

Petitions Are In: Five Democrats on the Ballot for City Council President



top left-Pete Spano, top right Council President Lakisha Collins Bellamy, middle left Mike Khader, middle right Councilwoman Tasha Diaz, bottom right Chuck Lesnick

By Dan Murphy

We have heard a few bloggers write about how there is no democracy in Yonkers, and how candidates don't run for office anymore. Nothing can be further from the truth, in our view, after the Board of Elections approved more than a dozen candidates to be on the ballot for City Council President, City Council and County Legislator.

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Pilot Program Launches at Gorton High School to Inspire Future Lab Technicians



NextGen Lab Tech Program Introduces Yonkers Students to In-Demand Careers in Laboratory Science

A new initiative is opening doors for Yonkers high school students to explore careers in one of the fastest-growing fields in healthcare: laboratory science. The NextGen Lab Tech pilot program has launched at Charles E. Gorton High

"I Think We Need to Recommit to St. Mary's -Yonkers Mayor Spano



Mayor Mike Spano, Council President Lakisha Collins-Bellamy with Mary Calvi and her mother at St. Mary's Church

By Dan Murphy

Mayor Mike Spano and City Council President Lakisha Collins-Bellamy visited St. Mary's Church on South Broadway in Yonkers on April 27 for mass and to lend their support to efforts to keep the oldest Catholic Church in Yonkers open.

St. Mary's has been ordered to close by the Archdiocese of NY last year, but a recent reprieve from the Vatican last week overturned that order, giving the thousands of parishioners and former parishioners hope that they can raise the millions needed to restore it.

Mayor Mike Spano has a history with St. Mary's Church, as does the entire Spano family. Mayor Spano attended the mass with his wife Mary Calvi, but put on the garment for altar boy and walked up the aisle.

Spano's comments were a touching remembrance but also a call to keep St. Mary's open.

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Riverkeeper Legal Action Secures \$235k for Hudson River Recovery, with GWHV a Beneficiary

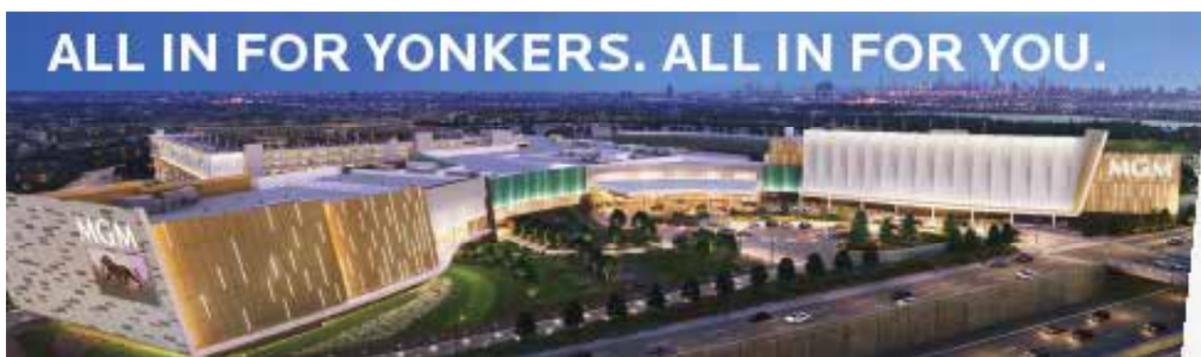


A group of volunteers, students, school staff, elected officials, and partners celebrate the first microforest planting in Yonkers at the Barack Obama School for Social Justice. Photo by the City of Yonkers

Riverkeeper is proud to announce the allocation of \$235,000 to Groundwork Hudson Valley, secured through their recent successful Clean Water Act lawsuit brought by attorneys at their partner firm Super Law Group.

The funds will be paid directly to a leading nonprofit dedicated to environmental restoration and community empowerment, Groundwork Hudson Valley, to help the environment rebound and flourish following the pollution that spurred the initial lawsuit.

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Saturday May 3, New York Blood Center to Host Blood Drive at Gorton HS First Touch a Truck Event



This event will raise money for the school's scholarship fund and organizers hope it will inspire other groups to take initiative to host their own blood drives

New York Blood Center (NYBC) will host a blood drive at Gorton High School on Saturday, May 3rd from 11:00am to 3:30pm as part of the school's first Touch a Truck event. The event will include appearances by the Yonkers Police Department, Yonkers Fire Department, and Yonkers Ambulance Corps, with a special landing by the Westchester County helicopter on the school field. Attendees can explore emergency vehicles, meet first responders, and enjoy games, live music, and food vendors.

Gorton High School has been a long-time partner of NYBC, hosting blood drives for over 28 years and encouraging blood donation during some of the most critical times for the blood supply. The school hopes that fun initiatives like this one will help raise money for its scholarship fund and encourage more organizations to host blood drives of their own.

NYBC recently issued an urgent call for type O+ and O- blood donations. The current supply of O- blood has dropped to just two days, and overall collections are nearly 20% below the level needed to meet hospital demands. This drop in donations is due to seasonal factors such as school breaks, holiday travel, and busy spring schedules.

Blood donors can give every 56 days, and platelet donors can give twice per month. The Food and Drug Administration (FDA) recently lifted several blood donor eligibility restrictions. To view current eligibility guidelines, visit nybc.org or call 800.688.0900.

WHEN: Saturday, May 3, 2025, from 11:00 a.m. – 3:30 p.m.

WHERE: Gorton High School, 100 Shonnard Pl, Yonkers, NY 10703

WHO: Blood Donors, Volunteers, and New York Blood Center Representatives

WHY: It only takes one hour to donate, and a single donation can save multiple lives. Roughly one in seven hospital admissions require a blood transfusion. Those in need include: cancer patients, accident, burn, or trauma victims, newborn babies and their mothers, transplant recipients, surgery patients, chronically transfused patients suffering from sickle cell disease or thalassemia, and many more.

To make an appointment at this blood drive, donors can call 1-800-933-2566 or visit this link. Can't donate blood? You can still make a lifesaving impact by supporting NYBC's mission through financial contributions or volunteering your time. Click here to learn more.

Yonkers Man Sentenced for Killing 51-Year Old Francisco Gordillo



Ludvin Ramos-Cervantes

On April 29, Westchester County District Attorney Susan Cacace announced that Yonkers resident Ludvin Ramos-Cervantes will serve at least 12 years in state prison for fatally shooting 51-year-old Francisco Gordillo in 2024.

Last month, Ramos-Cervantes, 19, was convicted at trial of Manslaughter in the Second Degree and Criminal Possession of a Weapon in the Second Degree for killing Gordillo.

On Friday, Judge Maurice D. Williams sentenced Ramos-Cervantes to 12 years in state prison, plus 5 years of post-release supervision, on the weapons charge, and 5 to 15 years in state prison on the manslaughter charge, the maximum penalty allowable, with both sentences to run concurrently.

DA Cacace said: "Mr. Gordillo's death was completely avoidable. The defendant's decision to introduce a gun into this situation fundamentally altered the course of their lives. Now, he will be held accountable for his reckless conduct."

On Feb. 26, 2024, at approximately 4:45 a.m., Ramos-Cervantes was a passenger in Gordillo's vehicle as Gordillo drove him home after a night out drinking. Upon arrival, Ramos-Cervantes entered his apartment briefly and returned to the car with a .45 caliber pistol.

Ramos-Cervantes then wrapped his arm around Gordillo and shot him in the head. Gordillo was pronounced dead on scene. Ramos-Cervantes initially claimed to police that Gordillo had died by suicide and then later claimed the gun had been fired by accident.

The investigation was conducted by the Yonkers Police Department. DA Cacace thanks the Westchester County Department of Labs and Research's Division of Forensic Sciences and the Westchester County Police Department's Ballistics Unit for their assistance with this case.

The case was prosecuted by Bureau Chief Jonathan Strongin and Assistant District Attorney Leigh Wellington.

Yonkers College Student Named Student Government Leader

New York Institute of Technology has announced the Student Government Association (SGA) executive board for the 2025-2026 academic year. Gunn Aggarwal of Yonkers (10710) will serve as Student Government Association treasurer for the New York City campus.

New York Tech's SGA is the official voice of the student body and advocates on behalf of students' academic, cultural, and special interests. SGA is charged with working alongside the university's faculty and administration to improve every facet of the student experience.

New York Institute of Technology's six schools and colleges offer undergraduate, graduate, doctoral, and other professional degree programs in in-demand disciplines including computer science, data science, and cybersecurity; biology, health professions, and medicine; architecture and design; engineering; IT and digital technologies; management; and energy and sustainability. Visit nyit.edu to learn more.

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Philipse Manor Hall Host 3rd Annual Pinkster Jubilee



Philipse Manor Hall State Historic Site and the Friends of Philipse Manor Hall are pleased to host their 3rd Annual Pinkster Jubilee, in-person at Philipse Manor Hall State Historic Site (29 Warburton Ave. Yonkers, NY) on Saturday, May 10, 2025 from 11:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Celebrate African culture in America and New York's unique history with the Afro-Dutch holiday of Pinkster, a festival of spring, family, culture, and resistance. Join us for live music, dance, games, crafts, vendors, history, and more. This program is free and open to everyone.

Pinkster is the Dutch name for Pentecost, a religious holiday and celebration of spring where people took time to travel and visit family. In the New Netherland Colony, Pinkster was transformed into a unique Afro-Dutch celebration – a week of temporary freedom for enslaved people. Able to travel, earn money, and gather in groups, Pinkster allowed enslaved people to take a break from their endless work, see separated family members, preserve and pass on culture to the next generation, and resist enslavement.

For the third year in a row, Philipse Manor Hall State Historic Site celebrates Pinkster with a Jubilee – we'll feature live music and performances from Chief Baba Niel Clark & the Pinkster Players, Carla and Keyes, and more. Participate in free kids' activities, crafts, and games, and visit vendors specializing in African and African-American gifts, art, food, and more.

