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Friday October 9, 2020

YPS In School Learning Begins



A student returns to Lincoln High School and has her temperature taken

Yonkers Public Schools Superintendent Dr. Edwin Quezada, Board of Education President Rev. Steve Lopez and elected officials welcomed students and parents back into the classroom on Monday October 5.

Students returned to their local school for the first time since March of 2020 and have been learning remotely since then. Assembly Member Nader Sayegh and City Council Member Tasha Diaz distribute COVID-19 Care Packages to the returning students.

The YPS began the transition from 100% Online Remote instruction for all students to Hybrid Instruction following NY State Education and Health Departments guidance and social distancing guidelines. The transition is designed first and foremost to ensure the health and safety of every individual in school buildings.

“Children, more significantly urban children, thrive when they are in school taught by highly qualified, caring educators and supporting adults. Nothing can replace in-person teaching and learning. A recent District survey disclosed that more than two-thirds of our families want in-person instruction for their children. They want the stability provided by public schools. Our job is to ensure Yonkers students and families continue to have confidence that, despite the challenges, we will deliver the best education possible, as we have in the past,” noted Superintendent Quezada. Our

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Yonkers Student Athlete Fighting Cancer Needs Your Vote for Giants Hero Award



Meet Vincent Schaub, a student at Saunders High School in Yonkers, and a member of the Yonkers Brave high school football team. Last year, Vincent was diagnosed with brain cancer, and has been fighting ever since.

Every year, USA Football and the NY Giants hold a Heart of a Giant contest where the public votes on 19 nominees. Vincent is one of this year's 2020 Heart of a Giant Award Nominees, and his friends and supporters in Yonkers are asking you to go and vote for him at - <https://usafootball.com/hoagvote/>.

Vincent answered a few questions about his life for the award nomination. “Dedication defines having the “Heart of a Giant” because I believe that dedication falls in the criteria of all five. I am dedicated to football because I constantly think of how I could better myself to be better in game. I put the same effort into practices as I do into games which is of course, one hundred and ten percent.

“I faced adversity my freshman year. I was confident but did not know how I would fit in with my new teammates. It took a couple of weeks of not knowing a single person and being an “outsider” but then my teammates and I started to bond very well and they turned into my family. They especially feel like family now since they are always there for me as well as I am for them like playing a huge part in my battle with brain cancer.

“I enjoy EVERYTHING about football. I am very competitive so playing football at the top of my game is something I enjoy. When I get out on the field I feel that no one could stop me. I feel like I am able to be myself when playing football and love to defy the odds.

“I enjoy hanging out with my friends and spending time with my family. I like to play video games like NBA 2k and Madden football. I also like to play a various amount of sports off the field like basketball and baseball.”

Vincent's family have also set up a gofundme page to help with the medical bills. The link is <https://www.gofundme.com/f/hope-for-vincent>.

Keep fighting Vincent, and we hope to watch you someday playing football for the Yonkers Brave. God Bless!

Senator Mayer Has an Opponent: Dr. Liviu Saimovic in 37th District



State Senator Shelley Mayer

Dr. Liviu Saimovic

By Dan Murphy

While most of the elections for State Senate and Assembly in Westchester on November 3 are uncontested, with democratic candidates running unopposed, in the 37th Senate District, which includes almost half of the county, there are two candidates on the ballot. State Senator Shelley Mayer is seeking re-election, and her republican challenger is Dr. Liviu Saimovici.

Senator Mayer has represented the 37th District for the past three years, and is currently the Chair of the powerful State Senate Education Committee. After representing Yonkers in the Assembly for 6 years, Mayer was elected to the State Senate seat formerly held by the County Executive George Latimer and has quickly become one of the most respected elected officials in the county.

“During COVID, I have been very much on the ground working on constituent affairs. I have helped over 700 people receive their unemployment benefits. I have made it my business to help individuals who need assistance,” said Sen. Mayer. “During the height of the pandemic here in Westchester, I was working to get PPE for our hospital staff and fire fighters. We have been working at food distributions and handing out 10,000 masks and sanitizer. There has been a need in Port Chester, and New Rochelle and all over the district.”

Mayer said that as the Chair of the State Senate Education Committee, “I have been very involved with education issues locally with each school district, concerning COVID and re-opening. We have made sure that the Governor's office, and the State Education Department, have heard all voices in this discussion.”

Senator Mayer called Chairing the Education Committee “an incredible responsibility but a great opportunity to serve. I feel fortunate to be able to speak with so many parents, teachers and students, who don't always have the strongest voice. I appreciate Senator Stewart-Cousins for appointing me to this position and I always try to respect and help my republican colleagues across the state to try to help these schools and students.

In Yonkers, Senator Mayer remains attune the the challenges facing the Yonkers Public Schools. “I am in regular touch with Superintendent Quezada and BOE President Lopez, and I am close touch with the YFT and

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Judge Daly Battling Newcomers to Stay on City Court

Will Become Chief Judge if Elected



Judge Tom Daly, center, with Olasubomi Macauley, left and former City Council President Chuck Lesnick, right

By Dan Murphy

Yonkers City Court Tom Daly may have narrowly lost the democratic primary in June, but is continuing his campaign to win re-election to the City bench that he has called home for the past 20 years and if victorious, will become Chief Judge in Yonkers.

Daly, who is running on the Republican and Conservative Party lines on November 3, has received an outpouring of support from Democrats who want him to continue his service and keep the continuity in the City Court, regardless of the outcome.

Former Yonkers City Council President Chuck Lesnick, a staunch supporter of democratic candidates in Yonkers and across the state and country, wrote his support for Judge Daly.

“For close to fifty years Yonkers City Court judges who have served with distinction for their full ten year term have been cross endorsed by the Democratic and Republican parties, since judicial ethics prohibit them from taking an active role in party politics except during the year in which they run. This year the Democratic, Republican, Conservative and Working Families Parties all endorsed Judge Daly who might not have had to

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Dan Romano: I Aspire to be a Judge Like Judge Faye



Yonkers Judge Martin Faye

Attorney Dan Romano, one of the three Democratic candidates for Yonkers City Court, likes to talk about the mentors and role models that have helped shape his life as he campaigns across the city that he and his family have loved for more than 80 years.

