

Yonkers Rising

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Friday June 25-July 2, 2021

Khader Crushed! Lakisha Wins!

Williams, County Clerks Race too Close to Call



Lakisha Collins-Bellamy, left, defeated City Council President Mike Khader in the democratic primary, while Councilmember Shanae Williams has 49% of the vote in her race for County Clerk

By Dan Murphy

First time political candidate Lakisha Collins-Bellamy shook up Yonkers politics after she soundly defeated incumbent Council President Mike Khader. Unofficial results from the Board of Elections show Collins with 57% of the vote, to 29% for Khader and an impressive 14% for Peter Spano. Turnout was very low, with only 7,246 Yonkers democrats casting ballots, with more than a thousand mail in ballots yet to be counted. Collins-Bellamy's lead over Khader is so great that Collins-Bellamy will now move on to face republican Ron Matten in November.

Council President Khader will not be on the ballot in November. His political fall has been historic. Only a few months ago, Khader won the Yonkers Democratic convention with 86% of the vote. He will now serve out the remainder of his term this year.

The political dynamics of Khader's loss will be discussed in more detail over the next few weeks in both Yonkers Rising and YonkersTimes.com

The other major takeaway from Primary night June 22 was the outstanding performance from Yonkers City Councilmember Shanae Williams in her race for Westchester County Clerk.

Unofficial results have Williams with 49% of the vote, and incumbent County Clerk Tim Itoni at 51%. This narrow, 2% margin, puts the race too close to call until mail in ballots are counted.

Most Westchester democrats had Itoni easily winning re-election, but the margin between the two is now less than 325 votes, out of less than 30,000 Westchester Democrats casting ballots.

Regardless of whether Itoni holds on for a narrow victory, Williams performance makes her political future bright.

In the three races for Yonkers City Council, Majority Leader Corazon Pineda-Isaac defeated her three opponents with 68% of the vote, in the 2nd council district. With her resounding victory, Pineda-Isaac becomes a possible candidate for Citywide office.

In the 4th council district, Councilman John Rubbo defeated Carlos Burgos by a 55%-45%. Rubbo is currently leading by 90 votes. This race was a bit closer than some had expected, with Burgos able to mount an active campaign that included a mailer linking Rubbo to former President Trump.

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Josh Williams Named 2021 Yonkers Rising Player of the Year



Josh Williams

By Phil Foley

Yonkers Brave football Coach Vic Chiappa has named Josh Williams as the winner of the Spring Season "Yonkers Rising 2021 Player of the Year Award"!

Coach Chiappa said of Josh: "Josh Williams played safety on defense and Quarterback on offense. Josh was originally one of our starting running backs and when our Quarterback DJ went down with a broken collarbone in week one, Joshua stepped up to be the new Quarterback, he did a tremendous job! His leadership on and off the field is tremendous and will be missed"!

Football season is on full track to play a full season in front of fans this Fall. Of course our readers will once again get full results with pictures from each game! And of course we will also announce the "Fall 2021 Yonkers Rising Player of the Year Awards" at the end of the season from each team. The Brave and the Force.

Josh is a Senior from Saunders High School

Khushi Chander From Yonkers High School Gets Mayor's Scholarship Award



Congratulations to Khushi Chander from Yonkers High School for receiving the annual Mayor's Award and a \$2,500 scholarship. Mayor Mike Spano is pictured above presenting the award at graduation.

"Khushi is the definition of what makes up Yonkers – those who face challenges head-on and strive for the best despite any obstacles in their way. She is one of the best, and brightest our Yonkers Public Schools has to offer, and I am confident she will continue to make #Yonkersproud in her future endeavors. Best of luck at Mercy College," said Mayor Spano.

Send us your graduation announcements and scholarship awards for print to risingmediagroup@gmail.com

Yonkers Police Look for Witnesses in "Outrageous Gang Assault"



video from attack on June 17 on North Broadway and Ashburton Avenue

On Thursday, June 17, Yonkers Police responded to an incident on North Broadway and Ashburton Avenue, where a fight between two males turned into what YPD Commissioner John Mueller called "an outrageous gang assault."

The fight spilled out into the street, where gang members jumped one male, beating and kicking him to the point of sending him to the trauma ward of a local hospital where he is in critical condition with a brain injury. The victim, who was also hit in the head with a bottle, has not yet been identified.

The incident occurred at 9pm on 06/17. "Last night, Yonkers Police Officers and Detectives dealt with an outrageous gang assault, where a male victim was hit in the head with a bottle and stomped on by a group of people that included known gang members; the victim is currently in the trauma ward in critical condition with a brain injury," said YPD Commissioner John Mueller.

"The Yonkers Police Department have made several arrests, but there are more suspects that need to be held accountable for their despicable actions. Well over fifty people last night saw what happened, and we need them to come forward and do the right thing. There is a lot of talk about police responsibility and police accountability, but there is also community responsibility and community accountability to each other. The overwhelming majority of people who live and work in Yonkers are wonderful people; we need to stand together to make sure that these people are brought to justice. I can say with absolute certainty that everyone would agree this is not the kind of world we want to live in.

"Anyone with information about this crime is asked to call the Yonkers Police Detectives at (914) 377-7724," said Mueller. Calls can be kept anonymous.

Yonkers Police are looking for at least 12 and up to 20 individuals who participated in the attack.

In another incident, on Sunday, June 20th, 2021, at approximately 5 AM, members of the Yonkers Police Department responded to the area of 463 Bronx River Road on a report of a man down bleeding from the head. Upon arrival officers located an unresponsive male victim down on the ground with an apparent head injury; First Responders immediately rendered medical aid including CPR and transported the victim to a local area hospital where he ultimately died. Upon examination it was discovered that the victim suffered an apparent gunshot wound to the head. Police Officers cordoned off the area and initiated a criminal investigation.

Detectives from the Major Case Squad and Crime Scene Unit are currently on-scene actively developing information and recovering evidence; no arrests have been made at this time. The victim is identified as a 22-year-old resident of the State of Delaware. Additional information may be released as it becomes available.

Anyone with information regarding this incident is encouraged to contact the Yonkers Police Detective Division at (914) 377-7724 – all calls will remain confidential. 100% anonymous tips can be sent by texting the key word YPD plus the tip to 847411. Anonymous tips can also be sent to us directly through the Yonkers PD Tips app which can be downloaded for free to any Apple or Android device.

