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YonkersTimes.com

Friday August 2, 2024

Yonkers Boxer Zyon 'Baby Tyson' Duprey Honored Inspector General Issues Scathing Report on former Council President Mike Khader



Zyon Duprey being honored at City Hall by Mayor Mike Spano, Council President Lakisha Collins-Bellamy, Coach John Morrison, and Yonkers Knockout students

By Dan Murphy

Congratulations to Zyon Duprey, aka "Baby Tyson" for recently winning a gold medal at the USA Boxing National Junior Olympics. In recognition of his success, Duprey was honored at Yonkers City Hall, and Mayor Mike Spano issued a proclamation that July 30 be ZYON 'Baby Tyson' DUPREY DAY

The proclamation reads, "As Mayor of the City of Yonkers, I am pleased to join with Yonkers Knockouts and Brother 2 Brother 914, in recognizing ZYON 'Baby Tyson' DUPREY on his recent achievement as a National Junior Olympic Champion at the USA Boxing National Junior Olympics held in Wichita, Kansas, and

WHEREAS: A Yonkers native, ZYON 'Baby Tyson' DUPREY age 14, won a Gold Medal, as well as the Most Outstanding Male Intermediate Boxer at the National Junior Olympics event, and

WHEREAS: ZYON 'Baby Tyson' DUPREY credits his victories and successes to the Coaches and Mentors at Yonkers Knockouts, especially his coach, trainer and mentor, John Morrison, who taught him not only the intricacies of boxing, but self-respect and respect for one another, and

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Fugitive Accused of Defrauding Yonkers Immigrant Community Arrested in Washington State



Juan Cedillo, age 63

CRIMINAL HISTORY:

- 2001 - Missouri - Tampering
- 2000 - Missouri - Check Fraud
- 1999 - Missouri - Check Fraud
- 1999 - Missouri - Check Fraud
- 1998 - Missouri - Check Fraud
- 1994 - Kansas - Check Fraud
- 1979 - Texas - Check Fraud
- 1977 - Missouri - Check Fraud
- 1972 - Missouri - Larceny

Currently wanted in Georgia for a 2012 Traffic Offense

Brought back to Westchester by WCPD Warrant-Fugitive Unit detectives

A man accused in 2019 of scamming members of the Hispanic community through an immigration fraud scheme was returned to Westchester from Washington State last night by detectives from the Westchester County Police Warrant-Fugitive Unit.

Juan Cedillo, 69, was arrested on July 8 by the Thurston County Sheriff's Department and the U.S. Marshals Regional Task Force in Olympia, Washington. After Cedillo waived extradition, WFU detectives flew to the west coast to take custody of him and return him to Westchester.

Cedillo was brought to the Westchester County Jail in Valhalla last night. He is scheduled to appear today in Westchester County Court in White Plains.

Cedillo was arrested following a lengthy investigation by the Yonkers Police Department in 2019 and accused of stealing tens of thousands of dollars from members of the Hispanic community. YPD detectives said Cedillo bilked his victims by claiming he could help them obtain so-called U visas and other documents that could pave the way to legal immigration status and citizenship.

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"There was never a "sweetheart deal... This is a witch hunt"
-Former Council President Mike Khader

"The people of Yonkers were taken for a ride by Mike Khader."
-Council President Lakisha Collins-Bellamy

Read the blistering report at file:///C:/Users/djmya/Downloads/Khader%20-%20Report%20of%20Investigation%20-%20July%2026%202024.pdf

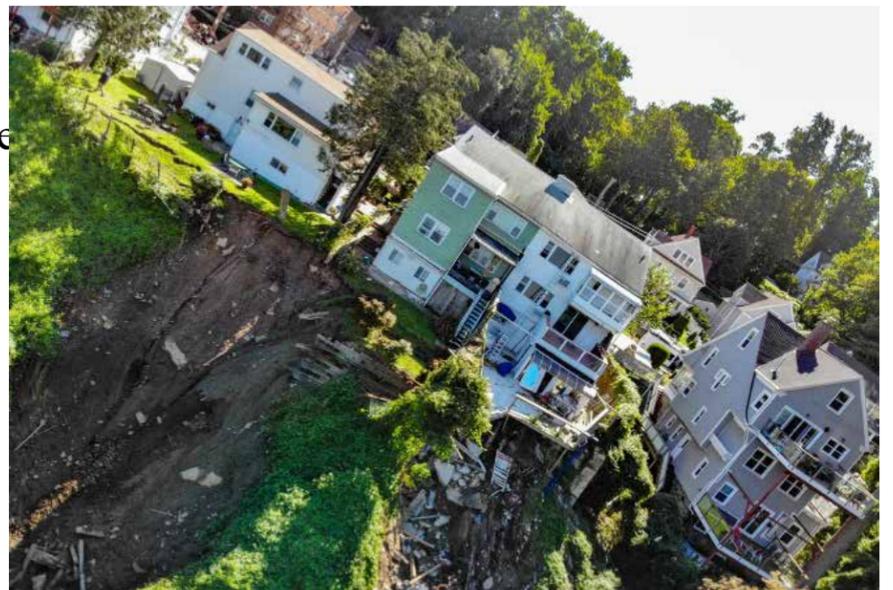
On July 26, Yonkers Inspector General Liam McLaughlin released a report from investigators hired by his office to report on the investigation of former City Council President Mike Khader concerning arrangements between his city-paid counsel, allegations of hostile work environment, and where Khader misrepresented himself to questions posed by the IG's office.

In 2021, the Yonkers City Council asked McLaughlin to investigate allegations made against Khader, specifically, whether Khader engaged in a "Quid Pro Quo" with attorney Jeff Buss and whether Khader had created a hostile workplace environment for women.

The Quid Pro Quo with Buss alleges that Khader received free rent at a law office located on Yonkers Avenue, and in exchange Buss was appointed a counsel to the then Council President-Khader.

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FEMA to Yonkers-Drop Dead!



some of the damage in Yonkers after Hurricane IDA

"Yonkers taxpayers are left footing the bill of an empty promise." -Mayor Mike Spano

By Dan Murphy

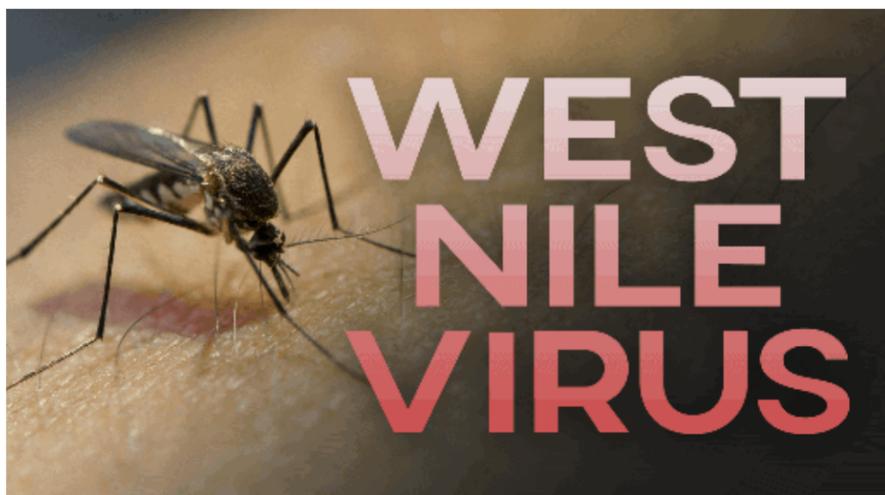
Nearly three years after Hurricane Ida devastated the lower Hudson Valley, Yonkers Mayor Mike Spano announced the U.S. Department of Homeland Security's Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) denied the City of Yonkers over \$5.2 million required to stabilize three slopes along the Hudson River and MTA Metro North Railroad, leaving Yonkers taxpayers to fund the emergency repairs.

"Despite President Biden's declaration of a major disaster caused by Hurricane Ida, FEMA denied Yonkers funding that would mitigate the damage of the storm. We are deeply concerned FEMA has decided to back away from its commitment to assist residents during and after major disasters, like the one we experienced," said Mayor Spano. "By ignoring the agency's core obligation, Yonkers is left to handle the storm's rippling effects, placing this community, the Hudson Valley and its future in peril."

In September 2021, Hurricane Ida caused runoff from Warburton Avenue,

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Mosquitoes with West Nile Virus Found in Rye, Croton, Mount Vernon, White Plains & Yonkers



County Health Department Reminds Residents to Remove Standing Water and Use Repellents

The Westchester County Health Department announced that this season's first batches of mosquitoes carrying West Nile Virus in Westchester were found in Croton, Mount Vernon, Rye, White Plains and Yonkers. The Health Department will inspect areas surrounding the positive mosquito batches and if needed, treat any nearby catch basins that hold standing water to protect against further mosquito breeding nearby.

These are the first positives out of 45 batches of mosquitos collected by the County Health Department from eight locations throughout Westchester that were tested for West Nile Virus by the New York State Department of Health.

Commissioner of Health Sherlita Amler, MD said: "As you spend more time outdoors, protect yourself and your family by using repellents, especially from dawn to dusk, when many mosquitoes are active. Apply sunscreen first, and repellent second."

The Health Department reminds residents about mosquito safety through news releases, social media and our website, where a report on mosquito control and surveillance can be found on the West Nile Virus page.

Throughout the season, the Department also traps and tests mosquitoes to track the presence of mosquito-borne viruses.

Symptoms of West Nile include fever, headache, body aches and joint pain, but can be more serious for people 60 and older, and those with underlying medical conditions.

Tips to Avoid West Nile:

- Avoid the outdoors in the late afternoon and early evening when mosquitoes are active and feeding. When outdoors use insect repellents and follow the label instructions.
- Adults can use insect repellents with up to 30 percent DEET on infants over two months of age by applying the product to their own hands and then rubbing it onto their children, avoiding their children's hands, eyes and mouth.
- Wear long pants, long-sleeved shirts and socks when outdoors, especially in areas where mosquitoes are active and feeding.
- Check around your property for anything that can hold water, and pour it out or put it away. Mosquitos don't travel far from a water source.
- Check and remove standing water from children's toys and play houses left outside.
- Remove discarded tires.
- Drill holes in the bottoms of all recycling containers that are left outdoors.
- Turn over plastic wading pools, buckets and wheelbarrows when not in use.
- Change the water in birdbaths at least twice weekly.
- Keep storm drains and gutters clear of leaves and debris.
- Continue to chlorinate swimming pools, outdoor spas and hot tubs until properly winterized or drained for the season. Also, if not chlorinated, drain any water that collects on their covers.

Westchester County to Give Free Back to School Vaccines in Yonkers and White Plains



The Westchester County Department of Health will book appointments now for its free back-to-school vaccine clinics to assure children have the vaccines they need to attend school this fall.

New this year, the County Health Department will bring vaccines to two Yonkers schools – the Yonkers Montessori Academy and the Enrico Fermi School – where any Yonkers student who is eligible for the state's Vaccines for Children (VFC) program can receive free immunizations. Appointments are required; for scheduling, call 914-995-5800.

The County Health Department's nurses will visit the Montessori Academy on Thursday, August 8, where they will provide Tdap, Meningitis and Hepatitis B vaccines. On Friday, September 13, County Health Department nurses will give vaccines at the Enrico Fermi School.

The County Health Department is also expanding its vaccine appointments for all VFC eligible Westchester County students from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. as follows:

- Mondays in the White Plains clinic;
- Fridays in the Yonkers clinic; and
- Thursdays, starting August 29, in the Yonkers clinic.