2025 Pinkster Jubilee is sponsored in part by the Maurice D. Hinchey Hudson River Valley National Heritage Area.

Learn more at Philipse Manor Hall's Virtual Wing at www.philipsemanorhall.com.

An 8 Year-Old's Wish for Playland to Open



By Eric Wolf Schoen

We take pleasure in answering at once and thus at prominently and at the same time our great gratification that its faithful author is numbered among the friends of Yonkers Rising and Westchester Rising.

Dear Editor,

I am 8 years old.

Some of my little friends say Rye Playland will not open this year. Papa says if you see it in Yonkers Rising or Westchester Rising it's so. Please tell me the truth. Will Rye Playland open this summer? Anita (last name withheld per the request of the author)

I am Happy to say

Anita your little friends are wrong. They have been affected by politicians who come into clashes with the private sector causing poor little 8 year olds to get upset for no reason. As in the Playland case the clash can be lengthy and we don't know which side to believe.

But we know that you, Anita and your friends love visiting Playland. The cost of a visit can be pretty high when one takes into consideration admission and parking, but one is guaranteed to have a great time. The dragon coaster will whip you around giving you the time of your life. For nostalgia, Josh finds the Zoltar machine scene from the movie Big along the big beautiful boardwalk overlooking the beach.

The place Gives you a taste of an era long gone. There's rides for all members of the family including Kiddie Coaster, Double Shot, Crazy mouse and many more.

Not believe that the park will be open. That's like

Not believing in fair tales or not believing in the tooth fairy?

In all this world there will be nothing else real and abiding. You and mommy and daddy have to do the right thing and Select the right officials for government and stay on top of those elected to make sure that you have good classroom materials and quality text books.

Playland? As long as there are Anita's Playland will be there for many years after you leave the planet for kids to enjoy. We must ask for the investment in the facility so there is a Playland with top notch rides and facilities.

Just like there will be plenty of officials during the tenure Of the park, some Democrats, some Republican a mix that will keep many Julia's enjoying the beautiful park every summer.

Reach Eric Schoen at ewschoen@icloud.com.

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-Thomas Jefferson

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ICE Make First Arrest in Westchester; Malston Patrick Was On NY Sex Offender Registry



Malston Patrick

By Dan Murphy

On April 15, Malston Patrick, a 43-year-old citizen of Guyana, was arrested by ICE New York City, in Westchester, and was the first ICE arrest-apprehension in the county in 2025. Garfield is listed on the NY State Sex Offender Registry. In 2019, he was arrested and found guilty of third-degree criminal sexual act with a victim less than 17-years-old and first-degree dissemination of indecent material to minors.

Garfield lawfully entered the county through JFK Airport in 2011, but never left after his temporary visa expired. An ICE Spokesperson confirmed Patrick's arrest on April 6 for violation of the Immigration and Nationality Act, and remains in ICE custody pending deportation.

Patrick was convicted in White Plains City Court in 2019. He has listed addresses on the Sex Registry most recently in Mt. Vernon and in Yonkers.

The White House highlighted Patrick's case among 20 other criminals apprehended by ICE under President Trump. Titled, "These Sick Criminals Are Who Democrats and the Legacy Media Are Defending," The White House writes, "Brutal killers and rapists— all taken off our streets in just the past week thanks to the tireless work of Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE). If Democrats and the legacy media had their way, these sick criminals would still be roaming free. Here are just a few of the depraved criminal illegal immigrants ICE has arrested in the past several days:"

Patrick was listed as Patrick Malston Garfield but according to the sex registry his name in Malston Patrick. The American Immigration Council estimates that there are more than 600,000 undocumented, illegal immigrants living in New York State. ICE has arrested more than 41,000 illegal residents over the first 100 days of the Trump administration.

Note: ICE did not issue a release on Patrick's arrest on April 6. Only The White House release which included Patrick, on April 15, was when media reports picked up the story.

Westchester County and RPI Announce Partnership Benefitting Region's Workforce

Participants Will Earn Certificates or Degrees Through RPI's Rensselaer at Work Program



L-R-County Executive Ken Jenkins, Bridget Gibbons, Director of Westchester County Economic Development, April Gasparri, Director of Aviation at Westchester County Airport, Deputy County Executive Richard Wishnie

Westchester County Executive Ken Jenkins has announced a new strategic partnership with Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute (RPI), the nation's first technological research university. This partnership will provide area working professionals with access to a top tier STEM education on demand, and fulfills a strategic initiative to bring high quality engineering and applied science programs to the County.

Jenkins said: "We are proud to launch this exciting partnership with Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute—an institution with a 200-year legacy of world-class engineering education and innovation. This collaboration brings cutting-edge academic and workforce development opportunities directly to Westchester County, helping us invest in our most valuable asset—our people. Our employers have told us they want to hire more employees with engineering-related skills. By giving our talented local workforce access to advanced education and skill-building programs right here at home, we are strengthening Westchester's economy, empowering our residents, and positioning the County as a hub for innovation and talent."

RPI President Martin A. Schmidt, Ph.D. said: "RPI is honored to partner with Westchester County to broaden access to world-class engineering education for the region's workforce. This collaboration accelerates the transformation of the Hudson Valley into Quantum Valley—positioning the region at the forefront of quantum computing and advanced technologies. We are committed to building strategic partnerships with local employers to ensure our programs meet evolving industry demands, while also engaging directly with prospective students to provide the support, mentorship, and opportunities they need to thrive. Together, we are shaping a vibrant ecosystem of innovation, education, and workforce development that will define the future of the region."

Through the partnership, RPI will provide accredited undergraduate and graduate programs with a focus on multidisciplinary engineering, science and business. Through its Rensselaer at Work Program, RPI offers online, project-based professional development led by industry experts. These programs prepare the workforce for high-demand sectors such as life sciences, advanced manufacturing, technology, clean energy, and quantum computing.

Quantum is a key emerging field, and both RPI and the County have prioritized its growth. In 2023, the County launched the QUANTM Consortium to advance quantum technologies. RPI is the first university globally to host an IBM Quantum System One computer on campus. To support workforce training, RPI offers an 8-week, non-credit Intro to Applied Quantum ProCourse online.

RPI will also hire a Westchester-based business development professional to coordinate local programming.

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Governor Hochul Announces an Additional \$30M to Lease or Purchase and Electric Vehicle in NY

State's Drive Clean Rebate Program Offers Point-of-Sale Rebates for More Than 60 New Electric Vehicles, Making It More Affordable To Drive Electric

Governor Kathy Hochul today announced \$30 million is now available for consumers to lease or purchase new electric vehicles (EVs) in New York through the State's Drive Clean Rebate program, which provides point-of-sale rebates for more than 60 new EVs. In addition, incentives for EV chargers through the Charge Ready NY 2.0 program have been updated to expand consumer access to convenient, easy charging at multifamily buildings and workplaces, including hotels. Today's announcement helps to make driving electric more affordable, increases the number of chargers available, and reduces pollution from the transportation sector in New York State.

"New York's leadership in driving the adoption of electric vehicles is helping consumers stay within their budget when purchasing or leasing a new electric car," Governor Hochul said. "Along with increased savings, we are building out the infrastructure needed to provide hard-working New Yorkers convenient access to charging, helping to reduce range anxiety and make it easier to drive electric. These investments are key to building a cleaner future, lowering emissions and creating good-paying jobs."

The Drive Clean Rebate Program, administered by the New York State Energy Research and Development Authority (NYSERDA), offers a point-of-sale rebate up to \$2,000 off the manufacturer's suggested retail price (MSRP) of an EV at participating car dealerships in New York State. The rebate is available in all 62 counties, with higher rebates available for longer range, all-electric vehicles.

New York State Energy Research and Development Authority President and CEO Doreen M. Harris said, "Converting to EVs reduces the total cost of vehicle ownership through lower fuel and vehicle maintenance costs and NYSERDA is proud to help provide New Yorkers with more purchasing power through these rebates. And by supporting organizations seeking to install charging stations at their place of business, the State is ensuring that more new and existing drivers have a variety of options to power up their vehicle at easy-to-access locations for longer periods of time."

Also announced today to help make EV charging more accessible to New Yorkers, NYSERDA's Charge Ready NY 2.0 program, which helps reduce equipment installation costs for Level 2 chargers, is increasing the incentive amount available to install EV chargers at multifamily buildings and workplaces, including hotels, from \$2,000 to \$3,000 per port. For locations in disadvantaged communities as defined by the Climate Justice Working Group, the amount has also increased to \$4,000 per port.

Additionally, \$3 million is being dedicated to locations that hold educational "ride and drive" community events, purchase or lease EVs, or offer free charging. The program also accepts new equipment and network eligibility applications from EV charger vendors.

New York Department of Public Service CEO Rory M. Christian said, "Promoting electric car ownership and use is a win for consumers and a win for the environment. Congratulations to Governor Hochul for supporting the installation of charging stations and helping to ensure drivers have increased options to charge their vehicles."

The Drive Clean Rebate program has issued over 190,000 rebates to consumers since 2017, contributing to the more than 280,000 EVs on the road statewide. In the last year alone, Charge Ready NY 2.0 has supported the installation of more than 1,000 Level 2 chargers. There are more than 17,000 public chargers installed statewide – more public chargers than any other state except for California – and more than 4,000 semi-public charging stations at workplaces and multifamily buildings across the state.

New York Power Authority President and CEO Justin E. Driscoll said, "New York State has made significant progress in developing the infrastructure to enable the electric vehicle transition, promoting cleaner transportation and reducing emissions statewide. Under Governor Hochul's leadership, this effort is being done with a focus on affordability and reliability. The Power Authority supports this work by aiding in fleet vehicle transitions and expanding the EVolve NY fast charging network, which currently offers 240 charging stations with more to come later this year."