MHACY Announces Partnership with Groundwork Hudson Valley



Members of the GWHV's Green Team will be Greening Up Yonkers Municipal Housing sites

The Municipal Housing Authority for the City of Yonkers (MHACY) has announced a partnership with Groundwork Hudson Valley and leading urban design firm, Mark K. Morrison Landscape Architecture, to provide green infrastructure and planning services at four MHACY housing sites.

Under the proposal, environmentally friendly landscaping using native plantings would be completed at the Ross F. Calcagno Homes, Joseph F. Loehr Court, Kris Kristensen Homes, and Msgr. Cajetan J. Troy Manor in Yonkers.

Groundwork Hudson Valley's award-winning Green Team will plant trees and build bioswales on the properties to address the environmental justice impacts of extreme heat caused by increasing global temperatures. These heat islands have been directly tied to historic redlining maps. At the same time, this will create green oases in these urban communities and significantly reduce stormwater pollution into four major waterways - the Hudson, Saw Mill, Sprain, and Bronx Rivers.

"We are thrilled to have the pre-eminent environmental partner in the Hudson Valley assisting us in making our properties environmentally friendly," said Wilson Kimball, President and CEO of the Municipal Housing Authority for the City of Yonkers. "Making this even more special is that Yonkers youth who are part of the Green Team will learn about the environment as well as engage our residents in the planning of this project."

Brigitte Griswold, Groundwork's Executive Director, who is leading a broader Climate Safe Neighborhoods Initiative for the city, said "We applaud the Municipal Housing Authority for the City of Yonkers for investing in the environmental health of their properties. This translates into an investment in the multi-generational health of their residents. Yonkers has a long history of innovation. We are proud to be a partner in this truly innovative work that will positively impact many of our most vulnerable residents."

The landscaping project will put the finishing touches on more than \$800 million which have been invested over the past five years to modernize more than 1,700 units of housing run by the Municipal Housing Authority in Yonkers.

In February 2021, MHACY and Groundwork Hudson Valley released a feasibility study that laid out a far-reaching plan for creating environmental resiliency in one of the region's largest affordable housing systems. The Hudson Valley region is expecting more intense rainfall over the next decade and many more heat waves due to climate change. Research shows that people living in low-income areas are more vulnerable to climate risks due to historic redlining policies that left them in more environmentally hazardous neighborhoods. The proposed work will benefit hundreds of low-income residents in modest apartment buildings across the MHACY system.

Please find a link to the study here: <https://www.groundworkhv.org/2021/02/feasibility-study-for-green-infrastructure/>.

Apparent Suicide Investigation at Kensico Dam Park in Valhalla

On June 18, Westchester County Police investigated the death of a man who jumped from the Kensico Dam in Valhalla.

The deceased, a man in his late 50s, was found in the northeast corner of the plaza at Kensico Dam Park. The plaza area is adjacent to the base of the dam. EMS responded and pronounced the man dead at the scene.

His identity is being withheld pending notification to his family.

The plaza area remained closed for several hours as the investigation was conducted. Westchester County Police were assisted by the New York City Department of Environmental Protection Police Department. The dam is owned by DEP and the park property is owned by Westchester County.

YPIE Scientists, Entrepreneurs, Technologists, Journalists Present at End of Year Symposiums



YPIE students present in-depth science research, compelling journalism, powerful films, and creative new business plans at the YPIE Science Research and Majors Symposiums.

At the close of a school year far different than anyone could have expected, more than 100 YPIE Scholars from across the Yonkers Public Schools presented in-depth science research, compelling journalism, powerful films, creative new business plans, and many other impressive projects at the YPIE Science Research and Majors Symposiums.

YPIE partners with students to ensure they are prepared for success in college and beyond. "Through our YPIE Majors, YPIE Scholars develop skills that prepare them for future careers and help them to understand the academic paths to pursue in college to reach those opportunities," said Sam Wallis, YPIE Executive Director. "It was inspiring to hear from our students during these Symposiums and see their pride in their hard work."

The 4th Annual YPIE Regeneration Science Research Symposium was held on Thursday, May 27th. Forty students from 10th to 12th grades presented their authentic science research addressing a range of topics, including environmental science, cybersecurity, diabetes, learning, and mental health.

"Our students are the heart of this program and it grows every single year. From office spaces to eels, our students have pushed the boundary of knowledge on a huge range of scientific topics," said Darius, YPIE Science Research Scholar and Teaching Assistant. "Even with the rigorous challenges of the pandemic, our students continued to persevere and conduct college level research. Personally, I feel that the program has given me many opportunities to excel at my academic and personal life."

YPIE is very grateful to Regeneration for their generous support of this program. "It is through innovative programs like the YPIE Science Research program and this annual symposium that we, as a science community, come together with a common goal to cultivate and elevate future generations of scientists, the young scientists who will use their scientific powers, their super powers to improve our world," stated Potoula Stavropoulos, Regeneration Director of Social Impact.

At our YPIE Spring Majors Symposium on June 2nd, Scholars presented their impressive work from the other YPIE Majors, including Entrepreneurship, Journalism, Debate, Tech Squad, Architecture, Film, Envirothon, Cartooning, and Creative Writing. YPIE Scholars shared their experiences, personal wins, and published work.

A few highlights:

- YPIE Engineers spoke about the redesign of the Yonkers Power Plant originally built in 1907 with unparalleled views of NYC skyline and the Palisades.
- The YPIE Tech Squad shared their experiences connecting the senior community in Yonkers with their loved ones during the pandemic.
- YPIE Journalists presented articles and visual arts they have published in 20 issues of our student-led publication, The YPIE Quarantimes.
- The YPIE Debate Team shared how they have learned to present evidence, support their argument, and to defend and attack each side's claims.
- YPIE Environmentalists highlighted several of the beautiful parks and trails they have explored.

YPIE Majors provide students a unique opportunity to explore their passions and see themselves in professional roles they can pursue in the future. Thank you to the many YPIE partners that make these programs possible.


Learn more at ypie.org/ypie-majors

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FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE CALL 914-375-3435, VISIT OUR WEBSITE AT WWW.UNTERMEYERPERFORMINGARTS.ORG OR OUR SOCIAL MEDIA.

All Untermeyer Performing Arts Council programs are admission free and open to the public.

In case of potential inclement weather, this program may be postponed. Please call the Untermeyer Performing Arts Council's Arts Line after 2 pm the day of the performance; updates will be on the voicemail message.

