

YMHS Valedictorian & Salutatorian Going to Tufts & UPENN



YMHS
Valedictorian
Isabel
Dourmashkin,
left, and
Salutatorian
Kium
Hwangbo

By Dan Murphy

Congratulations to the 2026 Yonkers Middle -High School Valedictorian Isabel Dourmashkin and Salutatorian Kium Hwangbo. Valedictorian Isabel Dourmashkin will graduate with a 104% GPA.

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Yonkers Mourns the Death of 12 year old Jacob Medina



Police Investigation Underway
By Dan Murphy

The Yonkers community is mourning the death of 12-year-old Jacob Medina, who died on June 10 as a result of choking while a student at the Sotomayor school.

YPS Superintendent Anibal Soler Jr. said the incident occurred outside the school cafeteria at around 1139 am. Soler added that the student was with an adult when the incident took place.

EMS and school staff arrived and attempted CPR and other measures to try to clear the boy's airway. Medina was sent to St. Joseph's Hospital, where he was pronounced dead.

The Yonkers Police Department is in-

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Meet Your Yonkers Idol and Junior Idol for 2026



A big round of applause to Jalilah Le'Cruise, 15 (right), of Saunders High School, crowned Yonkers Idol, and Cadence Toro (left), 13, of Robert Halmi High School, named Yonkers Junior Idol!

Jalilah chose "Mary Did You Know?" as her final song, and Cadence sang, "I Am Changing" from Broadway's Dreamgirls.

We can't wait to see what the future holds for these rising stars! Congratulations!

The two will sing at City events throughout the year.

We Endorse: Wilson Terrero, County Legislator -17th District-Democratic Primary



Before you vote for someone in any election, you should ask the candidate what they have done for the residents in their community.

Wilson Terrero has an unmatched record of service directly to the people of

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"Earl DMX Simmons Way" Hip Hop Icon from Yonkers Gets City Honor with Street Renaming



See story
on page 8



Can You Love God And Still Be LGBTQ+?

By Dennis
Richmond Jr.

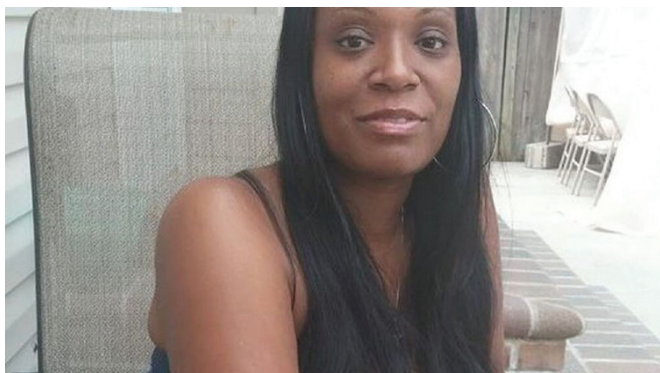
"You're going to hell."

This is a statement that many LGBTQ+ folk hear at least once in their lives. If they don't hear it directly, someone may calmly tell them that their lifestyle is wrong. One of the most personal conversations during Pride Month centers on faith. Can someone practice religion and still be a member of the LGBTQ+



continued on pg 9-

New York City Correction's Captain from Yonkers Indicted for Extortion and Wage Fraud Scheme



Latanya Brown

Defendant Allegedly Extorted Subordinates for Money, a Louis Vuitton Handbag, and Personal Errands, and Defrauded The City of Thousands of Dollars in Wages

An indictment was unsealed in Brooklyn charging Latanya Brown with extortion and federal program funds theft. Brown is a Captain with the New York City Department of Correction (DOC). The indictment charges Brown with two counts of extortion and one count of fraudulently obtaining funds from a federally funded government agency. Brown was arrested today and will be arraigned this afternoon before United States Magistrate Judge Seth D. Eichenholtz.

"As alleged, the defendant brazenly abused her authority as a law enforcement supervisor to steal taxpayer money and terrorize her subordinates by shaking them down for money, expensive gifts, and chauffeuring her to run personal errands, including trips to a casino while she was on duty," stated United States Attorney Nocella. "Our Office will vigorously prosecute corrupt government officials who betray the public's trust, and where applicable as in this case, seek forfeiture of ill-gotten funds."

As alleged in the indictment, Brown has been employed by the DOC since October 2001 and has held the rank of Captain since July 2007. Between approximately July 2024 and November 2025, Brown was assigned to Rikers Island's Facility Operations Department as a DOC supervisor. Between approximately November 2025 and December 2025, Brown was assigned to New York State courthouses located in the Bronx. As a Captain, Brown supervised other correction officers and was responsible for approving employee requests for shift-schedule changes, overtime shifts, and vacation time. In 2024 and 2025, Brown regularly threatened to withhold approvals for shift changes, overtime shifts, and vacation time requests for her officers unless they agreed to pay her money, buy luxury items for her, and/or perform personal errands for her. For example, in December 2024, Brown forced several officers to buy an expensive Louis Vuitton bag for her. When Brown made her demand, she made statements to the DOC officers implying, in sum and substance, that their shift assignments, overtime shifts, and vacation time would be in jeopardy unless they purchased the luxury item. Additionally, on numerous occasions, Brown forced officers to drive her while on duty for non-work-related purposes, such as visits to restaurants, bars, and a casino.

In 2024 and 2025, Brown received more than \$250,000 in regular pay and more than \$400,000 in overtime pay. However, on more than 100 occasions during this time period, Brown submitted documentation to the DOC claiming that she had worked the entirety of regular and overtime shifts, when in fact she actually arrived to work several hours late or left work several hours early on those occasions. On some occasions, when Brown left her assigned posting early, she did so to spend time at the Empire City Casino in Yonkers, New York. For example, on November 21, 2024, Brown claimed in documentation submitted to the DOC to have worked from 5:00 a.m. until 9:31 p.m. on Rikers Island. However, Brown was not at Rikers Island during the entirety of that shift and instead arrived at the casino that day at approximately 2:34 p.m. Nevertheless, Brown was compensated by the DOC as if she had worked her full shift and at least seven hours of overtime.

Building Powered Charging Station Unveiled in Downtown Yonkers



From Mayor Mike Spano:

Hey, Yonkers! Check out this new public EV charging station at 50 Warburton Avenue! It's the first building-powered charging station of its kind in Yonkers. By drawing power directly from the building, this innovative model avoids costly utility upgrades and comes at no cost to the City.