Health Commissioner Sherlita Amler, MD, said: "Yonkers schools have done a lot to encourage families to vaccinate their children, so we are pleased to support Yonkers parents by bringing free, convenient vaccines to their schools. Now is the right time for all parents to schedule vaccine visits for their children. If your child is eligible for Child Health Plus, Medicaid or has no insurance, we can help. You can also call your child's healthcare provider."

Children attending day care and Pre-K through 12th grade in New York State must receive all required doses of vaccines on the recommended schedule to attend or remain in school. Visit School Immunization Requirements to learn what vaccines your child needs.

The Westchester County Health Department Health Navigators can help families and individuals sign up for the health insurance they need. Those without a regular doctor can learn where to go for ongoing primary care. For more information, call (914) 995-6350.

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On this day in Yonkers History...



*English Poet
John Masefield*

By Mary Hoar, City of Yonkers Historian, Chair of Revolutionary Yonkers 250, President Emerita Yonkers Historical Society, recipient of the 2004 Key to History, Member of the Yonkers Landmarks Preservation Board, and President Untermyer Performing Arts Council

Monday, August 5th

August 5, 1932: The New York State Transfer Tax Department announced Alexander Smith Cochran's estate net worth was \$38,977,237.94. More than half was left to his nephew Thomas Ewing, Jr. of Palisade Avenue, and St. John's Riverside Hospital received \$500,000. The Protestant Episcopal Cathedral Foundation of DC, headed by former Yonkers resident Bishop James Freeman, received \$1,000,000. The American Scenic Preservation Society received \$25,000, and the collection of portraits and furniture at Manor Hall valued at \$489,880. Cochran's siblings received \$1,000,000 each; nieces and nephews received \$500,000.

August 5, 1941: In *The Mill*, England's Poet Laureate John Masefield's recollection of his life while working in Alexander Smith & Sons Carpet Mill, was published in the United States.

Tuesday August 6th

August 6, 1907: Workmen moved a canon from the High School grounds to Manor Hall Park. The cannon, given to Yonkers by the national government, was taken from the Spanish warship "Maria Theresa," sunk by American ships in the Spanish American War.

August 6, 1952: The Federation of Yonkers Athletic Clubs (FYAC) planned to hold a parade and reception to welcome Yonkers Olympian canoeists Mike Budrock, John Anderson and Paul Bochnewich home from Helsinki; instead, the men asked it be canceled. Instead, FYAC officials met them at Idlewild Airport and drove them to City Hall, where Mayor Kristensen, City Manager Curran, and City Judge Fay welcomed them.

Wednesday, August 7th

August 7, 1934: Unnamed hikers walking in Yonkers' thick forests east of Central Park Avenue by Crisfeld Street found an unconscious Umberto Stretti on the point of death from starvation. After calling authorities, they helped Officer George Tkach bring Stretti to an ambulance. After emergency treatment, Dr. Robert Terris brought him to Yonkers General Hospital.

August 7, 1942: The Yonkers City Council remained unusually silent when Mayor Barnes requested the Council send a letter to *The Herald Statesman* asking the paper avoid being detrimental reporting a gambling scandal, instead reporting the news in a "constructive and beneficial" manner. Councilmembers kept strangely silent, until Vice Mayor Sullivan commented, "Nothing else? Let's go!" And they did.

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So You Need a Psychiatrist?

By Eric Wolf Schoen



One of the hardest medical professions to find a doctor to treat you, a family member or a friend is Psychiatry. In our region there simply are not enough psychiatrists to treat those in need. Want to find a psychiatrist who accepts your insurance? Forget about it.

The insurance companies pay so little for psychiatric visits that most psychiatrists require patients to pay out of pocket for services. At \$200 or more per visit which is usually twice a month, you are talking over \$5000 a year. If you have insurance most companies will reimburse a fraction of that amount.

So when a friend told me about a new office providing psychiatric assistance, medication management as well as other related services, I wanted to bring it to your attention. Opening just last month at 45 Ludlow Street in Yonkers (the old office building for doctors who practiced at the Professional Hospital next door) is Cordial Psychiatry, cordialpsychiatry.com on the internet, telephone number 914-570-9000 or 19146037067.

Most importantly, they can get those in need of services in right away and accept most insurance plans so depending on your plan you will only have to pay copay insurance as required under your plan. This is a lot better than laying out \$5000+ dollars and waiting for reimbursement.

Among the conditions Cordial Psychiatry treats are Depression, Anxiety disorders, Bipolar Disorder, Schizophrenia, Attention Deficit/Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD), Post Traumatic Stress Disorder, Obsessive Compulsive Disorder, Panic Disorder, Social Anxiety Disorder and many others.

At Cordial Psychiatry, they believe in a collaborative approach to medication therapy. Professionals work closely with patients to conduct a comprehensive assessment to understand the patients symptoms and diagnose any underlying mental health conditions.

They provide education about the patients diagnosis and the medications prescribed, including potential side effects and benefits. Medications are monitored for progress closely, adjusting medications as needed to ensure optimal effectiveness and minimal side effects.

All along the way, ongoing support and guidance is provided throughout the treatment journey, addressing any concerns or questions patients may have.

All services are under the supervision of a licensed Psychiatrist. They employ psychiatrists and psychiatric nurse practitioners for evaluation and treatment using medications if needed. Psychologists and licensed therapists provide various therapy and counseling options to support the mental health journey. From cognitive-behavioral therapy (CBT) to mindfulness-based therapies, they provide evidence-based interventions to help the patient develop coping skills and achieve lasting change.

Cordial Psychiatry believes that lifestyle plays a crucial role in mental well-being. Care management services include guidance on nutrition, exercise, sleep hygiene, and stress management techniques to support overall health and vitality.

They believe in a collaborative approach to care management. They work closely with other healthcare providers, including therapists, primary care physicians, and specialists, to ensure seamless coordination of the patient's care.

We all lead busy schedules and to meet the needs, where appropriate of those who can't get into the office, Cordial offers telepsychiatry services. You can now receive expert care management from the comfort of your own home through

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NYS Senator Shelley Mayer Awards \$125K in Grants to Support WJCS Family Programs



Westchester Jewish Community Services (WJCS) announced that New York State Senator Shelley B. Mayer has selected WJCS as a recipient of two grants that will provide critically-needed support to its group homes and its Parent-Child+ program.

WJCS operates 12 community residences in Westchester County for adults with developmental disabilities. The Local Community Assistance Program (LoCAP) Grant in the amount of \$100,000 will be used to renovate the kitchen at WJCS's Bryant House group home and the bathroom at WJCS's Cannon House group home. Members of WJCS group homes partake in a wide variety of social, recreational, and cultural activities, in addition to attending day programs in the Westchester community, to help them achieve their highest potential.

"We are proud to provide a supportive atmosphere through 24-hour, hands-on care at our group homes, offered by trained quality staff," said WJCS CEO Seth

Diamond. "Our group homes need to be maintained and renovated, just like all homes do. We thank Senator Mayer for this generous funding which is vitally important in the upkeep of our community residences and ensuring that members of our homes are safe and comfortable."

A grant of \$25,000 will fund WJCS's ParentChild+ Home Visiting Program, a national early childhood, evidence-informed program that provides home visits to parents and their children, ranging in age from 16 months to 4 years old. Over the course of two years, an Early Learning Specialist visits each family twice per week and brings books, in English and in Spanish, and toys as gifts. They engage in reading and fun activities to stimulate parent-child interaction and promote the development of verbal, cognitive, and social-emotional skills critical for children's long-term success.

"The program's goal is to ensure that children in under-resourced families start school prepared to succeed," said Diamond. "We thank Senator Mayer for her longstanding support for WJCS Parent-Child Programs and grateful for her strong advocacy in Albany for all our county's children."

State Senator Shelley B. Mayer said, "I am proud to secure \$125,000 in state funding for Westchester Jewish Community Services to assist them with their group homes and ParentChild+ Program. The group homes provide members of the community with developmental disabilities with the critical service and support they need to live to their fullest potential. Their excellent ParentChild+ Program, which I have been fortunate to see first-hand, meets our neighbors in their homes to help children and their families build their skills so they are ready to succeed when they enter school. I thank Seth Diamond, Chief Executive Officer of WJCS, and his team for their ongoing commitment to our community."

Temporary Marker Placement Ceremony to Honor John Edward Bruce at Oakland Cemetery

**In Honor of John Edward Bruce
Temporary Marker Placement Ceremony**

We're coming together to celebrate the legacy of John Edward Bruce, who was a remarkable figure in Black American history and a devoted member of Prince Hall Masonry. Despite his significant contributions, Bruce's gravesite has been unmarked for too long. This event will mark the 100th memorial of his death. In addition to the Placement of a temporary marker, as we work towards funding a permanent headstone.

This special event is sponsored by RISEUP and James H. Farrell Lodge #34. We are delighted to have some wonderful speakers, including Robert Baskerville PH.D., and CEO of RISEUP; Mary Hoar from the Yonkers Historical Society; and Ken Davis of the Yonkers Historical Society. And Past Master Of James H. Farrell Lodge #34. We're also inviting The Most Worshipful Prince Hall Grand Lodge Of the State Of New York.

We'd love for you to join us in commemorating John Edward Bruce's incredible legacy and contributions. Your presence will help us honor his memory and support our ongoing efforts to provide him with a fitting headstone.

Date: August 11th, 2024
Time: 1:00 PM
Location: Oakland Cemetery, Yonkers, NY

Michael Whitney Worshipful Master
 M.W. Darren M. Morton ED.D. Grand Master

RISEUP and the brothers of James H. Farrell Masonic Lodge #34 are proud to announce a special ceremony to place a temporary marker at the unmarked gravesite of John Edward Bruce, also known as "Grit." This significant event will take place on August 11th, 2024, at 1:00 PM at Oakland Cemetery in Yonkers, NY.

John Edward Bruce was a distinguished journalist, historian, writer, orator, civil rights activist, and Pan-African Nationalist. Born into slavery in 1856, Bruce made monumental contributions to Black American history, Prince Hall Masonry, and society as a whole. Despite his impressive legacy, his gravesite has remained unmarked for a century. This temporary marker ceremony is a step towards honoring his memory with a permanent headstone.

The ceremony will feature esteemed guest speakers, including:

- Robert Baskerville, PhD, CEO of RISEUP
- Mary Hoar, Yonkers Historical Society
- Ken Davis, Yonkers Historical Society, Past Master James H. Farrell #34
- William Seraile, Educator, Author

Invitations have been extended to notable figures and organizations, including the Prince Hall Grand Lodge, Yonkers Historical Society, Deputy County Executive Ken Jenkins, NY State Senator Andrea Stewart-Cousins, Mayor Mike Spano, and local historians, educators, community-based organizations, and churches.

"We are honored to recognize the remarkable contributions of John Edward Bruce," said Harold Mckoy II, VP of Strategic Planning & Relations at RISEUP. "This temporary marker ceremony is a testament to his enduring legacy and a step towards ensuring he receives the recognition he deserves."

The temporary marker will be in place for up to six months, allowing time to raise the necessary funds for a permanent headstone. The fundraising goal is \$6,000, with consultations from Minozzi and Sons.

The public and press are invited to attend this meaningful event to pay tribute to a true pioneer and advocate for equality. Join us in celebrating the life and legacy of John Edward Bruce and supporting the efforts to provide him with a fitting memorial.

Oakland Cemetery is located at 2 Saw Mill River Road, Yonkers.

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Letters to the Editor:

LETTER TO THE EDITOR – WESTCHESTER RISING

Vice President Kamala Harris will be a formidable candidate in the November 2024 Presidential election.

