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Friday July 9, 2021

Four Eagle Scouts from Yonkers Honored for Service to Community



L-R-Sam Sola, Joseph Barca, Scoutmaster Dave Barca, Ethan Hernandez, Daniel Solace

Four Eagle Scouts from Yonkers, and Boy Scout Troop 12, were honored in a Court of Honor ceremony in June. Many of their service projects were completed during COVID over the past year, and Troop 12 Scoutmaster Dave Barca and others wanted to publicly acknowledge their dedication and commitment.

Daniel Solis began his scouting career as a Tiger Scout in Cub Pack 338. As a Webelos he was a founding member of Pack 12 earning his Arrow of Light. He continued as a founding member of Troop 12 holding positions as Patrol Leader and Senior Patrol Leader and was inducted into the Order of the Arrow. Daniel is a 2020 graduate of Salesian High School in New Rochelle where he attended on a full academic scholarship as part of their Math Leader program. At Salesian he was Vice President of the National Honor Society, a pitcher on the varsity baseball team and a member of the marching band along with other clubs and activities. He is currently a student at Siena College in Loudonville, NY studying Political Science and Economics. Daniel's project was to create a garden for Sacred Heart to raise produce to be distributed through the Sacred Heart Food Pantry. The project included clearing the area, building raised plant beds, a stone pathway and planting vegetables and herbs.

Ethan Hernandez started his Boy Scout path as a Webelos during which he earned his Arrow of Light. He is a founding member of Troop 12 and was Patrol Leader for two years. He was nominated for and became a member of the Order of the Arrow. He enjoyed his Boy Scout years and always welcomed the opportunity to helping younger troops members.

Ethan's project was to renovate a community garden and 9-11 memorial for Sacred Heart Church. The project included removing an old broken flag

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Happy 100th Birthday Thelma Jenkins!



State Senator Andrea Stewart-Cousins presents proclamation to Thelma Jenkins on her 100th Birthday-story to the right

Dr Michael DiGiorno, St. John's Medical Group: Catch Up With Preventative Health Care-Testing



Dr. Michael DiGiorno

By Dan Murphy

With most Westchester residents vaccinated, and with COVID-19 positivity rates at less than 1%, Dr. Michael DiGiorno, Medical Director of St. John's Medical Group, is encouraging patients and our readers to return to their pre-COVID routine of getting tested, including getting their annual physicals, screening colonoscopies, bone density testing and mammograms.

"It's important not to let your health lapse because of the pandemic any longer. At least come in and have an annual physical and ensure that your health screening tests are up to date. It is an extraordinarily safe time for patients to come in and catch up with their health care needs, and we are here to help them through the testing process."

"Part of our challenge during the COVID-19 pandemic was to make sure that we stayed open, and that we continued to deliver care to Yonkers and the surrounding communities. We thought it was crucial to maintain a presence in the community during a very difficult time, and if you had an underlying medical condition, or had a medical question or needed a prescription refill, we were open for in person and telemedicine appointments. We concentrated on the safety of our physicians and staff and made sure we were all protected, and we did so quite successfully," said Dr. DiGiorno.

"Now we are moving towards a return to normalcy. People are vaccinated and we can accommodate more patients in person. We are main

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State Senate Majority Leader Andrea Stewart-Cousins, joined with friends and family members of Thelma Jenkins to wish her a Happy 100th Birthday on June 17. Sen. Stewart-Cousins delivered a proclamation from the State Senate to Ms. Jenkins which read

"A resident of Yonkers, New York, for nearly 60 years, Thelma Jenkins, a loving mother, grandmother and widow, has dedicated her life to helping others in a variety of ways both personally and professionally. Thelma Jenkins was born on June 17, 1921, at Bellevue Hospital in Harlem, New York; she graduated from Julliard Richmond High School in Manhattan in 1940; that same year, she met and married her husband Arthur Jenkins, a United States Army veteran of World War II, and together they had one daughter, Dianne; and in 1959, Thelma Jenkins and her young family moved to Yonkers, where she was responsible for the installation of her neighborhood's first streetlight and mailbox closer to her residence.

"She became a young widow in 1970, after the untimely death of her husband, but she spent her illustrious career in service to others as Head of Admissions at Lincoln Hospital in New York, New York, where she oversaw three departments, including Property and Information. She retired from this

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The Yes Yonkers! Community Quilt Project Comes to Sen. Stewart-Cousins Yonkers Office



L-R-Artist Katori Walker, Senator Andrea Stewart-Cousins, Artist Evan Bishop

Senate Majority Leader Andrea Stewart-Cousins' office in Yonkers will now display a section of The YES Yonkers! Community Quilt Project spearheaded by area artists, Katori Walker and Evan Bishop.

The overall quilt project consists of over 1,000 hand-painted canvas swatches that celebrate Yonkers, family, life and unity. The swatches designed by residents of all ages and art abilities feature paintings, abstract art, drawings, poems, and inspirational words. Following 2019's unveiling of the project – Walker and Bishop broke it into mini-quilts for display in local businesses, schools, nonprofits, community centers, and offices across the City of Yonkers.

Senate Majority Leader Andrea Stewart-Cousins said, "The Community Quilt Project is inclusive in so many ways, and to be a part of celebrating Yonkers, where I live and work and serve residents, well frankly, I cannot think of anything better. Art connects people and helped many during the pandemic, and as we reopen, residents who visit my office will have the opportunity to enjoy the beauty and messages of inspiration and hope on the swatches. I thank Katori and Evan for bringing the idea to me and continuing to find creative ways through art to bring people together."

Artist Katori Walker said, "This opportunity to curate and display a section of our quilt in Senator Stewart-Cousins' office is a major endorsement and an honor. All the contributing artists were really excited to learn that their art will be on display in her Yonkers office."

Artist Evan Bishop said, "Senate Majority Leader Andrea Stewart-Cousins has supported our creative endeavors since our first community art project in Yonkers back in 2017. We are pleased that we can share a section of this quilt with her and her staff."

The YES Yonkers! Community Quilt Project was made possible with funding from ArtsWestchester. The Senate Majority Leader added that more projects like this can continue with the allocation of \$1 million to restart the arts in this year's state budget awarded to ArtsWestchester.

City of Yonkers Unveils Five Works of Sculpture Art Along Yonkers Greenway



Mayor Mike Spano, Senator Andrea Stewart-Cousins and member of Groundwork Hudson Valley and Community Engagement Through the Arts

On June 30, Yonkers Mayor Mike Spano and community partners Groundwork Hudson Valley and Community Engagement Through the Arts gathered to unveil a new public art installation at Smith, O'Hara, Levine Park along the Yonkers Greenway. Designed and installed by Yonkers artist Haifa Bint-Kadi, the public art exhibit features three mosaic poles and two 2-D steel cut outs that represent the Greenway's history and natural habitat.

