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Yonkers Rising

YonkersTimes.com

Friday June 21, 2024

We Endorse: George Latimer for Congress Democrats Have Had Enough of Bowman



George Latimer

The Democratic Primary election in New York's 16th Congressional District this Tuesday may very well be one of the most important primaries in the country this year. Not only will it determine who will represent this solid blue district in the U.S. House of Representatives, but it will also be a bellwether for the future direction of the Democratic Party.

When Jamaal Bowman, a self-proclaimed 'radical,' was elected in 2020, he aligned himself with 'The Squad,' the most extreme far-left caucus in the House. He began representing what he calls a 'movement.' However, we question whether this 'movement' truly aligns with the views of his constituents.

Refusing to compromise his rigid ideology, he voted against many of President Biden's bi-partisan accomplishments, including the infrastructure bill, the debt ceiling deal, the child tax credit, and the federal budget. Bowman's votes mirrored that of Marjorie Taylor Green and other members of the far-right Freedom Caucus. Although the far-left and far-right voted against these bills for different reasons, it highlights that both extremes refuse to compromise for the greater good of the country.

continued on pg 14-

Roosevelt High School Valedictorian, Salutatorian Look to the Future



Roosevelt High School Valedictorian Agustina Simoni, left and Salutatorian Luis Solito

By Dan Murphy

Congratulations to the Roosevelt High School Valedictorian Agustina Simoni, and Salutatorian Luis Solito.

Valedictorian Agustina Simoni will graduate with a 100.87 GPA. One of her favorite teachers at Roosevelt was Italian teacher Nancy Adorno. "She is like a second mom to me. She always has been there for me, and I included her in my graduation speech."

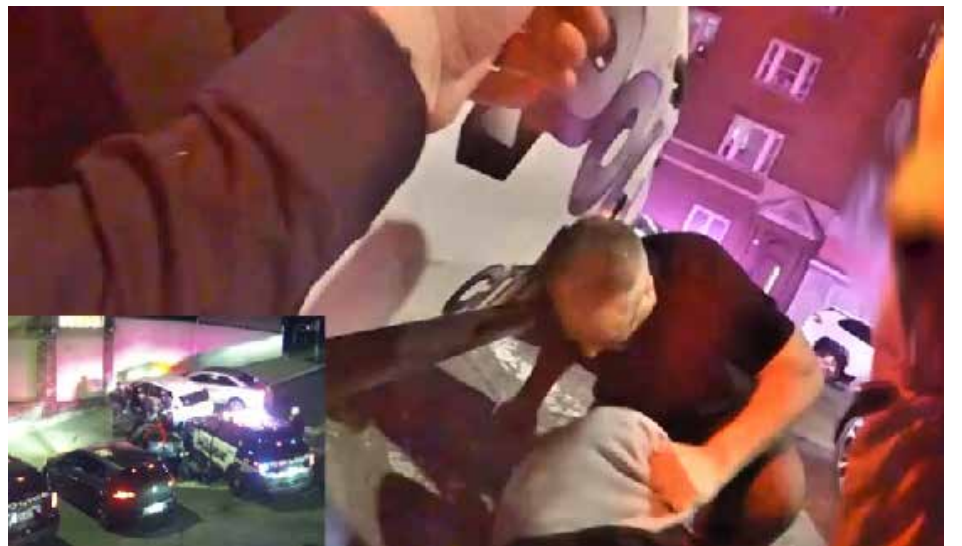
Agustina's favorite class was Italian, which she took in her sophomore and junior year with Adorno. "I have been to Italy and love it. My uncle lives there, and my brother used to live there. I want to move there one day."

Simoni's extra-curricular activities center on "helping others." "I have two nieces that I babysit for, and I like to do anything that I can to help my teachers. I also enjoyed helping when School 32 and School 9 had emergencies and the students came to Roosevelt. I love working with kids." She also enjoys Yoga, drawing and painting.

Agustina moved to Yonkers in 2017 from Albania. "My mom, dad and sister moved here 7 years ago. My uncle is the one who brought us here. When I first came here, I didn't like it and wanted to go back. But after I adjusted, I love it. It has been an amazing experience with some ups and

continued on pg 13-

Yonkers Police Department Release Bodycam Of Sgt. Arrested, Suspended/ Indicted for Assault



See stories on page 14

How Come No one is talking about William Wagstaff's Federal Conviction?



William Wagstaff, left

"As a democratic chair, I'm very concerned about the quality of candidates that carry our banner in November. The republicans would have a field day running against him if he is our candidate,"

*-John Filiberti,
Eastchester Democratic Chair*

By Dan Murphy

During his campaign speeches, and in his address to district leaders at the Westchester Democratic convention in the spring, William Wagstaff, candidate for Westchester District Attorney, referenced his criminal past.

"Almost 20 years ago, when I started law school, I was on Federal house arrest," said Wagstaff.

Many Westchester Democrats have wondered what crime Wagstaff was convicted that resulted in his house arrest. Other democrats are not aware that Wagstaff was convicted of a crime while eeking to become the chief law enforcement official in Westchester.

A criminal search resulted in discovery of the case -USA vs. Wagstaff, Federal Case # case number: 7:04-mj-00115 filed in 2004, charged Wagstaff with Fraud with identification documents. He pled guilty and was sentenced to three years' probation, which included house arrest.

A Vibrant Yonkers 2024 Juneteenth Parade



L-R-Council President Lakisha Collins-Bellamy, County Legislator

Shanae Williams, Councilwoman Deana Robinson-See story on pg 2

A Vibrant Yonkers 2024 Juneteenth Parade

By: Dennis Richmond, Jr.

The Yonkers Annual Citywide Juneteenth African Heritage Parade and Festival Weekend 2024 was an unforgettable celebration of freedom, culture, and community spirit. Held on Saturday, June 15th, 2024, starting at 1:00 PM EST, this vibrant event kicked off with a parade that traversed from Warburton Avenue and Manor House Square to the JFK Marina, where the festivities continued well into the evening.

Embodying the theme of Ujima, meaning collective work and responsibility, the parade was a testament to unity and solidarity within the Yonkers community. Supported by nearly ten co-sponsors, including local hero Ron of Ron's Moving, Packing, and Trucking Company, the event showcased the power of collaboration in honoring African heritage and history.

From children dancing joyously to performers towering on stilts, the parade was a spectacle of diversity and creativity. The participation of Messiah Baptist Church of Yonkers, led by Pastor Frank Evan Coleman, Jr., and First Lady Margaret Fountain-Coleman, added a profound spiritual dimension, with church member Adell Reynolds embodying the joyous spirit of the occasion.

Elected officials including Yonkers City Council President Lakisha Collins-Bellamy, Councilwoman Deana Robinson, New York State Assemblyman J. Gary Pretlow, and City of Yonkers Mayor Mike Spano, alongside Majority Leader of the New York State Senate Andrea Stewart Cousins, marched proudly, underscoring their commitment to the community's heritage and progress.

DJ Myte brought the beats to a float adorned with colors. The young man over DJ Myte Academy made sure to infuse the parade with infectious rhythms that kept spirits high. Meanwhile, Ron Williams of Ron's Trucking Corp., a pillar of the community, not only graced the stage but also gave back generously, embodying the essence of Juneteenth's celebration of freedom and generosity.

The festival itself was a melting pot of music, food, giveaways, and heartfelt connections, echoing the historic significance of Juneteenth. This day, marking the emancipation of the last enslaved people in the United States in 1865, resonated deeply with attendees who came together in joyous commemoration of resilience and hope.

News 12's Carol Wilkinson captured the moment, bringing the sights and sounds of this extraordinary day to viewers across Westchester, ensuring that the spirit of Juneteenth and its message of freedom reached far and wide.

The Yonkers Annual Citywide Juneteenth African Heritage Parade and Festival Weekend 2024 was not just an event, but a celebration of unity, history, and community pride. It set a shining example of how a city can come together to honor its past, celebrate its present, and inspire its future.

Dear Editor,

Donald Trump was found guilty by a jury of everyday Americans on 34 felony counts. He is finally being held accountable for one of his many illegal schemes to gain and hold onto power. His conviction is a reminder that no one—including a former president—is above the law. And it's another reminder that Trump still poses a major threat to our democracy.

When he was President, Trump attacked our fundamental freedoms, from our freedom to vote in 2020 when he attempted to overturn the will of the people, to appointing three extreme Supreme Court justices that overturned Roe v. Wade and abortion rights for millions of Americans.

The New York trial may be over, but Donald Trump still faces three additional indictments and 54 criminal charges for a litany of crimes, including federal charges for his efforts to incite violence and overturn the will of voters after he knew he'd lost the 2020 election. And on top of all that, he's STILL running for president.

Our fundamental freedoms are on the line. Don't let a convicted fraudster hold the highest office in our land. It's up to us to stand up and defeat Trump at the ballot box this November.

Sincerely,
Grace Levine
Yonkers

Questions Raised as Mirza Drops Out of Race for Westchester DA, Endorses Wagstaff



Adeel Mirza

By Dan Murphy

Adeel Mirza, one of three democratic candidates for Westchester County District Attorney, ended his campaign on June 14, just one day before early voting began for the Democratic Primary on June 25. In his statement, Mirza endorsed William Wagstaff for Westchester DA.

"I ran for District Attorney because, after almost two decades in the Westchester DA's office, I had the experience to run the office, reform it, and keep families safe. Throughout this campaign, I have had the incredible opportunity to visit every corner of our county, meeting people, leaders, and activists who care deeply about our communities' futures. I am deeply grateful for the support and encouragement from every community in Westchester."

"The District Attorney's office is a vital piece of that future, and whoever holds the office must be someone who holds our Democratic values – and always has. That is why, after much reflection and many conversations, I have decided to stop campaigning and back William Wagstaff for District Attorney. I have gotten to know William throughout this race, and he is kind, generous, thoughtful, and reform-minded. He will run the office with integrity and keep families safe while pursuing justice for all, regardless of race, religion, ethnicity, gender identity, or economic status," said Mirza.

Some have questioned the timing of Mirza's exit from the DA's race. "What kind of deal did Adeel cut with Wagstaff? What is he getting for getting out and endorsing Wagstaff?" asked one Westchester Democratic leader.

Mirza's departure now leaves Wagstaff and Susan Cacace as the two remaining democrats in the race for Westchester DA. Cacace's campaign commented on Mirza's departure from the race. "We are not surprised by Adeel Mirza's decision to stop campaigning in the race for Westchester District Attorney, nor are we surprised by his questionable decision to endorse William Wagstaff. What is truly disappointing is that Mr. Mirza's campaign was built solely around disparaging Susan Cacace, the only woman in the race for DA, a lifelong Democrat and clearly the most experienced and qualified candidate.

"The choice for the next Westchester DA has only become clearer. Susan Cacace's decades of experience as a Westchester County Court Judge, Assistant DA and criminal defense attorney make her far more qualified to keep Westchester safe than any other candidate. This sentiment is shared by current DA Mimi Rocah, the Westchester County Democratic Committee and dozens of other well respected elected officials and law enforcement organizations throughout the county who have proudly endorsed Susan Cacace.

