

Ken Jenkins Sworn in as Westchester County's 10th County Executive



County Executive Ken Jenkins takes the oath of office from NY State Supreme Court Justice Anne E. Minihan, with wife Deborah holding Bible

On Jan. 6, the Westchester County Board of Legislators voted unanimously to appoint Deputy County Executive Kenneth W. Jenkins Westchester County Executive until a Special Election, which the Board has set for February 11, 2025.

The public will vote to elect a County Executive to serve the remainder of Congressman George Latimer's original term through December 2025. Jenkins succeeds Acting County Executive Richard G. Wishnie, who was designated to the transitional role by Board Chairman Vedat Gashi immediately after Latimer officially stepped down on January 2, 2025 to take his seat in Congress.

BOL Chair Vedat Gashi said: "Ken Jenkins is a leader who understands the needs of our residents and the complexities of our County government. He is dedicated to improving the lives of the people of Westchester and is uniquely suited to ensure the County continues to thrive during this critical time. His

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Maria Regina High School Senior from Yonkers Wins Hispanic Heritage Foundation Award



Congratulations Marilyn Samuelian

See Story on Page 3

Benjamin Restaurant Group to Open Sea Fire Grill on the Yonkers City Pier This Summer



See Story on Page 3

New Rochelle Police Arrest Pizza Graffiti Bandit from Yonkers



The New Rochelle Police Department has successfully concluded an investigation into a series of graffiti incidents that have plagued the city and surrounding areas for over a year. The suspect, identified as Daniel Henderson, 42 years of age, of Yonkers, NY, was arrested on December 27th, 2024, in connection with the "One Slice Please" graffiti movement.

Detectives from New Rochelle PD were assigned to investigate a serial graffiti artist who had been vandalizing various locations throughout the city. The suspect had tagged approximately 13 sites with either a slice of pizza or the slogan "1sliceplease.com." Through extensive investigation and gathering of leads, detectives were able to identify Daniel Henderson as the primary suspect. On December 27th, 2024, detectives arrested Henderson for the acts of vandalism. The arrest marks the culmination of a year-long investigation into the "One Slice Please" movement, which had gained significant traction on social media and attracted attention from local media outlets and influencers in Westchester County.

Daniel Henderson has been charged with three counts of Making Graffiti (PL 145.60). Additional charges are pending as the investigation continues. The New Rochelle Police Department is actively coordinating with 14 other jurisdictions

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Three County Legislators from Yonkers Vote No on Pay Raise for County Executive

By Dan Murphy

A review of the Westchester County Board of Legislators decision to increase the salary of the County Executive from \$160k to \$229k shows that County Executives in the region are earning close to the new salary approved by the BOL at Special Meeting called on Dec. 16 meeting.

Former County Executive George Latimer did not take a pay raise for the seven years that he served as County Executive, and while the salaries of some in Westchester County government exceeded Latimer's, he continued to get paid \$160k per year.

So the timing seemed right to increase the CE's salary before Deputy County Executive Ken Jenkins took office.

But as we watched the BOL meeting, three legislators at the meeting voted no to the increase, with at least another legislator objecting to the 40% increase.

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It's Time to Remove New York's "Emperor"

Who is Standing Up for New York's Union Members?



By Frank Spotorno with Dan Murphy

At the end of the Roman Empire, the senate gave up their power to an Emperor, who held most of the power. I see our State government in New York in the same way. We now have an Emperor, or Empress, running our state. Her name is Kathy Hochul.

President Trump got 325,000 more votes in New York State in 2024 than he did in 2020. I think all New Yorkers, but especially NY Democrats, should ask why?

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How Early College Exposure Sets Students Up for Success



By Jason Baez, Executive Director of Yonkers My Brother's Keeper

Last month, I had the privilege of accompanying 16 fifth- and sixth-graders from Yonkers Public Schools to City College of New York, my alma mater. I intentionally chose to bring younger students as a way to start the college conversation earlier. Too often, discussions about college begin in high school, when many students have already started to form limiting beliefs about their potential. By starting these conversations earlier, we create opportunities for students to explore their potential and develop a mindset that values education as a pathway to success.

Last month's visit to City College encouraged students to dream bigger and think differently about their futures. For many students, it was their first time on a college campus. Their excitement was evident as they wandered the campus with curiosity and wonder. They peppered us chaperones with thoughtful questions about student life and career opportunities, connecting their current education to future possibilities as they explored the campus.

At a panel discussion with City College students and staff, we shared personal stories about our academic journeys, inspiring students with real-life examples of perseverance and success. During our walk-and-talk tour of the campus, students' enthusiasm was infectious. As we toured the campus, students marveled at the towering buildings and imagined themselves studying in the library's quiet spaces. One student, captivated by the idea of college athletics, eagerly asked questions about the gym. These moments highlighted how new experiences like this help students see higher education as a real and reachable goal.

As the Executive Director of Yonkers My Brother's Keeper (Yonkers MBK), this visit resonates deeply with our mission of helping boys and young men of color succeed at every stage of their lives. Yonkers MBK is grounded in six key milestones, including Milestone Four: "Completing postsecondary education or training." By exposing students to college early, we show them what's possible. This helps them start thinking about their long-term goals well before high school, a time when limiting beliefs and societal pressures can take hold. Yonkers MBK is one of only four cities nationally recognized as an MBK Model Community by the Obama Foundation.

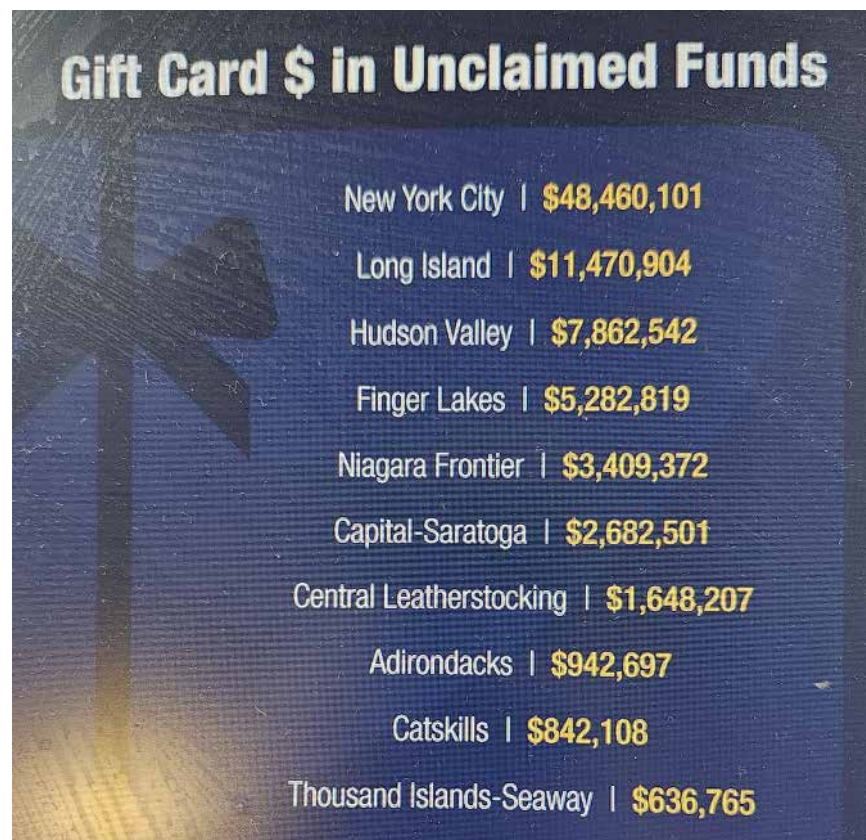
Diversity in education plays a vital role in shaping student success. In New York City, nearly half of the male student population comes from Black, Latino, or Asian backgrounds, yet less than 10% of educators reflect this diversity. Programs like NYC Men Teach work to address this disparity by recruiting and supporting men of color in becoming educators.

As a mentor and ambassador of NYC Men Teach, I know how powerful representation can be in helping young students envision their futures and see themselves reflected in spaces of success. This initiative not only diversifies the teaching workforce but also ensures that students of color see relatable role models who inspire them to aim higher.

During the City College visit, students expressed how meaningful it was to hear from someone who shared their background and experiences, helping them connect the idea of college to their own lives. Representation in both classrooms and experiences like these empower students to envision themselves succeeding in spaces where they may not have seen themselves before.

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DiNAPOLI URGES NEW YORKERS TO SPEND HOLIDAY GIFT CARDS



DiNapoli's office returns an average of \$1.5 million in unclaimed funds every business 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 gift card owner to claim the balance from OUF.

OUF will begin returning some money more quickly in 2025 due to legislation just signed into law. Certain newly acquired unclaimed funds of \$250 or less may be returned to their rightful owners without requiring them to fill out a claim form. If OUF can confirm the identity and mailing address of an entitled owner, those payments will be mailed by check directly to them. If gift cards are registered with retailers before they are turned over to OUF, returns could be expedited.

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

The Comptroller's office has more than \$19 billion in unclaimed funds.

Third Precinct Police Community Council Meeting

The Third Precinct Police Community Council will hold their monthly meeting on Wednesday, January 15, 2025 at 7:30 PM. Usual quality of life issues will be discussed. Residents and merchants of the southwest area of Yonkers are strongly encouraged to attend this important meeting. For further information please contact either Bob Stauff, President at 914 476-2284 or Captain Mike Mulvey at 914 377-7427.

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Benjamin Restaurant Group to Open Sea Fire Grill on the Yonkers City Pier This Summer

Benjamin Restaurant Group announces the upcoming launch of The Sea Fire Grill in Yonkers, set to open in Summer 2025. Perched on the historic Yonkers City Pier, the restaurant will offer stunning views of the Hudson River, bringing an elevated dining experience to the heart of Westchester.

Founded in 2006 by servers-turned-restaurateurs, Benjamin Prelvukaj and Benjamin Sinanaj, the family-owned and operated group has grown into one of the New York Metro area's premier culinary destinations, with acclaimed establishments including Benjamin Steakhouse, Benjamin Prime, and The Sea Fire Grill in Manhattan, along with Benjamin Steakhouse Westchester in White Plains. Known for delivering a quintessential New York dining experience, their restaurants have earned praise from celebrities such as Anna Wintour, Mariah Carey, and Roger Federer, alongside devoted regulars who return for exceptional steaks and seafood.

At The Sea Fire Grill Yonkers, Executive Chef Arturo McLeod will lead the kitchen, presenting a menu that celebrates contemporary American seafood crafted from the finest ingredients. Guests can expect signature offerings including a best-in-class raw bar, traditional caviar service, seasonally inspired fresh catches, and the prime dry-aged steaks and chops that have become synonymous with the Benjamin name. All of this will be served in chic, inviting surroundings, with the impeccable service that defines every Benjamin Restaurant Group venue.

