

Lincoln HS Valedictorian & Salutatorian to Attend Brown and NYU



Samuel Rodriguez



Liban Abeed

By Dan Murphy

Congratulations to Lincoln High School Valedictorian Samuel Rodriguez and Salutatorian Liban Abeed.

Valedictorian Samuel Rodriguez will graduate with a 101.3 GPA. His favorite teachers are Dr. Kumari Johal (CH Chemistry, AP Chemistry), Mrs. Sunitha Howard (Scientific Research), and Mr. Handsel Minyard (AP English Lang).

"During my freshman and sophomore years, Dr. Johal piqued my interest in Science. Her classes were great platforms to ask questions, and she was always there for me and stayed on top of me to finish my work and stay after school.

"Mrs. Howard was always helpful in getting us the best internships and researching the best opportunities to make sure I get the experience I need."

"I enjoyed Mr. Minyard's English language class. He was super fun and taught me how to become a better writer and write about topics that interest me, like poetry, in a more interesting way.

Samuel's favorite subject is Science. "I was most interested in Science and did very well in it. My teachers were amazing and helped me grow my fascination with Science. You can learn so much about genetics, evolution, and anatomy, which all help me prepare for college and a medical career.

Rodriguez said that his experience in My Brother's Keeper-Yonkers has helped him achieve success at LHS. "I have been a part of MBK for four years. I learned from amazing stories and found a community I belonged to. I got the opportunity to become a fellow and represent our city on the state level.

Through MBK, I got to express my voice, learn from other MBK Chapters, and

continued on pg 12-

Battle of the Boroughs: Yonkers Edition

Brings Olympic-Level Breakin' to Westchester May 24



The rhythm, athleticism, and raw energy of Breakin' will ignite the floor at the Battle of the Boroughs: Yokers Edition on Saturday, May 24, 2025, 1PM-6 PM, at the Montessori School 27 Gymnasium, 132 Valentine Lane.

This high-energy event features youth and adult Breakin'(breakdancing) competitions with \$3,000 in cash prizes (12-Under, 15-Under, & Adults). Dancers from Westchester County, across the five boroughs, and beyond, will display their skills in a celebration of a dance form that has earned a place on the global stage at the Paris 2024 Olympic Games.

The event will also showcase local youth performances and feature special appearances by legendary groups, including the pioneering group that performed for President Ronald Reagan's inaugural gala in 1985, the iconic New York City Breakers led by Yonkers' resident London Reyes. These are only a few of the legends who will be present, expect more surprise appearances and tributes throughout the day.

This fun, family-friendly event will also include vendors selling Hip Hop-inspired products, including apparel, art, and jewelry. Admission is FREE and will happen from 1pm-6pm.

Remember that Breakdancing is now an Olympic sport. The 2024 Paris Summer Olympics included the art-sport Breaking, or Breakdancing, for the first time.

And Westchester has one of the members of the New York City Breakers, one of the first Breaking groups in the country, Yonkers resident London Reyes is organizing this event and is on the lookout for the next Breakin star and maybe Olympian.

Yonkers Public Schools Gets \$30M Increase in State Aid for Education

By Dan Murphy

Yonkers received good news after the NYS Budget was adopted last week. Assemblyman Nader Sayegh reports, "After extensive negotiations, the Legislature and Governor have reached a comprehensive agreement on a 254 Billion dollar state budget, which is made up of nine separate bills. This budget will deliver critical investments in areas that matter most to New Yorkers—especially education, healthcare, social services, tax and file credits, and overall quality of life. Notably, it includes an additional \$30 million in State Aid for Yonkers Public Schools—a 10.76% increase from last year. Along with 12 million dollars in additional special aid to Yonkers. As this process moves forward, I remain focused on delivering a balanced, thoughtful plan that meets the real needs of all our community," said Sayegh.

Mayor Mike Spano said, "Thank you to Governor Kathy Hochul and the State Delegation led by Majority Leader Senator Andrea Stewart-Cousins for delivering for The City of Yonkers. This additional state funding will help Yonkers Public Schools address their needs, specifically in special education.

Thank you for recognizing and opening the door to a change in the school aid formula by factoring in the regional cost index. This is a great first step.

Thank you to our PTA's and teachers for always standing with us to champion our schools and our students. It is for them we continue to stand up for, so they can have the same opportunities as every other child in this state," said Spano.

Council President Collins-Bellamy: Housing Voucher Program Will Have Direct Effect on Preventing Homelessness in Yonkers



City Council President Lakisha Collins-Bellamy, noting that the new State budget will include a housing voucher program that she has been pushing for three years, said the vouchers will directly address increased homelessness in Yonkers and surrounding communities.

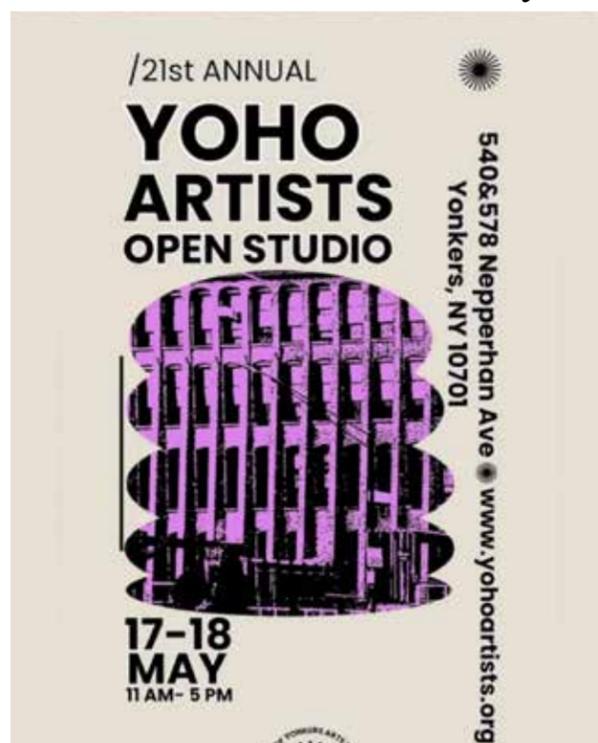
Following the State Legislature's inclusion of the vouchers, which was announced yesterday, Collins-Bellamy said the next step is to prevent the Trump Administration from gutting the federal Section 8 housing voucher program.

"At my request the Yonkers City Council has repeatedly urged the State to implement a housing voucher program to help those who are in imminent danger of losing their homes, so we're pleased that the program has finally made its way into the State Budget," said Collins-Bellamy, "There were an estimated 1,611 homeless people in Yonkers and Westchester County in 2024, and it's increasing, so housing vouchers are essential in order to keep people in their homes, as well as avoiding the much higher cost to the taxpayer of putting people in shelters."

Collins-Bellamy expressed concern, however, that the Trump Administration is proposing harsh limits on the federal Section 8 housing voucher program, which assists millions of lower income Americans with paying their rent. Among those

continued on pg 11-

YOHO Open Studios – 21st Artist Showcase This Weekend -May 17-18 Free



One of our favorite spots for Yonkers Arts weekend is the 21st Annual YOHO Open Studios, which is a cornerstone of the weekend, happening May 17-18 from 11 AM to 5 PM. This special event invites you to explore the studios of over 80 artists working in a wide range of mediums—from painting and sculpture to photography, textiles, ceramics, and more all under one roof at the historic YOHO Artist Studios. Visitors will have the rare chance to meet the artists, view and purchase original works, and experience the creative energy that makes this community so unique.

Visit YonkersArtsWeekend.com for all of the offerings

Yonkers Hero-Sgt. Guillermo Renderos Honored with Purple Heart



Honoring
Sgt. Guillermo Renderos

Purple Heart Recognition: May 10, 2025

★ ★ ★




★ ★ ★

A proud Yonkers native and 2012 Gorton High School graduate, Sgt. Renderos will be honored for his bravery during the Tower 22 drone attack. On May 10th, 2025 surrounded by family, he will receive the Purple Heart alongside fellow New York National Guard heroes from New York's own 101st Expeditionary Signal Battalion.

On January 28, 2024, a drone attack carried out by an Iranian-backed militia struck Tower 22, a U.S. military outpost situated along the Jordan-Syria border. The surprise assault resulted in the tragic deaths of three U.S. Army Reserve Soldiers and left over 50 others wounded. Among those affected were 14 soldiers from C Company of the New York Army National Guard's 101st Expeditionary Signal Battalion—based in Yonkers and Orangeburg.

One of those soldiers is Sgt. Guillermo Renderos, a proud Yonkers resident and 2012 graduate of Gorton High School. A product of the Yonkers Public School system, Sgt. Renderos began his academic journey at Eugenio Maria de Hostos, continued through Commerce Middle School (now the Barack Obama School for Social Justice).

On Saturday, May 10, 2025, Sgt. Renderos was honored with the Purple Heart for the injuries he sustained during the Tower 22 attack. A son of Salvadoran immigrants, Sgt. Renderos will receive this honor surrounded by his wife, children, mother, siblings, and nieces and nephews, reflecting his role as a devoted husband, father, brother, and uncle—as well as a symbol of strength within both his family and his community.

The attack at Tower 22 struck the area of the base where soldiers lived. Though wounded, Sgt. Renderos and his fellow Charlie Company soldiers acted immediately. Those able worked to restore critical communications with the outside world, while others, including combat lifesavers, administered aid to the injured—often while suffering injuries of their own. Those who remained unscathed lined up to donate blood for their wounded comrades.

“The Purple Heart is not an award to be celebrated. Rather, it is a reminder of an event that we witnessed—a date that goes down in history written in blood... It is a reminder of the bravery and sacrifice that my team of incredible Soldiers displayed that day and throughout our deployment to Tower 22.” said 1st Lt. Ian Gallagher, the platoon leader of the group.

Tell Your Kids NOT to Try The Chromebook Challenge on TikTok



IMPORTANT SAFETY NOTICE
DANGEROUS SOCIAL MEDIA TREND INVOLVING CHROMEBOOKS

WHATS HAPPENING?
A dangerous TikTok trend encourages students to use metal objects like paperclips, pencils, or staples to damage Chromebook charging ports. This can cause the batteries to overheat, ignite, or explode, creating serious fire and health risks.

WHY IS IT DANGEROUS ⚠️

- Lithium-Ion batteries release toxic gases like hydrogen fluoride and carbon monoxide.
- These gases can be fatal if inhaled
- Damaged batteries can cause delayed fires or explosions

WHAT TO DO IN AN EMERGENCY

DO NOT TOUCH THE DEVICE
Do not move or try to extinguish it.

EVACUATE THE AREA
Move everyone away immediately

CALL 911
Report a lithium-ion battery emergency

BATTERY DISPOSAL WARNING
In New York State, it is illegal to dispose of damaged lithium-ion batteries in regular trash. Use a qualified cleanup contractor.

HOW YOU CAN HELP?

- Educate students and staff about the dangers.
- Stay alert for signs like damaged charging ports or burned devices.

WESTCHESTER COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF EMERGENCY SERVICES
E-mail: Li-Ion@westchestercountyny.gov Office: (914) 231-1851

Important Safety Message from Westchester County Department of Emergency Services

A dangerous trend on TikTok is encouraging students to damage Chromebooks in ways that can cause lithium-ion battery fires. This is not a harmless prank — it's a serious act that could lead to explosions, toxic smoke, and devastating injuries.

Intentionally damaging these devices isn't just unsafe — it's illegal and may lead to criminal charges. We've been in contact with school officials and local fire departments and are urging everyone to take this threat seriously.

Parents: please talk to your kids.

Students: don't risk your safety or someone else's life.

Let's work together to put an end to this before someone gets hurt!

After going viral on TikTok, the company said it is blocking searches for Chromebook Challenges.

County Executive Ken Jenkins said,

“We want to let everyone know and discourage those kinds of things. Whether you're trying to stick things in the port for the charging that would short-circuit the particular item and then could cause not just a fire, not just noxious fumes and smoke; it is dangerous— people can get hurt.”



Call today and receive a FREE SHOWER PACKAGE PLUS \$1600 OFF

SAFE STEP WALK-IN TUB
1-855-916-5473

With purchase of a new Safe Step Walk-In Tub. Not applicable with any previous walk-in tub purchase. Offer available while supplies last. No cash value. Must present offer at time of purchase. CSLB 1082165 NSCB 0082999 0083445

EASE OF USE CERTIFIED
MADE IN TENNESSEE
BBB ACCREDITED BUSINESS
LIFETIME LIMITED WARRANTY

FINANCING AVAILABLE WITH APPROVED CREDIT



SAVE \$1800
SAVINGS INCLUDE A FREE TOILET & BIDET
PLUS
NO INTEREST and NO PAYMENTS
for **12 MONTHS***
PLUS
50% OFF INSTALL

Transform your bath with a walk-in tub

1-877-418-1237 SCHEDULE A FREE IN-HOME CONSULTATION

*Subject to 3rd party credit approval. Minimum monthly payments required. Offers valid thru 6/30/25

In Home Personal Training

In-Home Personal Training Available. NASM, EMT and Special Needs Certified. Strength Training, Fat Loss, and Muscle Building. Virtual and online coaching available. Text or call Andrew at 914-646-1718.

