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# Yonkers Rising

YonkersTimes.com

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 6, 2026

## Governor Hochul Comes to Yonkers with $4 Million Grant for Will Library Auditorium




Governor Kathy Hochul announced $13.4 million in State funding to support three projects across Westchester County, strengthening public safety, expanding access to community resources and preserving a treasured Hudson Valley historic landmark.

"Investing in Westchester means preserving the Hudson Valley's rich history, providing firefighters with the support they need to protect their communities and modernizing our community spaces to ensure that Westchester remains vibrant and safe for decades to come," Governor Hochul said. "I'm proud to continue providing funding to support this community and those who work so hard to maintain it."

The investments include $4.1 million to modernize the auditorium at the Grinton I. Will Library in the City of Yonkers. The State is committing $4.1 million to fully renovate and modernize the auditorium at the Will Library, one of the largest branches of the Yonkers Public Library system. Originally constructed in the 1960s, the auditorium remains an important gathering space for educational, cultural and community programming, yet the space has not

*continued on pg 8-*

## Westchester's Lead Safe Program Highlights Help to Yonkers Homeowner



***L-R Deputy Commissioner at the County Department of Planning Melissa Rotini, Planning Department Commissioner Blanca Lopez, Westchester County Executive Ken Jenkins, Yonkers Property Owner Marlaina Headley, County Department of Planning Program Administrator Kim Holland, and Yonkers Councilwoman Corazon Pineda Isaac***

During National Lead Poisoning Prevention Week, Westchester County Executive Ken Jenkins is highlighting how the County's Lead Safe Westchester program is helping families address lead hazards in their homes, including a Yonkers mother who received nearly $139,000 in assistance to complete critical repairs to her property.

The County's Department of Planning provided $136,041 in funding for lead hazard remediation and $2,893 for inspections at a single-family home in Yonkers. Built in 1905, the home is occupied by a family of four, including two young children. The project, completed in August 2026, addressed deteriorating lead-based paint throughout the property, helping reduce the family's risk of lead exposure.

The work followed an inspection that identified 339 deteriorated surfaces containing lead-based paint. Repairs included replacing 41 windows, stabilizing paint on 21 additional windows and addressing lead hazards on doors, stairways, walls, ceilings and other interior surfaces. The team also completed exterior paint

*continued on pg 14-*

## Kisha Beats Nolan



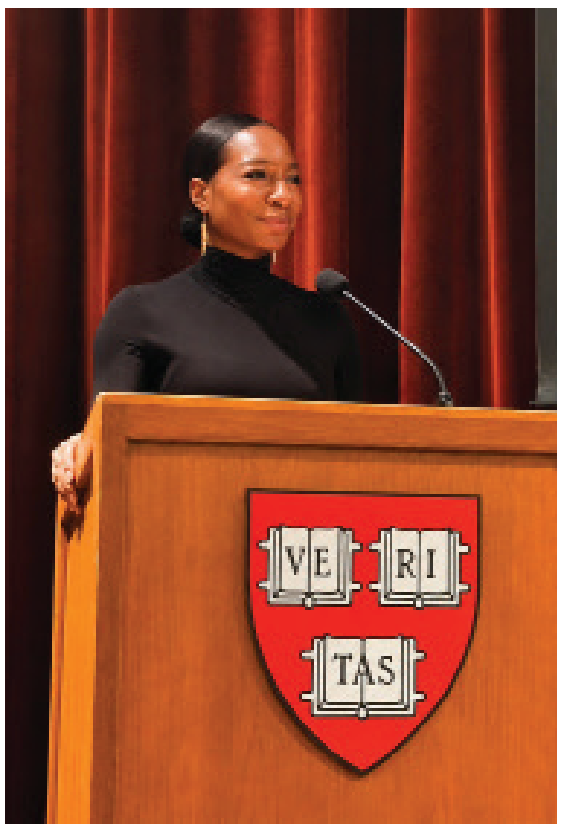
***County Legislator-elect Kisha Skipper with her son, US Marine Kyle Skipper-Pugh, stationed in Okinawa. No political campaign literature or image may imply official endorsement by the Department of Defense or the U.S. Marine Corps-see story on page 2***

Jereis Elected to Assembly

Terrero Elected to County Board

More Election Results on page 5

## Yonkers Native Zaina Adamu Appointed to Harvard Board of Directors




***The Yonkers native has built a career spanning journalism, international development and public service. Now, she is bringing that experience to one of the world's most prominent alumni leadership bodies.***

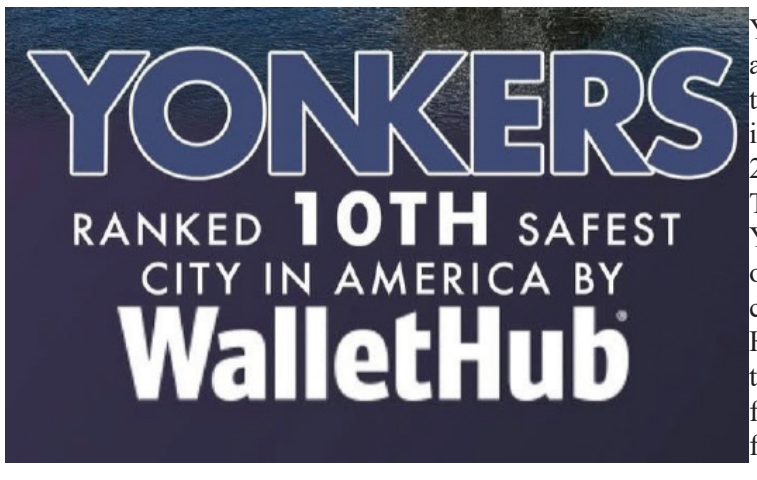
Yonkers native Zaina Adamu has been appointed to the Harvard Alumni Association Board of Directors, adding a new leadership role to a career spanning journalism, international development and public service within the halls of Congress.

A daughter of Ghanaian immigrants, Adamu credits her upbringing and family background as important influences.

"My mother and father moved to Yonkers from Ghana

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## Yonkers Ranks Among top 10 Safest Cities by WalletHub

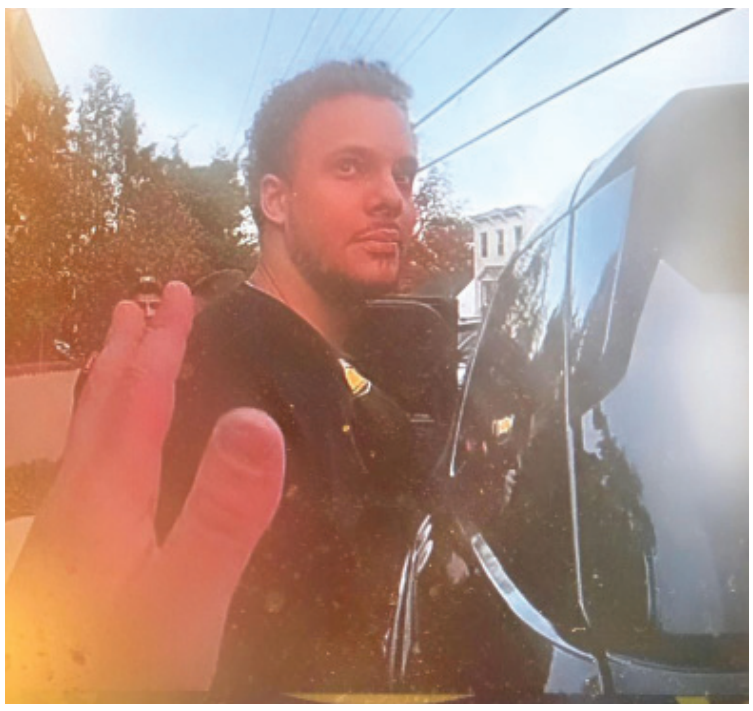



Yonkers ranks among America's top 10 safest cities in WalletHub's 2026 study.

The study places Yonkers No. 10 overall among 182 cities, No. 3 in Home & Community Safety, and third for the fewest traffic fatalities per capita.

*continued on pg 5-*

# Man Flees from Yonkers Police with 11-month old in the car



If you're driving around Yonkers skirting the law, somebody's surely watching you. Spoiler alert: it's us.

At the direction of Mayor Spano and Police Commissioner Sapienza, over 30 Detectives, Investigators, Officers, and Supervisors hit the streets this week for a little fall cleanup with fresh sets of StarChase Vehicle Trackers and Stop-Stick Tire Deflation Devices- in case a ghost tried to run.

Our primary targets? Ghost plates – license plates intentionally obscured, altered, or covered to evade identification, along with fraudulent temporary registrations.

But our ghost hunt got SPOOKY… and OPERATION GHOST TRAP became a citywide quality-of-life and vehicle enforcement detail stretching to every corner of Yonkers.

