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Yonkers Rising

Yonkerstimes.com Friday October 27, 2023

We Endorse: Mayor Mike Spano for Reelection

The Joy of Target -Yonkers is Here: CVS & Starbucks Included at Cross County Store



Mayor Mike Spano, with Target employees, at the retailers opening at Cross County Center, Yonkers

By Dan Murphy

Target opened its Yonkers location in the Cross County Center on Oct. 22. The 132,000-square-foot store is one of the retail giant's largest locations, complete with a Starbuck, CVS, and drive-up window.

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Jose Diaz, Candidate for County Legislator -17th District-In His Own Words



Jose Diaz, center, with Mayoral candidate Anthony Merante, and BOL candidate Debbie Kozak, 16th D.

By Dan Murphy

One of the contested races in Yonkers on November 7 will be for Westchester Legislator in District 17, which includes most of Southwest Yonkers. Democrat Legislator Jose Alvarado is being challenged by republican Jose Diaz.

This heavily democratic district usually does not have a republican opponent, but Diaz is running an active campaign. We asked Diaz to write about his campaign and why he is running.

"I am an American of Dominican origin, having become a United States citizen in 1996. I attended Mercy College for a period of almost four years, studying Computer science and programming languages. I also attended Westchester Community College, taking electronics and robotics classes. I made the decision to leave college to help my family financially.

"I have lived in Yonkers most of my life and I love the city I made my home for so many years. My decision to run for the office of Westchester County Legislator was due to my concerns with so many serious worsening problems in the 17th District.

"The 17th District has been inundated with illegal weapons and more control and interception of these illegal weapons are desperately needed. On April 20, 2022 a Yonkers police detective was shot, an incident that took place in the vicinity of Elm and Linden Streets. This detective suffered extensive internal injuries and almost died.

"The months of July and August of this year have seen an increase in shootings, stabbings and residential break-ins and burglaries. The problem of drug dealing has also increased significantly. We have a crisis with the selling and use of fentanyl, a very addictive and dangerous drug; we see drug addicts committing crimes to support their addiction, with many resorting to prostitution, becoming increasingly visible in the community. Many of those addicted can also be seen injecting their drugs openly in public places. It is demoralizing to the community overall and a significant public health issue.

"Yonkers has its own problem with active gangs, made worst by gang members from other municipalities and other areas. These gang members come to our city to start their initiation rituals and killings.

"There is an increase in homelessness in certain neighborhoods in this district, creating a health problem. There are often individuals blocking sidewalks, consuming alcohol in public areas, and defecating and urinating in public places.

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Mayor Spano, with girl scouts at City Hall

At a time when we see instability in the world, and dysfunction in Washington DC and in Albany, it's clear that in Yonkers, Mayor Mike Spano has been able to work with all Yonkers residents to move New York's 3rd largest City forward

Based on Spano's ability to control crime, improve education, and bring smart development that also provides affordable housing, we endorse Mayor Mike for reelection. Early voting starts on Oct. 28, and Election Day is Nov. 7.

When necessary to protect the people of Yonkers, Spano has stood up to people in his own party, like he did when he expressed his opinions on the need to change bail reform and change raise the age legislation, or when the City recently sued NYC and Mayor

Adams for housing migrants in a Yonkers hotel without paying occupancy tax to the City.

Stability and trust on critical issues like crime, education, taxes and development are the reasons why the people of Yonkers trust Spano to continue to

Yonkers is the safest large City in New York and the 8th Safest in the United States. Graduation rates continue to climb in the Yonkers Public Schools.

And with development has come affordable housing required with each project.

Mayor Spano has also kept his budgets under the tax cap for 11 of 12 years.

The financial condition of the City is the best it has been in many years.

The issue of term limits is also a part of this election. Spano is seeking a fourth, four-year term after the council made the change last year. When we speak to people in our travels around Yonkers delivering Yonkers Rising, very few put Term Limits at the top of their list. Crime, education and taxes are the three issues we hear most about.

Overall, the people are satisfied with Spano's performance and results as Mayor. They trust his judgement, his demeanor, and his management of the city

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Halloween Curfew for Yonkers -10-11PM



To provide for a safe and enjoyable holiday, Yonkers Mayor Mike Spano today announced that the Yonkers Police Department will issue a citywide curfew for children 16 years of age and younger on Halloween night – Tuesday, October 31.

"Every year I look forward to everyone having a good time on Halloween, a holiday that celebrates the spooky and the scary. That's why we are taking steps to ensure a safe and enjoyable night for our communities," said Mayor Spano. "The City will enforce its usual curfew for minors, and I urge residents to be careful – Halloween is a holiday that is meant to be fun, but you can do so while being safe. Make wise decisions for yourself and others."

Police Commissioner Christopher Sapienza stated, "We want all of our residents and visitors to be safe and have fun this Halloween. We ask the public to adhere to our guidelines for curfews and general Halloween safety. Additional units will be on the road to ensure the safety of everyone enjoying the holiday. If

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CSEE Artisans' Fair Commemorates Hispanic Heritage Month



Yonkers Mayor Mike Spano, center, with officials from the Charter School of Educational Excellence and participants in the school's annual Artisans Fair.

Local artists celebrated the creativity of the Puerto Rican community at the Charter School of Educational Excellence's fall Artisans' Fair.

Thirteen artisans from the Puerto Rican Institute for the Development of the Arts (PRIDA) displayed their creations at the school on Oct. 7 and they shared stories about their inspiration with the public.

"We asked PRIDA's members to participate in an artisan's fair because their mission is to promote and preserve folkloric traditions. One of the Charter School of Educational Excellence's goals is developing the whole child. That means giving our students exposure to traditions and expressions that are relevant to their cultures so that they feel inspired to learn and create," said Carmen Goldberg, the CSEE's director of government, parents and external relations.

The Artisans' Fair included performances by Puerto Rican Cuatro Player Luisito Rodriguez and his Cuatro Band along with dance presentations from Addietude Cultural Arts Center, the Mexican Cultural Committee, and the Dominican Cultural Association of Yonkers.

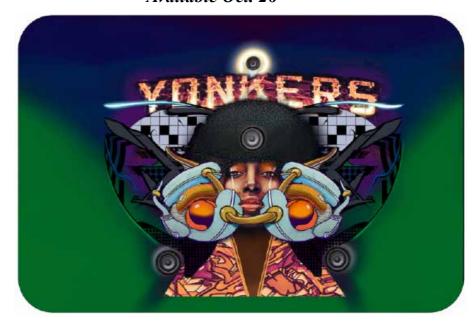
The event was part of the Charter School of Educational Excellence's continuing investment in the arts.

