

# Yonkers Rising

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Friday October 29, 2021

## Mayor Spano & Yonkers Rising Endorse County Legislator Ruth Walter -15th District



The biggest County Board race in Westchester is in the 15th District (Bronxville and East Yonkers) between democrat Legislator Ruth Walter and her republican opponent James Nolan. This contest will be determined by turnout, and which side gets their voters to vote James Nolan has run a spirited campaign. We applaud Nolan for his volunteerism in the community during COVID, and his work to help those who needed it, and for his ability to turn a horrible event for his family, the shooting death of his brother, into a positive by creating a foundation in his name that also serves the community.

But that is not enough to warrant election to the county board. Ruth Walter is a thoughtful, hard working legislator, who has suggested new ideas while working to make sure that constituents in her district get their fair share of county budget dollars.

Walter has also shown herself to be willing to listen to all people in her district, including those who live in Yonkers, and she did not forget them during the pandemic.

We believe that Walter has done more in two years than her predecessor over several years. One initiative we appreciate is her work to examine whether communities unhappy with the loud cars at night, from illegal mufflers or drag racing, should be helped by ticketing more drivers by placing noise-devices on hot spot roadways.

Most of these issues, like making sure that county capital tax dollars go into her district, are not sexy political topics, but they are the nuts and bolts that help improve people's lives.

There are some things that County government can't do because it is not under their power of government. Nolan has suggested that he will work on some issues county government can't help with.

But the biggest issue in this race has become the same issue that has plagued our county and our country for the past year and a half, COVID and vaccinations. Nolan has said that he is not vaccinated, but has not explained adequately enough why that is. He said he had COVID and beat COVID, but many county residents who had COVID have also been vaccinated.

Over 90% of eligible Westchester residents have received a COVID vaccine, and as Walter points out, it is the role of a leader in our communities to explain that all of us need to get vaccinated in order for our society to return to some form of normal, and to protect those of us who are immune compromised.

We endorse Ruth Walter, for County Legislator, 15th District.

## We Endorse: Lakisha Collins-Bellamy for Yonkers City Council President



The voters of Yonkers will elect a new City Council President on Nov. 2. Democrat Lakisha Collins-Bellamy is running against Republican Ron Matten. The incumbent Council President, Mike Khader, is currently completing his term, but was defeated by Collins-Bellamy in the democratic primary in June.

That primary victory was an introduction to the people of Yonkers, to meet Lakisha Collins-Bellamy. During our interviews we learned about her life story of growing up and staying in Yonkers. It is also the story of the American Dream, and the story of the history of Yonkers over the past 40+ years.

Yonkers has a difficult history of segregation that Collins-Bellamy had to deal with, and a challenging upbringing in the Cottage Place Gardens Housing complex. But through it all, Collins-Bellamy rose above her circumstance in life to go to college and law school, and she wanted to stay in Yonkers.

"I want the voters to know that I've come a long way from a family that received public assistance to being able to provide for my son to go to private school. My campaign is about someone who comes from humble beginnings and then gains the world. I'm a testament about what can happen when you work hard and believe in yourself. Even when the deck is stacked against you, you can succeed."

In addition to her life experiences, Collins-Bellamy's Yonkers education and professional background, makes her qualified to serve as Council President. She currently works for the Yonkers Municipal Housing Authority.

Education has been a critical part of Collins-Bellamy's life and her campaign, and we are confident that Collins-Bellamy, who is currently serving on the Yonkers Board of Education, will make it a priority if elected.

Why did she decide to run for Council President? "Watching the last four years of politics in our country, like all of us, I saw how Stacy Abrams put the State of Georgia on her back to flip that state blue. I saw George Floyd happen. I saw the first Black female Vice-President get elected. I saw all of this and said, Why Not Today?"

Affordable Housing and addressing violent crime are two other key issues in Collins-Bellamy's campaign that we look forward to seeing her work on in the council. She is vaccinated and understands the leadership role that she will take on if elected. There has never been a black female candidate elected citywide in the history of Yonkers.

But Collins-Bellamy welcomes the chance to become a role model to thousands of Yonkers young adults who are growing up like she did. We find her to be

the most qualified, but also someone who a majority of Yonkers voters can relate to.

Ron Matten should be applauded for stepping up and making sure that the voters of Yonkers have a choice when they go to the polls on Nov. 2 and in early voting. It is important that the voters in Yonkers have a choice when they vote for the second most important elected office in the city.

Matten is also qualified to serve on the council. He brings an intellectual perspective to his run for office, and a wealth of professional experience that could serve the people of Yonkers in examining City budgets and looking for cost savings.

This is also Matten's first run for elected office, and it has been 8 years since a republican was elected to city-wide office. The demographics, and the number of registered democrats, continue to change in Yonkers.

*continued on pg 4-*

## We Endorse: Anthony Merante City Council, Sixth District

The race for City Council in the 6th District will be one of the most watched on election night, as republican Councilman Anthony Merante is running for re-election against democrat Tim Hodges.

Merante is running as "the people's councilman," and someone who enjoys serving as a fiscal watchdog over the Billion dollar + Yonkers budget. Merante, a CPA with offices in Yonkers, is running on his record over the past four years on the council.

