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Friday May 6, 2022

Dep. Chief Chris Sapienza Named New Yonkers Police Commissioner



Mayor Mike Spano, left with New YPD Commissioner Chris Sapienza

On April 29, Yonkers Mayor Mike Spano announced his appointment of Yonkers Police Deputy Chief Chris Sapienza as the City's new Police Commissioner. Sapienza will serve as acting commissioner, pending Yonkers City Council confirmation. Sapienza will replace outgoing Commissioner John Mueller, who retired earlier this week.

"Police Commissioner Chris Sapienza has the temperament and keen ability to cultivate relationships with the community and our officers to ensure they can all be the best versions of themselves," said Mayor Mike Spano. "Chris has been a shining star in the Department for years, and epitomizes the meaning of true leadership, demonstrating his in-depth knowledge, training, and dedication to the men and women of our police force. We look forward to advancing the progress we have made thus far to foster stronger community relationships and continuing to keep our residents safe."

Sapienza's commitment to public service began in 1987 when he enlisted in the United States Marine Corps, proudly serving for over eight years. He is a Gulf War veteran and recipient of numerous awards, including the Combat Action Ribbon. After receiving an honorable discharge, Sapienza sustained that commitment to public service with a career in law enforcement in his hometown. A dedicated police professional with over twenty-seven years of service to the City of Yonkers, Sapienza recognizes the special relationship between the Yonkers Police Department and the communities it serves and will continue working together to drive down crime and enhance the quality of life for Yonkers residents.

Police Commissioner Sapienza said, "I am deeply honored with the responsibility and privilege the Mayor has entrusted to me to guide the Yonkers Police Department. Our police officers and supervisors have done incredible work during the Spano Administration to drive crime down to historic lows while enhancing community relations and improving our residents' quality-of-life. I look forward to building on that progress by working together with the community, administration, and City Council."

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Mayor Presents First Ever Yonkers Green City Leadership Awards



Yonkers Green City Student Leadership Award winners from Family School 32 with Yonkers Mayor Mike Spano, Council President Lakisha Collins-Bellamy and Councilman Anthony Merante

Yonkers Mayor Mike Spano this week presented Yonkers' first-ever Green City Leadership Awards, recognizing local community organizations and students for their contributions towards improving the environmental health and sustainability of the City.

"Yonkers has led the charge in sustainability for the last decade, working with our non-for-profits, schools, city agencies, businesses and residents," said Mayor Spano. "I am continually impressed by our city's vision, action and commitment to our environment. Congratulations to all our winners for your inspirational projects and being stewards of a healthier Yonkers."

At a ceremony held on Monday at Yonkers City Hall, Untermyer Gardens Conservancy was awarded the Yonkers Green City Community Leadership Award and a \$10,000 grant provided by the Yonkers IDA for its proposed Warblers On Warburton (WOW) tree canopy improvement program. Funded by ThePlant.org and the Yonkers IDA, students at Yonkers Public Schools' Family School 32 and Roosevelt High School were awarded the Yonkers Green City Student Leadership Award and each school received \$2,000 for their award-winning school projects.

Untermyer Gardens Conservancy's project strives to improve the tree canopy in the neighborhoods surrounding Warburton Avenue. The Conservancy partnered with the Hudson River Community Association – a neighborhood organization representing residents in the Warburton Avenue area – to identify properties that could host a shade tree in their front yard, along the sidewalk, and request permission from property owners to plant the trees on their property free of charge. The Conservancy was successful in planting six new shade trees in the area in 2021 and with the support of the Yonkers Green City Community Leader-

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Hochul Comes to Yonkers, With More Education Funds for YPS



8th grader at Fermi school Kelsey, with L-R-Mayor Mike Spano, Assemblymember Nader Sayegh, Westchester County Executive George Latimer, State Senator Shelley Mayer, Governor Kathy Hochul, Senate Majority Leader Andrea Stewart-Cousins, YPS Superintendent Dr. Edwin Quesada

By Dan Murphy

Governor Kathy Hochul visited Yonkers on April 28 and was welcomed to the Enrico Fermi school, where she highlighted the recently passed budget, and the record amount of education aid handed out to school districts across the state, and to the Yonkers Public Schools.

Governor Hochul: "I'm so proud to have just signed a budget, supported a budget that has the highest investment in education in our state's history... \$31.5 billion to help transform the lives of our children. Every penny is worth it."

"The question we ask ourselves every single day, 'What is best for New Yorkers, what is best for our children, and what is best for their future?' And I believe this transformative budget accomplishes just that."

"Those investments include a statewide school aid increase of \$2.1 billion, including a \$1.5 billion increase in Foundation Aid and a \$125 million increase in pre-kindergarten for four-year-old children. Additionally, the Budget provides \$100 million in matching funds to provide academic and mental health supports for students and educators.

"We are very fortunate to be here. Also, in the home of our Majority Leader for the New York State Senate, a person of great courage and intellect and compassion. And that is our Majority Leader, Andrea Stewart-Cousins.

"And I want to thank our school Superintendent, Superintendent for over seven years, making a difference every single day, Dr. Edwin Quesada, Dr. Quesada.

"I have amazing partners at the state level as well, Senator Shelley Mayer, who is the Chair of the Senate Education Committee out there fighting for every single dollar that has shown up in our budget, As well as Nader Sayegh, I want to thank him for being such a friend and ally and a real fighter for your district, a true fighter.

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Yonkers to Receive More than \$2 Million in Opioid Settlement Funds



By Dan Murphy

Before NY Attorney General Letitia James filed a lawsuit against the major pharmaceutical companies for the sales of Opioids which led to addiction and death for many, in 2019 the City of Yonkers filed a lawsuit against big pharma in an attempt to secure funds to help those in Yonkers affected by the Opioid epidemic.

Yonkers City Councilman John Rubbo not only supported the lawsuit, but has worked for the past four years to make sure that Yonkers gets its fair share to help in Opioid treatment and prevention. "When I first spoke to Mayor Spano about this epidemic early in my first term in February 2018, he embraced the idea of seeking justice on behalf of all of Yonkers. This problem has touched communities all across the country and it is time we address its effects on our city."

Millions of dollars each year are spent by taxpayers to provide and pay for health care, services, pharmaceutical care and other necessary services and programs on behalf of residents who are indigent or otherwise eligible for services, including payments through services such as Medicaid for prescription opioids that are manufactured, marketed, promoted, sold and/or distributed by Purdue Pharma. The City of Yonkers also provides a wide range of other services to its residents, including law enforcement, services for families and children, and public assistance as a result of those addicted to opioids.

Rubbo explained that the City met with two different law firms and began the process of filing a lawsuit. "It was a big waiting game, waiting the courts and working towards a settlement."

Eventually, AG James got all of the communities in NY State who had filed suit to join in New York State's action against Big Pharma. "I'm very proud that this was one of my first initiatives on the council. "We brought a lawsuit against Big Pharma to hold them accountable for the impact that opioid abuse has had in the City of Yonkers. I'm overwhelmed and excited by this settlement," said Rubbo.