July 28, 2024
To the Editor:

I read with great interest Eric Wolf Schoen's column ("So Where Do We Go From Here?") in the July 26, 2024 edition of Westchester Rising. While I agree with him that President Joe Biden is to be congratulated on his recent decision to withdraw as the presumptive Democratic Party Presidential nominee and his long record of public service to the nation, I believe he is shortchanging Vice President Kamala D. Harris' credentials to serve as the Democratic Party's Presidential nominee and potential POTUS (for the record, I actively supported Governor Nikki Haley's candidacy in this year's GOP primaries).

Ms. Harris, a graduate of Howard University and the University of California, Hastings College of Law, began her public service career in 1990 – over 30 years ago, primarily as a prosecutor ("smart on crime") in California's criminal justice system. Prior to her election as District Attorney of San Francisco, Harris ran that city's Family and Children's Services Division representing child abuse and neglect cases.

In 2010, she was elected California Attorney General where she oversaw the nation's largest state justice department. Some of her notable accomplishments included winning multi-billion dollar settlements on behalf of homeowners, students and veterans. As a U.S. Senator from 2017-21, she championed legislation to fight hunger, improve maternal health care, expand opportunities for small business capital investment, and revitalize American infrastructure.

The Vice Presidency is an awkward office with little power; most incumbent VP's have not been seen in their best light. If she has been seen by the public as invisible during her tenure (with the exception of her chairing the immigration task force), it was because she was required to spend much time breaking tie votes in the U.S. Senate when critical components of the Biden legislative agenda were being debated in that chamber.

Given President Biden's late decision to withdraw as a candidate, I do not see how the logistics of a "super primary" – which have been advocated by some -- could have been conducted on such short notice. That decision is properly to be made by the elected convention delegates.

Given recent polling since President Biden's withdrawal, I believe that we will see a very close election in both the Electoral College and the popular vote. I agree with Mr. Schoen that not all Republicans will support the Trump-Vance ticket; indeed, a number of prominent Republicans and Republican organizations such as the Lincoln Project have already endorsed Ms. Harris' candidacy, and more will do so.

If significant numbers of Republicans and independent voters view this election as a choice between democracy and autocracy -- as I do -- then Ms. Harris may very well be on her way to the White House. Time will tell.

Stephen R. Rolandi
Larchmont, NY

Mr. Rolandi, a lifelong centrist Republican, served in executive positions in the Giuliani and Bloomberg administrations, as well as for the State of New York. He is currently an Adjunct Professor of Public Administration at Pace University and City University of New York and active with the Principles First, Republicans for the Rule of Law and Our Republican Legacy organizations

Letter to the Editor:

Eric Schoen's column (July 26th) woefully misrepresented easily obtained facts and ignores truth.

First, "all of the delegates" are NOT yet "lined up", as claimed. The August convention's delegates will choose the candidate. Second, Vice-President Harris was given the task to "secure our nation's borders" but she cannot unilaterally impose an executive order, as did President Biden in early June 2024, when he suspended the entry of most migrants crossing the southern border, disqualifying those who enter the U.S. illegally from asylum. Mr. Schoen ignores or does not understand that Harris, as Vice-President, does not have that same executive power. But she said that she too will support this when elected.

President Biden did this in February, when Republicans scuttled a bipartisan border security bill with nearly every Republican voting to filibuster it as Donald Trump wields border chaos as a centerpiece of his campaign against President Joe Biden.

Republicans prefer chaos to results.

Biden restored the United States as the anchor of the free world while leading the successful effort to help Ukraine defend itself against Russian aggression, and restored NATO, defeating Trump's efforts to demolish the most successful alliance in 75 years, and prevented Putin's illegal aggression from swallowing Ukraine.

Schoen's claim that "not much" is known about Kamala Harris is due to his lack of research or willful ignorance. Harris served as California's attorney general (2011-17) before being elected to the Senate in 2017.

California is the 5th largest economy in the world for the seventh consecutive year, with a nominal GDP of nearly \$3.9 trillion in 2023 and a growth rate of 6.1%

Her responsibility included pushing for Congress to pass the John R Lewis Voting Rights Advancement Act, which would've extended the protections of the 1965 Voting Rights Act and required federal approval for some local election law changes.

Mr. Schoen claims that "Trump will be very hard to beat." All that is needed is to ignore and turn blind eyes to the massive and impressive results since President Biden and Vice-President Harris's election: the lowest unemployment rate, 3.5% in 50 years; nearly 11 million new jobs created since 2021, with 750,000 new manufacturing jobs; helped reduce gas prices down by \$1.60 from their summer 2022 peak; lowered Costs of Families' Everyday Expenses; More People Are Working Than At Any Point in American History; more items are produced in America;

Actually, the opposite: Trump is incredibly EASY to beat, unless you ignore his more than 30,000 constant lies, Trump's threatening vengeance and embrace of white and Christian supremacists, his constant demeaning and verbal abuse of everyone else who is not a Trump lackey.

Trump is still facing multiple criminal and civil investigations. Several former longtime allies have also deserted the former president, including former Gov. Chris Christie, who described Trump as a "serial loser," as well as evangelical Christian leaders and Mike Pence, his former vice president.

Robert Kalfus, Yonkers

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Read it all Online at
Yonkerstimes.com

Notice of formation of Lee & Mazie's LLC. Articles of Organization filed with the SSNY Office on 04/02/2024 Office Location: Westchester County. SSNY has been designated as agent of the LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail a copy of process to : Lee & Mazie's LLC 1 Sherwood Terrace Apt 5D Yonkers, NY 10704 Purpose: Any lawful purpose. Latest date upon which LLC is to dissolve: No specific date.

Notice of Formation of KW Services NY LLC. Articles of Organization filed with Secretary of State of New York (SSNY) on 3/30/24. Office location: Westchester County. SSNY is designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to 875 King Street Chappaqua NY 10514. Purpose: any lawful act or activity.

Notice of formation of Resonance Interactive LLC. Arts. of Org. filed with the SSNY on 5/14/2024. 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, 17 Arlington Road, Scarsdale NY, 10583. Purpose: Any lawful activity.

Notice of formation of WIT SOCCER LLC. Arts. of Org. filed with the SSNY on 4/18/2024. 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, 390 Heritage Hls, Unit D, Somers, NY 10589-1989. Purpose: Any lawful activity.

Eric Schoen, continued from pg 3-

secure and confidential video sessions.

Most importantly, they offer Crisis intervention. Mental health crises can occur unexpectedly. To address this, they offer timely and responsive crisis intervention services to provide support when it is needed most. Their team is available to assist during difficult times and help navigate through challenging situations.

For many of you, just being able to find a psychiatrist or other professional to meet your needs is what you are concerned about. So many friends have told me of the inability to find psychiatrists that when I heard of this new resource, I wanted to tell you.

We live in a stress filled world between political disagreements, health issues, finances and all the complex issues we face. If you are stressed or depressed, make sure you get the help you need. Don't be afraid or embarrassed to ask for it!

There are plenty of people in the same shoes you are in!

BRIEFS:

-The United States Post Office came out with a commemorative stamp for former Jeopardy host Alex Trebek. Can you believe his picture is not on the stamp? Just a question and answer like on the show. Why is Postmaster DeJoy, a Trump appointee still in charge given that Biden has a majority of the Post Office Board of Directors?

-Congratulations to Saints and Scholars Bar at 790 McClean Avenue named one of 27 Bars of the Year by USA TODAY!

-There is a GROUPON available with a 37% discount to PLAYLAND in RYE. Grab it while you can.

-Best Meal deal. A giant slice of Cheese Pizza and a can of soda for \$4 at Carlitos Pizza at 2 Spruce Street in Yonkers!

MORE BARGAINS COMING SOON!

Reach Eric Schoen at thistooisyonkers@aol.com, or friend him on Facebook Eric Schoen...just look for him in the picture with Joan Rivers!

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Baby Tyson, continued from pg 1-

WHEREAS: ZYON 'Baby Tyson' DUPREY competes in the 176 pound weight class and prior to his Olympic Win, compiled an impressive 5-1 boxing record with two wins coming by knockout; he was a co-featured Main Event at the Westchester's Finest Boxing Show, held at the Grand Roosevelt Ballroom in Yonkers, and

WHEREAS: Through his involvement with Yonkers Knockouts, ZYON 'Baby Tyson' DUPREY focuses on all the positive changes he has made in his life and credits his Coaches and Mentors for putting him on the right path, and

WHEREAS: Yonkers Knockouts was established as a sanctuary for urban youth uplifting and empowering them and helping them to develop life skills; it specifically targets youth heading down a destructive pathway and assists them in controlling anger and positive ways to respond to challenges they face, and

WHEREAS: The City of Yonkers raises its voice in tribute to ZYON 'Baby Tyson' DUPREY on this occasion and congratulates him on such a prestigious victory.

NOW, THEREFORE I, MIKE SPANO, Mayor of the City of Yonkers, New York, do hereby proclaim this day the 30th day of July 2024 to be:

As the 2024 Summer Olympics are underway in Paris, we wonder if we will see Zyon Duprey competing for Olympic gold someday.

Keep working hard and it will happen!

Notice of formation of Studio Elise LLC filed with the SSNY on 04/05/2024. Office: Westchester County. SSNY designated as agent of the LLC upon whole processes against it may be served. SSNY shall mail copy of processes to the LLC, 3 Ward Street, Hastings-on-Hudson, NY 10706. Purpose: Any lawful activity.

NOTICE OF FORMATION of Intentional Journey Psychotherapy, LCSW, PLLC. Arts of Org filed with Secy. of State of NY (SSNY) on 4/8/24. Office location: NY County. SSNY designated as agent upon whom process may be served and shall mail copy of process against PLLC to 1374 Midland Ave, Suite 410, Bronxville, NY 10708. Purpose: any lawful act.

Notice of formation of Freedenfeld Impact Advisors, LLC. Arts. of Org. filed with the SSNY on 04/23/24. 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, 350 Ringgold St., Peekskill, NY 10566. Purpose: Any lawful activity.

Notice of Formation of RR 207 Consulting, LLC. Arts. of Org. filed with SSNY on 03/27/24. Office location: Westchester County. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process may be served. SSNY shall mail process to 603 Warburton Ave, Ste 2, Hastings-on-Hudson, NY, 10706. Purpose: any lawful act or activity.

Notice of formation of Toneske Management Services LLC. Arts. of Org. filed with the SSNY on 4/27/2024. 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, 146 Catskill Ave., Yonkers, NY 10704. Purpose: Any lawful activity

**PUBLIC NOTICE
OF COMPLETION AND PUBLIC HEARING FOR THE
DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT
FOR THE 143 WOODWORTH AVENUE SITE REDEVELOPMENT**

The Zoning Board of Appeals of the City of Yonkers, as lead agency under the State Environmental Quality Review Act, has determined that the proposed development of 143-151 Woodworth Avenue (Section:2, Block: 2102, Lots: 4, 5, 7, 11, 39 and 41) in the City of Yonkers as proposed by TCP Realty, L.L.C., may have a potential significant adverse impact on the environment and a Draft Environmental Impact Statement ("DEIS") that is adequate for public comment has been prepared. The DEIS is available on-line at <https://www.yonkersny.gov/1126/New-Environmental-Review> and at City of Yonkers Department of Housing and Building, 5th floor, 87 Nepperhan Avenue AND Yonkers Dept of Planning and Development, 3rd floor, Room 320, 87 Nepperhan Ave, Yonkers, NY 10701. A public hearing on the DEIS will be held on September 3, 2024, from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. at Yonkers City Hall, Council Chambers, 4th floor, 40 S. Broadway, Yonkers, NY 10701. All of those interested will be given an opportunity to be heard with a time limit of three (3) minutes per speaker. The ZBA will accept written comments on the on the DEIS until 4:00 p.m. on September 17, 2024. Written comment can be submitted by mail to 87 Nepperhan Ave., 5th Floor Yonkers, NY 10701 or by email at ZBAPublic@YonkersNY.gov.

