

Yonkers Rising

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Friday November 25, 2022

Thanks to PCNYinthestreets for Making It A Hungerless Holiday! 25,000 Free Turkeys!



L-R- Wayne Schneider, Hiit, Talia Schneider, Mayor Mike Spano, Styles P, outside of Juices for Life during a Turkey delivery

By Dan Murphy

Every year, Yonkerstimes.com and Yonkers Rising likes to highlight the people and organizations in Yonkers that make a difference during the holidays, and make sure that many people who need some holiday cheer can have a good Thanksgiving dinner.

And we see all of the non-profits and groups in Yonkers step up year after year and hand out turkeys to families, especially this year with inflation making it harder to shop at the supermarket.

We always wondered, where do the non-profits get their turkeys from? We have found the answer, and for most of these groups, his name is Wayne Schneider and his organization is PCNYinthestreets.

A few days before Thanksgiving, for the past eight years, Schneider along with help from The Hometown Foundation pulls up in a tractor trailer in Yonkers and parks at Chicken Island. There thousands of turkeys are given out to non-profits, who hand them out to families across the city.

Last year, Schneider delivered 20,000 turkeys to Yonkers and New York City. How does he do it?

Schneider explained that in 2010 he opened Precision Concierge New York ("PCNY"), a high-end concierge service that provides high end car, air, yacht service and party planning services. In 2020, Schneider opened up PCNY x NO Limit body shop in Yonkers to continue to give back to the community.

Through the various networking and connections, Schneider saw a way to help others, and PCNYinthestreets was formed as a non-profit organization, in 2015. This group does a lot for the homeless, and for those in need, like providing meals, clothing, and blankets in the winter.

But we are here to highlight and thank Schneider for bringing in all of those turkeys every Thanksgiving. What started out as a 500 Turkey Drive, has now ex-

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Latimer Makes Bee-Line Buses Free for the Holidays



Just in time for the holiday season, free Bee-Line Bus fares return from November 19 through November 27, and December 7 through December 26.

Latimer said: "This holiday season, we want people to visit with family and friends, and we want them to shop and go to work with ease. Leave the driving to us, and save some money this holiday season. From Yorktown to Yonkers, we have a robust system that can get you where you need to go. Now is a perfect time to try out the Bee-Line system if you haven't already. We take great pride in the fact that our buses are safe, clean and accessible."

This past summer, the County offered free Bee-Line bus rides and the system experienced a 37% increase in ridership during the three-month period of June, July and August, compared to the prior three-month period in March, April and May.

Latimer said: "The benefit we are providing to the traveling public is about \$2.6 million if we see the same level of increase during Thanksgiving week, and the holiday shopping period in December."

The Bee-Line Bus System offers a cleaner, greener, more cost-effective way for residents to travel the County. The promotion is valid on all routes in the fixed route bus system, including the express route into Manhattan, the BxM4C. Free rides are also valid on the Bee-Line ParaTransit system.

Commissioner of the Westchester County Department of Public Works & Transportation Hugh Greechan said: "We've made a lot of recent improvements to our Bee-Line bus fleet including the addition of 106 brand new 40-foot hybrid/ electric buses. This is the perfect opportunity for Westchester residents to leave your cars at home, and take a free ride on one of our clean, comfortable state-of-the-art buses."

Director of the Office for People with Disabilities Evan Latainer said: "County Executive Latimer is once again providing our ParaTransit ridership the opportunity to travel the Bee Line ParaTransit system free of charge during this upcoming holiday season. This will once again provide our ridership with great savings during this time period to go out and about Westchester County at no cost. Riders should take pleasure in traveling for work, recreation and other needs during this time period."

For more information about the free rides program call (914) 813-7777, from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m, Monday-Friday.

By A 4-3 Vote, City Council Passes Term Limits Change; 4th Term Allowed for Mayor & Council

"I wanted to find the best way to represent the entire city. Some want the Mayor to stay, others want him out. My suggestion is let's give the Mayor another try but next year, let's have a referendum to bring it back down to three terms."

-City Council President Lakisha Collins-Bellamy

By Dan Murphy

On November, the Yonkers City Council voted 4-3 to change the law governing term limits for the office of Mayor and City Councilmembers from 3 terms (12) years, to 4 terms (16 years). Council President Lakisha Collins-Bellamy, Majority Leader Tasha Diaz, Minority Leader Mike Breen and Councilman John Rubbo voted yes, and Councilmembers Corazon Pineda-Isaac, Shanae Williams and Anthony Merante voted no.

Tension filled the council meeting, as residents screamed out in support of the change or in opposition, and included more than one hour of public comment and at the end of the meeting police had to remove several persons from the audience.

Each Councilmember explained their vote:

Council President Lakisha Collins Bellamy: "This is the toughest vote that I have taken. I have prayed on it and researched it. If the Mayor (Spano) gets a chance at a 4th term, you have the chance to vote him out. I wanted to find the best way to represent the entire city; some want the Mayor to stay, others want him out. My suggestion is let's give the Mayor another try but next year, let's have a referendum to bring it back down to three terms, because some people shouldn't benefit if they vote the other way. I wholeheartedly support Mayor Spano and I support another referendum next year -now you know where I stand."

Majority Leader Tasha Diaz: "This is about making sure you deliver for your district. I have listened to the phoniness from some and they are playing you now, saying one thing behind closed doors and something else out here. I have always been real. I became Majority Leader to change the narrative of being fake and phony. The Council President and I was attacked for this vote. I have always been a black woman and some black organizations turned their back on me. For some, when things don't go their way there is a problem. The show is over and we stick together."

Minority Leader Mike Breen: "There has been a lot of talk about the democratic process, but the election (next year) still exists. Our members of Congress and our state legislators all run without term limits. You still have to get elected. I think the Mayor has done a wonderful job. If it ain't broke don't fix it. I will be supporting this legislation."

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Police Cadets Hope to Become Future Members of Yonkers Finest



The Yonkers Police Cadets had a field trip last month with the #Yonker-SPD Emergency Service and K9 Units! Such an outstanding group of young men and women, they are our leaders of tomorrow!!

About being a Cadet: Sharpen critical thinking skills, hone a dedication to service, and develop leadership excellence through the Yonkers Police Cadets. This Community Affairs Division program helps lay a foundation for future success for youth in our City.

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Holiday Kick Off at the Hudson River Museum



Above, Thunderbird American Indian dancers; below Glenview Mansion holiday tour.



