

Yonkers Rising

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Friday February 24, 2023

City of Yonkers Purchases Riverfront Property to Build New Park in Ludlow Neighborhood



Waterfront Property on Fernbrook Street in Ludlow Section of Yonkers, photo by Joe Panella

On Feb. 17, Mayor Mike Spano announced that the City of Yonkers has taken possession of a nearly 130,000 square foot parcel on the Ludlow waterfront, marking a major milestone in creating the first waterfront park in Southwest Yonkers.

“Today we completed the \$13 million purchase of the property,” said Mayor Spano. “The next step is to work with the current tenant to relocate and then complete design and construction of the park. Southwest Yonkers is the only portion of the City’s waterfront not to have a public park, and we are now well on the way to changing that.”

The park will be a joint project of the City and County Government, with County Executive George Latimer and the County Legislature committing to at least \$10 million to complete the build-out of the park. The \$13 million purchase price was funded by bonds authorized last year by the Yonkers City Council. The City is currently working on design plans for the park.

The waterfront property is immediately north of the Westchester County Joint Sewage Treatment Facility and bordered on the north by American Sugar Refiners. The County has indicated it will combine an unused portion of the plant’s northern border with the City property to create the park.

Mayor Spano noted that a developer had recently offered \$15 million to purchase the property, which is \$2 million more than the City paid. “Not only did we preserve this property permanently for public recreation and enjoyment of the Hudson River, but we negotiated a pretty good deal,” said Mayor Spano.

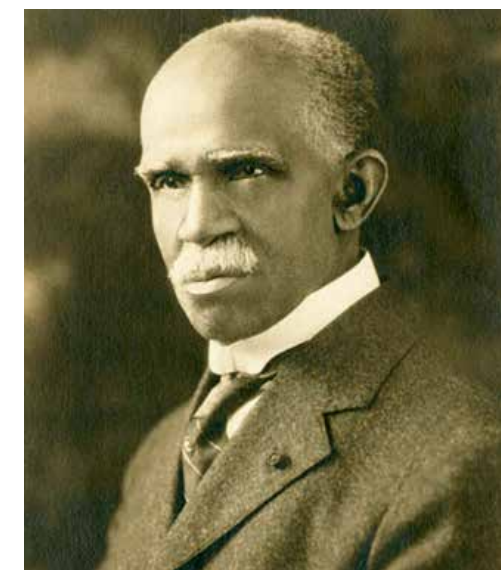
The property was home to an ice plant in 1886, and more recently an oil tank farm. Currently, the property serves as a bus yard. The Yonkers Industrial Development Agency is working to identify a new location for the buses.

Before purchasing the property, the County performed a comprehensive environmental assessment of the property to confirm that there were no issues that would prevent its use as a public park. The assessment was carried out in coordination with the State Department of Environmental Conservation.

“This is an enormous step forward for our goal to make the Hudson Waterfront available to the public,” added Mayor Spano. “All of the new waterfront developments contain dedicated public access to the River, and of course we have the JFK Marina in northern Yonkers. Creating this park in Southwest Yonkers really completes the picture.”

The City of Yonkers will be gathering public input on proposed designs for the park. Construction is expected to begin in the next year.

Forgotten & Accomplished African Americans Who Made a Difference in Yonkers



John Edward Bruce, left, Tuskegee Airman Lee Archer, right

Editor’s Note: City of Yonkers History Mary Hoar, recently gave a presentation at Pressley Memorial Church on forgotten and accomplished African Americans who made a difference in Yonkers.

Forgotten by history is Yonkers resident John Edward Bruce, a prolific journalist, historian, writer, orator, civil rights activist, Prince Hall Mason and Republican. Bruce lived in Yonkers for almost 20 years.

Born in Maryland, Bruce’s mother Martha escaped to Washington a year after his father was sold. While in DC, he was given the advantage of a private education by his mother’s employer; he was taught by Belva Bennett Lockwood, who twice ran for US President on the Equal Rights ticket.

Bruce joined the staff of the NY Times Washington office, working with Republican abolitionists, and later was the Washington correspondent for papers in London, Richmond, St. Louis, Chicago, New York, North Carolina and Detroit.

He founded several African-American newspapers throughout the east coast. After he moved to Yonkers, he established the Weekly Standard in 1908; articles from this well written newspaper often were reprinted in the other area papers.

He joined the AME Zion Church on New Main Street, and founded the Sunday Men’s Club, creating a group of local intellectuals, bringing in speakers and cultural programs on topics relevant to the life of African Americans.

Bruce was a respected community leader in Yonkers. An active Republican, he served on many committees, and was on the dais at most Republican Party rallies. A member of the Yonkers Day Citizens’ Committee, he was tasked with welcoming NY Governor Whitman. Although a Republican, he served on the General Inaugural Committee for President Elect Wilson’s inauguration, Chairman of the Committee on Public Comfort.

In 1911, Bruce founded The Negro Society for Historical Research with his mentee Arturo Schomburg in the Bruce living room at 146 Warburton Avenue. Their aim was to create an institute to support creation of a comprehensive lending library of books on Black history and philosophy. After Bruce’s death this

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Yonkers Councilwoman Pineda-Isaac Kicks Off Campaign for Mayor



Councilwoman and Mayoral candidate Corazon Pinda-Isaac, with two supporters

By Dan Murphy

Yonkers City Councilwoman Corazon Pineda-Isaac made it official on Feb. 16, announcing that she is a candidate for Mayor and will run in a democratic primary against Mayor Mike Spano. “I’m proud to live here, proud to serve the people, and I’m proud of what it means to be from Yonkers. It means having a relentless spirit and potential, and fighting for what you have and what you want to see in your future. But that meaning feels like it has been lost on the 2nd floor of City Hall where the current Mayor sits.”

Pineda-Isaac, who has served on the City Council for the past 9 years, and is currently serving her third term on the council, went on the offensive against Mayor Mike Spano. “For generations, Yonkers has been run by the same people, and the same family, who think that being from this city means being part of the club that they run with the same antiquated policies that do not benefit us. They use the same playbook from the 1980’s and have failed to recognize that Yonkers has changed.”

“Look around you tonight, this is Yonkers, and we don’t see that in city government and we need to change that. We are done living in the past, we need new leadership with an eye towards the future.”

Pineda-Isaac spoke about her personal journey to running for Mayor of New York’s third largest city. “My mom and dad came to America from the Dominican Republic before I was born. They raised my brother, sister, and I in the Bronx and

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Yonkers Takes Home Five Medals at County Championships! Smith Sets School Record



L-R-Akeem Carnegie, Ben Domingo, Elroy Able, Ethan Arias, and Taylor-Rae Smith below, at the Armory NYC in Manhattan. Photo by Katterina Shuba

By Derrick Touba Jr.

On January 28, 2023 the Yonkers Public Schools Track Team competed at the Westchester County Championships at the Armory NYC. Yonkers was well represented with 13 members competing at the meet, successfully earning 5 medals.