"In Yonkers, our family really is part of the fabric of the city. We helped people, not only providing legal services, but really it's about helping small businesses, and the organizations that make Yonkers great. My dad instilled in us the importance of helping others.

Dan's father, John Romano, was a long respected attorney and community member. "He started out shining shoes in downtown Yonkers outside Sid Caesar's store. Everyone gave him a nickel for a shine, but one man gave him a quarter. My dad said, what does he do. It was Yonkers Judge Faye, and my dad said I want to be a lawyer."

Yonkers City Court Judge Martin Faye was a well known and respected judge and member of the Yonkers community. "During the depression he would take one of his paychecks and give it to the poor. He did it without notice and didn't brag about it. He was a kind man who used his public service to help others," said Romano.

"One day Judge Faye took a bunch of Yonkers kids off the streets and down to the Polo Grounds to watch a NY Giants baseball game. (Yes the Giants also had a baseball team in NYC before they moved to San Francisco). He got the kids down to meet Willie Mays and there were dozen of stories like this about Judge Faye, from my dad, who admired him and lived his life that way.

"I aspire to be a Judge like Judge Faye. He was selfless and devoted himself to the community. He was fair and impartial and that's the Judge I want to be. "I think I could help more people sitting on the bench than sitting behind my desk right now," said Romano.

Dan's uncle, Joe Romano, went to serve his country in World War II and never came back. Some of Joe's friends never forgot him, including another longtime Yonkers resident, Gabe Vitalone, who at age 97 went back to Yankee Stadium this year and sang the National Anthem in memory of Joe Romano. The two used to go to Yankee games in the 1940's before Joe went off to war. Gabe also served, with General Patton, and

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E-Scooters Take Off in Yonkers!



Bird Scooters are enjoyed in Yonkers

By Camryn Sanchez

Bird electric scooters have exploded in popularity over the past few weeks, and they could become a permanent Yonkers fixture.

According to Sam Cooper the Senior Manager of Government Partnerships at Bird, "Yonkers residents have taken more than 10,000 rides since the launch of the program in August."

Through an app, riders can reserve a Bird scooter for one dollar, and ride for an additional 39 cents per minute. Buses and Ubers are currently operating in Yonkers, but for those being mindful of social distancing, these options are potential unappealing.

Bird scooters notably offer minimal risk of Covid-19. Only one person rides on each scooter, so risk of infection is extremely low for riders who wear masks and sanitize their handles. Covid-19 rates are currently rising in New York City, and the second wave is expected to be hard-hitting. Unlike taking a train or bus, Bird riders do not make contact with anyone to rent a scooter, and scooters can be reserved through the Bird app at any time without having to be returned to their original location. Cooper says, "Yonkers' embrace of shared e-scooters is also another strong indication that urban transportation is rapidly evolving in response to a coronavirus pandemic that has underscored the importance of sustainable, socially distant mobility options."

Yonkers resident Hector Santiago is the admin of Facebook page Bird Scooters Yonkers, and says the scooters are "awesome!" He has noticed their popularity among teens in particular. "Some kids don't have financial means to get to one side of the city, or to the YCMA or something, so they use these scooters. It's also a good way for the parents to keep a measure on them, because the parent will rent it out on their phone and reserve it for that particular kid. So the parent kind of measures where the kid goes."

However, Santiago hopes that safety precautions such as helmets are added. Currently, riders are expected to wear their own helmets, but this rule is not enforced. Fear of scooter related injuries is the reason that Bird scooters are currently banned in Manhattan. In Yonkers where the streets are less congested, scooters are so far quite safe. They have a speed cap of 15 miles per hour.

Bird is launching scooters only in west Yonkers as part of a one year long pilot program. If the scooters continue to be a success, the scooters will likely become a permanent Yonkers fixture. The expansion of Bird seems very likely. "We're looking to expand to other areas of the city as well as other locations in Westchester," Cooper states. "Bird is invested in giving all Yonkers residents access to affordable, carbon-free transportation alternatives. We'd love to work with the city to extend the program."



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Westchester Black Women's Political Caucus Yonkers Chapter Pop Up Event



members of the Yonkers Chapter of the Westchester Black Women's Political Caucus at a voter registration and education event, were joined by City Councilwoman Shanae Williams above, and Senate Majority Leader Andrea Stewart-Cousins below.



The Westchester Black Women's Political Caucus-Yonkers Chapter conducted a Voter Registration and Education pop up event on Saturday, October 3, 2020. The event was held at three locations- Mulford Gardens, YWCA and Shoprite- Greenway Plaza.

Many of the chapter's members and other community partners came out to encourage residents to get-out-the-vote for this November's general election. Community partners present were National Association for Advancement of Colored People, National Council of Negro Women and Westchester Women & Girls of Color for Biden-Harris. State Senate Majority Leader, Andrea Stewart-Cousins and 1st District Councilwoman, Shanae Williams were also present.

The highlight of the day was educating the community on the importance of Early Voting and the times and locations of where they can vote. Upon learning they had the option to vote early at the Riverfront Library or the Will Library from October 24th through November 1st; one voter shared how she had planned to be the first to arrive at her polling station on Election Day, on November 3rd.

"The residents were thankful that we came to them. We registered voters who would not have been registered in time to meet the October 9th registration deadline in New York if not for our outreach," said President of the Westchester Black Women's Political Caucus-Yonkers Chapter Beryl Weaver.

What Were They Expecting?



By Eric Schoen

Friends, need I tell you that to stop the spread of COVID-19 you need to wear a face mask? That you need to socially distance yourself at least 6 feet? That you should wash your hands for 20 seconds with soap and hot water? That you should avoid large groups of people, particularly when the people are not wearing masks and not keeping socially distanced at least 6 feet?

Now tell me, were you truly shocked or surprised when it was announced that the President and many of those close to him had contracted the Coronavirus? Do you watch the same television I watch. Read the same newspapers I read? View the same internet that I do?

So were you surprised or shocked when you got the 'tweet' that the President, First Lady and many of their advisors had come down with the coronavirus? Let's start out by wishing POTUS, FLOTUS and all Americans and those from around the world who have this virus a quick recovery and good health.

But just like baseball or our many other sports, you have to follow the rules or you will be called out. Coronavirus is complex. What you have to do to attempt to keep the virus away from your family, well not so complex.

