulnerable at the heart of the full measure of our care. The Journal of the American Academy of Pediatrics educators have observed for years: food insecurity in the first three years of future outcomes. The research found that children who are more likely to show measurable cognitive delays, more behavioral challenges. These associations persisted even after controlling for income, food insecurity itself, independent of other struggles, was a defining factor. Leaving the first three years leaves a unique and damaging imprint on a child's life. The evidence firsthand: young children entering preschool with cognitive delays, having more difficulty managing emotions. Perinatal and developmental delays, and early markers of behavioral challenges. We feel the weight most acutely, watching as a child faces challenges that should never have been there. It matters because they strip away the stability that so many among many and prove it is a struggle that is not just a matter of food.

INSECURITY TO SHOW PROBLEMS, OPMENT



SCAN HERE



*Society for Research in Child Development. 2017

“Planting the Future: Tree by Tree” Event Kicks off Fall Tree Planting Initiative in New Rochelle

The City of New Rochelle celebrated its fall tree planting season with the “Planting the Future: Tree by Tree” event on Thursday, November 6, highlighting how expansion of the community forest is central to New Rochelle’s vision for an equitable, resilient, and sustainable future, while reinforcing the City’s commitment to grow its tree canopy, increase shade, and improve air quality across neighborhoods. Attending the tree planting at Flowers City Park



(Field 3) were City officials, members and youth leaders from ENRAC (New Rochelle’s Ecology and Natural Resources Advisory Committee), community members, and students in the HOPE afterschool program at Parkside Place.

The planting of two Linden (*Tilia* species) trees marked the start of New Rochelle’s fall tree planting season, which will add more than 200 trees Citywide. This season represents the City’s first data-driven, equity-centered planting effort guided by its new Community Forest Management Plan (CFMP) and Climate Vulnerability Assessment. Together these tools use local data to guide tree planting where they are needed most.

As a leader in planning for climate resiliency and environmental justice, New Rochelle has committed to planting at least 50% of new trees each year in State-designated Disadvantaged Communities, which is a key action aligning with the goals of New York State’s CLCPA and the City’s GreeNR sustainability plan. The event also marked youth and community engagement in action, with ENRAC Youth representatives and Parkside students helping to put the Plan into practice.

Council Member Sara Kaye said, “The Tree by Tree kickoff puts our Community Forest Management Plan into action, using data and equity to

guide how and where we plant for the greatest impact. By prioritizing neighborhoods most vulnerable to heat and flooding, we’re ensuring that every investment in our urban forest advances both resilience and fairness. I’m especially proud that our ENRAC youth representatives helped lead today’s event, showing that the next generation is ready to carry forward the work of building a greener New Rochelle.”

Noting that collectively, New Rochelle’s over 15,500 inventoried public trees deliver over \$4M in environmental benefits each year and represent \$70M+ in municipal assets, City Manager Wilfredo Melendez, PE said, “Tree planting has immediate and long-term impact. Every tree we add to our urban forest brings more shade, beauty and resiliency to our streets and parks- while also helping to manage stormwater and support a healthier environment for everyone.”

Every new tree planted will have a sign that includes a QR code linking to the City’s Urban Forestry Community Viewer (<https://app.arborprousa.com/viewer/qJMizRoL4XeVuo2L>), containing information on tree location, species, and contribution to the City’s tree canopy.

BACKGROUND:

In the summer of 2024, the City of New Rochelle contracted with ArborPro, Inc. for a complete inventory and assessment of its street

trees. What began as a basic project focused on maintenance grew into a bold, long-term vision encompassing planting, management, sustainability, resilience and equity that will benefit generations to come. ArborPro inventoried public trees including almost all City parks, cataloging 15,590 trees at a value of over \$70 million. They collected data and completed analysis in coordination with contracted Certified Arborist Consultants and City Staff to develop a comprehensive Community Forest Management Plan which includes proactive tree maintenance, planting strategies, and ongoing environmental stewardship goals that will expand green space and build resilience in our public landscapes. Upon final approval, this long-term management plan will serve as the guiding framework for all future tree care initiatives within the City and will:

- Expand community canopy coverage, with at least 50% of new trees each year to be planted in high-need areas identified by the CFMP and Climate Vulnerability Assessment
- Advance climate resilience and stormwater management
- Promote biodiversity, habitat connectivity and native species
- Support Smart Growth and Sustainable Development
- Foster Community Engagement and Stewardship
- Ensure long-term community forest health and stability.

