

Yonkers Rising

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Friday November 19-26, 2021

Yonkers Swimmer, Maichina Gennerelli Qualifies for State Championships



Yonkers High School Sophomore Maichina Gennerelli

On Saturday, October 23rd, Yonkers High School Sophomore, Maichina Gennerelli, made history for Yonkers Swimming at the Conference III Swimming Championships held at The Mark Twain Pool. Gennerelli is the first female athlete from Yonkers ever to qualify for the New York State Swimming and Diving Championships, which will be held at Ithaca College on November 19 – 20, 2021.

At Conference Championships, Maichina won the 500-yard freestyle event with a time of 5:14.05, which met the state qualifying time standard of 5:14.60. Gennerelli qualified last year as well, but the State Championships were cancelled due to Covid.

“I’m actually in disbelief that I made history for Yonkers,” Gennerelli said. “I want to thank my teammates for helping me make the cut. While I was swimming, I could see them cheering for me, which was great motivation. I felt like the happiest person in the world after my race!”

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Untermeyer Gardens Conservancy Says Thanks Majority Leader Stewart-Cousins!



L-R-State Senate Majority Leader Andrea Stewart-Cousins, Untermeyer Gardens Conservancy President Stephen Byrns, and Board Chair Ann Carmel

Untermeyer Gardens Conservancy and President Stephen Byrns recently announced “Our big news is that New York State has awarded us a grant of \$500,000 to restore the Persian Pool. We are greatly indebted to Andrea Stewart-Cousins, our impressive state senator and the Senate Majority Leader, to thank for this generous gift, which will make possible our most important and long-awaited restoration project. With an anticipated matching grant from the City of Yonkers and our own fundraising, we now plan to bid out the project this winter and start construction next summer! Mosaics take a very long time to create, so the pool is not scheduled to be completed until 2023.”



It has been another special year at Untermeyer Gardens, with one of our favorite events coming next month. On Dec 10, Untermeyer Gardens Conservancy will present its Grand Holiday Illumination 2021. From Dec 11-Jan 2, 2022, from 4:30-pm -8pm, the gardens are open and admission is free. This event has quickly become one of the most see holiday events in Yonkers.

Upcoming events include a Wreath Making 101 workshop on December 4, from 1:00 p.m. until 4:00 p.m. \$80 per person, includes all materials. Create your own holiday wreath. Starting with an empty wreath frame, you’ll create a 12-inch wreath (inner diameter) and decorate it with greenery, ribbon and lights! Untermeyer gardeners Drew Schuyler and Maryam Farzaneh will guide you through the process. Go to <https://www.untermeyergardens.org/workshops--classes.html> for more information and to register.

Help, Serve Others for Thanksgiving



See Story on pg 5-

Borrelli Leads Building Department With Management Skills to Make Improvements

“With all of the new development coming into Yonkers, it’s important that we have a working, effective building department. I thank the Mayor for addressing this issue, which is the #1 problem that I hear about in Yonkers. You don’t have to be a licensed engineer to run the Building Department, you need a professional manager and Sam Borrelli brings the management experience that we were looking for,”

--City Council Majority Leader Mike Breen

By Dan Murphy

With the recent retirements of the Yonkers Building Commissioner and Deputy Building Commissioner, Mayor Mike Spano has brought in Sam Borrelli, to serve as acting Building Commissioner, in an effort to improve the services to the people of Yonkers.

Borrelli, who has worked as the Deputy Commissioner of the Yonkers DPW until his transfer to the Building Department, is an engineer, but not a licensed, professional engineer, which is a requirement for the position based on the City Charter.

City Council Majority Leader Mike Breen has drafted legislation to amend the Charter to permit Borrelli to become the permanent Building Commissioner.

“The mayor wanted to expand the pool of qualified candidates to find someone who can effectively run the Building Department. You don’t have to be a licensed engineer to run the Building Department, you need a professional manager and Sam Borrelli is a practical engineer who was getting things done at DPW, and also brings the management experience that we were looking for. That is why I have drafted and sponsored this legislation,” said Councilmember Breen.

The Local Law would amend the City Charter to remove the words “professional engineer.” Breen said he has heard from numerous residents in Yonkers about some of the problems they have experienced from the Building Department.

“We want to alleviate these problems and get a building department that is

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Yonkers Police Arrest, Charge 15-year-old Gang Member with Attempted Murder

Previously Arrested for Multiple Shooting at Age 13



On Saturday, November 6th, 2021, at approximately 11:10 PM, members of the Yonkers Police Department responded to Saint Joseph's Hospital at 127 South Broadway on a report of a male gunshot victim having collapsed in the parking lot. Upon arrival officers met the victim who had been moved inside to the Emergency Department; he was in critical condition with several gunshot wounds to his torso and upon being stabilized was transferred to a local area trauma center. The victim's personal vehicle was located in the hospital parking lot with ballistic evidence present. A criminal investigation was initiated.

Detectives from the Major Case Squad and Crime Scene Unit responded to the scene and interviewed subjects and witnesses, recovered surveillance video, and processed forensic and ballistic evidence. Within hours investigators were able to trace the victim's movements back to where the shooting incident occurred, in the parking lot of the White Castle restaurant at 257 South Broadway. Investigation yielded that the victim, a 20-year-old resident of Yonkers, had driven to White Castle to meet several individuals in a marijuana transaction.

