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Friday September 4, 2020

BLM Mural the Talk of Yonkers!



Black Lives Matter Mural on South Broadway, between Hudson Street and Prospect Avenue photo by Donna Davis

By Dan Murphy

A Black Lives Matter mural was created in downtown Yonkers over the weekend of August 28-30. The mural, spearheaded by Yonkers resident Ray Wilcox, Executive Director of Yonkers Arts, a local nonprofit which joined in the effort, was painted along South Broadway, between Prospect Avenue and Hudson Street.

Wilcox thanked the hundreds of volunteers and 17 different organizations who came together over the weekend to paint the mural. "Knowing the history of our city and its dynamics, the mural will spark conversations on both sides of the spectrum and that's how we can start creating resolutions for change," said Wilcox.

No taxpayer dollars were used for the BLM Mural. The funds were raised utilizing grassroots collaboration with a cohort of local community organizations; all who are creating impact for the betterment of the city. The collaboration also birthed the opportunity to form a community 'action' panel composed of these community leaders that will continue to engage with our elected officials on some of the glaring issues directly affecting the community.

"Yonkers Arts aims to continue to execute on our new aggressive and ambitious agenda through collaborative programming execution. I feel through these 'organic' partnerships we, alongside the City of Yonkers, will continue to create the impactful opportunities within the city of Yonkers."

Wilcox said that during the project, "we had the full support of the community, and the Mayor. While we understand that some may have different opinions, that is part of the reason why the mural was created, to begin a dialogue that's long overdue."

The location of the mural changed from its original destination, on Main Street just two blocks away near the waterfront, because of the narrow roadways and lack of space between the sidewalks, buildings and the pavement. South Broadway has a more of an open space feel and the final result is a spectacular work of art, which Wilcox hopes "will go national. We are putting Yonkers on the map. This is a moving image that is already creating an impact. I encourage everyone from Yonkers and beyond to come down and take a look." **continued on pg 7-**

Two Views on the BLM Mural from Mayor Spano & former Mayor Spencer

"There is no more of an appropriate place.. next to our Veterans Memorial,"

-Mayor Mike Spano

"Total disgrace..I am extremely disappointed.. As well as a kneeling Mayor,"

-former Mayor John Spencer

By Dan Murphy

The recently completed Black Lives Mural on South Broadway in downtown Yonkers is located next to City Hall, and the mural runs next to the Yonkers War Memorial. This location has upset some Veterans, while other veterans have supported the BLM mural. Mayor Mike Spano commented on the BLM Mural on South Broadway, and the social media comments of some veterans who claimed that the mural, now located next to the Yonkers War Memorial, was the wrong place for it to be.

"There is no more of an appropriate place that this should be then next to City Hall and our Veterans Memorial. Our Veterans died, so that we can put this statement here. It's moments like these that make me proud to be Mayor of a city that promotes our diversity. A city filled with over 100 different ethnicities and over 60 spoken languages – spoke in one unifying voice today. Thank you to Yonkers Arts and over 65 volunteers who painted this powerful message," said Spano, adding "Yonkers is the symbol of America. We set a standard the rest of the nation ought to strive to reach. Having Black Lives Matter painted before the steps of City Hall and in front of our Veterans Monument sends a powerful message. A message that all lives cannot matter unless black lives matter. Our veterans fought to support these ideals, and we are here to protect them."

Former Mayor John Spencer, and former Yonkers Veterans Affairs Director Lou Navarro, both Vietnam Veterans, made comments on Facebook against the location. "Our city paying respect to BLM in front of our fallen heroes. City council should be ashamed," said Navarro.

"They had the entire block blocked off with obvious permission of city. Total disgrace. I am extremely disappointed...As well as a kneeling Mayor," said Spencer.

All comments and letters can be emailed to

dmurphy@risingmediagroup.com

YPS Furloughs 414 Bus Monitors CSEA: "This is not the new normal"

By Dan Murphy

The Yonkers Board of Education held a special meeting on August 26, and approved the furlough of 414 bus monitors for a period of five weeks, until October 5. The bus monitors, members of CSEA Local 9169, were disappointed, to say the least by the decision.

Dulani Turner, President of Local 9169 responded to the cuts in a letter to his members which reads, "Good afternoon CSEA 9169 sisters and brothers, last night the YPS Board of Trustees decided to furlough over 400 Bus Monitors from August 30th, 2020 to October 5th, 2020. This news was very disappointing and heartbreaking to hear. Our Bus Monitors are close to minimum wage workers but are charged with one of the most important jobs of transporting our children ages 4 and up. They make sure our children are safe, in good spirits, and fed every morning and afternoon.

"This is very troublesome that 400 employees who travel to work in all weather conditions some by car, others by public transportation at 5AM in the morning, will now have to file for unemployment and possibly lose Health and Dental benefits because the BOE couldn't keep them on payroll for 3-4 weeks. The same Bus Monitors who protected and fed our students until 12AM during a Ice Storm two years ago. It would only cost \$350,000 to remain on payroll, on a budget that was approved to pay our Bus Monitors from Sept 20- June 21.

"CSEA Officers had offered ways to keep our Bus Monitors active and on payroll by offering trainings for employees to attend, help out at District Office, but it obviously fell upon deaf ears. CSEA is very understanding of the lack of funding the BOE receives from the NYS and the 20% reduction by the Governor made to this year's budget. We understand layoffs and furloughs have been happening all over this country during the Pandemic. It is still tragic and pathetic that over 400 families are now being told to figure it out when it comes to their rent being paid, putting food on their table, and taking care of their families.

"We will continue these discussions with the BOE and the City of Yonkers for something to be done, because this cannot stand. We must fight and find ways to express our displeasure. This is not a new normal our families should have to deal with. Please contact your City Council, BOE Trustees, Superintendent, and Mayor, let them know they must find a better solution than the one they made," writes Turner.

We also spoke with Turner, who said he has been in contact with Mayor Mike Spano, Council President Mike Khader, and YPS Superintendent Dr. Edwin Quezada, but with no resolution so far. "With everything that goes on in this city you can't say to me that you can't find \$325,000 to save these jobs for just a month? Our members will go through training or help out in the district office

"They are the lowest paid employees who have already pushed back

continued on pg 7-

Early Voting Times and Locations Announced Will & Riverfront Library Yonkers Locations



Early voting locations and times were announced for Westchester. The times permitted to vote early, and in person are:

Saturday, October 24: 12:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.

Sunday, October 25: 12:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.

Monday, October 26: 8:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.

Tuesday, October 27: 12:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.

Wednesday, October 28: 8:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.

Thursday, October 29: 12:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.

Friday, October 30: 8:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.

Saturday, October 31: 12:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.

Sunday, November 1: 12:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.

The two early voting locations in Yonkers are at the Will Library, 1500 Central Park Avenue, and the Riverfront Library, One Larkin Center. The two libraries were also the voting locations in Yonkers from last years early voting. Thousands of Yonkers voters participated in early voting last year.