Leading the way was senior captain Ben Domingo who earned a silver medal in the 55 meter hurdles. In the preliminary rounds Domingo qualified for the finals with a time of 8.00, before returning with a blistering time of 7.89. Domingo now ranks 10th in the state in the event.

“I was happy with my new personal best at first but looking back my block start needs some work, that was the only difference between first and second” Domingo said on the performance Domingo, along with junior Ethan Arias and seniors Elroy Able and Akeem Carnegie also earned a medal in the 4x400 meter relay, finishing in fourth place. The team earned a new personal best of 3.39.08 which places them 8th in the section.

Carnegie, the anchor leg of the relay ran a 53.32 final split to seal the medal for Yonkers. When asked what contributed to the team’s success, Carnegie said “consistent hard work at practice”, which he anticipates will continue as they look towards lowering their rank near the top in the section.

Junior Captain Taylor-Rae Smith participated in the high jump, setting a personal best and new Yonkers Women’s Track and Field record with a height of 4 feet 10 inches. “Getting over the bar is an unreal experience. I’m proud of myself, and I’m striving for even higher”. Smith said on her record breaking jump.

Smith tied for the fourth best jump at the meet, however due to the amount of attempts per jump finished 7th, just missing a medal. She’s now ranked the 7th best jumper in section 1 this season.

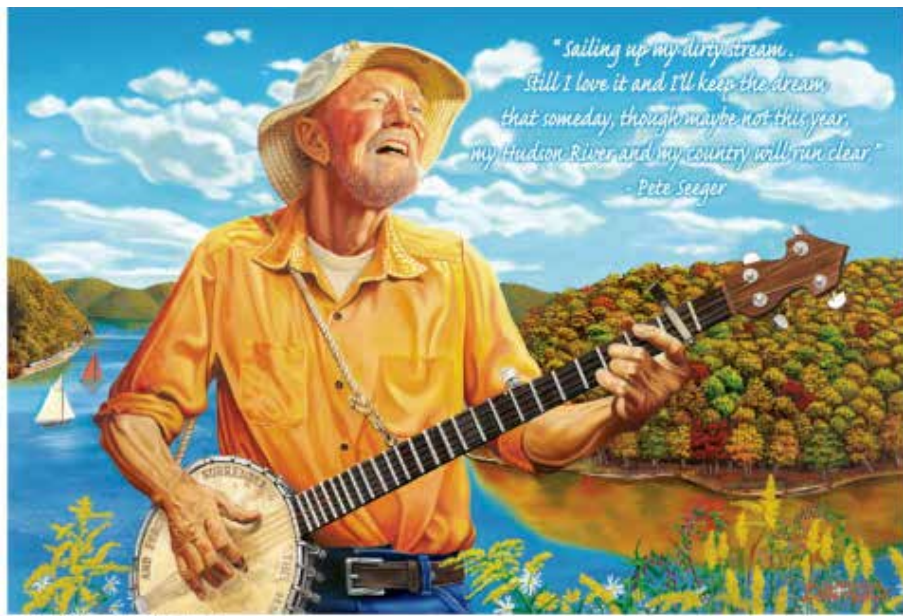
Other Notable Performers:

Gabrielle Rowe: 55m Dash -7.66

Jenna Bertrand: 55m Dash- 7.91

Brianna Xolocotzi: Shot Put-25-7.5

For Pete's Sake, Don't Let Indian Point Dump 1M Gallons of Nuclear Waste into the Hudson



Beacon of Hope, by Michael D'Antuono, ArtandResponse.com

By Dan Murphy

After reading a story in the Gothamist by Rosemary Midsary, (<https://gothamist.com/news/dumping-radioactive-water-hudson-river-best-option-indian-point-nuclear-plant-owner-holtec>) that Holtec, the owner of the now closed Indian Point Power Plant, was planning to discharge 1 million gallons of nuclear waste into the Hudson River, I immediately thought of Pete Seeger, and his efforts over 40 years to make the Hudson clean, and liveable for fish and wildlife.

As a young boy, I used to attend the yearly concert at Croton Point Park in the 1970's with my parents called Clearwater Festival, that Pete Seeger organized to raise funds and awareness for his work to clean up the Hudson. One of my classmates at the time at Brookside Elementary school was Dave Matthews.

When Pete passed away in 2014, Matthews wrote for Rolling Stone, "A Pete Seeger concert was the first concert I ever saw. My parents took my brother, my sisters and me. I will never forget it. I was little. Dancing in a field in upstate New York while the grown-ups sat on the grass. My parents and family raised me on music of all sorts and Pete Seeger was a big part. He was full of hope but disappointed in our wasteful ways. He made me want to be a better person. Why don't we lend our ears to the greatest among us. Pete Seeger fought for the working people and he fought against greed, and corruption, and war, and pollution, until the end of his life. Thank goodness for Pete Seeger."

Perhaps that concert that Dave was talking about was the same Clearwater Festivals that I attended with my parents in Croton.

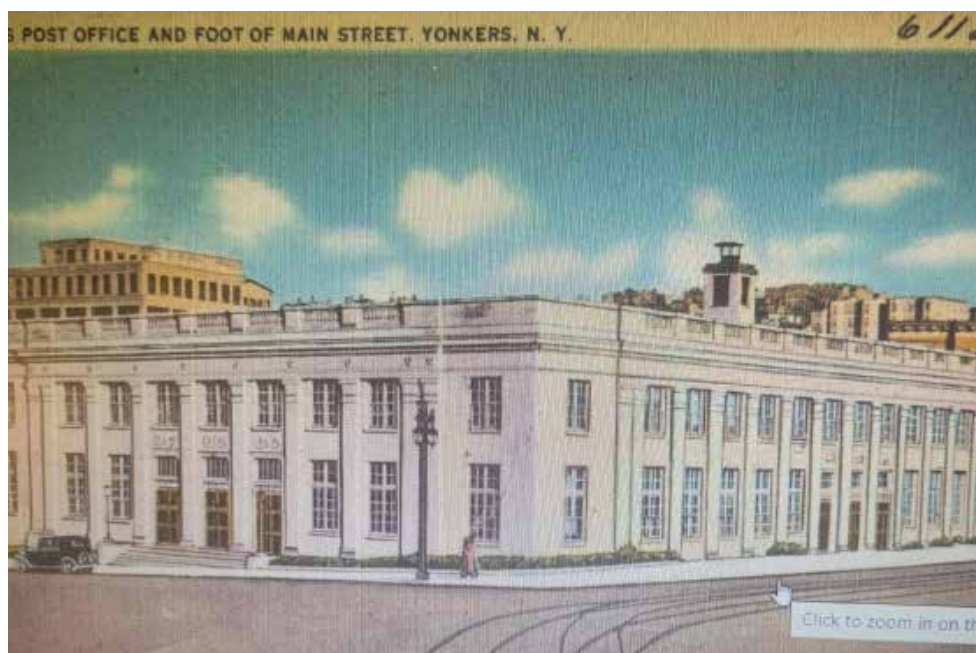
In a Feb. 10 post, Riverkeeper made the case to just say no to dumping in the Hudson. Riverkeeper writes, Riverkeeper joins call for storing tritium-contaminated water in tanks on site while seeking a safe disposal method

Holtec International, the firm responsible for decommissioning the Indian Point nuclear power plant, has stated that it will resume discharging radioactive wastewater into the Hudson River from a spent fuel pool on the site as early as August, and possibly sooner.