This program is made possible by ArtsWestchester with support from Westchester County Government, the City of Yonkers, Senator Andrea Stewart Cousins, Senator Shelley Mayer, Assemblymember Nader Sayegh, and our loyal arts patrons.

Senate Majority Leader Stewart-Cousins, Senator Mayer Celebrate Passage of SLEEP Act



On Thursday, June 17, New York State Senate Majority Leader Andrea Stewart-Cousins and Senator Shelley B. Mayer joined with Yonkers residents to celebrate the passage of the SLEEP Act (S784B/A.471C), which stands for Stop Loud and Excessive Exhaust Pollution. It prohibits the sale or installation of devices to increase the sound of a muffler on a motor vehicle or motorcycle and increases maximum fines for modifications.

Like many residents across New York State who live near high-speed roadways, Matt and Sweet Orefice of Whitman Road in Yonkers, located between Central Park Avenue and the Sprain Brook Parkway, have experienced disruptive and excessive motor vehicle noise. At the end of the New York State Legislative Session, Stewart-Cousins, Mayer and their colleagues in both the Senate and Assembly passed the SLEEP Act, sponsored by Senator Andrew Gounardes and Assemblymember Bill Magnarelli, to address this persistent problem.

Senate Majority Leader Andrea Stewart-Cousins said: "We are taking action at the State level to ensure our roads are safe and to eliminate the nuisance of the noise. The SLEEP Act is a good step forward in partnership with our local officials and police to help reduce dangerous drag racing and the noise and pollution it causes."

Senator Shelley B. Mayer said: "For as long as I have been in elected office, there have been complaints about excessive noise by cars. It is a serious issue throughout my district. I was proud to co-sponsor the SLEEP Act. Excessive noise is not just an annoyance – it affects quality of life. By banning noise amplifiers and allowing for the suspension of operating certificates of repair shops that install these devices, we will reduce the number of people being subjected to unnecessary noise."

If signed by Governor Cuomo, the SLEEP Act will expressly prohibit the sale or installation of devices to increase the sound of a muffler on a motor vehicle or motorcycle and increase maximum fines for such modifications from \$150 to \$1,000. Maximum fines for motorcycle operators with altered exhaust systems will increase to \$500.

Additionally, the bill allows the Commissioner of Motor Vehicles to deny or revoke a license to operate a vehicle inspection business upon a third or subsequent willful violation of regulations regarding mufflers within an 18-month period.

Assemblymember Nader Sayegh said: "As aftermarket modifications on vehicle exhaust systems become more prevalent, they continue to present a significant nuisance for local communities like ours here in Yonkers. It's why I was proud to support the SLEEP Act in the Assembly. Thanks to this new legislation, law enforcement, and regulatory agencies will have new tools at their disposal to ensure that these vehicles comply with existing regulations and don't pollute our neighborhoods with excessive noise and emissions pollution."

Whitman Road Resident Matt Orefice said: "While I can appreciate the knowledge and craft of custom car enthusiasts, it crosses the line when noise pollution infringes on others. Loud mufflers can be a nuisance, especially in neighborhood settings and for those with young children and pets. Being woken up in the middle of the night is both irritating and frustrating, in that the same car can pass by almost every night with no recourse. This is a quality of life issue that I am happy to say is being addressed by our local representatives."

Westchester County Legislator Ruth Walter said: "A significant number of the constituent calls and emails my office receives are about noise in the district due to deliberately modified mufflers. During the pandemic, noise complaints became even more urgent. As people tried to work from home, facilitate Zoom school for their children or care for themselves or a family member suffering from COVID-19, they were unable to sleep or focus due to this deliberate and disruptive noise."

The Fitting Room is Open. I Went to The Theater!



By Eric Schoen

As I write this column, a week has gone by since Governor Cuomo announced that COVID-19 Restrictions were lifted as 70% of adult New Yorkers had received the first dose of the COVID-19 Vaccine. New Yorkers who had been vaccinated did not have to wear masks anymore unless the venue they were visiting required it.

It was no longer a requirement for the vaccinated to mask up at Retail, Food Services, Offices, Gyms and Fitness Centers, Amusement and Family Entertainment, Hair Salons, Barber Shops, and Personal Care Services unless the owner of that institution requested that you do so.

Unvaccinated individuals still had to mask up as did individuals in settings including Large-Scale Indoor Events Venues, Pre-K to 12 Schools, Public Transit, Homeless Shelters, Correctional Facilities, Nursing Homes and Health Care Settings. These facilities must adhere to COVID-19 Health Protocols Per Center for Disease Control (CDC) Guidelines.

We've spent over a year complaining about the harsh mask requirements our government has imposed on us. Let's face it. No matter what type of mask you wore on your face, whether it be a blue medical mask distributed widely or a mask you made at home with 3-ply material it's no fun having something on your face. Except for Halloween. Putting the mask on when you went into a store or were around a group of people, taking it off when you were alone or in the house, always making sure you had a mask with you! All of this no fun.

I spent the first few days after the mask requirements were lifted looking in store windows to see the mask policy for the particular venue making sure that when I entered I was following their guidelines. Many stores that didn't require masks were slow to take down their signs. I laughed when I went to a TJMAXX store, meticulously looked at the windows for the stores protocols, saw a friend who manages the store fixing a display and asked her just to be sure what the mask protocol was in that particular branch of their chain.

So a week later, Monday of this week I had to return something to TJ-MAXX. When I entered the store I noticed I was probably the only person in the store not wearing a mask. The person at the door who would normally enforce the mask policy was gone, no stations were set up for customers to get a squirt of Purell or a mask. The separate station for employees to get screened, temperature checked and masked was long gone.

But over 90% of people were still wearing masks. This after the cries of people across the country to relax mask requirements. No one was telling them to put them on, but people were still masked up. I wondered why?

Could it be that all these masked people were not vaccinated? If that was the case, as they say, 'Houston, We Have a Problem!' It would probably be the end of my shopping if I found out so many people were unvaccinated. So I took an elevator ride up to Marshalls to see if people were wearing masks there at the same percentages as TJMAXX. And you know what? They were.

As I walked around the store, people were often looking at me and giving me strange looks without my mask on. I wondered, had someone changed the rules and not told me? Could it be that people are not trusting the government and don't believe the worse is over. Have we just become so accustomed to wearing facial coverings that it is a hard habit, like cigarettes to break?

