

Yonkers Rising

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Friday April 22, 2022

Yonkers Rising Player of the Year! DJ Holmes



D.J. Holmes with Yonkers Brave Coach Victor Chiappa

By Phil Foley

Congratulations to the Yonkers Brave Quarterback D.J. Holmes for winning the Yonkers Rising Player of the Year Award for the Fall 2021 football season. Coach Victor Chiappa said “I love this kid. DJ was one of the best players that I have ever been associated with during my football coaching career!”

Coach Ciappa added, “D.J. was as tough as nails! He had a double ear infection and still came out for practice. Never missed!”

D.J. who is a Senior at Lincoln High School has been awarded a Rugby scholarship to Nazareth College this Fall. D.J. congrats on your award and good luck in the future from everyone at the Yonkers Rising!

FLIP Circus Performers Come From Ukraine to Yonkers, The Show Must Go On!



Anastasiia Savych, 3rd right, and performing in FLIP Circus from Ukraine, with Council Majority Leader Tasha Diaz, Councilman John Rubbo, and former Council President Chuck Lesnick

By Dan Murphy

Circuses have entertained American audiences for over 200 years. A new circus has popped up in Westchester, at the Cross County Center in Yonkers called FLIP Circus, with performances through May 2. World-class clowns, acrobats, jugglers and daredevils display their talents right in front of an audience that is 50 feet or less from the action. And there are no animal performances.

Performers from around the world are a part of FLIP Circus, including the 16 member Bingo Troupe, direct from Kyiv, Ukraine. And as the war rages on in her country, we spoke to dancer Anastasiia Savych about her experiences in her home country, and her path to Yonkers.

Anastassia, 20, worked in a circus in the United States two years ago, and was invited to perform in the FLIP Circus’ 2022 tour of the country. She planned on coming to the US at the end of March, but in February Vladimir Putin and Russia changed the plans of millions of Ukrainians.

“I heard the first attack at the airport 15 minutes from my house. People started leaving the country and I left because I was coming back to America to perform in the FLIP Circus,” said Anastassia, who lives in Kyiv. “It was very sad at the train station going into Poland. There were thousands of us trying to get on the trains, crying. There wasn’t enough room for everyone.”

She took a train to Western Ukraine and was one of millions of Ukrainians fleeing their country into Poland. In Poland, Anastassia was able to get on a plane from Poland and come to New York City on March 23. FLIP Circus performances began in NYC Staten Island before moving on to Yonkers-Cross County with their first Westchester performance on April 15.

Almost all of Anastassia’s family is still in Kiev. “I spoke to my father last week. He has a positive attitude but he can’t leave because of the war. But I am worried about my family. I’m confused that in the 21st Century we can still see this type of war and bombing of civilians. With all of the democracies around us. I’m hoping we can put an end to it.”

Like most of the world, Anastassia thinks Ukrainian President Zelensky, “is great. He is a legend in my country because he is a true person and he is fighting for our country.”

She adds that when people come up and ask if she is Russian, she says no. “I’m not Russian we have a totally different mentality. In Ukraine, we are all brothers and sisters, like our President.”

Performers in FLIP Circus come from across the world, including Argentina, Italy, Brazil and Mexico. “I love the circus because it makes people happy and I’m proud to be a part of this happiness.” Anastassia will be touring with FLIP Circus until November. “We like to keep it positive and hope for a better future.”

continued on pg 6-

Mayor Spano Proposes FY 2023 Budget With 2.9% Tax Levy Increase, Under Tax Cap

Executive Budget for Yonkers Board of Education

- \$680.6M appropriated for BOE
- Increase in Maintenance of Effort (MOE) \$5.7M
- Includes NYS Foundation Aid of \$12M for this year
- Need to continue lobbying NYS to address systematic funding inequities in current formula

Yonkers Mayor Mike Spano today released his Fiscal Year 2023 Executive Budget proposal, which contains no cuts in positions or City services, increases funding for more police officers, continues to provide its largest contribution to Yonkers Public Schools and stays within the state-mandated tax cap.

Mayor Spano stated, “Yonkers, now the third largest city in New York State, weathered the effects of a global pandemic better than expected largely due to the city’s uniquely diverse workforce; its growing population because of its booming economic development; increased e-commerce sales; and direct federal stimulus aid to residents.”

“The City’s ability to remain successful over the last decade is due in part to the Administration’s fiscal responsibility and frugal spending,” added Mayor Spano. “While we stay on track, we also must prepare and budget for our future given current increases in health insurance and energy costs, inflation rates and expired union contracts.”

Executive Budget Overview:

The Executive Budget for the Fiscal Year 2023 for the combined City and Board of Education (BOE) General Funds is \$1.36 billion, an increase of \$116.6 million or 9.32%.

Yonkers Board of Education

The Executive Budget includes a record \$680.7 million appropriation for the Board of Education, the largest ever budgeted by an Administration.

Mayor Spano added, “I want to extend my thanks to our New York State Yonkers delegation for committing to deliver the long overdue phase-in of foundation aid over the next two years that is owed to Yonkers, with Yonkers Public Schools receiving \$11 million this year. While this helps our District for now, we need to continue to lobby New York to address the systematic funding inequities in the current State formula that effect Yonkers students each year.”

For FY23, the Maintenance of Effort contribution to education will go up by \$5.7 million. The Administration’s contribution to the Maintenance of Effort has increased 25% annually and 136% cumulatively since 2012.

Municipal Operating Budget

Included in the Executive Budget is a municipal General Fund operating budget of \$687 million. General Fund Departmental Expenditures are budgeted at \$310 million.

The Executive Budget stays within the state mandated tax cap with a proposed 2.93% increase in the property tax levy. Under the proposal, a typical one-to-three family home at the median assessed value of \$10,900 would see their annual property tax bill increase by \$238.93, or approximately \$19.90 per month.

continued on pg 7-

County Legislator Christopher Johnson Marks First 100 Days at BOL Majority Leader



BOL Majority Leader Christopher Johnson, with wife Tai and son Joshua

County Legislator Christopher Johnson, who was elected by his fellow members earlier this year to serve as the Board’s Majority Leader, recently penned a letter outlining his role and his first 100 days in leadership. Legislator Johnson represents the 16th District in Yonkers, where he has served for the past five years, winning election in 2017 and 2021. From 2019-2021 he served as Majority Whip and in December 2021 he was elected by his colleagues to serve as Majority Leader. Prior to that Legislator Johnson served as a Yonkers City Councilman for 6 years.

