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Friday February 17, 2023

17 Arrests for Shoplifting in 13 Months, Zero Convictions; Yonkers Police Ask for Bail Reform



On Feb. 12, Anthony Arias, 25, pictured left, from the Bronx was arrested by Yonkers Police at Burlington Coat Factory

In a post, the YPD explains below how bail reform is needed.

Dear New York State Legislature: Bail reform has degraded the quality of life in our region and led to an increase in crime and lawlessness.

Thieves and recidivist property offenders have been empowered to literally stroll through our retail stores and steal what they want with impunity. These perpetrators have no fear of committing crimes or getting caught. Why?

On Feb. 12, Yonkers Police arrested 25-year-old Anthony Arias of the Bronx for felony shoplifting from Burlington Coat Factory at 2500 Central Park Avenue. This was his 17th arrest since January 2022 – that’s more than one a month.

Anthony has failed to appear in court at least six times: he had two open arrest warrants and four open bench warrants. If there are no consequences for bad behavior, if the criminal justice system is literally a revolving door, then we are failing in our duty to protect the public.

Courts must have the discretion to jail offenders based on their propensity to reoffend or the danger they pose to the community. Fix our laws. Put victims and law-abiding citizens first,” writes the YPD.

Arias was charged with Grand Larceny, Shoplifting, and False Personation, for giving police a fake name. The point is he’s been arrested 17 times in 13 months, has zero convictions, keeps getting arrested, and keeps getting out to reoffend.

Is that fair to the law abiding citizens of Yonkers? And those shopping on Central Avenue?

The views of the Yonkers Police Department about the need for bail reform are shared by many, including the Rev. Al Sharpton. Last month Sharpton said, “Many of us have spent the better part of a year calling for our criminal justice system to be fine-tuned. Addressing public safety is a question of how, not if, which is why I convened New York’s unprecedented number of Black citywide and statewide leaders this month to start that conversation. Let me be clear that we’re not retreating from the hard-fought reforms that ended the jailing of men of color on Rikers simply for the crime of being too poor. But there are tweaks that can turn these good reforms into great ones by addressing issues like recidivism,

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Yonkers Planning Board OK’s Chick-Fil-A on Central Park Ave, First in Westchester



By Dan Murphy

For those of us from Westchester who enjoy a Chick-fil-A sandwich, have to go to Danbury, or Manhattan, to buy one, because Chick-fil-A has not opened a store in Westchester County.

That will soon change after the Yonkers Planning Board approved Chick-Fil-A’s application to open on Central Park Avenue, at the location of a former Wells Fargo Bank, now vacant.

The Planning Board reconvened on Feb. 8 and heard opposition from residents who live near or next to the location where the restaurant will be built, at the corner of CPA and Roxbury Drive. But the Planning Board reaffirmed the earlier decision to approve the plan.

Mayor Mike Spano said after the vote, “In 2019, Chick-fil-A chose Central Avenue, our great City’s platinum mile, to build a restaurant. There were concerns about traffic, and the public was heard, changes were made and Chick-fil-A committed \$1 million to traffic mitigation. After 18 meetings, there were some who chose to criticize but were completely absent throughout the process. We know a Chick-fil-A will make Central Avenue more economically viable. This is a big victory for Yonkers and we look forward to being the new home of Westchester County’s first Chick-fil-A.”

Other Yonkers residents we spoke to while delivering the paper last week, told us: “This is a feather in the cap for Yonkers, to be the first Chick-fil-A in Westchester.”

“If this place is as popular as people say, maybe people from outside of Yonkers will come to Chick-fil-A and then do some shopping on Central Avenue or one of our malls.”

“If we can’t put this restaurant on Central Park Avenue, then where should it go?” Note: Some of the neighboring residents who protested said that there were other, more suitable locations on CPA.

“The homeowners who live there knew that they were buying a home next to Central Park Avenue. This should be no surprise to them.”

Right now there is a vacant bank building that has been empty for a few years. It looks bad to have so many vacancies on this retail roadway.”

Here’s the truth about Chick-Fil-A’s, from someone who uses their drive-thru. They are busy, and popular, as I’m sure the store in Yonkers will be. But the management of Chick-Fil-A is very good at moving people in and out. They put additional staff on the drive thru line to get their order placed and move things It along. The owners of Chick-Fil-A would not have invested in this store, or signed a 20-year lease, without understanding the entrance and exits involved.

Mayor Spano represents the entire city, and this restaurant is clearly in the best interests of the entire city. We understand that Councilman Anthony Merante was representing his constituents when he stood opposed to its location with homeowners who live nearby.

The Sales Taxes generated from this store will be significant. And the Chicken is great!

Animals Lovers Come to the Rescue of 200 Cats Found in Yonkers Hoarding House



Above-two of the first cats adopted from the house by a Brooklyn couple; below 200 cats were found and are being rescued by volunteers and the Yonkers Animal Shelter



By Dan Murphy

You may have heard about a home in Yorktown Heights where police found two dead persons and 150 cats. A similar “hoarding home” was found in Yonkers recently. Another house full of 200 cats was found in Yonkers.

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Yonkers Track Star, Winning Medals and only a Freshman!



By Derrick Touba Jr.

It’s been an amazing debut season for Anthony Cruz, pictured above As a freshman for The Yonkers Public Schools Track Team he’s proven to be a standout performer setting the teams freshman 600m record 3 different times. However, on Wednesday he outdid himself qualifying for New Balance Nationals in the freshman division.

On Wednesday, February 1, 2023 the Yonkers Public Schools Track Team competed at the Section 1 Novice Invitational. While not a novice athlete in any sense of the word, Cruz competed in the 600m in his last chance to qualify for Class AA Championships and extend his season. Cruz achieved greater than that, finishing second with a time of 1:34.60, not only becoming eligible to compete at Class Championships, but surpassing the 1:35.10 time needed to qualify for New Balance Nationals. The event will be taking place March 10-12 at The Track at New Balance in Boston, Massachusetts.

When asked about the moment Cruz said “I got off the track hopeful that I beat my time and I saw the team run to me yelling you did it Cruz, you made nationals. I was overjoyed and proud” New Balance Nationals doesn’t actually hold a 600m race, they use a conversion which enables runners to compete in the 400m dash through individual 500m or 600m times. Therefore Cruz will compete in the quarter mile at the event. His best individual 400m this year is 58.46. Cruz joins teammate and captain Ben Domingo as qualifying for the meet this season.

