

Yonkers Rising

PRESORT-STD
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
White Plains, NY
Permit #7164

Yonkerstimes.com

www.RisingMediaGroup.com

Friday November 6, 2020

Yonkers Community Groups Battle Battle With UPS Moves to Court



Local homeowners in Yonkers, represented by Attorney Joel Sachs, of the White Plains law firm of Keane & Beane PC have filed an Article 78 proceedings in Westchester County Supreme Court. Petitioners include The Grassy Sprain Civic Association, Sprain Lake Knolls Civic Association and Winchester Homeowners Association that represent several hundred households in close proximity to the site.

This action seeks to overturn three recent decisions by the City's Planning Board regarding construction at 555 Tuckahoe Rd. Yonkers. The suit asserts that city officials completely ignored the concerns of over 2000 households surrounding the UPS location. It cites environmental, public health, safety and welfare and quality of life concerns.

The parties named in this action are the City Planning Board, Roman Kozicky Chairman of Yonkers Planning Board, Vincent Pici Commissioner of Housing and Buildings, UPS, tenant of the site at 550 Tuckahoe Road owned by Alfred Weissman Weissman Real Estate LLC and Its subsidiary, Tuckahoe Owners LLC.

The suit claims United Parcel Service (UPS) made improper statements regarding their site plan application and numerous misstatements and misrepresentations in official documents; and that actions taken by UPS and city officials prior to the granting of site plan approval were arbitrary, capricious and unlawful.

The lawsuit asks that the Yonkers Planning Board rescind the Site Plan Approval issued to UPS on Aug 19, and require UPS to prepare an Environmental Impact Statement, allow residents to participate in the Planning Board review process, including holding a public hearing and issuing an injunction prohibiting further construction on the site by UPS and preventing Commissioner Vincent Pici from issuing any permits and certificates of occupancy to UPS.

Clare Gallagher, founder of StopUPS stated "This is not just a matter of the quiet enjoyment of our homes. This is about our safety, future health of our families. First and foremost, we demand that no fuel tanks be included on this development. This presents an unnecessary additional environmental

continued on pg 7-

Seniors Say No to Dog Park



Some residents have signed a petition against, the construction of a dog park in the back of the Spreckman Senior Center on McLean Ave.

By Dan Murphy

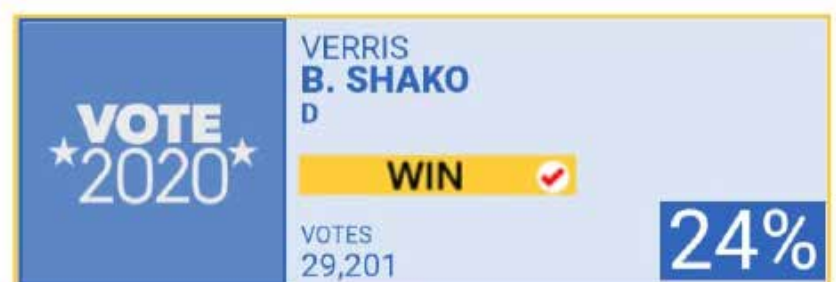
Concerned residents and seniors who attend the Bernice Spreckman Community Center at 777 McLean Avenue, have circulated a petition against the construction of a Dog Park behind the senior center at Coyne Park. "We are respectfully asking, for a moratorium of all construction until there is a hearing of community stakeholders regarding the construction of the dog park at 777 McLean Avenue, Yonkers, NY 10704, Coyne Park/Bernice Speckman Community Center.

"We are asking (15 City officials, elected and parks staff) to immediately stop executing the plans to construct a dog run (dog park) adjacent to the indoor community center and instead move the dog park to an empty lot across the green park area. Please be aware currently that several seniors are affected by allergies from Domestic pets, dogs being in that category, and this current plan is negligent of the medical conditions of seniors and children. We are asking that the dog run/dog park not be placed within 300 feet of the Bernice Spreckman Center at 777 McLean Ave, Yonkers, NY 10704 indoor space. We believe the Bernice Speckman Center is under the jurisdiction of the City of Yonkers, per <https://www.yonkersny.gov/government/departments/parks-recreation-conservation/parks-facilities/senior-centers>.

"We are respectfully asking that you please move the dog park to a location where it will not interfere with the health of immune-compromised individuals such as Senior Citizens and Pre-school aged children. Whereas, we highlight, already, the city has been negligent in providing reasonable accommodations for seniors who have needs based on disabilities. We have not been litigious while we wait for our needs to be met. We are currently, engaging in high risk adjustments, while the city works diligently to get the building up to code, which should be the priority since it is a health and

continued on pg 7-

Yonkers Votes in Election 2020 Democrats Win Across The Board



By Dan Murphy

One wise, Yonkers political observer told me in the days after the Democratic Primary on June 23 that the City had become a supermajority democratic City. Yonkers Democratic Chair Tom Meier has also spoke about the unsurmountable edge that democrats hold over republicans, and how that advantage is growing every year.

The 'Blue Wave' that hit Westchester in 2017 never left Yonkers, as three democratic candidates for City Court Judge won election. With thousands of absentee votes left the count, Dan Romano, Karen Best and Verris Shako all hold a 9,000 vote lead over Judge Tom Daly, who ran on the republican line after losing the primary.

In the days and weeks before Nov. 3, Daly's supporters rallied to his cause, and urged voters to re-elect him to the Yonkers bench. But despite these efforts, and despite political errors and blunders by one candidate, democrats went into the polls on election day, and in the days before, and voted to remove President Trump, casting their ballot for Joe Biden and then voting straight republican all the way down the line.

Dan Romano received the most votes for City Court, which shows his broad appeal from all voters in Yonkers. Congratulations to Romano and

continued on pg 6-

YoFiFest Showcases Yonkers Fims and Filmmakers Online



The eighth annual YoFiFest Film Festival is online this year! Their Virtual Cinema opened last Friday, with all of the movies being offered on demand, so audience from around the globe can watch all the great films in the festival when and where they want. Then, starting on November 7th, audiences can also join the live, online Red Carpet Kick-Off Party, interactive Q&A's with the filmmakers, free workshops ranging from crowdfunding to screenwriting, an Audience Choice Award Ceremony, and more!

