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## Migrant Teens to Attend Vacant St. Ann's School in Yonkers Under Deal with Rising Ground



*St. Ann's School, which closed in 2019*

By Dan Murphy

A plan to bring 200 migrant children to the St. Ann's Church on Midland Avenue weekdays is under serious consideration, with a final decision to be made soon by St. Ann's Pastor Stephen Norton. The school has been closed since 2019, due to budget cuts in the Archdiocese of NY.

The plan would be operated by Rising Ground, formerly Leake & Watts, <https://www.risingground.org/supporting-immigrant-children/>

The plan calls for a staff of more than 100 workers for the 200 mostly male migrant children. The children will be kept at the school only during weekdays and not overnight. The expectation is that the children will be kept with Rising Ground for 90 days and then reunited with their families in the United States.

St. Ann's has held two information meetings with its parishioners, who are not happy that the school will be used for this purpose. Some mentioned that the school is located in a residential area with little or no parking.

Contrary to the belief of many, a final decision has not been reached on this proposal. The final decision rests in the hands of Pastor Norton, and not the Archdiocese or Cardinal Timothy Dolan.

A video of one of the meetings was posted on Facebook by Freddy Vazquez on his Basement politics show. At that meeting in March, Councilman Anthony Merante attended and tried to answer questions and complaints from those who attended. Merante explained that 250 members of St. Ann's had signed a petition opposing the idea of leasing the school to Rising Ground, as an example that some of the public was aware of the plan.

Merante also wrote to the Archdiocese of NY to ask about the plan, which has not received any media coverage or explanation.

Father Norton responded to Merante, writing "we have made a concerted effort to find an appropriate non-profit use for the building, which included approaching other educational institutions, so that the school would not sit vacant. We believe that we found a more than appropriate use for the school, allowing children to once again enjoy learning in this building while furthering the broader mission of our faith. Rising Ground's program supports children who have undergone extreme trauma by providing a warm and nurturing educational setting. A parish must do

*continued on pg 4-*

## Mayor Spano Honors Yonkers Volunteers



*L-R-Sonia Elliott, Ed Condon, Laura Whitney, RideConnect of Family Services of Westchester Program Director Marietta Manoni (accepted award on behalf of honoree Dot Berman), Lew Koflowitz, Volunteer New York!/RSVP of Westchester Program Director Wendy Armstrong, City Council Minority Leader Mike Breen, City Council Majority Leader Tasha Diaz, Mayor Mike Spano, City Council Majority Whip John Rubbo, and City Council President, Chief of Staff Maria George*

On April 22, Mayor Mike Spano announced his selection of Yonkers volunteers for the sixth annual nationwide Mayors Day of Recognition for National Service, spotlighting the impact of national service and thanking those who serve in their communities. Mayor Spano this week honored six local volunteers, specifically those who donate their time to a variety of charitable organizations in Yonkers, sponsored by Volunteer New York!. All of the awarded honorees contribute to Yonkers non-profit organizations, assisting those in the local community.

"Despite COVID-19's devastating impact, in Yonkers alone, we had 150 Senior Corps volunteers who contributed nearly 6,700 hours," said Mayor Mike Spano. "Our volunteers play a vital role in our community and ensure Yonkers continues to remain a vibrant place to live work and play. I truly appreciate everyone and recognize the contributions that are made every day."

Mayor Spano recognized the following volunteers for their years of service in Yonkers: **Ed Condon, Yonkers Partners in Education (YPIE)** - Ed Condon has volunteered with Yonkers Partners in Education for 4 years. He serves as a Graduation Coach to three young men at Roosevelt High School by providing mentoring and academic guidance. During the pandemic, Ed assisted his senior students virtually with their college applications, essay writing process and provided check-ins through text. On average, Ed volunteers 15+ hours each month for YPIE. Yonkers Partners in Education Program. Director Stacy Winitt stated, "Ed ensures that his students know they can rely on him as a resource for summer opportunities, a sounding board for academic goal setting, and a caring adult who has their best interests at heart. His steady, caring presence makes a world of difference for our students."

**Sonia Elliott, Family Service Society of Yonkers (FSSY)** - Sonia Elliott advocates for grandparent and relative caregivers as a GrandPower Advocate. She has been an Advocate with the GrandPower Project of the Family Service Society of Yonkers for 6 years. Sonia educates the public and elected officials about the needs of kinship caregivers in Yonkers and Westchester County. She advocates for greater services, changes in laws and regulations to ease the burden of raising grandchild-

*continued on pg 3-*

## Hero Cop Shot Taking Guns Off the Street FBI Shoots One, 2 Others Arrested in Georgia



*The Family Deli-Bodega, 115 Elm Street, where a gun sale went wrong, resulting in the shooting of Yonkers Detective Brian Menton*

On April 20, at 210pm, during a Westchester County Police, Yonkers Police Department-FBI attempted arrest of a several individuals at 115 Elm Street, a chaotic scene ensued, resulting in a shootout, with a 27 year veteran of the Yonkers Police Department shot and in critical condition. An FBI agent on the scene shot one of the suspects and the shooter. The attempted arrest was part of the work of the Westchester County Safe Streets Task Force Multiple arrest have been made and 1 suspect is confirmed deceased. Yonkers Police Detective Brian Menton was shot in the stomach but survived.

Detective Menton was a few days away from his retirement on the day of the shooting. The FBI website describes the task force as those that "pursue violent gangs through sustained, proactive, coordinated investigations to obtain prosecutions on violations such as racketeering, drug conspiracy, and firearms violations."

The incident was captured on video, which can be found at the Yonkers Police Department's Facebook page. The officers were in plainclothes and were not wearing body cameras, as is the policy for FBI agents and task force members.