The other early voting locations in Westchester County are:
 Eastchester Public Library, 11 Oakridge Place, Eastchester, NY 10709
 Dobbs Ferry Village Hall, 112 Main Street, Dobbs Ferry, NY 10522
 Greenburgh Town Hall, 177 Hillside Avenue, White Plains, NY 10607
 Veterans Memorial Building, 210 Halstead Avenue, Harrison, NY 10528
 Pound Ridge Town House, 179 Westchester Avenue, Pound Ridge, NY
 Mamaroneck Town Center, 740 W. Boston Post Road, Mamaroneck, NY
 Mt. Kisco Memorial Complex at Leonard Park, 1 Wallace Drive, Mt. Kisco,
 Mt. Pleasant Community Center, 125 Lozza Drive, Valhalla, NY 10595
 Mt. Vernon City Hall, 1 Roosevelt Square, Mt. Vernon, NY 10550
 New Rochelle City Hall Annex, 90 Beaufort Place, New Rochelle, NY
 Joseph G. Caputo Community Center, 95 Broadway, Ossining, NY 10562
 Peekskill Nutrition Center, Neighborhood Center, 4 Nelson Avenue, Peekskill, NY 10566

Somers Town House, 335 Route 202, Somers, NY 10589
 Westchester County Board of Elections, 25 Quarropas Street, White Plains,
 Yorktown Cultural Center, 1974 Commerce Street, Yorktown Heights, NY
 If you are worried about contracting the coronavirus and would rather vote by mail, you can do so by requesting an absentee ballot. You can print your absentee ballot request from here. In section 1, check the box for "temporary illness or physical disability," and in section 2, check the box for "General Election". You can return your absentee ballot request form by:
 Sending an email request to BOE-WestAbsentee@westchestergov.com;
 Sending a fax request to (914) 995-7753 or (914) 995-3190; or
 Dropping it off in person or mailing it to the Westchester County Board of Elections, 25 Quarropas Street, White Plains, NY 10601.

This notice was emailed out by State Senator Shelley Mayer.

Why are these Times Different from All Other Days, and Nights?



© 2020 Robert Kalfus--Chabad of Yonkers/Greystone Jewish Center
 Rabbi Mendy Hurwitz blows the shofar announcing the coming Jewish New Year 5781

By Robert Kalfus

Rosh Hashanah, the Jewish New Year 5781, begins this year at sundown on Friday, September 18, through nightfall on Sunday, September 20. Literally meaning "head of the year," the two-day holiday commemorates the creation of the world and marks the beginning of the Days of Awe, a 10-day period of introspection and repentance that culminates in the Yom Kippur holiday.

Rabbi Mendy Hurwitz, Rabbi of Chabad of Yonkers/Greystone Jewish Center, reminds us that "While we practice physical distancing, G-d is as close as we let Him. While we need to physically distance this year, we will not spiritually distance. G-d is aware of each of us, and hears our needs, our wants, our desires, and our communal needs. With our sincere and complete repentance, G-d can heal and uplift us, helping us to improve our lives and our community, as we pray together, reinforcing our prayers and each other."

The shofar is the central symbol of Rosh Hashanah, which is celebrated near the beginning of each fall. The sounds of the shofar is a cry, a call to repentance as Jews look back at their personal and communal behavior and misdeeds of the past year, and resolve to improve during the coming one.

The sounds of the shofar, the horn of a ram, signal the time to review the activities, energies and spirit of one's past year, and renewal for the New Year to revitalize your spirit, priorities and relationship with God and fellow human beings. The shofar is sounded every day for the month leading up to the Rosh HaShonah holiday, calling a person to introspection, self-reflection and repentance, culminating with a sequence of 100 blasts during the Rosh Hashanah services.

The shofar will not be heard during this year's first day Rosh Hashanah services on the Sabbath, Saturday, September 19, as its use is prohibited on the Sabbath. Instead, the shofar will be heard in synagogues only on the second day of Rosh HaShonah, Sunday, Sept. 20, and also at a public shofar blowing at 5 PM at Untermyer Gardens on South Broadway on Sunday, Sept. 20, for both tashlich services and shofar blowing, to which the public is invited.

The Jewish New Year 5781 continues with the fast of Yom Kippur services on Sunday night, Sept. 27, through Monday Sept. 28th with the final blowing of the shofar. The joyous holiday of Sukkot follows a week later, on Friday night, October 2nd though Oct. 9th, followed by Shemini Atzeret, and Simchat Torah.

The Jewish New Year 5781, Rosh HaShonah, begins this year on Friday night, September 18th, with services at 7 pm the at Chabad of Yonkers/Greystone Jewish Center, located at 600 South Broadway, Yonkers. Meaningful Rosh HaShonah worship services will begin at 10 am on both Saturday, Sept. 19 and Sunday, September 20, with shofar blowing at @ 11:30 am. Seating within the synagogue is socially distanced, and mask wearing is required. Services both days will be followed by an outdoor Kiddush, weather permitting.

Please contact the Chabad of Yonkers/Greystone Jewish Center information and reservations for the upcoming High Holiday services, and other Jewish community activities. No charge for seats at the service, and your donations are greatly appreciated. Advance reservations are suggested. Contact (914) 963-8888, visit www.JewishYonkers.com, or email Rabbi@JewishYonkers.com.

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There are dozens of scams and confidence tricks that fraudsters use, but the goal is the same – they want to steal your money! Follow these basic tips to keep yourself from becoming a victim.

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 - You are engaged in a willing and voluntary transaction.
- **DON'T** give in to pressure to take immediate action.
- **HANG-UP** on suspicious phone calls.
- **VERIFY** information before taking action; ask family members or trusted friends for help.



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Beware of Scams!

Please be on the alert for a potential scam aimed at senior citizens. The document, which looks like an official notice from Westchester County, threatens a levy against Social Security benefits to satisfy a tax liability. It is believed that it is part of an attempted fraud perpetrated against residents of the County who may have tax liens on file with the County Clerk's office. If you receive this type of notice, do not respond to it.

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Mayor Spano: State Aid Cuts Mean City Has to Cut \$21.6 Million Now

“The Rubber has finally met the road”

Yonkers Mayor Mike Spano announced this week that due to drastic cuts in state aid to municipalities and decreases in economically sensitive revenues, the City of Yonkers may be forced to reduce its costs by \$21.6 million in the coming weeks. Slated cuts could include reductions in city programs, services and personnel.

Yonkers’ potential cuts come after its Fiscal Year 2021 Adopted Budget assumed full Aid and Incentives to Municipalities (AIM) of \$21.6 million but since has been withheld by New York State due to the economic impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic. Additionally, the economically sensitive revenues that Yonkers relies upon are forecasted to have decreased by \$45-50 million over the last and current Fiscal Years due to the pandemic.

“The rubber finally has met the road when it comes to the lack of aid to local municipalities,” said Mayor Spano. “The effects from Washington’s political jockeying and the lack of stimulus packages from the federal government and the state now have hit us. Big cities across the state, including Yonkers, have no recourse but to make severe expenditure cuts.”

Since 74% of the City’s budget is wage based, reductions in Yonkers’ costs likely will come from a combination of programs and an estimated 220 positions, both vacant and filled. In the coming weeks, the City Administration will determine what services and personnel will be affected and how.

