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Friday March 15, 2024

Latimer and Mayer Call for Ceasefire in Gaza:
Bowman and Talib Lead “Free Palestine” Chant



Rep. Jamaal Bowman and Rep. Rashida Tlaib, leading a Free Free Palestine chant

By Dan Murphy

Every week brings news about the democratic primary for Congress between Congressman Jamaal Bowman and County Executive George Latimer. Latimer recently announced his call for a ceasefire in Gaza, as did State Senator Shelley Mayer.

And Jamaal Bowman released a video with and Congresswoman Rashida Tlaib, leading a chant of Free Palestine, that went viral and had some Westchester democrats concerned.

The divisions between supporters of Bowman and supporters of Latimer can be found in two letters to the editor, found on pg 5. One is from a Bronxville resident; the second from a PBA leader. Both are democrats. One criticizes County Executive George Latimer, for his decision to challenge Congressman

continued on pg 7-

YPS Superintendent Presents Budget for 24-25 School Year with \$86 Million Shortfall

Factors include COVID Aid Ends, Changes to State Aid and Fund Balacne

By Dan Murphy

For the first time in five year, the Yonkers Public Schools faces a serious budget gap, which will be difficult to close without cuts to programs and staff.

YPS Interim Superintendent Dr. Luis Rodriguez has presented his budget to the Yonekrs Board of Education, with an \$86 Million budget shortfall for the upcoming 2024-25 school year.

“We are at a pivotal moment where the urgency for action is critical,” said Rodriguez, who explained the factors that are the cause of the \$86 Million budget hole.

I-\$33 Million (\$100 Million over 3 years) from the Federal American Rescue Plan will expire at the end of this school year. The funding was used over the last three years to hire 200 staff.

II-Changes to the allocation of State Education Aid by Governor Kathy Hochul have resulted in funding changes to YPS. One action, to peg inflationary budget increases to a lower, multi-year aggregate, will result in a reduction of \$7.5 Million to YPS.

However, changes made to the Foundation Aid formula in Albany will provide YPS an additional \$24.3 million

III-Last year, YPS and the Board of Education used \$34 million of its fund balance-surplus, to close a budget hole. It is unclear what fund balance, if any, YPS does have for this year.

Salary and benefit increases are among the rising costs in the budget.

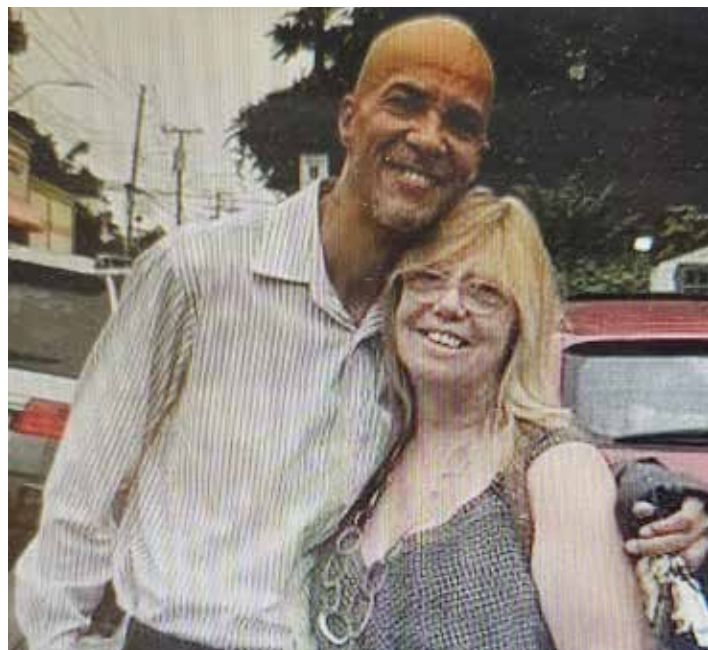
YPS received \$12 Million in “Bullet Aid” from NYS in their current budget. This is usually an addition that State legislators negotiate with Governor Hochul. Hopefully, Yonkers can see that number or a larger number again in this year’s state negotiations, which are underway. A state budget is due on April 1.

State Senate Majority Leader Andrea Stewart-Cousins and State Senator Shelley Mayer are two of the leading voices in Albany for the Yonkers Public Schools.

continued on pg 13-

Read it All Online at Yonkerstimes.com

Body Parts of Yonkers Residents Found on
Long Island: Suspects Arrested, But Released



By Dan Murphy

The gruesome discovery on Feb. 29 by a girl walking home from school on Long Island of body parts has led to the arrest of four persons in connection with the death of two Yonkers residents.

The body parts, which were found in three locations in West Babylon and Bethpage and were later identified to be 53-year-old Malcolm Craig Brown and 59-year-old Donna Conneely. Both were residents of Yonkers and were in a relationship.

Suffolk County Police arrested Steven Brown, 44, and Amanda Wallace, 40, on March 5. Jeffrey Mackey, 38, and Alexis Nieves, 33, were also arrested. But the Suffolk County District Attorney did not have the evidence yet to charge the four with murder. Instead, they were charged with tampering with physical evidence, hindering prosecution and concealing a human corpse.

And as a result of the Bail Reforms passed in New York State in 2019, the Judge nor the DA had the authority to hold them in prison. As a result, the four walked out of a courtroom, not once but twice, with GPS ankle bracelets.

continued on pg 15-

Yonkers Astronaut to Discuss Upcoming Solar Eclipse at the Hudson River Museum



Ron Garan, above, will prepare you for the Solar Eclipse on April 8

Celebrate the Total Solar Eclipse at the Hudson River Museum!

A total solar eclipse is the rarest and most spectacular of all astronomical events. On Monday, April 8, our region will experience one—the last chance we’ll get until 2079! Celebrate this once-in-a-lifetime event at the Hudson River Museum! Enjoy an array of special programs for all ages leading up to the event, including day and evening in-person talks with former NASA astronaut Ron Garan.

See the full list of programs at hrm.org/eclipse.

Saturday, March 23, 11am–5pm- Super Solar Eclipse Saturday

Get ready for the Solar Eclipse on April 8 with a special talk by former NASA astronaut Ron Garan! Join this Yonkers native for an awe-inspiring view of space and unbelievable stories from the International Space Station and hear how impending eclipses continue to reveal deep truths about our planet’s rare place in the cosmos.

Finally, experience the new planetarium show Moonbase: The Next Step (11:30am, 2pm, and 3:30pm). Saturday, March 23, 12:30pm

continued on pg 15



Henrietta Wells Livermore: Leader of the Suffrage Movement from Yonkers



Left, Henrietta Wells Livermore

Henrietta Wells Livermore
Part One: The Early Years
 By Mary Hoar, Yonkers Historian

A friend to Republican presidents Calvin Coolidge, Warren Harding and Herbert Hoover, Henrietta Well Livermore was born in 1864 in San Francisco to Henry and Maria Wells, the fourth of five children.

Her father Henry came from a distinguished Massachusetts family and moved to California in his twenties in 1849; according to family legend, he was attracted by the Gold Rush. A year later when California became a state (1850), he became Deputy Clerk in the District Court. While working as a Court Clerk, he studied law and passed the Bar, developing a successful law practice... and success as a community volunteer. Active in the San Francisco community, he was elected President of the local Board of Education, Police Commissioner and President of the YMCA. During Lincoln's presidency, he served as Chairman of the Republican Committee of the City and County of San Francisco, and was elected a Judge in 1863.

Wells moved his family back to Massachusetts in 1866. Continuing political activity while practicing law, he was elected to both the Massachusetts State Assembly (1880-1882) and the State Senate (1883, 1885). A Presidential Elector on the Republican Ticket in 1888, he was chosen Secretary of the Electoral College of Massachusetts, January 1889.

Henrietta received a top private education at Harvard Grammar School and the Cambridge Latin School and received her BA from Wellesley College in 1887. She married Dartmouth grad Arthur Livermore in 1890 and the couple moved to Texas where he practiced Law. After a few years, the couple went back to Massachusetts.

Henrietta returned to Wellesley, both giving birth and earning her master's degree in 1893. Shortly afterwards, the Livermore family moved to Yonkers to establish Arthur's law practice.

The couple was socially active from the time they moved here. They held literary evenings, hosting well known poets. Henrietta immersed herself in Local causes. Arthur, a successful New York lawyer, was very involved in St. Andrew's Golf Club and an excellent golfer; drafted for their golf team, he served as team captain and traveled for competitions.

The couple had two sons, Henry and Russell, and purchased a house on Park Avenue, property bordering on then St. Andrew's Golf Club. The couple lived there for the rest of their lives.

She contributed an article titled "The People's University," to "Woman's Venture," the book written by many of Yonkers' well educated, prominent women; its "front piece" was a photograph by internationally famous Yonkers photographer Rudolf Eickemeyer. The book's price of 25 cents benefited the Homeopathic Hospital and Maternity. This book had a place of

continued on pg 11-

Yonkers Idol to Star in Off Broadway Production "Issue #9"



Ada-Victoria Israel

Tori Israel Set to Delight New York Audiences Former Yonkers Idol 2019, Yonkers Junior Idol 2017, Ada-Victoria Israel is starring in her first Off Broadway play, the world premiere of "Issue #9!"

From April 4 to 21, The Theater for the New City will present the world premiere of "Issue #9," an original musical written and directed by Briana Barteneff, composed by J.H. Greenwell. It's set in an upstate gas station's convenience store, where adolescent bullying and obsession with unattainable beauty ideals prompt tragedy in teenage girls and revenge by family members who love them.

The story revolves around Lexi (played by Ada-Victoria) and her mother Natalie, who move to Germantown, New York, in 1995. Natalie takes a job at the local gas station, and becomes unaware of her daughter Lexi's struggles. Lexi deals with toxic friendships and an eating disorder after becoming obsessed with teen magazines. Lexi eventually succumbs to the compulsive dieting culture of the time, which leads to her tragic death. Natalie, initially ignorant of the severity, takes control and tries to expose the incredibly harmful influence that pervasive teen magazines hold over our youth. She takes a terrible revenge.

Don't miss this original play, on a limited run at the Theater for the New City, 155 First Avenue (between 9th and 10th Street), New York City from April 4th and April 21st. You will not be disappointed.

Visit <https://theaterforthenewcity.net/shows/issue-9/> for more information.

Westchester County Parks to Hold Seasonal Job Fairs

Westchester County Parks will hold two job fairs for those who want to learn more and apply to seasonal jobs at its parks, Saturday, April 6 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the Westchester County Center and Saturday, April 13 from 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. at Muscoot Farm in Katonah.

Attendees can apply on the spot to the numerous positions in the Westchester County Parks Department including Naturalists/Educators, Nature Camp Counselors, Lifeguards, and Recreation Attendants. Locations span the entire Westchester County Parks system at our 50+ facilities. Job descriptions are available here.

Westchester County Executive George Latimer said, "The Westchester County Parks Department is busy year-round and needs to staff up in the summer as it is their busiest season. In addition to pools and beaches, nature centers and other facilities are hiring."

Westchester County Parks Commissioner, Kathy O'Connor said, "We have a variety of seasonal positions available where folks of all ages can work outdoors while learning more about our over 18,000-acre parks system."

The Westchester County Center is located at 198 Central Avenue, White Plains, NY 10606. Parking will be free for those attending the job fair. Muscoot Farm is located at 51 Route 100 Katonah, New York 10536. Parking is free.

For questions, email: PRC-SeasonalJobs@westchestercountyny.gov.

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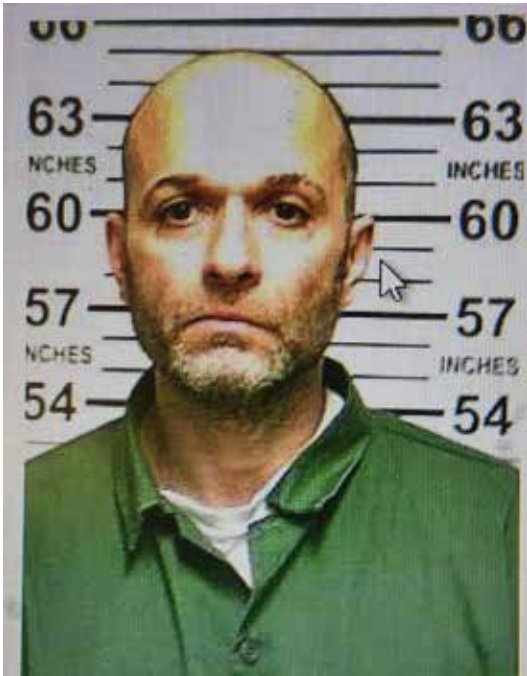
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Council Approves Settlement Over Bank Robber Shooting-Death by FBI & YPD for \$87,500



mug shot of Erik Campbell who died in a shootout with Yonkers Police and the FBI in 2017.

