

YMA Lady Eagles Go Back-to-Back, Win Section Titles “This is awesome, but there’s more to do”



MVP Emilee Doherty, left and Arsela Mustafaj

By Dan Murphy

The magic ride for the YMA Lady Eagles Girls basketball team continues after another decisive win in the Section One, Class B Championship at the County Center on March 8. YMA defeated Hamilton, 55-39, bringing their record to 20-3.

The Class B tournament MVP was YMA Sophomore Emilee Doherty, who had 19 points, 6 rebounds, 5 assists and 3 steals. Doherty helped lead a stifling YMA defense and also hit a couple of three-

pointers that opened up the lead.

The win gives YMA back to back Class B Championships, and yes there was celebration after the win, but also a determination from the team and Coach Elie Moise-that they want to go further into the State Championships this year. Last year, the Lady Eagles lost in the State Semifinals.

“This is awesome, but we’re not done yet, there’s more to do,” said Doherty.

Next up for YMA is a subregional game against James I. O’Neill, from

continued on pg 11-

Two Female Yonkers Entrepreneurs Build Thriving Brands Through TikTok



Denise Francis, left and Shaina Rainford right

See Story on Page 5

Meet Three More Aides to the Grand Marshal for Yonkers St. Patrick’s Day Parade March 21



Kate Kiernan-Goodwin



Geoffrey Keating



Caitlin Geraghty Liberatori

See Story on Page 8

Yonkers Booming Film Industry Generating Tens of Millions in Sales and Earnings for City



From left, Film Producer Jonathan Filley; Law & Order Director Mike Smith, City Council Majority Leader John Rubbo; Mayor Mike Spano; Yonkers Office of Film Director Melissa Goldberg, Great Point Studios CEO Robert Halmi and City Council President Lakisha Collins-Bellamy

Yonkers fast-growing film industry is a dynamic economic engine generating

continued on pg 11-

Frank Jereis Raises Over \$100K in Fundraiser for Assembly Powered Small Donations



Assembly candidate Frank Jereis middle, with two supporters at his recent fund raiser

In front of a packed, standing-room-only crowd at Castle Royale in Yonkers, Frank Jereis held his first campaign fundraiser for State Assembly, joined by Democratic elected officials and leaders from organized labor.

Hundreds of supporters packed the venue, with many attendees even struggling to find parking as excitement around the campaign filled the room.

continued on pg 9-

Next Week: No Easter Miracle for St. Mary’s Church -Read it Online at Yonkerstimes.com

Women Graduate and They are Still Paid Less



By Dennis Richmond, Jr.

For decades, girls were told a simple promise: work hard in school, earn a degree, and success will follow. Today, women are keeping their end of that promise. Across the United States, women now earn the majority of college degrees. In fact, women receive more bachelor's, master's, and doctoral degrees than men. Classrooms across America are full of young women preparing to lead in medicine, business, education, technology, and law.

But when graduation caps come off and paychecks start coming in, the reality looks different: if women are earning more degrees, why are they still earning less money?

The gender pay gap is not new, but it continues to shape the financial lives of millions of women, especially Black women. On average, women in the United States still earn less than men for similar work. Black women and Latina women often earn significantly less than white men in the same workforce. For many young women entering the job market today, this reality feels confusing and unfair.

Gen Z is a generation that pays attention to numbers. They track student loans, cost of living, rent, and starting salaries. Many young women are graduating with impressive résumés, leadership experience, and strong academic records. Even so, they enter workplaces where pay transparency is limited and negotiation rules seem unclear.

History helps explain why this gap still exists. For much of American history, women were excluded from many professions and leadership roles. Even after women entered the workforce in larger numbers, they were often pushed into lower-paying careers. While laws have changed and opportunities have expanded, the economic structures built decades ago have not disappeared overnight.

But Gen Z is not a generation that sits down and accepts the status quo. Young women today are asking harder questions about salary transparency, workplace equity, and corporate accountability. Social media has made it easier than ever for workers to compare salaries, share experiences, and challenge unfair treatment.

Women's History Month is often a time to celebrate pioneers who fought for voting rights, education, and equal opportunity. Those victories matter. But the next chapter of women's history is being written right now — in offices, classrooms, and across social media — by a generation of women demanding that equal education finally leads to equal pay.

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

DA Cacace's Gun Buyback Program Takes 20 Guns from Yonkers Off the Streets

Westchester County District Attorney Susan Cacace recently announced the latest results from her office's efforts to combat gun violence and the trafficking of firearms in Westchester County.

In the fourth quarter of 2025, police agencies across Westchester made 61 arrests incident to a gun crime and recovered a total of 48 firearms.

Of the recovered firearms, there were 36 pistols, 7 revolvers, 4 rifles, and 1 derringer. Among the recovered pistols were 4 ghost guns, which are unserialized, untraceable firearms made with 3D printers or assembled from partially finished gun parts. Ghost guns are increasingly turning up at crime scenes across Westchester and New York State.

The largest recoveries were made in Yonkers (20) and Mount Vernon (15).*

Nearly half (49%) of the arrestees were from out of county. Of these, the majority were from the Bronx, with smaller numbers coming from Connecticut, Poughkeepsie, Florida, Newburgh, California, Kentucky, Maryland, and Texas.

Among those arrested, 38% were between 21 and 30 years old, 34% were 20 years old or younger, 16% were between 41 and 50 years old, 8% were between 31 and 40 years old, 2% were between 51 and 60 years old, and 2% were between 71 and 80 years old.

DA Cacace said: "Each tally on a spreadsheet represents an illegal firearm taken off the streets, a potential life spared and a family left intact. I am proud of the significant amount of seizures we accomplished with our local police departments in Q4 2025.

"Looking behind these numbers at the human toll of gun violence, we are reminded how critical this work is for those who are caught in the crossfire, average citizens taking their kids to school or making a trip to the grocery store. Just one life lost to the scourge of gun violence is one too many.

"Though we have made significant progress in conjunction with our municipal partners most acutely affected by gun crime, there remain areas of improvement we must address with renewed urgency. That the second-highest cohort of arrestees are teenagers is particularly disturbing and reflects an unacceptable trend that was super-charged by the pandemic. We must work with our legislative partners to tackle this newfound epidemic, for the safety of our communities and for our young residents themselves."

*These numbers include not only gun recoveries but also gun-related recoveries, such as shell casings and recoveries falling into the Other and Unknown categories.

Lady Eagles, continued from pg 1-

Dog Bites Two Yonkers Cops and His Owner

On Feb. 26, at 118 New Main Street, at 12 noon, two Yonkers Police Officers observed that a male was urinating in public and had a dog not on a leash—they approached him to issue the appropriate summons. While writing the summons, they discovered that the male had a warrant.

Officers attempted to place him under arrest, at which point he resisted arrest and encouraged his dog to attack the Officers. At that time, the male's dog bit both officers and the male himself. The male was eventually placed into handcuffs, and the dog was controlled.

The male was charged with the original city ordinance violations, charges related to his open warrant, as well as resisting arrest, assault 2nd degree, and obstruction of governmental administration.

The Officers responded to an area hospital to be treated for the dog bite. Yonkers Animal Shelter responded to take possession of the dog.

Westchester County Parks Event in Yonkers Saturday, March 14

Lenoir Preserve, Yonkers: (914) 968-5851-SAT

Spring Hike to Untermeyer Gardens, 1 p.m. - 3 p.m.

Hike through the landscape from Lenoir downslope to beautiful Untermeyer and then return.

Details: <https://parksevents.westchestercountyny.gov/event/spring-hike-to-untermeyer-gardens-2/>

Yonkers Rising

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

SAVE ON YOUR
Travel Plans!
Up to 75%
more than 500 Airlines
and 300,000 Hotels across the world!
Let us do the research for you for free... we'll save you time and money

*Spend your travel dollars when you get there **not getting there!***

We're not allowed to publish fares online so call for the best rates now **877-988-7277**

**BIG WIRELESS COVERAGE,
WITHOUT BIG WIRELESS COST.**
Plans start at just \$20/month.
Switch & Save Today
844-919-1682 **Consumer Cellular**

Too Many DUI's with Kids in the Car



Leandra's Law, officially known as the Child Passenger Protection Act, is a New York State law that significantly increased the penalties for driving while intoxicated (DWI) with a child in the vehicle. It was signed into law in November 2009 following the tragic death of 11-year-old Leandra Rosado, who was killed in a crash while riding in a car driven by a friend's mother who was intoxicated.

16 years later, there is still a large number of parents driving drunk with kids in the car in Westchester. Here are two of the latest, and check out the times of arrest.