One of the individuals, now suspect, allegedly displayed a 9mm handgun and attempted to rob the victim of all his property, including his money, drugs, cell phone, and car; the suspect then fired at least two gunshots at the victim, striking him in the torso. The suspect then fled on foot and the victim was able to drive himself to the hospital. No other parties reported being injured, and no proceeds were actually taken from the victim.

Over the next several days detectives continued to follow-up leads, review surveillance video, and interview the victim and witnesses. Investigators were able to identify the gunman as a 15-year-old male member of the local Mak Balla Blood street gang; he was located by Major Case Unit and Gang Unit detectives on November 9th and placed into custody without incident. The juvenile suspect is known to investigators as he was previously arrested, charged, and convicted of multiple shooting incidents when he was only 13 years old.

The juvenile suspect was processed at the Community Affairs Division and charged with Attempted Murder 2, a Class A-I Violent Felony in the New York State Penal Law; and Assault 1, a Class B Violent Felony in the New York State Penal Law. He was remanded to a juvenile detention facility pending his next court appearance. Due to his age, he is classified as a juvenile offender and his identity is being withheld from public disclosure. The case is being prosecuted by the Westchester County District Attorney's Office. Additional information may be released as it becomes available.

Latimer Rules Out A Run for Governor...But Never Say Never



Westchester County Executive George Latimer

By Dan Murphy

Westchester County Executive George Latimer, fresh of a 20 point re-election win on Nov. 2, ruled out a run for Governor of the Empire State next year...almost. Adding a caveat of "you never say never," Latimer told WAMC radio that the current Governor, Kathy Hochul and NY Attorney General Letitia James, are "the major candidacies," for NY Democrats.

"I think it's pretty unlikely at this stage of the game," said Latimer when asked directly if he was going to run for Governor. "From where I'm sitting now, it looks like a two candidate race. And I think, you know, it's fair to say that women who have never had a governor before today, feel a certain sense of pride. They would like to see a woman governor after 56 male governors. They're happy to see a female governor, whether it will continue to be Governor Hochul or Attorney General James."

"You never say never, but I think it's pretty unlikely that I'm going to be in the gubernatorial sweepstakes. I'm very happy to be county executive, I got a great county to run and I'm anxious to do a good job here."

When asked if he will endorse a candidate for Governor, Latimer said yes, but that he will wait for others, including State Senate Majority Leader Andrea Stewart-Cousins, who Latimer called the most prominent democrat in the county, and others, Westchester County Chair Suzanne Berger, and Yonkers Mayor Mike Spano, before making an endorsement. "I don't expect it's going to happen in the short term," said Latimer, who reminded all of us that the convention in Westchester and in NY State will be held in February because of the June primaries now in New York State.

But Latimer added that because of redistricting of all political boundaries in New York State, and the delays in accomplishing that requirement, the primary for state offices might have to be pushed back to September.

To listen to the interview, visit <https://www.wamc.org/news/2021-11-11/westchester-county-exec-eyes-infrastructure-projects-unlikely-to-run-for-governor-in-2022>



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85 Units of Mixed Income Apartments Opens at Former Cottage Garbens Housing Complex



City, County and State officials joined with the Municipal Housing Authority for the City of Yonkers (MHACY) and The Community Builders (TCB) on October 29 to celebrate the completion of 172 Warburton at The Ridgeway, a new \$53.5 million transformative mixed-income residential community in Southwest Yonkers.

172 Warburton at The Ridgeway continues the strong partnership between MHACY and TCB to transform Southwest Yonkers by replacing three outdated Cottage Place Gardens public housing buildings and a vacant, dilapidated three-story residence with a new, energy efficient eight-story elevator residential building containing 85 housing units, a 181-unit parking garage for residents of this project phase as well as the broader Ridgeway development.

An exciting and innovative feature of the project is a new universal pre-kindergarten center located at the street level of 172 Warburton and is operated by WestCOP to serve both lower-income families at The Ridgeway communities and the broader neighborhood. The pre-K center includes eight classrooms, a multipurpose room, a commercial kitchen, staff offices, and an outdoor play area.

"Southwest Yonkers has a vibrant history, and this new public housing complex will provide residents with modern, high-quality affordable homes while also strengthening the entire community," said Governor Kathy Hochul. "This neighborhood is vibrant and inclusive, and with our ongoing investment to provide New Yorkers with new housing opportunities, this city will continue to grow and thrive."

"The redevelopment of Cottage Gardens into The Ridgeway is yet another example of how Yonkers is revitalizing our neighborhoods and improving the lives of all our residents. As we see luxury housing rising along the riverfront, it is also important that we provide quality affordable housing so all boats rise with the tide. We thank New York State for making this possible and commend the leadership of MHACY and The Community Builders on this very significant development," said Mayor Mike Spano.

"Not since the Yonkers downtown daylighting have so many layers of government come together to serve the needs of our tenants," said MHACY President and CEO Wilson Kimball. "172 Warburton is the type of Public Private Partnership that shows these partnerships produce terrific results, we are very grateful to NYS, Westchester County, the City of Yonkers and our partners at The Community Builders for making this level of quality affordable housing available to our tenants."