Cruz has large aspirations within track and field and wants others to know even though they may be young, they can still achieve greatness. “I don’t plan on stopping anytime soon because nationals is the first of many accomplishments I’m trying to achieve. To all freshmen not only in Yonkers but in the country, put in the work and don’t give up!!!” Cruz concluded as a final message.

Cruz will next compete at Class AA Championships on February 13th at the Armory NYC in Manhattan.

We will be watching this young stars progress!

Yonkers Downtown Restaurant Week Through March 1; \$20 Lunches; \$40-\$50 Dinner

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Gilded Age Party in Yonkers for Mary Calvi's New Book If a Poem Could Live and Breathe



Emmy-Award winning WCBS-TV anchor Mary Calvi and her husband Yonkers Mayor Mike Spano with son Mike celebrate the Valentine's Day release of her new book *If a Poem Could Live and Breathe: A Novel of Teddy Roosevelt's First Love* at a book club party at the home of Joe and Paula Armentano. The couples dressed in period costumes from the Gilded Age. The book is based on the never-before published love letters of a young Teddy Roosevelt to and from his first love, Alice Lee.

The Yonkers Downtown/Waterfront Business Improvement District will once again be hosting the enjoyable and delicious Yonkers Downtown Restaurant Week from February 15th through March 1st. Diners will be able to choose from \$20 two-course lunches and \$40 or \$50 three-course dinners at 12 participating restaurants. Whether you choose to dine-in or takeout, you will find some of the most authentic and mouthwatering cuisines from all over the world.

"We are thrilled to once again be hosting Yonkers Downtown's Restaurant Week. This annual event provides the perfect opportunity for food lovers around Westchester, New York City, and beyond to try our amazing restaurants at a great promotional price," said Sara Brody, Executive Director of the YDWBID. "Our restaurant owners are excited, inviting everyone to take advantage of Yonkers Downtown Restaurant Week and all the great things our growing downtown has to offer."

New this year, select participating restaurants will be offering a special Tier 2 \$50 three-course dinner.

Find each restaurant's unique restaurant week menu and which ones are offering the new Tier 2 Dinner www.yonkersdowntown.com/restaurantweek

When making reservations or placing a takeout order, you must mention it is for Yonkers Downtown Restaurant Week to take advantage of the promotional pre-fixe menus. Yonkers Downtown Restaurant Week is proudly sponsored by BIRD and Westchester Magazine.

2023 Participating Restaurants Include: Dolphin Restaurant, 1 Van Der Donck St., (914) 751-8170, Dos Marias 200 New Main St., (914) 476-2500, Francey Brady's 72 Main St. (914) 226-8644, Guapo Restaurant, 10 Warburton Ave., (914) 920-5900, La Bella Havana 35 Main St. (914) 920-9777, Nawab Restaurant, 2 Hudson St.,(914) 909-9700, Off The Hook, 47 N Broadway, (914) 457-3371, Singas Pizza, 41 Dock St. (914) 376-3636, The Pizza Place, 92 Main St., (914) 709-1050, X2O Xaviars on the Hudson, 71 Water Grant St.,(914) 965-1111, Yonkers Brewing Co.,92 Main St., (914) 226-8327, Zuppa,59 Main St., (914) 376-6500. View each restaurant's menu for its specific offerings by visiting www.yonkersdowntown.com/restaurantweek.

FEBRUARY 2023 YONKERSARTS.ORG
NEWSLETTER
BLACK HISTORY MONTH

As we celebrate Black History Month, it's an opportunity to reflect on the contributions of Black artists and their impact on the art world. Over the course of time, Black artists have created powerful and thought-provoking works that not only capture the essence of their cultural experiences but also serve as a testament to their strength and beauty.

We hope this month and every month that follows will serve as a source of inspiration and education as we work to uplift and celebrate Black artists. We encourage you to explore their works, learn about their stories, and support their ongoing legacy.

Wishing you a joyful and inspiring Black History Month!

shanequa benitez
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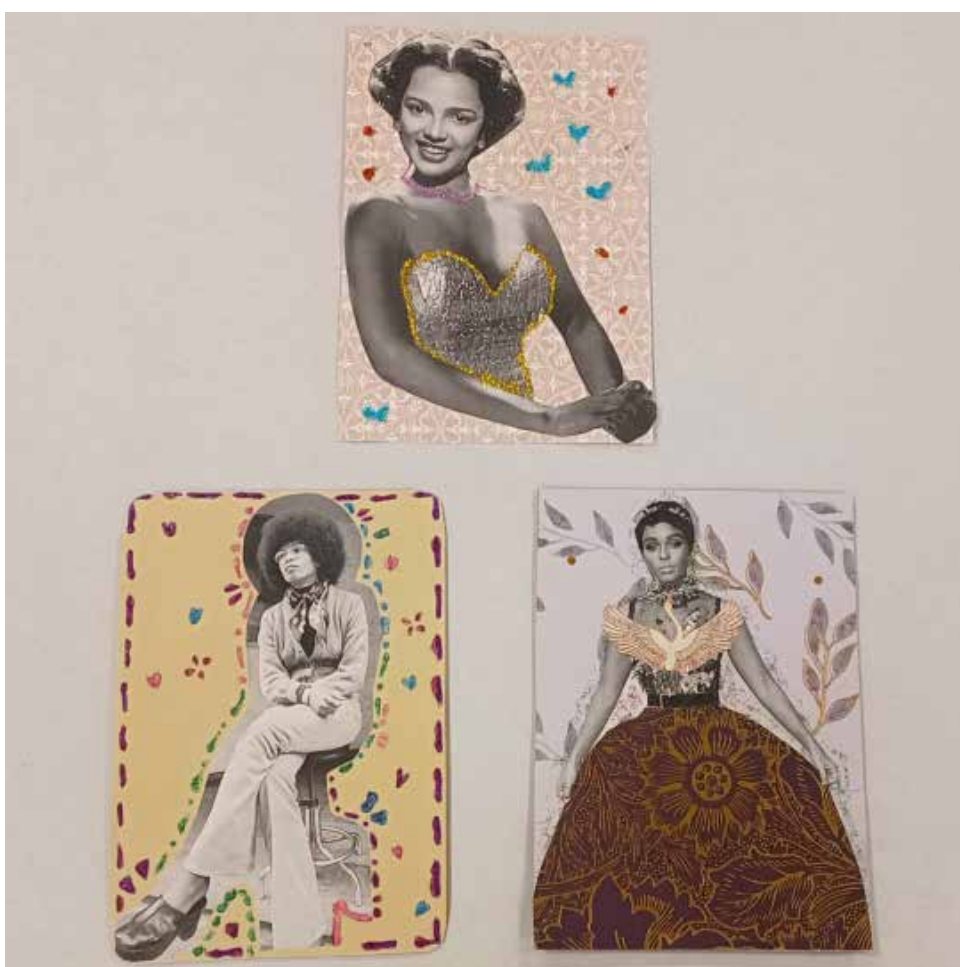
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Hudson River Museum Celebrates Black History Month



From the Hudson River Museum:

In celebration of #BlackHistoryMonth, pay tribute to your favorite Black icons from history and pop culture in “Family Art Workshop: Shining Legends,” offered Saturdays & Sundays from 1–4pm throughout February!