TCP Realty, LLC (the "Applicant") proposes an approximately 815,850 square foot mixed-use development. Two 32-story residential buildings would be constructed containing 672 residential units with 10% of the units designated for affordable housing (the "Proposed Project") on the existing approximately 1.35-acre property, comprised of five tax parcels. The residential units would be a combination of studio, one-, two- and three-bedroom apartments. The Proposed Project will also include ground floor commercial space, a four-level garage with parking spaces for 702 vehicles including valet parking, landscape areas, and amenities for residents, including an outdoor swimming pool, jacuzzi, roof garden, gym, sauna, lounge, library, game room, kids' room, and party room. To facilitate the Proposed Project, the Applicant has applied to the City of Yonkers Zoning Board of Appeals for approval of use and area variances. The Proposed Project will also require site plan approval from the City of Yonkers Planning Board. The Proposed Project, together with the required variances and site plan approval, constitute the "Proposed Action."

Dated: July 19, 2024

NOTICE OF QUALIFICATION OF KD CONSULTANTS GROUP LLC AS AN AUTHORIZED FOREIGN LLC. APPLICATION FOR AUTHORITY FILED WITH THE SSNY 07/16/24. OFFICE LOCATION - WESTCHESTER COUNTY. PRINCIPAL BUSINESS LOCATION: 208 BENNET RD, FREEHOLD, NJ 07728. THE SSNY HAS BEEN DESIGNATED AS AGENT OF THE LLC UPON WHOM PROCESS MAY BE SERVED. SSNY SHALL MAIL A COPY OF ANY PROCESS TO DOROTHY G. VASTOLA, 208 BENNET RD., FREEHOLD, NJ 07728. THE ARTICLES OF ORGANIZATION WERE FILED ON 07/13/2021 WITH THE NJ SECRETARY OF STATE, DEPT OF TREASURY, PO BOX 002, TRENTON, NJ 08625 FOR ANY LAWFUL PURPOSE.

Send us your letters, announcements, opinions, photos and story ideas to dmurphy@risingmediagroup.com

Yonkers Remembers Elaine Shine



Elaine Shine

It is with great sadness that we report the passing of Elaine Shine, the Executive Director of School Improvement for the Yonkers City School District. Elaine was a dedicated educational leader and advocate who touched the lives of countless students, teachers, and community members.

Elaine's sudden and untimely death has left the community in mourning. She was known for her passion for education and her unwavering commitment to improving the quality of education for all students in the Yonkers City School District. Her leadership and vision have had a lasting impact on the district, and her loss will be deeply felt by all who knew her.

As the news of Elaine's passing spreads, tributes are pouring in from colleagues, friends, and students who were inspired by her dedication and tireless advocacy for education. She was a true champion for students, always putting their needs first and working tirelessly to ensure that they had access to the best possible education.

Elaine's death is a great loss to the Yonkers community and to the field of education as a whole. Her passion, dedication, and leadership will be sorely missed, but her legacy will live on in the countless lives she touched and the positive changes she brought about in the Yonkers City School District.

Our thoughts and prayers are with Elaine's family and loved ones during this difficult time. May she rest in peace knowing that her work has made a lasting impact on the lives of so many.

"It is with deep sadness that I share the news of the passing of our dear colleague, Ms. Elaine Shine," schools superintendent Anibal Soler Jr. said in a letter to colleagues. "Unlike many of you, I have not had the privilege of knowing Elaine for very long. However, I am fortunate enough to be surrounded by people touched by her presence. I have heard countless stories about her incredible warmth and kindness. I even heard anecdotal stories about whenever she spoke with someone, no matter how busy her day was, she made them feel like the most important person in the world. That speaks volumes about her character and the legacy she leaves behind."

Another commented, "Ms. Shine was a FIXTURE. in the Yonkers Public Schools. She started as an ESL teacher (2001) and was elevated to Executive Director of School Improvement for the School System. Saying she will be missed is an understatement. I watched Ms. Shine work until 8pm in an office, even when she was sick; she STILL came in to work. She will be missed... HARD!!! Ms. Shine started the MBK Academy. Ms. Shine rarely complained but was quite fiesty, if she liked you! She ALWAYS wanted you to work if she believed you were for the children. "

Eric Schoen said, "Elaine Shine always had a smile on her face. She was dedicated to the success of every Yonkers Public Schools student. She spent many hours beyond the normal work day planning initiatives. To help district students succeed. She was one of a kind and will be sorely missed by all members of the Yonkers Public Schools family."

Shiine passed on July 31 at the age of 60.

Viewing will be held on Saturday, August 2, 2024 from 8:30 - 9:30 A.M. in Hodder Farenga Funeral Home, 899 McLean Avenue, Yonkers, NY

Mass of Christian Burial will be held on Saturday, August 3, 2024 at 10:00 A.M. in St. Paul the Apostle Church, Yonkers, NY

Interment will follow in St. Raymond Cemetery, Bronx, NY.

God Bless and thank you for your service.

Yonkers Man Charged With Distribution Of Protonitazene -Synthetic Opioid More Potent Than Fentanyl

Damian Williams, the United States Attorney for the Southern District of New York, and Frank A. Tarentino III, the Special Agent in Charge of the New York Division of the Drug Enforcement Administration ("DEA"), announced today the unsealing of a Complaint charging MIGUEL DE JESUS REYES MEDINA a/k/a "Azua," and ERIK ALBERTO LOPEZ VALDEZ with conspiracy to distribute fentanyl and distribution of protonitazene, a novel synthetic opioid that is up to three times more potent than fentanyl. REYES MEDINA and LOPEZ VALDEZ were arrested today. LOPEZ VALDEZ will be presented later today before U.S. Magistrate Judge Robert W. Lehrburger, and REYES MEDINA will be presented before Judge Lehrburger tomorrow, July 19, 2024.

U.S. Attorney Damian Williams said: "As alleged, Miguel de Jesus Reyes Medina and Erik Alberto Lopez Valdez engaged in a scheme to sell dangerous narcotics to New Yorkers, including a novel, and potentially lethal, synthetic opioid. As part of that scheme, the defendants sold protonitazene, which, as alleged, is as much as three times more deadly than fentanyl. This prosecution underscores my Office's unwavering commitment to protecting our communities from the deadly opioid crisis, including from emergent synthetic opioids that pose even greater threats than fentanyl. We will not allow drug dealers to hide behind novel changes to the chemical structure of drugs to avoid prosecution."

DEA Special Agent in Charge Frank A. Tarentino III said: "Today's arrests show the commitment the DEA and our law enforcement partners have in targeting those poisoning our communities. As alleged, these individuals are not only responsible for the distribution of the lethal drug fentanyl, but the distribution of protonitazene, a novel synthetic opioid that is up to three times more potent than fentanyl. It is safe to say that the removal of these individuals, and the distribution of these illicit drugs from our streets, saved another family from having to bury their loved one. The DEA and members of our NYDETF remain committed to doing everything we can to bring those responsible to justice."

As alleged in the Complaint:[1]

In or about April 2024, REYES MEDINA agreed to sell fentanyl to a confidential source (the "Source") working with law enforcement. REYES MEDINA negotiated the price and quantity of fentanyl to be provided, requesting \$2,000 for 74 grams of fentanyl. On or about April 10, 2024, REYES MEDINA met with the Source and provided a 74-gram package of narcotics. During the meeting, REYES MEDINA emphasized that the narcotics were high quality and strong. Then, on or about April 16, 2024, REYES MEDINA arranged to have LOPEZ VALDEZ deliver a further 420-gram package of narcotics to the Source for the price of \$12,250, which LOPEZ VALDEZ did. Following the arrest of REYES MEDINA and LOPEZ VALDEZ, laboratory testing determined that the packages of narcotics provided to the Source by REYES MEDINA and LOPEZ VALDEZ consisted of nearly 500 grams of protonitazene, a synthetic opioid that is up to three times more potent than fentanyl.

REYES MEDINA, 49, of Yonkers, New York, is charged with one count of conspiracy to distribute fentanyl, which carries a mandatory minimum sentence of 10 years in prison and a maximum sentence of life in prison, and two counts of distribution of protonitazene, each of which carry a maximum sentence of 20 years in prison.

LOPEZ VALDEZ, 38, of Camden, New Jersey, is charged with one count of conspiracy to distribute fentanyl, which carries a mandatory minimum sentence of 10 years in prison and a maximum sentence of life in prison, and one count of distribution of protonitazene, which carries a maximum sentence of 20 years in prison.

The minimum and maximum potential sentences in this case are prescribed by Congress and are provided here for informational purposes only, as any sentencing of the defendants will be determined by a judge.

Mr. Williams praised the outstanding work of the DEA, the New York City Police Department, and the New York State Police in connection with this investigation.

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Westchester County Clerk Swears in New Americans in Joyous Ceremony



From Left: Hon. Amy Puerto J.S.C, Mary Ann Havasquez-Salvatore, Westchester County Clerk Timothy C. Idoni

For hundreds of years, Westchester County has been the first place international immigrants have chosen to reside when coming to the United States. The diversity and opportunities, and places of employment often provided by our communities have made it the destination of choice when looking for a better life. The tradition of later becoming a proud American citizen would often follow.

That proud tradition occurred again on July 19th, when 97 more citizens were sworn in at Westchester’s monthly naturalization service at the County’s Richard J. Daronco Courthouse in White Plains. The service was officiated by Supreme Court Justice Amy Puerto. Westchester County Clerk Timothy C. Idoni performed the swearing in-Oath of Allegiance, the last requirement after years of study to earn one’s citizenship status. County Clerk Idoni has the distinct honor of swearing in almost 700 new citizens this year alone and has cumulatively sworn in over 44,000 naturalized citizens during his time in office.

Following the administration of the Oath, newly naturalized citizens are assisted by his dedicated staff in obtaining their first United States passport, making a second significant milestone in their pursuit of the American dream. In addition, staff from the County Board of Elections are onsite to assist in voter registration, promoting new citizen’s participation in our democratic process.

Commenting on his role in these solemn ceremonies, Clerk Idoni said, “Organizing and participating in these naturalization ceremonies are one of the highlights of my career. Witnessing the joy and fulfillment on the faces of those

continued on pg 13-

Happy Birthday Rabbi Mendy!



(L-R) Rabbi Israel Hurwitz celebrates the 41st birthday of his son Rabbi Mendy Hurwitz, with their oldest son Haim Hurwitz. Photo (c) Robert Kalfus

By Robert Kalfus

Chabad of Yonkers/Greystone Jewish Center Rabbi Mendy Hurwitz celebrates his July birthday, and for the past decade, has invited the community to enjoy a lavish BBQ at the synagogue at which Yonkers residents, synagogue members, elected officials and those running for office attended, meeting and greeting, and pressing the flesh.

Rabbi Hurwitz literally served the community and celebrated his 41st Birthday with a Grand BBQ celebration, delivering an extensive menu of kosher hot dogs and hamburgers in buns, grilled chicken, French fries, relish, potato chips, potato salad and homemade cole slaw, watermelon, cotton candy, a bottle of cold water, and birthday cake for dessert, to the more than 100 people who joined the birthday celebration for three hours on Sunday, July 28th.

