

Yonkers Rising

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Extell Development Breaks Ground on Hudson Piers on the River



A rendering of Hudson Piers, and the public, waterfront walkways that will also be created for all

In what will be one of the largest mixed-use communities in the Westchester Area, executives from Extell Development Company joined Yonkers Mayor Mike Spano and other city, county and state officials on May 5 for a groundbreaking ceremony for Hudson Piers, signifying the official start of construction. When completed, the \$585 million, multi-phase complex will include approximately 1,400 luxury and affordable apartments, exciting retail, and a new riverfront esplanade along a prime waterfront location with beautiful views of the Hudson River across to the Palisades.

“Extell’s Hudson Piers will be one of the most transformative developments along the Yonkers waterfront,” said Yonkers Mayor Mike Spano. “It will cap off the extraordinary momentum seen in recent years that’s spurred unprecedented investment in our city. I look forward to welcoming more families, businesses and jobs to Yonkers on the River and fulfilling our truest potential.”

“We are proud to be a part of the incredible redevelopment which has turned Yonkers into the fastest growing big city in New York State under Mayor Mike Spano,” said Gary Barnett, Founder & Chairman of Extell Development Company. “Hudson Piers will introduce a significant supply of new luxury and affordable housing to Yonkers and will bring the Extell quality of construction complemented by an unmatched array of lifestyle amenities to the City’s waterfront.”

Hudson Piers is the city’s final waterfront development and will complete the transformation of an expansive former industrial site into a highly desirable, heavily-amenitized, residential enclave. The project, which will be developed in three phases over a 6-year period, is expected to create 200 permanent jobs and 450-500 construction jobs.

The 17.4-acre property sits as an unused piece of the Yonkers Hudson riverfront along Alexander Street, Water Grant Street and Babcock Place. Hudson Piers will activate the surrounding area by adding additional greenspaces, ease of access, and a riverfront promenade providing a connection to the surrounding neighborhoods.

The development consists of approximately 870,000 rentable square feet of residential space across six, seven-story buildings, with over 37,000 rentable square feet of ground floor retail space. Hudson Piers will offer a mix of studio- to-three-bedroom residences. Interiors will feature fully tiled bathrooms, in-unit washer/dryers, premium stainless-steel appliances, Kohler fixtures, separate zones for heating and cooling, and private terraces.

continued on pg 7-

Thousand Dollar Shopliftings, from Yonkers to Yorktown



The perfume counters at Macy’s, with gift sets that were stolen

By Dan Murphy

One of the arguments against taxing corporations is that they will pass the cost onto the consumer. The same can be said for retail establishments who have fallen victim to rampant and large scale shoplifting, or larceny or robbery. One of our readers emailed me to say that my referencing the recent \$2,500 in perfume stolen from the Macy’s at Cross County Center in Yonkers as a robbery was incorrect, because of the dollar amount involved. The proper characterization is a grand larceny, and that person is correct.

But there has to be a better term for an organized group of people stealing all that they can hold, or put into a bag, and running out. Shoplifting to me was stealing a candy bar when you were a kid.

Thousand dollar thefts, from pharmacies in Yonkers have been going on for more than six months, and at two Yonkers supermarkets, ACME and Stop n Shop, off duty police have been hired to make sure these type of walk out larcenies don’t happen under their watch. Yonkers Rising columnist Eric Schoen has witnessed two incidents in Yonkers; one at a TJ Maxx and the other at a CVS.

Now these types of thefts are occurring further north in Westchester, according to the State Police. “The State Police in Cortlandt is investigating a larceny of over \$3,900 worth of over-the-counter medications from the ACME Supermarket on East Main Street in Mohegan Lake. The suspects also attempted to steal medica-

continued on pg 6-

Chev Dixon Takes 300-Mile, Hudson Valley Challenge for Yonkers Youth



Chev Dixon

By Dan Murphy

Meet Chev Dixon, from Yonkers, and Director of the Hudson River Riders, a program of the Yonkers Paddling & Rowing Club that provides recreational access to and environmental awareness of the Hudson River for undeserved communities through free kayak paddles, along with tours and training.

Chev provides about 1200 kayak rides and paddleboard trips on the Hudson every year through the YPRC’s Hudson Riders Program, but he wanted to try and provide an even greater example to the youth in Yonkers and in other communities, that there is an alternative to the violence of the streets.

Chev is in the middle of a 300 mile journey of hiking, biking, running and kayaking, from New York City to Albany and back. It’s called the Hudson Valley Challenge.

“Growing up in Jamaica, the structure that I had was different from Yonkers,” said Chev in a video promoting the Hudson Valley Challenge [at-https://www.facebook.com/HudsonRiverRiders/videos/654347935666223/](https://www.facebook.com/HudsonRiverRiders/videos/654347935666223/)

One day playing basketball, another player pulled out a knife on Chev. “That shook me up a bit. Eventually, Chev and his friends started hanging out down by the Yonkers Pier, where they found the Yonkers Paddling & Rowing Club. A member of the club opened the gates and Chev became a member and fell in love with kayaking and the pleasure of being out on the Hudson River.

“Being on the River gave me a sense of purpose and pride that I was doing something unique.” Chev began working out every day, and began eating healthy, “It’s good that young people get to see the possibilities and the commitment that I’m making to this, and the work ethic, and to know that they can follow in the same footsteps. I challenged the Board to see if we could do more, and that’s how Hudson River Riders came about. To give kids an opportunity and to challenge themselves in a different way.”

“Now with the Hudson River Challenge, I hope to open up their perspective, come paddle here and learn the skills that can take you anywhere in this world. I realize that kayaking is only one part of it. Anyone can join me on this challenge, and be a part of the community that is always there for each other, and that encourages each other, and pushes the human body,” said Chev, who started the Hudson River Challenge in Manhattan on May 7, by running, then over to Alpine New Jersey and hiking up the Palisades. Then a 65 mile bike ride to Poughkeepsie, and back into the Kyack up the Hudson River, eventually getting to Albany.