Create your own shining “vintage” postcard using printed images of Black historical figures, reflective decorative paper, and glitter glue. Visit the Hudson River Museum for an afternoon of family art-making! Recommended for ages 5+.

“Shining Legends” got a shout-out in Westchester Family Magazine round-up of best Black History Month events in Westchester. For the full list of events, check out <http://westchesterfamily.com/black-history-month-events.../>

For all HRM’s Black History Month programs, visit hrm.org/black-history-month-2023/

Nominate a 2023 Yonkers Teacher of the Year

Yonkers Mayor Mike Spano today announced the Yonkers Kiwanis Club in collaboration with the City of Yonkers and Yonkers Board of Education will present the 2023 Teacher of the Year Awards to three deserving members of the Yonkers Public Schools’ faculty. Nominations can be submitted by students, parents, teachers and administrators today through March 1 at www.YonkersNY.gov.

Established in 1956, the Teacher of the Year Award celebrates Yonkers teachers who further excellence in education. A committee comprised of members of the Yonkers Kiwanis Club and Trustees of the Board of Education selects the honorees.

Three Yonkers Public Schools teachers, representing the elementary, middle and high school levels will be selected. Students, parents, teachers and administrators are encouraged to nominate a teacher at www.yonkersny.gov. Eligibility requirements for selection as Teacher of the Year include employment as a teacher in the Yonkers Public Schools for at least five years; demonstration of dedication to the teaching profession which has led his/her students to both knowledge and understanding; and initiation of new, meaningful programs for either students, teachers or parents, or been innovative in the use of existing programs, and display significant community involvement.

Online nominations must be submitted by March 1 at 5PM. Students, Parents, Teachers & Administrators Called to Nominate Teachers at www.YonkersNY.gov.

Is Yonkers the Dirtiest City in America?



By Eric Wolf Schoen

A poll came out declaring Yonkers the 10th Dirtiest City in America. The poll was done by Lawnstarter, a company that provides lawn care services at the click of button across the country. My first issue. A lawn company rating dirtiest cities? Seems strange.

The company compared living conditions, pollution, infrastructure and consumer satisfaction and Yonkers failed miserably.

In my opinion why did Yonkers do so bad? Blame it on the citizenry and those who pass through the city, not our public works department. See those cans, wrappers and other debris along the side of the road. They didn’t just appear there. Someone had to dump that garbage out of their cars. Toss enough out, it gets caught in the brush and you have a mess. See a sidewalk like Elm Street? The garbage didn’t just arrive on the street. People drop it off when they are walking, or instead of putting it in trash containers drop it in the street.

Look at the turn around at Rumsey road. The sides are filled to the brim with all types of garbage. It just doesn’t get there. It’s put out of cars passing on the street who throw it out their windows.

See the street sweepers. The garbage they are picking up was tossed by passing motorists. You can go down Elm Street every night and you will see food wrappers, cups, empty potato chip bags and during the summer icee wrappers.

The question is why are some streets garbage laden and some streets clear. Do people in some neighborhoods care for the way their streets look versus others who don’t care?

Lawnstarter’s comparison and poll was done during the winter and includes pollution, living conditions, infrastructure and consumer satisfaction. With all the trucks traveling Yonkers streets the exhaust certainly kicks up a lot of pollution during the winter. Living conditions in many apartment buildings leave a lot to be desired.

Right Yonkers streets any day of the week and you will have a good chance of getting a flat tire or damage to your car proving infrastructure issues. Sidewalks are in bad shape. Streets need major repaving. Unfortunately, repaving of streets has not been a major priority in Yonkers and as the weather expands and contracts based on the temperature many holes are caused in the pavement.

I’m a little surprised by consumer satisfaction. If you narrowed it to the schools, even though they have made great strides over the last 10 years there is still the thought that if you live in Yonkers you have to send your child to parochial or private school. With the large choice of schools in Yonkers if a child wants a good education he or she can get a good one with a little bit of work and persistence. It’s like anything else. A good teacher supported by parents and the child will learn.

Good, clean cities have a base of people who care about their city and all the elements in the study. Dirty cities are not a public works problem but a problem if those who live in them don’t work to keep them clean!

Parking Costs at Area Hospitals

I had to bring a friend for a test to St. John’s Hospital this week. In the past parking was \$5 and if you were having a procedure done you got your parking comped. The new rate is \$7 for 3 hours and if you are having a procedure \$5 of that is comped.

These procedures people have done at hospitals cost thousands of dollars. In most cases insurance is paying. I had a procedure several weeks ago at a fancy schmancy New York hospital. The test was \$25,000 according to my insurance and there was no discount for parking. Between copays and deductibles and the other fee associated with the test, the hospitals are doing very well financially. Though the St. John’s fee is not crazy high, would it really hurt the hospital if they gave me free parking instead of charging me \$2.

And they would have one happy camper if they didn’t charge a fee. What’s more important, free parking or annoying the patient for \$2? Medical institutions trying to draw customer are going to have to ponder this issue with the competition among hospitals for patients becoming more fierce every day!

Take Off That Mask

So it’s no longer mandatory to wear a mask in a doctor’s office or hospital or medical facility? If I were you would I wear a mask in a crowded waiting room, doctor’s office, the Emergency Room or a crowded department store like I witnessed at the new Burlington the other day. On an airplane or theater surrounded by people I don’t know. For the time being it is probably a good habit to keep.

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State Senator Mayer, Assemblymember Paulin & NYAG James Work to Protect Abortion Pill



By Dan Murphy

Three of New York State's leaders in the democratic party have recently taken actions to protect safe access to medication abortion nationwide. NY Attorney General Letitia James, State Senator Shelley Mayer and Assemblymember Amy Paulin have all introduced legislation, or are fighting in the courts to preserve its availability.

Attorney General James and a coalition of 22 attorneys general have asked a Federal court in Texas to reject a challenge brought by anti-abortion groups seeking to revoke the FDA's approval of the medication abortion drug, mifepristone. The brief warns that withdrawing federal approval for mifepristone would drastically reduce access to safe abortion care and miscarriage management for millions of people across the country, including in New York. A ban on mifepristone would affect states where abortion is legal, like New York.