The City’s goal is to complete all priority maintenance by end of 2026, positioning the City to embrace a sustained cycle maintenance cycle that will further enhance the health of our urban forest while adhering to our budgetary commitments. Metrics tracking plantings, maintenance, and impacts will be regularly reported.

New Rochelle Public Library Foundation Cuts the Ribbon on Children’s Garden Space

continued from page 6

children will thrive.”

The vision for the Children’s Garden is a space that grows with the community, offering expanded space for the Children’s Room that will accommodate performances, family programs and creative workshops. Tomei added that thanks to an anonymous donor and support from M&T Bank, the campaign is already halfway to its goal of raising \$110,000 needed “to bring this space to life. We are looking to our supporters to meet our goal in the next six months.” To make a donation visit <https://bit.ly/4hAAiOQ>

In her remarks Tomei also recognized that New Rochelle Public Library has additional children’s space: “We are fortunate that in addition to the Children’s Room at the Main Branch downtown we also have the Huguenot Children’s Library up the road, which is truly a treasure in our community. The HCL exists because of devoted community members, and we are building on that legacy by forming a committee of HCL supporters to help us gather ideas and information about how HCL can play an even greater role in the community.”

“The children of New Rochelle are so fortunate to have two amazing library spaces and we are excited about their futures.”

Established in 1993, the New Rochelle Public Library Foundation has raised more than \$3 million for the New Rochelle Public Library; in addition, stepping in as a matching funder, the Foundation has been able to leverage its support to bring in an additional \$960,000 dollars in New York State grants. These funds have been used for significant capital investments, including the purchase of computers for public access to the Internet; renovation of the reference and information service area; refurbishing of the lobby; creation of a teen area; development of a local history room; creation of a Business Opportunity Center, Quiet Reading Room and Community Conference Room; plus renovations to the Ossie Davis Theater and other areas, including a new circulation desk.

The Foundation also supports discounted passes for area museums, teen summer programs, childhood language-learning materials and other initiatives that enrich the lives of New Rochelle residents.

The NRPLF is a 501(c)(3) tax exempt organization. For more information visit our website: www.nrplfoundation.org or contact Executive Director Nina Robertson by phone at 914-813-3726 or email at nrobertson@nrplfoundation.org.

Estate Planning for Tangible Property



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

When people think about estate planning, they often focus on major assets like real estate, investment accounts, and life insurance policies. However, tangible personal property—items such as jewelry, artwork, collectibles, furniture, vehicles, and family heirlooms—can carry both emotional and financial value. Planning for how these possessions will be distributed after death is an important yet often overlooked part of a comprehensive estate plan.

These items may or may not have high monetary value, but they frequently hold deep sentimental significance. Disputes over tangible items are common among heirs because personal meaning can outweigh market worth. A grandmother's wedding ring, for instance, might cause more tension than a bank account because of its emotional connection.

One way to handle tangible assets is through a personal property memorandum. This document, referenced in your will or trust, allows you to list specific items and designate who should receive them. Unlike a will, which typically requires formal execution to make changes, a memorandum can usually be updated more easily without legal formalities. This flexibility makes it ideal for items that may change hands, be sold, or be newly acquired over time. However, it is important to note that in New York a personal property memorandum is not legally binding, and it simply shows the Decedent's wishes regarding their tangible personal property.

Another option is to distribute tangible personal property through specific bequests in a will or trust. A specific bequest names a particular item and the individual who should receive it. For example:

"I give my diamond engagement ring to my daughter, Jane Doe."

"I give my antique piano to my nephew, John Doe."

By including language like this, you remove ambiguity and give your executor clear legal instructions. These specific bequests are binding and enforceable under your will or trust, ensuring that your wishes are carried out as you intend.

It's important to describe each item clearly to prevent confusion or disputes. Include identifying details—such as brand names, serial numbers, or distinguishing features—especially for valuable or similar-looking property. If you later sell or give away an item that you've listed in your will, your estate plan should be updated to reflect that change. Photographs are another excellent way to clearly illustrate which tangible personal property you are describing.

Tangible personal property should be coordinated with the rest of your estate plan. For example, if valuable items are part of a trust, ownership may need to be formally transferred to the trust to avoid probate. Additionally, specific items left in a will should align with the terms of any trust or beneficiary designations to prevent contradictions. Items with significant value—such as rare collectibles—should be documented carefully for estate valuation purposes.

Tangible personal property estate planning is more than just deciding who gets what—it's about preserving family relationships and honoring sentimental ties. By creating a detailed memorandum, communicating clearly with loved ones, and integrating personal property decisions into your estate plan, you can reduce the risk of disputes and ensure your possessions end up exactly where you intend.

