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YonkersTimes.com

Friday February 2, 2024

Over 5,000 Tickets Issued for Driving Through School Bus Red Lights in Yonkers



Wake Up Drivers! Slow it Down! STOP for School Buses

By Dan Murphy

A new program in Yonkers, which fines drivers who drive through a red light STOP sign from school buses picking up and dropping off students, has issued 5,000 tickets in 100 days.

The program, called Yonkers Safe Stop School Bus Safety Program mails out violations with a \$250 fine for the first offense.

In October of 2023, the city announced that the program was coming in November. A pilot program began in early November, in which violations were made but not enforced. More than 1,000 incidents have been reviewed and

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AOC Comes to Westchester for Bowman Reelection Kickoff



Congresswoman Alexandra Ocasio-Cortez, (AOC), in Yonkers for Congressman Jamaal Bowman's reelection kickoff.

By Dan Murphy

On Jan 24, Congressman Jamaal Bowman officially kicked off his reelection campaign in his hometown of Yonkers, at the Red Hook restaurant. Joining Bowman at the event were his volunteers and supporters, several Westchester elected officials and Congresswoman Alexandra Ocasio-Cortez, (AOC).

Rep. Bowman is running for reelection to a third term. He is being challenged in a democratic primary in June by Westchester County Executive George Latimer in the 16th District-NY, which includes parts of the Bronx, and all of Yonkers, Mt. Vernon New Rochelle, White Plains, the Sound Shore and most of mid-lower Westchester.

"Westchester County cannot be bought, it's not for sale. Not in Yonkers, or the Bronx or Ossining. No part of this district is for sale. It belongs to the people and kids and teachers and families in the district. It belongs to us all and it belongs to Jamaal Bowman. When you stand up to power, power fights back. You can't stand up against AIPAC and get reelected. You can get in the door, but the question now is can you survive?" said AOC.

"They're trying to make an example of Jamaal Bowman. You see what happens when you stand up for working people. That's what the establishment and money interests are trying to do- If they go after you -it means you are making a difference—but when you are actually shaking the table and moving the needle that is when they come after you," said AOC, who graduated from Yorktown High School.

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Council President Collins-Bellamy Asks Archdiocese to Reconsider St. Marys' Closure



"This is the oldest Catholic Church in Yonkers...The community deserve more time to preserve their spiritual home,"

City Council President Lakisha Collins Bellamy

By Dan Murphy

Yonkers City Council President Lakisha Collins-Bellamy has asked the Archdiocese of NY to reconsider all options before moving forward with a planned closure of St. Mary's -Immaculate Conception Church on South Broadway.

Council President Collins-Bellamy submitted a resolution to the City Council which passed unanimously to ask for time for the parish community to explore options and raise money to pay for an estimated \$10 Million in needed repairs to the Church, which was built in 1848.

At a recent meeting at the church on Jan. 17, hundreds of parishioners, and supporters came out to support the church and spoke about what St. Mary's

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Yonkers PBA President Keith Olson Retires After 34 Years of Service

Also Serves as President-Affiliated Police Assoc. West.



Keith Olson

By Dan Murphy

The people of Yonkers, and members of law enforcement across Westchester, are tipping their hats and saying thanks for your service-well done, to Yonkers Detective Keith Olson, who retired last week after 34 years in the Yonkers Police Department.

Olson served as President of the Yonkers Police Benevolent Association, (PBA), for the last 14 years. And for the past 7 years, Olson has served as President of the Affiliated Police Associations of Westchester.

We spoke to Olson about his professional career in law enforcement, the changes in fighting crime over his 34 years in the YPD and the more recent changes to NYS criminal law.

On Jan. 8, Olson attended his last Yonkers PBA meeting as President and posted, "All good things must come to an end. 14 years as President of the Yonkers PBA, 34+ with the YPD, 63% of my lifetime as a cop with the greatest police department on Earth. Tonight was my final PBA meeting. Special thanks to all the "old timers" that showed up tonight and an even bigger thanks to all those who allowed me to serve and protect the best cops on the planet. I love

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Ivan McRae, Jr.: Yonkers Tuskegee Airman!



2nd Lt. Ivan McRae

477th Bombardment Group

By Yonkers Historian Mary Hoar Born in Harlem in 1923 to Jamaican natives Ivan Sr. and Laura McRae, Ivan Jr.'s family moved to Yonkers and Runyon Heights just a few years later. While attending School One, he was active in Boy Scout Troop 34, receiving multiple merit badges and awards; he later assumed the role of Assistant Scout Master. While in School One, he took part in class activities and programs, portraying a variety of roles, including lawyer in a tribute to Abraham Lincoln.

Ivan graduated from Roosevelt High in 1941; after graduation, he assumed the post of Assistant Scoutmaster of Troop 34, his former troop. When Yonkers Post 68, Jewish War Veterans, presented his troop a parade flag at a special ceremony held at the Nepperhan Youth Center, McRae was given the honor of accepting the flag.

While attending Columbia University, he worked for the NY Central as a part time baggage porter at the Harmon Station. According to an interview his granddaughter published online many years later, he was on duty when he heard a loud commotion in the waiting room; he ran upstairs to investigate and learned about the attack on Pearl Harbor.

He enlisted in the Army's Aviation Cadet Program, and in 1943 was chosen for Pilot Training at Tuskegee Army Airfield in Alabama.

At 6'1", he was too tall to fit in a fighter plane; this limited his options. Instead, he earned his wings as a Twin-Engine Bomber Pilot (Class 44-J-TE) with the famed Tuskegee Airmen and flew B-25s.

McRae was attached to the 477th Bombardment Group; they were assigned to Freeman Field (Indiana) March 1945 under command of Colonel Robert Selway, who created two clubs for officers. McRae and the other officers in his company were directed to use the Non-Commissioned Officers Club and forbidden to use the "Supervisory" Club, although lower ranked White officers were welcome there. In a carefully organized non-violent protest, later labeled the "Freeman Field Mutiny," Black officers tried to enter the officers' club five at a time April 1945; they were confronted by military police and arrested. Within a few days, sixty-one Black officers were arrested, charged with "disobeying a superior officer." The charges were dropped against all but 3 officers who were charged with using "violent activity." A few days later, Selway issued Base Regulation 85-2, which dictated which facilities they could use... and required all to sign the order and obey it. One hundred-one Black officers refused to sign and were arrested. They were flown to Godwin Field and placed under house arrest. About a month later, the War Department determined Selway's Base Regulation 85-2 violated the Army's existing code. A few months later, the three officers accused of "using violent activity" were court-martialed; the decision was reached July 1945. Two men were exonerated, and the third got a very light sentence. Reprimands were removed from the other arrested officers' records, if they requested removal. Not all wanted them removed, considering their courageous stand against injustice a badge of honor.

Colonel Benjamin O. Davis Jr. took over command of the unit; for the first time, McRae's 477th Bombardment Group was led by Black officers.

Although McRae returned to training to fly missions in the Pacific, the August 1945 end of World War II spared Second Lieutenant McRae from combat.

After the end of the war, McRae returned to Columbia University to finish his studies via Servicemen's Readjustment Act (the GI Bill); this gave returning servicemen money for education and housing to help them readjust to civilian life.

On graduation from Columbia University's School of Engineering in 1948, he was awarded the prestigious Darling Prize, an annual monetary award given to "the most faithful and deserving student of the graduating class in mechanical

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500 Rally Against Hate: Police Look for Vandal who Painted "Genocide Supporters" on Jewish Stores on Scarsdale -NR Border



Window of Cheryl's Closet in Golden Horseshoe Shopping Center with "Genocide Supporters" Graffiti photo by Eric Schoen

By Dan Murphy

The Westchester community quickly rallied to speak out against the hateful comments spray-painted on two Jewish owned businesses in the Golden Horseshoe shopping center, on the New Rochelle-Scarsdale border. More than 500 attended a rally in the shopping center on Jan. 25, after a vandal spray painted "Genocide Supporters," on the windows of The Scoop Shop and Cheryl's Closet, at 4am that same morning.

The shopping center is located on Wilmot Road, across the street from the JCC of Mid-Westchester. The incident was recorded on video from the Shopping Center. New Rochelle police are investigating the incident. Westchester DA Mimi Rocah's office is also investigating and other law enforcement may join in the search for the person of interest.

Westchester District Attorney Miriam E. Rocah And New Rochelle Police Commissioner Robert Gazzola issued the following statement: "The New Rochelle Police Department and the District Attorney's Office are investigating reports of antisemitic graffiti found on storefronts at the Golden Horseshoe shopping center in New Rochelle. We understand the unsettling atmosphere of fear across all impacted communities and the safety of our residents and businesses remains a top priority for law enforcement. We have zero tolerance for hatred and bias in Westchester and we will use the full force of the law to hold perpetrators accountable and keep our communities safe."

Both of the stores that were vandalized had signs that read "We Stand with Israel" in their windows. Chanting "Hate Has No Home Here," the 500+ supporters included elected officials and religious leaders in the community.

Assemblywoman Amy Paulin said, "Our community is still reeling from the Oct. 7 terrorist attack, and still suffering from the knowledge that more than 100 hostages are still being held captive. That struggle has been compounded by an incessant rise in antisemitism everywhere, in our institutions of higher learning, at children's sport games, and at what we see today, acts of vandalism.

"Make no mistake – antisemitic acts such as these are a threat to Jews everywhere. If history is any kind of guide, this will not end here. The Nazis did not stop with the Jews, they also persecuted persons with disabilities, those they considered racially different from themselves, homosexuals, Jehovah Witnesses, and many others. Racists know no boundaries. In short, they seek to destroy the diversity that makes communities like ours great.

"That being said, we cannot be intimidated by this hateful vandalism. We must all stand up against it, and make sure that these acts never become normalized. Antipathy is also our enemy.

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Celebrating Black History Month

By Dennis Richmond Jr



Mary Elizabeth Roselle Glover

By Dennis Richmond Jr

Black History Month is a time when people across the world celebrate and remember African and African-American history. It was created during the Harlem Renaissance in 1926 by Dr. Carter G. Woodson and the Association for the Study of Negro Life and History, with the first month being celebrated 44 years later in 1970. It wasn't until President Gerald Ford recognized Black History Month in 1976 that people started to celebrate it across the country.

I am honored to be working on a series of articles for Yonkers Times, both online and in print, about Black History Month because across the country, this history is being erased. Thousands of people and hundreds of organizations are fighting to erase, suppress, and ignore Black History. As a middle school teacher and a writer, I'm all about facts, and that's what I'll be bringing this month: facts.

It's important to know your history, especially your Black History. Learning about Black History creates an understanding of diversity. Many people appreciate the contributions of others in our society. Learning about Black History may assist in combating racism. When people know where certain stereotypes come from, they might understand why people still say certain things today. Lastly, learning about Black History is empowering. Folks across the world have the opportunity to learn pieces of history that are often forgotten.

I leave you with a picture of my great-great-great-grandmother, Mary Elizabeth Roselle Glover. Grandma Glover took the picture that you see in Greenwich, Connecticut, circa 1900.

Stay tuned for more articles during our Black History Month Series!
Dennis Richmond, Jr., M.S.Ed., Author, He Spoke At My School

Letter to the Editor:

As per the New York Daily News, Wednesday, January 31, 2024 four individuals were set free without bail after being arrested for ASSAULTING NYC POLICE OFFICERS! Specifically these "alleged" assailants were arrested and RELEASED even after there was verifiable proof (Note the attached front page of the Daily News) that this herd of four had kicked and punched NYC Cops who were trying to enforce the law. How could any individual feel safe living in a municipality where soft on crime district attorneys, empower criminals to assault police officers ... (and anyone else they so please) without consequence?! it should be abundantly clear that the criminal empowering legislation inflicted upon the state by certain misguided, wrong-thinking state legislators, who spearheaded the passage of so-called Bail Reform and Raise the Age, is breeding a public safety nightmare, fueled by contempt for the law, the law abiding and those whose job it is to enforce the law. I wish harm upon no one but I am left to wonder if criminal empowerment would be such a priority, if those who inflicted the granting of license to criminals were themselves the victims of crime?

