

# Yonkers Rising

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## Mayor Spano Presents Budget With 0% Property Tax Increase



**Mayor Mike Spano presents his proposed 2022 budget to the City Council photo by Maurice Mercado**

On April 15, Yonkers Mayor Mike Spano released his Fiscal Year 2022 Executive Budget proposal, which contains a zero percent increase in the property tax levy, contains no reductions in City services and, once again, provides its largest contribution to Yonkers Public Schools.

Mayor Spano stated, "Like many cities across the country, Yonkers experienced a yearlong lockdown due to a global pandemic that crippled local businesses and employment. Fortunately, Yonkers weathered the storm better than expected, allowing us to prevent an increase in the tax levy that would have placed additional burdens on our taxpayers. Today, the city is emerging from the lockdown and is getting back to business, putting our residents back to work."

"The City's ability to remain intact during this turbulent year is due in part to the Administration's ongoing fiscal responsibility and frugal spending," added Mayor Spano.

### **Executive Budget Overview:**

The Executive Budget for the Fiscal Year 2022 for the combined City and Board of Education (BOE) General Funds is \$1.15 billion, a decrease of \$600,000 (\$6.8 million decrease for City and \$6.2million increase for the BOE), or 0.05%.

### **Yonkers Board of Education**

The Executive Budget includes a record \$651.9 million appropriation for the Board of Education, the largest ever budgeted by an Administration.

Mayor Spano added, "Thank you to our New York State Yonkers delegation for committing to deliver the long overdue phase-in of foundation aid

**continued on pg 7-**

## Latimer & County Board Request \$69M for Odor Control at Wastewater Treatment Plant:

### **Southwest Yonkers Community Not Happy**



**Westchester County Wastewater Treatment Plant in S. Yonkers**

### **By Dan Murphy**

For many years, one of the biggest complaints of residents who live in Southwest Yonkers has been the odors emanating from the Westchester County Wastewater Treatment plant. Located at Fernbrook Street on the Hudson River, the plant treats most of the wastewater for all of the residents of Westchester County, not just the residents of Yonkers.

On April 12, the Westchester Board of Legislators voted unanimously to request more than \$69 million in budgeted federal grant money for long-term odor-control repairs at the Yonkers Wastewater Treatment Plant. The request was part of a package of federal requests assembled jointly by County Executive George Latimer and the Board.

Legislator Jose Alvarado, who represents the 17th County Board district and southwest Yonkers said, "Odor Remediation has been a long-term project of mine for the communities of Southwest Yonkers."

Alvarado said, "It's not just an issue of quality of life, but also of environmental justice. We know that the environmental impact of facilities like this fall disproportionately on minority and poor communities. The Biden administration understands this too, which is why we believe we can be successful in obtaining this crucial federal help."

"But the County is not just waiting around for the federal aid. We are working now to improve life for residents around the plant."

"Last year, I and my colleagues on Board of Legislators approved \$35

**continued on pg 7-**

## Shanae Williams Fires Back in County Clerk's Race: Condemns Political Pay Raises in 2019 for Idoni, County Board



**City Councilwoman and County Clerk candidate Shanae Williams**

### **By Dan Murphy**

If there's one thing that taxpayers rarely, if ever, support, its elected officials voting themselves a pay hike. Yonkers City Councilwoman and Westchester County Clerk candidate Shanae Williams reminded democrats and progressives of a county budget deal in 2019 that raised salaries for many of Westchester County governments top employees, including County Clerk Tim Idoni, the person that Williams hopes to defeat in a democratic primary June 22.

Idoni's salary jumped from \$153,000 to \$195,000 after the budget agreement, which called for the County Sales tax to be increased by 1% in exchange for salary increases for members of the County Legislature, and most top county officials and their staff. County Executive George Latimer did not take the pay hike.

"These pay increases were irresponsible in 2019 and are utterly unacceptable in light of the financial crunch caused by the COVID-19 pandemic immediately after they were enacted," said Williams. "I do not understand how elected officials can look taxpayers in the eye while raising taxes and simultaneously granting themselves a massive pay raise. The last year has caused countless families and businesses in our county to struggle, and although I have heard the justification for the pay raises, I believe that public servants must be exactly that, and demonstrate leadership by making sacrifices for the public good. There is absolutely no justification

**continued on pg 7-**

## Earth Day Celebrated in Yonkers



**Yonkers Unveils its Monarch Habitat Preserve at Rumsey Road, L-R-Parks Commissioner Anthony Landi, Yonkers Department of Parks, Deputy Parks Commissioner Steve Sansone, Mayor Mike Spano; Sustainability Officer Jason Baker, Terry Joshi, Green City Advisory Committee. Photo by Maurice Mercado**

In celebration of Earth Week, Yonkers Mayor Mike Spano today signed the National Wildlife Federation's "Mayors' Monarch Pledge," committing to take actions to help save the declining monarch butterfly and other pollinators. Yonkers is now part of an expanding network of cities working to create Monarch Butterfly Preserves in local parks and right-of-ways to save the decline of monarch butterflies.

Mayor Spano stated, "In 1996, monarch butterflies numbered around 1 billion in the U.S. Today, their numbers have declined significantly as a result of numerous threats, particularly the loss of habitat due urban development, agricultural practices and climate change. More than being beautiful, monarch butterflies contribute to the health of our planet. In Yonkers, we are committing ourselves to the conservation of the monarch butterfly by planting milkweed and other plantings across the city."

The Yonkers Department of Parks, Recreation and Conservation, in collaboration with the Mayor's Office of Sustainability, are planting monarch butterfly habitat preserves at the following city locations: Yonkers Parks Department Headquarters (Nepperhan Ave.), Rumsey Road arterial, Lincoln Park, Cook Field, JFK Marina Boathouse, Central Park Avenue at New York State I-87, Rory O'Moore Field, Conor Park, Old Croton Aqueduct at Seymour St.

Some of the city plantings include: penstemon digitalis 'husker red'; salvia 'meadow ballet blend'; zinnia 'profusion orange'; liatris spicata alba 'blazing star'; buddleia davidii 'black night'; echinacea 'pow wow wild berry'; echinacea purpurea 'magnus'; asclepias tuberosa 'milkweed or butterfly weed'; and Calamagrostis Karl Foerster 'hybrid feather reed grasses'.

Mayor Spano added, "Through this program, more than 6,500 acres of monarch habitat already have been restored nationwide. I encourage residents and community organizations to plant monarch gardens at their homes or in their neighborhoods."