This pilot could lead to 20 more locations citywide, expanding access to EV charging and helping advance our Yonkers Climate Action Plan. The future of sustainable transportation is charging ahead in The City of Yonkers!

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CONNECTED EXPERIENCES LLC Arts. of Org. filed with SSNY on 01/30/2026. Office: Westchester Co. SSNY designated agent for process and shall mail copy to LLC at 212 Colabaugh Pond Rd, Croton On Hudson, NY, 10520. Purpose: any lawful act.

Read it all Online at Yonkerstimes.com

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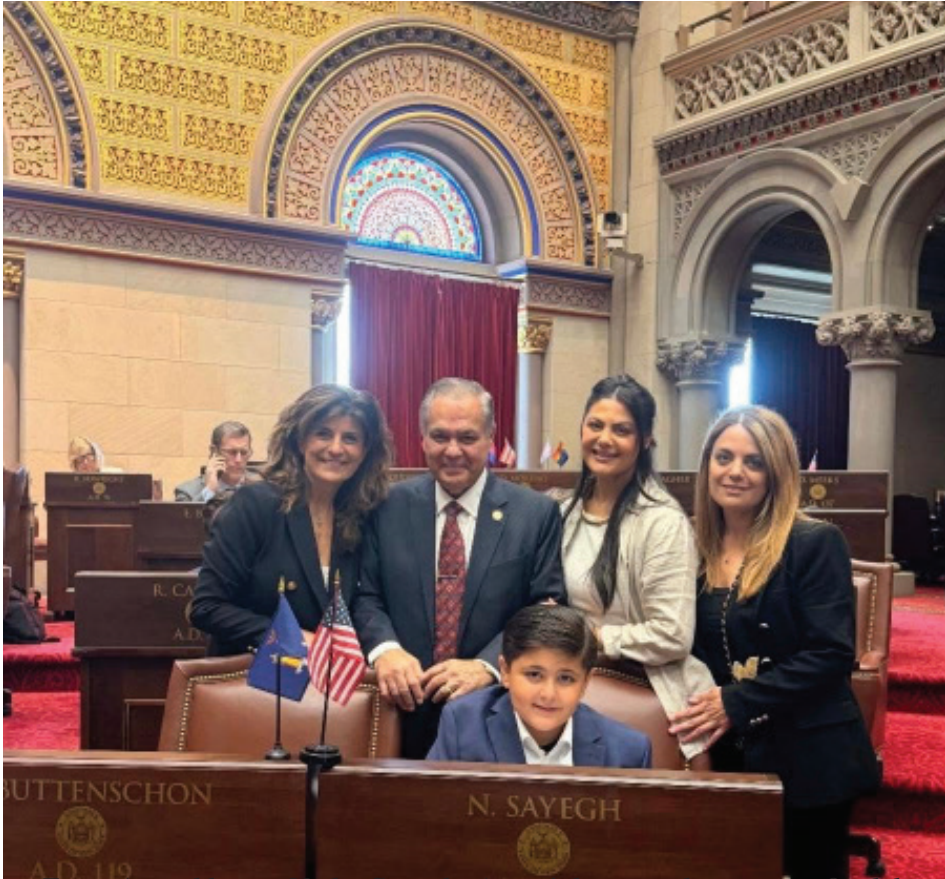
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Yonkers Says Thank You to Nader Sayegh for Your Service



From Assemblyman Nader Sayegh: A special way to close out my final day of session in Albany. I was joined at the Capitol by my wife, Sana, two of my five daughters, Samia and Hana, and my eldest grandson, Matthew, who had just been born when I first took office in 2018.

Grateful to share this milestone with my family who have supported me every step of the way.

Congratulations and thank you Nader Sayegh for your service to Yonkers.

Mayor Spano's Summer Film & Concert Series Starts July 9





MOVIE & CONCERT SCHEDULE

MOVIES AT DUSK			
DATE	MOVIE	RATING	LOCATION
July 10	Johnny Tremain	PG	Untermeyer Park-North Broadway
July 17	Zootopia 2	PG	Schultze Park-St. Eleanoras Lane
July 24	Lilo and Stitch	PG	Coyne Park-McLean Avenue
July 31	Hoppers	PG	Bregano Park-Rigby Street
August 7	Smurfs	PG	Kinsley Park-Chase Avenue
August 14	Coco	PG	Unity Park-Post Street and Elliot Ave.
August 21	Super Mario Galaxy	PG	Wasisko Park-Agar Street

MUSIC 7:00 - 8:30 PM			
DATE	BAND	MUSIC GENRE	LOCATION
July 9	Harold Melvin's Blue Notes & Musique	Disco	E.J. Murray Memorial Skating Center Tuckahoe Road
July 16	Sammulous	Jazz/R&B/Soul	Trevor Park - Warburton Avenue
July 23	Soul Machine	Soul/R&B/Dance Band	H.Boo Wilson Park - Runyon Avenue at Tuckahoe Road
July 30	Ashley Wineland	Country	Coyne Park-McLean Avenue
August 6	3D Rhythm of Life	Salsa/Latin Jazz	Lincoln Park-So. Broadway-McLean Ave.
August 13	McLean Avenue Band	Music & Dance Show Band	Redmond Park-Cook Avenue
August 20	FDR Drive Band	Motown/R&B/Pop	Cerrato Park-Riverdale Avenue
August 27	BonJourneyNY	Rock Tribute Band	Untermeyer Park-North Broadway
August 28	TKA & Betty Dee of Sweet Sensation	Freestyle	E.J. Murray Memorial Skating Center Tuckahoe Road

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



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



Jake's Rockin' Country Band
July 3rd at 6 PM | Country/Rock
Yonkers Waterfront Amphitheatre

The Belle Tones
July 3rd at 6:30 PM | 20's thru 80's Americana
Untermeyer Park

Notice of formation of W4J9R1 Holdings, LLC. Arts. of Org. filed with the SSNY on 04/23/2026. 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, 2 Gedney Park Drive, White Plains, NY 10605. Purpose: Any lawful activity

Notice of formation of Pure Body Lab, LLC. Arts. of Org. filed with the SSNY on 05/06/2026. With an existence date of 03/27/2026. 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, 2040 White Plains Rd #1082, Bronx NY 10462 USA. Purpose: Any lawful activity

