

Barack Obama HS Valedictorian & Salutatorian Ready for the Future



Barack Obama High School Valedictorian Janiyah Merrill, left, and Salutatorian Cherish Wamack

By Dan Murphy
Congratulations to the 2026 Barack Obama High School Valedictorian Janiyah Merrill and Salutatorian Cherish Wamack. Valedictorian Janiyah Merrill graduated with a 98.36% GPA. Her favorite teachers were Math teacher Mr. Mumun and History teacher Mrs. Frisik.

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Yonkers Police Arrest Man in \$250K Lamborghini with Numerous Suspensions



left: Yonkers Police officer breaks through tainted glass of Lamborghini after driver refuses to get out

From the YPD: Imagine you're driving a Lamborghini Urus. MSRP \$250k+. You have a suspended registration. You've fled from police in multiple jurisdictions. You think you're in the clear- you decide to run an errand in Yonkers. Horrible decision...Yonkers had other plans for you.

Within moments, your tires are flat, your windows are broken, you're being pulled from the driver's seat by Yonkers Police officers, can't find your slippers, and you're on your way to jail. Somewhere between the arrest and booking, one thought comes to mind: "I should've stayed out of Yonkers." On July 13, 2026, this nightmare was an unfortunate reality for Mohammed Al Lahabi (23), from the Bronx. After receiving a License Plate Reader alert, our

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Why Yonkers' Rappers Refuse to Quit Chasing Greatness



By: Dennis Richmond, Jr.

"Congratulations to all the rappers who participated," said Yonkers Councilwoman Tasha Diaz. "This exemplifies that we do have talent here in Yonkers!" The councilwoman went on to say, "Rap is a culture, a way of expression, and a way for them to give a synopsis of what they've been through, what they've seen, or what they're going through." I appreciate the councilwoman for her words.

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Ground Breaking for Former Mulford Gardens Property, Park Square in Yonkers



In an important milestone in the economic renaissance of Yonkers, Senior Executive Mitchell Del Gais of Titan Real Estate Development LLC joined with Mayor Mike Spano and elected officials from the City of Yonkers, Westchester County and New York State on July 21 to celebrate the groundbreaking for Park Square

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GOP State Senate Candidate Merante: "I proudly stand with these courageous sisters"



Anthony Merante, Republican candidate for New York State Senate District 35, today condemned Governor Kathy Hochul, Senate Majority Leader Andrea Stewart-Cousins and Albany Democrats for passing an assisted-suicide law that has forced Catholic nuns and healthcare organizations to go to federal court to

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The First Robot Manicure in New York has Arrived in Yonkers



10Beauty, the robotics company behind the world's first full-service robotic manicure system, has officially launched its first New York location inside ULTA Beauty at 5160 Xavier Drive in Yonkers.

The 10Beauty system performs a complete five-step manicure—including

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A Manifesto for the American Worker & Senior



An Open Letter to the United States Congress

By Frank J. Spotorno

There is a quiet crisis unfolding in our neighborhoods. It does not make the nightly news. It does not trend. But you can hear it at the kitchen tables where retired seniors choose between property taxes and prescriptions. You can see it in the eyes of a 45-year-old ironworker with a bad knee and no insurance. You can feel it on job sites where the American worker has been fighting for eighty years with one hand tied behind his back.

For too long, Washington and Albany have written policy for corporate balance sheets instead of human beings. They have favored stock buybacks over the dignity of labor and the security of the people who built this country. That era has to end.

If Congress is serious about restoring the middle class, it must act on three fronts: protect our seniors, guarantee healthcare for the working class, and unleash the full power of American labor.

1. Protect Our Seniors: Raise the Threshold, Kill the Red Tape

No senior citizen who spent forty years on a roof, a scaffold, or a factory floor should have to decide whether to pay the Town of Hempstead, buy groceries, or fill a heart medication. Yet that is the choice thousands of New Yorkers face every month.

Programs like SCHE and Enhanced STAR exist on paper. In practice, their income thresholds are relics. They have not kept pace with inflation, property values, or the simple cost of living in a state where a gallon of milk flirts with five dollars. The result is a cruel joke: the very people these programs were designed to help cannot qualify for them.

We need two fixes, and we need them now. First, dramatically raise the property tax relief thresholds so that a retired union carpenter or a widow on Social Security can actually use the benefit. Second, burn the mountain of paperwork. Seniors should not have to hire a notary, a lawyer, and a translator to prove they are old and own a home. If we can wire billions to failing banks at the push of a button, we can automate a tax exemption to keep a grandmother in her house. Dignity should not require a filing deadline.

2. Healthcare for Working People: A Safety Net Between 18 and 64

In the building trades, we bargain. We fight for healthcare at the table because no one else will hand it to us. That is the union difference. But millions of Americans do not have a union hall. They have a job, a boss, and a health plan that disappears the day they get laid off or get sick.

A worker’s health is not a fringe benefit. It is a human right. For Americans aged 18 to 64 who lack union representation, Congress should establish a basic, universal healthcare safety net.

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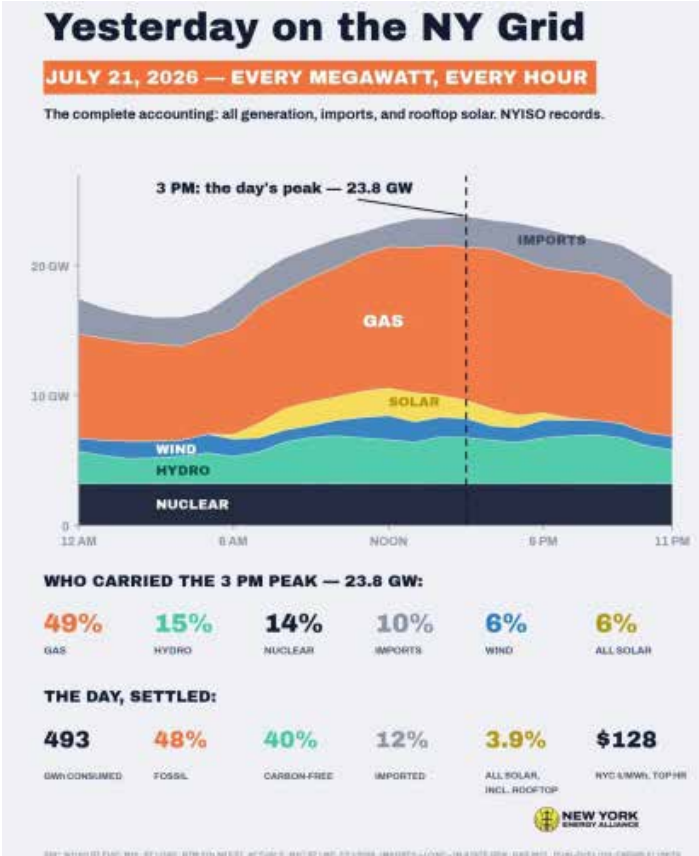
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Energy on A Hot Summer in NY from the NY Grid



This is from the NY Energy Alliance: <https://www.facebook.com/nyenergyalliance/> Yesterday, New York’s vaunted 8 GW rooftop solar fleet met its mortal enemy: cloud cover.

