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Friday January 14, 2022

The 2023 Race for Yonkers Mayor Has Begun: Poll Out With the Top 8 Candidates

Who would you support to be our next Mayor?

- 1 Nader Sayegh
- 2 Vincent Spano
- 3 Thomas Meier
- 4 Mike Spano for a 4th term
- 5 Shelley Mayer
- 6 Corazon Pineda Isaac
- 7 John Rubbo
- 8 Lakisha Collins-Bellamy

This poll is being conducted by a Yonkers Democrat. Your response is anonymous.

By Dan Murphy

YonkersTimes.com has acquired a poll circulated among democrats in Yonkers and Westchester asking Who Would You Support to be Our Next Mayor? The poll was conducted last month (Dec. 2021). We have been unable to determine who paid for the poll, or which political operative or consulting firm oversaw it. "This poll is being conducted by a Yonkers Democrat. Your response is anonymous," states the poll, which is pictured above, and which we received from a notable Yonkers and Westchester democrat.

There are 8 names on the poll, but opinions were mixed as to whether the next Mayor would come from this list of 8, or whether someone else will lead New York State's third largest city on Jan. 1, 2024.

In fact, some democrats thought that it was way too early to start thinking about Mayoral candidates in 2023. "Two years are an eternity in politics," said one of several Yonkers and Westchester democrats we spoke to. "Why anyone is polling Yonkers democrats the week before Christmas and two years before the next Mayor's race is nuts."

But once we were able to verify that the poll was sent to several Yonkers democrats, opinions and predictions started coming in. "That's a pretty accurate list of the 8 Yonkers democrats, one of who will be our next Mayor. I also think that there are two tiers of candidates on this list, with several running for Mayor if one of the top tier candidates decides not to run. And I think most of this comes down to whether Mayor Spano will run for a 4th term. If he does, then many of these 8 candidates bows out," said one Yonkers Democratic Party leader. But if you are not on this list of 8, then you are not going to be our next Mayor."

Yonkers Mayor Mike Spano has just completed his 10th year in office. After being elected twice, supporters of the Mayor changed the City's term limits law to permit him to run for a third term, which he won, easily defeating republican Mario De Giorgio.

The City would have to amend its term limits law once again, this year (2022) to permit Spano to run for a fourth term, if he decides to run. All the talk about a fourth term for Mayor Spano has been rejected by those close to him, saying that he, and his family, are ready to move on to another part of their future.

But lately, the buzz has returned to Yonkers City Hall that while still unlikely, don't rule out completely, a Spano for Mayor part 4.

"I think that Mayor Spano clears most of the names off this list if he decides to run for a fourth term," said a Yonkers democrat and a supporter of Mayor Spano. "There's a reason why he was elected three times. The voters are satisfied with the job he has done, and that gives him a chance to run again. The office of Yonkers

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Give the New City Council Leadership A Chance!



Council Majority Leader Tasha Diaz, left, and City Council President Lakisha Collins-Bellamy, right

Opinion: Dan Murphy, Editor, Yonkers Rising, YonkersTimes.com

When he was first elected Mayor ten years ago, Mayor Mike Spano vowed to take the drama out of Yonkers politics. Since then, we have seen very little drama, with the affairs of the City being conducted without much controversy.

That was until the City Council re-organizational meeting of Jan. 3. As a reporter, this was my 10th Council re-org meeting, which occur every two years. They usually are conducted quickly in public, with much of the negotiations going on in the council chambers, off camera, as councilmembers seek consensus on leadership positions for the next two years.

This year, the same negotiations occurred in the council chambers, but the conversation continued on the council floor, on Live TV before the people of Yonkers. Two councilmembers Corazon Pineda-Isaac and Shanae Williams, would not accept the results which made Councilmember Tasha Diaz the next Majority Leader. While I can understand the disappointment of both councilmembers at not being chosen or re-elected Majority Leader, the way in which they publicly criticized and attacked Diaz was a first for this reporter in 20 years

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Lionsgate Opens TV-Movie Studio in Yonkers: \$100M Project to Become a \$500M Expansion



Lionsgate Studios has opened its new \$100 Million TV-Movie Studios in downtown Yonkers, and has immediately agreed to a Half-Billion Expansion.

On January 11th, Great Point Studios officially opened the doors to its long-awaited Lionsgate Studios Yonkers, which will soon be the largest modern-built film and television production facility in the Northeast.

In an unprecedented move that will dramatically change the landscape of the New York film and television industry, Great Point Studios is also revealing its \$500 million-plus expansion plans and new long-term tenants for the facility, which include Lionsgate, Mediapro and Syracuse University.

Lionsgate Studios Yonkers is located on the Hudson River in downtown Yonkers, situated just a few steps away from the newly created Saw Mill River Plaza and Yonkers' new Metro North Railroad station. The dynamic growth and revitalization of the city will underpin the value of the new facility and make it the premier tri-state venue for anyone needing production facilities.

"This state-of-the-art media complex will help complete the transformation of the Yonkers waterfront. Local commerce will benefit from the expected 1000+ people working at the studio complex daily," said Mayor Mike Spano. "We look forward to welcoming Great Point Studios, Lionsgate and all of the new companies to Yonkers in the new year."

The announcement was made today by Great Point Studios Founder and CEO, Robert Halmi, who called upon decades of experience as founder of the Hallmark Channel and a producer of more than 400 film & television projects to create a facility that fits the needs of these cutting-edge companies. "We have a shared vision for the future of the entertainment industry, and it's reflected in every detail we put into this complex," Halmi said.

"Given the expected rise in studio production post-Covid, we are confident that expanding our Yonkers studio will attract quality tenants. We are proud that Lionsgate, Mediapro and Syracuse University share our vision and are strongly supporting our project."

Owned and operated by Great Point Studios, Lionsgate Studios was created to satisfy the overwhelming demand for large studio space in the New York City area. This campus — approximately 11 miles from midtown Manhattan — will feature state-of-the-art film stages, post-production facilities, screening rooms, office space and support space. It will offer a full set of production services on site, including grip and electric, equipment, props, set building, restaurants, location catering, cleaning service, and security.

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St. John's Riverside Hospital: The Areas Most Comprehensive Wound Healing Center



Dr. Nirav Patel: "We Can Heal That"

By Dan Murphy

Dr. Nirav Patel, Director of the Wound Care Center at St. John's Riverside Hospital in Yonkers, kicked off the new year by discussing with Yonkers Rising the state-of-the-art services he helps provide to the community in wound care treatment and management.

Dr. Patel said that many diabetic patients, or those with pre-existing conditions need to be watchful for wounds that are taking longer than usual to heal.

"The Wound Care Center at St. John's is the premier wound care center available to patients in Westchester and the Bronx. We treat all types of wounds that are slow to heal, and check for vascular disease, podiatric conditions, and wounds that may not be healing properly from surgery. When you come to St. John's, you get a complete circle of care," said Dr. Patel,

"The Physicians at St. John's are the best in Westchester, but what also makes our wound care center elite is the nursing care. I hear from my patients how satisfied they are with the care they receive from our nurses. For us to be successful, we treat everyone like they are part of our family — and that has resonated through to everyone."