Mayor Spano added, “These cuts are tough to make, ones that no mayor wants to do, especially since we’ve worked so hard over the last eight years to put Yonkers back on the road towards fiscal stability. But, if we don’t act now and continue not to receive aid, we will be in even more dire straits in Fiscal Year 2022, potentially halting many city operations.”

Mayor Spano added, in the meantime, his Administration will look to reduce its operating costs while maintaining active discussions with the Governor’s Office, Yonkers’ state delegation and its labor unions.

Spano Endorses Serratore for County Democratic Chairman LaFayette Won’t Seek Re-election



Bill Serratore, pictured with Hillary Clinton, is now the front runner to become the next Westchester County Democratic Chairman

By Dan Murphy

Westchester Democratic Party Chairman Reginald LaFayette sent out a letter on August 31 informing democrats across the country that he was no longer seeking re-election as county chair. That announcement came as a surprise to many democrats we spoke to in Westchester.

“After much soul searching, I have come to an important decision. I have decided to remove my name from consideration as your Chairman,” wrote LaFayette to westchester democratic district leaders Aug. 30.

On August 6, LaFayette wrote to the same westchester dem district leaders “I am running for re-election as your county chair.” So what changed in three weeks? “Reggie knew he was going to lose, that’s the only reason he got out, so he wouldn’t get embarrassed at the convention,” said one prominent westchester democrat.

Some believe that a flood of support to Mt. Kisco Democratic Chair Bill Serratore was one reason. County Legislator Damon Maher, a leader of the progressive-indivisible wing of the county democratic party, recently came out with an endorsement of Serratore before Reggie got out of the race.

“I strongly support the candidacy of Bill Serratore for Chair of the Westchester Democratic Committee. It is time to bring into the party structure those who have been so instrumental in putting in office those of us elected and re-elected since 2017. Bill is committed to putting a diverse cohort of progressive Democrats, including Indivisibles and people from other energetic, hard-working activist groups in positions of responsibility and power within the organization.

“He will also install a system of active subcommittees with specific portfolios, such as Membership Recruitment, Fundraising, Communications/Website/Social Media, Nominating, Local Committee Liaison, etc. Finally, and perhaps most importantly, Bill pledges a new level of transparency and participation in County Committee funding, endorsements and other important decisions,” wrote Maher.

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No More Blowing Out Candles on the Birthday Cake



By Eric W. Schoen

So what’s the ‘New Norm?’ This is a question many are asking as we wait for a vaccine for Covid-19 to be available not only in this country but in the world. Is it safe to blow out the candles on a birthday cake anymore? How can we perform this function safely?

Buying one of those little battery operated beach fans and using the device to extinguish the candles? Taking a piece of heavy paper and waving it back and forth until the candles are out. Will we have to use candles that do not burn. Or will a person’s age simply be written in frosting on the cake as everyone sings the Happy Birthday song?

Buying a bathing suit. That’s a challenge for many women out there. I went with a friend to Lord and Taylor’s recently as they we’re having their big 40% off swimsuit sale. Only problem was the fitting rooms were closed. So how is one to try on a swimming suit (unless one has a perfect body) with a closed fitting room.

With men trying on a shirt you can kind of sneak in a corner, take your shirt off and try on the shirt. If you are smart and shopping for anything other than a t-shirt you will wear a light cotton t-shirt on your shopping trip so you can throw the shirt you are considering over it and make your decision.

Not so easy with a woman’s bathing suit. It is a garment that needs to be tried on and compared for proper sizing. My friend wanted several suits and ended up taking home 9 garments, \$1000 retail, \$600 at 40% off to try on simply because the fitting room was closed.

Now let’s take a look at this scenario. If the garments were tried on in a fitting room after selection they would be packed up and brought home. Years ago, bathing suits for men and women were not allowed to be returned after purchase.

The ‘New Norm?’ My friend knew approximately what size she was, each brand fitting differently. At that price and with Lord and Taylor quality, she brought home 9 pieces to try on. \$1000 worth of suits, \$600 at 40% off. It ended up that 2 suits fit so she had to return 7 pieces, approximately \$850 retail to the store. Those 7 pieces sat ‘quarantined’ for 3 days until they were returned to the selling floor, unable to be purchased by another shopper.

Is this nuts? No, the lady in the bathing suit department said this was common, with woman buying dressy gowns taking even more home to try on. Does it make any sense. Those garments are wrapped up, put in a bag, leave the store, may sit in someone’s home for several days (possibly 2 weeks as is their return policy on bathing suits) and who knows what they are exposed to. They are returned, hung on a rack marked, quarantined with a date before they are put back on the floor for sale.

Grandma had it right. She would never allow us to wear our shoes in the house, keeping them outside the apartment door on a tray. Who knows what was picked up outside during our walk. When we went to leave it was the old slip your foot back into the shoe routine fixing the socks and laces when we got back to the car.

The Governor made some announcements what we can and can’t do during the pandemic. I love karaoke and watching others step up to the mic some singing perfectly and some, well they weren’t in Luciano Pavarotti’s class. Just the fun of listening to our friend’s sing, a couple of drinks under the belt quite often bought smiles to everyones faces. No more karaoke!

You don’t see It around these parts a lot but the game of darts is out. This one for the life of me I don’t get. How can the game of darts spread coronavirus? Now I must admit I haven’t played darts that many times in my life, but you throw the dart, it hits the bullseye or the area around it or drops to the group with points being scored where ever the darts land.

Dancing in a bar and comedy shows are all illegal. Dancing cheek to cheek I can understand, but comedy shows? Why can’t we put up a piece of plexiglass in front of the comedian with a microphone, sterilized between each use like the cleaning of a microphone, headset and table are in the radio studio at WVOX 1460 A.M. where I broadcast from.

Corn hole can not be played. What prey tell is corn hole.? Corn hole is a lawn game in which players take turns throwing 16 ounce bags of corn kernels at a raised platform with a hole in the far end. A bag in the hole scores 3 points, while one on the board scores 1 point. Guess it must be popular somewhere in New York State.

Halloween is a holiday no more. Children will be lucky if they can gather with small groups of friends to celebrate. Big family gatherings. You have to check to see what state every one is coming from to see if quarantining is necessary. Can the older folks mingle with the young ones. Better keep the mask on just to be sure!

So what will the ‘NEW NORMAL’ be like? Basically it’s a game of common sense. Stay tuned. In the interim be careful. One day this will all be over and we will be back to normal, we pray.

HOT TOPICS: ABSENTEE VOTING: Governor Cuomo is letting all voters vote by absentee Ballot. He is directing all Boards of Elections to notify voters of the dates to apply for absentee ballots, registration and postmark

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DA Scarpino: Ayala Parole “A Travesty of Justice”



By Dan Murphy

Last week, our story on the recent parole granted to Samuel Ayala, for the murder of Bonnie Minter and Sheila Watson in South Salem in 1977, drew a lot of interest and responses from our readers.

The headline of our story was “Is 42 Years in Prison Enough for any Crime?” The answer to our headline from our readers was a resounding NO.

One letter reads, “Mr. Murphy, I appreciated your story on the parole of Mr. Ayala. I do not think he should be granted parole. The comments of Jason Minter explained how Mr. Ayala showed no remorse and would have killed the children if he still had bullets left to do so on that day.