This is the complete chart of how New York was powered July 21, hour by hour, accounting for every generator, the power we imported, and estimates for every rooftop panel, straight from NYISO’s public records.

New York used 493 GWh of electricity. Demand peaked at 23.8 GW at 3 PM. At that hour: gas 49%, hydro 15%, nuclear 14%, imports 10%, wind 6%, all solar (rooftop included) 6%. Over the full day: 48% fossil, 40% carbon-free, 12% imported.

About that 12% imported: NYISO doesn’t tag electrons at the border, so the card counts imports as imports — neither fossil nor carbon-free. But the day’s interface schedules show where the power actually came from. New York’s net imports on July 21 averaged about 2,460 MW, and nearly all of it arrived from the south and west: roughly 2,290 MW from PJM — the gas- and coal-heavy mid-Atlantic grid — plus 920 MW from Ontario and about 450 MW on the Connecticut ties.

And Hydro-Québec? New York was a net exporter to Quebec on July 21, sending an average of 818 MW north in nearly every interval of the day. On a hot July afternoon, the “our imports are clean Canadian hydro” assumption runs backwards: the marginal power New York bought was fossil-heavy PJM supply, and the hydro province was buying from us. If anything, counting imports as neutral makes yesterday’s 40% carbon-free figure the generous reading. Solar’s best hour covered 9% of the state’s power and was done for the day by 8 PM. NYC wholesale prices topped out around \$128/MWh (hourly average). This is what actually ran New York yesterday.

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Atom X

Audien Hearing

Congressman Latimer Pushes Back on President Trump’s Efforts to Manipulate this Year’s Elec-



Rep. George Latimer

Westchester Congressman George Latimer, NY-16, recently penned a letter to Homeland Security Secretary Markwayne Mullin objecting to the Trump admin-istrations action to tie FEMA disaster funding to the upcoming 2026 elections.

Rep. Latimer writes, “Dear Secretary Mullin, As Congressman for New York’s 16th District, I’m writing to you to express my disappointment with your decision to tie the Federal Emergency Management Agency’s (FEMA) disaster funding to the Trump Administration’s efforts to encroach on the authority of states and Congress to manage elections.

“I wish to persuade you that the cruelty of tying future disaster relief to Presi-dent Trump’s singular obsession with having lost the 2020 election to President Joe Biden is harmful to your reputation as Secretary of the Department of Home-land Security (DHS) and to the President; but more importantly harmful to our mutual constituents – the nation’s disaster victims – Americans who have no other recourse than assistance from the federal government after the occurrence of tremendous storms, fire or floods that have taken their homes and livelihoods.

“When Congress passed funding for FEMA in April 2026, my colleagues and I never sought to condition that funding on the state, region or political affiliation of those who would likely require relief. That funding was meant as much for disaster victims in Oklahoma as it was in Hawaii or West Virginia or any of the 50 states and the U.S. Territories. Now, with hurricane season approaching, and more frequent severe weather events as a result of man-made climate change, my constituents in New York may very well need to look to the U.S. government for assistance if a disaster occurs.

“The thought that your agency would refuse to help New Yorkers– who pay more than their share of federal taxes to support DHS, and for the most tenuous of political motivations – is utterly unconscionable. If there was a better example of the term “arbitrary and capricious” within the operation of the federal govern-ment, you would be hard pressed to find one this month.

The American people deserve better. Throughout this entire voter ID drama, no one has ever demonstrated that there was election fraud since President Trump grabbed onto the issue. In fact, states both red and blue have repeatedly main-tained that American elections have been conducted with integrity. To pick on citizens for this reason in their time of need devalues them and the Administra-tion, and in the end we will all lose from this misguided policy. I respectfully ask that you reconsider,” writes Latimer.

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On This Day in Yonkers History...



Left: Stanley Hasrato
The Socking Syr-
ian fought from 1935
to 1942. His career was
ended by a wartime inju-
ry He fought in the battle
of Attu.

By Mary Hoar, Yonkers
Municipal Historian, 1977
recipient of the Key to the
City of Yonkers, President
Emeritus Yonkers His-
torical Society, recipient
of the 2004 Key to History,
Yonkers Landmarks Pres-
ervation Board Member,
Founder of Revolutionary
Yonkers 250 and President
Untermeyer Performing Arts
Council

Monday, July 27th

July 27, 1956: City Judge Martin Fay levied a \$250 fine on and a 10-day “stay-home jail sentence” on Yonkers’ first “cheesebox gambler.” The cheesebox, an electronic device used to reroute phone calls to a second number, sent calls to a Warburton Avenue apartment, rented in the name of Marcio. Westchester County Sheriff Hoy obtained a search warrant, then manned the office. While there, his deputies took calls from “thirty different bookies, including a woman.”

After he was sentenced, Marcio paid the fine. Fay immediately suspended Marcio’s house sentence. Why? No arrests were made at the office; the office was empty the entire time the deputies were “taking the bets.”

Tuesday, July 28th

July 28, 1939: Yonkers Chamber of Commerce President Clinton Hernandez removed his name from consideration as a Republican candidate for City Council!

July 28, 1945: Groshon Avenue’s Sergeant Stanley Hasrato’s story of the Battle of Attu was published in Collier’s magazine!

His group of thirty-six men were fighting for days before they received food. What was their “treat?” Four cans of beans! Each man was given 30 beans, and immediately gobbled them with bare, muddy hands. The next day, more food was dropped—dried prunes!

Hasrato wrote everyone was covered with mud, so it was sometimes difficult to tell one side from the other... the Japanese fought standing up!

Hasrato wrote the article during his rehabilitation at Letterman Hospital on the West Coast; he lost three toes from frostbite, ending his career as the professional boxer known as the “Socking Syrian!”

After discharge, he moved to Hollywood and worked on technicolor films.

Wednesday, July 29th

July 29, 1942: Marian Dill became the first Yonkers person to sign the V-Pledge to raise funds for Yonkers Community and War Chest! Thousands more men and women would sign the same pledge in the next few months. Mrs. Dill was involved in the Madrigal Society, Chaminade, St. John’s Hospital Auxiliary, YWCA, Bundles for Britain, and other local organizations. She just had earned her Masters at NYU.

July 29, 1959: Joseph Dermocy, Yonkers Health Department’s Head of Envi-ronmental Sanitation, announced Yonkers would be part of NY State’s Division of Environmental Sanitation pollen program!