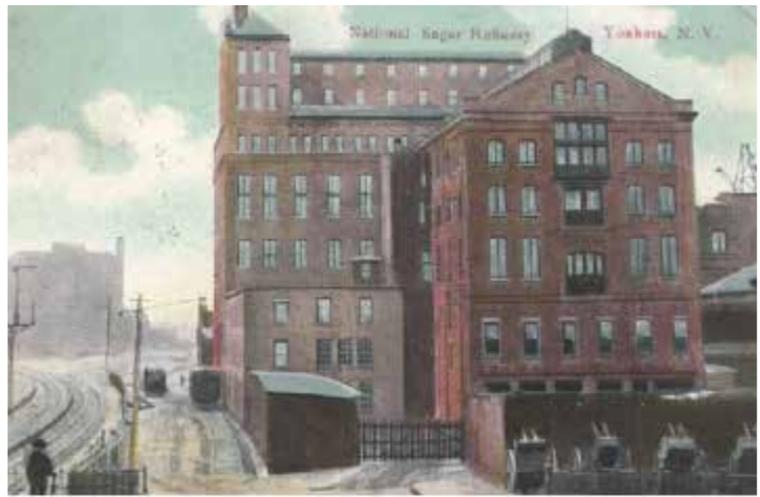
Additionally, the New York Power Authority (NYPA) has undertaken significant efforts to build out high-speed chargers along New York State's major travel corridors through its EVolve NY network, which include:

EVolve NY Fast Charging Network. The New York Power Authority's EVolve NY fast charging network offers 240 chargers at 56 locations along major corridors and routes (I-87, I-81, I-384, I-90, I-88, and I-86) and in all 10 economic development regions of the state. NYPA has surpassed the halfway mark of its goal to install 400 EVolve NY fast chargers by 2026. Battery-powered EVs equipped with fast charging capability can power up in as little as 20 minutes at EVolve NY fast chargers. See map here for locations throughout New York State.

Fast Chargers Coming to LaGuardia. Construction is beginning this month on NYPA's largest EVolve NY site – LaGuardia Airport. The station, which will have 12 high-speed chargers, will be in a parking lot between terminals A and B, just off the Grand Central Parkway, and is expected to be completed by August. The site is for use by the public as well as rideshare vehicles. The airport currently has 13 public Level 2 chargers at Terminal B and C.

The Drive Clean Rebate and Charge Ready NY 2.0 programs are funded through the Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative and the State's Clean Energy Fund.

On This Day in Yonkers History...



Postcard of National Sugar Refinery still in business in Yonkers today

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 5th

May 5, 1928: Former Mayor William Wallin, attorney for Smith Carpet Company, warned Yonkers it was "rapidly taxing the Carpet Company out of Yonkers... if it were not for family pride, a large portion of the plant would be immediately moved to the South."

May 5, 1943: The Yonkers Republican Party launched its drive to repeal Proportional Representation, the first party attack on PR! Although Democrats had criticized it, they did not produce a plan to change it. Republicans advocated the Wallin Plan, electing city-wide and district-based representatives.

Only the City Manager Party still supported Proportional Representation.

Tuesday, May 6th

May 6, 1944: Phelps Dodge announced it was quickly converting the former National Sugar Refinery, foot of Main Street, into Yonkers' fourth Habirshaw Cable and Wire subsidiary. Besides the Point Street works, they had the McLean Avenue unit and the bare wire plant on Saw Mill River Road.

May 6, 1953: Bookman Associates of NY released "Monarchism In The Weimar Republic," written by Locust Hill Avenue's Walther Kaufmann. The first comprehensive study of the rise and decline of the Weimar Republic, it discussed parallels between the Republic and the resurrection of clandestine organizations in Western Germany. Born in Germany, Kaufmann, an intelligence officer in the Army Reserve, taught German at Roosevelt High School.

Wednesday, May 7th

May 7, 1935: "Moon Over Manhattan" opened at Proctor's, the dramatic debut of two Gorton seniors, Hayward Street's Loretta Brandon, and Eleanor Deemer, Lefferts Road. Both girls were circumspect about pursuing acting careers after graduation.

May 7, 1943: Aranya Smart, Women's Chair of the Yonkers War Saving Staff, announced Yonkers children surpassed the goal of "buying" one fleet of Army jeeps... they sold enough bonds to "purchase" six fleets!

The schools raised \$560,200, enough to finance more than 600 jeeps. St. Casimir's led the schools with bond purchases of \$45,000, School 21 was second with sales of more than \$36,000. The Halsted School community purchased bonds worth \$33,000 and Yonkers High families bought a total of \$31,000. Five other school communities purchased bonds worth more than \$20,000.

Thursday, May 8th

May 8, 1947: DeWitt Mackenzie of Normandy Road, syndicated columnist and dean of the AP foreign correspondents, authored "The Associated Press News Annual 1946," published by Rinehart and Company. A running account of the events of the world, the book featured articles and pictures submitted by AP correspondents. MacKenzie wrote a foreign affairs column published around the world.

May 8, 1969: Yonkers native and Roosevelt HS graduate Yoichi Okamoto received the Syracuse University School of Journalism's Newhouse Citation for distinguished photography! Okamoto, the first Presidential Chief Personal Photographer, served President Lyndon Johnson.

Begun in 1961, the award only was presented to outstanding photographers such as Gordon Parks and Margaret Bourke-White.

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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.

y.

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 130 FRANKLIN AVE LLC. Articles of Organization filed with SSNY on 10/15/2024. Office location: Westchester County. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process may be served. SSNY shall mail process to Brian Caldwell at 68 North Steet, Harrison, NY 10528. 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 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 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 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.

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

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
April 30, 2025

City of Yonkers Summary of FY24-25 Executive Budget	
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
	<u>\$1,492,581,181</u>

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
	<u>\$1,492,581,181</u>

Revenues vs. Expenditures \$-

<u>Property Tax Levy</u>	
Board of Education Property Tax Levy	\$ 277,558,586
City Property Tax Levy	174,716,487

Total Property Tax Levy \$452,275,073

<u>Property Tax Rate per \$1000 of Assessed Valuation (AV)</u>	
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

<u>Capital Budget</u>	
Executive Budget City Total:	\$99,150,012
Executive Board of Education Total:	\$17,000,000

Total: \$116,150,012

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

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Westchester County Celebrates Earth Month with 6th Annual Eco-Awards



In recognition of Earth Month 2025, County Executive Ken Jenkins and Westchester County's Department of Environmental Facilities (DEF) hosted the 6th annual Eco Awards at Tibbetts Brook Park in Yonkers. The Eco Awards recognize outstanding contributions to the environment and sustainability made by residents, students, schools, municipalities, businesses and other organizations.

Jenkins said: "The achievements of this year's winners benefit all of us, who live and work in Westchester County. We're proud to celebrate these individuals and organizations from across the County for their exceptional contributions to sustainability. Those being honored today are truly deserving of our recognition and gratitude."

DEF Commissioner Vincent Kopicki said: "It's a privilege for the Department of Environmental Facilities to host the Eco Awards every year and to acknowledge the impressive achievements of the award winners. Each one has made an outstanding contribution to Westchester's environment."

DEF First Deputy Commissioner Louis Vetrone said: "The contributions of this year's Eco Award recipients exhibit a deep dedication to Westchester's environment. Our residents are committed to improving our local environment and it is a significant reason why Westchester is recognized as a regional leader in environmental stewardship and sustainability."

2025 Eco Award Honorees:

The City of Yonkers: For expanding its green fleet to reduce the City's carbon footprint.

John Paulding Elementary School and W.L. Morse School: For developing and implementing the "Wasteless Horseman" composting program, which resulted in diverting 92 pounds of food scraps per day from the waste stream in 2024.

Robison: For moving to a cleaner form of heating oil that blends regular heating oil and biodiesel, contributing to reduced greenhouse gas emissions.

The City of Rye: For achieving the highest municipal curbside recycling rate in Westchester County in 2024.

The Village of Scarsdale: For achieving the highest percent reduction in waste in Westchester County in 2024.

Dakota Cameron: For research contributions focused on reducing the environmental impacts of plastic fibers from the fast fashion industry.

Purchase College State University of New York: For the College's leadership and initiative in implementing numerous waste reduction programs.

Environmental Leaders of Color (ELOC) (Adamaris Flores-Alvarez, Ava Blount, Hawa Massaquoi, Jahneil Palmer, Kalyn Chisholm, Kelvin Roopchand, Maya Shetty, and Niell Jackson): For educating the residents of Westchester County about the importance of proper cooking oil disposal and promoting accessible recycling options.

Retake-Remake: For promoting creative reuse, environmental awareness, and community by providing affordable reclaimed art materials.

Repair Café Hudson Valley: For leadership in hosting community events throughout Westchester that encourage repair and reuse of broken appliances to reduce the amount of material thrown away.

CGA Studio Architects (Christina Griffin Architect PC): For excellence in design, resulting in the first LEED Platinum passive home in Westchester County.

Daniel Colombini: For his commitment to the environment and sustainability through the commission of the first LEED Platinum home in Westchester County.

Mamaroneck Avenue School (Conor Burke, Xavier Frantz, Kaellum Powell, Luca Naclerio, Isaac Elkin): For leading a school-wide plastic bag collection effort and educating students about the impacts of plastic bags on the environment.

A D'ZINE: For repurposing vintage materials received through donations into jewelry to promote eco-friendly practices.

Suzie Ross: For community-based environmental work to combat the climate crisis.

Westchester County remains a leader in recycling and environmental programs. DEF remains focused on offering programs that promote and expand access to food scrap recycling, waste reduction, and compost giveaways for residents across the County. These programs include the first two Household Recycling Days (HRDs) of the year, one in northern Westchester at FDR State Park, and one in southern Westchester at Sprain Ridge Park, which are planned for April 26 and May 3, respectively.

In addition to the three Compost Giveaway events already held in April, DEF will host a fourth Compost Giveaway event this Sunday, April 27, at the Household Materials Recycling Facility in Valhalla, offering residents an opportunity to pick up free compost produced on-site at the CompostED facility in Valhalla.

