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Friday May 22, 2020

Yonkers Girl Scout Raises Funds for Hospital Workers



Brianna Meegan with a load of supplies going to health care workers

An eight-year-old girl is lending a helping hand to frontline health care workers during the pandemic by delivering treats and snacks. Brianna Meegan of Yonkers wanted to support frontline and health care workers who are treating Covid-19 patients.

With her mother Fidelma Bartley Meegan's help, they launched a Facebook page in March and so far they have raised almost \$3,400. They have used the donations to buy candy, chips and protein bars for staff at six local hospitals, including Saint Joseph's Medical Center, which received a delivery last month.

"They're just amazed. They're very happy and very appreciative," said Fidelma, who explained that the distribution of treats has helped Brianna cope with being separated from all her school friends. "It really puts a smile on her face. She stays in the car with a mask during the delivery, but she can see how happy the people are."

Brianna and Fidelma are still collecting funds and their hope is to do another round of snack delivery to the six hospitals they've supported. Fidelma said the deliveries have brought some medical workers to tears.

"Our staff was very touched by Brianna's efforts," said Lorraine Horgan, Vice President of External Affairs at Saint Joseph's. "Our dedicated and heroic staff have been working tirelessly providing high-quality care to the community we serve throughout this unprecedented pandemic and Brianna's loving gesture really moved them and served as a reminder of how grateful the community is for all they are doing to defeat Covid-19."

Brianna, who is still raising funds on Facebook, wrote, "My name is Brianna and I'm 8 years old. I want to raise funds for COVID-19 victims and fami

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Sacred Heart High School Celebrate 2020 Valedictorian & Salutatorian



congratulations to Sacred Heart High School valedictorian Lisa Gentile, above, and Molly Barrett, below



Sacred Heart high school, and Yonkers Rising celebrate the academic excellence of the 2020 Valedictorian and Salutatorian. Valedictorian Lisa Gentile will graduate with a GPA of 102.55. Her favorite subject is Math and her favorite teacher was Chemistry teacher Mr. Ward. "He was extremely supportive, helpful, and passionate about chemistry. He helped me to see beyond my immediate goals and start thinking about my future. I will be forever grateful for the indelible mark he left on me," said Gentile, who completed AP courses in Psychology, English and Literature, and College level courses in English, Precalculus, and Calculus.

Lisa was the treasurer of student government, a member of National Honor Society, President of Campus Ministry and Leadership, and Vice President of Interact Club at Sacred Heart high school. -continued on pg 7

Zehy Jereis Returns in Romano Campaign for Judge

Negative Attacks Come to City Court Race



Yonkers Democrats are upset over the negative tactics of political operative Zehy Jereis, left, and City Court Judicial candidate Dan Romano. Photos from Facebook

By Dan Murphy

With an upcoming June 23 primary in Yonkers, in the middle of the Coronavirus, two factors have changed the dynamics of the Democratic Primary for Yonkers City Court: Negative campaigning, and the return to Yonkers politics of Zehy Jereis. And many believe that both are linked, with most Yonkers democrats we spoke to saying that negative campaigning, or lies, should have no part in politics during a pandemic and in a Judicial race.

Five candidates are running for the Democratic nomination for Yonkers City Court Judge, three of which won the Democratic City Convention and have the nomination of the party. They are: Judge Tom Daly, Judge Brendan McGrath and attorney Verris Shako.

Two other Yonkers attorneys are also on the ballot. Dan Romano and Karen Best. Both are claiming that they were denied the right to fairly compete at the Yonkers Democratic convention, when the facts show that both did not get the votes from the party faithful: Romano got 28%, Best got 0% because she could not get a single Yonkers Democrat to nominate her.

Yonkers Democratic Chairman Tom Meier said, "To say that the convention was rigged and that our system is corrupt in an outright lie. These accusations against me are also against the 400 district leaders who attended the convention and voted their conscience. I twisted no arms and I can't help it if they didn't like the outcome. Democrats didn't vote for them."

Additional falsehoods and accusations have been thrown at the Democratic Party nominees by Romano and his campaign. These claims were then posted on the Yonkers Tribune website, which permits comments below the original post.

Several of those comments concerned the wife of one of the judicial candidates, who while not running for Judge, had to endure the negative attacks while she was recovering from COVID-19. Several public figures in Yonkers have sued the Yonkers Tribune for libel, based on these same types of harmful, hateful comments which are not deleted.

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Could There Be Givebacks or Furloughs, instead of Layoffs?

Still Waiting, but Budget Picture Looks Bleak

By Dan Murphy

Two comments from City officials last month should raise the eyebrows of the residents, taxpayers and union employees of Yonkers. Both were honest assessments of how difficult the City of Yonkers budget for the next fiscal year will be without the help, in the form of a COVID-19 bailout, from Washington DC.

Mayor Mike Spano said during a Facebook live conference, "We have the potential for significant cuts because of the State budget and we don't have the ability to close them."

Yonkers Finance Commissioner John Liszewski. issued a similar alarm at a City Council budget committee last month when he said that a possible \$70 Million State Education Aid cut to the Yonkers Public Schools, "is what keeps me up at night," because of the severity of cuts and job losses it would entail.

What the Mayor was alluding to is that he will need help from the City's unions to close the upcoming expected budget hole, and if the unions do not agree to 'givebacks' then layoffs of municipal employees will have to happen.

But givebacks in the City of Yonkers have been a rare occurrence, with two reasons why the unions are not so eager for givebacks. First, Yonkers has always waited, and usually received a last minute bailout from Albany, and specifically from Governor Cuomo, or State Senate Majority Leader Andrea Stewart-Cousins, and dating back to former State Senator Nick Spano.

A last minute package of billions in State Aid, usually in the form of State Education Aid, would help close some of the budget gap, and a combination of smaller layoffs, and borrowing and not rehiring vacant positions, would close the rest.

This year is different, some will argue, because of the Coronavirus. Governor Cuomo is facing a \$13 Billion budget hole in the State budget, and this time, its Cuomo who needs help from above, that being Washington DC.