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.

New Rochelle YMCA and Mount Vernon Resource Adult Center Announce New Partnership to Support Senior Wellness



The New Rochelle YMCA (NRYMCA) and the Mount Vernon Resource Adult Center (MVRAC) are proud to announce a new partnership dedicated to enhancing the health, wellness, and quality of life of Mount Vernon's senior community.

"We are thrilled to announce such a meaningful partnership between the Mount Vernon Adult Resource Center and the New Rochelle YMCA. This collaboration represents a shared commitment to uplifting and empowering the senior community of Mount Vernon. Through this alliance, our seniors will gain greater access to enriching programs designed to support their physical, emotional, and social well-being—ensuring they live life to its fullest potential," said New Rochelle YMCA CEO Jennifer Ryan Safsel.

This collaboration will bring YMCA-led fitness, wellness, and educational programs directly to the Resource Center, offering seniors greater access to opportunities that promote active living, social connection, and overall well-being. The partnership will also help participants determine whether they qualify for free YMCA membership through their health insurance plans, such as Silver Sneakers® and Renew Active®.

The programming will include low-impact fitness classes, such as stretch and movement sessions, Zumba Gold, and the evidence-based "Walk with Ease"

program, along with ongoing wellness and social engagement opportunities. It is truly inspiring to witness organizations come together with purpose and compassion.

"The New Rochelle YMCA brings a wealth of experience and heart to this partnership, and we are proud to stand alongside them in service of our elders. Together, we are building a stronger, more vibrant future for Mount Vernon's senior residents," stated Serapher Conn Halevi, Director of the Mount Vernon Adult Resource Center.

"The partnership between the New Rochelle YMCA and the Mount Vernon Armory Community (MVARC) reflects the very best of what our communities can achieve together. As someone who has spent a lifetime advocating for Mount Vernon families, I am proud to see organizations joining forces to expand opportunity, strengthen wellness, and uplift the people we serve. This collaboration is not just a program partnership—it is a commitment to building a healthier, more connected future for all," stressed Ruth Hassell-Thompson, New Rochelle YMCA Board Member and Former New York State Senator, Mount Vernon.

The next NRYMCA-led fitness event at MVRAC will be on Thursday, December 11 with Angela Hultberg for Zumba® Gold. Hope you will join us. For more information, visit nrymca.org or give us a call at 914-632-1818.

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New Rochelle Athletes Raise Funds for their Special Olympics Compatriots



Athletes and coaches from New Rochelle High School were “freezin’ for a reason” at the Polar Plunge Nov. 8 at Rye Playland Beach. The event, sponsored by Curry Automotive, is a fundraiser for Special Olympics. The \$250,000 raised ensures that none of the Special Olympians have to pay to participate in the games. The New Rochelle team raised nearly \$3,000 and made the list of the top five public school teams in Westchester.

Special guest, City School District of New Rochelle Facilities Director Keith Watkins, joined the fun and was a top fundraiser, plunging with \$1,800 in donations.

“Special Olympics holds an important place in my heart, and I’m happy to support an event that ensures our athletes can compete without having to worry about cost. I look forward to seeing the Pioneers have fun and win medals at the Games this spring,” said Watkins.

Other members of the New Rochelle team were athletic director Joe Donaldson, swim coach Kip Fierro, football coach Tom Drago, and the junior varsity and varsity football teams. Players who plunged included Joe Morello, Nick Morello, Luke Zaccagino, Landon Walsh, Rob Clark, John DiGiacomo Jr., Bryce Cunningham, and Zaire Perez.

“I’m so proud of our student athletes,” said Donaldson. “They demonstrate character on and off the field and support our community in many positive ways. I’m happy to see our teams supporting our Special Olympics athletes, and we look forward to another impressive year at the Games.”

In addition to the warmth of helping out their fellow athletes, the plungers got a hoodie that came in handy after the icy plunge into the frigid Long Island Sound.

Webster Celebrates Ruby Bridges

On Friday, Nov. 14, Daniel Webster Elementary students walked, talked, and dressed in honor of a very important six-year-old: Ruby Bridges.

Bridges made history when she integrated William Frantz Elementary School in New Orleans in 1960, becoming a national icon for the Civil Rights movement. Schools across the nation commemorate Ruby’s historic steps each year on Nov. 14 with Ruby Bridges Walk-to-



Students Solve a Huguenot Whodunit



It was a Halloween Spooktacular event at Huguenot Academy, as students were confronted with a murder mystery, “The Case of the Haunted Manor.” Students arrived at school on Halloween and were charged with solving the mysterious disappearance of Professor Thistlewood.