"172-Warburton-The Ridgeway is an example of what can be done when multiple levels of government and the private sector work together. I am pleased to lead a Senate that is focused on funding affordable housing and education, high priorities for me. This development combines both: modern, affordable apartments and a Pre-K school on site. I appreciate the efforts of the various state agencies including the Division of Housing and Community Renewal, the Department of Environmental Conservation and Empire State Development who worked together to make this wonderful project a reality," said New York State Senate Majority Leader Andrea Stewart-Cousins.

Westchester County Executive George Latimer said: "172 Warburton is the perfect example of multiple levels of government working together to best serve our residents and our communities. Westchester County was happy to support this development with \$5 million toward creating a new park and playground and connecting the water line in the neighborhood. The redevelopment of the older public housing units in the County with 85 new quality, affordable units has helped to transform this community in a very positive way."

The unit mix of the 104,773-square-foot building includes 39 one-bedrooms, 31 two-bedrooms, and 15 three-bedrooms with a range of affordability. The project has been designed to achieve Enterprise Green Communities (EGC) certification. Green elements of the project include Energy Star appliances and a solar PV array to provide energy for a portion of the building's common electricity needs. Ten percent of the project's units are accessible for people with disabilities, and four percent of the project's units are adapted for the needs of the hearing and visually impaired.

172 Warburton at the Ridgeway is the fourth phase of a six-phase master plan to redevelop the Cottage Place Gardens public housing complex into The Ridgeway, a mixed-income community of choice in Southwest Yonkers. Constructed in the 1940s, the 256-unit Cottage Place Gardens long outlived its useful life.

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Will I See You in Times Square New Years Eve?



L-R-Eric Schoen, Adelmo 'Chubby' Costantini, Carrie Schoen

By Eric W. Schoen

*Things are looking up
I've been looking the landscape over
And it's covered with 4 leaf clover
Oh things are looking up!*

As we prepare for our Thanksgiving feasts, what better tune to reflect what's going on in our world than "Things Are Looking Up", a song composed by George Gershwin, with lyrics by Ira Gershwin. It was introduced by Fred Astaire in the 1937 film *A Damsel in Distress*. Many famous singers including Yonkers' own Ella Fitzgerald have recorded versions of the song.

Yes friends, after 19 months of disturbances in our lives caused by the pandemic things are starting to look up. As we go to press New York Mayor Bill deBlasio announced that the ball will drop in Times Square on New Year's Eve. As I have told you before, there is no better place to spend New Years Eve than in Times Square. It certainly is the safest place with all of the law enforcement in uniform and plain clothes.

Times Square will be particularly safe this year because you will need proof of full Covid vaccination, 2 shots of Pfizer or Moderna, one shot of Johnson and Johnson to get in. Hopefully by New Years Eve you will also get your booster dose which is now open to everyone 6 months after your last Pfizer or Moderna dose or 2 months after the Johnson and Johnson dose.

I got my booster at the very welcoming Value Plus Pharmacy on Tuckahoe Road in Yonkers administered by their pharmacist, and the whole experience was very pleasant. I wasn't nervous as I was when I had my first two shots. After the first 2 doses of Pfizer I was tired the next day but I felt fine and had no arm discomfort after the booster.

There are many people all over the world who are not as fortunate as we are to get the Covid vaccines. You can get yours or your booster by either signing up with a provider over the internet or going to the Yonkers Armory, Westchester Medical Center, one of the vaccination pop-ups that have been set up or to your physician or medical groups offices.

Frankly I'm tired of preaching that you should get vaccinated. And no one who has been vaccinated has turned green yet! You won't be welcome in Times Square, and make sure if you are celebrating the holidays with family (or friends) and you are not vaccinated that you have respect for your loved ones and tell them. This way they can make the decision as to whether or not they want you in their company.

The secret to the Times Square experience is to watch it from the mid 50's and not try to go closer where you will be stuck in cages. After the ball drops you turn around and you can see the fireworks in Central Park. This way you really get a bang for your buck.

But before New Years Eve comes Thanksgiving. It will be so nice to spend Thanksgiving with your vaccinated friends and family. And of course watch the Macy's Thanksgiving Day Parade. The taped segments just didn't cut it last year. This year the parade will be back to normal.

It's nice to watch the parade on television but so much better to see it in person. Don't think you are going to get a seat opposite Macy's to watch the parade. Those seats which I am sure will require full vaccination are open to Macy's execs and big shots. Your best bet is to find a place along the parade route on one of the side streets. As the parade passes the street you are on you can see the balloons, the floats and hear the bands from across the country. And hop into one of the coffee shops that will be open for a hot chocolate to warm you up.

Whether it be New Year's Eve or Thanksgiving, pray for warm weather and no snow, rain or sleet. Unless you are like my friends from Florida or warm climates who so look forward to snow flakes. A touch of snow is nice but most New Yorkers I know pray for clear skies.

Many people go the movies Thanksgiving weekend. With most of the theaters in our area reopened (except for Bowtie Cinemas) it will be interesting to see if this tradition continues. We got word this week that Dine In Cinemas will be moving into the old iPic theater in Dobbs Ferry at Lawrence Street. They will open early December. \$5 first show movies everyday and \$5 all shows on Tuesday. Those are my kind of numbers.

The grocery stores seem pretty well stocked and I think the turkey shortage is just a publicity trick to get people to buy things early. And it's working! The economists say spending is up in part due to the stimulus checks and also because people want what they want so they are buying it early. Don't leave your grocery shopping to the last minute. Just like when the pandemic started people rushed out to get toilet paper, if you like whole cranberry sauce and not that funky looking jelly stuff, pick up the Ocean Spray cans when you see them. There will always be bread for stuffing, though who knows they may run out of packaged stuffing.