All the screaming and moaning from adults and children for over a year. Finally the Governor lifts the mask mandate and we are still wearing them. Are we too lazy to take them off and put them on when needed?

Now driving around town I still see people driving alone in their cars wearing masks. There's no one in the car with you. Unless you are an Uber or Lyft driver going for the next pickup or one of the food delivery services heading to McDonald's to pick up a Big Mac and fries or to 7- Eleven to pick up a Slurpee (don't think they travel too well in the heat!) to deliver to a

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Yonkers Philharmonic Online Orchestra Concerto June 27

Have you ever wondered what became of the fantastic concerto competition winners that you've heard perform with the Yonkers Philharmonic over the years? Did you know Josephine Caruso, who started and ran the competition for the orchestra? Have you wondered about Bob Sherman's involvement through the years? We answer these questions with our YPO@Home program: The Concerto Competition Retrospective premiering on June 27, 2021. We asked previous winners to send in a short performance videos and/or an update on what they've been doing. We asked long time Board Member, adjudicator and competition organizer, Joyce Henery, and emcee, Bob Sherman, to provide insight about the history and evolution of the competition since its inception. So join us for music and conversation starting June 27th.

We're getting back together live as an ensemble. In July, the Yonkers Philharmonic Brass section announces their triumphant return to the stage with a YPO@Home outdoor performance. In August, the Yonkers Philharmonic strings close out the Hudson River Museum's Summer Amphitheater program with a return to the stage, live for a select audience on August 20, 2021 but available through YPO@Home in September. Check out the YPO Facebook page or signup for the newsletter at yonkersphilharmonic.org for further details. Our planning for live performances with audience is well underway for the 2021-2022 Season. We're eager to get together as a community orchestra and keep the music playing for our audience once again.

Key concert information: Premiere: Sunday, June 27, 2021. Place: ONLINE ONLY <http://yonkersphilharmonic.org/athome>. Streaming starts at 8am.

Lots to do in Westchester County This Summer

While most local fireworks displays have been cancelled for July 4, (Yonkers is the only one we know left), there are a number of events hosted by Westchester County to keep you and your family busy.

Several Friday nights this summer, Screenings Under the Stars features family-friendly, drive-in movies across the county

The cost is \$25 per car. Movies and locations include:

- June 25: "Trolls World Tour," Kensico Dam Plaza
- July 9: "Ferris Bueller's Day Off," Kensico Dam Plaza
- July 23: "Tom & Jerry," Croton Point Park
- Aug. 6: "Godzilla vs. Kong," Kensico Dam Plaza
- Aug. 20: "Forrest Gump," Kensico Dam Plaza
- Sept. 10: "Pixar's Soul," Croton Point Park
- Sept. 24: "Disney's Mulan," Tibbetts Brook

Westchester County government is also hosting five concerts. They are:

- June 29- High Noon, Croton Point Park
- July 1: Songs in the Attic, Kensico Dam Plaza
- July 20: The Nerds, Kensico Dam Plaza

This year's list of events is an expansion, due to pent up demand by Westchester families and the success of the drive-in movies last year.

"I think that's reading the marketplace, and there is a clamor for it because people talked to me over the course of the year, and said we loved the drive-in movies, can you do more," said County Executive George Latimer.

Social distancing will be maintained at all events. Tickets can be purchased at <https://www.showclix.com/event/wcp-scs21>.

The county beaches are also open, so get out and enjoy the summer. Visit Westchestergov.com for more information.

Cross County Center Announces Summer Fest 2021



Nothing feels more like summer than outdoor festivals and Cross County Center is bringing back Westchester's favorite summer celebration, SUMMER FEST 2021! Kicking off this week, the series will continue through Labor Day weekend and have something for all family members. (plus, there's always great shopping, dining, and year-round FREE parking too!)

New to 2021 is an exclusive Drive-In Freestyle Concert on July 30 from 8-10pm featuring the hottest freestyle artists including: TKA, Judy Torres, Lisette Melendez, and DJ Serg. Concert goers will enjoy live performances from an elevated stage, featuring LED screens. A predesignated radio station will also be available to turn up the volume right from the comfort of your car! The Drive-In concert takes place in the north parking lot, behind Shake Shack, Zara, and Macy's. Tickets are on sale now via: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/cross-county-carstock-drive-in-freestyle-concert-tickets-159845571407?aff=Freestyle>

"We are thrilled to be able to welcome visitors back to Cross County Center this summer in a safe way," said Liz Pollack, Senior Manager of Marketing for Cross County Shopping Center. "What better way to celebrate summer than with outdoor activities that the entire family can enjoy including the only Freestyle Concert in Westchester County this summer!"

- Additional events this summer include:
- Zumba Class with Guillermo Ruiz, on The Green Thursdays in June Details here: <https://crosscountycenter.com/event/Zumba-Class-on-The-Green/2145550684/>
 - Outdoor Yoga Class with Bronxville Wellness Sanctuary on The Green Wednesdays in July Details here: <https://crosscountycenter.com/event/Yoga-Class-on-The-Green/2145550688/>
 - Food Truck Friday's, every Friday in July from noon-6pm
 - DJ & Street Performers, select Tuesdays, 5pm-7pm
 - Concerts on The Green
 - FDR Drive Band, Wednesday, June 23, 6pm, FREE
 - 3D Rhythm of Life, July 15, 6pm, FREE
 - Movies on The Green (to be named soon!)
 - August 11, 18 and 25 at sundown

Additional events will be added throughout the summer. For up-to-date information on events, sign up for emails at crosscountycenter.com or download the Cross County Center App.

Classifieds:

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News in Yonkers and around Westchester

Yonkers Office of Aging Partners with SilverBills to Offer Free Bill Management Program for Seniors

Yonkers Mayor Mike Spano announced the Yonkers Office of the Aging (YOFA) has been awarded a grant from the Field Hall Foundation entitled Bill Management Program. The one year \$30,000 grant will allow for seniors to access concierge bill management services that will provide older adults with a dedicated SilverBills Account Manager who will help them with paying bills on time, organizing billing cycles and budgeting the client's bank accounts.

"Many of our aging residents get overwhelmed with budgeting their bills and their regular expenses," said Mayor Spano. "This grant gives us an opportunity to expand on the many services we provide for our seniors yet offer respite for caregivers who spend time paying loved ones bills. It can also support clients that are becoming forgetful. We have used it for clients who are close to needing guardianship but still very independent."

