

Mayor Spano Honors Early Childhood Academy Student Kyler Gonzalez for Perfect Attendance



On June 9, at the Yonkers Early Childhood Academy, Mayor Mike Spano, Schools Superintendent Aníbal Soler, Jr., Yonkers Early Childhood Academy Principal Stefanie Felidi, and Councilwoman Tasha Diaz, along with students, teachers and staff recognized one very dedicated student for achieving perfect attendance by attending all 182 days of the school year. Additionally, 143 students in grades 1 and 2 who committed to honoring the Pledge 182 campaign will be awarded a pizza party.

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Saint John's Riverside Hospital

"Breaks Into the Future" with Expanded ER



Pictured (L-R) are Lee Kinnally, Past Chairman of the Board of Trustees, Council Member Tasha Diaz, Trustee Pam Barnes, Yonkers Mayor Mike Spano, City Council President Lakisha Collins-Bellamy, Ron Corti, President & CEO, NY State Senate Majority Leader Andrea Stewart-Cousins, Raffaele Milizia, MD, Chief of Emergency Medicine

Saint John's Riverside Hospital launched their new Emergency Department expansion with a special Wall Breaking Ceremony on June 3. The hospital celebrated the momentous milestone with a special Wall Breaking Ceremony. Joined by Yonkers Mayor Mike Spano, Senate Majority Leader Andrea Stewart-Cousins, City Council President Lakisha Collins-Bellamy, Council Mem-

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Councilwoman Pineda-Isaac Faces Alberto Velazquez in Democratic Primary -District 2



Councilwoman Corazon Pineda-Isaac

Alberto Velazquez

See Story on pg 7-

Allegations Against Mike Khader Concerning No Rent Payments- Quid Pro Quo, Unresolved

Cloud Over Council President's Campaign Lingers After DA Sends Report Back to IG



By Dan Murphy

An independent report, which found that former Council President Mike Khader, left, did not make rent payments for the law office space he rented from an attorney who subsequently received a taxpayer-funded job, was provided to Westchester District Attorney Susan Cacace. We asked Cacace's office about the status of their review and were told, "We have referred the matter back to the Yonkers IG."

Yonkers Inspector Liam McLaughlin issued a report from an independent law firm and investigator in 2024, which found that

In July of last year, 2024, IG

McLaughlin released the independent report which found that Khader "admitted that he did not pay rent to SBJ from in or about March 2017 until in or about December 2018. In an apparent attempt to improperly "interfere with, obstruct, or otherwise hinder" this investigation, Khader provided conflicting reasons for not paying rent."

In public comments since then, Khader has continued to call the allegations against him a witch hunt and nonsense. But the fact remains that Khader has not provided the proof or explanation as to why he has no checks or payments that show he did make the rent payments in question.

Here's the timeline of events:

Khader served as Council President from 2017-2021 and is running in a demo

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Who Is Litzy Janel Saavedra? And Why Was She Arrested by ICE in Yonkers Recently?



2 photos of Litzy Saavedra, left from ICE, right from NYS Sex Offender Registry

By Dan Murphy

Last week, ICE announced its most prominent arrest of an illegal resident with a criminal record in Westchester to date. The announcement was part of the arrests of thousands of migrants in various cities across the U.S. over Memorial Day weekend, according to Immigration and Customs Enforcement.

ICE's Enforcement and Removal Operations (ERO) arrested Litzy Janel Saavedra, 26, of Mexico, who was served a Notice to Appear. Saavedra, who is in the U.S. illegally, has a criminal history that includes a 2022 conviction for third-degree felony rape in Yonkers, New York.

Media reports had ICE spotted in Yonkers around the time of Saavedra's arrest. Her last known address was on Oak Street in Yonkers.

A Notice to Appear (NTA), also known as Form I-862, is a legal document issued by the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) that starts removal proceedings against an individual in immigration court. It notifies the individual of

Two Yonkers Water Department Employees Honored for Heroism



L-R-Pete Miele, DPW Commissioner Tom Meier, Tom Greehan

Not all heroes wear badges. Pete Miele and Tom Greehan from the Yonkers Water Department recently came upon a head-on collision at Yonkers Avenue and Midland Avenue. Without hesitation, they assessed injuries, calmed victims including children and helped redirect traffic In the pouring rain until first responders arrived.

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Yonkers Teen Indicted for New Year's Murder; DA Calls for Changes to "Raise the Age" Law



Omar Bonilla

Westchester County District Attorney Susan Cacace announced that a 17-year old Yonkers resident was indicted for Murder, Attempted Murder and numerous weapons charges for his role in two separate shootings in Yonkers.

The defendant, who was 16 years old at the time of these incidents, was charged by indictment with Murder in the Second Degree for his role in the shooting death of Omar Bonilla. This homicide occurred on Locust Hill Ave. at Lafayette Pl. in Yonkers on New Year's Day this year.

The defendant was also charged with Attempted Murder in the Second Degree for his role in another Yonkers shooting which occurred on December 14, 2024. He also faces three separate counts of Criminal Possession of a Weapon in the Second Degree in connection to these shootings.

He was arraigned on May 23, 2025 where he pleaded not guilty to all charges. Due to his age he was remanded to the custody of the Westchester County Department of Corrections at Woodfield Cottage.

The defendant faces an additional charge of Criminal Possession of a Weapon in the Second Degree for yet another incident where he was allegedly found in possession of a loaded firearm on April 29th in Yonkers.

DA Cacace said: "When examining the facts surrounding the violent crimes alleged in these indictments, it becomes clear that our most violent criminals are continuing to exploit New York State's "Raise the Age" law. The DA's Office will continue to do everything we can to hold these violent, young criminals accountable for their actions however we, as a society, must closely study this issue and, if necessary, adjust our laws for the sake of safety and justice."

The defendant faces a maximum sentence of 25 years to life for the Murder charge.

This investigation was conducted by the Yonkers Police Department.

This case is being prosecuted by the DA's Office's Homicide Bureau and Violent Criminal Enterprise Bureau.

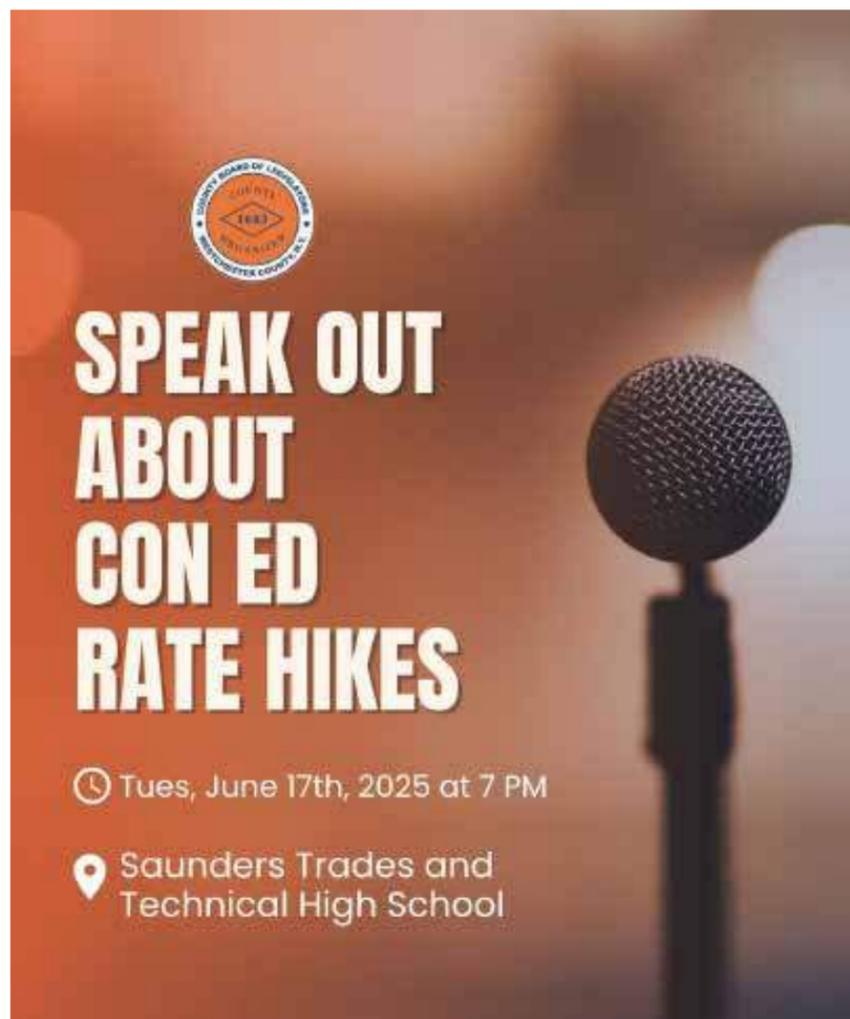
A GoFundMe Page for Omar Bonilla's family has been created at <https://www.gofundme.com/f/support-omar-bonilla-srs-family-in-grief>. "We are heartbroken to share the devastating loss of Omar Bonilla SR, a man whose love, kindness, and strength touched everyone he met. A devoted father, a loving husband, and a loyal friend, OMAR BONILLA SR was the kind of person who always put others first. Tragically, OMAR BONILLA SR was taken from us far too soon in a senseless act of violence. He was both shot and attacked, leaving a void in the hearts of all who knew him. The funds raised will go toward funeral expenses, medical bills, and helping his wife and children navigate the days ahead without their beloved husband and father."