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Senator Schumer, Congressman Bowman Bring \$500,000 to WestHab for Affordable Housing



County Executive George Latimer, Westhab CEO Rich Nightingale, Assemblyman Nader Sayegh, US Senate Majority Leader Charles Schumer, Congressman Jamaal Bowman, with housing advocates

Continuing their strong partnership in delivering funding to address historic inequities in Westchester County, U.S. Senate Majority Leader Charles E. Schumer and U.S. Representative Jamaal Bowman (NY-16) today announced that they have secured \$500,000 in federal funding for WestHab, Inc. to make critical upgrades to affordable housing and promote housing equity in Southwest Yonkers. The funding was secured as a part of the Fiscal Year 2022 end of the year spending package. The lawmakers said that the funding will make critical repairs to nearly 80 units of affordable housing, immediately improving quality of life for dozens of Yonkers families.

“Every Westchester family deserves a safe and secure place to call home, but historic underinvestment has created a housing crisis in places like Southwest Yonkers. Access to affordable housing is a fundamental right, and this funding gets to the issue at its core by making critical upgrades and repairs so that Yonkers residents can have the quality of life they deserve,” said Senator Schumer. “I am proud to have worked in lock step with Congressman Bowman to deliver this funding for Westhab and I will keep fighting to get every dollar of federal support needed to help lay the foundation here in Yonkers for a brighter, more equitable future for all residents.”

“Safe, reliable and affordable housing should be guaranteed for everyone,” said Congressman Jamaal Bowman, Ed.D (NY-16). “In Yonkers many of our neighbors are experiencing housing insecurity and Westhab is perfectly positioned to address this crisis by offering affordable housing and fighting to end homelessness. I am honored to support Westhab and have worked alongside Senate Majority Leader Chuck Schumer to deliver \$500,000 to Westhab as part of the Fiscal Year 2022 Appropriations Process. This money is critical to not only repair 79 units that house our neighbors, but also ensure the overall well-being and quality of life is improved for anyone living in those units. I am proud to deliver federal funding to uplift Westhab’s work and support their mission to ensure people have the resources to thrive and I look forward to every opportunity to support their efforts further.”

“While Westhab works to develop beautiful, new affordable housing, it is equally important that we preserve existing affordable housing so that all members of our community have a high-quality home. Westhab is grateful for the leadership of Senate Majority Leader Schumer and Congressman Bowman for delivering these critical funds to preserve nine multi-family buildings in Yonkers where seventy-nine families call home,” said Rich Nightingale, Westhab President & CEO.

Westchester County Executive George Latimer said, “I want to thank Senator Chuck Schumer and Congressman Bowman for their leadership towards transforming the Westhab property in Yonkers into an affordable housing opportunity for 79 Westchester County families. It is our responsibility in government to make sure that accessible, affordable housing is always there, and that every resident has a safe and decent place to call home. We are filling a critical need people have when we transform a property into something new, and we are helping Westchester’s families when we get them into a high-quality home at a price point they can afford.”

Schumer and Bowman explained that this funding would boost Westhab to repair 79 units of affordable housing, spanning across 9 multi-family apartment buildings. Specifically, funding will allow for critical improvements to the roof, fire safety systems, window replacement, utility upgrades, and apartment renovations. This funding comes at a critical time when 65% of households – roughly 24,000 families – in Southwest Yonkers are unable to afford the cost of living in Westchester County.

The representatives explained that the needs are especially evident in Southwest Yonkers. According to the United Way of Westchester and Putnam, a majority of households living in the 10701 and 10705 zip codes, which represent Southwest Yonkers, are deemed ALICE (Asset Limited, Income Constrained, Employed) households. This population earns more than the Federal Poverty Level, but less than the basic cost of living in their county. In 10701, 66% of 22,535 households are ALICE, while in 10705, 64% of 14,260 households are also ALICE. (United Way of Westchester and Putnam, 2020 New York Report. ALICE in Westchester)

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Memento Mori Art Exhibit Opens at Riverfront Library



Contemplation by Teresa Pereira

Exhibition at Riverfront Art Gallery, Riverfront Library 4th Floor
Open Monday-Thursday, 9am-8pm, Friday-Saturday, 10am-5pm

“Memento Mori,” is a Latin term meaning to remember that death is a part of life. Our current exhibit seeks to explore the inevitability of death and its impact on all of us. Throughout the pandemic, we’ve needed to let go of old ways of thinking and being in the world, to adopt new ways of living. Death, in all its forms, can be an opportunity to adapt, to appreciate, to honor and value the lives we are currently living. Death can be a door, a light shining upon more healthy ways of being present in the world. Death reminds us that each moment of life is sacred.

Participating Artists: Barbara and Lee Berger, Rich Carthew, Howard Better Andrew Courtney, Elisabeth Faraone, Luis Fonseca, Hillary Fontana, Katherine Emely Gomez, Sharon Grotevant, Julie Harris, Susan Hoeltzel, Deborah Holcombe, Simone Kestelman, Cec Lepage, Youngheui Lee Lim, Jennifer Llano Dauris Martinez, Jelly (Kendra Martinez), Carlos Mateu, Robert Olson, Leemour Pelli, Teresa Pereira, Franklin Pereira, Brenda Ricketts, Moses Ros, Patricia Stuart, Jenny Vaccaro-Bisgrove, Bendith van der Laan, Les Von Losberg, Rosanne Walsh, Jeanne Wilkinson, Noburu Yamashita.

Visit <https://www.ypl.org/riverfront-art-gallery-exhibition-memento-mori>, for more information.

Westchester County’s 2nd Household Recycling Day May 7 Sprain Ridge Park, Yonkers

Westchester County’s Department of Environmental Facilities (DEF) will be conducting its second Household Recycling Day (HRD) Event on Saturday, May 7, from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. at Sprain Ridge Park, 149 Jackson Avenue, Yonkers. The upcoming HRD event in Yonkers will be the second HRD event of 2022, and gives residents across the County an opportunity to conveniently and safely dispose of their household waste.

In addition to properly labelled household chemicals, tires, scrap metal, electronics, appliances, special wastes found in a typical household, documents for shredding, and expired or unwanted medications; the County, for the first time, will also be accepting latex paint and textiles for recycling at the May 7 HRD Event. For more information on what to bring to this event, visit www.westchestergov.com/recycling or call (914) 813-5425.

Opioids continued from pg 1-

“We need to use this money and put it where its needed most, to those most in need, and not have these dollars go in the general fund.”

Yonkers has already received its first share of the settlement, in the amount of \$383,564, with a total of more than \$2 Million from the settlement going to Yonkers.

In 2022, the Hudson Valley will receive a total of \$10.8 million and Westchester will receive a total of \$5.8 million, with more than \$380,000 going to Yonkers. These funds are the result of the \$1.5 billion that Attorney General James has secured so far for New York state as a result of settlements with the manufacturers and distributors of opioids. All 62 counties and the five largest cities in the state will begin receiving funds this week, which will be used for opioid treatment and prevention efforts. The Hudson Valley and Westchester will receive up to \$95 million in total over the years as part of these settlements.

“The opioid crisis has devastated communities in Yonkers, Westchester, and the Hudson Valley, but we are helping the communities heal by distributing more than \$16.7 million for opioid prevention, treatment, and recovery,” said Attorney General James. “These funds will help us combat this crisis and ensure that those struggling with addiction get the support they need. While no amount of money will ever make up for the lives we’ve lost, these funds will be vital in helping to prevent future deaths and destruction.”