The program will be managed by Kelly Chiarella, Director of Yonkers Office of the Aging. "Yonkers Office for the Aging encounters many seniors who are falling into debt due to their inability to manage their finances," said Kelly Chiarella. "This program offers them the security of knowing that everything is being paid on time. It also may allow caregivers to be relieved of one less task which is crucial when they are often managing two households."

SilverBills is a leading, venture backed technology company that was founded in 2014 by Westchester resident, Marci Lobel-Esrig. "We are very excited by this opportunity that has been provided by the Yonkers Office of the Aging in conjunction with the Field Hall Foundation," said Marci Lobel-Esrig. "We have provided SilverBills' services throughout the United States since 2014 and have helped many individuals age securely by working together to manage the household bills. We are eager to help Yonkers residents age safely in their homes by providing our supportive tech-enabled services. We are thrilled that residents do not need to access computers to benefit from our services."

Interested seniors or their caregivers may call 914-377-6823 for more information. All fees for this service will be waived for one year, beginning at start of service.

YHS Announces Mangold Scholarship Award

The Yonkers Historical Society is pleased to announce the 2021 winner of the Patricia Mangold Scholarship Award.

This award is presented to high school seniors residing in Yonkers who have demonstrated both an educational and significant personal interest in Yonkers history. The winner is planning to attend higher education in the coming year.

Only one scholarship will be presented this year.

First Place Award of \$1,000 will be presented to:

Ramez Dababneh Yonkers Middle High School

This scholarship is usually presented at the annual meeting of the Yonkers Historical Society. Due to the lingering circumstances surrounding the Coronavirus pandemic, spring events were postponed, and Ramez will receive his check and certificates privately.

On This Day in Yonkers History...



Philipse Manor Hall

By Mary Hoar, 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 28th

June 28, 1943: Six nights after Yonkers Common Council enacted the Curfew Ordinance to protect Yonkers girls from late night "attention" from servicemen, Yonkers police made their first arrest. Officers picked up two fourteen-year-old boys who became rambunctious while waiting for their trolley home after work. The boys were taken into custody and held for their parents.

June 28, 1979: The Untermeyer Performing Arts Council and the Yonkers Department of Parks officially opened "Theater in the Park," utilizing lush green foliage, the Palisades, the Hudson River and the beautiful blue Yonkers sky as its scenery! Programs presented that summer were "Godspell," "The Fantasticks," "You're a Good Man Charlie Brown," and "The King and I." "The King and I" was produced and directed by the Repertory Company of the Untermeyer Performing Arts Council. The Actors Conservatory Theater, the Greystone Actors Studio and The Little Theater Company presented the other performances.

Tuesday, June 29th

June 29, 1933: Although Nepera Park was an integral part of the City Of Yonkers, since it had its own post office and postmaster, it missed out on special mailing rates for people of Yonkers. Instead of having a reduced two-cent postal rate for first class mail sent to the rest of the city, residents had to pay three-cents for each letter, the same postage they paid to send a letter to California.

June 29, 1935: While in retreat at St. Joseph's Seminary in Yonkers, Patrick Cardinal Hayes received the news he was appointed by Pope Pius as the Pontifical Delegate to the American National Eucharistic Congress in Cleveland that fall.

June 29, 1936: Less than thirty minutes after three Brooklyn bandits held up employees at a McLean Avenue market, Captain John Beary not only caught them, he held them at gun point.

Wednesday, June 30th

June 30, 1923: King George and Queen Mary witnessed Yonkers' own Vincent Richards defeated by California's William Johnston at Wimbledon. The twenty thousand attendees considered it to be the "most thrilling tennis match" ever played at Wimbledon.

June 30, 1943: Sergeant Mike Giovanniello of Yonkers was part of the amphibious assault on Rendova Island, an assault that overwhelmed a Japanese military garrison, securing the island for a staging and artillery base. Afterwards, while opening a can of field rations, he found a lump of sugar wrapped in a paper that carried the words, "French Chef." Not only was the address of the restaurant on the slip, but also the name of manufacturer National Sugar Refining Company. He was so moved by finding this souvenir of his hometown, he kept it with him through two campaigns. He later mailed the little slip of paper to the restaurant on South Broadway, writing he had eaten there many times, and kept the wrapper in his money belt throughout the fighting. He wanted them to know the French Chef name "had traveled through the jungles of New Georgia and back to Yonkers." The management of the restaurant was so touched, he held on to Giovanniello's letter and sugar wrapper.

Thursday, July 1st

July 1, 1908: Samuel Untermeyer entertained a return visitor to Greystone, Richard Croker. At one time Chief of Tammany Hall, Croker had not been to Greystone since the early 1880s, when he visited Samuel J. Tilden. After his visit he stated, "The place is far more beautiful now than then. It is now a truly ideal spot, as pretty, indeed, as are many of the old estates in Ireland, which have been done over to suit modern tastes."

July 1, 1945: Saunders faculty member Dr. Adam Poruban began an unusual summer job, personnel research at the Adjutant General's office on Madison Avenue. He sent field agents to perform various Army tests—intelligence, mechanical, aptitude tests, etc., to insure personnel were placed properly in the military and civilian jobs around the country. After the tests were given, his statistical analysis unit studied the results to see if the tests actually measured what they were supposed to, i.e., validate the tests.

continued on pg 7-

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Yonkers Rising

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Daniel Murphy, Publisher & Editor in Chief, dmurphy@risingmediagroup.com.

Bayan Baker, Asst to the Editor risingmediagroup@gmail.com.

Legal notice inquiries to: risinglegalnotice@gmail.com.

Notice of formation of iFantasy, LLC. filed with the SSNY on 6/8/2021. Office: Westchester County. SSNY designated as agent of the LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail copy of process to the LLC, 7014 13th Avenue, Suite 202 Brooklyn, NY 11228. Purpose: Any lawful purpose

Notice of Formation of Capital Efficient Strategies LLC. Arts. of Org. filed with SSNY on May 10, 2021. Office location: Westchester County. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process may be served. SSNY shall mail process to 128 Fuller Road Briarcliff Manor NY 10510. Purpose: any lawful act or activity

Notice of formation of Daphne Cuts, LLC. Arts. of Org. filed with the SSNY on 05/10/2021. Office: Westchester County. SSNY designated as agent of the LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail copy of process to the LLC, 59 Fairmont Ave, Hastings on Hudson, NY 10706. Purpose: Any lawful purpose.