For the purposes of this column, I'm not commenting on the merits of Judge Amy Coney Barrett or whether or not she should be appointed to the Supreme Court. But did you see the ceremony where her appointment was announced? Rows of people not wearing masks and sitting on top of one another. Then going into the White House and hugging and kissing and participating in a big reception to honor the judge.

And Margaret Brennan, host of Meet the Press asks one of her guests if he knows who the President got the virus from. Have you ever heard a dumber question asked by a reporter who reports and anchors for a living?

After the President heard one of his top aides had the virus, he had no business flying to Bedminster, New Jersey to hold a big money fundraiser. And taking photos with everyone there. Do our electeds feel they don't have to practice what they preach. After several delays the White House turned over the names of the attendees to the fundraiser to the New Jersey Health Department. Why did it take so long?

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.....

VOTE EARLY
At the Riverfront Library or at the Grinton Will Library from Oct. 24-Nov. 1.

.....

VOTE ON ELECTION DAY
Check your pollsite at voterlookup.elections.ny.gov

AND MOST IMPORTANTLY, REMEMBER TO VOTE FOR DAN ROMANO FOR YONKERS CITY COURT JUDGE!

This election cycle has been a difficult one, but the pandemic that has spread across the nation, and the societal challenges it has highlighted have helped me find further conviction in my lifelong belief in the importance of an **honest and independent judiciary**.

I truly believe that I can bring this to the bench in Yonkers. As the next City Court Judge, I promise to bring **compassion, integrity, and most importantly, fairness** to the courtroom, and to ensure a **just day in court for everyone in Yonkers** — not just the wealthy and well connected.

I hope that I can count on your **vote this Election Day, November 3rd**, and I hope that together we can make Yonkers a better place for everyone!

FAB FOR BY ROMANO FOR CITY COURT JUDGE

Dan Romano
Dan Romano
 Candidate
 Yonkers City Court Judge

SECTION 3 WORK OPPORTUNITY MDG Design + Construction is currently seeking construction Section 3 eligible applicants for a moderate rehabilitation project, Calcagno Homes Located in Yonkers, NY. Section 3 eligible applicants are invited to submit a resume for the work in the following trades:

- Electrician Mechanic, Junior Foreman, & Helpers.
- Duct Installer & Refrigeration Piper.
- Elevator Operator . Plumbing, installation and sales of acrylic tub and liner. 6-week Paid training. Work is to be performed in Westchester County under Davis Bacon Act (prevailing wage) requirements.

Section 3 residents are: • Public housing residents or . Persons who live in the area where a HUD-assisted project is located and who have a household income that falls below HUD's income limits. For more Section 3 information: <https://www.hud.gov/section3> Eligible applicants must have an active Osha 30 card. If interested in ap- plying, please send a resume with the position desired to: Jeffrey Goritz; jgoritz@mdgny.com

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 @ Will & Riverfront Libraries
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Mayor Spano Re-Appoints Dr. Rosalba Corrado Del Vecchio to Yonkers Board of Education



Dr. Rosalba Corrado Del Vecchio

Mayor Mike Spano recently swore in Dr. Rosalba Corrado Del Vecchio for her reappointment to the Yonkers Board of Education. As trustee of the Yonkers Board of Education, Dr. Del Vecchio is part of a nine member Board, which is the official policy making body of the School District.

"I am proud to reappoint Dr. Del Vecchio to the Board of Education as her extensive work in academia and her institutional knowledge of our schools have made her an ideal Board Trustee," said Mayor Spano. "Together, we can further address the needs and concerns of the District and support our schools' goals for our students."

A doctoral degree graduate from Fordham University, Dr. Del Vecchio is a qualitative researcher who specializes in educational leadership, administration and policy, with a concentration on partnership development and professional development of aspiring school administrators. Since 2005, Dr. Rosalba Corrado Del Vecchio continues to teach, mentor and advise students in the Department of Administrative and Instructional Leadership (DAIL) at St. John's University School of Education.

Dr. Del Vecchio is also the Director of School Leadership Programs for aspiring principals and administrators in non-public schools, a partnership program with NYC Department of Education (DOE) and St. John's University. Prior to her work at St. John's University, Dr. Del Vecchio was Director of Grants and Special Programs for over ten years in the Yonkers Public Schools and was responsible for the management and implementation of over \$60 million in categorical and competitive grant programs in the District. Dr. Del Vecchio began her educational career in Yonkers as a high school teacher of Spanish, Italian, French and English, initiating the modern languages course offerings at Saunders and the award-winning Literary Art Magazine, the first in the history of a Trades and Technical High School. She also served as a building administrator, central office supervisor of ten schools, and coordinator of the first restructuring initiative, EDUCATION 2000.

A Fulbright Fellowship recipient to the University of Perugia, Italy, and National Endowment for the Humanities Fellow to Yale University, Dr. Del Vecchio was Vice President of the Fulbright Association of Greater New York and continues to serve on its Board. Dr. Del Vecchio also graduated from the College of Mt. St. Vincent, Riverdale, NY, with a BA cum laude in Spanish and from Iona College, New Rochelle, NY with a MS in Education and Latin American Studies.

"It's both an honor and a privilege to be reappointed to serve on the Board. I appreciate and thank Mayor Spano for his confidence in my ability to serve in a way that may be helpful," said Dr. Rosalba Corrado Del Vecchio. "Our schools, in their diversity, are a rich source of talent and my belief in that talent has always been unwavering in all the years I have lived in Yonkers. I look forward to working together, with Board President Lopez and other fellow Trustees, with Superintendent Dr. Quezada and with all involved in the education of our children, in a way that advocates for them and for their schools."

Board of Education President Rev. Steve Lopez enthusiastically noted about Dr. Del Vecchio's reappointment on behalf of the Trustees, "Trustee DelVecchio's contributions to the Board over the past three years have had a profound impact on our complex educational and fiscal decisions. As an experienced educator she brings valuable knowledge and insight."

"For me, working with Trustee Dr. DelVecchio has been an extraordinary opportunity and experience. Her guidance, support and respect for the work has uplifted my spirit on many occasions," stated Dr. Edwin M. Quezada, Superintendent of Schools. "Thank you for everything you have already accomplished and will continue to contribute to provide quality education for all Yonkers children."