In Congress, the House has passed a \$3 Trillion package of aid that includes funds for New York State government. If that bill were to pass, then Cuomo would have the funds to close his budget and he could then fund Yonkers, and the numbers in Mayor Spano's budget plan would work; a 2% tax increase and no layoffs.

But in Wahington, US Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell and President Donald Trump have both said 'no blue state bailout.' continued on pg 6-

Antibodies Testing at Westchester County Center Available to Everyone



Yonkers Rising Columnist Eric Schoen went to the Westchester County Center To have his antibodies for COVID 19 Tested. Westchester Medical Center Health Network (WMC HEALTH) has opened antibodies testing to all residents of Westchester County free of charge by appointment only.

Call 914-326-2060 to schedule your appointment. You do not have to be a first responder or an essential worker to be tested. Testing involves the simple drawing of 1 Small test tube of blood. The whole process takes 15 minutes.

Editor's Note: From the www.wmchealth.org site

Westchester Medical Center Health Network (WMCHHealth) is expanding its antibody testing program. Beginning today, COVID-19 antibody testing for the public is available by appointment at the Westchester County Center in White Plains, NY.

Members of the public interested in COVID-19 antibody testing can call 914.326.2060, Monday through Saturday from 8:30 a.m. to 6:00 p.m., for screening and to make an appointment.

After testing samples are secured, they are brought to Westchester Medical Center's Valhalla laboratories for evaluation. In most cases, results will be shared with each tested individual within 48 hours.

Antibody testing can play an important role in the fight against COVID-19 by helping to identify individuals who have been infected and developed antibodies to the virus. Test results will be used to estimate the total number of people who have been exposed and/or infected nationally.

Additionally, while the presence of antibodies does not confirm current or future immunity, it allows an individual who tests positive for antibodies to donate convalescent plasma, a resource that can help others who are actively battling COVID-19

Major Drug Bust by County Police

Two Kilos of Coke Seized Durng Traffic Stop



Westchester County Police arrested a Massachusetts man on Monday evening after he was found in possession of large quantities of cocaine and marijuana as well as counterfeit prescription pills.

The incident began about 5:30 p.m. when an officer stopped a vehicle for a traffic violation on Central Park Avenue near the Cross County Parkway in Yonkers. The officer detected an odor of burnt marijuana in the vehicle and also observed a shopping bag on the rear seat containing what appeared to be marijuana in vacuum-sealed bags.

The driver was taken into custody. A satchel bag that he was wearing around his person was seized and found to contain a quantity of fraudulent Oxycodone pills.

The vehicle, a Nissan Maxima, was impounded and towed to Westchester County Police headquarters. A search warrant was obtained and more than four pounds of cocaine, or approximately two kilos, was recovered along with almost 22 pounds of marijuana. In addition, a loaded magazine for a 9 mm handgun was found in the car.

Victor Ramos, 32, of Holyoke, Mass., was charged with Criminal Possession of a Controlled Substance 1st Degree, two counts of Criminal Possession of a Controlled Substance 3rd Degree, Criminal Possession of Marijuana and Criminal Possession of a Weapon 3rd Degree. All the charges are felonies.

Ramos was held overnight at County Police headquarters in Hawthorne. He was arraigned today in Yonkers City Court and released on his own recognizance.

Yonkers Girl Scout--continued from pg 1--

lies. I'm praying we all survive this and we get back to normal life soon. Pray for everyone and love everyone,

Originally, Brianna's plan was to partner with a non-profit to help the thousands of restaurant workers in NY State that are unemployed. But after not being able to find a partner, Brianna and her mom moved forward to raise funds for the people on the frontlines, the medics, police, doctors, nurses and all of the hospital staff in Yonkers, by delivering some food and snacks.

"Thank you to all that have donated already, we will feed the front lines as much as we possibly can. Since we cannot provide PPE, we can at least provide something else," said the Meegan's.

A message to Brianna from all of our readers. Thanks for volunteering, and for showing that every little bit counts, and that everyone can make a difference.



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Judge DALY
Verris SHAKO
Judge McGRATH
for Yonkers City Court Judge

YPD & Law Enforcement Agencies Issue More than 100 Summonses



Yonkers Police pulling over speeder and drag racers, which resulted in some cars being impounded

The Yonkers Police Department recently partnered with local law enforcement agencies once again to address numerous community complaints of drag racing, speeding, and excessive noise from motor vehicles and motorcycles on local roads, parkways, and highways.

Yonkers Police working in collaboration with members of the Westchester County Department of Public Safety and the New York State Police (Troop K and Troop T) issued a total of 112 summonses to violators for a multitude of offenses including speeding, loud exhaust, unlicensed operation and unregistered motor vehicles, failing to signal, lane violations, improper window tints, and other equipment violations. One operator was arrested by the Westchester County Department of Public Safety for aggravated unlicensed operation. Another violator was issued a speeding summons for traveling more than 120 MPH on the New York State Thruway.

"This pandemic has led to a growing number of drag racers violating the rules of our city, state and county roadways, causing an abundance of noise pollution and dangerous conditions," said Yonkers Mayor Mike Spano. "Thank you to our Yonkers Police and neighboring law enforcement agencies for cracking down on those who don't have respect for their fellow drivers or residents. No one is above the law and we will continue to ensure quality of life issues like this are fully enforced."

Minority Leader Mike Breen said, "for too long the residents surrounding Central Park Avenue, Sprain Brook, Bronx River and Saw Mill Parkways and the New York State Thruway have heard excessive noise, as have I, caused by motorcyclists and drag racers traveling at dangerously high speeds. I commend the Yonkers Police Department for working in collaboration with the Westchester County Department of Public Safety and New York State Police for hearing the concerns of the residents and silencing these offenders. With nice weather upon us I'm hopeful continued enforcement will keep our neighborhoods quiet and safe".

These enforcement details are a direct result of community feedback and law enforcement's mission to ensure the safety of our roads and preserve quality of life for our residents and will be continuing. Community members are encouraged to contact the Yonkers Police Department at (914) 377-7900 to report in-progress traffic violations; emergencies dial 9-1-1. Community members may also forward information to police@ypd.yonkersny.gov.