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Yonkers PBA President Olson Calls Out Westchester DA Mimi Rocah

By Dan Murphy

Any political honeymoon that existed between Westchester District Attorney Mimi Rocah and members of Westchester County Police Unions ended last week when Rocah's office charged New Rochelle Police Officer Michael Vaccaro with third-degree attempted assault for actions that took place on Feb. 15,

Vaccaro, a 16-year veteran of the force, was off duty when he saw a Mount Vernon man harassing and threatening his mother on Main Street. Vaccaro pulled over and intervened on behalf of the woman, only to have the man turn his rage on Vaccaro resulting in a call for backup, and then, varying accounts of what happened next.

Vaccaro's attorney, Brendan Quinn, said that "When on-duty NRPD officers arrived, Detective Vaccaro assisted them in placing the belligerent and violent suspect under arrest before he could harm anyone else," adding that a video shows Vaccaro using "reasonable and justifiable force."

DA Rocah stated, "We have evaluated the evidence – including a review of police reports, video surveillance, a cellphone video recording, and recorded calls made to NRPD – and determined that Vaccaro's actions warrant charges of attempted assault in the third degree, given the repeated physical blows and the fact that other uniformed police officers had the suspect and the situation under control at the time.

"It is important to note that other NRPD officers who were present at the scene acted appropriately and attempted to stop Vaccaro's actions. We are committed to ensuring the integrity of law enforcement personnel and to holding everyone accountable for their actions, including police officers when warranted," said Rocah.

Vaccaro's arrest resulted in strong comments and rebuttals of Rocah from Westchester Law Enforcement. Det. Chris Greco, president of the New Rochelle PBA, called Rocah's actions "a politically motivated referral, politically motivated arrest and continued attack on law enforcement." He also accused the DA of "hunting cops" while ignoring crime victims.

"The Westchester County District Attorney has sent a clear and extremely risky message to all of law enforcement in Westchester County – that the DA will personally decide what is acceptable and what is not, rather than determine what is lawful and what is not," Greco stated.

"Officer Vaccaro, who was 'off-duty,' observed and intervened in a violent domestic dispute when he lured an out of control suspect away from his intended victim (his elderly mother) and provided her an opportunity to flee to safety," Greco wrote in a statement. "During this incident, the suspect turned his rage on Officer Vaccaro. Officer Vaccaro, now acting in an "on-duty" capacity, called for backup, identified himself to the suspect as a police officer and was repeatedly threatened with violence by the suspect. The suspect ignored police commands and when New Rochelle Police Officers went to arrest the enraged suspect, he attempted to punch Officer Vaccaro, causing him to defend himself," said Greco.

Rocah responded to Greco's comments, saying, "While the New Rochelle PBA is entitled to its view of the facts, there is no place for the type of inflammatory and irresponsible language used which crosses a dangerous line. I have a long history of working with and strongly supporting law enforcement and work with them every day to keep Westchester safe.

"But no one is above the law, and in those rare and unfortunate cases where the facts and law warrant bringing charges against an officer, my office will do its job – just as the NRPD did its duty in suspending the officer and referring the case to us for investigation," said Rocah.

Vaccaro has been suspended by the City of New Rochelle for 30 days over the incident, calling his actions "inappropriate."

Other Police Unions and Associations condemned Rocah's actions.

Lt. Nicholas Mastrogiorgio, president of the Mount Vernon Police Association, called Rocah's actions "out of control," adding, "The DA Mimi Rocah should be ashamed of herself. Punishing good cops for doing their jobs will lead to good cops not getting involved or hesitating to act. That will lead to a decrease in public safety and Police Officers being at risk of being hurt."

In April, Rocah has called on the U.S. Department of Justice to investigate the Mt. Vernon Police Department for what she called "disturbing allegations of patterns of inappropriate and potentially unlawful conduct."

Yonkers PBA President Keith Olson, who is also the President of the Affiliated Police Associations of Westchester called Rocah's arrest of Vaccaro "outrageous."

"Sadly, Det. Vaccaro has been caught in the crossfire of an agenda-driven District Attorney and a politicized criminal justice system. In her misleading and inflammatory CNN Op-Ed, written months ago, D.A. Rocah ominously wrote about "vigorously pursuing" the prosecution of police officers, specifically those involved in "off-duty road rage incidents." It is clear that her mind was made up months ago and that the decision to charge Det. Vaccaro was not based on any true "evaluation of the evidence," as the District Attorney's Office claims.

In fact, Rocah's office made NO attempt to interview Det. Vaccaro. This ridiculous decision contradicts the most basic tenets of conducting a true, fair and impartial investigation.

At the same time of her Op-Ed, D.A. Rocah Tweeted "Let's go" in referencing the prosecution of police officers. Unfortunately, we have yet to see the same vigor from the D.A. when discussing the prosecution of violent gang members, sex offenders or any other actual criminals.

Det. Vaccaro's actions in dealing with a violent and aggressive suspect were clearly justified and reasonable. This statement is supported by video evidence and eyewitness testimony. The decision to arrest this decorated, veteran police officer was disgraceful and only works to undermine a crucial relationship between police officers and the prosecutor's office. Recklessly damaging this much-needed partnership while violent crime is skyrocketing throughout New York State, and the country, is frustratingly dangerous.

We look forward to the full vindication and exoneration of New Rochelle Police Det. Michael Vaccaro. In the meantime, police officers from every corner of our county will continue to risk their lives while protecting our communities," said Olson.

REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL (RFP) #2021-04
REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS FOR CONDENSATE AND BOILER
FEEDWATER SYSTEM RELACEMENT (3 BUILDINGS) AT BUILDINGS OWNED OR MANAGED BY THE MUNICIPAL HOUSING AUTHORITY FOR THE CITY OF YONKERS

The Municipal Housing Authority for the City of Yonkers ("MHACY") hereby solicits proposals from qualified firms for the provision of condensate and boiler feedwater replacement for MHACY at various locations specified in the Request for Proposals ("RFP").

This RFP package contains submission requirements and terms and conditions and other pertinent information for submitting a proper and responsive proposal. This RFP is the only information provided to prospective bidders (hereinafter "Responders") and is available online starting June 30, 2021 at www.mhacy.org under the "About" section.