"My job is to make sure that we use all the money efficiently to get things done without having to go back to the taxpayers. Over four years, we raised taxes twice, 2% and 6%, and I wasn't happy about it."

Merante makes a good point when he asks, "If I weren't on the council, how high would the tax increases be? I look at the numbers and I understand how budgets work."

In addition to watching the City's finances, Merante continues to work on the quality of life issues for the district, including street repaving and public safety.

"I also work to make sure that we are safe and that the police and fire departments are fully funded, staffed, trained and equipped to keep us safe when we have to call 911. Some of our crime issues have to do with state policy, and the police are having troubles with repeat offenders. I think we have done a good job over the past four years, and I want to continue the work."

Tim Hodges brings a lifetime of experiences in Yonkers, and more than 30 years in the Yonkers Police Department, to his first run for city council. Hodges has been actively campaigning and is qualified to serve on the council.

But Hodges has not articulated a reason for running, or why the voters in the sixth district should vote for him. His knowledge of City budgets, based on his

*continued on pg 6-*

## Halloween is Back, With a Curfew in Yonkers



homes in Yonkers are decorated again for Halloween to welcome Trick or Treaters, photo by Robert Kalfus

After a one year, COVID hiatus, Halloween will be celebrated once again in Yonkers. Several events include programs from the Yonkers Public Library, the Hudson River Museum, the Downtown Waterfront BID, and more.

Yonkers Mayor Mike Spano announced that the Yonkers Police Department will issue a citywide curfew for children 16 years of age and younger on Halloween night - Sunday, October 31.

*continued on pg 7-*

## Reverend Willa Mae King Honored for Her Service to Yonkers



State Senate Majority Leader Andrea Stewart-Cousins, left, with Rev. Willa Mae King. Photo by Donna Davis

A surprise luncheon for Rev. Willa Mae King was organized by Arthur Melendez Jr, Asst Director at Brooks Memorial Home. She was led into the Nephperhan Community Center by her long time friend Rev. Golden Taylor to rousing cheers from friends and family.

Willa Mae King was born in New Hall West Virginia on June 6, 1933, the fourth of six children to Willie Blackwell and Catherine (Brown) Blackwell. She was named after her father, Willie Blackwell, a Coal Miner. She is a descendent of the Brown Family Reunion, where she inherited rich legacy of faith, family unity and character.

Willa Mae grew up in Landgraft, West Virginia, and attended the local schools. She graduated from Kimball High School, where she completed her education in Clerical & Office Administration. She obtained her first employment opportunity with Prunty Trade & Technical School as a Secretary. Willa Mae grew up in the Winfield Baptist Church where she was active in the Youth Choir, Youth Missionary Department, and represented the Church in associations.

In 1952, Willa Mae King was united in marriage to the late Rev. James Arthur Mack Sr., to which this union produced her first two children, James Arthur Mack, Jr., ("Skipper"), and Linda Cecilia Mack. In the early 1960's, Willa Mae King relocated to Yonkers, New York. She married the late Robert King, Sr. To this union, Douglas Anthony King, and Michael Ellis King was born.

She joined the Community Memorial (CME) Baptist Church under the Rev. Dr. Luther Evans. She served in many capacities over 28 years, such as Community Youth Director, Financial Secretary, Choir Member, Sunday School Teacher, and Associate Minister.

Answering the Call to the Gospel Ministry in 1973, she was ordained in 1973. Rev. King further prepared for the Ministry by attending the Manhattan Bible Institute in New York City, completing her Bachelor's Degree in Theology.

In 1993, Rev. Willa Mae King became a member of the Mount Carmel Baptist Church under the pastorate of the Late Rev. Willie H. Upshaw. In this Ministry she served as Associate Minister, Teacher of Sunday School, Youth Bible Class Teacher, Spiritual Advisor of the Youth Ministry, Choir Member and Noon Day Prayer Leader.

Rev. King also taught Evangelism at Christian Love Tabernacle School of The Bible for over ten years, as was active in the C.L.T. Prison Ministry.

Rev. King has been the recipient of numerous proclamations, certificates and award recognitions for her work in the Ministry as well as her Community Service. (Women of Achievement Award, Valued Teacher Award, Humanitarian Award, from Bondage to Freedom Prison ward, and the Rosa Parks Community Award). Most recently, Rev. King was named "Spiritual Advisor" for The Nubian Brothers of Yonkers.

Rev. Willa Mae King retired on February 29, 2008 from Shinda Management Corp. at Whitney Young Manor, where she served for over 26 years as Assistant Manager.

Rev. King is the Mother of 4, (1 deceased son), grandmother of 10, and great grandmother of 13.

Rev. King has a great love for God, Family and The Ministry of The Gospel. As she states " If I can help somebody as I pass along, then my living shall not be in vain".

Congratulations on your retirement and thank your for your service to the people of Yonkers, God Bless!

## No Parade, But Columbus Day Events Continue in Yonkers



above, L-R-Jim LaFranchi, Rocco DeRose and Mayor Mike Spano below: Ladies of the Maggiacomo Lodge of the Sons of Italy photos by Donna Davis



While the Yonkers Columbus Day Parade did not happen in 2021, several events were held to commemorate what is still a big holiday in Yonkers.