In 2018, New York State raised the age of criminal responsibility to 18. Before the change, New York was one of only two states that automatically prosecuted 16- and 17-year-olds as adults.

Yonkers African American Heritage Committee Presents-Juneteenth Festival-June 21-JFK Park



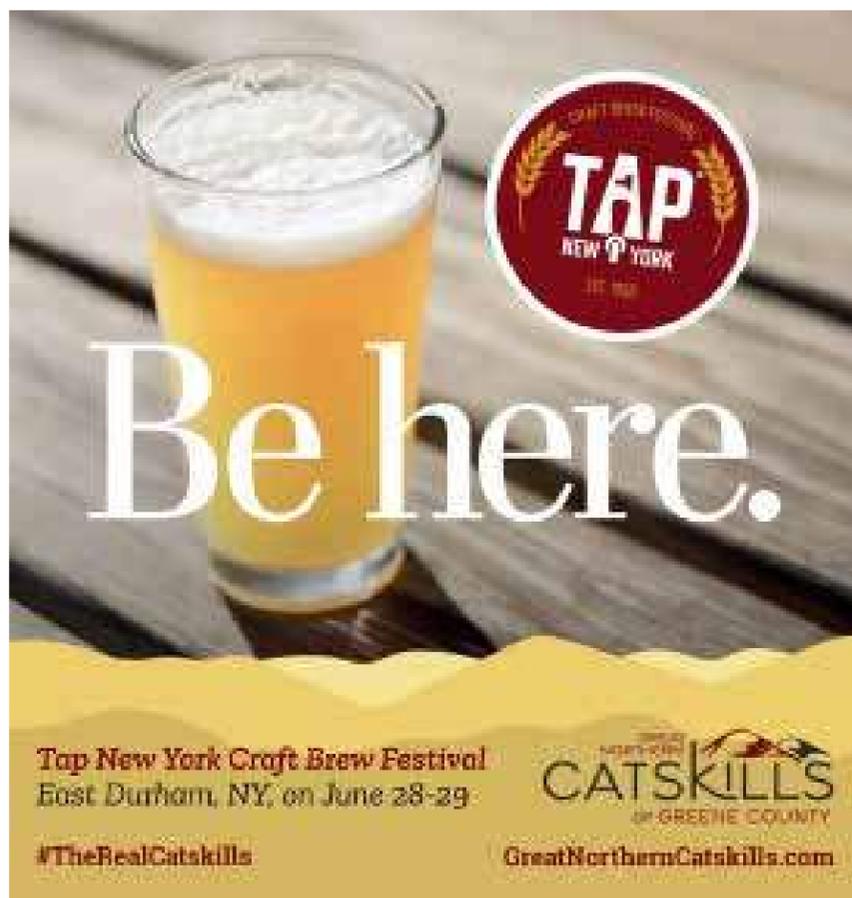
Residents Can Speak Out About Con Ed Rate Hikes June 17, Saunders High School



The Westchester County Board of Legislators is hosting its next Public Input Session at Saunders Trades & Technical High School on Tuesday. It is the third in a series of public forums the Board is hosting across the County to give residents the opportunity to voice concerns and share experiences about Con Edison's proposed double-digit rate increases, which would raise average residential electricity bills by 11.4% and gas bills by 13.3% by 2026.

In March, Westchester County joined as a party to the major New York State rate case against Con Edison to ensure residents' concerns are prioritized.

Westchester County Board of Legislators and County Residents Public Input Session about Con Edison's Proposed Gas and Electric Rate Increases-Saunders Trades and Technical High School, 183 Palmer Rd, Yonkers, NY 10701-Tuesday, June 17, 2025 at 7:00 PM EST



On This Day in Yonkers History...



An early postcard of Roosevelt High School, issued a short time after the school opened at the corner of Central Park Avenue and Tuckahoe Road in 1925. When the school opened there were remains of an old farmhouse on the property, no sidewalks, and the future athletic field was a mud hole.

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

Monday, June 16th

June 16, 1936: After receiving Federal bonus bonds for their war service the night before, hundreds of Yonkers veterans lined up at the Armory before 7:30 am to get them certified. The men and women had waited 17 years for these long-promised bonuses.

The Armory opened at 9 am; Acting Postmaster William Cronin quickly added 25 more clerks to assist the regular staff, and extended closing hour to 9 p.m. Staff worked as quickly as they could... but couldn't accommodate everyone. Hours were extended to 9 pm for the 1,000 people lined up; they certified bonuses totaling \$171,000.

Acting Postmaster William Cronin, Assistant Postmaster Clarke, Superintendent of Mails Ball and Assistant Superintendent of Mails Hurley immediately began signing checks for certified claims to get money into circulation. That night, four hundred checks were put in the mail for next day delivery.

June 16, 1943: After eight months in the European theater, the Memphis Belle was back in America! Original crew member Staff Sergeant John Quinlan, Truman Avenue, was on the plane when it landed at Washington's National Airport. The Belle was the first combat bomber to fly back from England under its own power. After a short visit to families, the ten-member crew began a national War Bond and Stamp Sales Tour.

Tuesday, June 17th

June 17, 1936: While William Cronin was busy signing war bonus checks, the US Senate confirmed President Roosevelt's recommendation to appoint him Yonkers Postmaster. Cronin indicated he would officially assume the role as soon as he was notified by the Post Office Department.

June 17, 1942: A sign in Yonkers City Hall Rotunda featured the leering, sneering faces of "international gangsters" Hirohito, Hitler and Mussolini! Why? It was the kickoff of the Yonkers' Scrap Rubber Collection! The sign read, "A speck in Hirohito's eyes from Yonkers—pile 'em up!"

Wednesday, June 18th

June 18, 1936: Bonus cash distribution to veterans reached \$750,000, after 15,000 bonds were certified at the State Armory! The "Boys of 1917" streamed into the five banks willing to accept their checks. Some cashed the checks and went shopping; others kept the bonds in their bank safe deposit boxes.

June 18, 1942: After being asked to help by the Yonkers War Council's Salvage Committee, 1300 Yonkers Boy Scouts kicked off their house-to-house weeklong. Because of the large numbers of Scouts, it took few days to organize, but all troops participated.

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The Best Movie Father Was... David X Cohen



By Jim Vespe

Ask most people to name their favorite movie father and they'll probably say Atticus Finch from To Kill A Mockingbird, or if they value strength over sweetness, Don Corleone, or if they're sarcastic or sadistic, Darth Vader.

But my choice would be someone I know almost nothing about, never saw, whose name I have only heard once.

David X. Cohen.

His time on screen consists of a single mention: at the end of The Way We Were, when Barbra Streisand (Katie) runs into Robert Redford (Hubbell) outside of the Plaza Hotel. Hubbell had fathered her child, and apparently left mother and daughter soon afterwards, losing contact with them both.

He was now a successful television writer, accompanied by the kind of woman you would expect to see on Hubbell's arm: as blonde and stunning as he is, and probably unable to name the Vice President of the United States.

Hubbell knows Katie is married, and asks if her husband is a good father to the child he abandoned.

Katie assures him he is.

She then volunteers his name... "David X Cohen."

And adds, "for the only David X Cohen in the phone book."

That is all we know about David X Cohen. And it is all we need to know.

I picture him as an attorney, or a CPA, or a healthcare professional, perhaps an orthodontist who spends one afternoon a week at a clinic in Harlem fitting braces on poor Black children.

I don't see him as a garment center jobber or a builder of tract houses on Long Island... Katie could never marry someone like that... or as a Senior Vice President, anywhere. The kind of companies that had Senior Vice Presidents in the 1950's rarely hired, or much less promoted, men named David X Cohen.

But mostly I see him as a decidedly average guy, definitely not better looking than Hubbell (who is?) but surely a better person.

He has chosen to marry a feisty woman whose baggage includes another man's daughter, and over the years he has been there for this little girl.

Reading the bedtime stories he knows so well he can close the book and recite them from memory.

Sitting through endless ballet recitals.

Going door to door with her to distribute the Girl Scout cookies she has sold. Congratulating her for her A's, consoling her for her D's.

Buying her a puppy that she promised to clean up after, and cleaning up after it when she didn't.

He has probably not yet sat up with her half the night, trying to convince her that the first boy to break her heart is not worth her tears, but he someday will.

So on Father's Day, let us salute the David X Cohens of the world. They define what it means to be a father.

And, if Katie's daughter ever met Hubbell, I'm sure she would gladly introduce him...

...to her Dad.

Because it takes a minute to be able to call yourself a father, but it requires a lifetime to deserve to call yourself a dad.

And as she and David X Cohen walked away from Hubbell, she will probably say, perhaps not under her breath... after all, she is the daughter of a woman played by Barbra Striesand:

"What a schmuck."