Chev is on his way back down the Hudson, with stops at Cold Spring and Irvington, before a welcome in Yonkers on Saturday May 14 before finishing the challenge back in Manhattan. One three day journey totalled

continued on pg 4-

MLK Jr. Video Contest Winners



Mayor Mike Spano honored Allison Rodriguez, left, and Michaela Smith, the winners of the 2022 MLK Jr. Members of the Mayor’s African-American Advisory Board and family members attended.

Although the 2022 MLK Video Contest was held virtually in February, Mayor Mike Spano delivered and presented the awards and certificates to the two video contest winners (Allison Rodriguez & Michaela Smith) personally.

You can view their videos here <https://bit.ly/3Li8sGe> Special thanks to all the students in Yonkers who worked hard on their videos. You all did an amazing job and we look forward to your submissions next year!

14th Yonkers Idol Searches for Next Singing Sensations- Wed., 5/18 @ 5PM



2021 Yonkers Idol Gabrielle Schnorbus, right, and Junior Idol Carly Tauber, photo by Donna Davis

Yonkers Mayor Mike Spano and the Yonkers Department of Parks, Recreation & Conservation and the Untermeyer Performing Arts Council today announced that the City is searching for Yonkers' next great young singers to compete for the titles of Yonkers Junior Idol 2022 and Yonkers Idol 2022. Celebrating its fourteenth year, the singing competition will kick off at Untermeyer Gardens on Wednesday, May 18th at 9:00 AM.

"Yonkers Idol is a wonderful tradition in our City bringing together the very best singing talent our City has to offer," said Mayor Mike Spano. "As Mayor, I am impressed by the caliber of young singers and I look forward to attending the finale showcase this year."

Those interested in auditioning must be between the ages of 15-19 years old to qualify for Yonkers Idol or between the ages of 10-14 years of age to qualify for Yonkers Junior Idol. The audition will be limited to one verse and one chorus of a song. Winners will hold their title for a year and win \$1000, courtesy of the Untermeyer Performing Arts Council Teresa Fund. The title provides performance opportunities at numerous City of Yonkers events throughout the calendar year.

The final round of competition will take place at Untermeyer Gardens on June 25th at 4:30 PM. Call backs will audition a different song for the finale show.

Online registration is required at register.capturepoint.com/yonkers and is open to Yonkers residents only. Walk-ins are welcome.

For more information on the competition, visit the City of Yonkers Departments of Parks, Recreation & Conservation at www.YonkersNY.gov or call 914-377-6450, 9AM to 4PM, Monday – Friday.

Hey AOC! Where Were You When Union Labor Needed You in NYC?

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By Frank Spotorno, with Dan Murphy

Last month, Congresswoman Alexandra Ocasio-Cortez, (AOC), led a protest outside of an Amazon warehouse with Bernie Sanders, calling for the workers to be allowed to join a union. That's great and I agree with the right of everyone to join a union. I'm a proud union member of the Carpenters union.

But AOC's support for unions in NYC is six years too late, and her comment at the rally, that "New York City is a union town," unfortunately isn't true anymore.

I have some experience in trying to support unions across New York City. In 2016, I ran for the same seat in Congress that AOC now represents. And during my campaign, I would show up at construction sites to see how many of the laborers were members of a union. What I found out was that most of the workers on the skyscrapers being built were non-union, and most of the non-union labor were undocumented immigrants who were being paid cash under the table.

There are labor laws on the book in New York City and New York State requiring a prevailing living wage to be given to workers on construction jobs. That law hasn't been enforced in decades, and for that reason we have skilled members of trades sitting home most of the year.

But the most disturbing decision AOC made against the working class in New York City was her opposition to Amazon building a headquarters in Queens. I wanted that HQ's to be built here because it was going to be built with union labor, 11,000 jobs for union rank and file members. They get paid well but they do their jobs well and deserve every penny they get. But they needed that Amazon job, and literally, AOC took food out of the mouths of their families by opposing it. And

continued on pg 4-

STAY AMAZING

NewYork-Presbyterian

Amazing is running a marathon 3 months after shattering your shoulder.

Dan Levinsohn dreamed of running the NYC Marathon. While training, he was hit by a car, breaking his shoulder in three places. Dan met with Dr. William Levine and his orthopedic team at NewYork-Presbyterian, who operated on his shoulder and designed a physical therapy plan to get him to the marathon. Just months after it seemed impossible, Dan crossed the finish line.

Learn more at nyp.org/orthopedics

“Abortion is on the Ballot Now” Governor Kathy Hochul



State Senate Majority Leader Andrea Stewart-Cousins, with members of the senate democratic caucus.

By Dan Murphy

Days after somebody leaked a draft decision from US Supreme Court Justice Sam Alito, which would overturn the landmark abortion case, Roe v Wade, NY democrats stood united in their promise not to let a woman's right to choose to be taken away in the Empire State.

Governor Kathy Hochul, who is in the middle of a tough election campaign said, “Abortion is on the ballot now. This is a seismic shift in people's attitudes and what's at stake on Election Day as they saw those who did not show up on Election Day in 2016 or those who voted for Donald Trump, these are the consequences. Now we have the collateral damage which is an earthquake across our nation. People understand now. This is what happens when you don't elect Democrats. I believe this is going to energize the base. 70% of Americans, Democrats and Republicans, want these basic human rights left alone, like they have been for half a century. And my message to those who would deny this fundamental, basic right is, You Don't Want to Mess With us. And I assure you, this is a fight that you will not win,” said Hochul.