Celebrate the holiday season at the HRM with a selection of festive programs all weekend! Tour our Gilded Age historic home, which will be decked out for the holidays in Victorian splendor, create your own spinner drum in an art workshop, and enjoy planetarium shows for all ages, including an interactive holiday edition of *The Sky Tonight* at 2pm. Plus, don't miss performances by Thunderbird American Indian Dancers on Friday afternoon!

- Friday, November 25**
 12:30pm — Magic Tree House: Space Mission
 1pm — Thunderbird American Indian Dancers
 1pm — Glenview Holiday Tour
 1-4pm — Family Art Workshop: Spinner Drums
 1-4pm — Family Science Workshop: Nebula-in-a-Bubble Holiday Ornament
 2pm — The Sky Tonight: Holiday Edition
 3pm — Thunderbird American Indian Dancers
 3pm — Glenview Holiday Tour
 3:30pm — We Are Stars
- Saturday, November 26**
 12:30pm — Magic Tree House: Space Mission
 1pm — Glenview Holiday Tour
 1-4pm — Family Art Workshop: Spinner Drums
 1-4pm — Family Science Workshop: Nebula-in-a-Bubble Holiday Ornament
 2pm — The Sky Tonight: Holiday Edition
 3pm — Glenview Holiday Tour
 3:30pm — We Are Stars
- Sunday, November 27**
 12:30pm — Magic Tree House: Space Mission
 1pm — Glenview Holiday Tour
 1-4pm — Family Art Workshop: Spinner Drums
 1-4pm — Family Science Workshop: Nebula-in-a-Bubble Holiday Ornament
 2pm — The Sky Tonight: Holiday Edition
 3pm — Glenview Holiday Tour
 3:30pm — We Are Stars

visit --hrm.org for more information.

DiNapoli: NY Paid AT LEAST \$11 BILLION in Fraudulent Unemployment COVID Benefits

A bombshell audit from NYS Comptroller Tom DiNapoli found that the state Department of Labor's (DOL) failure to replace its long-troubled Unemployment Insurance (UI) system and ad hoc workarounds to compensate for the old system weakened oversight and ultimately contributed to an estimated \$12 Billion in improper payments during the COVID-19 pandemic, according to an audit released by State Comptroller Thomas P. DiNapoli. DOL refused to provide auditors with the data that would have enabled auditors to calculate the precise amount of improper payments and was slow to provide requested information that delayed the completion of the audit. The audit examined the period from Jan. 2020 to March 2022.

"The state Department of Labor's antiquated UI system was ill-equipped to handle the challenges posed by the extraordinary demand caused by the pandemic for unemployment benefits and more lenient federal eligibility requirements," DiNapoli said. "The agency resorted to stop-gap measures to paper over problems, and this proved to be costly to the state, businesses, and New Yorkers." DiNapoli said. "The department needs to recoup fraudulent payments and correct its mistakes. I was pleased the department agreed with our recommendations and is moving to implement them."

DOL officials did not heed warnings as far back as 2010 that its UI system was out of date, nor did it address issues identified in a 2015 State Comptroller's audit. The system lacked the resources necessary to adjust to new laws or handle workload surges — a dire forecast with disastrous consequences during the pandemic. Not only did DOL have to manage an unprecedented volume of traditional UI benefit claims, but it also administered UI benefits for the temporary programs created by the federal Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act (CARES Act). These temporary federal benefits, with less stringent eligibility requirements, contributed to a dramatic increase in UI claims.

Even before the pandemic, the U.S. DOL reported New York's traditional UI estimated improper payment rate at 10.34%, including a fraud rate of 4.51%, in State Fiscal Year (SFY) 2019-20, exceeding the federal performance threshold of 10%. Unlike temporary programs which are funded 100% by the federal government, New York's UI program is funded by taxes collected from employers. With the increase of claims during the pandemic, U.S. DOL's estimated improper payment rate in New York's UI program increased significantly to 28.89% including a fraud rate of 17.59% in SFY 2021-22.

From April 1, 2020 through March 31, 2021, the state made 218.2 million traditional and temporary UI payments totaling over \$76.3 billion, an increase of nearly 3,140% over the amount paid in the prior state fiscal year. Using the U.S. DOL's estimated fraud rate for New York's traditional UI program for SFY 2020-21, this would equate to approximately \$11 billion lost to fraud in that fiscal year. This likely understates the actual amount, as New York DOL acknowledged that the temporary programs had a significantly higher risk of fraud.

Auditors found that during the pandemic DOL had to compensate for its outdated system by overriding existing controls designed to prevent improper payments. DOL's "pay and chase" approach increased the risk of overpayments, payments charged to the wrong funding source, and fraud. For instance:

Auditors tested a sample of 53 claimants, selected for various risk factors, and found that 18, or one-third, potentially received UI payments that exceeded the maximum allowed amount.

Auditors sampled an additional 100 claimants and found 96 of the combined total of 118 claimants were improperly paid nearly \$2.8 million through the state's traditional UI program instead of the temporary federal CARES Act.

Auditors identified another \$41.2 million paid to 8,798 claimants, whose payments appeared to be more than the maximum allowed amounts. Auditors questioned whether these claims were correctly paid or if the correct funding source was used. While DOL officials said it had identified this issue and adjusted claims on its UI system, adjustments to federal reports have not occurred and these claims were incorrectly paid with state funds.

The outdated system also created obstacles to monitoring and analyzing fraudulent claims and for making operational decisions. Auditors found that DOL could not identify the root cause of overpayments and fraud and did not implement controls to address weaknesses in the system. During the audit, DOL was unable to provide auditors with information to support their management and response to fraudulent claims and could not account for:

\ The number of claims that were paid to fraudulent claimants before being detected; The length of time from when claims were filed to when they were identified as fraudulent (to determine the number of weeks that payments were made); and How the claims were identified as fraudulent (e.g., whether through departmental procedures or based on complaints from individuals whose identities were used by imposters to file false claims).

DOL's failure to provide auditors with information and its slow response to requests delayed the audit's completion. DOL was unable to provide supporting documentation on the over \$36 billion in fraudulent claims the Commissioner of Labor said that it had prevented. It also could not explain to auditors why the estimated number of frauds for traditional UI claims more than tripled during SFY 2020-21, nor was it willing to provide data to auditors that would enable them to perform their own independent analysis to assess the amount of fraudulent claims.

This information is critical for New Yorkers because during the pandemic the state had to borrow from the federal government to support UI claims. It had a loan balance from the federal UI trust fund that averaged \$9.3 billion from September 2021 through April 2022 which now stands at about \$8 billion. This loan must be paid back with interest at the expense of New York's employers. Previous DiNap-

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County Legislators to Vote on Flavored Cigarette Ban Nov. 28



The Westchester County Legislators are preparing to vote on Nov. 28 on a proposed ban of the sale of flavored tobacco products. Supporters and opponents of the ban have been outspoken, including two rallies held outside the county office building in White Plains.