Elmsford Woman Charged with DWI with 2 Kids in the Car at 230AM

On March 1, 2026, at approximately 2:32 a.m., troopers assigned to the New York State Police Hawthorne barracks conducted a traffic stop on a vehicle traveling northbound on the Sprain Brook Parkway in the Town of Greenburgh for violations of the New York State Vehicle and Traffic Law.

During the stop, the operator, identified as Josefina Parades-Leocadio, 45, of Elmsford, New York, displayed signs of intoxication. Standardized Field Sobriety Tests were administered, which Parades-Leocadio subsequently failed. Further investigation revealed that two children, ages 12 and 14, were in the vehicle at the time of the stop.

Parades-Leocadio was taken into custody and transported to SP Hawthorne for processing, where she submitted a chemical breath test that yielded a blood alcohol concentration (BAC) of 0.22%. The children were safely released to a sober third party.

As a result of the investigation, Parades-Leocadio was charged with the following:

- Aggravated Driving While Intoxicated with a Child Passenger (Leandra's Law)
- Class E Felony
- Driving While Intoxicated - Unclassified Misdemeanor
- Vehicle and Traffic Law Violations

Parades-Leocadio was issued traffic tickets returnable to the Town of Greenburgh Court on April 3, 2026, at 9:30 a.m.

Peekskill man charged with Leandra's Law following traffic stop

On March 8, 2026, at approximately 3:44 a.m., New York State Police from the Cortlandt Barracks (SP Cortlandt) conducted a traffic stop on a vehicle traveling northbound on N. James Street in the City of Peekskill for a violation of the New York State Vehicle and Traffic Law.

During the stop, the operator, identified as Jorge Quizhpi, 47, of Peekskill, New York, displayed signs of intoxication. Standardized Field Sobriety Tests were administered, which Quizhpi subsequently failed. Further investigation revealed that a child, age 4, was in the vehicle at the time of the stop.

Quizhpi was taken into custody and transported to SP Cortlandt for processing, where he refused to submit to a chemical breath test. The child was safely released to a sober third party.

As a result of the investigation, Quizhpi was charged with the following:

- Aggravated Driving While Intoxicated with a Child Passenger (Leandra's Law), a class E felony, and Driving While Intoxicated.

On This Day in Yonkers History...



General Benjamin Lincoln left used the Thomas Valentine Homestead in Yonkers during the Revolutionary War

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

Monday, March 16th

March 16, 1930: Members of the Westchester County Historical Society chose a 10-ton boulder, found when building near Central Avenue, to mark the old Thomas Valentine homestead on Valentine's Hill. The site was used twice by General George Washington, as well as General Benjamin Lincoln; both Patriot and Loyalist troops camped there during the Revolution! It now is the site of St. Joseph's Seminary and College.

March 16, 1934: Public Safety Commissioner Denis Morrissey announced a bronze memorial plaque remembering Patrolman Patrick Whalen, the hero who gave his life to save a little girl in the RKO Proctor Theater blast. The tablet would be placed in Police Headquarters.

The department's Honor Board also voted to create a resolution extolling Whalen's heroism and to retire the late officer's shield. Both would be presented to his widow.

Tuesday, March 17th

March 17, 1943: Aviation Cadet Frank Falcone of Waverly Street sang with Dinah Shore and William Gargan after an Army Air Base "Soldiers with Wings" broadcast from the West Coast Training Center! Falcone was in training to become a bombardier.

March 17, 1966: Baseball hero Jackie Robinson addressed the parents and children of School 22! Invited by Yonkers resident Reverend Wyatt Tee Walker, Special Assistant to Governor Rockefeller for Urban Affairs, Robinson not only spoke to the audience about his time in baseball, but also about his son wounded in Viet Nam. He advised parents not to push children, but to let them play ball to learn team spirit, both in sports and in the community.

Wednesday, March 18th

March 18, 1940: A New York City construction company announced their plans to build garden apartments on Hilltop Acres at St. Johns Avenue and Midland Terrace. They intended to build 375 apartments in 22 buildings, with a cost of one million dollars.

March 18, 1942: A huge Army truck carrying a dismantled Army plane tried to travel on the Saw Mill River Parkway. It traveled along nicely until it came to the footbridge leading to Tibbetts Brook Park; it just could go no further... the truck was just too big. The truck backed up a quite a distance, turned around, got off the parkway and took another route! Park Superintendent George Haight made it very clear that when the Saw Mill was named a defense highway, the County Park Commission sent the US Army the widths and clearances of all bridges spanning the road. Haight added he just did not understand why the Army would send such a large truck that never could squeeze under any of the bridges!

Thursday, March 19th

March 19, 1650: Van der Donck signed a contract with the Dutch West India Company and others for the transportation of 200 people to New Netherlands.

March 19, 1890: St. Joseph's Hospital officially opened to the public on the feast of St. Joseph. Notwithstanding a snowstorm that slowed both mail and trans

continued on pg 11-

Transform Your Bathroom and Change Your Life.

FREE TOILET + \$1,500 OFF*

For your FREE information kit and our Senior Discounts, Call Today Toll-Free

1-855-916-5473

safestep

*Free toilet with purchase and installation of a walk-in-tub or walk-in-shower only. Offer available while supplies last. No cash value. Must present offer at time of purchase. Cannot be combined with any other offer. Restrictions may apply. Offer available in select markets only. Call 1-855-916-5473 for details.

THE HOME.
Life Roofing Since 1976

Trust the Nation's #1 Roofing Contractor
Award-Winning Roofing and Customer Service

LIMITED TIME OFFER

50% OFF

Installation

FREE ESTIMATE

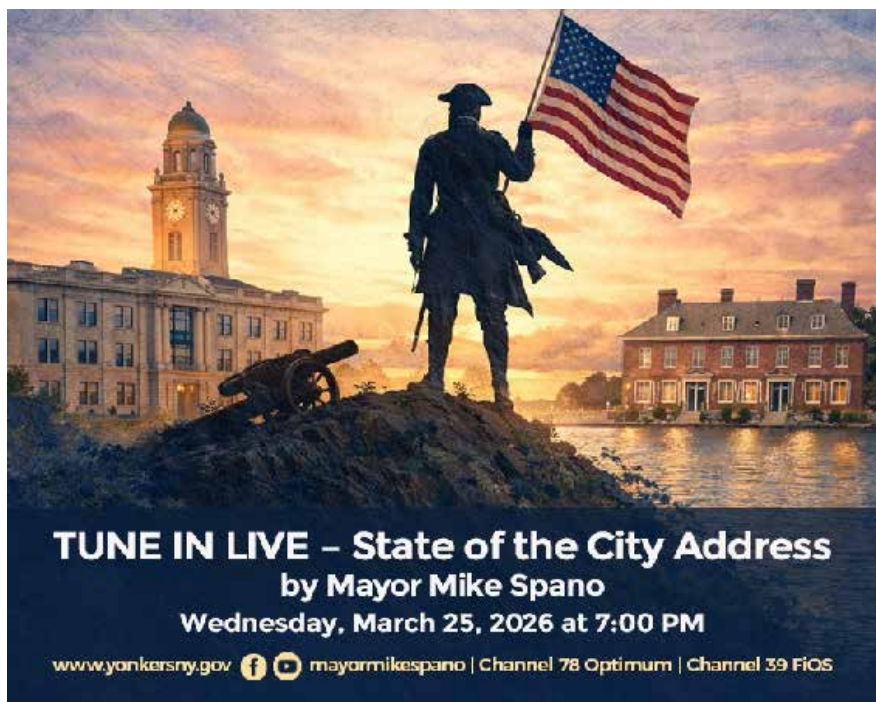
SCHEDULE TODAY!

Call 1.855.492.6084

CALL TODAY! 1.855.492.6084

New offers only. Does not include material costs. Cannot be combined with any other offer. Not valid for reroofing and other roof alterations. This promotion is not available in all areas. Offer ends 3/31/26. Offer letter and email may apply and the offer may not be available in your area. If you call the number provided, you consent to being contacted by telephone. This offer is valid until the offer expires. For more information, call 1-855-492-6084. Please review our Privacy Policy and Terms of Use on homepage. ©2026 Life Roofing. All rights reserved. Life Roofing is a registered trademark of Life Roofing.

Mayor Spano to Address City of Yonkers in State of the City March 25 at Riverfront Library



Yonkers Mayor Mike Spano announced his annual State of the City address will be held on Wednesday, March 25, at 7:00 pm at the Yonkers Riverfront Library in Larkin Plaza.