After hearing presentations from Holtec and David Lochbaum, a retired nuclear engineer, reactor safety watchdog, and member of the Decommissioning Oversight Board (DOB), along with fellow environmental advocates, Riverkeeper is calling for a halt to the discharges and a means of storing the contaminated water safely in tanks on the site while safer disposal methods are evaluated. It's time to draw the line against using the Hudson as a dumping ground for tritium, a radioactive isotope found in the wastewater. Ingestion of tritium is linked to cancer, and children and pregnant women are most vulnerable.

-continued on pg 6-

Yonkers Post Office Now a Local Landmark



1927 Postcard of Yonkers Post Office

The Yonkers City Council granted local landmark status to the Main Street United States Post Office Building at its meeting on February 14, 2023.

The Yonkers Main Post Office, already on the National Register of Historic Places and now doubly protected by local landmark status, is a significant Neo-Classical building in downtown Yonkers. It is essentially the only public building representing this particular period of American architecture in all of the city. Built in 1927 to an extraordinary level of quality of materials and design, it looks much the same today as it did nearly a century ago when it joined the New York Railroad Station, then recently constructed in 1912, as an anchor and inflection point for the city merely steps away from the Hudson River. The two buildings together created a grand entrance to the heart of downtown Yonkers, much as they do today.

Should the Post Office ever decide to sell its building and the underlying property, the westerly side of Main Street, an attractive oasis of low-rise historic properties, could be despoiled by yet another tall residential building.

This local landmark designation adds a layer of protection for the Post Office and enables the Landmarks Preservation Board to retain some control on any future use of the site should the USPS decide to deaccession this particular post office.

Should the USPS decide to sell the building it could be retained in its architectural glory and reimaged as a wonderful food market a la NYC's Chelsea Market; a boutique hotel; a city museum; or any of a number of reuses that could be an exciting and stimulating addition to the growth of the Yonkers downtown area.

The Landmarks Preservation Board and the City Council are to be commended for their visionary foresight in preserving this beautiful, unique structure for future generations.

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

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Charter School Principal Palmer Strives to Make Learning Fun

Is Yonkers the Dirtiest City in America?

By Eric Wolf Schoen



Spring Training Baseball Begins?

Time moves fast. Not a drop of snow (or neither a quarter inch) has hit the ground. Global warming? Climate change? For us warm weather lovers, it's a dream come true. If you never saw another snowflake would you be happy or sad?

Don Lemon

I was listening to a colleague who worked with CNN's Don Lemon in his days in Philadelphia and said he was a wise guy back then like he is today. His age remark regarding women isn't the first stupid remark he has made since joining CNN. His attitude atrocious. I think it's time for him to hang up his hat and call it a day at CNN. There is plenty of talent out there to take his place. They got rid of Chris Cuomo and no one misses him.

The CWTZ or WCTZ or What?

Speaking of Cuomo, here we go again! The Republican powers that be want in Albany joined by a Democrat want to take Mario Cuomo's name off the bridge that crosses the Hudson from Rockland to Tarrytown. Why not call it the Cuomo-Wilson Tappan Zee (CWTZ) or Wilson-Cuomo Tappan Zee (WCTZ). Let's remember that it was Mario Cuomo that suggested the change in name to the Malcolm Wilson Bridge and yes, Malcolm Wilson is from Yonkers. I don't know why the legislators from Yonkers are silent on keeping Malcom Wilson's name on the bridge. Do they think people forgot him. Robert Moses built a great many things around New York, very few people know who he is but his name is on a park in Long Island and stamp is on many projects throughout New York.

The Race for Mayor Begins

Every day a new candidate enters the race for Mayor of Yonkers and there will certainly be primaries all over the place. Mayor Mike Spano has been quiet and I always worry about quiet politicians. Glad to see so many woman entering the race. It's been a long time since we had a Mayor or for that matter Vice Mayor who was a woman running Yonkers.

George 'Liar' Santos

I can't believe that George Santos is still working in the halls of Congress. His latest comment: 'If you are going to make up a lie are you thinking at all? I didn't realize that he ran in 2020 and lost. In all those years no one checked this phony out? This guy should have been investigated the minute he announced he was running. And Long Island and Queens have some particularly savvy people who play in the political circus..

Santos would not sit down for an interview with Don Lemon. Why? To quote him, 'We are not going to sit down with someone who speaks so Ill of woman.' Santos has real 'you know what' for making that statement. *continued on pg 6-*

As the principal of the Charter School of Educational Excellence's high school, Dwain Palmer, pictured above, strives to make education relevant to his students.

Early in his career as a math teacher, Principal Palmer struggled to help his students understand that fractions are division problems. Then he had the idea of addressing the children in terms accessible to them, so he composed and recorded a rap song whose lyrics explained how fractions work.

"Before I knew it, kids were running around singing 'fractions are a division problem.' And then that translated to their actual work on paper," he said.

Principal Palmer continues that spirit of creativity by taking the restraints off teachers so that they can help students learn.

"Teachers have the freedom to be innovative with what they are teaching," he said. "So, you'll see a lot of project-based lessons as you walk through the building. For example, in our pre-calculus course, you'll see students controlling robots with their calculators."

The high school opened its new building in 2021 and it will graduate its first senior class in June. Principal Palmer joined the school in 2006 as a teaching assistant, and many seniors have known him since they were in elementary school.

Principal Palmer earned two master's degrees in adolescent education and educational administration from Mercy College, in addition to his undergraduate degree in mathematics. He joined the CSEE in 2006 when the school operated limited elementary grades in a defunct supermarket at 260 Warburton Ave.

Since his time at the CSEE has spanned most of his education career, he's seen big changes in the classroom.

"I've seen teaching move from a teacher-centered approach," he said. "I've learned that my role—to best serve the students—is to help students facilitate their own education. I've really changed my approach as I became a math teacher to set students up and then step back and allow them to figure out what they want to learn and how they want to learn it."

