

A Tsunami of Anime Hits Yonkers



Artist "Othelia" with her featured artwork "Family Photo" in front of Blue Door Art Center, Photo by M. Trommer

By M. Trommer

"ANIME, East Meets West Thru Art and Pop Culture," a new exhibition, opened at the Blue Door Art Center on June 28 and will run through July 26, 2025. Visitors at the opening of "ANIME" were greeted by cosplayers dressed up as favorite characters from the Sailor Moon and Jujutsu Kaisen anime. One parent pointed to the collection of anime pins on his vest and commented, "I am as excited as my kids!"

A collection of brightly colored anime-inspired paintings, drawings, artifacts, fan art, and installations fills the gallery. Twenty artists from ages 11 to 82 have their work featured. Many artists hail from Yonkers and surrounding Westchester, but some artists come from out of state and as far away as the United Kingdom.

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Groundbreaking at Former Cottage Gardens Public Housing in Yonkers -100% Affordable



See Story on Page 7

Hollywood on the Hudson Hits Times Square



Mayor Mike Spano, Council President Lakisha Collins-Bellamy, Robert Halmi and a representative from the Times Square Alliance

See Story on Page 11

Parade & Block Party to Celebrate the Life and Legacy of YTI Co-Founder Paul Kwame Johnson



See Story on Page 7

Yonkers IDA Presents 2025 Parkledge Breakthrough Scholarships to 10 HS Seniors



Back row, left to right, IDA Executive Director Jaime McGill; Deputy Mayor Susan Gerry; Schools Superintendent Anibal Soler Jr; Mayor Mike Spano; City Council Majority Whip Deana Norman; Parkledge Representative Robert Gommara and William Williams.

Front row, left to right, Tyler Gordon, Vanessa Aguilar, Daphne Durane, Willkiana Sosa Diaz, Leila Campbell, Emmanuel Asiedu, Avril Salazar and Tennecia Nelson.

Students Each Receive Scholarship Awards of \$2,500

The Yonkers Industrial Development Agency (YIDA) has presented 10 Yonkers high school students with 2025 Parkledge Breakthrough Scholarship awards totaling \$25,000. The awards were presented at City Hall on June 23.

The high school seniors each won awards of \$2,500. The awards are made to seniors who have been enrolled in a Yonkers school for all four years of high school. Applicants must be in good academic standing and accepted to a post-second

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Op-Ed: Downtown Yonkers: A Gilded Cage for Transplants Escaping NYC Crime



(L-R) Joseph Berger, Debbie Kozak & John P. O'Leary

By Joseph Berger, John P. O'Leary Northwest Yonkers Republican Club co-founder, member and guest writer.

When I accepted an invitation to lunch in Getty Square on a Saturday afternoon, I expected some inconveniences — but the experience I had still left me shaking my head.

Yes, the downtown revitalization is a big improvement from what it was years ago. But the lingering effects of decades of neglect are still painfully obvious. Parking is a hassle. While trying to pay at one of those automated machines, I had the pleasure of meeting two panhandlers within minutes. The machine itself wasn't exactly user-friendly — it rejected two different credit cards for no good reason. I finally resorted to cash, only to have one of the panhandlers try to bargain with me because I hadn't given him enough for the Pepsi he wanted. Imagine getting haggled by a panhandler over soda money.

While it's always good to see neglected areas get attention, we have to ask: Why was this part of Yonkers allowed to decay in the first place? Why did city leadership stand by while the area descended into crime, drugs, and violence? My best guess — MONEY — and the potential to profit once the time was right. That time is now. What we're seeing is gentrification dressed up as revitalization.

Meanwhile, the east side continues to be ignored. We get nothing but lip service — no accountability and no real progress. Some civic leaders and politicians are being silenced or co-opted, offered jobs or future opportunities in exchange for their loyalty. And while we're told someone, "Has our backs," our eyes and lived experiences tell a very different story.

The one major project slated for the east side of Yonkers is the MGM expansion at Yonkers Raceway and Empire City Casino. It's projected to generate millions in new revenue for the City of Yonkers. Yet not a single elected official has voiced concern or proposed safeguards to protect the directly impacted communities. While neighboring communities have expressed both support and opposition, our local leaders held "listening sessions" — but the deal was already done.

Worse still, the proposal contains no clear protections against conflicts of interest. In fact, it appears one elected official with ties to a local microbrewery and brewpub positioned himself to benefit directly by inserting his type of business into the vendor pool. If accepted, he stands to profit for years —

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Mayor Spano Appoints Effie Philips New Community Advancement & Recruiting Officer



Effie Phillips, City of Yonkers Community Advancement & Recruitment Officer

Photo by Maurice Mercado/City of Yonkers

Community Member & Job Readiness Trainer Effie Phillips to Lead Yonkers Diversity & Equity Recruitment Efforts

Yonkers Mayor Mike Spano today announced his appointment of community member and job readiness trainer Effie Phillips as the City's new Community Advancement and Recruitment Officer. Phillips will serve as a strategic advisor on equity-related hiring practices and strategies to attract, hire, and retain a diverse municipal workforce.

"In Yonkers, equity and inclusion are not just values—they are action steps," said Mayor Spano. "I am confident Effie's expertise as a job readiness trainer and active community volunteer will continue to diversify Yonkers' talented workforce and best reflect the community in which we serve."

Phillips will work closely with the Mayor's Office, Human Resources, department leaders, and community stakeholders to ensure equity is embedded throughout the City's recruitment and community outreach efforts.

Effie Phillips stated, "I knew I always wanted to make a difference in Yonkers. This opportunity, working alongside Mayor Spano and his team, will make that possible. Yonkers, let's continue to be the change we want to see in the world!"

Effie Phillips joins the City of Yonkers with 20 years of case management experience with job placement, human resources and community program oversight. Recently, Phillips served as an Election Inspector Coordinator for the Westchester County Board of Elections, where she trained poll inspectors and monitored human resource information and documentation. Previously, she worked for U.S. Congressman Eliot Engel in which she managed constituent services and local issues for the Congressional district. Additionally, Phillips was a case manager and job readiness trainer for the Urban League of Westchester and Westhab. As a community leader, Phillips is the Vice President of the National Council of Negro Women-Hudson Valley Section, a lifetime member of NAACP, Yonkers Branch and member of the Yonkers African American Heritage Committee. Phillips attended Mercy College where she studied Organizational Management.

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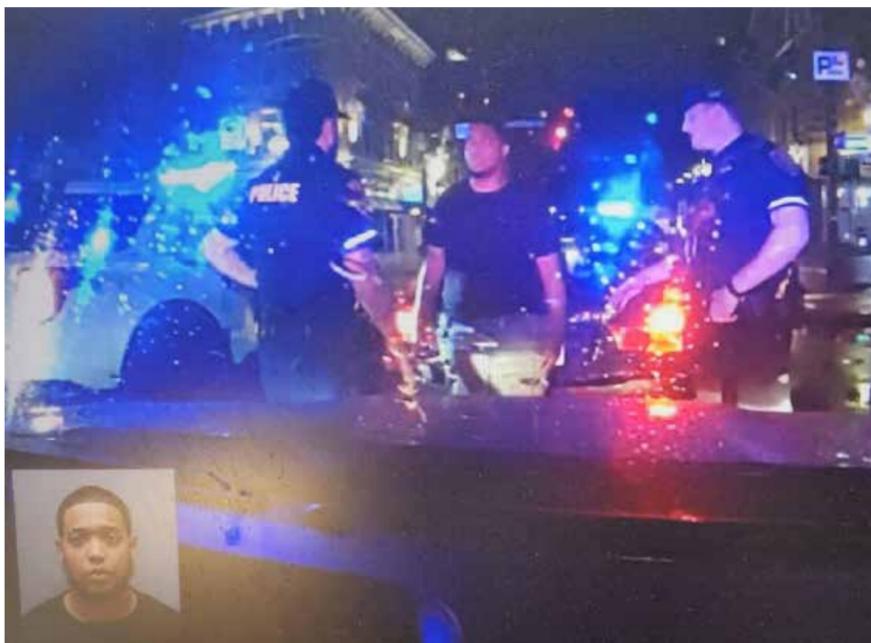
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Yonkers Cop Run Over by Man Asleep at the Wheel at 3am-Chase Ends in New Rochelle-Driver Arrested

Westchester Homeowners, Families Making Less than \$500k Did the Best From Big Beautiful Bill



Just after 3:00 am this morning, Yonkers Police Officers approached a vehicle in the area of 219 Nepperhan Avenue after observing that the driver appeared to be sleeping, to check on his well-being. The vehicle also did not have both license plates properly affixed, and it was parked facing the wrong direction. After waking the driver, he refused to lower the windows, stared at the Officers, then accelerated his vehicle to flee. As he accelerated, he struck one of our Officers, pinning his right leg between the suspect's vehicle and the Officer's patrol vehicle.

The injured Officer's partner relayed license plate information for the fleeing vehicle to Headquarters, and we relayed it to neighboring police agencies. Our friends at the New Rochelle Police Department spotted the vehicle after they received an alert on their License Plate Reader System. They apprehended the suspect, later identified as Edward ARIAS (24) of New Rochelle, and we came by to formally identify him and take him back to our jail.

Our Officer is doing well, recovering at home after spending the day in an area hospital being treated for a non-life-threatening leg injury. ARIAS was charged with Assault 2nd Degree and Leaving the Scene of an Accident with Serious Physical Injury.

This incident highlights a few things- the dangers of being a Police Officer, the restraint and great work of our Officers, the power of law enforcement technology to be able to apprehend suspects safely, coordination between Police Departments here in Westchester, and the importance of following the orders of Police Officers when you encounter one.

We're glad our Officer will be ok, and we want to thank New Rochelle PD for their great work and assistance!

Letter to the Editor: Officials are Human and Not Perfect

It seems like our elected officials are expected to be perfect, or near perfect, and that is really unfair. Governor Cuomo was positive overall, and he misses trying to be helpful and serve the public. But all he gets now is public abuse, and if that continues then he shouldn't try to get back into office.

I hope his mother is OK, and I'm sure this isn't easy for her to deal with, and she shouldn't have to! Some people learn to hate and be critical more than anything else at times.

Maybe we should have only robots in government instead of people
Let's ask Elon Musk to handle that, OK?

Jimmy F, Port Chester

SALT
State and
Local Taxes
Deduction increased from
\$10,000 to \$40,000

LawlerVotes Yes

Latimer No

By Dan Murphy

A Federal budget to keep the US Government open passed by the slimmest of margins just before the July 4 holiday, with Vice-President JD Vance breaking a 50-50 tie in the Senate and the House passing the budget bill by a 219-213 margin.

Westchester's two Congressmembers, voted differently, with Democrat George Latimer a No and Republican Mike Lawler a YES.

Calling it a "cruel budget that will hurt people who can least afford it," Rep. Latimer said: "President Trump and Congressional Republicans made a promise to bring down costs and help working Americans. Instead, they have pushed this tax scam that will make life more expensive for families who need Medicaid and SNAP to survive and give significant tax cuts to billionaires and the ultra-wealthy. All while adding \$3.3 trillion to our national debt.

