

Mobile Mental Crisis Response, Aid to Landlords & Tenants, August Voting and Tuckahoe Cooking & Networking



Dear Friends and Neighbors,

Here's an excerpt of an e-blast I sent out in July of 2020:

*"A couple of young New Rochelle residents got me excited about a concept that meshes well with the Governor's mandate to reimagine policing and the post-COVID necessity to police more cost-effectively. It is a successful program that has been around **for over 30 years** in Eugene, Oregon, where mobile two-person teams - each consisting of an EMT and a mental health professional, both casually attired - are available to respond 24/7 to 911 and police station calls. Please take a few minutes to [read this recent article](#) about them.*

"The two stats that jump out at me are: (a) an estimated 20% to 50% of fatal encounters with police around the country involve a mentally ill individual; (b) the Eugene "CAHOOTS" system costs 2% of that city's police budget and handles 17% of all calls; and (c) total annual savings on police and ambulance runs average over \$22 Million in a city with about twice the population of New Rochelle.

"I'd like to think we could put together a pilot program in New Rochelle, supported by County medical and mental health professionals, with a view toward creating a shared service with all our cities, towns and villages[.]"

With hard work and persistence over two years, I got myself onto a subcommittee of the County's Policing Task Force, pushing this concept to the point where the New Rochelle Police Department have launched a similar [program](#) in coordination with several County departments. Living in downtown New Rochelle, I have seen the occasional person who may be homeless, disheveled, in a state of intoxication, agitation, confusion or other distress; all certainly dangers to themselves more than to others. After all, it is a city...I believe that this new approach will better lead to meeting the immediate and long-term needs of such folks and to a more efficient allocation of law enforcement resources. Another part of the solution is more affordable housing, about which see the exciting Landlord/Tenant Assistance Program described further down in this eblast!

Sincerely,

William R. Maher

NRPD Announce Launch of the Mobile Crisis Response Team (MCRT)

The New Rochelle Police Department is proud to announce the launching of the Mobile Crisis Response Team (MCRT). The MCRT is comprised of mental health professionals from the Guidance Center of New Rochelle who will respond along with, and in some case in lieu of, police officers to calls of people in mental crisis.



This initiative is part of the Westchester County Department of Community Mental Health Services – Project Alliance. New Rochelle Police Dispatchers, Supervisors and Police Officers have been trained to assess risk level and determine whether a particular call may require a mental health professional to accompany police on a call. This coordinated approach will also address follow-up and connection with related resources such as care coordination, treatment, and community services like housing and health care.

“The goal of our department is to provide the best service for our community,” said Police Commissioner Robert Gazzola, “and we recognize there are instances where perhaps a Law Enforcement response is not the best option for a person in mental crisis. This partnership will help an individual in distress get the help they need and ensure the safest possible outcome.”

As immediate past Chair and a current member of the Housing Committee, I'm glad to see another great idea come to fruition.

Westchester County Launches \$10M Landlord Tenant Assistance Program (LTAP)

Funds May Be Used For Needed Repairs To Rental Properties In Exchange For Landlords Maintaining Affordable Rents

County Executive George Latimer and the Westchester County Board of Legislators announced the Landlord Tenant Assistance Program (LTAP) on Tuesday, furthering their commitment to preserving affordable housing in communities across Westchester. LTAP will allow small landlords who own eight units or less and who maintain rent levels that are affordable to residents, to apply for up to \$25,000 per unit for repairs to their rental properties. To be eligible, landlords/owners must charge rents that are affordable to households earning between 60% and 100% of the Area Median Income (AMI), and home improvements may include, but are not limited to, roof replacement, or upgrades to electrical, windows, accessibility ramps, plumbing and heating systems. With \$10M available in funds, 400 units can be rehabilitated.

Rent levels, with utilities included, must adhere to the following 2022 HUD Guidelines:

Bedroom Size	60% AMI Rent Levels	80% AMI Rent Levels	100% AMI Rent Levels
Studio	\$1,457	\$1,942	\$2,427
1 Bedroom	\$1,665	\$2,219	\$2,773

Bedroom Size	60% AMI Rent Levels	80% AMI Rent Levels	100% AMI Rent Levels
2 Bedroom	\$1,873	\$2,497	\$3,119
3 Bedroom	\$2,080	\$2,773	\$3,465

Commissioner of the Department of Planning Norma Drummond said: “The Planning Department is excited to launch this program that particularly assists small landlords who need to make much needed repairs to their rental units. By offering this program, we know that we will help small landlords and renters alike, who were hit hard by the pandemic. LTAP funds will preserve and enhance smaller multi-family housing stock in the County that will improve the living conditions of many County residents and maintain its affordability.”

A Westchester County Rehabilitation Specialist will inspect the property after an application has been submitted to the Department of Planning. If the property qualifies, a three-party contract will be signed between the County, the landlord/owner and the contractor, for work to be completed by contractors that are licensed and insured to work in Westchester County. Funds will be disbursed directly to the contractor from the County after a progress inspection has been completed.