Patients with wounds from poor circulation as in peripheral vascular disease, chronic venous insufficiency, diabetes with neuropathy, pressure due to immobility, heart and lung disease are all prone to difficulties getting their wounds to heal and have benefitted from the treatment at the Wound Care Center at St. John's Riverside Hospital.

Dr. Patel noted several advances in the field of wound care treatment and management that can be helpful to slow or non-healing wound patients. "When patients come to us with a wound that has not healed for a month or more, we check their circulation, address it, and treat it through vascular treatments to open circulation.

"We are most proud of our limb salvage rates. We heal wounds and preserve limbs. That is what we work to do every day here and we are highly successful in

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Mayor Spano Appoints Rosemarie Linton to Yonkers Board of Education

Public Health Professional Replaces Lakisha Collins-Bellamy



On Jan. 5, Mayor Mike Spano swore in longtime public health professional Rosemarie P. Linton, MPH to the Yonkers Board of Education. As trustee of the Yonkers Board of Education, Linton is part of a nine member Board, which is the official policy making body of the School District.

“As we continue to provide our students with the best education possible, I am proud to appoint Rose to the Board of Education as she brings unique perspectives as a dedicated public health professional. Rose joins the Board during a critical time for our schools as so many Districts across the country face challenges due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Her in-depth knowledge and expertise in public health will be a guiding hand in steering our Board during these uncertain times. I am confident her experiences will be a valuable asset to our students,” said Mayor Spano.

Working in healthcare for over 30 years, Linton currently serves as a Senior Data Scientist for Krasnoff Quality Management Institute at Northwell Health. There, Linton is the lead statistician for Infection Prevention and manages hospital acquired infection and antibiotic surveillance data for 17 Northwell facilities entered into the CDC’s National Healthcare Safety Network, which is the nation’s most widely used healthcare-associated infection tracking system. Previously, Linton was a Research Analyst for the Westchester County Department of Health, where she analyzed weights of children in Yonkers Public Schools (YPS) and other schools in the County. This analysis brought attention to the severity of the obesity crisis, previously unknown, among children in the County, which was determined to be approximately 33%. Linton holds a Master of Public Health from Columbia University and a Bachelor of Science in Business Administration from Fordham University.

“It is with great honor that I accept the appointment of Mayor Mike Spano as a Yonkers Board of Education Trustee for the Yonkers School District. Alongside a distinguished and highly accomplished panel of trustees, with humility, I look forward to serving this great city of Yonkers and the children of this city in such an unprecedented time as this,” noted Rosemarie Linton.

Board of Education President Rev. Steve Lopez said, “The Trustees and I enthusiastically welcome Ms. Linton; she has a legacy of active commitment to the City of Yonkers. Now more than ever, her public health knowledge and perspective will be extremely valuable for our policy decisions moving forward.”

“Trustee Linton brings additional insight and firsthand expertise to the complex public policy decisions facing our distinguished Board members,” noted Dr. Edwin M. Quezada, Superintendent of Schools. “Her experience and research in public health, in particular issues related to children, will be beneficial in our work moving forward. My Administrative Team and I look forward to working with her to improve the academic and social emotional growth of our students.”

Mayor Spano Appoints Ada Medina as New Yonkers City Court Judge



New Yonkers City Court Judge Ada Medina left, with Lucria Ortiz, her law school classmate and CEO of the Yonkers Family YMCA

On Jan. 11, Yonkers Mayor Mike Spano announced his appointment of Ada D. Medina as a new City Court Judge for the City of Yonkers. Mayor Spano swore in Medina today at Yonkers City Hall.

“I am proud to appoint Ada Medina as our new City Court Judge,” said Mayor Spano. “Ada has been in public service for over 20 years, serving the Westchester community, especially our most vulnerable population, providing legal representation to those who are unable to afford an attorney. Ada’s professionalism, deep knowledge and experience in the judicial system will prove to be a great asset to the Yonkers City Court system.”

Medina joins the Yonkers City Court bench after serving as the Region Chief and counsel for Legal Aid Society of Westchester. There, she supervised attorneys who litigate the top three felony caseloads in Westchester County. From 2017-2021, Medina supervised the Yonkers region. Medina holds a Juris Doctor Degree from the Northeastern University School of Law.

“I am thankful and appreciative for the confidence that Mayor Spano has expressed in me by this appointment,” commented Honorable Ada Medina, Yonkers City Court Judge. “I know that there were other well-qualified candidates under consideration and I am grateful for the opportunity to continue my career in public service right here in my home City, where I was born and raised and love so dearly. I look forward to serving Yonkers as a fair and impartial jurist under the leadership of Chief Judge Doran and my fellow associate judges. I congratulate Judge Quiñones on his election to the Supreme Court Justice and I thank him for his mentorship throughout the years.”

Medina fills the vacant seat left by Judge Thomas Quiñones and will run for a full 10-year term in the November 2022 election. Medina joins Hon. Karen N. Best, Hon. Arthur J. Doran, III, Hon. Evan Inlaw, Hon. Daniel P. Romano, Hon. Verris B. Shako, Hon. Elena Goldberg Velazquez on the Yonkers City Court bench.

More than 12 Yonkers attorneys sought this appointment, and some may compete for the position in the upcoming democratic primary in June.

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Scarsdale

Yonkers

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Bronx

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NewYork-Presbyterian Lawrence Hospital, located in Bronxville, is powered by top doctors from Columbia, bringing advanced levels of care and expertise close to you. We are here to serve your healthcare needs safely and conveniently with the quality care you expect from NewYork-Presbyterian Hospital, New York’s #1 hospital. With the nation’s top doctors, latest medical technology and advanced treatments, you’ll find amazing care – right here in Westchester.

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As ranked by U.S. News & World Report 2021-2022

Mayor Spano Launches Yonkers First Green City Leadership Awards



Up to \$10,000 Available for Local Projects that Improve Yonkers Environmental Health and Sustainability

Nomination Applications Available at www.YonkersNY.gov

Yonkers Mayor Mike Spano today announced the creation and launch of the first-ever Yonkers Green City Leadership Awards, recognizing local community organizations and students for their contributions towards improving the environmental health and sustainability of the City. The Community Leadership Award provides a grant of up to \$10,000 to a local community organization or small business for a new or existing environmental project in Yonkers and a \$1,000 award to one student for the Student Leadership Award to support a new or existing Yonkers Public School environmental program or project.

"Yonkers has led the charge in sustainability for the last decade, working with our non-for-profits, schools, city agencies, businesses and residents," said Mayor Spano. "It is time our partners are rightfully recognized for their vision, action and commitment to our environment and continue to build a cleaner, greener Yonkers."

"Many of our students are enthusiastic environmentalists," noted Superintendent of Schools Dr. Edwin M. Quezada, "who understand that the actions they take today will improve and sustain their future living and work environments. By recognizing the commitment and leadership of a young person who embraces a greener city and a greener future encourages other students to join in this important work."