"Blocking access to this safe and effective medication is a dangerous attack on reproductive freedom and public health," said Attorney General James. "Decades of medical and clinical research have proven that medication abortion is safe. Despite these facts and its widespread use, we know this is not a debate about science. We are taking action to protect the reproductive freedoms of people in every corner of the country, especially in vulnerable communities.

In 2000, the FDA approved mifepristone as a single-dose oral medication used for early-term abortions. Since its approval, mifepristone has been safely used by approximately five million persons to terminate a pregnancy and is used in more than half of all abortions today. Decades of clinical research and studies have confirmed mifepristone's safety and efficacy.

The court could order the FDA to withdraw its approval for mifepristone, which would remove the medication would be removed from the market nationwide. The availability of the abortion pill has been particularly critical in providing access to abortion in low-income, underserved, and rural communities. Without access to mifepristone, demand for procedural abortions would significantly increase, leading to overburdened clinics.

"Using mifepristone for medication abortion is extremely safe and effective and has been used by more than five million people since the FDA approved it more than 20 years ago. We are extremely grateful for the leadership of New York Attorney General Letitia James and her coalition partners in working to address the nationwide threat of this case, and the potential impact it could have on the ability of people across the country to access abortion care. Attorney General James continues to show her strong commitment to combating politically motivated attacks designed to ban abortion, birth control, and other sexual and reproductive health care," said Georgana Hanson, Interim President and CEO, Planned Parenthood Empire State Acts.

Last month, State Senator Shelley Mayer and Assemblymember Karines Reyes, RN, announced that their new legislation (S.1066A/Assembly number forthcoming) to provide explicit protections for doctors and medical providers, and facilitators serving patients seeking abortion and reproductive health services via telehealth has passed the Senate Committee on Health.

This legislation builds upon the package of laws the Legislature passed which protect abortion and reproductive services in New York State, signed in June 2022, by explicitly addressing health services provided by licensed New York providers and physicians via telehealth. In doing so, this legislation provides the strongest protections possible by ensuring that New York will not participate in out-of-state interference, paving the way for greater access to reproductive health for patients regardless of the state in which they live.

This bill specifically acknowledges that medication abortion overseen by a provider licensed in New York via telehealth will be protected under NY law, regardless of the patient's home state.

New York State Senator Shelley B. Mayer said, "Millions of women across the country have been devastated by the decision to overturn Roe v Wade. Clinics have closed, legal access to abortion has been severely restricted, and people seeking abortion have had to make difficult decisions to access care. This legislation honors our commitment to work with our colleagues to protect the right to abortion for New Yorkers and all those from other states who seek licensed medical providers here. I am proud to sponsor this bill, which will strengthen New York's role as a nation-wide leader in reproductive rights, creating new avenues for those who live in states with severe abortion restrictions. Thank you to Assemblymember Reyes for carrying this bill in the Assembly, and to the providers, advocates and legal experts who were instrumental in crafting this legislation."

"The passage of NYS Senator Mayer's bill S1066 is key to achieving full, unimpeded access to comprehensive reproductive healthcare for all women. This bill will provide critical protection for abortion providers providing healthcare services legal in NYS. Since the US Supreme Court overturned Roe v. Wade, millions of women of reproductive age have been left without access to abortion care, the most significant barriers being experienced by low income, Black, Hispanic, American Indian, and uninsured women," said Catherine Lederer-Plaskett, President, WCLA – Choice Matters. "Protecting telemedicine will make medication abortion available to many more of these women."

New York codified the protections of Roe v. Wade in New York in 2019, by passing the Reproductive Health Act, a bill long championed by Majority Leader Andrea Stewart-Cousins, whose leadership has been instrumental in protecting abortion access in New York State. Under that law, healthcare practitioners in New York may provide abortion within 24 weeks and after that point if the patient's health or life is at risk, or if the fetus is non-viable.

Assemblymember Amy Paulin has introduced legislation to expand abortion access by allowing pharmacists to dispense abortion medication with the use of non-patient specific prescriptions.

The Food and Drug Administration (FDA) recently made a welcome regulatory change allowing the abortion pills mifepristone and misoprostol to be offered in retail pharmacies. Mifepristone and misoprostol are drugs which can be safely self-administered by a patient at home over a 2-day period in order to medically induce an abortion. Mifepristone and misoprostol can be taken up to 12 weeks into a pregnancy, greatly expanding the abortion window for women.

"As states around the nation are tragically banning and limiting access to abortions, New York needs to continue to expand abortion options and ease of access," said New York State Assemblywoman Amy Paulin.

While current State law allows abortion medication to be prescribed by a licensed physician, certified nurse practitioner or properly licensed midwife, Paulin's legislation would expand access and reduce costs for women by allowing these healthcare professionals to prescribe a non-patient specific regimen of abortion medication to be dispensed by a local pharmacist, eliminating the need for an additional trip to the doctor's office. "Allowing pharmacists to dispense this medication will lower costs and help address access disparities for many New Yorkers, especially marginalized populations, who are more likely to live closer to a pharmacy than a physician's office," said Paulin.

The FDA has found that medication abortion is safe and effective, with a 0.4 percent risk of major complications and an associated mortality rate of less than 0.001 percent. The medication comes with no risk of overdose or addiction.

"By expanding an individual's access to this medication, and amending insurance law to cover its cost," said Paulin, "we are helping women receive the care they need when they need it most."

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Upcoming Events at the Hudson River Audubon Society

The Dry Tortugas and the Florida Keys

Michael Bochnik, past president and field trip leader for Hudson River Audubon Society, will discuss birds of the Dry Tortugas, 7 coral islands 80 miles west of Key West, Florida, that host thousands of nesting tropical seabirds and provide a stopover for neotropical migrants. He will also cover the drive out to Key West from the mainland, stopping at a few of the well known birding hotspots. Wednesday, March 22, 7:00 p.m. Lenoir Nature Center, 19 Dudley Rd., Yonkers. Also on zoom: email info@hras.org for invitation.

Feeder Watch:

FeederWatch, sponsored by the Hudson River Audubon Society. Help count birds for a Citizen Science project managed by the Cornell Lab of Ornithology. No experience necessary. Lenoir Nature Center, 19 Dudley Rd., Yonkers.

Dates:

Saturday, February 25, 10:00-a.m.-12:00 noon
 Sunday, February 26, 2:00-4:00 p.m.
 Saturday, March 11, 10:00-a.m.-12:00 noon
 Sunday, March 12, 2:00-4:00 p.m.
 Saturday, March 25, 10:00-a.m.-12:00 noon
 Sunday, March 26, 2:00-4:00 p.m.