In May the school inaugurated 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. The new stage includes state-of-the-art audio-visual capacities and a large projection screen.

PRIDA grew out of an annual Puerto Rican Artisan Fair in New York City that is the largest such fair outside of Puerto Rico. The group's goals include opening new markets for Puerto Rican artists, promoting culture and advocating for arts funding.

Buying Comics!

Looking for 1960's-1990's I PAY CASH! Located in Yonkers Text or call Andrew at 914-646-1718. Yonkers Public Library Releases Limited Edition Library Card, Celebrates 50 Years of Hip Hop Available Oct. 26



On Thurs., Oct. 26, Yonkers Public Library (YPL) will release a limited edition library card in recognition of the 50th anniversary of hip hop. The card features art by Yonkers native and acclaimed street artist Daniel Hopkins (AKA Maxx Moses or Pose2) and will be available at all library locations.

The unveiling will be followed by a panel discussion with hip hop legends, including Ruff Ryder Founder Joaquin "Waah" Dean, Yonkers hip hop artist Large Amount, and Jerome "RawRome" Enders, author of Yonkers: The Lost City of Hip Hop.

"YPL recognizes hip hop to be a vital artform and an essential part of Yonkers culture and history. We're excited to celebrate its 50th anniversary with a fresh new library card designed by one of Yonkers' own and that reflects its energy and creativity," said Jesse Montero, library director.

The special edition card is titled The Sound of Light and features

imagery that is both futuristic yet grounded in the soulful roots in which hip-hop was founded upon. The patterns in the background and on the clothing are all derived from graffiti.

All Yonkers residents can request the special edition card when they apply for one at YPL.org while supplies last. All current cardholders can trade in their current card for a new card by visiting any of YPL's three locations.

"As an artist, I'm always desiring to create imagery that shows Black Culture thriving in the future while staying connected to art, science and nature, with style," said Moses. "This design for the library celebrates the next 50 years of hip hop, with an energy that's rooted in a culture Boombastic by nature and guided by the divine mind."

In partnership with Enders and Harold McKoy, CEO of Executive Branch Entertainment Group, the limited edition card is part of a larger series that highlights the role Yonkers played in helping to develop the culture and music of hip hop. Enders will moderate the panel discussion while intermittently reading excerpts from his book Yonkers: The Lost City of Hip Hop. Copies will be available to check out at the library and available for purchase at the event.

"The role of Yonkers hip-hop is intrinsically tied to its roots, as the early pioneers of Yonkers ventured back and forth to the Bronx, disseminating the culture within our city. Furthermore, our venues became a hub not only for local talent but also for practitioners from various places, who came to Yonkers to



The RESTORE TERM LIMITS CANDIDATE

MeranteForYonkers.com

Mayor Spano Asks Students at School 9 to Sign Pledge 182



Mayor Mike Spano watches School 9 students in signing Pledge 182. (Photo Credit: Maurice Mercado/City of Yonkers)

In an effort to improve academic readiness, Yonkers Mayor Mike Spano and Yonkers Public Schools held an assembly at School 9 and asked Yonkers students to participate in the Pledge 182 campaign, in which students commit to attend school every day and on time.

"Education is the cornerstone of our future, and every day missed in school is a missed opportunity for growth," said Mayor Spano. "In Yonkers, we believe in nurturing the potential of every child. Regular school attendance is not just a legal requirement; it's a chance for our children to learn, explore, and prepare for a prosperous future. Collectively, let's ensure every child in Yonkers has the opportunity to succeed by prioritizing school attendance."

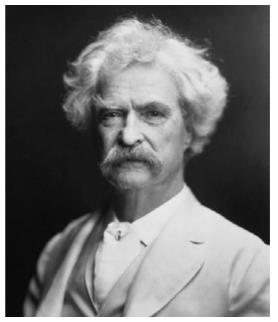
Research has shown that students who miss 10% of the school year (18 days or 2 days per month) are not as academically successful through their school years and have a more difficult time graduating. Starting as early as Kindergarten, chronic absenteeism can cause a student to fall behind in school. In fact, chronic absenteeism, missing 18 days or more, can make it more difficult for children to learn to read and develop fundamental math skills.

'The Mayor's Pledge 182 Campaign has been a big success in the Yonkers Public Schools. For example, last year the Mayor called on the students of the Martin Luther King, Jr. Academy to increase their attendance rate, and they did. In just one year, the data showed that the attendance rate increased to 90%," noted Interim Superintendent of Schools Dr. Luis Rodriguez. "I believe it is incredibly important for our students to make the connection between attendance, social and emotional success, and academic achievement in the classroom. I am grateful for the Mayor's efforts on this initiative. I am looking forward to celebrating with the students of School 9 in June, when they too meet and hopefully exceed the Mayor's challenge."

Mayor Spano challenged the students of School 9, urging them to sign the pledge and promised to return in June and give a pizza party to the students who achieve a perfect attendance during the 2023-2024 academic school year.

Visit us online at Yonkerstimes.com

On This Day in Yonkers History...



Mark Twain lived in Yonkers for a year

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

Monday, October 30th

October 30, 1919: The Knights of Columbus held a benefit dance at St. Mary's for their proposed veterans' home; noted song writer Victor Nurnberg introduced several of his latest hits, sung by New York City singers A. Mac Alanen and Ralph Conlon. Parishioners of Sacred Heart held a benefit at the Chippewa Club to support the effort; these two events brought the total of pledges to \$76,000.

October 30, 1943: Cliffcrest at 523 Riverdale Avenue, once rented by Mark Twain and his family for a year, was formally dedicated as a home for seamen of the United Nations. The new unit, run by the Manhattan unit of the American Women's Hospitals Reserve Corps (AWHRC), was named the Gloryhole. The historic house was converted into a modern country home to provide rest and recreation for seamen on sick leave or furlough. Major Rosalind Cowen, Director of the AWHRC, officiated at the ceremony; William Ruxton, former president of the British-American Ambulance Corps, was master of ceremonies.