State Senate Majority Leader Andrea Stewart-Cousins, from Yonkers, said, “New Yorkers will not be silent as SCOTUS tries to rollback 50 years of precedent. I'm proud to stand with Governor Hochul, NYS Bipartisan Pro-Choice Legislative Caucus and officials across our state as we lead New York in the fight for Americans' right to a safe, legal abortion.”

Stewart-Cousins was also interviewed for Capital Tonight when she elaborated on plans to protect not only the right to an abortion but overarching personal privacy rights. “I really am very saddened, frankly, to be having this conversation because there are certain assumptions that I have as somebody who has a legacy of having been discriminated against. To be having this conversation in 2022, it's just incredible to me. But we are on this path, and I will repeat it again and again, because for some reason there is some kind of radical agenda by so many of my Republican colleagues that seem to feel, that it's okay to storm the Capitol but it's not okay to have control over your own [body]. I'm very confused.”

State Senator Shelley Mayer, also from Yonkers, said, “I am alarmed and distressed by the draft Supreme Court opinion to overturn Roe v. Wade. I deeply support a woman's right to control her own reproductive decisions and more specifically, the right to terminate a pregnancy under the Constitutional limits set forth in Roe v. Wade. The decision to become a parent – a lifetime responsibility – is not one which should be imposed by the government, which is effectively what will happen should the Supreme Court adopt yesterday's leaked decision. It is not just the personal autonomy of our bodies as women, but it is also the right to control our destiny as adults that is at risk here. This decision will be particularly burdensome and excruciating for those without resources or support.”

On May 9, New York Attorney General Letitia James announced new legislation to establish a Reproductive Freedom and Equity Program, which would provide funding for abortion providers and non-profit organizations to help increase access to care and would support access to abortion for low-income New Yorkers. It would also provide financial support for the influx of people coming to New York from other states that ban abortion.

“We know what happens when women are unable to control their own bodies and make their own choices and we will not go back to those dark times,” said Attorney General James. “New York must lead the fight to keep abortion safe and accessible for all who seek it.”

Assemblyman Tom Abinanti called for an amendment to the NY State constitution. “New York must be a Sanctuary State for women and providers – amend the New York constitution to protect the right to bodily autonomy and strengthen New York's protections for access to reproductive health facilities.”

“As a former pro-bono attorney for the Westchester Coalition for Legal Abortion, I developed a special understanding of the challenges that women face in seeking reproductive healthcare. I was pleased to co-sponsor and vote for New York's Reproductive Health Act (Chapter 1 of the Laws of 2019) that enacted the Roe v. Wade protections into New York law,” said Abinanti, whose proposed Constitutional Amendment reads, “Personal reproductive liberty. An individual's right to personal reproductive autonomy is central to the liberty and dignity to determine one's own life course and shall not be denied or infringed.”

Letters to the Editor are now being emailed en masse calling for an expansion to the existing, nine-member US Supreme Court. The letter reads, “This news should set off alarm bells for all Americans. Our fundamental freedoms are coming under attack by a hyper-partisan supermajority on the Court. And this could just be the beginning. But there's a way to fight back, which is why I'm urging Congress to pass the Judiciary Act of 2021. The Judiciary Act would rebalance the Supreme Court by adding four new seats, giving us 13 justices in total. It's just what we need to move away from extremely partisan rulings and restore the legitimacy of the Court—and it's been done before. In fact, Congress has changed the size of the Supreme Court seven times already in our nation's history.”

There is also support for the leaked opinion in New York State. NY State Conservative Party Chairman Gerard Kassar said, “New York has the most radical abortion laws in the country, allowing termination of an unborn child right up until birth — more than twice the length of time most liberal European countries allow. But that's not enough for Governor Kathy Hochul and Attorney General Letitia James who now want to turn the state into a national mecca for abortion procedures wholly paid for by New York taxpayers. The governor and attorney general have no right to force New Yorkers to pay for abortions for non-New Yorkers. New Yorkers, who already pay the highest taxes in the country, need to fight it.”

Crazy Prices! St. Ann's School. And a Coincidene!



By Eric W. Schoen

Crazy Prices!

Can you believe the price of gas? When it approaches \$5 a gallon (\$6 for diesel) somebody in Washington had better wake up. I don't care if they are Democrats or Republicans or a combination of the two. Whether it's a federal gas tax holiday, open up petroleum reserves, our electeds in Washington had better do something!

If we can't afford gas, it affects everything we do. Car trips are shorter. Those car vacations people are planning this summer will be cut short. Folks will do less shopping in store and more online. That is until the postal prices go up. And the surcharges for all the delivery services. Flying on a plane? Prepare for sticker shock. And rental cars at your place of destination are sure to be higher than when you visited last time.

As the price of gas goes up, so goes the price of everything we buy. That is if the items you want can reach your local store shelves. Meat prices are insane. Frozen food prices for people like me who don't cook much are up 15-20% on most items. Vegetables are sky high. You need to turn to the sales flyers and see what is on sale before you hit the grocery store. Most stores post their sales flyers online. Many stores have 'unannounced' sales you find when you visit them.

And don't be afraid to look at the items in the scratch and dent wrack most stores have. I see more and more people doing this. If the box or package is open, skip it. Check for 'best by' dates. I recently found items at over 75% off including fresh, name brand healthy cereals I normally eat with a little dent in the package and good quality measuring spoon sets reduced from \$3.50 to 77 cents.

Perfect example of what is going on is the cat food my sister buys for her cat. You can't find it in Stop and Shop where she has bought it for years. She has no room to store 10 pound bags you can get on Amazon and can't lift them. She prefers a smaller bag a little over 3 pounds. So we hunt. One thing you don't do with a cat is change his or her food or litter.

Several people criticized my story 2 weeks ago about shopping on Elm Street. One reader said 'Are you trying to get people killed. You make it sound like Greenwich, Connecticut. But the Councilperson for the area Corazon Pineda Isaac praised the column as did many others.