Benjamin Sinanaj and Benjamin Prelvukaj, owners of Benjamin Restaurant group share, "We are absolutely thrilled to bring The Sea Fire Grill to Yonkers and become a part of this vibrant and growing community. Our goal is to create a space where locals and visitors alike can enjoy exceptional seafood, premium steaks, and unparalleled hospitality. With the stunning backdrop of the Hudson River from the historic Yonkers City Pier, we're excited to contribute to the rich culinary scene of Yonkers and ensure every guest leaves with a memorable dining experience, feeling warmly welcomed and right at home with us."

"Yonkers is excited to be the new home of The Sea Fire Grill," said Yonkers Mayor Mike Spano. "This five-star premiere, family-owned restaurant will attract residents and foodies from across the region, showcasing our city's exceptional waterfront and views. The Sea Fire Grill surely will become a culinary destination for all."

The Sea Fire Grill on Yonkers City Pier will open in Summer 2025 at 71 Water Grant St, Yonkers, NY 10701. Further details to be announced soon. @theseafiregrill.

There's No Place Like Home for the Holidays!



By Eric Wolf Schoen

I trust you and your family had a wonderful holiday season filled with comfort and joy. As for me the closest I got to Christmas were some delicious chocolate dipped moon sliver cookies, fruitcake cookies, and other scrumptious goodies that went down smoothly that dear friend Leanna Costantini Pristash brought to the hospital for my enjoyment

Jeanne, Leanna's sister brought me a Challah bread. My dear friend; Maury, Sally Jesse Raphael, Entertainment show at 11:00 p.m. on E and independent producer John PASCARELLA brought me a slice of the bakery chef from Se-caucus' multicolor cake. Note to self: tastes better at room temperature and does not need to be kept in the fridge so perfect gift to get!

Yes, what was going to be a 2-3 day stay at the hospital ended up being over 2 weeks. Another note to self: though you may have the best surgeon on the galaxy you want to be at a hospital close to the ones you love. And the new 'for profit' model hospital? All they want to do is get you in, do the procedure, get you out and get paid by the insurance company. You have to be a lawyer to go to the hospital nowadays,

Granted I knew my procedure was complex. I have had scoliosis for the 64 years and 10 months I have been on the planet. No surgery before which has been a blessing. They have made a lot of progress with surgery but back and neck surgery because of the spine has not been perfected.

Make sure before any doctor touches your back you get 3-4 opinions from the best doctors you can find. Most people go for back surgery and keep going back for more. Don't quote me here but something like 80% of back surgery is not effective and of the 80 % over 70% go back for more. And more. Folks skinny as a whistle and those with some weight on their tummy in the same ballgame.

The doctors warned me of the complications of the surgery I would be having so I knew what I was walking into. But if I didn't have the surgery right away I may not be walking today. I might be slow, in a lot of pain but thank the 15 people in the operating room (I only saw 10 before I was knocked out) who are responsible for my walking today.

My neurologist, the man who discovered my Parkinson's by observing me walking in his office felt 100% that I needed surgery right away. He encouraged the orthopedic surgeon to perform the surgery right away. In his many years of practicing the orthopedist said he never had a neurologist who wanted the surgery done so quickly, because sadly if had not taken place who knows where I would be today

I tell you this not to scare you but if you ever find yourself no pun intended in my shoes you have some idea as to what to do.

Recovery. Who knows how long it will take? But those with back pain or other severe pain know it has to be treated. Make sure you follow all the directions staff and doctors give you, take all your medications and you will come through. Btw the doctors and nurses at the hospital I was at are exceptional and deserve every dollar they earn putting up with a patient like me!

Surgery and the meds you take make you tired which is happening to me now.

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Maria Regina HS Senior Wins Hispanic Heritage Foundation Award for Excellence in Engineering

Marilyn Samuelian, an academically top performing student of Maria Regina High School (Class of '25), has won the prestigious 2024 Gold Hispanic Heritage Foundation Youth Award for her excellence in advanced engineering studies.

She is among a select group of high school seniors from the northeast region who earned a scholarship from the Foundation and will be honored during a virtual awards ceremony on February 8.

In a short video she created that will be shown during the ceremony, Marilyn speaks about the special year-long mentoring experience that provided her with the unique opportunity to explore in-depth a real-world engineering design project—the new power substation at JFK International Airport. She also relates how summer courses she took at Manhattan University broadened her knowledge about the chemical, mechanical and civil engineering topics.

The Hispanic Heritage Foundation founded the Youth Awards in 1998 to honor Latino high school seniors who excel in the classroom and community and for their excellence in various categories including: community service, education, engineering, entrepreneurship and business, green sustainability, healthcare and science, media and entertainment, public service and social justice, and technology.

After she graduates from the renowned all-girls Catholic high school, Marilyn plans to further her studies in engineering at college.

To learn more, visit www.mariaregina.org.

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New York-Presbyterian Westchester Opens Newly Renovated Labor and Delivery Unit



The new unit provides exceptional, personalized care from Columbia physicians for pregnant women and their newborns in Westchester County

NewYork-Presbyterian Westchester today celebrated the opening of its newly renovated labor and delivery unit, designed to enhance the care and comfort of mothers and their newborns and provide an exceptional patient experience.

Located on the fourth floor of NewYork-Presbyterian Westchester in Bronxville, the new labor and delivery unit features six private, spacious birthing suites, promoting comfort, privacy and family bonding. The unit complements the hospital's already outstanding maternity center that includes 23 modern postpartum rooms. All birthing suites and postpartum rooms are private, and each has a bathroom, shower, a comfortable bed for a partner and amenities to enhance the patient experience.

The new labor and delivery unit is outfitted with state-of-the-art equipment, including artificial intelligence technology that analyzes fetal heart rate and other data related to the mother and baby's condition. Wireless fetal monitoring, with sensors attached to the abdomen, enables patients to move around during labor. The unit has tubs to promote comfort during labor, and nurses are trained to support labor and birth with breathing and relaxation techniques. The unit also features two state-of-the-art operating rooms, a private triage suite and newborn safety systems, and offers breastfeeding support, post-discharge lactation support groups and parent support groups.

"NewYork-Presbyterian Westchester's new labor and delivery unit reflects our commitment to providing exceptional care to mothers, their newborns, and the entire family close to home in Westchester," said Paul J. Dunphey, senior vice president and chief operating officer of NewYork-Presbyterian Westchester.

The OB-GYN team includes physicians from NewYork-Presbyterian and Columbia, including maternal-fetal medicine experts who care for high-risk pregnancies, and offers access to world-class specialists for mothers and babies.

"Every mother and baby deserve the highest quality of care, and we are enormously pleased to open this new unit with a fantastic team of Columbia physicians focused on providing a superb patient experience" said Dr. Mary D'Alton, obstetrician and gynecologist-in-chief at NewYork-Presbyterian/Columbia University Irving Medical Center and chair of the Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology at Columbia University Vagelos College of Physicians and Surgeons.

The labor and delivery unit renovation is part of NewYork-Presbyterian's larger commitment to providing world-class care to the Westchester community. NewYork-Presbyterian will open a state-of-the-art, multi-specialty ambulatory care facility at 1111 Westchester Ave. in White Plains in 2025. This new facility will bring an even broader range of NewYork-Presbyterian's ambulatory, primary, preventive and women's healthcare services to the community.

On This Day in Yonkers History...



Hemsley Winfield in 1933. This Yonkers native and African American dancer, choreographer and director founded the groundbreaking Negro Art Theater Dance Group.

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

Monday, January 6th

January 6, 1880: Western Union opened Yonkers' first telephone exchange.

January 6, 1944: Dr. Lawrence Ashley, Director of Vocational Training for War Industries in Yonkers, announced fifty-four WWII Veterans received jobs through the US Employment Service after completing an intensive two-month training in the Yonkers School of Aeronautical Manufacturing. All 54 men either were discharged for disability, or aged out of the service, being more than 38 years old. In addition to regular students, the Defense School trained 100 returning veterans and placed them in jobs.

School Staff were flexible, creating new training as changes occurred. This new coursework was designed to meet the needs of returning servicemen, to place them immediately in available jobs.

Tuesday, January 7th:

January 7, 1933: Twenty-five-year-old Wolfe Street resident Hemsley Winfield performed the role of Witch Doctor in the premiere of the new American opera, "Emperor Jones." Based on Eugene O'Neill's play about an African American conman, the lead role was played by Lawrence Tibbett in black makeup.

Although the Met wanted to stage the production with all white dancers, Tibbett threatened to quit the production unless Winfield and members of Winfield's New Negro Art Theater performed the dance roles. Because of Tibbett's stand, Winfield was the first African American under contract to the Metropolitan Opera.

January 7, 1959: City Clerk William Gray issued Yonkers first Bingo license to the Monastery Church of the Sacred Heart, making Sacred Heart the first organization to legally conduct bingo games in Yonkers. The church paid \$70, or \$10 per night, to run weekly games for two months at 110 Shonnard Place. Our law limited the number of games an organization could run to six per month.

Before applying for a license, sponsoring organizations had to get identification numbers from Yonkers Lottery Commission, who also approved game locations. St. Peter's Church and the Monastery Post, Catholic War Veterans, had identification numbers. The Post planned to hold its games in the former School Ten on Clinton Street.

Wednesday, January 8th

January 8, 1933: Eluding a police cordon throughout the heart of the Getty Square business section, a daring thief escaped after attempting to steal a stack of bills from a teller's cage at Westchester Trust Company.

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Empire City Casino by MGM Resorts Surpasses \$5 Billion Milestone for NY State Education

The regional casino continues to serve as an economic powerhouse for New York, six years since MGM Resorts' acquisition of the historic property.

Empire City Casino by MGM Resorts ('Empire City') has remained a significant economic engine for Westchester, the Bronx, and New York State more than 18 years after opening as a video lottery terminal casino in October 2006. MGM Resorts acquired Empire City in January 2019 and the Yonkers casino boasts the largest gaming floor in the MGM Resorts portfolio of 31 hotel and casino destinations worldwide.

Empire City recently surpassed the \$5 billion mark in funds generated for New York State education, contributing more than \$1.3 billion in the past five years alone. This milestone underscores Empire City's robust and sustained growth, especially as it prepares to apply for one of three commercial casino licenses expected to be issued by the state before the end of this year.

The \$5 billion in education funds represents approximately 30% of the total funds generated for education by all video lottery terminal (VLT) casinos across the state, reinforcing Empire City's pivotal role in New York's economic well-being. On average, Empire City has contributed more than \$25 million per month for education over the past 18 years. In addition to supporting education, Empire City also generates hundreds of millions of dollars annually to support harness racing, and both state and local governments.