Dr. Del Vecchio will fulfill the remainder of Dr. Ammir Rabadi's five-year term through 2022, who resigned from the Board earlier this year.

Back to School, continued from pg 1-

Our parents, our educators, our community leaders, our elected officials, they want to see our schools reopen for children," Quezada said, flanked by city officials on Thursday. "And you know that I want this more than anything because there's nothing more rewarding than having children in school — and we want to do it safely."

Last week, The Yonkers Federation of Teachers released an open letter to the Yonkers Public Schools community to raise awareness of ongoing issues related to the reopening of school buildings this coming Monday for hybrid instruction.

In a letter to families from the YFT Executive Board, the union says district leaders still must address a litany of outstanding concerns, ranging from incomplete ventilation and window work to a lack of clear arrival, dismissal, bathroom, lunch and cleaning protocols that are necessary to protect the safety of every student. Other issues include inadequate access to personal protective equipment and insufficient protocols for identifying COVID cases and closing buildings to go to remote instruction where cases are identified.

YFT continues to advocate for a 14-day closure of any building in which there is a confirmed positive COVID case. "Let's be honest that these are concerns that district leaders should have had in place months ago in order to safely reopen," the letter states. "To be sure, there are and will continue to be issues that pop up throughout this year that we will have to address together."

"No matter the work ahead, we want to be unequivocally clear: Not even a global pandemic could break our commitment to children. We will continue to be there for Yonkers students."

"Education in the time of COVID is nothing like any of us ever imagined we would experience in our careers. We know that a strain has been placed on many families, including our own. We want more than anything to return to normal. We miss our students, and we miss the opportunities to check in academically, socially, and emotionally with them in person."

"But even with months to plan, we believe district leaders still need to address the following:

- Uncompleted ventilation and window work at the school buildings that is essential for safer circulation in confined settings. HEPA filters need to be installed in classrooms that have outdated ventilation systems and too many windows remain broken or, in the worst cases, bolted shut at this time.
- Lack of clear arrival, dismissal, bathroom, lunch, and cleaning protocols that include measures intended to protect the safety of every student.
- Inadequate access to personal protective equipment that must be provided by the district for students and staff. That includes correctly sized masks and N95, disposable and replacement gowns, and a dedicated isolation room.
- Insufficient protocols for identifying positive COVID cases and closing buildings to go to remote instruction where cases are identified. Yonkers educators continue to advocate for a 14-day closure of any building in which there is a confirmed positive COVID case, which would help reduce community spread.

Romano, continued from pg 2-



Joe Romano and Gabe Vitalone, heading off to WWII

came back.

Dan Romano's desire to serve and give back also comes from his Uncle Joe, who he never met. "That's the kind of community leader that I would want to be like, I just want to help people. Once you have represented so many different people, you get a good idea about Yonkers and all of its people. I have represented and helped everyone, from the cab driver to anyone who needed it. I have helped people navigate through the legal system and as a judge I would do the same thing."

Romano brings over thirty years of fighting for Yonkers families in court. He knows the difference a fair and empathetic judge can make in the life of a family, a business, or a community "I'm very proud to be from Yonkers. A lot of people put Yonkers down, but there are so many good people from Yonkers, including Judge Fay and my father, and Uncle Joe. That's why I want to serve on the Yonkers City Court."

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REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS (RFP) # 2020-09
LANDSCAPING SERVICES
AT BUILDINGS OWNED OR MANAGED BY THE MUNICIPAL
HOUSING AUTHORITY FOR THE CITY OF YONKERS

The Municipal Housing Authority for the City of Yonkers ("MHACY") hereby solicits proposals from qualified firms for qualified firms for landscaping services on an as-needed basis for MHACY at various locations specified in the Request for Proposals ("RFP").

This RFP package contains submission requirements and terms and conditions and other pertinent information for submitting a proper and responsive proposal. This RFP is the only information provided to prospective bidders (hereinafter "Responders") and is available online starting October 5, 2020 at www.mhacy.org.

The RFP questions deadline is October 15, 2020 at 3:00PM Eastern Standard Time (EST). Any and all questions must be emailed to [Juaquin Padilla](mailto:Juaquin.Padilla@mhacy.org) at Juaquin.Padilla@mhacy.org by the deadline. No telephone calls and/or written communication sent via mail will be accepted.

Proposals must reach MHACY no later than 3:00 PM (EST) on October 22, 2020. Late submissions will be handled in accordance with the provisions in Form HUD-5369B.

Proposals will be evaluated on the criteria stated in the RFP. Negotiations may be conducted with contractors who have a reasonable chance of being selected for the award. After evaluation of the proposal revision, if any, the contract will be awarded to the responsible firm(s) whose qualifications, price and other factors are considered to be the most advantageous to MHACY. This is a non-exclusive contract. MHACY may award more than 1 Respondent a contract.

MHACY reserves the right to reject any and all proposals and waive any irregularities or informalities if it is