22 Year Old New Rochelle Man Charged with Multiple Sex Offenses with Underage Victims



By Dan Murphy

With the permission of talkofthesound.com, pictured above are recent, social media photos of Jason Ricketts. Ricketts, 22, of New Rochelle was arrested by the Westchester County District Attorney's Office and arraigned in New Rochelle City Court on February 2, and was charged with multiple felony sex offenses involving children. Ricketts is a recent graduate of New Rochelle High school, and according to the courts documents obtained by talkofthesound.com, based on the date of some of his crimes, were conducted while he was a high school student.

The National Center for Missing & Exploited Children. referred the case to the Westchester DA's office and Ricketts was arrested and charged with Course of Sexual Conduct Against a Child in the First Degree, Use of a Child in a Sexual Performance, Promoting an Obscene Sexual Performance by a Child, and Possessing an Obscene Sexual Performance by a Child, all felonies. The defendant is currently being held on bail, which was set at \$250,000 cash.

Westchester County District Attorney Miriam E. Rocah is urging any possible victims of Ricketts to contact the DA's Office or police. Law enforcement has seized multiple devices, which are being analyzed to identify other possible victims or witnesses. "Sexual exploitation of minors is a crime that preys upon their vulnerabilities. We ask anyone who may have been victimized or may have information about other victims to contact us. We recognize the great difficulty for survivors to come forward, but stand ready to provide support for victims as our investigation continues," said Rocah.

Anyone who may have been victimized or may have information about other possible victims of the defendant can contact the DA's Office Special Prosecutions Division at (914) 995-3000. The charges against Ricketts stem from incidents which occurred between 2019 and as recently as January 2023. Some of the criminal charges include victims less than 13 years old, and in August of 2022, the defendant "promoted" a video file (downloaded the file to Dropbox) that included sexual conduct with a person under the age of 17.

The most recent offense Ricketts is charged with was on Jan. 18, 2023, when he had in his possession "an obscene performance which includes sexual conduct by a child less than sixteen years of age."

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Yonkers Mourns the Passing of Barbara Smith**Barbara P. Smith**

Barbara P. Smith, President of The Hudson River Community Association of Northwest Yonkers, died on Thursday, February 2, 2023 at St. John's Riverside Hospital in Yonkers, New York.

Barbara, the daughter of Theodore H. and Mabel Smith was born on December 16, 1945 in Yonkers.

Barbara attended the Yonkers Public School and graduated from Gorton High School in 1963. After graduation she attended Central State College in Wilberforce, Ohio, The New York School for Social Research in New York City, The Nancy Taylor Business School for a diploma in Secretarial Science, SUNY at Purchase in Mount Vernon and graduated from Mercy College majoring in Behavioral Science with a minor in Elementary Education and MS in Education from The City College of New York.

Her career took on many paths and she excelled in all of them. She was an Executive Secretary and promoted to Secretary of the Treasurer-Secretary of the Corporation at Stein Hall & Company in New York City. Later she worked at the South Yonkers Youth Council as a Secretary to the Director of the Psychedelic Shack Program. After working at the South Yonkers Youth Council she worked in the RAP Tutorial Program teaching math, English, science and history to junior and senior high school students. For two years she went to work at the Leontine L. Pryor Day Care Center as a Teacher in Charge of three year olds. In 1979, just before receiving her MS she worked at the Child Development Center of City College working again with three and five year olds. During her time at City College she helped train teachers to teach in early childhood programs in an open classroom. Her true passion was in 1995 when she started teaching at the Orchard School at Andrus Children's Home in Yonkers and subsequently was promoted to Assistant Principal. In this capacity she provided instructional leadership to faculty and staff implementing proactive academic and behavioral interventions to enhance student achievement. Because of her dedication she represented the School at a special recognition at the White House during the Bush Administration. Barbara was active in her community as a teenager and throughout her adult life. She became a Board Member of HRCA in 1982 when Julia Smith was president. Later in 90's after a dormant period in the organization she literally along with her Board brought it back to life and it has been a thriving force and one of the most active civic groups in Yonkers under her direction for the past 25 years. She continued the spring cleanup, encouraged the community to maintain their properties. Held annual dinners to honor individuals and organizations who made a difference in the community and the city of Yonkers. She was instrumental in obtaining computers for graduating high school seniors as well as scholarship funds for seniors attending college. She engaged Yonkers government and the police department to attend monthly meetings to hear the issues of the community. She created partnerships.

She served as Vice-President and Chairman of the Board of NCC in Yonkers from 1984 to 1987 and from 1987 to 1992 she taught candidates who were preparing for the police and fire department exams in the city of Yonkers. Barbara has received many awards in her lifetime for her work in the community and the City of Yonkers. She has made a difference in the lives of everyone she helped.

She is survived by her sisters, Carol Gray, Jayne Hunter (Marshall), her niece Nichole Gray, cousins, goddaughters, and a host of friends. She is predeceased by her parents Mr. and Mrs. Theodore H. Smith, brother-in-law Dr. Arthur Gray Jr. and niece Heather Gray.

Visiting hours will be at Whalen & Ball Funeral Home on Thursday February 16th from 9:30-11am with a funeral service to take place at 11am. Interment will follow at Mt. Hope Cemetery.

200 Cats Found, continued from pg 1-

The Yonkers Animal Shelter posted the following on Feb. 5. "By strange coincidence a cat hoarding situation was brought to the shelter's attention a day or two after the sad situation in Yorktown Heights was discovered. Thankfully no one was deceased in Yonkers however there are between 150 to 200 cats who need our help.

The Yonkers Animal Shelter has already begun housing them but desperately needs help from rescues who are able to take some of the many cats in need. As you can see in the video all the cats appear to be pretty social and of various ages. We also need help with cat food donations.

If you can send food please send to the Yonkers Animal Shelter 1000 Ridgehill Boulevard Yonkers NY 10710. If you would like to make a cash donation please call the shelter at 914-377-6730

The shelter does NOT have a foster program however if you are interested in fostering any of these cats let us know and we may be able to put you in touch with a rescue who would help make that happen.

The other thing greatly needed is veterinary help. All these animals need to be vetted. As you can imagine that's going to be no easy task.

Please please share this post and tag any rescues you know or any animal hospital you think might help.