“I am thrilled to once again address the residents of Yonkers and share updates on the latest economic, social, business, and educational advancements in our city,” said Mayor Spano. “This year carries special significance as our nation marks the Revolutionary 250th birthday—a moment that invites us to reflect on our history, honor our progress, and spotlight the communities that continue to move America forward. Here in Yonkers, we have not only embraced that spirit of innovation and resilience, but we have also demonstrated what it means to build a city where opportunity, creativity, and community thrive.”

The address will be streamed live at YonkersNY.gov and on local government access channel 78 for Optimum customers and channel 39 for FiOS customers. The live broadcast also will be available on Facebook and YouTube @MayorMikeSpano.

COME OUT TO THE MONTHLY THIRD PRECINCT MEETING

Third Precinct Police Community Council Meeting Wednesday, March 18, 2026 7:00 PM Chema Community Center, 435 Riverdale Avenue.

Consider Coming To This Most Important Community Meeting. Residents and Merchants Of The South-West Yonkers Area Strongly Urged To Attend.

Quality Of Life Issues Will Be Discussed . Help Preserve And Save Your Neighborhood. Get Involved And Work Together For Good Community Police Relations. For Further Information Please contact:

Lucy M. Casanova At 914 426-6668 Or Captain Jaime Dumser At 914 377-7425.

BOGO
40% OFF
Minimum purchase of \$4

+ \$200 OFF
Your Entire Purchase
Minimum purchase of \$4

ENDS 3/31

888-448-0421

County Legislator Nolan Gets Republican and Conservative Party Endorsements for Reelection



County Legislator James Nolan recently accepted the nomination from the Westchester Party Republican County Committee and the Westchester County Conservative Party. Nolan posted, “I proudly received and accepted the endorsement of the Westchester Republican County Committee for my re-election campaign for Westchester County Legislator for District 15. This endorsement solidifies our unwavering commitment to protecting taxpayers, strengthening public safety, investing in infrastructure, and making Westchester affordable for families, seniors, and children.

“I have consistently championed District 15 — voting against tax increases, securing vital funding for our communities, and delivering tangible results. As the representative for District 15, I have proven my ability to deliver and will continue to do so, unlike the opposition, which lacks knowledge and spreads falsehoods.

“I am grateful for their support and remain resolute in fighting for residents of Yonkers, Bronxville, and Eastchester. I am confident I will be re-elected this November. Together, we will continue to deliver meaningful results for everyone!”

And
“I am honored and proud to announce that I have officially received the endorsement of the Westchester County Conservative Party for my re-election as Westchester County Legislator for District 15. The Conservative Party has a long and respected history of standing up for taxpayers and families, defending our communities, and promoting common-sense leadership. I am grateful for their trust and support, and I remain committed to fighting for the principles we share — protecting taxpayers, strengthening public safety, defending local control, and ensuring government is accountable to the people.

“Throughout my time in office, I have stood firmly against higher taxes, fought back against costly mandates, secured millions in funding for infrastructure and public safety, and delivered real, measurable results for the residents of Yonkers, Eastchester, and Bronxville. This endorsement is a powerful affirmation of that work and the direction we must continue moving forward. I look forward to continuing this fight and earning the support of voters across District 15 as we work together to protect our communities and deliver results,” said Nolan.

Legislator Nolan will have a democratic challenger in November. That will either be Anthony Nicodemo or Keisha Skipper, both of who are collecting signatures to get on the ballot and face off in a democratic primary in June.

Nolan has been reelected three times, 2021,23,25, and is running in 2026 because of the consolidation of many local races into the same election cycle as Statewide and National elections. Nolan defeated democrat Ruth Walter twice, in 21 and 23, and ran unopposed last year.

Nolan is the only republican on the 17-member Westchester BOL. Legislator Margaret Cunzio is a registered Conservative.

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

Start the new year clog-free!

Save up to 20% per year

15% OFF + 10%

LeafFilter™

Save up to 20% per year

Get a FREE full gutter inspection and estimate: 1-844-668-1725

Promote 2025

*Maximum discount of 20% off total cost of gutter protection. Offer valid on new installations only. Offer not available on existing installations. Offer not available in certain areas. Offer not available on certain gutter types. Offer not available on certain roof types. Offer not available on certain roof pitches. Offer not available on certain roof materials. Offer not available on certain roof colors. Offer not available on certain roof shapes. Offer not available on certain roof orientations. Offer not available on certain roof conditions. Offer not available on certain roof ages. Offer not available on certain roof types. Offer not available on certain roof materials. Offer not available on certain roof colors. Offer not available on certain roof shapes. Offer not available on certain roof orientations. Offer not available on certain roof conditions. Offer not available on certain roof ages.

NEW YORK HOMEOWNERS:

2026 HOME IMPROVEMENT FUNDING

NOW AVAILABLE IN YOUR AREA

Roof • Windows • Siding • Bathrooms • Heating & More

Is your house telling you it's time?

- ✓ Roof showing age, leaks, or storm damage
- ✓ Old, drafty windows driving up energy bills
- ✓ Dated bathrooms or exterior issues
- ✓ Projects you "planned" to do but put off because of cost

You may qualify for special home improvement funding programs not available to the general public.

- ✓ Lower out-of-pocket costs
- ✓ Spread payments over time
- ✓ Move forward without delaying needed work

Even homeowners who could pay cash are encouraged to check eligibility.

ENROLLMENT IS LIMITED
Programs, appointments, and installations are available on a first-come, first-served basis in your area. Programs change frequently and may close without notice.

CALL NOW TO CHECK ELIGIBILITY

888-849-9991

or visit MyProgramFunding.com

FINANCED BY A QUALITY REPAIR CREDIT PROGRAM
OR GOV PROGRAMS LICENSE NUMBER 21214

Free Events in Yonkers

Undermyer Performing Arts Council & American Irish Association of Westchester
 Present
Ira Goldman Memorial Concert

Sunday, March 15, 2026 at 1 PM
 Will Library
 1500 Central Park Ave.
 Yonkers, NY 10710
 This concert is free and open to the public.
This program is done in cooperation with Mayor Mike Spano, ArtsWestchester with support from County Executive Ken Jenkins, Westchester County Government, the City of Yonkers, Senator Andrea Stewart Cousins, Assemblymember Nader Sayegh, Empire City Casino and our loyal arts patrons.

Two Female Yonkers Entrepreneurs Build Thriving Brands Through TikTok

By Bryan Fumagalli

As Women’s History Month in March spotlights the achievements of women in business and beyond, two Yonkers entrepreneurs are demonstrating how digital platforms can turn personal purpose into growth.

Denise Francis and Shaina Rainford are leveraging TikTok not just for visibility, but as a driving force behind brands rooted in wellness and haircare.

Denise Francis

Francis, known as the ‘Self-Love Queen’ on TikTok, uses her platform to promote self-love and mental health for women. She received a grant from TikTok which she used to launch Heal Sis, a mental wellness app focused on helping black women heal, grow and break generational cycles by making mental health care and wellness accessible, affordable and community centered.

“The goal is to bridge the gap between community care and individualized care when it comes to mental health and become a new form of mental health care for black women,” said Francis, a Brooklyn native who moved to Yonkers in 2020. “We stress the connection between self-love and mental health through our black girl healing socials, retreats and group therapist-led sessions and group guided journal sessions. Black women have always thrived in community.”

Though the app was created in 2024, Francis founded The Self Love Organization in 2017 after studying psychology at City College of New York.

“I was able to build a beautiful community on TikTok of black women who want to heal and start their healing journeys by exiting survival mode and entering thriving mode. They began following me because I have been sharing my journey – the good, bad and ugly – online.”

In addition to helping her movement get off the ground, TikTok has invited Francis to participate in multiple initiatives and creator events.

For more information, visit @livenaturallylove on TikTok or theselfloveorganization.com.

Shaina Rainford

Rainford, founder of Bask and Lather Co., has built a natural haircare brand specifically for textured hair. Her bestsellers, Strong Hold Edge Control and Scalp Stimulator, have gone viral on TikTok Shop driving massive sell-outs and fueling significant growth through authentic content and real customer testimonials.

“We started this in 2020 after my younger sister lost her hair due to ringworm,” said Rainford, a Bronx native. “My mother grew desperate when doctors told her my sister’s hair may never grow back so she researched natural oils shown to promote hair growth and created a concoction which became our stimulating hair growth oil. When her hair grew back in it was thin, so my mom did more research that showed Jamaican black castor oil adds volume to hair and her hair grew down to her waist.”

Rainford had hair challenges of her own after acquiring life threatening COVID while working as a nurse practitioner at Scarsdale Medical Center deployed to White Plains Hospital.