All award applications received will be reviewed and evaluated by members of the Yonkers Green City Advisory Committee. Awards will be presented to applicants who best exhibit local leadership in at least one of the categories included in the Award Criteria, and demonstrate how the proposed project will improve environmental, social and/or economic conditions within Yonkers:

Natural Resource Protection – including, but not limited to air/water quality improvement, habitat preservation, land conservation, and/or tree canopy improvement.

Waste Reduction – including, but not limited to recycling, composting, diversion and/or public education and awareness efforts.

Environmentally Preferable Practices – use of green products or processes in organizational operations.

Green Energy/Energy Efficiency – use of renewable energy, energy efficient building design, or other innovative green building features that minimize building emissions.

Green Transportation – advancing use and access to zero-emission transportation alternatives; supporting improvements to pedestrian infrastructure.

Community Health and Wellness – Improving community access to healthy food, recreation, and/or economic opportunity.

Nomination submission applications and eligibility criteria are available at www.yonkersny.gov/greencityawards. Deadline for submissions is Friday, March 11 at 4pm.

Westchester County to Offer Food Assistance to Residents in Need During COVID-19 Pandemic

Westchester County is prepared to offer food assistance for residents and families having difficulty getting access to food while under isolation from COVID-19. The food assistance service is available to any Westchester County resident. To find out more information, call the Westchester County Department of Social Services at (914) 995-5566. Assistance is available from Monday through Friday, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Westchester County Executive George Latimer said: "The COVID-19 pandemic continues to effect each and every one of us. Westchester County is dedicated to providing assistance to residents affected by COVID-19, and having access to healthy, nutritious food is not something we want our residents to struggle with. If you have been advised to isolate or quarantine due to a positive COVID-19 test result or an exposure, please do not hesitate to reach out to get the food that you and your family need."

Firefighters are Our Heroes!



By Eric W. Schoen

I was sitting having my coffee at Panera at Cross County when the fire alarm went off earlier this week. Staff evacuated the patrons in the cafe and team members, out into the cold without their jackets. The Yonkers Fire Department, strategically located throughout Yonkers so they can reach most points in the city within 4 minutes were there in less than that.

If you don't know where the entrances to Panera are located at Cross County, you would have a hard time finding them. The sign for the cafe faces the parking lot, but one needs to go around the corner to enter the restaurant. The back door that faces the parking lot leads to Applebee's kitchen area. There is no sign that says that the Panera entrance is around the corner. There should be! In big letters not only for the firemen to see but for the public.

The firefighters tried to get into the Applebee's door which was locked. They quickly went around the building to the cafe, did their checks and as I pulled my car out of the parking lot I saw the firemen leaving. Thank god it was a false alarm.

Made me think about the terrible fire in the Bronx. 17 lives lost, many injured, you feel for the poor people who have their families, memories, place to live destroyed. I don't like space heaters. Now you'll probably say hey Eric, you live in an apartment building that provides good heat. You don't need a space heater like so many do who are not as fortunate as you. In some closet in my apartment I have a radiator type device that I can pull out if it ever gets that cold in the apartment.

Frankly if it ever got that chilly I would pile on an extra blanket or extra layer of clothes before I would use the radiator type heater that has sat in my closet buried for at least 20 years. Who knows if it works? A friend of mine who is a firefighter years ago told me not to use space heaters. And never ever use your oven to warm up your apartment if the heat is down.

The apartment house I grew up in had those big heavy fire safety doors in the hallways. They were always supposed to be closed, but people would wedge them open. With fires in apartment buildings in the neighborhood over the years we learned to keep the fire doors closed and god forbid you have a fire in your apartment to close the door behind you.

How many of us have at least 1 frayed extension cord in our house or apartment. Or an overloaded extension cord out in the open someone can trip on and cause a fire. Or a smoke detector where the batteries have run out or that simply does not work. When we change the clocks we are supposed to check that the batteries in our smoke detectors and carbon monoxide detectors are working. Be honest, do you really do it?

Fire departments across this country have great resources to help you make your house or apartment fire safe. Most will visit your apartment or house and offer suggestions that at little or no cost can keep you safe. Take advantage of all the resources that are out there. Invite the fire engine to your child's school, or the fire department to your civic meeting. Firefighters are our friends. Yet for some reason if a child is in a fire statistics show they don't know what to do and they hide under the bed thinking they will be safe. They must learn that is not the case.

A professional Fire Department is not cheap. But it is like health insurance or insurance for your car. You hope you never have to use your local Fire Department but it is there when you need their services.

Don't be surprised if you have a medical emergency and a fire engine shows up before the ambulance. In a city like Yonkers with the excellent Empress Ambulance service serving our city there may be 2 or 3 ambulances on duty serving the entire city but we have fire companies with trained paramedics and EMT's that can reach most points in the city within 4 minutes. Minutes count in many medical emergencies. And don't let any politician tell you it's not needed. And if the fire crew comes out on a medical call and does wonderful work, send a letter to this newspaper or the Journal News sharing your positive experience. And make sure to let the Mayor and City Council who allocate the funds for fire service know it to!

The poor people who lost their lives or lost their possessions will never get them back. We have to pray for those involved in the tragic fire in the Bronx and if your pocketbook permits, donate to legitimate charities providing for their needs. Young kids in the prime of their lives dying. People overcome with smoke still being treating in area hospitals.

But remember who you see carrying people out of burning buildings, providing treatment for those who need it and risking their lives as occurred last weekend, oxygen tanks depleted still running in to the fire to get people out.

Our Firefighters. They Truly are Our Heroes! Pray for their safety and for all

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ADVICE FOR HOMEOWNERS AFFECTED BY COVID-19

Presented By:
Councilman John Rubbo

Commissioner of Planning & Development Louis Albano



NYS HOMEOWNER ASSISTANCE FUND
NYHOMEOWNERFUND.ORG



John Rubbo
City Council Majority Whip
District 4



Mayor Mike Spano

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- Behind on their chattel loans, retail installment contracts, or other types of home purchase loans and/or lot rent

Zoom
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Passcode: 325828

Date: January 19, 2022

Time: 6:30 pm

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Statement from the NYS Office of Temporary & Disability Assistance on the Emergency Rental Assistant Program

“After reviewing the Court’s order, the New York State Office of Temporary Disability Assistance will reopen the Emergency Rental Assistance Program application portal today (Jan. 11) at 10 p.m. However, as in other states with large tenant populations, the demand for rental relief in New York State far exceeds the federal funding at our disposal.

From day one, Governor Kathy Hochul has worked aggressively to streamline and accelerate the delivery of New York State’s ERAP funds — eliminating bureaucratic red tape to quintuple payments between late August and mid-November. With more than \$2 billion now paid or obligated, Governor Hochul has propelled New York from last to among the top states in rental relief funding paid or obligated.

After fully exhausting our initial funds for this program, New York State requested nearly \$1 billion in reallocation funds from the U.S. Treasury — but received only \$27 million, a sliver of what would be needed to cover existing applications, let alone new ones.

Today, New York will be joining other states in sending a joint letter to U.S. Treasury Secretary Janet Yellen to request additional federal funding and ensure high-need states are prioritized.

Reopening the application portal without additional funding to support the backlog of existing and future applications runs the risk of giving struggling New Yorkers false hope for critical financial relief that — without federal intervention — simply doesn’t exist.