The Italian Flag was raised above Yonkers City Hall on Oct. 17. The MC was Councilman John Rubbo, and the Pledge of Allegiance was led by former Councilman Michael Sabatino. Prayer was offered by Mario Reda.

Mayor Mike Spano and Councilman Anthony Merante gave remarks and coffee and desert was provided by Silvio's



Elected officials and special guests present included, Jim LaFranchi- President of the John D. Calandra Lodge of the Sons of Italy, Rocco DeRose- VP of John D. Calandra Lodge of the Sons of Italy, Cathy Lembo- President LeAmiche Lodge of the Sons and Daughters of Italy, 2nd Deputy Mayor of Yonkers- Anthony Landry, Steve Sansone- Comm. of Parks and Recreation

Yonkers City Council members Tasha Diaz and Council President Mike Khader in addition to Councilmembers Rubbo and Merante.

County Legislators: David Tubiolo Ruth Walker and Assemblymember Nader Sayegh. City Judges: Dan Romano, Verris Shako and Elena Goldberg-Velasquez.

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## Yonkers HS Football Highlights



**Brandon Sweat scores a TD for the Force, photo by DocWszolek**

**By Phil Foley**

Last week the Yonkers Force traveled to Suffern HS where they fought valiantly but lost to a very good team by the score of 29-14. In this game Brandon Sweat paced the Force offense with 7 catches for 119 yards and 2 touchdowns. QB Atticus Oelkers passed for 144 yards and 2 TDs!

This Friday night the Force travels to Long Island to play St Dominic's HS. (They play in the CHSFL or the Catholic High School Football League) Kickoff is 6PM at Theodore Roosevelt Memorial Field in Oyster Bay New York.

Last Saturday the Yonkers Brave hosted Spring Valley High School at Saunders HS Field. They lost by the score of 26-16. Scoring for the Brave were Dejour Holmes and Manny Romero who both scored on rushing touchdown plays! This Saturday the Brave travel to play Westlake HS. Kickoff is 1:30 PM.

## Yonkers PEARLS Hawthorne School Named Top 100 in the USA

Congratulations to the students and staff at the PEARLS Hawthorne for being honored by US News as one of the best 100 Elementary and Middle School in the United States.

PEARLS ranked as the 40th best elementary in the USA, and as the #28th best Middle School.

The story includes, "Pearls Hawthorne School is a magnet school located in Yonkers, NY, which is in a large suburb setting. The student population of Pearls Hawthorne School is 918 and the school serves PK-8. At Pearls Hawthorne School, 87% of students scored at or above the proficient level for math, and 82% scored at or above that level for reading.

The school's minority student enrollment is 77%. The student-teacher ratio is 17:1, which is the same as that of the district. The student population is made up of 56% female students and 44% male students. The school enrolls 29% economically disadvantaged students. There are 53 equivalent full-time teachers.

Schools are ranked on their performance on state-required tests, graduation, and how well they prepare their students for high school.

## The Election: It's About Crime, Covid and the Economy



By Eric W. Schoen

Voters head to the polls in Westchester and New York City next week. Westchester voters select a County Executive, County Clerk, Supreme Court Judges and County Legislators. New York City selects a new Mayor, while here in Yonkers the electorate selects a new City Council President and three Council members.

As we see from early voting, not the most exciting election compared to the Presidential Primary Election we had last year. In Yonkers we have early voting at the two libraries and the Nodine Hill Community Center. Now if I was in charge of selecting early voting sites, I would have selected a more centrally located site than the Nodine Hill Center like Saunders High School, sort of right smack in the middle of the city.

At Saunders they could have done the whole thing on the stage. A door leads directly from the parking lot to the rear of the stage, so there would be no intermingling of voters and students. No Covid fears, plenty of parking, and easily accessible to public transportation. The Nodine Hill site is up a steep hill with a bus that runs very infrequently with no service on the weekend or after 6 at night. I know. I live in the neighborhood.

Speaking of Covid, this election is simply about three things. Crime, Covid and the Economy. Before the Covid Pandemic did you know what the Westchester County Executive did? Counties have Health Departments which normally deal with childhood vaccinations, rabid animals, food safety, sexual health, health services for those who cannot afford them and to encourage you to stop smoking.

But since March of last year and the arrival of Covid, County Executive George Latimer has been the main source of information the media and residents go to. For a while he was doing daily briefings that we relied on for information in terms of how Covid was affecting the residents of this county. With vaccinations for 5-11 year olds hopefully on the horizon, the county will continue to play a pivotal roll in the fight against Covid.

