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Friday February 25, 2022

Hundreds Come out to Ask Governor Hochul to "Unmask Our Kids" in School



Yonkers City Councilman John Rubbo, helped organize the rally

By Dan Murphy

On Feb. 17, chanting "Our Kids, Our Choice, We Choose Not to Mask," several hundred parents rallied outside the Yonkers Riverfront Library, steps away from the Yonkers Public Schools main offices, to call on Governor Kathy Hochul to end the mask mandate for students in school.

The rally was organized by City Clerk Vincent Spano his wife Jaime, and City Councilmember John Rubbo, who were joined by Assemblymember Nader Sayegh, Council Minority Leader Mike Breen, Councilmember Anthony Merante, and County Legislators James Nolan and David Tubiolo.

Rubbo and Spano have young children in the Yonkers Public Schools who have had to deal with two years of COVID, remote learning and masking. Together with hundreds of other parents, they asked Governor Hochul to end the mask mandate in schools after the winter break on Monday Feb. 28.

"When we see a 90% reduction in COVID cases, there is no reason in the Science to wait until after mid-Winter break in classes to lift the mask mandate in schools. I am calling on Governor Kathy Hochul to end the mask mandate today. Meanwhile, I continue to support the Governor's efforts to encourage parents to have their children vaccinated and will continue to advocate for this in Yonkers and New York State as this is the best way to protect the health of our children and grandchildren," said Assemblymember Nader Sayegh.

City Council Minority Leader Mike Breen said, "Governor Hochul, are you listening? Unmask our kids. You can do it, we know what the statistics are. The class of 2020 and 2021 got robbed of a proper graduation and school life. Can you hear us Governor Hochul?"

Councilmember John Rubbo said, "After two years we want clear guidance. Our children deserve it. We look to New Jersey and Connecticut, both have given clear guidance that after winter break their kids can take off their masks. It's important to look to the science and the data that says its ok to take your mask off. This is not a democratic or republican issue, its an issue of the people. We don't want to wait. It's cruel punishment to not allow our kids to socialize and get back to normal. Governor Hochul, now is the time to lead us and tell us that after the winter break that our parents can have a choice. We are asking for parents choice."

County Legislator James Nolan said, "Two years is too long. As someone who works in the Yonkers Public Schools, I can see how tough it has been on children and enough is enough. Gov. Hochul's future is in our hands. It's time to lose the masks, and let parents have a choice. We are not going away."

Councilmember Anthony Merante said, "The kids have done their fare share during this pandemic. The answer is to take the masks off and let them enjoy their life. It time for the Governor to do her part or else we will do our part."

County Legislator David Tubiolo said, "Our children's mental health is a serious issue. Governor Hochul, please hear us and do the right thing and life the mask mandate."

Also on Feb. 17, Mayor Mike Spano tweeted, "I support Yonkers families who are calling on New York State to lift the mask mandate in our public schools. Let's give parents the choice."

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Yonkers Track Stars Win Medals: Touba Headed to States



Yonkers Track Team stars Derrick Touba, left, and Ben Domingo, right. Photo from Coach Derrick Burke

On Saturday, February 5th, the Yonkers Track Team participated in Class AA Championships at the Armory Track in Manhattan. Junior, Ben Domingo ran the 55 meter hurdles earning a time of 8.30 in the preliminary round to make the finals. In the finals, Domingo ran a new personal best of 8.25 seconds to earn second place and a silver medal for Yonkers. Seniors, Derrick Touba and Toluwani Alao, ran the 55 meter dash, Touba earned a time of 6.76 in the preliminaries while Alao earned a time of 6.86, both qualifying for the finals. Touba in the finals ran 6.69, a new personal best to earn second and take home a silver medal. Alao went on to place 7th in the finals with a time of 6.90.

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91% of Yonkers Public Schools Class of 2021 Graduated on Time; 2% Dropout Rate Lower than Big 5 Average

The New York State Education Department released the 2021 graduation data, and the Yonkers Public Schools sustained a 91% graduation rate. "The 2017 Cohort of the graduates and their families' personified grit and persistence to remain focused on their diploma while coping with almost a year and a half of COVID-19. This was accomplished with the relentless commitment of Yonkers administrators and teachers," stated Dr. Edwin M. Quezada, Superintendent of Schools.

"Most significant for an urban school district is keeping our students in school as we have in Yonkers with a 2% dropout rate. These students also significantly benefit from the stackable credentials provided through the new graduation pathways, 51.5% of Yonkers graduates earned Career and Technical Education endorsed diplomas."

Board of Education President Rev. Steve Lopez added, "Under the most challenging times Yonkers graduation data continues on a positive trajectory. Yonkers Class of 2021's 91% graduation rate once again surpassed the State's rate of 86% and is equal to Westchester County's rate of 91%. Graduation rates are expected to fluctuate with every class. We are extremely pleased with our sustained progress over the past seven years with the outstanding work of Dr. Quezada, all of our employees, students and families."

"I am continually impressed by the amazing strides our students make in their pursuit of academic achievement," said Yonkers Mayor Mike Spano. "Despite funding challenges, Yonkers Public Schools is consistently raising the bar for urban school districts across New York State. The hard work and dedication of our Board of Education, Superintendent, administrators, teachers, students and parents is exemplified in our graduation rate, the highest of any Big 5 District – well done!"

The District has focused significant resources into closing the achievement gap across race, gender and sub groups including English Language Learners, Students with Disabilities and male achievement with initiatives such as Yonkers My Brother's Keeper.

- Yonkers on-time graduation rate remained at 91% in 2021.
- The graduation rate is strong across race, gender and sub groups:
 - o 87% Black students
 - o 91% Latino students
 - o 88% Male
 - o 94% Female
 - o 87% Multi-Lingual Learners
 - o 72% Students with Disabilities
- Dropout rate for Yonkers is 2% for all students, half the State rate of 4%
 - o Yonkers English Language Learners dropout rate is 5% improving by 4 percentage points lower from 2020.
 - o Yonkers Students with Disabilities dropout rate is 3% improving by 2 percentage points lower from 2020.
- Achievement outcomes for Yonkers students receiving Regents diplomas
 - o 90% of all students earned Regents Diplomas (62%) and Regents with Advanced Designation (28%)

Dr. Gitig, Mount Sinai Doctors-Westchester: Be Aware of The Risks of Heart Disease



"About half of the people who are candidates for a heart attack and stroke are walking around without knowing it,"

Dr. Alon Gitig, Mount Sinai Doctors-Westchester, left

By Dan Murphy

In recognition of American Heart month in February, Dr. Alon Gitig, Mount Sinai Doctors-Westchester shares ways that all of us can learn more and stay informed about their heart health, including the importance of keeping up on our annual Doctor's visits and testing during COVID.

"659,000 people in the United States die from heart disease each year, that's 1 in every 4 deaths. And most of those deaths are heart attacks. 15% of people who have a fatal heart attack had no prior diagnosis. About half the people who are candidates for heart disease, stroke and a heart attack are walking around without knowing it," said Dr. Gitig.

These are sobering statistics, but the good news is that by better understanding your own heart health, you can treat the symptoms, stay current with your checkups and physicals, and get healthier. "I want my patients to be aware of their own health and to recognize the signs and symptoms of heart disease. Only half of Americans know the 5 most common signs and symptoms of a heart attack," said Dr. Gitig.

- The major symptoms of a heart attack are
 - Chest pain or discomfort. Most heart attacks involve discomfort in the center or left side of the chest that lasts for more than a few minutes or that goes away and comes back. The discomfort can feel like uncomfortable pressure, squeezing, fullness, or pain.
 - Feeling weak, light-headed, or faint. You may also break out into a cold sweat.
 - Pain or discomfort in the jaw, neck, or back.
 - Pain or discomfort in one or both arms or shoulders.
 - Shortness of breath. This often comes along with chest discomfort, but shortness of breath also can happen before chest discomfort.