“After recovering, my hair started to shed and literally break while touching it and I found myself desperate to find a solution,” she said. “With those same oils, my hair came back better than ever in a matter of weeks, and I said to my mom if I’m young and healthy and going through this there must be many people going through it. We started to share my sister and I’s before and after photos on social media and people started to buy it like crazy.”

While primarily focusing on women and children, Bask and Lather offers products for all hair types and even boasts a line of men’s products.

“TikTok is one of our big sales channels that’s been a huge top of funnel awareness platform for us,” Rainford said. “In fact, when TikTok Shop was becoming popular in the summer of 2023 we were going viral constantly resulting in organic sales, direct conversion with no ads needed. It really blew up the brand and on Black Friday/Cyber Monday we were the No. 1 personal care brand on the platform.”

For more information, visit baskandlatherco on TikTok or baskandlatherco.com.

AUTHOR TALK
 SHOSHANA WALTER & BARBARA KINGSOLVER
 Authors: *Rehab*, *Demain Copperhead*
 Tuesday March 24 2 pm | VIRTUAL
 ypl.org/events

Fourth Precinct Community Council

Please join us for our next meeting on Thursday, March 19th, in the meeting room at the Fourth Precinct, 53 Shonnard Terrace. Anyone who lives or works in the community is welcome to attend. All elected officials are also welcome. Captain Jeremiah Foley, Commanding Officer, and Executive Officer Lieutenant Robert Varley will be here to discuss current initiatives and community safety concerns. The floor is open for all to ask questions and share concerns. Everyone’s participation in the community council meeting is vital to our progress and success at the 4th precinct. We look forward to seeing everyone at our community’s monthly meetings.

Accurati Bath Remodel
Safety. Style. Stress-Free Installation.
CALL NOW 1.855.564.2680
SPECIAL OFFER: Waiving All Installation Costs!
Add'l terms apply. Offer subject to change and vary by dealer. Expires 12/31/26.

Generac
#1 standby generator worldwide.
 Get whole-home power, automatically.
 Call 877-516-1160 to schedule your free quote today!

Irish Flag Raising at City Hall



Mayor Mike Spano with parade Grand Marshal William Fitzpatrick



L-R-Councilman Mike Breen, former Council President Liam McLaughlin, Justin Tubiolo



Council Majority Leader John Rubbo with legendary Yonkers Irish Tenor Gus Hayes




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

**SPRING FUN IN
 RENSSELAER COUNTY**
rensco.com/flowerandgardenexpo



Capital Region
**FLOWER &
 GARDEN EXPO**
 Hudson Valley Community College
 March 27-29, 2026



Full-scale Gardens
 Themed Floral Exhibits
 Ecological Landscape Education
 Farmers' Market Vendors
 Houseplants • Hourly Lectures
 NYS Wine Tastings • Food Trucks



@NYSDED




NOW HIRING FULL & PART TIME
 Competitive Pay & Benefits
 We support people with intellectual disabilities. Are you passionate about helping others?



JOIN OUR TEAM

- **Direct Support Professionals**-Assist with daily living, skill-building, and community participation.
- **Day Habilitation Leadership** - Provide structured activities, life-skills training, and community experiences
- **Admin support roles for Nursing Department** - Perform various administrative tasks to support nurses.
- **Food Service & Production** - Assist with packing and delivering of food.

CONTACT  Tracy O'Bryan via 914-327-9803 or tobryan@commbasedservices.org



PEARLS Read-A-Thon A Huge Success!




The PEARLS Read-A-Thon, was a huge success! PEARLS proudly continued a beloved tradition that began 11 years ago in honor of Ms. Tina Doufekias, a cherished PEARLS teacher whose passion for literacy left a lasting mark on the school community. This year students logged an incredible 376,805 minutes and read 5,564 books, raising \$11,543 for the PEARLS PTA Fund. These funds will support classroom enrichment and schoolwide experiences for all PEARLS students. Thank you to everyone who made it possible!

NEW MEMBER OFFER
SIGN UP FOR A CHANCE TO WIN A

Trip to Paradise

AT RESORTS WORLD BIMINI BAHAMAS

All inclusive trip worth over \$5,000 includes luxury lodging, dining credits, and travel credits.




@ X f
@resortsworldny
RCNY@resortsworldny.com

LEARN MORE

Modern Women with a Modern Vision: Panel Discussion at Hudson River Museum



At the Hudson River Museum March 15

Masha Turchinsky, the HRM's Anita K. Hersh Director and CEO, will moderate a panel of dynamic women leaders who will discuss how they stepped into their roles of innovation, strategy, and leadership. Come celebrate and learn from these amazing women during Women's History Month! They include Linda Fears, Editorial Director of Today Media; Morgan McEwen, founder and artistic director of MorDance; Shanae Williams, Westchester County Legislator; and Annie Willis, District Director to New York State Senate Majority Leader Andrea Stewart-Cousins. Light refreshments to follow.

Shanae Williams has dedicated fourteen years to public service, including six years representing Council District One on the Yonkers City Council. In 2023, she was elected to serve District 16 on the Westchester County Board of Legislators. A committed advocate for a more affordable and accessible county, Legislator Williams proudly chairs the Infrastructure and Housing Committee and was selected by her colleagues to serve as Majority Whip during her second term on the Board. She holds a Bachelor of Science from the State University of New York at Albany and a Master of Business Administration in Leadership from Walden University.

Linda Fears is the Editorial Director of Today Media Inc., publisher of Westchester Magazine, Westchester Home, 914INC., and other publications, as well as the Editor in Chief of Westchester Magazine and Hudson Valley. Prior to joining Today Media in 2021, Linda was the Editor in Chief of Family Circle for nearly 12 years. A recognized food expert, Linda served as a judge on Guy Fieri's Food Network show Ultimate Recipe Showdown and on Gordon Ramsay's Hell's Kitchen. She was also a frequent guest on NBC's The Today Show. In addition, Linda was Editorial Director of Allrecipes magazine, Group Editor of Martha Stewart Living, Rachael Ray Every Day and Eating Well, and Deputy Editor of Parents. Linda received her bachelor's degree and nutrition certification from Cornell University. She and her husband live in Chappaqua where they raised their three children.

Morgan McEwen is the founder and artistic director of MorDance, a pioneering ballet company that reimagines the art form as a catalyst for social impact and community building. A former professional ballerina who has performed with The Metropolitan Opera, BalletMet, and Richmond Ballet, she is known for powerful, activism-driven choreography commissioned by companies including BalletX and Eglevsky Ballet. Since founding MorDance in 2014, she has expanded its reach beyond the stage through free after-school programs, workshops, and accessible performances, earning recognition from The New

Patriotic Hearts
Supporting Our Military, Veterans & Their Families

Donate Your Car to Help Veterans!

- Free Pick Up
- Free Title & Transfer
- Free Donation Receipt

We handle all paperwork, and your donation may qualify for a tax deduction.

CarDonation2Veterans 877-466-1103

Have Computer Problems?

Get **\$20 OFF** any service

Live Coupon Code: **42513**

- 24/7 Emergency Service
- Data Recovery
- Virus Removal
- Regular Maintenance

Call Now Get a Free Diagnosis
866-848-0045

Friendly Certified Computer Repair Experts

Geeks OnSite

Congressman Latimer Introduces POINT Act

Rep. Latimer Introduces Bill to Prevent the President from Interfering with the Administration of Elections

U.S. Congressman George Latimer (D-NY) introduced the Protecting Our Integrity and Nation from Tyranny (POINT) Act, legislation to prevent the President or any agent of the Executive Branch from attempting to influence or prevent the administration of an American election.

The Constitution, federal law, and Supreme Court precedent gives states and local governments broad authority to administer elections, subject to laws passed by Congress. For example, federal law establishes clear policies and procedures for setting federal election dates and certifying federal election results. The role of the Executive Branch in this process is merely a supportive one.

However, in recent weeks, President Trump and his administration have taken unprecedented steps to meddle in the American electoral process. On January 28th, the FBI executed a search warrant at the election headquarters of Fulton County, Georgia, seeking ballots from the 2020 election. The President has also called on Republican-led states to redraw their congressional districts for political gain, issued an Executive Order to overhaul election rules and practices nationwide, and cast doubt on the practice of mail-in voting. President Trump has even called for the Republican Party to “nationalize” voting in the United States.

“The guarantee of free and fair elections is the very bedrock of our democracy,” said Congressman Latimer. “However, from the moment President Trump took the oath of office to preserve, protect, and defend the Constitution, he has made every effort to subvert the electoral process for political gain. I am introducing the POINT Act because our elections must remain insulated from the impulses of bad-faith actors who seek to undermine the will of the voters. I’m proud to be in this fight and I urge this Congress to act to keep our elections free and fair.”