Furthermore, my understanding is that well over 90% of the victims of violent crime are Black or Latino. Perhaps those whose only card in their deck is the "Race Card" would benefit from recalling this devastating and frightening statistic.

Jerry Longarzo, Yonkers

Yonkers NAACP President: Apologize to Jewish Community and Leffell School

By Eric Wolf Schoen



The press headlines and stories say it all:

NY POST: NAACP finds 'no evidence' of antisemitic taunting at NY girls HS basketball game — but group's probe didn't question players, officials

FOX NEWS: NY NAACP chapter finds no evidence of antisemitic slurs during basketball game, but there's a twist: Yonkers NAACP didn't contact the players, coaches or administrators during its investigation

NEWS 4 NEW YORK: Head of the Leffell School told News 4 that the NAACP did not speak with any of its players, coaches or administrators and that their findings contradict their students' accounts.

NEWS 12: This report was produced without any conversation with Leffell School players, coaches, or administrators.

WAKE UP WESTCHESTER: Official Statement from Michael A. Kaye, PhD, Head of The Leffell School:

"We are aware of a recent report casting doubt that antisemitic slurs were uttered during the January 4 girls' varsity basketball game between Roosevelt High School and The Leffell School.

"This report was produced without any conversation with Leffell School players, coaches, or administrators.

"Its conclusions are contradictory not only to our students' accounts of their experience, but also to the findings of the Yonkers Public Schools' internal investigation into the matter, which determined definitively that antisemitic words and phrases were used at multiple points in the context of this game.

"This was noted in the January 8 joint statement released by Interim Superintendent Rodriguez and Mayor Spano, which remains prominently posted on the school district web site, and has been reaffirmed in numerous conversations with district and city officials in recent days.

In case you have been living under a rock during the month of January, here's the story. On January 4, there was a girls basketball game between Roosevelt High School-Early College Studies in Yonkers and the Leffell School, a private Jewish School in Hartsdale. Many of you know the Leffell School by its long-time name, Solomon Schechter School.

To quote the Yonkers Public Schools website, 'antisemitic remarks were made against The Leffell School's women's team.' According to Reports, they included a student saying, "I support Hamas, you f—king Jew," and Yonkers kids yelling "Free Palestine" and other anti-Jewish statements throughout the game.

Yes friends, it's 2024. It's not easy being Jewish anymore. Last weeks Yonkers Rising had a picture of Martin Luther King, Jr. Visiting my synagogue, Temple Emanu-El in Yonkers with Rabbi Abraham J. Klausner and Temple member and artist Yetta Colin viewing a sculpted bust of Ghandi she created.

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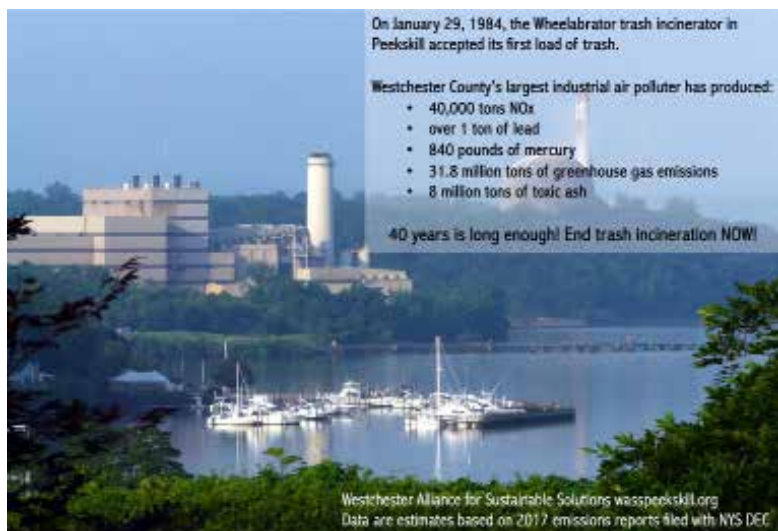
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Environmental Justice for Westchester: At 40, It's Time to Blow Out the Birthday Candles on Westchester's Trash Incinerator-Wheelabrator



Environmental Justice Op-Ed by Climate Action Council member Raya Salter and Dr. Courtney Williams of Westchester Alliance for Sustainable Solutions

On January 29, Westchester's trash incinerator, the Wheelabrator, will mark its 40th birthday. Put away your party hats because this is no cause for celebration. Did you know that Westchester vast majority of Westchester County's garbage is burned in Peekskill at the Wheelabrator? Did you know that Westchester's trash incinerator is the largest industrial air polluter in the county? And did you also know its emissions contribute the F we get from the American Lung Association for our county air quality?

If you didn't, you're not alone. Most people in Westchester don't realize where their trash goes after they put it on the curb. Even some of Peekskill's residents who breathe the pollution every day don't realize what the smoke stack is that they can see from their window, hear from their couch, and smell from their porch. It is no surprise that some of the richest communities in the nation send their garbage to a largely Black and Brown city with more than its fair share of poverty.

Whether you call it Wheelabrator, Resco, or WIN-Waste, its presence in Peekskill has dubbed us a Disadvantaged Community. According to New York State, Peekskill's pollution burden is worse off than 98% of census tracts in the entire state, thanks in large part to the incinerator. It means we're bearing an undue burden and are ill-equipped to cope with the health and climate effects. This is environmental injustice and it's hurting us all. So what are we throwing away and where else could it go?

Westchester County currently sends 2500 tons of 'garbage' to Wheelabrator in Peekskill every day. It's not just about what we're throwing away, but also where it could alternatively go. A staggering 90% of the waste incinerated at Wheelabrator is recyclable. This includes everyday items like food scraps, paper, metals, and plastics. The true potential lies in reimagining this 'waste' as resources—compost for gardens, raw material for new products.

Westchester County is already working to reduce waste, including a CompostED facility in Valhalla, a Materials Recovery Facility in Yonkers, food scraps recycling, and a new textile recycling program announced this month. Working together, we can scale and improve these programs!

One big step forward is the \$90,000 that Westchester County included in the 2024 budget for a waste reduction study. If the county plays its cards right, this \$90,000 could make a plan to get us off expensive trash incineration and on our way to Zero Waste- with good jobs, cleaner air, and healthier kids along the way. We urge the County to adopt a Zero Waste goal, like the ones in Ulster County and New York City, to help get us across the finish line.

It's important to note that we also need State officials to step up for environmental justice. New York's landmark climate act demands that emissions and co-pollutant reductions be prioritized in frontline communities. According to a recent state audit, the Department of Environmental Conservation must do more to protect the community of Peekskill. The aging and polluting Wheelabrator maintains operations as we speak on a permit that officially lapsed in 2021 and has been in "staff extended" limbo ever since.

It was on January 29, 1984 when the first load of trash was brought to the "garbage-to-energy" plant in Peekskill. At the time it seemed like a good idea to turn trash into power. Now we know that it has led to poor air quality and environmental injustice in Westchester. It doesn't have to be this way! We can build a system to manage our waste that protects public health, sustains our planet, and doesn't drain our pocketbooks. Let's make Wheelabrator's 40th birthday its last - and close the trash incinerator.

Feds Charge NYPD Officer from Yonkers with Possession of Child Pornograph-9 Year Old



Angad Beharry photo from IncarcerNation.com

Damian Williams, the United States Attorney for the Southern District of New York; Erin Keegan, the Acting Special Agent in Charge of the U.S. Department of Homeland Security, Homeland Security Investigations ("HSI"); and Edward A. Caban, the Commissioner of the New York City Police Department ("NYPD"), announced that ANGAD BEHARRY, an NYPD officer, and GISAINET CRISTINA CHIRINOS VILORIA were arrested yesterday and each charged with one count of sexual exploitation of a child. BEHARRY was also charged with an additional count of possession of child pornography.

The Complaint charges that from at least on or about August 31, 2022, through at least on or about September 3, 2022, the defendants conspired to induce a female minor (the "Victim") to engage in sexually explicit conduct, to take sexually explicit photographs and videos of the Victim, and to transmit them over the Internet to BEHARRY. In addition, the Complaint charges that from at least in or about April 23, 2022, to June 20, 2023, BEHARRY knowingly possessed sexually explicit video and images of minors, including pre-pubescent minors and minors under the age of 12. BEHARRY was presented yesterday before U.S. Magistrate Judge Judith C. McCarthy and detained without bail. VILORIA was also presented yesterday in the Southern District of Indiana, where she was arrested, and detained without bail.

U.S. ATTORNEY DAMIAN WILLIAMS SAID: "THE ALLEGED ACTIONS OF ANGAD BEHARRY AND GISAINET CRISTINA CHIRINOS VILORIA ARE UNCONSCIONABLE AND DESPICABLE. MOREOVER, BEHARRY, AS NEW YORK CITY POLICE OFFICER, IS TRUSTED IN THIS COMMUNITY TO PROTECT US AND STAND UP FOR WHAT IS RIGHT, BUT HE NOW STANDS ACCUSED OF VICTIMIZING A CHILD TO SATISFY HIS OWN ALLEGED REPULSIVE DESIRES. WE ENCOURAGE ANYONE WITH ADDITIONAL INFORMATION PERTAINING TO THIS CASE TO CONTACT HSI AT 1-866-DHS-2423."

HSI Acting Special Agent in Charge Erin Keegan said: "Angad Beharry took an oath to protect the people of this great city. As alleged, he betrayed his duty, chose to serve his vile desires, and, in turn, is accused of the same heinous crimes he once swore to combat. Whether here or elsewhere around the world, HSI New York and our law enforcement partners remain steadfast in our commitment to ensuring the safety of all individuals, especially those victims who are too young or vulnerable to do so themselves."

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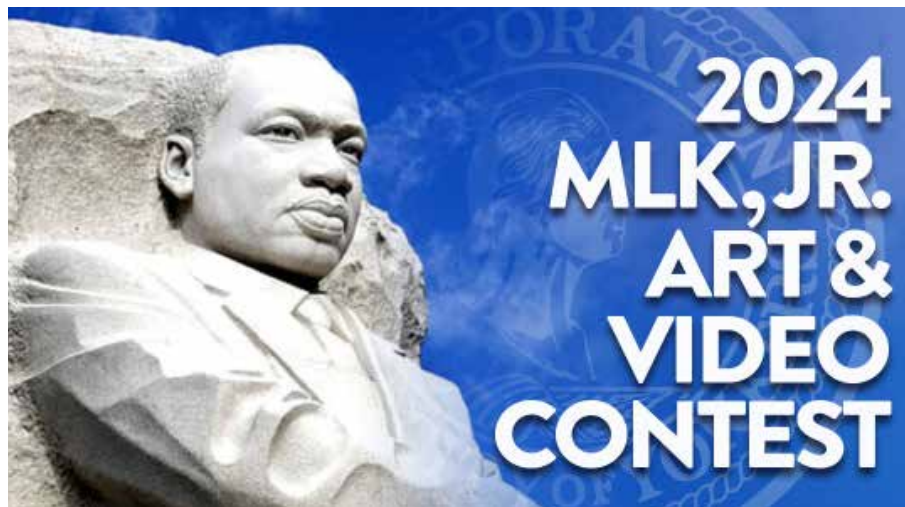
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Yonkers MLK Art & Video Contest Deadline -Feb 14



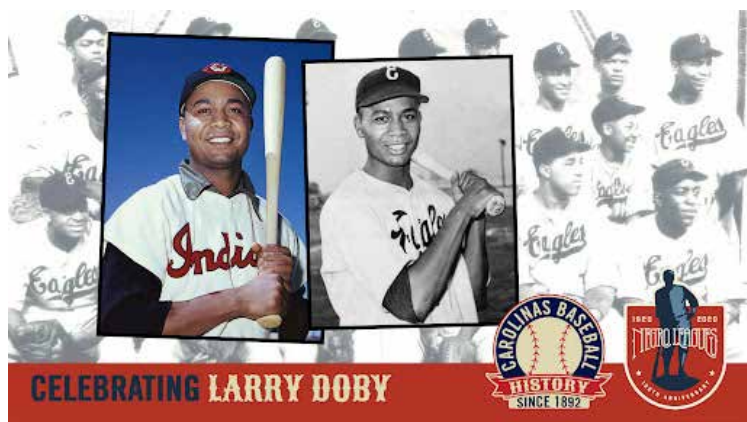
Mayor Mike Spano and Interim Superintendent of Schools Dr. Luis Rodriguez today launched the 2024 Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Art and Video Contest. This year's theme, African Americans and the Arts, takes a look at how African Americans have used art to preserve history and community memory as well as for empowerment.