Anyone experiencing one or more of these symptoms should see their doctor for an EKG or other heart test or go to the hospital.

"Each patient needs to learn about their own heart health and get an understanding and acknowledgment of your family history, blood pressure ranges,

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Latimer: Crime is Down in Westchester County

CRIME HAS BEEN DOWN AND CONTINUES TO BE DOWN IN WESTCHESTER COUNTY

**27.6 %
DECREASE IN
VIOLENT
CRIMES**

**26.3 %
DECREASE IN
PROPERTY
CRIMES**

Pushes Back on Bail Reform Advocates, Says "Look at the Facts" in Video Message <https://vimeo.com/677331420>,

By Dan Murphy

Westchester County Executive George Latimer released a video on Feb. 14 which provides a statistical analysis of crime data that points to a continued decline in overall crime in Westchester. Latimer's one minute video, is titled Crime Has Been Down and continues to go down in Westchester County

State Senate Majority Leader Andrea Stewart-Cousins, in a recent video to members of Indivisible NYCD 16 said, "They are linking crime to bail reform. Crime is going up in some places but not in Westchester, according to the County Executive."

Stewart-Cousins has pushed back on those pushing for bail reform in New York, and instead supports keeping the criminal justice reforms passed two years ago in place.

Latimer's video supports Stewart-Cousins claim with factual data. "You might have heard that crime is out of control and that criminals are running rampant. Let's look at the numbers, let's look at the facts. Because here in Westchester County crime is down."

The video then shows crime data, comparing 2017 crimes to 2021 crimes. Violent crimes, murder, rape, robbery and aggravated assault, are down in every category and as a total, from 1,484 in 2017-to 1074 in 2021, a 27.6% decrease.

Total crimes in Westchester County have decreased from 8,434 in 2017 to 6,196 in 2021. This reflects a 26.5% Total decreased in all indexed crimes in Westchester over the four year period, which also coincides with Latimer's first four years in office. The decrease in crime has been reflected in all categories of crime data, including a 26.3% decrease in property crimes.

"People move here and stay here for the advantages of living in Westchester County, one of which is they know it is a safe environment. Crime is down and will continue to go down. Together we are building a safer westchester for you to grow

and thrive," said Latimer, who held a press conference on Feb. 23 to share the data with the public and talk about "the perception of Westchester County's degree of safety and the reality of Westchester County's safety."

Latimer discussed the Smash & Grab video at the Westchester Mall in White Plains. "People saw the video and made the assumption that crime is out of control."

"What is the reality? Crime in Westchester county is down. The perception or other narrative out there is not correct, and after these numbers are presented, if you purposely advance a narrative that is not correct then you are lying. The crime statistics show that to suggest that crime is out of control in Westchester is a narrative that is proven false," said Latimer.

"These statistics show how safe Westchester County is. Things have gotten significantly better."

Westhab's VP of IT, Steve Myrthil, Named One of Crain's 2022 Notable Black Leaders



Westhab, Inc. is pleased to announce Steve Myrthil, left, Vice President of Information Technology, has been named to Crain's 2022 Notable Black Leaders list. This honor is awarded to those who have a proven ability to affect change in their current role and who have gone above and beyond to be a leader in matters of diversity and inclusion.

At Westhab, Myrthil is leading the charge on addressing the urgent technological needs of over 8,000 shelter and affordable housing residents across New York City and Westchester County. Since his arrival in October of 2020, he has been actively crafting a strategic plan for Westhab's growth, leading ideation across teams, and implementing and supporting scalable solutions that allow Westhab to

serve more people than ever before. This includes designing the infrastructure that provides residents with reliable broadband access and rapidly deploying technology to establish and grow Westhab's programs. Myrthil's work also focuses on establishing the cybersecurity platforms and practices necessary to keep Westhab's people and information safe.

Most recently, Myrthil worked on the grand opening of the Dayspring Campus, a 63-unit affordable and supportive residence next door to the newly gut-renovated Dayspring Community Center, where Westhab provided all apartment residents and the entire community center with free Wi-Fi access. In collaboration with the Westchester County Association and the City of Yonkers, Myrthil also helped to establish the Dayspring Community Center as a home base for Project OVERCOME's Y-Zone initiative. Project OVERCOME is a \$2.7 million effort designed to expedite the delivery of broadband services to underserved communities across the United States. The Y-Zone initiative serves the Yonkers community and will act as a starting point for the future of digital connectivity.

"As a child of Haitian immigrants, I learned firsthand the importance that education and technology can have on one's life," said Myrthil. "While other kids in school had Apple computers, I was using a discarded typewriter I salvaged. It wasn't until my mother saved up enough money for a PC that I was finally exposed to new technology."

Myrthil joined Westhab after spending over 12 years in education, where he worked in charter schools with children with similar backgrounds to his own. Throughout his tenure in education. While working with Excellence Community Schools, he led the COVID-19 EdTech strategy for students working remotely. In this role, he helped thousands of students across New York and Connecticut learn remotely during the beginning of the global COVID-19 pandemic. Myrthil is also a board member of The Ascenders, Inc., a nonprofit that utilizes higher-ed networks and knowledge to guide students to and through college successfully with the support of mentors.

"The entire Westhab team is proud of Steve for being recognized as a notable Black leader on such a prestigious list," said Rich Nightingale, President and CEO of Westhab. "He is fiercely dedicated to serving Black communities and other underserved communities, and he is a true leader in the quest for digital equity and to close the digital divide."

Yonkers Democratic Party Endorses City Court Judge Ada Medina



City Court Judge Ada Medina

Ada Medina, a Democrat running for Yonkers City Court Judge this year, has been unanimously endorsed by the Yonkers Democratic Party's Executive Committee at a meeting held on February 9, 2022.

"I am greatly honored and humbled by the confidence shown in me by the Yonkers Democratic Party and the Executive Committee. Their unanimous endorsement truly means a lot to me, and I will continue fighting for a fair and equitable justice system in Yonkers to ensure justice for all this campaign." Judge Medina said. "Growing up in Nodine Hill in the 80's and 90's during the height of the crack epidemic and seeing my family and neighbors succumb to addiction and criminal activity fueled me to decide that I wanted to help and advocate for them in the justice system. With this endorsement from the Yonkers Democratic Party Executive Committee and by extension the Yonkers Democratic Party, I will continue the good work in my campaign and reach out to all of Yonkers to push for my goals of continuing to bring compassion and fairness to the bench while also keeping the community safe. I truly believe that as a Judge it is my ethical and moral responsibility to provide equality and blind justice for all."

Judge Medina, a lifelong resident and Democrat of Yonkers, graduated Northeastern University of Law in 2002 and for the past twenty years has consistently and tirelessly fought for the poor and underprivileged in Yonkers and Westchester County. Outside of the courtroom, she is heavily involved in local organizations in Yonkers, serving on the Board of Directors at the YMCA of Yonkers and an Advisory Board Member on Westchester County's Department of Corrections Advisory Board.

United Way and YWCAs to host 21-Day Social Justice & Equity Challenge, March 1 – March 29

United Way of Westchester and Putnam (UWWP) will once again team up with the YWCA White Plains & Central Westchester and YWCA Yonkers to launch the 21-Day Social Justice & Equity Challenge for Westchester and the lower Hudson Valley. The Challenge, which is part of a national movement to engage communities in anti-racist work, will begin on Tuesday, March 1, and continues (Monday –Friday) through Tuesday, March 29.

The 21-Day Social Justice & Equity Challenge is a 21-day learning and self-discovery journey that aims to help develop more effective social justice habits around issues of race, power, privilege, and leadership. There is no cost to participate in the self-guided Challenge; community members may register in advance at WestchesterEquityChallenge.org or HudsonValleyEquityChallenge.org.