Our appeal to the Treasury represents the latest in our continued and vigorous advocacy for tenants and landlords still reeling from the financial impact of the pandemic. In addition to getting \$2 billion in ERAP funds out the door, Governor Hochul has made \$100 million in state-funded rent supplements available for localities, committed \$125 million to households previously ineligible for ERAP based on income, authorized \$125 million to help landlords with tenants who have declined to participate in ERAP or vacated with arrears, signed an increase in rental voucher amounts into law, invested \$25 million for free legal services for tenants, and unveiled a sweeping, five-year, \$25 billion plan to address housing affordability in her State of the State address.

We will continue to work with our partners in the federal government and designated community-based organizations to keep ERAP applicants apprised of the situation, so that they are not provided an unrealistic expectation of relief, absent additional federal funding.”

For more information, on temporary rental assistance, or to see if you qualify, visit <https://otda.ny.gov/programs/emergency-rental-assistance/>

Lionsgate Yonkers Film Studio, continued from pg 1-

The now-expanding, one million-square-foot complex will cost over \$500 million and boast more 20,000 square foot stages on one campus than any other facility in the Northeast. The campus will include a total of eleven (11) soundstages: eight 20,000-square-foot stages, two 10,000-square-foot stages, and a gigantic, 30,000 square-foot stage. It will also include parking for more than 750 cars and 100 trucks.

Three of the large stages and 500,000 square feet of office and support space are now open for business, while Great Point has also purchased approximately eight acres of additional land around the originally announced studio site. The expansion of additional stages and office space are already under construction and are scheduled to be completed in phases starting in September 2022 with total completion slated for December 2023.

Lionsgate has expanded its role as anchor tenant, and will occupy seven of the complex’s eleven stages, along with office and support space. Besides its prominent theatrical film presence, Lionsgate is producing over 40 television shows for various broadcast outlets, including its own Starz platform.

“With demand for new content greater than ever and prime studio space at a premium, we’re pleased to partner with Great Point on the opportunity to become an anchor tenant of the Yonkers Studios,” says Lionsgate CEO Jon Feltheimer. “They will give our television and film productions state-of-the-art East Coast sound stages with great proximity to New York City, and we look forward to them becoming an important hub for our global production activities.”

Mediapro, a leading group in the global audiovisual sector, unique in content integration, production and audiovisual distribution, has also inked a long-term deal to be a key tenant on the site. Mediapro will take occupancy of its first stage later this year and they have options on two more of the planned expansion stages. Their first stage is expected to be completed this winter.

“Mediapro recently expanded its operations in the US with two new production centers in great locations, and our aim through this partnership is to continue our growth in the country and globally,” stated Mediapro US CEO Irantzu Diez Gamboa. “We are very pleased with the partnership with Great Point Studios and are very excited to form part of the largest film and television production complex in the Northeast. We believe that with the increase in new content productions this space provides an opportunity for our in-house content creation, production and distribution factory, The Mediapro Studio, to grow, and also to increase our portfolio of studios to provide broadcast and media services to third parties.”

In a unique partnership between the academic and production worlds, the S.I. Newhouse School of Public Communications at Syracuse University has also come on as a key partner at Lionsgate Studios. Syracuse University will work with Great Point Studios to create a distinctive learning and fully hands-on working experience for television, radio and film students. Beginning this month, the school will utilize the facility as a giant classroom and will have access to all stages and equipment at Lionsgate Studio Yonkers. The Newhouse NYC program is a specialized program for Newhouse students from all majors, placing them in NYC for a semester where they intern and take classes. This alliance will allow television, radio and film students enrolled in the Newhouse NYC program to become fully immersed in a production experience through coursework and hands-on internships. “The immersive film environment at Lionsgate Studios Yonkers is visionary, and will propel our film experience, particularly on the East Coast. Thanks to our alumnus Robert Halmi and Great Point Studios, we are thrilled to be able to offer our film students the opportunity to learn and work at what will be one of the most cutting-edge media enterprises in the country,” says S.I. Newhouse School of Public Communications at Syracuse University dean Mark J. Lodato. “

A key investment partner and project developer at Lionsgate Studios Yonkers is National Resources. The company has operated in the New York area for 30 years and has tallied up more than \$1.5 billion in construction and redevelopment projects. National Resources will be responsible for all phases of development and construction of the studio complex. “We are very proud to work with Great Point Studios and Lionsgate to help change the production industry landscape,” says National Resources CEO, Joe Cotter. “Our combined efforts will help make the newly revitalized Yonkers a sought-after destination for talent from around the world.”

Riverside HS Senior, Nominated for US Presidential Scholars Program



Daniel Leon, left, was recommended by Senate Majority Leader Andrea Stewart-Cousins for the prestigious US Presidential Scholars Program

Upon the recommendation of Majority Leader Andrea Stewart-Cousins, Riverside High School Senior Daniel Leon of Yonkers has been nominated for the U.S. Presidential Scholars Program by State Education Department Commissioner Betty A. Rosa.

The Presidential Scholar recognition is one of the nation’s most prestigious honors for high school students and is awarded after a very selective process. Daniel is one of just 25 students from New York to be nominated as a candidate, and he now moves up in the selection process.

“I’m thrilled that Daniel Leon of Riverside High School was nominated for the U.S. Presidential Scholars Program by Commissioner Rosa. Daniel is an exceptional student who has overcome personal barriers and stands out as a leader among his peers, said State Senate Majority Leader Andrea Stewart-Cousins. “Mastering class materials and tests at school, Daniel has already earned 13 college credits at Westchester Community College. Outside of school, he guides others in how to study and learn. Coming from a working-class immigrant family, Daniel is determined to show members of his community and extended family — many who have not finished high school — the importance of education. I was proud to recommend him for this prestigious honor.”

“Daniel Leon is the master of his own destiny and a champion for his peers, administrators and teachers at Riverside High School. Throughout his years in Yonkers Public Schools, Daniel was laser focused to overcome his educational challenges,” noted Dr. Edwin M. Quezada, Superintendent of the Yonkers Public Schools. With the support of his caring family and teachers, Daniel mastered high school academics and simultaneously earned college credits towards his career goals. Daniel understands the value of an education sharing this passion by helping his peers study and being a role model for his immigrant family and community. He personifies the prestigious Presidential Scholars Program.

Yonkers Public Schools wants to thank Majority Leader Andrea Stewart-Cousins for nominating Daniel Leon and Education Commissioner Betty A. Rosa for choosing Daniel for the prestigious Presidential Scholars Program.”

Riverside High School Principal Dr. Don Solimene shared, “Since entering our building four years ago, Daniel Leon has exhibited true determination and a drive to succeed in all that he does. Daniel has taken a keen interest in the academics and programs at Riverside and has displayed from early on a level of performance above his peers. Daniel’s overall goal is to succeed and to show members of his community that education can pave the way for a better life for immigrants who are trying to achieve the “American Dream.” As his principal, I have seen Daniel grow from a shy 9th grader to a mature and committed young man who has taken on roles and responsibilities beyond his age. I am greatly impressed with Daniel and his academic successes. He has overcome many challenges and barriers to taking on additional responsibilities to help others. We, at Riverside, are very proud of his achievements and look forward to seeing him continue to grow and excel.”