The Yonkers Greenway public art exhibit enhances the recently revitalized park that also features a new playground that is transforming the once abandoned section of the Old Putnam Railroad. The Yonkers Greenway is a 2.4 mile walking and biking trail that soon will connect Van Cortlandt Park in the Bronx up to the Yonkers downtown train station.

"This beautiful art exhibit will be an integral part of the Greenway's goal to renew the neighborhood and improve the lives of all of our community residents," said Mayor Mike Spano. "I want to thank our partner Groundwork Hudson Valley and Community Engagement Through the Arts for this meaningful installation celebrating the culture and fabric of our city."

"Groundwork Hudson Valley is very proud to partner with the City of Yonkers," said Brigitte Griswold, Executive Director, Groundwork Hudson Valley. "The installation of Haifa Bint-Kadi's amazing artwork, with the help of our Green Team, not only enhances the space here, it connects the history of this site with the current community. We are looking forward to working with the city and the local community members as the construction begins on the Yonkers Greenway."

The installation also includes three mosaic poles each depicting unique themes: The Community Garden Pole depicts the Greenway in all its glory, biking, gardening and neighbors coming together. The Foodway Pole depicts foods from around the world. The Paradise Pole displays cultural patterns and symbols from all the rich cultures that have chosen to call Yonkers home.

"My objective with this exhibit is that all Yonkers residents will see their identities and cultural contributions honored and celebrated in this art every time they visit the Greenway," said artist Haifa Bint-Kadi.

The Yonkers branch of the Putnam Railroad ran from 1880 to 1943 between the old Polo Grounds in New York City and Getty Square in downtown Yonkers, which was instrumental to the early development of modern day Yonkers. In the early 1960's, the Lowerre Station area of the railroad was converted into the Smith, O'Hara, Levine Park in honor of three Yonkers World War II veterans. However, by the 1980's the park had fallen into disrepair. The Yonkers Greenway is currently being designed and is expected to be constructed by spring 2022.

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Yonkers CSEE Second Graders Hold Donation Drive for Yonkers Animal Shelter



Above: CSEE Second Graders with the supplies they collected for the Yonkers Animal Shelter

Below: CSEE 2nd grade teacher Miss Mursky with Yonkers Parks Commissioner Steve Sansone

Second grade students at the Yonkers Charter School of Educational Excellence, CSEE, held a fund raiser for the Yonkers Animal Shelter. The second grade class together with their teachers Miss. Mirsky, Miss Russo and Miss Triglia, chose the animal shelter at the recipient of their yearly project which helps an organization that helps those in need.

When employees from the Yonkers Animal Shelter arrived to accept the donations, they introduced two kittens called Tom and Jerry to the students, who were delighted. Miss Mirsky was extremely proud of the students for doing a great job on this donation drive. Yonkers Parks Commissioner Steve Sansone and Deputy Commissioner Lisa Kay Harris addressed the students and thanked them for the donations and answered questions about the pet adoption program.

Visit charterschoolofeducationalexcellence.org for more information.

America! From Sea to Shining Sea



By Eric W. Schoen

From sea to shining sea, it was so good to see Americans out and about enjoying the Fourth of July over the weekend. Though the weather in our area could have been better on Friday and Saturday, that didn't stop most folks from getting out of the homes they spent the last year in and eating that crunchy grilled hot dog or enjoying a picnic in the park.

By the way if you were listening to my radio show last week you would have learned of the best frankfurters for your Fourth of July grill. Hebrew National always makes the list, but frankfurter testers at the New York Times also included a brand found only at Whole Foods, Wellshire Farms. Never tasted Wellshire Farms, and healthy Whole Foods isn't the place where I would think to go buy frankfurters.

The second level of frankfurters included my favorite, Nathan's. I had Nathan's frankfurters at the press opening of Playland Park two weeks ago, and as my dining partner Tony Aiello from CBS 2 News said, they have that wonderful crunch to them. Now why they weren't serving that Nathan's famous brown mustard (yellow mustard doesn't no pun intended cut the mustard) with the hot dogs I don't know. Let's hope the culinary folks at Playland read this column and replace the yellow mustard with the brown mustard we grew up on enjoying our franks at the Nathan's giant, now no more outpost on Central Avenue in Yonkers.

A study came out over the weekend regarding condiments that should go on your frankfurter. Ketchup was a no no. Growing up I never knew anyone who would put ketchup on a hot dog. Just like people I know didn't put mustard on a hamburger. People dipped French fries in ketchup. The mayonnaise dip wasn't the kind of thing we did in Yonkers.

Now I am told that the old Nathan's on Central Avenue was bigger and had more seating than the flagship store at Coney Island, a New York must see tourist attraction to this day. It's been a while since I have been there, but at Playland they serve those wonderful Nathan's French fries of all shapes and sizes that the chain is famous for.

People rave about Shake Shack's crinkle cut French fries. They remind me of the crinkle cut French fries my mom would make that she bought from the frozen foods section at Bohack's. There are so many far superior French fries than Shake Shack, including the many sweet potato fries currently available all over. But as far as I am concerned, if I am going to cheat on my diet with French fries hot, crisp Nathan's are the way to go.

County Executive George Latimer was of course the main attraction at the Playland opening. This man, who we have seen talking about the coronavirus on television for over a year looked like a different person at the opening of the park. His lovely wife who I had never met before accompanied him and he told me about her long affiliation with Playland. She looked like the happiest person in America waiting to go on Playland's famous Dragon Coaster, a wooden roller coaster built in 1929. The good County Executive and I decided to forgo the roller coaster experience. It's fun, but not the best thing for my back.

The County Executive and I did go on the famed Grand Playland Carousel,

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A Diverse Workforce for a Diverse County



Dr. Dial Hewitt and his colleagues in the Westchester County Department of Health have been on the front lines of the Covid-19 pandemic for the past year, working exhausting hours and putting their own health and safety on the line to serve others.

Despite the risks and the challenges they face, the Department's doctors, nurse practitioners, public health nurses, lab techs and support staff remain firmly committed to their mission: protecting the health and safety of the people of Westchester.

"You go into this field because you care about people and you get gratification from helping them," said Hewlett, who is board certified in Internal Medicine and in the sub specialty of Infectious Diseases.