Yonkers Downtown Waterfront BID Waterfront Live Concerts Continue on Friday Nights



FRIDAY NIGHTS 6:30-8PM

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JUNE 5 JULISSA & RAYNIEL
TRIBUTE TO LATIN GRAMMYS- BAD BONNY, SHAKIRA, KAROL G, EDDIE PALMERI AND MORE

JUNE 12 MELO GREEN
SAY IT LOUD - JAMES BROWN, PHARRELL WILLIAMS, CHILDISH GAMBINO, DE'ANGELO, NINA SIMONE

JUNE 19 THE JERMAINE JONES & JARENA BROWN BAND
SOUL MIXTAPES-MARIAH CARY, K-CI & JOJO, BLACK STREET, LAUREN HILL

JUNE 26 GRUPO REBOLU
INTERNATIONAL FLAVA WITH AFRO-COLOMBIAN RHYTHMS LIKE GAITA, TAMBORA, CHALUPA AND BOLLERENGUE

JULY 10 JOY BROWN ENSEMBLE
JAZZ & SWING-ELLA, DUKE ELLINGTON, COUNT BASIE, SAM COOKE, BENNIE GOODMAN

JULY 17 THAT DIVA BAND
PUNK AND PUNK - DEBBIE HARRY, JOAN JETT, BANXSHEES, PATTI SMITH, THE SLITS

JULY 24 DEVONE ALLISON, BSKI, SUZY Q
DISCO & DANCE - DONNA SUMMER, LA FREAK, KOOL AND THE GANG, THE BEE GEES, SISTER SLEDGE

JULY 31 STEW CUTLER BAND FEAT SEYDURAH AVECMOI
HUDSON BLUES- FROM BACKWATER, DELTA, CHICAGO, BOOGIEWOOGIE, NEW ORLEANS, BRITISH BLUES

AUGUST 7 TL4 BAND
MOVIES & MUSIC - FEAT SONGS FROM: BODYGUARD, SHAFT, CAR WASH, GREASE, THE BLUES BROTHERS, PHENOMENON, PURPLE RAIN, SPACE JAM, TROLLS, ENCANTO, WICKED

AUGUST 14 CHANIQUE & D MAGMA BAND
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YMHS, Valedictorian, continued from pg 1-

Isabel's favorite teacher is IB Math teacher Ms. Pasqualini. "On top of being a great math teacher, she approached math in a different way. She also gave great advice and was always someone I could go to."

Isabel's favorite subject is Math. "I've always loved Math because there is one right answer. It's like a puzzle that you have to figure out, and it always came easy to me."

Isabel played on the YMHS Volleyball team as Captain for three years. "Our team did great. We won the City Championship and were put in a higher league and still did well. We went to the playoffs and reached the quarter finals in the sectionals."

"When I joined the Volleyball team, I was new to the sport. I made so many friends. It's a communicative sport; you are always talking about where the ball is."

Isabel will be attending Tufts University in the fall. "I got in through early decision in December. I want to be a teacher, and they have a 4+1 program, which will allow me to get my Master's in my 5th year and go straight into teaching. I also love the Boston area; there is so much to do. Plus, I wanted to go to a big school and meet new people and explore the opportunities. I would love to come back to Yonkers to teach."

Who helped you get to this level of academic success? "My parents and my two older sisters. They were great inspiration and gave me great advice."

When did you start to pay attention to the rankings? "I've always been #1 since my freshman year, but it didn't become important until this year. There is a friendly competition between the top 30 students in our school. Everyone is so smart and we were all putting in the work."

Isabel said she enjoyed "the diverse groups of people in my school. Being surrounded by many different ethnicities, cultures, religions, and people with a wide range of thinking. I am so grateful to be in this environment because of the immense amount I can learn from my peers and their individual experiences."

Any advice for future Valedictorians? "Follow your passion, even when it seems the whole world tells you otherwise. Put the hard work in for yourself but give yourself grace in times of difficulty."

Salutatorian Kium Hwangbo will graduate with a 103.74% GPA. "I didn't really care about the rankings; I just came here to learn. It started getting more serious for me in junior year, and I tried a bit harder to get to #2 and it worked."

Kium's favorite teacher is IB Physics teacher Mr. Thiessen. "He was a very influential mentor to me. He was head coach of the robotics team and a very good friend. He passed away earlier this year."

Einstein said that experience is the best teacher, and Mr. Thiessen gave us the independence to think on our own. He lets you make mistakes but always comes in and helps."

Kium's favorite class in AP Chemistry. "It was the first time I was really challenged and at first, I didn't do my best. I then realized that I had to take it seriously and my teacher taught me the rigor required and the importance of being prepared."

Kium was Captain of the Robotics team and helped rebuild the club. "At first, I had no interest in robotics, and I didn't join until my junior year. I was disappointed in how things were being run. I had a long conversation with Mr. Thiessen, and we decided to bring back the community outreach that the club had before COVID."

"We taught middle school students about robotics and business, and we partnered with the Yonkers Police Athletic League for a summer camp. We got funding from the PAL, the Mayor's office and a future grant from the NYS Assembly. It's safe to say our Robotics club will continue to expand."

Kium will be attending the University of Pennsylvania in the fall. "I was deciding between Duke and UPENN. Penn was closer to home; I can take the Amtrak back home. I love my mother's cooking."

"I will be studying molecular life sciences with a double major in Bio Chem and Bio Physics, and I can self-matriculate into a master's program in four years. There are hundreds of labs in Philadelphia that I can work in the summer and research."

"UPENN also has the Wharton School of Business, which I am interested in helping me learn to create a start up company. Let's see where life is going to take me."

Who helped you achieve academic greatness? "My family, but especially my mother. I don't know if I would survive without her food. My teachers were also supportive and gave good advice."

Any advice for future Salutatorians? "Having a genuine passion for learning is far more important than any title or rank. Push yourself to your absolute limits, you'll be surprised at what you can accomplish!"

Congratulations.

NYS Senate Candidate Anthony Merante Call for Greater Local Control Over Public Marijuana Use



Anthony Merante, the Republican candidate for New York State Senate, District 35, is calling for stronger local authority to regulate public marijuana consumption, citing growing concerns from residents about quality of life, public safety, and enforcement.