The Yonkers City Council approved a settlement of \$87,500 to the family of Erik Campbell. Campbell was shot and killed during an attempt to arrest him for two bank robberies in Westchester in 2017.

The confrontation with Yonkers Police and the FBI happened on Dec. 14 in Yonkers. Campbell was found in a vehicle used in the bank robberies and attempted to escape the police. An FBI agent opened fire and took 16 shots; a Yonkers Police officer shot another five times. Campbell died shortly after.

Campbell's family filed a lawsuit against the Yonkers Police Department, and the City of Yonkers and the law enforcement officers involved.

And on the advice of the Yonkers Corporation Counsel, the City Council approved the request for a settlement of \$87,500.

A jury would have been asked to determine if the legal argument of excessive force and wrongful death was what happened.

Westchester County Parks Event in Yonkers

SATURDAY, MARCH 16

Lenoir Preserve, Yonkers: (914) 968-5851
Maple Saturday, 12 p.m. - 2 p.m.

Ever wonder how maple syrup is made from maple trees? Join us for demonstrations, tastings and an optional \$5 pancake lunch! This is for all ages and an indoor/outdoor event.

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

Sugaring-Off Party, 12 p.m. - 3 p.m.

Enjoy winter's sweet rewards at this annual celebration that offers food, music and sugaring demonstrations all day. Free.

Yonkers Budget Tango



By Eric Wolf Schoen

Cue Ginger Rodgers and Fred Astaire. Yes, the Yonkers Budget Tango has returned. Put on your dancing shoes. This annual ritual is back after a several year hiatus when Yonkers was flush with money from the Federal American Rescue plan.

The money funded 200 positions. Former Superintendent of Schools Edwin Quezada warned city officials that the positions, paid for with federal Stimulus funds were essential to the district. Music and Art teachers, counselors, social workers, psychologists, other pupil support positions. And that public officials would have to figure out how to make up the difference when funds ran out.

'I'm going to stand tall and tell officials: This is your issue. You have to fund these positions so that they remain.'" Quezada's words according to the Journal News. The good man has arrived in the City of Brotherly Love, Philadelphia! So much for standing tall. But give him credit. He alerted the powers to be far in advance that there would be a problem.

City officials through late last year knew there would be a problem and did nothing about it. When the Budget Tango begins, everybody looks for a 'scapegoat' to blame for the lack of funds. Years ago it was Pierorazio's miscalculation of the numbers. A joke because the city should know if it is paying out more than it should be. It tarnished his reputation. But that's how things go in the City of Hills. Target the weak guy and get rid of him or her.

Hey wait a minute. We have a new man to blame. The dollars lost here are federal dollars. So why not blemish the man of the moment, Congressman Jamaal Bowman. He claims to have allocated a billion new dollars! They call it the 'Bowman Billions.' And the loss of federal dollars is what is causing the problem. Why can't Bowman find a mere \$86 million in Washington, D.C.? He brought billions before so he says. All we need to solve the problem is a mere \$86 million!

Where are the federal dollars coming to Yonkers as occurred for the last few years? Mind you Bowman didn't vote for the Infrastructure Bill which had money for Yonkers and many other communities. Federal bucks missing: Blame the man who didn't vote for them, good 'ol Congressman Bowman. Nobody ever blamed the Congressman before, and the powers that be really have no use for his fire alarm tricks, so what better person to blame!

Eric stop the silliness. The seven folks on the City Council and the Mayor are to blame for relying on federal money that they knew would soon dry up and not planning what would occur if the dollars weren't there. But they will try to find someone to blame, whether it be the State Legislators, the former or interim Superintendent of Schools, never looking in the mirror to see what poor planning took place.

And for lord knows how many years, they have paid the same firm bucks to audit Yonkers books and say everything is alright. State comptrollers have criticized this, but the 8 folks in City Hall continue to hire the same firm. Why? Because the the firm tells them what they want to hear. Everything is coming up roses. Grey sky's are going to clear up, so put on that happy face. Sure the 8 folks responsible for running Yonkers have smiles on their faces when the auditing firm gives big bucks to many of their political campaigns, including to

continued on pg 14-

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Media Report: US Department of Education Asked to Look Into Roosevelt HS Girls Hoops Game and claims of Anti-Semitic Slurs

By Dan Murphy

A Roosevelt High School girls basketball game on Jan. 4 ended with a forfeit after girls and parents on the Leffell basketball team claimed that anti-semitic slurs had been made against them. One of the Leffell players wrote a letter to the media describing in detail what was said.

But video from the game does not include an audible video that can determine if the slurs were actually said. The Yonkers Public Schools and the City of Yonkers conducted an investigation which collaborated the Leffell students version.

But a subsequent investigation conducted by the Yonkers NAACP and Rev. Frank Coleman found no evidence of any slurs being made by the girls on the Roosevelt basketball team.

And two recent videos from Brother2Brother in Yonkers, and posted online at the Yonkers Ledger, have parents of the Roosevelt team standing by their belief that this incident did not happen in the way it was portrayed.

The matter has clearly not been resolved, and we may never get closure.


Now comes word that the US Department of Education may be investigating the matter. A story in the Jewish Telegraphic Agency, (JTA.org), states that "a screenwriter and conservative activist Justin Samuels, filed a complaint with the US Department of Education

Samuels, who has no affiliation with Yonkers or the Leffell school, has asked for a Title VI investigation which has already begun according to the story from Andrew Lapin. "The investigation will focus on whether the school responded appropriately to reports of discriminatory behavior, rather than on whether the behavior occurred in the first place,"

(<https://www.jta.org/2024/03/12/ny/feds-investigate-yonkers-ny-school-district-where-girls-basketball-players-yelled-antisemitic-slurs-at-jewish-opponents>).

The Yonkers Public Schools and the City did take action after the incident, firing the girls basketball coach and suspending one of its players.

While it is unclear what action if any the US Dept. of Education would or could take at this point, we wonder if they will first conduct an investigation to determine what actually happened.



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On This Day in Yonkers History...



Adraien Van er Donck
circa 1650.

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

Monday, March 18th

March 18, 1942: Members of the Yonkers Red Cross Woman's Motor Corps expressed concern about using personal cars to provide services because of war shortages of tires and cars. Corps Captain Alice Frank announced elimination of messenger and other services, except for "absolutely vital" needs. According to Frank, performance of future tasks by the Corps would depend on facilities supplied to them to ensure resources would be "utilized to the best advantage in the event of future disaster."

March 18, 1943: US Army Air Forces Technical Sergeant William Caldwell visited his uncle, Dr. James Morrissey of Van Cortlandt Park Avenue during his 30-day leave. It was his first trip back to Yonkers in two years for Caldwell, who received a Presidential citation and high Army honors for his service during some of the greatest battles in World War II.

Tuesday March 19th

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

March 19, 1917: The Reliance Motion Picture Company filed plans to construct a "motion picture development plant" at 537 Riverdale Avenue!!

March 19, 1943: Otis women workers modeled designer Lily Dache's new safety hats; made of plastic, they covered hair and prevented stray strands of hair from getting caught in machinery.

Wednesday, March 20:th

March 20, 1923: Nationally recognized Yonkers runners Tom Barden and Larry Dunn announced they were grooming twenty-four-year-old Pat Kennedy of St. Joseph's Avenue to race nationally. Barden had been selected for the 1916 US Olympic Team; the games were canceled because of World War I.

March 20, 1943: Mrs. Burke's Third Grade class at School 24 won first prize—one dollar—for having the most mothers at the school's February PTA meeting! As soon as they received the money, the discussion on how to spend it was short. It went into an envelope with a letter addressed to Justin McCarthy, Yonkers Red Cross Chapter Chairman, saying "We hope this small donation will help to carry on your work... We want to help win the war." McCarthy was touched and said "Such graciousness in giving could well be an example to all of us."

Thursday, March 21st

March 21, 1931: Two cedar trees from Wakefield Virginia, George Washington's birthplace, were planted on the lawn in front of the Manor Hall in observance of the Bicentennial of Washington's birth

March 21, 1942: Part of blackout exercises were "bomb plantings," signified by hiding candles in tin cans. One neighborhood's residents were so scared of the simulated bomb, that instead of grabbing the note attached to the can and giving it to the area warden, they called DPW Commissioner Chris Sheridan and told him they had found something suspicious. Water Bureau Superintendent Michael Harmonay found the bomb with its attached note and brought it back to DPW instead Senior Warden Raymond Armbruster, as was the protocol.

continued on pg 12-

Yonkers Third Precinct Police Community Council

The Third Precinct Police Community Council will hold its next regular monthly meeting on Wednesday, March 20 - 7:30 PM at the Chema Community Center, 435 Riverdale Avenue. Merchants and residents of the Third Precinct area are strongly encouraged to attend this important community meeting. Usual quality of life concerns will be discussed. For further information please contact either Bob Stauff, President at 914 476-2284 or Captain Mike Mulvey at 914 377-7427.

Letters to the Editor:

Letter to the Editor: George Latimer's Faustian Bargain with AIPAC

Letter to the Editor/Op Ed:

When Westchester County Executive George Latimer announced in December his challenge to two-term incumbent Democratic Congressman Jamaal Bowman (CD-16), I was reminded of Upton Sinclair's famous line "It is difficult to get a man to understand something when his salary depends on his not understanding it."

Latimer – a recent recipient of over \$600,000 from the American Israel Public Affairs Committee (AIPAC), a lobbying group that purports to represent pro-Israel policies, but which Congressman Mark Pocan (D-WI) has called a "cancerous presence on our democracy, and politics in general" – certainly understands that waging a primary fight against Congressman Bowman wouldn't come cheap.

As many seasoned politicians know all too well, AIPAC prides itself on cowering politicians, Democrat and Republican alike, who run afoul of its agenda. That agenda has for years included backing the most reactionary and repressive coalitions in Israel and ensuring that American taxpayers fork over billions in economic and military aid year after year with few if any conditions on that aid. Recently, AIPAC has announced it intends to spend upwards of \$100 million against progressive Democrats around the country, including Congressman Bowman, who, in its view, are insufficiently supportive of Israel and the policies of its extremist government.

In agreeing to being bankrolled by AIPAC (which account for 40% of his most recent contributions), Latimer most likely misunderstood how the Faustian bargain he has struck has alienated many of his longtime supporters. As a district leader who has personally knocked on doors, canvassed at train stations, and attended fund raisers for him, I count myself among those longtime Latimer supporters deeply disappointed by his cynical opportunism.

By needlessly injecting himself into this contest, and accepting AIPAC's funds, I believe George has let his pride and ambition get the better of him. Moreover, slandering his opponent, as he has done recently, with reckless and false accusations of Congressman Bowman receiving "money from Hamas" has only compounded the level of disappointment and anger at his unseemly tactics. To date, Latimer has not retracted those malicious remarks, despite receiving a letter from Congressman Bowman's campaign threatening a defamation lawsuit if he failed to do so.

Is George Latimer so desperate to win at all costs that he is willing to drive a wedge through an already fragile Democratic Party coalition? More to the point, how does currying favor with the most reactionary elements of the Israel lobby supposed to win over progressive voters?

Regrettably, Latimer's ambition – he prides himself on never having lost a race for office – has led him to hitch his fortunes to this lobby. That move might have made a lot of tactical sense in the immediate aftermath of October 7th. However, what he has failed to understand is that the base of the Democratic Party has shifted tremendously on the root causes of the Israeli-Palestinian conflict, and the present war in Gaza.

Young people, people of color, liberal Jews as well as Arab-American and Muslim voters in greater numbers than ever believe we must end unconditional US military and diplomatic support for the Israeli assault on Gaza, a grave humanitarian catastrophe which has left more than 30,000 Palestinians dead, the vast majority of them women and children.