"I am fortunate and blessed to work with such dedicated professionals," he said of his colleagues at WCDOH. Most recently, he has been helping oversee the County's vaccination clinic on Court Street in White Plains.

Hewlett noted that Westchester was ground zero for the Covid-19 pandemic, where an outbreak occurred in New Rochelle.

The virus spread through houses of worship, congregate care settings and other locations – and the Health Department staff mobilized swiftly to respond.

"They were willing to put their lives on the line when we didn't know very much about this disease," Hewlett said of the entire Health Department team. "Whatever we have asked of them, they do it."

Dr. Hewlett has also been involved in outreach to Westchester's minority communities to provide "accurate, scientific information" and encourage people of color to get vaccinated. He said he hopes to alleviate the hesitation of some Black and Latino residents to get the vaccine.

The executive team at the Health Department has been praised for its leadership during the pandemic, including: Dr. Sherlita Amler, commissioner; Renee Recchia, first deputy commissioner; Dr. Hewlett; Dr. Marisa Montecalvo, Dr. Ada Huang and Lori Smittle, PhD (doctor of nursing).

To receive notifications of all upcoming civil service exams, people can sign up to receive email notifications at <https://exams.westchestergov.com/webexam/emailSubscription/subscribe.htm>.

Yonkers Waterfront Live Concert Series is Back Starting July 2-August 27



Yonkers Waterfront Live, hosted by the Yonkers Downtown Business Improvement District, is back with a lineup of talented, diverse musicians and musical groups. Every Friday this summer the Yonkers Waterfront Amphitheater will be filled with amazing entertainment and vibrant celebrations of different styles of music. The concerts start on Friday, July 2 and recur every week until Friday, August 27, 2021 from 6:30-8:00pm.

This year, Yonkers Waterfront Live will start with a performance from Hudson Horns, NYC's hottest young horn and vocal R&B and jazz ensemble. The celebration will continue the following weeks with a salute to the women of R&B, such as Lizzo, a Latin jazz night with Grammy-nominated Bobby Sanabria, as well as a Celia Cruz tribute night. The grand finale of the concert series will be an R&B experience like no other featuring the band, Base Camp.

"Yonkers Waterfront Live has become a staple in our community, so we are thrilled to be bringing it back this summer!" said Sara Brody, Executive Director, Yonkers Downtown BID. "As always, we have a great lineup of talented artists in a wide variety of genres. Now that all NYS restrictions have been lifted, we are happy to be welcoming everyone back to downtown Yonkers on the River."

Admission to this event is free. The address for the amphitheater is 71 Water Grant Street. Here is the full schedule, with weekly sponsors:

- July 2- HUDSON HORNS. Brass, R&B. Sponsored by The Domino Sugar® Yonkers Refinery.
- July 9- LOVE LIZZO & MORE. R&B. Sponsored by AMS, Hudson Park, The Domino Sugar® Yonkers Refinery.
- July 16- LATIN JAZZ NIGHT WITH GRAMMY-NOMINATED BOBBY SANABRIA. Salsa, Merengue-Jazz Mobile. Sponsored by Con Ed, Taquerio, The Domino Sugar® Yonkers Refinery, JazzMobile.
- July 23- B.B. KING TRIBUTE FEATURING- KING SOLOMON HICKS. Blues Guitar & Vocals Jazz-Mobile. Sponsored by Con Ed, Shoprite, The Domino Sugar® Yonkers Refinery, Jazzmobile
- July 30- THE ALISON SHEARER QUARTET. Jazz. Sponsored by Ipark, The Domino Sugar® Yonkers Refinery.
- August 6- CELIA CRUZ TRIBUTE. Latin Salsa, Merengue, Plus. Sponsored by Avalon Bay, The Domino Sugar® Yonkers Refinery.
- August 13- LAURY WEBB & THE TIGER BONE BAND. Caribbean. Sponsored by Shoprite, The Domino Sugar® Yonkers Refinery, DC Ranieri.
- August 20- SOUNDS OF A&R/S.O.A.R. Jazz. Sponsored by Hudson Park, The Domino Sugar® Yonkers Refinery.
- August 27- BASE CAMP. Old School R&B. Sponsored by AMS, The Domino Sugar® Yonkers Refinery.

For more information on happenings in Yonkers, visit www.Yonkers-Downtown.com.

Idoni -51% --Williams 49%; Final Numbers in Democratic Primary for Westchester County Clerk

Westchester County Clerk Tim Idoni won the democratic primary against Yonkers City Councilmember Shanae Williams by a 51%-49% margin. The totals came from the Board of Elections after all of the ballots were counted.

"I am humbled, grateful, and proud of the support from my fellow Democrats," said Idoni "My entire career has been based around government, from being a city manager to my serving as mayor and now as County Clerk, I have always done my best to help the people I am tasked to represent. Thank you for your confidence."

Councilmember Williams said, "While I did not win the race for Westchester County Clerk I am not disheartened. I'm grateful for the opportunity and the experience of running a county wide race. Grateful for the people I met along the way. Grateful for the people who have been inspired by our campaign. Grateful for the fact that we made some powerful people work their tails off and now they will continue to work hard for the people, because we are all watching. Westchester, this is not the end. To my friends, family and supporters, thank you again We ran a great, honest, and independent campaign."

To many Westchester democrats, Williams 'loss' is actually a win, because she came within 2% points from the biggest political upset in the county in more than a decade. And for Idoni, it is four more years to continue the improvements and efficiencies he has made to the County Clerks office.

For Yonkers democrats, Williams strong showing proves that the Councilmember from the first district is a great campaigner with a message of change that resonated with many democrats, and that Yonkers can once again become a political force in Westchester politics. Most of the ballots cast in Westchester on or before June 22 were cast in Yonkers.

Williams accomplished three things in her campaign for county clerk. She proved that the progressive movement in Westchester and Yonkers, has only just begun. Second, she proved to any doubters in the democratic party in Yonkers and Westchester, that she can run for and compete in any future political office she chooses to run in, and third that Yonkers is back on the political map in Westchester County.

Ridge Hill Announces Summer Lineup for "Movies on the Lawn"



Starting July 5-The Lion King and a Movie Every Monday Evening This Summer

Ridge Hill is once again bringing the big screen to the South Lawn with the announcement of "Movies on the Lawn," a weekly evening under the stars experience featuring blockbuster movies from a variety of genres. The movies will be screened on Monday nights for a total of ten weeks beginning on July 5 and running through September 6, 2021. Ridge Hill is offering an extensive list of films including comedy, action, animation and more, making it fun and appealing for all members of the family.