County Exec. Jenkins Responds to Leg. Nolan's Request to Amend the Immigrant Protection Act

"It is my philosophy that County government works best when its elected officials concentrate on delivering material results for residents, instead of pandering to national political interests,"

--County Executive Ken Jenkins

By Dan Murphy

Westchester County Executive Ken Jenkins responded to a written request from County Legislator James Nolan to amend the county's Immigrant Protection Act, (IPA), with a letter to Nolan. Read our story last week at <https://yonkerstimes.com/county-legislator-nolan-wants-to-revise-the-immigrant-protection-act/>

Jenkins writes, "Dear Legislator Nolan, The Immigration Protection Act (IPA) was adopted out of cooperation between law enforcement and local residents. You seem to misunderstand – the IPA requires the County to comply with federal law, and was celebrated by advocates and law enforcement professionals as a pragmatic compromise on its passage. The Committee Report for the IPA specifically states that the IPA

"... does not create a 'sanctuary' for anyone involved in criminal conduct, but facilitates law enforcement investigation and prosecution of criminal offences." In fact, even according to U.S. Attorney General Pam Bondi's memorandum, issued in February of this year, Westchester does not meet the federal definition of a 'Sanctuary' jurisdiction.

"Now more than ever, we need your support in protecting our residents from federal overreach with the same kind of careful, intentional, bipartisan consideration that produced the IPA. Lawful residents have been deported to foreign prisons to serve indefinite sentences without judicial review; American citizens have been detained and held in federal custody without legal representation. All of this is happening without due process, and in clear breach of the Constitution.

"Moreover, the Trump Administration has already proposed deep cuts to services that our constituents rely on: Westchester County residents may go hungry because of slashed food assistance allocations. One in five Westchester residents rely on Medicaid for their medical care, which the Trump Administration plans to terminate. Seniors on Social Security face delayed or denied payments, making it even harder for them to live as prices continue to rise. The Trump Administration has proposed and enacted these cuts nationwide, regardless of local action not purely as a punitive measure for local policies they dislike.

"It is my philosophy that County government works best when its elected officials concentrate on delivering material results for residents, instead of pandering to national political interests. We would value your partnership to demand that the federal administration and Congress reverse all cuts to programs and services and protect the residents of Westchester County- rather than finding new, creative ways to raise prices, violate our freedoms, deny us medical care, and lower of our quality of life," writes Jenkins.

Weight or Wait!



By Eric Wolf Schoen

If you are like me and grew up in Yonkers, chances are that as a high school student or an adult you visited Weight Watchers at Cross County Mall on the 2nd floor balcony. You had to walk up stairs to the balcony, . You picked up a copy of the then diet, got weighed on a scale, and then sat down to hear everyone's story of how they gained their weight or lost their weight.

This was an emotional experience, the recitation of everyone's story. Far fewer people told about how they ate healthy, nutritional food. Most talked about how they cheated with the A&P coffee cake or slices of pizza during the week, but there were a smattering of folks who got on the scale and did very well.

There was another program the name which escapes me where adults would go and tell their eating woes, and dad would prefer that one as he enjoyed the emotions expressed by the men and women and quite often by himself. Weight loss was a battle for him, and who knows, maybe it was Supportive when he listened to others tell their dieting tales as tears would role down his eyes.

The Weight Watchers diet would change from caloric to low carb to a version of the current hot diet on the market. Just look at some ones shopping cart at the A & P and you would tell if they were on Weight Watchers or one of the other popular diets. Weight WATCHERS always stressed that no pills were required.

But hark, after these many years and with all the new highly effective weight loss pills on the market, this week Weight Watchers has gone to the pills. And you can order the pills and diet plan right on the phone.

No more meetings, no more shedding tears, no more daddy shedding tears while mom was looked on as the teary man's wife and me his son. Give it 5 years and they will come up with a new diet!

40 Year old Airplanes?

Why is it in this great land we live in we fly the the Presidents in 40 year old, airplanes? If his airplane is 40 years old imagine how old the planes the Vice President, his Cabinet membership and his advisors are. We build hundreds of planes every year for government use, and we fly the President in a 40 year old flying machine?

Do we take pride in the leader of this land ? Should he, whether it be Obama, Trump, Clinton, or Franklyn Roosevelt be riding in a newer plane.This story reminds me of the rats Barbara Bush found while She was swimming in the White House pool. Isn't there Something we can do to keep rats out of the President's pool? Or do we not care?

I think we need to straighten out the priorities of this country. We should not have to have a Qatar or anywhere else donate to this country,

Take some time Mr. Trump. Let's put some pride back in America!

Reach Eric Schoen at ewschoen@jcloud.com

Buying Comics!

Looking for 1960's-1990's

I PAY CASH! Located in Yonkers

Text or call Andrew at 914-646-1718.

LeafFilter
GUTTER PROTECTION

CALL TODAY FOR A FREE INSPECTION!
1-855-478-9473

20% OFF + **10% OFF**
Your Entire Purchase* Seniors + Military

++ We offer financing that fits your budget!
Promo: 285

* See Representative for full warranty details. *One coupon per household. No obligation estimate valid for 1 year. 1Subject to credit approval. Call for details. AR 366920923, AZ ROC 344027, CA 1035795, CT HIC.0671520, FL CBC056678, IA C127230, ID RCE-51604, LA 559544, MA 176447, MD MHC111225, MI 262300173, 262300318, 262300328, 262300329, 262300330, 262300331, MN IR731804, MT 226192, ND 47304, NE 50145-22, 50145-23, NJ 13VH09953900, NM 408693, NV 86990, NY H-19114, H-52229, OR 218294, PA 179643, 069383, RI GC-41354, TN 10981, UT 10783658-5501, VA 2705169445, WA LEAFFNW822JZ, WV WV056912.

SAVE ON YOUR

Travel Plans!

Up to **75%**
more than **500 Airlines**
and **300,000 Hotels** across the world!

Let us do the research for you for free... we'll save you time and money



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

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

We Buy Houses!

Liz Buys Houses Connects Home Sellers with Legitimate Cash Buyers Nationwide!
No Repairs. No Fuss.

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



Liz Buys
HOUSES

CALL (888) 704-5670

Del Vecchio & Burns Re-elected Yonkers Board of Education President & Vice-President

YONKERS PUBLIC SCHOOLS

BOARD OF EDUCATION

Dr. Rosalba Corrado Del Vecchio
Board of Education President

Ms. Gail Burns
Board of Education Vice President

The Yonkers Board of Education unanimously re-elected Dr. Rosalba Corrado Del Vecchio as President and Trustee Gail Burns as Vice President for a one-year term.

Yonkers Public Schools congratulates Dr. Del Vecchio and Ms. Burns and thanks them for their steadfast leadership and continued commitment to advancing the success of all students across the District. Their service remains a cornerstone of the Board's mission to foster excellence, equity, and innovation in public education.

Third Precinct Police Community Council

Third Precinct Police Community Council will hold its next regular meeting on Wednesday, May 21 7:30 PM at the Chema Community Center. Residents and merchants of the southwest Yonkers area are strongly urged to attend this important community meeting. Usual quality of life concerns will be discussed. For further information please contact Captain Mike Mulvey at 914 377-7427.

World War II-Era Yonkers Home News Papers Now Available at Yonkers Public Library

Yonkers Public Library (YPL) is thrilled to announce that the Yonkers Home News is now available, thanks to a \$4,315 grant awarded in July 2024 by Metropolitan New York Library Council (METRO). The entire run of The Yonkers Home News is now searchable online through METRO's DCMNY (Digital Culture of Metropolitan New York).

The Yonkers Home News was published between June 17, 1941 and January 29, 1946 and was sent to more than 15,000 service members around the world during World War II, sharing local Yonkers news vignettes and social history. YPL owns the entire run of the paper, which consists of 244 volumes totaling 1,958 pages. The paper is now viewable and keyword searchable online through the Yonkers Digital Archives and also through the Digital Culture of Metropolitan New York (DCMNY).

"As the living memory of World War II is fading, efforts to preserve and share local experiences of it are more important than ever. Digitizing the Yonkers Home News is an important way to ensure that the stories of Yonkers and Yonkersites during World War II endure." said Jesse Montero, Library Director.

The Yonkers Home News was published during the time the Alexander Smith & Sons Carpet Company was the largest employer in Yonkers. The factory, established in 1865, was a major employer until the company left the city in the mid-20th century. During its existence, the company drew generations of immigrants from Eastern and Western Europe to settle in Yonkers, and many of those descendants still live in the area. The company operated in Yonkers until 1954, and the factory buildings and workers' housing remained standing and were named a national historic district in 1983.

The Yonkers Home News offers a treasure trove of information on the people and culture of Yonkers, designated by the National Park Service in 2023 as a World War II American Heritage City for New York State.

"Yonkers played a pivotal role during World War II, both overseas and here at home. Digitizing the Yonkers Home News will make it easier to discover the heroism and resilience of Yonkersites during that important time." said Yonkers Mayor Mike Spano.

City Historian Mary Hoar reminds us that "During World War II, sacrifices of Yonkers' people were legendary; our united focus was to do everything possible to 'Bring our boys back home!' All Yonkers had a family member or friend serving our country. Online access to Yonkers Home News will unveil a time when Yonkers came together in strength, commitment, and purpose, revealing the true story of what perhaps was Yonkers' finest hour."

YPL already offers access to over 2.8 million pages of searchable Westchester newspapers including the Yonkers Herald Statesman through Yonkers News Archive, a partnership with newspapers.com.

Be prepared before the next power outage.

It's not just a generator. It's a power move.

Receive a free 5-year warranty with qualifying purchase* - valued at \$535.

Call 877-516-1160 to schedule your free quote!

*Terms and Conditions apply. **GENERAC**

NEW YORK HOMEOWNERS:

- **Need a NEW ROOF and HELP PAYING for it?** Any leaking, visible damage, or roof age qualifies!
- **Money flying out of old, drafty WINDOWS?** You may qualify for new energy efficient windows!

NEW 2025 FUNDING PROGRAMS AVAILABLE NOW!

888-849-9991
or visit NyProgramFunding.com



Enrollment is only open during a limited time. Programs, appointments, and installations are on a first come, first serve basis in your area.

HELP IS AVAILABLE EVEN IF YOU COULD PAY CASH

Approved applications will have the work completed by a quality repair crew provided by: HOMEOWNER FUNDING. Not affiliated with State or Gov Programs. License NY:RC-H-21274

Read it all Online at Yonkerstimes.com

DENTAL Insurance

Physicians Mutual Insurance Company

FREE Information Kit

A less expensive way to help get the dental care you deserve!

- ✓ Get help paying dental bills and keep more money in your pocket
- ✓ This is real dental insurance - NOT just a discount plan
- ✓ You can get coverage before your next checkup

Don't wait! Call now and we'll rush you a FREE Information Kit with all the details.

1-855-225-1434
Visit us online at www.dental50plus.com/nypress

Product not available in all states. Acceptance is guaranteed for one insurance policy/certificate of this type. This specific offer is not available in CO, NY; call 1-800-969-4781 for a similar offer. In NY: To find a provider in the network visit us at www.physiciansmutual.com/networkofdentists. For complete details about this solicitation of insurance, please contact us. Certificate C250A, Insurance Policy P150, Certificate C254 (ID, C254ID, PA, C254PA), Insurance Policy P154 (GA, P154GA, NY, P154NY, OK, P154OK, TN, P154TN) 6129-0524

See Your Ad Here: Business Card Special

3 Months-\$299.00

6 Months-\$499.00

12 Months -\$899.00

email_risingmediagroup@gmail.com

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

Construction Industry Council Praises Historic Increase in Road Repair Funding in NYS Budget

On This Day in Yonkers History....



Early Postcard of Larkin Plaza

The Construction Industry Council of Westchester and the Hudson Valley (CIC) today applauded the New York State Legislature and Governor Kathy Hochul for the significant increase in road repair funding included in the newly adopted 2025-26 state budget.

The budget allocates an additional \$800 million for the NYS DOT Core Program and an extra \$50 million for the Consolidated Local Street and Highway Improvement Program known as CHIPS.

"In a challenging financial year, it is particularly gratifying that the governor and legislators recognized the need for additional funding that keeps pace with inflation and enables us to engage in a robust road repair program," said John Cooney Jr., Executive Director of the Construction Industry Council of Westchester and the Hudson Valley. "This significant commitment will allow us to make real progress in improving the safety and reliability of our infrastructure throughout the Hudson Valley. We extend our sincere thanks to Governor Hochul, Senate Majority Leader Andrea Stewart-Cousins, and the entire Hudson Valley state legislative delegation for their leadership and unwavering support."

This landmark investment comes at a critical time for the region, particularly within the New York State Department of Transportation's Region 8, which the CIC serves. Region 8, encompassing Westchester, Rockland, Putnam, Orange, Dutchess, and Ulster counties, faces the most challenging road conditions in the entire state.

The increased allocations directly address the dramatic inflationary pressures that have significantly impacted the cost of road projects.

The adopted budget earmarks a total of \$3.4 billion for the CORE program, representing a substantial 37% increase over the previous year. This additional funding will enable the state DOT to complete crucial projects outlined in its current five-year plan, which is now in its fourth year.

The CHIPS program will receive a total of \$648 million, an 8.4% increase from the prior year. This boost in funding for local roads will have a tangible impact on communities throughout the Hudson Valley. For example, a community like Ossining is projected to see an 8% to 9% increase in state funding for vital local road repairs.

The CIC emphasized that this increased funding will not only improve road conditions for residents and businesses but will also create and sustain vital jobs within the construction industry throughout the region.

The Construction Industry Council of Westchester & the Hudson Valley, Inc. (CIC) is a non-profit trade association representing contractors, subcontractors, suppliers, and other firms engaged in the construction industry in Westchester, Rockland, Putnam, Orange, Dutchess, and Ulster counties (New York State Department of Transportation Region 8). The CIC works to promote a healthy and robust construction industry through advocacy, education, and collaboration.

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

Monday, May 19th

May 19, 1938: Ridge Road resident Father Emanuel Awdishou had his day in NY Supreme Court; he had instituted a \$45,000 lawsuit against the Yonkers Police Department for false arrest! He told the jury he was an Assyrian priest. He was conducting a service at St. Andrew's Memorial Church when three detectives stopped the service and arrested him for being a "fake priest" who entered this country illegally. He claimed he was beaten, called "vile names" and had his clothes torn while at Police Headquarters.