Participants receive a daily email/text directing them to 3-4 curated activities such as: reading an article, listening to a podcast, watching a video, or reflecting on their own experiences. Each day's content focuses on a different topic, and participants are encouraged to reflect on the information through a daily journal and discussion guide. Topics include racial identity, intersectionality, housing affordability and homelessness, legal system inequity, and allyship.

Sponsorships are also available. UWWP is located at 336 Central Park Ave., White Plains, NY 10606. Phone: 914-997-6700 Website: www.uwwp.org Facebook: (www.facebook.com/UnitedWayWP) and Twitter (@UnitedWayWP)

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2022 Black History Month Series: Remembering Mrs. Joyce Jones, From 28 Lamartine Terrace



photos of Joyce Jones throughout her life in Westchester County

By Dennis Richmond Jr.

My paternal grandmother is Joyce Marie Watkins. Joyce was born on July 26th, 1937, in Greenwich, Connecticut. When she was born, President Franklin Delano Roosevelt was in office. That same year, Joe Louis had won the heavyweight championship. My grandmother, a strong Black woman, was one of a kind.

Joyce was born in Greenwich and lived with her family in Mamaroneck in 1937. By April 5th, 1940, the family relocated from Mamaroneck to New Rochelle, New York. Her mother, Adele Matilda Merritt, was born in Greenwich and raised in New Rochelle. Joyce and her siblings saw their father, Thomas Sinclair Watkins, Sr., leave for the service. He served honorably in the China Burma India Theatre of Operations in World War II.

Joyce and her siblings attended Albert Leonard Middle School in New Rochelle. She graduated in 1952. The same year, she started high school at New Rochelle High School. Her maternal grandparents would drive her and her siblings to school. One day after school, Joyce was talking to her friend Maxine Venable. The two teenagers went to a card game on North Avenue.

The young men playing cards didn't want Joyce around. One young man told her, "You can't be here." "Why not," she replied. "Because girls can't play cards," he said. That was the last time he ever said that to her. That man, Joe Richmond, ended up dating Joyce. The two of them would go on dates to the movies. At the time, movie tickets were 30 cents apiece.

On July 29th, 1954, Joyce and Joe had their first child, Michael Joseph Richmond. Dennis Richmond, Sr., the couple's second child, was born on September 30th, 1955. Joyce always made sure that she worked and cared for her family. She loved her children. Joe went into the army, and Joyce took care of her boys. The couple decided to leave New York upon his arrival back home. They relocated to Washington, D.C.

Having a beautiful home with a place for children to play and a successful life at young ages didn't bring the couple joy. Things didn't work out in Washington, and Joyce moved back to New York. A few years later, she met Franklin Delano Jones. The couple had a daughter named Charlene Jones. Everything was good. Joyce worked, and Frank worked. By 1975, the family lived in New York City, having had lived in California. Michael was 21, Dennis was 20, and Charlene was 15. Joyce ran a successful daycare in the Bronx. One of the children from her daycare grew up to be a famous actor.

Unfortunately, tragedy struck on October 5th, 1975. Joyce's son Michael died in the Edenwald section of the Bronx at 21-years-old. A year or two after her Michael died, Joyce and Frank relocated from New York City to Yonkers, New York.

My grandmother went on to live in Yonkers from c. 1977 to 2015. She was a longtime resident of 28 Lamartine Terrace in Yonkers. An almost 40 years Yonkers resident, my grandmother was unique. Joyce never bit her tongue and loved to laugh. Joyce died in Yonkers on February 8, 2015, seven years ago this year. She has deep Westchester County roots too. Her family was in the New York and Connecticut area for centuries. My family is truly a legacy.

Dennis Richmond Jr. lives in Yonkers and is on Twitter @NewYorkStakz. He is a journalist focused on the Black, Latinx, and LGBTQIA+ Community.

My Birthday was 2-22-22!



by Eric W. Schoen

Wow, I didn't realize that my February 22 birthday would be so special this year. 2-22-22! I, of course took advantage (what did you expect) of all the special deals you get on your birthday (sharemyvisit.net so you can be prepared). But because of 2-22-22 everywhere from Shoprite to Burger King to Macy's was running special discounts for everyone to take advantage of even if it wasn't your birthday.

Readers of this column know I enjoy playing the New York State Lottery. I play quick pick where the machine generates your numbers. I never check my numbers until the following day, but on 2-22-22 when I woke up I looked at my Mega Millions ticket for that night that I bought Sunday. My Mega Millions Mega Ball, randomly generated was 22. How scary is that. Bottom line is if you don't see this column next week, I hit it big! Don't worry, I will say goodbye before I head sailing on my yacht!

What is the significance of Feb. 22, 2022? It is a palindrome date and extra intriguing this year because it fell on a Tuesday. This prompted some people to call it "Twosday," with different celebrations. Little did I know It's especially big in the wedding industry, due to its perceived luckiness. No marriage plan on the horizon for me.

What did Twosday mean, why was the date actually a fad and how was it celebrated? This day of twos, or "Twosday" as it has been called, is a special day for many reasons. The "two" sounding day actually falls on a Tuesday, and it is a palindrome.

A palindrome means that a word, phrase or date can be read the same way backwards and forwards. In this instance, it works no matter the format you read dates — month-day-year, day-month-year, or year-month-day. The next palindrome date will occur on 1/20/3021, according to The Farmer's Almanac.

According to the Almanac, some cultures believe that palindrome dates are a sign of good luck.

Some couples decide to get married on palindrome dates as a way to ensure good fortune for their marriages in the years to come.

How did I celebrate 'Twosday' It also happened to be National Margarita Day, and frozen strawberry was my margarita of choice. Because it was a Tuesday, I paired that margarita with a couple of tacos paying homage to a very special Taco Tuesday.

But the first and best of my big celebrations took place on Sunday with my 'second' father, Adelmo 'Chubby' Costantini. Earlier in February Chubby turned 95 years young. He gets younger everyday.

My sister and I would normally celebrate with Chubby and his family at Louie and Johnny's on Yonkers Avenue. The current situation made us bring the party to him, a delicious feast including his favorite, pork chops with peppers and my favorite, chicken scarpello off the bone with peppers, sausage and potatoes.

Dinner was finished off with Italian pastries and an apricot hamantashen for me, my favorite from DeLite Bakery. Do you remember when they were on McLean Avenue? We have been picking up pastries and their famous cakes for many years. Two of Chubby's children were there, with everyone else FaceTiming through the magic of the Internet.

I like to spread out my birthday having intimate dinners with friends and family before and after the actual date, special date that it is this year! But to celebrate with Chubby. That as always is my birthday treat. To you my dear readers, many who reached out with greetings on Facebook and texts, to quote Frank Sinatra, 'The Best of Everything, That's What I wish you all!' Stay healthy, happy, and may our world be filled with Peace!

Hot Topics: Congratulations to all of the United States Olympians and all of those who competed in China. Shame on Russia for doping a fifteen year old. And shame on the Olympic 'Court' for not awarding the United States skaters their Silver Medals at the Olympics in China on the Olympic Stage.

And shame on the Olympic Committee for picking Beijing, China with all of its human rights issues as the place to host the Olympics? Can you believe that for an event that requires so much snow all the snow for the Olympics was man made. Bring them back to Lake Placid.

Democrats gather from all over our big state at their Convention last week. When the Governor and Lt. Governor, from opposite sides of the state accept the nomination in front of hundreds of people they don't have regular contact with they are unmasked. Kinda reminds me of Congressman Jamaal Bowman getting arrested at a Voting Rights rally where everyone was masked except for him. Are our politicians so concerned with having their unmasked faces on camera and in pictures that they ditch the masks?