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In the September 24, 2021 issue of Westchester Rising, Steve Mayo, a 30-year county resident, was photographed while observing at an August 5, 2021 GOP fundraiser-rally for former President Trump at a Briardiff Manor country club. Mayo previously managed a Bronx manufacturing company and is an attorney admitted to practice in the State of New York. His community and civic record includes service on the boards of directors of three New York City public charter schools, the planning commission of the City of New Rochelle, and several citizens' advisory boards. In 2022 he ran for a seat on New Rochelle's Board of Education. He has written for Westchester Rising. For nearly 20 years, he has hosted/co-hosted a public affairs talk show on commercial radio station WVOX 1460 AM; now, on Mondays at 5:30 pm. Check it out at thestevemayoshow.com.



thestevemayoshow.com



Mt. Sinai Study Finds COVID-19 Vaccination Linked to Fewer Cardiac Events

First U.S. study to show lower risk in patients following SARS-CoV-2 infection

Analyzing the most extensive datasets in the United States, researchers from the Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai have revealed that vaccination against COVID-19 is associated with fewer heart attacks, strokes, and other cardiovascular issues among people who were infected with SARS-CoV-2, the virus that causes COVID-19.

The research letter, "Impact of Vaccination on Major Adverse Cardiovascular Events in Patients with COVID-19 Infection," was published in the Journal of the American College of Cardiology on February 20.

It is the first study to examine both full and partial vaccination and the link to major adverse cardiac events (MACE) in the United States, confirming similar analyses performed previously using the Korean COVID-19 registry. Researchers used the National COVID Cohort Collaborative (N3C) database, the largest national comprehensive database on COVID-19. Since its inception in 2020, the N3C has continuously collected and harmonized data from electronic health records of institutions across the country. Included in this study were 1,934,294 patients, 217,843 of whom received mRNA vaccine formulations by Pfizer-BioNTech or Moderna or viral vector technology by Johnson & Johnson. Cox proportional hazards, a statistical technique, was implemented to assess vaccination association with MACE.

"We sought to clarify the impact of previous vaccination on cardiovascular events among people who develop COVID-19 and found that, particularly among those with comorbidities, such as previous MACE, type 2 diabetes, high cholesterol, liver disease, and obesity, there is an association with a lower risk of complications. While we cannot attribute causality, it is supportive evidence that vaccination may have beneficial effects on a variety of post-COVID-19 complications," said senior author Girish N. Nadkarni, MD, MPH, Irene and Dr. Arthur M. Fishberg Professor of Medicine at Icahn Mount Sinai, Director of The Charles Bronfman Institute of Personalized Medicine, and System Chief, Division of Data Driven and Digital Medicine (D3M), Department of Medicine.

"To our surprise, even partial vaccination was associated with lower risk of adverse cardiovascular events," said first study author Joy Jiang, an MD/PhD candidate in the lab of Dr. Nadkarni. "Given the magnitude of SARS-CoV-2 infection worldwide, we hope our findings could help improve vaccination rates, especially in individuals with coexisting conditions."

Further work will be necessary to elucidate the mechanisms involved from an immunological perspective and clarify the role of SARS-CoV-2 subtypes and reinfections in their relationship to the risk of MACE.

Additional co-authors are Lili Chan, MD, MS; Justin Kauffman, BS; Jagat Narula, MD, PhD; Alexander W. Charney, MD, PhD; and Wonsuk Oh, PhD, all from Icahn Mount Sinai.

The work was supported, in part, by funds from the National Institute of Diabetes and Digestive and Kidney Diseases of the National Institutes of Health. In addition, the research will be presented in a poster session in New Orleans, LA, at the American College of Cardiology's 72nd Annual Scientific Session Together With World Heart Federation's World Congress of Cardiology: Poster Session -Title - Prevention and Health Promotion: Population Science, March 5, 2023, 9:30 am to 10:30 am, Central Time.

Yonkers Man Sentenced To 25 Years To Life For The 2020 Murder Of His Neighbor

After shooting the 23-year-old victim, defendant fled into the Saw Mill River where he was apprehended

On Feb. 16, Westchester County District Attorney Miriam E. Rocah announced today that a Yonkers man was sentenced to 25 years to life in state prison for fatally shooting his neighbor, 23-year-old Lateef Butler, outside their Yonkers apartment building in 2020.

DA Rocah said: "In keeping my promise to hold perpetrators of gun violence accountable, today's sentence brings justice for Lateef Butler's family and removes a dangerous individual from our streets."

After a four-week trial, a jury on Dec. 21, 2022, found Terrence Gonzalez, 31, guilty of Murder in the Second Degree and Criminal Possession of a Weapon in the Second Degree, both violent felonies.

On June 26, 2020, at approximately 6:08 p.m., the defendant used a .38 caliber revolver to shoot the victim five times, striking him in the neck, chest, hip and thigh, during a dispute outside an apartment building where they both lived on Nepperhan Avenue in Yonkers. The victim was transported to St. Joseph's Medical Center in Yonkers, where he was pronounced dead.

Following the incident, the Yonkers Police Department arrested the defendant in the Saw Mill River, by Stefanik Park in Yonkers, after he fled the shooting scene and led police on a foot chase. Following the pursuit, Yonkers police recovered the gun used to murder the victim under a bush near Center Street, and obtained surveillance video of the fatal shooting. The District Attorney thanks the Yonkers Police Department for their collaboration during this case. The case was before Judge George Fufidio in Westchester County Court, and was prosecuted by Bureau Chief James Bavero and Senior Trial Counsel Brian Bendish, both of the Trials and Investigations Division.

Idoni: After 10 Years of Consecutive Drops, In 2022, Westchester Foreclosure Filings Creep Up

After consistently dropping over a ten-year period of time foreclosure filings and judgments have begun rising again in Westchester County. While not reaching the highs seen during the end of the real estate bubble bursting from 2009 through 2015, there has been a statistical doubling of both filings and judgments over the past 14 months according to Westchester County Clerk Timothy C. Idoni, who as Clerk of the County's Supreme Court is responsible for the filing of the foreclosure cases and their ultimate decisions.

Idoni said, "There can be a number of reasons for the bump in these cases. There was a definitive drop in filings during Covid-19 but since mid-2022 the filings have begun to rise again for the first time in a decade."

Idoni noted from the period of 2007-2015 over 2,000 filings per year were the norm as the financial institutions attempted to recover from the bad loans common during the housing bubble. Judgments jumped substantially from 2015 through 2017 then leveled off and dropped until the past fourteen months.

Foreclosure Filings 2006 -2023

2006-1545-
2007-2150
2008-2190
2009-3064
2010-2453
2011-1641
2012-1810
2013-2696
2014-2320
2015-2120
2016-1411
2017-1210
2018-1146
2019-1041
2020-380
2021-224
2022-503
2013-113-Through February 13, 2023

Filings jumped 137% between 2021 and 2022. In the first two months of 2022, 27 total filings were received. In the first two months of 2023, 113 have already been received, an increase of 318%.

Judgments jumped from a 16-year low of 134 in 2022 to 268 in 2022, a 50% increase.

Foreclosure Judgments 2015-2022

2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
1181	1176	1062	880	715	219	134	268

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.

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The 66th Yonkers St. Patrick's Day Parade on McLean Ave.-March 18



The 66th Yonkers St. Patrick's Day Parade on McLean Avenue will take place this year on McLean Avenue on Saturday, March 18th, 2023. This highly anticipated parade continues the grand tradition of Yonkers honoring our Irish heritage and contributions to the Yonkers community, and Saint Patrick, the Patron Saint of Ireland and the Archdiocese of New York.