The RFP questions deadline is July 9, 2021 at 3:00PM Eastern Standard Time (EST). Any and all questions must be emailed to procurement@mhacy.org by the deadline. No telephone calls and/or written communication sent via mail will be accepted. Date for on-site visits: TBD

Proposals must reach MHACY no later than 3:00 PM (EST) on July 30, 2021. Late submissions will be handled in accordance with the provisions in Form HUD-5369B. Proposals will be evaluated on the criteria stated in the RFP. Negotiations may be conducted with contractors who have a reasonable chance of being selected for the award. After evaluation of the proposal revision, if any, the contract will be awarded to the responsible firm(s) whose qualifications, price and other factors are considered to be the most advantageous to MHACY.

MHACY reserves the right to reject any and all proposals and waive any irregularities or informalities if it is in MHACY's best interest to do so. MHACY reserves the right to cancel this RFP or to reject, in whole or in part, any and all proposals received in response to this RFP, upon its determination that such cancellation or rejection is in the best interest of MHACY.

MHACY is an Equal Opportunity Employer and does not discriminate on the basis of race, sexual orientation, color, national origin, sex, religion, age, disability, or family status. MHACY solicits and encourages the participation of minorities and small businesses in procurement. Contact, related to this procurement, with members of MHACY's Board of Commissioners, or MHACY's officers and/or employees other than the contact person show above, during the procurement process could result in disqualification of a proposal.

Wilson Kimball, President, CEO
Municipal Housing Authority for the City of Yonkers
1511 Central Park Avenue, Yonkers, New York 10710
Project No. RFP 2021 04

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

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that the undersigned has applied to the City Council of The City of Yonkers for an amendment to the Zoning Map of the City of Yonkers to change the zone district classification of the property located at 612 E. Grassy Sprain Road, Yonkers, New York, also known as Block 4391, Lot 435 on the Tax Assessment Map of the City of Yonkers from "S-100" to "S-60," and that, pursuant to Section 43- of the Zoning Ordinance of the City of Yonkers, a public hearing on such application will be held by the City Council on July 7, 2021 at 2:00 p.m. either virtually or at the City Council Chamber, located at 40 South Broadway, New York. Those interested in speaking at the public hearing should contact the Office of the City Clerk of the City of Yonkers for instructions to speak at the hearing.

Dated: Yonkers, New York June 14, 2021

612 SPRAIN BROOK LLC, Applicant

By:

Joseph E. Royce, Managing Member

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

NOTICE OF SALE SUPREME COURT, WESTCHESTER COUNTY INDEX NO.: 58848/2019

BONITA WEST LLC v. 164 ELM REALTY CORP., et al., Defendants. Pursuant to Judgment of Foreclosure and Sale, dated January 22, 2020 and entered on January 24, 2020, I, the undersigned Referee, will sell at public auction, in the Courtroom 200 of the Westchester County Courthouse, 111 Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Boulevard, White Plains, New York on the 25th day of June, 2021 at 11:30 A.M., the premises directed by said Judgment to be sold, being in Section 1, Block 455, Lot 6 on the Tax Map of the City of Yonkers, County of Westchester, and known by the street number 164 Elm Street, Yonkers, New York.

Approximate amount of Judgment is \$23,431.15 plus interest, costs, attorneys' fees and advances. Said premises will be sold subject to the provisions of the filed Judgment and the Terms of Sale.

FRANK APICELLA, ESQ., Referee.

SANDERS, GUTMAN & BRODIE, P.C.,
Attorneys for Plaintiff, 18 North Central Avenue, Suite 204
Hartsdale, New York 10530 (718) 522-0666

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

Notice of formation of SaucyGuava, LLC Arts. of Org. filed with the SSNY on 05/21/2021. Office: Westchester County. SSNY designated as agent of the LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail copy of process to the LLC, 332 Palisade Ave Apt C1, Yonkers, NY 10703-2918. Purpose: Any lawful purpose.

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

Notice of Sale

Supreme Court: Westchester County T11 Funding v Manuel Pereira et al. Defendants, Index#: 51986/2019 Pursuant to a Judgment of Foreclosure and Sale filed and entered on January 24, 2020, I will sell at public auction in Courtroom 200 of the Westchester County Courthouse 111 Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd White Plains NY 10601, on July 9, 2021 at 3:30 P.M. premises located in the City of Yonkers, County of Westchester, State of New York known as Section 1, Block 463 Lot(s) 25. Sold subject to the terms of sale and filed judgment of foreclosure. Bank Checks Only, must be payable to the Referee for 25% of Bid Price. Leticia Arzu, Esq. Referee



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Interested candidates please visit www.penfield.edu

Yonkers History, continued from pg 5-

Friday, July 2nd

July 2, 1911: Well-known barber August Nitsch passed away. The oldest barber in Yonkers, Nitsch was best known for being Samuel Tilden's barber while the "Sage of Graystone" lived in Yonkers.

July 2, 1965: The movie cameras once again were shooting in Yonkers, this time at Tibbetts Brook Park! The picture being filmed was "The Daydreamer," the story of Hans Christian Anderson starring Ray Bolger and Margaret Hamilton.

Saturday, July 3rd

July 3, 1911: The Manor Hall officially passed into custody of the American Scenic and Historic Society. During the first few months of 1911, a few officials and departments still operated out of the Manor Hall, including the Board of Contract and Supply, the Comptroller, the City Treasurer and the Assessors. As part of the transition, the City of Yonkers informally unofficially began its first official celebration of Independence Day. Shortly after dusk, more than 2,000 "incandescents" outlined the building and six flaming arc lamps suspended in the tower lit City Hall. Seen for miles, the brilliant lights attracted thousands of people to Broadway and New Main Street who wanted to get a closer look.

Sunday, July 4th

July 4, 1911: Speeches and musical entertainment opened our first Independence Day celebration at City Hall. A girls' chorus from St. Mary's sang patriotic songs; Mayor Lennon made a brief speech, and City Judge Joseph Beall gave the keynote speech. Gerard Flannery, another St. Mary's student, read the Declaration of Independence, and the audience sang "The Star Spangled Banner" to end the program.

July 4, 1921: Yonkers' own George McLean tied for third place on the first day of the Metropolitan Open Golf Tournament.

Questions or comments? Email YonkersHistory1646@gmail.com.

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

Democratic Primary, continued from pg 1-

primary after she decided to split with the Peekskill Democratic Party and run with a separate slate of candidates, all of who lost. Agudelo remains one of the most well known progressive office holders in Westchester.