Parents are worried. A parent of a student in one of the Yonkers Public Schools told me one of her 3 kids was quarantined twice for 11 days so far this school year. Her Grandfather was enjoying a vacation in the Dominican Republic last February, came back to New York in March and died from Co

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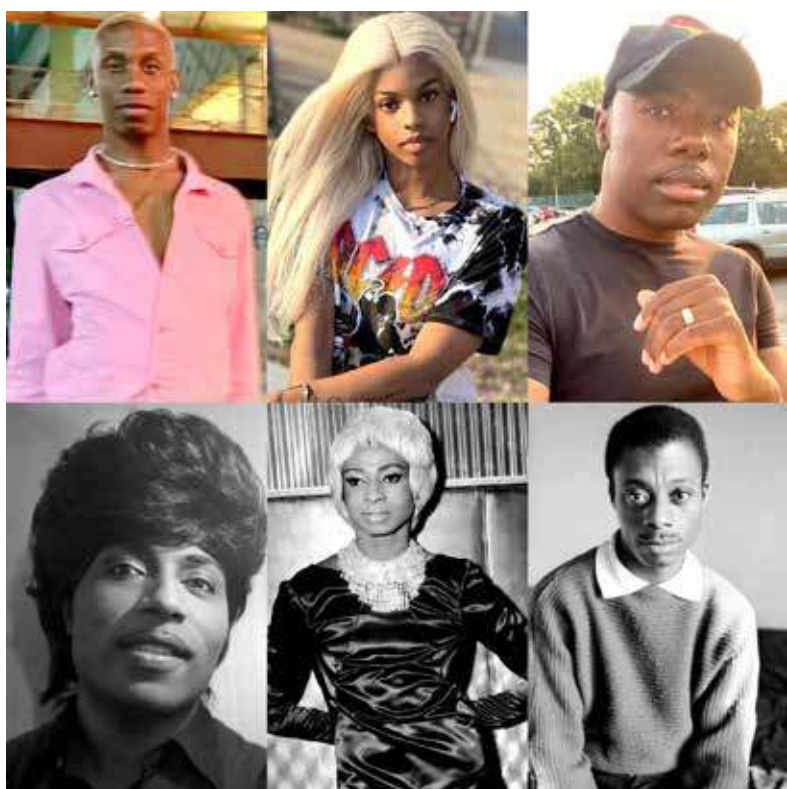
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## Celebrating LGBTQIA+History Month



**Clockwise: Samuel "Secret" Reid, Cienna Rosalina, Dennis Richmond, Jr., James Baldwin, Jackie Shane, and Little Richard**

**By Dennis Richmond Jr.**

Cienna "@ItsCeeRose" Rosalina, 21, is a trans advocate from Yonkers, New York. With over 70,000 followers on TikTok, Rosalina beats the drum for trans rights. "It's okay to be Black and transgender," she said. Nowadays, talks about the trans community are happening everywhere. People are learning about gender pronouns, genders ascribed at birth, and trans rights. Many people are not on board with a lot of trans conversations. It's because of a "lack of understanding and a lack of knowledge," Rosalina says. Some people in the community "shut down versus educating."

Samuel "@Secret.Hilton" Reid, 25, is a dance teacher and founder of the Royalties Dance Team in Mount Vernon, New York. "I teach all genres of dance, and I've been dancing since I was a child," said Reid. Reid started to take dancing seriously towards the end of his 8th-grade year of middle school in Mount Vernon. Dealing with bullying because of who he was, made his school life almost unbearable. Instead of turning to drugs or liquor, Reid relied heavily on dance. Life became much easier to navigate when Reid began dancing professionally. "Dancing was an escape," he said. "It helped me."

As we celebrate the 27th LGBTQIA+ History Month in the United States, we see just how dance and activism influenced the community for decades. The community, arguably, is based on dance and activism. The 1990s documentary Paris Is Burning follows New York's ball culture in the Black and Latinx LGBTQIA+ Community. Ball culture, or ballroom culture, has influenced the world in ways that many people don't realize. Popular slang phrases such as "It's giving," "Pay it [no mind]," "No shade," and "Love you down" have all originated in ballroom with the girls.

Many Black and Latinx pioneers of the community have either been forgotten or don't get enough attention. Jackie Shane, a trans woman, was a pioneer soul and rhythm and blues singer. You could find her performances online from the 1960s. In 1995, Little Richard, the architect of rock and roll, told Penthouse magazine, "I've been gay all my life." Many sources have said that Marsha P. Johnson, a trans woman who was an activist for the community, threw the first brick during the Stonewall riots in New York.

Reid stands on the shoulders of many Black and Latinx LGBTQIA+ dancers, just as I stand on the shoulders of writers, and Rosalina stands on the shoulders of activists. James Baldwin, the iconic novelist, essayist, playwright, poet, and activist, is buried right here in Westchester. Writing, activism, and dancing are ways that the Black and Latinx LGBTQIA+ Community thrives. Before a party took place, somebody wrote and created the flyers for the event. Depending on what decade it was, after the function, somebody wrote what happened. After, it would end up either in a newspaper, on a blog, or in a social media post. The activist angle is that "having a ball" is revolutionary.

Me, Samuel, and Cienna are all connected. We are all members of the Black Community and, we are all members of the LGBTQIA+ Community. As such, before this month is over, we would like to leave you with some final thoughts.

Samuel "Secret" Reid: "The LGBTQIA+ Community is human. We have feelings. Don't eliminate us."

Cienna "Cee" Rosalina: "It's possible to be who you are, be happy, and live a happy life."

Dennis Richmond, Jr.: "Life is short. Even though people may not respect our lifestyles, respect us."