Jim Vespe, Mamaroneck

Jim Vespe is a retired advertising copywriter and comedy writer who lives in Mamaroneck.

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Rep. Latimer's Bipartisan Bill to Help Small Businesses Passes House Unanimously



On June 3, U.S. Representative George Latimer's (NY-16) bill, the Transparency and Predictability in Small Business Opportunities Act, passed the House of Representatives unanimously. The bipartisan bill, co-led by Congressman Mark Alford (MO-04), also passed unanimously out of the House Committee on Small Business in March.

"Small business owners are often resource constrained. Every day, these individuals engage in a variety of business-related activities, from selling products to developing marketing materials to handling compliance issues," said Rep. Latimer. "It can be confusing and deeply frustrating for a small business owner if a federal agency decides to cancel a solicitation without transparency into why that decision has been made. If we are serious about bringing more small businesses into federal contracting, we must ensure that business owners have confidence and trust in their federal partners."

Once a federal agency determines they have a need for certain products or services, the agency's acquisition personnel will post a solicitation on the federal government's SAM.gov website for a contract to fill the requirements. When responding to a solicitation, small businesses can spend significant time and costs preparing a proposal.

Rep. Latimer continued, "Last year, the Small Business Committee heard testimony from a small business owner that said solicitation proposals can cost a small business upwards of \$10,000 worth of labor to draft, develop, review, and execute. With that in mind, it can be rightfully frustrating for a small business owner if a federal agency decides to cancel a solicitation without transparency into why that decision has been made."

The Transparency and Predictability in Small Business Opportunities Act would require the Small Business Administrator to:

Issue regulations addressing canceled solicitations for contracts that small businesses are eligible for to provide for the disclosure of additional information about why the solicitation was canceled and any plans to reissue the solicitation; and

Require a federal agency's Office of Small & Disadvantaged Business Utilization (OSDBU) to help small businesses seek additional opportunities if a solicitation on which they made an offer is canceled.

You can watch Rep. Latimer speaking about his bill on the House floor at www.c-span.org/clip/us-house-of-representatives/user-clip-rep-latimer-small-business-transparency/5164656

Melissa DeLuise, Maria Regina High School 2025 Valedictorian from Yonkers, Pays Tribute to the Greatest Generation



Melissa DeLuise of Yonkers, Maria Regina High School's Class of 2025 Valedictorian, paid tribute to the Greatest Generation as part of her address during recent graduation ceremonies at the renowned all-girls Catholic high school.

Melissa, who will continue her studies at Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute majoring in both Engineering and Pre-Law, cited the inspiration that the Greatest Generation's example holds for her generation. Her comments are an appropriate capstone to Maria Regina's major initiative to honor the Greatest Generation with special events and student projects underway since May 8, the 80th anniversary of VE-Day, marking victory over the Nazi regime in Europe during World War II.

She shared with her classmates and audience of proud family members, alumnae and members of the administration, faculty and staff: "While we reflect back on our high school years with nostalgia or look forward with hope and uncertainty, understand that our real strength doesn't lie just in our past achievements or future goals—it lies in our character, compassion, and courage. This year marks the 80th anniversary of Victory in Europe Day, in which the Greatest Generation—those who endured the hardships of the Great Depression and rose to fight in World War II—showed the world what bravery, unity, and sacrifice truly meant. We honor and are inspired by the men and women who defended our freedom.

"They remind us that there is immense power and potential within each of us. Even when facing adversity, our fortitude, resilience, spirit, and determination are what drive us towards excellence. Our past and future do not solely define us; rather, the values and mindset we choose shape our identity, propel us in life, and push us to influence the world.

She added: "Congratulations, once again, to the outstanding Class of 2025. I wish you nothing but good fortune and the absolute best in your future endeavors. Thank you for being the best class I could have ever imagined. You've made these four years special. Go live courageously!"

Principal Maria Carozza-McCaffrey (Class of '99) noted: "Melissa's address not only tapped into the emotion for a generation that is sadly fading from the scene whose selfless sacrifices made it possible for freedom to endure. But, it is also very historical as the Class of 2025 was the first Maria Regina class to graduate under the first American Pope. As it turns out, the announcement of the new Pope's election was also made on May 8 VE Day. It is so fitting that Melissa's final words to her classmates and all of us who bore witness: "Go live courageously!"

To learn more, visit www.mariaregina.org.

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2025 Old Songs Festival

June 27, 28 & 29

Music in the Room

Albany Fairgrounds, near Albany, NY

festival.oldsongs.org



State Senate Advances Sweeping Utility Reforms to Protect New York Ratepayers



Majority Leader Andrea Stewart-Cousins leads a press conference announcing legislative package to protect ratepayers

In a landmark move to aid countless New Yorkers overwhelmed by soaring utility costs and alleged unfair treatment by energy providers, the State Senate Thursday adopted a sweeping package of eight bills aimed at overhauling the Public Service Commission (PSC) to ensure fairness, transparency, and accountability for utility customers across New York State.

Said Majority Leader Stewart-Cousins: "This isn't just about numbers on a bill—it's about families in Yonkers struggling to pay for heat in winter, seniors in Dobbs Ferry scared to run their air conditioners in summer, or small businesses in Mount Pleasant forced to choose between survival and utility costs. I've received calls from far too many constituents struggling with their utility bills and being left in the dark during outages. Meanwhile, utility companies keep cashing record profits. This package flips the script—putting people over profits. Utilities are a lifeline, not a luxury. For too long, New Yorkers have been treated as cash cows by companies that answer to shareholders, not the people. Today, we're fighting back."

The legislation addresses systemic failures at the PSC, which has repeatedly approved rate hikes while failing to hold utilities accountable for poor service. The eight bills would:

Require Early Warnings for Rate Hikes: Families will receive alerts via text, email, and their monthly bills if utilities propose raising rates, giving them time to voice concerns.

Restore Consumer Representation: A consumer advocate will join the State Energy Planning Board to ensure everyday New Yorkers have a voice in energy decisions.

Punish Utilities for Pain and Suffering: The PSC will now consider non-economic damages—like stress from power outages—when fining utilities for misconduct.

Reform PSC Leadership: Expand the PSC to eight members, add an experienced consumer advocate to the PSC's board, bar former utility employees from joining the commission for two years, and mandate the agency prioritize affordable, reliable service.

Stop Retroactive Rate Gouging: Extend the timeline for reviewing rate hikes to 14 months, giving advocates and the PSC more time to challenge unfair requests.

Return Excess Profits to Ratepayers: Utilities can't pocket extra money if they exceed profit limits—those funds will go back to customers.

Create 24/7 Outage Hotlines: Utilities must provide a toll-free number for residents to report power failures instantly.

Alert Families to Soaring Energy Bills: Launch a program to notify customers when their energy use—and costs—exceed a threshold they set.

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City Councilman Anthony Merante: Tim Hodges Has a Problem with the Truth



City Councilman Anthony Merante

From Yonkers City Councilman Anthony Merante:

Tim Hodges owes the people of Yonkers—and Councilmember Anthony Merante—a public apology. In a stunning display of dishonesty, Hodges falsely claimed in an op-ed published in the Yonkers Times that Councilmember Merante did not support the Capital Budget. That claim is not just misleading—it's a flat-out lie.

The truth? The Capital Budget passed unanimously, 7–0, with Councilmember Merante offering clear and vocal support from the floor of the Council Chambers.

"I voted in favor of the Capital Budget because it addresses major needs that have been long neglected—such as road resurfacing, updated textbooks for our students, and the purchase of new fire trucks," Merante said. "We must also ensure that our emergency response equipment is fully operational. When someone calls 911, our units need to be ready and equipped to help."

When someone deliberately distorts the public record for political gain, it raises serious questions about their credibility and character. If this is what Tim Hodges calls integrity, how can the people of Yonkers believe anything he says?

Video link to the City Council Vote on the Capital Budget
<https://youtu.be/zF-ZN66p4Nk?si=Fqw1XLGoNtzBJVS7>

Daddy and Me: A Father's Day Celebration



Daddy and Me: A Father's Day Celebration
Yonkers Riverfront Library Saturday June 14, 1-2pm
Paint brushes on canvas in many colors- Cooking, Crafts & DIY
Join us and celebrate Father's Day with love, laughter, and unforgettable memories. We have crafts, snacks, and instant foods for kids and their Dads.
Parents/Guardians must stay - this is not a drop-off program.

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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. 7390A – Opening date: 6/27/2025: 12 Month Contract with two additional 12-month options to renew, to Provide Maintenance and Repairs of Windows, as needed, for Yonkers Public Schools (KS)

2. Bid No. RFB-7439A – Opening date: 6/27/2025: Purchase of Skydio, or Yonkers approved equal, drones, software, and related services (CA).

3. Bid No. 7483 – Opening date: 6/27/2025: 12 Month Contract with two additional 12-month options to renew, to Provide Plumbing Maintenance & Repair Services, as needed, for Yonkers Public School District (KS)

4. Bid No. 7485 – Opening date: 6/27/2025: Twelve-month contract, with option to renew for 12-months, to repair/rebuild car and light truck transmissions as-needed (FB).