Although they're showing 142 fantastic films from 16 countries around the globe that showcase a wide variety of stories and styles, the festival has always had a soft spot for local filmmakers and has made an effort to showcase their work and help it find an audience. "It's exciting to see the increase in the number and quality of films from the lower Hudson Valley, Westchester and Yonkers that are submitted," said Patty Schumann, the festival's co-founder and programmer, "And it's always a treat for us to be able to show off our hometown filmmakers."

This year, filmmakers from the YO include Alana Barrett-Adkins, with her feature film "Asunder, One Flesh Divided", which focuses on the life of a successful, prospering, yet distant married couple who is thrust into the den of conflict after an incident changes their relationship forever; Donald Wilson, with his short film "Our Day" about a couple who find a silver lining during a difficult time in their lives; Anthony Colon, with his spoken word piece "His-Story" about the day to day deplorable conditions that New York City Housing Authority residents endure; and Carlos Renaso, with his

continued on pg 6-

Yonkers Movie Theaters Open Hollywood Needs to get us new Movies ASAP



Movie theaters across New York state got the green light from Governor Andrew Cuomo to open last week. One of the problems with getting customers off their couches and back into theaters is the lack of new movies coming out of hollywood.

Movies like WonderWoman 1984, pictured above, have been delayed until Christmas for its movie theater premier. When movie theaters dimmed their lights due to the global pandemic, our homes became a cinema in the time of coronavirus, with certain films made available on VOD or to stream much earlier than expected. Other movies, like Black Widow, Ghostbusters: Afterlife, and Pixar's Soul and Tenet have been delayed until 2021.

Some of us are willing to go back to the theaters, as a simple date night, or just to get out of the house, but I won't go see Ferris Buehler or some of the other greatest hits. Haven't we watched every great old movie while we were under stay at home? I have also had enough of microwave popcorn.

Two good movies that you can see in Theaters soon is Hillbilly Eligy and Mank. Netflix will try to keep us at home by featuring Coming to America--2 next month. The War with Grandpa, starring Robert DeNiro is now playing at your local theater, but I can't recommend it.

To think about it another way, going back to the movies will help give someone their job back. In Yonkers, Showcase Cinema de Lux at Cross County Center is NOW OPEN! Enjoy the latest movies on the big screen, the way they were meant to be seen. Pre-order tickets and concessions online at www.showcasecinemas.com.

IDA OK's Incentives for 56 Prospect Street Apartments



The Yonkers Industrial Development Agency (YIDA) Board voted preliminary approval of financial incentives for 56 Prospect Street, a \$32.6 million, 7-story residential building featuring 126 rental units of which 13 will be designated as affordable under the City's Affordable Housing Program. The project, which received preliminary approval at the IDA's October 28 meeting, is estimated to create 250 construction jobs and six permanent full-time jobs.

Located on several vacant properties on the corners of Prospect Street, Buena Vista Avenue and Hawthorne Avenue, the project will be comprised of 90 studios, 18 one-bedroom units and 18 two-bedroom units with a rooftop terrace overlooking the Hudson River. The units will have full-sized kitchens, large fully accessible bathrooms and individual laundry facilities.

There will be a private landscaped courtyard on the first-floor residential level with benches and picnic tables. The building will have an underground parking garage for 130 cars. Security for the building will be provided by a decorative fence around the perimeter and security-controlled access gates. The building will utilize a "green roof" and other sustainable features. The developer of the project is 56 Prospect Holdings LLC of Melville, NY.

In other business, the IDA Board approved a resolution authorizing grants and loans under the City's State Disaster Emergency (SDE) Award Program. A total of \$442,500 in grants and loans were approved for 28 Yonkers businesses and not-for profits.

New Law Requires You to Put Your Seat Belt on in the Backseat



Senator David Carlucci's law (S.4336), requiring all passengers buckle up in the back seat took effect on Nov. 1. Now, adult passengers along with the driver can be ticketed \$50 if not wearing their seat belt. The new law also applies to adult passengers of ride sharing services like Uber and Lyft, outside of New York City.

Senator David Carlucci said, "The simple fact is that seat belts save lives and prevent tragedies. It does not matter your age or where you sit in the vehicle. We want to raise awareness about the new law, and make sure people buckle up. It is a common misconception by many adults that they do not have to wear their seat belt in the back seat because they think it is safer. However, AAA Northeast found an unbelted rear seat passenger in a vehicle accident is two times more likely to be killed, eight times more likely to be seriously injured, and two times more likely to kill a front seat occupant by becoming a projectile. In New York State, over the last decade, 296 people over the age of 16 have been killed, while unrestrained in the back seat of a motor vehicle.



Expert doctors close to home. Don't delay your health needs.

Find expert doctors here for you right now, ready to provide safe, in-person appointments and video visits. Primary care and specialists, including Columbia doctors. There are over 50 doctors' offices with same-day, early, late and weekend hours available.

To find a doctor today, visit nyp.org/medicalgroups or call 914-787-2200 now.

NewYork-Presbyterian

COLUMBIA | **newyork-presbyterian**

Yonkers Public Library Launches Free Digital Newspaper Archive



Yonkers Public Library (YPL) announces the launch of a new digital archive of local newspapers: the Yonkers News Archive. The Yonkers News Archive contains over 1.2 million pages of digitized newsprint from local newspapers ranging from the Civil War era to the late 1990s. The digitized publications include the Yonkers Examiner (1857-1863), Yonkers Gazette (1868-1893), Yonkers Statesman (1863-1932), Yonkers Herald (1891-1932), and the Herald Statesman (1932-1998).

The archive is the result of a partnership between YPL and newspapers.com. YPL shared its extensive microfilm collection, which contains over 950 reels of microfilmed local newspapers, with Newspapers.com, a member of the Ancestry.com family. Newspapers.com then scanned and digitized the microfilm, and created an online portal for YPL visitors to keyword search the digitized newsprint. The company has already returned the microfilm reels to YPL. The only costs incurred by the library were shipping fees.

Visitors to the Yonkers News Archive can “clip,” print, and save scanned images of newspaper articles. They can also create a free Newspapers.com account to organize and share clipped articles.

Yonkers Mayor Mike Spano applauded the archive: “Making Yonkers’ deep and rich history accessible to the community ignites excitement and pride for our city. Congratulations to the Yonkers Public Library for this innovative and invaluable resource. Never before has so much of the city’s 19th and pre-Internet 20th Century history been so easily searchable or shareable.”