Dennis Richmond, Jr., is an author and journalist focused on the Black, Latinx, and LGBTQIA+ Community. He has covered HBCUs periodically for six years at Yonkers Rising. Richmond lives in Yonkers. Follow him on Twitter @NewYork-Stakz

## Letters to the Editor:

As a dedicated Democrat for well more than a half century, paradoxically I always admired folks like Barry Goldwater, author of "Conscience of a Conservative," and Bill Buckley, founder of "National Review" for their thought-provoking analyses based on moral principles and a moral compass. In my decades of leadership in the Democratic Party as ward leader (and even appointed Democratic party council member) I had a reputation for asserting my views based on principle. A leading Democratic council member back in the day angrily asserted I could not be trusted because "You never know when BOB Stauf will make a decision because of his conscience." Well as Ronald Reagan would have said of me, "There you go again." Openly and without reservation, I urge registered voters to vote for Ron Matten as City Council President.

Ron Matten can offer his own impressive background which I find compelling. For example his views on public education emanate from decades of management in the public education field, not simply attendance in the Yonkers school system. His campaign advocacy is straight talk, not tailored for different communities in Yonkers. His views on development in Yonkers suggest the need for careful fiscal responsible analyses and sensitivity to all members of the economic strata. I have seen him reach out to folks for the purpose of self growth and real empathy even if the possibility of a vote is elusive. Further, we want a leader on the city council who shows evidence of bringing all people together through mindful mediation and careful fact finding.

Real republicans need not worry that as a Republican candidate Ron has abandoned the rock bed party principles of fiscal responsibility. Democrats and independents need to give more attention to the Yonkers City Council race and consider voting for a man of conscience and compassion, skill and transparency. Ron Matten brings a new measure of community service for the next city council. Frankly "Common Sense" is a good name for party voting, and so one can vote on the City Council President line on one of two tickets. Ron Matten can run and I can't hide. I shall vote proudly for a man of the people in this very important and very local election.--

**-Most sincerely, Bob Stauf**

## I Caught COVID. You Should Get Vaccinated.

**By: Dennis Richmond, Jr.**

My name is Dennis Richmond, Jr., and I'm a 26-year-old New Yorker. Since March of 2020, I've been doing good. I made sure to wear my mask indoors and outdoors, I was socially distant, and I received both shots of the Pfizer COVID vaccine. I ran around New York City earlier this month, hitting everywhere from the Burnside Avenue section of the Bronx to the East New York Section of Brooklyn and from the Howard Beach section of Queens to Midtown Manhattan. I did most of this running around- maskless. On Saturday, September 18th, 2021, I tested positive for COVID-19.

The first thing that I had to do was let everybody I was around, know that they were exposed to COVID. Why were they exposed? Because of me. Even though I didn't expose people on purpose, reaching out to people was an experience. One person asked me, "Is this a joke?" It wasn't. Somebody else had told me "Thank you for telling me." That was a nice response, considering I just furthered the pandemic because I didn't want to wear a mask.

After hearing some interesting responses, things got crazy. One person who I was around told me that if they tested positive for it, they wouldn't tell anybody. Wait. If you catch the Rona, you're not telling anybody around you? Somebody else dared to tell me after I told them my diagnosis, "that explains why I haven't felt good all week." Are, you, serious? For real? Don't tell me that. I wasn't glad to know that I had to let my relatives, who are seniors, know that they were exposed to COVID too. I had seen an uncle of mine who's 81. I had to let him and my aunt know.

I felt the urge to post my diagnoses on social media. I did, and I got a myriad of reactions and comments as a result. The amount of love that people showed me from social media and elsewhere was beautiful. This person lives in Queens, this one lives in Virginia, this one lives in Harlem, and this one lives in Pennsylvania. It was something. Things got crazy yet again when I started to have conversations with people around my age about getting vaccinated. Young adults are so quick to smoke something and get high but hesitant to take a vaccine. It doesn't make sense. You don't know what's in that loud, gelato, sour, or kush, but you'll smoke it. God, forbid you have to take a vaccine so you won't spread a deadly virus. Since COVID-19, I lost weight, I slept a ridiculous amount of time, and I had to quarantine in my room, in my house.

**Collins Bellamy, continued from pg 1-**

we hope that Matten will continue to participate in the discussion over the affairs of the city.

But Matten is running against a candidate who brings a breath of fresh air to Yonkers politics. She is someone who knows the city and works in the city but is a political outsider. That is an interesting and unique combination of attributes, which deserves your vote.

"I want to show young boys and girls that they can be lawyers and the next Council President. I came from humble beginnings, so this election is bigger than me. It's about how, if I can do it, anybody can. If elected, I will use my position to serve all the people of Yonkers and not to serve myself. It's kind of a rags to riches story, without me being rich." Yonkers Rising endorses Lakisha Collins-Bellamy for City Council President on Nov. 2 and in early voting.

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***Eric Schoen, continued from pg 3-***

vid in less than a month. The vaccine, hand washing and sanitizing everything we and others come in contact with are the only tools we have. Everyday there seems to be a new variant. Who knows where this is all going to go. Our elected officials must show leadership instead of bickering so we can keep people alive. I don't buy \$500 bonuses to encourage government workers to get the shot!