Our Yonkers pollen counting station went into operation early August, mounted on top of the Nepperhan Avenue Health Center. A glass slide coated with

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opinions, photos & story ideas to
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Robotic Manicure, continued from pg 1-

polish removal, nail shaping, cuticle care, color application, top coat, and drying—using computer vision, precision robotics, and proprietary single-use polish pods.

Yonkers is now home to the first location in New York where shoppers can experience this beauty technology firsthand while browsing ULTA Beauty’s other retail offerings. 10Beauty offers customers a full salon manicure for the beauty tech era. Designed for accuracy and clean precision. It’s for people who like being first.

The best nails are healthy nails. 10Beauty’s new nail-strengthening clear polish builds resilience from the first coat, with a glossy finish that makes natural nails look like your most intentional accessory.

Co-Founder and Co-CEO of 10Beauty, Alex Shashou, compared the experience with the convenience of “having an espresso machine at home with a coffee pod. We wanted to do the same and give you a manicure with a pod-based system.”

“Opening at ULTA Beauty in Yonkers, our first location in New York, is an exciting milestone for 10Beauty. We’re building a new generation of technology designed to make high-quality manicures more convenient and accessible, and we’re thrilled to introduce the experience to the Yonkers community. The feedback from our earliest customers has been invaluable, and we’re excited for Yonkers customers to help shape what comes next.”

FAQ’s:

Is It Safe? Yes. 10Beauty was designed without a single blade in the machine. Just a clean, precise robotic manicure.

Is It Hygienic? Absolutely. Every manicure is powered by a single-use pod that’s yours alone. No cross-contamination. Hand and arm rests are sanitized between every use for complete peace of mind.

How Long Does it take? About the same time as a traditional manicure, but on your schedule.

How Good is the Manicure? We’re still in the early days, with a professional manicurist on hand to ensure every service meets the highest standards. We welcome your feedback as we continue to perfect the experience.

Can I choose my polish color? Yes you can choose from our curated selection of 16-free natural polishes.

What is in the works? We’re just getting started. Expect more customization, new colors, even faster service, and fresh ways to make your manicure uniquely yours.

Get used to this, Yonkers. By the end of this decade, 90% of us will have daily interactions with AI-robots. How much does it cost? Around \$30-\$35. Check it out and let us know about it.

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NYAG Candidate Komatireddy asks:
Why Are Medicaid Fraud Recoveries Down?



Saritha Komatireddy

Komatireddy Pledges 20 New Criminal Prosecutors to Take Back What’s Owed to Taxpayers.

Saritha Komatireddy, the crime-fighting New York State Attorney General candidate and former top federal prosecutor, struck a nerve with many of us who DO NOT want to pay for fraud, on ANY level of Government.

“The Attorney General’s office has the power to claw back hundreds of millions of dollars in fraudulent claims each year, money that rightly belongs to taxpayers. Letitia James has all but abandoned that mission. I will restore it on my first day in office.”

Under Ms. James, Medicaid fraud recoveries have collapsed from \$168 million in 2019 to just \$31 million in 2024, the Komatireddy campaign noted. Meanwhile, the Medicaid Fraud Control Unit’s budget has grown 57 percent. For years, New York ran half as many investigations as California, despite having more staff. By one analysis, New York completed just eight investigations per billion dollars spent on Medicaid, the third-lowest rate in the nation and 63 percent below the national average.

Ms. James does about one-tenth the fraud enforcement work of her Democratic predecessors, the Komatireddy campaign said. The AG’s office once returned hundreds of millions of dollars annually to the public purse and often secured 100-plus criminal convictions per year. For example, in 2009, the office recovered \$283 million. In 2013, the office recovered \$335 million. Under Ms. James, it does a fraction of that work, hitting all-time lows of \$19 million and 8 criminal convictions — all while cashing ever-larger budget checks.

“As a federal prosecutor, I personally prosecuted multimillion-dollar frauds and recovered more money in my career than this entire unit did in a single year,” said Komatireddy. “That’s not a boast; it’s an indictment of James’s failed leadership in the Office of the Attorney General. We can do so much better for the People of New York, who are already taxed into a corner.”

Ms. Komatireddy pledged that, as Attorney General, she will deploy 20 additional criminal prosecutors to the Medicaid Fraud Control Unit, reinvigorate civil enforcement through the False Claims Act, and return the AG’s office to the standard it once set for the nation.

“Albany doesn’t need another tax. It needs an Attorney General who does her job,” Ms. Komatireddy continued. “When I take office, the era of looking the other way ends.”

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The \$185 million project will be 500,000 square feet, comprised of 340 residential units and approximately 20,000 square feet of prime street-level retail space, including 420 covered on-site parking spaces, integrated within the building's envelope. Ten percent of the residential units will be designated as affordable.

The property, which rises in elevation from south to north, offers sweeping views of the Hudson River and the Manhattan skyline, providing an exceptional natural amenity that complements the building's comprehensive collection of premium amenities and further elevates the living experience.

“Park Square was my promise and commitment to Yonkers five years ago and today that promise is becoming reality through a \$185 million investment in the city’s future. I firmly believe the best days for Titan and Yonkers are still ahead,” said Mitchell Del Gais, Senior Executive, Titan Real Estate Development LLC.

“Park Square is another example of Yonkers’ remarkable transformation and the momentum we’ve built together. This development is about more than new buildings—it’s about creating opportunities for families, expanding access to quality housing, investing in education, and continuing to revitalize our neighborhoods. With a brand-new Yonkers Public School as an anchor here, Park Square represents the kind of smart, thoughtful development that strengthens our community and prepares our city for the future,” said Mayor Spano.

The site, originally designated as part of the Mulford Gardens HOPE VI Revitalization Project, has remained undeveloped since its transfer to the City of Yonkers in 2019. Recognizing Del Gais' market expertise and development capabilities, the City selected Titan to lead the project's development. The City executed a Land Disposition Agreement in November 2023, formally awarding the site to Titan.

In December 2024, the Yonkers Industrial Development Agency unanimously approved approximately \$16 million in financial incentives for Park Square Yonkers. The incentive package includes approximately \$3.8 million in sales tax exemptions, \$1.5 million in mortgage recording tax exemptions, and a 20-year PILOT agreement valued at approximately \$10.5 million.

Park Square is the second major investment in Yonkers for the sponsors, Mitchell Del Gais and Doron Pergament, who have also completed “Hudson Blue”, a 94 unit high-rise residential building located at 70 Ashburton Avenue.

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3rd PCT - SULLIVAN OVAL	Bryant Road/Kinlochwood Road
4th PCT - JPK MARINA	Washington Avenue to 3500 Memorial Drive

"Honoring Law Enforcement and Community Partnership"

Yonkers Rappers, continued from pg 1-

We all know that in Yonkers, the conversation about rap rarely ends with the music. It often turns to community, business, and the realities of chasing a dream. During interviews with artists selected for the 2026 Top 10 Rappers in Yonkers, one theme emerged repeatedly: success is measured by much more than streams and social media.