By now the world has witnessed both the unspeakable horror of the Hamas attack on October 7th and the subsequent savage response of the Israeli military. Rather than listen to his constituents who object to Israel's scorched earth campaign in Gaza, and the endless bloodshed, Latimer continues to parrot AIPAC talking points, and to slander his opponent, all in his desire for victory at all costs.

To his credit, Congressman Bowman has been one of the few (but growing) legislators to call for a cease fire in Gaza, a position supported by large majorities of the American public, according to recent polls. He has met with interfaith groups of all stripes, and forged alliances with social justice groups such as Jewish Voice for Peace and If Not Now to try and arrive at a just resolution of the Gaza conflict. Michelle Goldberg, opinion columnist for the New York Times, has described Bowman's attempt to bridge the increasingly tribal divides as "decent and brave...knowing how much ire would be directed at him."

As for Latimer, one voter -- whose conversation with him at a town hall meeting sparked the controversy on "Hamas money" – remarked, "What does it say about his [Latimer's] character if this is what he'll do to win?"

Bill Gaston

Bronxville, NY

Mr. Gaston is a Democratic Party District Leader in the Village of Bronxville. The views expressed in this article are his own, and do not represent the views of the Bronxville Democratic Committee, which has not endorsed any candidate in the race.

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Letter: Affiliated Police Associations of Westchester Call on Congressman Bowman to Denounce Cop Killer Assata Shakur



The APA issues the following statement related to the actions of Congressman Jamaal Bowman.

The Affiliated Police Associations of Westchester is calling on Congressman Jamaal Bowman to publicly denounce fugitive cop killer Joanne Deborah Chesimard, also known as Assata Shakur. Chesimard, a notorious cop killer, is currently one of the FBI's most wanted terrorists and has a \$1,000,000 reward out for her apprehension.

Disgracefully, Congressman Bowman has proudly admitted to putting the cop killer Joanne Chesimard on his "Wall of Honor" in the Bronx middle school where he once worked as the principal. Congressman Bowman has explained the purpose of the wall saying "Each and every member of the Wall of Honor has played a major role in moving our society from a bigoted, oppressive existence toward a world of freedom, justice and equality."

Chesimard was one of three people accused in a May 2, 1973 shooting that broke out when they were stopped in their vehicle for a motor vehicle violation on the Jersey Turnpike. At the time, Chesimard was wanted for her role in several other felonies, including a bank robbery. Chesimard and her accomplices opened fire on police, executing New Jersey State Trooper Werner Foerster. A second trooper was also wounded in the shooting.

Chesimard, was found guilty of first-degree murder, assault and battery of a police officer, assault with a dangerous weapon, assault with intent to kill, illegal possession of a weapon, and armed robbery. She was sentenced to life in prison. On November 2, 1979, Chesimard escaped from prison and lived underground before being located in Cuba in 1984. She is thought to currently still be living in Cuba.

Joanne Chesimard, aka Assata Shakur is a cop killer, an armed robber and a fugitive from justice. She is not a hero and there is no place for her on any "Wall of Honor." Murdering a dedicated public servant does not move the world any closer to a more just society. Congressman Bowman's misguided adulation of a cop-killer is appalling. That Congressman Bowman was teaching middle school children that Chesimard was worthy of honor is disgraceful.

Sadly, this is not the first time Congressman Bowman has displayed his explicit bias towards police. Bowman has referred to police as agents of "white supremacy" and has been quoted saying "police are terrorizing black and brown communities throughout the country." This is yet another unwarranted display of disrespect towards the entire profession of policing.

On behalf of the thousands of law enforcement officers who risk their lives protecting the people of Congressman Bowman's Congressional District, I request that he do the honorable thing and denounce Joanne Chesimard, aka Assata Shakur, apologize to the family of slain NJ State Trooper Foerster and ensure that Chesimard's photo is taken down from the "Wall of Honor."

The Affiliated Police Associations of Westchester (APA) is a unified coalition of more than 40 law enforcement labor organizations from throughout Westchester County, representing more than 4,000 law enforcement officers.

VEE'S CONSULTING LLC Arts. of Org. filed with SSNY on 05/29/2023. Office: WESTCHESTER COUNTY. SSNY designated as agent of LLC for process and shall mail process to R/A: US CORP AGENTS, INC., 7014 13TH AVE, #202, BKLYN, NY, 11228. Purpose: Any lawful activity.

EATZTOUR LLC Arts. of Org. filed with SSNY on 05/23/2023. Office: WESTCHESTER COUNTY. SSNY designated as agent of LLC for process and shall mail copy to R/A: US CORP AGENTS, INC., 7014 13TH AVE, #202, BKLYN, NY, 11228. Purpose: Any lawful activity.

Notice of Formation of THE NAVIE THERAPY GROUP L.L.C., LLC filed with SSNY on 08/29/23. Office: WESTCHESTER County. SSNY designated agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail a copy of the process to LLC: 200 Bloomingdale Road, Suite 1A, White Plains, NY 10605. Purpose: any lawful act or activity.

Notice of formation of MYLILWRKSHOP.COM, LLC. Arts. of Org. Filed with NY Secy. Of State on 3/6/2024. Office located in Yonkers, NY. Hector Jimenez has been designated as agent of the LLC upon whom process against it may be served. The LLC, 237 Roberts avenue, Yonkers NY 10703, principal business location of the LLC, purpose: any lawful business activity.

Notice of formation of Mixed by Maya, LLC. Arts. of Org. filed with the SSNY on 02/12/2024. Office: Westchester County. SSNY designated as agent of the LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail copy of process to the LLC, 45 Inverness Rd New Rochelle, NY 10804. Purpose: Any lawful activity.

Notice of formation of Ashlee B. Media, LLC. Arts. of Org. filed with the SSNY on 1/6/2023. 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, 520 Pelhamdale Avenue, Pelham, NY 10803. Purpose: Any lawful activity.

Formation of TARRYTOWN 44 LLC filed with the Secy. of State of NY (SSNY) on 11/17/2023. Office loc.: Westchester County. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. The address SSNY shall mail process to Benjamin Sinanaj, 4 Farm Way Dr., Ardsley, NY 10502. Purpose: Any lawful activity.

Notice of formation of Palisades Property Management LLC filed with the SSNY on 1/18/2024. Office: Westchester County. SSNY designated as agent of the LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail copy of process to The Mulford Corporation, 1511 Central Park Ave, Yonkers NY 10710. Purpose: Any lawful activity.

Notice of Formation of Calimero II, LLC. Articles of Organization filed with Secretary of State of New York (SSNY) on 12/4/2023. Office Location: Westchester County. SSNY is designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to Marie H. Durif-O'Dowd, 1632 First Avenue, Apartment 326, New York, NY 10028. Purpose: Any lawful act or activity.

Ana Lucia Nail Lounge LLC, LLC. Arts. of Org. filed with the SSNY on 1/8/24.. Office: New York 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, 115 Chelsea Street Hawthorne, NY 10532. Purpose: Any lawful purpose.

Notice of formation of ALPHONSE, JULIE & GLENN CONSULTING LLC. filed with the SSNY on 01/30/2024. Office: Westchester County. SSNY designated as agent of the LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail copy of process to the LLC, 142 Garth Rd. Ste. 3N Scarsdale NY 10583. Purpose: Any lawful activity.

Notice of formation of a Limited Liability Company ETAMNI LLC Articles of Organization filed with the SSNY Office on 01/29/2024 Office Location: Westchester County. SSNY has been designated as agent of the LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail a copy of process to : 2 Hudson Street Apt 4G Yonkers, NY 10701 Purpose: Any lawful purpose. Latest date upon which LLC is to dissolve: No specific date.

Notice of formation of a Limited Liability Company ETAMNI FAMILY CLEANING LLC Articles of Organization filed with the SSNY Office on 01/29/2024 Office Location: Westchester County. SSNY has been designated as agent of the LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail a copy of process to : 2 Hudson Street Apt 4G Yonkers, NY 10701 Purpose: Any lawful purpose. Latest date upon which LLC is to dissolve: No specific date.

Notice of formation of a Limited Liability Company DAVIS AND DAVIS MEDICAL TRANSPORTATION LLC Articles of Organization filed with the SSNY Office on 01/29/2024 Office Location: Westchester County. SSNY has been designated as agent of the LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail a copy of process to : 2 Hudson Street Apt 4G Yonkers, NY 10701 Purpose: Any lawful purpose. Latest date upon which LLC is to dissolve: No specific date.

Formation of TRUIH LLC filed with the Secy. of State of NY (SSNY) on 8/15/2023. Office loc.: Westchester County. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. The address SSNY shall mail process to Lawrence Rebbecchi, 550 Green Dolphin Dr., Placida, FL 33946. Purpose: Any lawful activity.

Notice of Formation of 326 PROSPECT AVE LLC. Articles of Organization filed with SSNY on 03/24/2023. Office location: Westchester County. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process may be served. SSNY shall mail process to Brian Caldwell at 130 Franklin Avenue, Harrison, NY 10528. Purpose: any lawful act or activity.

Notice of formation of Jaylee's Beauty Lounge, LLC. Arts. of Org. filed with the SSNY on 10/29/23. 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, 55 Cole Street, Ste. 101, Yonkers, NY, 10710. Purpose: Any lawful activity.

Notice of Formation of Yugen Creationz LLC. Arts. Of. Org. filed with the SSNY on 1/28/024. Office: Westchester County. SSNY designated as the agent of the LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail copy of process to the LLC, 10 Commerce Dr, 102. New Rochelle, NY 10801. Purpose: Any lawful activity.

Formation of 25 COUNTY ROUTE 62 LLC filed with the Secy. of State of NY (SSNY) on 10/6/2023. Office loc.: Westchester County. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. The principal business loc. and address SSNY shall mail process to is Floann and Raymond Landeck, 79 Pembroke Dr., Yonkers, NY 10710. Purpose: Any lawful activity.

Notice of formation of SurgeExpand, LLC. filed with the SSNY on 10/16/2023. 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, 324 Palisade Ave -1F, Yonkers, NY 10703. Purpose: Any lawful activity.

Notice of Formation of A Soft Delicate Flower LLC. Arts of Org. filed with the SSNY on 1/3/24. Office location: Westchester County. SSNY is designated as agent upon whom process against the LLC may be served. SSNY shall mail process to 1840 Crompond Road Peekskill NY 10566. Purpose: any lawful act.

Notice of formation of D & E Guest Reality Management, LLC. Arts. of Org. filed with the SSNY on 09/15/2023. 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, D & E Guest Reality Management LLC, 79-81 Main Street, P.O. Box 1100, Yonkers, NY 10702. Purpose: Any lawful activity.

Notice of Formation of Pachamama Vibes, LLC. Articles of Organization were filed with the Secretary of State of New York (SSNY) on 11/20/2023. Office location: Westchester County. SSNY has been designated as agent of LLC upon whom process may be served. SSNY shall mail a copy of any process against the LLC served upon him or her to the company c/o United States Corporation Agents, Inc. 7014 13th Ave., Suite 202, Brooklyn, NY 11228. Principal business address: 762 Hoover Avenue, Peekskill NY 10566. Purpose: Any lawful acts.

Notice of formation of a Limited Liability Company ETAMNI LLC Articles of Organization filed with the SSNY Office on 01/29/2024 Office Location: Westchester County. SSNY has been designated as agent of the LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail a copy of process to : 2 Hudson Street Apt 4G Yonkers, NY 10701 Purpose: Any lawful purpose. Latest date upon which LLC is to dissolve: No specific date.

Notice of formation of a Limited Liability Company ETAMNI FAMILY CLEANING LLC Articles of Organization filed with the SSNY Office on 01/29/2024 Office Location: Westchester County. SSNY has been designated as agent of the LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail a copy of process to : 2 Hudson Street Apt 4G Yonkers, NY 10701 Purpose: Any lawful purpose. Latest date upon which LLC is to dissolve: No specific date.

Notice of formation of a Limited Liability Company DAVIS AND DAVIS MEDICAL TRANSPORTATION LLC Articles of Organization filed with the SSNY Office on 01/29/2024 Office Location: Westchester County. SSNY has been designated as agent of the LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail a copy of process to : 2 Hudson Street Apt 4G Yonkers, NY 10701 Purpose: Any lawful purpose. Latest date upon which LLC is to dissolve: No specific date.