Everyone agrees that the Bail Reform by the New York Legislature is a failure. We should not be putting people who commit crimes back on the street to commit more crimes. They must have their day in court promptly. Look at New York City. See the traffic going into and out and around the city everyday. People are in cars and Ubers, afraid to ride public transit not only because of Covid but because of the unstable people riding the trains. My barber rides the train from Brooklyn to Yonkers everyday. He keeps to himself, reads his book, and hopes that he can get out at his destination alive.

Tim Hodges, former Yonkers Deputy Police Commissioner said clearly in a forum with his opponent Anthony Merante during the Westchester Rising Show on WVOX 1460 a.m. that crime in Yonkers is on the rise. We see the beautiful reeducation of Boo Wilson Park on Tuckahoe Road followed a day later by a man critically shot. Gangs are rampant in Yonkers. Drivers are driving their cars like maniacs on our streets.

Defund the police? Who are we kidding. For a mentally ill person in New York City they send a social worker as opposed to a policeman? The social worker should accompany the policeman, not replace him or her. Let's hope this foolishness never hits the shores of Yonkers nor Westchester! Eric Adam's won the Democratic Primary in New York because he shifted away from the cut the cops mentality. Though if I lived in New York, I would vote for my friend Curtis Sliwa. Simply put, 'he gets the problems' of New York and would bring a fresh, different approach to bring the city back to life.

Amazed at the responses I got to my column last week about empty supermarket shelves. People are worried about the economy. Will they be able to find a turkey for their Thanksgiving table? The toy(s) their kids want for Christmas. The food they want at the grocery store. Toilet tissue, well you know what that's used for.

Whether it's a log jam at a port or crazy tariffs imposed that won't let goods reach our borders, somebody better get a handle on this situation. All we hear from both political parties is rhetoric. Blame. Divisiveness. If things don't change there will be a third party movement to get rid of all the politicians running this country. There better be Razors for children under the Christmas tree.

Close to home the County Executive race is a slam dunk. The most I have seen from County Executive Latimer's opponent, Christine Sculti is her response to questions in the League of Woman Voters Guide (interestingly, County Executive Latimer didn't respond to the League's questions). I know Latimer's opponent. Christine is a nice lady. She should not have let herself be the sacrificial lamb for the Republican Party in the County Executive race.

Ruth Walter reminds me of our dear departed Kay Carsky. She knows what County Government is all about. She deserves reelection. If her opponent, James Nolan is worried about crime and drag racing the County Legislature is not the place for him. Frankly I was shocked to see the unvaccinated Nolan campaigning with Republican Candidate for Governor Lee Zeldin who has Leukemia. Tells you a lot about Zeldin!

Nolan went door to door campaigning without telling people he was unvaccinated. Would you put decisions regarding the health of the residents of Westchester County, an important part of a County Legislators job particularly with Covid in the hands of such person?

What Nolan should be working for is a law for merchants on Central Avenue and throughout Yonkers to lock their parking lots when their businesses are closed. Years ago there was a law on the books in Yonkers when we had a problem with drag racing and teenagers hanging out doing drugs in open parking lots requiring merchants to close them when their businesses were closed. He should work to get speed cameras not only on Central Avenue but throughout Yonkers to catch drag racers. He should be working on laws to control these unlicensed scooters racing up and down the streets causing havoc. The good men and woman of the Yonkers Police have confiscated some, but there are still way too many out there driven by unlicensed drivers.

The things that Nolan should be doing and clearly wants to do come under the purview of Federal, State and Yonkers officials, not of County Government. But until he apologizes to the people whose lives he endangered by campaigning unvaccinated door to door, political office cannot be on his agenda.

Final Note: Live guns on the set of a motion picture Alec Baldwin or any actor or actress is in! What the hell for! Someone better go to jail for the rest of their life over this travesty!

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

## SUPREME COURT OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK

COUNTY OF WESTCHESTER  
INDEX # 65171/2020 FILED: 8/11/2021  
SUPPLEMENTAL SUMMONS

Plaintiff designates WESTCHESTER County as the place of trial. The basis of venue is: The location of the real property being foreclosed. BANK OF AMERICA, NA, Plaintiff, against UNKNOWN HEIRS OF THE ESTATE OF MARY A. DAVIS A/K/A MARY DAVIS A/K/A MARY A PICKNEY A/K/A MARY PICKNEY A/K/A MARY PICKNEY DAVIS A/K/A MARY TEMPLE DAVIS, if they be living and if they be dead, the respective heirs-at-law, next-of-kin, distributees, executors, administrators, trustees, devisees, legatees, assignees, lienors, creditors and successors in interest and generally all persons having or claiming under, by or through said defendant(s) who may be deceased, by purchase, inheritance, lien or inheritance, any right, title or interest in or to the real property described in the Complaint, NEW YORK STATE DEPARTMENT OF TAXATION AND FINANCE, UNITED STATES OF AMERICA – INTERNAL REVENUE SERVICE, Defendant(s). To the above named Defendant(s): YOU ARE HEREBY SUMMONED to Answer the Complaint in this action and to serve a copy of your Answer, or, if the Complaint is not served with this Summons, to serve a Notice of Appearance on the Plaintiff's attorney(s) within twenty (20) days after the service of this Summons, exclusive of the day of service (or within thirty (30) days after service is complete if this Summons is not personally delivered to you within the State of New York); and in case of your failure to appear or answer, judgment will be taken against you by default for the relief demanded in the complaint.

