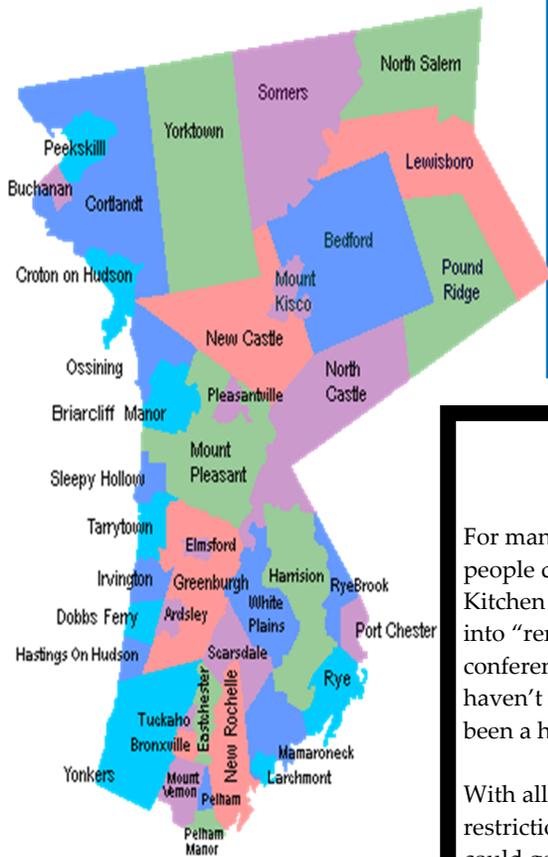


Westchester

Westchester Chapter E-Newsletter

JUNE 2021



From Chapter President Matthew J. Katz



For many people, this has been the most trying year of their life. Most people did not set foot in their physical work place for the entire year. Kitchen tables were transformed into offices. Living rooms were turned into “remote schools.” Full faces could only be seen through video conferences. Vacations were a thing of the past. For some people, they haven’t been in the physical presence of their family for the last 15 months. Make no mistake, this has been a hard year. This has been a VERY hard year.

With all of the hardships also comes a newfound appreciation for what life was like pre-pandemic. No restrictions, no masks, no need for Clorox wipes everywhere you go. No need to worry about how you could get your hands on toilet paper. Leaving the house used to be easy, then it became more of a chore with a checklist of items you needed to cross off before leaving. But it’s what you make out of this newfound appreciation that will ultimately define us. So many things that were thought to be a given were taken away. So many things were taken for granted that I know I will look at differently moving forward.

We have now reached a moment in time where offices are re-opening, schools have students again, friends and family can gather and not need to worry about the “what ifs.” We made it through the darkest days, and my hope as incoming president is that together we can make 2021 an amazing year as we enter back into the light. This is the year that in-person events return! This is the year you see your colleagues face to face again! It’s not going to be easy, and we all need to work together. I’m up for the challenge, and I hope you all are too. And I’m VERY excited to see all your faces again!

Best Regards,

Matthew J. Katz

Matthew J. Katz can be reached at 914.949.2990 x3363 or by e-mail at [mkatz@citriccooperman.com](mailto:mkatz@citriccooperman.com)

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Ronald Ries

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## From Outgoing President Heather Oboda...

As my term ends as President of the Westchester Chapter of the New York State Society of CPAs, I reflect upon the last two years of my presidency. I never thought as I stood in the ballroom at Willow Ridge Country Club that night in May 2019 what was ahead. From pandemic to new possible tax legislation and everything in between we as a society have had to adapt and react quickly to help our members and their clients.



To begin the chapter and the society quickly moved to having meetings and educational programs online via Zoom. No longer can you grab a few Munchkins and drink coffee in person with Accountants in Industry however, attendance has increased over the year focusing on a variety of topics from Human Resource Update in the Wake of a Covid-19 Pandemic to Networking in a Post Covid Environment. Our Tax committee continued to meet monthly the first Wednesday of the month via Zoom to go over new tax law changes that have come up. In addition, they held tax updates the end of the 2020 in connection with the Mid-Hudson and Rockland Chapters. We were also happy to co-host an A&A Committee education event with Mid-Hudson in 2020. Record numbers of members sat in a virtual meet the IRS event. Our Tax Hotline was able to be held remotely, which allowed society members to take calls from members of the community. Our Scholarship Committee continued to review applications and gave five to six \$1,000 scholarships the last two years.