The elaborate hands-on game of clues combined a cast of quirky suspects—including an eccentric historian, a paranormal investigator, and a chemistry teacher with a dark past—with critical thinking as students traveled from class to class to sleuth out the day-long puzzle.

In math class, students used fractions and a series of calculations to determine who was present and who had motive the night of the disappearance. History class immersed students in the context as they examined a photograph and discussed Victorian spiritualism. In English class, students debated the validity of eyewitness accounts, analyzing them for tone. And when they got to science class, students discovered a mysterious substance in the chemistry lab, which they pH tested and analyzed to determine it was hydrochloric acid.

Finally, the last clue came in the chemistry lab, which they used to compile an evidence-based argument describing Professor Thistlewood’s demise. Then they concluded that Dr. Hexley - their very own teacher - was the guilty party, as she had blood on her back and had access to hydrochloric acid.

The exercise was a fun day of learning that required critical thinking, text, and data analysis, and academic discourse to unveil the disappearance of Professor Thistlewood.

“I didn’t expect to have such a fun day at school on Halloween; we’ve never done an activity like this before. It made school fun today. Ms. G is so in character! Class was so funny going through the clues with her,” said one student. “This was lowkey tough.”

“Special thanks go to all our staff for working collaboratively to develop this interdisciplinary learning experience for our students,” said Huguenot Academy Director Dr. Merica Neufville. “Kudos to Ms. Jessica Gallery, who led the charge. Students were still talking about it as they left for the day.”

But the day wasn’t all hard work. Students also enjoyed some downtime with Principal Dr. Dagoberto Artiles and Performing and Visual Arts Education Director Matthew Lucero, who stopped by for an SEL activity at lunchtime called “Pumpkin Perspectives.” They painted pumpkins that represented either themselves, the New Rochelle community, or Huguenot Academy, which generated a lot of laughs.

School Day.

“The entire Webster student body and staff participated in Ruby Bridges Day by wearing purple, walking to school, or keeping Ruby’s courage in their hearts,” said Webster PTA President Hannah Emmerich. “Webster’s stellar kindergarten teaching team does a fabulous tee-up, and the tradition is kept alive in age-appropriate discussions for each grade. Webster

has a rich heritage of inclusion, and Ruby Bridges is celebrated at Webster for being a courageous Black leader and icon.”

Teachers were encouraged to lead students on a walk around the school grounds since many students take the bus to school. Students then continued the conversation about bringing an end to racism and bullying in their classrooms.

Calendar of Events

Holiday Lights at Crawford Park
December 6, 2025 at 3:30pm - 6:30pm.
Come enjoy the family-friendly warmth and holiday cheer you've come to expect from this joyful community event. Tree lighting at 5:00pm. Selfies with Santa, great food and holiday snacks, craft activities and amazing live holiday music are just a few reasons why you don't want to miss out.

West Harrison 20th Annual Tree Lighting and Holiday Celebration
Friday, December 5, 2025 at 7pm.
West Harrison Village Green
Refreshments will be served and enjoy holiday entertainment. Visit with Santa and Frosty.

EVENTS AT THE NEW ROCHELLE PUBLIC LIBRARY



Art Exhibit: The Teaching Artists of NRPL [Through December 5]
During regular Library hours
NRPL teaching artists Patricia Frankel, painter, Susan Kaufman, mixed media specialist, Hildy Martin, collage artist, Stephanie Lieberman Paley, knitter and Susan Wolman, quilter and sewist exhibit their work. Each instructor works in a different medium with their own distinct flair and enjoys sharing their knowledge and artistry with NRPL patrons in our adult art, knitting and open sewing workshops.



Friday Night Concert: Wayne Henderson
Friday, December 5, 7:00 - 8:30 pm
Join us for an unforgettable night of jazz when Wayne Henderson brings his group to the stage with a new twist to another stellar jazz performance that you won't want to miss. Truly a fan favorite, Wayne Henderson is no stranger to the Ossie Davis Theater having performed here over 25 times since 2019. You're in for an exciting, soul stirring, memorable performance so come secure a good seat and be ready to experience something special! Location: Ossie Davis Theater. Registration requested at bit.ly/Henderson_Dec2025



Sinterklaas—annual St. Nicholas Day Celebration
Philipse Manor Hall State Historic Site, 29 Warburton Avenue, Yonkers
Saturday, December 6, 2025, from 12:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.
Join us for a visit from St. Nicholas himself, historical games, ornament crafts, gingerbread decorating, live music, and more! Featuring live music and stories with storyteller April Armstrong, accompanied by Mario Sprouse on piano. See the full schedule at <https://www.philipsemanorhall.com/programs-and-events/st-nicholas-day-celebration-2025>. All crafts, gingerbread decorating, and admission are free and open to everyone, sponsored by the Friends of Philipse Manor Hall. Pre-registration is not required, but all children must be accompanied by an adult.