The incident occurred at the Family Deli on 115 Elm. Mayor Mike Spano explained that Detective Menton was shot taking guns off the streets. "There have been three shootings so far this year in Yonkers. When you compare our shootings to those in Rochester, who had 400 shootings last

*continued on pg 4-*

## Yonkers Student Athlete Vaughn Meier Honored with NY Knicks Debusschere Award



*L-R-Thomas G. Meier jr. (Dad), Vaughn T. Meier, Alan Houston, Nicole Meier (mom) and Layla Meier (sister). at MSG!*

Yonkers DiChiaro School Basketball Player Vaughn Meier recent received the honor of receiving the Dave DeBusschere Award recently at Madison Square Garden. Vaughn was among almost 5,000 other nominees and was selected based on the criteria of the award, "A student, age 11-14, who exemplifies the heroic characteristics of the late great Dave DeBusschere – a hardworking, caring, loyal, fun loving leader!"

One Girl and One Boy who excels on the court and in the classroom are selected each year. The Winners are provided 4 tickets each and honored at center court of Madison Square Garden. In addition, the New York Knicks will provide an Equipment Donation to each winner's school or community athletic center or basketball team, and each winner is granted a \$500 dollar athletic shopping experience. Each Winner was also presently with a Knicks Jersey with Dave's number 22 and their own name printed on the back.

Vaughn attends Yonkers' Patricia A. DiChiaro School where his team recently won first place in the intramural basketball program and was honored as Most Valuable Player. "It was exciting to go to Madison Square Garden and stand on the court where so many of my favorite players have played, especially Dave DeBusschere" Vaughn Said, "I hope someday I can return to this court as a Knick".

Dave DeBusschere starred at the University of Detroit before enjoying a 12-year career in the NBA. He began his career in his hometown of Detroit and played for 7 seasons before being traded to the Knicks in December 1968, simply known as "The Trade," as the final piece of the franchise's first championship team. He helped lead New York to the playoffs in each of his six seasons, including NBA Championships in 1970 and 1973. He was named to five NBA All-Star teams (1970-1974) and one All-NBA Second Team (1969). He retired as a Knick in 1974 before returning to the organization as executive vice president and director of basketball operations in 1982 where he presided for four seasons. He received the highest player-honor on Mar. 24, 1981, when his No. 22 jersey was retired to the rafters of The World's Most Famous Arena. He was elected to the Naismith Memorial Basketball Hall of Fame in 1983.

### Yonkers Women in Law Enforcement and PAL Collect Prom Dresses for High School Girls



Westchester county police officers Johnson and Devito make a delivery of prom dresses

### Eagle Scout Project Honors the Memory of Revolutionary War Patriots



members of Scout Troop 12, and Eagle Scout candidate Michael Del Vecchio, right, with the flags and medallions placed on gravesites below

YONKERS WOMEN IN LAW ENFORCEMENT & THE YONKERS POLICE ATHLETIC LEAGUE PRESENTS

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By Mary Hoar

I had the privilege of attending the Eagle Scout project presentation by Michael Del Vecchio, Jr., a member of Sacred Heart's Scout Troop 12 and a Junior at Archbishop Stepinac High School. Michael is the son of Michael Del Vecchio, Sr. and Cindy Pramann.

After discussing potential projects, Yonkers Judge Edward Borelli and Bob Walters led Michael to learn about St. John's Cemetery, Yonkers first burial ground. After discovering several Revolutionary War soldiers were buried there, Michael went into action and formulated a plan to give recognition to these forgotten heroes.

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# Latimer, Westchester County, Caps Gas Tax; Orders Free Bee Line Bus Service This Summer



*“Every single penny counts when making your family’s budget,” - County Executive George Latimer*

By Dan Murphy

As Westchester residents are increasingly facing difficult financial choices when it comes to their mode of transportation, Westchester County Executive George Latimer is introducing legislation to cap the County’s collection of sales tax on gas purchases to \$.12 per gallon, equal to the cost of the tax with gas at \$3.00 per gallon, and suspending fares on Bee-Line Buses.

If approved, this proposed gas tax cap will run from June 1, 2022 to November 30, 2022. Latimer’s directive on the County’s Bee-Line Bus fares does not require legislation. This suspension of fares will run during the Summer until a later date.

Latimer said: “Every single penny counts when making your family’s budget - and we want to encourage residents to travel our County and enjoy their summers. The capping of our gas tax will help Westchester families stretch their budgets just a little bit further.”

Understanding that the capping of the County’s sales tax collection on gas purchases does not impact all Westchester residents equally, Latimer is also directing the County’s Bee-Line Bus Service to suspend fares for riders.

Latimer added: “Not every Westchester resident drives a car, and rising costs in everyday life are impacting all of us. This brief fare respite is aimed at helping all residents have a little extra cash in their pockets this summer.”

The proposed legislation capping the collection of sales tax on gas purchases now goes to the Board of Legislators for approval, with the suspension of bus fares only requiring County Executive approval.

The savings per gallon from implementing the \$3 cap is 20 cents per gallon. The county share is 4 cents of this. This is average across the County. Since inside the big 4 cities our tax is only 1.5% vs 4% outside cities the county portion of savings inside cities is less. Assuming 60 gallons of gas is used per month savings would be \$12 per month or \$36 per quarter. If you use 50 gallons a month it is \$30 savings per quarter.

When combined with a New York State plan to cut the gas tax by 16 cents also starting in June, Westchester residents will see significant relief at the pumps this summer, when gas prices usually go up. Normally fuel prices rise in spring and summer as demand increases and Americans drive and fly more.