“Sadly, I believe that Ayala would have been granted parole with or without the in person testimony of Mr. Minter. This is because of the current trend towards no bail and releasing as many prisoners as possible.

“I am proud of the Minter’s decision to support the parole of the driver who was not involved in the rape or the shooting. This shows that he is able to differentiate between who should be freed and who should stay behind bars.

“Like you, Mr. Murphy, I lived nearby in Katonah at the time of these murders in 1977, and like your Mom, I was horrified that this type of brutal crime could happen in such a quiet, sleepy town like South Salem. I pray for Mr. Minter and his family,” writes Beth Woodson from Mt. Pleasant.

Westchester District Attorney Anthony Scarpino also wrote to the NYS Parole Board in opposition to Ayala’s release. “The recent decision by the NYS Parole Board to release murderer Samuel Ayala, found guilty of the 1977 rape and murder of two westchester women in their home while children were in the same home, is a travesty of justice. The recent hearing was held without the input of this office and leaves surviving victims concerned with their welfare at the release of the prisoner.

“Early in the process, the Westchester County District Attorney’s office made it clear that following their sentences, the defendants should be deemed unfit for parole consideration until 2027, 50 years after the crimes. The position of the DA’s office has not changed. The rape and murder of these two westchester women, Bonnie Minter and Sheila Watson, were heinous crimes that not only left them dead but left the children in the home that day to continue to be victims of those brutal acts.

“We do not believe parole decisions should be made without full acknowledgement of local impact,” wrote DA Scarpino.

At the sentencing in 1978, Westchester Judge Richard Daronco said, “Two innocent women’s lives were cruelly and wantonly taken by the Defendants in this case. All three Defendants share in the guilt in that none of them tried to stop or in any way curtail the activities of the others. The brutality shown was incredible. These were acts of terror, not only against these two unarmed, defenseless, helpless women, but at times in the presence of four very young children. These were acts of prolonged and deliberate violence. Two lives have been taken and, in addition, four young lives have been permanently, emotionally scarred. My only regret is that there is not a more severe sentence allowable which I might impose because I, without hesitation, would do so.”

Judge Daronco later became a Federal Judge and in 1986 was assassinated at his home in Pelham, by the father of a plaintiff whose lawsuit Daronco has dismissed. The Westchester County Courthouse and the Pelham Town House were both renamed in his honor.

State Senator Peter Hareckham also challenged the decision of the Parole Board. “Constituents in my district are concerned that someone guilty of such violent crimes would be released from prison. Many of the same residents, friends and family members of the victims still live in the region and are concerned not only for their welfare but the negative psychological impacts that the release of Mr. Ayala would cause. It does not seem in the best interest of the community to grant parole to this individual.

“Additionally, Covid-19 and the subsequent restrictions on a courtroom presence for this hearing did not allow for these same family members and friends of the victims to present their concerns in person. I understand the need to maintain social distance and a reduced density, but that in a case of this nature accommodations were not made for them to present their concerns directly to the Board of Parole as they have done in the past is entirely dismaying,” stated Hareckham.

YPD Bodycam Program Already Yielding Results

Members of the Yonkers Police Department who are currently using bodycameras as part of a pilot program recently used the new devices.

The YPD posted on Facebook, A few hours after the body-worn camera pilot program began last Thursday, #YonkersPD 3rd Precinct Police Officers Aislinn Gormally and Thomas Jackson located a burglary suspect who fled on foot as they approached; a pursuit ensued, and the individual was taken into custody without incident.

This technology will protect both the community members that we come into contact with and our police officers; and in the case of Gormally and Jackson, highlights the exceptional and professional police work that our members do every day - great job!

Check out the video from the new bodycams at the Yonkers Police Department’s Facebook page. The YPD is first in Westchester County to be using bodcamera for their officers.

WESTCHESTER COUNTY RENT GUIDELINES BOARD NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETING IN RESPONSE TO THE GOVERNOR’S DIRECTIVE TO TAKE EVERY EFFORT TO KEEP NEW YORKERS SAFE AND MITIGATE THE SPREAD OF COVID-19, AND PURSUANT TO EXECUTIVE ORDER 202-1 AND ITS UPDATES, THE WESTCHESTER COUNTY RENT GUIDELINES BOARD (“WRGB”) WILL BE CONDUCTING A PUBLIC MEETING TO, AMONG OTHER THINGS, CERTIFY THE GUIDELINE RATES OF RENT ADJUSTMENT FOR HOUSING ACCOMMODATIONS WITHIN ITS JURISDICTION, SUBJECT TO THE EMERGENCY TENANT PROTECTION ACT OF 1974 (“ETPA”) FOR LEASES COMMENCING BETWEEN OCTOBER 1, 2020 AND SEPTEMBER 30, 2021 VIA TELECONFERENCE. INSTRUCTIONS FOR MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC TO SIMULTANEOUSLY LISTEN TO THE MEETING WILL BE POSTED TO HCR’S WEBSITE FOR THE OFFICE OF RENT ADMINISTRATION UNDER THE PUBLIC HEARINGS SECTION PRIOR TO THE MEETING. THE MEETING WILL ALSO LATER BE TRANSCRIBED AND THE PUBLIC WILL HAVE THE ABILITY TO VIEW THE TRANSCRIPT. THE PUBLIC MEETING INFORMATION IS AS FOLLOWS:

- DATE: Monday, September 14, 2020, TIME: 7:00 PM
1. Certifications of the guidelines established by the Board for the 2020 – 2021 guideline period.
 2. Review and finalize the Explanatory Statement for the 2020 – 2021 guideline period.
 3. Review dates for future meetings.
 4. Other business.

Schoen, continued from pg 3-

dates for the absentee ballots. Why not do what he did in the primary? Include an absentee ballot application in the mailing With postage on it. This makes it easier for the voters to do due their civic duty in the middle of a pandemic. You are not getting an absentee ballot automatically you must who must apply for one and it is sent to you.

I don’t think Donald Trump would have a problem with that process. We want to keep our Board of Elections Staffers and voters safe and sound!

WHERE IS YPIE? Yonkers will not have enough computers for all students to distance learn come September. The district claims it will have xeroxed materials for those without computers. New York City got a half million iPads to students in a month. Where is YPIE, an organization set up to provide the district with things it cannot afford above and beyond what government can provide in this crisis? Yes, they do good work in college preparation. The president of the Yonkers Board of Education told me YPIE changed their organizational mission from when they were created. They should be using the thousands of dollars they raise for more computers for needy Yonkers Public School Students, and their leadership, some of the top leaders in the corporate world should be breaking down corporate doors to get computers so our kids can learn. How can you go to college if you can’t finish your studies cause you don’t have a computer?

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.

Serratore, West Dem Chair, continued from pg 3-

Yonkers Mayor Mike Spano also quickly endorsed Serratore after LaFayette pulled his name from consideration. “To understand where the future of the Democratic Party is headed, you must know how far we have come. Under the leadership of the Westchester County Democratic Committee Chairman, Reginald Lafayette, he has helped elect strong candidates with sound democratic principles here in Yonkers, and county-wide. As his term comes to an end, we must continue to protect our shared democratic values.