So let's talk about Elm Street and the many bodegas and small supermarkets around Elm Street and around town. What did I find? The 9 Lives cat food for my sisters cat I could find nowhere else. Yes, it was over \$6 versus \$4 at Stop and Shop. But hey, at least they had it!

If all this craziness has got you down, sit down, relax and have a cup of coffee (iced or hot), tea (iced or hot) or caffeine charged lemonades or soft drinks at Panera Bread at Cross County, Central Avenue in Scarsdale, Greenburgh and other locations throughout Westchester County free every day through the 4th of July. I posted on Facebook the Unlimited Sip Club at Panera. \$10.99 a month after July 4th. You deserve a break today!

St. Ann's School

As this column goes to press, no decision has been made on the use of St. Ann's School to educate migrant teens under the auspices of Rising Ground, formerly Leake and Watts, a Yonkers institution for many years. Interesting that the decision is going to be made by the Pastor and not the Archdiocese or Cardinal.

When I first heard of the opposition from the community, I thought of 1988. The Yonkers Housing Desegregation days. Some are comparing that sad time in Yonkers history with the St. Ann's situation. There was talk of putting some of the court ordered housing on the grounds of St. Joseph's Seminary, and the community was in an uproar. There ended up being no housing at the Seminary, and I am not going to rehash commitments that were supposedly made.

St. Ann's School closed in 2019 due to budget cuts in the Archdiocese. A perfectly useful building sits idle that can bring St. Ann's necessary cash. The plan calls for a staff of more than 100 workers for the 200 mostly male migrant children. That's one worker for every two children. The children will be kept at the school only during weekdays and not overnight. The expectation is that the children will be kept with Rising Ground for 90 days and then reunited with families in the United States. Rising Ground will check to be sure no one in their program has any criminal past.

St. Ann's has held information meetings with its parishioners, some of whom are not happy that the school will be used for this purpose. Some mentioned that the school is located in a residential area with little or no parking. Reminds me of the situation at my synagogue. Hundreds of people come for Yom Kippur and Rosh Hashanah. They park on the streets of tony Scarsdale. For 4 days a year it makes no sense to build extensive parking facilities.

I have passed the church many times and there doesn't seem like a parking problem even during Christmas and Easter. Hey, the building was used as a school before! Staff had to find somewhere to park. My guess is in fact the workers, many who will probably take public transportation will meet the clients where they are dorming and accompany them to St. Ann's. Pretty safe situation where the teenagers will at no time be unsupervised.

Whether you are Catholic or Jewish or any other religion, during Easter and Passover we prayed for people everywhere and pledged to help the needy. That's

continued on pg 6-

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Rev. Steve Lopez, Dr. Rosalba Corrado Del Vecchio, Re-Elected to Lead Board of Education



Yonkers Board of Education Unanimously Re-Elects Rev. Steve Lopez, President and Dr. Rosalba Corrado Del Vecchio, Vice President

At the 141th Annual Meeting of the Yonkers Board of Education on May 10, 2022, the Trustees unanimously re-elected Rev. Steve Lopez and Dr. Rosalba Corrado Del Vecchio to serve as president and vice-president respectively for the 2022-2023 school year. Both will serve one-year terms in their leadership posts. Rev. Lopez was appointed in 2013. Mayor Mike Spano re-appointed Rev. Lopez to his second five-year terms as Trustee in May 2018. During his tenure on the Board, Rev. Lopez served as Vice President in 2013, 2014 and 2015. In 2016, he was first elected President and re-elected to the leadership position each consecutive year – 2017, 2018, 2019, 2020 and the 2021-2022 school year. Dr. Rosalba Corrado Del Vecchio was appointed by Mayor Mike Spano in 2017. Dr. Del Vecchio served as Vice President in 2021-2022 school year.

Hudson Valley Challenge, continued from pg 1-

115 miles. -the total trip will be 300 miles Chev has an equipment manager helping him navigate from bike to hike to kayak. "You don't have to follow traditional norms. People who want to live an active lifestyle have a better life overall, with their family and work. Being outdoors and getting your body healthy provides many benefits. I want to encourage everyone, but especially young people that there are things to do only a few minutes away. Whether its kayaking or hiking, or take a family vacation in nature this summer." Chev said that he came up with the idea for the Hudson Vally Challenge because, "I wanted to explore more locally. We have the Hudson Valley which is a great natural resource. But I also wanted to show our youth that you don't have to travel far to find an adventure. I continue to work to connect more with our youth here on the local level, but we are taking this trip and this challenge to everyone around the world." Filming from the Hudson Valley Challenge will be used to create a documentary about the experience. "We are hoping to share this with friends, running clubs, gym classes at school, maybe the Yonkers Film Festival." Along his travels, people have been joining him along the way. "One day its a friend, another day a local running, and then someone on the bike." For anyone who thinks that an hour on a Kayak isn't a full body workout, come down to the YPRC this summer.

That is the whole point of this journey; to try and motivate people to try new outdoor activities. And especially to inspire our youth, after two years of COVID, and too many video games, to give the outdoors a chance and to get you back to physical and mental health. Chev will be heading down to Yonkers this Saturday, May 14, estimated time of arrival between 430-530pm at the Yonkers Pier and the YRPC. A crowd of people are expected to welcome him home for a bit, before he finishes his journey in Mahnattan. YPRC vice-commandore Phil Giller said, "I think Chev is the first person to have made this trip both ways down the Hudson. He wants to introduce young people to outdoor activities and we support him 100%. It's wonderful to see and we look forward to getting more people out in nature to experience this." Anyone interested in donating to all of the positive ideas and initiatives that Chev has, visit www.negusoutdoors.com. But a word of caution. I would catch this rising star before he takes off. Chev Dixon is a wonderful example of a true Yonkers ambassador, someone who cares about his community and the next generation. Thank you for your hard work and for leading by example. What a refreshing story you have provided for our readers. Your story is what Yonkers Rising is all about.