Now we learn that the Lieutenant Governor nominee has Covid. I hope he gets better fast and thinks about the health and well being of others before he appears maskless. Meanwhile, our poor school children must wear masks. I'm all for science, but studies will show in the years to come that masking our children will hurt their development. The Governor and her advisors must examine this issue immediately. I'm starting to feel that what's good for the goose is good for the gander!

And poor 95 year old Queen Elizabeth. She sits alone at her husbands funeral. Has minimal contact with her family, is triple vaccinated and always masked and still comes down with Covid.

All this shows is that we still know so little about this virus. And as you learned when you were two years old, wash your hands with soap and hot water scrubbing for 20 seconds, singing Happy Birthday in your head twice. What I find most disgusting is when I am at the gym and men are working out, using the bathroom and not washing their hands. Same goes for diners and staff members at restaurants using the facilities without washing their hands. If I heard one story about a restaurant employee not washing their hands after going to the bathroom I heard a thousand.

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YONKERS COFFEE WITH THE CONGRESSMAN

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Notice of Formation of Jovanna Realty LLC. Arts. of Org. filed with SSNY on 5/14/2021. Office location: Westchester County. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process may be served. SSNY shall mail process to Jovanna Realty LLC, 100 Riverdale Ave., Apt. 8C., Yonkers, NY 10701 Purpose: any lawful act or activity.

Notice of Formation of BARK BARK BROTHAS LLC. Articles of Organization filed with the Secretary of State (SSNY) on 02/09/2022. Office location: Westchester County. SSNY has been designated as agent of the LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail copy of process to the LLC, 50 Riverdale Avenue, 2H, Yonkers, NY 10701. Purpose: Any lawful activity.

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NYS Liquor Authority Suspends License for Duo Tapas Bar & Lounge After Shooting

On Feb. 9, the New York State Liquor Authority (SLA) summarily suspended the license of S & S Duo LLC, also known as "Duo Tapas Bar and Lounge," at 748 Yonkers Avenue in Yonkers today. The suspension was ordered by Chairman Vincent Bradley, Commissioner Lily Fan, and Commissioner Greeley Ford at a special meeting of the Full Board on February 9, 2022. Effective immediately, no alcohol may be sold or consumed on the premises.

On February 6, 2022, at 2:09 am, officers with the Yonkers Police Department were called to the licensed premises in response to a 911 call. Two employees had been shot after a fight had broken out between two groups inside the premises. Both victims were transported to a nearby hospital where xxx

On February 8, 2022, the SLA charged Duo Tapas Bar and Lounge with multiple violations of the Alcoholic Beverage Control Law, including operating a disorderly premises, becoming a focal point for police attention, a sustained pattern of noise and misconduct, using a DJ in violation of their approved method of operation, and failure to supervise. During the suspension, the SLA will prosecute these violations, the maximum penalty for which is revocation of the license.

"SLA license holders have an obligation to maintain orderly operations," said SLA Chairman Vincent Bradley. "This business has failed to uphold the obligations required by a license holder and the Board is taking action to enforce those expectations and support local law enforcement."

The State Administrative Procedure Act authorizes a State agency to summarily suspend a license when the agency finds that public health, safety, or welfare requires emergency action. When the SLA summarily suspends a license, it also serves a Notice of Pleading alleging one or more disciplinary violations. In invoking a summary suspension, the SLA has deemed the violation to be sufficiently serious upon initial review to warrant an immediate suspension. The SLA's decision to summarily suspend a license is not a final determination on the merits of the case. The licensee is entitled to a prompt hearing before an Administrative Law Judge.

The bar has received numerous complaints from neighboring residents, which resulted in State Senator Shelley Mayer, and Councilmembers John Rubbo and Anthony Merante calling on the bar to be closed and its liquor license revoked after the shooting. Yonkers Police arrested Yaquba Jaquan Mcgougain, 29 of Peekskill, New York, with one count of Murder 2 in the death of Antonio Antoine-Filis, an employee of the club.

Eric Schoen, continued from pg 3-

Folks, washing your hands after you go to the bathroom predates Covid, the coronavirus and pandemic we currently face.

Merchants must examine the signage they have on their doors regarding mask usage. A lot of it is outdated. The 'State' does not require masks to be worn indoors. Individual merchants can establish their own mask policies, and many have. And you must follow them. Don't want to. Don't shop at the merchant. It's that simple.

I started this column off so positive but must finish it with a real story. I'm at Dunkin Donuts off Executive Boulevard. Sign on the door says you must wear a mask. A unmasked man orders coffee. The clerk gives it to him. He wants sweetener. The clerk tells him where they are so he can put them in. He says no, it's your job to put them in, you have them behind the counter. Put them in. The clerk was brown skin. The man, white is rude and obnoxious.

I normally wouldn't say anything but the man was clearly racist. The clerk has to put the Equal in? Buddy the sign at the entrance says you must wear a mask. I bring it to his attention. He carries on that the law is lifted and I should mind my business. Trying to explain the rules to this racist man is like talking to a piece of toilet tissue. He leaves and says something nasty to me on the way out.

Was he racist. You bet your life. I felt bad for the clerk. And the people behind me on line applauded me for what I did.

Quintez Brown, 21, was released Wednesday with the help of the Louisville, Kentucky Community Bail Fund, a group co-founded by Black Lives Matter Louisville organizer Chanelle Helm. They put up the \$100,000 bail. He is accused of the attempted Murder of Louisville mayoral candidate Craig Greenberg, who is Jewish. Greenberg said he and his family have been further traumatized after the activist charged with his attempted murder was released on bail just days after the shooting.

Friends, sadly racism in this country goes both ways! It has to stop. Reach Eric Schoen at thistooisonkers@aol.com. Follow him on Twitter @ericyonkers. Listen to Eric Schoen and Dan Murphy 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.

Letters to the Editor and Email Commentary:

State Senate Majority Leader Andrea Stewart-Cousins is either in denial or completely disconnected with reality.

Senator Stewart-Cousins was featured on the same newspaper cover as, Democrat Mayor Mike Spano and Police Commissioner Mueller. The Mayor and Commissions were asking for changes to the disastrous "Bail Reform".

Senator Stewart-Cousins, instead of listening to our concerns for the illconceived "no" bail law, suggested that such criticism is, "a Republican National Coordinated Fear Campaign." To say that her comment is ridiculous is an understatement.

Recently, the management of the drug store chain Rite-Aid came before the Democrat Super Majority City Council and plead for help in dealing with the unprecedented rise in shoplifting. As their security manager explained: the repeat offenders demonstrate complete disregard for the law now that there are no consequences for their behavior. Even if apprehended by the police, the "Bail Reform" revolving door encourages them to return and strike again!

After listening to those on the ground, the Yonkers City Council unanimously, Democrats and Republicans, passed a Resolution in which it asked the New York State Senate and Assembly to "create stronger laws to deter such actions, particularly with respect to arrest, bail, prosecution and sentencing."

Most recently, there have been multiple "smash and grab" robberies here in Westchester. Some of these incidents have been documented by video and shared across social media. In one such video, a store clerk tried physically to stop the robbery from happening. Thankfully, the sales clerk wasn't hurt.

Perhaps the Senate Leader should inform those who witnessed the aggressive robbery that they have nothing to be afraid of other than "a Republican Fear Campaign." It's just a matter of time before such an incident has a tragic ending.

Andrea Stewart-Cousins is so out of touch. She doesn't acknowledge or appear to care about the effects such behavior has on law abiding citizens, especially in lower income areas.

We, the Yonkers Republican Party, call on Majority Leader Stewart-Cousins to come down from her ivy tower and listen to common sense folks, regardless of party affiliation. She and those who gave us this irresponsible legislation should admit their mistake and go back to the drawing board.