The Yonkers Police Department extends its gratitude to the Westchester County Department of Public Safety and the New York State Police (Troop K and Troop T) for teaming together to enhance public safety and improve the quality of life for our residents now and in the future.

Is It or Isn't It Your Business?

This too is Yonkers, By Eric Schoen

Some days it feels like the world we live in during the age of Coronavirus is like a spinning top. Everything is constantly changing. From the way we order our coffee at Starbucks to the way we line up at the checkout at the grocery store, you never what changes will be made in the way we go about our lives on a daily basis.

We wake up in the morning, usually later than usual and our regimented lifestyle is, no pun intended out the door. How many times have you woken up in the morning and not known what day it is? For some people they keep track of time based on the sun setting and rising, and we are late for appointments we would never have been late for before. The urgency to be on time just doesn't exist.

On Monday we heard that our President is taking the anti-malaria drug hydroxychloroquine to lessen the symptoms should he get the new coronavirus. This even though the drug is unproven for fighting COVID-19. The scientific community has doubted its effectiveness, and the drug sits at the bottom of the pile of promising drugs.

The press is told that the President is taking the drug under the care of his physician. He asked his physician for the drug, and the physician gave Mr. Trump his imprimatur.

Nancy Pelosi, Speaker of the House, when asked about the President taking the drug, stated she would prefer he avoid it due to his "age group" and "weight group."

"He's our president and I would rather he not be taking something that has not been approved by the scientists," she said. "Especially in his age group and in his, shall we say, weight group, morbidly obese, they say."

Firstly, Trump is not 'morbidly obese' but he is obese according to the BMI performed during his last physical. But who is Nancy Pelosi to tell Donald Trump what he should put in his body or not put in his body. Did he get special permission that you or I couldn't get to receive the drug? Nope! So why doesn't Pelosi simply say he can do whatever he wants with his body? Or mind her business and say nothing.

By press time Trump did not comment on the plastic surgery Pelosi has had, much of which is very good. But if he did I would say who is he to comment on her plastic surgery? It was her choice to have it done, hopefully she paid for it (though members of Congress have great health plans) and there are so many plastic surgeons out there is doubt she had to compete with others going for the same doctor.

I have been 'recreating' at Tibbetts Brook Park since the Coronavirus outbreak began. Many people come there to walk their dogs. With the warmer weather many people are sitting on blankets or chairs or beach towels to catch some rays of sunshine. They are sitting on areas of the field where dogs may have done their business.

Is this right? Most people clean up after their dogs but many don't. Quite often there are remnants that remain on the ground. Should the county tell dog walkers they can't walk in areas where people will be sitting. Should the county designate a specific area for dog walking or a dog park that many communities in the country have so dogs can recreate?

The remnants from dogs doing their business affect the greater good specifically people wanting to use the park for recreation and regular park activities. You don't want dog doo on your blanket, chair, towel, or if you sit on the grass on your clothes. Does someone or the county itself have the right to say something or tell you to use a specific area for your animal. Everyone loves their dogs but when it comes to health and safety it certainly is your business to say or do something.

Hairstylists in Connecticut were scheduled to be open on Thursday as part of The state opening businesses when the Coronavirus indicators showed some improvement. Apparently, some stylists and beauticians and barbers told the Governor they weren't ready to open as they still had changes to make in their physical plants or the way they do business.

Did one of these hair folks come out publicly and state they were the one the governor relied on to keep the hair shops closed? What about those shops that were ready to open having taken the 2 months they were shut to plan for reopening. It's not like a million or a 1000 people come in everyday for a fair cut. This seems like one of the easiest businesses to safely distance one customer from another. The hairstylist and customer need to where masks and gowns but they would need to where gowns on a normal day.

How unfair Governor Lamont is being to the hair community, opening their shops one day and then closing them for an additional two weeks the next. Let the shops that are ready open and the rest can come online when the time is right!

In Williamsburg, Brooklyn the city of New York shut a school that was open sending 60 kids to school despite the governors orders. Mayor deBlasio, not a favorite of mine had to scatter individuals in the 1000's who came to attend a funeral. Those 60 kids could have left school and infected many more people, relative and non-relatives. The 1000 mourners could have infected countless hundreds of thousands of people they came in contact with.

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Do We Have a Bull, Bear or Beast Real Estate Market?

Ask the Appraiser 'by Anthony Sarro.



Question; (from multiple readers) How has the Coronavirus affected the real estate market?

Answer; For those of you who have, or have known of anyone who has grappled with the "Beast," then you know the Covid-19 virus is a deadly adversary to humans, but it has also waged a war on the current real estate market. As this is such an important and broad ranging topic, I've decided that not only my opinion, but the opinions and observations of my colleagues from a cross-section of real estate professionals would be necessary to support me in this battle.

R.E. Broker, Marc Gerber, Berkshire Hathaway Homes, Eastchester NY; "I put a rental on one night and the next day I had over a dozen inquiries. People want out of NYC, reminds me of 9/11."

Bankruptcy and Consumer Protection Attorney, David J. Babel, Esq., Bronx NY. "Clients are not yet calling in droves. Many people are in shock and adjusting to being self-quarantined. Others are just sitting home and waiting out their combined NYS and Federal unemployment checks. But the surge is coming in another couple of months because the Federal money of \$600 per week will be running out soon. There will be a rush of people seeking and needing a fresh start. This will be with us, unfortunately, for longer than we may realize."

Mortgage Broker, Husam F. (Sam) Hattar, Arlington Financial, Yonkers, NY. "Banks have tightened up guidelines to mitigate the risks involved. FHA has raised credit score requirements on some loan products. In the past, FHA lenders would accept a 500 credit score. Due to the economy, banks are looking for 640 and up. Delinquency rates are rising due to the pandemic, with 9% of all loans as of May being in forbearance. To mitigate the losses, banks are making it a little tougher to get a loan. On a positive note, as a broker I have the opportunity to shop around with different lenders and find a product for the borrower that works."

R.E. Broker/Owner, Eric Stein, ReMax Realty, Tuckahoe NY; "We had 5 buyers for every house prior to the virus. We still have 1-2 buyers per

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How Can Absentee Ballots Get to Me If I Don't Have Reliable Mail Delivery?