Stop Murdering Black Trans Women



The murders of Kesha Webster, and Miia Love Parker, left are believed to be two of ten killings in 2022 of a transgender person

"You don't have to like us. But respect us enough to not kill us." -TS Candi, Black Trans Nation

By Dennis Richmond Jr.

Kenyatta "Kesha" Webster, 24, was found dead in Jackson, Mississippi, on Saturday, March 26th, 2022. Friends and family held a vigil for the young woman. Her mother, Sharon Taylor, stated, "I want justice for my baby." Miia Love Parker, 25, was shot and killed in Chester, Pennsylvania. According to the Human Rights Campaign, "Miia Love Parker's death is at least the 10th violent killing of a transgender or gender non-conforming person in 2022." There's a trend in America, and most people are clueless about it. Black teenage trans girls and trans women are dying at unprecedented rates. Many trans girls and trans women are dying at the hands of adolescent boys and men. From Florida to Arkansas and Texas to Pennsylvania, trans girls and trans women are bullied, beaten, and brutally slain. Americans must protect teenage trans girls and trans women. Brayla Stone's murder in Sherwood, Arkansas, occurred in June of 2020. Her body was found in a car after she was to death. Brayla will never have the chance to see her 18th birthday because she died at 17-years-old. Bee Love Slater, 23, was killed in Clewiston, Florida, in September of 2019. Her burned body was in a torched car. Muhlaysia Booker's killing happened in Dallas, Texas, in May of 2019. Assaulted the month before, people not only stood and watched the assault, but they also recorded it and shouted transphobic slurs. In May of 2019, she was found dead on arrival. Her cause of death was a gunshot wound. Muhlaysia was 22 years old. Merci 'Pooda' Mack followed me on Instagram. Her murder in Dallas, Texas, occurred in June 2020 after being shot to death at an apartment complex. Merci was 22 years old. These stories are heartbreaking. Kesha, Miia, Brayla, Bee Love, Muhlaysia, and Merci, were four of hundreds of trans teenage girls and trans women murdered within the past two years. If not thousands. TS Candii, 28, of Brooklyn, New York, is the Founder of Black Trans Nation. Her solution to this issue is "learn more about us." She says that folx need "more education." A lot of people base their ideas on their family and their religion. If people come from families that don't respect LGBTQ+ folx, this could spark bigotry and violence later in life. "You don't have to like us." But "respect us enough to not kill us."

Hey AOC, continued from pg. 2-

the 25,000 other jobs for non union New Yorkers who could have worked in the Amazon HQ's? And the businesses surrounding the HQ's who could have opened or expanded? The \$3 Billion in tax incentives proposed by then Governor Cuomo would have resulted in \$125 Billion in additional state revenues through payroll taxes, sales taxes and income taxes from the 25,000 employees at the HQ's. The Staten Island Amazon warehouse that AOC and Bernie were protesting at was built with non union labor, otherwise known as scab labor, some out of state workers who come in and take union jobs, but most from undocumented workers who don't pay payroll taxes. This is how our economy works, and if you are competing against other states, who are offering the same or better to Amazon, then Amazon goes somewhere else. So while AOC claims she is pro-union, and that NYC is a union town, I would ask New Yorkers to think twice and look at the damage done by AOC and those who claim who are pro labor. I have always believed that good paying jobs and education are the key to success. I owned an Elevator manufacturing plant in Astoria Queens, in AOC's district for 25 years until I recently retired. I made my elevator cabs here in NY, and in the United States. I firmly believe that we need to make more of our products here in America, and import less of our products from China and overseas. I always say, "Past Performances Equals Future Promises." And my closing thought to Congresswoman Ocasio-Cortez is, yes, New York City was once a union town. I wish you would have supported the thousands of union jobs that my brothers and sisters in labor would have received if Amazon built their HQ's here in the Big Apple. If that HQ's were built, then perhaps you could have said again, that NYC is a union town. Editor's Note: Frank Spotorno ran for Congress in the 14th District of NY in 2016, before AOC ran in 2018. He is exploring entering the race again this year, as his friends in the district tell him that the same concerns and problems that existed six years ago, still exist today, and nobody is listening. Spotorno received more votes based the ratio of campaign dollars spent, than republican John Cummings, who ran against AOC in 2020, and whose campaign spent \$11 Million. Frank is the co-founder of <https://www.facebook.com/BringOurJobsHome/>.

Send us your letters, opinions, photographs, story ideas and guest columns to: dmurphy@risingmediagroup.com

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Kinship Families Receive Local Preference for Affordable Municipal Housing in Yonkers

Family Service Society of Yonkers to Facilitate Placement

Family Service Society of Yonkers (FSSY) is partnering with Municipal Housing Authority for the City of Yonkers (MHACY) in a joint mission to assist kinship families seeking affordable housing. In this cooperative effort, kinship families (headed by grandparents raising children in the absence of their biological parents) who are seeking affordable housing in Yonkers will receive local preference alongside other groups such as the disabled, veterans and the homeless, making them eligible for priority placement in affordable housing and the receipt of Section 8 vouchers. FSSY Kinship Support Program will facilitate placement of kinship families in affordable housing by performing community outreach and assisting kinship caregivers in completing MHACY's intake forms to determine their eligibility for both municipal housing and section 8 vouchers.

There are over 1,450 grandparents in Yonkers raising grandchildren because their parents are unable to do so. The FSSY Kinship Support Program assists 50 of these families. Over 90% of them fall in the low and extremely low income categories, and 96% are women, most of whom are single grandmothers.