The first payments come from settlements with opioid distributors — Ameri-sourceBergen Corporation, Cardinal Health, Inc., and McKesson Corporation.

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Notice

A nonprofit organization in Yonkers NY is seeking sealed bids for the sale and installation of security related enhancements. The project includes installation of impact resistant doors, access control and lockdown locks, video intercom system, exterior safety lighting, perimeter fencing, panic alarm system with sirens and strobes, lighting, and a CCTV security system. Selection criteria will be based on price, reputation/experience, and quality of materials proposed. Specifications and bid requirements can be obtained by contacting us at Renovations600@gmail.com. All interested firms will be required to sign for the proposal documents and provide primary contact, telephone, fax and email address. Minority and Women owned businesses are encouraged to apply. Bids will be accepted until 12 pm on June 15, 2022 and work is to commence by July 31, 2022 and completed by September 1, 2022.

Read it all online at YonkersTimes.com

Bronx River Parkway Wrongway Task Force Issues Final Report, New Signage Installed



Do Not Enter Signs on the Bronx River Parkway

Recommendations Include Approximately 160 New Signs Along Parkway

On April 29, the “Wrong Way Task Force,” established by Westchester County Executive George Latimer in 2020, finished its final review of the County owned and patrolled Bronx River Parkway and released its accomplishments, including the advisement of installing approximately 160 new signs along the parkway.

Made up of Westchester citizens and elected officials, the group reconvened in July 2021, after the COVID-19 pandemic halted the review process. Since the formation of the Task Force, the Westchester County Department of Public Works has fabricated and installed approximately 160 signs on the Bronx River Parkway including: 15 – Do Not Enter, 130 – Wrong Way, 8 – No Left Turn, 3 – One Way, 4 – Parkway Entrance.

The Westchester County Department of Public Works also painted 30 new pavement arrows on exit ramps and at traffic signals with an additional 22 planned for installation this year.

Westchester County Executive George Latimer said: “This task force is has completed its mission after taking inventory and examining the entire Bronx River Parkway in our great County, which runs roughly over 13 miles. From the Kensico Dam to Yonkers, their meticulous work has resulted in a safer parkway for motorists here at home and for visitors to safely get to their destination. I also want to thank our Westchester County Police ‘Baker 1’ patrol who are out there 24 hours a day 7 days a week.”

Department of Environmental Facilities Deputy Commissioner Erin O’Shea chairs the task force and said, “When County Executive George Latimer established this task force our charge was to take inventory of potential problem zones and recommend immediate remedies. We believe we have done just that. The Task Force conducted several field visits, during which every intersection and entrance/exit ramp along the Bronx River Parkway was studied, resulting in a Final Report containing recommendations that we believe, if implemented, will increase safety and cause a reduction in wrong-way driving incidents along the Bronx River Parkway. We are grateful to County Executive Latimer for establishing this Task Force and are proud to have been part of such an important initiative.”

Westchester County Department of Public Works and Transportation Commissioner Hugh J. Greechan, Jr., PE said, “With the issuance of Bronx River Parkway Wrong Way Task Force Final Report, this Department is proud to play a critical role in the implementation of the Task Force’s recommendations. I would also like to express my gratitude for all the hard work undertaken by our Traffic Engineering, Road Maintenance and Sign shop staff to make the Task’s Force’s vision a reality.”

The Wrong Way Task Force also made further recommendations including the advisement of adding “Wrong Way” signs to the backs of existing “Speed Limit” signs. These would be installed every 4000 feet and would provide additional warning to errant drivers if they pass all of the signs at the ramps and intersections. The group also suggested the addition of enhanced street lighting and exploring the use of emerging video technology and real-time notifications for errant drivers.

In 2021, there were six reported wrong way incidents on the Bronx River Parkway compared to 12 incidents reported in 2020 and 2019.

Leaks, Voting, The Circus, Bathrooms And More!



By Eric W. Schoen

Seems like every week right before I am ready to file my column a big story break. This week, there has been a serious leak from the United States Supreme Court of a ‘draft’ opinion from earlier this year on a case before the court regarding Roe V. Wade.

Now I am not going to, no pun intended wade into the abortion issue. Most people in this country have their minds made up. Nothing I could say will change your opinion. But there is a serious problem when draft opinions are released from the Court. Supreme Court Chief Justice John Roberts said the leak will be investigated. It should be. This is a first. Leaks from the highest court in the land are unacceptable.

No matter what your position is on the issue, it is a reminder of how important it is to vote. And make sure you are aware of where those you support stand on the issues most important to you. Are you registered to vote? Have you moved and need to register at a new address? Did you get a card from the Board of Elections confirming your registration? Will anyone in your family turn 18 prior to Election Day? Have you applied for an Absentee Ballot if you can’t make it to your local polling location?

New York State has made it easy to do all these things with a computer and without leaving your house. There is no reason why if you are eligible, you are not registered to vote. But remember. Registering is just the first step. Whether you go in person, go for early voting available at sites throughout Westchester or vote by absentee ballot, this is your way to influence not only what is going on in your hometown but what is happening throughout our country.

Now be prepared this year. The redistricting process that takes place every 10 years after the Census was challenged in the court. This might mean that you may have to cast ballots in June, August and finally in November. June and November were already on the Elections calendar. The overturning of the redistricting for Congressional and State Senate seats has put the August date on the ‘tentative’ calendar. And there are probably going to be attempts to overturn the State Assembly lines before this process is concluded.

August. A time when the last thing people are thinking about is elections. A ‘special master’ has been appointed to come up with lines for the Congressional and Senate seats that in the current plan have been ruled to favor Democrats. His report is due later this month. Crazy! But stay tuned. The situation changes every day.

Let me repeat myself. The way you can influence the system is to vote for candidates who share your views. It is your responsibility to press candidates for public office for their opinions on issues important to you and follow them to be sure they keep their promises. So many people in the world don’t have the right to vote. You do. Do it!

On to the many other issues before us. So nice to have the Flip Circus at Cross County Shopping Center for two weeks. Large crowds show that people still like a circus, even without live animals. I hope this becomes an annual tradition. It gave many Jewish families something to do with the kids between the first two and last two days of Passover. These are days families are always looking for something fun to do with the children. Flip Circus gave families an option now that Ringling Brothers Circus is no more.

Did you hear the one about the New York City Councilman who wants to pass a law that there be one public restroom in every zip code in the city? Yes friends, I said one public bathroom in every zip code. Go anywhere in the world and you will have public restrooms. You might have to pay a small fee or tip the person in charge of the upkeep of the restroom. ‘Ya’ gotta go ya’ gotta go.’

In New York City and most of Westchester if you need a restroom you have to go to Starbucks, CVS, Panera, McDonald’s or one of the few places where you can ‘sneak’ in. Why not have one of those self-cleaning restrooms that were the talk of the town several years ago where you pay 25 or 50 cents to use a properly sanitized restroom? Getty Square in Yonkers, Mamaroneck Avenue in downtown White Plains are two places that come to mind with large numbers of people passing through in need of a restroom. One public restroom per zip code. I think we need a few more than that!