"Undecided voters should ask an important question. Will William Wagstaff, who seeks to become the chief law enforcement official in the county, accept the endorsement of an accused sexual harasser who was disgracefully fired from the DA's Office and whose campaign was run by a convicted felon? The race for District Attorney is far too important to ignore these important decisions," stated the Cacace campaign.

Mirza recently settled a sexual harassment lawsuit filed by a former colleague in the Westchester DA's office, and most of the more than \$100,00 spent

continued on pg 12-

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Yonkers Councilman Merante Gives Back Pay Raise to Local Organizations



On June 11, Yonkers City Councilmember Merante presented a \$ 500 check to the Homefield Association at their monthly meeting. The Homefield Association is a community group that serves the Homefield section of Yonkers. In addition to having a community center they also sponsor various activities throughout the year for the families of the Homefield community.

When the Yonkers City Council voted to give themselves a historic 20% pay raise late last December, 6th District Councilmember Anthony J. Merante VOTED NO. Merante vehemently objected to this pay raise which he felt was unwarranted for a part-time job. Merante, a Certified Public Accountant said " The Council should not vote for salary increases for itself, only for future elected officials. He quipped to his current colleagues and to those potentially seeking office , "if you don't like the salary, then don't run for the office". Merante is the only Yonkers Councilmember to refuse a City funded car and free gas, This too he felt was a needless expense being charged to taxpayers.

Merante has now embarked on a "Give Back Program". He will be donating a portion of the recent raise back to local organizations. Merante said, " I wanted to help those who are helping others in the community. This program will continue throughout my time in office. The Council job should be about serving the public and not serving oneself. My mantra has always been "It's All About You" the people of Yonkers."

And Now, the End is Near!

By Eric Wolf Schoen



Well Friends, if you think Tuesday, June 25 is simply National Strawberry Parfait Day, National Camp Counts Day (honoring the amazing day and sleep away camps we still have in this country) or National Goat Cheese Day, you must have been sleeping under a rock for the last several months.

Tuesday, June 25 is Primary Day for Federal, State, County and local offices in New York State.

Yes, we are talking among other contests the Primary for Congress in New York's 16th District which features incumbent Jamaal Bowman being challenged by Westchester County Executive George Latimer. One of the most expensive primaries in the history of this country, the last numbers I saw showed over \$23 million dollars being by the candidates. That's a lot on money!

People on both sides of the battle are passionate about the candidates and their positions on the issues. I find this level of passion to be almost equal to the national passion on the Biden /Trump race. Many friendships have been strained, new alliances between people of all political stripes have been formed, and though it's hard to believe there are still people who don't realize they are eligible to vote in the NY 16 Primary.

Bottom line is that if you have received a crazy amount of mail from candidates Bowman and Latimer, you live in the district. Early voting at specially designated sites, which are probably not your normal polling location continues through this Sunday. Do we really need these early polling locations to be open for 2 weeks prior to Primary Day for all elections or should they only be open for the Presidential Election every 4 years. It will be interesting to compare the percentage of people who vote in a highly contested Presidential Primary to the percentage of people who vote in a highly contested Congressional Primary as we have on Tuesday.

Board of Elections staff have a difficult enough job recruiting poll workers for the big presidential elections where you have a steady stream of voters vs. elections like the Congressional, state and county elections which attract far fewer people. The only reason the Board of Elections can obtain the large numbers of workers they need is because they have increased the pay scale. Bottom line is that it's a 5:30 a.m. to 9:30 p.m. job not always working in the best of conditions. Yes they have talked about voting by mail but the elected officials are afraid they would lose their power.

I have been very clear with you who I am supporting for Congress in NY 16, a man who I believe will uphold the dignity of the office as his distinguished predecessors had whether it be Nita Lowey, Elliot Engel, Richard Ottinger, Mario Biaggi or Peter Peysner. That man is Westchester County Executive George Latimer.

Last week I shared with you some personal reasons why I am backing my friend George that go far beyond what you will see in the public endorsements that run in our regional newspapers. Most newspaper editorials are written by editorial boards based on stories contained in their newspapers and don't truly represent personal knowledge of the candidates.

When I support a candidate, I know their positions on issues of importance to the community as I live in that community. When the current Congressman Mr. Bowman voted against the Infrastructure Bill, I spoke to local officials, real estate leaders, union leaders and the folks like you and my neighbors who are

continued on pg 11-

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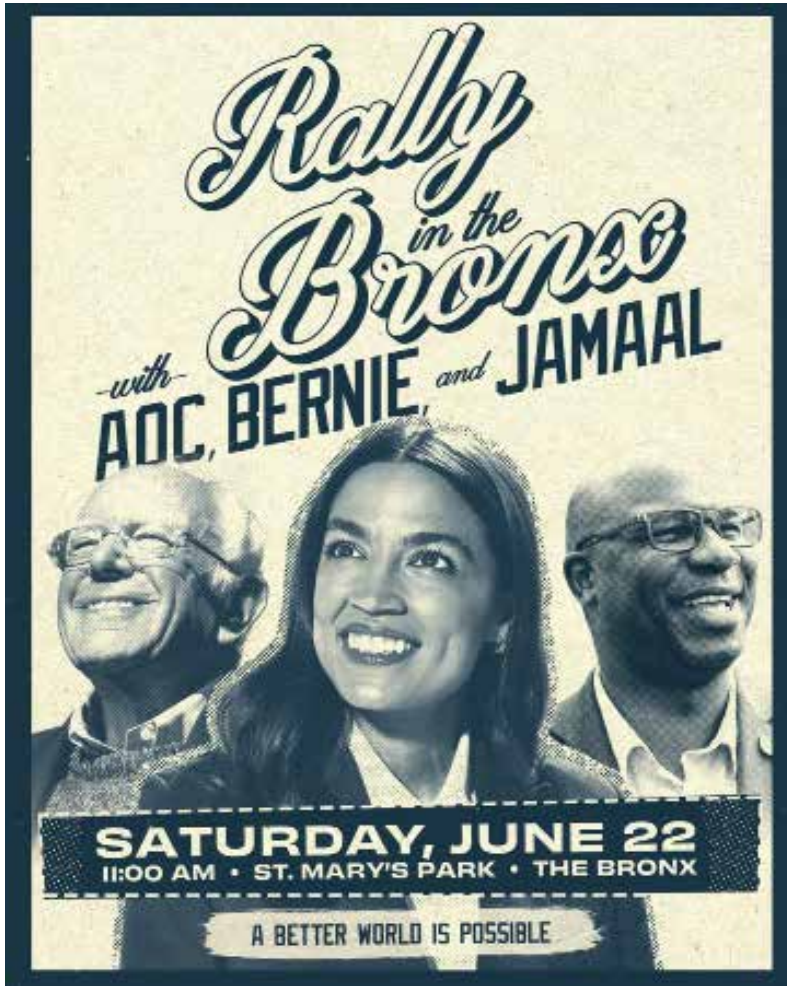
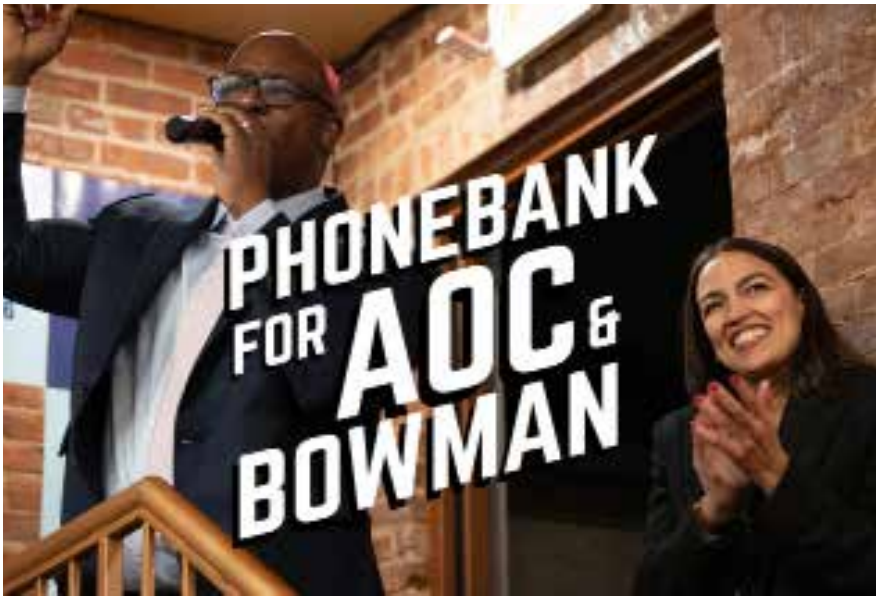
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GENERAC

continued on pg 4-

Can AOC and Bernie Save Bowman?



By Dan Murphy

Congresswoman Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez has taken notice that one of her fellow squad members, Rep. Jamaal Bowman, is in jeopardy of losing his democratic primary to Westchester County Executive George Latimer. AOC and Senator Bernie Sanders are planning to come to Westchester and the Bronx for Bowman this weekend.

But it might be too little too late, and several Westchester democrats believe that AOC and Sanders will not attract any of the small number of undecided voters left in the upcoming Bowman-Latimer democratic primary on June 25.

The focus for the Bowman campaign may now be to get out its base of supporters, who are members of the Working Families Party, Westchester Progressives, Indivisible Westchester, Jews for Jamaal and Protect Our Power. So, it has brought in two of the democratic party's most progressive members and recognizable faces; AOC and Senator Bernie Sanders.

Sanders will come to Hastings on Hudson for a rally for Bowman on June 21 from 4-530pm at MacEachron Park, 44 W Main St, Hastings-on-Hudson, NY 10706. And on June 22, Sanders and AOC will rally with Bowman in the Bronx, from 11am-2pm, at St. Mary's Park, 450 St. Ann's Ave, Bronx, NY 10455.

continued on pg 13



Yonkers Rising

Hidden Crisis: LGBTQ+ Youth Homelessness Soars In New York

By: Dennis Richmond, Jr.

As LGBTQ+ Pride flags flutter proudly in the resilient city of Yonkers, a less visible yet profoundly felt struggle grips its LGBTQ+ youth and LGBTQ+ youth across America: homelessness. This pressing issue underscores a critical need for compassion and support, illuminating a challenge that demands attention and action.

According to News12 Westchester, "A study in 2019 found 30% of youth in foster care are identified as LGBTQ+ and 5% as transgender. This is a statistic that reveals a stark reality compared to their peers. Similar challenges persist across neighboring cities like White Plains, New Rochelle, and Mount Vernon, where significant percentages of LGBTQ+ youth find themselves without stable housing. According to the Office of Children and Family Services in New York, "LGBTQ minors who are homeless are at the highest risk for sex trafficking and sexual exploitation."

One individual's journey speaks volumes about the hurdles faced by LGBTQ+ youth. After bravely embracing their true identity, this young person in Westchester County was met with rejection and found themselves without a place to call home. Their story mirrors those of many others who confront family discord, discrimination, and a lack of supportive resources across America.