"When New York legalized recreational marijuana, most residents accepted that adults should be free to make their own choices," said Merante. "What they did not expect was the growing impact public marijuana smoking would have on neighborhoods, parks, business districts, and community gathering places."

Merante recently encountered a young man smoking marijuana in the lobby of his office building who insisted he had the right to do so because marijuana is legal.

"That experience highlighted a growing problem," Merante said. "Legalization should not mean a free pass to ignore common-sense rules or basic courtesy."

Residents throughout Westchester County continue to raise concerns about marijuana smoking near parks, playgrounds, train stations, apartment buildings, and commercial districts.

Merante emphasized that his position is not about reversing legalization.

"The question is not whether marijuana should be legal. The question is whether local communities should have the authority to establish reasonable rules that protect quality of life while respecting individual freedoms," he said.

Merante is advocating for legislation that would give municipalities broader authority to regulate public marijuana consumption and impose meaningful fines for violations.

"Rules without enforcement are merely suggestions," Merante said. "Local governments should have the tools they need to protect their communities and hold violators accountable."

"The goal is not prohibition. The goal is balance," Merante concluded. "Adults who choose to use marijuana legally should be able to do so. Families should also be able to enjoy public spaces without being exposed to marijuana smoke. As State Senator, I will support legislation that strengthens local control and keeps decisions about our neighborhoods in the hands of local communities, not Albany."

About Anthony J. Merante: Anthony is currently running as the Republican candidate for New York State Senate in the 35th District. He is committed to standing up for taxpayers, seniors, homeowners, renters, and working families who want a government that serves the people—not political insiders.

Anthony J. Merante is a Certified Public Accountant, a local businessman and former Yonkers City Councilmember. A lifelong advocate for taxpayers and local communities, he served as president of the Sprain Lake Knolls Civic Association before being elected to the Yonkers City Council in 2017, where he served two terms representing the 6th District.

During his eight years on the Council, Merante earned a reputation as an independent voice who opposed tax increases and fought to protect neighborhoods from overdevelopment. He and his wife, Yolanda, have two children and deep roots in the Yonkers community.

Learn more at [www. https://meranteforsenate.com](https://meranteforsenate.com).

Notice of formation of 660 SAW MILL LCC. Arts. of Org. filed with the SSNY on 03/20/2026. Office: 4 Amawalk Point Road, Amawalk NY 10501 Westchester County. SSNY designated Brian O'Neill as agent of the LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail copy of process to the LLC, 4 Amawalk Point Rd, Amawalk NY 10501. Purpose: Real Estate

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Yonkers Pride Parade 2026



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Yonkers Puerto Rican-Hispanic Day Parade -2026-photos by Donna Davis



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17th District

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PRIMARY DAY: JUNE 23

Yonkers History, continued from pg 3-

Wednesday, June 24th

June 24, 1954: Alexander Smith Carpet Factory announced it was closing the Yonkers plant forever, 90 years after it opened here. After the plant was closed for 10 days by a Textile Workers Union strike, Smith management announced the reason was because "the cumulative effect of operating losses sustained over the past three years..." made "continuation of carpet making in Yonkers impossible." More than half of the employees had been employed in the plant more than 25 years.

The company started 1845 in West Farms, then part of Westchester County. Smith hired Halcyon Skinner; he invented the power loom in 1856. This invention changed the carpet industry; his loom cut production costs, so rugs became affordable. Sales increased.

After fire twice destroyed the West Farms plant, the company moved to Saw Mill River Road and the Nepperhan River in 1864. "The Creek" provided all the water the factory needed for carpet production.

Thursday, June 25th

June 25, 1943: Sanette Manufacturing Company, Herriot Street, made gauze bandages, adhesive tape and surgical dressings.

The government notified Sanette it was awarded a huge contract to make surgical dressings for the Navy; Sanette president Clarence Lee immediately leased the vacant Naval Militia Armory on South Waverly Street, quickly expanding company facilities to fulfill the new government contract!

June 25, 1943: Staff Sergeant John Quinlan, tail gunner on the "Memphis Belle," surprised his family with an unannounced visit. He had told his mom he wouldn't be home until August because of the Memphis Belle crew's nationwide war bond tour. But, since the tour was in Bridgeport, he took a train to Mount Vernon, then the trolley to Yonkers. He spent the night here, returning to Connecticut the next morning.

Friday, June 26th

June 26, 1943: Students were needed to enroll in Yonkers free Defense summer schools; our local defense industries needed workers!

Saunders courses were blueprint reading, drafting, electric and gas welding, machine shop, radio and shop mechanics. School of Aeronautical Manufacturing courses were sheet metal and sheet metal layout, aircraft manufacturing, inspection and testing.

Depending on the area, certification required 150 to 400 hours of work and could be finished by September 1st.

There was a high, continued demand for trained people; area defense industries especially needed welders, machinists, draftsmen and inspectors to complete government defense contracts!

Saturday, June 27th

June 27, 1943: Since the Council had ordered reinstatement of the old curfew law, police were looking out for violators but hadn't picked up any children. Officers believed the real intent of enforcement was preventing teenage girls from "picking up" servicemen.

The law specified youngsters under 16 could not be out at night unless in the company of an adult. One officer stopped a teenage girl in the company of a sailor; he asked her name, age, and where she was going. The teen quickly told him since she was with an adult, she was not violating curfew!

She was right, so he let her go.

June 27, 1953: Yonkers tennis champion Vincent Richards and his youngest son Dean gave a tennis exhibition in the Glen at a Herald Stateman sponsored event. After demonstrating tennis fundamentals, the duo played volunteers from the audience.

Sunday, June 28th

June 28, 1940: Seven hundred people welcomed Yonkers newest citizens at a Commerce High School ceremony! After Mayor Condon welcomed everyone, Supreme Court Justice Frederick Close presided; he urged them to embrace the advantages of living in a free country, especially by joining a political party and voting.

Sixty-four people received their citizenship credentials from County Clerk Harold Mercer; Boy Scouts stood at attention in the aisles while World War veterans escorted the new citizens to the flag decorated stage.

Every newly naturalized citizen received a small American flag and a copy of the oath of allegiance from Yonkers' Keskeskick DAR Chapter; the Yonkers Lions Club gave each new citizen a copy of the American Constitution.

Any questions on this column, email yonkershistory1646@gmail.com.