Speaking of restrooms, New York State Health officials are again encouraging people in our area to mask up when indoors. Lot of people wearing masks at Panera at Cross County Tuesday morning. Covid and its variants are still here. Whether it be the Vice President of the United States or people I know, folks are coming down with the virus in numbers concerning State health officials. And who knows with all the self-testing kits out there the actual number of people affected.

Bottom line. Follow all the protocols you did in the past. There is nothing forcing you to wear a mask, but by this time you know your particular health situation and have discussed Covid and mask wearing with your doctors. Get the booster shots suggested. And please, when you use the bathroom scrub your hands with soap and water and rinse for 20 seconds singing ‘Happy Birthday’ twice. I notice so many people don’t do this basic procedure we were taught when we were 2 years old!

When I was younger, and I saw someone stealing something out of a store I might have said something to them or tried to stop them. Nowadays, it’s not so easy

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Paulin Bills Passes, Delgado Named Lt. Gov.; Astorino on the Ballot, Rainey Off the ballot

On May 2, the New York State legislature passed, and Governor Kathy Hochul signed into law (Chapter 178), Assemblymember Amy Paulin's legislation which permits a candidate on a primary or general election ballot who is charged or convicted of a state or federal misdemeanor or felony to withdraw their name from the ballot.

"This outcome is in the best interests of everyone who votes in New York – on both sides of the aisle," said Assemblymember Amy Paulin. "Under previous election law a candidate would have had to die, move out of state, or run for another office in order to remove their name. This situation highlighted an antiquated provision in election law which kept someone on a ballot even though they were no longer running for the office. It doesn't make sense to keep someone on a ballot who has been indicted, has resigned from office, and has asked to be removed from the ballot."

"It's also not fair to voters who may end up voting for a candidate who isn't running for office just because their name is on the ballot," continued Paulin. "We need to put a ballot in front of voters that properly reflects who is running. This update to election law will correct what should have been done already. I'm thankful that the change has been made in time for this election, and will be in place for future elections."

This bill was passed in the New York State Senate by Senator Liz Krueger. Former Lt. Gov. Benjamin agreed to have his name removed from the ballot and posted a video in which he said, "I will sign the necessary paperwork to remove myself from the ballot. I am innocent of these unsubstantiated charges. However, I would be unable to serve under these circumstances. I want to thank all of my constituents and supporters for giving me the opportunity to serve."

On May 3, Governor Kathy Hochul announced that she is appointing Representative Antonio Delgado to serve as Lieutenant Governor of New York. Representative Delgado currently represents New York's 19th Congressional District, which includes the Hudson Valley and Catskills. Delgado is Afro-Latino, the first person of color to represent Upstate New York in Congress and a member of both the Black and Hispanic Congressional Caucuses.

"I am proud to appoint Antonio Delgado, an outstanding leader and public servant, as Lieutenant Governor of New York, and I look forward to working with him to usher in a new era of fairness, equity, and prosperity for communities across the State," Governor Hochul said. "We share a belief in working together to get things done for New Yorkers, and Representative Delgado has an incredible record of doing just that in Congress. With Antonio Delgado by my side serving as Lieutenant Governor, we will both make history – and make a difference."

"New Yorkers deserve a Lieutenant Governor who's working day and night to make lives better for working people and their families," Representative Delgado said. "Upstate, downstate, doesn't matter. We all want the same things, security, family, and opportunity. The key is to listen to New Yorkers from all walks of life and then be their voice to get the job done."

A native of Upstate New York, Representative Delgado grew up in Schenectady and lives in Rhinebeck with his wife, Lacey, and their twin eight-year-old sons, Maxwell and Coltrane.

The announcement came just one day after the law was changed allowing former Lt. Gov Brian Benjamin to be removed from the ballot because he was indicted.

Delgado was elected to Congress in 2018, and re-elected in 2020. He was facing a tough re-election this year, for two reasons. First, he had a tough republican opponent in Dutchess County Executive Mark Molinaro, and second, New Yorkers are concerned about a variety of issues on the state and federal level, which could put incumbent democratic members of Congress, like Delgado in jeopardy.

In other 2022 NY election news, all four republican candidates for Governor will be on the ballot in a GOP primary in June. Lee Zeldin, the NYGOP nominated candidate for Governor, challenged the petitions of former Westchester County Executive Rob Astorino, Andrew Giuliani, and Westchester resident Harry Wilson. But the Board of Elections ruled all three sets of petitions valid.

Astorino, who submitted more than 20,000 signatures, said, "The NYS Board of Elections just agreed that our designating petitions are valid. It's time for Lee Zeldin to stop playing the Albany game of trying to get his primary opponents thrown off the ballot. It's not happening. There is going to be a primary and it's going to be the 3 million Republican rank & file voters who decide who the best candidate to face Kathy Hochul is – not lawyers or political insiders."

"I've got an eight-year record governing as a conservative Westchester County Executive that I'm proud to stand behind, which includes cutting taxes and holding the line on spending. But Zeldin apparently doesn't want to be asked about his record in Albany and Washington, where he voted more often with Governor Cuomo than he did with President Trump," said Astorino.

In the race for Assembly in the 95th District, to replace retiring Assemblywoman Sandy Galef, former Peekskill Mayor Andre Rainey was knocked off the ballot. News 12 reported that challenges to Rainey's petitions, filed by County Legislator Colin Smith, were deemed credible by the Board of Elections.

More than 250 of Rainey's signatures were thrown out, based on the democrats who signed also signing another petition, or for errors made in writing their address on the petition.

In Rainey is unable to get on the ballot for the democratic primary, Smith will face off against Dana Levenberg, Supervisor for the Town of Ossining; former Peekskill Mayor Andre Rainey; former Peekskill Council City Council member Vanessa Agudelo. Agudelo is also running on the Working Families Party line, so her name will appear on the ballot in November. The 95th district is made up of Ossining, Croton on Hudson, Peekskill, the Town of Cortlandt, and parts of Putnam County.

Yonkers Arts Weekend Returns May 21



YonkersArtsWeekend.com

Mayor Mike Spano today announced the final schedule of events for City's 8th annual Yonkers Arts Weekend (YAW) festival on Saturday, May 21. The festival is a one-day event, filled with exciting new programs such as pop-up exhibitions, monoprint demonstrations and DIY workshops, children's workshops, musical performances, portrait artists, and much more at locations across the city.

Attracting more than 10,000 visitors a year, Yonkers Arts Weekend features hundreds of local, regional and international artists, painters, photographers, sculptors, and musicians in the City's most exciting cultural hotspots including city galleries, the Carpet Mills Arts District, Hudson River Museum, and Untermyer Gardens. Since its inception in 2014, YAW has created a prominent arts district in the City of Yonkers, several city galleries have opened, and dozens of local and international renowned muralists and artists have contributed to the City's downtown revival under the leadership of Mayor Mike Spano.

"Yonkers continues to secure its reputation as an artistic hub in the region and we are so excited to share that with residents and visitors each year during Yonkers Arts Weekend," said Mayor Mike Spano. "Yonkers has a thriving arts community and I'm thrilled that we can offer a jam-packed one-day festival for artists to display their talents."