While the chapter continued as business as usual, the NYSSCPA statewide started to advocate for practitioners and their clients. They worked hard to get the New York and Federal due dates extended for both tax years. They were able to have New York allow electronic signature signatures instead of “wet” signatures for clients and preparers that would have been difficult to obtain and risky during the pandemic. The Society also began to put out educational materials for members to serve their clients on topics such as PPP and other CARES Act tax law changes.

Going forward as restrictions are lightening there will be a move to in person events. The first in-person event the Westchester Chapter is excited to hold is Annual Golf and Networking Event on Monday August 16<sup>th</sup>. Our Annual Tax Conferences are scheduled in two parts November 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup>, right now as virtual events. The annual COAP Career Opportunities in the Accounting Profession will be held this year June 28<sup>th</sup> and 29<sup>th</sup> at Westchester Community College. This program was developed to introduce underrepresented high school students to accounting and finance careers and is still accepting application.

To close, I am happy to say that that New York State Society of CPAs was able to pivot when needed to meet the needs of its members and their clients. I am confident that as more tax legislation and accounting regulations come out the Society and its chapters will be ready.

I wish the incoming President of Westchester Chapter Mathew Katz the best as he begins his term. As well as Rumbi Bwerinofa-Petrozzello, incoming president of the NYSSCPA.

Regards,

Heather Oboda  
Past President

Heather Oboda can be reached at 914.949.2990 x3382 or by email at [hoboda@citrincooperman.com](mailto:hoboda@citrincooperman.com)



# HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS— Make Your Summer Count! Start Your Accounting Career



## PARTICIPATING CAMPUSES IN 2021

**Ithaca College**  
Ithaca, New York

**Medgar Evers College**  
Brooklyn, New York

**Rochester Institute  
of Technology**  
Rochester, New York

**St. John's University**  
Queens, New York

**Siena College**  
Loudonville, New York

**SUNY New Paltz**  
New Paltz, New York

**SUNY Oswego**  
Oswego, New York

**Westchester  
Community College**  
Valhalla, New York

**COAP—Career Opportunities in the Accounting Profession—is a FREE program, developed to introduce promising underrepresented high school students to accounting and finance careers. You will meet successful business leaders and get need-to-know college tips.**

COAP helps you explore what you can do in the accounting field. If you think accounting is just taxes, think again. Plot your future as a Chief Financial Officer, forensics investigator, data analyst, cybersecurity consultant, entertainment and sports agent, auditor or entrepreneur.

Because COAP is virtual, you can apply for the COAP program hosted by a college near you AND meet students from across the state who share your interests.

**Apply Now at [nysscpa.org/APPLYCOAP](https://nysscpa.org/APPLYCOAP)**



The Moynihan Scholarship Fund is a 501(c)(3) organization and is an affiliate of the NYSSCPA.



# **SAVE THE DATES:**

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## **Westchester Annual Tax Conferences**

**When:** Tuesday, November 2nd — Part 1  
Wednesday, November 3rd — Part 2

**Time:** 8:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.

For more information please contact:  
Greg Re - [gre@mdcocpa.com](mailto:gre@mdcocpa.com) or 203-327-7151,  
or John Brant - [jbrant@pkfod.com](mailto:jbrant@pkfod.com) or 914-341-7626

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## **The Westchester Chapter Needs You!**

**If you are interested in joining a committee or the board or know someone that would like to be involved, please reach out to Matthew Katz at 914-949-2990 x3363 or e-mail at [mkatz@citrincooperman.com](mailto:mkatz@citrincooperman.com)**

**We look forward to hearing from you!  
Thank you for your continued support!**

## Special Announcement from The NYSSCPA Westchester Chapter:

The Westchester Chapter Accounting Careers/High School Program Committee offers deserving high school seniors, who have committed to enter the accounting profession and pursue accounting as a major in college, a chance to win a scholarship of up to \$1,000.00. Each applicant must reside in Westchester County. Applicants are selected for the scholarship based on GPA, extracurricular activities, an essay, recommendation letters and timely submission of the information.

