



## Upcoming Events From NPW Members

1 message

**Nonprofit Westchester** <sgardos@npwestchester.org>  
 Reply-To: "Suzanne Gardos, Nonprofit Westchester" <sgardos@npwestchester.org>

Fri, Nov 2, 2018 at 8:08 AM



# MEMBER EVENTS

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### 59th WLS Annual Meeting Thursday, November 15

Special guest speaker: New York Secretary of State, Honorable Rossana Rosado. Secretary Rosado brings a depth and diversity of experience to the Department of State—from becoming the first woman to serve as Editor & Publisher of the largest Spanish-language newspaper in the country to championing prisoner re-entry initiatives, to her work as an award-winning producer.




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**Want NPW to promote your events? Send to [newsletter@npwestchester.org](mailto:newsletter@npwestchester.org)**

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# White Plains cable access studio moving to city library

**Richard Liebson**, Rockland/Westchester Journal News Published 4:57 p.m. ET Nov. 20, 2018



(Photo: John Meore/The Journal News)

**WHITE PLAINS** — This city has earmarked \$1 million to move the White Plains Public Access cable television studio to the library and to renovate the gallery and two meeting rooms on the library's second floor.

The studio move is expected to take place next year, after the project goes out to bid. The plan was approved by the Common Council last month.

"This is something we've been looking at for a while, and I'm happy to see that it's starting to come to fruition," said White Plains Mayor Tom Roach. "This move is an opportunity to save taxpayer dollars and enhance services."

The city currently pays \$40,000 a year for studio space in the basement of The Seasons apartment building, 25 Martine Ave. In recent years, the Parking and Building departments were moved from rented locations. Moving the studio means the city will no longer rent space for any of its operations.

**[FINE IDEA: White Plains library eliminates late fines for children's and young adult books \(/story/news/local/westchester/white-plains/2018/06/11/fine-idea-no-fines-late-childrens-books-white-plains-library/684266002/\)](#)**

**[NOT SEEN OR HEARD: "Citizens to be heard" portion of White Plains Common Council meetings are not put on cable \(/story/news/local/westchester/white-plains/2018/03/14/white-plains-citizens-heard-not-broadcast-citys-public-access-cable-channel/421652002/\)](#)**

**[RED LIGHT CAMERAS: First look at White Plains data \(/story/news/local/westchester/white-plains/2018/11/20/white-plains-red-light-cameras/2023686002/\)](#)**

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The auditorium at White Plains Public Library will be converted into the community media center for the City of White Plains Cable Television. Tuesday, November 20, 2018. (Photo: John Meore/The Journal News)

White Plains cablecasts city government programs, announcements and regular Common Council and Planning Board meetings on Optimum channel 75 and Verizon channel 47. Public access (Optimum channel 76 and Verizon channel 45) features programming produced by local residents and organizations. Shows are also streamed on the internet.

The cable access operation provides all the necessary equipment and technical expertise to allow virtually anyone to produce a show, at no cost.

"I hope a studio move goes smoothly and swiftly," said White Plains resident John Vorperian, whose "Beyond the Game," show, featuring interviews with sports and entertainment celebrities is in its 17th season, with more than 4,000 episodes done at the cable access studio. "We can't afford to go dark... It would be unfair to the producers and the viewers, if the studio was boxed up for more than two weeks."

Officials have not said how long the work will take.

James Kenny, executive director of the city's public access station, said moving its studio to the library will raise awareness about the operation and possibly encourage more residents to produce their own shows.

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"This will integrate us with the library and make us more visible to the public," he said. "We'll be able to produce shows in front of a live studio audience.

Kenny said the city's cable access operation produces 650 to 900 shows and events a year.

"We have music shows, cooking shows, religious programming and all kinds of other things," he said, adding that some are shown only on White Plains cable access while others are shown in other municipalities.

"The renovation work is needed, and will bring two of our busiest meeting rooms up to speed and make them more inviting," said White Plains Public Library Director Brian Kenney.

He said the second-floor art gallery will get new wall treatments, ceiling work, new lighting and other "infrastructure" improvements. Visitors to the cable studio will have to pass through the gallery to get there.

"We want it to attract people who would otherwise never go to a museum or gallery," Kenney said.

By adding the cable studio, he said, library events and functions can be taped or shown live and archived.

"We'll also have a large monitor on the first floor, so if people see something being taped in the studio that they're interested in, they can go upstairs and be part of the audience," Kenney said.