"196,000 people in my district who rely on Medicaid could have it taken away, including 73,000 children and 27,000 seniors. 74,000 people who rely on SNAP may not be able to put food on their tables, straining food banks that are already seeing high levels of need. New Yorkers will continue to pay more in federal taxes without a full restoration of the State and Local Tax deduction. And it guts environmental protections established by the Inflation Reduction Act.

"People will get sicker. Hospitals will close. Kids will go hungry. Families will pay more for gas and home electric bills while our world continues to warm due to climate change. No matter how you spin it, everyday Americans will suffer," said Latimer.

Lawler explained that one of the biggest pieces of the budget bill that he and a few other republicans in suburban districts was a increase in the SALT (State and Local Taxes) cap. Currently, families and individuals could only deduct \$10,000 in their property taxes and state taxes, on their federal tax return.

The new budget increased that amount from \$10,000 to \$40,000. "I made very clear when I came to Congress that this was a key issue, that we would fight to lift the cap. We have fought tirelessly for this."

Lawler said that the changes to Medicaid will not affect most Americans. "We are saying to receive Medicaid benefits, if you are an able-bodied adult— you should try to work 80 hours a month. The bottom line there is people will have enough time to understand that that is part of the requirement moving forward, for those folks. But New York state has the most expansive Medicaid program in the country. New York is going to continue to manage this system, no, I'm not concerned about eligible recipients receiving their Medicaid."

Illegal residents of New York will also have more difficulties receiving Medicaid under the new bill. Estimates have 1.2 million non-citizen new yorkers currently receiving Medicaid. The cost of the program is split between state and local governments.

There is an income limit for tax filers and their elibility for SALT. Those earning less than \$500,000 are able to receive the \$40,000 SALT benefit.

The bill also extended the "Trump tax cuts" of 2017. So those Westchester residents who benefitted from the Trump Tax Cuts of 2017, but lost their SALT deduction, now have both, the Trump tax cuts, and a SALT deduction up to \$40,000 for those earning up to \$500,000.

That is why, in our view, the income bracket in Westchester that made out the best from the Big Beautiful Bill are individuals or families who own a home and earn up to \$500,000 per year.

The bill also delivered-NO tax on Tips- NO tax on Overtime-NO tax on Social Security.

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Westchester Rent Guidelines Board Approves Increases of 2% for 1-Yr Leases and 3% for 2-Yr Leases

The Building and Realty Institute of Westchester & the Mid-Hudson Region (BRI) Warns of Long-Term Consequences as Rent Guidelines Board Vote Falls Short of Inflation

On June 26, the Westchester County Rent Guidelines Board approved a rent adjustment of 2% for one-year leases and 3% for two-year leases starting October 1, 2025, through September 30, 2026, with a final vote of 5-3.

While the new increases prevent another destructive rent freeze, they again fall short of what is required to keep up with rising costs. The current inflation rate stands at 3.9%, meaning the board's approved adjustments amount to a real-dollar rent cut for property owners managing aging, rent-stabilized buildings.

"Once again, we're staring down the same math problem with the same dangerous answer," said Alana Ciuffetelli, Chair of the BRI's Apartment Owners Advisory Council (AOAC). "These increases do not match the surging costs of insurance, fuel, water, repairs, and local compliance. It's becoming nearly impossible to keep buildings safe and well-maintained without the financial tools to do so."

Over the past year, insurance premiums for multifamily buildings have soared 26% on average, with some property owners seeing annual premiums per unit surpass \$1,770. That's a 103% jump from four years ago, and that's if owners can even find coverage—more and more insurers are pulling out of the rent-stabilized market entirely.

"These increases are crumbs at a time when owners need tools, not barriers," said Ciuffetelli. "Every day, we see more buildings slipping into disrepair because their owners are trapped between regulatory overreach and economic neglect."

The consequences of the Housing Stability and Tenant Protection Act (HSTPA) of 2019 continue to cascade through the system. The inability to raise rents in step with costs has led to widespread devaluation of rent-stabilized buildings, diminishing access to financing for critical repairs and even threatening bank portfolios.

Meanwhile, the limited Individual Apartment Improvement (IAI) cap—currently \$30,000—is a fraction of what's needed for full-scale renovations, which typically cost between \$100,000 and \$150,000. Applications for Major Capital Improvements (MCI) have dropped 83% over the last five years, reflecting the sheer economic uncertainty facing property owners.

"Tonight's vote sends a clear message to owners: keep providing more with less," Ciuffetelli said. "But this model is unsustainable—and eventually, we're all going to pay the price."

County Legislator Emiljana Ulaj posted, "WE WON! The Westchester Rent Guidelines Board voted to allow a common sense 2% increase on 1 year leases for all ETPA properties across Westchester County bucking the trend of exorbitant rate increases across the region. Just this month, Legislator Shanae Williams and I worked on a letter to the RGB urging them to set a modest increase that protects tenants while providing landlords with the resources they need to meet operational expenses. Onward!"

Bloomberg Philanthropies Names Yonkers One of 50 Global Finalists in 2025 Mayors Challenge

Finalists from 33 countries will receive \$50,000 and support to test breakthrough ideas for improving life in cities

In January 2026, 25 winning cities will receive \$1 million each to bring their idea to life

Bloomberg Philanthropies today announced the 50 finalists of its latest Mayors Challenge, a competition to spur local government innovation that improves lives in cities around the world. The sixth Challenge elevates municipalities that have proposed the boldest ideas to bolster essential municipal services.

From Boise to Belfast, Ansan to Addis Ababa, Toronto to Taipei, the 50 finalists, selected from more than 630 applications, hail from 33 countries and represent over 80 million residents. Their ideas aim to increase public transit ridership, lower household energy costs, expand urban green space, speed service response, strengthen sanitation, improve youth safety, safeguard water supply, and more.

Each finalist city will receive \$50,000 to prototype their idea. They will also participate in Bloomberg Philanthropies' Ideas Camp in July to hone and test their concepts with feedback from experts and fellow peers. In January 2026, the 25 city halls with the most promising ideas will each be awarded \$1 million and operational assistance to bring their proposals to life.

"Local government is where people meet policy—and where government improves lives and builds trust," said James Anderson, who leads the Government Innovation program at Bloomberg Philanthropies. "That's why municipal innovation isn't about grand gestures—it's about solving hard problems under pressure, often with imperfect tools and finite resources. These Mayors Challenge finalists stand out because they're not just thinking creatively—they're designing solutions that reckon with the complexity of implementation and the urgency of their residents' needs. Their proposals reflect a new standard for public sector achievement: ambitious, yes, but also grounded, disciplined, and ripe for real impact."

The 630 ideas submitted to the Mayors Challenge reflect some of the greatest public service challenges facing cities today—as well as the creativity that animates local governments across the globe. A third of U.S. and Canada applicants, for example, devised solutions addressing housing and shelter. Nearly half of the applicants from Africa proposed upgrades to waste collection and management. One out of five applicants from the Asia-Pacific region focused on cleaner water, air, and infrastructure, and 22 percent of European applicants sought ways to reduce poverty or enhance social inclusion.

The 50 finalist ideas were selected for their originality, potential for impact, and credible vision for delivery. Artificial intelligence was featured in the plans of a number of finalists, including South Bend, Indiana, which envisioned a cutting-edge 311 system that anticipates complaints for non-emergency issues, such as potholes, allowing officials to address problems before a resident report. More analog innovations also rose to the top: In Yonkers, New York, city officials proposed a powerful new hyper-local civic brigade to help older neighbors age happily and healthfully in place.

In this round of the Bloomberg Philanthropies Mayors Challenge, more funding will be distributed and more cities will be assisted than in the previous five Challenges which each selected between five to 15 winners.

"For more than a decade, Bloomberg Philanthropies has provided unprecedented support to drive local government innovation in cities across the country and around the world," said Admiral Michael G. Mullen, President & CEO of MGM Consulting and 2025 Mayors Challenge advisory committee member. "The organization's sixth Mayors Challenge will invest in the future of urban delivery from the ground floor of communities—and I am thrilled to join its advisory committee and work with these finalist cities on accelerating their ideas – from safeguarding water supply to carving out community spaces to integrating AI to improve student routes, and more."

The new Mayors Challenge builds on more than 10 years of work led by Bloomberg Philanthropies to discover, nurture, and drive innovation in cities. The awards to date across five previous rounds of competition have provided 38 winning cities with funding and technical assistance to realize their ideas for addressing civic issues. By supporting the replication of the most successful winning ideas, Bloomberg Philanthropies has expanded the impact of the Mayors Challenge to 337 other cities globally, reaching over 100 million residents around the world

"Thank you to Bloomberg Philanthropies for seeing our vision to improve the quality of life for seniors across our city," said Mayor Mike Spano of Yonkers, New York. "We are honored to be among 50 finalists selected for the prestigious global Mayors Challenge competition. As a finalist, we will look to create a fully sustainable model for community engagement – marshaling public and private partners as well as residents and students – coupled with innovative technology and tools to enable many more to age safely and gracefully in place."

To learn more about the 50 finalist proposals, visit mayorschallenge.bloomberg.org.

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Parade & Block Party to Celebrate the Life and Legacy of YTI Co-Founder Paul Kwame Johnson

A Legacy Worth Honoring: Parade Procession and Block Party to Celebrate the Life and Legacy of Visionary Paul Kwame Johnson

With permission by the City of Yonkers, The Paul Kwame Johnson Estate invites the community to join a grand celebration honoring the life, artistry, and legacy of Paul Kwame Johnson, Co-Founder and Founding Artistic Director of Youth Theatre Interactions (YTI), on Saturday, July 19th. Devoted to his lifelong passion for inspiring others until his untimely death January 19, 2025, this commemorative event will highlight his contributions to the performing arts and his unwavering commitment to nurturing the young talent of the City of Yonkers.

An impassioned advocate for the youth, we are honoring a man whose contributions have profoundly transformed the lives of countless children in Yonkers and beyond: Paul Kwame Johnson. While Mr. Johnson may not have been a resident of Yonkers, his enduring legacy as Co-Founder and Founding Artistic Director of Youth Theatre Interactions (YTI) has made him an inseparable part of the City of Yonkers cultural and educational fabric.

For over 50 years, Paul Kwame Johnson championed the transformative power of the performing arts, cultivating young minds, fostering creativity, and empowering the youth of Yonkers to dream beyond their circumstances. His work at YTI and throughout Westchester County in Peekskill, Greenburg, and Newburg, has provided invaluable opportunities to thousands of children, instilling discipline, confidence, and a sense of purpose that has rippled through our community and generations of its families. Mr. Johnson's accolades are numerous, and they speak to the profound impact of his life's work. He has been recognized by the City of Yonkers, the County of Westchester, and the State of New York through countless proclamations celebrating his extraordinary contributions to the arts and education. These honors underscore the undeniable truth: Paul Kwame Johnson is not just a man of influence but a beacon of hope and progress whose life epitomizes the spirit of service and dedication to community enrichment.

The celebration begins with a parade procession at 10:30 a.m., retracing the path of YTI's storied history. Starting at the organization's first ever location where on December 20th, 1973 James P. Hill, Turhan Von Brandon and Paul Kwame Johnson incorporated Youth Theatre Interactions and YTI was born opening it's doors at School 12 on 164 Ashburton Avenue in the city of Yonkers as a part of the Community Action Program.