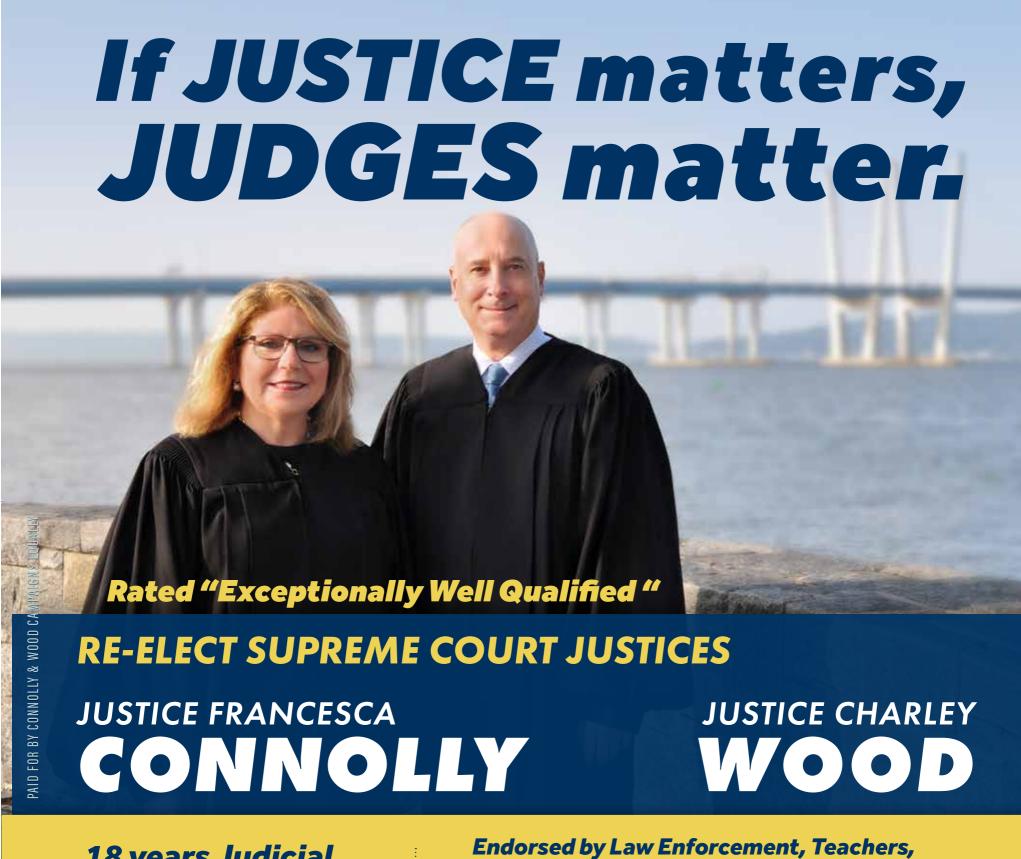
Tuesday, October 31st

October 31, 1912: Mrs. Corinne Knickerbocker presented a life-size bust of George Washington to Mayor Lennon for the City of Yonkers. Created by the late Wilson MacDonald, it was a replica of Houdon's life mask of Washington, molded directly from Washington's face in 1785. MacDonald made many castings of this bust, numbered them and wrote on the back, "This is a mathematical reduction of the original Life Mask Bust of Washington, sworn to by Wilson MacDonald, Copyright 1899, The Menry-Bonnard Bronze Co, Founders NY 1899."

October 31, 1935: An earthquake that shook 17 states and Eastern Canada hit Yonkers. Although no real damage resulted from the quivers felt in

Yonkers, thousands jumped out of bed in panic. October 31, 1945: A bit of role playing by a victim led to a bandit incriminating

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18 years Judicial

Experience each

Labor, Black Democrats of Westchester,

Hispanic Democrats of Weschester and more

FRIDAY OCTOBER 27, 2023- WESTCHESTER'S MOST INFLUENTIAL NEWSPAPERS -PAGE 4

We Endorse: Judge Karen Beltran & Judge Arthur Doran III for Yonkers City Court

Yonkers Rising and Yonkerstimes.com endorses City Court Judge Karen Beltran and City Court Judge Arthur Doran III. Both are sitting judges on the Yonkers Court and in our view, deserve to continue their service to the city.

Judge Karen Beltran was sworn in on Feb. of 2023 to the Yonkers City Court. She has served as President of the Yonkers Council of PTAs which serves the 40 PTA units within the Yonkers Public School District,

Beltran came to this country at the age of 7. She is a thoughtful and driven Judge and Yonkers resident. Beltran is true and authentic-she even challenged Mayor Mike Spano a few years ago. Hard working and intelligent, Beltran has already impressed on the City bench.

Beltran has been campaigning across the city, in a thoughtful way befitting a Judge. The interactions with the public are important, so that if they have to appear before her someday, they will know who is she.

Judge Arthur Doran III, has been Chief Judge of the Yonkers City Court, since 2021. He has served as a City Court Judge, since 2004, and as a Drug Court Judge, since 2008.

Judge Doran brings a lifetime of service to Yonkers. His father served as a Yonkers Judge for decades. Judge Doran reminds us that the City Court, "is a place where members of our community first become acquainted with the judicial system, and where they come seeking respect, consideration, and justice regardless of their race, religion or socio-economic status. I am proud to have served on the court for over twenty years"

There is no reason to look for another candidate for City Court Judge. Both Judge Beltran and Judge Doran bring integrity to their positions and are wisely and fairly presiding over the City Court.

Nick Sperenza is the republican candidate for City Court. We were recently sent information about Sperenza concerning an election lawsuit filed against him when he was collecting signatures attempting to get on the democratic party line for Judge this year, The court transcript reads that both Judge Doran and Judge Beltran, "my clients (Doran and Beltran) were very concerned about making a fraud allegation against a person who's running for Judge and who's an attorney. And for all of the consequences that could happen and they were hesitant to do that, except that the evidence was so compelling. There's the video evidence.

Tanika Smith submitted an affidavit, "she was asked by Nick Speranza if she was a Democrat and if she would sign the petition and she knew Karen Beltran. Karen Beltran came to her wedding. They have family friends. They have children the same age and they know each other. And she'll testify that she told Mr. Speranza, well, I know Karen and she's running for Judge, some kind of Judge, and she will testify and it's in her affidavit that Mr. Speranza said to her, oh, well I'm running with Karen Beltran and you can vote for us both. And he also said that he was a democrat in that conversation."

Sperenza testified that he was a democrat for the last three elections and then changed registration to a republican this year.

We endorse Judge Karen Beltran and Judge Arthur Doran for Yonkers City Court. Early voting starts on Oct. 28 and Election Day in Nov. 7.

PUBLIC NOTICE

A Local Law amending Chapter 85 entitled, "Forfeiture of Vehicles in Connection With Criminal Acts" in relation to forfeiture of vehicles attempting to evade police officers.