Interested landlords/owners should call or email Gaitre Rambharose in the Westchester County Department of Planning at 914-995-2429 or gqrh@westchestergov.com

Watch the full news conference here: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=KI-wwhWxKgk>

View the Landlord-Tenant Housing Assistance Program Brochure *(in English and Spanish)* here: <https://adobe.ly/3pa5wlz>

Everything You Need to Know About the August 23, 2022 Primary

Tuesday, August 23rd is Primary Day for our New York State Senate and U.S. House of Representatives. The election will be held for the Democratic Party in the 16th and 17th Congressional Districts, and the 34th NYS Senatorial District. The Republican and Conservative parties will have a primary election in the 17th Congressional District.

Primary Election Party Enrollment Change Deadline:

Thursday Aug. 11 is the deadline to receive party enrollment changes for the Aug. 23 Primary Election. Any enrollment changes received after Aug. 11 are not effective until Aug. 30. If any enrollment changes are received after Aug. 30, these changes will be effective immediately until the Feb. 14, 2023 deadline.

Absentee Ballot Information:

- **Aug. 8** was the last day for the Board of Elections to receive an application, letter, fax, email or absentee online portal request for the Aug. Primary Election ballot.
- **Monday, Aug. 22** is the last day for an applicant or agent to apply in person at the Board of Elections for the Aug. Primary Election absentee ballot.
- **Tuesday, Aug. 23** is the last day to postmark the Primary Election absentee ballot by mail. The ballot must be received by the Board of Elections no later than **Aug. 30, 2022**.
- **Tuesday, Aug. 23** is the last day to deliver the Primary Election absentee ballot in person to the Board of Elections or at any poll site throughout the County, by the close of the polls at 9 p.m.

Early Voting Information:

A nine-day early voting period runs from Saturday, August 13th to Sunday, August 21st. Registered voters eligible to vote in their party's primary will be able to cast their ballot at any of the County's 23 designated Early Voting locations during the hours listed below:

Early Voting Hours

DATE	TIME
Saturday, August 13th	10 a.m. - 6 p.m.
Sunday, August 14th	10 a.m. - 6 p.m.
Monday, August 15th	8 a.m. - 4 p.m.
Tuesday, August 16th	Noon - 8 p.m.
Wednesday, August 17th	8 a.m. - 4 p.m.
Thursday, August 18th	Noon - 8 p.m.
Friday, August 19th	8 a.m. - 4 p.m.
Saturday, August 20th	10 a.m. - 6 p.m.
Sunday, August 21st	10 a.m. - 6 p.m.

Westchester County Early Voting Centers

LOCATION	ADDRESS
Eastchester Public Library	11 Oakridge Place
Dobbs Ferry Village Hall	112 Main Street
Greenburgh Town Hall	177 Hillside Avenue, White Plains
St. Gregory The Great Church	215 Halstead Avenue, Harrison

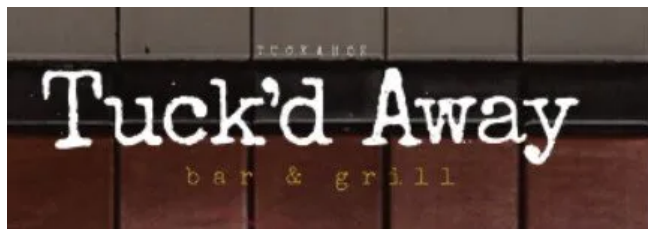
Mamaroneck Town Center	740 W. Boston Post Road
Mt. Kisco Municipal Building	104 Main Street
Mt. Pleasant Community Center	125 Lozza Drive, Valhalla
Joseph G. Caputo Community Center	95 Broadway, Ossining
Pound Ridge Town House	179 Westchester Avenue
Rye Brook Firehouse	940 King Street
Somers Town House	335 Route 202
Jefferson Village Annex	3500 Hill Boulevard, Yorktown Heights
Yorktown Cultural Center	1974 Commerce Street
Doles Center	250 S. 6th Avenue, Mt. Vernon
Mt. Vernon City Hall	1 Roosevelt Square
New Rochelle City Hall Annex	90 Beaufort Place
New Rochelle United Methodist Church	1200 North Avenue
Peekskill Nutrition Center – Neighborhood Center	4 Nelson Avenue
Peekskill Lincoln Depot Museum	10 S. Water Street
Westchester County Board of Elections	25 Quarropas Street, White Plains
Grinton I. Will Library	1500 Central Park Avenue, Yonkers
Nodine Hill Community Center	140 Fillmore Street, Yonkers
Riverfront Library	One Larkin Center, Yonkers

Please note that due to a recent change in law, NYS voters are no longer permitted to cast a ballot on a voting machine if they have requested to vote by Absentee Ballot. Voters who have requested to vote by Absentee Ballot can still vote in-person using an affidavit ballot.

For more information contact:

Westchester County Board of Elections at (914) 995-5700 or <https://citizenparticipation.westchestergov.com/>

NYS Board of Elections at (518) 474-1953 or [New York State Board of Elections website](#)



**Tuck'd Away Networking Mingle
Monday, August 15 at 5:30 p.m.**

Join us on Monday, August 15 at 5:30 p.m. for drinks and snacks at Tuck'd Away located at 90 Yonkers Avenue in Tuckahoe. The cost is \$10.00 per person and it is a cash bar. Email etcocm@gmail.com by Thursday, August 11 to make a reservation. You will pay at the door.

Cooking with the Mayor in Tuckahoe

Join Mayor Andino and her Mom on **Friday, August 12 at 4 p.m.** at the Tuckahoe Library for a cooking class. [Registration](#) is required for this event.