The procession will then pass School 6, YTI's first permanent location at 33 Ashburton Avenue, continue onto YTI's new permanent location at 68 Warburton Avenue, and on over to YTI's last and previous home of many years at 92 Main Street. The parade will culminate downtown at the Yonkers Waterfront, located at 71 Water Grant Street, where a vibrant block party will take place from 12:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.

A Legacy of Masterful Artistry and Dedication

Paul Kwame Johnson was more than a visionary founder—a Sarah Lawrence College graduate (BA '74, MFA '77) and Danforth Scholar, he was a master theater teacher, a revered mentor, and a celebrated mime artist. His creative genius extended to the founding of Intimate Realities Teen Touring Drama Company with his former wife Patricia DeArcy, The Little Blue Room Theatre Company and The Mime Time Players, a groundbreaking ensemble known for their innovative performances, which highlighted the power of silent expression and creative storytelling, who in 1988 became the first African-American and Latino Mime Company to be inducted into the Mid Atlantic States Touring Consortium sponsored by the National Endowment for the Arts.

In tribute to Johnson's legacy, the block party will feature mime face painting, allowing attendees to embrace the art form he so passionately championed. Music, a dance floor, and special guest presentors will round out the event, creating a festive and family-friendly atmosphere.

Celebrating Over 50 Years of YTI

This celebration also marks the opening of YTI's new location and upcoming fall registration for September, continuing in the founders mission of empowering youth through the performing arts. Now over 50 years old, YTI remains a cornerstone of the Yonkers community, inspiring new generations of young artists with the same energy and dedication that Paul Kwame Johnson instilled from the very beginning.

Honoring a Visionary Leader

For over five decades, Johnson's work as a community leader, educator and artist throughout Westchester County, left an indelible mark on the cultural and personal lives of countless individuals. As a mentor, he cultivated confidence and creativity in his students, offering them not just skills but a world stage upon which to shine. As a storyteller, he reminded the world of the transformative power of art to connect, heal, inspire and change one's world view.

Join the Celebration

This event is more than a tribute; it's a call for the Yonkers community to come together in celebration of a life lived with purpose and passion. Whether marching in the procession, enjoying the block party, or reminiscing on Johnson's contributions, attendees will share in a day filled with joy, remembrance, and artistic spirit.

Saturday, July 19th is a day to honor, celebrate, and continue the legacy of Paul Kwame Johnson.

For more details, please contact Sister Moutique 323-795-8070

Let's celebrate a life dedicated to the arts, mentorship, and the youth of the future. Together, we can continue to carry forward the legacy of Paul Kwame Johnson because as we all know, the show must go on!

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

On This Day in Yonkers History...



Internationally recognized photographic pioneer and Yonkers native Rudolph Eickemeyer, Jr., circa 1904.

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

Monday, July 14th

July 14, 1928: Yonkers traffic policeman turned down the opportunity to direct traffic without their uniform coats. The officers did not believe shirtsleeves were dignified enough for their positions.

July 14, 1930: Plans were filed for a new four-room portable school to be built on the grounds of the South Yonkers Tennis Club on Valentine Lane and converting the tennis courts into the school playground. Authorities also filed plans for alterations to School Eighteen, for work on playgrounds at schools Three and Eleven, and a new heating and ventilating system at School Fourteen.

Tuesday, July 15th

July 15, 1942: Three Red Cross volunteers selling War Bonds and Stamps at Empire Racetrack were surprised to find their cash box a dollar short at the end of the day. The very careful women made up the missing dollar; they had no idea how the shortage happened. As soon as they opened the next day, a gentleman appeared and told the women he bought stamps the day before. He went home with a \$1 stamp he hadn't paid for... and handed the women a dollar!

July 15, 1942: Rear Admiral Husband Kimmel, Retired, who moved to 280 Bronxville Road in Yonkers after retiring from the Navy, joined the Frederick Harris firm in New York City, a firm that worked on top secret projects.

Kimmel was Commander of the Pacific Fleet on December 7th 1941 when Pearl Harbor was attacked, and was relieved of command shortly afterward. He was facing Court Marshall for dereliction of duty; the Roberts Commission later found him not guilty.

Wednesday, July 16th

July 16, 1921: Greenville Avenue residents filed a police complaint; their sleep was being disturbed by a cow, in a nearby lot, whose neckbell tinkled loudly late at night and early in the morning.

July 16, 1935: President Franklin Roosevelt nominated Anthony Drexel Biddle, Jr., to be his Minister to Norway. Biddle was the son-in-law of Mrs. William Boyce Thompson of North Broadway.

Thursday, July 17th

July 17, 1924: Famed Yonkers photographer Rudolph Eickemeyer, Jr., presented a photograph of his father to the City of Yonkers; it was hung on the walls of Water Bureau office. The photo, called by some the "Rembrandt of Photographs," was taken March 1894, just nine months before the older gentle

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NOTICE OF LEGAL POSTPONEMENT OF SALE

SUPREME COURT COUNTY OF WESTCHESTER, WILMINGTON SAVINGS FUND SOCIETY, FSB, AS OWNER TRUSTEE OF THE RESIDENTIAL CREDIT OPPORTUNITIES TRUST VIII-A, Plaintiff, vs. PUBLIC ADMINISTRATOR OF WESTCHESTER COUNTY, AS ADMINISTRATOR OF THE ESTATE OF BETTIE A. LAMBTON, ET AL., Defendant(s).

Pursuant to a Judgment of Foreclosure and Sale duly entered on April 18, 2025, I, the undersigned Referee will sell at public auction at the Westchester County Courthouse, Lobby, 111 Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Boulevard, White Plains, NY 10601 on June 23, 2025 at 9:30 a.m., premises known as 500 High Point Drive a/k/a 500 Highpoint Drive, Unit 5506, Hartsdale, NY 10530. All that certain plot, piece or parcel of land, with the buildings and improvements thereon erected, situate, lying and being in the Town of Greenburgh, County of Westchester and State of New York, Section 8.80, Block 50-1 and Lot 0.5506 together with an undivided 0.403 percent interest in the Common Elements. Approximate amount of judgment is \$205,373.34 plus interest and costs. Premises will be sold subject to provisions of filed Judgment Index #59828/2022.

Julie C. Curley, Esq., Referee

Friedman Vartolo LLP, 85 Broad Street, Suite 501, New York, New York 10004, Attorneys for Plaintiff. Firm File No.: 230321-1.

Notice of formation of BLUEPRINTS AND BEYOND LLC. Arts of Org. filed with Secretary of State of New York (SSNY) on February 4th, 2025. Office location: Westchester County. SSNY has been designated as agent of the LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail a copy of the process to the LLC: 70 Ashburton Avenue, Apt. 7H, Yonkers, New York, 10701. Purpose: Any lawful purpose.

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 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 Offlo LLC. Arts. of Org. filed with the SSNY on 05/23/2025. Office location: 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, 1112 Wilmot Rd, STE 91H, Scarsdale NY 10583. Purpose: Any lawful purpose.

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 Super Smart Future LLC. Arts. of Org. filed with Sec. of State of NY (SSNY) on 04/20/2023. Office Location: Westchester County. SSNY designated as agent of the LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: Super Smart Future LLC, 58 Valley Rd, Katonah, NY 10536. Purpose: any lawful activity.

Notice of formation of IT TAKES ALL KINDS PICTURES, LLC. Arts. of Org. filed with the SSNY on 03/21/2025. 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, Republic Registered Agent Services Inc. 54 State Street Suite 804 Albany, NY 12207. Purpose: Any lawful

Notice of Formation of SteenShotz LLC. Arts. of Org. filed with the SSNY on 03/12/2025. Office Location: 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, 343 South 3rd Avenue, Mt. Venron NY 10550. Purpose: Any lawful 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 Natalie Stopka Studio, LLC. Art. of Org. filed with SSNY 05/15/2025. Office location: Westchester County. SSNY has been designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served and SSNY shall mail copy of process to the LLC at 160 Shonnard Terrace, Yonkers, NY 10701. Purpose: any lawful purpose.

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Notice of Formation of FUSE WORKS LLC. Articles of Organization filed with the Secretary of State of New York (SSNY) on 04/11/2025. Office location: Westchester County, NY. SSNY is designated as agent of the LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail a copy of process to: 54 Brosnan Pl, Tuckahoe, NY 10707. Purpose: Any lawful purpose.

Notice of formation of Great Livinggs , LLC. Arts. Of Org. Filed with the NY department of state on 03/25/2025 Office Location: Bronx. UNITED STATES CORPORATION AGENTS, INC. 7014 13TH AVENUE , SUITE 202 BROOKLYN, NY, 11228, USA, designated as agent of the LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail a copy of the process to 228 PARK AVE S #948027 NEW YORK, NY 10003. Purpose : Any lawful activity.

Notice of formation of ARTEYA LLC. Arts. of Org. filed with the SSNY on 05/19/2025. Office Location: Westchester. ZENBUSINESSINC, 41 State Street, Suite 112, Albany, NY 12207, designated as agent of the LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail a copy of the process to ZENBUSINESSINC. Purpose: Any lawful activity.

Name of formation of 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.

Yonkers History, continued from pg 5-

man died; a few months later, it won first prize in the International Exposition at Newcastle, England. Eickemeyer. Sr., had created a "useful form of dynamo."

July 17, 1931: Nelson Rockefeller, S. L. Rothafel, architects and engineers working on Radio City inspected apparatus at Otis Elevator Works, specifically designed for raising and lowering of orchestras and organs. This new type of synchronized electrical stage lift not only would operate in organ and orchestra pits, but also enable the simultaneous lifting of parts of the stage by pressing a button. Prior to the demonstration, the visitors were entertained at the Hudson River Country Club.

July 17, 1942: The six War Bond and Stamp booths opened at 11 am at the Empire City Racetrack. Surprisingly, they had a line almost immediately, well before the races started. Who was on the line? Workers who ran the parimutuel windows! IN the short morning hour, the Red Cross workers sold \$500 worth of bonds and stamps!

Friday, July 18th

July 18, 1921: Yonkers police were called to Sandy Beach at the end of Valentine Lane when residents phoned to complain young women attired in "one-piece bathing suits" were "dancing while wearing wet bathing suits," doing the "new-fangled numbers, the Chicago and Shimmy." Police investigated and left without chasing the girls off.

July 18, 1923: Public Safety Department Commissioner Thomas Tobin announced police officers would not have to wear their coats on duty as of August 1st. The new uniform would be a "white waist, white collar and black tie."

Saturday, July 19th

July 19, 1928: Strong earth tremors followed by loud rumbling noises woke people in the Lowerre Summit section of Yonkers. Vibrating houses, rattling windows and shaking furniture woke several families. Unfortunately, the only seismograph in the area at Fordham University was out of order and it could not be confirmed as an earthquake.

July 19, 1939: Public Safety Commissioner Denis Morrissey finally explained why he had not given the State Comptroller information on Yonkers police and firefighters.

The Public Safety Department did not have enough clerical staff to dig out all the details the State wanted. Details needed were names, birthdates, years of service, salary information, of current employees and those receiving a pension.