With an annual payroll exceeding \$90 million, Empire City plays a vital role in the local economy as a major employer. More than 90 percent of its workforce is unionized, and over 70 percent of its employees are residents of Yonkers, Mount Vernon, and the Bronx. Many of these employees have been with the casino since its opening, building long-term careers in departments such as finance, marketing, security, food and beverage, and more.

In its commitment to supporting local businesses, Empire City spends over \$30 million annually with vendors and suppliers located within a 20-mile radius. Empire City and MGM Resorts have also been leaders in corporate social responsibility, through ongoing employee volunteer efforts, in-kind giving, and strategic partnerships with local nonprofits that align with the core philanthropic pillars of food insecurity, public education, and workforce development. Dozens of local nonprofit organizations receive hundreds of thousands of dollars each year to support programs in these key focus areas.

Since acquiring Empire City, MGM Resorts has made significant investments in the property, including enhancements to the 125-year-old historic Yonkers Raceway. These upgrades include a new VIP gaming room, integration into MGM Resorts' world-class loyalty program, MGM Rewards, a new employee dining room and technology lounge, and more than \$1 million in renovations to Yonkers Raceway. These improvements include a resurfaced and regraded track with raised turns, new LED lighting, an upgraded paddock, and a state-of-the-art tote board with video capabilities.

"As we reflect on the \$5 billion milestone, MGM Resorts is incredibly proud to call New York home," said Ed Domingo, president and COO of Empire City Casino by MGM Resorts. "Our commitment to Westchester and the Bronx has only grown stronger through our investments in both Empire City and our surrounding communities. We look forward to continuing our legacy of community investment and transformation in Westchester and the Bronx for generations to come."

Looking ahead, Empire City is preparing to secure a commercial casino license that would allow it to replace computerized electronic table games with live dealers, offer retail sports betting, Class III Vegas-style slot machines, and expanded amenities. MGM Resorts recently unveiled its vision to transform Empire City into a world-class entertainment destination, MGM Empire City, should it be awarded a commercial casino license.

The first phase of this redevelopment will include a comprehensive renovation and expansion of the casino floor, a 5,000-capacity entertainment venue, a state-of-the-art BetMGM sportsbook, three new full-service high-end restaurants, a renovation of existing food and beverage outlets, cocktail bars and lounges, technologically advanced meeting spaces, and more.

This transformation will create 2,000 direct jobs, generate more than \$1 billion in economic activity, and support the creation of more than 10,000 indirect and induced jobs. For additional information on Empire City Casino by MGM Resorts, including the latest updates, please visit www.empirecitycasino.com.

Bronx Zoo on Top 10 Worst List for Elephants



Photo: Nonhuman Rights Project-submitted by In Defense of Animals

In Defense of Animals has released its 20th annual list of the 10 Worst Zoos for Elephants in North America, spotlighting how zoos are aging elephants into early graves and denying them timely retirement. Bronx Zoo has been ranked #2 for deeply depriving its elephants for half a century. Actors Mayim Bialik and James Roday Rodriguez are among the celebrities calling for the release of elephants from cruel confinement to true sanctuaries.

#2 Worst Zoo for Elephants in North America: Bronx Zoo, N.Y.

"Happy's actions speak volumes: she can no longer mentally cope with her environment," said Courtney Scott, Elephant Consultant for In Defense of Animals. "Both Happy and Patty are in desperate need of a stimulating, natural environment with ample space to roam — somewhere they can experience the social and cognitive enrichment they have been denied for so long. It's not too late for the zoo to make the compassionate choice. Over 15,000 In Defense of Animals supporters have urged the Bronx Zoo to send Happy and Patty to a true sanctuary where they can finally find the peace, space, and sense of belonging they deserve. After more than half a century of captivity, there is still time for the Bronx Zoo elephants to be truly happy."

In the wild, elephants thrive into their 60s, raising calves well into their 50s and roaming up to 30 miles daily. In zoos like Bronx Zoo, where enclosures are thousands of times smaller than their natural range, elephants endure chronic stress, debilitating arthritis, foot disease, and brain damage, dying decades prematurely.

According to Bob Jacobs, Professor of Neuroscience at Colorado College, "It's likely that zoos contribute to premature aging of elephants through the cumulative effects of prolonged stress (with its neural consequences) and acceleration of health issues like foot and digestive problems."

Nearly 20 years ago, the Bronx Zoo publicly committed to shutting down its elephant exhibit when another death occurred, declaring it "inhumane" for an elephant to live in isolation. Yet despite Maxine's death in 2018, Asian elephants Happy and Patty remain at the zoo, enduring years of isolation, breaching the Association of Zoos & Aquariums standard of care, which requires elephants live in social groups of at least three, while the zoo continues to deny them the sanctuary retirement they deserve.

This year marks the 11th time the Bronx Zoo has appeared on the 10 Worst Zoos for Elephants list, highlighting its failure to honor its promise. Instead, these two highly social senior elephants are forced to "age out" in solitude, confined to separate barren enclosures, suffering through New York's freezing winters.

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Notice of formation of GCMA2 Real Estate Group LLC Arts. of Org. filed with the SSNY on 11/29/2024. 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, 66 Hutchinson Blvd, Scarsdale, NY 10583. Purpose: Any lawful activity.

OnPoint Home Designs LLC. Arts. of Org. filed with the SSNY on 8/28/2024. 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, 14 Crosby Court, Cortlandt Manor NY 10567. Purpose: Any lawful purpose.

Notice of formation of Hampton Estate Care LLC. Arts. of Org. filed with the SSNY on 09/17/2024. 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, 35 Greenacres Avenue, Scarsdale, NY 10583. Purpose: Any lawful activity.

Notice of formation of Schmoose Pack Projects LLC. Arts. of Org. filed with the SSNY on 09/20/2024. 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 Bruce Wong 10 Station Square Forest Hills, NY 11375. Purpose: Any lawful act or activity.

Notice of Formation of 130 FRANKLIN AVE LLC. Articles of Organization filed with SSNY on 10/15/2024. Office location: Westchester County. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process may be served. SSNY shall mail process to Brian Caldwell at 68 North Steet, Harrison, NY 10528. Purpose: any lawful act or activity.

Notice of Formation of David A. Langner, Esq., PLLC filed Arts. of Org. with NY Sec. of State (NYSS) on 11/18/2024. Office: Westchester County. NYSS was designated PLLC's agent for service of process, and shall mail process to 87 Hawkes Ave., #2104, Ossining, NY 10562. Purpose: Practice of Law.

Name of Limited Liability Company (LLC): THEOAK LLC. Date of filing Articles of Organization with the Secretary of State (SSNY) 6/14/24. The LLC is located in Westchester County. The SSNY has been designated as agent of the LLC upon whom process against it may be served. The post office address to which the SSNY shall mail a copy of any process against it served is to the principal business location at c/o 669 Main Street, Unit 605, New Rochelle NY 10801. Purpose: any lawful act or activity.

Notice of formation of S2K REAL ESTATE HOLDINGS, LLC. Arts. of Org. filed with the SSNY on 12/09/2024. 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 NCH REGISTERED AGENT, 42 BROADWAY, FL 12-200, NEW YORK, NY, 10004-3892. Purpose: Any lawful activity.

"Notice of formation of LIQUID ASSET SERVICES LLC. Application for Authority Filed with the SSNY on 12/05/2024. 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, 46 LINCOLN AVENUE, PORT CHESTER, NY 10573. Purpose: any lawful act or activity."

Notice of formation of 1M Consulting LLC filed with the SSNY on 11/05/2024 with the existence date as 01/01/2025. Office: Westchester County. SSNY designated as agent of the LLC upon whole processes against it may be served. SSNY shall mail copy of processes to the LLC, 3 Ward Street, Hastings-on-Hudson, NY 10706. Purpose: Any lawful activity.

Notice of formation of Chic Nails Room LLC. Arts. of Org. filed with the SSNY on 09/24/2024. 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, 356 Riverdale Ave. #1, Yonkers, NY, 10705. Purpose: Any lawful activity.

CORPORATION NOTICE
CITY OF YONKERS-NEW YORK
PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE

Notice is hereby given, pursuant to law, that the City Council of the City of Yonkers, New York will hold a Public Hearing on Tuesday, January 28th, 2025 at 6:30 PM in the City Council Chambers, 40 South Broadway, Yonkers, New York on the following resolution, to wit:

PROPOSED RESOLUTION

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF YONKERS TO HONOR THE FAMILY AND COMMUNITY'S REQUEST TO HONORARILY RENAME THE PORTION OF ROSE HILL TERRACE BETWEEN LEWIS STREET TO THE DEAD-END, "DETECTIVE SGT. FRANK GUALDINO" WAY.

Said hearing may be adjourned from time to time as necessary. Further information may be obtained at the City Clerk's office, City Hall, 40 South Broadway, Yonkers, New York and on the City's Website.

VINCENT SPANO
City Clerk
January 8, 2025

Notice of formation of Ambit Psychological Services, PLLC. Arts. of Org. filed with SSNY 12/17/24. Office: Westchester County.. SSNY designated as agent of PLLC upon whom process may be served. SSNY shall mail copy of process to 933 Mamaroneck Ave Ste 202, Mamaroneck NY 10543. Purpose; Any lawful activity.

CORPORATION NOTICE
CITY OF YONKERS-NEW YORK

PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE

Notice is hereby given, pursuant to law, that the City Council of the City of Yonkers,

New York will hold a Public Hearing on Tuesday, January 28th, 2025 at 7:00 P.M. in the City Council Chambers, 40 South Broadway, Yonkers, New York on the following General Ordinance, to wit:

PROPOSED GENERAL ORDINANCE

A PROPOSED GENERAL ORDINANCE TO AMEND THE DEFINITION OF FAMILY IN SECTION 43-8 TO PROVIDE THE BUILDING COMMISSIONER THE DISCRETION TO DETERMINE IF A GROUP OF PERSONS INHABITING A DWELLING ARE A FAMILY AND TO INCLUDE A REBUTTABLE PRESUMPTION BASED UPON SPECIFIC FACTORS THAT ANY GROUP OF 4 OR MORE UNRELATED PERSONS DO NOT CONSTITUTE A FAMILY AS DEFINED IN SECTION 43-8.