Notice is hereby given that the City Council of the City of Yonkers has adopted the abovementioned legislation that provides a means for the City to seize and subsequently seek the forfeiture of vehicles used in the attempt to flee/evade police officers to reduce and eliminate the occurrences of high-speed chases or dangers involving police chases within the City of Yonkers.

The penalties for offenses pursuant to this ordinance are as follows:

A civil action seeking forfeiture brought pursuant to this section shall be commenced in the County of Westchester within sixty (60) days after such person has been convicted of any offense arising out of his or her arrest or summons under section eleven hundred eighty-two of the Vehicle and Traffic Law, if brought pursuant to subsection A. of this section, or within sixty (60) days after such person has been convicted of any offense arising out of his or her arrest or summons under sections 270.25, 270.30, or 270.35 of the Penal Law, if brought pursuant to subsection B. of this section. The Yonkers Police Department shall make a timely notification to the Office of the Corporation Counsel regarding such conviction, or other disposition of the applicable criminal action or proceeding regarding such person.

The complete text of the ordinance is on file and may be examined at the Office of the City Clerk, City Hall, 40 S. Broadway, Yonkers, NY 10701.

Dated: October 25, 2023 Vincent Spano City Clerk

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Letters to the Editor:

Dear Friends and Neighbors,

Once again, I am asking for your vote!

I served on the Westchester County Board from 2020 to 2022, during the worst global pandemic in a century. Westchester elected officials worked collaboratively with businesses and local municipalities to keep residents safe and businesses open. As we rebuild, it's a good time to consider why your vote in local elections truly matters.

My record is strong on the climate, public health (including reproductive health), and gun violence prevention, three priorities that closely align with the majority of voters in this district as well as with our youngest generation of voters.

Working with other legislators and County Executive George Latimer's great team, I was able to advocate for funding for important Yonkers community benefit organizations doing work in youth employment, flood mitigation, pollinator pathways and Black maternal health. Partnering with our terrific state legislators, Senators Andrea Stewart-Cousins and Senator Shelley Mayer, I was able to advocate for gun safety legislation and noise mitigation legislation.

My family and I are small businessowners. Dobbs & Bishop Fine Cheese (in Bronxville and soon Scarsdale) is a local institution for 14 years. I am the mom of two amazing young scientists and I've been married to a newly sworn-in American, Kevin McNeill, for 29 years.

I'm a hard worker and my record of service to the residents of Bronxville and Yonkers is strong. I served on 6 committees during my term, and I continue to serve on several important boards, notably the Westchester County Cybersecurity Task Force (as Chair), the Bronx River Parkway Reservation Conservancy, and the Foundation for Yonkers Public Library. I'm past Board member of Groundwork Hudson Valley as well as former Court Clerk in the Bronxville Justice Court, former President of the Bronxville Library Board of Trustees and former PTA member.

The election is November 7th at your regular polling location. You can also vote early starting on October 28, 2023 at the Yonkers Riverfront or Yonkers Will Library on Central Park Avenue.

When we say Vote your Values and Local Elections Matter, we urge you

When we say Vote your Values and Local Elections Matter, we urge you not to sit this one out! Vote for Ruth as your next Westchester County Legislator! Ruth Walter

YONKERS MAN SENTENCED TO 9 YEARS FOR DRUG TRAFFICKING

Philadelphia to Yonkers Cocaine Route Closed; 3 Kilos and \$300k Cash Found Stashed in Yonkers Apartment

Westchester County District Attorney Miriam E. Rocah announced prison sentences for three defendants convicted of illegal narcotics possession and interstate drug trafficking, with an additional sentence for one of the defendants who investigators discovered had videos and images of children engaged in sexual acts on his cell phone.

DA Rocah said: "The successful prosecution of these cases reflect our strong commitment to removing drug traffickers from our communities and securing a sense of safety in our neighborhoods. This is a result of yet another strong partnership with our federal, state and local law enforcement on cracking down on the flow of illegal narcotics from out of state, and also the intra-office collaboration between investigations and cybercrimes to identify someone who also posed a threat to children."

A six-month multi-agency investigation that began in February 2022 focused on the illegal possession and trafficking of cocaine from Philadelphia to Yonkers between the three defendants. The High Technology Crimes Squad of the DA's Office conducted a forensic analysis of the defendants' cell phones and discovered text message photos of drug sales, including images of cash and cocaine worth more than \$1 million, which demonstrated the role of the defendants in this crime.

Christian Miranda, 34 of Yonkers, was sentenced on June 5 before Judge James McCarty to nine years in state prison, with five years of post-release supervision, after pleading guilty to Operating as a Major Trafficker and Criminal Possession of a Controlled Substance in the First Degree. The defendant was arrested on Aug. 2, 2022, along with Rivera, by the DEA's New York Drug Enforcement Task Force (DETF-13), which recovered three kilograms of cocaine and more than \$300,000 hidden in furniture at their Yonkers apartment.

Marco Rivera, 31 of Philadelphia, was sentenced on Sept. 28 before Judge Robert Neary to 12 years in state prison, with five years of post-release supervision. Following a three-week trial, a jury on May 11 found the defendant guilty of Criminal Possession of a Controlled Substance in the First Degree and Criminal Possession of a Controlled Substance in the Third Degree.

In addition to his drug conviction and sentence, the defendant was also sentenced on Oct. 19 before Judge Susan Cacace to an indeterminate term of 1 1/3 to four years in state prison for his guilty plea to three counts of Possessing an Obscene Sexual Performance by a Child. This follows a 57-count indictment by a Westchester County Grand Jury in March for Possessing an Obscene Sexual Performance by a Child stemming from DA's Office forensic investigators discovering multiple videos and files of children engaged in sexual acts on the defendant's cell phone. The court decided both sentences will run concurrently.

Mark Figueroa, 61 of Brooklyn, was sentenced on June 8 before Judge McCarty to six years in state prison, with two years of post-release supervision, after pleading guilty to Criminal Possession of a Controlled Substance in the Third Degree. DETF-13 arrested the defendant and recovered an additional four kilograms of cocaine inside his car following a drug exchange with Miranda on Nepperhan Street in Yonkers.