Helen Frankel, Executive Director of FSSY states "Kinship caregivers take the responsibility for raising children when many can barely afford to make ends meet and have inadequate housing. Most are single grandmothers with very low incomes who have taken over caring for traumatized children because their parents are unable to care for them. We are very pleased to partner with MHACY in affording kinship caregivers the assistance they need and hope that other municipalities will also consider taking similar measures to provide adequate and safe housing for kinship families."

Wilson Kimball, President & CEO, Municipal Housing of the City of Yonkers said, "MHACY's past and current relationship with FSSY and its resident coordinators has been very rewarding for our tenants and our staff. We look forward to partnering with FSSY on this new and much-needed service to an incredibly important population."

FSSY GrandPower Advocates identified the critical need for more affordable housing for kinship families and have advocated for expanding affordable housing options for them. According to Sylvia Gaynor, a kinship caregiver and member of FSSY's GrandPower Advocacy Project, "Kinship caregivers face many unique challenges in finding safe, affordable housing in which to raise our children. Many of us are senior citizens with very little financial resources, and some of us live in senior housing. After we take responsibility for our grandchildren we no longer qualify for that senior housing and have to relocate, which we cannot afford. We are very happy that our situation is finally being addressed in Yonkers."

Housing is the most challenging issue the Kinship Support Program staff deals with because of the limited affordable housing – subsidized or on the open market – available to kinship caregivers. Many of these families remain in overcrowded housing in poor condition because they cannot afford to move. The COVID-19 outbreak has presented even greater challenges to these kinship families.

Housing preference for kinship families headed by grandparents will allow some of these families to obtain municipal housing placement or section 8 vouchers. While this will not solve every problem kinship families face, having adequate and safe housing will go a long way toward creating stable, nurturing families in which to raise kinship children.

On This Day in Yonkers History....



White Swan nursing uniforms were the #1 seller in the world and were made in Yonkers

By Mary Hoar, President Emerita Yonkers Historical Society and President Untermyer Performing Arts Council

Monday, May 16th

May 16, 1937: Just as Chief John Reilly was about to address members of the YFD's Holy Name Society for the first time as the head of the department at their annual communion breakfast, he was called to a fire at the Habirshaw Wire and Cable Company plant! Firefighter John Dempsey, President of the society, also rushed out to the fire; he was Reilly's chauffeur. Neither returned to the breakfast held at Gene's Restaurant at 33 South Broadway.

May 16, 1940: James Moseley, Chairman of the Committee of 100, accepted the Exchange Club Achievement Trophy for Yonkers Man Outstanding Achievement for 1939, stating not only was it a "symbol of civic consciousness," but also recognized the Committee's efforts to create "an awakened Yonkers citizenry."

May 16, 1940: George Chisholm, Superintendent of Greystone, the estate of the late Samuel Untermyer, introduced the "topato," a hybrid of the tomato and potato. He claimed the creation was non-fattening and combined the best parts of both.

Tuesday, May 17th

May 17, 1944: Wendell Wilkie's book "One World" quickly was becoming a best seller in Yonkers! Why? Leo Cooper, President of White Swan Uniforms, was so inspired by the book he wanted everyone to have a copy. He purchased the book by the dozens, and gave it to anyone he met who had not read it. By the way, at the time White Swan Uniforms was the world's largest manufacturer of nurses' uniforms.

May 17, 1944: A member of the Union of Orthodox Rabbis of the United States and Canada delegation, Rabbi Alexander Rosenberg of Congregation Ohab Zedek met with American and British officials to discuss the possibility of rescuing Jewish people from Europe. Officials at the meeting were Under Secretary of State Edward Stettinius; Secretary to the President David Niles; Director of the War Refugee Board John Pehle; and British Consul Sir Ronald Campbell. Upon returning to Yonkers, Rosenberg reported the delegation received "great encouragement."

Wednesday, May 18th

May 18, 1945: The Benjamin Franklin Junior High School Flag Day ceremony featured the display of the school's service flag. One blue star represented the 1,586 former students serving in the military, and 42 gold stars represented the Franklin students who had died in the service.

May 18, 1960: Joannah Felicity Touchet Clapton, the heiress who inherited a fortune from the woman who brought her to the US during the Nazi bombings of London, officially returned to classes at Sarah Lawrence College. Although not attending classes, Clapton kept up with her work. To avoid publicity, she was able to campus before graduation as the college agreed to mail her degree.

Thursday, May 19th

May 19, 1923: The Common Council approved the plans drawn by Eleventh Ward's O. J. Gette for the new bathhouse on Linden and Poplar Streets.

May 19, 1932: Although gotten out of bed by the noise, Patrolman John Glus chased after two men who stole his car, firing his revolver at the fleeing car. Although barefoot and wearing his pajamas, he managed to arrest both perpetrators and retrieve the car!

May 19, 1955: Yonkers Raceway filed plans to build a new clubhouse to cost more than \$1.5 million, plans that were immediately rejected! Yonkers Building Superintendent John Balint stated it was turned down because the four-story building with a penthouse was an "extension of a non-conforming use." He had no choice as the track was in a two-family residential zone and extensions were not permitted.

Friday, May 20th

May 20, 1931: The newly organized Yonkers Funeral Directors' Association went on record as being in favor of a city morgue. At that time, police took bodies to various funeral homes on the word on the County Medical Examiner.

continued on pg 6-

CORPORATION NOTICE
CITY OF YONKERS-NEW YORK

PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE

Notice is hereby given, pursuant to law, that the City Council of the City of Yonkers, New York will hold a Public Hearing on Tuesday, May 24, 2022 at 7:00 P.M. in the City Council Chambers, 40 South Broadway, Yonkers, New York on the following resolution, to wit:

PROPOSED RESOLUTION

A PROPOSED RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL APPROVING THE SALE AND THE DESIGNATION OF ST. CLAIR DEVELOPMENT, LLC AS QUALIFIED AND ELIGIBLE SPONSOR FOR THE REDEVELOPMENT OF CERTAIN PROPERTY WITHIN THE RIVERVIEW URBAN RENEWAL AREA OWNED BY THE YONKERS COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AGENCY KNOWN AS 32 MAIN STREET, 1 RIVERDALE AVENUE, AND 3 RIVERDALE AVENUE

VINCENT SPANO, City Clerk

CCLC Trucking LLC. Arts. of Org. filed with the SSNY on 04/06/2022. 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, 440 N Broadway 20, Yonkers, NY, 10701. Purpose: Any lawful purpose.