May 19, 1941: Fourteen Immigration Aides and fifty-seven Yonkers police officers questioned one thousand people, part of a national drive to round up undocumented aliens. After questioning people in clubs, dancehalls, taverns, restaurants, pool halls and bowling alleys, they arrested just four men. The four men, from Spain, Portugal and Holland, were taken to Ellis Island after being booked at Police Headquarters. The men had "jumped ship," one revealing he feared for his life sailing the Atlantic to the US; he had seen and heard ships torpedoed, stating, "I run away. No more Boom-Boom for me. Yonkers nice place. I want to stay."

Tuesday, May 20th

May 20, 1918: Countess Laura de Turczynowicz addressed more than 800 people at the YMCA, speaking about her experiences in Poland during the German occupation and the need for assistance with the Polish War Relief. She wrote a book describing her time in Poland during World War I; When the Prussians Came to Poland was published in 1916.

May 20, 1931: Forty New York women, members of Women's Organization for Prohibition Reform, stopped their motorcade in the Plaza at noon as the first stop of a two-week tour. Two hundred people, mostly men, attended their passionate meeting urging repeal of the 18th Amendment.

Wednesday, May 21st

May 21, 1943: One hundred St. Mark's Evangelical Lutheran Church mothers recorded their voices to send to the parish's 128 collective sons serving in the Armed Forces.

May 21, 1946: As part of the celebration of Yonkers' tercentennial observance, Yonkers Library Trustees visited the Reference Room to view the collection of portraits of Yonkers' former mayors, lent by City Hall. The portraits, usually hung in the Mayor's Reception Room, were exhibited in the Library Reference Room, with a biographical sketch underneath each one. Only the last two mayors, Benjamin Barnes and Curtis Frank, were missing, but their portraits were promised.

Also on exhibit was the 1936 marker showing where Adrian Van der Donck built his grist mill ca. 1646, on the site of the Diamond K Market, corner of Main Street and Warburton Avenue. The Tercentennial Commission planned to mount the marker on a pedestal and place it opposite the Manor Hall.

Thursday, May 22nd

May 22, 1923: Thanks to memorabilia owned by Valentine Lane's Carl Lachmund, an outstanding Yonkers musician who studied music with Franz Liszt, an article in the June issue of Shadowland magazine featured Lachmund's experiences while a student and friend of the composer.

Lachmund's collection of Liszt historical documents and photos was one of the most valuable in America!

continued on pg 12-

SAVING A LIFE EVERY 11 MINUTES!

I'm never alone

Life Alert® is always here for me.

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

Batteries Never Need Charging.

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

BOGO 40% OFF
Minimum purchase of 4

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

OFFER ENDS 8/31

TOLL FREE 888-448-0421

RENEWAL by ANDERSEN
FULL-SERVICE WINDOW & DOOR REPLACEMENT

Get **40% off your kitchen install.**

Kitchen Magic
KITCHEN & BATH SOLUTIONS

Experience a new standard of service every step of the way.

Learn more and schedule your free design consultation.

(855) 281-6439

*Discount applies to the installation of new cabinets and refacing only. Minimum of \$10,000 project value. Offer valid on new customer agreements only. Offer valid through June 30th, 2025. Offer may not be combined with other offers. Nassau: H1759490000 Suffolk: 18163-H NY/Rockland: 5642.

Notice of formation of S2K REAL ESTATE HOLDINGS, LLC. Arts. of Org. filed with the SSNY on 12/09/2024. 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 NCH REGISTERED AGENT, 42 BROADWAY, FL 12-200, NEW YORK, NY, 10004-3892. Purpose: Any lawful activity.

Notice of Formation of JJJ Roadside Solution, LLC. Arts. of Org. filed with SSNY on 01-07-2025. Office location: Westchester County. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process may be served. SSNY shall mail process to Joel Armando Mena, 25 Knowles Street, Yonkers, New York 10705. Purpose: any lawful act or activity.

Name of formation of THEOAK LLC. Date of filing Articles of Organization with the Secretary of State (SSNY) 6/14/24. The LLC is located in Westchester County. The SSNY has been designated as agent of the LLC upon whom process against it may be served. The post office address to which the SSNY shall mail a copy of any process against it served is to the principal business location at c/o 669 Main Street, Unit 605, New Rochelle NY 10801. Purpose: any lawful act or activity.

Notice of Formation of FUSE WORKS LLC. Articles of Organization filed with the Secretary of State of New York (SSNY) on 04/11/2025. Office location: Westchester County, NY. SSNY is designated as agent of the LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail a copy of process to: 54 Brosnan Pl, Tuckahoe, NY 10707. Purpose: Any lawful purpose.

Notice of formation of BLUEPRINTS AND BEYOND LLC. Arts of Org. filed with Secretary of State of New York (SSNY) on February 4th, 2025. 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 the process to the LLC: 70 Ashburton Avenue, Apt. 7H, Yonkers, New York, 10701. Purpose: Any lawful purpose.

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

Notice of Formation of OnPoint Home Designs LLC. Arts. of Org. filed with the SSNY on 8/28/2024. 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, 14 Crosby Court, Cortlandt Manor NY 10567. Purpose: Any lawful purpose.

NOTICE OF FORMATION OF Whispering Hearth, LLC. Arts. of Org. filed with the SSNY on 03/12/2025. Office Location: Westchester County. SSNY has been designated as agent of the LLC upon whom process against it may be served. The address to which the Secretary of State shall mail a copy of any process against the LLC is: 3 Orlando Ave, Ardsley, NY 10502. Purpose: Any lawful activity.

Notice of formation of LIQUID ASSET SERVICES LLC. Application for Authority Filed with the SSNY on 12/05/2024. Office: Westchester County. SSNY designated as agent of the LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail copy of process to THE LLC, 46 LINCOLN AVENUE, PORT CHESTER, NY 10573. Purpose: any lawful act or activity.

NOTICE OF FORMATION of Super Smart Future LLC. Arts. of Org. filed with Sec. of State of NY (SSNY) on 04/20/2023. Office Location: Westchester County. SSNY designated as agent of the LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: Super Smart Future LLC, 58 Valley Rd, Katonah, NY 10536. Purpose: any lawful activity.

Notice of formation of IT TAKES ALL KINDS PICTURES, LLC. Arts. of Org. filed with the SSNY on 03/21/2025. Office: Westchester County. SSNY designated as agent of the LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail copy of process to the LLC, Republic Registered Agent Services Inc. 54 State Street Suite 804 Albany, NY 12207. Purpose: Any lawful

Notice of Formation of SteenShotz LLC. Arts. of Org. filed with the SSNY on 03/12/2025. Office Location: 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, 343 South 3rd Avenue, Mt. Venron NY 10550. Purpose: Any lawful activity.

Notice of formation of 1M Consulting LLC filed with the SSNY on 11/05/2024 with the existence date as 01/01/2025. Office: Westchester County. SSNY designated as agent of the LLC upon whole processes against it may be served. SSNY shall mail copy of processes to the LLC, 3 Ward Street, Hastings-on-Hudson, NY 10706. Purpose: Any lawful activity.

Notice of formation of Bridgeway Physical Therapy, PLLC. Arts. of Org. filed with the SSNY on 12/05/2024. Office: Westchester County. SSNY designated as agent of the PLLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail copy of process to the PLLC, 50 Clinton Place PH5, New Rochelle, NY 10801. Purpose: Provide Physical Therapy Care

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

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

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

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

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

1. Bid No. RFB-7374A – Opening date: 05/30/2025: Twelve-month contract, with option to renew for 12-months, to provide parts and repair services as needed for John Deere equipment (FB).

2. Bid No. RFB-7454 – Opening date: 06/06/2025: Twelve-month contract for the purchase of various paper and cleaning products for the Yonkers School District Department of Food Services, as needed (NG).

3. Bid No. RFB-7455 – Opening date: 05/30/2025: Twelve-month contract, with option to renew for 12-months, to provide on-call inspections and repair services for aerial lift trucks (FB).

4. Bid No. RFB-7456 – Opening date: 06/06/2025: Twelve-month contract, with option to renew for 12-months, to provide on-call machine shop fabrication services (FB).

5. Bid No. RFB-7457 – Opening date: 06/06/2025: Thirty-six-month contract, with option to renew for 12-months, to provide on-call inspections and repair services for Fire apparatus pumping systems (FB).

6. Bid No. RFB-7458 – Opening date: 06/06/2025: Purchase of one Research Electronics International TTK Tactical TSCM Kit, or Yonkers approved equal, to detect electronic bugs (VB).

7. Bid No. RFB-7459 – Opening date: 06/06/2025: Purchase of 5 each Chicago Pneumatic, or Yonkers approved equals, rock drills, clay digger shovels, jack hammers, and chipping hammers (AC).

8. Bid No. RFB-7460 – Opening date: 06/06/2025: Purchase of 75 Fire-Dex FDXL90 fire boots, or Yonkers approved equal, and 75 Team Wendy SAR, or Yonkers approved equal, tactical fire helmets (VB).

9. Bid No. RFB-7461 – Opening date: 06/06/2025: Purchase of 75 sets of Honeywell Morning Pride MR1, or Yonkers approved equal, firefighter turnout gear (VB).

10. Bid No. RFB-7462 – Opening date: 05/30/2025: Purchase of various pool chemicals for the Yonkers Public School District (NG).

11. Bid No. RFB-7464 - Opening date: 06/06/2025: Purchase of Kappler Frontline® 500 FR / Chemical Protection Suits Item# F5H582-91 for the Fire Department. (VB)

12. Bid No. IFB-7463 – Opening date: 06/13/2025: 345 McLean Avenue site work to include sidewalk and street improvement for the proposed construction of a new building to serve as a senior residences. (MM)

13. Bid No. IFB-7221 – Opening date: 06/13/2025: 30-Inch water main replacement under the Saw Mill River Parkway from Wendover Road to Tibbets Brook Park (TC).

T-Mobile Northeast LLC (T-Mobile) proposes the modification of an existing telecommunications facility installed on an existing 68' building at 20 Buckingham Road in Yonkers, Westchester County, New York (Job #62005).

In accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 and the 2005 Nationwide Programmatic Agreement, T-Mobile is hereby notifying the public of the proposed undertaking and soliciting comments on Historic Properties which may be affected by the proposed undertaking. If you would like to provide specific information regarding potential effects that the proposed undertaking might have to properties that are listed on or eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places and located within 1/2 mile of the site, please submit the comments (with Job #62005) to: Ramaker, Contractor for T-Mobile, 855 Community Dr, Sauk City, WI 53583 or via e-mail to history@ramaker.com within 30 days of this notice.

**Read it all Online
at Yonkerstimes.com**

**"The key to the future of the world is finding
the optimistic stories and letting them be known."**

-Pete Seeger-

Ballroom Plus: Dance Meets Mental Wellness in Westchester



Xoey West

By: Dennis Richmond, Jr.

May is Mental Health Awareness Month—a time to spotlight the importance of emotional well-being and the ways we care for ourselves and each other. For many, especially within LGBTQ+ and marginalized communities, mental health support isn't always easily accessible. But healing can take many forms, and sometimes, it looks like movement, music, and unapologetic self-expression.

That's where Ballroom Plus, the groundbreaking app created by Xoey West, comes in. What started as a dream in 2016 is now a global digital platform centered on ballroom culture—a space historically created by and for queer and trans communities of color seeking refuge, celebration, and connection.

More Than Just an App—A Safe Space for the Soul

Originally from Baltimore, MD, and now living in Richmond, VA, Xoey is more than a tech founder. She's a full-time nursing facility worker and a student of both cosmetology and business management. A proud trans woman, she is channeling her experience into a digital tool that empowers others. "The app itself was created to make a space specifically for our community—especially ballroom," she says. "A place just like how ballroom was created years ago: as a safe space."

That safe space now lives in the form of Ballroom Plus, an app that includes live streaming, real-time chat, comment threads, trending audio, a "find a ball" feature, and even an online store. It's perfect for folks in Westchester County—and beyond—who are looking for a joyful, affirming outlet to unwind, connect, and even heal.

And when it comes to mental health, these connections matter. Dance has long been shown to reduce stress, release endorphins, and even support trauma recovery. For people facing anxiety, isolation, or depression, the sense of community that ballroom fosters—digitally or in-person—can be lifesaving.

"We're the #1 app for ballroom," Xoey says proudly. "All of our features are about building real-time bonds that stretch worldwide."

From Vision to Vitality

The app officially launched in 2024 after years of planning and two years of development. With the support of co-founders, international developers, friends, and family, Xoey created a platform that resonates deeply with a global audience.

In light of conversations about social media censorship and mental health implications of major platforms, Ballroom Plus arrives as a refreshing alternative: not built for likes or virality, but for authenticity and belonging.

"People are slowly switching, and the community response has been amazing," Xoey says. "We have a 5-star rating across both platforms."

Dance as a Form of Healing

Ballroom culture is rooted in movement—voguing, runway, old way, new way. These aren't just dance styles; they are acts of resistance, survival, and joy. Research shows that dance therapy can improve mood, increase body confidence, and strengthen social bonds—all key to good mental health.

In ballroom spaces, people are encouraged to own their stories, perform their truth, and be celebrated for it. That's the kind of energy that Ballroom Plus brings to users worldwide—from New York to Brazil to France.

Preserving the Past, Nourishing the Present

More than a social platform, Ballroom Plus is a digital archive of a thriving culture. "The misconception is that ballroom is still underground. It's not," Xoey clarifies. "With every swipe on our app, you see an art form that is mainstream."

Through Amazon Web Services, Ballroom Plus securely stores ballroom events, lingo, and trends, making it a tool for education, preservation, and empowerment.