The Committee is proud to announce the Honorees for this 66th Celebration. Fr. Brendan Fitzgerald, pictured left, will lead the 2023 Parade as our 66th Grand Marshal. Following an impressive series of missions and assignments Fr. Fitzgerald was appointed pastor of Saint Barnabas parish in July of 2016. During his time at Saint Barnabas he has become

Chaplain to the FDNY Emerald Society, FDNY Holy Name Society, FDNY G.A.A., United Emerald Societies, New York State AOH, and the New York GAA as well as Chaplain of the Kerry Association.

The Parade Board recognizes Fr. Fitzgerald's contribution to the greater St. Barnabas neighborhood in Yonkers and Woodlawn. He is a well-respected presence in southeast Yonkers since becoming Pastor, and has demonstrated great leadership and involvement in the broader community.

The Parade Board also named eight outstanding Irish-Americans who will serve as Aides to Grand Marshal Fr. Brendan A. Fitzgerald in our 2023 parade. The selection of an Aide recognizes years of committed and notable service to Yonkers area communities, and for their contributions to Irish heritage, culture and faith.

The 2023 Aides to the Grand Marshal are:
 Patrice Buckley, Kerry Association (President)
 Kelly Olsen Chiarella, Community Leader / Director - Yonkers Office of the Aging
 Mickey Coleman, County Tyrone Association
 Pauline Galvin, Community Leader
 Kevin Fitzgerald, Ancient Order of Hibernians, Division 1 (Yonkers)
 John Ryan, Con Edison Emerald Society
 Noreen Ryan, Ladies Ancient Order of Hibernians, Division 19
 Michael Sharkey, Yonkers Fire Department

Related Parade events include:
 The Irish Flag will be raised at City Hall on Tuesday March 7th at 4 p.m.
 The Green Line will be painted on McLean Avenue on Tuesday March 14th
 The Parade Dinner will be held on Saturday March 11th at Castle Royale at 7pm.
 The Pre-Parade Mass will be celebrated on March 18th at 11:15 a.m. in the St. Barnabas High School Chapel.

For more information, visit www.yonkersstpatriksparade.org. And we will meet you on McLean!

Corazon for Mayor , continued from pg 1-

Harlem before purchasing a home in Yonkers and living their version of the American dream."

"My parents and its residents all embody what the city of Yonkers means. The only thing holding Yonkers back is the leaders who prioritize themselves over the people. That stops today.

"We're done with economic politics that don't work for us. Economic development should not be about who we attract to Yonkers, but how to preserve the people who are already here.

"We are tired with the Yonkers Public Schools not allowing their students to fulfill their potential because they don't have the resources and tools needed to help our students grow. The best policy that we can give someone is a quality education. If we don't fund our schools properly then we have failed the people of our city.

"Education will be my top priority. It is not a priority for the current administration and the current Mayor of Yonkers. I am a mother of three, two are in the Yonkers public schools. Representation matters. When I am elected, I will be the first woman, and the first person of color ever elected Mayor of Yonkers.

"We are done handing Yonkers over to developers that build luxury housing with no strings attached. We have a dire need for affordable housing in our city. We passed an ordinance with a 20% set aside for affordable housing, that was vetoed by the Mayor. I will pass that ordinance when I am Mayor, and if you are going to build in this city you have to build for this city.

"I am not part of a political dynasty. I am an afro-latina, and someone who has dealt with racism and sexism. These perspectives have not sat in the Mayor's office. I am not afraid."

Pineda-Issac was introduced by former Council President Chuck Lesnick. "I have supported Corazon as a councilmember since she first ran, and she has done a good job. This is a democracy and let the voters decide. Hopefully, all can run a respectful campaign."

Some Yonkers democrats that we spoke to said that Pineda-Isaac and another announced democratic candidate for Mayor, Margaret Coleman, "have to come to an agreement where one gets out and endorses the other. If that happens then the trend in voting patterns in Yonkers could help her."

"There are several democratic primaries in Yonkers this June, which could impact the Mayor's primary. Indivisible is also supporting Corazon. But there is a reason that Mayor Spano won three times, and is going for four."

On This Day in Yonkers History...



Red Cross Nurses from Saunders Trades School March by Proctor Theater

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 27th

February 27, 1924: Judge Charles Boote saw firsthand the effects of drinking liquor in his court! After a few drinks, John Prendergast believed he was a dog, so crawled into St. John's Hospital on all fours, barking loudly at all the attendants. In court, Boote gave him three-months probation.

February 27, 1946: As John Dougherty, Director of Safety Services, Yonkers Chapter of the American Red Cross, was lecturing on the importance of speed in all medical emergencies in a First Aid and Safety Course at Fire YFD Headquarters, the alarm went off! The room emptied in less than 5 seconds and firefighters scrambled for the pole. By the time Dougherty got to the window, the first truck was on the street.

Tuesday, February 28th

February 28, 1942: Yonkers was buzzing with rumors Smith Carpet Company again was considering moving the Yonkers operation down South.

February 28, 1949: Yonkers' Flight instructor Rene Koch landed his seaplane on the Hudson to save a fellow pilot! While giving a lesson to a student, he saw a plane stall and head into the Hudson. He landed and rescued the pilot who managed to free himself; Rene put injured pilot James Preater on his pontoon, administering first aid until a Yonkers Seaplane Base motor boat arrived to bring him to the base. Base operator Peter McCahill sent out the boat crew, and called for an ambulance. Firefighters from the Yonkers Rescue Company responded; Chief William Garvin performed first aid, then sent him to the hospital.

Wednesday, March 1st

March 1, 1913: Public Safety James Fleming Commissioner appointed fifty officers to the Yonkers Police Department!

March 1, 1919: Yonkers dedicated a huge banner to cheer returning servicemen, unfurling it over a Getty Square lit up like Christmas! The banner read, "Welcome Home! Yonkers Greets Her Returning Boys With Love and Pride!" A speech given by Judge Bleakley urged Yonkers to "Do something worthwhile for the boys who have tried to do something worthwhile for us... No sacrifice is too great for us to make for these boys." Six thousand Yonkers men fought in the first World War.

Thursday, March 2nd

March 2, 1945: Lieutenant Paul Kovacs, husband of Joan Wickham Kovacs and a Midland Avenue resident, was back in the United States. Recuperating at Halloran Hospital on Staten Island, he was waiting for arm surgery for wounds caused when his plane was hit by German flak. The crew was able to bail out just before the plane exploded. Halloran was known for excellent orthopedic and reconstructive surgery and humanistic care.

March 2, 1954: Although President of the CIO Textile Union Emil Rieve ordered the 225 striking workers at Alexander Smith to return to work, the workers in the wide velvet weaving department did not. They had walked off their jobs five days earlier to protest firing of their Chief Steward and poor working conditions. Rieve's "order" was in response to a telegram from the company asking him to end the "illegal walkout."