Majority Leader Johnson writes, “2022 marked a new phase for me in my role as County Legislator for the 16th District in Yonkers. I was elected by my colleagues to serve as Majority Leader of the Democratic Caucus of the Board of Legislators. For those who are unfamiliar, the Board of Legislators is made up of 17 members. Those members are comprised of elected individuals from different parts of Westchester, who represent each of their respective districts. Those individuals represent different political parties. Our current Board is comprised of 15 Democrats, 1 Republican and 1 Conservative. The Majority Leader is the head Majority Caucus, currently the Democratic caucus. As such, my role is to organize the Board’s agenda and priorities, ensuring we tackle a wide range of issues in support of the residents of the County of Westchester, and that is exactly what I have begun to do in this first quarter.

continued on pg 5-

Help Clean Up for Earth Day!

SAVE THE DATE
YONKERS OCA CLEAN-UP
 Old Croton Aqueduct State Historic Park
Saturday, April 23, 2022
 REGISTRATION INFORMATION TO FOLLOW
 8:30 AM Registration - Walnut Street at Old Croton Aqueduct
 9:00 AM Press Conference
 9:30 AM Clean-up Aqueduct

Learn How to Write a Limerick Like Shakespeare Sat. April 23, 1pm, Will Library



*There once was a man known
 as Shakespeare,
 who wrote lots of plays
 for the theater.
 To honor his birthday,
 let's write limericks our way,
 all with the help of a teacher!*

In honor of William Shakespeare's birthday and National Poetry Month, Poetry Instructor Ms. Nicole will teach kids how to write a limerick! Workshop will be held Saturday, April 23 at 11:00am, Will Library. To register: <https://bit.ly/36z2X7a>

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Cellphones are Helping Young People Hookup, Date and Find Love



By Dennis Richmond Jr.

"A hookup is sex with no strings attached," said TS Candii, 28, of Brooklyn, New York. "Everybody has their own agenda," she said, but with a hookup, "you have two individuals who are looking for the same thing." Dating could look like going out with someone to see if they're relationship material. "You feel safer" with dating apps, said Kira Lingala, 26, of Rockland County, New York. "General social anxiety is solved with online dating," she said.

In the past, people had to meet outside. You would have to go to a bar on a Friday night or attend a party on a Saturday night to meet someone. Today, people as young as 18-years-old are on Grindr and Tinder. According to their website, "Grindr is the world's largest social networking app for gay, bi, trans, and queer people." With over 700 employees, Tinder boasts of being the most popular dating app, with 55 billion matches to date.

One of those Tinder matches is Javonte Spencer, 27, of Blythewood, South Carolina, and his girlfriend. "We probably messaged each other on Tinder for like a good two weeks before I got her number," said Spencer. The two young adults didn't hookup. They took their time getting to know each other on the app. "I didn't meet her for like a month after we matched on Tinder," said Spencer. "Sometimes relationships are found on social media and not on a dating app."

Tulleesha Burbage, 27, of Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, met her boyfriend on Instagram. While Instagram isn't a dating app, young people use Instagram, Twitter, and Snapchat, amongst other social media apps, to search for potential love interests. "I liked his pictures," she said. So, after following each other on the platform for a year, he decided to slide in her dm's. Sliding in direct messages is a phrase meaning to message somebody privately.

Young adults across America are experiencing a hard time finding true love. Alajah Whitehead, 26, of Yonkers, New York, gave me her take on why. "Love is harder to find because a lot of people aren't genuine," she said. "They're not real and upfront with what they want." Some young adults don't clearly express what they want with potential love interests until weeks or months after meeting them. With unclear communication, feelings get hurt, and people get unfollowed or blocked on social media.

With apps, looking for a relationship could be tough. "It's like you're recruiting people for a job," said Kira Lingala. "You're evaluating candidates." If candidates don't work out, you don't have an obligation to respond to them. Sometimes, people say things to you on these apps because they feel like they know you or they feel like they have a right to. "There's a certain satisfaction with ghosting men when they're acting entitled," said Lingala.

Whether you're looking to hookup, date, or commit to someone special, always be safe.

Dennis Richmond, Jr., is a *Yonkers Rising* reporter covering the Black, Latinx, and LGBTQ+ Community. He is the Author of *He Spoke at My School: An Educational Journey*. Follow him on Twitter and Instagram at @NewYork-Stakz.

Yonkers Rising PO Box 705, Yonkers NY 10702-914-815-1388. Proudly serving the City of Yonkers as the official weekly newspaper with hyperlocal news. Member NY Press Association. Legal notice inquiries to: risinglegalnotice@gmail.com. Daniel Murphy, Publisher & Editor in Chief, dmurphy@risingmediagroup.com. Bayan Baker, Assistant to the Editor in Chief risingmediagroup@gmail.com. Advertising requests to the Editor: dmurphy@risingmediagroup.com

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Amazing is running a marathon 3 months after shattering your shoulder.
 Dan Levinsohn dreamed of running the NYC Marathon. While training, he was hit by a car, breaking his shoulder in three places. Dan met with Dr. William Levine and his orthopedic team at NewYork-Presbyterian, who operated on his shoulder and designed a physical therapy plan to get him to the marathon. Just months after it seemed impossible, Dan crossed the finish line.
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United Way Ride Program Celebrates 50,000 Delivery of Meals and Supplies in West-Putnam



[uwwp.org]United Way of Westchester and Putnam's Ride United Last Mile Delivery (RULMD) initiative has completed more than 50,000 deliveries of meals, food boxes, and household supplies to vulnerable populations throughout Westchester and Putnam counties using [doordash.com]DoorDash, since it launched in July 2020.