For more information on these Earth Month events and more, please visit Facebook.com/WestchesterCountyDEF or call the Recycling Help Line (914) 813-5425.

WPF & Westchester County Parks Announce Dates for 2025 Bicycle Sundays Season



Westchester Parks Foundation and Westchester County Parks today announced dates for the 51st Annual Bicycle Sundays season for 2025. During this annual event, bicyclists, skaters, joggers and walkers will take over 6.5 miles of the Bronx River Parkway. The program kicks off May 4 and will continue every Sunday in May, June, July and September – except Memorial Day, Fourth of July and Labor Day weekends. The program is presented by Westchester County Parks and sponsored by the Westchester Parks Foundation and its partners, through generous donations from co-presenting sponsors Con Edison and New York-Presbyterian Westchester. Danny Cycles in Scarsdale is the official Bicycle Sponsor. The event attracts more than 60,000 residents and visitors each year.

Residents and visitors this year can enjoy earlier hours on Sundays in June and July as noted below:

May 4, 11, 18 *10 a.m.-2 p.m.
 June 1, 8, 15, 22, 29 *8 a.m.- Noon Only
 July 13, 20, 27 *8 a.m.-Noon Only
 September 7, 14, 21, 28 *10 a.m.- 2 p.m.
 October 5 *10 a.m.-2 p.m.

Bicycle Sundays have been a beloved Westchester tradition since 1974. Since 2012, this program has been funded by Westchester Parks Foundation and its partners. Each year, thousands of cyclists, joggers, and others come out to enjoy the curves and wooded scenery that make the nation's first parkway a national historic landmark. The path winds alongside the wooded Bronx River Reservation. For more information visit: <https://www.thewpf.org/bicycle-sundays>

About Westchester Parks Foundation

Westchester Parks Foundation is a 501(c)3 not-for-profit, philanthropic organization which provides private support to preserve the County's Park system and improve the quality of life in our communities. Westchester Parks Foundation's mission is to invest in, advocate for, and enhance the over 50 parks of the Westchester County Parks system. For more information, visit thewpf.org

About Westchester County Parks

The nationally accredited Westchester County Parks Department owns more than 50 parks that cover 18,000 acres. There are places to swim, launch a boat, enjoy a picnic, play golf or discover nature as well as miles of paved trails ideal for walking or cycling, rugged pathways for hiking and challenging mountain biking treks. County Park destinations include Playland Park, the Westchester County Center, Muscote Farm, Lasdon Park, Arboretum and Veterans Memorial, and the Kensico Dam Plaza.

We offer a children's camp and a selection of concerts and special events like Bicycle Sundays on the Bronx River Parkway; the popular Cultural Heritage Festivals; and the free July 3 Music Fest and Fireworks at Kensico Dam Plaza. Special winter activities and holiday-themed programs and events take place in the cold-weather months. Go to westchestergov.com/parks to find out more about the parks, programs and services offered by County Parks.

Read it all Online
 at Yonkerstimes.com

Send us your letters, announcements, opinions,

photos and story ideas to

dmurphy@risingmediagroup.com

An Intergenerational LGBTQ+ Celebration in Westchester

Northwell Walk to Raise Health on May 18



L-R: Artist, Harlow Sory, Writer, Annalise M. Wall, and Reporter, Dennis Richmond, Jr.

By: Dennis Richmond, Jr.

The LOFT LGBTQ+ Community Center in White Plains hosted The Histories We Hold: Self-Fashioning Queer Community—an intergenerational celebration of identity, memory, and legacy. The event, made possible by The Endeavor Foundation, Sarah Lawrence College, and the Yonkers Public Library, offered attendees a chance to engage with history in both personal and collective ways.

Hands-on stations included zine and button making, blackout poetry, and an ancestor altar honoring those who came before. An oral history exhibit featured stories from across the LGBTQ+ community, while an archival scan-a-thon encouraged guests to bring in personal documents and photos for digitization—a powerful step toward preserving stories often left out of mainstream narratives.

A standout moment was the panel discussion featuring artist Shanequa Benitez, author Haley Jakobson, historian Ailee Manning, and journalist Dennis Richmond, Jr. Both Benitez and Richmond, Yonkers natives, spoke passionately about representation.

The day concluded with an after-party at Mazzy’s Bar in Mount Vernon—an informal but spirited extension of the day’s themes: joy, connection, and the stories that shape us. For many, the event was a reminder that history isn’t just what’s behind us—it’s what we choose to carry forward.



Sponsor King Quality Roofing and Siding Encourages Residents to Sign Up

With the Northwell Walk to Raise Health just weeks away, sponsor King Quality Roofing and Siding is calling on Westchester County residents to sign up, raise funds, and lace up their walking shoes for the annual event on Sunday, May 18 at Phelps Hospital in Sleepy Hollow.

The Northwell Walk to Raise Health at Westchester, one of five walk locations across New York, benefits Phelps Hospital and Northern Westchester Hospital. At Phelps Hospital, funds will support the Westchester Community Paramedicine program, which expands healthcare access to homebound seniors and other vulnerable members of the community.

“At Phelps Hospital, we’re deeply grateful for the support of our community and partners like King Quality,” said Beata Mastalerz, president of Phelps Hospital. “Funds raised through the walk will directly support our Community Paramedicine program, helping us bring high-quality care into the homes of our most vulnerable neighbors. Every step taken on May 18 moves us closer to a healthier Westchester.”

At Northern Westchester Hospital, donations will go to innovative behavioral health programs to support the emotional wellbeing of children and adolescents across Westchester.

“We’re proud to be part of a movement that puts the mental and emotional health of our youth at the forefront,” said Derek Anderson, president of Northern Westchester Hospital. “Thanks to the generosity of walkers and supporters, like King Quality, we can continue expanding behavioral health programs that meet the needs of children and teens across our region.”

Adults can register with a \$20 donation, while children under 14 can participate for free. Participants can join solo or as part of a team, set personal fundraising goals, and collect donations from friends, family, and community members. Walkers will enjoy an impactful opening ceremony, supported walk routes, live music, interactive health-related booths, kids’ activities, and more. As a thank you for participating, King Quality will be giving away free King Quality hood

continued on pg 10-



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Maria Regina Students Hold School Wide Rosary for Pope Francis



In a school-wide rosary early in the morning, Maria Regina, the renowned all-girls Catholic high school, came together with the Church, the Archdiocese of New York and communities worldwide in mourning the passing of Pope Francis.

The entire student body and members of the administration, faculty, staff, among others, then walked in silence on the school's field, offering prayers and gratitude for Pope Francis' extraordinary leadership and unwavering ministry. Neighbors from the Leffell School, a co-educational Jewish Day School, joined Maria Regina in a gesture of interfaith support for condolences and peaceful new leadership of the Catholic Church.

A post on the school's website, www.MariaRegina.org, noted: "As we follow the path Pope Francis illuminated for us, we trust that he will continue to intercede on our behalf from his place in Heaven."

The Autism Project - FLOS Inc. 4th Annual Mother's Day Honors Luncheon



2025 Honorees



Mistress of Ceremony Jan ne Rose	Key Note Speaker Dr. San a Eyrd	Guest Speaker Daniel Sturt
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To Purchase Tickets Visit:

theautismproject.flos.org/mothers-day-luncheon-2025.html



Yonkers Motorcycle Club to Host Hogs4Hope Fundraiser May 4 JFK Marina, Yonkers;

May 1st National Day of Prayer: Restore Our Nation

America was founded as a Christian nation, not a nation under a particular denomination, but a nation under the foundational principles of God's Word, God-endowed (permanently given) unalienable rights, the right to govern one's self expecting that public officials be public servants (not self-serving) obeying the same laws. Now that we are in the 250th anniversary of the war of the American Revolution, prayer is needed more than ever as our foundations have been under incessant attack.

The National Day of Prayer was instituted in 1952 by President Harry Truman, and set as the first Thursday in May by both houses of Congress and President Reagan in 1988. It was largely ignored during the Obama and Biden administrations while the socialist-marxist idolatry of government as the center of all needs prevailed. From colonial times on, American Governors and Presidents set aside days of prayer and fasting, particularly in times of crisis. Old Testament records show that when God's people turned to kings and governments instead of Him, their goods were taken; they fell into corruption and idolatry and often were defeated and made slaves by other nations.

Besides praying for personal needs, we can pray for our nation. 2 Chronicles 7:14 "If my people, which are called by my name, shall humble themselves, and pray, and seek my face, and turn from their wicked ways; then will I hear from heaven, and will forgive their sin, and will heal their land." The need for healing is evident every day in the chaos and violence in our streets, the divisive ideologies promulgated in our schools and media, the confusion and anxiety many suffer, and the lust for power by some who will use any means to rule over all. The root of it is spiritual and can only be prevailed over by spiritual means. You seek His face by studying His written Word and following its direction.

Pray for men and women with real world skills to rise up and steward the people's money as a sacred trust, frugally using it only for the constitutionally mandated duties of that level of government. (Everything else can be done by private, voluntary giving as has always been the American tradition.) Pray for men and women with professional and business experience to bring a practical understanding of problem solving and what taxes and regulations do to business, innovation and job creation, to serve for short periods of time and then return to making their living under the laws they have passed. Pray for people to turn to God, Who can and will meet every need without requiring a payback nor robbing someone else.

Freedom is only maintained when Americans are self-sufficient, not government dependent. No other society in history was founded on the Biblical principle that all men are created equal and are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable rights among which are life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness. Most societies believed that some were more noble than others and set rights to rule on heredity rather than merit. Today, American marxists attempt to permanently control government at all levels by divisive ideologies such as critical race theory which reboots class warfare from bourgeoisie and workers to oppressors and victims (usually rooted in skin color or gender). That is not godly. God does not favor one person or group of people over another. What gets godly results and makes us more than conquerors in all situations is coming to His Word and finding out what He made available to us through Jesus Christ. Prayer is not mindless repetition; prayer puts us in partnership with the true Superpower, our Creator and Father. Studying His Word enables us to perceive when He has opened doors for us and follow through with the proper action.