Notice of Formation of Safety First Shooting LLC. Arts. Of Org. filed with the SSNY on 2/13/2024. Office: Westchester County. SSNY designated as agent of the LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail copy of process to the LLC, 465 Tuckahoe Road suite #1168 Yonkers NY 10710. Purpose: Any lawful activity.

Notice of Formation of Buffsicle, LLC. Articles of Org filed with SSNY on 12/15/2023. Office Location: Westchester County. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: 41 Old Post Road, Rye, NY, 10580. Purpose: any lawful purpose or activity.

Fourth Precinct Community Council

Latimer-Bowman

Continued

from pg 1-

The Fourth Precinct's Community Council will hold its monthly meeting at 7:00 PM on Thursday, March 21, 2024, in the meeting room at the Fourth Police Precinct, at 53 Shonnard Terrace. Anyone who lives or works in the area served by the fourth police precinct is welcome to attend. All elected officials are also welcome. Captain Michael Messar, Precinct Commander, and Lieutenant Patrick Curtis will be available to discuss your issues and matters of interest.

Happy St. Patrick's Day We would like to thank everyone for attending these meetings and look forward to seeing you in future meetings! If you have any concerns, please get in touch with the non-emergency department. (914-377-7900) For anything emergency-related, please call 911.

Jamaal Bowman. The second letter calls on Bowman to denounce cop killer Assata Shakur. When Bowman was an educator at a Bronx Middle School, Shakur was placed on the school's Wall of Heroes.

Rep. Bowman recently held an event with Rep. Rashida Tlaib at a "Muslims for Reps. Jamaal Bowman & Rashida Tlaib Fundraiser," in New York City. At that event, Bowman posed a video of him leading the crowd in a "Free Free Palestine" chant.

The video, link- <https://twitter.com/jacobkornbluh/status/1764502019547464123>, titled, "The movement for justice is growing," drew criticism from Jewish democrats in Bowman's district.

Bowman has accused Israel of "genocide" and "mass murder" in Gaza. Talib was censured for "promoting false narratives" about the October 7th attacks by Hamas on Israel, and for "calling for the destruction of the state of Israel."

On March x, Latimer posted on X-Twitter, "I support President Biden's temporary ceasefire that finally brings home all of the Israeli hostages and gets humanitarian aid to Gaza. This is about building enduring peace resolutions and this plan will save countless lives and restore humanity."

The decision by Latimer to support a ceasefire was noteworthy because of his many democratic supporters in Westchester have questioned Bowman's comments about Israel. And the American Israeli-Political Action Committee, (AIPAC), has helped their supporters donate to Latimer's campaign.

Bowman responded to Latimer by saying, "George Latimer's opposition to a ceasefire was why he was recruited by AIPAC and their Republican donors to run against me in the first place. It's disgraceful that it took 30,000 deaths and hundreds of thousands starving for George to change his tune."

State Senator Shelley Mayer also stated her support for a ceasefire. "I couldn't let this week go by without speaking about the War in Gaza – 150 days since the seizure of hostages and they must be released now! We cannot wait anymore for them to be reunited with their loved ones. And, we know too many innocent Palestinians have suffered.

"On the eve of the holy days of Ramadan, I join the call of Vice President Harris and many others for an immediate bilateral ceasefire – at least for the next six weeks but hopefully for much longer – that includes: 1) immediate release of all of the hostages, 2) an immediate cessation of hostilities in the Gaza Region and resumption of food and humanitarian assistance to Gaza, and 3) and a real plan for a long-term peace that ensures Israeli security and self-determination for Palestinian civilians – a true two-state solution. This is a subject that is difficult and emotional for me and others. We cannot wait any longer for peace for all – we must have the release of the hostages followed by the full cessation of all attacks on all innocent civilians in Israel and Gaza," said Mayer.

SUPREME COURT OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK
COUNTY OF WESTCHESTER

INDEX NO. 64370/2023
SUPPLEMENTAL SUMMONS
Mortgaged Premises:
330 CLAREMONT AVENUE, MOUNT VERNON, NY 10552
Section: 165.32, Block: 2050, Lot: 2

MORTGAGE ASSETS MANAGEMENT, LLC

Plaintiff,
vs.

PAULINE SMART, if living, and if she/he be dead, any and all persons unknown to plaintiff, claiming, or who may claim to have an interest in, or general or specific lien upon the real property described in this action; such unknown persons being herein generally described and intended to be included in the following designation, namely: the wife, widow, husband, widower, heirs at law, next of kin, descendants, executors, administrators, devisees, legatees, creditors, trustees, committees, lienors, and assignees of such deceased, any and all persons deriving interest in or lien upon, or title to said real property by, through or under them, or either of them, and their respective wives, widows, husbands, widowers, heirs at law, next of kin, descendants, executors, administrators, devisees, legatees, creditors, trustees, committees, lienors and assigns, all of whom and whose names, except as stated, are unknown to plaintiff; SECRETARY OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT; SUSTAINABLE NEIGHBORHOODS LLC; PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK; UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,

"JOHN DOE #1" through "JOHN DOE #12," the last twelve names being fictitious and unknown to plaintiff, the persons or parties intended being the tenants, occupants, persons or corporations, if any, having or claiming an interest in or lien upon the premises, described in the complaint,
Defendants.

Plaintiff designates WESTCHESTER as the place of trial situs of the real property

NOTICE OF NATURE OF ACTION AND RELIEF SOUGHT

THE OBJECT of the above caption action is to foreclose a Mortgage to secure the sum of \$682,500.00 and interest, recorded on November 05, 2010, in Control Number 502993237, of the Public Records of WESTCHESTER County, New York., covering premises known as 330 CLAREMONT AVENUE, MOUNT VERNON, NY 10552.

The relief sought in the within action is a final judgment directing the sale of the premises described above to satisfy the debt secured by the Mortgage described above.

WESTCHESTER County is designated as the place of trial because the real property affected by this action is located in said county.

NOTICE

YOU ARE IN DANGER OF LOSING YOUR HOME

If you do not respond to this summons and complaint by serving a copy of the answer on the attorney for the mortgage company who filed this foreclosure proceeding against you and filing the answer with the court, a default judgment may be entered and you can lose your home.

Speak to an attorney or go to the court where your case is pending for further information on how to answer the summons and protect your property.

Sending a payment to the mortgage company will not stop the foreclosure action.

YOU MUST RESPOND BY SERVING A COPY OF THE ANSWER ON THE ATTORNEY FOR THE PLAINTIFF (MORTGAGE COMPANY) AND FILING THE ANSWER WITH THE COURT.

Dated: March 1st, 2024

ROBERTSON, ANSCHUTZ, SCHNEID, CRANE & PARTNERS, PLLC
Attorney for Plaintiff
Matthew Rothstein, Esq.
900 Merchants Concourse, Suite 310
Westbury, NY 11590
516-280-7675

Who's #2? Pearl River Saint Patrick's Day Parade or the Yonkers Saint Patrick's Day Parade on McLean Avenue?



By Dan Murphy

The Irish flag was recently raised above Yonkers City Hall, and soon Mayor Mike Spano will be painting the streets on McLean green for the upcoming Yonkers Saint Patrick's Day Parade on McLean Avenue, March 23. One of the interesting discussions being had in the Irish-American community in the Tri-State area is has the popularity of the Yonkers parade on McLean overtaken the Pearl River Saint Patrick's Day Parade?

The New York City parade is #1 and always will be. But Pearl River has stood as #2 for quite some time, in New York State, and it is a great parade. I have been several times. But there is something special about the Yonkers-McLean parade.

The real answer is we will never know for certain. But with the help of drone technology and a scientific way to determine how many people are standing along McLean to watch the parade, the best estimates have Yonkers at 42,000. The Yonkers parade watchers are more densely crowded, and easier to count.

The Pearl River parade is more spread out, but their estimated numbers are also around 40,000. And the beauty of this is that you can go to see both parades; Pearl River is on Saint Patrick's Day, Sunday March 17.

What the numbers show is the overwhelming enthusiasm, and increased interest and attendance in checking out the Yonkers-McLean parade. And the nearby Woodlawn Irish community is a natural boost for all of the interest on McLean.

We hope to see you there and pray for good weather.

All Ages | Music & Dance | Grinton I. Will Library



Celebration of Irish Dance on St. Patrick's Day
Presented by the Friends of Yonkers Public Library

Sunday, March 17
2 pm, Auditorium

Deirdre O'Mara will bring some of her world champion dancers to perform and to tell the story of Irish dance from Olden days to the pageantry of it's current form.

Deirdre O' Mara School of Irish dance is in its 27th year & has from beginners to world champion dancers. The school is under the ownership of Scoil Rince Saoirse with Deirdre O' Mara, TMRF as dance instructor. You can follow the school at deirdreomara.com



1500 Central Park Ave
Yonkers, NY 10710
ypl.org/events



67th ANNUAL YONKERS ST. PATRICK'S DAY PARADE ON MCLEAN AVENUE

SATURDAY, MARCH 23, 2024
KICK-OFF AT 1 PM

MASS OFFERED AT ST. BARNABAS HIGH SCHOOL CHAPEL ON MCLEAN AT 11:15 AM

<p>2024 GRAND MARSHAL: MOIRA KIERNAN</p> <p>AIDES: MARTIN BELLEW ANDREW HAYDEN MARGE DELANEY ANDREW MCLAUGHLIN DAWN DOHERTY JENNIFER KEATING MCSPEDON AILISH DORAN KIERA O'CONNOR</p>	<p>FREE SHUTTLE SERVICE AVAILABLE</p> <p>PLEASE DO NOT PARK ON THE LOCAL STREETS BE COURTEOUS TO OUR NEIGHBORHOOD ILLEGALLY PARKED VEHICLES WILL BE TOWED AT YOUR EXPENSE</p> <p>PARADE CHAIRPERSONS: DEIRDRE O' MARA DEIRDREOMARA1@HOTMAIL.COM URSULA MCINTYRE UMCINTYRE@OUTLOOK.COM</p> <p>MORE INFO & UPDATES ON YONKERSSTPATRICKSDAYPARADE.ORG, OUR FACEBOOK, OR CONTACT CHAIRPERSONS</p>
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Visit us online at Yonkerstimes.com

Is The Future of Yonkers Green? Yonkers Students Leading the Way in Creating Sustainable Solutions for Stormwater Runoff



above: Groundwork Hudson Valley’s Green Team work on the installation of a bioretention area at Saunders High School to reduce flooding. Photo by Groundwork Hudson Valley; top right, \ Submitted by Groundwork Hudson Valley

In Yonkers, New York, the threat of flooding isn’t just a distant concern — it’s a reality that affects the lives of many. With storms growing more frequent and intense, the city grapples with issues like erosion and pollution from runoff. Recognizing the urgency of addressing these environmental challenges, Groundwork Hudson Valley has taken decisive action with its “Connecting the Drops” program, funded by the EPA. This initiative empowers high school students to become environmental leaders by educating them on stormwater management, climate resilience, and nature-based solutions.

However, this initiative is more than just a classroom lesson. The program unfolds over the course of 8 sessions at each participating school, engaging students in a dynamic learning experience that combines in-classroom learning and hands-on fieldwork. Divided into two phases, the program begins with equipping students with essential knowledge. They learn about stormwater management, climate resilience, and green infrastructure concepts, laying the groundwork for the hands-on phase that follows.

The real action happens during the hands-on part of the program. Students conduct site surveys, venturing into their local environment to identify damage caused by stormwater runoff around their schools. With help from Groundwork educators, they learn to recognize and assess existing stormwater infrastructure, including components like gutters and storm drains. They gain insight into how these elements address environmental challenges and how they can be enhanced through sustainable infrastructure interventions. This practical approach helps them understand the issues better and gives them the chance to make a difference where they live. Additionally, students can connect their own experiences in these places to understand how those places are part of the larger environment and the impact they have on it.

What sets this program apart is that students take charge. Instead of just learning theory, students put their newfound knowledge to work. Students identify a site with a stormwater issue on their school campus and create a design plan to resolve it. They combine the design concepts they have learned with their understanding of how that area is (and should be) used, to create a plan that is truly local and unique to the community’s specific needs.