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

"Earl DMX Simmons Way" Hip Hop Icon from Yonkers Gets City Honor -Street Renaming

By Dan Murphy

The Corner of School Street and Brook Street was renamed "Earl 'DMX' Simmons Way" in tribute to the Yonkers native on June

Raised in the Ross F. Calcagno Homes on School Street, DMX went on to become one of the most influential and successful artists in hip-hop history.

Born on December 18, 1970, DMX rose to international fame with his groundbreaking 1998 debut album *It's Dark and Hell Is Hot*. Known for his unmistakable voice, raw storytelling, and deeply personal lyrics, he became the first rapper to have five consecutive albums debut at No. 1 on the Billboard 200.

DMX became the first rapper to have five consecutive albums debut at No. 1 on the billboard 200.

The Yonkers City Council approved the street renaming last month.

In July 2021, New York artist Floyd Simmons painted the mural on the street DMX once lived in memory of the Yonkers Rap legend, who passed away at the age of 50 in April 2021. The mural is located on School Street, near the Calcagno Homes Municipal Housing complex where DMX once lived.

In 2021, HBO released DMX: "Don't Try to Understand," which is a powerful and honest film about the Yonkers born rap legend who sold 74 Million albums during his career, and is the only musician ever to have five albums debut as #1, during a time when albums were still the way to reach music lovers in the 1990's and early 2000's.

DMX, who died on April 9, 2021, agreed to the documentary, filmed by director Chris Frierson, which starts will his release from prison in January 2019 after serving one year for tax evasion. The film then takes you on a one-year journey through DMX's life, his comeback, relapse, and attempts to reconcile with his family.

Frierson's documentary flashes back to DMX's history, as a young Earl Simmons growing up in the Yonkers housing projects, and suffering abuse from his mother that resulted in being sent to Andrus Children's home in Yonkers, and later as a teenager, living on the streets of Yonkers.

DMX calls Yonkers, Y.O.' and it's the place that he always returns to, whether it be after a concert tour, or jail, or rehab. The ups, downs, kids, ex-wives, life on the road touring, making a comeback, having it all as you are about the reach the peak of fame, and then lose it all in a fall back into addiction, are a part of this film, and the wild ride of DMX.

It has you rooting for DMX during his comeback and tour, where he plays to packed crowds who want to hear the hits that take them back in time. And even in his late 40s, there is still gas in the tank for DMX to give the people what they want and leave them having a good time.

The film also accurately shows how life on the road burns out almost every performer, including DMX, who, after returning to the stage, shooting a music video, and meeting with Death Row Records, "disappears" for a few days.

The drug relapse shows how while DMX loves coming back to Yonkers, he also knows where to score drugs that he used and abused over twenty years. A few days after being unavailable to anyone, he goes into rehab in Massachusetts.

DMX had many friends in Yonkers, who said, "He is not a criminal he's an addict," and "He's fighting demons just like the rest of us." Prayers for DMX, who does believe in God and prays during his concerts, came from strangers and many of us watching.

Even though all of us knew how the story would end, we were rooting for DMX to straighten out his life, and fix his family troubles, and try to end up happy.

If you are from Yonkers, the connections to Y.O. are all over. There's One Family Deli-Grocery on Woodworth Avenue where DMX likes to hang out during the day. And a return to the Municipal Housing projects on School Street where he grew up to hang out and play some cards and dice one night, to the Dow VFW Post, where most of the African American members and veterans knew DMX. And his return to Andrus, where he has fond memories, "I never had three meals a day until I was here," and where he told the young residents to "make the most out of your time here." And Maxwell's Pub, in Elmsford, was his place to shoot some pool and have a beer.

There are positive parts of the film and the late journey of DMX. He was able to fix his broken relationship with his oldest son, Xavier. As they reunite after several years, DMX tells him "I'm proud of the many you have become. And the time spent with his youngest son Exodus, and wife Desiree Lindstrom are special.

How this man achieved music stardom, (he had two platinum albums at the same time), while fighting the demons in his life is amazing. And he never stopped fighting and trying to do right by his family. One Yonkers resident said, "He is human, just like all of us. That's why we love him. Nobody's perfect."

Some call it a tragedy that he died at age 50, while others say his life was a miracle, based on how he broke out of the abuse to become one of the greatest.

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Geeks OnSite

LGBTQ+, continued from page 1-

community?

For many LGBTQ+ folx, that question is personal. It is about home, family, prayer, identity, and survival.

According to the New York State Office of Children and Family Services, LGBTQ+ youth are heavily overrepresented among homeless youth, with research showing that as many as 40% of homeless youth identify as LGBTQ+. Some are put out of their homes or pushed away because their families do not agree with who they are or who they love.

In the ballroom community, gay men are often called ButchQueens, while trans women are often called FemQueens. Our unhoused ButchQueens and FemQueens need help. These are people's children, grandchildren, students, neighbors, and friends.

According to The Trevor Project's 2025 research, many LGBTQ+ young people continue to face food insecurity and unmet basic needs. Some of that pain begins when families lean on religion to justify rejection. But rejection is not the only religious story.

According to Pew Research Center's 2025 reporting, nearly half of LGBTQ+ adults in America still identify with a religion. That means many LGBTQ+ people still believe, still pray, still attend services, and still seek a relationship with God or a higher power.

There are openly gay pastors in Christian churches. Some Christian and Catholic spaces have become more welcoming to LGBTQ+ members. According to the Associated Press, the United Methodist Church voted in 2024 to repeal its longtime ban on LGBTQ clergy. There are also openly gay rabbis, and according to the Jewish Telegraphic Agency, LGBTQ representation in rabbinical schools and Jewish leadership has grown significantly.

Still, many people remain hidden in churches, mosques, synagogues, temples, and other religious spaces. Some people once called this being "Down Low." Today, many simply say "DL." When people feel forced to hide who they are, they may also hide who they are dating, who they are sleeping with, and whether they are practicing safe sex.

The issue is not that men sleep with men. The issue is that people, in general, sometimes are not honest about their partners, protection, or sexual health. According to the CDC, testing, condoms, treatment, and honest conversations are all important parts of preventing sexually transmitted infections.

Pride Month should not only be about visibility. It should also be about safety, honesty, faith, and love. Maybe the real question is not whether LGBTQ+ people can belong in religious spaces. Maybe the question is whether religious spaces are willing to love people fully, truthfully, and without conditions.