Pray for people to come to the truth. "For my people have committed two evils; they have forsaken me the fountain of living waters, and hewed them out cisterns, broken cisterns, that can hold no water." (Jeremiah 2:13) Man's systems are at best limited and unable to sustain constant demands for more. God is an unlimited source of supply, a doer of the impossible and the Creator of what has never been. "Behold, I will do a new thing; now it shall spring forth; shall ye not know it? I will even make a way in the wilderness, and rivers in the desert." (Isaiah 43:19)

God's ways don't diminish others to provide for someone; His ability is unlimited.

Thomas Paine said in Common Sense: government is at best a necessary evil, at worst an intolerable one. Americans have always taken the initiative to come together to meet community needs—so much so that Alexis de Tocqueville, who toured America in 1831 to see why the American Revolution built a peaceful and prosperous and free nation and the French Revolution, communistic and based on class envy was so brutal and bloody. He noted two major reasons: American's commitment to "religion," i.e. God and self-governing initiative and decentralization. Americans come together in a variety of associations around needs, causes, and interests, which builds community. This is a reflection of Biblical principles. In Exodus, Moses was told to delegate responsibilities among the people—not rule over every aspect of their lives. Authority was to be decentralized, close to the people. We get our principle of separation of powers from Isaiah 33:22 "For the LORD is our judge, the LORD is our lawgiver, the LORD is our king; he will save us." Judgments were to be made on the standard of law, not personal nor partisan advantage. Pray for our nation to return to these principles. Deuteronomy 17:18 required the king to write out his own copy of the Word of God in front of the priests. How much would our governments be improved if every official was required to write out a copy of the Constitution? Or more importantly, the Bible?

President Lincoln proclaimed at least three national days of prayer. Desperately trying to save the nation during the Civil War and abolish slavery, he spoke frequently of returning to our founding principles in the Declaration of Independence. Referring to Proverbs 25:11 "A word fitly spoken is like apples of gold in pictures of silver," he saw the Constitution as the practical framework for the godly principles of liberty and equality found in the Declaration. We are already in the 250th year anniversary of the war of the American Revolution, which began on April 19, 1775. Next year will be the 250th anniversary of the Declaration of Independence. Let's restore Americanism by praying to God and taking action (which includes reading His Word and our Declaration and getting back to our founding principles.) You don't have to be good enough to get an answer to prayer, but you do have to have enough spiritual understanding to see when God is opening a door and act. Turn to God to restore our nation. The more you know and live the Word of God, the more freedom and abundance you will have.

Judith Niewiadomski, Yonkers

Northwell Walk, continued from pg 8-

ies to walkers while supplies last.

King Quality's sponsorship of the walk follows the contractor's expansion into the county last year, after decades of serving Long Island homeowners. In Westchester, the contractor also funded an advertising campaign last year to support Feeding Westchester. "We're honored to support the Northwell Walk to Raise Health in Westchester," said King Quality CEO Jeff Brett. "It's a great way for the community to come together, get active, and support high-quality health care here in our area. We encourage everyone to join the walk and help raise health."

Since the walk began 15 years ago, it has raised more than \$8 million for local hospitals and programs. Last year, more than 6,000 walkers participated across five locations throughout the state. Sponsor King Quality Roofing and Siding Encourages Residents to Sign Up

"We're honored to support the Northwell Walk to Raise Health in Westchester," said King Quality CEO Jeff Brett. "It's a great way for the community to come together, get active, and support high-quality health care here in our area. We encourage everyone to join the walk and help raise health."

King Quality's support for Northwell extends beyond the walk. In 2024, Jeff Brett was named to the board of the JTM Foundation, which supports Mather Hospital, a member of Northwell Health, in Port Jefferson. The JTM Foundation works to foster relationships with those individuals and organizations who have a like-minded vision and the desire to support exceptional health care at Mather Hospital.

Since the walk began 15 years ago, it has raised more than \$8 million for local hospitals and programs. Last year, more than 6,000 walkers participated across five locations throughout the state.

To register for the Northwell Walk to Raise Health at Westchester, visit: <https://northwellwalk.com/>.

Groundwork Hudson Valley, continued from pg 1-

"Riverkeeper's legal efforts don't just stop pollution — they help fuel restoration. By strategically directing funds to impactful environmental initiatives, we're ensuring that we're not only holding violators accountable but also fostering a healthier future for our communities and ecosystems," said Tracy Brown, President of Riverkeeper. "Riverkeeper is thrilled to have negotiated this funding and committed it to supporting Groundwork Hudson Valley's vital work."

This afternoon, the "Environmental Benefit Project" funding was used to plant nearly 400 trees from 50 different species at Barack Obama School for Social Justice, a high school in Yonkers, with elected officials, environmental leaders, including Riverkeeper President Tracy Brown, and student volunteers — all getting their hands dirty. This "microforest" will help capture stormwater runoff, provide cooling benefits for students, and improve water quality in the region.

The funding will also support Groundwork Hudson Valley's seven active floodplain restoration sites along the Saw Mill River. These projects include removing vegetation, planting native shoreline vegetation, and ensuring continued habitat restoration success through ongoing upkeep.

"Thanks to Riverkeeper's legal actions, these projects will make a lasting difference for both the environment and our community," said Oded Holzinger, Executive Director of Groundwork Hudson Valley. "We are thrilled to be able to expand our work restoring habitat, organizing community cleanups, capturing stormwater before it can pollute waterways, and working with local elected officials to reduce combined sewer overflows and strengthen climate resilience."

Additionally, Groundwork Hudson Valley will be conducting regular community river cleanups along the Saw Mill River and working with municipal stakeholders and community members from the Saw Mill River Watershed to develop designs and nature-based projects to restore the floodplain, mitigate flooding, improve water quality, and support local habitat.

They will also work with municipal partners and elected officials in Yonkers to promote the implementation of green stormwater infrastructure, particularly in West Yonkers, where sewer and stormwater systems are combined, by developing vulnerability assessments, designs, and demonstration projects. Green infrastructure will capture rainwater, reducing pressure on the local drainage system and combined sewer overflow events.

Learn more at groundworkhv.org.

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With little or no excitement in any other political contests in Westchester this year, the race for Yonkers City Council President will be the TOP political contest, not only in Yonkers, but across the county.

All five democrats who sought to get on the ballot for a democratic primary for council president in June made the ballot. They include, incumbent Council President Lakisha Collins-Bellamy, Councilwoman Tasha Diaz, former Council Presidents Mike Khader and Chuck Lesnick, and Pete Spano.

Let us start with someone with a famous last name but someone you may not be familiar with. Pete Spano is no relation to the large and political Spano family in Yonkers. But he has been involved over the years in helping raise funds and rebuild parks and basketball courts in the city.

Pete Spano got on the ballot and ran for council president four years ago, losing the democratic primary to Collins-Bellamy, with Khader also on the dem. ballot.

Now that he has obtained ballot status for the second time, we wanted to reach out to Spano and talk about his campaign. "It's very humbling and blessed to have the opportunity to get this chance to serve. I enjoy being an advocate for seniors and our youth and the middle class.

"Yonkers stands on the edge of a promising new chapter. With strong community spirit and dedicated leadership, our best days are still ahead. Electing Peter Spano as City Council President is a major step toward a brighter, more united future for all who call Yonkers home."

"My campaign is about giving Yonkers another choice and another chance," said Spano.

Peter Spano said that the last name he shares with the Mayor and many others in Yonkers is good and bad. "Some love the Spano's and some don't. I think I'm different from many of the Spano's, but I have worked with the Mayor on basketball courts in our parks."

"My experience and proven leadership can transfer to any item on the council agenda," said Spano, who volunteers at the YMCA on Sundays and at the Day-spring Community Center on Walnut Street, helping provide free breakfasts and basketball programs.

We have touched base with the other candidates for City Council and all have their base of supporters and are gearing up for the June 24 democratic primary.

Four years ago, Council President Lakisha Collins-Bellamy won the primary with about 10,000 democratic votes cast. This year, the expectation is more of the 65,000 registered democrats in Yonkers will come out to vote for one of the five candidates.

Spano predicted that 3,000 votes will win the democratic primary. Other's say that it will be 4,500.

In other petition news, City Councilman John Rubbo had his petitions challenged by his republican opponent Anthony Solieri's sister Carolyn Solieri.

Rubbo's petitions were deemed valid and he will be on the ballot for re-election in November. After the Board of Election's decision, Rubbo posted,

"I'm proud of the work I've done to serve our city—delivering for small businesses, improving quality of life, supporting our schools, and standing up for families in every corner of Yonkers. It's work that takes time away from my own family, but it's a responsibility I take seriously and would never walk away from. My opponent, who has had zero involvement in our community until the day he decided to run, knows he can't match that record—so instead, he and his sister tried and failed to knock me off the ballot in a desperate attempt to disenfranchise voters. That's not leadership, that's desperation.

"I'm excited to have been endorsed by the Yonkers Democratic and Conservative Parties, and with the support of this incredible community and city, I'll keep working hard for the people of Yonkers. I'm humbled to have so much great support and will work hard all the way to victory this November," said Rubbo.

Carolyn Solieri responded with a post, "Councilman John Rubbo's patronizing attacks expose his contempt for women who dare to defy him. I challenged his fraudulent petitions which are marred by illegible, incomplete signatures, many gathered by non registered Democrats filled with flagrant violations that demand disqualification. Yet, Rubbo deflects, smearing me as desperate while clinging to power through deceit and backroom deals.

"His complicity in abuse is undeniable. He backed a resolution forcing Council-member Corazón Pineda-Isaac to apologize for recording a colleague's vile threat to "slit her throat," siding with the abuser over the victim. This isn't leadership as it's cowardice.