"We've come out of the group chats and private Facebook groups. Now, you can open an app and find a ball anywhere in the world. It's never been done before!"

A Reminder: You Are Not Alone

During Mental Health Awareness Month, it's especially important to uplift voices like Xoey's—voices that remind us of the power of community, creativity, and movement. As a trans woman navigating tech, business, and wellness, Xoey's journey is one of resilience.

"I don't have much experience in the tech industry, but I'm working my way in," she says. Her message is loud and clear: "The sky is the limit. Dream big and go after it."

Whether you're in Westchester or across the globe, whether you're struggling or thriving, Ballroom Plus is there. Download it. Dance a little. Heal a lot.

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

Westchester County Beaches to Open Memorial Day Weekend-Pools to Open June 27

Celebrate the unofficial start of summer with a trip to the beach as Croton Point Beach in Croton-on-Hudson, Glen Island Beach in New Rochelle and Playland Beach in Rye will open on a pre-season basis, Saturday, Sunday and Monday, May 24, 25 and 26, weather permitting.

The beaches will be open weekends and holidays only through Sunday, June 22, then Glen Island and Playland Beaches will open daily beginning Friday, June 27 and Croton Point Beach will be open Saturdays, Sundays and holidays through Labor Day, Monday, Sept. 1. Hours are 11 a.m. to 6:30 p.m., with last entry at 6 p.m.; proof of Westchester County residency is required at Glen Island. Entry and parking fees apply.

Beginning Friday, June 27, all five County-owned pools: Playland Pool in Rye, Saxon Woods in White Plains, Sprain Ridge and The Brook at Tibbetts in Yonkers and Willson's Waves Pool in Mt. Vernon, will open daily through Labor Day, from 11 a.m. to 6:30 p.m., with last entry at 6 p.m.; entry fees apply at all facilities and parking fees apply at Tibbetts Brook Park. Proof of residency is required at all pools.

Westchester County Executive Ken Jenkins said: "Westchester County's pools and beaches are stunning local treasures—perfect for people to unwind, soak up the summer sun, and create lasting memories with family and friends. Whether you're going for a swim or relaxing on the beach, our parks offer something special for all to enjoy. I'm thrilled to welcome everyone back to our exceptional pools and beautiful beaches for a memorable summer in Westchester County."

Commissioner of the Westchester County Department of Parks, Recreation and Conservation Kathy O'Connor said: "Summer is our busiest—and most exciting—time of year. Our pools and beaches are open, and our wide variety of countless activities and programs throughout the County are packed with fun. I can't wait to see our parks filled with families, friends and smiles."

Westchester County residency is required at Glen Island Park, Saxon Woods Pool, Sprain Ridge Pool, The Brook at Tibbetts and Willson's Waves Pool. Proof of residency must be shown with either a Westchester County Park Pass or a New York State driver's license showing a valid Westchester County address. Admission fees apply at all of the beach and pool facilities and parking fees apply at Tibbetts Brook Park, Croton Point and Glen Island. Park Passes also offer discounted admission and parking and are available at a variety of locations.

This year, Saxon Woods is celebrating its 100th anniversary and will launch a 100-Lap Challenge along with a variety of other activities to mark this milestone. Family Fun Days, DJ Days and the Sand Art Competition at Glen Island will also return; dates to be announced. Participation is free; admission and parking rules apply.

In Trouble with the IRS or the NYS Tax Department?

In trouble with the IRS or the New York State Tax Department? I can help. My name is Gerald Snyder, and I am an enrolled agent and a former IRS Group Manager. I have successfully represented clients before the IRA and the NYS Tax Department for over 25 years. I resolve liens, levies, seizures, income tax and sales audits, and penalties and trust fund recovery issues. I also handle unfiled tax returns.

I operate from convenient offices at 73 Market Street in Ridge Hill, Yonkers, NY. My fees are reasonable and I offer a free initial consultation. I offer in person meetings. Why deal with an unknown person online when you can meet with me in person?

For more information, call me at 914-793-5654 or email me at thasnyder1@verizon.net.

Have Computer Problems?

Get
\$20 OFF
Any Service

Use Coupon Code
42513



Friendly Certified
Computer Repair Experts

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

Call Now
Get a Free Diagnosis
866-848-0045

Geeks OnSite

**BUYING COMIC BOOK
COLLECTIONS!**

★ TOP PRICES PAID! ★

Honest and Reliable, 30+ years experience. Local Collector/Seller
Putnam/Westchester/Orange/Dutchess and more

Call or text: 917-699-2496 • email: smileLP@aol.com

Hope to hear from you! Thanks!

Send us your letters, announcements, opinions,

photos and story ideas to

dmurphy@risingmediagroup.com

Read it all Online at Yonkerstimes.com

Brianna Bock Named Yonkers Police Commissioner for a Day



Congratulations to Brianna Bock for winning the PAL's Police Commissioner for a Day Contest! Her incredibly well-written essay, which focused on Officer appreciation, youth representation in community discussions, and youth/police trust, solidified her spot as the winner for this category.

Brianna got a lot accomplished during her tour yesterday, including doing some important paperwork, attending a county-wide awards ceremony supporting some YPD Officers who received awards, and even dishing out some discipline! Special thanks to Maria Regina High School for letting us borrow her for the day!

AMVETS and Students Pay Tribute at Park Hill War Memorial



Paying tribute to our fallen neighbors ahead of Memorial Day. Mayor Mike Spano joined the Armando Rausi AMVETS Post 40 to commemorate the lives of Yonkers residents from the Park Hill neighborhood who died while serving our country. This memorial was dedicated in 1959. I encourage you to stop by, pray, and reflect on the 49 people who sacrificed for us.

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

LET'S TALK

ABOUT OPTIMIZING YOUR HEALTH

WITH HOWARD LUKS, MD
ORTHOPEDIC SURGEON

MAY 22ND | 1:00PM-2:00PM

GERARD J. BYRNE CENTER
11 Olympic Lane | Ardsley, NY 10502

RESERVE YOUR SEAT TODAY! [CLICK HERE](#)



CAN'T ATTEND?
WATCH LIVE!

Adding Inish Community & Cultural Center • Ardsley Parks & Recreation • Ardsley Senior Center • Briarville Community Center
City of Yonkers • Community Baptist Church • Department of Veterans Services - City Of Yonkers • Hastings Community Center
Irvington Community Center • Westchester Jewish Community Services • Yonkers Pathways to Success
Yonkers Neighborhood Natively Occurring Retirement Community (NNORC) • Yonkers Public Library



NEW MEMBERS

WIN UP TO
\$500
FREE SLOT PLAY

ENTRIES TO
WIN A
NEW



CHEVY

Saturday, May 31 • 10pm

*Actual model and color may vary.

Enrico Fermi Educational Fund of Yonkers Awards \$55,000 in College Scholarships to Ten Westchester Students



Photo by Donna Davis

The Enrico Fermi Educational Fund of Yonkers proudly announces the 2025 scholarship recipients, honored at the 62nd Annual Scholarship Breakfast held on Sunday, May 4, 2025, at Mulino’s at Lake Isle in Eastchester, New York.

Founded over six decades ago by Mike Vitulli and fellow community leaders, the Enrico Fermi Educational Fund of Yonkers (“Enrico Fermi”) remains steadfast in its mission: to support the academic aspirations of high school seniors with traceable Italian heritage. While originally focused on Yonkers students, the scholarship now extends across Westchester County, reflecting its growing reach and impact.

This year, ten graduating high school seniors with traceable Italian heritage were awarded scholarships totaling \$55,000 in recognition of their academic excellence, leadership, and commitment to community service. The 2025 awards include six scholarships to Yonkers residents, three countywide scholarships, and one countywide science scholarship.

Also at the Breakfast, the Enrico Fermi Educational Fund paid tribute to two long-time supporters, Lucia Trovato, a former Trustee, and Peter Smith of the Thomas and Agnes Carvel Foundation, who passed away within the past year. A moment of silence was held in their honor, recognizing their lasting contributions and the significant impact they had on Enrico Fermi over many years.

The Breakfast celebration also included a special recognition given to the Italian American Forum (IAF) as our Honoree. As a long-time supporter of Enrico Fermi, the IAF was honored for its continued dedication to preserving Italian culture, supporting students through scholarships, and assisting community members in need. The IAF also proudly sponsored this year’s Enrico Fermi Science Scholarship.

We were especially honored to welcome The Hon. Janet DiFiore, Chair of the IAF Board and former Chief Judge of the State of New York, as our keynote speaker. In a powerful and inspiring address, she spoke about the value of education, the importance of heritage, and encouraged students to pursue their passions while remaining grounded in their cultural identity and to be the best they can be.

“This year, we were able to provide ten scholarships thanks to our generous sponsors, contributors, and journal advertisers,” said Rich Poccia, President of the Enrico Fermi Educational Fund. “Their support, along with the dedication of our many volunteers—including parents of past recipients—helps us maintain the legacy and tradition of the Enrico Fermi Educational Fund. It is through this collective effort that we are able to honor our heritage, invest in future leaders, and keep the spirit of this mission alive year after year.”

Playland

JOB FAIRS

- Saturday, May 10: Westchester County Center
- Saturday, May 17: Playland
- Saturday, June 7: Westchester County Center

10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

On-the-spot interviews for the first 100 who attend!
Jobs starting at \$16.60/hr.

- Park Management (Operations)
- Ride Attendants
- Cashiers
- Ride Operators
- Custodial
- Painters
- Lifeguards

Bring your Social Security card and valid photo I.D. Applicants ages 16 and 17 who plan to complete their application at the fair must be accompanied by a parent or guardian. Eligible applicants that may wish to enroll in Westchester County Payroll Direct Deposit as their form of payment, must bring with them, either a **blank voided check** or a **bank issued Direct Deposit Set Up Form**, which includes their routing number & account number printed on the document.

Request by phone or print your application at Playland.com and send to:

Human Resources
Playland Park, Rye, NY 10580 or to
playlandjobs@westchestercountyny.gov

Phone (914) 813-7010 | Fax: (914) 813-7055
(Mon. - Fri., 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. only)

We are an equal opportunity employer.

YOU'RE INVITED!

YONKERS ARTS WEEKEND 2025
PRESENTS

FASHION IN MOTION

WITH
Dr. Belinda Miles
President
SUNY Westchester Community College

“Fashion in Motion” is more than a runway show—it’s a celebration of bold ideas, fresh perspectives, and the future of fashion.

Saturday, May 17, 2 PM
Hudson River Museum
511 Warburton Avenue | Yonkers, NY

From inspired first-semester creations to the polished final collections of graduating students, the talented designers of SUNY WCC’s Fashion Design Department will showcase their work with originality and flair. Set against the backdrop of Yonkers Arts Weekend 2025, this event brings together innovation and artistry in one dynamic experience.

Admission is free. All are welcome.
Parking available at Riverside High School, 565 Warburton Avenue.

Space is limited — first come, first served.

Come support the next generation of designers and see how fashion meets art—in motion.

Yonkers History, continued from pg 1-

May 22, 1942: Egbert White of Plymouth Avenue, retired VP of the Batten, Barton, Durstine and Osborn advertising agency, proposed a magazine for soldiers written by soldiers. His proposal was accepted early 1942, and Yank Magazine was born; he collaborated with Adolph Ochs, of The Chattanooga Times, Robert Fuoss of The Saturday Evening Post, and Liberty's Alfred Strasser.

After accepting a commission as Lieutenant Colonel, he published a weekly 24-page weekly tabloid; it had no ads, cost five cents and was written by enlisted men.

Friday, May 23rd

May 23, 1930: An old tree on the north side of Valentine Lane, considered the oldest landmark in Yonkers, was pulled down by a DPW crew for safety.

According to Yonkers legend, General George Washington and his staff met under the big chestnut tree to develop a plan of action if British Troops camped at the foot of the Palisades across the Hudson attacked.

May 23, 1944: J. Johnson, Director of the Federal Office of Defense Transportation, announced the NYS Racing Commission assigned all Empire City Races to the Jamaica track as an emergency wartime measure. Johnson stated, "Neither the Commission nor the State of New York are taking racing permanently from Westchester."

Saturday, May 24th

May 24, 1917: Colonel Henry Weeks spoke to students at School Twenty-Two about his "Remembrances of the Civil War."

May 24, 1924: City Judge Charles Boote was robbed! A daring thief not only broke into the garage behind the judge's home on Bruce Avenue, he stole the spare tire on the back of his car.

Sunday, May 25th

May 25, 1918: A report was released showing only one-third of the 20,000 Yonkers young women eligible to vote enrolled at local polls; 5,643 of those women had affiliated with a political party.

May 25, 1955: Officers Norman Fitzgerald and John McMahon heard Margaret Grady screaming in terror, so called for backup. John Stepien had assaulted Grady, causing bruises and cuts on her face; she escaped with one of her children.

People watched in horror as Stepien stood at a window holding a knife to the throat of his two-year-old son. He threatened to kill the toddler if anyone tried to enter his Warburton Avenue apartment. Other policemen distracted the dad while Fitzgerald and McMahon quietly broke in through a rear door, silently neared the man, and with flying tackles, brought down the crazed man. The radio crew outside saved the baby covered with the father's blood.

After Stepien's wounds were treated at the hospital, he was brought to the First Precinct, charged and arraigned.

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.

When Westchester County Police Team Up With Yonkers Police -You Ain't Getting Away Easy

Wrong exit, wrong City... When a vehicle fled from a traffic stop with a Westchester County Police Officer on the Saw Mill Parkway a few weeks ago, the driver made the mistake of getting off on Yonkers Avenue.