For August Rush, music has become something deeply personal. Although he has appeared on BET, HOT 97, and Power 105, fame has never been his primary motivation.

"I don't make music to be famous," he said. "I communicate through rapping. It's more therapy now."

He reflected on the loss of two uncles who believed in his career and encouraged aspiring artists to “never stop” and “stay consistent.” His long-term goal is simple: build a cult-like following and eventually earn enough from music that he no longer has to work another job.

Phillip “Philly Haze” Colon sees rap through both an artistic and business lens. Influenced by artists such as Big Pun, Jadakiss, Dave East, and Benny the Butcher, he spoke about the industry’s financial realities, including streaming payouts and the importance of ownership.

“Our conversation was about music and the music business,” Haze said, adding that confidence and consistency are just as important as talent. Reflecting on Yonkers, he described what many call a “dark cloud” hanging over the city’s music scene.

Julisa “JuJu F’n Baby” Robinson credits her greatest inspiration not to another artist, but to herself. A mother who performs at events throughout the country, she is preparing for an upcoming performance in Puerto Rico. Having once come close to signing a record deal at the former Yonkers nightclub Razzous, she now uses her experience to create music and mentor young people in songwriting. Her advice: Stop doubting yourself and never let others dim your light.

For Musheed “Bixy2Trendy” Muhammad, support from the community means everything. A chef by trade, he said he cares less about money than telling his story through music. His advice is to trust yourself, slow down, and remember not to take life too seriously.

Other artists echoed similar themes. Haze Milli said online negativity has no place in his career, encouraging young people to channel criticism into motivation and stay focused on one goal at a time. Lady Slim, a Lincoln High School graduate, and I spoke about how rappers deserve recognition just as athletes receive trophies. She has been rapping since she was young and also knows how to sing and play the drums.

G2Baby emphasized humility and hard work, saying, “The work shows for the Top 10.” He described himself as “a celebrity in the making” and said he would tell his younger self to remain authentic and stay humble. Meanwhile, 2025 Riverside High School graduate Tahj “T Dottie” Baker said being recognized only motivates him to work harder. He said he wouldn’t give his younger self any advice because everything happens for a reason.

While each artist's journey is different, they all share one belief: You have to remain consistent.

Dennis Richmond, Jr. (@NewYorkStakz) is a journalist, historian, and educator from Yonkers, NY. He writes to uplift unheard voices, honor history, and inspire change.

Merante, continued from pg 1-

defend their religious beliefs.

“Catholic nuns who have dedicated their lives to caring for the sick, elderly and dying should not have to fight their own state government to remain faithful to their religious beliefs,” Merante said. “Albany Democrats have reached a disgraceful new low.”

“Andrea Stewart-Cousins voted for this law and helped create a system that a coalition of 13 Catholic healthcare organizations has filed a federal lawsuit challenging New York’s Medical Aid in Dying Act. The plaintiffs include the Dominican Sisters of Hawthorne, the Carmelite Sisters for the Aged and Infirm, the Little Sisters of the Poor, Catholic Health and the Diocese of Rockville Centre.

The lawsuit argues that Catholic doctors, nurses and healthcare facilities could be required to discuss, facilitate or transfer patients for assisted suicide, even when doing so violates their faith.

Under New York’s general Public Health Law, a willful violation for which no other punishment is specified could carry up to one year in jail, a fine of up to \$10,000, or both.

“No nun, doctor, nurse or religious caregiver should have to choose between obeying the government and obeying their conscience,” Merante said. “This is not compassion. It is government coercion backed by possible fines and criminal penalties.”

Merante placed responsibility on Stewart-Cousins, who voted for the Medical Aid in Dying Act. This law threatens the freedom of religious institutions caring for our most vulnerable citizens,” Merante said. Merante said New York should strengthen hospice care, pain management and support for terminally ill patients and their families rather than force religious institutions to help facilitate the ending of a human life.

“I proudly stand with these courageous sisters,” Merante concluded. “When I am elected to the State Senate, I will defend religious liberty, freedom of conscience and the constitutional rights of every New Yorker.”

Note: The Beckett Law Firm has filed the case for the Sisters against the State of New York, Read more about this issue at <https://yonkerstimes.com/catholic-nuns-sue-new-york-to-block-law-forcing-them-to-assist-in-patient-suicides/>

Letters to the Editor:

Lawler -Conley Race-Recent Poll

Many mid-summer opinion polls tend to be misleading, including the one recently conducted for the House Majority PAC (Democrat)

I first want to commend Westchester Rising for their continuous coverage of this fall's House race in New York's 17th Congressional District.

Second, I write in response to express my concern over the lead story appearing in the July 17, 2026 edition regarding a recent poll showing Cait Conley (D) opening up a 6 point lead against incumbent Republican Representative Mike Lawler, by 51% to 45%.

Representative Lawler's district (17th Congressional) stretches through the Hudson Valley, taking in Rockland County, Putnam County, northern Westchester County, and southern Dutchess County. This Congressional race promises to be hard fought, whose result may well determine which party controls the House of Representatives in January.

Polls are considered by political scientists and survey/market researchers as snapshots taken at a moment in time; many qualified persons consider polling still an inexact science. The survey reported in Westchester Rising indicated that the survey was done at the request of the House Democratic Majority Political Action Group (PAC). I did a little research on this and found that the survey was conducted the California marketing firm of FM3 Research, a California-based public policy opinion firm established in 1981 with a long history of Democratic Party candidate clients, including former New York Governor Mario Cuomo, the late U.S. Senator Diane Feinstein, former Vermont Governor Howard Dean, and many others.

There is other polling that has been done by nationally-respected analysts such as Amy Walter of the Cook Political Report which recently rated the 17th House race as + 1% Democrat; the noted political scientist Professor Larry Sabato of the University of Virginia recently rated this contest as “lean Republican.”

The Lawler-Conley contest is a horse race. There is also a third candidate in this race, Ms. Effie Philips-Staley, the nominee of the Working Families Party (WFP), who may draw votes away from Ms. Conley.

Bottom line: we need to be more careful in how we interpret polls several months away from a general election.

Stephen R. Rolandi, Larchmont, NY

Mr. Rolandi is currently an Adjunct Professor of Public Administration at Pace University and City University of New York and active with the Ripon Society and Our Republican Legacy, among other civic and professional associations.

Don't Lie about Goldfish to Sell Products

In order to sell their questionable product, the ad for Goldfish crackers states, “Goldfish have short memories.” But the fact is goldfish, like most fish, have excellent memories; studies have shown that they can retain information for weeks and even as long as five months. Where’s the truth in advertising? They’d never promote such lies about people to sell a product, but the animals are a ‘safe’ target.