"I'm an educated woman with a dual master's degrees and an unwavering dedication to public service. I will not be silenced. My fight against Rubbo's petitions was a stand for justice and integrity, despite the Board of Elections' opaque tactics. His attacks only betray his dread of accountability. Voters see through his facade, and as the saying goes a reckoning is coming," said Solieri.

Both Rubbo and County Legislator David Tubiolo face challenges this year in their reelection hopes. Tubiolo is being challenged by republican Michael Pineda.

Republicans also have a primary for City Council President with Dean Politopoulos running against Ron Schutte.

State Senator Shelley Mayer Presents \$10k Grant To TRA Group, Inc.



(L to R) Westchester County Board of Legislators representative Benjamin Boykin, New York State Senator Shelley B. Mayer, TRA Board of Directors Vice Chairman Hope Miller, TRA President Catherine Wynkoop

On April 23, 2025, New York State Senator Shelley B. Mayer presented a \$10,000 grant to TRA Group, Inc. at the organization's Volunteer Appreciation Afternoon Tea held at Caramoor Center for Music and the Arts. The grant, which supports operating costs for TRA's non-emergency medical transportation services, will help fund vehicle expenses, fuel, tolls, staff driver salaries, and other operational needs—enabling TRA to reach even more individuals in Westchester's most underserved communities.

The funding will help TRA expand access to its medical ride program, particularly for low-English-speaking residents who often face barriers in obtaining essential healthcare. As TRA continues to experience growing demand, this timely grant supports the organization's ongoing mission to ensure that older adults and adults with low vision can attend critical appointments and remain safely connected to their communities.

Senator Mayer shared: "I am pleased to secure \$10,000 in state funding for TRA Inc. to help with operational costs and to expand access to its medical ride program for non-English speaking communities throughout Westchester. TRA does extraordinary work providing essential transportation to our neighbors who are unable to drive themselves or need rides to medical appointments, improving accessibility and independence for so many Westchester and Putnam residents. I thank Catherine Wynkoop, President of TRA Inc., her team, and the wonderful volunteers for their continued commitment to our community."

"We are so grateful to Senator Mayer for recognizing the value of TRA's work and for her support in helping us expand service for those who need it most," said Catherine Wynkoop, President of TRA. "This funding allows us to meet the demand for rides and further strengthens our ability to serve non-English-speaking communities with compassion, dignity, and consistency."

TRA was also joined at the presentation by Westchester County Executive Ken Jenkins and Westchester County Board of Legislators representative Benjamin Boykin, who have both been strong champions for community-based services across the region. Their presence underscored the collaborative spirit of support among local leaders working to improve quality of life for Westchester residents.

As demand grows, TRA continues to expand its capacity—recently onboarding new volunteers, which has resulted in a significant increase in completed rides. The organization is also working to secure two wheelchair-accessible Toyota Sienna vans to better meet the needs of riders with mobility challenges.

Since 2011, TRA has provided more than 38,000 free, non-emergency medical rides and connected thousands more to services through its TRA Resource Hub, a free online platform offering 24/7 access to hundreds of aging and disability support services. Visit my-tra.org to learn more or become a volunteer.

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For Their Dedication and Caring
In the Community

Thursday, May 9, 2024
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Dinner & Awards Ceremony – 7:00 P.M.
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\$75. per person

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Please send check to Annette Volino at 385 Kimball Ave. Yonkers, NY 10704 or
Venmo @EastYonkersKiwanis. Please indicate the name of the nurse honoree.



Yonkers History, continued from pg 5-

Friday, May 9th

May 9, 1919: Yonkers HS Graduate Lieutenant Colonel Joseph Stilwell was awarded the Distinguished Service Medal for his “exceptionally meritorious and distinguished service,” for his service during the St. Mirghiel offensive and the Woevre operations.

May 9, 1922: Yonkers negotiated buying part of St. John’s Episcopal Church property to widen Hudson Street and Riverdale Avenue to relieve traffic in Getty Square. If the deal was successful, the Church parsonage and Home for the Aged would be demolished. However, since Cochran family members had given property to the church, their wills and deeds were being reviewed to ensure there were no restrictions preventing the sale.

Saturday, May 10th

May 10, 1954: City Manager Charles Curran asked the Thruway Authority to reimburse Yonkers for the money it had to spend buying water from New York City, since Thruway construction was dirtying Yonkers’ chief source for water, the Saw Mill River. So much dirty construction water was being dumped into the river, it forced the closing of the Tube Water filtration beds.

Curran stated, “I cannot impress upon you too much the severity of the health hazard... an immediate and positive solution (must) be found for this problem... causing pollution and increased turbidity in the Saw Mill River.”

At the conference between the contractor, Thruway Authority and local officials, Curran was told “... there was no real solution... the condition would continue for a period of two to three years.” Curran suggested immediate action and a definitive written agreement remediating the situation. In the meantime, the NYC Board of Water Supply asked permission to take more water from the Delaware River.

Sunday, May 11th

May 11, 1894: Future US Ambassador Ellsworth Bunker was born in Yonkers. Bunker became President of the National Sugar Refining Company founded by his father and served as President of the American Red Cross for three years.

After retirement, he served as Ambassador to Argentina, Italy, India, Nepal, and South Viet Nam, advising presidents Truman, Eisenhower and Johnson.

May 11, 1931: The directors of the Hollywood Inn voted to dissolve its corporation; the jump in Yonkers taxes from \$1600 to \$8000 was a major factor in the financial crisis the center faced.

Started in 1896, the Inn had been one of the leading facilities for young men, and responsible for the success of many of Yonkers sports stars.

May 11, 1954: C. H. Lang of the Albany office of the State Thruway Authority sent a letter assuring City Manager Curran it was investigating his complaint and would cooperate to alleviate the condition. BUT. There was no way to stop mud and clay from washing into the river; it would continue throughout construction. Even worse, Curran was warned more damage would be done by plans to move part of the river 50 feet west into a new channel being built from Tarrytown to Tuckahoe Road.

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

Northwell Walk, continued from pg 9-

“We’re honored to support the Northwell Walk to Raise Health in Westchester,” said King Quality CEO Jeff Brett. “It’s a great way for the community to come together, get active, and support high-quality health care here in our area. We encourage everyone to join the walk and help raise health.”

King Quality’s support for Northwell extends beyond the walk. In 2024, Jeff Brett was named to the board of the JTM Foundation, which supports Mather Hospital, a member of Northwell Health, in Port Jefferson. The JTM Foundation works to foster relationships with those individuals and organizations who have a like-minded vision and the desire to support exceptional health care at Mather Hospital.

Since the walk began 15 years ago, it has raised more than \$8 million for local hospitals and programs. Last year, more than 6,000 walkers participated across five locations throughout the state.

To register for the Northwell Walk to Raise Health at Westchester, visit: <https://northwellwalk.com/>.

Five Attorney Generals from Across the Country Coming to Westchester May 8

Office of the New York State Attorney General Letitia James

Protecting the People
Join us for a community impact hearing

Thursday May 8, 2025 6-8 p.m.

SUNY Westchester Community College

Location will be provided after registration. Guests can start entering at 5 p.m. Seating is limited. Event registration is first-come, first-served.

New York Attorney General **Letitia James**

California Attorney General **Rob Bonta**

Illinois Attorney General **Kwame Raoul**

Minnesota Attorney General **Keith Ellison**

New Jersey Attorney General **Matt Platkin**

Register to attend:
ag.ny.gov/community-impact-hearing

To Join NYAG James for Community Impact Hearing on Trump policies

New York Attorney General Letitia James is hosting a community impact hearing on May 8, 2025, from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. at SUNY Westchester Community College to hear from New Yorkers about the impact the Trump administration’s policies are having on their lives. Joined by California Attorney General Rob Bonta, Illinois Attorney General Kwame Raoul, Minnesota Attorney General Keith Ellison, and New Jersey Attorney General Matt Platkin, Attorney General James will provide an update on her office’s work to protect New Yorkers’ rights and uphold the rule of law.

Since January 20, Attorney General James and her fellow attorneys general have been cutting through the chaos of the Trump administration to defend critical services, maintain the benefits people rely on, and fight back against federal overreach. The Office of the Attorney General (OAG) has filed 12 lawsuits and 18 amicus briefs against the Trump administration to ensure all New Yorkers – and all Americans – are protected from the attacks being levied by the federal government.

New Yorkers who have been impacted by Trump administration service cuts, funding freezes, mass layoffs, and other harmful policies are encouraged to provide testimony and share their experiences with Attorney General James and her fellow attorneys general. Individuals who wish to provide oral testimony at the hearing must submit their written testimony online by 5:00 p.m. There is also an opportunity to submit questions for the attorneys general.

To register and ask questions, visit <https://ag.ny.gov/community-impact-hearing>

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Events

ANTIQUe LOVERS TAKE NOTE! BRIMFIELD IS HERE---ALL SHOWS! May 13-18. New shows open daily! www.brimfieldantiqueweek.com 2025 dates: May 13-18, July 9-14, September 2-7

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Weekend Events in Westchester County Parks

SATURDAY, MAY 3

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

Blacksmith Workshop, 9 a.m. - 2 p.m. Make your own items in Muscoot Farm's blacksmith shop, led by Master Blacksmith, Bill Fitzgerald. \$100. For ages 18 and older. Also: May 10, 17. Get details and register <https://www.muscotfarm.org/programs-events/event-calendar.html/event/2025/05/03/blacksmith-workshop/515797>

Marshlands Conservancy, Rye: (914) 835-4466

Birding for Beginners, 10 a.m. - 11:30 a.m. For anyone interested in birdwatching, this is a great way to learn some basics. Bring binoculars. Led by Chris Mignone of Central Westchester Audubon.

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

Native Tree Giveaway, 10 a.m. - 12 p.m. In honor of Arbor Day, Lasdon is giving away native trees. Come to the welcome center between 10 a.m. and 12 noon to get yours; first-come, first-served until supplies run out; one tree per household.