“Let’s elect someone who will evolve the party and embrace change. Most importantly, let’s elect someone who will support the Democratic ideals inclusive of our shared progressive values. Someone who embodies these very principles and has the requisite experience to lead the Westchester County Democratic Party is Bill Serratore. There is no question he has what it takes to lead the party. Bill’s proven skillset, coupled with his activism, shows he can champion strong democratic principles encompassing progressive leadership. The future of our party is bright. If delivered a true blue leader like Bill, there is no doubt he will support winning candidates,” said Spano.

The other announced candidate for Westchester Democratic Chair is Greenburgh Democratic Chair Suzanne Berger.

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AOC & Tucker Carlson Squabble Over Her Yorktown Years



By Dan Murphy

Congresswoman Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez represents the 14th Congressional District of NY, which includes parts of the Bronx and Queens. Rep. Ocasio-Cortez, (aka AOC), represents one of the poorest and most diverse districts in the county, with her constituents representing more than 150 different ethnic groups.

The AOC that progressive Americans have grown to know and love are accustomed to the narrative that fits her title as the voice of young liberalism in the Democratic Party. She was a bartender in Queens before defeating a long term democratic incumbent in 2018 to become the youngest female congresswoman in history.

But before she was AOC, she was Sandy Cortez, a student at Yorktown High School here in Westchester, where she graduated in 2007. She rarely talks about her time in Yorktown, where her family pooled their money and bought a small home so that she could attend and get educated in a good Westchester school district.

One of AOC's nemesis', Fox News host Tucker Carlson, recently commented on her hidden history. "Here's something you probably didn't know. Democratic Congresswoman Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez, the voice of the streets, actually grew up in an idyllic little town 45 miles north of New York City. It's called Yorktown Heights.

"You would never know it from listening to her recent race-baiting, but the population of Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez's hometown is over 90% white. The median family income there is more than double the national average. Real estate listing show million dollar homes on big pieces of gated property.

"It is not Queens. It is a very nice place. This is the "hood" that spawned Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez, one of the country's most privileged revolutionaries. She called herself Sandy Cortez back then. She imagined that every place could be just like Yorktown Heights, if only we got rid of the police, and apparently she still believes that," said Carlson.

AOC is then quoted in the TV spot saying, "It's funny because when people ask me, what does a world where we defund the police -- where, you know, defunding police looks like? I tell them, it looks like a suburb."

Carlson continues, "Unfortunately, not everyone lives in a suburb as placid and protected as the one Sandy Cortez grew up in, with all the bake sales and pool parties. Cities like St. Louis and Baltimore are more violent than El Salvador, and they're getting more dangerous by the day. In Milwaukee, homicides have risen nearly 40 percent just this year.

"Killings there could soon break the city's all-time record. That's likely to happen soon in Chicago and Kansas City. Just this weekend in the City of Chicago, 64 people were shot and 11 murdered -- 11 corpses in one weekend.

"None of those people died because there were too many cops on the street, they died because, thanks in part to sloganeering from pampered dilettantes like Sandy Cortez, there were too few cops. Less law enforcement in dangerous places means more killings. There's not much debate about that, at least not among adults.

"New York City disbanded its plainclothes police unit and cut funding for the NYPD by a billion dollars. The result? Shootings in New York are up more than 200 percent compared to this time just last year. Murders are up 21 percent. Burglaries have risen 30 percent.

"It is the most dangerous time to live in New York City in a quarter-century. Just one day ago, on Sunday night, an infant was shot to death while sleeping in a stroller at a cookout in Brooklyn. Mayor Bill de Blasio, who has almost single-handedly destroyed that city, described the child's murder as so painful.

"Then, de Blasio moved forward with his plans to disable the NYPD. He canceled the hiring of more than a thousand cops. He announced that police will no longer keep the schools safe.

"How will this end? We know very well how it will end. More poor children will die. That will not affect Bill de Blasio though. His family will remain protected by armed security paid for by taxpayers.

"So, will Sandy Cortez, so will Barack Obama. So will the rest of the politicians calling for taking away your protection. They will never suffer the consequences and that's why they're for it," said Carlson on his weekday night FOX show between 8-9 PM.

Rep. Congresswoman Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez called Fox News' Tucker Carlson a "white supremacist sympathizer" following his commentary.

"I go back and forth on whether to go on Fox News," the congresswoman wrote, quote-tweeting a video of the segment, continuing that the principal reason she does not "is squaring the fact that the ad revenue from it bankrolls a white supremacist sympathizer to broadcast an hour-long production of unmitigated racism, without any accountability whatsoever."

"'Immigrants are dirty' is a lazy, tired, racist trope, she continued. "Secondly, environmental injustice is a major motivation as to why we introduced and wrote the Green New Deal the way we did in the first place," Ocasio-Cortez stated, defending her policy initiative that has also been the focus of many FOX News spots.

We have written about AOC and her Yorktown past, and her time at Yorktown High School. We have recommended that she take another path in explaining where she came from and was educated. Here is our script for AOC.

continued on pg 7-

On This Day in Yonkers History...



In 1959 Crown Princess Beatrix of the Netherlands visited Yonkers to celebrate the 350th anniversary of Henry Hudson's discovery of Yonkers.

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

Monday, September 7th:

September 7, 1881: Greystone was the scene of the wedding of Governor Samuel Tilden's niece Adelaide and Robert Buchanan.

September 7, 1946: Crestwood's G. Edward Pendray, Secretary of the American Rocket Society, authored the lead article in Collier's Magazine; "Next Stop The Moon" discussed the possibility of rockets being sent to the moon, and exploration and colonization of the moon. Pendray, an organizer of the Society, was best known for creating the time capsule at the New York World's Fair.

Tuesday, September 8th

September 8, 1934: Supreme Court Justice George Taylor handed down a decision ordered union teamsters not to "interfere" with the Ben Franklin Transportation Company.

September 8, 1944: A modest WWI war hero, John Murphy was awarded the Distinguished Service Cross. Corporal Murphy, serving in Company C, 107th Regiment, 27th Division, crawled into "No Man's Land" under heavy enemy fire to bring back a seriously wounded American soldier, saving his life. Murphy, of course, denied he was a hero and paid homage to those serving in World War II.

Wednesday, September 9th

September 9, 1933: Ben Dwight, former Yonkers Recreation Commissioner and Chairman of the National Lawn Tennis Umpire's Association, officiated at the US Open at Forest Hills. Englishman Fred Perry beat Australian Jack Crawford to win the international competition supervised by our Yonkers man!

September 9, 1941: "Case No. 5269" returned home to the Topolosky brothers, Clinton Place, with a bullet wound! The racing pigeon had been released in Red Hook a month earlier. The pigeon arrived with a note taped to its right leg: "Conn. Reformatory, Cheshire, Conn. Doctor took stitch, kept here about week; Case No. 5969." The brothers immediately wrote to the doctor to thank him and ask for more details. Although the wound was almost healed, the pigeon was "hospitalized" until the wound was completely closed.

Thursday, September 10th

September 10, 1926: Police Chief Edward Quirk opened his campaign to rid Yonkers streets, especially South Broadway, of "automobile shieks!" He instructed all precinct commanders to order all police officers to arrest these culprits annoying women. The "automobile sheiks," drivers who parked along South Broadway, upset girls by asking them to go for rides.