No shade.

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

Does Anyone Remember the Yonkers Ground Round on Central Ave?

Historic Yonkers Property Repurposed by Hampshire Management as Cube Smart Self-Storage



A historic Yonkers property that housed a string of popular restaurants over the years has been given a new life as a self-storage facility, the latest development by Hampshire Management Company ("Hampshire"), which owns and operates a commercial real estate portfolio across the tri-state area. This is the company's first self-storage project. CubeSmart Self-Storage ("CubeSmart") will serve as Hampshire's third-party property manager.

After being vacant for more than 15 years, 1113 Central Park Avenue (the "Property") was purchased by Hampshire in 2020 and repurposed from its original retail use to commercial/industrial use. The 164K-sf Property spans 5 stories and includes more than 1,100 climate-controlled storage units including a two-level lobby atrium space.

On Thursday, Yonkers officials, the developers, and local dignitaries gathered for a ribbon-cutting ceremony to mark the grand opening of the Property. "To see this property redeveloped after being vacant for so many years is a win for everyone," said Yonkers Mayor Mike Spano. "By all accounts, this repurposing, with a very attractive building and in-demand use, should be a great success."

The City's Industrial Development Agency helped make the project possible, by providing tax incentives that were instrumental in facilitating the construction of a property that should serve the community well.

Hampshire's Managing Partner Greg Petrillo said that the team thought long and hard before deciding how to develop the Property. The new building has a gleaming, glass exterior that resembles an upscale office building. The Property's exterior, which is comprised of an aluminum composite panel and stone veneer façade, along with a five-story glass curtain wall, truly distinguishes it from commodity self-storage construction.

"The idea was to make an impact" said Petrillo. "It's a very visible piece of property, and we didn't want it to be an ordinary building."

Before it was a Boulder Creek Steakhouse and a Ground Round in more recent times, 1113 Central Park Avenue was patronized by generations of locals as Marnie's Supper Club, which closed in the 1940s and later became Patio Restaurant, and then the famous Tropical Acres nightclub.

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Yonkers Mourns, continued from pg 1-

investigating the incident, with Police Commissioner Sapienza saying, "The events leading up to this, we are going to investigate, and we're going to continue with the investigation from beginning to end."

Superintendent Soler issued the following statement: "As police investigate the nature of the medical emergency, we remain focused on caring for his classmates, teachers, and staff who are in terrible pain," Soler said in a statement. "I ask all of you in the Yonkers Public Schools to rally together. One of our family's needs us. Please keep them in your prayers."

Yonkers Mayor Mike Spano said, "The death of a child is every parent's worst nightmare, and our entire Yonkers community is grieving alongside this student's family, classmates, teachers and loved ones," Spano said in a statement.

"We are working closely with Yonkers Public Schools to ensure grief counselors and support services are available to students and staff as they process this tragedy. As a community, we will be there for one another in the days and weeks ahead."

Council President Lakisha Collins-Bellamy said, "My heart is heavy as our community mourns the tragic loss of a 12-year-old child who did not make it home to his family yesterday. As a parent and a member of this community, I cannot begin to imagine the pain his parents are experiencing. The loss of a child is every parent's worst nightmare, and my deepest condolences go out to his family, friends, classmates, teachers, and the entire Justice Sonia Sotomayor School community.

"Yonkers is grieving together. Yonkers Public Schools has ensured that grief counselors and support services are available for students and staff as they process this heartbreaking tragedy. In moments like these, words never feel like enough, but I want this family and school community to know that they are not alone. We will continue to keep them in our thoughts and prayers in the days and weeks ahead."

Some in the media claim that Medina was eating a doughnut before he began to choke and that he was participating in a TikTok challenge to eat it in one bite. None of these reports has been verified, so we need to wait for the investigation to conclude.

Video from the incident shows staff and emergency personnel attempting to save Medina, through the Heimlich Maneuver, CPA, and a Life-Vac device. EMS personnel were also unsuccessful in clearing Medina's air passage.

Every YPS school has a Life-Vac saving device.

Yonkers Rising PO Box 705, Yonkers NY 10702-914-815-1388. Proudly serving the the people of Yonkers with hyperlocal news. Member NY Press Association. Legal notice inquiries to: risinglegalnotice@gmail.com. Daniel Murphy, Publisher & Editor in Chief, dmurphy@risingmediagroup.com. Bayan Baker, Assistant to the Editor in Chief risingmediagroup@gmail.com.

Notice of formation of Meri Health, LLC. Arts. of Org. filed with the SSNY on 5/27/26. 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, PO Box 134 Maryknoll, NY10545. Purpose: Any lawful activity

LEGAL NOTICE

The resolution, a summary of which is published herewith, has been adopted on May 5, 2026, and an abstract thereof has been published and posted as required by law and the period of time has elapsed for the submission and filing of a petition for a permissive referendum and a valid petition has not been submitted and filed. The validity of the obligations authorized by such resolution may be hereafter contested only if such obligations were authorized for an object or purpose for which the TOWN OF EASTCHESTER, in the County of Westchester, New York, is not authorized to expend money or if the provisions of law which should have been complied with as of the date of publication of this notice were not substantially complied with, and an action, suit or proceeding contesting such validity is commenced within twenty days after the date of publication of the notice, or such obligations were authorized in violation of the provisions of the constitution.

BY ORDER OF THE TOWN BOARD
OF THE TOWN OF EASTCHESTER
JOSEPH D. DOOLEY
Town Clerk
Town of Eastchester, New York

BOND RESOLUTION OF THE TOWN OF EASTCHESTER, NEW YORK, ADOPTED MAY 5, 2026, AUTHORIZING THE CONSTRUCTION OF VARIOUS IMPROVEMENTS AT LAKE ISLE COUNTRY CLUB, STATING THE ESTIMATED TOTAL COST THEREOF IS \$110,500; APPROPRIATING SAID AMOUNT THEREFOR; AND AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE OF \$110,500 SERIAL BONDS OF SAID TOWN TO FINANCE SAID APPROPRIATION.

Object or purpose: to construct various improvements at Lake Isle Country Club, including tree removal, at the estimated cost of \$10,000; retaining wall at kiddie pool, at the estimated cost of \$75,500; golf starter clock, at the estimated cost of \$10,000; and safety berm, at the estimated cost of \$15,000.