Supports of the ban include the New York State Conference of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP), the Campaign for Tobacco-Free Kids, the Center for Black Health and Equity, Miss Abbie's Kids. Advocates pointed to the urgent need to stop Big Tobacco from continuing to target New York kids and communities of color, which suffer from significant health disparities due to smoking and tobacco use. The bill was carefully crafted to ensure no involvement of law enforcement, and no criminal penalties for any individuals using or possessing flavored tobacco products. The law only authorizes the Westchester County Department of Health to issue fines to businesses – not individuals – which are selling flavored tobacco products in retail establishments.

“Californians have just voted overwhelmingly in favor of barring the sale of flavored tobacco,” said Legislator Jewel Williams Johnson, Chair of the Health Committee and sponsor of the bill. “In Westchester County, we are setting the trend for our state to do the same in protecting the health of children and the general public by removing access to these deadly products.”

“With this bill, Westchester can pass the most comprehensive flavored tobacco ban in New York,” said Legislator Catherine Borgia, Chair of the Westchester County Board of Legislators. “We are showing our commitment to children and families by taking a firm stand in stopping the cycle of addiction that has been perpetrated by the tobacco industry for generations. Enough is enough.”

“Smoking and tobacco use is the leading cause of preventable death and disease in the US,” said Legislator Chris Johnson, Majority Leader of the Westchester County Board of Legislators. “We also know the tobacco industry heavily advertises these products to young people and other vulnerable communities like the ones I represent in Yonkers. I see it every day as both an educator and a Legislator, and I am proud to be able to do my part to make Westchester healthier for all.”

“Tobacco is responsible for devastating health disparities in communities of color in Westchester and across New York,” said Dr. Hazel N. Dukes, President of the NAACP New York State Conference. “For decades, the tobacco industry has targeted Black Americans with aggressive marketing around menthol flavored tobacco products – leading to disproportionately high rates of tobacco related diseases and health complications. This necessary legislation will get menthol cigarettes and other flavored tobacco products off the shelves, while making sure not a single individual is ever targeted or criminalized for using them.”

Opponents of the ban also rallied at the County office building. Damon Jones, Blacks in Law Enforcement in America said, “By no means do we support smoking, but to push a political agenda of a menthol ban down the throat of the public when according to the CDC, cigarette smoking is at an all-time low. This is a prime example of how government overreaches to the rights of a people to have a choice. According to County Legislator James Nolan, by passing this Menthol Ban, Westchester County is willing to throw away \$36 million in Sales Tax Revenue on menthol-flavored cigarettes. The County collects an additional \$5 million on other flavored tobacco products. If Westchester County is serious about Black people in Westchester’s health and wellness, they should put their money where their mouth is! Again, if passed, County Executive George Latimer must VETO this legislation,” said Jones.

The Members from the New York Association of Convenience Stores (NY-ACS) reiterated their opposition to the County Board of Legislators’ proposal to prohibit licensed wholesalers and retailers from selling flavored tobacco products. They argue that there are currently more than 445 businesses in Westchester County that sell flavored tobacco products. In Westchester, 40% of all cigarettes sold are menthol and 84% of all smokeless tobacco is flavored. If this proposed ban goes into effect the county will lose \$1.8 million per year in tax revenue and the elimination of hundreds of jobs will also adversely impact the Westchester economy. Yonkers County Legislators Johnson, in support, and Nolan, opposed, have voiced their opinions. Legislators David Tubiolo and Jose Alvarado will vote on Nov. 28.

On This Day in Yonkers History...



Frederick Philipse, the First Lord of Yonkers and the richest man in Westchester

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

Monday November 28th

November 28, 1907: John J. Hayes of St. Bartholomew Athletic Association won the first Yonkers Marathon; Hayes’ time was two hours, forty-four minutes and fifty-one seconds. Mayor John Coyne fired the pistol to start the more than fifty runners from around the country; the marathon was created and sponsored the Mercury Athletic Club. He went on to win the 1908 Olympic Marathon.

November 28, 1942: Detective Lieutenant Henry Murphy and Detective Sergeant John Kennedy arrested Michael Moroch, alleged “big shot” of Yonkers policy operations, in a Clinton Street apartment. Murphy and Kennedy kicked in the apartment door and found policy pads, stationery, cash and “plays.” Runner Anthony Zielinski had the bad luck to show up while the officers were there and also was arrested. Zielinski spilled his job was to go to Otis Elevator three times a week to collect bets; he was paid fifty cents every visit

Tuesday November 29th

November 29, 1905: The City of Yonkers, Yonkers Railroad Company and Valley Farms Real Estate Company filed briefs objecting to the expansion of New York City’s water supply. According to papers filed by Yonkers City Attorney Francis Winslow, the proposed Hillview reservoir would “ruin the highway system in the sector, cut off lines of communication along Central Avenue, and damage property in the neighborhood beyond any limits of compensation.”

November 29, 1948: Dr. Aubrey Gorbman of Warburton Avenue, Barnard College Assistant Professor of Zoology, announced using radioactive iodine to destroy the thyroid gland could be a substitute for surgical thyroidectomy. Studies on the effects of large doses of the substance in mice were conducted in Barnard Zoology labs, financed by a contract with the Office of Naval Research.

Wednesday November 30th:

November 30, 1692: After first wife Margaret Hardenbroeck de Vries Philipse died, Frederick Philipse married Catherine Van Cortlandt Dervall. Catherine was the wealthy widowed sister of Stephanus Van Cortlandt, adviser to the provincial governor. Her brother Jacobus Van Cortlandt married Margaret’s daughter Eva, whom Frederick adopted. Their son Frederick built what now is the Van Cortlandt House Museum.

Philipse is buried with both wives in the family crypt at the Old Dutch Church of Sleepy Hollow.

November 30, 1965: Marking another link in the route Andre took from West Point, Yonkers Keskeskick Chapter, DAR, dedicated a plaque in Pleasantville marking the spot where Benedict Arnold’s British collaborator Major John Andre stopped to water his horse. If he had not stopped, the men sent to arrest Andre would not have captured him; instead he would have crossed the British line with the plans to turn West Point into a British stronghold on the Hudson!

Thursday, December 1st

December 1, 1892: The Nepperhan River dams belonging to Copcutt, Flagg and McCann mysteriously were destroyed in middle of night.