On Feb. 13, and pictured on pg 1. "Congratulations to these two handsome young gentlemen. They are the first two cats from the Yonkers hoarding situation to go to their new homes. As you can see they are beautiful and they have nice shiny coats and seem sweet and friendly. Their Mom and Dad travelled from Brooklyn especially to help two of these cats

For those of you asking for the Amazon link to send food for the cats. Here it is and thank you all so much for your support.

<https://l.facebook.com/l.php...>

The link to the video of all the cats found in the home, which has not yet been identified is

<https://www.facebook.com/YonkersShelter/videos/1299843900574536>

Ways to help-call- 201-981-3215 or email Lesliem147@gmail.com or Ollie71498@icloud.com. The shelter is open 11-4 seven days a week.

They are young adults (no kittens). The fee is \$65.00. Once they are adopted, the Yonkers Animal Shelter are able to take more in from the house. Thus far, of the over 200 cats discovered in the home, the Yonkers Animal Shelter through the Parks Department was able to work with rescue groups and move out 124. Two more rescues will be coming tomorrow to assist.

Buying Comics!

Looking for 1960s-1990s.

I PAY CASH! Please call 914-646-1718. Located in Yonkers

On This Day in Yonkers History...**The Nepperhan or Saw Mill River culvert by Nepperhan Avenue in Yonkers.**

By Mary Hoar, City of Yonkers Historian, 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, February 20th

February 20, 1946: Several Yonkers teachers received a charter naming their group the Yonkers Federation of Teachers, associated with the American Federation of Teachers. Michael Huff of Saunders Trades School was named President.

The day before, another group of Yonkers teachers led by Newell Gilmour formed the Yonkers Chapter of the National Teachers' Division of the State, County and Municipal Workers of American, CIO.

February 20, 1950: Yonkers residents, trying to reduce their home water bills, began washing personal cars with water taken directly from the Saw Mill River! People parked on "Smith's Field" on Old Nepperhan Avenue (between Nepperhan Avenue and Saw Mill River Road), dipped their buckets directly into the river behind the field, and washed their cars.

Tuesday, February 21st

February 21, 1930: Yonkers was shocked to learn Parks Superintendent Louis Millet resigned, allegedly after his resignation was demanded by the Fogarty Administration! No explanation was given, but rumors circulated a Parks Department truck was used to bring materials for Milliot's testimonial dinner at the Faragut Inn in Hastings. At the dinner, the mayor and other city officials commended Milliot for his excellent job with the city parks.

February 21, 1930: An official announcement by Alexander Smith and Sons Carpet Company announced promotion of two men. Frederick Klein was named Superintendent of the Mills, and Maitland Griggs was appointed Assistant Superintendent. Klein was with the company for 25 years, serving as Assistant Superintendent for several years. Griggs was the son of Maitland Griggs, Chair of the Company's Board of Directors and the late Alexander Smith Cochran's legal counsel.

Wednesday, February 22nd

February 22, 1938: A two-year mystery, the continuing theft of goods totaling \$8000 from the Macy Company warehouse at Herriot and Clinton Streets, was solved! The suspicions of Frank Kilmartin, Assistant Manager of security, led to the arrests. Kilmartin and his in-house team watched the warehouse from a parked car, saw a car drive into the warehouse and leave after half an hour. They followed it to McLean Avenue where they saw men carry boxes into a cellar. YPD arrived quickly; the weekend watchman was arrested for grand larceny and four other men were charged with receiving stolen goods.

February 22, 1940: Former Public Safety Commissioner Denis Morrissey flatly stated Councilman Edith Welty's statement he promised to reinstate Patrolman Stephen Dankowitz was untrue. Not only was it untrue, he said Welty "threatened to bring the power of the press down on him," if he didn't put Dankowitz back on the force. Dankowitz, a Welty supporter, was discharged from YPD in 1935 for drunkenness. He was not rehired.

Thursday, February 23rd

February 23, 1947: The US Navy announced Michael Rizzola of Borchers Avenue was cameraman on the plane conducting the first aerial magnetic survey of the Southern Hemisphere!

By coincidence, his parents received a letter from him the same day; he told them he was on the first helicopter flight over the South Pole, and took the official Navy photographs.

February 23, 1955: Vernon Steed of Radford Place, escaped from City Jail on Alexander Street while he was waiting transfer to the penitentiary. On a work detail in the main foyer, he dashed off to his freedom... and was picked up a few minutes later. An unarmed jailer saw the dash for freedom and immediately called the police; four officers grabbed the escapee as he entered a shed on Woodworth Avenue. He said he ran to see his ill wife, who was about to enter the hospital.

continued on pg 6-

CORPORATION NOTICE**CITY OF YONKERS-NEW YORK****PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE**

Notice is hereby given, pursuant to law, that the Mayor of the City of Yonkers, New York, will hold a Public Hearing on Friday, February 24, 2023 at 5:00pm, Mayor's Reception Room, 2nd floor, 40 South Broadway, Yonkers, New York, to hear all interested parties and citizens regarding the adoption of the following Local Law, to wit:

A LOCAL LAW AMENDING SECTION C1-4 OF THE CHARTER OF THE CITY OF YONKERS ENTITLED 'CITY COUNCIL DISTRICTS'.

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

MIKE SPANO

Mayor

Date: February 16, 2023

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SUPREME COURT OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK
INDEX NO. 57364/2022 COUNTY OF WESTCHESTER

WILMINGTON SAVINGS FUND SOCIETY, FSB, NOT INDIVIDUALLY BUT SOLELY AS TRUSTEE FOR FINANCE OF AMERICA STRUCTURED SECURITIES ACQUISITION TRUST 2018-HB1

Plaintiff,
vs.
DAWN MCMAHON, AS HEIR AND DISTRIBUTE OF THE ESTATE OF GEORGE F. DELLA CALCE; ANN MARIE DEMARTINO, AS HEIR AND DISTRIBUTE OF THE ESTATE OF GEORGE F. DELLA CALCE; GEORGINA GUALDINO, AS HEIR AND DISTRIBUTE OF THE ESTATE OF GEORGE F. DELLA CALCE; GEORGE F. DELLA CALCE, AS HEIR AND DISTRIBUTE OF THE ESTATE OF GEORGE F. DELLA CALCE; UNKNOWN HEIRS AND DISTRIBUTES OF THE ESTATE OF GEORGE F. DELLA CALCE, any and all persons unknown to plaintiff, claiming, or who may claim to have an interest in, or general or specific lien upon the real property described in this action; such unknown persons being herein generally described and intended to be included in the following designation, namely: the wife, widow, husband, widower, heirs at law, next of kin, descendants, executors, administrators, devisees, legatees, creditors, trustees, committees, lienors, and assignees of such deceased, any and all persons deriving interest in or lien upon, or title to said real property by, through or under them, or either of them, and their respective wives, widows, husbands, widowers, heirs at law, next of kin, descendants, executors, administrators, devisees, legatees, creditors, trustees, committees, lienors and assigns, all of whom and whose names, except as stated, are unknown to plaintiff; SECRETARY OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT; NEW YORK STATE DEPARTMENT OF TAXATION AND FINANCE; UNITED STATES OF AMERICA; JOHN DOE S/H/A JOHN DOE #1,

“JOHN DOE #2” through “JOHN DOE #12,” the last eleven names being fictitious and unknown to plaintiff, the persons or parties intended being the tenants, occupants, persons or corporations, if any, having or claiming an interest in or lien upon the premises, described in the complaint,
Defendants.