Amount of obligations to be issued: \$110,500
Period of probable usefulness: fifteen (15) years

A complete copy of the Bond Resolution summarized above shall be available for public inspection during normal business hours at the office of the Town Clerk, Town Hall, 40 Mill Road, Eastchester, New York.

Dated: May 5, 2026
Eastchester, New York




Yonkers Rising
SEND US letters, announcements, opinions, photo and story ... etc TO
dmurphy@risingmediagroup.com

Notice of formation of Digital Infrastructure Services LLC, Arts. of Org. filed with NY Dept. of State on 10/22/25. Office: Westchester County. NY DOS designated as agent for service of process; DOS shall mail copy of process to 7 Ridgeway Cir White Plains, NY 10605. Purpose: any lawful purpose.

Notice of formation of Rat Attack Snacks, LLC. Arts. of Org. filed with the SSNY on 3/2/2026. 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, 516 Park Avenue Yonkers NY 10703. Purpose: Any lawful activity

Notice of formation of DVH List Services, LLC. Arts. of Org. filed with the SSNY on 05/05/2026. 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, 69 Johnson Rd, Scarsdale NY 10583. Purpose: Any lawful activity

NOTICE OF SALE
SUPREME COURT - COUNTY OF WESTCHESTER

The Bank of New York Mellon Trust Company, N.A. f/k/a The Bank of New York Trust Company, N.A. as Trustee for Multi-class Mortgage Pass-Through Certificates, ChaseFlex Trust Series 2007-2,

Plaintiff,

Against
Ismael Vargas; Morel Carmen; Sonya Quintana

Defendant(s)

Pursuant to a Judgment of Foreclosure and Sale, duly entered 06/13/2024, I, the undersigned Referee, will sell at public auction, in the lobby of the Westchester County Courthouse, 111 Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd., White Plains, NY 10601 on 7/6/2026 at 9:30AM, premises known as 27 Radford Street, Yonkers, New York 10705 a/k/a 25 Radford Street, Yonkers, New York 10705, and described as follows:

ALL that certain plot piece or parcel of land, with the buildings and improvements thereon erected, situate, lying and being in the City of Yonkers, County of Westchester and State of New York.

Section 1 Block 117 Lot 23, 24 and 25.

The approximate amount of the current Judgment lien is \$939,640.48 plus interest and costs. The Premises will be sold subject to provisions of the aforesaid Judgment of Foreclosure and Sale; Index # 51062/2019

Stuart Ball, Esq., Referee.

SHELDON MAY & ASSOCIATES Attorneys at Law, 255 Merrick Road, Rockville Centre, NY 11570

Dated: 4/23/2026 File Number: 35091 CA

To commence the 30 days statutory time period for appeals as of right (CPLR 5512 (2)), you are advised to serve a copy of this order, with notice of entry, upon all parties

SUPREME COURT OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK
COUNTY OF WESTCHESTER

ANABEL CRUZ GARCIA,

Plaintiff,

-against-

ERICK FIGUEROA GONZALEZ,

Defendant.

ORDER

Index No.: 51109/2025

HYER, J.S.C.

This matter was commenced with Plaintiff's filing of a summons and complaint (hereinafter "Complaint"),¹ seeking a judgment of divorce dissolving the parties' marriage pursuant to New York State Domestic Relations Law (hereinafter "DRL") § 170(7), based on an alleged irretrievable breakdown of the parties' relationship for a period in excess of six months,² along with other ancillary relief. Notably, no documents have been filed with respect to personal service of the Complaint by Plaintiff on Defendant.

On March 2, 2026, Plaintiff filed a request for judicial intervention,³ along with the following documents: (1) a notice of motion; (2) proposed Order; and, (3) "Exhibit A" (hereinafter "Motion Sequence No. 1"),⁴ seeking an *ex-parte* Order of this Court granting Plaintiff leave to serve the Complaint by an alternative means of service, that being service by publication.

¹ See, NYSCEF Doc. No. 1.

² See, NYSCEF Doc. No. 1, ¶ "Fifth".

³ See, NYSCEF Doc. No. 4.

⁴ See, NYSCEF Doc. Nos. 2-3 & 5.

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On March 3, 2026, an Order was entered, directing that Plaintiff appear in-person on March 9, 2026 at 9:00 a.m. for oral argument regarding Motion Sequence No. 1.

On March 9, 2026, a conference was held before the undersigned, whereafter an Order⁵ was entered granting the relief sought in Motion Sequence No. 1 on the record, permitting Plaintiff to effectuate service of the Defendant by publication, specifically directing that the Plaintiff serve the Complaint and the Order resolving Motion Sequence No. 1, by publishing same within "Yonkers Rising" for a period of once per week for three consecutive weeks, with such service being effectuated by May 4, 2026, and a preliminary conference thereafter being held on May 8, 2026 at 2:00 p.m.

On May 8, 2026, a conference was held before Hon. Rolf M. Thorsen, J.S.C. in the absence of the undersigned, wherein Plaintiff appeared as a self-represented litigant and Defendant failed to appear or request an adjournment of the conference, with Plaintiff being assisted by a Spanish language Court interpreter, whereafter Plaintiff submitted proof of service by publication (hereinafter "Proof of Publication"),⁶ confirming she had effectuated service on Defendant pursuant to this Court's Order, which was later filed by this Court. Therefore, the conference proceeded in Defendant's absence.

Pursuant to the Part Rules of the Hon. James L. Hyer, J.S.C. § (E)(a):

"Counsel, including per diem covering counsel, and self-represented litigants, must appear on time, be fully familiar with the action(s) on which they appear, be authorized and prepared to discuss all factual and legal issues presented by the litigation and settlement demands or offers, and be authorized to enter into any agreement on behalf of their client. Failure to comply with this Rule may be treated as a default for purposes of 22 NYCRR § 202.27 and/or may be treated as a failure to appear for purposes of 22 NYCRR § 130.2.1. In matrimonial actions, attorneys must appear with their clients for all conferences, unless such appearances are dispensed with by the Court on prior written request, on notice to the adversary, and if

⁵ See, NYSCEF Doc. No. 8.

⁶ See, NYSCEF Doc. No. 9.