5. Bid No. 7486 – Opening Date: 7/11/2025: 12 Month Contract with two additional 12-month options to renew for Maintenance, Service and Repairs of Emergency Power Systems for YPS (KS).

6. Bid No. 7487 – Opening Date: 7/11/2025: 12 Month Contract with two additional 12-month options to renew for Inspection, Testing and Maintenance of Fuel Oil Tanks and Cathodic Protection Systems for YPS (CA).

7. Bid No. 7477 – Opening Date: 6/27/2025: Purchase of Supplies for the Halmi Academy of Film and Television through the YPS Foundations for Education (CA).

NOTICE 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 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 Bridgeway Physical Therapy, PLLC. Arts. of Org. filed with the SSNY on 12/05/2024. Office: Westchester County. SSNY designated as agent of the PLLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail copy of process to the PLLC, 50 Clinton Place PH5, New Rochelle, NY 10801. Purpose: Provide Physical Therapy Care

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.

Congratulations to Kyler Gonzalez, a 2nd grader, for achieving perfect attendance — showing up all 182 days of the school year!

Thanks to the dedication of students, families and staff, the school's attendance rate jumped to 92%, up 11% from last year.

In conjunction with professional development, Yonkers Public Schools continues to promote best and promising practices to reduce chronic absenteeism across the district by offering incentives and rewards, engaging families, establishing Attendance Teams, mentoring, and partnering with mental health professionals to support students and families.

“Education is fundamental to our future, and each day a student misses school is a lost chance for development,” said Mayor Spano. “In Yonkers, we are committed to fostering the potential of every child. Together, let's make sure every child in Yonkers has the chance to thrive by emphasizing the importance of school attendance.”

“Attendance is the foundation for student success. Each day in the classroom is an opportunity to learn, grow, and reach new goals. With Pledge 182, we are empowering our students to take an active role in their education by committing to show up every day,” noted Superintendent of Schools Anibal Soler, Jr. “With the partnership of Mayor Spano, and the commitment of our families, we can reduce chronic absenteeism and ensure that every child has the support they need to succeed.”

Research has shown that students who miss 10% of the school year (18 days or 2 days per month) are not as academically successful through their school years and have a more difficult time graduating. Starting as early as Kindergarten, chronic absenteeism can cause a student to fall behind in school. In fact, chronic absenteeism, missing 18 days or more, can make it more difficult for children to learn to read and develop fundamental math skills.

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 Whispering Hearth, LLC. Arts. of Org. filed with the SSNY on 03/12/2025. Office Location: Westchester County. SSNY has been designated as agent of the LLC upon whom process against it may be served. The address to which the Secretary of State shall mail a copy of any process against the LLC is: 3 Orlando Ave, Ardsley, NY 10502. Purpose: Any lawful activity.

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 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.

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.

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.

Read it all Online at Yonkerstimes.com

Fatha Freddie Elixir Shines at ArtsWestchester's Ballroom Exhibit



Dennis Richmond Jr., right with Fatha Freddie

By Dennis Richmond, Jr.

The opening of *Legendary Looks: The Art of Effects Design* in House Ballroom lit up the ArtsWestchester Gallery this June with bold fashion, rich history, and undeniable energy. Running through July 20, the exhibition spotlights the artistry of the LGBTQ+ House Ballroom community through garments, sketches, flyers, and immersive media.

Curated by ballroom trailblazers Twiggy Pucci Garçon, Jonovia Chase Lanvin, and Michael Roberson Maison-Margiela, the showcase honors the creativity and cultural legacy of ballroom effects design.

A standout of the evening was Fatha Freddie Elixir, whose 2024 tribute to fashion icon Pepper LaBeija turned heads and captured hearts. "This moment isn't just mine—it belongs to ballroom," Freddie said during an exclusive interview. Radiating style with an all-black TELFAR bag in hand, Freddie was both gracious and grounded. "I look up to the scene that shaped me. It's surreal to see how far it's come."

Attendees included Yonkers native Michael Stephens, Isaiah Latimer of Far Rockaway, and the incomparable Leiomy Maldonado, who greeted fans before entering the packed gallery.

More than sixteen visionary looks from names like DeeDee Lanvin, Miss Shalae Basquiat, Giovanni 007, and Cameo Cameo filled the space with color, texture, and narrative. Even Afrofutur1st Garçon stopped by, sharing moments from the show on social media.

Freddie's presence in the exhibit wasn't just personal—it was historic. "Pepper LaBeija inspired everything I do," he said. In honoring the past and electrifying the present, Freddie proves that ballroom remains a force—vibrant, powerful, and proudly visible.

Legendary Looks is more than a gallery show—it's a love letter to Black and Brown LGBTQ+ brilliance, and Fatha Freddie is helping write the next chapter.

Dennis Richmond, Jr. (@NewYorkStakz) is a journalist, historian, and educator from Yonkers, NY. He writes to uplift unheard voices, honor history, and inspire change.

Councilwoman Pineda-Isaac Faces Challenge

from Alberto Velazquez

in Democratic Primary June 24-District 2

Yonkers City Councilwoman Corazon Pineda-Isaac is running this year to be reelected to her council seat and serve a 4th, 4-year term.

This year, Pineda-Isaac faces a tough challenge in the democratic primary in Alberto Velazquez.

Velazquez, making his first run for elected office, is a labor leader with CSEA in the Yonkers Public Schools.

A 26-year employee of the public school system, Velazquez has lived and worked in Yonkers his entire life.

Velazquez has been endorsed by the Yonkers Democratic Committee.

In a prior issue of *Yonkers Rising*, Yonkers Democratic Chair Tom Meier explained that the decision was based on Pineda-Isaac's decision to run for Mayor last year and challenge Mayor Mike Spano, who was endorsed by the Yonkers Democratic Party. And after losing the democratic primary to Mayor Spano, Pineda-Isaac failed to endorse Spano for reelection.

Pineda-Isaac is a popular, incumbent Councilwoman, who has served the people of Southwest Yonkers for the past 12 years.

One question that we have for Pineda-Isaac is, you are running for a fourth term to the council. But on both occasions when the extension of term limits was brought to the council for a vote, she voted no.

So you voted no on term limits for a third term and for a fourth term, but now you want to serve as Councilwoman for a fourth term?

Velazquez recently held a fund raiser at the home of Nick Spano, which was attended by many Yonkers democrats.

We take no position on this election. We wish both candidates the best of luck and we will leave it up to the voters.

We wanted to highlight this race for our readers before Early Voting starts on June 13.

Fourth Precinct Community Council Meeting June 19

The Fourth Precinct's Community Council will hold its monthly meeting at 7:00 PM on Thursday, June 19, 2025, in the meeting room at the Fourth Police Precinct at 53 Shonnard Terrace. Anyone who lives or works in the area served by the Fourth Police Precinct is welcome to attend. All elected officials are also welcome. Captain Michael Messar, Precinct Commander, and Lieutenant Patrick Curtis will be available to discuss your issues and matters of interest.

We thank you all for attending the monthly meetings and look forward to seeing you in the future. If you have any issues, please call the non-emergency number at (914-377-7900). For any emergency issues, please call 911.

Water Employees Honored, continued from pg 1-

Their actions were self initiated and composed-showing true care for our community. For stepping up when it mattered most, Pete and Tom were honored as Yonkers employees of the 2nd Quarter of 2025.

Deputy Mayor Steve Levy and DPW Commissioner Tom Meier were on hand at City Hall to say thanks for going above and beyond for the City of Yonkers.

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MOVIE & CONCERT SCHEDULE

MOVIES AT DUSK			
DATE	MOVIE	RATING	LOCATION
July 11	Diny Danding	PG-13	Rutten-Cedinski Park - Erskine's Place
July 18	Moana II	PG	Unity Park - Post & 130th Street
July 25	Captain America	PG-13	Frederick Park - Frederick Street
August 1	A League of Their Own	PG	Schuttie Park - St. Elizabeths Lane
August 8	Inside Out II	PG	Sullivan Oval - Spruce Street
August 15	Dog Man	PG	Wawocki Park - Agor Street
August 22	Beebeetle	PG	Wakenfield Park - Bronx River Road

MUSIC 7:00 - 8:30 PM			
DATE	BAND	MUSIC GENRE	LOCATION
July 3	Uptown Royale	Pop/Jazz/R&B	E.J. Murray - E.J. Murray Blvd.
July 10	Yacht Lovers	Classical/Rock/Jazz	Waterfront Amphitheater - Water Street
July 17	Fever Records presents: Judy Torres & the Cover Girls	Freestyle	E.J. Murray Skating Center - Tuckahoe Road
July 24	McLean Avenue Band	Music & Dance Band	Coyne Park - McLean Avenue
July 31	Soco Meglio	Salsa Tribute & more	Willy Park - Barton Road
August 7	El Negro Core Dominican Swing	Swing/Salsa/Merengue	Carroll Park - Riverside Avenue
August 14	Soul Machine	Soul/T&B/Dance Band	Grant Park - 4th Street at Park Avenue
August 21	Daniel Codrino Orchestra	Latin Salsa/Jazz	Sullivan Park - Riverside Avenue
August 28	Mari of Soul	Soul/R&B	O'Keefe Park - Hawthorne Avenue
August 29	Chicago Revisited	Tribute Band	Untermyer Park - North Broadway

Visit Site for all Music is at E.J. Murray Skating Center at 348 Tuckahoe Road.