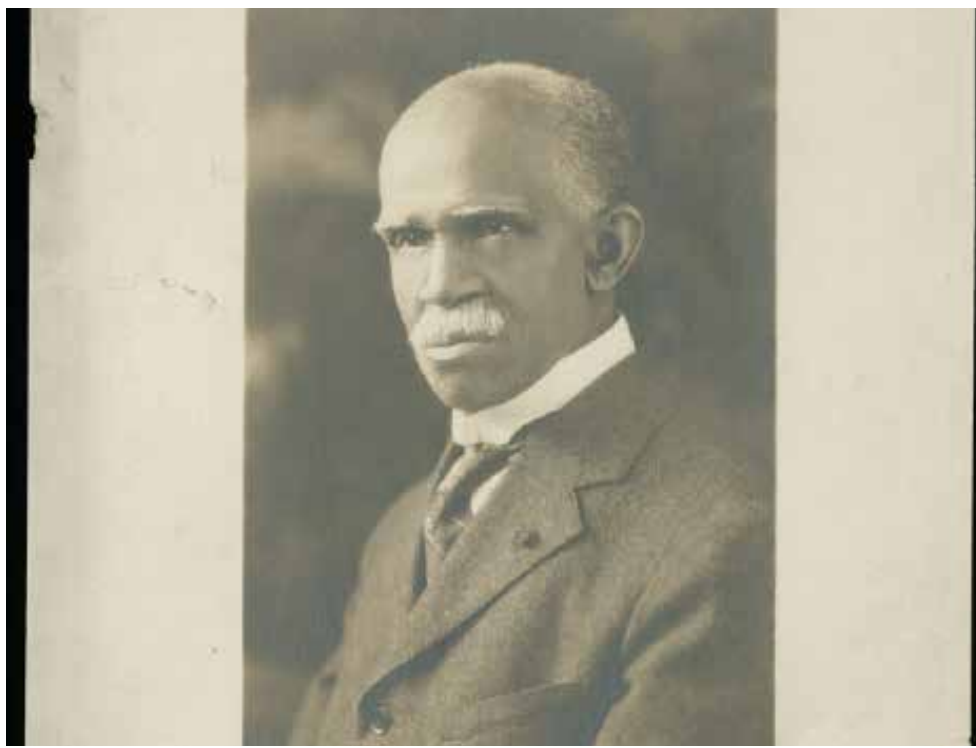
in MHACY's best interest to do so. MHACY reserves the right to cancel this RFP or to reject, in whole or in part, any and all proposals received in response to this RFP, upon its determination that such cancellation or rejection is in the best interest of MHACY.

MHACY is an Equal Opportunity Employer and does not discriminate on the basis of race, sexual orientation, color, national origin, sex, religion, age, disability, or family status. MHACY solicits and encourages the participation of minorities and small businesses in procurement.

Contact, related to this procurement, with members of MHACY's Board of Commissioners, or MHACY's officers and/or employees other than the contact person show above, during the procurement process could result in disqualification of a proposal.

Wilson Kimball, President & CEO Municipal Housing Authority for the City of Yonkers
1511 Central Park Avenue Yonkers, New York 10710
Project No. RFP 2020-09

On this day in Yonkers history...



John E. Bruce

By Mary Hoar, President Untermyer Performing Arts Council, Member Landmarks Preservation Board, President Emerita, Yonkers Historical Society

Monday, October 12th

October 12, 1913: Mr. and Mrs. John E. Bruce were requested by Bishop Samuel Fallows of Chicago to become members of the advisory council of the Illinois Commission to conduct the half-century of African-American freedom. The Bishop was president of the commission. The Bruces accepted the appointments. Bruce, an author, journalist, publisher, orator and historian, co-founded the Negro Society for Historical Research with Arthur Schomburg at Edward's Warburton Avenue home in Yonkers. He is buried in Oakland Cemetery in Yonkers.

October 12, 1939: Despite the threat of bad weather, several thousand war veterans, civic leaders and representative of dozens of Yonkers organizations marched through the heart of Yonkers. Chairman Alderman Salvatore Cerone had organized the "America at Peace with the World" to acclaim "Americans All," Yonkers 1939 celebration of Columbus Day.

Tuesday, October 13th

October 13, 1976: President Gerald Ford visited Mayor Angelo Martinelli at Yonkers City Hall; while there he signed the State and Local Fiscal Assistance Amendments of 1976, while hundreds of school children and adults cheered. Besides our esteemed Mayor, other New York dignitaries witnessing the signing were Yonkers own Governor Malcolm Wilson, Senators Jacob Javits and William Buckley, Councilmembers, and children from several Yonkers schools.

October 13, 1983: Melissa Manning of Yonkers is crowned the new Miss New York State in Watertown, NY by Miss America, Vanessa Williams. Williams, previously Miss New York State, vacated her state title when she was selected to wear the national crown. Manning had been the first runner-up for the title.

Wednesday, October 14th

October 14, 1924: After raiding a Herriot Street basement, Yonkers police found a plot to hide Hip Sing gunmen in Yonkers prior to a Tong War in New York City.

October 14, 1930: 6,000 feet of beer pipeline was discovered running through the sewers under Columbus Avenue, Elm Street, Palisades Avenue and John Street.

Thursday, October 15th

October 15, 1915: Republican Yonkers Mayoral candidate Gideon Peck declared, "When women have the right to vote, the morale of the body politic will rise." His opponent, incumbent Mayor James Lennon, won.

October 15, 1932: A passerby's cigarette carelessly dropped set fire to the loading platform of the "Old Skin Shop" at 78 Elm Street. Assistant Chief Daniel Carnegie and other men from the nearby Fire Headquarters ripped up the burning boards, using chemicals to extinguish the flames.

Friday, October 16th

October 16, 1930: Yonkers police officers and Federal prohibition agents found 1,500 more feet of heavy 3-inch hose running through a sewer near the junction of Palisade Avenue and Elm Street; they believed this hose was used to transport beer from a local brewery or bottling plants in the city.

October 16, 1952: Ace Detective Sergeant Patrick Christopher was honored for his record setting service of twenty-five years in the Detective Division. After spending the day directing the Acropolis murder investigation, Christopher was presented a wallet with cash by the men with whom he worked. One of the most efficient and respected men in the department, he primarily trained and advised men in the division. Christopher was appointed a patrolman in 1926; just a year later—October 16, 1927—he was assigned to the Detective Division. During the inaugural of President Truman January 1949, Christopher was assigned to the Washington police at their request, the first time this honor was given to a Yonkers police officer.

Saturday, October 17th

October 17, 1914: Yonkers acrobat Clarence Birdsall played to a packed theater performing at the Orpheum; this was the first time he performed in his hometown in years.

October 17, 1922: Yonkers motorcycle officer John Fogarty of the Traffic Squad, on his way back from having his speedometer tested, was suddenly blocked on Broadway near 250th Street when a large baking truck pulled in front of him. After

continued on pg 8-



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Letter to Editor—Once A Rising Star: This Yonkers Democrat Has Lost Her Way

The world of Yonkers politics is constantly abuzz with gossip. Many self-interested politicians have already positioned themselves for reelection. None have been as shameless as Democratic Majority Leader Corazon Pineda-Isaac. Declaring in a recent News 12 profile that she plans to run for a third City Council term and sees a future for herself in local government, Pineda-Isaac continues to position herself as a supposedly progressive Democrat. In her seven years to date on the City Council there has been more of the same. Just food for thought have you walked or driven down South Broadway, I did and I feel as if I'm stuck in time, the 80's era, District 1 puts District 2 to shame.