I'm also tired of hearing about the supply chain. There are people around the

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Transgender Awareness Week 2021: Meet Ms. Cienna Rosalina



Cienna Rosalina, left

By Dennis Richmond, Jr.

"I never felt like a boy," said Cienna Rosalina. "I guess God wanted me to be a trans woman." Born on July 16th, 2000, Cienna Rosalina, 21, is a trans advocate who has dedicated her life to advancing trans conversations and improving the lives of others. "I'm a kind spirit who finds comfort in helping other people," she said. It's because of this that she agreed to do this interview. "I'm speaking for a community of people who society wants to be quiet."

For Transgender Awareness Week 2021, (Nov. 13-19) Yonkers Rising and YonkersTimes.Com celebrate Cienna Rosalina. Transgender Awareness Week is from Saturday, November 13th to Friday, November 19th. The week is a celebration that leads to the Transgender Day of Remembrance (TDoR). TDoR is a day that memorializes victims of transphobic brutality.

To be trans means "you were born in the wrong body," said Rosalina. It's when you want to "make your outer appearance match what you feel." Young Black and Latinx trans girls and trans women are all over New York City. Cienna is from Yonkers, though. This interview is a necessity. A former Yonkers Lincoln High School student, Cienna's unapologetically living her truth.

"Although society is becoming aware, trans deaths are at the highest they've been recorded this year," Rosalina told me. Dozens of trans girls and trans women were murdered across the country last year, and they are continuing to be. One homicide should cause an outrage. Ten, twenty-five, or forty murders should call for reform. "Men can't take their desire" to want to be with a trans woman. With that, they choose to kill them.

Cienna taught me the word demasculinized. The definition of the word is to remove the masculine qualities of something. Men think that if they fall in love with a woman who was ascribed male at birth, a trans woman, they're less than a man. Not only that, but they feel that other men and women will look at them differently. Many men want relationships with trans women. "They want it, but they don't want people to know that they want it," said Rosalina.

This is one of the reasons that trans women protect themselves at all costs. According to the Human Rights Campaign, over 50% of trans adults experienced sexual assault. With that, there are a lot of families who have turned a blind eye to their trans relatives. "Some trans youth don't get the love" they require, Rosalina said. Statistics back up her statement 100%. The HRC also states that 48% of Latinx and 39% of Black trans adults live in poverty.

Many families feel like they lose a child when their loved one shares their trans identity with the world. "You don't lose a child. You gain an authentic child," said Rosalina. One of the bravest things someone can do is let you know that they are trans. Don't throw your child away. "If you love somebody, you should want to understand them."

Ciswomen are women whose gender identity is the same as the gender identity assigned at birth. Many ciswomen, especially Black ciswomen, feel like trans women are trying to be them. They feel like trans women are nothing more than people trying to attain something they can never. To that, Cienna Rosalina says, "there is no type of woman. Mind your business. You have bigger fish to fry. If it doesn't concern you, don't let it concern you."

Cienna Rosalina is living happily as an activist. A young trans woman in a relationship, Cienna wants girls to know that "there is somebody out here for everyone. Don't let your trans identity let you feel like you're less than," she said. As she uses her social media platform to wave the banner for trans rights, her TikTok account, @ItsCeeRose, now boasts over 71,000 followers.

"You are only as small as people make you feel," she said. "Don't let them make you feel small." Her last words to me were that she's going to be famous. Or as she puts it, "I'm going to be famous as f***."

Dennis Richmond, Jr., is an author and journalist focused on the Black, Latinx, and LGBTQIA+ Community. He has covered HBCUs periodically for six years at Yonkers Rising. Richmond lives in Yonkers. Follow him on Twitter @NewYorkStakz.

YoFiFest & Feeding Westchester to Hold Reception, Film Fundraiser, November 21



YoFiFest, the Yonkers Film Festival, is hosting a fundraiser for Feeding Westchester on Sunday, November 21st at 2pm. The one hour reception will include a delicious tasting menu from some great local Westchester establishments, including The Good Witch Coffee Bar (Hastings) MariachiMexico (Armonk), Penny Lick Ice Cream Co. (Hastings), North End Tavern (New Rochelle), as well as Yonkers favorites Yonkers Brewing Company, Nahmias et Fils and Dolphin Restaurant.

All proceeds from the reception will be donated to Feeding Westchester, the county's largest nonprofit hunger relief organization.

Advance tickets for this event are \$25 and include entrance to our closing film, "86'd: How A Global Pandemic Rocked The World's Culinary Capital" pictured above, which features several of the restaurants participating in the reception. The film, directed by Rob Petrone, a six time Emmy Award winning host of the prime time food TV show, Restaurant Hunter, captures the fear, anger and resilience of New York's restaurant community during the early months of COVID-19.

The event will take place in the Atrium event space at the Riverfront Library in downtown Yonkers, across the street from the Metro North Train Station. Tickets and Info for the Feeding Westchester Fundraising Event, or for YoFiFest 2021, is available at YoFiFest.com.

Letter to the Editor:

I like reading your stories and coverage of Yonkers online at YonkersTimes.com where I can also read your coverage of Westchester County.

My question to you is, having read about all of the towns and villages in Westchester that have decided to "Opt-Out" of permitting marijuana dispensaries and cafes in their community, I wonder what decision will be made in Yonkers?