Yonkers Arts Weekend is FREE to the public and will showcase a wide range of artistic mediums, workshops, musical performances and guest appearances including:

City of Yonkers x Yonkers Gallery Pop-up Show [Riverfront Library Atrium, 1 Larkin Center; 11AM-6PM]

A collaboratively curated exhibition featuring a wide-range of diverse artists who responded to the citywide call for entry.

US+U/Warburton Galerie's Exhibition: "The Poetry of Unwritten Letters" [Warburton Galerie, 16 Warburton Avenue; 11AM-6PM]

A group exhibition that explores the depth of both conscious and unconscious thought an artist puts into their creative practice and the ways in which their work represents unspoken words – instead communicated through a visual language.

Riverfront Gallery's Exhibition: "Momento Mori" Momento [Riverfront Library, 1 Larkin Center; 11AM-6PM]

Artists working in all media explored the inevitability of death and its impact on all of us in their dynamic works. The unforgettable works in this exhibit reminds us that each moment of life is sacred.

Blue Door Art Center's Exhibition: "One More Time: Recycled Artifacts" [Blue Door Art Center, 13 Riverdale Avenue; 11AM-6PM]

See artwork by over 50 local artists featuring recycled and upcycled objects. The focus is to show how one can elevate trash and turn it into art while helping to save the Earth.

Yonkers Arts' 13th Annual CMAD (Carpet Mills Arts District) Yonkers Artist Showcase and the 19th Annual YOHO Open Studios [For specific times and locations visit <https://yonkersartsweekend.com/>]

Enjoy LIVE musical performances (Jazz Showcase, Jam Session, R&B Showcase), the Youth Fashion Show, and Pop-up Exhibitions.

Hudson River Museum's "The World of Frida" and "Frida Kahlo in Context" [Hudson River Museum, 511 Warburton Avenue; 12:30PM-4PM]

Visitors are invited to enjoy FREE admission to the museum and family-friendly activities, including art workshops that celebrate the bilingual exhibitions "The World of Frida" and "Frida Kahlo in Context" and the thriving arts in Yonkers. Various activities such as games and demonstrations will take place in the Hudson River Museum's Courtyard. To view Hudson River Museum's up-to-date COVID-19 protocol, visit <https://www.hrm.org/plan-your-visit/>

Untermyer Park and Gardens: LIVE Musical Performances by the Untermyer Parks Council as well as the Yonkers Parks Department and a Photographic Graffiti Art Display [Untermyer Park and Gardens, Amphitheater, 945 N. Broadway; 1PM-5PM] Enjoy various LIVE musical performances under the blue skies of the Untermyer Park Amphitheatre. UPAC presents Joe Giglio Trio (1PM-3PM). The Yonkers Parks Department presents Carlos Jimenez Mambo Dulcet, a nine piece latin jazz band (3PM-5PM). Also, includes a graffiti art exhibition by Graffiti Art Expert Ken Davis.

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.

However, due to the COVID-19 Pandemic and in line with the directives issued by the Mayor of Yonkers regarding public safety, there is limited access to One Larkin Center. 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 wear face coverings and see the Public Safety Officer in the library atrium, who will clock in the bid and then contact Purchasing to pick up the bid. Sealed Bids will continue to be opened and read on the dates below, however, there will not be a public opening of bids. 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 6798 - Opening date: 6/3/2022: Purchase of various food products as needed (10 schedules, approximately 190 items) for the 2022-2023 school year (JH).
2. Bid 6800 - Opening date: 5/20/2022: Purchase of 14 Dollamur, or equal, wrestling mats and accessories (LC).
3. Bid 6801 - Opening date: 6/1/2022: Purchase of Lucas, or equal, CPR systems and Lifepak, or equal, medical monitors and related accessories (27 items) (TC).
4. Bid 6802 - Opening date: 6/3/2022: Furnish and install new fire alarm system at the Spreckman Community Center, 777 McLean Avenue (DC).
5. Bid 6803 - Opening date: 6/1/2022: One-time purchase of 12 Louie Poulsen, or equal, light fixtures with custom finishing (NG).
6. Bid 6804 - Opening date: 6/1/2022: 12-month contract to purchase bulk quantities of 25% caustic soda per Yonkers specifications, as needed. (AC).
7. Bid 6805 - Opening date: 5/20/2022: One-time purchase of various electrical supplies (AC).
8. Bid 6806 - Opening date: 5/20/2022: 12-month contract to provide on-call mobile mix concrete deliveries as needed for the Parks Department (NG).
9. Bid 6757A - Opening date: 5/20/2022: 12-month contract to provide on-call voice and data cabling installation services, as needed, at City facilities (SR).
10. Bid 6759A - Opening date: 6/10/2022: Provide maintenance and landscaping services for the three Daylighting locations through 10/15/2022, with option to renew for 2023 (DC).

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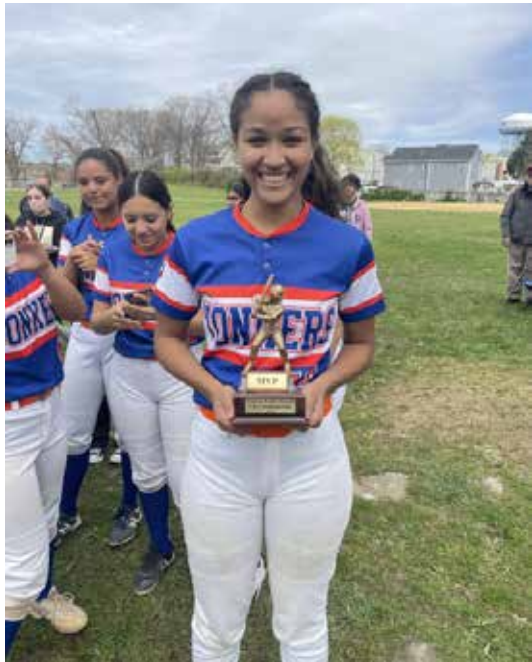
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Yonkers High School Lady Bulldogs Win City Tournament



Arianna Garcia from Yonkers High was the named the tournament MVP

For the 4th straight season, the Lady Bulldogs of Yonkers High School faced off against the YMA Eagles for the Yonkers City Tournament title. YMA took the crown in 2018 and 2021 and Yonkers High won the 2019 title (there was no tournament in 2020).

This year it was the Lady Bulldogs turn for the title. Trailing 5-3 entering the top of the fourth, some unlikely mistake filled fielding by YMA led to the Lady Bulldogs pulling away for the victory. Sabrina Iacoveta went the distance for the win for Yonkers High School.

Congratulations Lady Bulldogs!

Remembering Bobby Martin



Yonkers Police Officer Bobby Martin

By Phil Foley-

I just received word that a good friend of mine passed away on April 14 in Florida. Bobby Martin was a real trailblazer in community relations with the Yonkers Police Department while working at the Yonkers Police Athletic League along side of Chris Palandra and Bobby Blair.

I spent many Saturdays volunteering my time with the Youth basketball program at Yonkers HS with them. The positive effect of Police officers working with young disadvantaged kids was overwhelming!