## Yonkers Volunteers, continued from pg 1-

and has been an Advocate with the GrandPower Project of the Family Service Society of Yonkers for 6 years. Sonia educates the public and elected officials about the needs of kinship caregivers in Yonkers and Westchester County. Family Service Society of Yonkers Program Director Carolyn Fluckinger stated, “Sonia is generous with her time. If there is a need for a GrandPower Advocate to be present at a hearing, a meeting with a legislator or an event she makes herself available while juggling her parenting responsibilities with advocacy assignments.”

**Laura Whitney, Westcop** - Laura Whitney has been an AmeriCorp Foster Grandparent volunteer since 2018. She is a Yonkers resident and volunteers at Day Care centers in Yonkers. During the pandemic shutdown, Laura continued to volunteer with the Foster Grandparents Program at various Daycare centers throughout Yonkers. Although she received the same stipend as those who remained home, Laura learned to use technology and reported to her Center each day from Spring 2020 through 2021 and is currently still volunteering. Westcop Program Director Donna Bell stated, “Laura loves serving the children in her community and represents AmeriCorp Foster Grandparents with professionalism, enthusiasm, pride, and a generous attitude. Laura always receives positive reviews from the Directors and teachers at her stations (Day Care Centers) because she is great example of what it means to be a volunteer.”

**Dot Berman, RideConnect of Family Services of Westchester** - In 2018, Dot began volunteering with the RideConnect of Family Services of Westchester by offering free transportation to seniors 60 and older who needed rides to doctors’ appointments, the hairdresser, cultural events, or shopping expeditions. Since that time, she has given nearly 600 rides. Even at the height of the pandemic when very few seniors were taking rides, there were several dialysis clients who needed to get to their appointments 3 times per week or more and Dot was right there to drive them. RideConnect of Family Services of Westchester Program Director Marietta Manoni stated, “We are truly grateful for Dot. She is an amazing volunteer and our riders love her and often ask for her by name.”

**Lew Koflowitz, Volunteer New York!/RSVP of Westchester** - Lew Koflowitz has been serving on the RSVP of Westchester Advisory Committee at Volunteer New York! since 2018. Throughout his tenure with RSVP, he has shared his wisdom and enthusiasm for volunteering with his fellow committee members and has been a worthy addition to the group. During the pandemic, he encouraged the members to stay connected and provided tips on how to reduce social isolation. Volunteer New York!/RSVP of Westchester Program Director Wendy Armstrong stated, “I turn to Lew regularly for sage advice and assistance in making decisions on topics related to running the program. He has indeed risen to the occasion.”

**Elizabeth Rodriguez, Hudson River Museum** - Elizabeth Rodriguez is a veteran Museum Docent who leads school groups at all grade levels, as well as adult groups, on thematic tours through exhibitions and collections. She also collaborates in training Junior Docents on how to lead tours for the public in different areas of the Museum. Throughout her 10 years as a Docent, Liz has supported and expanded access for youth to Museum resources. HRM Assistant Director Saralinda B. Lichtblau stated, “The Hudson River Museum continues to benefit from her experience in the field and continued passion for reaching out to and lifting up young people, particularly those who have traditionally been excluded from the opportunities afforded those in mainstream society.”

# Shop Elm Street in Yonkers! Behave at the Stadium!



By Eric W. Schoen

The shooting last week of Detective Brian Menton, member of a Yonkers Police Joint Task Force with the FBI a week away from retirement was a terrible tragedy that affects not only his police ‘brothers’ but law enforcement officials all over the country, all over the world. We pray for his speedy recovery and that nothing like this ever happens again.

We join everyone in Yonkers in wishing Detective Menton a full recovery and send our prayers to him, his family and his extended ‘police’ family. Again we see how important the work of our law enforcement officials is to keep us safe. They have a tough job, not knowing the situation they are walking into. Those who call for defunding the police haven’t a clue about how difficult their work is and how important they are to Yonkers and all communities across the country.

Something struck me when Yonkers Mayor Mike Spano made remarks at the press conference the Police Commissioner held at the site of the shooting. He said most people in the Elm Street neighborhood where the shooting occurred are good, hardworking people. I have the occasion to drive down Elm Street several times a week at various hours so I see people walking to work, catching numerous buses and vans that take them to their jobs, many low or minimal wage. They leave early in the morning, lunch boxes and tools in hand and return late at night. Many wait on Yonkers Avenue just passed the gym to be picked up for day labor work. The work these day laborers do is not regulated in any way and they toil for long hours not under the best conditions.

Some work in the neighborhood. So I took a ride through the neighborhood to see what it offers. I wasn’t surprised. I have been bringing my clothes to the Elm Super Laundromat for years. It takes 5 minutes to drop them off and get my receipt. Pickup is even quicker, and their service is either same day or next day depending what time you bring your clothes in. The price per pound is cheaper than many other laundromats in Yonkers, and the nice ladies and kind owner help me carry my laundry bags when I pack them a bit too heavy to carry.

As an aside, one thing I didn’t notice that you will see in good and bad neighborhoods throughout Yonkers is a smoke shop where you can buy pipes, tobaccos, gummies and other products for relaxation and enjoyment. People in the Elm Street area have to spend their money on housing, food and their families. They don’t have extra income for luxuries.

There is Charlie’s Hardware Store, a hardware store where you can find everything one would need in a hardware store. If they don’t have it they can probably get it for you quickly. Elm Liquor Store has been in the neighborhood for ages catering the alcoholic beverage needs of the area.

Hair salons for men and women are plentiful. I had my hair cut at Barbershop de Clase when it went by another name. Excellent Dominican barbers ran the shop. I hadn’t had lunch, and the barber kept me in the chair for close to one and a half hours. Those of you who know me know there’s nothing on my head that would keep me in a barber chair for one and a half hours on Elm Street or in a Jose Eber shop in Hollywood, California at \$300 a clip, significantly more than on Elm Street. But the stylist wanted my hair to look perfect. Nothing wrong with that!