Not only is she is skill-full at finding a camera but she originally opposed to the extension of term limits, Pineda-Isaac voted against allowing Yonkers officials to run for a third term yet has the gall to seek to benefit it as she feast her eyes on reelection campaign. How can a councilperson take advantage of extension of term limits if they were against it when it came before them on the city council? Assuming the position of Democratic Majority Leader through a shady back-room deal with the Republican caucus, Pineda-Isaac failed to secure the support of any of her other Democratic colleagues.

Nobody can deny that Corazon has done well for herself as a City Councilwoman by parlaying her position in local politics into a high-paying job. Many Yonkers politicians agitate for jobs for their friends and family with the city, but Pineda-Isaac took this practice a step further, securing I presume a position in city hall for a close family member.

Pineda-Isaac has the privilege of representing one of the neediest Yonkers City Council districts, and rather than seizing the opportunity to serve, she has chosen to only enrich herself and fam. Our community requires effective, proactive representation that will prioritize constituent needs over self-enrichment. Mayor Mike Spano deserves a dedicated councilperson in the District 2, who is committed to helping solve the pressing issues facing the City of Yonkers. Yonkers deserves better, and it is time for us as voters and constituents to demand better from our elected officials.

Respectfully,
Annette Yarber, Yonkers

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AGENDA FOR ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE: THE CITY OF YONKERS ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS MEETING SCHEDULED FOR TUESDAY, OCTOBER 20, 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 (B19994)

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 (B22644)

NEW HEARINGS

5719 – Improvement to a Non-Conforming Use – John Kuzemczak, owner, on behalf of himself, on premises known as 46 Normandy Road, Block: 2315, Lot: 5, Zone: S-50 (B23240)

5720 – Improvement to a Non-Conforming Use – William R. Spade, R.A., on behalf of Martin Nunnally, owner, on premises known as 919 Nepperhan Avenue, Block: 3075, Lot: 11, Zone: I (B23677)

5721 – Area Variance – James G. Dibbini, Esq., on behalf of FJ Milito Realty, LLC, owner, on premises known as 873 aka 875 McLean Avenue, Block: 6233, Lot: 5.13, Zone: B (B23277)

5722 – Use & Area Variance – Frank Vicari, owner, on behalf of himself, on premises known as 2 Ascot Road, Block: 4315, Lot: 25, Zone: S-50 (B21269)

5723 – Area Variance – Joseph Curto, Esq. and Thomas Haynes, R.A., on behalf of 123 Ridgewood Ave. Corp, owner, on premises known as 135 Ridgewood Avenue, Block: 6335, Lot: 5, Zone: S-50 (B21076)

5724 – Area Variance – Andrew Romano, Esq., on behalf of Orchard Street LLC, owner, on premises known as 125 Orchard Street, Block: 2174, Lot: 101, Zone: A (B22298)

JOSEPH CIANCIULLI, CHAIRMAN, ZBA FOR FULL AGENDA, PLEASE VISIT OUR WEBSITE:
<https://www.yonkersny.gov/government/meetings-agendas/-selcat-97/-toggle-all>

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS (RFP) #2020-17

AUDITING SERVICES

FOR THE PERIOD JULY 2020 THROUGH DECEMBER 2022 FOR THE MUNICIPAL HOUSING AUTHORITY FOR THE CITY OF YONKERS

The Municipal Housing Authority for the City of Yonkers (“MHACY”) hereby solicits proposals from qualified firms for auditing services for MHA-CY as specified in this Request for Proposals (“RFP”).

This RFP package contains submission requirements and terms and conditions and other pertinent information for submitting a proper and responsive proposal. This RFP is the only information provided to prospective bidders (hereinafter “Responders”) and is available online starting October 6, 2020 at www.mhacy.org.

The RFP questions deadline is October 21, at 4:00PM Eastern Standard Time (EST). Any and all questions must be emailed to Anthony Senerchia at bids@mhacy.org by the deadline. No telephone calls and/or written communication sent via mail will be accepted.

Proposals must reach MHACY no later than 2:00 PM (EST) on October 27, 2020. Late submissions will be handled in accordance with the provisions in Form HUD-5369B. Proposals will be evaluated on the criteria stated in the RFP. Negotiations may be conducted with Consultants who have a reasonable chance of being selected for the award.

After evaluation of the proposal revision, if any, the contract will be awarded to the responsible firm(s) whose qualifications, price and other factors are considered to be the most advantageous to MHACY.

MHACY reserves the right to reject any and all proposals and waive any irregularities or informalities if it is in MHACY’s best interest to do so. MHA-CY reserves the right to cancel this RFP or to reject, in whole or in part, any and all proposals received in response to this RFP, upon its determination that such cancellation or rejection is in its best interest.

MHACY is an Equal Opportunity Employer and does not discriminate on the basis of race, sexual orientation, color, national origin, sex, religion, age, disability, or family status. MHACY solicits and encourages the participation of minorities and small businesses in procurement.

Contact, related to this procurement, with members of MHACY’s Board of Commissioners, or MHACY’s officers and/or employees other than the contact person show above, during the procurement process could result in disqualification of a proposal.

Wilson Kimball, President & CEO
 Municipal Housing Authority for the City of Yonkers
 1511 Central Park Avenue Yonkers, New York 10710
 Project No. RFP 2020-17

Eric Schoen, continued from pg 3--

Now we hear that the White House has not called on the Centers for Disease Control to help them contact trace those who attended the Judicial Ceremony. They are allowing the White House to do its own tracing. You have some of the finest health professionals in the country at CDC. What training do the folks at the White House have in this field. One is assuming you are a friend of the Trumps if you attend a White House ceremony. Isn't that what friends are for, to let others in their social group know someone at the affair tested positive for Coronavirus!

Contract tracing. It's been around a long time. But I have my doubts as to whether or not it really works. The numbers coming back from the local agencies have not been promising. In some cases for every infected person they call that person is coming up with an average 1.5 contacts. It's the only system we have but unless you get substantial cooperation it's not going to work.