Fix "Bail Reform" and stop playing politics with our safety and learn to admit when your policies fail. **No "Fear Campaign" intended.**

Yonkers Republican Party, John Larkin Chairman

Open Letter to State Senator Andrea Stewart-Cousins

After reading a front page article about you in the February 18 issue of Yonkers Rising, I think I may have some insight as to your wrong thinking, misguided, withering ignorance of reality. It appears that you are either incapable or unwilling to realize that even so called non-violent crimes have very real victims.

Furthermore, these victims can be individuals but they can also be entire communities. For just a few moments, try stepping out of your role as an elite politico who is well guarded and protected. Try walking in the shoes of a store owner who is trying to earn an honest buck but who, courtesy of so called bail reform, is being ripped off repeatedly by shoplifters who, even if caught, will rapidly be back on the street ready, willing and able to victimize the stores again.

How about home owners whose homes are vandalized repeatedly but feel that the damage inflicted is considered of such low priority that they stop trying to repair the damage or move away? How about those motorists whose cars have been targeted for theft of catalytic converters and now have to pay out hundreds of dollars to replace the stolen parts? Don't bother to ponder about the ramifications to individuals and/or families. What happens if John or Jane Doe can't get to a job for which they must be present?

Did anyone say first responders, bus drivers, train conductors? How about that grocery shopping or getting the kids to and from school? How about providing transportation for elderly family members to and from medical providers? How about others who believe that they are entitled to urinate and defecate on the streets when they are not harassing others for money? What about any of the above situations that are not deemed as violent crimes but undermine the quality of life of a community, further burden families and erode a feeling of public safety?

What about any scenario in which contempt for the law is fostered by refusing to hold individuals accountable for their anti-social, socially corrosive, threatening behaviors? Furthermore how is it that in many, many cases, reported in the news, those individuals who do get arrested for violent crimes, often times have extensive rap sheets featuring violent criminal actions for which time served has been so minimal that they are back out on the street further victimizing the law abiding in a disgustingly short period of time? You see, Andrea when you and your political accomplices, establish an environment where criminals readily inflict a reign of terror upon the law abiding because they have been empowered by misguided, wrong thinking, counterproductive legislation such as so called Bail Reform and Raise the Age Law then civilization is under siege. Speaking of Raise the Age legislation, let me offer you a little advice. Try not to be in the wrong place at the wrong time when adolescent gang members start shooting without giving a damn in hell who gets killed in the cross fire.

In conclusion, Andrea and to all of your fellow political enablers who have unleashed an attitude and reality of lawlessness, I have a question. Is there a certain body count of crime victims (killed or wounded) and/or quota of human suffering that has to be realized before maybe, just maybe you might even consider attempting to reverse the irreparable harm which your wrong thinking, misguided, withering ignorance has inflicted upon the law abiding? By the way, if you're thinking of playing the race card in response, a while back Dermot Shea, the former Police Commissioner of New York City stated that 93% of the victims of violent crime in NYC (and I think non-violent crime as well) were black and brown. I doubt that those numbers have changed much. Since you have jeopardized the safety and quality of life of the law abiding of all races, all identity groups (with the exception of those who can be correctly identified as professional criminals) then who is it that you represent?

Jerry Longarzo, Yonkers

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Westchester County Launches Opioid Response & Overdoses Prevention Initiative (ORI)

In response to a rise in overdose deaths in Westchester County during the COVID-19 pandemic, the Westchester County Departments of Community Mental Health, Health, Social Services, Public Safety, the Medical Examiner's Office and the County Executive's Office have partnered with the Westchester County District Attorney's Office, and local and federal law enforcement to launch the Opioid Response and Overdose Prevention Initiative (ORI). The ORI brings together key stakeholders from across Westchester County who work collaboratively to prevent overdose deaths, and save lives.

ORI partners meet regularly to address the following:

- Collaborate on public health and law enforcement data sharing.
- Identify which communities are most in need of overdose support services.
- Execute more effective education, training and distribution of Naloxone or "Narcan," a vital tool for preventing fatalities in people at a high risk for drug overdoses.
- Conduct more thorough data collection, analysis and transparency relating to overdoses.
- Increase community education, outreach and support services to populations in need.
- Increase access to addiction, mental health, and co-occurring treatment, harm reduction and family support services, including substance use prevention services.
- Find and implement evidence-based treatment approaches for individuals with addiction who are also struggling with co-occurring mental health needs.

Westchester County Executive George Latimer said: "ORI brings together the most important stakeholders, health professionals and community service providers to address a critical issue that we want to see come to a stop in Westchester County. We want every resident to know that if they are struggling, there are real support services in place to help them overcome their addiction. It is our hope that by working together, we will see fewer of these tragic, preventable deaths occurring in Westchester County."

Westchester County District Attorney Miriam E. Rocah said: "Preventing and combatting overdoses is a top priority for me that requires action from those in government and community partners. This initiative will allow us to more effectively collaborate, to create meaningful solutions that address all components of this crisis, and to develop enforcement strategies that target emerging threat areas and individuals, including medical professionals, who perpetuate the opioid crisis by supplying those suffering from substance use disorders, including minors, with harmful substances."

According to preliminary data from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, more than 100,000 people died of drug overdoses in the United States during the 12-month period ending in April 2021, accounting for the highest number of overdose deaths ever recorded in a single year. Seventy-five percent of those overdose deaths were opioid-related, primarily involving fentanyl. Westchester County also experienced an increase in overdoses at the local level, with Westchester County recording 119 overdose deaths in 2020, an increase of 28 over the previous year (2019). In addition, there have been many nonfatal overdoses in the County, which can cause serious physical and emotional impact on the individual and their loved ones.

The efforts of the ORI have already led to positive results. Westchester County has increased naloxone education, and equipped local law enforcement departments, emergency medical services and the general community with the potentially life-saving drug. Medication Assisted Treatment has also expanded to facilitate increased access to substance use disorder treatment. The entities participating in the ORI have the data sharing abilities to identify which communities are most in need of overdose support, and assist them with the services they need.

Commissioner of the Department of Community Mental Health (DCMH) Michael Orth said: "Under the leadership and vision of County Executive Latimer and District Attorney Rocah, and the strong collaboration between County Departments, Westchester County has created a multi-faceted approach in responding to the Opioid and overdoses epidemic. Westchester's ORI efforts have strengthened our ability to expand community education, outreach and support, and use of evidence-based substance use, mental health, and co-occurring treatment for individuals struggling with addiction and their families.

Watch the Full News Conference: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=MBK7xc1ZNEc>

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On This Day in Yonkers History...



NY Governor and Presidential candidate Al Smith predicted that Yonkers would become a part of New York City

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

Monday, February 28th

February 28, 1948: After NY Governor Thomas Dewey requested all colleges in New York increase teaching facilities by 26%, Sarah Lawrence began negotiations with Yonkers to open a co-ed branch in Getty Square. Sarah Lawrence President Harold Taylor met with City Manager Robert Montgomery and other city officials at the college to start exploring the option; the college hoped to utilize the former Yonkers High School on South Broadway, with Yonkers rehabilitating a portion of the building. The college would provide faculty and facilities to service approximately 200 men and women, but the project was dependent on how much "state aid would be put into the such a project."

Tuesday, March 1st

March 1, 1928: DeSarlo and Cerrone, attorneys for a fifteen-year-old Yonkers wife, filed papers asking for annulment of her marriage! City Judge Boote performed the wedding ceremony for Nancy Filomena Santos and Paul Santos five months earlier. Not only did the young bride fudge her age, claiming to be 17, the groom disappeared shortly after the wedding. Supreme Court Justice William Bleakley immediately signed guardianship papers, naming Nancy's father Daniel La Conte as her guardian ad litem.

