

Larchmont Ledger



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Police Department Promotions Announced

BY STEPHEN E. LIPKEN

Village of Larchmont Mayor Sarah Bauer convened the March 23rd Board of Trustees Regular Meeting, beginning with a Proclamation presented to retiring Police Lieutenant Ronald Knudsen, leaving after 37 years of service. Police Sergeant Daniel Calapai was promoted to Lieutenant and Detective First Grade Nicholas Field was promoted to Sergeant. Field graduated summa cum laude with a Bachelor of Science degree in Criminal Justice from SUNY Farmingdale. Police Officer Emanuel Aguiar was sworn in. Aguiar graduated magna cum laude from Mercy University with a Bachelor of Science degree in Criminal Justice and Homeland Security. All promotions were certified by the Board.

A Local Law regulating conduct in Village Parks was presented. People are not permitted in any Park after 10:00 p.m. or before 6:00 a.m., except attending functions at the American Legion Clubhouse in Flint Park. It shall be unlawful for any person to appear in Flint Park with any dog, except service animals accompanying individuals with disabilities in accordance with Americans with Disabilities Act.



Aylone Katzin

Village Administrator Aylone Katzin then presented the FY 2026-27 Tentative Budget. Total Tax Levy FY 2026-27 is \$17,353,978. Tax Rate Per \$1,000 of Assessed Valuation-FY 2026-27 is 4.414823. Tentative Assessed Valuation-FY 2026-27: \$3,930,843,650. Assessed Valuation-FY 2025-26 (Final): 3,787,510,493; Increase: \$143, 333,157; Percentage Increase in average FY 2025-26 vs. FY 2026-27: 3.78%.

Total Tax Levy-FY 2026-27 (Tentative): \$17,353,978; Total Tax Levy-FY 2025-26 (Adopted) \$16,975,915; Increase in Tax Levy 2025-26 vs FY 2026-27: \$378,063; Percentage Increase in Tax Levy 2025-26 vs FY 2026-27: 2.23%.

Budget Public Hearing for FY 2026-27 is scheduled for Monday, April 27th.

Consent Agenda items included authorization execution of an Intermunicipal Agreement with Westchester County and New York State Police for Traffic and Criminal Software Use and Dissemination Program; Request to NYS Department of Transportation for an exclusive Pedestrian Signal Phase at the Intersection of Route 1/Boston Post Road and Beach Avenue

and approval of relocation of a Designated Handicap Parking Space on Palmer Avenue.

Mamaroneck Raises EV Charging Fees

BY STEPHEN E. LIPKEN

The Mamaroneck Town Board considered Fee Modifications for Electric Vehicle (EV) Charging Stations at its March 4 meeting. The Town currently operates eight EV charging stations. The fee rate was 30 cents per kilowatt hour (kWh). The Engineering Department recommended increasing the Town's fee rate to 40 cents per kWh and adopt a \$5 per hour idle fee.

Idle fees are assessed to EV charging customers whose vehicles remain connected after the charging session is completed. Vehicles failing to vacate the parking stall after charging limit availability of the station to other potential users.

The Town Board approved the increased fees. The idle fee is now \$5 per hour, which begins after a 30-minute grace period once the charging session is complete. The EV charging station fee is 40 cents per kWh. Vehicles cannot be left overnight at Hommocks Park Ice Rink and Mamaroneck Town Center.

Next was a discussion of the Setback

Requirements for Air Conditioning Systems law. In 2001 the Town Board passed a law setting requirements for central air conditioning systems. The law was amended by



adding a new requirements that side and rear yard setbacks for a central air conditioning system shall be five feet.

In other business, Mamaroneck Fire Chief Alexander Rapp submitted Fire Claims to the Controller's Office for payment consisting of \$807.40, approved by Roll Call Vote.

In February 2026 there were a total of 72 alarms, 58 fires, four skills, one out-of-town Mutual Aid, six Emergency Medical Service (EMS) calls, and three drills for a total of 72 alarms. Number of personnel responding: 800; total time working: 33 hours and 35 minutes.

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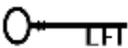
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Safer Streets for All: Plans and Progress

BY LINNET TSE

Pedestrian and traffic safety—particularly for children traveling to and from school—was the focus of the March 10 Larchmont-Mamaroneck Local Summit breakfast program. Community advocates, engineers, and municipal officials discussed ongoing efforts to make streets safer for everyone, secure funding for improvements, and encourage more students to walk or bike to school.

Encouraging Safe Routes to School

Michael Smeets, founder of the Larchmont Mamaroneck Ped-Bike Alliance and co-chair of the Mamaroneck Safe Routes to School committee, opened the discussion by noting that far fewer students walk or bike to school today than in previous generations. Safety concerns, traffic congestion, and changing travel habits have all contributed to the shift.