December 1, 1943: Former Councilman and current Naval Warrant Officer Al Richter, stationed at the Naval Training School at Fort Schuyler, added his praise of Scout Executive G. S. Ripley and the benefits of Boy Scout training to men in the armed services. Richter said his former Scout friends told him their Scout experiences and training helped them to adjust to their new routines and pick up “the Army or Navy ways of doing things, which bear a striking similarity to their previous Scouting programs.”

Friday, December 2nd

December 2, 1926: Yonkers police were looking for a burglar who broke into several North Yonkers homes overnight and stole 15 pairs of silk stockings.

December 2, 1944: A strange looking Naval craft arrived at Ludlow Dock and stayed for a few short hours. It was painted Navy gray, was 150 feet long and very wide. After mooring at a berth near the Tydol dock, a few crewmembers got off and walked up Ludlow Street. A few curious people asked what kind of boat it was; they were told with a smile, “Sorry, it’s a military secret.” It later was described as a “cheesebox on a raft;” it had one large deckhouse and one smaller one. Piloted from the rear of the boat, it had a large crane apparatus and a few guns mounted on it. No one who saw it in the short time it docked at Yonkers could figure out what it was!

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Yonkers Rising

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Office for People With
Developmental Disabilities

Grand Illumination at Untermyer NYC Corrections Officers from Yonkers-Harrison Gardens Conservancy Set for Dec. 9 Charged with Fraud-Forged Medical Docs



One of the best Holiday Traditions in Yonkers is the annual Grand Holiday Illumination, held from 12/9/22-1/1/23. Opening night is 12/9 at 5:30. After that it's open every evening, free, no reservations required, from 4:30-8 pm. The Walled Garden will be blanketed with many thousands of holiday lights, multi-cultural holiday music will be playing, and free hot cocoa will be served.

It's a great New Year's Eve celebration for all, especially for families with small children. And it's early enough in the evening that you can come and be wowed and then go off to other New Year's Eve festivities.

The Walled Garden will be brilliantly illuminated with nearly 100,000 festive holiday lights, highlighting the rich architectural and horticultural elements of the garden. Beautiful holiday music in the Jewish, Christian, Muslim and Zoroastrian traditions will be played.



NYC Corrections Officers Eduardo Trinidad, from Yonkers, and Monica Coaxum, from Harrison, are charged with forging medical documents to stay on sick leave for more than one year.

Two criminal complaints were unsealed in federal court in Brooklyn charging three correction officers employed by the New York City Department of Correction (DOC) at Rikers Island with federal program fraud. Correction Officers Steven Cange, Monica Coaxum and Eduardo Trinidad were arrested earlier today, and their initial appearances are scheduled for this afternoon before United States Magistrate Judge Vera M. Scanlon.

Breon Peace, United States Attorney for the Eastern District of New York, Michael J. Driscoll, Assistant Director-in-Charge, New York Field Office (FBI), and Jocelyn E. Strauber, Commissioner, New York City Department of Investigation (DOI) announced the charges.

"As alleged, in the midst of an ongoing staffing crisis at Rikers Island, the defendants defrauded New Yorkers by fraudulently obtaining their full salaries while taking over a year of sick leave. These correction officers abandoned their oath to protect inmates and put the safety of their fellow correction officers at risk" stated United States Attorney Breon Peace. "Today's arrests demonstrate that this Office remains committed to rooting out corruption at Rikers Island and protecting New Yorkers from public officials who steal their tax dollars."

"As alleged, the defendants deliberately violated their oath when they participated in an elaborate scheme to defraud our community. The FBI and our partners are committed to disrupting these fraudulent scams and holding the public officials who perpetuate them accountable," stated FBI Assistant Director-in-Charge Driscoll.

DOI Commissioner Jocelyn E. Strauber said, "As charged, these New York City Correction Officers feigned illness and submitted false medical documentation to take sick leave during a staffing crisis, defrauding the City of New York of hundreds of thousands of dollars. Today's arrests hold these Correction Officers accountable for the shameful dereliction of duty alleged in the Complaints. I thank the United States Attorney's Office for the Eastern District of New York and the Federal Bureau of Investigation for their continuing partnership and efforts to bring to justice those whose misconduct jeopardizes the safety and stability of the City's jails."

As alleged in a separate complaint, New York City Correction Officer Monica Coaxum fraudulently obtained more than \$80,000 in salary by being on sick leave from March 2021 to May 2022, and her fiancée, Correction Officer Eduardo Trinidad, fraudulently obtained more than \$140,000 in salary by being on sick leave from June 2021 to November 2022. Although Coaxum claimed to suffer from multiple injuries, evidence collected by investigators shows that she was able to work. During her sick leave, Coaxum submitted nearly 50 fraudulent medical notes to DOC stating that she had gone to a medical appointment at times law enforcement determined she was elsewhere. Additionally, evidence shows that on some occasions where Coaxum claimed to be injured and at home, she was traveling and at parties.

When approached by law enforcement, Coaxum admitted to forging some medical documents. Trinidad likewise obtained more than \$140,000 by claiming to be too injured to work for over a year. Although he went to medical appointments with DOC wearing some combination of a sling, cane, and/or boot, photographic and video evidence during the same period showed Trinidad doing normal life activities like home improvement work, bowling and traveling abroad, without any difficulty or help from equipment like a boot, sling or cane.

The charges in the complaints are allegations, and the defendants are presumed innocent unless and until proven guilty. If convicted, the defendants each face a maximum sentence of 10 years' imprisonment.

The government's case is being handled by the Office's Public Integrity Section. The government's case is being prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorneys Philip Pilmar and Andrew Grubin.

MONICA COAXUM, Age: 36 Harrison, NY
EDUARDO TRINIDAD, Age: 42 Yonkers, NY

Westchester Police Arrest 15-Yr Old in Yonkers Bee Line Bus Shooting



Westchester County Police detectives arrested a 15-year old Yonkers resident on October 27 and charged him with Attempted Murder 1st Degree, Assault 2nd Degree and Criminal Possession of a Weapon 2nd Degree, in the October 7th shooting on a Bee Line Bus on South Broadway in Yonkers.

The youth will not be identified because of his age, and his case is being handled in a juvenile section of criminal court. The shooting is believed to be gang related, and the victim was shot because he was recognized as being a member of a rival group.

Westchester County, and Yonkers police kept a lid on the arrest because of a continuing investigation into identifying the other youths who were present and whether they had any role in the shooting. That inquiry is now closed and no one else was charged.

The 15-year-old was ordered to be held at the Woodfield Cottage facility in Valhalla.