Sunday, July 20th

July 20, 1871: Plans were announced to improve the little park opposite Getty House in Getty Square. For several years, its railing and retaining wall was in bad condition, but improvements to be made would rectify this lack of maintenance. The sidewalk in front of the Getty House would be widened, taking away about four feet of the "carriage way." Four feet of the park would be removed to return the street to its formal width. The park would be shortened ten feet at the southern end and six feet at the north, rounding its corners in the process. The pump would be moved to the northwest corner and the streetlamp moved to the opposite corner. Additional improvements would be made to two properties, one owned by Von Storch and the other by Sawyer.

When the new St. John's Church was completed, there would be few village centers that would equal our Yonkers.

July 20, 1924: Yonkers' Vincent Richards was the first American to win gold in the Olympic Men's Tennis singles

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.

Groundbreaking at Former Cottage Gardens Public Housing in Yonkers -100% Affordable

Yonkers, County and State Officials Join with Mulford Corporation and The Community Builders for Groundbreaking of Willow at The Ridgeway

Milestone Project is Final Phase of Transformative Redevelopment of Former Cottage Place Gardens Public Housing Complex into a Mixed-Income Community

On June 26, in a historic milestone that was 15 years in the making, officials from the City of Yonkers, New York State, Westchester County, U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development and the NYS Homes and Community Renewal joined with the Mulford Corporation, The Community Builders (TCB) and Yonkers Housing Authority to celebrate the groundbreaking for Willow at The Ridgeway. It is the sixth and final phase of the transformative redevelopment of the former Cottage Place Gardens public housing complex into a mixed-income community of choice.

Located at 23 Bishop W.J. Walls Place, Willow at The Ridgeway will replace three vacant public housing buildings with a new 8-story, all-electric, 100% affordable building with 92 units for seniors. The unit mix includes 85 one-bedroom units and seven two-bedroom units, with average unit sizes of 550 and 800 square feet, respectively. Thirty-one units are reserved for households at or below 30% of the Area Median Income (AMI), 29 units are reserved for households at or below 50% AMI, and 32 units are reserved for households at or below 60% AMI. All apartments will be designed for an aging population and reserved for seniors referred from the Yonkers Housing Authority Section 8 waitlist.

"Today's historic groundbreaking continues the ongoing and remarkable transformation of our city's affordable housing. Willow at The Ridgeway will provide our city's seniors with housing that is both attractively designed as well as energy efficient with outstanding amenities. Congratulations to everyone who has worked so hard to make this day a reality," said Mayor Mike Spano.

Westchester County Executive Ken Jenkins said: "Westchester County was proud to support Willow at The Ridgeway, a transformational project that represents the best of what can happen when government, housing leaders and community partners work together. This project was all about creating opportunity and ensuring our seniors can age with dignity in safe, affordable and environmentally sustainable homes."

Senate Majority Leader Andrea Stewart-Cousins said, "Through critical funding and support secured in part by the State Legislature, Willow at The Ridgeway is turning once-vacant sites into modern, affordable, energy efficient homes for seniors. This development will provide Yonkers' seniors with the affordable housing they need to age in place with dignity, in the community they know and love. It is also a model for how we can continue to create affordable housing for our communities—through sustained partnership, public investment, and a shared commitment to meeting the needs of New Yorkers."

"We are very pleased with the financial support this incredible project has received at every level of government. Willow at The Ridgeway will let our senior population age in place in an environment that is affordable and transit-oriented," said Wilson Kimball, President & CEO of the Yonkers Housing Authority.

Jesse Batus, Senior Vice President of Development for New York and New Jersey at The Community Builders, Inc., said, "Willow at The Ridgeway reflects what's possible when strong public partners collaborate with mission driven non-profit organizations like TCB to commit to bold, long-term investment in communities. For over a decade, we've been honored to work alongside the City of Yonkers, Westchester County, New York State Homes and Community Renewal, our investors and lenders, and our development partners at the Mulford Corporation and the Yonkers Housing Authority. Together, we've created not just high-quality, affordable homes for seniors, but a resilient, mixed-income neighborhood that will serve 500 Yonkers households for generations to come."

Yonkers Housing Authority, TCB, and Mulford will also cultivate relationships with local partners, such as the Yonkers Office of Aging, to offer additional services through direct referrals. Lastly, the building is transit-orientated, located near multiple bus lines and a train station serving Metro-North and Amtrak lines.

With sustainable features, the project is designed to achieve Passive House Institute US certification upon completion, delivering an extremely energy-efficient building that also maximizes the health and thermal comfort of its senior residents. By extension, the building will also achieve EPA ENERGY STAR Multifamily New Construction certification as well as compliance with both DOE Zero Energy Ready Homes and EPA Indoor airPLUS standards.

The building will be all-electric, except for a natural gas-powered emergency generator. A rooftop solar PV array will generate renewable energy to offset the building's common electricity needs. Willow at The Ridgeway will also be designed to achieve Enterprise Green Communities certification upon the building's completion. Amenities in the apartments will include free internet, air-conditioning, electric ranges, and Energy STAR appliances. The building will provide common laundry rooms on each floor, a community room, gym, and a resident terrace on the 7th floor with seating and a solar canopy.

Funding for the project is being provided by NYS Housing Finance Agency; NYS Homes and Community Renewal; State of New York Mortgage Agency; NYS Department of Environmental Conservation; NYS Empire State Development; RBC Community Investments, LLC; The Bank of New York Mellon; Westchester County; City of Yonkers: Yonkers Housing Authority and Community Capital New York.

Westchester County and Taxpayers Win Arbitration Against Standard Amusement Over Playland



By Dan Murphy

Westchester County government, and the taxpayers of Westchester County, received good news on June 26 when an arbitration panel determined that Standard Amusements, the operators of Playland Amusement Park in Rye for the past 4 years, attempt to walk away from the 30-year agreement they had to operate the park was in violation of the agreement between the two parties.

On January 20, Standard Amusements gave the keys to Playland back to Westchester County. But its not that simple. Tens of millions, if not hundreds of millions of dollars has been spent, or will be spent by Standard and Westchester County.

The contract gives Westchester County the right to cure any reasons that Standard may raise before the contract can be terminated.

One day after Standard informed Westchester County that they were terminating their own contract to run Playland, Westchester informed Standard that they were in default by walking away in January, Standard Amusements put the County in the difficult position of trying to piece together enough rides and entertainment to make Playland an enjoyable experience. Several comments on Facebook point to the fact that some families are disappointed because many rides remain closed.

County Executive Ken Jenkins said, "The Arbitration Panel's ruling regarding Playland is a significant victory for the people of Westchester County. The Panel affirmed what we've said from day one — Standard Amusements had no right to try to tear up a 30-year agreement without giving the County the contractually required opportunity to cure. Their attempted termination was not just wrong — it was legally baseless.

"This ruling exposes Standard's effort for what it was: an irresponsible attempt to walk away from their obligations and shift blame onto the County. They ignored the clear language in the contract and their rush to terminate was a direct threat to Playland's future and to the significant public investment made to restore and preserve our beloved park.

"Today, we move forward, as we have done since Standard walked away. We continue to work on our \$150-million-dollar investment by repairing rides, opening concession stands and serving up summer memories and fun. We are moving forward on the damages claim, and we won't stop until we have a settlement that works for the people on Westchester County.

"While I am County Executive, Westchester County will never be bullied, pushed around or manipulated— especially over a public asset that exists for the joy of children. Here in Westchester we always defend the taxpayers of this County with everything we've got," said Jenkins.

Now that the first hurdle of winning arbitration has been cleared, the question now becomes how much more money does Westchester have to pay Standard for their investment in the park over the past four years.

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My Brother's Keeper Yonkers and Monroe University Partner to Launch Teacher Preparation Network



Panelists Back row, from left: Nuryel Benitez (Yonkers Montessori Academy), Ian Sherman (Lincoln High School), Bryan Boyd (Paideia School 24), and Daniel Garcia (Justice Sonia Sotomayor). Front row, from left: Dr. Frank Hernandez (Associate Superintendent), Jamell Scott (Barack Obama School for Social Justice), Jamie Morales (Gorton High School), Ryan James (Boyce Thompson), and Carlton Jay (Schools 17 and 30).

My Brother's Keeper (MBK) Yonkers and Monroe University joined forces to launch the Monroe University MBK Yonkers Teacher Preparation Network, a transformative initiative aimed at inspiring Yonkers students to pursue careers in education. Through Monroe's CAEP-accredited undergraduate program—offering certification in early childhood or childhood education with an optional bilingual extension in Spanish—students receive hands-on training, start fieldwork in their freshman year, and can complete the program in under three years.

Courses are interactive and modeled on the pedagogical skills students will use in their own classrooms, and the program is designed to support students from high school through to graduation as certified teachers.

The program allows MBK Yonkers students to explore teaching as a viable career path while earning high school and college credits. Undergraduate students who are recipients of this grant can receive free tuition, along with additional benefits such as coverage for certification exam and fingerprinting fees, access to extra workshops, and a dedicated faculty mentor who will support them through graduation. The initiative is designed to build long-term interest in the profession by creating early opportunities for exposure, support, and meaningful engagement.

Monroe University's program also offers a supportive cohort model that helps students transition smoothly from high school to higher education. Certification test prep is embedded into coursework, and students are guided toward employment as head teachers after graduation.

Graduates can also seamlessly transition into Monroe's graduate education programs to pursue additional certifications and increase long-term salary potential.

According to the National Center for Education Statistics, nearly 80% of public school teachers are white, while students of color make up over half of the student population. Research shows that students benefit academically and socially from having teachers who reflect their racial and cultural backgrounds – yet male educators of color remain especially underrepresented in classrooms across the country.

"This partnership is an investment in the future of education in Yonkers," said Yonkers Public Schools Superintendent Anibal Soler, Jr. "By creating early opportunities for our students to explore careers in teaching – especially in communities that need representation the most – we're helping build a pipeline of educators who reflect the strength and diversity of our schools."

"Representation in the classroom is a necessity and this initiative seeks to change that," said Dr. Jason Baez, Executive Director of MBK Yonkers. "I started my career as a teacher, so I know how impactful it is when students learn from someone who shares their background. It makes teaching feel real and worth pursuing. We're creating the conditions for more equitable, inspiring classrooms for all students."