Said hearing may be adjourned from time to time as necessary. Further information,including access to a copy of said General Ordinance, may be obtained at the Yonkers City Clerk's Office located at City Hall — Room 102, 40 S. Broadway, Yonkers, NY 10701

VINCENT SPANO
City Clerk
January 8, 2025

CORPORATION NOTICE
CITY OF YONKERS-NEW YORK

PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE

Notice is hereby given, pursuant to law, that the City Council of the City of Yonkers,

New York will hold a Public Hearing on Tuesday, January 28th, 2025 at 6:45 P.M. in the City Council Chambers, 40 South Broadway, Yonkers, New York on the following General Ordinance, to wit:

PROPOSED GENERAL ORDINANCE

A PROPOSED GENERAL ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 43 OF THE CODE OF THE CITY OF YONKERS ENTITLED "ZONING" IN REGARD TO ROOMING HOUSES IN CERTAIN DISTRICTS

Said hearing may be adjourned from time to time as necessary. Further information,including access to a copy of said General Ordinance, may be obtained at the Yonkers City Clerk's Office located at City Hall — Room 102, 40 S. Broadway, Yonkers, NY 10701

VINCENT SPANO
City Clerk
January 8, 2025

CORPORATION NOTICE
CITY OF YONKERS-NEW YORK

PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE

Notice is hereby given, pursuant to law, that the City Council of the City of Yonkers,New York will hold a Public Hearing on Tuesday, January 28th, 2025 at 6:15 P.M. in the City Council Chambers, 40 South Broadway, Yonkers, New York on the following General Ordinance, to wit:

PROPOSED GENERAL ORDINANCE

A PROPOSED GENERAL ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 43 OF THE CODE OF THE CITY OF YONKERS KNOWN AS THE ZONING ORDINANCE\ AND ZONING MAP OF THE CITY OF YONKERS TO ADD A NEW "PLANNED FILM & EDUCATIONAL DEVELOPMENT USE" AS A SPECIAL USE PERMIT TO THE MG DISTRICT AS DESCRIBED AND DEFINED IN SECTION 43-74 THEREOF

Said hearing may be adjourned from time to time as necessary. Further information,including access to a copy of said General Ordinance, may be obtained at the Yonkers City Clerk's Office located at City Hall — Room 102, 40 S. Broadway, Yonkers, NY 10701

VINCENT SPANO
City Clerk
January 8, 2025

SURROGATE'S COURT - DELAWARE COUNTY

File No. 92-097/A

SUPPLEMENTAL 17-A GUARDIANSHIP CITATION [SCPA 1757]

THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK
By the Grace of God Free and Independent

To: **Edward T. Magenheimer**, and if he be deceased, to the heirs and distributees of Edward T. Magenheimer, purported brother of EUGENE F. MAGENHEIMER, and I said distributees be dead, their legal representatives, disitrbutees and successors in interest, and all of whom are unknown and whose names and addresses are unknown and whose names and addresses cannot be found with reasonable diligence.

A petition having been duly filed by **Donnamarie C. Giannone** who is domiciled at 37 Baldwin Dr, Berkeley Heights, New Jersey 07922

YOU ARE HEREBY CITED TO SHOW CAUSE before the Surrogate's Court, Delaware County, at 3 Court Street, Delhi, New York, on January 22, 2025 at 9:30 o'clock in the fore/afternoon of that day, why letter of guardianship of the

- person
- property
- person and property
- limited guardianship of the property

of **Eugene F. Magenheimer** should not be granted to **Donnamarie C. Giannone**;

Why the appointment of _____ as Alternate Standby Guardian of the

- person
- property
- person and property
- limited guardianship of the property

of **Eugene F. Magenheimer** should not be granted;

Why the appointment of _____ as Second Alternate Standby Guardian of the

- person
- property
- person and property
- limited guardianship of the property

of **Eugene F. Magenheimer** should not be granted;

Why the appointment of _____ as Third Alternate Standby Guardian of the

- person
- property
- person and property
- limited guardianship of the property

of **Eugene F. Magenheimer** should not be granted;

and why a hearing should be held should not be held;

and why the appearance of Respondent should be should not be required at the hearing; and why the guardian of the person should not be authorized and empowered to make all decisions with respect to the

medical and dental needs of the Respondent and to render consent to any medical procedures which are necessary to the health and welfare of the Respondent, unless the court directs otherwise. A health care decision may include a decision to withhold or withdraw life-sustaining treatment as defined in subdivision (j) of §1.03 of the Mental Hygiene Law.

Further relief requested:

Dated, Attested, and Sealed,
December 16, 2024
(Seal)



HON. **JOHN L. HUBBARD**

Surrogate

Rebecca G. Yoman
Chief Clerk

Andrea L. Gellen

Name of Attorney for Petitioner(s)

Gellen Law PLLC

Firm Name

271 Hooker Avenue, Poughkeepsie, New York 12603
Address

(845) 204-8673

Telephone

andrea@gellenlaw.com
Email (optional)

NOTE: This citation is served upon you as required by law. You are not required to appear. However, if you fail to appear it will be assumed by the court that you do not object to the relief requested. You have a right to have an attorney appear for you.

MBK, continued from pg 2-

Introducing students to college and career pathways at a younger age opens opportunities they may not have considered before. Educators have a crucial role to play in starting these conversations early. Starting these conversations in elementary and middle school gives students more time to shift their perspectives and build the confidence needed to pursue postsecondary education. Without this early exposure, many pathways may already feel out of reach by the time they reach high school.

This trip to City Colleges shows how starting the college conversation earlier helps students see the connections between their education today and their future opportunities. Experiences like these empower students to see themselves succeeding and transform higher education from an abstract idea into an achievable reality.

“The key to the future of the world, is finding the optimistic stories and letting them be known.”

— *Pete Seeger*

Bronx Zoo, continued from pg 5-

Happy and Patty have been held captive for half a century, and their lives have been deeply deprived. Research shows that impoverished environments like these have dire detrimental consequences. Elephants possess highly complex cognitive capacities and are particularly vulnerable to the chronic stress of captivity, which can cause irreversible neural damage.

In one tragic example, 22 years ago, Patty fatally attacked Happy's companion, Grumpy, during a period of heightened stress. This incident was likely triggered by the zoo's extreme lack of space — Patty has had access to little more than one acre of land for the last 50 years, a far cry from her wild habitat where she would naturally roam up to 30 miles a day.

Following Grumpy's death, the zoo erected barriers to separate the elephants, further reducing their claustrophobic space. Initially, the zoo claimed the barriers were to protect Happy, but later blamed her for not getting along with other elephants.

Deprived of natural social bonds crucial to elephant well-being for the past 17 years, Happy has now started to retreat from the world. Over the summer, she was not seen for two months, raising serious concerns about her health. While the zoo insists she is “fine” and prefers to be indoors, Happy was recently spotted lying down outside her barn, exposing her severely damaged feet — a heartbreaking sign of her suffering. What the public cannot see is the tiny elephant cage Happy returns to each day, hidden from view.

This year's 10 Worst Zoos list is dedicated to Tonka. After 43 years confined at Zoo Knoxville, he was finally slated for sanctuary retirement. Tragically, Tonka was euthanized just weeks before transfer due to chronic pain.

“Zoos drain the life out of elephants, then deny them a comfortable retirement,” said Marilyn Kroplick, M.D., President of In Defense of Animals. “Tonka's premature death and missed freedom is a grim warning for Bronx Zoo, and for Happy and Patty. It's time for zoos to stop aging out elephants in misery and instead start moving out older animals to real sanctuaries where they can finally enjoy some peace and freedom before they die.”

2024 List of the 10 Worst Zoos for Elephants:

Los Angeles Zoo & Botanical Gardens, Calif., Bronx Zoo, N.Y.

Edmonton Valley Zoo, Canada, Cameron Park Zoo, Waco, Texas

Two Tails Ranch, Williston, Fla., Cheyenne Mountain Zoo, Colorado Springs, Colo.

Topeka Zoo & Conservation Center, Kan.

Little Rock Zoo, Ark. Cincinnati Zoo & Botanical Garden, Ohio

Phoenix Zoo, Ariz.

In Defense of Animals is an international animal protection organization with over 250,000 supporters and a history of fighting for animals, people, and the environment through education and campaigns, as well as hands-on rescue facilities in California, India, South Korea, and rural Mississippi since 1983. www.idausa.org/elephants

Three Kings Day Celebration at the Riverfront Library
Sponsored by-Yonkers Hispanic Cultural Foundation,

Blue Door Art Gallery Call for Artists
for Black History Month



BLUE DOOR ART CENTER
ARTS WESTCHESTER

CALL FOR ARTISTS
BLACK HISTORY MONTH
Deadline for Entries Sunday, January 19, 2025

Theme **“ANCESTORS”**
CURATOR, DENNIS SHELTON
EXHIBITION DATES: FEBRUARY 1 - MARCH 1, 2025

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Deadline: Sunday, January 19, 2025. Details and submissions at <https://bdac-ancestors.artcall.org/>

Opening Reception: Saturday, February 1, 2025, 1 - 6pm

Exhibition Dates: February 1 - March 1, 2025

In Gallery and Online

We stand on the shoulders of those who have gone before us. A celebration of the achievements of our Ancestors and how they are connected to our present. Share your pride this Black History Month by participating in “Ancestors, curated by visual artist and teacher, Dennis Shelton (@sheltondl.artist).

Paintings, drawings, photographs, collage, sculpture, etc. welcome (please no AI generated work). Size limit 18” x 24” (if larger, ask us) You may submit up to four (4) pieces. Nothing over 100lbs please. All media will be accepted, and can be listed as either “For Sale” or “Not for Sale”.

Dennis Shelton is a Visual artist who mainly works with Collage, Mixed Media and Wood Assemblages, creating art using recycled materials and found objects. The artwork featured above is a selection from his collage, “A Seat for the Ancestors”

The Three Kings, L-R-Purple - Yonkers firefighter David Almanza, first Nicaraguan American fire fighter in yonkers FD. Green- President of the yonkers chamber of commerce, Mr. Lenny Caro, first Puerto Rican president of the Chamber of Commerce. Gold- Inspector Joseph Díaz, first Mexican American, Building Inspector for the City of Yonkers

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Yonkers Middle High school madrigal singers under the direction of Mrs. Pereira.

Three Kings Day Celebrated at Yonkers Family YMCA



Mayor Mike Spano and City Council President Lakisha Collins-Bellamy celebrated the Yonkers Family YMCA Three Kings Day celebration with the community gardens. Your support brought food, gifts, and joy to the children of Yonkers. Thank you to sponsors: Lorraine’s Community Project, Domino Sugar, Head Start, Gullotta House, Youth & Senior Empowerment Foundation, MPAC, Westchester County 100 Hispanic Women Program, Rotary Club of East Yonkers, Beczak Environmental, The Learning Experience in Dobbs Ferry, and Orgullo Borinqueño.

MISSING CHILD



Isabella Thomas

Missing Since: November 29, 2024

Yonkers, NY

Age Now: 13 Years Old

Female

How you can help

• Scan, View, & Share
• Report Sighting CALL 911 or 1-800-THE-LOST

New York State Missing Persons Clearinghouse 1-800-346-3543

Isabella is a missing child. She was last seen wearing a black jacket, black jeans, and brown Timberland boots. Her hair was braided in a heart shape. Isabella may be in the Bronx, NY.