We ended up looking for: Ghost plates, Unregistered and uninsured cars, motorcycles, and mopeds, Reckless drivers, Illegal vehicle modifications, Speeding & plenty of other vehicle violations

Here's the thing: You pay to register and insure your vehicle. So does everyone else who follows the law. Those who decide to skip those responsibilities don't get a free pass – especially when uninsured drivers can leave innocent motorists facing serious financial consequences.

THE RESULTS: Over 20 vehicles impounded, Nearly 70 summonses issued

One arrest, courtesy of Mr. Sanchez Mercado, who apparently wanted a starring role in Find Out Friday.

When Detectives attempted to stop Emil Sanchez Mercado (28, Yonkers), he fled, leading them on a pursuit right to his front door – with his 11-month-old child in the car. He then left the baby behind and ran into his apartment.

Unfortunately for him, Detectives and members of our Emergency Service Unit weren't having that. They took him into custody and charged him with Reckless Driving, Unlawful Fleeing of a Police Officer, Endangering the Welfare of a Child, and Aggravated Unlicensed Operation.

These are the same quality-of-life issues residents consistently bring to our attention. We hear you, and we're taking action. If you're driving on the streets of Yonkers, come correct – or be prepared to walk home. If you're driving on the streets of Yonkers, come correct – or be prepared to walk home.

# Mayor Spano, County Executive Jenkins on the 2026 Election

From County Executive Ken Jenkins:

Voters came out in force on Tuesday, and a blue wave helped carry Cait over the finish line in NY-17. I'm proud to have stood with her throughout her race, and I know she'll lead in Congress and move NY-17 forward. Congratulations to every candidate across Westchester County who won, and thank you to everyone who ran to represent their community. Serving in public office is no small feat. It takes courage and a deep commitment to the people you serve.

The voters have made their choice. Now it's time to come together and deliver. That means bringing down costs, easing the burden on household budgets and fighting the affordability crisis that so many of our neighbors are facing every day. Thank you to every voter who made their voice heard, and to the poll workers and election staff who made it possible. The work starts now. Let's get to it

From Yonkers Mayor Mike Spano:

Yonkers Mayor Mike Spano posted: America likes to be right down the middle. What we've seen in the past election cycles, America swings right and left and we, as moderate Democrats need to come back and lead. We shouldn't mislead ourselves to believe this is a referendum on woke and socialist parties. Let's call it what it is: an anti-Trump vote. We have an opportunity now to get back to what matters most to everyday Americans: affordability, housing, education and good-paying jobs.

Let's commit ourselves to doing just that, find common ground and solve America's problems.

# Skipper Defeats Nolan

***By Dan Murphy***

The biggest election this year in Yonkers was the race for County Legislator in the 15th district, between Republican legislator James Nolan and Democrat Kisha Skipper. With all of the votes yet to be counted, Skipper has a large and according to Yonkers Democrats, an unsurmountable lead of 999 votes out of 10,000 votes cast with another 10,000 votes scanning as we go to press.

We received the following letter to the Editor last month.

Mr. Murphy-I wanted to remind you if you did not know that Kisha Skipper, candidate for Westchester County Legislator is the proud mother of a US Marine. And while I usually vote republican, and have voted for Legislator James Nolan in the past, this time I will be voting for Skipper based ENTIRELY on her son serving our country in the Marines.

I am a veteran of the Korean War and I'm getting old and may not make it to see Skipper get elected. But it brings me joy to see this proud mother with her son in uniform. She could have hidden this fact, but instead she proudly put it on the front page.

She certainly raised her son well, and I have confidence that she will serve the people of Yonkers and Eastcheser well as a County Legislator.

***Dan Phelan, Yonkers***

We spoke to Yonkers Democratic Chair Tom Meier about this race. "I think this race is over. Democrats, Independents and some Republicans came out and said no to Donald Trump. Jim Nolan is a serious republican but he is also a Trump supporter and fan. The voters said they don't want that in this district, in Westchester, and across the country. The general trend in this race is for Kisha and I see no indication that the remaining votes to be counted will change that."









# The Failure of the GOP in Westchester and Yonkers





above: Westchester GOP Chair Doug Colety; left-Yonkers GOP Chair Bob Moffitt

***By Joseph Berger, John P. O'Leary Northwest Yonkers Republican Club co-founder, member and guest writer***

Election Day is November 3, 2026, and once again, Republican voters in Westchester County and Yonkers are being asked to support a slate of candidates reluctantly endorsed by their own Republican leadership.

What makes this election particularly troubling is that some of these candidates have stood on the opposite side of the very Republican leadership now endorsing them. These individuals should be recognized for what they are: independent-minded Republican candidates who have demonstrated a willingness to challenge the party establishment.

For far too long, the Republican Party in Westchester County and Yonkers has suffered from ineffective leadership, internal divisions, personal interests, and a disturbing lack of accountability.

This is no longer simply a question of losing elections. It is a question of whether certain individuals in leadership positions are more interested in preserving their own political influence and personal benefits than rebuilding a competitive Republican Party.

WESTCHESTER COUNTY — A PARTY IN DECLINE UNDER DOUG COLETY

Under Chairman Doug Colety's leadership, the Westchester County Republican Party has continued its decline, struggling to attract what I estimate to be even 30% of the vote in many general election contests.

Who should be held accountable for this continuing failure? The chairman must accept responsibility. In my opinion, Doug Colety has become more of a roadblock to Republican success than a leader committed to building a winning organization. Republican candidates need financial support, organizational assistance, voter outreach, and a coordinated strategy to win elections. Instead, too many candidates are left struggling with minimal resources and inadequate party support. There is also a serious question concerning the party's campaign literature and printing arrangements. I believe Chairman Colety's financial interests in campaign printing deserve greater transparency and scrutiny.

If party leadership benefits financially from producing campaign literature, Republican voters and candidates deserve to know whether those arrangements create conflicts of interest and whether the party's resources are being used in the candidates' best interests. Candidates must win elections for the Republican Party to succeed. Party leadership should not be financially rewarded regardless of whether those candidates win or lose.

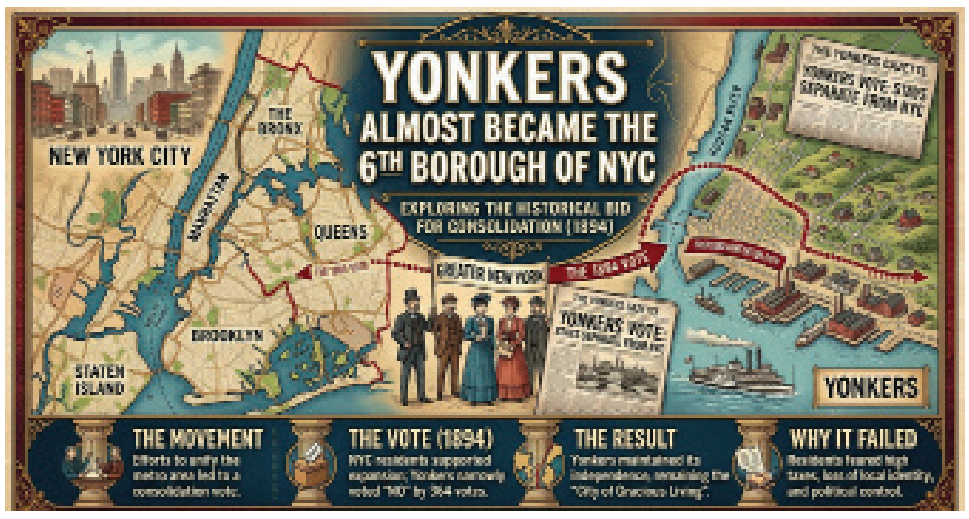
The continued deterioration of the Westchester County Republican Party demands accountability, transparency, and a fundamental change in leadership priorities.

YONKERS — DIVISION, PERSONAL INTERESTS, AND THE ABSENCE OF LEADERSHIP

In Yonkers, Republican Chairman Bob Moffitt presides over what I believe has become an increasingly divided and ineffective political organization.

*continued on pg 5-*

# On This Day in Yonkers History...




***By Mary Hoar, City of Yonkers Municipal Historian, 1977 recipient of the Key to the City of Yonkers, President Emeritus Yonkers Historical Society, recipient of the 2004 Key to History, Yonkers Landmarks Preservation Board Member, Founder of Revolutionary Yonkers 250 and President Untermyer Performing Arts Council***

Monday, November 9th:

November 9, 1948: The Hudson River Day Line, after being in existence for almost one century, announced it was going out-of-business! Incorporated in 1879 as the successor to the Albany Day Line, founded in 1863 to carry passengers on the Hudson. Its well-known boats, the Robert Fulton, Peter Stuyvesant, Alexander Hamilton and the Hendrick Hudson were to be sold.