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

Pollinator Garden Cleanup, 10 a.m. - 12 p.m. Join Muscoot Farm to refresh and revitalize its pollinator garden for the upcoming growing season! Volunteers will clear out garden beds, prune perennials to encourage healthy growth and prepare the soil for new plantings. Register: <https://www.volunteernewyork.org/opportunity/a07Nr0000100KHtIAM/pollinator-garden-cleanup>

Ridge Road Park, Hartsdale: (914) 231-4205

Puppy Yoga, 10 a.m. - 12 p.m. Participate in a yoga class that combines wellness and puppy love for a paws-itively calming and happy experience. Located in Picnic Area 3. Bring your own mat. Puppies will be provided; please do not bring yours. \$50 per person. Registration required: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/1317432719729?aff=oddtcreator>

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

History and Highlights of Lasdon Tour, 10 a.m. - 11 a.m. A certified urban naturalist leads this walking tour. Stops include examining the William and Mildred Memorial Garden, the magnolia trees, lilacs, conifers and azalea garden. Visitors also learn about the history of Lasdon's main house. Also: June 7. Pre-registration required <https://www.lasdonpark.org/event/history-and-highlights-of-lasdon-tour/>

Hilltop Hanover Farm and Environmental Center, Yorktown Heights: (914) 862-5050.

Animal Meet & Greet, 11 a.m. - 12 p.m. See Hilltop's animals up close! Join one of our educators to learn more about our cows and goats, how we care for them and their purpose on the farm! Also: June 7. \$15 per person; registration required: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/animal-meet-greet-tickets-1124513212289?aff=oddtcreator>

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

Wonderful World of Water, 11 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. Using hands-on games and activities, let's explore water and how we can conserve our precious resources.

Hilltop Hanover Farm and Environmental Center, Yorktown Heights: (914) 862-5050.

Old Time Music Jam, 11:30 a.m. - 3 p.m. This event is a monthly gathering of local, acoustic musicians who play traditional Appalachian fiddle music. Play or just listen, and enjoy the community that music can create! Musicians of all levels are welcome. Also: June 7.

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

BLOOM! Westchester Watercolor Group Exhibit Opening Reception, 12 p.m. - 3 p.m. The Westchester Watercolor Group presents their "BLOOM!" exhibit in Muscoot Farm's main house for the public to view Saturdays and Sundays from 12 noon to 4 p.m. in May. Trailside Nature Museum at Ward Pound Ridge Reservation, Cross River: (914) 864-7322

Spring Ephemerals Hike, 1 p.m. - 2 p.m. All of early spring's special flowers are out in full force. Let's learn about what's growing and their unique roles within our ecosystems.

Marshlands Conservancy, Rye: (914) 835-4466

Goats in the Meadow!, 1 p.m. - 2:30 p.m. The goats from Fat & Sassy Goats are back! Watch them doing what they do best—eat—and find out why they're in our meadow.

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

Garden Clean-Up Day (Teens Only), 1 p.m. - 3 p.m. Students ages 13, 14 and 15 can get their hands dirty as they prepare garden beds, plant seeds, transplant and help kick off the garden season. Registration required: <https://www.volunteernewyork.org/opportunity/a07Nr000010d5AsIAI/garden-clean-up-day-teens-only>

Lenoir Preserve, Yonkers: (914) 968-5851

Spring Hike to Untermyer Gardens, 1 p.m. - 3 p.m. Join us for a pleasant two-mile hike, stopping to observe and learn about the signs of spring. The hike leaves Lenoir's nature center promptly at 1:10 p.m

SUNDAY, MAY 4

Croton Point Park, Croton-on-Hudson: (914) 862-5290. History & Natural History of Croton Point Park, 9 a.m. - 11 a.m. Ages 6 and up can join the village historian and the park naturalist on a hike to explore the scenic and fascinating park. Free. Meet at the entrance to the RV Park. Wear sturdy shoes.

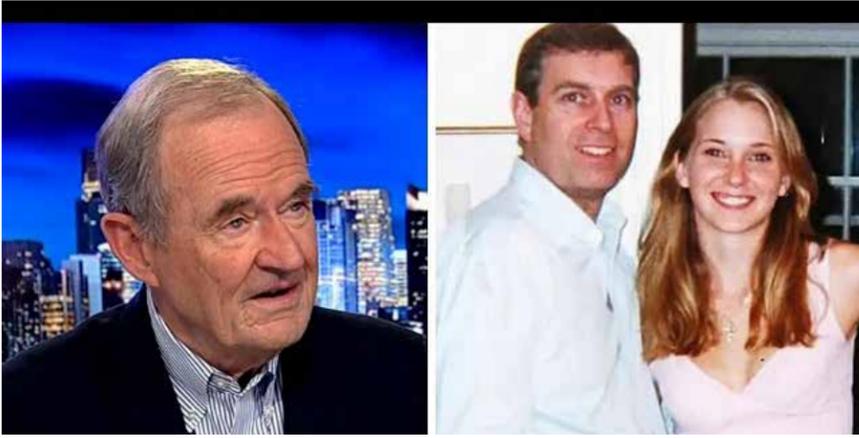
Lasdon Park, Arboretum and Veterans Memorial, Katonah: (914) 864-7268. Yoga in the Gardens, 9:30 a.m. - 11 a.m. Also: May 11, 25; June 8, 15, 22, 29. \$25 per person; registration required: <https://www.lasdonpark.org/event/yoga-in-the-gardens-2/2025-05-04/>

Cranberry Lake Preserve, North White Plains: (914) 428-1005. Bird Walk, 10 a.m. - 11:30 a.m. We'll take a moderate one-mile hike to observe the preserve's different bird species. Hiking shoes and binoculars are recommended.

Lasdon Park and Arboretum, Katonah: (914) 864-7263. Gardening Sundays, 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, dead-heading, potting up, and more. Get details and register: <https://www.lasdonpark.org/event/gardening-sundays-2/2025-05-04/>

Westchester Attorney David Boies Remembers Virginia Giuffre

St. Mary's, continued from pg 1-



David Boies, left, attorney for Virginia Giuffre, right pictured with Prince Andrew, on the Piers Morgan show after her death

By Dan Murphy

I admire both Virginia Giuffre and David Boies. Virginia, who died at the age of 41 last week, was one of the victims of Jeffrey Epstein who brought the sexual horrors that she and many underage women had to endure from Epstein and his friends and fellow perverts into the public spotlight.

The courage of Virginia Giuffre, to take the public attacks against her by those who did not believe her or wanted to discredit her for Epstein and Ghislaine Maxwell, is powerful.

But we also thank David Boies for representing Virginia Giuffre and in our view, brining instant credibility to her allegations. Boies, who lives in Armonk, is one of the most famous and successful litigation attorneys in the country.

Boies is not known for representing victims or criminal defendants. But he came forward to represent Virginia Giuffre, and helped force a settlement from Prince Andrew of England who is seen with Virginia in the photo above. A photo, by the way, that Prince Andrew refuses to acknowledge is real.

Giuffre recounted having sex with Prince Andrew when she was 17. The settlement of a New York lawsuit was reportedly for \$16 Million, paid for by Queen Elizabeth in 2022.

With the help of Boies standing beside her, Giuffre was able to stand up to Prince Andrew and his royal family, money and attorneys until the Prince had two choices; testify at trial and risk perjury or settle the case.

When Prince Andrew settled his case with Virginia, most of the world finally realized what had happened. Giuffre was speaking the truth and calling out the crimes of sex abuse against minors. It wasn't a popular topic of discussion, child sex abuse never is.

In 2010, Giuffre came forward with her allegations, and in 2024 she created a non profit, Victims Refuse Silence.

David Boies appeared on the Piers Morgan Show after Giuffre's death. "There is sadness and anger that our society let this happen. She was an extraordinary strong woman who was ultimately brought down by years of abuse at the hands of Jeffrey Epstein and then years of verbal abuse and attacks by her collaborators.

"Without her courage and without her coming forward, Jeffrey Epstein would probably still be abusing young girls."

"When she came to me in 2014, she knew that this would bring a crushing amount of abuse on her head from Epstein and his powerful collaborators. I wanted to be sure that she was correct in everything so I had her go through a rigorous examination and a polygraph test. I never had any doubts after that.

Morgan: "You worked on Virginia's case for free."

Boies: "She couldn't afford the kind of representation she needed, not only from me, but from the firm and attorney Sigrid McCawley."

"This was one of the most gravest injustices our system has seen and nobody was doing anything about it. She epitomizes the triumph of the human spirit to become a passionate, strong, courageous advocate for the vulnerable. She dedicated the last 11 years of her life fighting to make sure that other children didn't have to go through what she went through.

"Virginia had hoped that Prince Andrew would take responsibility and I think he needs to take responsibility for what he did. If he wants forgiveness he has to take responsibility."

"I think that while we've made tremendous progress in exposing the evil of sex trafficking there is still a perception bias among most of society including the prosecutors and the media that looks down on the girls who are trafficked, a sense that somehow this must have been there fault.

"They don't think of them as their sister or wife or daughter or girlfriend. I think if you had what happened to Virginia and the many other Epstein victims had happened to professional woman, you would have had a different reaction from prosecutors and the media. This is one of the tragedies for our legal system, that we have devalued the humanity of these young girls," said Boies.

Watch the interview at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=tm-ouSZnCE&t=480s>

"I joined the parish and city employees at Immaculate Conception of Saint Mary's. Shared The parish and Father Anthony welcomed my family and I along with City employees, as they celebrated a mass of repose for Pope Francis. The Vatican recently appealed the closure of this church, the oldest and first Catholic Church in Yonkers. Let's all support Saint Mary's! I know I will!

Spano talked about how from his office at City Hall he can hear the bells of St. Mary's Church, and how sad it would be if the bells stopped ringing. "It was a horrible thought to think that the bells may be silenced because since 1908 every Mayor was able to sit back and listen to the bells and think about our Savior Lord Jesus Christ. It was important that this church be saved.