Rabbi Hurwitz and synagogue members sweated over a hot grill cooking the fresh and tasty meals on a day which thankfully was not of the hottest days of this summer, and enlisted the assistance of his wife, Rebbetzin Chanie, his son Haim, and their four daughters, all who helped prepare and serve. Rabbi Mendy’s father, Rabbi Israel Hurwitz, joined his brothers, his nieces and grandchildren.

Noting his latest birthday, Rabbi Hurwitz said “As you age and get older, you need to continue your education and acquire knowledge and wisdom. You also

continued on pg 13-

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Amistad Ship Makes Visit to Yonkers



On Wednesday, July 31st, the Amistad made a special stop in Yonkers as part of its “2024 Voyage for Freedom.” The ship was open for dockside tours from 12 PM to 7 PM, offering the community a unique opportunity to engage with a significant piece of history. The vessel is a reproduction of the historic ship Amistad, built at the Mystic Seaport Museum Shipyard and launched in 2000. This 128-foot replica stands as an iconic representation of the fight for justice and freedom in the United States and beyond. The lessons of the 1839 uprising aboard the original schooner provide a foundation to explore the concepts of freedom, power, justice, and equality.

We extend special thanks to those in Yonkers who made this event possible:

Mayor Mike Spano, Steve Sansone, Parks Commissioner, Connie Fowler, Board of Directors, Enslaved African Rain Garden, Marcia Cooper, President, Beczak, Captain Nicholas Alley of the Amistad, Hudson River Pilots association.

The history of the Amistad is an inspiring story. In 1839, Mende captives from Sierra Leone took control of the ship transporting them to slavery. Unable to navigate back to Africa, the ship was captured and towed into the port of New London in Connecticut. Faced with slavery or execution, the Mende found their cause championed by many residents throughout Connecticut. U.S. Circuit and District courts ruled in favor of the Mende, a decision upheld by the U.S. Supreme Court in 1841, leading to the captives’ release. As the nation continues to grapple with the painful realities of racism and oppression, the lessons of the Amistad and the mission of Discovering Amistad have never been more relevant.

Jamaican Flag Raising at Yonkers City Hall Set for August 5



Please join
Mayor Mike Spano
 and Members of the Yonkers
 Jamaican American Community for a
Flag Raising Ceremony

Monday, August 5, 2024
 4:00 PM
 Yonkers City Hall - Unity Fountain

A Reception will follow in the Rotunda



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Municipal Housing Authority for the City of Yonkers
NOTICE OF A PUBLIC HEARING FOR FIVE-YEAR PLAN FOR THE FISCAL YEARS 2025-2029

The Municipal Housing Authority for the City of Yonkers (MHACY) will hold Two (2) Public Hearings on Thursday, September 19, 2024 to discuss and accept comments on its proposed Five-Year Plan for Fiscal Years 2025-2029.

The MHACY will hold two (2) public hearings to discuss and accept comments on its proposed Fiscal Years (FY) 2025-2029 Five-Year Plan. A draft copy of the proposed changes and information will be available at the Office of The Municipal Housing Authority for the City of Yonkers, Augustine J. Shea Administration Building, 1511 Central Park Avenue beginning Wednesday, August 7, 2024 from 8:30 A.M - 4:30 P.M. weekdays until Thursday, September 19, 2024 and on our website www.mhacy.org. listed as draft FY 2025-2029 Five Year Plan.

The Public Hearings will be Thursday, September 19, 2024 at:
4 Curran Court Community Room Building #4
Yonkers, New York 2:00 P.M.

Ross F. Calcagno Home

10 Brook Street (Gymnasium) Yonkers, New York
6:00 P.M.

These public hearings are open to all interested parties. Residents are encouraged to select a spokesperson to present their comments at the public hearings. Participants in the public hearings should present their comments orally and in writing. Persons wishing to speak at any of the public hearings will be limited to five (5) minutes each. A sign-up sheet for speakers will be available at the start of each public hearing.

The Municipal Housing Authority for the City of Yonkers (MHACY) does not discriminate because of disability, color, sex, religion, national origin, family status or race. Provisions will be made for persons with disabilities to ensure their full participation in these public hearings if they so choose. Request for any reasonable accommodation must be made to the MHACY by 4:00 P.M. on Wednesday, September 18, 2024. The request must be directed to:

Legal Department

Municipal Housing Authority for the City of Yonkers
1511 Central Park Avenue Yonkers, New York 10710
jdaoud@mhacy.org Fax: 914-793-6916

Autoridad Municipal de la Vivienda de la ciudad de Yonkers
ANUNCIO DE AUDIENCIA PÚBLICA SOBRE EL PLAN QUINQUENAL PARA LOS EJERCICIOS FISCALES 2025-2029

La Autoridad Municipal de Vivienda de la Ciudad de Yonkers (MHACY) celebrará dos (2) audiencias públicas el jueves, 19 de septiembre de 2024 para discutir y aceptar comentarios sobre su propuesta de Plan quinquenal para los años fiscales 2025-2029.

La MHACY celebrará dos (2) audiencias públicas para discutir y aceptar comentarios sobre su Plan Quinquenal propuesto para los Años Fiscales (FY) 2025-2029. Una copia del borrador de los cambios propuestos e información estará disponible en la Oficina de la Autoridad Municipal de Vivienda de la Ciudad de Yonkers, Edificio de Administración Augustine J. Shea, 1511 Central Park Avenue a partir del miércoles 7 de agosto de 2024 de 8:30 A.M. a 4:30 P.M. los días de semana hasta el jueves 19 de septiembre de 2024 y en nuestro sitio web www.mhacy.org. listado como borrador del Plan Quinquenal del Año Fiscal 2025-2029.

Las Audiencias Públicas serán el jueves 19 de septiembre de 2024 en:

4 Curran Court Sala comunitaria Edificio n° 4

Yonkers, Nueva York 2:00 P.M.

Ross F. Calcagno Inicio 10 Brook Street (Gimnasio)

Yonkers, Nueva York 6:00 P.M.

Estas audiencias públicas están abiertas a todas las partes interesadas. Se anima a los residentes a elegir un portavoz para presentar sus comentarios en las audiencias públicas. Los participantes en las audiencias públicas deberán presentar sus comentarios oralmente y por escrito. Las personas que deseen intervenir en cualquiera de las audiencias públicas estarán limitadas a cinco (5) minutos cada una. Al comienzo de cada audiencia pública habrá una hoja de inscripción para los oradores.

La Autoridad Municipal de la Vivienda de la Ciudad de Yonkers (MHACY) no discrimina por motivos de discapacidad, color, sexo, religión, origen nacional, situación familiar o raza. Se tomarán medidas para que las personas con discapacidades puedan participar plenamente en estas audiencias públicas si así lo desean. La solicitud de cualquier adaptación razonable deberá presentarse al MHACY antes de las 16:00 horas del miércoles 18 de septiembre de 2024. La solicitud debe dirigirse a:

Departamento Jurídico Autoridad Municipal de la Vivienda de la ciudad de Yonkers Avenida Central Park, 1511 Yonkers, Nueva York 10710
jdaoud@mhacy.org Fax: 914-793-6916

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Statement from Council President Lakisha Collins Bellamy

Collins Bellamy Says Mike Khader Should Repay The City For Free Rent And Office Services He Improperly Obtained

On the heels of an independent report that showed former City Council President Mike Khader illegally used taxpayer dollars in order to get free rent and office services for his law practice, Council President Lakisha Collins Bellamy today said Khader should reimburse the City for the \$29,000 value of those ill gotten gains.

"This report is troubling, to say the least," said Collins Bellamy, "In great detail, and using multiple sworn witness statements, it documents a scheme in which Khader gave \$240,000 in no-bid contracts to a local law firm that then provided him up to \$29,000 worth of free rent and office services over a two year period."

"I will leave potential criminal prosecution up to the District Attorney, but Mike Khader at the very least needs to reimburse the City for the free rent and office services for his law practice that in reality were paid for by the taxpayers of Yonkers."

Khader's scheme had been referred to Yonkers Inspector General Liam McLaughlin for investigation. McLaughlin then had the investigation conducted independently in order to avoid an appearance of conflict of interest, since Khader and McLaughlin had previously been political opponents.

The 40 page report, plus sworn depositions, was conducted by the law firm of Ogle-tree Deakins and Global Security and Investigation Services. It concluded that Khader violated not only the City's Ethics Code but also Article 200 of the State Penal Code, and recommended it be referred for action on both.

It found that Khader granted \$240,000 in no bid contracts to the local law firm of Smith Buss Jacobs, and in a case of quid pro quo, was provided free rent and office services at the firm for his own law practice. The report said it was also at times unclear how much service the firm even provided to the City in return for the payments.

"This is a blue ribbon report and the results are damning," said Collins Bellamy, "The people of Yonkers were taken for a ride by Mike Khader."

The report also investigated claims that Khader created a hostile work environment towards women in his council president's office. The report said it found multiple examples of disparate treatment by Khader toward women.

The report also said Khader appeared to have made false and misleading statements under oath to the investigators by claiming that he not only did not maintain a law office, but that he did not practice law during the years in question. Multiple witness statements, plus documented court appearances and filings by Khader during that time, proved otherwise.

Statement from Mike Khader on IG's report

The allegations of quid pro quo outlined in Liam McLaughlin's report are entirely baseless and unsupported by facts. I have neither owed rent to anyone nor received any free office support services from SBJ, and have provided documents to media sources to prove the report is a biased political attack. The timing of this report is nothing more than a political intimidation tactic, similar to the bogus attacks during my 2021 campaign. This investigation was conducted over three years ago, yet the Yonkers Political Machine release it now to attempt to poison my anticipated candidacy. In short, Liam, whom I beat in 2017 and who hasn't gotten over it, and has weaponized the Office of Inspector General to go after political enemies that want to clean up Yonkers' government.

Unusually, the report was leaked to the media before either my attorney or I could review it, a clear indication of the Political Machine's interference, which became evident when they learned about my upcoming campaign fundraiser. The emails were leaked from a fake non-governmental email address.

There was never a "sweetheart deal." I rented from SBJ prior to June 2017 and vacated after announcing my candidacy for City Council President. This action marked the onset of political retribution. Thereafter, SBJ Partners met with Robert Spolzino and Liam McLaughlin to secure a multi-million dollar City contract. Spolzino was made a partner at SBJ, and Liam McLaughlin voted to approve the contract and secured a financial contribution, exposing the report's political bias.

The report misrepresents the office space situation. I was actively seeking new office space in 2018, and gave the names of five local attorneys that I contacted about office space, yet none of these attorneys were contacted to confirm my attempts to secure office space in 2018. Truth and facts were cherry-picked to invent the claims of a sweetheart deal. The space provided by SBJ was in a state of disrepair, making it unsuitable for my type of law practice.

McLaughlin's report relies on witnesses with clear political motives, seeking retribution and financial gain, which undermines their credibility. The witnesses who spoke positively about my integrity were omitted from the report. This report, funded by Yonkers taxpayers at a cost likely exceeding \$1 million, is a flagrant misuse of resources. Also, the notion that I received free office support services is false as notarizing documents is a well known common professional courtesy in our industry.

McLaughlin's involvement in this report reflects his own political wrongdoing. My successor, Lakisha Collins-Bellamy, is grandstanding on a report that tries to hurt me financially and politically. She should worry about her own controversies, including Hatch Act violations and securing jobs for family members, to name a few. Together, McLaughlin and Collins-Bellamy and their family members are costing Yonkers taxpayers over \$1 million in annual salaries.