Most marine dwellers are actually highly intelligent, far more than we have been willing to give them credit for: For 20 years, millions have delighted in videos of Emma the Shark enjoying head pets like a puppy, from her human ocean visitor; and people who befriend octopuses remark at their cleverness and excellent problem solving skills. Negligent, unnecessary practices like fisheries using destructive, large scale drift nets, and various ‘adventure’ activities, avoid the fact of fish sentience and intelligence; but people are changing. The entire NYS legislature just passed a bill banning octopus farming - a deplorable practice that miserably exploits octopuses in horrible conditions. We await Gov Hochul taking the decent step of signing the Octopus Farming bill; and we urge Pepperidge Farms, and all businesses, to tell the truth about animals instead of shamefully lying about goldfish - or any non-human animal who can’t defend themselves - just to sell a cracker or anything else.

Kiley Blackman, Founder, Animal Defenders of Westchester
WWW.ADOW.ORG

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Yonkers Man Gets 16 Years in Shooting Death of His Acquaintance

Yonkers History, continued from pg 3-



Westchester County District Attorney Susan Cacace announced that Fidencio Abreu, 42, of Yonkers, left, was sentenced yesterday to 18 years to life in state prison for Murder in the Second Degree by Judge George Fufidio. Abreu was also sentenced to 16 years to life in state prison (as a persistent violent felony offender) for Criminal Possession of a Weapon in the Second Degree. These sentences will run concurrently.

In May, Abreu pleaded guilty to Murder in the Second Degree, a class A felony, and Criminal Possession of a Weapon in the Second Degree, a class C felony, for shooting his acquaintance to death in July 2025.

DA Cacace said: “No amount of time spent in prison by this defendant will be able to bring back the Vallejo family’s son, their brother, their cousin. All of their lives have been indelibly changed due to the despicable actions of Fidencio Abreu. We pray that this sentencing will offer some solace for the Vallejo family.”

On July 11, 2025, following a dispute, the defendant shot 35-year-old Francisco Vallejo, an acquaintance, in the head with a semi-automatic pistol, causing his death.

In a statement from the family, read aloud in court by Bureau Chief Brian Bendish, the family stated the following: “There is no greater pain a parent can endure than losing a son. Every day since Francisco was taken from us has been filled with sorrow that never leaves, His bedroom, his belongings, his voice in our memories and the empty chair at every family gathering remind us that our family will never be whole again. We wake each morning hoping this is a nightmare, only to face the reality that our son is gone forever.” This case was investigated by the Yonkers Police Department. The case was prosecuted by Homicide Bureau Chief Brian Bendish and Cold Case Bureau Chief Daniel Flecha.

YPD Lamborghini, continued from pg 1-

AWARE Crime Control Center located the Lambo in the parking lot of 132 Bronx River Road. Knowing he would try to flee as usual, our Patrol Captain preemptively deployed a Stop Stick deflation device under his tires before he got to his vehicle- then he got boxed in by 2nd Precinct Units before he could make room to leave. When officers attempted to take him into custody, Al Lahabi refused repeated commands to exit the vehicle and instead drove at Yonkers Police cruisers and Officers while attempting to avoid apprehension. After finally realizing he had no way to escape, he surrendered and was taken into custody.

Al Lahabi was charged with Reckless Endangerment in the First Degree and Assault in the Second Degree. Additional charges are pending as the investigation continues. Don’t run from the police- and definitely don’t do it in Yonkers.

Note: Check out the video on this one. <https://www.facebook.com/reel/28029538623304309>. The suspect is trapped by the CVS on Bronx River Road. But he attempts to drive through the police blockade but can’t get out. That is when YPD officers break through his tinted glass to make sure he is not armed. He finally gets out and says, “I didn’t do anything.”

watch the video at <https://www.facebook.com/reel/28029538623304309>

mineral oil was exposed for 24-hours; the pollen caught on it was counted.

Fifteen other stations were set up in the state, from Niagara Falls to Long Island.

Thursday, July 30th

July 30, 1943: Alfred Ashcroft, Alexander Smith Carpet Factory Project Engineer, announced their “Junior Specialist Corps” not only would continue, but it would also be part of Smith’s “long range training program.” The nine boys and seven girls in the first group were specially chosen by their schools to work on Smith’s war production program. These students spent twenty hours a week for a year working on Smith’s Research and Development projects and war production materials. When the program ended, four boys entered the service, one boy went to Yale; one girl went to Cornell, and another entered nurses’ training.

July 30, 1948: Dreams of 30 men, men who invested in a high power speedboat to “dethroning” Orchestra Leader Guy Lombardo as the king of speedboat racing, were dashed! Their \$20,000 boat exploded a few hundred feet away from the Ludlow Marine Basin. The explosion threw the pilot and copilot off the boat; they were saved by the Basin’s manager Gordon Miller and his assistant Charles Zweirlein. The burned up hulk of the boat later grounded off Sandy Beach.

Friday, July 31st

July 31, 1919: Two Lincoln Park men, Julian Hall and Edgar Musgrove, purchased a \$3,000 trainload of surplus food supplies from the War Department. They offered Yonkers residents the opportunity to buy canned meat, vegetables and other items at prices 30% to 50% less than retail.

July 31, 1939: Four days after being released from jail, “Dixie” Davis, attorney for the Dutch Schultz gang, was interrogated by the FBI about income tax returns! Davis also was questioned by the Federal Grand Jury about an investigation, specifically the fallout from the conviction of Martin Manon, former Senior Judge of the US Court of Appeals, for “selling justice.”

Saturday, August 1st

August 1, 1939: Yonkers’ Youth Inter-Club Council created a bulletin outlining Yonkers Teens’ job qualifications; they sent it to our 100 largest employers as part of their “Get a Youth a Job” campaign.

The Inter-Club Council was comprised of representatives from 32 youth clubs, and teenage sports, high school, ethnic, athletic, church and temple clubs.

Among the fifteen adult groups on the sponsoring committee supporting the teen efforts were the Social Planning Council, New York State Employment Service, Rotary, YMCA, JCC and the Herald Statesman.

Sunday, August 2nd

August 2, 1926: Because of the strong need for additional transit options in Westchester County, the Westchester Improvement League started a movement to amalgamate Yonkers, Mount Vernon and New Rochelle with New York City.

August 2, 1939: Thanks to the efforts of five Yonkers service clubs-- Rotary, Lions, Kiwanis, Exchange and BPW (Business and Professional Women) -- the first of four signs welcoming visitors to Yonkers was unveiled!

Visitors on North Broadway were greeted by a large sign, stating, “Welcome To Yonkers!” Colorful logos and meeting times of each of the five clubs were displayed under the greeting.

