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Roosevelt High School Valedictorian-Salutatorian Look to the Future



RHS Valedictorian Samuel Roque, left, and Salutatorian Beyonce Carbuccia

By Dan Murphy

Congratulations to 2023 Roosevelt High School Valedictorian Samuel Roque and Salutatorian Beyonce Carbuccia. Samuel Roque will graduate with a weighted GPA of 100. His favorite teachers are Roosevelt are Math teacher Marisa Signore, Science teacher Deisy Acevedo and English teacher Celin Jagessar.

“They taught me inside and outside of school. I have a great relationship with all three of them –during school they helped guide me, and gave me confidence in my ability to do my best.”

His favorite courses are Pre-Calculus and any science course. “I have always been astonished at science, and the new things we learn and how scientists have helped us with new discoveries and experiments. And Pre-Calc is a class that I enjoy learning every day.”

Samuel has completed 11 College link courses at Roosevelt. His extracurricular activities including serving in the Boy Scouts, and playing on the Yonkers Force Football team.

I got into Boy Scouts in the 2nd grade and have stayed involved. It helped me connect to my community and help people. We did clean ups and helped feed people who needed it. It’s good to give back to the people of Yonkers, who have given us so much.”

Rogue has been on the Yonkers Force Football team for two years. “Football has helped give me the mental and physical toughness for my transition into high school and now into college.

Samuel has also been a participant in My Brother’s Keeper for the past two years. “It’s a great way to highlight the good things in our community but also examine ways that we can do better.”

Roque has also been involved in the Yonkers community by working at the

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See You at the Library: Inspiring Staff, Inspiring Spaces, Inspiring Yonkers!



Inspiring Staff
Inspiring Spaces
Inspiring Yonkers
Strategic Plan 2023-2027

By Nancy Maron, President, Board of Trustees, Yonkers Public Library

This week, Yonkers Public Library launches its new “strategic plan.”If you have been keeping an eye on the changes in the Yonkers Public Library over the last few years, you know that things have been moving fast. Since our last plan was written, we launched the Foundation for the YPL, navigated the onset of Covid and welcomed the new leadership team of Jesse Montero and Shauna Porteus, who along with the dedicated and talented staff, have kept up a rapid pace of creative upgrades throughout the system. When the world moves so quickly, having a “road map” is extremely important; this plan outlines the principles that will guide our growth over the next five years.

The 2023-2027 Strategic Plan was developed in consultation with input from thousands of Yonkersites across the city who shared thoughts in a survey or participated in interviews or focus groups. Jesse, Shauna and a team of 30 staffers undertook in-depth self-assessments of key areas including technology, spaces, and programs, developing detailed proposals for improvements throughout the system. Then our strategic planning committee came together to review this all.

The plan you will see is not just a “to do” list of things to fix or improve! As a strategic plan, it sets out an ambitious vision and defines some key areas that the YPL Board and staff agree should be prioritized. It includes a clear statement of our mission and articulates the principles that guide our work.

In the weeks ahead we will share more about what YPL has in store, but for now here are some highlights:

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Read us online at Yonkerstimes.com

Downtown Salon Owner: Yonkers Is Thriving Under Mayor Spano!



L-R-Aisha Atkins, Robert Roberts, Sachi Nails owner Tenisha Ramos, City Council Majority Leader Tasha Diaz, Councilmember Shanae Williams, Jeffrey Atkins (Ja Rule), Jerron Love (co-owner), photo by Sharief Ziyadat
By Dan Murphy

Tenisha Rae, owner and operator of Sachi Nails Salon in downtown Yonkers, is one of a growing number of small business owners and entrepreneurs who have seen the continued progress in Yonkers under Mayor Mike Spano and want that progress to continue.

But Rae also brings a unique perspective to the conversation about the business climate in Yonkers. She has spent her life living in two cities: Los Angeles and Yonkers, but chose Yonkers to build her business.

Sachi Nails and Body Spa, located across from historic Philipse Manor Hall, will be celebrating its 2-year anniversary in June. The message from Rae is an important one: Under Mayor Spano, businesses like hers can still succeed.

“Yonkers is thriving! I love what Mayor Spano has done, building partnerships and creating a climate where businesses like mine can succeed. You have to come up with a smart business plan and work hard, but the American Dream can still happen, right here in downtown Yonkers,” said Rae.

“I was born and raised in LA. We moved to Yonkers in my teens, but I moved. When I came back, I saw that Yonkers was flourishing and I wanted to be a part of this vibrant downtown community. It is very clear to me that what Mayor Spano is doing is working. So I decided to open my business, and bring my LA touch to Yonkers.

“We are so excited to be a part of the Downtown Yonkers community. In the last year we’ve been able to add a second tier of services in Body Contouring and Esthetic services to over 3500 clients in need of an escape to wellness and beauty. We have also worked diligently to help the community (YWCA) becoming advisors in Empire beauty and Christine Valmy academies. We are members of the Environmental Committee and Downtown Yonkers BID.

“Sachi Nails and Body offers organic natural products a way to rejuvenate, revive and transform through wellness. Loyalty goes a long way... we’ve garnered 4.8 stars because of our excellent customer service, received over 300 reviews and are giving back to our customers with a VIP loyalty rewards program. There are many reasons to celebrate wellness, mental health is on the rise and we greatly encourage wellness. We want you to come to Sachi and unplug!” said Rae.

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Two High School Seniors Win Old Croton Aqueduct Essay Competition



Above: Essay contest winner Lesley Escobar, middle, with Mavis Kane, President of FOCA, left, PMs. Gold-Balm from Riverside High School. Below; Gianna Ortiz runner