March 1, 1944: Mr. and Mrs. Edward Berger of Buena Vista Avenue received a first hand account of the fierce battle for the Marshall Islands. Their son, PFC Bob Berger, US Marine Corps, wrote to let them know he was "alive and in one piece." He continued, telling them he was in the Artillery Forward Observer Party, saying it was a tough battle and many of the enemy had to be killed, but they "had the situation well in hand in a short while."

Wednesday, March 2nd

March 2, 1928: Governor Alfred E. Smith expressed his belief that eventually Westchester County would become a city, also revealing he would resume his fight to create a special commission to study the potential consolidation of small New York State counties.

March 2, 1956: Representatives of the City of Yonkers and the Chamber of Commerce appeared at a legislative hearing to speak in favor of the bill to help harness tracks improve betting revenues. City Manager Charles Curran stated it would provide increased revenue for Yonkers from admissions and real estate taxes.

Thursday, March 3rd

March 3, 1945: The Luria Steel and Trading Corporation on Old Nepperhan Avenue was building an all steel portable hangar for the B-29 "Superfortresses;" the company designed; they planned to use the hangar for testing on the grounds of the Empire City Racetrack.

March 3, 1956: Waring Place Padre Pio expert Joseph Peterson left for his third trip to Sao Giovanni, Italy, where Padre Pio served as a Capuchin-Franciscan priest. Peterson met Padre Pio in 1944, one of the many GIs who visited the priest at the Monastery of Maria della Grazi. Peterson had presented more than 200 programs on Padre Pio, the first priest with Christ-like stigmata; all his speaking fees went donated to the padre's work in Italy.

Friday, March 4th

March 4, 1906: Workmen began to tear down the League Park grandstand and fence on a field at Yonkers and Central Avenues. The lumber from the fence and grandstand was to be used to enclose a Saw Mill River Road field leased by the New York Central Railroad Athletic Association.

March 4, 1921: County Clerk Louis Ellrodt announced the United States Government had removed four hundred Yonkers men from the "alien enemy class;" the men now would be eligible to appear with their witnesses for examination for citizenship.

March 4, 1957: Edward James of the US Census Bureau announced Yonkers was selected to be the testing city for various methods under consideration to collect census information.

continued on pg 7-

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INVITATION FOR BIDS FOR ON-CALL INTERIOR PAINTING SERVICES AT PROPERTIES OWNED OR MANAGED BY THE MUNICIPAL HOUSING AUTHORITY FOR THE CITY OF YONKERS

The Municipal Housing Authority for the City of Yonkers (“MHACY”) hereby solicits proposals from qualified firms for On-Call Painting Services for MHACY at various sites as specified in this Invitation for Bids (“IFB”).

This IFB package contains submission requirements and terms and conditions and other pertinent information for submitting a proper and responsive proposal. This IFB is the only information provided to prospective bidders (hereinafter “Responders”) and is available online starting February 28, 2022, at www.mhacy.org/about/procurement.

There will be a site tour for interested parties on March 8, 2022, time to be determined. The IFB questions deadline is March 10, 2022 at 3:00PM Eastern Standard Time (EST). Any and all questions must be emailed procurement@mhacy.org by the deadline. No telephone calls and/or written communication sent via mail will be accepted.

The contract is a non-exclusive contract for the services described. Selection may be made of one (1) or more Respondents deemed to be fully qualified and best suited among those submitting proposal.

Proposals must reach MHACY no later than 4:00 PM (EST) on March 16, 2022. Late submissions will be handled in accordance with the provisions in Form HUD-5369B.

Proposals will be evaluated on the criteria stated in the IFB. Negotiations may be conducted with contractors who have a reasonable chance of being selected for the award. After evaluation of the proposal revision, if any, the contract will be awarded to the responsible firm(s) whose qualifications, price and other factors are considered to be the most advantageous to MHACY.

MHACY reserves the right to reject any and all proposals and waive any irregularities or informalities if it is in MHACY’s best interest to do so. MHACY reserves the right to cancel this IFB or to reject, in whole or in part, any and all proposals received in response to this IFB, upon its determination that such cancellation or rejection is in the best interest of MHACY.

MHACY is an Equal Opportunity Employer and does not discriminate on the basis of race, sexual orientation, color, national origin, sex, religion, age, disability, or family status. MHACY solicits and encourages the participation of minorities and small businesses in procurement.

Contact, related to this procurement, with members of MHACY’s Board of Commissioners, or MHACY’s officers and/or employees other than the contact person show above, during the procurement process could result in disqualification of a proposal.

Wilson Kimball, President & CEO
Municipal Housing Authority for the City of Yonkers
1511 Central Park Avenue, Yonkers, New York 10710
IFB # 2022 – 01

INVITATION FOR BIDS FOR ELECTRICAL ON-CALL SERVICES AT PROPERTIES OWNED OR MANAGED BY THE MUNICIPAL HOUSING AUTHORITY FOR THE CITY OF YONKERS

The Municipal Housing Authority for the City of Yonkers (“MHACY”) hereby solicits proposals from qualified firms for Electrical On-Call Services at various MHACY sites as specified in this Invitation for Bids (“IFB”).

This IFB package contains submission requirements and terms and conditions and other pertinent information for submitting a proper and responsive proposal. This IFB is the only information provided to prospective bidders (hereinafter “Responders”) and is available online starting February 28, 2022, at www.mhacy.org/about/procurement.

There will be a site tour for interested parties on March 9, 2022, time to be determined. The IFB questions deadline is March 11, 2022 at 3:00PM Eastern Standard Time (EST). Any and all questions must be emailed procurement@mhacy.org by the deadline. No telephone calls and/or written communication sent via mail will be accepted.

The contract is a non-exclusive contract for the services described. Selection may be made of one (1) or more Respondents deemed to be fully qualified and best suited among those submitting proposal.

Proposals must reach MHACY no later than 4:00 PM (EST) on March 17, 2022. Late submissions will be handled in accordance with the provisions in Form HUD-5369B.

Proposals will be evaluated on the criteria stated in the IFB. Negotiations may be conducted with contractors who have a reasonable chance of being selected for the award. After evaluation of the proposal revision, if any, the contract will be awarded to the responsible firm(s) whose qualifications, price and other factors are considered to be the most advantageous to MHA-CY.

MHACY reserves the right to reject any and all proposals and waive any irregularities or informalities if it is in MHACY’s best interest to do so. MHACY reserves the right to cancel this IFB or to reject, in whole or in part, any and all proposals received in response to this IFB, upon its determination that such cancellation or rejection is in the best interest of MHACY.

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Wilson Kimball, President & CEO
Municipal Housing Authority for the City of Yonkers
1511 Central Park Avenue, Yonkers, New York 10710
IFB # 2022 – 02

Notice of formation of a Limited Liability Company Love Jones 360 Experience LLC Articles of Organization filed with the SSNY Office on 9/23/21 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 Love Jones 360 Experience LLC , 41 Ridgeview Terrace Elmsford, NY 10523 Purpose: Any lawful purpose.

Notice of formation of Thomas Family Taste LLC. Arts. Of Org. filed with the SSNY on 07/20/2021. Office: Westchester County. SSNY designated as the agent of the LCC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail copy of process to the LLC, 268 Van Cortlandt Park Avenue, Yonkers, NY 10705. Purpose: Any lawful activity.

Notice of formation of Gelpdawg Media LLC..Articles of Organization filed with the New York Department of State on 12/01/2021. Office location: Westchester County. The New York Secretary of State is designated as agent of the LLC upon whom process against it may be served upon him or her to the company c/o United States Corporation Agents, Inc., 7014 13th Ave, 202, Brooklyn, NY 11228. Principal business address: 428 Marlborough Rd., Yonkers, NY 10701. Purpose: Any lawful acts.