Candidate selection by Commissioner Rosa was based on outstanding scholarship, heavy workload, family responsibilities, overcoming challenges, community and school involvement, leadership and character, among other qualifications. Daniel Leon was one of five students Majority Leader Stewart-Cousins recommended from her district. In January, Daniel will join other students who were nominated from all 50 states and will be invited by the US Department of Education to apply for the next step in the Presidential Scholars Process. Semifinalists will then be notified in mid-April and Scholars will be notified in May. Students ultimately selected by the White House Commission on Presidential Scholars will go to Washington in June to meet national and international figures, including government officials, authors, educators, and entertainers. They will also attend ceremonies and recitals, visit museums and forge friendships with other recipients from around the country. Saunders Trades & Technical High School senior Jaden Halevi, was also nominated for this program.

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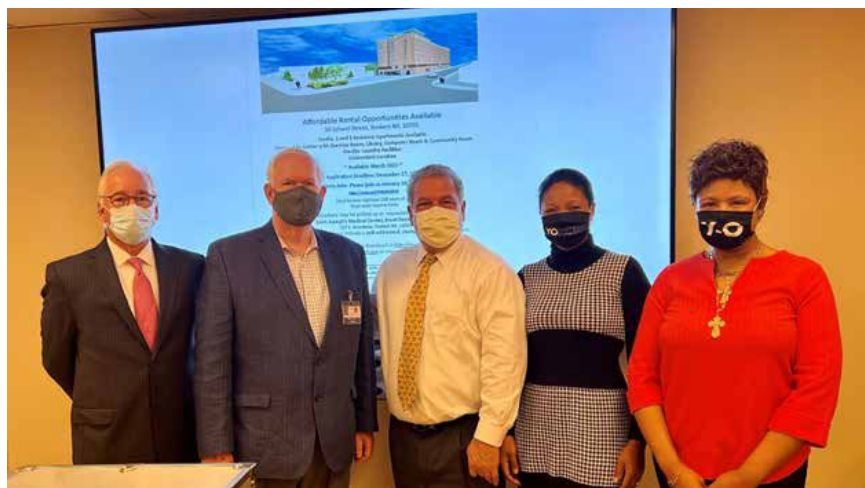
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Saint Joseph's Conducts Lottery to Select Residents for Landy's Court Apartments



L-R, Saint Joseph's Medical Center President Michael Spicer, Medical Center Board Chairman James Landy, Mayor Mike Spano; Councilwoman Corazon Pineda-Isaac, Council Majority Leader Tasha Diaz

Officials of Saint Joseph's Medical Center today conducted a lottery for the selection of residents for the 32 affordable units at Landy's Court, a modern new apartment building featuring 80 units housing in downtown Yonkers.

The project is named after James J. Landy, long-time Chairman of the Saint Joseph's Medical Center's Board of Directors and an advocate for those in the community who seek a safe environment with support services to call home. As an expert in Housing, Mr. Landy is involved in many organizations. He is the Chairman of the Board of Commissioners of Municipal Housing Authority of the City of Yonkers, Vice Chair of the Sisters of Charity Housing Corporation, President of the Sacred Heart Housing Group, and President of the St. Joseph's Housing Group.

Located at 10 School Street, the five-story building features 32 efficiency one- and two-bedroom affordable housing units for individuals and families who meet the affordable housing guidelines. There are also 48 efficiency units for individuals with a diagnosis of mental illness who are in need of supportive housing.

Referrals for the 48 supportive housing units will come from the Westchester County Single Point of Access program which is coordinated through Westchester County's Department of Community Mental Health with preference for Yonkers residents and military service veterans. Clinical criteria will include assessment of ability to live independently. All of the affordable housing units will be occupied by individuals or families earning less than 60% of the Area Median Income.

"Saint Joseph's affordable and supportive housing meets a significant need in our community. The affordable housing provides an attractive, new permanent place to live for local individuals and families who meet the guidelines. The 48 supportive apartments will meet the needs of those individuals who have demonstrated the ability to live independently in the community with on-site support services. This program is designed to offer support and assistance to help individuals maintain skills of daily living and foster successful integration in the community," said Saint Joseph's Medical Center President and CEO Michael Spicer.

Landy's Court will provide support services that will be geared towards meeting the individual needs of tenants through a flexible array of support. The services, which will be made available to both the special needs tenants as well as the affordable housing tenants, will enable residents to live independently in the community, maintain physical and psychiatric health, and pursue employment, educational or other productive activities which will all contribute towards sustaining healthy relationships and improving the quality of their lives. Residents will also benefit from Saint Joseph's extensive organizational network of mental health and medical treatment programs. All apartments are fully furnished by Saint Joseph's and will be move-in ready upon a resident's admission to the program. Landy's Court is operated by the Department of Residential Services of St. Vincent's Hospital, Westchester Division of Saint Joseph's Medical Center.

Give Council Leadership a Chance, continued from pg 1-

covering the Yonkers City Council and was clearly evidence of the political drama that Mayor Spano has worked to try and avoid. What appeared to be happening was that the two councilmembers were trying to get Diaz to blow her stack in public. That did not happen, and after the vote, Diaz spoke to Ru Ros of the Yonkers Voice and pointed out that she had the support of the new Council President, Lakisha Collins-Bellamy.

Why did Diaz point out the support from the new Council President? Because the Council President is the 2nd most powerful elected official in the City of Yonkers, and besides Mayor Spano, she is the only elected official in City government elected Citywide. Her political victory should also provide her with the respect due her election as the first woman of color to be City Council President.

With that respect comes her ability to pick who the next Council Majority Leader should be. And Council President Collins-Bellamy chose Tasha Diaz. To us the case is closed, and there should now be a period of time where both the Council President and the Majority Leader be provided a grace period where they can both get used to their new positions and show the people of Yonkers what they can do, and what their priorities are. Let's give them a chance to lead and succeed please!

Yonkers Rising featured a letter that we received from several prominent women of color in Yonkers, including former elected officials. The letter, titled Four Black Councilmembers, asked the City Council to select one of the four women on the council, Collins-Bellamy, Diaz, Pineda-Issac, and Williams, to become the next Majority Leader.

And on Jan. 3, their wishes were granted when Diaz was named Majority Leader. But two councilmembers objected to Diaz. If that was the original reason for the letter, they should have removed Diaz from the four women of color that should be Majority Leader. We agree with the letter, and that is why we featured it on the front page, but again, when one of those four women of color was selected Majority Leader, there should have been no opposition.

The disrespect given to Majority Leader Diaz has continued since her vote against increase the City's Affordable Housing Ordinance from 10% to 20% last year. That vote has earned her the wrath of many progressive democrats in Yonkers, and was mentioned by both councilmembers as a reason why Diaz should not be the Majority Leader. But Diaz's decision not to support a 20% affordable housing requirement for new development should not be a dealbreaker to be a leader in the democratic party in Yonkers. Mayor Mike Spano is opposed to a 20% affordable housing ordinance and is negotiating a compromise between 10% and 20%.