Friday, March 3rd

March 3, 1927: President Calvin Coolidge appointed Orestes Caldwell of Chatfield Avenue a member of the Federal Board of Radio Control. Caldwell, editor of Electrical Merchandising and Radio Retailing, wrote numerous articles on radio regulations. He denounced the current bill, "giving commissioners a five year term with a \$10,000 annual salary," unacceptable. He believed the work could be done in a year, and occasional meetings could deal with issues as they arose. Caldwell was a member of 8 boards of trades and councils, leagues and societies.

March 3, 1939: Suburban Bus Company Council Maury Kotz announced Alderman William Slater, creator of the Yonkers anti-shorts law, would assume the Presidency of the company on March 15th. Slater stated, There is no reason to assume I am going to give up my political career."

- continued on pg 6-

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Miscellaneous

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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.

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.

Eric Schoen, continued from pg 3-

Families who lost relatives in the Holocaust or at the World Trade Center are fed up like we all are with this guy and his stupid 'Jew-ish' remark. Why are the Jewish organizations not calling him out on this?

Alec Baldwin Saga

Who would think that a movie set would need an armorer? Are you telling me that real loaded guns with real bullets that can kill someone are used on movie sets? Why? It's like the punches given to a character in a movie are real. You know they are not.

Be honest, before Mr Baldwin shot his gun had you ever heard of an armorer. I saw the movie Marlowe (good movie) over the weekend and all the locations they shot at had armorers. Does one get certified as an armorer? What do you have to know? That there are no live bullets in a gun? Why should there be? That is the question!

It was announced by the prosecutors and judge this week that if Baldwin gets convicted he will get less time than originally announced. The question you and want to know is why was there a live bullet in a prop gun?

NYC Selling Covid Equipment

As the pandemic didn't get as bad as they thought and they have all his equipment left over, New York City has put the excess equipment on the market. This includes metal pieces that they were going to use if there were not enough respirators. The equipment is being sold at half the price the city bought it for.

If I was in charge here I would wait a little bit longer to make sure the pandemic is realistically over before I would start selling equipment.

Jimmy Carter

I had the good fortune to be present when peanut farmer Jimmy Carter came to New York to accept the nomination for President. I had the better fortune to welcome him as he came off the plane, Shake his hand and boarded a limousine that would take him to his hotel before the nominating convention started.

He and his wife had those country style smiles you never forget. His handshake was one of those you never forget, not too hard, not too soft. My friend Bob Stauf was with a group of us lucky to get in and welcome the Carters to New York. With security these days we would never be able to get on the field next to a plane yet alone able to reach the future president's hand to shake it!

Jimmy Carter was no supporter of the Israel or Jewish people. That aside this 98 year old man did a lot after he left the presidency. He built many homes for homeless vets and people, he taught Bible School school drawing some 500 Sunday morning for his lessons, and when called on by the Government to do something in support of our country he always replied in the affirmative.

Carter and his wife Rosalind are married 75 years. Always holding hands and smiling when out in public. A marriage made in heaven. President Carter now is home with hospice care. May his final days be comfortable and let's remember him for all the positive things he has done for our country.

In closing, watch for the alligators in Prospect Park Zoo in Brooklyn!

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-**Saturday, March 4th**

March 4, 1950: One hundred priests and seminarians from St. Joseph's Seminary and College left by bus to dig graves at Calvary Cemetery in Queens. Working under the leadership of Francis Cardinal Spellman, they planned to dig graves until all coffins were interred. The grave diggers were on strike for almost two months, leaving more than one thousand bodies to be buried.

March 4, 1960: Although every other court in Westchester closed because of snow, Yonkers Court of Special Sessions was open! City Judge Albert Fiorello, instead called his local precinct for help; Fourth Precinct officers nobly obliged and sent a police car to bring him to work.

Sunday, March 5th

March 5, 1945: Angela Carozza, nine-year-old daughter of YPD Officer Raymond Carozza, was responsible for solving a series of burglaries! Angela, playing near home, saw three boys spread a blanket of stuff on a vacant lot, with Railroad tickets, a ticket punch and railroad flares on the blanket. Angela walked over and calmly chatted with them. Afterwards, the boys hid their "stuff," and headed out. She ran home to tell her dad. He went there with Officer John Glus, and checked the loot, then brought it to the Precinct. Carozza arrested the boys; they confessed to robbing stores in Manhattan and vandalizing Lincoln Park and Dunwoodie train stations. According to Chief Kruppenbacker, Dunwoodie "looked as though it had been struck by a bomb" as 43 windows were broken. They also broke into a shoe store, where they replaced their shoes with new footwear. Detectives booked the boys, then brought the teens to Children's Village.

March 5, 1950: Model homes at Spain Lake Village attracted attention; on the first day 10,000 people inspected the ranch-type homes. Of the three hundred-fifty homes planned; more than two hundred were bought that day.

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.

Indian Point, continued from pg 2-

A groundswell of public voices is objecting to Holtec's discharges that prioritize profit margins and expediency over the Hudson River, and local communities. Riverkeeper supports their request to explore alternatives to dispose of the tritium.

The DOB held a nearly four-hour meeting on Thursday, February 2, to discuss disposal options that would spare the River and hear community concerns from numerous residents, officials and experts.

Four readily available wastewater disposal options became clear during the meeting:
I- Hold the wastewater on site. Although no definite holding time was discussed at the meeting, storage on site was. We believe an initial 12 year period would be appropriate. After 12 years, tritium's half-life (the radioactive isotope) will have cut its activity by 50%. During this 12-year period we would like Holtec to explore separation of the tritium, solidification, and any other options that emerge.

II- Transfer the wastewater to out-of-state sites. The danger of transporting radioactive waste on our roads and railways increases the risk to millions of people as accidents have and will occur in an uncontrolled environment. Even if safe transport is successful, transferring the problems of radioactive waste to other communities is not fair or equitable.

III-Allow for evaporation of the wastewater. Evaporation methods for the wastewater are a poor option as after the evaporation is absorbed into the air the contaminants will fall back to the ground, covering a much wider footprint that could include schools, parks and residential areas. A consensus emerged during the DOB meeting rejecting this option.

IV-Discharge the wastewater in the Hudson River. This is the method the plant used while it was still operating. We believe it is time to take a precautionary approach and end the practice of dumping radioactive wastewater into the Hudson.

As with any nuclear plant, none of these options are risk free. Without research that shows the true impact of tritium on vulnerable populations, we should not take any chances to impose unnecessary risk. The previously documented mistakes, violations and fines incurred by Holtec raise serious concerns and demand that we take the most cautious approach of the available actions that will keep this contaminated wastewater out of the Hudson River. That means storing it on site for at least a 12 year period, allowing contamination levels in the water to decrease, and for better, less dangerous disposal options to be developed during that time.

With Holtec announcing its plan to begin wastewater discharges in August of 2023, and possibly sooner, there is a level of urgency for action. Riverkeeper is reaching out to decision-makers on the local, state and national level to explore every possible action and option that will halt any further harmful discharges by Holtec into the Hudson River. Riverkeeper will be releasing an action for the public soon.