Notice of formation of SECOND STAR WELLNESS LLC. Arts. of Org. filed with SSNY 03/03/2022. Allison Susan Courtenay designated as registered agent of the LLC upon whom process against it may be served. Allison Susan Courtenay shall mail process to the LLC, 200 Beacon Hill Dr Apt 12E1, Dobbs Ferry NY 10522. Purpose: any lawful activity.

Macy's Shoplifting , continued from pg. 1-

tion from the ACME Supermarket in Yorktown but were interrupted before fleeing in a red or maroon four door sedan.”

Photos of the suspects taken from surveillance at the ACME are online at Yonkerstimes.com and provided by the NYS Police. Here is the story about the Macy's thefts.

Macy's stores across the country have fallen victim to 'Snatch and Grab' shoplifting thefts, primarily consisting of perfume, jewelry and designer bags. On May 2, reports claim that the Macy's at the Cross County Center in Yonkers has had a series of recent robberies at the anchor store of the oldest outdoor shopping center in the US.

News 12 reported that the thefts occurred around the time that Macy's opens during the week-11am, and the most recent reported robbery had the thieves taking \$2500 in perfume, with two similar thefts occurring at the same store recently. Yonkers Police are investigating but have not commented publicly on the Macy's incidents.

For those of us who have shopped Macy's for most of our lives, (I grew with the Macy's in Parkchester in the Bronx, and now shop at the Macy's in the Jefferson Valley Mall), the department store has a large variety of men's and women's purfumes and fragrances.

Most of the colognes and perfumes and behind the counter and require employee assistance. But there are also many gift sets that are out on the countertops. These gift sets now sell for \$100-\$150, and would be easier for the crooks to take 20 of them and walk out with more than \$2000 in merchandise.

It's sad to see Macy's under attack because of all of the difficulties the store had in staying alive during the pandemic. Help Macy's survive if you can. The Macy's in NYC opened in 1858, and of course Macy's sponsors the fireworks on July 4 and the Thanksgiving Day Parade.

Yonkers Rising columnist Eric Schoen has reported on other snatch and grab shopliftings in Yonkers. One at the TJ Maxx at the Mall at Cross County, which is a different retail building next to the Cross County Center. Schoen also witnessed shoplifters running out with as much as they can hold at the CVS on Bronx River Road.

Last year, the Yonkers City Council heard from Pharmacies on South Broadway who were finding it extremely difficult to keep their shelves open because of the rampant shoplifting and senior citizens were complaining that when they went shopping at the of the retain chain pharmacies, there usual items were gone.

For most retail businesses, the more valuable to good that they are selling, the more likely a theft might occur. The Louis Vuitton store at the Westchester in White Plains had a theft if February that went viral.

Notice of formation of Color It Black, LLC. of Org. filed with the SSNY on 01/28/2022. 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 Color It Black LLC, 33 Cliffside Drive, Yonkers, NY 10710 Purpose: Any lawful activity.

NOTICE OF FORMATION of RAINVILLE MCCABE, PLLC. Articles of Organization filed with the Secretary of State of New York (SSNY) on March 25, 2022. Location: Westchester. SSNY designated as agent for service of process on PLLC. SSNY shall mail a copy of process to: The PLLC, 69 Cowles Ave, Yonkers, NY 10704. Purpose: Legal Services.

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Yonkers History , continued from pg. 5-

May 20, 2015: After reports of a black bear sitting in a Yonkers tree at Desmond and Dewitt Avenues for close to 17 hours, NYS officials shot it with a tranquilizer dart. It fell onto a pile of cushioned pads the officials had placed below the tree. The bear, estimated to be about 200 pounds, was brought to New Paltz to be checked and then released in Putnam County.

Saturday, May 21st

May 21, 1934: Chamber of Commerce James Garrity and Chamber Exposition Company President William Katz officially opened the "Own Your Own Home Exposition" at the State Armory. Thousands of people were expected to visit the dozens of booths erected by the exhibitors; each booth had a 24-lamp chandelier, with 100-watt bulbs. It would last a week, with the Model Home at St. John Avenue and Midland Terrace, a French Norman six room house, awarded on the last night. Many of the products were made in Yonkers.

May 21, 1952: Yonkers own Frederick Hill was elected President of the State Association of School Business Officials at the organization's annual convention; he succeeded William Dixon of Syracuse.

Sunday, May 22nd

May 22, 1922: Supreme Court Justice Joseph Morschauer announced an appraisal commission had valued the John Brennan property on North Broadway at \$117,300. The property, 400 feet north of Ashburton Avenue, was to be used to build a high school. Yonkers built the first Longfellow Junior High School here; it later was converted to Commerce High School. Today the facility is Palisades Prep, soon to be Barack Obama High School.

May 22, 1940: The Municipal Housing Authority named a street in the Mulford Gardens area Loehr Place in honor of former Mayor Joseph F. Loehr, mayor of Yonkers from 1932 to 1939.

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

Notice of formation of LaceMafia LLC Arts. of Org. filed with the SSNY on 4/20/2022. Office: Westchester County. SSNY designated as agent of the LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail copy of process to the LLC, 7014 13th Avenue, Suite 202 Brooklyn, NY 11228 . Purpose: Any lawful purpose.