“The Yonkers News Archive will be a great tool for anyone conducting genealogy research, studying the history of their home or neighborhood, writing the next great book about our city, or simply looking to relive memories of Yonkers past.” said YPL Director Jesse Montero.

The full Yonkers News Archive can be accessed by visiting any of YPL’s three locations and connecting to one of its public computers or using the free wireless network onsite. More information about the Yonkers News Archive, including a video tutorial, can be found at ypl.org/yonkers-news-archive. A more limited “remote” edition of the archive, containing the Yonkers Examiner (1857-1863) and Yonkers Gazette (1868-1893), can be accessed by visiting ypl.newspapers.com.

Patrons who are unable to visit YPL locations can get local history research assistance by emailing localhistory@ypl.org.

Fourth Precinct Community Council

Because of COVID, the Fourth Precinct Community Council will hold its monthly meeting by a ZOOM telephone meeting at 7:00 PM on Thursday November 19. You can attend the meeting from home on your telephone. Please be aware this is an open meeting, and there is no agenda. If you want to say something, just find an opening, and say it.

To participate in the ZOOM meeting, Call (646) 876-9923 and Enter Meeting ID 445-678-6822, and identify yourself. If the line drops, and you get disconnected during the meeting, just hang up and call again. Please don't use the “speaker phone” option as it causes “feedback.” Thank you.

GET YOUR COMPUTER FIXED IN THE COMFORT OF YOUR HOME

Remote Support for:

- Adware/spyware
- Speed up computer
- Install software
- Email issues
- Pop-ups
- Printer & scanner support

\$40 OFF
FLAT FEE UNLIMITED SERVICE

Must mention code **88407** for promo price

Call Us Now at 844 245 3414

Tax Foreclosed Real Estate Auction

Saratoga County • Online Only

All parcels available: Lots, Acreage, Homes, Commercial Properties
Due to COVID-19 restrictions and regulations, this auction will be conducted 100% online.

Online Auction Starts November 17th, 10AM
Online Auction Closing Begins December 2nd, 10AM

“Action Required”

To participate in this online only auction, please visit our website and complete the “Online Bidding Registration Process” which is available on our website at www.auctions.com by the deadline of 11:59 PM, 11/17/20.

For complete information, visit www.auctions.com or call 800-836-1401, Ext. 110

AUCTIONS INTERNATIONAL

“Selling Surplus Assets 7 Days a Week Online”

SUNPOWER®

Go Solar with SunPower!

1-866-588-0476

Dewey Defeats Truman



By Eric W. Schoen

No friends, I haven’t lost it. When you have an early deadline on Election Day where the President of the United States is, as they say in boxing the main card, you want to give your readers every bit of information you have on what’s going on.

Most of us were not alive to remember it but that was the erroneous banner headline on the Chicago Tribune the day after Election Day in 1948. The race ended up the other way around with the incumbent President Harry Truman winning.

Why was the headline wrong? For about a year prior to the 1948 election, the printers who operated the linotype machines, a composing machine producing lines of words as strips of metal at the Chicago Tribune and other Chicago papers had been on strike, in protest of the Taft–Hartley Act. The Labor Management Relations Act of 1947, better known as the Taft–Hartley Act, is a United States federal law that restricts the activities and power of labor unions. It was enacted by the 80th United States Congress over the veto of President Harry S. Truman, becoming law on June 23, 1947.

Around the same time, the Tribune had switched to a method by which copy for the paper was composed on typewriters (you remember them!) photographed, and then engraved onto the printing plates. This process required the paper to go to press several hours earlier than usual causing the mistake.

Rest assured friends, you will get no prediction on who won the extremely close 2020 Presidential Election from me.

As we wait for the results which, as we saw in Bush vs. Gore can take several days or weeks, what better time to feast on an Election Cake. Election Cake is a yeast-leavened sweet bread reminiscent of an old-fashioned coffee ring. Many years ago, it was an American tradition that after voting and exiting the polls, each voter would receive a slice of Election Cake.

The first recipe for American Election Cake appears in 1796 in the first U.S. cookbook, Amelia Simmons’ American Cookery. You can read more about the history of the cake on the web page of the New England Historical Society. As we wait for the Presidential results, I think this cake is something we should make fashionable again to enjoy with our eyes glued to the television screen and radio.

Sadly, the Election parties where candidates supporters gather awaiting results won’t be occurring this year due to Covid. They are exciting events as poll watchers bring in the results on sheets of paper and the sheets are tallied. With everything electronic we now simply turn on News 12 or listen on the radio or internet or watch the Board of Elections website for the latest results.

The Early Voting this year went as well as could have been expected. This was the first year it was used in a Presidential Election which of course brings larger numbers of people to the polls. Some of the lines, some 2-3 hours plus were partially as a result of social distancing. But the bottom line next Presidential election is that Boards of Elections will need to bring more machines to the early voting sites.

And despite excellent pay (or better pay than in prior years), with Covid it was hard to get Election Inspectors, the individuals who sign you in and monitor the scanning machines that you put your ballot into. The Election Inspectors have a long day, are quite often situated in less than ideal environments with Covid making the job that much more difficult and dangerous. So let’s give a big hand and hearty congratulation and thank you to those who manned the polls.

There is a proposal in Albany that would require counties throughout New York State to open at least one early voting location for every 25,000 voters. Under current state law, counties are required to have one site per 50,000 voters, but no county is required to have more than seven locations. In New York City, the legislation would more than double the 88 polling locations the city originally opened for early voting this year

I don’t know if you need as many machines for non-presidential elections where turnouts particularly in local election years can be quite low, but we can’t have people waiting in the rain and cold as we had this year for hours to vote.

As I said last week, I hark for the good old days with the lever machines, poll workers using big books to sign you in, and candidates showing up at the polls with boxed cookies or cake. I would always tell the candidate I worked for to put a sticker on the box that said, ‘Thank You Poll Workers for A Great Job! Harry Truman-Candidate for President.’ The poll workers should remove the sticker if the cookies or cake sat out in the open.

Many did not. So you go to vote, you see a nice candidate brought the workers a nosh, and if you hadn’t made up your mind it was a last minute push to get you to vote for the respective candidate. The secrets you learn participating in the process year after year!

I would like to have had the Board of Elections send I VOTED stickers when they received my mail in ballot to not only prove I voted but also that they re-

continued on pg 7-

Prepare for power outages with a Generac home standby generator

SCHEDULE YOUR FREE IN-HOME ASSESSMENT TODAY!