Yonkers Police Officers were waiting for the vehicle at the exit ramp and continued the pursuit, with County Police following right behind them. A vehicle pursuit through city streets ended with a crash and multiple foot pursuits through a park, train tracks, and ultimately, three arrests with some taser deployments.

The proceeds of this stop? 2 loaded guns- both Glock handguns (one with a 30-round magazine) as well as six bags of pink cocaine.

Mathiu Garcia (Bronx-23), Luis Fernando Da Silva (Yonkers-23), and Ronald Sanchez Urdaneta (Yonkers-20) were all charged with Criminal Possession of a Weapon 2nd Degree and Criminal Possession of a Weapon 3rd Degree. Mathiu Garcia was also charged with Criminal Possession of a Controlled Substance, 3rd Degree.

When YPD Officers team up with our friends at WCPD, you're not getting away that easily. Watch the video at

<https://www.facebook.com/YonkersPD/videos/1445080870268437/>

Foreign Exchange Student Program Is Seeking Host Families for the Upcoming School Year

Families across the U.S. have a unique opportunity to experience a new culture right in their own homes. ASSE International Student Exchange Programs, a non-profit public benefit organization, is currently seeking warm and welcoming host families to open their homes to international exchange students for the upcoming school year.

Hosting an exchange student is a life-changing experience for families that fosters cultural understanding, builds lifelong friendships, while enriching local communities. Students, aged 15-18 years, come from over 60 countries around the world, including France, Japan, Italy, Denmark, Australia, Spain and many more. The students are carefully selected based on their academic performance, English proficiency, and personal character, and they are eager to become part of an American family, attend a local high school, and share their own traditions.

During their stay, ASSE exchange students immerse themselves in American culture by living with and becoming part of a volunteer host family while attending a local high school. This experience allows them to improve their English skills, form lifelong friendships, and gain a deeper understanding of American life and values. In return, host families and communities benefit from the unique perspectives and cultural exchange that these students bring. Families interested in hosting an exchange student can apply at www.host.asse.com or contacting Lori Michael at (800) 677-2773 / east@asse.com.

Send us your letters, announcements, opinions,

photos and story ideas to

dmurphy@risingmediagroup.com

Fermi scholarships continued from pg 9-

Dr. Susan Campanile, Chair of the Scholarship Committee, noted that Enrico Fermi received a significant number of applications from highly qualified students, making this a very competitive class of applicants and added that "these ten recipients exemplify both academic and civic excellence and are poised to lead with pride in their heritage and dedication to community".

Poccia added, "We are proud to celebrate these recipients and thank all those at our 62nd Annual Scholarship Breakfast celebration and for their help in keeping this tradition. Each recipient honors their Italian roots while forging their own bright future."

The 2025 Enrico Fermi Educational Fund Scholarship Recipients are as follows:

- Nicholas Airo is a graduating senior from Archbishop Stepinac High School. He is the son of Joseph and Tara Airo and plans to study Accounting at Fordham University. Nicholas is the recipient of a Yonkers Fermi Scholarship sponsored by Yonkers Contracting Corporation, in the amount of \$5,000.

- William Bracchitta is a graduating senior from Fordham Preparatory School. The son of Jeffrey and Kristi Bracchitta, William will attend the McDonough School of Business at Georgetown University, with plans to become a Quantitative Analyst. He is a recipient of a Fermi Countywide Scholarship in the amount of \$5,000.

- Ian Cavalluzzi is the Class Valedictorian at Riverside High School. The son of John and Celina Cavalluzzi, Ian will attend the University at Buffalo to pursue a degree in Computer Engineering. He is the recipient of the Yonkers Fermi Scholarship sponsored by the Thomas and Agnes Carvel Foundation in the amount of \$10,000. This distinguished scholarship is awarded to one Yonkers-based Fermi scholar who has demonstrated outstanding service to their community.

- * Jeffrey Colangelo is a senior at Bronxville High School. The son of Roslyn and John Colangelo, Jeffrey will attend Tulane University this fall to explore his academic interests and develop a career in business, leadership, or public service. He is the recipient of a Yonkers Fermi Scholarship sponsored by Domino Sugar / American Sugar Refining, in the amount of \$5,000.

- Alexandra Daley, Class Valedictorian of Roosevelt High School Early College Studies, is the daughter of Nina and Sean Daley. She will attend Marist University, majoring in Childhood Education and Students with Disabilities on the Psychology track. Alexandra is the recipient of a Yonkers Fermi Scholarship in memory of John N. Romano in the amount of \$5,000.

- Mateo del Rio Lanse, a senior at Iona Preparatory School, is the son of Emilio del Rio and Veronica Lanse. Mateo will attend Cornell University, where he will major in Electrical and Computer Engineering with the goal of becoming a leader in machine learning research. He is the recipient of the Fermi Science Scholarship sponsored by the Italian American Forum, in the amount of \$5,000.

- Melissa DeLuise is the Valedictorian of Maria Regina High School. She is the daughter of Joanne DeLuise and Michael Ricci. Melissa plans to study Electrical Engineering on a pre-law track at Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute. She is the recipient of a Yonkers Fermi Scholarship in memory of Joseph G. Romano and Anthony D. Romano, awarded in the amount of \$5,000.

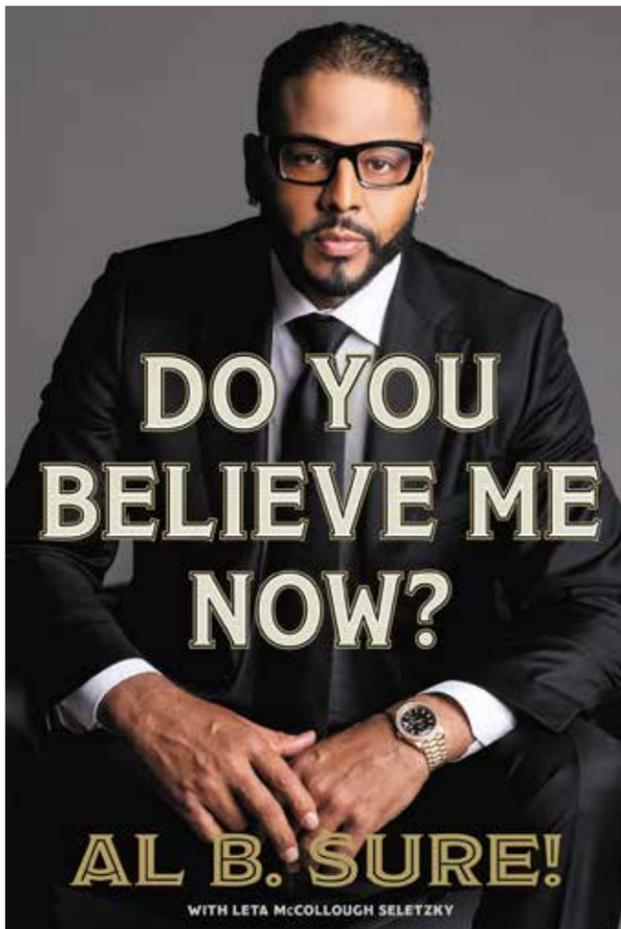
- Domenick Thomas Fedele II is a graduating senior at Yorktown High School and the son of Ron and Stephanie Fedele. Domenick will attend Fordham University this fall to study Political Science. He is a recipient of a Fermi Countywide Scholarship in the amount of \$5,000.

- * Maria Florinda Potenza is a graduating senior at the School of the Holy Child in Rye. The daughter of Mary and Michael Potenza, Maria will attend Cornell University, where she plans to major in Applied Economics. She is the recipient of a Yonkers Fermi Scholarship in memory of Henry J. Monaco, in the amount of \$5,000.

- Lilliane Williams-Ameen is a senior at Dobbs Ferry High School. The daughter of Teresa Williams and Farhad Ameen, Lilliane is a dedicated student, musician, and researcher. She will attend Princeton University, where she plans to major in English with minors in Music Performance and Journalism. Lilliane is the recipient of a Fermi Countywide\ Scholarship in the amount of \$5,000. For more information visit www.enricofermi.org.

Mt. Vernon's Al B. Sure to Testify Against Diddy

“Remember, I’m the only one who spoke up and the only one left alive”



By Dan Murphy

Singer-songwriter and producer Al B. Sure, who grew up in Mt. Vernon, has been subpoenaed to testify at Sean Diddy Combs’s federal trial. Sure, a star quarterback for Mt. Vernon High School before he decided to enter the music industry, has written a tell-all book, “Do You Believe Me Now?”

Sure appeared on the Good Day New York show on May 9, where he made some shocking allegations about Combs, who also grew up in Mt. Vernon around the same time as Sure, whose real name is Albert Joseph Brown.

Sure and Combs had a relationship with Kim Porter and had children with her. Porter died in 2018 at the age of 47, with media reports claiming the cause of death was pneumonia.

When Fox NY’s Rosanno Scotto asked Al B. Sure if he believed Porter died from pneumonia, he said, “Absolutely not.”

“She was in the best of health,” he said. “We just saw each other prior to her passing. We were actually celebrating our son’s new Netflix Christmas special, and she was doing just fine. In fact, we were all at the event together at Netflix in the lobby. Sean, myself, the children, all having a great time. It was a really festive opportunity just for all of us to be together.”

Al B. Sure has had serious health problems of his own over the past three years. In 2022, he collapsed while working on a new album and suffered from multiple illnesses, including kidney failure. He was in a coma for two months but recovered in 2023.

When FoxNY’s Curt Menefee asked, “Do you think specifically that Sean Combs or people affiliated with him did something to you that caused you to have multi-organ failure?” Sure said, “I believe this to be the case, yes. Absolutely, my first time saying.”

Sure was one of the first to accuse Combs of sex trafficking on social media years before Combs’ arrest. He gained music fame in 1990 when he was nominated for two Grammys.

Sean “Diddy” Combs is standing trial in Manhattan on federal charges, including sex trafficking, racketeering conspiracy, and transportation for prostitution. Prosecutors allege Combs ran a criminal enterprise that exploited women, using coercion, drugs, and threats. Witnesses, including his ex-girlfriend Cassie Ventura, have testified about violent incidents and disturbing “freak off” sessions. Combs has pleaded not guilty and rejected a plea deal. His defense argues that while he engaged in violent behavior, his actions did not constitute sex trafficking. The trial is ongoing, with testimony revealing graphic details of abuse and control.

Al B. Sure has been subpoenaed to testify at the Combs trial. “This isn’t marketing for me; I’m living this life. The only reason why I wanted to tell this story is because I was ignored; there was the most expensive PR campaign against me to shut me down. If you actually knew what they did to me—there was a bounty on my head.”

“Remember, I’m the only one who spoke up and the only one left alive So this is not about a scared thing, it’s just time to reveal the truth. I went through many, many years of scrutiny, being dragged, face first on the concrete. Being called delusional when I said sex trafficking.”

Letter to the Editor:

The benefits of President Trump closing the border

I voted for President Trump last November based on one issue. I wanted our borders closed after watching millions of undocumented migrants cross illegally into our country without interference from President Biden. This includes both our southern border but also our northern border with Canada.

President Trump has delivered on his campaign promise. Border crossings are down by 90%, from thousands to hundreds every day.

The policy of catch and release of illegal migrants into our community, many of who do not return for their court date, has also stopped.

This is a clear indication that the word has gotten out that illegal passage is no longer an option.

As a result, can we also infer that Fentanyl coming into the country is also down?

And the money the drug cartels were receiving from those paying thousands to cross the border, has also dropped significantly? Some said that the cartels were making more money smuggling people than smuggling drugs before Trump.

How about the evils of child sex trafficking that came from illegal border crossings? Thank God if those numbers have also dropped.

With fewer migrants crossing over our border, that also means less money to be spent on services for migrants.

At a time when we have homeless Veterans on our streets, I can not support spending on illegal migrants.

I am told that New York State spent \$1.2 Billion last year on Medicaid for illegal migrants. That is outrageous and I don’t want my State or Federal tax dollars going to pay for that.

Thank you President Trump for keeping your word

Stanley Pritchard -Cortlandt Manor

Collins-Bellamy, continued from pg 1-

proposals is a two year limit on vouchers.

“These vouchers provide a lifeline to hard working Americans in lower wage jobs who cannot afford the high rent levels we see today,” said Collins-Bellamy, adding, “Throwing them out of the program is going to bring homelessness to a level we’ve never seen before and will overwhelm the progress that we’ve just made in the New York State budget.”

“Ideally the federal and state voucher programs would work together, with the federal Section 8 program providing long term assistance and the State program filling the gap on more immediate needs. I commend Governor Hochul and the State Legislature for stepping up, and now we need to stop Donald Trump from blowing things up from his end.”

According to the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development in 2024 there were more than 158,000 homeless New Yorkers, or about 20 percent of the nation’s total homeless population. Almost a third of the homeless population are children in New York.

“Homelessness is heartbreaking, but especially so when it involves children,” said Collins Bellamy, “Here in Yonkers, we have a growing number of our public school students who don’t have a home to go to at night. This action by the State, which I have been promoting for several years, is a major step in the right direction.”

**BIG WIRELESS COVERAGE,
WITHOUT BIG WIRELESS COST.**

Plans start at just \$20/month.

Switch & Save Today

844-919-1682 Consumer Cellular®

© 2015 Consumer Cellular Inc. Terms and Conditions subject to change. Plans shown above include \$5 credit for AutoPay and E-billing. Taxes and other fees apply. Credit approval required for new service. Cellular service is not available in all areas and is subject to system limitations.

Valedictorian, continued from pg 1-

LEGAL NOTICE

CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF YONKERS
PUBLIC HEARINGS
2025/2026 PROPOSED BUDGET

I, Lakisha Collins-Bellamy, City Council President of the City of Yonkers, do hereby call a public hearing on the proposed 2025/2026 City of Yonkers Operating Budget and Capital Budget as follows:

Tuesday, May 13, 2025
City Council Chambers
City Hall— 4th Floor
40 South Broadway
Yonkers, New York
6:00 p.m.