Other signs would be placed at the South Broadway City Line, the Yonkers Ferry and Central Park Avenue’s northern Yonkers border.

Any questions on this column, email yonkershistory1646@gmail.com.

For information on the Yonkers Historical Society, the Sherwood House Museum on Tuckahoe Road or their upcoming events, please visit their website www.yonkershistoricalsociety.org, call 914-961-8940 or email info@yonkershistoricalsociety.org.

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DSA, continued from pg 4-

The other aspects of the DSA constitution should alarm us. When they talk about equitable distribution and non-oppressive relationships, we’re going to be in trouble.

Do I want my milk, eggs and yogurt to be less expensive? Of course. Do I think the DSA can deliver on that promise? There’s no question that they can’t. What I see in the DSA vision is the prospect of their organization building a Soviet-style state apparatus that would be so heavily regulated and supervised that food, and other goods, will have a very long, slow, difficult journey to market, if they arrive at all.

The Soviet Union experienced a state-induced famine in 1932-1933, when it tried to bring all of the country’s farms under state control, called “collectivization.” The government took farmers’ harvests for the Red Army, and also exported it, to earn foreign currency to build state factories and industries. Millions starved to death so the state could meet the goals of its five-year plan.

Red China suffered a similar catastrophe with a famine that lasted from 1959 to 1961. The famine occurred directly as a result of its “Great Leap Forward” campaign, which the Chinese leader, Mao Zedong, implemented to industrialize the country as fast as possible. Again, a socialist state literally took away the harvest from its farmers and sold much of it overseas, to pay off its debts to the Soviets and purchase machinery for industrialization. Approximately 30 to 46 million Chinese died because of Mao’s dictates.

The DSA may be playing the democratic game right now, but make no mistake, its goal is to toss out what we have with the goal of giving us a system where we are less free.

What are the DSA’s chances of actually doing so? Not very good. I think the vast majority of Americans would reject such a message. But there is a possibility that the DSA could disrupt the Democratic Party and drive it harder to the left. It would be a huge mistake for the Democratic Party leaders to let the DSA make this happen.

The country is going through a number of different crises now that provide an opening for the DSA, as it did for MAGA 10 years ago. A lot of people are struggling to get a job that pays well. Women are going to college in increasing numbers, which is a good thing, in my humble opinion, but men feel they’ve been left behind.

Too many Americans are poor. The official poverty rate is more than 10 percent. Affordable housing is hard to find. The climate is changing, which is making the weather strange and extreme, causing floods and extreme heat, among other problems. The western U.S. is going through a multi-year super drought. The intensity of the wildfires in Canada were caused partly a result of the high temperatures resulting from climate change.

The answer to these many problems does not lie in the DSA’s cult-like belief in destroying the foundations of American society, then building a top-down utopia on the ashes. Their vision can only end up oppressing the very masses it says it seeks to liberate. Our political system needs an overhaul, not arson by the DSA.

Michael Gold is a columnist for The Yonkers Times. His work has been published in The New York Daily News, The Albany Times-Union, The Hartford Courant and other newspapers. He’s a volunteer trustee with the Putnam County Land Trust.

IN RE: JAMES DUNPHY A/K/A JAY DUNPHY, AS HEIR AND DISTRIBUTE OF THE ESTATE OF JON R. WEDEN; THE UNKNOWN HEIRS-AT-LAW, NEXT-OF-KIN, DISTRIBUTEES, EXECUTORS, ADMINISTRATORS, BENEFICIARIES, TRUSTEES, DEVISEES, LEGATEES, ASSIGNEES, LIENORS, CREDITORS AND SUCCESSORS IN INTEREST AND GENERALLY ALL PERSONS AND PARTIES HAVING OR CLAIMING, UNDER, BY OR THROUGH THE DECEDENT JON R. WEDEN, BY PURCHASE, INHERITANCE, LIEN OR OTHERWISE, ANY RIGHT, TITLE OR INTEREST IN AND TO THE PREMISES DESCRIBED IN THE COMPLAINT HEREIN; NEW YORK STATE DEPARTMENT OF TAXATION AND FINANCE; UNITED STATES OF AMERICA (SOUTHERN DISTRICT); "JOHN DOE #1" through "JOHN DOE #10" inclusive, the names of the ten last name Defendants being fictitious, real names unknown to the Plaintiff, the parties intended being persons or corporations having an interest in, or tenants or persons in possession of, portions of the mortgaged premises described in the Complaint, Defendants - Index No. 60320/2026. Plaintiff Designates Westchester County as the Place of Trial. The Basis of Venue is that the subject premises is situated in Westchester County. To the above named Defendants- YOU ARE HEREBY SUMMONED to answer the Complaint in this action and to serve a copy of your Answer or, if the Complaint is not served with this Summons, to serve a Notice of Appearance upon the Plaintiff's attorney within twenty (20) days after the service of this Summons, exclusive of the date of service or within thirty (30) days after the service is complete if this Summons is not personally delivered to you within the State of New York. If you fail to so appear or answer, judgment will be taken against you by default for the relief demanded in the Complaint. That this Summons is being filed pursuant to an order of the court dated July 1, 2026. NOTICE-YOU ARE IN DANGER OF LOSING YOUR HOME – If you do not respond to this summons and complaint by serving a copy of the answer on the attorney for the mortgage company who filed this foreclosure proceeding against you and filing the answer with the court, a default judgment may be entered and you can lose your home. Speak to an attorney or go to the court where your case is pending for further information on how to answer the summons and protect your property. Sending a payment to the mortgage company will not stop the foreclosure action. YOU MUST RESPOND BY SERVING A COPY OF THE ANSWER ON THE ATTORNEY FOR THE PLAINTIFF (GITSIT SOLUTIONS, LLC, NOT IN ITS INDIVIDUAL CAPACITY BUT SOLELY IN ITS CAPACITY AS SEPARATE TRUSTEE OF GV TRUST 2025-1) AND FILING THE ANSWER WITH THE COURT. The foregoing summons is served upon you by publication pursuant to an order of the Honorable Robert S. Ondrovic, J.S.C. Dated: July 1, 2026 Filed: July 1, 2026. The object of this action is to foreclose a mortgage and covering the premises known as 92 Pleasant Avenue, Pleasantville, NY 10570. Dated: March 26, 2026 Filed: March 27, 2026 Knuckles & Manfro, LLP, Attorney for Plaintiff, By: Jordan J. Manfro, Esq., 120 White Plains Road, Suite 215, Tarrytown, New York 10591 Phone: (914) 345-3020

Letter to Congress, continued from pg 2-

Think of it as a two-tier system that already works in practice. The Universal Tier guarantees every working citizen primary care, emergency services, and essential medications. No one goes bankrupt because of a broken arm. The Supplemental Tier preserves the right of unions and employers to negotiate premium plans, better benefits, and specialized coverage. We are not taking anything away. We are building a floor so that no American is one diagnosis away from the street.