Greenburgh Supervisor Paul Feiner writes, On June 23rd many residents of NYS will be casting their votes by absentee ballot in THE primary for President, Congress, State Legislators, District Attorney. I support the Governor's initiative to encourage people to vote by absentee ballot.

A significant concern - many Greenburgh residents have not received ANY mail in days. Sampling of e mails I received. At the bottom of the page the Hartsdale Postmaster acknowledges that "the entire Postal Service is experiencing some complications." I continue to receive complaints from others that mail that should have been delivered to them went to someone else.

If people vote by absentee ballot they should expect that their absentee ballot will be delivered to the Board of Elections BEFORE VOTES ARE COUNTED so their ballot can be counted. I am reaching out to state officials suggesting that the Board of Elections notify voters by e mail that they received the ballot.

If you are experiencing similar problems please advise by e mailing me at pfeiner@greenburghny.com.

Some of the complaints received by Feiner in April included: "hi, I just went to the post office on central ave because i have had letters sitting in my mailbox to go out for at lease 3 days. The post office is closed but I spoke to the mailman behind the door and he said that my carrier is quarantining herself and there has been no mail due to a backup at the plant with limited staff."

and "Don't know if you have a line in to the US Post Office Scarsdale Annex but Cotswold in Edgemont has now not had any mail delivered for three days straight. I understand they must be swamped but many seniors in the neighborhood rely on checks that are mailed to them, or have ordered important supplies on-line instead of going to a store."

and "Have mail deliveries stopped ...I haven't had mail since Monday. I understand that things are difficult for these guys ...I just wondered? Thx for all you're doing."

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First Winner in 'Galleria of Good' Contest from Yonkers



Susan Fassett

The Galleria at White Plains has picked the first winner in its Galleria of Good contest, which celebrates local residents and workers who have selflessly persevered and helped others during the coronavirus pandemic.

The first winner, Susan Fassett of Yonkers, has contributed every day since the beginning of New York State on Pause by working at the Visiting Nurse Services of Westchester/Westchester Care at Home, where she supports visiting nurses and home health aides. Susan works face-to-face with the public, commutes on public transportation and risks exposure every day.

The Galleria of Good continues to accept nominations at the Galleria at White Plains' online portal. The nominees should be local community members 18 and older who are making a positive difference during the coronavirus crisis. The contest winners will be featured in the Galleria of Good Facebook gallery; they will receive a thank you gift from the Galleria at White Plains valued at \$100; and they will be celebrated at a Gala of Good charity reception that will be held when the Galleria at White Plains reopens. Galleria at White Plains will donate proceeds from the Gala of Good to a non-profit community partner to support efforts combatting the residual effects of COVID-19.

"We have received moving submissions about people who have performed inspiring and selfless acts," said Ty Peterson, marketing and business development manager of the Galleria at White Plains. "We encourage anyone who has been on the receiving end of extraordinary service to nominate a local hero so that their work can receive the recognition it deserves."

To nominate a local hero who is deserving of praise and recognition, simply visit the Galleria at White Plains' online portal and complete the brief Galleria of Good submission form. Please include:

Three to five sentences explaining the nominee's contributions to the city of White Plains or larger Westchester County area in response to COVID-19. The nominee must be a Westchester County resident.

A photo of the nominee in their work attire. The submitted images will be used on the official Galleria at White Plains Facebook page.

Submissions to the online portal will be accepted from 12:01 p.m. Sunday through 11:59 p.m. Saturday. The weekly winner will be announced by the Galleria at White Plains on Sunday at noon, and then a new week of nominations will be accepted.

The qualified nominees will be included in the #GalleriaOfGood photo album on Facebook. The public is asked to give virtual high fives to the pictures of the nominees who resonate with them the most.

The Galleria White Plains is located at 100 Main St. in White Plains..

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On This Day In Yonkers History...



Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. visited Yonkers in 1965

By Mary Hoar, President of the Untermyer Performing Arts Council, Yonkers Historical Society President Emerita

Monday, May 25th

May 25, 1923: Yonkers first responders rush to the Yonkers city line to rescue passengers and crew from a Putnam Division Line train wreck. The train had hit a heavy wooden plank placed across the tracks by a few pranksters. The “prank” cost the engineer his life, and injured eight passengers.

May 25, 1933: While defending Yonkers financial situation, Comptroller James Hushion informed the Democratic City Committee that our borrowing power of \$6 million was one of the best in our history. He said, “We are far from insolvent. We are just a little embarrassed.” Hushion had obtained an extension to pay the \$500,000 in county taxes Yonkers owed, taxes we couldn’t pay.

May 25, 1945: William Beckman Jr., US Navy Electricians’ Mate, Second Class, reported an amazing find somewhere on Luzon. The island, with an incredible amount of damage from bombing, was mostly in ruins. Beckman, who worked for Otis before enlisting, was astonished not only to find an Otis elevator in one of the damaged buildings, he found the elevator was in working condition!

Tuesday, May 26th

May 26, 1915: Mothers attending the School One Field Day decided to join in the fun; they ran a Mothers’ Race as one of the events. Harriet (Mrs. Henri) Morand of Tuckahoe Road came in first!

May 26, 1931: Assistant Public Works Commissioner John Coyne received a letter from Captain John Clark of the US Volunteer Life-Saving Corps, commending the assistance he gave rescuing Anthony Fusco at the City Pier.

“This effort is one of the finest we have on record,” wrote and Captain Clark, “and I am sure all members of the Yonkers Station of the Corps join with me in congratulating you.”

Wednesday, May 27th

May 27, 1947: Mrs. Alexander Rosenberg, wife of the spiritual leader of Congregation Ohab Zedek, told how there is no such thing as a normal work week for relief workers helping displaced persons in Germany, or their families. She told how her home had become a “hotel for transient displaced persons,” including her own sister-in-law, who had been a prisoner in one of the DP camps.