Articles of Organization (DOM-PROF.LLC). Komosinski Law, PLLC filed with the Secy. of State of NY (SSNY) 4/19/2022. Office loc.: Westchester County. SSNY is designated as agent of DOM-PROF.LLC upon whom process against it may be served. The address SSNY shall mail copy of process to Richard F. Komosinski, Esquire, 30 Emmett Pl., Yonkers, NY 10703. Purpose: The practice of Law.

Eric Schoen, continued from pg. 3-

what this is. Pastor Norton said it loud and clear in a letter to Councilman Anthony Merante: 'We believe that we found a more than appropriate use for the school, allowing children to once again enjoy learning in this building while furthering the broader mission of our faith. Rising Ground's program supports children who have undergone extreme trauma by providing a warm and nurturing educational setting. A parish must do more than simply meet the religious worship needs of parishioners; it has an obligation to utilize its resources to meet the charitable, educational needs of its people whenever possible, and the surrounding communities. Our service to those in need is an important tenant of what makes our faith so strong!'

I know the St. Ann's community where I have numerous friends will do God's work and welcome those in need!

What a Coincidence!

So my sister is at the beauty parlor getting her hair done and all the customers keep going up to the owner of the salon saying congratulations. Inquisitive, my sister asked why. The owner of the salons husband, Deputy Chief Chris Sapienza had just been named the new Yonkers Police Commissioner by Yonkers Mayor Mike Spano. What do they say, it's a small world.

Congratulations to Yonkers new Police Commissioner Chris Sapienza. We wish him the best as he continues the tradition of keeping Yonkers as the safe city it is. And best wishes to outgoing Commissioner John Mueller on his retirement! And don't forget to pray for the safety of our Police Officers, Firefighters, Public Works employees in fact all who work for Yonkers!

IN CLOSING, MR. ASTORINO and MR. ZELDIN, tear down the campaign signs you have illegally posted on public property in Yonkers reported to me by many readers!

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

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Notice of formation of Allure Property Pursuits, LLC. Arts. of Org. filed with the SSNY on 03/03/2022. 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 #1104, Yonkers, NY 10710. Purpose: Any lawful activity.

Learn About Warblers at Lenoir Nature Preserve



Warblers: Their Nature and Diversity. Joe Giunta, a teacher and bird walk leader for numerous organizations, will discuss the 35 species of warblers most often seen in migration here: their distribution, abundance, habits, and the challenges of identification. Wednesday, May 25, 7:30 PM. Lenoir Nature Preserve, 19 Dudley St, Yonkers, NY. Masks and vaccinations required. RSVP to info@hras.org appreciated.

Extell Development, continued from pg 1-



Above: a rendering of Hudson Piers from the interior. Below, from left, Yonkers City Council Majority Leader Tasha Diaz; Westchester Deputy County Executive Ken Jenkins; Yonkers Mayor Mike Spano; Extell Development Company Founder and Chairman Gary Barnett; Yonkers IDA Executive Director Jaime McGill, and Extell Development Company Vice President of Development Moshe Botnick



feet of ground floor retail space. Hudson Piers will offer a mix of studio- to-three-bedroom residences. Interiors will feature fully tiled bathrooms, in-unit washer/dryers, premium stainless-steel appliances, Kohler fixtures, separate zones for heating and cooling, and private terraces.

In true Extell style, an array of both indoor and outdoor amenities will complement the property. Outdoor amenities include spacious waterfront recreation terraces with hammocks, fire pits, grilling stations, sundecks, billiards, putting greens, bocce courts, an outdoor swimming pool, and fresh retail. Indoor amenities will include multiple fitness centers, lounges, playrooms, a catering kitchen, basketball gym, screening room, game room, teen rooms, business and conference center and a 24-hour attended lobby. A total of 1,028 covered parking spaces will be provided on the first two floors of the buildings, with an additional 212 on-grade spaces, for a total of 1,240 parking spaces. Each of the buildings will have their own package, storage and bicycle rooms. As an additional convenience, shuttle services will be provided for residents to and from the Yonkers Metro-North train station.

As part of the Hudson Piers project, 1.5 acres of new public parkland will be created as well as a 1.5-mile-long esplanade extension that will adjoin to the existing public waterfront promenade seamlessly integrating the property into the greater Yonkers community. Upon completion, the esplanade will take residents and visitors on a short walk along the river to the train station and further to downtown Yonkers. The project plans also call for the construction of a new elevated roadway to be named Riverside Drive, which will be deeded back to the city.

Hudson Piers is conveniently located near the Yonkers Metro-North station, which provides a direct 28-minute ride to Grand Central Terminal on the Hudson Line. Additionally, five major highways easily connect the site with the rest of Westchester County, Fairfield County, and New York City.

Designed by renowned architectural firm Perkins Eastman, Hudson Piers builds on the remarkable renaissance under way in Yonkers under the administration of Mayor Spano which has seen more than \$4 billion in private investment in new projects with over 9,100 multifamily units planned, completed, under construction and approved for development.

Extell worked closely with the City of Yonkers and the Yonkers Industrial Development Agency to provide the Hudson Piers project with a 20-year PILOT and a 100% abatement on taxes for improvements. It is the largest residential project to receive financial incentives from the Yonkers IDA.

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

YONKERS IDA

A Driving Force Behind the Yonkers Renaissance.

Building on a nearly decade-long economic renaissance, the Yonkers Industrial Development Agency (YIDA) under the leadership of Mayor Mike Spano has been instrumental in providing financial incentives for development projects representing nearly \$5 billion in private investment and more than 9,100 multifamily units planned, completed, under construction and approved for development.

To learn more about the financial incentives provided by the Yonkers IDA, visit yonkersida.com or call (914) 509-8651.



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