Encouraging students to walk or bike to school, he said, not only reduces traffic congestion but also benefits children's health and the environment while giving students a greater sense of independence and responsibility.

Smeets also noted that many Mamaroneck High School students in the Original Civic Research and Action program are involved in initiatives aimed at providing pedestrian and bicycle safety education to younger students.

Improvements on Mamaroneck Avenue

Elaine Du, PE, Senior Technical Director of Traffic & Transportation at AKRF, who consulted with the Village of Mamaroneck following a tragic pedestrian accident in June 2024, described safety improvements implemented along the Mamaroneck Avenue corridor.

A rapid and comprehensive review led to several changes, including curb extensions that shorten crossing distances, bollards that better define pedestrian space, and intersections with "exclusive pedestrian phases," allowing people to cross in all directions while vehicle traffic is stopped.

Dennis Delborgo, Assistant Village Man-



From left to right: Michael Smeets, Elaine Du, Robert Wasp, Dennis Delborgo

ager for the Village of Mamaroneck, said the village is now moving forward with a second phase of improvements along the corridor. The estimated cost is about \$3 million, with roughly \$1.6 million expected to come from local sources. Funding is anticipated to come from a combination of grants, including Community Development Block Grants (HUD) and the County's new Complete Streets Municipal Assistance Program.

The Challenge of Funding Safer Streets

Securing funding remains one of the greatest challenges municipalities face when pursuing infrastructure improvements.

Officials discussed the federal Safe Streets and Roads for All (SS4A) program, which has allocated billions of dollars nationwide to support local road safety planning and implementation. The Village of Larchmont was the first community in the region to complete the program's planning process, which analyzes crash data, identifies high-risk locations, and develops a comprehensive strategy combining engineering, education, enforcement, and public input.

Although the village applied for federal implementation funding last year, the application was unsuccessful. Officials plan to resubmit proposals this year and continue pursuing grants for priority projects, including improvements to Larchmont and Chatsworth Avenues near Chatsworth Avenue School.

Ongoing Work in the Town of Mamaroneck

Robert Wasp, Town Engineer for the Town of Mamaroneck, reminded the audience that the town continues to implement

an extensive capital improvement program. "This type of work has to be a routine, ongoing investment," Wasp said. "Your infrastructure always needs improvements."

He cited numerous recent projects, including traffic signal upgrades, ADA-compliant curb ramps, sidewalk extensions, new sidewalks, and improved crosswalks. The Weaver Street sidewalk project—nearly ten years in the making—is nearing completion and will add approximately 1,300 linear feet of new sidewalk.

Sidewalk projects, Wasp noted, are often more complex than they appear. They can involve underground utilities, drainage work, relocating utility poles, and sometimes acquiring property, all of which increase both costs and timelines.

The town also recently adopted a speed hump policy requiring support from at least 75 percent of nearby residents before installation. Two speed humps have already been installed on Colonial Avenue, with a third planned for New Jefferson Street later this year.

Boston Post Road

Another major project involves planned improvements along Boston Post Road, a state road. Repaving work originally scheduled for 2026 has been postponed to allow the New

York State Department of Transportation to consider pedestrian and bicycle safety upgrades requested by municipal officials and community advocates.

State transportation officials held a well-attended public open house last June and will host a second session on Thursday, April 16 from 5 PM to 7 PM at Mamaroneck High School to gather community input. Smeets encouraged residents to attend, calling it "a once-in-a-generation opportunity to make Boston Post Road safer for everyone—people who drive, people who walk, and people who bike."

Throughout the discussion, speakers emphasized that improving street safety requires cooperation across municipal boundaries. Despite funding uncertainties and the high cost of infrastructure improvements, participants expressed optimism that steady progress is being made. Panelists stressed the importance of continuing to develop plans so projects can move forward when funding becomes available.

The shared goal, they said, is simple: streets where children—and everyone else—can travel safely, whether walking, biking, or driving.

The Larchmont-Mamaroneck Local Summit is an informal community council that seeks to make a better life for the community by keeping it informed of major issues of concern. Our next meeting, on Tuesday, April 14 at 8 PM at the Nautilus Diner, 1240 West Boston Post Road, Mamaroneck, will feature Congressman George Latimer. For more information, go to <https://www.localsummitlm.org/>. To view recorded programs on LMC Media, go to <https://lmcmedia.org/>.