All students from grades 1 to 12 in Yonkers are eligible to enter the contest. Three winners will be selected. One piece of artwork from grades 1-4, one from grades 5-8, and one video from grades 9-12 will be selected. The winning pieces and video will be showcased at Yonkers City Hall and online for the enjoyment of Yonkers residents. Winners will receive a certificate from Mayor Spano and will be invited to present their work at the City's Annual Black History Month Celebration at Yonkers City Hall on Wednesday, February 28, 2024, at 6:00 pm.

Artwork and video submissions are due February 14, 2024 and may be emailed to contest@yonkersny.gov or sent by mail to MLK, Jr. Contest, Mayor's Office, City Hall, 2nd Floor, 40 South Broadway, Yonkers, NY 10701. Guidelines and specifications for the contest can be found at www.yonkersny.gov/MLK

Winners will be selected by the Mayor's African American Advisory Board and will be notified on February 16th. For questions regarding the art/video contest email Dwanita Crosby at dwanita.crosby@yonkersny.gov.

The Other American Hero of 1947 Larry Doby



By John Vorperian

A rare bipartisan moment happened on Capitol Hill this past December. The late Larry Doby was awarded a Congressional Gold Medal. Doby was the first Black player to complete in the American League. He was the second Black baseball player in the Majors in the modern era. Behind Jackie Robinson, Doby endured the same challenges and injustices during his athletic career.

On July 5, 1947, Doby for the Cleveland Indians made his major league debut as a pinch hitter against the Chicago White Sox at Comiskey Park. In April 1947, Robinson broke baseball's color line playing for the Brooklyn Dodgers.

Upon entering the visitors' clubhouse Doby's teammates averted their eyes and did not speak to him. The WWII Navy veteran had to go to the Chicago clubhouse to get a first baseman's glove since none of his Cleveland teammates offered him one.

As for this cold, icy reception Cleveland manager Lou Boudreau told him "Shrug it off." In a 2002 interview Doby said "I knew it was segregated times, but I have never seen anything like that in athletics. I was embarrassed. It was tough."

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On This Day in Yonkers History...



Early 20th Century photo of the Yonkers Recreational Pier

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 Untermeyer Performing Arts Council

Monday, February 5th

1933: Welfare Commissioner Nicholas Ebbitt bought one thousand pairs of shoes from the US Navy. The Navy originally paid \$4.50... Ebbitt paid 25 cents a pair! The shoes were given to Yonkers residents who needed them.

1948: The New York Cardiac Home filed an application for a zoning exception; it wanted to build a \$900,000 facility on the twenty-four-acre site just south of Samuel Untermeyer Park and Gardens. The new facility would provide complete recuperative facilities to sixty cardiac patients.

Tuesday, February 6th

1956: Air Force Major John Caulfield of Douglas Avenue piloted a flight across the Pacific to Hawaii, while USAF physician Lt. Colonel John Norcross delivered a baby! Passenger Norcross, assisted by crewmembers, helped Mrs. John Garnett have her baby girl.

During the Berlin Airlift, Caulfield won the Air Medal for flying 200 missions for "Operation Vittles." When the US, France, and Great Britain announced in 1948 they would create a unified German state, Stalin cut off land routes surrounding Berlin. British and American forces flew enough food and fuel to sustain the Berlin population, transporting 2.3 million tons of supplies, the largest humanitarian airlift operation in history.

Wednesday, February 7th

1931: Ben Grady, Captain of Yonkers HS Swim Team, repeated winning the National Interscholastic Diving Championship at the University of Pennsylvania swimming championships!

1956: Gestetner Duplicator Corporation leased 50,000 square feet in the former Alexander Smith plant. Gestetner planned to consolidate three separate facilities; its executive office was at 50 McLean Avenue, a store on South Broadway, and a warehouse on Ashburton Avenue. The Yonkers offices were the US headquarters for the international corporation and oldest duplicating machine company in the world!

Thursday, February 8th

1944: Cameo Curtain Company, John Street, received the Army-Navy "E" production award, the first in its field to receive the "E" award. War goods were 91% of its production; it made fragmentation bomb parachutes, insect field bars, sleeping bag liners, mattress covers, and underwear. Cameo began manufacturing war goods June 1940; its first contract was for mosquito bars.

President Marvin Rosenberg explained they received the award because they had "ingenuity of war manufacturing" and completed contracts on time. Cameo also had good labor relations, and low absence and accident rates.

1944: Yonkers asked the US District Court to determine a "fair and reasonable" rent to charge Blair Shipyards for using our Recreation Pier. The papers were filed to answer a condemnation proceeding the Federal Government brought against Yonkers for the company using our pier at the foot of Main Street. The Feds requisitioned the pier for one year on November 5, 1943; the lease was extendable yearly, depending on the War Shipping Administration's wishes. Blair hadn't paid a cent to use the pier, and wanted to use more city property for parking.

Friday, February 9th

1942: Yonkers joined the rest of the country by setting clocks ahead one hour to nationwide War Time at 2 a.m.

1982: Yonkers City Council voted to give Yonkers' Lincoln Letter to New York State as a "restricted gift. Written to thank Yonkers for raising money, the original was raffled in 1864; copies of it were sold to raise money to care for

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Yonkers Rising

PO Box 705, Yonkers NY 10702-914-815-1388. Proudly serving the the people of Yonkers with hyperlocal news. Member NY Press Association. Legal notice inquiries to: risinglegalnotice@gmail.com. Daniel Murphy, Publisher & Editor in Chief, dmurphy@risingmediagroup.com. Bayan Baker, Assistant to the Editor in Chief risingmediagroup@gmail.com.

J.F. Shea Construction, Inc.
BIDDING OPPORTUNITY

City of Valhalla, NY with the following certifying authority:

SBA, DOT, New York State, New Jersey, Connecticut

Inviting qualified contractors, specifically firms within New York State to contact J.F. Shea Construction, Inc. (Prime Contractor listed below) regarding subcontracting services and material supply opportunities in connection with the upcoming tunnel and shafts project.

The Work under this contract is in the city of Valhalla. The Work consists of:

KENS-EAST-1

Owner: New York City Department of Environmental Protection
59-17 Junction Boulevard
Flushing, New York 11373
BID DATE: March 28, 2024 at 10:00 AM

Opportunities to participate exist in the following specific areas of soil/rock excavation, hauling, excavation support systems, deep foundation system (slurry walls or secant piles, soldier beams), dewatering systems, structural steel, engineering, survey, geotechnical instrumentation and monitoring services, materials testing, demolition and site preparation, tree removal, aggregates and fill, traffic control, sewer tap and sewer bypass pumping, A/C paving, environmental investigation, utility relocation, paving, fencing and gates, planting and seeding, retaining wall, cured in-place concrete structures, cast-in-place pipe lining, reinforcing steel, ground stabilization, shotcrete, concrete finishing, miscellaneous metals, mechanical steel pipe, ventilation HVAC, precast concrete shaft covers, temporary office buildings/ services, Temporary electricians, waterproofing, service utilities, grouting, electrical/I&C, River bank stabilization, drilled shaft, pest control, IT services, waste disposal, cleaning services, and security.

Any business seeking to participate as an DBE, in the Contract that is not currently certified as set forth above review is encouraged to contact the certifying authority for SBA, New York State, State DOT, New Jersey, or Connecticut to obtain current certification.

NYDEP has an FTP site where you can view all plans, specifications, and addendums for your convenience. Please contact Aimee Remo at (909) 594-0990, aimee.remo@jfshea.com, to receive instructions on accessing the FTP Site.

J.F. Shea Construction, Inc.
667 Brea Canyon Road, Suite 22
Walnut, CA 91789
Phone: 909-594-0990 fax: 909-869-0827
Send Inquiries/Certifications to Aimee Remo: aimee.remo@jfshea.com

Notice of formation of Jaylee's Beauty Lounge, LLC. Arts. of Org. filed with the SSNY on 10/29/23. 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, 55 Cole Street, Ste. 101, Yonkers, NY, 10710. Purpose: Any lawful activity.

Notice of formation of Say Say Mwah, LLC. Arts. of Org. filed with the SSNY on 10/31/2023. 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, 42 Linden Street, Apt 1L, Yonkers, New York 10701. Purpose: Any lawful activity.

Notice of Formation of 326 PROSPECT AVE LLC. Articles of Organization filed with SSNY on 03/24/2023. Office location: Westchester County. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process may be served. SSNY shall mail process to Brian Caldwell at 130 Franklin Avenue, Harrison, NY 10528. Purpose: any lawful act or activity.

Notice of Formation of 66 Meserole, LLC., Articles of organization filed with the NY Secretary of State (NYSS) on 11/28/2023. Office location: Westchester County. NYSS is designated as agent of the LLC upon whom process may be served and shall mail a copy of process to: 11 Bon Air Ave, New Rochelle, NY 10804. Purpose: Any lawful purpose.

Notice of Formation of Calimero II, LLC. Articles of Organization filed with Secretary of State of New York (SSNY) on 12/4/2023. Office Location: Westchester County. SSNY is designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to Marie H. Durif-O'Dowd, 1632 First Avenue, Apartment 326, New York, NY 10028. Purpose: Any lawful act or activity.

Ana Lucia Nail Lounge LLC, LLC. Arts. of Org. filed with the SSNY on 1/8/24.. Office: New York 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, 115 Chelsea Street Hawthorne, NY 10532. Purpose: Any lawful purpose.

Notice of formation of ALPHONSE, JULIE & GLENN CONSULTING LLC. filed with the SSNY on 01/30/2024. Office: Westchester County. SSNY designated as agent of the LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail copy of process to the LLC, 142 Garth Rd. Ste. 3N Scarsdale NY 10583. Purpose: Any lawful activity.

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 Wednesday, February 7, 2024 at 5:15pm, 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 C1A-25 OF THE CHARTER OF THE CITY OF YONKERS ENTITLED 'ETHICS BOARD; MEETINGS AND VOTING' TO REQUIRE THE TAKING, MAINTENANCE AND DISSEMINATION OF MINUTES OF ALL PUBLIC MEETINGS.

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: January 19, 2024

Formation of 25 COUNTY ROUTE 62 LLC filed with the Secy. of State of NY (SSNY) on 10/6/2023. Office loc.: Westchester County. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. The principal business loc. and address SSNY shall mail process to is Floann and Raymond Landeck, 79 Pembroke Dr., Yonkers, NY 10710. Purpose: Any lawful activity.

Notice of Formation of [THE NAVIE THERAPY GROUP L.L.C], LLC filed with SSNY on [08/29/23. Office: [WESTCHESTER] County. SSNY designated agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail a copy of the process to LLC: [200 Bloomingdale Road, Suite 1A, White Plains, NY 10605]. Purpose: any lawful act or activity.