The upside is obvious. Emergency rooms stop serving as the nation’s family doctor. Small businesses are no longer crushed by premiums. And a welder in Yonkers does not have to choose between a hospital bill and his rent.

3. Unleash Labor: Repeal the Handcuffs of Taft-Hartley

Since 1947, the Taft-Hartley Act has been a boot on the neck of the American labor movement. It was written to ban secondary boycotts, to let states pass so-called “right-to-work” laws, and to make sure unions spent more time in court than on the shop floor. We have been fighting with one hand tied behind our back for eighty years.

If Congress wants manufacturing back in the United States, it needs to stop punishing the people who do the manufacturing. That starts with repealing the anti-union provisions of Taft-Hartley.

We need federal law that does three things. First, ban “right-to-work” nationwide. If you take the wages, the pension, and the safety protections of a union contract, you pay your fair share. No more free riders. Second, protect local union shops and domestic manufacturing with the same urgency we protect banks and airlines. Third, mandate that public money means union labor. When a developer takes IDA tax breaks, incentives, and public dollars, the job should be 100% signatory. For decades, the building trades have endorsed politicians who took our support and then forgot our phone number. That stops now.

The Path Forward

The strength of this nation has never been in Wall Street or Washington. It is in the hands of the people who build the bridges, run the wires, pour the concrete, and take care of our parents when they are old.

Protect our seniors. Guarantee healthcare for the working class. Restore the right of unions to organize without a federal straitjacket. Do those three things, and we rebuild an economy that works for the people who work.

Congress, half-measures had their chance. They failed. The beam is bending. It is time to act.

My rule has never changed in forty years: If it doesn’t carry the union label, it doesn’t go on the job. In other words, the truck keeps moving. w let’s get to work.

Frank Spotorno is a Retired UBC Member, Local 2790, Member, IACRL Member, East Harlem Giglio Society and was a candidate for Congress in NY-14, in 2016.

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Community Coyote Information
Session



Topics include:
• General Coyote Q&A
• State Response to Coyotes (DEC, Authorities & Agencies)
• Local Government Response (What Matters to the Community)
Speakers include: Investigator Police Chief Parnelli and a representative from the NY State Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC)



WEDNESDAY, JULY 29th AT 6:00 PM
WHERE: IRVINGTON COURT ROOM, 85
MAIN ST. IRVINGTON, NY 10533

Obama HS Val, Sal, continued from pg 1-

Obama HS Girls Basketball Coach Nelson also had a positive impact on Merrill, whose favorite subjects are history and math.

Janiyah’s extracurricular activities at Obama HS included the Girls Basketball team, the drama club, Junior Achievement, YPIE, and Honors Society.

Merrill applied to 13 colleges and universities and was accepted into all 13. She will be attending SUNY New Paltz this fall.

“My future plans academically are to graduate from college while managing a 3.0 GPA or higher. Then I will eventually get my master’s degree. My future plan as a career is to become a teacher.”

What do you like most about Obama HS? “I like our school community. The people around me support me and make my time more enjoyable.”

Any advice for a future valedictorian? “If I could leave a piece of advice, it is don’t track other people’s progress; just focus on yourself, and the outcome will be great. And don’t let the wrong people influence your path and affect your dreams.”

Obama HS Salutatorian Cherish Wamack graduated with a 97.59% GPA. Her favorite teacher was English teacher Laura Vushaj.

Cherish’s favorite subjects are English and Science. Her extracurricular activities included Volleyball, Softball, Basketball, Cooking and Baking.

Wamack was accepted into 8 colleges and universities and will be attending SUNY Albany next month. “I want to go on a pre-med track and/or become a physical therapist.”

What do you like most about Obama HS? “The staff, including teachers, counselors, coaches, and administrators. They all impacted my life and have my respect and appreciation.”

Any advice for a future Salutatorian? “I think it’s important that they know, no matter where their destination might be, just remember you made it through the hardest part with determination. And keep that passion for your next journey.”

Were it left to me to decide whether we should have a government without newspapers, or newspapers without a government, I should not hesitate a moment to prefer the latter.

-Thomas Jefferson

Notice of formation of LR Project Solutions LLC. Arts. of Org. filed with the SSNY on 3/10/2026. Office: Westchester County. SSNY designated as agent of the LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail copy of the process to the LLC, 108 Boulevard, Pelham, NY 10803. Purpose: Any lawful activity

Notice of formation of CONNECTED EXPERIENCES LLC Arts. of Org. filed with SSNY on 01/30/2026. Office: Westchester Co. SSNY designated agent for process and shall mail copy to LLC at 212 Colabaugh Pond Rd, Croton On Hudson, NY, 10520. Purpose: any lawful act.

Notice of formation of Digital Infrastructure Services LLC, Arts. of Org. filed with NY Dept. of State on 10/22/25. Office: Westchester County. NY DOS designated as agent for service of process; DOS shall mail copy of process to 7 Ridgeway Cir White Plains, NY 10605. Purpose: any lawful purpose.

Notice of formation of Rat Attack Snacks, LLC. Arts. of Org. filed with the SSNY on 3/2/2026. 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, 516 Park Avenue Yonkers NY 10703. Purpose: Any lawful activity

Notice of formation of DVH List Services, LLC. Arts. of Org. filed with the SSNY on 05/05/2026. 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, 69 Johnson Rd, Scarsdale NY 10583. Purpose: Any lawful activity

Notice of formation of W4J9R1 Holdings, LLC. Arts. of Org. filed with the SSNY on 04/23/2026. 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, 2 Gedney Park Drive, White Plains, NY 10605. Purpose: Any lawful activity

Notice of Formation of Infinity Strategies Group LLC. Arts of Org. Filed with SSNY on September 1, 2025. Office location: Westchester County, New York. SSNY designated as agent of the LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail copy of process to the LLC, 255 Huguenot Street, Apt 913, New Rochelle, NY 10801. Purpose: Any lawful purpose.

Notice of formation of M.C.K. VENTURES LLC of Org. filed with the SSNY on 03/31/2026. 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 MCK VENTURES LLC 465 TUCKAHOE ROAD, #1304 YONKERS, NY, 10710. Purpose: Any lawful activity

Notice of formation of Frontline Restoration Partners LLC. Arts. Of Org. Filed with the SSNY on July 7, 2026. Office Location: Westchester County, New York. SSNY is designated as the agent of the LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail copy of process to the LLC, 333 Mamaroneck Avenue, Suite 359, White Plains, NY 10605. Purpose: Any lawful activity.