Thursday, May 22, 2025
Auditorium
Saunders High School
183 Palmer Road
Yonkers, NY 10701
7:00 p.m.

Anyone wishing to speak may sign up on the day of the hearing at the hearing site. Each speaker shall be permitted three minutes and speakers shall be called in the order in which they have signed up.

LAKISHA COLLINS-BELLAMY
CITY COUNCIL PRESIDENT

May 14, 2025

City of Yonkers
Summary of FY25-26 Executive Budget

	FY26 Executive
Property Taxes:	\$452,275,073
Special Taxes:	231,101,252
State and Federal Funding:	113,609,219
City Departments:	55,451,586
Other Revenues:	57,887,067
Appropriated Fund Balance (General):	57,568,326
Total Revenues Sub-Total:	\$967,892,523
Library Fund:	\$353,909
Water Fund:	54,125,735
Sewer Fund:	12,145,437
Board of Education:	458,063,577
	\$1,492,581,181
City Departments:	\$403,006,786
Fringe Benefits:	221,973,475
Special Items:	44,675,201
Board of Education:	719,427,835
Total Operating Expenditures:	1,389,083,297
Debt Service:	103,497,884
	\$1,492,581,181
Revenues vs. Expenditures	\$ -
Property Tax Levy	
Board of Education Property Tax Levy	\$277,558,586
City Property Tax Levy	174,716,487
Total Property Tax Levy	\$452,275,073
Property Tax Rate per \$1000 of Assessed Valuation (AV)	
Board of Education Tax Rate per \$1,000 AV	589.97
City Tax Rate: per \$1,000 AV	371.58
Tax Rate: per \$1,000 AV	961.55
Capital Budget	
Executive Budget City Total:	\$99,150,012
Additional City Project Costs for Resurfacing (\$4m)	
]City Building Rehabilitation (\$2m),	
Nepperhan Community Center Rehabilitation (\$0.5m), and	
Traffic Radar Speed Display (\$0.035m)	6,535,000
Amended Budget City Total:	\$105,685,012
Executive Board of Education Total:	\$17,000,000
Additional BOE Project Costs for	
Acquisition of Textbooks and Equipment (\$7.3m)	7,300,000
Amended Budget BOE Total:	\$24,300,000
Capital Budget Total:	\$129,985,012

The FY26 Executive Budget is available for review by the public at:
<https://www.yonkersny.gov/1181/City-Budget-2026-Executive>

bring that knowledge back to Yonkers. I also have a mentor who was adamant about preparing me for college. He is always checking up on me and making sure I do well. He supports me and gives me good advice. His work with me taught me to help someone else.

Samuel will attend Brown University in the fall. "I want to pursue a medical career but don't know what field yet. I want to be a Doctor. At one point, I wanted to become a lawyer, but with medicine, you can advocate for a patient for a long time and make connections. I'm also interested in conducting and applying research in a clinical setting.

Rodriguez thanked the LHS supporting faculty. "So many staff members are there for you when you need guidance. When I was struggling with my academics, or personally, they gave me useful advice.

Any advice to younger students? "Surround yourself with a successful environment, with motivated people around you. Challenge yourself to become the best."

Samuel said that his mother helped him achieve this level of academic achievement. "She came to this country to take advantage of the American dream, and that idea trickled down to me. I recognized how disciplined she was, and she taught me that. I pushed myself to do my best. I need to make my mom proud and show her that all her efforts were worth it.

LHS Salutatorian Liban Abeed will graduate with a 97.9 GPA.

His favorite teachers are Mrs. Howard, Dr. Johal, and Lauri-Anne Cameron (AP Biology). "Ms. Cameron helped me prepare for Biology, making it a digestible concept. I love Biology, and my favorite subject is Science because learning about and discovering new things appeals to me. In Science, you can implement what you know. It's very interesting.

One project in Mrs. Howard's class "allowed us to identify bacteria in your body and analyze it for dangerous pathogens. I analyzed those bacteria and found a correlation between those factors," said Liban, who received a US-Stockholm Junior Regional Award for his research.

Abeed also volunteered his time at her Mosque, "teaching little kids the Koran and volunteering at the congregation during Ramadan."

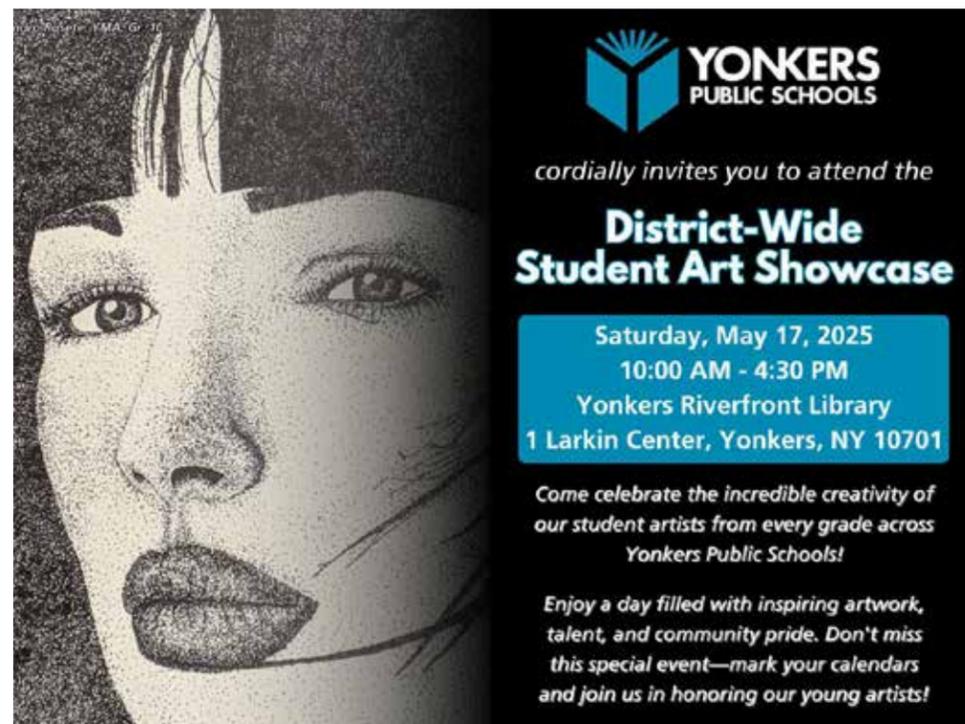
He will be attending NYU this fall. "I would like to go on to Dental School. My mom works in the field and is passionate about it. That's how I got an interest in Dentistry. Also, meeting new patients had a long-lasting impact on her and me."

Liban came to Lincoln High School as a junior after his family moved from Texas. "I wasn't sure I would be welcomed, but I met many friends and teachers who supported me."

Abeed thanked Assistant Principal and guidance counselor Jonathan Morano. "He was welcoming and helped me get situated. The environment and the community he helped me find made me a better person."

Advice for a future Val or Sal? "Ignorance is the biggest factor in your downfall. And don't be overconfident."

Liban thanked his mom, "She pushed me, and I wouldn't be here without her. She kept me positive," and God. "I have a lot of faith in God. He pushed me, and I praise Him for my academic success."



YONKERS PUBLIC SCHOOLS

cordially invites you to attend the

District-Wide Student Art Showcase

Saturday, May 17, 2025
10:00 AM - 4:30 PM
Yonkers Riverfront Library
1 Larkin Center, Yonkers, NY 10701

Come celebrate the incredible creativity of our student artists from every grade across Yonkers Public Schools!

Enjoy a day filled with inspiring artwork, talent, and community pride. Don't miss this special event—mark your calendars and join us in honoring our young artists!

See Your Ad Here: Business Card Special

3 Months-\$299.00

6 Months--\$499.00

12 Months -\$899.00

email risingmediagroup@gmail.com

“Were it left to me to decide if we should have a government without newspapers, or newspapers without a government,

I should not hesitate a moment to prefer the latter.

-Thomas Jefferson

Classifieds

Attorney

INJURED IN AN ACCIDENT? Don't Accept the insurance company's first offer. Many injured parties are entitled to major cash settlements. Get a free evaluation to see what your case is really worth. 100% Free Evaluation. Call Now: 1-888-454-4717. Be ready with your zip code to connect with the closest provider

DIVORCE \$389 - Uncontested divorce papers prepared. Only one signature required. Poor person Application included if applicable. Separation agreements. Custody and support petitions. 518-274-0380

IF YOU HAD KNEE OR HIP REPLACEMENT SURGERY AND SUFFERED AN INFECTION between 2020 and the present time, you may be entitled to compensation. Call Attorney Charles H. Johnson 1-800-535-5727

Auto Donations

Get a break on your taxes! Donate your car, truck, or SUV to assist the blind and visually impaired. Arrange a swift, no-cost vehicle pickup and secure a generous tax credit for 2025. Call Heritage for the Blind Today at 1-855-484-3467 today!

GOT AN UNWANTED CAR??? Your car donation to Patriotic Hearts helps veterans find work or start their own business. Fast free pick. Running or not! Call 24/7: 1-833-441-4496.

Autos Wanted

We buy 8,000 cars a week. Sell your old, busted or junk car with no hoops, haggles or headaches. Sell your car to Peddle. Easy three step process. Instant offer. Free pickup. Fast payment. Call 1-855-403-3374

Health

ATTENTION OXYGEN THERAPY USERS! Discover Oxygen Therapy That Moves with You with Inogen Portable Oxygen Concentrators. FREE information kit. Call 1-833-661-41

Attention: VIAGRA and CIALIS USERS! A cheaper alternative to high drug-store prices! 50 Pill Special - Only \$99! 100% guaranteed. CALL NOW: 1-833-641-6397

HEARING AIDS!! High-quality rechargeable, powerful Audien hearing aids priced 90% less than competitors. Tiny and NEARLY INVISIBLE! 45-day money back guarantee! 855-819-7060

BEAUTIFUL BATH UPDATES in as little as ONE DAY! Superior quality bath and shower systems at AFFORDABLE PRICES! Lifetime warranty & professional installs. Call Now! 1-833-807-0159

AGING ROOF? NEW HOMEOWNER? STORM DAMAGE? You need a local expert provider that proudly stands behind their work. Fast, free estimate. Financing available. Call 1-833-880-7679

Get DISH Satellite TV + Internet! Free Install, Free HD-DVR Upgrade, 80,000 On-Demand Movies, Plus Limited Time Up To \$600 In Gift Cards. Call Today! 1-866-782-4069

Prepare for power outages with Briggs & Stratton® PowerProtect(TM) standby generators - the most powerful home standby generators available. Industry-leading comprehensive warranty - 7 years (\$849 value.) Proudly made in the U.S.A. Call Briggs & Stratton 1-888-605-1496

Do you know what's in your water? Leaf Home Water Solutions offers FREE water testing and whole home water treatment systems that can be installed in as little one day. 15% off your entire purchase. Plus 10% senior & military discounts. Restrictions apply. Schedule your FREE test today. Call 1-866-247-5728

Safe Step. North America's #1 Walk-In Tub. Comprehensive lifetime warranty. Top-of-the-line installation and service. Now featuring our FREE shower package and \$1600 Off for a limited time! Call today! Financing available. Call Safe Step 1-855-916-5473

Do you need a Roof or Energy Efficient Windows & Help paying for it? YOU MAY QUALIFY THROUGH NEW RELIEF PROGRAMS (800) 944-9393 or visit NYProgramFunding.org to qualify. Approved applications will have the work completed by a repair crew provided by: HOMEOWNER FUNDING. Not affiliated with State or Gov Programs.

Prepare for power outages today with a Generac Home Standby Generator. Act now to receive a FREE 5-Year warranty with qualifying purchase. Call 1-877-516-1160 today to schedule a free quote. It's not just a generator. It's a power move.

Miscellaneous

Get Boost Infinite! Unlimited Talk, Text and Data For Just \$25/mo! The Power Of 3 5G Networks, One Low Price! Call Today and Get The Latest iPhone Every Year On Us! 844-329-9391

Real Estate

We Buy Houses for Cash AS IS! No repairs. No fuss. Any condition. Easy three step process: Call, get cash offer and get paid. Get your fair cash offer today by calling Liz Buys Houses: 1-888-704-5670

More Classifieds on pg 14

Weekend Events in Westchester County Parks

SATURDAY, MAY 17

Edith G. Read Wildlife Sanctuary, Rye: (914) 967-8720

Volunteer Work Project: Preparing Garden Beds for Spring/Summer, 9 a.m. - 11 a.m. Help us prepare the beds for wildflowers, to help the pollinators. Please bring work gloves. Hand tools will be provided. It's great for service credit hours.

Get details: <https://friendsofreadwildlifesanctuary.org/event/volunteer-preparing-planting-garden-beds-for-spring-summer/>

Lasdon Park, Arboretum and Veterans Memorial, Katonah: (914) 864-7268

2025 Plant Sale, 9 a.m. - 4 p.m. Browse a great selection of favorites and hard to find plants on the Conservatory Plaza. Enhance your landscapes, gardens, patios and decks! Many unique plants, native and tropical plants will be available for purchase. Rain or shine; free parking and admission. Also: May 18, 10 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.

Get details: <https://www.lasdonpark.org/event/2025-plant-sale/2025-05-17/>

Alfred B. DelBello Muscote Farm, Katonah: (914) 864-7282

Farm Fence Line Maintenance, 10 a.m. - 12 p.m. Help Muscote maintain safe and beautiful spaces for its animals! Volunteers will assist in clearing fence lines along our animal pastures—removing debris, trimming overgrowth, and preserving these vital boundaries. Get details and register: <https://www.volunteernewyork.org/opportunity/a07Nr000010dAn8IAE/farm-fence-line-maintenance>

Marshlands Conservancy, Rye: (914) 835-4466

Naturalist's Choice Hike, 10 a.m. - 1 p.m. Join us for a walk along the trails as we interpret the wondrous things nature is showing us today.