Notice of formation of SurgeExpand, LLC. filed with the SSNY on 10/16/2023. 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, 324 Palisade Ave -1F, Yonkers, NY 10703. Purpose: Any lawful activity.

Notice of Formation of A Soft Delicate Flower LLC. Arts of Org. filed with the SSNY on 1/3/24. Office location: Westchester County. SSNY is designated as agent upon whom process against the LLC may be served. SSNY shall mail process to 1840 Crompond Road Peekskill NY 10566. Purpose: any lawful act.

Notice of Formation of FEVER PITCH SPORTS CARDS & COLLECTIBLES LLC. Articles of Org. filed with the SSNY on 01/01/24. Office location: Westchester County. SSNY designated as agent of the LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail copy of the process to John Amelio, 2138 Saw Mill River Road, Yorktown Hts. NY 10598. Purpose: Any lawful purpose.

Notice of formation of D & E Guest Reality Management, LLC. Arts. of Org. filed with the SSNY on 09/15/2023. 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, D & E Guest Reality Management LLC, 79-81 Main Street, P.O. Box 1100, Yonkers, NY 10702. Purpose: Any lawful activity.

Notice of Formation of Pachamama Vibes, LLC. Articles of Organization were filed with the Secretary of State of New York (SSNY) on 11/20/2023. Office location: Westchester County. SSNY has been designated as agent of LLC upon whom process may be served. SSNY shall mail a copy of any process against the LLC served upon him or her to the company c/o United States Corporation Agents, Inc. 7014 13th Ave., Suite 202, Brooklyn, NY 11228. Principal business address: 762 Hoover Avenue, Peekskill NY 10566. Purpose: Any lawful acts.

Formation of TRUIH LLC filed with the Secy. of State of NY (SSNY) on 8/15/2023. Office loc.: Westchester County. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. The address SSNY shall mail process to Lawrence Rebbecchi, 550 Green Dolphin Dr., Placida, FL 33946. Purpose: Any lawful activity.

Notice of Formation of Yugen Creationz LLC. Arts. Of. Org. filed with the SSNY on 1/28/024. Office: Westchester County. SSNY designated as the agent of the LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail copy of process to the LLC, 10 Commerce Dr, 102. New Rochelle, NY 10801. Purpose: Any lawful activity.

Letter to the Editor:
Dear Yonkers Times,

I'm a person of faith who feels called to care for people and steward the earth.

There is a critical story shaping up in Albany I hope you will cover.

The climate emergency is a threat to all New Yorkers. Millions of New Yorkers are also paying too much for energy. Outdated Public Service Law prevents us from transitioning from polluting, expensive fossil fuels to efficient clean heating technologies.

The New York HEAT Act would align our Public Service Law with our climate law while protecting consumers.

With the Senate supporting the whole bill and the Governor supporting some of the key provisions, all eyes are on the Assembly. The Speaker and key committee Chairs could play a decisive role in determining whether the bill is included in the Assembly's one-house budget proposal and how serious the Assembly is about implementing the state's climate law.

Please cover this critical climate and energy affordability bill.

Sincerely,

Judith Zingher, Elmsford

Read it all online at [Yonkerstimes.com](https://www.yonkerstimes.com)

Read our Westchester Rising stories at
[Yonkerstimes.com](https://www.yonkerstimes.com)

Keith Olson, continued from pg 1-

Income tax filing season is underway!

Time to Free File

Visit www.tax.ny.gov for truly free tax filing

The New York State Department of Taxation and Finance today announced the start of the 2024 income tax filing season. The Tax Department and the IRS will begin processing income tax returns on Monday, January 29, 2024. The deadline to file returns and pay any tax owed (or request an extension of time to file) is midnight on April 15, 2024.

The Department urges taxpayers to explore submitting their taxes using Free File software available on the Tax Department website at www.tax.ny.gov (search: free). Taxpayers who meet income and other qualifications may be eligible to file both federal and New York State returns with private online tax preparers at no cost through the Tax Department website using Free File.

Many New Yorkers take advantage of this free service each year, saving them hundreds of dollars and more in tax preparation fees.

"Too often, taxpayers who use commercial tax preparation software are surprised by charges for additional fees when completing their annual filing," said Acting Commissioner Amanda Hiller. "For a truly free experience, go to the New York State Tax Department website where there are no added costs or hidden fees – ever – for those who qualify."

Free File information is available in multiple languages at the Department's website.

The Tax Department website also offers income tax filing resources for taxpayers who want to do their own taxes. It explains how to get started, how to check for available tax credits and how to check the status of your refund. It also provides tips for hiring a tax preparer for people who prefer to have someone do their taxes for them.

and respect you all. Stay safe my brothers & sisters."

Olson could have started to receive his pension years ago, so why did he continue to work and serve as a member of Yonkers Finest?

"I think you know when it's time, and that day finally came to me. My mom passed away recently and that solidified it for me," said Olson.

How is the job of being a police officer different now than it was 30 years ago?

"The job is not the same now, and mostly in good ways. We are more professional, more compassionate, and more efficient, as police officers and as a police department in Yonkers. I am proud to say that I was part of all the changes and the YPD is the best police department around."

"Usually, the Union leaders don't get credit for the positive changes, or improvements. We are usually portrayed as the villain. But the PBA was a huge part of all of these improvements and that should not be forgotten.

Olson served as PBA President under four Yonkers Police Commissioners; Ed Hartnett, Charles Gardner, John Mueller, and Chris Sapienza today.

Hartnett came to Yonkers from the NYPD, where he brought a Police monitoring system called COMPSTAT, that the NYPD had used successfully, starting in 1994. COMPSTAT compiles a daily record and review of crimes reported to gather trends and use additional resources in those locations. It was credited with decreased crime rates in NYC.

Olson was an advocate for the YPD using COMPSTAT on the streets of Yonkers and thought that Hartnett was necessary to bring in as Commissioner "to right the ship."

"I was having conversations with then Mayor Phil Amicone about how we needed COMPSTAT. Many of the people running our department didn't understand it, and were treating crime like it was the weather, and hoping it wouldn't rain tomorrow, instead of trying to control it.

"Thirty years go crime was out of control in Yonkers. Cops were getting the job done but we had no plan. COMPSTAT took the hard work that cops were doing and made it more effective."

Olson was appointed to the Yonkers Police Department on May 19, 1989 at the age of 20. Keith has served in the YPD's 4th Precinct, Housing Unit and Street Crime Unit. In 2001 he was promoted to the rank of Detective and soon after was transferred to the YPD Gang Unit where he worked for nine years.

"When I joined the gang unit, we had no relationship with the feds. We were able to form strong partnerships with the FBI, which resulted in huge takedowns of entire gangs, making neighborhoods safe."

One of the most satisfying moments as a cop for Olson was when he was awarded for his work, and the work of the YPD gang unit along with the FBI,

for taking down two gangs in the Riverdale Avenue/ Jackson Street area. He received the prestigious Federal Law Enforcement Officers Association (FLEOA) National Investigative Award.

Olson has served as PBA President as crime statistics show that Yonkers has become one of the safest cities of its size in the United States. But recent changes in the criminal laws of New York State, including bail reform and raise the age, have resulted in increases in crime stats in some communities. –but not Yonkers.

"In the wake of George Floyd, the police reforms enacted have had a terrible effect. We have swung the pendulum way too far, with bail reform and raise the age legislation. The politicians in Albany didn't listen to law enforcement, but the public is now concerned and hopefully it will swing back the other way."

One of the things Keith is most proud of is his work with various charities for which he has helped raise well over one million dollars. In 2000, Keith co-created and participated in the first Yonkers Police vs. Yonkers Fire Toughman Competition, which features Yonkers Finest boxing Yonkers Bravest. To date, this incredibly popular event has raised more than \$750,000 for numerous charities such as the Yonkers P.A.L., Elizabeth Seton Pediatric Center, Wounded Warriors Fund, Make a Wish Foundation, Westchester School for Special Children, Ronald McDonald House and more. Keith is also proud of his 3-1 record competing in the Toughman.

Another important charity that Keith helped bring to Yonkers is the St. Baldrick's Foundation, a volunteer-driven charity committed to funding the most promising research to find cures for childhood cancers and giving survivors long and healthy lives. Since 2008, under Keith's leadership, the Yonkers PBA has proudly raised more than \$630,000 to help cure pediatric cancer.

When the Yonkers Public School decided to merge their 8-9 high school football teams into two, Olson spearheaded the Yonkers PBA's involvement with one team, the Yonkers Force High School football team. "We do a lot behind the scenes for the kids and help fund some equipment and other needs. But I like being involved and I think it has been successful."

Keith Olson is Yonkers-through and through. He was born and raised in Yonkers, graduated from Saunders High School, joined the YPD, and never left.

While other cops have moved upstate, Olson has stayed in Yonkers for his entire career, raising his family with wife Liza and two sons, Tyler and Sean.

"Yonkers has so much to offer. I feel that by continuing to live here in Yonkers and by being a part of the fabric of the city it has made my job as a police officer easier. I have never regretted my decision to stay here."

In 2016, Keith Olson was elected as President of the Affiliated Police Associations of Westchester (APA.) The APA represents the more than 4,000 law enforcement officers throughout Westchester County. Keith is currently serving in his seventh term as APA President. "I have been a part of the APA from the day I became PBA President in Yonkers. I felt that there was more that could be done, and it needed new leadership. I'm remaining on as President for this year and would like to continue, we will see."

In September of 2023, Keith founded KO Solutions and Strategies LLC, (<https://www.kosolutionsllc.com/>) a consulting firm specializing in advising police unions. Keith plans on using this venture to continue to be a staunch advocate for police officers. "I want to remain an advocate for police and police unions and take the lessons I've learned in Yonkers and use them in the county and beyond. Police Officers deserve to have a voice in our community and I plan on working toward that goal."

Olson was also recently named to the faculty of Dedication to Community (D2C) which is a non-profit organization that fosters relationships between police and the community. <https://www.dedicationtocommunity.org/>.

And Olson is staying in Yonkers. "I want people know, I'm still here, I'm still in the game and I'm staying in Yonkers. I love Yonkers, I consider myself blessed, I've had an exciting life."

Mayor Mike Spano thanked Olson for his service to Yonkers. "A 35-year veteran of the Yonkers Police Department, Keith is a cop's cop. His passion and commitment to our men and women in blue is unmatched, serving as their loudest and strongest advocate. I congratulate Keith on his legendary career in law enforcement and wish him a happy, healthy and restful retirement."

YMA Lady Eagles 3-PEAT!



Member of the YMA Lady Eagles Girls Basketball team with Coach Elle Moise and the City Trophy!

On December 9, 2023 the YMA Lady Eagles won the Yonkers City Championship for the third consecutive year! MaryKay Scott was named tournament MVP!

The Yonkers Montessori Academy girls basketball team did this by first beating Saunders High School in the opening round. Versus Saunders, Emi Doherty had 19 points, while Jodi O'Donnell hit two three pointers, with assists from Eabha McNally. Clara Baldwin helped snag a few rebounds against Saunders. They followed up with a tough matchup against Gorton high school in the semifinals. In the semifinals Arsela Mustafaj led all scorers with 13 points, while Grace Gleeson and Britteny DaCosta both had 6 points. Lastly, in the championship game they beat Yonkers High School. Against Yonkers High, Liliana Toro had 18 points, Rayne Darcy finished with 14 points, and MaryKay Scott with 12. YMA's lineup is led by trio of veteran guard MaryKay Scott, Forward Britteny DaCosta, lockdown defender Rayne Darcy, athlete Arsela Mustafaj, and Emi Doherty. Despite graduating bulk of their scoring from last year, they did not miss a beat. YMA's rotation for the tournament was all thirteen girls on the team. All played significant minutes during the tournament. This year, there are some new comers who have contributed greatly, such as Jodi O'Donnell, and Kaia Sutherland. Coach expects big things from them moving forward. In the tournament, they outscored their opponents by a staggering 199 to 63. As always, YMA remains the premier girls basketball program in the city on Yonkers.