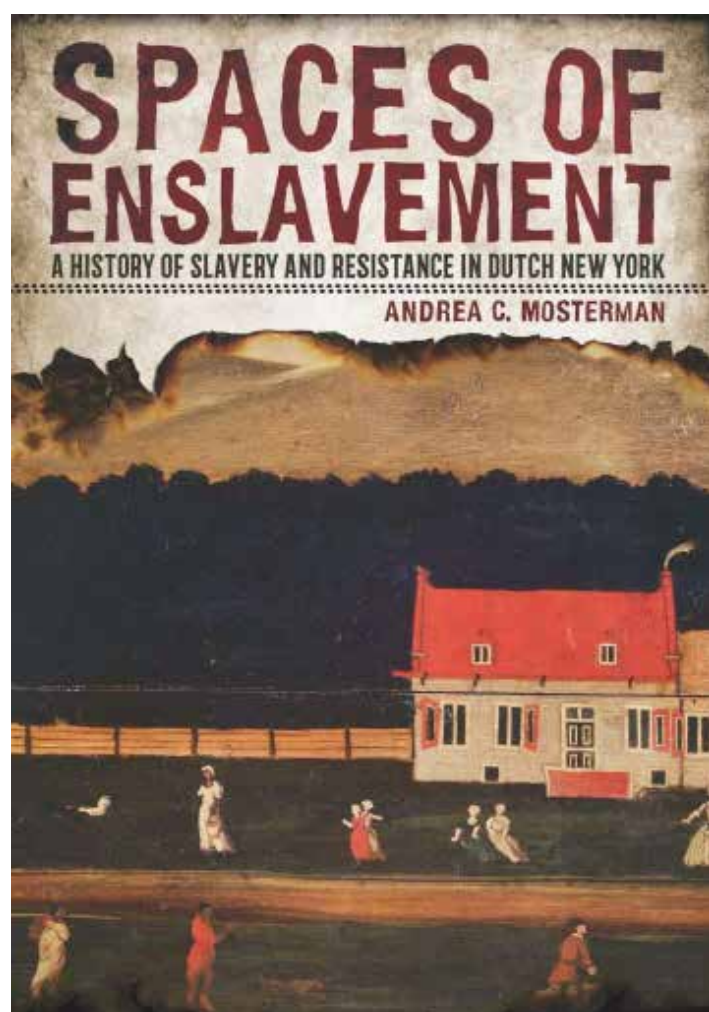


Congratulations to Ms. Lesley Escobar of Riverside High School, and Ms. Gianna Ortiz of Sacred Heart High Schools won First and Second Prize in the Old Croton Aqueduct Essay Competition. Escobar and Ortiz received \$500 and \$300, plus they won the same cash awards for their schools. The prize also includes a free class trip to visit the 26-mile-long, tree-topped trail.

The winning essays are highly readable, personal reflections on the historic tunnel and trail. They are published at www.aqueduct.org. Teachers at Lincoln, Roosevelt and Barack Obama School for Social

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Philipse Manor Hall Hosts Virtual Talk on Slavery May 10



Philipse Manor Hall State Historic Site is pleased to present “Spaces of Enslavement and Resistance in Dutch New York” a virtual lecture by Andrea Mosterman, on Wednesday, May 10, 2023 at 7:00 p.m.

In her presentation, Andrea Mosterman will explore the history of slavery and resistance in Dutch New York. Through examination of Dutch American homes, Dutch Reformed churches, and public spaces in these predominantly Dutch American communities, she shows how Dutch American enslavers increasingly used their dominance over these spaces to control the people they enslaved, while enslaved people resisted such control by escaping or modifying these spaces and expanding their mobility and activities within them. Such close analysis of enslavement in these spaces reveals that by the mid-eighteenth-century slavery in New York was an advanced system of control.

Andrea Mosterman is associate professor in Atlantic History and Joseph Tregle Professor in Early American History at the University of New Orleans. In her work, she researches slavery and the slave trade in the Dutch Atlantic world with an emphasis on early New York. Her research has been published in various academic and public-facing publications. Her book *Spaces of Enslavement: A History of Slavery and Resistance in Dutch New York* (Cornell University Press, 2021), which won the 2020 Hendricks Award for best book-length manuscript relating to New Netherland and the Dutch colonial experience, uses spatial analysis to examine enslavement and resistance in New York’s Dutch communities. She is currently researching the voyage of the Dutch slave ship the *Gideon* and the seventeenth-century Dutch Atlantic slave trade with North America.

This virtual program is hosted online via WebEx. It is free to the general public, but registration is required. Register at www.philipsemanorhall.com/programs-and-events.

Yonkers Police Announce Operation Spring Ahead Quality of Life Plan



Police Commissioner Christopher Sapienza, at podium, with Mayor Mike Spano and Councilmember Shanae Williams, discusses quality of life initiative

Mayor Mike Spano and Police Commissioner Christopher Sapienza recently announced a series of initiatives for the month of May to improve the quality-of-life of community members and residents as the weather warms and people spend more time outside. Operation: Spring Ahead will focus police resources on those issues that generate the overwhelming amount of community complaints and were the top concerns of recent survey respondents, including:

Vehicle and Traffic Law Moving Violations:

Speeding, Disobeying Stop Signs, Aggressive and reckless driving, Double-Parking

Vehicle and Traffic Law Equipment Violations

Loud Mufflers, Fraudulent Paper License Plates, Safety violations, ATVs, Dirt bikes, and illegal scooters

Property Crimes

Shoplifting, Catalytic Converter theft, Larceny from Autos, Package theft

Neighborhoods and Public Spaces

Disorderly Groups, Noise pollution, Dog Waste, Smoke shops

Community Policing

Neighborhood Stabilization Team, Sector Car Park and Walks, Community Affairs Outreach Events, Public Education Campaign

Yonkers Police Officers from various commands including the four Precincts, Traffic Unit, Pattern Crimes Unit, Neighborhood Stabilization Team, Crime Control Strategies Unit, and Community Affairs Division will work together and with outside agencies to conduct targeted enforcement details, directed patrols, and disruptive enforcement. “Our priority is to ensure the safety of our residents, no matter the level of offense,” said Mayor Spano. “These issues define our everyday and it is our obligation to enforce laws and ordinances that are set up

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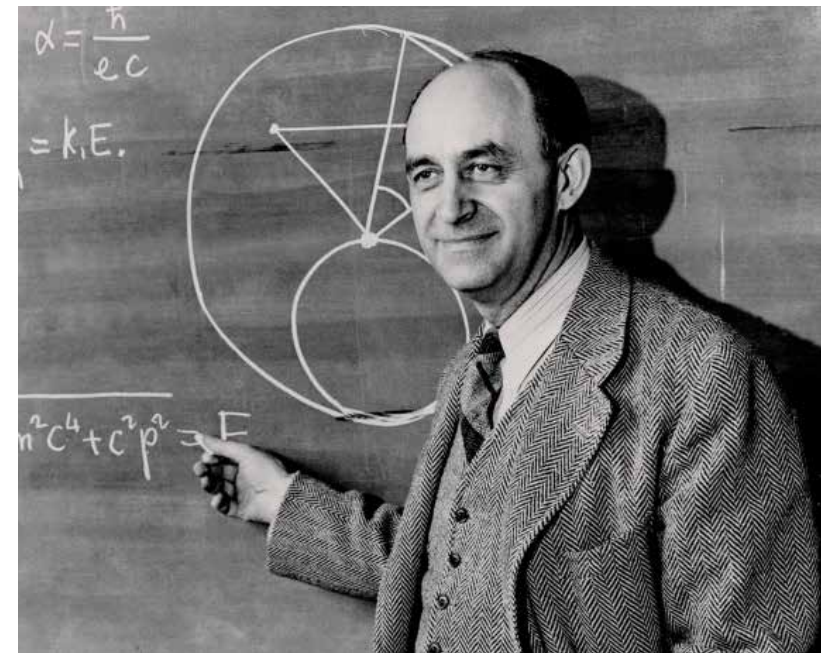
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Enrico Fermi Education Fund of Yonkers Celebrate 60 Years with Scholarship Breakfast MAY 7