Lasdon Park and Arboretum, Katonah: (914) 864-7268

Lasdon Green Squad, 1 p.m. - 3 p.m. Every Saturday through November and for those age 14 and older. Volunteers will work with Lasdon staff on tasks such as invasive species removal, planting, watering, weeding, trail maintenance, mulching, trash clean up, and other tasks. Get details and register: <https://www.lasdonpark.org/event/lasdon-green-squad-2-2/2025-05-17/>

Lenoir Preserve, Yonkers: (914) 968-5851

Spring Scavenger Hunt, 10 a.m. - 3 p.m. All ages can enjoy beautiful Lenoir through a self-guided scavenger hunt and activity provided by Parks staff. Check in at the nature center anytime between 10 a.m. and 3 p.m. for the instructions!

Playland Park, Rye: (914) 813-7010

Playland Park Job Fair, 10 a.m. - 2 p.m. Apply to a variety of summer jobs at Playland Park including Park Management (Operations), Ride Operators, Ride Attendants, Lifeguards, Cashiers, Custodial and Painters. The first 100 applicants will have the chance to interview on-the-spot! Bring your Social Security card and valid photo I.D. Applicants ages 16 and 17 who plan to complete their application at the fair must be accompanied by a parent or guardian. Eligible applicants that may wish to enroll in Westchester County Payroll Direct Deposit as their form of payment, must bring with them, either a blank voided check or a bank issued Direct Deposit Set Up Form, which includes their routing number and account number printed on the document. Also: June 7 at the Westchester County Center.

Details: <https://parks.westchestergov.com/playland-park-job-fairs>

Ward Pound Ridge Reservation, Cross River: (914) 864-7317

100th-Anniversary Celebration of WPRR, 10 a.m. - 4 p.m. Join us for the once-in-a-lifetime milestone of WPRR! The celebration will be a free, fun-filled day including nature hikes, kids' activities, speakers, history presentations, music, food and much more! Rain date: May 18. Get details and register: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/ward-pound-ridge-reservations-100th-anniversary-celebration-tickets-1301361420039?aff=oddtcreator>

Miller House, 140 Virginia Road, White Plains: (914) 428-1005

Miller House Open House, 11 a.m. - 1 p.m. Drop in to visit the former home of the Ann and Elijah Miller family, an average colonial Westchester family whose lives were changed forever when George Washington and his army fought for American independence. Located at 140 Virginia Road, White Plains.

Alfred B. DelBello Muscote Farm, Katonah: (914) 864-7282

BLOOM!, 12 p.m. - 4 p.m. The Westchester Watercolor Group presents their exhibit in Muscote's main house Saturdays and Sundays in May. Get details: <https://www.muscotefarm.org/programs-events/event-calendar.html/event/2025/05/03/1746291600/bloom-westchester-watercolor-group-exhibit/522251>

Hilltop Hanover Farm and Environmental Center, Yorktown Heights: (914) 862-5050. Meet a Beekeeper Day, 1 p.m. - 3 p.m. Join beekeeper Sean Bugara to learn more about what beekeepers do and how they care for their hives! Drop in on this program during which you can get up close, handle the tools and equipment they use and ask about caring for bees. Get details: <https://hilltophanoverfarm.org/events/event/2025/05/17/meet-a-beekeeper-day/521152>

Alfred B. DelBello Muscote Farm, Katonah: (914) 864-7282

Wool-Cleaning Day, 1 p.m. - 3 p.m. Volunteers are needed to help prepare raw wool for use in various farm products at Muscote Farm. Volunteers will carefully clean, sort and remove any debris from the wool to ensure that it's ready for the next stage of processing. Register: <https://www.volunteernewyork.org/opportunity/a07Nr000010d58ZIAQ/wool-cleaning-day>

Kensico Dam Plaza, Valhalla: (914) 231-4033

Pop-Up Market on the Plaza, 1 p.m. - 5 p.m. This vibrant event promises a sensational mix of unique local vendors showcasing handcrafted goods, trendy fashion, artisanal products, and delicious food trucks and live music—all in a picturesque outdoor setting. Free admission and parking; rain or shine. Details: <https://parks.westchestergov.com/pop-ups-market-on-the-plaza> *continued on pg 14-*

Jeanine Pirro is Back in the Spotlight Baby!



More than 30 years after serving Westchester County as District Attorney, Jeanine Pirro is returning to public service. The popular Fox TV celebrity and best-selling author has been nominated by President Donald Trump to serve as interim US Attorney for the District of Columbia. Trump posted on Truth Social, ***"I am pleased to announce that Judge Jeanine Pirro will be appointed interim United States Attorney for the District of Columbia. Jeanine was Assistant District Attorney for Westchester County, New York. Then she served as County Judge and District Attorney, where she was the first woman ever to be elected to those positions. During her time in office, Jeanine was a powerful crusader for victims of crime. Her establishment of the Domestic Violence Bureau in her Prosecutor's Office was the first in the Nation. She excelled in all ways. In addition to her legal career, Jeanine has hosted her own Fox News show, Justice with Judge Jeanine, for ten years and is currently Co-Host of The Five, one of the highest-rated shows on Television. Jeanine is incredibly well qualified for this position and is considered one of the Top District Attorneys in the History of the State of New York. She is in a class by herself. Congratulations, Jeanine!"*** Trump and Pirro go back to the 1990s in Westchester, when the President was building and developing there, and Jeanine's husband, Al Pirro, was the attorney for developers, including Trump. More important, Pirro has advocated for President Trump and his policies on the Fox News show "The Five," which is the #1 show on Cable TV. "At 5 PM/ET, FNC's The Five secured a staggering 4.7 million viewers and 517,000 in 25-54 demo, leading all of cable news among total viewership for the month and beating the newly revamped CBS Evening News (4.6 million viewers)," writes Fox TV. Pirro was the first woman elected a Westchester County Judge in 1990 and the first woman elected Westchester DA in 1993. She was reelected in 1997 and 2001. She was at the forefront of prosecuting cases of domestic abuse. In 2006, Pirro considered running for US Senate against Hillary Clinton but instead ran for NY Attorney General and lost to Andrew Cuomo. After her third term as Westchester DA, Pirro began a second career in TV, first with the CW Network and then in 2011 with Fox News. She has authored six books, including Liars, Leakers, and Liberals: The Case Against the Anti-Trump Conspiracy, in 2018 on the NY Times Best Seller list. That's the good news about J. Pirro. But there are many negative thoughts and victims in Westchester who can't stand her. Jeff Deskovic is the first to come to mind. Pirro refused to reopen the case of Deskovic, who was falsely convicted in the murder of Angela Correa in 1990. Deskovic served 16 years in prison before DNA evidence exonerated him. "She had a moral responsibility to review my case, or at least to allow the new DNA evidence and testing to be used, but instead, she kept the ball rolling against me," said Deskovic. "The DNA databank began in 1997-98. If she had agreed to further testing then, I could have been home eight or nine years earlier." The Richard DiGuglielmo Jr. case in Dobbs Ferry sticks out in this reporter's mind and Deskovic's as a wrongful conviction. In 1996, DiGuglielmo, an off-duty NYPD officer, was at his father's deli when his dad got into a violent confrontation with Charles Campbell over a parking spot. Campbell ended up taking out a baseball bat and striking DiGuglielmo Sr., breaking his arm. As he raised the bat again to hit him in the head, DiGuglielmo Jr. shot and killed Campbell. Pirro won a conviction of DiGuglielmo for second-degree murder. "You have an off-duty cop that shoots and kills a bat-wielding man who is about to hit his dad in the head after fracturing his hand," said Deskovic. "What was he supposed to do? Watch his father die? Witnesses spent four nights and were being urged to change their story from self-defense to unjustifiable shooting. Her office withheld that information. Judge Bellantoni overturned the conviction, but he is still in jail." One of the things that bothers Deskovic is that Pirro has never apologized for her role in keeping him in jail an extra nine years for a crime he didn't commit. "She has never acknowledged that her office did wrong or that we learned a lesson from this case where we went wrong nothing. But I still want that apology," he said. Deskovic says that when she sees Pirro on TV: "I just turn the channel in disgust. The false image that she portrays bothers me. She talks the talk but doesn't walk the walk here in Westchester, especially in my case. I don't think she should be on the air. Her husband Al went to prison for tax evasion for tax returns that she signed. She also wanted Bernie Kerick to tape-record her husband illegally. But now we are all supposed to take her views on TV seriously." Now, Pirro, if confirmed, will be the acting US Attorney for the second-most important district in the USA, the District of Columbia. Pirro replaces Edward Martin Jr. as US Attorney for the District of Columbia. Trump appointed Martin, but Martin could not get the 50 votes needed in the US Senate for confirmation. MAGA Republicans are gleeful over Pirro's nomination. "In 2024, Judge Jeanine Pirro's salary was 5 MILLION dollars. As head of the DC US Attorney's office, she will make \$195K. Jeanine isn't in it for the money or fame. She already had both. She's in it for the love of country. Jeanine Pirro is a true patriot," posted Mila Joy. "This is EPIC! Judge Jeanine is a freaking BULLDOG! She takes NO sh*t from the Democrats," posted Nick Sortor. "I stand with Judge Jeanine Pirro, Dan Bongino, and Pete Hegseth, who gave up cushy jobs for a higher calling," posted Josh Dunlap. Pirro joins Hegseth, Bongino, and Sean Duffy, who all worked at Fox TV in the Trump White House.



Weekend Events at Westchester Parks, continued from pg 13- SUNDAY, MAY 18

Alfred B. DelBello Muscote Farm, Katonah: (914) 864-7282

Farmers Market, 9:30 a.m. - 2:30 p.m. The market supports farmers and sustainable efforts in our area, featuring over 30 local vendors every Sunday through Nov. 16. Get details: <https://www.muscotefarm.org/markets/>

Lasdon Park and Arboretum, Katonah: (914) 864-7263

Gardening Sundays and Tuesday, 10 a.m. - 12 p.m. Enhance your gardening skills and plant knowledge by working side by side with the gardeners at Lasdon Park. Tasks include planting, watering, weeding, pruning, staking, deadheading, potting up, and more. Every Tuesday through November. Also: May 20. Get details and register: <https://www.lasdonpark.org/event/gardening-sundays-2/2025-05-18/>

The Bronx River Parkway

Bicycle Sunday, 10 a.m. - 2 p.m. A 13.1-mile loop of the parkway is closed to cars for the exclusive use of non-motorized bicyclists, scooters and in-line skaters, e-bikes class 1 only, plus walkers and joggers. The course runs from the Westchester County Center in White Plains, south to Scarsdale Road in Yonkers. Many points of entry and exit are along the way. Also: June 8, 15, 22, 29 (8 a.m. - 12 p.m.); July 13, 20, 27 (8 a.m. to noon); Sept. 7, 14, 21 (10 a.m. to 2 p.m.); Oct. 5 (10 a.m. to 2 p.m.)

Get details: <https://parks.westchestergov.com/bicycle-sundays>

Cranberry Lake Preserve, North White Plains: (914) 428-1005

Naturalist Choice Hike, 10:30 a.m. - 12 p.m. Our naturalist will take you on a one-mile hike. Hiking shoes are recommended.

Kensico Dam Plaza, Valhalla: (914) 231-4033

Polish Heritage Festival, 12 p.m. - 6 p.m. The festival will showcase Polish-American cultural exhibits, polka music, kids' activities, and vendors selling authentic Polish crafts and food. Free admission and parking. Get details: <https://parks.westchestergov.com/press-releases/3461-westchester-parks-kicks-off-its-2025-cultural-heritage-celebrations-on-may-18>

Alfred B. DelBello Muscote Farm, Katonah: (914) 864-7282

Guided Farm Tours, 1 p.m. - 2 p.m. Take a free guided tour to visit and learn about our animals and some of our historic buildings. Meet outside the reception center. Also: June 22. Register: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/guided-farm-tours-tickets-1264405724559?aff=ebsdoporgprofile>

Edith G. Read Wildlife Sanctuary, Rye: (914) 967-8720

Fox Habitats, Habits and Hurrahs, 2 p.m. - 3:30 p.m. We will observe where and how to find these beautiful animals and the techniques they use for survival.

Details: <https://friendsofreadwildlifesanctuary.org/event/fox-habitats-habits-and-hurrahs/>

Services

Consumer Cellular - the same reliable, nationwide coverage as the largest carriers. No long-term contract, no hidden fees and activation is free. All plans feature unlimited talk and text, starting at just \$20/month. For more information, call 1-844-919-1682

PEST CONTROL: PROTECT YOUR HOME from pests safely and affordably. Roaches, Bed Bugs, Rodent, Termite, Spiders and other pests. Locally owned and affordable. Call for service or an inspection today! 1-833-549-0598 Have zip code of property ready when calling!

Travel Services

SAVE ON YOUR TRAVEL PLANS! Up to 75% More than 500 AIRLINES and 300,000 HOTELS across the world. Let us do the research for you for FREE! Call: 877 988 7277

TV Internet Phone

DIRECTV- All your entertainment. Nothing on your roof! Sign up for Direct and get your first three months of Max, Paramount+, Showtime, Starz, MGM+ and Cinemax included. Choice package \$84.99/mo. Some restrictions apply. Call DIRECTV 1-888-534-6918

AFFORDABLE TV & INTERNET. If you are overpaying for your service, call now for a free quote and see how much you can save! 1-855-399-2803

Two Views on the State Budget

While Washington Takes, New York Invests

By NYS Senate Majority Leader Andrea Stewart-Cousins

Let's talk about our budget. We can talk about the process or even the lateness but I want to talk about contrasts. Because while here in New York we've spent the last month fighting for working families, Washington—under its current leadership, has been doing the opposite.