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 Monday, March 7, 2022 at 5:00pm, Mayor’s Reception Room, 2nd floor, 40 South Broadway, Yonkers, New York, to hear all interested parties and citizens regarding the adoption of the following Local Law, to wit:

A LOCAL LAW AMENDING SECTION C8A-1 OF ARTICLE VIIIA OF THE CHARTER OF THE CITY OF YONKERS IN RELATION TO THE COMMISSIONER OF HOUSING AND BUILDINGS.

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 23, 2022

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

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

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

1. Bid 6691A - Opening date: 3/25/2022: 2022 State Touring Road Resurfacing Contract (AS).
2. Bid 6751 - Opening date: 3/25/2022: Twelve-month contract, with option to renew for 12-months to perform public right of way improvements as needed (AS).
3. Bid 6750 - Opening date: 3/18/2022: Purchase of up to 1,800 Kidde model P4010DCSCO, or equal, smoke alarms (AC).
4. Bid 6749 - Opening date: 3/18/2022: Purchase of various electrical supplies, 28 items (AC).
5. Bid 6747 - Opening date: 4/1/2022: Twelve-month contract, with option to renew for two 12-month periods, to provide plumbing maintenance and repair services for the Yonkers Public School District (KS).
6. Bid 6748 - Opening date: 4/1/2022: Multiple building envelope renovations and related work group B at School 29 and Pearls Hawthorne School (AS).

AGENDA FOR ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS
PLEASE TAKE NOTICE:

THE CITY OF YONKERS ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS MEETING SCHEDULED FOR TUESDAY, MARCH 15, 2022 AT 6:00 PM, WILL BE HELD IN THE AUDITORIUM at SAUNDERS HIGH SCHOOL (183 Palmer Road, Yonkers, NY 10701).

PLEASE BE SURE TO CHECK OUR WEBSITE FOR INFORMATION AND UPDATES WWW.YONKERSNY.GOV .

CURRENT CDC GUIDELINES SHALL CONTINUE TO BE OBSERVED REGARDING ATTENDANCE BY THE PUBLIC.

OPEN CONTINUED HEARINGS

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

5774 – Area Variance – Steven A. Accinelli, Esq., on behalf of NOAM ONE LLC, owner, on premises known as 57 Locust Hill Avenue, Block: 2020, Lot: 1, Zone: A (B28896)

NEW HEARINGS

5776 – Area Variance – Jeffrey M. Gaspar P.E., on behalf of Jose David Cortez, owner, on premises known as 161 Bennett Avenue, Block: 5032, Lot: 69.70, Zone: T (B21281)

5777 – Improvement to a Non-Conforming Use – Anthony M. Monaco, P.E., on behalf of Oak Hill Condominium, owner, on premises known as 128 aka 130 Colonial Parkway, Block: 4541, Lot: 40.45, Zone: S-200 (B24506)

JOSEPH CIANCIULLI
CHAIRMAN, ZBA
FOR FULL AGENDA, PLEASE VISIT OUR WEBSITE: <https://www.yonkersny.gov/government/meetings-agendas/-selcat-97/-toggle-all>

CORPORATION NOTICE CITY OF YONKERS-NEW YORK
PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE

Notice is hereby given, pursuant to law, that the City Council of the City of Yonkers, New York will hold a Public Hearing on Tuesday, March 1, 2022 at 6:00 P.M. Please be advised that this meeting will be held “remotely” and will be available to the public on the following platforms:

You may sign up to speak at cityclerk@yonkersny.gov or call 914-377-6020. For access to the full FGEIS go to: <https://www.yonkersny.gov/work/departments-of-planning-development/planning/ludlow-community-plan>

Webex Meeting Information:
Meeting number (access code): 2630 277 3599
Meeting password: welcome
To join by phone: 1-415-655-0002 United State

RESOLUTION NO.12-2022
A PROPOSED FINAL GENERIC ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT (FGEIS) ON THE PROPOSED LUDLOW COMMUNITY PLAN (TOP) ADOPTION AND ZONING AMENDMENTS (“LUDLOW REZONING”)

VINCENT SPANO, City Clerk

A Majority of Americans Political Party Preference is Independent

A recent Gallup Poll found that Independents Are Still the Largest Political Group in the U.S.

Regardless of which party has an advantage in party affiliation, over the past three decades, presidential elections have generally been competitive, and party control of the U.S. House of Representatives and Senate has changed hands numerous times. This is partly because neither party can claim a very high share of core supporters -- those who identify with the party -- as the largest proportion of Americans identify initially as political independents.

Overall in 2021, an average of 29% of Americans identified as Democrats, 27% as Republicans and 42% as independents. Roughly equal proportions of independents leaned to the Democratic Party (17%) and to the Republican Party (16%).

The percentage of independent identifiers is up from 39% in 2020, but similar to the 41% measured in 2019. Gallup has often seen a decrease in independents in a presidential election year and an increase in the year after.

The broader trend toward an increasing share of political independents has been clear over the past decade, with more Americans viewing themselves as independents than did so in the late 1980s through 2000s. At least four in 10 Americans have considered themselves independents in all years since 2011, except for the 2016 and 2020 presidential election years. Before 2011, independent identification had never reached 40%.

When the 42% of Americans who identified as independents are asked to which party they lean towards, 17% said Democrat and 16% said Republican.

So the next question is, how come we don't have an independent party in New York State? According to the Board of Elections, we have the Democrat, Republican, Conservative and Working Families Parties. What happened to the other parties?

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Yonkers Track Stars, continued from pg. 1-

On Sunday, February 20th the Yonkers Track Team participated in Section 1 State Qualifiers at the Armory Track in Manhattan. Captain, Derrick Touba qualified for New York State Championships in the 55 meter dash. Touba ran a time of 6.77 in his preliminary heat to qualify for the finals. In the finals, Touba placed first overall with a time of 6.66 to earn a gold medal, and qualify for State Championships, which will take place on March 5th at Ocean Breeze Track and Field Athletic Complex.

Junior, Ben Domingo ran the 55 meter hurdles, in the preliminaries he tied his personal best of 8.25, placing first in his heat to qualify for finals. Domingo in the finals ran a new personal best of 8.21, placing third in the finals and by 2 hundredths of a second missed qualifying for States. However, he earned a bronze medal for his performance.

Yonkers History, continued from pg. 5-

Saturday, March 5th

March 5, 1928: Westchester County Democratic leader Benjamin Moore suggested annexation of Yonkers, Mount Vernon and New Rochelle to New York City as an alternative to Governor Al Smith's prediction of a "City of Westchester."

March 5, 1942: Women working in the Yonkers Genung's Department store were given the opportunity to run the store for 3 days, while all male executives were to do their bidding. Appointed to fill these temporary positions were Filomena Torres as president, Margaret Potenza as Vice president, Connie Annunziata as store manager, Selma Engle as assistant manager, and Mary Cannon as personnel manager.

Sunday March 6th

March 6, 1931: An All Star Benefit performance was held for the Colored Citizens Unemployment and Relief Committee of Yonkers NY at Saunders Trade School. This was the premiere performance of Bronze Ballet Plastique, founded by Wolfe Street resident Helmsley Winfield, one of the pioneers of Modern Dance. Among the well known African Americans who performed that night were Helmsley Winfield, W. C. Handy, Drusela Drew and Edna Guy.