May 27, 1949: Joseph McCann, Secretary-Director of the Yonkers Municipal Housing Authority, responded to a state order for all municipal housing authorities to check the incomes of housing project tenants who owned television sets. He reported there were three “video sets” in Cottage Place Gardens, a state subsidized project; all TV owners were within the income limits for residency. They were more than 25 sets in Mulford Gardens, he said, but, as it was federally subsidized, it was not regulated by the State Division of Housing. However, all TV owners were within the income limits for occupancy.

Thursday, May 28th

May 28, 1913: Yonkers contractors James Lynch, Thomas Larkin, Frank O’Rourke, Monny Bittner, and William Colquhoun attended a hearing in Albany; the group addressed Governor Sulzer to express their opposition to the Workmen’s Compensation Bill under consideration by the Legislature.

May 28, 1923: After receiving questions why the chimes of St. Andrew’s Memorial Episcopal Church has not sounded in several days, Reverend Frances Brown explained it was because of illness in the neighborhood.

May 28, 1965: Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., addressed the Negro American Labor Council at their fifth annual convention held at the Westchester Townhouse on Tuckahoe Road. The convention, whose theme was “economic freedom and security for the black and white poor,” was attended by labor leaders from all over the country.

Friday, May 29th

May 29, 1937: Police Chief Edward Quirk announced Yonkers residents could wear shorts on our city streets anytime they wanted during Memorial Day Weekend or at any other time; the NY Court of Appeals had killed Ninth Ward Alderman William Slater’s ordinance banning them.

May 29, 1942: The Yonkers Chapter of the American Red Cross received a gift from the British and American Ambulance Corps, an air raid patrol car. Presented by Marie Deems, President of the Corps, it was gratefully excepted by Justin McCarthy, Chairman of the Yonkers Chapter.

Saturday, May 30th

May 30, 1947: Sherwood Park’s Lieutenant Colonel Walter Weitner and the 102nd Light Bombardment Squadron flew over Yonkers Memorial Dday Parade to pay tribute to Yonkers war dead. World War II hero Weitner dropped a wreath while flying; the wreath was placed at the World War Monument. Also in the formation flying from Mitchell Field were Yonkers residents Captain Roderick Reid and Lieutenant Walter Dwyer.

May 30, 1947: The Glenwood Memorial Committee— The American Legion’s Glenwood Post and Holy Rosary Post of the Catholic War Veterans— unveiled and dedicated a memorial in Trevor Park to Glenwood area residents killed in the war. The observance started with a parade from Union Place to Trevor Park; the ceremony included a three-volley salute, Taps, Presentation of Colors by both posts, and a keynote speech from Master Sergeant Hulon Whittington, Congressional Medal of Honor recipient. After the dedication, The Glenwood Post played the Hollow Athletic Club in a spirited baseball game.

Sunday, May 31st

May 31, 1939: Harley Kenney of Ashburton Avenue, Richard Campion of Palisade Avenue and Joseph Conley of Orchard Street were presented Boy Scout Gold Life-Saving Medals for their assistance in rescuing the crew and passengers from the QED, a yacht that burned and was destroyed in the Hudson off the coast of Yonkers. These medals were the first Boy Scout Llife-Saving Medals ever presented in Yonkers.

May 31, 1942: Fire Chief Edward Siller issued a strong warning to Yonkers residents who were “hoarding gasoline and endangering their own lives and the lives of their neighbors.” He promised severe punishment for anyone found guilty.

For more information on the Yonkers Historical Society, Sherwood House and our upcoming events, please visit our Facebook pages. For information on membership in the Yonkers Historical Society, please call 914-961-8940 or email yhsociety@aol.com.

Over 150 Yonkers Seniors & Younger Residents Connect During COVID

One-Way Pen Pal Encourages Safe Socialization

With the issuance of the New York State on PAUSE stay-at-home coronavirus order, the Yonkers Parks Department has launched its “One Way Pen Pal” program which creates a connection between senior citizens and younger residents during this time of social distancing. As a way to honor and brighten the days of the elderly population, the Yonkers Parks Department reached out to numerous schools, organizations, and local communities to ask children of all ages to make a card or write a letter to the seniors of Yonkers. Within a couple of weeks, over 150 seniors have received a card, drawing or letter along with additional goodies such as “hug cards” and senior recreation word searches.

“With approximately 32 percent of our Yonkers seniors living alone and having our Yonkers youth transition to an online learning environment both populations feel disconnected during this crisis,” said Mayor Spano. “I commend our Yonkers Parks Department on finding a way to encourage safe socialization while keeping our seniors and youth connected.”

Parks Commissioner Anthony Landi remarked, “The City of Yonkers Department of Parks, Recreation, and Conservation is excited for this new program to help a senior smile. This is a difficult time for everybody, especially for our seniors. We are working hard to keep them smiling and feeling connected.”

“I was so happy to get this nice card to cheer me up. Thanks to the children and the Parks Department,” said Yonkers senior center participant, Sedora Martinez.

To become a One Way Pen Pal, mail positive words of encouragement in the form of a card, drawing or letter to: Yonkers Parks Department Senior Recreation, 285 Nepperhan Avenue, Yonkers, NY 10701 or take a photograph of the artwork and email it to jennifer.villa@yonkersny.gov. The Yonkers Parks Department will send all submissions and heartfelt words to a senior citizen via the United States Post Office.

2020 Census in Yonkers Update

Yonkers- response rates-in 2010-65%-in 2020-52% so far

Westchester -response rate-in 2010-68%-in 2020-60%

New York State- response rate in 2010-65% in 2020-54%

United States- response rate-76%-in 2020-59%

Updated figures show that the percentage of Yonkers households who have responded to the 2020 Census remains lower than in 2010. It is not surprising that the response rate in Yonkers is low given that 31% of Yonkers residents are foreign born and 47% speak a language other than English at home.

This information is updated daily by the Census Bureau and is available to the public at www.2020census.gov/en/response-rates. A video explaining the rates and how to obtain them is available at... www.youtube.com/watch?time_continue=79&v=r4jl02WmHUQ&feature=emb_title

Even in these unprecedented times, the 2020 Census continues to count us - and will do so until mid-August. At this time, the Census is only counting responses from households who have used the 12-digit Census ID they received from the Census in mid-March.

However, if your household has not yet received the first invitation to respond to the Census questionnaire, call 1-844-330-2020.