**continued on pg 7-**



## Yonkers Eagle Scout Continues Tradition of Service to Community



above: Boy Scout Frank Hernandez Jr., Troop 5 Yonkers, completing his Eagle Scout service project at Homefield House. Below: One of the memorials with solar lights thanks to his efforts.



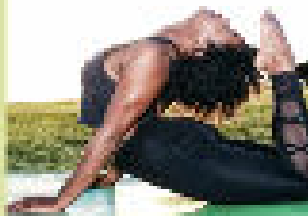
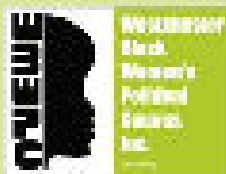
Thank God that the Boy Scouts survived COVID. On April 17, Frank Hernandez Jr. of Troop 5 Yonkers worked on his Eagle Scout service project along with his fellow troop 5 Scouts, adult leaders, family and friends, at the Homefield House on Saw Mill River Road.

The project consisted of cleaning up the grounds, sanding and painting their benches, power washing two memorials, planting a pollination garden, adding solar powered spotlights to the memorials and adding solar powered walkway lights. It was a successful day with a lot of enthusiastic help.

Mayor Spano stopped by. Frankie has been looking up to him ever since he was a Cub Scout and seeing him at many events. We moved from Yonkers to the town of Poughkeepsie a few months ago to buy a house but Frankie continues to come down to Troop 5 continuing his Boy Scout journey.

Frankie is a 10th grader at Roy C. Ketchum high school in the Wappingers school district. Thanks to Scoutmaster Harold Thela of Troop 5 Yonkers for keeping this tradition alive. Visit their Facebook page, Boy Scout Troop 5 Yonkers NY.

## Westchester Black Women's Political Caucus- Yonkers Chapter



Spring into Mental, Physical & Financial Wellness

Saturday, April 24  
11:00 am to 12:30 pm

This event will be remote  
email to --yonkerswbwpc@gmail.com  
or email info@wbwpc.org  
visit <https://www.facebook.com/wbwpcyc>

## Yonkers Rotary Holds Mask Distribution Event

On April 18, the Yonkers Rotary hosted a mask distribution event to local organizations. Thanks to the Rossi Family Foundation and District 7230 for making the masks available. In addition to the volunteers, kudos to Maria Abdullah for organizing the event and getting such a great turnout from Mayor Mike Spano, County Executive George Latimer, Yonkers City Council President Mike Khader, Assemblyman Nader Sayegh, Deputy County Executive Ken Jenkins and Jim Killoran, Fuller Center for Housing, Greater NYC. Great job by Yonkers Rotary President Steve Simpson and all Yonkers Rotarians for their continued work and support for those who need it during the pandemic. Visit [YonkersRotary.org](http://YonkersRotary.org) for more info.

Photos by Anissa Latif Photography



Members of the Yonkers Rotary, serving your community



Yonkers Rotary COVID Chair Maria Abdullah, left and Rotary President Steve Simpson, right, with Jim Killoran



Mayor Mike Spano is named an Honorary Rotarian, by District Governor Mary Shackleton

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## Celebrate Earth Day and Join The Great Saw Mill River Cleanup Sat.



*Roll up your sleeves and join the GHV Green Team , pictured above, at one of several Great Saw Mill River cleanup events this weekend*

On Saturday, April 24th, Groundwork Hudson Valley’s Annual Great Saw Mill River Cleanup will celebrate its 12th Anniversary. The Great Saw Mill River Cleanup spans over 10 miles throughout Westchester County, coordinates the efforts of hundreds of volunteers, and captures an incredible 5 tons of trash pollution in a single day.

“The Great Saw Mill River Cleanup is a critical part of the work that we do at Groundwork Hudson Valley to address the long term consequences of climate change. Protecting the river plays a significant role in protecting the community from flooding and stormwater runoff.” said Brigitte Griswold, Executive Director for Groundwork Hudson Valley.“Of course, we will be following all of the social distancing and Covid-19 protocols to keep our volunteers safe. It’s a great way to get outside, get some fresh air, exercise and have fun while doing important work.”

Residents have the opportunity to volunteer at nine different locations on Saturday, April 24th from 10:00AM to 1:00PM: Farragut Avenue, Hastings; Chauncey Park, Dobbs Ferry; Bridge Street Plaza, Ardsley; Van der Donck Park, Yonkers; Walsh Road/War Memorial Park, Yonkers; Great Hunger Memorial/Woodlands Lake, Irvington; Lawrence Street, Ardsley/ Dobbs Ferry; and Grant Street, Pleasantville. On Sunday, April 25th, residents will have the opportunity to volunteer at the Liberty Coca-Cola site in Elmsford. Residents can register to attend here.

The sponsor organizations who make this event possible include Regency Centers, Bonneville Environmental Foundation, Cascade, Change the Course, The Westchester Bank, Mom’s Organic Market, PS&S, Empire City Casino, Westchester Community Foundation, the City of Yonkers, the Downtown Business Improvement District, the Municipal Housing Authority for the City of Yonkers, the Westchester County Department of Parks and Recreation, the Yonkers Police Department, the Westchester County Board of Legislators, the New York State Department of Transportation, and the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation.

The Great Saw Mill River Cleanup is officially open for registration! Take a look at the sites and register today!

<http://ow.ly/VBvg50EdDPK>

## Feeling Down? Do Something Good!



*By Eric Schoen*

Let’s face it. We all have Covid fatigue. Just when we hear good news that things are getting better, we have searched the planet to obtain a Covid-19 vaccine and finally have obtained one and two weeks have passed since our second shot so we are at the point of maximum effectiveness, we hear the bad news.

A small number of Johnson and Johnson vaccine recipients have had blood clots after vaccination so the shot has been put on hold. Booster shots may be needed every six months or every year to take into account for new variants. New variants are being uncovered daily, and before I hit the gym my doctor tells me to pay particular attention to the South African variant. Heavens, he should know his family is from South Africa!

It’s enough to make even the healthiest, strongest, psychologically stable person go nuts. Good news after bad news after good news. And the news isn’t just even exclusively about the virus. Shootings, hostage situations, people with no shelter, food insecurity for so many, discrimination. A shooting at a grocery store on Long Island as we go to press.

We have to do something to lift our spirits. Get out of the house and get that fresh air pumping through our bodies. Exercise, healthy eating, breathing exercises are however just not enough. I propose that we try to do at least one good thing everyday for our fellow Americans.

I’ve tried it and it has lifted my spirits. The good deed doesn’t have to be just for someone you know. I was having coffee at a Panera in the area the other day. I received an email from County Executive George Latimer’s office that next day Covid vaccination appointments were available at Westchester Community College. All you had to do was sign up.