Curfew continued from pg 1-

you run into our Officers, say hello! Don't hesitate to approach any of our Officers in the event that you need any kind of assistance. We, as always, are here to help." As part of the curfew, the Yonkers Police Department advises:

- Children ages 11 and younger must be home by 10PM
- Children ages 12 to 13 must be home by 10:30PM
- Children ages 14 to 16 must be home by 11PM

Exceptions include:

- Accompanied by parent or guardian.
- On an errand with parental permission, with prior notice to YPD Community Affairs Division – 914-377-7293
- ½ hour after the end of school, religious and volunteer public entertainment -- no later than 12:30AM unless police are notified by host organization 24 hours in
- ½ hour after work -- with proof from Employee
- All youngsters 16 and under not subject to curfew if on or immediately next to their home (and if neighbor does not object)

Violators of the curfew will be taken to the nearest Yonkers Police Precinct, and parent/guardian will be notified. For more information about the Halloween curfew, contact the Yonkers Police Department at 914-377-7293.

Following are Halloween safety tips issued by the City of Yonkers for parents, children & residents:

Parents

- Do not leave children unattended.
- Know the route your child will travel and give him or her curfew.
- -Be sure children can see through their masks. Costumes should be easy to see, either made from light colors or marked for nighttime with reflective tape.
- Dispose of unwrapped candy and only keep factory-wrapped treats.
- To help plan a safe route, you can see registered sex offenders on a Crime Map by selecting the appropriate filter in the map's menu https://bit.ly/YPDCrimeMap
- Avoid trick-or-treating alone. Try to walk in groups.
- Don't eat anything from a trick-or-treat bag before your parents have looked at it
- Enter homes only if you're with a trusted adult.
- Walk on sidewalks when possible and face traffic to stay safe.
- Stay away from dark streets and buildings -- only visit well-lit homes.
- Drive slowly and be alert in residential neighborhoods. Children are excited about
- Halloween and may move in unpredictable ways. - Turn your headlights on earlier in the day to spot children from great distances.
- Popular trick-or-treating hours are 5:30PM to 9:30PM, so please be aware.





Early Voting Locations & Times in Yonkers

The League of Women Voters of the Rivertowns wants to remind everyone to vote! For all voting information go to Vote411.org. Here are some highlights.

Early voting is from October 28 to November 5, and Election Day is November 7. Westchester residents can go to any of 24 early voting sites in Westchester.

The three early voting sites in Yonkers are:

Grinton I. Will Library, 1500 Central Park Avenue, Yonkers, NY 10710

Nodine Hill Community Center, 140 Fillmore Street, Yonkers, NY 10701

Yonkers Riverfront Library, One Larkin Center, Yonkers, NY 10701

Early voting hours at any site in Westchester are as follows: Saturday, October 28, 2023 from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Sunday, October 29, 2023 from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Monday, October 30, 2023 from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Tuesday, October 31, 2023 from noon to 8 p.m. Wednesday, November 1, 2023 from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Thursday, November 2, 2023 from noon to 8 p.m. Friday, November 3, 2023 from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday, November 4, 2023 from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Sunday, November, 5, 2023 from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.

Voting hours on Election Day, November 7, 2023, are 6 a.m. to 9 p.m. Oct. 28, 2023 is the last day voter registration forms may be received at the Westchester County Board of Elections, which is located at 25 Quarropas Street, White Plains, NY 10601.

Nov. 7, 2023 is the last day to postmark an absentee ballot by mail. The ballot must be received by the Board of Elections no later than Nov. 14, 2023. Just a reminder:

Vote411.org is the League of Women Voters' online voter guide, replacing the paper version.

Spano endorsement, continued from pg 1-

with no drama.

The overall quality of life for the people in Yonkers has improved over the past 12 years, and unlike other communities, Yonkers has not seen problems with crime or other quality of life issues.

Yes, Yonkers has its share of problems. But overall, Mike Spano has done something most elected officials can't do; Govern in a bi-partisan manner and put the interests of the people first.

Spano's opponent is republican Councilman Anthony Merante. Merante has run an active campaign and should be commended for giving the voters a Merante has had difficulty walking the fine line between criticizing the mayor

for his decisions when, as a member of the City Council, Merante supported many of those initiatives and budgets. Merante has served on the council as a fiscal watchdog, and we look forward

to him continuing in that role. During the last debate, Merante pointed to his achievements as taking down

trees and filing potholes. While these are good accomplishments for a council member, we had hoped for more of a vision for the city.

We thank Merante for the opportunity to highlight his campaign.

But Mayor Spano has proven himself to the voters as an effective, reasonable leader of New York's third largest city. His overall interest is the people of Yonkers. We see the future of Yonkers in stable hands with the reelection of Mayor Mike Spano.





Salvation Army Yonkers Citadel Corps Holds Annual Dinner at Dunwoodie County Club



The Salvation Army Yonkers Citadel Corps, held hits annual dinner last Thursday, October 12th, at the Dunwoodie Country Club, honoring Yancy Carrasco, a technical project manager at Akamai Technologies, and Wilson Soto, a police officer with the Metropolitan Transportation Authority. Carrasco and Soto were chosen as this year's honorees based on their years of service to the community. Carrasco has volunteered hours of service to several organizations, including Fordham's Campus Ministry, Habitat for Humanity and Circle K International. Soto has been an MTA police officer for the past 28 years

Mark Fang

. He is the head advisor to the MTA's Exploring Youth Program. The dinner was widely attended and hosted by Geoffrey and Marisabel Swires, both Majors in the Salvation Army and leaders of the Salvation Army's Yonkers office. Mayor Mike Spano and Assemblyman Nader Sayegh were in attendance and gave proclamations to the Citadel Corps and the honorees.

The keynote speaker for the evening was Mark Fang, executive director of the City of Yonkers Commission on Human Rights and a former Director of the Westchester County Department of Consumer Protection and the County's Human Rights Commission. Fang, a veteran and Lieutenant Colonel in the United States Army Reserves, praised the faith-based work of the Salvation Army and likened his years as an Army reservist to the work of the Salvation Army corps: "I have loved being a soldier in the Reserves for basically my whole adult life, and I bet you as well love being soldiers. As the Reservist is a Citizen-Soldier, you are all Christian-Soldiers, Fang said." In his speech, Fang reflected on the March 2021 hate crime attack in which an elderly Asian woman was badly beaten in the vestibule of her Riverdale Avenue apartment building by Tamil Esco, who called the woman an "Asian Bitch," in the course of his relentless and brutal assault of her. Esco later entered a plea of guilty to assault as a hate crime and sentenced to a term of imprisonment of 17 years, for which Fang praised Westchester County District Attorney Mimi Rocah for bringing justice to Esco that was "swift and certain." Fang closed with a poignant and thought provoking reflection on hate crimes and, more basically, the nature of hate:

"What really sticks out most in my mind about this hate crime attack was what Mayor Mike Spano said on the steps of City Hall at news conference with the Fillipine Consul and other community leaders. What he said was something very profound, and clearly from the heart. What he said was to the effect of: "We can put more police on the streets; we can have special patrols; we can put up cameras; etc., but we can't change what's here (pointing to his heart). We can't change the heart." But what was the Mayor saying? What did he mean? What he was saying is that when it comes to hate and racism, of course law enforcement and bringing offenders to justice is important, but as a society it can only take us so far. We need to go beyond this.