Despite the data, there's hope. At The LOFT LGBTQ+ Community Center in White Plains, NY—a hub for vital services—individuals of all ages access essential resources, including information about housing assistance, counseling, and peer support groups. The LOFT fosters an environment that affirms and supports LGBTQ+ folk. Meanwhile, the Westchester LGBTQ+ Advisory Board's advocacy highlights the urgent call for policy reforms and increased funding to strengthen these initiatives.

Looking ahead, it's clear that a united front is needed. More inclusive shelters, enhanced support services, and educational campaigns to combat prejudice are all vital steps toward ensuring that every individual, regardless of identity, finds the safety and dignity they deserve.

Reflecting on their journey, one individual expresses a mix of hope and determination. "No one should face the struggles I did," they share. "We need more understanding, more kindness, and more opportunities for everyone to thrive."

In the heart of Westchester County, these are more than just numbers on a page; they represent lives filled with resilience and the courage to seek acceptance. Together, we can build a community where everyone has a place to call home, where no one is left out in the cold.

Dennis Richmond, Jr., an educator, historian, and writer, illuminates the experiences of Black, Latinx, and LGBTQ+ communities in Yonkers and NYC through his journalism. Stay connected with him by following @NewYorkStakz on social media.

 A poster for Mayor Spano's Summer Film & Concert Series. It features the City of Yonkers logo and the website yonkersny.gov. The poster is divided into two sections: "MOVIE & CONCERT SCHEDULE".

MOVIES AT DUSK			
DATE	MOVIE	RATING	LOCATION
June 28	Grease	PG	Untermyer Park - North Broadway
July 5	Little Mermaid	PG	Fitzpatrick-Tompkins Park - Bolmer Ave.
July 12	Happy Feet	PG	Clover Park - Clover Street
July 19	Tad's Bond Together	PG	Georgia Avenue Park - Georgia Ave.
July 26	Wonka	PG	Kinsley Park - Park Avenue
August 2	Elemental	PG	Fay Park - Depewster Street
August 9	Barbie	PG-13	Kordish Park - Britton Road
August 16	Migration	PG	Wasosko Park - Agar Street
August 23	Kung Fu Panda 4	PG-13	Thornton Park - Wallkillton Avenue

MUSIC 7:00 - 8:30 PM			
DATE	BAND	MUSIC GENRE	LOCATION
July 11	Annette A. Aguilar & Stringbeats	Latin/Brazilian Jazz	Lennon Park - Lake Avenue
July 18	McLean Avenue Band	Music & Dance Show Band	Wetly Park - Barton Road
July 25	Orquesta Trombonazo	Latin/Salsa	Lincoln Park - South Broadway
August 1	Therapi Band	Dance/Reggae/Steel Drum	Stefank Park - Nepperhan Avenue
August 8	Showtime Dance Band	Music & Dance Show Band	Coyne Park - McLean Avenue
August 15	Steve Maglo	Sinatra Tribute	Untermyer Park - North Broadway
August 22	The Men of Soul	Soul/R&B	Corraro Park - Riverdale Avenue
August 29	Disco Night at the Rink	Disco/Dance	E.J. Murray's Skating Center - Tuckahoe Road
August 30	Gus Hayes Band	Irish/Folk/Pop	Redmond Field - Cook Avenue

Rain Site for all Music is at E.J. Murray's Skate Center at 348 Tuckahoe Road.

YONKERS PARKS logo and social media icons for Facebook, Instagram, LinkedIn, YouTube, and TikTok. Contact information: cityofyonkers, mayormikespano, mayormikespano, cityofyonkers. For additional information call (914) 377-6450. Bring your own seating and blankets - Music & Movies subject to change.

Read it all Online at
Yonkerstimes.com

38th Annual African-American Heritage Festival June 23, Kensico Dam Valhalla

Join us to celebrate African-American culture and raise awareness about Physical and Mental Health at the African-American Heritage Festival on Sunday, June 23 from noon to 6 p.m. at Kensico Dam Plaza in Valhalla.

County Executive George Latimer said, "We gather at Kensico Dam Plaza to celebrate and take the opportunity to learn about the different cultures that make up the fabric of Westchester County. African American culture includes values and principles such as unity, patriotism, social cohesion, respect for authority and elders, and a sense of community life. This sentiment, communalism, is the belief that the success of the individual and the group are inseparable. By being culturally aware, we can recognize and appreciate other people's beliefs, customs, and values to interact with them without prejudice or judgement. This leads to more cultural connections and fewer interpersonal conflicts arising from cultural differences."

Parks Commissioner Kathleen O'Connor said, "African American culture has had a profound impact on music, giving birth to various genres such as jazz, blues, gospel, R&B, hip-hop and reggae. Music is the universal language that unites us all, so dust off those dancing shoes and get your groove on with family and friends on the great lawn at Kensico Dam Plaza."

There will be live entertainment, music, dance, drama, poetry, ethnic foods, line dancing, cultural arts and crafts, health vendors, educational vendors and much more. The festival will be held rain or shine. Seating is informal; bring blankets or folding chairs for seating on the lawn. No coolers will be allowed. Admission and parking are free. Carpooling or taking mass transit is encouraged. A free shuttle service will be offered (by Accredited Limousine Service) to and from Valhalla and North White Plains Train Stations from 1:00 p.m. until 6:00 p.m.

The other heritage festivals are: (all at Kensico Dam Plaza, Valhalla)

- Hispanic Sunday, July 7 Noon – 6 p.m.
- Irish-American Saturday, July 14, 12 p.m. to 6 p.m., Ridge Road Park, Hartsdale (admission: \$5 adults; free for ages 14 and under)*
- Italian Sunday, July 21 Noon – 6 p.m.
- India Sunday, Aug. 4 Noon – 6 p.m.
- Jewish Sunday, Aug. 18 Noon – 6 p.m.
- Muslim Sunday, Aug. 25 Noon – 6 p.m.

The African-American Heritage Festival is co-sponsored by Westchester County Parks and the Coalition of African American Organizations. Kensico Dam Plaza is located at 1 Bronx River Parkway, Valhalla. More information or call (914) 864-PARK. Please be advised that on Sunday, June 23, the Bronx River Parkway will be closed for Bicycle Sundays from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. between Scarsdale Road in Yonkers and the Westchester County Center in White Plains.

On This Day in Yonkers History ...



Alan Benson, Socialist Candidate for President, 1916, from Yonkers

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

Monday, June 24th

June 24, 1953: Audience members attending a softball game at Sullivan's Oval in Nodine Hill were surprised to see a young doe take part in the action! The doe, resting in a nearby backyard, was startled when the noise startled her; she took off across the field. She made a brief return several minutes later... delicately touched first base, then second... then disappeared into left field and into the night!

June 24, 1953: Efforts of the Yonkers Railroad Company to make work during the summer heat more bearable for its drivers, led to what the company called "Summer Cocktail Parties." Held Wednesdays in July and August in Getty Square, the featured drink for the Summer Cocktail Party was buttermilk!

Besides company drivers, traffic cops in the Square were special guests.

Tuesday, June 25th

July 25, 1942: The State Department listed a Yonkers man as one of the 600+ Americans being returned to the US in an exchange program with Japan. M. Caslae of Yonkers was listed as returning from Hong Kong... but no one by that name was listed in the Yonkers City Directory!

July 25, 1942: Seventeen-year-old Carl Kazimir of Walnut Street became the youngest pilot to solo at Yonkers Seaplane Base. He had just eight hours of training with instructor Ray Schulte.

Wednesday, June 26th

June 26, 1928: An unknown burglar made a bold attempt to rob the F. and W. Grand store at 8 Palisade Avenue! He rented an apartment above the store and drilled through the floor. The plot was discovered by employees who noticed wood chips and plaster on the floor... and a circle of holes in the ceiling. The circle was large enough for a person to drop into the store. No clues to his identity were left in his room, or any indication why his plan wasn't completed.

June 26, 1942: Ralph Mulligan, Chairman of the Yonkers War Bond and Stamp Committee, announced bettors at Empire City Racetrack would be able to buy War Bonds and Stamps!

The Empire City Racing Association approved the Committee's application for Red Cross volunteers to sell war bonds and stamps at the track. Local banks sponsored the sale, and booths in the clubhouse and grandstand were built with the cooperation of Track Superintendent Michael McDermott.

Thursday, June 27th

July 27, 1940: Commander Orlando Nichols, last Civil War veteran in the Kitching War Post, GAR, was laid to rest at Oaklawn Cemetery in Connecticut.

continued on pg 11-

Buying Comics!

Looking for 1960's-1990's I PAY CASH!

Located in Yonkers Text or call Andrew at 914-646-1718.

Notice of formation of Studio Elise LLC filed with the SSNY on 04/05/2024. Office: Westchester County. SSNY designated as agent of the LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail copy of processes to the LLC, 3 Ward Street, Hastings-on-Hudson, NY 10706. Purpose: Any lawful activity.

Notice of formation of Lee & Mazie's LLC. Articles of Organization filed with the SSNY Office on 04/02/2024 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 process to : Lee & Mazie's LLC 1 Sherwood Terrace Apt 5D Yonkers, NY 10704 Purpose: Any lawful purpose. Latest date upon which LLC is to dissolve: No specific date.

Notice of Formation of KW Services NY LLC. Articles of Organization filed with Secretary of State of New York (SSNY) on 3/30/24. Office location: Westchester County. SSNY is designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to 875 King Street Chappaqua NY 10514. Purpose: any lawful act or activity.

NOTICE OF FORMATION of Intentional Journey Psychotherapy, LCSW, PLLC. Arts of Org filed with Secy. of State of NY (SSNY) on 4/8/24. Office location: NY County. SSNY designated as agent upon whom process may be served and shall mail copy of process against PLLC to 1374 Midland Ave, Suite 410, Bronxville, NY 10708. Purpose: any lawful act.

Notice of Formation of Northern Lights Massage Therapy PLLC. Arts. of Org. filed with SSNY on 8/21/23. Office location: Westchester County. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process may be served. SSNY shall mail process to 409 North Broadway Apt 38 Yonkers NY 10701. Purpose: any lawful act or activity.

Notice of Formation of RR 207 Consulting, LLC. Arts. of Org. filed with SSNY on 03/27/24. Office location: Westchester County. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process may be served. SSNY shall mail process to 603 Warburton Ave, Ste 2, Hastings-on-Hudson, NY, 10706. Purpose: any lawful act or activity.

LEGAL NOTICE OF

APPLICATION FOR CHANGE OF ZONE DISTRICT CLASSIFICATION

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, pursuant to law, that a meeting of the City Council of the City of Yonkers, to be held on **Wednesday, June 26, 2024 at 6:45 PM** in the City Council Chambers, 40 South Broadway, Yonkers, New York, the City Council will proceed to give a public hearing on the application of OCD Properties Inc., **Owner/Petitioner** in relation to a requested change of zone district classification from the present S-50 Zoning District ("S-50 District") to a CM Zoning District ("CM District"), for the following described parcel of land, to wit:

Section 3. Block 3270 Lot 192 on the Official Tax Map of the City of Yonkers.