The RULMD program is part of United Way's national efforts to close the transportation gap for those in need. The program began in response to the COVID-19 crisis to deliver food and essential goods to vulnerable populations across the U.S. and continues to grow as it assists in connecting families and individuals to food and other items that were otherwise out of reach.

"Having the food delivered to my home is helpful because it is hard for me to get out," said Marilyn Jones* of Mount Vernon, who has two school-aged children. "Thank you so much for providing this service."

United Way Worldwide's partnership with DoorDash and generous funding from donors including The Rockefeller Foundation and Safeway Stores' Nourishing Neighbors program enables the free delivery of food boxes from local food banks or food pantries and other items in need to older adults, low-income families, and those who can't or have challenges leaving home.

"No matter the reason—COVID restrictions, record unemployment, inflation, or a war in Europe – at least 40% of our neighbors live in poverty or paycheck-to-paycheck. Our Ride United Last Mile Delivery program helps alleviate one of life's most important stressors so that families can work hard to lift themselves up," said Tom Gabriel, CEO of United Way of Westchester and Putnam. "We are proud to work with local agencies, food banks, and school districts to identify available food and other essential goods for people who can't travel, and arrange for deliveries by DoorDash Dashers. Solving problems sustainably takes partnership, and by working together, we can make sure every person gets the support they need in this challenging time."

In addition to providing accessibility and enhancing the organization's existing services, the RULMD program offers a dignified approach for clients to receive items rather than waiting in lines for others to see. It also adds money to the local economy as the Dashers are paid for each delivery made.

UWWP partners with Feeding Westchester to organize the Westchester Backpack Program, which uses RULMD to deliver supplemental fresh produce and packaged food to 750 low-income families of school-aged children weekly. The food parcels include books and activities during the summer months to keep the children engaged and active. The Boys and Girls Club of Mount Vernon, the Elmsford School District, the Ossining School District, and the Peekskill School District are distribution hubs where DoorDash picks up the food parcels provided by Feeding Westchester.

Also, UWWP works with 18 other local organizations, including HOPE Community Services in New Rochelle, Eastchester Community Action Program (ECAP) in Tuckahoe, the City of Mount Vernon, Meals on Main Street in Port Chester, Caring for the Hungry and Homeless of Peekskill (CHHOP) in Peekskill, Family Services of Yonkers in Yonkers, Interfaith Emergency Food Pantry of Pleasantville in Thornwood, and more. Most organizations that utilize the RULMD program serve seniors, veterans, and low-income families with children.

"HOPE Community Services has benefitted incredibly from the RULMD Program," said Anya Di Salvo, Pantry Manager at HOPE Community Services. "It has allowed us to serve over a hundred households who have been in quarantine due to the COVID-19 virus and made our Senior Grocery Delivery program possible, with monthly deliveries to various senior buildings in New Rochelle.

Ana Costa, Youth Director at ECAP, agreed. "Eastchester Community Action Program Food Pantry has benefited tremendously from this program. Since our community has a large population of homebound and seniors that cannot make it to the pantry to receive their groceries monthly," she said. "Thank you to United Way for developing this well-needed program."

UWWP's RULMD program completed 9,000 deliveries in 2020 and 30,000 deliveries in 2021. The organization continues to grow the program with new partners and adds new services. *individual's name has been changed.

Masks, A Special Yonkers High Class of '72 Reunion and More



By Eric Schoen

As I get ready to file my column, a Judge in Florida has lifted the mask mandate on airplanes, trains, buses and other public transportation. People were shown on television tossing their masks into garbage bags flight attendants were bringing down the aisle after the announcements were made on planes in flight. Some thoughts.

Why did the airline attendants bring garbage bags down the aisle of airplanes collecting masks. Not so much that they were rejoicing about the judges ruling. They didn't want to in their cleaning of the plane (seatbacks, seats, airplane floor, etc.) have to pick up masks, many germ filled that passengers left on the plane.

Let's face it. People have been pigs dropping their masks anywhere and everywhere on the ground. It got so bad a doctor friend of mine had to put a sign up telling people not to throw their masks on the ground of the parking lot at her office.

In terms of flight attendants, though many are rejoicing that they won't have to serve as 'mask policemen or policewoman' anymore, many people particularly with health conditions will continue to wear masks. Many will object to those around them who are not masked. So in my opinion, the job of flight attendants and ground personnel will get even more complex as some people will only wanted to be seated next to people who are masked.

This all reminds me of what goes on regarding nuts on an airplane. People have been known to go on a plane and tell flight crews they must alert people in the rows around them that no one can consume nuts. If a member of my family had an allergy to nuts that was that bad, I simply would not let them fly on a plane. Just like if you have a nut allergy and go to eat at a restaurant. You never know if nuts have touched the pots your food was cooked in or the plates it is served on. So if you care about a loved one you avoid the situation completely.

If you are riding the New York City subways, you would, no pun intended be nuts not to continue wearing a mask. Sadly, the mask is probably your best friend. It's quite dirty down there, rats running along the tracks searching for food that the same pig who dropped their mask on the grounds of the doctors office above threw on the train tracks. The same goes for any other mode of public transportation where people are packed together one on top of another.

The lifting of the mask mandate by the Florida judge also tells you something about the state of the Judiciary in America. This lawsuit was filed in July 2021. Yes around 8 months ago. For such an important topic like this it took the Federal Courts 8 months to issue a ruling? Just another sign that justice in this country is incredibly slow, even when it affects millions of people nationwide. I would laugh if the judge blamed Covid for the delay in the ruling.

With Zoom and all the powerful tools the Court System has available to it, this ruling should have been issued much earlier, not on the day the mask order was intended to expire before it's extension to early May due to new variants and increases in the number of people reported to have Covid.

With all due respect to those involved in preparing reports on the numbers of people with Covid, all along the numbers have been meaningless. We see this now with the millions of test kits that the government has sent out so that people can check for themselves whether or not they have the virus. There is nothing that comes with these tests that require you to report a positive test. So who knows how many people really have Covid.

You wouldn't go to the beauty parlor and tell your mates under the hair dryer that you just tested positive for Covid with one of those home tests. So the really important gauge is the number of people hospitalized with Covid symptoms which fortunately in most areas of the country has not gone up. We know much more about the disease now, there are great pharmaceuticals that can cut the isolation period and symptoms, and we seem to be heading in the right direction with Covid.