November 9, 1929: Parks Superintendent Louis Milliot announced the results of the tree survey in Trevor Park. Eighty-seven species of trees were found, many very rare specimens. Milliot said many trees were priceless, with the purple beech trees worth in excess of $10,000 each. Another extremely rare tree in the park was the cut leaf linden. The city brought in five experts to assist in the identification project because so many of these unusual trees were difficult to identify. Two trees of each type would be labeled with aluminum nameplates supplied by William McVicar of Yonkers.

The Trevor estate was designed by its late owner John B. Trevor, who imported specimens of trees and plants from all over the world. Superintendent Milliot compared it to Kykuit!

Tuesday, November 10th

November 10, 1933: A suspicious Park Hill neighbor alerted police alerted police after seeing a "jaunty" man walking down the street at 2 am… his arms filled with overcoats! The neighbor called the police and reported what he witnessed. The police arrested the man, who claimed he was delivering them. Six hours later, the station received a phone call from the man who had been burglarized!

November 12, 1942: Councilman Curtiss Frank introduced a resolution to create a Yonkers Port Authority to allow the four-mile Yonkers waterfront to benefit the entire state. His plan was to petition our State Senators and Assemblymen to introduce legislation to the State Legislature to create the Port Authority, empowering it to issue "certificates of indebtedness…backed by the full faith and credit of the State of New York."

Wednesday, November 11th:

November 11, 1776: The British Seventy-first Regiment stopped at Colonel Philipse's home, now Philipse Manor Hall.

November 11, 1919: Acting Mayor John Davis read a proclamation on the steps of City Hall issued by Mayor John Fogarty commemorating the signing of the Armistice.

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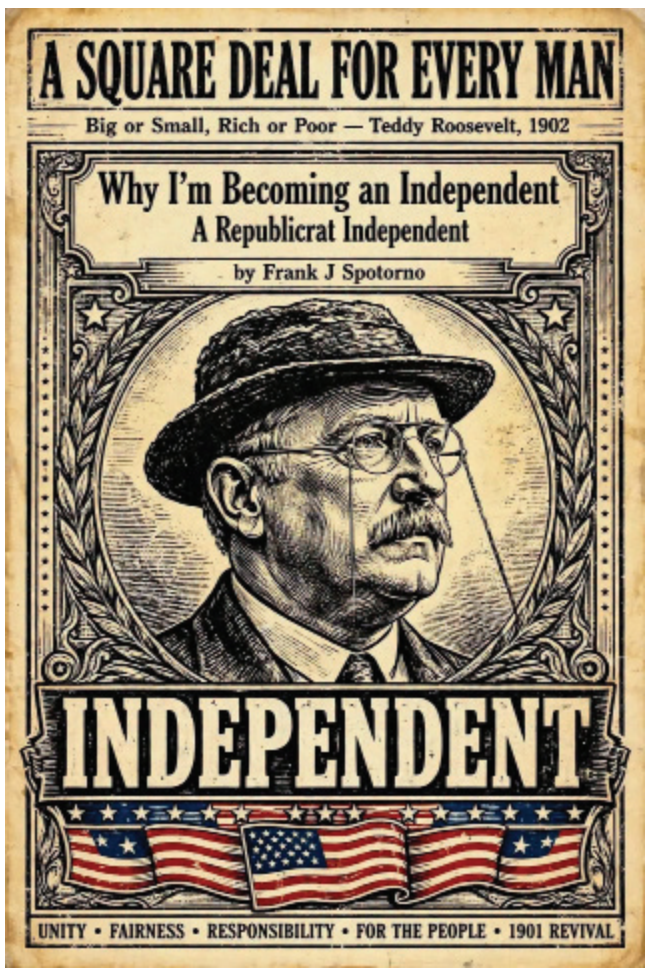








# After Years as a Trump Republican, I'm an Independent Now




***By Frank Spotorno***

Why I'm Becoming an Independent

After years of watching both parties, and after years of calling myself a Republican, I am becoming an Independent. Not because I left my principles. Because the parties left them.

If I need a word for what I am, call me a Republicrat Independent. It is not a new party. It is an old American idea that we have lost.

The idea comes from two men who shared a last name but not a party — Theodore Roosevelt, the Republican, and Franklin D. Roosevelt, the Democrat — and a third man who learned from both — John F. Kennedy — who called FDR his hero and said Teddy Roosevelt proved conservation was the condition of progress.

Theodore Roosevelt did not speak in slogans. He spoke in sentences that every working man could understand. In Lynn, Massachusetts in 1902, he said, "A square deal for every man, big or small, rich or poor." In the White House, he wrote it again on February 1, 1906: "To every man a square deal, no more and no less." And in a letter in 1903, he defined it perfectly: "Fair play for the working man and a square deal to every American, whether employer or employee."

That was the Square Deal. Not a handout. Not a bailout. A fair deal. Theodore Roosevelt was also America's first great conservationist and environmentalist — a man a hundred years ahead of his time. He worried about our forests, our waters, and our creatures. He set aside 230 million acres of public land, created five National Parks, and gave us the U.S. Forest Service, because he knew you can't have a Square Deal for the people if you sell off the country they live in.

John F. Kennedy, the working man's Democrat, told us to "ask not what your country can do for you, but what you can do for your country." He cut taxes to grow jobs, secured the border, and stood up for labor.

*continued on pg 8-*

# America Is Graduating Students Who Are Not Ready



***By: Dennis Richmond, Jr.***

Across America, millions of teens walk into high schools every morning carrying backpacks, Chromebooks and expectations about college, careers and adulthood. Yet behind graduation ceremonies and college acceptance announcements is an uncomfortable reality: too many American teens are reaching the end of high school without mastering fundamental reading and mathematics skills. The latest national numbers suggest this is no longer a COVID problem. It is an education crisis.

According to the 2024 National Assessment of Educational Progress, commonly called the Nation's Report Card, the average reading score for 12th graders dropped three points from 2019 and stood 10 points below the average recorded in 1992. The National Assessment Governing Board reported that the 2024 average was the lowest ever recorded for 12th-grade reading.

The numbers become even more alarming when we examine what students can do. According to the Nation's Report Card, 32 percent of 12th graders scored below NAEP Basic in reading in 2024, the largest percentage recorded since the assessment began. Only 35 percent performed at or above NAEP Proficient. In mathematics, according to the National Assessment of Educational Progress, 45 percent of 12th graders scored below NAEP Basic, while just 22 percent reached or exceeded NAEP Proficient. NAEP Proficient is not the same as a state's definition of performing at grade level, but the direction of the national results remains deeply concerning.

This problem does not suddenly appear during senior year. According to the National Assessment Governing Board, 33 percent of eighth graders scored below NAEP Basic in reading in 2024, the largest percentage ever recorded. These are students entering high school at a time when they are expected to analyze increasingly complex texts, construct evidence-based arguments, understand historical documents and prepare for college-level work.

The college-readiness numbers offer another warning. According to ACT, nearly 1.4 million members of the Class of 2025 took the ACT, but only 30 percent met at least three of the organization's four College Readiness Benchmarks. ACT reported that just 29 percent met its mathematics benchmark and 39 percent met its reading benchmark.

These statistics represent more than disappointing test scores. Reading and mathematics follow young people into nearly every part of adult life, from understanding employment paperwork and financial agreements to completing workforce training and succeeding in college. Handing students diplomas without confronting major academic weaknesses does not solve the problem.

America's students deserve high expectations, intensive academic intervention, meaningful tutoring, strong teachers, consistent attendance and families who receive clear information about academic progress. Graduation should represent preparation, not simply completion. If America wants young adults prepared to compete, work, vote, lead and build successful lives, it can't wait until graduation day to discover that our kids are going to be left behind.

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






# Election 2026 Results in Yonkers

**Congress NY-16**
**George Latimer-77%**
**Joe Cinquemani23%**

**State Senate-35th District**
**Andrea Stewart-Cousins-73%**
**Anthony Merante-27%**

**State Senate-37th District**
**Shelley Mayer-70%**
**Tom Fix-30%**

**Assembly 90th District-**
**Frank Jereis-65%**
**John Isaac-35%**

**County Legislator District 14-**
**David Tubiolo-72%**
**Bebe Ahmed -28%**

**County Legislator District 16-**
**Shanae Williams-75%**
**Dan D'Amico-25%**

**County Legislator District 17-**
**Wilson Terrero-71%**
**Leslye A. Oquendo-Thomas-29%**

**Yonkers City Court Judge**

**Alexandra R. Bisesi -unopposed**

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

***— Pete Seeger***










***GOP Failure, continued from pg 3-***

Rather than building a unified Republican Party capable of challenging Democratic control, the organization appears dominated by a small circle of insiders whose priorities too often revolve around political relationships, jobs, appointments, and maintaining their own influence.

Where is the commitment to Republican voters?

Where is the recruitment of qualified candidates?

Where is the strategy to challenge Democratic officeholders?

Where is the plan to rebuild the Republican Party in Yonkers?