We need to build a society based on love, charity, grace, our common humanity, and if I dare say—on Faith. All of the things, cornerstone principles of the Salvation Army. Our world is obviously broken. We need to double down on our Faith, on the principles that have made the Salvation Army such an enduring organization, we need you more than ever."

Target, continued from pg 1-

The hours for Yonkers Target are Sunday through Monday, from 8 a.m. to 10 p.m. A 40-year lease agreement with Marx Realty is good news for the retail industry and good news for Yonkers, with 290 jobs created with this newest Target in Westchester.

"We're excited to bring the joy of Target to new guests and help them discover a unique shopping experience tailored to the needs of the Yonkers community," Store Director Rafael Martinez said. "We offer a wide assortment of Target's top owned and national brands spanning essentials, pet merchandise and much more, as well as a convenient CVS pharmacy and Starbucks location. Guests can also shop on their own terms with our easy, contactless and industry-leading Drive Up, Order Pickup, and same-day delivery with Shipt services – ready within a couple of hours with no membership required for the easiest shopping experience in retail."

Yonkers has hit the mark with Target's plan for a new store at Cross County Center," he said. "Target's decision to invest in our city is a testament to the retailer's confidence in our thriving economy and our business-friendly environment."

Martinez is a Yonkers resident who grew up coming to the Cross County Center all

of the time. He has decided to raise a family and stay in Yonkers.

Mayor Mike Spano talked about how the new Target will offer Yonkers residents like Martinez jobs and a future. "The people of Yonkers couldn't be more proud and more excited. The people in the region are going to come here and are going to make this part of their experience. This is what's great about Yonkers. They have 300 employees, many of them from Yonkers, including the store director, Rafael Martinez. I'm told Target is somewhat magical...you can't go in there and buy one thing? Is that true?

Customers will be able to add Starbucks menu items to their Drive-Up order and have it delivered to their car for free. "Our guests have long told us Drive Up is a gamechanger, adding convenience to their daily life, especially when they're short on time," said Mark Schindele, chief stores officer, Target. "We've continued listening to our guests, who've told us overwhelmingly that Drive Up with Starbucks would bring even more ease and joy to every Target run. This one-of-a-kind service — available only at Target — is the latest example of how we're innovating every day to meet the needs of our guests."

Target is kicking off the holiday toy shopping season by offering thousands of affordable, trendy toys and games under \$25 across its broad assortment, making it the onestop toy destination for every family and budget this holiday season.

The retailer is also unveiling its most affordable Bullseye's Top Toys list ever and new exclusives through collaborations with beloved brands Disney and FAO Schwarz. The debut of a new, immersive 360° shoppable experience on Target.com will give both kids and gift-givers a fun way to shop and virtually interact with the Top Toys list and other toy



Incumbent State Supreme Court Judges Connolly and Wood Deserve Your Vote

Westchester voters will be asked to elect four candidates to serve on the NYS Supreme Court in the 9th Judicial District, on Nov. 7 and in early voting starting Oct. 28. Eight candidates are on the ballot: four democrats, Justice Fran Connolly, Justice Charley Wood, Judge Rolf Thorsen and Judge Larry Schwartz

And four republicans John Sarcone, Judge Karen Ostberg, Judge Susan Sullivan, and John Ciampoli.

As early voting begins this week, we can announce our endorsement for two of the four Supreme Court candidates right now: They are incumbent State Supreme Court Judges Fran Connolly and State Supreme Court Judge Charley Wood. Both, in our view, deserve your vote and deserve reelection.

We endorse Connolly and Wood because both are sitting State Supreme Court Judges, and both have been rated Exceptionally Well Qualified by the Westchester Bar Association, and received the highest ranking, from the other county bar associations in the 9th JD.

Judge Wood have the experience of presiding over both criminal and civil cases, and have excellent reputations of serving in a fair manner before thousands of residents and attorneys who have come before them. While there are other Judges also running, the experience that both Connolly and

After serving 14 years on the State Supreme Court both Judge Connolly and

Wood have is what we would like to see continue. Qualification matter, and Connolly and Wood have the best qualifications to continue to serve the residents of Westchester.

Both Connolly and Wood are Westchester residents, and we believe that Justice Matters so Judges Matter.

We endorse Justice Fran Connolly and Justice Charley Wood for reelection to the State Supreme Court, 9th Judicial District.

Jose Diaz continued from pg 1-

The bail reform changes only worsened the effects of the serious crimes in the 17th District.

There are still problems with odors emanating from the Yonkers waste water and sewage plant. The odors released by the plant contain airborne bacteria and germs, which can affect people with compromised immune systems. Many of the residents still complain despite the millions of dollars spent to mitigate the problem.

The people of the city of Yonkers want change. The current legislator forgot that he is a public official accountable to the people he represents, not to the status quo. More than a decade ago it was reported that Jose Alvarado was appointed to the position of Yonkers City Clerk, apparently neglecting to inform City Hall that he already had a fulltime job in the private sector. He also apparently used the city vehicle assigned to him to commute to his OTHER full-time job. It is time for change. I will be the representative the people of the 17th District deserve," writes Diaz.

Yonkers history continued from pg 3-

himself! Detectives William Harding and Louis Ligay caught William Holmes with a loaded revolver at the USO the day before. They told butcher shop owner Angelo Colacurcio to dress and act like a plainclothes policeman, walk into the Detective Division and hand Harding a typewritten paper, saying, "You left this downstairs." Harding thanked him, calling him Tom. To everyone's astonishment, Holmes shouted, "Cut out the comedy! His name ain't Tom. He's the guy we stuck up!"

Wednesday, November 1st

November 1, 1899: The November Argosy featured the opening chapters of "The American Syndicate," a novel by Frederick Burton of Yonkers. The story tells the experiences of a New Yorker who heads to Puerto Rico with \$33 in his pocket and a signboard to undertakes big business schemes.

November 1, 1913: The Yonkers Camera Club opened its new clubrooms in the Hollywood Inn, fully equipped with a dark room and other photographic facilities.

