

Nov 26, 2010 Journal News LoHud web site:

The proposed cuts in the Westchester County Department of Laboratories and Research aren't just going to impact the workers holding the jobs proposed for elimination. These cuts are going to hurt all residents.

In one way or another, we've all been impacted by the work in Laboratories and Research. Those of us who enjoy clean drinking water have Laboratories and Research to thank for our safe water supply. The workers there are the ones testing our water. Those who've been impacted by crime have Laboratories and Research to thank for its part in bringing justice. The workers are the ones handling toxicology testing and other forensics. Those of us who remember some of the public-health scares in our community (do the hepatitis outbreak in Peekskill and coyote attacks in Rye ring a bell?) have Laboratories and Research to thank for their fast lab results. The workers there assisted other county departments in preventing further harm.

There are some who'd like you to think County Executive Rob Astorino is trimming fat from his proposed 2011 budget. That's not so. He's cutting vital, important services that impact all of our lives in one way or another.

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