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Yonkers
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June 7



Christopher Williams Dances
June 21



Voices of Ascension Singers
June 29



Westchester Philharmonic Brass Quintet
July 13



Victor LaGamma Jazz Quartet
July 20



Eléonore Biezunski & Friends
Yiddish Songs about Nature
July 27



Sahba Motalebi & Reza Mohtasenipour
August 3



Sonnambula Renaissance and Baroque Music
August 10



Folk Music Legend Tom Chapin & Friends
September 7



Tom Gold Dance
September 20



Marc Malomet & Friends
Great American Songbook
September 27

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SJRHER, continued from pg 1-

ber Tasha Diaz, and other distinguished guests, this long-awaited renovation begins a new chapter in our Saint John's Riverside Hospital's commitment to delivering exceptional care and to better serve the growing community they serve with enhanced services and facilities.

"This project is a transformative opportunity for us to meet the needs of our patients and community by enhancing access, creating a triage system to get patients to the appropriate level of care and connecting our patients who lack a primary care physician to one of ours," said Ron Corti, President & CEO. "This project will double the size of our current emergency department and will increase our bed count from 28 to 55 beds," he said.

The cost of this project is approximately \$16 million. Funding has come from the New York State Department of Health. They are providing \$15.3 million for this renovation. Additionally, the United States Department of Health and Human Services has provided an additional \$1 million to support the infrastructure in the fast-track portion of the emergency room.

The Saint John's Riverside Hospital community thanked former Congressman, Jamal Bowman, for securing the additional \$1 million grant and were thankful to the New York State Department of Health and the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services for their support in this critical project.

Visit riversidehealth.org, for more information.

Yonkers Rotary Club of Yonkers-East Yonkers Invites You to Celebrate Alan Gray New Club Pres.

Rotary
Club of Yonkers-East Yonkers
Invites You to Celebrate

the Work of  and  the Induction of

George John
as the 2024-2025
Club President

Alan Gray, Esq.
as the 2025-2026
Club President

Wednesday, June 25, 2025
6:30 p.m. to 9 p.m.
Zuppa Restaurant & Lounge
59 Main Street, Yonkers, NY 10701

Tickets are \$65
Go to <https://tinyurl.com/2b2xwvpl>
or Scan the QR Code to RSVP

Email SecretaryYonkersRotary@gmail.com for More Information

Community Meeting

Wednesday, June 18th 6:30pm
North Yonkers Preservation
219 Ridge Avenue

Join with your neighbors, members of the 4th Police Precinct, Captain Messar, Lt. Curtis and elected officials to discuss issues affecting our community.

Guest Speakers:
City of Yonkers Parks
Commissioner Steve Sansone

JUN 18 Sponsored by:
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Lake Avenue Community Association

Questions? contact lakeavenueassociation@outlook.com

The Rotary Club of Yonkers-East Yonkers President's Dinner-June 25
The Rotary Club of Yonkers-East Yonkers will be holding its annual Presidents' Dinner on Wednesday, June 25 at 6:30 p.m. at Zuppa Restaurant & Lounge in Yonkers.

It is sure to be a fun- and fellowship-filled evening celebrating the work of the Club's incumbent president, George John.

The incoming President Alan Grey, and the new officers will be introduced and will share their vision for the Club in the year ahead.

Alan Grey will also be sworn in as the Club's first openly LGBTQ+ president in its 105-year history. It is sure to be an exciting way to close out Pride Month in Yonkers!

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Scarsdale Golfer Punches Ticket to US Open at Oakmont



Congratulations to James Nicholas of Scarsdale, who qualified for the 125th U.S. Open Championship at Oakmont Country Club. The 2015 graduate of Scarsdale High School, finally broke through after several attempts, and will play in his first US Open this week.

Nicholas was the 2017 Metropolitan Golf Association Player of the Year “My game has been trending year over year. I have had this circled on my calendar since I was 15 years old,” said Nicholas afterward.

Nicholas added, “The MGA means

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Nicholas was the 2017 Metropolitan Golf Association Player of the Year “My game has been trending year over year. I have had this circled on my calendar since I was 15 years old,” said Nicholas afterward.

Nicholas added, “The MGA means so much to me. It’s the reason I am where I am. It prepared me in a way that I wouldn’t have been otherwise. To come back here and qualify for the U.S. Open at an MGA site, at Canoe Brook, is a dream come true.”

“I’m a lot better than I was when I was here two years ago, and three years ago,” said Nicholas. “I’ve gotten better as a pro every single year. Last year on the DP [World Tour], I learned a ton, especially how to hit it straighter. I drove the ball nicely after my first six holes. It wasn’t looking pretty.

Before migrating to full-time golf, Nicholas had his eyes set on playing for the U.S. Olympic ice hockey team. His skills were good enough to play elite junior-level hockey. But he also played football and plenty of golf during the summer months. His dream was to be a two-sport athlete in college like his father, Stephen, who played football and baseball at Harvard before becoming a renown orthopedic surgeon like his father before him, James. Both served as the team physicians for a number of New York-based professional sports teams, including the Jets, and each performed surgeries on Hall of Fame quarterback Joe Namath, among others.

Before that, Nicholas lettered in three sports in high school – golf, football and hockey. The latter he competed in until he was 18 years old. A three-time, first-team All-State forward, Nicholas also was a member of the New Jersey Avalanche, a nationally ranked hockey travel team. He won the New York State High School Golf Championship in 2015.

Golf went from a summer pastime to a full-time activity. Nicholas was named the 2019 Ivy League Player of the Year and since turning professional, he has slowly progressed up the professional tour hierarchy. He posted one top-10 finish in 22 starts overseas – a tie for fifth in the Italian Open – before gaining his Korn Ferry Tour card for the 2025 season. Through 13 events, his best result is a tie for 13th at the Club Car Championship at The Landings.

Nicholas, who played both football (one season) and golf at Yale University, currently competes on the Korn Ferry Tour.

Given the family dynamic, it’s easy to see why Nicholas remains steadfastly competitive. Sister Erica won six NCAA Division III titles at Middlebury College in Vermont (four in field hockey and two in lacrosse) and another sister, Michaela, was a field hockey star at Franklin & Marshall. Younger brother, Brian, is a rising sophomore at Brown where he’s on the school’s Division I hockey team. And another brother, Stephen, played golf and football at Franklin & Marshall. Even his mom, Eileen, could Hang 10 in the swells off Long Beach Island back in the day.

“I told myself when I get to Yale if I don’t love what I’m doing, I can always get on the hockey team,” said Nicholas, who was good enough on the ice to play at the Division I level. “I was being recruited by the coach. But I would have had to focus only on hockey. No golf. Playing two was always my dream since my dad played two. He played football and baseball at Harvard.”

Good luck this week at the US Open, and hopefully we will see him on the PGA tour one day.

Look for more golf stories at Yonkerstimes.com over the summer.

Lawler Staff Tried to Ban My Pen From His Town Hall!



Letter-Op Ed:

After emptying my pockets for security, I was told to collect, my keys, wallet, small note pad, everything except my pen!

In astonishment, I asked if this was a joke? They guy said no, since it could be used as a “weapon” then nodded towards a stack of random pens piled on the table behind him. I really needed my pen to finish writing questions I might ask if called on & to take notes.

I am not one to simply accept a lame explanation for this ridiculous rule, so thinking quickly, I took out the thin ink cartridge and said he can keep the rest. He insisted that I still couldn’t go in with it, at which point I asked to speak to a Lawler staff member.

A woman named Donna gave only her first name & explained her main concern was to protect her staff & Mr. Lawler who have been threatened many times, and that even the little cartridge can be used as a weapon! I asked if she recognized the absurdity of what she was saying especially since I was allowed to go in with my metal keys but not a simple writing instrument! She paused for a moment, and then said, she would make an exception this time and then allowed me to re-assemble the pen and enter.

I guess the takeaway for me from this experience is that the Pen, and in your case the Camera, is for some reason, dangerous & truly feared by Congressman Lawler and his staff!

Afterward It occurred to me that “the pen is mightier than the sword!”

Respectfully,
Howard Jay Fleischer
Ossining

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EARLY VOTING AT YPL!

Yonkers Public Library will host early voting from **Sat., June 14 - Sun., June 22** at its **Riverfront** and **Will** branches.