Enrico Fermi

The Enrico Fermi Educational Fund of Yonkers will hold its 60th Annual Scholarship Breakfast on Sunday, May 7, 2023 at Mulino's at Lake Isle in Eastchester. The event begins promptly at 9:45am.

We are proud to announce that we will be honoring The Yonkers Honor Guard who have graced us with their support and presence over many decades. Scholarship recipients and attendees will enjoy breakfast and brief remarks from distinguished officials.

The Enrico Fermi Educational Fund of Yonkers, NY is a non-profit organization that was founded 60 years ago. It began as a vision of several individuals, led by Michael Vitulli, to generate financial support for Italian-American students who reside in Yonkers to further their education. Today, we are pleased to offer financial support to several students throughout Westchester County. Each year \$40,000 in scholarships are given to students who demonstrate outstanding commitment to academics and their communities. To date, the organization has provided over 400 scholarships totaling over one million dollars.

Tickets are \$45 each. Seats must be reserved by April 22th. To purchase tickets, please contact Mr. Sean Zimmer at (914) 589-1519.

For more information, visit our website www.enricofermi.org.

The Spano's....They, Too are Yonkers

By Eric Wolf Schoen



The Spano's: Every few years when a Spano runs for office, you can count on the Journal News or it's Predecessor, the Herald Statesman to run a story on how many Spano relatives are in public service. This goes back to Leonard Spano, the patriarch of the family right up to his son Mike, current Mayor of the City of Yonkers.

Do you have 16 brothers and sisters? If they play by the rules would you have a problem with your relatives working for the city of Yonkers, Westchester County or New York State? Should they be denied the right to public service just because they are related to you?

Of course the answer is no. No one told you you couldn't have a big family. And if they play by the rules no one says they can't have a career in public service. Jobs in the Fire Department and Police Department are appointed off of Civil Service lists. You take a test, sometimes with 100's of other people. The top scorers if they can meet the physical agility and other tests are appointed to good paying jobs.

Environmental Maintenance Workers which could be garbage men or work in one of the city maintenance departments initially are appointed at the discretion of the Mayor but receive their promotions just like Police and Fireman by taking civil service tests. You do well you move up, you have special skills you move up, and your overtime is not assigned by the Mayor but by your Department Head.

Now let's take a moment to be clear. You are elected Mayor, President or to any office and you want to get re-elected? You surround yourself with people you trust. People that will take their job responsibilities seriously, do a good job and help you get re-elected. The President of the United States doesn't surround himself with people who are not loyal to him, and neither does the Mayor of the City of Yonkers when he is selecting his top officials to help him run the government.

If you want a job working in City Hall in Yonkers and it's not an exam appointed off a Civil Service list, there is nothing to stop you from putting in an application and talking to the Mayor or other appointed officials about the possibilities of appointment. You know the old phrase, 'It's not what you know but who you know!' I would say the vast number of people, all hard workers obtained their city government jobs by putting the word out that they want a job in government. Or someone told them there was a position open in government they should apply for. This again goes from Mayor of Yonkers to President of the United States.

And don't just think this is the way that things work in the public sector. When you are applying for a job in the private sector your knowledge of those involved in hiring or connections you may have help you get your foot in the door. It's been that way for years.

David Wilson, the scribe of this year's Journal News article on 'Spano Foot-hold' is a long time employee of the paper. I am sure he has written articles like the one about 'nepotism' and particularly about the Spano's many times before. The articles for the most part are generated by the opponent to the elected official. If this was something new or a new official with all these relatives on the payroll I could see the big deal. And some will read Wilson's article and say, 'Gee, he forgot someone!'

Corazon Pineda Isaac is running against Spano in a primary for the Democratic nomination for Mayor. I'm sure if she was in government as long as the Spano family and had as many brothers and sisters as Mike has, many of them would be working for the City of Yonkers. She just happens to be the one to bring up the issue this year. Believe me, it's been brought up many times before by candidates running against the Spano's.

The solution to the 'problem.' Stay on top of Civil Service lists and apply for jobs you know you are qualified for. Between Covid and retirements there will be many jobs open over the next 3-5 years. Apply for them. Take the tests, and good luck to you!

On the issue of Spano relatives serving as paid lobbyists for city unions and companies doing business before the City of Yonkers, I would surely hope that the Board of Ethics and Inspector General have been consulted for legality of this. And remember, if you see something you think is illegal or unethical, you as a citizen have every right to file a formal complaint with these agencies or the governing bodies of the commissions or agencies involved.

Remember, our door is always open here at Rising Newspapers to **publish legitimate complaints from taxpayers or organizations**. That's what we are here for together with providing news about your community and neighbors.

Good Luck Ms. Pineda Isaac. This column is not meant to discourage you from bringing up issues where you disagree with the current Mayor (like the extension of term limits again which I think is terrible.)

What floors me is that reporter Wilson was unable to get comments from Anthony Merante, the Republican candidate for Mayor or Margaret Fountain Coleman, another Democrat seeking the nomination on the Spano's family involvement in city public affairs. My only thought is that it's going to be a quiet election and as is typical in Yonkers, the opponents will be looking to have their names on a City of Yonkers employee (not elected official) pay check. We certainly have witnessed that before!

Friends, the Spano's. They, too are Yonkers!

Listen to Eric Schoen on the Westchester Rising Radio Show Thursday's from 10-11 a.m. On WVOX 1460 AM, go to WVOX.com and click the arrow to listen to the live stream or download the WVOX app from the App Store free of charge. Reach him at thistooisyonkers@aol.com.