Election after election, Democrats face little or no meaningful Republican opposition in too many contests.

Read more at Yonkerstimes.com

***Yonkers safest, continued from pg 1-***

The overall ranking considers home and community safety, natural-disaster risk and financial safety. It is not a crime-only ranking. Read the full study: https://wallethub.com/edu/safest-cities-in-america/41926

Threats to safety in the U.S. take many forms, ranging from public health crises and natural disasters to mass shootings and traffic accidents. People can also face less obvious risks. Beyond hazards that can cause bodily injury or physical harm, taking on an unaffordable second mortgage, going without health insurance or even visiting unsecured websites can put people in vulnerable situations. For many Americans today, the rising cost of inflation is another major concern, threatening their financial security.

While no one can avoid every danger, we do take on a certain level of risk based on where we choose to live. Some cities are better equipped to protect their residents from harm than others. To determine where Americans can feel most secure — in more than one sense — WalletHub compared more than 180 cities across 41 key indicators of safety. Our data set includes everything from traffic fatalities and assaults per capita to the unemployment rate and the percentage of residents without health insurance.

"When people think about safety in a city, their minds probably immediately go to things like the crime rate, auto fatality rate or risk of natural disasters. The safest cities in America protect residents from these threats of bodily harm and property damage, but on top of that, they also help secure people's financial safety. Financial safety includes things like minimizing the risk of fraud and identity theft, keeping the population employed and insured, and combating homelessness," said Chip Lupo, WalletHub Analyst In order to determine the safest cities in which to live, WalletHub compared 182 cities — including the 150 most populated U.S. cities, plus at least two of the most populated cities in each state — across three key dimensions: 1) Home & Community Safety, 2) Natural-Disaster Risk, and 3) Financial Safety. We evaluated those dimensions using 41 relevant metrics, which are listed below with their corresponding weights. Each metric was graded on a 100-point scale, with a score of 100 representing the highest level of safety.

We then determined each city's weighted average across all metrics to calculate its overall score and used the resulting scores to rank-order our sample. In determining our sample, we considered only the city proper in each case, excluding cities in the surrounding metro area.

Home & Community Safety - Total Points: 60
Natural-Disaster Risk - Total Points: 20
Financial Safety - Total Points: 20

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# Yonkers Mayor Spano Announces Major Renovations at Four City Parks



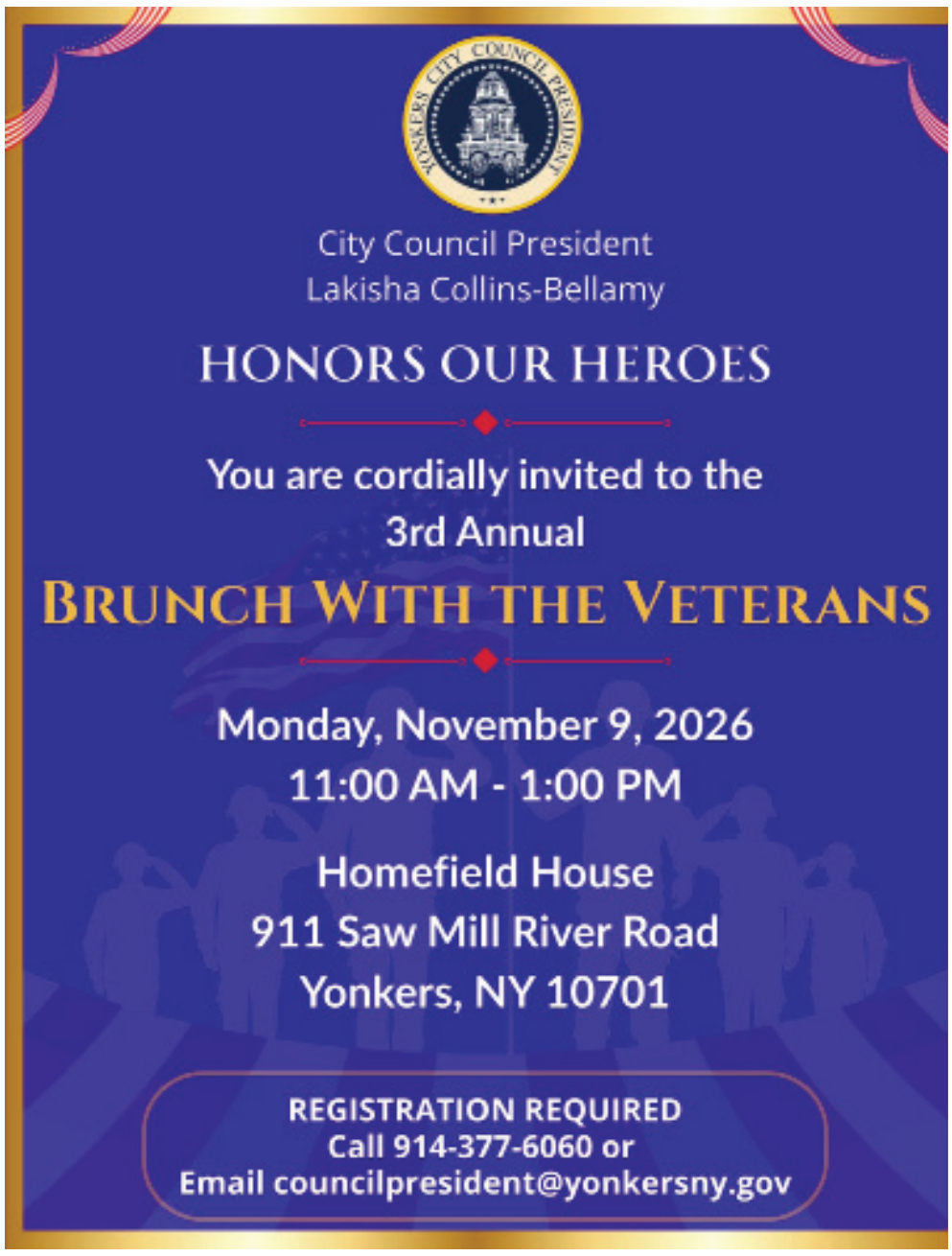
Mayor Mike Spano and the Yonkers Parks, Recreation & Conservation Department announced playground, court and recreation improvements at Georgia Avenue, Grant, Trenchard and Pelton parks, continuing the City's work to improve neighborhood recreational spaces. Construction is underway at Georgia Avenue, Grant and Trenchard parks, with work at Pelton Park scheduled to begin this month. These projects will update recreation areas at four neighborhood parks that have gone roughly two to three decades without major renovations.

"Every neighborhood in Yonkers deserves a park where families want to spend time and children have room to play," said Mayor Mike Spano. "Making these improvements have been a priority of this administration, and we're continuing that work across our City. These four projects will give families better places to enjoy right in their own neighborhoods."

Since 2021, the City has made improvements at 32 of its 53 parks with playgrounds, with much of that work focused on playgrounds, fitness areas and courts. All four projects include new playgrounds, safety surfacing, site furnishings and landscaping, along with improvements that will make the parks more accessible and inclusive. New basketball courts are planned at Georgia Avenue, Grant and Trenchard parks, while Georgia Avenue and Pelton parks will receive new fitness areas.

*continued on pg 9-*

# Calling All Yonkers Veterans! Council President Collins-Bellamy Hosting Free Brunch Nov. 9




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



# Yonkers charter school launches new pep band



A new pep band composed entirely of elementary school children has hit the playing field for the Charter School of Educational Excellence's (CSEE) sports competitions.

The CSEE's elementary pep band debuted on October 15 at the school's varsity flag football homecoming game in front of a sold-out crowd of more than 300 spectators. The junior pep band is the school's latest effort to foster a culture of music and arts from the earliest grade levels.

"Our new pep band performed phenomenally, and their presence certainly made the homecoming game's environment that much better," said CSEE CEO Danielle Rendina. "Getting the music and arts programs involved in our athletic program has been tremendous not only for our students but for the culture of our school community. Every department matters."

The new pep band's next scheduled public performance is on November 5 at 4:30 p.m. during the CSEE Middle School's flag football Turkey Bowl.

The elementary pep band is the CSEE's latest investment in the arts. In 2023, the K-12 school opened a new stage at its high school designed to help students learn theatrical rigging and other skills that will help them land jobs at Lionsgate Studios and other media stages opening in Yonkers.

Since the opening of the stage, the school has presented school musicals that included The Addams Family, Godspell and the Seussical. Besides the new elementary pep band, the CSEE has a high school marching band, backing bands for the school musicals and choirs.

There is a link between playing musical instruments and higher academic performance. According to a 2019 report by the Journal of Educational Psychology, students in British Columbia who took music courses in elementary and high school scored better on exams in certain subjects, including math and science, than their nonmusical peers.