Coach Elle Moise said

"I am very proud of our girls, everyone contributed to this. We are very fortunate that we are in a school, where the community is behind us, the parents are behind us, the administration's support is unrivaled, and the kids have bought in. All this, plus the AAU, and CYO, that the girls have played really contributes heavy to what we are able to do, and for that I am fortunate."

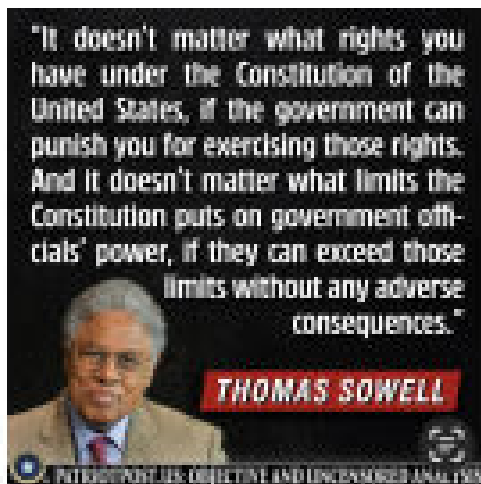
Read it all Online at Yonkerstimes.com. And Read our Westchester Rising stories and coverage at Yonkerstimes.com



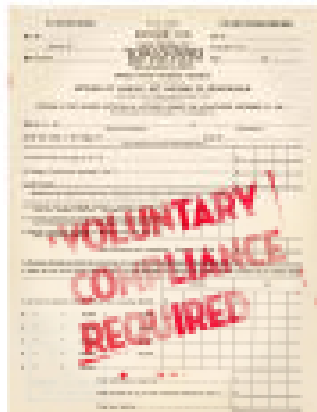
"We the people of New York have for the past 25 years provided thousands of hours of professional investigative services of IRS fraud and corruption at a cost of millions of dollars."

"Federal officials in Washington D.C. never denied any of our claims, attended our meetings or provided any of their best tax experts to dispute our claims."

- Anthony Futia Jr.



A government that forces you to account to them for the way you spend YOUR money but refuses to be accountable to you for how they spend YOUR money should be immediately replaced.



From 1948 from 1913

How did Government Officials feel about the IRS?

"I don't like the income tax. Every time we talk about these taxes we get accused in the idea of 'tax evasion' according to his capacity and to each according to his needs. That's socialism. It's written into the Communist Manifesto. Maybe we ought to see that every person who gets a tax return receives a copy of the Communist Manifesto with it so he can see what's happening to him."

- T. DeLoach, Director of Internal Revenue, May 26, 1966 in CS. News & World Report

"The federal bureaucracy, in short, vitally important, vitally important and completely unaccountable [to] voters with no input and is fundamentally unaccountable ... it has caused a rebellion and 2% have rebelled."

- President Richard Nixon, May 1969, WASH. POST

"The tax system is based upon voluntary assessment and payment, not upon coercion."

- United States Supreme Court, in *North v. United States*

"The tax system is based on individual self-assessment and voluntary compliance."

- Max Baucus, Internal Revenue Audit Manual (1975)

"Only the case taxpayer would be likely to know that he could refuse to produce his records to IRS agents ... Who would believe the ironic truth that the cooperation taxpayer from such cases does the individual who refuse upon his constitutional rights."

- Judge Cummings, U.S. Federal Judge, in *US v. DeLoach* (7th Circuit 1969)

"Eight decades of amendments ... to [the] code have produced a virtually impenetrable maze ... The code was unworkable to most citizens ... The code was equally unworkable to many government employees who were charged with administering and enforcing the law."

- Shirley Peterson, former IRS Commissioner, April 14, 1979 at Southern Methodist University

"The agency that it is an attack on the very American way that banks cannot even process financial aid."

- Ted Stevens, Republican Senator from Alaska

NYPD Cop, continued from pg 4-

As alleged in the Criminal Complaint:[1]

Between on or about August 31, 2022, and September 3, 2022, BEHARRY — using the alias "Gad" — asked VILORIA to take sexually explicit photographs of a nine-year-old child with whom VILORIA appeared to be acquainted, which VILORIA did and then transmitted the photographs to BEHARRY via WhatsApp. BEHARRY asked VILORIA the price "for everything" — and stated that he transmitted money to her.

In or about October 2022, members of the Colombian National Police rescued a one-year-old female from Medellin, Colombia, whose mother took sexually explicit photographs of her and distributed them via social media. The mother was arrested and reported to Colombian law enforcement that she had communicated with BEHARRY via Facebook, and that BEHARRY had asked her for sexually explicit material depicting sexual acts between the mother's infant and the mother, among other requests. The mother also told law enforcement that she had a friend in Venezuela — i.e., VILORIA — who she believed was also in communication with BEHARRY.

In addition, between on or about April 23, 2022, and June 20, 2023, BEHARRY possessed multiple photographs and videos containing child sexual abuse imagery, including material depicting males engaged in sexual acts with young female children.

ANGAD BEHARRY, 46, of, Yonkers, New York, and GISAINET CRISTINA CHIRINOS VILORIA, 23, a citizen of Venezuela residing in Goshen, Indiana, are each charged with one count of sexual exploitation of a minor, which carries a minimum sentence of 15 years in prison and a maximum sentence of 30 years in prison. BEHARRY is additionally charged with one count of possession of child pornography depicting pre-pubescent minors or minors under the age of 12, which carries a maximum sentence of 20 years. Any individuals who may have encountered someone using the WhatsApp name "Gad," please contact HSI through its toll-free Tip Line at 1-866-DHS-2423 or sextrafficking_outreach@hsi.dhs.gov and reference this case.

Paid for by Tony Futia

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.

Sealed Bids will be publicly opened and read at the address above in the 3rd Floor Finance Conference Room.

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 see the Public Safety Officer in the library atrium, who will contact Purchasing to meet the individual at the 3rd floor elevator.

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 RFB-7093 - Opening date: 2/16/2024: Purchase of 3,750 Fellowes, or Yonkers approved equals, carbon and HEPA air filters for use throughout the Yonkers School District (KAS).
2. Bid IFB-7094 - Opening date: 3/15/2024: Building & Electrical Contracts for Phase 3 – Windows & Ceiling Replacement, and New Generator at School 29, 47, Croydon Road, Yonkers, NY 10710 (MM).
3. Bid RFB-7095 - Opening date: 2/16/2024: Purchase of three Tobii Dynavox TD1-110, or Yonkers approved equal, speech generating devices, software, and support (JH).
4. Bid RFB-7096 – Opening date: 2/16/2024: Purchase of Riddell Speed-Flex, or Yonkers approved equal, football helmets and accessories for the Yonkers School District (LC).
5. Bid RFB-7097 - Opening date: 2/23/2024: Twelve-month contract, with option to renew for 12-months, to repairs repair parts and repair services as-needed for Smeal fire apparatus (AC).
6. Bid RFB-7098 - Opening date: 2/16/2024: Twelve-month contract, with option to renew for 12-months, to provide maintenance and repairs as-needed for overhead garage doors (KS).
7. Bid RFB-7099 - Opening date: 2/23/2024: Twelve-month contract, with option to renew for 12-months, to provide maintenance and repairs as-needed for Cummins emergency back-up diesel engines (FB).
8. Bid RFB-7100 - Opening date: 3/08/2024: Twelve-month contract, with option to renew for two 12-month terms, to provide inspections, testing, maintenance, and repairs as-needed for various types of fire extinguishers used throughout City facilities and the Yonkers School District (FB).
9. Bid RFB-7101 - Opening date: 3/15/2024: Twelve-month contract, with option to renew for two 12-month terms, to provide maintenance and repairs of oil burners and the cleaning and repair of boilers throughout the Yonkers School District (FB).
10. Bid RFB-7102 – Opening date: 2/16/2024: Twelve-month contract, with option to renew for 12-months, for the purchase of mechanical joint fittings and ductile iron pipe (75 items) as needed (AC).
11. Bid RFB-7103 – Opening date: 2/21/2024: Twelve-month contract, with option to renew for 12-months, for the purchase, as needed, of bulk quantities of 36% food grade phosphoric acid per City specifications, approximately 35,000 net gallons (AC).
12. Bid RFB-7104 – Opening date: 2/21/2024: Purchase of 15 Megaflo Breather part# 23150100AT, or Yonkers approved equal and 15 Hydrowick Gold Anodized Storz part #5180RZAG, or Yonkers approved equal, couplings with stampings (KAS).
13. Bid RFB-7105 – Opening date: 2/21/2024: Twelve-month contract, with option to renew for 12-months, for the purchase as needed of 150-pound cylinders of liquid chlorine per City specifications, approximately 700 cylinders (AC).
14. Bid IFB-7106 – Opening date: 3/08/2024: Ann Street and Hearst Street Bridge Repairs, Yonkers, NY (KS).
15. Bid RFB-7107 – Opening date: 2/21/2024: Twelve-month contract, with option to renew for 12-months, to purchase EBAA Iron, Inc. Series 1100 and 1000DEC Megalug, or Yonkers approved equal, mechanical joint restraint systems for ductile iron pipe as needed, 18 items (AC).

Yonkers History, continued from pg 1-

sick and wounded Civil War soldiers. The winner of the raffle presented the letter to “the people of Yonkers,” as he wanted it displayed in our Village Hall for all to see. Yonkers raised an estimated \$16,000 at the fair.

Saturday, February 10th

1925: Thomas Butler of East 236th Street announced a bill calling for annexation of the southeastern part of Yonkers to New York City would be introduced in the State Legislature by State Senator John Dunnigan and Assemblyman Thomas McDonald. Proposed sections to be annexed were McLean Heights, Wakefield Park, Lincoln Park, Lincoln Heights and Sherwood Park.

1935: Carrie Otis Thomas, the first female Justice of the Peace in Yonkers and NYS, died. Thomas was the daughter of Colonel Charles Otis, son of the founder of Otis Elevator Elisha Otis; she was born in a house on the site of the Park Hill train station. A leader of the Woman’s Club drive for City Manager government, she was active in the Republican Federation of Yonkers, the Women’s Club of Yonkers and was former chair of the Yonkers League for Women Voters. Mother of Otis Thomas killed in WWI, she also was active in Yonkers Gold Star mothers. In 1933, she went to France with other Gold Star mothers to visit her son’s grave. After her passing, W. Berkeley, Director of Yonkers Museum of Science and Art, paid tribute to her; she donated a large collection of dolls to the Museum when it opened.

Sunday, February 11th:

1942: Herald Statesman staff members spotted Patrolman Ray Connolly entering New York City FBI Headquarters. When they asked the patrolman, dressed in uniform, why he was there, he mysteriously replied, “Can’t tell.” No one in the FBI gave information, and it remained a mystery until someone inquired at Police Headquarters. Connolly was picking up a movie to use for Yonkers Police Auxiliary training.

1944: The Yonkers Board of Education, after a request from our Vocational and Extension Education Advisory Board, authorized School Superintendent William Ankenbrand to create an aviation trades and science curriculum, and submit it to the State Education Department’s Deputy Commissioner of Vocational Education for approval. Equipment from the discontinued School of Aeronautical Manufacturing could be used for the new coursework. The very successful school was a victim of its own success; it closed a few days earlier because it successfully trained and supplied almost 10,000 workers to airports and defense industries throughout the country!

Questions or comments on this column? Email YonkersHistory1646@gmail.com.