The Protecting Our Integrity and Nation from Tyranny (POINT) Act would:

Prohibit the President, Vice President, an employee of the Executive Office of the President, the Attorney General, the Director of the FBI, the Director of National Intelligence, or other cabinet secretary, agency director, or department head from engaging in election interference, or using, providing, or loaning any government property, personnel or resources for the purpose of engaging in election interference. A violator would be subject to a fine, a prison term of up to 5 years, or both.

Prevent the President from deploying members of the Armed Forces or exercising federal law enforcement authority in a state where such deployment or exercise of authority would likely disrupt, postpone, delay, prevent, or influence the result of an election, referendum, or ballot question. Under the bill, there would be a judicial review process for states to bring an action, including but not limited to a demand for emergency injunctive relief, in district court, as well as an expedited process for appeals. In these actions, the President would have the burden of proving that such a violation did not occur.

Establish a statutory cause of action by any state resulting from the infringement by the President or Congress upon certain rights and powers of the states specified in the U.S. Constitution. Under the bill, there would be a judicial review process for states to bring an action, including but not limited to a demand for emergency injunctive relief, in district court, as well as an expedited process for appeals.

Aide to the Grand Marshal-Kate Kiernan-Goodwin

Kate was born in Yonkers to the late Robert and Lucille Kiernan, grew up surrounded by family, including siblings Kerrie, Keith, her twin sister Colleen, and late brother, Christopher.

Kate attended St. Anthony’s Grade School, Sacred Heart High School, and Mercy University. Later, enriching her professional growth, she earned certificates from Embry-Riddle University and UCD Smurfit School in Dublin.

In 1984, Kate married Dublin born Eamonn Goodwin, who emigrated to the US with his family when he was young. Their daughter, Maggie is inspiring young minds as a fourth-grade teacher. Kate is an aunt and great aunt to many. She is a parishioner at St. Anthony’s Church.

Kate fell in love with Ireland on her first visit, at the age of 18, when Eamonn brought her “home” to Dublin to meet his extended family.

In 1982, Kate applied for a summer position as Call Center Agent at Aer Lingus. A temporary role evolved into an impressive 43-year career with the airline. Kate has held a variety of positions, including in the Call Center, Revenue Management, Sales Operations, and Leisure Sales. Today, she serves as Head of Global Business Development and Sales Support, leading a team of ten in Long Island Corporate offices and at Aer Lingus Headquarters at Dublin Airport.

Beyond work responsibilities, she is active on the Inclusion and Diversity Team at Aer Lingus and participates in its Women’s Network. Her advocacy is evident in causes such as the annual breast cancer walk and supporting St. Baldrick’s activities, making a positive impact in her workplace and wider community.

Kate’s career afforded her the privilege of serving as an escort on Project Children charters from Belfast to New York, facilitating meaningful exchanges and lasting connections between communities.

Kate was former President of the Irish Airlines Federal Credit Union in Melville, NY. She has extended personal support to many in the Yonkers community, helping them travel to Ireland for both joyous and somber occasions. Kate Kiernan-Goodwin exemplifies dedication, leadership, and compassion.

Kate proudly follows in the footsteps of her brother Chris, a former Aide to the Grand Marshal, and her sister-in-law Moira Kiernan, a former Grand Marshal, in the prestigious march up the Avenue for the St. Patrick’s Day Parade.

Aide to the Grand Marshal-Caitlin Geraghty Liberatori

Caitlin Geraghty Liberatori grew up in Yonkers, the daughter of Tim Geraghty and Marilyn Flower Geraghty. She and her older brother, Tim trace their Irish roots to Galway and Roscommon, through great-grandparents and great-great-grandparents on both sides. Proud of this heritage, Caitlin recently traveled to Ireland with her family, to experience the country’s rich history and beauty.

Caitlin formed lifelong friendships while attending St. Paul the Apostle School in Yonkers and went on to graduate from Maria Regina High School. Caitlin earned her degree in Elementary Education from Loyola University Maryland, obtained a Master’s Degree in Literacy from the College of New Rochelle, and continued her studies at Canisius University, in pursuit of School Building Leader certification.

She spent five years teaching at Sacred Heart Grade School in Yonkers, where she developed a deep passion for educating students and strengthening Catholic education. Caitlin now continues that mission as the Lower School Principal at Annunciation School in the Crestwood section of Yonkers. As part of the administrative team, Caitlin reaches out to alumni, volunteers, faculty, families, and friends to help keep the school viable for generations of children to come.

At Annunciation she spearheads a variety of fundraisers that support Elizabeth Seton Children’s Hospital. She also volunteers with A Walk On Water Organization, whose mission is using surf therapy to help kids with special needs.

Caitlin is no stranger to the Yonkers St. Patrick’s Day Parade on McLean Ave, and has always enjoyed marching with Annunciation School. Her most treasured role is mom to Michael (3) and Mila (2), and wife to Dan Liberatori. They are parishioners at St Joseph’s in Bronxville and St. Therese of Lisieux in Montauk.

Aide to the Grand Marshal -Geoffrey Keating

Geoffrey Keating, a lifelong resident of Yonkers, is the second of four children of Richard and Joyce (Read) Keating. He is proud of his Irish heritage, which has roots on both sides of his family. His paternal grandparents and great-grandparents are from Counties Limerick and Waterford. His maternal great-grandparents are from County Galway.

Geoffrey is a graduate of Sacred Heart Elementary and High Schools, and is an alumnus of Westchester Community College, with an Associate Degree in Accounting. He has worked for the City of Yonkers Department of Public Works for 28 years. As a Sanitation Worker, he is a proud Teamster in Local 456. In addition to being employed by Yonkers, Geoff is an extremely active member and volunteer in the community.

For the past ten years he has served as President of the Lakers Athletic and Social Club, which was established in 1961. He leads the membership in multiple community activities, such as Relay for Life, the Thanksgiving Food Drive, The Lakers Annual Memorial Mass, the Lennon Park/Lake Avenue Annual Memorial Day Ceremony, and volunteering at Untermyer Gardens Conservancy Grand Holiday Illumination.

He is also a committee member of North Yonkers Community Fund, which raises scholarships for elementary, high school, and college students. He assists with their Annual How-do Golf Outing, Chili Hilly 5K Charity Run/Walk, and the Bowling Night Fundraiser.

Geoffrey has been a proud participant, marching in the Yonkers St. Patrick’s Day Parade for over 40 years with Sacred Heart Schools and The Lakers Club. He is delighted to serve as Aide to the Grand Marshal this year, as he was in 2024 when his sister, Jennifer Keating McSpedon represented LAOH as an Aide.

Geoffrey is a valued member of AOH Myles Scully Division One, and he is grateful for the support of his AOH brothers, who continue to uphold their oath of Friendship, Unity, and Christian Charity. Geoffrey and his wife of 24 years, Margaret Cooper, currently reside in Northwest Yonkers and are parishioners of Saint Anthony’s Church. His greatest accomplishments are his twin sons, Colin and Emmet, who carry on the tradition of service to others.

SAVING A LIFE EVERY 11 MINUTES!

I'm never alone

Life Alert® is always here for you.

One touch of a button sends help fast, 24/7.

Batteries Never Need Charging.

For a FREE brochure call: **1-800-404-9776**

We Buy Houses!

Liz Buys Houses Connects Home Sellers with Legitimate Cash Buyers Nationwide!

No Repairs. No Fuss.

- Fair Cash Offer
- Quick Closing
- No Realtor Fees
- No House Repairs
- Simple Home Sale
- Convenient Closing Date

Liz Buys HOUSES

CALL (888) 704-5670

Notice to Pet Owners:

Jereis Support, continued from pg 1-

Scoop the Poop or Face Fines



Mayor Mike Spano is reminding Yonkers residents that cleaning up after your dog is not optional; it's the law.

"This is about respect, for your neighbors, for our neighborhoods, and for our City," said Mayor Spano. "We are proud of the progress we're making in Yonkers, and something as simple as picking up after your dog should not undermine that. If you love your pet, be a responsible owner. Scoop it. Bag it. Throw it away."

According to the Code Enforcement Bureau Division, a total of 212 tickets have been issued between February 2025 and 2026. Complaints about dog waste have doubled from this time last year.

In 2022, the City of Yonkers amended its code to make property owners responsible for removing dog waste from the sidewalk, flagging, and curbstone in front of their property, with violations carrying fines of up to \$1,500.

Code Enforcement responds to all complaints and issues tickets accordingly, particularly when commercial properties are involved. In cases involving private homeowners, warnings may be issued depending on prior history. Once a property is on the City's radar, follow-up inspections occur as needed. Yonkers Police will also issue a citation if a pet owner is observed not cleaning up after their dog.