"It's exciting to continue our summer series at Ridge Hill with Movies on the Lawn," said Meghann Hongach, Marketing Director at Ridge Hill. "Our outdoor films have become an annual tradition for our guests, and this year, we're showing more movies than ever before with classics like The Wizard of Oz, Marvel favorites like Guardians of the Galaxy, and new Disney hits such as Raya and the Last Dragon."

Festivities begin at 7pm with food trucks, both savory and sweet, and games for families to enjoy on Lembo Street adjacent to the lawn. Movies begin at sunset for a clear viewing under the stars.

The lineup of movies is as follows:

- 7/5 – The Lion King (2019)
- 7/12 – Trolls World Tour (2020)
- 7/19 – The Wizard of Oz (1939)
- 7/26 – Godzilla vs King Kong (2020)
- 8/2 – The Incredibles (2004)
- 8/9 – Captain Marvel (2019)
- 8/16 – Guardians of the Galaxy (2014)
- 8/23 – Wonder Woman 1984 (2020)
- 8/30 – Raya and the Last Dragon (2021)
- 9/6 – Jumanji: The Next Level (2019)

Films will be shown on the South Lawn located at the corner of Market Street and Lembo Street near Whole Foods Market. Admission is free and seating is available on a first come basis, so it is recommended to get there early for a good spot and to bring blankets and chairs.

Movies on the Lawn are part of Ridge Hill's Outdoor Summer Series also consisting of the Market on Market Farmers Market on Fridays 11am – 5pm, Market on Market Artists Market on Saturdays 1pm to 7pm, and Music in the Streets on Friday and Saturday evenings. Details at www.RidgeHill.com/events.

Eagle Scouts, continued from pg 1-

pole and replacing it with a new one. Putting decorative paving stones around the boarder, planting new plants and mulch. Ethan graduated high school in 2020 and is currently working on his welding certification at Coop Tech. He looks forward to joining a trades union like his father.

A Yonkers native, Sam Sola attended St. Casimir and Sacred Heart Elementary schools where he first enrolled in the Scouting program. As a scout, Sam served as a Patrol Leader, Assistant Patrol Leader, Troop Librarian and mentor for the younger scouts. During his Scouting career, he earned thirty-nine merit badges, the Ad Altare Dei award, the World Conservation award and the National Outdoor Activity award. He attended the 2017 National Scout Jamboree and the 2021 Seabase Out Island Adventure.

Sam's Eagle Scout Project was a direct response to a need caused by the COVID-19 pandemic. He built portable hand sanitation stations for Sacred Heart schools. Sam graduated from Fordham Preparatory School in the Bronx where he participated in Cross Country Running, Track and Field and Theater. He will be attending SUNY Plattsburgh in the Fall where he will be studying Geology.

Joseph Barca is completing his freshman year at Sacred Heart High School, Yonkers. He began his scouting career at age 5 as a Tiger at Pack 12. He attended Sacred Heart Elementary School from pre-k through 8th grade and has formed a close connection to both the school and Sacred Heart Church. As a cub scout, Joseph earned 40 belt loops and his Arrow of Light as a Webelo. As a Boy Scout, Joseph has earned 32 merit badges and continues working on additional badges. He attended the 2021 Seabase Out Island Adventure and will spend this summer as a counselor in training at Curtis S. Read Scout Camp, where he has attended camp each summer. During his scouting experience, he has served the troop as an Assistant Senior Patrol Leader, Patrol Leader, Assistant Patrol Leader and Quartermaster. He earned his Parvuli Dei and continues to work on the next religious award, the Ad Altare Dei.

Joseph's project was to purchase and build shelving for the Sacred Heart Food Pantry. He moved the pantry from the church office to its own space, allowing the pantry to expand its service in our community. He worked to secure food donations that carried the food pantry for 4-5 months and will continue to organize food drives through both the high school and grade school.

Joseph is working towards and is hopeful to join the National Honor Society when he is eligible. He is attending Sacred Heart High School on a presidential scholarship. He is hoping to attend West Point in the future and looks forward to continuing his scouting experience.

Elected Officials in attendance to join the celebration included, City Councilmembers Anthony Merante, Shanae Williams, Tasha Diaz, Shanae Williams, State Senator Shelley Mayer, Assemblyman Nader Sayegh, and County Legislator Ruth Walter.

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Yonkers City Clerk's Office Announces "Extended Hours" Appointments for the Summer Season

Yonkers City Clerk Vincent E. Spano, who has been nominated to the 2021 Municipal Clerks Honor Roll, today announced the extension of office hours during this summer season starting on July 6th until September 3rd. Throughout the pandemic, the City Clerk and his staff have strived to maintain the best service possible while adhering to all Covid-19 restrictions. Now that many Covid-19 restrictions have been lifted, the City Clerk's Office has extended its hours of operation to accommodate the public. Please note that appointments are required and that unvaccinated individuals remain responsible for wearing masks within City Hall as federal CDC guidance advises that unvaccinated individuals should still follow recommended prevention measures.

NEW Summer Schedule effective from July 6th until September 3rd:

Open: Monday, Wednesday, Thursday & Friday 8:30 am to 5:30 pm

Open: Tuesday 8:30 am to 7:00 pm

Marriage Licenses: Monday, Wednesday, Thursday & Friday 8:30 am to 5:00 pm

Marriage Licenses: Tuesday 8:30 am to 6:30 pm

NOTE: we are providing in office counter service to the public by appointment only.

Please call (914) 377-6020 or email cityclerk@yonkersny.gov to request an appointment or for any additional information.

More Information: [Yonkers City Clerk Online](#)

La oficina del secretario de la ciudad de Yonkers anuncia citas de "horario extendido" para la temporada de verano

25 de junio de 2021 - El secretario de la ciudad de Yonkers Vincent E. Spano, quien ha sido nominado al Cuadro de Honor de Secretarios Municipales de 2021, anunció hoy la extensión del horario de oficina durante esta temporada de verano a partir del 6 de julio hasta el 3 de septiembre. A lo largo de la pandemia, el secretario municipal y su personal se han esforzado por mantener el mejor servicio posible al tiempo que se adhieren a todas las restricciones de Covid-19. Ahora que se han levantado muchas restricciones de Covid-19, la Oficina del Secretario de la Ciudad ha ampliado su horario de atención para acomodar al público. Tenga en cuenta que se requieren citas y que las personas no vacunadas siguen siendo responsables de usar máscaras dentro del Ayuntamiento, ya que las directrices federales de los CDC advierten que las personas no vacunadas deben seguir las medidas de prevención recomendadas.