In Yonkers, incumbent City Council President Mike Khader was defeated in his bid for re-election after he lost the democratic primary to Lakisha Collins-Bellamny decisively by a 57%-49% margin. This primary was one of the most negative elections in 20 years in Yonkers. More on this in our July 9 issue and online at YonkersTimes.com

Eric Schoen, continued from pg 3-

hungry or lazy customer, what are you sitting alone in the car wearing a mask for?

Exercising at Tibbetts Brook Park over the weekend, I see park goers in the fresh air wearing masks. People exercising as I was wearing masks. Individuals eating ice cream pushing their masks up and down to enjoy their frosty treat!

I can't figure what's going on here. Even in situations where people were not required by the state to wear masks they are wearing them. Can you shed some light on this for me. You can find my email address at the bottom of this column.

There are many things we have learned from this pandemic. Some we should have learned when we were two years old. Like washing your hands with soap and water. Cleaning the grocery cart with a wipe before you put your child in the seat of the cart with his or her legs hanging out. Way before the pandemic hit us we were wiping off the handles of the grocery carts before we would push them around the store.

Restaurants, especially fast food or quick service chains should not only have a dispenser for napkins on the table but should also have a dispenser for disinfecting wipes so you can clean the table and chairs before you sit down (I want the patent on that!). If you have a busy restaurant with heavy table turnover, it's still hard for staff particularly in fast food to clean every table as fast as customers turn over. Leave a dispenser for sanitizing wipes on the table this way we know we are sitting someplace clean.

All stores need to make sure the disinfecting wipes and Purell dispensers are full. Many local companies and realtors, lawyers, cleaning services, etc. sponsor those dispensers. If they are not full do yourself and the company a favor and first, notify the store it's in that's it's empty and if still not filled notify the merchant sponsoring the dispenser.

Fitting rooms are finally reopened so people like my poor sister need not bring home over a \$1000 in swimsuits to pick out the \$300 worth she likes and fit her properly. The closure of fitting rooms in stores was probably the stupidest thing most retailers did during the pandemic. Did it really make sense to have people bring items they wanted to try on home to a house where Covid could have been spreading or maybe was not the cleanest home in America!

I had a treat last weekend. Something I haven't been able to do for 15 months. Go to the theater. It was Off Broadway not On Broadway. Broadway theaters for the most part will not open until mid September.

REOPENING - "Judy Garland LIVE: In Concert! As If We Never Said Good-bye" the Award-winning and critically-acclaimed Tribute Artist Peter Mac returned as Judy Garland in his first show since closing for COVID-19 has reopened at the Producer's Club, 358 West 44th Street in Manhattan. Shows are selling out quickly not only because it is so well done but people are dying to get back to see LIVE theater and there are so few options.

Call 1-978-818-5571 for reservations and further information. You will have a wonderful night enjoying the great Judy Garland portrayed by Peter Mac in a live show. You truly will be "Over the Rainbow!"

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

Where Does the Young, LGBTQIA+ Community Go From Here?



By: Dennis Richmond, Jr.

My name is Dennis Richmond, Jr., and I'm a 26-year-old young man from Yonkers, New York. As a millennial, I've seen events and a lot of things change in my lifetime. In September 2011, the same month that I entered eleventh grade, the "Occupy Wall Street" movement took place in New York City. The same year, the world watched as New York legalized same-sex marriage. In 2015 Pope Francis visited the United States, making stops in New York and Philadelphia. That same year, the world watched as the landmark civil rights case, Obergefell v. Hodges changed America forever.

On June 26th, 2015, the case ruled that same-sex couples were guaranteed the right to marry. Same-sex marriage wasn't just a northern thing anymore. It was an American thing. People in the LGBTQIA+ Community would no longer have to worry about whether they could marry their significant other. Almost six years later, I ask other young adults, "where do we go from here?" Many young adults aren't worried about fighting for the future of the LGBTQIA+ Community.

The generations that came before us fought for our rights and pushed the culture forward. James Baldwin, Lorraine Hansberry, and Alice Walker moved the culture forward through their writing. Activists Marsha P. Johnson, Sylvia Rivera, and Bayard Rustin pushed the culture forward by voicing their opinions. In my opinion, there are three things that young folks in the LGBTQIA+ Community should keep in mind:

Don't Forget the T: LGBTQIA+ stands for Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Queer, Intersex, Ally, and Others, Respectfully. The Trans Community has always had to fight for its rights. Many people turn a deaf ear and a blind eye to trans rights. Trans women, especially young trans women of color, are constantly assaulted and murdered. Often, there isn't a huge outcry. As we push forward as a culture, it's imperative that we big up our trans community.

We Won't Be Young Forever: We have to plan for the future. That means members of the Community sharing resources with others. Resources include LGBTQIA+ friendly places of employment, housing opportunities, and even food when it's necessary. We also have to encourage each other to further our education, and we have to build a support system amongst each other.

We're Not Done Yet: Lastly, there is still a tremendous amount of work to be done in the LGBTQIA+ Community. Dating apps and social media apps could be a gift and a curse. We have to remind each other to be extremely careful at all times. Safety matters. With that, many families still don't understand their gay son, their trans daughter, or their gender non-conforming siblings. Regardless, we need to make sure that their safety is always the top priority.

Happy Pride Month, Love
Dennis Richmond, Jr., M.S.Ed., Founder and Director, The NYNJ HBCU Initiative

Yonkers democratic primaries, continued from pg 1-

But with his victory, Rubbo's move to the democratic party is complete, and now he becomes a possible candidate for citywide office.

In the other democratic primary for City Council in the 6th District, Tim Hodges defeated Stella Schwuchow by a 61%-38% margin.

Hodges a retired Yonkers Police Deputy Commissioner, now will face republican Councilman Anthony Merante in hot contest in November.

In the two democratic primaries for County Legislator in Yonkers, Legislators Jose Alvarado and Christopher Johnson won. Johnson defeated Dwanita Crosby by a 62%-38% margin, larger than some had predicted.

Alvarado defeated former Legislator Virginia Perez and community activist London Reyes, with Alvarado at 48%, Perez at 36% and Reyes at 15%. Some had predicted a win, and a comeback by Perez.

Much more analysis in the weeks to come.

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HOMEOWNER FUNDING

NOTICE TO NEW YORK RESIDENTS

Homeowner Funding is now offering homeowners a chance to make necessary energy efficient home repairs and will be offering its services to families who:

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