877-516-1160

FREE

7-Year Extended Warranty* A \$695 Value!

Offer valid August 24, 2020 - December 31, 2020

Special Financing Available
Subject to Credit Approval

*Terms & Conditions Apply

Learn About Light and Planets at Hudson River Museum



Outdoor Astro Show: Rainbows, Exoplanets, and Aliens! Sundays at 12:30, 2, & 3:30pm-Sunday Nov. 15.

Most things in space are so far away that visiting them in person isn't currently possible, but the light they give off can tell us (almost) everything we need to know. We can uncover exoplanets, find out what things are made of, and, just maybe... find aliens!

Join us in the Museum Courtyard as we demonstrate how light is used to investigate these questions. We'll connect rainbows and barcodes, noisemakers, and neutron stars. Can you identify the mystery materials? #Free with general admission.

The Sky Tonight: Live-Streamed Planetarium Show, Thursday's at 7pm

We may not be able to sit together under the Planetarium dome, but we invite you to join our science educators from the comfort of your home for this live-streamed "The Sky Tonight" show via Zoom.

Through an online planetarium simulator, learn about the skies of November, including the reappearance of the spectacular constellation Orion, the planets currently gracing our evening skies, and other sights big and small. We'll also cover the latest space news and exciting discoveries.

Just like programs in the Planetarium, we'll be able to take questions—this time through chat and comments. Recommended for general audiences, ages 8+.

Visit HRM.org for more information.

Schoen, continued from pg 3-

ceived my ballot. Something to think about in the future.

Everyone from the Governor on down moans and groans about how poorly the election process works. They want to professionalize the Board of Elections taking politics and patronage out of The Board and bringing in professionals or civil servants running the operation. These moans and groans are as old as time, and as long as the decision as to who will run the elections is made by politicians politicians will run the Boards of Elections.

In Westchester until recently you had both Board of Elections Commissioners as chairs of their respective county political parties. Frankly this poses a conflict of interest and should never be allowed to happen.

Its sad to see New York City stores boarding up their beautiful windows in fear that there will be rioters and looters in the streets no matter who wins the election. Come on folks we are better than that! These poor stores were closed for months due to Covid and they need to earn back every dollar they can. No matter who wins the Election you still have to pay taxes and they are still going to go up. Sad to see some of the finest restaurants in New York City and Westchester close their doors in fear of looters on Election Day.

CNN has anchors, producers and staff scheduled round the clock for the next few days because they think the election will be close and they want to be there when one candidate claims victory and the other candidate concedes. Friends I think it's going to be a long couple of days before we know the true winner.

But one thing we all can be sure of. Truman defeated Dewey in 1948! Take that to the bank!

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

Yonkers Police Investigate Fatal Waverly Street Fire

On Monday, November 2nd, 2020, at approximately 3:48 AM, members of the Yonkers Police and Fire Departments responded to 144 Waverly Street on a report of a fire inside the building. Upon arrival First Responders located smoke and fire inside the first-floor apartment of the two-story structure. Firefighters brought the fire under control and cleared the building. Several people were injured as a result of the fire, including one fatality and one victim presently in critical condition. Police cordoned-off the scene and parallel arson and criminal investigations were initiated.

Detectives from the Major Case Squad, Crime Scene Unit, and Yonkers Police and Fire Department Arson Investigators responded to the scene, interviewing subjects and witnesses, recovering surveillance video, and processing forensic and trace evidence. Preliminary investigation has yielded evidence that an accelerant may have been used to start the fire: it appears that the first-floor apartment was occupied by eight persons, seven members of the same family and one guest; the oldest member of the family, 75-year-old Victorino Martinez perished at scene; a 49-year-old female victim, the spouse of Martinez, suffered severe burns to over seventy-five percent of her body and is currently in critical condition at a local trauma center; their three adult children suffered serious non-life-threatening injuries, and two young children were being treated for shock and smoke inhalation.

No other injuries were reported at scene. Investigators are actively working to determine the sequence of events and are examining every possibility, including the likely potential that this incident was domestic in nature. Additional information may be released as it becomes available, and the contents of this press release are subject to change.

Anyone with information regarding this incident is encouraged to contact the Yonkers Police Detective Division at (914) 377-7724 – all calls will remain confidential. 100% anonymous tips can be sent by texting the key word YPD plus the tip to 84741.

Yonkers BOE District Office and City of Yonkers Offices at One Larkin Closed to Non-Essential Staff

Friday, October 30 through Tuesday, November 3, 2020

In consultation with the Westchester County Health Department, the Yonkers Public Library Riverfront Branch and Voting in the library atrium will remain Open to the Public.

Superintendent of Schools Dr. Edwin M. Quezada announced that the Board of Education district offices and the City of Yonkers offices at One Larkin Center will be closed to non-essential staff tomorrow, Friday, October 30, 2020 through Tuesday, November 3, 2020. Today, two staff members who work at the Board of Education notified the District that they received positive COVID-19 test results.

The decision to close these offices was made after consultation with Westchester County Commissioner of Health, Dr. Sherlita Amler. The District's Health Services staff who work with the Westchester County Health Department regarding every COVID-19 situation in the Yonkers Public Schools follows New York State Contact Tracing guidelines.

Following CDC guidelines, the Yonkers Board of Education District Office and the City of Yonkers offices at One Larkin Center will be thoroughly cleaned and sanitized prior to reopening on Wednesday, November 4, 2020.

In consultation with the Westchester County Health Department, the Yonkers Public Library Riverfront Branch and the voting in the library atrium will remain open to the public. There is no comingling of the staffs between the Board of Education and the Library.

Out of an abundance of caution and consideration for concerns of employees, the Board of Education and City of Yonkers personnel at One Larkin Center were offered COVID-19 rapid tests.

All staff were reminded to monitor their health regarding fever over 100 degrees or other cold or flu-like symptoms should see their medical professional or contact the District's Health Services Office. Staff members who have any questions may contact the District's Health Services Office at 914 376-8226 or email the District's Chief Physician Dr. Ammir Rabadi at ARABADI1@yonkerspublicschools.org.

United Way to Distribute 70,000 Blankets: Nolan Foundation Hands Out 350 to MB Church



James Nolan, right, delivers blankets from United Way to Messiah Baptist Church



L to R: Mark Blandford, Diamond Properties; Michelle Pollas of Human Development Services West; Tom Gabriel, United Way Kemi Pogue, Hit a Home Run Against Drugs.