"Your wings were ready but my heart was not"

Light The Sky Butterfly Release Ceremony

Saturday, May 13th, 2023 at 11:00 A.M.
Live-Streamed from Yonkers City Hall Plaza
Unity Fountain on [Facebook.com/TheMothers2016](https://www.facebook.com/TheMothers2016)

Hosted by The Mothers
The Mothers are a group of women who are living with the impact, effect and aftermath of the unnatural life occurrence of losing a child under various circumstances. We are here to support, embrace and encourage one another and others who have endured this life changing experience.

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In Participation with The City of Yonkers

Anand Singh Arrested by the FBI

ADL Report Shows 23 Anti-Semitic Incidents in Westchester: "Kanye is Right" Fuels Hate

Read it all online at Yonkerstimes.com

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Attorney General James Takes Action to Protect New Yorkers Homes and Combat Deed Theft

On April 28, New York Attorney General Letitia James, State Senator Brian Kavanaugh, State Senator Zellnor Myrie, and Assemblymember Helene Weinstein announced new legislation to strengthen protections and remedies for victims of deed theft and bolster the Office of the Attorney General's (OAG) ability to prosecute these crimes. Deed theft is a growing problem that predominantly targets Black and Brown homeowners, and under New York's current laws, opportunities for prosecutors to hold deed thieves accountable are limited. The two bills — one addressing criminal challenges and the other focused on changes to civil laws — would establish a crime of deed theft and help keep New Yorkers in their homes.

"No one's home should be stolen by a scammer without warning or reason," said Attorney General James. "Victims of deed theft are often older adults and people of color who are asset rich but cash poor. Homeownership is a stabilizing economic force for their families and loved ones, and deed theft robs them not just of their family home, but of their most significant financial asset and the community they have known for their entire lives. This legislation will provide real and necessary changes to our civil and criminal laws to stop the perpetrators of these crimes and provide the protections and remedies needed to keep people in their homes. I want to thank State Senator Kavanaugh, State Senator Myrie, and Assemblymember Weinstein for their partnership in these critical efforts to keep New Yorkers in their homes."

Deed theft occurs when someone takes the title, or deed, to another person's home without the homeowner's knowledge or approval. It has become a popular tactic used by scammers to illegally obtain ownership of a property, and disproportionately impacts elderly homeowners and homeowners of color, especially Black and Brown homeowners in gentrifying neighborhoods. From 2014 to the present, the New York City Sheriff's Office counted nearly 3,500 complaints of deed theft throughout New York City, with more than 1,500 complaints in Brooklyn and 1,000 from Queens. Deed theft scams are not just limited to New York City. Throughout the state, District Attorneys in Albany, Erie, Monroe, and Onondaga Counties have reported recent active deed theft complaints. As part of the legislation, the New York State Department of Criminal Justice Services would collect statewide data on deed theft crimes, which will further aid efforts to combat this scam.

The most common ways scammers steal deeds are through forgery or through fraud. In cases that involve forgery, scammers fake the real homeowner's signature on a deed and file it with the county clerk to make it look like they bought the property. In cases that involve fraud, homeowners are tricked into unknowingly signing over their homes to a scammer. These thieves then often evict the homeowner and sell the property at a significant profit. Under current law in New York state, deed theft itself is not a crime, and there are not adequate protections in place to slow down or stop a deed theft in process. Today Attorney General James, State Senator Myrie, State Senator Kavanaugh, and Assemblymember Weinstein are introducing two pieces of legislation that would address these issues by creating new criminal and civil legal provisions to increase enforcement opportunities and help keep New Yorkers in their homes. They would Establish a Crime of Deed Theft, Grant OAG Criminal Jurisdiction, Extend the Statute of Limitations, Void Good Faith Purchaser Protections, Stay Eviction Proceedings, and Expand Existing Protections. Visit Yonkerstimes.com for more information.

Essay Contest Winners continued from pg 1-

Justice also enthusiastically encouraged students to learn about local history. All ten contestants, from five high schools, earned the judges' admiration for outstanding compositions and hard work!

The Old Croton Aqueduct State Historic Park is a linear, 26-mile-long trail in New York's Westchester County. More than seven miles of the trail winds through Yonkers and includes scenic views of the New Jersey Palisades cliffs, Tibbetts Brook Park and northwest Yonkers' late Victorian architecture.

The trail also gives easy access to the award-winning daylighted Saw Mill River Park, and is close to several Yonkers MetroNorth train stations. From the Croton Dam to Van Cortlandt Park in The Bronx, the trail passes through 12 towns and is a scenic byway beloved by locals and many day-trippers.

For more information, visit The Friends of the Old Croton Aqueduct, at www.aqueduct.org.

Editor's Note: You can also read the essays on Yonkerstimes.com

Yonkers is thriving continued from pg 1-

Sachi is reminiscent of a spa in Tulum, Mexico, a beautiful retreat for all of your relaxation, beauty needs, and body massages. They specialize in nails, spa pedicures, esthetics (anti-aging treatments; microneedling, dermaplaning, oxygen facials, etc.), massages, and body shaping services. The staff is dedicated to bringing you cutting-edge services and healthier organic vegan products (including CBD products). Sachi treats their customers like family, always emphasizing excellent customer care and satisfaction. They offer all-natural products from Christine Valmy, including toners, serums, and cleansers, and also offers various Deborah Lippman products you can choose from.

Rae said that the opening of Lionsgate studios in downtown Yonkers is important on several levels. "I come from an entertainment background with over 25 years of enter of entertainment work experience and grew up in LA. I know how important the entertainment industry can be to a business community. But I also realize that Lionsgate chose Yonkers, and that movies and TV shows are being made here, it gives all of us a boost. They can help us all thrive!"

What is Tenisha's secret of success? "Excellent customer service. We provide an organic, wellness experience. We want people to leave here feeling recharged and we want our salon to be their getaway. We work hard to create a different type of environment. I'm proud that we are delivering a service you can find in LA right here in Yonkers."

Tenisha added that the diversity of Yonkers is helping the City move forward. "I'm proud to be a Hispanic, female business owner, and I see more minority businesses in the downtown and across the city. We can always improve, but we are already building on the successes that Mayor Spano has created. Let's open more restaurants downtown and have more diverse offerings."

Tenisha has also used her Hollywood connections to bring celebrity guests like JaRule, Celtics NBA star Jaylen Brown, reality TV stars and music executives, to downtown Yonkers and to Sachi Salon. "We have a large number of men who enjoy our services. We cater to beard facials and men's executive manicures."