### 2021 Westchester Chapter High School Scholarship Award Winners:

**Alison Zeng – Byram Hills High School:** Alison will be attending **CUNY Baruch College**; She has excelled academically, actively gives back to her community and has a sincere interest in becoming an accountant and financial analyst.

**Julianna DiCostanzo – Harrison High School:** Julianna will be attending **Villanova University**; She has challenged herself with an IB Diploma program and has excelled academically; she has a passion for community service and has shown great initiative throughout her high school years.

**Angelina Joson – Maria Regina High School:** Angelina will be attending **Northeastern University**; She has excelled academically in high school; she has a passion to succeed and commits to working hard. She aspires that her work will benefit others and sees herself achieving that aspiration with a career in accounting.

**Marina Panella – Maria Regina High School:** Marina will be attending **Iona College**; she has excelled academically and has shown determination and great interest in becoming a CPA. She values education and expressed it with a quote from Benjamin Franklin: “An investment in knowledge pays the best interest”.

**Raffaele Tammaro – Stepinac High School:** Raffaele will be attending **Fordham University**; he not only excelled academically but also has been actively involved in many extracurricular activities both in school and outside of school; Raffaele also created his own business with his sister to benefit the community. He has a passion to become a CPA for one of the Big Four.



Need help with a tax issue?  
Have a tax issue you'd like to share with your colleagues?  
Then,



## **JOIN US AT THE TAX COMMITTEE MONTHLY "ZOOM" MEETING!**

**When:** 1st Wednesday of each month

**Join from PC, Mac, Linux, iOS or Android:**

[https://nysscpa.zoom.us/j/92569272621?  
pwd=emdiQ2hLU0V3emJYTmpWNHplKzBhQT09](https://nysscpa.zoom.us/j/92569272621?pwd=emdiQ2hLU0V3emJYTmpWNHplKzBhQT09)

Password: 056334

Or by Phone Dial:

+1 646 876 9923 (US Toll)  
+1 312 626 6799 (US Toll)  
+1 301 715 8592 (US Toll)  
+1 253 215 8782 (US Toll)  
+1 346 248 7799 (US Toll)  
+1 669 900 6833 (US Toll)  
855 880 1246 (US Toll Free)  
Meeting ID: 925 6927 2621

For more information please contact:  
Greg Re - [gre@mdcocpa.com](mailto:gre@mdcocpa.com) or 203-327-7151,  
or John Brant - [jbrant@pkfod.com](mailto:jbrant@pkfod.com) or 914-341-7626



# 2021-2022 CALENDAR

<u>Date</u>	<u>Program/Activity/Event</u>	<u>Time</u>
6/28/2021-6/29/2021	COAP Program	Two Day Program
8/16/2021	The Annual Golf & Networking Event	All Day Event
11/2/2021	Westchester Tax Conference Part 1	8:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.
11/3/2021	Westchester Tax Conference Part 2	8:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.

<u>Newsletter Committee</u>	<u>Phone</u>	<u>E-Mail</u>
Licia Vizcarra	(914) 294-2500	<a href="mailto:lvizcarra@cgallp.com">lvizcarra@cgallp.com</a>
Matthew J. Katz	(914) 949-2990 x3363	<a href="mailto:mkatz@citrincooperman.com">mkatz@citrincooperman.com</a>

*(E-mail submissions to the newsletter committee no later than the 10th day of the month prior to publication.)*

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CPA Certificate No. / \_ / \_ / \_ / \_ / \_ / \_ / \_ / \_ / \_ /

Name: (Last, First, Middle Initial)

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Firm Address \_\_\_\_\_

City, State, Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Business Phone ( ) \_\_\_\_\_

CPA Certificate No. / \_ / \_ / \_ / \_ / \_ / \_ / \_ / \_ / \_ /

Name: (Last, First, Middle Initial)

Firm Name \_\_\_\_\_

Firm Address \_\_\_\_\_

City, State, Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Business Phone ( ) \_\_\_\_\_

## **FUTURE BOARD MEETINGS 2021**

(Board Meetings are generally the 3rd Thursday Morning of the month. Exceptions are noted)

**NEXT BOARD MEETING:**

**6/16/2021 @ 9:00 a.m. - ORGANIZATIONAL MEETING (ZOOM)**

**NEXT NEWSLETTER - SEPTEMBER 2021**

***ENJOY YOUR SUMMER!  
STAY WELL!***