The cable operation will be located in little-used "dormant" space behind the gallery and in the auditorium and will include a handicapped bathroom, new lighting, soundproofing, renovation of a small kitchen and other improvements.

The studio move is being funded by Verizon and Optimum, as part of their franchise agreements with the city. Money for the library work comes from state grants and library aid and other sources.

The project will not cost local taxpayers anything, officials said.

For more information on White Plains cable access and on developing your own program, visit [www.cityofwhiteplains.com/87/Cable-Television](http://www.cityofwhiteplains.com/87/Cable-Television) (<http://www.cityofwhiteplains.com/87/Cable-Television>) or call 914-422-1419.

The White Plains Library website provides information on events, what's available and other items of interest at [whiteplainslibrary.org](http://www.whiteplainslibrary.org) (<http://www.whiteplainslibrary.org>). You can also call the library at 914-422-1400.

**TWITTER:** @RichLiebson (<https://twitter.com/RichLiebson>)

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# The Journal News

FRONT PAGE  
Tuesday, October 30, 2018



Henry Pittman, 54, spends time most days at the Riverfront library in Yonkers. Homeless people and their belongings are a familiar site at the library. Pittman, who spends nights at the nearby Sharing Community shelter, says that, except for bad-weather days, those who spend nights at the shelter must leave by 8 a.m. SETH HARRISON/THE JOURNAL NEWS

## City Council requests homeless day center

### Funding details for program are unclear

**Ernie Garcia**  
Rockland/Westchester Journal News  
USA TODAY NETWORK

**YONKERS** — Some overnight homeless shelters require their clients to leave in the morning, so the residents end up at the library, on park benches or in fast-food restaurants.

"I come (to the Riverfront library) and I get on the computer or I get on my phone and look for a place to go, for housing and stuff like that ... or I stay here and read a book, you know, get some knowledge, certain things that I should have gotten when I was in school," said Henry Pittman, 54, a disabled man who has stayed at the Sharing Community's shelter at 1 Hudson St. for about two months.

Pittman typically spends his days at the Yonkers Public Library Riverfront branch, but city officials would like to see the homeless have a better option

than lingering in public spaces. The City Council has asked Westchester County to set up a drop-in center where the homeless could spend the day and get help finding housing and other services.

"It's absolutely important that everyone out there recognize that the homeless population in Yonkers has been growing. There's an issue that we really have to really focus on and the solution that we can make happen right now is the start of a day program," said Councilwoman Shanae Williams, who pushed the City Council to adopt the request.

It's unclear how a homeless day program would be created or funded.

Yonkers is facing a massive budget deficit in the spring, and Westchester County's leaders already fund homeless shelters in Yonkers.

County Executive George Latimer's

See **HOMELESS**, Page 7A

**"It's absolutely important that everyone out there recognize that the homeless population in Yonkers has been growing. There's an issue that we really have to really focus on and the solution that we can make happen right now is the start of a day program."**

**Shanae Williams**  
Councilwoman

# Homeless

Continued from Page 1A

spokeswoman, Catherine Cioffi, wrote in an email that the county's drop-in shelters have been open every day for the past nine months based on conversations Latimer has had with Yonkers officials.

"Participation is voluntary and the county cannot mandate that people stay in the drop-in shelter during the day," Cioffi wrote. "Additionally, the county is piloting programs to continue to encourage these men and woman to take advantage of (county) services."

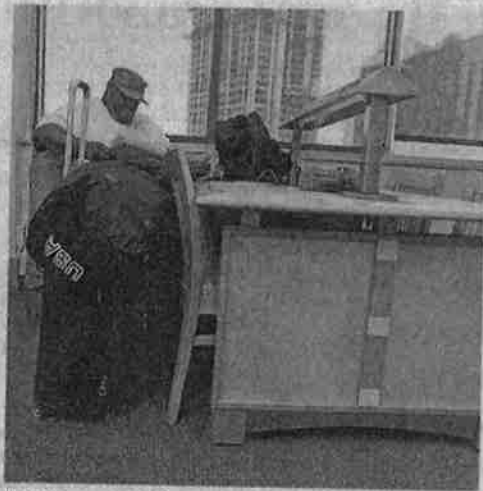
The push for a daytime homeless drop-in center has support from a coalition of local social service agencies. Laura Case, a systems advocate at Westchester Disabled on the Move, is a formerly homeless person who said she had nowhere to go when she was forced to leave the shelter each morning.