Finally, the fact that McLaughlin targets me while ignoring obvious conflicts, complaints and referrals about other Yonkers elected officials further demonstrates how his office is functioning as a weapon against political rivals. This is a witch hunt. The one thing they have not discussed is how they plan to make our city better for all in Yonkers. I'll be waiting to tackle those issues, when they decide to move from propaganda and misinformation to addressing real life problems and policy.

IG Report, continued from pg 1-

The report states that Khader was "In violation of the Yonkers' Code of Ethics, and appearing to be in violation of Article 200 of the New York State Penal Law. Khader received rent-free office space from his City-paid counsel's law firm, Smith, Buss & Jacobs LLP ("SBJ"). It is undisputed that Khader received rent-free office space and related office-services from SBJ from in or about March 2017 until in or about December 2018. Khader admitted that he did not pay rent to SBJ from in or about March 2017 until in or about December 2018. In an apparent attempt to improperly "interfere with, obstruct, or otherwise hinder" this investigation, Khader provided conflicting reasons for not paying rent."

According to the report, Khader gave conflicting answers to questions posed to him under oath by the IG's office. "Khader first claimed, under oath, that he "didn't have an office" at SBJ since in or about June 2017. (Khader Tr. 20-22).² However, Khader continued to use the SBJ address, including in signed and sworn court pleadings and filings, and witnesses observed Khader using his office at SBJ during relevant times.

"Khader also claimed, under oath, that he did not have an office because he "stopped practicing" law during the relevant time period. (Khader Tr. 24). However, public records such as court filings and deeds, made clear that Khader continued to practice law during the period of time in question."

"Khader also testified, under oath, that while he did have an office at SBJ during the relevant time period, he did not pay rent because of the condition of the office and that he used it largely for storage. However, multiple witnesses explained that Khader did use this office for meetings and other work. Further, attorney Charles Lesnick paid \$500/month for an office immediately adjacent to Khader's office in the same SBJ office suite (Suite 303), showing that the office space had value despite its alleged "condition."

"Further, along with the office space, it is undisputed (even by Khader) that during the relevant time period, Khader had the use of SBJ's valuable office services, such as receptionist, mail room, notaries, paralegals, conference rooms, copy machines and a parking space — all things of significant value even if, arguendo, his office space was in relatively poor condition.

In sum, Khader's excuses for not paying rent are misleading, dissembling and not credible. The weight of the evidence supports a quid pro quo relationship where Khader received and benefited from a law office (and office services) rent free, and Buss received and benefited from a City contract from Khader.

The report states that Khader's actions, "likewise violated the Yonkers' Code of Ethics and appears to be in violation of Article 200 of the New York State Penal Law.

"Buss failed to testify in this investigation despite being subpoenaed. Buss produced records to the Investigators that appeared to present evidence in a manner designed to "interfere with, obstruct, or otherwise hinder" the investigation."

In a letter dated, May 19, 2021 Buss stated: "Mr. Khader is not a tenant of mine, nor of my law firm." While perhaps true as of May 19, 2021, this was clearly not true at all times relevant to the investigation and subject to subpoena, including 2017-2018. Further, by letter dated December 3, 2021, Buss attempted to argue that he personally, and not SBJ, represented Khader as CCP, and he refused to produce certain information requested in the subpoena. This argument defies common sense. Even if, arguendo, Buss and not SBJ was counsel to Khader, SBJ's giving Khader rent free office space and providing office services in exchange for Khader's appointment (or promise of appointment) of Buss as counsel is still an improper quid pro quo.

Further, the facts establish that Khader and members of his City-paid staff met with Buss at SBJ's offices on City work on a number of occasions. Khader even used SBJ's offices to interview applicants for City positions (including, but not limited to, Anand Singh).

The IG's report also, "found some evidence, but have not reached a conclusion, that Khader may have mis-used his position as City Council President by, among other things, using at least two City paid employees/contractors, Charles Milander and Lena Badr, to work on his personal/law firm matters and/or his political campaign while on City-paid time. We recommend that such relationships be further investigated.

The report found no evidence "of discrimination or hostile work environment. While witnesses alleged that Khader treated female staff differently and less favorably than male staff, such allegations essentially amounted to a perception (a perception shared by a number of his staff) that Khader favored the opinion or work of male staff more than of female staff. What was not articulated in admissible form was evidence that such conduct led to inferior terms, conditions or privileges of employment of female staff, or any evidence that any different treatment of females was because of gender. Accordingly, on the evidence reviewed, we do not find that Khader's conduct created a hostile work environment under applicable law."

Mike Khader was elected City Council President in 2017, defeating the incumbent Council President, Liam McLaughlin, who is now serving as Yonkers Inspector General. Khader ran for reelection in 2021 and was defeated in a democratic primary by Lakisha Collins-Bellamy who is the current Council President.

Khader has announced to friends and supporters that he plan on running next year (2025) for his old job, and would have to challenge Collins-Bellamy in a democratic primary.

Buss's contract as Counsel to the Council President was for \$60,000 per year for four years, for a total of \$240,000.

The reports investigators found identified the value of the rent that Khader did not pay for 22 months to be between \$11,000 - \$17,600. Additionally, Khader was able to use the support staff from the law offices of Smith, Buss & Jacobs for free. "Clearly, Khader used SBJ paralegals to support his legal practice, including for the filing of court documents, at times relevant to this investigation. ...at the times relevant to this investigation, clearly, Khader used the SBJ office space and had the benefit of SBJ office services, paralegals and notaries during a time when he claimed not to be practicing law and paid no rent to SBJ. Such services are of value to an attorney, but Khader never paid for such services. The Investigators find that such valuable services were part of the quid pro quo."

The report details numerous examples where Khader was practicing law after telling the IG and investigators that he was not. In one instance, Khader, serving as a court appointed receiver, submits his bill for services with his statement that he "exhausted countless hours" on the case and "performed extensive" work — at the same time Khader swore at his deposition that he stopped or slowed his law practice. Khader's bill

continued on pg 12-

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Westchester’s Claire Weinstein, Team USA’s Youngest Olympian

One of the great stories of the 2024 Summer Olympics in Paris, is the youngest member of the US Olympic team, 17-year-old Claire Weinstein, who grew up in Westchester and White Plains. Claire began swimming at the age of 3 and began swimming competitively at the age of 6. She is the daughter of Rodney and Diane Weinstein and has three younger sisters and one brother.

Her family attended Reform synagogue of Congregation Kol Ami in White Plains, and Claire went to Highlands Middle School in White Plains. For her mitzvah project, Claire volunteered as a coach at Westchester Aquatic swim club. Claire believes that everyone should learn to swim and have the opportunity to swim competitively if they want to. A donation was made to the Christopher Dewey Memorial Swim Foundation that helps low income swimmers pay for the cost of training and travel for competitions.

Claire moved to Las Vegas as a teenager to train at the Sandpipers of Nevada swimming club. And at the age of 13, she qualified for the 2020 US Olympic trials, but did not make the team.

In 2022, Claire was a member of Team USA’s 4 x 200 women’s relay team that won the gold medal at the World Aquatics Championships.

So far, at the summer Olympics in Paris, Claire made the finals of the 200m freestyle and finished 8th. After we go to press, Claire will compete in the 4x200m freestyle relay with Katie Ledecky, who began swimming in the Olympics at age 15, in 2012. In qualifying for the US team, became the youngest US swimmer to qualify for an Olympic Games since 2008.

Weinstein began her competitive swim career on the Lake Isle team in Eastchester and set several records at the Westchester Swim Conference. She also swam on the White Plains Varsity Swim team while in middle school.

“I’m always learning and figuring out ways to be better. I know every obstacle will only make me better,” said Weinstein, who will be attending UC Berkley in the fall. She enjoys shopping, going to the cinema and spending time with friends...like every other American teenager.

IG Report, continued from pg 11-

for those services was \$37,634.05”

The law office address in question was 733 Yonkers Avenue, Suite 200.

“In sum, during the very same time frame that Khader swore under oath in this Investigation

that he stopped or slowed his law practice, and that he did not have an office at SBJ, he also swore under the penalties of perjury that he “exhausted countless hours” and “performed extensive work” serving as Receiver, and he signed the court Report using SBJ’s address of 733 Yonkers Avenue, Suite 200. Khader’s sworn statements in this Investigation and his sworn statements to the Court in the Matter of Joseph Carriere Report are clearly inconsistent. Khader’s sworn statements in this investigation that he stopped or slowed his law practice, and that he did not use SBJ’s office at such, are demonstrably false and disproven by Khader’s own court filings

The report and the IG were unable to come to a conclusion as to why two City Council employees were hired by Khader. Several other council staff members who were interviewed by the IG

Milander and Badr were hired by Khader as a quid pro quo for their work for his law office and/or campaign. “Essentially, no staff could articulate any work of significance that Badr provided for the City, and it seemed that Milander did minimal work for the City. Both Badr and Milander worked on Khader’s campaign and potentially Khader’s law office.

Khader’s hiring of Badr as a contractor for the City is shrouded in mystery. First, Badr is based in Washington DC, and by all accounts, had limited familiarity with Yonkers. Khader claims that Badr was referred by a friend, Besema Yousef. When asked where Yousef lived, Khader testified that she lived “out of the country” – but he did not know what country she lived in. His testimony in this regard seemed lacking credibility.

Khader himself admitted that he knew that Milander had subcontracted his City-paid work to Milander’s employees in South America. A City employee should not be able to subcontract their own City work to third parties (presumably at a profit). Milander’s profiting through the use of contractors for work for the City, as approved by, or tacitly approved by Khader, should be further investigated.

We, the Investigators, conclude that Khader (and Buss/SBJ) failed to provide any credible evidence as to why SBJ provided him with rent free office space and office services, and that such valuable office space (valued at approximately \$11,000 – \$17,600) and office services (valued at approximately \$11,600) were provided as part of a quid pro quo arrangement between Khader and Buss/SBJ whereby Buss received multiple contracts totaling approximately \$240,000.

We recommend that this Report be referred to the Inspector General for referral to the City Council and otherwise as necessary for prosecution and/or further investigation,” end of report. .

Did Mike Khader commit a crime? And if he did, will that crime be prosecuted? Most legal experts say no to both, but that Khader did commit an Ethics violation and that it is highly unlikely that the Westchester DA, or US Attorney, of State Attorney General will indict Mike Khader.

But as one criminal defense attorney told us, “Was all of this worth it? For \$15,000, an attorney making \$200,000 per year plus his council salary, why not just pay your rent and play by the rules? And the same can be said for Jeff Buss.

Other interesting attorney at this law office who were interviewed included Judge Robert Spolzino. The report states, “In or about March or April 2018, then-SBJ partner Hon. Robert A. Spolzino learned that Khader may not have been paying rent to SBJ. As Khader’s failure to pay rent raised ethical concerns, Spolzino raised the issue with Buss of SBJ. Buss told Spolzino that he would address the issue. Id. Spolzino assumed that the issue had been addressed.”

Some believe that the continued investigation into Khader, four years after the incident and four years after he served as council president, is proof that “they are afraid of Mike Khader coming back to City Hall.” Others we spoke to said that the facts in this case end Mike Khader’s political career.

Recall of Deli Meats Linked to Listeria Expanded

Boar’s Head and Old Country Virginia Ham, Salami and Bologna added to Recall

The U.S Department of Agriculture has expanded its recall of deli meats linked to a multi-state Listeria outbreak. An additional 71 varieties of Virginia ham, salami and bologna that were produced in a Virginia plant and sold under the Boar’s Head and Old Country brands have been added, in addition to the original Boar’s Head liverwurst that tested positive for the listeriosis bacteria.