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

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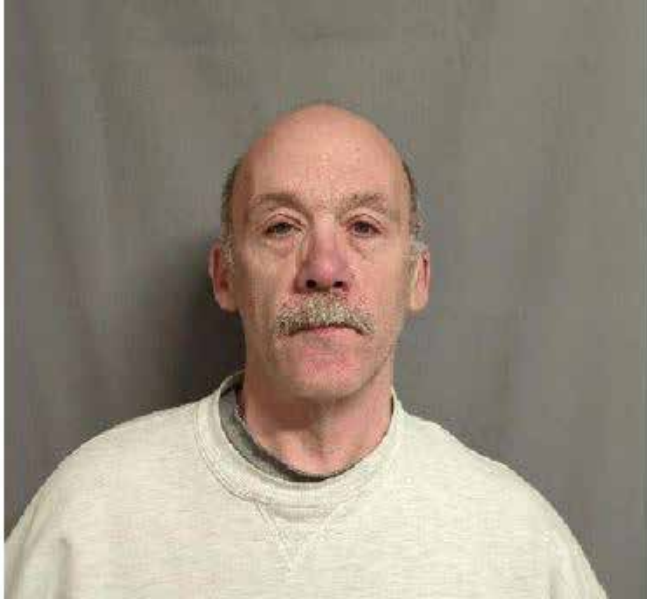
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After 50 Years of Sexually Abusing Young Boys, James Collins of Westchester Finally Behind Bars

Anti-Semitic Graffiti, continued from pg 2



Mug shot of James, "Jimmy" Collins, above, after his arrest. Collins has been arrested and accused in lawsuits of sexually abusing dozens of young boys in Westchester dating from the 1970's to 2023

By Dan Murphy

The arrest of James, "Jimmy" Collins by the FBI last month has ended what his 16 alleged victims say was a "horror story" of sex abuse with Collins while they were ages 11-17.

Collins was arrested twice in 2023. Once for paying for sex with an underage boy -15-in the bathroom of the Chappaqua Library, (he later admitted to doing so to police).

While Collins was out on bail, Collins attempted to meet the same victim again, but this time an undercover officer was on Snapchat with him. Collins was arrested at the library and is now behind bars.

But four years ago, multiple plaintiffs and victims of Collins abuse filed lawsuits in Westchester County Supreme Court. The suits, filed in 2020, were permitted under the New York's Child Victims Act.

Continued on pg 12-warning graphic details of Collins' crimes

Classifieds

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This must be a call for everyone to support each other and stand against all acts of antisemitism and all acts of hate.

State Senator Mayer added, "I am deeply disturbed by the overt acts of antisemitism and vandalism at the Golden Horseshoe. It's absolutely unacceptable and I am hopeful law enforcement quickly apprehends those responsible and they are held accountable. This act is not reflective of the community we call home. But we will not be silent when these acts occur. These acts clearly targeted our large and vibrant Jewish communities in New Rochelle and Scarsdale. I stand fully united with them and we will not be intimidated by acts of violence such as these."

County Legislator Judah Holstein remarked, "I am horrified to see Jewish-owned businesses in my own neighborhood vandalized in a manner that evokes the darkest chapters of history. It evokes memories of the stories my grandmother told of stores marked with Jewish stars in 1930s Poland. It's shocking that some in our community justify this by conflating antisemitism with criticism of Israel's policies."

State Senate Majority Leader Andrea Stewart-Cousins said, "There is no place for hate in our communities, or in our country. These despicable acts not only affect the Jewish community, but all of us. I represented both Scarsdale and New Rochelle in the past, and I stand with New Rochelle Mayor Yadira Ramos-Herbert and Scarsdale Mayor Justin Arest in a steadfast, unified force against antisemitism. No matter where this hatred rears its ugly head, the good people of New York will stand resolute, unwavering against acts of violence and intimidation."

New Rochelle Mayor Yadira Ramos-Herbert said, "Our elected leaders, community organizers, our business leaders are standing together, shoulder to shoulder with our Jewish community and reflective of the true values of New Rochelle, which is to reject all hate, all antisemitism, all bigotry."

Westchester County Executive George Latimer said, "Tonight the community came together to stand against antisemitism after two Jewish-owned businesses were targeted and vandalized. We must stand with Scoop Shop and Cheryl's Closet, the Jewish community, and others who experience hatred in any form."

Congressman Jamaal Bowman said, "I strongly condemn antisemitic actions that target Jewish Americans because of their religion or conflate the actions of the Israeli government with our Jewish neighbors. Throughout history, vandalism has been used to target and harass Jewish communities, and the use of vandalism today against Jewish-owned shops here in our district is unacceptable... it is more important than ever to remember that Jewish Americans are not responsible for the actions of the Israeli government, just as Arab Americans are not responsible for the actions of Hamas."

The City of New Rochelle issued the following statement:

"We are deeply saddened and disturbed by the recent acts of antisemitism targeting two of our city's storefronts. New Rochelle is built on the values of diversity, inclusion, and mutual respect. Hate crimes like the vandalization of Cheryl's Closet and Scoop Shop have no place in our community and we vehemently condemn this behavior. We stand by our Jewish citizens and will not tolerate these types of attacks. Upon the discovery and reporting of these incidents by the New Rochelle Police Department, we have swiftly taken action. The City of New Rochelle and its police department is working in collaboration with law enforcement agencies, including the Westchester County District Attorney, and the Scarsdale Police Department. Our commitment to supporting their efforts in investigating this incident remains steadfast. Property security inspections for local business and synagogues have been conducted and are underway. We plan to monitor the situation closely and inform all residents of any updates."

The Other Hero, continued from pg 5-

Prior to Cleveland, Doby was a rising star in the Negro Leagues hitting .341 and .414 in his two seasons with Newark. His stellar performance in the 1946 Negro Leagues World Series helped the Newark Stars nab the championship. That notoriety caught iconoclastic Cleveland owner Bill Veeck's attention to sign the New Jersey denizen to a contract.

An early proponent of integrated baseball, Veeck did regularly incur the wrath of the baseball lords. The maverick promoter wrote about being barred in 1942 from buying the bankrupt, cellar-dwelling, Philadelphia Phillies. His error was making overtures as to stocking the team with Negro League players.

Doby became the first Black player to hit a World Series home run. In 1948 Game Four he homered off Boston Braves' Johnny Sain. Cleveland won the Fall Classic. Over his 13-year tenure in the Bigs, Doby appeared in 1,533 games, batted .283 with 253 home runs and 969 RBIs. He was voted to seven All-Star teams and won two World Series titles.

Retired in 1962, Doby stayed with baseball as a coach with Montreal, Cleveland, and the Chicago White Sox. In 1978, he became the second Black major league manager, behind another Robinson, Frank Robinson. That season Doby piloted the White Sox.

Doby was inducted into the National Baseball Hall of Fame in 1998. A Congressional Gold Medal is awarded by an act of Congress which needs two-thirds of the House and Senate to co-sponsor the act before it can be considered by committee. Congress has awarded 184 medals since the first was issued in 1776 to George Washington. Jackie Robinson received the honor posthumous in 2003. The same year in which Larry Doby died.

On what would have been Doby's 100th Birthday, December 13th Larry Doby Jr. accepted the medal on his father's behalf from Congressional leadership. The medal's reverse side depicts a famous sports photo from 75 years ago. When a Black player and a white one embraced each other in the sheer joy of victory that goes beyond baseball. The image is that of Doby and Cleveland pitcher Steve Gromek with an inscription chosen by Doby's Family. "We are stronger together as a team, as a nation, as a world."

It has been a long time coming to finally give this other American hero of 1947 the appropriate official and rightful National recognition he richly deserved. **John Vorperian, a Senior Associate with the Jackie Robinson Project at Tampa Bay International School, Clearwater FL, also hosts a cable television program Beyond The Game seen on White Plains Community Media.**

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-“I am pleased that the United States Department of Justice is putting the full weight of the federal government behind the effort to stop Jimmy Collis’ sexual predation of children. His horrific abuse has now spanned over six decades. If the Village of Mount Kisco and Boys & Girls Club of Mount Kisco had acted sooner, his abuse of children would have ended years ago,”

-Gregory Ardanowski, an alleged sexual abuse victim of Collins.”

Collins arrested for abusing underage boys continued from pg 11-

Collins is a named defendant, along with the Village/Town of Mt. Kisco, and the Boys & Girls Club of Northern Westchester, and the Chappaqua Central School District. Collins worked in different capacities, as a coach, camp counselor, camp director, lifeguard and cafeteria monitor for the named defendants over the course of more than 20 years.

The suits allege, repeated acts of sexual abuse, sexual harassment and sexual exploitation committed by Defendant James Collins (“Collins”) against multiple young boys who were entrusted to his care. At all relevant times, Collins was acting in his capacity as an employee, agent and representative of at least one of Defendants.

In one complaint, the John Doe victim alleges that Collins sexually abused him when he was 11 years old. “Plaintiff was approximately eleven years old to fourteen years old during the time Collins sexually abused, harassed, and exploited him. The incidents alleged in this Complaint occurred in and around 1982 to in and around 1986, when Plaintiff participated in camps, town sports and/or attended schools in Mt. Kisco, New York.

“Defendant Collins sexually abused, harassed and exploited Plaintiff on, and around the following locations: (i) Camp Iroquois at Leonard Park in Mt. Kisco, (ii) Camp Iroquois at Leonard Park Pool in Mt. Kisco and (iii) Boys & Girls Club of Northern Westchester (previously known as the Boys’ Club), as well as out-of-state in New Hampshire,” the suit alleges..

From the complaints: “Incidents alleged herein occurred on the property of Camp Defendants and BGC where Defendant Collins was working, at various times as a coach, counselor, mentor and supervisor and therefore possessed care, control, and had unfettered access to minor male children.

“Indeed, what transpired with dozens of children, including Plaintiff, from the 1970s through the 1990s throughout Mt. Kisco and surrounding towns is something out of a long-running horror story,” according to the complaints.

These Plaintiffs also allege: “Typical of most pedophiles, Collins targeted boys from broken homes, single-parent households and/or those that were otherwise vulnerable and susceptible to grooming by giving them special attention, preferential treatment, taking them to sporting events, buying them treats, candy, and/or plying them with alcohol. These warning signs, grooming behaviors, inappropriate time spent alone with Plaintiff and not respecting boundaries with children were ignored by Entity Defendants, thus, creating the opportunity for abuse, resulting in failures to enforce proper boundaries and, instead, allowing Collins access to abuse children, including Plaintiff.”

The suits allege that Collins “proceeded to sexually harass, abuse and exploit multiple young boys, including, but not limited to, massaging their bodies, fondling their bodies and genitals, masturbating the boys to ejaculation, orally copulating boys, forcing boys to orally copulate Collins, forcing boys to masturbate Collins, forcing boys to unknowingly consume his semen in beverages, and forcing boys to masturbate in his presence.

“More specifically, upon information and belief, Plaintiff alleges that several employees of BGC witnessed and/or knew of Collins’ grooming and/or sexual misconduct towards children, including BGC employees who oversaw the swimming facilities, the secretary for BGC, and the BGC director of athletics.

“More specifically, upon information and belief, Plaintiff alleges that Collins had been arrested and/or charged for sexual misconduct; however, certain individuals within the Bedford Hills Police Department (“BHPD”) assisted Collins in avoiding public scrutiny for these charges.

Collins has continued to maintain access to children, including with his roles as a janitor and bus driver at Cedar Knolls School in Hawthorne.

A different lawsuit by another victim claims that Collins met him when he was 7, which was when he began to groom John Doe at little league and bowling practice-games, by going to the movies, and watching pornographic movies in the basement of BCG.

“Thereafter, on at least four to six occasions, Collins would force five or six boys at the BGC, including Plaintiff RCVAWCD-DOE, to undress and masturbate in the BGC pool, in front of Collins. Collins would often undress and masturbate as well, in the presence of these minor boys, including Plaintiff RCVAWCD-DOE.

“On at least one occasion, Collins took a ruler to each of the boys’ penises, touching each boy’s penis, for an accurate measurement.”