Said property is vacant land situated adjacent and to the south and east of 1228 Saw Mill River Road and fronts on Saw Mill River Road to the south and Prior Place to the east, and is known as 1212 Saw Mill River Road.

The Owner/Petitioner proposes to construct a parking lot to serve the adjacent parcel located at 1228 Saw Mill River Road.

FURTHER NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, that, pursuant to law, the notice is sent to you as an owner of land within a radius of 200 feet of the area of land affected by the proposed change of zone or land directly opposite thereto extending 200 feet from the street frontage of such opposite lands.

You may present to the City Council a protest against the proposed change of zone if you are opposed thereto. Such protest must be in writing, signed by you and acknowledged by you before a Notary Public or Commissioner of Deeds; it must state your name and address, describe your own property Tax Map and Block Numbers, and by Street Number, and by other appropriate description showing the dimensions and area of your property, and that it is either within the area of land affected by the proposed change of zone, or within a radius of 200 feet of said area of land so affected or within 200 feet from the street frontage of land directly opposite to the land so affected; that you object to the proposed change of zone and the grounds for such objection.

This notice is sent to you by as required by Rules of the Yonkers City Council and the General City Law.

VINCENT SPANO, City Clerk

CORPORATION NOTICE CITY OF YONKERS-NEW YORK

PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE

Notice is hereby given, pursuant to law, that the Mayor of the City of Yonkers, New York, will hold a Public Hearing on Wednesday, June 26, 2024 at 5:00pm, Mayor's Reception Room, 2nd floor, 40 South Broadway, Yonkers, New York, to hear all interested parties and citizens regarding the adoption of the following Local Law, to wit:

A LOCAL LAW AMENDING ARTICLE IX OF THE CHARTER OF THE CITY OF YONKERS IN RELATION TO SEWER RENTS.

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

MIKE SPANO, Mayor, Date: June 14, 2024

LEGAL NOTICE
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS
PUBLIC HEARING
PROPOSED WATER RENT INCREASES
I, Thomas Meier, Commissioner of the Department of Public Works in the City of Yonkers, do hereby call a public hearing on the proposed scale of water rent on Wednesday, June 26, 2024, in the Law Library, Rm. 300, City Hall, 40 South Broadway, Yonkers, New York, at 5:30 p.m. The Proposed Scale of Water Rents is available for inspection by the public until June 26, 2024 at: The Office of the City Clerk, City Hall, 40 S. Broadway, Yonkers NY 10701.
THOMAS MEIER, COMMISSIONER
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS
Dated: June 17, 2024

PROPOSED SCALE OF WATER RENTS

	Current Rates	Proposed Rates
First 1 Million cubic feet (per 100 cubic feet)	\$4.69	\$4.92
Over 1 Million cubic feet (per 100 cubic feet)	\$4.69	\$4.92
Minimum Semi-Annual Charges	\$117.86	\$123.64

LEGAL NOTICE

The ordinance, a summary of which is published herewith, has been adopted on June 11, 2024, and approved by the Mayor on June 11, 2024, and the validity of the obligations authorized by such ordinance may be hereafter contested only if such obligations were authorized for an object or purpose for which the CITY OF YONKERS, 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 publication of this Notice, or such obligations were authorized in violation of the provisions of the constitution.

Vincent E. Spano, City Clerk

City of Yonkers, New York

SPECIAL ORDINANCE NO. 35-2024

BOND ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF YONKERS, NEW YORK AUTHORIZING THE ACQUISITION OF BOOKS AND EQUIPMENT FOR USE BY THE BOARD OF EDUCATION; STATING THE ESTIMATED MAXIMUM COST THEREOF IS \$5,400,000; APPROPRIATING SAID AMOUNT THEREFOR; AND AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE OF BONDS OF SAID CITY IN THE PRINCIPAL AMOUNT OF NOT TO EXCEED \$5,400,000 TO FINANCE SAID APPROPRIATION

The bonds are authorized to finance the acquisition of books and equipment for use by the Board of Education.

The amount of obligations to be issued is not to exceed \$5,400,000.

The period of probable usefulness of the acquisition of books, software and equipment for use by the Board of Education, is five (5) years.

Pursuant to the provisions of Section 17 of the Special Local Finance and Budget Act of the City of Yonkers, constituting Chapters 488 and 489 of the Laws of 1976 of the State of New York (herein called the "Act"), the City is authorized and directed to include the pledge and agreement of the State of New York (herein called the "State") contained in said Section 17 of the Act, in the ordinance, and the Act provides that upon payment for the bonds or notes by the original and all subsequent holders thereof the inclusion of such pledge and agreement shall be deemed conclusive evidence of valuable consideration received by the State and City for such pledge and agreement and of reliance upon such pledge and agreement by any holder and that any action by the State contrary to or inconsistent with the provisions of such pledge and agreement shall be void.

A complete copy of the Bond Ordinance summarized above shall be available for public inspection during normal business hours at the office of the City Clerk, 40 South Broadway, Yonkers, New York 10701.

DATED: June 13, 2024
Yonkers, New York

Notice of formation of Resonance Interactive LLC. Arts. of Org. filed with the SSNY on 5/14/2024. 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, 17 Arlington Road, Scarsdale NY, 10583. Purpose: Any lawful activity.

Notice of formation of WIT SOCCER LLC. Arts. of Org. filed with the SSNY on 4/18/2024. 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, 390 Heritage Hls, Unit D, Somers, NY 10589-1989. Purpose: Any lawful activity.

Scenic Hudson Honors Majority Leader Stewart-Cousins for Environmental Leadership



Scenic Hudson President Ned Sullivan with Majority Leader Andrea Stewart-Cousins

New York State Senate Majority Leader Andrea Stewart-Cousins was honored for her leadership and dedication to environmental issues at Scenic Hudson's annual gala Sojourner Truth State Park in Kingston on Saturday, June 8. This event celebrated the contributions of female environmental champions from across the Hudson Valley, recognizing their relentless efforts to preserve and protect our natural resources.

"Everything in this 520-acre park, built on a former industrial property has benefited from Senator Stewart-Cousins' steadfast commitment to investing in sustainability," said Scenic Hudson President Ned Sullivan. "Senator Stewart-Cousins championed both the Environmental Protection Fund and the \$4.2 billion Environmental Bond Act, which made possible not only the creation of the state park, but future improvements as well. Over the course of more than 30 years in public service in local, county and state government, Senator Stewart-Cousins has been a pioneering exemplar of female leadership, acting with courage, determination and an unwavering commitment to the environment."

The creation of Sojourner Truth State Park was a project undertaken by Scenic Hudson in collaboration with the New York State Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation and the Palisades Interstate Park Commission. The event marked the opening of the new park and the enduring efforts of Scenic Hudson, which is in its seventh decade of saving land, creating one-of-a-kind parks, and responding to the climate crisis.

continued on pg 13-

LEGAL NOTICE

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Vincent E. Spano, City Clerk
City of Yonkers, New York

SPECIAL ORDINANCE NO.36-2024

BOND ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF YONKERS, NEW YORK AUTHORIZING FUNDING FOR VARIOUS CAPITAL PROJECTS INCLUDED IN THE SCHOOLS FACILITIES MANAGEMENT PLAN FOR THE BOARD OF EDUCATION, AS AMENDED; STATING THE ESTIMATED MAXIMUM COST THEREOF IS \$10,000,000; APPROPRIATING SAID AMOUNT THEREFOR; AND AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE OF BONDS OF SAID CITY IN THE PRINCIPAL AMOUNT OF NOT TO EXCEED \$10,000,000 TO FINANCE SAID APPROPRIATION

The bonds are authorized to finance various capital projects included in the School Facilities Management Plan for the Board of Education, as amended.

The amount of obligations to be issued is not to exceed \$10,000,000.

The period of usefulness associated with the construction of improvements to various school buildings and the sites thereof, is thirty (30) years.

Pursuant to the provisions of Section 17 of the Special Local Finance and Budget Act of the City of Yonkers, constituting Chapters 488 and 489 of the Laws of 1976 of the State of New York (herein called the "Act"), the City is authorized and directed to include the pledge and agreement of the State of New York (herein called the "State") contained in said Section 17 of the Act, in the ordinance, and the Act provides that upon payment for the bonds or notes by the original and all subsequent holders thereof the inclusion of such pledge and agreement shall be deemed conclusive evidence of valuable consideration received by the State and City for such pledge and agreement and of reliance upon such pledge and agreement by any holder and that any action by the State contrary to or inconsistent with the provisions of such pledge and agreement shall be void.

A complete copy of the Bond Ordinance summarized above shall be available for public inspection during normal business hours at the office of the City Clerk, 40 South Broadway, Yonkers, New York 10701.

DATED: June 13, 2024
Yonkers, New York

Westchester Pools and Beaches to Open This Weekend During Heat Wave



CROTON AND GLEN ISLAND BEACHES, AND SAXON WOODS AND SPRAIN RIDGE POOLS to Open -June 19-June 21

Due to the anticipated heatwave, two Westchester County Beaches and Pools will be open for residents to cool off.

Croton Point Beach in Croton-on-Hudson and Glen Island Beach in New Rochelle will be open from Wednesday, June 19 through Sunday, June 23, 11 a.m. to 6:30 p.m., and Saxon Woods Pool in White Plains and Sprain Ridge Pool in Yonkers will be open from Wednesday, June 19 through Friday, June 21, 1 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. Last entry for all facilities is 6 p.m.

Westchester County Executive George Latimer said, "Having the opportunity to stay cool during a heatwave is important and I thank the Westchester County Parks Department for being able to open up four facilities to help our community."

Commissioner of the Westchester County Department of Parks, Recreation and Conservation, Kathy O'Connor said, "I'm so proud of my staff for coming together to open up and provide this necessary service to residents."

Proof of Westchester County residency required at Saxon Woods Pool, Sprain Ridge Pool and Glen Island Beach. Admission fees apply; parking fees apply at Croton Point and Glen Island Beaches.

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The ordinance, a summary of which is published herewith, has been adopted on June 11, 2024, and approved by the Mayor on June 11, 2024, and the validity of the obligations authorized by such ordinance may be hereafter contested only if such obligations were authorized for an object or purpose for which the CITY OF YONKERS, 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 publication of this Notice, or such obligations were authorized in violation of the provisions of the constitution.

Vincent E. Spano, City Clerk
City of Yonkers, New York

SPECIAL ORDINANCE NO.37-2024

BOND ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF YONKERS, NEW YORK AUTHORIZING FUNDING FOR VARIOUS CAPITAL PROJECTS INCLUDED IN THE CITY'S 2024-2025 CAPITAL BUDGET, AS AMENDED; STATING THE TOTAL ESTIMATED MAXIMUM COST THEREOF IS \$48,533,086; APPROPRIATING SAID AMOUNT THEREFOR; AND AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE OF BONDS OF SAID CITY IN THE PRINCIPAL AMOUNT OF NOT TO EXCEED \$48,533,086 TO FINANCE SAID APPROPRIATION

The bonds are authorized to finance various capital projects included in the City's 2024-2025 Capital Budget, as amended.