With winter closing in and necessities in short supply due to COVID-19, United Way of Westchester and Putnam (UWWP) will be giving away 700,000 duvets, blankets and pillows to be distributed to social services agencies, schools, homeless shelters in Westchester, the Bronx and other locations in the metro area.

The shipment of desperately needed supplies are thanks to Delta Air Lines and a coalition of groups including Good360, Penske Logistics, and Diamond Properties, who worked together to make sure the supplies got into the hands of those who needed them most.

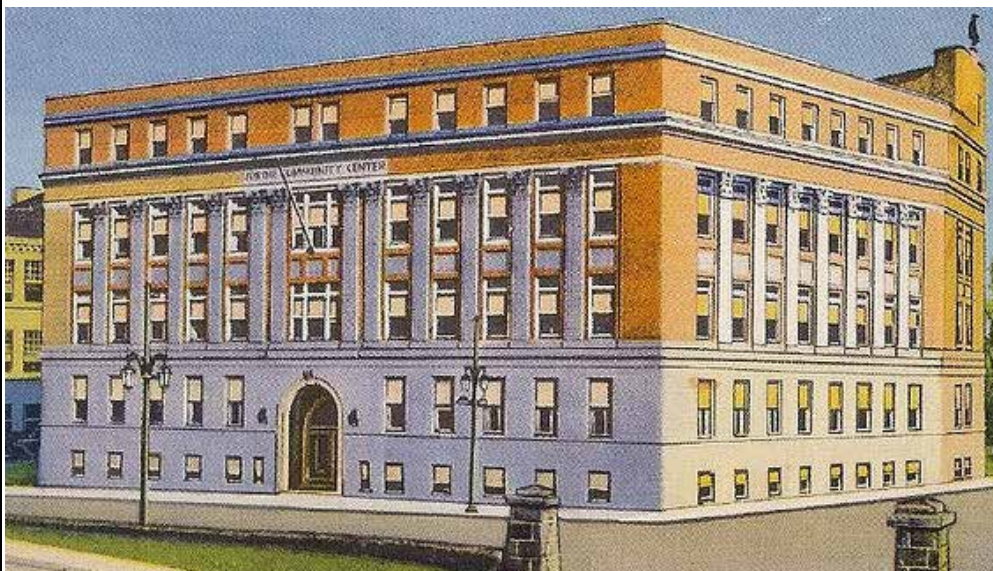
Several hundred agencies are expected to receive goods from Monday, October 26th through Friday, November 13th. "More than 40% of our neighbors are living in poverty, paycheck to paycheck or are food insecure right now. Winter is always a difficult time, but with the pandemic and the depletion of supplies, these blankets and pillows generously donated by Delta Air Lines will keep hundreds of thousands of our neighbors warm in the coming months. We also want to thank Good360, Penske Logistics and Diamond Properties for the assistance," said Tom Gabriel, president and CEO of United Way of Westchester and Putnam. "It is partnerships like these that help us to fulfill our mission to lift up people in crisis to self-sufficiency."

"We are proud to partner with United Way to reach organizations, shelters and communities in need across the country," said Allison Ausband, Delta's Senior Vice President – In-Flight Service. "Our mission is to connect the world and giving back is a big part of that. Now more than ever, we must remember to come together, give what we can and support those who need it most."

Faith Butcher, Chief Impact Officer for UWWP, said United Way is asking agencies in need of blankets and pillows to contact UWWP. United Way is also looking for volunteers to help load donations as well as greet and check-in agencies who are picking up donations. Agencies and volunteers can contact UWWP at www.uwwp.org or call 914-997-6700 for more information.

One Yonkers community service group, The Michael Nolan Foundation, reached out the United Way and James Nolan said, "I dropped off over 350 blankets to Messiah Baptist Church in Yonkers. These blankets will help many in Yonkers and go a long way to keeping many warm during the cold weather days. Today's blanket donation marks over 1,300 blankets that have been donated with many more to come!"

On This Day in Yonkers History ...



JCC Center, South Broadway

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

Monday, November 9th

November 9, 1902: Postmaster Osterheld requested all Yonkers residents provide mailboxes at their homes and business. He said this action would speed up mail service as most homes do not have them.

November 9, 1927: One of the most joyous political celebrations Yonkers ever saw followed the election of Thomas Larkin as Mayor. More than two thousand people milled around his home, and then carried him in an open car at the head of an impromptu parade.

November 9, 1942: Dozens of people protested to the Herald Statesman about Mayor Benjamin Barnes' proclamation recommending flags be flown half mast on Armistice Day; the Flag Etiquette Code stated flags should fly at the top of the mast on Armistice Day.

Tuesday, November 10th

November 10, 1942: With the major objective of the City Manager League met, Chairman Horace Gray resigned; he stated with the "establishment of a good city government," he was anxious to spend more time on his law practice.

November 10, 1946: Highland Place's Samuel Pinsley's new Diesel engine was dedicated on the Saratoga-Schuylerville Railroad; a huge celebration was held on the train while heading to Schuylerville. His daughter Marjorie dedicated the engine with a bottle of champagne; children turned out in huge numbers to get a free ride on the train, getting on the train at each station along the route. Pinsley was honored at a banquet held by the Mayor of Saratoga and local businessmen. Several of his Yonkers friends also attended the celebration; Pinsley not only was the Chairman of the Jewish Community Center's Board of Governors, he had taken over the Presidency of the Railroad six months earlier.

Wednesday, November 11th:

November 11, 1924: Former Park Hill resident Hope Hampton and her attorney, Max Steuer, intently watched the opening of Madame Pompadour. Cast in the title role, Hampton had been let go during the out of town try-outs and replaced with Wilda Bennett. The pair had no plans to stop the production; instead, they planned to sue for Hampton's weekly salary of \$1000 as partial compensation for damage she suffered to her reputation. Hampton at one time lived at 85 Rockland Avenue.

November 11, 1953: The Hudson River Museum opened its exhibition of sketches of Yonkers WACs who served during WW II. The artist, Francis Vendeveer Kughler, had sketched and painted portraits of 50 Yonkers servicewomen who volunteered in 1943 and 1944; the portraits were done under special arrangement with the War Department and T. Armour Smith, former director of the museum.