At one event last year, in which Diaz was given out food to the hungry, one of her opponents, and a supporter of the 20% affordable housing ordinance, threw a pair of flip flops at her with the words, "don't flip flop," and "override the veto" on them. The Yonkers Police were called, and an event that was supposed to feed the hungry became, you guessed it, political drama.

Elections have consequences, and both Councilwoman Diaz and Council President Collins-Bellamy won their elections, and Diaz won a majority of the voters of her colleagues. Let's move on and let them get to work for the people of Yonkers.

Several members of the City Council could become the next Mayor of Yonkers. There behavior on Jan. 3 did not look like behavior from a future Mayor.

And while the political drama is good for reporters like me, its may not be the best way to govern New York State's third largest City.

On This Day in Yonkers History...



America's Two Greatest Magicians: Harry Houdini, standing, and Harry Kellar, from Yonkers, seated

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

Monday January 17th

January 17, 1904: Ludlow Park resident (Heinrich aka Harry) Kellar the Magician performed for President Roosevelt and his family at the Lafayette Theatre in Washington. Kellar lived at 75 Sunnyside Drive.

January 17, 1929: Yonkers High graduate Lieutenant Frederick Hopkins of Riverdale Avenue, a professor of military science and tactics at NYU's Guggenheim Aeronautics School, addressed the Yonkers Citizens Military Training Camp Club at the new North Broadway Armory. While addressing the crowd, he predicted one day airplanes would replace artillery. Previously an Air Corps instructor at San Antonio's Kelly Field, Hopkins told of amusing incidents that happened to soon-to-be famous aviators during their training at Kelly. Lieutenant Lester Maitland, considered an aviation pioneer, was given the "Dumbbell Trophy;" instead of flying north, he ended up fifty miles south of his assigned landing point. Hopkins also shared Colonel Charles Lindbergh would not have been memorable during his student days at Kelly, except for a serious mid-air collision eight days before his graduation; Lindbergh bailed out to save his life.

Hopkins transferred to the Air Force in 1947 when it became a separate branch of the service; he retired a few years later in 1951 holding the rank of Major General. Among awards he received were the Distinguished Service Medal and the Legion of Merit.

Tuesday January 18th

January 18, 1911: William Port East of Nepperhan Avenue became the oldest man in Yonkers; in his 99th year, he had lived in Yonkers for more than half a century. He passed away the following December.

January 18, 1938: Mayor Joseph Loehr indicated he was ready to work with the Council Republican majority to break the deadlocked city budget. While discussing this, he revealed he had met with Republican Majority Leader Alderman Fred Storaay a few hours before the Council vote and reached an agreement to reduce the budget \$328,000. Loehr, denying he had "packed the 1938 budget with political jobs," released a list of the jobs in the original budget, including police officers and laborers previously paid to do city jobs by WPA. Storaay later denied a meeting took place after the vote, ignoring Loehr's assertion it happened before the vote.

Wednesday, January 19th

January 19, 1938: Mayor Joseph Loehr appointed songwriter Bud David Green of Lee Avenue a Commissioner of the Board of the Yonkers Museum of Science and Arts. Green, who previously worked in the movie industry in California, moved to Yonkers after selling his company to Warner Brothers. Green wrote many well-known songs such as "Once In A While," "Sentimental Journey," "I'll Always Be In Love With You," and "Flat Foot Floogie (with a Floy Floy)."

January 19, 1938: Yonkers Corporation Counsel advised City Clerk Heafy that the 1938 budget was "not passed within the time prescribed by law and was furthermore vetoed by the Mayor and never properly passed over his veto." The Republicans would have needed 9 votes to overturn the veto; they had seven. Hence, Heafy was not able to compute property taxes to send property tax bills.

Thursday January 20th

January 20, 1923: Patrolman William Comey saw a woman fall onto the trolley tracks; he rushed over to grab and pull her to safety just as a trolley car was about to reach here.

January 20, 1938: Civic leader James Moseley volunteered to act as a mediator in the City Hall budget deadlock; he sent telegrams to Mayor Loehr and Republican Majority Leader Fred Storaay offering his services. Moseley was VP of the American and Foreign Power Company, former president of the Ludlow Home Owners' Association and the Council of Yonkers Civic Associations.

Friday, January 21st

January 21, 1945: Dr. Edward Jones, whose dental office was at 45 Warburton Avenue, attended President Franklin Roosevelt's inauguration. Dr. Jones, Cochairman of the New York State Campaign for President Roosevelt; had recruited African American voters for the president.

January 21, 1987: Show business Columnist Earl Wilson of Marshall Road passed away at St. Joseph's Hospital.

Saturday, January 22nd

January 22, 1937: More than 100 drivers got new license plates at the first Yonkers office of the County Automobile Bureau office, opened at Tibbetts Brook Park.

continued on pg 6-

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

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

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

- Bid 6727 - Opening date: 02/18/2022: 12-month contract to purchase manhole covers, grates, and frames per Yonkers specifications as needed. (AC)
- Bid 6722 – Opening date 01/28/2022: Purchase of 25 Magniflood BP-LED98-UK-T#-PST-GBLK lights, or City approved equal. (NG)
- Bid 6730 – Opening date 02/04/2022: 12-month contract, with option to renew for 12-months, for the pick-up, removal, and lawful disposal of bulk quantities of asphalt, concrete, rock, and dirt debris from various City facilities. (NG)
- Bid 6728 – Opening date 02/04/2022: Remove approximately 3,600 square feet of 24"x24" rubber tiles loosened by Tropical Storm Ida at Scotti Park playground (756 Bronx River Road, Yonkers, NY) and re-install at Wilson Park playground (135 Kimball Avenue, Yonkers, NY). (AC)
- Bid 6724 – Opening date 01/28/2022: Purchase of 2 Ford Transit Connect XL vans, or equal. (FB)
- Bid 6723 – Opening date 02/04/2022: Purchase of various sizes and quantities of Merv rated pleated and non-pleated air filters, 39 items. (SR)
- Bid 6714 - Opening date 01/28/2022: Planting of approximately 124 trees throughout the City during March and April of 2022 to replace diseased and damaged trees. (KS)
- Bid 6732 – Opening date 01/28/2022: Purchase of one 20' Mass Casualty Decontamination Trailer manufactured by Advanced Containment Systems Inc. or YPD approved equal. (SR)
- Bid 6716 – Opening date 01/28/2022: 12-month contract, with option to renew for 12-months, for the rehabilitation/emergency repair of storm, sanitary, combined sewers using the Cured-in-Place method. (KS)
- Bid 6717 – Opening date 01/28/2022: 12-month contract, with option to renew for 12-months, for the rehabilitation/emergency repair of storm, sanitary, combined sewers using the Shotcrete method. (KS)
- Bid 6720 – Opening date 01/28/2022: 12-month contract, with option to renew for 12-months, to purchase various Kennedy fire hydrant parts as needed. (AC)
- Bid 6718 – Opening date 01/28/2022: 12-month contract, with option to renew for 12-months, to purchase various Kennedy and Mueller water distribution parts as needed. (AC)
- Bid 6731 – Opening date 2/18/2022: Purchase of 1 Energywall model U-ERV-1200, or City approved equal, energy recovery system and 6 LG Electronics model ACHH60VBAB, or City approved equal, air cooled rooftop chillers. (KS)
- Bid 6721 – Opening date 02/25/2022: Gas conversion/HVAC project for Roosevelt High School located at 631 Tuckahoe Road, Yonkers, NY. (DC)
- Bid 6725 – Opening date 01/28/2022: 12-month contract, with option to renew for two 12-month periods to service and repair electric motors and pumps throughout the Yonkers Public School District. (FB)
- Bid 6735 – Opening date 02/18/2022: Hudson River Museum (511 Warburton Avenue, Yonkers, NY) roof repairs project. (AS)
- Bid 6733 – Opening date 02/04/2022: 36-month contract to provide elevator preventive maintenance and as needed repairs for City facilities. (SR)
- Bid 6726 – Opening date 2/25/2022: Windows, boilers, and site upgrades at School 29 located at 47 Croydon Road, Yonkers, NY. (DC)
- Bid 6737 – Opening date 2/18/2022: 12-month contract, with option to renew for 12-months, to provide window maintenance and repair services as needed for the Yonkers Public School District. (AS)
- Bid 6738 – Opening date 2/25/2022: 12-month contract, with option to renew for 12-months, to provide playground equipment maintenance and repair services as needed for the Yonkers Public School District. (FB)
- Bid 6709A – Opening date 02/25/2022: Roof and interior plaster repairs at School 8 located at 373 Bronxville Road, Yonkers, NY 10708. (SR)