I was chatting with one of the nice employees and I asked her if she had received the vaccination yet. Here is someone who interfaces daily with the public running around both indoors and outdoors doing everything from taking orders to delivering food and beverages to people not part of her household ‘pod’ everyday. This is the type of person who should be at the top of the list for vaccination. She had not been vaccinated.

Though I couldn’t drag her to the vaccination site, I gave her the information and link so that she could make an appointment. All I can do is pray that she followed through. Another vaccine situation came up with a relative of someone I know.

This persons mom is on in years and has not left her apartment since the beginning of the pandemic. Thus she has not been vaccinated. I heard

continued on pg 7-



## Open Meeting & Information Session

**Date: Thursday, April 29, 2021**  
**Time: 5:30-7:00 PM**  
**Location: 15 Palmer Road (St. Bart's School)**  
**Yonkers, NY 10701**

The Bernie Glassman NVCS will bring the successful school design of New Ventures Charter School on Staten Island, right here to Yonkers.

New Ventures is one of the highest performing transfer high schools for over-aged, under-credited students in New York State. Its excellent track record, paired with the New York State Board of Regents' willingness to address the need for high-performing transfer schools presents a prime opportunity for the students and families of Yonkers.



## County Health Department Offers Westchester Residents Free Minnows

After a one-year hiatus due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the Westchester County Department of Health will once again give away free minnows for residential ponds and water features, along with mosquito dunks, advice and strategies to prevent the spread of mosquito-borne diseases like West Nile Virus.

A total of 250 pounds of minnows will be available at the Westchester County Airport, 2 Loop Road, West Harrison, 10604, as follows:

- Friday, April 23, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.
- Saturday, April 24, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Residents with ornamental ponds can add fathead minnows to the water. The minnows eat mosquito larvae, preventing them from maturing into biters. Dunks serve the same purpose in birdbaths, rain barrels and unused pools.

Residents who plan to pick up minnows should wear masks, maintain social distancing when they arrive, and bring a bucket or pail. The Health Department will distribute the minnows in watertight plastic bags. To keep the minnows viable, residents should bring them straight home and release them immediately into ponds with at least eight inches of water.

Sherlita Amler, MD, Commissioner of Health, said: “With their hearty appetites, this baitfish can keep mosquitos from breeding in your pond and biting you in your own backyard.”

Any large areas of standing water on public property that cannot easily be removed should be reported to the Health Department at (914) 813-5000.For more information, visit <https://health.westchestergov.com/west-nile-virus>.

IT/Data Engineer, Mt Vernon, NY Analyze S/W requirmnts of accounting S/W PDI to dvlp solutions & designs; consult w/ clients to dvlp & lead new S/W projects; design & optimize PDI database to ensure capability & perfmrnce; retrieve data for analysis & prediction of S/W requirmnts; generate code snippets to integrate them to PDI sys; conduct testing on company’s sys to identify technical S/W problems; modify & imprve apps to increase perfmrnce & optimize operational efficiency; define S/W features & demonstrate projected design to mngment & clients; coordinate w/ IT team for new S/W projects & integration; debug backend & frontend for Atlantis Fresh Market Delivery App (User & Driver apps); use C SQL, C++, Python, Java, HTML, CSS, Javascript, PHP, React Native, Socket.io, NodeJS. Bachelor in Computer Science or Computer Engineering + 2 years exp in job ofrfd or as Software Developer. Fax resume to HR Mgr, Atlantis Management Group, 914-699-9400.



# NYS Parks Seeks Input on Philipse Manor Hall Improvements and expanded exhibits

## Philipse Manor Hall: Our Whole History

NYS Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation invites you to two interactive virtual forums to learn about exciting site improvements and new exhibits being proposed at the State Historic Site in Yonkers.

Public forums will be held at 1:00pm Tuesday, April 27 & 6:00pm Wednesday, April 28

To register, please visit:

<https://parks.ny.gov/historic-sites/philipsemanorhall/details.aspx>

NEW YORK  
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Parks, Recreation  
and Historic Preservation

The state Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation will hold public information meetings regarding planned improvements to Philipse Manor Hall in downtown Yonkers on April 27 and 28. Planned improvements, including new exhibits, interior and exterior restoration work and accessibility improvements, will make the facility more welcoming to visitors and expand the range of history presented at the Colonial era mansion.

The investment at Philipse Manor Hall is part of Governor Cuomo’s Our Whole History campaign; a commitment to expand on the overlooked and too often excluded histories of the state’s underrepresented populations. Coinciding with the planned building restoration and upgrades, State Parks staff will develop new and expanded exhibits for the site that incorporate African American and Indigenous people’s histories from the region, while preserving the known history of the Philipse family.

As part of the planning process, State Parks invites stakeholders and residents to review the proposal and provide feedback on the restoration and reinterpretation plan. The meetings will be held virtually on April 27 at 1pm and April 28 at 6pm. To register for one of the events, please visit: <https://parks.ny.gov/historic-sites/philipsemanorhall/details.aspx>.

After May 8, the building will be closed to the public to prepare for and undertake building-wide upgrades. Exterior grounds will remain open. Attached to this email is a JPEG image with event details for your use in promoting attendance should you wish. If this email has been sent to you in error and you wish to unsubscribe from this list, please use the “unsubscribe” button at the bottom of this text.

## Friends of the Old Croton Aqueduct “I Love My Parks Day” May 1

Friends of the Old Croton Aqueduct (OCA) will host “I Love My Parks Day” on May 1st. This year due to Covid-19 there will be several trail improvement and clean-up sites along the OCA.

Two sites along the Yonkers section will be targeted, one from the entrance of Tibbetts Brook Park to McClean Avenue and the other from Lamartine to Phillipse Place.

The OCA is a historic state park. We need volunteers to come on out to make the Yonkers section welcoming to all.

The Westchester Parks Foundation will be joining the Friends of the OCA to help out at the Tibbetts site.

Those wanting to help in the clean-up and learn about invasive plant management can find detailed information about all of the events at [www.aqueduct.org/ilmpd](http://www.aqueduct.org/ilmpd) including the link to register. On the registration site, fill in your information, then scroll down to choose your site; to volunteer in Yonkers choose either Tibbetts Brook Park or Wicker Street. Rain date will be May 2nd.

NY State Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation, Parks & Trails NY and the NY State Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) are sponsoring this historic event, and we note that that all of our sites are included as official Riverkeeper Sweep events! Local sponsors include Avalon Yonkers and the Office of the Yonkers City Council.