The incident occurred at 5pm on October 7 on a No. 4 bus. As the bus stopped at Ludlow Street to discharge passengers, two shots were fired inside the bus. One shot missed the intended victim and went into a seat. The second bullet hit the intended victim in one leg and exited and struck his other leg, and he survived the shooting.

Police Cadets continued from pg 1-

Exposure to age-appropriate Police training in the areas of emergency operations by interfacing with different units such as Patrol, Traffic, Marine, Crime Scene Unit, Emergency Service Unit, K-9 Unit, and more; teach planning, strategy, teamwork and decision-making skills to prepare students for successful careers in Law Enforcement and related fields.

More info <https://www.yonkersny.gov/.../commu.../yonkers-police-cadets>

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Operation Santa Claus Presents Grants to Not-For-Profits



Honorary Operation Santa Claus Chair Nick Spano, with Grant Recipients

Westchester County Board of Legislators to Hold Public Hearings

On Thursday, County Executive George Latimer introduced the proposed Westchester County operating budget for fiscal year 2023 to the Board of Legislators (BOL). By County Charter rule, this budget must be submitted no later than November 10 each year.

With the submission of the operating budget, the BOL will launch a series of committee meetings starting on Monday, November 14, 2022. During this time, representatives of all County departments and offices make presentations to and take questions from the Budget & Appropriations Committee.

Additionally, the BOL will host two public hearings throughout the County and one statutory public hearing at the Board of Legislators' Chamber in White Plains. Participants will be allowed to speak and provide public comment at all scheduled dates with remote participation available via Webex at the White Plains meeting.

The details for the public hearings are as follows:

Wednesday, November 30, 2022 at 7 PM (live streamed via Facebook)

Chappaqua Performing Arts Center
480 N Bedford Rd, Chappaqua, NY 10514

Wednesday, December 7, 2022 at 7 PM (remote participation available)

Board of Legislators Chambers
148 Martine Avenue, 8th Floor
White Plains, NY 10601

Information regarding the FY2023 budget deliberations can be viewed on the Budget Dashboard section of the BOL website. The dashboard will include relevant details such as the Webex remote participation instructions, budget meeting schedule, and links to view the proposed operating, capital, and special districts budgets.

The Dashboard can be found at: <https://bit.ly/fy23budgetdashboard>.

Yonkers History, Continued from pg 3-

Saturday, December 3rd

December 3, 1938: Glenwood Gardens—Thomas Brogan's stunning apartment house complex built on the former Colgate estate—was formally dedicated. Mayor Loehr, and federal officials participated in the ceremony, with all congratulating Brogan and contractor George T. Kelly on their vision in improving the Glenwood section of Yonkers.

Sunday December 4th

December 4, 1926: Representatives from a wide variety of religions and professions joined together to celebrate the 25th anniversary of the founding of Temple Emanu-El on Hamilton Avenue. While speaking, Mayor Walsh reminded those gathered that the synagogue was built on land purchased from his father George Walsh.

December 4, 1945: Children at the Julia Dyckman Andrus Home were thrilled when they spotted a reindeer on his way to the North Pole! Many motorists saw him on North Broadway, even stopped to let him cross. Others saw him fly over high walls, and all said he had large antlers. The Herald Statesman confirmed he most likely was heading to Santa, as Saint Nicholas had asked for the help of all reindeer to deliver his toys for the first peacetime Christmas in four years... especially since our bearded friend did not have to worry about enemy planes to slow him down or stop him!

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.

On Nov. 22, Nick Spano, Honorary Chair, Operation Santa Claus, will award grants to assist developmentally disabled children and adults.

"Operation Santa Claus is a Yonkers tradition that began more than sixty years ago" said Senator Nick Spano, Operation Santa Claus Honorary Chairman. "The money raised from the generosity of our residents and businesses show their vested interest in building our community and commitment to our city."

Several area organizations that serve persons with developmental disabilities were awarded grants, including:

- ACDS Westchester
- Sail at Ferncliff Manor
- Richmond Community Services
- Westchester School for Special Children
- Jawonio
- The Autism Project
- Elizabeth Seton Childrens Hospital
- Andrus

"ACDS feels so fortunate to be supported once again by Operation Santa Claus. This support is instrumental in ensuring the high-quality programs and services our young students and their families deserve. It is especially appreciated given the challenges of the past 2 years. Thank you to all the donors, to Senator Nick Spano and his team, and to the broader Westchester community for their commitment to meeting the needs of vulnerable children with developmental disabilities." Michael M. Smith, Executive Director ACDS

"At Richmond Community Services, we speak about creating enviable lives for all the people we support," said Paca Lipovac, President/CEO, Richmond Community Services. "The generosity and dedication of Senator Nick Spano and Operation Santa Claus allows us to do just that. These funds enable us to invest not only in technology and equipment but, more importantly, open new doors of independence and joy for those we serve."

"Thank you so much to Operation Santa Claus. This money will go a long way to lifting our children's holiday spirit during these trying times" Corinne Safarowic, Education Director of The Westchester School

"For years, the generosity of Operation Santa Claus has helped us to provide state of the art adaptive and recreational equipment, essential to helping those we serve thrive far beyond expectation. Together, we have developed innovative pathways for improved communication, increased social inclusion and so much more. We are grateful to Operation Santa Claus for their support in advancing our mission to insure self-rewarding and independent lives for the people we serve, as they participate in and contribute to the life of our communities. Their valued partnership is an important part of our efforts to provide those we serve with the superior, individualized programs and services that build a lifelong foundation for personal independence, well-being, and self-esteem. Thank you, Operation Santa Claus, for your continued commitment." Erin Anderson, Ferncliff Manor

"Thank you, Operation Santa Claus, for this grant, this helps us further our mission of inclusion for special needs in the disabled youth. I truly appreciate it." DaQueen Monroe, The Autism Project

"On behalf of the staff and especially the children and young adults with medical complexity who reside at Elizabeth Seton Children's we are very grateful to Operation Santa Claus for their generous and compassionate support. Christmas will be especially joyful this year because of the generosity of Senator Spano, Thomas Meier, Gail Burns and all associated with Operation Santa Claus. It is greatly appreciated." Brian Harrington, Elizabeth Seton Children's Center

"Andrus is grateful to have the support of Operation Santa Claus. Thank to you, we will be able to continue strengthening families with preventative and restorative services including mental health, social, prenatal and early childhood health, family preservation and more. Thank you to Senator Spano, Thomas Meier and Gail Burns for the important work you do to improve the lives of Westchester's most vulnerable residents." Heath Block, President and CEO Andrus.