March 6, 1940: President of the St. Catherine Welfare Association Sarah McPike of Elinor Place urged the Senate Finance Committee to oppose extension of the reciprocal trade agreements. She stated, "Until a few years ago, Yonkers was listed among the prosperous cities of the country, but government tariff policy has had its part in hampering profitable productions." She cited the example of the tariff in favor of Cuban sugar causing closure of two Yonkers sugar refineries and unemployment of 1500 people. She added reduced tariffs on rugs had "forced the Alexander Smith and Sons Carpet Company to operate at one-fourth its former capacity, causing demolition of buildings and throwing the tax burden on apartment buildings and homes." This early suffragist founded St. Catherine Welfare Association to lobby for remedial legislation benefitting women workers and their children; McPike was the first woman Secretary of the NYS Labor Department, serving from 1923 to 1930.

Questions or comments? Email YonkersHistory1646@gmail.com.

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

Notice of formation of Aiyana's Creations LLC. Arts. of Org. filed with the SSNY on 12/20/2021. Office: Westchester County. United States Corporation Agents Inc., 7014 13th Avenue, Suite 202, Brooklyn, NY, 11228 designated as agent of the LLC upon whom process against it may be served. US Corporation Agents Inc shall mail copy of process to the LLC, 127 Ramsey Avenue, Yonkers, NY 10701. Purpose: Any lawful activity.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that a license, Number 1339572, for Beer, Liquor, Wine & Cider has been applied for by the undersigned to sell Beer, Liquor, Wine & Cider at retail in a Restaurant under the Alcoholic Beverage Control Law at 188 Waverly Street, Yonkers, NY 10701, NY, Westchester County, for on-premises consumption. JESMYR CORP. d/b/a EL CALVARIO COCINA MEXICANA

Notice of formation of JGS Notary Services LLC Articles of Organization filed with the SSNY Office on 10/28/21 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 JGS Notary Services LLC , 588 Warburton Apt 2 Yonkers, NY 10701 Purpose: Any lawful purpose.

Notice of formation of LOREDANA VICARI PHOTOGRAPHY LLC Articles of Organization filed with the SSNY Office on 10/6/21 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 LOREDANA VICARI PHOTOGRAPHY LLC , 125 Dunwoodie Street Yonkers, NY 10704 Purpose: Any lawful purpose.

Notice of Formation of HSKickz Company LLC. Articles of Organization filed with Secretary of State of New York (SSNY) on 12/09/2021. Office location: Westchester County. SSNY is designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: 3 Bainton Street, Yonkers, New York 10704. Purpose: any lawful act or activity.

Girl Scout Cookies are Back!

Girl Scouts Heart of the Hudson, Inc. (GSHH) and Girl Scouts of the USA (GSUSA) are celebrating National Girl Scout Cookie Weekend February 18–20 with the launch of nationwide online cookie ordering. Customers who don't already know a Girl Scout now have the chance to purchase Girl Scout Cookies online for direct shipment to their door or donation to local causes. Girl Scouts are selling classic Girl Scout flavors including Thin Mints®, Trefoils®, Tagalongs®, and more!

The annual National Girl Scout Cookie Weekend highlights Girl Scout entrepreneurs across the United States who sell cookies to their families, friends, and communities via in-person booths, door-to-door activity, and the Digital Cookie® platform online. In addition to launching online ordering nationally for customers who haven't already satisfied their cookie craving, this year Girl Scouts throughout Girl Scouts Heart of the Hudson will be participating in the Girl Scout Cookie Program in their communities with socially distanced and contactless ordering tools.

Every Girl Scout Cookie purchase helps girls learn important entrepreneurial skills and powers amazing adventures for them. Girl Scouts use their cookie earnings to better their communities, explore new things in STEM and the outdoors, plan exciting travel adventures, have fun experiences with their friends, and so much more. Girl Scouts in Girl Scout Heart of the Hudson also donate cookies to active and veteran service people at home and overseas through our council's Operation Cookie Drop, now in its 20th year.

Marie Reger, CEO of Girl Scouts Heart of the Hudson, Inc., said of the Girl Scout Cookie Program, "Girl Scout Cookie Season is one of our favorite times of year. It is an opportunity for Girl Scouts to bring the skills they have learned through their Girl Scout journey into their communities and develop their entrepreneurial skills. The Girl Scout Cookie Program is the largest girl-led entrepreneurial program in the world, and we are so happy support the leaders of tomorrow in achieving their goals."

If you don't already know a Girl Scout, enter your zip code at www.girlscoutcookies.org to purchase cookies online or to find socially distant or contact-free cookie booths if they are available in your area. You can also text COOKIES to 59618* or use the official Girl Scout Cookie Finder app for free on iOS or Android devices.

Mount Sinai Doctors, Heart Health continued from pg. 1-

whether you have diabetes or are pre-diabetic, and your weight and physical activity. All of these play a role in determining if you may have coronary disease. Half of patients who die suddenly from cardiac arrest had not been diagnosed previously," said Dr. Gitig.

One test that Dr. Gitig says he uses to test heart health is a coronary calcium test, which detects calcium buildup in plaque along the walls of the coronary arteries, that supply the heart with blood and oxygen. This test is used for patients who may not have any symptoms but may be at risk for heart disease.

"I am a huge proponent of a coronary calcium scan test. This test has been shown to improve the classification of risk for people with heart disease and stroke over traditional risk factors. While not every person should get this test, certainly if your physician says that you are in the intermediate group for risk of heart attack, then it is a very useful test in a significant portion of people.

"And in my opinion, there is an argument that every man over the age of 40 and women in their 50's to get this test done. While It might not change whether they have to take medications for blood pressure or cholesterol, it helps people have a better understanding of what is happening with their body and will help many patients take control of their health and their lifestyle for the long term. You may change your way of thinking when you know more about what's going on with your body," said Dr. Gitig.

High Blood Pressure:

High blood pressure is one of the major causes of heart disease and risk of having a heart attack. "Many of my patients have high blood pressure, but almost half of those with high blood pressure don't know if they have it or that the optimal number is less than 130 over 80.

"Some believe that high BP is an inevitable part of our aging population, but we can't ignore the fact that in more traditional societies, BP numbers are not so high. And that is because of three reasons; they eat less or no processed foods, they have more physical activity, and they have improved mental states and less stress.

The higher your blood pressure levels, the more risk you have for heart disease, heart attack, and stroke. Nearly half of adults in the United States have hypertension, defined as blood pressure greater than 130 over 80. Only one in four adults with hypertension have their condition under control.

"I recommend to all of my patients that they know and understand their blood pressure numbers and their blood sugar levels to determine if they are pre-diabetic. Diabetes is another major cause of heart disease. That is why you should continue to see your doctor regularly, even when you are feeling well."

"I've seen a lot of people stop coming in regularly for their physicals, and the evidence shows that it because of a fear of COVID. But the research also shows that its quite rare to contract COVID at the Doctor's office or the hospital. Once universal masking when into effect, COVID rates went down," said Dr. Gitig.

"The take home message is that people don't stop having heart disease because there is a pandemic. If you feel sick you should go to the doctor or the hospital. If you are at high risk of heart disease, the risk to your health of not seeing a doctor is greater than the risk of getting COVID. As long as you are vaccinated and boosted, that risk of getting very sick from COVID is low.

"If you want to be proactive about your health and if you have symptoms, you should be coming in to get checked. It's the safest thing to do," said Dr. Gitig.

Alon Gitig, MD, is Director of Cardiology at Mount Sinai Doctors-Scarsdale and Mount Sinai Doctors-Yonkers. He is also an Assistant Professor of Cardiology, Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai, and Medical Director of the Heart Failure Management Program for the Mount Sinai Health Network.

To make an appointment, visit <https://www.mountsinai.org/locations/westchester>.



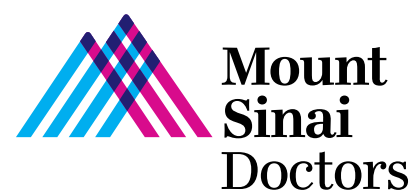
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