If I understand your stories about Marijuana legalization, a community has to Opt-Out before Dec. 31 or else they have Opted-In by default.

Have you heard anything about what the Mayor and the City Council plan on doing on this subject? thanks, Colleen Duffy, Yonkers

Supreme Court of the State of New York County of Westchester Summons: Index No. 2016-21

Plaintiff designates Westchester County as place of trial. The basis of venue is plaintiff's residence Plaintiff resides at: 380 McLean Ave #2H Yonkers, NY 10705

Melissa Rose Selian vs. Matthew John Ramalho
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Serving Others on Thanksgiving

COVID-19 and its ongoing impact on people living paycheck to paycheck or, worse, with no income at all, makes this holiday season bleaker than ever. Food insecurity can be invisible but it's rampant among families and individuals throughout New York, and in Yonkers.

Several non profit groups and charities are stepping forward to try and help make sure the people of Yonkers have a good meal for Thanksgiving.

The Salvation Army of Yonkers is hosting a meal and distribution on Tuesday, November 23 from 10 a.m. - 1 p.m. And the Matthew Wallace Foundation will be hosting a grab and go Turkey Giveaway on Sat. Nov. 20 at Coyne Park on McLean Ave. from 12 noon until they run out of Turkeys.

On Thanksgiving Day, from 12 noon-3pm at the Nepperhan Community Center, Project Inspire, Yonkers will hold its 4th annual community Thanksgiving Giveback. Volunteers and donations are needed to feed the homeless and those who could use a good meal. Email to projectinspireyonkers@gmail.com for more information.

And visit YonkersTimes.com, we will update you on more events and more ways that you can help, or if you need a Thanksgiving meal this year, we will try to help you find some help.

Happy Thanksgiving Yonkers!

Building Dept. continued from pg 1-

functioning better. That is why the Mayor has appointed Sam Borrelli to this important position," said Breen

Borrelli is currently working in the Building Department to "clear the logjam" of projects and paperwork that has piled up. Breen said one Yonkers resident told him that when she was going to sell her house, she found an open permit from 1947, that had to be cleared up.

"With all of the new development coming into Yonkers, its important that we have a working, effective building department. I thank the Mayor for addressing this issue, which is the #1 problem that I hear about in Yonkers," said Breen.

"Mayor Spano has been able to make improvements to our water system and cut back in overtimes costs, and I support his efforts and changed in the Building Department.

Breen added that there is no state mandate requiring the Building Department Commissioner to be a licensed engineer. "You don't have to be a doctor to run a hospital. One good manager is worth a hundred licensed engineer. With the departures from the commissioner and deputy commissioner, the time is now to make this change, because its worse now than its ever been.

On This Day in Yonkers History ...



Mary Hoar, President Emerita, Yonkers Historical Society, recipient of the 2004 Key to History and President Untermyer Performing Arts Council

Monday, November 22nd:

November 22, 1939: Yonkers Welfare Commissioner Nicholas Ebbitt announced he asked Milo Perkins, head of the Federal Surplus Commodities Corporation, to inaugurate the food stamp program right here in Yonkers. Commissioner Ebbitt had approached officials in all Yonkers banks to support the plan.

November 22, 1942: After soloist Florence Perlman sang at the "Women at War Week" rally held in the auditorium of Most Holy Trinity Church, the master of ceremonies was so moved, he gave her a big, hearty smooch! Rather than being shocked, the audience loved it; the gentleman who kissed her was husband Alexander Perlman!

Tuesday, November 23rd:

November 23, 1918: Mayor William Wallin announced a patriotic community Thanksgiving Sing Service would be held in the armory on North Broadway, joining the national celebration of both the holiday and the end of the war.

November 23, 1955: Yonkers asked federal help to repair damage caused by the Saw Mill River flooding, requesting \$87,000 for the work. The Administration asked the allocation come through the Federal Civil Defense Administration, hoping the work would be directed by the Army Corps of Engineers. Yonkers Democratic Supervisor Thomas McSpedon stated most of the Yonkers damage happened in the Saw Mill River Valley, saying it was "hard to tell people with eight to ten feet of water in their homes nothing could be done about the flooding."

Wednesday, November 24th:

November 24, 1942: The Yonkers Lions Club, meeting at the Abbey Inn, dedicated a service plaque in honor of members in the armed forces to the "cause of freedom." More than twenty per cent of active Yonkers Lions membership had volunteered in the three branches of the US armed forces! Club President Bert Caulfield reminded attendees Thanksgiving was not just a time of feasting, and suggested all give "thanks to Almighty God" at their places of worship.

November 24, 1950: The largest group of women to be accepted in the Women Marines in the metropolitan area enlisted at the Yonkers Marine Corps Recruiting Station in the Main Post Office Building, foot of Main Street. After getting last minute instructions from St. Sgt. James Harrington USMC, the Women Marines left for Parris Island for six weeks' boot training.

Thursday, November 25th:

November 25, 1942: Gorton and Yonkers High Schools' students went on a rampage the night before the traditional Thanksgiving football game between the two schools. Students smashed windows at Yonkers High, more were broken at Gorton, and they smashed twenty-one trolley car windows. Police had to break up several raucous street corner rallies.