NUEVO horario de verano efectivo desde el 6 de julio hasta el 3 de septiembre:

Abierto: lunes, miércoles, jueves y viernes de 8:30 a.m. a 5:30 p.m.

Abierto: martes de 8:30 a.m. a 7:00 p.m.

Licencias de matrimonio: lunes, miércoles, jueves y viernes de 8:30 a.m. a 5:00 p.m.

Licencias de matrimonio: martes de 8:30 a.m. a 6:30 p.m.

NOTA: estamos brindando servicio de mostrador en la oficina al público solo con cita previa. Llame al (914) 377-6020 o envíe un correo electrónico a cityclerk@yonkersny.gov para solicitar una cita o para obtener información adicional.

Más información: [Yonkers City Clerk Online](#)

MDG Design + Construction is currently seeking construction Section 3 eligible applicants for a moderate rehabilitation project, Calcagno Homes Located in Yonkers, NY.

Section 3 eligible applicants are invited to submit a resume for the work in the following trades:

- Electrician Mechanic, Junior Foreman, & Helpers.
- Duct Installer & Refrigeration Piper.
- Plumber
- Elevator Repair and Maintenance (union)
- Roof Laborer
- Masonry Laborer
- General Laborer

Work is to be performed in Westchester County under Davis Bacon Act (prevailing wage) requirements.

Section 3 residents are:

- Public housing residents or
- Persons who live in the area where a HUD-assisted project is located and who have a household income that falls below HUD's income limits.

For more Section 3 information: <https://www.hud.gov/section3>

Eligible applicants must have an active Osha 30 card. If interested in applying, please send a resume with the position desired to:

Jeffrey Goritz; jgoritz@mdgny.com

Fourth Precinct Community Council
53 Shonnard Place Yonkers, NY 10703

The Fourth Precinct Community Council will hold its monthly meeting at 7:00 PM on Thursday July 15 in the meeting room at the Fourth Police Precinct 53 Shonnard Terrace, as was usual before the COVID19 crisis. Anyone who lives or works in the area served by the fourth police precinct is welcome. All elected officials are welcome.

Captain Michael Messar has recently been assigned as Precinct Commander. He and Lieutenant Curtis will be available to discuss matters of interest.

Happy 100th Birthday, continued from pg 1-

esteemed position in 1983, and after the sudden death of her daughter in 1994, Thelma Jenkins volunteered at Wartburg Nursing Home in Mount Vernon, from 1995 to 2012, giving back to the community by sharing her time and helping others. She also volunteered in Yonkers, sorting food and clothing for the homeless."

Congratulations Thelma Jenkins and Happy 100th Birthday!

If you know of a Yonkers resident, or Westchester resident who has recently celebrated their 100th Birthday, email us at dmurphy@risingmedia-group.com so we can honor this special occasion.

On This Day in Yonkers History...



Members of the Gold Medal 1924 US Track Team's 4 x 100 meters including Yonkers resident Alan Helffrich, 2nd right

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

Monday July 12th

July 12, 1881: John Adams Nichols became the first Yonkers Superintendent of Schools.

July 12, 1935: After Irish poet William Butler Yeats listened to Yonkers singer Vance Campbell's tune, he cabled his approval of the young man's efforts! The Birch Road resident had set Yeats' poem "Down By the Salley Gardens" to music. Campbell, Yonkers High School Class of 1924, had been Class President.

July 12, 1945: Although the US Government had made several appeals for people to stay off the trains to give servicemen and servicewomen the opportunity to ride in comfort, Yonkers people did not seem to be heeding the call. According to the Yonkers Station Acting Ticket Agent Ed Mihalko, there was no decrease in business at his station.

Tuesday, July 13th

July 13, 1924: North Yonkers resident Alan Helffrich won gold in the Paris Olympics, the first Yonkers resident to win an Olympic gold medal. Helffrich ran the second leg in the American 4x400 meters relay team; the team won with a new world record of 3.16.

One of America's greatest middle distance runners of the 1920s, Helffrich won the AAU titles in 880 yards in 1921, 1922 and 1925. As a Pennsylvania State University student, he won the NCAA championships in 880 yards in 1922 and 1923 and IC4A championships in 880 yards in 1923 and in 440 yards in 1924. He was the only runner to defeat World champion Paavo Nurmi when he toured the US in 1925, beating him in the half-mile run at Yankee Stadium, ending Nurmi's 4-year and 121-race winning streak.

After retiring from his running career, Helffrich officiated at meets in New York from 1930 to 1955, then served as president of the New York Chapter of the United States Olympians until his death in 1994 at age 93.

Wednesday, July 14th

July 14, 1934: Although the Recreation Commission canceled plans to hold block dances to save money, they were reinstated when NY State Temporary Emergence Relief Administration announced they would finance the plans to give work to unemployed musicians.

July 14, 1936: Surprisingly, the anti-shorts legislation that brought Yonkers national attention was adopted by Westport, Connecticut. Westport's prohibition of abbreviated attire was even more severe than the Yonkers statute!

July 14, 1944: Thomas Lawlor, 280 Van Cortlandt Park Avenue, celebrated his eightieth birthday working at his desk for text publishers Ginn and Company The oldest living member of the firm, he joined the company shortly after he graduated from Holy Cross. A Park Hill resident for more than thirty years, he was active in several societies and clubs, including the Hudson River Country Club, and the Century and Salmagundi Clubs; he also was founder and oldest living member of the American Irish Historical Society. He also had authored eight American History textbooks.

Thursday, July 15th

July 15, 1934: Sacred Heart Pastor Reverend Cyprian Abler, OM Cap., announced his support for Yonkers "shorts ordinance." He believed even young girls should not be allowed to wear shorts, because "if they did not learn the meaning of modesty in childhood, they would never learn in their adult years."

July 15, 1944: Joseph Ringwalt, Chairman of Yonkers' War Salvage Committee, urged all housewives to start "salvaging and preparing every tin can." Apparently, efforts had declined nationwide since V-E Day, but the Government's need for tin had increased.

July 15, 1955: Because of the audience's anger, described by Board President James Park as "violent abuse and humiliation," Board of Education members abruptly adjourned the meeting. Parents from Beech Hill School Twenty-Six were in the audience, passionately pressing for an addition to the school.

Friday, July 16th

July 16, 1939: More than one thousand WPA workers were notified they would lose their job at the beginning of August. The men were employed on several Yonkers projects, renovating seven schools, the city-wide park improvement plan, the City Court-Police Headquarters Building and the Grey Oaks Hospital, projects that would stop at the end of the month.