The Woman's Club of Larchmont Creates Activity Kits for Children of Incarcerated Moms

The Woman's Club of Larchmont's Philanthropy Committee made 25 Children's Activity Kits to give children visiting their mothers in the Bedford Hills Correctional Facility or the Taconic Correctional Facility. Each 2.5 gallon clear zip-lock bag was filled with a pack of crayons, coloring/activity book, writing notepad, a pen, deck of playing cards, packet of tissues and a card game of Uno.

Children who visit their mothers in these facilities cannot bring anything inside. While missing their mothers, the children may have made a picture or designed a card in school but these must be left at home. Children's Activity Kits were designed to be used during visitation.

Philanthropy Committee members Mary Ann Mazza, Judy O'Gorman, Georgia Jesse, Zsuzsanna Baan-Jonas, Deidre Winters, and Carolyn Gallaher enjoyed assembling the Activity Kits.

Mary Ann Mazza observed that the young children face "Significant challenges and hardships...due to the child's separation from a parent. They are deprived of a normal childhood." By assembling these kits she feels "Working on such a project shows someone cares."

Sharon Greist Ballen, Director of Programs at the Interfaith Prison Partnership, thanked the Committee for creating the Children's Activity Kits "for the children and their incarcerated moms, who are so grateful to be able to 'just' be a mom and kid playing and making memories together."



Philanthropy Committee members Georgia Jesse, Zsuzsanna Baan-Jonas, Carolyn Gallaher, Judy O'Gorman



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Transforming Challenges to Triumphs

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

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

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

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

Borgia said: "I am grateful for this opportunity and I thank County Executive Jenkins for this role. In this office, our focus will be clear, we will work every day to ensure women and families in Westchester have access to economic opportunity, reproductive autonomy, safe communities and the support systems they deserve. We will continue to stand up for survivors of violence, advance equity in the workplace, and protect the rights of all protected classes. Equality is not abstract – it is about real people, real families and real futures."

Most recently, Borgia has served as Special Advisor to the County Executive on Women and Families, following six terms as a Westchester County Legislator representing the 9th District.

continued on page 13



Scarsdale Public Library Seeks Feedback

The Scarsdale Public Library is currently embarking on a broad-based strategic planning process. This blueprint will help to guide services, programs, and other priorities over the coming years.

The end goal of this strategic plan is for the Library to serve the community as fully and effectively as possible. The input of Scarsdale residents, even those who don't regularly use the Scarsdale Public Library, is important and valuable to the process.

As a means to that end, residents are invited to take this online survey:

bit.ly/SPLSurvey26. It includes just 14 core questions and, on average, takes 10 to 15 minutes to complete. It will remain open through Monday, April 6, and will be available in English, Spanish, and Chinese.

As a thank you for your input, participants will have the opportunity to enter in our raffle to win a \$25 gift card to the Boleria Brazilian Bakery, 362 Mamaroneck Avenue, Mamaroneck.

Please help develop the Strategic Plan for the Scarsdale Public Library by participating in this survey. In order to better serve library patrons and Scarsdale residents, your input on a variety of library topics is needed. Your responses will help greatly in planning the future of the library.

The survey was developed by, and is being conducted for the library, by the independent Library Strategies Consulting Group (LSCG). All responses are directed to LSCG. Your individual responses are confidential, and only aggregate responses will be reported to the library.