The Census Bureau has produced videos about the 2020 Census and how to complete the questionnaire. The videos are available to the public at ... www.youtube.com/user/usscensusbureau

If anyone would like help in completing the Census questionnaire, especially in a language other than English, call the Census Bureau between 7am to 2pm: Arabic: 844-416-2020, Korean: 844-392-2020, Chinese (Cantonese): 844-398-2020, Polish: 844-479-2020, Chinese (Mandarin): 844-391-2020, Portuguese: 844-474-2020, English: 844-330-2020, Russian: 844-417-2020, French: 844-494-2020, Spanish: 844-468-2020, Haitian Creole: 844-477-2020, Tagalog: 844-478-2020, Japanese: 844-460-2020, Vietnamese: 844-461-202

The City of Yonkers (914-377-6059) and many community organizations in Yonkers - like the Community Planning Council of Yonkers (914-969-3616) - are also available to help. Stay well and be counted!

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Wanted: Information on Dutch Schultz and his time in Westchester and in Yonkers. Compensation paid for accurate and verifiable informaton. Call 914-835-1388.

Legal Notices

RACHELE E. KHADJEHTURIAN, NP IN FAMILY HEALTH, PLLC. Articles of Organization filed with Secretary of State of New York (SSNY) on May 14th, 2020. Office Location: Westchester County. SSNY designated as agent of PLLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail copy of process to: 316 Bishop Pl., Mamaroneck, NY 10543. Purpose: to provide any medical services for which licensed family health nurse practitioners are authorized.-6/26

Notice of formation of Experiments in Wellness, LLC. Arts.of Org. filed with the SSNY on 01/28/2020. 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, 300 Manville Rd, Pleasantville, NY 10570. Purpose: Any lawful purpose.--05/29/20

Notice of Formation of Prime Snacks LLC. Articles of Organization filed with the Secretary of State of New York (SSNY) on (04/15/2020). Location: (Westchester County). SSNY designated as agent for service of process on LLC. SSNY shall mail a copy of process to: (1437 Nepperhan Avenue Yonkers, NY 10703). Purpose: Any lawful purpose.--05/29/20

Notice of Formation of Return on Capital Management LLC. Arts of Org. Filed with SSNY on 03/25/20. Office locaton: Westchester County. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process may be served. SSNY shall mail process to Return on Capital Management, 65 Wilcox Avenue, Yonkers, NY 10705. Purpose: any lawful act or activity. 5/15/20

Notice of App. of Authority of Smart D2 Playrooms LLC (LLC), filed with NY Secy of State (SSNY) on 5/8/2020. Office location: Westchester County. SSNY is designated as LLC's agent for service of process, and shall mail process to: LLC, C/O P.O. Box 67, Rye, NY 10580. Formed in Delaware (DE) on 10/2/2019. Cert. of Formation filed with, and copy can be obtained from: DE Secy of State, Corporations Div., 401 Federal St #4, Dover, DE 19901. DE registered agent/office: Agents for Delaware Corporations, Inc., 310 Alder Rd PO Box 841, Dover, DE 19904. Purpose: residential and commercial playrooms.-6/26

Notice of Formation of Taxing Times Accounting LLC Articles of Organization filed with the Secretary of State of New York (SSNY) on 5/11/2020. Office location: Westchester County. SSNY is designated as agent of the LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail copy of process to the LLC at: Keep Insurance 27 Cleveland Street Valhalla NY 10595. Purpose: Any lawful purpose.-6/19

Notice of Formation of The Party Nail, LLC. Articles of Org. filed with the SSNY on 2/25/20. Office location: Westchester County. SSNY is designated as agent upon whom process against the LLC may be served. SSNY shall mail process to 90 State Street Suite 700, Office 40 Albany, NY 12207. Purpose: any lawful activity. -6/19

Notice of formation of SoSi Group LLC. Art. of Org. filed with the SSNY on 04/28/2020 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, 641 S. 7th Avenue, mount vernon, NY 1550 Purpose: Any lawful purpose.-6/19

Notice of formation of Life in Motion Photography L.L.C. Articles of Organization Filed: 4/28/2020. Office location: Westchester County. SSNY is designated as the agent of the LLC upon whom process against is may be served. SSNY shall mail copy of process to the LLC, 35 Claremont Gardens, Ossining, NY 10562. Purpose: Any lawful activity. -6/19

Real Estate Market-Continued from pg 4-

property which is still a good thing. Inventory remains low and we will see less bidding wars with prices leveling off. I don't think we will have a major downturn as we did in 08' unless we see an increase in unemployment. If the stay-at-home order is extended, then prices could start to decline. Interest rates are low, so now is a good time to buy.

Commercial Real Estate Appraiser, Kathleen Carroll, Queens, NY. "I am finding it very difficult to ascertain specific market trends during the coronavirus period. There is some activity, but these are for properties that were already in contract just prior to the pandemic lockdown and are not new transactions. In my recent experience, it seems that everything is "on hold" and that current market activity is basically nonexistent. I believe the true market effects of the pandemic will not be evident in closed sales/pending transactions for at least six months from now.

Anthony Sarro. My personal research indicates that pandemics tend to pause the housing market. Although there are few pandemics from which to gather data from, this trend is historically consistent.

Real estate website traffic has decreased 40%-70%, homeowners who were considering listing their houses have decided to wait until after the smoke clears, and the few houses which are still on the market have been relegated to virtual tours with no virtual buyers. If there are no consequent closed sales, there is no statistical data, and or for those readers in or outside of the industry, no "Comps" available to determine a home's current market value.

If and when the world and economy reopen, the typical cycle will begin again and housing prices may just pick up where they left off at pre-corona levels. Due to government intervention with mortgage holders and mortgage servicing companies as well as a relatively strong stock market, I don't believe that this will be the 2008 housing market all over again. However, the future remains unknown, as the "Beast" has a mind of its own.