Residents are encouraged to report ongoing issues through the Mayor's Help Line (914) 377-4357.



Notice of formation of DoubleStripe Associates LLC. Arts. of Org. filed with the SSNY on 2/7/2026. Office: Westchester County. SSNY designated as agent of the LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail copy of process to the LLC, 23 Mt. Joy Ave., Scarsdale, NY 10583. Purpose: Any lawful activity

Notice of formation of MPMX, LLC. Arts. of Org. filed with the SSNY on 02/06/2025 Office: Westchester County. SSNY designated as agent of the LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail copy of process to the LLC, 8 Lane Street Fl. 1 Yonkers, NY 10601 Purpose: Any lawful activity.

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

Notice of formation of Hardcore In The 914 LLC Arts. Of Org. filed with SSNY on 1/5/2026. Office location: Westchester County. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process may be served. SSNY shall mail process to Hardcore In The 914 8 Arden Drive, Hartsdale New York 10530. Purpose: any lawful act or activity.

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

The campaign announced it raised over \$100,000 at the fundraiser, powered largely by small-dollar donations from Yonkers residents. Those grassroots contributions also unlocked the campaign's full public matching funds potential—totaling up to \$350,000 for both the primary and general election.

The strong turnout and grassroots fundraising signal growing momentum behind Jereis's campaign as it heads into the race for State Assembly. This is a historic and impressive fundraising haul for a first-time candidate in Westchester. "Our fundraising success shows the momentum we're building and the groundswell of support in Yonkers. It's humbling to see this enthusiasm for my candidacy and my vision to tackle the issues facing our community. We're just getting started," said Jereis.

Since launching his campaign, Jereis has built an impressive coalition of support, including County Executive Ken Jenkins; Mayor Mike Spano; State Senator Shelley Mayer; Assemblymember Nader Sayegh; Legislators Jose Alvarado, Shanae Williams, and David Tubiolo; AFSCME Local 1897; local Police, Firefighter, and Teamsters unions; and the unanimous support from the Yonkers Democratic Committee.

Notice of formation of JJ VILL, LLC. Arts. of Org. filed with the SSNY on 11/29/2025. Office: Westchester County. SSNY designated as agent of the LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail copy of process to the LLC, 64 Mountaindale Road, Yonkers, NY 10710. Purpose: Any lawful activity

Notice of Formation of JB HUDSON LINE LLC. Articles of Organization filed with the Secretary of State of New York (SSNY) on 01/20/2026. Office location: Westchester County, NY. SSNY is designated as agent of the LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail a copy of process to: 59 Alta Vista Dr, Yonkers, NY, 10710. Purpose: any lawful activity.

Notice of Formation of Lifestyle Rehabilitation, LLC filed with SSNY on 10/27/2025. Office: Westchester County. SSNY designated as agent of the LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail copy of process to the LLC, 56 Martha Place, Chappaqua, NY, 10514. Purpose: Physical Therapy.

Notice of formation of Rat Attack Snacks, LLC. Arts. of Org. filed with the SSNY on 3/2/2026. Office: Westchester County. SSNY designated as agent of the LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail copy of process to the LLC, 516 Park Avenue Yonkers NY 10703. Purpose: Any lawful activity

Notice of formation of Supreme Site Safety, LLC. Arts. of Org. filed with the SSNY on 02/28/2026. Office: Westchester County. SSNY designated as agent of the LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail copy of process to the LLC, 318 Mile Square Road, Yonkers, NY 10701. Purpose: Any lawful activity

Notice of Formation of YureeshStyle LLC, a domestic LLC. Articles of Organization filed with the Secy of State of NY (SSNY) on 2/10/26. Office location: Westchester County. SSNY designated as agent upon whom process may be served. SSNY shall mail a copy of any process to the LLC at 35 S Broadway, K6, Irvington, NY 10533. Purpose: Any lawful activity.

Notice of Formation of Israelov Law, PLLC. Articles of Organization filed with SSNY on 01/27/2026. Office Location: Westchester. The SSNY has been designated as agent of the PLLC upon whom process against it may be served. The address to which the SSNY shall mail a copy of any process against the PLLC is: 51 Nethermont Ave, White Plains, NY 10603. Purpose: Any lawful activity.

Notice of formation of Senara & Co, LLC. Articles of Organization filed with the Secretary of State of New York (SSNY) on 01/29/2026. NY office location: Westchester County. SSNY has been designated as agent of the LLC upon whom process against it may be served. The address to which the SSNY shall mail a copy of any process against the LLC served is 455 Tarrytown Road, Suite 1307, White Plains, NY 10607. Purpose/character of LLC: Any lawful purpose.

Notice of Formation of Schmoose Pack Projects LLC. Arts. of Org. filed with the SSNY on 09/20/2024. Office: Westchester County. SSNY designated as agent of the LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail copy of process to Bruce Wong 10 Station Square Forest Hills, NY 11375. Purpose: Any lawful act or activity.

Notice of formation of Monte Builders Group, LLC. Arts. of Org. filed with the SSNY on 02/18/2026. Office: Westchester County. SSNY designated as agent of the LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail copy of process to the LLC, 23 Bronxville Ln Yonkers, NY 10708. Purpose: Any lawful activity

Notice of Formation of S.I.T. Staying In Touch LLC. Arts. of Org. filed with the New York Secretary of State on December 25, 2025. Office location: Westchester County. New York Secretary of State designated as agent of the LLC upon whom process may be served. New York Secretary of State shall mail process to: Donald George McIntosh III, 137 Morningside Pl, Yonkers, NY 10703. Purpose: any lawful act or activity.

Notice of Formation of FOREVER JADE LLC, filed with SSNY on 02/10/2026. Office: Westchester County. SSNY designated agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail copy of process to the LLC: ZENBUSINESS INC. 41 State Street, Suite 112, Albany, NY 12207. Purpose: any lawful act or activity.

Two Yonkers Students Receive Westchester County Youth Service Awards



The Westchester County Youth Bureau and the Westchester County Youth Board hosted the annual Youth Service Awards to honor outstanding high school juniors and seniors who have distinguished themselves for their leadership and dedication to service and social justice.

The 12 students received certificates from Westchester County Executive Ken Jenkins and the Westchester County Board of Legislators, along with awards from the members of the Westchester County Youth Board and their NYS Legislators. Students who were honored all had an impressive body of accomplishments ranging from creating accessible sports opportunities for disabled youth, establishing a community volunteer network and using arts and media to promote social awareness. Many had to overcome enormous personal obstacles with resilience to achieve their goals.

Jenkins said: "It is often said that youth are the leaders of tomorrow. While this is meant to be a compliment, I would like to respectfully disagree. The young people we are honoring today are not waiting for tomorrow. They are not waiting for a degree, a certain age or an invitation to care about their neighbors. They have looked at the challenges facing their communities and they have stepped up now. Tonight, we aren't celebrating their potential -- we are celebrating their presence and their proven track record of action."

Westchester County Youth Bureau Executive Director Ernest McFadden said: "Each year, the WCYB proudly salutes Youth Service Award recipients whose actions remind us of the power of compassion, integrity and selfless service. This award honors young people who consistently choose to uplift others, lead by example and make a meaningful difference in our community. Their dedication to serving with humility and heart represents the very best of youth leadership and inspires us all to give back."

Westchester County Youth Board Chair Dr. Alexandria Connally said: "As Chair of the Westchester County Youth Board, it is my distinct honor and privilege to celebrate 12 extraordinary young people whose talent, character and leadership inspire us all. With these leaders at the helm, Westchester County's future is bright and promising, and I am confident they will continue to shape our community with vision, integrity and purpose."

Youth Service Award recipient Eric A. Rodrigues said: "I am truly honored to receive the Youth Service Award. I am very thankful that my achievements have been recognized by the Westchester County Youth Bureau as well as the elected officials. It is a blessing to represent Mount Vernon and to hear about the impressive achievements of the other honorees. This experience brought me great joy, seeing others succeed just as much if not more than myself. I hope we all continue down this path and create meaningful change in our respective communities. The reason for my achievements was never for recognition, but simply to be myself and serve others, which is why I am so honored and grateful to receive this award."

"Lastly, I am grateful to God, my family, my school, and the Mount Vernon Youth Bureau for supporting me and providing a platform that made everything possible."