NEW YORK STATE Missing Persons Clearinghouse

NCMEC: 50487

NYU Langone Health & NYU Langone Orthopedics Expands Services with Acquisition of Rothman Orthopaedics of Greater New York



For the past three years, Rothman Orthopaedic surgeons have collaborated with NYU Langone Orthopedics faculty, and it was this partnership that helped lead to the acquisition. Photo from Getty /SDI Productions

NYU Langone Health and NYU Langone Orthopedics today announced the acquisition of Rothman Orthopaedics of Greater New York, further expanding the system's top-ranked offerings at these new practice locations:

NYU Langone Orthopedic Associates—Midtown East, at 645 Madison Avenue, Third and Fourth Floor

NYU Langone Medical Associates—Harrison, at 450 Mararoneck Avenue, Suite 200

NYU Langone Medical Associates—Tarrytown, at 200 White Plains Road, Fourth Floor

These practices, all of which have imaging capabilities, have joined the more than 300 existing outpatient locations at NYU Langone, where quality and excellence in patient care, education, and research are at the forefront. In addition to the expanded footprint, NYU Langone Orthopedics welcomes 13 experienced orthopedic specialists and surgeons to its leading ambulatory network, with experience in sports medicine, spine, joint and rehabilitation medicine.

"We're thrilled to welcome the patients and staff from Rothman Orthopaedics of Greater New York to the NYU Langone network," said Andrew Rubin, senior vice president for clinical affairs and ambulatory care at NYU Langone. "This acquisition furthers our mission of providing the highest level of orthopedic care to our patients in the communities where they live and work, ultimately making it easier for them to access integrated, comprehensive, patient-centered care."

For the past three years, Rothman Orthopaedic surgeons have worked closely with NYU Langone Orthopedics faculty performing a wide range of complex orthopedic surgeries at NYU Langone hospitals. This collaboration and integration with NYU Langone's multidisciplinary teams ultimately led to the acquisition, further strengthening patient care and advancing orthopedic care for patients.

"We've had a long-standing relationship with the team at Rothman Orthopaedics, and now that they have officially joined our faculty, we can bring the same great orthopedic care to even more people in the New York metro area," said Joseph D. Zuckerman, MD, the Walter A.L. Thompson Professor of Orthopedic Surgery and chair of the Department of Orthopedic Surgery. "NYU Langone Orthopedics is a world-class leader in orthopedic care and academic medicine, and we are thrilled to be able to change more people's lives for the better with this new venture."

NYU Langone Orthopedics continues to deliver the world's best treatments, including the most advanced sports medicine care and robotic techniques. It also trains more orthopedic surgeons than any other institution in the United States, and its more than 200 physicians perform more than 34,000 orthopedic procedures annually.

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YONKERS TIMES
News in Yonkers and around Westchester

CITY COUNCIL PRESIDENT LAKISHA COLLINS-BELLAMY PRESENTS

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MONDAY, JANUARY 20TH
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LAKISHA COLLINS-BELLAMY HAYDR MIKE SPANO

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BY JAN 17TH 914.377.6060
SPACE IS LIMITED

Letters to the Editor:

Editor in Chief:

Unfortunately, but I believe it's apparent that southwest Yonkers residents who reside in the working class areas near the waterfront are being priced out. Development in this vicinity is apparent and the Developer's with the monetary capital are making their mark.

Not too long ago (just a few years) we saw this play out in Washington Heights, Upper Manhattan. In my opinion, NYC Council Members elected by their constituents in these impoverished districts, catered to the developers and the working class residents lost out by steep rent increases which were out of reach for them financially.

I hope the Yonkers Council President and the council members who represent these areas are making sure a percentage of affordable units in these luxury residential buildings are available for city residents who reside in these districts. In NYC that's the process with Condominiums and I believe its a requirement which has been upheld.

From,
Al Higgins
North Yonkers

January 6, 2025
Letter to the Editor:

Happy New Year! I read with great interest Dan Murphy's column appearing in the January 3, 2025 edition of Westchester Rising about the absence of third party candidates in last fall's New York State general elections.

Mr. Murphy's column hits a lot of nails on the head. Readers may be dismayed to learn that the last time New York had only two Presidential candidates on the ballot was in 1872 when incumbent President Ulysses S. Grant was challenged by former New York Representative and newspaper editor Horace Greeley. From 1876 through the 2020 Presidential elections, New Yorkers had several choices on the ballot for President.

We have already begun to see the negative effects of the 2020 Cuomo legislation which greatly restricted independent party access to the ballot:

- Currently, some 3.7 million New Yorkers are not registered in a political party, which accounts for 27% of all registered voters;
- In the 2020 Presidential election, more than 500,000 New Yorkers were enrolled in a third party, in addition to 3 million voters recorded as "blank," and not enrolled in a major political party. In effect, the Cuomo legislation disenfranchised New Yorkers who wanted to enroll in a party different from the Democratic, Republican, Conservative, or Working Family Parties;
- Last fall, approximately 8.4 million New Yorkers voted in the Presidential election with only 4 parties listed on the ballot. By contrast, just over 8.6 million New Yorkers voted in 2020 with multiple candidates on the ballot.

Third parties in New York State have actually strengthened the two major parties by making them more responsive to voters' concerns and issues. Third parties in the

United States have championed Social Security, women's suffrage, a progressive income tax system, direct election of U.S. Senators, etc., which the two major parties subsequently embraced.

Here in New York, the Liberal Party, founded in the 1940s, sought to make the Democrats more "honest" and supportive of the New Deal, and the GOP more moderate and "humane." The New York Conservative Party, founded in the 1960s, sought to align the state's GOP more closely with conservative principles championed by Barry Goldwater and Ronald Reagan. In New York City, "Fusion" type parties have sought to reform New York City government.

We now have what I like to describe American politics as a 1 1/2 party system, with the GOP resembling more of a populist movement, and the Democrats with two conflicting wings. Voters in the middle currently have no political home.

The noted historian and political scientist Clinton Rossiter once described the GOP as a conservative party with a liberal wing, and the Democratic Party as a liberal party with a conservative wing. This made for public policy formulated in the mainstream center, and American democracy was better off for it.

What's the solution for New York? I suggest that the Forward Party, No Labels, Unite-NY, and others join forces as a "coalition of the willing" and form a dynamic center party which would make our politics, government and elections more democratic.

I remain hopeful. Time will tell. Stay tuned.

STEPHEN R. ROLANDI
Larchmont, New York

(The writer is an adjunct professor of public administration and formerly served in the administrations of New York City Mayors Edward I. Koch, Michael Bloomberg and Governor David Paterson. A life-long Republican, he has served in leadership positions with the Ripon Society and Principles First).

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Letter to the Editor:

In regard to the recent article about fly fishing, I continue to be saddened by the human perspective that nature and wildlife exists for human entertainment and exploitation. There is no hidden beauty in catching fish or treating any animal as a plaything to be captured and tossed around like an inanimate object. I'm sure its terrifying to any sentient being, including fish, to be in life-threatening scenarios with no clue what is happening or why. While I am relieved when an animals' life is spared, torturing a fish by impaling does not sound beautiful in the least.

Christina DeRespiris
New Rochelle

Letter to the Editor:
"SNAKE IN THE GRASS"-MARIJUANA

A long experienced investigative reporter discussed the hidden dangers of "The Weed" at a gathering of students from a Midwestern college, part of what he said follows-

"Far less work has been done on marijuana than on alcohol partly because advocates have stigmatized anyone who raises the issue. But studies showing that marijuana use is a significant risk factor for violence have quietly piled up."

"After an exhaustive review, the National Academy of Medicine found, in 2017 that cannabis use is likely to increase the risk of developing schizophrenia and other psychoses; the higher the use, the greater the risk." (1)

"When money becomes a person's God, greed becomes the chief motivator of what people do, permit, or support. In the end, it ruins society, it condemns and enslaves men and women, it destroys human fraternity, it sets people against one another, and, as one can clearly see, it even puts at risk our common home."

(Pope St. Francis)

Joe Pettit-Yorktown Hts. NY

Source: (1) Marijuana, Mental Illness, and Violence. (January 18th 2019)
By Alex Berenson--Imprimis --a publication of Hillsdale College

Dear Editor,

With just one month left before Donald Trump returns to the White House, we are running out of time to lock in protections for our climate and communities. One critical action President Biden can take right now is to permanently shut down the Dakota Access Pipeline (DAPL).

The pipeline is currently operating illegally, even as the ongoing legal battles surrounding it are reaching a critical point. The Standing Rock Sioux Tribe continues to fight against corporate and state interference to protect their sacred land and the safety of surrounding communities.

In 2020, concerned citizens urged President Biden to cancel the Keystone XL pipeline, and he listened. Now, we must continue to press him to take immediate action on DAPL before Trump takes office. The risk of further environmental harm and disruption to Indigenous land is too great to ignore.

President Biden must prioritize the permanent shutdown of DAPL in his final days in office. The fight for a cleaner, safer future is in our hands, and we cannot afford to miss this opportunity.

Sincerely,
Banjo, Yonkers NY

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BOL vote on Salary increase, continued from pg 1-

Most votes on the BOL over the past 7 years have been unanimous, or close to it. So why the objections to this pay raise?

Last month, the BOL reviewed the proposal in committee, and two legislators voted no; Legislator Shanae Williams and Legislator Tyrae Woodson-Samuels, who also serves as Majority Leader.

Both Williams and Samuels voted no when it came to the floor of the BOL. Joining them in voting no was county legislator David Tubiolo.

Not present at the Special meeting were Legislators James Nolan and Margaret Cunzio. Cunzio had a family event to attend to while Nolan explained online that he was working at the time of the vote in his full time job at the Yonkers Department of Public Works.

"I didn't forget about the meeting it was on a weekday at 10 a.m or 11 a.m which I was working at that time. If I were to attend I would have call out of work and waste a sick day it wouldn't have made sense for a meeting that lasted a half hour. If they wanted everyone to be included in the vote then they shouldn't have planned the meeting knowing I would not be able to make it because of my job. This is why I also voted No on the county budget this year a week before because it was included in it. So I did vote no on this item a week prior on the budget vote," wrote Nolan.

Cunzio also voted no on the budget with Nolan, but declined to comment on whether she would have voted yes or no on the pay raise.

Some of the legislators who voted no would not comment on the record. But some of the unattributed comments we heard included objections to the timing of the vote and the size of the salary increase.

"This vote was called at the last minute, with little notice and no public comment."

"The timing was wrong for this. We just lost the Presidential election and part of the reason was because we (democrats) weren't listening. People are struggling and can't afford food. A 40% pay increase at this time is crazy. It doesn't make sense."