The foregoing summons is served upon you by publication pursuant to an order of the Honorable David F. Everett, a Justice of the Supreme Court of the State of New York, Westchester County, granted on the 3rd day of August, 2021, and filed with the Verified Complaint and other papers in the office of the County Clerk of Westchester County. The object of this action is to bar and forever foreclose of and from all right, title, interest, claim, lien and equity of redemption in and to real property situated in the County of Westchester being known as and by 12 RISLEY PLACE, NEW ROCHELLE, NY 10801, bearing tax map designation Section: 4 Block: 1320 Lot: 0038, which is more fully described in the Schedule "A" attached to the Verified Complaint. Aldridge Pite, LLP. Attorneys for the Plaintiff, 40 Marcus Drive, Suite 200, Melville, NY 11747 Our File 1395-241B

***Yonkers History, continued from pg 5-***

Waverly Terrace Auditorium, along with riverfront facilities; Ossining required the unit share their armory in St. John's School, which the officials felt were unsatisfactory.

November 6, 1944: By a vote of three to two, the Yonkers Common Council voted to suspend City Manager William A. Walsh, with a final plan of ousting him. Mayor Curtiss Frank, Councilmembers Edith Welty and John Whalen voted for the resolution; Vice Mayor James Sullivan and Councilman Thomas Sheridan voted against the resolution. The resolution listed fourteen points used as the reason for removal. After the meeting ended and the crowd had left, the Council reconvened and appointed City Comptroller Robert Craig Montgomery as Acting City Manager by a four-to-one vote; Councilman Sheridan voted against the resolution.

## Sunday, November 7th

November 7, 1944: Henry Friedrich of First Street voted for his 70th time at School Eleven on Wakefield Avenue. Friedrich, who was ninety-one years old, stated when he voted for the first time his father, born in Germany, warned him "never to miss a vote and to do his part to help perpetuate the democracy that he came to this land to find."

November 7, 1972: Yonkers Resident Gus Hall, National Secretary of the American Communist Party, received 25,597 votes in the presidential election. He ran for President four times: 1972, 1976, 1980 and 1984; he received the most votes in 1976, when the Watergate scandal caused a larger than usual protest vote.

***Questions or comments? Email YonkersHistory1646@gmail.com.***

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

***Councilmember Merante, continued from pg 1-***

involvement in the Yonkers Police Department budgets and in testimony before the City Council, gives him broad knowledge, but we haven't been told for what purpose if elected.

Hodges has called himself a conservative-democrat, which is a unique and difficult political label to wear today. We respect Hodges lifetime of service and his willingness to continue to serve the people of Yonkers. Most, upon retirement, leave Yonkers for greener pastures. Hodges isn't going anywhere, and he loves this city.

Hodges has criticized Merante for not being accessible enough to the people of the district. But we find that Merante has gotten involved in issues affecting the district, like opposing the UPS expansion on Tuckahoe Road. And when contacted for help, Merante is there and responsive.

Merante also brings a political independence to this race. He is funding his own campaign, and says he isn't beholden to anyone but his constituents. We like Merante's independence, but we also appreciate his ability to negotiate and compromise at the end of the day, for the good of the city.

Finally, we believe that Yonkers needs both democrats and republicans serving in government, whenever possible, but only if that candidate is the best for the job, regardless of party. We need checks and balances, but also different viewpoints on city affairs.

Councilman Anthony Merante has served the people of the sixth district well over the past four years and deserves another four years to continue the work. Yonkers Rising endorses Anthony Merante for City Council, 6th District.

## Letter to the Editor:

Two members of the Yonkers City Council are also on the ballot Nov. 2 and are getting no attention. They are councilmembers John Rubbo and Corazon Pineda-Issac.

Both of these elected officials are true public servants who I admire and expect to run for higher office in the years to come. I am a constituent of Councilmember Rubbo and my mother lives in Councilmember Pineda-Issacs district.

I have seen both members at events and have discussed the problems in our city and ways that they can fix it. I hope you can write more about both candidates next year, one of these two might become our next mayor.

-Veronica Rodriguez, Yonekers

## Write In Candidate for City Council President:

There is a third candidate running for City Council President, his name is Nick Filippi. You must write his name in the ballot area reserved for write in candidates. His platform is simple, answer to nobody but the people of Yonkers. He has my vote, ---Ann Marie Genova, Yonkers



# Westchester Police Crack Down on Aggressive, Obnoxious Drivers



Westchester County Police regularly conduct special enforcement to combat aggressive driving, drunken driving and distracted driving. In recent months, increased enforcement was also conducted in a more unofficial category – obnoxious driving.

Three Questions from the Westchester County Police to county drivers and residents.

1-Have you seen -- and heard -- an increase in the number of vehicles with loud/modified exhaust systems --including ones that emit a series of popping noises? So have we. Since July, our officers have issued about 140 summonses to drivers with these and other illegal, tricked-out exhaust systems.

2-Have you been sitting in traffic only to see other motorists go past by driving on the shoulder? So have we. Our officers have issued multiple summonses for that violation.