Fourth Precinct Community Council

The Fourth Precinct Community Council will hold its monthly meeting at 7:00 PM on Thursday, January 20, 2022. Because of COVID, the meeting will be by ZOOM. There will be no police commanders at the precinct for the meeting. The following are instructions to participate in the meeting.

This is the link to enter the chat room:
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87007893481?pwd=RzV5c0lTYzJSN3g4blBhWmt2YVhrZz09>

Meeting ID: 870 0789 3481 Passcode: 186010
 Or, you can just call in to this number: Dial by your location
 +1 929 205 6099 US (New York) Meeting ID: 870 0789 3481
 Passcode: 186010

Yonkers History, continued from pg 5-

January 22, 1938: City Comptroller James Hushion filed for a State Supreme Court hearing to kill the Common Council's economy budget and force the Republican Aldermen to approve the budget submitted by the Board of Estimate. Although the Comptroller was trying to get the Loehr administration budget approved, Mayor Loehr was named as one of the 15 defendants. Others named in the suit were Council President Fiorillo, City Clerk Heafy, and all 12 Yonkers Aldermen. Supreme Court Justice Gerald Nolan signed the papers at 9 pm; all defendants immediately were served copies. Former Corporation Counsel Harry Laragh would defend the Republicans named in the legal action.

Sunday, January 23rd
 January 23, 1931: Ending its longest season in the history of the ferry service, the Yonkers-Alpine ferry announced they would close until March 1st. The severe cold weather created dangerous ice floes in the river, making it necessary to stop service.

January 23, 1945: The Yonkers Common Council unanimously approved a zoning change on 22-acres of the Grassy Sprain Golf Course to permit the Celanese Corporation to build a \$1 million scientific research laboratory on the site.

January 23, 1951: After discovering fire in her apartment at the Coyne Park veterans' housing, June Casey rushed through the smoke-charged rooms to get her three children. She carried the children to a window where Joseph Magariello was waiting to take them. Magariello, who lived in the next building, spotted the fire and tried unsuccessfully to kick down the door.

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

Eric Schoen, continued from pg 3-

those whose lives have been shattered at this horrible fire oh so close to home! They are New Yorkers. They came to this country to contribute to its success. We must take care of them in their time of need.

Hot Topics:

If there is a maintenance issue where you live bring it to the attention of the superintendent or maintenance man in charge of your building. In most cases they will be able to handle it but if not call the city, Town or Village inspectors and firefighters anonymously to report your situation.

Scarsdale has enacted a law prohibiting smoking in public places. So should all municipalities in Westchester. Nothing more disgusting than the other day when I was leaving Stop and Shop in Cross County with my food and a lady standing at the entrance to the store blowing cigarette smoke in my face.

It will be very interesting to see how the Biden administration is going to get 8 masks free of charge in the hands of every American over the next month. Remember skip the cloth masks and use a KN95 mask, N95 mask or other minimum 3 layer cloth mask!

If you don't want to follow the medical advice of Doctors and those involved with protecting our country in this time of crisis, don't criticize them if you don't have their credentials

Looking for a clean restroom to wash your hands or use the toilet? There is an App for that!

Restroom Finder, Flush, Bathroom Scout, and Sit or Squat are some of the online resources you can use. Don't forget the 20 second hand washing rule.

My dad did not believe that men should use straws in their beverages. Don't ask me why, but when I go to use a straw I always think that dad would not want me to do it. Mom did not like the color brown and never wanted me to buy pants or shoes in that color. In New York upon request they will give you a plastic straw but in New Jersey, all straws are now paper. And when you put a paper straw into the plastic lid of a cup, within minutes it disintegrates. Someone has to come up with a solution to this problem. Yes Starbucks has 'sippy' cups but before you leave the store make sure they put the little white disk over the whole or the drink will spill all over your car or bag.

I've been spending my evenings watching reruns of Betty White in Password and Match Game. So much better than the junk on TV nowadays. She will be missed. Sidney Poitier.

A groundbreaking actor! Dad liked 'Lilies of the Field.' I enjoyed as he did the song 'Amen' in the movie! Looking for an uplifting movie? Catch American Underdog with Zachary Levi, Anna Paquin, and Dennis Quaid. Catch it in theaters or on any platform you can!

Reach Eric Schoen at thistooisonkers@aol.com. Follow him on Twitter @ericyonkers. Listen to Eric Schoen and Dan Murphy on the Westchester Rising Radio Show Thursday's from 10-11 a.m. On WVOX 1460 AM, go to WVOX.com and click the arrow to listen to the live stream or download the WVOX app from the App Store free of charge.

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

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

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

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6208-0721

Yonkers Four County Legislators Take Oath of Office



County Legislator Christopher Johnson, District 16, takes oath with wife Tai, holding Bible and son Joshua looking on. Photo by Donna Davis



County Legislator James Nolan, signs the book for county officials for his first term of office in the 15th District, with County Clerk Tim Idoni



County Legislator Jose Alvarado District 17, take oath from his office



County Legislator David Tubiolo, District 14, take oath from his office

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Mayor's Race 2023, continued from pg 1-

Mayor does burn you out, and after 12 years i'm sure that he is tired, and that his wife and kids would like see him ease into an easier job. But if he wants it, I would put Mike Spano at the top of the list."

Some other democrats felt exactly the opposite about a Mayor Spano part 4. "This is taking what Mayor Bloomberg did in New York City to another level. I think that many Yonkers democrats are feeling a bit of Spano fatigue, and I believe that is why this poll was taken, to see if there is any desire or willingness for Mayor Spano to run again. And if this poll comes back with a lot of Yonkers Democrats saying no, then you have other candidates that Mayor Spano could support to succeed him, including his brother Vinny Spano, Yonkers Democratic chair Tom Meier, and Councilman John Rubbo," said a Yonkers progressive democrat.