Westchester County Health Commissioner Sherlita Amler, MD said: “We want people to be aware of this recall of deli meat, and the potential risk of a Listeria infection. If you have these products in your refrigerator at home discard of them immediately, or return them to the store where the food was purchased. Check the Health Department’s website for proper cleaning protocols to sanitize your refrigerator and prevent the contamination of other foods. If you have consumed these products and are exhibiting symptoms, contact your health care provider immediately.”

For a full list of the contaminated products and more detailed cleaning instructions, visit the Health Department’s website.

There were 33 people who were hospitalized in connection with the Listeria outbreak across 13 states. There have been two deaths; one in Illinois and one in New Jersey. Listeria infection can affect anyone who eats contaminated food, causing mild intestinal illness. It is especially harmful for those who are pregnant, age 65 or older, or who have a weakened immune system due to certain medical conditions or treatments. Listeria can cause pregnancy loss, premature birth or a life-threatening infection in a newborn and can be deadly for seniors and those with weakened immunity.

Anyone who ate food linked to this outbreak and who has a fever and other symptoms of listeriosis, such as fatigue and muscle aches, should contact a healthcare provider. Most medical experts say that anyone who may have eaten contaminated food but does not feel sick does not need tests or treatment. Talk with a healthcare provider if you have questions about what to do.

An estimated 1,600 people get Listeria food poisoning each year and about 260 die, according to the Centers for Disease Control & Prevention. Listeria infections typically cause fever, muscle aches and tiredness and may cause stiff neck, confusion, loss of balance and convulsions. Symptoms can occur quickly or to up to 10 weeks after eating contaminated food.



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To the Editor:

Many of us are beyond discouraged and appalled to learn that "pig races" are still alive and well at the Ulster-family-Fair, where children will see intelligent animals forcibly and unnaturally made to run, for the amusement of the young and naïve adults who don't know any better. Racing, whether of dogs, horses, pigs, or any other animal, offers nothing that is entertaining or educational; rather it is a shameful and pitiful example of how we continue to exploit animals, who are conscious, sentient beings forced to serve and perform for us, just as we have done with animals in circuses and going way back to the time of gladiators. Thankfully, much of this has slowly begun to be swept into the dustbin of history, as our own society and species evolves. However, sadly and shamefully, the organizers of Ulster Fair continue to lag far behind. It's long past time to eliminate such animal abuse from the arena of entertainment.

Zelda Penzel, President, P.E.A.C.E.
People for the End of Animal Cruelty and Exploitation
New York, NY

Dear The Yonkers Times,

I'm a person of faith who feels called to care for people and steward the earth. I am writing to urge you to cover the significant differences in climate policy between the 2024 Democratic and Republican party platforms. Having informed voters is crucial for a healthy democracy, and as a leading news source, you have the power to share this critical information.

The 2024 Republican Party Platform notably lacks any mention of climate change. Instead, it promotes increased production of oil, gas, and coal with the emphatic line, "We will DRILL, BABY, DRILL."

In contrast, the draft 2024 Democratic Party Platform outlines a robust climate strategy, including scaling up solar, wind, and geothermal projects via the Inflation Reduction Act and investing in clean energy R&D. President Biden has and will further expand the clean energy workforce, triple the American Climate Corps by the decade's end, and ensure clean energy jobs are accessible to marginalized communities.

Reporting on these stark differences will help voters make informed decisions about the future of our nation's climate policy.

Thank you for considering this important topic.
Sincerely,
Judith Zingher, Elmsford

New Americans, continued from pg 8-

who have worked so tirelessly for this moment reinforces the profound privilege of serving our community."

Westchester County's newest citizens truly bring home the ageless saying of America as the land of opportunity. The journey from hopeful immigrants to naturalized citizens is a testament to inclusivity that define the American experience.

Rabbi Mendy, continued from pg 8-

do not lessen your activities, but you instead increase all the good that you can do and accomplish, and you never stop helping others. Chabad of Yonkers has programs for religious instruction, spirituality, outreach, education, and we seek the health and well-being of the entire Yonkers community."

In addition to Rabbi Hurwitz' regular free Wednesday night Torah discussion and learning class on ZOOM, the synagogue is adding additional activities and classes on ZOOM. Please contact the Chabad of Yonkers/Greystone Jewish Center for info on upcoming activities, religious services and dinners, Hebrew school and Bar Mitzvah preparation, Shabbat morning and the upcoming High Holiday services, at (914) 963-8888, or www.JewishYonkers.com.

Letter to the Editor: My mother came from a place you never heard of until July 13: Butler, Pennsylvania

Unlike many Californians, whose families often moved from somewhere 'back East' like Ohio or Nebraska, most blue-collar New Yorkers in the 1960s were not the products of domestic migration: Grandparents landed at Ellis Island, found their way to Brooklyn, The Bronx, or Queens, settled, married, raised families, and died.

My mother was different. Her father followed a trail to mills, mines, and factories in small towns in Pennsylvania where you could make real money if you worked hard, even if you didn't speak English good, and weren't afraid of jobs that were always dirty, often dangerous, and occasionally deadly.

In grandpa's case, it was to a place called Butler, Pennsylvania, where mom lived the first eleven years of her life until 1932 when the steel mills and the factories closed down and her parents decided to try their luck in New York, selling their house for \$500 and moving with six children to a tenement on the Lower East Side.

Mom recounted Butler lovingly, recalling growing up in a house with flowers, vegetables, and chickens in the backyard. She said the streets were steep, the houses were small, the families were large, almost everybody was of eastern European...Ukrainian, Czech, Polish, something called 'Rusyn'...descent, everybody went to a church on Sunday and even if you were poor, always dressed nicely when you did.

And there was never any crime.

When my sons were old enough to appreciate their heritage, my wife and I drove to Pittsburgh, went with them to a Pirates game or two, rode on one of the two inclines that climb Mt. Washington, took the Gateway Clipper under so many bridges, offered my boys a dollar if they could spell Monongohela, then drove up 40 miles to the place where grandma was born. We were like James Earl Jones portraying Alex Haley going up the river Gambia in the second installment of 'Roots'.

The people in Butler were blonder, taller, and thinner than back in the predominantly Italian and Jewish neighborhoods where I (Astoria) and my children (Mamaroneck) grew up and my wife noticed, when we stopped in a McDonald's for lunch that many of the older, probably retired men there were coughing loudly and often: perhaps the result of working for decades in mills and factories without environmental protections.

Seeing Butler reminded me of scenes in the movie The Deer Hunter, for which a guy whose family owned a bakery in Astoria I used to go to...Walken's...won the Academy Award for Best Supporting Actor.

God, the world is small.

Butler was less than 400 miles away, in the same country, but it was another world.

Early in life I learned that when New Yorkers asked 'where your family was from', they meant what country did they immigrate from. I dutifully responded, but often added that my mom was born and raised in a place you never heard of: Butler, Pennsylvania.

And nobody ever had.

And if I had thought of it, I would have presumed I was the only guy growing up in Queens County in the 1960s who would ever have a connection to Butler, Pennsylvania.

And I was.

Until now.

Jim Vespe, Mamaroneck

*Point Of View/Letter To The Editor
Historic Ruling For People With Disabilities*

By: Regina Martinez-Estela

The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) made disability rights history, releasing a highly-anticipated final rule implementing Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 which will prove to be a powerful tool in fighting discrimination based on disability in healthcare and human services. It is significant news, especially after more than 40 years of advocacy by the disability community to secure greater protections.

Ensuring that people with disabilities will be treated equally as members of the community, Section 504 prohibits discrimination on the basis of disability in programs receiving federal financial assistance.

According to the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services Office of Civil Rights, the new rule, titled "Discrimination on the Basis of Disability in HHS Programs or Activities," advances equity and bolsters protections for people with disabilities under Section 504.

The final rule covers protections for key provisions, including discrimination in medical treatment, community integration, accessibility of medical equipment, web, mobile app, and kiosk accessibility and value assessment methods. The rule strengthens anti-discrimination and civil rights protections, and ensures equal opportunity for people with disabilities.

The work that Independence Care System (ICS) is doing to improve access to primary and specialty care for people with disabilities will be greatly advanced because of this new rule. This will support ICS in continuing its work with our partners at New York City Health and Hospitals (H+H), the largest community hospital system in the country, and helping to advance health equity and improve health disparities for people with disabilities.

This is a win for the disability community, and for civil rights in America.

The author is President and CEO of Independence Care System (ICS), the first and only Health Home program in New York providing care coordination and services to support the health, mobility, independence and equity of people with physical disabilities.

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Approved applications within the designated geographic area provided by participating programs.

Yonkers History, continued from pg 3-

Thursday, August 8th

August 8, 1927: Reservoirs and aqueducts, factories and public utility company plants in Yonkers were under heavy armed guard to prevent damage by sympathizers of Sacco and Vanzetti as the death hour for the two condemned men drew near.

August 8, 1942: Robert Goodwillie, Director of the War Price and Rationing Board, gave sudden notice to City Clerk Francis Heafy of his withdrawal from the Common Council race! Considered the top runner to take Al Richter's seat, his withdrawal totally changed the proportional recount picture.

Friday, August 9th

August 9, 1934: Rookie Outfielder and Pinch Hitter Nick Tremark, who grew up on Waverly Place and Highland Avenue, made his major league debut with the Brooklyn Dodgers at the Polo Grounds, collecting one of the first five runs; he had seven hits in 28 at-bats that day. He played for the Dodgers from 1934 to 1936.

Tremark was a star outfielder for Yonkers High and played with the Cook Post American Legion team that won the NYS Championship at Yankee Stadium. He captained the Manhattan College team during his senior year and earned honors as All-Metropolitan, All-Eastern and Number One College Player of Eastern Colleges.

After college, he played for a variety of minor league teams, including the 1932 Paterson Pros. After leaving the Dodgers, he returned to the minor league teams, retiring in 1940. Chief Athletic Specialist Tremark entered the Navy in 1943 and served as player-manager of the Bronson Field Bombers in Pensacola and managed the Norfolk NTS team.

Saturday, August 10th

August 10, 1938: When the weather finally broke after three days of soaking rain halting the Eastern Lawn Tennis Championship at Westchester County Club, Yonkers resident and Chairman of the Umpires' Committee of the United States Lawn Association Ben Dwight organized ballboys and groundskeepers to mop up the courts with the club's freshly laundered towels. Long delayed first round matches needed to be played!

Ben was not above helping and was one of the first to take off his coat and work on the water by the baseline.

August 10, 1981: Westchester County Police investigated evidence a Satanic-like cult was operating in the Crestwood section of Yonkers, about 100 yards north of Scarsdale Road. Some of the items found near the Bronx River Parkway Reservation were a headless chicken, 13 candles, a black cloth, a headless duck and a voodoo doll.

Sunday, August 11th

August 11, 1929: Spreckels Sugar Corporation announced they were helping to promote Yonkers as both a home and a business center. The company wrapped their sugar cubes in paper carrying the words, "Made In Yonkers."

August 11, 1947: Otis escalators went to sea! Escalators were installed in the SS Nieuw Amsterdam, the first ship to have escalators. They were used by the ship's waiters to bring food and tableware from the kitchen to the ship's dining rooms.

Escalators were catching on; at the same time Otis also announced they installed escalators in the Wabash Railroad Station in St. Louis, and 80 more in department stores around the country the first half of 1947. By the end of the year, they expected to install a total of 600, in new buildings, convention centers, hotels, stadiums, theaters and train stations.