Thursday, November 12th:

November 12, 1902: Once again Yonkers imprisoned a reckless automobile driver for speeding in our city. Police began "practical measures" to get evidence against all "headlong" drivers; the hope was that irresponsible drivers either would drive at the legal and safe speed or avoid Yonkers all together.

November 12, 1916: Admiral Robert Peary delivered an exciting lecture to the Nappeckamack Club, speaking about his many polar adventures.

November 12, 1925: The Board of Education approved electrification of all school buildings, with both Leslie Sutherland and Lucie Vance stating it was "imperative because of possible fire hazards." The cost of replacing gaslight in all schools was estimated to be \$44,000.

Friday, November 13th:

November 12, 1893: The Westchester County Board of Supervisions met to allow the five Yonkers Supervisors to take their seats in accordance with the decision of the Court of Appeals. The State Legislature had passed a law giving Yonkers, with one-third of Westchester's population and responsible for one-third of the county tax payments, one Supervisor for each ward. The Board attacked the legislation as unconstitutional and refused to seat the men. They took the dispute to the courts, resulting in ruling after ruling in favor of Yonkers. After the Court of Appeals affirmed the constitutionality of the law, the five Yonkers men finally were seated after waiting for almost eighteen months. Seated were Alanson Prime, T. J. Percival, P. J. Cunniff, Jeremiah Clancey and William McPherson.

continued on pg 6--

YONKERS seniors



ARE YOU CARING FOR AN OLDER ADULT?
JOIN US FOR SOME CARING CONVERSATIONS ABOUT CAREGIVING

TUESDAY NOVEMBER 10TH • 3PM
 DAY TO DAY CAREGIVING FOR OLDER ADULTS & MENTAL HEALTH SUPPORT FOR CAREGIVERS
 Who will take your loved one to the doctor? Prepare their meals? Do their laundry? And how are you handling the stress of it all?

TUESDAY NOVEMBER 17TH • 3PM
 HOUSING TRANSITION
 NURSING HOME VS ASSISTED LIVING VS SENIOR HOUSING
 Making difficult decisions about transitions. There is help.

TUESDAY NOVEMBER 24TH • 3PM
 FINANCIAL & LEGAL
 A conversation about taking over someone's finances and making decisions about their healthcare.
 A Caregiver's first steps and the essential legal documents they will need.

For more information and to register
 email - kelly.chiarella@yonkersny.gov
 or call - (914)377-6826

Livable Communities
 Westchester County
 A Vision for All Ages

FREE! Savings include an American Standard Right Height Toilet FREE! (MSRP Value)

WALK-IN BATHTUB SALE! SAVE \$1,500

✓ Backed by American Standard's 100 years of experience
 ✓ Most low entry for easy entering & exiting
 ✓ Patented "Soft Seal" Technology
 ✓ Lifetime Warranty on the built-in installation
 ✓ 2021 ADA Compliant
 ✓ 44 Hydrotherapy jets for an indulgent massage

TV

888-809-0248
 Or visit: www.usstandard.com/yonkers

AGENDA FOR ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS
October 29, 2020

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE: THE CITY OF YONKERS ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS MEETING SCHEDULED FOR TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 17, 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

5725 – Non-Conforming Use & Area Variance – Andrew Romano, Esq., on behalf of St. Casimir Realty LLC, owner, on premises known as 10 St. Casimir Avenue, Block: 2040, Lot: 16, Zone: I (B23471)

JOSEPH CIANCIULLI
CHAIRMAN, ZBA

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

Notice of formation of Excelsior LTL, 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, 1 Sadore Ln 4K, Yonkers, NY 10710. Purpose: Any lawful purpose.

YoFiFest, continued from pg 1--

Spanish language short film “Soledad” about a young woman who, after arriving in the United States from her home in the Caribbean, makes a phone call to her older sister and learns her marriage might be a lie.

“In 2017, YoFiFest was the first film festival I attended. Everyone was kind to me & I watched as many films as I could,” said filmmaker Donald Wilson, “I knew afterwards that not only did I want to make films, but I wanted to be a part of YoFiFest. As crazy as 2020 has been, being a part of YoFiFest is a dream come true. I’m truly honored.”

“I have lived in Yonkers for over 20 years. A graduate from Lincoln High School and a Northside native of Yonkers, this city is a part of my soul,” said Anthony Colon, adding

“For me, creating is the closest thing to true freedom, and art is the bridge that closes the gaps. My art is activism and its purpose is to bring a voice to the social injustices our people have endured.”

When asked if she had any advice for aspiring filmmakers, Alana Barrett-Adkins said “JUST START! Don’t worry about whether or not you’ve done this before. Don’t worry about if you think your work is good enough or if you think people may not appreciate your voice. Don’t worry if you’ve never done it before. Just. Start. And surround yourself with people who know what you don’t know.”

Carlos Renaso added “Find stories you want to tell and be relentless. Plan ahead before you shoot. Be prepared. And when you think you’re ready to shoot, prepare some more.”

YoFiFest provides a unique opportunity for audiences to watch films that they might not see anywhere else and gives students skills they can use in all aspects of their lives. Details and tickets at YoFiFest.com. Yonkers Rising readers can use code “YoYR20” to get 20% off Full Festival Passes.

Yonkers History, continued from pg 5-

November 13, 1922: British novelist and critic Hugh Walpole spoke to a large audience in Philipsburgh Hall about “Books and Friendship.” The lecture was arranged by the Lecture League of Yonkers; Walpole, considered by many to be the foremost English novelist, spoke with an unusual breadth of knowledge coupled with a keen sense of humor.

November 13, 1928 More than 1000 people participated in the parade that followed the laying of the cornerstone of the new Jewish Community Center, South Broadway and Guion Street.

Saturday, November 14th:

November 14, 1926: The city’s fight against the Methodist Episcopal Board of Foreign Missions went to the Court of Appeals. The Corporation Counsel claimed the Board owned Yonkers \$80,000 in back taxes for Wallace Lodge in Park Hill. The city contended the defendant operated for profit, not for religious purposes.

November 14, 1949: Dr. Hans Simons of Landscape Avenue, Dean of the School of Politics of the New School for Social Research, was elected Vice President of the New School. Simons, a member of the graduate faculty for thirteen years, had been on a two years’ leave of absence while serving as Chief of the Governmental Structures Branch of the US Office of Military Government of Germany. While in Europe, he was instrumental in forming the West German government.