MOVIE & CONCERT SCHEDULE

MOVIES AT DUSK			
DATE	MOVIE	RATING	LOCATION
July 11	Dirty Dancing	PG-13	Rubeo-Gedlinski Park- Edwards Place
July 18	Moana II	PG	Unity Park- Post & Elliot Streets
July 25	Captain America	PG-13	Trenchard Park-Trenchard Street
August 1	A League of Their Own	PG	Schultz Park-St. Eleanoras Lane
August 8	Inside Out II	PG	Sullivans Oval-Spruce Street
August 15	Dog Man	PG	Wascisko Park-Agar Street
August 22	Beetlejuice	PG	Wakefield Park-Bronx River Road

MUSIC 7:00 - 8:30 PM			
DATE	BAND	MUSIC GENRE	LOCATION
July 3	Uptown Royalty	Pop/Jazz/R&B	JFK Marina-JFK Marina Blvd
July 10	Yacht Lobsters	Classic Rock/Jazz	Waterfront Amphitheatre Water Grant Street
July 17	Fever Records presents Judy Torres & the Cover Girls	Freestyle	E.J. Murrays Skating Center Tuckahoe Road
July 24	McLean Avenue Band	Music & Dance Band	Coyne Park-McLean Avenue
July 31	Steve Maglio	Sinatra Tribute & more	Welty Park-Barton Road
August 7	El Negro Caro y Dominican Swing	Swing/Bachata/Merengue	Cerrato Park-Riverdale Avenue
August 14	Soul Machine	Soul/R&B/Dance Band	Grant Park-High Street at Park Avenue
August 21	David Cedeno Orchestra	Latin Salsa/Jazz	Lincoln Park-Riverdale Avenue
August 28	Men of Soul	Soul/R&B	O'Boyle Park-Hawthorne Avenue
August 29	Chicago Revived	Tribute Band	Untermeyer Park-North Broadway

Rain Site for all Music is at E.J. Murrays Skate Center at 348 Tuckahoe Road.



For additional information call (914) 377-6450. Bring your own seating and blankets. Adult & Movie subject to change.



YONKERS PARKS DAY Throwback

Join us in celebrating National Parks & Recreation Month

Saturday, July 12TH
Yonkers Parks Day
2:00 PM — 5:00 PM

For a fun filled day of activities, entertainment, arts & crafts and food from 50 years ago.

WAKEFIELD PARK 167 Bronx River Road
O'BOYLE PARK 169 Hawthorne Avenue
LOHRFINK PARK 689 Valley Avenue

For more information call 914.377.6450

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End of an Era: Grassy Sprain Hardware to Close After 75 Years in Yonkers

Mary J. Blige Foundation and YPL Celebrate Culinary Apprentice Program Grads



City Councilman Anthony Merante, center, with owners of Grassy Sprain Hardware and members of the Speight family



In partnership with the Mary J. Blige Foundation, Yonkers Public Library is proud to celebrate the graduates of our Culinary Career Pathways Apprenticeship Program—an initiative designed to empower women through culinary careers.

Congratulations to our incredible participants, who completed the program and earned: An \$800 stipend, Hands-on experience in a commercial kitchen, NY State Food Safety Handling Certification, Your dedication, passion, and hard work are truly inspiring. We can't wait to see what you cook up next!

The grads are pictured at Off the Hook restaurant in Yonkers.



After proudly serving the community for 75 years, Grassy Sprain Hardware—a beloved, family-owned fixture on Tuckahoe Road—is officially closing its doors this Saturday June 28th. Located at 590 Tuckahoe Road, the store has been a trusted destination for generations of Yonkers residents seeking tools, paint, hardware, and hands-on advice. “This is more than just the closing of a store—it’s the loss of a true neighborhood institution,” said Councilmember Anthony Merante (6th District). “Grassy Sprain Hardware had it all. It was convenient, reliable, and staffed by people who truly cared. For so many of us, it was part of our daily lives. It will be missed.” Founded in 1950, Grassy Sprain Hardware—also known as Grassy Sprain Paint & Hardware—became

continued on pg 11-

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FRIDAY JULY 11, 2025 - YONKERS RISING -PAGE 10

PUBLIC NOTICE A GENERAL ORDINANCE AMENDING SECTION 109-160 OF ARTICLE XVII, CHAPTER 109, PART 2, ARTICLE XVII OF THE CODE OF THE CITY OF YONKERS RELATING TO PENALTIES FOR PARKING VIOLATIONS Notice is hereby given that the City Council of the City of Yonkers has adopted the abovementioned legislation that amends the City Code to discourage double-parking within the City of Yonkers by increasing the penalties for illegal parking within the City of Yonkers and by updating the maximum charges permitted for towing services and vehicle storage to reflect present and actual labor, equipment, costs, and effort for various towing services within the City of Yonkers.

Parking, standing and stopping violations shall be punished as follows:

Type of Violation	Fee	
Expired meter (on street)	\$30	
Overtime parking at meter (on street)	\$30	
Expired meter (off street)	\$30	
Failed to activate meter (on street)	\$30	
Overtime parking at meter (off street)	\$30	
Failed to activate meter (off street)	\$30	
Parking in 2 meter spaces (on street)	\$50	
Parking rear to meter (on street)	\$50	
Parking in 2 meter spaces (off street)	\$50	
Parking rear to meter (off street)	\$50	
No parking	\$50	
Overtime parking, no meter	\$50	
Parking in driveway, public or private	\$100	
Parking within 30 feet of stop sign	\$50	
Parking within 10 feet of crosswalk at intersection	\$60	
Parking in loading zone	\$50	
M/T 12 inches from curb, 2-way street	\$50	
M/T 12 inches from curb, 1-way street	\$50	
Parking left side to curb, 2-way street	\$50	
Parking wrong direction, 2-way street	\$50	
Parking wrong direction, 1-way street	\$50	
Parking opposite construction site	\$50	
Improper parking	\$50	
Parked rear to curb	\$50	
Improper angle parking	\$50	
Angle parking prohibited, 2-way street	\$50	
Angle parking prohibited, 1-way street	\$50	
Wheels not turned to curb on hill	\$50	Fee
Parking a trailer, semitrailer, tractor-trailer, tractor, house-on-wheels, bus or school bus	\$500	Fee
Other Commercial vehicle/bus parking	\$50	
Parked on bridge	\$50	
Unattended vehicle	\$70	
Parked at theater entrance	\$50	
Parked on private property	\$50	
Parked without lights	\$50	
Inspection violations	\$50	
Parked on entrance or exit ramps, state highway	\$50	
Parked on state highway	\$50	
Parked alongside curb cut	\$100	
Parked for purpose of vehicle sale	\$50	
Parked for vehicle repair, except emergency	\$125	Fee
Parked on highway with speed limit over 35 mph for purpose of selling frozen desserts	\$50	Fee
Parked within safety island	\$60	
Parked within crosswalk	\$60	
Parked within intersection	\$60	
Parked on sidewalk	\$160	
No standing	\$70	
No stopping	\$70	
No stopping, bus stop	\$50	
Stopped on pavement	\$50	
Registration violations	\$70	
Unregistered motorcycle	\$70	
Tab improperly on plate	\$70	
License plate violations	\$90	
No current license plate	\$90	
Unauthorized license plate	\$90	
Parked leaving L/T 10 feet roadway	\$90	
Restricted area	\$70	
Restricted area, parking lot	\$70	
Restricted area, off street	\$70	
Restricted, raceway parking	\$70	
Obstructing traffic	\$90	
Obstructing traffic, L/T 10 feet roadway	\$90	
Double-parked	\$150	Fee
Double-parked commuting hours (Mon. - Fri. 7:00 a.m. to 10:00 a.m. and 3:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m., excluding holidays)	\$100	Fee
Parked within 15 feet of fire hydrant	\$125	
Parked in fire zone	\$90	
Parked within 20 feet of fire station entrance	\$90	
Parked in tow-away zone	\$90	
Emergency snow removal	\$90	
Parked in handicap space, no permit, on street	\$200	
Parked in handicap space, no permit, off street	\$100	
Abandoned vehicle	\$450	
Abandoned vehicle in an emergency a designated emergency	\$500	Fee

All other parking violations, including violations of Article 32 of the New York State Vehicle and Traffic Law \$50

In the event that a respondent does not enter a plea or remit the fine due for a parking, standing or stopping violation as and when required by this chapter, then they shall pay a late payment penalty equal and in addition to the scheduled fine for the violation charged. In the event that a vehicle is towed pursuant to this chapter, the owner or person entitled to possession of the vehicle shall pay a towing charge and a storage charge as set by the rules and regulations of the City of Yonkers. These charges shall be in addition to any fines or penalties for illegal stopping, standing, parking, abandonment or any other offense under this chapter. Towing and storage charges shall be paid as lawfully. No vehicle shall be released unless all towing and storage fees, outstanding parking violations, and related penalties are paid in full. The following fees shall be the maximum charged for all passenger cars, regardless of weight, for either private towing or towing pursuant to roster call or impound: A maximum charge of \$350 for passenger vehicles, and \$150 for mopeds The above maximum charge shall include:

- [1] Winching (if required) [2] Use of dollies/skates [3] Lockout service (if required) [4] Shrink wrap application for broken or missing windows

Storage charges shall be at the rate of not more than \$75 for each 24 hours or part thereof for passenger vehicles, and for mopeds, \$35 for each 24 hours. All vehicles must be stored on the premises of the licensee, whether indoors or outdoors, and shall not be permitted on City streets. Truck and trailer storage shall be at the rate of not more than \$350 for small to medium size trucks and \$550 for large trucks for each 24 hours or part thereof. Administrative fees may be charged at a maximum rate of \$100 for the retrieval of owner/lienholder information and mailing of certified letters to all relevant parties. Heavy towing is a maximum charge of \$750 per hour with a 2-hour minimum charge and \$650 per hour thereafter. The complete text of the ordinance is on file and may be examined at the Office of the City Clerk, City Hall, 40 S. Broadway, Yonkers, NY 10701. Dated: July 9, 2025 Vincent Spano City Clerk

Yonkers Showcases Itself in Times Square Billboard-Hollywood on the Hudson

Mayor Mike Spano, Council President Lakisha Collins-Bellamy, Robert Halmi and a representative from the Times Square Alliance

If you can make it here...Yonkers has arrived at the crossroads of the world, Times Square. Thank you to the Times Square Alliance for welcoming us to the family of billboards that shape and style New York City's Midtown.

Robert Halmi of Great Point Studios joined us, along with members of our Yonkers City Council, for a countdown to reveal our new billboard. Check it out on 43rd Street and Broadway.

We are showcasing our growing film industry, our many studios and productions making us, Hollywood on Hudson.

IDA Scholarships, continued from pg 1-

ary institution that leads to a degree, license or certification. Awardees are required to have a recommendation from a member of the faculty who knows the student well. Applicants must also provide a personal statement concerning his/her future community service goals and how his/her education will contribute to these goals. The scholarship fund was created by the Parkledge Apartments.

The 2025 scholarship awardees are:

- Tyler Gordon- Riverside High School
- Emmanuel Asiedu- Yonkers Montessori Academy
- Tennecia Nelson – Barack Obama School for Social Justice
- Leila Campbell – Yonkers High School
- Fani Arevalo – Roosevelt High School- Early College Studies
- Willkiana Sosa-Diaz- Lincoln High School
- Daphne Durane-Encarnacion – Lincoln High School
- William Williams – Saunders Trades and Technical High School
- Vanessa Aguilar- Saunders Trades and Technical High School
- Avril Salazar – Sacred Heart High School
- Yonkers Industrial Development Agency

Established in 1982, the Yonkers Industrial Development Agency is a public benefit corporation that provides business development incentives to enhance economic development and job growth in the City of Yonkers.