July 16, 1956: As part of a clearance sale promotion by Getty Square merchants, two clowns in costumes gave out lollipops to more than ten thousand children!

continued on pg 6-

Notice of formation of SaucyGuava, LLC Arts. of Org. filed with the SSNY on 05/21/2021. 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, 332 Palisade Ave Apt C1, Yonkers, NY 10703-2918. Purpose: Any lawful purpose.

Notice of formation of THE LAST PACK LLC. Arts. of Org. filed with the SSNY on 03/05/2021. Office: Westchester County, New York. SSNY has been designated as Agent of the LLC upon whom the process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail a copy of process to the LLC, Joseph A. Candelario 74 Radford Ave., Yonkers, NY 10705. Purpose: Any lawful act.

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

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CORPORATION NOTICE
CITY OF YONKERS-NEW YORK

PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE

Notice is hereby given, pursuant to law, that the Mayor of the City of Yonkers, New York, will hold a Public Hearing on Tuesday, July 13, 2021 at 5:00pm, Mayor's Reception Room, 2nd floor, 40 South Broadway, Yonkers, New York, to hear all interested parties and citizens regarding the adoption of the following Local Law, to wit:

A LOCAL LAW CREATING A NEW CHAPTER 39 OF THE CODE OF THE CITY OF YONKERS ENTITLED 'HOTEL LICENSING'

Said hearing may be adjourned from time to time as necessary. Further information, including access to a copy of said proposed local law, may be obtained at the City Clerk's office, City Hall, 40 South Broadway, Yonkers, New York and on the City's Website.

MIKE SPANO, Mayor
Date: June 28, 2021

AGENDA FOR YONKERS ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE:

THE CITY OF YONKERS ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS MEETING SCHEDULED FOR TUESDAY, JULY 20, 2021 AT 6:00 PM, WILL BE HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS, YONKERS CITY HALL, 4TH FLOOR. CURRENT CDC GUIDELINES SHALL CONTINUE TO BE OBSERVED REGARDING ATTENDANCE BY THE PUBLIC. PLEASE CHECK THE WEBSITE WWW.YONKERSNY.GOV, THE DAY OF THE MEETING FOR VIEWING/STREAMING AND ADDITIONAL INFORMATION.

CONTINUED HEARINGS

5715 – Area Variance – Tom F. Abillama, R.A., on behalf of 1969 Central Park Avenue LLC, owner, on premises known as 1969 Central Park Avenue, Block: 4385, Lot: 206, Zone: BR (B19994)

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

5730 – Area Variance – James J. Veneruso, Esq., on behalf of 2700 Central Park Avenue Partners LLC, owner, on premises known as 2592 (2700) Central Park Avenue, Block: 4877, Lot: 60, Zone: BR (B24536) **ADJOURNED

5736 – Area Variance – James J. Veneruso, Esq., on behalf of 26 West 5th Street LLC, contract vendee, on premises known as 83-94 Vineyard Avenue & 150 Ridge Avenue, Block: 2170, Lots: 9, 78, 82, 84, 85, Zone: M (B23753)

5740 – Area Variance – Janet J. Giris, Esq., Esq., on behalf of N Broadway LLC, owner, on premises known as 316 North Broadway & 315 Palisade Avenue, Block: 2155, Lot: 59 & 16, Zone: M (B22920)

5743 – Area Variance – David Steinmetz, Esq., on behalf of Miroza Tower LLC, owner, on premises known as 40 aka 44 Hudson Street, Block: 502, Lot: 1.10, Zone: DWD (B26744)

5744 – Area Variance – Andrew Romano, Esq., on behalf of Martin J. Loftus, Jr., owner, on premises known as 118 Kingsley Drive, Block: 4412, Lot: 54, Zone: S-60 (B22712)

5745 – Area Variance – Andrew Romano, Esq., on behalf of Croton Terrace Enterprises Inc., owner, on premises known as 14 Orchard Street, Block: 2076, Lot: 17, Zone: CM (B22842)

5748 – Area Variance – Andrew Romano, Esq., on behalf of Smerlin Cuello, owner, on premises known as 212 Warburton Avenue, Block: 2097, Lot: 60, Zone: M (B23151)

5751 – Non-Conforming Use – Stephen A. Veneruso, Esq, on behalf of 155 Warburton Ave Realty LLC, owner, on premises known as 155 Warburton Avenue, Block: 2099, Lot: 13, Zone: CM (B24278)

5752 – Area Variance – Andrew Romano, Esq., on behalf of AR Consulting Engineer PC, owner, on premises known as 50 Vineyard Avenue, Block: 2078, Lot: 12, Zone: A (B23684)

NEW HEARINGS

5755 – Area Variance – Andrew Romano, Esq., on behalf of Claris Colon, owner, on premises known as 52 Clark Street, Block: 6103, Lot: 40, Zone: T (B24082)

5756 – Area Variance – Andrew Romano, Esq., on behalf of Jacqueline Simone, owner, on premises known as 28 Whitman Road, Block: 4355, Lot: 91, Zone: S-60 (B17988)

5757 – Area Variance – James G. Dibbini, Esq., on behalf of John Daily, Jr., owner, on premises known as 124 Vineyard Avenue, Block: 2174, Lot: 28.32, Zone: A (A189)

5758 – Use & Area Variance – Steven A. Accinelli, Esq., on behalf of The Plant Powerhouse LLC, owner, on premises known as 45 Water Grant Street, Block: 2635, Lot: 1, Zone: IP (B27856)

5759 – Area Variance – Daniel D. Tartaglia, Esq., on behalf of Verus Development LLC, contract vendee, on premises known as 345 McLean Avenue, Block: 59, Lot: 75, Zone: A (B27461)

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

July 16, 1956: After hearing how several high pressure carport salesmen assuring Yonkers homeowners they were legal, Building Superintendent John Balint announced carports were not legal here in our city.

Saturday, July 17th

July 17, 1931: Nelson Rockefeller, S. L. Rothafel, with architects and engineers working on Radio City Music Hall, inspected apparatus at Otis Elevator Works specifically designed to raise and lower 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.

July 17, 1934: Nathan Durn of Central Avenue received a check for one cent; it represented his 30% dividend from the liquidation of the closed Westchester Trust Company. He framed it.

July 17, 1950: Yonkers police were searching for a man they believed had broken into a home on Beechwood Terrace. The man took a bath and then put on a blue suit and tan shoes owned by the owner. After helping himself to some whiskey, he left wearing the suit, shoes, and topped the outfit with a tan overcoat. He also helped himself to a gold pocket watch to complete the outfit!