“This program puts students in a space that transforms working knowledge and turns it into an applied project. Students get the opportunity to positively impact their community, and leave a lasting legacy of sustainability,” said Joel Rodriguez, Groundwork Hudson Valley’s Sustainability Education Program Manager.

For many students, this program represents more than just an educational opportunity — it’s a chance to take ownership of their surroundings, draw on their lived experiences to design solutions, and effect real-world change. The projects selected move beyond hypothetical scenarios, transitioning into implementation to make a tangible impact on the community. The most feasible and impactful project is then chosen for implementation with Groundwork’s Green Team, composed of motivated high school students, stepping up to turn the chosen project into reality over the summer. Through hands-on work, they bring their community’s vision to life, transforming school grounds into resilient, sustainable spaces.

Along the way, students develop essential skills like public speaking and teamwork, setting them up for success in future careers. At the heart of this initiative are dedicated educators like Ms. Della Posta from Lincoln High School, who serve as collaborators and facilitators, enriching students’ educational experiences and nurturing their skills. Beyond the program, Ms. Della Posta facilitates the development of project skills for her students, fostering a well-rounded educational experience. School administrators also play a crucial role, working hand-in-hand to create environmentally friendly infrastructure and climate-resilient environments within their school’s campus.

The program is already making a difference. At Saunders High School, a bioretention area — an example of sustainable infrastructure similar to a rain garden — was implemented to reduce flooding on the soccer field. Additionally, plans are underway for two more projects at Riverside High School and Lincoln High School in the summer of 2024. With each completed project, the community’s resilience to flooding is strengthened, local water pollution is decreased, and a new generation of environmental leaders is empowered.

As the program advances, it emphasizes the crucial role of education and community action in addressing pressing environmental challenges. With Yonkers students at the forefront, they’re not only solving problems but also shaping the future of their city.

Visit groundworkhv.org for more information.



Saturday, March 16TH
10:00AM – 12:30PM
 Take a photo with the Easter Bunny

DPW SERVICE CENTER
 1130 Nepperhan Avenue | Yonkers, NY

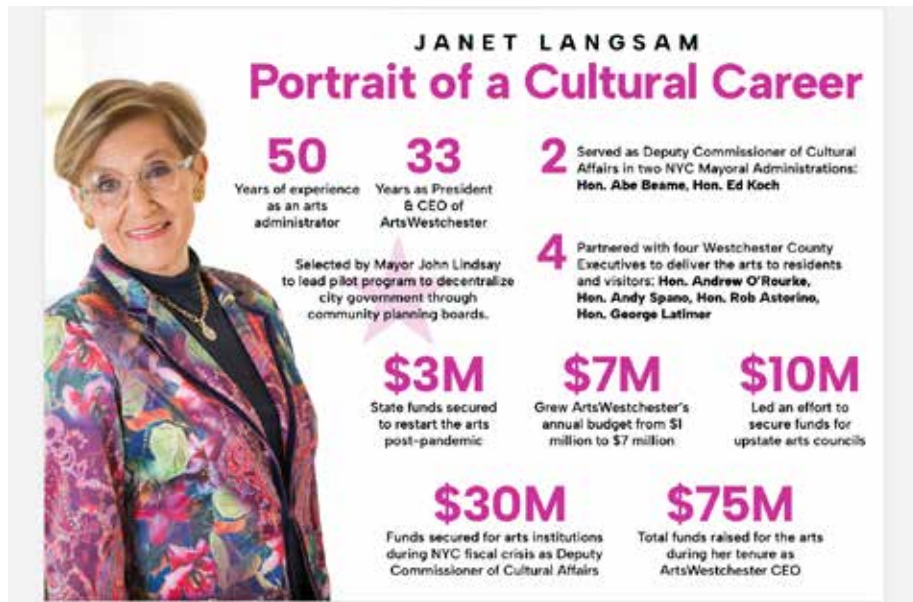
10:00 AM – 4 years & under
10:15 AM – 5-7 years old
10:30 AM – 8-10 years old

Easter bags will be provided while supplies last.



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

ArtsWestchester CEO Janet Langsam to Move on After 33 Years of Leadership



Yonkers Photographer Elizabeth Diaz Wins ArtsWestchester Award



Yonkers Arts and photographer Elizabeth Diaz have won ArtWestchester's 2024 Arts Awards for their accomplishments.

Yonkers Arts won the Advancing Equity Organization Award, which is shared with New Era Creative Space in Peekskill. The award acknowledges both groups' commitment to promoting equity and inclusion through the arts.

Yonkers-based Diaz won the Larry Salley Photography Award for her powerful portrait series celebrating the transgender community. Her photographic work revolves around narrative storytelling, lively aesthetics, and social activism.

"Our region's outstanding quality of life would not be possible without the inspired work of these honorees," said ArtsWestchester CEO Janet Langsam. "These honorees motivate all of us to continue to support excellent creative work by Westchester artists and arts organizations."

ArtsWestchester will honor nine individuals and organizations at its April 10 Arts Awards gala for their dedication to the cultural landscape of Westchester County. This year's winners represent a diverse array of talents and contributions:

Artist Award: Jorge Otero-Pailos of Rye is recognized for his pioneering art-work and experimental preservation practices.

Arts Organization Award: The Neuberger Museum of Art, in Purchase is a world-class museum and cornerstone of arts education and engagement since 1974.

Sophia Abeles Education Award: Arc Stages, in Pleasantville has demonstrated an unwavering dedication to providing contemporary theater programming and arts education to local communities.

Community Award: The New Rochelle Council on the Arts has been a catalyst for cultural enrichment in New Rochelle for nearly five decades.

President's Award: Lee Balter of Tarrytown is honored for his extraordinary support of the arts in the Hudson Valley and his tireless advocacy for arts education and access to the arts.

Larry Salley Photography Award: Elizabeth Diaz of Yonkers is recognized for her powerful photographic work and a portrait series celebrating the transgender community.

Advancing Equity Individual Award: Andromeda Turre of Katonah is honored for her groundbreaking work in using jazz as a tool for social change.

ArtsWestchester's 2024 Arts Awards will be held at 11:30 on April 10 at the Brae Burn Country Club in Purchase. For more information, visit www.arts-westchester.org.

After 33 years leading ArtsWestchester, nurturing artists and bolstering the county's cultural infrastructure, Janet Langsam will transition from CEO to CEO Emeritus effective June 30.

An American cultural advocate, artist and journalist with more than 50 years' experience as an arts administrator, Langsam is a former Deputy Commissioner of Cultural Affairs for New York City. A seasoned arts executive with an exceptional track record, Langsam's leadership has been transformative for ArtsWestchester since taking the helm in 1991. She guided the organization to unprecedented accomplishments, including the acquisition and adaptive reuse of the organization's neo-classical landmark headquarters, the launch of the ArtsMobile, the commissioning of more than 30 works of Public Art throughout Westchester County and the successful management of the organization's grants program and overall operations throughout the pandemic.

"Janet leaves an indelible mark on New York State. Over her career to date, she has raised hundreds of millions of dollars for the arts as a tireless advocate for arts in our communities," said John Peckham, Chair of ArtsWestchester's Board of Directors. He continued, "We are grateful to Janet for her leadership and more than three decades of contributions that have kept the arts alive and vibrant in the Hudson Valley. But more importantly, Janet has fought tirelessly to support the key goals of diversity, equality and inclusion for decades - and that is her proudest legacy."

Throughout her tenure at ArtsWestchester, Langsam spearheaded fundraising efforts that secured more than \$75 million for the arts, highlighting her unparalleled dedication to the cultural vibrancy of the region. The arts council flourished under Langsam's leadership, seeing its annual budget grow from \$1 million to nearly \$7 million. During the pandemic, she rallied for the broader arts community by securing \$10 million annually for upstate arts councils and \$1 million in state funds for ArtsWestchester's Restart the Arts Program.

A pivotal moment in Langsam's tenure came in 1998 when under her visionary leadership, ArtsWestchester acquired the historic 12-story bank building in White Plains, transforming it into an arts incubator with new offices, galleries,

artist studios and spaces for creative businesses. The investment created a signature home for the organization as well as an income stream. Significantly, this bold vote of confidence in the city's future played a crucial role in fostering the revitalization of the city's downtown.

Westchester County Executive George Latimer said, "Janet Langsam leaves an extraordinary legacy of cultural enrichment in Westchester County. Her visionary leadership at ArtsWestchester built the leading cultural organization from the

Classifieds

Attorney

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Attorney

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Henrietta Wells Livermore, continued from pg 2-

honor on the book table next to Allison's "History of Yonkers," at the St. John's (Hospital) Fair. Henrietta advocated cooperative housekeeping, believing if 25 families banded together, they could save up to 15 % on their supplies. Even more would be saved if a few cooks made meals for the entire group of families!

Mrs. Livermore was president of the New York Wellesley Alumni Association and organized stimulating programs on literature and current events. She made presentations for the Association of Collegiate Alumnae and studied vocal music with the esteemed Mary Hamilton Lawton. Mrs. Livermore, an active member of the Woman's Institute, focused her presentations to its members on literature and music. She was the official Tuesday Club of Yonkers delegate to the New York State Federation of Women's Clubs; this state organization focused on literature, philanthropy, municipal improvements, and art, including industrial art.

One of her favorite causes was the Fairview Garden School; it provided garden plots for children to grow flowers and vegetables in the spring and summer while spending time outdoors in the fresh air, and a clubhouse for them in the winter. She considered Fairview "a happy mingling of play and work, vacation and school, athletics and manual training, pleasure and business, beauty and utility." Henrietta remained "interested" in Fairview, even when absorbed in the battle for a woman's right to vote.

She headed the Civic League's "School Visiting Committee;" during her tenure it became the Education Committee to reflect the committee's expanded vision. Among committee accomplishments were presenting school assemblies; advocating for vocational training; supporting teaching English language; and promoting the use of sanitary drinking cups in schools. Other successes were formation of the Yonkers Teaching Training School (opened 1909 at School 18) and arranging for the Russell Sage Foundation Trust's purchase of land to put the Fairview Garden School on a "secure financial basis," making it the "foremost one of its kind," according to Mrs. Livermore's February 1910 report.

She was instrumental in forming the Yonkers Branch of the State Consumers' League and was an active member of the Terrace City Sunshine Society.

By March 1910, her focus expanded to obtaining the vote for women. She became Yonkers representative to the Westchester County Woman's Suffrage Association and served on its Executive Committee. This passionate advocate held a meeting of Yonkers' women in her Park Avenue home on March 4th; they organized the Yonkers Woman Suffrage Association, and elected Henrietta President. Ten days later, the new group hosted a gathering, dubbed by the Yonkers Herald as the "largest meeting ever held in this city for woman suffrage" at the Amackassin Club. Attended by 500 people, many from "Yonkers Society," chairs were jammed into the ballroom. Another report had closer to 700 people attending. The Yonkers Herald noted the speech of Keynote speaker Carrie Chapman Catt brought thunderous applause... from the men!

Henrietta's life became filled with holding meetings, attending meetings, and making passionate speeches on women's right to vote, including at the 1910 State Suffrage convention in Niagara Falls. She was appointed to several positions in the New York State Woman Suffrage Association and elected to several offices including Vice President.

Women in North Yonkers became energized and formed their own affiliated group to further the cause, the Palisade Suffrage Club. With other suffragists, Henrietta met with former Mayor Michael Walsh who was attending the Democratic National Convention. Although not an official delegate, this strong supporter of women's right to vote promised he would try to get suffrage onto the official platform.

She became well known in the movement and suffrage celebrities came to Yonkers. Dorothy Dix and her humorous monologue was the highlight of one Yonkers Woman's Suffrage Association December 1911 meeting. Mary Ware Dennett, National Secretary of the Woman's Suffrage Association, spoke about the progress of the suffrage movement throughout the nation. NYC's Mrs. Finch, tied women's suffrage to business, pointing out, "The right to vote is the laboring man's greatest protection." Livermore worked closely with Carrie Chapman Catt, Susan B. Anthony's choice to lead the National American Women's Suffrage Association (NAWSA). Henrietta was appointed chair of NAWSA's Literature Committee, responsible for creating, publishing and distributing suffrage literature throughout the country.