"This church, St. Mary's is where it all began. While the building was saved by the Vatican, and maybe even by the Pope himself, we all know that only the church can save this building.

"I think we need to recommit to St. Mary's. My grandparents came to Yonkers as immigrants and came here. This church is really the church of Yonkers in so many ways."

Council President Collins-Bellamy has also strongly supported keeping St. Mary's Open. "This historic ruling marks the first time a parish closure decree has ever been reversed by the Vatican in the Archdiocese of New York, and only the ninth such revoation in moder Catholic history worldwide.

"This is a day of joy, relief, and renewed fait. The parishioners of St. Mary's never gave up hope. They perservered, organized, prayed, and they were heard."

Council President Collins-Bellamy introduced a resolution calling on the Archdiocese of NY to explore alternatives to the closure of St. Mary's and the council unanimously adopted it. "I'm deeply grateful to my colleagues on the

City Council who stood united in this cause. Our collective resolve sent a clear message-that our city's cultural and spiritual fabric matters. St. Mary's has a legacy and a future as a beacon of faith and service in Yonkers."

So what comes next for St. Mary's? The Archdiocese of NY will have to comply with the Vatican's decision, and hopefully, work together to make a real effort for a path forward to raise funds to pay for much needed renovations.

St. Mary's Friends has organized and is moving forward with a fund raising effort.

St. Mary's Friends is a non-profit organization formed in the State of New York. St. Mary's Church (Church of the Immaculate Conception) is located in Yonkers, New York, and was founded in 1848. The mission of St. Mary's Friends is to ensure the preservation of St. Mary's Church and to ensure the integrity of the buildings and the sacred objects located within the Church.

St. Mary's Friends is asking parishioners, both past and current, to donate whatever they can to help. Other interested donors include people who care about saving Sacred Spaces. Large or small, all donations will make a difference. Donations can be sent via check to a secure mail box.

St. Mary's Friends, Inc.

PO Box 288

Yonkers NY 10703-0288

Donations can also be made via Zelle, using the email address: stmarysfriendsorg@gmail.com.

Westchester County & NYS Comptroller DiNapoli Put \$4.7 Million in Residents Pockets

A cooperative effort between the Westchester County Board of Legislators, Westchester County Executive Ken Jenkins, and New York State Comptroller Thomas P. DiNapoli helped Westchester residents recover nearly \$5 million in unclaimed funds between August and December 2024.

Last August, the County sent letters to more than 60,000 Westchester households that the Comptroller confirmed had one or more individuals with unclaimed funds. These funds often result from dormant accounts associated with banks, corporations, insurance companies, and the courts. They might include uncashed paychecks, missed reimbursements, or other financial assets that have yet to reach their intended recipients, particularly if they've moved or simply lost track of unopened mail.

The letters, along with six in-person, facilitative workshops held from Yonkers to Somers, were instrumental in helping County residents successfully claim a collective \$4.67 million that was rightfully theirs. (You can claim yours from the State at no cost. Search for whether you have unclaimed funds here.)

Board Chair Vedat Gashi said, "This initiative has reunited Westchester residents with nearly \$5 million of their own money. It's a perfect example of how government should work – cutting through red tape to deliver real results for the people we serve."

Legislator David Imamura, who sparked the larger initiative after launching a mailer-and-workshop campaign within his district in late 2023, said, "I am thrilled that Westchester County is playing a part in getting County residents their money back. It's their money, and they deserve it."

County Executive Ken Jenkins said, "We're incredibly grateful to New York State Comptroller Tom DiNapoli for not only spearheading this vital program, but for all the work he does every day to protect New Yorkers' financial interests. Thanks to his partnership and the dedication of the Board of Legislators we were able to connect thousands of Westchester families with money that was rightfully theirs. This is government at its best—working together to deliver real value to the people we serve."

New York State Comptroller Thomas P. DiNapoli said, "One of the best parts of my job is reuniting New Yorkers with their lost money. My office safeguards over \$19 billion dollars in unclaimed funds and works hard every day to return money to its rightful owners. Thanks to County Executive Ken Jenkins, Board Chair Vedat Gashi and the entire County Board of Legislators, we were able to put nearly \$5 million back into the pockets of Westchester residents in just five months."

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

-Pete Seeger-

Read it all Online at Yonkerstimes.com

WESTCHESTER COUNTY SOLID WASTE COMMISSION TO EXPAND POPULAR SMALL BUSINESS PROGRAM FOR LOCAL HAULERS

Reduced Fees Will Support Local Haulers Looking to Enter or Remain in the Regulated Waste Industry

Westchester County is expanding its Small Business Incentive Program to further level the playing field for small, local haulers. Launched by the Solid Waste Commission, Phase II of the initiative will allow additional eligible companies — particularly small “junk” haulers — to benefit from significantly reduced licensing and vehicle fees, removing a key financial barrier that has kept many from entering the industry or achieving compliance.

The first phase of the program, introduced in 2024, provided discounted fees to C-2 haulers operating with one truck and no container business. With the launch of Phase II, the Commission is expanding access to cover a second group of small haulers, including those specializing in cleanouts and household removals. These businesses often lack the resources to pay standard license application costs, which are the same as those for much larger haulers.

County Executive Ken Jenkins said: “Small businesses are the backbone of Westchester’s economy, and we must ensure they are not shut out of opportunity due to financial constraints. By expanding this program, we are helping ensure that local entrepreneurs — especially those operating on a small scale — have the support they need to comply with regulations and grow responsibly. This initiative reflects our ongoing commitment to equity, economic development and smart government.”

Westchester County Solid Waste Commission Executive Director Peri Kadanoff said: “The response to the first phase of this program was incredibly positive, not just from those who benefited but from the larger hauling community. Phase II builds on that momentum by supporting another group of hardworking small businesses that deserve a pathway to compliance and economic opportunity.”

Phase II of the program is expected to assist at least 13 small companies currently licensed with the Solid Waste Commission. The reduced fees will apply to new applicants and currently licensed businesses meeting eligibility criteria. The program’s cost is projected at \$40,000, fully covered within the Commission’s budget. The Commission unanimously voted for the expansion in early April.

SUPREME COURT OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK
COUNTY OF WESTCHESTER

INDEX NO. 73778/2024

U.S. BANK TRUST NATIONAL ASSOCIATION, NOT IN ITS INDIVIDUAL CAPACITY BUT SOLELY AS OWNER TRUSTEE FOR RCAF ACQUISITION TRUST,
Plaintiff,
vs.

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

"JOHN DOE #1" through "JOHN DOE #12," the last twelve names being fictitious and unknown to plaintiff, the persons or parties intended being the tenants, occupants, persons or corporations, if any, having or claiming an interest in or lien upon the premises, described in the complaint,
Defendants.
Plaintiff designates WESTCHESTER as the place of trial situs of the real property

SUPPLEMENTAL SUMMONS

Mortgaged Premises:
337 NORTH 7TH AVENUE, MOUNT VERNON, NY 10550

Section: 165.45, Block: 1100, Lot: 23

To the above named Defendants

YOU ARE HEREBY SUMMONED to answer the Complaint in the above entitled action and to serve a copy of your Answer on the plaintiff’s attorney within twenty (20) days of the service of this Summons, exclusive of the day of service, or within thirty (30) days after service of the same is complete where service is made in any manner other than by personal delivery within the State. The United States of America, if designated as a defendant in this action, may answer or appear within sixty (60) days of service. Your failure to appear or to answer will result in a judgment against you by default for the relief demanded in the Complaint. In the event that a deficiency balance remains from the sale proceeds, a judgment may be entered against you.

NOTICE OF NATURE OF ACTION AND RELIEF SOUGHT

THE OBJECT of the above caption action is to foreclose a Mortgage to secure the sum of \$440,000.00 and interest, recorded on January 29, 2007, in Control Number 463380234, of the Public Records of WESTCHESTER County, New York., covering premises known as 337 NORTH 7TH AVENUE, MOUNT VERNON, NY 10550.

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

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

NOTICE

YOU ARE IN DANGER OF LOSING YOUR HOME

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

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

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

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

Dated: March 28th, 2025

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

Gorton Lab Tech, continued from pg 1-

School—an Academy of Medical Professions magnet school—thanks to a partnership between COLA (Commission on Laboratory Accreditation), Columbia University’s Department of Pathology and Cell Biology, the Association of Public Health Laboratories (APHL), and the Westchester Women’s Agenda.

Created in response to a growing shortage of skilled laboratory professionals, particularly in the New York region, the program aims to spark student interest and prepare them for careers in this critical healthcare sector.

The initiative kicked off with a Career & College Info Session on April 10, where students learned about diverse careers in laboratory technology and the academic pathways that lead to clinical lab degrees. On April 24, the program hosted a Lab Immersion Day for 40 Gorton juniors. Students participated in interactive case studies in hematology, cytogenetics, and microbiology—working alongside scientists from New York and across the country. The hands-on experience gave students practical exposure to diagnostic techniques, data analysis, and real-world lab procedures.

This collaboration opens a direct path for our students to rewarding, well-paying careers in healthcare and science—and strengthens our community,” said Jamie Morales, Principal of Charles E. Gorton High School.

“Solving the lab tech shortage is essential to maintaining the high standards of healthcare in New York,” added Joann Li, of Columbia University’s Department of Pathology and Cell Biology.

Kathy Nucifora, Chief Operating Officer of COLA, said, “We’re thrilled to provide students with real-world experiences that spark interest in laboratory science careers. Our partnership with Gorton High School sets the stage for building a model that can expand to schools across the country.” The NextGen Lab Tech pilot not only addresses a critical workforce shortage in the Westchester area but also empowers students to imagine—and prepare for—successful futures in science and healthcare.

ALL IN FOR YONKERS.



With Empire City Casino by MGM Resorts as a full casino, Yonkers will blossom into an unmatched cultural destination for the region, offering world-class entertainment, exquisite dining, and authentic experiences. Yonkers, this is for US.



MAYOR MIKE SPANO