Am I going to mask up if I have the occasion to take public transportation, let's say from a Bronx connection to the Barclay's Center in Brooklyn where the most efficient way to get there is by New York subway? I think so. I haven't been on a plane since February 2020, the month before the Covid crisis began. If I were to fly now until things calmed down I would probably mask up not knowing the vaccine or health status of the people around me.

They say Covid exposure time is being in someone's close proximity for 15 minutes or more. I know of very few plane rides less than 15 minutes, so the mask would stay on as long as possible. If I was coming home to an elderly relative or a child with health issues, I would definitely mask up. You could expose them to what you were exposed to.

If you take public transportation or are a frequent flyer, I think a good conversation with your primary physician is in order. Most importantly, please don't judge those people who do or don't wear masks on the various modes of public transportation. Isn't the option to wear or not wear a mask what those people who fought against mask mandates are fighting for?

Yonkers High School Class of 1972 (and '70, '71 and '73) Reunion

I'm a third generation Yonkers Public Schools graduate. With Covid so many High School reunions throughout the country were put on hold. That's why I am excited to tell you that the Yonkers High School Class of 1972 50th Anniversary Reunion (my sister's graduating class) will take place Sunday, June 26, 2022 from 2-6 pm at Artie's Steak and Seafood on City Island. Restaurant owner John Skeadas, YHS '72 will be the host for the event at the restaurant, 394 City Island Avenue. \$50 for a sumptuous buffet? You can't beat the price. A Cash Bar will be featured.

continued on pg 6-

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NY Attorney General James: Landlords Can't Raise Rents for 12 Months if they Received Emergency Rental Assistance



New York Attorney General Letitia James today issued an advisory to landlords reminding them that they cannot raise rents if they accepted or plan to accept funding from the state's Emergency Rental Assistance Program (ERAP), which was recently expanded in the state's budget. Landlords who accept payments from the program are prohibited from raising rents for a year after they receive the funds. Attorney General James is ready to take action to protect tenants if landlords fail to abide by ERAP's rules.

"The rules are clear: Landlords who accept ERAP payments cannot raise rents for 12 months," said Attorney General James. "This program was created to support struggling tenants and keep New Yorkers in their homes during the pandemic. Landlords who accepted payments from the state yet are still raising rents are double dipping and breaking the law. I urge any tenant who accepted ERAP payments and received a new lease with rent increases from their landlord to contact my office."

ERAP is a rent relief program that provides support to low- and moderate-income tenants across the state who could not pay rent during the pandemic. Since the state started accepting applications in June 2021, it has provided hundreds of thousands of New Yorkers with financial support to pay off back rent. It pays up to 12 months of rental arrears accrued on or after March 13, 2020 as well as up to three months of additional rental assistance going forward. In addition, the program pays up to 12 months of electric or gas utility arrears that accrued on or after March 13, 2020. The program was recently infused with an additional \$800 million.

Landlords who accept ERAP payments agreed:

Not to increase the monthly rental amount for one year from receipt of the ERAP payment;

To waive any late fees due on any rental arrears covered by the ERAP payment; and

Not to evict ERAP recipients when their lease expires. This does not apply if the apartment is in a building of four or fewer units and the property owner or owner's immediate family members intend to immediately occupy the unit for use as a primary residence.

The Office of the Attorney General (OAG) has received reports from tenants that landlords who accepted ERAP payments are sending them renewal leases with rent increases amid the 12-month grace period. While these leases may be generated automatically by management, landlords are cautioned not to seek rent increases in renewal or new leases that commence during the 12-month period.

"Now more than ever, it is critical for tenants across New York to empower themselves and know their rights under ERAP, and for landlords to adhere to the law," said Judith Goldiner, attorney-in-charge of Civil Law Reform Unit, The Legal Aid Society. "We applaud Attorney General James for putting property owners on notice and reinforcing that there will be serious consequences for unscrupulous landlords."

"The Emergency Rental Assistance program has been an effective tool in ensuring tenants can remain housed during a global health crisis," said Meghan Zickl, legal tenant advocate, PUSH Buffalo. "Continuing to fund ERAP is a decision we are relieved the New York state legislature made a priority in the most recent state budget. However, we remain concerned about landlords who will take advantage of this mutually beneficial program and seek to undermine the tenant protections in it by raising the rent during the first year, apply excessive late fees, or even trying to move their tenants out, all while accepting ERAP. We have seen this happen in the prior round of ERAP funding, and we must remain aware of those patterns and address them if our goal is to stabilize our communities."

"The state law that implemented ERAP took measures to promote housing stability," said Jill Bradshaw-Soto, Esq, chief program officer, Legal Services of the Hudson Valley. "Our clients face numerous obstacles to maintaining safe and sustainable housing and these challenges have increased during the pandemic. As the majority of tenants in housing court are unrepresented, it is critical that both tenants and landlords are informed and understand the ERAP program and its protections."

"During the COVID19 pandemic hundreds of families in North Brooklyn struggled with staying safe and healthy but lost income had difficulty meeting housing costs," said Frank Lang, housing director, St. Nicks Alliance. "In 2021 St. Nicks Alliance assisted over 200 households apply to the Emergency Rental Assistance Program (ERAP) so these families don't become homeless. We remind landlords that received ERAP funds to comply with the program regulations. To tenants that received ERAP assistance we encourage them to seek Housing Counseling assistance to ensure that their housing rights are protected."

Attorney General James offers the following tips and guidance to tenants who have received funding from ERAP:

Return leases that have a rent increase. Leases that include an increase within 12 months of your landlord receiving ERAP payments should be returned to your landlord with a note explaining that the landlord received ERAP payments and cannot increase the rent. Tenants should follow up with management to explain why the lease is improper and ask for a new lease to be issued.

Monitor your rent statements. Check your rent statements to make sure that your rent hasn't been increased or that your landlord is charging you late fees for any of the months covered by the ERAP payment.