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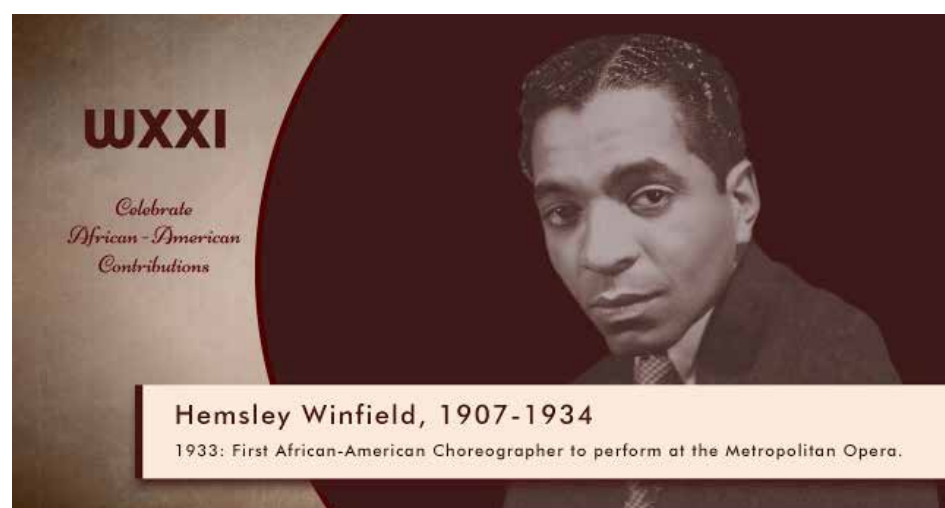
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Forgotten & Accomplished African Americans Who Made a Difference in Yonkers



Helmsley Winfield

Yonkers native Helmsley Winfield was the father of African American Modern Dance!

He was born and grew up on Wolfe Street off McLean Avenue, and graduated from School 13, where he was president of his eighth grade class and a star athlete.

At the age of 18, he founded and directed the Sekondi Players of Yonkers (1925).

The company gave its first performance on March 6, 1931, at Saunders Trade School, a benefit for Yonkers' unemployed. Originally called The Bronze Ballet Plastique, Winfield soon changed the name to The New Negro Art Theater Dance Group.

In 1933, the company appeared in the premiere of The Emperor Jones at the Metropolitan Opera in New York City. Winfield took on the role of Congo, The Witch Doctor; he was the first African American to sign a contract with the Met and the first African American to have his name in the program; the New Negro Art Theater Dance Group was the first Black company to perform at the Metropolitan Opera.

He performed in New York, then joined the traveling company, dancing the role in Brooklyn, Philadelphia and Baltimore. Helmsley's performance was reviewed as "a thrilling exhibition of dancing."

Winfield constantly was working, concerned about supporting his company, literally working himself to death.

Helmsley Winfield, the pioneer in African American concert dancing, died of pneumonia shortly before his 27th birthday. He is buried with his family in an unmarked grave at Oakland Cemetery.

Francis Moultrie, pictured left

Yonkers first successful caterer was Francis Moultrie, arguably one of our most respected African American citizens in early 20th century Yonkers. Born in South Carolina, he was determined to make a better life for himself, with a dream of opening a catering business. He believed Yonkers was the place to achieve this dream.

Employed to work as a butler four days after he arrived in 1869, his careful saving helped him achieve his first dream; he returned to Charleston to marry his fiancé Fannie Alston. Returning to Yonkers, he was offered a job at Washburn & Company, the largest hardware store in Yonkers.

His last position was at Acker Edgar & Company; owners of that company, impressed with his skills, encouraged Moultrie's dreams. He opened a restaurant and catering business in 1878 on Dock Street.

The business took off, and Moultrie wanted to expand. He was unable to get a business loan, a lesson he did not forget. The couple's hard work and work ethic grew the business. He opened a store in the Warburton Building next to Philipse Manor Hall, and featured French and American cuisine. His specialty? Ice Cream!

Religion was important to Moultrie; two years after arriving in Yonkers, in 1871 he was one of the founders of the first African-American church in Yonkers, Memorial AME Zion Church. He served as its president until his death. He frequently preached at the church and was known for his witty stories.

Moultrie was extremely active in the Republican Party, served as President of the Colored Republican Club and on Yonkers Republican Central Committee for several years. Remembering his trouble getting a bank loan, he founded a bank. He founded the Ethiopian Life Insurance Company, the first African American life insurance company.

Another Moultrie first? In 1904, Moultrie founded the Colored Co-Operative Company of Yonkers incorporated with capital of \$50,000. Their purpose was to build fourteen multi-family houses on Culver Street to provide African Americans decent housing, as too many landlords only rented substandard housing to Blacks. In less than a year, similar companies were formed in Poughkeepsie, Troy and Tarrytown, thanks to the success of Moultrie's plan.

Moultrie was so successful, he was included in Booker T. Washington's book The Negro in Business as one of the country's most successful businessmen.

At the time of his death in 1915, he was universally mourned. The Yonkers Herald wrote after his death, "With the passing of his life, goes the the living evidence of one who showed that color makes no difference in making one's way in the world, if but the desire to do so is only there." He was laid to rest in St. John's Cemetery.

Forgotten & Accomplished African Americans, continued from pg 1-

library became the foundation of the Schomburg Center for Research in Black Culture, the New York repository for information on people of African descent worldwide.

As typical of many talented people, Bruce's literary work did not support his family. He obtained a position with the Customs House in NYC; as his health became more of an issue and his commute more difficult, he moved to Brooklyn to be closer to work.

At the time of Bruce's death in 1924, he had three funeral services; well over 5,000 people marched behind his hearse as it proceeded between services. Prince Hall Masons and members of the Universal Negro Improvement Association were prominent members of his funeral processions, marching in their uniforms. UNIA founder Marcus Garvey dressed in black to symbolize the grief of the organization and community.

Bruce returned to Yonkers, and is buried in an unmarked grave in Oakland Cemetery.

Tuskegee Airman Lee Archer

Are you familiar with arguably the most famous Tuskegee Airman, Lee Archer? He was born here in Yonkers, at 96 Woodworth Avenue!

During his years in Yonkers, one of Archer's favorite pastimes was reading comic books about World War I flyers. His family later moved to New York.

Archer left college to enlist in the Army Air Corps in early 1941 but was rejected for pilot training because the military didn't allow Blacks to serve as pilots. After the Tuskegee program officially began, Archer re-applied and entered the Army. He was accepted into aviation cadet training several months later, and reported to Tuskegee Army Airfield. Archer graduated number one in his class, and was commissioned a Second Lieutenant July 28th 1943.

A pilot in the 332nd Fighter Group, Archer is best remembered for his exploits of October 12, 1944. In the midst of a furious series of dogfights over German-occupied Hungary, he shot down three Hungarian fighter planes within 10 minutes.