For What it's Worth, Anthony

To be featured in our next installment, please Email your real estate appraisal questions to; PriorityAS@msn.com About the author; Anthony Sarro has 35 years of national appraisal, appraisal review and real estate tax reduction experience. More information can be found at www.NYCityAppraisals.com and www.RealEstateTaxReductions.com

Sacred Heart HS Val-Sal continued from pg 1--

Additionally, Gentile volunteered with the Yonkers Parks Department's Pre-k Summer Camp for three summers and as an alter serve at my local parish, St. Bartholomew's Church.

Lisa applied to nine different colleges and universities, and will be attending Pace University in the fall. "The biggest obstacle I had to overcome in school was my shyness. In the last four years, I went from being a girl who was afraid to say hello in the hallways to someone who willingly joined clubs and socialized on her own. Sacred Heart allowed me to reach my potential as a caring, considerate, well-informed, and social member of the community," said Gentile, who thanked her parents for "always encouraging me and for being my number one fans."

Sacred Heart Salutatorian Molly Barrett will graduate with a GPA of 101.15. Her favorite subject is Math and her favorite teacher is Calulus teacher Ms. Rampa. "She is my favorite because she is very understanding and thorough, and adapts to the needs of her students," said Barrett, who took AP coursework in Psychology, English and Literature, and College Level courses in Pre Calculus, English and Calculus.

Molly participated in the Interact Club as the secretary, the National Honor Society, and volunteered at many events such as Blood Drives and Food Drives. She was accepted to Fordham University, Penn State University, Binghamton University, and Stony Brook University, and will be attending Fordham University.

"My advice to future students is to always try your best and keep your goals in mind while remembering to make the most out of high school," Barrett, who thanked her family, friends, and teachers, who "all helped me achieve my goals."

Givebacks, Layoffs continued from pg 1--

So right now, the battle is between House Speaker Nancy Pelosi, US Senate Minority Leader Chuck Schumer from NY, vs. McConnell and Trump.

If Trump and McConnell win, then Yonkers will likely have an additional \$10 Million hole in its budget. At least \$10 Million, or up to \$40 Million depending on how deep Cuomo will have to cut State Aid to Yonkers, which comes in two forms; Aid to Municipalities, AIM, is \$108 Million per year to Yonkers, and State Educaiton Aid is more than \$200 Million. A 10% cut to both leave a \$30 Million hole in the Yonkers budget.

That is ontop of the budget hole that already exists in the Yonkers Public Schools budget. Mayor Spano's budget plan, and the YPS budget, with increases for salaries and benefits, leaves YPS \$22 Million short.

The Yonkers Federation of Teachers, YFT, has a contractual salary increase of \$21 Million due this year. YPS Superintendent Dr. Edwin Quezada, speaking to the City Council at recent budget hearing, said that he would be able to close his budget hole if the teachers delayed their salary increase and the City bonded the purchase of new books.

But the YFT hasn't agreed to anything, nor has any Yonkers union. All of them want to wait to see what comes back from Washington.

One City Hall official quietly suggested a two week furlough for every Yonkers employee, which could raise close to \$40 Million. While municipal governments across the country are moving forward with furloughs, it hasn't happened in Yonkers in this reporters 20 years covering City Hall.

Some believe that it is the fairest way to spread out the budget pain, without layoffs, and employees losing their jobs. When layoffs do occur, it is the employee last hired that is first laid off.

The City Council has held two public hearings on Mayor Spano's proposed budget. But this year's budget public hearings were much different than in year's past. Due to the Coronavirus, there were no speakers, and the council met through video which was available to the public, and the council answered questions which were emailed to them.

Most of the budget questions focused on Library funding. Mayor Spano has proposed a status quo budget for the library, but the emails supported expanded programs, and attempted to protect library funding if the budget axe falls later this month or next.

Councilmembers are considering voting on Mayor Spano's budget, despite all of the questions about Federal and State Aid. The budget includes a tax increase of 2.7% and if approved, the Mayor and Council would have to come back this summer and pass an amended spending plan if the money doesn't come from Albany or DC.

But four votes are needed to pass a budget on the council, and it is unclear if there are four votes in favor. Finance Commission Liszewski wants to have tax bills mailed out next month and the only way to do that is with an adopted budget.

NOTICE OF FORMATION OF LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY - MIND UNDER BRIDGE PUBLISHING, LLC

FIRST: The name of the Limited Liability Company is MIND UNDER BRIDGE PUBLISHING, LLC (hereinafter referred to as the "Company"). SECOND: The Articles of Organization of the Company were filed with the Secretary of State of the State of New York on April 23, 2020. THIRD: The County within New York in which the office of the Company is to be located is Westchester. FOURTH: The Secretary of State has been designated as agent upon whom process against the Company may be served. The address to which the Secretary of State shall mail process to is 722 Frost Avenue, Apt 1, Peekskill, New York 10566. FIFTH: The purpose of the Company is to engage in any lawful activity under the laws of the State of New York. The Articles of Organization of MIND UNDER BRIDGE PUBLISHING, LLC were subscribed to by THE KLEISTER LAW GROUP, LLC, 85 East Main Street, Washingtonville, New York 10992.

Spring Comes to Westchester

By Joan Katen

In January, I feel the weight of winter's grey skies and leafless trees.

Its chill invades my soul, pulls me in upon myself, and makes my steps heavy.

Late February's breezes and stronger sun give a hint of warmer times to come.

March winds, bearing seeds, whirl around me, forcing me to awaken to the magic of the change of seasons.

April's luxurious warm rains, gently wake sleeping seeds to the good news that spring has surely arrived!

Yellow Forsythia and daffodils help us to become accustomed to colors again and anticipate the glorious range of hues waiting to appear.

And then there is May, when responding to the warm sun and rain, many buds open to reveal their colorful treasures.

There is a riot of color as pink and lavender Azaleas compete with red and yellow Tulips and purple Irises.

It's as if Mother Nature, pleased with her handiwork, joyfully waits for applause.

The Birds comply, making cheerful, appreciative sounds in the cool dawn of the morning, calling to all to wake up, don't waste a moment, come and see what has happened.

Boats lose their winter canvas coats and fill the harbors.

Suddenly, chairs stowed for winter, appear outside the restaurants on sidewalks and on terraces facing Long Island Sound.