We will be adhering to all COVID guidelines and masks are required. Please pre-register to allow us to ensure social distancing at each of the sites. We look forward to seeing members of our community at I Love My Park Day 2021. It’s up to each of us to make a positive difference to the beautiful and historic Aqueduct Trail. Hope to see you

### PENNSYLVANIA MAN CRITICALLY INJURED IN MOTORCYCLE CRASH

Falls Off Cross County Parkway Ramp

A Pennsylvania man was critically injured last night after he lost control of his motorcycle on an entrance ramp to the Cross County Parkway and fell 27 feet to the street below.

Angel Lopez, 20, of West Hazelton, Pennsylvania, was taken by ambulance to Westchester Medical Center in Valhalla following the accident, which occurred about 11 p.m. He remained in critical condition this morning.

Lopez was traveling on the entrance ramp from the Bronx River Parkway to the eastbound Cross County Parkway when he struck a concrete divider and was propelled off the motorcycle. He fell 27 feet on to Midland Avenue.

Westchester County Police responded to the scene along with the Yonkers Police Department, Yonkers Fire Department and Empress Ambulance Service.

## City Council Debates How to Tax The 125 Millionaires Who Live in Yonkers

By Dan Murphy

I would encourage our Yonkers Rising readers to watch the City Council meetings held every other Tuesday night. For the past year, the meetings have been held remotely, but they have returned to the City Council chambers on the 4th Floor of City Hall.

Recent council debates have included discussion on the Invest in NY Act, a series of six bills that would have increased taxes on wealthy New Yorkers.

City Council Minority Leader Mike Breen did not support the Invest in NY Act, and predicted what would happen to the 125 Millionaires who live in Yonkers, based on tax returns. Breen and republican Councilman Anthony Merante referred to the Invest in NY Act as the I Leave NY Bill.

“People who make money, spend money and invest it. If you take that money and give it to the government to spend, its not the best way to get money in the economy. I think its a bet that the 125 people in the city of Yonkers whose income is in excess of \$1 Million will be leaving New York State if this ever passes. New York State did receive adequate money to get over this crisis, this is unnecessary.”

The Council resolution supporting The Invest in NY Act passed 5-2, with the 5 council democrats in support: Council President Mike Khader, Majority Leader Corazon Pineda-Isaac, Councilmember Shanae Williams, Councilmember Tasha Diaz, Councilman John Rubbo.

The 5-2 democratic supermajority on the council is how many vote totals end up. Republicans Breen and Merante continue to speak up. And while many of the social issues, or state or national issues are not directly related to the duties of a councilmember, it is a good thing to hear what your councilmembers views are on the issues of the day.

So instead of watching MSNBC, or Fox News again every night, check out the Yonkers City Council.

The City Council’s Facebook page airs the meetings live, as does the Yonkers TV channel at [YonkersNY.gov](http://YonkersNY.gov).

## Wallauer Celebrates 100th Anniversary 4th Generation, Family Owned Business

Wallauer Paint and Decorating Centers have been serving Westchester, Rockland, and Putnam Counties since 1921. The fourth-generation family-owned business, headquartered in White Plains, New York, offers the finest selection of paints from Benjamin Moore, specialty products and accessories from Ace Hardware, window treatments from Hunter Douglas, designer fabrics and wall coverings, area rugs, and home design services, and has 15 stores across the region.

One hundred years ago, Co-founder Clarence Wallauer gave up his job as a paint salesman and opened the very first Wallauer store. After many years of growing and running a successful business, Clarence suffered a stroke. He returned to work after several weeks and decided to ask his son-in-law, Bob Duncan Sr., an architect, to join him in operating the store. In the 1950s, grandson Bob Duncan Jr. came on board and officially took over in 1982. Now retired, he has passed the day-to-day responsibilities of running the business to his two daughters, Donna and Debbie Duncan, the fourth generation of family owners.

The company philosophy has always been: “Good old-fashioned family values, a team approach, and integrity.” It is these principles that have enabled the organization to reach a milestone of 100 years in business, achieved by only the very best of American companies.

The secret to Wallauer success isn’t a secret at all according to company COO Edward Klein. “It really comes down to having a knowledgeable group of people who know their craft and provide excellent customer service. Then it is word-of-mouth recommendations from satisfied customers that Wallauer is the go-to place for home improvement locally.”

To thank long time customers as well as new, a \$100 gift certificate will be awarded to one shopper in every store every month through December. To register for the drawings, visit [www.wallauer.com/100](http://www.wallauer.com/100). In addition, Wallauer will offer a “buy one paint sample, get a second one at ‘100%’ off” throughout the year. Visit <https://www.wallauer.com/specials/> for more details.

Wallauer offers a wide variety of interior and exterior paints and stains, including low-odor paints, washable finishes and more from Benjamin Moore and is the largest Benjamin Moore paint, hardware and decorating retailer in Westchester, Rockland & Putnam. Wallauer also offers their own brand of paints and has more than 5,000 color selections available ensuring there is a perfect color for every project. Customers can take advantage of their color matching services and even create their own custom color palate - a Wallauer specialty.

Across 15 Westchester, Putnam, and Rockland County locations, Wallauer offers home design services in six and offers Ace Hardware Departments in five.

Wallauer stores are located in White Plains, Bedford Hills, Carmel, Mohegan Lake, Ossining, Pelham, Port Chester, Scarsdale, Yonkers, Yorktown Heights, New Rochelle, Ardsley, and Lewisboro/Cross River. There is also a location in Nanuet in Rockland County which offers Ace Hardware products and there is one location in Putnam County in Mahopac.

Customers can shop online and pick-up in store at [www.shop.wallauer.com](http://www.shop.wallauer.com) For more information visit <https://www.wallauer.com/> or call (914)-948-4000.



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## **Congressman Mondaire Jones Bill Would Add Four More Justices to US Supreme Court** *Pelosi Says No to Packing/Stacking the Court*



*Rep. Mondaire Jones*

*By Dan Murphy*

Westchester Congressman Mondaire Jones has co-sponsored a bill, the Judiciary Act of 2022, to expand the United States Supreme Court by adding four seats, creating a 13-justice Supreme Court.

The controversial measure has the support of progressive democrats, who want to restore balance to the nation's highest court after four years of norm-breaking actions by Republicans under President Donald Trump and former US Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell.