"But we love what we do here for women, to help them relax, and feel wonderful in their lives. I can't wait to go to work everyday, and I want to see the progress in Yonkers continue."

Sachi Nails and Body is located at 50 Warburton Avenue Yonkers NY 10701. Visit nailspayonkers.com, or call 914-491-3835 for more information.

Yonkers School Street Gunman Gets 10 Years for 2022 Shooting Injured Three, Fled to Georgia



Jaquan Henderson

On April 20, Westchester County District Attorney Miriam E. Rocah announced that a Yonkers man was sentenced to 10 years in state prison, with three years of postrelease supervision, for a July 2022 shooting in Yonkers that injured three.

DA Rocah said: "This defendant unleashed a torrent of gunfire on a crowd of people enjoying a summer night last year, and terrorized a community that had endured another shooting just hours before, and multiple other shootings earlier that week. We are thankful that a dangerous gunman has been removed from our streets and justice has been served."

On March 2, 2023, the defendant, Jaquan Henderson, 23, pleaded guilty to Assault in the First Degree, a felony, for shooting three individuals after firing 11 rounds of a 9mm pistol at a group of people on School Street in Yonkers at approximately 10:45 p.m. on July 16, 2022. The shooting was captured on surveillance video.

The three victims sustained gunshot wounds and received emergency treatment at Westchester Medical Center in Valhalla.

After fleeing the state, the defendant was apprehended in Lithonia, Georgia, on August 3, 2022, by the FBI's Atlanta Metro Major Offender Task Force, following a joint investigation by the Yonkers Police Department, the District Attorney's Office and the FBI's Westchester Safe Streets Task Force. The Westchester County Department of Public Safety assisted Yonkers police with the arrest.

The case was before Judge George Fufidio in Westchester County Court, and was prosecuted by the Violent Criminal Enterprise Bureau of the Trials and Investigations Division.

Operation Spring Ahead, continued from pg 2-

to provide the best quality of life possible. Thank you to our Yonkers PD for putting this initiative together, and as a friendly reminder, thank you to our residents for respecting your fellow neighbors."

Commissioner Christopher Sapienza stated, "Although violent crime remains historically low, it is the day-to-day nuisances that affect the most people. While these initiatives are not new to policing, by refocusing our efforts our goal is to set the tone for the spring and summer months and ensure the high quality-of-life standards our constituents have come to expect."

To report a quality-of-life issue or criminal matter to the Yonkers Police, call (914) 377-7900; emergencies dial 9-1-1. Quality-of-life issues unrelated to law enforcement may also be reported to the Mayor's Help Line at (914) 377-HELP (4357).

RHS Val, Sal continued from pg 1-

Homefield Bowling lanes and the Grassy Sprain Pharmacy. He is a very good bowler with a 200 average.

We asked Samuel, who helped him get to this point in his successes? "My Mom. She helped me do everything. There was a time, from 4th grade to 8th grade, where I showed up to school and behaved but didn't do any homework. I didn't have the motivation to do my best. My Mom helped me change that, and turned on the switch inside me to work hard, stay after school, ask for extra credit. And I never looked back."

Samuel comes from a diverse background of Dominican family on his father's side, and Russian, Polish, German on his mother's side.

He plans on majoring in Computer Science and Computer Engineering in college. "I've always been interested in technology since I was a kid. There is endless knowledge that you can absorb."

Roque was accepted into 18 colleges. He will be attending Allegheny College in Pittsburgh. He was placed on the waiting list at Notre Dame University, and hopes to continue to play football in college. My dream is to play for LSU. I play on the offensive line and continue to train. Some players are bigger than me, but its more about your heart.

Roosevelt HS Salutatorian Beyonce Carbuccia will graduate with a weighted GPA of 98.91. Her favorite teacher is Frank Meade, who teaches English and Public Speaking, and her favorite course was Public Speaking with Mr. Meade.

"He is always finding fun and innovative ways of teaching and has his course will help me when I give my graduation speech as Salutatorian."

Beyonce didn't know that she was in the top few students until "the end of my junior year. One of my teachers told me, and I was #3. I studied hard because I wanted this achievement."

Who has helped her get to this point of achievement? "My Dad, we had a deal that I would get a new pair of sneakers if I made the high honor roll or principals list." Beyonce was born in the Dominican Republic and her great grandfather came to America from Italy.

Carbuccia has completed 12 College Link courses and has played on the Girls Softball team. A recent summer internship at a Law Firm helped her decide her future profession. "I want to be an attorney. Lawyers are superheroes and are always able to help people when they are in trouble."

After narrowing down her final college choices to Iona, Fordham, and Mt. Saint Vincent's, she will be attending Fordham in the fall. "Fordham will challenge me academically, and I wanted to stay close to home." She hopes to go to Law School at Columbia University. "These past four years have flown by so fast. It went too quick, but I have accomplished so much."

Both Beyonce and Samuel were helped by YPIE, but Beyonce was able to increase her scholarship and financial aid package to Fordham with the help of Ms. Freidman at YPIE. "I was stressed out because I thought I couldn't afford to go to Fordham. But I applied for a new financial aid package, and I got it."

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

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Westchester Household Recycling Day May 6 at Sprain Ridge Park Yonkers

Household recycling day Westchester County's Department of Environmental Facilities (DEF) will be conducting a Household Recycling Day (HRD) Event on Saturday, May 6, from 9a.m. to 3p.m. at Sprain Ridge Park, 149 Jackson Avenue, Yonkers. The upcoming HRD event in Yonkers will be the second HRD event of 2023 and gives residents across the County an opportunity to conveniently and safely dispose of their household waste.

In 2022, DEF hosted six HRD events for over 3,800 County residents and accepted nearly 400,000 pounds of household waste. The first HRD event of 2023, held at FDR State Park, in Yorktown Heights, attracted almost 1,000 households.

In addition to properly labeled household chemicals, tires, scrap metal, electronics, appliances, and other special wastes found in a typical household, residents can bring documents for shredding and expired or unwanted medications for disposal to the May 6HRD Event.