Do not ignore court papers. Even if your landlord received an ERAP payment or you submitted an ERAP application, do not ignore court papers.

Speak with an attorney. If your landlord is taking you to court or you have questions about your lease, you should speak with an attorney. You can visit OAG's tenant help website to find free legal representation.

St. Vincent's Hospital, a Division of Saint Joseph Medical Center, to hold Spring Sprint on May 7

Event Supports Mental Health and Addiction Recovery Services

Ready. Get Set. Run! St. Vincent's Hospital Westchester, a division of the Saint Joseph's Medical Center, will hold its Annual Spring Sprint Run/Walk on Saturday, May 7.

Hosted by the St. Vincent's Hospital Auxiliary, the event start will start at 9:00 am at the St. Vincent's Harrison campus. Check-in starts at 8:00 am. Participation fee is \$30. The event supports mental health and addiction recovery services at St. Vincent's.

To register visit <https://www.saintjosephs.org/about-us/event/st.-vincent's-spring-sprint> Sponsorship opportunities are available.

St. Vincent's Hospital Westchester division of Saint Joseph's Medical Center offers inpatient and outpatient mental health and addiction treatment services at its campus in Harrison and at off-site locations in White Plains, Tuckahoe, and Port Chester.

St. Vincent's also provides mobile crisis services for Westchester County, manages residential services for more than 1,200 individuals in Westchester County and New York City and operates three opioid treatment centers in New York City.

"The need for helping people who are challenged by mental illness and addiction has grown even more critical in the aftermath of the COVID-19 pandemic. By participating in this event, you are helping us to meet this growing need," said Michael Spicer, President and CEO of Saint Joseph's Medical Center.

Yonkers Police Issue 43 Summonses, Two Cars Impounded for Reckless Driving, Loud Exhaust



The number one enforcement complaint in The City of Yonkers is aggressive, reckless driving and loud, obnoxious exhaust systems. With the weather warming, our quality-of-life traffic enforcement details will be ramping up to target these vehicle and traffic law violations. This past Friday, the 1st Precinct was out in force on Central Park Avenue - 43 summonses were issued for speeding and loud mufflers, including two vehicles being impounded for drag racing and a motorcycle. These details will continue into the fall, and we will be working with our law enforcement partners to enhance enforcement on the local parkways (Sprain Brook, Bronx River) and Thruway. Please drive responsibly and be respectful of your neighbors.

CORPORATION NOTICE CITY OF YONKERS-NEW YORK PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE

Notice is hereby given, pursuant to law, that the Mayor of the City of Yonkers, New York, will hold a Public Hearing on Tuesday, May 3, 2022 at 5:00pm, Mayor's Reception Room, 2nd floor, 40 South Broadway, Yonkers, New York, to hear all interested parties and citizens regarding the adoption of the following Local Law, to wit:

LOCAL LAW AUTHORIZING THE SALE OF CITY-OWNED PROPERTY ON WARBURTON AVENUE AND WOODWORTH AVENUE TO THE CITY YONKERS INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT AGENCY FOR PURPOSE OF DEVELOPING AFFORDABLE HOUSING

Said hearing may be adjourned from time to time as necessary. Further information, including access to a copy of said proposed local law, may be obtained at the City Clerk's office, City Hall, 40 South Broadway, Yonkers, New York and on the City's Website. MIKE SPANO Mayor

NOTICE OF FORMATION of RAINVILLE MCCABE, PLLC. Articles of Organization filed with the Secretary of State of New York (SSNY) on March 25, 2022. Location: Westchester. SSNY designated as agent for service of process on PLLC. SSNY shall mail a copy of process to: The PLLC, 69 Cowles Ave, Yonkers, NY 10704. Purpose: Legal Services.

NOTICE OF FORMATION OF THE ZONA STUDIO LLC. Articles of Organization were filed with the Secretary of State of New York (SSNY) on 02/01/2022. Office Location: Westchester County. SSNY has been designated as agent of LLC upon whom process may be served. SSNY shall mail a copy of any process against the LLC served to the company c/o United States Corporation Agents, Inc., 7014 13th Ave, Ste. 202, Brooklyn, NY 11228. Principal business address: 30 Lefferts Road, Yonkers, NY, 10705. Purpose: Any lawful activity.

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Councilwoman Pineda-Isaac/ West. County to Hold Domestic Violence Awareness Event



CORAZÓN PINEDA- ISAAC
YONKERS CITY COUNCILWOMAN
DISTRICT 2

Westchester
gov.com

BEHIND CLOSED DOORS...

The terrifying reality of domestic violence is that it is concealed behind closed doors where only the occupants know of its existence-- where victims, perpetrators and even their children carefully curate a persona that is far different from the reality of their lives.

1 in 4 women (24.3%) and 1 in 7 men (13.8%) aged 18 and older in the United States have been the victim of severe physical violence by an intimate partner in their lifetime.

"Behind Closed Doors" examines the complex dynamics underlying domestic violence and the tragic cases that spurred the development of the Westchester County Domestic Violence High Risk Team.

WESTCHESTER COUNTY OFFICE FOR WOMEN

APRIL 25TH / 6:00PM

PRESENTERS:

ROBI SCHLAFF, ESQ., DIRECTOR, COUNTY OFFICE FOR WOMEN &
DARLENE REDA, ESQ., DEPUTY DIRECTOR

JOIN VIA ZOOM! CLICK HERE!
MEETING ID: 735 903 2238
PASSCODE: EZ928L

For Questions Contact:
Leslye Oquendo-Thomas
Legislative Aide to Councilwoman Corazón Pineda-Isaac
Yonkers City Council, District 2
Tel: (914)377-6951

Yonkers City Council Member Corazón Pineda-Isaac and the Westchester County Office for Women are offering a virtual training session entitled "Behind Closed Doors", which examines the complex dynamics underlying domestic violence and the tragic cases that spurred the development of the Westchester County Domestic Violence High Risk Team.

The event will be held on April 25, 2022 from 6:00-7:00pm Via Zoom Meeting ID: 735 903 2238 Passcode: EZ928L.