# Yonkers Downtown Pet Parade























*I'm an Independent, continued from pg 4-*

Franklin Roosevelt, the Democrat, tried to finish what Teddy started. On January 11, 1944, he proposed his Second Bill of Rights. Every other industrialized country finished the job. We didn't. The lobbyists, led by the AMA, talked Congress out of it. We have lived with that unfinished business for 80 years.

Two Roosevelts, two parties, one principle: the American people come first. That is the party I remember. That is the party I want back.

I write this not as theory, but as lived experience. My wife spent 75 days in the ICU with ARDS, between NYU and St. John's Riverside Hospital. Six and seven roommates passed through the beds beside her. Most of them never made it home. I am 64 years old. I am left holding tens of thousands of dollars in co-pays after insurance — Trelegy at $650, Spiriva at $500, Albuterol at $100, oxygen twenty-four hours a day — and the next hospital bill is already on its way.

To those who have told me they feel bad for my wife and my family, I thank you. It means a great deal.

But we also have to make sure our country is there for us as well.

This is where I stand as a Republicrat Independent.

First, on the border. Secure the border. Deport criminals. Keep the breadwinner. I support the tightest border in our history. There is no argument there. But when we raid the home of a family that has been here ten years, paying taxes with an ITIN, obeying the law, raising U.S. citizen children, we are not saving money. We are creating a cost. You deport the payer, and you make his family a ward of the state. SNAP, WIC, emergency Medicaid, Section 8 housing — thirty to fifty thousand dollars a year on the taxpayer. We turn a taxpayer into a tax burden. That is bad math and bad policy.

Second, on healthcare. Finish what FDR started and continue where he left off. I believe in what I have written about in my archives for years: his Second Bill of Rights — also called the Economic Bill of Rights — said every American should have the right to a useful job, to earn enough to provide adequate food and clothing, to a decent home, to a good education, to protection from the economic fears of old age and sickness, and to adequate medical care. He understood that freedom from want was just as important as freedom from fear.

That is my plan. A basic universal system like other countries have, where every American has coverage, with the option to purchase additional benefits if you want more. That is how it's done in Europe — Germany, France, Italy, Holland, Sweden, Norway, Denmark, Switzerland and the United Kingdom — and in South America — Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Uruguay and Argentina. Different politics, different cultures, same principle: basic security for everyone, private options if you want more. And let us buy insurance across state lines and across counties, a cross-county system that creates competition. Lower malpractice costs and end defensive medicine. More doctors, more competition, lower prices.

Third, on Medicaid. Medicaid must be for those who need it. If cutting fraud and removing able-bodied adults who will not work means that oxygen gets to someone like my wife, then that is exactly what we should do.

There is no Republicrat Party, I know that. But if the Democratic Socialists of America can organize within the Democratic Party, perhaps an Independent can too — or perhaps a Republicrat Independent can too — and help bring both parties back to being the working man's parties — the parties that embrace labor, that give business its fair Square Deal, and most importantly, that give every American his Square Deal.

I am becoming an Independent because I want to vote for the person, not the party. I want unity, fairness, and responsibility. For the people.

That is what I will need every day while the oxygen machine runs 24/7 and the next hospital bill arrives.

A square deal for every man, big or small, rich or poor. No more and no less.

***— Frank J. Spotorno-Yonkers, NY***
***Spotorno was the Republican Party candidate for Congress in NY-14 in 2016.***

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*Will Library Grant, continued from pg 1-*

undergone significant improvements since its original construction. The funding will support improvements to the aging facility, helping modernize the space and ensure it continues to serve as an important educational, cultural, and community resource for Yonkers residents."

State Senator Shelley Mayer said, "I applaud Governor Kathy Hochul for providing funding for three significant projects in Westchester County: the renovation and reopening of a major fire station in the City of Mount Vernon, the continued improvements to Van Cortlandt Manor in Croton-on-Hudson, and in my own district, the much-needed modernization of the auditorium at Grinton I. Will Library in Yonkers. For more than 60 years, the Will Library has served as a hub for the east side of Yonkers, providing the community not only with books but with cultural events, classes, programs for people of all ages, and a place to gather. The auditorium, which seats 325, is one of the largest event spaces in Westchester but has not been updated since its opening. As a longtime supporter and patron of the library, I thank Governor Hochul for committing $4.1 million to renovate and modernize this invaluable resource in our community"

City of Yonkers Mayor Mike Spano said, "I want to thank Governor Kathy Hochul for her commitment to fully renovating and modernizing the Will Library auditorium. Since the library was built in the 1960s, this space has served as an important hub for cultural enrichment, educational programming and community connection in Yonkers. This investment will ensure the auditorium continues to bring people together, support local arts and culture, and provide residents with a welcoming space to learn and engage for generations to come. We are grateful to the Governor for recognizing this community resource and investing in its future."

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***Lead paint funding, continued from pg*** 1-

stabilization and specialized cleaning. The family temporarily relocated during the work and returned after the home passed post-remediation dust testing.

Jenkins said: "No family should have to worry that the place they call home could be putting their children's health at risk. Through Lead Safe Westchester, we're helping property owners address serious lead hazards that can be difficult and costly to handle on their own. For this Yonkers family, that assistance meant making important repairs and returning to a safer home. We want more residents to know about this program because preventing lead poisoning starts with making sure our homes are safe."

Westchester County Department of Planning Commissioner Blanca Lopez said: "Lead-based paint continues to be a concern in older homes throughout Westchester, and many property owners may not realize the extent of the hazards until an inspection is completed. Our Lead Safe Westchester team works with eligible residents to identify those hazards, coordinate the necessary repairs and provide financial assistance to complete the work. This Yonkers project shows how the program can help families address serious health and safety concerns while maintaining their homes."

Yonkers Property Owner Marlaina Headley said: "Thank you to County Executive Jenkins and his team for allowing me to speak today. As a mother of two, the safety of my kids is my highest priority. As a property owner, this priority can be very expensive. The Lead Safe Westchester program funded all lead repairs and inspections needed. Without that financial assistance, covering the cost of this work would have been incredibly difficult. I am very thankful for the help my family received through Lead Safe Westchester. They say it takes a village to raise kids. Knowing that we were not alone trying to make our home safer for the kids means that Westchester County is part of that village. I recommend all property owners to reach out and see if you qualify for this program."

Lead poisoning is a preventable public health issue that can have serious, long-term effects on children's health and development. With more than 81% of Westchester County's housing stock built before 1978, when lead-based paint was banned for residential use, identifying and correcting lead hazards remains an important part of protecting residents.

Westchester County has been awarded a new $7.75 million grant from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development to support lead hazard reduction and other eligible health and safety improvements in homes occupied by low- and moderate-income households over the next four years. Administered by the County Department of Planning, Lead Safe Westchester provides inspections and coordinates repairs through licensed and certified contractors. Owners of single-family and multifamily properties are encouraged to apply, with priority given to units with children younger than 6 and/or pregnant women.

Funding is limited, and applications are accepted on a first-come, first-served basis. Eligibility is based on federal income guidelines, and for rental properties, the income of the tenants determines eligibility.

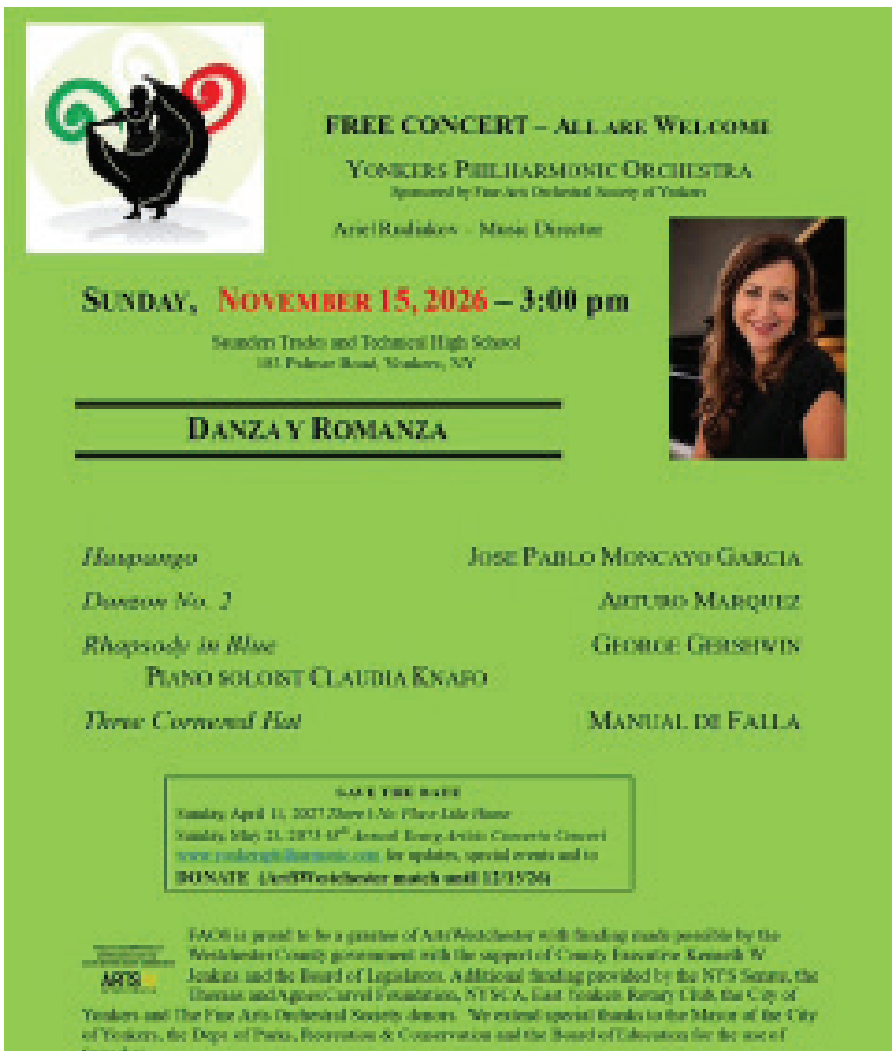
To learn more about Lead Safe Westchester or request an application, visit https://homes.westchestercountyny.gov/lead-safe-westchester, email PlanLSW@westchestercountyny.gov or call 914-995-4150.