The Yonkers Woman Suffrage Association opened permanent headquarters at 67 South Broadway opposite the Public Library November 1912. Speakers celebrating the opening were: Rev. Arbuckle, Baptist Church of the Redeemer; Rev. Twamley, St. Andrew's Memorial Church; Mrs. Livermore; Mrs. Robinson; Homer Folks (Secretary of the New York Charities Aid Association and Chair of the New York State Probation Association); and former Mayor Michael Walsh.

Her debate with prominent Anti-Suffragist Mrs. William Forse Scott was held at the Amackassin Club to raise money for the Garden School. In the midst of all this work, she added a few new local projects including the Yonkers Committee for a Safe and Sane Fourth of July, the Women's Auxiliary to the Tuberculosis Dispensary, and advocated for the purchase of the Copcutt property to create an accessible park for "people in the tenements."

Yonkers Suffragists issued "The-Up-To-Date-Woman" January 1914 to educate people on what the real issues were. This sixteen-page paper featured articles by some of Yonkers' most prominent women in Yonkers, such as Mrs. Leo Baekeland, Sara McPike, Mrs. William Ives, and many others. So many people wanted to read it, the papers disappeared in just one day. It was popular and generated a lot of interest, it was attacked by anti-suffragist Mrs. William Forse Scott in a letter sent to Yonkers papers; this was the same woman Henrietta had debated in the past.

Mrs. Livermore and Mrs. Robinson continued to speak to the people of Yonkers. The Men's Forum of St. Andrew's Memorial Church invited them to address their club at a monthly meeting; a large, receptive audience attended the presentation given by the two women. The Modern Woodmen of America, Daughters of Scotia, the Grey Oaks Club the Knights of Columbus and many other local organizations asked Livermore, Robinson, and other local suffragists to address meetings.

Whatever the size of the meeting, whether a large gathering at the Elks Club or a small school PTA meeting, Henrietta was there to explain why she believed women should have the right to vote.

Next Week, Part 2: Success Through Education

March is Colorectal Cancer

Screening Awareness Month

Find Free and Affordable Screenings

The Westchester County Department of Health is partnering with hospitals and health systems Countywide to raise awareness about how to identify and reduce the risks of colorectal cancer, and to encourage residents age 45 and older to schedule a colorectal cancer screening.

Health Commissioner Sherlita Amler, MD, said: "Colorectal cancer is the third most common of all cancers, and during the past decade, the incidence of colorectal cancer has been increasing in people under age 50. That's why the recommended age to start screening was lowered to 45 in 2021. If you are in your forties, this is the right time to talk with your doctor about your family history, identify your risk factors and learn how lifestyle changes can reduce your risks."

More than half of all colorectal cancers are linked to physical inactivity, poor nutrition, excess body weight, and tobacco and alcohol use. Maintain a healthy weight, exercise regularly and eat more vegetables, fruits and whole grains. Avoid tobacco and limit or avoid red and processed meats, sugary drinks, refined grains and alcohol.

Dr. Christine Molmenti, Associate Professor and Cancer Epidemiologist within the Department of Occupational Medicine, Epidemiology and Prevention, Northwell Health Cancer Institute said: "There are different types of colorectal cancer screening tests that are effective. A colonoscopy, where precancerous polyps are detected and removed, is the only screening test that both prevents cancer and detects cancer early. With the increasing number of younger patients developing colorectal cancer, it is important to be aware that age 45 is the recommended start date for colonoscopy. If there is a family history of colorectal cancer or an advanced polyp, it is best to arrange for a screening colonoscopy even earlier."

Racial and ethnic background also is a factor. Blacks have the second-highest rates of colorectal cancer and are most likely to be diagnosed later. Ashkenazi Jews have one of the highest colorectal cancer risks of any ethnic group in the world, according to the American Cancer Society. Other risk factors include a family history of colorectal cancer or polyps, which are small clumps of cells that adhere to the colon, ulcerative colitis, Crohn's disease, Type 2 diabetes and inherited gene changes.

Some screening tests can be done at home, are low-cost and require no prep or sedation, but must be performed every one to three years and may require a follow up colonoscopy. A colonoscopy can be performed every 10 years for those with no risk factors, but requires preparation and sedation in a medical office or health center.

Residents who are uninsured or underinsured can call the Cancer Services Program of the Hudson Valley at 855-277-4482 for information, and referral to free cancer screenings (colorectal, breast and cervical) and diagnostic testing at health centers throughout the County.

To learn more, attend one of these cancer screening education sessions:

Thursday, March 21, 5:30 to 7 p.m. "45 is the New 50: The Importance of Screening and Early Detection of Colorectal Cancer" at the Yonkers Riverfront Library, 1 Larkin Center, Yonkers. A light dinner will be served, followed by a bilingual education session. Referrals for free colorectal cancer screenings for uninsured or underinsured participants will be provided by White Plains Hospital and health insurance navigation will be provided by Westchester Community Health Center. To register, visit Cancer Support Community Greater NY & CT at Gilda's Club - (gnosishosting.net) or call 914-644-8844 x103.

Thursday, March 21, 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. Early Onset Colorectal Cancer Symposium at Phelps Hospital Auditorium, 701 North Broadway, Sleepy Hollow. Presented for healthcare providers by the Northwell Health Cancer Institute in collaboration with the Katz Institute for Women's Health, Phelps Hospital and Northern Westchester Hospital. To register, go to <https://Colorectalsymposium.eventbrite.com>.

For more health tips and cancer resources, go to www.westchestergov.com/health. The health department can be reached at (914) 813-5000.



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DiNapoli: New York's Public and Private Colleges Face Significant Challenges

A new report by State Comptroller Thomas P. DiNapoli highlights the challenges New York's higher education sector is facing, including a looming enrollment cliff, growing costs of attendance, and rising student debt. The report examines both public and private institutions of higher education.

"New York has a robust higher education sector that attracts students and investment to our colleges and universities, which benefits our state and local economies," DiNapoli said. "Declining enrollment over the last decade has already hurt the finances of several public and private institutions, forcing a few to downsize or close their doors. New York's future depends on our institutions of higher education staying competitive by ensuring they are affordable, are diverse, and nurture a spirit of innovation and community in their students."

Falling Enrollment and Looming Enrollment Cliff

In large part due to demographic changes, attracting potential students has become more competitive, and New York's share of enrollment has decreased. In Fall 1970, New York's higher education institutions enrolled about 1 in 11 students nationally; in Fall 2010, when enrollment peaked nationwide, it was 1 in 16. New York's share of national enrollment remained stable at 6.2% between 2010 and 2020.

In Fall 2022, there were 896,000 students enrolled across all postsecondary institutions in the state. This was the lowest total enrollment over a 15-year period, a decline of approximately 73,000 full-time students, or 7.6% since Fall 2008. The decline was led by the nearly 14% drop in enrollment at public institutions, driven by decreases at community colleges that began in 2011.

In Fall 2023, 367,542 students were enrolled at the State University of New York (SUNY), its first year-over-year increase since Fall 2010. Most of the growth (nearly 75%) occurred at community colleges. Still, total enrollment was lower than in Fall 2021 and not all SUNY institutions experienced increases.

The college-age population that drives enrollments at postsecondary institutions has been dropping as a share of the total population nationally, and is forecast to undergo a precipitous drop beginning in 2025 – a looming "enrollment cliff." The impact of enrollment declines over the last decade has impacted the finances of several public and private institutions, with a handful of institutions downsizing or closing.

While higher education enrollment typically grows during or immediately after a recession, the COVID-19 pandemic had the opposite impact, with enrollment declining in 2020 and 2021. Social distancing restrictions and a strong job market as the economy recovered may have played a role. The pandemic also spurred a rise in student transfers and withdrawals, or "stop-outs", and declines in the upward transfer of community college students to higher degree programs, particularly for disadvantaged students.

Degrees and Return on Investment

Outcomes related to earning a degree, including salaries upon graduation, are more positive for New York's college students than those in other states. Collectively, New York's institutions exceed the national performance in enrolled students completing their degrees (69.1% compared to 62.3%). However, completion rates at community colleges are also lower than at four-year schools. Less than half of the students in public two-year colleges who began in Fall 2016 completed their coursework by June 2022. Declining enrollment and low completion rates resulted in 3.4% fewer associate degrees awarded in academic year (AY) 2020-21 than in AY 2009-10.

Research has consistently demonstrated that individuals with a college degree earn more than those with only a high school diploma. Median earnings for bachelor's degree holders in the state are nearly \$82,000 higher than for those in peer states, including California, Florida and Texas and neighboring states like New Jersey and Massachusetts. Overall, earnings in New York increased from 2010 to 2022 at a rate greater than nationwide and higher than the median.

Additional Challenges

For AY 2020-21, New York's public and private average undergraduate charges were both higher than the national average, particularly for in-state costs at two-year public institutions. Private four-year tuition, fees, room and board of \$58,423 in New York was 26% higher than the national average of \$46,313. Public two-year, or community college, in-state tuition and fees of \$5,576 in New York were 59% higher than the national average of \$3,501. Public four-year out-of-state tuition and fees were 26% below the national average of \$27,091.

Growing college costs nationwide have led to unprecedented growth in student loan debt in New York and the country. Federal Reserve Bank of New York data indicates that in the third quarter of 2023 New York's per capita student loan debt was \$5,830, higher than the national average (\$5,370) and peer states like Texas (\$5,170) and Florida (\$4,960).

Student diversity varies by system and campus. According to SUNY's data, the proportion of "minority" students in Fall 2022 was 37.2%, up from 33.2% in Fall 2017. At CUNY, 76.1% of all students in Fall 2022 identified as a race or ethnicity other than white, up more than six percentage points from Fall 2010.

DiNapoli's report examined options to facilitate growth and innovation in the higher education sector, including setting strategic goals, implementing additional approaches to spur applications and enrollment, addressing costs and financial aid gaps, and considering partnerships to keep up with innovation.

Read the Report at: https://www.osc.ny.gov/files/reports/pdf/higher-education-nys.pdf?utm_medium=email&utm_source=govdelivery

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Friday, March 22nd

March 22, 1933: More than 4,000 people toured the new Genung's Store in Yonkers during their three hour "Pre-opening" evening open house. Although no sales were to be made, excitement and enthusiasm were shown by the visitors, who asked the sales staff many questions about the merchandise. The store also held a two-hour private reception for Yonkers better known citizens.

March 22, 1945: Technical Sergeant Morton Benson, husband of Sylvia Utan Benson of Randolph Street, was presented the Bronze Star for establishing a record in keeping a plane in his group in perfect flying order. The plane completed 255 bombing missions without engine trouble. Benson, a crew chief, was assigned to a P-47 Thunderbolt base in France. He also was the father of an eight-month-old daughter he had never seen.

Saturday, March 23rd

March 23, 1855: The sloop Jonas Smith capsized off the coast of Yonkers. The Hudson was quite rough and perilous that afternoon. Few boats were in the water, so none were immediately available to rescue the crew members. Three men were lost; only William Pany, able to cling to the masthead, was rescued. Only one body was recovered, that of Nicholas Casey, whose remains were brought to a Yonkers hotel.

March 23, 1933: Mariner hero George Fried of Yonkers was named captain of the newly built United States Liner Washington. The largest American-built ship, it was scheduled for its final trial run before it was placed into trans-Atlantic service.

March 23, 1950: According to their leader Mrs. Svenningsen, the Crestwood Girl Scouts received two unusual donations to their building campaign fund. One donation was a 3,000-year-old Egyptian bead necklace, and the second was an offer to give the Scouts a pint of blood whenever it was needed!

Sunday, March 24th

March 24, 1907: The chauffeur of Samuel Untermyer of Greystone was arrested today for speeding, traveling 35 miles per hour!

March 24, 1933: A young boy and a police officer saved the life of a Lawrence Street shoemaker. The boy told Sergeant Myles Scully he tried to enter the shoe store of Louis Cavazza, but the door was locked. The child could see Cavazza sitting inside, and the boy thought he smelled gas. Scully broke the glass panel and rushed in to find the man unconscious. He applied artificial respiration after shutting off the gas. Patrolmen Dankowitz, McCready and Buecheri used more than a tank of oxygen to revive the man, who was taken to St. Joseph's Hospital for further treatment.