Classifieds

Attorney: DIVORCE \$389 - Uncontested divorce papers prepared. Only one signature required. Poor person Application included if applicable. Separation agreements. Custody and support petitions. 518-274-0380

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Notice of formation of SECOND STAR WELLNESS LLC. Arts. of Org. filed with SSNY 03/03/2022. Allison Susan Courtenay designated as registered agent of the LLC upon whom process against it may be served. Allison Susan Courtenay shall mail process to the LLC, 200 Beacon Hill Dr Apt 12E1, Dobbs Ferry NY 10522. Purpose: any lawful activity.

On This Day in Yonkers History...



The Getty House, circa 1920, corner of S. Broadway and New Main St.

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

Monday, April 25th

April 25, 1928: While Main's Street Hamilton Theater was being demolished, a portion of the front wall crashed to the sidewalk, narrowly missing disaster. Although it crashed through the Main Street wooden bridge, no people were hurt. Project Superintendent John Abramsen noticed a small portion of the wall looked weak; he ordered the bridge blocked. Louis Glazer started to pull down the wall carefully from the top; it suddenly crumbled and he grabbed a standpipe to avoid falling with the bricks and stones.

April 25, 1948: Seven people, all self-confessed Communists, were arrested for disorderly conduct as they tried to sell copies of the Daily Worker to Mulford Gardens residents. Instead of buying copies, tenants threw flowerpots out their windows!

Tuesday, April 26th

April 26, 1925: Federal prohibition agents and YPD led by Chief Quirk staged a series of raids, arresting several people for unlawful possession of intoxicating liquors.

April 26, 1945: Corporation Counsel John Broderick spoke on the Law Department at the Yonkers Jaycees' School for Civic Service.

Wednesday, April 27th

April 27, 1955: Landscape Avenue's Dr. Aubrey Gorbman, Columbia Zoology Department Chairman, received the 1955 John Simon Guggenheim Memorial Fellowship. He took a one-year leave to study fish in Hawaii, earning praise for his study of the effects of nuclear fall-out on coral reef fish in the Western Pacific. In 1958, he spent a year in France on a Fulbright fellowship; in 1960 he was a visiting professor at Nagoya University in Japan, where he did research under a grant from the US Public Health Department. He was a pioneer in the field of endocrine systems in animals and humans, and in nurturing women in biology. A few years later, he left Yonkers and Columbia for the University of Washington. The Clinton White House presented him the Presidential Award for Science Mentoring in 1998.

Thursday, April 28th

April 28, 1940: Seventeen-year-old James Liston of Riverdale Avenue not only received a medal from the Carnegie Hero Fund, he also got a \$750 award for his education for rescuing Alfonse D'Amato! D'Amato's kayak sprang a leak, overturned and sank. D'Amato was in trouble; Liston swam to him and began towing him to shore. Detective Thomas Flynn and Officer Wertis joined the effort; Flynn had a line attached to him. Seeing the line was too short, Officer Alexander Young swam out with a longer rope to attach to the shorter one. The line was tied to D'Amato, and he was towed in with the assistance of Officers Edward Stosch and William Bell who jumped into the water to assist. On shore, our Police Emergency Squad revived the unconscious man using an inhalator and a tank of oxygen, and then brought him to St. Joseph's Hospital.

continued on pg. 6-

BOL Majority Leader Johnson, continued from pg. 1-

"Legislatively we have introduced Salary Range Legislation requiring employers in Westchester to post minimum and maximum job salary ranges to promote equity in hiring. According to the U.S. Department of Labor, on average women earn 82 cents to every dollar a man earns, and inequity is worse for women of color; the gap is persistent regardless of educational attainment. This legislation forces companies in Westchester to be transparent about pay scales which in turn will help the employee judge whether or not they are being treated fairly.

"We also backed the Clean Slate Proposal pending in the New York State Legislature which would automatically seal criminal records from civil review in certain cases, for people who have completed their sentences and probation, and have maintained a clean record for some years thereafter. It is intended to help people get back on their feet after serving their debt, and to reduce recidivism.

"Other Legislation in the works include topics on Food Allergy Safety and the creation of an Office of Police Accountability. Additionally, I sit on the Appointments, Rules, Housing, Human Services/Equality, Legislation and Public Works and Transportation Committees.

"Serving as Majority Leader is an honor but that does not take away from the district work happening in my office daily. Since the year has begun my office has continued to field constituent calls on an array of issues ranging from coyote sightings to Con Edison. We are working diligently to improve departments and navigate the issues, to better serve residents of the 16th District. Last month, we held a Non Profit Workshop with over 40 attendees in collaboration with the Westchester County Youth Bureau, Non Profit Westchester and Pro Bono Partnerships, to aide individuals who want to start their own nonprofit organizations. I want to do all I can to support the growth and ambitions of Yonkers residents.

I can't say the work is easy but I can say it's rewarding. To continue to be able to serve residents of District 16 is not something I take lightly. As always, please do not hesitate to reach out to my office with any questions or concerns. Give us a call at 914-995-2829 or send an email to slpc@westchestergov.com and my aide Shatika Parker will assist. I will also start a #QuestionsforChrisJohnson on my social media pages so be sure to follow me @honchrisjohnson on Instagram, Twitter and Facebook. Thank you for taking the time to read what I've been up to at the Board of Legislators. I look forward to seeing everyone in person, as the weather gets warmer," writes Majority Leader Johnson.

Deputy County Executive Ken Jenkins, who served as the County Legislator from the 16th District prior to Johnson, said, Majority Leader Johnson has done a wonderful job navigating the different voices in the democratic majority. That role is different from his duties as a legislator. When you are a legislator you can take stronger positions for your district, but as a leader, you have to have a skill set that helps shepherd the 15 members of the democratic BOL caucus. He has shown that type of leadership," said Jenkins.

Board Chairwoman Catherine Borgia said, "It's been exciting working with Chris as he's stepped into his new leadership role at the Board of Legislators. We make a great team. In just a few months Chris has already made his mark, moving forward important legislation through the Board process. He works hard with staff and colleagues to create a calendar that allows the legislative process to play out, while ensuring the priorities of all of the caucus members are being heard. We have an ambitious agenda for this term, including redistricting."