Antojitos Mexican Restaurant is one of many restaurants that are on Elm Street. Chinese takeout is right across from where the officer was shot, and Taste of the Caribbean Seafood is right around the corner. As is Juices for Life where you can get juices to give you energy, cleanse your system, for headaches, sore throats and pretty much anything else that ails you. As well as juices filled with good things that just taste good!

Castle Royale, the old Polish Community Center is steps away from Elm Street, still offering large scale catering and a venue that can accommodate the largest number of people in the city. People from all over make Castle Royale a destination where one can have an affordable event catered by top chefs with plenty of parking steps away from the entrance.

Jackie’s Florists is among several florists on the street that offer fresh flowers at reasonable prices. Several Botanical stores dot the street, one offering lush plants for sale.

Foodtown (an A + P back in the good old days) offers a full line of meats, produce and groceries. The bodegas that line the street are open long hours offering good breakfast and lunch sandwiches throughout the day. Similar to the grocery stores that my dad and a small merchant organization called WESTCHESTER Food Merchants operated throughout Yonkers when I was very young. Merchants then were Jewish, Italian and of Jordanian descent. Now most of the merchants are Dominican and Spanish. Still open early in the morning until late at night, family members working 12-14 hour days.

The new Westhab Dayspring Commons will bring many new residents to the neighborhood and all that it offers. The neighborhood features a combination of old timers and those new to Yonkers and this country. I don’t feel afraid picking up my laundry or stopping in a bodega on Elm Street any time of the day.

Years ago Elm Street featured hot, delicious breads from DeLasho’s where my laundromat is now. Fond memories!

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## Letters to the Editor:

### Alzheimer's Association Hudson Valley Thanks Volunteers

During National Volunteer Week, I would like to acknowledge Michele Lippin for her exceptional service to the Alzheimer's Association Hudson Valley Chapter Westchester Walk Planning committee. During her time here, she has played an important role in organizing call scripts, and ensuring volunteers are scheduled for our call nights that help recruit new teams.

Without volunteers like Michele, we would not be able to accomplish our mission of raising funds and awareness to end Alzheimer's and all dementia. We are so grateful for all that our volunteers like Michele do to advance our cause.

*-Esther McCarthy, Director, Westchester Walk to End Alzheimer's*

### Cop Shot, continued from pg 1-

year, we have a proactive police department. In this case, our officers were going after bad guys and trying to take guns off the street. There is too much of this happening nationwide, something has to be done. Elm Street is a hot spot and has been one for a long time. It's something we have to address."

Mueller added "Three shootings in a city this size is impressive. We have to have laws in place to take the bad guys off the street. The people of Elm Street deserve better. Most of the people in this neighborhood are law abiding and don't want this either."

2 illegal guns were recovered after the shooting. 2 shots were fired in the bodega. On April 21, Damian Williams, the United States Attorney for the Southern District of New York, Michael J. Driscoll, Assistant Director-in-Charge of the New York Office of the Federal Bureau of Investigation ("FBI"), and Police Commissioner John Mueller, Yonkers Police Department, announced charges against Bryce Martin and Xavier Simms for conspiring to traffic firearms from Georgia to New York. The defendants traveled together with a third co-conspirator who opened fire on a FBI Federal Task Force Officer after law enforcement attempted to interdict in Yonkers, New York on April 20, 2022. The defendants were presented in White Plains federal court this afternoon before United States Magistrate Andrew E. Krause.

U.S. Attorney Damian Williams said: "Gun crime is plaguing our communities, and the actions of the criminals using them are putting lives in danger. Our law enforcement partners are out doing all they can to get illegal weapons and 'ghost guns' off the streets before more people get killed. The violence has to stop, and we have to hold accountable those who are breaking the law."

FBI Assistant Director-in-Charge Michael J. Driscoll said: "As we allege today, Mr. Martin and Mr. Simms conspired to illegally traffic firearms, and, when law enforcement attempted to intervene, one of their co-conspirators shot and critically wounded one of our task force officers. Subsequent investigation resulted in the recovery of several firearms, including a "ghost gun," an untraceable type of weapon that continues to pose a significant threat in our communities. We are grateful for the survival of our partner, and our thoughts remain with him and his loved ones as he continues to recover from his injuries."

Commissioner Mueller said: "The Yonkers Police and our fantastic federal, state and local partners will never stop from providing a safe and secure environment for our beloved residents. What took place in this incident is yet another example of the hard work and commitment to mission and heroism. These efforts occur each and every day and will continue for as long as is needed to make our communities safe."

Martin 23, of Hampton, Georgia, is charged with one count of conspiring to traffic firearms, which carries a maximum sentence of five years' imprisonment. Simms, 22, of Covington, Georgia, is charged with one count of conspiring to traffic firearms, which carries a maximum sentence of five years' imprisonment.

In another part of this story, YPD Detective Brian Menton's twin brother, James Menton, an NYPD Detective who was also a part of the same task force, saved his brother's life in the moments after the shooting.

Instead of waiting for an ambulance, James Menton raced his brother to Jacobi Hospital, which has one of the best Emergency Units in the country.

Yonkers PBA President Keith Olson said that decision saved Menton's life. "With a week left to retirement and still going out and risking your life, it just goes to show the amount of dedication and tenacity that he has," said Olson, who was Menton's partner for almost a decade twenty years ago.

Olson called Menton, "the best cop I ever worked with".