Generally, the following items are accepted for safe disposal or recycling:

- Properly labeled household chemicals, such as:
 - o Household cleaning products
 - o Most automotive fluids (antifreeze, brake fluid, gasoline, but not motor oil)
 - o Flammable liquids (kerosene, butane, lighter fluid, turpentine)
 - o Metal, jewelry, and furniture polishes and waxes; wood preservatives
 - o Fertilizers, pesticides, insecticides, herbicides
 - o Photographic and swimming pool chemicals
- Batteries – only vehicle, rechargeable, or button cell batteries
- Textiles- footwear, clothing, linens, leather, small area rugs, handbags

· Latex and oil-based paint with labels visible, wood stains, Fluorescent light bulbs & CFLs, Fire extinguishers, BBQ propane tanks (up to 20 lbs.), Mercury containing devices (thermometers and thermostats), Electronic waste (TVs, computer monitors and towers), Expired or unwanted medications, both OTC and prescription, Personal documents for shredding, limit of four boxes, Tires with or without rims, up to four (4).

Items that will not be accepted and should not be brought to the Household Recycling Day include non-rechargeable alkaline and carbon zinc batteries (they can be safely discarded in the trash), motor oil, smoke detectors, cell phones, explosives (flares, fireworks, ammunition), construction debris and hypodermic needles. Also, waste from businesses, schools, or other institutions will not be accepted.

For more information on what to bring to this event, visit www.westchestergov.com/recycling or call (914) 813-5425.

To avoid waiting in line, you can dispose of your hard-to-get-rid-of household waste by making a convenient appointment for the County's Household-Material Recycling Facility (H-MRF), 15 Woods Road, Valhalla. The H-MRF is open Tuesday through Saturday from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. by appointment, and accepts the same items that are accepted at the HRD events. For more information about the H-MRF or to make an appointment, visit <https://environment.westchestergov.com/facilities/h-mrf> or call (914) 813-5425.

On This Day in Yonkers History...



A postcard of the Park Hill Inn, a Yonkers hotel redesigned from the old Getty Homestead

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

Monday, May 8th

May 8, 1945: Yonkers learned a Yonkers guy was responsible for the Headquarters Company of the 75th Division in Germany eating three times a day on clean tablecloths! PFC Joseph Danisher of Clinton Street, former Smith Carpet Factory employee, believed GIs would appreciate Army Food more if served in a homey environment. Danisher made it his business to wash tablecloths and put them on the tables every meal.

May 8, 1954: Thruway construction by the Saw Mill River dumped 50 gallons of muddy water into the river hourly, polluting Yonkers water supply system. This forced closure of the Tube Wells filtration station on Saw Mill River Road; it couldn't handle the huge increase of contamination. City Manager Charles Curran sent a telegram to Thruway Authority Chairman Tallamy, demanding "immediate steps to alleviate this condition." Yonkers had to purchase water from NYC to the tune of \$1000 daily, and Curran stated the situation would worsen as construction proceeded.

Tuesday, May 9th

May 9, 1929: DA Frank Coyne avoided the question whether the body of Dorothy Peacock's would be exhumed to determine if she was before being murdered.

May 9, 1945: Steve Shiani, Honolulu Advertiser columnist, featured Yonkers' Captain Sol Friedman in an article. Friedman was Claims Officer, Special Service Officer, Public Relations Officer, and Legal Advisor at the Jungle Training Center, where troops received final training for Pacific warfare. On top of that, Friedman organized top entertainment such as Bob Hope and Carole Landis for the 250,000+ men serving in the area. With all Friedman did, Shiani felt our Yonkers guy should be triplets!

Wednesday, May 10th

May 10, 1904: The American Real Estate Company began remodeling the old Getty homestead on South Broadway into a hotel. The building, to be called the Park Hill Inn, would have two three-story extensions, and was expected to open in four months.

May 10, 1954: City Manager Charles Curran asked the Thruway Authority to reimburse Yonkers for the cost of buying water from New York City, since their construction caused the problem with our water supply. Curran said, "I cannot impress upon you 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 a conference with the contractor, Thruway Authority and local officials, Curran was told there was no solution; it would continue for two to three years. Curran demanded immediate action and a definitive written agreement remediating the situation.

Thursday, May 11th

May 11, 1929: Sydney Syme, attorney for accused murderer Earle Peacock, claimed Peacock was beaten and "third-degreed" into confessing after nine hours of questioning. Both the prosecution and the defense wanted the trial delayed until the Fall.

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 in alleviating the condition. BUT. He said there was no way to stop mud and clay from washing into the river, and the situation would continue throughout construction. Even worse, it further would be complicated by a contractor moving the river from Tarrytown to Tuckahoe Road section to a new channel 50 feet west.

Friday, May 12th

May 12, 1961: City Clerk William Gray of Glenwood Gardens turned in his resignation, effective immediately. His two-sentence resignation stated: "Owing to ill health, I find it impossible to physically carry on the duties of the office of City Clerk of the City of Yonkers NY. Therefore, on the advice of my physician, I hereby tender my resignation effective immediately." He was in the position for more than nine years.

A transcript of his testimony before the State Investigation Commission probing bingo operations in Yonkers and New York City had arrived in City Hall that afternoon; his resignation stopped a Common Council inquiry into his testimony scheduled for the next day.

Saturday, May 13th:

May 13, 1922: Against a background of golden draperies in the Grecian theater at Greystone, Minnie and Samuel Untermyer's guests enjoyed an afternoon performance of Mozart's comic opera "The Impresario," performed by the Society of American Singers. Percy Hemus, bass soloist at St. Patrick's Cathedral, sang the lead part of the Impresario, and was interrupted several times by bursts of applause. The performance had a surprise performer, a bird perched in one of the trees near the theater; inspired by Franko's orchestra, the feathered singer joined with the soprano hitting the highest notes.

May 13, 1944: Private Grace Hill of Lamartine Terrace landed in Sydney, Australia, part of a large unit of WACs; the women arrived to relieve men to serve in the front lines. They disembarked from a transport, dressed in trench coats and steel helmets with packs on their backs; greeted by Brigadier General Thomas Rilea, American officers presented each woman a bouquet of flowers with the inscription, "Welcome Wacs."

Sunday, May 1

May 14, 1926: Mrs. Emmons Bryant, president of the Big Sister Organization, asked Mayor Walsh to appoint a policewoman to the Yonkers Police Department. She wanted the policewoman to investigate "dance halls, theater and parks" in Yonkers.

May 14, 1946: Coronet Magazine published a story about the Yonkers man responsible for making Hoagy Carmichael's classic song "Star Dust" a success! According to the story, its sheet music languished in music publisher Jack Mills' collection until Jimmy Dale of Kimball Terrace, an arranger for Mills, found it in 1929 and gave it a new tempo. This turned the song into a hit!

Questions or comments? Email YonkersHistory1646@gmail.com.