"Incremental increases would have been better instead of 40% at one time. It makes us look tone deaf.

"And when there was some objections to this, they wouldn't listen."

"Now is not the time for this and to call a special meeting in the hopes that no one will notice, well people noticed. They could have spread out the raise over several years."

At the meeting, Budget Chair Legislator Jewel Williams Johnson also objected to the late request made to pass the raise, and the fact that Latimer left the salary the same as it has been for 20 years.

"I appreciate the altruistic approach taken by our outgoing county executive during his tenure, but choosing not to facilitate any salary increases, I must express frustration with the very late timing of this correction and the position this has placed the Board of Legislators in," said Johnson, who added that Latimer could have included the raise in his salary and declined it.

"Good government requires that we pay elected officials fair wages." Said BOL Chair Vedat Gashi, who reminded all that three Westchester County Commissioners and officials will still make more than the County Executive.

The Westchester District Attorney earns \$232,000; The Westchester Medical Examiner earns \$267,000 and the Westchester Health Commissioner earns \$251,000.

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 and Proposals 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 Sealed Bids 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 No. IFB-7372 – Opening date: 02/07/2025: Rehabilitation of the Southern Westchester Executive Park ("SWEP") and Concord Road water towers (AC).

2. Bid No. RFB-7377 – Opening date: 01/24/2025: Furnish and install 2 Bauer model ASME6K-2 storage cylinders and racks, 1 Bauer model CFS5.5/3S cylinder fill station, and 1 Bauer Verticus model VAC18H-E3 air compressor system, or Yonkers Approved equal (VB).

3. Bid No. RFB-7378 – Opening date: 01/24/2025: Twenty-four month contract, with option to renew for 12-months, to provide Ford OEM parts and repair services as needed. (FB).

4. Bid No. RFB-7379 – Opening date: 01/24/2025: Furnish Fifty (50) Dell 24 Monitor P2425H, and Fifty (50) Optiplex Small Form Factor (Plus 7020), or Yonkers Approved equal. (VB).

5. Bid No. RFB-7380 – Opening date: 01/24/2025: Furnish Two (2) Neptune pumps Model No. 562-S-N5-SCR/5-EC, or Yonkers Approved equal. (KAS).

6. Bid No. RFB-7381 – Opening date: 01/24/2025: Twenty-four month contract, with option to renew for 12-months, to provide Harley Davidson OEM parts and repair services as needed. (FB).

7. Bid No. RFB-7352 – Opening date: 01/31/2025: Furnish and install one Operatorx LLC Operator OP-2/OP-12, or Yonkers approved equal, VR Training System, inclusive of software licenses for 3 users, hardware for 3 users, 12-months maintenance and support, and 3 headset spare batteries. Funding for this purchase comes in part from a DCJS grant that includes 30% Minority and Women Business Enterprise participation goals (VB).

8. Bid No. RFB-7375 – Opening date: 01/24/2025: Twelve-month contract, with option to renew for three 12-month terms, to furnish and install graphics, emergency lighting, and accessories on Police vehicles (MM).

Remove the Emperor, continued from pg 1-

It would have been wise for Governor Hochul and the democrats who hold total control in Albany to acknowledge the will of the people and modify their decisions. But there has been none of that. Instead, we get more of the same:

1-Congestion Pricing: I can't believe that Governor Hochul thinks she can win reelection next year (2026) by implementing a \$9 toll to go into Midtown and lower Manhattan. She has lost the votes of many of my friends and co-workers, who work on construction projects in Manhattan, and the cops and firefighters, nurses and teacher, who go to work every day in Manhattan. For some of these workers, hopping on a Metro-North or LIRR doesn't always fit their schedule. And some are afraid to ride the subway. These Civil Servants are also Union members. Some unions came out against Congestion Pricing, but the Empress didn't listen.

The MTA should have made efforts to save money, like the \$700 Million per year they are losing in fare beaters, before asking the drivers for more. My friends are telling me that they plan to drive in through the GW Bridge now, or Triboro Bridge if coming from Queens or Long Island, to avoid the toll.

And is this the time and the place for another fee in NYC? Tourism is down, crime is up, inflation is up? Wake up Empress!

2-Crime and Bail Reform: Governor Hochul recently said that she would ask her democratic colleagues in Albany to change the laws concerning the mentally ill and homeless who are making the streets of New York City and the subways, a dangerous place. That is a good first step, but let's see if my State Senator, Majority Leader Andrea Stewart-Cousins and the Assembly agree. But the problem still exists with the same people I see on the subway during the week. They are jumping the turnstiles and are terrorizing older residents and lower income New Yorkers who have no choice but to ride the subway.

Repeat offenders need to go to jail. They should not be arrested and allowed to walk out of court. Let's support the police when they make an arrest.

3-Funding for Migrants: The taxpayers of New York State have paid \$5 Billion to fund the arrival of illegal migrants, mostly to New York City. That \$5 Billion goes to pay for hotel rooms, debit cards, meals and healthcare. But we have many New Yorkers who need that assistance, including Veterans living on our streets, and our seniors living on fixed income. And how many illegal migrants are we paying benefits to who are also criminals?

4-A \$500 gift from the Governor: Hochul has proposed an inflation refund check of \$300 per person and \$500 per family. I think it's nothing short of a bribe to get Hochul reelected next year. Cuomo did it all the time. Don't get me wrong, I'll take the check and put it to good use, we all will.

But isn't there another way to make better use of this money? How about the state keep my \$500 and combine it with the \$5 Billion for migrants and give it to the MTA, and get rid of congestion pricing?

5-This last straw for me was when Governor Hochul recently vetoed a bill sponsored by my other State Senator from Yonkers, Shelley Mayer. I'm a proud union member, and Mayer's bill would have required that labor representative is included in every IDA in the state.

Here's what Senator Mayer wrote after the veto. "I am deeply disappointed that the Governor vetoed my bill, S4040B, to ensure that labor representatives, and representatives of school boards, are included as members in every IDA (Industrial Development Agency). These agencies grant tax breaks and other fiscal benefits to for-profit projects in all of our communities. It is critical that the voice of labor and school officials be included, even as minority voices within each IDA. I will continue to fight to find a path for this representation and will not be deterred by this action this year."

What about the hundreds of thousands of New Yorkers who are union members (construction, teachers, fire, police, DPW, nurses) and taxpayers? Don't we deserve a seat at the table where tax dollars are being spent-by the IDA?

Where is the role of labor in the New York Democratic Party? And where is our representation from Empress Hochul?

I don't think Governor Hochul can win reelection in 2026. She will either be removed by her own democratic party (another dem will challenge her), or even a republican could win.

Frank Spotorno was a candidate for Congress in 2016, NY-14. He is the founder of bringourjobshome.com, an organization working since 1999 to bring the millions of manufacturing jobs back to the USA.

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DA Rocah Vacates Selwyn Days from Murders He Did Not Commit-Is Archie Harris and Betty Ramcharan's Killer Still Free -28 Years Later?

By Dan Murphy

Former Westchester District Attorney Mimi Rocah, in the final days of her term, vacated the conviction of Selwyn Days, who has spent 16 years in prison for the murders of two in Eastchester in 1996.

Rocah's Conviction Integrity Unit was able to identify two other suspects that they believe are behind the killings.

On Dec. 30, Rocah announced "An extensive and ongoing investigation undertaken by my Conviction Review Unit, following a request in 2023, has identified two individuals involved in the murders of Archie Harris and Betty Ramcharan and no connection to Selwyn Days, who was previously charged.

"As we undergo a change in administration at the DA's Office this week, it is my hope that these significant developments lead to continuing investigation and action so that justice can be achieved for the families of Mr. Harris and Ms. Ramcharan."

Selwyn Days was tried five times for the murder of Archie Harris, 76, in his Eastchester home. His health aide, Betty Ramcharan, 35, was also in the home and killed in 1996, in one of the most talked about crimes in Westchester County.

Days was acquitted by a Westchester County jury in 2017—the fifth time he was tried by the Westchester County District Attorney's Office—for the killings of Harris, 79, and his home health aide Ramcharan, 35, in Harris's Eastchester home in November 1996. Of the four earlier trials, two ended in hung juries and two resulted in the overturning of Days' convictions for second-degree murder after an appellate court found significant legal errors.

But Days spent 16 years in prison during the course of his five trials. The case against Days was based on a false confession he gave to Eastchester Police. There was never any DNA evidence, or witness testimony against him, and Days always maintained his innocence.

The cases against Days were prosecuted by former Westchester District Attorney's Jeanine Pirro, Janet DiFiore and Anthony Scarpino.

Pace University Elisabeth Haub School of Law Professor Bennett Gershman said, "It's a sad, tragic case of the criminal justice system not functioning, and the DA's office being too zealous, and not looking closely at the proof.

"This is an unusual case, but 5 trials seems like a record in Westchester. He spent 16 years in jail

"You have to fault the prosecutors for pushing ahead and ahead with no hope of getting a conviction. Prosecutors committed errors in two of the trials, and there were two hung juries in another two trials.

"The prosecutors didn't struggle with this enough before the five trials. They just went with we have a confession lets go. There should be more skepticism and only then should they have moved forward.

"This case also shows that juries make mistakes. And when you don't have any DNA evidence, that's a problem. At the time, he said he was innocent. Finally, at the end a jury acquits, but he didn't have to go through losing 16 years of his life.

"His confession was unreliable, the police pushed and I think coerced him. And race plays a part in this case as well," said Gershman.

Jeffrey Deskovic was wrongfully convicted in 1990 of ed of raping, beating, and strangling his Peekskill High School classmate, Angela Correa. In 2006, crime scene DNA testing led to the arrest of Steven Cunningham. Deskovic is now an attorney and founded the Jeffrey Deskovic Foundation for Justice, which he established.

In 2011, Deskovic covered the third Days trial and wrote about it for The Westchester Guardian, and faulted then DA Janet DiFiore for not considering DNA evidence during the two prosecutions from her office of Days. Westchester istrict ttorney Janet DiFiore, who is a co-chair of ourt Of Appeals hief Judge Lippman's Wrongful conviction Panel, should be ashamed of herself for preventing the defense in this case from utilizing the DNA database, having allowed me that opportunity which resulted in my exoneration.

Judge Warhit had previously denied the defendant a fair trial when, prior to trial, he refused to permit defense attorneys the opportunity to compare DNA samples from the crime scene with state and federal DNA database, in an effort to identify the actual perpetrator. By his ruling, Warhit very well may have prevented the actual perpetrator from ever being identified.

:"Selwyn Day should have been given every opportunity to prove his innocence.

What did they have to lose? After all, if the actual perpetrator was finally identified, he or she could have been brought to justice, while simultaneously preventing still another wrongful conviction," wrote Deskovic.