Buying Comics!

Looking for 1960s-1990s. I PAY CASH!

Please call 914-646-1718 Located in Yonkers

Yonkers Budget , continued from pg. 1-

The 2023 Executive Budget does not propose cuts to municipal services or city workforce; adds 10 new police officers to the roster; permanently funds Juneteenth as a City holiday; and includes capital investments for Yonkers Public Schools and funds a new police and fire training facility.

Mayor Spano added, "My hope is that the 2023 Executive Budget is a basis for discussions and decisions. I ask our City Council members to continue to build upon the spirit of cooperation that has passed ten consecutive bipartisan budgets during my time in office."

Budget Snapshot:

- \$1.36 billion total budget
- Proposes increase in property tax levy of 2.93%, staying within state-mandated tax cap
- Maintains city services and municipal positions, adding positions and capital improvements to support public safety
- \$680.6 million appropriation for the Board of Education, the largest ever budgeted by an Administration.
- Permanently funds Juneteenth as a City holiday

The complete Fiscal Year 2023 Executive Budget can be downloaded at www.yonkersny.gov. The City Council will now begin their review of Spano's proposed budget, and vote to adopt the spending plan.

Eric Schoen , continued from pg. 3-

What makes this reunion so special? The Yonkers Public Schools are One Happy Family! Students from Yonkers, Gorton, Lincoln, Saunders, Commerce and Roosevelt High Schools CLASSES OF 1970, 1971, 1972 and 1973 Are Cordially Invited to Join the Celebration!

Tell your friends. Tell Your Current and Former Neighbors. Tell your siblings and other relatives. This event will be the party of the century and you will have the opportunity to celebrate with your friends from throughout the City of Yonkers High Schools.

Questions. Email Carrie Schoen at carriejschoen@gmail.com with questions and contact information for students who will want to attend. Your help in finding students in the above classes will be appreciated.

Checks DUE BY JUNE 1. Send your check PAYABLE TO JOHN SKEADAS with name, address and phone number to: John Skeadas, Reunion, P.O. Box 788, Bedford, New York 10506 Cash (\$50) only at the Door. For planning Purposes Please send in your Check by June 1.

My sister Carrie and John Skeadas of the famed restaurant family look Forward to Seeing You and Reminiscing About Great High School Days! GO BULLDOGS! See you June 26! There may even be a special guest at the door to welcome you!

Briefs: Visiting my dear cousins in Mahopac for Passover, I saw signs promoting Vedat Gashi who is in a primary with Jamaal Bowman for New York's 16th Congressional District seat. Now I don't have to tell you who I am voting for in the Primary hopefully with my dear cousins. But to think that a Congressional District goes from the Bronx all the way, an hour away to Mahopac! The members of the State Legislature who drew the Congressional lines certainly have no love for the current Congressman!

I have posted it on Facebook. Tweeted it. Will someone please tell Nicholas Speranza who was going to run for Judge in Yonkers but is not to 'tear down' the cheap, scotch taped signs he posted all over Yonkers for his short lived run for City Judge. Going through the drive thru at the Dunkin Donuts, Central and Midland Avenues, there again was a water soaked scotch taped Speranza sign. Could he be keeping the signs up for publicity for his law practice?

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

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Read a PDF of Yonkers Rising online at YonkersTimes.com

THE CITY OF YONKERS/YONKERS PUBLIC SCHOOLS, BUREAU OF PURCHASING, One Larkin Center, 3RD Floor, Yonkers, New York 10701 (Located in the Yonkers Riverfront Library Building across from the Metro-North train station) will receive sealed Bids for the following projects until 2:00 PM, on the dates below.

However, due to the COVID-19 Pandemic and in line with the directives issued by the Mayor of Yonkers regarding public safety, there is limited access to One Larkin Center. The building is open from 8:30 AM to 4:00 PM for receiving packages via courier services and in person. If delivering bids in person, individuals must wear face coverings and see the Public Safety Officer in the library atrium, who will clock in the bid and then contact Purchasing to pick up the bid. Sealed Bids will continue to be opened and read on the dates below, however, there will not be a public opening of bids. Those interested in listening to the bid opening and the reading of bids can dial Conference Call number 1-701-802-5221 and enter Access Code 1354203 when prompted.

Solicitation documents are available for downloading from the Empire State Purchasing Group website at <http://www.empirestatebidsystem.com/>. The City welcomes and encourages participation by local and minority and women owned business enterprises.

1. Bid 6783 - Opening date: 6/3/2022: Fabricate and install new marble mosaics at Untermyer Gardens, 945 North Broadway, per Yonkers specifications (AS).
2. Bid 6784 - Opening date: 5/20/2022: Upgrade the electronics on the Yonkers Police Safeboat, Marine 1. Work consists of up fitting the radar, navigation, and depth determination systems from the original 2013 equipment (SR).
3. Bid 6785 - Opening date: 5/13/2022: Purchase of one Polaris Ranger Crew 1000 Premium utility vehicle, or Yonkers approved equal (FB).
4. Bid 6759A - Opening date: 5/13/2022: Provide maintenance and landscaping services for the three Daylighting locations through 10/15/2022, with option to renew for 2023 (DC).
5. Bid 6794 - Opening date: 6/3/2022: General construction contract for the replacement of three motorized overhead garage doors at Lincoln High School, 375 Kneeland Avenue (KS).
6. Bid 6779 - Opening date: 6/3/2022: High-tech security upgrades at Cross Hill Academy, 160 Bolmer Avenue, and Montessori School 27, 132 Valentine Lane, YPS Job # 10895 (AS).
7. Bid 6792 - Opening date: 6/3/2022: High-tech security upgrades at Roosevelt High School, 631 Tuckahoe Road, YPS Job # 10895 (DC).
8. Bid 6793 - Opening date: 6/3/2022: High-tech security upgrades at Yonkers Middle/High School, 150 Rockland Avenue, YPS Job # 10895 (KS).
9. Bid 6769 - Opening date: 6/3/2022: General construction contract for the fire restoration at Crosshill Academy 160 Bolmer Avenue, YPS Job # 10929 (DC).
10. Bid 6789 - Opening date: 6/3/2022: Two general construction contracts for the restoration of building envelope, interiors, security and site at School 16, 759 North Broadway, YPS Job # 10845. (KS).
11. Bid 6791 - Opening date: 5/13/2022: One-time purchase of Axis, or Yonkers approved equal, outdoor security cameras and related accessories and software (SR).
12. Bid 6795 - Opening date 5/16/2022: Street & sidewalk improvements at the La Mora Senior Living Development at 23 Mulberry Street, Section 2, Block 2062, Lot 25 (AS).
13. Bid 6796 - Opening date 5/13/2022: Twenty-four month contract, with option to renew for 12-month, to provide maintenance, repairs, and parts, as needed, for Ross control valves (AC).