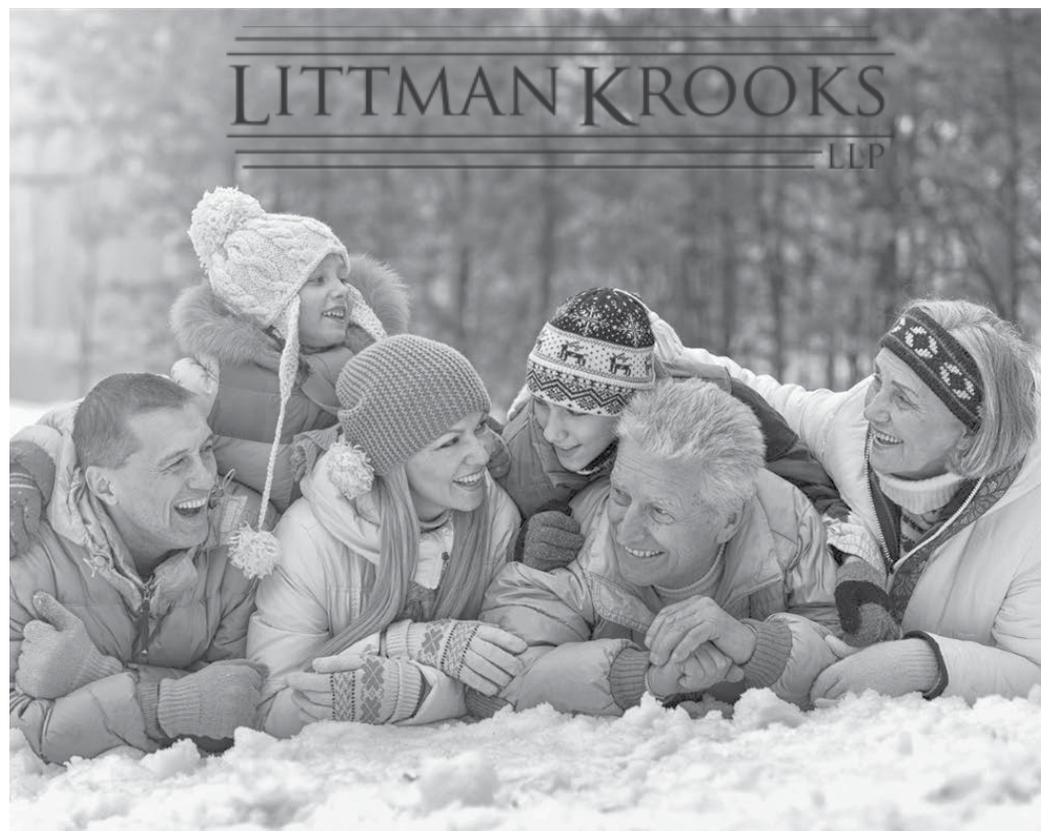


Community Survey



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Source: Real Trends, Individual Agent by Volume, 2019-2024. This year's ranking is based off REALTrends Individual Sales Volume 2024. The complete ranking of "The Thousand" can be found at www.realtrends.com. Pollena Forsman, Associate Real Estate Broker



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2026 SPRING HOME & GARDEN IMPROVEMENT

Start Planning Now for a Thriving Spring Garden

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

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

Assess Your Space and Research Ideas

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

Build an Updated Blueprint

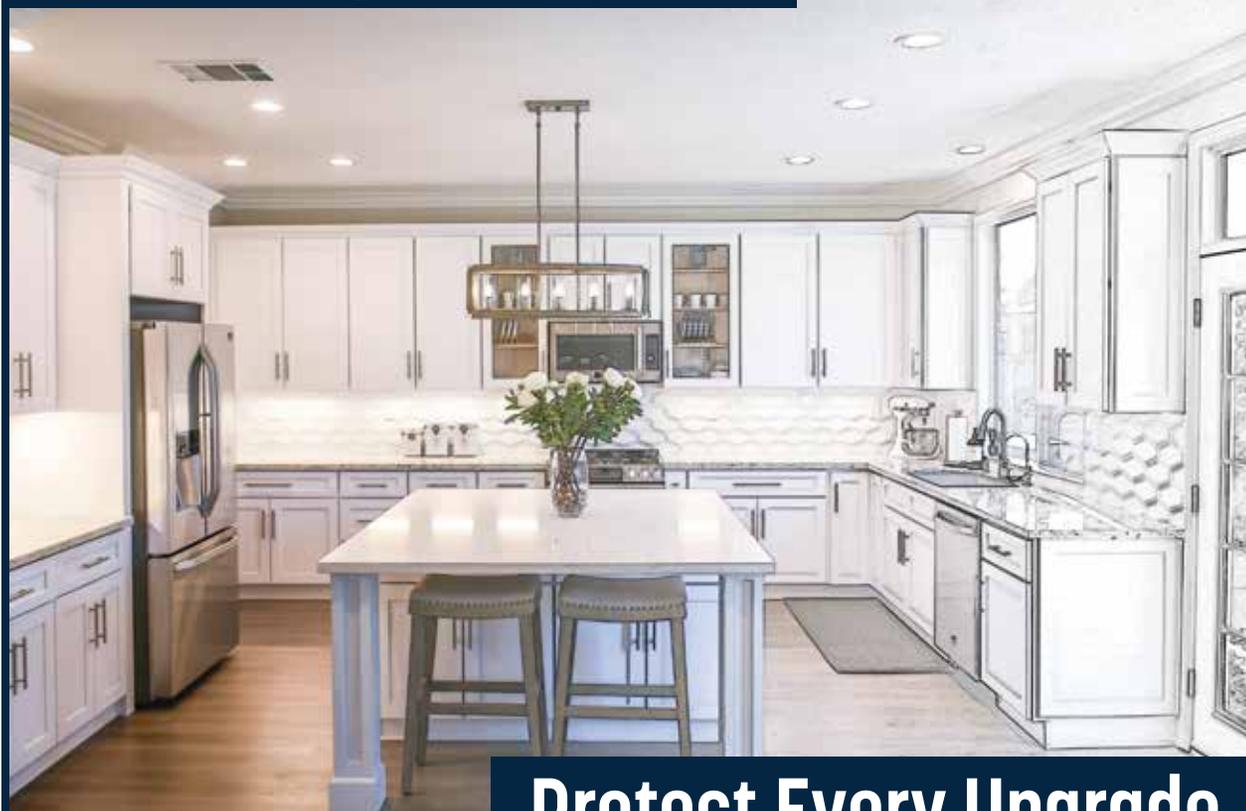
Winter is the ideal time to upgrade your garden design and make tweaks for efficiency. Use the offseason to consider crop rotation patterns for optimal soil health as well as ways to maximize your space such as raised beds, trellises or containers. You can also make a list of materials needed for any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