Collins convinced some of the boys to have oral sex with him, according to the allegations in the lawsuits.

One of the named Plaintiffs, James M., alleges in his suit that the abuse by Collins started when he was 14 years old in 1974 and continued to 1978, when James was a lifeguard at Leonard Park Pool at Leonard Park during the summers and Collins was his supervisor.

He also alleges: “Collins would pull down his own shorts and make James pull down his shorts. Collins would then proceed to masturbate and force James to masturbate, as well. In doing so, Collins would fondle and stroke James’s penis and force James to do the same to Collins’ penis.

“Collins would also reach over and masturbate James’s penis and make James masturbate Collins’ penis, including mutual masturbation to ejaculation. Collins’ masturbation of James’s penis and Collins’ forcing of James to masturbate Collins’ penis occurred on multiple occasions in the locker room of Leonard Park Pool.

“There were often other adult employees working for the Town, Camp and Leonard Park during the timeframes that Collins was abusing and exploiting James at the pagoda and in the lifeguard locker room.”

James’ complaint also alleges that, after going to a WWE event in New York City, Collins got James drunk and took him back to his home. “Collins made James give Collins oral sex and Collins performed oral sex on James. Then, Collins turned James over and sodomized James.”

After the lawsuits were all filed in 2020 and 2021, Collins was not arrested or charged until the fall of 2023, and then the subsequent arrest by the Feds, and the announcement of Collins arrest by US Attorney Damian Williams on Jan. 24.

“Collins, 67, who resides in Bedford Hills, was charged with enticing a minor to engage in unlawful sexual activity and with sexual exploitation of a minor. The incident for which Collins was charged by the Feds occurred on November 7, 2023, when Collins attempted to persuade an individual acting in an undercover capacity and posing as a 15-year-old boy to meet the defendant in Westchester County, for the purpose of engaging in sexual activities.

“From at least on or about September 16, 2023, up to and including at least on or about November 7, 2023, COLLINS, who used the Snapchat username “jime20237221,” persuaded a 17-year-old minor in Illinois to engage in sexually explicit activity and send COLLINS videos and photos of such activity.

“Collins was caught after a 15-year-old boy told the New Castle Police Department that he engaged in sex with Collins in the bathroom of the Chappaqua library in July 2023. The boy was paid \$200 by Collins for sex, and the boy picked Collins from a photo.

“The boy then allowed the New Castle police permission to use his Snapchat account to contact Collins. On Nov. 7, a detective set up a time to “meet” Collins in the library bathroom again. Collins was arrested but was out on bail when he was arrested by the Feds for his online interactions with an underage boy in Illinois, who Collins was asking for videos and photos of the boy engaging in sexually explicit activity.

“According to an affidavit from an FBI agent, “COLLINS, who is 67 years old, told Detective-I that, several months ago, he had met an individual in the bathroom at Library-I and engaged in sexual behavior including kissing, touching and mutual masturbation, and that that same individual had sent him a message that day and wanted to meet again in the bathroom.” A search of Collins phone found additional photographs and videos of boys as young as 10 years old.

“Collins is the owner of Jimmy’s bar in Katonah. He now faces 30 years in prison if convicted.

“Anyone who may have encountered COLLINS or whose child may have had any communications with COLLINS is asked to contact the FBI at 1-800-CALL-FBI (225-5324).” End of US Attorney release.

Through his attorney, Saul Wolf, we received the following statement from Gregory Ardanowski, one of Collins’ alleged victims, when asked What is your response to Collins arrest?

“I am pleased that the United States Department of Justice is putting the full weight of the federal government behind the effort to stop Jimmy Collis’ sexual predation of children. His horrific abuse has now spanned over six decades. If the Village of Mount Kisco and Boys & Girls Club of Mount Kisco had acted sooner, his abuse of children would have ended years ago,” said Gregory Ardanowski, an alleged sexual abuse victim of Collins.”

We asked Wolf, whose firm Manly, Stewart & Finaldi, represents 15 of the alleged victims, how does the arrest of Collins relate to your cases?

“I place the blame for this tragedy squarely on the Village of Mt. Kisco, The Boys & Girls Club of Northern Westchester and the Chappaqua Central School District for ignoring complaints and warning signs of sexual abuse against Collins that began decades ago. This is why more than 15 lawsuits were filed against these defendants. I expect the number of survivors to increase as more of Collins’ current victims come forward.

The question that all should ask after reading this is—how did Collins get away with this and how did the abuse go unreported?

Wolf said, “As we allege in the cases, it was not only reported, it was witnessed. The complaints allege that “several employees of the Town witnessed and/or knew of Collins’ grooming and/or sexual misconduct towards children, including, but not limited to, law enforcement officers and other Town employees in the recreation department.”

Why did most of us in Westchester not hear about the lawsuits, and alleged abuse against Collins? Wolf said, “COVID put a hold on most cases filed under the CVA.”

When we posted this story online last week, a reader posted, “everyone knows about Jimmy Collins.” Turns out this reader grew up with Jimmy Collins in the Bedford Hills-Mt. Kisco area. “We went to Mets games together with the Mt. Kisco little league. I was 13 and he was a few years older, hanging out in the bathroom at the stadium instead of watching the game. And that was more than 40 years ago.”

Anyone who may have encountered COLLINS or whose child may have had any communications with COLLINS is asked to contact the FBI at 1-800-CALL-FBI (225-5324). According to the Westchester DA’s office, “The defendant, James Collins, was arrested by the New Castle Police Department on Nov. 7, 2023, and charged with Criminal Sex Act in the Third Degree, a felony. Bail was set at \$7,500 cash/\$15,000 bond/\$20,000 PSB. The state case is pending in New Castle Justice Court and the defendant is scheduled to appear next on Feb. 22.”

The federal case against Collins is pending in the SDNY, Federal Courthouse in White Plains. Further proceedings in the Federal case, filed by the United States Attorney’s Office are scheduled for the spring.

DiNapoli: \$4 Million in Unclaimed Gift Cards from Westchester

5,000 Tickets, continued from pg 1-

COUNTY	TOTAL
New York	\$14,469,827
Kings	\$9,462,634
Bronx	\$7,253,546
Queens	\$7,048,326
Nassau	\$5,520,539
Suffolk	\$5,304,047
Westchester	\$4,016,997
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Monroe	\$2,168,476
Richmond	\$1,413,909
Onondaga	\$1,225,064
Albany	\$966,185

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New York State Comptroller
THOMAS P. DINAPOLI

DINAPOLI URGES NEW YORKERS TO SPEND HOLIDAY GIFT CARDS Over \$27 Million in Unused Gift Cards Recovered by DiNapoli's Office in 2023

New York State Comptroller Thomas P. DiNapoli is urging New Yorkers to keep track of the gift cards they received during the holidays. Unused gift card balances can be turned over to the Comptroller's Office of Unclaimed Funds (OUF) after five years of inactivity. In 2023, the Office recovered over \$27 million from gift cards. For this reason, everyone should check for unclaimed funds.

"Many people don't realize that after 5 years, unused gift card balances are turned over to the Comptroller's Office of Unclaimed Funds," DiNapoli said. "Now is a great time to check for unclaimed funds and use those gift cards you received over the holidays to avoid possible inactivity fees or having the money turned over to my office."

Statewide, New York City residents are owed the most in unclaimed funds stemming from gift cards, totaling nearly \$40 million, followed by Long Island residents at \$10.8 million and Hudson Valley residents at \$7.4 million.

DiNapoli's office returns an average of \$1.5 million in unclaimed funds every day and works with retailers to identify the owners of unused gift cards. Retailers can provide OUF with a name if the person registers the gift card online, if they have been issued a refund, or if the card was purchased with an existing store account. If the owner's information is not known to a New York retailer, it will report the card details, such as card number and balance, which can be used by the recipient to claim the balance. The Comptroller's office also sends letters to newly reported owners of unclaimed funds.

DiNapoli reminds gift card recipients to read the fine print on the card for details about any fees and expiration dates, and to consider registering the card with the retailer.

Notice of Formation of Buffsicle, LLC. Articles of Org filed with SSNY on 12/15/2023. Office Location: Westchester County. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: 41 Old Post Road, Rye, NY, 10580. Purpose: any lawful purpose or activity.

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verified as violations over two weeks.

When violations began to be enforced on Nov. 13, one month later, on December 13, Yonkers Traffic Police Officer Frank Sabatino said that 2,100 tickets were issued. -VERIFIED-

Now, after 100 days of enforcement, 5,000 tickets -violations, have been issued.

Clearly, drivers are either not aware of the new program, or there is a serious problem in Yonkers, and across our area, with drivers not obeying the STOP for Bus Red Sign, or both.

The City of Yonkers partnered with Verra Mobility to place cameras on the 500 Yonkers school buses, which are operated by private bus companies. Verra Mobility reviews the video footage from the buses and mails out tickets to violators. Both the City and Verra share in the revenues, similar to the Yonkers Red Light Camera program.

Simple math tells us that 5,000 violations at \$250 each is \$1.25 Million, for 100 days.

And separate from the video cams, Yonkers Police Traffic Division are also issuing summonses for violating the law and passing by a stopped school bus. Those penalties are stiffer, with a first conviction fine of up to \$400 and a third conviction of at least \$750, AND 5 points on your driver's license.

City Council Minority Leader Mike Breen, who supported the program, said, "This number of violations is alarming and dangerous for our students. One trouble spot is on Central Avenue, where some think that they don't have to stop. But you have to stop on any road-it's the law."

The violations are likely to increase as all the school bus companies working for the Yonkers Public Schools have cameras installed on their buses.

NY State law has not changed under violations for passing a school bus. The enforcement of the law has been changed.

So Beware-and Understand

If the stop arm is extended, and the red lights are flashing- Everyone stops!

If you don't, regardless of which direction you are traveling in, you are in violation of the law and will receive a ticket in the mail! This also applies to opposite lanes of traffic- even when separated by a median!!

Remember, when a school bus stops, has red lights flashing and stop-arm extended, traffic approaching from EITHER DIRECTION MUST STOP before reaching the bus:

For more information on Yonkers Safe Stop, visit www.yonkersny.gov/safestop.

Notice of formation of Ashlee B. Media, LLC. Arts. of Org. filed with the SSNY on 1/6/2023. 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, 520 Pelhamdale Avenue, Pelham, NY 10803. Purpose: Any lawful activity.

Notice of Formation of NORTHERN WESTCHESTER KITCHEN & BATH LLC. Arts. Of Org filed with SSNY on 11/28/2023. Office location: Westchester County. Registered Agent to mail process and may be served: ZENBUSINESS INC, 41 STATE STREET SUITE 112, ALBANY, NY 12207. Purpose: Any lawful activity.

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St. Mary's continued from pg 1-

means to Yonkers.

Collins-Bellamy said she was "moved by the personal stories shared at the Town Hall."

"The parishioners love for St. Mary's was palpable. This is the oldest Catholic Church in Yonkers. It has served the community well. People travel from neighborhood cities to pray, and hear Mass in English, Spanish and Arabic. The community deserves more time to preserve their spiritual home.

"At a time in our country that is increasingly divisive, we must support the places that foster unity among us. I hope my colleagues join me in compelling the Archdiocese to listen to the parishioners of St. Mary's and work with them to save the church," said Collins-Bellamy.

A spokesperson for the Archdiocese of New York responded to tonight's resolution with a statement.

"Saint Mary's – Immaculate Conception Church is, indeed, an historic church not only for the City of Yonkers but also for the Archdiocese of New York. It is good to know of the high regard in which the Yonkers City Council President holds the church.

"Unfortunately, the strong feelings of attachment to the church expressed by so many are not reflected in attendance at Mass, which averages about 250 parishioners each week. It is the responsibility of the parishioners of a parish to financially support it, and a congregation of that size is not sufficient to meet the expenses of running the parish, meeting its weekly expenditures, and providing for the building's proper maintenance and upkeep.