Did the President really need to leave the hospital for a 'ride around the block' over the weekend, exposing his Secret Service detail to the virus. Could the President have just gone to the window of this room and waved? Have a pool helicopter to take photos of him to share with the world.

But the worst message the President sent out was upon returning to the White House, climbing the stairs and abruptly removing his mask. People see that and wonder why they are wearing their masks when they don't even have Coronavirus. Children wonder why they have to mask up when they go to school or leave the house. Is the President so vain that he doesn't want to be seen wearing a mask?

President Trump is the leader of our country. Don't we have the right to know what's going on with his health. Why is there inconsistency with what the President's doctors are saying and his Chief of Staff is telling the press minutes later. All this does is confuse and upset the public and government leaders from around the world!

I heard on the Sunday morning talk shows that Congress did not have a system in place to test themselves for COVID-19 when they return to the Capitol from all points around the country. Congress was afraid that it would not look good to the American people if they had better testing than the public had. Can you believe this? People, mostly traveling on planes gathering together, many in their late 60's, 70's and 80's with no special testing protocols in place.

And Congress afraid something would not look good to the public? Who are we kidding here!

Should the Presidential and Vice President debates be called off or delayed. Do we really need these silly debates. Let's save that for another day.

Closer to home in parts of Rockland County and Queens and Brooklyn we see Coronavirus clusters timed exactly with the Jewish holidays and in mainly Orthodox Jewish neighborhoods. Were they not expecting outbreaks given people are not following the rules for social distancing and not wearing masks. All the governmental leaders are meeting with these communities now? And a very few in the Orthodox community feel the government is picking on them. The Governor and Mayor would not be meeting with these communities if they didn't have evidence that people are not following the guidelines.

And Halloween is on as scheduled in New Jersey. Just don't put the candy out in a basket where people grab in and touch multiple pieces. Line the candy up on a table where people can come buy and take a piece without touching other pieces. And over or under your Halloween mask you need to have the regular medical mask.

Candy on a table. Only in America! Please don't suffocate your child with 2 masks. Maybe skip the door to door thing this year!

Yes, what were they expecting? What is yet to come?

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.

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Sen. Mayer, Dr. Liv, continued from pg 1-

CSEA. I also work closely with the PTA and new parents groups. I don't run the school district but I fight for the Yonekrs schools in Albany."

Together with Senate Majority Leader Andrea Stewart-Cousins, Mayer was able to convince the Governor's office and the State Office of Budget not to make a 20% cut to State Aid for the YPS. That intervention was critical to avoid layoffs of teachers and staff.

"I view my role to focus on the state process and the impacts that it will have in Yonkers. I continue to advocate for the students, and I understand that a majority of parents and kids want the schools to be open. It's been hard for everyone."

One issue that Sen. Mayer wanted to clarify during our interview were "misrepresentations" in the public and the media, and modifications made to New York's Bail Reform law. The issue has become a hot button topic for supporters of law enforcement and the discussion over who should be incarcerated and for how long.

"When we did the bail reform bill, it was before the death of George Floyd. I had heard from police chiefs about concerns over repeat offenders committing misdemeanor offenses that were no longer eligible for bail. And people were upset.

"I pushed to get significant modifications to the law and now those who commit the same crime of damage to property or a person, the 2nd offense is now bail eligible. We also made changes to include domestic violence offenses. We acknowledged that there needed to be changes and now it is a better law. I appeared before many village boards in the middle of COVID, to have a conversation about this and we heard their concerns and made improvements," said Mayer.

Mayer said she is taking her re-election "very seriously." I never take any election for granted and I work for the people's vote every day as their Senator. Constituent services is an important part of my offices reputation and I personally handle many of those requests myself.

"I know that I have a responsibility to the people in the district to stand up and fight for them. This is a time for leadership and I know that I have more to achieve for my district, and I would be honored to have your vote. I'm not sitting back on my laurels, and I'm very comfortable having a conversation with those who disagree. This ia a trying time for everyone.

Dr. Liviu Saimovici is an Ophthalmologist and a member of the Mt Sinai Hospital Medical Staff. He is a Deputy Chief Police Surgeon for the New York State Troopers and has served as a Director of the New York Law Enforcement Foundation.

Two issues that "Dr. Liv" highlighted during a recent interview on WVOX was that he believes that students should return to school during COVID, and his strong support for law enforcement.

"COVID-19 has become purely political at this point. COVID-related deaths are back to pre-pandemic levels, yet the Democrats insist on keeping everything closed because of the upcoming election. We must put our children back in schools (safely and gradually), let small businesses reopen at a greater capacity and stop letting politics get in the way of prosperity and our children's future," said Dr. Liv.

On his support for law enforcement, Dr. Liv said, "Last year, radical politicians in Albany put our public safety at risk with their misguided bail and discovery "reforms." My top priority is to repeal the disastrous bail and discovery reforms that make our community less safe.

"Will Senator Mayer stand with our local law enforcement agencies and for public safety, or will she cave to radical elements within her party? Voters in the 37th Senate District have a right to know," concluded Dr. Saimovici.

"Our police departments across New York's 37th Senate District provide a critical service to our local communities," said Dr. Liv. "The push by far-left Democrats across New York state to 'defund' and dismantle police departments puts public safety at risk, and voters have a right to know if Shelley Mayer stands with the radical elements of her party."

Dr. Saimovici, who lives in Rye with his wife and daughter, came to America from Romania in 1972 in search of a better life.

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Notice of Sale

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NY 10601, on October 19, 2020 at 9:30 a.m. premises located in the City of Yonkers, County of Westchester, State of New York known as Section 1, Block 463 Lot(s) 25. Sold subject to the terms of sale and filed judgment of foreclosure. Bank Checks Only, must be payable to the Referee for 25%

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Judge Tom Daly, continued from pg 1-

campaign except for circumstances. Because of vacancies being filled and the Judicial cycle there were two other open seats this year and four other Democrats seeking them. Due to ballot placement and other intra-Party competitions Tom Daly wound up a few votes shy of the third Democratic ballot position and his WFP petitions were challenged since they did not gather enough valid signatures before they were shut down early due to Covid. Although Tom is a lifelong Democrat he will only appear on the Republican and Conservative lines. Please join me in voting for him there (you can still vote for one or two of your favorite Democrats too) and if you can support and/or attend this socially distant fundraiser on Tuesday night- I would be grateful. It is unfortunate that local politics has muddled Judge Daly's cross endorsement but Yonkers Voters are intelligent to vote for the most qualified Judge who would be Chief Justice next year if he is able to continue a Judge," wrote Lesnick.