Notice of Formation of Moving Minds LCSW PLLC. Arts. Of Org. filed with SSNY on 06/02/2026. Office Location: Westchester County. SSNY designated as agent of the LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: Nichole Rankin, 8 Oakbrook Road, Ossining, NY 10562. Purpose: any lawful purpose.

Gabriel Hostin, continued from pg 4-

did provide some analysis, and the NRPD is familiar with the area.

“They said that jogging near the train tracks in that area of New Rashelle is not common. They say jogging in that area is not at all common. This is a wooded area, and Amtrak tracks are nearby, but this is not a typical route for pedestrians or joggers. The tracks run close to some areas, but most of that stretch is fenced off. He said it’s not a place that the average person would end up unless they deliberately climbed onto the tracks. He said he does not know why this individual was in this location, noting the area is clearly marked and difficult to access as well. He says it’s uncommon for people to end up on the tracks. When it happens, it’s more often homeless individuals. He said the entrance ramps in the area are not near residential blocks and that there are not really sidewalks along these ramps, describing the area as not a typical jogging route, though nearby side streets are used for jogging. Okay, so we don’t really know what this 24-year-old man was doing there,” said Kelly. (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QSIRIbHpYw0&t=5s>).

Could the MTA officers have let Gabriel off with just a warning? Perhaps, or maybe the MTA officers were told to diligently patrol the railroad tracks and keep people off. Could the Judge toss out the citation? Perhaps. Gabriel’s court date in New Rochelle City Court is July 31. The MTA provided us this statement. “On June 16, 2026, at approximately 2000 hours, an MTAPD train patrol team exited a train at New Rochelle Station when the officers observed a male trespasser running along the right of way close to an electrified third rail. The 23-year-old male was stopped near Commerce Drive and detained for a criminal background check and to safely remove him from the electrified track area. Given the absence of criminal history and the subject’s cooperation with officers, he was issued a summons for a violation and released. “Summons: Trespass — returnable in New Rochelle Court, Westchester County.” <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=51T38qwsrgY>

PUBLIC NOTICE

A GENERAL ORDINANCE AMENDING PART IX, CHAPTER 100, OF THE CODE, ENTITLED PARKS AND PUBLIC PLACES, BY ADDING Article XV TO THE CODE, ENTITLED “VEHICLES IN PARKS”

Notice is hereby given that the City Council of the City of Yonkers has adopted the abovementioned legislation to amend the City Code to address vehicles in parks and explicitly penalize any vehicular activities which may cause damage to city parks.

Part IX of the Code of the City of Yonkers entitled “Parks and Public Places” is hereby amended in part by adding a new Article XV entitled “Vehicles in Parks” to read as follows:

Article XV VEHICLES IN PARKS

§ 100-82.

A. No person shall operate, drive, propel, stand, or park any motor vehicle, including any motorized bike or scooter, all-terrain vehicle, or other off-road vehicle within any City Park except in any roadway or parking lot or area explicitly permitting vehicles or unless authorized by the Parks Commissioner.

B. No person shall operate any motor vehicle including any motorized bike or scooter, all-terrain vehicle, or other off-road vehicle, within any City Park in a manner that damages, defaces, or destroys any lawn, field, planting, tree, shrub, turf, walkway, fixture, structure, or other park property.

C. No person shall operate a motor vehicle including any motorized bike or scooter, all-terrain vehicle, or other off-road vehicle, in any manner that endangers persons or property.

§ 100-83. Penalties

Violations of this article shall constitute a class II offense, however, if such violation is determined to cause damage to property, than such violation shall constitute a class I offense.

Penalties as defined in Article III: Penalties, § 1-21 Penalties for offenses; lesser included offenses:

(1) Class I offense:

(a) Criminal penalties: A Class I offense is an unclassified misdemeanor, subject to a fine of not less than \$250 nor more than \$10,000 or imprisonment of not more than one year, or both.

(b) Civil penalties: A Class I offense is subject to a civil penalty of not less than \$500 nor more than \$10,000.

(2) Class II offense:

(a) Criminal penalties: A Class II offense is a violation, subject to a fine of not less than \$100 nor more than \$5,000 or imprisonment of not more than 15 days in jail, or both. [Amended 6-26-2012 by L.L. No. 5-2012]

(b) Civil penalties: A Class II offense is subject to a civil penalty of not less than \$250 nor more than \$5,000.

The complete text of the ordinance is on file and may be examined at the Office of the City Clerk, City Hall, 40 S. Broadway, Yonkers, NY 10701.

Dated: July 8, 2026 Vincent Spano
City Clerk

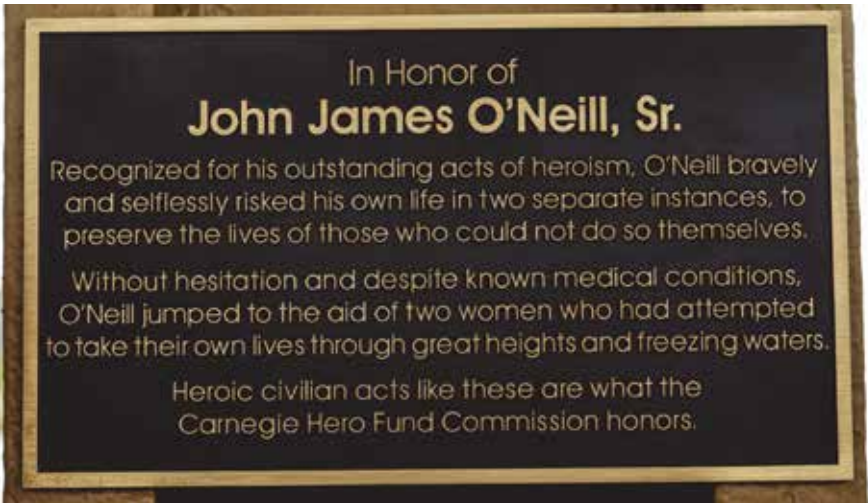
Yonkers Rising

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Yonkers Honors the Life and Legacy of DPW Employee John O’Neill Sr.



Among those honoring John O’Neill were former County Executive Andy Spano, Mayor Mike Spano, Councilwoman Tasha Diaz, Councilwoman Deana Norman and County Legislator James Nolan



From Mayor Mike Spano: This week, we honored the life and legacy of John James O’Neill Sr., a true Yonkers hero. John didn’t hesitate when others needed help. On two separate occasions, while working for the Yonkers Department of Public Works and facing his own health challenges, he risked his life to save two women from the Hudson River. His courage earned him the prestigious Carnegie Hero Award twice, a rare honor that speaks to the extraordinary person he was. With the dedication of a memorial plaque and the creation of the John James O’Neill Sr. Scholarship for Yonkers DPW employees, his legacy of selflessness, service and courage will continue to inspire future generations. Thank you to the O’Neill family for sharing John with the City of Yonkers. His impact will never be forgotten.

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