August 11, 1948: Yonkers own Steve Lysak and Steve Macknowski won Olympic gold medals in the 10,000-meter canoe race with a craft built at the Yonkers Canoe Club.

Questions or comments on this column? 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 info@yonkershistoricalsociety.org

TEMPORARY TSA PRECHECK® APPLICATION "POP-UP" SET TO RETURN TO WESTCHESTER COUNTY AIRPORT AUGUST 5 TO 9

County Executive George Latimer announced that residents of Westchester County and surrounding areas will be able to enroll in the Transportation Security Administration's (TSA) TSA PreCheck® program at Westchester County Airport from August 5 to 9, where Idemia will host a temporary "pop-up" enrollment center event.

Latimer said: "For the third time, we are excited to bring back this opportunity for local community members to enroll right here in our own centrally-located Westchester County Airport. We know this has been a widely popular pop-up opportunity in the past, and we are thankful to the TSA for their continued collaboration to offer this limited-time event once again."

TSA PreCheck is a valuable travel option that expedites a traveler's airport security checkpoint screening process. TSA PreCheck allows travelers to leave on their shoes, light outerwear and belt, keep their laptop in its case and their 3-1-1 compliant liquids/gels bag in a carry-on, in select TSA airport checkpoint screening lanes. More than 200 airports participate in TSA PreCheck nationwide and approximately 100 airlines participate in the program.

Travelers need only make an appointment online (appointments are being taken now) and complete their enrollment in-person or as a walk-in. Locate the Enrollment Center in the terminal's 3rd floor observation lounge. The center will be open from Monday, August 5 through Friday, August 9, from 9 a.m. to noon and afternoons from 1 to 5 p.m.

To participate in this enrollment opportunity, travelers should make an appointment online and pre-enroll online. It typically only takes 10 minutes to pre-enroll. After completing the pre-enrollment steps, applicants select the enrollment site for "White Plains, N.Y." and select "Pop-up: HPN." Applicants can select an appointment time using the drop down menu to choose a date and time. The drop-down menu will show the first available time available, but individuals can choose a different date and/or time using that drop-down menu.

Applicants must bring documentation proving identity and citizenship status. Visit the Universal Enroll website for a list of required documents to prove identity and citizenship.

The application fee is \$78 and is good for five years. It must be paid at the time of your appointment by credit card, money order, company check, or certified/cashier's check. Cash and personal checks are not accepted. Fingerprints and a photograph also are required during the in-person enrollment session.

After completing enrollment, successful applicants will receive a Known Traveler Number (KTN) via U.S. mail within about 10 days that is valid for five years. Many individuals are approved in just a few days after completing the in-person appointment, so applicants are encouraged to check your status online.

Visit-<https://www.tsa.gov/precheck> to make an appointment and more.

Read it all Online
at Yonkerstimes.com

FEMA, continued from pg 1-

alongside the Hudson River and Metro Railroad, to pound water flow channeled through a culvert on New York State property, under the Old Croton Aqueduct. The concentrated flow caused substantial damage to the slope supporting Warburton Avenue, the homes and a residential building, washing thousands of tons of soil down onto the Metro North Hudson Line railroad track, causing a four-day closure of one the busiest commuter rail lines in the country.

Mayor Spano added, "What FEMA fails to realize is that their lack of action exposes Metro North's vulnerability to future storm damage along its tracks -- not only affecting Yonkers, but the entire Hudson Valley region. The infrastructure repairs necessary to shore up the slopes along Warburton Avenue and the Metro North rail line are imperative in order to prevent our economy and livelihood from coming to screeching halt once again."

The City of Yonkers was notified of FEMA's denial this week, after the City first applied for assistance and filed two appeals over the last three years.

Said Mayor Spano, "After repeated amendments and appeals to our application based on the agency's initial comments, FEMA has failed to uphold its mission and has failed the people of Yonkers. Instead, Yonkers taxpayers are left footing the bill of an empty promise."

"The question now remains, what will FEMA do when, not if, this happens again? I am afraid loss of property may be the least of the devastation," added Mayor Spano.

Editor's Note: Several days after receiving a rejection from FEMA, the Yonkers Fire Department received a FEMA grant. Below is that announcement.

CITY OF YONKERS FIRE DEPARTMENT (YFD) RECEIVES FEMA GRANT FOR OPERATION AND SAFETY

Over \$800,000 Granted to YFD Earmarked for Specialized Training

Mayor Mike Spano today announced the City of Yonkers Fire Department has been awarded an Assistance to Firefighters Grant (AFG) by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) for Operations and Safety programs. The City of Yonkers procured \$807,545 -- the most of any Westchester municipality.

"Thank you to FEMA for recognizing the needs of the Yonkers Fire Department," said Mayor Spano. "This grant will support critical training needs to protect our Firefighters and remain up to date on all aspects of fire service and fire-related hazards."

"This is tremendously important for firefighter safety and accountability," said City of Yonkers Fire Department Commissioner William Fitzpatrick. "The funding allows us to continue strengthening the City of Yonkers Fire Department and keep a firm foundation with consistent training that will safeguard all our firefighters, and ultimately our residents."

Fitzpatrick says the money will be used toward training all department members in the latest Firefighter Assist Search Team (FAST) operations. These specialized rapid intervention teams consist of seasoned firefighters trained in distinct rescue techniques with the ability to access, locate, stabilize, and remove firefighters in extreme situations.

Fugitive Arrested, continued from pg 1

In November 2019, the Westchester County District Attorney's Office announced that a grand jury had returned an 87-count indictment against Cedillo. He was arraigned and sent to the Westchester County Jail in lieu of \$25,000 bail. After his release in 2020, he made several virtual court appearances from Washington state but failed to appear in person when later directed to do so by the court.

An arrest warrant for Cedillo was issued at that time. WCPD detectives lodged the arrest warrant with law enforcement in Washington state and other locations, including Kansas, where Cedillo had been known to operate his immigration assistance fraud scheme.

The Westchester County Police Warrant-Fugitive Unit is tasked with locating and apprehending persons wanted on warrants issued by Westchester County Supreme Court, Westchester County Court and Westchester County Family Court. It also handles extraditions when a defendant is apprehended in another state and is wanted by Westchester County or any of its municipalities.

In 2023, the Unit made 236 arrests of suspects wanted on warrants, including for Murder 2nd Degree, Attempted Murder, Assault 1st Degree and various sex crimes, robbery and weapons charges. The Unit executed warrants in throughout the metropolitan area, and detectives also traveled to multiple states across the nation to return suspects to Westchester to face justice.

Notice is hereby given that a license, NA-0524-24-01305, for beer, wine, & liquor has been applied for by the undersigned to sell beer, wine, & liquor at retail in a Restaurant under the Alcoholic Beverage Control Law at the business known as Las Hijas Del Mariachi Inc. at 394A Central Ave #396 White Plains, NY 10606-1211 for on premises consumption.

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Op-Ed: Mike Lawler is Not Anti-Labor I'm With Union Labor and I'm for Trump

By Frank Spotorno

I just read an opinion piece in Westchester Rising by Yorktown democrat Mark Lieberman titled, *Lawler is Anti-Labor*, where he said Congressman Mike Lawler was anti-union and anti-labor. And he tied Lawler to former President Donald Trump. I don't live in Lawler's district, but if I did I would vote for him. And I'm a supporter of Union Labor and a former member of the Carpenters Union, now retired. I guess Mr. Lieberman didn't hear Teamsters president Sean O'Brien make history Monday night, becoming the first head of the nation's largest labor union to speak at the Republican National Convention, offering to build bipartisan bridges to better help working people across the United States.

"The American people aren't stupid, they know the system is broken. We all know how Washington is run — working people have no chance of winning this fight. That's why I'm here today. Because I refuse to keep doing the same things my predecessors did. Today, the Teamsters are here to say we are not beholden to anyone or any party."

"Trump is not afraid of hearing from new, loud and often critical voices," and "in light of what happened to him Saturday, he is proven to be one tough S.O.B."

"No door or window should ever be permanently shut, We need to call the Chamber of Commerce and the business roundtables what they are, they are unions for big business. And here's another fact: Against gigantic multinational corporations, an individual worker has zero power, It's only when Americans band together in democratic unions that we win real improvements on wages, benefits and working conditions."

"We are not renters. We are not tenants. But the corporate elite treat us like squatters, and that is a crime.

"I see American workers being taken for granted, workers being sold out to big banks, big tech corporations, the elite."

"The Teamsters are doing something correct if the extremes in both parties think I shouldn't be on this stage,

"At the end of the day, the Teamsters are not interested if you have a "D," "R" or an "I" next to your name. We want to know one thing. What are you doing to help American workers?"

"The partisanship is not working. We need bipartisan support, we need bipartisan cooperation," said O'Brien, who reminded us that the Teamsters have endorsed Republican Presidents Richard Nixon and George HW Bush in the past.

O'Brien said he also wanted to speak at the democratic convention. Let's see if he gets invited.

After O'Brien's speech, Senator Josh Hawley wrote an OP-Ed, which included, "There was a time when Republicans knew that American strength depends squarely on American workers—and their way of life: family, neighborhood, church, union hall. Ronald Reagan knew it. Abraham Lincoln, a one-time rail splitter, understood it in his bones. And Theodore Roosevelt perhaps said it best when he exclaimed, 'I am for business. But I am for manhood first, and business as an adjunct to manhood.' Roosevelt's sentiment should be conservatives' mantra," said Hawley.

And if Mr. Lieberman wants to talk about Republicans being non-union, how about AOC's decision to cancel Amazon's plan to bring 25,000 jobs to NYC by building one of their largest factories. Those jobs would have been good paying jobs. That was the biggest mistake for New Yorkers and for labor in a generation.

I have been working for 30 years as the President of Bring Our Jobs Home. I have called for American corporations to bring back some of the millions of manufacturing jobs that have been lost to China and Mexico. President Trump also has been working on this issue.

The American worker has been sold out by our elected officials who bamboozled the American people with the bogus ideology that trade will be good for Americans. That is not trade, this is what you call unfettered trade, American corporations leaving our shores, throwing Americans in the unemployment and poverty lines while our manufacturing companies are making billions on slave wage labor, no payroll taxes, no insurances, no regulations, no benefits, no holidays, destroying our global Eco system by unregulated environmental regulations, dumping toxins into landfills, oceans, rivers, polluting our atmosphere, while our elected officials betrayed the American people. I'm for free trade, real trade, but not American corporations selling out our nation, moving overseas, leaving Americans on the chopping block, all in pursuit of the almighty dollar.

I also read that Congressman Lawler has been endorsed by several unions in our area, including Boilermakers Local 5, IBEW Local Union 363, Teamsters Local 456, North Atlantic States Regional Council of Carpenters (NASRCC), Sheet Metal Workers (SMART) Local Union 38, Association of Flight Attendants (AFA), Laborers' International Union of North America (LIUNA) New York, Laborers Local 754, Affiliated Police Associations (APA) of Westchester, NYS Supreme Court Officers Association, NYC Sergeants Benevolent Association (SBA), Policemen's Benevolent Association of Westchester County, Inc., New York 10-13 Association, Superior Officers Association Retired (SOAR) NYPD, and the Westchester County Correction Officers Benevolent Association.

"If we are not free to negotiate our wages, we are not free to celebrate our triumphs"

American union members have been voting republican since Ronald Reagan and we will continue to take a look at both candidates and determine who will really help the average American worker.

Frank Spotorno was the GOP candidate for Congress in NY-14 in 2016.

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