For more information visit yonkersida.com

Grassy Sprain Hardware, continued from pg

a pillar of the local community. Pearl Speight, wife of original owner William H. Speight, ran the store for over five decades, cultivating a legacy of personalized service and unwavering dedication to her customers. In recent years, her son Rodney "Rod" Speight, along with his brothers Billy and Chris, and Rod's son Greg, all pitched in to help as Rod reduced his hours. Together, they worked to carry on that legacy, ensuring the family's values remained at the heart of the business. Even with national chains like Home Depot, Lowe's, and Harbor Freight across the street, Grassy Sprain Hardware remained competitive—thanks to its knowledgeable staff, broad product selection, and hands-on guidance that helped customers complete their projects from start to finish. Councilmember Merante noted that the 6th District has seen an increase in rental housing, where residents are more likely to call a landlord or superintendent than take on home improvement projects themselves. "Homeownership is a key driver of the local economy," Merante said. "Homeowners invest in their properties and their neighborhoods—something that's often missing with transient renters."

"Once the doors close, Yonkers doesn't just lose a business—we lose a piece of our soul," Merante said. "Grassy Sprain represented the best of what small businesses bring to our city: community, service, and trust built over generations."

SUPREME COURT - COUNTY OF WESTCHESTER.

THE BANK OF NEW YORK MELLON FKA THE BANK OF NEW YORK AS TRUSTEE FOR THE CERTIFICATEHOLDERS OF CWMB, INC., CHL MORTGAGE PASS-THROUGH TRUST 2005-15, MORTGAGE PASS-THROUGH CERTIFICATES, SERIES 2005-15, Plaintiff -against- HANNA P. WAGNER; ERIC WAGNER AS EXECUTOR OF THE ESTATE OF DAVID WAGNER, et al Defendant(s). Pursuant to a Judgment of Foreclosure and Sale dated April 15, 2025 and entered on April 16, 2025, and an Amended Judgement of Foreclosure and Sale dated May 21, 2025 and entered on May 22, 2025, I, the undersigned Referee will sell at public auction at public auction in the Lobby of the Westchester County Courthouse, 111 Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd., White Plains, NY on August 12, 2025 at 9:30 a.m. premises situate, lying and being in the Town of Eastchester, County of Westchester and State of New York, known and designated as SBL# 66-1-260

Said premises known as 70 HOWARD AVENUE, EASTCHESTER, NY 10709

Approximate amount of lien \$986,012.00 plus interest & costs.

Premises will be sold subject to provisions of filed Judgment and Terms of Sale.

Index Number 64049/2021.

ANTHONY S. COLAVITA, ESQ., Referee

Pincus Law Group, PLLC

Attorney(s) for Plaintiff

425 RXR Plaza, Uniondale, NY 11556

MBK Monroe, continued from pg 8-

"We are so proud to partner with Yonkers Public Schools and MBK Yonkers on this important initiative to inspire young men to pursue rewarding careers in education," said President Jerome. "Through this initiative, we are investing in the future of our classrooms and our communities – creating a more diverse, inclusive, and representative teaching workforce that reflects the students it serves."

By empowering Yonkers students to envision teaching as a respected and meaningful profession, MBK Yonkers and Monroe University are laying essential groundwork for a brighter future. The Monroe University MBK Yonkers Teacher Preparation Network is a significant step toward ensuring every student in Yonkers benefits from a representative, inclusive, and equitable educational experience.

Students interested in joining the Monroe University MBK Yonkers Teacher Preparation Network can sign up here <https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSfClk267mGhQGBTs9mMPSLwXZUTrvB5aAKxIwqeEOxp5Cg-CQ/viewform>

For more information, visit yonkerspublicschools.org/mbk.

Anime, continued from pg 1

Co-curator and gallery director, Michele Amaro, enthused "I have always been fascinated with Japanese art and culture. To see anime so popular amongst teens, and so pervasive in our popular culture, I knew it was time to bring it to Blue Door."

The Japanese art of anime short for animation, is a highly stylized and graphic art form. From "manga" Japanese comic books, that have been adapted to anime cartoon series or animated films, this genre has given off-shoots to many cultural crossovers such as food, fashion and entertainment.

What makes this exhibition unique is the interpretation of anime through the culture lens that is personal to each artist. If you are not sure what anime is or are a diehard fan, there is something to explore. Interactive exhibits will draw you into this larger-than-life world. Take a photo with giant parrot in a princess gown. No longer part of a subculture, anime is for everyone.

Visit this free exhibition at Blue Door Art Center, 13 Riverdale Avenue, Yonkers, NY, on Thursdays and Fridays from 3 – 6pm or Saturday from 1 – 6pm thru July 26th.

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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 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-7484 - Opening date: 7/25/2025: 2025-2026 Highway Improvements Contract (KS)

2. Bid No. RFB-7440A – Opening Date: 7/25/2025: Twelve-month contract, with option to renew for 12-months, to provide Kia vehicle repair parts and repair services as needed (FB).

3. Bid. No. RFB-7480A – Opening Date: 7/25/2025: Purchase of ten (10) Zoll AED 3's and one (1) AED 3 Travel Trainer or Yonkers Approved Equal (VB).

4. Bid No. RFB-7462A – Opening date: 7/25/2025: Purchase of various pool chemicals for the Yonkers Public School District (NG)

5. Bid No. RFB-7489 – Opening date 7/25/2025: Purchase of dog and cat food, cat litter, and pads as needed for the Yonkers Animal Shelter (NG)

6. Bid No. IFB-7490 – Opening Date 8/1/2025; Asbestos removal and disposal at 141 McLean Avenue Yonkers, NY 10705 (MM)

Letter to the Editor and to all of our members of Congress who voted “Yes” for the BBB:

I’m trying to understand how our “Christian” representatives who approved the Big Brutal (NOT Beautiful) Bill think that it is OK. What do they think being a Christian means? Just belonging to a Christian Church? Research “what does it mean to be a Christian” and you will find numerous variations of “following Jesus Christ, believing in his life, death, and resurrection, and striving to live according to his teachings” (emphasis is mine)

Our “Christian” brethren voted YES on this bill, to take away medical care from people who can’t afford it on their own, to take away SNAP benefits from people who cannot afford to feed their children, to cut essential services, like education, medical research, NOAA, etc. And the latest action is to “detain” people in cages, under tents, in the extreme heat and humidity of the Everglades, surrounded by alligators and poisonous snakes. How many of them will survive those conditions? Some Floridians are referring to it as “Alligator Auschwitz”. These people have not been convicted of a crime. Much as the Jews in Hitler’s regime were sent to concentration camps on the basis of religion, detainees are sent there because they are brown. Even if they are undocumented, this solution is unconscionable. THEY ARE STILL HUMAN BEINGS and they should be treated as such.

I drove through Western NY yesterday and saw many billboards about Christian beliefs, one of which said “When you die...you will see God.” I ask those who supported this bill, what will you say when God asks you “What did you do for the least of my brethren?”

Maria Modica-Snow
Peekskill

State Legislature Passes Paulin & Mayer Bill to Ensure Nonprofits Get Paid On Time & Stay Afloat

Assemblywoman Amy Paulin, top left, and State Senator Shelley B. Mayer top right, announced the passage of their bill, A.7616/S.7001, in both the New York State Assembly and Senate—an urgently needed victory for New York’s nonprofit sector and the millions of residents who rely on its services. The bill, which now awaits the Governor’s signature, reforms New York’s Prompt Contracting Law to ensure nonprofits are paid on time, treated fairly, and equipped to continue delivering essential safety net services across the state.

Nonprofits in New York provide critical services on behalf of the state—early childhood education, mental health counseling, housing for the homeless, substance use treatment, legal services, and more. Yet the current state contracting system has too often undermined their ability to operate, with chronic delays, inconsistent processes across agencies, and reimbursement lagging for months—sometimes over a year.

A recent survey found that 33% of nonprofits holding contracts with New York State were owed more than \$58 million for services already delivered. When extrapolated statewide, the amount owed to nonprofits exceeds \$650 million—money that’s already been appropriated but not paid. These delays force nonprofits to drain their reserves, take out loans to meet payroll, and in some cases, scale back or shut down programs.

Assemblywoman Paulin and Senator Mayer’s bill introduces long-overdue reforms, which would:

- Improve consistency in contracting across all agencies.
- Streamline contract renewals and improve timeliness.
- Clarify when nonprofits can expect payment schedules and ensure interest on late payments.
- Ensure automatic contract advances so that nonprofits do not have to take on unsustainable debt to front costs for essential services.
- Recognize and reimburse the real cost of delivering services, including overhead.
- Ensure nonprofits are not being penalized for minor errors in vouchers.

“These nonprofits are doing the State’s work—feeding the hungry, housing the homeless, helping our most vulnerable residents—and we’ve been asking them to finance that work themselves while waiting for overdue payments,” said Assemblywoman Paulin. “It’s unsustainable and unacceptable. This bill provides the structure, fairness, and predictability that nonprofits need to stay afloat and serve the people who depend on them.”

The bill also ensures nonprofits aren’t penalized for minor administrative errors in vouchers and recognizes the real cost of delivering services, including overhead expenses. State Senator Shelley Mayer said, “I am very pleased that my colleague, Assemblywoman Amy Paulin, and I have successfully passed this bill to support our not-for-profit organizations in both the Assembly and Senate this session. Our not-for-profit organizations provide essential support, resources, and services to all of our communities. However, for years, they have had to navigate complex contractual processes to receive timely and contractually required reimbursements from state grants. This creates tremendous fiscal and operational problems, ultimately limiting the quality and quantity of services they can offer to those in need. This bill finally addresses these problems by clarifying and streamlining the reimbursement process. Thank you to Nonprofit Westchester for their strong advocacy to find a legislative solution to this problem. Now I urge Governor Hochul to sign this legislation as soon as possible.”

Jan Fisher, Executive Director of Nonprofit Westchester, applauded the bill’s passage: “This legislation is not just about streamlining bureaucracy—it’s about ensuring the survival of New York’s nonprofit sector at a time when it’s needed most. Nonprofits are being destabilized by state delays just when our communities are relying on us to provide critical safety net services and defend civil rights in an uncertain federal landscape. These reforms recognize that we are partners—not afterthoughts—in delivering life-saving services.”

“With this bill, we’re not just supporting nonprofits,” said Paulin, “we’re supporting the families, children, seniors, and communities they serve.”