"On behalf of our Board of Directors and the entire Jawonio family, thank you to The Spano Family and Operation Santa Claus. Your donations continue to make an impact and change for people with special needs in Yonkers each and every day. Jawonio is so grateful to be one of the recipients of another generous donation this year. Operation Santa Claus funds are truly the gifts that keep on giving." Randi Rios-Castro, CEO:

Operation Santa Claus will hold its Annual Holiday Party Brunch on December 4th at 10AM at Castle Royale, 92 Waverly Street, Yonkers, NY (PLEASE NOTE CHANGE OF VENUE) For more information or to purchase tickets please contact Gail Burns at 914-469-4835 or by email at gmb927@gmail.com.

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FINANCING AVAILABLE WITH APPROVED CREDIT

Letter to the Editor:

Mr. Murphy, I would like to know if there is a way to find the identity of a Facebook page that is spreading Hate-not only against you, but against almost every elected official in our city.

I am opposed to this because it's All Negative-there is no support for any elected official or any idea.

The name of the Facebook page is **-Let's Get Political**. There is no information about who is the administrator of the Facebook page, nor is there a website e, or any way to find out who is spewing this hate, not only against Mayor Spano, but also against Council President Collins-Bellamy and Council Majority Leader Tasha Diaz, and others on the council.

If I have to provide one of your readers with a reward for providing the name of the person responsible for this bullying tactic, I will pay you and you can pay the person.

The hatred shown at the last council meeting is the last straw for me. If Facebook pages like Let's Get Political wants to drop these word bombs-then they need to reveal themselves-or I will do it!

Thanks for all that you do for Yonkers, Mr. Murphy. It is your media and the Yonkers Insider who are the real sources for decency and truth.

Cindy Martin, Yonkers

Classifieds

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Notice of formation of WRITESTRONG LLC. Arts. of Org. filed with the SSNY on 8/30/2022. 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, 10 1/2 Spruce St, Sleepy Hollow, NY. Purpose: Any lawful activity.

Application for Authority of ALLIED REAL ESTATE PHILADELPHIA, LLC filed with the Secy. of State of NY (SSNY) on 10/13/2022. Formed in PA 4/6/2005. Office loc.: Westchester County. SSNY is designated as agent of LLC on whom process against it may be served. The address SSNY shall mail copy of process to 2200 Walnut St., Philadelphia, PA 19103. The office address in PA is 2001 Hamilton St., Ste. 304, Philadelphia, PA 19130. Cert. of Organization, filed with the Secy. of the Commonwealth, 302 N. Office Bldg., 401 North St., Harrisburg, PA 17120. Purpose: Any lawful activity.

Formation of ESAL REALTY LLC filed with the Secy. of State of NY (SSNY) on 11/8/2022. Office loc.: Westchester County. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. The address SSNY shall mail process to Ernest Salerno, 2395 E. Long Shadow Pl., Tucson, AZ 85718. Purpose: Any lawful activity.

CORPORATION NOTICE CITY OF YONKERS-NEW YORK

PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE

Notice is hereby given, pursuant to law, that the Mayor of the City of Yonkers, New York, will hold a Public Hearing on Friday, December 2, 2022 at 5:00pm, Mayor's Reception Room, 2nd floor, 40 South Broadway, Yonkers, New York, to hear all interested parties and citizens regarding the adoption of the following Local Law, to wit:

A LOCAL LAW AMENDING CHAPTER C, ARTICLE II, OF THE CHARTER OF THE CITY OF YONKERS ENTITLED "OFFICERS" IN RELATION TO TERMS LIMITS.

Said hearing may be adjourned from time to time as necessary. Further information, including access to a copy of said proposed local law, may be obtained at the City Clerk's office, City Hall, 40 South Broadway, Yonkers, New York and on the City's Website.

MIKE SPANO
Mayor

Date: November 23, 2022

YONKERS TEENAGER INDICTED FOR SHOOTING 15-YEAR-OLD

On Nov. 22, Westchester County District Attorney Miriam E. Rocah announced that Yonkers resident Joseph Tejera, 19, was indicted on charges connected with the October 2022 shooting of a 15-year-old in Yonkers. The defendant is being held without bail.

The defendant was arraigned before Judge Anne Minihan in Westchester County Court on November 22, 2022 and indicted by a Westchester County Grand Jury for Attempted Murder in the Second Degree, Assault in the First Degree, Assault in the Second Degree, and Criminal Possession of a Weapon in the Second Degree, all violent felonies.

On October 26, 2022, at approximately 10:22 p.m., the defendant allegedly fired three shots at the victim, striking him two times, on Woodworth Avenue in Yonkers. The victim was transported to Jacobi Medical Center in the Bronx, where he underwent emergency medical treatment.

The Yonkers Police Department arrested the defendant in the Bronx on November 2, 2022, following an investigation.

The case is before Judge Anne Minihan in Westchester County Court, and is being prosecuted by the Violence Criminal Enterprise Bureau of the Trials and Investigations Division.

The charges against the defendant are merely an accusation, and the defendant is presumed innocent unless and until proven guilty.

City Council, Term Limits continued from pg 1-

Councilman John Rubbo: "I am comfortable that my vote will represent the vast majority of my constituents. Reasonable people can agree that the way Mayor Spano has led us through tough times was real leadership. And we wouldn't have had that leadership if we didn't have a chance to reelect him. If he runs he has to be reelected. I'm voting in favor of giving the people in my district a choice. It's now up to them."

Councilwoman Corazon Pineda-Issac: "From the introduction of the legislation until today, if has been 10 days, not nearly enough time to make a decision of this magnitude. It's not about one person, it's about how we are doing it. I believe in four years this will come before us again. We should have started this conversation in January. The amount of time we have given this is disrespectful, and for that reason I will be voting no."

Councilwoman Shanae Williams: "I don't see the logic in passing this. Mayor Spano is doing a great job but this about the principle of we did this once before and to be fair it makes sense to vote by referendum. Why didn't we do that? (referendum). I will not be voting for it this time around."

Councilman Anthony Merante: "Tonight, I will not be supporting this item. Mike Spano is not on this resolution. It's about extending term limits. When we voted for this in 2018 I said yes because it was a one shot deal. We had plenty of time to put this on as a referendum? I can guarantee you that next year there will be a referendum to bring it back to three terms."

After the vote Mayor Mike Spano issued the following statement:"The Yonkers City Council's decision gives voters more choices. Now that running for a fourth term is an option for Yonkers elected officials, it certainly gives me something to think about for myself. I love being mayor, but ultimately it will be up to the voters on Election Day as to who will lead our city for the next four years".