November 25, 1944: Park Hill Avenue resident Irving Haim, President of International Distributors, sponsored a national contest for the best essays promoting better understanding on-- matchbook covers! Six different messages were on the covers, including, "When you find anyone, yourself included, thinking, speaking or acting with racial or religious prejudice—Stop It! Smith, Kelly, Cohen or Svoboda are good enough to die for us, they are good enough to live here with us as an equal." Twenty-five million messages of tolerance circulated around the US on his matchbooks.

Friday, November 26th:

November 26, 1926: Because of the economy measures by Mayor William Walsh, prisoners in the City Jail did not have turkey for their Thanksgiving dinner; they had to be contented with roast chicken.

November 26, 1942: Margaret George, publicity director for the War Industries Training Program, announced Eastern Aircraft in Tarrytown called Yonkers School of Aeronautical Manufacturing the "West Point of the Air." Hundreds of the school's certified students, from all strata of society and a variety of ethnic and religious backgrounds, worked together in the plant with one goal in mind, to end the war.

Saturday, November 27th:

November 27, 1946: Former Mayor John Fogarty blasted the closing of the Yonkers Health Center Laboratory. Pointing out for many years, during the tenure of the late Health Commissioner Dr. Buckmaster, Yonkers had "an enviable health record under his long and intelligent administration, it being usually among the first ten healthiest cities in the country." The Health Center and its "splendid equipment" originally were created to care for underprivileged children, using the guidance from local Academy of Medicine members. The lab had been taken over by Westchester County.

November 27, 1955: Former Ninth Ward Democratic Alderman William Slater appealed to Governor Averill Harriman to come to Yonkers' aid and help stop after-election-surprise pay raises for the Mayor and twelve Councilmembers! Slater was leader of a citywide movement to stop sitting Councilmembers from raising their pay 69 percent.

continued on pg 6-

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Remembering Judge Arthur "Mike" Doran



Arthur J. Doran, Jr., the longtime former Chief Judge of the Yonkers City Court and friend to everyone, passed away peacefully on the evening of November 12, 2021. The Judge was born in Yonkers on May 23, 1941 to Arthur J. Doran, Sr. and Katherine Doran and grew up on Palisade Avenue with his two brothers and 5 sisters. He attended St. Mary's grade school, Manhattan Prep and Manhattan College. Mike met the love of his life, Carol Watson at the age of 14.

They were married in 1961 and began raising their family in Yonkers, spent a few years living in Ossining before moving back to their beloved Yonkers. The Judge attended Law School at night and earned his Law Degree at New York Law School. He began working for the City of Yonkers as an investigator in the Yonkers Corporation Counsel's Office, later worked as an attorney in that office and ultimately became the Corporation Counsel for the City of Yonkers.

He was appointed to the position of Yonkers City Manager in 1986 but found his true calling when he ran for judge in 1987, was successfully elected to that office and would forever be known as "The Judge". He enjoyed a long tenure as the Chief Judge before he retired from the bench in 2007.

Among his proudest achievements is the founding of the Yonkers Drug Court. He was an active member of many organizations and was proud to have served on many, many Boards. He is the only person in history to hold the title of Grand Marshall at both of the Yonkers St. Patrick's Day Parades, one on South Broadway and the other on McLean Avenue. He is most remembered for his wisdom, patience, kindness and generous spirit.

He had the gift of becoming an instant friend to everyone he met and was truly a friend to all. The Judge is survived by his wife Carol, his 5 children, Arthur (Karen), Kathleen Tokarz (Larry), Amy Dall (Kerry), Peter (Ailish) and Elizabeth Keromytis (Angelos). He is also survived by the next generation of Dorans, his beloved grandchildren Ashley (Kyle), Christopher, Holly, Megan, PJ, Molly, Brendan, Tara, Maggie, Penelope and Julia. He is also survived by his sister Mary Richards, and is predeceased by his siblings, Kayette, Ann, Sally, Jimmy, Danny and Marcy.

The family would like to express their heartfelt appreciation to the staff at Cabrini Nursing Home and to St. John's Hospital for the care and compassion shown to Mike. In lieu of flowers, the family requests donations be made to the Aisling Irish Community and Cultural Center located at 990 McLean Avenue, Yonkers,

New Housing continued from pg 3-

The unit mix of the 104,773-square-foot building includes 39 one-bedrooms, 31 two-bedrooms, and 15 three-bedrooms with a range of affordability.

The project has been designed to achieve Enterprise Green Communities (EGC) certification. Green elements of the project include Energy Star appliances and a solar PV array to provide energy for a portion of the building's common electricity needs. Ten percent of the project's units are accessible for people with disabilities, and four percent of the project's units are adapted for the needs of the hearing and visually impaired.

172 Warburton at the Ridgeway is the fourth phase of a six-phase master plan to redevelop the Cottage Place Gardens public housing complex into The Ridgeway, a mixed-income community of choice in Southwest Yonkers, NY. Constructed in the 1940s, the 256-unit Cottage Place Gardens long outlived its useful life. 172 Warburton aligns with the City's long-term vision for revitalization of this community identified in the Yonkers Choice Neighborhoods Transformation Plan and Warburton-Ravine URA plan.

Yonkers Swimmer, continued from pg 1-

Coach Schoenlank added; "We are really proud of Maichina's accomplishments this season. I'm grateful that she will actually be able to travel and compete this year."