Questions or comments on this column? Email YonkersHistory1646@gmail.com. For information on the Yonkers Historical Society, Sherwood House and upcoming events, please visit our website www.yonkershistoricalsociety.org, call 914-961-8940 or email info@yonkershistoricalsociety.org

Langsam, ArtsWestchester, continued from pg 10-

ground up and made it the beacon that it is today. She helped shape the cultural landscape of our region, and for decades has shown her tireless dedication to the arts." Langsam came to ArtsWestchester — formerly the Westchester Arts Council — after a successful tenure as President and CEO of the Boston Center for the Arts where, among other projects as landlord, she worked with the Boston Ballet to create a new building and rehearsal space. A Queens native, Langsam is a founder and past chair of the board of the Queens Museum. Langsam served in the administrations of New York City mayors Abe Beame and Ed Koch as the Deputy Commissioner of Cultural Affairs. During her tenure during New York City's fiscal crisis, she leveraged more than \$30 million in new funds for the arts. Later as a Housing Commissioner, she jumpstarted a city housing project that converted tenement buildings into artist housing. She worked with the Lindsay administration on a federally funded pilot program to decentralize city government services through community planning boards. Her ability to navigate the complexities of government and her advocacy for the arts later resulted in successful public/private partnerships with four Westchester County executives. A nationwide search for Langsam's successor is underway.

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Coverage of Mayor Spano’s State of the City address online at Yonkerstimes.com and in print next week

YPS budget gap, continued from pg 1-

So far, the City of Yonkers has contributed \$293 to the Yonkers Public Schools for the upcoming school year in September, an increase of less than 1%.

Total State Aid to YPS is proposed at \$411 Million under Hochul’s budget plan. “Governor Hochul’s Executive Budget includes record funding for education and under her proposal, Yonkers will receive a nearly 10 percent increase in Foundation Aid, an additional \$24.3 million, compared to last year,” said the Governor’s office, in an email to Yonkerstimes.com

YPS has three choices to meet its current level of funding or make cuts. They can receive additional state aid, but its doubtful it will be \$86 million

YPS can receive more funding from the City, based on the City’s budget for fiscal year 2025, which will be passed over the summer. Look for parents, students and educators to lobby for more funding for the city in the upcoming City budget process.

Or YPS will have to make cuts to their budget. The 200 positions the district funded with the Federal funds would be a likely place to start. YPS used that funding to support music and art teachers, counselors and social workers.

The timeline to determine YPS has the State budget coming in first, due on April 1.

Then the City Council and the Mayor will agree on a City budget, due July 1, and then over the summer, YPS will know for sure what their funding is and what if any cuts have to be made.

YPS’s new Superintendent Dr. Anibal Soler Jr. will start on May 1.

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 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 bid 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 RFB-7124 – Opening date: 4/05/2024: Purchase of Mr. Beauty Equipment, or Yonkers approved equals; one custom L-shaped reception desk, 5'7" x 4'6", 3/4" laminate colors, main body F#949MC white micro dot, toe kick & counter top: WA 4830-01 satin stainless; three 2144-72 hex island station; six 5508-42 QSE shampoo bulkhead with upper storage; six CB80 porcelain shampoo bowls with all fixtures; and six 1701 plastic hair traps (KAS).

2. Bid IFB-7125 – Opening date: 4/05/2024: DPW Service Center (1130 Nepperhan Avenue) roof replacement – electrical only (MM).

3. Bid IFB-7126 – Opening date: 4/12/2024: Twelve-month contract, with option to renew for 12-months, for the on call Public Right-of-Way Improvements for the City and Yonkers School District (KS).

4. Bid RFB-7127 – Opening date: 4/05/2024: Purchase of one FirstGreen Industries model Elise 1200, or Yonkers approved equal, electric skid steer loader and accessories (KAS).

5. Bid RFB-7128 – Opening date: 4/12/2024: Provide bus and van transportation for outings for clients and staff of Camp Rays and Camp Pride during the summer of 2024 (KS).

6. Bid RFB-7129 – Opening date: 4/05/2024: Purchase of five sets of Eotech, or Yonkers approved equal, Monocular Night Vision equipment (VB).

7. Bid RFB-7130 – Opening date: 4/05/2024: Purchase of nine cases of DuoDote, or Yonkers approved equal, Auto Injectors (VB).

8. Bid RFB-7131 – Opening date: 4/05/2024: Purchase of various tactical medical supplies (17 items) used by ESU medics (tourniquets, bandages, splints, etc. (KAS).

9. Bid IFB-7133 – Opening date 4/12/2024: Repairs to leaking valve in the City Hall elevator located at 40 South Broadway (AC).

10. Bid 7087A – Opening date: 4/12/2024: Twelve-month contract, with option to renew for 12-months, to provide cleaning and disposal of the collection nets in the Saw Mill River at the Larkin Plaza Daylighting (KS).

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

Yonkers Rising

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Letter to the Editor:
Jesus Christ Did Not Validate Sin

Mr. Clifford Jackson has grossly distorted God’s Word with his marxist liberation theology.

Jesus Christ DID NOT hang out with prostitutes. No record in the Word of God that says this. People have imposed this false idea to justify their sin instead of repenting and doing what is right . (And homosexuality is a grave sin, a form of idolatry.)

Jesus Christ hung around with disciples—disciplined believers and reached out to those who wanted to believe. In John 8 there is one incident in which the self-righteous hierarchy, who wanted to play gotcha, interrupted Jesus Christ’s teaching of God’s Word to accuse a woman of adultery.

Think about that. Here is the only begotten son of God, the Messiah they claim to be waiting for. He’s teaching God’s Word—and they disrupt his teaching. They did not want the answer of God’s Word or they would have shut up, sat down and listened at his feet. They disrespected God when they interrupted the teaching of His Word by His only begotten son and threw this woman down at Jesus’ feet. Basic respect for God’s Word would have compelled them to at least wait until he finished teaching. But they had no true love for the true God—or they would have honored His son, not schemed to kill him.

What did they want? John 8:6. This they said, tempting him, that they might have to accuse him. They wanted to accuse and destroy. (Sounds very familiar to what’s going on today.)

Think and ask questions. They said they caught her in the very act. How did this crowd just happen to be present when this woman was supposedly committing adultery? Did they show that they cared about the woman’s life or repentance?

In their devilish arrogance, they thought that had an excuse to charge the son of God however he answered. They have proven they neither love God nor want to minister to this woman. .

What did Jesus Christ say to the woman? What he didn’t say was, let’s celebrate your sin of adultery, let’s make flags and have a month for it and teach little kids how to do likewise.

No, he told her: “go and sin no more.” Forgiveness is contingent upon repentance—repentance is changing your ways to God’s ways.

Mr. Jackson is in sync with the accusers, in his arrogance, and ignorance of God’s Word and willful disobedience to and distortion of it. If he wants to speak about Jesus Christ, he needs more accurate study of God’s Word.

By the way, GOD is not a respecter of persons. Those who repent, confess Jesus Christ as Lord and believe that God raised him from the dead get the same salvation and spiritual enablements regardless of their background. Anyone who truly wants a better understanding of God’s Word may contact me through Mr. Murphy.

Judith N., Yonkers

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Westchester County Board of Legislators Organizes Saw Mill River Flood Sites Tour



Groundworks Hudson Valley Executive Dir. Oded Holzinger explaining flooding issues at Ardsley site to stakeholders

In response to complaints from residents and businesses increasingly affected by flooding, a comprehensive tour of flood sites along the Saw Mill River took place on Thursday afternoon. The tour was initiated by Westchester County Legislator David Imamura (D - Ardsley, Dobbs Ferry, Edgemont, Hartsdale, Hastings-on-Hudson, Irvington), who serves as the Co-Chair of the Board's Saw Mill Watershed Advisory Board (SWAB), along with Legislator David Tubiolo (D - Yonkers, Mt. Vernon). Imamura collaborated with Groundwork Hudson Valley, NYS Senate Majority Leader Andrea Stewart Cousins, and Assemblymember MaryJane Shinsky to facilitate the tour, which included stops at heavily impacted areas in Mount Pleasant, Elmsford, Ardsley, Hastings-on-Hudson and Yonkers.

Currently, the NYS Department of Environmental Conservation (D.E.C.) is conducting a study on flooding. The visit was a proactive step for stakeholders including State, County, Town and Village elected officials, Planning and Engineering Department administrators, and environmental agency representatives to survey the affected areas and identify specific challenges to be addressed. Participants learned about the state of the infrastructure of dams, levees, culverts, and other drainage systems; the severity of accumulated debris; and the impact of climate change on the frequency and severity of flooding.

As Co-Chair of SWAB, Legislator Imamura aims to ensure that every level of government is aware of its role in addressing this issue. This includes identifying the subsequent actions that must be taken to prevent future flooding and how to move expeditiously towards a resolution. He said, "While flooding has been a serious issue that has impacted District 12 and other districts along the Saw Mill River for many years, climate change is making the issue even more severe. Flooding doesn't respect municipal boundaries which is why we have to work together to combat this issue."

Legislator David Tubiolo said, "As Co-Chair of SWAB as well as the Chair of the Committee on Parks & Environment, I take the issue of flooding in the County seriously and we are committed to mitigating its impact on our community."

NYS Majority Leader Senate Andrea Stewart Cousins said, "While flooding in these areas is nothing new, this on-site tour provided valuable insight from the mayors and other local officials who deal with the problem. I look forward to seeing the DEC's study so we can work together to come up with the most effective methods to decrease debris in the Saw Mill River and improve the infrastructure surrounding it. My thanks to Legislator Imamura, the D.E.C. and Groundwork Hudson Valley for arranging it."

Chair of the Board of Legislators Vedat Gashi (D - New Castle, Somers, Yorktown) said, "Through this tour, we at the Westchester County Board of Legislators gained valuable insights about this regional challenge that flooding presents. Flooding doesn't respect municipal boundaries - it requires a collaborative effort, and that's what we're doing. I look forward to the DEC's study so we can continue our work to mitigate flooding from the Saw Mill River and elsewhere."

Minority Leader Margaret Cunzio (C - Mt. Pleasant, North Castle, Pleasantville, Valhalla, Sleepy Hollow, Briarcliff Manor) said, "After touring the Saw Mill River in the Mount Pleasant/Thornwood area with elected officials, local leaders from the affected municipalities, NYS representatives and the D.E.C. - I'm hopeful we can secure additional funding and resources to help mitigate flooding. The extensive flooding has caused damage to property, as well as put lives in danger. Working together, I am optimistic that we find the means to alleviate the situation and help constituents in this area."

Minority Whip James Nolan (R - Bronxville, Yonkers) said, "District 15 has one of the worst flooding sites along the Saw Mill River and it heavily impacts my constituents. Yesterday's tour of the different flooding areas along the Saw Mill sheds more light on the challenges. Happy to start looking at more ways to address the issue with my colleagues to help all of our residents."

Oded Holzinger, Executive Director of Groundwork Hudson Valley said, "Addressing flooding in the Saw Mill River watershed involves the community, decision-makers, and experts collaborating to enhance quality of life and environmental health. Floods disrupt Yonkers to Chappaqua, straining the county economically and socially. We continue to lead these efforts, including green infrastructure, habitat restoration, and flood mitigation while nurturing local green jobs and community stewardship."

Eric Schoen continued from pg 3-

those who may run for higher office.

Mind you this has taken place for years. Yes, money can be found for big salary increases for the, let's call them the Yonkers 8. They all have city paid for cars, benefits for life, pensions, free gas and car maintenance. And staff that duplicate another Yonkers patronage mill, the Constituent Affairs office. Who handles the problems constituents have. City Council staff or the Constituent Affairs office. What a mess.

So what's the solution. I don't have to tell you. You know. But I'm going to speak for a minute to the 200 or so staff paid with stimulus funds. The Yonkers Budget Tango has gone on since I was in high school, 1974-1978. Reliance on one shot funds. You probably love your job, and the threat of loss of it scares you. You have a dedication to your profession and your students, but I want you to be crystal clear that nobody is looking out for you.