Much more on this story in the days to come:

25,000 Free Turkeys, continued from pg 1-

others, and PCNYinthestreets was formed as a non-profit organization, in 2015. This group does a lot for the homeless, and for those in need, like providing meals, clothing, and blankets in the winter.

But we are here to highlight and thank Schneider for bringing in all of those turkeys every Thanksgiving. What started out as a 500 Turkey Drive, has now exploded into 20,000 turkeys in 2021 and 25,000 in 2022.

PCNYinthestreets partners with the Garden of Eden Foundation, and The Hometown Foundation, and Talia Schneider, Wayne's sister, is a key player in making sure that the many non-profit organizations in Yonkers that now rely on PCNY and the Schneiders for their turkeys are never disappointed.

Or as Talia likes to say, "We try to make sure it's a hunger less holiday."

Two Yonkers notables know and appreciate what Wayne Schneider has done and continues to do for eight years now and counting; Mayor Mike Spano and the Yonkers based rapper Styles P.

Last Sunday, Nov. 20, Schneider came into Yonkers with the tractor trailer and one of his stops was at Styles P's Juices for Life, at 211 Nepperhan Avenue. Mayor Spano and Style P thanks Schneider for his generosity.

What a great example for all of us to try and give back this holiday season. Thank you and God Bless, Wayne and Talia Schneider.

All donations made to the 501c3 charity "Garden of Eden Foundation" are tax deductible. Visit - https://www.gardenofedenfoundation.org/donate?fbclid=IwAR0VDd2hOcGKUK4grVX6T5nWWr0X71VMotHN2hs6F8RxxKQLeJ9NE_PETXc

Or pcny.co, to donate or find out more. And have a Happy Thanksgiving!

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New Rochelle Mayor Bramson, After 18 Years, Will Not Run for Reelection

One of Westchester's most popular and longest serving Mayor's will not run for reelection next year. New Rochelle Mayor Noam Bramson said that he will not be a candidate for reelection in 2023. In a letter to the New Rochelle community, Bramson expressed a "deep sense of gratitude— for the partnership of colleagues in government, for the energy, wisdom, and generosity of supporters, and, above all, for the trust and confidence of the people of New Rochelle."

When his term concludes at the end of 2023, Bramson will have served New Rochelle for nearly three decades – eighteen years as mayor and ten years as a member of the City Council. He has won five mayoral elections, each by a landslide margin. Bramson's legacy is wide-ranging. Under his leadership, New Rochelle is experiencing the most dynamic growth in a century, with unprecedented economic development throughout its downtown. Bramson was instrumental in advancing the City's environmental goals by writing and adopting New Rochelle's first sustainability plan.

Working with colleagues in the City Administration and Council, Bramson advocated for and approved record investments in infrastructure, parks, and capital assets. And Bramson was front and center in securing competitive national and state grants for innovative initiatives such as the LINC and NRVF.

In addition, Bramson led New Rochelle through some of its most challenging experiences: the Great Recession of 2008, which imposed enormous pressures on cities throughout America, and the COVID crisis, when the city was in the global spotlight as an initial epicenter of the viral outbreak, and

"Our progress today is made even more gratifying by the memory of challenges overcome," said Bramson. "Far and wide, New Rochelle is viewed now as an innovative leader with an exceptionally bright future. And through it all, we have preserved what is best in our civic character – an inclusive spirit that celebrates diversity and welcomes people of every tradition and circumstance."

Bramson's service was lauded by several colleagues and partners: State Senate Majority Leader Andrea Stewart-Cousins said, "Through years of dedicated and effective leadership, Noam has earned the respect of colleagues across Westchester and New York State. He has been a strong voice for progressive values and has played a vital role in New Rochelle's dramatic positive strides. I have been proud to represent and work with Noam and know that he will continue making important contributions to our community."

County Executive George Latimer said, "Noam has been a friend and partner for nearly 30 years, highlighted by our work together the COVID-19 crisis. He has done an exceptional job guiding New Rochelle through a dynamic transitional time. We've been fortunate to have his leadership."

Notice of Formation of Your Wellness Matters, LLC filed with SSNY on 11/17/2022. Office: Westchester County. SSNY designated agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail copy of process to LLC: 42 Cedar Lane A14 Ossining, NY 10562 Purpose: any lawful act or activity.

Articles of Organization filed with Secretary of State of New York (SSNY) on 10/16/22. Office Location: Westchester County. SSNY is designated as agent of the LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: PO Box 582, Mamaroneck, NY 10543. Purpose: any lawful act or activity.

Saint Joseph's Medical Center Ball Raises More Than Half a Million Dollars



From left, Saint Joseph's Medical Center President and CEO Michael J. Spicer; Dr. Molham Solomon, Chair of Obstetrics & Gynecology and Director of Women's Health at Saint Joseph's Medical Center; William Doty, and Saint Joseph's Medical Center Board Chairman James J. Landy

More than 500 friends and supporters of Saint Joseph's Medical Center turned out for the Annual Ball held Saturday, November 5 at the Westchester Country Club in Rye, NY. The gala raised more than half a million dollars.

Honorees for the black-tie event were William Doty and Dr. Molham Solomon.

Mr. Doty, who received the 2022 Community Service Award, is a major supporter of St. Vincent's Hospital and long-time member of St. Vincent's Advisory Board and member of the Saint Joseph's Health Fund Board. The Doty family has been one of the staunchest supporters in the development of St. Vincent's, both financially and in lending their time and talents over the years to insure its ongoing success. Mr. Doty was an integral part of merging St. Vincent's into Saint Joseph's, utilizing his detailed business skills to guide the growth of the fund and thus helping to stabilize and strengthen the combined organization. He is a resident of Harrison.

Dr. Solomon, who received the Distinguished Service Award, is Chair of Obstetrics & Gynecology and Director of Women's Health at St. Joseph's Medical Center. He provides women's healthcare in Yonkers, Bronx, and Manhattan at St. Joseph's PC and the Family Health Center, as well as hospital coverage. After finishing his medical education abroad, he completed a residency in Family Medicine at St. Joseph's Medical Center. He went on to complete a Women's Health fellowship at Montefiore Medical Center and another residency in Obstetrics & Gynecology at Staten Island University Medical Center. Dr. Solomon is a resident of Greenwich.

Reps Jamaal Bowman Celebrates President Biden's Federal Pardon on Marijuana Convictions While Calling for More

Yonkers Congressman Jamaal Bowman, Ed.D issued the following statement following President Biden's federal pardon on marijuana convictions.