And our neighbors walk with light and springy steps, wearing bright colors to fill the chairs.

Schoen, Is it my business-continued from pg 3-

Is it my business or Mayor deBlasio's business to worry about what could happen if these events were not stopped. In deBlasio's case the Jewish Community got upset with him. Why? He is saving their lives and attempting to prevent families from taking ill. Doing his job in a responsible way because said to say the communities don't look after themselves.

Measles, Mumps and Rubella (MMR) had been eradicated from our country many years ago. Some members of some Orthodox Jewish sects refused to vaccinate their children. The government closed the schools these kids went to and would not let them back in class until they had received the proper vaccinations. It sure is your business when one of these unvaccinated kids comes into contact with your child.

So again I ask you; Is it or isn't it our business. Let me know that you think!

Briefs: I'm tired of watching 20 year old sports games on television. Let's get sports rolling again, no fans in the seats for now!

State Beaches will be open Memorial Day. Is it true some New Jersey beaches won't allow chairs and blankets.. What do you do, keep walking around in circles?

On Saturday afternoon I am happy to report everyone at Tibbetts Brook Park was physically distanced properly!

Now that elective surgery is allowed in Westchester don't put off what you had to put off due to the Coronavirus shutdowns.. Particularly children's vaccinations, cardiac issues, cancer issues and pediatric issues. It's safe to go back into the hospital!

Reach Eric Schoen at thistoosyonkers@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.

Jereis, Romano, continued from pg 1--

In prior campaigns for Yonkers City Court, candidates openly and honestly ran for Judge without regard to political party. Candidates also sought the endorsement from both the democratic and republican parties, in an attempt to take politics out of a judicial race.

But this year, all traditions of decency are being thrown out, as the Romano campaign has attacked Judge Daly, who is also on the republican party line, and Judge McGrath, who is also on the conservative party line and attempting to link both the President Donald Trump.

This move was the last straw for many democrats, who see hypocrisy in the move by both Romano and Jereis to claim democratic loyalty when both are longtime former republicans.

Several Yonkers Democrats have contacted us to also highlight the fact that Jereis is leading an effort to run democratic candidates for Yonkers District Leader in forty races in an attempt to wield power in the Yonkers Democratic Party.

For those who don't know, Zehy Jereis is the former Republican Party Chairman in Yonkers. In 2012, he was found guilty of bribery and extortion related to the "sale" of former Councilwoman Sandy Annabi's vote. He served four years in prison.

One democratic district leader wrote the following to Yonkers Rising. "Mr. Murphy, I did not want to have to send you this email letter, but as a loyal Yonkers Democrat I have no choice.

"I have to speak out against the attacks made against Yonkers Democratic Chair Tom Meier, and every Yonkers democratic leader, (I am a district leader) as disgraceful.

"We have a democratic candidate for City Court, Dan Romano, who is using a disgraced, former republican, Zehy Jereis, to spread lies about three decent Yonkers people.

"Let me be clear: I do not want Jereis to take over MY DEMOCRATIC PARTY! If Mr. Jereis were to take over MY DEMOCRATIC PARTY, I will leave the party that I have loved for 25 years, and find another party.

"I know and respect Mr. Romano and his family. They have been a part of Yonkers for decades. I wanted to hear more about Romano and I actually considered voting for him for Judge.

"But that was before I saw the dirty tricks of his campaign, which are right out of the playbook of Zehy Jereis.

"I was also at the City Democratic Convention, and I voted as a district leader for Daly, McGrath and Shako. The fix was not in Mr. Romano and Mr. Jereis, you simply lost the vote, and it wasn't all that close.

"I wonder how many other Yonkers Democrats know about Zehy Jereis and his operation of Romano's campaign, and that Jereis is trying to take over OUR Yonkers Democratic Party. That is why I write you this letter Mr. Murphy," writes Mrs. J, whose name is withheld on her request.

Former Yonkers Democratic Chair Ann Muro, who is the Ward leader in the 5th Ward, is one of many Ward leaders whose district leaders are under challenge. "My district leaders have been honored at our democratic dinners as district leaders of the year. They are active and loyal democrats. My question to Zehy Jereis is why are you challenging these democrats?"

"I called Dan Romano and asked him to talk to Zehy and find out why he is doing this? Now that Zehy is a democrat, he wants to take over the party?," said Muro who has 48 district leaders in her 5th Ward.

Meier also made the distinction between Yonkers democrats who have served for years, and helped and supported other Yonkers democrats on the ballot, and those who have just joined the party and now want to run for office.

"Dan Romano is a nice guy, but he hasn't been involved in the democratic party. Karen Best has also now run for judge twice but has not been involved in the democratic party.

"Verris Shako has been involved, as a district leader, and in helping other democratic candidates get elected, and she is one of our three endorsed democrats for City Judge.

"Zehy Jereis has also not been involved in the democratic party, he was involved in the republican party and now all of a sudden he is a democrat. I think we all should remember the golden rule of politics. Don't throw stone from glass houses. He (Jereis) had told me repeatedly that he is not going after me for leader, but he is slowly accumulating district leaders for the future.

"But whoever is crafting this negative message, if they are going to start throwing mud, I'll stand on my record as democratic chairman, and stand behind the choice of Yonkers democrats at our convention, for Judge Daly, Judge McGrath and Verris Shako," said Meier.

Romano has claimed at campaign events that Jereis is not his campaign manager, but regardless of title, many democrats wanted to set the record straight, and do not want to see this type of negative, and vindictive type of campaigning, during the pandemic and for a judicial race.

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Notice of Formation of Creatorsapes Productions, LLC. Articles of Organization filed with NYS Dept. of State (SSNY) on 1/1/2020. Office location: Westchester County. SSNY has been designated as agent of LLC upon whom process may be served. SSNY shall mail a copy of any process to: 47 Rockland Ave, Yonkers, NY 10705. Purpose: Any Lawful Purpose.-06/26

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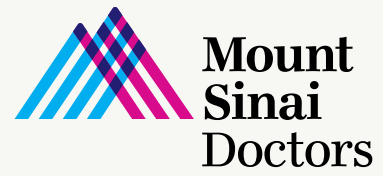
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