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Yonkers Rising

PO Box 23, 3652 Lee Road, Jefferson Valley, NY 10535. -914-815-1388. Proudly serving the the people of Westchester with hyperlocal news. Member NY Press Association. Legal notice inquiries to: risinglegalnotice@gmail.com. Daniel Murphy, Publisher & Editor in Chief, dmurphy@risingmediagroup.com. Bayan Baker, Assistant to the Editor in Chief risingmediagroup@gmail.com.

# Yonkers Philharmonic Orchestra to Perform Free Concert at Saunders High School Nov. 15




***Park improvements, continued from pg 6-***

Planned improvements include:

***Georgia Avenue Park:*** A new playground, basketball court and fitness area, along with new safety surfacing, site work, site furniture and improved landscaping.
***Grant Park:*** A new playground and basketball courts, along with new safety surfacing, site work, site furniture, additional trees and landscaping.
***Trenchard Park:*** A new playground and basketball court, along with new safety surfacing, site work, site furniture and improved landscaping.
***Pelton Park:*** A new playground and fitness area, along with new safety surfacing, site work, site furnishings and improved landscaping.
The City anticipates all four parks will be open to residents by late spring 2027, weather and construction permitting. Some projects could be completed before the end of 2026.

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NOTICE OF SALE
SUPREME COURT - COUNTY OF WESTCHESTER

The Bank of New York Mellon Trust Company, N.A. f/k/a The Bank of New York Trust Company, N.A. as Trustee for Multi-class Mortgage Pass-Through Certificates, ChaseFlex Trust Series 2007-2,
Plaintiff,

Against

Ismael Vargas; Morel Carmen; Sonya Quintana

Defendant(s)

Pursuant to a Judgment of Foreclosure and Sale, duly entered 06/13/2024, I, the undersigned Referee, will sell at public auction, in the lobby of the Westchester County Courthouse, 111 Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd., White Plains, NY 10601 on 12/8/2026 at 9:30AM, premises known as 27 Radford Street, Yonkers, New York 10705 a/k/a 25 Radford Street, Yonkers, New York 10705, and described as follows:
ALL that certain plot piece or parcel of land, with the buildings and improvements thereon erected, situate, lying and being in the City of Yonkers, County of Westchester and State of New York.
Section 1 Block 117 Lot 23, 24, and 25.

The approximate amount of the current Judgment lien is $939,640.48 plus interest and costs. The Premises will be sold subject to provisions of the aforesaid Judgment of Foreclosure and Sale; Index # 51062/2019

Stuart Ball, Esq., Referee.
SHELDON MAY & ASSOCIATES Attorneys at Law, 255 Merrick Road, Rockville Centre, NY 11570
Dated: 10/14/2026 File Number: 35091 CA

***Yonkers History, continued from pg 3-***

November 11, 1954: National Gold Star Mothers President Elsie Nielsen and Yonkers Gold Star Mothers President Alice Kinsella dedicated plaques in memory of Yonkers servicemen who died during World War II and the Korean War. The plaques listed 525 Yonkers servicemembers who died during the Second World War, and 36 Yonkers residents who lost their lives during the Korean police action.

More than 100 Gold Star Mothers attended the Veterans Day commemoration, Yonkers' first.

Thursday, November 12th

November 12, 1893: The Westchester County Board of Supervisors met to allow five Yonkers men to take their seats in accordance with the State Court of Appeals decision. The State Legislature passed a law giving Yonkers, with one-third the population of Westchester and paying one-third of the county tax, one Supervisor per ward. The Board attacked the legislation as unconstitutional and refused to seat the five men elected as Supervisors. The County Board had lost its legal challenge at every level.
Yonkers' new Supervisors were Alanson Prime, T. Percival, P. J. Cuniff, Jeremiah Clancy, and William McPherson.

November 12, 1900: After an intense discussion about building a firehouse at Manor Hall Park, Alderman Tompkins proposed canceling the firehouse contract on condition the Manor Hall Association pay the contractor the $2500 cancelation fee. This sparked a lively debate between Mayor Sutherland and Council President Walsh. Walsh said not only should the Association pay the cancellation fee, but also the $2,100 Yonkers already spent; it would not be fair to taxpayers to "permit the money they expended to go for naught." Sutherland agreed with Walsh, adding motives to preserve the Hall were not selfish, but patriotic and public spirited. Alderman Walsh substituted $4600 for $2500 in his motion… it passed.

Friday, November 13th:

November 13, 1933: Otis Elevator Plant Manager Robert Goodwillie presented awards for the best gardens at the three Otis sponsored plots: Shonnard Place, Tibbetts Brook Park and Palmer Road at Saw Mill River Road. Top winners were John Fedor, Lewis Evans and Anthny Girsh. Most productive crop was tomatoes, with almost 30,000 pounds produced; almost 13,500 pounds of cabbages were grown. Gardens at Tibbetts Brook were the most productive; in total these family plots produced almost 100,000 pounds of vegetables.

Saturday, November 14th:

November 14, 1934: Alderman Edward Winn introduced a resolution opposing New York City's latest attempt to annex Yonkers.

There was a mad scramble between Winn, Aldermen Slater, Mitchell, and Schaefer; they all claimed to be first to file the bill. They learned New York City's bill annexing Yonkers was deferred because of tax issues, rescheduled for the following week. Winn's bill went forward and was adopted unanimously; a copy was sent to NYC's Board of Aldermen.

Sunday, November 15th:

November 15, 1934: NYC Alderman Elias Jacobs pushed ahead with his plans to annex Yonkers… despite the express opposition of the Yonkers City Council! He filed his proposed local law to make Yonkers part of New York City; this proposal would make Yonkers a borough. The merger had to be approved by the "municipal assemblies of both cities and approved by a referendum in both cities." It was slated for New York's November 20th legislative Agenda.
Mayor LaGuardia, when asked for his opinion, stated, "I have enough headaches for the next three years without another borough!"

Any questions on this column, email yonkershistory1646@gmail.com.
For information on the Yonkers Historical Society, the Sherwood House Museum on Tuckahoe Road or their upcoming events, please call 914-961-8940, visit website www.yonkershistoricalsociety.org, or email info@yonkershistoricalsociety.org.

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Notice of Registration of Radford Scott LLP, a foreign LLP organized in Dekalb Cty, Georgia on 8/7/23, filed with the Secy of State of NY (SSNY) on 9/10/26. Office location: 145 Palisade St, Dobbs Ferry, NY 10522, Westchester Cty. LLP Election on file with clerk, DeKalb Cty Superior Court, 556 N McDonough St, Decatur, GA 30030. SSNY designated as agent upon whom process may be served. SSNY shall mail a copy of any process to the LLP at its principal office, Two Town Ctr, 125 Clairemont Ave, Decatur, GA 30030. Purpose: The practice of law.

Notice of Formation of The Spinning Top LLC. Articles of Organization filed with Secretary of State of NY (SSNY) on 12/20/2017. Office location: Westchester County. SSNY designated as agent of Limited Liability Company (LLC) upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY should mail process to The Spinning Top LLC, 81 Pondfield Road #287, Bronxville, NY 10708. Purpose: any lawful purpose.

Accountant, New Rochelle, NY Conduct core acctg operations, incl bank reconciliations, discrepancy analysis, maintenance of acctg records; coord w/ Sales & Marketing to investigate & resolve customer deductions, acct variances, discrepancies; prep journal entries/acct analyses for monthly, quarterly, annual closings; generate monthly AR closing reports to support financial reporting, collection strategies, working capital mgmt; monitor AR aging reports & coord follow-up on overdue invoices. Master in Accounting or Finance + 3 mos exp in job offrd or as Advisory Associate. Annual Salary $97,053. Fax resume to Benchmark Education, 914-560-1225.