While they propose slashing SNAP benefits and gutting programs that help families access healthy food, we are investing \$50 million in food security through Hunger Prevention and Nutrition Assistance and Nourish NY.

You can't call for a nationwide 'baby boom' while actively undermining the infrastructure families rely on. Here in New York, we're providing \$8 million in baby benefits and distributing 10 million diapers to new families. While also

providing free school meals to our children. Because caring for our kids and feeding them shouldn't be up for debate.

While they talk about cutting veterans' health care and support services, we're expanding eligibility for the Gold Star Annuity, funding mental health training for veterans, and enhancing services that help our veterans transition home with dignity and support.

While they push tax giveaways for the ultra-wealthy and mega-corporations, we're maintaining the lowest middle-class tax rates in more than 70 years. We're issuing inflation checks to put real dollars back into the pockets of working families. We've expanded the child tax credit because New York's families should come first.

While they try to gut environmental protections, walk away from climate science, and defund clean energy, we're making the largest Environmental Protection Fund investment in state history. We're directing \$1 billion toward climate resiliency and clean energy infrastructure, including \$450 million for building decarbonization, \$250 million for zero-emission transportation, and \$200 million for renewable energy. We also secured \$500 million in clean water grants because we understand that the health of our economy is linked to the health of our planet.

While they look to cut education funding and ban books, we're increasing support for public schools and libraries—fully funding Foundation Aid, expanding BOCES career and technical education programs to 9th grade, and increasing salaries for BOCES teachers. We're allocating \$400 million in child care funding, and creating capital grant programs for both SUNY and CUNY infrastructure improvements. We're launching the New York Opportunity Promise Scholarship to open pathways for adult learners, and boosting community college support across the board.

While Washington is more interested in laying roadblocks to state infrastructure improvements, we are moving forward—committing \$3 billion to modernize the MTA and improve transit infrastructure across the state. We've also increased CHIPS funding to repair our roads and extended the work zone speed enforcement program to protect workers and drivers alike.

While they ignore the mental health crisis and criminalize people in crisis, we are expanding access to inpatient psychiatric beds, launching Daniel's Law pilot programs, and enhancing crisis response systems. We're improving discharge planning, expanding assisted outpatient treatment, and creating new standards to ensure care is accessible, respectful, and effective.

While they cut funding to reproductive health grants and continue to criminalize a woman's right to choose, our budget puts additional funding towards accessing abortion care, including new money towards our abortion provider training fund, while also ensuring that New York hospitals are equipped to provide life saving care in emergency pregnancy situations.

While they sow fear and neglect public safety needs, we are supporting victims and communities—funding youth development and community violence intervention programs, increasing discovery reform resources, and establishing a new Office of Gun Violence Prevention to coordinate smart, data-driven safety strategies.

And while they threaten to gut affordable housing programs, we're continuing historic investments in housing—from \$1 billion to support new housing development in New York City including NYCHA to expanded programs across the state for renters, homeowners, Mitchell-Lamas, and land banks. We are piloting a state-wide Housing Access Voucher Program, boosting homeownership and supportive housing opportunities, and tackling vacant units with targeted repair funds.

We didn't stop there. While Washington has imposed tariffs that threaten to cripple our small businesses. Our budget stands up for these same businesses by providing tax relief and paying off their \$8 billion Unemployment Insurance debt.

While they target our middle class workers, our budget increases weekly unemployment benefits, expands apprenticeship programs, supports farmworkers and food production, restores funding for the arts and cultural institutions, strengthens protections against wage theft and deceptive business practices, and waives civil service exam fees to open doors to more public service careers.

This is what budgets are about—Choices. Values. Priorities.

In this budget, New York has made the choice to stand with working people and to invest in people, We have decided to strengthen our schools and hospitals, not starve them. To expand access to food and housing, not rip it away.

And while Washington continues to take more from New York than it gives back, we will keep doing the work. We will keep investing in people. And we will carry that responsibility forward—because that is the promise we make to every New Yorker.

Highlights of Albany's Bloated & Belated Budget

By Bill Hammond, Empire Center

The state Legislature approved the last of nine budget bills Thursday evening, 38 days after the start of the fiscal year. Here are some highlights of the fiscal impact of final spending plan:

The state-funded portion of the new budget, at \$146 billion, is increasing by \$12.6 billion from last year, which is \$2.2 billion more than Governor Hochul initially proposed. That's an increase of 9.5 percent, which is four times the current rate of inflation.

The enacted spending plan assumes state tax revenues will increase 6.5 percent in the year ahead, compared to the 4.1 percent assumption in Hochul's proposal from January. Lawmakers agreed to bump up that estimate in spite of significant threats to the state's fiscal outlook that have emerged in the past few months – including President Trump's tariff actions, which have jolted the stock market and raised concern about a recession, and plans in Congress to constrain federal Medicaid spending, which could cost the state billion in future funding.

Lawmakers agreed to bump up that estimate in spite of significant threats to the state's fiscal outlook that have emerged in the past few months – including President Trump's tariff actions, which have jolted the stock market and raised concern about a recession, and plans in Congress to constrain federal Medicaid spending, which could cost the state billion in future funding.

Health care

Medicaid – a health plan for the lower income and disabled that is jointly financed by the federal, state and local governments – accounts for most of this year's new spending.

Hochul initially proposed to boost the state share of the program by \$6.4 billion or 17 percent, even as enrollment is on the decline. The Legislature appears to have added roughly \$600 million to that amount, including an addition of \$500 million in funding for “distressed” hospitals.

As a result, the enacted budget hikes the state share to almost \$45 billion, an increase of 18.6 percent. That line item has cumulatively risen 62% over Hochul's four budgets, even though enrollment has been falling for the past two years. That compares to a 57 percent increase over Governor Andrew Cuomo's 11 years in office.

School aid

The new budget increases state aid to public schools by \$1.7 billion or 4.9 percent, to a new annual total of \$37.6 billion.

With enrollment stagnant or declining in much of New York, the latest budget is sure to balloon what is already the nation's highest per-pupil spending.

Taxes

Governor Hochul is touting a number of tax relief measures in the new budget, but the package also increases a tax on downstate payrolls and enacts a five-year extension of a pandemic-era income-tax hike on the highest earners.

Child tax credit: Families are to receive credits worth up to \$1,000 per child under 4, and up to \$350 per child from 4 to 17 (with the latter amount rising to \$500 in 2026). These credits are reduced for families with adjusted gross incomes above a certain threshold – \$110,000 for married filing jointly, \$75,000 for heads of households and \$55,000 for married filing separately.

The state's current child tax credit of one-third of the federal credit or \$100 per child, whichever is greater.

“Inflation refund checks”: Hochul says these one-time rebates will be worth an estimated \$2 billion to 8 million taxpayers. Her press release summarized the payouts this way:

Joint tax filers with income up to \$150,000 will receive a \$400 check, and joint filers with income over \$150,000 but no greater than \$300,000 will receive a \$300 check. Single tax filers with income up to \$75,000 will receive a \$200 check, and single filers with incomes over \$75,000 but no greater than \$150,000 will receive a \$150 check.

Income tax changes: Elevated tax rates on the incomes, adopted on a temporary basis in 2021, will be extended an additional five years through 2032. Affecting taxable incomes above \$2.2 million for married couples filing jointly, these rates are the second-highest in the U.S., behind California, and generate about \$5 billion a year in revenue.

At the same time, the budget trims the tax rates for the bottom five brackets – ranging up to taxable income of \$323,000 for married couples filing jointly – by two-tenths of a percentage point each over the next two years. This will save as much as \$650 per year for a family at the top of the affected range.

MTA payroll tax: An existing payroll tax on covering employers in New York City and seven surrounding counties will be hiked for companies with annual payrolls over \$10 million but reduced or left unchanged for smaller companies. This is expected to generate a net increase of \$1.4 billion in revenue, which the Metropolitan Transportation Authority can use to finance a portion of its capital plan.

Film and television production tax credit: The governor and Legislature agreed to expand this subsidy from \$700 million to \$800 million per year. Previously limited to offsetting “below the line” costs such as support personnel and technicians, the credit now also covers a portion or “above the line” costs such as salaries of directors and performers.

See Your Ad Here: Business Card Special

3 Months-\$299.00

6 Months--\$499.00

12 Months -\$899.00

email risingmediagroup@gmail.com

Yonkers Rising

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



GREETINGS FROM YONKERS ARTS WEEKEND 2025

SATURDAY, MAY 17 & SUNDAY, MAY 18



Yonkers Department of Parks, Recreation & Conservation Presents

Antoinette Montague Experience
Saturday, May 17th at 4:00 PM



Carlos Jimenez Mambo Dulcet
Sunday, May 18th at 4:00 PM

Untermeyer Park | 945 North Broadway, Yonkers, NY
Free Admission/Rain or Shine
YonkersArtsWeekend.com




PLEASE JOIN US FOR A **Community BABY Shower**

Join us for a FREE baby shower for expectant mothers in the community! Enjoy fun activities, giveaways, raffles, baby item distribution and delicious snacks - All while supplies last!

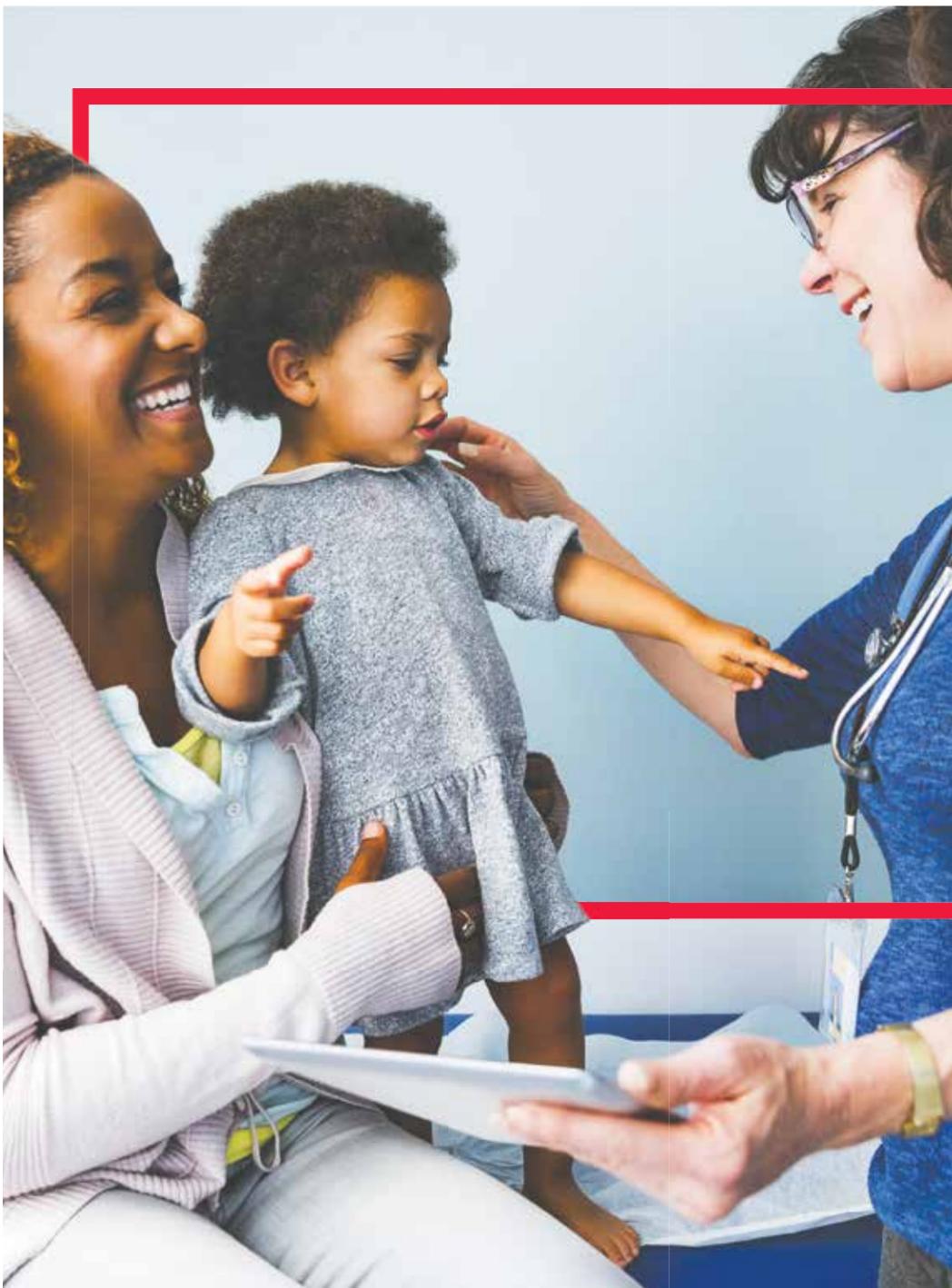
YONKERS PAL
127 NORTH BROADWAY
YONKERS, NY, 10703

MAY 17, 2025
12:00PM - 3:00PM

For more information:
Fany Baez 929-206-3054
Fidelis Care Community Relations Specialist

Registration is required:
Contact Members services at 914-377-7381
or stop by 127 North Broadway from 9:00am-5:00PM

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



Dedicated physicians.
A wide range of services.
Care that connects it all.

Building on over 25 years of excellence in Westchester, Summit Health offers a wide range of services from routine physicals to total joint replacements.

One more reason to go with Summit Health.

Visit summithealth.com/westchester today.

 **Summit Health**