If you find a comparable job in another school district, take it so you won't have to deal with this Yonkers nonsense every year. Believe me, as someone who observed the yearly threats from City Hall and the Yonkers Public Schools for 30 years I know how taxing it can be on you. Get those resumes flowing and though you love your students, your Principals and your schools, the higher ones that make the decisions are not looking out for you.

They will say before Election Day as they did last year that all is well, balanced, the city contributed the most ever to education, we solved the educational financial crisis, but it's all one big game. And you don't want to get yourself or your families sick over it. Don't. It's not worth it. Worry about yourself and your family.

And yes, one day the city of Yonkers will stop the yearly Budget Tango. I hope it's in my lifetime. But please, for me don't let you or your friends or family get upset about it. Skip the trips to Albany with your students wasting precious class time. The State legislators who make the decisions are right here in Yonkers for you to lobby. All they want you to go to Albany for is the famous picture on the grand staircase.

Everybody in Albany knows Yonkers fiscal woes. Now the politicians in Yonkers need to solve them!

It's 8 p.m. Saturday Night. Do You Know Where Congressman Bowman is?

I am sitting at a friends house on Saturday night. All of a sudden a little before 8:00 p.m. the phone rings. It's Research New York. They are doing a survey on the upcoming elections and the political climate in general. At 8 p.m. on a Saturday night? Boy this politician must be hungry for votes.

Something told me it was polling being done by Congressman Bowman. And I wanted to go on record against what he was doing 1000%. Yes, after the lady started asking me questions I knew the survey was for Bowman. The key was that she couldn't pronounce Latimer, but she clearly pronounced Jamaal Bowman correctly.

She even pronounced my last name correctly. Some of these pollsters or telemarketers ask for Eric Shore. Or Eric Scone. Where they see that in my name I do not know. But she had a hard time pronouncing Benjamin Netanyahu, Israel's Prime Minister. Proof she was working for Congressman Bowman. After I told her the correct pronunciation, I asked her who he was. She told me they don't give her information on the names she is calling about, they just give her a script.

The call went on for 12 minutes! On a Saturday night! All I could think of is that at 8 p.m. on a Saturday night the last thing Brother Jamaal, all Peace and Love of him would be doing is sitting for 12 minutes taking a survey. In the pictures we see of him online and sent to us he's having fun. Making it seem like he is one of us. Dancing, protesting with squad member Rashida Tlaib, and having a good time of it.

The questions I was asked were all negative about George Latimer and AIPAC and positive about Brother Jamaal. She asked if I knew about Latimer's public service and Jamaal's education work. She asked about the millions of dollars he brought to the district and the billions of dollars that he was responsible for allocating.

She asked if I knew how he voted on the infrastructure bill. I said yes. He voted no. That was important to me and people I know in Westchester and beyond.

After 11 minutes I told her I was getting tired and asked how much longer the survey would be. She said I was the last person she had to call and could I please finish the survey. I can't blame her for the disaster Congressman Bowman has been.

What did this call by the Bowman camp at almost 8 o'clock on a Saturday night prove. Congressman Bowman is desperate for votes, a little short of 3 months prior to the Primary!

Personal Note: Javelin throwing in the Olympics (only kidding) required me to have shoulder surgery earlier this week. I'll be back as soon as possible!

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



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Westchester Astronaut, Eclipse, continued from pg 1-

Body Parts, continued from pg 1-

Expedition Space: Reach for the Stars with Astronaut Ron Garan
 Join former NASA astronaut Ron Garan for a talk suitable for all ages. Garan will share an awe-inspiring view of space and unbelievable stories from the International Space Station. Learn how seeing Earth from orbit changes an astronaut's perspective forever and how impending eclipses continue to reveal deep truths about our planet's rare place in the cosmos.

- In this talk, visitors will discover:
- What astronauts experience during the thrilling 8-minute blast-off into orbit around Earth.
 - Why the view of Earth takes your breath away when you finally reach the weightless wonder of space.
 - What it's like to see 16 sunrises every day while orbiting our planet.
 - Why gazing down on Earth's glittering atmosphere fills astronauts with wonder.
 - How an elevated orbital perspective reveals humanity's interconnect-edness in a profound way.

Simultaneous ASL interpretation will be provided.
 Pre-order autographed copies of Ron Garan's books at rongaran.com/hrm for pickup at the HRM on March 23. His books are also available for purchase in the Museum Shop.

Purchase tickets at HRM.org. Programs featuring Ron Garan are generously sponsored by Betsy May Stern with additional support from Yolanda F. Johnson and Christina O'Neill.

Saturday, March 23, 7pm
The Orbital Perspective: An Evening with Astronaut Ron Garan
 Join us for a special evening with NASA astronaut Ron Garan, including a cocktail reception. He will share his breathtaking tales of gazing down in wonder at Earth's shimmering atmosphere and intricately interconnected ecosystems from the awe-inspiring vantage point of space. Discover how this sight fills astronauts with wonder about the miracles required to sustain life on our planet. Learn how the approaching eclipse highlights Earth's precious singularity.

Includes cocktail reception. Purchase tickets at HRM.org.
 About Ron Garan: Former NASA astronaut, serial entrepreneur, humanitarian, and highly decorated combat fighter pilot Ron Garan racked up 178 days in space and more than 71 million miles in 2,842 orbits around our planet. During that time, Garan conducted four spacewalks in support of the construction and maintenance of the International Space Station. Prior to those space journeys, he lived and conducted research on the bottom of the ocean in the world's only undersea research laboratory, Aquarius. Before reaching the summit of his career, Ron, a former test pilot and graduate of the US Naval Test Pilot School, taught hundreds of elite fighter pilots how to "up their game" as a flight instructor at the prestigious USAF Fighter Weapons School, the Air Force version of Top Gun. Garan is also a graduate of Yonkers Public Schools.

Garan currently serves as CEO of ispace technologies U.S., Inc., a global lunar resource development company specializing in designing, building, and operating lunar landers.

Sunday, April 7, 11am-5pm
Super Solar Eclipse Sunday
 Get ready for the once-in-a-lifetime Total Solar Eclipse, happening tomorrow! Learn all about the eclipse in a live planetarium show. Make a pinhole viewer in a Junior Docent-led workshop. Practice looking at the Sun safely through a solar telescope. Sit for unique solar and/or lunar face painting by Agostino Arts. Look at artists' depictions of the sky in Collection Spotlight: The Art of Skywatching. Plus, pose in front of a special eclipse backdrop for a memorable photo. Join us in awesome anticipation!

Monday, April 8, 2-5pm
Super Solar Eclipse Viewing Party!
 Today's the day! The HRM opens its doors from 2-5pm with fun and educational activities inspired by today's once-in-a-lifetime Total Solar Eclipse. A total solar eclipse happens when the Moon passes between the Sun and Earth, completely blocking the face of the Sun. The sky will darken as if it were dawn or dusk. In our region, the eclipse starts at 2:30pm, approaches 91% totality at 3:25pm, and ends at 4:36pm. The next total eclipse that can be seen from our region will be in 2079!

Eclipse Viewing in the Courtyard
 View the eclipse's progress with safe tools, including two solar telescopes that reveal incredible details of the Moon's jagged silhouette and sunspots on the face of the Sun. Observe the eclipse with pinhole viewers, mirror projections, exclusive HRM eclipse glasses (while supplies last), and other safe methods. Recommended for ages 8+. Please note, the Museum is not responsible for the cancellation of outdoor activities that are dependent on the weather; all general admission ticket sales are final.

Eclipse Live Stream in the Lobby
 Watch the eclipse live stream from locations along its path over North America, including museums, schools, and observatories, from Texas to Maine. Feeds will be displayed on the video monitor in the HRM Lobby, accompanied by a space-themed soundtrack.

Open-Door Eclipse Presentation in the Planetarium
 Stop by the Planetarium for an ongoing, open-door presentation on the unique nature and history of Earth's eclipses, and why they have been so avidly watched by astronomers. We'll use the Planetarium's digital projection system to fly out into space and get an astronaut's-eye-view of the event as it happens.

Capture the Moment in Greene Education Center
 Pose for a photo-op in front of a solar eclipse—no special glasses required!—and take a picture you'll treasure forever (or at least until the next eclipse in 2079)!

Visit HRM.org for more information.

Another oddity to this strange case is the one of those charged, Steven Brown, is the cousin of the deceased Malcolm Brown. The family of Malcolm Brown attended the court proceedings and were vocal about their desire for justice.

One family member shouted at Steven Brown, "How could you" in court. Another said, "do the right thing," asking him to help police solve this case.

According to prosecutors, the four allegedly used butcher knives and meat cleavers to dismember the victims' bodies.

The four pleaded not guilty and the criminal charges are not considered violent crimes, which is why they were released without bail.

Some are blaming Suffolk DA Ray Tierney for not charging the four for murder immediately. But Tierney blames the new bail reform laws as the problem.

"As a prosecutor, you're ethically required to only charge the cases which you can either establish probable cause for or prove beyond a reasonable doubt. These particular charges are what we can charge now. This situation, with these four defendants being released, would have never happened if the prosecution would have been able to argue dangerousness. In New York state, we cannot argue dangerousness as a factor in our bail applications," Tierney said.

Under New York's bail reform laws, passed in 2019, the crimes committed and charged so far do not meet the eligibility for bail.

"It is our understanding that the Suffolk County Police Department (SCPD) is still investigating these murders. Unfortunately, due to "Bail Reform" passed by the New York State Legislature in 2019, charges relating to the mutilation and disposal of murdered corpses is no longer bail-eligible, meaning my prosecutors cannot ask for bail. This is yet another absurd result thanks to "Bail Reform" and a system where the Legislature in Albany substitutes their judgment for the judgment of our judges and the litigants in court. We will work with the SCPD to resolve this investigation as soon as possible and implore our Legislature to make common sense fixes to this law," said Tierney.

Westchester Assemblyman Matt Slater highlighted the case to call again for changes to New York's Bail Reform laws.

"I am appalled to discover, yet again, that dangerous criminals are being released onto our streets. These individuals are violent and pose a significant threat to our communities. Thanks to our governor and the failure that is bail reform, they are allowed to roam freely among us. Our district attorneys have their hands tied by nonsensical restrictions preventing them from requesting bail. New Yorkers, district attorneys and victims' families are tired of it. Enough is enough, and it is time we put the people of this state's safety first, NOT the criminals' freedom," said Slater, who has co-sponsored legislation which would provide judges with more discretion based on dangerousness when issuing a securing order and allows for limited pre-trial detention upon such a determination, and A9167-which requires law enforcement and courts to notify the United States Immigration and Customs Enforcement agency when an arrested person or defendant is not a United States citizen.

The people of Yonkers are saddened by the loss of life, and their prayers go out to the families of the victims.

One person said she knew one of those charged. Alexis is a good friend of mine. She isn't capable of this crime! Something is NOT adding up."

Nobody knows the reason for these crimes. Some are guessing that drugs and gangs were involved. "Who actually is responsible for committing the murders and who gave those individual's the locations of the bodies and the instructions to do what they did, and why," is another good question posed.

Someone asked about a reward for information. No details on a reward yet.

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Ghana Flag Raised Above Yonkers City Hall

The Easter Bunny Returns to Cross County Center This Spring!



Photos by Donna Davis

The City of Yonkers celebrated the 67th anniversary of Ghana's independence, with a flag raising ceremony at City Hall on March 7. In attendance was Dr. Fred Ansong Dwamena, Executive Director of the National Council of Ghanaian Associations, His Excellency Harold Agyeman, Ghana's Permanent Representative to the United Nations, and the Honorable Daniel Kingsley Atta Boafo, Ghana Consul General in New York.

Sandy Amoyaw, Yonkers Riverfront Library Administrator, was also recognized as a leader in the Ghanaian American community



Photo ops with the Easter Bunny at Cross County Center have begun and continues through Saturday, March 30. Special Sensory Bunny and Pet sessions are available this season for the first time! Visitors are encouraged to dress in their Sunday best for photos with the lovable bunny!

Easter Bunny photos will take place in a specially designed pop-up house, located between Gap and Bath & Body Works. Each child who visits the Bunny will receive a free gift.

Hours are Monday through Friday from 2:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.

Saturday's from 11:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m.--Sunday, 12:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.

For more information and reservations, please visit <https://www.crosscounty-center.com/event/Easter-Bunny-Photos/214558448/>



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