Sunday, November 15th:

November 15, 1923: The United States Postal Service announced the Yonkers Post Office branch located at Yonkers Avenue by Walnut Street was to be closed; the branch would be relocated to a spot near the Yonkers and Central Avenues intersection.

November 15, 1945: Brigadier General Frederick M. Hopkins, Jr., Commander of Iwo Jima, shared some of his memories attending Yonkers High School and growing up in Yonkers. He spent a good deal of time at the Park Hill Inn and Shanley’s, with his closest friends “Hap” Haviland. He was very pleasantly surprised to meet Hap, whom he had not seen for 30 years, when he arrived in Iwo. Hap was there with the Red Cross, and they had a chance to renew their friendship. Hopkins reported to Hopkins he had 30,000 servicemen who were homesick and anxious to get home.

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

Classifieds

ONLINE RE AUCTION! 30+ Lots! CAYUGA COUNTY TAX FORECLOSED REAL ESTATE. Start: November 19, 12PM Closing Begins: December 3, 10AM Pre-Registration Forms required. For details visit: www.auctionsinternational.com/liveauctions or call 800-536-1401

Drive Out Breast Cancer: Donate a car today! The benefits of donating your car or boat: Fast Free Pickup - 24hr Response Tax Deduction - Easy To Do! Call 24/7: 855-905-4755

Buying diamonds, gold, silver, all fine jewelry and watches, coins, paintings, better furs, complete estates. We simply pay more! Call Barry 914-260-8783 or e-mail Americabuying@aol.com

COMPUTER & IT TRAINING PROGRAM! Train ONLINE to get the skills to become a Computer & Help Desk Professional now! Grants and Scholarships available for certain programs for qualified applicants. Call CTI for details! (844) 947-0192 (M-F 8am-6pm ET)

TRAIN AT HOME TO DO MEDICAL BILLING! Become a Medical Office Professional online at CTI! Get Trained, Certified & ready to work in months! Call 855-543-6440. (M-F 8am-6pm ET)

VIAGRA & CIALIS! 60 pills for \$99. 100 pills for \$150. FREE shipping. Money back guaranteed! 1-855-579-8907

HEARING AIDS!! Buy one/get one FREE! High-quality rechargeable Nano hearing aids priced 90% less than competitors. Nearly invisible! 45-day money back guarantee! 833-448-0751.

JOB OPPORTUNITY \$18.50 P/H NYC \$16 P/H LI Up to \$13.50 P/H UPSTATE NY CDPAP Caregiver Hourly Pay Rate! Under NYS CDPAP Medicaid program you can hire your family or friends for your care. Phone: 347-713-3553

Get DIRECTV! ONLY \$35/month! 155 Channels & 1000s of Shows/Movies On Demand (w/SELECT All Included Package.) PLUS Stream on Up to FIVE Screens Simultaneously at No Additional Cost. Call DIRECTV 1-888-534-6918

DISH TV \$59.99 For 190 Channels + \$14.95 High Speed Internet. Free Installation, Smart HD DVR Included, Free Voice Remote. Some restrictions apply. 1-888-609-9405

**Toys for Tots Finds an Angel
*But they still need your help***

Last month, we reported on our friends at Toys for Tots, Westchester, and their need to find a new facility to continue their good work for the upcoming holiday season. We are happy to report that they have found an Angel, who have come forward to provide a facility where Toys can be collected and distributed. Steven & Sharon Zukerman, owners of “Life the place to be”, 2 Lawrence Street, Ardsley have donated 2,500 square feet of space.

Step one has been accomplished, but other ways that you can help include: To become a drop off location: <https://bit.ly/2IliM4T>. Credit Card Donations: <https://bit.ly/3iCmIKO>

Checks: The Marine Toys for Tots Foundation, an IRS recognized 501(c)(3) not-for-profit charity is the fund raising, funding and support organization for the U.S. Marine Corps Reserve Toys for Tots Program. Donations are recognized as deductible for tax purposes. Checks should be made payable to “Toys for Tots.” and mailed to Toys for Tots P.O. Box 1207, White Plains, NY 10602-1207.

They also have an some contactless options: Amazon Wish List: Visit our Amazon Wish List at <https://amzn.to/36IFz19>, items purchased from the list are shipped to Toys for Tots Westchester.

TP Toys (New Rochelle): A long time Toys for Tots supporter, TP toys has an online web site. Visit TP Toys at: <https://www.tptoysandaccessories.com>. Please select the “Ship Option” and during check out, select Toys for Tots.

HDI Wholesale: A Toys for Tots vendor is offering bundles to our donors. Simply visit <https://hdiforu.com/index.php/donate.html>, choose one of the bundles. Checkout as if you are buying for yourself. The bundle will be shipped to our campaign. IMPORTANT: ENTER NYOSSN (Westchester County, NY) in the comments section at checkout. This will ensure that it will get to our campaign.

Or just call or message Steve Topilnycky Coordinator Toys for Tots - Westchester or Kelly Topilnycky, 914-263-0840, Toys for Tots: <https://westchester-county-ny.toysfortots.org>. Facebook: <https://facebook.com/t4twestchester>. Please help them make a young child’s life a litter better this holiday season.

Election, continued from pg 1-

also to Verris Shako and Karen Best. Both Shako and Best will become the first African-American female judges on the Yonkers City Court.

In other races, State Senator Shelley Mayer won re-election on Nov. 3, defeating republican Liviu Saimovici by a 54%-39% margin. 7% of voters in the 37th District voted for President and left the state senate race blank.

Also on election night, Yonkers elected a new member of Congress to represent them in Washington DC. Democrat Jamaal Bowman got 68% of the vote, and handily defeated Conservative candidate Patrick McManus, who got 14%. 18% of voters in this district voted for President and walked out.

State Senator and Senate Majority Leader Andrea Stewart-Cousins was re-elected without opposition, as was Assemblyman Nader Sayegh.

Yonkers Rising

Serving the City of Yonkers as the official weekly newspaper. Member New York Press Association. USPS Permit #7164. Published weekly by Rising Media Group,LLC. PO Box 705, Yonkers NY 10702. (914)-815-1388.