Nourish the Soil

Even if the ground is frozen, you can



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

Start Seeds Indoors

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

Get Organized

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

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

Create a Cozy Outdoor Space with a Backyard Firepit

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

Choosing the Right Design

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

Gathering Materials and Tools

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

continued on page 10



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Create a Cozy Outdoor Space with a Backyard Firepit

continued from page 8

Keeping Safety in Mind

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



Enhancing Ambiance with Seating and Lighting

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

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



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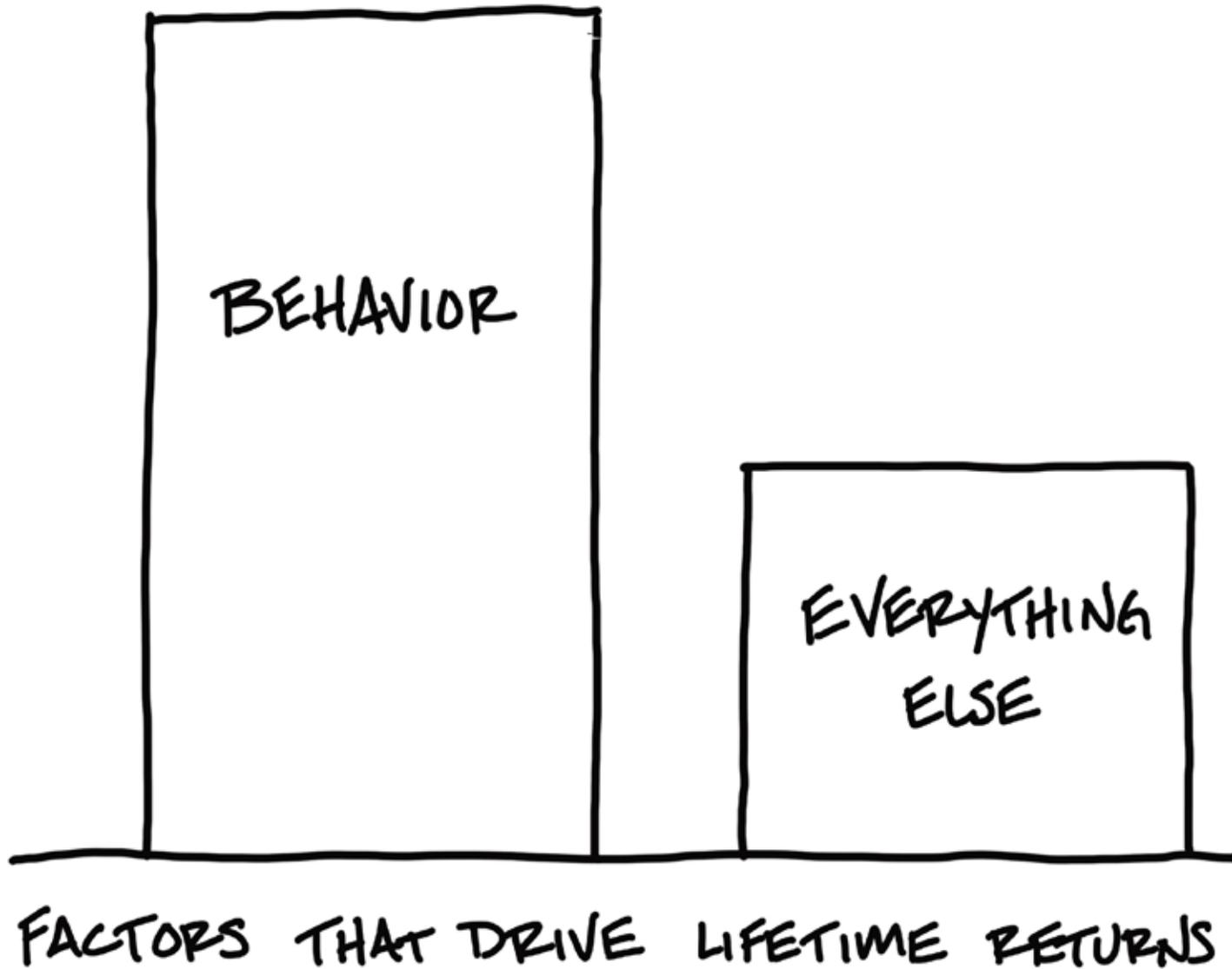
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Standalone Trusts vs. Sub-Trusts



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

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

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

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

because it exists on its own, separate from your revocable trust.