For information on the Yonkers Historical Society, Sherwood House and upcoming events, please visit our website www.yonkershistoricalsociety.org, call 914-961-8940 or email info@yonkershistoricalsociety.org.

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Motives Thru Fabric LLC. Filed with Angel Luis Morales III. Office: Westchester County. Angel Luis Morales III designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. Angel Luis Morales III Shall mail a copy of process to the LLC, 35 Montague Street, Yonkers, NY 10703. Purpose: Any lawful activity.

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LEGAL NOTICE
CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF YONKERS
PUBLIC HEARINGS
2023/2024 PROPOSED BUDGET

I, Lakisha Collins-Bellamy, City Council President of the City of Yonkers, do hereby call a public hearing on the proposed 2023/2024 City of Yonkers Capital Budget as follows:

Monday, May 8, 2023
City Council Chambers
City Hall– 4th Floor
40 South Broadway
Yonkers, New York 7:00 p.m.

Wednesday, May 24, 2023
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

City of Yonkers Summary of FY23-24 Executive Budget

Revenues

Property Taxes: \$414,697,043

Special Taxes: \$217,049,888

State and Federal Funding: \$108,628,272

City Departments: \$48,895,700

Other Revenues: \$42,906,752

Appropriated Fund Balance (General): \$92,263,867

Total Revenues Sub-Total: \$924,441,522

Library Fund: \$115,389

Water Fund: \$51,107,082

Sewer Fund: \$11,869,478

Board of Education: \$413,634,277

Total Revenues: \$1,401,167,748

Expenditures

City Departments: \$384,578,616

Fringe Benefits: \$198,470,751

Special Items: \$41,592,134

Board of Education: \$667,543,037

Total Operating Expenditures: \$1,292,184,538

Debt Service: \$108,983,210

Total Expenditures: \$1,401,167,748

Revenues vs. Expenditures: -0-

Property Tax Levy

Board of Education Property Tax Levy: \$270,558,784

City Property Tax Levy: \$144,138,259

Total Property Tax Levy: \$414,697,043

Property Tax Rate per \$1000 of Assessed Valuation (AV)

Board of Education Tax Rate: \$579.50 per \$1,000 AV

City Tax Rate: \$308.98 per \$1,000 AV

Tax Rate: \$888.48 per \$1,000 AV

Capital Budget

City Total: \$66,281,816

Board of Education Total: \$30,000,000

Total: \$96,281,816

The FY24 Executive Budget is available for review by the public at:

The Office of the City Clerk, City Hall, 40 S. Broadway, Yonkers NY 10701 <https://www.yonkersny.gov/government/departments/finance/city-budget/city-budget-2024-executive>

Notice of formation of Cake Bar By Charlene, LLC. Arts. of Org. filed with the SSNY on 02/08/2023. Office: Westchester County. SSNY designated as agent of the LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail copy of process to the LLC, 1 Glenwood avenue, 18E, Yonkers, NY 10701. Purpose: Any lawful activity.

Notice of Formation of LIVE LONG LIVE STRONG FITNESS LLC. Arts. of Org. filed with SSNY on 11/07/22. Office location: Westchester. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process may be served. SSNY shall mail process to the LLC, 33 Sherwood Ave, apt. 3w, Yonkers, NY 10704. Purpose: any lawful act or activity.

Notice is hereby given that a license, 1361004 for beer, wine, & liquor has been applied for by the undersigned to sell beer, wine, & liquor at retail in a Catering Hall under the Alcoholic Beverage Control Law at the business known as Grand Encanto Event Venue at 18 Guion Street, Yonkers, NY 10701 for on premises consumption.

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

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

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

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

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

1. Bid 6941A – Opening date: 5/19/2023: Twelve-month contract, with option to renew for 12-months, to provide brass cleaning and maintenance services as needed at City Hall. (NG).
2. Bid 6929A – Opening date: 5/19/2023: Twelve-month contract, with option to renew for 12-months, to purchase Toyota vehicle repair parts and repair services as needed (FB).
3. Bid 6935A – Opening date: 5/19/2023: Twelve-month contract, with option to renew for 12-months, to provide inspections and repair services, as needed, for aerial bucket trucks (FB).
4. Bid 6940A – Opening date: 5/19/2023: Twelve-month contract, with option to renew for 12-months, to provide on-call exterminating of City owned lots and catch basins (FB).
5. Bid 6968 – Opening date: 5/24/2023: Upgrades to Coyne Park Indoor Firing Range Exhaust Filter System (NG).
6. Bid 6969 – Opening date: 5/19/2023: Purchase of one 2023 Ford Escape Plug-In SE Hybrid SUV, or Yonkers approved equal (MM).
7. Bid 6975 – Opening date: 5/19/2023: Twelve-month contract, with option to renew for 12-months, to furnish and deliver up to 600 tons of ½” crushed stone, as needed. (VB).
8. Bid 6970 – Opening date: 5/24/2023: Furnish and install catch basin inlet cleaning unit on City provided cab/chassis (FB).
9. Bid 6971 – Opening date: 5/19/2023: Purchase of 239 cartons of Shaw Purview, or Yonkers approved equal, vinyl plank flooring and 15 4-gallon drums of Lockworx, or Yonkers approved equal. Resilient adhesive (AC).
10. Bid 6973 – Opening date: 5/19/2023: Twenty-four month contract, with option to renew for 12-months, to provide laundry services to fire stations (KS).
11. Bid 6974 – Opening date: 5/19/2023: One-time purchase of six Turtle Fire Systems LLC, or Yonkers approved equal, electric vehicle fire extinguishing systems (MM).
12. Bid 6906 – Opening date: 6/02/2023: 4th Police Precinct Toilet Renovations (53 Shonard Place) (KS).
13. Bid 6976 – Opening date: 5/19/2023: Twelve-month contract for the use of a NYS DEC transfer facility for the disposal of City delivered rock and dirt (NG).
14. Bid 6977 - Opening date: 6/02/2023: Purchase of various food products as needed for the Yonkers Public School District (10 schedules, approximately 190 items) for the 2023-2024 school year (JH).



See You at the Library, continued from pg 1-

“Yonkers Public Library improves life in Yonkers for everyone by fostering literacy, culture, connection, and community.”
If you thought the library’s vision was to “make books available” or something more obvious, think again! YPL’s vision is ambitious and wide-ranging. When we think about what all our services have in common, it is that they make people’s lives better in some way. One person may love the library for the entertainment they find in movies, books, or live performances. Another may use the library to prepare for professional exams or learn about new career opportunities; still others benefit from having the YPL as a central hub for many civic activities, like voter registration and early voting.