## Concert in Support of People of Ukraine May 1 Will Library

Sounds of Spring, a free concert of classical vocal music in support of the people of Ukraine, featuring Elizabeth Treat, soprano, and Inna Leytush on Piano, Sunday May 1 at 3pm at the Yonkers Public Library, Will Library, 1500 Central Park Avenue, Yonkers.

The concert features a performance of classical music by famous composers Verdi, Brahms and others Popular music selection includes Voci di Primavera by Strauss; Romania; medleys of Jewish and Ukrainian songs.

Soprano Elizabeth Treat is known for her beautiful voice, thrilling stage presence and stunning coloratura. She has performed her popular Queen of the Night in the U.S. and Europe, frequently appearing in many operatic roles and concerts in New York City and Washington, D.C., as well as a successful Lincoln Center solo debut in 2019.

A voluntary collection will be taken to support organizations involved with helping the people of Ukraine.

This concert is open to the public free of charge. No tickets are required. Visit [ypl.org](http://ypl.org) for further information and directions to the library.

### Migrant Teens St. Ann's continued from pg 1-

more than simply meet the religious worship needs of parishioners; it has an obligation to utilize its resources to meet the charitable, educational needs of its people whenever possible, and the surrounding communities. Our service to those in need is an important tenant of what makes our faith so strong," writes Father Norton, who went on to explain the program.

"Rising Ground has operated its Passage of Hope program administered by the Office of Refugee Management since 2014. The children served are up to 17 years old and are under the care of Rising Ground while the safety and suitability of their United States sponsor is verified. Most of the children are from Central America and most are Catholic. They arrive traumatized by the circumstances of crime, poverty and child trafficking in their home country. The children are pre-screened by the Office of Refugee Resettlement to ensure they do not have criminal, drug or other factors in their background.

"All of the children under the age of 12 are placed with foster care families within 5 miles of the school. Rising Ground transports the children at 8am-5pm for pickup. They are never unattended by staff.

"The children receive academic lesson plans, instruction and physical education. The children often have an interest in religious service and participate in volunteer and community service activities with partner parishes and organizations that benefit the community.

"The church takes seriously our responsibility to manage our patrimony in a way that is consistent with our values and faith. We feel confident about this return of the St. Ann School building to use," writes Father Norton, who adds that no final decision has been reached.

In his April 24 handout, Father Norton writes, "I have not forgotten about the possible rental of our school building but tried to take a break from the controversy during Holy Week. I assure you that a decision will be made by the beginning of May, and I will keep all the parishioners informed and the larger community. Please continue to pray for this situation. I am concerned for the people who live in the neighborhood, the immigrant children who may be coming to be educated at our school, and the future of St. Ann's parish. We have a lot of debt built up over the years, and the school, as it is now, is adding to our financial problems, so something must be done. If not this program, then what? This question plagues my thoughts, so please continue to pray for a positive outcome regarding the school property."

While no dollar amounts of the revenue St. Ann's would see from the program have been publicly discussed, \$500,000 per year is a number that has been suggested by reliable sources.

### Eagle Scouts, continued from pg 2-

After contacting St. John's Episcopal Church, Michael worked closely with Glenn Borghoff to research church records, cemetery burial records and maps to discover names and grave locations of the Revolutionary soldiers buried there. After completing additional exhaustive online research learning about each one of these men, Michael and his team visited the cemetery many times to locate each one of their graves. In some cases, soldiers' stone markers were buried by time and had to be uncovered; this was done painstakingly with great respect. Each grave was marked with a flag and a Revolutionary War medallion.

The presentation was educational, interesting and carefully planned. After a welcome from Michael, members of Scout Troop 12 led us in the Pledge of Allegiance and Lt. Samuel Sola, USN Reserves, inspired us with prayer. Michael presented a detailed history of the cemetery, as well as information on others buried there with their own Revolutionary War connection.

Several unidentified bodies were moved to St. John's from a local family cemetery in 1882; it is believed these men had fought in the Revolution, and are Yonkers Unknown Revolutionary Soldiers.

Troop 12 members presented the Roll Call of Honor, each scout giving the name, military service and history of one of the seventeen heroes buried at St. John's. Michael closed the ceremony by thanking those who helped him on his journey.

Michael provided us all with a cemetery map with locations of the graves of all Yonkers Revolutionary War heroes clearly marked; afterwards many of us searched out these heroes and paid our respects. Scoutmaster of Troop 12 is Dave Barca and Committee Chair is Samuel Sola. Cindy Pramann and Mike Del Vecchio also are Troop Committee members.

Revolutionary Patriots buried at St. John's are: James Archer, Evert Brown, Andrew Corsa, John DeVoe, Garret Garrison, Isaac Lawrence, Samuel Lawrence, Stephen Lawrence, Thomas Lawrence, Dennis Lynt, Samuel Lyon, Stephen Oakley, Isaac Post, Isaac Reed, Daniel Robert, John Robert and John Warner.

Members of Troop 12 who participated in the project under the leadership of Michael Del Vecchio were: Joseph Barca, Viktor Berishaj, Damian Biciro, Dylan Biciro, Travis Fenyo, Brian Garland, Matt Guerra, Kayden Scott and Jack Truax. I found the program both educational and inspiring, one I truly was glad to attend.

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Notice of formation of LaceMafia LLC Arts. of Org. filed with the SSNY on 4/20/2022. 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, 7014 13th Avenue, Suite 202 Brooklyn, NY 11228 . Purpose: Any lawful purpose.