The amount of obligations to be issued is \$48,533,086.

The periods of usefulness are various periods from 3 to 40 years.

Pursuant to the provisions of Section 17 of the Special Local Finance and Budget Act of the City of Yonkers, constituting Chapters 488 and 489 of the Laws of 1976 of the State of New York (herein called the "Act"), the City is authorized and directed to include the pledge and agreement of the State of New York (herein called the "State") contained in said Section 17 of the Act, in the ordinance, and the Act provides that upon payment for the bonds or notes by the original and all subsequent holders thereof the inclusion of such pledge and agreement shall be deemed conclusive evidence of valuable consideration received by the State and City for such pledge and agreement and of reliance upon such pledge and agreement by any holder and that any action by the State contrary to or inconsistent with the provisions of such pledge and agreement shall be void.

A complete copy of the Bond Ordinance summarized above shall be available for public inspection during normal business hours at the office of the City Clerk, 40 South Broadway, Yonkers, New York 10701.

DATED: June 13, 2024 Yonkers, New York

Yonkers Students Shine at Westchester Magazine's Wine & Food Festival



Photo caption: (left to right) – Culinary students from the Charter School of Educational Excellence with X20 owner Peter Kelly at Westchester Magazine's Wine & Food Festival on June 8, 2024. Photo by Chloe Wareham-Gordon.

Students from the Charter School of Educational Excellence (CSEE) participated in Westchester Magazine's prestigious Wine & Food Festival on June 8. CSEE's high school culinary students visited the festival's chef demonstration area, where they observed top chefs in action, learning firsthand about the art of food preparation and plating. This unique experience allowed students to immerse themselves in the culinary world, gaining valuable insights from seasoned professionals.

"We are incredibly proud of our students for their participation in such a prestigious event," said CSEE co-founder and trustee Sobeida Cruz. "This experience has given them a real-world perspective on the culinary arts and hospitality industry, which is invaluable for their future careers."

In addition to observing, the students played an active role by assisting in serving exquisite dishes to festival attendees. This hands-on experience not only enhanced their culinary skills but also provided them with a deeper understanding of the hospitality industry.

Held annually, this multiday celebration of gastronomy is renowned for its vibrant showcase of wine, food, chefs, restaurants, beer, and spirits, featuring tastings, parties, a burger contest, cooking exhibitions, and more.

The involvement of CSEE's culinary students underscores the school's commitment to providing experiential learning opportunities that prepare students for success in their chosen fields.

The CSEE's industrial kitchen opened in 2021 as part of the \$27 million high school building at 220 Warburton Ave. The school emphasizes academic achievement, while also offering students practical vocational opportunities that can help students pay for their higher education.

Besides culinary arts, the CSEE also offers automotive opportunities with a state-of-the-art auto lab, a fully functional auto service garage with two hydraulic lifts, an alignment lift, and a classroom separate from the garage.

DEMOCRAT SUSAN CACACE

for Westchester District Attorney

THE *right* EXPERIENCE

RATED 100% PRO-CHOICE GUN SENSE CANDIDATE




60+ ENDORSEMENTS AND GROWING



KEN JENKINS
Deputy County Executive



SHELLEY MAYER
NYS Senator



AMY PAULIN
Assembly Member



MIKE SPANO
Yonkers Mayor



Affiliated
Police Assoc. of
Westchester



West. Putnam
Building &
Construction Trades



Hispanic
Democrats of
Westchester



West. Putnam
Central Labor
Body AFL-CIO

See www.CacaceforDA.com for full list.

VOTE BY JUNE 25

DEMOCRATIC PRIMARY

PHOTO BY DAVID ROKA

Read it all Online at Yonkerstimes.com

Over 60 Electeds Call on Gov. Hochul to Stop Algonquin Pipeline Expansion



Rally against Gas Pipeline expansion, photo by Marilyn Ellie

At a rally on June 17, 69 state and local elected officials delivered a letter calling on Governor Hochul to take an early stance against Enbridge’s dangerous proposed fracked gas pipeline expansion, dubbed Project Maple, by committing to denying any upcoming permits for the project.

The proposal would significantly expand the amount of fracked gas transmitted through the Algonquin Pipeline, contrary to the intent of New York’s climate law which mandates greenhouse gas emissions reductions of at least 85 percent by 2050 and the state’s nation-leading ban on fossil fuels in new buildings, which will go into effect in 2026.

Last fall, at a rally outside the shuttered Indian Point nuclear site, feet from the Algonquin pipeline’s path, New Yorkers delivered a letter from more than 90 environmental groups urging elected officials to take a stand against the destructive project.

Food & Water Watch Senior New York Organizer Santosh Nandabalan said: “The clock is ticking to move New York off fossil fuels, and make good on our landmark climate law. Enbridge’s fracked gas expansion proposal will take us in the wrong direction. We are proud to stand with elected officials throughout New York in demanding Governor Hochul come out against this dangerous project. Hochul must commit to denying all state permits for Enbridge’s last ditch fossil fuel expansion.”

State Assemblywoman Dana Levenberg (95th District) said, “Why would we build infrastructure that will be obsolete before the end of its life? As renewable options become less expensive and easier to choose, more and more consumers are rejecting outdated dirty energy options. We need to have the courage to reject fossil fuel industry lies and say no to things like Project Maple. We have a state law, the Climate Leadership and Community Protection Act, that actually obligates us to do this. We cannot take this step backward; we must push forward with building our renewable energy future, where we will see lower costs and cleaner air and water.”

State Assemblymember MaryJane Shimsky (92nd District) said: “I join my government colleagues, environmental groups, and citizens throughout New York — and up the East Coast from New Jersey to Massachusetts — in opposing the proposed enlargement of the Algonquin Gas Transmission Line. This project would pose new risks to our environment and local communities, including those near Indian Point, and would put New York that much farther from meeting its climate goals. I urge Governor Hochul to protect the progress we have made in reducing our reliance on fossil fuels, and deny Enbridge the permits needed for any further expansion of the Algonquin pipeline.”

DEMOCRAT

GEORGE LATIMER

FOR CONGRESS

REAL RESULTS. NOT RHETORIC.




With 35 years of public service experience, serving in the Assembly, Senate, and as County Executive, **DEMOCRAT GEORGE LATIMER** has an unmatched track record of delivering real progressive results for all New Yorkers.

 PASSED	 PASSED	 PASSED	 PASSED	 PASSED	 PASSED	 PASSED
STATE ASSAULT WEAPONS BAN	CLINIC ACCESS LAW	MARRIAGE EQUALITY	UNIVERSAL GUN BACKGROUND CHECKS	AFFORDABLE HOUSING INVESTMENTS	CARBON REDUCTION REQUIREMENTS	INFRASTRUCTURE FUNDS TO IMPROVE FLOODING, ROADS, AND TRANSIT

Now George is running for Congress to protect our democracy from MAGA extremism, stand strong with Israel and the Ukraine, and deliver the results we need on stronger gun laws, reproductive rights, climate change, housing, and more.

ENDORSED BY

















LatimerForNY.com

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PAID FOR BY GEORGE LATIMER FOR CONGRESS

Chef Peter Kelly Unveils Prix Fixe Dinner at Apropos



Chef Peter Kelly, above, has designed a two-course summer prix fixe dinner at Apropos restaurant.

The special menu starts with a choice of appetizers that include wild mushroom cappuccino with porcini foam and black pepper biscotti; a salad of red and yellow watermelon with feta cheese, kaffir lime oil, tiny greens, and toasted cumin; or mini duck tacos with cucumber, scallions, and hoisin sauce.

The three entrée options are roasted Chatham cod with lemon capers, curried couscous, and green and yellow squash; roasted Hudson Valley chicken, parmigiano polenta, chicken jus and spring vegetables; or baked eggplant stuffed with basil ricotta, San Marzano tomatoes and fresh mozzarella.

The prix fixe dinner option is available Sunday through Thursday, and the cost is \$39.95 per person.

Kelly, whose restaurants in the Hudson Valley include X2O in Yonkers, is best known for his interpretation of contemporary American cuisine that has earned accolades on national television and in the hospitality sector.

Apropos has undergone a dining room revitalization, an expanded wine selection and an elevated menu presenting local ingredients that are prepared with European techniques and Asian embellishments.

Apropos is in the Abbey Inn & Spa, 900 Fort Hill Road, Peekskill. Reservations can be made at 914-739-3546.

LEGAL NOTICE

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Vincent E. Spano
City Clerk
City of Yonkers, New York

SPECIAL ORDINANCE NO.29 - 2024

BOND ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF YONKERS, NEW YORK, AUTHORIZING THE PAYMENT OF VARIOUS TAX CERTIORARI JUDGMENTS, COMPROMISED CLAIMS AND SETTLED CLAIMS APPROVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL DURING FISCAL YEAR 2024-2025, STATING THE ESTIMATED MAXIMUM COST THEREOF IS \$15,000,000, APPROPRIATING SAID AMOUNT THEREFOR, AND AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE OF BONDS OF SAID CITY IN THE PRINCIPAL AMOUNT OF NOT TO EXCEED \$15,000,000 TO FINANCE SAID APPROPRIATION.

The bonds are authorized to finance various tax certiorari judgments, compromised claims and settled claims against the City.

The period of probable usefulness is a minimum five (5) years and maximum twenty (20) years, dependent on the total amount of tax certiorari claims paid in a single fiscal year.

The amount of obligations to be issued is \$15,000,000.

A complete copy of the Bond Ordinance summarized above shall be available for public inspection during normal business hours at the office of the Clerk of the City at City Hall, in Yonkers, New York.

DATED: June 13, 2024
Yonkers, New York

Animal Defenders of Westchester (ADOW) Endore Latimer for Congress -NY-16

Animal Defenders of Westchester (ADOW) is proud to endorse George Latimer for Congress. Mr Latimer has worked hard to cut taxes and fight for civil rights and racial equality. As a state representative, Latimer passed an assault weapons ban and universal background checks, sponsored legislation on housing, invested hundreds of millions in our communities and infrastructure plus rebuilding our roads and bridges and the community's decades-neglected Memorial Field, making it 'the Jewel of Mt. Vernon.' He created thousands of new units of affordable housing, and made the County Bus system free during the summers and holidays. Latimer has taken executive action to lower property taxes, strengthen health-care, worked to protect reproductive rights for women, and for marriage equality.

But despite his busy schedule meeting the needs of his constituents, he always found a moment to help the most profoundly voiceless residents as well.

Most notably, Latimer introduced a bill curtailing the blatantly pro-slaughter actions of the NYSDEC - a unfair, wildly discriminatory 'environmental' agency established almost 100 years ago, staffed solely with hunters by law, specifically barring non-hunters - creating a biased pro-slaughter agenda.

Instead, Latimer's bill, called the Right to Know bill, calls for prior notice to the public before DEC wildlife slaughters, public meetings, and providing information on humane alternatives. Latimer also was a leading voice for clean waterways, stopping animal-user circuses and facilitating adoptions from animal shelters.