Women for Daly, and Democrats for Daly are two other groups that have formed to support the Judge. Democrats for Daly, let my Mary Hoar, and Women for Daly led by Alesandra Restiano includes Karen Ramos, Marcia Klein and Dr. Beth Schoor-Lesnick, Wanda London, Donna Davis and Olasubomi Macauley.

October is National Domestic Violence Awareness Month. "Every 9 seconds, a woman in the U.S. is beaten or assaulted by a current or ex-significant other. 1 in 4 men are victims of some form of physical violence by an intimate partner. My work as the head of the Integrated Domestic Violence Part of Yonkers City Court is some of the most important work anyone can do," said Judge Daly, who has presided over the Domestic Violence Party in Yonkers since its inception 15 years ago.

Daly recently received two letters from former victims of domestic violence who received the legal support and help they needed from Judge Daly.

"I am a domestic violence survivor. I was fortunate enough to work for elected officials for 14 years. I worked with domestic violence organizations to spread education and awareness throughout the City of Yonkers.

"I truly understand the critical importance of electing judges with the legal knowledge, ethics, integrity and compassion that are needed to sit on the bench. Especially in the domestic violence part. I have advocated and helped navigate for women and a few men in the Yonkers court so that they could protect themselves and their children.

"I did this with the confidence that Judge Daly was there. His proven abilities as a judge left me knowing these families were in the best hands possible to receive the protections they needed to move forward and build productive and safe lives. When it pertains to domestic violence experience matters and lives are at stake," wrote a Daly supporter.

Another letter states, "I wanted to show my appreciation to you for being a fair judge. You were the only judge I ever saw that paid attention to all of the facts. My son is safe and happy in my custody. He is also smart and thriving well. He just started school in Pre-K and loves it. Once again thank you for paying attention."

Voters in Yonkers will elect three City Court Judges on November 3. The three democratic nominees for City Court are: Verris Shako, Dan Romano and Karen Best.

On Election Day November 3, voters will have to look for Judge Daly's name on the republican line and vote for him there. As one voter wrote in an email to Yonkers Rising, "the people of Yonkers need to take politics out of their elections for Judge."

"Remember that this year there will be at least two new judges elected with no experience. Let us elect a judge to the City Court who has the experience and who has demonstrated that he has the demeanor to hear every case in an impartial and honest way. That person is Tom Daly. I'm a democrat all my life but I will be voting for Daly on November 3," said Thomas Krozner.

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Daniel J. Murphy, Publisher/Editor dmurphy@risingmediagroup.com. Legal notice email to risinglegalnotice@gmail.com

JB Smooth Says Fill Out the Census



Actor and Comedian JB Smoove a Mount Vernon native, urged the residents of his hometown to fill out their Census as the October 31st deadline fast approaches. The “Curb Your Enthusiasm” actor highlighted the importance of the Census and what it means for the community. JB, is pictured above center, with Mayor Shawyn Patterson-Howard, left and FiL Straughan.

Yonkers History, continued from pg 5-

being taken care of by an ambulance surgeon, Fogarty arrested the driver and brought him to the New York’s 57th Precinct.

October 17, 1926: Mrs. Gordon Morris of the Women’s Committee for Law Enforcement told the Yonkers branch of the National Council of Jewish Women that repeal of the Eighteenth Amendment would never happen during their lifetime. She added if the Democratic Party held to a “wet platform” it would lose badly in the 1928 election as “...three quarters of the states” were “permanently dry.”

Sunday, October 18th

October 18, 1937: Superintendent of Schools Dr. W. W. Ankenbrand, informed the members of the Yonkers Board of Education they were required to provide soap and paper towels in the schools; the New York State Ed Department had made stricter regulations for the school health service. Several PTAs had protested the lack of facilities, stating teachers and parents had to make up the failure of the schools to provide adequate sanitary supplies. Only five elementary schools had soap and towels; one more had supplies for part of the year... two had paper towels, leaving eighteen grammar schools with neither soap nor towels. Two high schools had towels, and no soap, one had both, and two had neither.

October 18, 1943: Private Andrew Sutton, formerly Patrolman Andrew Sukowsky of YPD, while taking basic training in the Military Police School at Fort Custer MI, won a ten dollar first prize on Michigan radio program “Let’s make Conversation.” Formerly a Gorton High School athlete, Sutton was asked the question, “Is Marriage Complete Without Children?” He spoke so lovingly about his Yonkers wife and son, that the audience voted him first prize without hesitation. The Private later told friends he thought the audience had to be mostly married men with children, “judging by the applause” they gave him.

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

Remembering John McCann



John “John John” McCann sadly and peacefully passed away on October 4, 2020 at the age of 49 due to complications of ALS.

John was born on September 30, 1971 in the Bronx. When he was 14, he got a job as a mechanic and that’s where his love of cars truly blossomed. He loved his job and all the people he met throughout the years working as a mechanic. He also had a passion for computers and loved doing anything involved with computers.

John truly lived his life to the fullest through simple pleasures like working on cars and spending quality time laughing and making memories with family and friends. He was renowned for always helping anyone out no matter what and never saying no to anything asked of him.

John was dearly loved by his family and friends and will be missed tremendously. He is survived by his high school sweetheart and loving wife, Laura, his parents, Carolann McCann and Nicholas Lillo, his sisters, Dawn McCann, Annmarie Lillo and Nicole Lillo and his niece and goddaughter, Arianna Soto. He is also survived by many cousins, aunts and uncles.

Family, friends and others whose lives John touched are invited to pay their final respects on Friday October 9, 2020 from 4-8pm at the Community Home For Funerals, 601 Yonkers Ave, Yonkers, NY 10704.

In lieu of flowers, donations can be made in memory of John’s name to the Compassionate Care ALS or the MAC Angels Foundation. Photo by Donna Davis.

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 - Yonkers Democratic Party
 - Yonkers Conservative Party
 - Yonkers Independence Party
 - Yonkers Working Families Party

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