3-Have you been in a line of traffic at an exit ramp only to see a car up ahead cut across the zebra stripes/hazard markings to jump the line? So have we. And we issued multiple summonses for that violation too. Overall, about 350 summonses have been issued during this “obnoxious driving” initiative.

County Executive George Latimer said the enforcement targeted both quality-of-life and safety concerns. “Our residents are fed up with the loud noise from these illegal exhaust systems. It has become a significant quality-of-life issue and I applaud the County Police for addressing it,” Latimer said.

Public Safety Commissioner Thomas A. Gleason said, “The enforcement we have conducted is in response to conditions that our officers see while on patrol and also in response to concerns brought to us by members of the public.”

County Police officers have paid extra attention to these violations of Vehicle & Traffic law along the Bronx River Parkway, Saw Mill River Parkway, Hutchinson River Parkway and Cross County Parkway in the past two months.

Gleason noted that at the height of the Covid-19 pandemic, when traffic was lighter than usual, County Police saw – and addressed – an increase in drag racing on the parkways. Many of the vehicles engaged in those speed contests featured illegally modified exhaust systems. While the incidence of drag racing is down, many vehicles with modified exhaust systems remain on the road. “Our Patrol officers, particularly on the midnight tour, have been vigilant and have effectively reduced drag racing incidents. Our Department does continue to receive telephone calls reporting a drag race in progress but when we respond there is no indication a drag race is occurring or has taken place. I believe the noise often being attributed to drag racing is actually the result of an increasing amount of vehicles that are operating with these illegal exhaust systems.”

Lt. Peters from the Westchester County Police, added “Aggressive drivers took as an opportunity to use the open road to driver a lot faster. During 2020 we saw an uptick in speeding, unsafe lane changes and drag racing. Now a lot of people are back to work and driving again. Our department takes this seriously and will combat all aggressive and obnoxious drivers moving forward.



Yonkers Halloween, continued from pg 1-

“Halloween is a spooky holiday meant to be enjoyed by all, which is why we are taking a proactive approach in providing a safe, fun-filled night for our communities,” said Mayor Spano. “The City will impose its traditional late-night curfew on young people, and I ask that residents remain vigilant – Halloween is a holiday that is meant to be fun, but you can do so while being safe. Protect yourselves and others by making smart choices.”

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 – 914-377-7900. 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 advance. ½ hour after work -- with proof from Employer. 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 914-377-7900.

The Crestwood Library has a day of Halloween event on Oct. 31.

Bake the World a Better Place! Trick or No Bake Treats! October 31, 3:00 PM - 4:00 PM | Crestwood Library, Courtyard Join us to create Dracula Teeth, Witches Hats, & Spider Oreos in this delicious Halloween “no bake” delight.

Halloween Fun with Wickity Stitch October 31, 4:00 PM - 4:30 PM | Crestwood Library, Courtyard Celebrate Halloween with a reading of Wickity Stitch’s Sweet Halloween with local author Elle L. Stone. Hear some cool bat facts in honor of Bat Week. Wear a costume if you like and take a photo with a book to enter Friends of Crestwood Library Literary Halloween Contest.

Trick or Treat at Crestwood Library October 31, 4:30 PM - 7:00 PM | Crestwood Library, Courtyard Crestwood Library is closed but swing by to Trick or Treat!

The Hudson River Museum has a family fun weekend of events, called Halloweekend, featuring a variety of family-friendly activities on Saturday, October 30, and Sunday, October 31, 12-5pm! Highlights include costume parades, Gothic Glenview Tours, Spooky Storytelling with Tom Lee, a special extraterrestrial planetarium show, The Sky Tonight: Is it Aliens Yet?, Visit HRM.org and see photo left.

And a Halloween tradition, the Yonkers Downtown Waterfront BID Pet Parade, photo left, will take place on October 30 at 12pm, starting at 12 noon. Visit Yonkers Downtown.com for more information.

Have a happy and safe Halloween!

Integrity matters. Justice matters. Experience matters.  
Your **VOTE** matters.



Tom  
**DAVIS**

James  
**HYER**

Judge Christie  
**D’ALESSIO**

Judge Thomas  
**QUIÑONES**

for NYS Supreme Court Justice, 9<sup>th</sup> JD

**VOTE NOV. 2<sup>nd</sup>** Early Voting 10.23 - 10.31



## A Note to My Constituents

Thank you for your support and for all your important communications to me. Over the past two years, I have worked hard to achieve progress for my district and its residents. If reelected, I pledge to continue to advocate and work on behalf of the issues that are important to you.



## Achievements

- Added \$125K to the County budget for a Noise Camera Pilot Program
- Added \$450K to the County Budget for flood mitigation
- Added \$1 million to the County Budget for senior fitness stations
- Brought more than \$300k to Yonkers/Bronxville non-profits
- Connected small businesses with more than \$700k in grants
- Sent clear, science-based information regarding COVID
- Passed millions in bonds for local infrastructure
- Answered hundreds of constituents calls for help on their issues



**RESULTS.  
NOT  
RHETORIC.**

**RE-ELECT**

COUNTY EXECUTIVE

**GEORGE  
LATIMER**

**VOTE TUES, NOV. 2,  
OR VOTE EARLY FROM OCT 23-31!**

PAID FOR BY LATIMER FOR WESTCHESTER