Plaintiff designates WESTCHESTER as the place of trial situs of the real property

SUPPLEMENTAL SUMMONS

Mortgaged Premises:
105 COLGATE AVENUE, YONKERS, NY 10703
Section: 3, Block: 033, Lot: 23

To the above named Defendants

YOU ARE HEREBY SUMMONED to answer the Complaint in the above entitled action and to serve a copy of your Answer on the plaintiff's attorney within twenty (20) days of the service of this Summons, exclusive of the day of service, or within thirty (30) days after service of the same is complete where service is made in any manner other than by personal delivery within the State. The United States of America, if designated as a defendant in this action, may answer or appear within sixty (60) days of service. Your failure to appear or to answer will result in a judgment against you by default for the relief demanded in the Complaint. In the event that a deficiency balance remains from the sale proceeds, a judgment may be entered against you.

NOTICE OF NATURE OF ACTION AND RELIEF SOUGHT

THE OBJECT of the above caption action is to foreclose a Mortgage to secure the sum of \$652,500.00 and interest, recorded on December 21, 2011, in Instrument Number 513193130, of the Public Records of WESTCHESTER County, New York., covering premises known as 105 COLGATE AVENUE, YONKERS, NY 10703.

The relief sought in the within action is a final judgment directing the sale of the premises described above to satisfy the debt secured by the Mortgage described above.

WESTCHESTER County is designated as the place of trial because the real property affected by this action is located in said county.

NOTICE YOU ARE IN DANGER OF LOSING YOUR HOME

If you do not respond to this summons and complaint by serving a copy of the answer on the attorney for the mortgage company who filed this foreclosure proceeding against you and filing the answer with the court, a default judgment may be entered and you can lose your home.

Speak to an attorney or go to the court where your case is pending for further information on how to answer the summons and protect your property.

Sending a payment to the mortgage company will not stop the foreclosure action.

YOU MUST RESPOND BY SERVING A COPY OF THE ANSWER ON THE ATTORNEY FOR THE PLAINTIFF (MORTGAGE COMPANY) AND FILING THE ANSWER WITH THE COURT.

Dated: January 18, 2023

ROBERTSON, ANSCHUTZ, SCHNEID, CRANE & PARTNERS, PLLC

Attorney for Plaintiff Matthew Rothstein, Esq. 900 Merchants Concourse, Suite 310 Westbury, NY 11590 516-280-7675

Eric Schoen, continued from pg 3-

You should be aware that if the medical facility has a mask policy you must follow it, like it or not. As of my visit to St. John's Hospital they were still requiring masks on Monday. Bottom line: don't fight the Security Guard who demands you mask up.

Briefs: Very Happy 96th Birthday to my second father and dear family friend, Adelmo (Chubby) Costantini. And here's to 96 more years surrounded by a beautiful family and friends.

Can someone help me get off these lists offering a Hilton Hotel Room or Carnival Cruise if I qualify? I've tried all the government sponsored programs and am furious getting these cold calls sometimes 2 in 1 hour!

Listen to Eric Schoen on the Westchester Rising Radio Show Thursday's from 10-11 a.m. On WVOX 1460 AM, go to WVOX.com and click the arrow to listen to the live stream or download the WVOX app from the App Store free of charge.

Yonkers History, continued from pg 5-

Friday, February 24th

February 24, 1936: Common Council President Frank Cotter received a letter from the Homewood Owners Association attacking the Aldermen for their "chicken-hearted attitudes." They insisted an appraiser immediately be appointed; they wanted the city to recapture the franchise granted in 1911 to the Third Avenue Railway. They demanded the appointment take effect by March 2nd.

February 24, 1947: Monthly trade news magazine Editor and Publisher announced the retirement of its president James Brown, Sr., of Valentine Lane; Brown had been president thirty-five years. The Vice President James Brown, Jr, replaced him; Robert Brown, another son, was promoted to Vice President and Editor; he had been Secretary of the company. The senior Brown continued as a Board Member of the company.

Saturday, February 25th

February 25, 1955: Vandals smashed the windows of Corporation. Counsel J. Raymond Hannon's home and were believed to be responsible for threats on the life of City Judge Albert Fiorillo. The judge's threats came at one am, waking the judge with a phone call filled with vulgarity and abusive language.

February 25, 1955: His ten minutes of attempted freedom after escaping from the Yonkers City Jail cost Vernon Steed an extra year in prison.

Sunday, February 26th

February 26, 1926: Yonkers Police went on a dedicated dog hunt in Sherwood Park, an intensified search for a pack of wild dogs who killed a man. YPD believed the dogs were mad with hunger, due to their inability to find food in the extreme cold and heavy snow. Needless to say, area residents were terrified.

February 26, 1940: Arthur Miller, Secretary of the Board of Contract and Supply, and Alfred Corbin, Deputy Superintendent of School Buildings and Maintenance, were summoned to the Westchester Grand Jury and questioned as the Grand Jury began an investigation of the purchasing policies of the Loehr administration. ADA William Horan was in charge of the investigation set off by a City Manager League attack during the 1925 election; the League had produced a 200-page report on Yonkers municipal affairs and why they were unhappy with the past administration.

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

Notice of formation of Steering The Kulture LLC Articles of Organization filed with the SSNY Office on 12/5/22 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 C/O Steering The Kulture LLC, 227 Elm Street Yonkers, NY 10701. Purpose: Any lawful purpose. Latest date upon which LLC is to dissolve: No specific date.

SUPREME COURT OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK
COUNTY OF WESTCHESTER
AMAT HOLDINGS, LLC

Plaintiff,

v.