“Our democracy is hanging by a thread. And the far-right majority on the U.S. Supreme Court is cutting it,” said Congressman Jones. “From Citizens United to Shelby County to Rucho, the Court has been hostile to democracy itself. The majority’s doctrine is clear: if a law suppresses the right to vote, it is constitutional; if a law protects the right to vote, especially for Black and brown voters, it is unconstitutional. The American people have had enough. To restore power to the people, we must expand the Supreme Court. Today, I am proud to introduce the Judiciary Act of 2021 to do just that.”

One of the reasons for this type of drastic action being taken by democrats was the decision by Senate republicans led by McConnell, not to consider the nomination of Merick Garland by President Obama in 2016. Then, when Donald Trump was President, Senate Republicans again led by McConnell nominated and confirmed Judge Amy Coney Barrett, after the death of Justice Ruth Bader Ginsberg.

“Republicans stole the Court’s majority, with Justice Amy Coney Barrett’s confirmation completing their crime spree,” said US Senator Ed Markey, another co-sponsor. “Of all the damage Donald Trump did to our Constitution, this stands as one of his greatest travesties. Senate Republicans have politicized the Supreme Court, undermined its legitimacy, and threatened the rights of millions of Americans, especially people of color, women, and our immigrant communities. This legislation will restore the Court’s balance

and public standing and begin to repair the damage done to our judiciary and democracy, and we should abolish the filibuster to ensure we can pass it. I thank Chairman Nadler, and Reps. Johnson and Jones for their partnership on this legislation that will ensure the Supreme Court reflects the value of equal justice under law, not politics.”

“Nine justices may have made sense in the nineteenth century when there were only nine circuits, and many of our most important federal laws—covering everything from civil rights, to antitrust, the internet, financial regulation, health care, immigration, and white collar crime—simply did not exist, and did not require adjudication by the Supreme Court,” said Chairman Nadler. “But the logic behind having only nine justices is much weaker today, when there are 13 circuits. Thirteen justices for thirteen circuits is a sensible progression, and I am pleased to join my colleagues in introducing the Judiciary Act of 2021.”

The number of justices that sit on the Supreme Court is set by a simple act of Congress, and it can be changed the same way, without requiring a constitutional amendment. Congress has adjusted the size of the court seven times throughout its history, ranging from six to ten justices and establishing a substantial historical precedent for the legislation.

In 2016, then-Majority Leader Mitch McConnell and the Republican Senate refused to consider the nomination of Judge Merrick Garland to the high court, citing their opposition to consideration of Supreme Court nominations in an election year. Yet, a few years later in 2020, Senate Republicans broke their own rule in order to confirm Justice Amy Coney Barrett. Now Republican appointees represent a 6-3 supermajority.

House Speaker Nancy Pelosi said, “I have no intention to bring it to the floor,” adding “I don’t know that that’s a good idea or a bad idea. I think it’s an idea that should be considered. It’s not out of the question,” Pelosi said that she supports President Joe Biden’s plan to create a commission to study the issue.

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# Yonkers Rising

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## On This Day in Yonkers History...



*Marguerite Clark*

*By Mary Hoar, President Emerita, Yonkers Historical Society, recipient of the 2004 Key to History, Member of the Yonkers Landmarks Preservation Board, and President Untermeyer Performing Arts Council*

Monday, April 26th

April 26, 1927: The issuing of a building permit for a proposed new hotel in an exclusive section of Southwest Yonkers caused extreme agitation when area property owners learned the permit had been granted.

April 26, 1933: Ninth Ward residents presented petitions to the Common Council to support Alderman William Slater's protest against the scandalous "scanty attire" worn every weekend by visitors and hikers from New York City.

April 26, 1956: To celebrate her eightieth birthday, Gisella Haber Horvath of Wellesley Avenue was reunited with all her children and grandchildren for the first time since arriving in 1948 from Czechoslovakia.

Tuesday, April 27th

April 29, 1945: As part of their Arbor Day program, the children of School Eight honored war correspondent Ernie Pyle, who had been killed eleven days earlier. Before dedicating an umbrella pine donated by Boyce Thompson Institute to Pyle's memory, the children buried a metal memory box with several items: the afternoon's program; a copy of the dedication; a letter of sympathy sent to Mrs. Pyle that included a description of the tree; a prayer for trees; and a list of the school's classes and teachers.

One of America's best-known war correspondents, Pyle was valued for telling the story of the war in "GI language," just the way our fighting men wanted it to be told.

April 27, 1945: All ninety employees of Schiff and Mirsky, a coat and suit maker at 77 South Broadway, pledged 100% would purchase War Bonds in the Seventh War Loan Drive.

Wednesday, April 28th

April 28, 1933: The Bryn Mawr-Nepperhan League of Women Voters called for a “light strike” to protest higher electricity rates. Mrs. Harry Hewitt, Chairman of the effort, suggested electricity be replaced by candlepower, and noted some homes already were using candles.

April 28, 1945: Constance Warren officiated at her last Sarah Lawrence College commencement after serving as President from 1929 to 1945. She is credited for creating a college devoted to flexible, individualized education; her main goal was to “make students excited about learning.”

April 28, 1950: Alexander Smith and Sons Carpet Company announced January-March 1950 was the best first quarter sales in the history of the company.

Thursday, April 29th

April 29, 1933: Henry Kaltenbach, Hospital Board of Managers President, presented the Ben Morgan apparatus to Yonkers General Hospital. The Ben Morgan apparatus was the most modern anesthetic equipment and could be used to administer either gas or ether; it permitted almost immediate recovery of consciousness after the mask was removed.

April 29, 1940: Teenager James Liston of Riverdale Avenue received the coveted Carnegie Hero Fund medal, with a \$750 award for his education! Liston, who rescued Alphonse D'Amato from drowning in the Hudson, was walking along the waterfront and heard D'Amato's cries for help. He immediately jumped in the river and swam out to D'Amato. While James was towing D'Amato to the shore, D'Amato went under, so the teen held him up until Detective Thomas Flynn and Patrolman Michael Wertis got to him. The trio brought the man to the riverbank, to the care of YPD Emergency Squad.

*continued on pg 6-*


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## Yonkers History, continued from pg 5-

Friday, April 30th

April 30, 1929: Mayor John Fogarty announced that the city-owned land under water at Trevor Park would be used as a dumping site, and instructed Deputy City Engineer Norman Henderson to survey the property.

April 20, 1939: Alexander Smith and Sons Carpet Company announced they were preparing to shut down because of the soft coal workers’ strike. The strike also impacted our water supply and our citizens, and would cause a major problem if not settled shortly.