Sadly, Rep. Bowman chose to ignore our simple request for his position on humane treatment for animals. We just weren't important enough for him to respond - even though in 2024 worldwide governments are now addressing the issue of decent treatment for sentient, intelligent beings who are horribly mistreated due to greed, ignorance and apathy; they realize animals have the same pain-producing nervous system as us, they love their babies as we love ours. Great leaders don't only respond to special interest groups and favored causes. Great leaders stand up to all injustice - even to the most helpless, least powerful residents, even the ones who can't vote. But we can vote for them.

Animal advocates are everywhere, in every country on earth. We are changing the world. We lobby government officials, we run for office, we are game changers and policy makers; we've passed state laws: We are a force to be reckoned with. This is not a new effort; creating humane legislation began centuries ago.

We have heroes speaking for animals: "We must fight against the spirit of unconscious cruelty with which we treat the animals. Animals suffer as much as we do. True humanity does not allow us to impose such sufferings on them." ~Albert Schweitzer

"Heaven is by favor; if it were by merit your dog would go in and you would stay out." ~ Mark Twain

"Never be afraid to do what's right, especially if the wellbeing of a person or animal is at stake." ~ Dr. Martin Luther King

"We cannot have peace among men whose hearts find delight in killing any living creature. By every act that glorifies or even tolerates such moronic delight in killing, we set back the progress of humanity." ~ Rachel Carson

Those of us who help animals frequently help 'people' causes; we have compassion for suffering no matter who is the recipient. A caring heart is a caring heart - it does not discriminate.

Intelligent politicians help all unfortunate inhabitants - not just the ones who can vote for them. Politicians need to understand that we are an enduring movement and a voting bloc. Change takes time: It took women almost 100 yrs to get the vote in this country...but the right course is in front of us.

For Rep. Bowman, or any persons seeking public office, we suggest that if someone asks you a humane question - or any reasonable question - you should answer; it's what great leaders do. There's a Biblical phrase about not forgetting to "acknowledge strangers, for thereby some have entertained angels unawares." It's just a matter of showing people respect.

George Latimer has served this state honorably as a champion for its quality of life. He works hard to make this a welcoming, decent place for all its residents - even the littlest. In addition to the multitude of endorsements he's already received, we humbly and heartfully add our own.

Kiley Blackman, Founder, Animal Defenders of Westchester
www.ADOW.org

Bowman Hasn't Voted in Congress Since May 23

By Dan Murphy

Westchester Congressman Jamaal Bowman has been Missing in Action in the House of Representatives, and has not cast a vote since May 23, according to Politico. And one vote that Bowman missed is a vote on the National Defense Authorization Act.

The National Defense Authorization Act, (NDAA), authorizes funding levels for the U.S. Military. House Republicans included in the bill restrictions for service members and their families to access abortion care. Specifically, the bill would bar the Defense Department from paying for service members or their family who have to travel out of states for abortion care.

Democrat Rep. Mikie Sherrill, a Navy Veteran and member of the Armed Services Committee, said that Republicans were attempting to "shove their extremist culture war agenda down the throats of the American people."

Bowman was absent for this vote, and his opponent, Westchester County Executive George Latimer reminded voters in the district about Bowman's absence from more than 50 votes on the House floor over the past three weeks.

"Yesterday, 207 House Dems voted against the National Defense Authorization Act, which among other things further restricts the ability of servicemembers & their families to access abortion care. Jamaal Bowman missed the vote, causing it to pass by 1 single vote. I believe we should always prioritize #RealResults-NotRhetoric. My opponent has voted against key Democratic policies like @ JoeBiden's infrastructure bill. Yesterday he could have stood on his principles & stopped this anti-choice, anti LGBTQ+ legislation from passing. He didn't," said Latimer on X.

Latimer's reference to the 208-207 vote was for the House Rule for the 2025 House Defense Authorization Bill. And while the actual bill passed 217-199, if Bowman was present to vote against it, the Bill would have been defeated. In the House, if there is a tie, the item fails. Bowman was not present for either votes.

Yonkers History, continued from pg 5-

Coordinated by the Central Committee of Veterans, color guards and uniformed members from every Yonkers post accompanied the funeral cortege as it headed to the cemetery. Yonkers Police escorted the procession to the city line, where NYS Police took over until they reached the state line, where Connecticut State Police escorted the procession. Post Seven, American Legion, fired the 21-gun salute, and Past Commander Thomas Pyne sounded Taps at Nichols' grave.

June 27, 1942: The Young Men's Chamber of Commerce, later known as the Yonkers JayCees, were in the middle of a quandary! NY Press wrote about its "Hop In" program. The young men distributed car stickers to people willing to give rides to servicemen in Yonkers; drivers put the decals on their cars, alerting servicemen free transportation was available in the stickered car.

After distributing hundreds of stickers to Yonkers drivers, the supply ran out. Once the New York press publicized the program, the Young Men's Chamber of Commerce was inundated with requests for decals from communities outside Yonkers.

Friday, June 28th

June 28, 1916: Yonkers Red Cross women provided quite a send-off at the Yonkers train station to the First Artillery boys on their way to Mexico. The Park Hill Inn, Frankfort's Inn, the French Bakery, Blanchard Lunch, and Post's Dining Room donated more than 1400 sandwiches; Shanley's donated 40 gallons of coffee. Seven thousand cookies were distributed to those gathered at the station.

June 28, 1918: Allan L. Benson of Yonkers, Socialist candidate for President in 1916 who renounced the Party because of its anti-American sentiments, spoke at a War Savings Stamp rally at Philipsburgh Hall.

Saturday, June 29th

June 29, 1900: School Four students were treated to an outing at Hickory Grove on the former Valentine estate. After participating in games and contests, the children were served ice cream and cake at tables built by Charles Valentine.

June 29, 1923: After witnessing "tapping of the old Croton Aqueduct," Water Bureau Superintendent Harry Foley announced all danger of a "water famine" was gone. The tapping sent 2,000,000 gallons into the Saw Mill River daily.

June 29, 1953: After lobbying for the word "SLOW" to be painted at the intersection of Mile Square and Palmer Roads, Tenth Ward Councilman Joseph Prior found the job was incomplete! The word "SLO" was painted, with no "W." The "W" appeared on the pavement in a short time.

Sunday, June 30th

June 30, 1923: Because of intense lobbying by First Ward Alderman William O'Mara for his constituents, benches and a drinking fountain were installed at the City Pier.

June 30, 1934: Thousands of Yonkers fans gathered in front of The Herald Statesman to get an up-to-the-minute description of the Jack Sharkey-Primo Carnera world's heavy weight championship fight. Besides having a large corps of telephone operators answering calls, they had a direct line from Madison Square Garden Bowl in Long Island City. Carnera knocked out Sharkey in the sixth round.

June 30, 1953: Alexander Smith, Inc. continued to "streamline" its Yonkers mills; it moved machinery from two Saw Mill River Road buildings to other buildings. Rumors circulated Yonkers the company was leasing the buildings it was emptying since it planned to leave Yonkers.

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

sick and tired of getting flat tires when they take local roads to buy their groceries at the supermarket. These same people don't buy Bowman's pathetic rationale that he knew the bill had enough votes to pass, wanted more dollars in a bill that would address more needs and that's why he voted against the bill.

Bowman's fire alarm stunt is nothing to laugh about. My friends out of this country know what he did. All of his constituents were embarrassed by his antics, and the slap on the wrist he got, well he might as well not have received any punishment. People could have panicked and lives could have been lost. The videotape showed he was lying, And I want to remind you that Mr. Bowman was a High School Principal. He knows the seriousness of the stunt he performed. I am sure that if one of his students pulled a fire alarm they would have receive an extensive suspension or expulsion.

He waffles everyday on his positions on Israel and the Middle East. There are many more people with far more extensive qualifications than your columnist who have weighed in on his foreign policy flaws.

You would find each of the Congresspersons I mentioned earlier at events in their Congressional District. The loud cry from his constituents? Where is our Congressman? Oh wait a minute, there he is on MSNBC. No sneakers and shorts on MSNBC. But add to that attire a polo shirt and you have what he wore to church dinner several weeks ago.

All I can say is that people in NY 16 want a Congressman who will make them proud and represent them with dignity. Someone who is visible in the district and has staff that will help them when they have to deal with the bureaucracy that is the Federal Government.

George Latimer won't embarrass us in Washington, D.C., the world and right here at home. He will embrace our ideas and truly be a vital force in Congress. The people in NY 16 deserve nothing less and nothing but the best!

For District Attorney it's a No Brainer: Susan Cacace

Full disclosure. I knew Judge Susan Cacace's grandmother, long time leader in the WESTCHESTER Democratic Party. We were District Leaders in the same Ward in Yonkers, and I would often drive her home from political club meetings. I knew her dad and know her brothers.

Years ago Judicial Candidates in WESTCHESTER would run for their first election only on the Democrat and some minor party lines. If they won they would often run for a second term or the remainder of their term on all political party lines. This handshake 'deal' existed for many years until Democratic enrollment increased and Democrats were as they are now able to get elected almost exclusively on the Democratic line.

For her opponents to say that Judge Cacace ran on the Republican and Conservative lines years ago and represents the values of those parties shows their unfamiliarity with the history of the Judiciary in WESTCHESTER. Judge Cacace served on the WESTCHESTER Judiciary for a distinguished 20 year period. She did her job, and I never heard negative comments about her performance.

She will prosecute without the fanfare of a Jeanine Pirro. She will make an excellent District Attorney for Westchester County.

Campaign Signs Littering our Roadways

Political signs are ok on private property, not ok on public property. The candidates, including Judicial candidates know the laws. They break them. Yonkers Mayor Mike Spano must establish a task force after the election. Political signs lessen the value of homes in an area and are pollution. Put up whatever sign you want on your property, but not on property that is in the public domain! Impose the hefty fines outlined in the City Charter and candidates and their supporters won't break the laws!

Reach Eric Schoen at thistooisonkers@aol.com, or friend him on Facebook Eric Schoen...just look for him in the picture with Joan Rivers!

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Wagstaff, continued from pg 1-

"In my opinion, this disqualifies him from getting my vote," said Tom Meier, Chair of the Yonkers Democratic Committee. "The question for voters is whether to put him in charge of the DA's office in Westchester when he has no experience as a prosecutor and that he has a criminal record.

"And it is my understanding that the crimes he committed were at his father's gas station. He frauded the people who were customers at his father's business. This is not a victimless crime and he has shown no remorse for it.

"In fact he is wearing the crime he committed as a badge of honor and a reason for voters to elect him DA, and hasn't shown any remorse for what he did. While I believe in second chances, if you are running for chief law enforcement officer for Westchester County, District Attorney's need to be held to the highest standards.

"When you combine this with the fact that he didn't pay his taxes, it all adds to a lack of character. I want someone impeccable leading the office of DA, and someone who abides by the laws, and who sat as a judge and who worked in the DA's office. That person is Susan Cacace.

"Everyone has to be held accountable to the law, including our former President. It doesn't motivate democrats in Yonkers to vote for him," said Meier.

A Sound Shore Democratic leader said, "To say that you should be elected DA based on the fact that you stole credit cards from your father's customers is nonsense. That's doesn't quality you."