OUR STRATEGIC GOALS

These big ideas are what guide all day-to-day decision making at the library.
- Everyone Belongs Here.

When the planning committee sat down to look at what we had learned and what we wanted to accomplish, top of the list was making sure that everyone in Yonkers can take advantage of all that YPL offers. Branch Manager Aurora Cruz came up with the phrase that sums it all up: “Everyone Belongs Here.” To deliver on this goal, we will be improving our offerings in Spanish; addressing digital and physical accessibility issues; and creatively reimagining how big the YPL “footprint” can grow, even beyond the three great branch libraries we have. And to make sure everyone knows about all this, YPL has designed and is launching a new logo and website. More on this to come!

- Deliver an Exceptional Library Experience.

We want everyone who does engage with YPL to come away having found what they needed, learned something new, or otherwise enjoyed their experience with us! This means we’ll be looking at the systems that make the YPL function smoothly, and thinking about how our staff can continue to share their expertise and support with all who need it.

- We’re Your Partner for Life (YPL)!

We know that people rely on the library in different ways at different times of their lives. We want people to see YPL’s full range of offerings that can support them wherever they are, from parents of our very youngest Yonkersites who enjoy 1000 Books Before Kindergarten, to cultural events for our young adults, to programming that helps our seniors.

- Inspiring Staff, Inspiring Spaces, Inspiring Yonkers

People have long seen YPL as a reliable, steady presence in Yonkers, and that is a very good thing! But YPL is poised to be much more than that, as well. In the years ahead, YPL will continue its path to reimagining how to deliver its services, recruit and retain staff who make YPL the great place it is. We will reimagine our physical spaces to be inspiring for all those who use them.

Stay tuned in the weeks ahead as we share some sneak previews of what YPL has in store, from the people at YPL making it happen.

See you at the library!

Rally to Save the River May 6 “It’s time for Governor Hochul to get off the sidelines.”

By Dan Murphy

The Town of Cortlandt Manor and Supervisor Dr. Richard Becker will host a rally to save the Hudson River from a planned dumping of 1 million gallons of nuclear waste by Holtec on May 6, at Cortlandt Waterfront Park in Verplank.

Supervisor Becker writes, “As the Supervisor of The Town of Cortlandt, the host community for Indian Point, I am writing to inform you of a major rally against Holtec on May 6, at The Cortlandt Waterfront Park in Verplank, at 2 PM. This site is a Town owned park, adjacent to Indian Point and the perfect venue: beautiful views of the Hudson. The Town Board is sponsoring this event.

“As you may be aware, Holtec International is planning to discharge 1 million gallons of radioactive water into the Hudson River as part of its decommissioning process. Their argument is that this is a low level of radiation, that they have been doing it continuously since the plant opened, and that there are no other viable options. The Town of Cortlandt, as well as multiple local other municipalities and agencies, strongly objects. Since the decommissioning process began, The Town has been working with the State’s Decommissioning Oversight Board. Disappointingly, this Oversight Board has taken no action on this issue and has stated that it is really a Federal (NRC) and State (DEC) decision. The Town Board feels this is unacceptable, and we are prepared to fight vehemently against this happening. We anticipate this to be a major rally with thousands in attendance.

Holtec delayed a planned dump this month, but still plans on dumping in the fall. Several environmental groups have provided viable alternatives to Holtec which do not include dumping in the Hudson. Holtec is also planning to dump nuclear waste from Massachusetts power plant into Cape Cod Bay this year. On April 27, the Indian Point Decommissioning Board held its regularly scheduled meeting in Westchester, which was attended by hundreds calling out Holtec for its plans. Assemblymember Dana Levenberg said, “After last night’s discussion, there remain open questions that need answering. We still don’t have satisfactory answers about the potential impacts of this radiation in the context of all the other pollutants to which we are exposed. Arguments like “we’ve been doing this for years” and “we are all exposed to lots of radiation” are offensive to people who have lost loved ones to cancer, or are dealing with



The Town of Cortlandt is partnering with organizations and communities along the Hudson to oppose Holtec’s plan to discharge 1 million gallons of radioactive water into our river.

SATURDAY, MAY 6 | 2-5 PM | RAIN DATE: MAY 7
CORTLANDT WATERFRONT PARK
77 RIVERVIEW AVENUE, VERPLANCK

FEATURED ARTISTS DAR WILLIAMS, BRIAN MCGRATH, FRED GILLEN, JR., AND TOM CHAPIN	FEATURED ORGANIZATIONS RIVERKEEPER, CLEARWATER, FOOD AND WATER WATCH, AND OTHERS
---	---

CONFIRMED ELECTED OFFICIALS

WESTCHESTER COUNTY EXECUTIVE GEORGE LATIMER	NEW YORK STATE SENATOR PETE HARCKHAM	ASSEMBLYWOMAN DANA LEVENBERG
--	---	---------------------------------

Many more Federal, State, and Local officials will also participate

Take Flight

FYPL SPRING GALA

WELCOMING IN A NEW ERA FOR YONKERS PUBLIC LIBRARY

WEDNESDAY, MAY 10, 2023

6:00–9:00 PM

RIVERFRONT LIBRARY | YONKERS, NY



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- SILENT AND LIVE AUCTIONS FOR A GREAT CAUSE

WWW.FOUNDATIONFORYP.L.ORG

Mother’s Day Warbler Walk by Hudson Audubon

Mother’s Day Warbler Walk. Sunday, May 14 8:00-10:00 a.m. Lenoir Nature Preserve, 19 Dudley St., Yonkers



Alzheimer’s Research Forum

9-11:30 a.m. Wednesday, May 10
 Abigail Kirsch at Tappan Hill Mansion
 81 Highland Ave., Tarrytown

Guest Speakers



Percy Griffin



Min-Jeong Kim
M.D., Ph.D.



A. Zarina Kraal

Do you have a loved one with Alzheimer’s or another dementia? Learn about the latest in dementia research from a panel of experts at this free event. Then get your questions answered at a Q&A session. Scan the QR code or call 800.272.3900 to register.



ALZHEIMER’S ASSOCIATION

This program is supported by the Hildegarda D. Becher Foundation and the New York State Department of Health.

Summer will be over before you know it!

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**Good
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to all of our services.

City Clerk Vincent Spano