2025-2026 Youth Service Award Recipients:

Rafael Aldana-Diaz (Yonkers) – Saunders Trade & Technical High School, Leila Sadek (Yonkers) – Yonkers Montessori Academy

Rowan Dias (Scarsdale) - Deerfield Academy, Harrison Greebel (Scarsdale) – Scarsdale High School

Joshua Jones (Peekskill) – Peekskill High School, Adanhyr Morocho-Chuchuca (Sleepy Hollow) – Sleepy Hollow High School

Lily Mei Peckham (Bronxville) – Bronxville High School, Dana Proudian (Mamaroneck) – Rye Neck High School

Eric A. Rodrigues (Mount Vernon) – Mount Vernon STEAM Academy, Micahia Simpkins (New Rochelle) – New Rochelle High School

Zior Williams (Mount Vernon) – Mount Vernon STEAM Academy

Chairwoman's Award-Aiden Mendez (Ossining) – Ossining High School

Modern Women, continued from pg 7-

York Times and major arts funders. A frequent public speaker and advocate for the arts as a driver of education and economic vitality, McEwen has been named one of Westchester's 40 Under 40 and continues to champion ballet as an active force for change.

Annie Willis was born in Far Rockaway, Queens, and raised by a single mother and grandmother who instilled in her a deep sense of community responsibility and an unwavering belief in women's limitless potential. Today, she serves as District Director to New York State Senate Majority Leader Andrea Stewart-Cousins, overseeing operations for Senate District 35 and ensuring constituent needs are addressed and community voices heard. Annie played a key role in the 2024 Yonkers campaign to pass New York's Equal Rights Amendment and is current Chair of the New York State Young Democratic Women's Caucus. A graduate of the Baruch College Marxe School of Public and International Affairs, she was named to the 914INC. Wunderkinds Class of 2024 by Westchester Magazine and received the David A. Ford, Sr. Award from the Black Democrats of Westchester.

This program is part of Women's History Month 2026. Sunday, March 15, 2026 12:30–2pm, HRM Theater (New!), Hudson Room

This event is free with general admission, To Register, visit: <https://hudsonrivermuseum.my.salesforce-sites.com/ticket/#/instances/a0FPo00000ReN1ZMAV>

Yonkers History, continued from pg 3-

portation, a large number of people attended the opening. Promptly at 9 a.m., St. Mary's Church pastor Rev. Charles Corley blessed the building and led clergy and sisters on a candlelight procession, sprinkling holy water to consecrate the building as they went. A solemn high mass was celebrated in the new chapel by Father Corley and other priests, with music supplied by the Mount St. Vincent choir. All guests then continued the festivities with a delicious dinner, no doubt served by the good Sisters. St. Joseph's Hospital was ready to serve the people of Yonkers!

Friday, March 20th

March 20, 1915: A cattle transport docked at the Yonkers Pier; five hundred Army horses kept at the Empire City Race Track were shipped to France for their war effort.

March 20, 1933: Joseph Brodsky, Chief Counsel for the nine Scottsboro Boys, asked attorney Irvin Klein of Highland Place to assist him defending the young men against their murder charges in their retrial. The African American boys faced death in the electric chair, accused and convicted of raping two white women. Their defense team, aided by the Communist Party USA and the NAACP, had brought the case to the US Supreme Court; the court found irregularities in their trials, including a poor defense, and sent the case back to the original court to be reheard. Lester Carter, a slim blonde youth who had ridden the train with the nine boys, had appeared in Yonkers several months earlier, and swore to the Scottsboro Boys' innocence.

Saturday, March 21st

March 21, 1923: Palisade Avenue's Samuel Hubbard Jr., the first Yonkers man to arrive in France after war was declared, was awarded the Distinguished Service Medal, with an additional citation for his meritorious service in the World War. Major Hubbard had gone to France with General John Pershing on the first American Expeditionary Force transport, May 1917.

March 21, 1931: Two cedar trees from Wakefield Virginia, birthplace of George Washington's birthplace, were planted on the lawn in front of the Manor Hall to celebrate the Bicentennial of Washington's birth. No longer on the property, these historic trees are thought to have been victims of disease.

Sunday, March 22nd

March 22, 1908: More than 300 samples of projects done by students in the Yonkers Evening High School architectural and mechanical drawing classes were displayed at the school.

March 22, 1944: Yonkers Public Schools set a new record for scrap paper collection, almost doubling their former high collection! Students donated 104,691 pounds of paper, more than 52 tons! Top school, was School 26; the average donation was just under 75 pounds per student.

If you have questions, please email yonkershistory1646@gmail.com. For information on Yonkers Historical Society, Sherwood House and upcoming events, please visit their website www.yonkershistoricalsociety.org, call 914-961-8940 or email info@yonkershistoricalsociety.org

Lady Eagles, continued from pg 1-

Highland Falls, March 11 at 7 p.m. at Mahopac High School.

As usual, it was a team effort for the Lady Eagles, with Senior Arselia Mustafaj contributing 9 points and 9 rebounds, and her sister, Eighth-grader Anisa Mustafaj with 13 points (yes 8th grader!). Grace Gleeson added 5 points, Liliana Toro had 4 and Keria Peters 4.

All of the hard work, extra effort, and team play that make the YMA Lady Eagles a special team comes from Coach Elie Moise, who has quietly built a dynasty in Yonkers that is about to take off. After the game Coach Moise spoke about how the Class B title this year validates last year's win.

"The first 6 minutes of the game, we were down 8-1, and we looked like we just hopped off of Willie Nelson's tour bus. But then we settled down and started playing our brand of YMA basketball. I am proud of our girls," said Coach Moise.

Coach Moise has also gotten the girls to "Buy In" to a team concept of working hard in practice, helping each other on defense, and making the extra pass on offense. "I think Coach Ellie's biggest strength is his year-round dedication, commitment, and work ethic. He opens the gym and keeps the girls active. He's a very humble guy, but on the inside, he wants to win badly! He's one of the hardest working Coaches you will find," said Chris Toro, whose daughter Liliana is the Lady Eagles point guard.

"Defensively, it starts at the point of attack. Liliana's been relentless with ball pressure and is more of a facilitator this year. They force a lot of turnovers, and when they get the ball, everyone is running, and the ball is finding the open player. Grace Gleeson is probably about 6'2" and anchors the paint with rebounding and shot blocking. She's also a Soccer player, so she sees the floor and anticipates very well. She can also put it on the floor and start the break. Both are very smart kids and cerebral players who set the tone defensively. The team can play man or zone equally well. Also, they can press full court and disrupt the game with a good level of physicality," added Toro.

"This is one of those seminal moments for Yonkers and these girls are an excellent representation of the community," said RoseAnn Collins-Judon, assistant superintendent of the Yonkers Public Schools district. "Elie is a Saunders grad, too, so this program is Yonkers through and through. They've made the '10701' proud."

THE CITY OF YONKERS/YONKERS PUBLIC SCHOOLS, BUREAU OF PURCHASING, One Larkin Center, 3RD Floor, Yonkers, New York 10701 (Located in the Yonkers Riverfront Library Building across from the Metro-North train station) will receive sealed Bids and Proposals for the following projects until 2:00 PM, on the dates below.

Sealed Bids will be publicly opened and read at the address above in the 3rd Floor Finance Conference Room.

The building is open from 8:30 AM to 4:00 PM for receiving packages via courier services and in person. If delivering bids in person, individuals must see the Public Safety Officer in the library atrium, who will contact Purchasing to meet the individual at the 3rd floor elevator.

Those interested in listening to the Sealed Bids opening and the reading of bids can dial Conference Call number 1-701-802-5221 and enter Access Code 1354203 when prompted.

Solicitation documents are available for downloading from the Empire State Purchasing Group website at <http://www.empirestatebidsystem.com/>. The City welcomes and encourages participation by local and minority and women owned business enterprises.

1. Bid No. RFB-7596 – Bid opening: 04/01/2026; Twenty-four-month contract with an option to renew for an additional 12-months to provide water main leak detection services as needed (MM).
2. Bid No. IFB-7595 -Opening Date 04/01/2026; Cafeteria Ductwork Insulation at Martin Luther King School, Jr. Academy (FB).
3. Bid No. RFB-7597 – Bid opening: 03/27/2026; One-time purchase of Winchester Ammunition (or Yonkers Approved Equal) for the Police Emergency Services Unit (VB).
4. Bid No. RFB-7598 – Bid opening: 03/27/2026; 12-month contract for the professional removal and safe recycling, destruction, and disposal of vape pens for the Yonkers Police Department (VB).
5. Bid No. RFB-7601 – Bid opening: 03/27/2026; Purchase of EVOLIS Vision Radar, or Yonkers approved equal speeds signs and accessories (VB).
6. Bid No. RFB-7600 – Bid opening: 03/27/2026; Purchase of 815 Pro-methan Boards (or Yonkers Approved Equal) and accessories (CA).
7. Bid No. IFB-7593 – Opening date: 04/01/2026; Chiller replacement at HRM. HRM Chiller replacement being advertised here will replace the United Rentals extension (MM).
8. Bid No. IFB-7603 – Bid opening: 4/01/2026; EmDec Masonry Facade Concrete Column Repairs Lincoln HS (MM).