Saturday, May 1st

May 1, 1916: For the first time in the history of Yonkers, the Com-mon Council named two streets after Aldermen. The first would be called Miller Street after First Ward Alderman Charles Miller; the second, Black-ford Street, was named after Seventh Ward Alderman John Blackford

May 1, 1944: Yonkers launched its month long “I Won’t Talk” campaign to educate the public on the importance of being discreet about war in-formation. The citywide campaign, designed by the Committee on Safe-guarding Military Information, worked with management of factories, union leaders, food and liquor dealers... and owners of beauty shops... to emphasize the important of eliminating war gossip. Yonkers unions arranged to show several “Don’t Talk” films in our movie theaters. Uni-formed volunteers visited shops, bars, taverns, etc., to stress the importance of not sharing war secrets; they prominently placed stickers on windows and mirrors n every shop to remind patrons. “I Won’t Talk” posters were placed in all Yonkers factories, and changed weekly to remind workers of the importance of the message.

Sunday, May 2nd

May 2, 1918: Stage and silent film star Marguerite Clark made several ap-pearances in Yonkers for the Liberty Loan campaign. She spoke in Getty Square, and at Proctor’s, Broadway and the Hamilton theaters. Clark was at one time second only to Mary Pickford in popularity. In 1916, the New York Times called her one of the Big Four movie stars; the others were Mary Pickford, Douglas Fairbanks and Charlie Chaplin.

May 2, 1927: Yonkers students John H. Van Deventer, Jr. and Joseph Nor-man Staubach arrived back in in New York; both men had been part of the first College Cruise Round the World or on the SS Ryndam. Van Deventer of Philips Place was a student at Notre Dame. Staubach of Palisade Avenue was a senior at Dartmouth College. Staubach had graduated from School 16 and Yonkers High School, and his father owned Staubach Lumber on John Street. The two men were selected from thousands of competitors for the honor; five hundred students and sixty faculty members from thirty colleges visited thirty-five countries during the educational cruise. Finals were given at the end of the nine-month “floating university,” ending with the first college commencement held on the high seas.

For more information on the Yonkers Historical Society, Sherwood House and our upcoming events, please visit our website www.yonkershistorical-society.org, call 914-961-8940 or email yhsociety@aol.com.

## Westchester Real Estate Sales Continue to Soar High Demand, Low Inventory



The first quarter of 2021 continued at the same fevered pace that closed 2020. In Westchester County, home sales are up 38.9%, and the average sales price is up 10.9% from the first quarter of 2020. Westchester, Putnam, and Dutchess Counties have remained top choices for City dwellers search-ing for a more bucolic setting as well as for residents looking to trade up or trade down. The opportunities for recreation and cultural experiences are endless and vary significantly by location. But pent-up demand continues as inventory remains at record low levels, according to the Houlihan Lawrence Westchester Putnam & Dutchess Q1 Market Report released today.

According to the report, single-family homes sold in Westchester County increased 38.9% from the first quarter of 2020, while the median sale price rose 10.9%. Homes sold in Putnam County rose 63% and median sale price rose 16%. In Dutchess County, homes sold rose 38.4 percent and median sale price was up 25.9%. All submarkets surveyed in the three counties showed increases in homes sold and median sale price.

The inventory shortage has made it challenging for buyers looking to re-locate out of the City and for sellers to make a move. While some are ready for a change, they fear listing their homes and not having a place to go. Ad-ditionally, there are still potential “downsizers” who remain in their larger homes out of necessity as they continue to have multiple family members working from home.

“If the opportunity avails, there is no better time to list your home. There is high demand in all three counties and most price points. The number of showings has increased considerably year over year, and with *fewer*

homes on the market, it is typical to have more than one buyer interested in a property. This is creating multiple bid situations on properly priced homes, and sellers are reaping the benefit,” said Elizabeth Nunan, President and CEO, Houlihan Lawrence.

While inventory is down 37% in Q1 as opposed to last year in Westchester, sales are up 38.9%. This has created strong demand in all price points. As a result, the median price rose as well. This increase in sales was quite con-sistent throughout Westchester. Pending sales increased 32.6% over Q1 last year.

Putnam and Dutchess Counties are experiencing the same decline of inven-tory and a big uptick in sales. Since the pandemic, buyers are less concerned about the distance to the City. They are either planning to work remotely or at least part of the time, thus making the commute less of a burden. Many areas in Putnam and Dutchess offer wide-open spaces at desirable prices, making them great choices for many.

NYC Gateway (Mount Vernon, New Rochelle, Pelham and Yonkers)

Homes Sold: Up 39%–Median Sale Price: Up 11%

Lower Westchester (Bronxville, Eastchester, Edgemont, Scarsdale and Tuckahoe)

Homes Sold: Up 41%–Median Sale Price: Up 7%

## Legal Notices

### Public Notice:

April 19, 2021, in accordance with sec. 121(d)(2)(A) of the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA), the Yonkers Local Workforce Development Board will post the One-Stop Operator RFP online.

To print a copy of the One-Stop Operator RFP go to <http://www.cityofyonkers.com/> and click Government, Departments, Workforce Development Board and then click One-Stop Operator RFP.

Email questions or comments regarding the One-Stop Operator RFP to:

Sean McGrail  
Executive Director  
City of Yonkers, Office of Workforce Development  
28 Wells Avenue, Bldg., 3, 4th Floor

Notice of Formation of Bratdog LLC. Arts. Of Org. filed with the SSNY on 02/26/2021. Office: Westchester County. SSNY designated as the agent of the LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail copy of process to the LLC, Shantell James, 11 Lanark Road, Yonkers, NY 10705. Purpose: Any lawful purpose.

Notice of formation of LIB Scholastics Sources, LLC. Articles of Organization filed with the Secretary of State of New York (SSNY) on 04/06/2021. Office location: Westchester County. SSNY is designated as an agent of the LLC upon whom the process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail a copy of process to: 20 Water Grant Street, Apt 324, Yonkers, NY 10701.

Notice of formation of Street Meatz, LLC. Arts. of Org. filed with the SSNY on 04/06/2021. Office: Westchester County. SSNY designated as agent of the LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail copy of process to the LLC, 28 Frazier Place, Yonkers, NY 10704 Purpose: Any lawful purpose.





***Wastewater Treatment Plant, continued from pg 1-***

million dollars in new spending for broad-based improvements at the facility. This includes \$7 million, on top of a previously allocated \$5 million, for Phase IV of the odor control project at the plant. We also approved \$13 million in new spending to replace the plant’s 40-year-old gates and valves. Additionally we approved \$15 million, on top of a previously allocated \$43 million, to modernize the plant’s engines, blowers, aeration system and flood prevention facilities.