- Saturday, June 14, from 10am - 6pm
- Sunday, June 15, from 10am - 6pm
- Monday, June 16, from 8am - 4pm
- Tuesday, June 17, from 12pm - 8pm
- Wednesday, June 18, from 8am - 4pm
- Thursday, June 19, from 12pm - 8pm
- Friday, June 20, from 8am - 4pm
- Saturday, June 21, from 10am - 6pm
- Sunday, June 22, from 10am - 6pm

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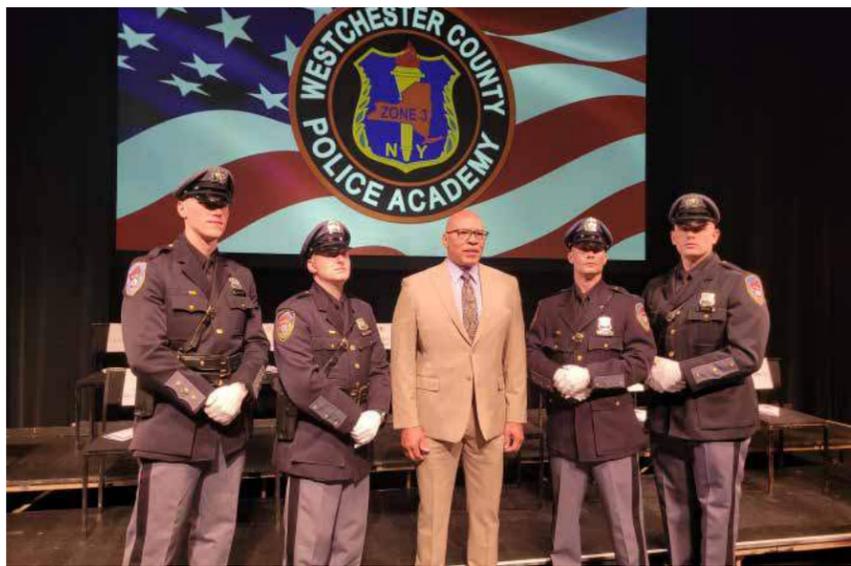
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14 Probationary Officers for Yonkers Police Department Graduate from County Academy



Forty-three recruits – including four from the Westchester County Police Department – graduated Friday from the Westchester County Police Academy. They are headed off to work at seven departments in Westchester and one in Putnam.

The new officers, who completed 22 weeks of training at the police academy in Valhalla, received their diplomas before a packed house at the SUNY Purchase Recital Hall.

County Executive Ken Jenkins and Public Safety Commissioner Terrance Raynor presented the graduates of the 159th Session of Basic Recruit School with their diplomas and congratulated them for mastering the physical and academic demands of the Academy.

“These recruits were required to bring their best effort to the Academy every day. Nothing less would be accepted. Their presence at this graduation ceremony is proof they kept their end of the bargain,” Jenkins said.

The county executive also thanked the family members in attendance for the love and support they have provided, and will continue to provide, to the region’s newest police officers.

“I know you are proud of these new officers. And I know there will be times you will worry about them. My dad was a police officer and I am familiar with those emotions, and more, when a loved one serves in law enforcement,” he said.

Raynor urged the graduates to treat all members of the public with fairness and respect in the performance of their duties.

“The state of policing in this country demands that you embrace the concept of police and community working together. I encourage you to engage your communities with humility and respect. Treat people with fairness and empathy, no matter their race, religion or socio-economic status. Converse with others the way you would like your loved ones spoken to. The instruction you received at the Academy enables you to be the guardians your community seeks.”

The graduates included 14 Probationary Police Officers for the Yonkers Police Department. They are

Yonkers: Eric Bargamian, Nicholas Coelho, Michael Cristantiello, Christian Kowach, Joseph Mancuso, Glory Moncion Allen, DeJuan Morrison, Patrick Murphy, Daniel Noll, Conor O’Donnell, Brandon Renzi, Alonzo Rose, Jason Vargas Jr., Brett Wangenstein.

Westchester BOL Dems & Assemblymember Levenburg, Oppose Use of Military in LA Protests



The Majority Democratic Caucus of the Westchester County Board of Legislators strongly opposes the Trump administration’s unprecedented deployment of 4,000 National Guard troops and 700 Marines to Los Angeles since Friday. This action represents a dangerous overreach of federal power that undermines constitutional principles and threatens basic civil liberties.

The administration has deployed military forces against citizens exercising their right to peaceful protest without demonstrating the extraordinary circumstances that would justify such measures. This decision is clearly motivated by politics rather than genuine public safety concerns.

Even more egregious is the administration’s exploitation of a legal loophole to commandeer California’s own National Guard, forcing them to act under federal direction against the express wishes of the state’s governor. This unprecedented federal seizure of state military forces violates the fundamental balance of power between states and the federal government that protects states from federal overreach. The last time a president deployed the National Guard against a governor’s wishes was in 1965 when President Johnson sent troops to Alabama—to protect civil rights demonstrators, not suppress them.

We call for immediate respect for the Constitution and established democratic norms. The broad authorization to deploy troops wherever immigration-related protests might occur sets a dangerous precedent. This includes peaceful demonstrations and directly threatens every American’s right to speak out against their government.

This deployment crosses the line between civilian law enforcement and military control of American streets. We stand with Governor Hochul and Attorney General James in calling for this decision to be reversed and urging all elected leaders to stand up and defend the constitutional rights that protect every American’s freedom to assemble and speak out.

Assemblymember Dana Levenburg said, “Through increasingly frightening immigration actions, the Trump administration is attempting to turn our communities into a police state. The unnecessary federalization of California’s National Guard and deployment of U.S. Marines are a massive escalation of this effort. Notably, Trump declined to take similar actions during riots in 2020 or during the insurrection at the Capitol on January 6, strongly suggesting he knows he is wrong right now. As a state legislator, I stand with the many governors, including our own, who have condemned this abuse of power against California.

Moreover, the tactics of Trump’s ICE are creating needless levels of fear and confusion in our communities. Their habit of having masked plainclothes officers take people away is already being imitated by predators, leading to a situation where people will not be able to tell the difference between law enforcement and criminals. This is a recipe for disaster that puts residents and law enforcement officials in unnecessary danger.

The rise in cases of mistaken identity, wrongful detention, and unlawful deportation indicates that ICE agents are growing desperate to hit quotas and getting sloppier in their work, putting everyone at risk. The federal government needs to focus its efforts on actual criminals and allow our local law enforcement to keep families safe, instead of tearing people from their loved ones without due process.

Parents shouldn’t have to live in fear that their children will be ‘disappeared’ by masked agents. Americans should not have to carry around a dozen proofs of identity just in case an agent demands to see their papers, with no guarantee that an agent will actually acknowledge their legitimacy. And we cannot be silent as this administration ignores the Constitution and threatens to use military force against Americans. We deserve to be safe and free; the federal government can and should pursue comprehensive immigration reform instead of totalitarianism. We must all stand together right now and reject these attacks on our liberty.”

County Legislator James Nolan, the only republican on the board, did not agree with the BOL statement, posting, “My colleagues from the Westchester County Board of Legislators Democratic Caucus have chosen to engage in issues that do not directly concern them. They recently released a statement about the violent protests in Los Angeles and the President’s decision to deploy the military to uphold the law and protect citizens from chaos, looting, and destruction. This stance is not only hypocritical but also quite amusing, as many of these same colleagues ignore pressing issues right here in Westchester County and New York State. If you are turning a blind eye to local problems, you have no business commenting on events happening in another state on the other side of the country.

“Let’s be clear: everyone has the right to peacefully protest. However, when protests turn violent and cause harm, they become riots, and such behavior is unacceptable. It is ironic that when Governor Hochul called in the National Guard to address issues at the prison—stemming from her pro-criminal policies and the recent firings of corrections officers—none of the Democrats in Albany or Westchester County spoke out against the deployment or in defense of the very laws that endanger both corrections officers and inmates. If President Trump finds it necessary to mobilize the National Guard to restore order because Democrat-led municipalities refuse to act, he has the authority to protect the people of this nation and hold criminals accountable.”

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Weekend Events in Westchester County Parks

SATURDAY, JUNE 14

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

Morning Grooming, 8:30 a.m. - 9:30 a.m. Experience the joy of grooming our friendly horses and donkeys! This hands-on program lets kids ages 12 and older help care for our animals through brushing and grooming, which supports coat maintenance and encourages positive socialization. \$20 per person. Get details: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/morning-grooming-tickets-1264412835829?aff=ebdsoporgprofile>

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

Migrant Leftovers, 10 a.m. - 11:30 a.m. We will observe all types of birds, from late arrivals to summer campers to year-round residents. Please bring binoculars.

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

Medicinal Plant and Tree Tour, 10 a.m. - 11 a.m. Urban naturalist Bruce Rosenberg will lead a free tour to examine over 20 plants and trees in the Arboretum that have medicinal qualities and are used to treat physical and mental conditions. All of these plants can be grown in your own backyard and are available at local nurseries.