September 10, 1964: Yonkers director, writer and filmmaker Michael Roemer won the City of Venice Prize and the San Giorgio Statuette in the Venice Film Festival for Nothing But a Man; the San Giorgio was awarded to films considered especially important to the progress of civilization. Starring Ivan Dixon and Abbey Lincoln, the film focused on the story of African-American railroad worker Duff Anderson and his efforts to maintain dignity in a small town near Birmingham. The National Film Registry selected this film for preservation in 1993 because it was "culturally, historically or aesthetically significant."

Friday, September 11th

September 11, 1941: Wickes Avenue renowned biochemist Dr. Rudolph Schoenheimer passed away. Schoenheimer developed the isotope tracer technique in metabolic research, leading to a new view of metabolism, nutrition, and regeneration. Dr. Schoenheimer came to the United States in 1933 after the rise of Nazism in Germany, and worked at Columbia University.

September 11, 1944: Colonel John Stilwell stepped down as president of the National Safety Council to serve as chair of their new policy making organization. To show his gratitude to his former staff, he threw a luncheon in their honor at Chicago's Sherman Hotel. Two hundred fifty people arrived to find bowls of fruit, cheese sandwiches and paper cups set on the tables. Apparently the dishwashers had gone on strike, and there were no dishes for the luncheon! Stilwell's comment on the snafu? "At least when I was president, there was better food!"

continued on pg 7-



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AGENDA FOR YONKERS ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS August 27, 2020
PLEASE TAKE NOTICE: THE CITY OF YONKERS ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS MEETING SCHEDULED FOR TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 15, 2020 AT 5:00 P.M. WILL BE CONDUCTED IN A MANNER PURSUANT TO GOVERNOR CUOMO'S EXECUTIVE ORDER 202.1; IN-PERSON ATTENDANCE AT THIS MEETING WILL NOT BE PERMITTED.
PLEASE CHECK THE WEBSITE WWW.YONKERSNY.GOV, THE DAY OF THE MEETING FOR LOG-IN AND ADDITIONAL INFORMATION.

CONTINUED HEARINGS

5715 – Area Variance – Tom F. Abillama, R.A., on behalf of 1969 Central Park Avenue LLC, owner, on premises known as 1969 Central Park Avenue, Block: 4385, Lot: 206, Zone: BR

NEW HEARINGS

#5716 – Improvement and Intensification of a Non-Conforming Use – Gibbons Engineering, PC, on behalf of 687 Nepperhan Corp, owner, on premises known as 687 Nepperhan Avenue, Block: 2420, Lot: 12, Zone: I

#5717 – Appeal of Interpretation – Joel H. Sachs, Esq., on behalf of Winchester Village, neighboring property owners, on premises known as 555 Tuckahoe Road, Block: 4038, Lot: 101, Zone: CM

#5718 – Area Variance – Janet J. Giris, Esq., on behalf of Columbia Garden Center LLC, owner, and AZ Yonkers, LLC (lessee), on premises known as 19-27 Tuckahoe Road, Block: 3110, Lot: 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 19, 23, 24, 26, 201, Zone: B

JOSEPH CIANCIULLI, CHAIRMAN, ZBA

FOR FULL AGENDA, PLEASE VISIT OUR WEBSITE:

<https://www.yonkersny.gov/government/meetings-agendas/-selcat-97/-toggle-all>

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 6546 – Opening date: 09/18/2020: Purchase of one HydroHoist, Harbor Hoist, or equal, free-floating boat lift (SR).
2. Bid 6547 – Opening date: 09/18/2020: Twenty-four month contract, with option to renew for 12-months, for the on-call installation of automotive glass (KS).
3. Bid 6544 – Opening date: 09/18/2020: Twenty-four month contract, with option to renew for 12-months, to furnish parts and provide repair services as needed for Toyota vehicles (DNC).
4. Bid 6545 – Opening date: 10/9/2020: H. Boo Wilson Park Renovations (Tuckahoe Road & Runyon Avenue) that include rebuilding the two basketball courts into full sized middle school sized courts with new basketball hoops, enclosure fencing, asphaltic surfacing, benches, small bleachers, color coat system and other amenities. In addition, the pavement and safety surfacing for the spray pool area is being replaced with new. To the north, an adjacent wooded area is being converted into a nature area including a walkway, overlook, rain garden and related plantings and drainage (FB).
5. Bid 6534 – Opening date 09/25/2020: Sixty-month contract for the purchase of body worn cameras, docking stations, batteries, software licenses, cloud storage licenses, and software maintenance and support (TC).

Legal Notices

Notice of Formation of FINE EVENTS, LLC. Arts of Org. Filed with SSNY on 6/29/2020. Office location: Westchester County. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail a copy of the process to the LLC: 4 Martine Avenue, Suite 919, White Plains, New York. 10606. Purpose: Any lawful act or activity.

Notice of formation of LoveUp11 LLC. Arts. of Org. filed with the SSNY on 9/1/2020. 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, 48 Caryl Avenue. Yonkers, NY 10705 Purpose: Any lawful purpose.

Notice of formation of Bess Boys Apparel, LLC filed with the SSNY on 08/04/2020. 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, 448 South 7th Avenue, Mount Vernon, NY 10550. Purpose: Any lawful purpose.

Formation of 1935 Central Park, LLC filed with the Secy. of State of NY (SSNY) on 7/9/2020. Office loc.: Westchester County. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail copy of process to 1354 Seneca Ave., Bronx, NY 10474. Purpose: Any lawful activity.

Notice of formation of OztheBarber LLC filed with the SSNY on 6/17/2020. 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, 15 Verona Ave., Yonkers, NY 10710. Purpose: Any lawful purpose.

Notice of formation of Floss, LLC. Arts. of Org. filed with the SSNY on 4/29/2020. 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, 520 Pelhamdale Avenue, Pelham, NY 10803. Purpose: Any lawful purpose

Notice of formation of Enticing Entities, LLC. Arts. of Org. filed with the SSNY on July 22, 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 Gramatan Ave, Ste G81, Mt. Vernon, NY 10552. Purpose: Any lawful purpose.09/04

Notice of formation of Brianna Rohlehr Visuals LLC. Arts. of Org. filed with the SSNY on 08/05/2020. 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, PO Box 463, Hastings on Hudson, NY 10706. Purpose: Any lawful purpose.

Notice of Formation of JMINS, LLC, filed with SSNY on June 23, 2020. Location: Westchester County.. SSNY designated as agent of the LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail copy process to 65 Homecrest Avenue, Yonkers, NY 10703. Purpose: any lawful purpose.

NOTICE OF FORMATION OF PROFESSIONAL LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY NAME: THE RENEWAL ROOM NP FAMILY HEALTH PLLC Articles of Organization were filed with the Secretary of State of New York (SSNY) on 8/4/2020. Office Location: Westchester County. SSNY has been designated as agent of PLLC upon whom process may be served. SSNY designated as agent of the PLLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail copy of process to 145 PALISADE STREET, SUITE 200, DOBBS FERRY, NY 10522. Purpose: Any lawful purpose.