“It is our responsibility to ensure that residents living around this facility get the quality of life they deserve and I will continue to work with my colleagues on the Board, with the County Executive, and with our colleagues in the federal government to bring every resource to bear to improve conditions at the plant.”

Alvarado is facing two challenges in the 17th County Board district in Southwest Yonkers. London Reyes, who ran against Alvarado two years ago is back, and commented about the treaatment plant debate.

“Yonkers currently manages most of the waste coming from Northern Westchester. However, it is District 17 and the Ludlow Park area, in particular, that are facing the brunt of the plant’s environmental impact. This begs the question, does spending tens of millions of dollars actually solve this issue? This money could be better spent in investing in a treatment plant in Northern Westchester instead of Yonkers. This is why District 17 needs a leader who will represent and actually stand up for the people of the district,” said Reyes.

The other candidate in the democratic primary for County Board in District 17 has run for this office before and is a familiar name: Former County Legislator Virginia Perez. More on this race in the weeks to come.

***Spano Budget Plan, continued from pg 1-***

over the next three years, with Yonkers Public Schools receiving \$21.9 million this year, as well as restoring \$12 million in state education bullet aid. While this serves our District now, we need to remain vigilant in addressing the systematic funding inequities that effect Yonkers students each year.”

For FY22, the combined Maintenance of Effort and Debt Service contribution transfer to education will go up by \$7.2 million. The Administration’s contribution to the Maintenance of Effort has increased 21% annually and 109% cumulatively.

***Municipal Operating Budget***

Included in the Executive Budget is a municipal General Fund operating budget of \$536 million. General Fund Departmental Expenditures are budgeted at \$291 million.

The Executive Budget recognizes the economic hardships of local property taxpayers because of the pandemic. As a result, FY22 Budget proposes a flat property tax levy – marking the first time in over 20 years taxes would remain flat.

The Administration also proposes absorbing nearly half of the projected 10% increase by the New York City water per capita rate with a local increase of 4.5%. The water fund revenue will be assumed on a volume based tiered structure that is currently being discussed by the City Council.

The 2022 Executive Budget does not propose cuts to municipal services or city workforce and includes essential health and safety capital projects for the city.

Citing the flat funding in Aid and Incentives for Municipalities (AIM) from New York State, Mayor Spano remarked, “The state-funded AIM funding is down over \$27 million from 2009 levels. This continued lack of funding makes it difficult to fund our fringe benefit and union contract costs, which account for 75% of the City’s budget.”

Mayor Spano added, “My hope is that the 2022 Executive Budget is a basis for discussions and decisions. I ask our City Council members to continue to build upon the spirit of cooperation that has passed eight consecutive bipartisan budgets during my time in office.”

***Budget Snapshot:***

- \$1.15 billion total budget
- Proposes ZERO percent increase in the property tax levy
- Maintains city services and municipal positions
- \$651.9 million appropriation for the Board of Education, the largest ever budgeted by an Administration.

The complete Fiscal Year 2022 Executive Budget can be downloaded at [www.yonkersny.gov](http://www.yonkersny.gov).

Response by City Councilmembers to Mayor Spano’s budget plan has been positive. City Council Majority Leader Corazon Pineda-Isaac said, “Today Mayor Mike Spano proposed his executive budget, which officially starts the budget season for the 2022 fiscal year for the City of Yonkers.”

“I look forward to reviewing it with my colleagues on the council to ensure it is fair and balanced, and prioritizes education and municipal services. There’s no doubt it’s been a difficult year given the global pandemic, but my goal is to work with my colleagues to pass a budget that puts our city on the right path and reflects our commitment to the residents of our city. Let’s keep moving Yonkers forward together.”

Councilman John Rubbo said, “I am beyond excited to hear that Mayor Spano is proposing a 0% tax levy- the first time this is being proposed in over 20 years. The COVID-19 pandemic has hit this city’s families hard and seeing that property taxes will remain flat is great news for our residents.”

“The key highlights presented today by Mayor Spano are a great start to this year’s budget season. The additional funding for education, investment in infrastructure and flat tax levy are all great news for our residents. I look forward to a deep dive into the proposed Executive Budget.”

***County Clerk’s Race, continued from pg 1-***

for such drastic pay increases to elected officials’ salaries in a single budget cycle, and I believe that Westchester taxpayers deserve better.”

The raises were approved after the Nov. 2019 election, for the 2020 County budget. The vote was taken in December 2019, four month before COVID-19 changed everything. At the time many Westchester residents, including fiscal conservatives but also progressive democrats, opposed the pay raises.

‘The proposed salary increases are over the top and insulting to the thousands of unionized employees who make Westchester County work each and every day.’ said CSEA Westchester President Karen Pecora.

Another group of Westchester residents circulated a petition in an effort to overturn the pay raises. Since that vote, most taxpayers (and this reporter) had forgotten about the issue.

“I am disappointed that none of our county elected officials have considered returning or scaling back these raises in light of the county’s current economic condition,” said Williams. “In the last year, the County accepted over \$168 million in federal relief money while continuing to collect an increased sales tax; these pay raises are emblematic of politics as usual where taxpayers pay the price of our politicians’ greed. I believe that this pay increase was partially responsible for County Clerk Idoni’s decision to go back on his promise to not run for a fifth term, giving him an opportunity to substantially pad his already sizeable pension. Our county has many challenges to face, and the compensation of our elected officials certainly isn’t a priority: we deserve better.”

In highlighting this issue, Williams is “rocking the boat” for many establishment democrats, who hold positions of power and earn a six figure salary and benefits while working in government. “I am not in the business of protecting the establishment. Westchester County deserves leadership with a desire to serve the public. As your next County Clerk, I will reject backroom politics and maintain an office that is transparent, taxpayer-friendly, and ethical.”

The other question that Williams is asking while highlighting this issue is, has the democratic party in Westchester moved away from letting some earn public salaries of more than \$200,000 while others are suffering dramatically during the pandemic? Has the Westchester Democratic party of 2021 become so much more progressive that it believes that the pay raises given in 2019 are “irresponsible” as Williams calls them?

It’s up to Westchester democrats to decide, and until the June 22 democratic primary, Williams will not be silenced. “I am disappointed by the intimidation tactics used by the party establishment to undermine our campaign, and efforts to vilify my candidacy because I am an independent thinker. My campaign and service in government is motivated by my genuine desire to deliver meaningful change and reform to our community, not by financial gain.”