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

Yonkers Had a Happy, Safe Halloween

Dog Park Petition, con't from pg 1-



Radford Street Firehouse. Nylen Cerda making Halloween rounds with little princess and firefighter, Emeril Garcia and Yumarly Hernandez, photo by Donna Davis



a rendering of improvements underway at Spreckman Senior Center

safety issues, as well as, a liability issue. Whereas, the community is unaware of any town hall meeting that was scheduled to actively solicit community support and input for the location and the proposed planning and development changes. The reasons to approve this moratorium of the dog park construction are as follows:

- Many of the active senior citizens are immune compromised and allergic to dogs. This is a severe health issue that may prohibit a senior citizen from attending their senior program and cause greater hospitalization and medication intake to maintain proper respiratory health.
 - During a pandemic that causes respiratory distress, seniors who are a high-risk category believe that the City of Yonkers is creating undue risk for those senior citizens that are immune compromised and have underlying conditions with the placement of this dog park/dog run. With the ventilation system there are concerns due to COVID and the dog park being so close to the building.
 - The gazebo is near the dog park and the smell of urine and feces will become problematic
 - Boccie may cause the dogs to bark, therefore disrupting the peace and creating undue stress for all individuals in the community.
 - The parking lot is small, and parking is an issue during events without the addition of dog owners.
 - The building and bathroom are not handicap accessible and seniors with walkers and wheelchairs must leave them in the hallway, this creates issues.
 - The front doors are heavy and a senior with a walker or wheelchair cannot enter the building without assistance
 - Two water fountains are full of rust
 - The air conditioner ducts have not been cleaned and there are concerns due to COVID
 - There is a specific spot between the pool room that three senior citizens have fallen and required medical attention
- The needs that should be prioritized are as follows:
- Create a door that is easy for seniors to open.
 - Create bathrooms that are accessible to all.
 - Create water dispensing machines that are accessible and healthy for everyone.
 - Proactively test all ventilation systems because immune compromised populations share the space.
 - There should be proper sanitizing equipment within the facility, especially during COVID
 - There needs to be better signage for the location of the defibrillator

Thank you for your attention to these matters and actions to rectify the concerns that were highlighted in this petition.”

City Councilman John Rubbo, who represents McLean Avenue, responded by highlighting the recent improvements that have been made at the Spreckman Center. “Over the last 2 budget cycles, I have set aside \$575,000 for both interior and exterior work at Coyne Park/Bernice Spreckman Community Center.

- Exterior:
- the entire exterior of the building has been painted
 - water corroded the outer wall along one of the gutters (repaired)
 - cracked and unusable shuffleboard court was removed to make way for a gazebo
 - 24’ x 40’ gazebo for outdoor seating. It will be equipped with lighting and electricity
 - new picnic benches
 - new barbeque grill
 - rebuilt the existing bocci ball court
 - adding a small dog run along the building with play equipment
 - outdoor exercise equipment will be installed for fitness
 - landscaping around the entire rear portion of the building
 - once inaccessible to the public, this area will now be available to the public when the senior citizens and Little Learners are not using this space
- Interior:
- automatic doors
 - handicap ramps
 - ADA compliant bathrooms
 - complete cleaning of the HVAC system
 - rebuilding the stage for senior citizens shows/performances
 - upgrades to amenities and utilities
- We need to maintain city property, otherwise, the cost to repair and improve these properties becomes unbearable. These improvements will last for many decades! My hope is that both interior and exterior projects will be fully complete by Spring 2021,” said Rubbo.



Yonkers Police officers handing out some Halloween treats, photo by Donna Davis



Fresh from Ms. Librandi's pumpkin patch at School 5

UPS, continued from pg 1-

and safety hazard. We are talking about 24,000 gallons of gasoline. One gallon of gasoline can explode with the same force as 14 sticks of dynamite. It can be easily ignited by electrical or static spark and furthermore gasoline spills are environmental hazards. Who would want this next to their home?” Gallagher added “There needs to be a controlling mechanism for truck activity. UPS plans to have upward of 250 package trucks, numerous 18 wheelers and 400 workers operating 24/7. There needs to be consideration for the East Grassy Sprain Road access and limiting hours of operation are demanded in order to maintain a good neighbor relationship between UPS and the community to mitigate impact of the facility.

When first learning of the UPS proposed new distribution center in February, and how it would disrupt their lives and that of their neighbors, Clare Gallagher, founded StopUPS.org. These citizens have invested hundreds of hours and thousands of dollars to protect their neighborhood against this corporate intrusion that would destroy the quality of life in their community. They were joined in the fight by vice-president of Winchester Village Nick Plakas and hundreds of their neighbors in the Grassy Sprain area.

Hey Yonkers neighbors... Join us for CONVERSATIONS IN CLEAN ENERGY

"WESTCHESTER POWER: YOUR COMMUNITY ENERGY PROGRAM"
Tuesday November 10th at 7PM on ZOOM!

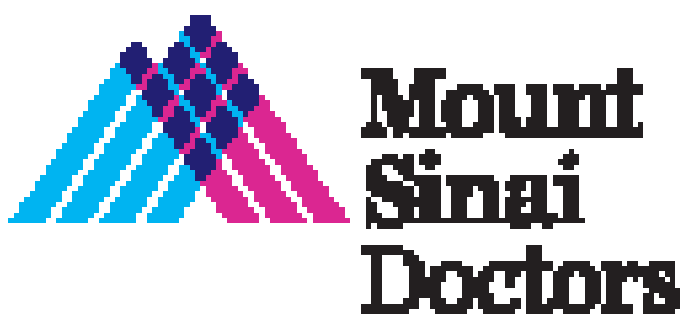


Learn about the program, participation, how you can make a positive environmental impact & more!



@sustainablewestchester SUSTAINABLE WESTCHESTER

CleanFresh Laundromat
1745 CENTRAL PARK AVENUE, YONKERS, NY 10710 • 914-361-1313
OPEN 7 DAYS A WEEK!



OUR NEW SCARSDALE LOCATION IS NOW OPEN.

Receive high-level care in coordination with Mount Sinai Health System's nationally recognized physicians. The new Mount Sinai Doctors location in Scarsdale is now open with specialties including primary care, cardiology, gastroenterology, orthopedics, and gynecology. We are following strict health protocols to ensure your safety, so you can get the quality care you need, close to home.

MOUNT SINAI DOCTORS-SCARSDALE
341 CENTRAL PARK AVENUE
SCARSDALE, NY 10583-1301
[MOUNTSINAI DOCTORS.ORG/WESTCHESTER](https://www.mountsinai.com/locations/scarpsdale)

To schedule an in-person,
video, or telephone visit, call
914-370-5000