Notice of formation of Floss, LLC. Arts. of Org. filed with the SSNY on 4/29/2020. 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, 520 Pelhamdale Avenue, Pelham, NY 10803. Purpose: Any lawful purpose

Kome Find Me LLC, date of filing Articles of Organization with Sec. of State on 7/27/20. LLC located in Westchester Cty. Sec. of State designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against may be served. The Sec. of State shall mail copy of any process against the LLC served upon him or her to: 100 Fisher Avenue, White Plains, NY 10602. Purpose: any lawful activity.

Notice of formation of Pete's Brush & Hammer, LLC filed with the SSNY on 06/15/2020. 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 Pete's Brush & Hammer, 3 Hillside Avenue, Pelham, NY 10803. Purpose: Any lawful purpose.

Notice of formation of Joyce Tutors Math, LLC. Arts. of Org. filed with SSNY on 6/29/20. Office: Westchester County. SSNY designated as agent of the LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to the LLC, 20 7th Street, Pelham, NY 10803. Purpose:Any lawful purpose.

One HealthIT LLC. Filed with the SSNY on 8/20/2020. Office: Westchester County. SSNY designated as agent for process & shall mail copy to 62 Congress St. New Rochelle, NY 10801. Purpose: Any lawful purpose.

Notice of formation of The Koch Lab LLC. Arts. of Org. filed with the SSNY on 08/17/2020. Office: Westchester County. SSNY designated as agent of the LLC upon whom process may be served. SSNY shall mail copy of process to the LLC at 74 Croton Dam Rd. Ossining, NY 10562. Purpose: Any lawful purpose.

Notice of Formation of SHLP 165 LLC. Arts. of Org. filed with NY Dept. of State on 7/22/20. Office location: Westchester County. NY Sec. of State designated agent of the LLC upon whom process against it may be served, and shall mail process to the LLC, c/o Westrock Development LLC, 440 Mamaroneck Ave, Ste N-503, Harrison, NY 10528, the principal business location. Purpose: any lawful activity.

Notice of formation of RIVERTON WARBURDALE LLC Footwear & Apparel. Filed with the SSNY on 07/31/2020 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, 353 Warburton Ave, Yonkers, NY 10701. Purpose: Any Lawful Purpose.-09/11

Notice of Formation of Eva Phillips-Rogers LLC. Arts. Of Org. filed with SSNY on 2/14/20. Office location: Westchester County. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: Eva PhillipsRogers, 16 Lehman Terrace, Yonkers, NY 10705. Purpose: any lawful act or activity. 09/11

As Election Nears, Voters Understand Fiscal Outlook Is Key Issue for Nation's Future

With the election just over two months away, voters continue to remain concerned about the growing national debt. The August Fiscal Confidence Index, modeled after the Consumer Confidence Index, is 47 (100 is neutral), showing that voters believe fiscal issues should be a top priority.

Nearly four-in-five voters (77%) say their level of concern about the national debt has increased over the past few years, and 73% believe the national debt should be among the president's and Congress's top-three priorities. Wide majorities of Democrats (69%), independents (70%) and Republicans (79%) say the national debt should be among the top-three priorities.

"In the short term, nothing is more important to our economy and our health than defeating this virus, but Americans understand that we will need to return our attention to the nation's fiscal health once the crisis has passed," said Michael A. Peterson, CEO of the Peterson Foundation. "As the election approaches, voters and candidates will discuss solutions to the complex policy challenges our nation faces — including stabilizing our national debt, which is an essential part of building a strong and stable economy in the future."

The Fiscal Confidence Index measures public opinion about the national debt by asking six questions in three key areas:

CONCERN: Level of concern and views about the direction of the national debt.

PRIORITY: How high a priority addressing the debt should be for elected leaders.

EXPECTATIONS: Expectations about whether the debt situation will get better or worse in the next few years.

The survey results from these three areas are weighted equally and averaged to produce the Fiscal Confidence Index value. The Fiscal Confidence Index, like the Consumer Confidence Index, is indexed on a scale of 0 to 200, with a neutral midpoint of 100. A reading above 100 indicates positive sentiment. A reading below 100 indicates negative sentiment.

Fiscal Confidence Index Key Data Points:

The August 2020 Fiscal Confidence Index value is 47. (The July value was 46. The June value was 43.)

The current Fiscal Confidence Index score for CONCERN about the debt is 40, indicating deep concern about the debt. The score for debt as a PRIORITY that leaders must address is 30, indicating that Americans want elected leaders to make addressing long-term debt a high priority. The score for EXPECTATIONS about progress on the debt is 71. The Fiscal Confidence Index is the average of these three sub-category scores.

The Peter G. Peterson Foundation commissioned this poll by the Global Strategy Group and North Star Opinion Research to survey public opinion on the national debt. The online poll included 1,000 registered voters nationwide, surveyed between August 18, 2020 and August 20, 2020. The poll has a margin of error of +/- 3.1%. The poll examined voters' opinions on the national debt, political leadership, and America's fiscal and economic health.

The Peter G. Peterson Foundation is a non-profit, non-partisan organization that is dedicated to increasing public awareness of the nature and urgency of key fiscal challenges threatening America's future, and to accelerating action on them. To address these challenges successfully, we work to bring Americans together to find and implement sensible, long-term solutions that transcend age, party lines and ideological divides in order to achieve real results. To learn more, please visit www.pgpf.org.

Yonkers History, continued from pg 5-

Saturday, September 12th

September 12, 1942: Although Yonkers citizens raised funds to purchase small and inexpensive gifts—cigarettes, an automatic pencil and a two-year diary-- for the men and women leaving our city to be inducted into the armed forces, they hoped the Yonkers War Council would take over the practice and purchase gifts from the City treasury. The War Council was advised by their Counsel, former Mayor William Wallin, this would violate the State Constitution article that prohibited city money being given or lent to any person. By a vote of seventeen to four, the Council approved providing city funds for these gifts.

September 12, 1945: A Navy shore patrol was assigned to supervise sailors and merchantmen in Larkin Plaza from the ships that put in for repair. Seamen were getting involved in altercations; in one case a sailor punched a young girl in the face; other seamen were fighting with soldiers. More of a concern were the groups of young women who were hanging out on the park benches to "make advances" to men in uniform!

Sunday, September 13th

September 13, 1794: Roger Morris passed away in York, England. Morris married Mary Philipse in 1758; the two built their estate Mount Morris in northern Manhattan. The Morrises lived at Mount Morris, now known as the Morris-Jumel Mansion, until the start of the Revolution. As he was a Loyalist, Morris went to England in 1775 when the war began, leaving his family in the colonies. He returned in 1777 after the British captured New York City and served as Inspector of the Claims of Refugees. The entire family went to England in 1783 after the British were defeated.

September 13, 1930: DPW workers recovered a set of false teeth, \$50 in cash, a wedding ring, cigarettes and a woman's dress when unloading trash at the city incinerator. The valuable items were brought to Commissioner William Colquhoun in the hope he would find the owners.

September 13, 1959: Crown Princess Beatrix of the Netherlands visited Yonkers to celebrate the 350th anniversary of Henry Hudson's discovery of Yonkers.