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FLIP Circus, Ukraine, continued from pg. 1-

FLIP Circus will be at the Cross County Center in Yonkers through May 2. For tickets and additional information, please visit www.FlipCircus.com. Tickets start at \$25.00 (children) and \$40.00 (adults) with senior/military/handicap discounts available.

FLIP Circus cast and crew adheres to all national, state and city COVID-19 guidelines and has put in place numerous measures inside and outside their tent to ensure compliance and the safety of all. If you attend, look for Anatasia and her Bingo Troupe.

Yonkers History, continued from pg. 5-

Friday, April 29th

April 29, 1931: Just as Diving Officer Hanson was closing the hatch of the submarine Nautilus, he found men three stowaways and led them out; they jumped from the craft to Mahlstedt's Dock at the foot of Babcock Place! He entered the conning tower and locked it. Suddenly, it flew open again, and Hanson led out two more men hiding on the sub! The third try was successful and the Nautilus went down five feet in the Hudson to see if there were any leaks in the shell of the sub. The five men attempting to make the descent were mechanics working on the vessel; all five ignored their company superintendent's orders to leave the sub!

April 25, 1937: More than 1,000 people attended the Yonkers Baseball League opening day at Pelton Field. The Yonkers Boy Scout Color Guard and the St. Mary's School Fife and Drum Corps led in all four teams, and Elks Exalted Ruler Walter McCabe threw out the first pitch for the game between the Eighth Ward Democrats and the Yonkers Elks; Elks President O. W. Kalkhof caught the first ball. The Democrats beat the Yonkers Elks 16-5. Mayor Loehr threw out the first ball and Common Council President Frank Cotter caught the first pitch for the second game between the Champion Steers, who defeated the Yonkers Republicans 6-2.

Saturday, April 30th

April 30, 1786: Colonel Frederick Philipse died in Chester England.

April 30, 1910: Seventy-one year old Edward Payson Hall, nearing the end of his cross country walking journey from Santa Monica to New York City, arrived in Yonkers at 10:47 pm twelve days ahead of his schedule. Met at the city line by Captain William Lent and a squad of patrolmen, he was greeted by an enthusiastic crowd in the Square, so large it was difficult for him to get into the Getty House to spend the night. He addressed the crowd for a few minutes, and thanked them for their support.

Sunday, May 1st

May 1, 1870: The founders of St. John's Invalid Home rented a large building known as The Grove House on the east side of Woodworth Avenue, a little north of Locust Street.

May 1, 1910: Edward Payson Weston lazed in bed at the Getty House, resting and relaxing, while reading newspapers and catching up on his sleep. Mayor James Lennon, Corporation Counsel Thomas Curran, and former NY Police Chief John Cullagh stopped by to wish him well. He left LA February 1st, planning to walk from the Pacific to the Atlantic in 100 days. He relaxed for the day and left for the next day, walking the last leg right down Broadway from his hotel room in Yonkers. Once he reached Kingsbridge, enormous crowds cheered him all the way to NY City Hall Park, where he gave a letter to Mayor William Gaynor from LA Mayor George Alexander.

Questions or comments? Email YonkersHistory1646@gmail.com. For information on the Yonkers Historical Society, Sherwood House and upcoming events, please visit our website www.yonkershistoricalsociety.org, call 914-961-8940 or email yhsociety@aol.com.

Hudson River Museum's New Wing to Open in Fall Easter Bunny Returns to Yonkers for Egg Hunt



Check out the programs available at the Hudson River Museum, like this recent celebration of Mexican artist Frida Kahlo

The Hudson River Museum's new wing will open this fall, museum director Masha Turchinsky said today during the Business Council of Westchester's State of the Economy webinar.

"The West Wing is going to be a dynamic, new wing in which we will be able to feature the special exhibitions," said Turchinsky of the museum in Yonkers, N.Y. "It will be world-class galleries right along the Hudson River, and we're talking about beautiful, 15-foot ceilings. We're talking about galleries that you would expect to find in a major institution in New York City."

Designed by Archimuse, the West Wing project expands the museum from approximately 40,000 to 52,000 square feet while seamlessly integrating the enhancements with the existing museum campus, including its center courtyard and the view of the Hudson River and Palisades.

Turchinsky discussed the new West Wing during the BCW's State of the Economy webinar with the leaders of five prominent cultural institutions. "The arts and culture sector was frankly the hardest hit during the pandemic is coming back strong and evolving and being innovative and transformative in Westchester County," said BCW President and CEO Marsha Gordon, who moderated the panel.

Visit HRM.org for a complete listing of upcoming events.



The star of the show, the Easter Bunny, with Assemblyman Nader Sayegh, Council Majority Leader Tasha Diaz, County Legislator Jose Alvarado and volunteers



Face painting, balloon art and a basket full of eggs



Ready, Set, Go get your eggs!

Photos by Donna Davis

A long tradition in Yonkers has returned, to the delight of almost 100 kids and their families who participated in the Yonkers Easter Egg Hunt on April 16 at War Memorial Field. Face painting, balloon art, and a number of eggs filled with goodies were enjoyed by all.

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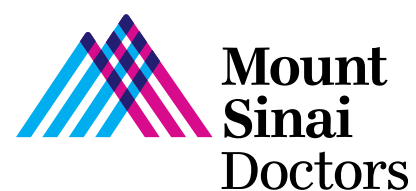
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