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Visit [YonkersTimes.com](http://YonkersTimes.com) to read all stories and read Yonkers Rising weekly

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# I Say No More to Sexual Violence March April 30

**Public event**

**I Say NO MORE TO SEXUAL VIOLENCE March**

**April 30 YONKERS NY**

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**MORE INFO** [www.yodigonomas.com](http://www.yodigonomas.com)

Yonkers Mayor Mike Spano, Superintendent of Yonkers Public Schools Dr. Edwin Quezada, and nonprofit organization Yo Digo No Más (I Say No More) are calling on the entire community to walk against sexual violence and encourage everyone to participate in the I Say No More to Sexual Violence March, scheduled for Saturday, April 30 in Yonkers.

In the U.S., 81% of women and 43% of men report some form of sexual harassment and/or assault in their lifetime. In America, every 68 seconds, an individual is sexually assaulted, and every 9 minutes, that victim is a child. These numbers demonstrate the high prevalence of this public health crisis happening in communities across the country. Moreover, because sexual violence leads to negative emotional, economic, and structural consequences for survivors, the time to act, to stand up and declare "I Say No More!" is now.

Community Stakeholders Will March from Yonkers City Hall Unity Fountain, 40 South Broadway, at 11am, and march to Eugenio Maria de Hostos MicroSociety School, 75 Morris Street, Yonkers. Workshops are planned at Hostos from 12-3pm, where a series of trainings and resources for the community on how to identify the signs of sexual violence, how to prevent sexual violence, and what to do to begin to heal.- For more information, visit [www.YODIGONOMAS.com](http://www.YODIGONOMAS.com)

### Prom Dresses , continued from pg. 2-

We spoke to PAL Director Macebo who told us, "We have 400 dresses donated and given out about 100. We are going to extend the time for the program so we can give out more dresses. We do it by appointment to preserve the privacy for each girl. Most of the dresses were donated by law enforcement and their wives, and the 100 women in blue. I would tell everyone that we have dresses available, so come in and make an appointment. Thank you for your support!!"

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# On This Day in Yonkers History...



"Uncle Don" Carney dying Easter eggs with two of his young fans. Carney was a popular children's radio host on station WOR; his show ran from 1928 to 1947.

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

Monday, May 2nd  
 May 2, 1910: Edward Payson Weston left Yonkers to complete the final leg of his cross-country walk. He had left Santa Monica on February 1st and arrived at New York City Hall at 3:10 pm.

May 1, 1916: William Saunders, Manager of D. Saunders' Sons, Inc., announced to company employees as of June 5th they would work nine hours per day instead of ten, but receive the same pay, reducing their work week from 55 hours to 50 hours. The company, founded in 1852 by the late David Saunders, was located on Atherton Street and manufactured cutting and threading machinery.

May 2, 1916: After announcing he was moving to Yonkers, New York Yankees' Captain Roger Peckinpaugh purchased a home at 14 Lattin Drive, and lived there for several years.

Tuesday, May 3rd  
 May 3, 1942: Seven Getty Square merchants, all who agreed to close their businesses early the first four days of the week to cooperate with dim out regulations, picketed a Getty Square auto and radio supply store. The merchants claimed the owner kept the store open until after 8 pm every night.

May 3, 1957: Eleven-year-old John Flora Jr. of Whitman Road received the National AAA School Patrol Lifesaving Medal from Vice President Richard Nixon at a ceremony in Washington. John, a member of the School 29 Safety Patrol, was on his way home when he saw five-year-old Patricia Seador step off the curb to cross the street. Seeing a car heading right for her, John ran into the street, grabbed her, pulling her to safety.

Wednesday, May 4th  
 May 4, 1924: The Reverend John Dunn, Auxiliary Bishop of New York, was met at the city line by an automobile escort and a delegation of parishioners led by Alderman Edward Murray, Deputy Corporation Counsel John Broderick and Procession Grand Marshal Christopher Lennox. As they neared Palisade and Ashburton Avenues, the Knights of Columbus Color Guard and a police escort of 14 of Yonkers Finest led them to St. Joseph's. Once there, Bishop Dunn cemented and blessed the cornerstone of the new St. Joseph's Parochial School on St. Joseph Avenue. The new facility was three stories high, had 16 classrooms, a gym and an auditorium that seated 600 people.

May 4, 1957: John Flora Jr. was an honorary Grand Marshal at a parade of 35,000 members of the School Safety Patrol that marched down Constitution Avenue; this parade was believed to be the largest annual parade held in Washington.

Thursday, May 5th  
 May 5, 1956: Four young Yonkers stamp collectors won awards in the International Philatelic Exhibition junior division: Barry Ettinger won first in the Latin America Category; Kenneth Florey received first in Miscellaneous groupings; Carole Johnson took third in the United States category; and Martin Weisel won third in the Europe group.

May 5, 1962: The first record golf cart accident in Westchester County happened on the Dunwoodie Golf Course in Yonkers. Two people were injured when their cart flipped over going up an embankment; an Eastchester man broke his ankle and a Yonkers woman, Olga Minchak of Central Park Avenue, received bruises and abrasions. It was the first year carts were in use on county courses.

Friday, May 6th  
 May 6, 1936: A group of Crestwood mothers who listened to radio programs decided to rate their family's radio experience. They rated many children's favorites—such as Uncle Don Carney (from Yonkers) and Buck Rogers-- only as fair, and some—such as Orphan Annie—were "poor but well liked by children." They added, "There is recognized everywhere a growing feeling intelligent use of radio for children should be led in constructive guidance by parents in the selection of programs best suited to individual needs."

May 6, 1957: Mayor Kristen Kristensen presented eleven-year-old John Flora, Jr., a School 29 Safety Patrol member, with the Distinguished Service Medal of the Automobile Club of New York in a ceremony held at City Hall. After the ceremony, Flora, who had saved the life of a five-year-old girl, was guest of honor at the Polo Grounds, where the Giants played the Chicago Cubs. Joining him were 5,000

*continued on pg. 6-*

CCLC Trucking LLC. Arts. of Org. filed with the SSNY on 04/06/2022. 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, 440 N Broadway 20, Yonkers, NY, 10701. Purpose: Any lawful purpose.