Sunday, July 18th

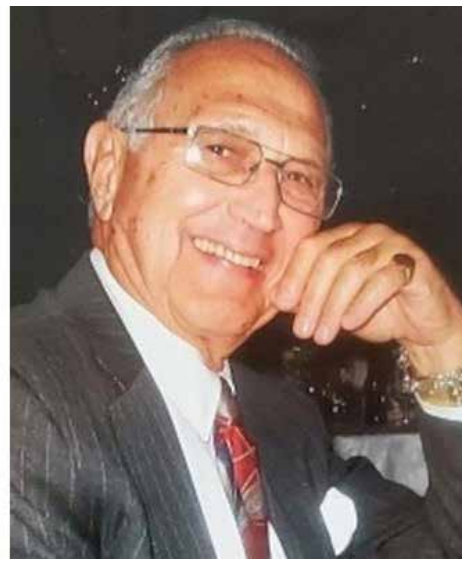
July 18, 1923: Acting City Judge Morris Rosenwasser fined opera star Riccardo Martina \$20 for traveling 45 miles an hour in a 23 mile-an-hour zone. Prominent local attorney Charles Wallace defended the singer; Wallace had been a Naval officer during the World War and was in charge of the Naval base at Puerto Rico.

July 18, 1929: Yonkers' Mayor John Fogarty had the honor of driving the first ball at the Westchester County Parks Commission's new facility, the Sprain Lake Golf Course.

July 18, 1935: Reverend Francis David, the pastor of St. Margaret's Church on Locust Hill Avenue, became a US citizen! Supreme Court Justice George Taylor admitted him to citizenship during a ceremony at Yonkers City Hall.

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

Yonkers Mourns the Loss of Anthony "Sonny" Orza; 75 Years at the Orza Bakery



Anthony "Sonny" Orza

Anthony "Sonny" Orza died peacefully in his sleep on Sunday, June 6th after a short illness. He was 87 years old.

Sonny was born on October 14, 1933 to Tony ("Maxie") and Mary Orza in Manhattan, New York. He was raised in Yonkers and attended Saint Mary's High School. He attended college courses for a short period of time yet, like his father and his grandfather before him, was drawn to and dove head first into the family business of making bread at the landmark Orza Bakery on New Main Street in Yonkers. Beginning over 75 years ago, as a young boy he would ride with his dad in what was known as "the bread truck" delivering fresh loaves of bread from their ovens to local families. Putting formal education aside and with the same devotion of his father and uncle as his anchor, his love and passion for creating authentic Italian artisanal bread and other specialties blossomed and became a driving force in his life after taking full ownership of Orza Bakery in the late 1970's. He was known as both a perfectionist and somewhat of a connoisseur in his own craft. In 2001, he further shared that unwavering passion and opened The Bread Factory in New Rochelle, NY. He continued to serve his customers, both old and new, and the local community with that same fervor until his death.

In a highly competitive environment, Sonny Orza paid attention to the needs of all of his clients. They included the Yankee's Clubhouse with the likes of Derek Jeter and Mariano Rivera, supplying the sports fans and execs at Madison Square Garden, to members of the most exclusive Westchester Country Clubs, and steakhouses such as Benjamin's and Bobby Vans to the smallest of sandwich shops and pizza places. He glowed with pride after supplying them with an extra dozen rolls they forgot to order the night before. Perhaps the most accurate sentiment and summation of his character and acumen was best captured in a text received by his daughter yesterday after learning of Sonny's passing: "I always enjoyed talking with him and going on a sales call with him, watching him in action. He was a master at his understanding of what the customer was looking for, a rare skill...he was a fine man and there are no words that can fully explain his enormous impact on [the] industry."

Sonny continually contributed to local and regional charities such as Boys and Girls Clubs, local churches and cultural organizations. The doors of his businesses were perpetually open to those in need. Some reading this may be aware of an incident late last year where outside his New Rochelle storefront his generosity might have gotten the best of him...he offered a few dollars to a man on the street looking for some financial help and was summarily robbed of his cash in broad daylight (Then 86 years old, Sonny would surely want all to recognize the sharp "South Yonkers Right Hook" he delivered and the fact that his daughter chased the man down and got his money back...it was on the local news!)

He is survived by his wife Annette Colarusso-Orza, his daughter Andrea Olivieri and son-in-law Anthony, and his loving grandchildren as well as his sons Anthony, Lucien and Joseph and daughters Lisa and Ellie. He was predeceased by his daughter. In lieu of flowers, contributions can be made to the Community Foundation of New Jersey to a memorial fund established in his name (The Sonny Orza Memorial Fund) Please donate by visiting the link www.cfnj.org/SonnyOrza/, or by mailing your donation in the charity's name to PO Box 338, Morristown, NJ 07963-0338.

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING FOR AMENDMENT TO ZONING MAP OF THE CITY OF YONKERS

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that the undersigned has applied to the City Council of The City of Yonkers for an amendment to the Zoning Map of the City of Yonkers to change the zone district classification of the property located at 612 E. Grassy Sprain Road, Yonkers, New York, also known as Block 4391, Lot 435 on the Tax Assessment Map of the City of Yonkers from "S-100" to "S-60," and that, pursuant to Section 43- of the Zoning Ordinance of the City of Yonkers, a public hearing on such application will be held by the City Council on July 14, 2021 at 11:00 a.m. at the City Council Chamber, located at 40 South Broadway, New York. Those interested in speaking at the public hearing should contact the Office of the City Clerk of the City of Yonkers for instructions to speak at the hearing.

Dated: Yonkers, New York June 23, 2021

612 SPRAIN BROOK LLC, Applicant

By: _____
Joseph E. Royce, Managing Member

BLEAKLEY PLATT & SCHMIDT, LLP, Attorneys for Applicant
One North Lexington Avenue White Plains, NY 10601

Yonkers History, continued from pg 5-

County Legislator Johnson Presents Check to YAAHC at Juneteenth Celebration



During the 2021 Juneteenth African Heritage Festival Celebration held in Yonkers from June 18-20, County Legislator Christopher Johnson presented the Yonkers African-American Heritage Committee, (YAAHC), with a \$9,000 check for their annual Juneteenth Festival.

“Each year YAAHC makes sure our culture is heard and that Juneteenth is celebrated with pride and dignity. I’m honored as County Legislator of the 16th District to contribute to such an empowering celebration for Black people,” said Legislator Johnson.

Dr. GiGiorno, St. John’s Medical Group, continued from pg 1-

taining processes in place, including using masks and enhanced cleaning to ensure optimal safety. We provide a very safe, clean environment, so now is the time to pivot and focus on health care maintenance.”