Last season, Section I Swimming held meets virtually, with each team swimming races at their own pool on the same day. Officials would certify the meet, and times would be entered online into a database, and results were then posted. No spectators were allowed inside the facilities. This year, all meets were in-person and limited spectators were permitted to attend.

Yonkers hosted the Conference championships and finished in 7th place. "This year, I saw my team like I've never seen them before," Captain Sneha Sarkar said. "They thrived on the competition, and this is a side I haven't seen in two years because of Covid."

Prior to this season, sophomore teammate Amelia McKenna had only experienced a low-key meet environment. This year was much different. "The pool deck was no longer empty but bursting with life. The cheering and energy motivated me to give it my all and made tremendous impact on all of our swimming," she said. "We had an amazing season."

The championship meet was close and exciting, with single digits separating teams in the final standings. "Our conference was extremely competitive all season long. All our duel-meet losses came down to the final event, the 400-yard freestyle relay. The teams that won this relay, typically won the meet," Schoenlank said.

Gennerelli, along with several teammates, will continue the season at Section I Championships November 1-4, before she travels to States. "My goal at States is to win my heat, drop more time, and hopefully make it back to finals the next day." Schoenlank added, "The sky is the limit for Maichina. When she says she's going to do something, stand back and watch, she'll get it done."

Good Luck in the State Championship Maichina! Yonkers is Rooting for you!

Top 16 Yonkers Finishers: Maichina Gennerelli, FR, YHS: 1st place 500 freestyle, 3rd place 200 free; Jaden Bascon, Jr, YHS: 5th place 100 Butterfly; 7th place 200 free; Sneha Sarkar, SR, YHS: 9th place 100 Butterfly; 15th place 200 free; Elina DelCastillo, FR, YMA: 4th place 100 Backstroke; 5th place 200 I.M.; Arianna May, JR, YHS: 13th 50 Free; 14th 100 Breaststroke; Gianna Gennerelli, JR, YHS: 6th 100 Free; 12th place 100 Breaststroke; Elena Pruthi, SR, YMA: 14th place 500 freestyle.

200 Yard Medley Relay: 4th place (DelCastillo, M. Gennerelli, Bascon, G. Gennerelli) 200 Yard Freestyle Relay: 9th place (May, Louisa Mitchell, Sarkar, Pruthi) 400 Yard Freestyle Relay: 2nd place (Bascon, DelCastillo, G. Gennerelli, M. Gennerelli)

Yonkers finished 7th overall in the Division III Championships. Final Standings Division III Championships.

Notice of Formation of SHINE SIGNINGS LLC. Arts. of Org. filed with the SSNY on 09/26/2021. 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, 27 Ravine Avenue, Yonkers, NY 10701. Purpose: Any lawful activity.

THE CITY OF YONKERS/YONKERS PUBLIC SCHOOLS, BUREAU OF PURCHASING, One Larkin Center, 3RD Floor, Yonkers, New York 10701 (Located in the Yonkers Riverfront Library Building across from the Metro-North train station) will receive sealed Bids for the following projects until 2:00 PM, on the dates below.

However, due to the COVID-19 Pandemic and in line with the directives issued by the Mayor of Yonkers regarding public safety, there is limited access to One Larkin Center. The building is open from 8:30 AM to 4:00 PM for receiving packages via courier services and in person. If delivering bids in person, individuals must wear face coverings and see the Public Safety Officer in the library atrium, who will clock in the bid and then contact Purchasing to pick up the bid. Sealed Bids will continue to be opened and read on the dates below, however, there will not be a public opening of bids. Those interested in listening to the bid opening and the reading of bids can dial Conference Call number 1-701-802-5221 and enter Access Code 1354203 when prompted.

Solicitation documents are available for downloading from the Empire State Purchasing Group website at <http://www.empirestatebidsystem.com/>. The City welcomes and encourages participation by local and minority and women owned business enterprises.

1. Bid 6712 - Opening date: 12/03/2021: Twenty-four-month contract to purchase various makes, models, and sizes of tires as needed. (AS)
2. Bid 6713 - Opening date 12/03/2021: Twelve-month contract to purchase up to 300 sets of Laclede, or equal, snow chains and adjusters as needed. (FB)
3. Bid 6705A - Opening date 12/03/2021: Twelve-month contract, with option to renew for up to four 12-month periods, to provide maintenance and repairs of playground equipment as needed for the Yonkers Public School District. (KS)
4. Bid 6698A - Opening date 12/10/2021: Purchase of three new 20' long x 8' high x 8' wide standard storage containers with fresh air vents, 2 barn doors at one end, and a single 36" wide 6'8" x 1-3/4" steel door with panic device mounted on long side at opposite end of barn doors. (KS)
5. Bid 6700A - Opening date 12/10/2021: Purchase of Cubic Vocality, or equal, boxes for interoperability communications. (AC)
6. Bid 6719 - Opening date 12/10/2021: Purchase of five 30-cubic yard roll-off dumpsters, 22' long, floor 1/4" with 3" structural channels on 16" centers and 6"x2"x1/4" structural tubing main rails, walls 10 gauge with side columns on 24" centers. (FB)
7. Bid 6715 - opening date 12/17/2021: Fire Station 10 (573 Saw Mill River Road) and Fire Station 4 (36 Radford Street) structural rehabilitations, inclusive of floor reinforcement, beam replacement, and ventilation improvements. (KS)

Yonkers History, continued from pg 5-

Sunday, November 28th

November 28, 1939: Yonkers resident Earl Browder, leader of the American Communist Party, spoke at Yale's Strathcona Hall. The boisterous audience mixed cheers with boos, but basically was "good natured," shouting "Viva Browder" and "Down With Everything" while he was speaking. Three hundred Yale men outside the hall were a different story; they crowded around as he was leaving and tried to overturn his car. Persistent rocking the car did not do the trick, so they threw vegetables at his car. Yale President Charles Seymour had resisted pressure from New Haven Mayor John Murphy and the Connecticut American Legion to cancel Browder's appearance.