Bobby Martin was born on March 23,1939 in Yonkers New York. He attended PS 14 and graduated from Commerce HS in 1957. Following graduation he joined the Navy and was honorably discharged in 1959. After working for the New York Central Railroad Bobby was appointed to the Yonkers Police Force on March 25,1965. He was assigned to the 2nd Precinct..

In the 70's Bob was active with the PBA basketball team as well as other sports. In 1971 Bob was appointed to the Community Relations unit and October 6,1972 Bob was appointed to the Yonkers PAL where he would serve 13 years until his retirement on June 28,1985.

Bob retired to Florida where he and his wife Mary enjoyed the Sunshine state and Bobby the Golf! Unfortunately Bob became ill a while back and lost his courageous battle and died at the age of 83 on April 14, 2022. He is survived by his wife Mary.

Rest in Peace Bobby there are a lot of young kids who have grown up now who remember all that you did for them by pointing the way to a happy successful life! And also that you,Chris and Bobby Blair were nice guys too!

A special thank you to George Rutledge (YPD Retired) who provided me the information for this article.

On This Day in Yonkers History...



The Ludlow Marina

By Mary Hoar, President Emerita Yonkers Historical Society, recipient of the 2004 Key to History and President Untermyer Performing Arts Council

Monday, May 9th

May 9, 1940: In an effort to rid Yonkers of the unlicensed peddlers causing problems in the Yonkers, the Common Council passed an ordinance increasing license fees on peddlers; it also required them not remain on a block longer than ten minutes.

May 9, 1946: Mr. and Mrs. Oscar Mautner of Crestwood ran away from home and moved to a NY hotel! The couple created a beautiful and unusual terraced hillside garden on the side of their Brookdale Drive home, one that attracted a lot of attention. Such a constant line of cars and pedestrians streamed by their home, a police detail was assigned to monitor the traffic, and temporarily turned Brookdale into a one-way street to eliminate traffic issues.

Tuesday, May 10th

May 10, 1937: Prescott Street's Alexander McKechnie won the Westchester Poetry Society's first prize for his poem "A Highland Maid." McKechnie was a color chemist for Alexander Smith & Sons Carpet Company, former President of the Manhattan Literary Society, and a member of the Westchester Poetry Club, publishing for many years under the penname "A. McLane." The Scotland native was devoted to his Scottish heritage, and served as president of the Yonkers Kilty Band, past Chief of Clan MacGregor 106, and a member of Thistle Lodge. He later was named Honorary President and Life Member of Kilty.

May 10, 1946: City Manager Montgomery and Mayor Frank asked Yonkers residents join a "voluntary brownout," and make cuts in our use of gas and electricity. Because of the dwindling coal reserves, they feared our "health and safety would be jeopardized." They asked operators of electric signs, billboards, theaters and stores to start immediately. Postmaster Cronin reminded postal customers mailed packages could not weight more than 11 pounds, a restriction instituted because train service was reduced because of the coal shortage.

Wednesday, May 11th

May 11, 1946: Local engineer Louis Hoff of Nepperhan Avenue appealed to City Manager Montgomery, Mayor Frank and Councilman Welty to clean up Nepperhan Creek! Hoff reported some of the items he saw in the river between the Ann Street bridge and Elm Street were a car body, hot water boilers, car seats, chairs, stoves and oil cans. He stressed the importance of cleaning the creek to prevent damage to the aqueduct under city buildings, suggested trash cans be placed on the Ann Street bridge to suggest people to stop dumping into the Creek, and requested Yonkers plant willow, maple and birch trees along the creek to enhance its scenery. Hoff stressed the historical value of the Creek; for that reason, it "should be landscaped to improve the aspects of this section of the city."

May 11, 1947: Local boaters rescued two Yonkers flyers after their seaplane overturned and capsized while landing in the Hudson 300 feet south of the Ludlow Dock. Marinus Koch of Park Avenue Extension and George McIntosh of Van Cortlandt Park Avenue, owners of the plane, held onto it until rescued by John Mirsky and Donald Davidson, from Mirsky Launch Service. After bringing the men to safety, their rescuers tied a line on the plane and tried to tow it to the Westchester Service Company Dock nearby; it filled with water about 40 feet away and sank in 40 feet of water.

Thursday, May 12th

May 12, 1918: Dr. Paul- Felix Armand-Delille, a major in the French Army and a member of the French Academy of Medecine, visited the Yonkers unit of the Speedwell Society; he was studying methods of preventing the spread of infection among children.

May 12, 1956: Robert Jennings of Roosevelt HS took fourth place in the National Science Fair in Oklahoma City, Oklahoma! What project won first prize? An experiment called "Antibiotic from an earthworm," presented by Susan Hopkins from Iowa.

Friday, May 13th:

May 13, 1925: Ten Yonkers golfers qualified for the National Open Golf Tournament: George McLean from Grassy Sprain Golf Club: John Fedor, Mike Ford and Tommy Harmon from Hudson River Country Club; unattached competitors were Walter Baker, Jimmy Farrell, Johnny Farrell, William Lupine, Paul Nevins, and John Soltis. These golfers would compete against 259 other players. None of our players won.

continued on pg. 7-

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OLA Consulting Engineers Promotes Amicone to Principal in Charge of Firm's NYC City Office.



MATTHEW AMICONE, P.E.
Principal in Charge
NYC Office

OLA Consulting Engineers has promoted Matthew Amicone to principal in charge of the firm's New York City office.

An electrical engineer, Amicone's expertise includes the design of electrical systems for various building types. During his 20-year tenure with OLA, he managed many of the firm's significant projects for clients such as New York-Presbyterian, ArchCare, City of Hoboken, NYC Department of Construction & Design, and Touro College.

Amicone, a resident of Yonkers, N.Y., first joined OLA Consulting Engineers as a summer intern and then began full-time in 2002 after graduating from Villanova University.

In 2017, after more than 40 years of engineering projects throughout New York City, OLA opened an office in Manhattan. The firm tasked Amicone with leading the New York City team and managing the day-to-day operations—including marketing and business development, client relationship management, project management, and quality assurance.

OLA Consulting Engineers' expertise ranges from HVAC, electrical, plumbing and fire protection, with a depth of knowledge in mechanical, electrical, and energy engineering that delivers cost-effective, sustainable solutions.

Eric Schoen , continued from pg. 3-

because you don't know if the person has a gun or other instrument that could be used against you.

I was standing at the self-checkout at CVS on Bronx River Road at Fleetwood Plaza and a young man ran out of the store with hair products. He yelled to store personnel, 'Don't touch me.' CVS staff apparently are told not to do anything. This has got to stop. Otherwise, high prices will go higher. What's going on in this world?

This week is Teacher Appreciation Week. I salute the many teachers out there including English teacher Bill DeBartolo who gave me the skills to write these columns and encouraged students not to use contractions when writing. I think of him every time I write a column and am tempted use a contraction. This is Nurses Appreciation Week. We have to thank the Nurses and Nurse Practitioners out there who work to keep us healthy during difficult times.

Tuesday was World Press Freedom Day, an occasion to denounce attacks against the media and to demand better. Readers attack me from time to time. I always remind them that this paper accepts Letters to the Editor where they can make their concerns known not only to me but to all readers.