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

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

Standalone trusts tend to be more expensive and complex, but they offer several benefits outlined below.

- Simplified Administration – Trustees may avoid showing the full estate plan to banks or financial institutions.
- Avoids Probate – Unlike testamentary trusts under a Will, a standalone trust can operate immediately upon funding without probate delays.
- Flexible Amendments – Changes can target the standalone trust without affecting your main trust.

Britney Spears and ...ella-ella-eh-eh-eh



Now that it's raining more than ever
Know that we'll still have each other

BY JOHN CATTAU, MANAGING PARTNER
OF KIRK CREEK INSURANCE
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By 2007, blackened storm clouds descended on pop phenom Britney Spears. Mental health crises. Conservatorship. Pushed to the brink, she used an umbrella to attack a paparazzo.

Fortunately, for Rihanna, 2007 was a breakout year. Spear's label had passed on Umbrella. You know the rest. Global juggernaut.

Ironically, English Lit lovers know that the root umbra means shade. Blokes like me use umbrellas for darker moments, like a downpour.

In the insurance world, the concept isn't very different. An umbrella insurance

policy exists for the same reason Rihanna's anthem works so well. Extra protection when life can turn nasty. Ask Britney.

Most homeowners and drivers carry liability coverage on their home/auto policies. But in today's world, liability claims can easily exceed standard limits. That's why you should consider an umbrella policy. It sits "on top" of your coverage.

Imagine a serious auto accident where injuries and legal costs exceed your auto policy limits. Without additional protection, your personal assets—investments and future earnings—could be at risk. An umbrella policy provides an extra layer of coverage, often starting at \$1 million, designed to protect against those black swan events.

It can also extend protection to situations your primary policies may not fully cover, such as personal liability claims involving guests, rental properties, or even social media kerfuffles. Triple yuck.

So use umbrellas in your insurance planning the Rihanna way, not Britney's. Peace of mind is everything.

John Cattau, Managing Partner of Kirk Creek Insurance Services, LLC is a New York State licensed insurance broker BR-1917908. He can be reached at 929-456-2265. Visit www.kirkcreekinsurance.com for more information.

- Facilitates Gifts from Others – Family members can contribute directly to the standalone trust.
- Comprehensive Coverage – Standalone trusts can address more contingencies than a sub-trust, without overloading the primary trust document.

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

If the trust's purpose is straightforward, funding is minimal, or the trust ends at a certain age then embedding trust provisions in your revocable trust or will may suffice. This keeps the plan simpler,

especially if you don't anticipate major changes in the near future.

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

Bernard A. Krooks, Esq., is a founding partner of Littman Krooks LLP. He was named 2021 "Lawyer of the Year" by Best Lawyers in America® for excellence in Elder Law and has been honored as one of the "Best Lawyers" in America since 2008. He was elected to the Estate Planning Hall of Fame by the National Association of Estate Planners & Councils (NAEPC). Krooks is past Chair of the Elder Law Committee of the American College of Trust and Estate Counsel (ACTEC). (914-684-2100) www.littmankrooks.com

Write Your Money Story: Creating a Life of Purpose and Possibility

BY JESSICA DEMLER, CFP® CBDA, PRINCIPAL AT OXLER PRIVATE WEALTH®

We all carry money stories as quietly as we carry breath. These stories aren't just about numbers; they are stories we tell ourselves about safety, worth, and possibility. The first whispers come from family: how parents talked about bargains, paid the bills, whether money was a source of praise or a source of stress. Those early messages are engrained in us. They describe what is possible, what is deserved, and what remains risky to chase.

As we grow, culture and peers' layer new beliefs. In some households, thrift is a virtue; in others, success is measured by what you spend on experiences, status, or status symbols. Our personal experiences—economic swings, job changes, debt, inheritances—leave scars or banners we carry forward. A close call with debt might fuse fear with calculation; a windfall might awaken generosity or greed. The stories blend into daily habits: the way we budget, how we allocate for emergencies, how we talk about money with partners, and how we teach children about value.