"To be clear: at this point in time, the archdiocese is looking at joining the parish with another parish, not closing it, in order to create a new parish that will be strong and vibrant for the future. That is the goal of our parish planning process, as we look at the situation of this parish and all parishes of the archdiocese. This is an ongoing process.

"Any discussion about a possible closure of the church building is premature. However, as mentioned, the parishioners are responsible for the expenses of running a parish, and that includes the upkeep of the buildings. The lack of funds has resulted in extensive work needed just to repair the façade of the church, at an estimated cost of \$10 million (sure to go higher once work begins, as is always the case as every homeowner knows). Neither the parish nor the archdiocese have these funds. With a building that is 175 years old, it is likely that an inspection would reveal many other badly needed basic maintenance projects that have been neglected over time due to a lack of parish funds for repairs.

"If the City of Yonkers were able to guarantee the funding for any needed repairs, and provide for its ongoing upkeep, the archdiocese would certainly take that into consideration when determining the future of Saint Mary's – Immaculate Conception, and we would be happy to hear whatever suggestions the City Council has in that regard, provided they do not violate the First Amendment.

"Be assured that whatever happens with this parish and its buildings, the Archdiocese of New York will ensure that Mass and the sacraments are provided for the people of Yonkers, including in the different languages currently offered at Saint Mary's – Immaculate Conception. Many people agree that a nearby parish would work well as a new spiritual home. Our faith and ministry are not in specific buildings, and will be carried out for the people of Yonkers whether at this church or elsewhere. It's not only about finances, but about serving a vibrant community."

Editor's Note: Our original story on St. Mary's and its uncertain future indicated that the plan was for the church to close. Many parishioners and former parishioners of St. Mary's have told us that the plan is just that -to close. And the statement from the Archdiocese, that is the plan.

What is needed now is time for the St. Mary's community to come together and come up with a plan. And if they come up with a plan, Council President Collins-Bellamy and others, can make sure that the Archdiocese will listen. Several architects and construction company owners have made suggestions about fixing the church for less and over a period of time.

Bowman, AOC continued from pg 1-

Local Westchester electeds supporting Bowman include Hastings-on-Hudson Mayor Niki Armacost, Mamaroneck Trustee Leilani Yizar-Reid, Sonja Dixon of SEIU 1199, Tyler Hack of Sunrise Westchester, Nada Khader of WESPAC and Reverend Dr. Stephen Pogue.

Rep. Bowman said, "We're constantly being attacked. AIPAC is one of the most powerful lobbies in America," Bowman said. "But you know what we got to say to AIPAC? Bring it on y'all."

Several Jewish and Israeli organizations, including AIPAC, have gotten involved in this primary because of Bowman's comment and stances on Israel, Gaza and the plight of refugees in Gaza, calling it "a human right violation and against international law," Bowman urged the crown to "stand up for the people of Gaza."

In an effort to push back against claims from some that Bowman has been "all talk and no action" in Congress, Bowman released a list of 2023 accomplishments including:

- Introducing 9 pieces of legislation
- Securing \$20,408,590 in Community Project Funding for NY-16
- Pushing the White House to launch its first blueprint for a Renters' Bill of Rights
- Responding to 163,128 pieces of constituent mail
- Solving 2562 casework issues
- And bringing \$4,636,461 back into constituent's pockets through that casework

Bowman also informed the district that he submitted three requests to the House Committee on Transportation & Infrastructure for inclusion in the Water Resources and Development Act of 2024. The requests will help enable the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (Corps) to use studies to address critical needs across NY-16 with regard to flood risk management, hurricane and storm risk reduction, wastewater and stormwater management, and environmental restoration.

I-Two years ago, Rep. Bowman successfully led a request for an updated U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (Corps) feasibility study for flood risk management and ecosystem restoration on the Saw Mill River in Yonkers and Hastings-on-Hudson. This year, Rep. Bowman re-upped that request and requested to expand the study to cover flood risk management and hurricane and storm risk reduction across Yonkers, Hastings-on-Hudson, Elmsford, and Ardsley, all communities that have been hit hard by flooding in recent years.

II- A request for the Corps to conduct a new feasibility study for improvements related to flood risk management, hurricane and storm risk reduction, and environmental restoration in Bronxville, Tuckahoe, and Yonkers along the Bronx River and connecting small waterways. The Bronx River faces persistent and dangerous flooding issues during heavy rainfall, even resulting in recent emergency operations to rescue drivers from their cars on the Bronx River Parkway.

III-A request to expand authorities to allow the Corps to provide assistance in wastewater treatment issues related to sewers and wastewater treatment plants in the NYC Watershed and Bronx River watershed. In Mount Vernon, raw sewage is flowing into the nearby waterways and communities, posing a significant environmental and health justice issue in Mount Vernon and nearby communities. Rep. Bowman's request would help enable the Corps to support infrastructure upgrades, repairs, or other remediation efforts to address storm and wastewater management needs and sewage contamination.

"Our communities have been deeply impacted by the increase in flooding and infrastructure challenges from climate change," said Congressman Jamaal Bowman, Ed.D. (NY-16). "That's why I'm proud to announce the three requests to authorize work to be carried out by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Civil Works to help address the struggles our communities face from flooding, impacts of major hurricanes and storms, environmental degradation, and more. If enacted, each of these requests will support work to create a better living environment for everyone across NY-16. Our roads, schools, and homes were not built to sustain the climate chaos we are now consistently experiencing. Storms should not devastate or wreak havoc on our communities, threaten the lives and livelihoods of our neighbors, or critically damage vital infrastructure and I will continue to fight to ensure more studies and federal aid come to our communities," said Bowman.

AOC called Bowman "one of the most effective junior members of congress."

Adults | Black History Month | Virtual



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Eric Schoen, continued from pg 3-

There has always been a strong relationship between blacks and Jews in this country. Rev. King had many Jewish people marching with him and supporting his good work.

I went to Yonkers High School graduating in 1978. The student body was half white and half black and Hispanic. A big fat white Jewish kid named Eric Wolf Schoen got elected overwhelmingly President of the Student Council. You may recognize that name. The relationship between blacks and Jews in the Yonkers Public Schools was strong back then, strong when my sister graduated Yonkers High School in 1972 and strong when my mom graduated Yonkers High School. I can only assume it was strong when grandma graduated Yonkers High School in 1918.

Let's get back to the story here. I had to go off on a tangent because the words that were uttered at the game are disgusting.

The Yonkers Public Schools did an investigation and found that yes, the allegations of what occurred at the basketball game were true. The Head of the NAACP, Frank Coleman, did his own investigation. Coleman, a substitute teacher at Roosevelt, said there was "absolutely no evidence of any antisemitic slurs rendered," according to the Journal News. He continued, "The accusations were both "untrue and unfair," after reviewing footage of the game and speaking to parents, kids and coaches. It also said claims that Roosevelt's players were excessively aggressive were incorrect.

Problem is Coleman DID NOT INTERVIEW Leffell School players, coaches, or administrators. He drew his conclusions based on conversations with only the Roosevelt community.

Yes friends, THERE IS SOMETHING WRONG WITH THIS PICTURE! How he could make the statements he made on behalf of the NAACP which has a rich history in the City of Yonkers boggles the mind. Even our high school students learn in their classes that when you do an investigation you have to interview all parties involved. That didn't happen with Coleman's investigation.

HE OWES THE LEFFELL SCHOOL AND THE JEWISH COMMUNITY in Yonkers, Westchester County and in our country an apology for issuing a report without communicating with those involved. If he fails to do this he should resign as President of the Yonkers branch of the NAACP.

Sadly, antisemitism is rampant in this country right now. College students can't go to school in a safe environment. Security was tight at Jewish institutions and with what is going on in the Middle East has only gotten tighter. Our seniors are afraid to leave the house, and Jewish students some with Yarmulkes on their head are afraid to walk around without being cursed at. Sadly, many of those making antisemitic remarks and creating these unfortunate environments couldn't find the Middle East on a map.

Martin Luther King, Jr. Is turning over in this grave. Yes, it's not easy being Jewish anymore!

The Interim Superintendent of the Yonkers Public Schools, Dr. Luis Rodriguez, a man with a tough day job as Assistant Superintendent for Special Education and Pupil Support Services for the district has pledged to administer further counseling and guided training sessions amongst the school community to prevent what occurred from happening again.

Yonkers Mayor Mike Spano is convening religious, educational and civic leaders. County Executive George Latimer has invited Section 1 leaders, coaches and players to participate in an education round table organized in collaboration with the Westchester County Human Rights Commission and County Youth Bureau. The aim of this is to facilitate open dialogue, promote understanding, and provide education on how to engage with fellow players with respect and dignity.

Other than the horrible words used on the basketball court, the only thing worse is the one sided report issued by Coleman. He owes the Jewish community and Leffell School community an apology immediately.

As Martin Luther King, Jr. Said, "We shall overcome because the arc of the moral universe is long, but it bends toward justice."

Editorial Note: Many commented on last week's article regarding a possible Congressional primary and changing your registration to Democrat to assist the challenger. Everything one has to do to change their party registration by Valentine's Day, February 14 can be found in this link to the article, <https://yonkerstimes.com/how-to-say-goodbye-to-congressman-bowman-on-valentines-day/>

Remember, just like you don't have to be Jewish to eat Levy's rye bread, everyone who is not a registered Democrat already can change their registration to Democrat and switch it back to what it was before the day after the Primary election which is June 25. Chances at this point of there being a meaningful Presidential primary are minuscule.

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

Happy 100th Birthday Irene Smythe-Bullock



Irene Smythe-Bullock with her oldest son Waymon Smythe.

By Dan Murphy

Happy 100th Birthday to Irene Smythe-Bullock, who celebrated the milestone with friends and family, including 81 grandchildren. One of Irene's great grandchildren is Andre Rainey, the former Mayor of Peekskill.

Rainey writes, "On Saturday, we celebrated the 100th birthday of my great-grandmother, Irene Bullock. The event was attended by several elected officials and County Executive George Latimer, State Senator Andrea Stewart

Cousins, State Senator Pete Harckham, NYS Assemblywoman Dana Levenberg, and Mayor McKenzie, all delivered proclamations in her honor. County Executive George Latimer has designated January 25th as Irene Bullock Day. Over 65 relatives from different states came to join in this special celebration.

Irene Bullock, with 81 grandchildren, is still active and vibrant. Reverend Gary Colter of Mt. Lebanon Baptist Church in Peekskill also acknowledged her during Sunday's church service," writes Mayor Rainey.

Irene Bullock and her family of seven moved to Shrub Oak and later to Peekskill. After her divorce, Irene Smythe met Paul Bullock whom she married on July 4, 1965; four years later, her second husband's three children, Paul, Jr., Evelyn, and Linda, joined the family.

As the children grew older and left home to start their own lives and families, Paul and Irene Bullock continued using their well-honed skills as parents and embraced foster care in their home; later, the couple decided to purchase a large parcel of land in nearby Garrison, New York; this property, lovingly dubbed "The Garrison Estate," served as the optimum place to host family gatherings for birthdays, holidays, and other memorable occasions.

Paul and Irene Bullock worked hard and attended school to obtain their commercial driver's license (CDL) to drive semi-trucks, later becoming owner-operators of their own trucks; this occupation allowed the couple to travel the country together.

After moving to Arizona in 1980, she returned to Peekskill in 2015, where she resides with her daughter, Mary. To this day, Irene Smythe-Bullock is still quite independent; she enjoys shopping at thrift stores, sewing, taking car trips, traveling to visit her great-granddaughter and her family in Virginia and her grandson and his family in Florida, and spending time with her son, Windell, and her daughter, Linda, who reside in Peekskill; making cherished memories with her great-great-grandchildren is her favorite pastime. God Bless!



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