Page 2 of 4

applicable, the children(s)'s attorney(s). If counsel or a party is unable to appear on time due to unforeseen circumstances (i.e., delays due to inclement weather or road closures), counsel should contact opposing counsel(s), and advise the Part Clerk or Court's staff, by telephone, as soon as possible. Tardy arrivals will not be tolerated."

Pursuant to the Part Rules of the Hon. James L. Hyer, J.S.C. § (E)(b):

"A request to adjourn a conference must be made in writing, by NYSCEF ONLY, except as provided in Section C(a), at least two (2) full business days in advance of the scheduled conference, unless there is an emergency."

Pursuant to Uniform Rules of the New York State Trial Courts § 202.27:

"At any scheduled call of a calendar or at any conference, if all parties do not appear and proceed or announce their readiness to proceed immediately or subject to the engagement of counsel, the judge may note the default on the record and enter an order as follows:

(a) If the plaintiff appears but the defendant does not, the judge may grant judgment by default or order an inquest.

(b) If the defendant appears but the plaintiff does not, the judge may dismiss the action and may order a severance of counterclaims or cross-claims.

(c) If no party appears, the judge may make such order as appears just."

ACCORDINGLY, IT IS HEREBY:

ORDERED that the Defendant is in default; and it is hereby

ORDERED that an Inquest shall be held on **July 10, 2026, at 10:00 a.m.**, wherein all parties must appear in-person to address all of the issues pending before this Court pertaining to this action, including but not limited to: (1) grounds for dissolution of the parties' marriage; (2) equitable distribution of marital property; (3) declaration of separate property; (4) claims of dissipation; (5) spousal support and maintenance; (6) child custody, access and support; (7) resumption of pre-marriage surnames; (8) attorneys' fees and litigation expense requests; and (9) any other issues arising out of the requested dissolution of the parties' marriage; and it is further

Page 3 of 4

Yonkers.

Terrero came to the US as a very young man. He went right to work in a family grocery store, borrowed money, and put himself through college.

He became a successful real estate businessman and later a community activist, founding the Dominican Cultural Association. As founder, Terrero has provided recreational, educational, and social services to thousands of Yonkers residents.

Terrero has also helped more than 2,000 people become citizens at no cost.

In his years of service on the Yonkers City Council, Terrero was effective in advocating for affordable housing and the environment and influential in advancing the daylighting of the Saw Mill River in downtown Yonkers.

He continues to be an effective community activist with the Park Hill Neighborhood Association.

Why is Terrero running for County Legislator?

Affordability: Wants to enhance the County Dept. of Consumer Affairs to better protect against price gouging at the pump and at the grocery store.

He wants to find ways to provide more free services from county parks and otherwise reduce fees for business licensing and transportation.

Terrero wants to prevent future tax increases.

On the issue of homelessness, Terrero supports reopening county mental health clinics and will advocate for one to be opened in Yonkers.

Terrero will also work to see better cooperation between county and state agencies to get homeless people the mental health and physical services and housing.

On affordable housing, Terrero supports using government land for new housing to reduce costs, and wants to increase the county's role through tax incentives and other resources, working with the private sector to reduce housing costs

On the Environment, Terrero wants to ensure the treatment facility in South-west Yonkers has the most modern equipment to mitigate odors, that the discharge into the Hudson is as safe as possible, and to rally the county to press the federal government for funds to cap the pools to improve air quality.

Terrero has a strong relationship with the police and wants to ensure they are adequately supported financially.

On the County budget, Terrero will draw on his budgeting experience from the Yonkers City Council and hopes to serve on the Budget Committee to optimize service delivery while keeping government spending under control.

Terrero has the support of Mayor Mike Spano, County Executive Ken Jenkins, Congressman George Latimer, and many other elected officials.

He also has the endorsement from the Yonkers Democratic Party, 32BJ, Yonkers PBA, Yonkers Firefighters, Yonkers UFOA, Sierra Club, and the NY League of Conservation Voters.

Terrero has direct experience in government and in community service. He can effectively maneuver and work with other government officials. He will hit the ground running to serve the people of the 17th District.

We endorse Wilson Terrero for County Legislator, District 17, Yonkers

Notice of Formation of Infinity Strategies Group LLC. Arts of Org. Filed with SSNY on September 1, 2025. Office location: Westchester County, New York. SSNY designated as agent of the LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail copy of process to the LLC, 255 Huguenot Street, Apt 913, New Rochelle, NY 10801. Purpose: Any lawful purpose.

Notice of formation of M.C.K. VENTURES LLC of Org. filed with the SSNY on 03/31/2026. 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 MCK VENTURES LLC 465 TUCKAHOE ROAD, #1304 YONKERS, NY, 10710. Purpose: Any lawful activity

Notice of formation of Digital Infrastructure Services LLC, Arts. of Org. filed with NY Dept. of State on 10/22/25. Office: Westchester County. NY DOS designated as agent for service of process; DOS shall mail copy of process to 7 Ridgeway Cir White Plains, NY 10605. Purpose: any lawful purpose.

ORDERED that by **July 3, 2026**, both parties shall file with the Court the following: (1)

Witness List for all witnesses to provide testimony at the Inquest with the understanding that if witnesses are not disclosed they will be precluded from testifying at the Inquest; and (2) Exhibit List with copies of all exhibits to be utilized at the Inquest with the understanding that if disclosure is not made pursuant to this directive exhibits will be precluded at Inquest; and it is further

ORDERED that by **June 26, 2026**, Plaintiff shall serve Defendant with a copy of this

Order with Notice of Entry, and a Notice, including a brief statement of the nature of the action and the relief sought; the sum of money for which judgment may be taken in case of default; a brief description of any real property of which title, possession, use or enjoyment could be affected by a default, within "Yonkers Rising", (914) 815-1388 – dmurphy@risingmediagroup.com – P.O. Box 705 Yonkers, NY 10702, as a publication identified that would most likely give notice to the Defendant of such Order and Notice, such documents to be published **once per week, for three successive weeks**; and it is further

ORDERED that by **June 26, 2026**, Plaintiff shall file with the Court proof of service of this Order with Notice of Entry via publication as set forth herein-above, by way of an affidavit or affirmation of service.

The foregoing constitutes the Decision and Order of the Court.

Dated: White Plains, New York
May 8, 2026

ENTER:

HON. JAMES L. HYER, J.S.C.

Page 4 of 4



DEMOCRAT

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Day One

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Westchester County Executive



Mike Spina
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