The Heirs at law, devisees, distributes, legal representatives, and successor(s) in interest to Anina Attanasio if they be alive, or if they be deceased, any person, entity, creditor, legal representative, or successor that may claim any right of such Heir at law, devisee, distribute, legal representative, or successor in interest to ANINA ATTANASIO; HELEN SABATINI if she be alive, or if she be deceased any Heirs at law, devisees, distributes, legal representatives, and successor(s) in interest to HELEN SABATINI; ALFRED ATTANASIO; if he be alive, or if he be deceased any Heirs at law, devisees, distributes, legal representatives, and successor(s) in interest to ALFRED ATTANASIO; CONSTANCE POST if she be alive, or if she be deceased any Heirs at law, devisees, distributes, legal representatives, and successor(s) in interest to CONSTANCE POST,

Defendant(s).

INDEX No. 69239/2018

Notice is hereby given that the above-entitled action has been commenced in the Supreme Court of the State of New York, County of Westchester, to quiet title and determine the ownership of a certain piece and parcel of real property located in the County of Westchester, State of New York, and more particularly described as follows:

ORDERED, that the provisions of section 1519(2) of the Real Property Actions and Proceedings Law be dispensed with.

DESCRIPTION OF THE PROPERTY

- The property involved in the instant action is known as 156 and 158 Waverly Street, Yonkers, New York 10701, is bounded and described as follows
- Beginning at a point on the easterly line of Waverly Street where the same is intersected by the northerly line of land now or formerly of George Herriot;
- Running thence northerly along said easterly line of Waverly Street, 57.17 feet;
- Running thence westerly on a line drawn at an angle of 90 degrees 39 minutes 10 seconds from the easterly line Waverly Street, 100.01 feet;
- Running thence southerly parallel with Waverly Street, 37.22 feet to the aforesaid northerly line of land now or formerly of George Herriot;
- Running thence westerly along said last mentioned line, 109.75 feet to the point or place of beginning.
- The property is further described as Section 1, Block 477, Lot 65 on the Official Tax Map of the City of Yonkers.

Dated: September 20, 2022
White Plains, New York

ENTER:

[Signature]
JSC

HON. DAVID F. EVERETT
J.S.C.

Notice of formation of PERIGONMED LLC. filed with the SSNY on 12/30/2022. Office: Westchester County. SSNY designated as agent of the LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail copy of process to the LLC, 73 Market street suite 300 Yonkers NY 10710. Purpose: Any lawful activity.

Notice of formation of JCJ Electrical LLC. Articles of Organization filed with the Secretary of State of New York on 01/06/2022. Office: Westchester County. SSNY designated as agent of the LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail copy of process to the LLC, 15 Dexter Road, Yonkers, NY 10710. Purpose: Any lawful activity.

Notice of formation of KMCG LLC filed with the SSNY on 1/9/2023. 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, 221 Devoe Ave, Yonkers NY 10705. Purpose: Any lawful activity.

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Photos by Robert Kalfus 2023
Feb. 5 marked the 8th Annual Beethoven Festival: Beethoven from Classicism to Romanticism, with guest conductor Andre Rivas, born in Caracas in 1990, who began his musical education at the age of 3 in Venezuela. Rivas is the third candidate for the position of Yonkers Philharmonic Orchestra conductor. The final candidate, Steven Huang, will conduct the 44th annual Young Artists Concerto Competition concert on May 7, 2023. All concerts are open to the public and are free.

Concertmaster violin soloist Urara Mogi performed as soloist in Beethoven's Violin Romance #1, playing a 1735 Nicolo Gagliano violin on loan from the family of Anne Frascello, a YPO violist.

If unable to attend the Dr. Margaret Benedict's pre-concert talk and the concert, in a few

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One Larkin Center, Yonkers, NY 10701

SNOW DATE: MARCH 10, 2023

This event is a representation of the talents and diversity of our families, students, teachers and administrators.

Our keynote speaker will discuss important topics such as depression, anxiety, and traumas that can affect the well-being of our health and how to support our children.

KEYNOTE SPEAKER:
MIGUELINA GERMÁN, PHD
Miguelina Germán, PhD, is Director of Pediatric Behavioral Health Services at Montefiore Medical Group as well as Associate Professor, Pediatrics and Associate Professor, Psychiatry and Behavioral Science at our Albert Einstein College of Medicine. Her clinical focus is on pediatric anxiety, ADHD, depression and trauma. She has special expertise in postpartum mood and anxiety disorders and providing parental mental health services. Dr. Germán also specializes in the mental health of Latino children and families.

TO ATTEND THIS EVENT
PLEASE SCAN THIS QR CODE



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days you will be able to view it and the concert on the Fine Arts Society's website, d/b/a the Yonkers Philharmonic Orchestra www.YonkersPhilharmonic.com and call 571-310-7060. Joint performances by Music Of India singers and orchestra, Hudson Chorale, Westchester Chorale, and the Yonkers Philharmonic Orchestra, will present the MOI musical performance celebrating the 75th Anniversary of India's Independence on Sunday, March 26, 2023 at 4 pm, at the Pepsico Theater at SUNY College, Purchase NY, a World Premiere of Beethoven Ode to Joy in Hindi, Ravi Shankar inspired Orchestra music and Bollywood Freedom Songs. Visit the website www.WestchesterMOI.org or email info@WestchesterMOI.org.

Each "Free" YPO concert costs @ \$16,000 to produce. The YPO and FAOS ask their loyal friends -YOU - for donations, to contribute regularly and become a supporter, patron, sponsor, benefactor or other levels.

Notice of formation of Castillo Adventures LLC. Arts. Of Org. filed with the SSNY on 9/7/2022. Office: Westchester County. United States Corporation Agents, INC. designated as agent of the LLC upon whom process against it may be served, and they shall mail copy of process to the LLC, 8084 Woodruff Avenue, Yonkers, NY 10708. Purpose: Real Estate and Rental Property.

Shoplifter arrested 17 times, continued from pg 1-

giving our District Attorneys the right tools, and helping the thousands of mentally ill New Yorkers forced out onto the streets. This is a moment where Black leaders will show why voters put them in office. It is on all of us to support their efforts and stand up to those who want to turn back the clock on justice. I know we are up to that challenge." said Sharpton.

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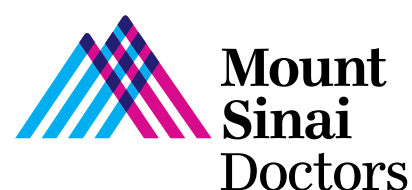
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341 Central Park Avenue, Scarsdale, NY 10583
914-370-5000

Mount Sinai Doctors-Yonkers
1086 North Broadway, Yonkers, NY 10701
914-968-3535

Mount Sinai Doctors-Yonkers Orthopedics
984 North Broadway, Suite 306, Yonkers, NY 10701
914-369-1700