Finally, our prayers have been answered. Yonkers Detective Cop Brian Menton has been released from the hospital. We wish him a speedy recovery at home and a retirement filled with nothing but good things!

Happy Mother's Day to all the mothers out there. My mom is gone 29 years, and never a day goes by when I don't think of how she would want me to handle a situation. And of course, to keep on writing!

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

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

Notice of formation of Color It Black, LLC. of Org. filed with the SSNY on 01/28/2022. Office: Westchester County. SSNY designated as agent of the LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail copy of process to the Color It Black LLC, 33 Cliffside Drive, Yonkers, NY 10710 Purpose: Any lawful activity.

Notice of formation of Allure Property Pursuits, LLC. Arts. of Org. filed with the SSNY on 03/03/2022. Office: Westchester County. SSNY designated as agent of the LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail copy of process to the LLC, 465 Tuckahoe Road #1104, Yonkers, NY 10710. Purpose: Any lawful activity.

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

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REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL (RFP) # 2022-04
REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS FOR
PROJECT BASED VOUCHER PROPOSALS

The Municipal Housing Authority for the City of Yonkers ("MHACY") hereby solicits proposals from private property owners (landlords) for the use of Project Based Vouchers to expand the affordable housing opportunities in Yonkers' neighborhoods that are not negatively impacted by poverty and/or race. Proposals will be accepted on a monthly basis. The initial proposals must reach MHACY no later than 4:00 p.m. on May 16, 2022. Thereafter MHACY will accept additional proposals no later than 4:00 p.m. on the 15th of each subsequent month – or the first non-holiday weekday following the 15th in the event the 15th is a weekend or holiday. MHACY will continue to accept proposals through December 15, 2022.

All responses to the RFP must be emailed or enclosed in a sealed envelope. Email submissions must contain the Subject Line: Project Based Voucher RFP and sent to the following email: procurement@mhacy.org. Mailed and/or hand delivered submissions must contain an original and four (4) copies; be labeled Project Based Voucher RFP; and be addressed to Wilson Kimball, President & CEO, Municipal Housing Authority for the City of Yonkers, 1511 Central Park Avenue, P.O. Box 35, Yonkers, New York 10710.

This RFP contains submission requirements and other pertinent information for submitting a proper and responsive proposal. Prospective applicants desiring any explanation or interpretation of the solicitation must request it at least seven (7) calendar days before the RFP due date. The request must be addressed to Wilson Kimball, President & CEO, at the address stated below. Any information given to a prospective applicant about this solicitation will be furnished to all other prospective applicants as a written amendment to the solicitation.

Proposals will be evaluated on the criteria stated in the RFP. Negotiations may be conducted with landlords who have a reasonable chance of being selected for an award. After evaluation of the proposal revisions, if any, Housing Assistance Payment ("HAP") contracts will be awarded to the landlord(s) whose proposals are the most advantageous to MHACY. MHACY reserves the right to reject any and all proposals.

Notice: Contact with members of the MHACY Board of Commissioners, or MHACY officers and employees other than the contact person shown above, prior to the execution of a HAP contract could result in disqualification of a proposal. In fairness to all firms, during the RFP process MHACY will not meet in person with anyone representing a potential bidder to discuss this RFP. This does not exclude meetings required to conduct business not related to the RFP, or possible personal presentations after written proposals have been received and evaluated.

Wilson Kimball, President, CEO
Municipal Housing Authority for the City of Yonkers
1511 Central Park Avenue, Yonkers, New York 10710

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

Classifieds

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Events

ANTIQUA LOVERS TAKE NOTE! BRIMFIELD IS HERE – ALL SHOWS! May 10-15, New shows open daily! BrimfieldAntiqueFleaMarket.com. 2022 Show Dates: May 10-15, July 12-17, September 6-11.

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Fourth Precinct Community Council

The Fourth Precinct Community Council will hold its monthly meeting at 7:00 PM on Thursday, May 19 in the meeting room at the Fourth Police Precinct, 53 Shonnard Place. Anyone who lives or works in the area served by the Fourth Precinct, as well as all elected officials, is welcome. Captain Messar and Lieutenant Curtis will be available to hear your concerns.

Hochul visits Yonkers, continued from pg 1-

“But also traveling this community has just been a high honor and no matter where I go, when I hear about Westchester, there is a huge sense of pride about having the best students, the best teachers, the best schools.

—“And it doesn’t matter the socioeconomic status as a community, it’s about the leadership as I mentioned. So, a school like this, that on paper is not a wealthy school district, they’re getting the same or even better results than other districts that are more affluent. This is a story that is powerful locally, but it’s also one that inspires other school districts and says if they can do it in Yonkers, with a beautifully diverse community, a lot of new Americans settling here.

They surpass all expectations and have over 90 percent graduation rate that is astounding to me. So, you’re doing your work right here. You’re doing your work and we have to do ours at the state level.

“This is also going to continue fully funding, something called Foundation Aid. You know what I’m talking about? This is a battle. This has been a Battle Royale for a long time. And it was decided that communities like Yonkers and others need extra help. And that help was denied for far too long, so we settled the lawsuit. We put the money in the budget. We’re going to continue doing this until we make these communities whole with the Foundation Aid they deserve.

“So Superintendent, how does \$360 million for your school district sound. Would you take that? All right thought you would. \$360 million, that’s an increase of over \$25 million. And that’s incredible, \$246 million for Foundation Aid, another 5% increase over the previous year.

Hochul spoke about students trying to learn during the pandemic. “You strip them away from that nurturing environment for nearly two years, and now you’re back at home and every home was different. Some people had tutors taking care of their kids, making sure that they had everything. The password was right, they could turn on, the device. The classroom was there in their home. Other kids didn’t have broadband at home. They didn’t have the internet. They might’ve had one cell phone that the family, and I’ve heard this story, multiple children were sharing this to try and learn on a cell phone all day long. Can you imagine staring at this all day and saying that that was your education?”

“I’m so excited, I’m proud of this school district. I’m proud of everyone who’s part of this whole ecosystem because your graduates, the students in K through eight, all the way up through high school, they have a chance. They have a chance not just to survive, they have an opportunity to thrive, and that is why these investments made sense. It was the right thing to do,” said Hochul.

Senate Majority Leader Andrea Stewart-Cousins said, “How long we have been fighting this fight. When I came to the senate, I wanted to fix the education inequities. We had a governor who didn’t want to pay (foundation aid) because it was too expensive. Then we had a Governor who said we couldn’t pay because of the recession.

“During COVID we knew the inequity and who was suffering more. Then Governor Hochul came in, saw the imperative and presented an amazing budget that already had the funding (foundation aid) and she committed to continuing this next year. She understands the values that matter to build the future we need to build-Thank you Governor.

“An 8th Grade student at Fermi, Kelsey, introduced the Governor and made an impression on those in attendance. “Kelsey knows that she can be a senator, or president or an astronaut. You can be anything you want to be. That’s what education has done, it has stopped limiting people,” said Stewart-Cousins.