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Classifieds

Attorney

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more classifieds on pg 14-

Weekend Events in Westchester County Parks

SATURDAY, JULY 12

Lasdon Park, Arboretum & Veterans Memorial, Katonah: (914) 864-7268
Medicinal Plant and Tree Tour, 10 a.m. - 11 a.m. Urban naturalist Bruce Rosenberg leads a free tour that examines over 20 plants and trees in the Arboretum that have medicinal qualities and are used to treat physical and mental conditions. Also: Aug. 23; Sept. 6. Get details and register: <https://www.lasdonpark.org/event/medicinal-plant-and-tree-tour-2/>

Hilltop Hanover Farm & Environmental Center, Yorktown Heights: (914) 862-5050. Tastings in the Field, 11 a.m. - 12 p.m. Come with us into our field to use your taste to note the similarities and differences within the family, genus and species of one of our crops. Each class in this series will highlight a different seasonal crop and explore how and why tastes vary and the benefits of these distinctions. For ages 6 and up. \$10 per person. Also: Aug. 9; Sept. 13. Register: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/tastings-in-the-field-tickets-1374759415419?aff=oddtcreator>

Croton Point Park, Croton-on-Hudson: (914) 862-5290

Beach Is Open, 11 a.m. - 6:30 p.m. Weekends through Monday, Sept. 1; weather permitting. No admittance after 6 p.m. Parking and admission fees apply. Westchester County residency is not required for admission. Get details: <https://parks.westchestergov.com/swim>

Saxon Woods Park, White Plains: (914) 995-4480

DJ Day, 12 p.m. - 4 p.m. Come for a swim and enjoy music at the pool! Participation is free; admission and parking fees apply. Westchester County residency is required; weather permitting. Get details: <https://parks.westchestergov.com/family-fun-days>

Tibbetts Brook Park, Yonkers: (914) 231-2870

Family Fun Day, 12 p.m. - 4 p.m. Join us for a day with music, games and more for the entire family. Participation is free; admission and parking fees apply. Westchester County residency is required; weather permitting. Rain date: July 13. Get details: <https://parks.westchestergov.com/family-fun-days>

Alfred B. DelBello Muscote Farm, Katonah: (914) 864-7282

Art Exhibit: Color Touches the Soul, 12 p.m. - 4 p.m. This is a lyrical invitation into the emotional world of Westchester resident Gabriel Ceslov. It suggests beauty, vulnerability and the moving resonance of abstraction. Weekends throughout July. Get details: <https://www.muscotefarm.org/programs-events/event/2025/07/12/1752339600/july-art-show/527727>

Lasdon Park, Arboretum & Veterans Memorial, Katonah: (914) 864-7268

Lasdon Green Squad, 1 p.m. - 3 p.m. Every Saturday from April to November join the Lasdon Green Squad to keep Lasdon, Westchester's Public Garden looking beautiful. Volunteers will work with Lasdon staff on tasks such as invasive species removal, planting, watering, weeding, trail maintenance, mulching, trash clean up, and other tasks. Ages 14 and older. Get details and register: <https://www.lasdonpark.org/event/lasdon-green-squad-2-2/2025-07-12/>

SUNDAY, JULY 13

The Bronx River Parkway

Bicycle Sunday, 8 a.m. - 12 p.m. A 13.1-mile loop from Westchester County Center south to Scarsdale Road in Yonkers is closed to cars. Open to non-motorized bicyclists, scooters and in-line skaters, e-bike class 1 only, plus walkers and joggers. Many points of entry and exit are along the way. Admission is free. Also: July 20, 27 (8 a.m. to 12 p.m.); Sept. 7, 14, 21 (10 a.m. to 2 p.m.); Oct. 5 (10 a.m. to 2 p.m.). Get details: <https://parks.westchestergov.com/bicycle-sundays>

Croton Point Park, Croton-on-Hudson: (914) 862-5290

Low-Tide Hike, 8:30 a.m. - 10 a.m. Explore Croton Point's shoreline with the park naturalist and learn about estuarine ecology, glacial geology and the deep history of this beautiful Hudson River promontory. Meet at the RV Park entrance. Free; ages six and up; some difficult terrain.

Alfred B. DelBello Muscote Farm, Katonah: (914) 864-7282

Farmers Market, 9:30 a.m. - 2:30 p.m. The market supports farmers and sustainable efforts in our area, featuring over 30 local vendors every Sunday until Nov. 16. Backyard Beets, featuring band, Quasi Normal, will perform from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. Get details: <https://www.muscotefarm.org/markets/>

Lasdon Park, Arboretum & Veterans Museum, Katonah: (914) 864-7263

Gardening Sundays and Tuesdays, Weekly, 10 a.m. - 12 p.m. Enhance your gardening skills and plant knowledge by working side by side with the gardeners at Lasdon Park. Tasks include planting, watering, weeding, pruning, staking, deadheading, potting up, and more! Next: July 15. Get details and register: <https://www.lasdonpark.org/event/gardening-sundays-2/2025-07-13/>

Hilltop Hanover Farm & Environmental Center, Yorktown Heights: (914) 862-5050. July Community Farm Work Day: Garlic Harvest, 10 a.m. - 12 p.m.

Get your hands dirty and help us with the garlic harvest! It's a fun day out in the sun, working together with fellow community members to support our local farm. No experience necessary, just bring your enthusiasm and a willingness to learn. Come be a part of our farm family and enjoy the satisfaction of harvesting fresh garlic. Free. Get details and register: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/july-community-farm-work-day-garlic-harvest-tickets-1407702198169?aff=oddtcreator>

continued on pg 14-

Downtown Yonkers, continued from pg 2-

possibly millions — by using his position of power to gain an inside track. That's unacceptable!

We need an ironclad clause written into the proposal — before construction begins — that explicitly bars any elected official, their family members, or close associates from profiting off this project in any way. Period.

Yes, we've been told there will be more police officers, more jobs, and more tax revenue for the city. But what does that mean for us, the taxpayers? Will we see any relief from our high taxes? Will that money come back to our neighborhoods in the form of improved roads, revitalized storefronts, increased police presence, or better parking enforcement? Traffic congestion on Yonkers Avenue is already at a critical point. With the MGM expansion, that pressure will only intensify. If we don't address it now, we'll be creating a bigger problem down the line.

One local official recently declared, "The Casino District zone change has been officially approved. I am excited to collaborate with Mayor Spano to guarantee that this project benefits not only my district but our entire city. We have addressed the community's concerns, including additional funding for policing, investments in flood mitigation and traffic improvements. I am excited to announce more community benefits in the weeks ahead!"

Here's the problem: community benefits should not be treated as shiny add-ons or gifts to the public. They should be baked into the foundation of a project that will generate hundreds of millions in profits. Any so-called "investment in the community" should be the bare minimum, not a bargaining chip. We're not asking for special favors — we're demanding equity, transparency, and reinvestment.

We don't need another Atlantic City, where the casino thrived and the neighborhoods around it were left to rot. We need accountability, starting with honest answers and a clear plan for how these promises will be delivered — and enforced. No more backroom deals. No more vague statements.

The residents of the East Side deserve answers — and action. We need to know that our concerns are being addressed. Because this is Yonkers: "The city on the hills, where nothing is on the level."

Classifieds

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Westchester Parks Events, continued from pg 13-

Kensico Dam Plaza, Valhalla: (914) 231-4033

Hispanic Heritage Festival, 12 p.m. - 6 p.m.

Experience a multitude of cultures this summer without ever leaving the country. Gather your family and friends, leave your passport at home and enjoy traditions from around the world. Get details: <https://parks.westchestergov.com/heritage-festivals>

Ridge Road Park, Hartsdale: (914) 946-8133

Irish Heritage Festival, 12 p.m. - 6 p.m.

Experience a multitude of cultures this summer without ever leaving the country. Gather your family and friends, leave your passport at home and enjoy traditions from around the world. Admission: \$5 adults; free for ages 14 and under.

Get details: <https://parks.westchestergov.com/heritage-festivals>

Lasdon Park, Arboretum & Veterans Memorial, Katonah: (914) 864-7268

Trail of Honor Guided Walk, 1 p.m. - 2 p.m.

The historical significance of the sculptures and monuments along the Trail of Honor will be shared in a free guided walk by Mark Tolf, the curator of the Westchester County Veterans Museum. The trail is .3 miles long and gets very hilly. Meet at the Trail of Honor entrance. Also: Aug. 17; Sept. 14.

Register: <https://www.lasdonpark.org/event/trail-of-honor-guided-walk/>

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

Guided Farm Tour, 1 p.m. - 2 p.m.

Join one of our tour guides on a free tour around the farm to visit to learn about our animals and a few of our historic buildings. Also: Aug. 3, 24; Sept. 7.

Register: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/guided-farm-tours-tickets-1395304686879?aff=ebdsoporgprofile>

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

Understanding Crows, 2 p.m. - 3:30 p.m.

Join the staff to learn about the intelligence, behavior and ecology of these ubiquitous corvids.

Assemblyman Matt Slater Exposes AOC's Lie About Yorktown and It Goes Viral in MAGA World



Above: Blogger-Podcaster Benny Johnson's Visit to Yorktown to Look into AOC Now Has 9 Million Views

Rep. Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez Lived in Yorktown Heights, Not the Bronx, from Age 5-17, Graduated from Yorktown High School in 2007

By Dan Murphy

Past and present residents of Yorktown Heights, NY, including this reporter, are saying "job well done" to Assemblyman Matt Slater for exposing Congresswoman Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez for hiding the fact that she did not grow up in the Bronx but that she grew up in Yorktown Heights and was a graduate of Yorktown High School.

We wrote about this topic back in 2021 (<https://yonkerstimes.com/letter-to-aoc-please-come-home-to-yorktown-for-christmas/>) and wrote, "I also have wondered why AOC does not use her history in Yorktown as part of her story, and explain how her parents made sacrifices to ensure that she had a better life than their own."

AOC could have used her life story as an example of the American Dream and how hard her parents worked to get her out of the Bronx and up to Yorktown. Many Yorktown residents share the same life story, including my family, who moved in 1972.

What cracked the AOC story wide open was a recent Twitter-X exchange between AOC and President Donald Trump. AOC called for Trump's impeachment over his decision to bomb Iran without approval from Congress. "The President's disastrous decision to bomb Iran without authorization is a grave violation of the Constitution and Congressional War Powers. He has impulsively risked launching a war that may ensnare us for generations. It is absolutely and clearly grounds for impeachment."

Trump responded with, "Instead of her constant complaining, Alexandria should go back home to Queens, where I was also brought up, and straighten out her filthy, disgusting, crime-ridden streets, in the District she 'represents,' and which she never goes to anymore."

AOC responded with, "It only took you 5 months to break almost every promise you made. Also, I'm a Bronx girl. You should know that we can eat Queens boys for breakfast. Respectfully."

This is where Assemblyman Matt Slater steps in. Slater attended Yorktown High School with AOC; he was a senior, and she was a freshman, then known as Sandy Cortez.

"If you're a BX girl, then why are you in my Yorktown yearbook? Give it up already," Slater tweeted, along with a yearbook photo of Sandy.

"She's embarrassing herself for doing everything possible to avoid saying she grew up in the suburbs instead of the Bronx. She has said she visited extended family, and she has said she commuted. Now she's in between. It's clearly desperate attempts to protect the lie that she is from the Bronx," said Slater. "She's lying about her upbringing to win elections."

Slater appeared on Fox News, where he said, "For years, AOC has lied about her upbringing in Yorktown to create her tough Bronx girl persona. What it shows is how the Democrat Party has turned its collective back on our suburban values."

"She grew up in Yorktown, and she was on my track team. There's an authenticity problem with the Democratic Party. They don't connect with voters if they know the truth about them. Yorktown is nothing like the Bronx; she is a product of Yorktown."

"The truth is AOC is Sandy Cortez, who went to Yorktown High School and lived at the corner of Friends Road and Longvue Street. It's a disrespectful gesture towards our community."

After Slater appeared on Fox News, the NY Post picked up the story, and so did the Conservative bloggers and podcasters, most notably Benny Johnson, who took a trip to Yorktown to check it all out. Calling it the biggest fraud in all of politics, Johnson's video reached 9 million viewers, https://x.com/search?q=benny%20johnson%20aoc&src=typed_query&f=top.