"My concern is that you did this and then 20 years later you didn't pay your taxes and you made up a nonsensical excuse. If you were making \$375,000 per year from the City of Mount Vernon as a special prosecutor, and you had a lot of other income, but you couldn't pay your taxes? It's the age old question-if you can handle your personal finances, why should we trust you to manage the Office of District Attorney?"

"Wagstaff acknowledges that he has no experience as a prosecutor but will "reimagine" the job. But given your past, are you really ready and qualified to be our DA?"

Others have wondered if Wagstaff would pass a background check to be a law enforcement officer. "Mr. Wagstaff seeks to become the chief law enforcement officer in Westchester County. But the reality is that because of his past conduct it is highly unlikely that he could pass the background check to get hired as a probationary police officer. This, combined with the fact that he has no experience whatsoever as a prosecutor, should tell voters that he is unfit and unprepared to be our next District Attorney," writes former Yonkers PBA President Keith Olson.

Eastchester Democratic Chair John Filiberti said, "As a democratic chair, I'm very concerned about the quality of candidates that carry our banner in November. The republicans would have a field day running against him if he is our candidate in November, Susan Cacace has four times the experience than Wagstaff, and we need to remind people that he has virtually no criminal court experience. This should not be a competitive race in my opinion. She is by far the best qualified to become district attorney."

Wagstaff was charged in Federal Court with Fraud because one or more of the banks that were frauded by Wagstaff's illegal activities contacted the FBI. Or the crime, or fraudulent activity, must involve interstate or foreign commerce. Why was Wagstaff placed under house arrest when he was charged with probation? Local attorneys say that he may have been placed under house arrest before his final conviction, or that his house arrest was part of his probation sentence.

We confirmed with the Cacace campaign that the candidate has not been convicted of a crime.

Westchester District Attorney Mimi Rocah, who is not running for reelection and has endorsed Cacace said, "Susan Cacace's extensive experience as both a prosecutor and a judge makes her an outstanding choice for District Attorney. She has a deep commitment to justice, and I am confident she will continue to advance the crucial work we have undertaken over the past four years to modernize the District Attorney's Office. Susan is the clear choice to lead the office, and build on a record of public safety and fairness."

Wagstaff was hired as a part-time Special Prosecutor by Mount Vernon Mayor Shawyn Patterson-Howard, who is one of Wagstaff's biggest supporters.

The Journal News was the first to report that Wagstaff did not pay his income taxes six years until he began to run for District Attorney. A total of \$189,112 was overdue including \$112,712 for 2020.

The Wagstaff campaign claimed that the candidate was waiting for future lawsuit settlements to come in to pay his past due taxes, but that excuse made no sense to most democrats. And Wagstaff didn't share his tax troubles to the Westchester Democratic Executive Committee.

Some question how Wagstaff got involved in a credit card scheme when he was in his early 20's. "This type of crime doesn't happen by accident and hit tax troubles point to a continued pattern. I would listen to the people who are raising red flags. They know his record, and they have concerns," said one democrat.

Mirza, DA's Race, continued from pg 2-

by Mirza's campaign were negative attacks against Cacace. And Mirza's final comment in his statement was, "What we can not have is a District Attorney who has run on the Republican and a Conservative Party lines – we need a Democrat who has always been staunchly pro-choice and supports common sense gun legislation. William Wagstaff will be a District Attorney we can be proud of, and I am asking all my supporters to vote for him."

Some Westchester democrats questioned the rationale for attacking Cacace, the only woman in the race, who is seeking to replace Mimi Rocah. "I think Adeel wanted to get back into the DA's office. But the way he went about it, sending out mailings attacking Cacace, without introducing himself to voters, resulted in dismal poll numbers that had him behind Wagstaff and Cacace."

Recent polling in the race had both Mirza and Wagstaff far behind Cacace, with a large segment of Westchester democrats undecided. The reason? The Bowman-Latimer race for Congress was sucking all of the oxygen out of the DA's race.

Polling in Bowman-Latimer had very few voters undecided. They have made their minds up and are already voting early. But in the DA's race, almost half of democrats have yet to make up their mind.

Now polling will have to be conducted with just two DA democratic candidates to choose from: William Wagstaff and Susan Cacace.

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Geeks OnSite

Stewart-Cousins honored, continued from pg 7-

“New York is blessed with abundant natural resources and environmental diversity. Protecting and preserving these precious resources is paramount for the well-being of current and future generations,” Sen. Stewart-Cousins said. “I am deeply honored to be recognized by Scenic Hudson, an organization which has shown unwavering dedication to maintaining New York’s natural beauty and environment. I extend my heartfelt congratulations to my fellow honorees, whose efforts and commitment inspire us all to strive for a more sustainable future.”

Senator Stewart-Cousins was honored alongside other distinguished women leaders in environmental policy: Lucy Rockefeller Waletzky, M.D., former NY State Parks Commission Chair; Yvonne Flowers, Mayor of Poughkeepsie; Shaniqua Bowden, Director of Cultural Engagement and Sustainable Living for the Kingston Land Trust; and Kathy Lawrence, founding Board Chair of the Greater Newburgh Parks Conservancy.

Sojourner Truth, a renowned African-American abolitionist and women’s rights activist born into slavery in New York in the late 1700s, gained her freedom in 1827 and became known for her powerful anti-slavery speeches and unwavering dedication to social justice. Scenic Hudson said Saturday’s honorees embody Sojourner Truth’s passion, fearlessness, and leadership in their work, exemplifying the values of justice and service while advancing environmental sustainability.

Roosevelt HS Val, Sal, continued from pg 1-

downs.”

Simoni will be attending Fordham University in the fall. “I will be majoring in Biomedical science and in the future, I want to work in medical sonography (Ultrasound tech). My inspiration was my two nieces. And I want to work in real estate part time and follow in my family’s footsteps.”

Who helped you get to this point of achievement? “My family has always supported me, and at Roosevelt, Ms. Zerafa always encouraged me to be my best. I love Roosevelt High School and will be forever grateful.”

When did you realize your ranking? “At the end of 9th Grade, I was #1 and it never changed. I would always ask about it.”

Any advice for younger students? “Embrace the world as your playground and don’t be afraid to fail. Truly enjoy life and make memorable memories. Remember the future is your canvas and you’re the artist.”

Roosevelt High School Salutatorian Luis Solito will graduate with a 99.89 GPA. His favorite teacher at Roosevelt was Italian teacher Nancy Adorno. “Every time we go to her class there is a positive energy. It was amazing to start the morning in her class.”

Solito’s favorite class is Math. “Ever since I was young, I loved numbers, and I’m still fascinated by it.”

Luis has been a member of Roosevelt’s Soccer team since junior year. “Our freshman year we were all home for COVID. So in my sophomore year I decided to focus on my academics, and then in 11th grade I joined the soccer team and fell in love with my teammates and my coach.

Solito has also enjoyed his community service through the honors society and junior achievement. “We went to go teach kids in the 4th grade. “I taught them about finance and money, and I enjoyed seeing them happy.”

Luis will be attending Manhattan College in the fall and will be in the Engineering program. “I got a good financial package, and they have a great engineering program. I hope to have my own construction company someday.”

Did you want to stay close to home for college? “I want to experience the world, but I am a family guy.”

Solito is also interested in real estate. “My plan is to design, build and sell homes. I have some uncles in construction, and I have seen it firsthand.

Who helped you get to this point of achievement? “My sister. When I was younger, I suffered academically, and I almost got kicked out of school. My sister became my mother for education. I realized that I wasn’t alone and had support.

When did you know about your ranking? “My sister told me I was #2 after freshman year. I stayed on top of my academics after that. My parents enjoyed seeing my success, so I worked hard and stayed with it.”

Luis and Agustina have known each other since freshman year. “We took the same classes on zoom, and for the last 3 years we took the same classes and worked together as a team, not as rivals. It is great that I made it to #2.”

Both leave Roosevelt with a large number of college credits. Agustina has 42 and Luis 39, which gives them almost one year of college credits before they begin their freshman year in college.

Any advice for young students? “Don’t worry about what others think. Focus on proving yourself wrong and always strive to improve, because your opinion of yourself matters most.”

AOC, Bowman, continued from pg 4

The political calculation in the Bowman campaign is that if they can motivate their voters they can still win. Younger voters are also a target for Bowman’s campaign in the final days. According to City & State, Bowman (<https://www.cityandstateny.com/politics/2024/06/jamaal-bowman-has-given-changing-minds-turnout-his-only-hope/397406/?oref=csny-homepage-top-story>) told a crowd of supporters to “quit your jobs” and help the campaign in the final week. Bowman told the group his predictions for the primary.

I-Record voter turnout in the first days of early voting and on election day.

II -“It’s going to get into the evening, and we’re going to be watching the news, and at about 10:30 p.m., some news anchor is going to say, ‘I have seen enough. Congressman Jamaal Bowman has won his primary in spite of AIPAC spending the most amount of money ever. I’m not going to lose.’”

AOC wrote, “As we speak, AIPAC and corporate lobby interests are pouring tens of millions of dollars to unseat @jamaalbowmanny and stoke cynicism in our own district in to tear apart working people and the movement from the inside. Why? Because we are some of the only members of Congress to stand up for the dignity of Palestinians, demand a ceasefire, and not accept a single dime from special interests and corporate lobbies – from Wall Street banks to defense contractors. We will not let them win. In order to prevail, we must put out a call to all who care for progress and believe in taking action to advance and protect change. We will be rallying next Saturday alongside @berniesanders, @jamaalbowmanny, labor and social movement leaders, and more to turn out canvassers, votes, and organizing from NYC to Westchester County.”

Latimer’s supporters include Hillary Clinton, whose recent endorsement included, “With Trump on the ballot, we need strong, principled Democrats in Congress more than ever. In Congress, George Latimer will protect abortion rights, stand up to the NRA, and fight for President Biden’s agenda—just like he’s always done. Make a plan to vote by June 25th!”

Another criticism of Bowman and his congressional staff is that they never return calls or perform constituent services. Greenburgh Supervisor Paul Feiner said, “I deal with thousands of complaints a year and do it personally, and I reach out to every elected official,” said Paul Feiner, the town supervisor of Greenburgh. “I practically never get a response from his office.”

Total spending on the race has now reached \$22 Million, which includes \$7 Million for Bowman.

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

Yonkers Police Sergeant Indicted for Assaulting Man During Arrest

Defendant allegedly repeatedly kicked and punched a man as he was being taken into custody following a high-speed police pursuit of a stolen car

On June 17, Westchester County District Attorney Miriam E. Rocah announced today that a Yonkers Police Department sergeant was indicted on assault charges for repeatedly kicking and punching a suspect during an arrest in March.

DA Rocah said: "Police officers are sworn to protect us and uphold the law. The Yonkers Police Department was proactive in identifying one of their officers as acting outside their training policies and promptly referred this matter to my Office. The facts learned during the course of our investigation were presented to a Grand Jury who returned an indictment charging the defendant with offenses related to his alleged use of excessive force."