For more information on the Yonkers Historical Society, Sherwood House and our upcoming events, visit our Facebook page at www.facebook.com/YonkersHistoricalSociety. We also are on LinkedIn and Twitter @YonkersHistoric. For information on membership in the Yonkers Historical Society, please call 914-961-8940 or email yhsociety@aol.com.

ESET Announces Winners of 2020 Women in Cybersecurity Scholarship Awards

ESET, a global leader in cybersecurity, today announced the winners of the fifth annual ESET Women in Cybersecurity Scholarship. Designed to help address the underrepresentation of women in the cybersecurity field, the \$5,000 scholarships (\$20,000 total) were granted to four outstanding women studying information security.

The 2020 winners included, Anwar Abu-Shayed of Yonkers, N.Y. A third-year student at Mercy College in New York, Abu-Shayed is majoring in cybersecurity with the goal of establishing a career in cyber governance and risk operations. A first-generation Palestinian and Puerto Rican American, Abu-Shayed was vice president and web manager for the Women in Cybersecurity chapter at Westchester Community College's Alpha Beta Gamma Honor Society Organization and an active member of Phi Theta Kappa, and has been on the President's List and Dean's List multiple times.

YPS, CSEA Furloughs, continued from pg 1-

their Con Ed bill and phone bill, and are worried about getting evicted. Someone needs to figure a way to keep them from getting furloughed," said Turner to Yonkers

Local CSEA -YPS employees are not paid in the summer, so their last pay check was at the end of June. Their credit union also cannot give them loans because nobody knows if they will return for sure in October. They also cannot collect unemployment for the five weeks lost time, and others also hold jobs as food service workers and school aides.

CSEA employees in the Yonkers Public Schools earn on average between \$35,000-\$40,000 per year, and that is by working two jobs in the YPS; one as a bus monitor and the other job as a food service worker or school aide.

There are mixed views over these cuts in Yonkers. Some don't want the lowest paid employees to get cut, "in a City and schools budget that has thousands of employees making more than \$100,000 per year," as one official told Yonkers Rising.

Others told us, "they aren't working because there are no buses until the students come back, and we have to start somewhere."

AOC, Tucker continued from pg 1-

"I went to a high school in the suburbs that every American child should have the right to attend. That is what I'm fighting for in Congress, educational equality, which we clearly don't have."

"My family saved enough money to buy a small home in northern Westchester. This is the story of hard work and living the American Dream. I am so happy that they sacrificed for me but far too many young americans and people of color have substandard schools and get a substandard education." This is what AOC should have said.

Westchester's two future members of Congress, Democrats Mondaire Jones and Jamaal Bowman, won their respective primaries with the "AOC playbook," of progressive and indivisible views.

The reason that Tucker Carlson, and Sean Hannity and a cast of other characters on Fox mention AOC as often as possible is that she is a lightning rod for conservatives across the country. So much so that two republican opponents to AOC were able to raise more than \$4 Million.

Most of that money has already been spent, and wasted according to many—in a Ponzi Scheme of raising money, hiring consultants and playing the political game. More on that story in the weeks to come.

BLM Mural, continued from pg 1-

Drone images are also available online. The location of the mural is also close to the Yonkers Veterans Memorial—next to City Hall.

Yonkers Arts is a local nonprofit organization dedicated to developing the artistic community and impact through the arts in the city of Yonkers, NY.

Schumer, Pelosi Statement On Urgent Need For Rental Assistance

Senate Democratic Leader Chuck Schumer (D-NY) and House Speaker Nancy Pelosi (D-CA) today issued the following joint statement on the need for Republicans to come to the table to support strong funding for rental assistance and other measures to support struggling working families:

"For millions of Americans, the start of a new month has become a day they dread. The rent is due today, but too many families won't be able to make payments through no fault of their own—pushing them deeper into debt and the prospect of being thrown out of their homes. At the same time, millions face food insecurity, unsafe workplace protections, and being forced to send children to school when it is not safe to do so.

"Right now, over 40 million Americans are at risk of eviction—yet Republicans refuse to recognize the needs of working families facing the accelerating threat of eviction and skyrocketing debt. For over 100 days, Senate Republicans have refused to take up the Heroes Act which contains robust funding for rental assistance for struggling families. And the President has offered nothing but a weak and unworkable Executive Order that has done nothing to help working families, including many from communities of color, keep a roof over their heads.

"It's long past time for Republicans and President Trump to stop following the returns from Wall Street and wake up to the problems of Americans living on Main Street. Republicans must join House and Senate Democrats to respond to the growing need by doing everything in our power to keep families healthy, safe, and secure—in their own homes."

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Charter School Raises Funds to Feed First Responders



Students from the Charter School of Educational Excellence in Yonkers, recently raised money to help first responders in the City. Students, with CSEE staff, are pictured above with a check for \$200.00 that they raised so that they could buy Pizza's for the Emergency Room staff at St. John's Riverside Hospital.

A Heron in Yonkers



photo by Robert Kalfus, who photographed this heron at Tibbets Brook Park, at the lake at the far end of the park. The bird was intently watching the pool of water below the small waterfall cascading from the lake, flowing south, hunting for his dinner. Its good to see such beautiful wildlife is present here in Yonkers, and that we need not travel to Florida's Everglades, which now would be difficult and dangerous. We think its a Blue Heron, but to all the bird lovers, let us know at risingmediagroup@gmail.com

Yonkers Rap Trio Gives Back With Bookbag Giveaway for Students



The legendary Yonkers rap trio The LOX, pictured above, back in Yonkers with thousands of back to school items for students.



Council President Mike Khader welcomes The LOX back to Yonkers and thanks them for their donations of bookbags

With Back to School upon us, The LOX, Juices for Life, and PCNY gave back to the Yonkers community by holding a bookbag giveaway on August 28. The event, held at Juices for Life on Nepperhan Avenue, quickly became the place to be when word got out that rappers Jadakiss, Sheek Louch and Styles P., were in Yonkers. The Yonkers Police Department closed off parts of the street so that everyone could enjoy the moment.

The bookbag drive is a yearly event, and this year 14,2000 book bags filled with supplies and headphones were handed out, and some kids got signed items donated by professional athletes.

The Yonkers Rap Trio The LOX, made up of Jadakiss, Sheek Louch and Styles P., worked their way up through the Bad Boy training camp, writing and rapping on hits by the likes of Puff Daddy, the Notorious B.I.G., Mary J. Blige, and Mariah Carey before releasing their 1998 debut album, Money, Power & Respect, which topped Billboard's Top R&B/Hip-Hop Albums chart and soared to No. 3 on the Billboard 200 chart.

After a switch to the Ruff Ryders label, We Are the Streets followed in early 2000, debuting at No. 2 on Billboard's Top R&B/Hip-Hop Albums chart and No. 5 on the Billboard 200 chart. In 2007 a set of early recordings was released as Before the L.O.X including the 2013 EP The Trinity, and the 2014 sequel, The Trinity: 2nd Sermon. In late 2016, almost two decades after the release of their sophomore effort, The LOX unveiled their third official LP, Filthy America...It's Beautiful, on D-Block/Roc Nation.

Last Sunday, this trio gave hundreds of Yonkers kids and students that have been stuck inside from COVID, with no school or camp, a day of happiness.

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