Gershman added "DiFiore refused to look at the DNA. I fault her and the procurtore in her office for beign complacemnt and less than professional. It's a sad day when you have to say to the prosecutors, you are responsible for this man spending 16 years in prison. You should be ashamed of yourselves."

The question now becomes, who did kill Archie Harris and Betty Ramcharan?

Rocah hinted in her statement that her office "has identified two individuals involved in the murders."

Many DNA cases identify a suspect that is currently serving a prison sentence for another crime.

But with today's expanded reach of DNA evidence, through geneology website and other services, the killer could be free, 28 years after this horrible murder caught the attention of the country.

Congratulations to DA Rocah and her convictions unit.

Under DA Rocah, the Office's investigation was led by the Criminal Investigators Squad's dedicated CRU/Cold Case investigator, James Menton, a 30-year law enforcement veteran and decorated former NYPD detective, who served on the FBI Safe Streets Task Force.

Mt Vernon Firefighter & Coach Arrested in PA for Bloody Assault on Ref at Basketball Game

By Dan Murphy



One of the problems we now see far too often in sporting events for young kids and teens is the over-the-top behavior of coaches and parents at the games. Their zeal for winning the game takes over and often it is the referee or umpire who bears the brunt of the rage.

A recent incident at a Pennsylvania basketball game involving violence against a referee rose to crime. Mt. Vernon Firefighter Jomo Errol Belfor, left, attacked a ref at a basketball game played by 10-year-olds, head butting and punching the ref.

A viral TikTok video showed

the assault. The video, which has now been taken down from TikTok, showed Belfor, 41, taking a basketball out of the hands of the ref and punched him in the face. The assault left the ref with a black eye, chipped tooth and swollen lip.

Belfor is charged with Assault on a Sports Official, Harassment, and Disorderly Conduct and Engaging in Fighting.

Belfor flew into a rage after what he thought was a bad call by the ref, a foul on one of his players.

The ref gave Belfor a technical foul and asked security to remove him, but before that happened Belfor gave the ref a beating so bad that spectators ran onto the court.

The game was held at Spooky Nook Sports in Lancaster County. East Hempfield Township police responded to the call.

Belfor was a very good basketball player, and was coaching, and worked for Hoop Lab Fam, at the time of the incident.

His bio from Hoop Lab reads. "Jomo is from Mount Vernon, New York, where he attended high school and played varsity basketball for four years. He graduated from James Madison University, earning a Division 1 Scholarship and being a standout point guard. Jomo went on to play professionally in Columbia, Singapore, and Malaysia.

"Currently, founded a non-profit organization, The Forumla by LaboutSkill, which has a mission of working with youth in underserved communities. He aims to teach transferable life skills through basketball. Jomo brings excellent experience in player development. He pays great attention to detail and player fundamentals. He has a gift in his ability to teach children of all talent levels. He is an interactive trainer and likes to demonstrate drills as he teaches them to athletes.

This example of outburst and violence against Referees and Umpires has resulted in Sports leagues and organizations finding it difficult to find and hire new refs.

Sam Riti, who has been refereeing basketball games across Westchester for 50 years, said "Some refs don't want to do it anymore. It's not worth the risk of something like this happening.

"We have to remember that these are young kids. What kind of example is a coach or parent showing these young athletes when they curse out, threaten or attack a referee?"

"And its not just coaches. I have seen parents threaten the refs after a game, saying "I will meet you outside. We all need to realize what we are there for."

In Yonkers, a recent basketball game between high schools -YMA and Was cancelled after a fight broke out between both teams.

Another incident at a Saunders High School game resulted in a parent attempting to be removed by school security resulting in Yonkers police being called in. Most games have either a security guard or a police officer present. But in the cases where there is not a police presence, security cannot deter coaches or parents from losing control.

We have spoken to many of Belfor's friends, who point to all the good work he has done for kids across the region. As a former Division I College Basketball Player, Belfor should have known better, and should have respected the game, players and referee of the game he so loves.

Eric Schoen, continued from pg 3-

I will talk more about my experience in future weeks

It was 2:00 am Christmas Day and I was talking to one of the nurses' daughters afraid she could not afford college. I gave her some ideas as to what she could do to finance her college experience.

The hospital had a big reception for Chanukah. No one knew a Chanukah song to sing. So in pain, a few days out of surgery, in my hospital gown I got out of my wheel chair, voice not as strong as it should be due to the tube removed a day before and lead everyone in the dreidel song.

The kid is back, Happy Healthy New Year in a world of Shalom, Peace! Pray for my continued improvement, and I hope this year is the best year of your life! -Eric

Reach ERIC WOLF Schoen at thistooisonkers@aol.com. Friend him on Facebook in the picture with Joan River's!

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Weekend Events in Westchester County Parks

FRIDAY JAN 10.

Westchester County Center, White Plains: (914) 995-4050
Westchester Knicks, 7 p.m. - 9 p.m.
The Knicks take on the Sioux Falls Skyforce.
Get tickets <https://www.ticketmaster.com/westchester-knicks-vs-sioux-falls-skyforce-white-plains-new-york-01-10-2025/event/00006132FAB18268>

SATURDAY, JAN. 11

Edith G. Read Wildlife Sanctuary, Rye: (914) 967-8720
Second Photography and Art Exhibit, 10 a.m. - 4 p.m.
View people's talents and love for wildlife and nature through photography and artwork. Saturdays and Sundays through Jan. 25.

Alfred B. DelBello Muscoot Farm, Somers: (914) 864-7282

Tree Tapping, 12 p.m. - 3 p.m.

During these 45-minute-each tours, participants will learn all about the tapping process of maple sugaring while handling the farm's antique tools. \$8 per person; free for ages 2 and under. Also: Jan. 12.

Get details and register <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/tree-tapping-at-muscoot-farm-tickets-1117854907119?aff=ebdsoporgprofile>

Trailside Nature Museum at Ward Pound Ridge Reservation, Cross River: (914) 864-7322

Animals in Winter, 1 p.m. - 2 p.m.

What happens to forest creatures over the winter? Kids in grades 1 through 5 will learn about hibernation and the ways that different kinds of animals survive these harsh times every year.

Lenoir Preserve, Yonkers: (914) 968-5851

Animals in Hibernation, 1 p.m. - 2 p.m.

Do you wonder what happens to the wildlife during the winter? Join us inside the nature center to learn about hibernation and how our native animals have evolved to survive the cold.

Edith G. Read Wildlife Sanctuary, Rye: (914) 967-8720

Winter Tree ID: Buds 'n' Bark, 1 p.m. - 2:30 p.m.

Join the nature center staff for a simple lesson that will help you identify a variety of tree species during wintertime by their buds and bark.

Marshlands Conservancy, Rye: (914) 835-4466

Winter Night Walk, 6 p.m. - 7:30 p.m.

Join us for a walk through fields and forests illuminated by moonlight. Dress warmly; weather permitting; space is limited. Please arrive promptly by 6 p.m.; call to register: (914) 835-4466.

SUNDAY, JAN. 12

Westchester County Center, White Plains: (914) 995-4050

NY Metro Reptile Expo, 9 a.m. - 4 p.m.

Check out more than 250 vendor tables full of reptiles, amphibians, invertebrates, supplies and more.

Get details <https://countycenter.biz/event/ny-metro-reptile-expo/>

Lasdon Park and Arboretum, Katonah: (914) 864-7268

The Amazing World of Ants, 1 p.m. - 2:30 p.m.

Get details and register <https://www.lasdonpark.org/event/the-amazing-world-of-ants/>

Edith G. Read Wildlife Sanctuary, Rye: (914) 967-8720

The Winter Ant, 2 p.m. - 3:30 p.m.

Identify winter ants and find out what strategies let them be active over the winter. Also, learn how inactive ants deal with the cold.



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Yonkers History, continued from pg 4-

January 8, 1935: The Yonkers Board of Education purchased insurance for every Yonkers school from 37 local agencies.

January 8, 1954: G. B. Caldwell, Yonkers manager of the New York Telephone Company, announced Yonkers people averaged 128,400 phone calls daily, representing three calls a day from every one of the 44,500 Yonkers phones.

Thursday, January 9th

January 9, 1945: Responding to reports of an animal floating down the Hudson on an ice floe, the Yonkers Coast Guard sprang into action and picked up a dog from the floe! A few hours later, our Coast Guard received a call from YPD, with a second report of an animal floating down the Hudson on ice! Our Coast Guard cutter headed towards the animal, a deer, but had difficulty getting the animal on board. Instead, the deer thought the shore was close enough, so jumped off the ice and swam to shore. When last seen, it was galloping through nearby woods.

January 9, 1945: Because of the many complaints about no trash collection, Vice Mayor James Sullivan suggested DPW begin a six-day-a-week pickup schedule until May, with the hope trash sitting outside for days would be picked up. In some areas, Yonkers trash wasn't collected for 12 days.

Friday, January 10th

January 10, 1923: At the request of Ludlow residents, the Common Council unanimously adopted Alderman O'Mara's resolution suggesting the Yonkers Board of Education name the new junior high school being built at Culver Street and Hawthorne Avenue after James B. Ludlow, the one-time owner of most of Southwest Yonkers. The school was named after Nathaniel Hawthorne.

January 10, 1926: Public Safety Commissioner William H. Van Keuren announced he would establish an annual "Medal of Honor" award, as well as other honors for police bravery. This new recognition would give added weight to the Civil Service promotion lists.

January 10, 1937: Four major dairy companies began daylight delivery of milk to 41,000 Yonkers customers.

Saturday, January 11th

January 11, 1927: Chief of Police Edward Quirk announced news dealers continuing to sell "so-called art literature" banned in Yonkers would lose their newsstand privileges.

January 11, 1933: Otis Elevator announced it had won a \$270,000 contract to install 17 freight and passenger signal control elevators, the most modern skyscraper elevators, in the Cleveland Post Office.

Sunday, January 12th

January 12, 1930: The State Commission for the Blind asked permission to establish a tobacco stand in City Hall; they planned to have Spencer Traub of McLean Avenue in charge.

January 12, 1947: Mrs. George Blackwell was installed as the first woman president of the Nepperhan Community Center, at the time an agency of the Yonkers Community Chest. She succeeded community activist and Center co-founder Ivan McRae Sr., who had served as its president from the time it opened.

January 12, 1954: Former OSS agent Dr. Arie Bestebreurtje discussed "Miraculous Escapes of a Secret Agent" at the first joint meeting of the Asbury Men's Club and the Woman's Society of Christian Service of the Asbury Methodist Church in Crestwood. Bestebreurtje escaped the Nazis in 1941 and went to Great Britain to join the Netherlands army-in-exile. He was wounded twice while on missions behind enemy lines and was decorated with 18 medals from four nations for his exploits, the second most decorated person in WWII. Only General Eisenhower had more awards!