Sunday Afternoon Concert Series: Juilliard Cello & Piano Recital
Sunday, December 7, 2:00 - 3:30 pm
Experience a stirring performance by two outstanding doctoral candidates from The Juilliard School: Elena Ariza on cello and Baron Fenwick on piano. Their program will highlight: Lili Boulanger – Three Pieces for Cello and Piano; Ludwig van Beethoven – Cello Sonata No. 4 in C Major, Op. 102 No. 1; Claude Debussy – Cello Sonata. Presented by Young Musicians of Westchester. Location: Ossie Davis Theater. Registration requested at bit.ly/YMW_Dec2025



NEW! Acoustic String Open Jam Session
Saturday, December 13, 3:00 - 4:30 pm
Looking for other musicians to play with



Impact: The End of the Age of Dinosaurs
American Museum of Natural History
200 Central Park West, NY, NY
Explore the before-and-after story of the asteroid impact that led to the extinction of non-bird dinosaurs and the majority of animal and plant species on the planet in Impact: The End of the Age of Dinosaurs. Step back in time to experience the planet as it was during the Cretaceous Period, when dinosaurs walked the Earth, pterosaurs flew in the skies, and massive marine reptiles—such as mosasaurs and plesiosaurs—ruled the oceans. Visit <https://www.amnh.org/exhibitions/impact>

in an informal and judgement-free environment? Come join our new monthly acoustic string instrument jam session! Bring your guitar, ukulele, mandolin, banjo, etc. and join together with other like-minded aspiring musicians to share your love of music and song. Location: Basement Classroom. Registration requested at bit.ly/NRPL_AcousticJam_Fall2025



Winter Concert presented by Concerts in Motion
Tuesday, December 16, 1:30 – 2:30pm
Concerts in Motion presents: A Winter Concert featuring Jordan Shapiro and Ric Becker. Celebrate the season with an afternoon of winter-inspired music performed by multi-instrumentalists Jordan Shapiro (accordion, piano, guitar, voice) and Ric Becker (trombone, voice). Enjoy beautiful melodies and lively rhythms that capture the warmth and spirit of winter. Free and open to all! Location: Ossie Davis Theater. Registration requested at bit.ly/WinterConcert_12_16_2025



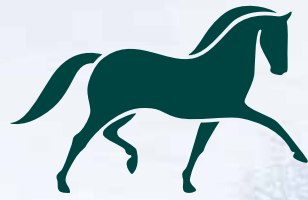
ModernMedieval Voices
A Midwinter Feast: An Enchanting Journey Through Eight Centuries of Holiday Music
Thursday, December 18, 2025, 7:30 pm
Church of St. Luke in the Fields, 487 Hudson Street, NY, NY
A program promising to be a moving and luminous holiday experience — a perfect antidote to the winter doldrums and a cherished tradition for lovers of early and new music alike. Tickets purchase online: <https://gemsny.org/event/modernmedieval-voices/>. A holiday program of music from the British Isles, featuring beloved English medieval and Renaissance carols, including Angelus ad Virginum, Good People All, and Green Groweth the Holly. Also included are new arrangements of some traditional favorites including In the Bleak Midwinter, The Coventry Carol, and The Holly and the Ivy. More info at www.modernmedieval.org.



Children's Winter Vacation: Gingerbread House Workshop
Friday, December 26
11:00 am - 12:00 pm & 2:00 - 3:00 pm
Build your own candy home with sweets and treats you'll be tempted to eat! Ages 5 to 12 yrs. A ticket is required to attend. Please pick up a ticket for either workshop in the Children's Room the day of the program. Choose one session only please. Location: 1st Floor Meeting Room



Children's Winter Vacation: Winter Ornament Making
Monday, December 29, 2:00 - 3:00 pm
Add a little sparkle to your home with this seasonal craft! Select from a wide variety of shapes to create some winter holiday cheer for you and your family. Ages 3 to 8 yrs. Location: 1st Floor Meeting Room



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