"We think the need for one is crucial and pressing. Back when I stayed at Yonkers drop-ins, all clients had to leave at 5 a.m. I can vividly remember walking down a steep hill in the dark and wandering the streets," Case told the Yonkers City Council on Oct. 9 before elected officials approved a request to the county for a drop-in center. "I saw people with severe physical disabilities and seniors outside with me. You're not connected to services when you're outside during the day because there is no place for you to receive that connection."

Pittman said residents at The Sharing Community typically have to leave at 8 a.m., after breakfast. There is an option to stay if the weather is really cold or if it's raining, and Pittman said he stays at the shelter on bad-weather days because he doesn't want his bags to get wet.

He said a daytime drop-in center for the homeless is "a very good idea."

"A lot of people don't have places to go," said Pittman, who would like to see a drop-in center offer housing-search ser-



Henry Pittman, 54, who is homeless, gets in some reading at the Riverfront library in Yonkers.

SETH HARRISON/THE JOURNAL NEWS

vices, drug counseling, clothing and shower facilities.

Some housing services are already available to the homeless at the Yonkers Public Library. The agency CLUSTER sends case managers to the Will branch on Mondays to offer housing, mental-health connections and job assistance, among other services.

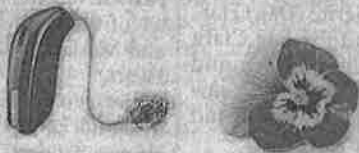
On Wednesday, several people were at the library's Riverfront branch and — like Pittman — had suitcases, bags or other belongings surrounding them. Library Director Edward Falcone said the

number of homeless patrons grows in the winter.

"We try to help them as much as we can at the library, but certainly there are things above and beyond what we can help them with," said Falcone, adding that the library doesn't have any policy limiting how many belongings a patron can bring into the building, so long as aisles are kept clear. "We try to be sensitive to this population. They have enough hardships as it is."

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The Westchester  
**County Press**

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 25, 2018

## **MV Public Library to Host 2nd Collage Workshop 3 Hands-On Projects to Result in Unique Murals**

MOUNT VERNON, NY -- The Mount Vernon Public Library welcomes Westchester-based artist Pamela Tucker who will conduct a series of free collage workshops celebrating American quilts and African ceremonial textiles. The workshops have been funded by a generous grant from Arts-Westchester.

Participants will be guided through art making experiences in which they create theme-based paintings that will later be combined into group murals. There is no pre-registration necessary and participants spend as much time as they need to complete their paintings.

The November workshop, Quilting Bee, will be inspired by traditional quilt designs. Participants will paint their own individual squares, borrowing pattern, print and color ideas from classic quilt making. The event will be held on Wednesday, November 7 from 10:00am to 12:00pm in the Grace Greene Baker Community Room at the Mount Vernon Library. Light refreshments will be served. Seniors and adults are encouraged to attend this creative program.

The December workshop will focus on African ceremonial textiles. Children will make paintings based on geometric patterns, fibers, and natural materials. This event will be held on Thursday, December 6 from 3:30pm to 5:00pm in the Children's Room.

Upon completion of each workshop, Ms. Tucker will combine each collage participant's painting into unique multi-artists, multi-paneled one-of-a-kind murals. Later, the final complete pieces will be on display at the library and all who participated in creating the artwork will be invited to a reception. The time and location of the exhibit will be announced at a future date.

No registration is necessary. All materials for the workshops will be supplied.

Stop by for a few minutes, take a seat and join the fun!

For further information, please call Cathy Webb, Community Outreach  
(914) 668-1840 x236.

# My Travels Started In The Chappaqua Library

OCTOBER 24, 2018 BY BEN G. FRANK

"I travel the world."

It's now the summer of 2018, and I hold the copy of my fourth edition of *A Travel Guide to Jewish Europe* (Pelican Publishing), 752 pages, with photos, maps, a bibliography and index and say to myself:

*"And to think it all began in the Chappaqua Library."*

I picture driving down Quaker Road on Saturday mornings to the library. That's the day many fellow residents did their chores, such as ferry their kids to soccer, basketball, and other sport games; while others play tennis, golf, enjoy the pool clubs or sleigh riding in Gedney Park, depending on the season.



PHOTO COURTESY OF BEN G. FRANK

I spent my Saturdays in the library: First, doing research to prepare myself for forthcoming trips to exotic lands such as Tahiti, India, Morocco, Cuba, Monaco, and Peru. And then, once I landed in Europe, for instance, I people-watched on the Champs-Élysées and the Via Veneto; I stared at stately statues in London; I danced at a bar mitzvah party in Marseille; I prayed in the oldest functioning synagogue in the world, the *Atneuschul* in Prague; and I spent hours at the Shoah Memorial and Holocaust Center in Paris.