November 1, 1929: Overcome by her admiration for Alvin "Shipwreck" Kelly's pluck, a twenty-two-year-old telephone operator prevailed upon the flagpole sitter's attendants to hoist her up to his side on top of the Proctor Building and rewarded him with a kiss, while the crowd below cheered.

Thursday, November 2nd

November 2, 1925: Yonkers offered to settle a tax lien of \$36,991 for \$17,000 plus arrears of taxes on the William Boyce Thompson Institute of Plant Research.

November 2, 1927: Fire destroyed one of the few remaining farmhouses in Yonkers. The fire left the house at // Mile Square Road in ruins; the only animal on the farm was rescued, a cow owned by Louis Tishkowitz.

Friday, November 3rd

November 3, 1919: The total collected for the K of C Memorial Hut Drive for wounded veterans rose to more than \$81,000; the campaign was halted until November 11th, so the drive would not compete with the Red Cross Roll Call for membership.

November 2, 1926: Yonkers voters indicated by a ratio of five-to-one they favored modification of the Prohibition Amendment. 15,499 voted in favor of change, while 3,630 voted against it.

November 3, 1935: More than half of the 60,000 registered Yonkers voters had cast their ballot by noon.

Saturday, November 4th

November 19, 1919: Yonkers Superintendent of Buildings announced he had received a request to rent the old Armory Building from Wilbur Dyer & Company; they offered \$3600 annually for a four-year-lease. The Committee on Public Buildings would study the offer, and report back.

November 4, 1944: City Manager William Walsh refused to resign his position; three council members—Mayor Curtiss Frank and Councilmembers Edith Welty and John Whalen—had offered him the choice of resigning or face termination for what they called his lack of "energetic approach to municipal budgets." Walsh told them they should, "Take the usual procedure, as I want to tell the whole world about this, and I certainly intend to do so."

Sunday, November 5th

November 5, 1923: Yonkers Communists ran their red flag and banner over our City Hall in the dead of night; their banner commanded "Cash relief. Vote Communist!"

November 5, 1936: Justice William F. Bleakley of Yonkers suffered a defeat in his run for governor as a record shattering New York vote for President Roosevelt swept Governor Herbert Lehman back into office.

November 5, 1942: Approximately two hundred workers on two 10-hour shifts at the Arthur G. Blair shipyards on Alexander Street began converting a 225-foot ship for war use. The ship would be protected against magnetic mines.

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 emailinfo@yonkershistoricalsociety.org.



PAGE 7 - YONKERS RISING - FRIDAY OCTOBER 20, 2023

Fall Hudson Valley Restaurant Week Kicks Off Oct. 30

Fall 2023 Hudson Valley Restaurant Week has arrived. A record number of Westchester restaurants are participating in this semiannual celebration of the booming culinary scene. Over 70 eateries from all corners of the County have joined in the excitement.

County Executive George Latimer said: "Hudson Valley Restaurant Week is always a fan favorite. What a great reason to get out and try a new Westchester restaurant or gather with loved ones at an old favorite. I encourage both residents and visitors to make their reservations and enjoy all Westchester has to offer this season."

Director of Westchester County Tourism and Film, Natasha Caputo said: "Hudson Valley Restaurant Week is the ticket to a very special fall culinary experience, and the convenience of the Metro-North network into Westchester County makes it easy to participate. During this season of crisp air and vibrant foliage, we encourage people to dig into the rich flavors and warm hospitality of Westchester's local restaurants – many of whom are recognized by Michelin for offering great food at an incredible value."

Catherine Rinaldi, Metro-North President and Long Island Rail Road Interim President said: "Whether you're trying a new restaurant nearby or planning a weekend getaway on one of our Leaf Peeper trains, the MTA can take you there. Metro-North provides a seamless connection for New Yorkers to experience everything the Hudson Valley and the region have to offer."

Mike Martinelli, Today Media's Hudson Valley Group Publisher said: "Embrace the flavors of Westchester as we invite you to join in the culinary celebration of the upcoming Hudson Valley Restaurant Week. Discover delectable three-course menus at special discounted prices, all while supporting the thriving heartbeat of our community. These establishments not only offer a delightful array of flavors but also fuel economic prosperity, ensuring a vibrant gathering space for all."

More than 130 restaurants, spanning seven counties across the Hudson Valley are participating in this bi-annual celebration. For two delicious weeks, from October 30 through November 12, the Hudson Valley will be celebrating restaurant dining with delicious, creative dishes featuring locally sourced ingredients. Prix-fixe lunches and dinners will be offered at \$24.95, \$29.95, \$39.95 or \$44.95. (Pricing does not include tax, beverages, or gratuity.) Prix-fixe menus may be offered for both dine-in and takeout.

Make sure to check out HVRW newcomers Argonne Rose Brewing Company, Mohegan Lake; Bistro de Ville, Scarsdale; Goosefeather, Tarrytown; Our Place, Yorktown Heights; Red Horse by David Burke, White Plains; The Tav'ery, Bronx-ville; Wicked Wolf North, Yonkers, among others.

The complete list of restaurants and menus can be found at valleytable.com/hvrw. Reservations are suggested as space fills quickly.

Hip-Hop Library Card continued from pg 2-

showcase their art," said Enders.

"For the Yonkers Public Library to memorialize, recognize, and celebrate our community's contributions, especially through educational programs like Yonkers The Lost City of Hip-Hop, is not just a way to honor our past but a vital means to inspire our future," said McKoy. "By acknowledging the rich tapestry of our history and culture, we empower the next generation with the KNOWLEDGE, WISDOM, UNDERSTANDING, pride, and sense of identity that fosters innovation, unity, and a brighter future for Yonkers."







Notice of Formation of RyPlunk LLC Arts. Of Org. filed with SSNY on 7/28/2023. Office location: Westchester County. SSNY designated as agent of the LLC upon whom process may be served. SSNY shall mail process to the LLC, 104 Seminary Avenue, Yonkers, NY 10704. Purpose: any lawful act or activity.

Notice of Formation of Pro-Ductiv Exhaust System Services LLC. Articles of Organization filed with the Secretary of State of New York (SSNY) on (09/04/2023). Location: (Westchester County). SSNY designated as agent for service of process on LLC. SSNY shall mail a copy of process to: (70 Hillside Avenue Apt. 1R, Yonkers, NY 10703). Purpose: Any lawful purpose

Notice of formation of GLOW N GLAMOUR LLC. Art. of Org. filed with the Sec of State of NY (SSNY) on 9/14/2023. Office location, County of Westchester. SSNY has been designated as agent of the LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process served to:, c/o Faisal Butt - 117 Wickes Ave., Yonkers, NY 10701. Purpose: any lawful act.