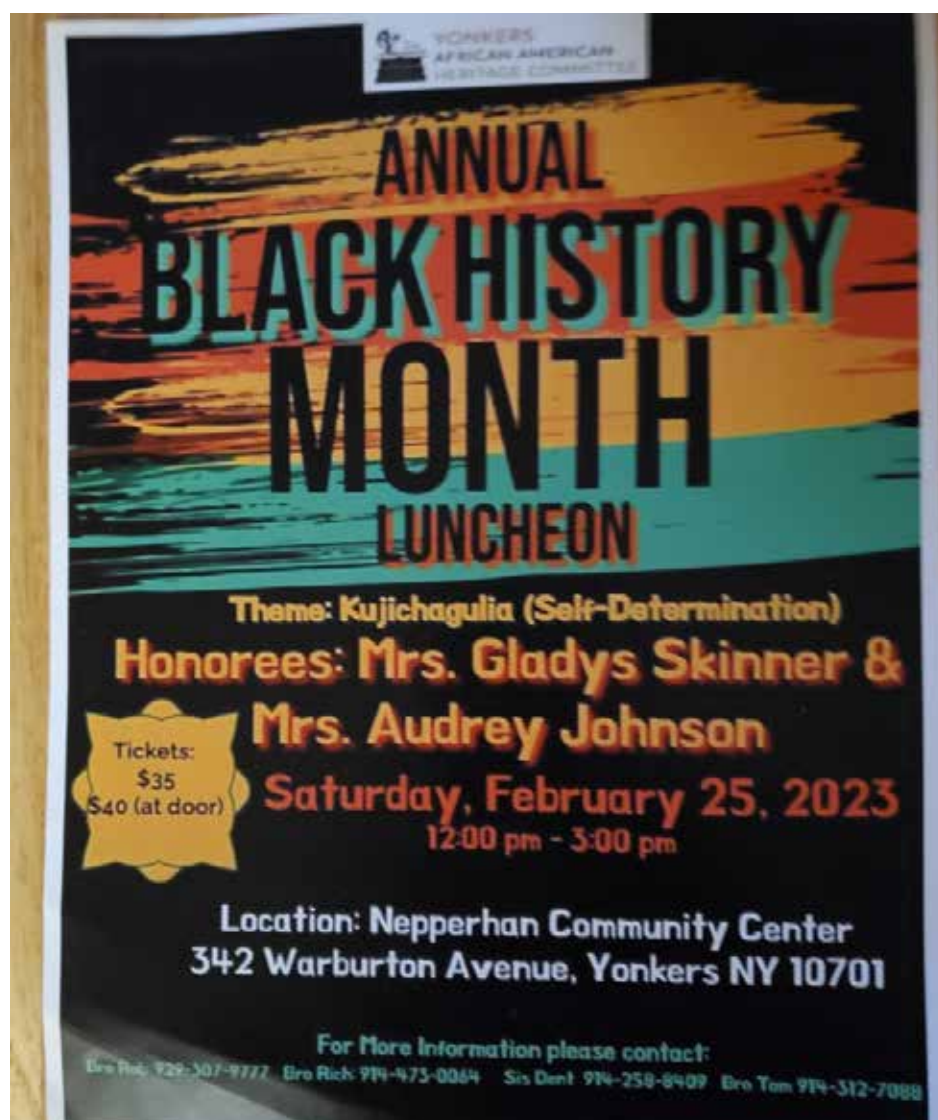
Archer went on to fly 169 missions over 11 countries in the "Ina, The Macon Belle," his red tail P51 Mustang named for his girlfriend and later wife, Ina Burdell.

After he retired from the Air Force in 1970, he went to work for General Foods, becoming the company's first Black Vice President.

In 2009, he served as advisor for the George Lucas film Red Tails, a story based on the Tuskegee Airmen during World War II.

He passed away in 2010 and is buried in Arlington National Cemetery.

Annual YAAHC Black History Month Luncheon Sat. Feb. 25



Come and join us for the MEMORABLE event that had been hosted for DECADES by the nonprofit organization-Yonkers African American Heritage Committee! This year, we will be honoring two PHENOMENAL YAAHC long-time members!! There are still tickets available; so if you are interested in attending, you can contact the YAAHC Treasurer, Audrey Johnson at: (914) 774-1142.

Visit YAAHC.org, or on Facebook at

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Please Stop Naming & Renaming the Cuomo-TZ Bridge- Work On Something More Important!



OPINION:

New York State, and our leaders in Albany, have many challenges in the weeks ahead, most notable is the passage of a State budget. Included in every NY State budget are priorities that are jammed into the budget, forcing State Senators and Assembly members to "take it or leave it" and having to make a choice of voting yes or no on the budget, but on other items as well.

Governor Kathy Hochul wants to ban Menthol Cigarettes and all flavored tobacco products in New York State. She also wants some type of criminal justice reform, and wants to increase the number of Charter Schools permitted in New York City.

All of these issues are important to Westchester Residents. But one issue that is of NO importance to the people of Westchester is the name of the Mario Cuomo Bridge, formerly known as the Tappan Zee Bridge.

Governor Hochul and several state legislators have threatened to change the name back to the TZ bridge, apparently as punishment to former Governor Andrew Cuomo, who forced through the renaming late one night while he was Governor. A. Cuomo was forced to resign in 2021 for sexually inappropriate comments to staff and state employees.

But nobody cares about the name of the bridge that connects Westchester to Rockland anymore. Our newspaper, like others, did have an initial interest when A. Cuomo proposed it. But now it is nothing more than grandstanding and a waste of time.

So why are we writing about such an insignificant event? To call out our state delegation from Westchester, not to engage in this subject or topic. We agree with our State Senator, and Majority Leader Andrea Stewart-Cousins, who recently commented that the continued obsession with the vote for NYS Chief Judge LaSalle was a "distraction" that should end so that the Senate could focus on the

Governor's proposed \$227 Billion state budget. Hochul nominated LaSalle to be the next Chief Judge of NY, but lost a confirmation vote, and it wasn't close. Now its time to move on.

Similarly, we have already debated the name of the Cuomo bridge. Regardless of your opinion of Andrew Cuomo, Mario Cuomo served our state with honor and without scandal. Keep the name and let's move on, and if we hear about any of our Westchester State Senators or Assembly members wasting our time with this discussion, we will call them out. If anything, we are more concerned about the toll that is charged for crossing the bridge than its name.

And for those who wish to punish Andrew Cuomo, in a pre-emptive attempt to keep him from making a political comeback, that dog won't hunt. It's easy to see that the former Governor is trying to find a way back into politics, and on a ballot someday.

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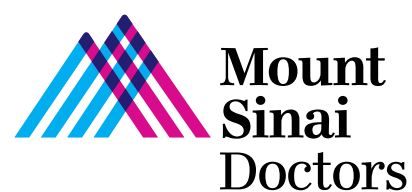
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