***Eric Schoen, continued from pg 3-***

that the Yonkers Office for the Aging was offering a service where a nurse or someone authorized to vaccinate would come to the house of those home bound to deliver the Covid-19 vaccines.

So I provided the person I know with the Yonkers Office for the Aging phone number and the number of NNORC, a Yonkers agency that has been working to help the home bound get vaccinated. She was grateful, and hopefully some time soon this person’s mom will be vaccinated and be able to leave her home or at the very least receive family members knowing they are not a risk to her nor she a risk to them.

Good deeds don’t have to be vaccine related. It is the one year anniversary of the death of someone I knew. This person’s spouse lives all alone and my good deed was to visit her with some fresh fruit and healthy snacks to try to brighten up her day.

I have so many kind neighbors who help me dig my car out when it’s snowing or clear the snow off my car. My mother always believed In sharing our holidays with others helpful to us during the year who were not Jewish by bringing over a box of matzah and/or a can of macaroons for Passover. My sister delivers matzah to all of her neighbors.

Interestingly, I brought some macaroons over to a neighbor to thank her. She was so gracious and thanked me because she can’t consume milk and the macaroons did not contain milk so she could enjoy the treats. I told her when at the supermarket in the kosher aisle look for sweets marked Parve which do not contain dairy.

There are So many good deeds you can do. So many children have problems learning remotely and are falling behind in their school work. Many kids need extra tutoring during the course of the year, particularly with upset school schedules that have occurred during the pandemic.

There is a big need for adults who can help tutor these children. It might even be your neighbors child. Always check with your doctor to be sure it’s ok to interact and remind the child’s family to do the same.

Good deeds for you to do can fall right into your lap as they have for me. A friend of a friend not in this area had a school issue with his child. I gave him some advice how to approach the situation, and hopefully by the time this column reaches your hands the issue will be resolved.

I think if you get into the habit of doing at least one good deed a day it will boost your mood and take you out of the ‘funk’ so many of us are in.

If you are ever in immediate crisis and feel the need for help dial 911. If you have health insurance check with your insurance provider about mental health services that are available to you. A lot of these services are due to Covid being done remotely so their is little or no copay. I can never understand people who have health insurance and don’t take advantage of it!

NY Project Hope is New York’s COVID-19 Emotional Support Helpline, helping New Yorkers understand their reactions and emotions during COVID-19. Through an emotional support helpline, educational materials, and referrals, NY Project Hope helps people manage and cope with changes brought on by COVID-19.

NY Project Hope Crisis Counselors understand what you are going through. Talking to them is free, confidential, and anonymous. Talk to someone who is trained, knowledgeable and never judges. Sometimes it helps to talk with someone you don’t know. The number to call for the Emotional Support Helpline is: 1-844-863-9314.

Some interesting statistics from government sources. The Chance of a vaccinated person getting Covid is 1 out of 11,000. Of the millions of people who have been vaccinated around the world only 5800 vaccinated people got Covid with symptoms far less than if they had not been vaccinated. 20% of older adults have not gotten vaccinated, a number way too high. 100 people die in car accidents every day, but less than 1 vaccinated person will die from Covid.

Unfortunately it will be sometime before that last number reaches zero. You can help by doing your part. Vaccinations are more readily available than before, even with the Johnson and Johnson glitch that should be resolved by the time this column reaches you.

Get vaccinated so you can hug someone. Have you done something good for someone today? I guarantee it will make you feel better!

***Reach Eric Schoen at [thistooisyonkers@aol.com](mailto:thistooisyonkers@aol.com). Follow him on Twitter @ericyonkers. Listen to Eric Schoen and Dan Murphy on the Westchester Rising Radio Show Thursday’s from 10-11 a.m. On WVOX 1460 AM, go to WVOX.com and click the arrow to listen to the live stream or download the WVOX app from the App Store free of charge.***

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***Earth Day, Butterflies, continued from pg 1-***

“Like most environmental issues we face today, the decline of the Monarch population is a consequence of human impact,” said Jason Baker, Director, Mayor’s Office of Sustainability. “Signing onto the Mayor’s Monarch Pledge and establishing Monarch Preserves throughout Yonkers will not only support habitat restoration, but reflects the City’s commitment to protecting environmental health.”

“The Parks Department is committed to participating in this important initiative through our nursery division,” said Steve Sansone, Deputy Director, Yonkers Department of Parks, Recreation and Conservation. “It is hoped that doing our small part in our parkland and on our right of ways will help protect this species and encourage others to follow.”

“By working together, we can ensure that every American child has a chance to experience majestic monarchs in their communities,”said Patrick Fitzgerald, senior director of community wildlife at the National Wildlife Federation. Through the National Wildlife Federation’s Community Wildlife Programs, cities, counties and towns across the United States are helping local wildlife by restoring and reconnecting habitat in urban and suburban areas while reconnecting people with nature. For more information about the “Mayors’ Monarch Pledge,” visit: [NWF.org/MayorsMonarchPledge](http://NWF.org/MayorsMonarchPledge).



*At Least There Was Some High School Football This Year in Yonkers!*



*Congratulations to Yonkers Force Football Coach Dan DeMatteo, all of the coaches and most of all the players, for coming back to play this shortened year.*

**By Phil Foley**

Sad to say the Yonkers Force football team had to cancel their last game of the season this Saturday due to Covid protocols. I know Coach Dan DeMatteo must be really disappointed with this development. They were supposed to have played Portchester HS at Roosevelt HS Field.

I asked Dan for a comment on his team and the season where the Force managed to play 2 games going 1-1 on the shortened schedule. Coach DeMatteo said “Sad that the season is over but couldn’t be prouder of my team and coaches.... they handled the adversity so well and just kept working... this senior class is special and I am glad that we were able to have a season with them. They set up the underclassmen for a good Fall season. I told my team in our very first meeting this season that”any amount of football is better than no football” We make it a point to enjoy every moment and take nothing for granted. My players left it all on the field and did everything I asked of them...I could not be prouder!!!”

The Yonkers Brave lost last Friday night at White Plains HS 40-0. Coach Vic Chiappa told me “The kids played hard and never gave up”! This Saturday the Brave are scheduled to play John Jay-East Fishkill HS at Saunders Field. Kick off is 3pm.

The Yonkers Rising will once again be awarding a Player of the Year Award to one player from the Force and the Brave! Look for the winners real soon in the Rising!

. We appreciate your hard work and effort. And congratulations to the Yonkers Force on winning the Cup! And thanks to DOCWSZOLEK Photography for the great shots! We will try to report on some of the springs sports coming up. Email pfoley14@aol.com with your scores, team rosters and photos.



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