“Our physicians and staff are available and understand that not everyone has the same level of comfort. If you have any specific concerns, let us know and we will work to ensure your return is a positive experience. In addition to primary care, our specialty physicians are on-site and available to address your gastroenterology, nephrology, physical medicine, vascular, podiatric and pain management needs.”

Dr. DiGiorno stressed that, “unfortunately, underlying health conditions don’t wait for the pandemic to pass. We do see some patients, with diabetes who have strayed and have weight gain because of a lack of activity. As a result, their diabetes has become poorly controlled. Similarly, we are seeing patients with chronic hypertension, which was once well-controlled, now require additional therapy. We understand why—gyms were closed, our diets and routines were interrupted, and we were told to stay home, and it all took a toll on our health.”

“Now is the time to get people back on track, with basic testing, and diabetes and blood pressure treatments and screenings. While we have seen some slip-page with chronic conditions in some patients, we want that to be the exception and not the rule.”

“So go back for your basic labs, physicals, and colonoscopies. The environment is safe and clean and accessible. They will expedite your appointment and connect you to your primary care physician. If you do not have a physician, St. John’s has lots of options and it all starts with a phone call.”

“We understand what our community, and the world has been through. There is no judgement here. Our goal is to achieve wellness, so don’t be afraid to see a physician. We just want everyone to get well again, and move forward as a community” said Dr. DiGiorno.

Michael DiGiorno, DO, MHSA, FASN, is the Vice-President, Medical Operations, and the Chief of Nephrology at St. John’s Riverside Hospital, and the Medical Director of the St. John’s Medical Group practice.

To make an appointment or contact a member of St. John’s Riverside Hospital, or St. John’s Medical Group call 914.964.4DOC.

Playland is Open for the Summer and Fireworks Returns July 9



Westchester County Executive George Latimer on the historic Grand Carousel at Playland, which opens June 26

After being closed to the public for the 2020 season due to the COVID-19 pandemic, Playland Park in Rye is officially reopening for the 2021 season on Saturday, June 26 at noon. Patrons are welcomed back for rides, entertainment, food and fun from Opening Day through Labor Day; Wednesday through Sunday, and Mondays July 5 and September 6. Playland Park is welcoming back visitors at a lower admission price this season. Rider wristbands are \$20, and Junior Rider wristbands are \$15, per person. Spectator wristbands are free for Westchester County residents (proof of residency required) and \$10 for non-residents. Parking is \$10 per car. Fireworks displays over Long Island Sound will take place Friday, July 9, at 9:15 p.m. and then every Friday evening through September 3 with a final show on Sunday, September 5, at Playland Park in Rye. All shows start at 9:15 p.m. For the season’s full schedule go to PlaylandPark.org or call the park at (914) 813-7000.

Eric Schoen, continued from pg 3-

much tamer than the roller coaster. A fire several years ago damaged a good part of the carousel, and I am happy to say that the ride has been meticulously restored and is ready for that nostalgic ride for so many and for newcomers to enjoy. The park is in pristine condition, and if my experience visiting Tibbetts Brook Park for exercise during the pandemic when gym going was not an option is any indication, those of us who live in Westchester are pretty lucky to have a magnificent, clean, well kept park system.

By the way the parks in Yonkers are really nice to visit at this time of year and all year round. So glad to see music alive for all to enjoy at Untermyer Gardens Conservancy, the fancy name for Untermyer Park so many of us have enjoyed since it was donated to Yonkers by Samuel Untermyer oh so many years ago. And now that we have had so much fun it’s time to go into the serious business of the day.

Primary 2021 and Politics

One thing Yonkers does not need is rank choice voting, the chaos we are observing and in the midst of in New York City. Over 80% of New Yorkers ranked a second choice for Mayor, but I would bet that of those 80%, 75% don’t understand how it works. Add to this chaos the traditional incompetence of the New York Board of Elections, and you have a monumental mess.

The County Clerk race between incumbent Tim Itoni and Shanae Williams race was by far the biggest surprise in Westchester this year. Both of them are excellent public officials. By mistake the paperwork for a license that Itoni’s office handles didn’t reach me last year. I went to his office and his staff promptly took care of the situation for me. I personally thanked him for that great service.

Shanae Williams had a fraction of the money Itoni had and no name recognition outside of her Yonkers district. For her to pull as close as she did in the race shows her hard work and the support team she developed. Take my word we will be reading about her mounting a race for higher office in the not too distant future. She is a force to be reckoned with in Democrat politics, and a nice one at that.

After the Yonkers Democrats and the Spano ‘Democrats’ slept and caused the loss of Congressman Eliot Engel and Judge Tom Daly last year, interesting to see that they woke up this year and all the candidates they supported won soundly. Laki-sha Collins Bellamy led the pack for Council President, and we look forward to her expanding her community involvement when she takes office.

As for Mayor Mike Spano, as he is term limited rumor has it that he will challenge Congressman Jamaal Bowman for the Democratic nomination for Congress next year. Spano is big on constituent service in Yonkers, something Engel was big on in Washington during his many years of service. I have attempted to contact Bowman via social media several times to no avail.

One thing that we learned in the New York City Mayoral primary and certainly is applicable in Yonkers and Westchester is that people are increasingly worried about their safety and security. Continuous calls to defund the police are becoming increasingly unpopular with the electorate. Something candidates will have to keep in mind in the future. If New York loses a Congressional seat with redistricting, Bowman is the low man on the totem poll. Loss of his seat will add to the pain that occurred when we lost Engel’s power in Washington, D.C.

Speaking of Washington, D.C. it’s time, particularly with summer upon us that we reopen the halls of our Nation’s Capitol to the American Public. People want to visit their legislators office in Washington, D.C. What occurred on January 6 is that the Capitol police, underfunded for years and using outdated equipment let the Trump constituency take over. Six months have passed and now we are setting up Congressional committees to investigate what occurred?

Americans flew the friendly skies via plane over the Fourth of July. Enough of this Proxy Voting by our legislators in Washington, D.C. Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez has designated Congressman Bowman as her proxy in the halls on Congress. If she is afraid of a plane take a car like many of us will do to Washington this summer!

A Closing Note: The tragedy in Surfside, Florida should be a wake up call to local officials locally and throughout the country to inspect buildings on a more periodic basis. Particularly when there are streams of reports saying structural problems exist. If I was on a Coop Board I would be having the building I reside in inspected right now. Not the best of times to be on a Coop Board or a board running housing anywhere in the country! We will explore this further next week. Pray for those who died and are missing in Surfside, Florida.

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

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