State Senator Shelley Mayer had the support of many Yonkers democrats we spoke to about this poll, and if she decided to run, would be the one other elected official that could be elected Mayor, regardless of whether Spano decides to run again.

"Shelly Mayer would clear the field of most democrats on this list, and some others that aren't on this list. She is widely respected and one of Yonkers most popular democrats. I think a lot of Yonkers democrats want someone to serve as the next Mayor who can take the city to the next level, on many different fronts. The people of the third largest City in NY deserve the best," said one Yonkers democrat.

But while most believe that Sen. Mayer would make the most logical candidate for Mayor next to Spano, most also believe that she won't run for Mayor in 2023. "I would love to see Mayer for Mayor in Yonkers in two years, but I think that Shelley is happy doing what she is doing and she understands what a challenge it is to get elected and then having to serve. The question is, how do we get Shelley to drop her political career in Albany and come to Yonkers and fix the ills of our city. I can't answer that," said another Yonkers Democratic party leader.

"I think Shelley Mayer is the Spano's worst nightmare, but I don't think she has the desire to take it on, especially if Mayor Mike decides to run again," said a Westchester democratic leader.

Assemblyman Nader Sayegh also had the support of several democrats we spoke to. "I think Assemblyman Sayegh would make a great candidate, and would be a great Mayor of Yonkers. He has built a lot of bridges over his career in the Yonkers schools, and has the respect and admiration of teachers and staff and unions in the Yonkers Public Schools. And those interest groups mean a lot in a democratic primary," said one Yonkers democrat.

A few Yonkers democrats who are not in the poll were also mentioned by the dozen democrats we spoke to from Yonkers and Westchester. They include, Deputy County Executive Ken Jenkins, Councilmember Shanae Williams, and former Council President Chuck Lesnick.

"Ken Jenkins is the one democrat not on this list who is very qualified to serve as Yonkers Mayor and would be a great candidate. But most of us in the Yonkers Democratic Party believe that Ken will be running as the demcoratic candidate for County Executive at some point, so we don't plan on him running for Mayor," said a leader in the Yonkers Democratic Party.

"Don't overlook Chuck Lesnick," said a Westchester Democrat. "He still wants to be Mayor and will have the support of many progressive democrats. Throw his name into the mix."

"I think many democrats in Yonkers, and across Westchester County, were impressed by how good Shanae Williams did in her democratic primary against Tim Idoni for County Clerk last year. And because of her vote totals in that race, I think she has a chance to run and win for Mayor of Yonkers," said a yonkers and county democrat.

Other Yonkers democrats thought that Tom Meier, John Rubbo, and Vinny Spano, all have a chance at the democratic nomination in two years, if Mayor Mike doesn't run. And other Yonkers democrats believed that a woman of color, either Council President Lakisha Collins-Bellamy, or Councilmember Corazon Pineda-Isaac, would be the next Mayor of Yonkers. "Council President Collins-Bellamy is the only other Yonkers democrat to have been elected citywide. She has done it once and could do it again."

Supporters of Councilwoman Pineda-Isaac said, "Her recent defeat as Majority Leader should light a fire under her to go out and prove them wrong, run for Mayor and win," said a Yonkers Dem. Party leader. "I still think Corazon is the strongest candidate for Mayor in Yonkers."

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Wound Care Center, St. John's Riverside Hospital, continued from pg 1-

that goal. We are full of compassion, and we are unparalleled to any other wound program in the tri state area."

Dr. Patel explained that diabetic patients are at most risk for having a wound that does not heal properly. Common diabetic wounds include foot ulcers, located on the bottom of the foot. "The majority of our patients are diabetic prevalent, and we can provide good treatment and state of the art technology to treat diabetic, non-healing wounds."

"When a diabetic patient comes in for treatment, we check their blood sugars, and make sure that they are being monitored and controlled. Diabetes closes small vessels in your foot, and in those cases, we treat diabetic foot ulcers. We can also use vascular surgery to bring more circulation to the patients' feet.

"We also have a lot of patients that are not diabetic but are experiencing trauma with non-healing surgical wounds. We work to determine why the wound is not healing, through ultrasound and tests to diagnose circulation. We have vascular surgeons and nurses who can correctly diagnose the reason for your slow healing wound and provide treatment on site," said Dr. Patel.

The hyperbaric chamber at St. John's Wound Care Center is state-of-the-art and unique to the region. "For patients that qualify for our hyperbaric therapy, we have 4 monoplace chambers, where each patient has their own chamber, and can watch TV during their treatment and experience more privacy," said Dr. Patel. Most hyperbaric chambers in the area have one multi-place chamber, where patients are required to sit together.

Dr. Patel is also using new skin care products to help heal wounds. "We are using skin substitutes and skin products, if a wound is deficient in basic nutrients, these products can help conjure up cells to get impregnated into the wound and help speed up the healing."

St. John's Riverside Hospital has created a comprehensive outpatient wound management program dedicated to treating adult patients with non-healing wounds and wound prone conditions. "We can help to provide visiting nurses if you need help changing your dressing, and make sure your medicines are ordered. That is what is usually missing from other wound care locations where patients are told what to do and go home. But some patients can't do it by themselves. We understand that and work to make sure they get the care at home that you would want for your own family member," said Dr. Patel.

Advice for all of us regarding a recent wound? "If you are diabetic and have a wound that hasn't been healing for 3 or 4 weeks, come in and get an x-ray. It could be an infection or not enough circulation. Make sure to have an expert look at it and tell you how to treat it to get your wound healed. That is what we are here for, to get you healed so you can go back to living your life," said Dr. Patel, who is proud of the fact that St. John's and the Wound Care Center, stayed open throughout COVID.

"In 2020, during the height of the pandemic, we stayed open and served the entire community, and were busier than ever. Many patients couldn't get in to see their doctor and had telemedicine appointments. But for some patients that isn't enough to help a wound. We were happy to serve those patients who came in to get their wounds cleaned and advise them, or where necessary, get them into our hospital for an operation. Our nurses and doctors stayed open, and did so, get them, to provide a service that is of great need. Many patients with wounds that weren't treated during COVID ended up getting infections and losing their limbs. We wanted to make sure that we never closed our doors.

Nirav Patel DO is a board-certified vascular surgeon. Dr. Patel is the Chief of Surgery at St. John's Riverside Hospital. He is the Division chief for Vascular surgery. He is Director for the Center of vascular disease and wound healing. Dr. Patel has 20 years of experience. He focuses on venous, arterial, abdominal and carotid disease. His practice treats a comprehensive types of wounds using state of the art techniques with incorporation or hyperbaric oxygen therapy where needed.

Visit <https://riversidehealth.org/specialty-services/outpatient-services/wound-healing/>, for more information.



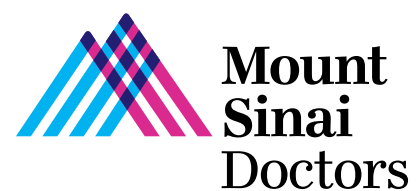
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