Yet money is not destiny. Recognizing your own narrative is liberating. It lets you separate identity from numbers and to choose actions that align with your values. You can redefine worth not by how much you accumulate, but by how you protect what matters and how you steward resources toward meaning—security for loved ones, freedom to

pursue passions, or the chance to help others.

A practical step is to write your money story: what beliefs did you inherit, what beliefs have you adopted, and which ones no longer serve you? Then design a plan that reflects the life you want: a simple budget, an automatic savings habit, and a mindful approach to debts and temptations. Your money story isn't fixed; it is a living map you can revise. Start today, and rewrite it.

Jessica Demler, CFP® CBDA is a Principal at Oxler Private Wealth®, an independent, family owned and operated wealth advisory firm in Rye Brook and Manhattan, offering financial care to women and families. For a complimentary, no pressure conversation, call (212) 785-2860 or visit www.oxlerpw.com. Oxler Private Wealth is a SEC-Registered Investment Adviser. Registration of an investment adviser does not imply any specific level of skill or training and does not constitute an endorsement of the firm by the Commission. Oxler Private Wealth does not provide tax or legal advice. The information presented is not a solicitation to buy or sell any securities or investment advisory services. Investing in digital assets is speculative in nature and involves risk, including the risk of loss of principal. You should speak to your investment adviser about the risks of investing in digital assets prior to investing. In addition, there may be tax implications in digital asset investing. You are encouraged to speak to your tax professional about these potential implications prior to investing in digital assets.

Larchmont Ledger Calendar



Beyond the Lens: A Unique Perspective
Wednesday, April 1 to Thursday, April 30
The Oresman Gallery
Larchmont Public Library, 121 Larchmont Avenue
Digital photography by Nina McKitty finds the unique beauty, mood and character of her subjects. McKitty's photographs combine many processes and styles: eastern and western sensibilities, classic and modern perspectives, photography and painting disciplines. For more information, email Auriyanna Melendez at amelendez@larchmontlibrary.org.



Threads of Connection: Traditional Forms, Contemporary Stories
Saturday, April 11 to Sunday, July 26
Hammond Museum & Japanese Stroll Garden, 28 Deveau Road, North Salem
Artists Mohamed A. Yakub and Jane Wilson-Marquis transform fabric into narrative, light into form, and garments into cultural bridges. A garment is never just attire. It holds memories, signals change, and carries culture across borders and generations. For more information, email info@hammondmuseum.org.

Flower House & Market

Saturday, April 18, Sunday, April 19, 10 AM to 5 PM

Lyndhurst, 635 South Broadway, Tarrytown

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

Safe & Secure Voting in 2026, Sunday, April 12, 1 PM to 4 PM

Larchmont Village Center, 121 Larchmont Avenue

The Larchmont-Mamaroneck League of Women Voters (LWV) sponsors this event to encourage residents to vote in the 2026 election. Attendees will create postcards and other messages, followed by remarks by LWV co-presidents Beth Radow and Louise Perez and Mamaroneck Town Clerk Allison May. Learn more at larchmontlibrary.org.

Abe Ovadia Trio

Saturday, April 18, 3 PM to 4 PM

Mamaroneck Public Library, 136 Prospect Avenue

Enjoy an afternoon of jazz with the Abe Ovadia Trio. Jazz guitarist Abe Ovadia with Michael Feinberg and Jarrett Walser blend inventive guitar work, rich harmonies and dynamic interplay. To register, go to https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLScA-CR_y1QRZodFNckny2Gxl1rO3BovRwSUHt4LxsdNRxE1Ow/viewform

Andrew Carnegie: From Steel to the Building of Libraries

Thursday, April 23, 7 PM to 8 PM on Zoom

Mamaroneck Public Library, 136 Prospect Avenue

Presenter Rick Feingold, an instructor at Bergen Community College, will discuss the life of Andrew Carnegie, who made his fortune by pioneering low-cost steel production in the 19th century. He devoted his wealth to philanthropy by funding more than 2,500 libraries, many still in use today. The lecture is presented on Zoom. To register, go to <https://uso6web.zoom.us/join/register/5Ym39VRfTxOECWV8ZozSAw#/registration>

LMC Media Annual Public Meeting

Monday, April 20 from 6:30 p.m. – 7:00 p.m.

Mamaroneck Town Center, Conference Room D, 740 W. Boston Post Rd.

While the LMC Media Board of Directors meets internally throughout the year to oversee operations and community programming, one session is traditionally opened to the public. This annual event offers residents a unique opportunity to gain insight into the organization's mission, achievements, and future goals. Members of the public are cordially invited to attend and learn more about how LMC Media continues to serve the local community. For more information or to submit questions prior to the meeting, contact Chantel Ellis (cellis@lmcmmedia.org)

Forty Professionals Share Work Experiences on Hommocks Career Day

Nearly 40 professionals filled classrooms across Hommocks Middle School, turning the building into something like a living career map for seventh and eighth graders. In room after room, students leaned forward with questions as community members shared what they do, how they got there, and what they have learned along the way.