For the first time since her election to Congress in 2018, AOC felt the need to respond. "I'm proud of where I grew up and talk about it all the time. My mom cleaned houses, and I helped. We cleaned tutors' homes in exchange for SAT Prep. Growing up between the Bronx and Yorktown deeply shaped my views of inequality, and it's a big reason I believe the things I do today," Tweeted AOC.

Her campaign pointed to her website, which also mentions the fact, "The state of Bronx public schools in the late '80s and early '90s sent her parents on a search for a solution. She ended up attending public school 40 minutes north in Yorktown, and much of her life was defined by the 40-minute commute between school and her family in the Bronx."

A Vanity Fair story mentions Yorktown and acknowledges it as the place where she grew up and attended high school. "My dad would get coffee every day at the town Dunkin' Donuts, and we would invite the cashiers over for dinner," said AOC.

After her father's death in 2008, the family struggled to pay the mortgage on

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NYSUT Statement on 2025 Regents Exams Issues



We heard many reports from our members that this year's Biology and Earth Science exams contained topics and questions with unforeseen, off-curriculum material. When tests don't align with state-approved standards, it creates confusion, undermines confidence, and is unfair to students and educators alike.

"NYSUT stands firmly behind our educators and students. We are actively working with SED to ensure this doesn't happen again and to create better alignment moving forward so every student has the opportunity to demonstrate what they've learned."

Melinda Person
NYSUT President

NYSUT President Melinda Person released the following statement regarding reported issues with the 2025 New York Regents exams, specifically the Biology and Earth Science exams.

"We heard many reports from our members that this year's Biology and Earth Science exams contained topics and questions with unforeseen, off-curriculum material. Educators work tirelessly to prepare students for success in accordance with state-approved standards. When tests don't align with these standards, it creates confusion, undermines confidence, and is unfair to students and educators alike.

"NYSUT stands firmly behind our educators and students. Watching students who have worked hard and prepared throughout the year struggle with off-topic materials is disappointing and frustrating for our educators. We are actively working with SED to ensure this doesn't happen again and to create better alignment moving forward so every student has the opportunity to demonstrate what they've learned."

The Regents exams were held in mid-June. Districts, educators and students are now receiving scores from those tests.

Editor's Note: If you or your child were affected by this error, please contact us at dmurphy@risingmediagroup.com

AOC Yorktown, continued from pg 14-

the Yorktown home, forcing AOC to take a bartending job in NYC. "This is the story of a young Latina who's trying to put food on the table for her family." Alexandra Rojas, executive director of Justice Democrats, making the case for AOC 2024!. A 60 Minutes interview from years ago also mentions her time in Yorktown.

AOC also added, "I tell this story on the Fight the Oligarchy tour. When my dad died during the financial crisis, my mom almost got foreclosed on. GOP always thinks this is some gotcha, but I ran my whole campaign for Congress on this motto, "Your zip code shouldn't determine your destiny."

If you know Yorktown, AOC's home was near Junior Pool and BOCES.

The other interesting aspect of the AOC-Yorktown story is how it falls perfectly in between the divided lines of our country's politics.

A friend of mine who is a big AOC supporter and attended YHS around the same time as AOC and Slater said, "It's funny to me because I'm not a millionaire. I'm not an elite Ivy school kid with a trust fund. Is that what is implied if you went to YHS? So, her family was located in Yorktown for a time. Who friggin cares?"

But Conservatives and MAGA members can't get enough of it. "It not a crime to grow up in Yorktown, but pretending to be a product of inner-city struggle while your family fled to a leafy enclave for better schools? Classic D.C. hypocrisy. Gotcha AOC."

Yonkers Rising

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Supplemental Summons and Notice of Object of Action SUPREME COURT OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK COUNTY OF WESTCHESTER ACTION TO FORECLOSE A MORTGAGE INDEX #: 74122/2024 U.S. BANK TRUST NATIONAL ASSOCIATION NOT IN ITS INDIVIDUAL CAPACITY BUT SOLELY AS OWNER TRUSTEE FOR RCAF ACQUISITION TRUST Plaintiff, vs MARIA IRIZARRY IF LIVING, AND IF HE/SHE BE DEAD, ANY AND ALL PERSONS UNKNOWN TO PLAINTIFF, CLAIMING, OR WHO MAY CLAIM TO HAVE AN INTEREST IN, OR GENERAL OR SPECIFIC LIEN UPON THE REAL PROPERTY DESCRIBED IN THIS ACTION; SUCH UNKNOWN PERSONS BEING HEREIN GENERALLY DESCRIBED AND INTENDED TO BE INCLUDED IN WIFE, WIDOW, HUSBAND, WIDOWER, HEIRS AT LAW, NEXT OF KIN, DESCENDANTS, EXECUTORS, ADMINISTRATORS, DEVISEES, LEGATEES, CREDITORS, TRUSTEES, COMMITTEES, LIENORS, AND ASSIGNEES OF SUCH DECEASED, ANY AND ALL PERSONS DERIVING INTEREST IN OR LIEN UPON, OR TITLE TO SAID REAL PROPERTY BY, THROUGH OR UNDER THEM, OR EITHER OF THEM, AND THEIR RESPECTIVE WIVES, WIDOWS, HUSBANDS, WIDOWERS, HEIRS AT LAW, NEXT OF KIN, DESCENDANTS, EXECUTORS, ADMINISTRATORS, DEVISEES, LEGATEES, CREDITORS, TRUSTEES, COMMITTEES, LIENORS, AND ASSIGNS, ALL OF WHOM AND WHOSE NAMES, EXCEPT AS STATED, ARE UNKNOWN TO PLAINTIFF, JUAN A. IRIZARRY IF LIVING, AND IF HE/SHE BE DEAD, ANY AND ALL PERSONS UNKNOWN TO PLAINTIFF, CLAIMING, OR WHO MAY CLAIM TO HAVE AN INTEREST IN, OR GENERAL OR SPECIFIC LIEN UPON THE REAL PROPERTY DESCRIBED IN THIS ACTION; SUCH UNKNOWN PERSONS BEING HEREIN GENERALLY DESCRIBED AND INTENDED TO BE INCLUDED IN WIFE, WIDOW, HUSBAND, WIDOWER, HEIRS AT LAW, NEXT OF KIN, DESCENDANTS, EXECUTORS, ADMINISTRATORS, DEVISEES, LEGATEES, CREDITORS, TRUSTEES, COMMITTEES, LIENORS, AND ASSIGNEES OF SUCH DECEASED, ANY AND ALL PERSONS DERIVING INTEREST IN OR LIEN UPON, OR TITLE TO SAID REAL PROPERTY BY, THROUGH OR UNDER THEM, OR EITHER OF THEM, AND THEIR RESPECTIVE WIVES, WIDOWS, HUSBANDS, WIDOWERS, HEIRS AT LAW, NEXT OF KIN, DESCENDANTS, EXECUTORS, ADMINISTRATORS, DEVISEES, LEGATEES, CREDITORS, TRUSTEES, COMMITTEES, LIENORS, AND ASSIGNS, ALL OF WHOM AND WHOSE NAMES, EXCEPT AS STATED, ARE UNKNOWN TO PLAINTIFF, PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK, UNITED STATES OF AMERICA ON BEHALF OF THE IRS JOHN DOE (Those unknown tenants, occupants, persons or corporations or their heirs, distributees, executors, administrators, trustees, guardians, assignees, creditors or successors claiming an interest in the mortgaged premises.) Defendant(s) MORTGAGED PREMISES: 1 George Street White Plains, NY 10604 To the Above named Defendant: You are hereby summoned to answer the Complaint in this action, and to serve a copy of your answer, or, if the Complaint is not served with this Supplemental Summons, to serve a notice of appearance, on the Plaintiff(s) attorney(s) within twenty days after the service of this Supplemental Summons, exclusive of the day of service (or within 30 days after the service is complete if this Supplemental Summons is not personally delivered to you within the State of New York). In case of your failure to appear or answer, judgment will be taken against you by default for the relief demanded in the Complaint. The Attorney for Plaintiff has an office for business in the County of Erie. Trial to be held in the County of Westchester. The basis of the venue designated above is the location of the Mortgaged Premises. TO Maria Irizarry, Juan A. Irizarry Defendants In this Action. The foregoing Supplemental Summons is served upon you by publication, pursuant to an order of HON. Robert S. Ondrovic of the Supreme Court Of The State Of New York, dated the Fifteenth day of May, 2025 and filed with the Complaint in the Office of the Clerk of the County of Westchester, in the City of White Plains. The object of this action is to foreclosure a mortgage upon the premises described below, executed by Maria Irizarry and Juan A. Irizarry dated the June 3, 2005, to secure the sum of \$360,000.00 and recorded at Instrument No. 451920412 in the Office of the Westchester County Clerk on July 13, 2005. The mortgage was subsequently assigned by an assignment executed October 25, 2022 and recorded on November 15, 2022, in the Office of the Westchester County Clerk at Instrument Number 623183612. The mortgage was subsequently modified on October 17, 2023. The mortgage was subsequently assigned by an assignment executed March 29, 2024 and recorded on April 11, 2024, in the Office of the Westchester County Clerk at Instrument Number 641023100. The property in question is described as follows: 1 George Street, White Plains, NY 10604 NOTICE YOU ARE IN DANGER OF LOSING YOUR HOME If you do not respond to this summons and complaint by serving a copy of the answer on the attorney for the mortgage company who filed this Foreclosure proceeding against you and filing the answer with the court, a default judgment may be entered and you can lose your home. Speak to an attorney or go to the court where your case is pending for further information on how to answer the summons and protect your property. Sending a payment to your mortgage company will not stop this foreclosure action. YOU MUST RESPOND BY SERVING A COPY OF THE ANSWER ON THE ATTORNEY FOR THE PLAINTIFF (MORTGAGE COMPANY) AND FILING THE ANSWER WITH THE COURT. DATED: June 9, 2025 Gross Polowy LLC Attorney(s) For Plaintiff(s) 1775 Wehrle Drive, Suite 100 Williamsville, NY 14221 The law firm of Gross Polowy LLC and the attorneys whom it employs are debt collectors who are attempting to collect a debt. Any information obtained by them will be used for that purpose. 86097.

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Back to the Garden-July 12-Untermeyer Park Yonkers

Untermeyer Gardens: A Years Journey
Photo Exhibit at St. John's Riverside Hospital



Nora Donoher, HR Director at St. John's Riverside Hospital completed a one-year photography mentorship through Expression Gallery in Chatham, MA. Nora decided to focus her work on the Untermeyer Gardens, as it is such a place of great beauty, peace, and calmness. 'Untermeyer Gardens: A Year's Journey,' is on permanent display in the lobby of SJRH. at 967 North Broadway in Yonkers.

Untermeyer Performing Arts Council UPAC: Coming next to Untermeyer Park.

Relive the glory days of Woodstock and the Summer of Love! We recreate the days of Peace... Love... and Rock and Roll with Back to the Garden 1969 at Untermeyer Park!

Join us July 12th at 6:30 pm under the skies of our beautiful Untermeyer Park! Free!

From the Untermeyer Performing Arts Council -UPAC.

UPAC is celebrating 50 years of serving the Yonkers community.

See story on Page 15.

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