In Tudela, Spain, I wrote in the new edition of my travel guide: "There are no Jews in Tudela. But I went anyway. You see, Tudela is the birthplace of my namesake, Rabbi Benjamin of Tudela. In the 12th century, he became the first Jewish travel writer, pioneering an entire branch of writing.

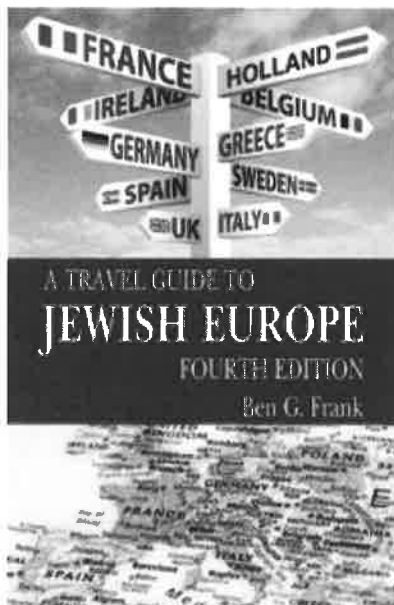
Like that travel writer: I chronicle the Jewish world of Europe; I record the Jewish population and describe the people; relate their history; comment on their rulers and define the Jewish Community."

I also made sure that my travel book would be a practical, anecdotal, and adventurous journey through Jewish Europe, including in the text: kosher restaurants, cafes, synagogues, and museums, plus cultural and heritage sites.

Years after the first edition of *A Travel Guide to Jewish Europe* came out in 1992, a Florida woman reminded me of a phrase I used in my first travel guide. Like most authors, I felt good when a reader of one's work, recalls a specific quote. The saying in question dates back to early 1930s-Poland, a decade later the site of the Nazi death camps. Then, Alfred Doblin, writer and novelist, wrote: "I realized I didn't know any Jews, So, I asked myself and I asked others: 'Where do Jews exist?' I was told: 'Poland.' And so I went to Poland."

This writer also went to Poland. Only my comment after the Holocaust was: 'Someplace along the Polish road, you will shed a tear.' It's true, said the woman who remembered my quote.

After sojourning to those far off lands—24 countries in Europe alone, I would return to Chappaqua and, yes, spend Saturdays in the library, checking observations against fact. And so it went for the better part of the wonderful 37 years that my wife, Riva, resided in the hamlet including the years our two sons, Marty and Monte, were at home, until they left the nest.



What, therefore, is the essence of *A Travel Guide to Jewish Europe*? My publisher put it succinctly: “This newly updated handbook from travel historian, Ben G. Frank, guides travelers through Jewish customs, neighborhoods, and historical sites in Europe. From kosher dining in France to memorials in Scandinavia, Frank combines practical information, intriguing stories, and an enlightening investigation into the Jewish contributions to European history.”

Not only did I include travel information for the tourist, I always wanted to update the political and social conditions, as well as historical information on Jewish life in Europe. Country by country, I discussed the rise of anti-Semitism, hate speech and hate crimes, especially in East Europe, as well as the rising nationalism in nations such as, Hungary, Poland and Austria.

I uncovered an interesting phenomenon: European Jews are not only immigrating to Israel but many are relocating within Europe. In fact, Jews are moving from France to the UK, from the UK to Germany, and from Turkey to Spain and Portugal.

Thinking about my new work, I believe this new edition of *A Travel Guide to Jewish Europe* will help the reader understand the past history of Jews in Europe, as well as the present and the future.

So, let’s travel. As the Chinese say: “the journey of a 1,000 miles begins with the first step.”

FILED UNDER: COVER STORIES

TAGGED WITH: BEN FRANK, BOOK, EUROPE, JEWISH, JEWISH COMMUNITY, JEWISH EUROPE, POLAND, TRAVEL, TRAVEL BOOK, TRAVEL GUIDE

## About Ben G. Frank

Ben G. Frank, travel writer and travel-lecturer, is the author of the just-published 4th edition of *A Travel Guide to Jewish Europe* (Pelican Publishing) and the forthcoming *Klara’s Journey, A Novel* (Marion Street Press). He is a travel correspondent for the Jerusalem Post, Israel.