Formation of 25 COUNTY ROUTE 62 LLC filed with the Secy. of State of NY (SSNY) on 10/6/2023. Office loc.: Westchester County. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. The principal business loc. and address SSNY shall mail process to is Floann and Raymond Landeck, 79 Pembrook Dr., Yonkers, NY 10710. Purpose: Any lawful activity.

Notice of Formation of Hanyst RX Consulting LLC. Arts. of Org. filed with SSNY on 9/2/23. Office Location: Westchester County. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process may be served. SSNY shall mail process to 35 Florence Street, Yonkers, NY 10704. Purpose: Pharmacy Consulting

Classifieds

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Notice of formation of a Limited Liability Company ENH Assets Limited Liability Company Articles of Organization filed with the SSNY Office on 10/28/22 Office Location: Westchester County. SSNY has been designated as agent of the LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail a copy of process to: ENH Assets Limited Liability Company 465 Tuckahoe Road #1189 Yonkers, NY 10710 Purpose: Any lawful purpose.



IGT Donates 13 Computers for YPIE Students



Jeff Hecht, IGT New York Marketing and Corporate Accounts Manager with a YPIE student

donation of 13 state-of-the-art computers to support YPIE programs celebrated

On Oct. 24, leaders from International Game Technology (IGT) and Yonkers Partners in Education (YPIE) gathered to celebrate IGT's donation of computer equipment as part of its global After School Advantage program. This advanced technology will enhance YPIE's after school programs, including the YPIE Scholars and YPIE Fellows programs, which prepare Yonkers students for success in college and beyond.

YPIE provides individualized academic instruction, coaching and mental health counseling, and support through college to ensure student success beyond the classroom. Students will use the donated equipment to help navigate the college application process and enhance their academic skills.

"Navigating the path to college can sometimes be a challenge for our students," said Yonkers Mayor Mike Spano. "Thanks to IGT's generous investment in YPIE students, we can better support them on their journey to success. Congrats to all and I wish our aspiring college students all the best with their future endeavors."

"This new technology provided by IGT is critical to supporting YPIE students on their path to college," said Sam Wallis, YPIE Executive Director. "We're grateful to IGT for ensuring that Yonkers high school students have online access to college applications, financial aid information, academic resources, internship opportunities, and other information necessary to stay on track for a college degree."

"IGT recognizes the critical importance of after school programs and commends YPIE for its strong focus on preparing students for college and career success," said Jeff Hecht, IGT New York Marketing and Corporate Accounts Manager. "For nearly 25 years, IGT's After School Advantage program has helped thousands of young people access the most advanced technology and learning resources. IGT's donation to YPIE will enable students to develop key skills, navigate the college application process, and prepare themselves for professional opportunities in the future."

Mayor Spano, YPIE, and IGT were joined by Yonkers City Council Majority Leader Tasha Diaz (District 3), Council Member Shanae V. Williams (District 1), Council Member Anthony J. Merante (District 6), Commissioner of Information Technology for the City of Yonkers Bob Cacace, and Director of Guidance & Counseling for Yonkers Public Schools Idalia N. Aguero, MS. Ed.

To learn more about IGT's After School Advantage program, visit IGT.com

County Executive Latimer Fight Influenza & COVID-19 By Getting Both Vaccines



Westchester County Executive George Latimer gets vaccine from Westchester Health Commissioner Dr. Sherlita Amler

County Executive George Latimer rolled up his sleeves for a flu shot and an updated COVID-19 vaccine at the Westchester County Department of Health clinic in White Plains. Urging residents to follow his lead, Latimer said: "Schedule your flu and COVID-19 shots today, for yourself and your children. The flu can be miserable, and this vaccine offers the best protection we have throughout flu season."

Flu and COVID-19 vaccines are available for a fee for people with insurance at many pharmacists and medical offices. To find a vaccine near you, go to https://www.vaccines.gov.



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Eagle Scout Ceremony Makes Yonkers Proud



Note: We received this from Yonkers VFW Post 1066:

NOVEMBER 7TH

FIND ON LINES A or C

I had the great privilege last week to attend the Boy Scout Troop 102 Eagle Scout Court of Honor. This event, which was held in the Aisling Irish Community Center on McLean Ave, reemphasized why I love my city. The room was packed to honor four incredible young men: Keegan Farrell, Sean Flanagan, Sean McKenna and Patrick Sullivan. These four young man had met the highest achievement rank attainable in the Scouts, Eagle Scout. This is an achievement that less than 4% of any scout ever reaches.

I was there as a representative of The Veterans of Foreign Wars to present these young men with VFW Certificates of Recognition for their attainment of the rank of Eagle Scout. I am so incredibly grateful to have had that opportunity. The relationship between the VFW and the BSA goes back more than a hundred years, with both of our organizations' missions involving True Patriotism, Community Service and strong moral character.

As I looked around the crowd I was surrounded by some of the best people a person could ever know. Among the families were some people that I have known since childhood. I know their children from various groups and activities that have been held within the city. There was a man I go hunting with, and a chemist who developed pharmaceuticals for the Purdue Frederick Company, a company formerly from Yonkers. I saw a woman I know who taught my children in grammar school, and her husband who is a self-made successful business owner. I saw others who are construction workers and business owners. I saw many families I have met over the years, some whose weddings I personally attended. I saw some people who were born here, and others who had immigrated to our great nation. Also in the crowd were several Post 1666 VFW members, one being the Scoutmaster himself. All incredible people and All Great Family People.

The ceremony was well organized and conducted within the rituals of the BSA, but what amazed me was just how family and civic-orientated all of the speakers were, especially the Eagle Scouts themselves. All four of these young men, now university students, met in the Cub Scouts as young boys. They grew together in life and in scouting due to the hard work of their Scout leaders and parents. The young men were incredibly articulate and so gracious when speaking about their scout leaders, mentors, each other, and their comrades' families. Each of these young men expressed how they considered their friends' parents as close to them as their own parents.

Although they went to different High Schools and different universities, these young men are real friends, and extremely attached to their families, community and the fundamental principles of Scouting. These young men are leaders in the BSA, and more importantly, they most definitely will be the future leaders in any avenue that they pursue. These young men, their scout leaders, and their families are the best. With people like this, our futures are looking very bright.



10/28 - 11/5



ELECTION DAY: NOVEMBER 7TH

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