November 28, 1946: After Daily News columnist Danton Walker wrote a column on Yonkers' three hundredth birthday, mentioning William C. Handy, composer of the St. Louis Blues and resident of Colonial Heights, as one of Yonkers "prominent citizens;" Handy reproduced the column, circled his own name, and sent it as a thank you to the columnist. W. C. Handy wrote on the card, "Thanks, Mr. Walker, and thanks to Yonkers which reminds me of a phrase... 'More cities are claiming Handy living than claim Homer dead!'"

Questions or comments? Email YonkersHistory1646@gmail.com. For information on the Yonkers Historical Society, Sherwood House and upcoming events, please visit our website www.yonkershistoricalsociety.org, call 914-961-8940 or email yhsociety@aol.com.

Eric Schoen continued from pg 3-

world who won't have a quarter of what you have on your Thanksgiving table. Remember that.

In closing I must share with you a ceremony I went to last week at Gorton High School. A monument and garden was erected to honor Gorton High School graduates who served in the armed forces. My dad and my uncles Dave and Harry are Gorton graduates. Dad was in the Army, Uncle Harry was in the Navy and Uncle Dave was in the marines.

The Charles E. Gorton High School Alumni Association embarked on a project to honor all Gorton High School men and women who served in the military. Simultaneously, the Alumni Association committed to commemorate the 100th Anniversary of the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier with its Never Forget Garden program <https://tombguard.org/centennial/projects#never-forget-garden>. Gorton is the only school in the United States to do so.

This garden is a living tribute to the past and the present and honors Gorton High School students serving in World War 2, Korea, Vietnam, Iraq, and Afghanistan. A stone marker honoring the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier will be permanently displayed in the garden, which was donated by the Azzaro family of Yonkers, whose son Richard served as a Tomb Guard during the 1960's.

The Never Forget Garden will be managed and cared for by Gorton High School's freshman class and the school's Center for Learning students.

On behalf of my family, I want to thank William Tolany, President of the Gorton High School Alumni Association and the Yonkers Public Schools for this wonderful project. Contact Marilyn Rabadi at Gorton High School if you would like to make a monetary donation for this project.

The photo at the beginning of my column this week is my sister Carrie joining me with our favorite veteran and my second father, Adelmo 'Chubby' Costantini having our traditional Veteran's Day Meal. We cherish this time together. Last year, because of Covid we could not gather together for Veteran's Day. This year we could.

Yes, things are looking up! Have a joyous, safe Thanksgiving celebrating with the ones you love!

Reach Eric Schoen at thistoisyonkers@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.

Yonkers Rising

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American Irish Association of Westchester's Dinner Dance Honors Yonkers Rising's Mary Hoar -Photos by Donna Davis



A Who's Who of Yonkers and Westchester politics came out to celebrate the American Irish Association's 47th Annual Dinner Dance, and their honorees. Irish Woman of the Year – Mary Hoar---Irish Man of the Year – Rev. Brendan Fitzgerald--Irish American Community Service Award – Ceol Na Gael Irish Sunday Show at WFUV (Fordham University) producers Maura Monahan Grunner and Maggie Dolan and hosts Ryan Slattery, Maggie Peknic and Patrick Breen--Irish American Achievement Award – Father Christopher Keenan.

Giving their congratulations were, County Executive George Latimer, State Senator Shelley Mayer, former County Executive Rob Astorino, Assemblymember Nader Sayegh, City Councilman John Rubbo, Assemblymember Gary Pretlow.

On behalf of Yonkers Rising and YonkersTimes.com, congratulations to all of the honorees but a special thanks to Mary Hoar and all of her contributions to Yonkers, and her service as a volunteer columnist in Yonkers Rising, penning every week On This Day in Yonkers History.

Read Mary's lengthy biography of service to Yonkers at YonkersTimes.com

top left-Dawn Doherty, Aisling Irish Center Ceili and Ballad Group

top right--L-R-Catherine Marshall, Carol Daly, Eileen Carey, Mary Hoar

Bottom left--Honorees Father Brendan Fitzgerald and Father Christopher Keenan

Bottom right,American-Irish Committee members with staff of WFUV's Ceol Na Ngael show every Sunday morning which features Irish Music. Listen in at 90.7 FM. or WFUV.com.



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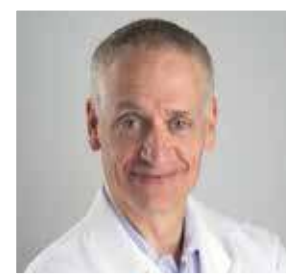
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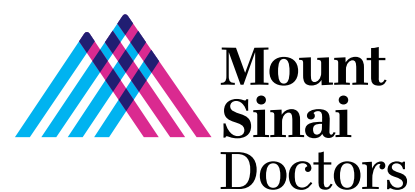
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