Hollywood on Hudson, continued from pg 1-

for the city approximately \$46 million in sales and nearly \$12 million in earnings, according to an economic impact report released today.

According to a report prepared by economic development consulting firm Camoin Associates, the film industry in 2024 generated \$11.9 million in total earnings, including \$8.5 in direct earnings. Production activity included 124 production days across the City. In addition, the City of Yonkers collected approximately \$961,000 from film permits, location rental revenue and occupancy tax from hotel stays.

"Yonkers has firmly established itself as the premier destination for film and television in New York, and the impact on our local economy is nothing short of transformative. This is a story about the millions of dollars in economic activity that stays in our community. We are seeing a new wave of 'location tourism' where visitors travel from across the country to walk in the same halls they've seen on screen. Film in Yonkers is more than an industry — it is a vital engine for our small businesses, our cultural landmarks, and our city's future. We also thank Governor Kathy Hochul for her continued support of New York's film and television industry through the state's film production tax credit program, which has been instrumental in attracting productions to communities like Yonkers and sustaining this vital sector of our economy," said Mayor Mike Spano.

The report was announced at a news conference held March 6 at the new Mediapro Studios in Yonkers. Joining Mayor Spano for the program were Great Point Studios CEO Robert Halmi, Yonkers Office of Film Director Melissa Goldberg, noted Film Producer Jonathan Filley, Law & Order Director Mike Smith, City Council President Lakisha Collins-Bellamy and City Council Majority Leader John Rubbo.

As Hollywood on Hudson, Yonkers is the premier destination for the entertainment industry and home to the largest film and TV production hub in the Northeast. Great Point Studios currently operates eight (8) sound stages across three locations—Wells Avenue, Warburton Avenue and 1050 North Broadway—with plans to expand to 15–20 stages, along with a dedicated LED Car Stage at 134 Woodworth Avenue. The campus is also home to PHY-GITALFX, a Yonkers-based media production services and equipment rental company, 100% owned by Great Point Studios, which supports film, television, broadcast and live events with comprehensive gear and technical expertise. Yonkers is also home to Hudson Scenic, a company that specializes in the design and construction of television, film and theatrical sets. Hudson Scenic is a highly reputable fabrication company known for award-winning major televised events and Broadway sets. The Company was acquired by Great Point Studios to further expand its film and media production capabilities. Tenants at Great Point Studios include Lionsgate, Apple, NBC, Paramount and Starz, among others. Further strengthening the ecosystem, the University of Mount Saint Vincent is joining the Wells Avenue campus, alongside the recently opened YPS film and television specialty high school Robert Halmi Sr. Academy, reinforcing Yonkers' role as a growing center for education, innovation and entertainment production.

The film industry's impact extends across Yonkers' business community, with for-profit entities, nonprofit organizations, and cultural institutions all benefiting from production activity. The report noted that beyond the immediate employment of film crew and production staff, the industry creates a multiplier effect throughout the local economy. "Local restaurants benefit from increased patronage during shoots, hardware stores supply materials for set construction, transportation companies move equipment and personnel, and property owners generate rental income from location fees. This economic activity extends to post-production services, equipment rental facilities, and specialized vendors that support the industry's infrastructure needs," read the report.

The primary tool used in the report is the input-output model developed by Lightcast, a global leader in labor market analytics, offering a data platform that gives a comprehensive, nuanced, and up-to-date picture of labor markets at all scales from national to local. Primary data used in the study were obtained from the City of Yonkers and stakeholder interviews. Key data included the number of production days, the number of employees per production, and the types of productions. Supplemental data and assumptions drawn from industry benchmarks and industry stakeholder interviews.

The report noted what sets Yonkers apart is not only its physical assets, but the authentic character and civic pride that production teams tap into when they tell their stories here noting that local cultural organizations have experienced firsthand how filming has elevated their visibility and strengthened their operations.

Among the noteworthy productions filmed in Yonkers are: The Penguin; Law & Order: SVU; The Glided Age; Dexter: Resurrection and The Irishman.

"At the Hudson River Museum, productions from The Gilded Age to Severance have brought renewed attention to historic spaces and generated critical operating revenue during challenging periods, including during the pandemic. Visitors now travel from across the country to explore locations they recognize from film and television. Museum guests arrive from 45 states and over a thousand ZIP codes, drawn in part by recent screen appearances," read the report.

Most striking is the mutual benefit between the industry and the City of Yonkers. "Productions find authentic locations, supportive infrastructure, competitive costs, and efficient city coordination. In return, the city gains jobs, spending, cultural vitality, strengthened institutions, and increased national visibility," read the report adding, "The continued expansion of studio facilities, the city's strategic location, and its rich tapestry of filming environments signal that Yonkers' role in the film and television economy will continue to grow in scale and significance."

DENTAL Insurance
Great coverage for retirees.

Get your **FREE** Information Kit
from **Physicians Mutual Insurance Company.**

Call **1-855-225-1434**

Dental50Plus.com/Nypress

Production does not constitute an offer. Contact us for complete details about this insurance policy. Mutual is not a member of the NY State Bar Association. This website is not intended to constitute an offer of insurance. For more information, please contact your insurance agent or call 1-855-225-1434. ©2025 Physicians Mutual Insurance Company. All rights reserved.

Read it all Online at Yonkerstimes.com

Mayor Spano Hosts Advisory Board Summit

Join the Yonkers Police Cadet Program



Newly Sworn-In Members of Mayor Spano’s Muslim American Advisory Board at Yonkers City Hall Left to Right: Mohammad Ockeh, Mohammad Qawasmi, Yonkers City Councilmember Tim Hodges, Mayor Mike Spano, Hanade Sarar, Arz Raheem, Mayor’s Liaison Akeem Jamal. Not pictured, Imam Adam Adamu. (Photo Courtesy: City of Yonkers)

Yonkers Mayor Mike Spano welcomed members of all 10 City advisory boards to the first-ever Advisory Board Summit, titled Creating Synergy, bringing together community leaders, Mayor’s Liaisons, and City officials to strengthen collaboration and communication across boards. During Creating Synergy, members of every advisory board were sworn in, including the newest addition, the Muslim American Advisory Board.

“Yonkers is such a diverse community, we want our residents to have the opportunity to add their unique perspective when it comes to shaping our City,” said Mayor Spano. “Our Advisory Boards are the eyes and ears to the community, and everyone should have a seat at the table.”

The Mayor’s Advisory Boards provide on-the-ground insight from across the community, ensuring diverse voices and lived experiences help shape City policy and direction.

Appointed by Mayor Spano, the volunteer boards include the African American Advisory Board, Disability Advisory Board, Health Advisory Board, Hispanic Advisory Board, LGBTQ+ Advisory Board, Senior Advisory Board, Veterans Advisory Board, Women’s Advisory Board, Muslim American Advisory Board and the Yonkers Green City Advisory Committee. The first board, the Mayor’s African American Advisory Board, was established in 2014.

The summit also included a discussion of recent survey results completed by board members, which identified common themes of improved communication, collaboration, and a desire for greater impact.

YONKERS POLICE YOUTH CADET PROGRAM

BECOME A LEADER ★ EMBRACE COMMUNITY ★ DRIVE CHANGE

Application Deadline
April 3, 2026

For more information and to download the application, scan this QR code or go to www.yonkersny.gov/yypd

- ★ Prepare for a successful future
- ★ Develop skills in planning, strategy, teamwork and decision-making
- ★ Program includes exposure to Emergency Service Unit, K-9, Patrol, Traffic, Marine, Crime Scene Unit and more

For more information or questions please contact
Det. Specialist Charles Bowers charles.bowers@yypd.yonkersny.gov | (914) 377-7293

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



Expire Care, MD
Leading International Risk Management Specialist



By Expire Care
Expire Care Solutions

**LISTENING.
CARING.** THE WAY MEDICINE
WAS MEANT TO BE

PRIMARY CARE | GASTROENTEROLOGY | NEPHROLOGY | PODIATRY
PAIN | ENDOCRINOLOGY | ORTHOPEDIC | VASCULAR | WOUND HEALING

914.904.4040

stjohnsmedgroup.com



1022 N. BROADWAY, YONKERS

www.stjohnsmedgroup.com | stjohnsmedgroup.com