Get details and register: <https://www.lasdonpark.org/event/medicinal-plant-and-tree-tour/2025-06-14/>

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

Lasdon Green Squad, 10 a.m. - 3 p.m. Every Saturday through November and for those age 14 and older, 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. Get details and register: <https://www.lasdonpark.org/event/lasdon-green-squad-2-2/2025-06-14/>

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

Book Buddies, 10:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. Join us for a unique reading experience in one of our animal enclosures, where children ages 7 and up can enjoy reading in an engaging and unique environment. \$10. Get details and register: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/book-buddies-tickets-1267662385319?aff=ebdsoporgprofile>

Glen Island Park, New Rochelle: (914) 813-6720

Beach Is Open, 11 a.m. - 6:30 p.m. The beach will be open weekends and June 19 through Sunday, June 22. Open daily from Friday, June 27, through Monday, Sept. 1; weather permitting. No admittance after 6 p.m. Parking and beach admission fees apply. Westchester County residency is required for admission, with a County Park Pass, a valid New York State driver's license or a valid New York State ID with a Westchester County address. Get details: <https://parks.westchestergov.com/swim>

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

Hudson River Music Festival, 11 a.m. - 9 p.m. Rooted in the spirit of Pete and Toshi Seeger, the festival is a joyful, all-ages gathering that unites music, community and environmental action. Fueled by a shared love for the Hudson, it's a soulful celebration of nature, activism and the next chapter in a beloved tradition. Get details and tickets: <https://www.hudsonrivermusicfestival.com/>

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

Art Show, 12 p.m. - 4 p.m. Artist Loren Anderson's exhibit "Of Nature" is open for viewing in the main house weekends in June.

Lenoir Preserve, Yonkers: (914) 968-5851

Picture This! Wildlife of Lenoir, 1 p.m. - 2 p.m. Join us for a presentation on the wildlife, their habitats and their habits, captured on our trail cameras.

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

Flower-Pressing 101 and Botanical Arts & Crafts, 1 p.m. - 2 p.m. Have you ever looked at the Reservation's beautiful flowers and wondered what their names were? Join us at Trailside to learn how to identify wildflower species and each plant's unique uses.

Miller House, White Plains: (914) 428-1005

Kids' Flag Day Crafts, 1 p.m. - 2:30 p.m. Join the staff for hands-on crafts and activities to learn all about flags and their symbolism.

Marshlands Conservancy, Rye: (914) 835-4466

Horseshoe Crabs, 1 p.m. - 2:30 p.m. Witness the wondrous phenomenon of horseshoe crabs arriving at Marshlands' shoreline during the mid-day high tide. This event has been happening here seasonally for thousands of years. Meet at the nature center; weather permitting.

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

Volunteer Work Project: Checking the Hiking Trails for Debris, 1 p.m. - 2:30 p.m. Help ensure that our trails are ready for summertime patrons. Please bring work gloves. Hand tools will be provided; great for service credit hours. Get details: <https://friendsofreadwildlifesanctuary.org/event/volunteer-checking-the-hiking-trails-for-debris/>

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

Star Boxing, 7 p.m. The thrilling bouts include Rajon Chance vs. Yan Carlos Perez, and Yonkers' undefeated prospect Harley Burke vs. the FDNY's Louis Maietta. Also: Richard "Popeye" Rivera, King David Malul, Austin Cassese, Isiah Flaherty and other Star Boxing action. Get tickets: <https://countycenter.biz/event/joe-deguardia-brings-star-boxing-to-the-westchester-county-center/>

continued on pg 15-

Thursday, June 19th

June 19, 1935: The Yonkers Chamber of Commerce's second Better Homes Show, which brought thousands of people to the State Armory, drew a record crowd to its closing night.

The biggest attraction was the 11 pm drawing for the "Home of Tomorrow" on Cumberland Drive! The new home, valued at \$8,400, was ready to move in and furnish. More than 100,000 people had inspected the home since it opened two months earlier.

The August Jorgensen family of Halstead Street won the "House of Tomorrow!" A Greenwich Savings Bank bank teller in Manhattan, the family purchased their home just four years earlier. The family planned to remain on Halstead and sell the new home.

June 19, 1936: Certification officials at the State Armory announced their offices authenticating World War veteran bonuses would close June 20th. The bonuses passed the million-dollar mark! Postmaster William Cronin announced they mailed most veterans their bonds, but 100 men were "out of carriers' reach." Although the office was closing, Yonkers men still could certify their adjusted service bonds at local post offices.

Friday, June 20th

June 20, 1922: Henry Collins authored a new book called "Old Yonkers" to celebrate the fiftieth anniversary of the City of Yonkers. It featured the history of Yonkers.

June 20, 1942: Alexander Smith and Sons Carpet Company announced it was adding a waterproofing plant. The company planned to waterproof the duck cloth manufactured for government contracts. Plans were filed with the Building Department to build a brick fire wall and concrete dikes and supports for tanks in Nepperhan Avenue. The wall and tanks were to be removed from the existing building because of solvents used for waterproofing. Although the company already was manufacturing duck, the material had to be sent elsewhere for waterproofing. After new equipment was installed, Smith would produce waterproof duck totally in Yonkers.

Saturday, June 21st

June 21, 1907: A Yonkers Avenue trolley came to the assistance of a horse drawn truck, heavy with sand. The truck was caught in a rut at the top of the hill at Nepperhan Avenue, and the driver could not budge the wagon. The trolley pulled carefully up to the truck... gave it a shove and freed it. Driver, horse and truck went on its way after thanking the trolley man.

June 21, 1923: Tristram Metcalfe, School Editor of The New York Evening Mail and Chairman of the Committee of Northeast Yonkers High School, addressed the North Yonkers Citizens' Association. He criticized School Architect Howard Chamberlin for the perceived delay in preparing plans for the Northeast Yonkers high school. He explained each delay increased building costs and asked the Common Council to investigate. He was concerned the school would cost more than the appropriated budget.

Sunday, June 22nd

June 22, 1927: Every member of the 60-member Roosevelt High School senior class graduated, setting a record of excellence as the first school in Yonkers to do so! The graduates donated \$100 to purchase the Abbey "Holy Grail" series, continuing a tradition started by the Class of 1926.

June 22, 1945: Employees of the Yonkers Post Office held a bond rally at Loew's Theater. The Post Office Glee Club entertained the audience. Mails Superintendent Charles Brady was Master of Ceremonies, and postmaster William Cronin addressed the crowd. Eight uniformed letter carrier volunteers sold \$35,600 of War Bonds to audience members.

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

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

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cratic primary on June 24 to return to that office. In 2021, Khader was running for reelection 2021 when allegations came out in the media of a "Quid Pro Quo" between Khader and attorney Jeff Buss, in which Khader received free rent at Buss's law office on Yonkers Avenue.

Buss was appointed a counsel to the then Council President Khader at a salary of \$70,000 per year.

McLaughlin, also a former council president, hired an outside counsel and investigator to conduct the inquiry.

Khader called the matter a witch hunt and lost the democratic primary to Collins-Bellamy.

The report's investigators identified the value of the rent that Khader did not pay for 22 months to be between \$11,000 and \$17,600 and used support staff for free. "Clearly, Khader used the SBJ office space and had the benefit of SBJ office services, paralegals, and notaries during a time when he claimed not to be practicing law and paid no rent to SBJ. Such services are of value to an attorney, but Khader never paid for such services. The Investigators find that such valuable services were part of the quid pro quo."

The report details numerous examples where Khader was practicing law after telling the IG and investigators that he was not. In one instance, Khader, serving as a court-appointed receiver, submits his bill for services with his statement that he "exhausted countless hours" on the case and "performed extensive" work. At the same time, Khader swore at his deposition that he stopped or slowed his law practice. Khader's bill for those services was \$37,634.05.

The law office address in question was 733 Yonkers Avenue, Suite 200. "Khader's sworn statements in this Investigation and his sworn statements to the Court in the Matter of Joseph Carriere Report are clearly inconsistent. Khader's sworn statements in this investigation that he stopped or slowed his law practice, and that he did not use SBJ's office at such, are demonstrably false and disproven by Khader's own court filings, states the report.

In the fall of 2021, Westchester District Attorney Mimi Rocah reviewed the report, but after deciding not to run for reelection, her office did not conclude or opine on the matter of Mike Khader and rent payments. Apparently, there was not enough time, given that a new District Attorney, Susan Cacace, came into the office in January 2025, to act. No comment was ever made by DA Rocah's office on the matter.

We have confirmed that Cacace's office has the IG's report and has now sent the matter back to McLaughlin. We don't know the reasons why.

In recent video interviews and in candidate forums, Khader has been vocal in his defense that the allegations are false and without merit.

In one interview with Ru Ros -Yonkers Voice, Khader called McLaughlin, A Liar. He also claimed, "I provided documents to Liam's office, I provided it to the investigator, and I provided it to LoHud."

Khader did not indicate what documents he gave to anyone, but the documents that would exonerate him, namely proof that he paid rent to Buss for the period in question, were not provided.

We reviewed the investigator's comments and verified their conclusion in the report, that

"We, the Investigators, conclude that Khader (and Buss/SBJ) failed to provide any credible evidence as to why SBJ provided him with rent free office space and office services, and that such valuable office space (valued at approximately \$11,000 - \$17,600) and office services (valued at approximately \$11,600) were provided as part of a quid pro quo arrangement between Khader and Buss/SBJ whereby Buss received multiple contracts totaling approximately \$240,000."

"Khader does not dispute that he never paid rent to SBJ for suites 200 or 303 for the period March 2017 through in or about December of 2018.