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CORPORATION NOTICE

CITY OF YONKERS-NEW YORK

PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE

Notice is hereby given, pursuant to law, that the City Council of the City of Yonkers, New York will hold a Public Hearing on Tuesday, May 10, 2022 at 7:00 P.M. in the City Council Chambers, 40 South Broadway, Yonkers, New York on the following resolution, to wit:

PROPOSED RESOLUTION

A PROPOSED RESOLUTION TO REQUEST TO HONORARILY RENAME THE PORTION OF NEPPERHAN AVE. BETWEEN ODELL AVE. AND CROSS HILL AVE. "YONKERS POLICE OFFICER HAROLD WOODS WAY"

VINCENT SPANO

City Clerk

AGENDA FOR ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE:  
THE CITY OF YONKERS ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS MEETING SCHEDULED FOR TUESDAY, MAY 17, 2022 AT 6:00 PM, WILL BE HELD IN THE AUDITORIUM AT SAUNDERS HIGH SCHOOL (183 Palmer Road, Yonkers, NY 10701).  
PLEASE BE SURE TO CHECK OUR WEBSITE FOR INFORMATION AND UPDATES WWW.YONKERSNY.GOV .  
CURRENT CDC GUIDELINES SHALL CONTINUE TO BE OBSERVED REGARDING ATTENDANCE BY THE PUBLIC.

OPEN CONTINUED HEARINGS

# 5727A – Area Variance – Andrew Maniglia of Ginsburg Development, on behalf of Pier LLC 70, owner, on premises known as 70 Pier Street, Block: 146, Lot: 1.4, Zone: M (B24085)

# 5769 – Improvement and Intensification to a Non-Conforming Use & Area Variance – James G. Dibbini, Esq., on behalf of Ghassem Khorassani, owner, on premises known as 527 aka 531 Van Cortlandt Park Avenue, Block: 39, Lot: 59.60, Zone: A (B22793)

# 5779 – Area Variance – Andrew Romano, Esq., on behalf of McIntrye St Realty LLC, owner, on premises known as 850 Tuckahoe Road, Block: 5673, Lot: 76, Zone: MG (B29075)

NEW HEARINGS

# 5784 – Non-Conforming Use – Andrew Romano, Esq., on behalf of Piermont Diner LLC, owner, on premises known as 120 Herriot Street, Block: 175, Lot: 3, Zone: A (B23430)

# 5785 – Area Variance – Andrew Romano, Esq., on behalf of Casino Hospitality LLC, owner, on premises known as 651 Bronx River Road, Block: 5226, Lot: 17.21, Zone: BR (B28653)

JOSEPH CIANCIULLI , CHAIRMAN, ZBA

**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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Miscellaneous: Eliminate gutter cleaning forever! LeafFilter, the most advanced debris-blocking gutter protection. Schedule a FREE LeafFilter estimate today. 15% off and 0% financing for those who qualify. PLUS Senior & Military Discounts. Call 1-877-763-2379

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DISH TV \$64.99 For 190 Channels + \$14.95 High Speed Internet. Free Installation, Smart HD DVR Included, Free Voice Remote. Some restrictions apply. Promo Expires 1/21/23. 1-888-609-9405.

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.

LEGAL NOTICE

CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF YONKERS  
PUBLIC HEARINGS 2022/2023 PROPOSED BUDGET  
I, Lakisha Collins-Bellamy, City Council President of the City of Yonkers, do hereby call a public hearing on the proposed 2022/2023 City of Yonkers Capital Budget as follows:

Monday, May 9, 2022 City Council Chambers City Hall– 4th Floor  
40 South Broadway Yonkers, New York-7:00 p.m.

Monday, May 23, 2022 Auditorium Saunders High School  
183 Palmer Road Yonkers, NY 10701--7:00 p.m.

Anyone wishing to speak may sign up on the day of the hearing at the hearing site. Each speaker shall be permitted three minutes and speakers shall be called in the order in which they have signed up.  
LAKISHA COLLINS-BELLAMY CITY COUNCIL PRESIDENT  
April 27, 2022

City of Yonkers  
Summary of FY22-23 Executive Budget

Revenues  
Property Taxes: \$402,154,152  
Special Taxes: \$223,119,587  
State and Federal Funding: \$152,446,512  
City Departments: \$45,237,847  
Other Revenues: \$46,090,580  
Appropriated Fund Balance (General): \$38,923,051

Total Revenues Sub-Total: \$907,971,729

Library Fund: \$1,329,500  
Water Fund: \$51,167,871  
Sewer Fund: \$11,926,045  
Board of Education: \$395,716,128

Total Revenues: \$1,368,111,273

Expenditures  
City Departments: \$366,291,535  
Fringe Benefits: \$183,266,060  
Special Items: \$81,589,677  
Board of Education: \$650,758,645  
Total Operating Expenditures: \$1,281,905,917  
Debt Service: \$86,205,356

Total Expenditures: \$1,368,111,273  
Revenues vs. Expenditures: -0-

Property Tax Levy  
Board of Education Property Tax Levy: \$264,379,050  
City Property Tax Levy: \$137,775,102  
Total Property Tax Levy: \$402,154,152

Property Tax Rate per \$1000 of Assessed Valuation (AV)  
Board of Education Tax Rate: \$574.57 per \$1,000 AV  
City Tax Rate: \$299.72 per \$1,000 AV  
Tax Rate: \$874.29 per \$1,000 AV

Capital Budget  
City Total: \$56,161,639  
Board of Education Total: \$30,000,000  
Total: \$86,161,639

The FY23 Executive Budget is available for review by the public at:  
The Office of the City Clerk, City Hall, 40 S. Broadway, Yonkers NY 10701  
<https://www.yonkersny.gov/home/showpublisheddocument/32080>

***Yonkers History, continued from pg. 5-***

members of the Safety Patrol from the NY area, a reward for their service to their schools.