Green City Leadership Awards, continued from pg 1-

ship program, the Conservancy plans to expand the program with the planting of 30 new shade trees in the area in 2022. Additionally, the Conservancy is utilizing this program as an educational opportunity by offering paid internships to local high school students who will participate in the tree plantings, as well as other gardening projects at Untermyer Gardens.

The Yonkers Green City Student Leadership Award was given to the Family School 32 Student Government for their development of its new program, “Beautify 32,” which takes a student-led approach to keeping the school and its grounds clean and free of litter, while raising awareness of environmental protection. In addition to organizing student clean-ups, the members of the Student Government are planting flower and vegetable gardens at the school and will be developing recycling education materials to increase participation among students and parents.

Mayor Spano also presented Devan Eldridge, a senior at Roosevelt High School and a member of the school’s A-Team Autism Program, with the Yonkers Green City Student Leadership Award. Eldridge leads the school’s Recycling Program where he and his recycling team conduct weekly bottle and paper collection from each classroom, clean and sort the co-mingled and paper recyclables, and prepare them for pick-up and delivery to the Yonkers Recycling Center. To date, Eldridge and the Recycling Team at Roosevelt have recycled over 2,290 pounds of plastic, glass and paper materials. In addition, Devan is involved in environmental advocacy and school beautification projects, and he plans to expand the Roosevelt High School Recycling program with additional recycling bins placed throughout the school and offering workshops for students and parents to learn about recycling and help increase participation.

“Throughout the school district our students are encouraged to be active citizens in their school community,” noted Dr. Edwin M. Quezada, Superintendent of Schools. “When we educate our students about environmental issues that impact them today and, in the future, they develop and put into action effective solutions with the potential for long-term results. The students at Family School 32 and the SharkWorks Recycling team lead by Devan Eldridge at Roosevelt High School-Early College Studies are magnificent examples of the creativity and fortitude of Yonkers students. The Mayor’s Green City Leadership awards once again encourage and highlight the best in our community and provide a platform for students to do more.”

Lela Goren, CEO, ThePlant.org, commented, “The Plant is excited to nurture the Yonkers climate solutionists through ThePlant.org’s sponsorship of the Yonkers Green City Leadership Awards. As pandemics and natural disasters continue to reshape our world, we believe it’s never been more important for us to come together as solutionists. Mayor Spano’s Green City initiative shows the City’s ongoing dedication to addressing the climate crisis by supporting grassroots ventures right here in Yonkers Public Schools, which is central to our mission as developers and as members of this community. We’re proud to call Yonkers our home and look forward to future opportunities to empower local visionaries.”

Applications for the Yonkers Green City Awards were reviewed and evaluated by members of the Yonkers Green City Advisory Committee based on an awards criteria focused on natural resource protection, waste reduction, environmentally preferable practices, renewable energy and energy efficiency, green transportation, and community health and wellness.

Visit, ThePlant.org, for more information.

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Westchester County Health Department Offers Free Minnows to Residents

To help residents keep their backyards free of mosquito breeding sites, the Westchester County Department of Health will give away free minnows for residential ponds and water features, along with advice and strategies to prevent the spread of mosquito-borne diseases like West Nile Virus. The minnows will be available at the Westchester County Airport, 2 Loop Road, West Harrison, 10604 on Friday, May 6 and Saturday, May 7 from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

By adding fathead minnows to ornamental ponds, residents can reduce the growth of mosquitos in their own backyards. The minnows eat mosquito larvae, preventing them from maturing into biters. Residents who plan to pick up minnows should bring a bucket or pail; minnows will be distributed in watertight plastic bags. To keep the minnows viable, residents should plan to bring them straight home and release them immediately into ponds with at least eight inches of water. They are not needed in ponds that have fish because the fish serve the same purpose.

Health Commissioner Sherlita Amler, MD, said: “With their hearty appetites, this baitfish can keep mosquitos from breeding in your pond and biting you in your own backyard.”

Any resident can help reduce the mosquito population, even without a pond. “Mosquitoes can lay their eggs in a puddle, a flowerpot saucer or an old tire, so it’s extremely helpful to clear your yard and the pavement around your home of buckets, pails and toys that collect standing water and pour out any water that remains after it rains,” Amler added.

Large areas of standing water on public property that cannot easily be removed should be reported to the Health Department at (914) 813-5000. For more information, download the “Keep Healthy and Bug Off” brochure at <http://health.westchestergov.com>.

Yonkers History, continued from pg. 5-

May 13, 1947: City Manager Francis Heafy held an auction at the old Yonkers High School for desks, chairs, bookcases, books and anything movable still in the school; the building was being converted into 64 Veterans’ apartments. Joseph Garan of Saw Mill River Road won with a high bid of \$200.

Saturday, May 14th

May 14, 1928: Acting on a tip from neighbors on Hart Avenue, Yonkers Police forced their way into a home at 47 Hart Avenue and found a 100-gallon still filled with “alleged alcohol.” Captain James Cashin, Patrolmen Austin Ball and Frank Kesick arrested Salveri Bunora and seized the still to turn over to the Federal Prohibition Department. Bunora was released on \$1000 bail.

May 14, 1936: Reverend Wilbur Caswell, Rector of St. Paul’s Episcopal Church, expressed the hope in a year, the Episcopal diocese of New York would allow women to serve as vestrymen.

Sunday, May 15th

May 15, 1926: Public Works Commissioner Goldsmith announce the would ask the Common Council to appropriate \$5000 to transform the old Lake Avenue Reservoir into a public swimming pool; he planned to use the pumping station for dressing rooms. The plan had the approval of Mayor Wallin and Alderman Edward Murray.

May 15, 1949: Yonkers native Reverend Vincent Hetherington, OFM Cap., served at the 11 am mass at St. Anthony’s Church on Willow Street. Hetherington, an Army chaplain, spoke about his experiences serving overseas with our GIs. He left for Yokohama the following month.

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

Sapienza, new Police Commissioner, continued from pg. 1-

Sapienza began his career with the Yonkers Police Department in 1995 as a Police Officer in the 3rd Precinct and then the Emergency Service Unit. He was promoted to the rank of Sergeant in 2006, Lieutenant in 2015, and Captain in 2019; he served as the President of the Captain’s, Lieutenant’s, and Sergeant’s Association from 2015 – 2019. In 2019, he was appointed Deputy Chief of the Support Services Bureau, overseeing multiple divisions and units responsible for the logistic operation of the Department.

Sapienza holds a Masters from Mercy College and is a graduate of the 245th session of the FBI National Academy in Quantico, Virginia. He and his wife Kat have been married for over 15 years and enjoy traveling together.

Mayor Spano added, “I want to thank Commissioner Mueller for his service to the residents of the city and to our police department. Under his leadership, Yonkers has achieved unprecedented successes, including a reduction in overall crime, a more diverse police force, and the introduction of various community policing initiatives that have transformed our police department. I congratulate him on a stellar career and wish him the very best in his future endeavors.”

Sapienza will serve as the City of Yonkers’ 23rd police commissioner.

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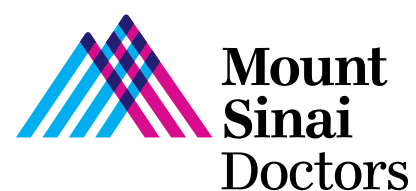
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