"Khader, instead, alternatively, and inconsistently argues that it was because he did not practice law, because he only used the office for storage, and because of the state and condition of the office.

"Khader alternatively claims that he did not pay rent because he was not practicing law. The undisputed facts are that Khader was engaged in the practice of law from March 2017 to December 2018.

The crux of the allegations made against Khader four years ago, and which were confirmed in the report, remain the same. What rent was Khader paying to Smith, Buss & Jacobs, and did those payments change when Buss was hired at a salary of \$70,000 per year to serve as Khader's counsel to the Council President, a taxpayer-paid position?

We still do not have an answer to this question.

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'Emergency Medicaid' Surges to 480,000

By Bill Hammond, Empire Center NY

the charges against them and the requirement to appear in court to defend their case.

According to the NYS Division of Criminal Justice Sex Offender Registry, Saavedra was arrested in 2020 by the Yonkers Police Department's SOR Unit for Actual Sexual Intercourse and Actual Deviate Sexual Intercourse with a male victim who was 15.

"Mexican Litzzy Janel Saavedra was convicted of rape in Yonkers, so ICE NYC arrested her. She'll stay with us—off NY streets—pending immigration proceedings. Once inadmissible aliens complete their sentences, it's our duty to apprehend them for removal from our country."

Saavedra was 22 when she committed the crime of Felony Rape in the third degree. The victim did not consent, but there were factors other than incapacity to consent. Saavedra was sentenced to 10 years of probation in 2022. The victim was not a stranger and was coerced into the sex act. No pornography was used.

Saavedra was a registered sex offender for two and a half years and was residing in Yonkers before ICE apprehended her.

In New York, Rape in the Third Degree (Penal Law § 130.25) is a class E felony that is committed when a person engages in sexual intercourse with someone who is incapable of consent or engages in sexual intercourse without that person's consent. A person is deemed incapable of consent if they are under 17 years old or if they are otherwise incapable of consent due to a mental disability, physical helplessness, or some other factor. The offense also includes sexual intercourse with someone less than 17 years of age when the perpetrator is 21 years of age or older.

Judges can also impose a sentence of probation for up to 10 years if a prison sentence is not deemed necessary.

Conviction requires registration with the New York Sex Offender Registry as a Level 1, 2, or 3, depending on the risk of committing another sex offense.

The White House included Saavedra's arrest as part of its press releases on reducing illegal border crossings.

Illegal Crossings Plummet -The White House

As illegal border crossings plummet, the U.S. Border Patrol announced a soft-sided "migrant processing facility" in the San Diego Sector constructed under the Biden Administration has been dismantled after a 96%+ decline in illegal crossings along the sector.

The increased border enforcement is accompanied by the Trump Administration's efforts to arrest criminal illegal immigrants throughout the nation.

Meet a few of the sick criminal illegal immigrants arrested just over the past weekend:

Kevin Estuarde Hernandez, an 18-year-old illegal immigrant from Guatemala, was arrested in Boston. He is a suspected 18th Street Gang Member who was involved in a shooting between his gang and MS-13.

Jose Antonio Deras, a 45-year-old illegal immigrant from El Salvador, was arrested in Denver. He has pending charges for four felony counts of sexual assault on a child with a pattern of abuse. A judge ordered him removed from the country in 2009.

Eduardo Sanchez-Hernandez, a 32-year-old illegal immigrant from Mexico, was arrested in Newark. He has pending charges for sexual assault of a minor under 13 years old.

Litzzy Janel Saavedra, a 26-year-old illegal immigrant from Mexico, was arrested in New York City. He has a conviction for third-degree felony rape.

Another White House Press release included Saavedra and AOC, New York Congresswoman Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez, who graduated from Yorktown High School in Westchester.

Titled, AOC Wants to END the Agency Arresting Killers, Rapists in New York, The White House writes, "AOC, Democrat Party leader, calls for abolishing ICE. Meanwhile, the brave men and women of ICE get dangerous criminal illegal immigrants off our streets and protect American citizens. Why does AOC want to stop that?" — said White House spokeswoman Abigail Jackson.

While President Donald J. Trump, his administration, and the heroes of ICE work overtime to rid our country of criminal illegal immigrant killers, rapists, and gangbangers, top Democrats are doubling down on their call to eliminate the agency responsible for getting these animals off our streets.

"I believe that ICE, an agency that was just formed in 2003 during the Patriot Act era, is a rogue agency that should not exist," says Rep. Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez, the leader of the Democrat Party.

Where is the congresswoman's concern for her fellow New Yorkers who have been brutally killed, maimed, and raped by criminal illegal immigrants allowed to roam free due to New York's so-called "sanctuary" policies?

Including Litzzy Janel Saavedra, a Mexican national with a conviction for felony rape.

We have attempted to FOIL the police report or the felony complaint in this matter.

Unknown is how long Saavedra was in this country and Yonkers. It appears that after her arrest and conviction, she remained in Yonkers for 5 years until her recent apprehension.

SUNDAY, JUNE 15

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. Motor-powered vehicles are prohibited. Also: June 22, June 29 (8 a.m. - 12 p.m.); July 13, 20, 27 (8 a.m. to noon); 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>

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

Yoga in the Gardens, 9:30 a.m. - 11 a.m. \$25. Also: June 22, 29. Registration required: <https://www.lasdonpark.org/event/yoga-in-the-gardens-2/2025-06-15/>

Alfred B. DelBello Muscoot 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. Get details: <https://www.muscotfarm.org/markets/>

Lasdon Park, Arboretum & Veterans Memorial, 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! Also: Tuesday, June 17. Get details and register: <https://www.lasdonpark.org/event/gardening-sundays-2/2025-06-15/>

Alfred B. DelBello Muscoot Farm, Katonah: (914) 864-7282. Big Equipment Day, 12 p.m. - 3 p.m. Get up close with tractors, mowers and other equipment that does some of Muscoot's biggest jobs.

One of the biggest drivers of New York's Medicaid enrollment growth over the past decade has been "emergency Medicaid" for undocumented immigrants, newly released state records show.

The program – which is limited to short-term care for emergency conditions – has soared by 440,000 or more than 1,200 percent since 2014, according to Health Department records obtained by the Empire Center under the Freedom of Information Law.

As of March 2024, sign-ups for emergency Medicaid stood at 480,000, or 7 percent of total enrollment.

The only Medicaid cohort that grew by a larger amount was able-bodied, childless adults from 19 to 64, which increased by 796,000 or 68 percent. Overall, enrollment in the New York's version of the safety-net health plan for the lower-income and disabled was up 1.6 million or 28 percent from March 2014 to March 2024.

Emergency Medicaid enrollment is overwhelmingly concentrated downstate, with 74 percent of recipients living in New York City, 14 percent on Long Island and 12 percent in the Mid-Hudson region.

Officials attributed the spike to a policy change enacted in 2014, as the federal Affordable Care Act went into full effect. Through the state's newly established insurance exchange, immigrants ineligible for other forms of coverage were invited to pre-register for emergency Medicaid even if they didn't immediately need emergency care.

Enrollment has been rising at double-digit rates ever since, including a 33 percent spike during the first year of the Covid-19 pandemic and another 26 percent since 2022, as thousands of newly arrived migrants were bused to New York from border states.

Spending on emergency Medicaid has roughly tripled, from \$207 million in fiscal 2013-14 to \$639 million in fiscal 2023-24, officials said. Because more people were signing up without knowing if they would need care, the share of enrollees who used services in any given year has dropped from 43 percent to 21 percent, and the annual cost per enrollee has declined from \$5,700 to \$1,300, officials said.

In addition to emergency Medicaid, New York offers government-sponsored coverage through its Essential Plan to another 494,000 non-citizens. These include legal immigrants who arrived less than five years ago and people without green cards who are "permanently residing under color of law," such as those approved for asylum and people who qualify for President Obama's Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals program.

Lower-income legal immigrants who have resided in the U.S. for at least five years are eligible for regular Medicaid.

About 1.5 million non-citizens live in New York City, including 670,000 who are undocumented, according to estimates from the Center for Migration Studies.

The Empire Center obtained the figures on emergency Medicaid as part of a larger request seeking a breakdown of the eligibility categories for all Medicaid enrollees over the past decade. It was expected that this data would shed light on why the safety-net health plan has grown to be millions larger than New York's population living in poverty, as documented in a recent report.

Despite a delay of eight months, the Health Department's initial response in January was incomplete – omitting information on almost 1 million enrollees, as the Empire Center reported earlier this month.

The day after that post was published, the department provided a second data set that appeared to be more comprehensive – but which was puzzlingly inconsistent with the figures provided earlier.

The numbers for some eligibility categories went up substantially, while others went down. Categories that were counted separately in the first round were seemingly combined together in the second – and some disappeared completely.

Another issue is plausibility: The state reported Medicaid enrollment of 693,000 in a category for "pregnant consumers," which seems far too high. The state's most recently available vital statistics, from 2022, show that 206,000 women gave birth and 68,000 had abortions. Medicaid covered about half of each, indicated pregnant enrollees would have numbered about 137,000.

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**Weekend Events in Westchester County Parks,
continued from pg 13**

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