Saturday, May 7th  
May 7, 1957: The School Thirteen Parent-Teacher Association elected Theodore Ruzow as their first male President!

May 7, 1957: Lt. General Garrison Davidson, Superintendent of the US Military Academy at West Point, was the main speaker at the Yonkers District “Scouters Recognition Dinner” held at Steve Phillips Restaurant on Yonkers Avenue. Davidson not was only a former Eagle Scout, but also held the Silver Beaver award of Scouting. During WWII, he served in the European Theater as an engineer officer under General Patton, and also served in Korea. The Herald Statesman also received a Community Service award for its “Service to Boys.”

Sunday, May 8th  
May 8, 1945: Yonkers celebrated V-E Day by blowing air raid sirens, ringing church bells and blaring factory whistles! Although City Hall, Woman’s Institute, and the Public Library closed as soon as they heard President Truman’s announcement at 9 am, most of Yonkers war workers kept working. Banks, post offices and Yonkers Schools stayed open. Civic Court Judge Boote heard all motions, and then adjourned court in observance of V-E Day, but the Special Sessions Court stayed open. That night, almost every church and synagogues held V-E Day services

May 8, 1947: Police Captain James McCue announced thieves had taken more than one ton of metal statuary and other objects from the former Untermyer Estate, now owned by the City of Yonkers.

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

***Eric Schoen , continued from pg. 3-***

So if you want to support merchants who in light of the police shooting and crime in the area need your support, Shop Elm Street. My guess is you will find everything you need and support the many good, hardworking people Yonkers Mayor Mike Spano mentioned the day of the police shooting.

Get well soon Detective Brian Menton. All of Yonkers is praying for you! And best of luck in retirement. You deserve it!

Brief: The ‘charged’ atmosphere that accompanied the Yankees’ 5-4 walk-off win over the Guardians on Saturday at Yankee Stadium was an embarrassment to every good baseball loving New Yorker. The hostile interactions between fans and members of Cleveland’s outfield. Disgraceful. Behavior that endangers players on the field like beer cans and other debris thrown from the stands following Gleyber Torres’ game-winning single off Guardians closer Emmanuel Clase. Pathetic.

I agree with Guardians right fielder Oscar Mercado. “You can celebrate your team walking off all you want, but don’t throw [stuff] on the field! That’s how people can get hurt. I should’ve probably walked away.” He continued, “You can root for your team all you want. I’m not denying that. I think it’s good for the game when people are die-hard fans. But do it the right way.”

Plenty of cameras at the Stadium. Prosecute those who acted like fools! Thankfully, most people know how to behave at a baseball game! PLAY BALL!

Reach Eric Schoen at [thistooisonkers@aol.com](mailto:thistooisonkers@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.

## Help Us Find Three Missing Kids From Westchester

By: Dennis Richmond, Jr.

I don't care who gets offended when I write articles, respectfully. Black and Latinx teenagers are missing in New York almost every week, and there's no outcry. According to the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children, three teenagers went missing in Westchester County, New York last month. I don't know why these teenagers are missing, but these cases need serious attention. Everybody needs to do their part to help find every missing person.

There are stories across the internet about people kidnapping for organ harvesting and sex trafficking. We need our teenagers found immediately. Teenagers across America go missing for different reasons. Sometimes people run away from home. Other times, people are abducted and are held, hostage.

I wrote a popular article on October 20th, 2021. The article is titled "77 BLACK & HISPANIC TEENS MISSING IN NEW YORK." After thousands of people saw it, I've gotten messages and read comments from people across social media. One person claimed to have a connection to one teenager mentioned in the article.

I faced possible legal action for even referencing the person. Why would somebody be mad that I was helping find a missing teenager? If the person was not missing, then once again, I apologize to the family. If the person is still missing, what if somebody wants me to remain quiet? We live in a sick, crazy, disgusting world.

Last year, Yonkers Rising and YonkersTimes.Com began an effort to highlight recent missing children in Westchester and report to our readers. We do this so someone will see something and say something. If anyone wants to support this effort, please email us at [news@yonkerstimes.com](mailto:news@yonkerstimes.com).

**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 @NewYorkStakz.**

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## MISSING

HELP BRING ME HOME

NCMEC: 1446796

### Elisha Abreu



Missing Since: Mar 27, 2022  
 Missing From: Pleasantville, NY  
 DOB: Jul 7, 2006  
 Age Now: 15  
 Sex: Female  
 Race: White  
 Hair Color: Brown  
 Eye Color: Brown  
 Height: 5'5"  
 Weight: 100 lbs

Extra Photo



Both photos shown are of Elisha. She was last seen on March 27, 2022.

### DON'T HESITATE!

ANYONE HAVING INFORMATION SHOULD CONTACT

### CALL 911 OR

1-800-843-5678 (1-800-THE-LOST®)  
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Visit [YonkersTimes.com](https://YonkersTimes.com) for more information about missing children in Westchester



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\*Source: Based on WOC follow-up survey

NOT SHOWN: Evan Gaines, MD; Vishal A. Mehta, MD; Patrick Murray, MD; Paul S. Ragusa, MD; Daniel Shein, MD; David Shein, MD; Eric Spencer, MD; Mario Valoshin, DPM, FACFAS



David Lent, MD  
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