"Finally, our federal system is recognizing the harm marijuana convictions have had on people and communities for generations, and is attempting to rectify that harm," said Congressman Jamaal Bowman, Ed.D (NY-16). "President Biden's decision to pardon all federal offenses of simple marijuana possession brings us that much closer to restoring justice in our communities that have been targeted for decades. This comes after I wrote a letter to President Biden last year, alongside our Congressional Cannabis Caucus co-chairs Rep. Earl Blumenauer and Rep. Barbara Lee, calling for the federal pardon of all non-violent cannabis convictions."

"In communities of color and underserved communities, having a conviction for marijuana possession changes the trajectory of one's life and has a lasting impact for those attempting to find work, housing or even get an education. That is unacceptable. Many states, including New York, have legalized marijuana for recreational use and studies show a significant majority of Americans support legalization for medical and recreational use in every state. I hope that more states follow President Biden's lead today and that of states where marijuana is now legalized. In states where it is legalized, I also urge lawmakers and business leaders to make the marijuana industry more accessible - especially for those who have been historically harmed by predatory marijuana laws and restrictions. Today's announcement will reunite thousands of families and communities. We need to deschedule marijuana, legalize it in every state and pardon all who have been convicted of marijuana possession - now!"

DiNapoli, 12 Billion Fraud, con't from pg 3-

oli reports identified that borrowing from the federal UI trust fund has a significant cost impact for businesses operating in New York State.

Auditors also found that while DOL repeatedly pointed to identity theft as the major cause of fraud within the program, specifically for the temporary benefit programs, it did not implement a critical system to stop identity theft, a program called ID.me, until February 2021, or nearly a full year after these temporary programs were put in place and approximately 80% of UI claims had already been made.

The audit recommended DOL:

Continue the development of the replacement UI system and ensure its timely implementation.

Take steps, including collecting and analyzing data related to the identity verification process, to ensure the correct balance between fraudulent identity detection and a streamlined process for those in need of UI benefits.

Follow up on the questionable claims identified by this audit to ensure adjustments have been made so they are paid from the proper funding source and overpayments are recovered, as warranted.

Ensure the current and new UI system and data comply with provisions of the NYS Information Security Policy-the Classification, Authentication, Encryption, and Logging Standards, as well as the ITS Operations Change Management Process and Policy.

Improve the timeliness of cooperation with state oversight inquiries to ensure transparent and accountable agency operations.



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YONKERS IDA

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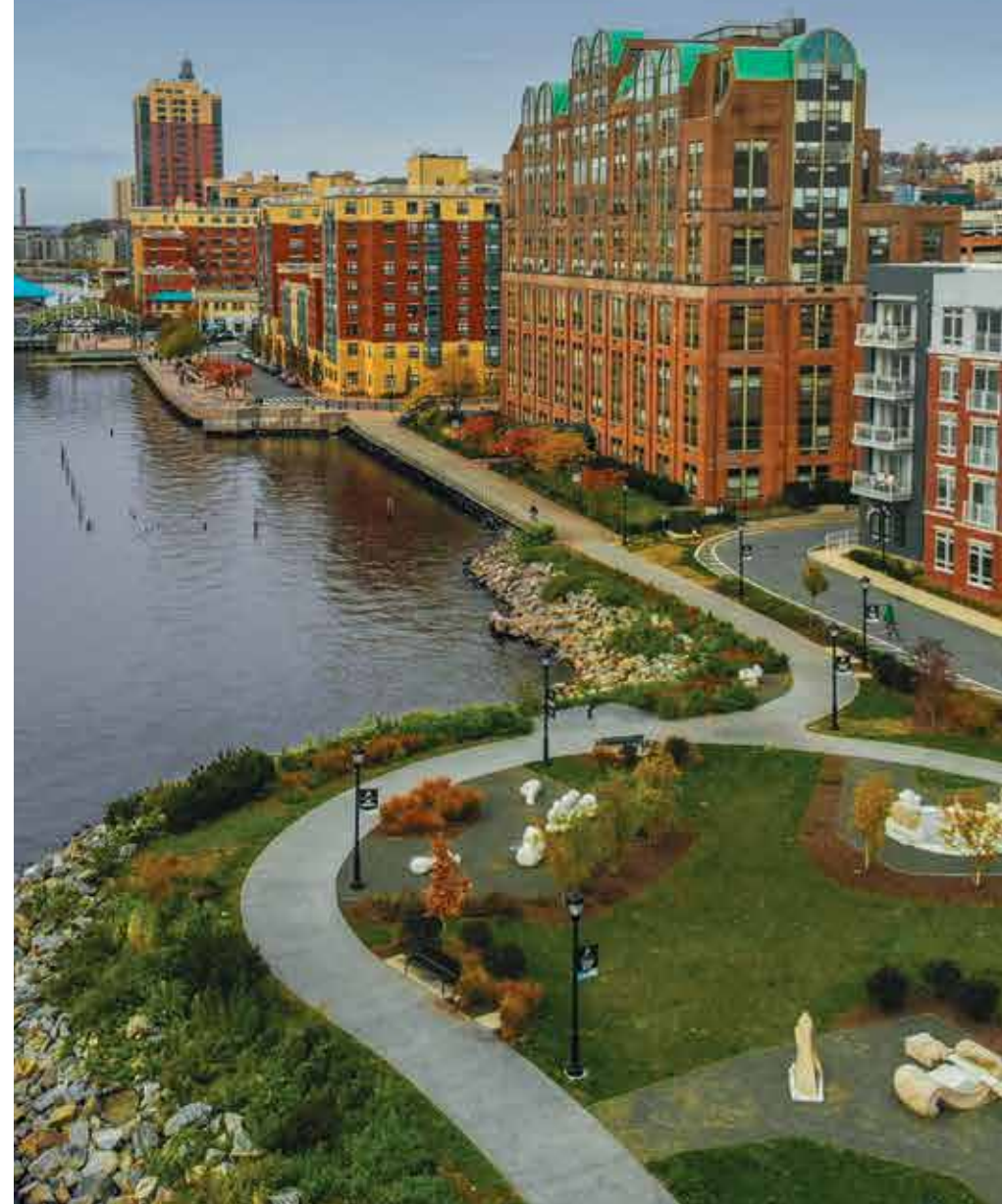
Building on a nearly decade-long economic renaissance, the Yonkers Industrial Development Agency (YIDA) under the leadership of Mayor Mike Spano has been instrumental in providing financial incentives for development projects representing nearly \$5 billion in private investment and more than 9,100 multifamily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

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



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Yonkers Economic Development Corporation



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