Notice of formation of Construction Management Consultants, LLC. Arts. of Org. filed with the SSNY on 08/29/2026. 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, 325 Hornidge Rd, Mamaroneck NY, 10543. Purpose: Any lawful activity

Notice of formation of Denyshas LLC. Arts. of Org. filed with the SSNY on 04/03/2023. Office: Westchester County. SSNY designated as agent of the LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail copy of process to Rocket Corporate Services Inc. 2804 Gateway Oaks Dr. #100 Sacramento, CA 95833 Purpose: Any lawful activity

Notice of formation of ISPARDA, LLC. Arts. of Org. filed with the SSNY on 09/07/2026. 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, 113A Woodale Avenue, Peekskill, NY 10566. Purpose: Any lawful activity

Notice of formation of Digital Infrastructure Services LLC, Arts. of Org. filed with NY Dept. of State on 10/22/25. Office: Westchester County. NY DOS designated as agent for service of process; DOS shall mail copy of process to 7 Ridgeway Cir White Plains, NY 10605. Purpose: any lawful purpose.

Notice of formation of ACH HOLDINGS GROUP LLC. Arts. of Org. filed with the SSNY on October 8, 2026. 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 Corporate Creations Network Inc., 600 Mamaroneck Avenue #400, Harrison, NY 10528. Purpose: Any lawful activity

Notice of Formation of ALLIANCE MENTAL HEALTH COUNSELING, PLLC. Arts. of Org. filed with SSNY on 08/03/2026. Office location: Westchester County. SSNY designated as agent of PLLC upon whom process may be served. SSNY shall mail process to THE ENTITY, 7 RYE RIDGE PLAZA, UNIT #680, RYE BROOK, NEW YORK 10573. Purpose: any lawful act or activity.

Notice of Formatioin of MISHA SCHWARTZ PRODUCTIONS LLC. Filed with SSNY on 05/07/2026. Office: Westchester County. SSNY designated as agent for process & shall mail to: 77 VIRGINIA AVE, DOBBS FERRY, NY 10522. Purpose: Any Lawful activity.

***Notice of formation of everyythingpancakes, LLC. Arts. of Org. filed with the SSNY on 10/25/2026. 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, 45 Birch Brook Rd, Cortlandt Manor NY 10567. Purpose: Any lawful activity***

Notice of Formation of elinfonet.com, LLC. Articles of Organization filed with NYS Dept. of State (SSNY) on June 30, 2026. Office location: Westchester County. SSNY has been designated as agent of LLC upon whom process may be served. SSNY shall mail a copy of any process to: Raymond Nardo, P.C., 55 Jericho Turnpike, Suite 205, Jericho, NY 11753. Purpose: any lawful act or activity.

NOTICE OF FORMATION OF I WASH NEW YORK LLC. Articles of Organization filed with the Secretary of State of New York (SSNY) on September 24, 2026. Office location: Westchester County. SSNY has been designated as agent of the LLC upon whom process against it may be served.SSNY shall mail copy of process to the LLC, 14 Westview Ave 508 Tuckahoe, NY 10707. Purpose: Any lawful activity.

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Notice of formation of Elite Air Solutions LLC. Arts. of Org. filed with the SSNY on 08/07/2026. 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, 193 Kneeland Rd, Yonkers, NY 10705. Purpose: Any lawful activity

***Notice of formation of Frontline Restoration Partners LLC. Arts. Of Org. Filed with the SSNY on July 7, 2026. Office Location: Westchester County, New York. SSNY is designated as the agent of the LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail copy of process to the LLC, 333 Mamaroneck Avenue, Suite 359, White Plains, NY 10605. Purpose: Any lawful activity.***

Notice of Formation of DYLSOFT LLC. Articles of Organization filed with the Secretary of State of New York (SSNY) on 09/29/2026. Office location: Westchester County. Principal business location: 12448 Flatlands Ave, Unit A1121, Brooklyn, NY 11239. SSNY has been designated as agent of the LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail a copy of any process to the LLC at 12448 Flatlands Ave, Unit A1121,






Notice of formation of Affogato House LLC filed with the SSNY on 6/11/26. 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, 173 Huguenot Street, Ste. 200, New Rochelle, NY 10801. Purpose: Any lawful activity

Notice of formation of TradeGrade LLC. Arts. of Org. filed with the SSNY on 10/02/2026. 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, Registered Agents Inc., 418 Broadway, Ste R, Albany, NY 12207. Purpose: Any lawful activity.

Notice of formation of Treacy Quality Consulting, LLC. Arts. of Org. filed with the SSNY on 09/25/2026. 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, 111 Madison Avenue, Valhalla, NY 10595. Purpose: Any lawful activity.

Notice of Formation of Limitless Laughs Productions LLC Articles of Organization filed with NYS Dept. of State (SSNY) on July 18, 2024 Office location: Westchester County SSNY has been designated as agent of LLC upon whom process may be served. SSNY shall mail a copy of any process to: 42 BROADWAY, FL. 12-200, NEW YORK, NY, UNITED STATES, 10004 Purpose: Any lawful act or activity

NOTICE OF FORMATION OF WILLIAMS ESTATES GROUP LLC

WILLIAMS ESTATES GROUP LLC, a domestic Limited Liability Company, was filed with the New York State Department of State on June 25, 2026. The office of the LLC is located in Westchester County, New York. The Secretary of State has been designated as agent of the LLC upon whom process against it may be served. The post office address to which the Secretary of State shall mail a copy of any process against the LLC served upon the Secretary of State is: 2444 Boston Post Rd #1024, Larchmont, NY 10538. The registered agent of the LLC is Pierre S Williams, 31 Lexington Ave, Mt. Vernon, NY 10552, upon whom process against the LLC may be served. The purpose of the LLC is to engage in real estate services and travel agency services, and any other lawful business activities permitted under New York law.

Notice of Formation of Sanchez Construction Contractors, LLC. Articles of Organization filed with the Secretary of State of NY (SSNY) on 10/3/2026. Office location: Westchester County. SSNY designated as agent of Limited Liability Company (LLC) upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY should mail process to Sanchez Construction Contractors, LLC, 130 Beech Street, #3R, Yonkers, NY, 10701. Purpose: any lawful purpose.

LUX OCULI NYC LLC, Arts. of Org. filed with the SSNY on 06/29/2020. 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, 108 South Buckhout Street, Irvington, NY 10533. Purpose: Any lawful purpose.

Notice of formation of J-Ro Consultants, LLC. Arts. of Org. filed with the SSNY on 10/26/2026. 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, 3 Bacon Ct, Bronxville, NY 10708. Purpose: Any lawful activity

Notice of Formation of Castlebridge Group LLC. Articles of Organization filed with the SSNY on 8/6/2026. Office: 14 Legendary Circle, Rye Brook, NY 10573. Purpose: Business technology/consulting.

Notice of formation of B Delights Bakery and Cafe, LLC. Arts. of Org. filed with the SSNY on 07/06/2026. Office: Westchester County. SSNY designated Brenda McDonald as agent of the LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail copy of process to the LLC, 26 Newkirk Rd, Yonkers, NY 10701. Purpose: Notice of LLC Formation

NOTICE OF FORMATION OF Gill Tech Law PLLC. Articles of Organization filed with the Secretary of State of New York (SSNY) on September 16, 2026. Office Location: Westchester County. SSNY has been designated as agent of the PLLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail a copy of any process against the PLLC served upon him or her to: Brenda L. Gill, Esq., 40 Memorial Highway, #23A, New Rochelle, NY 10801. Purpose: To practice the profession of Law.

Notice of formation of HitchNGo LLC. Mobile Tow Hitch Installation. Filed with the SSNY on 06/17/2026. 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, 4 Lafayette St, White Plains, NY 10606. Purpose: Any lawful activity.

Stone & Oak Management Group LLC, Arts. of Org. filed with the Sec. of State of NY (SSNY) on 06/24/2026. 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: 92 Hamilton Ave, Apt 1A, Yonkers, NY 10705. Purpose: To engage in any lawful act or activity.

Notice of Formation of Holiday Heroes LLC. Arts. of Org. filed with the SSNY on 09/24/2026. 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 THOMAS DOOLEY 51 PARK DRIVE MT KISCO NY 10549. Purpose: Any lawful purpose

# Reformation Brings Freedom

For the first time in history, a Roman Catholic Pope has voted in an American election. Pope Leo is an American citizen by birth, Pope by election by the most elite of Catholic clergy from all over the world, the College of Cardinals. He did not give up his citizenship when chosen as Pope even though he will likely spend the rest of his life living in the Vatican. But while his opinions may influence Roman Catholic doctrine and practice, the Pope has no authority to interfere in American government, though he is free to exercise his rights as an American citizen. The Protestant Reformation is one of the reasons why a particular denomination cannot control our government.