The defendant, identified as Sgt. Hector Cartagena, 55, was indicted by a Westchester County Grand Jury for Assault in the Second Degree and Attempted Assault in the Second Degree, felonies, and Assault in the Third Degree, a misdemeanor.

The defendant was arrested today by the DA's Office Criminal Investigator's Squad and arraigned before New York State Supreme Court Justice James McCarty in Westchester County Court. His next court date is July 31.

At approximately 9:44 p.m. on March 14, while a suspect was being placed into custody, the defendant allegedly kicked the suspect four times and punched him 10 times in the face, causing him to sustain a fractured orbital bone.

Prior to the incident, the suspect allegedly led police on a high-speed chase following reports he had stolen a vehicle. The pursuit ended in a crash on Warburton and Glenwood Avenues in Yonkers. The suspect is being prosecuted by the DA's Office on grand larceny, assault and reckless endangerment charges.

According to the Yonkers Police Department, their Internal Affairs Division initiated a preliminary investigation at the scene and determined that the defendant utilized force in a manner not consistent with department policies. Yonkers police placed the defendant on restrictive duty and referred the matter to the Westchester County District Attorney's Office.

The case is being prosecuted by the Public Integrity and Law Enforcement Integrity Bureau of the Trials and Investigations Division.

The charges against the defendant are merely accusations, and the defendant is presumed innocent unless and until proven guilty.

Yonkers Police Union: Sergeant Indicted for Assault will be Vindicated

By Dan Murphy

The story about Yonkers Police Sergeant Hector Cartagena, and his recent indictment by Westchester DA Mimi Rocah for assault stemming from an arrest caught on video continues, with the Yonkers Police Captains, Lieutenants and Sergeants Association supporting Cartagena and calling out Mayor Mike Spano and Police Commissioner Chris Sapienza for not giving him due process.

The statement from Det. Capt. Michael Hanley, President, Yonkers CLSA, reads, "The members of the Yonkers Police Captains, Lieutenants, and Sergeants Association fully support Detective Sergeant Hector Cartagena. We ask you all to remember that this decorated, long serving officer is innocent until proven guilty.

"This pursuit started with a suspect who stole a civilian vehicle and proceeded to lead numerous police units on a high speed chase throughout the City of Yonkers. The perpetrator intentionally caused accidents with several police vehicles that resulted in injuries to police officers. The perpetrator's actions throughout this pursuit endangered the lives of numerous citizens of the City of Yonkers. The Detective Sergeant was performing his official duties in attempting to subdue a violent felon who was resisting attempts to be taken into custody.

"Every person in this great country is afforded a right to due process. Unfortunately, based on the statements issued by Mayor Spano and Commissioner Sapienza, Detective Sergeant Cartagena has been denied this right. Their rush to judgement on a 25 year veteran of the YPD with an honorable record is disappointing, and these comments could have a negative impact on his right to a fair trial.

"The Yonkers CLSA looks forward to Detective Sergeant Cartagena's opportunity to present all the facts of this case. We believe that after a full review of all the evidence, Detective Sergeant Cartagena will be exonerated of all charges."

Det. Capt. Michael Hanley
President
Yonkers CLSA

Yonkers Police Department Release Bodycam Of Sgt. Arrested, Suspended/ Indicted for Assault

Watch the bodycam video here: <https://www.facebook.com/YonkersPD/videos/406438122398844>

The Yonkers Police Department released the following statement, and provided a bodycam video of an arrest that resulted in the suspension and arrest of YPD Sgt. Hector Cartagena. This information came hours after Westchester DA Mimi Rocah announced that Cartagena was indicted for assault.

The YPD writes, "In March 2024, in line with the goals of transparency and commitment to the community, the Yonkers Police Department proactively informed the Westchester District Attorney's Office and the public of the actions taken by a member of the Department during the apprehension of a suspect after a dangerous vehicle pursuit that raised concerns and sparked an internal investigation. On March 14, 2024, just after 9:45 PM, Yonkers Police Department officers pursued a suspect in a stolen vehicle through City streets while the suspect caused several collisions with police vehicles, injured several officers, drove recklessly, and endangered the public. These officers followed procedure and protocol to keep the community safe while attempting to apprehend him. The pursuit ended with a crash at the intersection of Warburton Avenue and Glenwood Avenue.

Upon apprehending this suspect, force was used to place the suspect into custody. As is Yonkers Police procedure with all uses of force, an investigation into the use of force was promptly initiated at the scene. The Yonkers Police Internal Affairs Division immediately responded and reviewed the actions taken by the Officers.

In this preliminary investigation, it was determined that one member of the department, Detective Sergeant Hector Cartagena, utilized force in a manner not consistent with training, procedures, or Department values. It was evident from this preliminary review that this member acted alone in these actions and all other Officers on the scene followed policy and procedure.

The Yonkers Police Department proactively presented this incident to the Westchester County District Attorney's Office within twenty-four hours and promptly informed the Department of Justice. As such, this incident was investigated by the Westchester County District Attorney's Public Integrity Bureau. The Yonkers Police Department cooperated fully with all aspects of this investigation which upheld our initial findings and resulted in the recommendation of criminal charges.

Earlier today, Detective Sergeant Hector Cartagena appeared in Westchester County Court where he was arraigned on charges of Assault in the second degree, Attempted Assault in the second degree, and Assault in the third degree as a result of his actions.

As a result of this incident, Detective Sergeant Hector Cartagena has been suspended without pay. He has been a member of the Yonkers Police Department for twenty-four years and was assigned to the Crime Scene Unit.

"After a review of this incident, I am outraged by the actions of this particular supervisor. His actions serve to negate the great work exhibited by the other officers involved to safely apprehend the suspect at the scene," said Yonkers Police Commissioner Christopher Sapienza. "His actions further harm our relationship with the community, which we have worked so hard to build. Our immediate Internal Investigation and swift referral to an outside agency for investigation show that such behavior will not be tolerated by this department. We appreciate the objective and thorough review of the incident completed by the Westchester County District Attorney's Office and we will continue to cooperate with them as appropriate. Our mission and commitment to our community remains steadfast—we are here to serve you with integrity and respect."

"The actions of this police supervisor are indefensible. It's the very definition of disrespect for the badge and we condemn it," said Yonkers Mayor Mike Spano. "This unfortunate incident should not be a reflection of the men and women who serve and protect this City with integrity every day. That's why we initiated this investigation and alerted the proper authorities, ensuring our role in constitutional policing. We have made substantial changes to our policies and procedures when it comes to excessive force and we will continue to review our internal policies and procedures to prevent this from happening again. This type of behavior will never be tolerated."

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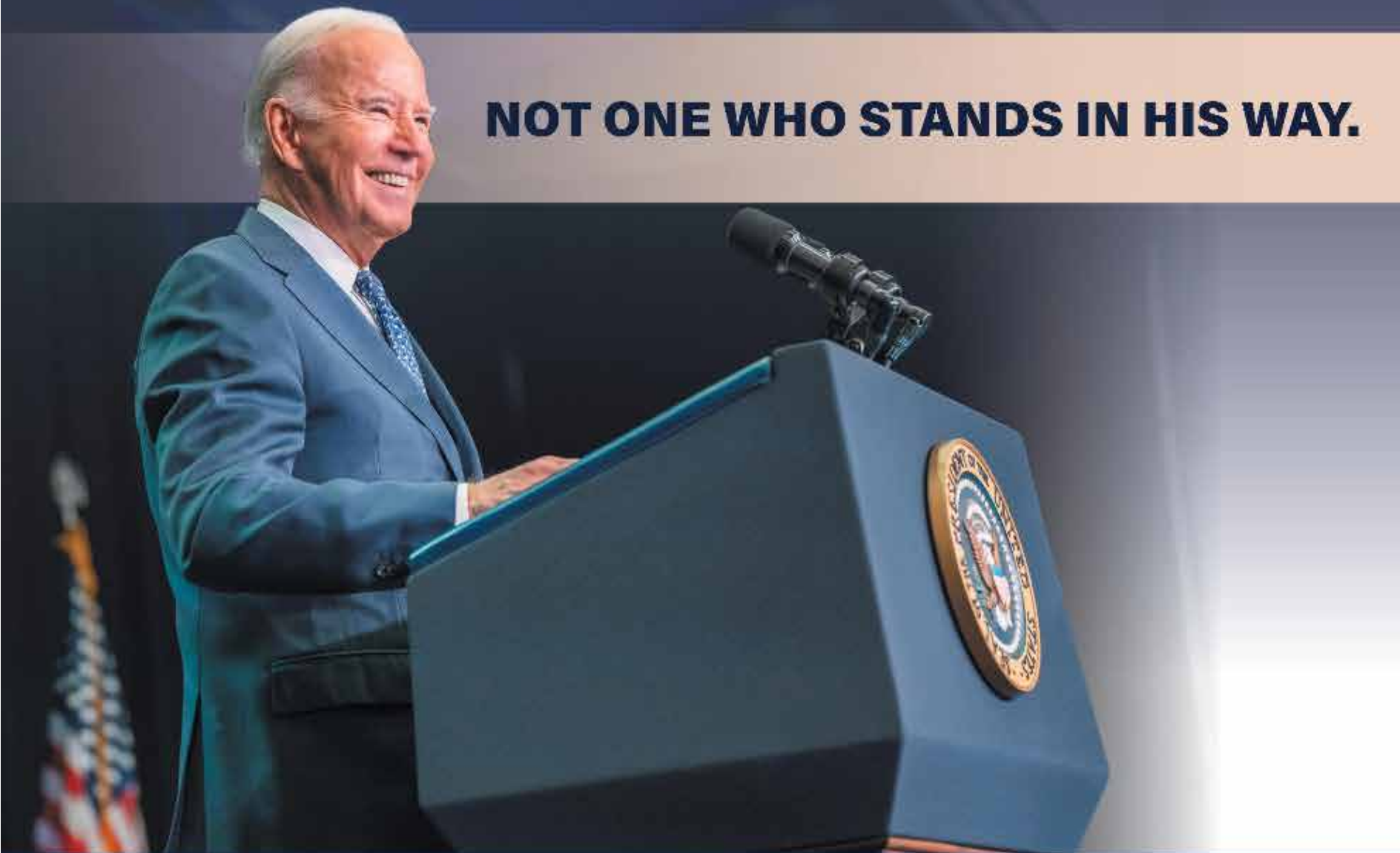





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BOWMAN**

Extremely Wrong for Us

- ✗ Represents a far-left movement, is a **self-described "radical"** with the endorsement of the Democratic Socialists of America.¹
- ✗ **Voted NO on many of President Biden's accomplishments**, like critical infrastructure funding for our district.²
- ✗ **A polarizing politician** whose rhetoric only fuels our country's divisions.³
- ✗ **Has embarrassed us**, from pulling a fire alarm in Congress to promoting conspiracy theories about 9/11.⁴

Vote NO on Jamaal Bowman on June 25

CHECK THE FACTS:

1. New York Post, 5/29/24; NPR, 6/17/21; 2. Spectrum News, 11/09/2; 3. Spectrum News, 6/04/24; The New York Times, 12/06/23; 4. NPR, 10/01/23; The Guardian, 1/31/24.