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.

Graffiti bandit, continued from pg 1-

that have been affected by the "One Slice Please" pizza-themed graffiti. The New Rochelle Police Department would like to thank the public for their assistance in this investigation. Anyone with additional information related to this case is urged to contact the New Rochelle Police Department (914) 654-2300.

TAX SALE NOTICE

CITY OF YONKERS

Department of Finance and Management Services, Office of the Commissioner, City Hall, Yonkers, New York.

Pursuant to the provisions of Chapter 452, Laws of 1908, known as the Supplemental Charter of the City of Yonkers, as amended by Chapter 725, of the Laws of 1917, adding thereto a new article numbered Article V-a, as further amended by Chapter 487, Laws of 1922, and as further amended by Chapter 667, Laws of 1933, as amended by Article IX Section 1 of Local Law No. 20-1961, as amended by Section 57 of Local Law 11 of 1995, and any subsequent amendments thereto, known as the Charter of the City of Yonkers, I, the undersigned Commissioner of Finance and Management Services of the City of Yonkers, do hereby give public notice

That the respective owners of the lands and tenements in the City of Yonkers on which any taxes or assessments have been imposed and became a lien and have remained unpaid for one year since the same were due and payable are required to pay the amount of said taxes and assessments, together with all unpaid taxes and assessments affecting such lands and tenements, which became a lien and were due and payable prior to December 24, 2024 with all penalties thereon remaining unpaid, together with the interest thereon at the rate provided by law from the time the same became due and payable to the time of payment, and the charges of this notice and all other costs and charges accrued thereon to the time of payment, to the Commissioner of Finance and Management Services of the City of Yonkers, at his office in the City Hall, Yonkers, New York.

And Notice is hereby given that if default be made in such payment, the lien of the City of Yonkers, upon said lands and tenements for any tax or assessment, which became a lien so as to be due and payable before December 24, 2024; will be sold at public auction in the Ceremonial Court Room, 4th Floor, City Hall, 40 South Broadway, in the City of Yonkers, on Wednesday, May 14, 2025, at 10:00 A.M. of that rate, for the lowest rate of interest, not exceeding 12 per centum per annum, at which time any person or persons shall offer to take the same in consideration of advancing the said taxes and assessments and penalties, as the case may be, the interest thereon as aforesaid to the time of sale, the charges of notice and all other costs and charges accrued thereon; and that such sale will be continued from time to time until all said liens of taxes and assessments shall be sold.

The transfer of tax liens to be executed and delivered to the purchaser thereof pursuant to the terms of said sale shall be subject to the lien for and the right of the City of Yonkers to collect and receive all taxes and assessments and penalties and interest thereon which became due and payable, of which became a lien upon said lands and tenements on and after the date mentioned in the advertisement for sale as stated herein, namely, the 24 day of December.

Each of the tax liens referred to in this advertisement will be sold subject to the provisions of the Federal Servicemembers Civil Relief Act and amendments thereto and Section 314 of the New York State Military Law.

Notice is hereby further given that a particular and detailed statement of the property affected by this sale, together with the total amount of the tax lien thereon, which are to be sold will hereafter be published in the official newspaper(s) of the City of Yonkers.

FURTHER OR ADDITIONAL TAX SALE NOTICE

In addition to the foregoing Tax Sale Notice and Statutes therein described, the further or additional notice is given setting forth the lots and parcels of land, including the street address thereof, on which the tax lien is to be sold together with the aggregate amount of tax lien thereon, and the assessed valuation of every said lot and parcel as described in the 2023 Tax Rolls as approved by the Department of Assessment and Taxation and confirmed by the City Council.

The name set forth is that of the person, corporation or legal entity appearing on the tax rolls as the owner or occupant of the lot or parcel of land upon which the tax lien is to be sold.

The first item is the Comptroller's Tax Lien Number; the second is that of the person appearing on the tax rolls as the owner or occupant of the property; the third is the location of the property as described on the tax rolls which includes the Section, Block and Lot Numbers as shown on the Official City Map; the fourth is the assessed valuation unimproved as shown on the tax rolls; the fifth is the total assessed valuation as shown on the tax rolls; the last group of figures is the total amount of the lien which is to be sold.

John Liszewski, Commissioner of Finance and Management Services

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Jenkins, County Executive, continued from pg 1-

leadership will help ensure that the priorities of Westchester's families, businesses, and varied communities remain on track. We look forward to continuing our productive collaboration with him now and in the future."

Jenkins has served as Deputy County Executive under Latimer since 2018. As a leader in the administration, Jenkins worked to cut taxes, build affordable housing, protect a woman's right to choose, reduce crime, restore aging infrastructure and protect the environment. Jenkins, a Westchester County resident for the past 43 years, made history as Westchester's first-ever Black County Executive.

Jenkins said: "I am deeply honored to have been named Westchester County Executive, a challenge I am braced to take on with integrity, respect and vision. As Deputy County Executive for the past seven years, I have fought hard to uphold the principals we all share – democracy, safety, education, technology and community engagement. We have made tremendous progress and have much we can feel proud of, seeing the completion of key infrastructure projects, environmental upgrades and social justice issues. I am confident that in this new role as County Executive, we will continue to make great strides for Westchester, together."

Former Acting Westchester County Executive Richard Wishnie said: "We are very fortunate to have had the leadership of Ken Jenkins as we navigate through this historic moment in time for Westchester. Ken brings a wealth of experience and talent, and is by far the most prepared individual to take on the role of County Executive. I know he will lead with transparency, fairness and heart, and there is no one more deserving of serving as Westchester's 10th County Executive."

The ceremony was presided over by Westchester County Clerk Timothy Itoni, and Jenkins oath was administered by New York State Supreme Court Justice Anne E. Minihan, 9th Judicial District, in a ceremony at the Michaelian Office Building.

Jenkins built an extensive career in telecommunications and technology, holding key roles at leading companies such as Apple, AT&T, Bell Atlantic, New York Telephone (Verizon), NYNEX and Seer Technologies. He also gained valuable sales experience, as an owner and broker, during his tenure at ERA Gem Realty, further enhancing his expertise in the real estate sector.

Jenkins' extensive public and community involvement includes board service with the Greyston Foundation, United Way, Westchester County District Attorney's Community Advisory Committee, Westchester County Crime Stoppers and the Community Planning Council of Yonkers. He served as President of the Yonkers Branch of the NAACP and the Yonkers Community Action Program.

A longstanding member of the Democratic Party, Jenkins has held various leadership positions, including: Treasurer of the New York State Democratic Committee, Chairman of the Yonkers Democratic Committee, Chairman of the Black Democrats of Westchester and Secretary of the Westchester County Democratic Committee, in addition to serving on its Executive Committee. He has also shared his political insights as a frequent analyst on News 12 Westchester.

The next political step in the process of having the people of Westchester vote for the next County Executive is:

The leadership of the Democratic and Republican parties in Westchester will name their candidate for County Executive to run in the special election on Feb. 11. Jenkins will certainly be the democratic nominee, while the republican nominee has yet to be announced by Westchester GOP Chair Doug Colety, who posted the following call for candidates:

Dear Friends,

Following the victories of President Trump, Congressman Lawler and Assemblyman Slater, the Westchester GOP looks forward to continuing our momentum into the new year as 2025 brings critical county and local races. As you may be aware, petitions are expected to start on February 25th.

We have begun our process of interviewing candidates for Westchester County Executive, County Legislator and County Clerk. We anticipate a special election being called in February for County Executive, followed by the full term in November and welcome any potential candidates.

If you or anyone you know has an interest in running for any of the above offices this year, please email me at chairman@westchestergop.com or leave a voicemail for me at 914-949-3020, ext 1. While our interview process is for county offices, most of our towns and cities will have local races this year and we can gladly connect you to your local leader.

I look forward to speaking to all prospective candidates to outline the process and answer any questions. Best wishes for a healthy and happy New Year. Doug Colety, Chairman Westchester GOP

In November of this year (2025), Westchester residents will again vote for County Executive, this time for a four year term.

Colety also told us, "We continue to maintain a deep bench of qualified Republicans, each of whom would make a great county executive. We are also in the process of discerning the strongest candidates for the board of legislators, including new faces energized by President Trump's popular vote victory in November."

Trump Picks New Rochelle Native Emil Michael for Undersecretary of Defense



Emil Michael with President Donald Trump

President-elect Donald Trump announced that he has picked businessman Emil Michael to be undersecretary of defense for research and engineering. The R&E chief plays a key role in fostering next-generation military capabilities and overseeing critical technology areas for the Pentagon's research-and-development enterprise, including trusted AI and autonomy; space; integrated sensing and cyber; integrated network systems of systems; renewable energy generation and storage; microelectronics; human-machine interfaces; advanced materials; directed energy; advanced computing and software; hypersonics; biotech; quantum; and FutureG wireless tech.

Michael was chief business officer at Uber, the ridesharing company, from 2013 to 2017. He also served as special assistant to Defense Secretary Robert Gates during the Obama administration.

After graduating from law school, he joined Goldman Sachs as a partner in the investment banking group, where he worked on complex projects including mergers and acquisitions, equity financing, and debt financing.

For nine years, starting from June 1999 until 2008, Michael was part of the executive team at internet-telephony startup Tellme Networks, which was a forerunner of speech recognition technology. The company was later acquired by Microsoft in a deal worth \$800 million.

During the Obama administration, Michael served as a special assistant to US Secretary of Defense Robert Gates, where he was involved in sensitive assignments that included work in Afghanistan and Pakistan.

In September 2013, Michael joined Uber as Senior Vice President, serving as CEO Travis Kalanick's right-hand man. He played a pivotal role in raising around \$15 billion in funding, helping turn Uber into the world's most valuable private company by 2018.

In 2021, Michael co-funded Checkstop, an AI-powered content moderator for digital platforms. He was also considered for the position of Secretary of Transportation in the Trump administration.

Michael is a graduate of New Rochelle High School (1989) and is a graduate of Harvard University and Stanford Law School. His parents still reside in New Rochelle, New York. "I couldn't be more grateful for @realDonaldTrump's nomination to serve our nation as Under Secretary of Defense for Research and Engineering. It is a dream come true and I can't wait to get started as part of @PeteHegseth's leadership team. Our best days are yet to come!"

President Trump posted, "Emil Michael will serve as the Undersecretary of Defense for Research and Engineering. Emil has lived the American Dream by building several successful Tech companies, including Uber. He served as a Special Assistant to the Secretary of Defense when he was a White House Fellow. Emil will ensure that our Military has the most technologically sophisticated weapons in the World, while saving A LOT of money for our Taxpayers. Emil is a graduate of Harvard University, and has a Law degree from Stanford. He is one of the most respected leaders in the Tech business, and will be a champion for the Troops, and our Great Country."



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