On October 31, 1517, Martin Luther (for whom Martin Luther King was named) nailed 95 theses (Statements for discussion and study) on the door of the Church in Wittenberg, Germany, beginning the Protestant Reformation: "Out of love for the truth and from desire to elucidate it, the Reverend Father Martin Luther, Master of Arts and Sacred Theology, and ordinary lecturer therein at Wittenberg, intends to defend the following statements and to dispute on them in that place. Therefore he asks that those who cannot be present and dispute with him orally shall do so in their absence by letter. In the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, Amen."

Luther, a professor of moral theology, (i.e religious ethics, social teaching) challenged Roman Catholic church doctrines and practices that were not grounded in Biblical principle or worse, in conflict with scripture, such as the selling of indulgences and Papal supreme authority."For therein is the righteousness of God revealed from faith to faith: as it is written, The just shall live by faith (believing)." (Romans 1:17) From this clear verse and 2 Timothy 3:16: "All scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness," the Reformation taught that Scripture alone was the standard for faith and practice, not tradition, which derives from men.

Now people are free to own Bibles of their own and read them in their own language. Prior to that the Roman Catholic church had the only Bible in communities—chain to the altar. Pople could not see and read and study and understand the Word of God for themselves, contrary to 2Timothy 2:15 : "Study to shew thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth." God endowed individuals with the responsibility and inherent right to study His Word. Those who do come to know Him personally as their heavenly Father. As any skill or subject, the more study and practice one puts in, the better he understands it and can perform it. Noone can give what he does not have. Mere spectators cannot teach someone else how to live abundantly, nor to do the works of Jesus Christ and greater works. God has no hands but the hands of believers. Those who know His Word take the place of Jesus Christ, all over the world simultaneously, where he could only be in one place at one time. .

By breaking the political power of the Roman Catholic church, which had the power to remove rulers in Catholic countries, and enabling people to read the Bible in their own language, the Reformation brought millions of people a true and empowering understanding of the Word of God and His son, Jesus Christ, freeing them from the bondage of traditions of men. Freeing them from unbiblical religious and social traditions which often incorporated paganism to gain members. Today, some churches encourage actions that God's Word clearly says are wrong. Like Jesus Christ's telling the relgious leaders of his time that they were "Making the word of God of none effect through your tradition, " (Mark 7:13a), their traditions obscured and minimized the understanding of the Word of God. Diminished understanding limits the power of God in their lives. GOD has standards but He has no limits. "For with God nothing shall be impossible." (Luke1:37) Another rendering of this verse is: "No word of GOD is void of power."

For centuries, the Bible had been translated only into Latin, which only higher clergy, nobility, and a few educated people could read. Some local what clergy could not read at all, making them and their communities entirely dependent on what someone else told them. By translating the Bible into the vernacular, the Reformation enabled people to read scripture for themselves. The desire to read the Word of God for themselves created a massive desire for literacy. At the time of the American Revolution, Americans had the highest literacy rate in the world, particularly in the New England colonies, and virtually every home had a Bible. By putting the Word of God in its rightful place as the standard for faith and practice, the Reformation empowered ordinary men and women with the truth.

The Protestant ethic was the foundation of American government. Scriptural standards that influenced our Constitution include the concepts of covenant, reflected in the Mayflower Compact, state constitutions and the swearing of an oath on the Bible to "preserve, protect, and defend the Constitution" the standard of government. Other Biblical concepts incorporated into American government include the rule of law as supreme standard for all, separation of powers, rules of evidence, and a defendant's right to have witnesses on his behalf. The work most cited as influencing America's Founders is the book of Deuteronomy, part of the Mosaic law (Torah) given to the children of Israel as a guidelines for the nation they would build. After Jesus Christ fulfilled the law and the giving of holy spirit on Pentecost, believers today are under a new administration with direct access to GOD and simpler lifestyle requirements. Just as believers are no longer bound to a physical temple or an appointed high priest but were empowered to do the works of God's son, American government is decentralized and the people are sovereign. Just as both Jew and Gentile can become a new man and united in the body of Christ, people of different ethnicities can become Americans based on commitment to certain principles regardless of their background.

All of our Founders spoke of the importance of Biblical knowlege and

***continued right***

***From Yonkers to Harvard, continued from pg 1-***

with hopes for a better future, and their example taught me that opportunity is something you work toward and create for others," she said. "I carry those lessons with me wherever I go."

After graduating from high school, Adamu attended Morgan State University, one of the nation's historically Black colleges and universities (HBCUs), where she earned a bachelor's degree in English and Journalism.

She then began her career in print journalism before joining CNN, where she spent six years covering major national and international stories.

In 2018, her career took an unexpected turn. She moved to West Africa and founded Ghana Girl Rising, an organization focused on expanding educational opportunities for young women in underserved communities. The initiative reflected a growing interest in international development and the role education can play in changing the trajectory of young people's lives.

Her commitment to that work influenced her decision to return to school. In 2020, she was admitted to study at Harvard University, earning a master's degree in International Education Policy the following year from the Graduate School of Education.

Her time at Harvard became more than an academic experience, she says. It introduced her to a global network of life-long friends and professionals who work across disciplines, countries and sectors.

Today, Adamu serves as Deputy Director of Communications for the Select Committee on China under the U.S. House of Representatives, where her work involves communicating complex foreign policy, economic and national security issues to the American public.

While her latest appointment places her in a new leadership role, the experiences that brought her there remain rooted in the city where her story began.

"Sometimes, the most important thing a community can give its people is the belief that their dreams are worth pursuing, and in knowing that they belong in rooms where decisions are being made," she said. "That is what Yonkers has done for me."

morality (not denominational tradition) as essential for a free republic. Men and women who abide by the doctrine, reproof and correction of scripture rather than ethic social, or religious traditions can be self-governing. "The Bible contains the most profound philosophy, the most perfect morality, and the most refined policy that ever was conceived upon earth." While man has always been flawed, God's Word is always perfect. Isaiah 55:11 So shall my word be that goeth forth out of my mouth: it shall not return unto me void, but it shall accomplish that which I please, and it shall prosper in the thing whereto I sent it." Luke 1:17 "No word of God is void of power." What believers should do changes. Some things are no longer required of believers. The one simple rule for Adam, changed when he broke it. Different guidelines began with Abraham and Moses before the giving of the law, each time growing more complicated to show that fallen man could not justify himself by works. Now even the law itself has been surpassed and replaced because it was perfectly fulfilled by Jesus Christ. These life style guidelines, referred to by the Greek word oikonomia, means the administration of a household. We could think of them as God's developmental administrations prepared for believers who would live in different places, cultures and times. Hence, not all parts of the scripture are for our practice today, but all of them are still for our learning.

The Reformation contributed to democratic principles in American government by strengthening individual rights and responsibility. Once one's spiritual rights and responsibility are understood and strengthened, he has a foundation to make informed consent and govern himself. When Plymouth and Massachusetts bay colonies were settled, usually the first thing built was a church, which would also be used for self-governing town meetings.

The book of Acts shows Paul ultimately becoming the leader of the early Christian church and the decentralizing of churches which met in homes. Seven church epistles are the core of the New Testament, but notably not one was initially addressed to the church at Jerusalem, though the Epistle to the Hebrews focuses on issues/concepts specifically familiar to Christian believers with an Hebrew background, detailing why Jesus Christ is the Messiah they were waiting for and the fulfillment of that hope.

The core principle of the Epistle of Romans is that because Jesus Christ fulfilled the law, believers no longer need to do so, being justified by faith not by works—because he had already done them.. On Pentecost the gift of holy spirit brought in a new administration where believers of Jewish and Gentile backgrounds were no longer separate but united in the body of Christ and enabled to live by the higher, empowered standard, and do the works that he did and greater works. Galatians 3:24-26 corroborates: " Wherefore the law was our schoolmaster to bring us unto Christ, that we might be justified by faith. But after that faith is come, we are no longer under a schoolmaster. For ye are all the children of God by faith in Christ Jesus." Individual freedom and responsibility and precedes political freedom.

Tradition has given us, "give me a treat or I will do something nasty (trick) to you, " demanding to be given something with giving of oneself. Reformation freed us to "labour, working with his hands the thing which is good, that he may have to give to him that needeth." (Ephesians 4:28b) Make use of the freedom many others labored for and were often persecuted and killed for, study the Word of God so you can do the works of Jesus Christ and greater works. Want to change your community to a more abundant and peaceful life? That is the way.

For Further Reading: https://americanheritage.org/context-protestant-reformation/

Women of the Reformation - Angie Vonderhaar, TheWay Magazine, September/October 2025

***Judith Niewiadomski, Yonkers***

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