The presenters, many of them Hommocks parents, represented an extraordinary range of fields, from biomedical engineering and medical anthropology to policing, real estate, law, and professional sports technology, just a sampling of the many careers represented throughout the building that day. Moving from room to room, students had the chance to hear directly from people whose work shapes industries, communities, and lives.

Guidance counselor Rob Fischer says middle school is the perfect time to begin making those connections between school and the wider world.

"Students often ask why they need to learn something," he said. "Hearing directly from people in different careers helps answer that question."

Students were also asked to listen closely and reflect on what they learned throughout the day. After each session, they completed a form noting the type of training or education required for the career they heard about, one thing they found interesting, and whether they might consider that type of job themselves.

One student, Jen, wrote that she found the work of a forensic scientist especially interesting. "I find it interesting that there are so many different directions you can go in forensics," she wrote, adding that it is a career she would consider.

Some presentations offered powerful real-world examples.

Irene Spanakos Weis, Assistant General Counsel and Senior Vice President at Mastercard and a parent of three children who attend



ed or currently attend Mamaroneck schools, spoke about her work helping the company acquire technology firms that expand Mastercard's global reach and services. She invited one of her bilingual colleagues, Carla, to join the session in Spanish, calling bilingualism a "superpower" and emphasizing how valuable it can be in today's workplace.

When a student asked Carla what the hardest part of her job is, she answered candidly that balancing executive expectations on tight timelines while maintaining work-life balance can be challenging. She followed that with advice for the students in the room: just because something is hard does not mean it is not worth doing. She encouraged them to always try their best, noting that success is not always guaranteed, but effort and persistence matter.

Police Officer Jason Sanchez also fielded questions from curious students, including one about the difference between patrol work and being a detective. Sanchez explained that he currently serves on patrol, responding directly to calls and helping people in immediate need.

For Kelleny Berchuck, a biomedical engineer who grew up in rural Pennsylvania, the day represented something she wished she had experienced as a student. Growing up, she told students, she and her classmates had little exposure to the wide range of careers available to them or opportunities to meet people working in those fields.

Across all the sessions, one message came through clearly. Most careers do not follow a straight path. Presenters encouraged students to stay curious, explore different interests, and remain open to opportunities they may not even know exist yet.

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

continued from page 5

During her tenure on the Board of Legislators, she served as Chair of the Board, Chair of the Budget and Appropriations Committee, Majority Leader and Chair of multiple key committees. In these leadership roles, she helped restore the County's fiscal health, guided budgetary and economic development initiatives, and ensured County policies centered women, families and marginalized residents.

Borgia currently serves as staff coordinator for the Westchester Gun Violence Prevention Task Force, focusing on the impact of

gun violence on survivors and families. Her advocacy has consistently elevated the voices of those most affected, particularly women and children who experience disproportionate harm from violence and economic instability.

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

Larchmont Woman's Club Collects Donations for the Hope Food Pantry

Stamping their feet to keep the blood circulating and warm on an extremely cold Saturday, February 8, Philanthropy Committee members of the Woman's Club of Larchmont, Zsuzsanna Baan-Jonas, Carolyn Gallaher, Georgia Jesse, Deidre Winter, and Mary Ann Mazza, greeted donors to the Club's Community Food Drive.



Volunteers at the Hope Food Pantry with Sr. Mary Alice, Pantry Manager and Zsuzsanna Baan-Jonas

They helped unload the cars of those bringing dozens of items needed by the Hope Food Pantry, 50 Washington Avenue, New Rochelle. Community members donated 123 packages of much-needed diapers (of various sizes) as well as more than 140 other items, including 24 boxes and cans of pasta meals, 24 cans of beans matched by an equal number of packages of rice, 16 cans of tuna and salmon (which when combined with rice or pasta can provide a meal for a small family), 10 cans of vegetables, 12 soups, 11 boxes of cereal and oatmeal along with toilet paper, Parmalat milk, jars of sauces and peanut butter. On Monday, February 9, Zsuzsanna Baan-Jonas drove her very full car to the Hope Food Pantry to deliver the food.

The Larchmont Woman's Club received donations of both food and money. The monetary donations allow the food pantry to purchase in-demand items in bulk.

The next Community Food Drive will be held on Saturday, May 30, from 11 AM to 1 PM. Committee members will be outside the Larchmont Avenue Church, 60 Forest Park Avenue.

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